

Nominate a Heritage Asset

Long Meadow, Jackdaw Lane	
1. WHAT IS IT? Is it one of the following?	
a building or group of buildings	Tick
a monument or site (an area of archaeological remains or a structure other than a building)	
a place (e.g. a street, park, garden or natural space)	y
a landscape (an area defined by visual features or character, e.g. a city centre, village, suburb or field system)	
2. WHY IS IT INTERESTING? Is it interesting in any of the following ways?	
Historic interest – a well documented association with a person, event, episode of history, or local industry	Tick / Rank y
Archaeological interest – firm evidence of potential to reveal more about the human past through further study	
Architectural interest – an example of an architectural style, a building of particular use, a technique of building, or use of materials	
Artistic interest – It includes artistic endeavour to communicate meaning or use of design (including landscape design) to enhance appearance	
What is it about the asset that provides this interest? Historic interest: Long Meadow is one of the series of meadows running alongside the River Cherwell as it passes through Oxford. It was part of the medieval common fields of Cowley although the meadowlands had been subdivided by 1777, when Long Mead was the largest remaining piece. Christ Church was one of the largest beneficiaries of the enclosure of the Cowley Open Fields in 1853 acquiring Long Mead and a large part of Compass Field to protect the green views out from Christ Church Meadow, as well as the view on approaching Oxford along Iffley Road (see Salmon. 2010, Beyond Magdalen Bridge, 35). Despite the later development of Compass Field for sports fields and buildings Long Mead has remained undeveloped and came to be known as Rink Field by students, presumably as it is prone to flooding and freezing over in winter. Recently the new bridge crossing the River Cherwell from Christ Church Meadow to provide access for students to the College sports facilities has also provided access to the meadow.	
3. WHY IS IT LOCALLY VALUED? Is the interest of the asset valued locally for any of the following reasons?	
Association: It connects us to people and events that shaped the identity or character of the area	Tick / Rank y
Illustration: It illustrates an aspect of the area's past that makes an important contribution to its identity or character	y
Evidence: It is an important resource for understanding and learning about the area's history	
Aesthetics: It makes an important contribution to the positive look of the area either by design or fortuitously	y
Communal: It is important to the identity, cohesion, spiritual life or memory of all or part of the community	y
How is the asset locally valued as heritage? Illustration: The meadow illustrates the medieval rural setting of the city, into which the East Oxford suburb expanded during the 19 th century. It also illustrates the concern of the colleges to preserve the green setting of the city at this time. Aesthetics and Association: The meadow provides part of the green setting to the river Cherwell, with willow lined banks that have been explored by generations of students by punt and rowing boat and that have inspired many artists and writers. Communal value: The field has been enjoyed by generations of Christ College students (many of whom used the old 'static' (chained) punt to cross from Christ Church Meadow to reach the college sports ground..	

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4. WHAT MAKES ITS LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE SPECIAL? Do any of the following features make the heritage significance of the asset stand out above the surrounding environment?	Tick
Age ... Is it particularly old, or of a date that is significant to the local area?	y
Rarity ... Is it unusual in the area or a rare survival of something that was once common?	
Integrity ... Is it largely complete or in a near to original condition?	y
Group value ... Is it part of a group that have a close historic, aesthetic or communal association?	y
Oxford's identity ... Is it important to the identity or character of the city or a particular part of it?	y
Other ... Is there another way you think it has special local value?	
<p>How does this contribute to its value?</p> <p>Age and Integrity: The meadow preserves a part of the medieval setting of the city, where as surrounding green space has been developed for sports pitches, or less auspiciously was used as rubbish dumps in the 19th and early 20th century, only being restored to a semi-natural state in the later 20th century. As such it represents an early part of the landscape and is well preserved.</p> <p>Group value and Oxford's identity: This is one of a series of riverside meadows that preserve the character of the tree lined streams and backwaters that run through the city and together make an important contribution to the character of the city which has inspired writers and artists for many centuries.</p>	