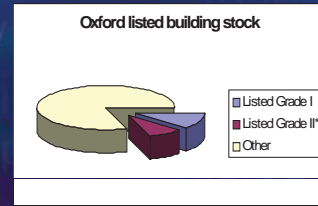




Managing Oxford's Heritage Assets

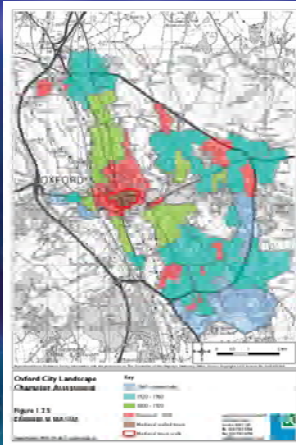
17th June 2010

Oxford's Designated Heritage Assets

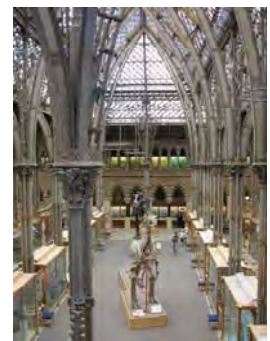


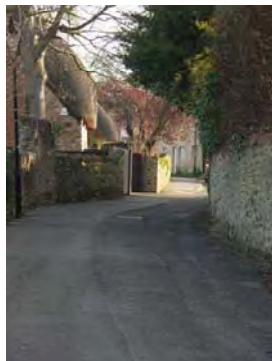
- 1580 listed buildings 12% grade I national average 2%
8% grade II* national average 4%
- 16 conservation areas, 800 ha – 18% of city area
- 11 scheduled monuments
- 11 Registered Historic Parks and Gardens

Evolution of urban form from the Medieval period to the present day



CONSERVATION AREAS





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Services

- Listed Building consent application casework
- Development control advice on historic areas and development proposals
- Archaeology – development control input and maintain Urban Archaeological database
- Tree protection and tree felling/pruning application casework

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What's new

- Reactive – Proactive
- Targets for conservation area appraisals
- Targets for decision making
- Costs/Funding – doing less better, doing more for less
- Processes and methodologies
- Restructuring
- Customer expectations
- Partnership working
- National advice

Why manage



Customer Expectations

The public, elected members, applicants, consultants, planning inspectors

- What is the special interest
- We want no change
- Why should it be preserved/changed
- What is the adverse impact

PPS 5 Planning for the Historic Environment

- intelligently managed change
- contribution to mitigating climate change
- evidence base for plan making
- identifying significance and understanding values
- assessing impacts
- justifying harm

What are we doing now?

- Collaborative approach with applicants – pre-application advice and charging
- Collaborate with external partners
- Source external funding
- Work with local communities, share knowledge

What are we doing now?

- Continue programme for conservation area appraisal
- Designate new conservation area
- Produce urban archaeological strategy – OAP
- West End Historic Context Study
- Prepare urban forest strategy
- Produce conservation toolkit
- Prepare Heritage Plan

Conservation Area 'Toolkit' Project



A project in partnership with English Heritage and Oxford Preservation Trust

Purpose of 'Toolkit'

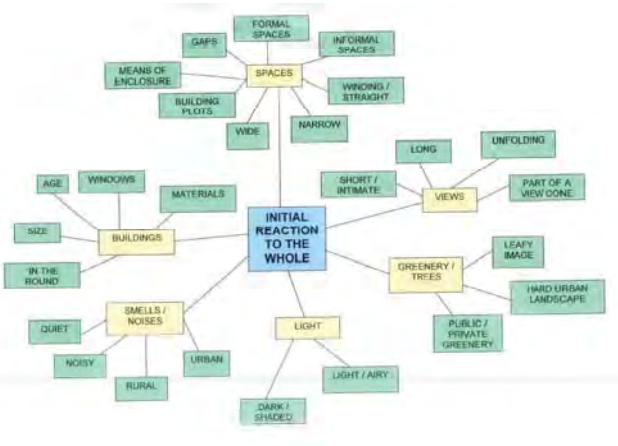
- Facilitate understanding
- Promote effective management of the historic environment
- Provide an informed analysis
- Build knowledge and capacity for involvement

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What is in a toolkit

- A checklist of key elements
- Examine how the individual elements work together
- Identify pressures for change, vulnerabilities and potential enhancement opportunities.
- Identify how it is valued and by whom.



Pilot studies

- Local amenity groups, Oxford University and the Colleges
- Street surveys
- Feedback sessions

Feedback – members and public

Overall: support for objectives and content
wider audience and tool for conservation area designation

Application: Understanding its role - policy, background, material consideration?
Scepticism – how would it be used and by whom

Usability: Length - shorter questionnaire
The definitions are very good
Simple English would be preferable to planning/conservation jargon
Tick-box approach does not really work – requires text discussion
Analysis from different views – instructions needs to mention this.
Scoring

Usefulness: It did help define your view.
helped pinpoint what was wrong with a space.

Feedback – Officers

- What is meant by 'community value'
- How useful will the scoring be
- The questionnaire could be used against officers/Council
- A sound basis on which to present an argument
- Is there a need for 'benchmarking' or 'moderation'
- Is this just for conservation areas?
- Good to help articulate why something has value
- It helps to review initial preconceptions

