

The Oxfordshire Buildings Record (OBR) works to:

- encourage the recording of buildings
- promote research
- advance education

We are interested in a wide range of buildings: vernacular and polite, traditional and modern, dwellings and workplaces, sacred and secular, in towns and the countryside.



WHY NOT JOIN US?

Whether you are interested in the landscape of Oxfordshire, its traditional buildings, local history, or the history of your own house, you will enjoy and benefit from joining the OBR.

Our current members cover a wide spectrum, from total beginners with a general interest, through keen amateur recorders and documentary historians, to people working in a profession in which an understanding of buildings plays a part.

The experienced members help the beginners, and everyone can contribute to the discussions which play a vital part in building studies.

There is a joining fee of £5. The subscription is £5 per year for individuals and includes four issues of our newsletter, *The Oxon Recorder*.

If you would like to join the OBR please complete the application form attached to this leaflet, or download it from: www.obr.org.uk

CONTACTS

Chairman

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Secretary

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Membership Secretary

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www.obr.org.uk

We are grateful for grants from the Oxfordshire Architectural and Historical Society and the Oxfordshire Buildings Trust, and help from the Oxford Preservation Trust.

OXFORDSHIRE BUILDINGS RECORD

THE ORGANISATION FOR
EVERYONE INTERESTED IN
THE BUILDINGS
OF OXFORDSHIRE



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www.obr.org.uk

WHAT WE DO

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RECORDING

Careful recording is key to understanding buildings, and this is our main activity. This takes the form of:

- local and regional surveys
- buildings types of all sorts
- building materials
- building techniques, including carpentry and masonry
- documentary evidence.

On a recording project the team will aim to cater for all levels of skill and different member interests. The results include photographs, sketches, written descriptions and measured drawings. The OBR has its own surveying and photographic equipment, thanks to an Awards for All grant. We are always interested to hear of any building that may be worth recording.

RESEARCH

We use documentary evidence to research the history of buildings. Members who prefer to work in libraries and record offices are equally welcome. Sources used can be as diverse as old maps, census returns, trade directories, deeds of sale, inventories, sale brochures and planning applications.

TRAINING

We encourage experienced members to work with beginners on recording days. We also run our own courses, usually based in an historic building and with a 'hands-on' aspect.

ARCHIVE

The OBR has started to collect unpublished plans, drawings and descriptions of buildings in Oxfordshire, and to process them for deposit in the Oxfordshire Record Office. Our aim is that this set of records will become the primary source of information for anyone wishing to research a building, or group of buildings, in the county.

VISITS AND EVENTS

The OBR organises visits to buildings of interest. Members share results of recording work and ideas at the annual Presentation Day, when we also explore the local area with a knowledgeable guide. This and our AGM which follows a similar format is held at a different place each year. We also have an annual joint lecture with the Oxfordshire Architectural and Historical Society on an architectural theme.

PROJECTS

We try to give focus to our recording through specific projects. A recent major OBR collaboration with the Victoria County History, under the Heritage Lottery funded England's Past for Everyone, resulted in an illustrated book *Burford – Buildings and People in a Cotswold Town*, (ISBN 978-1-86077-488-1). Results of our Burford researches can also be viewed at: www.englishpastforeveryone.org.uk/explore

NEWSLETTER

The OBR publishes a quarterly newsletter, *The Oxon Recorder*, which contains articles on buildings visited or recorded by members, reports of conferences, and other items of specialist interest such as book reviews. It also gives details of forthcoming events.

WEBSITE

The website www.obr.org.uk provides additional information on forthcoming events and activities, also access to past newsletters, a photo gallery and examples of completed project work.

OBR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Title _____

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel _____

E-mail _____

Any special interest or experience, e.g. as owner of an historic building/historian/photographer/artist/building professional:

I agree to the Oxfordshire Buildings Record holding this information for purposes of administration. It may not be disclosed to others without my prior consent.

I agree/do not agree (please delete as appropriate) to my contact details being given to other members.

I attach a cheque for £10.00 made out to: *Oxfordshire Buildings Record* for my joining fee of £5.00 and my subscription of £5.00 for this year.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please send me a Banker's Order Form.

giftaid it Please send me a Gift Aid Form. (If you are a UK taxpayer the government will pay us 28p for every £1.00 of your subscription/fee.)

Please tell us where you obtained this leaflet:

Please send the completed form to:

Paul Clark, OBR Membership Secretary, Grove End Farm,
Henbrook Lane, Upper Brailes, Banbury OX15 5BA.

Thank you

