

**Historic Towns Forum:  
Community Asset Transfer Workshop  
Thursday 31 May 2012**

**Oxford Castle – a Partnership Approach**

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# Oxford, a City of Dreaming Spires



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# The University: Iconic Buildings



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# A rich town history



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# Five acre site hidden behind walls



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# St. George's Tower: UK's earliest secular standing tower



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# 12<sup>th</sup> century Crypt



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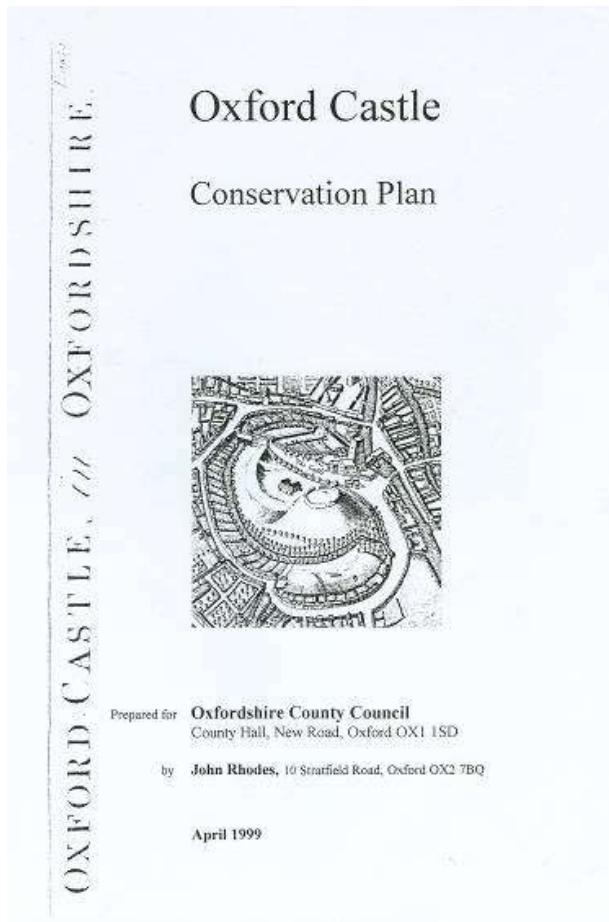
# 19<sup>th</sup> Century Prison Block



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# Conservation Plan



To understand the site,  
its buildings and its context



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# Creating a place

- A sustainable new use
- Self financing
- Creating a new piece of Oxford
- Integrating into the city
- Public access
- Unlocking the town's history



# A partnership approach



County Council

Developer

Oxford Preservation Trust

£40 million development

External funding partners

£10 million – regional

government and Heritage

Lottery Fund



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# Oxford Castle

## Three way partnership

- Commercial – hotel, restaurants, commercial events
- Local Authority – education programme
- Voluntary / heritage



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# A luxury hotel



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# Cafés and luxury apartments



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# Public spaces



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# 1000 years of history



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# Visitor Attraction



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# Schools Programme



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# Enlivening the space



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# Heritage Led Regeneration



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# The Westgate Centre



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# Oxford Castle

## What makes it a success?

- Heritage led regeneration
- The making of a new place
- A true partnership - each of the parties bringing something extra
- Commercial, heritage and education coming together
- Inviting people in
- Building pride of place



[www.oxfordpreservation.org.uk](http://www.oxfordpreservation.org.uk)

[www.oxfordcastleunlocked.org.uk](http://www.oxfordcastleunlocked.org.uk)

[www.oxfordcastle.com](http://www.oxfordcastle.com)



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