

HERITAGE COUNTS 2013

ENGLAND



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INTRODUCTION

Heritage Counts 2013 is the twelfth annual 'audit' of the historic environment in England. It is produced by the Historic Environment Forum (HEF), a partnership between many of the prominent organisations involved in England's heritage sector.

Each year, *Heritage Counts* provides evidence of the value of heritage, including statistics showing trend data since 2002. It summarises the developments in the heritage sector over the last year, such as changes in government policy and new guidance. *Heritage Counts* also addresses a specific theme which for 2013 is skills. The challenge of nurturing heritage skills is important in enabling our country's great historic fabric to be properly cared for.

Heritage is a key contributor to the health of the UK economy, with new research showing that heritage based tourism contributes around £26bn to GDP and heritage related construction activity in England contributes £11bn. The research also shows that the historic environment, when sensitively adapted can accommodate a variety of economic uses, facilitates growth, employment and an overall improvement in social harmony.

This document reports an alarming decline in heritage and building conservation skills, which are essential if the heritage sector is to remain one of the engines of growth for the English economy. *Heritage Counts* research shows that 60% of the cultural heritage organisations have no training budget and 42% expect skills to be lost and not replaced due to retirement (with over half of those expecting this to occur within the next five years). The picture is also bleak within local authorities which

are critical players in the smooth running of the planning process, with the staffing levels for conservation specialists having declined by 33% since 2006 and further falls are expected. Increasingly, members of the HEF are working together to enhance skill levels and reverse the downward trend in the number of heritage professionals.

This document highlights a number of case studies, from local groups learning skills to make a difference in their communities, to projects bringing back long forgotten building techniques. Many of these projects are supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund's Skills for the Future Programme which, in May 2013, awarded over £20m for nearly 40 projects. This money will help almost 900 people take an important first step in a career in the heritage sector. It is, however, only scratching the surface of a huge challenge facing the entire heritage sector over the next five years.

Heritage Counts provides extensive information. If you wish to see more detail, including local level data, research projects which support this year's report, regional summaries and additional case studies, I encourage you to visit www.heritagecounts.org.uk.

Heritage Counts is prepared through the dedicated work of a number of hugely committed people across the sector. I would like to thank them and all our partners involved in its production for their continued support for this important document.



Sir Laurie Magnus
Chairman, English Heritage

CHAPTER 01

SKILLS IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

Introduction

As a result of the financial crisis, a number of publicly funded heritage organisations have faced a decline in their budgets and staffing levels. Staff numbers (full-time equivalents) have fallen by 33% for conservation officers and 18% for archaeological officers in local authorities since 2006¹. It is feared that this reduction in staff numbers has created an increased workload for the remaining employees, resulting in many organisations not having the time or money to allow staff opportunities to develop their skills and knowledge.

These issues have led to concerns within the sector that some aspects of the current workforce lack the necessary skills to effectively investigate, manage and conserve the historic environment. If no immediate action is taken it is expected that the situation will only get worse over the coming years and it is with these fears in mind that the Historic Environment Forum (HEF) agreed to focus the 2013 edition of *Heritage Counts* on skills issues.

There is already a range of skills initiatives across England, some of which are outlined in the case studies. However essential and useful these programmes are, they do not form part of any sector-wide strategy. In May 2013, HEF hosted a skills summit to bring together a range of representatives from across the sector to discuss these issues. One comment repeatedly made during the proceedings was that there is currently not enough labour market intelligence on skills. *Heritage Counts* has therefore commissioned a range of new research, as well as collating existing data to help us understand the issues facing the sector. This research includes:

1. A literature review, bringing together skills research undertaken in the built historic environment over the last five years.
2. Research examining skills provisions in local authorities.
3. Research into the current skills issues across the historic environment and cultural heritage sector.
4. Findings from the latest update of *Repair, Maintenance and Retrofit of Traditional Buildings Skills*.

Key findings

- 60% of cultural heritage organisations have no training budgets.
- 42% of respondents in the cultural heritage sector thought their organisation was currently lacking skills and many of these thought this directly impacted their business' efficiency.
- Conservation officers have on average 2.03 graduate or post-graduate qualifications, of which 26% of them are in 'conservation' at post-graduate level.

¹ www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/fifth-report-la-staff-resources/

- In England, 87% of building contractors do not hold formal qualifications relating to work on traditional buildings and 75% of contractors had not undertaken any traditional building training in the past four to five years.

Previous research

Since the early 2000s there has been a growing body of 'grey research' commissioned by English Heritage, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Heritage Training Group and other heritage organisations on skills in the historic environment. This research has attempted to ascertain the nature of the skills issues; both by defining which skills are most needed and also by quantifying the supply and demand of these skills. The literature review by Pye Tait has enabled the piecemeal research to be summarised in one document.

From the evidence gathered in the literature review there appear to be numerous market failures and recurrent issues that affect skills provision in the historic environment sector:

- The need for heritage conservation skills exceeding the current market demand, due to:
 - discrepancies in the knowledge between different stakeholders (eg in the construction market, where many clients and contractors appear to lack a clear awareness or appreciation of the need for traditional building techniques and materials).
 - funding constraints.
- Mismatches between the training available and the need and/or demand for specialist skills.
- Evidence of wage levels that do not compare to graduate occupations that require similar levels of theoretical education, professional experience and practical skill.
- Difficulties with very small markets for specialist skills, making it difficult for a) economically sustainable and accessible training provision to grow in the open market; and b) market supply of skills to be stable and appropriately remunerated.
- Challenges emerging with new technological and policy developments exemplified with the retrofit of traditional buildings.
- A lack of research into the skill needs of certain sections of the historic environment workforce, most notably site managers and visitor operations staff.

The research has shown that various stakeholders have attempted to introduce measures to address skills issues. While laudable in themselves, these initiatives are very small scale relative to the size of the well-recognised problems and are unlikely to have a significant national impact.

Strawberry Hill Trust

Strawberry Hill, Richmond is listed as Grade II* on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens. Strawberry Hill Trust has introduced a three-year scheme following the level 2 work-based training in horticulture with an additional in-house qualification in heritage garden skills. The apprentices have assisted in recreating Horace Walpole's 18th-century gardens. In addition they have had responsibility for creating and maintaining a HLF-funded community garden with improved disabled access.

Each apprentice is employed and supported by the Trust for one year, which is sponsored by Heritage Lottery Fund and the Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity. The two previous apprentices have gone on to gain useful employment within the horticultural industry, at Syon Park and Clifton Nurseries. This opportunity has given each of the apprentices a real foothold in the industry and employable skills to take forward.



Apprentice learning new horticultural skills at Strawberry Hill
© Strawberry Hill Trust

Protecting and recording the London wreck

Funding through the National Heritage Protection Plan has enabled Wessex Archaeology to undertake a project working with English Heritage (EH) Affiliated Volunteers on the *London* protected wreck site. The project supports the community-based recording of a nationally important 'at Risk' maritime heritage asset, the 1665 wreck of Charles II's warship *London* in the Thames Estuary off Southend.

The group of volunteers has been supported in its recording of the site by a scheme that has enabled them to purchase survey equipment and to receive site-specific archaeological training. The project aims to facilitate the recording of detailed observations about changes on the *London* by the volunteers. These observations are then transmitted to EH, through the medium of annual licensee reports, enabling EH to make informed decisions regarding managing change through the Heritage at Risk programme. The project allows for the recording and recovery of important but highly vulnerable finds and site features that would otherwise be lost as a result of erosion.

The project also increases community engagement with a nationally important local maritime asset and has brought the site to a wider public audience through linking with Southend Museum.



Volunteers recording the London wreck © Southend Museum

Skills amongst historic environment staff in local authorities

Since 2006 the number of FTEs working in the historic environment in local authorities has fallen by more than 28%². This remains the source of a great deal of concern, with the worry that a disproportionate number of the specialists leaving the sector are at more senior levels and this seniority correlates to level of experience, making the impact of the loss even greater than it first appears.

To understand these concerns, the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) and the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO) were commissioned by English Heritage to undertake research which sought to:

- Understand where gaps in skills exist.
- Understand preferred methods of developing skills (ie how best to fill any gaps).

Methodology

IHBC and ALGAO both carried out web-based surveys, asking broadly comparable questions. ALGAO received 64 responses to their survey and carried out an additional 14 in-depth telephone interviews. IHBC received a total of 185 individual responses to their survey, which included the views of service users, as well as those working for local authorities. They also made use of data collected as part of their *Quantifying Local Authority Conservation Staffing* project.

Where are the gaps?

Both surveys asked respondents to rate the importance of various skills to the creation or maintenance of competent local authority historic environment services. The options were graded *Crucial*, *Valuable*, *Useful*, and *Not Necessary*. Respondents were then asked to rate the presence of those skills within their local authority service. Here responses were graded as *Skilled*, *Capable*, *Aware*, and *Unaware*.

Building conservation services

There was almost complete consensus between those inside and those outside of local authorities as to which skills are *Crucial* for a successful local service. There was also a close correlation between those skills identified as *Crucial* and those where services are seen as *Skilled*. The one exception to this was 'Condition Assessment' which

² www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/fifth-report-la-staff-resources/

was classed as a *Crucial* skill, but services were not seen as *Skilled* (most respondents saw them as *Capable*). We can therefore conclude that this is an area where future training support needs to be directed.

In addition to 'Condition Assessment', there were further skills that were classed as *Valuable* and the relative skill level as *Basic*, these were 'Finance and Economics', 'Project Development', and 'Green' skills. Further consideration should also be given as to how local services could develop these *Valuable* skills.

The data collected in the *Quantifying Local Authority Conservation Staffing* project demonstrates the high number of qualifications held by current conservation officers, including an average of 2.03 graduate or post-graduate qualifications, 26% of which were in conservation at post-graduate level. Furthermore, each conservation officer is on average a member of 1.37 professional bodies. University courses and membership bodies may therefore be useful mechanisms to deliver essential training for new entrants in the sector. Initiatives such as the IHBC Annual School, which this year had the theme of skills, provides a further model for training delivery. The Summer School covered a wide range of topics representing all professions involved with heritage and included a popular hands-on building craft skills demonstration in Carlisle's main square.

Archaeological services

When a similar comparison between skills which are valued and skills which are present within a service was carried out for archaeological services, it identified that 'Recording and Information Management' was an area of potential concern. Whilst clearly identified as being a *Crucial* skill most respondents (who were all based in local authorities) rated themselves as *Capable*, as opposed to *Skilled*. However, this ought to be tempered by the fact that whilst most felt that they were only *Capable*, the majority felt that the necessary skills did exist elsewhere in their teams.

What the ALGAO survey also identified was an increasing need for those working within local services to have a wider range of skills, including elements like fundraising and budget management. 74% of respondents identified 'Funding of local service' as being the main issue for local government archaeology over the next few years and services are increasingly looking at different ways

Historic Environment Local Management

English Heritage is involved in a range of training and skills development initiatives with partners to build capacity in the sector. They are specifically committed to helping local authorities develop the skills, knowledge, and capacity to make the most of their historic environment, through the Historic Environment Local Management (HELM) programme. HELM consists of a comprehensive online presence, offering easy access to guidance and case studies, a quarterly newsletter and an annual training programme.

The training programme provides valuable networking opportunities for local authority staff from different departments, who may have limited chances to meet with colleagues from other authorities and share ideas and best practices.

In 2012/13 English Heritage delivered 35 free training events around the country offering almost 2,000 training places on a range of topics including the *National Planning Policy Framework*, *Developing a Local List*, the *Setting of Heritage Assets* and *Exploring Constructive Conservation*.

The 2014 programme is now in development, and details of this will be available on www.helm.org.uk/training, with the HELM website also providing access to a large variety of guidance and case studies.



HELM training event © English Heritage

in which they can raise revenue, or increase the revenue they currently raise. It is therefore unsurprising that whilst these skills scored relatively low in the survey, the follow-up discussions highlighted the expanding need for them.

Preferred method of training

Both surveys conclude there is a preference for practical experience and 'on-the-job' training. The second highest preference was training via a short course. It is not clear to what extent these scores are influenced by the relative availability of the different training opportunities. Conservation officers in particular receive relatively low levels of support from their managers for developing skills. For example, only 26% of conservation officers are allowed time off to attend training courses. Given these figures, there may well be value in developing some kind of formalised mentoring in the workplace for both disciplines.

It was also noticeable that there was little appetite for developing skills through E-learning and via web forums, even though such training can be undertaken with relative ease.

Influence

Questions aimed at assessing the seniority of historic environment specialists and their contact with elected members were included in response to the suggestions that recent cuts to services have disproportionately been aimed at senior, more experienced members of staff. The results received paint a mixed picture.

It was extremely positive to see that in both surveys 29% of respondents felt that contact with local Councillors is improving. This compares to 16% who felt that contact has declined. Only 2% of archaeological officers and 1% of conservation officers said that they had no contact. However, nearly all respondents, across both surveys, said that the most senior member of staff working in the historic environment or related field within the authority was at Principal Officer level or below. This might represent a case for further research on why there are not more conservation and archaeological officers progressing through to the senior grades within local government.

Developing heritage skills for economic regeneration

Leeds City Council recognised there was a shortage of heritage construction skills in the city for repair and maintenance of pre-1919 buildings, of which there are over 74,000 in the city.

In May 2013, Leeds City Council was awarded initial backing under the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Skills for the Future programme and a development grant of £34,500 to develop a full bid for a £810,300 grant to spend on providing practical heritage skills training in the city.

Working with Leeds College of Building and York College, the project will offer work-based training for over-19 year olds in NVQ3 in Heritage Construction Skills, along with short craft-based skills training for Small or Medium Enterprises already in the construction industry. There will be a practical focus on the heritage sector with specialist training in stone masonry, lime mortars, roofing, carpentry, brickwork, electrical and plumbing work.



A demonstration of wood window repairs for home owners in Leeds
© Leeds City Council

Historic environment and cultural heritage skills survey

Creative & Cultural Skills and English Heritage, with additional funding from the Welsh Government's Sector Priorities Fund pilot programme, commissioned TBR to conduct research seeking the views of employers and freelancers regarding skills and workforce development issues within the historic environment and cultural heritage sectors across the UK. For this survey there was a particular focus on archaeologists, conservators, surveyors, planners, local authority staff and cultural institutions including museums, libraries, archives and heritage sites open to the public. 1,010 telephone surveys were conducted with employers and a further 32 qualitative in-depth interviews were carried out across the sector. A summary of some of the headline figures is given below.

New entrants

In the past three years, 66% of cultural heritage employers had successfully recruited new staff (paid or unpaid) and a further 31% had neither sought nor recruited any new staff. Only 10% had sought to recruit, but had not found the right applicants.

A much larger proportion of organisations (including sole traders/freelancers) identify team members as lacking skills, compared to those who have struggled to find the right applicant. It can therefore be concluded that the main issue for the sector is skills gaps rather than skills shortages. Throughout *Heritage Counts*, skills shortages are defined as recruitment difficulties caused by a lack of individuals with the required skills, whereas skill gaps are deficiencies in the skills of the existing workforce.

Recruitment challenges

The challenges of recruitment caused by skill shortages are having a direct effect on the productivity of many heritage organisations. 31% of respondents felt that recruitment challenges disrupted workflow. In-depth respondents also highlighted that these challenges result in the need to outsource work.

Workforce

Almost half (47%) of the individual respondents stated they held a Master's Degree before starting their current role and a further 24% a Bachelor's Degree. These figures highlight the prevalence of graduates in the workplace; with further evidence from the qualitative interviews suggesting that academic achievements are used as a way of sifting applicants.

Engineering Heritage Skills

The North East is famed as the birthplace of the railway and made its fortune through mining and shipbuilding. However, former miners and engineers are aging or retiring and the vital skills needed to preserve our industrial heritage are dying out.

Fortunately, the North East's specialist heritage engineering skills are being passed on to a new generation thanks to a project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund's Skills for the Future programme and Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums.

Sixteen fixed-term bursary placements are available for people wanting to learn practical engineering heritage skills. The training provides participants with varied skills, including the repair and maintenance of steam engines and trams, and the skills needed to maintain examples of Victorian industry, such as mining and water pumping equipment to ensure that the North East's industrial history will be preserved for the future.

Placement providers include Beamish Museum, Locomotion, the North East Maritime Trust, South Tyneside Railway, Stanegate Restoration and Replicas, Stephenson Railway Museum and the Tanfield Railway.



Apprentices learning practical engineering skills © North of England Civic Trust

Business productivity

42% of respondents thought their organisation was currently lacking skills. When asked what impact these skills issues had, 31% of organisations indicated they were falling below capacity and unable to work to their full potential, 25% stated that it disrupted workflow and 19% that this led to increased workload for others.

Employers do offer a variety of training options to their staff, with over half (58%) of respondents indicating that the main type of training offered to their staff was 'on-the-job' training with support from a colleague. Just under one third (31%) offered coaching or mentoring from an experienced colleague and the same number also offered either part-time or short courses without a qualification. 21% offered part-time or short courses with a qualification³.

Business changes

39% of organisations questioned were in receipt of public funding, of these 61% stated that they had already implemented changes to their delivery model as a result of changes to public funding. The majority of respondents who did receive public funding felt that this funding was significant to the success of their organisation. When asked whether organisations or teams had the skills to manage these changes effectively, 53% stated they either had the skills required, or at least had them to a large extent.

Training budgets

The prevalence of 'on-the-job' training may represent the sector's solution to the limited training budgets facing many organisations, as 60% of respondents indicated that they do not have a training budget. This figure suggests that it is not just a case of providing more training opportunities but how to provide low-cost or free options. The cost of attending a course is not simply the course fees, but also travel, food and accommodation and time away from the workplace. Innovative methods for delivering training should therefore be considered when developing training programmes.

Not all organisations have seen a decrease in their training budgets and those who have increased their budgets in recent years have seen a range of benefits including; enabling their organisation to work to its full potential, a more motivated workforce and being able to adapt to new technologies and ways of working.

³ Note: respondents could give more than one answer to this question and so totals are greater than 100%.

Exceptional craftsmanship

Hadlow Tower, Kent, is the tallest and most flamboyant neo-Gothic prospect tower in Britain. This unique grade I listed building first appeared on the Buildings at Risk Register in 1998. Save Hadlow Tower Action Group was started by the local village community and with the help of a Compulsory Purchase Order, The Vivat Trust and other major funding bodies, including the Heritage Lottery Fund, the tower was finally restored in April 2013.

The tower is built of brick with the lower levels being rendered in hydraulic lime mortar and the upper levels in Roman cement, with decorative elements pre-cast in Roman cement. Roman cement, a product used to mimic stone, is no longer available in this country and has not been used here since the 1930s. However, to restore the tower authentically, The Vivat Trust reintroduced the product to the UK. The chosen material was Vicat Prompt which had to be imported from Grenoble, France, where it has been produced since 1817. It was mixed with brown dust from Oxfordshire Horton Brown limestone to give the correct colour effect. Approximately 2,000 individual pieces were produced making up finials, rosettes, pinnacles and splashes.

Personnel from Vicat initially came to Hadlow to work on the folly and effectively retrain the craftsmen. Training sessions in the use of the material were also run on the site for interested parties, including professionals, local amateurs and school children.



Restored decorative details on Hadlow Tower © The Vivat Trust and Save Hadlow Tower Action Group

IT skills

The main skill set that was felt to be missing across the cultural heritage sector is IT and digital (37%) skills, including social media, web optimisation, website management and website design. While the need for IT and digital skills is evident across the whole sector, the precise skills needed varied according to the specialism.

Retirement

Almost half (49%) of respondents envisaged skills being lost without replacement within their organisation due to retirement at some point in the future. Fifty-six per cent of these respondents believed this would occur in the next five years. Therefore succession planning ought to be a consideration in larger organisations' training provisions.

Volunteers

Over 50% of organisations indicated that they offered the same training to their unpaid staff as they did to their paid staff. Volunteers are expected to become more prevalent, as half (51%) of respondents expected the number of unpaid staff to rise in the next five years and a further 38% felt numbers would remain at their current levels.

Recommendations

The key recommendations from this research are:

- There is an expectation that in many parts of the sector candidates are qualified to at least degree level and future training opportunities should seek to support other entry level routes.
- Organisations ought to consider succession planning and the transfer of skills in any workforce development strategies.
- Future training opportunities will need to consider low, or non-existent training budgets and innovative solutions need to be found.
- Face to face and 'on-the-job' training remain important aspects of training delivery.
- Training should not just focus on specialist skills but also on generic work-based skills and Higher Education courses should consider teaching a broader range of skills.
- Many organisations in the sector feel that they are lacking high-level leadership skills and more specific leadership training is needed.
- Future training courses ought to be flexible enough to adapt to any changes experienced in the sector.

Harnessing community spirit to revive lost skills

Sarehole Mill – one of only two surviving watermills in Birmingham – dates from the mid 18th century and is thought to be an inspiration for the author JRR Tolkien who grew up nearby. The grade II listed building is now in the care of Birmingham Museums Trust (BMT) which has established a project to develop traditional skills while harnessing the enthusiasm of local volunteers, on the back of a major conservation project.

A £425,000 scheme, funded by Birmingham City Council, Arts Council England and the Birmingham Museums Development Trust, included the dredging of the mill pool, replacement of the leaking roof, the repair of mill machinery and the restoration of the Victorian-era bakehouse.

Repair of the machinery, and the availability of water from the mill pool, meant that the flour milling capacity was restored to working order. Last winter, 10 volunteers were trained by professional wind and water millers at Sarehole and now regularly mill flour at the site. There are plans to sell the flour produced at the mill, and the BMT is working to bring the site up to the required environmental health standard to make this possible.



Volunteers at work at Sarehole Mill in Birmingham © Birmingham Museums Trust

Repair, Maintenance and Retrofit of Traditional Buildings Skills research update

The *Repair, Maintenance and Retrofit of Traditional Buildings Skills research update* published in November 2013 provides vital up-to-date evidence on the demand and supply of traditional building skills, materials and training provision, needed for the repair, maintenance and energy efficiency retrofit of circa 6m traditional (pre-1919) buildings in England and Scotland. Commissioned by English Heritage, Historic Scotland and the Construction Industry Training Board it delivers updates on the National Heritage Training Group's (NHTG) reports in England (2008) and Scotland (2007).

Traditional building skills

Since 2008, the on-going effects of the economic recession and subsequent weak economic recovery have impacted on the built heritage sector. Overall spend on work to traditional buildings in England is calculated at an estimated

£3.8bn in 2013, down from £5.3bn in 2008. The impact of this reduction in demand is low take-up of training and diminishing opportunities for apprentices and trainees.

Qualifications

In England, 87% of surveyed contractors do not hold formal qualifications relating to work on traditional buildings and 75% of contractors had not undertaken any traditional building training in the past four to five years. Contractors place much higher value on experience and learning 'on-the-job', than formal training and qualifications.

The bulk of work on traditional buildings is undertaken by mainstream construction companies rather than heritage specialists. In England, 89% of contractors in the survey conducting work on traditional buildings are mainstream construction companies. As in past reports, contractors rate their own skills and experience highly. However, they may not have an understanding of appropriate materials and techniques which would be gained from accredited training and attaining recognised qualifications to ensure their skills and knowledge are fit for purpose. It

Developing energy efficiency skills through heritage-led regeneration in Cornwall

The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) is the professional body for building conservation practitioners and historic environment experts. Many IHBC members work in local authority historic environment services and have a lead role in local heritage-led regeneration schemes, some of which provide training opportunities in traditional construction and repair techniques.

One regeneration scheme in Cornwall, led by IHBC members in the local Historic Environment Service, is helping develop skills and good practice in improving the energy efficiency of older buildings. Since 2008, HLF-funded Townscape Heritage Initiatives (THI) in the former mining settlements of Camborne, Roskear and Tuckingmill have been funding sympathetic energy saving measures as a model for the future retrofit of local historic buildings. Students from Cornwall College's BSc Renewable Energy and Carbon Management course are monitoring these measures and the results will inform guidance to promote best practice locally. In addition a number of courses linked to THI projects have enabled local students, from primary to degree level, to gain valuable insights into sympathetic approaches to energy efficiency in historic buildings. Training days and 'hands-

on' events with local colleges and professionals are also being progressed to increase awareness of traditional skills.

Further information on these initiatives and a copy of *Improving Energy Efficiency in Cornish Historic Buildings* guide, which includes feedback on the energy monitoring is available from the following link:

www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=32261



IHBC members teaching local students about retrofit © Cornwall County Council

is calculated that in 2013, a total of 6,810 workers require additional training in using traditional materials.

Skill gaps

The most common skills gaps relating to specialist activities cited by contractors were, in order of frequency, carpentry and bench joinery, plastering (particularly lime), traditional glazing, lead work (including burning and welding), decorating, and roofing (including slating and lead). Additionally, there is an over-arching concern regarding diminishing knowledge and awareness across the sector on traditional building methods and materials. This is perceived to be due to people leaving the sector without young people replacing them.

Entry routes

This report echoes the findings reported in *Heritage Counts 2012* on the significant drop (72%) in the number of apprentices and trainees since 2005/6. While 38% of contractors have recruited an apprentice or trainee in the past four to five years, confidence in recruiting is reducing. Only 26% consider it likely they will recruit an apprentice or trainee in the next five years. The main barriers cited are the state of the economy and concerns about unpredictability for future business. This raises the prospect of a smaller skilled workforce in the future.

Demographics

It is notable that compared to the overall UK construction workforce, there are fewer younger workers and more older employees working on traditional buildings. Across England and Scotland, only 8% are aged 16-24, with 53.7% aged 25-49 and 34.3% aged 50 and over. This pattern has implications for succession planning and highlights the importance of retaining and passing on traditional building skills. However, there is significantly higher female participation in the workforce on traditional buildings at 9% compared to 1% in mainstream construction. This pattern is stronger among the employers classified as working 'exclusively' on traditional buildings, which reports 13% female employees. This figure is still very low and more needs to be done to encourage the widest range of entrants into the industry.

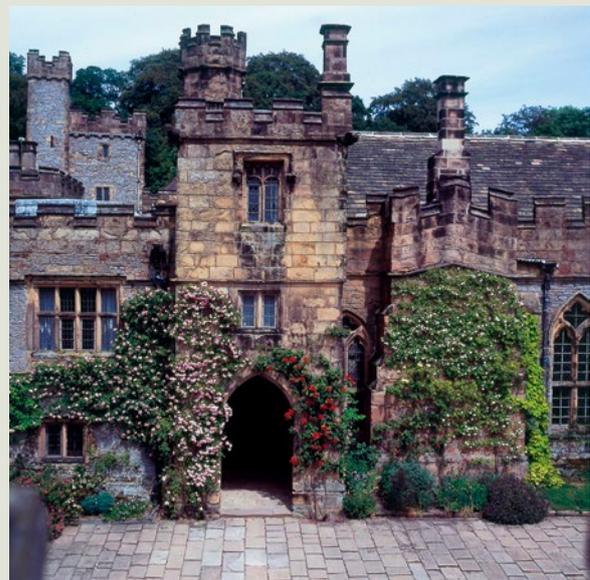
Skills of building professionals

The NHTG *Skills Analysis of the UK Built Heritage Sector report* (2008) found a lack of accredited professionals to meet the needs of traditional buildings. Many professionals reported having had little preparation for dealing with traditional buildings during their academic training and

Traditional Leadworking Plumbing Skills Training Initiative

One in five of all Historic Houses Association member houses supports skills development by employing apprentices⁴ but plumbers who are trained in the traditional leadworking skills of soldering, pattern-making and casting techniques have been steadily retiring from the workforce. There are currently a lack of formal courses in the UK to train new plumbers in the conservation of historic traditional leadwork, creating a growing craft skills shortage. Given this dwindling of expertise in the field, it is essential that the heritage sector should be fully aware of the nature of its leadwork and have some notion of how it can be correctly preserved, repaired and protected.

The Traditional Leadworking Plumbing Skills Training Initiative, supported by the Historic Houses Association, introduced two Continuous Professional Development courses, accredited by the Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering, hosted by Historic Houses Association Corporate Members Norman & Underwood Ltd, in Leicester. The aim of the courses is to provide an introduction to the principles and practices used in the conservation and repair of historic leadwork.



The embellishment of country houses, such as the work carried out by the Manners family at Haddon Hall, Derbyshire, demonstrates the art of the plumber as not only a skilled tradesman, but also a decorative craftsman © Haddon Hall

⁴ Historic Houses Association Members Survey 2013.

consequently have acquired their specialist skills and knowledge by less formal means. In the past five years, the number of accredited conservation professionals has increased to an estimated 2,200, but more work is still needed to increase this figure. Feedback from industry stakeholders highlights that there are still skills gaps including insufficient understanding of the range and appropriate use of traditional materials and lack of understanding of the impact of changes on traditional buildings in relation to energy efficiency retrofit.

Skills for energy efficiency retrofit

There is currently a drive to improve the energy efficiency of traditional buildings, with the Energy Act 2011 and launch of the Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation in January 2013. This prompted the research to be extended to cover the skills and training required for energy efficiency retrofit.

These drivers create particular challenges when considering energy efficiency retrofit measures for traditional buildings due to the differences between traditional and modern buildings in construction and thermal performance. While many of the skills are similar to those required in the mainstream sector, the knowledge required is often different, including understanding the building fabric, the impacts that change can have on moisture content of materials and knowledge of materials and techniques which are more appropriate for traditional buildings.

Only 4% of contractors surveyed have undertaken retrofit measures to traditional buildings. Yet 61% are very or quite confident in using existing skills to install low-carbon and energy efficiency measures. Industry stakeholders interviewed, such as professional bodies and trade federations, do, however, identify skills gaps, notably a need for more training in using new technologies, products and materials in general, and in particular how to install measures sensitively and sympathetically and minimise risks to traditional buildings.

Skills Action Plan

English Heritage is working with partners including the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), Historic Scotland, Cadw, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency and the National Trust on the *Recommendations and Skills Action Plan* to address the key issues for the sector raised by this and previous reports.

The *Recommendations and Skills Action Plan* developed from the main findings, focuses on the continued need to increase client demand for a skilled and qualified workforce and increase uptake on the range of training and qualifications available. In response to the new challenges for developing skills for retrofit, CITB, Historic Scotland and English Heritage are working with sector partners on the development of National Occupational Standards, qualifications and training programmes.

The Institute for Archaeologists Training Toolkit

The Institute for Archaeologists' aim is for employers to be offering and funding structured workplace learning opportunities for their staff and new recruits, adapting the model developed through its own Workplace Learning Programme. The Toolkit is essentially a resource pack which includes guides to setting up, recruiting and monitoring training opportunities, supported by pro forma training plans, learning agreements and completed examples from a wide selection of the placements delivered over the last seven years.

The difference between structured training and ordinary 'learning on-the-job' is that it provides the trainee with

planned goals and a sense of satisfaction in achieving them; it provides the employer with a means of measuring the progress of an employee and a basis from which to provide any formal training and for subsequent promotion; and it provides a means of accrediting the training against national standards. This is important for professionalising the sector, assisting with job seeking and providing a structure for career development. In order to promote a more structured approach, the Institute for Archaeologists is also planning to publish the Toolkit as a professional practice paper in the autumn.

www.archaeologists.net/trainingtoolkit

Skills for the Future

Introduction

When the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) consulted the sector in 2011 on which priorities should underpin the current strategic framework, 80% of respondents indicated that training was crucial to the long term sustainability of the sector.

The HLF Trustees responded by taking the unusual step in 2011 of soliciting applications from grantees already delivering successful training projects as part of the targeted Skills for the Future initiative. Trustees committed to running a new round of the programme and added 'skill development' to the expected list of outcomes from HLF's open programmes.

Skills for the Future

Skills for the Future was first launched in 2009. It was originally planned as a one-off initiative to support the provision of work-based training opportunities across the heritage sector in the UK. It was a strategic response to the impact of the recession, designed to put the sector in a stronger position for recovery. Built on the successful Training Bursaries programme, it provided paid placements to allow people to learn alongside experts in the workplace.

Though the budget for the programme had been £5m, demand was such that in May 2010, HLF Trustees invested £17m in 54 Skills for the Future projects in many areas including craft building skills, heritage engineering, digital skills and those required to deliver high quality public engagement. In 2012, following the request for additional bids for skills development, a further £13.6m was awarded to existing grantees. Trainees have now worked on, among other projects, the fabric of Lincoln Cathedral, the steam engines at Beamish, the National Trust gardens collection and the historic walls in Chester.

The call for new project proposals in 2012 resulted in 129 applications, with the highest demand from the land and biodiversity sector (46% of applicants). Built environment-related skills were a feature of 24 applications (18%) and 15 applications came from the industrial, maritime and transport sectors. Trustees were able to meet a third of demand and in May 2013 awarded 39 first-round grants to help organisations develop their projects. A full list of funded projects is available on the website

www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/programmes/Pages/SkillsfortheFuture.aspx

A heritage skills training project at Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse and the Museum of East Anglian Life

The two Norfolk and Suffolk museums have funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund's Skills for the Future programme to deliver a range of traditional skills training opportunities, such as apprenticeships in heritage farming and horticulture.

The trainees comprise of different ages, levels of education and training. All 75 trainees on the programme are taken on as employees and undertake their training via a range of work experience, accredited courses, one to one training and placements. Placement partners have included the National Trust, private estates, Wildlife Trusts and other museums. Museum volunteers have also been able to join in with some of the training opportunities, thereby increasing their skills.

Some of the trainees have progressed within the scheme, others have moved onto employed roles at their placement sites. After a period of unemployment following redundancy, Jason Skipper took up a 12-month traineeship in Heritage Engineering Skills. One of his placements was with the North Norfolk Railway and having completed his traineeship he is now employed as a steam engineer at the railway.



A hedgelaying course delivered for trainees and volunteers who work at the sites © Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse, Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service

Keeping history afloat

The Canal & River Trust, in partnership with National Historic Ships UK (NHS-UK), has been awarded £210,800 from the Heritage Lottery Fund's Skills for the Future programme to run six boatbuilding traineeships at the Heritage Boatyard, National Waterways Museum in Ellesmere Port. The Keeping History Afloat project was launched in 2011 to help regenerate traditional boatbuilding skills, with a focus on the restoration of the inland waterways collection based at the Museum.

The trainees work towards a level 2 NVQ Diploma in Marine Engineering. Throughout their 18-month placements, they are also given the opportunity to broaden their experience by spending time at a range of other sites including the Windermere Steamboat Museum, the Boatbuilding Academy Lyme Regis and commercial boatyard Brinklow Boat Services. They received specialist conservation training from the Collections Manager, following the guidelines set down in the NHS-UK publication *Conserving Historic Vessels*.

As a legacy of the project, a series of learning units has been developed and formally accredited by the awarding body Edexcel to become a new level 3 BTEC Diploma in Historic Vessel Conservation. This course will be offered for the first time later this year at the International Boatbuilding Training College, Lowestoft, and comprises of 280 learning hours, covering topics such as historic vessel significance, vessel evaluation

and stabilisation, recording and deconstruction, building replicas and different conservation processes.

For more information on the Keeping History Afloat project and the new BTEC qualification, please visit:

www.nationalhistoricships.org.uk/
www.shipshapenetwork.org.uk



One of the three current students on the boatbuilding traineeship
© National Historic Ships UK

Evaluation

The Skills for the Future programme has four objectives:

1. Fund high quality work-based training opportunities to equip people with the skills to pursue a career in heritage.
2. Meet identified skills shortages in the heritage sector.
3. Enhance the capacity of the heritage sector to deliver sustainable training and share good practice.
4. Increase the diversity of the heritage workforce.

The programme is subject to external evaluation and early evidence demonstrates that the objectives of the programme are being met and that the investment is making a difference to the planning and delivery of vocational learning. Increasing diversity is proving challenging but some progress is clear. Critically for the trainees, significant numbers are finding jobs in the sector.

Over 650 trainees have started on the programme. Of the 396 who had completed their placements by March 2013, 88% have received accreditation. More than 75% of completers have already found employment, 95 with the grantee or partner. Over 200 trainees have moved into employment within the wider heritage sector.

It is clear that the projects are contributing to a range of positive outcomes for the recipients. The vast majority of organisations have developed an entirely new training approach for the project. 83% have developed new partnerships and strongly agreed that they are more able to offer work-based training opportunities to entry-level applicants as a result of the programme and note a range of additional benefits:

- 62% had skills gaps in their own organisations filled by trainees.

- 72% reported that trainees contributed to other business benefits, such as extra capacity, new ideas and social media skills.

Views were more mixed on the projects' impacts on organisations' recruitment practices. 59% had made significant changes to recruitment processes as part of the project and grantees feel they are more able to attract and recruit a more diverse workforce.

More work is needed to fully analyse the trainee data based on entry and exit surveys but so far the data shows that 51% of recruits are young people aged 16-25 and 9% are from a Black, Asian or Ethnic Minority background. Interestingly, 56% had no background in heritage before the traineeship. 45% went into the traineeship with a degree; 5% had 5 GCSEs as their highest qualification; and 2% had no formal qualifications before starting.

The evaluation shows that the trainees have had an overwhelmingly positive experience:

“I’ve gained an enormous amount from my traineeship, a career first and foremost, a direction to take my life in now that I know this is what I want to do. I’ve ... contacts within the heritage sector, and guidance and advice on how I can continue to move forward.”

The evaluation work will continue as the projects progress, with results reported on the HLF website and at future practice-sharing events.

The Historic Environment Forum: Response to skills issues

In May, the Institute for Building Conservation and Institute for Archaeologists with the support from English Heritage, convened a skills summit on behalf of HEF. The summit brought together 60 members of the historic environment sector, to discuss the sector's response to the growing concerns around skills issues.

During the discussions at the summit, a vision for the ideal skills package for the sector was created, and it was agreed it should include:

- Non-traditional entry routes to the profession for those without academic qualifications or those wishing to join from other professions; including apprenticeships and work place learning opportunities.
- Stronger links between vocational and academic training, and between academic institutions, training providers and employers.

Institute for Archaeologists' Workplace Learning Programme, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, placement in Managing Heritage at Risk with Northumberland National Park

Natalie Ward finished an MA in Heritage Management and worked in field archaeology as a digger and assistant supervisor before she started her placement with Northumberland National Park in 2012. The placement gave her the opportunity to gain the skills she needed to move away from fieldwork and pursue a heritage management career, having decided that she wanted to have an active role in managing and protecting archaeological sites. As part of the placement she provided training in how to conduct condition surveys of scheduled monuments for the National Park volunteers; working with them to reduce the number of scheduled monuments at Risk within the National Park.

Following the placement, Natalie moved to the Brecon Beacons National Park to take up a Heritage Officer post. As part of that role, she successfully applied to host her own placement supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Natalie also chairs the Institute for Archaeologists' New Generation special interest group.



Natalie Ward conducting training in Northumberland National Park
© Northumberland National Park

The Historic and Botanic Garden Bursary Scheme

English Heritage is the lead partner in the Historic and Botanic Garden Bursary Scheme (HBGBS) which began in 2007. The Scheme was enabled by funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. There is a critical shortage of skilled gardeners who have both the necessary level of knowledge and practical skills to manage our treasured historic gardens. Committed professionals who have a multitude of skills and technical knowledge and can manage staff, resources and the demands of some of the country's key tourist attractions are needed.

The HBGBS began as a £1.4m project led by English Heritage to address this critical shortage in the historic gardens environment. Since then they have received two further grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund and are currently working on stage two of a HLF bid to add a further layer of training into the structure. Should this be successful the project will have received over £3.8m, all of which will have been match-funded by host gardens.

Offering the chance to work, full-time, in a historic garden is the most direct way in which the necessary practical skills can be gained. The HBGBS offers a 12-month practical paid placement at some of the country's greatest historic gardens. This year 19 gardens have elected to host a HBGBS garden trainee including Audley End, Chatsworth House, Hever Castle and Lullingstone Castle. The success of the project is demonstrated by the fact that 95% of trainees who have completed their placements have remained in the historic garden sector.



Graduates Gardeners: Since the scheme began in 2007 over 40 different organisations around the UK have hosted a trainee. These range from heritage organisations to private estates and public parks. 145 trainees have completed a placement year at 120 different historic gardens © Historic and Botanic Garden Bursary Scheme

- An alignment of the common elements of the existing National Occupational Standards to permit the development of more relevant qualifications.
- New entrants to the sector equipped with a common overarching set of skills, covering both generalist and specialist areas. This would allow for more straightforward career transition between current specialisms, although it would need the sector to develop a more cohesive shared language and vocabulary.
- A career guide to help members of the heritage workforce understand the different career pathways and options available to them.
- Comprehensive, up-to-date and sufficiently detailed labour market intelligence, allowing emerging skills gaps to be targeted. The sector also needs to be more adaptable to changing demands, with a more flexible workforce.
- Promoting and helping property, construction and land management organisations to understand the contribution and needs of heritage; in order to mainstream the demand for heritage skills and to create more 'intelligent clients'.

HEF has agreed with the vision and acknowledges that the skills issues in the sector can only be addressed by cross-organisational working. It has pledged to support the ideas raised at the summit by committing to the following actions:

Establishing a new time-limited working group, reporting to HEF and other UK partners; in order to develop a new framework for heritage qualifications and skills development. Additionally, the group will disseminate good practice examples, look into partnership working and hold further, UK-wide summits to review progress of the working group.

Establishing a task group to promote client demand for skilled heritage practitioners, by reviewing attitudes towards accredited professionals by other sectors, opening a conversation with DCMS, other government departments and partners.

Ensuring there is a coherent strategy for training and skills development, by creating better communication between the advocacy role of HEF and the National Heritage Protection Plan.

This vision, created at the HEF skills summit, is the first time the sector has stated explicitly what it envisages the skills package should look like. With this agreement, the next step is to develop a strategy, which cannot be done

by one single organisation and highlights the need for collaborative working.

While all the case studies highlighted throughout this summary are admirable, it is clear that without a sector-wide strategy to underpin them, these initiatives will get lost in the complexity of the issues. It is hoped that this research is the first step in trying to combat some of the skills gaps the historic environment sector is facing at the beginning of this new and challenging era.

Education for tomorrow's entrepreneurs

EDUCCKATE – Education Culture and Creative Knowledge Alliance for Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs – is an 18-month pilot project co-funded by the European Commission launched in February 2013, with partners from seven EU countries. The Centre for Applied Archaeology, University College London is the lead partner in the UK and is working closely with UCL Advances and HUB King's Cross to implement the project.

EDUCCKATE will provide UCL students and graduates from cultural and creative degrees with access to businesses in the sector by matching them with mentors who will host them during a supported work placement, giving them the opportunity to develop business projects and increase their employability and entrepreneurial skills. Fifteen students/recent graduates will attend UCL Advances enterprise training in November 2013, before embarking on a three-month, paid and mentored placement. Fifteen business leaders from the cultural and creative sector will receive training in mentoring and host students at their own company. See www.ucl.ac.uk/caa/ for more information.

English Cathedral Works and Stained Glass Studios

Looking after our cathedrals requires a wide range of highly skilled craft specialists including stone masons, carvers and sculpture conservators, stained glass conservators, lead workers and joiners. Cathedrals have a tradition of training and mentoring that stretches back to the first medieval master builders.

Out of the 42 Anglican cathedrals, 13 have a dedicated works department. All are committed to preserving these specialist traditional skills by taking on trainees, offering apprenticeships, supporting professional development for their existing staff and participating in a wide range of training initiatives. Maintaining a robust works department ensures that staff have the skills to continue to maintain their vast buildings. Large restoration projects at Lincoln Cathedral and York Minster have enabled further opportunities for training initiatives. In the process, they are providing training opportunities for individuals whose acquired skills can be applied to secular buildings.

In 2009, eight English Cathedrals with in-house masonry workshops set up the Cathedrals' Workshops Fellowship (CWF). It has developed a common programme of advanced training for apprentice masons as prior to this, stonemasons could only gain an NVQ level 3 qualification. The CWF enables students to reach NVQ level 5, equivalent to a foundation degree.



HLF-funded trainees Tom Vowden and Merlyn Griffiths © York Glaziers Trust

CHAPTER 02

THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT IN 2013: AN OVERVIEW

Introduction

The heritage sector has had a lot to celebrate in the past 12 months. London 2012 and the Cultural Olympiad brought the heritage of the United Kingdom to a huge global audience. Heritage Open Days enjoyed the most successful year of its 18-year history, and there is evidence that heritage participation has become more inclusive. People are also visiting heritage sites more frequently.

The year has also seen significant change in the way the historic environment is managed. The Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act enshrined in law reforms such as statutory Heritage Partnership Agreements which the sector has been seeking for many years. At the same time, heritage bodies are carefully monitoring the potential impact of wider planning and regulatory reforms on historic assets and landscapes.

The squeeze in public sector funding continues to have widespread impacts, from further losses in local government historic environment staff (with the number of FTEs for conservation officers down by 33% since 2006), to the development of new business and funding models

100 Years of Heritage Protection

This year marks the centenary of the 1913 Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act, which laid the foundations for the present system for protecting and managing the historic environment. Its provisions enabled the state to intervene when privately owned historic assets were threatened, and to make a list, or schedule, of monuments of national importance. It also strengthened the Office of Works' power to take historic assets into guardianship and provide public access to them. A number of initiatives marked this anniversary, including the popular three-part BBC 4 series *Heritage! The Battle for Britain's Past*, the publication of *The Men from the Ministry* by English Heritage's Chief Executive Simon Thurley, and a series of exhibitions at the Quadriga Gallery at Wellington Arch in London.



In the first 20 years after the 1913 Act, 229 sites came into the care of the Office of Works. This archive photograph of the east walls of the monks' dormitory at Furness Abbey, Cumbria, being underpinned with a concrete beam in March 1930 was featured in 'A Monumental Act: How Britain Saved its Heritage' © English Heritage

for heritage organisations. The highest profile example of this is the proposed new model for English Heritage, announced in June's Spending Round.

The ability to adapt and change is crucial for heritage organisations and assets. In the last year, the sector has produced even more evidence to show that the historic environment, whether as a powerful draw for visitors, or sensitively adapted to a variety of economic uses, is central to a healthy, growing economy.

Changes to the funding and resources landscape

Spending Round 2013

The Spending Round on 26 June confirmed departmental budget allocations for 2015/16, some of which will bring about significant change in the heritage sector:

The 10% reduction in the Department for Communities and Local Government's (DCLG) resource budget suggests that pressure on local authority historic environment services will continue in the medium term. The Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) received a cut of 7%, or £62m in real terms, and limited the cut to arts and national museums and galleries to 5%, protecting free admission to national museums and galleries. For 2015/16, English Heritage's grant-in-aid was cut by 10% in cash terms. This is in addition to the 30% reduction in real terms in grant-in-aid between 2002/03 and 2012/13.

The Chancellor also announced that the Government will consult on establishing a charity to care for the National Heritage Collection on a self-financing basis, supported by Government investment of £80m.

Under the proposal English Heritage's governing body, the Commission, will license the charity, due to be set up by March 2015, to run the National Heritage Collection on its behalf.

The Commission will continue to manage the organisation's responsibility for planning and heritage protection, which will remain unchanged. The current planning and heritage protection service will remain an Arms-Length Body, which will continue to advise national and local government on statutory planning and designation proposals. DCMS will launch a consultation on the proposals shortly.

VAT

The new HMRC rules for VAT on alterations as well as on maintenance and repair to listed buildings came into force on 1 October 2012, with a transition period until 30 September 2015 for schemes already approved or submitted for Listed Building Consent (LBC) before 21 March 2012. As yet there is only anecdotal evidence of an adverse effect on heritage. English Heritage is considering commissioning research into the effect on small charities and listed buildings at risk bearing in mind that HMRC have said they will review the changes to VAT on approved works to listed buildings after two years.

Meanwhile the current funding level of £42m a year for the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPWGS) is meeting the level of demand and all claims are being paid in full, according to the Church of England's Cathedrals and Church Buildings Committee. This comes after the Chancellor confirmed that following the Spending Round the £42m per annum available for the LPWGS will be maintained for 2015/16. Previously the sum set aside for the scheme was only guaranteed until the May 2015 General Election. From October 2013, DCMS extended the scope to include works to pipe organs, turret clocks, bells, bell ropes and professional services directly related to eligible building work such as architect fees.

In late 2012 the EU consulted on a review of existing legislation on VAT reduced rates, providing an opportunity to argue the case for a level playing field of a reduced rate of VAT for new build work and the repair and maintenance of historic buildings. The EU have yet to release their findings.

Energy efficiency

Government launched the Green Deal, a scheme to finance energy efficiency improvements through savings on fuel bills, in January 2013.

The sector has been engaged with the technical challenges the Green Deal poses for older buildings as well as with the skills required to implement such work. This engagement has largely been through the Older Properties Working Group set up in late 2011 by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). The Sustainable Traditional Buildings Alliance (STBA), established to provide an independent forum and coordination across the sector on research, education, training and policy hosted a research conference with the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings in June and has now been commissioned by DECC to audit and review existing

guidance and research on the energy performance of traditional buildings. The outcome of this work, *Responsible Retrofit of Traditional Buildings*, was published in 2012 and will be followed in autumn 2013 by a DECC-funded risk assessment tool for retrofitting buildings of traditional construction.

Philanthropy

The Heritage Lottery Fund has invested a further £13m through its Catalyst programme, launched in 2011 as a £100m joint initiative with DCMS and Arts Council England to support the cultural sector in building long-term financial sustainability through increasing capacity to attract private support and to establish endowments. Since then, 31 heritage organisations have received support for endowments, nine for umbrella capacity building programmes, and over 100 have received small grants of up to £10,000 for opportunities ranging from enhanced

fundraising systems and infrastructure to increased staff skills and knowledge. If all match-fundraising targets are met, Catalyst will have contributed £90m to new or existing endowments for heritage in England by 2017.

The Heritage Alliance and the Prince's Regeneration Trust (PRT) are two of the organisations to secure support for umbrella capacity building programmes; second round awards will be announced in December. The Heritage Alliance, in response to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's *10 Point Philanthropy Plan*, has developed a 'Giving to Heritage' programme. 'Giving to Heritage' intends to deliver 8,000 training opportunities to help heritage organisations develop and improve their fundraising skills. While the PRT project will provide a UK-wide education and mentoring programme to arm communities with the skills and knowledge needed to save, protect and manage their heritage.

CAP reform and the New Environmental Land Management Scheme

Over 80% of England's 20,000 scheduled monuments are on agricultural land and many other important heritage assets are also strongly represented in rural areas; many of the assets on the Heritage at Risk Register are in the countryside. Preserving these assets in rural areas has been greatly aided by funding programmes under the current Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) administered by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). The current RDPE runs from 2007 to 2013, with a budget of approximately £3.9bn, and includes programmes such as Environmental Stewardship, a major source of funding for heritage assets in the countryside.

The current RDPE and other similar schemes in Europe will end on 31 December 2013, and discussions have taken place in Brussels over the next CAP budget and CAP reform. Political agreement for a new CAP budget was reached in June 2013. Defra is now discussing the design for a successor to the RDPE with a wide range of stakeholders including English Heritage, and plan to start the new programme on 1 January 2015 after a transition year in 2014.

The successor to Environmental Stewardship will be known as NELMS (New Environmental Land Management Scheme), and Defra has confirmed that the historic environment will be a priority within the new scheme. Securing the basic principle that heritage will be included within the programme is welcome news, but is only the beginning of what is likely to be a long series of negotiations before the programme begins in 2015.



The repair and consolidation of Low Slit Mine, a scheduled lead mining site in Bishop Auckland, County Durham, was completed in 2012 under a Higher Level Stewardship agreement. The project was awarded an English Heritage Angel Award in 2013. © Kevin Doonan Architect Ltd

This year has also seen the publication of *Philanthropy Beyond London*, an independent report to Government, which highlights the challenges faced by cultural institutions outside the capital, which receive only 30% of all philanthropy generated in England.

HLF Strategic Framework

HLF continues to implement its strategic framework, *A Lasting Difference for Heritage and People*. New grant programmes have been rolled out to help the heritage sector face up to challenging economic conditions and financial uncertainty. HLF has also simplified its application processes and placed a stronger focus on the outcomes funding can deliver. HLF will continue to deliver the majority of funding through its open grant programmes:

- Sharing Heritage;
- Heritage Grants; and
- Our Heritage.

Over the past year HLF has announced further grants totalling £12.3m through its Catalyst programme to help heritage organisations achieve greater financial resilience by attracting private investment; an additional package of £17m grants through the Skills for the Future programme to fund work-based placements in heritage; the availability of Transition Funding to help organisations previously supported by HLF develop plans for greater financial sustainability; and more grant support for private owners of heritage including capital grant support where there is a step change in access and engagement. A new grants programme for places of worship was launched for projects that address urgent repair needs and which also encourage greater community use and engagement. In addition, the Heritage Enterprise programme is now open, helping communities rescue neglected historic buildings and unlock their economic potential. Meanwhile, the targeted programmes for parks, landscapes, townscapes and young people have all been simplified, improved and re-launched.

Three new straightforward programmes for grants of between £3,000 and £10,000 have also been introduced:

- Sharing Heritage – a programme for any type of heritage project that builds upon the popular ‘All Our Stories’ initiative.
- Start-up grants - designed to support community organisations take on new responsibilities for heritage.
- First World War: then and now – a programme to help communities mark the centenary of the First World War.

Heritage crime

The Alliance to Reduce Crime against Heritage (ARCH), a voluntary national network which promotes a range of initiatives to galvanise local action against heritage crime, continues to grow. Launched in 2011, ARCH now has almost 200 members.

Key developments in the last year include the publication of guidance by English Heritage and ARCH designed to help owners, tenants and managers of historic properties adopt effective crime prevention techniques and to understand enforcement procedures. The sector also welcomed the Enactment of the Scrap Metal Dealer’s Bill on 28 February 2013 as a means to protect legitimate traders and to deter metal thieves. English Heritage research showed that around 22,000 – or 6% – of listed buildings were harmed by metal theft in 2011, with churches and war memorials the most badly affected. The theft of the 15th-century artworks from the Churches Conservation Trust’s Holy Trinity Church, Torbryan in Devon in August underlines the tension between open access and security.

Planning system changes

Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (ERR) Act

On 26 April, the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act introduced new legislation governing the way the historic environment is managed and protected in England. Some of the provisions are long-awaited heritage protection reforms, transferred from the 2008 Heritage Protection Bill to the ERR Bill in 2012. Others will implement the recommendations of the 2011 *Penfold Review of Non-Planning Consents*. The reforms have been welcomed as providing greater certainty for owners and developers of historic buildings whilst maintaining levels of heritage protection. The key provisions are:

- The introduction of Certificates of Lawfulness of Works to Listed Buildings.
- The merger of Conservation Area Consent with Planning Permission.
- Certificates of Immunity from listing can be sought at any time.
- Statutory Heritage Partnership Agreements (HPAs) for listed buildings and structures.
- Listed building entries to be made more precise in terms of extent of listing and special interest.
- The introduction of a new system of Listed Building Consent Orders (national and local).

Changes to listed building entries and Certificates of Immunity came into force in June 2013. Secondary legislation is required for the other provisions, which will be subject to public consultation in autumn 2013. With the exception of the merger of Conservation Area Consent with Planning Permission (due in October 2013), the provisions will come into force in spring 2014.

Streamlining the planning system

The Government is streamlining the planning system to encourage growth, and in May 2013 introduced a number of reforms, extending permitted development rights to make it easier to change the use of buildings and removing the need for planning permission for many minor changes. Perhaps the most significant change for heritage has been that owners of agricultural buildings can establish certain uses, only needing to seek 'prior approval' from the local planning authority.

Temporary changes to permitted development were brought in for three years to stimulate the building industry. The most controversial changes allow empty office buildings to be converted to residential use, by just seeking 'prior approval'. Secondly, a measure to allow empty shops and other town centre buildings to be used for a number of other uses on a temporary basis for up to two years is one of the recommendations of the Portas Review. Thirdly, outside 'protected areas' such as conservation areas, home owners and businesses are allowed much larger extensions under permitted development for the next three years.

To assist in the delivery of superfast broadband, Government removed the requirement of operators to seek 'prior approval' for the installation of fixed equipment in streets for a period of five years. Operators have had to sign up to a Code of Best Siting Practice, and this includes understanding the impact on heritage.

Other streamlining measures have been the reform of Design and Access Statements, introduced on 25 June to raise the threshold so they are only required for 'major developments' (as defined by DCLG in 2010). They are still required for all listed building consents applications and for extensions and new development over 100sqm in conservation areas.

On 5 August 2013 a further DCLG consultation *Greater flexibilities in change of use* was issued which proposes further flexibilities for the reuse of farm buildings of up to 500sqm. This allows change of use and the conversion works under permitted development but subject to 'prior approval' and includes changes to residential use. A similar system is proposed for allowing the conversion of empty

shops into residential units, as well as further changes to the Use Class Order to allow greater flexibility in changes between uses. Whilst the consultation has only recently closed, at present these proposals would have a significant impact on the historic environment and could see a large number of traditional farmsteads being converted to new uses and many town centre conservation areas changing in character. Urban and rural change is inevitable, but change needs to be implemented in a way that minimises damage to the significance of these building types.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Eighteen months after publication, the NPPF appears to be working reasonably well and, on balance, levels of protection appear to have been broadly maintained. Government guidance to support the NPPF (the NPPF Practice Guidance) was published in late August, including guidance on Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment. To support the NPPF Practice Guidance, English Heritage, with a drafting group drawn from the constituent bodies of the Historic Environment Forum, is developing guidance to replace the PPS 5 Practice Guide. It is hoped that this will be ready for consultation in early 2014. There are concerns that a growing number of local planning authorities may be unable to implement the heritage provisions of the framework due to an absence of historic environment advisors.

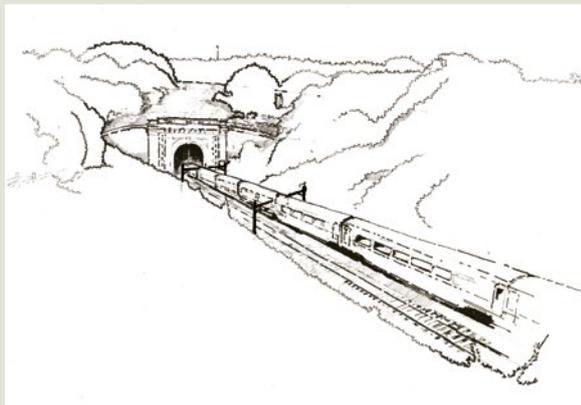
The Growth and Infrastructure Act

The Growth and Infrastructure Bill received Royal Assent on 25 April 2013. Hailed as the Government's flagship legislation for growth, the Act introduced reforms to reduce bureaucracy and encourage business investment, housing development, new infrastructure and job creation. Among the wide range of measures in the Act, the following are most likely to have impacts on the historic environment:

- Giving developers of large-scale business and commercial developments a fast-track option via the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP) route whilst retaining community consultation.
- Accelerated superfast broadband roll-out, particularly in rural areas.
- Enabling reconsideration of economically unviable Section 106 agreements to increase housing development activity.
- Reforming permitted development householder rights for uncontentious extensions on which neighbours are consulted.
- Reducing the amount of supporting information required for planning applications.

Major infrastructure

The heritage sector is working with Network Rail to minimise harmful impacts and secure positive benefits for the heritage assets along Brunel's Great Western Main Line, due to be electrified by 2017 as part of Network Rail's 10-year improvement plan. The London Paddington to Bristol Temple Meads section includes 185 designated heritage assets, 40 of them designated following English Heritage and Network Rail's pioneering review of levels of protection of the route's structures prior to major development. The review was a first step in the development of an approach to adapting the main line's historic structures for electrification in ways which protect their significance. During 2013, English Heritage, local authority conservation staff, Network Rail and their advisers Alan Baxter Associates have continued to work together to agree detailed conservation and design principles for the various types of historic asset along the route.



An early concept sketch of the electrification of the approach to the Grade II* Box Tunnel West Portal, Wiltshire. © Alan Baxter & Associates

Major infrastructure

The Autumn Statement announced capital allocations to a number of major projects including the extension of the Northern Line to Battersea, the new A5-M1 link road in the East of England and superfast broadband to key UK cities. The Spending Round also confirmed funding for High Speed 2, 168,000 new affordable homes, extensive flood protection and guarantees for projects such as the Mersey Gateway Bridge and Hinkley Point C Nuclear Power Station. Heritage sector bodies with a formal role in the planning system will wish to ensure that any detrimental impacts on the historic environment are minimised and that the principle of stakeholder engagement, for example

through the Department for Transport's HS2 NGO stakeholder forum, is maintained.

Decentralisation

The last year saw a significant increase in the amount of growth funding devolved to local communities. In line with recommendations made in Lord Heseltine's *No Stone Unturned: In Pursuit of Growth*, the Autumn Statement committed £474m to Enterprise Zones to accelerate delivery of large housing and public sector sites for development, and the Regional Growth Fund (RGF), originally a £2.4bn fund operating across England from 2011 to 2015, was increased to £3.5bn. The capacity building budget for Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) was also doubled, from £10m to £20m per year.

The Budget also confirmed the creation of a Single Local Growth Fund from April 2015 through which Government will allocate £20bn to LEPs over five years on the basis of individually negotiated strategic investment plans. These will run in tandem with local investment plans for the EU Structural and Investment Growth Programme. Many LEPs already recognise tourism as a key growth sector, which may produce funding objectives for historic assets or public realm initiatives.

The Farrell Review of Architecture and the Built Environment

Government commissioned Sir Terry Farrell to undertake an independent review into architecture and the built environment, and make recommendations in four key areas: the Government's role in promoting design quality; the economic benefits of architecture; cultural heritage and education. The call for evidence closed in July. Out of 200 responses, the heritage sector was well represented presenting a strong consensus. Key points made included:

- The importance of the historic environment in creating some of the best urban environments in England.
- How using the context of historic buildings can help designers create new development that enhances the existing environment and helps to reinforce identity and sense of place.
- The need for the training of architects, surveyors and planners to contain modules on architectural history and urban design/designing in context.
- The need for training of local authority staff and elected members who serve on planning committees to give them the confidence to judge design quality.

The Farrell Review is expected to report by the end of 2013.

National Heritage Protection Plan

The National Heritage Protection Plan (NHPP) reached its second anniversary in May 2013. Conceived as a business plan for the historic environment, the NHPP is reviewed annually to ensure it maintains focus and resources on a shared understanding of sector priorities. Between December 2012 and February 2013 English Heritage ran a second consultation on the resourcing, priorities and communication of the NHPP. It received 72 responses from across the heritage sector, which showed:

- 65% of respondents felt that changes made to the first iteration of the NHPP made it clearer and easier to understand. However, many felt more work is needed to reduce jargon, improve presentation and make the Plan more accessible outside the heritage sector.
- Although there was a significant increase in the number of respondents who felt the NHPP is balancing its resources correctly, many were concerned about the impact of funding cuts on the implementation of the Plan and heritage protection more generally.

In addition, the NHPP Advisory Board – the body responsible for the overall direction and management of the Plan – made adjustments to its membership to better reflect the value of private investment.

World Heritage Sites

At the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the Committee considered a large number of state of conservation cases, including a number from the UK which it had looked at previously. No new sites from the UK were inscribed on the World Heritage List. The Committee approved Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for 17 UK World Heritage properties, meaning that all but four of the UK sites on the World Heritage List, and all but one of the English sites, now have an agreed definition of their significance as the basis for their future management.

A new report suggests that World Heritage Site status brings financial benefits to local areas. The UK National Commission for UNESCO report *Wider Value of UNESCO to the UK 2012-13*, published in September 2013, estimates that UK World Heritage Sites generate around £60m per year via, for example, increased tourism numbers and spend, and through regeneration projects and their effect on stimulating inward investment. The report suggests that the benefits of Inscription vary across sites, with less well-known sites gaining more than those which already have an international profile. The Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site, for example, reports at

least £3.8m per annum additional income since Inscription, an increase of 100%.

Promoting sustainable growth

Over the past year the sector has produced a wealth of evidence to illustrate the importance of the historic environment to sustainable economic growth. The body of research, summarised here, challenges perceptions that heritage is a barrier to growth and positions the sector as a partner in strengthening the economy.

New Ideas Need Old Buildings

In April the Heritage Lottery Fund published the first ever comprehensive analysis of how businesses across the UK use historic buildings. Based on research commissioned by HLF and English Heritage, *New Ideas Need Old Buildings* revealed the positive impact historic buildings have on the UK's economy and their proven ability to contribute to growth. The research surveyed the type of businesses that occupy listed buildings and discovered a greater concentration of companies linked to the most productive parts of our economy – the creative and cultural sector and professional services. The research found that:

- Listed buildings are highly attractive to creative industry start-ups and 60% of creative businesses based in historic buildings have been established within the last three years.
- Listed buildings are far more likely to be occupied by the types of independent non-branded business that give places a sense of distinctiveness.
- Businesses based in listed buildings make an estimated annual contribution to UK GDP of £47bn.

Constructive Conservation and Heritage Works

The latest in English Heritage's Constructive Conservation series – *Sustainable Growth for Historic Places* – was launched in March 2013. The ethos of constructive conservation recognises and reinforces the historic significance of places, while accommodating the changes necessary to make sure they can continue to be used, particularly – in the latest publication – in support of key growth sectors. A range of case studies shows how historic assets have been successfully adapted to support a number of industries and sectors, including hotels and leisure, tourism, renewable energy, transport and major infrastructure.

A revised edition of *Heritage Works*, produced by English Heritage, the British Property Federation, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and Deloitte, was

Independent retail in historic areas

The HLF's report *New Ideas Need Old Buildings* shows that historic buildings and the historic quarters of towns and cities are the places where new ideas and growth are most likely to happen, and that commercial businesses based in these locations are more productive and generate more wealth than is the average for all commercial businesses across the whole economy.

The report found that the proportion of independent retail businesses in listed buildings is particularly high – over 90% in some categories.

In the middle ages, Norwich's trading links made it England's second city, and its historic core reflects this legacy, with over 400 listed buildings. These now provide a particularly diverse retail offer characterised by independent businesses. Of those based in the city centre's listed buildings, 55% are independent shops and 20% are places to eat, creating a more relaxing and pleasant environment.



Lower Goat Lane, Norwich © Peter Everard Smith

published at the same time. A practical toolkit for best practice in heritage-led regeneration schemes, *Heritage Works* provides the practical basis for the constructive conservation approach.

The Economic Impact of Maintaining and Repairing Historic Buildings in England

To improve understanding of the value of the nation's built heritage as an economic resource in its own right, as opposed, for example, to its role in the tourism market, English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund commissioned Ecorys to undertake a study to estimate the economic impact of maintaining and repairing historic buildings in England. The findings, published in March 2012, show that:

- The built heritage construction sector is a highly significant contributor within the context of the wider national economy, directly supporting in the order of 180,000 FTE jobs.
- England's built heritage construction sector is estimated to account for some £11bn in GDP.
- The scale of the built heritage construction is most marked in the three regions that make up the Greater South East – the South East, London and the East of England.
- Public sector funding acts as an enabler or catalyst to unlock wider investment in the historic environment, including private sector resources.

The Economic Impact of the UK Heritage Tourism Economy

Oxford Economics updated its 2010 report to the Heritage Lottery Fund on the economic impact of the UK heritage tourism industry using the latest available data. The new research, published in July 2013, shows that heritage-based tourism is now worth £26.4bn to the UK economy – £5.8bn higher than the 2010 estimate – and employs 253,000 people.

The High Street and The Changing Face of the High Street: Decline and Revival

In recent years, a combination of factors – including out-of-town shopping, the impacts of the economic downturn and particularly the growth of online retailing – has created unprecedented challenges for the traditional high street and many historic town centres. The crisis in the high street has become a key public policy issue, attracting the interest of Central Government and generating extensive media coverage.

English Heritage held a national seminar with a range of retail, property, development and planning experts to discuss the implications of these trends for historic retail centres in March 2013, and the discussions were reflected in *The Changing Face of the High Street: Decline and Revival*. Published in July, the report shows that although the degree and pace of change in the retail sector and town centres is unprecedented, there is cause for a degree of optimism. It demonstrates, through a number of case studies, how local authorities and other partners have successfully addressed some of the key challenges. This has produced a range of 'principles for success' for retail and town centre management in historic areas, covering areas such as the reuse of historic assets in smaller-scale retail development, the integration of large-scale development with existing historic areas, and securing partnerships and entrepreneurial involvement in town centre regeneration.

The Community Census

Community Census is a report by Ecclesiastical Insurance in partnership with the Centre for Economics and Business Research. It shows that charities, religious bodies and heritage organisations will contribute £1bn more to the UK economy in 2013 than in 2012 as community involvement across the UK grows from £26.5bn to £27.5bn. The Census, published in July, also suggest that this healthy growth may be sustained in the future, as one in five of those aged 18-34, report attending or supporting local charities, religious groups or heritage sites at least once a month. This is a greater proportion than other generations – around 15% for those aged 55 or older and closer to 10% for those aged between 35 and 54.

In addition to the economic benefits, the report also found that almost seven in ten (69%) of UK adults believe that local heritage buildings and sites are important to their local community – an estimated 35m people.

The Local Economic Value of a Protected Wreck

The Nautical Archaeology Society published *The Local Economic Value of a Protected Wreck* in June 2013. Commissioned by English Heritage, the research estimated that the value to the local economy of the diver trail on the protected wreck site *Coronation* off the coast of Plymouth was £42k in 2012. The majority of visitors were found to stay in the local area spending money on local accommodation, food and drink, and evening entertainment as well as on specialist diving equipment and boat charters. The wider economic value of maritime heritage was the subject of the Maritime Heritage Trust's annual conference in Cardiff in October 2012.

The Impact of the Cultural Olympiad

The University of Liverpool's report, *London 2012 Cultural Olympiad Evaluation*, published in April 2013, estimates the size of the audience (participants and volunteers) at 43.4m. This includes an estimated 1.6m domestic tourist visits across the Cultural Olympiad within the period July to September 2012, and an estimated 126,000 international tourist visits over the same period to the London 2012 Festival, the culmination of the four-year programme. The report also estimates that 204.4m people engaged throughout the Cultural Olympiad through broadcasts and online viewings.

Heritage played a key part in the Cultural Olympiad. The UK bid for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games promised that London 2012 would include special community-led programmes to celebrate the UK's diverse heritage and natural environment. Managed by the Heritage Alliance, Discovering Places was the Cultural Olympiad's campaign to inspire people in the UK to discover their local built, historic and natural environment. The 18-month long project involved over 400 partners, delivered nearly 200 separate events, and four popular web resources. It directly engaged with over 150,000 people at events and a further audience of 100,000 actively took part online by submitting, downloading and reading about their local built, historic and natural environments.

Participation and tourism

Heritage Open Days

In 2012 Heritage Open Days (HODs) experienced the most successful year in its 18-year history. Visitor numbers reached the 2m mark for the first time, assisted by the record number of 4,648 properties and events on offer; managed by over 51,000 local organisers. Forty-three per cent of sites were normally closed to the public and another 16% waived their usual entrance fees. All venues needed to offer an experience out of the ordinary to qualify for Heritage Open Days. Ninety-nine per cent of visitors said they enjoyed the HOD experience, confirming HODs as England's largest and most popular volunteer-run event.

The economic impact was analysed by Norwich Heritage Economic & Regeneration Trust, the second largest HODs organiser with 174 registered entries. The local evaluation underlines the event's potential for income generation and its impact on the city's economy. An estimated 43,000 visitors spent a total of £755,725 (£17.57 per head) over the four-day event.

2012 was the first HODs event held under the joint stewardship of National Trust, the Heritage Alliance and CivicVoice. This national partnership is charged by English Heritage to secure a viable financial future for the central management structure after 2015 when the current English Heritage grant comes to an end. During the year, the Partnership developed a range of models which it brought to a Futures Group and Advisory Group workshop in December 2012 and, on the basis of comments received, has been exploring both private and public sources of funding.

Tourism policy

In February, the Culture Secretary launched VisitBritain's long-term tourism growth strategy for Britain. *Delivering a Golden Legacy: a Growth Strategy for Inbound Tourism 2013-2020* aims to attract 40m international visitors spending £31.3bn by 2020. It includes specific strategies to increase Britain's competitiveness as a visitor destination in major markets such as the United States, and to capitalise on growing markets including India, China, the Gulf and Brazil. An overarching objective of the strategy is to enhance Britain's image by capitalising on its strengths, including heritage.

Overseas educational visits

The British Educational Travel Association (BETA) has published a study into the consumer trends, behaviours and attitudes of over 4,000 youth travellers aged 11 to 35 choosing the UK for study, work or leisure. *Great Britain: The Heart of Global Youth Travel* has found that historic cities like Cambridge, Oxford and Bath and iconic sites and landscapes including Stonehenge, the Cotswolds and the Lake District are some of the most popular destinations in the country for young visiting students. International students contribute £20bn to the UK economy every year. The study found that 70% are likely to return to the UK to work, trade and visit throughout their lives.

Impact of the GREAT Britain campaign

A study commissioned by VisitBritain and its partners in the GREAT Britain marketing campaign suggests that global perceptions of Britain's 'Overall Nation Brand,' including its welcome to overseas visitors and its sporting and cultural credentials have significantly improved thanks to the hosting of the Olympic Games. As a result, Britain has moved into the top ten in the Nation Brands Index – which measures the image and reputation of the world's leading nations – for the first time. The GREAT campaign was designed to promote Britain before, during and after the London 2012 Games and showcase the things

The legacy of London 2012 on the capital's historic environment

High Street 2012 is a programme to enhance and celebrate the ribbon of London that connects the City at Aldgate to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park at Stratford. The project, which was launched in 2009 and has continued after the Games, combines a series of area-based initiatives from the regeneration of historic buildings and spaces to community-led events, creating a physical and cultural legacy long after London 2012.

As the 'gateway' to High Street 2012, Aldgate has seen the creation of a new park, replacing a busy road system, and the restoration of six historic buildings on Whitechapel High Street.



High Street 2012 regeneration in Whitechapel High Street, Aldgate.
© Mark Newland-Smith.

that make Britain outstanding, including its heritage and landscape. Recognising its success, in December 2012 DCMS confirmed the extension of the GREAT campaign until at least 2015 and committed a further £12m to support it.

Disability in Time and Place

Developed by English Heritage, this major web resource was launched during Disability History Month in December 2012. It offers a wealth of thought-provoking examples of the way that England's heritage reflects changing attitudes to and perceptions of disability and the way disabled people have engaged with this. It reveals a story of people, attitudes and buildings, from leper chapels built in the 1100s to the post-war concept of 'universal

design' and disabled and non-disabled architects creating buildings and landscapes that everyone can use.

Centenary of the First World War

2014 marks the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War. Public and independent heritage bodies are working on a wide range of initiatives to mark this important anniversary, including the conservation of war memorials, such as the Cenotaph in Whitehall, and plans for pupils from every state school to make commemorative visits to the major battlefields.

Volunteering

Protect our Place

The project 'Protect our Place' (www.protectourplace.org.uk) was undertaken by CivicVoice to gain a greater understanding about why community groups and volunteers protect and promote their local area, and how to support these activities in the future.

The results from the survey, which was funded by English Heritage, show that community groups want to be more influential but currently do not have the resources. There is also a desire to have greater communication between organisations, so they can share ideas and solutions. Community groups are now able to upload their projects onto an interactive map, allowing them to share their experiences with others.

Education and the historic environment

Education Reform and the History Curriculum

In January 2011 the Secretary of State for Education announced a review of the national curriculum in England and published a new draft national curriculum for public consultation in February 2013. The proposed national curriculum for History divided opinion and prompted a high profile debate in the national press and within the teaching and heritage fraternities. Critics felt the proposed new curriculum to be too narrow and prescriptive. The proposed removal of Victorian and 20th-century history from Key Stage 2 was particularly controversial, drawing strong objections from the museums sector concerned about the impact on young people's experience of heritage collections and sites.

The revised History curriculum, published in July 2013, is broader in scope and more flexible, with a welcome compulsory topic in local history. In its response to the consultation on the History curriculum, which drew over 17,000 responses, Government noted the concerns about the original proposal's potentially detrimental impact on local museums and heritage assets. The current national curriculum will be phased out from September 2013, in order to give schools more scope to prepare for the introduction of the new national curriculum from September 2014.

Heritage education initiatives

The sector has been continuing to make strong connections between the classroom and the local historic environment. In the past year, new regions have been identified to take part in the second year of the Heritage Schools Initiative (HSI), a project funded by the Department for Education which aims to connect the curriculum with the school's local historic environment. English Heritage will continue to work in Bristol, Barking, Dagenham and Great Yarmouth, where additional schools will join the programme, and begin working with schools in Leicester, Manchester and North Tyneside supported by three new Local Heritage Education Managers. In 2014/15, the final year of the programme, English Heritage will be working with schools in North Yorkshire and Shropshire. Schools involved in the first year of HSI report that it has had a positive impact on children's attainment across the curriculum and has provided meaningful contexts for developing literacy, especially for children in the lowest socio-economic groups.

The Heritage Alliance's Engaging Places project held three master classes in York, Peterborough and London to help heritage site managers understand the needs of primary and secondary school teachers. Out of this, a resource of 50 inspiring projects is available via the Heritage Alliance's website. The Engaging Places website, now run by Open City, remains as a curriculum-focused online resource, to support teaching and learning through historic buildings and places, providing advice on venues, lesson plans, and hands-on activities to help bring the past to life.

CHAPTER 03

INDICATORS SECTION

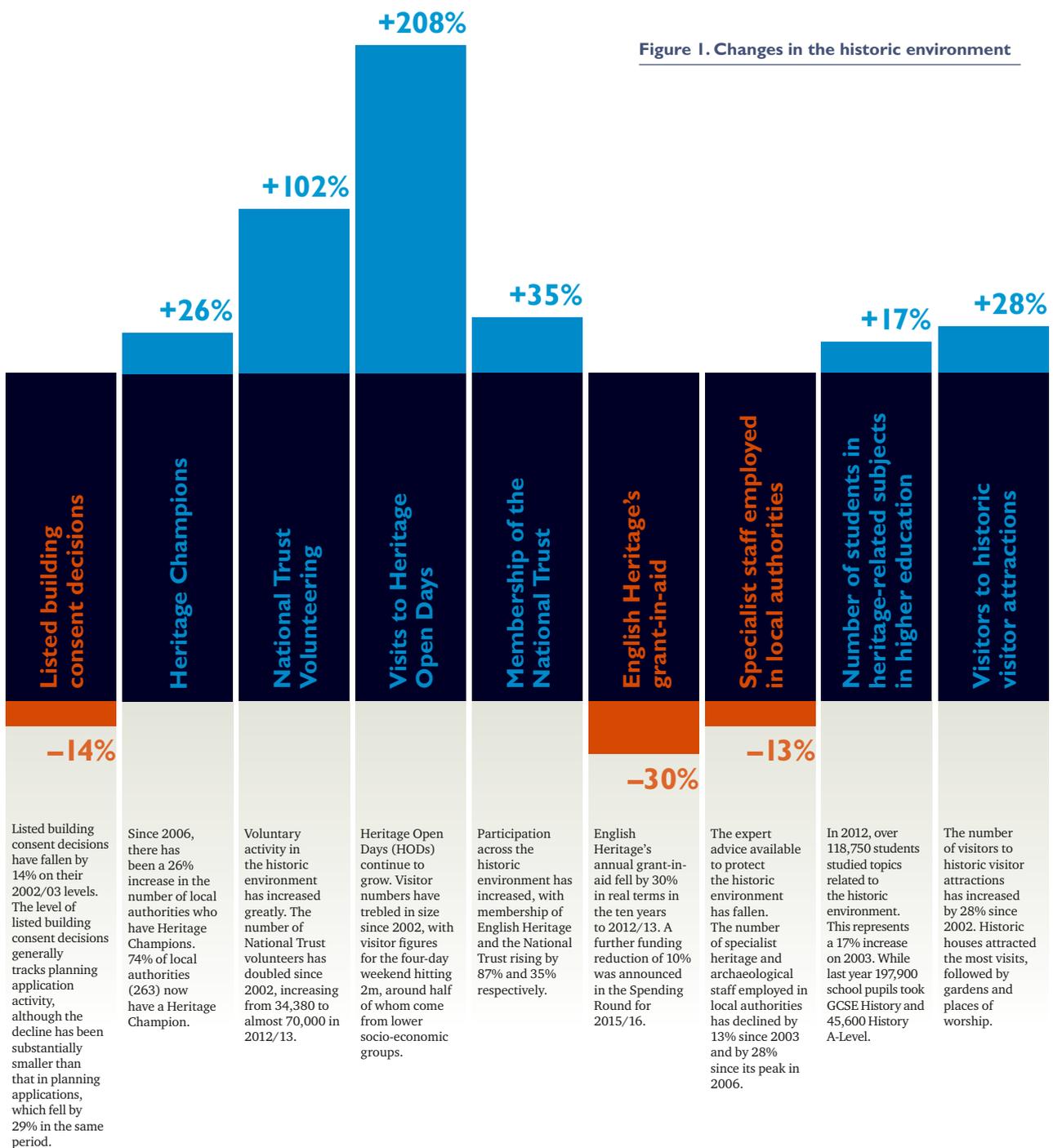


Figure 1. Changes in the historic environment

Introduction

Each year *Heritage Counts* analyses a series of indicators which provide insight into the state of the historic environment. The evidence collected is used by the sector to determine priorities and contribute towards the development of policy.

At www.heritagecounts.org.uk you will find a set of comprehensive spreadsheets containing trend data relating to all the indicators. The data is available at national, regional and, where possible, local level.

In this report, we highlight the key changes or findings for 2012/13 compared to previous years and in particular the 2002 baseline year when *Heritage Counts* first recorded this data. These findings are reported under the three sections:

- **Understanding the assets:** data on the extent of historic environment assets
- **Caring and sharing:** data on the condition of assets and resources, including funding available to manage them
- **Using and benefiting:** data on the social, economic and environmental benefits derived from active use of the historic environment.

Key findings this year include:

- According to Oxford Economics there were 134,000 jobs in the built heritage tourism economy in the UK in 2011. Including sites of natural heritage such as parks, gardens and coasts takes the estimated number of jobs in UK heritage tourism to 253,000.
- In 2012/13 the value of grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund at £412m was at its highest in real terms (ie allowing for inflation) since 2004/05, and 1,912 projects were funded in 2012/13, around one and a half times more than in 2010/11.
- In the 10 years to 2012/13 English Heritage's annual grant-in-aid (GIA) has shrunk by 30% in real terms.
- The number of building entries on the Heritage at Risk Register (1,146) is now at its lowest level since this data was first recorded in 1999.

- Participation in heritage in the seven years to 2012/13 has increased by more for ethnic minorities, those with a long-standing illness or disability, lower socio-economic groups, and social tenants than for all adults.
- In both 2011/12 and 2012/13, on average people who had engaged with heritage activities in the previous 12 months reported significantly higher levels of happiness compared with those who had not.

Understanding the Assets

DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS

World Heritage Sites There were 18 World Heritage Sites in England in 2013, unchanged since 2009, but up from 14 in 2002. There are six English sites on the Tentative World Heritage List.

Listed Buildings In 2013, there were 375,725 listed building entries in England, an increase of 4,993 since 2002. The vast majority of entries (92%) are grade II. The actual number of listed structures will be higher as one designation can often cover a number of buildings. The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) has estimated that the figure may be as high as 630,000-895,000.

Scheduled Monuments In 2013, there were 19,792 scheduled monuments in England, 445 more than in 2002. Just over a third of scheduled monuments in England are in the South West (35% – 7,004 scheduled monuments).

Registered Parks and Gardens In 2013, there were 1,624 registered parks and gardens, 133 or 9% more than in 2002. Nearly a quarter (23%) of England's registered parks and gardens are located within the South East region.

Historic Battlefields These have numbered 43 throughout the period 2002 to 2013.

Protected Historic Wreck Sites There were 46 protected wreck sites in England in 2013, unchanged since 2009, though seven more than there were in 2002. 50% of these sites are in the South West, with another 43% located in the South East.

HISTORIC AREAS AND OPEN SPACES

Conservation Areas There were around 9,824 conservation areas in England in 2013, up from an estimated 9,000 in 2002.

National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty In 2013, 1.2m hectares of land (9% of land in England) were designated as National Parks and 1.9m hectares (15%) as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs). Yorkshire and Humberside is the region with the highest percentage of its land designated as National Parks (20%), while the South West has the highest percentage in AONBs (29%).

Heritage coasts In 2013, there were 164,000 hectares of heritage coasts in England. These are coastal areas designated by Natural England as being areas of notable natural beauty or scientific significance. They contain many sites and structures of archaeological and historic interest. Two thirds of heritage coasts (108,000 hectares) lie within the South West.

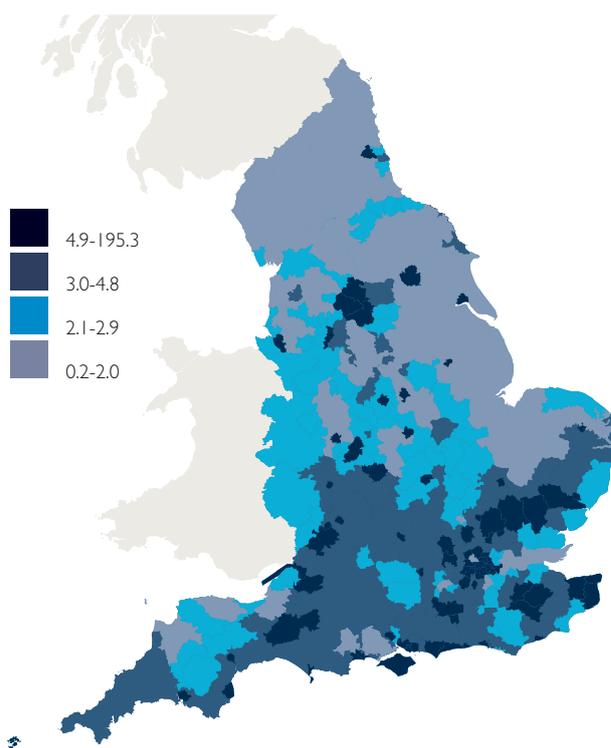
Ancient woodland In 2013, 354,000 hectares of land in England were classified as ancient woodland.

ACQUIRING INFORMATION ON THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Historic Environment Records (HERs) HERs are up-to-date databases of nationally and locally important archaeological sites, historic buildings and landscapes supported by expert staff. The increasing availability of online HERs is an important part of ongoing heritage and planning reform. 59 HERs are online in 2013, up from 44 in 2010 and 19 in 2008. Online HERs represent 70% of all HERs (84) in 2013. 78% of online HERs are available through the Heritage Gateway website.

Historic Landscape Characterisation Historic landscape characterisation is a tool for describing the historic character of places as they are today and how past changes have shaped present day appearance. The proportion of England which has undergone historic landscape characterisation increased from 36% to 95% between 2002 and 2013. The last year has seen a substantial increase in the percentage of Yorkshire and Humberside mapped from 80% to 92%.

Figure 2. Density (per sq km) of Listed Buildings by Local Planning Authority



Caring and Sharing

HERITAGE ON THE HERITAGE AT RISK REGISTER

Buildings and Structures at Risk In 2013, 916 grade I and II* buildings (2.9% of all listed buildings at this grade) were on the Register. A further 230 structural scheduled monuments were also on the Register. Between 2012 and 2013, 72 building or structural entries have been added to the Heritage at Risk Register, and 75 removed. Over half (57%) of entries which were on the 1999 Register have now been removed. The number of entries on the Register (1,146) is now at its lowest level since buildings at Risk data was first recorded in 1999.

Scheduled Monuments at Risk In 2013, 16.5% of all archaeological entries were on the Register. This equates to 3,265 monuments. Since the 2009 baseline, the number of scheduled monuments on the Heritage at Risk Register has fallen by 270, a fall of 8%. For the purposes of the Register archaeological entries only cover earthworks and buried archaeology.

Parks and Gardens at Risk 6.2% of all registered parks and gardens (100) were on the Heritage at Risk Register in 2013. This is an increase of four on the 2009 baseline when 96 (6.0%) registered parks and gardens were on the Register.

Conservation Areas at Risk 6.2% of all conservation areas surveyed were on the Register in 2013, this is a fall from the 2010 baseline when 7.4% of conservation areas surveyed were on the Register. The number of conservation areas on the Register has fallen from 549 to 510 over this three year period.

Battlefields at Risk There has been no change since 2010 in the number of registered battlefields on the Register. In 2013 six (14%) registered battlefields were on the Register, two fewer than the 2008 baseline.

Protected Wreck Sites at Risk In 2013, four out of 46 (or 8.7%) protected wreck sites were on the Heritage at Risk Register, down from 10 in 2008.

Places of Worship at Risk In 2013, 536 places of worship in England (16.7%) were assessed to be on the Heritage at Risk Register out of the 3,208 listed places of worship, which have so far been assessed.

World Heritage Sites In June 2012 the World Heritage Committee placed Liverpool Maritime Mercantile City on the List of World Heritage In Danger. This is due to the proposed construction of Liverpool Waters, a large scale redevelopment of the historic docklands north of the city centre. The Committee believe that the development will adversely affect the skyline and profile of the site. Liverpool is the first UK site ever to be placed on the 'In Danger' list.

MANAGING POSITIVELY

Planning Applications In 2012/13 there were 418,475 planning application decisions made in England, a fall of 4% compared to 2011/12. The number of decisions is down 29% on 2002/03 and 35% lower than in the peak year of 2004/05. The number of decisions fell across all English regions in 2012/13. The smallest percentage falls from 2011/12 to 2012/13 were experienced in London (-1%) and the North West (-2%). The largest such falls were experienced in the North East (-7%), South East (-7%) and the National Parks Authorities (-6%).

Listed Building Consent There were 27,960 listed building consent decisions in 2012/13. As with planning application decisions this figure is down on 2011/12 (5% decrease). The number of decisions is 14% lower than the numbers recorded in 2002/03. Despite the fall at the national level, both London and the North West saw

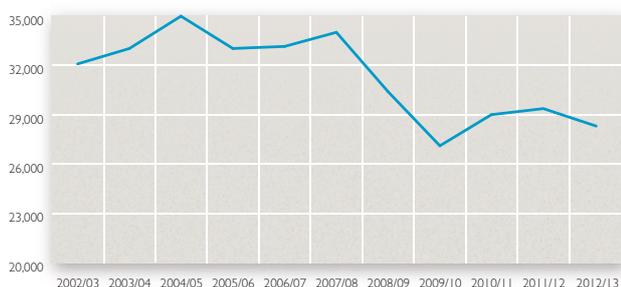
increases of around 5% in the number of listed building consent decisions in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12. Over the same period, the South East experienced the largest fall in the number of listed building consent decisions of 15%. At local level, Westminster continued to make the largest number of building consents by a single local authority in 2012/13 with 1,947, 7% of the total number in England.

The regional pattern of planning application and listed building consent decisions could reflect differences in regional economic performance in 2012/13. To test this hypothesis, correlation coefficients were calculated between the percentage change in planning applications and listed building consent decisions and three measures of regional economic performance: the change in the unemployment rate, the change in the employment rate and the percentage change in employment. The availability of data in a timely fashion meant the research was restricted to these three indicators. The results are shown in the table below. All the correlation coefficients are of the expected sign with changes in planning application decisions and listed building consent decisions being negatively correlated with changes in unemployment and positively correlated with changes in employment. However, the very low correlation coefficients between planning application decisions and the three measures of regional economic performance suggest that the pattern of regional economic activity has played very little in determining the regional variation here. The rather larger magnitudes of the correlation coefficients between listed building consent decisions and the three measures of economic performance suggest a greater role for economic factors in influencing the regional variation in the change in the number of listed building consent decisions in 2012/13.

Table 1. Correlation coefficients for regional planning application and listed building consent decisions with regional economic variables

	Change in the unemployment rate	Change in the employment rate	Percentage change in employment
Percentage change in planning application decisions	-0.04	0.17	0.15
Percentage change in listed building consent decisions	-0.61	0.47	0.42

Figure 3. Listed building consent decisions – England 2002/03 to 2012/13



Conservation Area Consent 3,190 conservation area consent decisions were made in 2012/13. This is an increase of 2% compared to 2011/12. The number of decisions has increased by 6% between 2002/03 and 2012/13, but is 12% lower than the peak figure recorded in 2007/08. The trends vary across the regions. In London, in 2012/13 the number of consents was 33% higher than in 2002/03, but in the South West the number of consents was down by 27% over the same period.

Scheduled Monument Consent In 2012/13, 987 scheduled monument consent decisions were made. Since *Heritage Counts* started collecting this data in 2002/03 the number of scheduled monument consents has fluctuated with no discernible national trend. This suggests that scheduled monument consents are less affected by the economic situation than other types of consents, and that specific development (such as local regeneration schemes or public grant programmes) or non-development drivers are more likely to explain changes to the figures.

Planning applications affecting Registered Parks and Gardens In 2012/13, there were 731 planning applications affecting registered parks and gardens down 10% on 2011/12. However this is only slightly lower than when *Heritage Counts* first recorded this data in 2003/04, when there were 751. Each year since 2003/04 40% to 50% of planning applications have been from the South East and South West reflecting the location of many of these registered parks and gardens.

Management of World Heritage Sites In 2013, as has been the case since 2007, all World Heritage Sites in England have management plans.

FUNDING FOR THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Private sector investment in the historic environment Most investment in the historic environment comes from private sector businesses and

individuals, but no comprehensive trend data on private investment is available. A number of organisations have produced data on private sector investment with the Historic Houses Association (HHA) reporting that the amount spent annually by its members on repairs and maintenance in 2012 was £102m a fall of £37m compared to 2009. The backlog of urgent repairs at HHA houses had nearly doubled since 2009, and now stands at £764m. Ecorys has estimated that in 2010 £10.6 billion was spent on the repair and maintenance of historic (pre-1919) buildings (this figure includes both private and public sector spending). The IfA estimates that in 2012/13 the value of field archaeology in England was £95m.

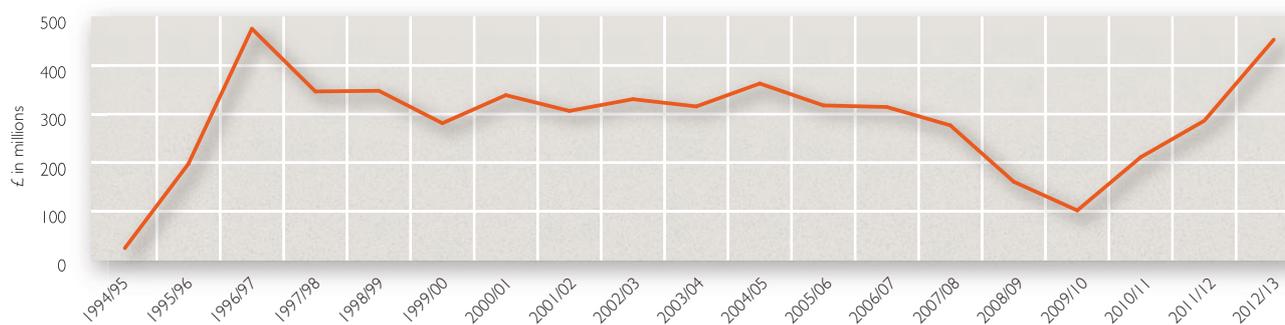
Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) In 2012/13 HLF provided £412m of new funding for projects, 44% more than in 2011/12 in cash terms (£286m) and four times more in cash terms than in 2009/10 (£102m). In 2012/13 the level of grant awards was at its highest in real terms (ie allowing for inflation). In total 1,912 new projects were funded in 2012/13, 55% more than in 2010/11 (1,234). This drop and subsequent recovery in HLF funding is partly due to a change in the way that HLF accounted for grant awards after 2008, though it is also a reflection of higher Lottery ticket sales in recent years and the current government's decision to increase the share of total Lottery 'Good Causes' budget that is allocated to heritage.

English Heritage expenditure and income In 2012/13 English Heritage received £101.4m in grant-in-aid, £19.8m less than the previous year in cash terms. In the 10 years to 2012/13 English Heritage's annual grant-in-aid shrank by 30% in real terms. This has been partially offset by increased earned income which has risen in real terms (2012/13 prices) from £37.3m in 2002/03 to £53.4m in 2012/13. This increase in earned income is equal to around a third of the cut in grant-in-aid in real terms over the same period. Declining grant-in-aid in recent years has led to an increasing backlog of priority conservation deficits in the National Heritage Collection which at the start of 2013 amounted to £61m.

English Heritage made grants worth £18.4m in 2012/13, down 40% on 2011/12 in cash terms. The value of these grants has been on a generally downward trend since 2002/03, especially in real terms after inflation is allowed for. Spending on maintaining and curating English Heritage's National Collection, the 420 sites, monuments, material collections and archives that are held in trust for the nation, amounted to £74.2m in 2012/13, up very slightly in cash terms on the figure for 2011/12 of £73.0m.

Other public sector sources of funding *Heritage Counts* collects data from a number of other organisations

Figure 4. Value of Awards made by HLF – 1994/95 to 2012/13 (Cash terms, not adjusted for inflation)



related to the historic environment. The Churches Conservation Trust's (CCT) total income in 2012/13 was £5.9m, of which £3.4m was spent on conservation and repairs. The Listed Places of Worship grant scheme which makes grants towards the VAT incurred in making repairs and carrying out necessary alterations to listed places of worship provided £12.75m in 2012/13.

The natural environment sector is an important source of funding for the rural historic environment. Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Scheme (ES) contains a number of programme grants which have had a positive impact on the historic environment. Between 2005 and May 2013, £117.6m was allocated to ES projects that have an outcome for the historic environment.

Voluntary sector The National Trust received £457m in income in 2012/13. Expenditure included £228m for running and maintaining properties and £52m on special projects related to historic buildings and collections. In 2012, the Church of England provided grants worth £2.4m to 298 projects for the conservation of historic furnishings and artworks in churches and cathedrals.

EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS IN THE HERITAGE SECTOR

Number employed directly in the operation of historic sites and buildings The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) measures employment in the operation of historic sites and buildings. In 2012 it was estimated that 10,500 employees worked in this sector in England. Of this figure, 4,900 worked full-time and 5,600 part-time. This figure does not include the totality of heritage tourism employment. Oxford Economics estimate that there were 134,000 jobs in the built heritage tourism economy in the UK in 2011. When visits to natural heritage such as parks, gardens and coasts are included the estimated number of jobs in UK heritage tourism rises to 253,000. In July 2013, the Historic Houses Association reported that nearly 26,000 people are employed at

either historic houses owned by members or in businesses occupying premises in their grounds.

Historic environment employment in local authorities

Historic environment employment in local authorities was 879.7 Full Time Equivalents (FTE) in 2013. This represents a 13% decrease on the number of FTE (1014.4) when this dataset was first collected in 2003. The percentage fall in employment has been much greater for conservation officers over this period (-18%) relative to archaeological officers (-4%). The fall between 2003 and 2011 can obscure the significant fall in historic environment employment since its peak in 2006 – down by 28% overall, with a fall of 33% for conservation officers and 18% for archaeological officers.

Archaeological employment The latest edition of *Profiling the Profession* estimates that 3,879 people are in archaeological employment in England in 2012/13. This represents a decline of 29% from the previous estimate for 2007/08 of 5,438. In 2012/13, 2,443 archaeologists were employed in commercial organisations. This represents 63% of all archaeological employment. The proportion of women in the UK archaeology sector is steadily increasing, with woman now making up 46% of the workforce.

Apprentice/trainee numbers in heritage-related craft skills

A further decline in the number of apprentices and trainees in heritage-related craft skills occurred in 2012/13, with trainees and apprentices numbering 5,463, down 4% on 2011/12. Since 2005/06 when *Heritage Counts* first reported this data the number of trainees and apprentices has fallen by 73% from 20,157.

Heritage Champions In 2013 there were 260 local authorities with Heritage Champions, 74% of all authorities. This percentage is substantially up on 2006 when just 54% of local authorities had Heritage Champions.

Using and benefiting

PARTICIPATION IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

The latest data from the *Taking Part* survey show that in 2012/13, 72.7% of adults in England visited at least one heritage site in the last 12 months, a fall of 1.6 percentage points from 2011/12. The percentage of adults who report having visited a heritage site at least three or four times per year was 30.5% in 2012/13, a significant increase on 2005/06 (26.6%).

Participation in heritage appears to be becoming more inclusive as groups which have had relatively low visitor rates to heritage sites have seen above average increases between 2005/06 and 2012/13:

- Black and ethnic minority individuals (up 6.6 percentage points to 57.2% visiting at least one heritage site in the last 12 months).
- Social tenants (up 4.1 percentage points to 50.5%).
- Lower socio-economic groups (up 5.2 percentage points to 62.3%).
- People with limiting illness or disability (up 5.5 percentage points to 69.4%).

In 2012/13, 72.5% of children had visited a heritage site in the last 12 months. The figure was 72.9% for 5-10 year olds and 71.9% for 11-15 year olds. The overall rate for children (5-15 year olds) has increased significantly since 2008/09. In 2012/13 10.1% of children had visited a heritage site in the last week. The figure was 11.5% for 5-10 year olds and 8.5% for 11-15 year olds. There have

been no significant differences in heritage site attendance in the last 12 months between boys or girls or between those with or without limiting disabilities.

DIGITAL PARTICIPATION

Since 2005/06, the proportion of people visiting heritage websites significantly increased from 18.3% to 31.3%, the highest level reported since data collection began in 2005/06. From April 2012 to March 2013, of people who visited a heritage website:

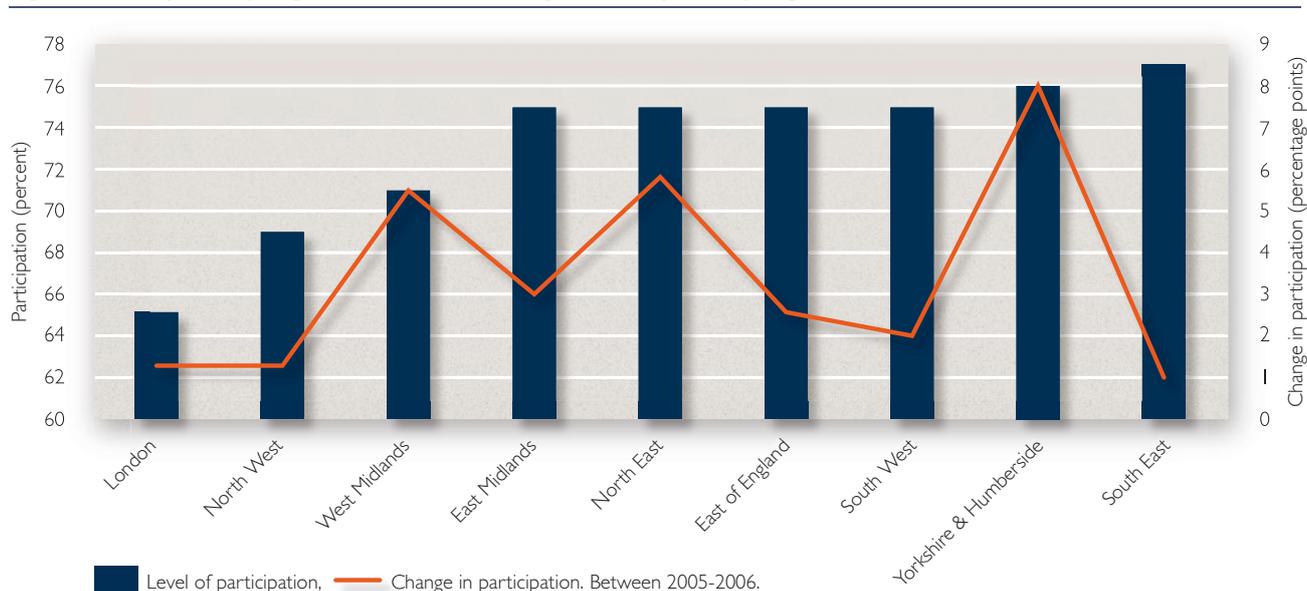
- Three in five respondents used a heritage website to plan how to get to a historic site (60.7%).
- Almost half used a heritage website to learn about history or the historic environment (48.7%).
- Just under a quarter used a heritage website to buy tickets to visit a historic site (24.3%).
- Only 2% of adults who visited a heritage website used it to discuss history or visits to the historic environment on a forum.
- 17.1% of adults had visited a heritage website to take a virtual tour of a historic site.

Heritage Open Days In 2012 there were 4,648 Heritage Open Days (HODs) events, 5% more than in 2011. In 2012 an estimated 2m visits were made to HODs events around three times the number for 2002 (650,000).

NUMBER OF VISITS TO HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT ATTRACTIONS

Total visitor numbers to historic sites According to the *Visit England Visitor Attractions Survey* there were at least

Figure 5. Participation by Region in 2012/13 and Change in Participation by Region in 2005/06 to 2012/13



57.9m visits to historic properties in England in 2012. The overall visit figure is likely to be higher as this only includes properties which responded to the survey. Visit numbers among properties which responded to the survey in both 2011 and 2012 were down 3% and gross revenue was down slightly by 2%.

Historic houses attracted the most visits (at 20.8m in 2012) followed by gardens (9.2m) and places of worship (8.4m). The largest percentage fall occurred in the number of visits to castles and forts, down 7% between 2011 and 2012. Since the survey first collected this data in 1989, the largest proportionate growth in visit numbers has been to visitor/heritage centres (up 98%) and gardens (up 89%).

There were 16.9m visits to National Trust staffed properties in 2012/13, down 3% on 2011/12 and 4.7m visits were made to English Heritage staffed properties in 2012/13, down 8% on 2011/12. There were 1.90m visits to Churches Conservation Trust churches in 2012, slightly up on the 1.89m visits recorded in 2011. Day visits to member properties of the Historic Houses Association were down by 5% in 2012 compared to 10.6m in 2011. It is believed that the decline in visitor numbers across many organisations may be due to the adverse weather England experienced in 2012.

MEMBERSHIP OF HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT ORGANISATIONS

There were 3.8m National Trust members in 2012/13, up 35% on 2001/02. However, membership numbers were stable between 2011/12 and 2012/13. English Heritage individual membership stood at 831,000 in 2012/13, an 87% rise on 2001/02 and a 3% rise on 2011/12. With corporate membership included, the total number of people receiving membership benefits in 2012/13 was 1.16m. There were 35,600 HHA friends in 2012, up 45% from 2007 when this data was first recorded in *Heritage Counts*.

VOLUNTEERING IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Each year around 1% of the adult population volunteer in the historic environment (*Taking Part* survey). This equates to approximately 530,000 people. Small sample sizes mean it is not possible to make comparisons of volunteering levels over time.

National Trust volunteer numbers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland have doubled since 2002, increasing from 34,380 in 2002/03 to 69,629 in 2012/13. English Heritage had 970 volunteers in 2012/13, mainly based at its

properties. This is an increase of nearly 50% on 2010/11 – the first year these figures were recorded. The largest one-off volunteering event in the sector is Heritage Open Days, in which an estimated 51,000 volunteers took part in 2012.

The 2013 *Community Census*, a recent report for the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, indicated that in 2013, 69% of UK adults believed that heritage sites were important to the local community. Looking ahead over the next 12 months, a net balance of 4% of adults (those more likely to get involved minus those less likely to get involved) are expected to become more involved with their local heritage sites and attractions. This was particularly true for young people aged 18-34 years, a net balance of 10% of whom expect to increase their engagement with heritage sites.

LEARNING AND THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Educational visits to historic environment sites

In 2012 an estimated 1.62m school visits were made to historic properties in England, though as with visit figures, this figure only applies to properties which responded to the *Visit England Visitor Attractions Survey*, and the actual figure is likely to be higher. This is down 38% on the number of school visits in 2011. London experienced the largest drop off in school visits in with the number down 72% on the 2011 figure.

346,000 educational visits were made to English Heritage properties in 2012/13, the lowest recorded number on record, and 22% below the peak recorded in 2005/06. 26,000 of these visits were Discovery Visits. Approximately 300,000 educational visits were made to HHA sites in 2012.

The study of GCSE and A level history In the academic year ending 2012 197,900 school pupils took GCSE History and 45,600 History A-Level. For History A-level the number of students has increased by 28%. The proportion of students taking History, however, has remained stable over the last five years with approximately 32% of those sitting GCSEs taking History and 6% of those sitting A-levels taking History.

The historic environment and higher education

The total number of students in topics most related to the historic environment (history, archaeology, architecture, building, landscape design and planning) was 118,750 in the academic year ending 2012. This includes post and undergraduates and both full and part time students. This is a 2% decrease on the previous year but a 14% increase on the academic year ending 2003. The percentage of all students accounted for by people studying historic

environment related subjects, however, has remained relatively stable over this period at approximately 5% of all students.

There are differing trends for the individual subjects, with the numbers of architecture students, building students and history students having risen by 47%, 30% and 11% respectively since 2003. The numbers of archaeology, landscape design and planning students are down by 28%, 26% and 6% respectively over the same period.

Happiness and the historic environment In 2011/12 and 2012/13 the *Taking Part* survey contained a question

assessing respondents' happiness on a scale from 1 to 10, where '1' was extremely unhappy and '10' was extremely happy. In both years, on average people who had engaged with heritage activities in the previous 12 months reported significantly higher happiness scores (8.0) compared to those who had not (7.6).

The number of Empty Homes There were 709,426 empty dwellings in England in 2012, an almost identical number to that for 2004.

Building Preservation Trust (BPT) activity

Table 2. Projects being undertaken by members of the APT, 2012-13

Rank	Region (no. of BPTs)	No. of projects	No. on HAR Register
1	South West (31)	25	17
2	North West (13)	19	10
3	East Midlands (17)	13	6
4	West Midlands (15)	12	5
5	East of England (24)	11	5
6	London (11)	8	7
7	Yorkshire (8)	6	2
8=	North East (5)	7	1
8=	South East (12)	7	4
	Total	108	57

The Association of Preservation Trusts (APT) members undertook 108 historic building rescue projects during 2012-13, 57 involved buildings or scheduled monuments on the Heritage at Risk Register:

BPTs saved seven historic buildings (included in the above figures) during 2012-13, from a grade 1 listed building (Hadlow Tower) to an unlisted 18th century merchant's house (King Street, Thorne). The three highest cost projects (Hadlow Tower; Astley Castle and 116 High Street, Boston) all involved buildings on the Heritage at Risk Register. Both Hadlow Tower and Astley Castle were delivered by national trusts which specialise in the conversion of redundant buildings into holiday accommodation.

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) is the most important funder of BPT projects supporting six of these seven projects. In each case, the HLF's investment was the largest single contribution to the project costs, with the total awarded to the six projects amounting to £5.95 million. It is unlikely that they could have been delivered without this support. The Architectural Heritage Fund also supported five of the seven with development grants and/or loan finance.

A Brief History of BPTs, 1926-2013

As of the 31st March 2013, the UK Association of Preservation Trusts had 143 members in England. Its oldest member, Oxford Preservation Trust, was founded in 1926. Its newest, Wymering Manor Trust in Portsmouth, was established in 2013.

The earliest trusts were local amenity societies closely associated with the civic trust movement, set up to preserve the character of notably historic towns and cities. The BPT concept was initially slow to spread and up until the 1960s only a handful were in existence.

The two and a half decades from the late 1960s to the early 1990s was the peak period for the formation of the county-wide and regional trusts which were often supported financially by local authorities. By 1991, when the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire was established, the whole of England was covered by area-based trusts.

Since the mid-1990s, most growth can be attributed to the formation of 'single project' trusts, ie those that are concerned with saving one particular building or site. These trusts are more likely to be entirely volunteer-run.

Heritage Counts Indicators 2013

Where possible the baseline year is 2002, the first year that an equivalent report to *Heritage Counts (State of the Historic Environment 2002)* was produced. When the baseline was collected on another date this is clearly referenced. Unless otherwise specified the value is based on the situation at the end of the financial year 2012/13 (ie 31 March 2013).

UNDERSTANDING THE ASSETS

Indicator	Measurement	Value	Change on baseline
Designated heritage assets	Number of world heritage sites (2013)	18	Increase of 4 compared to 2002
	Number of scheduled monuments (2013)	19,792	Increase of 445 compared to 2002
	Number of listed building entries (2013)	375,725	Increase of 4,987 compared to 2002
	Number of registered parks and gardens (2013)	1,624	Increase of 133 sites compared to 2002
Historic areas and open spaces	Number of conservation areas (2013)	9,820 estimated	Increase of approximately 800 since 2002
	Area of land in England which is a National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (2013)	3.1m hectares	Relatively stable since 2002
	Extent of ancient woodland (2013)	0.35m hectares	No direct comparison possible because of changes to methodology
Acquiring information	Number of on-line historic environment records (2013)	59	Increase from 19 in 2008
	Extent of historic landscape characterisation (2013)	95%	Increase on 36% of England's land area in 2002

CARING AND SHARING

Indicator	Measurement	Value	Change
Historic environment at Risk	Percentage of grade I and II* buildings at Risk (2013)	2.9%	Decrease from 3.8% in 1999
	Registered parks and gardens at Risk (2013)	6.2%	Increase from 6.0% in 2009
	Scheduled monuments at Risk (2013)	16.5%	Decrease from 17.9% in 2009
Managing positively	Number of planning applications decided 2012/13	418,475	Decrease from 585,600 in 2002/03 (29% decrease) and a 4% decrease on 2011/12
	Number of applications for listed building consent decided 2012/13	27,960	Down 14% on 2002/03 and a 5% fall on 2011/12
	Number of scheduled monument consent decisions 2012/13	987	No stable trend since 2002/03
	Number of planning applications affecting registered parks and gardens 2012/13	731	No significant change compared with 2003/4
	Number of conservation area consent applications determined 2012/13	3,190	No significant change on 2002/03
Capacity and resources	Historic environment employment in local authorities	879.7 FTEs	Decrease of 13% on 2003
Developing training and skills	Number of new apprenticeships/trainees in heritage craft skills (2012/13)	5,463	Decrease of 14,700 on 2005/06
Local Authority Historic Environment Champions	Number of local authorities with Heritage Champions (2012/13)	74% of all local authorities	Increase from 54% of all local authorities in 2006

USING AND BENEFITING

Indicator	Measurement	Value	Change
Participation	Percentage of adults visiting at least one heritage site in the last 12 months (2012/13)	72.7% of all adults, 57.2% BME, 62.3% lower socio-economic, 69.4% limiting disability	Statistically significant increases for all groups on 2005/06 baseline
	Number of members of historic environment organisations (2012/13)	National Trust 3.8m English Heritage 831,000	Increase of 35% in NT members since 2001/02 an 82% increase in English Heritage members
	Number of historic environment volunteers	Approx 530,000 adults	Small sample size means it is not possible to make comparisons over time
Economic benefits	Number of visits to historic visitor attractions (2012)	57.9m	Decrease of 3% on 2011 figures
Education and lifelong learning	Number of GCSE and A level history candidates (school year ending 2012)	197,900 GCSE and 45,631 A level candidates	Increase of 1% (GCSE) and 28% (A level) on school year ending 2002
	Number of higher education students studying courses related to the historic environment (academic year ending 2012)	118,750	Increase of 17% on academic year ending 2003
	Number of school visits to historic sites (2012)	1.6m	Decrease of 38% since 2011
Happiness / Well being	Average happiness score (2011/12 and 2012/13)	8.0 for heritage participants and 7.6 for non-participants	Unchanged from 2011/12
Environmental sustainability	Number of empty homes (2012)	709,426	1,500 fewer than in 2004

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Heritage Counts is produced on behalf of the Historic Environment Forum. Particular thanks go to:

Gavin Richards **Architectural Heritage Fund**

James Moir **UK Association of Preservation Trusts**

Samuel Mitchell **Creative & Cultural Skills**

Duncan McCallum **English Heritage**

Kate Gunthorpe **English Heritage**

Owain Lloyd-James **English Heritage**

Bob Hook **English Heritage**

Kate Pugh **The Heritage Alliance**

Ian Morrison **Heritage Lottery Fund**

Jo Reilly **Heritage Lottery Fund**

Noël James **Historic Towns Forum**

Peter Hinton **Institute for Archaeologists**

David McDonald **Institute for Historic Building Conservation**

Becky Payne

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Cover Photo: English Heritage's Measured Survey for Cultural Heritage Summer School at Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire
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Design: Hybert Design

Printed by Park Communications