

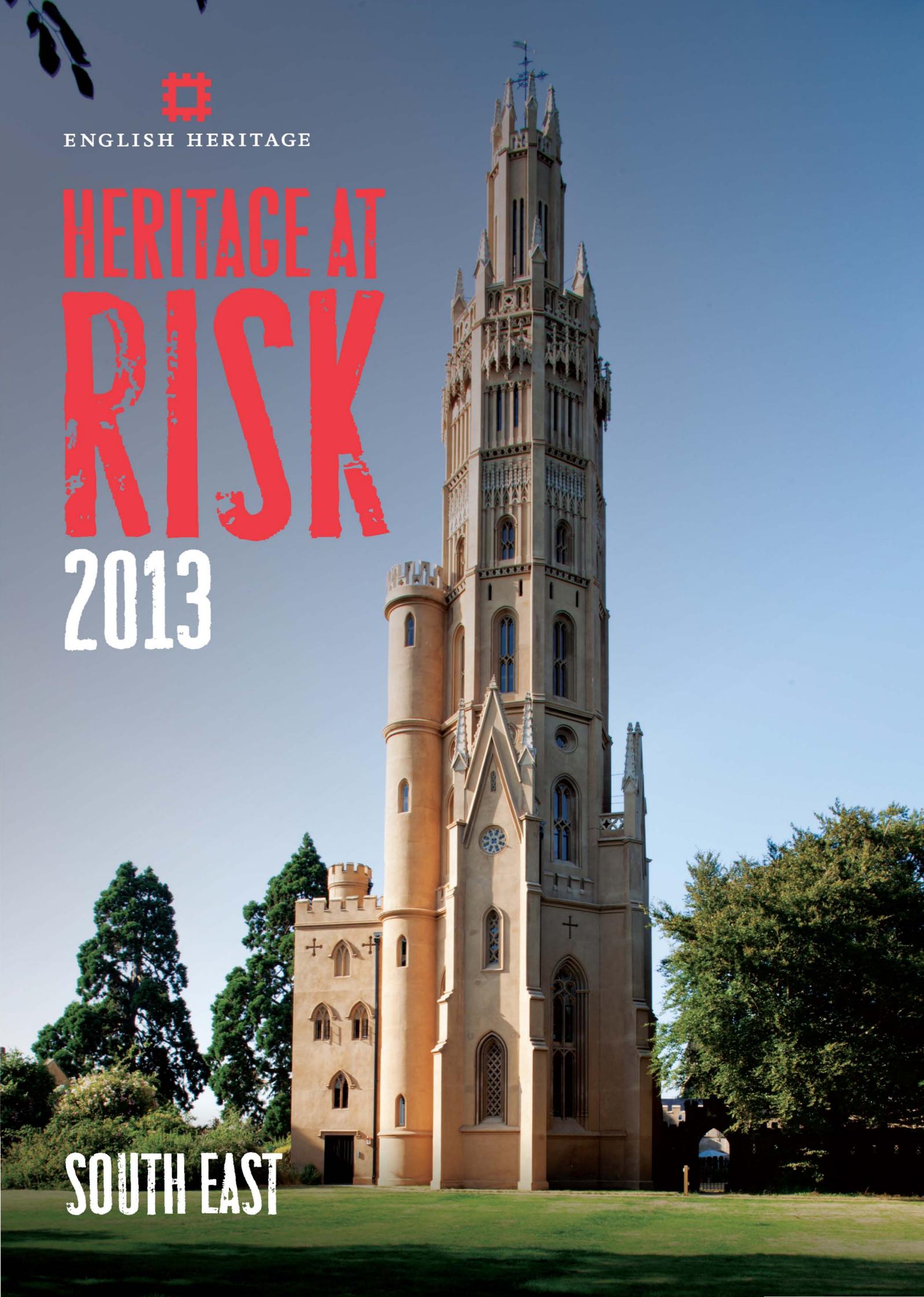


ENGLISH HERITAGE

HERITAGE AT RISK

2013

SOUTH EAST



HERITAGE AT RISK

Heritage at Risk is our campaign to save listed buildings and important historic sites, places and landmarks from neglect or decay. At its heart is the Heritage at Risk Register, an online database containing details of each site known to be at risk. It is analysed and updated annually and this leaflet summarises the results. Heritage at Risk teams are now in each of our nine local offices, delivering national expertise locally.

The good news is that we are on target to save 25% (1,137) of the sites that were on the Register in 2010 by 2015. From Hadlow Tower to Nutbane Long Barrow, this success is down to good partnerships with owners, developers, the Heritage Lottery Fund, Natural England, councils and local groups. It will be increasingly important to build on these partnerships to achieve the overall aim of reducing the number of sites on the Register.

Andy Brown, Planning and Conservation Director, South East

For English Heritage, just as for many organisations, 2013 has been a year of considerable change. There has been a significant re-focusing of our corporate efforts on reducing risk to England's heritage assets by the creation, in each local office, of dedicated Heritage at Risk teams.

The statistics for the South East appear not to have changed very much since last year, but in fact they represent a number of successes in removing heritage assets from the Register. These successes have been balanced out by sites added to the Register, as English Heritage staff and our many partners take care to keep attention focussed on heritage at risk. Our Places of Worship statistics show that additions to the 2013 Register are exactly counter-balanced by removals from the 2012 Register, which reflects the ongoing success of our partnership with the Heritage Lottery Fund in providing grant aid to repair these buildings year on year.

Whether new or pre-existing cases, our intention is to reduce risk to sites that appear on the Heritage at Risk Register. In doing this, we will build on our notable recent successes. A total of 38 entries have been removed from the 2012 Register, many of which will count towards our corporate target.

Whilst some of our most important sites, such as the King Edward VII Hospital Chapel, Easebourne, and the Hammerhead Crane at Cowes, have seen huge strides forward towards repair and reuse recently, our biggest challenge will be making progress on our other Priority Sites. In addition, we will start investigating trends in risk to heritage assets to inform our work after 2015. For example, nearly a quarter of the Registered Parks and Gardens assessed as 'at risk' in England are in

the South East - do these landscapes face the same threats; do similar opportunities exist for them?

For English Heritage, the continuing difficult economic climate challenges us, but also presents us with renewed opportunities to work in partnership with other bodies. We will be strengthening our already good relationships with other funding organisations by lending our technical and professional expertise to their work, and by targeting the most vulnerable heritage assets. An example of this will be continuing our excellent partnership with Natural England, in order to address threats to buried archaeology. Two-thirds of the archaeological sites on the South East Register are at risk from arable cultivation.

So, although newly formed, our Heritage at Risk Team is already working hard to address the unique challenges here in the South East. We hope to encourage as much enthusiasm from our partners for the task in hand as we feel ourselves, and look forward to working with you in the next year.



Clare Charlesworth,
Acting Principal Adviser, Heritage at Risk

HADLOW TOWER, HADLOW, KENT

Hadlow Tower, built as a folly by Walter Barton May, is the most significant part that remains of the 18th century Gothick Hadlow Castle, the majority of which was demolished in 1951. The Tower was on the Heritage at Risk Register since 1998 but has now been saved with the help of SAVE Hadlow Tower Action Group, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and The Vivat Trust, who have fully repaired the Tower for use as holiday accommodation with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and English Heritage. It is open to the public, with an exhibition created by the Friends of Hadlow Tower.

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

- Nationally, 4.1% of grade I and II* listed buildings (excluding places of worship) are on the Register. In the South East the percentage is 2.2% (90 buildings).
- 14 building or structure entries have been removed from the 2012 South East Register because their futures have been secured, but 14 have been added.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

- Of the 284 listed places of worship assessed in the South East, 62 are on the Register.
- 14 places of worship have been removed from the 2012 Register following repair work.

ARCHAEOLOGY

- 3,265 (16.5%) of England's 19,792 scheduled monuments are on the Register, of which 275 are in the South East.
- 3 archaeology entries have been removed from the 2012 Register for positive reasons and 1 has been added.
- 27.6% of archaeology entries (67) on the South East baseline 2009 Register have been removed for positive reasons, compared to the national figure of 21.1%.
- Nationally, damage from arable cultivation is the greatest risk factor, accounting for 43% of those on the Register. In the South East the proportion is 67%.

PARKS AND GARDENS

- 100 (6.2%) of England's 1,624 registered parks and gardens are on the Register. In the South East, 24 are on the Register, the same as last year.

BATTLEFIELDS

- Of the 43 registered battlefields in England, 6 are on the Register. Of the 6 registered battlefields in the South East, 1 is on the Register.

WRECK SITES

- Of the 46 protected wreck sites around England's coast, 4 are on the Register. Of the 20 protected wreck sites in the South East, 4 are on the Register.

CONSERVATION AREAS

- 8,179 of England's 9,839 conservation areas have been surveyed by local authorities. 510 (6.2%) are on the Register. Of the 1,621 conservation areas surveyed in the South East, 65 (4%) are on the Register.
- 7 conservation areas have been removed from the 2012 South East Register for positive reasons, but 12 have been added.



BOULDNOR BATTERY, SHALFLEET, ISLE OF WIGHT

Bouldnor Battery is a military battery situated on the north-west coast of the Isle of Wight, overlooking the western entrance to the Solent. It saw active service in World War II and was fully decommissioned in 1956. The former battery is now in use as a water storage facility and is in a poor state of decay.

59% OF
BUILDINGS AND
STRUCTURES
ON THE 1999 REGISTER
HAVE BEEN
SAVED

65
CONSERVATION
AREAS ARE ON
THE REGISTER

10.4%
OF SCHEDULED
MONUMENTS ARE ON
THE REGISTER

£580k IN
GRANTS
WAS OFFERED TO
15 SITES
ON THE REGISTER

Heritage assets are assessed based on the nature of the site. Buildings and structures include listed buildings (excluding listed places of worship) and structural scheduled monuments; archaeology assessments cover earthworks and buried archaeology.

PRIORITY HAR SITES

- Brookwood Cemetery, Brookwood, Woking, Surrey
- Castle Goring, Arundel Road, Worthing, West Sussex
- Hammerhead Crane, Thetis Road, West Cowes, Cowes, Isle of Wight
- RAF Bicester: World War II airfield, Laughton, Cherwell, Oxfordshire
- Roman Catholic Church of St Augustine of England with Cloisters attached, St Augustine's Road, Ramsgate, Thanet, Kent
- Sheerness Dockyard (incl. The Boat Store (No. 78), Former Medway Ports Authority Offices (Dockyard House), Coach Houses (Naval Terrace), I-15 (consec) Regency Close, Former Royal Dockyard Church and attached wall and railings, Former Working Mast House, 26 Jetty Road), Sheerness, Kent
- Stowe Landscape Garden (incl. The Palladian Bridge, Temple of Friendship, The East Boycott Pavilion and The Queens Temple), Stowe, Buckinghamshire
- The Belvedere, Waldershare Park, Shepherdsweil with Coldred, Dover, Kent
- The chapel at the former King Edward VII Hospital, Easebourne, Chichester, West Sussex
- The Western Heights fortifications, Castle Hill, Dover, Kent

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PALAEOLITHIC SITES NEAR BAKER'S HOLE, SWANSCOMBE AND GREENHITHE, KENT

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY:

Baker's Hole Palaeolithic site is one of very few non-cave Palaeolithic sites in England. It survives as two islands of un-quarried ground within an area of 20th century chalk extraction that has otherwise been landfilled and re-landscaped.

First investigated in the 1930s, the site contains important undisturbed evidence of early Neanderthal presence in Britain, and a rich diversity of large mammal bones. These important deposits shed light on early human

occupation of the area between 250,000 and 200,000 years ago, when the climate was repeatedly varying. This is the period when early Neanderthals were colonising Britain, and Baker's Hole is recognised as Britain's foremost locale for revealing evidence of their distinctive form of lithic technology (Levalloisian).

As well as being a scheduled monument, Baker's Hole is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) because of its complex sequence of deposits representing the alternating episodes of warm and cold climate, in the Palaeolithic period. Its dual protection is useful in requiring English Heritage and Natural England to work together in the management of the site.

IS IT AT RISK?

Although now protected from quarrying and other damaging activities, the site has not been managed in any way since at least the early 20th century when it began to be surrounded by chalk quarries. Since then, it has become progressively overgrown by thick scrub and undergrowth, and increasingly subject to animal burrowing and decay due to exposure to the

elements. A major archaeological trench dug across the site in 1969 wasn't backfilled, exposing key deposits and remains to the present day. The site is a new addition to the Heritage at Risk Register in 2013.

WHAT'S THE CURRENT SITUATION?

Deposits known to contain evidence of Palaeolithic occupation and important faunal remains are currently directly exposed to the elements, and being damaged by root growth and animal burrowing. This is affecting key aspects of the site, compromising continuing survival of the evidence that led to its initial protection as a scheduled monument and SSSI.

Now that the risk to the site has been recognised, a more detailed survey will be undertaken to establish a long-term management plan to safeguard the site's important features. This management plan will be developed in collaboration with Natural England and the Heritage Conservation section of Kent County Council. Future development in the surrounding area, as part of the Ebbsfleet Masterplan, could well influence the conservation options available.

Find out what's at risk by searching or downloading the online Heritage at Risk Register at www.english-heritage.org.uk/har

If you would like this document in a different format, please contact our customer services department on telephone: 0870 333 1181 fax: 01793 414926 textphone: 01793 414878 email: customers@english-heritage.org.uk