

HERITAGE COUNTS

The State of the
EAST MIDLANDS'
Historic Environment
2006



Creswell Crag is managed by the Creswell Heritage Trust, which works with communities to develop a positive identity, dispelling the image of a derelict industrial landscape

HERITAGE COUNTS 2006

EAST MIDLANDS

Heritage Counts 2006 is the fifth annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. The report identifies the principal trends and challenges facing the historic environment, with a particular focus in 2006 on the role that *communities* play by valuing and engaging in England's heritage. This report is one of nine separate regional reports and has been prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the East Midlands Heritage Forum. It should be read in conjunction with the national *Heritage Counts 2006* report, available at www.heritagecounts.org.uk

This year's *Heritage Counts* highlights the value of heritage to communities in the East Midlands. The report is a showcase for all those who care for the historic environment and champion the notion that 'history matters'. It is vital, therefore that the key messages and information in *Heritage Counts 2006* are understood by decision-makers who are entrusted with ensuring that the East Midlands is the 'place of choice' for residents, visitors and investors.

The historic environment is fundamental to the quality of life for communities in our region and this year's report highlights in particular the potent contribution of the voluntary sector. Once again, we celebrate the variety and diversity of the region's historic environment – ranging from prehistoric caves at Creswell to the industrial heritage of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

The theme of community participation, engagement and regeneration reinforces the key role of local authorities in managing change within the historic environment. We therefore emphasise this year the influential work of Historic Environment Champions in demonstrating the huge contribution of heritage in its broadest sense across the full spectrum of local services. This report also shows how changes in the planning system enable communities and their elected representatives to sustain and enhance the quality of their cherished local environments.

ANTHONY STREETEN
CHAIR OF THE EAST MIDLANDS HERITAGE FORUM

CRESWELL HERITAGE TRUST

Creswell Crags (see cover image) is home to Britain's only known Ice Age rock art. Stone tools and animal remains found in the caves help to illustrate life in the last Ice Age between 50,000 and 10,000 years ago. It lies in the former coalfield communities of North East Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire and is run by Creswell Heritage Trust. The Trust's 'Pride of Place' project worked with communities to develop a sense of local pride and community regeneration using their own history. Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Sub Regional Strategic Partnership the project encouraged local people to tell stories about their local history. By involving and engaging communities, 'Pride of Place' promoted awareness and pride in the distinctive local landscape. It dispelled perceptions of the area as a derelict landscape and created a new positive identity.



In 2007 the East Midlands Heritage Forum will focus its attention on examining the correlation between the relatively low numbers of historic environment champions within local authorities in the region and the level of priority given to conservation work and the historic environment.

WHAT COMMUNITIES VALUE

Some people may not feel part of any community, but others identify with more than one community such as the neighbourhood or area in which they live, the community which best expresses their origins in terms of ethnicity, faith, belief or social class, or the community to which they belong in terms of their work or key interests. Community can be geographical, cultural or interest-based.

The government stresses the objective of creating sustainable communities, defined as "...living communities that are sustainable because people are proud to live there; communities where people feel they belong because they identify with the place and their neighbours"

This report brings together some examples from the East Midlands to demonstrate how the historic environment contributes towards the creation of sustainable communities.

The debate on Public Value has challenged organisations that care for and champion the historic environment to think about how they engage with communities. Different communities will value different elements of the historic environment. Heritage organisations need to bring specialists and communities together; working in concert to make decisions and allocate resources.

'History Matters – pass it on' is a campaign developed by the main heritage bodies in 2006 to raise awareness of the importance of history in our everyday lives and encourage greater public involvement in heritage.

The Heritage Lottery Fund's 2005 public value citizen's workshop, or 'Citizen's Jury', in the region allowed members of the general public with no specific prior interest in the historic environment to consider why heritage matters and the benefits of heritage projects. The event was designed to test if there really is a perceived 'public value' of heritage. The jurors looked at five projects: the restoration and regeneration of the Nottingham Lace Market; the Nature Detectives, a web-based project that encourages children to observe their natural environment; Black Text, a project that works with socially excluded young black people in Nottingham; the West Shed near Derby, a locomotive shed, library and archive and Derby Arboretum, the restoration of England's first public park. Their conclusions and comments demonstrate how these ordinary people felt heritage provides value in their communities. Representatives from the East Midlands Jury shared their conclusions at the important national conference on Public Value in January 2006. (www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/Public-Value.pdf)

The Heritage Lottery Fund Chair, Liz Forgan, is pictured here with Citizen's Jury Members



"I think it's important to keep different types of heritage because they reflect a broad and multicultural society."
Heritage Lottery Fund Citizen's Jury

"The projects all unite communities with a reason to be proud of those that have gone before them."
Heritage Lottery Fund Citizen's Jury

"The whole area has now been regenerated. It was a no-go-area with dilapidated buildings which has now been converted into the most exclusive area in Nottingham city centre"
On Nottingham's Lace Market area:
Heritage Lottery Fund Citizen's Jury

"Apart from being about heritage, the projects seem to be about community, identity, and the future and past."
Heritage Lottery Fund Citizen's Jury

"It's important to keep an element of history in a rapidly modernising world in order to cement the area's character and historical meaning."
Heritage Lottery Fund Citizen's Jury

"The most important projects are the ones where they involve the whole community and a wide range of people can benefit from them."
Heritage Lottery Fund Citizen's Jury

"It has enabled the park to become a safe place that welcomes people of all ages and has something for them all."
On Derby Arboretum: Heritage Lottery Fund Citizen's Jury

We believe that history matters. A society out of touch with its past cannot have confidence in its future. History defines, educates and inspires us. It lives on in our historic environment. As custodians for the past we will be judged by generations to come. We must value it, nurture it and pass it on.
The History Matters Declaration 2006

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The government has set the sector the challenge to broaden audiences and widen participation in the historic environment. It has introduced a target to increase, by 2008, by three percentage points, the proportion of people from black and minority ethnic communities, from lower socio-economic backgrounds and those with a limiting disability who visit historic environment sites.

Monitoring the response to this challenge, the Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) has set up the Taking Part survey to measure participation. Taking Part is a continuous national survey of adults in England. The survey was launched in mid-July 2005.

The survey looked at those adults who have visited at least one historic environment site during the last year by sub groups of the population. These sub groups included the region in which respondents lived. In the East Midlands it is provisionally estimated that about 71% of adults have visited at least one site. This is similar to the national average of 69%.

In 2002 *Viewpoints on the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (available from www.emra.gov.uk/publications/environment.asp) reported that 47% of people in the East Midlands visited an historic building. However, this figure was only for visits to buildings rather than all types of historic environment sites and so cannot be compared directly with the wider definition used in the Taking Part survey. Nevertheless it does reinforce the value of the historic environment to the citizens of the East Midlands.

Recent initiatives in the region have tried to increase participation from different communities. Through projects described here, such as 'Home is...' and the 'Northamptonshire Black History Project', the historic environment sector has reached out to those groups who can feel excluded by the traditional views of heritage.

The three 'How to...' guides published by Museums Libraries and Archives (MLA) East Midlands in 2005 have continued to help staff in the region's museums, libraries and archives with their audience development work. *How to... Develop a Community Profile*, *How to... Manage Consultation* and *How to... Write an Audience Development Plan* provide a step-by-step approach to audience development work, offering background information and advice on specific tasks and activities.

CulturED is a program of free learning resources provided for schools by Lincolnshire County Council. The activities, which are led by library and heritage staff, use collections to



DERWENT VALLEY MILLS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Thousands of people live within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site; and even before inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List in December 2001, the community was involved in the management and conservation of the site.

In 2005, the first World Heritage Site Discovery Day was held to showcase the work being done in the Derwent Valley. With over 40 events held along the 15-mile stretch of the Site, a host of enthusiastic volunteers helped with activities, and over 1000 local people turned out to find out more about their historic surroundings.

Community art projects were unveiled and associated workshops held. Guided tours took visitors to places rarely seen or interpreted for the public.

The Discovery Day was very popular and the only complaint visitors had was insufficient time to take part in all the events. As a result the numerous events planned for Discovery Days in October 2006 were spread over two days. www.derwentvalleymills.org

STRUTT'S NORTH MILL AND LONG ROW PRIMARY SCHOOL, BELPER DERBYSHIRE

Strutt's North Mill, an independent industrial history museum within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, was keen to develop its existing schools activities, especially with schools in Belper that did not use the museum.

MLA East Midlands staff worked with the museum to produce a new teachers' pack on the mill and its development. Classes from nearby Long Row Primary School visited the museum, did the 'town walk' and produced work on 'Belper past and present' using museum resources.

Families, neighbours and the wider community were all involved with the project, which culminated in an exhibition of children's work and an open evening.

Many civic societies and local history groups already have their own schemes to provide commemorative plaques (which are not always blue). The things they commemorate may not be influential on a national scale but they are the people and events that have shaped the local area and are important to the community. By catching the attention of passers-by, local societies are drawing people into an understanding of what made their place and giving them a knowledge of their own history. Kettering Civic Society, for example, has erected a plaque to its founder member Tony Ireson (1913-2002). A Kettering born writer and historian he was described in *Country Life* as the 'sort of man that every English town should have'. He fought to defend the centre of Kettering, from brutal redevelopment and remained resident in a cottage in the town even when his garden was obliterated by a road and his view of an 18th-century house replaced by that of a car park.



The English Heritage Outreach project, “Home is ...”, used a postcard designed by a local student, to gather the views of the communities from the Neighbourhood Renewal Area in the Abbey Ward of Lincoln. The Project Steering Group decided to represent the views collected by producing textile artwork. Banners, bunting and a ‘Cabinet of Curiosities’ were made and are now being used by community groups for events and activities.



T. TROHN									
W. D. TOLL		F. CLAYBORN		LLOYD-DYERS		K. ROBERTS			
B. TERRY		J. HANCOCK		A. HAWKINS		E. F. TONKES		A. DREYER (TANNO)	
W. BELL (MAYNARD)	J. MARSH	H. A. REINHARD	F. WALDEN	H. KING	F. LERSON	A. LEWIS	C. SMITH	E. FERRIS	A. JONES (SAND)

The volunteers who ran the project have now formed the Northamptonshire Black History Association. With a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grant of £249,500, they will draw on the experience and skills already gained to open the archives to new audiences. They plan to develop curriculum resources, provide activities for community groups and enable work to develop collections and learning resources in local museums. www.northants-black-history.org.uk



On the second day over 100 school children were introduced to the history of the site by a Roman, a Mediaeval peasant and a Georgian steam packet boat operator.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement by communities in the historic environment often goes well beyond a simple visit to a site. The sector depends heavily on the contribution made by volunteers and would struggle to survive without them; as the National Trust report 'Vital Volunteers' (www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-vital_volunteers.pdf) said "no volunteers, no National Trust". But this dependence does not apply only to large heritage organisations. Volunteers are just as important to small local bodies such as museums, historic houses, archaeological sites, local amenity societies and professional heritage organisations. Volunteers are engaged in campaigning and fund raising and in all aspects of stewarding and managing sites. They campaign passionately on local issues drawing the community into decisions about the future of its historic environment.

Volunteer involvement in the development and management of local museums and their collections develops community engagement in heritage at its local roots. 'Sustainable Museums' is a free development programme for staff and volunteers in independent museums. It aims to make them stronger by increasing their management, business, and organisational skills through flexible professional development activities. These include one-to-one surgeries on topics such as marketing, business planning and managing volunteers. The 'Practical Partnerships' programme links museums with another museum or adviser, to share expertise over a series of meetings. The programme is funded jointly by MLA East Midlands and the European Social Fund in partnership with Arts Training Central of Leicester.

Every community project needs passionate and committed volunteers, but to succeed most also need funding. The Local Heritage Initiative (LHI) programme, which closed in 2006, has helped many such projects. Since 2000, the LHI has supported small communities by encouraging people to rediscover their local history and heritage. Managed by the Countryside Agency, with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and sponsorship from the Nationwide Building Society, the LHI awarded £22.7 million to over 1,400 different projects across the country. By June 2006, a total of 207 awards had been made in the East Midlands with grants totalling £3,129,936. The Heritage Lottery Fund will continue to fund community projects through its Your Heritage and Young Roots programmes, and will incorporate some of the innovative approaches and best practice developed by the LHI.

Local heritage groups throughout the region work in

ASHOVER

Two large boulders covered in prehistoric rock art discovered in playing fields caused excitement at Ashover Primary School, Derbyshire. An opportunity was grasped to involve the school and local community in their interpretation.

Financed by the Local Heritage Initiative, local adults helped pupils to construct their own prehistoric style roundhouse. The project allowed teaching staff to broaden the National Curriculum.



SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS (SPAB) WORKING PARTY

Every summer, the SPAB puts its advice and expertise into practice at a building in need. In 2005, they came to the aid of a medieval Nottinghamshire church.

Around 30 conservation experts and volunteer heritage enthusiasts from all walks of life worked on Holy Trinity Church, Ratcliffe-on-Soar. The week long project carried out vital maintenance and repair work to the 13th century church.

The volunteers and the local community learnt valuable new skills and gained knowledge and satisfaction working on the protection and care of an important historic and community building. Indeed, the church is very important, as Ratcliffe has no village hall, pub or shop. The church acts as a meeting place for the village, and is a popular venue for everything from parish meetings to musicals.

The Working Party was also the subject of the BBC Radio 4 programme *Open Country*, allowing an audience of 2 million listeners to find out about the work done by the SPAB.

partnership in their community to ensure basic local services are available. For example, when a community loses the local shop it can feel as if the heart has gone out of the village. In Flintham, Nottinghamshire a new 21st century community shop was the perfect complement to the local museum's exhibition of 20th century 'rural life through the eyes of the village shopkeeper'. The Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council's 'Shop in a Box', located right behind the museum, repackaged the traditional village shop as a portable building at the heart of the village. Since April 2006, when set-up funding ceased, the shop has been self-supporting. Future plans for the site include contemporary craft installations as part of the innovative new 'museumaker' project.



ST ANN'S ALLOTMENTS GARDENERS' ORAL HISTORIES

St. Ann's Allotments, Nottingham, are the largest and oldest allotment site in the country. English Heritage collected the oral histories of gardeners working on the Grade II* registered allotments. Excerpts from their stories were displayed at the site's Heritage Open Day alongside photographic portraits of the gardeners. Tales of migration from Ireland and the Caribbean were interwoven with a social and horticultural history of the allotments told through the personal stories of each gardener.



TEALBY MULTI USE CENTRE

This traditional looking building in the Conservation Area of Tealby and the Lincolnshire Wolds houses a thriving community project. The village shop had closed in the 1990s. This new charitable community-run Multi-Use centre with a shop, Post Office, doctor's surgery and library, was built in the centre of the village. The site includes the Arts and Crafts inspired village hall, the design of which clearly influenced the design of the shop. Funding for the scheme came from the European Regional Development Fund, the Post Office and the Parish, District and County Councils.



GREASLEY AND DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

The society was formed in November 2003 after a successful campaign to save Gilt Hill Primary School, Kimberley from demolition. The School was built

in 1893 and is a rare single-storey rural board school. In 2003, a concerned pupil wrote to her local councillor when she heard the school was to be demolished and replaced. A campaign grew up and alongside it a new civic pride and sense of involvement.

The formation of the Civic Society helped the school campaign but also created a new community voice to champion the local historic environment. It initially covered the ancient parish of Greasley, (which includes Moorgreen, Watnall, Kimberley, Brinsley, Newthorpe, Hemshell, Hill Top and Giltbrook) but demand for the Society's involvement has been so great since its creation that its area of interest has now been extended to cover Eastwood and Nuthall. The society now actively campaigns to save local buildings and prevent inappropriate development in the area.

ST PHILIP'S, LEICESTER

Leicester is the city with the greatest number of religions outside London. The 2001 Census showed that St Philip's is in an area where a largely elderly Christian population has become a minority (16.2%) in comparison to the increasing populations of Muslims (33.7%), Hindus (25.8%), Sikhs (12.6%) and other faith and ethnic groups. Over the years, good relations have been built up between St Philip's and the leaders of the neighbouring Mosque, which proved critical after the events of September 2001 and July 2005.

A serious fire in 1996, which caused extensive damage to St Philip's, provided an opportunity to rethink the building, which had become too big for the congregation. It was rebuilt to include flexible space for community activities, while continuing to be a place of Christian worship. Regular visits are made by the local school which is 99.9% Asian, to learn about Christianity. Many Asian wedding parties are also held in the big hall and several interfaith groups meet on a regular basis. To enable more women to take part, a group for Muslim and Christian women started in May 2002, meeting monthly at the Church.

In June 2006, the *St Philip's Centre for Study and Engagement in a Multi-Faith Society* was launched as one of two national centres for training Christian ministers and those of other faiths who are working in multi-faith areas and also preparing secular agencies for working in such areas. The Centre provides a focus for courses to foster inter-faith dialogue and facilitate education and training.

COMMUNITY REGENERATION

Regeneration has been defined by the DCMS as “the positive transformation of a place that has previously displayed symptoms of physical, social or economic decline”. The historic environment plays a significant role in helping to regenerate communities. Substantial grant funding has therefore been put into projects in the region to assist the regeneration of communities.

The East Midlands Heritage Forum in partnership with the East Midlands Development Agency has commissioned a study of the contribution heritage makes to the regional economy. The study examines how heritage affects employment, regeneration and quality of life and how this impact can be increased.

Save Our Streets was an English Heritage campaign to remove superfluous clutter, co-ordinate design, reinforce local character and make streets places where people want to be and communities can thrive. Through a partnership with the Women's Institute and a call to members of the public to carry out street audits, the campaign aimed to give control of street design back to communities. In March 2005, English Heritage produced a regional streetscape manual, *Streets for All*, which used local examples to set out principles of good practice for street management. The themes and ideas of *Streets for All* have been taken up by Lincolnshire County Council which has launched *Every Street Matters*, a project aimed at everyone who carries out works to streets and public spaces. It aims to improve the way the spaces look and feel, and therefore how they are used. This brings benefits to communities, by attracting businesses and tourism, reducing crime and fear of crime and encouraging the people of Lincolnshire to feel proud of their streets. Public consultation was carried out and the project is engaging with Lincolnshire residents on the importance of attractive and usable streets, what pleases and concerns people about their local streets and what their aspirations for local streets might be.

STAVELEY

Community archaeology at Staveley Hall, Derbyshire was instrumental in the success of a Neighbourhood Management regeneration project. Over 1000 people were brought together to learn and enjoy during excavations on a 17th century manor house. Funded by HLF's 'Your Heritage' programme, eleven local schools with over 600 pupils were also involved.



Left: The Corn Dolly Café before grant work. Below: The Corn Dolly Café with its new traditional shopfront, windows and dramatic hand painted signage.

HISTORIC CENTRES OF EAST LINDSEY, LINCOLNSHIRE HERITAGE ECONOMIC REGENERATION SCHEME (HERS)

Having lead the way in market town regeneration, East Lindsey broke new ground tackling economic and environmental decline in four of its smaller historic commercial centres and piloting English Heritage's Citizenship project for schools in the region.

Working with the local community to manage and help deliver the HERS, a total of 24 different projects received grants between 2003 and 2006, generating over half a million pounds of investment. Each small community contributed financially to the project, which was substantially funded by English Heritage, the European Regional Development Fund and the District and County Councils.

The work carried out at the Corn Dolly Café, Wragby, exemplifies how working with the local community and building on heritage can raise environmental quality and help the image of local businesses.



COMMUNITY PROSPERITY

Successful geographical communities rely on a prosperous local economy. Investment in the local heritage enhances the prosperity of communities both through the direct financial impact of visitors and by the indirect effects of an attractive environment upon quality of life. This all helps to attract and sustain economic activity. The Lyons Inquiry into local government has identified the distinctiveness of a place as being important in attracting skills and investment.

National Developments – Local Impact

The future regional and local framework for the historic environment will be affected by three imminent pieces of national policy: the long awaited White Paper from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport which takes forward the Heritage Protection Review, the White Paper on local government reform from the Department for Communities and Local Government and the results of the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007.

These three developments are closely intertwined with the management of the historic environment. The reform of heritage protection will enhance the role of local government in the sustainable management of the historic environment. But those same local authorities could find themselves facing major structural and funding reforms. Against the background of a slower rate of growth in public spending it will be imperative to ensure that adequate resources are available for local government to manage the historic environment and to face the additional challenges of the Heritage Protection Review.

The East Midlands Region

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 has brought in radical changes to the planning system, changing the way plans are made at regional and local levels.

Regional Planning Guidance (RPG) has become part of the statutory development plan and has been re-named Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), also known as the Regional Plan. The current Plan provides a broad development framework for the East Midlands up to 2021 and a draft revised plan to 2026 has been issued for consultation. The Regional Plan describes the scale and distribution of new housing, priorities for the environment – including the historic dimension – transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, minerals extraction, and waste. The East Midlands Regional Assembly is the Regional Planning Body for the East Midlands. As a partnership of local county, district, town and parish councils and business,

environmental, social and voluntary groups, the task for the Assembly is to bring regional strategic planning back to the very local level.

Local Government in the East Midlands

Local government makes a difference to everybody's lives, delivering essential services and improving communities so that they are better places to live. Local authorities have a responsibility to involve communities in their local historic environment, both directly through the management of heritage assets and historic environment planning services, and indirectly through decisions they make in other service areas such as health and education.

The new planning system sees the abolition of Local Plans, which will be replaced with new Local Development Frameworks (LDFs). The thrust of the new system is towards greater community involvement earlier in the plan-making process and making plans more responsive to Community Strategies. As part of the process each local authority has to publish, and consult on, a statement of community involvement (SCI) setting out its policy on involving the community in plan making and planning applications. This is an important opportunity for emphasising the value of the historic environment.

There has been much debate and discussion about the impact of the new planning system on the management of the historic environment and especially how conservation policy and Conservation Area Appraisals will fit into the new Local Development Frameworks. Very broad conservation policies can be laid down in the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD). More detailed conservation policies can then be included in either a Development Control DPD or one or more site specific DPDs, which may include Area Action Plans. Supplementary planning documents (SPD) then expand on or provide guidance on the policies in the DPD. SPDs can include conservation area guidance for a single complex area or set out policies for all or some of the authorities' conservation areas. Adopted and published Conservation Area character appraisals, which sit outside the LDF, are not SPD but will support SPDs and provide evidence from which to develop local policies.

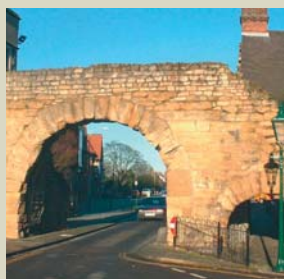
Amongst the amendments the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 makes to planning control is the introduction of Design and Access Statements, which are required with most applications for planning and listed building consent. Statements are intended to explain the design thinking behind the proposal and lead to quality accessible designs in new build and sensitive work to listed buildings.

Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1) sets out the Government's policy on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. The PPS aims to ensure that design which fails to improve the character and quality of an area should not be accepted. This is a radical change towards better quality development moving the onus of decision making from an ethos of approving applications which are seen as 'not bad enough to refuse'

towards a culture of only supporting those applications which are 'good enough to approve'.

Local Authority Historic Environment Champions provide leadership for heritage issues within their authority and are playing an essential role in unlocking the potential of the historic environment. By July 2006, 20 of the 45 local authorities in the East Midlands had Historic Environment Champions. They have been involved in a wide range of activities and projects that have enabled their local authority to make much better use of the historic environment resources at their disposal. Whilst 44 % of local authorities in the region have recognised the benefits of appointing a Historic Environment Champion and have asked an elected Member to undertake this vital role, this figure is well below the national average of 54%. The East Midlands needs to catch up with the national trend by filling the remaining gaps in the appointment of Historic Environment Champions.

Despite the encouraging development in political leadership for the historic environment, the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) has reported a worrying trend towards the loss or reduction of conservation services in the region. High achieving councils which have previously had an exemplary record for historic environment work are seen to be reducing the corporate and financial emphasis they give to conservation work and disbanding their specialist teams. In 2002, 8 of the 46 authorities in the region did not have in house conservation staff. In 2006, this disturbing figure has increased by one and even this disguises an underlying trend of reduction in permanent staffing, more sole conservation officers rather than teams and an increasing reliance on part-time consultants.



LINCOLN ROMAN MONUMENTS CONSERVATION PLAN

Lincoln's Roman monuments make a significant contribution to the city's special historic character and identity, as well

as to tourism and education. The City of Lincoln Council commissioned a Conservation Plan on 27 different monuments, to inform their long-term conservation, management and interpretation. The community involvement in the Plan's preparation included neighbouring residents and businesses, local school-children and visitors to Lincoln. Over 400 people were consulted. The consultation evolved as an integral part of the plan's development rather than simply being bolted on at the end of the process. Each group was asked a series of open questions that mirrored the conservation plan process and encouraged them to share their knowledge and views. Local residents also joined working groups and became directly involved in decision-making.



7-13 BRIDGE STREET, HORNCASTLE

These Grade II Listed buildings in Bridge Street, Horncastle were reported in Heritage Counts 2003 to illustrate the need for statutory intervention in revitalising Buildings at Risk. At that time they were in an extremely dilapidated condition with two of the buildings supported by structural scaffolding to prevent their collapse.

The conservation role of the local authority was crucial in saving and repairing the buildings. Very substantial grants offered through the successful Horncastle Conservation Area Partnership Scheme had not secured repair. The continued state of decay led the local authority to serve Urgent Works and Repairs Notices, undertake works in default and ultimately to pursue compulsory purchase.

The Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, a local buildings preservation trust which aims to repair historic buildings at risk, entered into a 'back to back agreement' and, following the compulsory purchase of the buildings by the Council, took ownership in 2004. The successful restoration project was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the European Regional Development Fund and supported by East Lindsey District Council and the Architectural Heritage Fund.

The project illustrates the benefits of conservation-lead regeneration that East Lindsey District Council has achieved throughout Horncastle and other local market towns and that the Trust aims to achieve throughout Lincolnshire, by providing new economic uses for once derelict historic buildings.

Numbers 7-13 Bridge Street have formed part of the local scene in Horncastle for almost 300 years and their repair has allowed them to continue to make a contribution to the economic prosperity and character of the town. Their intended reuse is by a community foundation further enhancing the benefit the buildings bring to the people of Horncastle.



VILLAGE PLANS

The community planning process, with its interactive and 'hands on' techniques, helps communities to understand cultural heritage, take collective action, develop a 'village plan' and tap into grants that

are only available to local groups. People in Tideswell, Derbyshire are shown here getting involved in their Village Action Plan.

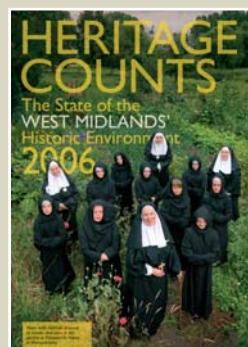
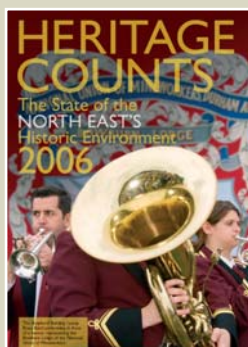
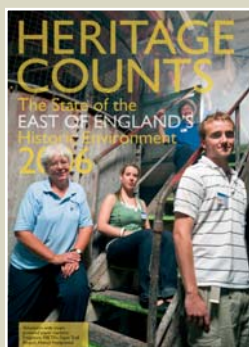
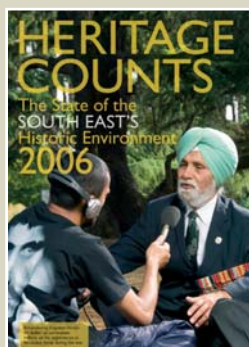
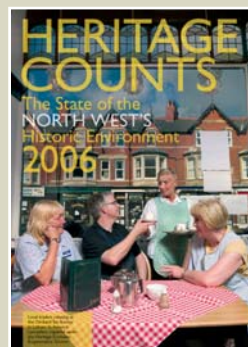
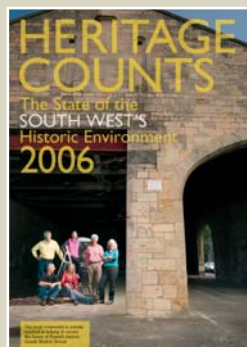
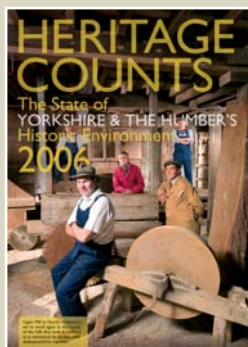
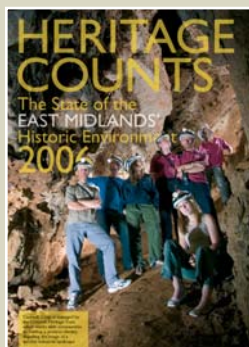
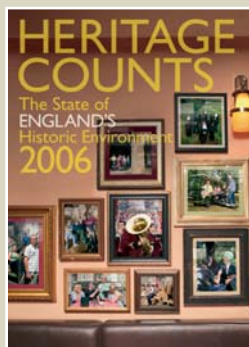
REGIONAL HEADLINES For a full set of regional indicators please go to www.heritagecounts.org.uk

THE THREE MAIN REGIONAL FINDINGS FOR 2006

- **Taking part – visits to historic environment sites**
About 71% of adults in the region have visited at least one historic environment site between July 2005 and April 2006. Coupled with previous indications from *Viewpoints on the Historic Environment in 2002*, the figures reinforce the value of the historic environment to citizens of the East Midlands.
- **Historic Environment Champions**
By July 2006, 44 % of local authorities in the region had appointed a Historic Environment Champion but this is well below the national average of 54%. The East Midlands needs to catch up with the national trend by filling the remaining gaps in the appointment of Historic Environment Champions.
- **Local authority conservation staff provision**
Since 2002, there has been a continued loss of specialist conservation services in the region. In 2002, 8 of the 46 authorities did not have in house conservation staff. In 2006 this disturbing figure has increased by one and even this disguises an underlying trend of reduction in permanent staffing, more sole conservation officers rather than teams and an increasing reliance on part-time consultants.

OTHER KEY FACTS FOR 2006

- **Listed Buildings**
In 2002, *Viewpoints on the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* reported that there were 29,414 Listed Buildings in the region. This had risen in 2006 to 29,753, representing an increase of 1.1% in the last four years. This moderate increase reflects the exacting standards applied for the protection of the historic environment and the sensitivity of increasing statutory regulation.
- **Buildings at Risk**
English Heritage's Register of Buildings at Risk recorded 133 entries of Grade I and II* buildings and structural Scheduled Monuments at risk through neglect and decay in 2006 in the East Midlands. The number of entries at risk on the Register in the region has decreased slightly, to 4.2% of all grade I and II* entries in 2006 compared with 4.8% in 2002 when *Viewpoints on the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* was compiled and 5.1% on the baseline 1999 Register.
- **Scheduled monument consent**
40 Scheduled monument consent decisions were issued in the East Midlands in 2005-06 for works of repair, management or acceptable change
- **Developer funded archaeology**
Less than 5% of archaeological features are statutorily protected as Scheduled Monuments. The remaining sites are safeguarded through the planning system. In 2005-6, 1004 pieces of work were carried out in the East Midlands as part of the process of protecting and recording the region's unique archaeological heritage. These included 176 desk-based assessments, 215 evaluations, 64 excavations, 402 watching briefs and 147 building recordings. The results of this work are then fed back into the network of local authority Historic Environment Records (HERs) that record sites, monuments and other features, to inform further planning decisions.
- **Registered historic parks and gardens**
There were 139 registered parks and gardens in the East Midlands in 2006. In 2002 *Viewpoints on the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* recorded that there were 134.
- **Landscapes at Risk**
In 2006, data was published which showed the decline of rural estate parkland, between 1918 and 1995. This was mainly as a result of agricultural development, conversion to golf courses and other changes. The data identifies regional hot spots where over 70% of parkland has been lost. The heaviest losses have been in Northampton, those districts surrounding Leicester, Boston in Lincolnshire and the areas around major towns in the former coalfield areas of North Nottinghamshire and North Derbyshire.
- **Grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund**
In 2005-06, the HLF supported 233 projects in the region spending £10,827,040. This included £673,752 on 37 Local Heritage Initiative projects and £1,022,690 on Repair Grants for Places of Worship jointly with English Heritage.
- **Grants from English Heritage**
In 2005/06, English Heritage offered grants in the East Midlands totalling £2,387,000. These included grants to Buildings & Monuments (£171,000), to Conservation Areas (£491,000), regional capacity building grants (£65,000) strategic grants for the region (£673,000) and the contribution to Repair Grants for Places of Worship jointly with the HLF (£987,000).
- **Museums**
There are 213 public and private museums in the region with 52 in Derbyshire, 39 in Leicestershire, 52 in Lincolnshire, 32 in Nottinghamshire, 35 in Northamptonshire and 3 in Rutland.



Heritage Counts 2006 is produced by English Heritage on behalf of the East Midlands Heritage Forum. Other member organisations of the Forum are:

British Waterways
 Country Land and Business Association
 East Midlands Association of Civic Societies
 East Midlands Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
 East Midlands Churches Tourism Association
 East Midlands Development Agency
 East Midlands Regional Assembly
 Government Office East Midlands
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 Heritage Lottery Fund
 Historic Houses Association
 Institute of Historic Building Conservation
 Local Government East Midlands
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