

HERITAGE COUNTS 2012

EAST OF ENGLAND

Heritage Counts 2012 is the eleventh annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. It is prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the East of England Historic Environment Forum. This year the theme for Heritage Counts is resilience in the historic environment. Visitors to the Heritage Counts website can download the research projects commissioned to support this year's report and access the full set of local statistics and maps detailing the historic environment for the East of England, including asset data, funding information, employment numbers and visitor figures. Many of these indicators were first reported in 2002, so this year also marks 10 years of Heritage Counts indicators. Further analysis has been carried out on the 10 year trends of some of the key indicators.

HERITAGE AND RESILIENCE

This year, Heritage Counts focuses on resilience: the ability of heritage organisations to cope with issues that affect them. Although prompted by the current economic climate, the research found that the resilience evident in the organisations studied predates the current economic difficulties, suggesting that resilient organisations have a long history of change and adaptation. The research identified barriers to resilience which might make it difficult for organisations to adapt to a changing climate. It looks at a sample of heritage organisations that have adapted in a range of ways, and identifies how these changes can be applied across other organisations in the sector. Please see the national Heritage Counts 2012 report for more detail on the local case studies of Luton Cultural Trust, Colchester & Ipswich Museum Service and Apsley Paper Trail.

www.heritagecounts.org.uk

Resilience: Apsley Paper Trail Trust

The Apsley Paper Trail Trust near Hemel Hempstead owns the former production base of Basildon Bond paper and Frogmore Mill, the oldest mechanised paper mill in the world. The Basildon Bond site was part-developed to provide an income for the Trust through a pub and small business space, Frogmore Mill was the focus for visitors and the continuation of paper production. After a sale of land fell through owing to the recession, the Trust was placed in a difficult financial state. All the staff were made redundant and the 'big' paper making machine was stopped.

A core of staff decided to continue as volunteers and three machine workers set up their own company to produce paper on the smaller machine at Frogmore. The Trust sought advice from a corporate recovery consultancy

who helped them develop an alternative plan to survive then thrive once their position improved. The firm also helped them make agreements with their creditors. The belief that they were doing something important motivated former staff and has helped them turn a corner in securing the long-term viability of these two important sites.

www.thepapertrail.org.uk

Machine Running at Frogmore Mill 1907
© The Apsley Paper Trail



HERITAGE COUNTS: INDICATOR DATA

East of England	2012
World Heritage Sites	0
Scheduled Monuments	1,730
Listed Buildings Grade I	1,763
Listed Buildings Grade II*	3,506
Listed Buildings Grade II	52,449
Registered Parks & Gardens	211
Registered Battlefields	1
Protected Wrecks	1
Conservation Areas	1,198

Note: Part of the Battlefield of Barnet is also located in the region.



Wrest Park, Bedfordshire. The number of volunteers has increased in 2011/12.
© English Heritage

People Power

The National Trust in the East of England has benefited from over 360,000 volunteer hours in 2011/12. This equates to nearly 1,000 hours every day of the year. These hours have been donated by groups of people and over 3,000 individuals.

Demolitions Increase

Over the last ten years there has been a 27% reduction in the number of planning decisions in the East of England and a 10% reduction in listed building consent decisions.

Whilst the total number of planning decisions and listed building consent decisions for alteration and extension have remained stable between 2010/11 and 2011/12, listed building consent decisions for demolition are up 44% (from 59 to 85) and conservation area consents for demolition are up 20% (from 395 to 473) over the same period.

KEY POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

NPPF

The new *National Planning Policy Framework* replaced PPS5 on 27 March 2012. The NPPF provides integrated planning policies with the historic environment embedded throughout the document and also contained within a specific chapter – the successor to PPS5. Underlying the entire document is the Government's approach which is for a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development'. The inclusion of historic environment policies in the NPPF recognises the importance of heritage in ensuring sustainable development.

Resilience

The historic environment provides constancy as well as change as each generation faces its challenges. Its ability to evolve whilst seemingly staying the same is important in our culture, and it is therefore easy for its environmental and social contributions to be overlooked. This ability to adapt whilst providing continuity is an important factor in long-term resilience, and should not be forgotten when short-term issues threaten historic places.



Cupola House, Bury St. Edmunds, first taken off the Heritage At Risk Register in 2003, has been put back on after a devastating fire.
© English Heritage

A CELEBRATION OF 10 YEARS OF HERITAGE COUNTS

In 2012 we celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the third time Great Britain has hosted the Olympics; it also marks a decade of Heritage Counts. To mark this occasion, HEF members each have chosen a case study¹ to highlight a particular issue or success.

Heritage Lottery Fund

The nave of the ruined Binham Priory has formed the Parish church of Binham since 1310. The Priory (founded in 1091) is owned by Norfolk Archaeological Trust. They are supported by a thriving Friends of Binham Priory Group. A Heritage Lottery Fund grant, along with an English Heritage grant and community fundraising, funded a six-year project to make the site more accessible and welcoming, along with conservation of many historic features. Visitor numbers have doubled helping the future sustainability of this valued community site.

www.binhampriory.org

English Heritage

Over the last ten years, English Heritage has developed the Buildings at Risk Register (first published in 1998) into a more comprehensive Heritage at Risk Register covering buildings, scheduled monuments, places of worship, conservation areas, parks and gardens, battlefields and protected wrecks. This has helped focus the effort of interested individuals and organisations to save the heritage that is at most risk. For example 50% of the buildings on the register between 1998 and 2011 have been removed from the register. To recognise the valuable work many people and groups do, in 2011 EH held the first Heritage Angel Awards, in conjunction with the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. EH also has published new guidance for owners and developers

¹The commentary relating to the former MLA has been provided by English Heritage.



Farming at MyFarm – Wimpole Home Farm in Cambridgeshire.
© The National Trust



Norwich Market in 1948 and Ely Market in 2012
© English Heritage



to help arrest further decline in assets already at risk during the recession. For more information see:
www.heritageatrisk.org.uk

Museums, Libraries and Archives Council

In 2011 one HEF member, the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, closed. The museums and libraries' functions transferred to the Arts Council. This transfer has changed the emphasis of support for museums, reducing to two those directly receiving major funding in the region. This comes at an important time for museums, many of which are maintained by local authorities as discretionary services and are housed in historic or locally important buildings. Recent successes have been securing the Wickham Market Hoard for Ipswich Museum including a tour around museums in Icen territory and the redisplay of Peterborough Museum which included resurrecting a Victorian hospital theatre preserved from the building's previous life.
www.vivacity-peterborough.com
www.cimuseums.org.uk

National Trust

Facebook, Flickr, YouTube, Twitter, QR Codes. If ten years ago you were told that you could be part of a worldwide community network from your mobile phone, it would have seemed incredible. Now, online interactions are central to gathering support for a cause or for engaging with potential customers. They also raise possibilities for engaging a wider audience. The National Trust's online farming experiment, MyFarm at Wimpole Home Farm, built a community

of online farmers (one as far away as New Zealand) who made decisions about what should happen on the farm.

This approach has generated interest in the Trust's farming policies, as well as attracting many visitors to Wimpole Home Farm – particularly families. Also, for visitors to Trust properties and landscapes, downloadable walking routes and guided tours are allowing people to plan their day out and create their own unique experiences. This allows the Trust to change what's on offer more frequently – attracting repeat visits and allowing people to develop a deeper connection with a favourite place.
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/local-to-you/east-of-england

Campaign to Protect Rural England

Despite a plethora of cooking programmes, many people are losing the connection with where and how our food is farmed. Even in the agricultural heartland of England, many of us do not understand how farming has shaped and can be important in protecting the historic landscape. Research and campaigning by the CPRE is hoping to change this by encouraging stores to stock local produce, encouraging people to buy from local shops, and ultimately sustainably support the historic landscape around us. For more information see:
www.cpre.org.uk/what-we-do/farming-and-food/local-foods/update/item/2896-local-food-is-recipe-for-economic-success

East of England's Civic Societies

The East of England is an area which is under development pressure. In Cambridge, for example, the existence of a Green Belt has helped maintain the setting and character of this historic city, and prevent outward sprawl.

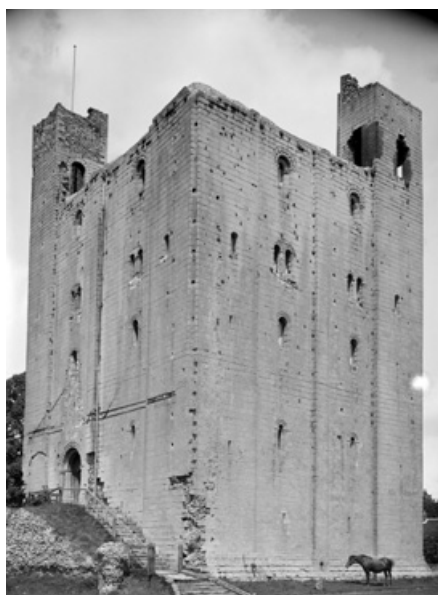
Whilst some may perceive the Green Belt as a constraint, there is evidence that businesses believe that Cambridge's natural and historic environment is important for attracting highly qualified staff against global competition. The important role of the green belts has been recognised in the recent NPPF, stating that they should only be altered in exceptional circumstances.

Association of Preservation Trusts (APT)

Ten years is a short time for a historic building – but it has seen a transformation for East Anglia's Building Preservation Trusts (BPTs). BPTs have recently relaunched the UK-APT website (www.ukapt.org.uk) and are reached by frequent 'APT community e-mails' to charitable trusts who, until recently, were reliant upon the telephone and postal deliveries.

The APT community shares opportunities, funding sources, 'lessons learned' and best practice by reviewing conservation challenges and successes regardless of their local or European funding, parochial or national significance. The East Anglia Group (Chaired by Dr Alan Coday who runs the only MSc in Conservation of Buildings in the region)

has had some spectacular projects such as the Pennoyers Centre in Norfolk, and this year hosted the APT National Conference on 18-19 October at the recently rescued St George's Theatre in Great Yarmouth. Contact alan.coday@anglia.ac.uk for more information about the East Anglia Group or the Anglia Ruskin University MSc course.



A 1929 view of Castle Hedingham
© English Heritage

Historic Houses Association (HHA)

The importance of developing networks and creating trust and understanding for the benefit of the historic environment has been acknowledged by the East Anglian HHA branch. In response to this need, HHA members developed an informal series of events for 'champions' of the historic environment, enabling owners, planners and representatives of other public bodies to meet and discuss matters of mutual importance. One such event took place at Hedingham Castle in Essex last year. The day involved a talk by the owner, Jason Lindsay, who is a descendant of Aubrey de Vere who built the castle in the 12th century, and a question and answer session. Around 30 to 40 people attended, drawing owners of historic buildings from throughout East Anglia. It has been estimated that outstanding urgent repairs to HHA member houses nationally, amount to more than £390m. The ability to create dialogue and understanding is essential

to meet the challenges for our historic places in the 21st century.
www.hha.org.uk

Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers (ALGAO)

Members of ALGAO have not been immune from local government cuts. ALGAO members at Norfolk County Council, however, have been transforming the way they work to try and maintain or improve services whilst making budget savings. For the first time, all of the County's heritage services – including archaeology, historic buildings and historic landscapes – have been unified in one Historic Environment Service. In 2011-12 the new HES issued 267 archaeological briefs for developments, added 1600 new historic environment records and enhanced 20,000 existing records, identified and recorded 17,000 artefacts and dealt with 71 cases of Treasure. Alongside a number of externally funded projects, the HES also provides opportunities for volunteers and hosts placements from Bradford University, the University of East Anglia and the Council for British Archaeology.
www.norfolk.gov.uk/environment/historic_environment

Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC)

IHBC members come from both the private and public sector. Their expertise is drawn on by owners and planning authorities to manage change and encourage enhancement to the historic environment. The outcome of their work is highly visible. The historic market town of Fakenham in North Norfolk, for example, benefitted from conservation area and public realm enhancement public funding in 2000-2 and a Conservation Area Management Plan to guide future interventions. Thirty-four buildings were repaired and an award winning re-design of a key public square was achieved; the latter very much standing the 'test of time'. In the private sector, IHBC members often work 'hand in hand' with the private owners of

historic houses and properties, large and small, as at nearby Holkham Hall and Wolterton Hall.
www.ihbc.org.uk



Displaying unity in diversity – Southwold Beach Huts
© English Heritage

Heritage Counts 2012 is edited by Natalie Gates. It is produced by English Heritage on behalf of the East of England Historic Environment Forum:

Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers, Association of Preservation Trusts, Campaign to Protect Rural England, East of England Civic and Amenity Societies, English Heritage, Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Houses Association, Institute for Historic Building Conservation, and National Trust.

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