

HERITAGE COUNTS

YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER



Heritage Counts 2010 is the ninth annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. The Yorkshire and the Humber report is one of nine separate regional reports and has been prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the Yorkshire and Humber Historic Environment Forum (YHHEF). Visitors to the *Heritage Counts* website are able to download the full set of regional indicators and maps detailing the historic environment in their region. Please see www.heritagecounts.org.uk for more information on the historic environment in Yorkshire and the Humber.

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Investing in the historic environment brings real economic benefits to local places. New research for *Heritage Counts* shows that on average £1 of investment in the historic environment generates an additional £1.6 in the local economy over a ten year period; while investments in 72 historic visitor attractions have generated £197 million of additional spend in regional economies, with half of all jobs created by heritage tourism being in the wider economy surrounding historic sites.

The historic environment is important to local economies because it attracts businesses, residents and visitors. One in four businesses surveyed agree that the historic environment was a factor in deciding where to locate, as important as road access, and 91% of respondents regarded the historic environment as an important part of decisions on where to visit, live (74%) or work (68%).

The Cultural Industries Quarter (CIQ) in Sheffield was assessed as part of this research.

Covering an area of around 24 hectares between Sheffield railway station and the city centre, the CIQ was designated as a conservation area in 2001 due to its special architectural and historic interest associated with the steel, cutlery and tool making trades. Unfortunately, as a result of the decline of many traditional local industries, the area had deteriorated significantly.

INVESTMENTS IN THE QUARTER

Between 2002 and 2007, £2 million of funding was provided through the Heritage Lottery Fund's Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI). The scheme assisted seven projects enabling the repair and reuse of some of the area's most significant and important historic buildings, including the listed Butcher and Sterling Works buildings. The THI provided match funding of up to 50% towards the cost of eligible works on projects in the CIQ and generated nearly £16 million of private sector funding.

For more information on the research including further facts and figures on the benefits of investing in the historic environment please see www.heritagecounts.org.uk

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF HERITAGE IN YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

In 2009, English Heritage commissioned Drivers Jonas to provide an assessment of the economic role of heritage in Yorkshire and the Humber. 19 case studies were selected to provide a representation of heritage assets in the region. From the case studies it is apparent that heritage is a platform for economic activity and is effective in creating and maintaining employment. The research revealed that:

- ▶ Heritage tourism is directly responsible for generating more than £2.1 billion visitor expenditure annually at a regional level.
- ▶ 37 million day visitors come to the region annually with a heritage-related activity being the main purpose of their trip.



Image Freeman College, Sterling Works.
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- ▶ 3 million staying visitors per year come to the region with heritage as the main reason for their visit.
- ▶ The GVA impact of the conservation and maintenance of the region's heritage assets is approximately £1 billion per annum.

Importantly, the report also highlighted particular opportunities to create schemes in landmark heritage buildings in town centres that have fallen out of use, so-called 'dead landmarks'. Key recommendations include:

- ▶ Make better use of post-industrial revolution heritage.
- ▶ Encourage Local Authorities and others to consider the opportunities heritage can provide as a core renaissance/regeneration theme in a town.

The full report is available to download from the YHHEF website www.yhhef.org.uk. English Heritage is now looking at ways to work with regional partners to take forward the report's recommendations.

UNDERSTANDING THE ASSETS

YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER	2010
WORLD HERITAGE SITES	2
SCHEDULED MONUMENTS	2,663
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE I	685
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE II*	1,494
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE II	29,203
REGISTERED PARKS AND GARDENS	117
REGISTERED BATTLEFIELDS	7
PROTECTED SHIPWRECKS	1
DESIGNATED HERITAGE COASTLINE	3
CONSERVATION AREAS	892

CARING AND SHARING

- ▶ 4.5% of listed buildings (Grade I and II*) were at risk in 2010, a change from 7.1% in 1999.
- ▶ Since 2006, the number of scheduled monuments at risk has been reduced from 880 to 734. However, at 28% of monuments at risk, the region still has the highest proportion of monuments at risk of any region in the country.
- ▶ 46 conservation areas from a sample survey of 834 are at risk – 5% of the region's total.
- ▶ 10% of the region's 122 registered parks and gardens are at risk.

MANAGING POSITIVELY

- ▶ There were 1,690 decisions on applications for listed buildings consent in 2009/10, a 15% decrease on the previous year and a 30% decrease on the 2002 baseline.
- ▶ The number of regional applications for scheduled monument consent in 2009/10 increased by 51% on the previous year. However the number of consents has fluctuated between 2002/03 and 2009/10 and it is unclear yet whether this is the beginning of a sustained increase in consents.

FUNDING

Spending in the historic environment comes from a variety of sources: private owners, the voluntary sector; Local, Regional and Central Government. It is not possible to collate this data together to produce a definitive total for spend in the historic environment. In the majority of regions though, the most important sources of funding for the historic environment are the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and English Heritage.

- ▶ Since 1994/1995 HLF has awarded grants totalling £353 million in Yorkshire and the Humber, which represents 8% of the total HLF spend in the UK. This includes HLF investment of £112 million in historic buildings and monuments and £95 million on public parks, land and biodiversity projects.
- ▶ English Heritage offered £2m in regional grants in 2009/10.

USING AND BENEFITING

- ▶ Regional English Heritage properties and National Trust sites in Yorkshire and the North East attracted nearly 2.2m visitors in 2009/10.
- ▶ There were 45,670 education visits to English Heritage properties in 2009/10, a 5% decrease on the previous year.
- ▶ 38 Historic Houses Association properties in the region were open to the public in 2009/10, attracting more than 800,000 visitors and providing employment for over 2,000 people.
- ▶ 3,659 volunteers worked at National Trust properties in Yorkshire and the North East in 2009/10.
- ▶ North York Moors National Park Authority volunteers (including 200 Voluntary Rangers) contributed over 11,000 days in 2009/10.
- ▶ Approximately 250 volunteers give the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority 6,000 days each year.

KEY POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment was published in March 2010. English Heritage worked closely with the Departments of Communities and Local Government and Culture, Media and Sport to deliver a modern planning policy framework, and its production is an important step towards Heritage Protection Reform. The PPS was accompanied by a *Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide* which provides more detail on how the policies in the PPS can be applied.

In light of recent changes to national government policy, work on the Yorkshire and Humber Strategy is no longer being progressed. The Regional Spatial Strategy and Regional Economic Strategy are no longer statutory policy documents. The Government has also announced its intention to abolish Regional Development Agencies and replace them with Local Enterprise Partnerships led by local groups of councils and business leaders.

YHHEF representative organisations:

Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
 Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber Heritage Alliance
 British Waterways (Yorkshire)
 Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies
 Churches Regional Commission
 Heritage Lottery Fund
 York Consortium for Conservation and Craftsmanship
 Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment
 Historic Houses Association
 Yorkshire Forward
 Council for British Archaeology (Yorkshire)
 Yorkshire Gardens Trust
 Country Land and Business Association
 Natural England
 English Heritage
 The National Trust
 For further information on the YHHEF, please visit www.yhhef.org.uk

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 Edited by Catherine Marsh.
 Designed by www.evolvedesign.co.uk

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