

# HERITAGE COUNTS 2008

## EAST OF ENGLAND

### 1 HAPPISBURGH, NORFOLK ▲

Cover picture: View of a well shaft exposed after coastal erosion, Happisburgh, Norfolk, 1947. Happisburgh is one of the most eroded parts of the East Coast.

### 2 GREY FRIARS MONASTERY, DUNWICH ►

Grey Friars is a Grade II\* scheduled monument in Dunwich situated on the edge of the cliff that is disappearing into the sea. Dunwich has suffered significant coastal erosion, losing over one mile of land since Roman times.

English Heritage has been helping Suffolk County Council manage the situation through the recording of remains for posterity, and repairing currently upstanding remains for this generation.

In addition, a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) supported film, 'Whatever happened to Dunwich', has documented the social and political changes of coastal erosion. This can be seen at Dunwich Museum. Experience gained through cases such as Grey Friars will influence how we approach the historic environment in the future.

[www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)





*Heritage Counts 2008* is the seventh annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. The East of England report is one of nine separate regional reports and has been prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the East of England's Historic Environment Forum. It should be read in conjunction with the national *Heritage Counts 2008* report, available at [www.heritagecounts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk) where a full set of statistics relating to the historic environment in the East of England region can also be found.



## HERITAGE COUNTS 2008

Examines the impact climate change is having on the historic environment in the East of England. Our region is at the forefront of the climate change threat, both in respect of the effects of climate change and the methods being devised to mitigate and adapt to it. This is as much a challenge for the historic environment as for the natural environment and *Heritage Counts* looks at the way that the heritage sector is seeking to develop methods and address issues related to climate change.

GREG LUTON  
CHAIR OF THE EAST OF ENGLAND  
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FORUM

## UNDERSTANDING THE ASSETS

The coastal counties of Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex have the greatest numbers of listed buildings and scheduled monuments in the region. ▼ See tables 4 & 5

### 4 SCHEDULED MONUMENTS, REGISTERED PARKS AND GARDENS, AND BATTLEFIELDS BY LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT AREA\*

COUNTY/UNITARY	SM**	PARKS AND GARDENS		GRADE II	TOTAL	BATTLEFIELDS
		GRADE I	GRADE II*			
BEDFORDSHIRE	152	2	3	12	17	0
LUTON	2	0	0	2	2	0
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	259	1	10	22	33	0
PETERBOROUGH	65	0	3	1	4	0
ESSEX	298	1	6	31	38	1
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA	6	0	0	0	0	0
THURROCK	17	0	0	1	1	0
HERTFORDSHIRE	177	2	9	36	47	0
NORFOLK	438	2	15	35	52	0
SUFFOLK	328	2	7	14	23	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,738</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>1</b>



### 3 ST GEORGE

A medieval carving in the man made Royston Cave depicting St George with a sword and Christ with the twelve apostles. This Scheduled Monument underneath modern Melbourn Street is close to the ancient cross roads of the Icknield Way and Ermine Street.

### 5 LISTED BUILDINGS BY LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT AREA\*\*\*

COUNTY/UNITARY	I	II*	II	A	B	C	NG	TOTAL
BEDFORDSHIRE	111	137	3,015	1	5	1	1	3,271
LUTON	1	0	80	0	0	0	0	81
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	230	431	6,566	1	14	2	9	7,253
PETERBOROUGH	67	43	815	1	0	0	1	927
ESSEX	263	719	12,953	0	31	9	6	13,981
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA	5	1	86	0	4	0	0	96
THURROCK	12	16	213	0	0	0	0	241
HERTFORDSHIRE	108	470	7,466	1	3	7	10	8,065
NORFOLK	537	831	9,158	2	0	0	8	10,536
SUFFOLK	409	781	11,978	2	13	2	7	13,192
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,743</b>	<b>3,429</b>	<b>52,330</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>57,643</b>

\* Local Area Agreements are a contract between the Government and County or Unitary councils through which they receive funding.

\*\* Scheduled Monument. Some SMs straddle district/borough local authority boundaries. Where this happens, they have been counted in both authorities.

\*\*\* A number of older listed properties have yet to be moved to the new Grading of I, II\* and II and are shown under the older categories of A, B, C, and Not Graded (NG)\*.

## 6 QUEEN ANNE'S SUMMERHOUSE ▶

Owned by the Landmark Trust and on the Shuttleworth Estate, a £350,000 HLF grant will help the Trust transform the derelict roofless shell into a self-catering cottage for two. The project will broadly restore the building to its state in the early 18th century with a sensitive end use which will provide a reliable income for ongoing maintenance as well as providing access to the public to learn about and enjoy the building. [www.landmarktrust.org.uk](http://www.landmarktrust.org.uk)



## HERITAGE AT RISK

In July 2008, English Heritage launched *Heritage at Risk* including the *Heritage at Risk Register* and *Monuments at Risk* East of England. [www.english-heritage.org.uk/har](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/har)

The *East of England Monuments at Risk* survey established that 60% of the region's monuments are at risk which means that there is an urgent need for action before more heritage is damaged or lost.

The *East of England Heritage at Risk* Register contains 123 Grade I and II\* listed buildings and structural monuments at risk. During the past year, nine entries have been removed but a further 17 added. The original baseline of the 1999 register included 108 entries and the region has since removed 52 (48%).

Climate Change is putting our heritage at risk. Members of the Historic Environment Forum (HEF), as illustrated in the case studies throughout *Heritage Counts*, are addressing this issue in a number of different ways. English Heritage published *Climate Change and the Historic Environment* in January 2008. [www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk)

### ▲ Cases 2 & 6

## 7 HERITAGE AT RISK BY LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT AREAS

COUNTY/UNITARY	I	II*	OTHER	TOTAL
BEDFORDSHIRE	1	4	0	5
LUTON	0	0	0	0
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	1	7	0	8
PETERBOROUGH	1	2	1	4
ESSEX	1	12	10	23
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA	0	1	0	1
THURROCK	0	1	2	3
HERTFORDSHIRE	0	8	3	11
NORFOLK	14	19	6	39
SUFFOLK	1	20	8	29
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>123</b>

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION

### Heritage Protection Reform

The government published the draft Heritage Protection Bill in April 2008 following on from the White Paper launched in March 2007. Pre-legislative scrutiny has been carried out during summer 2008. The legislation is proposed for the Queen's Speech in December 2008.

### The main changes to the current system are:

- the creation of a single heritage asset register removing arbitrary distinctions,
- a new streamlined consent regime,
- local authorities will determine all historic asset consents,
- the creation of Heritage Partnership Agreements to help owners do repeated tasks without repeated time consuming consent applications, and
- more public involvement in priorities for designation.

### Regional Spatial Strategy

The East of England Plan, or Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), was approved by government in May 2008 and was the first new-style RSS nationally to be completed. The RSS is the strategic plan for our region and identifies broadly where new housing and employment will be located up to 2021. Following publication there has been a legal challenge from Hertfordshire authorities which could affect some growth allocations, including major urban extensions. However, the position is that all policies in the East of England Plan remain in force pending the determination of the two challenges

by the courts. The RSS will now form the basis for local authorities around the region to bring forward their Local Development Frameworks (LDF).

The RSS as approved includes a strong policy for the historic environment which should be reflected in the local LDF documents. The acceleration of growth envisaged for the East of England will bring considerable challenges to many places. To enable the growth to be delivered, the RSS refers to a number of initiatives such as the Growth Point and Growth Area designations, which are designed to bring forward funding for infrastructure and early appraisal work. In some cases, such as Thetford, this funding will be used to undertake an appraisal of the historic evolution and character of the town.

The RSS was in preparation over several years and there are issues which require immediate review. These include the housing numbers and matters relating to climate change. The East of England Assembly is conducting a partial review, to be completed before the envisaged transfer of regional planning to the East of England Development Agency. [www.gos.gov.uk/goeast/planning/regional\\_planning/](http://www.gos.gov.uk/goeast/planning/regional_planning/)

### Heritage Champions

English Heritage supports a network of Heritage Champions. In the East of England region, there are 36 champions, including 34 member champions, which cover 32 of the 54 local authorities. English Heritage provides training and support for champions. Information can be found at [www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk)

**8** ABBOTTS HALL FARM, ESSEX WILDLIFE TRUST ▶ £764,000 was awarded by the HLF for the acquisition and development of a 283 hectares arable farm showing sustainable farming practice and coastal realignment where the sea has been allowed onto 84 hectares to regrow salt-marsh as a natural sea defence. The project, one of the largest coastal realignments in Europe, is also supported by other partners including the World Wildlife Fund, Environment Agency and Natural England. [www.essexwt.org.uk](http://www.essexwt.org.uk)



## REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

### The region's coast

The major threat facing the region's coast is loss of land to the sea through coastal erosion or flooding, and the debate about whether and where to maintain sea defences continues. Plans for each section of the region's coast are being developed and HEF members are contributing to the debate where they can. ▲ **Cases 2 & 8**

### Eco-towns and sustainable development

The government's Eco-Towns initiative seeks to combine two things. The first is the recognised national demand for more housing. The second is the ever-increasing requirement to make buildings and settlements more environmentally friendly and capable of adaptation to climate change. The East of England received the greatest number of initial eco-town bids at the start of the initiative in 2007, and had the largest number of short-listed sites of any region. This reflected the region's established role at the forefront of the growth pressures, whilst at the same time highlighting the need for development to be more sustainable in order to reduce the impact on the region's fragile environmental resources.

High profile 'exemplar' projects such as eco-towns could potentially play an important role in climate change terms by setting challenging environmental standards and demonstrating to the wider house building industry what is both achievable and economically viable. However, one of the primary concerns is to ensure that historic environment issues are identified and addressed and for it to be clearly demonstrated that

eco-town proposals do not have an adverse impact on historic assets or existing local character. Ensuring that development is both sympathetic and responds to its context is a vital step in ensuring the long-term sustainability of eco-towns. Within the region, English Heritage has liaised with Central Government, local authorities, developers and landowners to try and ensure that eco-town proposals are grounded in a proper understanding of the historic context with the promotion of characterisation and other relevant studies. ▶ **Cases 9, 10, 11, 12**

## KEY INDICATORS

This section summarises some of the important trends expressed in key indicators on the state of the historic environment in the East of England. For a more detailed breakdown and analysis of regional indicators and annual data for the historic environment, please see the East of England web report. [www.heritagecounts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk)

### UNDERSTANDING THE ASSETS

- The region had 57,643 listed buildings as of April 2008 (15.4% of the total for England). There were 1,743 listed Grade I and 3,429 listed Grade II\* buildings (19% of the national total for Grade I listed buildings).
- There were 1,728 scheduled monuments recorded in the region as of April 2008 (about 9% of the total for England).
- The East of England had 213 listed Parks and Gardens in 2008.
- English Heritage's *Heritage at Risk* in 2008 recorded 123 buildings and structural monuments at risk.

### CARING AND SHARING

- Heritage Champions provide leadership for heritage issues within the local authority. As of 18th August 2008, there were 36 champions in the East of England, representing 59% of the local authorities in the region.

### USING AND BENEFITING

- Based on the *Taking Part* survey from 2005 to 2007, about 73% of adults in the East of England had attended at least one historic site during the past 12 months.
- 93% of adults think it is important to save historic features.
- In the East of England, 15,460 educational visits were made to English Heritage sites in 2007/08.
- There were 47,172 educational visitors to National Trust properties in the region in 2007/08.

 57,643  
 1,728  
 213







## 9 THE NATIONAL TRUST'S BIG SWITCH ◀

40,000 light bulbs at National Trust sites are being changed to lower energy alternatives. This will save 2,223 tonnes of carbon per year nationally. This was a particular challenge because the first generation energy efficient light bulbs emit higher levels of UV light which damages delicate wall paper, paintings and textiles. To solve this problem the Trust helped develop a new halogen bulb – the Master Classic – which emits less UV than compact fluorescent lamps. The new bulbs have been used in many showrooms, including The Gallery at Melford Hall, Suffolk.

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

## 10 CAMBRIDGESHIRE TILE AND BRICK COMPANY, BURWELL ▶

Cambridgeshire Tile and Brick has been hand-making tiles in Burwell, Cambridgeshire since 1993 after local gault tiles were no longer available. Now tiles and bricks are produced in the traditional way from locally dug Cambridge Gault clay to produce the characteristic yellow to salmon pink peg tiles and bricks that the area is known for. Their products are used to repair older and listed buildings as well as new builds within conservation areas. Cambridgeshire Tile and Brick has been supported by English Heritage and local authorities in the area.

[www.cambstileandbrick.co.uk](http://www.cambstileandbrick.co.uk)



## THE PAPER TRAIL, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD ◀

The Paper Trail is based at the site that launched paper's industrial revolution 200 years ago – Frogmore Mill in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. The mill, which has been making recycled paper for over 118 years, uses traditional technology to solve modern recycling problems. The Paper Trail received a £999,500 HLF grant to build a visitor centre which promotes the manufacture of recycled paper to schoolchildren and adults alike.

Frogmore Mill's 60 year old pulping machines (Watford Pulpers) were recently used to demonstrate to the industry that old Yellow Pages directories can be recycled into new paper. The Paper Trail also created Recycle for Learning, a scheme working with over 300 schools in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire, to recycle their office paper for free in return for new paper or for educational visits.

[www.thepapertrail.org.uk](http://www.thepapertrail.org.uk)

## 12 CLIMATE CHANGE AND YOUR HOME WEBSITE

English Heritage has developed a website for owners of older houses which helps them adapt their buildings to climate change whilst respecting the character and historic interest of their home.

The website is for all pre-1919 home owners and provides advice on how to improve the energy efficiency of traditionally-constructed houses. It includes a section on when micro-renewable technologies can be considered and how to install them. A key feature of the website is the way information can be tailored to the user's chosen house type and location to provide specific as well as generic advice. **[www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk](http://www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk)**

## 13 ELY CATHEDRAL ►

Grade I listed Ely Cathedral, known locally as the 'ship of the Fens', was originally surrounded by water and marshes before the draining of the fens. The Cathedral now lies at the centre of a town which has undergone significant growth and change. The challenge in this region is how proposed growth, the effects of climate change and the historic environment can be balanced for future sustainability.



*Heritage Counts 2008* is produced by English Heritage on behalf of the East of England Historic Environment Forum:

- Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
- Campaign to Protect Rural England
- Civic Trust
- East of England Development Agency
- English Heritage
- Government Office for the East of England
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Historic Houses Association
- Institute for Historic Building Conservation
- Museums, Libraries and Archives Council East of England
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ENGLISH HERITAGE



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