

Introduction

This report is one of nine regional documents that are being published alongside the national document *Heritage Counts: The State of the Historic Environment 2003*. The suite of *Heritage Counts* documents builds on the first *State of the Historic Environment Report* (SHER), which was published in 2002 in response to the Government's statement *The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future* (2001). This regional report has been prepared by the East Midlands' Regional Heritage Forum. It aims to quantify and monitor the condition of the historic environment in the region, the pressures it faces and its contribution to economic and social well being. The report focuses on the collection and synthesis of key data relating to the region's historic environment, and should be viewed as an evolving document in its second year of development.

In 2002 the East Midlands' Regional Heritage Forum presented to the Regional Assembly an influential report, *Viewpoints on the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*. The Forum has used the recommendations in *Viewpoints* as the basis of an action plan (summarised opposite) which aims to focus effort and to monitor progress; to ensure the proper place of the historic environment in regional planning systems; to facilitate conservation; to widen public enjoyment and understanding of our heritage; and to represent the needs of the historic environment more effectively. At a time when media interest in history – in all its forms – is at a height we also wish to stimulate active community involvement across the region.

This report is a snapshot of the state of the historic environment in the East Midlands. Particular causes for concern include: the continuing number of buildings at risk; the degradation of archaeological sites, especially those in arable land; the paucity of dedicated resources within local authorities; the scarcity of craft skills in physical conservation. Positive trends include the growth of other aspects of public funding, and the huge popular interest in the heritage sector.

Regional Profile



The historic environment in the East Midlands is exceptional in its quality and its variety, ranging from the caves at Creswell – the most northerly site of late Palaeolithic art – to the graceful landmark of Northampton: the Express Lift Tower, England's youngest listed building, constructed in 1982.

At Chatsworth a sublime house and landscape has become a visitor attraction of international status. The Derwent Valley Mills have been inscribed as a World Heritage Site, and the landscapes of the Peak District (said to be the most visited National Park, after Mount Fuji) contrast with the rolling countryside of the region's only Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Lincolnshire Wolds. In the background is the familiar but precious fabric of the historic environment: the ironstone villages of Northamptonshire; the medieval churches of Lincolnshire; the industrial and civic buildings of Leicester, Nottingham and Derby; the cropmarks and the wetland archaeology of the Trent and the Witham; the field patterns and residual earthworks of this archetypal region of England. The importance of all these assets to the economic and social prosperity of the region is now recognised (as reflected, for instance, in the Tourism Strategy for the East Midlands produced by the Regional Development Agency, *emda*).

The region covers 15,607 sq km: 12% of the area of England. The overall population is 4.175 million, a regional average of 268 people per sq km. Densities vary greatly, however, from 3,578 in Nottingham City Unitary Authority, to only 69 per sq km in West Lindsey and 27 per sq km in the Peak District National Park.

In terms of economic prosperity, the regional Gross Value Added, published by the Office of National Statistics, shows the East Midlands to have been the fourth region in terms of the contribution per head of population (at £13,300) to the economy in 2001 (behind London, the South-East, and the East of England). The rate of growth in this between 2000 and 2001 (3.4%) was, however, the lowest of any English region.

The economy is also indirectly reflected in the number of planning applications in the region in 2002/03: 47,400, an increase of 10.7% over 2001/2. This is slightly above the national growth rate for planning applications (9.1%).

Development pressure

The piecemeal pressure of individual developments exists in parallel with more generic changes: the major expansion of new housing in the proposed Milton Keynes/South Midlands Growth Area; the threat to archaeological sites on arable land from ploughing, desiccation, and wind-blow; the comparatively rapid erosion of the Lincolnshire coast; or the very large number of extant permissions to extract minerals, many of which were granted long before their potential impact on the historic environment became apparent.

It is no longer enough simply to maintain a historic building in order to safeguard its future. Increasingly, potent threats to historic properties are coming from external development pressures which compromise the buildings or their settings. This can be particularly the case where economic growth is rapid, creating demand for new housing and business parks as proposed in southern Northamptonshire, or where there has been exceptional industrial decline, as in the coalfields of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire where local authorities are eager to create jobs and regenerate whole communities.

For example, road development, a possible fourth road bridge over the River Trent, and the consequential development from housing and light industry that may follow, threaten Holme Pierrepont Hall, five miles from the centre of Nottingham. Even the major National Trust properties in the East Midlands have recently faced, or are currently facing, development threats which could seriously damage their historic settings: widening of the M1, opencasting and employment site extensions opposite Hardwick Hall and its parklands; Derby's housing creeping ever closer to Robert Adam's masterpiece, Kedleston Hall; increasing air traffic at East Midlands airport only two-runway lengths from Calke Abbey; a busier A50 bisecting Sudbury Hall's parklands; and bypasses currently proposed in rural Lincolnshire near Skegness, bisecting Trust estate land at Gunby Hall. This is a very selective list but it is representative of more widespread concerns. The Trust has the expertise to defend its assets; for the individual private owners of the much smaller buildings that give the region so much character the situation can be even more serious.

Characterisation provides a broad-brush cartographic assessment of the historic environment and, as such, offers a basis for strategic decision-making – an essential contribution to master-plans. The whole of Northamptonshire is the subject of a Historic Landscape Characterisation programme.



Fragile Medieval earthworks at Clipston, Northamptonshire.

A partnership project which will result in the regeneration of Creswell Model Village, in the coalfields of Derbyshire.

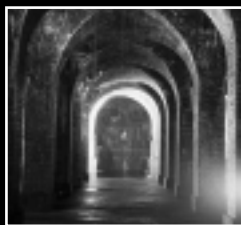
A particular focus is being applied to the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Housing Growth Area, so that strategic and specific information is available to guide development, and to maximise understanding and minimise avoidable damage to heritage assets. More intensive studies of urban archaeology are planned for Nottingham and are underway in Northampton. In Lincoln an assessment of archaeological research has been published; a complementary study of the broader townscape is now also underway. The results of these exercises will greatly facilitate the planning process.

LISTED BUILDINGS

There are 29,588 listed buildings, in all three grades, in the region: 7.8% of the national total. (This is low compared to the land area – 12% of the whole – and probably reflects the comparatively low historic densities of population within the region.) Of these, 981 are listed Grade I (3.3%) and 1852 are listed Grade II* (6.2%). A few are also scheduled monuments (SMs).

Statutory work

Of the 47,788 planning applications decided in the East Midlands in 2002-3 4.7% involved applications for listed building consent (LBC) (See Table 6). Of these 90% were granted. The current criteria for notification to English Heritage for comment/advice cover Grade I & II* buildings and their settings, total or substantial demolition of Grade II buildings, Grade I & II* Registered parks, the setting of Scheduled Monuments, and certain categories of development in conservation areas. Of these categories, in the East Midlands, English Heritage was consulted on: 475 LBC notifications, 161 LBC referrals, and 448 planning notifications.



The underground reservoir at Papplewick Pumping Station, Nottinghamshire. The restoration of this Grade II* building and scheduled monument has been funded by the HLF and it is hoped that the building will be removed from the Buildings at Risk register next year.



The church of St. Werburgh in Derby, now for sale and in need of a new use. The tower and old chancel, in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust, are being repaired with the help of a THI grant from the HLF and Derby City Council.

Condition of listed buildings in the region

The English Heritage *Buildings at Risk Register* (see **Tables 1-4**) draws together information on all Grade I & II* listed buildings and structural scheduled monuments at risk through neglect or decay or with an uncertain future. It is designed to draw attention to the most important buildings at risk and provide a basis for the prioritisation of resources.

Even though 43 buildings (26.7% of the 1999 baseline) have been removed from the *Register* since 1999, the percentage of Grade I and II* buildings at risk in the region is still 4.5% – above the national average of 3.6%. There is thus no room for complacency.

The *Register* reveals that 32 (20% of the entries for the East Midlands) were buildings or structures at immediate risk of further rapid deterioration or of loss of fabric; an additional 62 (38%) were in a state of slow decay. The comparable figures in 1999 were 35 (19%) and 81 (45%).

The situation remains serious, but it is not hopeless. When structural scheduled monuments are excluded, 71 of the 145 buildings at risk in the region are capable of beneficial re-use (49%).

Since 1999 there have been significant reductions in the domestic and religious categories but a marked increase in agricultural buildings: indicative of changing levels of prosperity and differing levels of support.

A report on listed agricultural buildings, commissioned by English Heritage and the Countryside Agency, revealed that farm buildings account for 18.6% of all listed buildings. There are 5,080 of them in the East Midlands and they are under significant pressure. While the threat to Grade I & II* buildings is not pronounced (7.5% on the region's *BAR Register* are agricultural buildings and structures), they do represent the largest

category at risk on those *BAR registers* maintained by local authorities that include Grade II buildings. The East Midlands is the region with the highest number (61.5%) of agricultural listed buildings subject to applications for LBC over the last 20 years. At a time of increasing uncertainty in agriculture and of changing farming practices – coupled with rising pressure for homes in the countryside – there are threats to the sustainability of these buildings which contribute so much to the character of the East Midlands.

If very broad assumptions are made of repair costs and end market values for those buildings capable of a full beneficial use (about 50% of 145 total), the resulting conservation deficit for the region is £20.9 million.

HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS

These important green spaces account for 9% of the total number of sites in the register of historic parks and gardens for England (1,563 as at 31 March 2003) and are thus under-represented in relation to the total land area of the region (See **Table 8**). They are increasingly under pressure especially in urban areas. The importance of cemeteries, in landscape terms, has only been appreciated relatively recently. Many are in desperate need of investment.

FUNDING REPAIR AND REGENERATION

Development represents both a threat and an opportunity to the historic environment. It may involve the destruction of irreplaceable historic assets but it may also release funding for renovation, for regeneration, for environmental improvements to streets and public spaces, and for sensitive new design.

The figures in **Table 6** have to be read with caution but do give a very broad indication of the pace of change. The level of awareness among owners, the incidence of pre-application discussions, and the performance of conservation officers in local authorities will each have affected the totals.

To deal with all of this activity across the East Midlands, local authorities have an average of 1.28 Building Conservation Officer posts. This is significantly below the average for the English regions (1.71 posts) and embodies one of the greatest risks to the historic environment of the area. Of particular concern is the decline within local authorities of conservation teams of long-standing and good reputation.

1 Buildings at Risk in the East Midlands

	LIST ENTRIES GRADE I AND II*		GRADE I AND GRADE II* BUILDINGS AT RISK		% ENTRIES AT RISK	
	EAST MIDLANDS	ENGLAND	EAST MIDLANDS	ENGLAND	EAST MIDLANDS	ENGLAND
1999	2,811	29,874	144	1,158	5.1%	3.8%
2003	2,833	30,369	127	1,100	4.5%	3.6%
CHANGE	+22	+495	-17	-58	-0.6%	-0.2%

2 Additions and deletions during the year (2002/03)

	NEW ENTRIES	NEW ENTRIES AS % OF 1999 (EM) BASELINE	DELETED ENTRIES	DELETED ENTRIES AS % OF 1999 (EM) BASELINE	NETT % MOVEMENT AGAINST 1999 (EM) BASELINE	NETT % MOVEMENT AGAINST 1999 BASELINE TOTAL
EAST MIDLANDS 2003	6	3.7	13	8.1	-4.4	-1.1
NATIONAL TOTAL 2003	98	6.9	123	8.6		-1.8

3 Entries deleted from the 1999 baseline

	SINCE 1999	ENTRIES ADDED & DELETED SINCE 1999	REASSESSED SINCE 1999	DEMOLISHED SINCE 1999	TOTAL NO. OF ENTRIES DELETED FROM BASELINE AS FUTURE SECURED	ENTRIES DELETED AS FUTURE SECURED AS % OF (EM) BASELINE	ENTRIES DELETED AS FUTURE SECURED AS % OF NATIONAL BASELINE
EAST MIDLANDS 2003	161	2	6	0	43	26.7	3.0
NATIONAL TOTAL 2003	1,428	53	40	5	392		27.5

Source: Buildings at Risk Register

Alongside the very considerable input from private and commercial finances, and the resources of local authorities, the major sources of public funding for repair and regeneration were the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the East Midlands Development Agency (*emda*), the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and English Heritage.

emda, the major player in enhancing the economy of the region, has committed £106 million to the seven Sub-regional Strategic Partnerships for regeneration in 2003-2006 – enabling communities to take action locally.

HLF has committed more than £125 million to heritage projects in the East Midlands since 1995. Over £63.5 million has been awarded to historic buildings, a funding category which is increasing – £18.5 million in 200-02 to over £22 million in 2002/03. Other areas receiving support in 2002/03 include £8.25 million to land and £8.2 million to museums. Over £800,000 was also awarded for industrial, transport and maritime heritage and £480,000 to manuscripts and archives. In 2002, HLF's strategic plan broadened the horizons – involving more people in learning about, and enjoying and sharing their heritage – increasing the number of smaller awards, especially to first-time applicants. This has been made easier by the Fund's new regional presence in Nottingham.

Through their joint scheme for Repair Grants for Places of Worship, English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund made 25 offers totalling £1.38 million to Grade I & II* churches, and 8 offers totalling £280,000 to Grade II churches. While the joint scheme operates under a strict criteria of urgency and need it was able to meet all applications that were eligible. In 2002/03 only 14 applications were received for Grade II churches in the East Midlands. This number is expected to grow substantially.

English Heritage made ten offers of grants to secular buildings, totalling £1.52 million, in 2002/03. The majority of these levered in significant external funding from other partners, particularly the HLF who continued matching the grant aid to the major programme of repair and interpretation at Hardwick Hall. Three specific projects concentrated on the repair issues of BARs and which also addressed issues of regeneration in urban areas. These included a long-standing cause for concern, St Mark's Church, Belgrave, an important landmark in one of the most deprived wards in Leicester.

In a recent survey 58% of local authorities in the region had a grants programme for individual historic buildings but in 2001/02 the budgets of those responding averaged only £13,000. Conservation area grants from English Heritage continued with a fourth round of Heritage Economic Regeneration Schemes (HERS) in five selected locations across the region, totalling £224,000 for the first year (2002) of their three year programmes (see Table 5). The areas chosen were: Higher Buxton, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicester (St George's), Northampton, and Worksop. Action Plans were discussed for a further seven schemes, to start in 2003. Since the current partnership schemes commenced in 1999-2000, 34 HERS have been established across the region, securing grant-aid for 367 projects or buildings. English Heritage investment of £2.31 million has generated a further £1.45 million matching funds from local authorities and other sources such as the ERDF and *emda*.

In 2002/03, HLF continued its funding of round five of the Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI). The scheme is based on the conservation of historic townscape in areas of social and economic deprivation and aims to promote conservation as an integral part of urban regeneration. A further three Stage One passes, totalling £3.56 million, were awarded to East Midlands projects in 2002-2003: Lincoln, Caistor, and a third phase for Creswell Model Village. On confirmation of the Stage Two passes for phases two and three, Creswell THI will have received £4.61 million of HLF grant to link with government regeneration funding to restore and improve conservation and community housing in this former coalfield area.

Since they began in 1998, eleven THIs have been awarded in the East Midlands, with Stage One grant awards totalling almost exactly £10 million. Over the course of the five-year programmes, these grants will, additionally, lever in excess of £10 million of public funding from local authorities and regeneration agencies, as well as a high proportion of private funding.

The Countryside Agency's Market Towns Healthcheck Initiative has invested c. £500,000 over the last two years to prepare regeneration Action Plans for 37 market towns across the region. Whilst not specifically aimed at the historic environment, its support of the local economy can help to secure the historic character of a town, which gives these places their unique character and a sense of place.

4 Variation of *Register* items by building types

REGION AND YEAR	EMIDS 2003	EMIDS 1999	NAT TOTAL 2003	NAT TOTAL 1999	% 2003	%1999
AGRICULTURE & SUBSISTENCE	12	3	112	95	7.5	5.9
CIVIL AND COMMEMORATIVE	4	5	24	3	1.6	1.9
COMMERCIAL	6	3	39	46	2.6	2.8
DEFENCE & MARITIME	18	19	202	206	13.5	12.8
DOMESTIC	34	50	373	467	24.9	28.9
EDUCATION	1	1	12	15	0.8	0.9
GARDENS, PARKS, & RECREATIONAL	13	15	112	144	7.5	8.9
HEALTH & WELFARE	3	4	18	20	1.2	1.2
INDUSTRIAL	16	15	171	166	11.4	10.3
RELIGIOUS, RITUAL & FUNERARY	18	28	233	254	15.5	15.7
COMMUNICATIONS & TRANSPORT	21	22	82	85	5.5	5.3
UNASSIGNED	7	9	73	63	4.9	3.9
WATER AND DRAINAGE	5	7	20	23	1.3	1.4
TOTAL	162	181	1,499	1,615		

5 HERS across the region to March 2003

COUNTY	NO OF HERS	NO OF PROJECTS	PROJECTS COMPLETE	PROJECT VALUE
DERBYS	10	137	58	2,252,661
LEICS	8	69	21	1,037,156
LINCS	6	65	30	1,191,507
NORTHANTS	2	19	7	195,070
NOTTS	7	65	42	2,710,807
RUTLAND (UA)	1	12	11	101,792
TOTAL	34	367	169	£7,488,989

6 Listed building consents 2002/03

THE % COLUMN SHOWS THE NUMBER OF LBGS GRANTED AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE NUMBER OF LBS

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY	NO. OF LBS	DECISIONS	GRANTED	%	ALL DECISIONS
DERBYSHIRE					
AMBER VALLEY	760	38	37	4.9	1,187
BOLSOVER	187	12	11	5.9	554
CHESTERFIELD	245	21	20	8.1	784
EREWASH	233	16	15	6.4	938
HIGH PEAK	641	35	34	5.3	942
NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE	492	28	24	4.9	1,158
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE	711	52	46	6.5	1,348
DERBYSHIRE DALES	2,315	104	99	4.3	907
DERBY UA	372	16	15	4.0	1,628
TOTAL	5,956	419	395	6.6	10,379
LEICESTERSHIRE					
BLABY	187	15	15	8.0	1,098
CHARNWOOD	768	63	60	7.8	1,857
HARBOROUGH	1,266	122	118	9.3	1,623
HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH	333	24	21	6.3	1,156
MELTON	718	54	48	6.7	758
NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE	634	68	59	9.3	1,218
OADBY AND WIGSTON	39	2	2	5.1	611
LEICESTER UA	387	51	44	11.4	1,881
RUTLAND UA	1,402	126	106	7.6	890
TOTAL	5,734	525	473	8.2	11,092
LINCOLNSHIRE					
BOSTON	502	33	28	5.6	609
EAST LINDSEY	1,422	51	46	3.2	2,001
LINCOLN	414	47	40	9.7	734
NORTH KESTIVEN	1,000	52	50	5.0	1,497
SOUTH HOLLAND	527	32	30	5.7	1,035
SOUTH KESTIVEN	2,154	137	125	5.8	1,642
WEST LINDSEY	950	37	34	3.6	1,214
TOTAL	6,969	389	353	5.0	8,732

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE					
CORBY	215	15	14	6.5	377
DAVENTRY	1,504	112	95	6.3	1,151
EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	1,389	96	87	6.3	1,023
KETTERING	523	57	49	9.4	972
NORTHAMPTON	454	58	51	11.2	1,532
SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	1,838	161	122	6.6	1,545
WELLINGBOROUGH	518	48	44	8.5	691
TOTAL	6,441	547	462	7.2	7,291
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE					
ASHFIELD	79	5	5	6.3	1,023
BASSETLAW	1,082	53	45	4.2	1,240
BROXTOWE	145	10	10	6.9	978
GEDLING	189	12	10	5.3	1,168
MANSFIELD	249	17	15	6.0	827
NEWARK AND SHERWOOD	1,388	121	108	7.8	1,658
RUSHCLIFFE	652	37	36	5.5	1,556
CITY OF NOTTINGHAM UA	792	89	83	10.5	1,844
TOTAL	4,576	344	312	6.8	10,294
EAST MIDLANDS	29,588¹	2,224	1,995	6.7	47,788
TOTAL	(963)		65,000	62,718,000	7%

¹ The regional total is not the sum of the district totals, as it takes into account listed buildings that lie across district and county boundaries.



Bridge Street, Horncastle

Despite grant offers totalling £117,381 from a variety of funders, including £87,747 from the otherwise successful Horncastle Conservation Area Partnership Scheme, these four Grade II Listed buildings in the conservation area have remained at risk. Lack of progress has led the local authority to serve Urgent Works & Repairs Notices, to undertake works in default and ultimately pursue compulsory purchase of the buildings. When acquired, the buildings will be passed on in a back-to-back agreement to a new restoring owner in the form of a building preservation trust.

Eight ERDF Objective 2 projects on the historic environment – match funded by the HLF (£6.1 million) and English Heritage (£175,000) – have been awarded an inclusive total of £12.5 million. The projects sponsored by local authorities, British Waterways and the Creswell Heritage Trust, include work on: interpretation in the Peak District; regeneration in the market towns of South Holland, in Sleaford, Derby City Centre, and on the Bugsworth Canal Basin; the Lincoln City and County Museum, and at Creswell Crags.

In 2000, The Friends of War Memorials, in partnership with English Heritage, introduced a scheme to assist local authorities, and other groups, with the cleaning and repair of free-standing Grade II listed war memorials in conservation areas. Initially set up for a period of two years this has been extended until March 2004. Up to March 2003 eight grants offered had been for the repair of memorials in the East Midlands.

SCHEDULED MONUMENTS

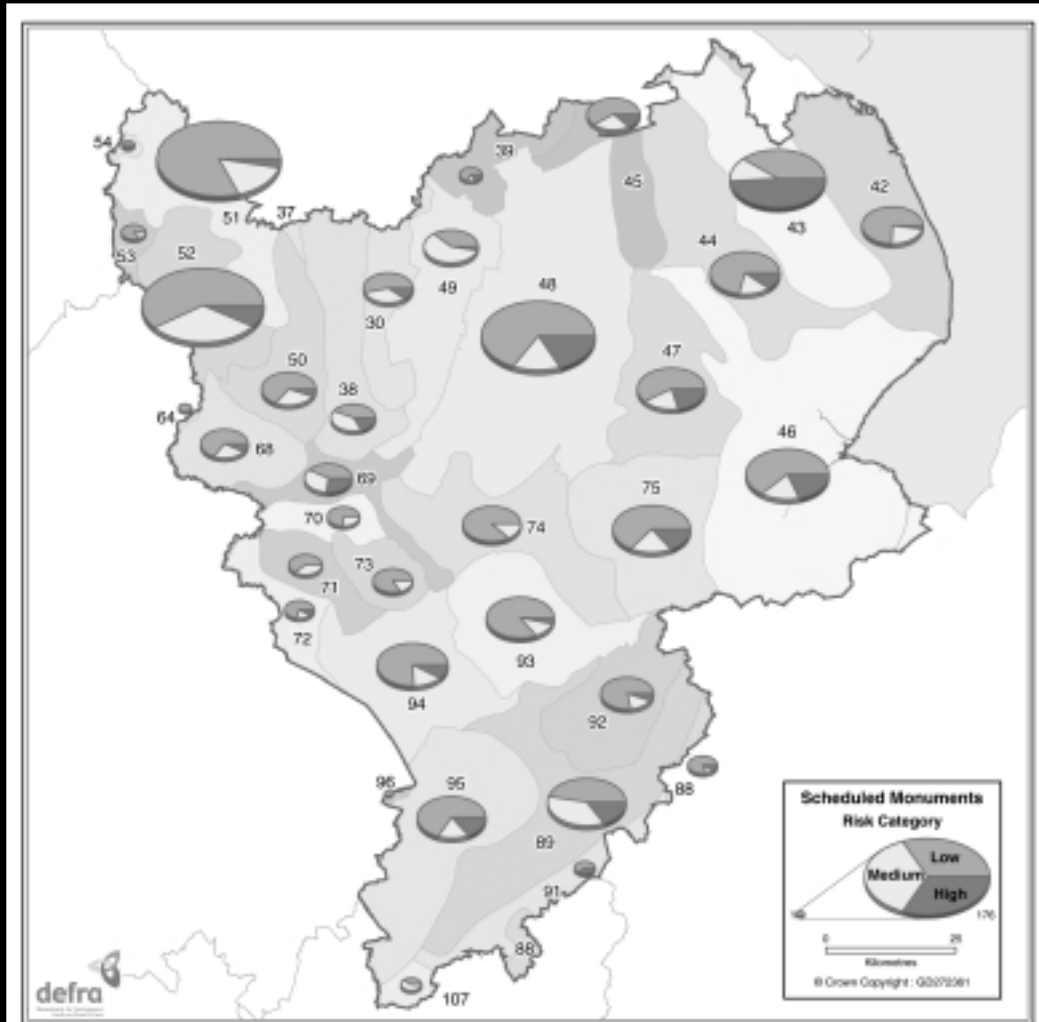
The local authority Sites and Monuments Records within the region contained 89,000 entries in 2002. Of the sites themselves, only a tiny proportion enjoy any form of statutory protection.

- In March 2003 there were 1,499 scheduled monuments (SMs) in the East Midlands compared to 1,493 in 2001. The East Midlands has 7.7% of all SMs in England (low, relative to the land area:12%), and a density of one SM per 10.4 per sq km (compared to 6.7 for England as a whole).

- 53 applications for scheduled monument consent were made, relating to 3.5% of the total SMs in the East Midlands in 2002/3, compared to a national average of 4.4%. The totals for the previous 5 years were:

2001-2002: 64	1999-2000: 69
2000-2001: 50	1998-1999: 92

- The analytical stages of the English Heritage project SM @ Risk! – a pilot study in the East Midlands demonstrated that 527 (35%) of the region's monuments are at risk from damage, decay or loss. Agriculture, development, the recreational use of the landscape, and natural processes were shown to be the main agencies that place SMs at risk.
- In 2001, 1210 SMs were in private ownership, 250 were owned by local authorities, 16 by government or its agencies, 11 by utilities, and 6 were in other forms of ownership.
- 81% of SMs are visible, and 8% are partly visible. Buried remains account for 11%. 31% are fully accessible to the public and 44% have no public access. Developed interpretation is available at only 2% of monuments, although 10% have some form of on-site interpretation. The setting of more than half includes modern features, and the setting can be considered to be unchanged since the time of construction in only 2% of cases.
- 71% of high risk monuments are in cultivated land, 13% are in grassland, 8% are on developed or urban land, and 6% are in woodland. Lincolnshire has the greatest number (106) of high risk monuments, with 84 on cultivated land.
- Within the East Midlands the aims now must be to reduce that risk, through partnership action and the targeted allocation of funds, especially for monuments under cultivation.



Countryside Character Areas		
30. Southern Magnesian Limestone	49. Sherwood	70. Charnwood
37. Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe	50. Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent	74. Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire Wolds
38. Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield	51. Oak Peak	75. Kesteven Uplands
39. Humberhead Levels	52. White Peak	80. Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Claylands
42. Lincolnshire Coast and Marshes	53. South West Peak	81. Northamptonshire Uplands
43. Lincolnshire Wolds	54. Manchester Pennine Fringe	81. Yardley-Whitewood Ridge
44. Central Lincolnshire Vale	64. Potteries and Churnet Valley	82. Rockingham Forest
45. Northern Lincolnshire Edge with Coresands	68. Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands	83. High Leicestershire
46. The Fens	69. Trent Valley Washlands	84. Leicestershire Valleys
47. Southern Lincolnshire Edge	70. Malbourn Parklands	85. Northamptonshire Uplands
48. Trent and Belvoir Valleys	71. Leicestershire and South Derbyshire Coalfield	86. Dunstable and Foston
	72. Mease/Sence Lowlands	107. Cotswolds

7 scheduled monuments at risk

The distribution of SMs at risk in the East Midlands. The Countryside Character Areas form the basis of funding allocations of agri-environment schemes, such as Countryside Stewardship. Note the proportion of monuments at high risk (under arable) in the Lincolnshire Wolds, a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



A dovecote at Barnby in the Willows, Nottinghamshire. This is a rural building in decline and a Building at Risk.



An Iron Age coin hoard recently discovered at a site under arable cultivation, in Leicestershire.

AGRI-ENVIRONMENT SCHEMES

The number of SMs within Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS) Agreement Holdings in the East Midlands between 1992 and 2002 was 287 (19.1% of the regional total of SMs, against a national average of 15.7%). In Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) the comparable figures in 2002 were 35 (2.3%, against 9.3% nationally). Defra spent £690,000 during the year on the historic elements of CSS in the Region: 91% on boundaries – the defining pattern of our landscape and a key source for understanding its past – 2% on built structures, and the rest on items such as management plans and works in designated landscapes. Within ESAs the spend was £115,000 (7% on boundaries; 93% on built structures).

These regional expenditures are, respectively, 11.5% of the total national spend on historic elements of the landscape for CSS (the third highest of any region) and 1.5% of the national total for ESAs (seventh). A longer view will have to be taken as to how far these reflect the character of the East Midlands and/or the definitions within the schemes.

AGGREGATES LEVY SUSTAINABILITY FUND (ALSF)

Quarrying, in all its forms, is a major issue in the region. The Peak District has more existing old mineral permissions than all the other National Parks put together. The East Midlands is also England's leading regional producer of aggregates. Production of sand, gravel and crushed rock in 2000 was 38.9 million tonnes, representing 23.7% of the national total.

The Countryside Agency, English Nature, and English Heritage are responsible for the distribution of the ALSF, a fund established from the tax levied on each tonne of aggregate. Between April 2002 and March 2004, c.11% (£808,000) of the funding available for the

historic environment in the regions has been allocated to projects in the East Midlands so as to mitigate the true environmental, social and economic impacts of aggregates extraction.

Commissioned projects include repairs and enhancements to historic sites and areas (Bugsworth Canal Basin, Buxton Market Place, Cromford, Wirksworth St Mary's church environs), resource assessments and management plans (Trent Valley, Creswell Crags, Cromford and High Peak Railway, and Peak Forest Tramway, Peak District lead rakes, Breedon-on-the-Hill), archaeological investigations (Welton-le-Wold, Braucewell, Watermead Country Park), and the creation of new museum and education facilities (Creswell Crags 'virtual archive'). In some cases, other public sector bodies are providing substantial partnership funding, or contributions in kind.

MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY

None of the 39 vessels designated under the 1973 Protection of Wrecks Act lies off the coast of Lincolnshire. However, this little known and challenging environment is gradually becoming more understood: there are now 983 entries in the maritime section of the Natural Monuments Record that relate to Lincolnshire (in relation to the national total of 41,586); they include Mesolithic landscapes and earlier prehistoric forests.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT TO THE ECONOMY

Tourism

The Environmental Economy of the East Midlands, a report published by the *emda* in 2002, stressed the importance of a high quality environment to the region's economy. It stated that *'the restoration and protection of the historic built environment is very*

The Workhouse, Southwell

The Workhouse at Southwell shows how the rescue of a building of great historic interest, and its restoration, has provided employment. Its operation now as a visitor attraction sustains jobs and has created a 'critical mass' of attractions – along with Southwell Minster – for a day out. Local businesses such as pubs and cafés have benefited from this increase in tourism.

8 Registered historic parks and gardens

	NO. OF SITES IN 2001-02	ADDED 02/03
PRIVATELY OWNED PROPERTY	84	2
URBAN PUBLIC PARK	13	1
NATIONAL TRUST PROPERTY	12	
CEMETERY	4	4
ENGLISH HERITAGE PROPERTY	4	
COUNTRY PARK	5	
OTHER PUBLIC OPEN SPACE	3	
HOSPITAL	1	
TOTAL	126	7

9 Education provision at historic houses

OWNER	EDUC STAFF	NO OF SITES	EDUC VISITS 2001/02	EDUC VISITS 2002/03
ENGLISH HERITAGE	1.6	21	18,161	19,748
NATIONAL TRUST	10 (not all FTE)	18	28,000	32,556
HHA				c 5,000
TOTALS	11.6	39	46,161	57,304

10 Institutions offering relevant further and higher education courses

SUBJECT	INSTITUTIONS
ARCHAEOLOGY	UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM
ARCHITECTURE	UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY
ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY	UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, NORTHAMPTON
CONSERVATION	
ARCHITECTURAL	DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY
ARTEFACTS	UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN
HERITAGE	
INVESTIGATION	UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN
HERITAGE STUDIES	BISHOP GROSSETESTE COLLEGE, LINCOLN NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT	UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

important to regional tourism, as well as helping to attract businesses and enhancing the overall quality of life:

This importance was further stressed in the Tourism Strategy for the East Midlands produced by *emda* in 2003. The Heritage Forum had a place on the steering group for this Strategy in recognition that the historic environment constitutes the largest single sector in the industry. Heritage is critical to the region's tourism and leisure appeal and is the strongest single theme running through the Strategy. It links the most powerful attractors, and the most iconic tourism sites, and provides the best prospects for pilot projects. The conclusion is clear: if the region wants to develop an even stronger tourism and leisure industry and to tempt even more people away from overseas holidays, it cannot neglect the huge potential contribution of the natural and historic environment.

A sub-regional strategy for the enhanced interpretation of the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB was consciously designed as a way to use green tourism in a rural recovery programme. The Wolds contain some of the finest countryside in the region yet many of the communities there have suffered from the decline in agriculture.

In 2001, tourism was worth around £4.8 billion to the East Midlands' economy and it contributes 3.5% to the region's GDP. Over 200,000 people are employed in tourism businesses in the region. One particular focus is the Peak District National Park, lying mostly within the East Midlands, which attracts over 22 million visitors a year. The quality of the natural and built environment is a key component in its continuing popularity. About 250,000 people walk across the hillfort at Mam Tor each year, but the 620,000 visitors to Chatsworth in 2002 far outstripped any other attraction. Lincoln Castle (168,000) and Newark Castle (130,000) also recorded substantial figures.

Over 705,000 visits were made to 13 historic properties in the East Midlands in the ownership of (or managed) by the National Trust during 2002. A further 221,000 visited the 12 staffed properties in the care of English Heritage.

Approximately 540,000 people visited 23 properties in the East Midlands whose owners are members of the Historic Houses Association (HHA). More HHA members are opening their houses to the public and there has been an increase in diversification which is counter-balancing the decline in agricultural income. Many houses are starting to offer corporate activities, wedding receptions, and accommodation.

Some ancillary buildings, such as stable blocks, have been turned into business units. Twenty-two houses (of which seven were not open before) are involved in an initiative which co-ordinates pre-booked groups to their houses on an intimate and exclusive basis.

However, many places associated with the historic environment are free for everyone to enjoy. The cities, towns and villages of the region, such as Lincoln and Stamford, attract visitors who contribute to the local economy. The innovative and influential promotion of church tourism in the Diocese of Lincoln has capitalised on the wonderful stock of medieval and later buildings there, and acts as a powerful reminder of the centrality of the church to the life of every town and village.

REGENERATION

The historic environment contributes to the quality of the towns and cities of the region and their sense of place. Many former manufacturing buildings are now being converted to new uses. With careful design the new can sit alongside the old, so that the distinctiveness of the place is not lost with redevelopment. A high quality built environment has a positive impact on the economic and social vibrancy of an area. Conservation-led regeneration therefore, has an important role to play in the future of the region's towns and cities.

Some of the financial input to regeneration has been outlined in the section on Funding (above). *The Heritage Dividend*, 2002 (English Heritage) demonstrated that for every £10,000 of heritage investment, £46,000 of matched funding is levered from private and public sources.

This delivers, on average, 41 sq m of improved commercial floorspace, one new job, one safeguarded job, one improved home and 104 sq m of environmental improvements.

The historic setting and features of the region's waterways provides a particular stimulus for regeneration, as has already occurred in Nottingham, but is also beginning in other smaller centres such as Ashby Woulds, Newark and Gainsborough.

A research partnership between English Heritage and the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors into the economic performance of listed office buildings has shown that in terms of investment return, they have consistently achieved a slightly higher total return than unlisted offices: 9.2% as against 7.9%. This is due to slightly higher income growth but predominantly to more rapid capital growth. While capital values may fluctuate, the relative differential is likely to continue.

The constraints on listed buildings do not, therefore, necessarily militate against their value.

A high quality environment contributes to the 'right climate' for attracting inward investment. It is one of a range of factors that determine locational decisions by businesses, such as the availability of a skilled workforce, suitable premises and transport links. The quality of the environment can be particularly important for attracting high-tech industry.

No overall figures are available for employment in the heritage sector itself but examples from two organisations are indicative. The National Trust is an important regional employer, not just through its 270 full time staff and 275 seasonal staff, but also through its use of contractors, sub-contractors, consultants and specialists – in all, more than 275 different businesses each year. The Historic Houses Association employs 500 staff in its properties within the region.

ACCESS AND OUTREACH

Within the East Midlands a number of projects and initiatives have been established to broaden the audiences for our heritage in all its forms.

Heritage Open Days, England's contribution to European Heritage Days, is a weekend of access to historic buildings (many of which are not normally open to the public), free of charge. Within the region, 253 buildings were open in 2003. Lincolnshire – a pioneer in this – led the way with 99: by far the greatest contribution in England relative to population.

In 2003 12,000 visitors took advantage of the scheme in the county. A new regional outreach officer has been employed by English Heritage to work with the Civic Trust to widen the scope and audience of Heritage Open Days.

Architecture Week 2003 in the East Midlands included 34 events, five of which were specifically concerned with aspects of the historic environment. Six 'city walks' in urban areas also had a high level of historic content. An aim in 2004 is to increase these proportions.

The National Trust has planned a number of projects to draw people who have not traditionally visited its properties within the region. As part of a national project funded by the HLF they plan to work with Asian groups from Derby to improve the interpretation of the Eastern Museum collection at Kedleston Hall, and at the Workhouse a travelling community will be involved in developing new

Skilled masons at Hardwick

There have been stonemasons associated with Hardwick since the late Sixteenth century. A highly specialised skill, it is increasingly rare and in growing demand.

Thanks to funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Trust is providing two trainees with three years of training under the guidance of the current Master Mason, Trevor Hardy, who was himself trained at Hardwick before being groomed for his present role under the expert leadership of the previous Master Mason, David Chillman.

In addition to the expertise and guidance they receive on the job from Trevor and his team of eight stone masons, they attend college and aim to finish with a NVQ Level 3 qualification as Banker Fixer Masons. If the Trust is unable to offer them permanent jobs at the end of the three years they will leave as fully trained and qualified masons. The Trust, HLF and English Heritage can be proud of having put something back into the industry and continuing a highly skilled profession.

Redrow Schools Partnership Project

This exciting project is run by the National Trust, sponsored by Redrow, at a number of its East Midland properties. The emphasis is on partnership, and two schools – one from an inner city area, one from a rural area – come together to work on a common project to interpret the property through art. At Kedleston, children worked with dancers and composers from the Rambert Dance Company to devise a performance inspired by the architecture and history of the house.

interpretation. The Trust has also developed a regional policy for social inclusion, and has appointed a new Community Learning and Volunteering team within the region.

In a partnership led by Junction Arts, English Heritage holds a Children's Festival at Bolsover Castle every year. The aim is to help local young people to engage imaginatively with the Castle through artistic activities. The same partnership has used art, film and photography to help young people in South Normanton, Derbyshire connect with their heritage, environment and community. The project, Streets Ahead 2, involved four groups of young people creating their own web pages about

Stanton Moor Schools Project

In 2003 conservation work was carried out by English Heritage at the Nine Ladies Stone Circle on Stanton Moor, Derbyshire. As part of a wider initiative to increase awareness within the local community of the issues surrounding the conservation of this ancient monument, Stanton-in-the-Peak Primary School worked with the English Heritage regional education officer to investigate the ancient landscape of Stanton Moor and the Nine Ladies Stone Circle. The pupils examined issues surrounding the conservation of their local historic environment, and also explored the prehistory of the area, addressing the National Curriculum requirements for citizenship, history and geography. The project culminated in a magnificent display of work and a visit by the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments.



Student teachers learning how to use historic sites as a curriculum resource at the Bishops Palace, Lincoln.

their village, working with a photographer, artist and website designer.

EDUCATION AND SKILLS

The historic environment has an important and well-established role to play in education, both within schools and more generally for people of all ages.

The National Trust opened The Workhouse at Southwell, in 2003. The educational visits here account for approximately half of the 16% increase between 2002 and 2003, a significant success. Every large NT property has a teachers' resource pack and increasingly, education facilities (see Table 0).

The skills shortage in conservation is a desperate and growing problem. The sector needs to offer people trainee/apprentice roles in the belief that by the time their training is complete they will be committed to conservation.

Without the employment opportunities provided by the sector these skills would rapidly die out and be lost forever. Many heritage organisations such as the National Trust have recognised this danger and have initiated programmes to help, but these are under financial pressure and are inadequate to meet the need. The sector needs urgent financial help to keep rejuvenating this skills base. Failure to do this would result in fewer and fewer people being attracted into conservation trades.

The availability of traditional building materials (each with an associated set of skills) also needs to be given priority and support, not least in overcoming the potential conflict with ecological interests in the re-opening of old quarries.

Within the region there are a number of high quality courses relevant to the study, conservation and management of the historic environment (see Table 10). For example, the University of Leicester has developed an international reputation for its courses on museum studies, archaeology and heritage. There is a direct benefit to the region in the vibrant presence of research and activity in all of these fields; in addition, a proportion of the students on these courses will choose to remain in the region after graduation.

COMMUNITY

The region contains some very well established communities with different ethnic backgrounds which make a significant contribution to the diversity and vibrancy of urban areas. There is still much to be done to respond to the priorities of these communities and to tap their strengths – not least in the sustainable re-use of historic buildings.

The East Midlands faces particular challenges in that many of its settlements are rural and relatively small. Nevertheless, identification with the community is often high and this often compensates for the limited capacity for action in demographic terms. Many devote their spare time to the heritage sector.

This is difficult to quantify but the National Trust has 3800 volunteers in the region, and the HHA has 300.

People like being involved: in 2003 Lincoln City Council actively consulted different community groups during the development of a conservation plan for the 27 Roman monuments within the city.

HLF 'Your Heritage' funding of £41,000 (90% of the target) was awarded to Elmton Community Association, Nottinghamshire, for the restoration of