

# HERITAGE COUNTS 2007

SOUTH WEST



Graham Scott of Wessex  
Archaeology surveys the  
condition of the St Anthony  
Designated Wreck Site off  
Gunwalloe, Cornwall



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*Heritage Counts 2007* is the sixth annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. It is five years since the publication of the original *State of the Historic Environment Report* and this year's report looks at the principal changes which have occurred in the historic environment since 2002. It also includes a focus on the historic environment as a learning resource and on the issues faced by the sector in relation to the skills of the workforce. This report is one of nine separate regional reports and has been prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the South West Historic Environment Forum. It should be read in conjunction with the national *Heritage Counts 2007* report, available at [www.heritagecounts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk), where a set of regional statistics for the Heritage Counts indicators can also be obtained.

The historic environment is a key component of the South West's identity, important to the quality of life of those who live, work and visit the region, and essential to the key regional tourism economy. This report looks at the ways people are learning from this remarkable resource, and considers the skills required for its sustainable future.

The case studies show that in both learning and skills, the region is setting the agenda and developing innovative approaches in key areas of policy. The Cotswolds Heritage Academy, for example, is held up as a model for tackling skills shortages in the traditional construction skills sector. Similarly, the South West 'v' project is the only one using heritage to encourage more young people to volunteer in response to a government call to increase numbers by 2010.

This report also highlights developments in learning in the historic environment. The region's wealth of heritage assets has long been used as a stimulating, diverse and accessible open air classroom, and we focus on ever more inspiring learning opportunities that the sector is developing, making it a natural partner in key government initiatives supporting more out of classroom learning.

A diverse range of skills is required to understand, protect, maintain, and make the historic environment accessible, from fundraising to archaeological survey. We look at a number of key areas for skills development in the region, and draw all the report's strands together in the final section on skills and learning in heritage volunteering.

We begin, however, with a short summary of the key policy development for the sector in 2007, the Heritage White Paper.

ANDREW VINES  
CHAIR OF THE SOUTH WEST HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FORUM

### The Heritage White Paper

In March 2007, the Government launched the White Paper *Heritage Protection for the 21st Century* following four years of review, consultation and testing.

The White Paper proposes a unified register of historic sites and buildings for England and a corresponding unified consents regime, the introduction of statutory management agreements and new statutory requirements relating to Historic Environment Records. For suitable sites, a new Heritage Partnership Agreement (HPA) between owners, managers, local authorities and, where appropriate, English Heritage, will cut time-consuming consent administration and encourage strategic management of large sites. An illustrated case study of the Cornish Bridges HPA pilot is available on the South West page of the Heritage Counts website [www.heritagecounts.org](http://www.heritagecounts.org)

The White Paper represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to develop a heritage protection system that is easy to understand and use, that engages the public in decisions relating to the protection and management of the historic environment, and places the historic environment at the heart of a reformed planning system.

Change on such a scale brings both challenges and new opportunities. Funding for the implementation of change, and training for sector professionals to meet the needs of the reformed system, are key issues. However, a more accessible designation process with a less bureaucratic management regime for historic assets is an exciting and welcome prospect.

# LEARNING AND SKILLS IN THE SOUTH WEST'S HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

## LEARNING

The historic environment presents a rich resource for lifelong learning. At a basic level, assets such as parish churches, historic landscapes, museums and collections are relatively easily and freely available as a resource for personal enjoyment and learning. Events like Heritage Open Days, which have expanded in the South West in recent years, and National Archaeology Week, provide more and more opportunities for informal learning for all.

The historic environment is similarly important to formal learning; as open air classrooms, historic places provide a quality learning experience that adds value to a wide range of subjects across the national curriculum, and chimes with Government policy on the importance of out of classroom learning for children and young people. Learning in this way can also inspire lifelong interest in the historic environment and provides learning opportunities for those who enjoy learning out of a formal setting.

The *Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto* was launched by Government in November 2006, to ensure that all young people have a variety of high quality learning experiences outside the classroom environment. It is supported by the 'Out and About' package of training and guidance to help teachers make more regular use of high quality, safely managed trips.

Numbers of out of classroom visits in the historic environment in the region form a significant proportion of all such visits in England, and are rising steadily. The National Trust in the South West attracts 30 per cent of all the organisation's education visits in England each year, probably due to the high concentration of Trust properties in the region. There were just under 143,000 education visits to National Trust properties in the South West in 2006/07, a 15 per cent increase on 2002/03.

English Heritage in the South West welcomed nearly 69,000 school visits in 2006/07 or 16 per cent of all English Heritage visits in England, with last year's figure representing a 30 per cent increase since 2001/02. Stonehenge alone accounted for over 38,000 school visits in 2006/07, and for most of the growth since 2001/02.

Sustaining and increasing numbers of visits by secondary



HRH Prince of Wales and children from St Mary and St Peter First School in the kitchen garden at Barrington Court

## BUILDING LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS: NATIONAL TRUST GUARDIANSHIP SCHOOLS

The National Trust's Guardianship Scheme was launched in 1991 and over 100 (mainly primary) schools were involved in 2005. The scheme concentrates on building a relationship between students and a local Trust-owned site over a number of visits.

Barrington Court, near Ilminster, has had a Guardianship Scheme with nearby St Mary and St Peter First School for ten years, using the historic kitchen garden to develop not only a range of skills around growing and producing food, but also team working and communication. Every fortnight from March to September, small groups of children visit to work alongside the gardener on seasonal activities such as planting, weeding, harvesting and cooking the fruit and vegetables.

In 2005, 'Changing Minds: the Lasting Impact of School Trips' found that Guardianship Schemes like this played an important role in helping children to connect with the environment, value their 'own backyard', and inspire families to visit or take part in environmental and heritage activities.

school children is challenging due to the rigidity of the curriculum and emphasis on examinations. The secondary curriculum review proposes changes to programmes of study at Key Stage 3 (11-14 year olds) from September 2008. The changes seek to encourage field trips and study outside the classroom to help pupils understand how subjects are related to the outside world. In history, this should mean offering pupils opportunities to undertake visits, where possible, to museums, archives and historic sites with an aim of engaging pupils' interests so they continue visiting and using them in their lives beyond school. Religious education should offer opportunities, where possible, to visit places of major religious significance.



Rob Crow of STEAM in the role of ARP Warden in the 'Air Raid Experience' workshop during 'We'll Meet Again'

## TAILORED LEARNING EXPERIENCES

'We'll Meet Again' at STEAM, the Museum of the Great Western Railway in Swindon, is a two week World War II event for primary school groups running every March and October. Since its inception in 2003, the event has welcomed 13,500 children from across the region to 'live the war' for a day, and immerse themselves in the sights and sounds of the home front. Staff dress in period costume, the museum displays are transformed to recreate the 1940s, and the museum's collection of original handling artefacts are available during the day to heighten the experience.

Children experience five different workshops during the day, all delivered in different styles and planned to provide a diverse range of learning opportunities including role-play, storytelling, observation and imagination. The event has been adapted over the years in response to the curriculum, teacher feedback and evaluation by the Education Manager (contact email: [steameducation@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:steameducation@swindon.gov.uk)).

## QUALITY LEARNING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

The historic environment has always stressed its relevance across the curriculum, not just in history, but in geography and science, art, design and technology, religious education, English, mathematics, and more recently the citizenship curriculum. Exeter Cathedral offers a range of learning activities designed to complement a wide range of curriculum subjects, as well as opportunities to learn for all ages and levels of abilities, for example a sensory trail which can be adapted for very young children or those with special educational needs.

In 1995, 2000 and 2005 the Cathedral's Education Department received the prestigious Sandford Award for Heritage Education.



Prince's Trust participants painting the Robert Adam designed folly at Saltram

## 'GETTING INTO THE PAST'

In 2007, the National Trust launched an initiative with The Prince's Trust to involve disadvantaged young people

across England in learning skills relating to heritage sites – from conservation to customer services. Supported by a £1.2 million grant from the Big Lottery Fund, the initiative will run until 2010 and provide opportunities for up to 700 people aged between 14 and 30 to get involved not only with working at National Trust sites, but also to shape the project itself.

Participants will work with National Trust staff on conservation and heritage tasks to increase skills and motivation as a step towards moving into education, training or employment. Six to nine-month placements will also be available at Trust properties, offering skills development in stonemasonry, nature conservation, working with the public and collections management.

Of the first eleven properties taking part, five are in the South West region, including Saltram, where 12 young people from nearby Plymouth constructed a folly designed by Robert Adam but never built.



Phil Horswell leading Farleigh Hungerford Discovery Visit 'Life in a Medieval Castle'

## DISCOVERY VISITS AND TRAINING ENGLISH HERITAGE STAFF

In addition to free educational visits for schools, English Heritage now offers Discovery Visits – interactive site-based sessions that help bring history to life. The sessions involve a range of learning approaches including storytelling, artefact investigation, role-play and problem solving.

As well as employing specialist freelance educators, English Heritage has trained site staff at some sites to deliver Discovery Visits.

At Farleigh Hungerford Castle, Somerset, Phil Horswell, Visitor Operations Site Supervisor, worked with the South West Education Manager Harriet Attwood to develop a 'Life in a Medieval Castle' Discovery Visit for Key Stages 1-3. 'Tours are designed that take into account the Key Stages, how children absorb information, the learning outcomes we want to achieve, and the time constraints that school parties typically have' explains Phil.

Discovery Visits have attracted interest not just from school children but also adults, and EH is currently piloting new interactive site based workshops for adult learners.



# SKILLS

The South West's high concentration of historic assets underpins the region's identity and its economic opportunity. Maintaining them, understanding them and ensuring their continued contribution to social, environmental and economic wellbeing requires a range of skills – from general vocational to specialist and technical.

Four key areas are highlighted as priorities for skills development and support for the immediate and long-term benefit of the historic environment.

## Skills to deliver heritage protection reform

The Heritage White Paper proposes the most significant changes to the way in which historic assets are designated and managed for a generation (the core proposals are discussed in the national Heritage Counts report and a brief summary is on page 2 of this report).

Government and the heritage sector recognise that the implementation of the reforms will require those managing change in the historic environment to develop cross-disciplinary skills and working practices (for example between buildings professionals and archaeologists), and improved understanding of historic environment issues across a broader professional spectrum. The sector has called for additional resources from Government to meet this need.

English Heritage, with professional bodies such as the IHBC (Institute of Historic Building Conservation) and IFA (Institute of Field Archaeologists) will roll out training to all local authority historic environment staff and to most other non-heritage staff responsible for the historic environment (e.g. Highways and Planning). New training is also planned for the wider sector including the community and voluntary sector, amenity bodies and agencies in the region. A funded programme will be developed for 2008, with a training event for officers in the region in Plymouth in March 2008.

With such change proposed for the heritage sector, alongside a constantly developing agenda for local government, it is important that there is strong political support for the historic environment at a local level. The South West's network of Historic Environment Champions is well placed to fulfil this role. In July 2007, there were 32 elected member champions covering almost two thirds of



Robin Menneer, founder of the Guild of Cornish Hedgers, inspecting an apprentice-built Cornish hedge

## DEVELOPING HERITAGE CRAFT SKILLS

The Heritage Lottery Fund's Training Bursaries Schemes is a £7 million UK-wide fund supporting ten schemes to improve the quality of skills available to the heritage sector by training new entrants or existing staff with work-based training opportunities. It will develop innovative, exemplar training schemes which promote diversity in the workforce, and enable heritage organisations to work in partnership with other agencies and disseminate good practice.

Each scheme will set up specialist training placements at heritage sites where bursary holders will receive mentoring, training and assessment from skilled heritage professionals and craftspeople.

Many of the schemes will have a national remit, however, in the South West the Guild of Cornish Hedgers apprenticeship training scheme will help safeguard and pass on skills to maintain and repair these characteristic Cornish hedgebanks. Some of these are older than Stonehenge, and are still being used for the original purpose for which they were built.

the region's local authorities, all of whom benefit from a range of training and support initiatives including workshops on Heritage Protection Reform.

## Construction craft skills and maintaining historic fabric

The South West has a quarter of England's listed buildings and a high proportion of unlisted, pre-1919 buildings. They represent a significant national asset concentrated in one region, yet *Traditional Building Craft Skills: Assessing the Need, Meeting the Challenge* (2005) showed that the region had less than 4 per cent of the national total of craftspeople. Not surprisingly, nearly a quarter of contractors in this construction industry sub-sector in the South West reported outstanding vacancies in 2004 and half reported severe recruitment difficulties. Carpenters, stonemasons, slate and tile roofers and general builders were in short supply. With demand for such skills high in

## THE COTSWOLDS HERITAGE ACADEMY

The Cotswolds Heritage Academy (CHA) is a new, entrepreneurial partnership of training providers, heritage organisations, key clients of the heritage sector and the construction industry. Funded by The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment, ConstructionSkills and member subscription, the CHA supports the delivery of a workforce skilled for the heritage and rural landscape markets, and raises awareness of opportunities in traditional skills across all learning groups and those within the construction or creative industries.

The CHA provides a wide range of academic and vocational courses with partner Further and Higher Education institutions. Most include a significant element of on site learning within Cotswolds locations such as Woodchester Mansion and Hidcote Manor Gardens.

In 2007/08, The Prince's Trust and CHA joint programmes *Get into Heritage Skills* and *Get Into Rural Skills* will engage young people in learning about the heritage sector and progressing into a heritage or land management career. In March 2008, a Heritage Awareness Conference is planned, to encourage teachers and FE staff to promote career opportunities across the sector and to develop further the use of heritage as a delivery vehicle for the national curriculum.

The CHA is widely regarded as ground breaking, and is well placed to inspire and inform other heritage skills initiatives elsewhere in England.

2004 and expected to remain so, there is a need to address the shortage and sustain numbers of people coming into the sector in future years. The two examples featured show that responses are emerging from training providers and attracting the support of national agencies, and as of July 2007, a regional skills network to develop a strategic approach at a regional level is being developed with the National Heritage Training Group.

It is as important to develop awareness of, and skills in, effective historic building maintenance, as it is to develop a skilled construction crafts workforce. A number of initiatives exist to train owners, occupiers, volunteers and community groups responsible for historic buildings in maintenance skills and approaches, to help them prevent major and costly repair problems developing long-term.

The 'Faith in Maintenance' initiative by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings will train voluntary bodies responsible for the fabric of places of worship in preventative maintenance. In 2008, courses are planned in Bristol, South Devon and Somerset. Competition for grants for major repairs to places of worship is always keen in the South West region, and such training is therefore invaluable to try to prevent maintenance issues escalating to major repairs.

Similar initiatives to help private owners of historic buildings understand and respond to maintenance and repair issues is planned by the RIBA. The South West has a high number of privately owned historic buildings (including a number on English Heritage's *Register of Buildings at Risk*) for whom English Heritage grants are the main or only source of funding support. Spend associated with English Heritage's 'secular' grant scheme, however, has declined by 15 per cent in real terms since 2000/01 at a national level, but by 57 per cent in the South West, the largest drop of all regions. Skills in timely maintenance are therefore increasingly essential.

### The marine environment

Understanding, protecting and managing maritime heritage is a key issue for the South West region (see cover).

The National Heritage Act 2002 enabled English Heritage to assume responsibility for maritime archaeology in English coastal waters, modifying its functions to include securing the preservation of ancient monuments in, on, or under the seabed, and promoting the public's enjoyment of, and advancing their knowledge of ancient monuments, in, on, or under the seabed. The Act also gives English Heritage statutory responsibility for the physical management of historic wreck sites designated under the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973. Of the 45 Protected Wreck Sites in England, 23 are in the South West.

English Heritage has commissioned research to identify the range and level of skills required in maritime archaeology which will define competencies, identify and define how 'fit-for-purpose' training is developed in order to meet standards, and to determine how sufficient opportunities can be provided to both gain and maintain competencies.

### Land management

Research due for publication in 2008 will set out how many of the South West's scheduled ancient monuments – which represent over a third of the national total – may be vulnerable to decay and neglect. In other regions where such research has already been published, it is clear that agri-environment schemes have been an important solution for a high number of cases.

Historic Environment Advisers (HEAs) within Natural England provide training and advice to farm advisers as a key part of their work. This helps maximise benefits from agri-environment schemes for landowners with scheduled monuments, listed buildings and other historic and environmental interests on their land. There are two full-time equivalent HEAs in the South West region.



Parishscapes walk in Beer, East Devon, linking local geology to local character

## LAND MANAGEMENT: SHARING SPECIALIST SKILLS

Specialist skills in the heritage sector help communities understand, enjoy and manage the historic environment in a positive way. Projects in the region's Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty illustrate how such skills benefit the local environment.

In Dorset, English Heritage has been working on a pilot with the Dorset AONB Partnership to train volunteers in archaeological surveying skills so that they can assist with a major survey of the South Dorset Ridgeway's barrows and barrow cemeteries, and in the Mendip Hills a similar approach underpins the Lifelines project. This engages and trains volunteers to survey and record the dry stone walls in the area, improving knowledge about the location and condition of these distinctive structures.

The East Devon AONB innovative Parishscapes project brings specialists, including archaeologists and ecologists, together with local people and local experts. The project will digitise and analyse Victorian tithe maps to provide a better understanding of historic landscape character. The aim is then to develop local skills in conjunction with current landscape characterisation techniques to identify conservation and interpretative projects that celebrate local cultural heritage.

It is important to ensure that farm advisers have high levels of skills in cultural landscape management practices. English Heritage, Cadw, CBA Scotland on behalf of Historic Scotland, and ALGAO are working on a joint approach to the training of farm advisers in anticipation of a requirement for them to be accredited. This will clearly be of significant benefit to the South West region given its high numbers of scheduled monuments and general concentration of heritage assets in distinctive rural landscapes, and the predicted continuing pressure on agri-environment budgets (such as the Higher Level Environmental Stewardship Scheme, the primary fund for historic farm building repairs).

# SKILLS AND LEARNING AND HERITAGE VOLUNTEERING

The heritage sector is heavily dependent on the contribution made by volunteers. The latest estimates from the Taking Part survey suggest that 1.2 per cent of all adults in England, amounting to about 476,000 people, were involved in heritage volunteering in 2005/06 (with a range of plus or minus 40,000). The National Trust estimated that over 10,000 people volunteered at their South West properties in 2006/07, representing around a quarter of all National Trust volunteers in England.

Volunteers bring a wide array of skills to help regenerate, protect, provide access to and understanding of historic places. These include fundraising, organising events, mentoring or coaching, representing or campaigning, engaging in conservation or restoration, or offering practical help such as providing transport.

But heritage volunteering goes further, and supports civic participation, social cohesion and conferring 'quality of life' benefits like personal achievement and enjoyment. Developing volunteers' skills is important, but so is supporting capacity and creating opportunities to get involved.

Heritage Link's 2006 study *How We Do It* considered how volunteering in the heritage sector makes such an important contribution to contemporary society. It concluded that heritage volunteering is highly successful in looking after historic places, contributing to urban and rural regeneration and supporting tourism and education, but that with increased capacity - through longer-term investment, better policy alignment and simpler access to funding - even more could be achieved. Heritage Protection Reform is a good example; its emphasis on a more open system which encourages community engagement will profoundly affect national and local heritage groups, whose role in shaping a new programme of national designation will require some capacity building support.

Not all volunteers are motivated to give their time in order to gain workplace skills, but by the wish to 'give something back', to meet others, or to do something for a cause they believe in. It is important that they have the opportunity to do so and the infrastructure is in place to help them employ their time, skills and knowledge effectively, and to gain a sense of achievement and of being valued. It is





Education Volunteers at Pendennis

## VOLUNTEERS IN HERITAGE LEARNING

The English Heritage pilot Education Volunteering Programme was launched at the end of 2006. The programme is currently underway at 7 sites across the country including Pendennis Castle in Cornwall. The six volunteers at the site have taken on a range of roles at the Castle, from supporting the new Discovery Visits for schools (see page 4 of this report), to developing new learning resources.

Ethne Brandson, a Discovery Visit volunteer at Pendennis said of her experiences, "It is a perfect way to keep my interest in education and children's learning alive. As a retired teacher I miss the inquisitiveness of children. This gives me the opportunity to experience again all the things I was missing". Due in no small part to the Education Volunteering Programme, Pendennis Castle received the Sandford Award for Heritage Education in 2007.

The national volunteering programme is managed by Kate Davies, Education Volunteer Manager, in collaboration with Harriet Attwood, Education Manager for the South West.

important for the heritage sector to develop a different 'offer' in volunteering for people at different life stages. This is particularly true in the South West, with its higher than average proportion of retired people, many of whom volunteer in the heritage sector (the National Trust estimates that two-thirds of its volunteers are retired people).

Where gaining vocational skills is a motivating factor it is important to ensure that the quality of the skills acquired is acknowledged through, for example, nationally recognised qualifications. The National Trust works in partnership with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers to run an NVQ option for Full Time Volunteers in the countryside. Since 2004, some 30 NVQs in Environmental Conservation have been completed by volunteers in Devon and Cornwall.

The case studies here reflect the importance of volunteering to the South West's heritage sector.



A young volunteer working on a sculpture for the arts festival at Greenway, Devon

## ATTRACTING YOUNG PEOPLE INTO VOLUNTEERING THROUGH HERITAGE

The new 'v' youth volunteering charity was set up in May 2006 to champion youth volunteering in England in direct response to recommendations in the Russell Commission report, which recommended a youth volunteering programme that offers better quality and more diverse opportunities to volunteer. The aim of 'v' is to inspire a million more 16-25 year olds in England to volunteer by 2010.

In late 2006, the National Trust, working in conjunction with English Heritage and a number of other heritage and conservation partners in the South West, successfully bid to host a 'v' team and project in the region. It is the only heritage and conservation 'v' project in the country.

The South West 'v' team aims to increase numbers of young heritage volunteers and offer up to 2,000 new opportunities, to encourage and support accreditation options, but perhaps more importantly to provide opportunities to feel a sense of achievement, to have a voice, to have fun and to learn from others. 'v' projects can have any of the following four elements: 'look' – a first taster of volunteering; 'grow' – skills development; 'act' – giving something back, e.g. community action; and 'shout' – using your voice, training others for example.

In June 2007, two young volunteers aged 18 and 23 were offered a placement on the National Trust's major project 'Greenway, Another Chapter', which will present Agatha Christie's family home and associated collections and mementoes to the public.

During the four week residential placement, the young volunteers evacuated the house prior to major works beginning, and demonstrated skills in collections handling and cataloguing. They also gained valuable teamworking and communication skills, working alongside older volunteers and an international student. One volunteer is now in full time employment and the other actively seeking work as a result of their experience with the National Trust, and more young volunteers have since become involved at Greenway in the organisation and running of an arts festival.





Fundraising event at St Edward's Church, Goathurst, Somerset



Local children taking part in the regeneration of Dunster Tithe Barn

## VOLUNTEERS' SKILLS TO CARE FOR LOCAL HERITAGE

From regeneration projects to cultural events and festivals, community-led heritage projects bring significant social, economic and environmental benefits. It is clearly important that the skills of the communities are recognised, supported and developed where appropriate. We highlight two examples in Somerset here.

Major investment is made by English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund in repairing places of worship in the South West. Since 1999, £9.62 million has been awarded to repair schemes across the region. Volunteers on Parochial Church Councils and equivalents work with accredited architects and building surveyors to deliver projects on time and to budget. Projects require significant skills in communication, project management, health and safety awareness and community liaison, and of course fundraising. 'Raising money for major repairs to an historic church requires skills and approaches that few will have, even with fundraising experience in other areas. It's a unique set of issues. Training and learning from others is essential.' (Colin Chalmers, Treasurer of St Edward's Church, Goathurst, Somerset.)

Building Preservation Trusts fulfil a similar role, campaigning for and managing, with specialist advisers, local regeneration projects. HLF awarded a grant of £287,500 in 2004 to Dunster Tithe Barn Community Hall for a project to restore the Grade II, 16th century Tithe Barn situated in the heart of this historic village. The Hall was derelict and in need of repair and a sustainable use, which it now has, providing a venue and facilities for the whole community to use as well as a small permanent exhibition tracing the history of Dunster.

The project was led by volunteers, and was very well supported by the local community, many of whom got involved in its delivery. Somerset Building Preservation Trust supported the project with their project management skills. Local schools were also involved in the project's implementation, contributing to the archaeological survey and developing conservation and craft skills.

## INDICATORS

This section highlights trends in the key Heritage Counts indicators for the South West. For further details and additional data sets, please go to [www.heritagecounts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk).

### ASSETS

- In April 2007, there were **88,486 listed building** entries in the South West, nearly a quarter of all listed buildings entries in England. Of these, 7,059 (nearly 8 per cent) were Grade I or II\*.
- The region had **6,979 Scheduled Ancient Monuments** in April 2007, 35 per cent of the total for England.
- There were **290 Registered Parks and Gardens** in 2007, 18 per cent of the England total.
- There are **8 Registered Historic Battlefields**.
- Four of England's 17 **World Heritage Sites** are in the South West: (Stonehenge and Avebury, City of Bath, the Jurassic Coast and the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape). A key development in 2006/07 was the National Trust's acquisition of Godolphin House and Garden, part of a major historic estate within the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape.
- There were **23 Designated Wreck Sites** off the South West's coast in 2006/07, half of the total for England.
- It is estimated that there were **1,518 conservation areas** in the region in 2007.

### MANAGING POSITIVELY

- In 2006/07, there were **80,500 planning applications** in the South West.
- Of these, 7,400 (9.3 per cent) were **Listed Building Consent** applications, a total showing little change on 2005/06.
- Just 0.6 per cent of the region's planning applications (a total of 502) were for **Conservation Area Consent**, again in line with the previous year.
- In 2006/07, the number of **Scheduled Monument Consent** (SMC) applications dropped by almost a quarter on the previous year to a total in line with 2001/02. This was the most significant decrease of all regions and contrasts with the 6 per cent increase in SMC applications nationally.
- There were 148 planning applications received by the **Garden History Society** in 2006/07.
- There were 157 entries on the South West Register of **Buildings at Risk** in 2007. Bringing them back into use may require up to £30.1 million of public subsidy. Since 1999, 86 (46.7 per cent) of the original 184 entries have been removed, although new entries have been added. The proportion of Grade I or II\* buildings at risk has declined from 2.3 per cent in 1999 to 2.0 per cent in 2007.

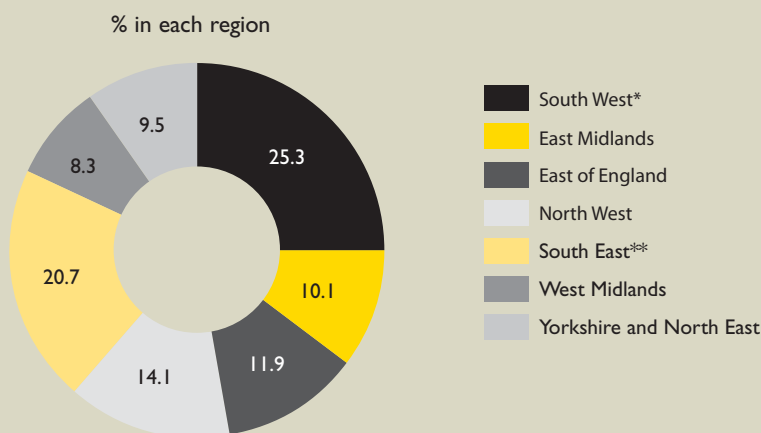
### PARTICIPATION

- Around 74 per cent of all **adults in the South West** attended at least one historic environment site in 2005/06, the second highest participation rate of all the regions in England.
- The rate of participation at historic environment sites for **black and ethnic minority groups** in the region is the highest of all regions, at around 7 out of 10, significantly exceeding the national average rate.
- Participation rates at historic environment sites for those with **limiting disabilities and illnesses** and **from lower social and economic groups** are second highest of all regions and significantly above the national average.
- **Visitor numbers** to South West historic properties have remained broadly unchanged since 2001/02, but gross revenue levels have risen by one fifth since then, demonstrating commercial growth in the heritage tourism sector in the region.
- 22 per cent of all Historic Houses Association (HHA) properties are in the South West. They attracted 2.18 million visitors in 2006, 17 per cent of all visits to HHA properties. 10 HHA houses in the region have formal education programmes.



- There were 142,866 **education visits** to the South West's National Trust properties in 2006/07, accounting for 30 per cent of all education visits to National Trust properties in England, and representing an increase of 15 per cent on 2002/03.
- Education visits to English Heritage properties in the South West in 2006/07 totalled 68,789, or 16 per cent of the England total. Stonehenge is one of the top four sites for EH school visits in England.
- **Membership** of the National Trust and English Heritage is growing steadily in the region. There were 560,000 National Trust members in the South West in February 2007. Around 55,000 (9 per cent) of English Heritage members live in the South West.
- There were 10,300 **volunteers** in the National Trust in the South West in 2006/07, one quarter of the total number of National Trust volunteers in England. In 2001/02, there were about 6,700 volunteers; numbers have grown by more than half.

### National Trust volunteers in the English Regions, 2006/07

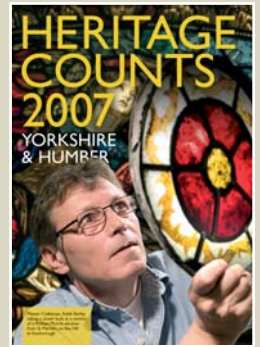
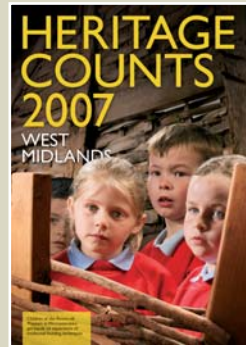
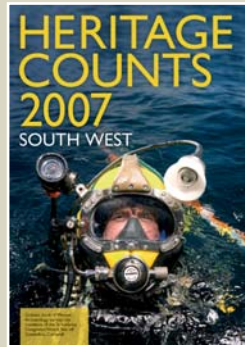
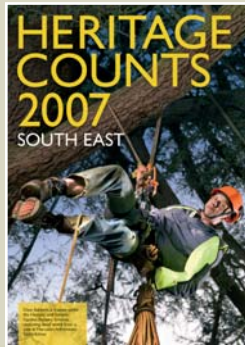
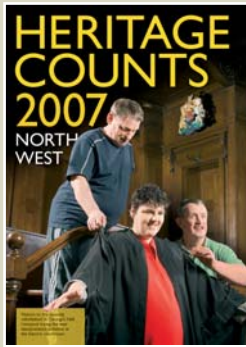
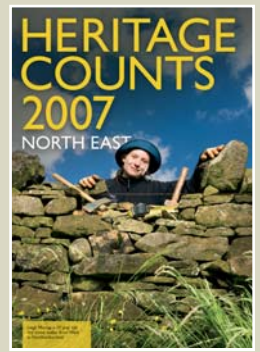
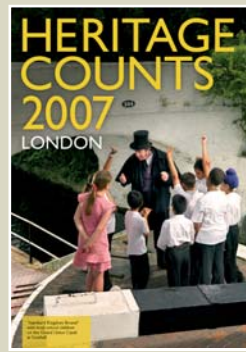
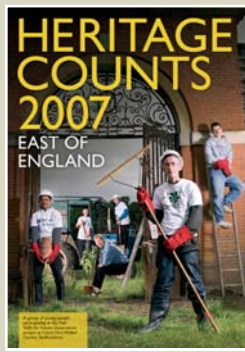
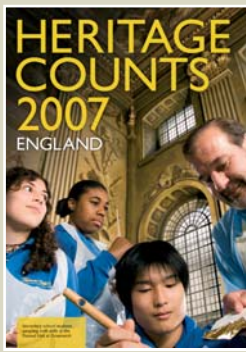


**Note:**

- \* incorporates National Trust Devon and Cornwall and Wessex Regions
- \*\* incorporates National Trust South East and Thames and Solent Regions

### FUNDING

- **English Heritage** spent just over £3 million in grants in the South West in 2006/07, 12 per cent down on 2001/02.
- Since 1994, the **Heritage Lottery Fund** has offered over £407 million to heritage projects in the South West region via just under 3,000 separate awards, the majority of which were small awards of £50k or less.
- The National Trust in the South West has benefited from approximately £27.6 million in **grants** since 2003/04, including a large one-off endowment payment for Tyntesfied, near Bristol. Its major funder is the Heritage Lottery Fund, but the Trust also receives funding from Defra, the European Union and English Heritage.
- Since 2000, the region's historic assets have benefited from £24.5 million of European Union structural funding through Objective 1 and 2 programmes.



The South West Historic Environment Forum includes the following agencies and organisations:

- ALGAO
- British Waterways
- Country Land and Business Association
- Culture South West
- English Heritage
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Historic Houses Association
- IHBC
- National Trust
- Natural England
- South West Regional Assembly
- South West Regional Development Agency
- South West Tourism
- UK Association of Preservation Trusts
- University of West of England

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