

HERITAGE COUNTS 2008

YORKSHIRE & THE HUMBER

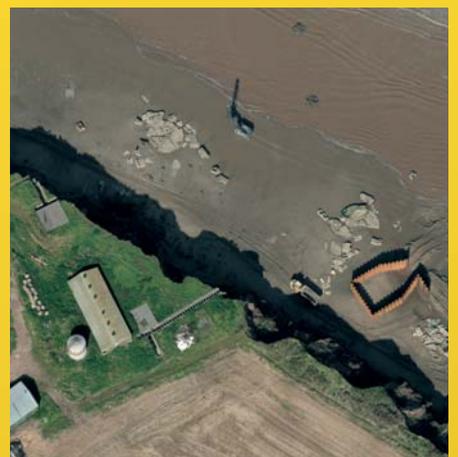
1 GIBSON MILL AT HARDCASTLE ▲ CRAGS IN CALDERDALE

The past can provide sources of ideas for the future. Gibson Mill at Hardcastle Crags in Calderdale provides a model of sustainability. With no mains power available on site the mill generates energy through hydro-electric power, photo-voltaic panels, solar hot water panels and biomass harvested from woodland to provide an all year round supply. The site also promotes the use of green transport and waste minimisation as part of its sustainability strategy.

2 CLIMATE CHANGE ▶

This year, a separate report titled *Our heritage and a changing climate – Yorkshire and the Humber Region* has been produced by the Yorkshire and the Humber Historic Environment Forum illustrating some of the impacts of recent climatic events, and showing how the region is responding through adaptation and mitigation.

Erosion of Second World War defences at Ringborough, near Aldbrough East Yorkshire, demonstrates the rapid pace of coastal change.



Heritage Counts 2008 is the seventh annual survey of the state of the historic environment in Yorkshire and the Humber Region. This report is one of nine separate regional reports and has been prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the Yorkshire and Humber Historic Environment Forum. It should be read in conjunction with the national *Heritage Counts 2008* report, available at www.heritagecounts.org.uk, where further statistics relating to the Yorkshire and the Humber region can also be found.



A separate report on climate change and the historic environment in Yorkshire and the Humber region is also available as a hard copy insert to this report and electronically on the *Heritage Counts* website.

We encourage you to use this evidence base to inform your own work and to influence that of others.



MADDY JAGO
CHAIR, YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FORUM

THE HERITAGE AT RISK PROGRAMME

Having information on the condition of historic environment assets and those facing greatest pressures and threats is essential to successful management. To meet this need English Heritage has published the national *Register of Buildings at Risk* since 1998, with the 1999 Register establishing a baseline against which trends can be measured. In July 2008 English Heritage widened this remit and published the *Heritage at Risk Register* which provides details on listed buildings, monuments, landscapes, parks and gardens, battlefields and wrecks at risk. In the next two years analysis of conservation areas at risk and places of worship in need will be added. The *Heritage at Risk Register* will eventually contain details of each individual item at risk and will be available on English Heritage's website. Below are some headlines for Yorkshire and the Humber region:

HERITAGE ASSETS

Regionally, numbers of designated historic assets in April 2008 were:

ASSETS	TOTAL 2008
LISTED BUILDINGS TOTAL	31,384
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE I	684
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE II*	1,480
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE II	29,713
WORLD HERITAGE SITES	2
SCHEDULED MONUMENTS	2,662
REGISTERED PARKS AND GARDENS	116
REGISTERED BATTLEFIELDS	7
PROTECTED WRECK SITES	1
DESIGNATED HERITAGE COASTLINE	3

Further statistics relating to the Yorkshire and the Humber region can also be found at www.heritagecounts.org.uk

KEY REGIONAL INDICATORS FOR THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

- 31,384 listed buildings (April 2008).
- An estimated £331,604,000 spent by the Heritage Lottery Fund since 1994 and over £15,000,000 by English Heritage since 2001/02.
- Of the regions 2,621 Scheduled Monuments, 33% are at high risk and a further 22% are deemed to be at medium risk.
- Analysis of historic flooding data illustrates that 1,085 historic assets have been affected by flood events between 1937 and 2007.
- An estimated 800 Conservation Areas.

- Of the 176 entries on the baseline 1999 regional *Buildings at Risk Register*, 91 (52%) have now been successfully removed following works.
- There are currently 101 Grade I and Grade II* Buildings at Risk. This is down one from 2007, with four new entries being added and five removed after successful repairs.
- 55% of Scheduled Monuments are at high or medium risk.
- Of the seven registered battlefields in the region, four are at high risk and two at medium risk, the highest out of all the regions.
- 9% of registered Parks and Gardens in the region are at high risk, with 22% at medium risk. ▶ **Case 3**

3 PEOPLE'S PARK, HALIFAX ▶

English Heritage had an early input into regeneration and restoration of this magnificent urban park. In 1995 English Heritage grant aided a feasibility study, and following on from that in 1996 provided essential security measures such as restoring the railings and boundaries. Grant aid for these two components totalled £48,160.

This paved the way for the larger project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund,

with advice from English Heritage, to restore many of the parks internal structures and monuments, 9 of which were on the English Heritage *Buildings at Risk* register. They have now been removed from the register. Additional security in the form of a ranger's hut has now enabled the park to be brought back into full use for the community of Halifax and in particular the Asian community concentrated around the park.

The park has gone from being seen as a no go area to a park that is inclusive and welcoming. Brass bands in the park were a big draw in the years following the restoration and over the past years community involvement has grown; – there is now an active gardening club, Age Concern healthy walks, historical talks and walks, Tai Chi, and the annual People's Park festival.

People's Park before and after works.

MANAGING THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Planning

- There were approximately 54,000 planning applications in 2007/08, a slight decrease from 2006/07, 2,520 applications for Listed Building Consent and 327 applications for Conservation Area Consent, similar to 2006/07 figures.
- There were 54 planning applications made for listed parks and gardens, an increase of 10% on 2006/07. Of these three were for Grade I sites, seven for Grade II* and 44 for Grade II.
- There were 89 applications for Scheduled Monument Consent in 2007/08, a reduction of 2% on 2006/07.

Funding

- Heritage Lottery Fund awarded £331,640,324 through 2,800 grants between 1994/05 and 2007/08.
- English Heritage offered £5,327,000 in grants in 2006/07 (this includes the Repair Grant for Places of Worship scheme operated on behalf of the Heritage Lottery Fund).
- A further £504,000 was awarded through English Heritage's Historic Environment Enabling Programme and £430,000 from the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund in 2006/07.

Employment and skills

- The 2008 *Traditional Buildings Craft Skills* report from the National Heritage Training Group (NHTG) included a survey of owners and managers of historic buildings. The report estimated that there were

2,343 traditional building craftspeople in the region. Only 3% of contractors interviewed reported having long term outstanding vacancies.

- NHTG Regional Steering Group launched the Regional National Heritage Training Academy (NHTA) on 5 September 2008. The NHTA aim is to create a partnership between heritage organisations; private and public stockholders; further education, higher education and private training providers and contractors and craftspeople to develop an integrated network of high quality heritage skills training for craftspeople and building conservation professionals. The Academy will ensure the continued and enhanced supply of training and development in the region and will forge links with other regional initiatives, such as the Yorkshire Rural Academy.

- In the period July 2007 to July 2008 the Heritage Lottery Fund Building Bursary Scheme made three placements following a £30,000 bursary award in the region to two stonemasons and one blacksmith.

Participation

- 71.9% of adults surveyed in the region attended a historic environment site at least once in the last 12 months. This is over 2.5 percentage points higher than the national average (*Taking Part 2006/07*). Participation in Yorkshire and the Humber increased by 3.6 percentage points from 2005/06 and 2006/07. ▶ **Case 4**
- Over 90% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that when trying to improve local places, it is worth saving their historic features (*Taking Part 2005/07*).

- There were 10.35m domestic visits to the region in 2007 staying at least one night, worth £1.4bn, up by 3% and 2% respectively on 2006, and 1,190,000 international visits worth £344m, down 4% and 26% respectively on the 2006 results.
- There were 15 Heritage Champions in the region by May 2008, representing 68% of all local authorities, an increase of 4 on 2007.
- English Heritage member numbers in the region increased in 2008 by over 8% from 62 to 67 thousand.
- In 2007/08 The National Trust experienced an increase in its UK membership to over 3.5 million, with the North East and Yorkshire and the Humber region accounting for 350,131 members, more than 7% of the total. The Trust's properties in the Yorkshire and the Humber region attracted 728,552 visitors in the same period.
- 37 Historic Houses Association (HHA) properties in the region were open to the public in 2007 and there were 1.1 million visits to HHA properties in the region and 6,571 HHA Friends. Four properties offered formal educational programmes.
- The National Trust properties in the North East and Yorkshire and the Humber regions attracted 70,489 educational visits in 2007/08. There were over 37,000 education visits to English Heritage properties and an estimated 6,670 to HHA properties in Yorkshire and the Humber region in 2007/08.
- 4,148 volunteers volunteered at National Trust properties in the North East and Yorkshire and the Humber in 2007/08.



KEY POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Key historic environment policy developments particularly relevant to the historic environment in Yorkshire and the Humber region over the last twelve months include:

Draft Heritage Protection Bill

In April 2008 the government published the draft Heritage Protection Bill along with an *Impact Assessment* setting out the estimated costs of implementing the proposals. The Bill proposes the following changes in the heritage protection system:

- **Creating a single list of nationally designated sites.**
- Making available details of all nationally designated sites online.
- Introducing a **clear separation of roles between English Heritage and Central Government.** Instead of the current duplication of work English Heritage will be given the responsibility for identification and designation.
- **Requiring English Heritage to consult owners** when a site is being considered for designation and creating a **new right of appeal** to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport against decisions.
- **Introducing interim legal protection** for historic places being considered for designation to prevent demolition or damage.
- **Giving local authorities powers to grant all new Historic Asset Consents,** abolishing the role of Central Government in granting Scheduled Monument Consent.

- **Making Historic Environment Records a statutory local duty.**
- **Creating a single Historic Asset Consent to replace Scheduled Monument and Listed Building Consents.**
- **Conservation Area Consent will be merged with planning permission.**
- **Giving powers for the creation of Heritage Partnership Agreements** between owners, councils and English Heritage for large or complex sites. This will cut the need for time consuming, repetitive consent applications.

The Bill was included in the Government's Draft Legislative Programme for 2008/09. If the Bill is enacted in the 2008/09 session, the reforms would be implemented from 2010/11. ▶ **Case 5**

Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) Sea Change

In November 2007 the Department of Culture, Media and Sport announced Sea Change, a new funding programme that places culture at the heart of regenerating England's seaside resorts by investing in arts, public space, cultural assets and heritage projects. The three – year programme which will give £45 million to coastal resorts, is being led by CABE working with the Regional Development Agencies, English Heritage, the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, Arts Council England, the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery Fund.

For further information on the Sea Change programme, and regional bids for funding visit the Sea Change website www.cabe.org.uk/seachange

CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is the dominant theme in the government's sustainability agenda, with all departments and agencies expected to engage with its implications.

Voluntary heritage organisations, non-governmental organisations and regional groups are also engaging with the issue. This year for *Heritage Counts*, the Council for British Archaeology with Heritage Link, have been examining how local groups are involved in observing and recording the impacts of climate change in their areas, and how they are responding to the changes. A regional example includes examining the impact of climate change on carved rock art in the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

CABE has also been undertaking work by advising on ways for schools to discuss climate change, sustainability and the built environment. The production of *Green day: a climate change activity kit for schools and Public space lessons: adapting public space to climate change* offers guidance on how to adapt towns and cities to climate change through thoughtfully designed public spaces offering water storage, cooling and carbon absorption.

Further regional examples of adaptation and mitigation to climate change can be found in the regional supplement to *Heritage Counts* this year *Our heritage and a changing climate – Yorkshire and the Humber Region* and on the regional section of the *Heritage Counts* website www.heritagecounts.org.uk

Sub-national Review

At the end of March 2008, the government published its review of sub-national economic development and regeneration (sometimes referred to as the sub-national review or SNR). **Continues on back page ▶**



4 GARDEN VISITS FOR REFUGEES ▲

Over the last few years, the Yorkshire Gardens Trust (YGT) has organised garden visits for refugees, with its members acting as hosts and informal guides. In 2005, working with Refugee Action in Leeds, they took a group of Iraqis and Iranians to Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal. In 2006 and 2007, in cooperation with the Persian Association of Leeds, visits were arranged to Newby Hall and Brodsworth Hall and gardens.

This year, YGT accompanied a small group of refugees from Leeds around Brunswick Organic Nursery and Bishophorpe Walled Gardens, near York. These refugees will be involved in an allotment project, instigated by the Refugee Council in Leeds. Visiting historic gardens is still, for the most part, something of a 'socially exclusive' activity, so these visits are intended in part to bring an element of 'social inclusion' into our activities. A historic garden encapsulates something of our society's past and

present, our values, mores and aspirations; and visiting gardens is a major national activity.

Recently settled refugees will mostly live in an urban environment, physically cut off from, possibly unaware of, and often unable to access, the greener surroundings of parks, gardens, and the countryside. At the simplest level, what they appreciate is an enjoyable walk, in beautiful surroundings, in the company of local people who want to share their passion about gardens.

5 POCKLINGTON CANAL ►

English Heritage is working with British Waterways and East Riding of Yorkshire Council and other partners to trial one of the Heritage Partnership Agreements proposed under the draft Bill at Pocklington Canal.



The review focused on how to strengthen economic performance in regions, cities and localities throughout the country, as well as tackling persistent pockets of deprivation where they remained.

The sub-national review was based upon the principles of managing policy at the right spatial level, ensuring clarity of objectives, and enabling places to reach their potential. In line with these principles, its final report outlined the government's plans to refocus both powers and responsibilities below the national level to support its objectives to encourage economic growth and tackle deprivation at every level, by:

- Empowering all local authorities to promote economic development and neighbourhood renewal.
- Supporting local authorities to work together at the sub-regional level.
- Strengthening the regional tier, and
- Reforming Central Government's relations with regions and localities.

The regional structure to implement the new architecture described above is currently being developed.

Regional Historic Environment Strategy & Action Plan

Since last year's *Heritage Counts* a Regional Historic Environment Strategy has been prepared for the region by English Heritage on behalf of the Yorkshire and the Humber Historic Environment Forum (YHHEF). A consultation draft was circulated in Spring 2008. The Historic Environment Strategy provides clear direction for the management of the region's heritage and also draws on a variety of national and regional policies. Following the completion of the Strategy a detailed Action Plan for its implementation is being drawn up with regional stakeholders and partners. The regional *Heritage Counts 2009* report will comment on the progress achieved with the Action Plan in greater detail, in the meantime for more information please visit the YHHEF website at www.yhhef.org.uk.

Conservation Principles

In April 2008 English Heritage published *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance* which sets out for the first time the fundamental propositions that serve as the foundation for the way the

organisation engages with every aspect of the historic environment. The document establishes six high level principles:

- The historic environment is a shared resource.
- Everyone should be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment.
- Understanding the significance of places is vital.
- Significant places should be managed to sustain their values.
- Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent, and
- Documenting and learning from decisions is essential.

The principles in the document are supported by a suite of detailed policies and guidance on how to reach decisions on a wide range of problems such as repair, new development, alteration and restoration. Further information on the principles and a pdf version of the document is available at www.english-heritage.org.uk/conservationprinciples

Yorkshire and the Humber Historic Environment Forum (YHHEF) representative organisations:

- Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
- British Waterways (Yorkshire)
- Churches Regional Commission
- Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment
- Council for British Archaeology (Yorkshire)
- Country Land and Business Association
- English Heritage
- Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber
- Heritage Link
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Heritage Inspired
- Historic Houses Association
- Institute of Historic Building Conservation Yorkshire
- Museums, Libraries and Archives Council Yorkshire
- The National Trust
- The Victorian Society
- Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies
- York Consortium for Conservation and Craftsmanship
- Yorkshire Cultural Consortium
- Yorkshire Forward
- Yorkshire and Humber Assembly
- Yorkshire Gardens Trust
- Yorkshire Museums Council
- Yorkshire Tourist Board

For further information on the YHHEF please visit www.yhhef.org.uk

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