

# HERITAGE COUNTS

## YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER



*Heritage Counts 2009* is the eighth annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. The Yorkshire and Humber report is one of nine separate regional reports and has been prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the Yorkshire and Humber Historic Environment Forum (YHHEF). This year *Heritage Counts* has increased its online presence. Visitors to the *Heritage Counts* website will be able to download the full set of regional indicators as well as view maps detailing the historic environment in their region. This year we have also undertaken a ground-breaking study which shows that the historic environment has a positive impact on sense of place and social capital. Please see [www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritagecounts](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritagecounts) for more information on the historic environment in Yorkshire and the Humber and our sense of place research.

### UNDERSTANDING THE ASSETS

YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER	2009
WORLD HERITAGE SITES	2
SCHEDULED MONUMENTS	2663
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE I	685
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE II*	1489
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE II	29203
REGISTERED PARKS AND GARDENS	117
REGISTERED BATTLEFIELDS	7
PROTECTED WRECK SITES	1
DESIGNATED HERITAGE COASTLINE	3
NUMBER OF CONSERVATION AREAS	870

### CARING AND SHARING

#### HERITAGE AT RISK IN YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

- ▶ 4.6% of listed buildings (Grade I and II\*) were at risk in 2009, a change from 7.1% in 1999. Over half of the original entries on the 1999 register have been removed due to their improved condition.
- ▶ Since 2006, the number of scheduled monuments at risk has been reduced from 880 to 744. However, the region still has the highest proportion of monuments at risk of any region in the country, at 28%.
- ▶ 43 Conservation Areas from a sample survey of 411 are at risk – 9% of all those surveyed.
- ▶ 11 (9.5%) of the region's 117 Registered Parks and Gardens are at risk.

#### MANAGING POSITIVELY

- ▶ 2008/09 there were 41,450 planning application decisions, an 8% increase on 2002/03 but a 55% decrease on 2007/08.
- ▶ There were approximately 2,000 decisions on applications for listed building consent, a 20% decrease on 2007/08 and a 13% decrease on the 2002 baseline.

#### CAPACITY AND RESOURCES

Spending in the historic environment comes from a variety of resources: private owners, the voluntary sector; local, regional and central government. In most regions, two key sources of funding for the historic environment are the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and English Heritage.

- ▶ In 2008/09 HLF funding was less than in previous years. In part this is because of the 2012 Olympics but is also due to legislative changes in the way that Lottery money is funded. The region has benefited from approximately £341.5m of HLF funding since 1995. 2008/09 regional funding fell by more than 60% on the previous year, but over £10m was still allocated in the region. Changes in the way that grants were allocated in 2008/09 means that grants are particularly low this year, and are likely to increase in 2010/11.
- ▶ English Heritage offered £2,199,649 in regional grants in 2008/9 (this includes the Repair Grants for Places of Worship scheme operated on behalf of the HLF).
- ▶ Protecting the historic environment is one of the primary objectives of Natural England's Environmental

Stewardship scheme, which has awarded grants totalling £2,131,133 in Yorkshire and the Humber.

#### Local Authorities

Local authorities are central in the protection and management of the historic environment. Their role is set to be even greater under Heritage Protection Reform. An important piece of research this year looked at existing historic environment resources in local government.

In Yorkshire and the Humber, the number of local authority staff working in the historic environment has fallen by 10% between 2006 and 2008. There has been a significant drop in the number of staff working in archaeology, down by 19% in the same period. Further cuts in staff resources for archaeology and building conservation could potentially affect the region's local authorities' ability to maintain an essential element of their statutory planning services and incorporate the Heritage Protection Reforms.

### USING AND BENEFITING

#### PARTICIPATION

In 2008, the final figure for measuring PSA 3 – increasing participation in culture and sport for priority groups – was published. In Yorkshire and the Humber, participation in the historic environment was 73%. Participation by three priority groups (black and ethnic minorities, people with limiting illness or a disability and those in lower socio-economic groups) has significantly increased. In 2008/09 DCMS moved to a new measure of participation in the

historic environment, with the definition changing from one visit in the last 12 months to two or more visits. The baseline figure in the region is 59%.

- ▶ National Trust properties in Yorkshire and the North East attracted over 1.3m visitors in 2008/09.
- ▶ Tourism in Yorkshire is worth £6.3 billion every year. A survey commissioned by Welcome to Yorkshire revealed that visiting historic houses, gardens and heritage sites accounted for 26% of tourism visits made to the region in 2008/09.
- ▶ There were 47,946 education visits to English Heritage properties in 2008/09, a 29% increase on 2007/08 figures.
- ▶ 38 Historic Houses Association properties in the region were open to the public in 2008, attracting more than 1.1 million visitors and providing employment for 930 people.
- ▶ 4055 volunteers worked at National Trust properties in Yorkshire and the North East in 2008/09.
- ▶ The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority currently has 249 volunteers working across the Park. Dedicated Dales volunteers give the Authority about 4,000 days per year; other volunteers and students contribute a further 2,000 days.
- ▶ 200 voluntary Rangers and over 100 volunteers contribute over 12,000 days per year to the North York Moors National Park Authority.
- ▶ There are 16 Heritage Champions in the region, an increase of two on the 2007 total. 67% of the region's local authorities are now represented by a Heritage Champion.

For more information on the state of the historic environment in your region please visit <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritagecounts>

## KEY POLICY DEVELOPMENT

### HERITAGE PROTECTION REFORM

The Heritage Protection Bill was regrettably dropped from the 2008/09 Government Legislative Programme and not included in the 2009/10 draft programme. English Heritage is working with partners to implement some of the changes that can be achieved without legislation.

Heritage Partnership Agreements (HPAs), have been designed for large or complex sites as an alternative management regime to the current heritage consent system. Pocklington Canal in North Yorkshire is one of the regional HPA pilot projects.

The canal was completed in 1818 but abandoned as a navigation in the 1930s. In 1969 the Pocklington Canal Amenity Society was formed with a view to restoring the canal and, together with British Waterways, four miles of canal was restored to navigation in 1976. The canal's heritage assets include four Scheduled brick bridges (two of which are also Listed) and nine locks (eight of which are Listed) and several non-designated swing bridges. The HPA process will hopefully rationalise the situation, eliminate the dual protection and with it the time consuming, repetitive consent applications.

The partners are British Waterways, English Heritage and East Riding of Yorkshire Council. Following wide consultation, the HPA has been drawn up and the document will be ready for signing by October 2009. The process to date has been a positive one and those involved feel there are several benefits of adopting an HPA based approach. It will provide an ongoing management tool that is open to review, scrutiny and dynamic change, and as well as providing clarity on what does/does not require consent. Crucially – as it also involves a partnership between the owner and the regulators, it has increased understanding, goodwill and trust.

### REGIONAL HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

The Strategy, prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the YHHEF, provides clear direction for the management of the region's historic environment. The publication of the document in April 2009 was the culmination of 18 months of consultation with a wide range of organisations and individuals. Following a series of



**Image** Grade II listed walbut lock Pocklington Canal.  
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stakeholder workshops, a consultation draft of an Action Plan has been circulated and a final version will be produced by late 2009. It is proposed that future editions of the regional *Heritage Counts* report will monitor progress against objectives set out in the Action Plan.

### YHHEF representative organisations:

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

For further information on the YHHEF and the Regional Historic Environment Strategy, please visit [www.yhhef.org.uk](http://www.yhhef.org.uk)

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