

Conservation Bulletin, Issue 22, March 1994

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Cathedral grants

The Cathedral Repair Grants scheme is a five-year project (1991–6). It supplements the dedicated work of individual appeals and trusts, and much is being achieved by the scheme in putting one of the most important collections of English buildings, the cathedrals, their contents, and their building records into good order.



The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool: the main south entrance is at the bottom of the picture and the large platform beyond the 1960s Gibberd cathedral covers the vast 1930s Lutyens crypt repaved with English Heritage grant

The 1994–5 grants have just been announced. The total sum now available for the five years 1991–6 is £19.5 million (see *Conservation Bulletin* 14, 1–2). With the 1994–5 offers of just under £4.2 million, a total of £15 million has been offered to 54 of the 61 English cathedrals.*

Large-scale repairs

The majority of these grants have contributed towards large repair programmes, which on buildings of this scale inevitably run for more than one year. For example, over three years at Lincoln Cathedral the lead roof of the south nave aisle has been relaid, its internal timberwork repaired, and the external stone parapets and buttresses renewed and repointed as necessary. A similar three-year programme at Ely Cathedral has restored the southwest transept, itself the size of a large parish church. Masons are gradually working on the stonework of the Nine Altars Chapel at Durham and replacing defective stonework on the south side of Wakefield Cathedral.

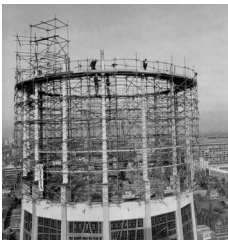
Traditional and modern materials

Perished stonework, worn-out roof coverings, and associated rainwater disposal systems are always the most frequent areas needing grant-aid. The long-established policy of English Heritage is to reuse such existing traditional materials as stone and lead, making use of proven modern techniques (eg stainless steel ties) where appropriate or altering detailing to meet current standards of good practice.

However, the work required on some of the post-war additions to ancient buildings and on the more recently built cathedrals has challenged these policies. These structures have been built of new materials, some of which have not withstood the test of time, so replacement on a like-for-like basis would not be sensible. Yet how far can we go in altering the architect's original design without losing those very qualities that make the structure of sufficient interest to be listed and grant-aided? And where we have to adopt solutions for new technical problems that are in themselves relatively untried, are we running new technical risks?

Liverpool R C Cathedral

Liverpool Cathedral poses these questions in acute form. After many careful deliberations, we have decided to offer a grant of up to £1.5 million over three years towards a programme of essential repairs estimated to cost some £6 million. Some very difficult decisions have had to be taken over the right approach to these repairs.



The 290ft-high pinnacled Crown of Thorns, completely encased in scaffolding, the first stage of the grant-aided programme

The Roman Catholic Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool was built to the design of Sir Frederick Gibberd. English Heritage considers it to be of outstanding architectural and historic interest, by virtue of its intrinsic qualities (especially the internal space and the works of art by leading artists and sculptors) and because of its influence on modern church design. This view has recently been confirmed by the Secretary of State's decision to list it at grade II* – one of only seven post-war ecclesiastical buildings to have been listed. The great contribution it makes (with the Anglican Cathedral) to the unforgettable Liverpool skyline is another factor in its importance.

The completed building was consecrated in May 1967, but began to suffer from high-level leaks soon after. The reinforced concrete structure is sound, but the mosaics covering the exposed ribs of the 'wigwam' and the aluminium of the great cone roofs between the ribs need attention over the entire structure. The cruciform plan of traditional cathedrals allows defined areas to be progressively scaffolded and repaired, but at Liverpool the circular shape requires work to be carried out from the top down, either in segments or in progressive horizontal layers. Given the huge scale of the tapering roof areas covering the 194ft diameter of the magnificent interior, the scaffolding required is a major project in its own right.

In addition to the repair of the aluminium roofs and the mosaic cladding of the ribs, the huge podium on which the Gibberd cathedral stands requires waterproofing and refurbishment of the rainwater disposal system. This podium is an extension of the vast crypt, listed grade II* in its own right, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens and built 1933–40 as the base for his proposed colossal cathedral. In 1992–3 English Heritage offered a grant of £500,000 for relaying the platform over the Lutyens crypt, waterproofing its brick vaults,

and consolidating its exposed side walls. The same sort of work now needs to be carried out around the podium of Gibberd's cathedral.

Faults and remedies

There have been a number of studies both of the faults on the Cathedral itself and of the possible remedies, the latest part-funded by English Heritage in 1993. It has been agreed with the Cathedral authorities that the roof of the cone should be covered in dull grey stainless steel in tapering vertical panels, which in colour will approximate to the aluminium, but give a longer life.

The essential problem with the ribs is that the reinforced concrete structure has shrunk as it slowly dries out and carbonates, but the glass mosaics covering it have expanded microscopically as they absorb water. As individual pieces they are also affected by an alkali–glass reaction at the interface of the tesserae and cementitious grouting mortar. They become dislodged, water enters the bedding mortar and substrate, and breaks down adhesion. Frost action then accelerates the losses of mosaic. Stripping the mosaic entirely would be an enormous task and we are not confident that a permanent solution has yet been found for reattaching it; alternative treatment of the bare concrete would be very difficult because its surface was originally roughened to receive the mosaics.

It has therefore been decided to overclad the ribs in the hope that an answer will be forthcoming from research now beginning. Gibberd used grey/white semi-translucent mosaics to make the ribs contrast with the metal roof, so emphasising their 250ft sweep above the podium from ground level to the top of the lantern. After much discussion and fact finding, panels of GRP (glass reinforced plastic) coloured to replicate the contrast are to be used, so retaining this essential design concept.

These panels should last at least another generation, by which time it is hoped that the mosaic finish can be reinstated. GRP will also cost less than any metal cladding, which would not replicate the contrast between ribs and roof, and could not be guaranteed to have a longer problem-free life.

Although earlier use of GRP as a cheaper substitute for traditional materials on older buildings has been generally unsuccessful – precisely because GRP does not have the long life of the lead, brick, or stone it has replaced, and because its different weathering qualities inevitably give it a different visual character – the reason for its use here is that it is a pragmatic temporary solution to these particular circumstances. With the Cathedral's professional advisers, we believe its use in Liverpool will serve the important objective of matching the original design concept for which the building has been listed, but allow the original mosaic finish of the ribs to be retained beneath, until such time as further work can provide a solution to reinstatement.

Other studies

The Cathedrals Survey of 1991 by architect Harry Fairhurst showed that some widely-used traditional materials were also proving problematic at a number of cathedrals. English Heritage has therefore commissioned studies to resolve these difficulties, the solutions to which will also benefit other historic buildings built of similar materials.

Shafts of Purbeck 'marble' and of other dark marbles are characteristic of English cathedrals, especially of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Now that exact replacements are difficult to obtain, conservation of the original material becomes essential. The 'polishable limestones' study is currently monitoring the environmental conditions affecting such shafts at six cathedrals.



Only the tower of the Anglican cathedral rivals the distinctive form of the Catholic cathedral on Liverpool's skyline

Research is also being conducted into aspects of masonry cleaning and consolidation, with a view to evaluating the effectiveness of work carried out in the last 20 years or so. Another study is concerned with the re-leading and protection of fragile medieval stained glass, and yet another into the wear and tear on cathedral floors, especially on medieval glazed tile pavements.

The most immediately important study is into fire protection and disaster planning, currently being completed by the Warrington Fire Research Centre. Its preliminary findings echo those of the Bailey enquiry set up after the Windsor Castle fire, and together these reports will have a profound importance for the future protection of historic buildings. Our research findings are to be presented to cathedral architects at a special conference in London on 24 and 25 March 1994. Work has also been done on the security and archiving of cathedral building records as a basis for future repair design.

Richard Halsey

Conservation Group, Head of Cathedrals Team

* Brentwood and Middlesborough RC cathedrals have only just been built and Oxford Cathedral is ineligible because of its status as an Anglican Peculiar

Editorial: English Heritage budget for 1994–5

English Heritage goes into its tenth anniversary year with both the highest ever levels of government funding and the highest proposed level of spending on grants for the repair of buildings and monuments. At £120.7m, our income for the coming year will be 4% up on 1993–4. Grant-in-aid alone at £104.1m will be an increase of 4.5% over this year and is substantially better than that offered to many other publicly funded bodies. This level of government commitment clearly demonstrates the success and efficiency of our policies, and augments substantial savings on administrative costs made under our Forward Strategy plans. Additional funds and money saved will all be used where it really matters – in extra grants at the sharp end of our conservation responsibilities.

The income we raise ourselves has risen steadily over the last decade and is expected to total £15.1m next year – a 7% increase over this year. This comes from admission to our sites, special events, sales of souvenirs, catering, and our membership scheme. A much smaller share (£1.5m) comes from miscellaneous receipts and donations. Government funding does not come from a bottomless purse so it must be a key task for us to reduce our reliance on grant-in-aid by increasing income from visitors and other sources.

In common with the rest of the public sector we are faced with severe restrictions on payroll and other running costs. We have to spend no more in 1994–5 than in 1993–4 in cash terms. This means that we will have to find sufficient efficiency savings to fund any pay rises and other cost increases.

In broad terms, proposed expenditure next year is £61.3m on conservation grants, advice, and statutory work, £33.4m on preserving and opening our own properties, £19.6m on education, development, and promotion, and the remaining £6.4m on the corporate services required to run our operations. The table below shows the division in terms of each pound spent.

Total expenditure £120.7m

Out of each pound we spend:

36p on grants to others

15p on other conservation work

28p on the historic properties in our care

16p on development & promotion

5p on corporate services

Conservation

Conservation spending is budgeted at £61.3m for the year. The largest element is grants at £43.9m, comprising:

Buildings and Monuments £10.9m

Conservation Areas £8.4m

Church £10.6m

Archaeology £6.0m

Cathedrals £4.3m

Others £3.7m

We are required to find £0.4m for the Architectural Heritage Fund from the grants budget, and have also offered £1m to the Department of National Heritage to start on long delayed repairs to the Albert Memorial. Among other cases we are also expecting to spend major amounts on repairs at Buxton Crescent, £0.7m (out of a total offer of £1.0m), Chastleton House, £0.4m, and Stowe School, £0.3m.

Listing, scheduling, and survey work, including progress on the Monuments Protection Programme, account for £7.6m, with a further £4.7m to pay for statutory and advisory work.

Historic properties

The budget for the repair, maintenance, and presentation of the 404 properties in our own care is £33.4m. Repairs and improvements to the properties will account for £20.5m and, if the current level of funding is maintained, we hope to clear all of the £56m backlog of repairs, which we identified in October 1992, by the end of the decade. The repairs and improvements expenditure covers a number of major projects, including:

Brodbsworth (opening to the public in 1995) £1.1m

Dover Castle £0.3m

Bolsover Castle £0.2m

Lulworth Castle £0.4m

Battle Abbey £0.3m

Carisbrooke Castle £0.2m

Historic Properties Restoration, our direct labour force specialising in historic repairs and maintenance, is expected to carry out around £5m worth of the work on repairs and improvements. Our target is that at least 50% of this work will be won in direct competition with outside contractors.

Custodian and management costs will take up the balance of the budget.

Development and promotion

The third main tranche of expenditure is on development and promotion, where we have budgeted £19.6m. This includes the costs of trading, promotion, and marketing related principally to our own properties, at £11.9m. Research and professional services are budgeted at £5.0m; this area includes items such as research into cathedral repairs and fire prevention (following the Bailey report on Windsor). Our spending on education, outreach, and training is planned at £2.7m. Important recent developments here include the opening of a major training facility at Fort Brockhurst, which is proving popular and successful.

Corporate services

Corporate services expenditure, budgeted at £6.4m (5.3% of our total expenditure), provides administrative support to the operational areas. Activities carried out are the finance, planning, information systems, audit, legal, office services, human resources, and secretariat functions. Major expenditure is planned on new financial, human resource management, and project management computer systems. In addition we are planning major upgrades to our conservation mapping and casework management systems. One of the most difficult tasks for an organisation such as ours is to achieve the right balance of spending between many competing demands. This budget increases funding of front line heritage expenditure in line with our major priority tasks.

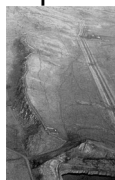
Graham Savage

Finance Director

A management plan for the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site

The designated World Heritage Site of the Hadrian's Wall Zone comprises an extensive range of features within the care of numerous national, local, and private authorities. This situation poses many challenges to the proper care and management of the site, as prescribed by the World Heritage Convention. In addition, threats presented by the pressures of tourism, agriculture, and, more recently, industrial proposals require a fresh and careful look at the management of the Wall Zone and standards of care applied to it. English Heritage is taking the lead in coordinating all agencies concerned with the Wall to prepare a management plan for the Wall Zone and its future.

The Hadrian's Wall Military Zone was inscribed on the list of World Heritage Cultural Properties at the request of the UK Government in 1987. It is one of only ten sites in England that has been accorded this status, and a special burden of responsibility rests on member states who are parties to the World Heritage Convention to ensure that these important sites are properly managed for the benefit of future generations.



Hadrian's Wall and the vallum (flanked by two mounds) looking east from Cawfields (Milecastle 40)



The Tyne Bridges, Newcastle; the Roman fort was on the site of the medieval castle (right, off picture); Hadrian's Wall foundations have been found following the line of Westgate Road (Archaeological Advisors Ltd, Barri Jones)

What is a management plan?

UNESCO, the international body that designates World Heritage Sites, expects governments to monitor the condition of their sites, and is pressing increasingly for the production of management plans for all World Heritage Sites in Britain. Overall performance is currently being monitored on behalf of the Department of National Heritage by ICOMOS UK (International Council on Monuments and Sites).

ICOMOS has defined the most important elements of a management plan as the identification and definition of the significant features of the World Heritage Site, on which can be based the development of principles for the management plan for the site in question. The management plan itself should define short and long-term objectives, to form the basis for developing work plans on a five and thirty-year timescale, and should provide for regular monitoring of the work programmes, including education and training for all those involved in the management of the site in its significance and the objectives of the plan.

The challenge of Hadrian's Wall

The challenges posed by the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site are considerable. The World Heritage Site is defined as the Hadrian's Wall corridor: the Wall itself, with its ditch, turrets, and milecastles, the forts on or near the Wall, the vallum, and the Roman military way. The definition excludes the urban areas of Newcastle and Carlisle, the outpost forts north of the Wall, the Cumbrian coastal defences, and the Stanegate (the Roman military road from Carlisle to Corbridge, with its associated forts, which predated the Wall by nearly half a century). At present, the Site has no closely mapped boundary.

The survival of the various elements of the Roman frontier zone varies greatly. At one extreme, there are long stretches of upstanding masonry, well-preserved forts, and prominent earthworks of the central sector. At the other, the line of the Wall is uncertain in some parts of urban Tyneside. In between, there are areas where archaeological remains survive either as earthworks or entirely below ground. Significant parts of the wall and of its associated features in eastern Northumberland are under arable cultivation.

Threats to the integrity of the World Heritage Site are equally varied. Within urban or semi-urban areas, there are the normal problems posed by development, which may affect buried archaeological remains or the overall setting. In the countryside, agricultural uses of parts of the zone can cause damage to archaeological sites. Increasing pressure from tourism and leisure use needs to be planned for and correctly managed, as has been highlighted recently in discussions over the proposed National Trail (*Conservation Bulletin* 19, 10–11). Recent decisions have also averted more spectacular threats, such as oil-drilling or open-cast coal mining, which might have affected the setting and character of the World Heritage Site (*Conservation Bulletin* 20, 19–20).

The ownership and management of the Wall Zone is also very complex. A relatively small part of the whole (though a much more significant proportion of the most visual parts of the zone) is owned by public bodies who have acquired the land with the intention of preserving it. The most substantial holdings are those of the National Trust and of English Heritage, but local authorities and private trusts also play a significant role. The remainder of the World Heritage Site, largely agricultural land, belongs to private owners whose management or use of it may have little or no relevance to the reasons for which the zone has been designated. Tourism, too, is an important part of the local economy, and Hadrian's Wall is one of the prime factors that attracts tourists to this part of northern England.



The Hadrian's Wall area: the World Heritage Site includes specifically the forts along the lines of the Wall and of Stanegate Road, and the installations along the Cumbrian coast

A large number of different public bodies, including at least three Central Government departments, have a legitimate interest in the management and protection of the World Heritage Site, particularly since protection relates not just to the preservation of archaeological remains, vital though this is, but also to the setting of those remains and to

the value of the landscape as a whole. Thirteen local and National Parks authorities are involved as planning authorities within the designated zone, and some of them are also involved as highway authorities or in promoting economic activity, particularly tourism. In addition to English Heritage, the Countryside Commission and English Nature have direct involvement, as do the two regional Tourist Boards and the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England.

The way forward

In the case of a cultural resource as extensive as the Hadrian's Wall Military Zone, there is no single agency that can claim to have oversight of all the responsibilities of management. However, because of the archaeological importance of the Wall and its zone – the primary reason for the World Heritage designation – English Heritage now proposes to take the lead, in conjunction with other bodies who have a substantive involvement in the Wall, in developing a management plan. In so doing, we will be building positively on the work that different organisations have already done as part of their approach to the special challenges posed by Hadrian's Wall.



The Roman fort at Maryport, Cumbria: one of the best preserved examples of the series of watchtowers and forts that continued down the Cumbrian coast from the Solway (Archaeological Advisors Ltd, Barri Jones)

We envisage that the approach will address various management aspects of the World Heritage Site separately before combining approaches or policies in the final document, which intended to set the framework for the future. Major areas to be examined are: planning frameworks and statutory controls, which can or should apply to the Wall Zone a code of conduct for agricultural activities that might affect elements of the Roman Frontier System

priorities for research and investigation of the Wall Zone

visitor management within the Wall Zone, including the effects of visitors on the archaeological resources

As part of the framework to this study, English Heritage is already cooperating with the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England in the production of a comprehensive database for the World Heritage Site, and is currently checking and revising the scheduling of the Wall, where necessary, as part of the Monuments Protection Programme.

These are essential elements of the Management Plan, which will also involve a closer look at the standards of care and visitor management in operation at the properties in the World Heritage Site that are run by English Heritage.

Stephen Johnson

Conservation Group, Regional Director, North

The European dimension in conservation

The European Parliament, the European Commission, the Council of Europe, and a host of independent, non-governmental organisations are all involved in various aspects of conservation, including agriculture, tourism, and regional funding. English Heritage has participated in European conservation measures, especially in recent years, and our potential contribution and leadership in certain fields is growing.

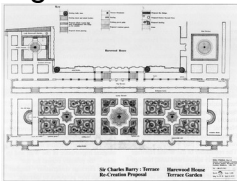
Anyone who has had dealings with the European political and bureaucratic machinery knows that it is a complex and often opaque structure. Claims from Brussels of a growing 'transparency' – the means by which outsiders can see and understand the making of

decisions, and the reasoning and processes behind them – still leave most of us struggling to understand what is going on. Yet Europe is a growing force, in conservation as in other fields, and can be a powerful and useful ally in our work. The issues are how we can tap its usefulness, how we can ensure that European effort is well directed and not wasted, and what we can ourselves contribute to and draw from European conservation.

Who does what and why?

The dimensions, functions, and boundaries of European conservation machinery are not easy to understand. The roles of the main players, and the dividing line between political and bureaucratic effort, are not clear to the casual observer. The European Community (or Union, as it is now becoming known as a result of Maastricht) consists of the European Parliament and the European Commission (the civil service of the European Parliament and Community); then there is the separate Council of Europe, which has a wider membership than the Community and does not have executive functions. All three have a role in conservation.

There is also a wide range of independent, non-governmental conservation organisations involved in conservation internationally. The best known are Europa Nostra, the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM; based in Rome), and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS; with national branches, eg ICOMOS UK). In addition, UNESCO has some involvement, notably with 'World Heritage Sites'. The role of the independent conservation organisations will be the subject of a future *Conservation Bulletin* article.



Harewood House, Yorkshire: an award-winning scheme to restore Barry's Italianate parterre, which received grant from the European Commission's scheme to conserve European Architectural Heritage and also grant from English Heritage (Giles Chalton Dip LA)

Involvement is not limited to direct conservation interests; many other EC programmes bear on aspects of conservation, for example agriculture, tourism, and regional funding. A range of different government departments and local authorities can be involved. Increasingly, there is a need first to understand what is going on, then to coordinate it in some way in order to achieve benefits for conservation.

Council of Europe

The Council of Europe, based in Strasbourg, has for decades been the leading participant in European conservation. It manages a range of initiatives including, for example, special technical assistance visits to assess specific problems, working parties of international experts to resolve and report on particular issues, and conferences and seminars where experts and others can meet for discussion. To do this it draws on resources, both financial and skill based, from member states. This includes invitations to join expert committees and working parties. The benefits for contributing states can be great, though critics say that programmes have been too diffuse, uncoordinated, too much a talking shop, and that benefits are intangible and may go to the states that contribute least. Increasingly now, as the European Commission aims to extend its own role, there is also a risk of duplication of effort between the two.

Council policy is largely governed by the 1985 Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe. Its keystone is 'integrated conservation', the idea that every aspect of conservation should be taken together, both the sites and monuments

themselves (including settings, contexts, and landscapes) and their management (ie financial issues, planning policy, training, sustainable development, etc). This policy, which reflects our own thinking, has been in force for some time, but attracts less notice and praise than it should. This in itself may highlight one of the Council of Europe's main problems, which is that it is not a good promoter or publicist for its programmes and for its considerable efforts and achievements.

The sphere of influence of the Council, and of its membership, is now widening because of the influx of central and eastern European states. This is welcome, as these states need substantial help with conservation, but it brings problems. For example, a typical meeting of its Cultural Heritage Committee, which formulates and oversees the Council's conservation programmes, would as recently as three years ago have attracted perhaps 30 delegates; now, over 50 turn up. Not only is this too big to be manageable, but it is also expensive and takes money away from programmes of work.

Political input from member states into the Council is formalised, every few years, by Council of Ministers meetings of the relevant heritage or culture ministers. The last, in Malta in early 1992, endorsed a Convention arising from the current archaeology programme. Another meeting is projected for 1996, in Finland, for which the main theme will probably be 'financing the heritage'. These ministerial meetings are followed by often lengthy periods in which individual member states ratify the Convention, which the ministers have signed; this must be done by all signatories, and can cause substantial delay in implementation. Nevertheless, the ministerial meetings have important benefits, including publicising and raising the profile of conservation work.

European Commission

The European Commission, the bureaucracy of the European union, based in Brussels, is a growing force in European conservation. Potentially, because of its executive role and its ability to make Regulations and Directives that are binding on member states, it could become a more important force than the Council. When the Maastricht treaty finally came into force on 1 November 1993, it had an important bearing on conservation as well as on the other aspects of European union. The treaty contains, in the small print, a short but important statement listed as Article 128. This gives the European Union, for the first time, a specific remit for cultural affairs, including conservation of the historic environment.

Directorate General 10 of the Commission (known as DGX) is concerned with 'information, communication, and culture'. It has operated a limited conservation programme for some years, particularly a 'pilot projects grant scheme', which offers limited grants to member states for conservation projects. Using this new cultural remit, DGX is looking to extend its cultural work and to define for itself and the Commission a more prominent role in conservation.

As well as giving DGX more direct weight to put behind its programmes, Article 128 also gives it the opportunity to exert greater influence on the other Directorates, concerned with relevant issues such as transport, agriculture, tourism, and planning. This should mean that they have to take more account of the historic environment when drawing up their own programmes.

European Parliament

The relationship between the European Commission and the European Parliament, the Union's political heart, does not compare directly with Westminster. The Commission can act more independently, and less accountably, than we are used to in a civil service. The European Parliament is more constrained in the action and decisions it can take than our own and has less direct political power. Nevertheless, it is an important political force and many members, from all member states, take an interest in conservation. The Parliament

will itself play a more important role, post-Maastricht, in influencing policy and development for conservation in Europe.

English Heritage's role

English Heritage has, over the last two years, been taking a closer interest in developments in conservation in Europe. It is nothing new for us to send our experts to relevant conferences, seminars, and working groups, usually on behalf of or as expert adviser to the lead government department whose task it is to provide UK representation internationally. Examples are the Council of Europe's working parties on heritage landscapes and sites, on funding the architectural heritage, on archaeology, on documentation, and on many other important issues.

In addition, we have been developing our own strategic relations with the key European bodies, especially the European Commission and the Council of Europe. We have recently attended the European Commission's series of meetings with experts from member states to discuss where and how it can best increase its input into conservation. Our motives are not altogether philanthropic. While we have, through our expertise, experience, and knowledge, a great deal to contribute to other European states, we also believe that Europe will increasingly influence what happens, and what is possible, for conservation in the UK. It is therefore very much in our interest to take an active role in shaping developments. If we are to be subject, in the future, to more recommendations and directives that directly affect our work, we must be as certain as we can that their content is sensible, useful, and in line with UK government policy.

The future

There is every possibility that Europe will play an increasingly important role in influencing and developing conservation policy and practice. Even if it does not, there is a pool of European resources on which we can draw, and enormous expertise and knowledge from which we can benefit and to which we can go on contributing. It is important for English Heritage to help influence and develop the way conservation is handled at the European level, by closer contact with the leading bodies – the Council of Europe, the European Commission, and the European Parliament. Our conservation expertise is respected in Europe, we are well placed to act, and the resources needed to do this are not great. Equally, we can learn much by continuing to develop, in a selective way, contacts with our opposite numbers both in Europe and throughout the world.

Duncan Simpson

Conservation Group, formerly Deputy Director

The listing of cinemas

Historic cinemas are fast disappearing. Recent research suggests that few English examples remain unaltered. A more complete survey is needed in order to assess and select for listing the best surviving examples before all are demolished or unrecognisably altered.

The first public presentation of moving pictures in England was at the Regent Street Polytechnic, London, in February 1896. This launched cinemas as a whole new building type, and they were erected in huge numbers between 1910 and 1940. By 1946 there were some 4460 cinemas in England, after which they began to disappear with equal rapidity. At present, there are about 80 listed cinema buildings, many of them now dance halls or bingo clubs. English Heritage is preparing a selection of further recommendations for listing.

Early days of cinema architecture

At the turn of the century there was no need for special buildings in which to show films. In the hundreds of new variety halls – Empires, Palaces, and Alhambras – a film or newsreel became just another ‘turn’; shops and fairground booths were also adapted, simply by boxing-in one end for the projector and whitewashing the opposite wall. The flammability of the nitrate film, however, led, in 1909, to the passing of the first Cinematograph Act, requiring the licencing of buildings showing films. Within a few years thereafter, thousands of cinemas were built, all to remarkably similar designs, distinguished externally by a baroque-like pediment or tower and internally by tightly-packed 300- to 400-seat halls with barrel-vaulted ceilings ribbed with moulded plaster fruit, and with plaster panels or swags to enliven the bays of the side walls. More lavish buildings had proper proscenia, richly ornamented; just as often, however, the screen was merely a painted wall with a moulded picture frame surround.



Floor plan of no 105 Dalston High Street, adapted for showing films in 1909

The Electric, Portobello Road (grade II*) epitomises the genre. Though opened in 1911, it is often claimed to be London’s oldest cinema because of the perfect preservation of its heavy plasterwork, foyer, and gas fittings. Similarly complete, though simpler in execution, are the Electric, Harwich (1911; grade II), and the Scala, Ilkeston, Derbyshire (1913). Other survivals of this type are often listable, but are difficult to trace: many were too small or unprofitable to survive into the era of sound, and have become warehouses or workshops.

The lack of licensing information before the Cinematograph Act and a rapid turnover in use have made it impossible to name with confidence the oldest surviving cinema. Dennis Sharp, in *The Picture Palace* (1969), names the Central Hall at Colne, Lancashire, which opened in 1907 and had become a factory by 1920. In London the earliest so far discovered is the Court, Wandsworth (1908); since the 1940s it has been a bottle store for Young’s Brewery.

The 1920s

After 1914 the homogeneity of cinema architecture broke down. Just before the First World War a few larger halls, with big balconies and awkward theatrical slips or boxes, were built in London. In the 1920s new cinemas were built in some numbers, and are difficult to categorise owing to their variety. A few examples illustrate the preoccupations of the time, but give no sense of the wide variety of sizes, shapes, and architectural styles adopted. The Elite, Nottingham (1919–21; grade II*), not only had a handsome 1500-seat auditorium but also four restaurants, each in a different historical style and advertised as suitable for wedding banquets and masonic meetings. Such suites of restaurants, and even ballrooms, were once common, but today the Elite is a rare survival; it has recently been adapted to house a church, shops, and offices. Of greater portent for later building is the Regent, Brighton (also 1919–21), designed by Robert Atkinson after a reconnaissance trip to America. Atkinson set the standard for the large cinema auditorium in England, seating nearly 3000 people in broad stalls and an enormous single balcony reached from a common entrance. The ‘fantasy’ quality of the Regent’s colourful terracotta architecture was also much copied, with Moorish and Egyptian motifs becoming particularly popular. As important was the huge window Atkinson gave the first floor foyer and restaurant, which looked particularly striking when lit up at night and served to entice visitors inside. Huge

areas of glass, along with neon lighting and advertising towers, became common elements of what by the 1930s was termed 'night architecture'.

The Regent was demolished in 1974, leaving Frank Verity's Pavilion, Shepherd's Bush (1923), as perhaps England's most elegant early 1920s cinema. Because of their greater age, narrow proscenia, and often-awkward planning, however, cinemas built in the 1920s have survived less completely than those of the 1930s.

Two things hastened the refinement of British cinema design between 1927 and 1931.

First, the Cinematograph Films Act of 1927 was an attempt to protect the declining British film industry by insisting that a third of films shown should be homemade. The Act bonded the larger filmmakers, distributors, and exhibitors, through a protracted series of takeovers, into two – later three – major circuits. Second, in 1928, *The Singing Fool* became the first soundtrack film, or 'talkie', to be shown widely in Britain. The new national circuits for the first time provided funds for large numbers of elaborate cinemas with good acoustics and sound systems.

Some older cinemas could not be adapted for sound or could not compete with the new 'super cinemas', containing over 2000 seats and built to conspicuously American designs. Typical of this new breed are the many built by George Coles in London's working-class suburbs. These were usually in a Renaissance Classical style reminiscent of the Empire, Leicester Square, rebuilt as a cinema in 1928, for which Thomas Lamb, the American specialist, was brought over as consultant. Only the Empire's facade survives to give an indication of the grandeur to which cinema architecture briefly aspired, and many of Coles's cinemas have also been demolished. Survivors include the Carlton, Essex Road (1929), the Troxy, Stepney (1933), with an Egyptian exterior, and the Gaumont State, Kilburn (1937), a late return to the genre, which with 4004 seats was England's largest cinema. Equally lavish were the Astorias at Brixton (1929) and Finsbury Park (1930), and the Granadas at Tooting (1931) and Woolwich (1937). The Astorias copied the 'atmospheric' style of another American designer, John Eberson, creating out of theatre flats, cloud machines, and 'twinkling' lightbulbs the semblance of being in a Renaissance garden or a Moorish village. The several Granadas were more structural. Their coffered ceilings and arcaded ante-proscenia could be Classical, Gothic, vaguely Moderne, or a palimpsest of styles, yet every interior is clearly recognisable as the product of the eclectic mind of Theodore Komisarjevsky, a Russian prince and theatrical designer.



The Regent, Brighton, 1919–21, designed by Robert Atkinson (Royal Pavilion, Art Gallery and Museums, Brighton)

The Astorias and Granadas belong, as do George Coles's cinemas, to a ring of relatively well-known large-scale cinemas around inner London. Their unfashionable locations meant that they survived, unlike city-centre cinemas in London and elsewhere. A threat to demolish the Tooting Granada for a supermarket led to its being listed (grade II*) in 1973, along with the Apollo, Victoria (formerly the New Victoria, 1930; also grade II*). Many more cinemas of this period have been listed in London, but there are still omissions, particularly in the provinces, where further research is required.

The late 1930s

More awkward to list are examples from the last spate of cinema building before the Second World War. As the three giant distribution circuits – Gaumont, Associated British Cinemas (ABC), and Odeon – came to dominate the industry, each demanded a cinema in every town. If an old one could not be commandeered a new one was built. Between 1935 and 1939 there was strong competition, monitored with loving detail by the monthly

magazine *The Ideal Kinema*. A fourth contender, Union, went bankrupt. Each circuit had a distinctive style. The Gaumont style had its origins in the 1920s' Classical-inspired house style of one of its constituent companies, Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, whose architect was W E Trent. Only the more localised Granada and Union cinemas were more lavish. ABC houses, mainly designed by Major W R Glen, were more numerous, but duller; heavy-handed subdivisions in the 1970s have rendered most non-listable. Most memorable are the Odeons, in part owing to classic photographs taken before their opening by John Maltby, but also because their architects were instructed to design exciting exteriors, with lean advertising towers and clean faience facades inspired by German models of the 1920s (eg the Titania Palast, Berlin). Inside there were no frills (new acoustic plaster obviated the need for heavy mouldings), variety shows, organs, or restaurants, just comfortable seats and decent films.

Huge picture palaces continued to be built only in inner London; elsewhere 1500 seats were considered an optimum. In addition to the major circuits, locally run cinemas proliferated in old market towns and modern suburbs: Shipman and King in the southeast, Clifton in the Midlands, and Grahams around Nottingham were typical. At their rare best, such market-town cinemas as the Regal in Wells and Regent in Lyme Regis combine Moderne styling with a domestic character to charming effect. Such buildings are difficult to list, as they depend for their effect on such transient elements as concealed lighting and reflective schemes of decoration; these features are rarely maintained, and may be lost if the building has changed use.



The Granada, Woolwich (1937), one of England's most eclectic cinemas, designed by Cecil Masey and Reginald Uren, with an interior design by Theodore Komisarjevsky

Post-war cinemas

Assessing England's post-war cinemas may prove easier. Most of those built in the new towns and in bombed cities, such as Plymouth and Hull, have been mutilated or demolished, including the finest – Erno Goldfinger's Odeon, Elephant and Castle (1964–5). After non-nitrate film became standard in the late 1950s cinemas tended to be built under office blocks, until the recent preference for multi-screen complexes pushed them instead into the out-of-town warehouse malls. These multiplexes have done much to revitalise cinema-going, but lack all architectural ambition.

Elain Harwood

Inspector, Listing Branch

Ecclesiastical exemption and the faculty jurisdiction

The Government's proposals suggesting an Order restricting the scope of the ecclesiastical exemption were due to be laid before Parliament by June 1993. A further round of consultations has delayed the Order and there have also been problems in legally defining a 'principal place of worship' on each site. The current position is outlined below.

It now seems probable that where a denomination can conform to the Government's Code of Practice, all buildings attached to the listed place of worship and all the curtilage buildings on the site will be exempt from listed building consent procedures, unless they are separately listed in their own right, eg listed boundary walls, church halls, or lych-gates. At present the only denominations likely to continue to benefit from the exemption by conforming with the Code of Practice are the Church of England, the Church of Wales,

the Methodist, Roman Catholic, and United Reform Churches, and those Baptist churches where the Baptist Union is the sole trustee.

Recent Church of England jurisdictions

The internal control system of the Church of England is the faculty system. This system has recently been the subject of major amendments, which came into force on 1 March 1993.

In overhauling its faculty jurisdiction, the Church of England enacted the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 (the equivalent of an Act of Parliament) and two sets of Rules, which contain the details of the new procedure: the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 1992 and the Faculty Jurisdiction (Injunctions and Restoration Orders) Rules 1992. The procedure remains complex although the new provisions endeavour to reduce delay, encourage wider and earlier consultation, and place greater responsibility on Archdeacons.

To help all those involved, especially the applicants in the parishes and their professional advisers, the General Synod has published a guide to the new law and best practice, *The Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure – Code of Practice* (£5.95, Church House Publishing). The Measure, Rules, and the Code of Practice should be consulted for the details of the new provisions but an outline of the most significant changes is provided here.

Measure, rules, and code of practice

All churches covered by the Measure (including all parish churches) must be professionally inspected every five years. The inspection can be carried out now by RICS/DAC-approved chartered building surveyors as well as architects, and should include designated ruins within the churchyard, specially valuable or vulnerable articles belonging to the church, and churchyard trees subject to tree preservation orders (TPOs). The Parochial Church Council is now responsible for trees in the churchyard (unless it is a closed churchyard and so the responsibility of the local planning authority).

Any repair, alteration, sale, or addition to Church of England churches, their contents, and churchyards requires a faculty (unless it is very minor). This permission is given by the Archdeacon for uncontentious matters defined in the Measure, or by the Chancellor of the diocese (the equivalent of a High Court judge) in all other cases. The incumbent of the parish can only agree the erection of tombstones within specific guidelines laid down by the Chancellor. Planning permission will also be required from the local planning authority for alterations (including new buildings) that materially affect the external appearance of church buildings, and secular consents are needed for work on trees in conservation areas or covered by a TPO.

Before the formal petition (application) is made, the petitioners are encouraged to consult widely, especially if bodies such as English Heritage, English Nature, the national amenity societies, and the local planning authority are going to be requested to comment on the proposals by the Chancellor once the petition is presented. The role of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) in the faculty process does not change significantly under the new procedure, but their diocesan remit is broadened; best practice advice is given in the Code. The Committee is appointed by the Bishop's Council of the diocese and has now to include in its membership people appointed after consultation with English Heritage, the national amenity societies, and the relevant planning authorities. Although not delegates from these organisations, these DAC members are expected to be a channel for communication between the DAC (acting as the Chancellor's specialist advisers) and the conservation bodies, who may also be required to comment directly to the Chancellor.

Formal certificate

A formal certificate containing the DAC's comments must still be submitted with a petition for a faculty, but it can now be obtained in advance of a petition. The purpose of this reform is to encourage negotiations between the DAC and petitioners before formally involving the Registrar. The pre-petition negotiations, particularly where strong DAC objections or qualifications are expressed, should reduce delay and costs for petitioners. Once the petition is lodged with the Diocesan Registrar, the petitioners are required to display a 'general citation' describing in some detail the proposed works inside and outside the parish church concerned, for at least 14 days, or 28 days if the church is listed or in a conservation area. For the first time the Chancellor is required to notify by citation English Heritage, local planning authorities, and the relevant national amenity societies unless they have already been notified through secular procedures or grant conditions for any of the following works:

alteration or extension of a listed church where the works will affect the architectural or historic interest of the building, whatever its grade

works that affect the archaeological importance of the church or archaeological remains

existing within the church or its curtilage works that involve demolition affecting the exterior of an unlisted church in a conservation area

English Heritage is thus brought into a statutory position akin to the one we hold in secular listed building control.

Objections

Anyone who wishes to object can then lodge their objection with the Diocesan Registrar and may subsequently become 'parties opponent' if the Chancellor decides to hold a Consistory Court hearing. Objectors can have costs awarded against them, but only where their objection is construed by the Chancellor to be vexatious or unreasonable. Those with clearly argued concerns directly related to the proposals should normally have to bear only their own costs. The role of a judge's witness, which could be a representative of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, a local planning authority English Heritage, or a national amenity society, is clarified. With the leave of the Chancellor such witnesses can ask questions of other witnesses. If a body is allowed to appear in the capacity of a judge's witness then this provides protection against the possibility of an award of costs.

While the new legislation provides an improved framework for the taking of decisions affecting church property, it is still necessary to refer to canon law, and particularly to previous decisions by the ecclesiastical courts, for guidance on the appropriate weight to be given to historic buildings considerations in taking decisions on the grant of a faculty.

First case

The first major case to reach a consistory court since the enactment of the new law related to the proposed reordering of St Helen's, Bishopsgate. The petition for a faculty was presented before the new law came into force but it nevertheless presented an opportunity for Chancellor Sheila Cameron QC to consider the basis of decision-making in faculty cases involving substantial work to a listed building, and also best practice in the handling of such petitions in the light of the new law. The Chancellor applied the decisions of the Court of Arches in *Re St Mary's Banbury* (1987) and *Re All Saints, Melbourn* (1990) and confirmed the presumption in ecclesiastical law in favour of the retention of listed buildings and their features of architectural or historic interest.

On the facts of the case the Chancellor was satisfied that the majority of the works were necessary for the pastoral and physical well-being of the congregation and that the works would enhance the appearance of the church. Several minor aspects of the scheme did not receive a faculty as a result of the Chancellor's acceptance of arguments put forward

by party opponents who presented evidence to the Chancellor, including English Heritage, the City of London, and the Victorian Society. In her judgement the Chancellor stressed the advantages of the new faculty procedure and laid down guidance in addition to that contained in the Church's Code of Practice for faculty petitions in the London Diocese. The guidance is a further indication of the importance placed by Diocesan Chancellors on early and wide consultation by parishes on proposals that may adversely affect historic church buildings. The guidance could usefully be followed in all parishes and it is set out in full in the box to the right. Throughout her judgement the Chancellor stressed the importance of seeking all secular consents, particularly planning permission, before a faculty is sought, adopting the advice to this effect in the Code of Practice.

A balance of interests

The new procedures have the potential to strengthen the ability of the faculty system to balance the competing interests of liturgical needs and the built heritage. There will be occasions when a parish's proposals will suggest unacceptable changes to a listed church, and it is hoped that the new system will give every opportunity for early debate and informed decisions. English Heritage intends to play a full part in the operation of the faculty jurisdiction, as Church of England buildings are so important to the cultural history and visual interest of this country. It is very much hoped that others equally concerned with such matters on a local basis will also take the opportunity to be involved in this alternative system to listed building and scheduled ancient monument procedures.

Richard Halsey

Conservation Group, Head of Anglia Team

Howard Carter

Legal Advisor

Guidance given by Chancellor Cameron QC on the handling of faculty petitions affecting listed buildings in her judgement dated 26 November 1993 in relation to the proposals to reorder St Helen's Bishopsgate

The Worshipful Chancellor said:

'By way of guidance in this Diocese I suggest that the following procedure should apply where interior works of alteration to the fabric or the fixtures of a listed Church are proposed:

(1) The Church's architect should provide English Heritage with copies of his preliminary drawings or outlined proposals, which he has prepared in response to the Petitioners' requirements, either prior to or at the same time as advice is sought from the Diocesan Advisory Committee. This will save time and enable the architect to see what, if any, comments by English Heritage can be taken into account without defeating the Parish's objectives;

(2) The Parish should seek directions from the Diocesan Registrar as to whether the local planning authority, or any of the statutory amenity societies should be consulted at the same time as English Heritage, or whether it is appropriate to leave the Chancellor to decide whether any of them should be cited under Rule 12 (3) of the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 1992 once a petition has been presented;

(3) The Parish should summarise clearly in writing the reasons why it is thought that the works proposed are necessary and will assist in relation to worship and mission in the Church. This document should be supplied to the Church's architect, the Diocesan Advisory Committee, English Heritage and any other consultees whom the Parish is advised to approach;

- (4) If the Parish considers that it is not possible to make alterations to the proposals in order to accommodate the views of English Heritage or any other consultee, or that there has been unnecessary delay on the part of any consultee in making their views known, a petition should be presented to the Consistory Court for determination. A petition may be presented without the recommendation of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (Rules 3 (3) and (5)) and the same applies to other consultees;
- (5) In any case of doubt about procedure the Parish should always seek guidance from the Archdeacon or the Diocesan Registrar.'

Earth science conservation and archaeology

A year's cooperation between English Heritage and English Nature has produced the foundations of a fruitful partnership. Progress has been greatest in the areas of policy liaison and site management issues. These issues and areas for further cooperation are discussed below.

The statutory responsibilities of English Nature and English Heritage overlap in numerous ways; one area of potential collaboration on which this article concentrates is between archaeology and geological and geomorphological conservation. On 3 December 1992 English Nature and English Heritage signed a Statement of Intent for the conservation of the natural and archaeological environment.* The Statement recognises the close relationship between the conservation and management of England's natural and archaeological heritage.

English Nature has a statutory duty to designate land that it considers to be of special interest, not only for reasons of its flora and fauna but also for its geology or geomorphology. Of the 3750 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in England, over 1200 are notified for their earth science interests.

These sites were selected on a national basis, throughout Great Britain, according to strict criteria to ensure that important sites representing our earth science heritage (eg reference sites, research sites, spectacular landforms, and stratotypes) receive statutory protection. The Geological Conservation Review, on which this site selection was based, produced a series of site 'networks', which represent a consensus view of the entire geological community, including academic geologists in industry and government. These networks illustrate the wide range of our geological and geomorphological heritage and its diversity of rock types, landforms, and geological history. All Geological Conservation Review sites will be designated as SSSIs.



Extraction and landfill at Asham Quarry SSSI, East Sussex; quarrying helps to create fresh exposures, but the landfill makes positive conservation of the site difficult (Neil Glasser, English Nature)

Legislative framework

The legislative framework within which earth science conservation operates requires English Nature to inform all owners and occupiers of SSSIs about the extent and importance of the site, and to provide them with a list of activities that could damage the scientific interest of the site. English Nature must also inform the Local Planning Authority of every SSSI in their area and the Local Planning Authority must consult English Nature over planning applications that affect these sites. English Nature may also exercise 'call in', which is a request to the Secretary of State to call a public enquiry.

An owner or occupier of an SSSI who wishes to carry out activities that may damage the scientific interest of the site must also consult English Nature. If, despite such consultation, the owner or occupier intends to proceed with a damaging operation, English Nature can ask the Secretary of State for the Environment for a special Nature Conservation Order. The most recent legislation, the Environment Protection Act 1990, divided the Nature Conservancy Council into its constituent bodies in England, Scotland and Wales.

SSSIs and archaeology

Earth science SSSIs cover a broad range of scientific interests and occur in numerous localities. These include coastal cliff sections, inland riverbanks or cliffs, road and railway cuttings, caves and mines, and both active and disused quarries. There are also such natural landforms as kames and eskers, limestone pavements, and cave systems. Threats to earth science SSSIs also vary. The major threats are activities that result in the loss of an exposure or destruction of a deposit. This includes coastal protection, quarrying of finite features and deposits, and landfill. Since these activities are generally subject to planning controls the SSSI consultation procedure works reasonably well in protecting geological and geomorphological sites.

There are numerous areas of joint interest between earth science conservation and archaeology:

caves and cave archaeology

fossils and artefacts

mines and mining history

industrial archaeology

geology and building materials

peatland, fens, and bogs

wetlands

Quaternary studies and archaeology

geology and the historic landscape

There is an intimate relationship between archaeology and the earth sciences in patterns of human settlement, development, and landscape. An area of particular importance is in Quaternary studies, where archaeological evidence is relied upon heavily as a chronological indicator. In fact, much of Quaternary stratigraphy depends on Palaeolithic evidence. This is reflected in the number of Quaternary SSSIs that contain Palaeolithic archaeology.

Site management briefs

English Nature is currently undertaking a comprehensive programme of site documentation for all earth science SSSIs. The aim is to produce Site Management Briefs, which can be used to deal with all aspects of management on sites with an earth science interest. Each Site Management Brief consists of a package of scientific information and an identification of the threats to the site, possible enhancements, principles of conservation, and management guidelines. These data are backed up by photographs and annotated maps. The documents can be updated or modified to take account of the management requirements of archaeological interest at sites with an earth science-archaeology overlap, for example where Palaeolithic implements have been found within river gravels. Site Management Briefs could also be used to ensure sympathetic management of earth science interests where they occur within English Heritage statutory sites.



Sand and gravel extraction on Cromer Ridge, Briton's Lane Gravel Pit SSSI, Norfolk; the sands and gravels are from glacial outwash (Neil Glasser, English Nature)

Natural areas

Another English Nature initiative of interest to archaeologists is the Natural Areas approach. This initiative recognises that nature conservation has no traditional administrative boundaries, but follows the natural character of the landscape. The 77 Natural Areas into which English Nature has divided England reflect the underlying geology and geomorphology, and the natural environment developed on it.



Porth Nanuan, Cornwall, a coastal geological SSSI: raised boulder beach and periglacial head deposits (Neil Glasser, English Nature)

The idea of Natural Areas is to help people broaden and deepen their interest in nature conservation in practical, creative ways. Natural Areas provide a framework for setting objectives for nature conservation that will be widely understood and supported. As part of this approach, consideration is being given to developing the links between the built and historic environments, which interact with the natural environment.

At present, English Nature is developing the concept in five trial Natural Areas. These include describing the nature conservation character, characterising the nature conservation resource, and setting objectives for nature conservation management. The initiative will be strengthened through discussions with other nature conservation bodies and partners, and through local community involvement. The programme will be expanded to cover the whole of England and produce Natural Area profiles by 1994–5.

EN-EH cooperation

A further example of ongoing cooperation between archaeology and earth science conservation involves English Heritage's Monuments Protection Programme assessment of industrial archaeology sites for potential statutory protection. English Nature has been invited to comment on Step 1 and Step 2 reports produced for the coal, glass, iron, tin, zinc, copper, and steel industries. Many of the sites assessed in the programme are existing or proposed SSSIs for mineral or earth science reasons. Recognising this joint interest at an early stage will increase the opportunities for future site management. There may also be scope for future collaborative programmes in commissioned research, and in joint ventures to improve site interpretation through signboards and interpretative material. Where sites have both earth science and archaeological interest, communication between the two organisations over site management will ensure effective conservation of both natural and historic environments. The next step is to ensure adequate data exchange on statutory designations, to allow precise identification of areas of mutual interest and to enable us to identify common themes for the future.

Neil Glasser

Geomorphologist, English Nature, Environmental Impacts Team

* For a summary of the Statement, and of progress since its signing, see *Conservation Bulletin* 19, 27 and 21, 18–19

Post-war listing: progress report

Post-war buildings at some 83 sites are now listed for their 'special architectural or historic interest'. The list now covers the whole range of building types, from educational to commercial, religious to entertainment, and transport to public buildings. With the listing of Neave Brown's Alexandra Road Estate and Denys Lasdun's Keeling House in London

(both grade II*), the Secretary of State broke new ground. This was the first post-war public housing ever to be listed.

Commercial and industrial architecture

Our study of commercial and industrial architecture is nearing completion and at the time of writing we have narrowed down our shortlist to under three dozen buildings. We aim to put forward our final selection to the Department of National Heritage towards the end of March. We are looking for the best – those few special buildings which have very high architectural quality, and which are particularly creative or innovative.

Although certain city centres were wrecked by post-war development, some commercial buildings have elegance and panache, and are an asset to their location. Often they were designed for specific clients, but some speculative buildings also stand out. In industry there was a campaign for architect-designed factories, and much ingenuity went into roofing, sometimes with shell concrete or timber vaulting, often combined with toplighting. Sadly a number of buildings that excited our interest at the research stage of our work proved when visited to have been altered, or even demolished. This applied especially to factories and shops.

In drawing up our selection we have consulted widely with amenity societies, architects, conservation officers, historians, and others. We wish to have the cooperation of as many people as possible and to extend the field of debate as widely as we can.



Alexandra Road Estate, London Borough of Camden (grade 11), designed by Neave Brown of Camden Architects Department, 1972–8*



*Millbank Tower, Westminster, designed by Ronald Ward and Partners and built 1959–63; not currently listed, but featured in the exhibition *The Age of Optimism**

Exhibition

As with educational buildings, we have reinforced the consultation process with a public exhibition and a seminar. Our latest exhibition is entitled *The Age of Optimism, post-war Architecture in England, 1945–70* and was prepared in collaboration with the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England. This has opened in London and will travel throughout the country during 1994. It is aimed at the general public and it seeks to raise awareness about our post-war architectural treasures and what we are doing to protect them. A leaflet accompanies the exhibition, and with it is a questionnaire asking people for their views about post-war buildings. The exhibition, designed by Furneaux Stewart, is dramatic and stimulating. Some of the photographs are three metres high, and the process of creating it has been exciting for all concerned.

Seminar

We launched the exhibition on 9 February 1994 with a seminar on post-war listing, held at the Millbank Tower, London (by Ronald Ward and Partners, 1959–63 and arguably one of

the most stylish office blocks of its date in the country). Our audience covered a wide spectrum, ranging from conservation officers, historians, architects, and engineers to journalists and representatives of the commercial world. Although it did not concentrate exclusively on commercial and industrial buildings, some emphasis was naturally placed on these.

The seminar was opened by the Heritage Minister, the Right Hon Peter Brooke and we were pleased to have his robust support for the post-war listing project. The programme covered extensive ground and tackled some of the issues that concern all those involved in the future management of high quality post-war buildings.

Case studies

We have always stressed that listing is not intended to freeze buildings. Two case studies show how flexible the system can be. Substantial alterations, carried out by Cedric Price and Miles Park, were made to the TUC Headquarters, Congress House, to meet modern requirements. Also, an agreed set of guidelines – actually a code of good practice – was drawn up for Foster's Willis Faber Dumas Building and this has clarified what does and what does not require listed building consent. Recent work on the economic performance of listed buildings also indicates that listed commercial buildings can perform as well as unlisted ones, if not better.*

Other issues

Several other important issues emerged in the seminar. One was how far listing should be kept separate from the listed building consent process. Some people believe that such considerations as the condition and potential performance of a building should be taken into account at the time of listing. However, English Heritage considers it necessary to maintain the present separation between identification and protection on the one hand and investigations into condition and viability on the other. Our advice on architectural and historic interest must remain impartial and this also makes sense in practical terms. To make a detailed technical and economic analysis of every building at the time of listing would arguably be of limited use, since in most cases this information would quickly become out of date. It makes much more sense to target resources if and when problems arise.



Willis Faber Dumas (now Willis Corroon) Building, Ipswich (grade I), designed by Foster Associates and built 1973–5; also featured in The Age of Optimism

A second point is the need for developers to seek advice at an early stage, when they are proposing works to listed buildings, and also to consult local authorities (and, where applicable, English Heritage) as soon as possible, preferably before incurring the expense of preparing detailed plans and proposals.

Thirdly, there is a growing need to collect together and analyse relevant documents on listed and potentially listable modern buildings – engineering and architectural drawings and details, specifications, and other material – to aid diagnosis and repair if technical problems arise. English Heritage is currently discussing the feasibility of this with other interested bodies.

Repair techniques

Following on from this is the need for research into appropriate repair techniques for modern buildings. It was pointed out that buildings which today appear to have insoluble problems may, a few years hence, be repairable using techniques we cannot foresee. The

re-alkalisation of concrete is already emerging as a possible alternative to the more destructive 'cut out and patch up' repair methods currently widespread. Clearly, we need to monitor the issues surrounding post-war building performance, so that we can pinpoint where the greatest problems lie, whether these are technical, educational, or political. Energy applied to well-defined problems may lead to solutions.

Concerns over listings

Some concern was expressed that large numbers of post-war buildings would be listed in the next few years. In fact, the numbers are likely to remain very small. When the current post-war listing programme is complete we expect at most only a few hundred additions. In the context of the national listing picture this is a drop in the ocean.

As well as working on commercial and industrial buildings we are also advancing on several other post-war building studies, notably railways, public buildings, private houses, public housing, and churches.

Should any reader wish to suggest post-war buildings of any type to be considered for listing, please write to Dr Diane Kay, English Heritage, Room 240, Fortress House, 23 Savile Row, London, W1X 1AB.

Diane Kay

Inspector, Listing Branch

* Available as a booklet: *The investment performance of listed buildings*, a joint research project commissioned from Investment Property Databank by English Heritage and RIGS, 1993, available from RIGS Books, tel (071) 222 7000

New landscapes of conservation

There has been continued cooperation between English Heritage, English Nature, and the Countryside Commission on the definition of historic landscapes. Progress and the place of this work in landscape assessment are set out below.

In June 1991 English Heritage published a short policy statement on the historic landscape. This was our first reply to the government's invitation to consider a register of historic landscapes (*Conservation Bulletin* 14, 4–5). Soon after, we issued a consultation paper. This defined 'historic landscape' as semi-natural features, such as historic woodland and hedgerows, as well as archaeological and built features; it considered how best to assess the historic landscape, and how to use the results.

Many individuals and organisations, including landowning and farming interests as well as planners and conservationists, responded. Most expressed positive views, with general agreement that the historic landscape is a valuable, but underrated, heritage resource, that it must be defined very broadly, that the entire countryside is historic to some degree, and that assessment procedures are needed – in short, that something should be done. There was less agreement on what to do. Some took the view that a register of the most important landscapes is essential for clarity of constraint, to identify for developers and planners those 'less historic' areas available for new development. Others suggested that a register would devalue the historic interest of the rest of the countryside and encourage attempts to fossilise the landscape in small pockets. Others made a perfectly understandable response – 'not more designations!'. With such a diversity of response, we designed a programme to look more closely at some of the issues.

The Historic Landscape Project

Our first step was in Kent, with help from the county council. This small project confirmed the validity of the consultation paper's classification, and demonstrated that detailed scoring of elements in the landscape is a practical way to measure archaeological and

historic value. The work also showed, however, that this method might not do justice to the complex spatial and temporal factors, and to the role of historical processes, which underlie the concept of historic landscape. More positively, it suggested that conservation and management in any given area need to focus priorities (whether constraints or incentives) on component-types, such as hedges, rather than on discrete areas.



Swaledale, distinctive settlement and field patterns of the Pennine Dales: hay meadows, enclosed upland grazing, and dispersed farmsteads with field barns (Barnaby's Picture Library and Countryside Commission)

Further initial work formed a small part of the Countryside Commission's southwest England pilot for the New Map of England (see below). Like English Nature's 'Natural Areas', this project aims to divide the country into areas of relatively homogeneous and distinctive character: valid areas within which to establish conservation objectives, to target staff and financial resources, and to inform national or regional policy. English Heritage sponsored additional work within this project, aimed at identifying historic character (such as field patterns or archaeological distributions) at sub-regional level. This gave valuable lessons in handling historic landscape data, but identified more problems, not least the limited information available at this level. These insights are also proving useful as the New Map project develops.

Package of projects

Our main research in 1993 has been a package of projects supervised for English Heritage by Cobham Resource Consultants with input from many other specialists. This work has built on the consultation paper, its responses, and the first two pilot projects, by:

- experimenting with methods of assessing historic landscape importance to explore current theories and concepts of historic landscape; work focused on Oxfordshire and County Durham, testing such approaches as expert judgement, the mapping of historic landscape types, and the aggregation of detailed records and designations
- reviewing historic landscape work in farm or estate surveys and in environmental impact assessment
- identifying the objectives and uses of historic landscape assessment (eg development planning, agricultural and countryside policy, and raising public awareness and reinforcing local identity)
- clarifying concepts, and establishing clear terminology
- defining a framework for a formal process of Historic Landscape Assessment, using a broad definition and focusing on characterisation

Preliminary results

We are now discussing the preliminary results of this work with our partners in conservation, planning, and land management. Policies could grow from the discussions, but in the shorter term priorities are to develop Historic Landscape Assessment further, and to use it to raise awareness of the complexity and value of the historic landscape as a whole. In the longer term, our conclusions will need to be added to many aspects of conservation, planning, and agriculture, especially in a time of change (see the article by Henry Owen-John in this issue). In certain circumstances implementation might be achieved simply by the designation of a defined area of landscape. Nevertheless it is most unlikely that the flexibility and sophistication needed for conservation in a living historic

landscape can be provided by selective designation, no matter how subtle or versatile the accompanying instruments.

Historic Landscape Assessment should not be used in isolation from practical management. It is a tool that works most effectively when carried out for clear and predetermined purposes, such as preparing a development plan or for estate management. Assessment-led approaches will fit more successfully into a planning system based on sustainable development in conservation, or into an agricultural policy striving to become environmentally led, than will a simple Register.



The Blackdown hills, distinctive English lowland settlement pattern: hedged fields, unenclosed hilltop grazing, farmstead, and hamlet (Countryside Commission)

Continuing partnership

English Heritage, English Nature, and the Countryside Commission have worked together on planning and sustainable development (*Conservation Bulletin 21*, 18–19), among other issues, and will continue this cooperation on a national mapping project, which is growing out of the Natural Areas and New Map work. The New Map ‘regional character areas’ will have distinct historic characteristics to be recognised and strengthened, and English Nature’s ‘Natural Areas’ have distinctive cultural affinities, which have often helped to determine their ecological values. The Historic Landscape Project will sustain this partnership by providing opportunities for better conservation and management of the historic environment, with reciprocal benefits, and better prospects for safeguarding what is most important for future generations.

Graham Fairclough

Conservation Group, Historic Countryside and Landscape Group

National Heritage Select Committee hearings

The Commons Select Committee on National Heritage decided to inquire into the activities of English Heritage in March 1993. The inquiry was specifically directed at English Heritage’s contribution to tourism, particularly our encouragement of tourism in specific locations, and at the way in which we balance the separate responsibilities of encouraging visitors and conserving the national heritage. The Committee also inquired into the implications of our Forward Strategy published in October 1992, possible changes to the number of properties in our care, the preservation of buildings and sites that are not currently important to tourism, the situation in the London boroughs, and listing in London. Additionally, the Committee considered the maritime heritage.

Hearings began on Thursday, 13 January 1994, when Department of National Heritage officials and the Chairmen and senior officers of the National Trust and of the British Tourist Authority/English Tourist Board were called. On Thursday, 20 January Lord Montagu, Simon Jenkins, and the Heritage writer Patrick Wright gave evidence. On 27 January, the Royal Town Planning Institute, the London Boroughs Association, and the Association of District Councils were called, and on Wednesday, 2 February a special hearing took place on maritime heritage, which received evidence from the Warships Preservation Trust and from the National Historic Ships Committee. The Chairman and Chief Executive of English Heritage, accompanied by the Director of Conservation, went before the Committee on Thursday, 10 February 1994, and the inquiry was completed on

Tuesday, 15 February, when the Historic Royal Palaces Agency and The Secretary of State for National Heritage attended. The Committee will report to the House of Commons in the near future.

Ian Brack

Assistant Commission Secretary

Archaeology and agriculture: some current issues

After summarising the history of the development of the Common Agricultural Policy and of the Set Aside scheme for agricultural land, this article describes ideas for cooperation between English Heritage and other government departments, agencies, and landowning/farming associations to establish whether there can be an archaeological return from present-day methods of agriculture.

In *Conservation Bulletin* **20**, 4–5 Rob Iles and Philip Walker described how English Heritage's farm survey grants for presentation purposes contributed to the improved management and public understanding of archaeological sites and landscapes in the countryside.



The impact of intensive agriculture in north Wiltshire: ploughed-up downland with Bronze Age barrows ploughed over or isolated

Together with management agreements under the provisions of Section 17 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, these grants to owners or tenants represent English Heritage's main financial input into the care of field monuments (as against upstanding structures where the often high costs of consolidation and repair usually fall under Section 24 of the 1979 Act).

While survey grants and management agreements can give a high return in terms of effective conservation, the application of resources requires very careful targeting. In practice, financial support is limited mainly to a small proportion of scheduled ancient monuments. But English Heritage clearly has a wider remit in trying to facilitate the conservation of a full range of archaeology in the countryside; indeed one of our statutory duties, set out in the National Heritage Act 1983 (Section 33(a)), is 'to secure the preservation of ancient monuments and historic buildings situated in England'. Although qualified by the words 'so far as is practicable', we need to work alongside other government departments, agencies, and landowning/farming associations to establish whether there can be an archaeological return from present-day methods of agriculture.

Common Agricultural Policy

The way in which farming is carried out has become increasingly influenced in the post-war period, and particularly since the UK joined the European Community, by wider European and international policies and circumstances. Farmers have found themselves placed in a largely reactive mode where their own personal preferences about land management have to give way to what a particular policy requires them to do. Thus in the immediate post-war period, with rationing continuing for many years after the cessation of hostilities, the emphasis was on efficient production and increased yields from all sectors of the industry.

Farmers responded to the challenge and did what successive governments demanded by revolutionising the industry and increasing output to a remarkable extent. Although there

were some who pointed to what we would now call environmental damage – the loss of thousands of miles of hedgerow, the run off of nitrates into rivers, and the obliteration of archaeological sites by ploughing – these issues did not arouse widespread public concern until minds were focused by over-production and the appearance of grain and butter mountains. Having delivered the goods as requested, the farming world stood accused of producing more food than the Community needed, at a high environmental cost. The feeling that the whole process should be reversed, or at least held in neutral, increased during the 1980s, with the result that farmers are having to respond to a new set of requirements, which are evolving in such a way as to leave great uncertainty about what future directions they will be asked to take.

Archaeology and set aside

How then does archaeology fit into this moving picture? It has to be emphasised that the concerns of English Heritage, and of others interested in the conservation of the historic environment, scarcely register in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which is the single most influential factor in shaping farming practice in this country. The emphasis within the CAP is on production control, and although it should be possible to introduce methods of control in which environmental benefit is an integral part, this has not yet happened to any great extent.

One of the greatest concerns in English archaeology is the continued attrition of archaeological sites by arable cultivation. When 'set aside' was introduced in the UK on a voluntary basis in 1988 there were hopes that targeting archaeologically sensitive land could lead to real benefit. However, neither this scheme nor the present arable area payments introduced following the reform of the CAP in 1992, under which set aside is a condition of receiving payments in virtually all cases, have had a positive effect on archaeological interests.¹ The main reason for this is that until 1993–4 set aside was rotational, ie land was set aside for one year before returning to the plough, and could not be reentered into the scheme for the next five years. There is now also provision for non-rotational set aside, whereby land can be taken out of cultivation for five years; the minimum amount of land to qualify for this is 18% of the total eligible area, as against 15% for rotational set aside. The reason for this difference, and indeed the underlying difficulty in using set aside for environmental benefit, is that it has been designed solely as a production control measure. Agriculture ministers were concerned that with non-rotational set aside only the least productive land would be taken out of cultivation and there would not therefore be a commensurate reduction in cereal stocks.

The UK Government has for a number of years tried to persuade the European Commission of the value of 'cross compliance', ie when public money is being invested to diminish over-production there should be conditions to ensure that this is not achieved in an environmentally damaging way. As yet this argument has not found favour in Brussels. The absence of cross-compliance inhibits the improved management of archaeological sites in arable areas.

There are other factors that diminish the opportunity for improved archaeological conservation through set aside. Principal among these is the fact that set aside land cannot be used for any form of agricultural production, and thus low intensity grazing of grassland, which would be the ideal management for most archaeological sites, is not possible.

Impact on other environmental schemes

The present structure of the arable area payments scheme is also likely to have a detrimental impact on other environmental schemes that have a much more beneficial effect on archaeological sites and historic landscapes. For example, the rates attached to

Countryside Stewardship are less than those under the arable scheme, and land set aside as part of a Stewardship package cannot count towards the set aside requirement.²



Loss of historic landscape detail in Cambridgeshire: few hedges and features remain in an arable 'prairie'

EC response to public concern

On a more positive note the European Commission has responded to public concern over the impact of present farming practice with the introduction in July 1992 of Regulation 2078/92, commonly known as the 'Agri Environment Regulation'.³ Among other issues, this regulation makes provision for set aside of at least 20 years, the reduction of stocking levels, and public access. In July 1993 member states submitted to the Commission their proposals on how they intended to implement the provisions of the regulation, but as yet the exact character of the resultant programmes is not clear.

The UK proposals involve a range of options, including provision for habitat creation on long term set aside land, organic farming, moorland extensification, etc. A number of these measures should have a positive benefit for archaeological conservation, but at the same time they highlight a problem in making specific provision for the cultural heritage as part of agricultural incentive schemes.

The way in which regulations such as 2078/92 are framed does not permit specific archaeological and historical components to be funded where arrangements for archaeological benefit are made. For example, in Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) the European line is that, while the desire to protect the historic environment is laudable, it is something that the individual member state must finance itself. Bearing in mind that the UK is a net contributor to the European Community, and that the proportion of European funding of eligible incentive schemes is no more than 50%, there is an understandable reluctance on the part of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to devise specifically archaeological packages, as against tagging the cultural heritage on to the coattails of nature and landscape conservation.

The proposals put forward by the UK to respond to the Agri-Environment Regulation therefore represent a lost opportunity for archaeological conservation and do not maximise the potential benefit. In addition, it should be recognised that the overall proportion of the CAP budget that will be devoted to environmental, as against production, control will be very small.

The concerns that English Heritage has over the current thrust of the CAP are shared in large measure by our complementary organisations, the Countryside Commission and English Nature. The Countryside Commission, in particular, has recently issued policy⁴ and position⁵ statements on incentive schemes and set aside, which we fully endorse. The Commission argues cogently for integrated measures, in which environmental benefit and production control are achieved through a single set of measures to maximise benefit and achieve value for money. Money invested in set aside should deliver conservation benefits and even the most basic level of payment should secure the maintenance of existing landscape features. The set aside requirement should be met wholly or in part through environmentally driven schemes that take enough land out of arable to achieve production controls.



Historic landscape near Kirkharle, Northumberland, where farm survey and countryside stewardship grant aid may lead to improved management of archaeological and parkland features

The Countryside Commission also developed, with English Heritage and English Nature as partners, the Countryside Stewardship scheme, which is now about half way through its five-year pilot phase. The philosophy that underpins Stewardship is different from existing incentive schemes in England in that it does not have a defined geographical extent (cf ESAs), and that entry into the scheme is not automatic provided fixed criteria have been met. Stewardship is based on support for conservation in certain landscape areas (eg chalk and limestone grassland, uplands, and waterside landscapes). There is also a category for historic landscapes to secure improved management. We are currently experimenting with the use of our farm survey grants to generate the data to inform Stewardship agreements. From English Heritage's point of view, the Stewardship approach represents the best way forward. We hope that the principles on which it is built will become accepted at both a UK and European level, to ensure that the historic landscape is well cared for as part of an integrated system of environmental improvement and production control, which takes full account of the interest of those on the sharp end – the farmers.

Henry Owen-John

Inspector of Ancient Monuments, North and Northwest Team

NOTES

- 1 *CAP Reform: arable area payments 1993/4 explanatory guide* (2 parts), Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 1993
- 2 *Handbook for countryside stewardship*, CCP 345, Countryside Commission, 1993
- 3 *Council regulation (EEC) no 2078/92 of 30 June 1992, on agricultural production methods compatible with the requirements of the protection of the environment and the maintenance of the countryside*
- 4 *Paying for a beautiful countryside: securing environmental benefits and value for money from incentive schemes*, CCP 413 Countryside Commission, 1993
- 5 *Set aside*, CCP 441, Countryside Commission, 1993

New approaches to archaeology projects

The purpose of archaeological fieldwork projects is to retrieve information. That information may contribute directly to our understanding of the past, or it may be information required to evaluate the potential of archaeological deposits, to assess the impact of a proposed development upon them, or to inform decisions about their future management.

'Rescue' archaeology, the recording of archaeological deposits in advance of their destruction by development, is now an activity funded primarily by the private sector – a major change both stimulated and reinforced by the issue of Planning Policy Guidance 16: *Archaeology and planning* (HMSO, 1990). This publication has also been influential in reshaping the pattern of archaeological fieldwork in England; the majority of fieldwork projects now undertaken are assessments designed to establish the potential impact of proposed developments, to evaluate the archaeological resource affected, and to inform mitigation measures.

As a result of these developments, archaeological practitioners are increasingly accustomed to working in a commercial environment, with an emphasis on effective management to achieve specific objectives within predetermined resources. Securing value for money for such work is no less a priority in the public sector, and English Heritage's Archaeology Division, in collaboration with the regional teams of Conservation Group, has been developing and putting into practice over the past few years new procedures for archaeology projects. The purpose of these procedures has been to place on a more businesslike footing the arrangements that operate between English Heritage and those undertaking work with funding from us. The procedures now in operation involve the critical appraisal of objectives, methods, and resource requirements for all projects.

English Heritage has published, in *Exploring our past: strategies for the archaeology of England* (1991), its agenda for future work against which the objectives of particular projects can be assessed. In considering the practical achievement of these objectives, *Management of archaeological projects (MAP2)* (2nd edition, 1991), presents a model of good practice and specifications for the production of the explicit and detailed project designs that must form the basis of any agreement to fund.

Securing clarity on what is to be achieved and at what cost is only the necessary first step, however. It is even more important to ensure that projects progress satisfactorily, and that potential problems are identified and resolved at the earliest possible stage. To this end Archaeology Division staff are now deployed as 'project officers', monitoring progress and reporting back to the Inspector of Ancient Monuments within whose area the project falls. The project officers liaise closely with the project managers in the archaeological units undertaking the work, to ensure that targets are met and that a satisfactory quality of work is maintained.

The benefits of introducing these procedures are already being seen in the improved quality of project designs and in more effective project management. We are able to see more clearly how the money is being spent, both at individual project level and at the strategic level, and are thus able to direct resources more effectively to the agenda set out in *Exploring our past*, and to ensure better value for money in the practical implementation of that agenda.

John Hinchliffe

formerly Manager, Central Archaeology Services

English Heritage proposed amendments to legislation

Through its day-to-day involvement in the law and practice relating to conservation and heritage matters, English Heritage is well placed to identify potential improvements to the existing legal framework and provisions for the protection of ancient monuments and historic buildings. Experience shows that much of the existing legislation works well in practice; some aspects, however, could be improved. To this end, English Heritage has considered and collected together a number of proposals for amendment to the law relating to ancient monuments, listed buildings, and conservation areas, and to other relevant planning legislation, including the powers and functions of English Heritage itself. Not all these proposals are new, or currently have the support of Government. We have nevertheless considered that it would be useful to obtain the views on them of interested bodies, so that progress can be made when a suitable legislative opportunity arises. English Heritage has accordingly issued a consultation paper setting out the main proposals, on which comments have been invited by 30 April 1994.*

List of main proposals

Ancient monuments and archaeology

an amendment to the definition of 'damage' to include any disturbance to land
restriction of the urgent works defence to the minimum measures urgently necessary
the removal of finds from scheduled sites to be made a criminal offence
deletion of the ignorance defence to prosecutions
amendments to allow National Park Authorities, the Broads Authority, etc to enter into management agreements under section 17 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as third parties and in their own right
an increase in the maximum fine for offences to £20,000
the introduction of enforcement powers to require remedial works to be carried out following unauthorised works
the introduction of a general duty to consider the setting or environs of a scheduled monument in the exercise of legislation
repeal of Part II of the 1979 Act relating to areas of archaeological importance
amendment of the definition of 'ancient monument' to include one that English Heritage considers important
amendment of the definition of 'monument' to include any settlement site and working area

Listed buildings, conservation areas, and other related legislation

control of outdoor advertisements in conservation areas
the introduction of a requirement to produce an appraisal of a conservation area prior to designation
extension of repairs notices and compulsory acquisition to unlisted buildings in conservation areas
amendment to make clear that plant and machinery form part of a listed building
clarification of the meaning of 'demolition' and 'curtilage'
clarification and expansion of works that can be carried out pursuant to an urgent repairs notice
removal of the exclusion of sections 47 and 54 of the Listed Buildings Act 1990 in relation to ancient monuments, so that repairs and urgent works notices can be served in respect of buildings that are both listed and scheduled, without the need to deschedule
extension of English Heritage reserve powers to serve urgent works notices in respect of listed buildings outside Greater London, subject to the requirement to consult the Secretary of State
comprehensive review and redrafting of the various grant-making powers exercised by English Heritage to secure consistency, but not materially to increase the scope of current powers (ie it is not intended to extend powers generally to Grade II buildings outside conservation areas)
amendment to make English Heritage grants registrable as local land charges

Michael Brainsby

Legal Director

* Copies available, from Michael Brainsby, Legal Director. English Heritage, 23 Savile Row, London W1X 1AB

Obituary

Sir Arthur Drew

Sir Arthur Drew, who died on 15 October 1993, aged 81, was the last Chairman (1978–84) of the former Ancient Monuments Board (AMB). This was an expert committee responsible for giving independent advice to the Minister on archaeological matters and making recommendations for the scheduling of ancient monuments. The Board derived from the Ancient Monuments Act 1913, the provisions of which still underpin much of the substance of present statutory powers, and its annual reports were laid before Parliament.

The Ancient Monuments Board was dissolved when the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission (English Heritage) was set up in 1984, but there was a statutory successor under the National Heritage Act 1983 in the form of the present Ancient Monuments Advisory Committee (AMAC). Arthur Drew was one of the first Commissioners of English Heritage and AMAC's first Chairman too, and was thus able to maintain continuity during the changeover. He was also able to ensure that archaeological concerns were adequately represented to the Committee until 1986, when he retired.

Arthur Drew's origins were not in the old Office of Works but in the War Office and, later, the Ministry of Defence, of which he became Permanent Secretary. His interest in the past was not initially focused on sites and monuments, much as he enjoyed visiting them, but on museums. Upon retirement as permanent secretary in 1972 he became a Trustee of the British Museum and also a member of the Standing Commission on Museums and Galleries. His work there led to the 'Drew Report' (*A framework for museums*, 1978), which embodied his ideas for the better organisation and funding of provincial museums and for strengthening the influence of what was to be the Museums and Galleries Commission. He became its chairman (1978–84). This he followed by becoming President of the Museums Association (1984–6).

With his arrival on the Ancient Monuments Board he was initially less sure of his ground, particularly in the world of field archaeology. This was a dynamic period, with the tensions and passions surrounding rescue archaeology well established. But he was above all an accomplished committee man, well skilled in chairmanship and, behind an air of detachment and disinterest, with a keen sympathy for archaeological opinion. He was anxious to listen to the specialists within the Department and on the Board, and was ready to give advice informally outside the confines of the meetings. This was important during the transition of the organisation from being a directorate within the Department of the Environment to becoming a government agency as English Heritage. It was a move for which he had little personal enthusiasm but he did a great deal to smooth the transfer, to safeguard specialist interest, and to ensure the successful establishment of AMAC.

My memory is of a man superficially remote but with an impish side, who was a good friend to the archaeological professionals within English Heritage and maintained an interest in their work long after his years of direct concern.

Andrew Saunders

formerly Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments

Reviews

Heritage convention

Heritage – Conservation, interpretation and enterprise: papers presented at The Robert Gordon University Heritage Convention 1993, edited by J M Fladmark, 1993, published by Donhead Publishing, price £35.00

This book contains the diverse papers of a major conference organised in the first year of existence of a new Heritage Unit. It is thus a prospectus for the Unit, as well as a snapshot of current conservation, and succeeds on both counts. The book's concept of heritage ranges from national landscapes to story-telling, and the authors display great breadth of expertise. Paper topics include heritage protection, management, interpretation, education, and enterprise. The variety of approaches includes philosophy, theory, methodology, and detailed case-studies, and this fusion of the intellectual with the practical reflects one of the book's main concerns: conservation's reliance on partnerships between owner and specialist, public and academic, and heritage with nature conservation.

Twenty-eight papers are divided among four sections. Part 1, an overview, is concerned with cultural landscapes. Parts 2 and 3 consider interpretation, first strategically and then through case studies. In part 2, for example, a paper by J M Fladmark traces the development of interpretation philosophy from North American origins to the Peak National Park in the late 1960s and on to current practice in Scotland. Ian Shepherd's account of what regional archaeologists in Scotland have achieved is also instructive. Among the case studies in part 3 are papers on New Lanark's industrial heritage, on the NE Scotland Agricultural Heritage Centre, and on Kelburn, the Earl of Glasgow's account of how public access and interpretation have expanded over almost 20 years to keep pace with the changing balance between public and family. Papers in Part 4 extend the term 'heritage' into ever-widening circles, with topics such as archery, music, poetry, cooking, story-telling, and household furniture.

The more global concerns of Part 1 ask the big questions, from Lowenthal's exploration of the landscape's role in national identity, to Jones's review of recent concepts of what 'landscape' means, to McKean's dismantling of the myths of Scottish architectural parochialism. Underlying these papers is a conviction that the cultural or historic landscape needs to be seen in terms of its meaning, both present and past. Macinnes describes how multi-disciplinary concepts are used in Scotland as the framework for countryside conservation, an integration paralleled by recent practice in England. Other important topical issues include responses to rural change, such as Common Agricultural Policy reform or farm diversification (including its symptom, barn conversion). The paper by Jan Våge on the experience of farm building conversion in Norway may be of particular interest to *Conservation Bulletin* readers.

In general, the papers in Part 1 pose two principal questions. First, what do we want our countryside to look like in the future – given the opportunity for change, where should we direct it? Second, posed by Jones, which sections of the community will have the strongest claim on 'ownership' of the landscape if agriculture and food production, as seems possible, come to play a lesser role in the countryside? Will the view from the car window deserve greater priority than that from the farm; or, in Lowenthal's characteristically direct fashion, can a rural landscape be maintained without its traditional lifestyle or inhabitants? Despite the strong international feel to Part 1, the principal focus is on Scotland, providing unity and a sense of purpose. Most of the papers address directly the question of Scottish identity and personality, often invoking Scottish heritage to define the differences between Scotland and its neighbours. Even though, as Lowenthal shows, the English view of the countryside is implicitly nationalistic, the English have not yet (with a few worrying exceptions) needed to harness heritage to define their own specific national identity. Whether this will change, and if so whether heritage will be used to buttress English national or regional identity, is one of the more interesting long-term questions raised by in this book.

Graham Fairclough

Historic urban parks

Public prospects: historic urban parks under threat, by Hazel Conway and David Lambert, 1993, published by the Garden History Society and the Victorian Society, price £6; available from The Victorian Society, 1 Priory Gardens, Bedford Park, London W4 1TT

The importance of historic parks and gardens as part of the nation's heritage is well established. In the past, however, interest has tended to focus on the great country estates, while, despite being of equal value, other types of designed landscape, such as public parks and cemeteries, have been largely overlooked. Until recently, English Heritage's involvement has also fitted this pattern: for example, in the first edition of English Heritage's *Register of parks and gardens of special historical interest in England*, only 40 of the 1100 parks listed are public parks. Yet England can lay claim to being the inventor of the public park, and the country's numerous fine examples have influenced the provision and designs of public open space throughout the world.



Public prospects aims to redress the balance by drawing attention to the historic value of public parks, the 'great hidden treasure in our cities'. More importantly, it highlights the uncertain future faced by this valuable resource: at best, neglect, as maintenance is reduced owing to cuts in local authority spending and an inevitable increase in vandalism – there is no funding from central government specifically to help with the cost of managing parks – and at worst, redevelopment.

Hazel Conway has written the authoritative work on the evolution of the Victorian public park. David Lambert has been working at the sharp end as conservation officer for the Garden History Society. Using a wide selection of examples, they explain with clarity both the background to the development of the public park and the pressures they are under today. Constructively, they also identify a number of positive actions that can help towards the protection and conservation of individual sites.

Public prospects raises an issue of pressing concern and the recommendations it gives merit serious consideration. The request that English Heritage 'continue its positive approach to including more municipal parks on the Register' will certainly be acted upon. Generously illustrated and skillfully presented and written, the report is well judged to serve its ends. Not only should it help raise the profile of this irreplaceable part of our heritage, it should also prove extremely valuable to those from local groups to national organisations who are striving to protect our public parks.

Harriet Jordan

The timber frame

The Timber frame – from preservation to reconstruction, published by ICOMOS UK, 1993, price £15.75 (£9.50 to ICOMOS UK members); available from ICOMOS UK, 10 :Barley Mow Passage, London W4 4PH

ICOMOS UK is to be congratulated for publishing the papers presented at its April 1993 Timber Seminar, which otherwise would have been known mainly through dissemination by the three dozen or so participants. As a specialised publication, it is aimed at a limited audience. Thus its format – ringbound, single sided photocopies of heterogeneous original material of variable reproducible quality – is understandable.

Only the texts of the seminar papers are published, not the full proceedings of questions and discussions stimulated by the papers. Thus the published papers do not reflect what was presumably a balanced seminar programme. One of the six papers takes up well over

half of the book and the next most substantial contribution had been previously published elsewhere.

Nevertheless, there is much of value in the papers. The first, 'Conservation of timber structures' by David Michelmore, is a quick romp through conservation philosophy for structural timber (not just timber framing) from a practical standpoint, with due emphasis on the importance of recording and strong discouragement of dismantling in normal circumstances.

Peter Ross's 'Guidelines for the conservation of timber structures' attempts a theoretical approach to the theme dealt with more pragmatically by Michelmore, and builds on earlier work published elsewhere by Sir Bernard Feilden and Michael Mennin. Unfortunately this work is not complete, lacking especially a section on the key issue of expertise and competence.

Damien Goodman's contribution, 'Evidence for early timber framing' is a resumé of pre-thirteenth-century practice, ie before the adoption of true timber framing and, perhaps not entirely coincidentally, before any securely dated substantially surviving timber buildings.

Although of absorbing archaeological interest, a knowledge of Roman and Saxon techniques is not in itself of great value to the preservation of surviving later structures.

David Yeoman's discussion, 'Three timber roofs', originated as an Association for Studies in the Conservation of Historic Buildings lecture and was published in the Association's Transactions. Three very different case studies illustrate how practical realities on site colour theoretical purity of approach.

Peter Venables contributes a useful item entitled 'Supply of timber for repair work'. His main message is that there is no shortage of suitable oak for repair provided its limitations as well as its advantages are understood and accepted.

The final paper, the longest, is an excellently illustrated account of the judgements made by John Greenfield and Peter McCurdy in arriving at the first two bays of the reconstruction of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre at Bankside. It is a fascinating synthesis of historical and archaeological evidence, contemporary comparison, commonsense, and experience, carefully argued and generally convincing. The exercise is made particularly complex because the first Globe of 1599 reused the frame of the theatre erected in Shoreditch in 1576, which was dismantled in great haste. The process works for the 'typical' three-storeyed auditorium gallery bays of the theatre, but it remains to be seen if the reconstruction of the key stagehouse and associated stair areas carry a similar degree of conviction, or have to be accepted as essentially conjectural.

Alasdair Glass

UNESCO/RILEM Congress on Conservation

Conservation of stone and other materials: proceedings of the International UNESCO/RILEM (The International Union of Testing and Research Laboratories for Materials and Structures) Congress, Paris 1993, i, Causes of disorders and diagnosis, ii, Prevention and treatments, edited by M-J Thiel, 1993, published by E & F N Spon



The International UNESCO/RILEM 'Congress on the conservation of stone and other materials', held in Paris in June 1993, aimed to 'bring together in a common arena the most active and best informed experts on preservation of stone and other materials and practitioners concerned with and sympathetic to a complex range of sociological,

economical, and technical issues'. The stated objectives of this august gathering were to answer:

What can science, technology, and industry do to prevent deterioration of historic monuments?

What actions are possible on the different local, national, and regional scales?

How can public and political opinion be influenced to provide the means for action?

Although the publication of proceedings before the conference has actually taken place has a number of advantages for those attending, there is one obvious and serious disadvantage: preprints cannot record the critical debate, development of ideas, and resolutions that are (or ought to be) the essential substance of such conferences. If, as is often the case, the preprint is the only documentary output from a conference, the record is incomplete, and the opportunity is lost to review the proceedings and to produce a coherent summary of the outcome.

The two volumes of proceedings of the Paris Congress contain 106 papers, arranged, in some cases somewhat arbitrarily, into six topic areas: 'Pollution and chemical effects', 'Physical effects', 'Biological effects', 'Petrography', 'The Role of Structure', and 'Prevention and treatments'. About two-thirds of the papers are concerned with the pathology of stone and other types of porous masonry, and many bear witness to the reinvention of the wheel on an international scale. Surprisingly little progress seems to have been made in characterising stone decay phenomena since the publication of R J Shaffer's *The weathering of natural building stones* in 1926, and less in the quantification of damage related to weathering processes (eg air pollution 'dose response' functions). There is some justification for this, given the complexity of the problem: the wide diversity in the physical and mineralogical nature of stone, meteorological variables, changes in the amounts and types of pollution, and the interaction with other weathering processes not related to air pollution. Nevertheless, valuable work on the physical parameters affecting the weathering properties of sandstones is presented by B Meng and by C Brunjail *et al*; and K Zender's, 'New aspects of decay by the crystallisation of gypsum', challenges some of the conventional assumptions about this mechanism.

There is much evidence that many researchers are not drawing sufficiently on existing published literature. For example, H A Viles's, 'Observations and explanations of stone decay in Oxford, UK', cites only one reference (dated 1947); and of the nine references in V Riganti *et al*, 'Air pollution and microclimate influences on stone decay monuments in urban and extra-urban environments', six are to previous papers by the same authors. A number of papers quote no references at all.

There is a growing acceptance among conservation practitioners of the value of a systematic, holistic approach to diagnosis, evaluation of treatments, and monitoring after intervention. However, many of the papers reveal a distinct gap between analytical methodologies directed to diagnosis and the selection of practical treatments. In Fassini *et al*, 'The marble decay of Pilastrini Acritani and problems of conservation' there is a detailed account of rigorous analysis of decay mechanisms and the harmful long-term effects of fluorosilicate treatments applied in the nineteenth century. But it is not clear how this information influenced the selection of the recommended interventions, and vague references to treatments with 'specific products' and the application of a 'protective film' leave one wondering whether history is about to repeat itself.

The 'Prevention and treatments' section is concerned mainly with assessments of masonry cleaning, biocide, and consolidant treatments and mortars, and reveals some of the risks associated with 'high-tech' approaches when divorced from the basic practical knowledge acquired by practitioners through long 'hands-on' experience. However, some useful work is described, such as in Schafer and Hilsdorf's, 'Ancient and new lime mortars – the correlation between their composition, structure and properties'.

Nevertheless, the proceedings do provide a useful snapshot of current work, although many of the papers are very brief, relying on the reader having access to referenced papers by the same authors. One thing is clear: scientists seem only to talk to other scientists and there is a tendency to present work that reveals nothing that the conservation practitioner did not know already. The most useful and revealing work, in practical terms, is produced by scientists and practitioners working in close collaboration. In the concluding session of the Congress it was suggested that, rather than organising more meetings of this type, UNESCO resources would be better directed in setting up international working groups on selected topic areas, to critically review and overview work so that specific research areas might be identified, prioritised, and coordinated. This would indeed be a welcome development.

Ian McCaig

Local distinctiveness

Local distinctiveness: place, parity & identity, edited by Sue Clifford and Angela King, 1993, published by Common Ground, price £5.95 (plus £1.25 P&P); available from Common Ground, 41 Shelton Street, London WC2H 9HJ

Why is Brixham so different from, say, Berwick-upon-Tweed? Should we – and can we – stop them from becoming more alike?



These are the sort of questions posed in this excellent new book from the environmental charity, Common Ground. It is a collection of nine brief essays that were first given as conference papers in September 1993. The authors include the writers and journalists Neal Ascherson, Patrick Wright, Richard Mabey, and Gillian Darley, joined by Devon's Planning Officer, Edward Chorlton, and the Director General of the Countryside Commission, Michael Dower. Common Ground's coordinators, Sue Clifford and Angela King, define the theme: 'Local distinctiveness is essentially about places and our relationship with them. It is as much about the commonplace as about the rare, about the everyday as much as the endangered, and about the ordinary as much as the spectacular.'

Clifford and King acknowledge that this makes it hard to pin down local character, as it comes down to our experience and perceptions as individuals. Our landscape is formed from our culture, and once stripped of its meaning, loses much of its value. There are lessons here for those involved in conservation: we should be keener to add to the survivals of the past than to strip away recent accretions. To over-restore is to create a false and sanitised 'heritage', of no value beyond short-term tourist capital.

Scale, grain, patina, detail, and authenticity are the qualities to be cherished and, if possible, extended. Gillian Darley considers this in terms of the challenge to architects and planners. She warns against crude attempts to mimic the past, declaring that 'backward somersaults are always difficult, and generally fail, painfully'. She notes, in a Miesian twist, that local distinctiveness is in the detail.

Neal Ascherson and Michael Dower draw on their varied European experiences.

Ascherson identifies the ebb and flow of local distinctiveness in Eastern Europe and ponders whether the new political dismantling will lead to physical local diversity in small communities. Like other writers here, Ascherson uses language – and food – as symbols of diversity. His observations on Lithuanian rye bread and Scottish oatmeal are found alongside other mouthwatering references to beer, cider, English apples, French wines, and Welsh lava bread. Perhaps the most telling gastronomic example comes from Richard

Mabey, who describes the extraordinary phenomenon of the Sheffield fig trees. Discarded fig seeds have found their way to the banks of the River Don where, germinated by the warm water from steel manufacturing, the Mediterranean incomers have taken root and are now a small but cherished part of Sheffield's special identity.

Concerns about authenticity and local character are not new, of course, and Patrick Wright reviews some of the work of earlier commentators. Ian Nairn's famous 1956 blast against the sameness of our towns ('subtopia') is recalled; yet Wright wonders whether Nairn would have been any happier with the sterile uniformity of today's 'conservation' bollards and fake Victorian lamp standards. Wright also notes how we value the familiar at the expense of the new: the battles to save the much loved red telephone box on the village green came some 50 years after equally passionate struggles to halt its arrival.

These thoughtful essays should be read by anyone who thinks that his or her street, market, or town is something special and would like to keep it that way.

Geoff Noble

Notes

Insurance guidelines

An English Heritage leaflet entitled *Insuring your historic building: houses and commercial premises* is now available and is being distributed with this issue of *Conservation Bulletin*; further copies are available from room 221, Chesham House, 30 Warwick Street, London W1R 5RD. This is a guide for owners and their professional advisors on the approach to insurance for historic buildings. It has been prepared in collaboration with RICS and after consultation with building owners and representatives of the insurance industry. A leaflet on insuring historic churches and chapels is in preparation.

Framing opinions

The new English Heritage leaflet series *Framing Opinions* will be published during 1994. It is designed to give advice on the protection of historic windows and doors from unnecessary and inappropriate replacement. EH staff involved with the initiative will be visiting local authorities, societies, and similar bodies in England during the year. Poster sets of the Framing Opinions travelling exhibitions are available to borrow, free of charge, on application to Dr Stephen Parissien, English Heritage, Room 528 Keysign House, 429 Oxford Street, London W1R 2HD.

As part of the Framing Opinions campaign, there will be a one-day conference entitled *Working With Industry*. It will be held at The Scientific Societies Lecture Theatre, 23 Savile Row, London W1, on 21 June 1994. To book, write to Dr Stephen Parissien at the above address, or telephone 071 973 3673.

The Stonehenge solution

English Heritage and the National Trust will hold a conference on the conservation of Stonehenge. International experts will be asked to review past and present conservation schemes worldwide, and to consider landscape, archaeology, funding, and highway efficiency, in order to find the best solution to meet transport needs and at the same time provide long-term protection and enhancement of the World Heritage Site. Support for the conference has been pledged by Rescue (The British Archaeological Trust), the Prehistoric Society, Council for British Archaeology, and the Society of Antiquaries. The conference will be in London in June; further information from Mrs Nicky O'Reilly (tel: 071 973 3847).

Architectural bits and pieces

The Brooking Collection, comprising some 20,000 items of architectural hardware collected since the 1950s by Charles Brooking, is now housed at Greenwich University, where it is hoped it will become a national resource for research and consultation.

Historic hospitals Working Party

English Heritage is working with NHS Estates to draw up guidelines illustrating good practice for historic hospitals which will remain in health care use as well as giving guidance on planning for, redundancy. The document will set out examples including instances of former hospital buildings that have been converted to new uses. The project is funded jointly by English Heritage and NHS Estates. Publication is expected in summer 1994.

Bronze age boat

The 3000 year old Bronze Age boat discovered in Dover will be freeze-dried at the York Archaeological Wood Centre (see article in *Conservation Bulletin* **21**, 10–11).

Publications

Several HMSO publications in January 1994 represent the UK response to the Rio Earth Summit. Existing measures are reviewed but few new approaches are offered. In 1995 the UK government plans to publish detailed views on how sustainable development might fit in with the planning system. *Sustainable development – the UK strategy* (Cm 2426, £22) refers briefly to the built heritage and to archaeology, but not to how far conservation could be facilitated by sustainable policies. *Sustainable forestry – the UK programme* (Cm 2429, £6.50) restates the Forestry Commission's long-standing policy to try not to damage archaeological sites. The message that the English landscape is a human creation, and that the survival of our wildlife depends on its conservation, echos through *Biodiversity – the UK action plan* (Cm 2428, £18.50).

From Donhead Publishing come two volumes of *Cleaning historic buildings* by Nicola Ashurst (January 1994, £32 each or £58 for the set): *Volume 1: Substrates, soiling and investigation* and *Volume 2: Cleaning materials and processes*.

Unesco's 360 World Heritage Sites are featured in *Masterworks of man and nature* by Michael Noel-Thompson (Harper-MacRae, £30), including all 14 sites in Britain, from Stonehenge to Henderson Island in the Pitcairn islands.

Exhibition

'Hadrian's wall from the air', an exhibition of aerial photographs of the World Heritage Site, has been produced under the direction of Professor Barri Jones by the Department of Archaeology, University of Manchester. The exhibition will be on show at Bolton Museum & Art Gallery from 5 to 28 March 1994, at the Museum of Antiquities, University of Newcastle from 31 March to 3 May, and then at other venues to be decided. For further information contact Angela Thomas (tel: 0204 22311, ext 2212; fax: 0204 391352).

Disabled access

A free guide from English Heritage describes nearly 100 of our properties which are accessible to physically disabled and partially sighted visitors. It gives details of access, facilities, and availability of wheelchairs, braille guides, and cassette tape guides. Properties featured range from Pendennis Castle, Cornwall, to Lindisfarne Priory, Northumberland. Copies are available from all staffed EH sites, Tourist Information Centres, and main libraries; guides, cassette tapes, and braille and large print versions are

also available from English Heritage, Portica House, Addison Road, Chilton Industrial Estate, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6YJ.

New journal

A new academic journal devoted to heritage matters will publish its first issue in May 1994: *Desiderata, the international journal of heritage studies* (four issues per year). Further information from Dr P J Howard, Desiderata, School of Design, University of Plymouth, Earl Richards Road North, Exeter, Devon EX2 6AS (tel: 0392 475101 or 0392 461390; fax: 0392 475012)

Awards

The Worshipful Company of Carpenters announced the winners of the 1993 Carpenters Awards last November. The Trada Award (conservation of woodwork in historic buildings) was given for The Red Cross Centre, Irvine, Strathclyde; the English Heritage Award (for conservation and repair) was given for Ightham Mote, Kent; English Heritage also highly commended the work at Hampton Court Palace, the South Range; the Smaller Project Award went to a private house in Oxfordshire; the Major Project Award was given for Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, Chapel; and the Major Project Highly Commended went for Mar Lodge, Braemar. Further information from Mrs M C Prior (tel: 071 727 9474).

On 28 January 1994 Europa Nostra/IBI announced the 1993 awards for conservation and restoration of buildings and landscapes. One of the six medals was awarded to Fyvie Castle, Turriff, Scotland, and nine diploma awards were presented for Aikwood Tower by Selkirk; Ancient House, Ipswich; Ashop Head Path (part of the Pennine Way) in Derbyshire; Bath spas (Cross Bath, Old Royal Bath, and tepid Beau St Bath); the Clarendon Building, Belfast; the Georgian Naval Storehouse, Portsmouth; Neath Canal; Old Royal Free Hospital, London; and Speke Hall, Liverpool.

The closing date for entries for Europa Nostra/IBI 1994 awards is 1 June 1994. Further information can be obtained from Marijnke de Jong, Europa Nostra/IBI, Lange Voorhout 35, 2514 EC Den Haag (tel: 31 70 3560333; fax: 31 70 3617865), or from Hane Drew, American Express Europe, Portland House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5BZ (tel: 071 834 5555; fax: 071 233 0873).

Conferences

A one-day conference entitled 'Heritage in a multicultural society' will be held at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 4SX, on Friday 18 March 1994. For further details and registration contact John Iddon or Honor Godfrey at the Department of Heritage Interpretation (tel: 081 892 0051, ext 206; fax: 081 744 2080).

'The Conservation of historic gardens in Europe' will be the subject of a conference at the University of York, 14–17 April 1994. The conference will address four main themes: principles of protection (what, why, and by whom?), the roles of official and voluntary agencies, financing the conservation of parks and gardens, and education and training for such conservation. Further information can be obtained by sending a sae to Geoffrey Evans, Garden History Society, The Orchard, Pollards Hill, Limpsfield, Surrey RH8 0QX.

'Leisure – the lifeline' is the title of a day conference organised by South East England Regional Leisure Centre in association with Brighton Borough Council, Institute of Leisure and Amenity Management, the Royal Town Planning Institute, and Sussex Arts Marketing. The conference will address the role of leisure in the South East, its economic impact, and its importance in enhancing the quality of life, and will be held on 24 May 1994 at the Brighton Centre. For further information telephone 0273 724811.

As part of the Framing Opinions campaign, there will be a one-day conference entitled Working With Industry. (For details see 'Framing Opinions' above.)

Advance notice: the XIX Congress of the International Union of Architects (UIA) will be held in Barcelona in 1996. For more information write to the press office, Manuel Forasté, UIA Barcelona 96, Plaça Nova 5, 08002 Barcelona (tel: 34 3 301 50 00; fax: 34 3 318 60 29).

Courses

A series of short courses on the management and conservation of historic buildings and landscapes, organised by the University of East Anglia, will be held for the fourth year beginning on 25 March 1994. 'The preparation of management plans' (25 March), 'Presenting the past' (21 April), and 'Conserving local character by design' (29 June) have already been planned. Other courses will include 'Local identity', 'The small-town urban environment', and 'The historic house'. For further information contact Dr Alan Mackley, Short Course Organiser, Short Course Development Office, Centre for Continuing Education, The Registry, University of East Anglia, FREEPOST, Norwich NR4 7BR or telephone 0603 593016.

The GAIA Project's fourth international course on 'The preservation of the earthen architectural heritage, a methodological approach' will be held in Grenoble, 19 September to 7 October 1994. The biennial course is offered in collaboration with the ICOMOS International Committee for the Study and the Conservation of Earthen Architecture, the International Training Committee (ICOMOS-CIF), the Recording and Documentation Committee of ICOMOS/Canada, the US/ICOMOS Specialized Committee for Earthen Architecture, and the ICOMOS National Subcommittee of Earthen Architecture of Zambia. The course is organised by CRA Terre-EAG and ICCROM. For further information contact CRA Terre-EAG, BP 2636 F38036 Grenoble Cédex 2, France (tel: 33 76 40 14 39; fax: 33 76 22 72 56; telex: 308 658 F CRATERE); or ICCROM, 13 Via di San Michele, I-00153 Roma - Italy (tel: 39 6 58 79 01; fax: 39 6 588 42 65; telex: 613 114 ICCROM). Also organised by CRA Terre and ICCROM is 'Heritage recording', a hands-on training course by the Heritage Recording Services, Public Works Canada, Parks Canada. This course will be held from 10 to 14 October 1994 in Grenoble. For further information contact CRA Terre-EAG at the address and numbers listed above.

English Heritage grants 1984-1992

*The first list of English Heritage grants for the repair of monuments and buildings was published in February.**

Every year, English Heritage offers a significant proportion of its budget in grants for repairs to buildings or monuments of outstanding historic interest. Following recommendations from the National Audit Office and the Public Accounts Committee, we now propose to renew the practice of the former Historic Buildings Council prior to 1984 and publish annual lists of these offers in order to show those properties that have benefited from public support.

The first list, published in February this year, gives brief details of all the grants made between April 1984 and March 1992. Not all grants are immediately taken up by owners. In the eight-year period, English Heritage offered more than £130 million in more than 7000 separate grants to owners of more than 3300 ancient monuments, secular buildings, churches, and cathedrals. In the event, about £115 million of this money was taken up and it is these grants which are included in the list. Further lists, on an annual basis, are planned.

The list is necessarily in shorthand form, and shows only the name and location of the building, the year the grant was made, and the amount of grant offered and accepted. This sum will not necessarily in all cases be the precise amount of grant that has been paid, since some repair projects that were started within those years may still be under way; others may have been completed at less than the estimated costs, in which case the grant

paid is reduced in proportion. In order to make the list of manageable size and proportions, separate offers of grant made to the same building or complex, often over several years, have been amalgamated into single entries, giving an aggregated figure of the total sums of grant offered.



Grants made by English Heritage for the repair of outstanding historic buildings (but not ancient monuments) are normally subject to a condition that requires owners to provide some measure of public access. The list therefore indicates the number of days per year of public access that was considered a reasonable condition suited to each property at the time the grant offer was made. It is not possible to give detailed up-to-date information about the specific days in any year on which the property will be open to visit, as this will alter from year to year. Those who receive English Heritage grants are asked to advertise their opening days either in *Historic houses, castles and gardens open to the public* or in *2000 days out in Britain*, and to put up a notice outside the building giving details of opening arrangements. Many owners of historic properties in fact open their doors to visitors for more days in the year than the condition attached to the English Heritage grant requires.

A reference in the list to the existence of a condition requiring public access, made at the time of the grant offer, is no guarantee that there is still a current requirement that provides for the stated measure of public access. The transfer of ownership, for example, may nullify existing conditions, and some original conditions may have been altered by negotiation since the grant was offered and paid. Moreover, certain types of grant – for example those to ancient monuments – do not normally carry with them a public access condition, as there is no specific provision within the legislation for such a condition to be applied, and some sites are too fragile or inaccessible to allow ready access.

The great majority of the buildings that have received grants are already either scheduled ancient monuments or buildings listed at grade I or II* (or its ecclesiastical equivalent in older lists of buildings of architectural and historic importance). The remainder are grade II buildings that were considered by English Heritage to be outstanding within the meaning of the grant legislation, and hence eligible for grant aid. We are reviewing their listing information to see whether a recommendation for a higher listing grade would be justified. All grants offered by English Heritage are made after careful consideration of the quality of the building or monument concerned, the urgency and nature of the repairs proposed, and the financial need for grant from public funds to ensure that the necessary repairs are carried out. The list clearly demonstrates the extent of support offered by English Heritage to some of the country's more important buildings and monuments that lie outside our own direct management responsibility.

Stephen Johnson

Conservation Group, Regional Director, North

* Copies have been distributed free to local authorities and to major amenity societies. Copies are also available for purchase (£5) from English Heritage Postal Sales, PO Box 229, Northampton NN6 9RY; please send payment with order and quote product code XA 10548