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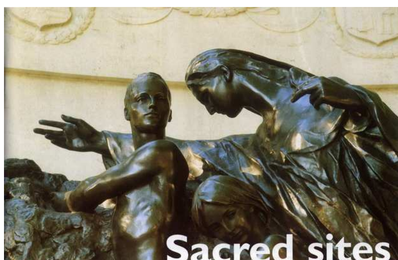
Sacred Sites



Detail of bronze statue, Belgian National Monument, Embankment, London, 1919, sculptor V Rousseau, architect Sir R Blomfield

Richard Morris On the Heritage Strategy Review

English Heritage Commissioner, Richard Morris, discusses the repercussions of the Heritage Strategy Review and the questions it raises about who the English are

In February 2000 the Government announced what is described as the 'first ever comprehensive review' of policy and strategy for England's historic environment. Part of the dynamism of this exercise will be that it is open to anyone to take part and that no aspect of the historic environment is exempt. For the first time we are embarking upon a wide exploration of what we value, why, and how. The implications of this are large, not the least of them underlying the question who 'we' are.

A century and a quarter ago, this would not have been seen as a problem. Officially, 'we' were British, although in practice this often meant English and, in relation to the first Ancient Monuments Act, a particular coalition of tendencies within English society. That Act nevertheless reflected growing agreement that certain parts of the cultural inheritance were of such public importance as to merit stewardship by the State. This led to the designation of individual monuments, later to be joined by sites, buildings, and areas, some to he accorded special privileges, others placed in a kind of statutory quarantine.

New concept of the historic environment

The concept of the historic environment, as distinct from a fragmentary inheritance of monuments marked 'of historic interest', is quite recent, although arguably it was long foreshadowed in poetry, literature and painting. A corollary of selective conservation is that it ignores what it doesn't spotlight. Lines drawn round monuments or conservation areas on planners' maps leave the wider landscape for development. The historic environment, on the other hand, as the review's introductory document reminds us, knows no chronological, thematic, or geographic limits. It is woven from the local and typical as much as the outstanding and exceptional. As Sir Jocelyn Stevens remarked, '"Heritage" no longer requires to be put on the map, it is the map'.

While the conservation and archaeological communities welcome the phrase 'historic environment' because it is conceptually expressive and meshes with environmental and sustainability issues, the apparatus we have for cherishing it hasn't changed much since the 1960s, and in some respects remains rooted in Victorian theory. We would also do well to remember that now, as then, conservation has its critics. Some dismiss the historic environment as another mantra foisted upon the public by a powerful but largely unloved and unelected special interest group. Others are alarmed: half a million listed buildings and a rising schedule seemed bad enough, but now *ordinary surroundings* as well? Where does one stop?

It isn't only, or even mainly, the singling out of particular things for special care that causes consternation, but the perceived burden of interference that goes with it. Legends about the tyranny of 'preservationists' abound. Some of them owe rather more to the agendas of those who circulate them than to fact, and one welcome prospect of the review is the opportunity it provides to bring critics into the debate and overcome the problems of talking past one another.

Even so, good stewardship often requires restraint, and on occasion it requires control. As more and more is valued, as the techniques of describing, defining, or characterising the environment grow in sophistication, and the sectoral interests multiply, how, in practice, is the cherishing to be undertaken?

The paradox whereby conservation may stifle the very process that it sets out to celebrate – change needs to he faced up to, not ignored. The line between cutting-edge science and public acceptance can be perilously thin, as the current debate about GM crops reminds us. If heritage is the map, the map-makers need to ensure that they do not become a preclusive sect.

National and cultural identities

The redefinition of heritage is part of a wider focus of interest. The aftermath of the 1997 general election saw an upsurge of essays, articles and hooks on Englishness, Britishness and national identities within the British Isles.[1] Lulled by 250 years or so of imperial British stability, we – the English – had forgotten that impermanence is the natural long-term condition of nationhood. In England (though not in Scotland or some other parts of the British Isles) national history has been in decline, to an extent supplanted by historical wings of economics and social sciences. The last 40 years have seen swings between the Great People school of history and the lives of ordinary men and women, from turning points and watersheds to history's longer flows, with pressures on history to shrink its horizons.

It is ironical that the years which have seen the greatest progress in the comprehension of human cultural development since the work of Charles Darwin have coincided with most historians' withdrawal from the greater part of the period in which it took place. A few are left, a rearguard holding open the pass to the longer past, but the odds they face are increasing. In parallel, as articles elsewhere in this issue remind us, there has been growing recognition that history's audiences are multiple, embracing aspirations,

interpretations and agendas that go beyond anything validated by history, archaeology, or heritage officialdom.

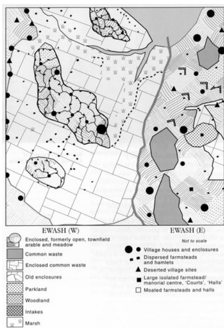
Here it should be noted that *other* things are being validated by officialdom that have large implications for the definition and care of the historic environment. The strategy review comes about because the Parliamentary Culture, Media and Sport Committee urges more integrated consideration 'to the relationship of heritage policy to urban and rural regeneration and to environmental sustainability'. This means better inter-departmental cooperation, and not only between the obvious land-influencing departments such as the DETR, MAFF and DCMS. Whether they realise it or not, Departments such as the DfEE and the Home Office are in this too.

The Foreword to the new National Curriculum in England speaks of the need for individual pupils to 'develop a distinctive character and ethos rooted in their local communities', and advises that the Curriculum 'must be robust enough to define and defend the core of knowledge and cultural experience which is the entitlement of every pupil'. One would therefore expect to see history at the core of citizenship, local awareness, and cultural identity – and the foundations of British and English culture at the core of all.

Satellite photograph of England, Scotland, and Wales

Fragmentation of history

The reality is the fragmentation of history in education. Narrative line was lost years ago. Academic reports of revolutionary discoveries, news from the pioneering edge of archaeological and palaeobiological sciences, or even explanations of why particular buildings or localities are interesting, may soon be comprehensible to no more than a privileged few, for there will be no generally shared context in which to place them. At a time when access is on everyone's lips, much of history is being locked up. The fact that England itself is a post-Alfredian construct did not stop The Times from describing Boxgrove Man as 'English', or English Heritage from putting the idea into circulation.[2] To point this out is not mere pedantry', for the fallacy obstructs the more profound point that Boxgrove Man probably belonged to another hominid species with an apparent capacity for self-transcendence. Ours is not the only history.



Detail of map of historic environment south of the Wash, East Anglia, showing man-made and natural features, from forthcoming Atlas of rural settlement in England*, by Brian K Roberts and Stuart Wrathmell*

I would like my children, and theirs, to know that. Other interpretations, however, are becoming embedded in school history-teaching and official pronouncements. The new strategy is meant to have at least a 25-year perspective, so we may reflect that in 2025 every citizen under 30 will have been taught that there was something called 'British society' in the first century AD that was affected by Anglo-Saxon and Viking settlers. According to the Commission for Racial Equality, indeed, Britain has been a 'mixed society' since the Bronze Age.[3] At a time when diffusionist explanations of change are under scrutiny, and when prehistory, anthropology, and genetics have begun to reveal the astonishing tight-knittedness, the solidarity, of the human family, it is strange to read this. Thankfully, the biological concept of race is no longer the revolting tool that it was in the hands of pseudo-science and the *Ahnenerbe Forschungs- and Lehrgemeinschaft*. But as Ben Carrington, a lecturer at Brighton University, recently pointed out, since nobody is of pure race, by defining categories such as mixed we continue to buttress racial categories.[4] Put another way, the prolongation, however well intended, of fallacies about race (and one of them is the notion that something called the English and British races actually existed) postpones the day when racism can be uprooted. Cultural and racial identity are different things, and cultural identifies are commonly multiple. Anyone who supposes that archaeology or prehistory are marginal to modern social concerns should reflect on this.

England's heritage

What of England and English Heritage itself? 'The English', observes Jeremy Paxman, 'have not spent a great deal of time defining themselves, because they haven't needed to'. Perhaps they should start now, for confusion over British history has been magnified by government support for the concept of 'Heritage'. Here is Norman Davies in full cry in his recent book *The Isles*:

History is all about change and conflict. It is not a comfortable subject. 'Heritage', in contrast, was developed as an idea for preserving the memories and monuments of the past in a prim, static mode which would appeal to the casual tourist but not to anyone seriously interested in past realities. It had distinct commercial overtones, being a product of the 1980s when markets ruled all… It aimed to dress up the past for the entertainment of its consumers. Worst of all, it bore no relation to the common history of the United Kingdom.[5]

One sees his point, and there is a sharp lesson in the fact that his perception of English Heritage, and the limited extent to which it appears to promote public knowledge of England's heritage, appears to be conditioned by the presentation of a rather random collection of properties and monuments. In fact, if anything comes close to providing a conspectus of England's story it is the contextual work of English Heritage's Monuments Protection Programme – but this is not yet widely known.

The Yorkshire Pennines: a regionally distinctive landscape which, with its drystone field walls and isolated farmsteads, offers a particular view both of national and local identity

The importance of museums

Museums, often overlooked by conservation professionals, are the public, explanatory end of the heritage continuum, and it is much to be hoped that they and the new Museums, Libraries and Archives Commission (that in certain respects has a pan-British remit) will play a leading part in the coming review. Yet as Davies reminds us, while there are museums and heritage centres for places, areas and counties, and for every subject under the sun from fish to toasters, not one affords a coherent view of England's (or indeed, *pace* the trustees of the British Museum, Britain's) history.[6] Only the National Museum of Scotland has attempted that approach. It may be ventured that attempting to conserve what is not comprehended, or even explained, is in the long term the most dangerous form of unsustainability of all.

The strategy review, in sum, will have a lot on its plate. At a time when inclusivity and citizenship stand high in the Government's priorities, its range will be wide. For the first time, an opportunity exists to address the study, care, interpretation, and use of our cultural inheritance in a sav that relates to broad social and public concerns. Let debate begin.

Richard Morris

English Heritage Commissioner,Chairman, Ancient Monuments Advisory Committee,

former Director, Council for British Archaeology

Notes

1 See, for example, Professor Jeremy Black in *History Today*, March 1998; Jeremy Paxman, *The English*, 1998; John Redwood, *The Death of Britain*, 1999
2 Press Release, May 1994
3 Commission for Racial Equality website, 1999
4 *The Guardian*, 'Race: A special report one year after Macpherson', 21 February 2000, 7
5 *The Isles*, 1999, 1029
6 Ibid, 1030

Holme Timber Circle

Excavation, removal, and scientific analysis

Chief Archaeologist, David Miles, discusses the public interest in the fate of a recently discovered Bronze Age timber circle and the decisions taken to save the circle from the ravages of the sea

Timber circle and inverted tree bole at low tide, Holme Next the Sea, Norfolk

English Heritage's decision to excavate and remove a Bronze Age timber circle from the beach at Holme Next The Sea, Norfolk, has been one of the most contentious of recent years. Why has this archaeological project attracted so much attention and, from some, downright disapproval? 'Destroying our heritage', 'failing to consult local people', or 'interfering with a sacred site' are some of the accusations.

My first acquaintance with the Holme circle was indirect; my eye was caught by an incredibly evocative picture in the *Sunday Independent*. A circle of stark timbers, around an inverted tree bole, emerged from a massive sea and skyscape. It could have been a Turner prize winner by Richard Long, a subject for the X Files or an icon of the prehistoric

past. My first reaction was to say to my neighbour, Richard Bradley, Professor of Prehistory at Reading University, 'We must go to see that thing'!
Shortly afterwards the Eastern Daily Press conjured up the name 'Seahenge', though the circle was not a henge nor originally built in the sea. The *Time Team's* special television programme on the excavation, broadcast during the millennial holiday, was seen by four million people. Most thought it was an interesting archaeological excavation, but a vociferous minority questioned English Heritage's decision to lift the timbers. To them, the action seemed almost sacrilegious – based more on scientific exploration than guardianship.
Are they right? When I joined English Heritage as Chief Archaeologist in April 1999, the decision to lift the timber circle had already been taken. Because this was an unusual case, though not at that stage contentious, I reviewed the decision and concluded that, from the point of view of English Heritage's legal obligations, and from mine as a professional archaeologist, the decision was correct.
Opponents of the excavation have frequently argued that the timbers were well-known to local people, regularly covered and uncovered by the sea in an endless and harmless cycle. Why not leave them where they belonged? After scientific examination of the beach by marine specialists from Portsmouth and Newcastle Universities, and interviews with local witnesses, it is clear that this story had no credibility.

Erosion and threatened destruction by the sea

The circle of outer timbers had first been seen about ten years ago when the sea eroded peat beds that had covered and protected the monument. At that stage, the central upside-down tree bole was invisible beneath the remaining peat. No-one knew what the circle was; it had not been reported to the Norfolk County Archaeologist for the Sites and Monuments Record.
Though the sea washed sand back over the timbers, the process of destruction accelerated and in 1998 the sea rapidly removed the sand layers and remaining peat around the timbers. A nature warden at Holme who walks the beach daily saw the circle for the first time and inside it, the inverted tree. A local amateur archaeologist found a prehistoric copper-alloy axe by the timbers. The timber circle was then reported to Norfolk County Council's archaeologists who approached English Heritage for financial support for a survey and scientific examination of the timbers and surrounding area. Following this work, a thorough report was presented to the Ancient Monuments Advisory Committee (AMAC), which includes some of the leading prehistorians in Britain. Radiocarbon dating confirmed that the timber circle had been built in the Bronze Age – abort 2000 BC – originally on dry land.

Excavation of tree bole, Holme Next the Sea, Norfolk

By 1999, the anaerobic environment of the peat bed having been completely removed, the timbers were riddled with sea-boring snails. Nitration was active internally and between 45% and 90% of the timbers' internal structure was already destroyed. Suction by the sea could tear them apart at any time. Since the sighting a decade previously, about a metre of timber had been lost from each of the outer posts and as the ground lowered the inverted tree had appeared. Engineers advised that a coffer-dam around the timbers would not work because rapid erosion would soon isolate and undermine it. In any case, a major engineering solution was not acceptable because the area around the timber circle, designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, is an overwatering ground of international significance for Arctic migrant birds. The Norfolk Wildlife Trust, English

Nature, and the landowner (unusually, the beach is privately owned) would not agree to any solution that threatened the well-being of the birds.

The only acceptable solution

AMAC accepted the recommendation of Norfolk County Council and English Heritage's Ancient Monuments Inspector that the only acceptable solution would be to treat the circle as a threatened site and to record and lift the timbers when the weather was suitable and before the birds returned in the autumn.

As set out in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (Archaeology and Planning), it is English Heritage's policy always to preserve archaeological sites *in situ* whenever possible. When it is not possible – because of overriding planning decisions, or at Holme because of inevitable erosion by the sea – excavation and recording ('preservation by record') is the alternative solution. Because the circle was a small integrated structure, AMAC agreed that total excavation was the only satisfactory form of recording.

For some who had developed an interest in Seahenge, excavation amounted to desecration – English Heritage would surely not treat a church in such a manner. In fact we probably would if it were about to disappear into the sea. Excavation in no way implies a lack of respect for other people's views and beliefs. That is why, once we realised the level of concern, members of the Norfolk team and I spent many hours explaining our decision to local people and pagan groups. As a result, many agreed with us; others continued to hold their opinion that this iconic site should be left to the waves and that we had not given sufficient weight to their opinion. To them, Seahenge illustrated the scientist's apparent lack of sensitivity to sacred places. The timbers, though cut down by our forest-felling, axe-wielding ancestors, represented a more caring, ecologically minded Utopia. The slice taken with a chainsaw had been necessary to produce the precise date of spring 2049 BC, but to some protestors it might have been cut into a living body rather than a rotten piece of timber.

Preservation by record

The decision to pursue the course of 'preservation by record' leads inevitably to destruction of the site itself, excavation being the archaeological equivalent of an autopsy. Some people, though, find this as difficult to accept as the medical equivalent and assume that the timbers are lifted to be preserved. At present, scientific examination of the timbers is taking place at the Flag Fen archaeological centre. A working party chaired by the Director of the Norfolk Museums Service is considering whether the circle has a sustainable future on display in Norfolk.

A lesson from history

As programmes such as *Time Team* reach a mass audience, we will find our actions being questioned by people with different views – sometimes romantic, anti-scientific, anti-authoritarian. But some ask perfectly reasonable questions: why was it necessary to take a great slice out of the central timber? Why did you dig up the whole site? Why did you not talk to the local community at an earlier stage? Wasn't the circle safe where it lay? If we want to involve communities in their own historic environment, we must accept their right to ask difficult questions and our obligation to engage in dialogue.

David Miles

Chief Archaeologist

Worship & Conservation

Freedom of religion or statutory control

Places of worship have multiple functions for congregations and the wider public. Richard Halsey, responsible for English Heritage's National Churches Policy, discusses the care needed to alter or add to the historic fabric

For their variety, accessibility, and ubiquity, the ecclesiastical buildings of England evoke enormous public interest well beyond the three million or more people who use them every week. Two cathedrals, Coventry and Liverpool Metropolitan, took the first two places in a recent poll by English Heritage and Channel 4 of popular modern buildings. They are each unusual in being built to one design, for the vast majority of places of worship are amalgams of styles and periods, having been amended – sometimes quite drastically – to fulfil the purpose of their patrons.

Before the Reformation, and for much of the nineteenth century, the primary reason for building a church was for the glory of God, to be a physical witness to His work on earth. The quality and scale of the building and its uses were also intended to reflect back on the patron, not only in the eyes of his contemporaries in the community but also in God's eyes, when He came to judge the patron on the Day of Judgement. Today, as from 1550 to 1800, the reasons for change are much more likely to arise from the more practical needs of the liturgy or community. Medieval churches did not need to be so large because so many more people went to church; they were differently used with many more altars and devotional areas, much like Catholic churches today on the Continent. Victorian churches and chapels were often built for an ideal number of seats, which were only likely to be filled on feast days and during services with certain preachers (as happens still).

Altering listed buildings

Over the last 50 years or more, there has been great debate about the form modern worship should take, with an emphasis on greater congregational participation. For the Non-Conformists, where such participation has long been the norm, the driving force is often centred on incorporating greater community involvement, by sharing the building with other functions, such as social clubs or health facilities. Over the same period, concern to preserve historic buildings has introduced listing (from 1947) and listed building consent (since 1977 in its present form). The desire to retain old fabric is not new though; many buildings retain or incorporate older parts and Gervase of Canterbury's late-twelfth-century account of the monks' fears that they would lose more of their cathedral after the 1174 fire can be echoed in letters written to planning committees today.

Though they can be listed, places of worship are exempted from the listed building consent process if they belong to a denomination with its own similar procedures. This reflects a general concern that a secular authority should not become involved in restricting freedom of religious practice. Concern for the special circumstances of places of worship led English Heritage Commissioners in 1994 to establish five clear principles for our work with ecclesiastical buildings, including the acceptance of 'radical changes to some highly graded buildings to enable ecclesiastical use and ownership to continue, though there may be a few cases where English Heritage must take a position where the conservation unchanged of a church or chapel is paramount'.

The general presumption of Government and English Heritage policy is in favour of the preservation of a listed building, except where a convincing case can be made out for alteration or demolition. A series of Consistory Court cases since 1987 has created three questions to be answered in Church of England applications for faculties (consents) to alter listed churches in use for worship. These are:

has the necessity for the changes been proved?
will the works adversely affect the special character for which the church was listed?
if so, does the necessity override the presumption in favour of preservation?
Balancing modern needs against preservation is at the heart of all English Heritage work and particularly in the advice we give owners and regulatory authorities. Unlike the commercial values and economic repair costs used to determine the need for change to secular listed buildings, 'necessity' will vary enormously for places of worship in use.

New form of worship

The creation of new worshipping arrangements, such as nave altars, is not normally contentious, unless important items like medieval rood screens in their original place or lavish nineteenth-century altar settings are being taken away and so, in effect, demolished. The need for such action is usually aesthetic and theological rather than spatial and a compromise involving re-siting or masking the unwanted work of art can often be found. Stricter Protestant congregations or Muslims taking over a Victorian church or chapel may wish to remove all the stained glass and carvings depicting saints, but these works of art might be the very reason for the building being listed in the first place. The answer here may be reversible action like removal and secure storage of the glass or screening of the carved figures. More fundamentally though, persuading the prospective owners to find a less ornate building is probably the best strategy. For a shrinking chapel congregation wanting to bring all its activities into one shell (the chapel) and sell the redundant Sunday School and associated buildings, the arguments are essentially economic. The size of the existing congregation and reversibility of the proposed alterations to the listed chapel are bound to be important elements in considering such changes.

Adding modern facilities

The provision of modern facilities such as lavatories and social areas is the most frequent issue to cause conflict between congregations and those concerned with conservation. Clarifying the real needs can involve lengthy discussion, particularly when the most obvious place for creating discreet new facilities (an unused transept, chapel or porch, or the west end of the church) is neither large enough nor suitable for the particular needs of that congregation. Extending the building requires archaeological investigation and mitigation and negotiating the loss of graves (often with understandably upset, but absentee, descendants). The architectural challenge is also significant, particularly if the vision of the client is much higher than the budget. It is a considerable help if the congregation can clearly identify what makes the building special and what they want to achieve by the changes.
A recent Consistory Court case at Canwell near Lichfield, Staffordshire raised all these issues. The grade II* church of 1911 was a complete work by the noted architect Temple Moore. The congregation is healthy and expected to grow with the expansion of the village, but the Parochial Church Council and Diocese felt that without extra accommodation for non-worship activities deemed essential to the mission of the Church today, it would not survive. All were agreed that, as there was no room to accommodate such new facilities within the unaisled church, a new building was needed. Both English Heritage and the Church of England's own Council for the Care of Churches advised that the structure be separate from the church to maintain the original 1911 architectural concept. The parish argued that this was impractical and there had to be a physical link, preferably out of the west tower rather than from the nave. The Chancellor agreed with the parish and the extension has been built to a modern design by Peter Brownhill. Geoffrey Brandwood (an expert on the work of Temple Moore) was a witness for the Victorian Society and did not think the design worthy of the original church, yet others argued the opposite.

Matters of design will frequently be contentious and highly subjective. Informed discussion, following an identification of the essential character of the building, will usually help in reaching a sensitive solution or at least reduce areas of disagreement. English Heritage will usually be more concerned for the overall shape, size and quality of materials rather than individual elements of the design. As well as highlighting the conservation versus modern use debate, alterations to places of worship will continue to involve arguments about flexibility of worship, sanctity of place, and respect for our ancestors and their physical achievements that remain important to more people than might be expected in this supposedly secular twenty first century society.

Seven Kings, Redbridge, London, retention of large grade II urban churches is desirable for reasons of conservation and sustainability, but concentrating different functions within them may require major changes. Here the nave aisles and transept have been partitioned to create useable spaces

Richard Halsey

East of England Regional Director, National Churches Policy

Mayburgh Henge

Constraints on public access

Encouraging access to historic sites is one of English Heritage's priority programmes. North West Regional Director, Richard Tulloch, reports on a recent proposal for a Christian festival to be held in a Neolithic henge

Mayburgh Henge with well-established trees along its earthworks

Mayburgh Henge is a Neolithic circular earthwork at Eamont Bridge near Penrith, Cumbria. Its banks of cobbles, excavated from the nearby Eamont River valley and still standing up to 4.5m, are now mostly covered in grass and regularly grazed. The enclosure of about 0.6 hectares includes a single standing stone, sole survivor of eight monoliths – four at the single entrance and four in the interior – known to have existed as recently as the eighteenth century. The henge is in the care of English Heritage but maintained under a Local Management Agreement by the parish council, as is Arthur's Round Table, another circular earthwork nearby. A third henge, no longer visible, is known to have been built a few hundred metres away.

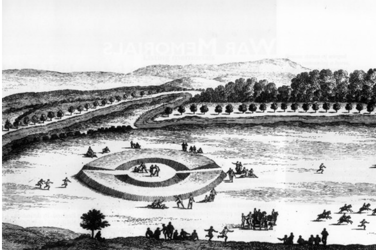
While a number of prehistoric sites in Cumbria are in now-secluded areas, Mayburgh Henge is located a few yards from the M6 motorway. Though most travellers pass by unaware of the henges, the location of the M6 sheds some light on our understanding of this group of monuments located at the intersection of the major east–west route through the Pennines, now followed by the A69, and the main north–south route now followed by the M6.

Millennial festival

Mayburgh became the focus of much attention during 1999 as the suggested site for a Christian millennial festival in July 2000, proposed by a special committee led by the local cleric, Canon Gervase Markham. The Eden Millennium Festival organisers were keen to use the henge both as a place to erect a celebratory engraved boulder as a memorial and also as the site of two events including local schools and churches.

How should English Heritage react to such ideas? What factors should come into play? The regional team concentrated on the impact of the commemorative boulder on the setting of the monument as well as on the danger of unacceptable wear and tear during the events held within the henge. These factors were considered in the context of English Heritage's policy of encouraging access to historic sites, though no judgement was sought on the acceptability of a Christian celebration on a pre-Christian site.

The regional team concluded, therefore, that the proposed site for the boulder was too close to the henge but that the principle of a Christian memorial in the general vicinity was acceptable. The schools' and churches' events should be allowed to take place within the henge on condition that its fabric would be temporarily protected by geotextile matting and by cordoning off the earthworks themselves. English Heritage's Ancient Monuments Advisory Committee chairman, Richard Morris, strongly endorsed this stance, emphasising at a meeting of the Historic Properties Executive Committee that there were plenty of precedents for a pagan site to be used for Christian purposes.



Detail of engraving by William Stukeley of a 1725 summer sporting event at Arthur's Round Table, a circular earthwork near Mayburgh Henge

Not everyone agreed. News of the Christian festival proposals prompted a flurry of e-mails to the regional office and the Chairman, primarily from pagans or humanists concerned with the use of a pre-Christian site that they believed to be of pagan religious significance. This interpretation of how the site was used, however, is only one of several current views; other suggested uses are feasting or droving and separating livestock.

Negotiations resulted in a modified proposal to site the boulder away from the immediate vicinity of the henge, which was acceptable to the regional team. The schools have subsequently advised the Eden Millennium Festival organisers that they see logistical difficulties in using the henge itself, and it has been agreed that this event take place on the main festival site nearby. The churches, meanwhile, have concluded that their picnic would also be better located outside the henge, possibly between the henge and the new millennial engraved boulder.

Access and enjoyment

What observations may be drawn from this episode? The first is that modern technology allows rapid exchange of views and gathering of support. Secondly, as a consequence, representations may be received from a wide range both of local people and others who may not be fully familiar with local circumstances. Thirdly, there appears to be a widely-held assumption against allowing public use of historic sites. Surely the opposite should be our normal stance, so that, in this case, what is now needed is to encourage objectors to make more use of the henge themselves. Fourthly, there will always be an overriding responsibility to ensure that the fabric and setting of monuments such as Mayburgh Henge are not damaged or unduly compromised. However – and fifthly – we should strive to

accommodate as much activity as possible within our sites. We do, after all, have a duty to encourage access to and enjoyment of the sites in our care.

Richard Tulloch

North West Regional Director

War Memorials

New grant scheme for grade II listed memorials in conservation areas

The great variety of war memorials is an important feature of our cities, towns, and villages. Richard Dumville reports on new sources of financial support for repair and conservation

View of base, Guards Division Memorial, Horse Guards Road, London, 1926, sculptor G Ledward, architect H C Bradshaw

Given that over 1.5 million British servicemen and women died in the last century's two world wars, one would quite properly expect to find numerous memorials marking their ultimate sacrifice. Nonetheless, many would be surprised to learn that the total number is currently estimated to be in the region of 55,000.

While there are a few that commemorate earlier conflicts such as the Crimean and Boer Wars, the vast majority were erected in the years following the end of the First World War, many being commissioned by committees of local people. Collectively the memorials erected after this conflict comprise the greatest ever art commission in this country, embracing some of the most distinguished art and sculpture of the age from noted architects and sculptors including Sir Reginald Blomfield, Sir Edwin Lutyens, Sir Herbert Baker, Charles Sargeant Jagger and Sir William Reid Dick. The great variety of memorials include obelisks, arches, gateways, statues, crosses, precincts, clocktowers, chapels, memorial halls and countless plaques.

The Problems

Unfortunately, because the memorials are so familiar, they are often taken for granted. In many cases this has led to their neglect, or even worse, their loss or damage through vandalism, theft, closure or sale of buildings, and development. At the dawn of a new Millennium, it seems timely to take action to stem the tide of decay that threatens this unique aspect of our national heritage and to ensure that they can remain a reminder to future generations of the price paid by so many for the freedom we enjoy today.

A New Initiative

In association with Friends of War Memorials (FoWM), English Heritage is making funds available for an initial period of two years from April 2000 towards a new scheme for the repair of freestanding grade II listed war memorials in conservation areas in England. By definition, this will exclude memorials that are buildings or form part of a building. Bridges, public parks and gardens, hospitals and chapels, for example, will not be eligible; also excluded are graves of all types.

The types of work that may be considered for grant aid include:

repairs to fabric

recutting and recarving of eroded inscriptions and detail

relettering, releading, and regilding

reinstatement of lost elements, particularly decorative features
works to associated hard landscaping that forms part of the overall design
cleaning, where appropriate and clearly beneficial.
FoWM will act as a clearing house both for applications under this scheme and general enquiries about memorials. A panel, including a representative from English Heritage, will assess applications and submit recommendations to English Heritage on a quarterly basis. Approved grants will then be announced and formal offers made by English Heritage. It is recognised that in many cases, relatively minor and inexpensive but nonetheless important work needs to be done. Therefore we are willing to consider applications for works costing as little as £500 in total. Grants offered will be at a standard rate of 50% or £5,000, whichever is less.
If a memorial is listed grade I or II*, then it may be considered for grant under English Heritage's existing schemes such as the Historic Buildings, Monuments and Parks and Gardens scheme (see issue 36). Unlisted memorials or those outside a conservation area are not eligible for grant aid from English Heritage, but FoWM may be able to offer some advice on possible sources of other funding, including the new Local Heritage Initiative discussed below.

Friends of War Memorials

FoWM is a charity established in 1996, with the dedicated task of highlighting the plight of war memorials and promoting awareness, especially among the young, of the debt owed to those who gave their lives in the service of their country. To assist the Friends with their work, English Heritage is supporting a new Conservation Officer post based at FoWM's London office; Maggie Goodall took up this position at the start of the year.

Local Heritage Initiative

One possible source of alternative funding for memorials falling outside the criteria for the FoWM scheme is the recently announced *Local Heritage Initiative* (LHI), a new lottery funded grant scheme run by the Countryside Agency and intended to help local people care for their local landscapes, landmarks, and traditions. It may be suitable for restoration and interpretation of war memorials as part of a wider programme of community-based action rather than for one-off repair works to memorials.

Listing memorials

Despite the large numbers of memorials in existence, fewer than 1,500 are listed in their own right and have not yet been looked at thematically. English Heritage is planning a listing survey, and discussions are taking place with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport to agree the parameters for the survey. Much basic research has already been done through the Imperial War Museum's project to compile a national inventory of war memorials, begun in 1989. When complete it will be an important new archive on war memorials throughout the British Isles.

Bronze statue of winged Peace restraining a horse, Royal Artillery Memorial, The Mall, London, 1910, sculptor W Robert Colton, architect Sir Aston Webb

Orb and gilded eagle, Royal Air Force Memorial, Embankment, London, 1923, sculptor Sir W Reid Dick, architect Sir R Blomfield

Richard Dumville

London Region, Regional Operations

Grant application packs will be available from early April. For further information, please contact the Conservation Officer, Friends of War Memorials, 4 Lower Belgrave Street, London, SW1W 0LA, Telephone 020 7259 0403, or www.war-memorials.com
Information or leaflets about the Local Heritage Initiative can be obtained from 01226 719019 or www.lhi.org.uk
For information on the IWM's inventory please contact The National Inventory of War Memorials, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London, SEI 6HZ, 020 7416 5353/5281 or www.iwm.org.uk

Burials & Archaeology

Care and treatment of exhumed human remains

Chief Archaeologist, David Miles, discusses the difficulties involved in exhuming human remains and the principles and procedures to be followed

Those icons of popular culture, Indiana Jones and Lara Croft, demonstrate that archaeologists are inevitably associated with tombs and the dead. In some countries, notably Australia, Israel and the United States, it is an association that has led to serious political and ethical problems as religious groups and indigenous peoples challenge the attitudes and practices of scientists.
In response, the World Congress, at a meeting held in Vermillion, South Dakota, USA, in 1989, issued *The Vermillion Accord* on 'Archaeological ethics and the treatment of the dead'.
The popularity of the television programme *Meet the Ancestors* might suggest that in this country, at the Millennium, one of the taboos of previous centuries had been breached. The disturbance of human remains by developers or archaeologists, however, remains a complex issue still not fully considered.
In 1999 a working party of the Council for the Care of Churches issued a policy statement, *Churches archaeology: its care and management*, about the treatment of human remains, 'an area which draws together many issues including legal, theological, archaeological, practical, scientific, academic, pastoral, and emotional'.
The working party concluded, in respect of burials, that
there should be a presumption against the disturbance of human remains
disturbed remains should be awarded respectful treatment
there should be a presumption in favour of re-internment of remains.
Nevertheless in the Church of England there are enormous pressures to remove burials that have accumulated inside and outside churches, often over the past thousand years.

Coffee rooms, lavatories, and parish room extensions will be the late-twentieth century's principal contribution to the ecclesiastical archaeology of the future. These usually have some impact on burials, from the minor which can be solved by sensitive design, to the major when vaults are emptied or the interior of a church excavated for new rooms beneath ground level.

The Council for the Care of Churches working party noted (p 44) that 'although both civil and canon law control the principle of exhumation, there is no law and little guidance on the details of how human remains are to be dealt with. By default, therefore, this subject has been delegated, almost exclusively to the archaeologists'.

Whether the particular case is under the control of religious (as in the Church of England's faculty system) or civil authorities, the principles and practices of Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (1990, Archaeology and Planning) should be applied: preservation *in situ* is preferred; decisions should be informed by desk-based assessment and field evaluation. Evaluation should itself cause only minimal disturbance, as the Court of Arches at Canterbury (26 October 1995) judged in the case of St Michael and All Angels, Tettenhall Regis, in consideration of section 3 of the Burial Act of 1853 (human remains had been lifted during the evaluation and subsequently cremated without due consideration of the views of relatives – even distant ones – or local people).

Excavations such as Spitalfielcls (Cox, M 1996) and St. Nicholas's, Sevenoaks, have emphasised the potential of well-dated, early-modern burials for the study of social and art history and epidemiology (Mays 1998). In London alone there may be six million of these. If civil and ecclesiastical authorities are to make sensible decisions when faced with requests to disturb burial grounds, they will need clearer guidelines. The Home Office appears to issue licences under the 1857 Burial Act with relatively arbitrary conditions. The development by archaeologists of authoritative data bases and clear research aims will help to ensure that difficult decisions are robust and appropriate.

David Miles

Chief Archaeologist

St Nicholas, Sevenoaks: Exhumation of human remains during major interior excavation for new rooms beneath ground level

See also:

Church archaeology: its care and management, 1999, The Council for the Care of Churches (see Appendix 4 for The Vermillion Accord)

Grave concerns: death and burial In England 1700–1850, ed M Cox, 1998, CBA Research Report 113

Life and death in Spitalfields 1700–1850, ed M Cox, 1998, CBA

Downes, J and Pollard, T, 1999, *The loved body's corruption: archaoelogical contributions to the study of human mortality*, Cruithne Press, Glasgow

Garratt-Frost, S J, Harrison G, and Logic J G, 1992, *The law and burial archaeology*, Institute of Field Archaeology Technical Paper 12
Mays, S, 1998, *The archaeology of human bones*, Routledge
Reeve. J, 1997, Grave expectations: the archaeology of crypts and burial ground, *Building conservation directors' special report* (The conservation and repair of ecclesiastical buildings, June 1997), 4–6

Monuments in Wartime

Conservation policy in practice, 1939–45

A survey by Mairi Robertson, Oxford University, and John Schofield, Monuments Protection Programme, of public records highlights the threat to sacred sites and historic monuments by attack and defence in wartime

The Church of St Martin le Grand, Coney Street, York, bombed in the Baedeker raid of 28 April 1942. Partial repair was undertaken in 1961–66; the area of the chancel and north aisle now contains a memorial garden

Cultural property in the form of historic buildings and monuments plays a significant part in contemporary warfare, particularly in regions where historically-based tensions prevail; the destruction of the bridge at Mostar, in the former Yugoslavia, is a well-known recent example. And it is obvious that in defending one's home and country – one's heritage – from attack, personal safety and strategic defence considerations will generally outweigh the desire to protect cultural property, however important it might be. For recent conflicts these issues are well documented (for example by Alpaslan Ozerdem in *British Archaeology* ***50***, 1999), but to what extent were they relevant in England during WWII? A recent survey of archive sources, held at the Public Record Office, provides some answers, as well as demonstrating the need to record our activities and views for the benefit of future research.

Sources consulted in this survey reveal that most of the damage caused to archaeological monuments during WWII was self-inflicted and was accounted for by the urgency of the war effort, rather than being the result of enemy action. However they also demonstrate that despite obvious priorities elsewhere – the urban blitz, the invasion threat in 1940–41, and the need to maximise food production (the 'plough-up campaign') – conservation issues were addressed by the War Department and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Bomb damage

Hitler's orders, that there should be 'raids on ports and industry' and 'terror attacks... against towns', had a significant impact on buried archaeological remains and the historic buildings in urban centres, even though damage to cultural property was never an explicitly stated objective. Even when cultural property came under concerted attack, with the Baedeker raids of 1942 against five historic towns (Exeter, Bath, Norwich, York, Canterbury), it was more because the towns were identified as potentially undefended civilian targets from information in the German *Baedeker* guidebooks than because they were 'historic'. By contrast, 'monuments' recorded as damaged in the blitz are comparatively few: in London, portions of medieval and Roman town wall from Falcon Square to Cripplegate were damaged in a raid in 1941, while two incendiary bombs hit a Roman villa during excavation near Verulamium.

As a result of post-war urban redevelopment and renewal, few ruined buildings now survive as monuments of the blitz. Most are in London, though examples survive also in Coventry, Plymouth, Southampton, Portsmouth, Hull, Exeter, and York. Apart from a cinema in Hull, almshouses in Exeter, and a ropery in the dockyards at Plymouth, all examples are churches. These few remaining bomb sites are important, both as places where the effects of the blitz can be seen and as places of memory.

A changing landscape

Recorded damage as a result of home defence is generally confined to actions that were coordinated in some way: airfield construction for example, the camouflage of hill figures, and military training. In the case of airfields, sources document the acquisition of twelve areas containing monuments for airfield construction in 1940–41. In each of these areas Ministry of Works staff undertook full or part excavation of recorded sites prior to levelling. At Luffield Priory, correspondence prior to the construction of Silverstone airfield shows that cooperation between the Air Ministry and Ministry of Works appears to have gone smoothly. Parliamentary Questions were threatened, however, in response to criticisms by a local landowner who described the use of labour on wartime excavations as 'an almost criminal way to spend labour and money at such a time'. In some cases there were strong objections to proposals to destroy important (sometimes scheduled) monuments, such as The Devil's Quoits in Oxfordshire. Here the Ministry of Works believed the monument should be preserved in view of its importance alongside Avebury and Stonehenge, notwithstanding its scheduled status. An inspector wrote: 'It is my opinion that if we allow this area to be levelled... we might as well repeal the Ancients Monuments Acts.... We should therefore say [to the Air Ministry] that the landing ground must be elsewhere. As far as I know we have never said this before and it is time we did, war or no war'. The Ministry of Works lost their appeal in this case, the reasons for which were given in a confidential letter from the Air Ministry; this is absent from the files.

The decision to camouflage chalk-cut hill figures was taken in June 1940, to prevent them aiding navigation. Sources record ten instances of camouflage including the Cerne Abbas Giant, the Long Man at Wilmington and the Broad Hinton and Uffington White Horses. The Ministry of Home Security invited technical recommendations from the Ministry of Works on the best and least damaging methods of camouflage. In general the camouflage (turf on wire netting) did not cause permanent damage, though a trench was accidentally dug into the head of the Broad Hinton White Horse, the army apparently not being aware of its presence. In another example, removal of the camouflage at the Uffington White Horse was by means of trenching but the chalk was cut too far back, thus distorting the figure's original outline. Proposals at Uffington to revive the historic scouring ceremony (which, in the words of a local landowner, 'had degenerated into an orgy') as a peace celebration in 1945 was rejected by the Ministry of Works.

Home defence at Hampton Court, June 1941; within the grounds are obstacles put in place to prevent enemy landing bomb craters can also be seen at bottom right. The grounds were quickly restored after the war

Round barrows on Snail Down, Salisbury Plain, 1940. Ministry of Works staff noted how tanks had used the barrows for a 'steeplechase'

Controlling the effects of military training, then as now, highlighted the gulf between policy and practice. On Snail Down, Salisbury Plain, for example, a visit by Ministry of Works staff in 1940 noted how: '[the barrows] have been traversed by tanks time and again in two directions so that they now look like hot cross buns.... There were clear indications of a regular round trip or steeplechase for tanks along the barrows'. The attitude of the Ministry of Works was to educate staff of the War Department on respectful tank practice. Perhaps surprisingly at a time when the threat of enemy invasion was at its height, correspondence between the two ministries appears to indicate mutual understanding, and – on the part of the War Office – a willingness to cooperate and minimise unnecessary damage to the monuments on its land.

Some notable damage cases were the result of wanton vandalism. For example, in August 1939 incisions were made to stones in the northern third of the West Kennett Avenue at Avebury; damage was also caused to the turf, and latrines were dug at various points. Correspondence between Alexander Keiller (owner), the Ministry of Works and the Secretary of State for War, demonstrates the seriousness with which this episode was treated. A full inquiry was ordered and the question of prosecution considered, though not pursued. In the end Keiller removed the inscriptions himself.

The threat of invasion

Much of the damage caused to monuments during WWII inevitably went unrecorded however, as a result of the speed and urgency with which anti-invasion defences were put in place in 1940–41. For example, over 20,000 pillboxes and gun emplacements may have been built in England and some of these at least impacted on earlier monuments, as at Pevensey Castle in Sussex and on prehistoric round barrows that gave the guns improved elevation. Similarly, many sites surviving only as cropmarks, in the Thames Valley for instance, must have been disturbed by the hundreds of miles of anti-tank ditches dug to counter an enemy advance. The great majority of these substantial linear ditches are now infilled and are themselves part of the archaeological record.

All of these anti-invasion defences were built as part of an overall strategy, but a strategy implemented locally and without necessarily a knowledge of (and thus regard for) earlier field monuments. Undoubtedly this ad hoc construction work caused the most damage, but there is little documentary record of it; the evidence is entirely archaeological.

Policy matters

Finally in this survey, information concerning numerous other conservation issues was retrieved. There are discussions documented, for example, about whether the Air Ministry should pay excavation costs for recorded sites on land acquired for the construction of a bombing range at Critchell and Launceston Downs (an early discussion of the 'polluter pays' principle). Papers relating to Stonehenge describe a request in 1942 to plough previously unploughed land in the Stonehenge Triangle for food production. This was refused on archaeological grounds despite the 'plough-up' campaign of the time. Another source of information is the minutes of the Ancient Monuments Board, which met on 15 February 1939 and again in 1947 (scheduling being in abeyance during the war years). These describe some of the conservation issues of the day. The 1939 meeting discussed, for example, whether churchyard crosses should be (indeed *could* be) scheduled and how

a selection of Martello towers for scheduling should be made. In this context the need to include some nearby WWI pillboxes was also raised, in view of their value as 'historical documents of military history'. In 1947 members debated the preservation of early industrial equipment, notably of the steel industry in Sheffield. In particular it was 'decided to try and persuade the local authorities in Sheffield to take an interest in the history of their oldest industry', though the Board 'approved in principle the scheduling of the best examples'. All of these issues remain relevant today.
This survey of information held in public records has demonstrated the diversity of source material available for study and its value as an archive, documenting views, policy issues, and conservation practice at a time when defence of the realm and food production were overriding priorities. The sources described illustrate – through some notable examples – the role of conservation in wartime England, highlighting the fact that, while many monuments were damaged in the name of home defence and specifically such things as airfield construction, conservation was still recognised as important by the War Department and the Ministry of Agriculture. Of course sixty years later the airfields and defence sites that were so damaging to archaeological remains at the time now form an important part of our heritage, with some of the best preserved and typical examples being afforded protection in their own right.

Coventry Cathedral, 9 February 1948: the symbol of the urban blitz and a landmark in post-war Coventry

This survey was conducted by Mairi Robertson on placement with English Heritage, as part of the Oxford University Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Archaeology 1999. We are grateful to William Foot and Colin Dobinson, and staff at the Public Record Office, for their help and advice. The sources consulted were PRO file series: WORK 14 which contains papers covering wartime damage to monuments; IR 34 which are War Damage Commission Policy Files relating to the requisitioning of damaged property; HO186/1979 containing details of camouflage; and LT1/6 which document war damage evaluation appeals and contain information on compensation. The report can be consulted by prior appointment, in Room 202, 23 Savile Row.

Mairi Robertson

Oxford University, Department of Continuing Education

John Schofield

Inspector, Monuments Protection Programme

Action stations

Sir Jocelyn Stevens

The following article appeared in the March 2000 issue of Heritage Today, the magazine for members of English Heritage, and is reprinted with kind permission of Citrus Publishing Ltd and author Stephen Fay as a tribute to Sir Jocelyn Stevens

The campaign by Sir Jocelyn to save Pitchford Hall led to the formation of the Pitchford Group, chaired by The Prince of Wales

Sir Jocelyn Stevens retires as chairman of English Heritage on 31 March. It's been a battling eight years with some spectacular victories along the way. Stephen Fay hears his recollections.

When Jocelyn Stevens became chairman of English Heritage in 1992, he declared that the organisation was over-manned, over-housed and not going anywhere. This lived up to his reputation for blunt speaking. His manner and short temper upset the well-ordered world of the conservationists and within months the Evening Standard called for him to be replaced by The Prince of Wales.

Eight years on, Stevens – now Sir Jocelyn – has presided over the transformation of English Heritage. It's no longer a tweedy cottage industry. The emphasis is not just on stately piles but on decayed city centres, crumbling monuments, churches and cathedrals as well. English Heritage is now deeply engaged in missionary work in deprived urban areas throughout England. Stevens would like to have done more of this, and he vents his frustration, not at conservationists (for the most part, they have become the best of friends), but at ministers of the Crown and civil servants who will not give him more funds to get on with more regeneration work. 'We have the best record in this work', he says. Over the past five years, £36 million invested by English Heritage in 357 projects with the local authorities has generated funding of £216 million.

Stevens is an establishment figure whose style is to behave as though he is in permanent opposition to it and, mostly, this has worked. 'To be immodest', he says, 'I have a reputation for getting things done.' Inevitably, his style has ruffled some feathers, but it has served English Heritage well.

At the end of his term, his hair is silver and he has filled out a little but the energy, the commitment, and the sense of fun are undiminished. He strides about his big room, cluttered with piles of papers and models of new buildings, opening maps to make a point and laughing at a notice on the inside of his office door which reads, 'We must create an environment in which everyone knows and feels that a failure to fulfil orders means death.' He explains, reassuringly, that the notice was placed there by his staff – as a joke.

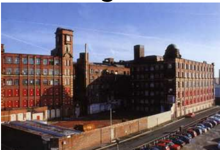
Like a retiring general, Stevens enjoys recalling his epic battles. Early on, there was a dispute with London Transport that caused the Minister of Transport to suggest to the then Secretary of State for the Department of National Heritage that Stevens be given the sack. English Heritage had successfully prevented the work on Brunel's tunnel under the Thames on the afternoon before the destruction was due to start. This elegant piece of engineering was the first tunnel built through soil under water and London Transport intended to alter it completely by 'shotcreting' it. English Heritage convened a panel of distinguished engineers and only when they produced a better engineering plan did London Transport finally capitulate. The use of the best outside experts set a useful

precedent, and the victory was good for internal morale. 'It showed that English Heritage could stand up to the Government and win', says Stevens.
His 1992 campaign to save Pitchford Hall in Shropshire also established a new pattern. The family that had lived there for generations had become victims of the Lloyd's disaster and were being forced to sell. Soon after Stevens set out to keep the house and its contents together, he was told by the Permanent Secretary, on the instructions of David Mellor, Secretary of State at the time, that his efforts must stop. 'He didn't even telephone himself', he says. English Heritage was unable to save the contents, but it lead to the formation of an ad hoc committee called the Pitchford Group, chaired by The Prince of Wales. If any members learned of a building under threat, they could call on all the other members for help. 'We haven't lost a building that we've really cared about since then', says Stevens.
Perhaps the rudest shock of Stevens' two terms was the advertisement that announced without any warning that the Royal Naval College at Greenwich (designed by Wren and assisted by Hawksmoor) was for sale to the highest bidder. 'The Pitchford Group got a meeting with the Prime Minister and Lord Cranborne, then Minister of State at the Ministry of Defence. Subsequently, a Joint Standing Committee was formed to consider the Ministry of Defence's proposed sales of listed buildings before they were put on the market.' Stevens explains: 'That's how we acquired Eltham Palace, where Henry VIII played as a young man which, 500 years later, had an absolutely perfect 1930s house joined onto it. I thought it should be saved and negotiated a rather good dowry with the Ministry of Defence. It's a huge success. Over 63,000 people have been to see it since it opened last June.'
His most singular triumph has been the Albert Memorial. When Stevens ran the Royal College of Art, which stands across the road from the Memorial, he had watched it being shut away behind corrugated iron. 'The Department of National Heritage almost sentenced it to death. It was rotting away.' Stevens challenged Peter Brooke, his Secretary of State at the time, to give the Albert Memorial over £8 million to English Heritage and, in return, he guaranteed to manage the restoration and raise the extra money required to finish the job, which was expected to take five years and cost £14 million. The work involved 19 separate skilled trades, the replacement of 120 tons of lead and the replacement of the original glass mosaic tiles which had to be imported from Venice.
The job was finished in four years at a cost of £11.2 million. When The Queen formally re-opened the Memorial, she described the restoration as a triumph. Stevens insisted that only the workers and their partners should be invited to the opening.
Stevens gets no less pleasure from English Heritage's work in what he calls the 'humble heritage' such as Brixton in London, Ancoats in Manchester, and Canning in Liverpool. He defends the heritage industry – of which he may have been the last tycoon – because of its role in generating social cohesion and civic pride. The best aspect of these regeneration projects is that they have not only raised more money locally than English Heritage's original contribution, they have created jobs. That is quite a different measure of success or failure than was used to judge his predecessors.

The regeneration of Chatterley Whitfield in partnership with Stoke on Trent City Council is an example of English Heritage's interest in industrial archaeology

But the 450,000 members of English Heritage, up from 100,000 when he joined the organisation, are likely to judge Stevens by more traditional standards. The members have contributed significantly to the sum of almost £30 million which English Heritage now earns itself each year. The number of staff has been streamlined, they work in fewer buildings and the organisation knows where it is going. In fact, only one major project has finally to yield to Stevens' passion and blood pressure.

St Knyneburgha's Church, Castor, Cambridgeshire, improved drainage, repairs to tower, and augmentation of bells grant-aided by English Heritage



Ancoats Mill Complex, Manchester, part of the urban regeneration area grant-funded by English Heritage to return buildings at risk to public use

Stonehenge was declared 'a national disgrace' by the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons a decade ago. It still is. This is not due to inactivity on Stevens' part. He has fought doughty battles with government at all levels, with road engineers, Lords, professors, archaeologists and 'sacred earthers' with the object of clearing the World Heritage Site so that the only sound to be heard is the song of the skylark. Detailed plans now exist and will be considered by public inquiries, a site for a new visitor centre has been identified, plus agreement has been reached to put the A303 in a tunnel and to remove the A344, and the cost of the £125 million road scheme has been committed by the Government.

Stevens says that he never felt like giving up the fight for Stonehenge even when the Millennium Commission refused to finance English Heritage's earlier plans. Indeed his passion was reinforced by the enthusiasm and advice of Chris Smith, his present Secretary of State, who has asked Stevens to remain involved with managing and selling the Stonehenge project after he leaves English Heritage. The bad news for its opponents is that Sir Jocelyn Stevens does not propose to go away.

Heritage

Economic Regeneration Schemes

English Heritage attaches enormous importance to its work in urban and rural regeneration. Charles Wagner reports on the second round of HERS

HERS (Heritage Economic Regeneration Schemes) is now English Heritage's primary vehicle for conservation-led, area-based regeneration, and for the preservation and enhancement of some of England's most important conservation areas. The schemes are beginning to play a vital role both in the social and economic resurgence of our towns and cities and also in the creation of safe and sustainable communities. These schemes, built on our earlier success with Conservation Area Partnership Schemes (CAPS), are now aimed at commercial buildings in deprived urban and rural communities, such as high streets and shopping parades, rundown industrial areas, and groups of rural buildings, underused or in decaying settlements.

The first round of HERS was launched in June 1999 with 67 schemes and an English Heritage allocation of nearly £3.3 million for 1999/2000. We have reviewed progress with the local authorities concerned, and in April 2000 a further £4.9 million will be offered for the second year of these schemes. Last year's June start meant that progress in the first year had been slower than we might have expected with an April start, and we have taken this into account during the review process.

In March 2000 the second round of HERS was announced by Sir Jocelyn Stevens. The 58 schemes will start at the beginning of April, and will have a total first-year allocation for 2000/2001 of just under £3.3 million. The March launch will allow the local authorities running the schemes a longer period to build up local interest in the schemes to ensure that grants are offered from early in the first year.

The round 2 schemes vary greatly, from seaside towns and ports, to market towns, inner city suburbs, and groups of small rural settlements. Seaside schemes vary from the former port and industrial settlement of Hayle in Cornwall to Victorian and Edwardian seaside resorts such as Ryde, Isle of Wight and St Annes-on-Sea, Lancashire. Market towns include Wolsingham in County Durham and Melksham, Wiltshire, while groups of villages forming one scheme include Sturry, Herne, and Littlebourne in Kent.

Historic districts include Hatton Garden, home of London's jewellery trade, and the Canalside Quarter in Wolverhampton; corridor schemes include Streatham on the A23 in south London and the Meden Valley on the Derbyshire/Nottinghamshire border.

English Heritage's investment of nearly £3.3 million for 2000/2001 is more than equalled by match funding of nearly £6 million, although in some instances this funding, particularly from non-authority sources, is often part of a much wider regeneration programme involving other funding sources such as the Single Regeneration Budget (SRB), the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), and the European Social Fund (ESF).

English Heritage funding varies from a minimum of £20,000 pa to a maximum of £100,000 for each year of the three years of the scheme, with the partners providing at least as much.

Further rounds of HERS will depend on our ability to draw upon other sources including, we hope, a new Urban Renaissance Fund recommended by the Urban Task Force in its report, *Towards an urban renaissance*, and the New Opportunities Fund. We would welcome your views on the importance you give to having HERS and your support for the view that more HERS are needed for the conservation areas of England.

Carlisle Town

Charles P Wagner

Historic Areas Adviser, London Region

The Roots of England's culture

Towards a new strategy for the twenty-first century: the Government review of policies relating to the historic environment, by Graham Fairclough, review coordinator

A cultural landscape in the Cotswolds: as much a part of the historic environment as the grandest grade I listed building

At the beginning of this year English Heritage was asked to report to the Government on policies relating to the historic environment. This is the first step towards the formation of a comprehensive heritage and culture strategy, the need for which was recognised in 1999 by the Culture Select Committee. It is an important and timely opportunity to create a new approach to the appreciation, use, and management of the historic environment.
Heritage policy in England has grown piecemeal over more than 100 years. First came the 1882 Ancient Monuments Act, Britain's earliest – though by some European standards, belated – legislation on conservation. Since then, listed buildings and the planning system have emerged in successive stages, culminating in PPG16 (1990) and PPG15 (1994). The policies that have evolved in this way are effective but not always fully aligned. In some areas there is overlap, in others gaps, and some components of government policy can hinder conservation: for example, VAT on historic building repairs, CAP subsidy, or grants for 'reclaiming' post-industrial land. In other areas the historic environment is not yet making its full contribution to wider government agendas such as social inclusion.

Review of all government policies

English Heritage is therefore pleased to have been given the task of coordinating such a full review of government policies, from national (and European) frameworks, through the emerging layer of regional government, to our fundamentally important local government historic environment services. The review also allows us to build on the enormous advances made in the 1990s:
PPG16 and 15, and new approaches to broader-based characterisation, whether of landscape, areas, or building
increasing integration of historic conservation with other aspects of the environment, notably biodiversity and countryside character
the central role of landscape character in conservation
the idea of sustainability, helping us to protect the historic environment and ensure that it contributes to quality of life and regeneration
a growing concern for social issues in our work
the need to expand intellectual as well as public access to the historic environment, building on existing structures such as the work of local SMRs, and English Heritage's Education Service and the National Monuments Record.
Most importantly, recent years have seen the widespread acceptance of the concept of an holistic definition of the historic environment that includes buildings and monuments, parks and gardens, the whole historic landscape (natural as well as historic, the ordinary as well as the special), archaeology (modern and industrial as well as ancient monuments). Other 'new' types of heritage are also being discovered as we explore the perceptions of a wider range of social, cultural, and ethnic groups, whose heritage is a rich addition to English Heritage's traditional concerns.
The review will also be the first inclusive cross-sector review, the product of collaboration with all our partners in local government, other conservation agencies and national bodies, amenity societies, and professional and interest groups. In particular, it is led by a steering group of 20 key national bodies in the field (see box). We also intend to reach new partners and to be as socially and culturally inclusive as we can be.

Two rounds of consultation

The first – *An Invitation to Participate*, launched on 2 February 2000 – was a review of principles, aims and overall themes designed to collect views on scope and direction, and papers were sent to over 160 organisations and widely disseminated in England and elsewhere by photocopies, e-mail, and our website. More than 200 responses were received that supported the review and also added many significant ideas that have already influenced the course of the work.

A second, more detailed consultation will be launched shortly, based on discussion papers that will be widely distributed; the replies will help in producing the final report. We are exploring how best to reach a wide public audience. The papers are being written by five working groups of representatives of heritage bodies from across the sector, joined by English Heritage staff – thus combining our national, governmental perspective with regional, private, and specialist interests. The working groups are:
the historic environment: condition, trends, and future contexts
public involvement and access
tourism
regulation, statutory procedures, protection, and characterisation
sustainability and economic and social regeneration.
The groups will consider many common issues to ensure that the historic environment is central to modern life: the holistic definition of the historic environment; cultural diversity and social inclusion; subsidiarity (from European and national through regional to local levels); the balance between public and private involvement with the heritage; the role of community and interest groups; closer integration of the historic with the natural environment; the need for improved databases and records; ways of improving working connections between organisations; and the resources needed to maintain the heritage in good enough condition to play its part in culture.

Norwich city walls, trapped between the late twentieth-century ring road and a multistorey car park

Final report in September

The final report will be delivered to ministers in September. Throughout the review, we will look for practical ways to widen personal and community involvement in the heritage and to draw strength from the growing cultural diversity of our country. English Heritage already has its own separate corporate project, *Inclusion in English Heritage*, exploring cultural diversity, and this too will support the review. Each aspect of England's growing diversity – race, religion, class, gender, sexual orientation, age – has its own contribution to offer and its own interest in the historic environment. It is essential that government policy allows this diversity to blossom and that the historic environment is seen as central to social, economic and environmental well-being.

Graham Fairclough

Coordinator, Review of Policies Relating to the Historic Environment

histenv.rev@english-heritage.org.uk

Organisations represented at Chair level on the Steering Group

Chaired by Sir Neil Cossons, Chairman, English Heritage
Black Environment Network
British Property Federation
Churches Main Committee
Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment
Council for British Archaeology
Council for the Protection of Rural England
Country Landowners' Association
Countryside Agency
Department for Culture, Media and Sport

Department of the Environment, Transport, and the Regions
English Heritage
English Nature
English Tourism Council
Environment Agency
Groundwork Trust
Heritage Lottery Fund
Historic Houses Association
Joint Committee of Amenity Societies
Local Government Association
National Museum and Archives of Black History
National Trust

New Urban Panel

A new Urban Panel strengthens the link between conservation an. urban regeneration.
Peter Beacham, Head of Urban Strategies and Listing reports

Borough Market, Southwark, London

Electric Avenue, Brixton Market, London

A new Urban Panel has been set up to strengthen English Heritage's contribution to the current programme of urban regeneration. The Commission has asked that the Panel should offer advice on specific major redevelopment proposals for England's historic cities as well as providing general policy advice on related urban issues. In the last two years, a number of larger redevelopment proposals in major historic cities have come before the Historic Areas and Buildings Advisory Committee, marking a new phase of city centre redevelopment akin to the previous periods of intensive change in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. English Heritage is now an active partner in the evolution of successful schemes that combine an appreciation of the resources of the existing historic environment with support for beneficial economic and architecturally-excellent regeneration.

A key objective of the Urban Panel is to ensure that English Heritage becomes involved early enough in the development process to provide essential advice: the establishment of regional teams should prove vital in this respect. It demands not only that English Heritage is seen as fully engaged in urban regeneration issues but that our advice is sharply focussed and delivered holistically. This is especially true of English Heritage's expertise in evaluating the resources of the historic environment where archaeological, architectural, townscape, and landscape appraisal should be bound together as an essential part of environmental impact analysis and characterisation. The newly re-structured Archaeology and Survey Division, strengthened by merger with the former Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England, has brought together professional expertise in these fields. Timely evaluation should help to establish clear parameters for change and redevelopment as well as to influence design on issues of scale, massing and relationship with existing historic fabric, and the historic 'grain' of a city.

The establishment of the Urban Panel reinforces the positive link between conservation and urban regeneration. It accentuates the need for research into the less-easily quantifiable benefits of conserving historic and familiar townscape as places where people like to live and work, where they feel they belong, and where they wish to return. New,

even radical, design in our historic towns and cities is to be welcomed if it is delivered intelligently and contributes to a ‘sense of place’.
Under the Chairmanship of Geoffrey Wilson, a former Commissioner and Chairman of the London Advisory Committee, the Panel’s members include archaeologists, historians, architects, engineers, urban designers, and senior local government officers with wide experience of urban issues. At its first meeting on 8 February 2000, Kim Wilkie presented his report, *The Borough at London Bridge*, an innovative study of the kind of wider-ranging approach to urban issues involving the whole community that the Urban Panel is keen to encourage. Visits are planned to Bath, Bristol, Chester, and Manchester in the next three months.

Peter Beacham

Head of Urban Strategies and Listing

Heritage Grant Fund

Support for voluntary groups

Voluntary organisations, both locally and nation-ally, support the historic environment through many activities and projects. Head of Conservation Support Unit, Sally Embree, discusses the financial support available from the Heritage Grant Fund

This year English Heritage, as the new lead body for the historic environment, has been given responsibility for distributing the Heritage Grant Fund, previously administered by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. The Heritage Grant Fund offers support to national and local voluntary organisations for projects that further these objectives:
increasing understanding and enjoyment of the heritage and widening access for all
identifying and recording neglected aspects of the historic environment
promoting high standards in conservation practice.
Funding is offered for local projects that are themselves exemplars of good practice and that offer potential for wider application.
The programme provides two types of support: core funding towards the administrative costs of voluntary bodies, such as the national amenity societies, and project funding that allows voluntary organisations to undertake innovative or experimental projects. In taking over responsibility from the DCMS, we have been particularly keen to support projects that encourage greater access to the heritage and that explore the contribution of diverse communities to the historic environment. We have also sought to identify projects that make the most effective use of voluntary effort. Funding has generally been awarded for three years, though in some cases, funding for one year has been considered more appropriate.
This year’s awards enable us to continue to support the vital work of the amenity societies and organisations such as the Historic Chapels Trust which helps to preserve, repair, and maintain redundant non-Anglican chapels and other places of worship throughout the country. We also continue to support the Civic Trust in coordinating Heritage Open Days to encourage greater awareness of England’s built environment by offering free access to buildings or parts of buildings that are normally closed to the public; this year’s Open Day will take place during the weekend of 16 and 17 September.
Five new projects receiving Heritage Grant funding include both the Hackney Society’s exploration and documentation of the contribution of black and minority ethnic communities to Hackney’s historical, social, cultural, and physical development and also the Libertas Charities Group’s provision of exemplary audio tours for people with disabilities to enable increased intellectual access to the historic environment. Twenty-six

voluntary sector heritage projects will be assisted by English Heritage through the Heritage Grant Fund programme in 2000-2001 with funding of £635,040.
Voluntary organisations make an enormous contribution to the protection and promotion of the historic environment, both locally and nationally. Their work aims to make the historic environment relevant and accessible to everyone by encouraging people to act as volunteers, visitors, and supporters. The Heritage Grant Fund enables English Heritage to recognise this contribution and to encourage innovative proposals that further its objectives.

Sally Embree

Head of Conservation Support Unit

Streetscapes Managing streets

London Regional Director, Philip Davies, on Streets for all, launched in March, crucially important to all concerned with the design and maintenance of streets and public places

General clutter due to lack of proper street management (above) and The Strand after a major environmental enhancement scheme that removed all street clutter and repaired the footwalks

The better presentation and management of our streets is one of the greatest challenges for our historic towns and cities. Deregulation, privatisation, traffic calming, new methods of traffic management, and intense competition for road space between different users has generated unprecedented pressure on the public realm. The design and management of streets and public spaces demands as much care as the control of development on the buildings that enclose them, yet in the past 20 years too many areas have undergone a pronounced decline with a massive increase in traffic signs and uncoordinated clutter, substantially impairing the character and appearance of the areas they are intended to serve.
Once renowned for their visual order, our streets have often declined into a jumble of traffic signs, bollards, guard rails, and street furniture set in a sea of discordant paving. The loss of a sense of hierarchy has eroded local distinctiveness and is often a symptom of a wider collapse of respect for the public realm generally.
Roads are places in their own right and not just routes from A to B. They should also be subordinate to the communities they serve. Well-designed, well-ordered, and well-maintained streets are an expression of a confident and caring community. Chaotic and cluttered streets are a symptom of community fragmentation and low self-esteem.
The purpose of this guide is to make the streets of London attractive, safe, and enjoyable spaces for all people. It builds on the 1999 report of the Urban Task Force, *Towards an urban renaissance*, and forms an important part of the work of English Heritage and the other co-sponsors to secure access for all and sustainable community regeneration in London.
Jointly commissioned by English Heritage, the Government Office for London, the London Planning Advisory Committee, the London Forum, and the Pedestrians Association, and endorsed and sponsored by the Traffic Director for London, *Streets for all* is a Streetscape Manual aimed at both users of streets (all of us) and those responsible for their design and

maintenance. Although intended primarily for London, the principles are universally applicable.
The main part of the manual, Part 1, is a 64-page coloured guide dealing with issues of ground surfaces, street furniture, new equipment, traffic calming, management, and environmental improvements. It is a reference guide to good practice, providing advice on the design of paving, the treatment of surfaces, the rationalisation and location of signs, street furniture and kiosks, as well as traffic-calming, lighting, and landscaping. The text is illustrated with examples of poor as well as good schemes to highlight best practice. Part 2 consists of over 20 information sheets that will regularly be added to, showing examples of typical traditional details for pavement construction, and modern details for raised crossovers, integrated signs, and landscaping.
As well as articulating essential urban design principles, *Streets for all* sets a clear agenda for the Mayor and the new Greater London Authority. Its publication is the first in a coordinated series of measures to address the public realm. The follow-up campaign includes a series of seminars for highways engineers in the London Boroughs using practical demonstration projects, and we hope to take the principles of Streets for all into the English regions and, in particular, other major towns and cities. We will also be working with other environmental agencies to recommend a series of measures to government to curb the creeping suburbanisation of the countryside.

Philip Davies

London Regional Director

Free copies of Streets for all may be ordered from Customer Services, telephone 01793 414910 [Product Code XH20137]

Future strategy in London

London Regional Deputy Director, Malcolm Cooper, on English Heritage in London: our future strategy, launched in March before the Evening Standard English Heritage Debate, 'A Vision for the Future Mayor of London'

Kenwood Estate on Hampstead Heath

The Thames looking south-east from Tower Bridge at Bermondsey and Canary Wharf

Free copies of *English Heritage in London: our future strategy* may be ordered from Customer Services, telephone 01793 414910 [Product Code XH20134]
English Heritage plays a vital role in the social and economic success of London and its function as a world city, yet few are aware of the enormous range and diversity of its activities in the capital. To address this lack of awareness, we have published *English Heritage in London: our future strategy* which sets out our role and strategic objectives in London, our working partnership with a wide range of organisations, and our plans to develop our regional role and respond to changes in London's governance over the next three years.
The breadth of our conservation and property management responsibilities is wider in London than elsewhere in England. This is due in part to the special powers and responsibilities inherited from the old Great London Council but is also a product of the size, scale, and complexity of the capital and its role as a world city. The Region also has responsibility for the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service – equivalent to the

county archaeological services and sites and monuments records outside London – as well as the Government Historic Buildings Advisory Unit with its national remit to advise on the government's historic estate including the occupied royal palaces.

In the past year London Region has also taken over responsibility from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) for 45 London statues including the Cenotaph, and for Wellington and Marble Arch. Taking into account also the recent merger with the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments for England (RCHME), which includes the National Monuments Record and the continuing work on the *Survey of London*, its role and responsibilities for the historic and built environment in London are comprehensive and complex. As we enter the new Millennium, it is crucially important that English Heritage continues to provide a coherent framework for London's historic built environment, particularly given the imminent changes in London's governance. The Mayor and Greater London Authority will concentrate on strategic issues in London and English Heritage will have a crucial role to play in planning, regeneration, transport and culture, both directly and also through the London Development Agency and Cultural Strategy Group. While English Heritage will continue to work with central government, local authorities, and the many organizations and individuals within the capital, the GLA will be a highly influential new player, so it will be essential that the Region develops a close and effective working relationship with the Mayor and GLA.

English Heritage in London: our future strategy is therefore a timely addition to our publications. It has three main tasks: to provide an overview of the nature and extent of our work in London, to identify future regional strategy and priorities within the capital, and to promote wider access to the information resources it holds. Following a general overview of English Heritage and its work in London, there are three main sections: Understanding London's heritage, which highlights our information resources and collections and identifies the developments needed to enhance these; Improving access to London's heritage, which outlines educational initiatives, exhibitions, and other activities to improve access, and identifies the historic properties that the Region manages for the public; and Conserving and regenerating London's heritage, which covers planning, grants, and advisory activities and also highlights future challenges.

Malcolm Cooper

Deputy Director, London Region

World Heritage developments

The World Heritage Convention is broadening its list of sites and emphasising guidelines for proper management. Christopher Young, Head of World Heritage and International Policy, reports

Cromford Mills, Derbyshire, built by Sir Richard Arkwright at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution to support the developing textile industry, where a recent regeneration scheme has provided work areas and community spaces

The growth of the World Heritage Convention increasingly impinges on what we do in the UK. English Heritage has created a new post responsible for World Heritage and International Policy so that advice may be offered both to managers and others dealing with the existing 11 English World Heritage Sites and those on the Tentative List and also to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (the lead government department for the

Convention) on other aspects of the World Heritage Convention. We work closely with ICOMOS UK and the Local Authority World Heritage Forum.

Internationally, the Convention is going through a testing time. The victim of its own success, the World Heritage Committee, its secretariat in the World Heritage Centre, and its advisory bodies, ICOMOS, IUCN and ICCROM, are facing increasing numbers of nominations and casework on existing sites. The management of this increasing workload is a major issue, as is the rectification of the numerical and cultural imbalance between sites in Western Europe and North America and those in the rest of the world. Possible solutions being considered include a reduction in the number of nominations from countries with many existing sites or a concentration on types of site, such as cultural landscapes or industrial archaeology, currently underrepresented.

The UK is not a member of the World Heritage Committee itself but may attend meetings as an observer. This enables us to take an active role in the work of the Convention both through contribution to debate and participation in smaller groups. The UK has also been able to offer assistance to the development of the record systems of the World Heritage Centre. In April this year, English Heritage will, on behalf of DCMS, host an international workshop in Canterbury on the revision of the Operational Guidelines for the Convention, essential guidance to all who manage World Heritage Sites.

In August 1999, The UK published its new Tentative List, the Government's selection of sites for possible nomination over the next five to ten years. The first sites to have been nominated were Blaenavon Industrial Landscape in South Wales and the town of St George in Bermuda; a decision is expected in December this year. Nominations in 2000 are likely to be the Derwent Valley, centred on Arkwright's mills at Cromford, New Lanark, and Saltaire, marking the United Kingdom's pioneering contribution to the development of the world's textile industries and the infrastructure needed to support them. The Dorset and East Devon Coast may also be nominated for its natural heritage as one of the greatest exposures of Jurassic geology. Prehistoric Orkney became the UK's eighteenth World Heritage Site in December 1999.

The proper management of existing World Heritage Sites continues to be a high priority. Management plans for Stonehenge and Greenwich will be published shortly; the plan for Hadrian's Wall, adopted in 1996, is being revised for its second quinquennium; work is proceeding on plans for the Tower of London, Canterbury, Ironbridge, Bath, and Durham. Avebury, the Giant's Causeway, and Orkney already have management plans.

Lulworth Cove, Dorset, has been formed by widening of the sea in the Portland Stone and lower Purbeck Limestone and by washing away of the softer Middle and Upper Purbeck and Wealdon Beds behind

Golden Cap Estate, Devon, part of the exposure of Jurassic geology along the Dorset and East Devon coast

The work of the Convention will continue to develop during the next few years with increasing emphasis on the proper management of World Heritage Sites as well as on the growth of the list. In recent years the UK has developed its position considerably and laid solid foundations on which to respond to the changing needs of the Convention.

Christopher Young

Head of World Heritage & International Policy

Notes

New deal for rural heritage

In December 1999, Secretary of State for Agriculture, Nick Brown, announced an important shift in farming policy in response to the *Agenda 2000* consultation exercise on reform of the Common Agricultural Policy. In making this move, Government has opted to use discretionary powers under the CAP to transfer, over the next seven years, £1.6 billion of funding from support for commodity production to measures aimed at rural development and environmental protection and enhancement. By doing so, it is taking a first step towards restructuring the farming industry in anticipation of further reductions in commodity support likely to result from the next round of World Trade Organisation negotiations on agriculture. This change in policy will be of considerable benefit to the historic environment, and was welcomed by the Chairman of English Heritage, Sir Jocelyn Stevens, as 'bold and far-sighted, marking a decisive turning point in the Government's policy on farming and the Countryside'.

English Heritage's *Monuments at Risk Survey*, published in 1998, demonstrated that intensive agriculture is a major source of damage and loss of ancient monuments, including nationally-important scheduled monuments. In addition, the DETR-sponsored countryside surveys over the last few decades have charted a rapid decline in the distinctive character of the countryside as a result of the loss of traditional features such as hedges, walls and ponds. Particularly welcome, therefore, is a major cash boost for the Countryside Stewardship Scheme that promotes good management, repair, and restoration of archaeological sites, historic buildings, designed landscapes, and traditional countryside features. Also welcome are wholly new rural development measures including renovation of villages, protection and conservation of the rural heritage, and encouragement of craft activities, all of which play an important role in maintaining and enhancing local diversity in the built environment.

The boost in funding also brings with it a number of challenges, particularly for English Heritage staff in the regions who will see an increase in casework, and for colleagues in local authorities. In addition, other *Agenda 2000* measures, such as a large increase in support for energy crops, could have a negative effect on sensitive landscapes, unless managed with care and a sound understanding of landscape character.

The prioritisation and distribution of rural development funds will be regulated under a new England Rural Development Plan, to which English Heritage was an important contributor at national and regional level, alongside environmental, countryside, and regional development agencies, and MAFF and DETR. These cross-sectoral partnerships have resulted in the production of an integrated plan for agricultural measures and rural development and will continue to bear fruit as the new plan is implemented.

Stephen Trow

Head of Countryside Policy

Collections conservation awards 1999

The annual Conservation Awards, organised by the Museums & Galleries Commission (MGC) and supported by English Heritage and the National Preservation Office, focus

public attention on the importance of conservation and on the skills and expertise of conservation professionals in the UK and Ireland.
The 1999 Conservation Awards are a collaborative venture. For the past five years they have been organised by the MGC. This year, with the demise of the MGC and the end of sponsorship from the Jerwood Foundation they are being supported by English Heritage and the National Preservation Office, based at and supported by the British Museum. The Pilgrim Trust has agreed to provide prize money totalling £10,000 each year for the next three years.
The 1999 Conservation Awards feature two categories: The Award for Conservation and the Student Conservator of the Year Award. The winners will be announced at the British Library on the evening of Tuesday 28 March.
Chairman of the Judging Panel, Loyd Grossman, commented: 'This is an outstanding example of heritage collaboration and illustrates in a very tangible way the importance and significance of conservation today'.
Shortlisted projects:

The Award for Conservation

Museum of London Conservation Department and MOL Specialist Services for public excavation, conservation, and presentation of a Roman stone sarcophagus containing an intact lead coffin which was carried out by conservators in a gallery in full view of the public and media
Steve Barrow, Mary Davis, Penny Hill, and Louise Mumford, National Museums and Galleries of Wales, for 'Henry's BIG Adventure', a web-based interactive experience that introduces metal detectorists and other non-specialists to coin conservation
Virginia Neal, Wiltshire County Council Conservation Service, for the conservation of a unique Bronze Age shield, which generated much regional publicity bringing the work of conservators to the public
Neil Mahrer, Conservator, Jersey Heritage Trust, for its conservation laboratory, in which visitors are able to watch and take part in conservation work on shipwreck artefacts
Royal Albert Memorial Conservation Department, Exeter, for its project to improve collection care, interpretation, and public access for the Designated ethnography collection of Exeter City Museum
Allyson McDermott for the removal, conservation, and re-installation of the contents of a print room at Woodhall Park, Hertfordshire.

Student Conservator of the Year Award

Maureen Cross, University of Northumbria at Newcastle, for the treatment, analysis, and research of the portrait of Henry Frederick Howard, Earl of Arundel
Agnes M Homoky, Camberwell College of Arts, for the conservation of the Whitworth Art Gallery's largest exhibition watercolour, the 'Shipwreck off St Michael's Mount, Cornwall, 1833' by Charles Bentley
Elizabeth-Anne Haldane, RCA/V&A Joint Course, for her investigation into the process of cuir bouilli leather and its conservation treatment. Cuir bouilli is a leather treatment used to mould leather into objects such as helmets, boxes, and water-carrying vessels.

Website Relaunch

In May, English Heritage will relaunch its revised website, merging English Heritage's main site, the former Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England's main site, and the Archaeology Division's site. Changes include a completely restructured and

redesigned site, new homepage, search engine, and site map as well as basic e-commerce. Initial attention has been given to:
presentation of historic properties
on-line trading and e-commerce
education
access to heritage information
access to on-line services.
The restructured site will offer a range of information: from our Strategy Plan and Annual Report to consultation documents and our complaints procedure; from information about Days Out based on our Visitor's Handbook to information for visitors with disabilities and those interested in our Overseas Visitor Pass; from publications and gifts to special events, concerts, exhibitions and conferences; and from membership and donations to advice for teachers on visiting sites and a GNVQ on tourism and leisure.

Hill House: Sutton 'New Deal' scheme

Hill House, Sutton, nineteenth-century villa with 1960s extension adjoining right
With the help of an experienced builder, Hill House, a grade II listed building in Surrey, is finally getting a face-lift, with volunteer efforts. A small, rotating team of eight men and women are learning refurbishment skills on the Government's Environment Task Force as part of the 'New Deal' programme.
Hill House at Rose Hill, Sutton, is a survivor. Built in the early-to mid-nineteenth century, this Victorian villa has been home to the St Helier Community Association since the 1920s. Due to its isolated position, it has suffered from vandalism and still bears the scars of repeated attacks. A leaky roof caused internal damage and rot, giving Hill House a neglected air.
Sutton Council, the owner, needed to act and set up a partnership with ECOACTIF – a joint venture between local authorities and the Probation Service – to activate the Government's 'New Deal' programme. Its task force selects young people to work on projects that improve the local environment, including renovating old buildings.
In this case, a team of young volunteers worked under supervision to learn redecorating, re-plastering and joinery, key skills needed to work in the construction industry. After a 3-week induction, the 'New Deal' task force began to take part. After three months, each volunteer's work was assessed. Those showing a real aptitude were encouraged to stay on for the full six months, which fostered a good team spirit. Many developed skills as the project gained pace.
A contractor was hired to make local roof repairs, and the building was given a chance to dry out; missing windows upstairs were replaced to match the originals. A special effort was made to maintain high standards of repair and redecorating while new skills were being learned. English Heritage is keen to ensure that local authorities maintain the principle of repairing only where necessary and matching 'like-for-like'.
As this is the first phase of stabilisation, initial steps were taken to ensure that Hill House was weather-tight and vandal-resistant. For now, polycarbonate sheets have replaced broken windowpanes on ground floor, whereas exact replica timber casement windows were made to replace missing ones on the first floor. Remaining works include refining internal surface treatments and re-rendering externally, and English Heritage will advise. ECOACTIF made significant financial savings here, due to a steady stream of volunteers. The most vital benefit, however, has been the rescue of a rapidly deteriorating fine historic villa, now returned to full community use. This is the first opportunity English Heritage has

had to help a ‘New Deal’ scheme and advise the Council on maintaining historic building standards for repair. Together we are forging links to give historic buildings the attention they deserve.
The ‘New Deal’ option will be publicised through Voluntary Sector, a magazine about projects on buildings that need refurbishment. With a multi-disciplinary team approach, there is a real opportunity to build bridges on schemes that benefit local communities.
Hill House demonstrates the principle of ‘social inclusion’ on relevant projects by teaching young unemployed people desperately-needed construction skills. This is an excellent opportunity for English Heritage to provide specialist historic buildings advice and to foster a positive spirit of cooperation on projects that make a real difference.

Anna-Marie Pagano

Historic Buildings Inspector, London Region

Advice from

Health & Safety Advisor
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Fire Safety Advisor
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Tel: 020 7973 3619
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Jonathan Livesey
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Invitation to Participate

Heritage Open Days 2000, a national annual celebration of architecture and culture in its seventh year, is to be held on the weekend of 16–17 September. The event is coordinated by The Civic Trust on behalf of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and supported by English Heritage. The successful event harnesses voluntary effort and enthusiasm to open up to 2000 buildings and sites throughout England free of charge. From museums to cathedrals, private houses to industrial sites, all types of buildings are welcome to open their doors to those interested in architecture and culture.
Extensive media coverage and popular support gives organisers and organisations a unique opportunity to promote their properties locally and nationally, attract visitors, and raise awareness for relevant issues such as conservation.
Heritage Open Days ‘99 welcomed almost one million people across England who came to visit our rich architectural heritage. The Civic Trust hopes to open more buildings and sites (they do not have to be old or grand) this year. We invite you to contact us if you own or know interesting buildings and sites in your area to broaden the variety and extend our list of participating properties.
A series of seminars on Heritage Open Days for organisers, local authorities, property owners, and interested parties will be held in April in Manchester, Taunton, Bury St Edmunds, and London.
For further information on Heritage Open Days, participation in the event, or the seminars, please contact:

The Civic Trust
Heritage Open Days
17 Carlton House Terrace,
London SW1Y 5AW
Tel: 0171 930 0914
Fax: 0171 321 0180
www.civictrust.org.uk

Empire Theatre, Sunderland

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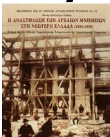
Conservation and repair of brick and terracotta masonry
BC 3D15, 2–5 May • Residential cost £545
Ecological management of historic buildings and sites
BC 3D16, 23–26 May • Residential costs £545
Conservation and repair of masonry ruins
BC 3D17, 13–16 June
For further information, including non-residential costs, please contact the Building Conservation Masterclasses Coordinator: tel 01243 818294/811301, fax 01243 811343, e-mail: westdean@pavilion.co.uk

Book Reviews

Anastyloses

Ē Anastēlōsē tōn Archaiōn Mnēmeiōn stē Neōterē Ellada (1834–1939)
To ergo tēs En Athēnais Archaiologikēs Etaireias kai tēs Archaiologikēs Ypēresias (Bibliothēkē tēs En Athēnais Archaiologikēs Etaireias Ar. 176)
by Fani Mallouchou-Tufano, 1998,
Athens: Archaeological Society of Athens, 20,000 GDr [ISSN 1105-7785; ISBN 960-7036-78-6]

For much of the last quarter of a century the Athenian Acropolis has been shrouded, in one part or another, by scaffolding. A characteristic of the works of conservation and restoration carried out since the formation of the Committee for the Conservation of Acropolis Monuments in 1975 is that they have been accompanied by an exemplary campaign of publication. Three international conferences have been held, their proceedings published, and, uniquely perhaps, it is the architects responsible for the work to the individual monuments – Tasos Tanoulas at the Propylaea, Manolis Korres at the

Parthenon, for instance – who have led the way in the scholarly study of the buildings. Their studies have profoundly transformed our knowledge of the buildings on the Acropolis and their history
Side by side with this work on the buildings has been another study of equal – or even greater – interest: the study of the history of previous interventions on the site since :1976 by the archaeologist Fani Mallouchou-Tufano. It is the fruit of this work, published in part in the conference proceedings already mentioned, as well as elsewhere, that is now collected in her *The Restoration of Ancient Monuments in Modern Greece (1834-1939): the work of the Archaeological Society at Athens and the Greek Archaeological Service*. It is a fascinating story.
From the beginning of the modern Greek state the fate of the Acropolis hill was a matter of public policy and justified national pride. Even before the removal of the Bavarian garrison from the Acropolis, the architect Leo von Klenze had reported to the government with proposals that guided the work for over half a century to the point where the Ephor, Panagiotis Kavvadias, could declare in 1890 that 'thus does Greece deliver the Acropolis back to the civilised world, cleansed of all barbaric additions, a noble monument to the Greek genius...'. Further campaigns followed, accompanied by waves of doubt and controversy. As W Mure had noted as early as 1838 (in a passage included as an appendix to the work under review), 'the Acropolis, since its area has been cleared of its other Turkish appendages, presents a somewhat bare and desolate aspect, and is probably a far less picturesque scene than it was in Turkish times.... But if the [Frankish tower at the Propylaea] be pulled down – if the Erectheum and the Parthenon be restored... – if the surrounding area be then levelled, paved, and appropriated... – the result will hardly be such as to afford matter of congratulation to any true lover of art or antiquity'.
The Frankish tower was in fact pulled down in 1875, inspiring further heated debate which flared up again across the years, particularly in response to Nicholaos Balanos' work from 1909 to 1939 (the technical deficiencies of which have necessitated the present campaign – itself generating further anxieties). It is the achievement of Dr Mallouchou-Tufano's book that archival records of excavation and restoration have been combined with the history of the controversy that accompanied them to give not just a history of the interventions, but, in effect, a history of taste as it affected the Acropolis. The monuments as we see them today have been formed by this history and it is through this book that its traces can clearly be read. Just as it is a principle of the present work on the Acropolis that it be reversible, Mrs Tufano allows us to read back through the work of the preceding generations and to see it against the background of changing views of restoration in Europe in the last century (her bibliography, too, is useful in this respect). The work is in every way exemplary. A partial equivalent in this country might be Christopher Chippendale's 1983 volume on Stonehenge.
It would be good to see an English translation but, in the meantime for the English reader, there is a summary in English and, very usefully, the captions to the 313 illustrations, photographs and drawings from the archives, most of them previously unpublished, have also been translated; these in themselves give a vivid history of the interventions. Also published for the first time are a number of documents relating to the successive controversies. To the English-speaking reader, perhaps, the most interesting of these is W B Dinsmoor's 1927 report on the rebuilding of the north colonnade – a carefully analytical discussion based on measurements of the original positions of the various column drums (then being rebuilt by Balanos in incorrect positions) with equally reasoned aesthetic discussion – a combination that is characteristic of this book as a whole.

Martin Goalen

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Advice on reconstruction

Fani Mallouchou-Tufano's excellent book on the conservation and restoration of the Acropolis monuments up to World War II is reviewed above. The issues it raises are still very much alive, not just in Greece, but anywhere ancient monuments are conserved. The tensions at the heart of any intervention in an archaeological site are made starkly clear in this book – the need to restore for aesthetic, educational, or national reasons against the need to preserve the ruin as evidence; the case for removing later additions to a site in order to lay open the evidence of its principal significance; the argument over whether modern materials and techniques should be used to stabilise ancient structures.

In particular the book highlights the problems of restoration of missing features on ruins. W B Dinsmoor's discussion of the northern colonnade of the Parthenon (Appendix 11) and the materials used for repair should be required reading for all those involved in the conservation of ancient monuments.

A particular issue is the case for and against the partial restoration of ruins and archaeological sites, where little or nothing survives above ground, in order to improve their presentational and educational value. Speculative reconstruction was roundly condemned in the Venice Charter of 1964 and has been at the heart of British conservation theory and practice since the days of William Morris. The more recent Lausanne Charter (1990) recognises both the value of reconstruction of archaeological sites, in some circumstances, for experiment and instruction as well as the importance of taking account of all available evidence. It states also that, '*where possible* [my italics], reconstructions should not be built immediately on the archaeological remains, and should be identified as such'. This is a weakening of the more robust position of the Venice Charter.

The case for reconstruction on archaeological sites is based on the proposition that it will make sites more comprehensible and interesting. There is also an experimental argument for reconstruction since it can improve our understanding of how structures were built and used. The case against *in situ* reconstruction, however, is based both on the need to preserve archaeological deposits or structures as evidence of the site's history and on the view that reconstruction will damage that evidence and may also be misleading if based only on partial evidence. Reconstructions also may date quickly and may adversely affect the visual setting of the site in question.

English Heritage's advice on reconstruction on archaeological sites has followed that of its predecessors, based firmly on the precepts of William Morris as well as the Venice Charter. In practice it has allowed a degree of reconstruction to take place where needed for structural reasons and, sometimes, for educational reasons where the evidence is unambiguous. An example of this was the re-erection of some of the fallen stones at Stonehenge about 40 years ago.

There have also been cases where reconstruction on the site of the original building has been allowed. A good example was the decision of the Secretary of State in 1984 to allow reconstruction of the West Gate of South Shields Roman fort on the grounds that the particular proposal would not significantly damage archaeological deposits, that it was reversible, and that it would produce substantial benefits for the site and its area.

Proposals for *in situ* reconstruction continue to come forward from time to time and there remains a need for clearer guidance. English Heritage is, therefore, working on draft guidelines that will be the subject of public consultation later this year, linked to the development of the Government's new Heritage Strategy Review, discussed elsewhere in this Bulletin.

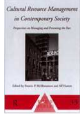
Christopher Young

Head of World Heritage and International Policy

Hard times

Cultural Resource Management in Contemporary Society: Perspectives on Managing and Presenting the Past,

Francis P McManamon and Alf Halton, eds, 2000, Routledge, One World Archaeology 33, £80 (ISBN 0-4151-1785-2]



The World Archaeology Congress in New Delhi in 1994 was disrupted by a major conflict over cultural resource management. Muslim and Hindu activists were disputing the significance of the Ayodhya site and how it should be treated, and at one point the conference erupted into violence. This book contains the papers from one of the sessions held during that conference: sessions that were, ironically, about the very topic of cultural resource management – how should resources be preserved, who decides what should be preserved, and how do they do it?

The incident was a reminder of the power of heritage to inflame passions, particularly when there is a dispute over what matters to whom, and shows that the whole business of managing the heritage is a complex matter of balancing different values. The papers in this book illustrate a fascinating variety of practice and issues from across the world. For Cameroon, Asombang writes about the difficulties of implementing new legislation; Folorunso notes the particular reluctance to include cultural impact issues in environmental assessments for new projects in Africa (a problem not always limited to the Third World); other topics include rescue archaeology in Japan, heritage in divided Northern Ireland, as well as papers from Norway, Sri Lanka, Russia, England, Chile, and Argentina.

Cultural resource management, heritage, conservation or whatever you choose to call it is a complex topic. It can cover anything from academic research to building conservation, site interpretation, rescue archaeology, or community work; there is also a cynical press that condemns 'heritage' as a superficial business concerned only with theme parks and pastiche. This book is about the business of 'what is real' – in this case the conservation of archaeological sites in the sense of mainly buried remains and ruins, and the objects associated with them. The papers cover interpretation strategies, conservation legislation, museum practice, and the problems raised by the looting of cultural objects, but only touch on wider landscape (Davies and Fritz) or built heritage issues (Price). As with any volume of conference papers, they are to some extent self-selecting, but the editors have added breadth to the book through their introduction and the addition of four more American papers (but none from Southern Europe, Australia, or South East Asia).

For Halton and McManamon the key issues in cultural resource management are the lack of integration between different strands of heritage management – tourism, interpretation, museums practice and conservation – that may result in fragmentation and lack of influence. They argue for the need for strong national legislation and appropriate support, but also quite rightly raise the important factor of local support, without which most cultural resource management strategies are ineffectual.

However, in their overview the editors shy away from one of the central themes of this global perspective on cultural resource management. A clear divide is beginning to emerge. On the one hand there is the traditional European model of heritage as a centralised bureaucratic activity whose values pivot on the old, the monumental, the aesthetic, with an emphasis on attribution, connoisseurship, style, and national values. On the other hand, a newer model is emerging from the experience of the third world, Australia, Africa, and the USA that acknowledges that heritage is multi-vocal, contested, and difficult. The latter model incorporates cultural diversity, and works with communities, emphasises places rather than monuments, and has more in common with environmental conservation than the conservation of works of art.

Behind these emerging trends is a deep-seated conflict between the idea of heritage as an homogenising process encouraging a unified national identity and the idea of cultural diversity with its perceived risk of national disaggregation and, as New Delhi showed, conflict. It is a real fear of such conflict in an already war-torn Europe that can make the new heritage so deeply discomfiting.

There are no simple answers to this conundrum. In English Heritage we have recently committed ourselves to acknowledging the role of heritage in social inclusion, particularly through promoting cultural diversity. We know we need to work with a wider range of communities to respect their heritage and widen the debate, though we recognise that a dilemma will be created over the allocation of scarce resources. The papers in this book indicate that these dilemmas are world-wide and unlikely to go away.

The antagonism at the New Delhi conference is a vivid reminder that, if we are to manage the remains of the past effectively, we will need to deal with conflict, debate, and diverse values with respect, before they erupt into violence, bringing the business of heritage management into disrepute.

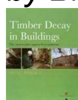
Kate Clark

Head, Historic Environment Management

Diagnosis and remedy for repairing timber

Timber decay in buildings: the conservation approach of treatment,

by Brian Ridout 2000, E&FN Spon £30 [0-419-18820-7]



Brian Ridout's book is a comprehensive study of timber – its nature, methods of decay, effects of the building environment, and a new approach to treatment. Commissioned by English Heritage to carry out research on controlling the death watch beetle, Ridout bid successfully for EU funds for the Woodcare Project. His book, the result of some years of collaboration and sponsored by English Heritage and Historic Scotland, is an exemplary textbook on all aspects of the subject and should be on the bookshelves of all architects and conservators, not only for its information but also for its recommendations.

Beginning with the origin and durability of timbers – both hardwoods, softwoods and their ages – a firm foundation is laid for understanding the properties and construction of timbers, the differences in timber growing, and changes in quality during the last century, although more could have been made of this aspect.

The major section deals with agents of decay, giving detailed life histories of furniture beetle and death watch beetle and the results of research, including forms of attack on sapwood and hardwood that are dependant on the presence of fungi. There is a fascinating section on the reproductive life of the beetles, including the fact that they do fly actively rather than being sedentary as previously assumed. The ineffectiveness of most treatments is discussed, with new research proposed for insect traps that may hold the keys to the safe reduction in numbers. One of the main problems with most present treatments is that they are indiscriminate, killing both beetles and natural enemies that are numerous and fairly efficient at catching and eating them.

The section on dry rot alters radically our view of the danger of the fungus. In the past, discovery of a fungus would have led to an extensive removal of timber and plaster regardless of condition or importance. It now appears that dry rot fungus is dependant on a plentiful supply of water; identifying and eliminating that source results in its drying out and death.

The book offers a new approach to dealing with timber problems, though I was disappointed at the lack of prominence given to the list of diagnoses of and treatments for

worm and beetle infestation and dry rot, that is relegated to a table without headings in an appendix. I thought more could be made of the holistic approach that included investigation of possible causes and remedial action, possibly only spot treatment, taken first to determine whether major treatment was needed or not.
Despite these minor reservations, I think the book is an important contribution to the subject and essential reading for all who deal with timber care in any form.

Julian Limentani

Churches and Cathedrals Advisory Committee

Preservation and presentation

Managing historic sites and buildings: reconciling preservation and presentation,
Gill Chitty and David Baker, eds, 1999, Routledge, £16.99, £55.00
(ISBN 0-4152-0815-7, 0-1452-0814-91

Managing historic sites is the second publication in the Issues in Heritage Management series, a joint initiative between Routledge and English heritage; the series is intended for students and professionals in the field. Many of its contributors are, or once were, English Heritage staff, and most of the case studies in the book draw upon properties which English Heritage now manages or redefines, through the listing process. Thus we have essays on Hadrian's Wall, on Stokesay and Wigmore Castles, on Brodsworth Hall and on the conservation of twentieth-century buildings. The exceptions include David Baker's discussion of churches and cathedrals, and the tensions between preserving the 'architecture of religion' and allowing religious practice and new uses to evolve, and Margaret Warhurst's account of her work at Norton Priory, bridging the gap between the accidents of survival and the needs and interests of the community she serves. David Start's essay on community archaeology in Lincolnshire offers a similarly engaging perspective.
This concentration upon the work of English Heritage gives the book a peculiarly narrow focus. It would have been instructive to consider the challenges that confront local authorities charged with the care of the historic environment, against a background of budgetary constraints and increasing social need. We might consider, for example, Blaise Castle and the Repton landscape on the northern fringes of Bristol, or the Matthew Boulton house in Handsworth in Birmingham. There, the local authority has painstakingly restored the interiors of the house, drawing on the fragments of wallpaper and floor cloth found in the Boulton archive and tracking down dispersed pieces of furniture – so far, so familiar. But it has also created new rooms within Soho House, intended for use by local residents as an exhibition gallery and functions space, and explicitly reflecting the very different Handsworth that now surrounds Boulton's former home – the densely-packed streets of houses that replaced the farms and scattered cottages of the 1760s, and eventually the gardens of the house itself. Thus preservation and presentation have been combined with the development of new uses for a building whose relevance to those who live and work in its neighbouring streets was perhaps not immediately apparent. We know, of course, that Boulton's industry and ingenuity are part of the story of how we emerged from rural England to multi-cultural and urbanised Britain, but such knowledge is only one element in the task of preserving historic buildings, or of persuading other people of the value of preserving them.
Margaret Warhurst hints at this in her essay, distinguishing Norton Priory from 'archaeological sites that have been monumentalised ... frozen in time and ever more

isolated from their surroundings'. The demands of her funders, within the constraints of the local economy, make such fossilisation an unrealistic, as well as an undesirable, option.
From a different perspective, Krystyna Campbell outlines the difficulties created by the narrowly drawn boundaries of properties in guardianship, where the building has been effectively removed from its landscape, and the associations and connections obscured. Reuniting the two – and preserving the special qualities of the relationship between them – has become the aim of well-drafted management plans and collaborative working among the different owners and agencies who may now he responsible for a complex mix of buildings, parkland, and gardens.

Putting buildings back into their proper context, or understanding the demands and opportunities created by their new context, is also touched upon in Marion Blockley's chapter on industrial heritage and the Ironbridge Gorge. She outlines the debate surrounding the removal of significant industrial monuments from their original Shropshire location to a new home at Blists Hill, and the range of issues that must be resolved if they are to be preserved *in situ*, not least their viability in an increasingly competitive market where rival attractions vie with one another for the same visitors. In this context, local relevance becomes particularly important, tapping real enthusiasm for the real thing, although the costs of maintenance remain a major problem and a frequent cause of defeat.

None the less, understanding a monument in relation to its visitors, users or support group remains as important as understanding its historic, architectural or cultural significance, if we are to develop truly effective means of presenting historic buildings – the subject of another book – and develop and maintain public support for their preservation. From this perspective, the aim is not to reconcile presentation and preservation, but to use the former as the means by which we demonstrate the importance of the latter.

Alison Hems

Head of Interpretation

Sculpture Public celebration

Horse and rider by Elisabeth Frink, bronze, 1980, High Street, Winchester

Quartet by Richard Perry, bronze, 1986, Old Market Square, Nottingham

Alfred the Great by Hamo Thornycroft, bronze, 1901, The Broadway, Winchester

As the lead body for heritage in England, English Heritage has a statutory duty to protect listed sculptures, to recommend modern sculptures for listing, and to care for and present

to the public over a 11000 pieces in its own collection, distributed throughout its historic properties around the country. English Heritage has recently taken over responsibility from the Government for 47 prominent sculptures in London, including Wellington Arch, currently undergoing a £1.5 million restoration. We give grants for the repair of public sculptures and are among the leading specialists in techniques of conservation. We have a broad educational programme and believe in encouraging the preservation of old and the commissioning of new works that enhance the historic environment. Our national campaign for the care and protection of war memorials, launched in November 1999, is discussed elsewhere in this issue.

Year of public sculpture 2000

As its millennial year theme English Heritage has chosen public sculpture in recognition of its contribution to the quality of public spaces in cities, towns and villages. As Sir Jocelyn Stevens said, 'public sculpture is the most celebratory and commemorative of art forms. The repository of communal memory, the record of heroism, martyrdom or vainglory, it speaks to us more directly than any other element of the historic environment'. The Year of Public Sculpture 2000 was launched on 14 March by the Chairman and noted sculptor Antony Gormley. To draw attention to the vast collection of public sculpture, events have been planned that range from a series of sculpture walks in regional cities to an exhibition of sculptural summerhouses at Belsay Hall and the opening of a modern sculpture park in the ruins of Witley Court, generously supported by the Jerwood Foundation. The modern sculpture park will include works by internationally known sculptors as well as those by younger artists whose work will go on tour to London and other parts of the country. English Heritage has published *A user's guide to public sculpture* [£7.95; Product Code XD20025], written by the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association with an introduction by Richard Cork, art critic of The Times, that includes maps, information and a specially commissioned series of photographs. The guide, a free map of English Heritage properties with sculpture, and a free leaflet with details of sculpture-related events and exhibitions, many of which include educational days and workshops for children, may be obtained from 01793 414595.