



ENGLISH HERITAGE

HERITAGE AT RISK

2013

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HERITAGE AT RISK

Heritage at Risk is our campaign to save listed buildings and important historic sites, places and landmarks from neglect or decay. At its heart is the Heritage at Risk Register, an online database containing details of each site known to be at risk. It is analysed and updated annually and this leaflet summarises the results. Heritage at Risk teams are now in each of our nine local offices, delivering national expertise locally.

The good news is that we are on target to save 25% (1,137) of the sites that were on the Register in 2010 by 2015. From the Roman site at Easton Grey to the Porthmeor Studios in St Ives, this success is down to good partnerships with owners, developers, the Heritage Lottery Fund, Natural England, councils and local groups. It will be increasingly important to build on these partnerships to achieve the overall aim of reducing the number of sites on the Register. **Andrew Vines**, Planning and Conservation Director, South West

Last year in the South West, 59 listed buildings and scheduled monuments were removed from the Register for positive reasons. Although this success is tempered by the addition of 46 new entries, this is a significant achievement with several more removals than additions. However, the results involving other types of heritage assets are less good, with 6 conservation areas and 1 registered battlefield added to the Register, but only 4 conservation areas being removed. The continuing expansion of our survey of listed places of worship (150 new surveys in 2013) has contributed to 24 additions to the Register. Thankfully many of the churches and chapels on the Register have been offered Heritage Lottery Fund grants to help fund repairs, resulting in 10 listed places of worship being removed from the 2012 Register.

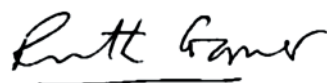
With the continuing challenging economic climate, grant funding remains the overwhelming means of removing assets from the Register. In 2013, English Heritage offered grants worth £1.5 million to 54 sites on the South West Register. Unfortunately, this amount is small compared with the total costs required to secure heritage assets at risk in the South West. Therefore, working with partners who can provide alternative sources of funding is crucial to removing assets from the Register.

With 43% (1,396) of England's scheduled monuments at risk located in the South West, our relationship with Natural England is vital in reducing risk in the rural historic environment. Funding from Natural England's Environmental Stewardship scheme removed 23 scheduled monuments, accounting for almost half of the scheduled monuments removed from the Register this year.

Our investment in a Heritage Support Officer at the Architectural Heritage Fund has helped to stimulate activity by Building Preservation Trusts (BPTs), and progress is being made at a number of sites including Bridport Literary and Scientific Institute.

The cover image shows how important local partnerships are in finding solutions for vulnerable historic assets, particularly conservation areas. In Gillingham, Dorset, the local community are preparing a Neighbourhood Plan to enhance the profile of the market town, boost its economy and improve the condition of key historic buildings within the conservation area. Since 2009, an increasing number of local authorities in the region have participated in the Conservation Areas Survey, with the result that 95% per cent of planning authorities have now participated.

The removal of a priority site from the 2012 South West Register, the scheduled monument at Easton Grey is a notable achievement. In the forthcoming year the South West Heritage at Risk team will work with the owners of assets at risk to try to repeat this success, finding sustainable futures for our most vulnerable heritage assets, including the new priority site of Civil War Earthworks on Brandon Hill, Bristol.



Ruth Garner,
Principal Adviser, Heritage at Risk

GILLINGHAM CONSERVATION AREA, DORSET

Representatives of Gillingham's community teams outside the grade II former Tudor News building in the High Street. This building at risk in the Conservation Area has recently been taken over by a local businessman who aims to repair the building and open a new shop in the next few months. Gillingham has been identified for urban growth within the emerging North Dorset Local Plan. The community are using this opportunity to improve the town's economic performance and profile. A study of Gillingham's historic character and buildings will inform the design of new developments, making sure that they relate well to the existing town.

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

- Nationally, 4.1% of grade I and II* listed buildings (excluding places of worship) are on the Register. In the South West the percentage is 2.9% (154 buildings).
- 7 building or structure entries have been removed from the 2012 South West Register because their futures have been secured, but 6 have been added.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

- Of the 464 listed places of worship assessed in the South West, 50 are on the Register.
- 10 places of worship have been removed from the 2012 Register following repair work.

ARCHAEOLOGY

- 3,265 (16.5%) of England's 19,792 scheduled monuments are on the Register, of which 1,396 are in the South West.
- 52 archaeology entries have been removed from the 2012 Register for positive reasons and 40 have been added.
- 13.7% of archaeology assessments (194) on the South West baseline 2009 Register have been removed for positive reasons, compared to the national figure of 21.1%.
- Nationally, damage from arable cultivation is the greatest risk factor, accounting for 43% of those on the Register. In the South West the proportion is 36%.

PARKS AND GARDENS

- 100 (6.2%) of England's 1,624 registered parks and gardens are on the Register. In the South West, 18 are on the Register, the same as last year.

BATTLEFIELDS

- Of the 43 registered battlefields in England, 6 are on the Register. Of the 8 registered battlefields in the South West, 1 is on the Register, added this year.

WRECK SITES

- Of the 46 protected wreck sites around England's coast, 4 are on the Register. None of the South West's 23 protected wreck sites are on the Register.

CONSERVATION AREAS

- 8,179 of England's 9,839 conservation areas have been surveyed by local authorities. 510 (6.2%) are on the Register. Of the 1,175 conservation areas surveyed in the South West, 57 (4.9%) are on the Register.
- 4 conservation areas have been removed from the 2012 South West Register for positive reasons, but 6 have been added.



TRELILL HOLY WELL, HELSTON, CORNWALL

Extensive plant growth and water erosion were damaging this scheduled monument. A new owner, along with local volunteers, Cornwall's Monument Management Scheme and the local parish council, all contributed towards the repairs, resulting in this site being removed from the 2012 Heritage at Risk Register. Long term it will be maintained by this local partnership.

58% OF
BUILDINGS AND
STRUCTURES
ON THE 1999 REGISTER
HAVE BEEN
SAVED

57
CONSERVATION
AREAS ARE ON
THE REGISTER

19.9%
OF SCHEDULED
MONUMENTS ARE ON
THE REGISTER

£1.5m IN
GRANTS
WAS OFFERED TO
54 SITES
ON THE REGISTER

Heritage assets are assessed based on the nature of the site. Buildings and structures include listed buildings (excluding listed places of worship) and structural scheduled monuments; archaeology assessments cover earthworks and buried archaeology.

PRIORITY HAR SITES

- Academy Theatre and Great Western Hotel (Palace Theatre), Union Street, Stonehouse, Plymouth
- Bimbeck Pier, Weston-Super-Mare, North Somerset
- Carriage Works, 104 Stokes Croft, Bristol
- Civil War Earthworks on Brandon Hill, Bristol
- Cloth finishing works at Tone Mills, north range, Langford Budville, Somerset
- Former Saxon church to west of Priory House, Leonard Stanley, Stroud, Gloucestershire
- Grenville Battery 550yds (500m) SSW of Maker Farm, Maker-with-Rame, Cornwall
- Guns Mill Barn, Littledean, Gloucestershire
- The Mechanics Institute, Emlyn Square, Swindon
- Torbay Cinema, Torbay Road, Paignton, Torbay

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ST GILES' HOUSE REGISTERED PARK AND GARDEN, DORSET

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY:

St Giles has been the seat of the Earls of Shaftesbury since the 15th century and in the 18th and 19th centuries the park was an important designed landscape. According to recent research it was a ground-breaking design, influencing other landscapes such as that at Stourhead. It has wider cultural significance through its association with the Shaftesburys as politicians, social reformers and philosophers. Today, however, in addition to the park, the main house is deemed to be 'at risk', together with a Shell Grotto and a number of scheduled monuments. This pattern

of neglect is largely the consequence of the abandonment of St Giles as a family home and a lack of historically informed management.

IS IT AT RISK?

The grade II* landscape at St Giles' House has been on the Heritage at Risk Register since 2009. It is still considered to be 'at risk', but with the energy and vision of the present Earl of Shaftesbury, and the commitment of Natural England's Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) scheme, its condition is rapidly improving.

WHAT'S THE CURRENT SITUATION?

A HLS agreement was signed between the St Giles' Estate and Natural England in 2011. With funding through HLS, a start has been made on a comprehensive programme of landscape conservation, restoration and enhancement. Projects already completed include de-silting the 18th century lake, as well as repairs to the Pepperpot Lodges and the Castellated Archway, and replanting of the Great Avenue. The HLS agreement will last for a period

of 10 years and, in addition to the works above, will bring about significantly enhanced management of the parkland landscape and offer related benefits to wildlife.

The restoration of the landscape at St Giles ably demonstrates that Registered Parks and Gardens are large, complex heritage assets, and it can take many years to identify and implement solutions to remove them from risk. The photograph shows the lake de-silting which took place in the winter of 2012/13. This is the first stage in the major HLS project at St Giles to restore the landscape. Progress towards restoring this challenging site has started, with an aim to remove this site and other related assets from the Register in the future.

Building strong relationships with other funding partners, as here at St Giles with Natural England, to assist owners in managing heritage assets will be critical for the success of the South West Heritage at Risk strategy in the forthcoming year.

Find out what's at risk by searching or downloading the online Heritage at Risk Register at www.english-heritage.org.uk/har

If you would like this document in a different format, please contact our customer services department on telephone: 0870 333 1181 fax: 01793 414926 textphone: 01793 414878 email: customers@english-heritage.org.uk