

Heritage at Risk



Historic England

Yorkshire Summary 2015



We have 694 entries on the 2015 Heritage at Risk Register for Yorkshire, making up 12.7% of the national total of 5,478 entries. The Register provides an annual snapshot of historic sites known to be at risk from neglect, decay or inappropriate development. Nationally, there are more barrows on the Register than any other type of site. The main risk to their survival is ploughing. The good news is that since 2014 we have reduced the number of barrows at risk by over 130, by working with owners and, in particular, Natural England to improve their management. This picture is repeated in Yorkshire, where the greatest concentration of barrows at risk is in the rich farmland of the Wolds. Our local team, led by Tammy Whitaker, continues to work there and across the region with owners, funders and other stakeholders to find the right solutions for sites on the Register.

Trevor Mitchell
Planning Director, Yorkshire



Over the last five years we've removed over 43% of the original entries on the Yorkshire Register. Indeed 25% of sites removed from the Register nationally are in Yorkshire. Over the past year alone we removed 118 sites. We're making great

progress but there is still a lot to do.

The Ancient Landscapes of the Wolds and Moors

Over two thirds of the sites we've tackled this year are prehistoric barrows and earthworks. These made up 40% of our Register. Next year we hope to make further progress on these ancient features, working with Natural England to promote the new Countryside Stewardship scheme and the opportunities it brings. Other successes include the repair of two imposing castles at Ayton and Wressle.

The Industrial Remains of the Dales

This year marks the end of our work on Lead Mining in the Dales. Over the last five years we have secured the future of 20 industrial sites. In the spring we will launch an app in partnership with the Yorkshire Dales National Park, to enable locals and visitors to learn about these important features of the Dales landscape.

South Yorkshire Metal Trades

Working alongside Sheffield City Council and others we've made great progress on sites associated with the metal trades. This year will see repairs begin at Green Lane Works, an imposing landmark in Kelham Island Conservation Area.

Textile Mills of the West Riding

We continue to seek viable new uses for many sites associated with the textile industry. We are focusing on three iconic sites in Leeds, Temple Mill, Hunslet Mill and the First White Cloth Hall. These long-neglected buildings need urgent action or they could be lost.

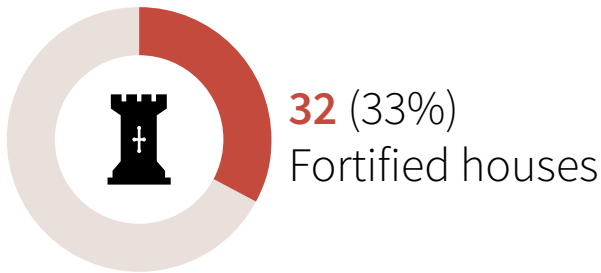
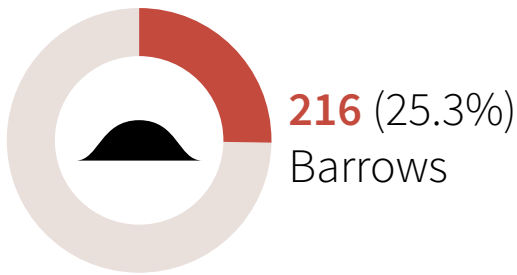
Designed Landscapes of South Yorkshire

The beautiful urban parks, historic gardens and parkland of South Yorkshire are little known beyond the local area. We're working with local partners to develop their potential. Amid the peace and tranquillity of Sheffield General Cemetery sits the Non-Conformist Chapel. We have provided advice and grants to the Council and local groups. At long last the Chapel is now repaired and will open as an arts venue in the New Year. There is still much more to do in this Grade II* listed landscape. Next year we will work with the Trust and City Council on ambitious plans for the future of the cemetery as a whole.

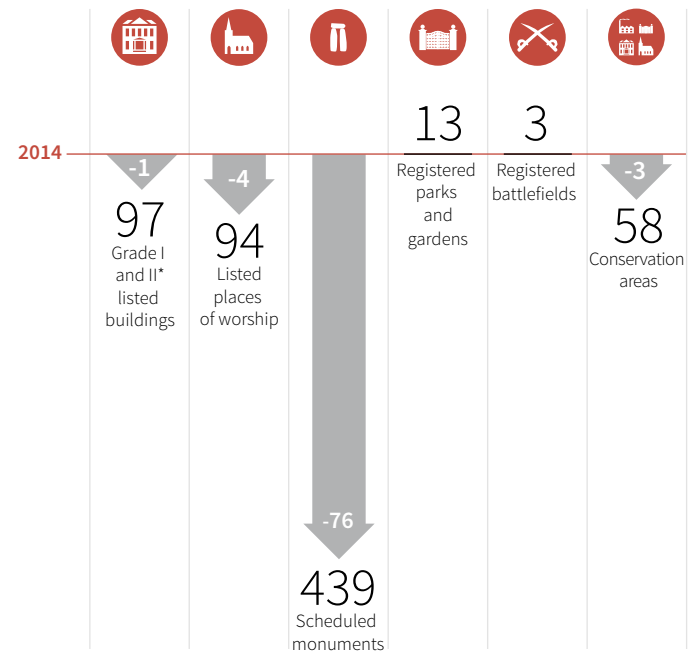
Tammy Whitaker
Principal Adviser, Heritage at Risk

Cover image: Chris Hamby, proud new owner of **25 and 27 High Street Rotherham**, which he has recently restored. The project was part of a Townscape Heritage Initiative funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Rotherham Borough Council. Hidden behind a modern shopfront for decades was Rotherham's last known surviving medieval timber-framed town house. The Grade II* listed building had been on the Heritage at Risk Register since 1999. Historic England provided expert planning and repairs advice.

Entries on the 2015 national Register in **Yorkshire**



Designated assets on the 2015 **Yorkshire** Register



There are **704** assets on the **Yorkshire** Register, 84 fewer than 2014

Plumpton Rocks **Plompton, Harrogate, North Yorkshire**



Background and history

Plumpton Rocks has been called “the epitome of the picturesque garden”. Reportedly praised by Queen Mary as “the nearest place on earth to heaven” it was also the subject of JMW Turner’s first commission in oils. The two views of the lake and rocks he

Painted in 1798 still hang in Harewood House. With such endorsements and historical associations it is easy to see why this Grade II* registered historic park and garden will be one of Historic England’s priorities for the year ahead.

Is it at risk?

The gardens are centred on natural rock formations and an artificial lake with winding paths. They originally featured a collection of trees and flowering shrubs, some

of which survive. However, progressive silting of the lake, encroaching self-set trees and spread of invasive *Rhododendron ponticum* has led to a gradual loss of designed views. Plumpton Rocks was added to the Heritage at Risk Register in 2012.

What’s the current situation?

Work is now well underway to secure the future of the gardens. A Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) agreement from Natural England has provided much needed funding. Work has begun on new tree planting, scrub clearance and opening up of key views. Over the course of the next year work will be undertaken on de-silting the lake and repairing the Grade II* listed dam wall designed by John Carr of York. Historic England is working closely with the owner, Natural England and other stakeholders to ensure the project’s success.

Wressle Castle **Wressle, East Riding of Yorkshire**

Background and history

The castle was built for Thomas Percy, Earl of Worcester, around 1380-90. Unfortunately he had little chance to enjoy his new home. His uncle, the Earl of Northumberland, led a revolt against King Henry IV. Sir Thomas was taken prisoner at the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403 and afterwards beheaded for treason. The majority of the castle was destroyed during the Civil War. However, it continued in use as a manor for nearly 150 years. In 1796 a fire burnt out the remaining part. Sadly the fine plasterwork interiors were lost. Today, about a quarter of the original castle remains above ground.



Is it at risk?

Wressle Castle has been on the Heritage at Risk Register since 1999. Following close work with the owners and

£500,000 of repairs by Historic England, Natural England and The Country Houses Foundation, the castle was removed from the Register this year.

What's the current situation?

The Union Jack now flies proudly on top of this elegant landmark on the Selby to Hull rail line. The owner plans to undertake further landscaping works and interpretation of the site over the coming year.

Historic England Angel Awards

The Historic England Angel Awards were founded in 2011, co-funded by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. They celebrate local people's extraordinary efforts to save historic buildings and places. Over the past five years, the Angel Awards have showcased inspirational friends groups, communities, worshippers, owners and craftspeople.

From 2016, we'll be looking for projects that champion the historic environment in many ways. These could include:

- community action projects
- heritage research, survey or education projects
- heritage professionals
- lifetime achievements
- and of course, rescues of heritage sites

Shortlisted Angels will continue to be put to the vote in the ever-popular People's Favourite Award.

Look out for news at www.HistoricEngland.org.uk/AngelAwards

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Find out what's at risk by searching or downloading the online Heritage at Risk Register at:
HistoricEngland.org.uk/har