



Historic England

# Highlights

Our work in Yorkshire in 2015–16





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# Introducing Historic England

This is a new era for England's heritage, and I'm delighted to have joined Historic England as its first Chief Executive. I'm looking forward to meeting our partners, friends and champions across England. Public support and enthusiasm for the historic environment has never been greater. Its economic benefits and role in defining our national identity are more clearly acknowledged than ever before. But there are significant challenges.

Historic England is the public body for England's historic environment, and we have a unique role and opportunity as its champion and protector. We provide expert advice, help people protect and care for it and help the public to understand and enjoy it. These different aspects to our role are interdependent: the more people know about it and appreciate it the better it will be protected.

We're committed to working with you and our many other partners across the region to raise the profile of the historic environment; ensuring it makes the fullest possible contribution to communities, and enriches all our daily lives. Our local offices are usually the principal point of contact for people. Our local teams specialise in

assessment, processing grants, giving advice to owners, developers and local authorities, as well as designation, heritage data, government policy and communications.

Following are highlights of the work we will be doing in Yorkshire in the year ahead. We work in partnership wherever that helps us to achieve our aims, recognising that working together with sympathetic organisations and individuals we can always achieve more. Do stay in contact with my colleagues both locally and nationally. There are so many opportunities to get involved in our work, and you can find out about these by joining our mailing list, following or liking us on social media, and contacting our local teams.

With best wishes,

**Duncan Wilson**  
Chief Executive



# We understand historic places

We share our understanding of the significance of England's places. Using cutting-edge science, research, partnerships and information, we help people manage historic places both physically and economically.



Volunteers discuss a building in York. © Yorkshire Vernacular Buildings Study Group.

## Beverley, East Yorkshire

We are working with the Yorkshire Vernacular Buildings Study Group to research buildings in this historic town. The group is carrying out survey work to identify and understand the surviving medieval, 16th and 17th century buildings in Beverley. Historic England is providing financial support and training, as well as funding a programme of dendrochronological work on the buildings. The findings will be published towards the end of 2016.

## Pubs

Pubs are one of England's most-loved building types but are increasingly under threat of closure or conversion to other uses. A number of research projects will help increase understanding and protection for pubs by identifying especially threatened or significant ones. We are looking in particular at mid – and later 20th century – examples as these are vulnerable and rarely protected by listing.



# We champion historic places

We champion historic places so that everyone, from individuals and communities to government and major landowners, can look after and care for heritage.

## Hull, UK City of Culture 2017

It is an exciting time for Hull with significant investment from Siemens in Green Port Hull and preparations under way for UK City of Culture 2017. We will support the Council in its preparations for both ensuring that the high quality yet under-appreciated historic environment is celebrated and exploited to its full potential for the benefit of residents, visitors and businesses.

## Non-Conformist Chapel, Sheffield General Cemetery

This Grade II\* chapel, which fuses the architectural influences of Greece and Egypt, has not been used for a generation and was added to the Heritage at Risk Register in 2000. Our Heritage At Risk team has provided advice and support to help secure a Challenge Fund grant from the Architectural Heritage Fund and WREN Heritage Fund for repairs. The restoration project has acted as a catalyst for further work in the historic Sheffield General Cemetery, also at risk.

## Places of Worship

We will continue to work with partners to support congregations caring for historic places of worship. We will build on the success of support officers working locally to provide focussed help in sourcing funding and planning maintenance for those churches most at risk.

## Heritage Action Zones

Heritage Action Zones are areas where Historic England will bring all our different expertise together to work with local people in unlocking the potential of the historic environment. We will work with partners to establish the zones in areas of economic need.

This approach to partnership working has been trialled in Sheffield focussing on the city's historic metal trades buildings. We have contributed more than £1 million in grant aid over the last five years to the repair and to kick-start the development of some of the city's most significant historic buildings.

## First White Cloth Hall, Leeds

Completed in 1711, the Grade II\* First White Cloth Hall was the foundation on which Leeds' commercial prosperity as a cloth trading centre was built. After numerous changes of use and alterations over three centuries the building is in a perilous condition and it has been on the Heritage at Risk Register since 1999. We are providing advice on repair and future use. Leeds City Council plans to lease the building and bring it back into use and has just begun a series of surveys funded by Historic England. Work on site is scheduled to begin in January 2017.



Performers take part in the UK City of Culture bid, Hull. © Hull City Council.



# We identify and protect

Advising on which historic assets need to be designated is at the very heart of what we do as expert advisor to the Government. Using our knowledge and understanding we celebrate what's special and make sure that England's history is recognised, respected and enjoyed.

The National Heritage List for England is a remarkable resource, available to everyone through our website. It covers all designated places from listed buildings to protected wrecks, scheduled monuments to registered battlefields, the Register of Parks and Gardens and World Heritage Sites.

We are working on a number of research and designation activities to identify and protect England's most important heritage including the following:

## First World War

We are working in a new way with volunteers, led by partners Civic Voice and War Memorials Trust, to ensure that we deliver an ambitious programme of listing 2,500 war memorials during the centenary period.

England's North Sea coast suffered direct naval bombardment in the First World War and in response substantial defences were constructed. Building on existing coastal survey work we will be assessing the best of the surviving features to make sure that they are adequately recognised and protected.



A German soldier setting alight a church on the Grade II listed "The Waggoners" War Memorial, Sledmere.

## Enriching the List

This year, for the first time, we will enable members of the public to upload their own information to a new section of the List on our website. People will be able to share their knowledge of historic places they care about for everyone to use. The List has a million visitors a year, showing the immense appetite people have for finding out about historic places.

## Public Libraries

For over a century and a half public libraries have been at the heart of English life; they were and are places of learning, leisure, enlightenment and betterment, open to all. In recent years public library service provision in the United Kingdom has been undergoing radical change, particularly since severe cuts to local authority budgets in 2010. Having already assessed post-war English public libraries for listing, we are moving on to the period pre-1939.

## Post-War Public Sculpture

We will carry out an assessment of fixed sculptural artworks in public, civic, communal and commercial places across England with the aim of understanding the significance of public art in the period 1945-1985. A selection of the best examples will be identified and assessed for listing in order to deliver protection for this important – and sometimes threatened – aspect of modern culture.

## North Trans-Pennine Electrification

Network Rail is planning to electrify the railway line from Leeds to Stalybridge and we will be working with them to make sure the listing of historic features is accurate and comprehensive. This will help Network Rail plan their works and deliver this important piece of infrastructure.

# We support change

We want people to use and enjoy historic places in ways that reveal and reinforce their significance and safeguard their setting in a wider landscape. We find approaches to prevent heritage at risk and tackle it as a priority.

## Temple Mill, Leeds

The Grade I listed Temple Mill is one of the most unusual and instantly recognisable textile mills in Yorkshire. Completed in 1841, its unique Egyptian Revival style frontage was designed by the sculptor, illustrator and Egyptologist Joseph Bonomi the Younger. Parts of the building are used as an arts venue but the main spinning mill has serious structural issues. We are working with a developer and Leeds City Council on an exciting proposal that would see Temple Mill become a leading cultural venue at the heart of a residential and commercial development. Funding is currently being sought for the repair and re-use.



## Sheffield Retail Quarter and Leah's Yard

We are working with Sheffield City Council and architects Building Design Partnership to secure the long term future of Leah's Yard, a Grade II\* listed building at risk which forms a significant component of the 20 acre site for the Sheffield Retail Quarter in the heart of the city. The development will result in a major re-design of the city centre creating residential, shopping and leisure uses. In particular the Sheffield Retail Quarter will enhance the strong commercial character provided by Pinstone Street and the formal relationship with the Town Hall and Peace Gardens as well as the historic character provided by 19th century buildings, a number of which are associated with metal trades.



Left: Grade I listed Temple Mill, Leeds. © Tim Green. Right: Grade II\* listed Leah's Yard metal workshop, Sheffield.





## Bradford

Bradford boasts internationally loved sites like Haworth, home of the Brontës, and Saltaire World Heritage Site but the City Centre has suffered for many years. With the new retail development underway, we are working with partners in Bradford to help stunning historic quarters in the centre make a more positive contribution once again. We have supported the Council in developing a Local Listed Building Consent Order for Little Germany which was once the bustling heart of the city's textile industry. The Order will remove the need for individual listed building consents and will encourage investment. Bradford is the first place in England to consult on this new power.

## Listed Building Owners

We are doing a survey of owners of listed buildings to find out what they think about owning a nationally important building. In this first comprehensive survey of its kind, we will find out more about owners and their needs, ensuring we will be better placed to respond to them in future.



## Farm Buildings

We will be running a series of events with the Country Landowners and Business Association and the National Farmers' Union about the conversion of redundant traditional farm buildings. The aim is to highlight appropriate and sensitive ways of converting unused but historic buildings in the countryside for a wide range of uses. We have Defra and DCLG endorsement for this approach of bringing Constructive Conservation to the rural environment.

Top: Little Germany, Bradford. Bottom: Cloggerby Rigg, Upper Swaledale.



# Historic environment snapshot



In Yorkshire, there are:



31,436 Listed buildings



2,621 Scheduled Monuments



912 Conservation Areas



120 Registered Parks and Gardens



7 Registered Battlefields



2 World Heritage Sites












1 Protected Wreck



First White Cloth Hall, Leeds, is listed Grade II\*.

# Heritage at Risk in Yorkshire

	National average of assets on the Register	Sites on the 2014 Yorkshire Register
	4%	6.2% (99 Buildings and structures)
	6%	7.1% (98 Places of Worship)
	15.2%	19.6% (515 Scheduled Monuments)
	5.7%	10.8% (13 Registered Parks and Gardens)
	13%	3 Registered Battlefields
	8.2%	No Protected Wrecks
	6.1%	7.1% (61 Conservation Areas)
		52 Industrial sites
	Funding	<b>£892,000</b> in grant was spent on 67 entries on the Yorkshire Heritage at Risk Register during 2013/14.

## Threats to agricultural sites:



Damage from arable cultivation is the greatest risk, affecting 43% of archaeological entries on the national Register and **60%** of those in Yorkshire.

Risk assessments of heritage assets are 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.

Data collected as part of Heritage Counts 2014 – asset data correct as of April 2014, Heritage at Risk data August 2014. Map shows revised Historic England Localities.





# Historic England

## National expertise, locally delivered

Our local office is the principal point of contact for many customers. Our staff specialise in assessment, processing grants, giving advice to owners, developers and local authorities, as well as designation, heritage data, government policy and communications.

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[HistoricEngland.org.uk/archive](http://HistoricEngland.org.uk/archive)

We make available information about every listed building, scheduled monument, protected wreck, registered park, garden and battlefield in England through the National Heritage List for England:  
[HistoricEngland.org.uk/list](http://HistoricEngland.org.uk/list)



Above: Green Lane Works, Sheffield, listed Grade II\*. Front Cover: Bauman Lyons Architects' scheme at Tower Works, Leeds. © Jonathan Taylor, Cloud 9 Photography. All images © Historic England unless otherwise stated.