

HERITAGE COUNTS 2013

LONDON

Heritage Counts 2013 is the twelfth annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. It is prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the London Historic Environment Forum. This year the theme for Heritage Counts is skills in the historic environment. Visitors to the Heritage Counts website can download the complete research projects commissioned to support this year's report and access the full set of local statistics and maps detailing the historic environment for London, including asset data, funding information, employment numbers and visitor figures. Please see www.heritagecounts.org.uk.

SKILLS IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

This year, Heritage Counts focuses on skills; since the beginning of the financial crisis many parts of the sector have seen significant reductions in budgets and staffing numbers, causing concerns that specialist knowledge is being lost. For the 2013 report, a number of research projects were undertaken to assess these skills provisions, including a survey of the whole cultural heritage sector in the UK. One of the key findings from this study was that the majority of respondents (60%) indicated that they did not have a training budget, which means that initiatives like those outlined in the case studies below are essential for developing skills across the sector. Please see the national Heritage Counts 2013 report for more analysis and further details.



Thames Discovery Programme © Nathalie Cohen, Thames Discovery Programme at MOLA

THAMES DISCOVERY PROGRAMME AT MOLA

The Thames Discovery Programme (TDP), based at Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA), is an ongoing large-scale community and public archaeology project, aiming to communicate an understanding and enjoyment of London's longest archaeological site. Over the past five years, the TDP

has trained over 450 members of the public to monitor and record the dynamic archaeology of the Thames inter-tidal zone within the Greater London area. From 2008-2011 the TDP was generously supported by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, and is currently supported by a wide range of funding bodies including the Council for British Archaeology (CBA), the City of London Archaeological Trust, Historic Royal Palaces, the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Committee and the Crown Estate. Further funding is raised through direct donations and from participants at training sessions, guided walks and the lecture, workshop and conference programme. The project team

currently comprises one part-time and two full-time members of staff, with additional specialist expertise provided by MOLA colleagues.

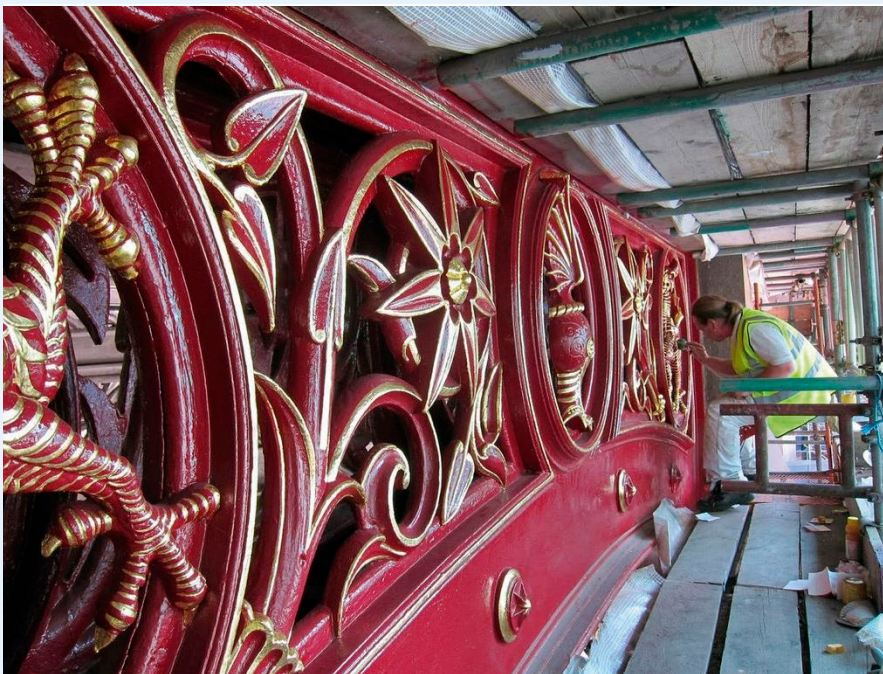
On completion of a four-day training course, the Foreshore Recording and Observation Group members (FROGs), undertake fieldwork and monitoring on over 30 sites across London. They record archaeology of all periods, from prehistoric landscapes at Vauxhall to Victorian ship buildings on the Isle of Dogs. The FROG members have also set up independent monitoring groups, with responsibility for different sites – in 2013 two of these teams successfully applied for CBA Challenge Funding to help support their work and the dissemination of their results. FROG members range from professional archaeologists, members of local archaeological societies, students and people from the local community who want to find out more about their local area.

Information gathered during the archaeological survey has been deposited with the Greater London Historic Environment Record¹, and the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre². A report, summarising the events, activities and resources developed as part of the project is available online: www.thamesdiscovery.org/about/community-archaeology-report. A blog site the 'FROGBlog' has also been developed: www.thamesdiscovery.org/frog-blog/accessible-archaeology.

¹ The Greater London Historic Environment Record is based at English Heritage, 1 Waterhouse Square, 138-142 Holborn, London, EC1N 2ST

² London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre is based at Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, London, N1 7ED

HOLBORN VIADUCT 150TH ANNIVERSARY REFURBISHMENT



Work in progress on the Holborn viaduct © Hare & Humphreys Ltd.

Hare & Humphreys Ltd were employed by the City of London to reinstate the Victorian gilding scheme on Holborn Viaduct (the grade II listed bridge over Farringdon Street), to commemorate 150 years since the bridge was constructed. Six trained gilders and one apprentice worked on the site. The project took six weeks to complete and re-opened in September 2013.

Holborn Viaduct is steeped in history as it spans the River Fleet; the city's largest subterranean river. Built by City Surveyor William Haywood, it was the first flyover in London and opened by Queen Victoria in 1869. However, years of heavy London traffic have taken their toll on the bridge. Both in structural and aesthetic terms the bridge had fallen into disrepair and was in need of urgent conservation treatment.

For Hare & Humphreys Ltd the project has not only provided work for skilled craftsman, it has also provided training and development for young trainee apprentices within the industry. Since the abolition of any lead content within the



Detail on the Holborn Viaduct © Hare & Humphreys Ltd.

gold size (adhesive), external gilding has undergone difficult challenges worldwide. Film-thickness, durability and timing are key to good external applications of gold. The bridge gilding project is the result of several years of experimentation and trialling, developing new techniques for this historic skill. The lustre of the gilt finish and the durability gained at Holborn Viaduct is unique.

By reinstating the Victorian gilding scheme, visitors will once again recognise the importance and significance of one of London's finest Victorian structures and see the bridge as Haywood and Queen Victoria did 150 years earlier. The enhancement to the Farringdon and Smithfield area will be considerable, encouraging business and tourism in a revitalised, historically important and visually pleasing place.

DISCOVER HAGGERSTON, LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY, THE BUILDING EXPLORATORY

The 'My Haggerston' initiative is a community history project involving members of the Hackney Heritage and Built Environment Partnership and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The initiative explores the history of Haggerston's built environment, education, leisure, industry and faith. It began in late 2012 and concluded with an exhibition at the Geffrye Museum and the new community centre on Haggerston Estate in October 2013.

The Building Exploratory took on the role of training all 50 project volunteers, enabling them to gain research and documentation skills. 15 of these volunteers then worked with the Building Exploratory to explore the development of Haggerston

Discover Haggerston © The Building Exploratory



over 300 years, up to and including the present day through the "Discover Haggerston" project. The project focused on Haggerston's 100 listed buildings and public assets including significant places of worship, education establishments and entertainment venues.

The Discover Haggerston volunteers also went on to learn photography skills receiving further training from the Hackney Archives and a professional photographer. The volunteers took

photographs of all of the listed buildings in Haggerston, and carried out research into their history and significance, preparing a statement of significance for each listed building. The main output of the project is an online interactive map, bringing together the research, images and stories collated by the volunteers.

This online resource makes Haggerston's architectural history more accessible and encourages users to explore the local area and understand how industry, transport and community have shaped the built environment. The project has helped raise awareness of some of the lesser-known architectural history of the local area.

In addition, the My Haggerston project has been a great example of how a group of local heritage organisations can bring together their expertise to build a rich and diverse community resource. Furthermore, the creation of learning resources for teachers and students and a self guided walk allows Haggerston residents to explore Haggerston's rich and varied history independently.

GREENWICH PALACE

The Greenwich Palace complex became the latest scheduled monument to be designated in London in March 2013. A multi period site of exceptional national and international interest, it's most famous residents were Henry VIII, Mary I and Elizabeth I, all of whom were born at the palace.

Built during the reign of Henry VII, the palace saw a number of alterations through its subsequent royal residents,

including the first permanent tiltyard and the first armoury complex. The site also comprises the remains of earlier royal houses, an Anglo-Saxon cemetery, an undercroft and laboratory dating from the 17th century. The palace, and associated buildings, were abandoned and fell into disrepair during the 17th century, giving way to the foundation of the Royal Naval Hospital (completed in 1769), under which much of the remains of Greenwich Palace still survive.

Aerial view of Old Royal Naval College, under which much of the Greenwich Palace site remains.
© English Heritage



SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS FOR 2013

London Assets	2013 totals
World Heritage Sites	4
Scheduled Monuments	155
Listed Buildings Grade I	590
Listed Buildings Grade II*	1,388
Listed Buildings Grade II	16,894
Registered Parks and Gardens	150
Registered Battlefields	1
Protected Ship Wrecks	0
Conservation Areas	1,009
Designated Collections	32 ¹
Accredited Museums	139 ²

¹ Data provided by Arts Council England

² *ibid*

Using and Benefitting

Over the past 12 months there has been a decline in the number of visits to heritage sites in London. Visit England calculated there were 12.47 million visits to London's heritage sites in 2012/13, a 4% decrease from the previous year. Visits to National Trust sites have also declined over the past year, with

4.9 million visits in 2012/13, as opposed to the peak number of 5.4 million in 2011/12.

However, membership of both English Heritage and the National Trust remains healthy and has increased year on year since 2006/7. The national increase in membership is also reflected in the number of English Heritage members in London, which now sits at 97,000, a 5% increase since 2011/12. National Trust membership has also increased to 1.24 million in 2012/13.

Caring and Sharing

London has the second highest number of planning applications in the country, receiving just over 76,000 or 18% of all planning applications nationally. Despite these large figures, there has been a small decrease, of 0.7%, in the number of planning applications in London over the past year.

London has seen a significant increase in the number of Listed Building Consent applications over the past year, bucking the national trend, with 4,800 applications made (an increase of 4.5%) in 2012/13. Similarly, London had the highest number of Conservation Area Consent applications, with 22.9% of all applications nationally occurring in London, in 2012/13 this amounted to 731 individual applications. By comparison, Scheduled Monument Consent applications have decreased in London by 20% since 2002/3. Development also affects undesignated heritage assets, especially archaeological remains. English Heritage's Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service provides a service to all London Boroughs* – its Greater London Historic Environment Record has 35,157 records relating to undesignated assets and provided information to 517 customers in 2012/13.

Whilst London has continued to see an increase in the number of consent applications, there has not been a corresponding increase in the number of local authority staff. In 2012/13, there were 92.5 full time equivalent posts (FTEs) employed in conservation or archaeology in London's local authorities. This is a marginal increase of 1.6% since 2011/12. However, these figures are nowhere near the peak of 147.2 FTEs in post in 2006. Effectively London has seen a 37.2% decrease in FTE over the past seven years.

The number of grants given by English Heritage in London reached its lowest

level to date, with £1.5 million being allocated to various projects in 2012/13. However, HLF continue to support projects within the historic environment through its various grant programmes, giving over £81 million to projects in London in the past year, 67% more funding than the previous year.

Heritage at Risk in London

Since the recording of buildings at risk in London began in 1991, over 96% of buildings on the original register have been repaired, restored and brought back into use. The number of Grade I and II* listed buildings at risk in London has not altered over the past 12 months, with 75 sites at risk, 4.6% (excluding places of worship) of the total number of Grade I and II* listed buildings. However, there has been a 2.6% decrease in the number of Grade II listed buildings on the Register since 2011/12, the majority of sites finding their future has now been secured.

The number of scheduled monuments at risk in London has decreased by 22% since 2009. Thirty-two scheduled monuments are currently on the at risk register, 20.6% of all scheduled monuments in London. Similarly, the number of Registered Parks and Gardens on the at risk register has also decreased by 21%.

POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN LONDON

In May 2013 the Mayor published his 2020 Vision for London – setting out Boris Johnson's ambitions for the future of the capital, including building on the legacy from the 2012 Olympics. In it, the Mayor describes the challenges facing London over the next seven years: the predicted population increase (one million more people living in the capital by 2021) and the challenges this brings – pressures on transportation, continued shortage of good-quality, affordable homes, and increased demand for employment, all within a difficult economic climate. The 2020 Vision outlines how the Mayor intends to respond to these challenges and the level of development expected to be delivered from the 19 Opportunity Areas within Greater London.

In response to the Mayor's 2020 Vision, English Heritage and The London Advisory Committee** are seeking to work with the Greater London

Authority with regard to providing a robust framework for the management of the historic environment in London. Through case studies, this work will explore how the historic environment can be utilised to tackle the challenges identified in the 2020 Vision, and inform the future review of the London Plan.

Over the past year London has experienced the planning, and implementation of, a number of major infrastructure projects. These include the continued construction of Crossrail, King's Cross, and upgrading of London Bridge. Elsewhere many projects are currently going through the planning stage, such as the Thames Water sponsored Thames Tideway Tunnel and Transport for London's Northern Line Extension. This level of major investment in infrastructure is expected to continue with early viability studies underway into Crossrail 2, a new River Thames crossing and expansion of London's airports, as part of a wider assessment of airport capacity in London and the south east.

Finally, development of the Mayor's Opportunity Areas are gathering pace in conjunction with the relevant London Borough's, with planning frameworks for a number of areas in development. Where frameworks have been adopted, development is being granted and built. Key areas include Elephant and Castle, Nine Elms/Vauxhall/Battersea and Waterloo, where challenges exist with regards to the delivering of tall buildings within the setting of London's World Heritage Sites.

* The City of London and Southwark have their own archaeological advice.

** The London Advisory Committee is an independent panel of experts offering advice to English Heritage on matters relating to heritage assets and the planning system in London.

Heritage Counts 2013 is edited by Rachael McMillan and produced by English Heritage on behalf of the London Historic Environment Forum (London HEF).

London HEF comprises the following organisations: Council for British Archaeology (London) • Diocese of London • Greater London Authority • Heritage Lottery Fund • Heritage of London Trust • Institute of Historic Building Conservation – London • London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies • London Parks and Gardens Trust • London Waterways, Canals and Rivers Trust • Museum of London Archaeology • The National Trust (London and South East) • Transport for London • (In addition, two Heritage Champions, from Bexley and Havering also sit on the London HEF).

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