A group of four young people, three women and one man, are gathered around a large open book in a museum or gallery. They are looking at the book with interest. The background features a large arched window with a view of a landscape and a red and black draped ceiling. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an indoor setting with natural light from the window.

# HERITAGE COUNTS 2004

The State of  
**YORKSHIRE'S**  
Historic Environment

# Heritage Counts 2004 in Yorkshire

**Cover image:** Students rehearsing in the grade I-listed Georgian Theatre Royal, Richmond. The theatre was built in 1788, and has recently been restored with the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

*Heritage Counts 2004* is the third annual state of the historic environment report. It provides new information and analysis on the condition of heritage assets, the pressures they face and the social and economic benefits that they provide. This report has been prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the Yorkshire Historic Environment Forum and is one of nine separate regional documents. It should be read in conjunction with the national *Heritage Counts 2004* report, available at [www.heritagecounts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk).

This third annual statement of the state of the historic environment in Yorkshire and northern Lincolnshire is another small step on an important path. Knowledge of, and passion for, the historic environment used to be a privilege reserved for academics and professionals. But the last decade has seen popular enthusiasm for our historic landscapes, townscapes and mindscapes reaching new heights. The popularity of television programmes such as *Time Team*, *House Detectives*, *Restoration* and *Time Flyers* indicates that there is a large body of support for the work of managing our historic assets. The Yorkshire Historic Environment Forum has set itself the task of stimulating and harnessing this widespread support, and focussing it down a common path. We aim to:

- Increase the capacity of local communities to care for their own historic places. As an example, the Association of Civic Societies of Yorkshire and Humberside has firmly embraced a programme to increase the number and capacity of local societies
- Place the historic environment firmly on the agendas of others who are concerned with quality of life of those who live in and visit Yorkshire. As an example, Yorkshire Forward's sub-regional investment plans now incorporate many initiatives and projects to enhance the historic environment
- Ensure that change respects the historic environment, and is managed so as to enhance and improve that environment for the future. Examples include early engagement with master planning exercises in Sheffield, York, and the priority renaissance towns identified by Yorkshire Forward
- Maximising the use of available funds, a prime example being the careful selection of projects by the Heritage Lottery Fund which this year celebrates its tenth year of involvement in the region with investment totalling £233m in over 1,300 projects.

These four aims would be manifestly harder to achieve without the firm information base provided by *Heritage Counts*. As the sequence of annual reports lengthens, in years to come we will be able to chart the changing health of our historic assets, and to demonstrate comprehensively the manifold benefits of maintaining and improving the historic places which contribute so much to our lives.

David Fraser  
Chair of the Yorkshire Historic Environment Forum

# The regional context

Yorkshire and the Humber region is the fifth largest of the nine English Regions and forms almost 12% of the total land area of England. Home to five million people, the region generates a gross domestic product of £66 billion, growing consistently faster than the European average.

Of the nine English regions, Yorkshire and the Humber probably has the strongest sense of historic identity, its area largely matching the former county of Yorkshire. It remains the only English region with "shire" in its title. The character of Yorkshire's historic environment today is the product of economic, social and political forces which have created and modified the buildings, monuments, landscapes and settlement patterns of the region over the past five millennia, providing a legacy of remarkable diversity.

Six particular elements stand out :

- the buildings and landscapes associated with five centuries of industrial activity, ranging from the metalworking and coalmining industries in the south to the textile mills of the West Riding to the lead, limestone, iron working and alum industries of the northern moors, dales and coast
- the remains of many great medieval castles and abbeys, concentrated mostly, but not exclusively, in North Yorkshire
- a particularly rich legacy of major historic country houses, with their associated estates and landscapes
- the second largest number of listed places of worship in any English region, including a particularly rich legacy of architecturally distinguished non-conformist chapels, particularly, though not exclusively, in the former West Riding and the seaside towns
- the City of York
- rural landscapes of great historic interest and beauty

The first two are reflected in the region's two world heritage sites at Saltaire and Fountains Abbey, the last in the fact that 21 per cent of the region lies within National Parks (the highest proportion of any English region).

Four of the five cities in the region have their economic base in their industrial past (Sheffield – metal trades; Hull – fishing and trade; Leeds and Bradford – textiles) while the fifth, York, though strategic and economic in origin is today highly dependent on tourism.

The economic importance of the region's historic environment is reflected in the fact that 60% of visits in Yorkshire and The Humber are to historic attractions and that tourism as whole provides 5% of the regions Gross Domestic Product, producing £4 billion annually and is responsible for the employment of 10% of the region's workforce.

Housing provision in the region will grow at the rate of 14,765 dwellings per year. There are significant opportunities for the re-use of historic buildings here, but also threats to both townscapes and landscapes of historic significance. Road transport remains the dominant means of movement of people and goods in the region and the Regional Economic Strategy and the Northern Way initiative emphasise the importance of an effective road system to the region's economic wellbeing. The upgrading of the A1 (the former "Great North Road") involves major archaeological challenges, not least because of the route's historic character:

Agriculture remains by far the dominant land use in the region and there is a close relationship between agricultural practice and the environmental quality of the landscape. Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the move from production-based subsidy to a more management-led approach clearly provides opportunities for the more positive and sustainable management of historic assets.

Yorkshire and the Humber is the most profitable region in the UK and boasts over 260,000 companies, 1,100 of which are overseas-owned. Unemployment is at a 30 year low and manufacturing output is predicted to grow by more than 26% over the next ten years although there is significant variation within the region, with Leeds and York emerging with renewed strengths while South Yorkshire is still struggling to recover from the decline of its steel and mining industries. The decline of the heavy industries has left significant potential for brownfield development, particularly in South and West Yorkshire, where it is important to identify and champion the potential for the sustainable reuse of industrial buildings, often well-constructed and of significant architectural merit.

# Yorkshire: key facts

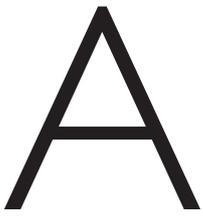


AREA	15,411 square kilometres
POPULATION	4,983,000
GDP	estimated £66 billion

MAP KEY

			
Scheduled Monuments	Listed Buildings	Parks & Gardens	Conservation Areas
 Unitary authority			





# Understanding the Region's assets

## AI DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS

In June 2004, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport announced that a new system for designating historic sites and buildings will be introduced over the next three to four years, following their extensive consultation '*Protecting our Historic Environment: Making the System Work Better*'. The new system will comprise a single Register for England to itemise buildings, archaeological sites and historic parks, gardens and battlefields, reflecting a new single designation regime. The new system aims to maintain present levels of statutory protection but to change the culture of protection from passive and reactive to positive, collaborative and strategic.

In terms of designated elements of the historic environment the region currently possesses nine per cent of England's listed buildings, 13 per cent of scheduled ancient monuments and nine per cent of the country's conservation areas. In addition the region contains 115 registered parks and gardens (seven per cent of the national total), seven registered battlefields (16 per cent of the national total) and two world heritage sites. Taken together the 35,000 designated historic assets in Yorkshire and the Humber represent eight per cent of the national total.

### AI.1 WORLD HERITAGE SITES

The identification and protection of cultural and natural heritage assets considered to be of outstanding value to humanity is administered by UNESCO. Two of the 15 World Heritage Sites in England are in Yorkshire: Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Park (inscribed in 1986) and Saltaire (inscribed in 2001).

### AI.2 SCHEDULED MONUMENTS

Scheduled ancient monuments are designated by the Secretary of State on the advice of English Heritage and range from sites associated with our earliest prehistoric ancestors to structures which

played their part in the defence of Britain in the twentieth century. There are currently 2,603 scheduled monuments in the region, representing 13 per cent of the national total of some 19,500. It should be emphasised that these designated sites represent only four per cent of the 73,500 items identified in the region's Historic Environment Records (HERs).

### AI.3 LISTED BUILDINGS

Buildings of special architectural or historic interest are listed by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport on the advice of English Heritage and range from major historic houses and churches to terraced cottages and telecommunications masts. Buildings are listed at grade I, II\* or II, depending on their significance. 31,841 listed buildings in the region represent nine per cent of the national total and 93 per cent of them are listed at grade II.

### AI.4 HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS

Historic parks and gardens of particular historic interest are identified on a register maintained by English Heritage. The register contains 115 entries for Yorkshire and the Humber region, representing seven per cent of the national total. The entries include urban parks and cemeteries as well as parks and gardens associated with major country houses and estates.

### AI.5 BATTLEFIELDS

Seven of the forty-three battlefields in the national register of historic battlefields compiled by English Heritage lie in the region, reflecting Yorkshire's turbulent history of both foreign invasion and civil conflict. The earliest battlefield is Stamford Bridge (1066) and the latest the site of the major Civil War battle at Marston Moor (1644).

## A2 HISTORIC AREAS AND OPEN SPACES

### A2.1 CONSERVATION AREAS

Areas of special architectural or historic interest are identified principally by local authorities. Within the region there are currently 772 conservation areas, eight per cent of the national total. They range from single village settlements to the core areas of historic cities and former industrial zones. In considering development proposals within a conservation area, the local authority has a duty to preserve or enhance the area's character. A key tool in this process is a conservation area appraisal but at present only about a third of the region's conservation areas have such an appraisal to inform and assist the management of change.

### A2.2 HISTORIC COUNTRYSIDE

Of the English regions Yorkshire and the Humber has the largest proportion (21 per cent) of its land area within National Parks. In the last year English Heritage has assisted the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in appointing a Countryside Archaeological Adviser to provide advice to farmers and landowners on the management of the historic environment in their care. North Yorkshire County Council's reorganisation of the Heritage Unit into the Countryside Unit has included the provision of a dedicated archaeologist to deal with rural and agri-environment issues.

The region has a rich and diverse natural environment with over 92,000 hectares of woodland. 77 woodlands are in the care of the Woodland Trust. There are also 376 Sites of Special Scientific Interest – the best wildlife and geological sites – covering nearly 180,000 hectares, 18 Special Areas of Conservation – strictly protected sites designated by the EC Habitats Directive, and four Ramsar sites, wetlands of international importance. The region also contains 21 per cent of England's common land.



**Fimber Church**  
© English Heritage

### The Sykes Churches, East and North Yorkshire

The 17 churches in the historic East Riding of Yorkshire were built, rebuilt or restored in the years 1863-1913 by Sir Tatton Sykes of Sledmere, using leading architects and craftsmen. The buildings and their fittings are of the highest quality, yet their future is far from secure; one has been made redundant and a number of others are under threat of redundancy.

With a grant from the English Heritage Regional Capacity Building Programme, the Yorkshire Wolds Buildings Preservation Trust and the Wagoners' Benefice have established a pilot project to assess the present state of the six churches, to explore ways of making them more accessible through interpretative schemes and events and to develop a programme that will encourage the local community to become more closely involved in the future care and use of the buildings.



**Nautical Archaeology Society Instruments**  
© Nautical Archaeology Society North East

## 'For the Record' Nautical Archaeology Society North East

English Heritage Yorkshire and North East Regions have offered a modest capacity-building grant to pilot a maritime equivalent of the successful Portable Antiquities Scheme.

The project aims to catalogue and record the often extensive collections of maritime archaeological material recovered from shipwreck sites, held by many of the region's diving clubs. The resulting data from this currently 'invisible' source has important applications, including the establishment of a series of artefact-specific typologies.

The project also aims to encourage and strengthen the involvement of divers and diving clubs in investigating, identifying and protecting the maritime resource.

## A3 ACQUIRING INFORMATION

### A3.1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORDS

Formerly known as Sites and Monuments Records, Historic Environment Records (HERs) are the major sources of information for understanding the local historic environment. They are used extensively for planning purposes and as an educational resource for schools, universities and colleges, archaeological groups, civic societies, historians and members of the public.

There are nine HERs in Yorkshire. Between them, and excluding figures for York and North East Lincolnshire, they record approximately:

- 62,500 monuments
- 11,000 findspots
- 7,000 archaeological events
- 18,000 documentary and archival sources

### A3.2 HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

Characterisation takes a comprehensive view of the historic environment, identifies what is special about a place, and therefore has important applications in informing change in the historic environment. English Heritage at a national level is rolling out its Historic Landscape Characterisation programme (largely for rural areas) and the Urban Archaeological Database and Extensive Urban Surveys.

In South Yorkshire, the methodology of Historic Landscape Characterisation, originally designed to describe rural areas, is being developed to suit the complex industrial and rural mix produced by the area's coal mines, metal working industries and metropolitan conurbations. In this context, characterisation provides information that will help manage the balance between conservation and regeneration.

As demonstrated in the report *Recharging the Power of Place* (CPRE, National Trust, Heritage Link, 2004), the Countryside Agency's village design statement initiative is an effective tool to engage communities in decisions in the place in which they live. Statements describe the distinctive character of settlements and their surrounding countryside and help to inform design principles for areas, for example, through adoption as the basis for Supplementary Planning Guidance to local plans. Village design statements are developed in partnership with the local planning authority and other key stakeholders. The Countryside Agency's criteria for an effective village design statement suggest that they should be developed, researched, written and edited by local people; reflect the representative views of a community; involve a wide cross-section of residents in its production; describe the visual character of the village; and be prepared in consultation with the local planning authority.



**Fifteenth-century bridge and chantry chapel,  
Rotherham – one of the pilot study areas**

© South Yorkshire Archaeology Service

## South Yorkshire Historic Environment Characterisation Project

Thanks to English Heritage funding, the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service has recently recruited two project officers to undertake a characterisation project – to trace the imprint of history on today's environment. The project will use Geographical Information Systems to piece together information from historic maps, aerial photographs and other sources and produce an area-based picture of the historic components of the landscapes and townscape of South Yorkshire.

English Heritage has been supporting such programmes of characterisation for the past ten years and more than 50 per cent of the country has now been examined. Characterisation provides information that will help manage the balance between conservation and regeneration. The project will enable the Service to work more effectively with developers, planners and landscape managers, as well as providing a resource for the public.

# B

## Caring and sharing

The historic environment of the region owes its distinctiveness to the continuously changing social and economic needs of each generation. Failure to change – to find new uses and new significance – often represents a more potent threat to our heritage than the processes of change themselves.



Newton Kyme  
© English Heritage

### Buildings at Risk

Included in Yorkshire's *Register of buildings at risk* are a number of small scale archaeological structures in rural areas. None is capable of an economic end use and therefore each requires public funding to meet the cost of both necessary stabilisation and consolidation work and modest schemes of interpretation. Examples include the castle at Newton Kyme and the ruined 'New Tower' adjacent to Crayke Castle, the ruined hunting lodge of John of Gaunt's Castle, and Seamer Manor House in Scarborough. Neville Castle at Kirbymoorside is also undergoing conservation as a ruin which will secure its removal from at-risk status.

### BI HERITAGE AT RISK

### BI.1 BUILDINGS AT RISK

English Heritage has maintained and published an annual *Register of Buildings at Risk* since 1998. It lists details of all grade I- and II\*- listed buildings and structural scheduled monuments known to be vulnerable to loss and decay. The *Register* has proved highly successful in raising awareness of the plight of threatened buildings and in stimulating action to safeguard them for the future.

Yorkshire continues to have a higher than national proportion of buildings on the *Register*, at 4.9 per cent as opposed to 3.5 per cent nationally. However, the number of cases removed from the 1999 baseline *Register* is greater in Yorkshire than in any other region. Yorkshire now has 133 buildings at risk, an overall 24.4 per cent reduction since 1999. 41 per cent of the entries on the 1999 *Register* have been removed with their future secured.

Of the 133 buildings in Yorkshire on the current *Register*, 47 per cent (62) have an agreed solution or a solution in hand compared to 30 per cent nationally. The region's performance in finding solutions to at-risk buildings has been significantly higher than the national average since 1999.

The English Heritage *Register of Buildings at Risk* only provides information on the condition of seven per cent of the region's listed buildings. In Yorkshire, ten authorities publish their own registers of buildings at risk at all grades and six more have plans to publish one in the near future. Of the authorities with an up-to-date register, the percentage of all listed buildings recorded as being at risk ranges from the 66 buildings on the Kirklees

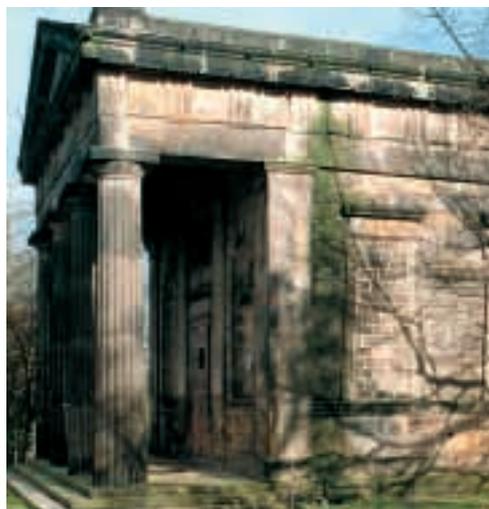
buildings at risk register (2.1 per cent of the total number of listed buildings in that authority) to the 8.2 per cent of buildings recorded as being at some level of risk on the Sheffield buildings at risk register (93 buildings).

## BI.2 LANDSCAPES AT RISK

Last year saw the commencement of a pilot project in Yorkshire to develop a set of indicators for measuring change and decay in historic designed landscapes. A second phase of work this year is aiming to survey all registered parks and gardens in the region, to enable a more statistically robust set of data to be prepared. It will also form the first comprehensive study of a region's most important historic designed landscapes and the factors affecting their wellbeing. Final data will be included in *Heritage Counts 2005*.

A priority area for the Yorkshire study is historic cemeteries, which the pilot project last year indicated might be particularly vulnerable to change and decay. New research in 2004 analysed the 14 cemeteries generally developed between 1830 and 1880 which feature on the register of historic parks and gardens. A further 14 unregistered cemeteries of (at least) local historic interest were selected to provide a comparison with the registered ones.

The research found that most cemeteries were frail and confirmed the need for improved management and maintenance. Although 35 per cent of the Yorkshire cemeteries are in conservation areas, none of the Local Plans for the region at present highlight the conservation of cemeteries as valued historic environments. In 28 per cent of cemeteries irreversible changes were found to have affected these sites in a negative way including 38 per cent which have lost their chapels. Other changes included the softer, reversible changes such as the management and replacement of trees, the management of the network of paths for mourners and visitors and a lack of appropriate management leading to invasion of rank vegetation and abandoned areas. Over a third of the sites analysed showed evidence of damaged or vandalised monuments.



**General Cemetery, Sheffield**

© English Heritage

### Cemeteries at risk

Cemeteries are at risk. The Nonconformist Chapel in the General Cemetery, Sheffield, is on the *Buildings at Risk Register*.

The Landscapes at Risk project has analysed the 14 registered Victorian cemeteries in the region. Stoney Royd Cemetery opened in 1861, and on 11 September 1862 the northern portion of the cemetery was consecrated, with the southern half for use by Nonconformists. Two chapels were built, Anglican to the north and Nonconformist to the south. Part of the cemetery was designated for use by two other groups, Catholics and the Society of Friends. A chapel was built for Catholic use in the nineteenth century.

In the early twentieth century, Stoney Royd mansion, which stood west of the cemetery, was in use as the Borough Fever Hospital. During the second half of the twentieth century, the house was demolished. The cemetery remains under the management of Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council.



**Meadow Pottery, Rawmarsh, Rotherham**  
© South Yorkshire Archaeology Service

## Meadow Pottery, Rawmarsh, Rotherham

Advice from South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS), operating within the planning process, ensured that archaeological recording and conservation of this nineteenth-century pottery was done alongside groundwork preparation of this brownfield site for housing development.

The pottery originally produced earthenwares, then fire-brick, pipes and tiles from the 1830s until its closure in 1904. Subsequently, the site lay derelict, with most of the kilns and buildings demolished by the 1930s. Later a commercial dairy was built, which operated until the 1990s. In 2001, planning permission was given for housing development.

Archaeological investigation revealed two kilns, one of which stands around 1.2 metres in height with at least two phases of construction. A strategy to leave the kilns *in-situ*, with the development rafted over them, was negotiated by SYAS. After recording, the kilns were buried under a layer of inert sand and covered with crushed building material, conserving them for future studies.

## B1.3 SCHEDULED MONUMENTS AT RISK PROJECT

Ten per cent of the region's 2,603 scheduled ancient monuments are in 'poor' or 'bad' condition, as reported by English Heritage's Field Monument Wardens. This is not the result of immediate development pressures but because of the current land use applied to them, most particularly the impact of cultivation. Over the coming year the rollout in the region of the Monuments at Risk methodology developed in the East Midlands will be of particular value in targeting attention and resources. In consultation with Defra English Heritage will also continue to seek opportunities for stewardship agreements for the beneficial management of field monuments – opportunities likely to be significantly enhanced by the reform of European subsidy regimes.

In July 2004 English Heritage appointed a dedicated Monuments at Risk Officer to undertake a rapid desk-based survey of all scheduled monuments in Yorkshire, to assess levels of risks and to compile a regional 'at risk' database. The survey will utilise existing site reports, aerial photographs and sample site visits. Work is due to be completed in June 2005 and will be fully reported in *Heritage Counts* next year. The work will directly link into formulating strategies, priorities and targets for managing this element of the historic environment.

## B1.4 OTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Scheduled sites make up only four per cent of the total recorded monuments in the region and much of this major undesignated resource is still imperfectly understood but subject to significant development pressures. South Yorkshire and the Humber estuary, for instance, are currently seeing a number of large greenfield industrial and infrastructure projects. Local planning authorities are very much in the front line for this work but where development pressures are high we can assist by providing specialist and expert advice when required.

Another area of particular engagement will be advice to Defra on the development of agri-environmental schemes in the wake of CAP reform, where the benefits to be gained through the incorporation of historic sites and landscapes in stewardship schemes are potentially immense.

Local authorities are required to notify English Heritage of listed building consent applications that affect grade I- and II\*- listed buildings, as well as those that involve demolition or substantial alteration to grade II buildings. In 2003/04, the English Heritage regional team was consulted on 494 such applications, broadly the same as last year.

## B2 MANAGING POSITIVELY

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) signals the replacement of the former Regional Planning Guidance with a Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). The latter will differ from its predecessor in that it will have statutory status and will be more clearly focused on issues specific to Yorkshire. The Yorkshire and Humber Assembly and the Yorkshire Historic Environment Forum have commissioned a study to identify regionally distinctive elements of the historic environment which should be identified in the RSS; to identify opportunities for the region's historic environment to contribute to the social and economic objectives of the RSS and to put forward recommendations on an appropriate policy framework for the historic environment.

### B2.1 PLANNING TRENDS

Figures from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) for January to March 2004 suggest that there was an 11 per cent increase in all planning applications in Yorkshire. This is the highest annual increase since 1989 and an indicator of the increased economic activity which the region is experiencing.

### B2.2 LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS

In 2003/04 7.4 per cent of the listed buildings in the regions were the subject of applications for listed building consent (out of a total of 2,440 applications). The number of listed building consent applications submitted to local planning authorities in the region has remained fairly constant since 1997/98, at between 5.6 per cent and 5.8 per cent of all planning applications.

### B2.3 SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENTS

English Heritage Yorkshire region advised the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on 102 applications for scheduled monument consent in the last year. This represents a 25 per cent increase on the previous year and it will be interesting to see if this trend continues.

### B2.4 PLANNING APPLICATIONS IN REGISTERED PARKS AND GARDENS

The Garden History Society collects data on planning applications that affect registered historic parks and gardens. In Yorkshire in the financial year 2003/04, 48 such applications were recorded. The majority of the applications affected grade I or II\* gardens; three applications related to sport or golf, five related to car parking, five to visitor facilities.

### B2.5 CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

Within Yorkshire in 2003/04 there were 294 applications for conservation area consent. This represents less than one per cent of the total number of planning applications to local planning authorities across the region – a figure which has been broadly consistent since 1997.

## CARING AND SHARING

### B3 CAPACITY AND RESOURCES



**The Greater York Community Planning  
and the Historic Environment Project**  
© English Heritage

## The Greater York Community Planning and the Historic Environment Project

A recent project has reviewed the seven village design statements in development within the York area to assess how they are produced and how much relative importance is attached to elements of the environment. The study could help determine whether production methods are applicable to larger and urban areas, and examine ways in which statements affect planning policies and decisions. The first element of the study is now complete, and reveals that:

- Local authorities and individual councillors usually instigate the process of preparing a statement, which is often developed in response to perceived planning pressures in the village
- Very few groups needed to consult specialists outside their village; a vast range of knowledge already existed within the communities
- The most common source of information was published local histories, the local plan, OS maps and old photographs and archive material held in York collections
- Membership of the village design groups was not, on the whole, representative of the whole community, although the views of school children, young families and the elderly were included in the final statements
- Most groups obtained funding for the statements from a combination of local fundraising and public sector sources; the average production period was two years

Outcomes of future research will continue to be reported in *Heritage Counts*.

Conservation area consent is needed only for the demolition of unlisted buildings in conservation areas, and therefore this figure only represents one element of change in conservation areas. It does not pick up incremental change which, potentially, has equal or greater impact. However, local planning authorities are obliged to pay special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of conservation areas when determining planning applications. Of the 477 planning applications referred to English Heritage Yorkshire region during the last financial year, 293 affected a conservation area or its setting, although not all will have met the criteria for notification.

## B2.6 COMMUNITY PLANNING

The new planning system places a much greater emphasis on the engagement of communities in the management of change in their towns, villages and landscapes. The sense of place associated with the historic environment makes this a strong component of such processes and a village is often the starting point for communities in defining the character of the places where they live and work.

## B3 CAPACITY AND RESOURCES

### B3.1 INVESTING IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Maintaining and managing the historic environment requires continuous investment. Some two thirds of the region's historic places are in private hands and are maintained and repaired by their owners at their own cost – a largely unquantified and under-acknowledged investment.

## B3.1.1 INVESTMENT STRATEGY

With regard to public funding the sector has in the past relied principally on funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, English Heritage and local authorities, but there is increasing recognition that there are many other agencies and funding bodies within the region which can and do make significant contributions. The Yorkshire Historic Environment Forum is therefore overseeing the development of an investment strategy for the future management of the region's historic assets. Potential sources of investment include earned income, government and European funding, private donations and business sponsorship, trusts and charitable donations.

## B3.1.2 REGIONAL FUNDS

Yorkshire will receive funding from two of the European Commission's largest structural fund budgets equal to over £1 billion for the period 2000 – 2006. By far the largest source of funding in the region is the Single Pot, administered by Yorkshire Forward. Funding is allocated through Sub-Regional Investment Plans prepared for each of the four sub-regions of South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, North Yorkshire and the Humber. The historic environment features in all four of the Sub-Regional Investment Plans, which ensures that there is the potential for funding in the future from this source. Projects need to contribute towards delivery of the Regional Economic Strategy and the priority investment areas of the Plans. With the enlargement of the European Union, the European funding position is changing and EU structural funding will be much harder to come by after the current programme ends in 2006. It is vital, therefore, that the historic environment sector acts quickly to take advantage of the opportunities that currently exist before the last bidding rounds of the current funding system in 2005.

The Regional Development Agency are keen to emphasise that sub-regional investment is not simply about the allocation of Yorkshire Forward funds, but is also about the alignment of funding from different agencies. One example would be the close alignment of the current English Heritage Area Partnership Schemes with the Renaissance

Market Towns Initiative, with particular focus on those aspects of the emerging action plans for regeneration involving the re-use and restoration of historic assets.

## B3.1.3 HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND

The Heritage Lottery Fund distributes money raised by the National Lottery to support all aspects of heritage in the UK, from historic buildings and museums to archives, nature conservation and oral history. It is the largest single source of funding for conservation of the historic environment in its broadest sense in England.

In 2004, the Heritage Lottery Fund is celebrating its tenth anniversary. Since the Lottery was introduced in 1994, the Heritage Lottery Fund had (at September 2004) awarded more than £233 million to over 1,300 projects across various grant programmes in Yorkshire and the Humber. The largest single grant was £19.6 million for the conversion of the Leeds Institute into the new home of the Leeds Museum. Another notably large grant of £10.4 million was awarded for the restoration of Wentworth Castle and the landscape of Stainborough Park. Other examples, both large and small, include the restoration and interpretation of Lister Park, Bradford (£3.2m), refurbishment and redisplay at Clifton Park Museum in Rotherham (£2.1m), new visitor facilities and access at Old Moor Nature Reserve near Barnsley (£880,500), restoration of the Turkish Baths at Harrogate (£447,500) and community memories to CD-Rom at Alkborough, North Lincolnshire (£49,700).

The joint English Heritage and Heritage Lottery Fund Repair Grants for Places of Worship scheme is the primary source of funding for major repairs to places of worship. The scheme supports urgent repair projects only where it is clear that the parish cannot meet the entire costs of the project from existing or expected resources. In 2003/04, 56 applications were made to the scheme in Yorkshire, most of which were assessed as requiring repairs within two years or less. Following assessment against the key criteria of urgency and financial need it was possible to provide funding for 29 of these projects.



Ripley Castle, Long Gallery view towards the stairs  
© Ripley Castle

## Funding for privately-owned historic assets at Ripley Castle, North Yorkshire

The Historic Houses Association has 95 privately-owned properties or associated properties open to the public in Yorkshire. A major project has recently been completed at Ripley Castle, North Yorkshire with grant assistance from English Heritage. The conversion of the stable block and dairy range ensures that the venue is able to offer high-quality conferencing and hospitality facilities to generate a source of income for the estate in the future. The project has generated/safeguarded many local jobs. However, securing funding for these properties is a challenge. Privately-owned historic properties are not eligible for HLF funding, and the capacity of English Heritage to provide grant-aid support has declined in real terms.

## B3.1.4 ENGLISH HERITAGE

In 2003/04 English Heritage gave £4.64 million in grant aid, including £2.9 million to places of worship, £840,000 to other historic buildings, and £797,000 in area grant schemes. English Heritage's grant programmes were relaunched in 2004.

## B3.1.5 ENGLAND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The England Rural Development Plan is potentially a large source of funds for rural areas aimed at enhancing the rural environment and rural communities through sustainable development of rural businesses and services. It combines funding from national government and European sources to provide assistance to rural areas, including funding for businesses and communities that need to adapt and develop. The current programme has two main elements:

- Agri-environment schemes/land-based schemes – to conserve and improve the environment. These are particularly relevant for landowners whose land contains significant historical features such as scheduled monuments
- Project-based schemes – to enable farming, forestry and other rural businesses and communities to adapt to changing circumstances

A number of other government initiatives provide funding for promoting active and inclusive communities and tackling major social problems. Potential exists here for funding small-scale, community-focused heritage and historic environment projects, from sources such as the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, New Deal for Communities and Positive Activities for Young People (a nationwide scheme that involves young people at high risk of social exclusion in voluntary cultural activities during school holidays).

## B4 SKILLS AND TRAINING

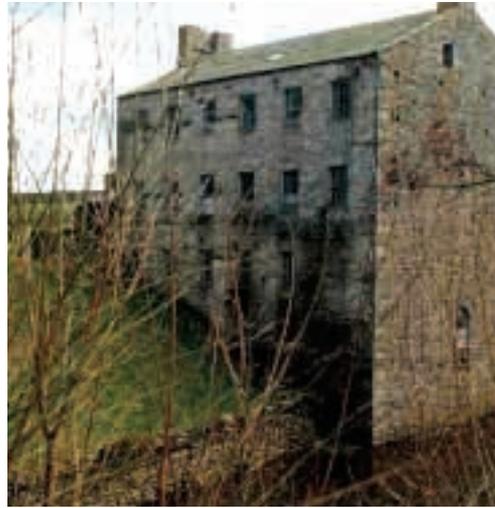
The HELM (Historic Environment Local Management) initiative was launched by English Heritage in 2004 and is a comprehensive training programme aiming to improve awareness amongst decision-makers within local authorities and government agencies of the value of the historic environment and the economic and social opportunities it presents. The first stage of the project saw the launch of a website [www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk) which provides a range of expert guidance relating to historic buildings, archaeology and landscapes.

The member organisations of the Yorkshire Historic Environment Forum are engaged in a wide range of training initiatives, including the York Consortium's craftsmanship programmes and the Yorkshire and Humber Amenity Societies Association's appointment this year, with English Heritage grant assistance, of a development officer to support the work of the Association's constituent societies across the region.

## B5 ATTRACTING NEW AUDIENCES

Yorkshire's cities and towns include some of the most densely populated areas in the country, and its rural areas some of the sparsest. Higher proportions than the national average of the region's population describe their ethnic group as Pakistani and their religion as Muslim. Of the 500 wards in the region, only 22 feature in the 2000 Indices of Multiple Deprivation's top 10 per cent of England's most affluent, whilst 79 are in the top 10 per cent most deprived.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport aims to increase access for culturally excluded groups (groups from C2DE social backgrounds, black and ethnic minorities) and has set a Public Service Agreement (PSA) target for the heritage sector to increase visits from these groups by 100,000 by 2005/06. English Heritage's Outreach



**Gayle Mill**  
© English Heritage

### Gayle Mill, near Hawes, North Yorkshire

Gayle Mill is a former textile mill which was converted to water-powered woodworking in the nineteenth century. A programme of recording, conservation and repair will commence next year to preserve the historic woodworking machinery and enable the mill to offer a facility for training in traditional woodworking skills and small-scale sawmilling operations. This represents a more sustainable use of this long-term building at risk than any of the other options considered (such as conversion for holiday lets). The business case has proved robust enough to attract public funding for the project from the Heritage Lottery Fund.



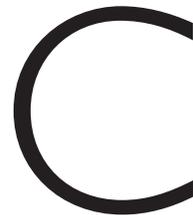
**Shree Hindu Temple, Bradford**  
© English Heritage

## Diversifying Heritage Open Days

Heritage Open Days 2004 not only saw a significant increase in properties taking part but also encouraged a greater diversity in participants. Among other hidden histories in the Yorkshire region, people were invited to visit mosques, Hindu and Sikh temples, and Buddhist retreats. In Bradford, the New Deal for Communities Faith Forum worked together to open six of their faith buildings to encourage local communities to find out more about the area's rich cultural heritage. Many of the buildings opened have had previous lives as Methodist churches, doctors surgeries and even terraced houses (converted many years ago to hold the first regional mosque outside London).

Department is working in partnership with other organisations and community and voluntary groups to encourage and enable priority groups to overcome barriers which prevent them from participating in, learning from, enjoying and valuing the historic environment. A Regional Outreach Strategy has been prepared for Yorkshire which identifies target areas and a strategy for delivering the PSA target in the region. Initiatives in 2004/05 include:

- Two projects undertaken with the Sure Start initiative (for families with young children) in Scarborough and Thurnscoe. Groups were encouraged to develop a greater understanding of the local historic environment by discovering more about Scarborough Castle and Brodsworth Hall
- A project in York explored issues of heritage and identity with recently arrived residents, some of whom had life-skills issues, such as English as a second language
- A partnership project between English Heritage and New Deal for Communities in Bradford (Bradford Trident) which resulted in the organisation's Faith Forum joining together to open their buildings to the public during Heritage Open Days 2004. The group opened a Sikh Temple, Hindu Temple, Catholic Church, Moravian Church and two Mosques and invited the local community to find out more about their culturally diverse neighbours



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## CI HERITAGE AND REGENERATION

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This year, the ODPM Select Committee reviewed the role of the historic environment in urban regeneration and concluded that it is instrumental in 'helping to create vibrant interesting areas, boosting local economies and restoring local confidence'. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport's *Culture at the Heart of Regeneration* (2004) recognises that regeneration projects are only truly successful when undertaken with a firm understanding of the value the community will derive from any work.

The sector is keen to understand what impact the historic environment has made in recent years to the wide range of regeneration activities, particularly in the region's five cities – York, Hull, Sheffield, Leeds and Bradford. The Yorkshire Historic Environment Forum proposes to commission a study into the economic impacts of funding in the historic environment of the Five Cities. It will aim to analyse the cumulative effects of area-based schemes and stand-alone projects, and will take account of not only English Heritage and HLF funding, but major sources in other streams, such as EU and ERDF. The study should assist in refining a methodology for assessing the economic outputs of funding in heritage-led regeneration schemes, and the key findings should be available for report in *Heritage Counts 2005*.

The challenge for the sector is to ensure that its clear evidence of the success of heritage-led regeneration schemes feeds through into wider masterplans, particularly those associated with the work of the three Urban Regeneration Companies in Yorkshire, and Yorkshire Forward's Renaissance Market Towns Initiative, both through strategic advice at key stages in masterplanning and delivery, and where possible, through intervention such as joint funding initiatives.

Urban Regeneration Companies (URCs) are separate, private, legal entities which achieve transformation by implementing a shared vision for change, rather than ad hoc intervention. Yorkshire has three URCs; Sheffield One (1999), Bradford Centre Regeneration (2003) and Hull CityBuild (2004). Each aims to attract multi-million pound investment to the cities primarily through investment in infrastructure, to boost employment and investor confidence. In each case, the masterplans acknowledge the role that the historic environment can play in transformational projects and that a successful vision for the future depends on harnessing valued historic places to regeneration.

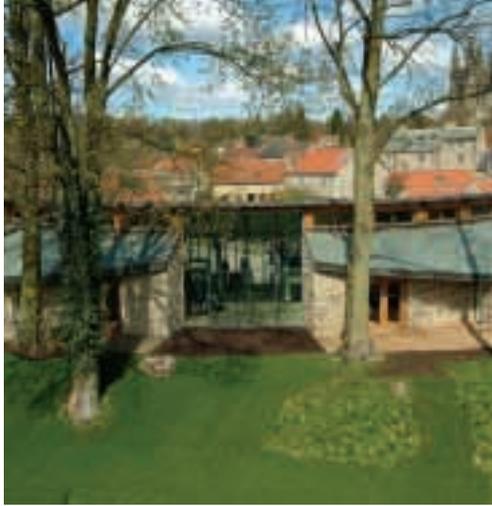
Doncaster's Town Centre Masterplan was produced in July 2003. It states that 'to take forward our vision for Doncaster, it is vital that our existing heritage is cherished and we should only accept the highest standards in maintenance and renewal'. The plan focuses on 15 key areas in the city centre and waterfront area to the north; in each case, the historic grain and qualities of the area are acknowledged and their retention and enhancement recognised as a way to 'provide attractive links to the area's past'.

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## C2 HERITAGE TOURISM

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Tourism is the region's largest industry, worth £4 billion annually, employing ten per cent of Yorkshire's workforce and responsible for five per cent of its GDP. Each English region, with the exception of London, experienced an increase in overall visits in the year 2002/03, with Yorkshire's share of visitors up by four per cent. Gross revenue increased last year by eight per cent in Yorkshire, the national average being 10 per cent. Leisure and theme parks and country parks reported the most significant average increases in gross revenue (both at 18 per cent), while historic environment attractions averaged an increase in revenue of around eight per cent.



**Helmsley Castle New Visitor Centre**

© Bob Skingle, English Heritage

## Helmsley Castle

In 2003, the Helmsley Castle Project received £211,340 financial support from Objective 2 funds together with £150,000 assistance from Yorkshire Forward, the Regional Development Agency. This was in recognition of the contribution which investment in the Castle would make to the tourist economy of the Helmsley area and, in particular, to the economic well-being of the numerous small and medium-sized businesses (such as bed-and-breakfast establishments) which are dependent upon a buoyant tourism sector. It is estimated that the Helmsley Castle Project will generate over £2.3 million additional expenditure in the local economy and will result in the creation of 20 jobs in businesses in the local area.

The Regional Economic Strategy (RES) has six long-term objectives to create a 'world-class' economy in Yorkshire. RES Objective 3 is 'to attract and retain more private and public investment in the region by providing the right product for investors and more effective marketing of the region'. Specifically, this translates into four groups of activities, one of which is to 'build on the potential of tourism to contribute to the region's economy by enhancing the assets, environments and infrastructure on which tourism is based'.

Data across a modest sample of attractions in Yorkshire in 2002/03 shows that the categories experiencing most increases in visits are country parks, farms and gardens. Yorkshire has recorded the greatest increase in visits to country parks of all regions, and the second highest regional increase in visits to gardens.

Yorkshire's historic properties (historic monuments, archaeological sites, historic ships, windmills, watermills and other historic properties), showed a four per cent decline on visitor numbers on the 2002/03 figures, and museums and art galleries showed a one per cent fall over the same period. Nationally historic properties have averaged a two per cent decline in visitor numbers since 2002/03, although this masks regional variations.

Encouragingly, visits to Yorkshire's rural and coastal attractions have both increased above the national averages. Rural visits in the region have gone up by ten per cent as opposed to a six per cent rise nationally, and coastal visits have increased by seven per cent, as opposed to a one per cent rise nationally. Visits to places of worship increased in all three northern regions. Overall historic attractions in the region continue to draw approximately 60 per cent of the overall visitor market.

During the last year, the ways in which tourism services are delivered in Yorkshire have been reviewed by Yorkshire Forward. An independent study concluded that the ability for the sector to continue to grow and deliver effective services was limited by the existing structure.

A new structure, developed in consultation with key stakeholders, has therefore been agreed. It aims to provide a more coordinated and strategic approach to tourism, and recognises the need for stronger local delivery; to raise the quality of the 'offer'; that local authorities and local businesses have a key role to play; and that there is a need to avoid duplication of effort across the sector.

## C3 PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Over 300 properties in Yorkshire took part in September 2004's Civic Trust's Heritage Open Days, and a record number of organisers took part nationally. Some new areas were included this year, such as Craven in North Yorkshire and Conisbrough in South Yorkshire. North Yorkshire's participating properties have increased from about 50 last year to 150 this year, thanks in part to new initiatives in church tourism funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

## C4 SUSTAINABILITY

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy is under review with the aim of producing a revised set of quality-of-life indicators by 2005. Currently, the historic environment is only represented at a national level by just one indicator – 'to ensure that development takes account of history and looks for opportunities to conserve local heritage'. This is measured at national level by the number of entries on English Heritage's *Register of Buildings at Risk*.

As part of the review process, a national workshop to explore the contribution of the historic environment to sustainable development and quality of life was held in Yorkshire in July 2004. The workshop refined a list of historic environment indicators at a regional level, drawing on the work completed as part of the last *Heritage Counts* reporting cycle, and recommended to the review process that two indicators are adopted within the government's overall set, namely:

- A figure for the proportion of heritage assets in favourable condition, with a target set by government for 2010
- A figure for the benefits to quality of life including economic and social measures – for example visitor numbers



**Gibson Mill, Hardcastle Craggs**

© John Mooney, National Trust

### Gibson Mill: industrial past with a sustainable future

At Gibson Mill, which is located within the National Trust's land at Hardcastle Craggs close to Hebden Bridge, work has begun on renovating the complex to create a sustainable tourism attraction. The grade II-listed complex comprises a mill, a row of workers' cottages and a stone bridge next to which stands a toll house with stables beyond.

The Mill, built by Abraham Gibson in 1801, originally operated as a small water-powered hand-loom cotton weaving mill. Production at the mill ceased around 1894 and in 1902 the Gibson family found a second life for the complex, converting the buildings for use as an eating house, a dance hall, a roller-skating arena and boating on the mill ponds – becoming a popular attraction for people from nearby and throughout the region.

Keeping in spirit with the prior two uses of the complex, the National Trust has begun £1.6 million project supported by Yorkshire Forward and the Heritage Lottery Fund, to refurbish the complex using sustainable principles. The mill will generate its own electricity from photo-voltaic panels and the reinstalled original electric turbine which has been restored by apprentices from Drax. The complex will also make full use of the local water and wood resources.

The mill will provide interpretation reflecting its heritage, the social history of the mill workers and an exhibition of sustainable development, of which the mill will be a real-life working model.

## USING AND BENEFITING

## C4 SUSTAINABILITY

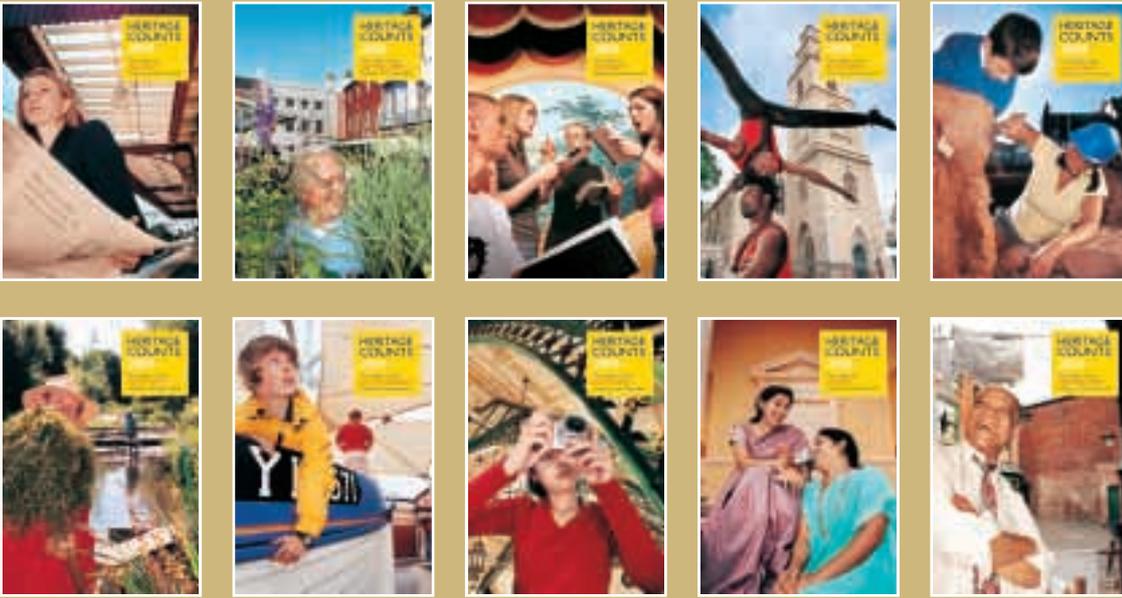
Delegates at the workshop were keen to emphasise that caring for the historic environment is an inherently sustainable activity, in its proven track record in the re-use, adaptation and recycling of resources. It is also more energy-efficient to recycle a building than to demolish it and build a new structure. In this respect, the conservation movements for the historic and natural environment share a core philosophy, but they are not equally recognised in the current strategy. It was therefore recommended that the second of the government's four priority headings for the Strategy was reworded to read:

Sustainable consumption, production and use of natural **and historic** resources.

The National Trust has pioneered Whole Farm Planning to help mediate the conservation of the historic environment of farmland alongside other environmental management needs, within the context of supporting and growing farm businesses. The process is coordinated by the Trust's Farm and Countryside Advisers, who work with farmers and conservation experts to identify what is important on each farm, and define planned objectives for the holding both in relation to the farm business and environmental management.

This approach is crucial in places like Bransdale, an intimate valley in the North Yorkshire Moors with an intricate mosaic of irregular-shaped fields, dissected by dry-stone walls, with regularly sited farmsteads, associated mature trees and strips of ancient woodland, and the remnants from other earlier economic activity including milling and jet mining. For example at Spout House farm – a holding with significant historic interest spanning from 2000 BC through to the traditional buildings on the farm – the drawing-up of a whole-farm plan in 2003/04 has sought to find ways to link maintenance of the historic character of the land and buildings with the continued primary economic activity of extensive cattle and sheep production. Conservation objectives and actions identified have included: maintenance of walls and other features through agri-environment schemes; a need for further archaeological survey to help provide more detail to guide day-to-day management; securing and regular maintenance of the vernacular buildings, as well as investigating with the tenant potential appropriate future uses/diversification for them.





This document has been produced by the Yorkshire Historic Environment Forum:

- Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
- Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment
- Churches Regional Commission
- Civic Trust
- Consortium for Conservation and Craftsmanship
- Country Land and Business Association
- English Heritage
- Gardens Trust
- Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber
- Historic Houses Association
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Institute of Historic Buildings Conservation
- Museums, Libraries, Archives Council
- National Trust
- Regional Assembly
- Regional Cultural Consortium
- Yorkshire and Humber Amenity Societies Association
- Yorkshire Tourist Board

