

# HERITAGE COUNTS

## 2007

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### LONDON



“Isambard Kingdom Brunel”  
with local school children  
on the Grand Union Canal  
at Southall

# HERITAGE COUNTS 2007

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*Heritage Counts 2007* is the sixth annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. It is five years since the publication of the original *State of the Historic Environment Report* and this year's report looks at the principal changes which have occurred in the historic environment since 2002. It also includes a focus on the historic environment as a learning resource and on the issues faced by the sector in relation to the skills of the workforce. This report is one of nine separate regional reports and has been prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the London Historic Environment Forum. It should be read in conjunction with the national *Heritage Counts 2007* report, available at [www.heritagecounts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk).

The decay of historic buildings in London always attracts great public concern. The annual launch of the English Heritage Buildings at Risk Register draws the attention of virtually every local newspaper; and disasters such as the *Cutty Sark* fire demonstrate the concern that Londoners share for their historic places and buildings. However, we still need to find both the funds to carry out much needed conservation and repair projects and the skilled crafts people such as masons and carpenters to do the work.

This year Heritage Counts looks not just at the state of London's historic environment but also focuses on skills and education within the heritage sector. How can we attract children and adults to learn more about London's historic environment? How can we increase opportunities for training and signposting to careers in conservation? And how can we encourage employers to take on trainees to provide a skilled workforce for the future? The following pages highlight projects that take forward such ideas. Captivating the interest of children with tours by heritage 'celebrities' such as Isambard Kingdom Brunel is just one way of engaging young minds. The introduction of apprentices within the Royal Parks and making use of our wonderful historic buildings such as Southwark Cathedral are just a few of these initiatives.

DREW BENNELICK  
CHAIR, OF THE LONDON HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FORUM



Learning new skills: fibrous plastering

# KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION

Since the publication of *Heritage Counts 2006* there have been a number of major developments in the sector. Chief amongst these has been the release of the Government's White Papers on heritage reform and planning and the increasing prominence of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games as we edge closer to the event.

## The Planning White Paper

The Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) published its White Paper *Planning for a Sustainable Future* in May 2007. Along with its four associated consultation papers, it addressed two key sets of issues:

- Improving the way nationally significant **infrastructure projects** are dealt with through a three stage process, involving national policy statements drawn up by Ministers, an improved application process to help developers improve their proposals and an independent commission to take decisions on major projects. The reforms are designed to speed up the decision making process while providing better opportunities for public engagement. At each stage the historic environment sector will need to make its voice heard.
- Improving the **town and country planning** system, speeding it up and making it more efficient by, for example, allowing households greater flexibility to make minor extensions to their homes. The detail of a number of changes remains to be fleshed out following consultation, including the proposal to replace the 'need test' with a new test which would aim to strengthen the 'town centre first' policy in relation to retail development while continuing to promote competition and consumer choice.

## Regional Cultural Commentaries (RCCs)

An RCC is a voluntary assessment of a local authority's cultural service provision. This is prepared by DCMS through the Government Office for London using information gathered from the local authority, the Arts Council, Museums, Libraries and Archives, Sport England and English Heritage. It aims to strengthen the relationship between the regional cultural Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs) and local authorities. RCCs also provide a valuable opportunity to strengthen the case for the inclusion of cultural priorities in Local Area Agreements (LAAs). At this stage, 28 of London's boroughs have agreed



## THE HERITAGE WHITE PAPER

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) published its White Paper *Heritage Protection for the 21st Century* in March 2007 following four years of review, consultation and testing. Setting the framework for heritage protection from 2010 onwards, its core proposals include:

- A unified national designation system devolved to English Heritage.
- A unified national heritage consent system.
- Statutory Heritage Partnership Agreements (HPAs) offering strategic management and prior consent for large and complex sites (a pilot HPA between English Heritage and London Underground has been operating successfully for the historic stations on the Piccadilly Line).
- Enhanced local delivery based on statutory local Historic Environment Records.
- Strengthened protection for World Heritage Sites, conservation areas and local designated assets.

The guiding principles underpinning the reforms were to simplify systems, enable local communities to engage in the protection of their heritage and to put the historic environment at the heart of a reformed planning system. The historic environment sector has responded enthusiastically to the proposals but stresses that it must be adequately resourced at every level if the proposals outlined above are to be delivered. Publication of the draft Heritage Protection Bill is expected by the end of 2007 followed by pre-legislative scrutiny during the Third Session of the current Parliament and formal introduction of the Bill in its 2008/09 Fourth Session.

# Capital Values

THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT TO LONDON



## LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS (LAAs)

A LAA is a three year agreement, based on local Sustainable Community Strategies, that sets out the priorities for a local area agreed between the Government Office for London, the respective local authority and other key partners. Rolled out in 3 phases from June 2005, all 33 London authorities now have them in place. Structured around four “blocks”: children and young people, safer and stronger communities, healthier communities and older people, and economic development and enterprise, their primary objective is to deliver genuinely sustainable communities through better outcomes for local people and economic development and enterprise. After a successful introduction, LAAs are now envisaged as the key to determining the future of local areas, meaning the historic environment must be part of this process, both as an asset in its own right and for the wider contributions it can make to community goals. Using the historic environment creatively when addressing local issues in LAAs can add value to broader community needs and priorities. In 2006, the London Historic Environment Forum published *Capital Values* to help illustrate the many ways that the historic environment can positively influence a wide range of local activities including regeneration, housing, education, economic development and community engagement. LAAs are now being revised to become the principal means of channelling central expenditure towards local priorities and it is expected that all London authorities will have a revised LAA by June 2008.

to participate in the process, providing an important opportunity to develop a strong regional overview of local authority provision for the historic environment in the capital.

### 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and the 2008-2012 Cultural Olympiad

One of the key themes of the successful Olympic bid was that events would be taking place against the backdrop of London's outstanding heritage of internationally-renowned historic buildings, monuments and spaces. Its potential has already been highlighted by the annual London Marathon and the successful hosting in 2007 of the commencing stage of the Tour de France, with the build up to the

latter in particular making much of the historic setting surrounding the race.

The Cultural Olympiad is not confined to sport, but embraces a huge spectrum of cultural activities from visual and performance art to the historic environment, science, dance and film to educational initiatives and public art.

There are three underlying values:

- To celebrate London and the whole of the UK in welcoming the world – highlighting our internationalism, cultural diversity, sharing and understanding.
- To inspire and involve young people.
- To generate a positive and lasting legacy.

Last year the Museums Libraries and Archives Partnership (MLA) were invited by the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) to take forward the development of an International Exhibitions Programme (IEP). This has been done and forms one element of "Setting the Pace", a five-point programme designed to identify how museums, libraries and archives can help make the 2008-2012 Cultural Olympiad a truly national experience, yet providing a lasting legacy for future generations – see more at [www.mla.gov.uk](http://www.mla.gov.uk).

At a London networking event in June 2007 organised by Heritage Link and Heritage of London Trust, Bill Morris, Director of Culture, Ceremonies and Education at London 2012, spoke of his vision to embed culture and education into the London 2012 Games. However, in doing so he remarked on the absence, apart from the International Exhibitions museum programme, of a heritage element among the 'bid' projects and set a challenge for the sector to address this.

Much important work is being done by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) and Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) in the Lea Valley in association with the physical development of the area for the Games – see more at [www.molas.org.uk/projects/report\\_tei.asp?report=olympics&section=olym1](http://www.molas.org.uk/projects/report_tei.asp?report=olympics&section=olym1).

### New guidance for managing London's views

In July 2007, the Mayor of London published his *London View Management Framework* (LVMF) to provide clarity and guidance to the policies in the London Plan that relate to protecting and enhancing views to London's most important historic landmarks. The LVMF includes 11 protected vistas including a new protected vista to the Tower of London from City Hall. The LVMF also states that local planning authorities must notify English Heritage, CABE, and where appropriate, Historic Royal Palaces of planning applications that may affect or impact upon Protected Vistas. Additionally the LVMF introduces the concept of qualitative visual assessment (QVA) and provides management plans for 26 designated views, including new River Prospects and Townscape views which are recognised for the first time as strategically important. English Heritage is currently developing a national methodology, which in London will complement the LVMF, to enable the historic significance and value of important views to be assessed and articulated.

### Tall Buildings Guidance

The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) and English Heritage have published a further update to their joint *Guidance on Tall Buildings*. [www.helm.org.uk/upload/pdf/tall\\_buildings07.pdf](http://www.helm.org.uk/upload/pdf/tall_buildings07.pdf). This reinforces the latest Government planning guidance which advocates pro-active spatial planning to ensure excellent tall buildings built in the right places. The guidance sets out clear

criteria by which proposals should be evaluated including relationship to context, effect on World Heritage Sites, architectural quality, sustainability, relationship to transport infrastructure and public space provision.

### The Tower of London and Westminster World Heritage Sites

Following concerns about the possible impact of tall buildings proposals in the vicinity of these two World Heritage Sites, UNESCO's World Heritage Committee were considering placing both sites on their "World Heritage in Danger" list and sent a mission to London in November 2006 to assess the situation. However, following the subsequent publishing of Management Plans for both sites and assurances given by Government and other key stakeholders on the work that is being done to strengthen protections for the sites and their settings, the Committee decided at its June 2007 session not to place them on the list, but requested a progress report from the Government for its next session in February 2008.

### Thames Gateway

As part of English Heritage's contribution to taking forward the Government's Thames Gateway proposals, and ensuring that the historic environment is centrally placed in strategies and programmes to build sustainable communities, it has appointed a Strategic Historic Environment Advisor for the Thames Gateway. This post is 50% funded with Communities Local Government (CLG) and based in the Thames Gateway Delivery Unit. It will complement the work of the London Thames Gateway Cultural Co-ordinator post which is currently funded by HLF, Arts Council England, MLA London and Sport England and aims to develop the heritage and cultural offer for the Gateway. The two posts together create a useful resource which will act as first point of contact for government, national agencies and regional bodies across the heritage and cultural sector, and influence strategic development in the area.

London 2012: The added attraction of historic settings



# SKILLS

To function effectively, the historic environment needs an adequate workforce with the right set of skills across a range of occupations. However, establishing an accurate assessment of the current situation, its problems and issues, and then attempting to establish trends over time is a major challenge. This was anticipated in some earlier *Heritage Counts*, which could only offer fragmentary evidence, and then just on the staffing of local authority conservation and archaeological services. These problems partly come about due to the wide range of employment “types” in the sector – reflected in the fact that at least nine Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) are all relevant to the historic environment. Part of the statutory remit of SSCs is to improve labour market intelligence as the basis for addressing possible skills problems, though whether they have all yet succeeded in this is open to question.

In 2005, the National Heritage Training Group (NHTG) published a report *Traditional Building Craft Skills* ([http://www.nhtg.org.uk/assets/pdf/heritage\\_nhtg.pdf](http://www.nhtg.org.uk/assets/pdf/heritage_nhtg.pdf)) which estimated that the built heritage sector had a crafts workforce in Greater London of about 1,600 in 2004, but needed a further 550 to resolve skill shortages and meet demand in 2005. A follow up to this survey was being undertaken in 2007 and the awaited results should provide an updated estimate for employment in this part of the

heritage sector as well as indicating how far skills problems identified in 2005 have been addressed. Also in 2005, work began on setting up Regional Heritage Skills Action Groups, with the aim of providing regional solutions to regional needs, but linked to the NHTG national strategy. In June 2007, English Heritage helped to establish the **London Heritage Skills Action Group (LHSAG)**. Its aim is to expand and develop opportunities for training and education in traditional building skills and conservation, thereby significantly increasing the numbers of those being trained and employed, thus reducing critical shortages of these skills in the workplace. A six-point Action Plan has been prepared and it is anticipated that real progress will be made over the coming year in signposting career, training and employment opportunities in the heritage sector.

## Training opportunities

One LHSAG action is to promote live on-site training in conservation projects, such as the project on the *Cutty Sark* at Greenwich (see box). Other formative projects will include:

- **St Luke's, Canning Town:** a Grade II listed former church which is now a local Community Centre. The apse is in poor condition, but the much needed cleaning and repair of the fabric will provide ideal training opportunities.
- **Abney Park Cemetery, Stoke Newington** is an extensive Victorian cemetery with many monuments and mausolea requiring urgent repair and conservation. Volunteers already undertake basic stonemasonry and conservation training under the auspices of the Abney Park Trust, but opportunities also exist for local colleges to undertake practical site-based training and it is hoped that in due course funds will become available to enable the restoration of the now derelict Grade II listed mortuary chapel.



## ROOTS TO A CAREER IN HORTICULTURE

Royal Parks' new apprenticeship programme “GROW” started in September 2007. Apprentices will gain valuable experience working in one of London's most famous historic parks such as Hyde Park and St James's Park. Successful students will become fully qualified as skilled gardeners with NVQ levels II and III in Amenity Horticulture and other professional qualifications. The course lasts for three years and students will receive remuneration at apprenticeship level. Four days a week will be spent learning various landscape and horticultural techniques at their assigned park with one day spent in the classroom at Capel Manor College in The Regent's Park. On completion, qualified Apprentices may choose to pursue a career in park maintenance and management or enter supervisory roles within the wider horticulture sector. Further information can be obtained from [www.royalparks.org.uk/grow](http://www.royalparks.org.uk/grow) or by contacting Royal Parks at [grow@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:grow@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk).



## CUTTY SARK: DEVELOPING SPECIALIST SKILLS TRAINING

The *Cutty Sark* Clipper ship in Greenwich is currently undergoing an HLF funded Conservation Project which involves a unique combination of traditional skills and cutting edge technology. A key part of the Project is that the *Cutty Sark* should become a Centre of Excellence for historic ship conservation and for the sustainability of maritime heritage skills. A small highly skilled specialist team have been drawn from both heritage and construction backgrounds – this has been augmented by recruiting the remaining workforce primarily from within Greenwich and adjacent boroughs, which include some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in the U.K. In order to achieve this, Cutty Sark Enterprises has engaged with a number of local groups to recruit individuals with learning difficulties, ex-offenders, the long term unemployed and those with little or no previous experience or qualifications.

The team learn traditional shipwrighting and rigging skills and how to relate these to modern applications. As the site is also a fully functioning construction site, the team (which can number as many as 50) also receive a foundation in working within the construction industry, and gain related qualifications. This results in a team with a wide and realistically transferable skills base. The adjacent visitor centre adds another dimension, offering opportunities in customer service, retail and volunteering. The mix of abilities and ages (ranging from 17 to 65) and the emphasis on training has been a great success, helping to foster a culture of learning and skills sharing. The recent fire has highlighted public support for the ship, increased the determination of the team, and following a period of fire recovery, the Project will continue. Learn more at [www.cuttysark.org.uk](http://www.cuttysark.org.uk)

## ST GEORGE IN THE EAST GARDENS, TOWER HAMLETS

Located in the heart of the East End of London, the public park of St George in the East Gardens was created in 1877 from the burial grounds of the adjacent Grade I listed Hawksmoor Church and a Wesleyan Chapel. Intended as a green oasis amidst an overcrowded neighbourhood, this still holds true in an area still relatively densely populated, subject to social and economic deprivation and where access to public space is nearly three times below the recommended provision. In May 2007, a programme of landscape and repair works was begun, principally funded by the HLF and local authority. The project's specialist advisers, Alan Gardner Associates, are a practice committed to training and outreach, and in consultation with English Heritage staff and others, allowed for a programme of on-site training, educational visits and public talks. One of the first events was a two day training programme on lime mortar and brick repairs, which extended beyond the specialist sub-contractors to a wider group containing Landscape Architects, Architects and Chartered Building Surveyors, Conservation Officers, Building Craft College Lecturers and young "Local Labour in Construction" Apprentices. One of the most positive things to come out of the training was the sharing of different experiences and the recognition of the different skills that people can contribute to a project as part of team. The response has been very positive from all those that attended and they will be able to take forward their new skills and experiences to other projects.

Trainee and trainer: Abdul Shamad and Emma Simpson discussing raking out techniques.



# LEARNING

The historic environment has always stressed its relevance across the curriculum, not just in history, but in geography, science, art and design, technology, religious education, the core subjects of English, mathematics and ICT and more recently the citizenship curriculum. The secondary curriculum review proposes changes to programmes of study at Key Stage 3 (11-14 year olds) from September 2008 that seek to encourage field trips and study outside the classroom to help pupils understand how subjects are related to the outside world. In history, this should mean offering pupils opportunities to undertake visits, where possible, to museums, archives and historic sites with an aim of engaging pupils' interests so they continue visiting and using them in their lives beyond school. Religious education should offer opportunities, where possible, to visit places of major religious significance.

## SCHOOL VISITS TO SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

Cathedrals such as Southwark are valuable and often under-used resources for school education outside the classroom. They allow children to engage with magnificent art and architecture by learning about why these buildings are there, what their purpose is and the historical events they have stood witness to. Many of the school groups visiting are studying RE but the Education Centre's most popular trails support the history curriculum. Primary school pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 in particular don costumes to re-enact such events as the closure of the priory. The life of a monk can provide many parallels with the lives of even fifteen-year-olds who will talk about and compare their experiences of constraints and rules. The Education Centre offers a number of guided workshops which complement the trails – groups might make a clay tile covered with religious symbols or spend the afternoon constructing a mosaic. These give teachers a rare opportunity to watch their students working and responding. The Education Team sends out teaching points with each group booking and evaluation sheets on conclusion. The staff are constantly examining and reviewing what they offer and adding new opportunities to their portfolio. Southwark Cathedral Education Centre is a charitable trust and is always looking for ways to increase funding for its work. See more at [www.southwark.anglican.org/cathedral/educate/intro.htm](http://www.southwark.anglican.org/cathedral/educate/intro.htm)



## MICHAEL FARADAY COMMUNITY EXCAVATION

The 2007 Museum of London community excavation took place in the grounds of Michael Faraday Primary School located within the Aylesbury Estate in Southwark. The largest in Europe, it houses a diverse population, many of whom are living in challenging circumstances. For two weeks pupils from this and other local schools together with families and local groups all became archaeologists, investigating the history of the site, records for which date back to the late 17th Century. Each session comprised an introduction to archaeology, the site and the history of the area. The groups learnt excavation techniques before taking part in the dig, then moved onto finds processing, discovering more about the artefacts and how these added to the interpretation of the site. Pottery, clay pipes, bone and building material turned up as well as some star finds including a Mesolithic flint blade, medieval pottery and Victorian slate pencils. Information, photographs and results were regularly posted on the school fence and also on the internet. Early feedback reveals that all involved enjoyed the sessions and greatly improved their understanding and appreciation of archaeology and their local history. Indeed, one teacher reported that 50% of her class were now considering archaeology as a career option. This is particularly encouraging as the majority who took part were not traditional museum visitors and previous exposure to archaeology or heritage had been limited. See [www.museumoflondon.org.uk/communitydig](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/communitydig).





## CREATIVITY AT HAMPTON COURT

Opportunities for learning at Hampton Court Palace have been transformed by the new Clore Learning Centre which opened in 2007. Five flexible learning spaces and a welcoming Gallery area form the hub for a community of learners and for expanding programmes for schools, further and higher education, young people and families, and adult learners. The focus of all this is engaging learners of all ages with the rich inspirational resource of the historic buildings, gardens and collections through interactive and creative activities. Much of this takes place in the palace itself, but the dedicated spaces in the learning centre are essential in providing an environment where students have the space and freedom to express their ideas through drama and multimedia, to explore handling and costume collections, and to get messy with art materials. Building on the strengths of their existing award winning education service, the Historic Royal Palaces Education Team is working with local secondary schools to develop new programmes across a wide range of subjects including visual and performing arts, history, English, citizenship and science, and to support vocational GCSEs and new Diplomas. Longer term creative projects and artist residencies will also provide opportunities for young people to work with specialist artists, drawing inspiration from the palace and its stories and producing creative work in a variety of media. Plans for year-round activity include expansion of drop-in family learning activities and Saturday morning art courses for young people. Adult learning is another growth area with the first Hampton Court summer school in July 2007 including workshops and courses in pottery, watercolours, jewellery making and calligraphy. With over 70,000 education visitors in the academic year 2006/07, a growing network of individual learners and partner organisations are helping to shape a dynamic mix of learning opportunities which will reach even more learners in future. See [www.hrp.org.uk/learninganddiscovery/HamptonCourtPalaceEducationService](http://www.hrp.org.uk/learninganddiscovery/HamptonCourtPalaceEducationService)  
**NEW.aspx**

## BRITISH WATERWAYS HERITAGE EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

British Waterways has been working with schools close to the waterways in north London for over 5 years with the aim of encouraging pupils to use the waterways as a resource to promote both heritage and environmental education. Through visits and workshops children learn to respect their local waterway and this, in turn, contributes to making them a safer place for all visitors. All the programmes are related to the National Curriculum, mainly for Key Stages 1 and 2. In the last 5 years over 15,000 children from over 100 schools spanning 13 London boroughs have benefited. Approximately 70% of children targeted come from ethnic minorities.

London's historic waterways are tremendously popular with school children. Over 4,000 visited during 2006/07 under the British Waterways London's education programme. A prime example is the popular annual "Brunel Week" held in June at Three Bridges in Southall, when "Isambard Kingdom Brunel" takes children from Ealing primary schools on a guided walk along the towpath of the Grand Union Canal to show them the historic canal features he was associated with (see cover image). Over 260 children took part in 2007 and got to build miniature brick arches and learn about the local ecology – see [www.britishwaterways.co.uk/london/communities/education.ph](http://www.britishwaterways.co.uk/london/communities/education.ph)



## KEY INDICATORS FOR LONDON'S HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

A more detailed breakdown of most of the following can be found within the London section at [www.heritagecounts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk)

### DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS

- **Listed Buildings** – in April 2002, there were 18,062 entries compared to 18,380 by April 2007 (about 5% of the total for England).
- **Scheduled monuments** – in April 2002, there were 150 scheduled monuments compared to 152 by April 2007 (less than 1% of the total for England).
- **Registered Parks and Gardens** – in April 2002, there were 140 registered parks and gardens compared to 148 by April 2007 (just over 9% of the total for England).
- **World Heritage Sites** – There are 4 sites in London (about a quarter of the total for England), with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew being added in 2003.
- **Registered Historic Battlefields** – London has just one (Barnet).

### HISTORIC AREAS AND OPEN SPACES

- **Conservation Areas** – London is estimated to have around 955 conservation areas.

The capital enjoys an abundance of open space and waterways, including:

- Over 600 **Garden squares**, of which 461 are protected by the London Squares Preservation Act 1931.
- 8 **Royal Parks**, around 40 **Public Parks**, approximately 122 **heaths, commons and greens** and 170 **cemeteries and burial grounds** (16 historically important).
- 68km of the **River Thames** and 80km of canal network. Much bordered by many conservation areas, listed buildings and archaeological remains.
- The **London Historic Parks & Gardens Trust inventory of Historic Green Spaces** includes nearly 2,000 sites – see [www.londongardenstrust.org/](http://www.londongardenstrust.org/)

### HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORDS (HERS)

The Greater London record contains approximately 52,000 individual records of archaeological sites, monuments, finds and buildings. 458 enquiries were made to English Heritage in 2006/07 (an increase of 35% over 2005/06). See [www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/conWebDoc.3219](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/conWebDoc.3219).

### HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AT RISK

**Buildings at Risk** – The EH *Register of Buildings at Risk* in London reports that in 2007 there were 81 Grade I and II\* listed building entries at risk compared to 98 in 1999 – a reduction of 17%. The proportion of Grade I and II\* listed buildings at risk fell from 5.5% in 1999 to 4.3% in 2007. There are 516 Grade II listed building entries at risk, compared to 550 in 1999 (a reduction of 6%).

### MANAGING POSITIVELY

- **Planning Activity** – in 2006/07, about 84,300 applications were decided by planning authorities.
- **Listed Building Consent** – in 2006/07, there were 4,382 decisions on applications for LBC
- **Conservation Area Consent** – in 2006/07, there were 763 decisions on applications to make alterations to properties in conservation areas.
- **Scheduled Monument Consent** – in 2006/07, there were 78 decisions issued by DCMS.
- **Planning applications affecting registered parks and gardens** – in 2006/07, the Garden History Society was consulted on 68 applications.
- **Management of World Heritage Sites** – Management Plans are now in place for all 4 World Heritage Sites in London.

## CAPACITY AND RESOURCES

### Funding for the historic environment

- **English Heritage** in London during 2006/07 spent £2.6 million compared to £2.4 million in 2001/02, which is a reduction in real terms of about 5%. However, taking one stream alone (secular grants) there has been a drop of 42% over the same period.
- **Historic Royal Palaces** is a self-financing Public Corporation, which over the period from 2001/02 to 2006/07 received grant-in-aid only once (£6.6 million in 2003/04) plus some lottery funding.
- **The Royal Parks Agency** has responsibility for eight historic parks in London. Its total resource and capital budget, including lottery funding and grants, fell sharply in 2006/07 to £20.8 million (following a period of rising funding) due to the transfer of responsibility for the policing of the Royal Parks to the then Home Office.
- **The Heritage Lottery Fund** – London has received the most funding in both absolute terms and per head of population. For the period 1994-2007 it received nearly 30% (£356.5 million) of all HLF funding across the UK on museums, libraries, archives and collections and nearly 20% (£287.1 million) of all HLF funding on historic buildings and monuments.
- **The National Trust** – over the period from 2003/04 to 2006/07, its grant income from public sources for the Thames and Solent Region (which includes Greater London) has risen from £436,823 to £794,791.

## THE ROLE OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

### Local authority Historic Environment Champions

Historic Environment Champions provide leadership for heritage issues within their local authority. As of July 31st 2007, 27 of 33 London authorities had a Champion, plus one at the GLA, compared to 15 in July 2006.

## PARTICIPATION

### Attending historic environment sites

The **Taking Part** survey for the period June 2005 to December 2006 shows that in the London region some 62% of all adults attended at least one historic environment site, significantly below the national average of about 70%. Amongst priority groups, 46% of Black and Minority Ethnic adults visited a site – the second lowest participation rate by the BME community in England. 53% of people with a limiting disability or illness and 44% of people from lower socio-economic groups visited historic environment sites, the lowest participation rates in England.

### Number of visits to historic visitor attractions

The VisitBritain *Survey of Visits to Visitor Attractions 2006* reports (on a sample basis) that of 62.8 million visits to historic properties in England, London accounted for 18% (11.2 million), with two-fifths coming from overseas – the highest of all regions.

The Historic Houses Association represents 15 historic houses, castles and gardens in London, of which 6 are open regularly to the public. These received approximately 418,000 visitors between January and December 2006.

### Membership of historic environment organisations

**English Heritage** – London membership reached about 77,000 in 2006/07 (12% of total membership), compared to just under 71,700 in 2004/05.

**National Trust** – Thames and Solent membership reached 639,000 in February 2007 (19% of total English membership).

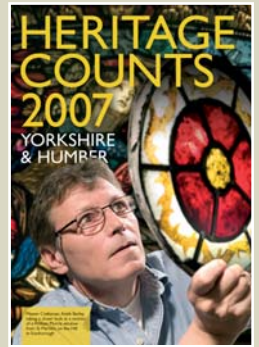
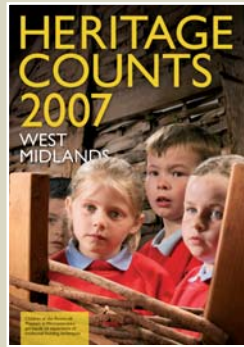
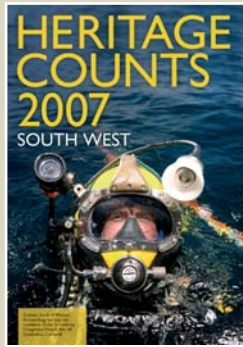
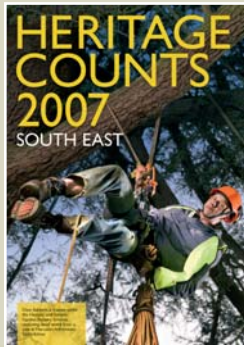
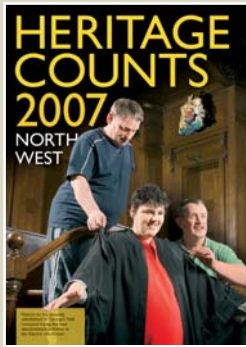
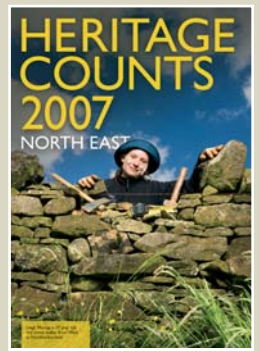
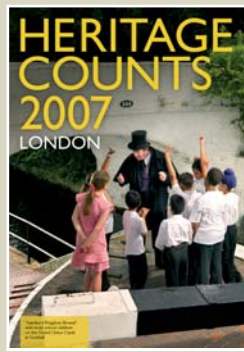
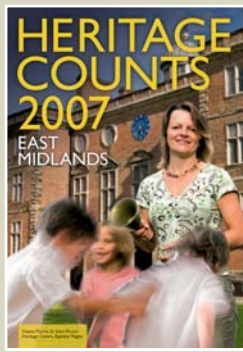
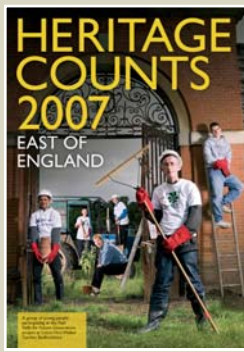
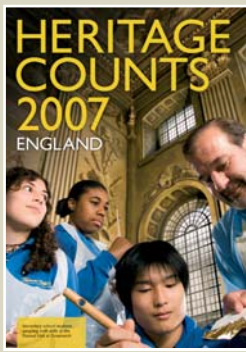
### Volunteering in the historic environment

**National Trust** – Thames and Solent volunteer numbers reached 4,289 in 2006/07 (10% of the total for England) compared to 2,764 in 2002/03.

### School visits to heritage sites

The **National Trust** recorded 28,384 educational visits in 2006/07 in Thames and Solent – 25% up on 2005/06 and 39% up on 2002/03.

**English Heritage** recorded 17,997 educational visits to its London properties in 2006/07, 16% up on 2005/06 and over double the number for 2001/02.



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- Historic Royal Palaces
- Institute of Historic Building Conservation
- London Councils
- London Development Agency
- London Forum of Amenity & Civic Societies
- London Rivers Association
- Museums Libraries Archives London
- Museum of London Archaeology Service
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- Royal Parks
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