



ENGLISH HERITAGE

HERITAGE AT RISK

2013

NORTH EAST

HERITAGE AT RISK

Heritage at Risk is our campaign to save listed buildings and important historic sites, places and landmarks from neglect or decay. At its heart is the Heritage at Risk Register, an online database containing details of each site known to be at risk. It is analysed and updated annually and this leaflet summarises the results. Heritage at Risk teams are now in each of our nine local offices, delivering national expertise locally.

The good news is that we are on target to save 25% (1,137) of the sites that were on the Register in 2010 by 2015. From Clifford's Fort, North Tyneside to the Church of St Andrew, Haughton le Skerne, this success is down to good partnerships with owners, developers, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), Natural England, councils and local groups. It will be increasingly important to build on these partnerships to achieve the overall aim of reducing the number of sites on the Register. **Carol Pyrah**, Planning and Conservation Director, North East

Despite the continued recession, the number of sites on the Register continues to fall. The economic climate may be uncertain, but successful partnerships across the North East are removing many important heritage assets from the Register. This year we have successfully removed 12 entries and offered £566,000 in grant towards 9 heritage at risk projects.

Not all our grant funding goes on repair. An increasing amount is being used to carry out detailed surveys and options appraisals to help owners understand issues and options. This reduces risks when investing in schemes to reuse buildings or regenerate conservation areas. Although we have a number of success stories this year we still have a high percentage of grade I and II* buildings at risk in the North East (7.1%) and the number of scheduled monuments at risk is increasing. The greatest threat to monuments is poorly managed plant, tree and scrub growth: in the North East 46% of archaeological sites on the Register are suffering from unrestricted plant growth (often bracken). We are working with Natural England and the Northumberland National Park to develop new ways of managing bracken across our upland landscapes. Everyone is managing a much tighter budget these days: every little bit of funding is vital. Partnerships that have removed heritage assets from the Register this year include the repair of Clifford's Fort, North Shields, part of the very successful regeneration of the Fish Quay; a project driven by a dynamic partnership of local businesses, residents and North Tyneside Council. Work continues at Ushaw College, a former Catholic seminary near Durham, where a partnership to reuse buildings has been developed between the Ushaw College Trustees and Durham University, and English Heritage has contributed £345,000 to the repair of the Bounds Wall. We are also delighted

that the HLF has continued to invest in the future of places of worship by supporting vital church repairs. HLF funding has also secured a future for the Bowes Railway Trust by helping them develop training, education and heritage skills. These projects are being successfully delivered by volunteers who deserve our support and encouragement.

Many of the sites that remain on the Register are ones where a solution will take many years to develop. With limited funding, we must explore new, effective and innovative ways of getting maximum value from our limited resources, focussing on assets where we are most likely to deliver successful projects. As the conservation deficit increases for individual properties, the challenge will be to bring together the people, organisations and developers with the energy and vision to deliver sustainable solutions. Dunston Staiths, Gateshead is a good example of just such a project. The seemingly impossible task of managing and repairing a huge structure from our industrial past is now underway thanks to a partnership between Tyne & Wear Building Preservation Trust, Gateshead Council, Durham Wildlife Trust, HLF and English Heritage.



Kate Wilson,
Principal Adviser, Heritage at Risk

USHAW HOME FARM, COUNTY DURHAM

The Home Farm at Ushaw formed the centre of the farming operation for Ushaw College, founded in 1808 as a Catholic seminary by refugees from English Catholic seminary and school at Douai in France. The farming operation at its height encompassed over 600 acres of mixed arable and grazing land. Listed at grade II*, the main farm building of three storeys incorporates cattle byres, haylofts, milking parlour, dairy, and machinery for milling and grinding. The Home Farm was designed by the architect Joseph Hansom in a Gothic style and constructed in 1852 at the height of interest in farm building design in England, and is a new entry on English Heritage's Heritage at Risk Register for 2013.

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

- Nationally, 4.1% of grade I and II* listed buildings (excluding places of worship) are on the Register. In the North East the percentage is 7.1% (69 buildings).
- 6 building or structure entries have been removed from the 2012 North East Register because their futures have been secured, but 2 have been added.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

- Of the 487 listed places of worship assessed in the North East, 21 are on the Register.
- 2 places of worship have been removed from the 2012 Register following repair work.

ARCHAEOLOGY

- 3,265 (16.5%) of England's 19,792 scheduled monuments are on the Register, of which 194 are in the North East.
- 3 archaeology entries have been removed from the 2012 Register for positive reasons and 7 have been added.
- 21.8% of archaeology entries (37) on the North East baseline 2009 Register have been removed for positive reasons, compared to the national figure of 21.1%.
- Nationally, damage from arable cultivation is the greatest risk factor, accounting for 43% of those on the Register. In the North East the proportion is 11%. The greatest threat for 46% of entries on the North East Register is from unrestricted plant, scrub and tree growth.

PARKS AND GARDENS

- 100 (6.2%) of England's 1,624 registered parks and gardens are on the Register. In the North East, 3 are on the Register, the same as last year.

BATTLEFIELDS

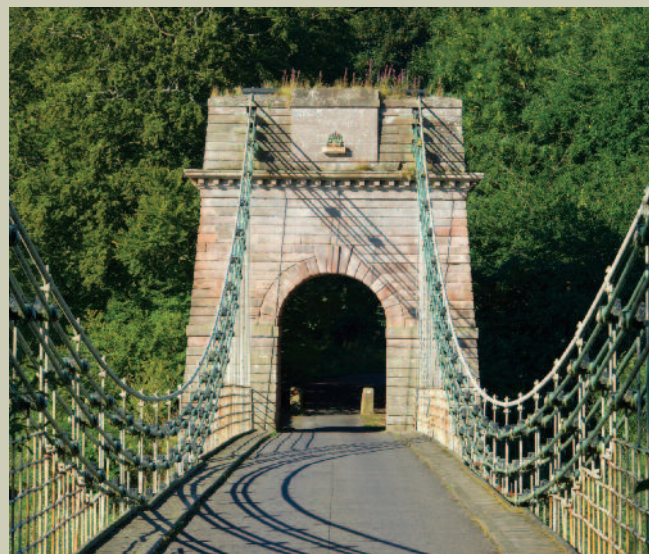
- Of the 43 registered battlefields in England, 6 are on the Register. Of the 6 registered battlefields in the North East, 1 is on the Register.

WRECK SITES

- Of the 46 protected wreck sites around England's coast, 4 are on the Register. The North East's single protected wreck site is not on the Register.

CONSERVATION AREAS

- 8,179 of England's 9,839 conservation areas have been surveyed by local authorities. 510 (6.2%) are on the Register. Of the 270 conservation areas surveyed in the North East, 25 (9.3%) are on the Register.
- 1 conservation area has been removed from the 2012 North East Register for a positive reason, but 6 have been added.



UNION SUSPENSION BRIDGE, NORTHUMBERLAND

The Union Suspension Bridge was the longest wrought iron suspension bridge in the world when it opened in 1820 with a span of 137m (449 ft). Listed grade I, the bridge spans the River Tweed and the border between Northumberland (England), and Scotland. It was designed and built by Captain Samuel Brown, a naval officer in the Napoleonic Wars and later a chain manufacturer, who patented his invention of the wrought iron bar-linked chain used in the construction of this bridge. This is a new entry on English Heritage's Heritage at Risk Register.

63% OF
BUILDINGS AND
STRUCTURES
ON THE 1999 REGISTER
HAVE BEEN
SAVED

25
CONSERVATION
AREAS ARE ON
THE REGISTER

14.1%
OF SCHEDULED
MONUMENTS ARE ON
THE REGISTER

£566k IN
GRANTS
WAS OFFERED TO
9 SITES
ON THE REGISTER

PRIORITY HAR SITES

- Bowes Railway Incline, Birtley, Gateshead
- Greenhouse east of Felton Park with potting shed, Felton Park, Felton, Northumberland
- Harperley Working Camp, WWII POW Camp at Craigside, Wolsingham, County Durham
- Kirkleatham Hall Stables and Landscape (Kirkleatham Hall Stables, Bastion and ha-ha wall north of Kirkleatham Hall Stables, Bastion north west of Kirkleatham Hall Stables), Redcar, Tees Valley
- Monastic cell and medieval tower, Coquet Island, Hauxley, Northumberland
- Prebends' Bridge, Durham and Framwellgate, Durham, County Durham
- Ravensworth Castle, Lamesley (Ravensworth Castle and Nash House), Gateshead
- Small multivallate hillfort and tower mill on Shackleton Beacon Hill, Heighington, Darlington
- Sockburn Hall and Church (Sockburn Hall, and the Church of All Saints) Sockburn Lane, Sockburn, Darlington
- Ushaw College, Esh (Chapel of St Michael at College of St Cuthbert, Former Junior Seminary, Chapel of St. Aloysius and Bounds Wall), County Durham

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BATTLE OF NEWBURN FORD 1640

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY:

The Battle of Newburn Ford was the only battle of the Second Bishops' War prompted by King Charles I's attempt to impose a new prayer book on the Scots. A Scottish army of 20,000 men led by Alexander Leslie threatened Newcastle upon Tyne, but to avoid assaulting the strong city defences they decided to cross the River Tyne four miles upstream from Newcastle at the first fording point at Newburn.

To counter this, the English Commander, Lord Conway, took 3,500 infantry and cavalry from Newcastle to face him on the south bank of the River Tyne, arriving on the evening of the 27th August 1640. Although further

reinforcements were sent the following day, the English were driven from their fortifications by the weight of the Scots' artillery bombardment and the Scottish cavalry forced the English to retreat to higher ground and finally drove them off.

The Registered Battlefield at Newburn covers a large area on both the north and south banks of the River Tyne and is owned by a variety of individuals and organisations including households, smallholdings, farmers, national utility companies and local authorities.

The boundaries of the Registered Battlefield include the Scottish camp and artillery positions on the north bank of the River Tyne and the English defensive earthworks. Part of the settlements of Ryton and Stella on the south bank, through which the English retreated, are also included in the Registered Battlefield.

IS IT AT RISK?

Yes. Although the area has been heavily industrialised and the landscape is profoundly different to the landscape of 1640, it is still possible to understand the topography and the course of the battle, which took place over pastureland and woods, much of

which still remains today.

Unfortunately a lack of understanding about the battlefield and encroachment by piecemeal, large-scale development, unsympathetic work that does not require planning permission, and neglect threaten the integrity of the battlefield.

WHAT'S THE CURRENT SITUATION?

This is a challenging site that requires a coordinated approach by both local authorities (Newcastle City Council and Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council) and English Heritage to raise the profile of the battlefield with local residents and businesses. A recent report prepared by the Battlefields Trust for English Heritage has highlighted the issues and made a number of recommendations.

The most pressing task is to contact all the owners and occupiers of the battlefield and make them aware of the importance of the battle and registered area and the need for them to help protect its integrity by modifying their activities so that key views are not compromised and fragile archaeological deposits are protected.

Find out what's at risk by searching or downloading the online Heritage at Risk Register at www.english-heritage.org.uk/har

If you would like this document in a different format, please contact our customer services department on telephone: 0870 333 1181 fax: 01793 414926 textphone: 01793 414878 email: customers@english-heritage.org.uk