

Heritage at Risk



Historic England

East of England Summary 2015



For the first time, we've compared all sites on the Heritage at Risk Register – from houses to hillforts – to help us better understand which types of site are most commonly at risk. There are things that make each region special and, once lost, will mean a sense of our region's character is lost too. Comparing the East of England to the national Register shows that 40.7% of all mills and 15.5% of all enclosures are in our region. There are 421 entries on the East of England 2015 Heritage at Risk Register, making up 7.7% of the national total of 5,478 entries. The Register provides an annual snapshot of historic sites known to be at risk from neglect, decay or inappropriate development. Our local HAR team, led by John Ette, continues to work with owners, funders and other stakeholders to find the right solutions for sites on the Register.

Greg Luton
Planning Director, East of England



In the East of England we have removed 108 (33%) of entries from the 2010 Register against the national target to remove 25% over the 5 year period. Over the last year, this significant progress has included removing 10 buildings and

structures, 29 places of worship, 2 conservation areas, 19 archaeological entries and 1 park and garden from the 2014 Register.

To achieve this we rely on successful relationships with owners and partners. The expert technical advice we provide to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) under the Grants for Places of Worship Scheme has helped with the removal of places of worship from the 2014 Register; however 21 have been added as part of the team's assessment process.

We have worked closely with Natural England exceeding by 13% a shared target to remove scheduled monuments from the Register and to identify goals for the new Countryside Stewardship scheme. We are pleased that the historic environment remains a priority. This will allow us to continue to reduce risk to rural heritage sites, including our many prehistoric barrows. A developing partnership with Landfill Tax distributor WREN, has resulted in awards amounting to 50% of the national

grants made this year to 5 sites including the ruins at St Andrews Church, Walberswick, Suffolk.

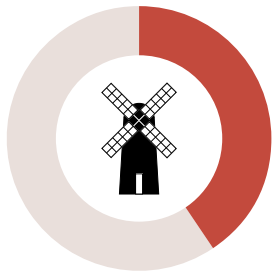
Cardington Airship Shed 1 has been restored. Positive progress has also been made on all other priority sites over the last year including Friston Mill, Suffolk where a project development grant has been awarded to the private owner. Wisbech, a key town for engagement in Cambridgeshire, also achieved a successful HLF award to help regenerate the High Street and secure the future of neglected buildings. The Naze Tower in Essex represents an on-going challenge. Complex structural issues arising from its military use as a radar station are currently being addressed.

The Heritage at Risk team has identified our wind and water mills at risk as a challenge for the year ahead; although positive action is in progress on 10 of those 11 mill buildings. We are also advising on a HLF Landscape Partnership scheme for part of the Broads National Park which would result in the conservation of a number of windmills and wind pumps. To help provide a strategic overview of this important site type, we intend to commission a survey of all the mills in the region.

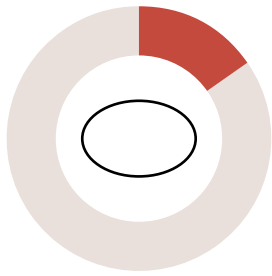
John Ette
Principal Adviser, Heritage at Risk

Cover image: The remaining built elements of the **Latton Priory**, a 12th century Augustinian monastic house, now a scheduled monument surviving within a series of timber-framed barn structures. Roof tile fixings have rusted, and tiles have been lost over recent years. Water ingress is leading to decay of important 14th century fine ashlar stone. There is concern about the progressively worsening condition of the fabric. Historic England has provided £114,000 towards the cost of repairs with completion due by March 2016.

Entries on the 2015 national Register in the **East of England**

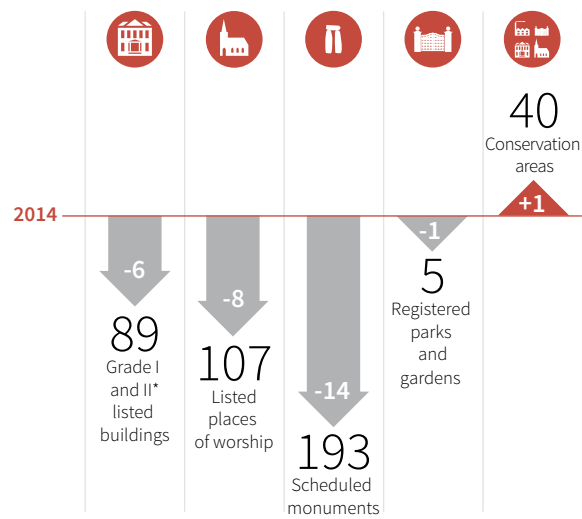


11 (40.7%)
Mills



26 (15.5%)
Enclosures

Designated assets on the 2015 **East of England** Register



There are **434** assets on the **East of England** Register, 28 fewer than 2014

St Mary's Friary **Walsingham, Norfolk**



Background and history

The remains of St Mary's Friary, founded in 1347, comprise the most complete surviving example of a medieval Franciscan monastic house in the country. The friars would have ministered to and drawn income from pilgrims who flocked

to Walsingham, one of the pre-eminent pilgrimages in England at the time.

The friary was suppressed in 1538 during the Reformation and the church demolished soon after. The little cloister and the guest house were converted into dwellings by various tenants and owners before the whole site was acquired by the Walsingham Estate in the 18th century.

Little of the church or great cloister now survives, but the domestic buildings, the little cloister, guest house, chapterhouse, dormer and kitchen survive as ruins.

Is it at risk?

The site has long standing problems and has been on the Heritage at Risk Register since 2008. Works funded by Natural England, the Walsingham Estate and Historic England since 2010 have seen the little cloister, the guest house and chapter house repaired and consolidated. These works have been a model of cooperation between statutory agencies, grant awarding bodies, conservation professionals including skilled masons, and private owners. The prioritised works have been completed to a very high standard and the site was removed from the Register in 2015.

What's the current situation?

The site is now open to visitors on one day a week and it is hoped that some low level, discreet interpretation can be provided.

Hemel Water Gardens Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire

Background and history

Architect and Town Planner, Geoffrey Jellicoe (1900-1996) was commissioned in 1947 to devise a master plan for the new town of Hemel Hempstead. A key component of the plan was the Water Gardens (designed 1957-59).

The Water Gardens is one of Jellicoe's earlier schemes and showcases many of his design characteristics including canals, bridges, viewing platforms and planting by Jellicoe's wife, Susan.

Over the years the gardens have been well used but the original concrete structures now need urgent repair. Comprehensive refurbishment is proposed, including structural repairs to bridges, balconies and other key elements. The planting scheme will be renewed in keeping with the original design and the impact of later additions will be reduced.

Is it at risk?

The registered Water Gardens were placed on the Heritage at Risk Register in 2013.



What's the current situation?

Dacorum Borough Council achieved a successful Heritage Lottery Fund bid and works are due to commence in 2015. Historic England offered extensive pre-application advice and an appraisal of a detailed master plan. Historic England also advised on the setting of the gardens in relation to the wider townscape redevelopment.

Historic England Angel Awards

The Historic England Angel Awards were founded in 2011, co-funded by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. They celebrate local people's extraordinary efforts to save historic buildings and places. Over the past five years, the Angel Awards have showcased inspirational friends groups, communities, worshippers, owners and craftspeople.

From 2016, we'll be looking for projects that champion the historic environment in many ways. These could include:

- community action projects
- heritage research, survey or education projects
- heritage professionals
- lifetime achievements
- and of course, rescues of heritage sites

Shortlisted Angels will continue to be put to the vote in the ever-popular People's Favourite Award.

Look out for news at www.HistoricEngland.org.uk/AngelAwards

For more information contact:

John Ette, Historic England East of England
Brooklands, 24 Brooklands Avenue,
Cambridge, CB2 8BU
Telephone: 01223 582 749
Email: eastofengland@HistoricEngland.org.uk
Twitter: @HE_EoE

For a different format of this document contact our customer services department on:
Telephone: 0370 333 0608 Textphone: 0800 015 0516
Email: customers@HistoricEngland.org.uk
Product code: 51988

Find out what's at risk by searching or downloading the online Heritage at Risk Register at:
HistoricEngland.org.uk/har