

HERITAGE COUNTS

The State of the WEST MIDLANDS' Historic Environment

Web Report
(featuring indicators and annual data for the West Midlands region)

2006

A1 Designated historic environment assets

- The West Midlands is home to one World Heritage Site: The Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site in Shropshire
- The region had 34,363 listed buildings in April 2006, of which 607 were listed grade I, and 2,162 were listed grade II*.
- There were 1,474 Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the region in August 2006.
- There are 6 Registered Historic Battlefields in the region.

A2 Historic Areas and Open Spaces

- There are 749 Conservation Areas in the West Midlands. Conservation Areas are designated by Local Authorities as areas of special architectural or historic interest.
- There were 152 Registered Historic Parks and Gardens in the West Midlands region, in April 2006.

Local Authority	No of Listed Buildings by grade			Scheduled Ancient Monuments ¹	Registered Parks & Gardens ²	Conservation Areas
	I	II*	II			
Herefordshire	125	355	5425	272	24	64
Worcestershire	101	328	5938	182	15	131
Bromsgrove	6	28	449	14	2	10
Malvern Hills	35	85	1753	54	6	21
Redditch	1	10	151	8	0	2
Worcester	14	40	648	22	0	17
Wychavon	40	140	2276	75	8	65
Wyre Forest	5	25	661	9	1	16
Warwickshire	112	353	5529	182	31	127
North Warwickshire	7	53	528	28	3	10
Nuneaton & Bedworth	3	7	84	2	2	5
Rugby	8	41	455	27	5	16
Stratford-on-Avon	65	164	3095	84	11	77
Warwick	29	88	1367	41	11	19
West Midlands	63	218	2834	68	28	137
Birmingham	20	103	1287	14	14	27
Coventry	20	24	235	12	3	15
Dudley	6	16	240	12	2	21
Sandwell	3	6	267	6	5	6
Solihull	12	41	313	15	2	20
Walsall	0	6	142	5	4	18
Wolverhampton	2	22	350	4	2	30
Shropshire	129	547	7035	477	34	124
Bridgnorth	19	92	1051	42	12	34
North Shropshire	12	74	1129	50	4	11
Oswestry	7	19	517	53	2	5
Shrewsbury & Atcham	40	161	1682	89	6	22
South Shropshire	36	145	1913	214	10	45
Telford & Wrekin	15	56	743	29	3	7
Staffordshire	77	361	4833	293	20	166
Cannock Chase	0	6	59	5	0	7
East Staffordshire	11	62	810	64	1	26
Lichfield	12	64	677	16	1	23
Newcastle under Lyme	3	23	374	13	2	18
South Staffordshire	15	43	608	24	5	16

Stafford	22	69	728	43	5	32
Staffordshire Moorlands	10	72	1253	120	2	14
Stoke-on-Trent	1	17	184	5	6	23
Tamworth	3	5	140	3	0	7
REGION TOTAL	607	2162	31594	1474	152	749

¹ Scheduled Ancient Monuments that straddle local authority boundaries have been allocated to the local authority in which the greatest area of the monument lies.

² County totals for Registered Parks and Gardens may be inaccurate as some of them straddle local authority boundaries and may have been counted twice.

- There are 1,730 Church of England Churches in the West Midlands, 73% of which are listed, and 48% of which are listed grade I or II*.

Diocese	Numbers of Church of England churches	% of which are listed	% listed I or II*
Lichfield	585	64	35
Hereford	425	83	61
Worcester	282	76	52
Birmingham	195	55	30
Coventry	243	90	63
West Midlands Region	1730	73	48

B Caring and Sharing

B1 Historic environment at risk

- There were 193 Buildings at Risk in the region in 2006, which represents 15% of the national total. In the past year there were 17 new entries on the register, whilst 10 buildings were removed, representing a net increase of 7. The West Midlands county area recorded the greatest increase of entries on the register.

Local Authority	Buildings at Risk				
	No of Entries	% of National Total	Additions	Deletions	Net Change
Herefordshire	34	3%	1	0	+1
Worcestershire	18	1%	3	1	+2
Bromsgrove	2				
Malvern Hills	5				
Redditch	0				
Worcester	3				
Wychavon	5				
Wyre Forest	3				
Warwickshire	20	2%	2	1	+1
North Warwickshire	9				
Nuneaton & Bedworth	2				
Rugby	1				
Stratford-on-Avon	4				
Warwick	4				
West Midlands	40	3%	8	0	+8
Birmingham	22				
Coventry	6				
Dudley	5				
Sandwell	2				
Solihull	1				
Walsall	1				
Wolverhampton	3				
Shropshire	38	3%	2	7	-5
Bridgnorth	6				
North Shropshire	7				
Oswestry	5				
Shrewsbury & Atcham	11				
South Shropshire	8				
Telford & Wrekin	1				
Staffordshire	43	3%	1	1	-
Cannock Chase	0				
East Staffordshire	2				
Lichfield	6				
Newcastle under Lyme	3				
South Staffordshire	6				
Stafford	6				
Staffordshire Moorlands	10				
Stoke-on-Trent	9				
Tamworth	1				
REGION TOTAL	193	15%	17	10	+7

- English Heritage has a rolling programme of surveys underway in each of the English regions to systematically assess the condition and vulnerability of all Scheduled Monuments and to establish priorities for action and monument management. Preliminary results in the West Midlands have shown that of those monuments surveyed:
 - 409 monuments are deemed to be at a high level of risk
 - The condition trend for 134 monuments is improving, 372 declining and 724 are deemed in a stable condition.

	Risk Level			Condition Trend			
	Low	Medium	High	Improving	Declining	Stable	Unknown
Herefordshire	99	94	69	28	104	108	19
Shropshire	163	192	106	52	112	259	29
Staffordshire	141	73	62	16	44	180	33
Warwickshire	59	33	93	14	46	72	52
West Midlands	19	23	18	0	16	38	0
Worcestershire	51	61	61	24	50	67	30
West Midlands Region	532	476	409	134	372	724	163

Condition Trends:

Improving - There is a visible improvement in condition since last inspection, typically as a result of ongoing management.

Declining - Monument deterioration as a result of ongoing damage, causing loss of fabric which may be gradual (e.g. repeated cultivation, scrub encroachment) or rapid (sever animal burrowing, structural collapse).

Stable - Monument shows no signs of active deterioration either recent or midterm.

Unknown - Not possible to assess trend in condition of fabric as field assessment not made recently or is not known.

- There is no single register of Landscapes at Risk. However it is calculated that nearly half of all parkland recorded in 1918 had been lost by 1995 as a result of agricultural development, conversion to golf courses and other changes. Three of the region's Local Authority areas are in the England 'top ten' for parkland loss in that period.
 - The County of Herefordshire Unitary Authority recorded the highest loss of parkland in England in the above period, and lost 3,686 hectares. Stratford-on-Avon District recorded the second highest loss of parkland (2,477 hectares) in that period, and Malvern Hills District had the eighth highest level of parkland loss (1,959 hectares).

Local Authority	Area (Hec)	Parkland 1918 (Hec)	% 1918 Parkland of Local Authority Area	Parkland 1995 (Hec)	% 1995 Parkland of Local Authority Area	Hectare Loss	% Parkland Loss
Herefordshire	217,973	8,943	4.1%	5,258	2.4%	3,686	41.2%
Bromsgrove	21,699	575	2.7%	189	0.9%	386	67.1%
Malvern Hills	57,707	3,133	5.4%	1,156	2.0%	1,977	63.1%
Redditch	5,425	70	1.3%	70	1.3%	0	0.0%
Worcester	3,327	109	3.3%	0	0.0%	109	100.0%
Wychavon	66,350	2,035	3.1%	791	1.2%	1,244	61.1%
Wyre Forest	19,543	353	1.8%	165	0.8%	189	53.4%
North Warwickshire	28,427	1,361	4.8%	552	1.9%	809	59.4%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	7,898	236	3.0%	167	2.1%	69	29.4%
Rugby	35,357	964	2.7%	279	0.8%	685	71.0%
Stratford-on-Avon	97,792	3,844	3.9%	1,368	1.4%	2,477	64.4%
Warwick	28,291	1,589	5.6%	663	2.3%	926	58.3%
Birmingham	26,780	951	3.6%	657	2.5%	294	30.9%
Coventry	9,856	110	1.1%	49	0.5%	61	55.5%
Dudley	9,793	70	0.7%	69	0.7%	0	0.6%
Sandwell	8,559	139	1.6%	70	0.8%	70	50.1%
Solihull	17,831	520	2.9%	182	1.0%	339	65.1%
Walsall	10,398	120	1.2%	62	0.6%	58	48.0%
Wolverhampton	6,943	69	1.0%	65	0.9%	5	6.9%
Bridgnorth	63,319	3,604	5.7%	2,092	3.3%	1,512	42.0%
North Shropshire	67,917	3,326	4.9%	1,599	2.4%	1,727	51.9%
Oswestry	25,612	1,282	5.0%	795	3.1%	486	38.0%
Shrewsbury & Atcham	60,159	2,897	4.8%	1,427	2.4%	1,470	50.7%
South Shropshire	102,733	1,709	1.7%	1,093	1.1%	616	36.0%
Telford & Wrekin	29,031	645	2.2%	198	0.7%	447	69.3%
Cannock Chase	7,886	765	9.7%	693	8.8%	72	9.5%
East Staffordshire	38,998	3,147	8.1%	1,779	4.6%	1,369	43.5%
Lichfield	33,130	1,273	3.8%	438	1.3%	835	65.6%
Newcastle under Lyme	21,093	841	4.0%	348	1.6%	493	58.6%
South Staffordshire	40,730	3,274	8.0%	1,837	4.5%	1,438	43.9%
Stafford	59,829	3,320	5.5%	1,581	2.6%	1,738	52.4%
Staffordshire Moorlands	57,581	807	1.4%	488	0.8%	319	39.5%
Stoke-on-Trent	9,338	169	1.8%	38	0.4%	130	77.3%
Tamworth	3,087	28	0.9%	28	0.9%	0	0.8%

- Virtually all archaeological work in the region is undertaken as part of development proposals. Local authority archaeological advisors appraise every planning application and make recommendations on requirements for preservation, or for an appropriate level of recording if preservation is not feasible. In 2005, development-based archaeological research was carried out on 571 as part of planning proposals, which included desk-based assessment, evaluation, excavation, watching brief and/or building recording.

County	Development-Based Archaeology					
	Desk-based assessment	Evaluation	Excavation	Watching brief	Building recording	Total all work
Herefordshire	6	16	9	47	11	89
Worcestershire	15	35	7	28	18	103
Warwickshire	1	13	7	73	14	108
West Midlands	33	33	12	39	32	149
Shropshire	7	13	4	16	0	40
Staffordshire	12	15	10	28	17	82
REGION TOTAL	74	125	49	231	92	571

B2 Managing positively

- In 2005/06 about 53,100 planning applications were decided in the West Midlands by local planning authorities, some 3,800 more than the previous year. 2,800 applications for listed building consent were decided, and 300 conservation area consents were determined.

Local Authority	Planning applications decided	Applications for listed building consent decided	Conservation area consent applications determined
Herefordshire	3421	431	28
Worcestershire	7071	603	37
Bromsgrove	1098	42	2
Malvern Hills	1444	143	10
Redditch	508	17	0
Worcester	787	83	14
Wychavon	2110	220	9
Wyre Forest	1124	98	2
Warwickshire	7065	584	58
North Warwickshire	735	33	10
Nuneaton & Bedworth	761	3	1
Rugby	1367	59	2
Stratford-on-Avon	2365	295	18
Warwick	1837	194	27
West Midlands	18414	274	54
Birmingham	6601	128	23
Coventry	1786	17	4
Dudley	2389	14	1
Sandwell	1770	15	6
Solihull	2198	39	4
Walsall	2017	19	9
Wolverhampton	1653	42	7
Shropshire	6367	586	42
Bridgnorth	955	121	3
North Shropshire	1168	93	11
Oswestry	536	40	5
Shrewsbury & Atcham	1392	122	3
South Shropshire	1004	149	14
Telford & Wrekin	1312	61	6
Staffordshire	10733	353	31
Cannock Chase	826	4	0
East Staffordshire	1516	96	11
Lichfield	1192	63	4
Newcastle under Lyme	1144	20	2
South Staffordshire	1170	24	8
Stafford	1637	68	0
Staffordshire Moorlands	1172	49	2
Stoke-on-Trent	589	10	2
Tamworth	1487	19	2
West Midlands Region	53071	2831	250

- Planning applications referred to the Garden History Society (GHS) that affected Registered Historic Parks and Gardens in 2005/6 numbered 51, to which the GHS made 10 written responses. 17 applications affected grade I or II* Parks & Gardens.

B3 Capacity and resources

- In the financial year 2005/6, English Heritage offered a total of £5.87m as part of its various grant schemes in the West Midlands. Of this:
 - £744,000 was offered as part of the Historic Buildings, Monuments and Designed Landscapes grant scheme.
 - £669,000 was offered for conservation areas
 - £1,237,000 was offered as part of the Regional Grants for Places of Worship scheme¹.
 - £20,000 was spent as part of the Regional Capacity Building Scheme.
 - £25,000 was offered for Section 17 Management Agreements for Scheduled Monuments.
 - £567,000 was offered for strategic grants in the region such as for the Historic Environment Enabling Programme and from the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund.

¹ Includes RGPOW offers of 2005/6, enhancements on offers of 2004/5 made in 2005/6, and Grants for Cathedrals. Excludes Heritage Lottery Fund contribution.

- From 1994/5 to 2005/6, the Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded just under £236m in grant aid in the West Midlands through 1,909 individual awards. This represents 6.6% of the total UK spend.
 - In this period, applications to the HLF in the region have had a success rate of 73%, the highest in England, and the region submitted about 8% of the UK's applications.

Type of Grant	No. of awards	Value of awards (£)
Historic buildings and monuments	571	92,151,051
Industrial maritime and transport	61	29,749,397
Intangible heritage*	899	10,398,426
Land and biodiversity	156	48,738,765
Museums libraries archives and collections	222	54,924,681
West Midlands Total	1,909	235,962,321

Grant size band	No. of awards	Value of awards
1 to 50,000	1,372	20,314,292
50,001 to 999,999	456	94,137,246
1,000,000 to 4,999,999	71	93,694,102
5 million and above	10	27,816,680
Grand total	1,909	235,962,321

NB: A4A and LHI included with Intangible heritage

Programme	No. of awards	Value of awards
Awards for All	678	2,514,686
Heritage Grants	394	163,593,649
Joint Places of Worship	60	6,980,840
Landscape Partnership	1	50,000
Local Heritage Initiative	149	2,525,140
Major Museums Archives and Libraries Programme	-	-
Millenium Festival Community Awards	6	263,900
Museums and Galleries Access Fund	3	153,000
Parks Programmes	33	24,090,400
Project Planning Grants	39	1,520,700
Repair Grants for Places of Worship	264	8,474,052
Tomorrow's Heathland Heritage	4	874,681
Townscape Heritage Initiative and Conservation Area Partnership Scheme	43	16,161,951
Young Roots	40	880,275
Your Heritage	195	7,879,046
Grand Total	1,909	235,962,321

- The West Midlands has 25 Historic Environment Champions, representing 66% of Local Authorities in the region.
- The Redundant Building Grant (RBG) Scheme is provided for the conversion or refurbishment of redundant buildings (i.e. unused or unusable in their current state) to bring them back into productive business use, or to enhance their current business use. The scheme is funded by Advantage West Midlands and administered by Herefordshire Council. Grants under the scheme are available in the Shropshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire Rural Regeneration Zone:
 - The RBG Scheme started in November 2003 and continues until July 2007, and to date 39 projects have been awarded a total of £1,090,000.
 - A total of £3,052,791 of private sector investment has contributed towards the completed projects.

C Using and Benefiting

C1 Participation

- Provisional results from the DCMS' 'Taking Part' survey, based on the first three quarters (July 2005 – April 2006) show that about 66% of people in the West Midlands have attended at least one type of historic environment site during the last 12 months.
- The table show the number of visits to historic sites in the West Midlands that were made during 2005. The figures have been drawn from the Survey of Visits to Visitor Attractions 2005 published by national tourism agency VisitBritain.

Castles/forts	Gardens	Historic houses	Historic monuments	Visitor/heritage centres	Places of worship	Other historic properties	TOTAL NO. OF VISITS	Total % of national no of visits
341,000	367,000	1,327,000	52,000	826,000	422,000	8,000	3,345,000	6%

C2 Economic Benefits

- The Survey of Visits to Visitor Attractions 2005 (January to December) published by national tourism agency VisitBritain shows that in 2005, 3,343,000 people visited Historic Properties in the West Midlands, representing 6% of the total number of visits nationally.
 - The survey uses data submitted from attractions across England. 166 attractions participated in the survey in the West Midlands. Drayton Manor was the region's most visited paid for attraction in 2005 with 1.2 million visits and a 9% increase from 2004, making it the 9th most popular paid for attraction in England. Notable visitors increases were to Places of Worship (+13%) and Wildlife Attractions/Zoos (+11%). Lickey Hills Country Park was the most visited free attraction in 2005 with 550,000 visits.
- The Historic Houses Association (HHA) represents 180 historic houses, castles and gardens in the West Midlands that remain in private ownership, 61 of which provide public access. Over 800,000 members of the public visited HHA properties in the 12 months leading up to May 2006, representing just under 6% of the total number of visitors nationally.
- About 300 properties took part in Heritage Open Days 2006 from 7th to 10th September. Heritage Open Days is England's largest voluntary cultural event when thousands of buildings of all ages, styles and functions open their doors free of charge. Many of these places are normally closed to the public, while others usually charge for admission.

C3 Education and lifelong learning

- From April 2005 to June 2006, 1,093 Educational visits were made to English Heritage properties in the West Midlands by schools and other educational organisations.
- 9 of the West Midlands Historic Houses Association properties operate formal education programmes.