

I Winning the Lottery: Ten Years of Funding for Heritage

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Stone Railway station, Staffordshire, has been restored with the help of £360,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund



Introduction

Heritage Counts is the annual state of the historic environment report. It sets out detailed information on the extent of England's historic assets, the pressures facing them, and the different ways in which heritage contributes to people's lives. The report has been produced by the Historic Environment Review Executive Committee, and has been funded by English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Heritage Counts 2004 is the third report in a series that began with the original *State of the Historic Environment Report* in 2002 and was continued with *Heritage Counts 2003*. Comparisons with earlier reports enable us to begin to highlight the key trends affecting the historic environment – whether in relation to the threat to important assets through neglect or decay, the economic contribution that heritage makes, or the social benefits that heritage projects are bringing to communities across the country.

This document should be read in conjunction with the Summary report, which draws out the main messages of *Heritage Counts 2004*. As in previous years, the national *Heritage Counts* reports are also accompanied by a suite of regional reports, each prepared by the Historic Environment Forums in the nine English regions.

This report is organised into two main sections. Chapter 1 is a thematic summary of the successes of ten years of funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards heritage projects across England. This overview demonstrates the value of this investment, which amounts to over £3 billion across the UK and which has rescued countless buildings, landscapes and collections for use by the public.

The second section, in Chapters 2 to 5, sets out the key data relating to the state of the historic environment. These data are organised according to a new framework of historic environment indicators, which have been agreed as a result of consultation on the indicator set that featured in *Heritage Counts 2003*. The indicators relate to data under three main headings: data that relates to historic assets themselves, their quantity, quality and condition (Understanding the Assets); data that relate to the way in which those assets are being looked after and made accessible to the general public (Caring and Sharing); and data that relate to the economic and social benefits that derive to individuals and communities from caring for our heritage (Using and Benefiting).

The Birmingham Back-to-Backs have received funding of £999,700 from the Heritage Lottery Fund

