



THE VALUE OF HERITAGE AND THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT IN LINCOLNSHIRE

February 2025

This report was co-commissioned by Heritage Lincolnshire and Lincolnshire County Council to demonstrate the value of investment in the heritage of the county for current and future generations.



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VISITING
HUSSEY TOWER
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OF LINCOLNSHIRE

INTRODUCTION

Greater Lincolnshire has a rich and diverse heritage which includes historic towns, churches, monuments, airfields, windmills, canals, parks, and ancient woodlands. Less visible are the deserted Medieval villages and remains of the salt making industry which are often hidden beneath the landscape in earthworks and mounds. Intangible heritage is often discovered during oral history projects and staged at music, dance and literature events and festivals across the region. Lincolnshire is already known for its investment in this heritage. This is a call to action for all of us across all sectors, to showcase Greater Lincolnshire's heritage and encourage more shared working and investment to build on these successes.

Heritage contributes to the UK economy through the restoration, repair and maintenance of heritage assets, regeneration projects and heritage tourism. For every £1 of GVA generated by the heritage sector in England an additional £1.93 of GVA is supported in the wider economy through indirect and induced multiplier effects¹. For example, local companies supplying heritage sites, archaeological services, and commercial activity in historic buildings. Natural heritage provides similar benefits and is equally important in generating tourist visits and economic benefits.

- *The Heritage Sector is an important economic sector with a total GVA of £45.1 billion, providing over 538,000 jobs in the latest available statistics from 2021.*

- *Heritage related construction activities generated a GVA of £7.5 billion in 2021².*
- *In 2021 the heritage sector directly employed 207,000 workers. For every individual directly employed within the heritage sector, an additional 2.60 workers are indirectly employed in related sectors such as tourism, public, creative industries, and social services sectors³.*

Investment in the historic environment contributes to place making and quality of life. The public believe individual historic buildings and townscapes improve places and are prepared to pay more to live in homes that are historic, have heritage features, are situated in conservation areas, near a waterway or canal⁴. An understanding of heritage can help individuals understand where they come from, instill local pride and encourage social cohesion. Heritage sites and activities can also improve individuals' quality of life through leisure, volunteering and learning opportunities. In 2022 63.2 million visits were recorded to 641 historic visitor attractions⁵. These figures demonstrate the continuous recovery of the sector following the COVID-19 pandemic, with admissions 35% higher than in 2021. However, these still lag behind pre-COVID-19 visitor figures for 2019 by 15%⁶. 73% of all members of the public engaged with heritage at least once during 2019/20⁷.

"Heritage helps to strengthen towns and cities, levelling up places across the country and fostering community cohesion"⁸.

1 Historic England, 'The Contribution of the Heritage Sector to the Visitor Economy' (2024): <https://historicengland.org.uk/research/heritage-counts/heritage-and-economy/visitor-economy/>

2 Ibid.

3 Ibid.

4 Britain Thinks, '20 Years in 12 Places: 20 years of lottery funding for heritage' (2015): 19-20.

5 BDRC, 'Visitor Attraction Trends in England 2022: Annual Report for Heritage Counts' (2022): 29.

6 Ibid. 6.

7 The Heritage Alliance, 'Heritage, Health & Wellbeing: A Heritage Alliance Report' (2020).

8 Nigel Huddleston MP, Minister for Sport, Tourism and Heritage in (2020) Heritage, Health and Wellbeing A Heritage Alliance Report



STUDENTS POND DIPPING AS PART OF THE DODDINGTON YOUNG DARWIN PROJECT

PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT LINCOLNSHIRE

'A MULTI-FACETED, MULTI-AGENCY APPROACH TO THE PLANNING, DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT OF THE TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE PUBLIC SPHERE. PLACE-MAKING CAPITALISES ON A LOCAL COMMUNITY'S ASSETS, INSPIRATION, AND POTENTIAL, WITH THE INTENTION OF CREATING PUBLIC SPACES THAT PROMOTE PEOPLE'S HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND WELLBEING.'

(Lincolnshire County Council's Historic Environment Strategy, 2017-2022)

The benefits and social value of heritage and the historic environment on physical and mental health and wellbeing were proven prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, in the success of social prescribing schemes where health professionals refer patients to link workers, who direct them to volunteering or therapeutic heritage activities.

*Heritage plays a significant role in society, enhancing our wellbeing and quality of life, improving the way places are perceived, and engaging the general public*⁹.

*Visiting museums and heritage sites on a regular basis has benefits on wellbeing that increases longevity*¹⁰.

*People who visit heritage sites a few times a year have a significantly higher life satisfaction and happiness score and lower anxiety levels*¹¹.

*Heritage volunteering makes you happier – Heritage Open Day volunteers reported an increased sense of wellbeing due to their involvement*¹².

The purpose of this report is to highlight the wealth of heritage assets and activities in the historic county of Lincolnshire, detailing their contribution to the economy, regeneration and development and impact on place-making, quality of life, community and individual health and wellbeing using existing data and new case studies. The report shows what a wealth of knowledge and expertise there is within the heritage sector in Lincolnshire delivering innovative solutions that are often national best practice. There were dozens of projects to choose from. The final selection celebrates heritage above and below ground, intangible heritage and activities, at all scales and funded in different ways. The examples included reflect the range of organisations involved and economic, regeneration and wellbeing outcomes at different scales; Lincolnshire County Council, district and town councils, Heritage Lincolnshire (a Building Preservation Trust), Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, the Churches Conservation Trust, parish councils, the National Trust, Visit Lincoln, museums and arts organisations.

⁹ Historic England, 'Heritage and Society 2020' (2020): p2.

¹⁰ Historic England, 'Heritage Counts 2017: Heritage & Society' (2017).

¹¹ Ibid. 2.

¹² Ibid. 2.

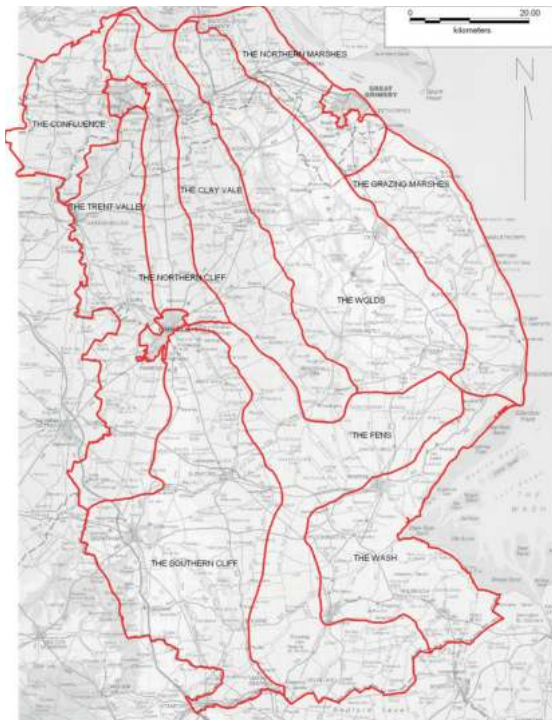


FIGURE 1: HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

Lincolnshire County Council (2011, p.69)

HERITAGE IN GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE

Greater Lincolnshire’s heritage assets are of international, regional and local significance, dating from evidence of man’s earliest inhabitation of the area around 250,000 years ago through the Stone Age, Iron Age, Roman, Medieval, Georgian and Victorian periods to the twentieth century. This heritage is evident in landscapes, coastlines, towns, fenlands and individual buildings, monuments, canals, memorials, blue plaques and artefacts. Intangible heritage is captured in festivals, traditions and oral histories.

The region is divided into 10 Regional Character Areas, which are then sub-divided into 45 Character Zones¹³. The Confluence

in the north west is characterized by the floodplain of the Don and fens. The Grazing Marshes include a large section of the Lincolnshire coast, salt marsh, dune systems and coastal towns. In contrast, The Wolds is known for its rural environment, enclosed land and woodland around Louth and Horncastle and The Fens for arable land, few hedges, windmills and pumping stations.

External validation of the richness of Greater Lincolnshire’s heritage and efforts to maximize the potential benefits are demonstrated by the Royal Society for the Arts (RSA) mapping study. The RSA Heritage Index brings together data from 120 sources to show where the

UK’s heritage is and to help local communities get the most out of their heritage assets. Lincolnshire was one of four places described as doing particularly well in the 2015 mapping exercise and East Lindsey District Council ranked in the top 60. The Lincolnshire coast was highlighted - *‘Heritage assets have been capitalized upon to generate high levels of activity’*¹⁴. Lincoln ranked 50th out of 316 authorities in 2020, up from 59th in 2016¹⁵. It stands out nationally as having a high concentration of heritage assets (rank 33rd) but now ranks 69th in terms of potential due to the huge amount of progress and projects during the last decade at the Castle, Cathedral and parks¹⁶.

13 Lincolnshire County Council, 'The Historic Character of the County of Lincolnshire' (2011): <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/historic-environment/historic-landscape-characterisation>

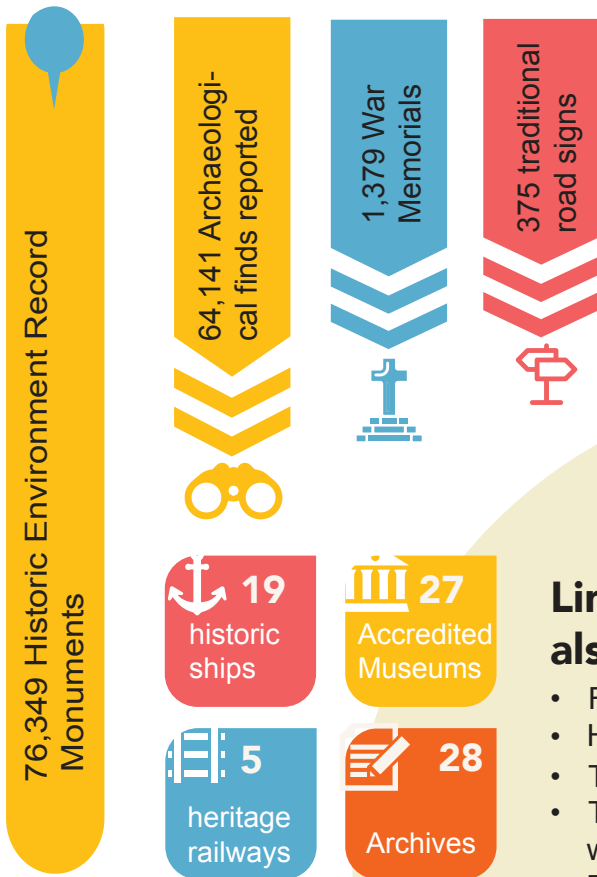
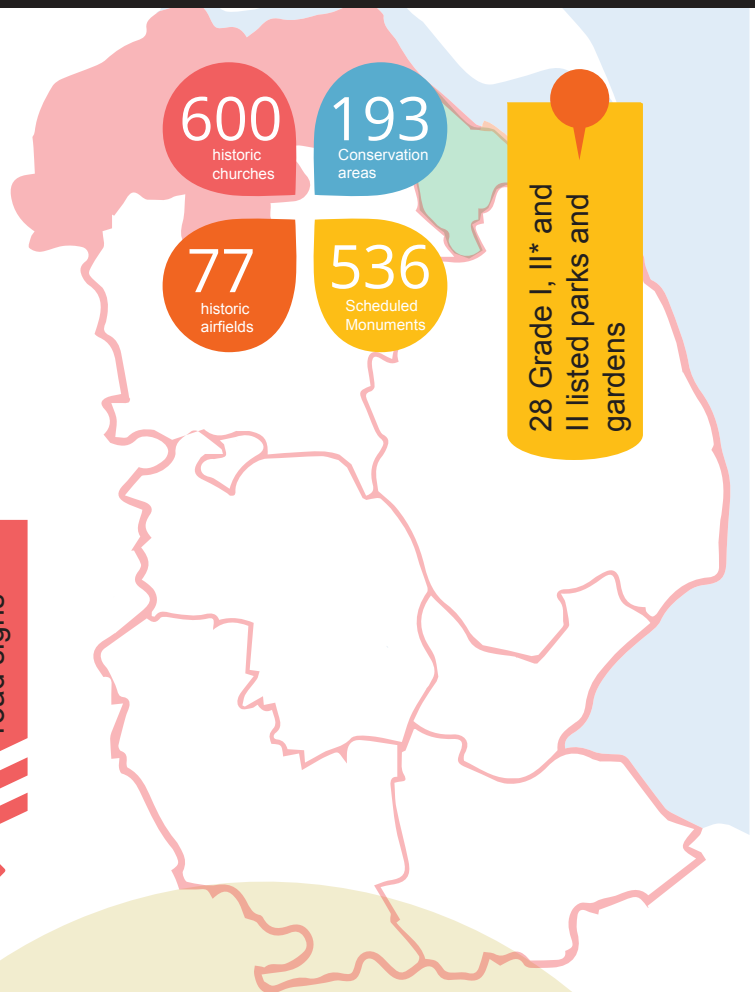
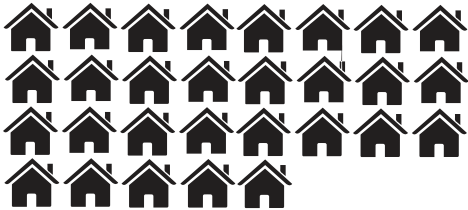
14 Jonathan Schifferes, 'Heritage, Identity and Place: Seven themes from the Heritage Index' (2015): 13.

15 RSA, 'RSA Heritage Index 2020: Explore the Map' (2020): <https://www.thersa.org/projects/heritage/index/2020-map>

16 Ibid.

Lincolnshire Heritage Assets

8,095 listed buildings of which 440 are Grade I and 584 Grade II*



Lincolnshire can also claim to have the:

- First conservation area in England
- Highest concentration of monastic buildings
- Tallest church steeple
- Tallest windmill in the UK and the only 8-sailed windmill in the UK
- Third largest walking festival in England
- 1 of only 4 copies of Magna Carta sealed in 1215 and 2 of the oldest canals, Fosse Dyke and Car Dyke, which are both thought to be Roman

FIGURE 2 ILLUSTRATES THE NUMBER AND DIVERSITY OF THESE HERITAGE ASSETS

EXTENSIVE URBAN SURVEY (EUS)

The EUS is the latest in a series of national surveys in England that analyses the history, archaeology, development and built character of towns. Between 2019 and 2023 the EUS project surveyed Lincolnshire with North and North East Lincolnshire, charting their development into the places we know and love today. A report for each town synthesises and contextualises the archaeological, historical and developmental history, highlighting their unique history and character. From the Medieval market centres of the Lincolnshire Wolds to Victorian coastal resorts and Edwardian spa towns, exploring what makes them special today and what we could protect or promote for the benefit of those living within or visiting these towns. This is not just limited to listed buildings or artefacts, but also undetected lived heritage, like Medieval alley ways which are still used today, or industries of the past. The towns are also being digitally mapped, showing patterns in the growth of the town, for example: has it grown around a Medieval market centre or along a river?

The towns surveyed in North Lincolnshire include Scunthorpe, Barton-upon-Humber, Brigg, Crowle, Epworth and Kirton in Lindsey. In Scunthorpe the EUS has been able to capture aspects of its history which may not be a large part of the town's current narrative. The town is well known for its iron and steel industry but it also has an extensive history beyond steel. Occupied since the prehistoric period, some sites continued into the Roman period. Until the 20th century Scunthorpe was actually made up of 5 small villages which were established in the Early Medieval period and documented in the Domesday Survey of 1086, arranged in parishes which stretched from east to west. This meant that each parish had access to a variety of natural resources from Trent-side grazing lands in the west to infertile sandy soils in the east. In the late 19th century 20th century, the rapid growth of Scunthorpe following the explosion of the steel industry resulted in the villages becoming one large town with multiple 'cores'.

Consequently, Scunthorpe does not have one traditional historic market centre but multiple cores, including Scunthorpe High Street, which stretches into the former village of Frodingham and Ashby High Street.

To the wider world Scunthorpe is sometimes thought of as just a large steel town, however there is a clear distinction between the former villages which is reflected in both the historic and modern layout of the town. The history of a town is central to what we see in the present day, but we may not always know why it looks the way it does. In this way the EUS is contributing to the success of our towns by highlighting how and why it has grown into the town we see today and what gives it its sense of place.

If you are interested in finding out more about Scunthorpe you can read the whole report here: <https://heritage-explorer.lincolnshire.gov.uk/eusreports/scunthorpeeusreport-compressed.pdf>. The EUS also supports planning considerations and learning. Full reports for

each of the 30 towns surveyed in the EUS project can be found on the Lincolnshire Heritage Explorer website, here: <https://heritage-explorer.lincolnshire.gov.uk/lincolnshire-extensive-urban-survey-towns-and-reports>



SCUNTHORPE
STEELWORKERS SCULPTURE
PHOTO TAKEN BY RAY LONSDALE,
SCUNTHORPE HIGH STREET

HERITAGE AND THE GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE ECONOMY: BUSINESS, REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Greater Lincolnshire’s heritage has attracted significant investment from the public and private sectors; Lincolnshire County Council, Lincoln City Council, unitary and district councils, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council of England, Natural England, Historic England, philanthropic trusts, Armed Forces Covenant, European grants and individual benefactors resulting in direct and indirect economic and social benefits.

£94m of National Lottery Heritage Fund grants have been made to some 700 organisations in Greater Lincolnshire since 1996, the majority to voluntary groups, associations and parish councils for projects exploring and sharing local heritage. 85% of grants have been for less than £100K and half for £10K or less. See Figure 3.

Large National Lottery Heritage Fund grants in excess of £1m have resulted in the transformation of sites such as Lincoln Museum, Lincoln Castle, Lincoln Cathedral and the International Bomber Command Centre. This enables loans and touring exhibitions such as the National Portrait Gallery’s Portrait of the Year, Natural History Museum’s Dinosaur Encounters and facilitates work in partnership with institutions such as The National Archive, V&A and British Museum. A partnership between City of Lincoln Council and Linkage Community Trust secured Lottery funding

“THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR HISTORIC BUILT ENVIRONMENT CAN DRIVE WIDER REGENERATION, JOB CREATION, BUSINESS GROWTH AND PROSPERITY”

(DCMS Culture White Paper, 2016)

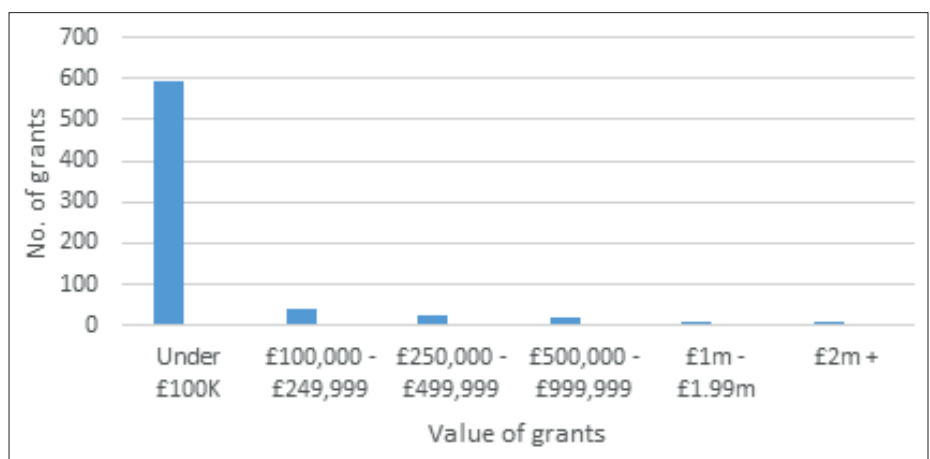


FIGURE 3: NUMBER OF NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUND GRANTS AWARDED BY VALUE (1996-2018)

for the restoration and upgrading of Boultham Park. Linkage runs the new café and provides work experience opportunities for students with learning disabilities, alongside paid staff. Working with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and Boultham Park Advisory Group the Council secured a second grant in 2020 to restore the lake and deliver heritage engagement activities. The newly restored lake was open in the spring of 2022 and has since been the focus of many community-based activities, including free arts-based sessions for families, yoga in the park and wellbeing initiatives ¹⁷.

¹⁷ Boultham Park, 'News' (2024): <https://www.boulthampark.co.uk/news/>



THATCHING IN WAINFLEET

PHOTO COURTESY OF
LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Historic England is a core funder of heritage through its Repair Grants for Heritage Scheme, Grants for War Memorials, Partnership Scheme in Conservation Areas (PSiCA), and conservation staff. Their grants leverage further funding, have multiplier effects through indirect and induced benefits, improve the historic environment and deliver benefits such as a greater sense of pride amongst residents. The Lincolnshire towns of Alford, Boston, Caistor, Crowland, Gainsborough, Horncastle, Long Sutton, Louth, Market Deeping, Market Rasen, Spalding, Spilsby and Wainfleet have benefitted from grants to restore and repair historic buildings, install new railings, paving and lighting. Currently Historic England is an active partner in the work of the National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP). You can find out more on the NASP website: [Heritage - National Academy for Social Prescribing | NASP \(socialprescribingacademy.org.uk\)](https://socialprescribingacademy.org.uk)

- *A study of 90 National Lottery Heritage Fund projects*

*revealed a 96% increase in visit related spend in the local economy, for example in restaurants, cafes, hotels and shops*¹⁸.

- *For every £100 of gross value in the heritage tourism sector it supports £130 elsewhere*¹⁹.
- *For every 100 people it employs, it supports another 102 jobs in the economy*²⁰.

Local government is a significant investor in culture, spending over £1 billion in England²¹. The RSA estimated that in 2014/15 local authorities in Greater Lincolnshire spent £4.8 million on capital projects relating to the historic environment, museums and archives, libraries and parks, open spaces and tourism and £24.2 million on non-capital expenditure. Lincolnshire County Council invested £4.8 million over 5 years on Historic Lincoln restoring Bailgate, contributing to new toilets at the Cathedral, investing in the Heritage Skills Centre, Skills for the Future Bursaries and opening up views of the Castle by removing trees that had self seeded on the banks. At

a local level Lincolnshire County Council Small Community Fund Grants have paid for up grading facilities such as toilets in churches and windmills which benefit volunteers and visitors. In 2021 the City of Lincoln Council and South Kesteven District Council secured funding through The High Streets Heritage Action Zones (HSHAZ) programme which aims to transform historic high streets and make them fit for the future. The City of Lincoln Council has provided match funding for the restoration and a complementary cultural programme aims to involve local people through activities, events and provide opportunities to develop new skills. It was completed in 2024²².

Local government, the Lincolnshire Armed Forces and health providers are partners in the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Covenant. Between 2015 and 2020, their Local Grants programme funded projects up to £20,000 that integrate Armed Forces and civilian communities across the UK and/or deliver valuable sources to the Armed Forces Community.

¹⁸ Heritage Fund, 'Investing in success: Heritage and the UK tourism economy' (2019): 20-21.

¹⁹ Oxford Economics, 'The impact of heritage tourism for the UK economy' (2016): 35.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Local Government Association, 'Commission on Culture and Local Government' (undated): <https://www.local.gov.uk/topics/culture-tourism-leisure-and-sport/commission-culture-and-local-government>

²² <https://www.lincoln.gov.uk/high-street-heritage-action-zone/cultural-programme>

Greater Lincolnshire has benefitted from £2.63 million of European investment in heritage projects between 2007 and 2020. These included the restoration of waterways, buildings, development of Lincolnshire Wolds Walking Festival and heritage tourism projects under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE). These were matched by £2.58 million of public and private match funding. An earlier round of ERDF funding supported the Waterways Project in Lincolnshire. Between 2015 and 2020 Local Action Groups in Greater Lincolnshire received funding towards tourism, cultural and heritage projects under the European LEADER initiative for small rural businesses and community projects. Grants under these European programmes combined with a National Lottery Heritage Fund Enterprise Scheme grant and private funding have also restored and transformed the Old King's Head in Kirton, near Boston ²³. In more recent years, new investment has been taking place in Lincolnshire, via schemes from central government, such as Levelling Up, UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Town Deals. That funding has supported capital and revenue projects in various parts of Lincolnshire. Arts Council England have also been investing more money in more places in Lincolnshire, with the numbers of National Portfolio Organisations in

the county on the increase, and via their Creative People and Places programme. Lincolnshire's built and cultural heritage has been a prominent beneficiary of this funding.

For every £1 spent by Lincolnshire County Council on Natural Environment initiatives there is a total investment of approximately £5. This helps secure an estimated visitor income of £14 million to the economy ²⁴.

The heritage sector is also an important part of the UK's construction industry and construction is the largest sub-sector of heritage at 46% ²⁵. Many of the contracts resulting from the grants described previously will have been awarded to companies in Greater Lincolnshire with further benefits through their supply chains. New infrastructure projects depend on heritage services such as commercial archaeology services. Over recent years, an average of 200 historic environment reports per annum have been produced in response to planning applications in Lincolnshire.

Lincolnshire is known historically for brickmaking and tile making, and has 56 industrial heritage businesses that have continuously traded. These businesses have generated over £26 million and support 516 heritage

sector business jobs ²⁶. Shops, restaurants, hotels and creative industries operate out of historic buildings across the area. For one in four businesses they are an important factor when choosing where to locate ²⁷. This is an example of how the historic environment encourages new businesses to move to the area.

Historic towns, the coast, heritage sites and natural heritage are an important part of the tourism offer in Greater Lincolnshire for day, overnight and repeat visits. The top five destinations prior to the COVID-19 pandemic were Lincoln, Mablethorpe, Skegness, Lincolnshire Wolds and Stamford ²⁸. Heritage sites raised c. £3 million per annum in revenue from sales, fees and charges which is then invested back into the economy ²⁹. An estimated 940,000 day and overnight visitors engaged with Greater Lincolnshire's natural heritage during their visit (15% of all holiday trips), and for 20% it was the primary purpose. This generated £58 million and supports 865 FTE jobs in a range of tourism businesses and their supply chain ³⁰.

The following case studies further illustrate how projects contribute to the county's economy directly and indirectly through commercial contracts, regeneration and tourism. Many also have social benefits.

²³ <https://theoldkingshead.com/>

²⁴ Lincolnshire County Council, 'Valuing Lincolnshire's Natural Environment' (2013): <https://lincolnshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5164/9.0%20Valuing%20Lincolnshires%20Natural%20Environment%20-%20Appendix%20A.pdf>

²⁵ Centre for Economics & Business Research, 'The heritage sector in England and its impact on the economy: An updated report for Historic England' (2020): 16.

²⁶ Jonathan Schifferes, 'Heritage, Identity and Place: Seven themes from the Heritage Index' (2015).

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Arkenford, 'Lincolnshire- Visitor Profiling' (2016): 15.

²⁹ It is estimated that £3.1million was raised in 2014/15.

³⁰ Simon Woodward et al., 'Developing Nature Tourism in Greater Lincolnshire: A report to the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership' (2019): 20.

GREATER GRIMSBY HERITAGE ACTION ZONE (HAZ)

This [access to culture] is absolutely vital [for Grimsby]. Our community has such a negative perception and events like these help to change that emphasis, give us the ability to 'look out', see possibilities, marvel at the world. Positivity and positive events will help enormously with our sense of self-worth and value as a community."
Stakeholder ³¹.



MUSEUM OF THE MOON, YOGA CLASS

© PAUL CUNNINGHAM, SPRUCE CREATIVE

The Greater Grimsby Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) was a 5-year programme launched in May 2018. It delivered a partnership-driven transformational programme of heritage led regeneration in North East Lincolnshire (NEL), whilst also raising the profile of Grimsby's Heritage, realising opportunities for economic and social benefit, strengthening local partnership working, and building local capacity, skills and experience.

These aims were achieved through

a wide range of activities, including a £1m PSiCA grant scheme for the Kasbah Conservation Area, and the appointment of a HAZ Project Manager funded through NELC, Associated British Ports and an Historic England regional capacity building grant.

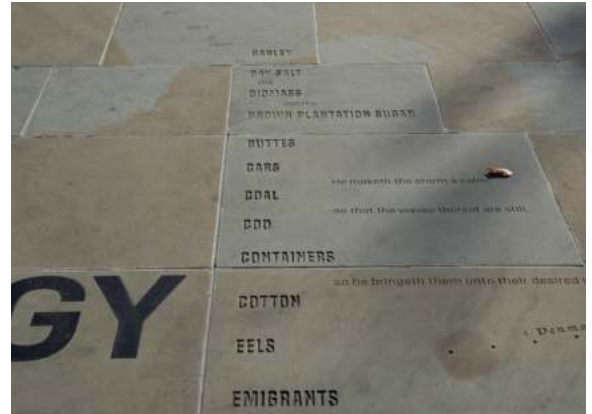
Alongside the PSiCA, flagship projects included the repair and re-use of Grade II Listed Petersons Smokehouse; redevelopment of Grade II Listed West Haven Maltings as the Grimsby Horizon Youth Zone;

strategic development of the Grade I listed Grimsby Minster as an arts and heritage events space; securing the future of the Grade II* Listed Ice Factory; public realm improvements in the At Risk Grimsby Central Conservation Area; development studies for the Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre and the Time Trap museum, as well as conservation management plans for the 3 historic vessels; and development of a town centre Heritage Trail, published in March 2022 on the Love Exploring app.

³¹ The Culture House, March 2022, 'One Giant Leap for Grimsby: Luke Jerram's Museum of the Moon at Grimsby Minster, Nov 17 – Dec 19 2021, Impact Report – Short version': 14.



FESTIVAL OF THE SEA, 2021
© PAUL CUNNINGHAM, SPRUCE CREATIVE



ST JAMES SQUARE,
COME FOLLOW ME ETCHED PAVING

PHOTO COURTESY OF
NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

Unlike the High Street HAZ schemes in Lincoln and Grantham, Grimsby HAZ didn't include a built-in cultural programme. However, the £5.3m Grimsby Creates Programme, funded through the DCMS/Arts Council England Cultural Development Fund, worked in tandem with the HAZ from 2019 to transform Grimsby into a vibrant town centre where heritage and creativity are enjoyed. The programme has delivered events such as the now annual Festival of the Sea, as well as a programme of heritage-focussed public art. It has also helped creative organisations to grow through business support and development grants, has contributed towards HAZ programme public realm projects such as St James Square, and has supported the development of new spaces for creative business at the historic Kasbah.

With all this activity, over £40m of public funding was leveraged for projects within the HAZ boundary, from funders such as National Lottery Heritage Fund, Architectural Heritage Fund, DCMS, Arts Council England, ERDF, Humber LEP, Coastal Communities Fund, Grimsby Town Deal and funding from Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities via Stronger Towns Fund and Future High Streets Fund. A minimum of £5m of private investment has also been made, including a £1m contribution to the Horizon Youth Zone project from world leading renewables company Ørsted.

The majority of the HAZ projects were delivered by partnerships, new and existing, with capacity building for organisations such as Great Grimsby Ice Factory Trust and Grimsby Minster built into the projects. Covid Recovery Fund grants, for example, enabled the Minster to develop a sustainable programme of extended use and a new café, both of which have improved resilience through income generation. The event programme included the highly acclaimed 'Museum of the Moon' and was led by local arts organisation The Culture House in Nov/Dec 2021. The activities programme which ran alongside it (underneath in many cases!) was delivered by over 15 partners, saw 22,751 visitors come into the Minster, and engaged 2,925 in a children and young person's programme.

"A big thank you for everything you have achieved with The Moon installation and supporting programme this past month at Grimsby Minster. It has brought in so many people and been a wonderfully encouraging experience for us". The Rt Revd Dr Nigel Peyton, Grimsby Minster³².

While this report shows that there is clearly an economic value of heritage, events such as Museum of the Moon and Festival of the Sea demonstrate the equally important social value of heritage, and the ability for culture and heritage schemes to generate renewed local pride, form an integral part of placemaking, and become an area where people want to live, work and visit.

³² The Culture House, March 2022, 'One Giant Leap for Grimsby: Luke Jerram's Museum of the Moon at Grimsby Minster, Nov 17 – Dec 19 2021, Impact Report – Short version': 2.

LINCOLN EASTERN BYPASS ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT



'WE WENT TO THE TOUR OF THE SITE AND IT'S GREAT TO GET AN UPDATE AND SEE WHAT ELSE WAS FOUND.... THIS IS A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO FIND OUT ABOUT LOCAL HERITAGE'

'IT WAS INTERESTING AND YOU DON'T GET TO SEE THESE THINGS OFTEN' (VISITORS TO AN EVENT AT LINCOLN MUSEUM)



LINCOLN EASTERN BYPASS
OPEN DAY (2017) –
VISITORS ARRIVING AND
TOURING THE EXCAVATION SITE
© NETWORK ARCHAEOLOGY

The Lincoln Eastern Bypass is a £120 million project which has seen one of the biggest investments into the county's archaeology that there has ever been. 60 archaeologists worked alongside contractors from 2016 to 2018 to excavate 7 hectares between the villages of Canwick and Washingborough. This site was chosen as previous field surveys and evaluation suggested it had significant potential for archaeological remains but nobody anticipated what the dig eventually revealed. Over 200,000 artefacts were excavated spanning 10,000 years, some of national and international significance.

'...Aspects of the investigations may prove to be of national importance in advancing our knowledge of the post-glacial colonisation of Eastern Britain... and are the most significant excavations to have taken place in Lincolnshire since the 1970s and early 1980s.'

(Dr. Peter Chowne, University of York and specialist on prehistoric Lincolnshire)

Finds include:

- Neolithic and Bronze Age artefacts - 50,000 flints, stone axes, jet and amber beads, axes, complete human cremation pottery urns and an oak log-boat.
- A large Roman 'villa' complex with foundations of stone buildings, floor surfaces, possible shrines and temple and central heating tiles. Coins, brooches, leather shoes, bone pins and combs.
- A Mid-Saxon Christian cemetery with 700 skeletons and more skeletons preserved underground.
- An extensive Medieval monastic grange complex with beer-making kilns and an oven.
- A post-Medieval farmstead with various stone buildings, yards, drains, pottery, coins and bone implements.
- A finely carved 12th century stone 'grotesque' sculpture.

The excavation was undertaken by Network Archaeology who are based in Lincoln. They used local suppliers and employed 60 archaeologists on-site whilst behind the scenes there has been a team cleaning, cataloguing, conserving, analysing and storing the finds so they are kept in a stable condition. For every £1 spent on local authority planning archaeology, the local economy benefits from an average return of £15³³.

The project has also contributed to a shared sense of pride and provided a variety of engagement opportunities. Progress and finds were shared with the public via online newsletters, a 'find of the week' slot in the Lincolnshire Echo, talks to local groups and events. An Open Day was organised in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council and the contractors in 2017. At the time of writing, the finds are currently being analysed by archaeological specialists and it will be exciting to see what stories come out of this once the work is complete. There will be two published volumes and a chance to see some of the finds in displays at Lincoln Museum.

1500 members of the public visited the site and met archaeologists reflecting residents' interest in archaeology. This is thought to be due to TV programmes such as Time Team and the public relations campaigns around recent finds during high profile projects in the region.

Archaeological finds were displayed at the 2018 Lincolnshire Show. 6 workshops and events, from displays to pub quizzes ran in local venues. These were attended by 1,730 local people. A selection of their comments shows their sense of pride and how much they valued seeing objects from and in their local community:

'Great to see the artefacts and feel a part of the history even though in just a small way. Thank you for doing this event!'

'I was very surprised at the amount of Archaeology around, ranging over a vast time span' (Visitors at the Washingborough Community Centre)

'Friendly knowledgeable staff - privilege to see the many finds'

'Enjoyed looking at the archaeological finds. Good idea having drop in sessions in village halls near the construction site' (Visitors at the Cherry Willingham & Reepham Village Hall)

'Of significant historical significance, proud were local to it' (Participant in the Heighington Pub Quiz)

³³ Landward Research, 'Archaeology in Development Management: Its Contribution in England, Scotland & Wales' (2019): 3.

LINCOLN CASTLE

THIS IS A MUST WHEN IN LINCOLN, THE BEAUTY OF THE DIFFERENT BUILDINGS REFLECTING THE DIFFERENT HISTORIC TIMELINES. YOU CAN FEEL THE GHOSTS OF THE PLACE IN EVERY NOOK AND CRANNY.

(TRIP ADVISOR, MAY 2024)

Lincoln Castle, a historical gem nestled in the heart of Lincoln, reopened its doors in 2015 following extensive restoration works, timed to celebrate the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta. The £19.9 million project, funded through a combination of local authority investment and grants from various sources including the National Lottery Heritage Fund and private donors, aimed to not only preserve the castle's rich history but also to revitalize it as a vibrant cultural hub for both locals and visitors alike.

Since its reopening, Lincoln Castle has become more than just a tourist attraction; it has evolved into a beloved community space. During the challenging times brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the castle provided a sanctuary for the community, offering a place for exercise, socialisation, and respite from lockdown restrictions. Despite the pandemic-induced closures in 2020/21, over 300,000 visits were made by the public, highlighting the castle's significance as a valued community asset.

Building on this community engagement, Lincoln Castle has expanded its offerings to cater to a broader audience. It is now not only a place of historical significance but also a cherished open green space where families and friends can gather, make memories, and enjoy nature. The castle's grounds transform into a winter wonderland during the festive season, attracting over 25,000 visitors for Lincoln Castle Illuminated—a magical experience that delights attendees and kickstarts their Christmas celebrations.

Lincoln Castle has also introduced a range of family-friendly activities throughout the year, including themed trails, workshops, and have-a-go activities, aimed at encouraging children to engage with history and the outdoors. The castle's dog-friendly weekends have been particularly popular, with over 2,000 dogs across the year, enjoying a day out within the castle's historic walls.

In 2022, Lincoln Castle welcomed a new, mythical resident—Lucy the dragon. Lucy quickly became a beloved figure, captivating the hearts of visitors and becoming a central part of the castle's celebrations, from royal jubilees to local festivals. Her presence added a touch of magic to the castle grounds, enhancing the visitor experience and creating lasting



PHOTO COURTESY OF
LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



memories for all who encountered her. She even revisited the site in 2023 bringing another addition to the castle grounds – Norman.

This year Lincoln Castle continues to evolve as a vibrant events venue, hosting a diverse range of activities and collaborations. From live concerts to historical reenactments, the castle remains at the forefront of cultural life in Lincoln. Collaborations with local organisations ensure that the castle remains an integral part of the city's cultural landscape, fostering

community spirit and providing memorable experiences for all who visit. Whilst our partnership with Cuffe and Taylor on the 2024 programme for the 'Live at Lincoln Castle' concert series also supports us in putting Lincoln Castle on a national stage – for artists performing here and attracting visitors from across the world. As Lincoln Castle enters its next chapter, we will continue to welcome people through our gates whether they are here for a visit, a wander through our grounds or as an international music artist.

ARTeFACT: An interactive arts trail through historic Spalding

The ARTeFACT trail in Spalding combines history, art and augmented reality technology. Created by artists Neil Baker and Steven Hatton of Electric Egg in a collaboration between the Spalding Gentlemen's Society Museum and Transported (University of Lincoln), ARTeFACT is a dynamic and interactive trail of brass plaques that explores the museum's collection and connects people to the area's history.

To make ARTeFACT accessible to everyone, Electric Egg ran a series of school and community workshops that informed and influenced the designs and animations. The plaques were drawn digitally before being etched into brass and are accompanied by animations that can be viewed on a smartphone or tablet. To discover interactive content, visit: www.sgs.org/artefact.

The choice of brass is inspired by the monumental brasses found in churches across the county. It is hoped that residents and visitors to Spalding will take away their own version of the artwork through rubbings, thus reviving a once popular pastime and

encouraging people to create their own interpretation of the artworks.

The project was supported by funding from Arts Council England, South Holland District Council, Lincolnshire County Council, and Spalding Gentlemen's Society. Plaques feature:

Cabinet of Curiosities Spalding Gentlemen's Society: influenced by Victorian zoetropes & features an Inca pot from the museum.

High Times on the Cowbit Wash Herring Lane: ice skating on the frozen Wash was a popular pastime & features museum ice-skates.

Guild of Gleave Makers Chain Bridge Forge: eels were a rich source of protein for those who lived in the fens, but they were hard to catch.

From Small Acorns... Church of St Mary and St Nicolas gateposts: inspired by an alms box from the church with oak leaves, a symbol of strength in the Christian faith.



IMAGE COURTESY OF TRANSPORTED ARTS



ARTEFACT TRAIL LAUNCH IN SPALDING PHOTO COURTESY OF TRANSPORTED ARTS

LINCOLNSHIRE WATERWAYS PARTNERSHIP (LWP)

‘PEOPLE VALUE THE WATERWAYS HIGHLY AND BELIEVE THERE HAVE BEEN STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE WATERWAYS PARTNERSHIP’
(Official evaluation)

A project which demonstrates the longer-term benefits of investing in heritage is the Lincolnshire Waterways Partnership (LWP). LWP was formed in 2003 by Lincolnshire County Council, the Environment Agency and British Waterways as a commitment to the regeneration of the river corridors of Lincolnshire. Many of the pathways had been inaccessible for decades. The aim was to deliver a quality experience to all users, boaters, walkers, cyclists, horse riders and anglers.

Since 2003 numerous successful funding applications have resulted in investment of over £16 million from European, regional and County Council funds making 24.8 hectares of derelict land available, 4.42 hectares of tourism sites, 1.3 hectares of commercial land and a brown field site developed. The project has delivered:

- The Water Rail Way for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. 20 miles of off-road path and 13 miles on country lanes connecting Lincoln and Boston, much of which runs

alongside the River Witham with thirteen art installations along the route.

- The Boston Lock Link project connects the Haven at Boston with the South Forty Foot Drain enabling Lincolnshire and the River Witham to be eventually linked with Cambridgeshire and the River Great Ouse. This is part of the largest waterway enhancement project in Europe.
- A nature reserve, new bridges and moorings, facilities for boaters and visitor centres are other achievements.

Research with the local community and stakeholders demonstrated that shops, cafes and pubs have benefitted from the regeneration due to increased footfall; at least 25 gross jobs were created in the first 6 years and 80 full-time equivalent jobs. Lincolnshire remains the only area in the UK to have a county wide waterway regeneration strategy.



CYCLISTS ON THE WATER RAIL WAY
PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT LINCOLNSHIRE

STRATEGIC HERITAGE

Spalding Reconnected: Historic Town & Riverside

Timescale: 2022 - 2025

The collaborative project Spalding Reconnected, emerged from the Spalding Town Centre Improvement Programme and has been developed in partnership with South Holland District Council, Heritage Lincolnshire, Transported Arts, East Mercia Rivers Trust and Lincolnshire County Council. The project is funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, made possible thanks to Lottery Players.

The project was developed and delivered through a broad range of arts, nature and wayfinding initiatives alongside a strategic approach to heritage. With the penultimate aim to share ideas, collaborate and connect the central point of the town, the River Welland, with the historic market town. Producing a unified, vibrant environment for the local people of Spalding and visitors alike to experience.

This is a great example of the value of arts, heritage, nature, visitor economy, place-making and community engagement all working together for the benefit of the whole community.



SPALDING RIVERWALK WORKSHOP: STONE PAINTING WITH TRANSPORTED (above)

EELS IN THE CLASSROOM PROGRAMME, EEL RELEASE INTO THE RIVER WELLAND WITH EAST MERCIA RIVERS TRUST (left)

© TRANSPORTED 2023

HERITAGE LINCOLNSHIRE: FINDING SOLUTIONS TO HERITAGE AT RISK

Founded in 1991, Heritage Lincolnshire is a charitable trust which undertakes a range of activities in the promotion and conservation of the county's heritage. Its primary focus is education and community engagement but it also incorporates a Building Preservation Trust (BPT). The charity has a reputation for delivering complex and high quality conservation and redevelopment projects and finding sustainable uses which would not normally be commercially viable. The team has brought significant investment into the county from the Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF), English Heritage, National Lottery Heritage Fund, local authorities and private trusts through the development of projects such as 116 High Street, Boston, 7-13 Bridge Street, Horncastle and the Old King's Head, Kirton, benefitting local businesses and creating jobs.



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LINCOLNSHIRE

Fydell House, Boston

Fydell House is an early 18th century Queen Anne Town House which is located on South Street in Boston. It is a Grade I Listed Building with links to Joseph Banks and the influential 20th century American political family, the Kennedys.

In March 2018, Heritage Lincolnshire were appointed by Boston Preservation Trust (BPT) to undertake an operational audit of current management procedures at Fydell House. This included a full assessment of all aspects of day-to-day management alongside examining wider aspects of Fydell House including the current visitor experience gathering feedback from key local stakeholders and end users. The operational audit of current management procedures included aspects such as the financial model, current volunteering opportunities, office leasing arrangements and administrative policies and procedures. The wider analysis included understanding current provision for visitors, opportunities for heritage interpretation and the provision for hosting civil weddings.

This work provided a summary of recommendations and priorities for BPT to consider alongside a proposed structure for a National Lottery Heritage Fund application to enable the transformation of Fydell House into a streamlined business operation, offering a variety of functions to both visitors and the local community. Heritage Lincolnshire's involvement continued for another year beyond the submission of the report (September 2018), where we provided an office manager (a seconded member of staff) to support transition work, whilst Trustees developed a job description and advertised for a full-time member of staff.

In 2020 Heritage Lincolnshire undertook the Resilient Heritage assessment of BPT, working with staff and volunteers to audit skills, as well as delivering training on fundraising, education and outreach.

In late 2021, after working in partnership with Heritage Lincolnshire to apply to the National Lottery Heritage Fund, BPT secured a grant of £60,000 with £30,000 of match-funding from The Architectural Heritage Fund to undertake a development phase to create a programme of significant activity and capital works at Fydell House. With the project architect, Soul Architects, plans were developed for essential repairs to the house and to make the ground floor and gardens accessible to more people. BPT were thrilled to be awarded a major delivery grant of over £1m to deliver their plans and with further fundraising in progress, with capital works commencing in Autumn 2024



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The Old King's Head, Kirton

Timescale: 2016-2021

The Old King's Head is a 16th century Tudor coaching inn situated in Kirton, on the road from London to Boston, and was once a hub for trade. Kirton is now a small village but was once a hectic town, the third largest settlement in the county. Heritage Lincolnshire have been involved since 2014, when the building was at risk of falling into the street. The Architectural Heritage Fund funded a Project Viability Study and provided a loan to enable Heritage Lincolnshire to purchase the building in 2016. In 2021, after £2.4 million of investment, the building re-opened as a nine-bedroom B&B and café with a function room. During the project HTL also reached out into the local community involving local residents and a school in events, hard hat tours and tour guide training. After more than 2 years of trading, over 1,000 people had stayed overnight, 594 afternoon teas had been sold and 94 people gone on walking tours. 13 people are employed, 7 from the village and 5 community groups regularly use the facilities including the RSPB Singing group. In 2024 the Old King's Head gained a wedding licence opening new opportunities for events in the space.



RAINBOW OVER HUSSEY TOWER

PHOTO COURTESY OF FENNY JOHNSON

Hussey Tower, Boston

Hussey Tower was built in 1450 by Richard Bennington, collector of customs in the Medieval Boston. At the time, the port was second only in size to London, making it very influential. Following Bennington's death in 1475, the tower was bought by Sir John Hussey, the tower's namesake and high sheriff of Lincolnshire. He was important to both Henry VII and Henry VIII, having fought alongside them in numerous battles and was made a member of the House of Lords. He met an unfortunate end following the 'Lincolnshire Rising' in 1537 when he was executed as a traitor to the crown following his failure to act against the rebelling public.

Work began in Autumn 2024 to conserve the Grade II* Hussey Tower in Boston. This will be through an exciting partnership between Heritage Lincolnshire, Historic England, Boston Borough Council and Boston College with the aim to repair the scheduled monument for future generations to enjoy. Heritage Lincolnshire have applied for funding for Hussey Tower in reaction to vandalism and anti-social behaviour at the Scheduled site. This has been reported as a heritage crime and measures will be taken against anyone caught harming the site.

As part of the project, heritage skills will be promoted alongside outreach with Boston College. This will coincide with talks and events for all to attend, promoting the unique Tudor history of the site and its importance to the town. Areas that have been damaged through anti-social behaviour will be repaired and conserved using historic craft methods allowing for open days to resume in late 2024.



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Bourne Town Hall, Bourne

Timescale: 2022 – 2024

Sitting in the heart of the historic town of Bourne, The Old Town Hall was built in 1821 with funds from local subscribers and has served the community as home to the Market in the lower level ‘shambles’, as a fire station and as a law court. The Bourne Town Hall Trust have been working to find a new use for this Grade II listed building and have been able to open once a month for arts events thanks entirely to its volunteer trustees. Heritage Lincolnshire worked closely with the Trust on their vibrant project to help them secure funding to realise their dreams of bringing a dedicated arts venue to the town and region. This included the creation of a Conservation Management Plan and initially sourcing viability and development funding and project managing their Development Phase of the £3m transformation of the building.



© HERITAGE TRUST OF LINCOLNSHIRE

40-42 Michaelgate, Lincoln

Timescale: Completing Winter 2024

The buildings at 40-42 Michaelgate lovingly known locally as ‘The Wonky House’ were built in the 16th and 18th Century and are part of Lincoln's iconic Steep Hill junction within its Cathedral quarter. The buildings are grade II listed with no 42 Michaelgate being a unique example of a late 18th century house and shop, whilst no. 40 is a timber-framed dwellinghouse dating from the 16th century. The buildings about the grade II* listed 15th Century Harlequin. In 2024 a collaborative scheme of repair to stabilise the structure of the buildings was organised by Heritage Lincolnshire with the aim of returning the buildings to viable and beneficial heritage assets through use as Holiday Lets. The project was funded by the Architectural Heritage Fund, Historic England, the City of Lincoln Council and Investors in Lincoln. During works it was discovered that the condition of the buildings was a lot worse than previously expected. The extent of timber decay due to deathwatch beetle infestation and timber deterioration meant more funding was required to safeguard the structure of the buildings. This required additional fundraising for to protect the properties. Following this, the structure of the buildings has successfully been repaired and the Trust looks forward to reopening the buildings for use in Winter 2024.



Greyfriars, Lincoln

Timescale: 2021-2026

The Grade I listed Greyfriars building in Lincoln has a rich and interesting history. Starting life as a Franciscan Priory in the 12th Century, it subsequently served as Lincoln's first free school, a knitting school, and Lincoln's Mechanics Institute, finally becoming Lincoln's museum which vacated the site more than 20 years ago. The site is of exceptional importance in telling the story of Lincoln. The project at Greyfriars is collaborative: Heritage Lincolnshire and its partners The City of Lincoln Council will be conserving the building for reuse, maximising the potential of the building for the wider community of Lincoln. Through this project, that story will be newly accessible to the local community, inspiring civic pride and preventing the blight of dereliction. Development funding of £175,000 was awarded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund to help Heritage Lincolnshire and the City of Lincoln Council progress its plans to apply for a full National Lottery grant. In December 2023 Heritage Lincolnshire and City of Lincoln Council were awarded over £3m to revitalise Greyfriars, including an accessible and flexible space that maximises its potential use. Our key vision is to remove as many barriers as possible from everyone in our community being able to visit and experience their local heritage at Greyfriars. Through the project the historic building will begin its new chapter with the undercroft becoming a dynamic café, learning and meeting space and the top floor transforming into a functional events and lecture space for community use. Works began in September 2024.

AREA-BASED HERITAGE-LED GRANT SCHEMES



SKEGNESS -
124-132 LUMLEY ROAD



MABLETHORPE -
70-72 HIGH STREET
© HERITAGE TRUST OF LINCOLNSHIRE

Skegness and Mablethorpe Town Centre Transformations

Timescale: Until 2026

The Skegness and Mablethorpe Town Centre Transformation Projects are part of the wider Connected Coast Town Deal, a transformational multi-million-pound project investing in Mablethorpe and Skegness, funded by HM Government.

Heritage Lincolnshire's Town Centre Transformation projects aim to revitalise and regenerate buildings within Skegness and Mablethorpe's town centres through the reinstatement and repair of historic shopfronts and upper floors. This investment alongside contributions from property owners is making Skegness and Mablethorpe attractive places to live, work, visit and invest in and is supporting property owners.

Public realm improvements in Tower Gardens in Skegness have been completed alongside works on the high street to improve this public green space in the heart of Skegness, funded by HM Government alongside match funding from Skegness Town Council. Improvements to the paving, repair of the pond and the installation of sensory planting have had a transformational effect on this space.

Boston Townscape Heritage Initiative and Healing the High Street, Boston

Timescale: 2019-2026

Area-based Heritage-led regeneration projects have taken place in Boston for a number of years, transforming the town centre and supporting small independent and local businesses. The Boston Townscape Heritage Initiative (2019-2024), a five-year National Heritage Lottery Fund project in partnership with Boston Borough Council, supported local businesses, people and communities in celebrating Boston's wealth of heritage, through high street regeneration, community projects and public realm improvements.

The initiative supported shop owners and local businesses by funding up to 90% of shopfront repair and reinstatement. 8 properties in Market Place, Pump Square and Dolphin Lane were restored and uplifted through repair and reinstatement works tailored to each shopfront's needs. From window, door and roof repairs to facade renders and bold new signage that reflects historic Boston.

The initiative led a series of accessible community heritage projects, getting more people excited about heritage in Boston. From the annual



BOSTON - 18 MARKET PLACE
© HERITAGE TRUST OF LINCOLNSHIRE

Boston Heritage Skills Festival to Boston Youth Ambassadors, Boston Hanse day and the launch of the Boston Trump cards.

Perhaps the greatest legacy of the initiative was the annual Boston Skills Festival, a 2-week celebration of traditional craft and skills through CPD and online talks, tours, and interactive workshops like earth building, stained glass making and tile making. With each year, the festival grew considerably, starting with 100 visitors in 2020 to over 1000 in 2023.

Another spectacular legacy of the initiative are the public realm improvements to Dolphin Lane. Since the 13th century, the Lane has been a busy route for traders, residents and visitors. Dolphin Lane was transformed with new paving of Yorkstone setts, part funded by the Boston Town Deal (2021-2026), that reflect the historic environment and improve accessibility. The arts group Transported were commissioned to transform the courtyard that sits at the heart of the lane with mosaic artworks, co-created by Artist Karen Francesca and local people. Hundreds of hand-cut mosaics and hours of hard work went into the making of the artwork which wraps around the Dolphin Lane courtyard. The mosaics reflect local community and cultural groups.



BOSTON - DOLPHIN LANE
COURTYARD MOSAIC
© SOPHIE ARNOLD, TRANSPORTED 2022

The Healing the High Street scheme, funded by the Boston Town Deal, aims to revitalise and regenerate up to 30 historic buildings within Boston's Town Centre through the reinstatement and repair of historic shopfronts and reuse of vacant buildings.

Building on the Boston Townscape Heritage Initiative, this project will deliver economic value to the market town through transforming its High Street attracting visitors and locals, new and existing businesses, and engendering pride in the town's past and future.

The grant scheme focuses on supporting building owners the Wide Bargate and Strait Bargate areas of Boston and represents an exciting opportunity to resolve some of the issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and long-term under investment in the town centre, ultimately working towards restoring Boston's High Street to its former glory, making it a thriving market town once more.

Healing Heritage in Kirton

Timescale: 2023 - 2025

Heritage Lincolnshire's UKSPF funded Healing Heritage in Kirton Scheme offers grants that support local businesses with small to medium grants for repair and reinstatement of their historic buildings. Grants are available for up to 90% of the cost of eligible works.

These grants will enhance the visitor experience in Kirton, improve the public realm and enhance the historic environment.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is part of the UK government's ambitious agenda to support places across the UK, providing new funding for local investment.



5 HIGH STREET
© HERITAGE TRUST OF LINCOLNSHIRE

HERITAGE AND SOCIETY: LEARNING, SKILLS, VOLUNTEERING AND HEALTH AND WELLBEING

99% of people in England live less than one mile from a heritage asset. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic we were aware of the benefits to both individuals and society, pleasure from visiting, a source of pride and opportunities for learning, developing skills, volunteering, social interaction and wellbeing³⁴. These became much more visible during the pandemic as people used open spaces more and also noticed the impact of not being able to access and volunteer at heritage sites.

Historic England's report on Heritage and Society cites evidence from a range of studies of the value of heritage³⁵:

- There is a positive correlation between areas with high levels of heritage activity and high wellbeing³⁶.
- Heritage volunteering increases interaction between people, can result in friendships and networks and improve quality of life, offering social and economic benefits for participants³⁷.
- The value of providing the same wellbeing benefits as heritage would be £1,084 per person³⁸.
- A museum directory of social prescribing and wellbeing activity in NW England showed a £3 return on every £1 invested³⁹.

Greater Lincolnshire's coastline, wetlands, meadows and heathlands and cycle and walking paths alongside canals provide people with opportunities for combatting poor physical and mental health through exercise and the opportunity of being outside.

Intangible heritage appears to be more important where a region has a strong sense of identity. This is often due to people having lived in an area for a long time with a good understanding of heritage and strong sense of engagement. Lincolnshire has average population growth but inflows and outflows of people are relatively low⁴⁰. The RSA estimates that between 95% of the population of Lincolnshire County Council, 98% of North East Lincolnshire and 97% of North Lincolnshire are continuous year on year⁴¹.

The health and wellbeing benefits of heritage, arts and nature are increasingly being recognised. This is reflected by the numbers of projects that are being funded by the health sector, for example Shine Lincolnshire administer funds on behalf of the NHS for mental health support via culture and nature organisations. The Department for Health and Social Care have also funded culture and nature activities to support the wellbeing of unpaid carers.

Historic England have done research into the benefits of heritage for health and wellbeing and have devised a strategy to support how people can access those benefits⁴².

The following case studies highlight heritage activities from across Greater Lincolnshire that have been bringing people of all ages together to learn more about their heritage and develop skills through volunteering, projects with school and community groups and formal heritage skills training programmes. Similar to the examples already showcased, individuals have enjoyed their experiences and the economy has benefitted through commercial contracts, new jobs and tourism visits.

34 Historic England, 'Heritage and Society' (2023): <https://historicengland.org.uk/research/heritage-counts/heritage-and-society/>

35 Ibid.

36 Jonathan Schifferes, 'Heritage, Identity and Place: Seven themes from the Heritage Index' (2015).

37 Various sources in Historic England, 'Heritage and Society' (2023).

38 Daniel Fujiwara et al., 'Quantifying and Valuing the Wellbeing Impacts of Culture and Sport' (2014): 9.

39 The Heritage Alliance, 'Heritage, Health & Wellbeing: A Heritage Alliance Report' (2020): 9.

40 The Heritage Alliance, 'Heritage, Health & Wellbeing: A Heritage Alliance Report' (2020): 9.

41 Schifferes (2015)

42 Jonathan Schifferes, 'Heritage, Identity and Place: Seven themes from the Heritage Index' (2015).

'IT IS HERITAGE ACTIVITIES RATHER THAN HERITAGE ASSETS WHICH ACCOUNT FOR THE STRENGTH BETWEEN HERITAGE AND WELLBEING AT A LOCAL SCALE...HERITAGE ASSETS ALONE DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO WELLBEING, BUT HIGHER LEVELS OF HERITAGE ACTIVITY COULD BE A DRIVER OF WELLBEING'

Jonathan Schifferes, 'Heritage, Identity and Place: Seven themes from the Heritage Index' (2015): 15-16.



CARERS TAKING PART IN A CO-PRODUCTION WORKSHOP FOR ARTS, HERITAGE AND NATURE ACTIVITIES AT DODDINGTON HALL

PHOTO COURTESY OF LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ACTIVITIES AND EDUCATION



CLEETHORPES PIER



CLEETHORPES RAILWAY STATION
© HERITAGE TRUST OF LINCOLNSHIRE



HERITAGE NETWORK
© HERITAGE TRUST OF LINCOLNSHIRE

Mr Grimsby & Mr Cleethorpes – The astonishing legacy of Sir Edward Watkin

Timescale: Until 2025

Funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, thanks to National Lottery Players, and partnering with the Watkin Society, Heritage Lincolnshire will be working until July 2025 to promote and highlight the significant contributions made by the railway entrepreneur Edward Watkin in Grimsby and Cleethorpes.

Some of Watkin's contributions include financial investment into Grimsby docks in the 19th century and connecting the docks with the railway through his role as chairman of the MSLR (Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway), supporting its development into the world's largest fishing port at the time. Similarly, in Cleethorpes, Watkin's investment in the railway and the creation of a sea wall and the promenade, supported the small fishing village to flourish into a popular seaside resort with some even nicknaming it 'Sheffield-On-Sea' due to its new railway connections.

The project will include a series of educational and digital resources focusing on the astonishing legacy of Edward Watkin. The educational resources will support educators and schools with a bank of resources to support them in their teaching of the Victorian period and the local history of Grimsby and Cleethorpes. The digital resources will include a film about the wider area of Grimsby docks, past, present and future and a digital trail based in Cleethorpes.

North-East Lincolnshire Heritage Network

Timescale: Ongoing

Heritage Lincolnshire is working in partnership with North East Lincolnshire Council to build a strong, diverse and vibrant heritage network for the region. Supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the first meeting took place in April 2021 and now has a membership of over 60 participants from a wide variety of heritage, arts and other cultural backgrounds. Meetings take place on a bimonthly basis.

TRADITIONAL HERITAGE SKILLS



There is currently a skills shortage in the building conservation and repair sector yet it is vitally important to ensure that irreplaceable heritage is cared for by skilled craftspeople. Lincoln Cathedral, Lincolnshire County Council and Heritage Lincolnshire have been at the heart of skills development in the county. Lincolnshire County Council and Lincoln Cathedral delivered their first project, Building on the Past between 2010-2015, funded under the National Lottery Heritage Fund Skills for the Future Programme. The aim was to increase the number and diversity of people with skills in stone masonry, joinery and leadwork and to enhance awareness of heritage skills in the local community.

16 traineeships were offered at Lincoln Cathedral Works Department in stone masonry, joinery, leadwork, brickwork and glazing. The trainees included individuals with no previous qualifications, all genders and people over 24 years old. They undertook work-based training at the Cathedral and other sites in Uphill Lincoln whilst working towards NVQ3 heritage skills qualifications. Most have gone on to gain employment, one person by the York Glaziers Trust, another by the Cathedral Works Department.

A second strand of the project was to raise awareness of heritage skills amongst the public. An annual '1000 Years of Traditional Crafts' event ran for 5 years attracting thousands of visitors. 200 professionals, home owners, volunteers and students on construction courses at FE Colleges and Schools took part in 67 short taster courses in stone masonry, roof tiling, lime plastering, stained glass and blacksmithing at the Heritage Skills Centre.

A second Skills for the Future grant was awarded in 2017 to fund 2 further rounds of traineeships, events and taster sessions. Led by Lincolnshire County Council, working closely with Lincoln Cathedral, Heritage Lincolnshire and other partners. This programme planned to provide 21 bursaries to fund traineeships of 12 or 18 months over four years with individuals obtaining traditional and specialist skills in archaeology, stone masonry, lime plastering, traditional roofing, community engagement and management of building preservation projects and undertaking

NVQ standard training opening up employment opportunities. The ambition was to reach 30,000 members of the public including students through demonstrations, hands-on activities and taster days.

Despite the pandemic, 28 traineeships were delivered, varying from 6 weeks to 24 months. By the end of the scheme, 25 of the trainees were continuing working or studying in the sector. They used films and social media takeovers to share their skills when they could not engage with the public and an online tool was developed to provide an entry-level view into historic buildings and the skills and knowledge required to maintain them.

Most recently Heritage Lincolnshire have secured funding for delivering taster sessions and heritage skills training in the South East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership area from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and from Historic England for training alongside the repair of Hussey Tower.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS IN LINCOLNSHIRE

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture, bringing people together to celebrate their heritage, community and history. Greater Lincolnshire has actively participated since 1994 supported by central co-ordination and promotion by Heritage Lincolnshire. Visitors obtain free access to interesting properties that are either not usually open or charge an entrance fee or behind the scenes tours. National research reports that 86% of visitors say Heritage Open Days make them feel proud of their local area and 75% that it makes them feel part of their local community ⁴³.

It is an excellent example of how volunteers support Lincolnshire's heritage and share it with others. Organisations commit time and resource to this event on an annual basis and the number of events in Greater Lincolnshire has grown each year. The festival was even held during the COVID-19 pandemic; the feedback on these years was overwhelmingly positive as people seemed to get even more enjoyment having been subjected to restrictions. In 2024, organisations and groups in 62 towns and villages across Lincolnshire worked hard to produce over 150 different events. The impact from this year's festival is still being assessed but it is highly likely to have been a very positive success for all those involved.

LINCOLNSHIRE'S ECCLESIASTIC HERITAGE

Lincolnshire is known for its ecclesiastic heritage. The 1086 Domesday Book records over 200 churches and it is thought more than 600 churches, chapels, abbeys and priories exist today, many of which are listed buildings, some ruins and others earthworks. It also has one of the largest groups of Anglo-Saxon churches in England although the majority only remain as part of a larger building ⁴⁴. As the principal building in many villages communities are working with partners to celebrate and open these buildings up to the public as the following projects illustrate.

⁴³ Heritage Open Days, 2017: <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/resource/hods-headlines-2017.html>

⁴⁴ Timothy Ambrose, 'Anglo-Saxon Churches in Lincolnshire'. Lincolnshire County Council: 1979.



FIGURE 4:
HERITAGE OPEN DAYS IN 2017

'Fewer events this year, but that makes sense with COVID. Thank you to those organisers who did put on events – it was so lovely to be able to actually go somewhere, and we really enjoyed the visit' (HOD visitor, 2020)

'The staff and volunteers were great. It must have been difficult to put on an event with so many restrictions, but it's very much appreciated – a fantastic day all round!'

(HOD visitor, 2020)



ST. MARY HORNCASTLE

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL CHURCHES TRUST (NCT)



CLAXBY ST. MARY,
WEST LINDSEY (above)
PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NCT
DANDELION SUNDIAL BY
CLIFF BAXENDALE
(above centre)
PHOTO BY ELECTRIC EGG,
COURTESY OF ArtsNK



BRANSTON MOSAIC
BY ALAN POTTER (above)
PHOTO TAKEN BY ALAN POTTER,
COURTESY OF ArtsNK

WOOLLY SPIRES AT LINCOLN
CATHEDRAL (left)
PHOTO BY ELECTRIC EGG,
COURTESY OF ArtsNK

Great Interpretations was developed by the National Churches Trust (NCT) and NCT Heritage Services and involves working with 45 churches and chapels from the Horncastle area to help them interpret the stories of their buildings and be confident to open their doors to attract visitors. Some are Grade I listed and date to the 13th century. Funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the project which ran in 2018/19 has produced new professional films and photographs to promote church tourism as well as a series of training courses to upskill volunteers so they are more confident about promoting their church.

The results are incredible; increased footfall in over 50% of the churches, churches normally closed, now opening to welcome all, and churches offering refreshment facilities. A new Lincolnshire Wolds & Coast Churches Festival project is currently being developed to build on this success.

The **West Lindsey Church Festival** is in its 27th year. Originally started by the District Council it spans 2 weekends during May and involves around 100 churches and 400 volunteers. The event has enhanced the community's sense of pride in their churches, often the principle building in a village for. The Festival has also seen collaborations with other community groups. For example, Willingham by Stow involved the local Women's Institute and brass band, raising £1,500 for the church.

The Spires & Steeples Trail, from Lincoln Cathedral to St. Denys' Church in Sleaford brings together the rich history, heritage and local stories in the area. The spires are used as landmarks and Steeple refers to the rural sport. Projects in villages along the trail have explored their history and heritage and celebrated these through art trails. Dandelion Sundial and the Branston Mosaic are 2 examples.

Digital sound recordings to inspire and complement the walk have been created as part of the Listen hear project led by ArtsNK. Tracks are a mixture of recordings from villagers, a commissioned piece of binaural work and Lincolnshire folk songs performed by a local singer. There is also an annual challenge to complete the 26 mile route, running or walking as part of the Spires and Steeples Challenge. <http://spiresandsteeples.com/>

Woolly Spires was a county wide project, originally funded by Lincoln Museum and Arts Council England and managed by ArtsNK. Many of Lincolnshire's churches were funded by wealthy landowners who made their fortunes from the Lincoln Longwool sheep. This provided inspiration for the project which ArtsNK ran over 8 years across Lincolnshire. Bringing communities together the groups created amazingly detailed, knitted versions of their local churches displayed as scaled down models, using the wool of the Lincoln Long Wool sheep.

PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME



THIS IS A GILDED CAST COPPER-ALLOY EARLY ANGLO-SAXON GREAT SQUARE-HEADED BROOCH DECORATED WITH ANIMAL AND HUMAN MOTIFS, FOUND NEAR CAMMERINGHAM BY A METAL-DETECTORIST.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LINCOLNSHIRE PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME

The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) helps the public identify and record finds of an archaeological nature, recording finds onto an online and freely accessible public database. The scheme is funded by the NLHF and coordinated nationally by the British Museum. More than 80,000 finds from Greater Lincolnshire have been reported by the public to the PAS and they continue to enhance knowledge about Lincolnshire's archaeology.

PAS runs a weekly volunteer group and projects with partners. For example, they have hosted paid internships providing new graduates with skills that enhance their employability and for those from disadvantaged backgrounds to gain practical experience and training in small finds and outreach activities to enter a career in archaeology.

Students, overseas and local volunteers have been involved in joint projects between PAS and universities to carry out excavations of important sites discovered by the public including University of Sheffield at Little Carlton and Scremby. The Scremby project also involved wounded, injured, and sick US veterans and provided opportunities for students at University of Lincoln to carry out conservation and preservation of authentic artefacts.

A new project called 'Searching for Saxons in Lincolnshire' was launched in 2019 to rescue a previously unknown early Anglo-Saxon cemetery discovered by a group of metal-detectorists near Cammeringham. This was originally set up as a community archaeology project. However, COVID-19 prompted us to rethink how to engage local people whilst keeping

safe. This led to the archaeological dig being streamed live over social media, with updates, photographs and videos uploaded as finds came out of the ground. During the lockdowns, as part of the project, PAS ran a Volunteer Research Group, training volunteers to access and use online heritage resources and undertake new research on the site. In 2023, working in partnership with the University of Central Lancashire, the extent of the cemetery was established, and many new important discoveries were found.

Previous community archaeology projects have involved the public in metal detector surveys and excavations whilst developing new skills. Other heritage projects have specifically focused on young people which have enabled them to learn more about their local heritage and develop skills and confidence.

WINGS TO THE PAST



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Archaeology has been used in the past to aid the recovery of injured or traumatised service veterans: however, no project existed to help those still serving who were struggling with everyday life. There is often a perception that if you are on regular service then you must be okay. However, in many cases, that could not be further from the truth. Wings to the Past was conceived by serving personnel with young families who took part in an archaeological excavation in Lincolnshire in 2018 and found participation in archaeology has enormous benefits for decompressing the stresses

and strains of everyday life, the development of relationships and the building of mental health resilience and wellbeing. Furthermore, this participation led to an extraordinarily deep bond starting to develop between serving parents and their children as they worked towards a common goal of unearthing the past.

60 volunteers took part in the excavation over the course of two weeks. This number was made up of local volunteers and 10 families where at least one parent was a serving member of the RAF of other Military Service. There was a vast age range involved, with our

youngest member being 6 months and our oldest an octogenarian. The excavation revealed evidence of Roman occupation on the site.

The overwhelming sense from the volunteers was that the project was a great success in getting RAF personnel and their families to simply spend time together. It also allowed these military families to bond with other families who were, or had gone through, very similar situations and share advice, life lessons and good humour.

The project was made possible by a grant from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund.



“Didn’t approach the project for any other reasons other than the heritage/history but found a sense of peace while participating. Forced me and us as a family to slow down, refocus and spend time together without distractions. Surprised at the positive mental health impact.”

(Workshop participant, 2018)



“It was terrifically excellent. Because I like to spend time with my Daddy.”

(Workshop participant, 2018)

MEMORIES AND MEMORIALS

The Lincolnshire Memories and Memorials project used war memorials as a starting point to challenge young people to find out more about how the 2 world wars affected families and communities in Lincolnshire. It built on the National Lottery Heritage Fund Lincolnshire Remembrance Project which recorded Lincolnshire's war memorials and the stories of the people named on them. Local schools, youth groups, a National Citizenship Service (NCS) group, RAF Airplay groups and Air Cadets were involved in a range of mini-projects over 2 years (2016-2018). Funding came from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Armed Forces Community Covenant and Lincolnshire County Council.

During the 2-year project 369 young people aged 7 to 25 years were involved. They were trained to interview and record oral histories, to monitor the condition of war memorials and undertake research to create memorial trails and board games. Activities were organised during the last 2 months of the 'Poppies: Wave' installation at Lincoln Castle and stained glass, stone and memorial book making workshops were held at the the Heritage Skills Centre. A further 460 young people participated in exhibitions, events and museum visits. After seeing the Lancaster Bomber at East Kirkby, Joseph (aged 8) was overheard saying 'My mind is nuclear blown!'

The young people gained historical knowledge, understanding of the impact of war on daily life and skills in historical research, oral history recording, map reading, speaking and listening, writing and team work. Twenty volunteers supported the young people with the historical research and there was further inter-generational exchange as they interviewed older people. These older people enjoyed meeting the children, sharing their stories and learning from them.

"We really enjoyed our visit to school...it brought back many memories ...I learned a lot from the children and they were very professional in their interviewing. Well done children!!"

- Val, a project participant

Legacies of the project include: 16 oral histories, walking trails for Willoughton, Stamford, Caistor and one that tells the story of the Lincoln tank; cycle trails telling RAF stories based around Digby, Scampton and Cranwell; and a car trail near RAF Waddington. A Second World War games leaflet developed from the ideas of pupils of Butterwick School was produced and an interactive website telling the story of RAF Skellingthorpe created. 2000 copies of a War Memorial Spotter's Guide aimed at children were distributed to participants, at shows in the county and to uniform groups. Celebration events were held to share all of these achievements. To view all of the trails created for this project please visit: <https://heritage-explorer.lincolnshire.gov.uk/memories-and-memorials>



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

FUTURE OF THE PAST

The transformational impact that heritage can have on young people can also be seen in the soundLINC-led Future of the Past project. From 2020 to 2022, the project worked with 13 partners across Lincolnshire with the aim of creatively engaging young people with heritage. Supported through The National Lottery Heritage Fund, and made possible by National Lottery players, this 2-year project brought together a range of key partners working together from the University, cultural, arts and heritage sectors delivering projects across Lincolnshire.

The project worked with 7 heritage sites across Lincolnshire to look at how they could make their collections and stories relevant to 11–25-year-olds. Future of the Past worked with musicians, artists, performers and film makers to bring stories of the past alive and relevant for future generations. These included: St Peter & St Paul's Church, Gosberton where Liz Lenten from Scarlet Records, along with the local community, organised 'Septemberfest Gosberton!' A whole weekend of family fun and performances, including live performances Friday night, a family fun day on Saturday, and a special live performance by Martin & Liza Carthy on Sunday.

"I enjoyed the live music on the Friday night and the drumming workshop on the Saturday. The live performance by Eliza and Martin Carthy on Sunday was good too" – young person.

The first Future of the Past project also included Shooting Fish Theatre Company working with 15 young people at the Old Nick Theatre to create a play based on the stories they have discovered at the Police Museum. The play they developed, Slip of the Tongue, was set in rural Lincolnshire in 1934 and told the story of Ethel Major; a tormented and bullied wife who couldn't take it anymore. She decided to take matters into her own hands with the help of some corned beef and a secret key. Young people on this project worked with professionals, took part in theatre workshops over several weeks and created a 20-minute play that became part of the display at the



THE OLD NICK THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH

PHOTO COURTESY OF soundLINC

museum, where visitors can download a radio play version and discover the story of Ethel Major for themselves.

"I enjoyed learning how to be a better actor and how to adapt to playing a character with a different personality to me because it was fun to experience how to live in a different lifestyle. I learnt that I have a voice and that I can come up with good ideas if I try." – young person.

Sleaford Museum was another site involved with this project. It was envisaged that here the project, facilitated by Paradigm Arts, would provide advice, guidance, support, and deliverable activity focused on increasing participation and engagement with and for young people. Sleaford Museum aimed to 'Share our Stories' and was the focus for the initial engagement with cohorts of students from the 3 main secondary schools in the local area. Mark Bamford, Chairman of Sleaford Museum highlighted the opportunities the project would have for the young people to get involved with the heritage of



A PERFORMANCE BY YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY SHOOTING FISH THEATRE COMPANY

PHOTO COURTESY OF soundLINGS

Sleaford town. He explained that the project would enable Sleaford Museum to raise its profile amongst young people and provide them with a sense of the cultural heritage to which they belong; and provide their voice in future offers to young people in the area.

“I enjoyed seeing the current museum and location we had to work with and being able to create initial thoughts and ideas on what the space could be turned into. It was originally an Edwardian toilet block - which interested me greatly in being able to bring the evolution of the building into our ideas. Helping to enrich others within the community appealed greatly to me which allowed me to see that taking interest in such projects is a great idea. I talked to professionals in the field of art about my ideas and the project which gave me further confidence in interacting with those I don’t know.” – young person.

Following this highly successful pilot project, from 2024 the Future of the Past 2 project is once again working across Lincolnshire to bring young people and heritage together through arts and culture. This has been made possible through money raised by National Lottery players and supported with funding from Lincolnshire District Councils.

Heritage sites serve as community hubs, bringing people together through exhibits, events, workshops, and festivals that celebrate local history and increase a sense of belonging. This fantastic initiative, running between 2024 and 2027, is connecting young individuals (aged 11-25) and venues in Lincolnshire, to craft captivating and innovative interpretations around the collections and narratives preserved within these fascinating sites. It is helping the venues to create spaces that resonate with young people, through reinterpretation, fostering a sense of ownership and connection. At the same time the heritage site volunteers are gaining skills and support in engaging new audiences – helping them to meet their goals.

This project utilises the power of creative arts as a medium to foster a deeper understanding

and appreciation of Lincolnshire’s heritage. By participating, young people will be creating new interpretations and not only honing their artistic skills but also connecting with their history in a meaningful and engaging way. Young people will also gain soft skills like teamwork, communication, and adaptability. They will feel empowered to make change in their local environment and ownership over the heritage venues and the stories they hold. They will also gain the sense that heritage venues are spaces for them and reflect their interests and values.

By nurturing an interest in heritage, we are creating potential volunteers of the future who can contribute to the sustainable management of heritage sites and cultural resources. Ensuring the preservation and continuation of cultural heritage through generations attracting fresh audiences, developing skills, expanding networks, and building resilience. This is vital for the sustainability of Lincolnshire’s heritage venues and for ensuring that the stories of our shared histories are not lost to time - ultimately contributing to the security of the Future of the Past!

soundLINCS UpBEAT!

soundLINCS is a not-for-profit community music organisation unleashing potential through music by delivering high-quality and innovative music making opportunities. Beyond the Future of the Past project they offer music-making opportunities for people from all walks of life with inclusive and exciting services, delivered by creative, innovative people. Over the years, soundLINCS has built a national reputation for delivery and training work around Musical Inclusion, working closely with participants and staff across a wide range of strands, including a mental health and wellbeing service, heritage, early years, looked after children, youth justice services, hearing impaired, hospitals, young parents, SEND pupils, universities, and schools. Our vision is that everyone has an opportunity to be empowered through music.

soundLINCS UpBEAT! is a Lincolnshire-wide referral service devoted to supporting mental health and wellbeing through music. UpBEAT! provides both 1-2-1 and group support for adults with an interest in exploring music and unleashing their creative side. UpBEAT! groups take place across Lincolnshire and support a variety of musical interests from learning to play in an Orchestra to African Hand Drumming, Community Singing and much, much more...

soundHOUSE, Lincoln

One Wednesday every month, UpBEAT! Jam Social Nights take place at the soundHOUSE. The Jam Social Nights are for participants to come and play whichever instrument of their choosing to jam along and have a good time with one another. This Grade II listed building used to be a Picture House and was once the site of a Medieval Synagogue. Plus, there is also 12th century fabric in the north wall of the building.



Centenary Church, Boston

An UpBEAT! Drumming Group has been taking place within the Centenary Church in Boston. This drumming group aimed to provide African Drumming and Percussion workshops to support adult mental health through music. The Centenary Church is a Victorian Grade II listed building that was built in 1839.



Doddington Hall, Lincoln

As part of the UpBEAT! service, supporting mental health through Music, soundLINCS was invited to work in partnership with the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and the Doddington Hall Wilder Initiative to inspire people to explore the natural environment through sound.

Doddington Hall is an impressive Elizabethan Mansion with 6 acres of formal and kitchen gardens, designed in 1595 by Robert Smythson, one of England's foremost Elizabethan Architects and completed in 1600.

As part of the 2-day Wilder Festival, visitors were invited to roam Doddington's lakeside estate, creating digital soundscapes by recording the natural environment and connecting with nature's sounds and rhythms through traditional West African Drumming and percussion.



YOUNG PEOPLE CREATING DIGITAL SOUNDSCAPES AT DODDINGTON

PHOTO COURTESY OF soundLINCS

HERITAGE, NATURE AND WELLBEING

In a reflection on the wider understanding and appreciation of heritage as a tool for supporting with health and wellbeing, Lincolnshire County Council was successful in accessing money from the national Department for Health and Social Care's Accelerated Reform Fund. Part of this funding is being used to support unpaid carers in accessing nature and heritage, to help gain an understanding of how activities can support the health and wellbeing of carers.

The project began with a series of co-production workshops held in the stunning grounds of Doddington Hall, that aimed to give the carers a platform for sharing their ideas as to how the activities should be developed, giving consideration both to their personal interests and the practical needs of them and their cared-for individuals. This process was supported by commissioned floral artist, Rachel Petheram of Catkin.

Following these workshops, Rachel is facilitating the participant carers through a programme of creative activities that take place throughout the seasons, culminating in an exhibition created by carers in spring 2025. This is utilising the beautiful landscape and rich natural resources and fascinating heritage that the surroundings of Doddington Hall have to offer. Beyond these workshops for carers, Rachel is also developing a training programme of activities for carer support workers from a range of organisations, and carers themselves, so that this kind of activity can be continued wherever and whenever they are wanted. The project is looking into other ways of making these kinds of activities sustainable, including how they might be funded, and how they can be embedded into existing health care systems, so that we can make them available for more people who would benefit the most.



AN INSTALLATION IN THE GROUNDS OF DODDINGTON HALL BY RACHEL PETHERAM
PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL PETHERAM, CATKIN



INSIDE ONE OF THE CARER'S CO-PRODUCTION WORKSHOPS
PHOTO COURTESY OF LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

THE LINCOLNSHIRE COAST

The connection between heritage, landscapes and the positive impact of both on wellbeing have become key drivers in the development of projects across the county. Lincolnshire has an array of different landscapes, from the Fens to the Wolds and from post-industrial urban centers to historic market towns. One of the most striking of these is the Lincolnshire coast, and in recent years it has become the inspiration to many future-facing projects.

Inns on the Edge: historic public houses along the Lincolnshire coast

Historic pubs are important heritage assets, often embodying historical significance beyond their original purpose. Beyond the physicality of their historic fabric, pubs are repositories for intangible heritage, encompassing traditions and social histories largely undocumented within local communities. In isolated rural areas and urban regions marked by deprivation, pubs face heightened vulnerability due to dwindling customer bases, economic challenges and reduced accessibility.

Inns on the Edge was an ambitious project that aimed to highlight the conservation needs of Lincolnshire's historic pubs. Funded

as a pilot study by Historic England and managed by Lincolnshire County Council, the project examined historic pubs along 50 miles of the Lincolnshire coast between Boston and Grimsby. The project area was chosen based on the communities it served, as some of the most deprived and rurally isolated within the county.

The initial project research was desk-based, using the Historic Environment Record, local library services and online resources to identify public houses. The data gathered formed the basis of a database detailing the attributes of each pub, such as name, address, build date, and current use. Fieldwork, carried out by a Project Officer using a standardised recording form, aided in the interpretation and analysis of each site.

Initially, it was believed the project area contained around 150 historic pubs but 320 buildings and sites were documented. This accomplishment underscored the project's success in identifying a larger number of historic pubs than anticipated and enhanced the visibility of these buildings within the planning system. This increased recognition is a critical step towards protecting these cultural landmarks. It has also significantly enriched the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record. The Old Chequers Inn in Croft is believed to be the oldest pub in the survey, dating from the late Medieval period. Out of the 320 historic pubs and sites recorded, 41 are Grade II listed and many more have been added to Local Heritage Lists.

The research outcomes and subsequent report for Historic England have significantly elevated the profile of heritage pubs. By documenting this substantial number of historic pubs, raising awareness of their plight, and engaging the public through accessible resources, the project has laid the groundwork for continued advocacy and research in this important area of cultural heritage. A copy of the report can be downloaded here: [Inns on the Edge: historic public houses along the Lincolnshire coast | Historic England](#)



THE OLD CHEQUERS INN

PHOTO COURTESY OF LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Land on the Edge

The *Land on the Edge* project was commissioned by Historic England and Lincolnshire County Council as part of the wider Inns on the Edge project to explore the broader history of the county's coastal landscape. Historian and archaeologist Dr Caitlin Green was commissioned to undertake this research. She produced an academic report and a separate 'Headline Stories' summary, both available online here: <https://www.caitlingreen.org/>

Drawing on a range of archaeological and historical data Dr Green analysed the landscape history of the 75 mile stretch of coastline from Boston to Grimsby and shed light on an array of stories including pirates and smugglers, drowned islands and lost towns and the transformation of the Lincolnshire coast line over the last 8,000 years.

Spanning the landscape with the scope of the research meant that Dr Green was also able to make recommendations for showcasing the most interesting and unique narratives uncovered in *Land on the Edge*; the Headline Stories report was written in more accessible language which can be used by any organisation that wishes to for the benefit of wider public interest within coastal communities, for existing heritage assets in those communities and for the encouragement of tourism and economic development in the Lincoln coastal zone. Finally *Land on the Edge* also highlights the potential for this kind of research to be used as a baseline for ongoing research and planning relating to future coastal change. Another example of how developing an understanding of the past can support and enhance the world in the future.



SANDILANDS

PHOTO COURTESY OF LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Queen Elizabeth Memorial Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park

Spanning from the golden shores of Sandilands to the picturesque landscapes of Chapel St Leonards, and extending inland to Hogsthorpe, Mumby, Anderby, and Huttoft, the Coastal Country Park unfolds as a breath taking tapestry of natural wonders.

Each location along this coastal stretch presents a unique charm, contributing to the creation of an unforgettable coastal experience. Here, miles of pristine sandy beaches entwine with wildlife-rich nature reserves, offering a sanctuary for both visitors and indigenous species alike. The park also boasts a range of hospitality businesses, iconic attractions such as the world's first dedicated cloud observation platform at the Anderby Creek Cloud Bar and a number of heritage offers including the Village Church Farm Museum in Skegness and two heritage railways.

Lincolnshire County Council and partners are working to provide high quality facilities for people and better protection for wildlife throughout the Coastal Country Park area, and to increase the opportunities for people to experience the landscape, wildlife and special features of this part of the Lincolnshire coast. Events and activities will be held throughout the year to highlight this. Collaborating organisations tirelessly strive to enhance the park's appeal, ensuring top-notch facilities for visitors, robust protections for local wildlife and landscapes, and increased opportunities for individuals to savour the wonders of the Lincolnshire coast and take all the benefits from their time there. For more information visit: [Lincolnshire Coast | Official visitor information website \(visitlincscoast.co.uk\)](https://www.visitlincscoast.co.uk)

ARTS, CULTURE AND WELLBEING ACTIVITIES DURING COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic provided museums and heritage sites with the opportunity to raise the profile of their existing wellbeing activities and reach new audiences. Lincoln Museum managed to continue to host their weekly Life Drawing and Yoga classes in the museum in a socially distanced way. The Cultural Services team at Lincolnshire County Council took part in the University of Edinburgh's Prescribe Culture programme by delivering a talk about Lincoln Castle and a separate online community 'dig' both of which reached a national audience. They also experimented with social media across Facebook, Instagram and Tik Tok, gaining thousands of additional followers. Posts containing over 200 objects from the county collections reached over 148,000 people between April 2020 and April 2021.

The Hub in Sleaford set out to develop creative skills of volunteers and support staff from partner organisations but the COVID-19 pandemic led to them working directly with 28 participants who were signed-up through partners such as the Mental Health Transformation Team. Many were identifying as lonely and house-bound before the pandemic. Funded by Lincolnshire County Council's Community Collaboration fund the artist developed activities and art packs which were delivered to people to inspire them to make representations of their life story and consider views of their window using vinyl window stickers. The artist has then also turned their drawings and words into new vinyl designs which were exhibited at the Hub.

Artist in Residence 2019-2022 – Mrs Smith's Cottage

During the planning stages for the delivery phase of the National Lottery Heritage Fund project to repair and reinterpret Mrs Smith's Cottage in Navenby the project team worked with the NK Arts Partnership to develop arts engagement in Navenby. The aim of the residency was to engage the local community with the Cottage, raising awareness of its heritage and encouraging participation in a range of creative activities leading to artworks inspired by the Cottage and Mrs Smith. Other activities included an artist-led 'Mrs Smith's Village Trail' developed with local residents to link to the existing Ridges & Furrows heritage trails in the local area.

Working alongside the team at the National Centre of Craft & Design (now The Hub, Sleaford) the project team advertised the residency and interviewed 6 artists. The brief was to create a piece of artwork from any medium that would respond to the 'Spirit of Place' inspired by Mrs Smith's interests and activities.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICKI JARVIS AND MRS SMITH'S COTTAGE, NORTH KESTIVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Textile and Ceramic Artist, Nicki Jarvis was appointed and while exploring ideas for her own work collaborated with the museum interpretive designers, Grevatte and Co, to develop and create interpretive pieces that could be subtly encountered by visitors at the Cottage, using ideas from Mrs Smith's life and items from the Cottage. These included an embroidered cushion that was inspired by fragments of wallpaper at the Cottage, an embroidered cardigan displayed on the bed as part of the interpretation scheme and a friendship chair – made with a quilt based on those given to members of the community who left during Mrs Smith's life at the Cottage.



COVID-19 impacted the residency as a big part of the brief was to engage the community, however Nicki was quick to adapt. A series of digital workshops were developed and kits were posted out to make a square as part of a community rag rug inspired by Mrs Smith's own rugs.

Beyond the Cottage, Nicki worked on a number of other installations around the local area. These included a series of ceramic datestones, inspired by the carved datestones found throughout Navenby, for installation in pavements. Each datestone features a key village date or a date that represents an era, and each one uses a typical graphic font for the period. Nicki also worked with local organisation Cliff Carnival to deliver TOGETHER weekend in July 2021, attended by 100 people, where participants were able to carve their own clay artwork featuring an element of the local area that had been important to them during lockdown. Three further workshops (involving 20 people) were held at Mrs Smith's Cottage where further clay artworks were made, culminating in the creation of a ceramic panel 'Collective'. Nicki also worked with children from care homes across Lincolnshire to explore Mrs Smith's childhood. This element of the project resulted in the creation of textual ceramic art which was installed along the Cottage's garden wall.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICKI JARVIS AND MRS SMITH'S COTTAGE, NORTH KESTIVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Artist in residence Nicki Jarvis writes:

Mrs Smith's Cottage artist residency has been a transformational moment for my practice. The willingness of the NKDC team to allow me to explore ambitious possibilities as well as create intimate fragments as part of the interpretation scheme, meant that I pushed myself to achieve – in collaboration – some significant artworks that are now permanent elements of the Navenby streetscene as well as the Cottage environs. The pandemic lockdown required new thinking, but also created space for making additional funding applications, so that the initial project could be expanded in both time and scope. This project enabled me to fully recognise and combine the four elements of my skillset: heritage background, community collaborator, craft tutor and artist. It was stretching, exhausting and absolutely fantastic.



Value of heritage and the historic environment in Lincolnshire



Heritage skills training



Heritage activities (e.g. festivals & open days, public archaeology, workshops, events)

ACTIVITIES



Restoration, conservation & regeneration of towns, historic buildings, waterways & natural heritage



Archaeology projects



New trails, exhibitions, sculpture, models & films

OUTCOMES

- More productive partnerships
- Communities work together / development of hubs
- Social & inter-generational interaction
- Improved physical and mental health
- Friendships and personal networks built
- Better places to live, work and visit
- More and different volunteering opportunities
- People enjoy and value heritage
- Interest and understanding of local heritage
- Communities develop transferable skills
- People have fun and try new things
- More accessible leisure opportunities
- Greater self-confidence
- People learn skills through apprenticeships and internships

IMPACTS & BENEFITS

- Larger visitor economy
- Economic benefits through supply chains
- Stronger construction sector in Lincolnshire
- Sustains local jobs
- Lincolnshire becomes a hub for heritage skills
- More diverse workforce
- Jobs created in heritage sector and through supply chains
- Sense of place and belonging
- Life satisfaction
- Pride in local area
- Better green spaces
- Space for start-up businesses
- Environmental benefits
- Improved public realm
- Reputation of heritage sector is enhanced



HERITAGE FOR LOCAL RECOVERY AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

As shown throughout this report, and highlighted again through the examples of successful projects through COVID-19, heritage has a unifying power. Capable of bringing people together, heritage can also be a tool utilised for inspiring civic pride and promoting economic growth. Heritage sites, organisations and initiatives have been a key part of the national recovery following the pandemic and in many places this important work continues in response to the current economic challenges faced by many communities within our region.

Pop Up Museums

‘Memory Lane’ was a pop-up museum that was set up in an empty shop on the High Street in Holbeach. The idea and drive for the temporary museum came from Councillor Tracey Carter, who approached Cultural Services and the Historic Places Team at Lincolnshire County Council for some support in making it a reality.

The teams worked with Cllr Carter in Holbeach to create a 6-month long exhibition in a former tanning salon on the High Street. Local stories and history, folklore, traditional local music, old photographs, local famous people, some archaeological finds from the area, information from the Extensive Urban Survey and screens showing films of life in South Holland (courtesy of the Lincolnshire Film Archive) and more were gathered.

The idea was that it showcased the unique history of Holbeach for residents and visitors in a place where they could easily access, brought the community together, provided an interesting use for an empty shop, and offered an engaging experience for people who are already shopping on the High Street, and to encourage people to use the High Street more.

Over the period that the museum was open, there were around 500 visitors from over 40 different places (including as far as the USA!). The feedback, taken from visitor surveys, was overwhelmingly positive with the majority of visitors saying they had enjoyed their visit and learnt about local heritage. 84% of those surveyed said they had/would be visiting other businesses within the town centre linked to their museum visit. The exhibition has now been taken down, but the panels are staying in Holbeach for future use by local people wherever and whenever they want.

This is an idea that the County Council are keen to bring to other towns across Greater Lincolnshire, working with and supporting local communities to create bespoke pop-up museums just how they would like them to be. Highlighting history to people across the county where they are, showcasing the county’s collections and reinvigorating the local high street too.

Memory Lane was made possible by sponsorship by local businesses: Ashwood Homes, Broadgate Homes, Jelson Homes, CJ & CA Penney Consulting Ltd and funding from Museum Development East Midlands, South Holland District Council and Lincolnshire County Council.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ENERGY CELL



PHOTO COURTESY OF ENERGY CELL

CONCLUSIONS

This report showcases Greater Lincolnshire's rich and diverse built, natural and hidden heritage. The case studies demonstrate investment in heritage delivers at every stage of the process. The drawing down of external funds, the employment created in construction and archaeology whilst work is undertaken, the local pride, liability turned to asset, the increased volunteering opportunities and the chance for adjacent local businesses to benefit from higher footfall and profile. Restoration projects such as those at Lincoln Castle, Lincoln Cathedral and The Old King's Head in Kirton are good examples. All of this combines to impact on Lincolnshire's profile as a place to live, work and invest. Our ability to invest in and turn our heritage assets into thriving businesses says a lot about us a county.

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to greater recognition of the wider social and health and wellbeing benefits of built, natural and intangible heritage. As many of the case studies highlight, people of all ages have been brought together through workshops, events, archaeological digs and festivals. The health and wellbeing benefits of these

are important as more of us live in single person households, our society ages and given Lincolnshire's large rural population.

Disappointingly, the quality of the evidence base on individual and community wellbeing remains variable⁴⁵, confirming the need for a consistent framework for collecting data and hub for sharing what is being achieved. This is not unique to Lincolnshire. There is a lack of robust evidence nationally and in local contexts; for example, local area indicators of wellbeing, data from small communities, rural and coastal areas. Work by the DCMS, What Works Wellbeing, Historic England and their partners are currently addressing this gap.

Heritage can be perceived as a liability, with negative connotations that it is a money pit and has limited opportunities due to planning restrictions. We hope that our case studies bring a far more positive view and that the totality of the outcomes illustrate that heritage, built, natural, tangible and intangible can be viewed as a particularly worthwhile investment.

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE....

... for the heritage sector:

Heritage is about people and places, yet despite the undisputable benefits and collaborative working investment in heritage and the historic environment it is mainly project-based and requires a great deal of work to obtain, manage and sustain. The 'start/stop' nature of projects is not ideal for continuity for communities, the heritage and historic environment, or those organisations who are delivering projects, especially where they have on-going overheads and it makes it more difficult to develop deep and meaningful relationships with audiences. Furthermore, it takes a great deal of time and effort to build fruitful and trusting relationships with funders.

Project based work and evidence gaps mean that investment isn't as strategic as it could be, and

although some fantastic outcomes are being achieved, opportunities are being missed and much more could be done, even with fairly modest amounts of on-going investment. We could do more by working in partnership with each other, for example by making the heritage offer more coherent and getting involved in thematic marketing campaigns and trails, enabling groups of sites to cluster together to show the whole is greater than the individual parts. Visit Lincolnshire has begun doing this on their website and there are a number of future tourism campaigns planned that link sites together but they, like other organisations such as Lincolnshire Heritage Forum have limited capacity and resources.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted and

⁴⁵ What Works Wellbeing, 2024: <https://whatworkswellbeing.org/>

exacerbated inequalities in society. Major stakeholders in the health and heritage sectors have responded with new strategies, embedding wellbeing more strongly in their outcomes and an intention to measure their social impact and public value ⁴⁶. They have prioritised people with mental health needs, who are lonely, socially isolated, young people who need support to counter disadvantage and older people, especially those with age-related challenges or reduced capacity to thrive. The National Academy for Social Prescribing was established in October 2019 to standardise practices in social prescribing and promote partnerships across the health, local government and cultural sectors.

The heritage sector in Lincolnshire needs to build a shared evidence base to show the impact we make, to the county, communities and individuals. The What Works Centre for Wellbeing recommends people working with communities focus on: the complex interactions between individuals and community level factors and the potential for the same intervention to affect people with different characteristics, circumstances or experiences in different ways; the impact on individual and community health and wellbeing; how their projects may fit and link with other work to improve wellbeing, and also identify potential partners; how these can be measured objectively and subjectively; and the impact of community-based joint decision-making. We would add to this the need to understand how the historic landscape can contribute to wellbeing outcomes and the need to champion the tracking of longitudinal benefits. We look forward to the new Culture and Heritage Capital Framework being developed by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) which will provide a formal approach to valuing the benefits of culture and heritage assets to society – a Social Cost Benefits Analysis ⁴⁷. This will explore both heritage assets and the ‘flow’ of benefits which they create to the people and places around them.

This will help with funding, for example National Lottery Heritage Fund’s Heritage 2033 ten-year strategy Framework has which will take a longer-term view,

investing in heritage for the future as well as for the present ⁴⁸. They will invest in places, not just individual projects, to bring about benefits for people, places and our natural environment. They will also strengthen partnerships with governments, local authorities and statutory agencies and create new collaborations with those who share our vision. These ambitions are set out in a simplified investment framework and form the foundation of their shared vision for heritage to be valued, cared for and sustained for everyone. There are opportunities for collaborating with the new Health and Wellbeing Boards on social prescribing projects and using heritage as a therapeutic tool. Given what volunteer groups and organisations have already achieved in Greater Lincolnshire, the opportunities are infinite. We should not however limit ourselves to these sources of funding. As the report has shown we can work together to leverage investment from a range of public and private sources. Funding programmes continue to come online to support the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities, such as Shine Lincolnshire (funded by the NHS) and the Accelerating Reform Fund (funded by the Department for Health and Social Care..

... for decision and policy-makers:

We hope that we have demonstrated throughout this report the huge diversity of what the heritage and historic environment has to offer, not just in the world of heritage, but across many other sectors and ultimately to the communities for and with whom we work. Given the right investment from multiple and sometimes unexpected sources, for project based as well as permanent staff posts, we can do so much more. The heritage sector has a growing understanding of how joint working can benefit everyone and can contribute to many positive outcomes, and is beginning to share that understanding more widely. In particular, how heritage and the historic environment can be interweaved with, and bring benefits to, health and wellbeing, high quality environments for living, working, studying and playing, education, skills development

46 Historic England (2022) A Wellbeing and Heritage Strategy for Historic England [downloaded from <https://historicengland.org.uk/research/current/social-and-economic-research/wellbeing/strategy/>]

National Academy for Social Prescribing (2020) A Social Revolution in Wellbeing [downloaded from https://socialprescribingacademy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/NASP_strat-plan-summary.pdf]

47 Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, 'Valuing Culture and Heritage Capital: A Framework Towards Decision Making' (2021): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/valuing-culture-and-heritage-capital-a-framework-towards-decision-making/valuing-culture-and-heritage-capital-a-framework-towards-informing-decision-making>

48 Heritage Fund, 2023: <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/about/heritage-2033-our-10-year-strategy>

and employability, supporting the local economy, arts, leisure and community integration. Heritage is a significant part of the tourism sector. If we all invest in heritage, people come and spend, supporting hospitality, accommodation, retail and tourism businesses and jobs. As Baroness Lola Young, Chair of the Independent Commission on Culture and Local Government (2022) states, this is even more important in a post pandemic context.

“Culture has a vital role to play in our national recovery from COVID-19: it brings people together, provides inspiration and solace, supports mental wellbeing and makes better places for everyone...Collaboration is key and we are looking to explore how national, regional and local organisations can work together to better support a thriving cultural sector”

We want to work with existing and new partners to ensure that the message goes out far and wide that Greater Lincolnshire has a diverse and rich heritage and historic environment and is a unique and amazing place to live, work and visit. This message will be amplified by the opportunities offered by Greater Lincolnshire Devolution for greater powers for local communities and more joint working across the area. This means we need organisations who have not considered working with us yet to invest in and collaborate with us. It also means as a heritage sector we need to go out and approach decision and policy makers to highlight where we have shared interests. Together we can access more and different sources of funding and reach the communities with whom we all work. We want you to think about involving us in your discussions, pilots, sharing our work when you are thinking about case studies for your reports and drawing on our expertise.

... for those who work in other sectors:

We hope that the study has shown that heritage can be a powerful tool to help to deliver the positive outcomes we have in common to support individuals and

communities to lead happy, healthy and prosperous lives, and to work with them to achieve their potential. The heritage sector in Lincolnshire has an unrivalled track record, and is unique in many ways in the commitment and knowledge within the public sector and organisations such as Heritage Lincolnshire which is a central hub for heritage in the county, working with local authorities, the Lincolnshire Heritage Forum, its members and community based organisations across the county.

The heritage and historic environment sector warmly welcomes joint working and partnerships, and would encourage greater communication and joint plans and strategies to help this to happen more frequently. We can talk at your conferences and networking events, share our experiences and successes, demonstrate how heritage can deliver social outcomes and help broker and develop partnerships with our networks. We can advise on heritage-led regeneration, making cases for funding, community archaeology digs, volunteering, opportunities for social prescribing and provide training. We can work with the private sector to encourage more investment in training and skills for the heritage sector and related sectors for mutual benefit. Heritage Lincolnshire can advise on regeneration of individual assets or areas and work to find new uses for historic buildings.

... for communities:

We hope that you have found the case studies inspiring and in the future invite you to collaborate with us. There are many ways we can help, for example with funding. Our knowledge of the sector, network and experience of working with communities could help you develop a project with other local partners, or be a partner in a larger project across the region.

MAXIMISING THE BENEFITS OF LINCOLNSHIRE'S HERITAGE AND HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT: AT A GLANCE

Vision Build on Greater Lincolnshire's reputation for investment and partnership working in the heritage sector and historic environment				
Approach To make strategic investments in infrastructure and new products to maximize the benefits of our county's heritage assets				
Strand	<p>Invest in knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote hubs where market research and project evaluations are deposited Develop and share evaluation frameworks for measuring economic benefits and health and wellbeing Share Greater Lincolnshire case studies beyond the county 	<p>Invest in people and skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in core roles to sustain projects, broker relationships and leverage future funding Fund networking events that encourage cross-sector collaboration Invest in succession planning to cascade knowledge and skills Build on Greater Lincolnshire's reputation for heritage skills training 	<p>Invest in partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Champion heritage projects to new partners in the public and private sectors Leverage investment from new sectors Raise awareness of, and develop relationships with organisations championing wellbeing Develop new products with existing and new partners and funders Work with partners to commission robust evaluations 	<p>Invest in strategic projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop heritage strategies for destinations Continue to invest in flagship projects Invest in the coordination of new themed products
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data available to support funding applications Consistent data that demonstrates impact at project, regional and county level Avoids duplication Greater awareness of Greater Lincolnshire's heritage sector within and beyond the county 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuity facilitates sustainable projects, networks and stronger relationships with funders increasing the likelihood of securing future investment Networking enables sharing of best practice and lessons learnt within the county resulting in better projects in the future Knowledge transfer to future heritage leaders in the county will result in a highly skilled workforce Greater Lincolnshire is a hub for heritage skills and businesses supplying the heritage sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential new sources of income and audiences Involvement in national, cross sector programmes Opportunities for using heritage to support health and wellbeing outcomes of Greater Lincolnshire residents Regeneration with heritage at the core Employment opportunities Robust and longitudinal data sets which can secure further funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More likely to secure multi-agency investment Joined up planning and investment Maintain the heritage profile of the county Projects such as Heritage Open Day enable smaller heritage sites to be part of something greater than the individual parts Long-term regeneration Sustainable visitor economy due to on-going refreshment of the heritage offer Economic benefits as contracts are awarded to local companies Tourism grows and thrives People want to live, work and visit Greater Lincolnshire

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