

20
YEARS

of Saving
Heritage at Risk



Historic England

Astley Castle, Astley, Warwickshire

Astley Castle, a fortified manor house, was ruinous and gutted by fire when it was put on our original Buildings at Risk Register. In 2005, the Landmark Trust took a 99 year lease on the castle, developing an innovative project for reuse as holiday accommodation. £2.5 million was raised from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England and a wide range of trusts and donors. With specialist advice from Historic England and North Warwickshire District Council, the fabric beyond repair was recorded and salvageable medieval stonework tied together with new glass walls. Visitors love the clear sense of the building's history. The project won the Stirling Prize for Architecture in 2013. As well as being a popular holiday home, locals enjoy tours and events throughout the year.

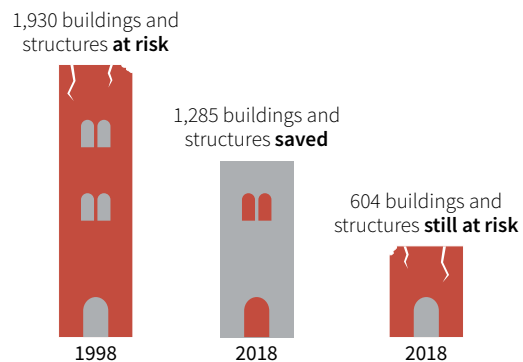


Astley Castle before and after repair
© Landmark Trust



Twenty years ago, we published our first ever Register of Buildings at Risk across England. It featured 1,930 buildings and structural scheduled monuments that were neglected, broken and unloved.

Two decades on, we're delighted to announce that over two thirds of buildings and structures on the 1998 Register are now safe. Historic places have been rescued in urban and rural areas right across England.



The Register of Heritage at Risk has now expanded to include all types of listed heritage, from historic gardens to ship wrecks. Hundreds of sites have been added and removed over the last 20 years.

Many of the buildings and structures that have been on the Register since 1998 have seen great progress, with solutions in the pipeline and repairs underway. For example, 24 sites on the original Register were saved in 2018 after 20 years at risk.

New life for old buildings

Some former buildings at risk now host successful businesses. Others provide much-needed housing, education facilities, or thriving community centres. While some are visitor attractions or venues providing characterful settings for weddings and conferences, others have been put to more unusual uses. Historic buildings offer opportunities for creativity, helping to reinvigorate areas by generating income and affirming a sense of place and local distinctiveness.

Inspired uses for former buildings at risk



How we can help

It's thanks to the vision of developers, investors, conservation professionals, trusts and friends groups, as well as cooperative working between owners, local authorities and funders, that repair and reuse projects are often so successful.

However, lack of funding and expertise can prevent owners from repairing their buildings. We've given around £50 million in grants to help repair buildings at risk since 1998 and provided bespoke advice and guidance for many more. Our tailored advice plays an important role in brokering solutions, helping the often complex task of turning visions into reality. Looking to the future, we will continue to champion heritage at risk, ensuring that irreplaceable heritage can make its fullest possible contribution to society now and for many years to come.



Substantial investment in the regeneration of Grainger Town, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, over the last two decades has resulted in a thriving and vibrant city centre

Find out more

Visit HistoricEngland.org.uk/HeritageAtRisk20 to:

- Find out what we're doing to help historic places near you
- See the top 20 rescues from the past 20 years

Find places near you that need rescuing:

Visit HistoricEngland.org.uk/HAR

Get advice on your own rescue project

Download our free technical guidance:

- *Vacant Historic Buildings: Guidelines on Managing Risks* at HistoricEngland.org.uk/VacantBuildings
- *Stopping the Rot: A Guide to Enforcement Action* at HistoricEngland.org.uk/StoppingtheRot

Or email us at:

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Lister Mills, Manningham, Bradford

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Lister Mills was once the workplace of 11,000 men, women and children, manufacturing beautiful textiles like velvet and silk. Urban Splash bought the site in 2000, converting the Silk Mill and the Warehouse to create nearly 300 new homes. The lower floors house commercial and community uses, including Manningham Mills Community Association. Members of the Association were active in saving the mill, and now run a community centre and café in the building. Our grants, advice and support played a key role in the regeneration scheme. The bold roof-level pods will contain thirty further homes, being marketed in 2018. They show how creative modern interventions can open exciting new chapters for historic buildings.



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Front cover: Amanda Harding, the owner of Adlingfleet Medieval Rectory, Yorkshire, putting newly learned conservation skills into practice

Back cover: Children enjoying an educational visit at Astley Castle before repair © Heritage Lottery Fund



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