

Heritage and built conservation





Headlines

The landscape is our core asset, and it is our heritage that has shaped it.

There are 2,843 listed buildings within the national park, of which, 46 are Grade I, 105 Grade II*, and 2,692 Grade II listed buildings. Approximately 163 are known buildings at risk. In 2014/15 there were 2,907 listed buildings, which indicates a loss of 24 listed buildings over 5 years. In the same year, there were over 400 Listed Building enforcement enquiries. This reduced slightly to 389 cases in early 2020.

There are 14,599 Sites of archaeological interest (monuments) and 473 Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Of these 9 are at risk and 68 are at medium risk of being lost.

There are 4 Historic Park and Gardens. These are Chatsworth Park, Haddon Hall, Lyme Park and Thornbridge Hall. None are considered to be at risk.

There are 109 Conservation Areas, of which 19 have an up-to-date Conservation Area Appraisal, 80 have Conservation Area Appraisal that requires reviewing, and 10 do not have a Conservation Area Appraisal.

There are 14,599 known non-designated heritage assets.



What has worked well

Annual monitoring of heritage focused local plan policies is not available, but it is known that these policies are well used by Development Management officers in planning application reports as, given the historic landscape of the national park, the majority of applications will be assessed using heritage policies.

The recent adoption of the Development Management Policies (2019) addresses changes in the National Planning Policy Framework (2019) in assessing impact on the significance of a heritage asset and recognising the contribution non-designated heritage assets make.

There is also better guidance forthcoming on conversion and adapting heritage buildings (in particular agricultural buildings).



What has not worked so well

There has been some reporting of planning application cases in annual monitoring reviews, where opinions on setting and significance have varied between planning committee and officers. These are areas, together with determining curtilage, that require further consideration either in policy or supplementary guidance to ensure consistency in decision making.



What are the big issues for the Plan review?

Emerging evidence retains a strong focus on heritage as a key attributing factor on place making through character, form and sense of community. A new focus is emerging on understanding carbon life cycles and retrofitting heritage assets sensitively and sustainably in response to climate change.

There is a strong government message to improve digital infrastructure both to maintain a local authority record of heritage assets and for communities to connect within and with each other to champion their heritage assets.

Heritage is still very much at the forefront of planning policy and decision making as it provides context, identity and a sense of place and connection to the past existing form, which new development should respect and respond to. In particular, significance and setting have had a higher profile in the last 5 years than previously.