



Historic England

Enrich the List Project

In June 2016, Historic England (HE) launched a crowd-sourcing project that opens up a new layer of the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) and invited individuals and organisations to help keep the List rich, relevant and up-to-date.

The history of our land and its people is marked in the fabric of England's buildings and places. The most significant of these are listed, so they can be understood and protected for the future. The List has almost 400,000 entries from palaces, piers and pigsties to cathedrals, windmills and rollercoasters.

The List started its life in 1882, when the first powers of protection were established and contains information on listed buildings, scheduled monuments, protected wrecks, registered parks and gardens, and battlefields. Pre-1984 List entries are often quite brief, providing little more than a short description of the place. More recent entries on the other hand, will usually include a detailed list entry explaining why the site was listed and highlighting its interesting features.

A major challenge for Historic England is how to deal with this legacy of hugely variable list entries. For the first time in history, we are inviting everyone to join us in keeping The List rich, relevant and up-to-date. Since launching in June 2016, over 28,000 List entries have been enriched with photographs, historical events, social history or information about the architecture or archaeology of a site. This crowd-sourcing project is known as Enriching the List.

Wiltshire Buildings Record (WBR) has 18141 records on individual sites in Wiltshire and Swindon. These cover all types of buildings, including modern, old and vanished. A percentage of these are listed buildings. WBR's collecting policy is to include all types of information such as photographs, plans, newspaper cuttings, pamphlets, notes and reports, both external and those generated by WBR staff and volunteers. To that end WBR has been collaborating in a funded project to Enrich the List for Wiltshire. WBR volunteers are presently engaged in forming the contributions that will be added to the end of the official list. Contributions won't alter the "official" part of the List Entry, but they will sit alongside it and offer the chance to share WBR knowledge with a growing audience – last year the National Heritage List for England had over 2.5 million visits.

Historic England is encouraging everyone to have a look at Enriching the List and join in. You can upload images, facts, book references, experiences and memories for any item on the NHLE.

For more information please visit:

Enriching the List: <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/enrich-the-list>