

Cadw Annual Report

April 2020—March 2021



Image: Caernarfon Castle, Gwynedd.



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Foreword from the Deputy Minister

Welcome to Cadw's annual report for the financial year April 2020 to March 2021. Although the year being reported upon pre-dates my appointment as Deputy Minister, Cadw now falls within my portfolio and so I am delighted to write the foreword.

Readers will of course be aware that this was a year quite unlike any other. In the middle of March 2020, Cadw took the unprecedented step of closing all of their monuments to visitors and temporarily halting all on-site conservation work. In fact, the entire year was significantly disrupted as Cadw staff worked tirelessly to reopen sites, only to be forced to close them again as the 'second wave' of the pandemic took hold in December.

I would like to pay tribute to the resilience of the Cadw teams as they responded to the crisis. Not just the site-based teams, who were re-deployed to temporary roles supporting other Welsh Government teams as they took urgent action to support the wider Welsh economy, but also the office-based teams, many of whom provided essential support for the emergency funding programmes that kept the heritage sector alive during these difficult times.

I would also like to thank members of the Cadw Board who met throughout the year, giving encouragement and advice where needed. Of course, as was common across so many work settings, all of their meetings were held 'virtually'. I don't think that any of them could have expected that the second year of the new Cadw Board was going to take quite the turn that it did. Nevertheless, the annual report does demonstrate an extraordinary number of achievements in the face of adversity.



Dawn Bowden
Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport

Croeso. Welcome.

Introduction

Despite the challenging year, Cadw has been extremely active in so many different areas of work. Once again, the format of the annual report reflects the five main themes identified in the *Priorities for the Historic Environment of Wales*, published in September 2018. Each section is accompanied by a case study that showcases an example of a key project undertaken during the year.

The more observant will notice that there has been a subtle but important change in the way in which Cadw has been presenting its key messaging. Our website and recent publications (including this one) reflects a new approach to the Cadw brand.

This is not just a minor tweak that has been made to the logo or font, but an updated style of messaging and communication. This reflects a new way of presenting our key mission of ‘Caring for our historic places, inspiring current and future generations’ and our vision for ‘A Wales where our historic places are cared for, understood and shared by everyone’. This sits behind the meaning of the Welsh word Cadw — ‘to keep’ or ‘to protect’. Never has this been more important than at a time of crisis.

We have worked tirelessly throughout the year to continue to care for our outstanding and unique historic environment — and not just the monuments that we are directly responsible for. The section on ‘economic well-being’ illustrates the considerable amount of work that has been undertaken to support the wider heritage sector through the Cultural Recovery Fund. Elsewhere, we have supported the Welsh Ministers in keeping everyone safe through helping with guidance and advice and keeping in regular touch with our key stakeholders.

As the financial year closed and a new one began, we also said goodbye to one Deputy Minister and welcomed another. We are hugely grateful to Dafydd Elis-Thomas for the support that he provided to the sector during his time in office and look forward to working with the new Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, Dawn Bowden, following her appointment in the recent Senedd elections.

Another significant change during the year was the relocation of Cadw’s headquarters to the Welsh Government office in Bedwas, Caerphilly, after being based at Nantgarw for 15 years. The move provided an ideal opportunity to carry out a comprehensive review of Cadw’s physical records and undertake a programme of digitisation to both reduce physical storage requirements and make our archival records more readily available to Cadw staff scattered across offices throughout Wales. In due course, these physical archives will be deposited with the National Monuments Record in Aberystwyth where they can be accessed by the wider public.

And finally, we want to repeat our thanks to all our Cadw members for their ongoing support and to all those who have renewed their memberships and stayed loyal to our cause through the most difficult of times. It is their continued support that makes it possible for us to conserve and protect the historic environment for the enjoyment of future generations. And for this we are eternally grateful.

Jane Richardson
Chair of the Cadw Board

Jason Thomas
Director of Culture, Sport and Tourism and
Additional Accounting Officer for Cadw

Gwilym Hughes
Head of Cadw

Caring for our historic environment

Cadw monuments

£4,262k



Expenditure on capital-funded conservation and investment projects.

£2,406k



Expenditure on facilities management at Cadw sites.

Wider historic environment

£726k

Total value of capital grants awarded to historic assets either directly or through the Architectural Heritage Fund.

34

Buildings added to the statutory list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest.

116

Scheduled monument consents issued.

361

Consultations on listed building consent applications.

102

Assessments completed for potential new scheduling or listing.

3

Monuments added to the schedule of monuments of national importance.

1,615

Consultations on planning applications.

462

Other consultations including strategy and policy documents.

Caring for our historic environment

All conservation work at Cadw monuments, apart from urgent, safety-related work, was temporarily halted during the first lockdown in March 2020. Cadwraeth Cymru, our conservation team, returned to sites in June, with strict coronavirus (COVID-19) safe-working practices in place, to continue the ongoing programme of essential conservation works.

This included the start of a three-year programme of conservation works at Coity Castle, Bridgend, that will make sure the castle is accessible to everyone for many years to come. This major project includes repointing, structural pinning and rebuilding sections of masonry, consolidating wall tops and inserting missing lintels, all using traditional skills and materials.

Beyond Cadw's own sites, the impact of COVID-19 lockdowns was keenly felt across the heritage sector and in particular on the progress of conservation projects. For much of the year, our historic environment grants team was refocussed to deliver over £4 million support for the heritage sector through the Cultural Recovery Fund (see case study, p. 21).

We also awarded £726k to conservation projects across Wales, including £450k to the Architectural Heritage Fund. Details are set out in the capital grants section of Table 1 in the Appendix.

Cadw's historic buildings grants ranged from £1,150 to a community council for the repair of two listed telephone boxes in Maesteg to £50,000 to the Enbarr Foundation for protection works to the clock tower on the office building of the former John Summers Steelworks on Deeside. Elsewhere, our funding supported key buildings at risk including a redundant church in Swansea, set to be the home of Circus Eruption — a youth circus in Swansea — and the former synagogue in Merthyr Tydfil.

This is the oldest purpose-built synagogue in Wales, where there are plans to turn it into a Welsh Jewish Heritage Centre. We also supported the conservation of four war memorials and 18 scheduled monuments.

Table 1 also lists the revenue grants that we have provided to the wider historic environment sector during the year. These grants are crucial to enable specialist organisations to provide authoritative advice to decision makers and to care for our special historic places.

Despite being disrupted by the pandemic, we assessed 102 historic sites across Wales to consider whether they met the strict criteria to be given special protection as a scheduled monument or a listed building. The resulting 37 new designations included an Automobile Association telephone call box at Nantyffin and three large-scale areas linked with the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales World Heritage Site nomination (see case study, p. 9). →

Below: Conservation work at Coity Castle, Bridgend.



Caring for our historic environment



Perhaps surprisingly, despite the lockdowns, 2020–21 turned out to be a record year for planning casework and other consultations, with a 24 per cent rise since 2019–20 — including 116 scheduled monument consents and 361 listed building consents.

Work also progressed on new legislation for Wales' historic environment to consolidate the existing jumble of repeatedly amended provisions, many of which are available only in English. The result will be a comprehensible and fully bilingual Act restating the law for Wales. We hope to introduce the Bill into the Senedd in the first half of 2022 and it should become law by the end of that year.

We have also continued to implement the last few provisions of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, which made important improvements to existing systems for the protection and management of the Welsh historic environment. In early 2021, Cadw consulted on new secondary legislation and guidance for Heritage Partnership Agreements. These are voluntary agreements between owners and consenting authorities that grant listed building or scheduled monument consent in advance for an agreed programme of works over an extended period.

Left: AA Telephone Box 161, on the A40 between Crickhowell and Tretower, was one of the more unusual monuments to be listed in 2020–21.



During 2020–21, our historic environment grants team delivered over £4 million support for the heritage sector through the Cultural Recovery Fund.

Case study

Rhiwbach Quarry, Tramway and Incline System

Throughout the year Cadw inspectors continued to work with partners in Gwynedd Council and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales to support the bid to UNESCO for World Heritage Site status for the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales. This included the designation of a number of historic assets of national importance.

One of those, scheduled in January 2020, was Rhiwbach Quarry. It is made up of the quarry, quarry village, steam-powered mills, incline system and tramway to Blaenau Ffestiniog. The designated area includes evidence of every phase of the quarrying process including haulage, processing, water management, waste and an extensive and well-preserved transport system.

Commercial exploitation at Rhiwbach Quarry started around 1812 and the slate was transported via Cwm Machno for shipment from Trefriw in the Conwy valley. By the 1860s, when the Ffestiniog Railway became the preferred transport route, the quarry owners developed an ambitious feeder tramway to haul material over the mountain to Ffestiniog.

The Rhiwbach Tramway connected numerous upland quarries that were otherwise remote and inaccessible, including Rhiwbach, Blaen y Cwm and Cwt y Bugail. At the western end of the tramway system, three substantial inclined planes connected the tramway to Maenofferen, Fotty and Bowydd quarries and onwards to the town of Blaenau Ffestiniog. Despite the scale of the operation at Rhiwbach, the quarry never exceeded 6,000 tons per annum and it is thought to have been substantially subsidised by tramway revenues.

Rhiwbach Quarry is of national importance as a well-preserved relic of slate production and for its potential to enhance our understanding of the industry. It retains several unique elements including its power system, steam-powered exit incline, domestic settlement and post-and-rail slate fencing. The tramway system is extensive and represents an important part of the transport infrastructure for the slate industry in Ffestiniog, connecting several upland quarrying areas with the Ffestiniog Railway which had become highly influential by the 1860s.



Above right: Winding house, Rhiwbach Quarry, Gwynedd.
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW

Right: Rhiwbach Tramway, incline 3, viewed from the south.
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW



Making skills matter

The construction industry has been badly affected by the lockdowns. The negative impacts have included the suspension of many face-to-face training and careers activities. Nevertheless, it has been a busy time for the development of training standards and qualifications, related particularly to upgrading Welsh homes (retrofit) to reduce carbon emissions (decarbonisation).

Traditional and historic buildings have an important part to play in helping to meet the Welsh Government's legal commitment to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050. However, we must develop a competent, well-trained and qualified workforce if we are to improve the energy efficiency of our older buildings whilst also protecting their significance and avoiding unintended consequences.

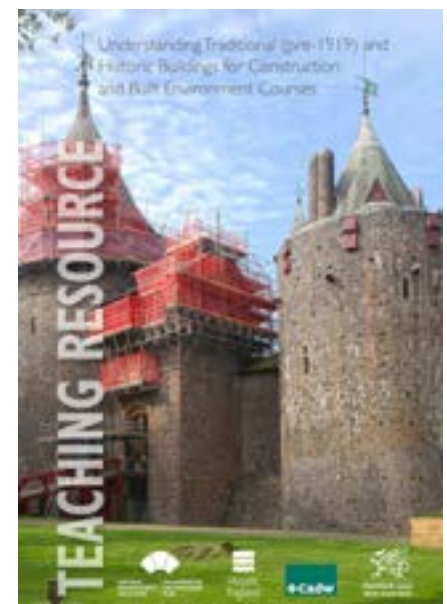
To help achieve this, Cadw has contributed to the review of the Level 2 Insulation and Building Treatments National Occupational Standard (NOS), the Level 4 Construction Site Supervision NOS and Level 6 Construction Site Management NOS. Content relating to traditional and historic buildings was added and new retrofit pathways were created in the supervision and management standards, paving the way for the development of much-needed progression qualifications. We hope that these qualifications will create a clear route to career progression and help to raise standards in the retrofit industry.

We are now collaborating with the Welsh Government Housing Decarbonisation and Apprenticeship teams and the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) to help deliver retrofit qualifications in Wales.

 **Traditional and historic buildings have an important part to play in helping to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050.**

During this year we also continued to support Qualifications Wales in the development of the new construction and built environment qualifications, advising on the content of the qualifications and teaching resources, and on proposals for upskilling college staff. Our activities included taking part in a workshop organised by Qualifications Wales and the WJEC for teachers of the new GCSE in Built Environment, which will be delivered from September 2021. Topics included traditional buildings and construction techniques, materials and regional variations, how to understand buildings and their evolution, and building maintenance.

Below: We worked with Qualifications Wales to develop teaching resources for construction and built environment qualifications.



Making skills matter

Case study

Newcastle Castle, Bridgend

It is vital we have the right skills to conserve, repair and maintain historic buildings in our care. Upholding traditional craft skills remains at the very heart of what Cadw does and is nowhere better exemplified than by our own conservation team at Newcastle Castle in Bridgend.

Here, the castle's oak door had warped so badly from water penetrating its open joints that it was almost impossible to shut.



After assessment, the door was taken away to the workshop and a temporary door installed to secure the site. All the existing ironmongery was carefully removed and refurbished ready to reuse.

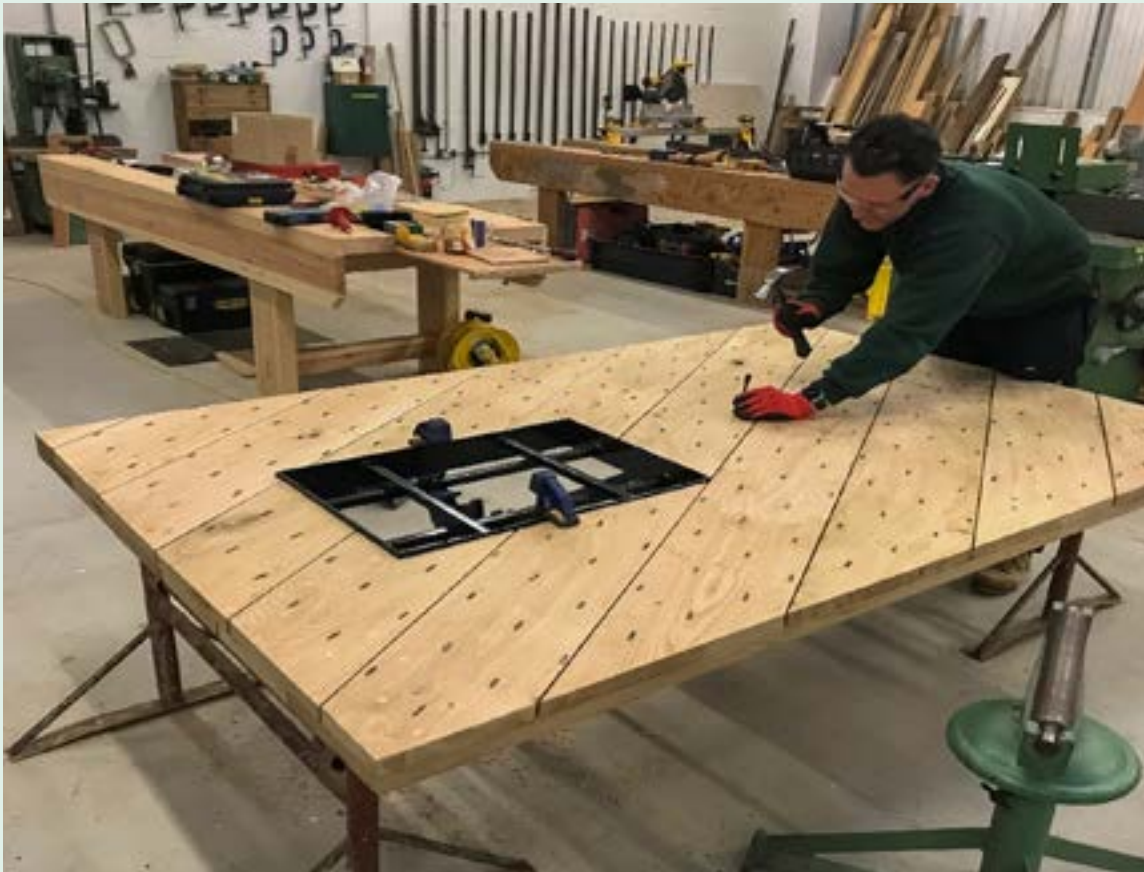
Each element of the door was carefully recorded — construction, plank width, bevels — and seasoned European oak was cut to suit. Each section was then finished to the desired finish. The original door had a layered composition which was replicated in the replacement.

Rebuilding the gate was a painstaking process. The joiner took great care to respect the original profiles of the door. Joints were glued and screwed, and the countersunk holes were plugged with oak dowels so that the grain of the plugs ran parallel with the surrounding oak. After drying, any projecting dowels were rubbed back by hand to create a level, impervious finish. Before the refurbished ironmongery was reinstated, the door was given multiple coats of linseed oil; each coat was allowed to soak in before the next was applied.

The ironmongery also received careful treatment. After removal, it was gently grit-cleaned to remove years of paint build-up to get back to the original metal. This was primed and undercoated before two coats of paint were carefully applied to all the faces. Black painted, rectangular-headed steel nails were then driven into the planks — their pattern and spacing reflecting the original — and their heads turned over and laid into the face of the oak.

The resulting 'new' gate was fettled — finished — on site and will last for many years to come.

Before: The warped door at Newcastle Castle, Bridgend.



After: Cadw's conservation team worked tirelessly to ensure that the replacement door constructed for the castle was true to the original design.

Below left and right: Knowledge of traditional building skills and construction techniques are key for the care and conservation of our historic buildings.



Cherishing and enjoying our historic environment

113,908



Visitors to Cadw's staffed sites.

44,648



Cadw members.

1,659+



An increase of 1,659 Cadw members.

433%



Increase in user activity of Cof Cymru — Cadw's National Historic Assets of Wales online service.

149%



Increase in visits to Lifelong Learning content.

8,829



Page views of Cadw Open Doors online.

Cherishing and enjoying our historic environment

The 2020–21 financial year saw unprecedented and constant change in the way in which we had to operate our monuments, especially the staffed sites. On public health grounds, we decided to close all our monuments to visitors on 17 March 2020.

To reopen sites safely in the summer of 2020, we installed fixed personal and protective equipment (PPE) and prepared site-specific COVID-19 risk assessments. Enhanced sanitisation regimes, controlling the movement of people (such as installing one-way systems) and controlling the number of visitors on site were key to successful reopening, backed up with dedicated training for all staff. Implementing all of this change has tested the resilience of our custodian teams and one positive result is that confidence in their management of health and safety issues has now permanently increased.

In terms of the visitor experience, the major change has been the need to pre-book visits so that we could control numbers on site at any time. To support this operation, we established a telephone helpline which has been retained and continues to offer bilingual customer support.

Below left and right: We introduced an online ticketing system during 2020–21 to control the number of visitors entering our sites so that we could safely reopen our monuments.



Inevitably, the visitor experience has been affected by COVID-19 regulations and to compensate for restricted access to internal areas, we offered discounted admission when we first reopened. Limited numbers of visitors and pre-booking have also meant that for the first time we have had to refuse entry and this has been hard for both visitors and staff. Nevertheless, we have been achieving excellent reviews from visitors for creating a safe and enjoyable visitor experience during the pandemic.

Also, as a consequence of the first lockdown, we had to suspend our annual programme of 300+ events at Cadw sites. In response, we offered new ways of experiencing our heritage using our digital platforms to keep our members and visitors connected with Wales' heritage throughout the difficult period.

In September 2020, we offered a virtual Open Doors event for four thematic areas: Neolithic tombs, castles of the south, abbeys and ironworks, and castles of the north. The Open Doors web pages received 8,829 page views and their success was such that they have become a permanent website feature, Virtual Visits, which we continue to expand and develop. ➔



Cherishing and enjoying our historic environment

The closure of schools and education establishments also proved challenging for many. We supported the new home classes through our Lifelong Learning team who produced a range of films aimed at plugging the heritage education gap. This included videos of tasty Tudor recipes, historic characters, Christmas traditions and themed content linked to Welsh cultural traditions and Welsh saints. These new pages contributed to a 149 per cent increase in views in 2020 compared with 2019.

In the absence of the much-loved Cadw Christmas events programme, including the Father Christmas grottoes, we released three festive videos aimed at our younger visitors with messages from Father Christmas. These were filmed from within Castell Coch and released in the build up to the holidays.

The Cadw app enabled visitors to continue to discover Welsh heritage from home. Interactive photos and images showed how Cadw sites may have looked in the past. The video and CGI sections showed 360-degree

video animations, complete with atmospheric music, and recreated sites, such as Segontium Roman Fort, to show how they might have looked in their prime. We also offered digital trails around some of our most iconic sites, including Conwy town walls.

The 15-Minute Heritage project (see case study opposite) encouraged people to create their own 15-minute heritage stories by using links to external resources including the People's Collection Wales, Archwilio and Coflein as well as our own Cof Cymru.

All this new content meant that Cof Cymru — Cadw's National Historic Assets of Wales online service — saw a dramatic rise in user activity during 2020, with visits up by 433 per cent in 2020 compared with 2019.

Nor did we forget our Unloved Heritage Project (featured in last year's annual report), the end date of which was extended into the Spring of 2021 with a successful online conference replacing the planned live event.



We used our digital platforms to keep our members and visitors connected with Wales' heritage throughout the difficult period.



Left: A virtual tour of Pentre Ifan Burial Chamber, Pembrokeshire, available on the Cadw website.

Case study

15-Minute Heritage

The experience of the last year has made us all aware of the importance of our local places. We believe that heritage is everywhere and wanted to find ways to show how our past contributes to each and every local place.

To capture this, we came up with 15-Minute Heritage, inspired by a planning concept called the 15-Minute City, in which everyone is able to meet most of their needs within a short walk or cycle ride from their home.

We have been able to promote this idea in two ways. Firstly, we have been encouraging people to rediscover what's on their doorstep by sharing our own heritage stories. To do this, we are using StoryMap, a proprietary web-based platform which uses maps combined with narrative text, images and other media to create digital stories of place.

While Cadw's sites were closed, some of our custodians explored their local areas to help show that there is heritage everywhere. They have found history in village streets, in a housing estate, beneath modern roads and industrial estates, in a forest, in a park — anywhere that is special to them.

We were also able to invite people to get directly involved in exploring their own doorstep heritage. Through the Cultural Recovery Fund (see case study p.21), Cadw allocated £300,000 to a 15-Minute Heritage grant scheme delivered by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF). The scheme aimed to support projects that helped to connect communities with their own local heritage. Because of the popularity of the scheme, the allocation was increased to £600,000, with the NLHF contributing an additional £100,000 from their own funds.

Eighty-four projects were supported across Wales — at least one in every local authority area — up to a maximum of £10,000 each. The projects demonstrated an imaginative breadth of response to a very diverse interpretation of heritage, with a strong commitment to diversity and inclusion. Subjects ranged from the stories of particular places and buildings, to the stories of particular people and communities.

Engagement with heritage came from outdoor activities such as walking and cycling trails supported by interpretive materials, as well as from participation in online activities including visual art, recording, film and video making.

15-Minute Heritage has been warmly received — participants in our own story-making project found it very rewarding, and the overwhelming response to the grant scheme suggests an intense and spirited interest in local heritage almost everywhere.

Although the idea was born out of lockdown, we hope that 15-Minute Heritage will make an enduring contribution to the experience of place in communities throughout Wales.



Above: Heritage is also about people and their stories, as memorials old and new remind us. A sculpture of comedian Tommy Cooper can be found in the place of his birth, near Caerphilly Castle.



Left: The Tin Shed Theatre Co. received a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant to support a project that connected communities with their local heritage. © NLHF

Making our historic environment work for our economic well-being

Wider economic support

£5,712k

Emergency support provided to heritage organisations through the Cultural Recovery Fund.

98

Heritage organisations assisted through the Cultural Recovery Fund.

Cadw commercial activity

£1,161k

Total commercial income (a decrease of 87% from 2019–20).

This comprised:

£419k

Admissions income.

£465k

Membership income.

£188k

Retail sales income.

£35k

Commercial hire income.

£54k

Estates and other income sources.

Making our historic environment work for our economic well-being

The COVID-19 pandemic has proved to be extremely challenging for all industries, with the tourism industry and historic environment sector being no exceptions. The communities in which our monuments stand have suffered greatly due to the necessary national and local lockdowns as the Welsh Government tackled the spread of the virus.

Inevitably, the closure of our monuments led to a fall in Cadw's main income sources with admissions income down to just £419k (compared with £4,752k in 2019–20), and retail income down to just £188k (compared with £1,982k in 2019–20).

Although we had to cancel all events at our sites and reduce numbers at wedding ceremonies, filming was

allowed and 30 pieces of commercial filming took place at over 20 different Cadw sites during the year, bringing in some much-needed revenue. All sources of income were, however, lower than for previous years with the overall total reaching just £1.161 million (compared with over £8 million in 2019–20).

We made savings to a number of expenditure lines across our activities and the Welsh Government provided additional funding to cover the net deficit. Nevertheless, we maintained our grants to the historic environment sector at the planned level. We also offered members a 50 per cent discount on new membership prices and extended current memberships by 6 months to compensate members for being unable to visit sites.

The COVID-19 pandemic also meant that many initiatives planned for 2020 had to be postponed as staff dealt [→](#)

Castell Coch is a popular venue for filming. Dark Temple Motion Pictures hired Castell Coch and Raglan Castle in March 2021, generating a combined income of £7k.



Making our historic environment work for our economic well-being

with more pressing requirements, including the introduction of an interim online ticketing system to allow visitors to buy and download tickets in advance. This has been a valuable experience and Cadw has learnt a lot ahead of the introduction of a long-term online ticketing system which is planned for 2021–22. We also introduced a bilingual contact centre which has been greatly appreciated by visitors and members alike.

Despite the challenges that COVID-19 threw at us, we have continued to work on modernising our retail, membership and ticketing systems with the development of a new Business Management System. We hope this will help us to grow the number of visitors to our sites and help us to improve the visitor experience.

Despite the lockdowns, we were able to make considerable progress with several of our capital investment projects. Contractors were appointed and work started on the refurbishment of the King's Gate at Caernarfon Castle and the Great Barn at Tretower Court. We also made significant progress on the development plans for a major programme of investment at Caerphilly Castle, which will include a new catering facility and visitor centre, the refurbishment of the Great Hall and new interpretation.

Beyond Cadw's own sites, the heritage sector has benefited from a wide range of economic support packages provided by both the UK and Welsh governments, and there is no doubt that this has proved crucial for the survival of many heritage organisations during a very challenging year. Cadw staff have played a leading role in designing the Cultural Recovery Fund grant scheme and distributing the support to heritage organisations (see case study, p 21). Heritage organisations and individuals were also able to benefit from wider support measures including the Welsh Freelancer Fund and the Economic Resilience Fund.



Top: A view of the ongoing work at Caernarfon Castle, Gwynedd, to install a rooftop deck and reinstate the floors in the King's Gate to enhance the visitor experience.

Above: During 2020–21, work began to convert a fifteenth-century barn into a visitor centre at Tretower Court and Castle, Powys.



The development of a new Business Management System during 2020–21 will help us to grow the number of visitors to our sites and improve the visitor experience.

Case study

The Cultural Recovery Fund

In late summer 2020, the Welsh Government announced the Cultural Recovery Fund — a grant scheme to provide support to cultural organisations and businesses adversely affected by COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions.

Cadw was responsible for designing and delivering the support for the heritage sector. Our aim was to help heritage sites and attractions, and their staff:

- To survive the lockdowns
- To care for their historic assets and take actions to prepare them for reopening
- To become pandemic proof (for example, by improving digital services/home working).

We established three grant schemes based on the value of the support needed — up to £10k, up to £150k and up to £500k — and put in place proportionate assessment mechanisms recognising the need to help desperate organisations as quickly as possible. A two-week application window resulted in 136 applications from the heritage sector.

Our grants team assessed all applications and those over £150k received additional scrutiny from a Welsh Government panel, based on detailed assessments provided by Cadw. Overall, the Cultural Recovery Fund paid out £5,712k to 98 organisations in the heritage sector. A list of the grants awarded is shown in Table 2 in the Appendix.

Forty applications came from operators of heritage attractions which rely on income from visitors. These ranged from large sites such as the nine heritage railways to castles operated by private trusts and smaller attractions such as the Great Orme Copper Mines, Sygun Copper Mine and Llywernog Silver Mine near Aberystwyth. There was also a high take-up by religious buildings, including Brecon, St Davids, Llandaff and St Asaph cathedrals, and 22 churches received grants of under £10k to help with their maintenance and to find new digital solutions to generate income to replace Sunday collections.

Eight archaeological organisations received support — including all four Welsh archaeological trusts and three specialist conservation businesses.

We believe that the Cultural Recovery Fund 2020–21 served as a vital lifeline supporting the heritage sector in Wales during the difficult days of lockdown. Consequently, a further scheme will provide further support until 30 September 2021. A formal evaluation of the operation and effectiveness of the scheme is currently underway and due to report late in 2021.

The Ffestiniog Railway (below) and St Davids Cathedral, Pembrokeshire (bottom), were among the many beneficiaries of the Cultural Recovery Fund.



Delivering through partnership

We held regular meetings with stakeholders across the heritage sector to both inform and seek views throughout the pandemic.

Six virtual **Historic Environment Group** meetings were held plus numerous subgroup meetings.



We worked with the **National Museum of Wales** and the **National Trust** to deliver key reopening messages in Wales.



We worked with the **Cymru Wales** brand team to refresh the Cadw brand to reflect our values and build a stronger national identity.



Cadw worked with the **tourism sector** across Wales on multiple levels including regional tourism forums to address common issues and opportunities.



Delivering through partnership

Cadw's policy team, as part of the wider senior team across the Culture, Sport and Tourism Division, played a key role in supporting Welsh Ministers throughout the pandemic.

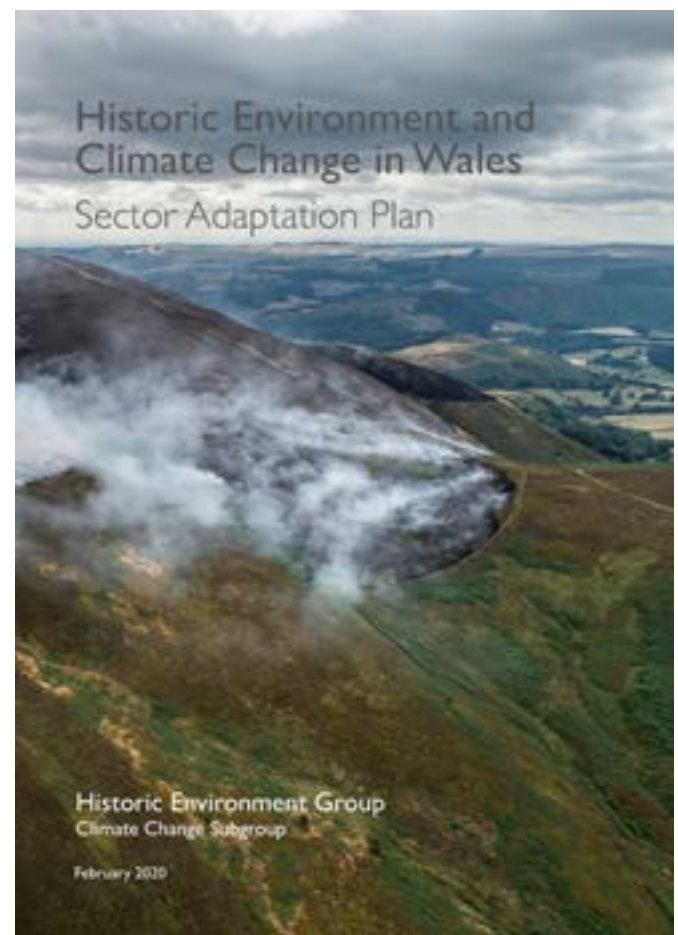
We provided advice on the impact of COVID-19 on the heritage and culture sectors and, in particular, on heritage attractions and destinations. This included regular meetings with key stakeholders and partners both to seek their views and to keep them informed through the regular 21-day reviews.

The Cadw team also led on the preparation of the Welsh Government's guidance to support the safe reopening of culture, heritage and arts venues, again working closely with stakeholders and with colleagues across the Culture, Sport and Tourism Division.

The use of virtual/video meetings proved invaluable, at times allowing key stakeholder meetings to be held within hours of a new development. Working together in this way across the sector has built lasting relationships and partnerships which will provide an important positive legacy of the pandemic.

Regular Historic Environment Group (HEG) meetings have taken place virtually throughout the lockdowns enabling participants to meet and discuss the impact of COVID-19 within their individual organisations and across the sector. The meetings have also highlighted two key themes that have emerged during this challenging period – the appreciation of our local heritage, or 'heritage on the doorstep', and how our enjoyment of place can contribute positively to health and well-being. Both themes will be especially important as we continue to recover from the pandemic. Consequently, working groups have been set up to identify opportunities based on these themes.

The work of the HEG Climate Change Subgroup has also continued with the *Historic Environment and Climate Change in Wales: Sector Adaptation Plan* (SAP), launched in February 2020. The subgroup is currently preparing its first interim report on progress against the SAP action plan, based on evidence from 17 public, private and third sector organisations. Whilst this is a promising start, broader participation and commitment is required from across the sector to realise the potential of the SAP. →



Delivering through partnership

Cadw is directly involved with a number of other projects related to climate change, including the establishment of a peatland working group, the development of a collaborative hazard mapping tool, and a 12-month fellowship looking at the resilience of the housing stock to climate change, hosted by Cadw in partnership with teams from across the Welsh Government.

We have also been involved with numerous other initiatives, working with partners from outside the heritage sector. Foremost of these were two reports prepared in response to the 'Black Lives Matter' movement: an audit of monuments and place names associated with the slave trade and the British Empire, and the heritage, culture and sport chapter of the Welsh Government's draft *Race Equality Action Plan: An Anti-racist Wales*. A consultation on the action plan was launched in March 2021. The final plan, which will include goals and actions, will steer the work of the heritage sector in this area to make sure that everyone in Wales is treated as an equal citizen.

Below: Cadw has supported archaeological excavations at Dinas Dinlle hillfort, Gwynedd, to investigate and record information before part of the fort is lost.
© Crown copyright:
CHERISH PROJECT 2021



Cadw worked with partners to develop and publish the *Historic Environment and Climate Change in Wales: Sector Adaptation Plan (SAP)* in February 2020.



Case study

The Slave Trade and the British Empire: An Audit of Commemoration in Wales

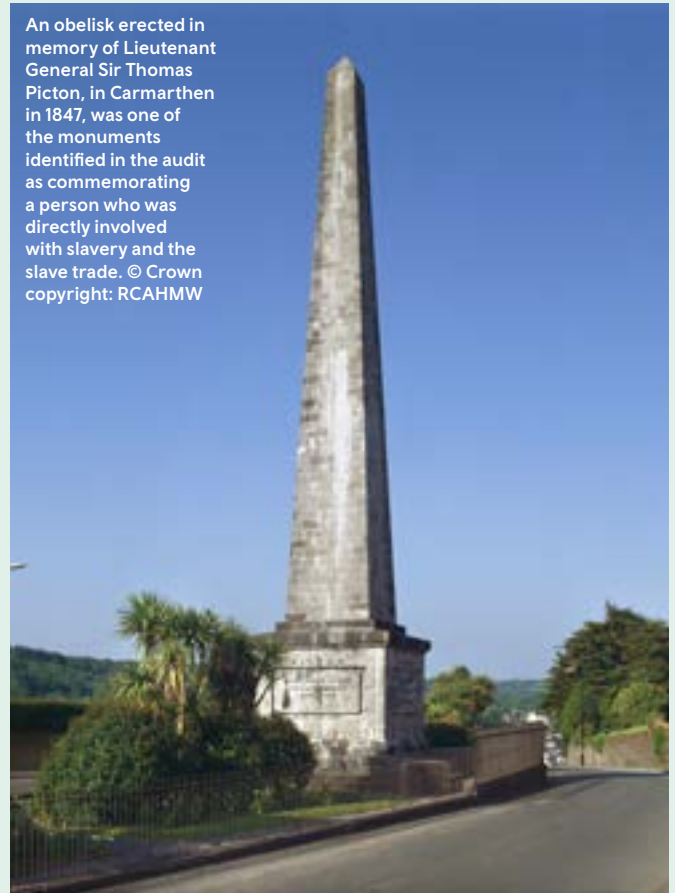
In July 2020, following the killing of George Floyd in the United States and increased awareness of racial inequalities, which brought commemorations of controversial figures from the past into contention, the First Minister asked Gaynor Legall to lead an independent group to carry out an audit of historic monuments, buildings and street names that have associations with the slave trade and the British Empire. This work was supported by a small team in Cadw and by Dr Peter Wakelin, a non-executive member of the Cadw Board.

The Slave Trade and the British Empire: An Audit of Commemoration in Wales, published in November 2020, demonstrated how the slave trade and colonial exploitation were embedded in our nation's economy and society. Welsh mariners and investors participated in the slave trade; Welsh cloth, copper and iron were made for markets dependent on slavery; and produce farmed by enslaved people was traded in Wales. This activity was fundamental to Wales' development as an industrialised nation. The audit identified 209 monuments, buildings or street names, located in all parts of Wales, that commemorate people who were directly involved with slavery and the slave trade, or opposed its abolition.

The audit found that commemorations of people connected with the slave trade rarely have any accompanying interpretation to address matters of contention. Without this, they may be seen simplistically as role models rather than understood in the context of challenging aspects of our past.

The research also found that there are few Welsh people of Black or Asian heritage commemorated across Wales and considered some significant figures who might be celebrated in future for their contributions to our country.

An obelisk erected in memory of Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Picton, in Carmarthen in 1847, was one of the monuments identified in the audit as commemorating a person who was directly involved with slavery and the slave trade. © Crown copyright: RCAHMW



There is a positive strand, however, demonstrated by commemorations to anti-slavery activists across Wales; from the statue of Henry Richard in Tregaron, to street names for Samuel Romilly and the Pantycelyn halls of residence at Aberystwyth University.

We plan to build on this work to make sure that we reflect and celebrate our shared history more holistically and to eliminate discrimination and barriers in all aspects of Cadw's work. This will also be informed by the Senedd's Culture, Welsh Language and Communities Committee inquiry, *Set in Stone? A report on who gets remembered in public spaces*, and will take into account the goals and actions identified in the Race Equality Action Plan: An Anti-racist Wales.

Appendix

Table 1
Cadw Revenue and Capital Grants 2020–21

Project	Description	Amount
Historic Environment Revenue Grant Payments		
Grants over £10,000		
Chirk Castle	Payment towards maintenance deficit.	£250,000
Friends of Friendless Churches	To support the Friends of Friendless Churches' new mechanism for redundant churches in Wales.	£85,968
Architectural Heritage Fund	To contribute to community regeneration through advice, capacity building, support and funding for charities and other not-for-profit organisations wishing to bring historic buildings at risk back into economically viable use in Wales.	£29,131
Welsh Religious Buildings Trust	To enable the Welsh Religious Buildings Trust to carry out its core activities of securing the buildings deemed at risk through repair and conservation, and promoting best practice through support and training.	£70,808
Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust	Conserve and protect the historic environment of Wales including:	£304,250
Dyfed Archaeological Trust	– Threat-related archaeological recording, surveys, assessments, excavations and watching briefs	£306,293
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	– Identify historic assets of national importance	£303,697
Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust	– Maintain and manage the regional historic environment record (HER)	£330,000
	– Support the sustainable management of the historic environment of Wales by providing regionally based planning and management curatorial advice	
	– Promote public understanding and appreciation of Welsh heritage	
	– Support community engagement with the historic environment.	
Royal Welch Fusiliers Museum	To support the management and administration of the museum as an Accredited Museum open to the public to:	£90,000
	– Ensure the appropriate level of care and management of artefacts and other items forming the core collections of the museum to the standards required by the Accreditation Scheme	
	– Provide lifelong learning and other public engagement and education services.	
Vianova Archaeological Heritage Services	To enable the publication of a 10,000-word article by Dr Peter Guest in <i>Britannia</i> , entitled 'The Forum-Basilica at Caerwent (<i>Venta Silurum</i>): a history of the Roman Silures' for 2021.	£10,000
Grants under £10,000 (10 grants)		£49,126
Total Revenue Grants 2020–21		£1,829,273

Project	Description	Amount
Historic Environment Capital Grant Payments		
Grants over £10,000		
Cadw Historic Buildings Grants		
Guildhall, Llantrisant	Repairs to wall, floor and ceiling finishes.	£12,452
Former Merthyr Tydfil Synagogue	Repairs to the roof, windows, stairs, landing, walls and clear vegetation.	£41,800
Church of St Brynach, Nevern, Pembrokeshire	Restoration of the bell tower, repairs to rainwater damage and structural repairs to stonework.	£25,000
St Elvan's Church, Aberdare	Re-bed coping stones, re-point stonework (including tower) and repairs to spire.	£42,351
Architectural Heritage Fund Capital	Working in partnership with the Architectural Heritage Fund on their Project Viability Grants, Project Capital Works Grants, Project Development Grants and Heritage Impact Fund.	£450,000
John Summers Clock Tower	Scaffolding to allow tower restoration.	£50,000
Grants under £10,000 (25 grants)		£103,961
Total Capital Grants 2020-21		£725,564

Appendix

Table 2
Cultural Recovery Fund Phase 1: Heritage Sector Grants Awarded

Organisation	Amount
Grants over £25,000	
1940s Swansea Limited	£31,988
Aberglasney Restoration Trust	£116,082
Archdiocese of Cardiff	£127,667
Brecon Mountain Railway Co. Ltd	£124,372
Brymbo Heritage Trust	£30,626
Cadwgan Building Preservation Trust	£52,190
Calon Llanelli Ltd	£32,979
Canal & River Trust	£70,000
Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust	£106,380
Constitution Hill Ltd, Aberystwyth	£59,040
Council for British Archaeology	£50,912
Fairbourne Steam Railway	£106,072
Friends of Friendless Churches	£74,400
Friends of Oystermouth Castle	£89,001
Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust	£149,939
Gregynog Trust	£94,225
Gwili Railway Company	£46,583
Gwydir Castle	£63,390
Gwrych Castle Preservation Trust	£77,808
Hanes Llandocho	£48,151
Hay Castle Trust	£150,000
Insole Court Trust	£97,037
Llandaff Cathedral	£150,000
Llangollen Railway Trust	£147,860
Menter Dinefwr	£33,630
Nant Gwrtheyrn	£150,000
National Trust	£498,935
Offa's Dyke Association	£62,228
Picton Castle Trust	£149,987

Organisation	Amount
Grants over £25,000 continued	
Plas Gunter Mansion Trust	£30,000
Rheilffordd Llyn Tegid / Bala Lake Railway	£149,915
St Asaph Cathedral	£119,660
Strata Florida Trust	£55,456
Tabernacle Morriston Congregation CIO	£64,200
Talylyn Railway	£150,000
The Dean & Chapter of St Davids Cathedral	£149,961
The Dean & Chapter of Brecon Cathedral	£67,651
The Ffestiniog Railway Company	£900,000
The Hwb, Torfaen	£39,309
Tree and Sons Limited (grant offer issued 3 February 2021)	£57,000
Vale of Rheidol Railway	£150,000
Welsh Traditional Buildings Forum	£37,275
Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway Preservation Co. Ltd	£138,221
Y Felin Ddwr Charitable Trust	£30,000
Grants under £25,000 (54 grants)	£582,197
Total	£5,712,327

**Cadw—er lles pawb.
For us all, to keep.**