International Centre for Cultural and Heritage Studies

Sense of Place and Social Capital and the Historic Built Environment

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This research was undertaken by a team in three research organisations:

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Newcastle University's International Centre for Cultural & Heritage Studies (ICCHS)
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This study could not have been undertaken without the time and thoughtful information given by over a thousand survey respondents, over half of whom are 13 or 14 year olds (whose inputs were very kindly facilitated by a sample of schools across the country)

Executive Summary

This research considers evidence for the view that the historic built environment contributes positively towards a sense of place, perhaps particularly in reinforcing local identity. A sense of place may be defined in part as identification with an area, among other aspects. The study involved collecting robust evidence to assess the strength of relationship between historic built environment and both sense of place and the level of social capital. A background hypothesis, not explored by the study, is that stronger sense of place and social capital can bring wider beneficial social outcomes.

The distinctiveness of this research has been twofold. One key contribution is what is thought to be the first thorough literature review on the links between the historic built environment and sense of place and social capital. This review provides the back cloth to innovative surveys collecting robust evidence on the views not only of adults but also of teenagers. The analyses of the survey data included use of advanced geo-statistical techniques, in part to separate out the influence of the diverse factors that contribute to the relevant views of people. In addition, spatial analyses provided measures of the historic built environment in every neighbourhood.

The literature review is presented in a separate volume .The concept of sense of place has been viewed as a mix of place identity, attachment and dependence. Social capital has been divided into bonding, bonding and linking forms. The literature is nearly all on adult attitudes. Much of the literature uses qualitative evidence, whereas this research needs to compile robust quantitative evidence. The attitudes of people to the places where they live and their sense of place and social capital are shaped by a wide range of personal, social and environmental factors. The size of area that people think of as ‘their place’ also varies between the people and groups who live in the same part of the country.

The literature offers moderate support for the hypothesis that a historic built environment can foster sense of place, perhaps mostly through place identity and attachment. There is little literature suggesting raised social capital for people living in more historic built environments; some people may get raised social capital benefits from becoming personally engaged with their environment, and this may be an example of the links with sense of place providing an indirect link between the built environment and social capital.

Producing robust quantitative evidence calls for the hypothesised links with the historic built environment to be tested with data from surveys of people living in different types of areas. Statistical models are needed to separate out other factors’ effects on people’s attitudes. The models work with measures that inevitably are simplifications of very complex concepts, and are also limited to the data readily gained from surveys. The hypotheses, and strategy for testing them with surveys and models, were checked in advance through targeted interviews with key professionals in the built environment. Factors the analyses need to take into account include people’s age, gender, ethnicity, marital status and length if time resident in the area; the area’s ethnic and social profile and residential turnover and crime rates; plus variables covering urban/rural differences and broad regional location.

The only available dataset to consistently measure how historic all local built environments are comes from records of listed buildings, scheduled monuments, parks and gardens. A spatial

analysis called surfacing yields an indicator of how historic buildings are ‘around here’ (HBE). Another dataset on people’s ideas of how historic their areas are shows parallels with this consistent measure, but it suggests people have a more generous idea of what is historic.

Two surveys were conducted, with one particularly innovative in discovering teenagers’ views. The number and type of questions in the survey was restricted so that all 13/14 year olds could respond. The adult survey was by phone; a key problem was that young adults living alone tend not to have land lines, with the views of young men particularly difficult to cover. Both surveys have samples stratified by social demographics and how historic areas are, whilst also being stratified by broad region (viz: London + rest of South + Midlands + North). Both surveys asked respondents whether they thought their area had a unique or special building and c40% in both samples cited at least one (more of the adults’ were historic).

The survey data allowed an indicator of sense of place (SP) strength to be constructed, although the data cannot support separate indicators of place identity and place attachment, for example. SP values fit expectations, such as tending to be higher for females and the old. There is no simple relationship between level of SP and the HBE level where people live. This justifies the modelling to test for such a relationship ‘other things being equal’ and the results confirm the effect on SP of people’s age and the social conditions of the area where they live. After doing this, there are several ways in which the historic built environment shows a significant and positive relationship with SP for adults.

A fairly strong model finds a positive relationship between SP level and living in an area with higher HBE level, having cited one or more local building as special or unique, and putting more weight on historic or attractive buildings or places as important to making an area good to live in (nb. the latter two indicate greater interest in the historic built environment). For the teenagers the model was rather weaker, but finds a positive relationship between SP level and having cited a local building as special or unique, and having recently visited a historic building (other than with school).

The survey allowed an indicator of strength of social capital (SC) to be constructed; the data cannot support separate indicators of bonding, bridging or linking social capital. SC values fit expectations in being higher for females and older people. There is no simple relationship between level of SC and the HBE level where people live. The modelling confirms the effects of the social conditions of the area where people live; along with these effects, the historic built environment has a significant and positive relationship with SC for adults. A fairly strong model finds a positive relationship between SC level and having cited a local building as being special or unique, and also between SC level and having recently visited a historic building.

For teenagers, a rather weak model finds a positive relationship between SC level and having cited a local building as special or unique, and also having recently visited a historic building (other than with school). It also surprisingly finds a negative relationship with putting more weight on historic or attractive buildings or places as a relatively important factor making areas good places to live. This evidence on teenagers breaks new ground.

Although it is possible for a very strong sense of place to have less positive consequences, there are more references in the literature to such rootedness working along with higher levels of social capital to support beneficial outcomes.

Introductory Overview

The research reported here explored the relationship between historic built environments and both sense of place and social capital. More specifically, the study has developed robust tests of hypotheses about how people respond to living in more historic built environments. The key hypothesis tested is that, other things being equal, people in more historic built environments have a stronger sense of place. The secondary hypothesis of interest here is that, other things being equal, people in more historic built environments have higher levels of social capital.

The context for the research is a set of policy axioms for which the evidence is still modest. For example, much government policy sees increased social capital as a key policy objective because wider social benefits will follow as a result. Strengthening people's sense of place fits into this policy debate, with sense of place and social capital seen to be mutually reinforcing. Yet much of the relevant research emphasis that these are complex concepts with ambiguous relationships between them and with 'external' factors such as the local community and the built environment.

The one over-riding objective for this research was to produce robust evidence on the extent of the relationship between the historic built environment and people's sense of place, with the secondary objective of extending this to looking at people's level of social capital. A particular concern was that the research should, so far as possible, extend the research beyond adults and so open up what is a new line of enquiry: the perspective of teenagers on these issues. The other five chapters of the report outline the research undertaken to meet these objectives.

In the **Background Review** there is a brief summary of the substantial literature review which was undertaken as foundation for the empirical work to follow: a separate document provides the literature review in full. The key concepts for the research are specified, and gaps in the literature on relationships between these concepts are identified. The review also identified the 'state of the art' in developing measures of sense of place and social capital which could be used for the empirical analyses, helping to develop questions for use in the surveys the research needs to carry out. In addition, the literature identified a wide diversity of factors that are linked to sense of place and social capital.

Next the **Research Strategy** is outlined, setting out how the study tackled its objectives in the light of the lessons from past research. The underpinning concepts, and the broad approach involving surveys and analyses, were checked with selected senior historic environment and place making experts. Much of this section of the report is taken up with documenting data collated for each area of the country, covering the numerous factors linked to sense of place and/or social capital. The answers given by survey respondents can then be linked to the relevant information about their home area. Core to this dataset building was creating a new measure of the level of HBE in each neighbourhood; this is derived from data on designated sites and, in particular, listed buildings. This chapter explains the role of the 'surfacing' spatial analysis technique that makes the data represent conditions *in and around* each location.

The following chapter is on **Survey Fieldwork** and covers the empirical base of the research. It outlines the approach taken to delivering two national surveys: a phone survey of 500 adults plus a school-administered paper survey of more than 700 Year 9 students (13-14 year olds). The survey samples were stratified by broad regional location and neighbourhood type (in the sense of social profile and level of historic built environment). Rather than only asking about the historic environment, most questions were on other factors that can impact on residential preference plus sense of place and social capital. In this way the respondents' views on the built environment (and the area which they consider 'home') were not in the foreground of the survey and so were gleaned rather inconspicuously.

The chapter on **Sense of Place** reports basic tables from the data gathered, in part to verify that the measure of sense of place has characteristics which make it a plausible indicator. This chapter then proceeds to report the key results, which come from statistical models that assess the significance of the relationship between this indicator and aspects of the historic built environment. It is not appropriate to summarise the findings in this introductory chapter. The following chapter considers **Social Capital** and effectively replicates the content of the sense of place chapter, but in relation to social capital. Finally there is a **Conclusions** chapter which pulls together all the key empirical findings, together with some broader lessons from the research study.

Background Review

- *A substantial literature review has been conducted: it is presented in a separate volume*
- *The review centres on links between the historic built environment, sense of place and social capital; most of the relevant literature is on sense of place linking to social capital.*
- *The concept of sense of place can be viewed as a mix of place identity, attachment and dependence while social capital can be divided into bonding, bonding and linking forms.*
- *Both a stronger sense of place and/or a higher level of social capital are generally seen as being beneficial, though academic studies note that this is not true in all cases.*
- *The literature is nearly all on adult attitudes, but this research has been set the challenge of considering the views of teenagers too.*
- *Much of the literature uses qualitative evidence, whereas this research needs to compile robust quantitative evidence.*
- *The attitudes of people to the places where they live and their sense of place and social capital are shaped by a wide range of personal, social and environmental factors.*
- *The size of area that people think of as 'their place' also varies between the people and groups who live in the same part of the country.*
- *The literature offers moderate support for the hypothesis that a historic built environment can foster sense of place, perhaps mostly through place identity and attachment.*
- *There is little literature suggesting raised social capital for people living in more historic built environments; some people may get raised social capital benefits from becoming personally engaged with their environment, and this may be an example of the links with sense of place providing an indirect link between the built environment and social capital.*

Much government policy has been developed from one understanding of research evidence that increased social capital tends to bring people a range of beneficial outcomes. Within this evidence there is a potential role for the sense of place: people with a strong sense of place tend to have higher levels of social capital too. From this policy reading of past evidence, fostering people's sense of place goes along with helping people increase their social capital and the results are likely to be beneficial not only for the people concerned but also society more generally. This research study tests the hypothesis that ***historic built environment*** has a role to play in English people's ***sense of place*** and/or ***social capital*** today.

The research deals with three concepts, and the potential relationships between them. In both academic and policy literature there are debates about definitions of all three concepts as well as about the possible linkages between them. A specific requirement for this study is that the definitions that are adopted here can be operationalised in ways which can then generate robust evidence. In practice, this means interpreting the concepts in ways which allow relevant data to be collected to measure key differences among people and in their attitudes towards the places where they live.

This section of the report provides some summary findings from a more extensive literature review that is made available as a separate volume. The core challenge is to draw on that earlier theoretical and empirical work to set a sound foundation for research into the possible links between living in a more historic built environment and a person's sense of place and their level of social capital.

The literature review found no major studies which directly linked all three concepts. Of links between pairs of concepts, the literature was strongest on the mutual relationship between sense of place and social capital. Much less research has been done on links between either of these concepts and the historic built environment. Two other general points to be made are:

- some relevant evidence is from other countries and may be less relevant to England
- there is very little research on the views of teenagers who are of specific interest here.

The complexity of these concepts – both on their own and in their relationships to each other – strongly suggests that research in this area needs a multi-disciplinary approach involving both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. A key point is that the relationships between the historic environment and sense of place and social capital are entangled with many other factors shaping the views of people. Some of these factors are measurable, but some are more about how people live their lives on a daily basis and in the more unconscious ways which are more identifiable through ethnographic approaches.

The concept of sense of place has been discussed in ways which distinguish the separate aspects of place attachment, place identity and place dependency. Social and environmental psychology provides some questions for measuring these various aspects, and some of these are drawn on for the surveys carried out for this research study. The concept of social capital, on the other hand, is often broken down in ways which distinguish bonding, bridging and linking forms of capital.

A more academic reading of the literature suggests the need for a comprehensive research programme on connections between the historic built environment and both sense of place and social capital. This would ideally:

+ explore what individuals or groups might define and value as heritage in their localities
+ consider the many ways 'place' is experienced in daily life
+ show how what is seen as 'my place' varies between people and groups
+ examine the outcomes of stronger place identity (eg. on levels of social mobility).

The more restricted aspirations for this study focus directly on the relationships between the historic built environment and sense of place and social capital. Within this, it is essential that these relationships are looked at alongside other important personal and geographical factors.

The literature review has been extensive so it is highly significant that it found no major study directly linking all three concepts. The more promising evidence relates to two main linkages:

- between the historic environment – often seen more broadly as heritage – and sense of place,
- between sense of place (perhaps developed through heritage) and social capital.

These two relationships are now each considered in more detail.

Links between historic environment (heritage) and sense of place

Aspects of the historic environment can contribute towards people's sense of place, with place identity and attachment key to the process. That said, the values people attach to the historic built environment vary considerably. The local environment is of course more than buildings because it is the setting for people's daily lives. These less conscious ways in which people experience places can still find a role for more historic and attractive places by, for example, offering locations where people meet.

One key issue in the literature is over the way people understand the historic environment, how they value it, and how such values are shaped by official bodies such as councils and heritage organisations. The views of people change over time because of factors such as how long they have lived in a place, or perhaps due to their involvement in activities or events with the historic environment as its theme. A sense of personal history and/or community heritage is certainly understood in the literature to be linked to a strong sense of place. One conclusion from this discussion is that the precise official definition of historic built environment which the listing of buildings provides can only capture a limited part of what people value as historic from their individual perspective.

The links between historic built environment and sense of place are most clearly made through aspects of place identity such as place distinctiveness (what makes a place unique) and continuity (the way a place supports someone's personal sense of continuity). Of course, a person's sense of place is affected not just by the historic built environment but also many other factors. There is no clear 'cause and effect' relationship between all the various factors and their expression in people's strength of sense of place.

Links between sense of place and social capital

The concept of social capital relates to types of interactions between people which can bring benefits such as better prospects and well-being and, in some cases, more civil engagement. Much of the literature distinguishes between *bonding* social capital (which is 'exclusive' and maintained within certain groups), and *bridging* and *linking* social capital (which are generated through links between different groups). Social groups can be associated with specific places, so this distinction between bonding and bridging social capital can be linked to tensions between rootedness and mobility (both social and geographical).

Links between social capital and sense of place (and the latter's subsets place attachment and place dependency) can be traced in three different ways:

- links can be traced through the relationship between place attachment and outcomes such as higher levels of self-esteem or pride in a place.
- some heritage-specific studies have seen the exploration of the past as supporting shared values and citizenship, with the process of volunteering and participating – perhaps also being creative – leading to increased social capital.
- it is also possible to see a link between social capital and place dependency through the social interactions a place facilitates.

In some cases, more historic local environments may help to support social activities and enable personal motivations by providing safe and attractive public spaces. It is possible for there to be a tension between, on the one hand, bonding social capital which fosters stability, and bridging or linking social capital which are linked with mobility. More generally, an interest in the built environment has been linked with a stronger sense of place (for example through active involvement in place-shaping activities) and thus indirectly with the potential to increase social capital.

Research Strategy

- *Producing robust quantitative evidence calls for the hypothesised links with the historic built environment to be tested with surveys of people who live in different types of areas.*
- *Statistical models are needed to separate out other factors' effects on people's attitudes.*
- *The models work with measures that inevitably are simplifications of concepts like sense of place and social capital, and are also limited to the data readily gained from surveys.*
- *It was decided to also get data on teenagers' attitudes because they are little known.*
- *The hypotheses, and strategy for testing them with surveys and models, were checked in advance through targeted interviews with key professionals in the built environment.*
- *Factors the analyses need to take into account include people's age, gender, ethnicity, marital status and length if time resident in the area; the area's ethnic and social profile and its residential turnover and crime rates; plus urban/rural and broad regional location.*
- *The available dataset to consistently measure how historic each local built environment is comes from records of listed buildings, scheduled monuments, parks and gardens.*
- *Analysis called surfacing yields an index of how historic buildings are 'round here' (HBE.)*
- *A dataset on people's ideas of how historic their areas are shows parallels with this consistent measure, but suggests people have a more generous idea of what is historic.*

The literature review provided some support for the *hypothesis* that there are relationships between the historic built environment and sense of place and social capital, but there still remains a lack of hard empirical evidence in past research. This study aims to meet that gap by carrying out a robust analysis to assess whether in England today people who live in areas with a more historic built environment do – other things being equal – have a stronger sense of place and/or higher levels of social capital.

It is very important that the analysis does try to keep 'other things equal' because the literature review stressed that how people react to their local environment is complex due to the number of other key potential factors. This complexity has to be dealt with by carrying out statistical analyses to measure separately these different relationships so far as possible. In practice, this led the research to follow up the literature review with a strategy with five key elements:

- setting an analysis framework to separate environmental from other important factors;
- identifying the non-environment factors for the analysis to take account of;
- specifying the aspects of the historic built environment to be included in the analysis;
- devising measures of people's strength of sense of place and level of social capital;
- getting robust data from a sample of English people on their circumstances and views.

The remainder of this chapter of the report considers, in turn, each of the first three elements of this research strategy. The last element, the data collection survey work, is covered by the next chapter of this report. The two subsequent chapters report the analyses' results, first for

sense of place and then for social capital, with each chapter first detailing how sense of place – or social capital – has been measured.

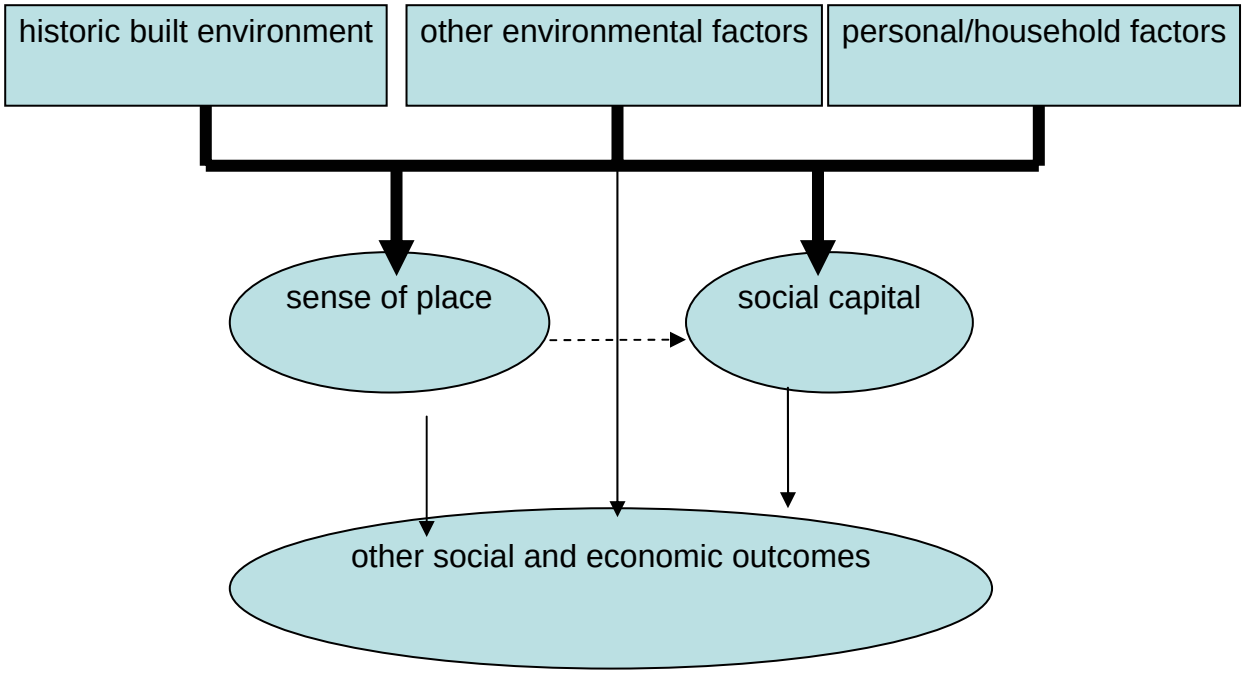
Analysis framework: validation by built environment professionals

The key decision here is the selection of an analytical framework which can separate out the various environmental and other factors shaping people's sense of place and social capital. One option might have been to survey people within areas selected according to a summary categorisation of neighbourhoods (eg. the Office for National Statistics classification of areas). The key problem with this is that it 'boils down' many independently varying influential factors to create classes of neighbourhood. Very large numbers of areas are put in the same class when they will differ in important ways: it is also true that many of the variables by which areas have been grouped together are irrelevant to this research.

The approach here instead takes each survey respondent as a unique observation. What the analyses then do is seek to statistically 'explain' the differences in their answers to the survey. This is done by attaching to each respondent key information about the area where they live (via their postcode). This allows a wide range of factors to be measured *separately* and thus the extent of any distinct relationship with the historic built environment can be teased out.

The most widely adopted method of rigorous statistical testing for a significant relationship between social science patterns or processes is regression modelling. In fact the five key elements of the research listed above were adopted explicitly so that the research could create such models. It was felt necessary to ensure that this analysis framework is appropriate to research on the historic built environment (especially when the literature review showed that there was no past work applying robust models to these issues). To do this, a select set of experts in the field were asked to provide a 'reality check' (Annex 1). The interviews tested out the hypothesised relationships that are being studied here: Figure 1 depicts the principal relationships here, with emboldened arrows showing the key relationships for the modelling.

Figure 1 Main hypothesised links between key concepts [*bold = the analysed links*]



Although it was a small part of the research which has been undertaken here, it was valuable to 'ground truth' the analysis framework with professionals ranging from conservation officers to architects and development planners. If a much simpler approach had been able to provide robust evidence then this would be preferable, because of its greater transparency of method and results.

All the interviewees said the built environment is an important influence on sense of place. There was some variation in the relative importance placed on historic buildings, but the clear majority felt that they tend to strengthen local residents' sense of place in one way or another. Several interviewees stressed the complexity of processes shaping sense of place, and the challenge of separating out the role of the historic built environment within this wider context. One example of this complexity was the role of ethnicity: people from different community groups will find different aspects of the history of their built environment more or less relevant to them, so the extent to which it fosters their sense of place will vary accordingly.

Probably partly due to their own professional concerns, several interviewees emphasised the importance of high quality distinctive buildings and places, whether they are historic or not. These assets were seen as central to making a place interesting and/or distinctive, and this attractiveness tends to stimulate place identity which is part of a sense of place.

The hypothesised link between the historic built environment and social capital was less clearly supported by the interviewees. One suggestion was of the link between pride in and identification with a place, which has just been mentioned, tending to support growth in social capital through forms of local engagement and the lower likelihood of moving away. This can be seen as the idea from the literature review of the link between historic built environment and social capital 'working through' sense of place.

Selecting the personal and social factors to be included in the analyses

The literature review outlined various factors which will need to be taken into account by the modelling here. The first category of factors covers personal or household characteristics, whilst the other categories relate more to aspects of the area where the person lives. A point to keep in mind is that the research that is available is almost always concerned with adults, leaving open the question of how relevant the findings are to younger people. This question arises here because it was felt important to devote substantial research effort to discovering the views of teenagers, for the very reason that their response to the historic built environment is so little understood.

The first theme is relatively straightforward in that it embraces the very familiar demographic factors of age and gender, together with ethnicity and marital status. It would ideally also include some aspect of social class, such as income or status, but it was not thought possible to ask this of the school children who were to form a key group for the surveys to cover. In the final analyses, the lack of social data on individuals is largely covered by data about key social characteristics of the area in which each individual lives. (Although not an ideal replacement, such data is very extensively used in many fields as an effective 'proxy' for data on the individual or household.)

The other themes to be covered all relate to neighbourhood characteristics. Aspects of a local area related to the historic built environment are discussed in the next section of this chapter, but *social* conditions in areas have just been raised so it is important to consider these now. The most indicative single measure is widely seen as the official broad measure of the extent to which each area's residents are deprived, termed the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). The level of IMD is frequently used in policy studies as a key measure of the social conditions in an area, and so this provides the effective surrogate measure here for specific information on the social class of individual respondents.

Within the broad measurement of the IMD are some subsidiary indexes, and one of these provides data on levels of crime in each local area. Crime was one aspect of neighbourhoods which existing literature has highlighted as influencing people's attitudes towards their areas, and so it is important to have this measure in the models. Other factors needing to be covered – although the literature is more unclear about their likely significance – include the proportion of people who are recent in-movers to the area, the proportion of people who are from ethnic minority groups, and the extent to which local people in work commute away long distances. On balance, the evidence suggests that people in neighbourhoods with *high* values on these characteristics will tend to have a *lower* sense of place and/or social capital.

Each of the measures discussed is available for 'neighbourhood' scale areas: in fact for each of England's 30,000+ Lower-Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs). The availability of data at this detailed level is clearly a major advantage, but there is one potential disadvantage too. The definition of LSOA boundaries was driven by purely statistical criteria which, it has been

explicitly stated, mean that they are not ‘neighbourhoods’ in the sense of local communities. The way they were defined made them rather arbitrarily carve up local settlements (with the key objective that all LSOAs should have very similar numbers of residents). One result is that LSOA data can vary sharply over very short distances. It will be more appropriate here if the data reflects how people think about their areas and this means finding a way of measuring conditions ‘in and around’ any specific location (instead of data for the single LSOA which that location sits within).

The necessary ‘in and round’ data can be derived from LSOA data by taking advantage of the tremendous detail that the 30,000+ separate values provides. This is achieved by analysing the LSOA data with a Geographic Information System technique termed ‘surfacing’ (Annex 2). The output ‘in and around here’ value for each location is an average of nearby LSOA values, with these input values *weighted* according to their distance away from the location of interest. Thus the nearest LSOA values have the largest impact on the output value for any location.

All the social environment measures listed above have been surfaced in this way here. As well as preventing the arbitrary LSOA boundaries unduly shaping the results, it helps ensure the data values are more robust because each then ‘draws strength’ from a wider statistical base. Most importantly though the surfaced data should better represent how people think about their areas, because this is not shaped by arbitrary boundaries of statistical areas but instead centres on where they live and, while being affected by surrounding areas, it puts less weight on areas further away.

Selecting the geographical factors to be included in the analyses

In much research on local social conditions, an urban/rural contrast can be seen. In particular, rural people have been suggested to be more locally rooted. The emerging official standard measure of an urban/rural divide sees settlements with more than 10,000 residents as urban, so this measure has been used here. It is possible that how people feel varies more gradually between smaller and larger settlements than this two-way partition implies, so the actual size of the settlement where each person lives is also used here as factor in the models.

With this settlement size measure, everyone living in London is associated with the same very large value. In the models, this means that there is no need for another variable to distinguish people living in the capital. Whether or not Londoners do tend to have different views to those who live elsewhere, it is certainly possible that people in other parts of England have rather distinctive attitudes. This possibility is tested by identifying people living in the Midlands and, as a separate variable in the models, those who live further north (ie. in the North West or the North East regions or in Yorkshire and the Humber).

As well as these objective geographical factors, there are other ways in which where a person lives can influence their attitudes to their area. In particular, people who lived in the same area for longer periods have been found to have a stronger sense of place. This means that the

surveys need to ask people how long they have lived in their present location: not only how long it is since they moved to that specific address, but also to that home area more generally.

Of course, what people mean by 'their area' is likely to vary substantially between neighbours because some people will have a more restricted home area than others. When asking people about their attitudes to their area, it will be important not to constrain them away from their normal way of thinking by telling them how wide an area to consider. For example, it seems possible that people with a more localised idea of their home area may have a rather stronger sense of place. To test this, it is necessary to find out how big was the area each respondent had in mind when they answered the key questions about sense of place and social capital. This will be done by requesting – *after* those key questions – that the respondent names the area that they think of as the place where they live.

When the answer to this question is linked with the location of the person's home it becomes possible to measure the size of the respondent's perceived home area. For example, a person in the Holborn area of London may answer "Holborn" but may instead name the Borough that Holborn is part of; they also may refer to central London or even just give London as answer. Table 1 uses the Holborn example in its first row to set out the range of answers which people might give; it also shows five other examples, with each settlement smaller than one above it, to show that this range of answers may be given in more rural areas in much the same way.

Table 1 Creating a measure of the breadth of people's sense of their home area

	village or neighbourhood	**town or locality**	**county or similar**
Each row shows the different scales that a person who lives in the place named in the first column could use when saying where they live	Holborn	Islington	London
	Jesmond	Newcastle	Tyneside
	Devonport	Plymouth	south Devon
	Ben Rhydding	Ilkley	Wharfedale
	Southwell	Sherwood	Nottinghamshire
	Brodsworth	Doncaster	South Yorkshire

In practice, it is useful to take the principles that are outlined above but translate them into something more measurable. This is largely because terms like "locality" are open to very different interpretation, especially in contrasting parts of the country such as London and remote rural areas. The way forward is to consider whether the same place name could have been cited by someone who lived some distance away, or only by someone who lives nearby. For example, if someone uses a street name to label their home area then that same answer could only come from someone else living nearby, whereas if they said "London" then people many miles away who could give the same answer. This approach leads to the following coding scheme.

code 0 = no (codable) answer.
code 1 = same answer unlikely to come from people living more than 1 mile away; if not…
code 2 = same answer may come from people living up to 2 miles away (not further); if not…

code 3 = same answer may come from people living up to 5 miles away (not further); if not…
code 4 = same answer may well come from people living more than 5 miles away

Creating a measure of historic built environment to be included in the analyses

The concept of a historic built environment may seem clear enough, but issues arise when measuring it so that its impact on the strength of people's sense of place and/or social capital can be assessed. Some possible measures concern people's attitudes, and these can be developed by asking relevant questions in the survey (eg. asking people whether or not they have recently visited a historic building). Another potentially relevant question is whether they consider that their local areas has a special or unique building: although the cited building may not be historic, it would seem likely that people who *do* cite special local buildings are those who are more interested in the built environment. Thus these two questions are essentially about *attitudes to* the historic built environment, rather than about the environment itself.

This focus on attitudes can be reinforced by asking a series of questions about what makes an area a good place to live. Among the more usually emphasised options such as good local facilities like shops, the surveys can ask how important it is for there to be historic or attractive buildings or places. Subsequently a respondent's answers to the latter questions can be set against the weight they placed on other area characteristics to show how *relatively* important they thought it is to live in a more historic and/or attractive area.

Along with these measures of people's attitudes, it is important to have 'hard' data on how historic each part of the country is so far as its built environment goes. The only relevant available data which is consistent and comprehensive is from Heritage Counts which reports the distribution across each the 32,000 LSOAs of all listed buildings plus all scheduled monuments and designated parks and gardens. It is clear that a measure derived from this data source cannot represent some aspects of the broad concept of historic built environment. All the same, it is the one plausible option for deriving data for the whole of England at the small area scale.

A measure derived from the Heritage Counts data for LSOAs can be enhanced by applying the 'surfacing' method to provide values that reflect the situation 'in and around' each location. The analysis starts with a count of every listed building, plus scheduled monuments and designated parks and gardens, then divides each of these values by the number of buildings in each LSOA (using Council Tax data). Although not a pure measure of the proportion of all buildings which are historic, it does provide appropriate input data for the surfacing procedure.

It is worth noting that some initial experiments involved introducing some weighting at this stage so that, for example, buildings listed Grade I were emphasised. It was found that the area level values produced had an extremely similar pattern of variation across the country whether they were weighted or not. It was thus decided not to use weights, because no choice of weights is readily justified. In addition, the focus here is on people's response to what might be called the 'every day' historic built environment, rather than with more iconic buildings.

(These experiments were among numerous analyses at various stages of the research which serve as 'sensitivity tests' in that they show how sensitive the results from any part of the analyses are to changing the way in which that part of the analyses was done.)

The output of this analysis is a measure of the historic built environment which, of course, remains limited in its coverage of valued and attractive places. For example, no consistent dataset on Conservation Areas is available to make the input data to the surfacing analysis more comprehensive in its coverage of areas which are valued by their residents. The crucial point here is that the measure which has been created is as consistent as possible in the way in which it values the historic built environment in every location across the country. From this point on in the report, the acronym HBE will be used for this measure (thereby emphasising that the variable in the models is a limited measure of how historic each built environment is).

Maps 1 and 2 show the HBE variable for the Durham area both before and after it has been through the GIS-based surfacing procedure. It can be seen that the procedure only marginally alters the pattern of values, but this is important where there are sharp shifts from high to low values over short distances in the pre-surfacing data (Map 1). The reason why it is important recalls the point made earlier that LSOA boundaries are *not* socially meaningful definitions. When this research asks questions related to sense of place or social capital, the respondents will not think of their LSOAs as the "place" in their sense of place, or as the "local" community which relates to their social capital. For the analyses to properly test the relationship between HBE and people's attitudes, the HBE measure needs to relate to areas that are not restricted to LSOAs.

Clear examples are provided by Durham City and Newcastle which both have historic cores surrounded by suburbs and outlying settlements with extremely low HBE levels by and large. Although people do tend to have rather a localised sense of place, and may have a small area in mind when thinking of their community, the scale of this area will be influenced by the local settlement pattern. It is probable that most people in the relatively small city of Durham think of themselves as living in Durham City and so consider that their home area is very historic, even though they nearly all live outside the historic core. For this reason it was vital to use the surfacing method so that the HBE measure reflects the situation 'in and around' each location, not just within the LSOA which that location falls within. Map 2 shows that the surfacing has indeed spread the high value of the historic core of Durham City to the nearby LSOAs whilst there are still declining values for locations further away.

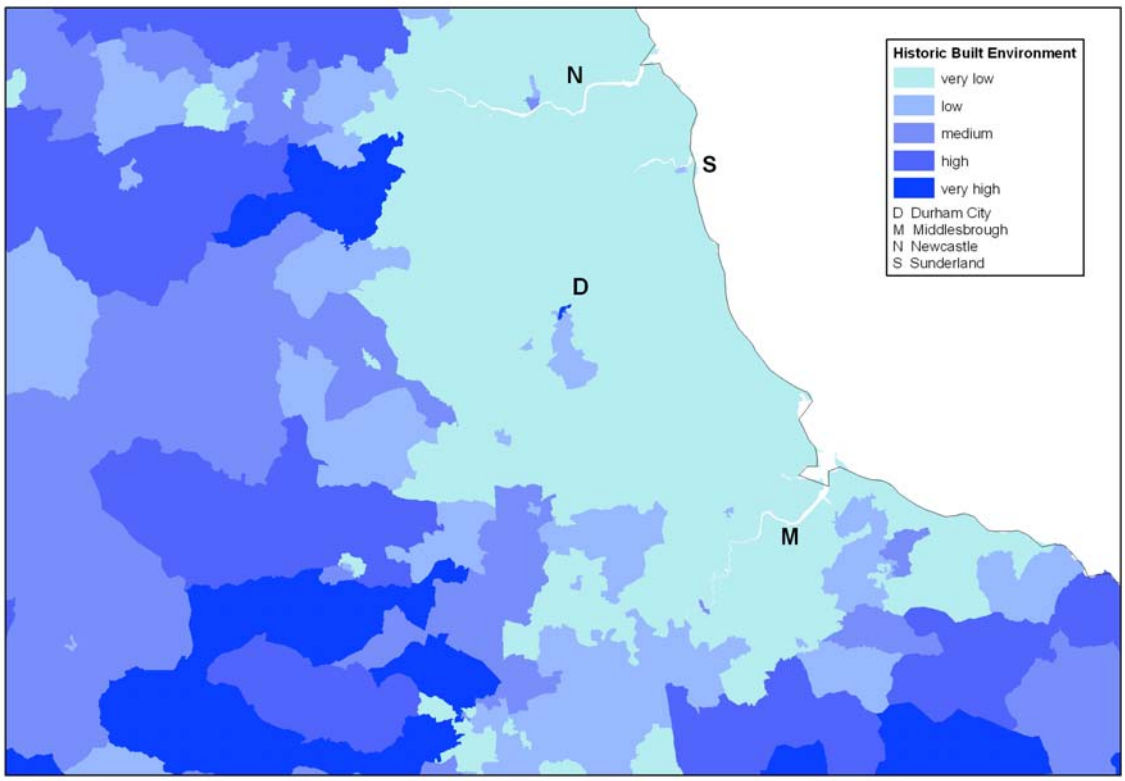
Newcastle provides an interesting contrast. Maps 1 shows its city centre to have an isolated high value, but the surfacing appears to have 'removed' it (Map 2). The reason lies in the sheer size of the city of Newcastle: the wider perspective of the surfacing reveals that the share of historic buildings is very low when they are considered as part of a large conurbation, whereas for Durham the much smaller suburbs are less of a counter-weight in the analysis. Although the HBE value for central Newcastle drops to the lowest fifth of the country (Map 2), it is still considerably higher than that for other large urban centres like Sunderland and more especially Middlesbrough which had had far lower values in their pre-surfaced data (Map 1).

Map 3 reveals that the findings for these north east urban centres are repeated in all other urban regions, with low values across Yorkshire and Lancashire near the Pennines and also in the former coalfield and industrial areas of the midlands. London has similarly low values, although there are a few isolated outlying ‘peaks’ in places such as Greenwich plus, of course, some very high values in the centre itself.

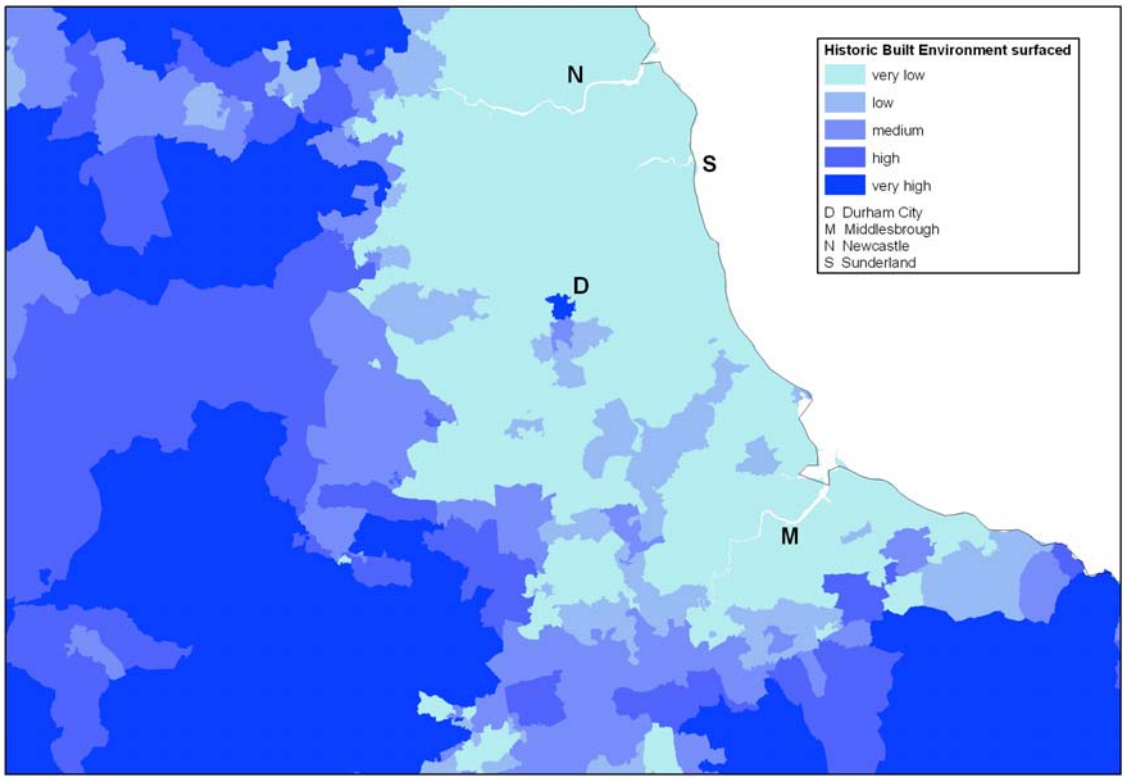
One basic fact leads to the very low HBE values in large modern suburban tracts around all England’s large cities: here buildings over – say – 150 years old are far outnumbered by those built more recently. This fact is reflected in the HBE measure because of its derivation from listed buildings data in the main.

By contrast, what it is that makes many rural areas “rural” is the very fact that they have not been greatly built-up in the last two centuries. As a result, rural areas tend to have a higher proportion of older buildings in their total built environment and the HBE measure accurately reflects this with England’s countryside seeing high values predominate. The one substantial exception is the large rural area centred on the Fens (almost due north of London). This area was only intensively developed after drainage in a period leading up to the industrial revolution and there is some similarity between its built environment and that in early industrialising parts of the north or midlands.

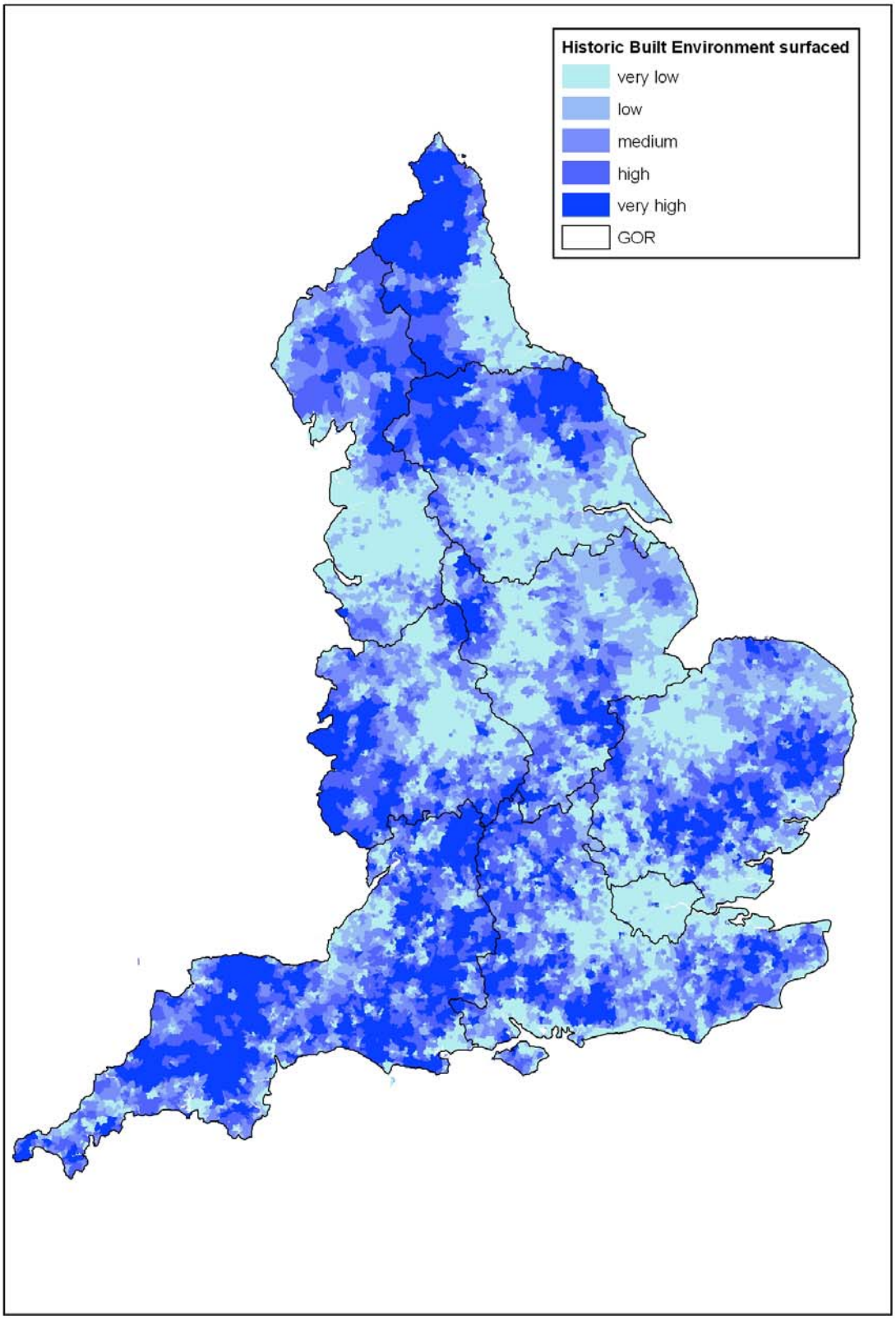
Map 1 Values for the Durham area of a preliminary HBE measure (pre-surfacing)



Map 2 Values for the Durham area of the final HBE measure (after surfacing)



Map 3 Values for all English areas of the final HBE measure (after surfacing)



The crucial remaining question is whether the HBE variable reasonably represents how far people think that their areas are historic. In the Taking Part survey the respondents were asked whether they thought the area they lived in is historic. Two of the Taking Part datasets have the location of the respondent identified, so the HBE measure for the area can be linked to each response. This allows the objective HBE measure to be compared with the subjective assessment of the respondent.

Table 2 shows in its last row that more than half the Taking Part Year 3 respondents thought they lived in historic areas. What is important here is the way that the proportion of residents with this view of their area *varies* when compared with the objective HBE value for that area. Table 2 shows in its top row that nearly 80% of the residents of areas with the very highest objective HBE values considered they lived in a historic area; this proportion duly declines with the HBE measure (lower rows). This shows clearly that values of the subjective data from the very large Taking Part survey broadly conform with values on the objective HBE measure created here.

This finding provides confidence that the objective HBE values can be used in the models with the belief that people living in areas with high HBE are indeed more likely to think their areas are historic. This is not to ignore the fact that even in areas with low HBE values quite a large proportion of residents considered their areas to be historic. Given the recognition earlier that the HBE measure is derived from limited input information on the historic built environment, this is not so surprising. More generally, this can be seen as an echo of the point made in the literature review that people have wide ranging views on what is historic and valuable about their local areas. Put another way, some built environments that are unlikely to be designated as historic by official procedures may well still be valued by many of their residents.

Table 2 Comparison of the Taking Part results and the GIS-based HBE values

% in that type of area who thought they live in a historic area	
residents of OAs with highest GIS-based HBE values	79.0
residents of OAs with high GIS-based HBE values	72.4
Residents of OAs with high/mid GIS-based HBE values	63.1
residents of OAs with mid/low GIS-based HBE values	51.6
residents of OAs with low GIS-based HBE values	45.6
residents of OAs with lowest GIS-based HBE values	39.8
all residents	**53.7**

Table 3 brings together a list of all the measures which have been compiled to represent factors seen in the literature review to be relevant to understanding people's sense of place and their level of social capital. In the statistical models, variables are more likely to prove significant if there are a reasonable proportion of the cases with each of their different values. In other words, a variable which gives a distinct value to a tiny proportion of cases is not likely to be helpful. An example of the way this argument affects the variable definitions can be seen

among the demographic variables. The surveys can collect ethnic data identifying numerous distinct groups, but each group has too small a proportion of the total population for the models to keep them as separate variables.

In a similar vein, the surveys can ask people how old they are in years, but then it is more useful to the models to group people into age ranges covering people who are thought liable to have broadly similar views. The way the modelling works in practice is to compare each group against the group that remains unspecified in the variable list (Table 3). For example, the ethnicity variable implicitly takes the white British group as the comparator for all those who are in other groups. In the same way, each younger age groups is examined separately, with those who are aged 55 or more acting as the comparator.

Table 3 Summary of the measures compiled for the analyses of the strength of people's sense of place and social capital

theme	type	Source	what is represented
Personal characteristics			
	binary	survey data	male
	binary	survey data	aged 13-14
	binary	survey data	aged 16-35
	binary	survey data	aged 35-54
	binary	survey data	white British
	binary	survey data	married or living with a partner
geographical (objective)			
	binary	Location data (from postcode)	lives in the North
	binary	Location data (from postcode)	lives in the Midlands
	binary	Census (from postcode)	lives in what is officially an "urban" area (settlement over 10,000 residents)
	continuous	Census (from postcode)	size of settlement lived in (nb. set at "500" if no data as under 1,500 residents)
geographical (subjective)			
	binary	survey data	did not refer to any named place as their home area
	binary	survey data	referred to very localised place as their home area (eg. neighbourhood/village)
	binary	survey data	referred to rather large place as their home area (eg. a county)
	binary	survey data	moved into their home area less than 3 years ago
	binary	survey data	moved into their home area more than 10 years ago
	binary	survey data	moved into their current home less than 3 years ago
	binary	survey data	moved into their current home more than 10 years ago
historic environment			
	continuous	listed buildings (etc) data, surfaced	proportion of buildings in areas around home that listed
	binary	survey data	cited one or more building as special/unique to their local area
	binary	survey data	recently visited a historic building
	continuous	survey data (derived from several answers)	view of relative importance of having historic/attractive buildings in home area
social environment			
	continuous	IMD data (from postcode), surfaced	level of crime in areas around home
	continuous	Census (from postcode), surfaced	proportion of residents that white British in areas around home
	continuous	Census (from postcode), surfaced	level of residential turnover (recent in-migration) in areas around home
	continuous	Census (from postcode), surfaced	average journey to work distance of employed residents in areas around home
	continuous	IMD data (from postcode)	level of deprivation in home neighbourhood
	continuous	IMD data (from postcode), surfaced	level of deprivation in areas around home

Survey Fieldwork

- *Two surveys were conducted, one discovering teenagers' views.*
- *The number and type of questions asked faced restrictions due to surveying teenagers.*
- *The project designed a Year 9 national curriculum activity for schools to deliver surveys.*
- *The survey of adults was by phone; a key problem, shared by many social surveys, was that young people living alone tend not to have land lines, with the views of young men particularly difficult to cover.*
- *Both surveys had samples stratified by social demographics and how historic areas are.*
- *The samples were also stratified by broad region: London + South + Midlands + North.*
- *Both surveys asked respondents whether they thought their area had a unique or special building and c40% in both samples cited 1 or more (nb. adults were more likely to cite a historic building than were young people).*

This chapter outlines two surveys carried out by this study to explore people's sense of place and social capital, along with their attitudes to aspects of historic built environment. One of the surveys was innovative in its collection of the views of teenagers, an age group which barely features in earlier research on these issues. The survey of adults was conducted through telephone interviews, whereas the teenagers' responses were obtained with similar questionnaires administered by secondary schools.

The previous chapter has indicated most of the issues the surveys needed to cover, and it has also been stressed that the respondent's home postcode is then key to being able to link their answers to information on the area where they live (not least their area's HBE value).

The questionnaires were devised to gather data on people's sense of place and social capital as well as attitudes to their home area. Some highly relevant established questions came from sources such as the British Social Attitudes Survey and the Defra Environment Survey but the range of topics to be covered also meant adapting questions found in more academic studies. A more general challenge was to use using everyday language and phases so people of very different cultures, ages and abilities would understand the questions. These difficulties were largely handled through piloting the questionnaires; this ultimately led to some differences between the questions found to be suitable for adults (Annex 3) and teenagers (Annex 4).

Within the constraints of the study, it was essential that the survey of teenagers was delivered by schools on behalf of the research team. This meant that researchers would not be present when the questionnaires were completed so the questions had to be self-explanatory because further information could not be provided to respondents. Practical constraints of timetables and the national curriculum meant that this questionnaire had to be short. A rather longer one could be used for the phone interviews with adults, although this had to take no longer than the 15 to 20 minute time limit of most people's willingness to answer telephone surveys.

For both the adult and the teenager survey, the need for robust and reliable data calls for the sample to be broadly representative – in relevant ways – of the national population. Along with the survey of teenagers, the phone survey sample had to include people from the full adult age range. Other requirements were a fair balance between females and males, and across the four broad regions defined in this study: midlands, north, London and the rest of the south.

It was also essential that the respondents came from a broad range of neighbourhood types, so that the modelling could assess the difference it may make to a person's views if they live in a high HBE area, in particular. Another key neighbourhood-level factor to take into account, to ensure the HBE measure does not act as a 'proxy' for it, is the social status of the area. This is measured here with the IMD value described earlier.

The rest of this chapter describes, for each survey in turn, how this strategy was implemented.

Phone survey of adults

Households were selected from a stratified-random selection of postcodes. Every postcode has been assigned a grid reference and this is locatable within one of England's more than 160,000 Output Areas (OAs), the smallest areas with available Census and other statistics. This makes it possible to 'tag' every address in the country with data for that very small area.

To produce a stratified sample for the survey, the IMD level and the HBE measure were the crucial values. All the OAs were ranked by their values on the smoothed versions of both these measures (as described earlier). These rankings were then divided into thirds and the stratification then ensured that the survey sampled equally from each of the high, middle and low thirds on each ranking. This stratification by neighbourhood type was further constrained to ensure an even sampling across the four broad regions of England identified for this study.

Phone numbers were identified in the postcodes falling in OAs that the stratification indicated would give a good representation of the diversity to be found across the country as a whole. Residents were then contacted by phone and anyone aged over 15 answering the phone was then interviewed. The pattern of responses was carefully monitored over time so later in the process introductory questions on age and gender could lead to the interview being ended because otherwise there would be too many respondents of one type – such as older people – for the sample to provide the necessary balanced mix.

This stratification process yielded a sample of 500 respondents of which fully 499 provided consistently complete data meeting the requirements of the models. Chart 1 presents a series of separate analyses: each bar breaks down the 500 respondents in relation to one key issue (gender; age; region; neighbourhood HBE and IMD levels). The respondents do not constitute a representative sample of all England's residents, because what was more important here was strong coverage of people in areas of greatest interest to the modelling. This has meant over-sampling people in neighbourhood types that are not widespread, such as those which not only have high HBE values but also have high IMD values as well.

Chart 1 Key characteristics of the phone interview sample data

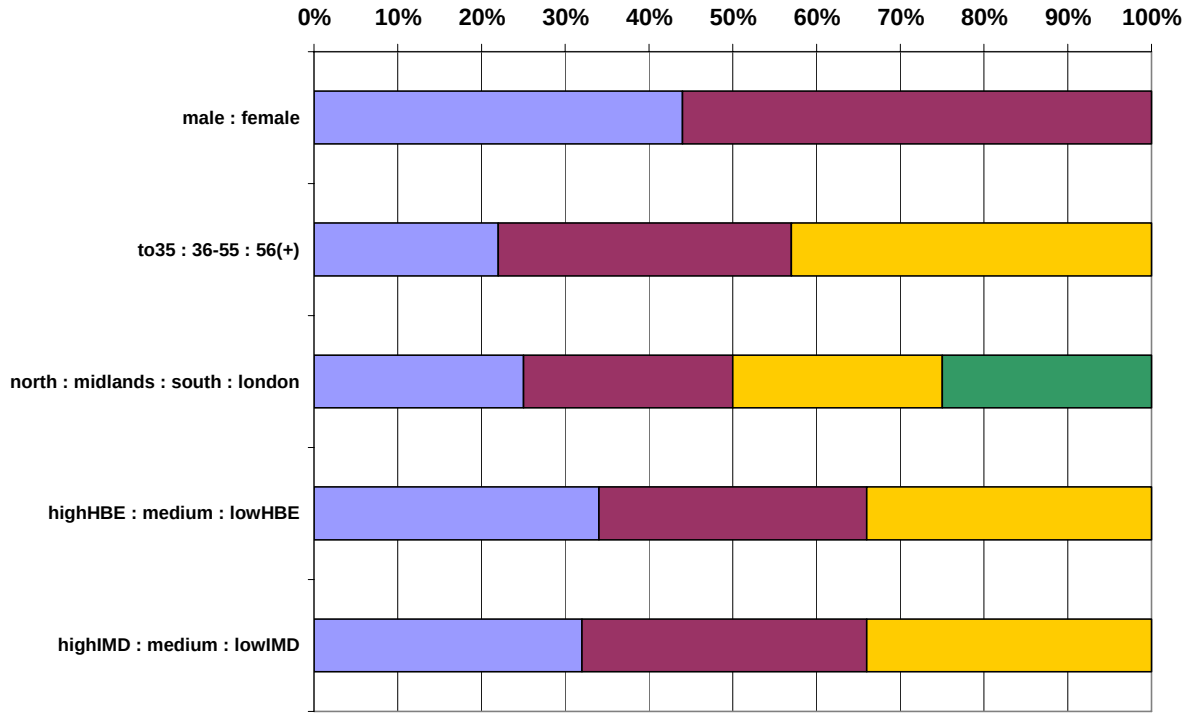


Chart 1 shows that the stratification of the phone survey sample has succeeded in producing a dataset with closely equal proportions of respondents along each axis of the stratification: the four broad regions used for the study, the HBE level of the home neighbourhood and also the IMD level of the neighbourhood.

The purpose of the survey was to collect data for the modelling and so it is not appropriate here to look in any detail at simple tabulations from the survey. In fact, because the sample stratification was designed explicitly to provide appropriate data for the modelling, the survey data would need to be weighted to make it more suited for basic analyses of people's attitudes and characteristics.

One question in the survey (Annex 3) that provides HBE-related information asked people whether they wanted to cite a building that was special or unique to their home area. For the modelling, this yields a binary variable: each respondent can be identified as either a person who did cite, or as one who did not. This variable is seen as indicating an interest in their home area's built environment. In practice, 2 out of 5 adults surveyed did cite such a building.

Table 4 shows a classification of the buildings cited by the adult respondents. Even though the religious buildings cited do include one or two relatively new constructions, such as mosques, the very large majority will be historic. Table 4 thus shows, by combining the first three rows, that around three-quarters of the buildings cited are probably historic buildings. All the same, most of these buildings would probably be seen as more 'everyday' than 'iconic' by people from outside the area.

Table 4 Type of building cited by adults as unique or special to their area

castle or stately home	20.0%
religious building	33.3%
other historic	24.0%
school	5.8%
leisure or sport	0.4%
shop	2.2%
other	14.2%

Survey of teenagers

The survey was carried out by a sample of secondary schools. Initial exploratory discussions with two state secondary schools revealed that involving their students in a prestigious national survey could be an exciting opportunity, while also contributing towards meeting the requirements of the Key Stage 3 Geography national curriculum. The questionnaire (Annex 4) was designed to be used for a class based exercise. More able students could complete the questionnaire in under 15 minutes, with the whole exercise fitting well into a single lesson. Participating schools were subsequently provided with a summary of results in which their responses were compared with those of the overall sample.

Schools were asked to ensure that at least one whole Year 9 class completed the survey. Students in Year 9 are aged 13/14 and are the oldest age group for whom Geography is one of the compulsory parts of the curriculum. This means that the teenagers completing the survey would have a full cross-section of abilities. Schools were promised analyses of the responses of their students, with a comparison against the responses from all other schools.

The schools approached to carry out the survey were selected with an adjusted version of the stratification process used for the adult survey. A different approach was needed because all schools have catchment areas which vary in their neighbourhood composition. The approach taken was to look at whole urban areas and produce average IMD and HBE values of all the OAs in them. The urban areas were also classified according to the broad region they are in, allowing a stratification of urban areas by region and their averaged values on the HBE and IMD neighbourhood measures.

State maintained schools in 24 locations were selected, with some cases of two schools covering the same area because individual schools were small or single sex. Table 5 shows the list of 20 schools which took part. Together these schools provided the required broad mix of IMD and HBE levels in their catchment areas. Schools were explicitly asked to get complete coverage of classes so to minimise any bias in the teenagers who responded. In total these schools' Year 9 students provided 700 responses and 633 have the complete and valid data required for the models.

Table 5 Schools delivering data from a survey in Year 9

School	study region	location	LEA
Queen Elizabeth High School	North	Hexham	Northumberland
Cramlington Learning Village	North	Cramlington	Northumberland
Coquet High School	North	Amble	Northumberland
Ilkley Grammar School	North	Ilkley	Bradford
Caedmon School	North	Whitby	North Yorkshire
Eskdale School	North	Whitby	North Yorkshire
Beacon Hill High	North	Blackpool	Blackpool
Holyhead school	Midlands	Handsworth	Birmingham
King Edward VI School	Midlands	Lichfield	Staffordshire
Lady Manners School	Midlands	Bakewell	Derbyshire
Bridgnorth Endowed School	Midlands	Bridgnorth	Shropshire
Redden Court School	London	Romford	Havering
Holland Park School	London	Kensington	Kensington & Chelsea
London Academy	London	Edgware	Barnet
Teddington School	London	Teddington	Richmond
Seaford Head Community College	South	Seaford	East Sussex
Exmouth Community College	South	Exmouth	Devon
Hitchin Girls School	South	Hitchin	Hertfordshire
Farmor's School	South	Fairford	Gloucestershire
Devizes School	South	Devizes	Wiltshire

Chart 2 reveals some basic characteristics of the 633 cases providing data or the modelling from the achieved sample of Year 9 school students. There is a very slight bias in gender, which is in fact less than that for the adult sample. The regional distribution reflects the fact that two of the schools in the midlands which were approached did not ultimately provide data. A few schools provided data from more than one class and this too affected the sample distribution by region.

Chart 2 also shows that the distribution by level of deprivation (IMD) of home neighbourhood is extremely even, suggesting that the selection procedure did deliver an appropriately stratified sample. Despite this, the same procedure did not effectively delivering a similarly even distribution in terms of home neighbourhood HBE (Chart 2).

As with the adult survey data, it is appropriate to look briefly at the data collected. To highlight comparisons between the two samples it is useful to look at the data from the same question (about special or unique local buildings). Rather remarkably, the proportion of teenagers who cite such a building was nearly identical to the proportion of adults (41% as against 40%).

Chart 2 Key characteristics of the school student sample

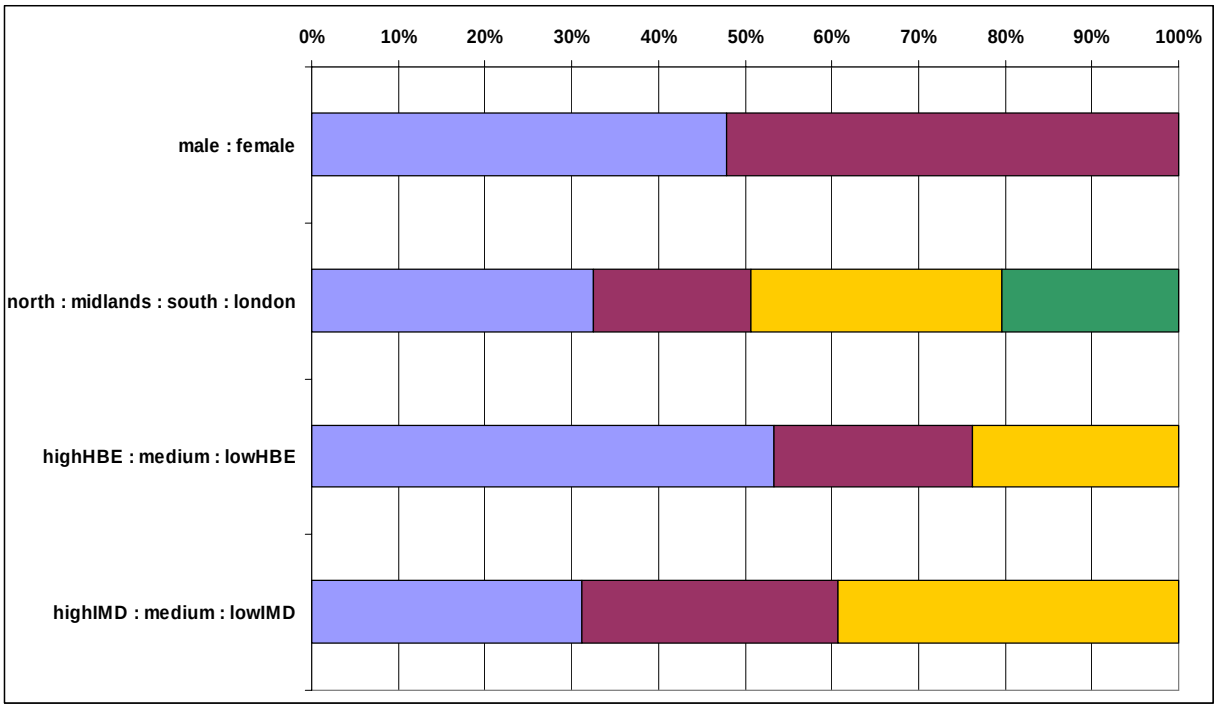


Table 6 shows the classification of the buildings cited by the teenage respondents. Here there are some notable differences to the results for adults because all the first three rows report lower proportions for teenagers than for adults, emphasised by the citing of castles or stately homes dropping from a fifth to under a tenth. Even so, the proportion of cited buildings which are likely to be historic is around a half (based on combining the first three rows of Table 6).

This contrast between the two sets of responses is completed by the far greater likelihood, relative to the adults' answers, of the teenagers citing buildings associated with shopping, leisure or sport. Although it may well be unsurprising that there is such a difference in interests between the two groups, it is possible that it is slightly exaggerated by differences between the two surveys. In particular, the teenagers – although they nominally worked individually – were in a group situation and this may have had some effect.

Table 6 Type of building cited by teenagers as unique or special to their area

castle or stately home	8.9%
religious building	29.1%
other historic	18.1%
school	11.5%
leisure or sport	16.2%
shop	9.7%
other	6.5%

More insight into the way teenagers look at their built environment can be gleaned from the sketch maps that the survey encouraged them to provide if they had some minutes spare after finishing the questionnaire. Map 4 shows a particularly detailed example. Despite the detail, they have chosen to show few historic buildings but instead to focus on similar features to those which many other teenagers' maps include, with shops and sports facilities appearing prominently.

Map 4 Sample map from Ellie, Year 9 student, Ilkey

Sense of Place

- *The survey data allowed an indicator of sense of place (SP) strength to be constructed; the data cannot support separate indicators of place identity, attachment or dependence*
- *SP values fit expectations, such as tending to be higher for females and older people.*
- *The relationship between level of SP and HBE level is real but not immediately apparent.*
- *This justifies the modelling to test for such a relationship 'other things being equal'.*
- *The modelling confirms the need to take account of the effect on SP of people's age and the social conditions of the area where they live; after doing this, there are several ways in which the historic environment has a significant and positive relationship with SP.*
- *For adults, a fairly strong model finds a positive relationship between SP level and:*
  living in an area with a higher HBE level,
  having cited a local building as special or unique,
  putting more weight on historic or attractive buildings or places as important to making an area good to live in.
  (nb. the latter two can be seen as a proxy for interest in the historic built environment).
- *For teenagers, a rather weaker model finds a positive relationship between SP level and:*
  having cited a local building as special or unique,
  having recently visited a historic building (not with school).

In order to assess which personal and environmental factors may be linked to a strong sense of place, it is necessary first to devise a measure of people's sense of place which can then be the *dependent variable* in the models. The datasets from the surveys (Annexes 3 and 4) limit the options, with fewer – and marginally different – questions asked in the school survey. That said, both surveys did ask respondents how strongly they agreed with the following six key statements, shown with their numbers in the adult survey (Annex 3):

17 The area means a lot to me
19 I could be equally happy living somewhere else
20 I would rather live somewhere else
21 I am interested in the history of my area
22 I care about what my area looks like
25 I really feel I belong to my area
26 I am proud of where I live

Some other relevant questions asked only of adults are not used here so that a similar sense of place measure can be produced for all respondents. This allows parallel analyses of the data from the two surveys (as below), and would also allow analyses of a pooled dataset.

This strategy does have to deal with the problem that adults were asked to 'score' their level of agreement with the statements using values from 1-5 whilst in the school survey there were only 3 different scores available. The simplest practicable solution was to score the response "disagree" as 1.5 and the answer "not sure" as 3 while "agree" was scored 4.5 (nb. all answers to questions 19 and 20 had to be initially inverted, of course).

The last step was to compile a single 'score' from the answers to the individual questions. With no robust conceptual basis for an alternative approach, a simple method of combining the results has been adopted. In short, the values from the individual questions which have just been discussed are added together (after the necessary inversions of questions 19 & 20).

From this point on in the report, the acronym SP will be used for this sense of place measure (thereby emphasising that the variable in the models is an inevitably limited measure of the complex concept of sense of place).

The data processing described above gives a potential range of SP scores from 7 to 35 from the 7 questions listed. The range for the school respondents is from 10.5 to 31.5 because their answers were limited to just three options. Chart 3 shows that in fact this yields scores for the teenagers which are broadly similar in their distribution to those of the adults.

Chart 3 Comparison of the SP scores for teenagers and adults

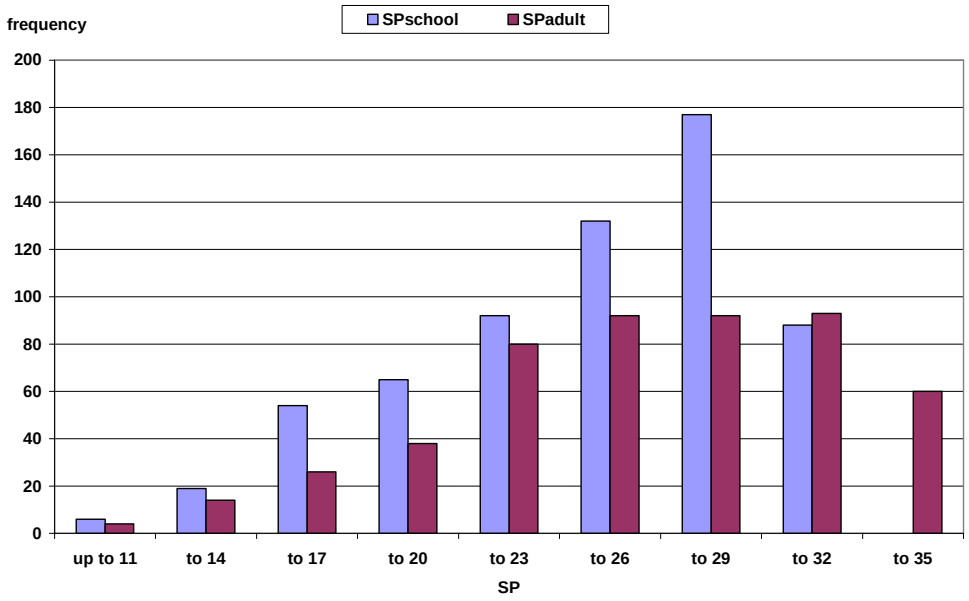


Table 7 shows that the average SP value for teenagers was 24.2 and this is not much lower than the 25.9 for average for all the adults surveyed. More interestingly perhaps, the younger adults actually have a lower SP than the teenagers. The fact that SP is found here to be at its lowest among young adults – and to rise gradually with adults' age – is encouraging because there is substantial evidence elsewhere of this pattern, so this builds confidence in the surveys and in these scores derived from them.

Tables 8 and 9 add further weight to this argument because the slightly higher SP for females than males, and also for people in rural rather than urban areas, is found in the literature too. As noted earlier, the sense of place literature is almost all about adults so the evidence here on teenagers may be of wider interest to researchers in this field. Careful assessment of the data would be needed to be sure that, for example, it is statistically robust to conclude that the urban/rural and broad regional differences in SP only emerge in adulthood (Tables 9 and 10).

Table 7 Age and SP

SP	teenager	Adult			
Age	all 13/14	All 16(+)	*16-35*	*36-55*	*56(+)*
	24.2	25.9	*23.9*	*24.8*	*27.9*

Table 8 Gender and SP

SP	teenager	adult
Male	23.8	25.0
Female	24.5	26.6

Table 9 Urban/Rural areas and SP

SP	teenager	adult
Urban	24.1	25.7
Rural	24.4	26.8

Table 10 Broad Region and SP

SP	teenager	adult
London	24.4	25.8
rest of South	24.2	25.6
Midlands	24.0	25.5
North	24.2	26.7

Before carrying out the modelling it is appropriate to take a preliminary look at the relationship between SP and HBE by simply tabulating the average SP values of people, grouped by the HBE value of where they live. Table 11 provides the results and reveals evidence which is not altogether clear. For both adults and teenagers, those living in areas with HBE values among the highest third have higher SP values than those living elsewhere. All the same, among the adults the average SP value for people in the lowest HBE areas is higher than those in the middle third. For teenagers the picture is simpler, with a steady decline in average SP values from the highest HBE areas down through the middling group to the lowest.

Table 11 HBE and SP

SP	teenager	adult
high HBE	24.6	26.4
mid HBE	24.1	25.4
low HBE	23.2	25.9

Table 11 is thus, on the face of it, suggesting that the data produced by the study casts doubt on a clear relationship between people's SP and the HBE level of the area where they live. However this simple cross-tabulation has not done anything to 'make other things equal' and so it can only offer what is very much a first look. The models can tease out the separate role of several different factors, whereas tables only look at each factor one at a time. As a result, it is models which can test the hypothesised relationship between HBE and SP (other things being equal). Annex 5 outlines the form of model used here, and summarises technical data from each of the models discussed in the report.

Results from modelling the responses of adults

Table 3 had listed variables available for the modelling of SP (and social capital) where their basic characteristics and sources were noted. All the variables are available to each model: this reflects an interpretation of the literature review, in which many of the concerns reflected by these variables have complex interactions with each other. As a result, suggesting that variable *X* is relevant in one model but not in another could be making a spurious distinction.

Table 12 reports the single most important set of results for this study, which is the modelling of the relationships between HBE and other factors and the strength of SP among adults. (Note that the shaded cell, on the second row, indicates a variable unavailable to the model.) Greatest emphasis is placed on the adult only model, partly because the literature on which the modelling is based related almost entirely to adult attitudes, and partly because more confidence can perhaps be put in the consistency of the phone survey data capture process, which was professionally administered).

The results can be summarised as follows (nb. the "R^2" value's meaning is given in Annex 5):

- the R^2 of .23 means it is quite strong for an individual scale model ('23% explanation')
- under half the available variables have a significant influence [as shown by a **+** or **–**]
- all the significant variables have the signs [**+** or **-**] that would have been expected
- the HBE variable from the listed building data *is* a significant and positive influence
- 2 of the other 3 HBE-related variables *also* have significant and positive influence
- in general, it can be argued that the model is plausible and can be readily interpreted.

Putting the model into words, it says that 'other things being equal' the adults with stronger sense of place tend to have three factors in common related to the historic built environment:

- where they live has a relatively high HBE measure
- in their view of what makes for a good place to live, they put more weight than most people do on the relative importance of historic and/or attractive places or buildings
- they are more likely than most to cite a building as special or unique to their area.

The model identified that these 3 HBE-related factors are all separate influences. They are distinct from each other, and they are independent of the other personal and environmental factors which were available to the model. Of these other factors, only three are significant. Each of these can be described in terms of negative effects on the strength of SP: being male, being younger, and living in a more deprived neighbourhood.

Table 12 Model of adults' SP

personal characteristics	
Male	-
Aged 13-14	
aged 16-35	-
aged 35-54	-
white British	
married or living with a partner	
geographical (objective)	
lives in the North	
lives in the Midlands	
lives in what is officially an "urban" area (settlement over 10,000 residents)	
size of settlement lived in (nb. set at "500" if no data as under 1,500 residents)	
geographical (subjective)	
did not refer to any named place as their home area	
referred to very localised place as their home area (eg. a neighbourhood/village)	
referred to rather large place as their home area (eg. a county)	
moved into their home area less than 3 years ago	
moved into their home area more than 10 years ago	
moved into their current home less than 3 years ago	
moved into their current home more than 10 years ago	
historic environment	
proportion of buildings in areas around home that listed	+
cited one or more building as special/unique to their local area	+
recently visited a historic building	
view of relative importance of having historic/attractive buildings in home area	+
Social environment	
level of crime in areas around home	
proportion of residents that white British in areas around home	
level of residential turnover (recent in-migration) in areas around home	
average journey to work distance of employed residents in areas around home	
level of deprivation in home neighbourhood	-
level of deprivation in areas around home	
adjusted R_2 =	**0.23**

In sum, the HBE-related variables play a major role in the model. This is all the more notable when compared to the non-significance of other factors that the literature review emphasised, such as how long a person had lived in their area, or the ethnic mix of the area. It is always possible to ask whether variable *X* in a model is a 'proxy' for some other factor, but the onus

of proof lies with those taking this sceptical view. For example, the model has no data on the respondents' personal social status so this could be a factor others variables are proxying for. Yet the fact there are three significant HBE-related variables surely shows a genuine role for the historic built environment. In any case, the model does include the IMD variable and this certainly captures much of the variation which would be represented by the missing personal status variable.

It is reasonable to conclude that the HBE variable is reflecting a real tendency for the people who live in areas with a more historic built environment to have higher SP values, other things being equal. At the same time, the other two HBE-related variables' significant role in the model suggests higher SP values among those people whose interest in the historic built environment is greater.

Results from modelling the responses of teenagers

Table 13 shows the results of modelling the SP values of the teenagers surveyed at schools. (Table 13 has 3 shaded cells because there are more variables that can only apply to adults.) In general the results are not as satisfactory as those for adults' SP (Table 11), although the significant role of some HBE-related variables is still notable. It may be helpful to first identify the similarities to the results for adults:

- under half the available variables have a significant influence [as shown by a **+** or **–**]
- there are 2 HBE-related variables which have significant and positive influence, including the one indicating people who cited a special/unique building in their area.

There are more ways that the model of teenager SP values is dissimilar to the adult model:

- the R^2 of .11 means that it is a relatively weak model ('11% explanation')
- the HBE variable from the listed building data is *not* a significant influence
- visiting a historic building is the other HBE-related variables with a positive influence
- in general, it can be argued that the model is plausible and can be readily interpreted
- having lived in the home area for more than a decade has a positive influence
- one of the significant variables has a sign [**+** or **-**] that would not have been expected (this is shown with yellow highlighting).

Review of the findings

It is worth briefly considering why the two models produce such different results. A part of the explanation could be that the choice of variables was based on the literature review, and what affects the SP of teenagers is little studied. This means that some variables available to the modelling may not be appropriate to explaining the levels of SP among teenagers. By the same token, the limited existing literature on teenagers' SP levels may well mean that the most important factors remain unknown and so have not been represented by any of the variables here. It was also suggested earlier that less confidence may be put in the data from the schools survey: this too may be part of the reason for the lower R^2 value for teenagers.

Table 13 Model of teenagers' SP

personal characteristics	
Male	
aged 13-14	
aged 16-35	
aged 35-54	
white British	
married or living with a partner	
geographical (objective)	
lives in the North	
lives in the Midlands	
lives in what is officially an "urban" area (settlement over 10,000 residents)	
Size of settlement lived in (nb. set at "500" if no data as under 1,500 residents)	
geographical (subjective)	
did not refer to any named place as their home area	
referred to very localised place as their home area (eg. a neighbourhood/village)	
referred to rather large place as their home area (eg. a county)	
moved into their home area less than 3 years ago	
moved into their home area more than 10 years ago	✚
moved into their current home less than 3 years ago	
moved into their current home more than 10 years ago	
historic environment	
proportion of buildings in areas around home that listed	
cited one or more building as special/unique to their local area	✚
recently visited a historic building	✚
view of relative importance of having historic/attractive buildings in home area	
Social environment	
level of crime in areas around home	✚
proportion of residents that white British in areas around home	
level of residential turnover (recent in-migration) in areas around home	
average journey to work distance of employed residents in areas around home	
level of deprivation in home neighbourhood	
level of deprivation in areas around home	
adjusted R_2 =	**0.11**

It has been mentioned that the variable selection process made it possible to create a pooled dataset by merging the results from both surveys. Annex 5 presents the results from modelling the SP values in the pooled dataset. Only very brief points from the results are relevant here:

- the R^2 of .18 means it is fairly strong for an individual scale model ('18% explanation').
- once again, few of the available variables have a significant influence.

- all but one of the significant variables have the signs that would have been expected.
- the HBE variable from the listed building data is *not* a significant influence.
- 2 of the other 3 HBE-related variables *do* have significant and positive influence.
- people in more deprived areas tend to have lower SP values, as in the adult model.
- males and all younger people, including teenagers, tend to have lower SP values too.

The one absolutely consistent feature in all the SP models is that higher SP values are likely among people who cited one or more building as being special or unique to their area. In the adult model on which most emphasis is put here, the HBE variable from the listed buildings data was also a significant and positive factor, whilst in both the adult and the pooled models the SP values are higher among people who placed a higher emphasis on living near historic or attractive buildings and places.

What this seems to suggest is that the relationship between the historic built environment and a stronger sense of place is not only about ***living in*** a more historic area but at least as much about how far people are engaged with and ***interested in*** their built environment. Both these factors are significant for adults; the evidence on teenagers is less strong, with only the latter factor playing a significant role. It is now relevant to turn to look at social capital, which been seen in the literature review to tend to be linked with sense of place.

Social Capital

- *The survey data allowed an indicator of strength of social capital (SC) to be constructed; the data cannot support separate indicators of bonding, bridging or linking social capital.*
- *SC values fit expectations, such as tending to be higher for females and older people.*
- *There is no simple relationship between level of SC and the HBE level where people live.*
- *This justifies the modelling to test for such a relationship 'other things being equal'.*
- *The modelling confirms the need to take account of the effect on SC of the social conditions of the area where people live; after doing this, there are some ways in which the historic environment has a significant and positive relationship with SC.*
- *For adults, a fairly strong model finds a positive relationship between SC level and:*
  having cited a local building as special or unique,
  having recently visited a historic building.
- *For teenagers, a rather weak model finds a positive relationship between SC level and:*
  having cited a local building as special or unique,
  having recently visited a historic building (not with school),
  but it also finds a negative relationship with putting more weight on historic or attractive buildings or places as important to making an area good to live in.

As it was with the SP analysis, the first task here is to create from the survey data a measure of social capital to be the *dependent variable* in the statistical analyses. The two surveys (Annexes 3 and 4) are not identical, with fewer – and marginally different – questions in the school survey when compared to the phone survey of adults. As was found with SP data too, the additional information from adults did not greatly add to, or change, the results produced when the adult-only questions are *not* in fact used.

A more fundamental result of the data available from the school survey being fairly modest was that it was not feasible to create a separate measure for the 'bonding' social capital which is contrasted with 'bridging' or 'linking' social capital in some of the literature.

Unlike the SP measure, the social capital measure has to be constructed with answers from questions of different types: that is, they were not all questions with answers that scaled from 1 to 5 (or 1 to 3 in the case of the school survey). This calls for an implicit weighting of the data from one question against that from the others. The relevant questions are listed below (showing their numbers in the adult survey) with each question followed by the scoring of the possible answers which has been applied.

29 how many relatives (not in same household) within 10min drive* time.
none = 0 1or2 = 2 3or4 = 3 5(+) = 5.

30 how many friends within 10min drive* time [schools: 20min walk].
none = 0 1or2 = 2 3or4 = 3 5(+) = 5.

31 done favour for a neighbour in last 6 months [schools: 12 months].
no = 0 yes = 3.

32 neighbour has done favour for you in last 6 months [schools: 12 months] .
no = 0 yes = 3.

33 (ever) a member of any non-work club/organisation [schools: currently].
no = 0 yes = 3.

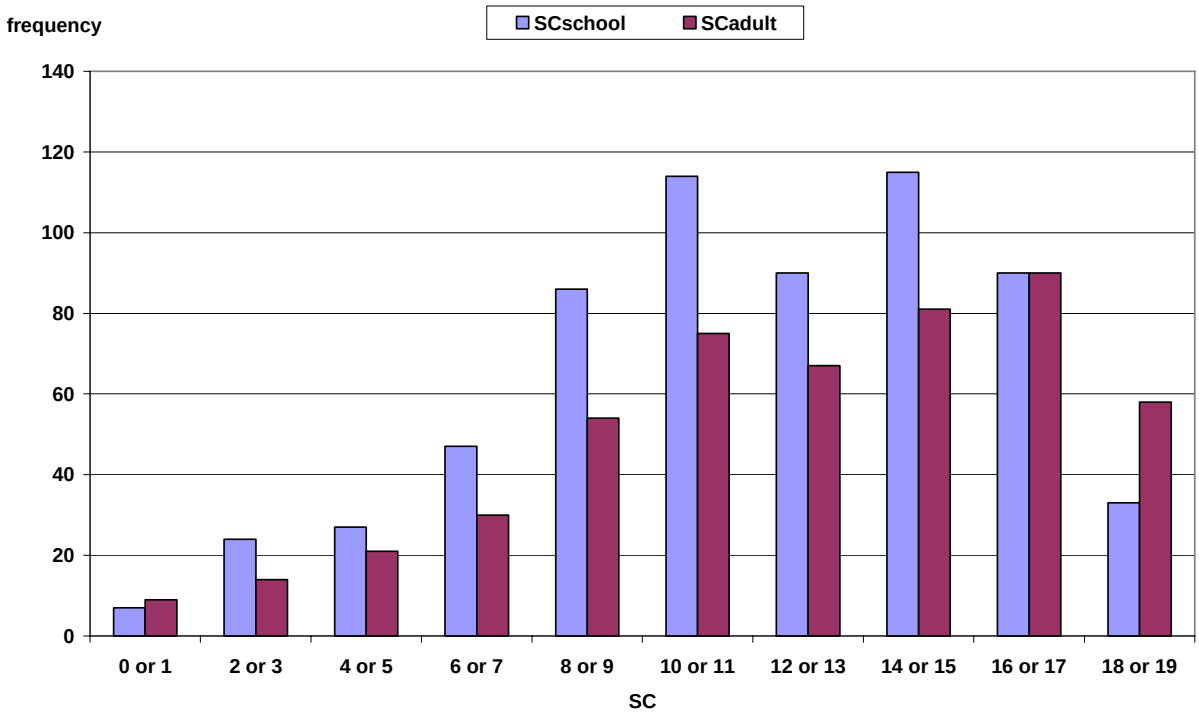
(The asterisk* is to note that for schools a 20min walk time was used.)

In contrast to the SP measure, there is no problem here with different possible answers in the two surveys. The one potential issue in comparing the results from them arises from the slight differences in the questions themselves, which flowed from thinking about what the questions might mean to teenagers as opposed to adults. The final score is simply a sum of the results for each respondent of weighting their answers to these five questions as shown above.

From this point on in the report, the acronym SC is used for this measure (thus emphasising that the variable in the models is a limited measure of the complex concept of social capital).

This series of data analysis steps gives a potential range from 0 to 19 for the SC scores. Chart 4 shows that this process has – as with the SP measure already described (Chart 3) – produced scores for teenagers with a similar distribution to those of the adults, although there is a tendency for higher SC scores for adults. Table 14 confirms this tendency, showing also that SC values (again as with SP) are lower for young adults than any of the other age groups. A difference between the findings on age and SC and those on SP and age (Table 7) is that the peak SC level is for the middle age group, with older people having slightly lower values. Some earlier studies present corroborating evidence for this pattern.

Chart 4 Comparison of the SC scores for teenagers and adults



Tables 15 and 16 present further evidence that the SC measure derived here produces similar broad patterns to those which can be found in earlier studies. As with the SP analyses earlier, for both teenagers and adults SC values are higher for females than males (Table 15). As with SP too, there seems to be an interesting relationship between SC values and whether people live in any settlement of 10,000 people or more, and whether they live in a northern region. Adults in rural areas and the north have higher SC values, but neither of these geographical factors makes a difference for teenagers (Tables 16 and 17).

Table 14 Age and SC

SC	teenager	Adult			
Age	all 13/14	All 16(+)	*16-35*	*36-55*	*56(+)*
	11.5	12.3	*11.3*	*12.7*	*12.6*

Table 15 Gender and SC

SC	teenager	adult
Male	11.3	11.9
Female	11.7	12.6

Table 16 Urban/Rural areas and SC

SC	teenager	adult
Urban	11.5	12.1
Rural	11.5	13.5

Table 17 Broad Region and SC

SC	teenager	adult
London	11.1	11.2
rest of South	11.8	10.8
Midlands	11.2	13.3
North	11.7	13.9

Table 18 gives a brief preliminary look at the relationship between SC and HBE by simply tabulating the average SC values of people, grouped by the HBE value for where they live. The results are rather surprisingly similar to those on SP (Table 11). Teenagers living in areas with HBE values among the highest third have higher SC values than those living elsewhere. The same is almost true for adults, but with the average SC value for people in the lowest HBE areas slightly higher again.

Table 18 HBE and SC

SC	Teenager	adult
high HBE	11.7	12.4
mid HBE	11.4	12.0
low HBE	11.0	12.5

As with the SP analysis then, the modelling has some promising data to work with, but it is still uncertain how clear a relationship exists between people's SC and the HBE level of the area where they live. Here again some modelling is needed to tease out whether that relationship does persist 'other things being equal' and, in consequence, to give robust evidence on the hypothesis that such a relationship exists in reality.

Results from modelling the SC of adults

Table 19 presents the results from modelling the variation in SC measure values in the same way as the SP model was described. Adopting a similar approach to describing the results:

- the model of adult SC values is of very similar strength to the SP model, with R^2 of .24.
- again only a minority of the potential predictor variables have a significant influence.
- all the significant variables in the adult model have the expected signs.

- the basic HBE variable derived from listed buildings data is *not* significant.
- 2 of the other 3 HBE-related variables *do* have significant and positive influence on SC.
- people with a very localised idea of their home area have higher levels of SC.
- the model finds no role for age or gender but SC *is* raised for married/partnered people.
- SC values (like SP values) are lower among people living in more deprived areas.
- people living in the midlands or the north have higher SC than those further south.

Although there are some rather surprising omissions from the significant variables, not least age and gender, the model is quite readily interpreted and does not include any significant factors which are counter-intuitive or contrary to earlier research findings. Thus it may provide a reasonable test for a relationship between HBE and SC 'other things being equal' and, if so, the significant and positive role of two HBE-related variables is an important finding.

Table 19 Model of adults' SC

Personal characteristics	
Male	
aged 13-14	
aged 16-35	
aged 35-54	
White British	+
married or living with a partner	+
geographical (objective)	
lives in the North	+
lives in the Midlands	+
lives in what is officially an "urban" area (settlement over 10,000 residents)	
size of settlement lived in (nb. set at "500" if no data as under 1,500 residents)	
geographical (subjective)	
did not refer to any named place as their home area	
referred to very localised place as their home area (eg. a neighbourhood/village)	+
referred to rather large place as their home area (eg. a county)	
moved into their home area less than 3 years ago	
moved into their home area more than 10 years ago	
moved into their current home less than 3 years ago	
moved into their current home more than 10 years ago	
Historic environment	
proportion of buildings in areas around home that listed	
cited one or more building as special/unique to their local area	+
recently visited a historic building	+
view of relative importance of having historic/attractive buildings in home area	
Social environment	
level of crime in areas around home	
proportion of residents that white British in areas around home	
level of residential turnover (recent in-migration) in areas around home	
average journey to work distance of employed residents in areas around home	
level of deprivation in home neighbourhood	-
level of deprivation in areas around home	
adjusted R_2 =	**0.24**

Results from modelling the SC of teenagers

Table 20 shows the results from modelling the variation in SC measure values among the surveyed teenagers. The focus of this study places least emphasis on this analysis, in part because it centres on SC and not SP which has been the greater priority, and in part because it uses the schools survey of teenagers, when more weight is placed here on the adult data, for reasons set out earlier.

The model findings are here summarised in what will now be a familiar way:

- the model is weak statistically, with the R^2 of .08 ('8% explanation').
- only a small minority of the potential predictor variables have a significant influence .
- despite this, 3 of the 4 HBE-related variables are significant factors but 'view of relative importance' of HBE in home area has an unexpected negative sign.
- the positive effect of living in an urban area is also contrary to most expectations.

The fact that the model is statistically weak means that the variables available cannot explain much of the variation in teenagers' SC as measured here. The model weakness certainly does not *necessarily* mean that those factors which the model finds to play a significant role have no genuine statistical influence on the dependent variable. All the same, some doubts may arise when key factors that would be expected to be part of the model are not included. This doubt is about whether the relationship between HBE and SC is genuinely being tested with 'other things being equal' by a model which has many of the expected 'other things' are not accounted for?

Table 20 Model of teenagers' SC

personal characteristics	
Male	
aged 13-14	
aged 16-35	
aged 35-54	
White British	
married or living with a partner	
geographical (objective)	
lives in the North	
lives in the Midlands	
lives in what is officially an "urban" area (settlement over 10,000 residents)	+
size of settlement lived in (nb. set at "500" if no data as under 1,500 residents)	
geographical (subjective)	
did not refer to any named place as their home area	
referred to very localised place as their home area (eg. a neighbourhood/village)	
referred to rather large place as their home area (eg. a county)	
moved into their home area less than 3 years ago	
moved into their home area more than 10 years ago	+
moved into their current home less than 3 years ago	
moved into their current home more than 10 years ago	
historic environment	
proportion of buildings in areas around home that listed	
cited one or more building as special/unique to their local area	+
recently visited a historic building	+
view of relative importance of having historic/attractive buildings in home area	-
Social environment	
level of crime in areas around home	-
proportion of residents that white British in areas around home	
level of residential turnover (recent in-migration) in areas around home	
average journey to work distance of employed residents in areas around home	
level of deprivation in home neighbourhood	
level of deprivation in areas around home	
adjusted R_2 =	**0.08**

Review of the findings

Even more than was seen with the SP models, the model of adult SC was found to differ from the teenager SC model in important ways. As a result, it would be unlikely that modelling the pooled dataset will discover clear and strong relationships between the variables analysed. The results can be briefly summarised as follows:

- the R^2 of .13 means that it is not a really strong model ('13% explanation').
- all the 9 significant variables have the signs that would have been expected.
- the HBE variable from the listed building data is *not* a significant influence.
- 2 of the other 3 HBE-related variables *do* have significant and positive influence.
- there is a general 'read across' from all the significant variables in the adult model.
- as with teenagers, higher SC is found for residents of a decade's standing or longer.

As with the SP models, a consistent feature in all three SC models is a positive and significant effect of being a respondent who cited at least one building as special or unique to their area. In all the SC models there was also a consistent positive effect of having quite recently visited a historic building. No other variable was a significant influence in all the three models.

Taking the evidence at face value, it suggests that any relationship between the historic built environment and higher levels of social capital is not about ***living in*** a more historic area but only about how far people are sufficiently ***interested in*** their built environment to be conscious of a locally important building, and to have visited a historic building recently. The focus on the person's interest in the historic built environment does, of course, provide a link back to the findings about sense of place.

In this way the results of the model are consistent with – though far from 'proving' – the idea outlined earlier that the relationship between historic built environment and social capital may often 'work through' a person's sense of place. Some studies have emphasised the potential role of volunteering or other forms of more active engagement in building place identity as one of the ways this process occurs. Annex 6 provides vignettes of a small sample of case studies in which involvement with the historic built environment has been advantageous in these sorts of ways.

Conclusions

- *Living in more historic built environments is linked in adults to a stronger sense of place.*
- *For both adults and teenagers, evidence of more interest in historic built environments also links with a stronger sense of place (nb. overall the model is weaker for teenagers).*
- *For both adults and teenagers, evidence of more interest in historic built environments also links with higher levels of social capital (nb. overall the model is weak for teenagers).*
- *This is thought to be the first robust evidence of relationships between sense of place and social capital, on the one hand, and being interested in and/or living in more historic built environments.*
- *The evidence on the views of teenagers in particular has broken new ground.*
- *Although there are some situations where a very strong sense of place can have less positive consequences, there are more references in the literature to such rootedness working with higher levels of social capital to support beneficial outcomes.*

Society has much to gain from strengthened communities whose residents have increased social capital. There is evidence from many quarters that a range of beneficial outcomes can flow from people having a strong sense of place. Although there are instances of insular and even embattled ideas of community, most research shows that sense of place and social capital tend to strengthen each other, and that strengthening them can lead to wider benefits.

This study set out to test the hypothesis that sense of place and/or social capital are usually stronger in areas with a more historic built environment. Carrying out a robust test about how people respond to living in more historic built environments involved creating a new measure – identified as HBE here – which was produced for every neighbourhood across the country. For the same reason, it was also necessary to create new measures of sense of place (SP) and social capital (SC).

The study is grounded in a substantial literature review with its central focus on relationships between historic built environment and people's sense of place and social capital. The review also helped shape the surveys to collect the data needed for the tests to be carried out. A key problem was identifying the many factors *other than* living in historic built environments which are linked to sense of place and social capital. These factors must be measured and included in statistical models to then test to see whether – 'other things being equal' – a relationship between HBE and SP or SC does exist.

The surveys and analyses were also guided by interviews with a small sample of historic environment and place making experts. This was a 'reality check' exercise which lent support to the broad approach adopted in the research strategy. It also reinforced the literature review evidence that a relationship between the historic built environment and social capital could well be an indirect one, mediated through sense of place in particular.

The modelling carried out was specifically designed to produce statistically robust findings. One general outcome was that stronger models were derivable from the information on adults than from the separate survey of teenagers. That said, the results reported on teenagers below are still robust findings: their limitation is that there remains a high proportion of the original variation between the teenagers which these factors are unable to account for.

Three factors relating to the historic built environment were found to be associated with stronger sense of place among adults:

- the HBE measure (in effect, the proportion of local buildings which are listed)
- whether they cited any building or monument as special or unique to the local area
- placing a higher emphasis than most people on the importance of having more historic and/or attractive buildings in the home area.

Of these three factors, the second one also has a positive and significant relationship with the level of SP for 13-14 year olds. For them, the other significant factor was the one other factor related to historic built environment which the survey measured: whether they had recently visited a historic property, other than with school. The evidence is that the teenagers who recently visited a historic place had a stronger sense of place.

The broadest interpretation of these findings is that the relationship between the historic built environment and a stronger sense of place is not only about ***living in*** a more historic area but it is also at least as much about how far people are ***interested in*** their built environment.

The historic built environment where respondents lived also had a positive and statistically significant relationship with people's level of social capital. Two factors related to HBE were found to be significant for adults, and also for both adults and teenagers in combination:

- the relative importance the person placed on having historic and/or attractive buildings in their home area.
- whether they cited a local building as important or unique to their local area.

Interpreting these results is probably best done within the framework set out earlier, in which the HBE impact on levels of SC may 'work through' its relationship to sense of place. Thus the historic built environment may have a *direct* relationship with sense of place (eg. through the fostering of local identity) but perhaps only an *indirect* relationship with levels of social capital.

There may be a minority of situations where heightened local identity leads to a less welcome growth in insular attitudes, but involvement with the historic built environment seems more likely to enhance rootedness and attachment to the local community. In some cases, the built environment can provide one of the few assets shared by disparate communities in the same area and so can offer a focus for joint action which can foster social cohesion.

The results do suggest a positive and significant relationship between aspects of historic built environment and strength of both sense of place and (perhaps indirectly) social capital.

Models of the data from teenagers are less strong than those for adults, but part of the explanation could be that the models were based on literature in which teenagers' attitudes are not considered. Thus there were no grounds for having any expectations about what the teenager models would show. At the very least, these analyses have shed some light on what were effectively completely unknown views of English young people.

Annex 1 Interviews with built environment professionals

The interviewees were senior professionals, each with a national level role and responsibility related to the management of the built environment. The sample included urban designers, architects, town planners and building conservation and preservation specialists. Among the organisations they represent or work for are national professional bodies, pressure groups and regeneration bodies and consultancy practices.

All interviewees regarded the built environment to be important in influencing sense of place. Views were more varied regarding the relative importance of historic buildings and listed buildings and spaces in particular. The following is a selection of relevant direct quotes.

> "built environment assets are an enduring contribution to our history and culture."
>
> "[it's] more about setting …cultural current use value and overall distinctiveness than an academic view of design or construction quality."
>
> "Historical built environment is one of the critical ingredients in forming an individual's sense of place."
>
> "There is a link between distinctiveness and place character and between place character and identity: historic built environment assets are among the key assets in connecting to the past".

Interviewees were acutely aware of the lack of hard evidence to support the views expressed. They also recognised the difficulty of separating out the importance of the historic built environment from other factors determining sense of place. Other factors that were suggested may have an influence on levels of attachment of place included the distinctiveness of the local retail, leisure and cultural offer, the mix of land use, topography, public realm assets and the scale of the settlement. The personal factors recognised included networks of interest, levels of trust and belonging, and the length of time the person has lived locally.

Several interviewees argued that the listing of buildings under-estimates their cultural value. An excessive reliance on expert designation and academic assessment of architectural significance marginalises the views of local communities who may well have different priorities and cultural value. Several examples were put forward of areas that are distinctive and locally valued but not especially high quality on listed buildings criteria.

People are attracted by diverse types of high quality and distinctive buildings and places, whether historic or contemporary. For example, where high quality built environments exist – due to individuals in the past having made sufficient intellectual and financial investment – subsequent owners and guardians are likely to retain and indeed invest in them to pass them on in their turn.

History is also important in that place attractiveness emerges over time. An idiosyncratic built form due to a mix of building style and use makes a place interesting and distinctive. Often old

buildings can act as ‘touch-stones’ within wider regeneration schemes. Clearing sites would be easier, but makes it more difficult to create spaces people will find attractive.

There was less clarity over a link between the historic built environment and social capital. One interviewee suggested a virtuous cycle of pride, belonging, opportunities for engagement, increasing involvement and encouragement to settle longer in the area. This understanding has the link between sense of place and social capital mediating the role of built environment.

No doubt due to their own professional concerns, the interviewees also made several related points related to policy. For example, there was a concern that the designation of historic built assets did not bring with it the resources to effectively manage these assets. It was also suggested that within a multi-cultural society, and particularly with many historic areas now predominantly being lived in by minority ethnic groups, there is key issue over whose history and whose culture is being celebrated or preserved through protection and investment in the historic built environment.

It was suggested that the planning process could better contribute to building a link between sense of place and social capital through the built environment. In particular, it could better support local communities to define place ‘character’ and build their confidence to shape the future of their place. This could lead to greater community awareness of historic assets, helping owners and residents to interpret and cherish them (rather than simple preservation).

Annex 2 The surfacing data process

The spatial analysis in this study was undertaken as an intermediate step, producing input data for the statistical models. It was applied to several of the variables representing social factors that were expected to be related to sense of place and/or social capital: IMD score, average commuting distance, % white British population, and % migrants (in the last year). However its most important role was to produce the HBE measure, and so that is the process described here. The process for the other variables was basically the same in technical terms.

The main input for the spatial analysis is a pre-surfaced HBE indicator: a ratio at LSOA scale of the number of historic buildings (and other key assets) to the total number of dwellings. LSOAs are the smallest areas for which many of the relevant datasets are made available. Even so, it was decided the analysis would take place at the output area level to achieve higher quality results. This meant that all variables had to be linked to the output area level, and more specifically in a GIS to the centroids of all England's output areas (165,665 points). At this stage, all the output areas that are part of the same LSOA receive the same value.

After this preparatory process, the interpolation took place. This is a method to estimate the unknown variation between sample points (in this case, 165,665 centroids). The interpolation method used here is termed kriging and is an emerging standard in this field. Here the kriging process was based on a Gaussian distribution, with the number of neighbours set at 4 and the maximum distance set at 15km. The selection of these parameters was based on evaluating the results produced by a range of alternative values which the software makes available.

Annex 3 Questionnaire used for the phone survey of adults

Household questionnaire

Name of Respondent …….

Address ……

Post Code …… **Telephone** ……..

Introduction

Hello I am ....(Name) from Newcastle University carrying out a study on how people feel about where they live. The interview will take just a few minutes to complete. All the information we collect will be kept securely and in strictest confidence. It will not be possible to identify any particular individual or address from the results. This is an important study for a Government Agency which will be used to influence how the government invests in local areas.

From initial response try to assess age and gender. Target others in household over 16 if already an over representation within postcode area of either age or gender.

A Sense of place

On a scale of 1-5 (1= unimportant 5=very important) how important are the following to you in making somewhere a good place to live? Answer to EACH QUESTION Score 1-5

1. Living close to friends / family .....
2. Shops, leisure and recreation facilities .....
3. Good local schools / colleges .....
4. Living in or close to historic buildings or places.....
5. Friendliness of the area / neighbours / community spirit .....
6. Being familiar with your surroundings / used to the area in which you live.....
7. What your own house / flat is like .....
8. Living close to / Convenient for work .....
9. Living in or near attractive and well maintained buildings or places .....

10a Good transport links / easy to get to other places .....

10b Near to plenty of green spaces / fresh air / attractive countryside.....

11 Are there ANY things about the area where you live that you would regard as distinctive **or special?**
PROBE <u>DO NOT PROMPT</u> Circle ALL that apply

1. What your own house / flat is like
2. Good transport links / easy to get to other places
3. Being Close to shops / good shops
4. local schools / colleges
5. **Living in or near attractive and well maintained buildings or places PROBE (WHICH AREA or BUILDINGS AND WHY?**
6. **Living in or near architecturally interesting buildings or places PROBE WHICH AREA OR BUILDINGS AND WHY?**
7. **Living in or close to historic buildings PROBE WHICH AREA OR BUILDINGS AND WHY?**
8. Near to parks / attractive countryside
9. No / nothing
10. Other SPECIFY
11. Don't know

12 Are there any **buildings or monuments** in your area which are important to **you** OR which are distinct about your area? NOTE DOWN ANY NAME(S) Yes ☐ No ☐

.....

13 Are there any **spaces for example parks** in your area which are important to you OR which are distinct about your area? NOTE DOWN ANY NAME(S) Yes ☐ No ☐

.....

14 Is there anything about your local environment you would like to change or have improved? **DO NOT PROMPT, MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE**

1. Cleaner streets
2. More spaces to play
3. Better maintained parks
4. Less traffic
5. More parking spaces
6. Better maintained / repaired buildings PROBE RE WHICH BUILDINGS.....
7. Something else
8. Nothing
9. Don't know

15 Overall how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local area as a place to live?

1 Very satisfied
2 Satisfied
3 Neither satisfied or dissatisfied
4 Dissatisfied
5 Very dissatisfied

16 Would you say you live in:

A predominantly historic area	1
A partially historic area	2
A largely modern area	3
A wholly modern area	4
Don't know	5

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements relating to your area

Where 5 strongly agree, 3 neither agree or disagree 1 Strongly disagree

17	The area means a lot to me	1	2	3	4	5
18	There is no place I would rather live	1	2	3	4	5
19	I could be equally happy living somewhere else	1	2	3	4	5
20	I would rather live somewhere else	1	2	3	4	5
21	I am interested in the history of my area	1	2	3	4	5
22	I care about what my area looks like	1	2	3	4	5
23	This area is a friendly place to live	1	2	3	4	5
24	Most people who live in this area trust one another	1	2	3	4	5
25	I really feel I belong to my area	1	2	3	4	5
26	I am proud of where I live	1	2	3	4	5

Definition of your area?

27 What is the name of the area where you live? **Do not prompt unless asked for meaning (where you regard as 'home')**

Name of area or settlement .....

28 Do you currently work in the same area?

Yes 1 No 2 Don't work 3

C Social capital

29 Apart from the people you live with, how many relatives that you feel close to live within a 5–10 minute drive, if any?

1. One or two
2. Three or four
3. Five or more
4. None

30 How many close friends live **within** a 5–10 minute drive, if any?

1. One or two
2. Three or four
3. Five or more
4. None

31 In the past 6 months, have you done a favour for a neighbour?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Just moved into the area

32 And, in the past 6 months, have any of your neighbours done a favour for you?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Just moved into the area

33 Have you ever been a member of any club or organisations outside of your employment?

1 Yes 2 No

33a) If yes, which ? Circle ALL that apply

1. Tenants'/residents' association
2. Parent-teachers'/school parent's association
3. Board of school governors/School Board
4. A political party
5. Parish, Town or community council, (not English Community Health Councils)
6. Neighbourhood council/forum
7. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme
8. Local conservation or environmental group
9. Other local community or voluntary group
10. Voluntary group to help sick/ children / other vulnerable group
11. amenity society or conservation area groups – (specifically about heritage and buildings, conservation areas etc)
12. English Heritage
13. National Trust
14. Other historic building organisation (e.g. Historic Royal Palaces; Historic Houses Association)

15. Local social club
16. Local sports club
17. Religious group / church etc
18. **None of these (name)** .....

34 About how often over the last 12 months have you given unpaid help to any group(s), club(s) or organisation(s)?
Please only include work that is unpaid and not for your family

1. At least once a week
2. Less than once a week but at least once a month
3. Less often
4. I give unpaid help as an individual only and not through group(s), club(s) or organisation(s)?
5. I have not given any unpaid help at all over the last 12 months **)**
6. Don't know **)GO TO Q45**

35 Which organisation(s)? .....

.....

.....

36 What sort of things / activities?

1	childcare/ youth work
2	care for elderly
3	sports coaching
4	admin role / organiser / fundraiser
5	environmental work
6	other (Specify).....

37 How much of this unpaid work is in your local area?

All	1
Most	2
Some	3
Very little	4
None	5

38. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Where 5 strongly agree, 3 neither agree or disagree 1 Strongly disagree

Through this volunteering you have.....

39. **met** other people from your area that you wouldn't come into contact with any other way 1 2 3 4 5
40. have made **new friends** in the area where you live 1 2 3 4 5
41. feel you **belong more** to your local area 1 2 3 4 5
42. have become **increasingly involved** in local decision making? 1 2 3 4 5
43. have become **better informed** about local public services? 1 2 3 4 5
44. By working together, people in your local area can **influence decisions** that affect your area? 1 2 3 4 5

Q45 **Have you visited an historic building or monument in the past 12 months ?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

D Relevant Personal characteristics

46 How long have you lived in this area?

1. Less than 12 months
2. 12 months but less than 2 years
3. 2 years but less than 3 years
4. 3 years but less than 5 years
5. 5 years but less than 10 years
6. 10 years but less than 20 years
7. 20 years or longer

47 How long have you lived in your current home?

1. Less than 12 months
2. 12 months but less than 2 years
3. 2 years but less than 3 years
4. 3 years but less than 5 years
5. 5 years but less than 10 years
6. 10 years but less than 20 years
7. 20 years or longer

48 Do you know roughly when was your house built?

Pre 1850	1
1850 - 1919	2
1919 - 1939	3
1940 - 1969	4
1969 – 1996	5
1996 to present	6

49 Do you have any children living at home with you? 1 yes 2 no

Number	under 10	……
	10-16	……
	Over 16	……

50 Gender (*NO need to ask!)* Male 1 Female 2

51 Do you mind telling me how old you are? *Age* ……..

If refuse Which Age group do you come into?

1. 16-35
2. 36-55
3. 56+

52. Which of these ethnic groups do you consider you belong to?

1. Asian or Asian British
2. Black or Black British
3. Chinese
4. White British
5. White Irish
6. White other
7. Other

8. Mixed

53 What is the **Occupation of the main wage earner** in your household?

Write down answer given

……..

53a) **If retired Previous Occupation of main wage earner?**
Write down answer given

……..

54 Lastly which of the following are you? READ OUT

1 Single
2 Married or with a partner
3 Divorced / separated / widowed

This survey was commissioned by English Heritage. **Thank you for taking part**.

55 Would you be willing to be re-contacted on behalf of English Heritage in the future.

Yes 1 No 2

56 Would you are interested in finding out more about the study?

Yes 1 No 2 TERMINATE

You can find out more by looking at the following website CURDS project site www.newcastle.ac.uk/curds

57 Do you have an e-mail address Yes 1 No 2 TERMINATE

58 Do you mind telling me it (CHECK CAREFULLY SPELLING AND DOTS)

……..

Annex 4 Questionnaire for the school survey of teenagers

School Student Questionnaire

1. Gender **Male** ☐ **Female** ☐

2. What is your home address Post Code e.g. (NE65 0NG)

.....

3. How important are the following to <u>you</u> in making somewhere a good place to live?

Place a tick in one box on each row

	Very Important	Important	Slightly Important	Unimportant
a) Living close to friends/family (other than those you live with)				
b) Friendliness of the area				
c) What your own house/flat is like				
d) Living close to/convenient for school				
e) Being close to cinema/leisure activities				
f) Being close to shops				
g) Living near or close to attractive buildings				
h) Living in or close to historic buildings				
i)Near to plenty of green spaces				

4. Are there ANY things about the area where you live that you think are either distinctive or special?

5a). Thinking about where you live, are there any buildings in this area which you think are unique or special?

☐ Yes ☐ No

5b) What are the names of these buildings?

.....

.....

.....

.....

6. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements relating to your area?

Place a tick in ONE box on EACH row

	I agree	I disagree	I am not sure
a) The area where I live means a lot to me			
b) I could be equally happy living somewhere else			
c) I really feel I belong to my area			
d) I would rather live somewhere else			
e) I am proud of where I live			
f) I am interested in the history of my area			
g) I care about what my area looks like			

7. What is the name of the area where you live?

Name of area or settlement

8. Approximately how many years have you lived in your current home .....

9. Approximately how many years have you lived in the same area? .....

10. Apart from the people you live with, how many of your relatives that you feel close to, live within a 15–20 minute walk if any?

One or two..... ☐
Three or four..... ☐
Five or more..... ☐
None..... ☐

11. How many of your close friends live within a 15–20 minute walk if any?

One or two..... ☐
Three or four..... ☐
Five or more..... ☐
None..... ☐

12. In the past 12 months, have you helped (or done a favour for) a neighbour?

Yes ☐ No ☐

13. And, in the past 12 months, have any of your neighbours helped you (or done a favour for you)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

14. Are you currently a member of any of the following?

	Yes	**No**
Scouts/guides/cadets/other uniformed group		
Sports club / dance group		
Youth club		
Other club PLEASE SPECIFY		

15. EXCLUDING school trips, have you visited an historic building or monument in the past 12 months ?

Yes ☐ No ☐

16. Which of these ethnic groups do you consider you belong to?

Asian or Asian British	
Black or Black British	
Chinese	
White British	
White Irish	
White other	
White and black Caribbean	
White and African	
White and Asian	
White and other mixed	
Other	

17. Please try to draw a sketch map of the area where you live marking on the buildings and places that are important to you

Annex 5 The models: method and results

The method used to produce the models for this study is regression analysis, the most widely used approach to testing for relationships in the social sciences. The method used is a variant of simple Ordinary Least Squares (OLS):

- stepwise regressio .
- based on backward variable elimination.
- using the STATA statistical package.

This method finds statistically significant 'predictor' variables and includes them in the final regression model. More specifically, the backward method initially includes all the independent variables in a model; it then calculates the contribution of each variable to the prediction of the dependent variable. The elimination of the predictors is based on whether they contribute statistically significant or not. If the removal of an independent variable does not make any significant difference, then this predictor is eliminated. The elimination is based on Wald tests and here a 95% confidence level was set for the exclusion of variables.

It is common for multivariate models that include a large set of independent variables for there to be multicollinearity problems. This occurs when two or more of the independent variables are highly correlated. This is a violation of one of the main assumptions of the OLS because this requires that the independent variables are linearly independent. In order to avoid this, two steps were applied to the data processing. Firstly a correlation analysis was produced and the highly correlated variables were identified. Secondly the Variance Inflation Factor was calculated to see if much the variance of the coefficient estimate is inflated by multicollinearity. According to the literature, values above 10 indicate a multicollinearity problem. All the models reported here have no multicollinearity problems at this level, and so the resulting coefficients are robust.

In assessing the strength of a model the R^2 value is the key measure. In principle, this can range from 0 to 1 and can be interpreted as the proportion of the variation in the dependent variable that has been 'explained' in statistical terms by the model. A value of .1 thus indicates that a tenth of the variation (for example, between the SP values of adult survey respondents) has been accounted for by the significant independent variables in the model (for example, the HBE values of the areas where the respondents live). There is far more variation between individuals than there is between the averages derived from groups of people (eg. a whole social class, or the residents of an area). In consequence, individual-level models tend to have much lower R^2 values than models of the variation between groups. The models here which have R^2 values of around .2 can thus be seen as having a 'respectable' level of explanation.

In the report the results of the models are presented only schematically. The next part of this Annex provides more comprehensive information on these models. The four models which are described in the report are detailed her in turn. These are augmented by similar information from the models of the pooled data which combined the adult and teenager survey datasets.

Annex 6 Case Studies

The following set of case studies are overviews of a sample of projects which in different ways illustrate links between the historic built environment and sense of place and/or social capital.

Leas Lift, Folkestone

This is a case study of the value that a local community put on a distinctive part of their historic built environment. There is evidence of a strengthened sense of place as a result. More specifically, involvement in a built environment issue was a catalyst for an increased interest in local democracy.

Leas Lift at Folkstone is an ingenious water powered lift and a distinctive local structure. Although an integral part of Folkstone's tourism offer for over 120 years, annual costs to the local council of operating and maintaining the lift was found to be rising. Maintenance has been insufficient to properly maintain the lift and a major overhaul is required. In recent years a road down to the beach, together with car parking, has reduced the annual revenue from ticket sales. March 2009 saw the Council decide to close the lift with immediate effect.

It is difficult to place an economic value on how far the lift draws visitors to the town. It is even more difficult for a Council to place a value on the contribution of individual buildings to the overall sense of place for local residents. A campaign was orchestrated by a Councillor and within a period of just *four days* there was a significant level of community support: 2,800 hits on a Facebook site, a petition signed by 1,921 people, over 150 attendees at a demonstration held during working hours.

At the time of writing, campaigners were optimistic that if a comprehensive restoration of the lift is achieved then the lift could be successfully operated viably by a heritage trust, or even by a private operator.

Fourways, Amble

This is a case study of a historic buildings being adapted to generate income which is then used to support the cost of activities aiming to develop social capital. These activities include community activities, events, advice and support for adult employment and training, along with volunteering guidance.

Amble Development Trust acquired the former Station Hotel, a well known establishment near the centre of the town. This prominent historic building had become derelict and affected the appearance of the town centre. Following a feasibility study into its re-use potential a package of grants eventually secured the full refurbishment of the building into an opportunities centre, housing employment advice, training, offices for rent and for the Development Trust itself.

Fourways now houses a number of support services ranging from a housing office, to help for young people without work or training. There is also a bi-monthly community newspaper which gives a voice to local people, and other community groups and independent organisations which foster the engagement of marginalised members of the local community.

The newly created office suites were let at commercial rates. This rental income now contributes significantly to the Trust's financial sustainability. . Fourways has become the springboard for the Trust to undertake regeneration projects as well as community support activities.

Bellingham Heritage Centre

This is a case of the local historic built environment providing a vehicle for the local community as whole to work together on a development to bring alive the history of their area. Bellingham Heritage Centre promotes all aspects of local heritage, including historic buildings. Run by a group of local volunteers, the project is one of many comparable projects where local people work together to preserve local buildings and artefacts. In this case the Heritage Centre was developed in the former Border Counties Railway station yard.

Within the Centre there are five displays which raise awareness of the built environment of the local area (the North Tyne and Rede valleys). The project has contributed towards the local community's sense of belonging. Each year every class from the village school comes to visit the Heritage Centre for half a day. This helps the young people understand more about their local area and their heritage. Among the highlights for the children is closely examining the wooden walls of the old parcel shed where they can see where their relatives have inscribed their names. Local residents and visitors researching their ancestry also use the facilities.

Bellingham Heritage Centre is managed by a group of local volunteers from different backgrounds and with different levels of local attachment: some have families who lived locally for centuries, some who have moved only recently to the area. The extent that the

Centre is valued by the local community is evidenced by over 100 local Friends who donate money each year to support its continued development.

Faversham Parish Church

Faversham Parish Church provides a case study of a local community valuing its historic buildings and working together to develop a sense of pride and understanding about the place where they live. It also provides opportunities to meet and work with other members of the community and has led to people getting involved in local democracy and fund raising.

Faversham Parish Church is a Grade I building which has become the focus for local people working together to secure funding to create an impressive range of learning resources explaining the historical significance of the parish church. In total, 15 publications have been written and researched by local people. Those involved have learnt greatly about the church and its role at the centre of community life. They started with a degree of attachment to the building but through the course of the project and their research they became increasingly aware of the importance of the church to the town and community over many centuries. Greater attachment has led to a sense of responsibility to ensure that the church remains central to lives of local residents.

In the future, the Aspire project plans to promote more widely the learning resources available. The group hope to recruit a part time education officer to work with local schools and to develop workshops building on the curriculum. A local Aspire festival attracted several hundred local residents to the church. In the year 2007 around 4,000 people from 34 groups visited the church.

Oxford Castle Project

This case study is an interesting example of a project that aims to connect local people with their roots and their city through the historic environment. It develops a sense of pride about the local area, a sense of belonging and of inclusion.

The Oxford Castle project run by the Oxford Preservation Trust aims to connect people with their roots and their City. In particular it emphasises the history of the town which is not related to the University or colleges. The local school Pegasus Primary has worked closely with the Trust for a number of years, developing collaborative learning material. This culminated in the production of an event to showcase the students' talents: approximately 100 students took part and over 400 adults saw the production.

The headteacher of Pegasus Primary has explained their involvement. "*Our school serves an area of significant deprivation in the city of Oxford (Blackbird Leys) and few of our children or families really engage with the history of the city. This project transformed this situation!*

Both they and their families revelled in the clear expertise the children developed and have accessed this segment of our city's history and taken it as their own. …They (the parents) were intensely proud of their children's achievements and they felt that a part of their city's history had been brought to life and made their own. …The setting made the night very special indeed and gave children and families a different relationship with this part of Oxford. The benefits have been lasting. …The achievement of the children and their passionate interest in the diarist Anthony A Wood and the glimpses of seventeenth century Oxford we get through his diary, are now part of their lives. They have a very real sense of the city's history belonging to them: they are proud of their city and I fervently hope their city is proud of them."

Since the success of the 2007 production the school's relationship with the Castle site continues to flourish. The School have already agreed to be part of Oxford Open Doors in 2009 and is anticipated that the two organisations will continue to work closely together as suitable projects arise.

Dig Manchester

This case study encouraged local communities to get involved in 'hands on' archaeology and contributed to the development of social capital in several ways, as well as to levels of interest in local history.

Dig Manchester was a cultural and social regeneration archaeological project which involved thousands of Manchester's residents in archaeology and local heritage within their local area. With support from various funding bodies, the project has particularly focussed on schools and disadvantaged groups. It has uncovered the rich history of areas such as Wythenshawe which has a lack of historic structures above ground. The project is seen as fostering people's sense of identity, and giving opportunities for different sections of the community to work together.

Examples of social capital development identified by the project evaluation include two newly formed active local archaeology groups (with 70 members overall), expansion of the local Young Person's Archaeology Group and partnership work between various local community groups and public sector agencies for the first time. Confidence has been built among the participants, especially those who presented at various events.

The evaluation of the project claimed that the various digs have increased the level of local and civic pride which in turn raised respect for the community and the immediate environment. More than two in three respondents said they were interested in finding out about local history as a result of the local excavations.

St Paul's Old Ford, Bow

This is one of many cases of a church that have re-defined its role a focal point in the local community by extending the range of uses to which it is put. Its physical transformation has enabled it to become a vibrant facility now used by many different groups of people within the local community.

St Pauls is a Gothic Revival church of 1878 in London's East End which had been closed since the early 1990s due to safety concerns. A new vicar arrived and has described being inspired by the local support for the building and the sense of place the building stimulated. *"The day I arrived local people who didn't even go to church kept coming up to me and saying 'I hope you're going to save the church'. They didn't want the church to go."*

A feasibility study led on to local fund-raising which gradually brought over £3 million from various bodies, to which was added more than £25,000 raised by local projects. A whole new steel structure was inserted within the existing historic shell. This provides an art galley and project room, a gym, physical and therapy counselling rooms and even a sauna. On the ground floor, a significant dedicated place of worship is retained as well as a community hall, a crèche, a cafe and kitchen, a reception office. The building is managed by the parish and can call on local volunteers.

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