



www.cadw.wales.gov.uk

Introducing Cadw



Cadw is the Welsh Government's historic environment service. We are working for an accessible and well-protected historic environment for Wales.

We do this by:

- Conserving and protecting the historic environment.
- Promoting public access, appreciation and enjoyment of the historic environment.
- Promoting distinctive regeneration and sustainable development through heritage.
- Running a high-quality and effective organisation.



Cadw is part of the Welsh Government's Culture and Sport Department and is answerable to the Minister, John Griffiths, AM.

Cadw is a Welsh word meaning 'to keep' or 'to protect'.

Conserving and protecting the historic environment

Cadw works to conserve and protect the historic environment and to promote distinctive regeneration and sustainable development through heritage.

We do this by:

- Identifying places of special historic significance; this can affect permission for alterations or proposed works.
- Providing advice to planning authorities as part of the statutory planning process and to other public bodies on environmental assessments. We also provide advice and guidance on good conservation practice to property owners and occupiers.
- Providing grants for conservation and repair to the owners of the very best historic buildings, buildings in designated conservation areas and scheduled ancient monuments. We grant-aid community heritage projects and work with other historic environment funders to help owners put together a funding package.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Providing access to and promoting appreciation and enjoyment of the historic environment



Cadw manages 127 monuments on behalf of the Welsh Government. By providing access to these sites and using them as 'showcases' for the history of Wales, we aim to encourage people to explore and appreciate the historic environment. Traces of history are all around us and you are never far from a building or site of historic interest.

Cadw sites

Free sites

There are Cadw sites throughout Wales and many of them are open at all reasonable hours and free of charge. Although unstaffed, interpretation panels on many of these sites will help you make the most of your visit. A guidebook or pamphlet is generally obtainable — by post from Cadw or from a local shop.



Sites with an admission charge

Around 30 of the larger sites are staffed and an admission charge is payable (unless you have a disability or are a member of Cadw). These sites generally have more exhibitions, sometimes an audio-visual presentation and a shop. Our custodians are proud of their monuments and are always pleased to help make your visit more rewarding. To find out more about each monument, including opening hours, special events and access issues, you can check our website (www.cadw.wales.gov.uk) or the Cadw 'app' which can be downloaded free of charge.



Interpretation and learning

Cadw's sites are a focal point for our work to make the historic environment of Wales interesting and intelligible. We do this in many ways including information panels, presentations, site guidebooks and other history publications.

Not all visitors want to add to their knowledge or understanding by reading, so Cadw's Events Team organises a lively programme of activities, performances, living history days and demonstrations as a less formal way of learning.

We also offer more structured educational opportunities — there is free admission for school parties and adult education groups. Learning resource materials are available via our website and also from our partner organisation, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales — www.rcahmw.gov.uk.



The historic environment of Wales

The sites managed by Cadw are a fraction of the historic sites, ancient monuments and historic features in Wales. There are traces of human activity in every part of Wales. Cadw and its partners are responsible for recording these traces and also for monitoring their condition.

Information about the historic environment

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) coordinates records for the historic environment and makes available Cadw's information about places of special historic significance on the internet at www.historicwales.gov.uk. It also maintains the national archive for the historic environment, the National Monuments Record for Wales, which can be consulted online at www.coflein.gov.uk or through a free enquiry service and public reading room. For further information see www.rcahmw.gov.uk or contact RCAHMW, Plas Crug, Aberystwyth SY23 1NJ. Telephone 01970 621200.



Clwyd–Powys Archaeological Trust
www.cpat.org.uk

Dyfed Archaeological Trust
www.cambria.org.uk

Glamorgan–Gwent Archaeological Trust
www.ggat.org.uk

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust
www.heneb.co.uk

Partnerships

To protect and promote the historic environment, Cadw works with a range of partner organisations and networks. These range from large national institutions to more modest local community groups — everyone has a part to play in the heritage of Wales.

Archaeological Trusts

The four Welsh Archaeological Trusts were founded more than 30 years ago to provide comprehensive archaeological advice for all of Wales.

Historic Environment Group

Welsh Ministers established this high-level forum in 2004 to take a strategic overview of issues and opportunities in the historic environment, and to seek to promote common approaches to address these.

Built Heritage Forum

Much of Cadw's work involves close liaison with Welsh local authorities, particularly on planning and development control matters. The Built Heritage Forum provides a network for conservation officers from Wales's 25 local planning authorities (22 councils and the 3 national park authorities).



Cadw's priorities

While continuing to address Cadw's core business, which is outlined very briefly above, we have a number of key priorities for the next few years:

- Development action, including legislation to simplify and standardise heritage protection regulations.
- Produce a quinquennial review of the monuments in State care in 2012–13 and work programmes flowing from it.
- Complete a pan-Wales heritage interpretation plan to promote intellectual access to the historic environment of Wales in general and to Cadw sites in particular.
- Develop programmes for publication, interpretation, education and events, which deliver meaningful learning opportunities and encourage community pride.
- Implement programmes of work to improve access to Cadw sites for everyone, including action to assist access for people with disabilities, including sensory impairment or learning difficulties.
- Take collaborative action with partners to present a dynamic and authentic image of the heritage and culture of Wales to the world.
- Take collaborative action with partners to promote conservation and building skills and to provide learning and training opportunities.
- Develop working practices that ensure that repairs to ancient monuments conform to our Conservation Principles and modern best practice.
- Promote the historic environment as a key strand of regeneration and sustainable development by celebrating best practice, forging strategic partnerships and fostering specimen projects.
- Develop a high-quality, stimulating and imaginative arts programme to delight our visitors and help them see our heritage sites in a new light.



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Contacting us and finding out more

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Website www.cadw.wales.gov.uk

It doesn't matter how you choose to contact us, we will aim to put you in touch with the person best able to help you. You will also find a lot of information on our website, including details about visiting Cadw monuments, our events programme, membership scheme and information about grants, conservation and technical advice.

We produce many publications — guidebooks and history books, for which there is a charge, and advice and guidance booklets, which are generally free and can be downloaded from the website. You can see a full list of publications on our website or request a catalogue through the post.

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