

# The Principal Aims of Heysham Heritage Association

To promote and help conserve the heritage of Heysham and its environs.

In particular, to help conserve and enhance the Heysham Conservation Area, the Heysham coastal landscape and Biological Heritage Sites, all of which have long been of public enjoyment and an important part of the regional heritage.



Heysham & Cumberland Mountains, Watercolour by JMW Turner. © The British Museum.



Rock Graves on Heysham Head. Protected by The National Trust.

# Appeal for funds

## How can you help?

£200,000 is required urgently and will be shared equally between Heysham Heritage Centre and St Peter's Church.

The Appeal is a partnership between St Peter's Church, Heysham Heritage Association and Heritage Trust for the North West (Registered Charity No. 508300).

For further details about the Appeal please contact:

- The Rev. David Tickner, Rector, St Peter's Church, Main Street, Heysham.
- Mr John Holding, Chairman, Heysham Heritage Association, 342 Heysham Road, Heysham, LA3 2BW
- Mr EMJ Miller, Director, Heritage Trust for the North West, Park Hill, Barrowford, Nelson, Lancashire BB9 6JQ

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**Heritage Trust for the North West** (formerly Lancashire Heritage Trust) is a registered Building Preservation Trust and was established in 1978 as a charity and company limited by guarantee. It has rescued and restored many buildings of architectural interest at risk in Lancashire.

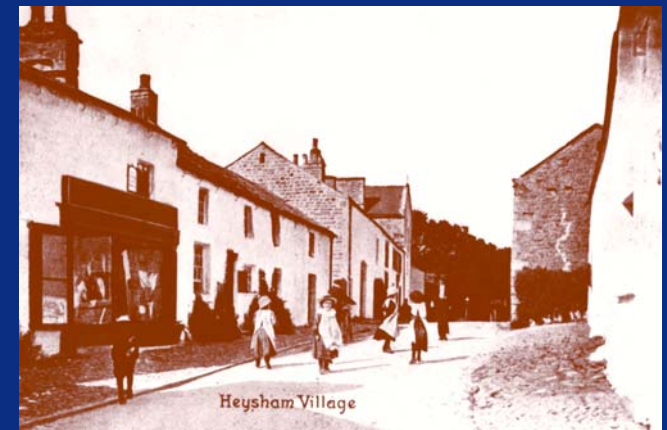
The Trust seeks to find new appropriate uses for historic buildings and encourages good design and craftsmanship.

It has retained some of the buildings it has restored deriving rental income from them. Others are open to the public forming a network of historic places to visit, such as Heysham Heritage Centre.

# SAVE Heysham's Heritage



St Peter's Church (Grade I), View of West end with Saxon doorway



The Heritage Centre is the whitewashed building on the right



**A joint Appeal** for St Peter's Church and Heysham Heritage Centre

## St Peter's Church



Although there is some disagreement among the experts most suggest that St Peter's was one of the Celtic churches along the West Coast. As such the foundation of the stone church would have been laid down in the sixth century. Tradition has it that Heysham was visited by St Patrick and there are some unique stone cut graves on the adjacent headland. There was a Saxon monastery by the eighth century with a small prayer chapel by the graves. It was probably a pilgrimage site similar to Holy Island. The monks rebuilt St Peter's and these are the oldest parts of the stone church now visible.

In recent years the sea has done serious damage to the sea walls and the cliffs on which St Peter's stands. St Peter's part of this appeal is to raise money to make necessary repairs to the sea wall and to strengthen the sea defences. We also need to repair sections of the graveyard which themselves have eroded over time.



## Heysham Heritage Centre



This 17th century longhouse (cottage and barn) is an unusual example of surviving 17th century village architecture. In the 20th century the longhouse was converted into a cottage and two lock up shops, No. 22, 24, 26 Main St. Heritage Trust for the North West acquired the two lock up shops in 1999 and converted with grant aid from many organisations and individuals to form a small Heritage Centre for Heysham Village.

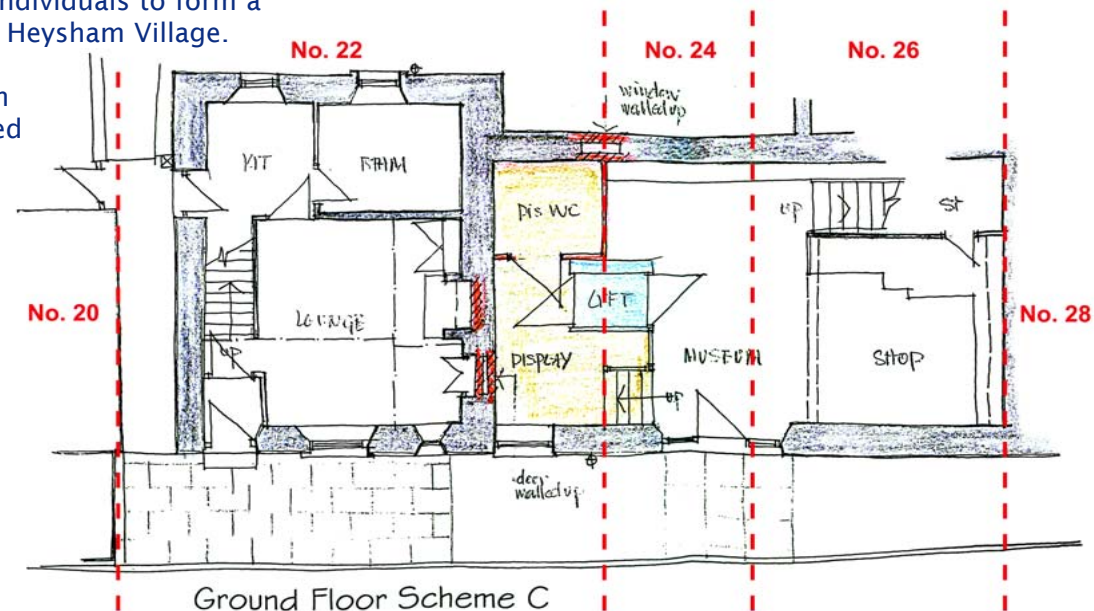
The Centre was opened in 2000, and has been visited by over 80,000 people,

exceeding all expectations. It is run entirely by dedicated volunteers from Heysham Heritage Association, with a small grant from Lancaster City Council.

However the space is very limited, and the Trust's long term aim has been to acquire the cottage part of the longhouse, if the opportunity arose.

Last Summer the Trust acquired the cottage, with a loan from the Architectural Heritage Fund which has to be repaid within two years, and is currently preparing plans for conversion and refurbishment with M. Harrison Architects to enable the centre to expand its work.

The Trust's priority is to pay off the loan of £90,000 on the acquisition costs. Most grant making bodies are unable to fund this part of the work, but will support the restoration costs, so the Trust is launching an Appeal for funds to clear the debt.



Sketch proposal prepared by M. Harrison Architects, Lancaster for conversion of the cottage to form improved public access including a lift and new display areas and bring the two parts of the building together again as one unit.