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Barts Heritage receives lifeline grant from Government's £1.57bn Culture Recovery Fund

- **Almost 450 heritage organisations in England, including Barts Heritage have been awarded cash from the first round of the Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage**
- **Grants of up to £1 million will deliver a lifeline for the heritage sector in England with further support to follow and larger grants for capital projects awarded through the Heritage Stimulus Fund**
- **First major tranche of funding from the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund**



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Barts Heritage is one of 445 heritage organisations across the country set to receive a lifesaving financial boost from the government thanks to the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund to help them through the coronavirus pandemic.

445 organisations will share £103 million, including the North Wing project at St Bartholomew's Hospital to help restart vital reconstruction work and maintenance on cherished heritage sites, keeping venues open and supporting those working in the sector.

Registered Office: St Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London EC1A 7BE
Charity number: 1167316 **Registered in England and Wales:** 10097955
Trustees: Michael Smith (Chairman); Sir Marcus Setchell (Deputy Chairman);
Brendan Finucane QC; Professor Charles Knight; Mark Pemberton; Robert Treharne Jones;
Elizabeth Smith; Amicia de Moubray; Clare Maurice; Douglas Harmer



Barts Heritage is delighted to announce receipt of a £151,600 award. This crucial funding will allow the Heritage Trust to continue its project to restore the Grade I listed North Wing and Henry VIII Gatehouse at St Bartholomew's Hospital, creating both a bridge to connect the public to the historic hospital and a new model for heritage and wellbeing beginning with pilot programmes co-designed with Hospital staff.

This vital funding is from the Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage and the Heritage Stimulus Fund - funded by Government and administered at arms-length by Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Both funds are part of the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund which is designed to secure the future of Britain's museums, galleries, theatres, independent cinemas, heritage sites and music venues with emergency grants and loans.

433 organisations will receive a share of £67 million from the Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage to help with costs for operating, reopening and recovery. This includes famous heritage sites across the country, from Wentworth Woodhouse in Yorkshire to Blackpool's Winter Gardens, Blyth Tall Ship to the Severn Valley Railway, the International Bomber Command Centre in Lincolnshire to the Piecehall in Halifax. The funds will save sites that are a source of pride for communities across the country.

12 organisations, including English Heritage, Landmark Trust, Historic Royal Palaces and the Canal and River Trust, will receive £34 million from the Heritage Stimulus Fund to restart construction and maintenance on cherished heritage sites to preserve visitor attractions and protect livelihoods for some of the most vulnerable heritage specialists and contractors in the sector.

The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) has also been awarded a grant from the Culture Recovery Fund through Historic England. The AHF will use the funding to support charities and social enterprises occupying historic buildings to develop new business plans and strategies for organisations affected by the pandemic.

William Palin, Barts Heritage Chief Executive said:

“We are thrilled to have been awarded £151,600 from the Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage. This crucial grant will enable us to continue our pioneering project to restore our Grade I listed buildings as a new model for heritage and wellbeing. This funding will enable us, at this challenging time, to press ahead with project development, implement pilot schemes, build our volunteer base, and further strengthen our partnership with St Bartholomew's Hospital as it approaches its 900th anniversary.”

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Professor Charles Knight, St Bartholomew's Hospital Chief Executive said:

“The historic North Wing is at the heart of our working hospital. It is both a physical manifestation of excellence and a representation of the principle of universal care which inspired the foundation of St Bartholomew's Hospital nearly 900 years ago. Saving it is an urgent and time-limited opportunity for us and, thanks to the Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage, Barts Heritage can continue to develop its plans to restore the fabric of this wonderful building and create a much-needed new health and wellbeing hub for staff, patients and visitors, where the beautiful historic spaces can become places of healing, contemplation and inspiration.”

Notes on the North Wing Project

With many major grant-giving programmes currently suspended or focused primarily on Covid response, Barts Heritage has now reshaped the project programme into two smaller phases of work that will address the most pressing works, securing the historic fabric and opening up the principal spaces for public use. The first phase of the project is planned to coincide with the 900th anniversary of St Barts and will secure the fabric of both buildings and renovate its two principal interiors.

Barts Heritage is currently working with the Hospital to provide urgently needed facilities for the staff within the west pavilion of the North Wing. These will serve as important pilot projects in 2020, co-designed with Hospital staff, that will inform how the Heritage Trust shapes the programmes in the upgraded building. Facilities will include relaxation areas for individuals to gather and unwind; smaller private rooms for professional services such as psychological care; spaces for creative and innovate thinking in teams and larger spaces for group exercise and physiotherapy. We also hope to be able to offer wellbeing programmes for wider audiences as the project develops, including schoolteachers, community leaders and youth workers, subject to consultation and further planning.

Culture Secretary Oliver Dowden said:

“As a nation it is essential that we preserve our heritage and celebrate and learn from our past. This massive support package will protect our shared heritage for future generations, save jobs and help us prepare for a cultural bounceback post covid.”

Duncan Wilson, Historic England's Chief Executive said:

“It is heartening to see grants, both large and small, from the Government's Culture Recovery Fund helping heritage sites and organisations across the country which

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**BARTS
HERITAGE**

St Bartholomew's Hospital

West Smithfield
London EC1A 7BE

have been hit hard by the effects of Covid-19. These grants range from giving skilled craft workers the chance to keep their trades alive to helping heritage organisations pay the bills, and to kick-starting repair works at our best-loved historic sites. The funding is an essential lifeline for our heritage and the people who work tirelessly to conserve it for us all, so that we can hand it on to future generations.”

Ros Kerlake, Chief Executive of the National Lottery Heritage Fund said:

“It is absolutely right that investing in heritage should be a priority during this crisis and this support by Government is crucial. Heritage creates jobs and economic prosperity, is a major driver for tourism and makes our towns, cities, and rural areas better places to live. All of this is so important for our wellbeing and will be particularly vital when we start to emerge from this incredibly difficult time.

“Our heritage is still facing a perilous future – we are not out of the woods yet. But this hugely welcome funding from Government, and the money we continue to invest from the National Lottery, has undoubtedly stopped heritage and the organisations that care for it being permanently lost.”

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