

<p>Institution: Bishop Grosseteste University</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: History</p>
<p>a. Context</p> <p>The Unit's impact has been achieved in relation to the following user, beneficiary and audience types: local communities and individuals; religious groups; history, heritage, amenity and other specialist interest societies; schools; local broadcast media consumers; and governmental, non-governmental and quasi-governmental officers.</p> <p>The most prominent types of impact relate to two domain areas. Impact has been achieved in local and wider civil society, that is, in forming, informing and influencing societal associations and group and individual attitudes through popular engagement with, and understanding of, history and historical environments. Impact has also been brought out in the cultural life domain, through stimulating the creation of cultural capital relating to history and heritage, and engaging in its public representation.</p> <p>The Unit's impact is informed by, and has informed, a range of research areas of the Unit's history staff: English local, regional, community and oral history; ecclesiastical, religious and Reformation history; digitisation, e-learning, knowledge transfer and public history; landscape, urban, rural and architectural history; cultural and intellectual history; Icelandic history; and field and community archaeology.</p>
<p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p>The Unit has developed impact through various modes of interaction, engagement and relationships: formation, membership or representation of specialist interest groups and societies; delivering public lectures, workshops or symposia; managing private and publicly funded history and heritage projects; production of publications for popular readership; and broadcast and printed media exposure.</p> <p>Evidence of such types of activity include: the establishment of groups and societies (eg. the Ermine Estate Archive Group, International Robert Grosseteste Society, and the Lincoln Archaeology Group for Excavation, Education and Research), and contribution to the work of The Survey of Lincoln and Lincolnshire Heritage at Risk projects. Staff have also offered a range of workshops (eg. for the Lincolnshire Heritage Consortium and Navenby Archaeology Group), and given presentations to local and regional groups and societies and at public events and meetings (eg. the Sleaford, Ingham, and Nettleham history groups; U3A branches; The Lincoln Book Festival; and Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology). The Unit has organised symposia open to the public and non-HE professionals (eg. on: Robert Grosseteste; British post-war council estates; and heritage crime). Publications by staff incorporate articles on public approaches to local history and using open-access and web-based historical sources (eg. <i>Local History News</i>, and <i>Lincolnshire Past & Present</i>), and contributions to books for general readerships (eg. Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies and The Survey of Lincoln). Funding has supported engagement with external organisations and groups (eg. Devon County Council, English Heritage, Heritage Lottery Fund, Lincolnshire Cooperative Limited, and the British Association for Local History). In addition, staff have also provided content for national, regional press and radio reports (eg. <i>The Church Times</i> and <i>The Lincolnshire Echo</i>).</p> <p>The impact of the Unit's activity has been followed through in order to gauge and evaluate its results. This has been achieved through ongoing reporting as members of the groups through which impact has been achieved (eg. Ermine Estate Archive Group, International Robert Grosseteste Society, Lincoln Archaeology Group for Excavation, Education and Research, and The Survey of Lincoln); and in tracking quantifiable indicators where available (eg. hits to the Lincolnshire Coop Archive website, and 'Open-Lab' community archaeology group activity attendance).</p> <p>The History Unit has developed forms of advice and support of wider benefit among those of its team members seeking to achieve impact (eg. networking, making bids to public and third-sector</p>

Impact template (REF3a)

organisations, and knowledge transfer and digitisation).

At the wider institutional level, the impact achieved by the History Unit has been specifically supported by its host Department of Culture and Creative Arts (DoCCA). The Department's committee regularly reports on, promotes and disseminates the results of the Unit's public engagement activity and related research. DoCCA and the History Unit are located in turn by the School of Culture, Innovation and Education (SCEI). The School's Innovation Manager has provided training, mentoring, networking and administrative guidance in relation to externally funded public-engagement activity (eg. Lifelong Learning Network, local authority, and Heritage Lottery Fund). SCEI is also the locus of two units with specialist equipment and staffing support that sustain forms of consultancy, knowledge transfer and public engagement. First, BG Digitisation Services has been an important spin-off from, and supporting resource for, digital archiving and web-publication work for external projects. The Digitisation Services is equipped with large-format A2 and 3D scanners and specialist data-management software, and is also supported at a broader level by the expertise of the University's e-learning team. Second, BG Archaeology Services is resourced with various items of laboratory and field equipment. This unit has been developed with external funding, including from the Heritage Lottery Fund, to form an 'Open-Lab' project. The project has opened up a programme encouraging and supporting individuals and groups in their public engagement with the local historical environment. In addition, the rebuilt and extended library at BGU has established a Lincolnshire Collection room, as a location for existing and newly donated resources for use by staff and external groups and individuals.

c. Strategy and plans

The History Unit's plans for research include strengthening impact-related activity. This includes: supporting memberships and representations of community and specialist history groups; guiding funding applications to private, public and third-sector groups and organisations for community and popular history and heritage engagement projects; and increasing the place of innovation and knowledge transfer through digitisation, e-learning and community archaeology projects.

At a wider level, SCEI is planning its research activity from 2014. This will incorporate enhancing the dimension of 'impact-led' research activity, and provision for its support and monitoring through mentoring, funding, promotion, and reporting.

d. Relationship to case studies**Andrew Jackson**

Dr Jackson's impact has been achieved through work with local communities and public and private sector organisations in stimulating engagement with public history and heritage. Modes of engagement and interaction have included: forming and sustaining specialist interest groups; the provision of a large number of public lectures, seminars and workshops at the request of local and regional groups and societies; the publication of articles for public consumption on new open-access sources and resources; management of externally funded projects; and the dissemination of project activity through popular media. Dr Jackson's impact has contributed to, and been assisted by, the development of institutional modes of supporting impact: the School's Innovation and Research provision; reporting mechanisms for impact through Departmental Committee; and the establishment of BG Digitisation Services.

Jack Cunningham

Dr Cunningham's activity has brought impact through engagement with specialist societies and influencing public understanding of certain aspects of history. Forms of interaction and external interrelationships have included: the development of interest groups; presentation of public lectures; organisation of conferences, and publications for general consumption; and the public representation of research through broadcast and newspaper media. Dr Cunningham's impact activity has been supported by the DoCCA and SCEI, given its emphasis on the public representation of Bishop Grosseteste.