

Revenants & Remains

Photoworks workshops with artist Sarah Sparkes

1 *Workshop Analysis*

Number of participants completing surveys:

Pre project surveys: 24

Post project surveys: 23

Female: 13

Male: 9

Unanswered: 2

96% White British

Overall enjoyment

Anecdotal feedback demonstrates high levels of enjoyment and that all students were able to describe three things that they had learnt - with most focusing on a mix of technical skills (photography), increased awareness of the supernatural/gothic, and learning about the history of the site they visited.

Heritage statements

Data shows some changes in participants' attitudes towards heritage engagement. It should be noted that because the survey numbers are small, even a change in opinion of one or two people can affect percentages relatively significantly.

Most significant changes as follows:

- 7% increase in participants agreeing 'Heritage is important in bringing people together', also with a 13% reduction in those disagreeing.
- 7% increase in participants agreeing 'Understanding what local people have done or experienced in the past helps me to feel proud of my community', also with a 4% reduction in those disagreeing.
- 7% increase in participants agreeing 'Heritage is important to everyone regardless of their background', also with a 13% reduction in those disagreeing.
- 7% increase in participants agreeing 'The use of supernatural and ghost stories will enrich my understanding of history', also with a 4% reduction in those disagreeing.
- Despite a slight drop, high numbers of participants continued to agree with the following two statements (70% and 74% respectively) 'This project's use of the supernatural (in the form of the ghost stories) will make me more interested in the ruin's history' and 'Heritage and history is often quite dry, but the use of the supernatural and ghost stories will make heritage feel more interesting to me.'

Skills development

Evidence demonstrates that participants developed their confidence in a range of skills. It should be noted that there was a very modest change in confidence around photographic skills specifically, but as A Level Photography students, most participants started off the project very confident - with 88% stating they were confident/very confident.

- Growth in confidence was around communication skills with a jump of 32%.
- Growth in confidence around team working skills of 12% accompanied by significant reduction in lack of confidence of 12%.
- 3% increase of confidence in expressing opinions.
- 2% growth in confidence for leadership skills accompanied by a significant reduction in lack of confidence of 20%.

Participants demonstrated reduced confidence in research after taking part. This 'could' mean that this project challenged their assumptions/confidence around research and what this entails?

2 Workshop Data

HERITAGE STATEMENTS

Heritage is important in bringing people together

Before the project: 54% agreed/strongly agreed and 13% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 61% agreed/strongly agreed and nobody disagreed/strongly disagreed.

A connection to the past can help us think more carefully about the future

Before the project: 88% agreed/strongly agreed and nobody disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 74% agreed/strongly agreed and nobody disagreed/strongly disagreed.

Understanding what local people have done or experienced in the past helps me to feel proud of my community.

Before the project: 54% agreed/strongly agreed and 13% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 61% agreed/strongly agreed and 9% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

Heritage is important to everyone regardless of their background

Before the project: 63% agreed/strongly agreed and 17% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 70% agreed/strongly agreed and 4% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

The use of supernatural and ghost stories will enrich my understanding of history

Before the project: 58% agreed/strongly agreed and 13% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 65% agreed/strongly agreed and 9% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

Participating in this project will inspire me to find out more about Britain's ruined architecture

Before the project: 63% agreed/strongly agreed and 9% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 43% agreed/strongly agreed and 17% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

Learning about medieval religion, the supernatural and ideas about the afterlife will open up new perspectives on history for me

Before the project: 58% agreed/strongly agreed and 8% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 48% agreed/strongly agreed and 13% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

Participating in this project will help me to understand more clearly the connections between Gothic literature (writing about horror and terror) and medieval or 'Gothic' architecture

Before the project: 79% agreed/strongly agreed and nobody disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 61% agreed/strongly agreed and 9% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

This project's use of the supernatural (in the form of the ghost stories) will make me more interested in the ruin's history

Before the project: 75% agreed/strongly agreed and 4% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 70% agreed/strongly agreed and nobody disagreed/strongly disagreed.

Heritage and history is often quite dry, but the use of the supernatural and ghost stories will make heritage feel more interesting to me

Before the project: 83% agreed/strongly agreed and 4% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

After the project: 74% agreed/strongly agreed and 9% disagreed/strongly disagreed.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Students were asked to rate their confidence levels in the following areas before and after taking part in the project.

Photography (such as how to use a camera, composition, framing, editing, new processes or techniques)

Before the project: 4% stated not at all/slightly confident and 88% stated confident/very confident.

After the project: 0% stated not at all/slightly confident and 87% stated confident/very confident.

Research (finding out about particular topics and themes)

Before the project: 13% stated not at all/slightly confident and 71% stated confident/very confident.

After the project: 13% stated not at all/slightly confident and 48% stated confident/very confident.

Communication (being able to successfully communicate your thoughts and ideas with others)

Before the project: 13% stated not at all/slightly confident and 42% stated confident/very confident.

After the project: 4% stated not at all/slightly confident and 74% stated confident/very confident.

Expressing opinions

Before the project: 8% stated not at all/slightly confident and 67% stated confident/very confident.

After the project: 9% stated not at all/slightly confident and 70% stated confident/very confident.

Team working/working with others

Before the project: 21% stated not at all/slightly confident and 58% stated confident/very confident.

After the project: 9% stated not at all/slightly confident and 70% stated confident/very confident.

Leadership

Before the project: 33% stated not at all/slightly confident and 46% stated confident/very confident.

After the project: 13% stated not at all/slightly confident and 48% stated confident/very confident.

STUDENT FEEDBACK

Please describe your experience of taking part in this project. What have you enjoyed? What were the highlights or challenges?

I really enjoyed hearing the history aspect of the project and how it connected to the location. I find the concept rather interesting surrounding ghosts too.
I really enjoyed this experience. I loved the way my pictures turned out. This is a way of photography I haven't tried out until now. I liked exploring new places with new techniques, and using new things like costumes, veils, exploring with shadows and mirrors.
I talked to people I wouldn't ordinarily talk to.
It was really good. There were some challenges however were soon overcome.
I enjoyed going out and having a theme and objects with my pictures.
I have enjoyed taking and editing my images. The challenges were selecting the right images.
I really enjoyed taking the photos and being creative.
I enjoyed walking around the abbey and taking photos. I found it fun to play with different compositions and costumes.
I have really enjoyed finding out about the heritage of Furness Abbey. My favourite part was working in groups with props creating interesting images.
I enjoyed taking the photos for the project in the abbey.
I really enjoyed this project, it was interesting to find out about the history of Lanercost. It was fun experimenting with different ways of creating eerie images like using veils and lights with slow shutter speeds.
I enjoyed making the supernatural visible using models and objects with a slow shutter speed to make a ghostly effect.
Overall I have enjoyed my time around Lanercost Priory and taking photos to make people believe that the supernatural is real. My favourite part was using different objects such as veils and lights to create shadows for my images.
I enjoyed the photography idea and brief taking 'spooky' photos was interesting and fun.
I have really enjoyed learning about the history of Lanercost Priory. I especially enjoyed when the historians came in and went into depth about Lanercost and the mediaeval times.

I enjoyed the trip taking the pictures in unique ways and finding different.. (illegible)
I have enjoyed exploring new territory by travelling far away to photograph. I experimented with various lighting techniques and shutter speeds. This helped create ghosts in the chosen location. I was challenged by a lack of props so I had to use a variety of bedsheets and veils.
I have enjoyed my time during R&R. I feel that my time during Lanercost Priory and the shoots it helped me develop my photography skills and my idea development. I faced challenges during the practical paper task as I am not patient.
I really enjoyed my experience at Lanercost Priory. I really enjoyed photographing the historical site and creating a supernatural themes of the priory. One of the highlights for me was when we were shooting the images for this project. One of the challenges was deciding where to shoot.
I have enjoyed exploring the area and learning about the historical history behind Lanercost Priory. It was fun to work with a different environment to take photos in.
During this project i have enjoyed going around the priory taking photos. I also enjoyed the post production side of it, experimenting with editing.
I enjoyed getting out of Newcastle and exploring a new area I have not previously been to. I also liked being able to add to my own photography portfolio and gain experience in working with a client for a photography brief.
I have enjoyed exploring a historical site learning about it. The highlights were photographing in a different location.

Name three things you have learnt

1. I learnt about some of the abbey's history, such as how the monks bargained for decent compensation. 2. How to use textile in photography to create an illusion. 3. I learned different presentation methodsa for photography.
1. Ways to photograph shadows. 2. How to create a origami book. 3. Supernatural stories and beliefs.
1. How to do origami. 2. The story of that nun. 3. How to fake ghost sightings.
1. How to do origami. 2. Using new printer. 3. Using my imagination.
1. abbey history. 2. Ghost stories. 3. How to print.
1. origami. 2. history of the abbey. 3. different ways to present my work.
1. I have learnt about the abbey. 2. Photoshop. 3. Using a different camera.
1. When the abbey was founded. 2. The dissolution of the monasteries. 3. The way monks lived.
1. using props in an effective way. 2. Finding out about ghost stories. 3. Finding out about the history of Furness Abbey.
1. Some ghost stories. 2. Stuff about the abbey. 3. Some origami.
1. I developed my knowledge of the history of Lanercost. 2. I learned about the history of gothic

literature and that its been around longer than I thought. 3. It was popular for monks to be buried under the walkways in the priory.
1. I have learnt how to use unique materials as filters e.g. bubble wrap. 2. How to create a ghostly effect using a slow shutter speed. 3. Some of Lanercost's history through stories that were told.
1. I have learnt that Lanercost Priory is full of supernatural history. 2. I have learnt more about using gels on location to create a supernatural feel. 3. I have learnt to create a unique storybook with my successful supernatural images.
1. how to adapt to the low and unpredictable lighting. 2. facts about the statues. 3. history about the mediaeval past.
1. History about Lanercost and the mediaeval era. 2. creative photography ideas that aren't just digital. 3. how to work with the lighting because it was unpredictable.
1. the history of Lanercost. 2. how to create ghostly images. 3. different printing techniques.
1. I learnt the priory was home to monks and King Edward I. 2. I learnt that a grad filter helps with underexposed images. 3. I learnt how to edit the colour in Photoshop.
1. I have learnt interesting history facts to help me develop my ideas for my image. 2. I have learned paper skills to make my images more than 2D. 3. I have learned that photography is more than images.
1. I have learnt a lot about the supernatural stories that were written in the Lanercost Chronicle. 2. I learned that when Henry VIII changed the country to Protestant many church including Lanercost. 3. I have learned that it housed a community of Augustinian Canons.
1. The priory was made in 1169. 2. Creating origami. 3. Creating paintings with our photos.
1. The priory was founded in 1169. 2. Owned by the Dacre family. 3. The priory is close to Hadrian's Wall.
1. I have learnt a lot about Lanercost and some key facts about the location and its history. 2. I have learnt more about myself when it comes to professional thinking and planning. 3. I have also learnt more about the history of our area.
1. I have learnt about what has happened at the priory. 2. I learnt about how the monks and priests lived. 3. I learnt that people were buried under doorways.

What words do you associate with the term heritage?

History of family/people
old - family history
past and history
family history
family history
History, past
history of your family

Family, culture
culture, character, family
old, expensive
past, decadence
culture and where you come from
old ancestors, historic relevancy
old, historic, nature, generational, family
old history nature generational
old, historic, protected, important
heritage to me means something that is either old or ancient but also quite vulnerable and needs to be looked after
old, past, origin, historic, ancient
old, family, bloodline, ancestors
old, history
old, past, historic
old, history, ancestry, ancient
family, generations, places
The people that came before - history, bloodline, important

What words do you now associate with heritage?

Past, stories (ghost stories)
something you learn about your past, genuinely, with families.
Where you've come from.
History.
Ghosts
Old, precious.
Family.
History.
History, past.
Family history.
History, legacy, ancient,. past, old, family.
old buildings and areas that are protected and the stories connected to the place.
I associate heritage with being something that is classed as vulnerable, ancient but needs to be

looked after for its well-known history so its not destroyed.
lineage, stories, old, nationality, history
Family, nature, old, history, culture, architecture.
historic, family, legacy
I associate old ruined buildings as they are part of English heritage.
legacy, history, lost, life
legacy, ancestor, inheritance, devise, bloodright.
History, tradition, culture.
legacy, history, tradition, customs, culture.
historical, past, legacy, country's roots.
legacy, ancient, past, history.