7655: HAZ: Ramsgate Historic Landscape Characterisation

Project summary

The Ramsgate's Historic Character project, to be funded by Historic England as part of their Heritage Protection Commissions programme, will produce a historic characterisation of Ramsgate and its land and sea environs. It has been primarily designed as a resource to support the vital work of the Ramsgate Heritage Acton Zone. The Heritage Acton Zone programme is a recent initiative in which Historic England works together with local partners to use the historic environment as a catalyst for building economic growth. Ramsgate is one of the first Heritage Acton Zones.

The aim of this project is to assess and map patterns of historic character across Ramsgate and its adjacent seascape. Methods used will draw upon historic landscape and urban characterisation approaches, as well as the National Historic Seascape Characterisation methodology. Information will be collected from a range of sources such as open source Geographic Information System (GIS) data, Historic Environment Record data, aerial imagery, historic maps and charts and also field visits. This will be used to enable the identification and mapping in GIS of areas of shared historic character, known as 'character types'. The spatial and temporal patterning of these character types will be analysed. The results of this will feed into preparation of accessible descriptions, referred to as 'summary texts', of Ramsgate's character types and an account of the development of the project area. The summary text will include a high-level assessment of each character types evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal values.

The project's key outputs will be the GIS data and associated summary texts and report. As well as supporting the work of the Ramsgate Heritage Acton Zone, the project results will be made publicly accessible by Historic England.