

# PROJECT FACT SHEET – END USER

## Heritage and Science: Working Together in the CARE of Rock Art

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### BACKGROUND

This exciting new project aims to develop materials and research that will aid in the protection of threatened open-air rock art in Northumberland and beyond.

Rock art is an iconic part of the UK's prehistoric heritage, with at least 3500 panels still in existence that date from between 6000 and 3800 years ago. It is a common misconception that as this rock art has existed for so long it does not require conservation interventions.

Scientific appraisal of rock art in Northumberland has highlighted that due to factors, such as environmental change and local conditions, rock art may be deteriorating at a faster rate within the last 50 years than in any of the preceding 6000. Further research is being undertaken to investigate these initial observations, and to create a system for early detection of rock art deterioration to aid in their management.

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### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

As owners or users of the land on which this rock art has sat for around 6000 years, you are in a unique position to be able to ensure this vital and irreplaceable part of history can be in existence for future generations.

This project aims to produce a “toolkit” and “management how to” guide that will enable you to quickly and easily assess the rock art on your land to make a judgement on its condition as well as practical measures that can apply to help protect the rock art into the future.

To ensure the materials being produced are usable to you, we want to bring you the ‘end-users’ into the production process. We are currently seeking individuals to be part of an ‘end-users’ focus group, if you are interested in becoming a member, then please contact us. We are currently looking into whether protecting rock art could be used to gain higher scores in Higher Level Stewardship applications. We also can keep you in the loop on our progress on the project, so please let us know the best way to keep in contact.

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### PROJECT TEAM

[Dr Aron Maze](#) – Principal Investigator  
[Professor David Graham](#) – Co-Investigator  
[Dr Patricia Warke](#) – Co-Investigator

[Dr Myra Giesen](#) – Research Leader  
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### CONTACT

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### PROJECT DURATION

February 2013-January 2014



Arts & Humanities  
Research Council



Queen's University  
Belfast



Newcastle  
University



Science and Heritage  
Programme