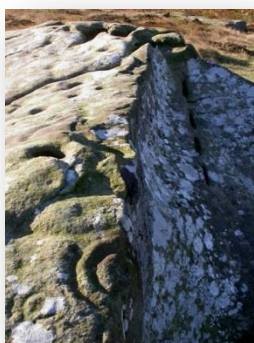


PROJECT FACT SHEET – NON SPECIALISTS

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



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.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Rock art is a beautiful and atmospheric reminder of a long forgotten past. Many questions over their origin continue to engage people of all ages. Rock art is usually an integral of stunning ancient landscapes which have remained relatively unchanged for thousands of years.

This project will produce a "toolkit" and "management how to" guide that will help to ensure protection of these rare remnants of prehistoric times. These will allow quick and easily assessment of the condition and conservation requirements of open-air rock art by specialists and non specialists alike.

In order to ensure that we create materials that are user-friendly, we need to develop them with the help of individuals without any specialist knowledge of rock art. If you become involved, you can influence the production of the materials and ultimately contribute to the long-term care of rock art. If you think you might want to get involved with this project, then please contact us soon as we will be conducting a focus group on the draft resources on the 9 November in Rothbury.

PROJECT TEAM

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

[Dr Myra Giesen](#) – Research Leader
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PROJECT DURATION

February 2013-January 2014



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



Queen's University
Belfast



Science and Heritage
Programme