

Adopting Archaeology

Sustaining Heritage Stewardship Communities by Digital Co-design

In light of continuing cuts to archaeological and heritage provision in local council budgets, the Council for British Archaeology and the Department of Archaeology at the University of York have developed the Adopting Archaeology project. The project divides its focus between the sustainability and impact of community-led heritage stewardship projects. The sustainability strand has three overarching questions:

- How sustainable are community groups that engage in taking care of their local heritage?
- What are key factors for sustainability in heritage stewardship communities?
- How can NGOs, like the CBA, best support local stewardship communities in an increasingly challenging financial climate?

Why Should I Complete this Survey?

- Highlight the amazing work done by volunteers to take care of local heritage all around the UK
- Assist in mapping the distribution of community groups involved in heritage stewardship in the UK
- Communicate the needs of your heritage stewardship community to ensure the relevance of support provided by NGOs and universities like the CBA and University of York
- Share your views on why heritage stewardship communities are not more common, larger and more diverse
- Help identify why some stewardship communities are more sustainable than others

What is the Survey about?

You will be asked a number of questions relating to your involvement with volunteer groups engaged in taking care of local heritage. Your responses will help researchers identify key factors for sustainability in heritage stewardship communities. This will lead to the development of projects aimed at sharing skills and capacity between groups in order to increase resilience and effectiveness.

You may pull out for any reason at any time. Any data traceable to yourself will be deleted and destroyed.

How long will it take?

Completing the survey will take approximately 10-20 minutes; it will depend on how detailed your responses are. If you have had limited involvement with heritage stewardship, it may be considerably quicker.

Will I be anonymous?

Yes, your survey responses will be anonymous. Any identifying information will be removed. Your name will not be mentioned to others or published in any professional or academic reports.

How will my responses be used?

The answers you provide will be included in a PhD dissertation, and may be referenced in workshops, conference presentations, journal articles and other forms of professional and academic research literature. Upon completion of this research project, the data will be stored and shared in accordance with University of York policies on data sharing. Please do get in touch if you have any questions about the future use of your data.

Who is conducting this research?

(Leif) Harald Fredheim is a PhD candidate at the University of York, jointly supervised by John Schofield and Gill Chitty from the Department of Archaeology and Mike Heyworth, director of the Council for British Archaeology. Harald's background is in archaeology, but more recently in objects conservation and archaeological site management, having completed MA and MSc degrees at University College London.

Has this research been subject to ethical review?

This research project has been approved by the Arts and Humanities Ethics Committee at the University of York, chaired by Dr Kate Giles. Please do contact the committee with any ethical concerns regarding this project hrc-ethics@york.ac.uk

More information?

For more information about being a survey respondent in this research project, please do contact Harald at lhf506@york.ac.uk, or adoptingarchaeology@gmail.com with any questions about the broader Adopting Archaeology project.

You can also follow us on Twitter:

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