



Much of our island's history is simply being washed away. Significant archaeological sites along our sinuous coast and on the foreshores of our tidal estuaries are continually eroded by winds, waves and tidal scour. Alarmed by the rate of loss, the location of many of these sites has been noted during the national 'Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey' programme initiated by English Heritage and by archaeological groups around the country. To date there has been no systematic standardised system in place to record these vulnerable sites in detail or to regularly monitor their fate over the longer term. Coastal erosion can rarely be halted, but at least exposed archaeological sites can be recorded before they are destroyed.

What will the project do?

CITiZAN is the first systematic national response to these threats. The project focuses on nationally important, exposed archaeological sites: the remains of prehistoric forests and settlements, Roman buildings, ancient salt-working sites, lost medieval ports, fishing settlements, harbour works, coastal defences from both World Wars and countless abandoned boats, barges and ships. The CITiZAN team will deliver community-based training and create an infrastructure and network of volunteers with the skills and systems to be able to monitor and survey the highly significant but threatened archaeological sites around England's coast and foreshores.



CITiZAN is supported by the HLF, with additional support from The Crown Estate and National Trust. The project is run from three offices: the main office at MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) in London, and offices at the Council for British Archaeology in York and at the Nautical Archaeology Society in Portsmouth .

From 2015–2018 CITiZAN will

- **Establish a national network** of active individuals and groups to work together on a major project;
- **Train enthusiastic volunteers** to monitor and survey selected coastal and intertidal archaeological sites;
- **Engage with the public** through our interactive website, outreach programme and other activities;
- **Create a standardised survey, monitoring and web-based recording system** that is compatible with methods used in Scotland and Wales;
- **Deliver the training and outreach** programmes led by the professional teams at the three regional centres.

CITiZAN will be recruiting volunteers from spring 2015. For more information please contact us at citizen@mola.org.uk