Appendices

Rock art and the Internet. Appendix 1

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Rock Art Database



Contents

| Introduction | 156 |
|---|-----|
| Background | 156 |
| RockCareBase at the Swedish National Heritage Board. | 157 |
| RockCareBase | 158 |
| System design of RockCareBase | 159 |
| Starting RockCareBase | 159 |
| Viewing and searching for information | 159 |
| Viewing detailed information | 160 |
| Images | 160 |
| Printouts | 160 |
| To login and register data | 160 |
| Viewing data | 160 |
| Viewing Id-concepts | 161 |
| Viewing inventories | 162 |
| Viewing object information | 162 |
| Viewing symbols (type of figures) | 162 |
| Viewing environment | 163 |
| Viewing the state of conservation | 163 |
| Viewing images | 164 |
| Searching for information | 165 |
| Printouts | 166 |
| To print information about a specific rock carving/painting | 166 |
| Printout of search list | 166 |
| Editing Data | 167 |
| Logging in/logging out | 167 |
| Adding a new record | 167 |
| Id-concepts | 168 |
| Inventories | 169 |
| Object information | 169 |
| Symbols | 170 |
| Environment | 171 |
| State of conservation | 172 |
| Images | 174 |
| Adding images | 174 |
| Editing records | 176 |
| D | 176 |

| Remove records | 176 |
|---|-----|
| Remove symbol or inventory information for a record | 176 |
| Codes | |
| Viewing Codes | |
| Adding Codes | |
| RockCare Web Community | |
| Starting RockCareWeb | |
| Scope | |
| System design and user interface | |
| Menu | |
| Pages | |
| Paragraphs | |
| Page templates | |
| Information category | |
| Links | |
| Contacts | |
| Forum | |
| Viewing information | |
| Page and paragraphs | |
| System administration | |
| Login | |
| Administration of menus and menu groups | |
| Adding pages and paragraphs | |
| Images | |
| Viewing and searching for images | |
| Viewing detailed information for an image | |
| Adding new images | |
| | |
| The WARA imagebase prototype | |
| Starting WARA | |
| Scope | |
| System design and user interface | |
| Viewing and searching for records | |
| Login | |
| Viewing detailed information on an image | |
| Adding new records | 198 |

Introduction

Computers can seem daunting and inaccessible to non-experts, but they are tools which can be mastered by anyone who is given appropriate training.

Background

Though a brief description of the history of computers for the documentation of rock art information we can gain an insight into the development of the use of this tool. There are at least four obvious periods or eras in the computer history:

Pre 1970s

The Mainframe computer era, characterized by big computers and large scaled systems. Bad user interface without user feedback.

1970s - 1980

The Minicomputer period, characterized by the first real applications (data program developed by methods and with a model); terminal based systems in a company network; tools specialisation with a high level of computer technique (e.g. 4GL language JSP-method). A medium based user interface, users communicated with the computer gurus.

1980s

The PC entered the scene, with Bill Gates and Microsoft, Visual Basic, Superbase, dBase

A local network system, without connection to the large scaled mainframe systems. A high degree of user participation.

1990s until present

The Internet revolution together with secure Client/Server database.

The users set the rules.

A low degree of computer technique, it is again just a dumb terminal sending and receiving data.

In the beginning no standards, no structure of development.

HTML, ASP and JavaScript's are used for developments.

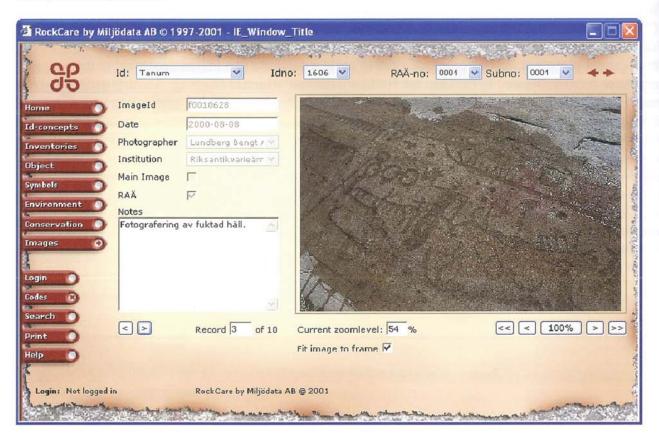
The future?

Again, Microsoft has taken the lead with their development of the system ".NET" (DOTNET). The strategy is to integrate html-coding to Visual Basic in order to improve standards and modularity. You can reuse code and components during developing and benefit from all the advantages in the VB-environment, like source safe code, compiling etc. .NET also focusses on handheld computers, like Compaq Ipac, and mobile phones.

RockCareBase at the Swedish National Heritage Board

The development of a rock art database at the Swedish National Heritage Board started at the end of Minicomputers era. A typical problem was that the computer users could not type international characters like "a" when registering information into the database. This started an internal development project at the beginning of 1990 to build a database in a PC-environment in the Superbase programme and to develop the Hällrist database, which is ongoing. Another project was to develop an image database (Digbild) for the Photo department. This application was also developed in Superbase and then transformed to Microsoft Access. It has been used since 1994 and over 20 000 images have been stored to date. Hällrist (in English 'RockArtBase') is an information system about rock carvings and rock paintings. The database system can be used as a single-user version as well as in a PC-network. Experience of using the system has shown that there is a general need to be able to work locally on a desktop with access to the central database. In 1998 when the RockCare project started, a Multimedia Presentation CD and later on a web community for the project RockCareWeb were developed. The web community contains project information and activities.

RockCareBase



RockCareBase is an Internet version of Hällrist. To use the program, you just need a computer that is connected to the Internet and a web browser.

The purpose of the system RockCareBase is, among other things:

To collect all available information about rock carvings/paintings - despite era and purpose – in a single database. As a result, the need of time consuming and technically complicated transactions between different local databases is excluded.

An increased security by saving data in a client/server database - SQL-server. SQLserver is also a requirement if you want to use the information of the database within a map program such as Arc View to connect it with the geographical position.

To simplify the usage of data. You don't have to install the program to use it. All you need is a connection to the Internet and a Web browser (for the moment: Internet Explorer 4.0). The design of RockCareBase is simplified compared to Hällrist. You can handle all base information including images and information about inventories in this version of RockCareBase.

User Interface, all you need is a web browser and the name of the start address for the website.

Independency of physical locality: wherever there is a computer connected to the Internet.

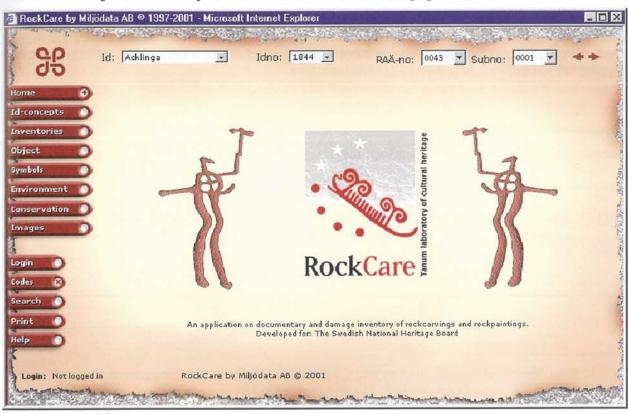
System design of RockCareBase

Starting RockCareBase

RockCareBase is available on the Internet. All you need is a connection to the Internet and a Web browser (Internet Explorer 4.0 or a later version).

Address: http://www.w-heritage.org/RockCareBase

Type the address in the web browser and then click Enter. The opening screen of RockCareBase shows. In a couple of seconds you will be redirected to the first page of RockCareBase.



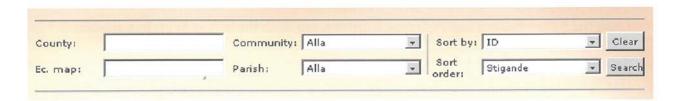
Viewing and searching for information

You can now search for information and do printouts of the information by:

Clicking the Search button on the menu to the left.

Choosing Id or Idno and RAÄ-no in the search field at the top of the page.

Using the arrow buttons (in the upper right corner) to browse forward or backward. When you choose to work with the Search function to search for records in the database you have to select at least one search criteria in the form.



Click Search when you have selected your search criteria. A list of one record per row is shown matching your selection. Click on the grey button in front of the record to show detailed information about one specific rock engraving.

Viewing detailed information

Information about rock carvings is grouped under the headings: Id-concepts, Inventories, and Object etc. Click one of the menu group buttons to the left to show the relevant information.

Images

Information about images of the rock carving (photographs, paper rubbings etc) are shown when you click the menu group Images. You can store your own pictures of a rock carving and register information within the program if you have access rights.

Printouts

You can print all the information within the program as detail information or summaries.

To login and register data



To log into the system and register data within the database you have to be registered as a user with access rights. This allows you to add, edit and remove rock carvings data.

Viewing data

The identification of the rock carvings/paintings consists of a unique number, which is a combination of Idno, RAÄ-no and Sub no. At the top of the page the fields Id, Idno, RAÄ-no and Sub no are shown within the header. The header with the information you have chosen is shown at the top of all pages when you choose to click the menu group buttons.



If you want to study the information about a specific rock carving in detail you first have to find the record. To find the record do one of these alternatives:

Click the button Search and type search criteria and click the button Search in the search form.

Select Id or Idno and RAÄ-no in the search field at the top of the page.

Use the arrow buttons (in the upper right corner) to browse forward or backward.

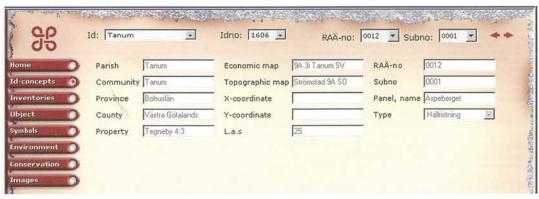
Click the menu group buttons at the left side of the page to explore the registered information about the chosen rock carving.



You can also choose one of the other rock carvings within the same parish by clicking the arrow buttons to browse or by selecting the RAÄ-no and Sub no of the other rock carving within the header.

Viewing Id-concepts

In this form the base information about the identity and geographic position of the rock carvings/paintings are registered. The identity of the rock carvings/paintings is a code combination composed of Idno (parish code), RAA-no and Sub no. The Sub no must always be registered. This combination makes it easy to find a specific rock carving/painting since it is unique for each rock carving/painting. This also enables searches for them in the other systems. Click the menu group Id-concepts.

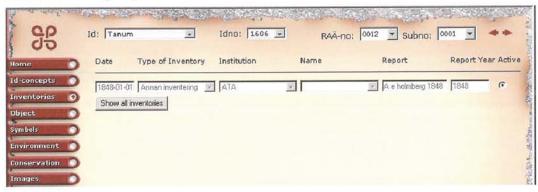


You can either search for Parish in the list of Id (parish) or in the list of Idno (parish code) in the header. These two lists are connected. Community and county shows automatically since these also are connected to the same list by the ATA:s system.

Click the arrow buttons (in the upper right corner) to browse forward and backward.

Viewing inventories

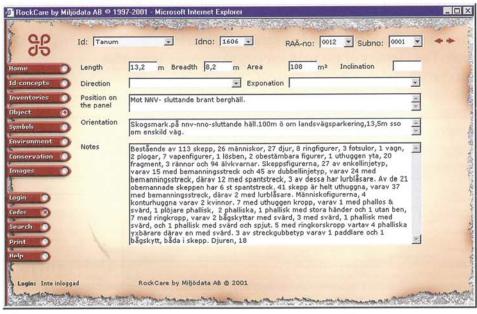
Click the menu group Inventories.



This form shows all the inventories that have been done. These are inventories done by RAÄ, damage inventories and other inventories. The one marked as active is shown when you click the menu group Inventories. The rest of the inventories are shown when you click the button Show all inventories.

Viewing object information

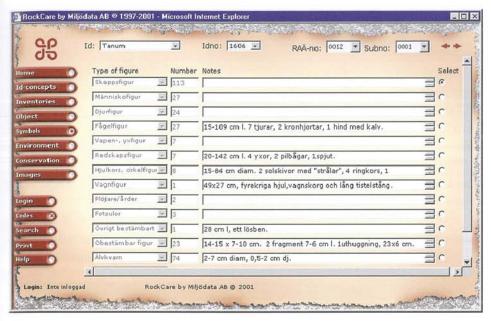
Click the menu group Object.



This form shows information about the length, breadth, area, position of the panel etc for the rock carving/painting. Besides this there is a field for description of the rock carving/painting.

Viewing symbols (type of figures)

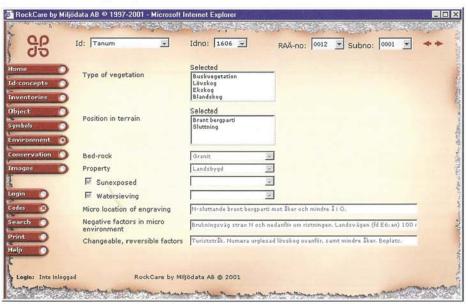
Click the menu group Symbols.



This form shows information about the type of figures that the rock carving/painting contains, the number of each type and a notes field. At the bottom of the form you can see the total sum of registered figures.

Viewing environment

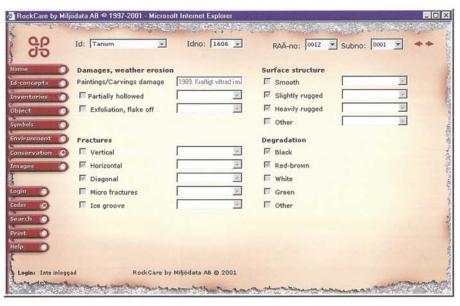
Click the menu group Environment.



The form shows a description of the environment and surroundings of the rock carving/painting.

Viewing the state of conservation

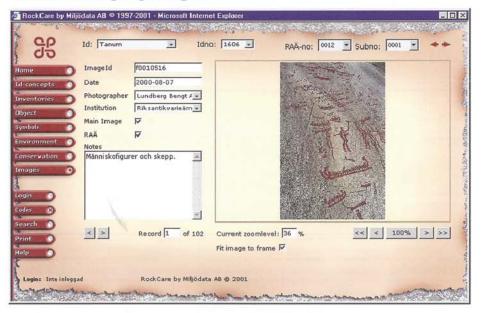
Click the menu group Conservation.



The form contains information about the state of conservation in the form of damages, Surface structure, Fractures and Degradation of the rock carving/painting.

Viewing images

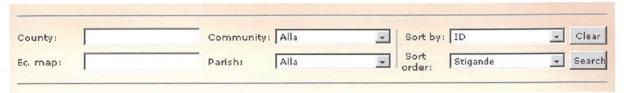
Click the menu group Images.



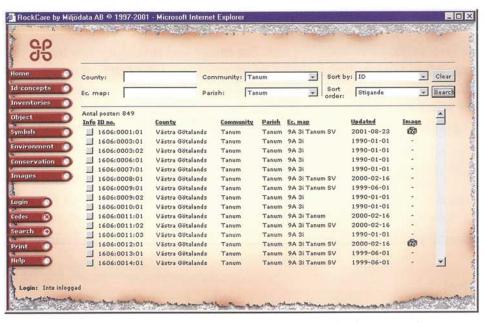
This form contains the photographic documentation of the rock carving/painting. It can take a while (up to a minute) to load the image depending on your Internet connection speed and the size of the image. The picture that shows first is marked as Main Image. Every image is registered with some information about the Date of the photo, Photographer, the Institution and a Description of the picture. Use the button below it to zoom. For some of the rock carvings/paintings there are more than one picture registered. Use the arrow buttons below the Notes field to track the others. To the right of the arrow buttons you can see which image record is shown at the moment and the total sum of images for the rock carving/painting. You can also write the picture number directly in the field and click outside of it to change to a specific picture.

Searching for information

To search for a selection of rock carving/painting records click the menu button Search.



The search criteria within the form are County, Economic map, Community and Parish and the sort fields are Sort by and Sort order. You have to enter at least one search criteria. You can write directly in the fields County and Economic map. Select Community and Parish from the lists as well as Sort by and Sort order. To choose from a list you have to click the down arrow and click on an alternative in the list. Click the Search button when you have made your choices. The search results are shown below the search form as a list with one rock carving record per row.

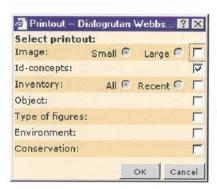


Click the grey button in front of the rock carving/painting record you want to study in detail. If there are any images registered for the records these are shown with a camera in the Image column. To go directly to the menu group images for the record you click on the camera.

Printouts

To print information about a specific rock carving/painting

If you want to print the registered information corresponding to a specific rock carving you have to make sure the information is shown in the forms. One way is to use the search function. Click the menu button Print and the following dialog is shown:



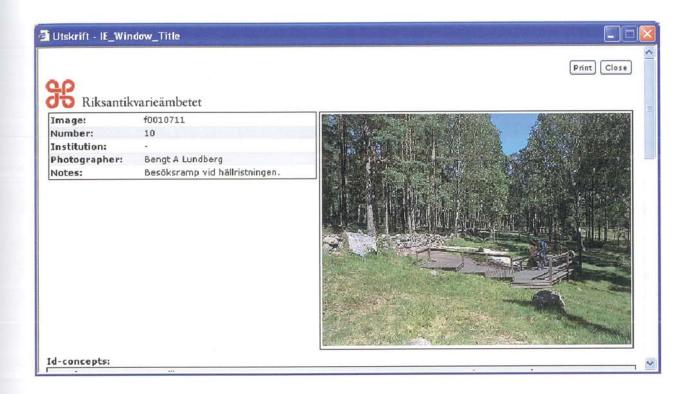
Click in the boxes to mark the information you want to print. For Image and Inventory you have to select one of the alternatives. When you are finish click OK. A preview of the printout is shown in a new window. Click the button Print. Click OK in the new dialog that is shown. Click the button close in the preview window. If you want to go back to your search results you just click the Search button. Your previous search criteria are shown in the search form and the list is loaded again.

Printout of search list

If you want a printout of the search results you click the menu button Print right after the result list is shown.



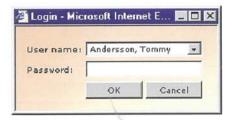
Mark the alternative you prefer in the dialog and click OK. A preview of the printout is shown in a new window. Click the button Print. Click OK in the new dialog box that is shown. Click the button close in the preview window.



Editing Data

Logging in/logging out

You can register data in the system if you have the access rights of logging in and handling information within the system. If that is the case click the menu button Login, select your username from the list and enter your password in the login-dialog. Click OK.



Your name is now shown at the bottom of the page. For logging out you click the Logout button.

Add a new record

If the logging in procedure is successful these buttons appears at the bottom to the right of the page:



The active buttons, which you can click on, have black letters. The buttons with grey letters are inactive. To register a new record, you click the menu group Id-concepts to register the Id-data first and then work your way through the menu groups. Click the button Add at the bottom of the page.

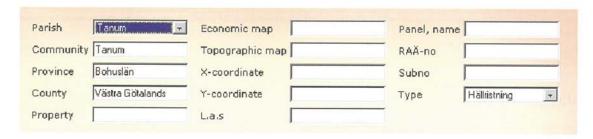
Many of the fields appear as search lists. To select alternative within these fields you click the dropdown button to the right of the field and pick the alternative you want. The chosen alternative is then shown in the field. In some cases you have to mark a box to activate the search list. For example:



ID-concepts

In this form the base information about the identity and geographic position of the rock carvings/paintings are registered. The identity of the rock carvings/paintings is a code combination composed of Idno (parish code), RAÄ-no and Sub no. The Sub no. must always be registered.

When you click the Add button the form Id-concepts becomes empty with the exception of the geographical information.



Select Parish from the Parish list. The Community, Province and County are added automatically by the system.

Enter the property name in the field **Property** according to the Economic map where the rock carving or painting is situated.

The field Economic map, on the scale of 1:10000, enters according to an alpha numeric system with map code and name, for example: 9A 3i Tanum.

The field Topographic map, on the scale of 1:50000, is like this: 9A Strömstad SÖ.

Leave the fields X-coordinate and Y-coordinate empty.

Enter where the rock carving or painting is situated, in the field L.a.s (level above sea) in meters, referring to the nearest low altitude curve.

If the rock carving/painting has a specific name enter it in the field Panel, name.

Enter the Sub no and the RAA-no.

Select the type from the list.

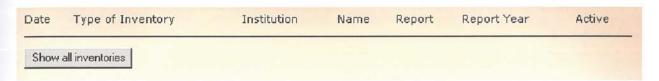
Click the button Save and confirm by clicking OK. When you change menu group to register the rest of the information about the rock carving/painting the ID-data that you just registered are shown in the header.

Inventories

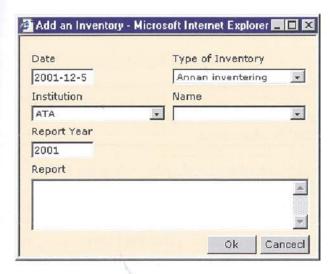
This form shows inventories that have been made. These are inventories done by The Swedish National Heritage Board (so called RAÄ-inventories), damage inventories and other inventories. The information registered is the name of the person who made the inventory, institution and date. If there is any report of the inventories it should be entered. The record that is marked as active is shown when you click the menu group Inventories. The rest of the inventories are shown when you click the button Show all inventories.

The inventories and revisions done by The Swedish National Heritage Board are fixed data that belong to the rock carving/painting record. The damage inventories and other inventories you can register continuously yourself.

Click the menu group Inventories.



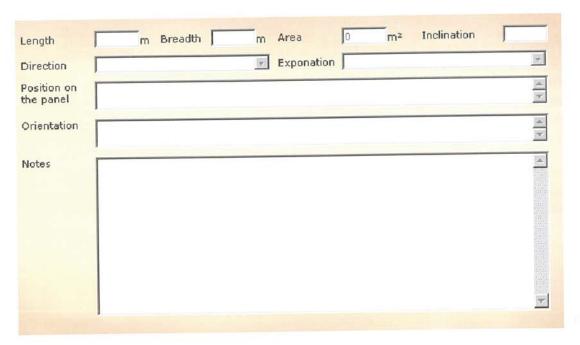
Click the Add button.



Enter the field information in this dialog to create a new inventory and then click OK. The new inventory record is shown in the list of inventories. You can register more inventories by clicking the Add button again.

Object information

To register information about rock carvings/paintings in the form Object click the menu group Object and then edit mode.



In this form the information about the object is entered. For example the Length, Breadth and the Direction of the rock carving/painting. Select the Direction from the list.

The Inclination is entered as a percentage. The direction of the inclination enters in the field Exponation. Select it from the list.

Write a short note about the position of the panel in the corresponding field.

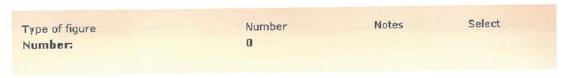
In the field **Orientation** the distance (in meters) and direction to existing objects in the surroundings should be entered. You have to enter at least two directions.

In the text field **Notes** you should enter detailed information about the locality including the sum of types of figures and how they look according to RAÄ's principals on how descriptions of ancient monuments should be described.

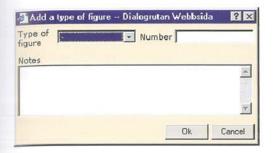
Click the button **Save** and then click **OK** to confirm your new registration. Click the button **Show**.

Symbols

In the form **Symbols** you can make a review of all types of figures that appears on the rock carving/painting. Click the menu group **Object**.



Then click the Add button to register new information about the rock carvings/paintings types of figures. The following dialog appears:



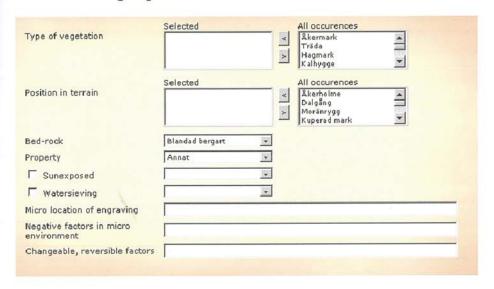
Select the Type of figure from the list. Enter the number of occurrences for the chosen type of figure.

The field Notes is used for observations of the figures, for example the biggest and smallest dimensions of the type of figure that appears or the depth and diameter of the cup marks. If the figures have specific details you can make a note of this too. The form is used as a base for the real object description.

Click the OK button when you have finished. The new record is shown as a row in the Object list. Start all over again to register another type of figure for the rock carving/painting.

Environment

Click the menu group Environment. Then click the Edit mode button.



The type of vegetation is the vegetation in the environment and surroundings of the rock carving/painting.

Click on the alternative in the list All occurrences and then on the left arrow to select Type of vegetation. The chosen alternative is now shown in the list with the selected alternatives. Repeat the procedure if you want to select more than one type of vegetation. If you regret a choice you just do it the opposite way, i.e. mark the incorrect alternative in the list of selected alternatives and click the right arrow.

In the field Position in terrain enter the position of the panel or block in the terrain. The field Position in terrain functions in the same way as the field Type of vegetation.

Enter the rock type in the field Bed-rock from the list. Select the main rock type.

Select Property from the list.

Mark the box if the panel is exposed to the sun. Select the main exposure from the list. The list is activated when you mark the box.

The water-sieving panel is registered in the same way.

Make a brief description of the Micro-location of the engraving/painting in a larger perspective.

Make a short description of the Negative factors in the micro environment, if there are any.

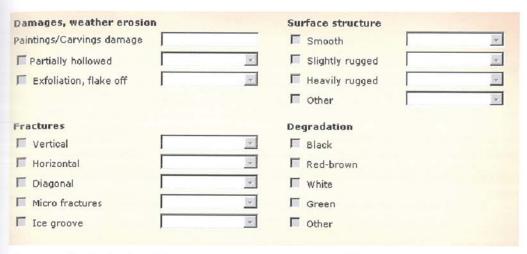
Do the same if there are any Changeable, reversible factors.

| | Selected | | All occurences | |
|--|-----------------|-----|---|---|
| Type of vegetation | | 4 | åkermark Träda | A |
| | | > | Hagmark Kalhygge | |
| | Selected | | All occurences | |
| Position in terrain | | × × | Åkerholme Dalgång Moränrygg Kuperad mark | * |
| Bed-rock | Blandad bergart | | | |
| Property | Annat | | | |
| ☐ Sunexposed | <u> </u> | | | |
| ☐ Watersieving | v | | | |
| Micro location of engraving | | - | 1100 | |
| Negative factors in micro environment | | | | |
| Changeable, reversible factors | | | | |

When you are done click the Save button and confirm it with OK. Finally click the Show button.

State of conservation

In this form you register the rock carvings/paintings state of conservation as Damages, Surface structures, Fractures and Degradations. Click the menu group Conservations and then the Edit mode button.



To enter the Paintings/Carvings damage you can either type the text directly in the field or double-click in the field to make this dialog appear:



Enter the text and click OK. The text now shows in the text field.

Mark the boxes in front of the fields that are present for the rock carving/painting and select alternatives in the lists for the selected fields.

Click the Save button and then Show.

Images

Size and format of images

To register images you have to be logged into the system and have access rights.

In the form Images you can register up to 30 images per rock carving record. One of the images is registered as the main image and is shown when you click the menu group Images for a specific rock carving/painting record. Browse with the arrow buttons to see the other images that are registered for that record.

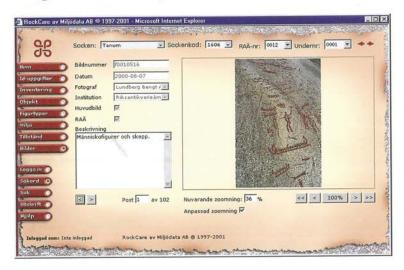
The image you want to register has to be in jpg-format. The image size recommended is 768X512 pixels. The image is stored in two sizes. The small one is used in printouts. The two images must have the same name.

Take pictures with your own camera and develop Photo-CD-pictures or take photos with a digital camera and then save them in jpg-format.

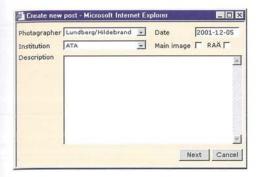
You can edit and compress the images with picture programs so that you get the described size and format.

Adding images

To register a new picture for a specific rock carving/painting record click the menu group Images. The form Images is shown:



Click the Add button. A new dialog opens:



Enter the information about the Photographer, Institution, and Date of photo and a Description. Mark the box if you want the picture to be the main image and if it is a picture from The Swedish National Heritage Board mark the RAÄ-box. Click Next. A new dialog is shown.



Click the Browse button and look for the picture you want to register. When you find the picture mark it and click Open. Click OK. Click OK to confirm the uploading of the picture.



In the next dialog you must enter a small image to upload in the same way you did with the large one. Remember that the small one needs to have the same name as the large one.



The new image with related information is now shown in the form. To register more pictures on the same rock carving/painting record you must start this process again. To register a picture on a different rock carving/painting record you first have to search for that record.