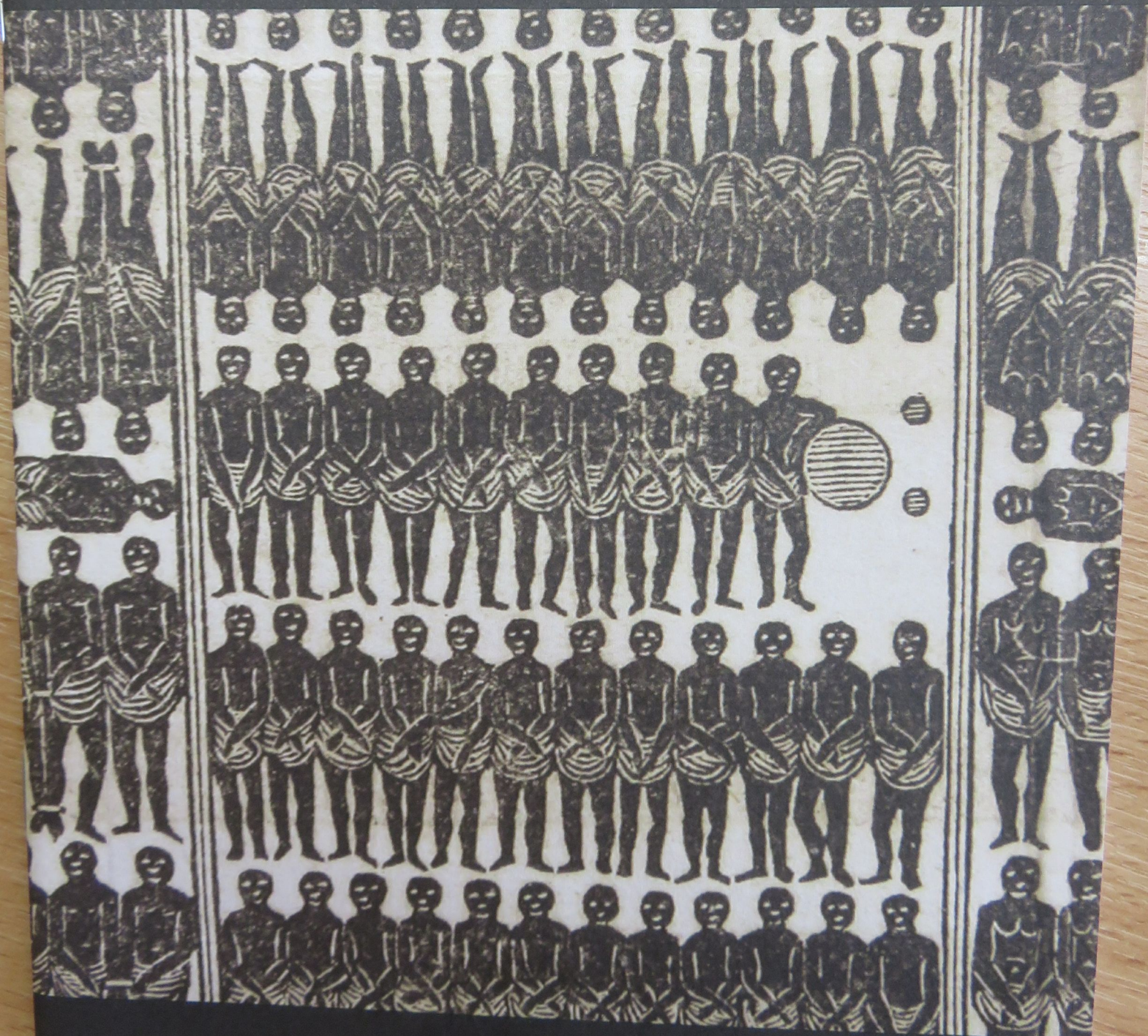


# Remembering Slavery 2007

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**What's on across North East  
Museums and Galleries  
March – August 2007**



**RENAISSANCE**  
NORTH EAST  
museums for  
changing lives



# Remembering Slavery 2007

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This year marks the 200th anniversary of the Parliamentary Act to abolish the slave trade in the British colonies. To commemorate the bicentenary, museums and galleries across the North East have joined forces to run a year of events, exhibitions and lectures to explore slavery in both a historical and modern context.

The Parliamentary Act was passed on 25 March 1807 and marked the beginning of the long journey to the eventual abolition of slavery within the British Empire in 1833. Even then enslaved Africans did not gain their freedom until 1838, and it took a further 50 years before slavery was officially abolished in the Americas in 1888.

The effects of the slave trade still resonate today. The Remembering Slavery 2007 programme will reveal the history of the trans-Atlantic slave trade and highlight contemporary forms of slavery. It will also uncover the links the North East and its people have with the slave trade.

Remembering Slavery 2007 is a regional initiative funded by Renaissance North East, MLA Partnership, Heritage Lottery Fund, Northern Rock Foundation and Tyne & Wear Museums Business Partners.

To keep up to date with changes in the programme and for more information: [www.rememberingslavery.com](http://www.rememberingslavery.com)

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# Discovery Museum, Newcastle

## Human Traffic

Until 27 May

## Remembering Slavery

Until 23 June

Two exhibitions, running alongside each other at Discovery Museum in Newcastle, explore two very different sides of slavery.

The *Remembering Slavery* touring exhibition focuses on the trans-Atlantic slave trade, revealing details about the lives of the enslaved Africans and the hidden history of the North East people, both those who supported and those who resisted slavery.

Drawn from Tyne and Wear Museums' collections, this exhibition includes objects, photographs, paintings and documents relating to the slave trade, which have never been displayed together before. Behind many of the exhibits are the stories of real people's struggles in the 1800s, including the tale of Mary Ann Macham, a runaway slave from Virginia, who escaped to North Shields in 1831. She married a local rope-maker called James Blyth and lived in North Shields until her death in 1893.

Taking a more modern look at the slave trade is *Human Traffic*. Organised by Anti-Slavery International, this is a powerful exhibition of black and white photographs, which documents the trafficking of children in Benin and Gabon in West Africa.

The images were taken in 2001 by photographer Mike Sheil, who travelled to West Africa recording the lives of enslaved children. The exhibition takes a look at the people who are fighting for children's rights and explores what can be done to bring the trade to an end.



Aminata, Anti-Slavery International



# The Dorman Museum, Middlesbrough

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## Into Africa Until 10 June

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This is a unique exhibition examining the textile collaboration between Britain and West Africa after the abolition of the notorious triangular slave trade.

This exhibition showcases the fabulous textile samples of Christopher Dresser, the most prominent industrial product designer of the Victorian period. The samples were originally made for Europe but actually found a niche in the West African market in the late 19th century.

The exhibition sets the amazing designs in context with African textile history, the Lancashire cotton trade and modern day exports.

This is a richly illustrated exhibition, with over 40 mounted textile samples dating back to the 1880s from the National Archives' collections and over 100 textile designs in total.



Snake in the Garden of Eden, Christopher Dresser



## The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle

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### Revealed: Luxury Goods and the Slave Trade

23 March – 29 June

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To mark the bicentenary, The Bowes Museum is exhibiting beautiful art objects from its collection, which will trace the European demand for luxury goods such as tobacco, sugar and indigo.

Discover the different aspects of the slave trade through the exhibition, which hosts a collection of sugar moulds and designs, illustrating the intricate and elaborate sugar decorations that adorned aristocratic dinner tables. The cane for the sugar was grown in slave plantations in the Caribbean and Brazil.

The exhibition will explore the Virginia plantations through its display of tobacco graters and tobacco tins, and uncover the history of cotton plantations in America and the textile industry in the UK.

*Girl with a Dog* by Philip Vilain, which has recently been conserved, will be on display in the exhibition. The black servant in the painting was obscured from the viewer's attention, as the female sitter is bathed with light while the servant had faded into the murky shadows of the background. The painting represents society's construction of racial divisions, in the visual arts.

Until recently the painting has been hidden from public view by layers of surface dirt that had built up over many years and varnish which had discoloured with time. See further paintings cleaned and restored before your eyes, as the story of the slave trade is uncovered.



Girl With A Dog, Vilain



## Other Exhibitions

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**2 April – 5 May**

**Freedom and Liberty –  
Tyne and Wear Archives Service, Newcastle**

This exhibition highlights archives that are based around the Archives Awareness Campaign theme of Freedom and Liberty. These archives include electoral reform, trade unionism, European republican movements and other documents surrounding the slave trade.

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**7 July – 9 September**

**Remembering Slavery touring exhibition –  
South Shields Museum & Art Gallery**

Following its earlier showing at Discovery Museum (see page three), the *Remembering Slavery* exhibition will tour to South Shields.

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**14 August – 31 November**

**Slavery: Ancient and Modern –  
Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle**

Uncovering the nature of slavery in the ancient and early modern worlds, this exhibition will explore the two eras of the slave trade and highlight similarities and differences.

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## Lectures and talks at the Lit & Phil, Newcastle

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A series of lectures, based on the slavery theme, is taking place at the Lit & Phil. Dates are as follows:

**14 March – 6.00pm**

*Professor James Walvin*

**How Should We Remember the Slave Trade?:  
Slavery in British History**

March 2007 marks the 200th anniversary of the British abolition of the slave trade. But in the century before, the British had shipped more than three million Africans across the Atlantic. In the profusion of events planned for 2007, how should we remember abolition – and slavery – in the shaping of British history?

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**21 March – 6.00pm**

*John Charlton*

**Slavery and Abolition: The Tyneside Setting**

This lecture will be organised around the institutions which conducted business and social life and shaped opinion. These will include the Common Council, the electorate, the Churches, the Lit & Phil, the Assembly Rooms, the press and publishing, and the gentleman's estate.

(Those coming to the lecture will be offered a town walk in the week or so after the lecture).

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**24 April – 6.00pm**

*Diana Paton*

### **Enslaved Women's Lives Before and After 1807**

What effect did the abolition of the slave trade have on women who were already enslaved in the Americas? Diana Paton will address this question, focusing primarily on enslaved women in Jamaica. One consequence of the end of the trade, she will suggest, was increased concern about – and surveillance of – enslaved women's fertility and child-bearing by plantation owners.

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**2 May – 6.00pm**

*Sheree Mack*

### **What was the North East's Involvement in the Trade and Abolition of Slavery?**

Join Sheree Mack, the Lit & Phil's Writer in Residence, for an exploration of the North East's involvement in the slave trade, as well as the legacies of the trade and the impact they continue to have in terms of racism and the development of the region. She will be drawing extensively on her research at the library during her residency.

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**10 May – 6.00pm**

*Jan Marsh*

### **Art Against the Slave Trade**

An illustrated talk on the visual representation of slavery and the slave trade in the era of abolitionist campaigning. Slaving and slavery were major political issues in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. As such they were depicted both directly and obliquely in contemporary art. This talk traces the history of the campaign against the slave trade through artists' interventions.

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**17 May – 5.30pm**

*Baroness Young*

This talk will look at the range of activities taking place in 2007, the Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade. The presentation will address questions around why these commemorations are important and their relevance to contemporary Britain.

**24 May – 6.00pm**

*Alan Matthews*

### **A Many-Headed Hydra: Slavery, and How it Survived the End of the Slave Trade**

As we give remembrance to the British role in ending the international slave trade, there are millions throughout the world unaware that slavery has "ended". This talk will consider contemporary forms of slavery and will consider two main questions: Can we reconcile the idea of universal human rights with cultural and political sovereignty? How does the fight against slavery continue today?

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**All lectures are free and booking is essential.  
Contact the Lit & Phil for more information.**



# Events

## 24 – 25 March

### Family Opening – Fairtrade Weekend – Discovery Museum

To launch the *Remembering Slavery* programme, Discovery Museum is hosting a number of events for families over this weekend.

### 24 March: 11am – 4pm

#### Fairtrade products and information stalls

### 1pm – 4pm

#### African Drumming workshops – Discovery Museum

Join Tom Sounds and learn how to play traditional African drumming music in this hands-on workshop.



### 25 March: 2pm – 4pm

#### African Storytelling – Discovery Museum

Local storyteller Gary Cordingley will be telling a collection of stories gathered from around Africa.

### 2pm – 4pm

#### Fairtrade products and information stalls

### 26 March: 2.30pm – 3.30pm

#### A Slave to Fashion – The Bowes Museum

Emma House, The Bowes Museum's Assistant Keeper of Fine Art, traces the European demand for luxury goods in this enlightening lecture. Places must be booked in advance by calling The Bowes Museum.



Tobacco rasps

### 3 April: 10.30 am – 12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm

#### Kente Weaving – Discovery Museum

A traditional weaving technique from Africa. Learn about traditional weaving with artist Sandra Goldsmith and make a kente bookmark.

### 5 April: 10.30 am – 12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm

#### Protest Music – Discovery Museum

Join local musician Michael Freeman as he explores the traditions of protest music from Africa and around the world.

### 7 April: 10.30 am – 12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm

#### Putting Slavery on the Map – Discovery Museum

Help textile artist Donna McKinnon to create a giant map of Africa with images of trade goods, ethnography and wildlife.

### 10 April: 10.30am, 11.15am, 12.00pm, 2.00pm, 2.45pm, and 3.30pm

#### Jamaican Storytelling – Discovery Museum

Listen to classic Jamaican tales collected by local storyteller Adam Bushnell.

### 12 April: 10.30am – 12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm

#### Trading Music – Discovery Museum

Create music from junk with musician Michael Freeman, using goods associated with the triangular slave trade.

### 14 April: 10.30am – 12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm

#### Behind the Mask – Discovery Museum

Find out about traditional African masks and make one yourself with artist Mike Clay.



**Sundays**  
**6, 13, 20 and 27**  
**May 11am**

### Newcastle Guided Walks

Join city guides for a free guided walk through Newcastle city centre to discover some of the city locations connected to the slave trade and abolitionist movement. Walks will last approximately 1½ hours. Places are limited and can be booked by calling the Lit & Phil.



*The image of Grey's Monument credit: Ad Infinitum: Peter Atkinson*

**17 May**

### Performance of 'Freedom' – Dance City

Tyne & Wear Museums Outreach team, working with young people and community groups, have collaborated with Dance City to stage an exciting performance inspired by music, dance, literature and objects relating to the slave trade legacy. Tickets are limited. To check availability contact Dance City on (0191) 261 0505

**23 August**

### International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition 2007 – South Shields Museum & Art Gallery

Find out about the slave trade, its abolition and how it affected the North East with South Shields Museum & Art Gallery as they host a selection of activities for all ages, to mark the International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition 2007.

## Listings at a Glance

■ Museum Events

■ Lit & Phil Lectures

■ Other Regional Events

This schedule highlights the cultural calendar from March – August 2007.

### Until Spring 2008

Abolition of the Slave Trade exhibition, County Hall, Durham

### Until 27 May

Human Traffic exhibition, Discovery Museum

### Until 10 June

Into Africa exhibition, Dorman Museum

### Until 23 June

Remembering Slavery touring exhibition, Discovery Museum

### Until 29 June

Revealed: Luxury Goods and the Slave Trade exhibition, The Bowes Museum

### Until 31 March

Campaigning Against Slavery exhibition, Central Library, South Shields

### Until 31 March

Slavery display, Crown Street Library, Darlington

### 21 March: 6pm

Slavery and Abolition: The Tyneside Setting lecture, The Lit & Phil

### 24 – 25 March

Family Opening – Fairtrade Weekend, Discovery Museum

### 24 March: 1pm – 4pm

African Drumming workshops, Discovery Museum

### 24 March: 11am

Service to Remember the Bicentenary, Durham Cathedral

### 25 March: 2pm – 4pm

African Storytelling, Discovery Museum

### 25 March: 6pm

Evensong for Freedom, St Nicholas Cathedral, Newcastle



**25 March: 6pm**

Churches Together United  
Celebration Service,  
Bondgate Methodist Church,  
Darlington

**26 March: 2.30pm –  
3.30pm**

A Slave to Fashion lecture,  
The Bowes Museum

**25 March – 7 June**

200 Years On: A Journey  
Through the Past exhibition,  
North Shields Library

**30 March: 7.30pm**

Abolition of Slavery Service,  
St Nicholas Cathedral,  
Newcastle

**3 April: 10.30am –  
12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm**

Kente Weaving workshops,  
Discovery Museum

**5 April: 10.30am –  
12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm**

Protest Music workshops,  
Discovery Museum

**7 April: 10.30am –  
12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm**

Putting Slavery on the  
Map workshops, Discovery  
Museum

**10 April: 10.30am,  
11.15am, 12.00pm,  
2.00pm, 2.45pm,  
and 3.30pm**

Jamaican Storytelling,  
Discovery Museum

**12 April: 10.30am –  
12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm**

Trading Music workshops,  
Discovery Museum

**14 April: 10.30am –  
12.30pm, 2pm – 4pm**

Behind the Mask workshops,  
Discovery Museum

**24 April: 6.00pm**  
Enslaved Women's Lives  
Before and After 1807  
lecture, The Lit & Phil

**2 May: 6.00pm**  
What was the North East's  
Involvement in the Trade  
and Abolition of Slavery?  
lecture, The Lit & Phil

**6 May: 11am**

Newcastle Guided Walk  
(see page 15)

**10 May: 6.00pm**

Art Against the Slave Trade  
lecture, The Lit & Phil

**13 May: 11am**

Newcastle Guided Walk  
(see page 15)

**17 May**

Performance of 'Freedom',  
Dance City

**17 May: 5.30pm**

Baroness Young lecture,  
The Lit & Phil

**20 May: 11am**

Newcastle Guided Walk  
(see page 15)

**24 May: 6.00pm**

A Many-Headed Hydra:  
Slavery, and How it Survived  
the End of the Slave Trade  
lecture, The Lit & Phil

**27 May: 11am**

Newcastle Guided Walk  
(see page 15)

**19 June: 1.00pm**

Remembering Slavery 2007:  
A North East Perspective  
lecture, South Shields  
Museum and Art Gallery

**4 July: 12.30pm**

Remembering Slavery 2007:  
A North East Perspective  
lecture, Laing Art Gallery

**7 July – 9 September**

Remembering Slavery touring  
exhibition, South Shields  
Museum & Art Gallery

**23 August**

International Day for the  
Remembrance of the Slave  
Trade and its Abolition events  
day, South Shields Museum &  
Art Gallery



# Venues

## Discovery Museum

Blandford Square  
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4JA  
Tel: (0191) 232 6789  
Textphone: 18001 0191 232 6789  
[www.twmuseums.org.uk/discovery](http://www.twmuseums.org.uk/discovery)  
Free entry

## The Dorman Museum

Linthorpe Road  
Middlesbrough TS5 6LA  
Tel: (01642) 813 781  
[www.dormanmuseum.co.uk](http://www.dormanmuseum.co.uk)  
Free entry

## The Bowes Museum

Barnard Castle DL12 8NP  
Tel: (01833) 690 606  
[www.thebowesmuseum.org.uk](http://www.thebowesmuseum.org.uk)  
Adult £7, Concessions £6  
Under 16s free

## The Lit & Phil

23 Westgate Road  
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1SE  
Tel: (0191) 232 0192  
[www.litandphil.org.uk](http://www.litandphil.org.uk)  
Free entry

## South Shields Museum & Art Gallery

Ocean Road  
South Shields NE33 2JA  
Tel: (0191) 456 8740  
Textphone: 18001 0191 456 8740  
[www.twmuseums.org.uk/southshields](http://www.twmuseums.org.uk/southshields)  
Free entry

## Laing Art Gallery

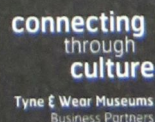
New Bridge Street  
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8AG  
Tel: (0191) 232 7734  
[www.twmuseums.org.uk/laing](http://www.twmuseums.org.uk/laing)  
Free entry

## Museum of Antiquities

University of Newcastle  
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU  
Tel: (0191) 222 7849  
[www.museums.ncl.ac.uk](http://www.museums.ncl.ac.uk)  
Free entry

Front Image: Plan of a slave ship, Tyne and Wear Archives Service

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