

# Built Legacy



## Digital Preservation of Historic Building and Structure Recording Projects

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# Introduction

- The Archaeology Data Service
- Context: the historic environment and the UK planning system
- Survey and results
- Conclusions
- Next steps

# The ADS: Who we are and what we do

The screenshot shows the ADS website homepage. At the top is the ADS logo and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, there are three main sections: 'EXPLORE', 'DISCOVER', and 'DEPOSIT'. The 'EXPLORE' section highlights 'Supporting research, learning and teaching with free, high quality and dependable digital resources'. The 'DISCOVER' section features a 'Featured collection' titled 'England's Rock Art' with a photograph of a rock art site. The 'DEPOSIT' section includes a 'Workbook' and a 'History' section. The 'Workbook' section mentions 'Using the tools at the bottom of each page save your favourite resources and regular searches in the myADS Workbook'. The 'History' section mentions 'Your recent exploration of the site and the archives is automatically saved in your myADS History'. The 'Additional services' section mentions 'Registered ADS users can take advantage of a number of additional myADS services, such as tailored email alerts and download of configurable results sets'. The bottom of the page features a red banner with the University of York logo and the text 'University of York legal statements | ADS terms and conditions | Cookies'.



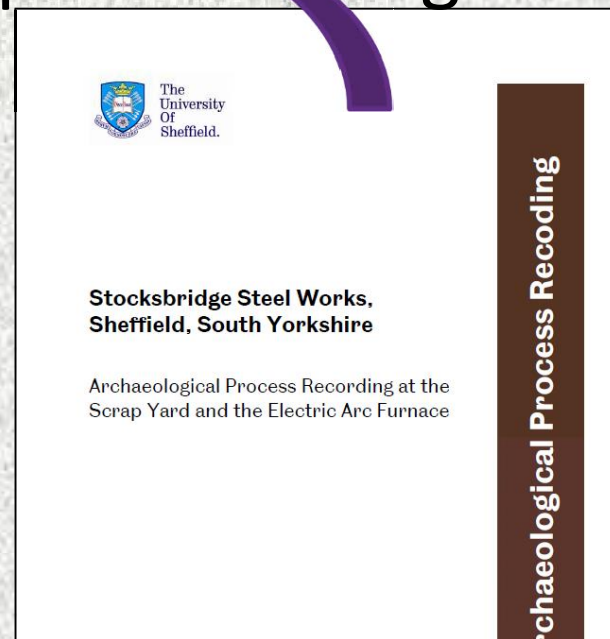
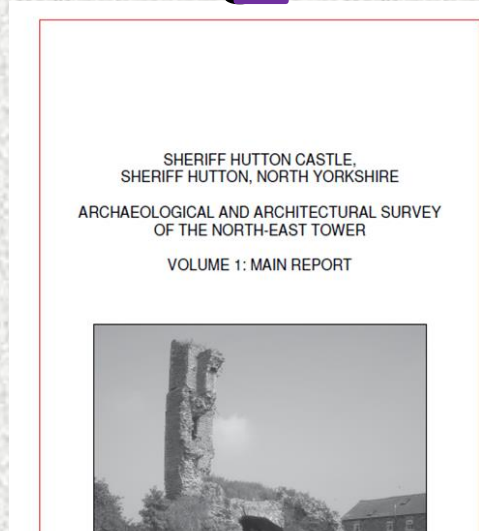
- Founded 1996
- Department of Archaeology, University of York
- Collections
  - 1,100,000 metadata records
  - 41,354+ unpublished fieldwork reports
  - c1000 rich archives
- Guides to Good Practice
- DPC Decennial Award 2012
- Data Seal of Approval





# Grey Literature and Archives

From castles to crucibles: 3000+ reports relating to  
building and structures



# Data and photographic archives

ads ARCHAEOLOGY DATA SERVICE

HOME ARCHSEARCH ARCHIVES DEPOSIT LEARNING ADVICE RESEARCH ABOUT US BLOG LOGIN

ALL | JOURNALS AND SERIES | GREY LITERATURE | PROJECT ARCHIVES | BIBLIOGRAPHIES | THESES

Queries can be refined using both the menu above and the categories listed below. **RESET QUERY**

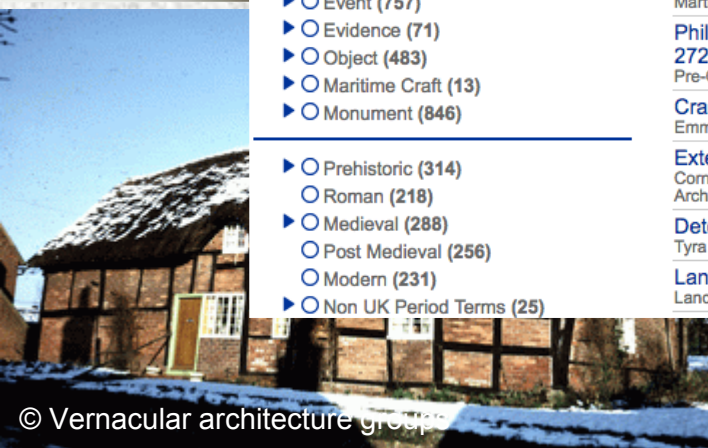
KEYWORD  **SEARCH**

1071 RESULTS | PAGE 1 OF 54

TITLE	YEAR
The Tarbat Discovery Programme Martin Carver	2017
Philip Pape Mural, Baysgarth School, Barrow Road, Barton-on-Humber (OASIS ID: preconst3-272372) Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd (Lincoln)	2017
Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) Emma Rouse	2017
Extensive Urban Survey - Devon Cornwall Archaeological Unit, South West Archaeology Ltd, Devon County Council Historic Environment Team, AC Archaeology Ltd, SLR Consulting	2017
Determining Potential: Onshore/Offshore Prehistory. Historic England Project 6918 Tyra Standen, Michael Grant, Fraser Sturt, Justin Dix	2017
Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) Lancashire County Council	2017

☐ Event (757)  
☐ Evidence (71)  
☐ Object (483)  
☐ Maritime Craft (13)  
☐ Monument (846)

☐ Prehistoric (314)  
☐ Roman (218)  
☐ Medieval (288)  
☐ Post Medieval (256)  
☐ Modern (231)  
☐ Non UK Period Terms (25)



# Archaeology in the Planning System

- Archaeology embedded in the English planning system since 1990
- Investigatory work is directed and overseen by local authority specialists, but undertaken by professional contractors retained by the developer (competitive tender process).
- c.3000 individuals working in contracting
- Recent moves to bring archaeology and historic buildings together: National Planning Policy Framework refers to the 'Historic Environment'

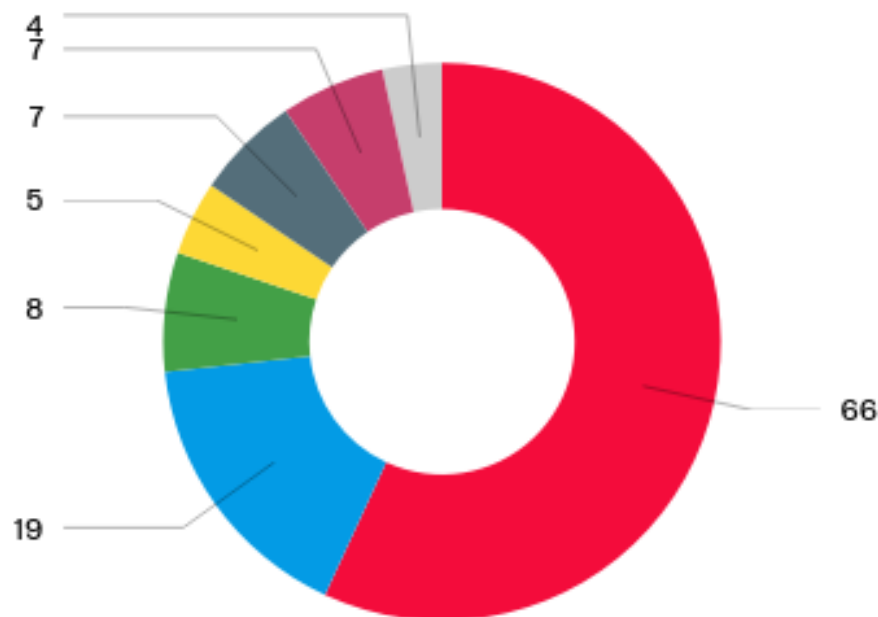


# Why so little buildings-related material?

- Is material generated in the first place?
- If so, what form does it take?
- Is material preserved elsewhere?
- How is the tradition & culture of data collection different to archaeology?
- Is there just a lack of awareness?
- Are there any barriers to deposition? Can these be quantified?

# Survey

Participants by Primary Interest or Discipline

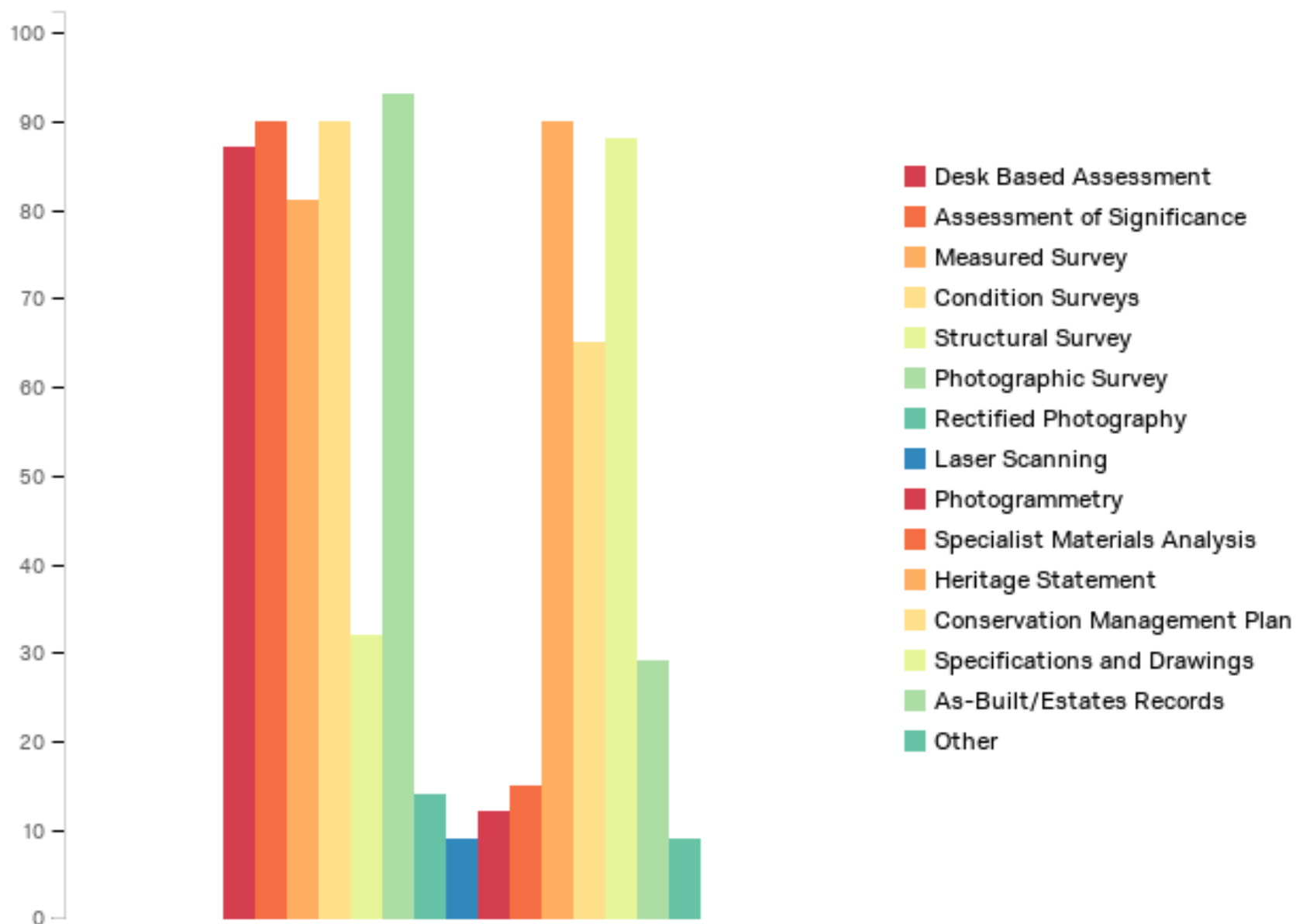


Legend:

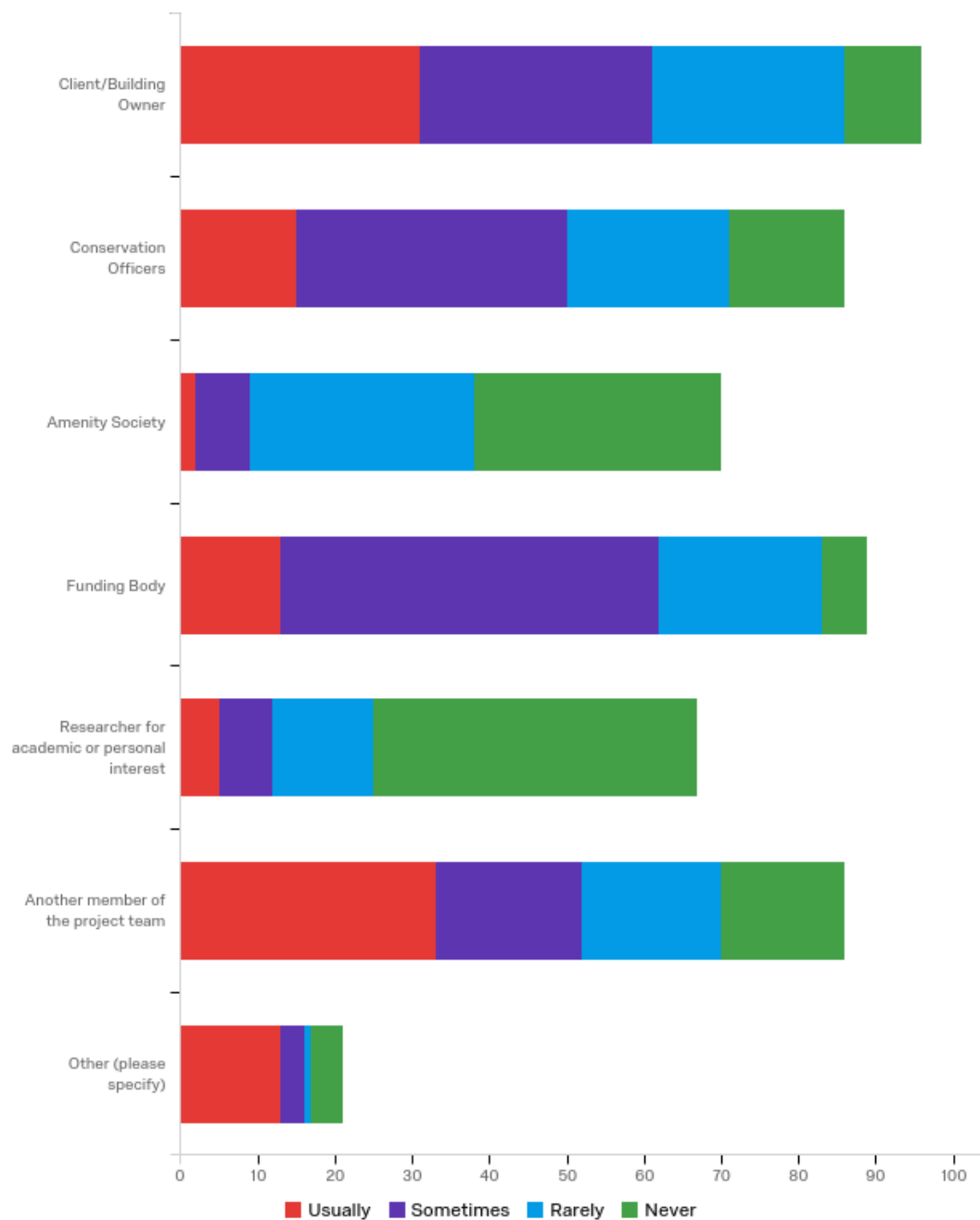
- All Others
- Architect
- Owner
- Facilities Manager
- Contractor
- Other
- Project Manager
- Building Surveyor
- Structural Engineer
- Buildings Archaeologist
- Architectural Historian
- Heritage Consultant
- Town Planner
- Conservation Officer



## Professional Work Output



## Who defines the scope of work for Historic Building Investigations?



Other Locations of Data

*'Who knows? We cannot operate as the County Archive'*

digital copy with tpa

HE records and files

Planning Records

Digitally on our own archive

server and often hard copy in our files

*'Cynically, on a scratched out of date CD in the back of a cupboard in a probably damp vestry.'*

Hard copy of written

On file in office

Electronic by LPA

our own archive/filing

documents with me

*'If past experience is anything to go by, forgotten. Clients have short memories (including those who know better) and I cannot see archives and records being much of a priority in the public sector, certainly not a local level where cuts and closures are rife.'*

Own archive

Local Authority Planning

Our own company project

On our server

Department

files for up to 12 years

myself; LPA

COTAC records

Our own digital project

Occasionally with the HER but

*'Digital Scans (cloudpoints) are generally retained by the survey*

archives

only if requested in a brief

*company; however we don't currently require them to hold this data*

Our archives store the data

in our office and church surveys

digitally in our archive

OASIS

*(and curate it to ensure it remains legible to future software*

confidentially for 6 years

are kept by the LPA

*versions) for any period of time.'*

Hard and digital file

Our our own archive

Diocesan records

Museum

*'We have projects 15 years old for which we no longer can read the electronic data.'*

In house office archive

Own office archive

Grant Body

ADS

Own file storage

Digital on company archive

DAC's

On own hard drive archive

server and posted onto online library

*'I am concerned that some Heritage Statements, which contain*

*important new research are within reports primarily aimed at*

Our own records, for

Archaeologist

Own archive

Company archives (digital)

twelve years

*supporting Planning Applications and therefore look like advocacy documents so may not be archived.'*

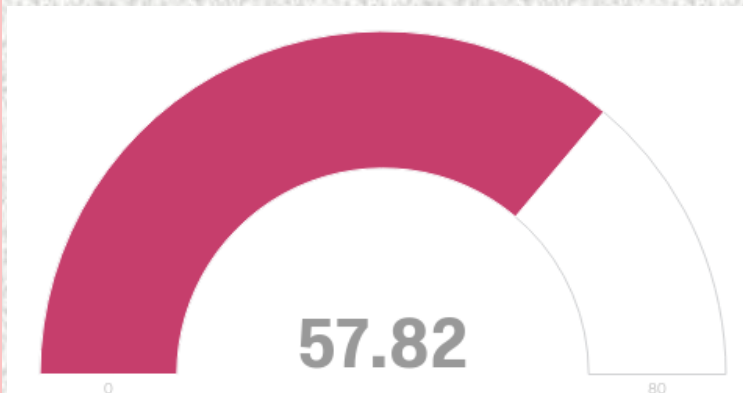
digitally with me

On file in practice archive

Digitally in our office.

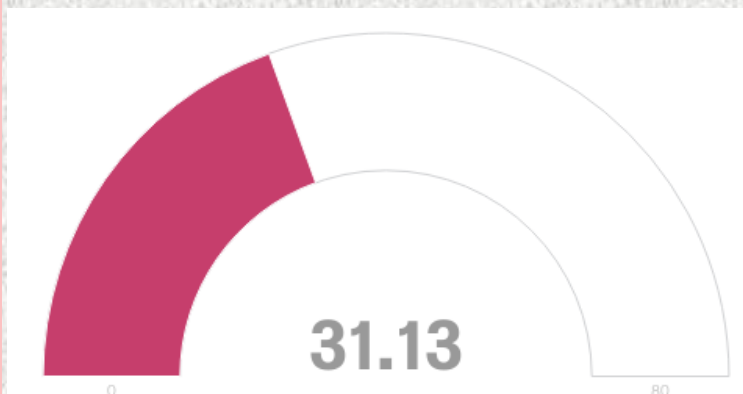
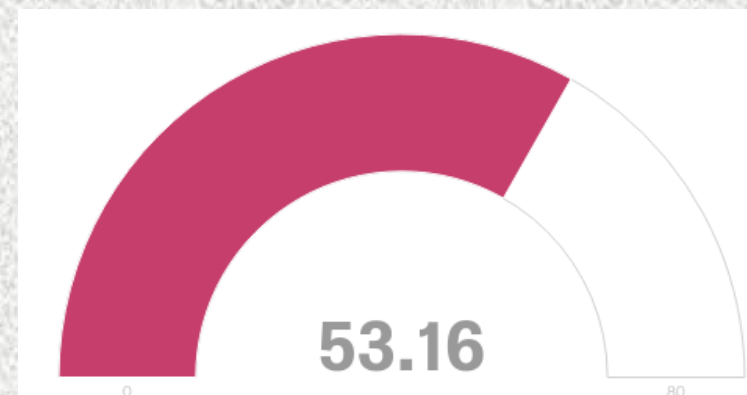
*'Quite possibly in our own archive, but not guaranteed.'*



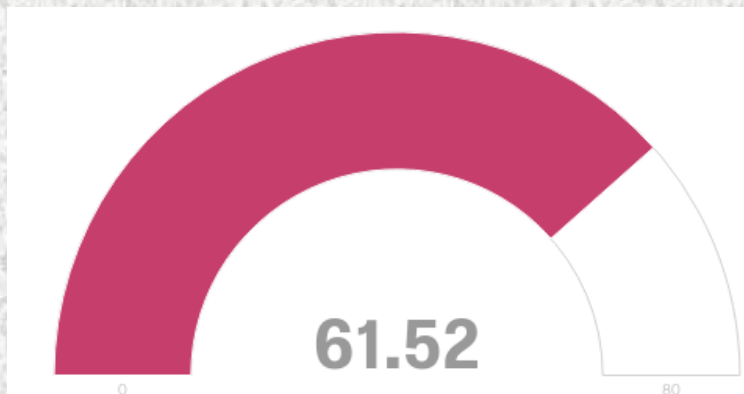


I do not think my client would agree to information being made available online

I would be worried about tackling intellectual property rights with my client

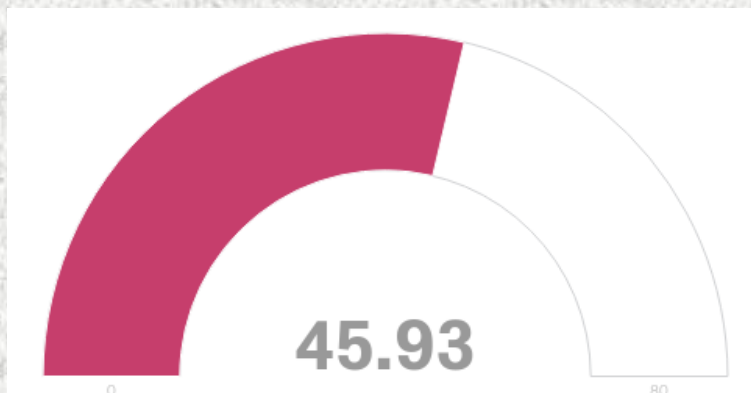
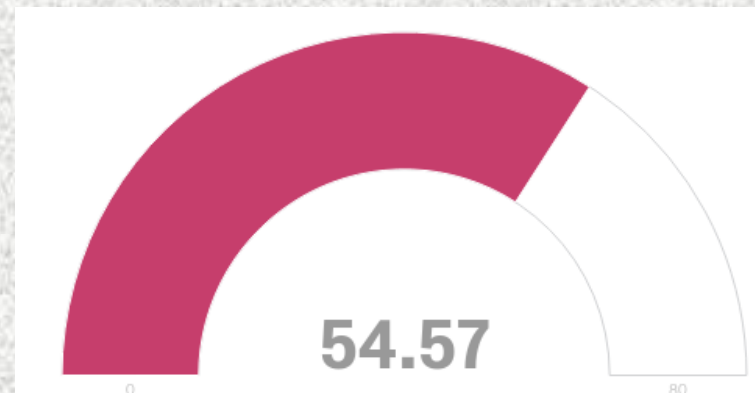


I would not have skills necessary to prepare data for deposition



I do not think I can convince my client to cover the cost of archiving

I would not have time/capacity to prepare data for deposition



My competitors could access reports and data



A horizontal bar chart with a red segment representing 86% and a grey segment representing 14%. The text 'Agree (86%)' is centered in the red segment.

Response	Percentage
Agree	86%
Disagree	14%

Agree (86%)

Free and open access to historic building information would reduce costs



A horizontal bar chart with a red segment representing 95% and a grey segment representing 5%. The text 'Agree (95%)' is centered in the red segment.

Response	Percentage
Agree	95%
Disagree	5%

Agree (95%)

Free and open access to historic building information would improve the quality of our work



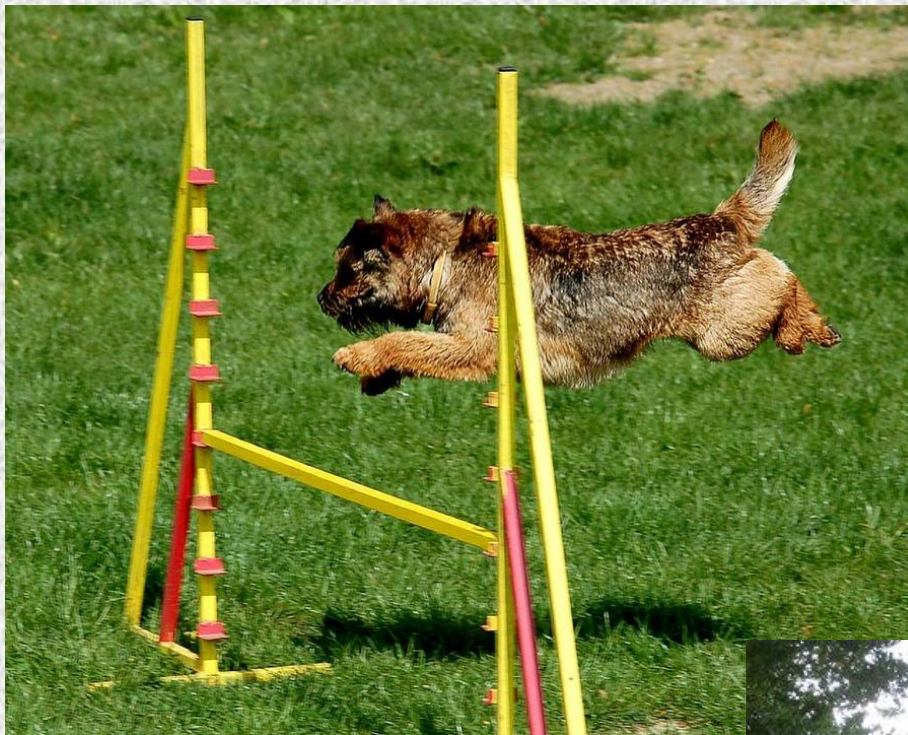
A horizontal bar chart with a red segment representing 92% and a grey segment representing 8%. The text 'Agree (92%)' is centered in the red segment.

Response	Percentage
Agree	92%
Disagree	8%

Agree (92%)

Free and open access to historic building information would enable us to respond to our clients ' needs more quickly





**Conclusions: Digital archiving  
and access is considered a  
good thing...**

**...but there are some hurdles  
to jump**

**...and playing fields to  
level**



# Next steps?

- Awareness raising
- Professional practice
- Better understanding of sector needs
- Oakleigh report (forthcoming) and the Heritage Information Access Strategy (HIAS)



# Acknowledgements

Co Author: Julian D. Richards, Director, The  
Archaeology Data Service

Project Research Assistant: Angela Creswick

Full Project report: <http://bit.ly/2oCEp56> or via  
the ADS blog:

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/blog>

Submit a report : [oasis.ac.uk](http://oasis.ac.uk)