



SEADDS WG4: Does the data define the user community?

Tim Evans 31-03-2020

Introduction

In April 1996 a consortium comprising eight Departments of Archaeology from UK Universities joined forces with the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) to put a proposal to the Arts and Humanities Data Service Executive to establish an...

Archaeology Data Service



Challenges for Archaeology

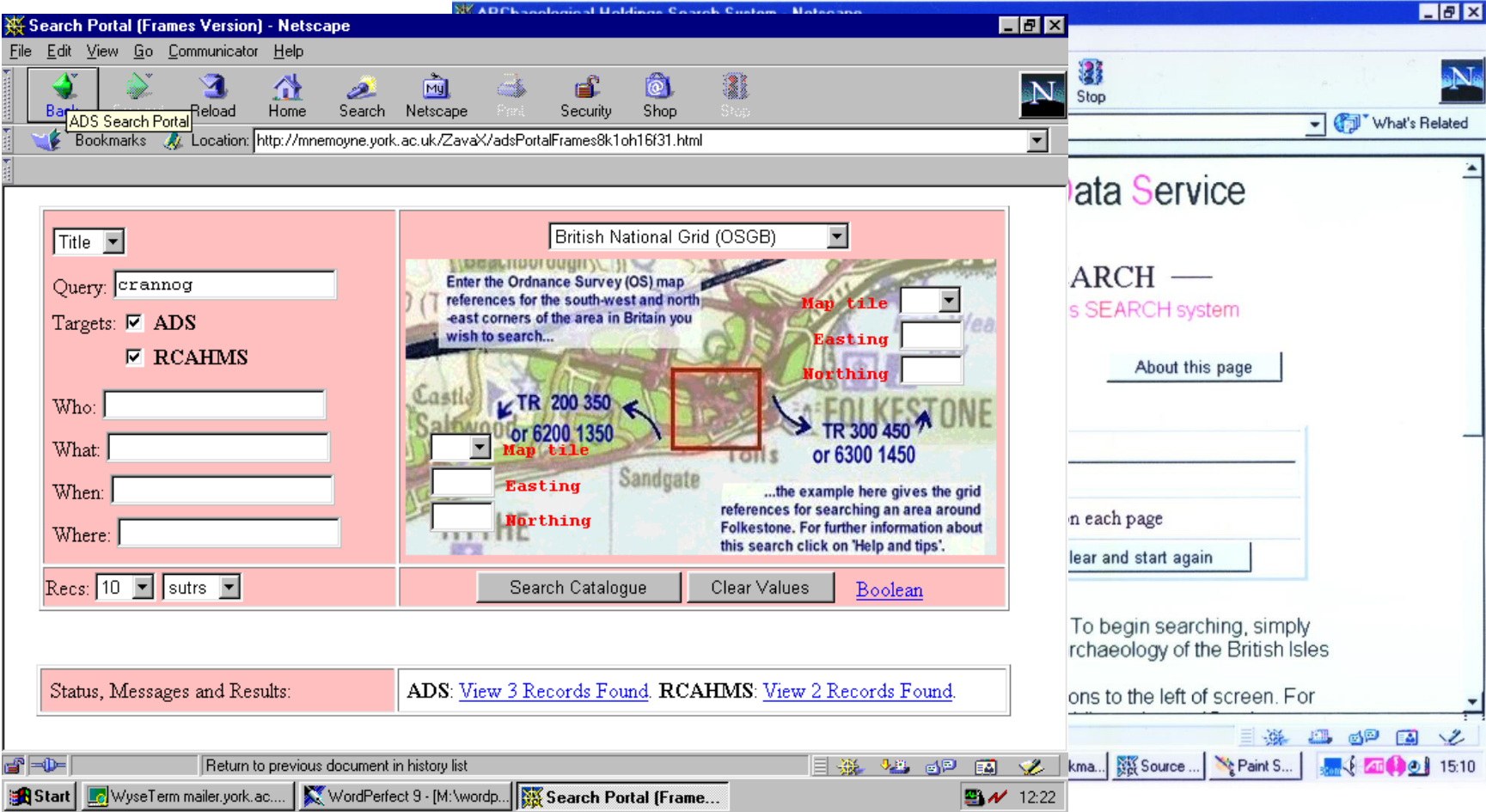
Digital Data and Archaeology

- Archaeology is **destructive**
- Comprehensive records of field work are imperative
- Majority of data recorded in grey literature
- Traditionally, access to 'data' has been problematic

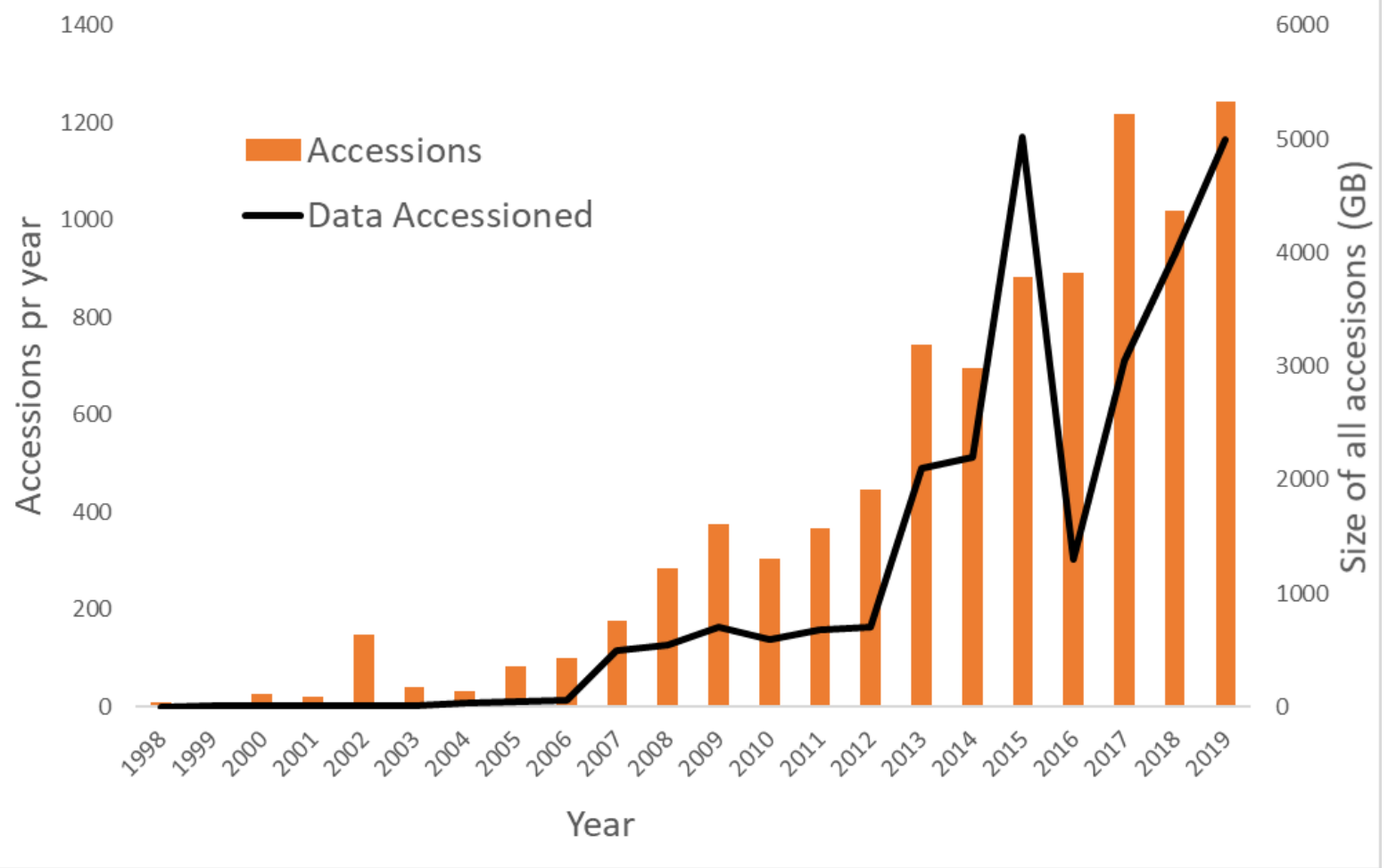


"This CD-ROM can hold more information than all the paper that's here below me"-
Bill Gates, 1994

Background



ADS Accessions 1998-2019



FEATURED COLLECTION

ForSEAdiscovery: combining history, maritime archaeology, GIS, chemistry, wood anatomy, and dendrochronology

The Archaeology Data Service is the only accredited digital repository in the UK for heritage experience and teaching dependab

DEPOSIT

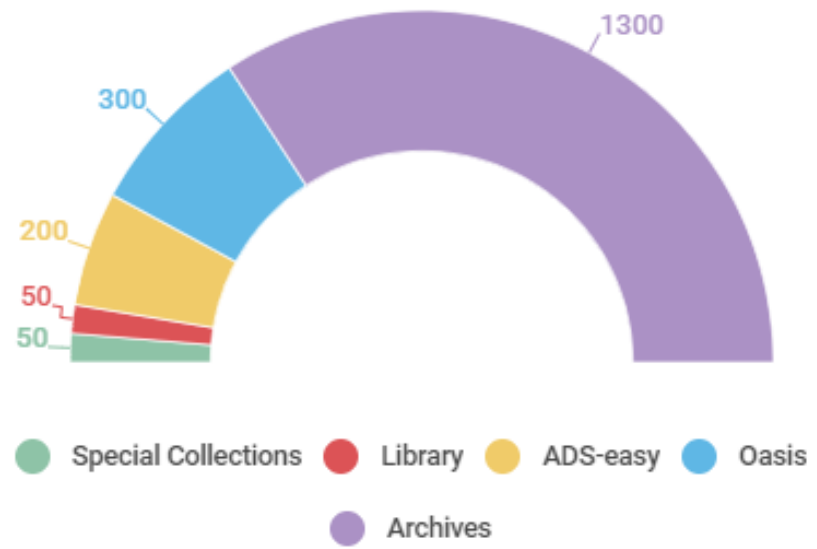
Depositing heritage data with the ADS ensures that your data will be professionally curated in the long term and easily accessible for future re-use.

SEARCH

The ADS disseminates a broad range of digital heritage data that are free to access and re-use. This includes data rich archives, unpublished reports, journals and metadata records.

Total Collections

2977



Designated Community

- Who is our (user) Community?
- OAIS
- Contentious e.g.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/pras.2016.14505301038>
- Broad (public) versus Narrow (Specialist)
- User Community (everyone!)

Designated Community

- Core Trust Seal (**R0. Please provide context for your repository.**)
- “The ADS provides preservation services to UK-based practitioners and researchers... within the UK and International archaeological and heritage communities.”
- See ADS Collections Policy
<https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/advice/collectionsPolicy.xhtml>

Designated Community

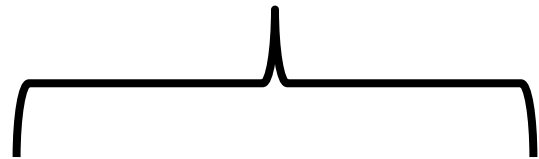
“I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.”

(1 Corinthians 9:22)

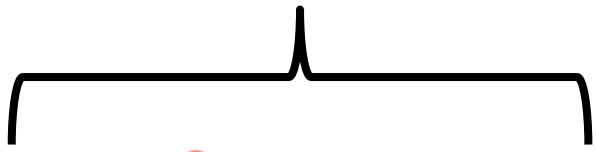




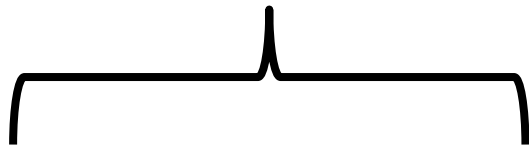
Funding Bodies



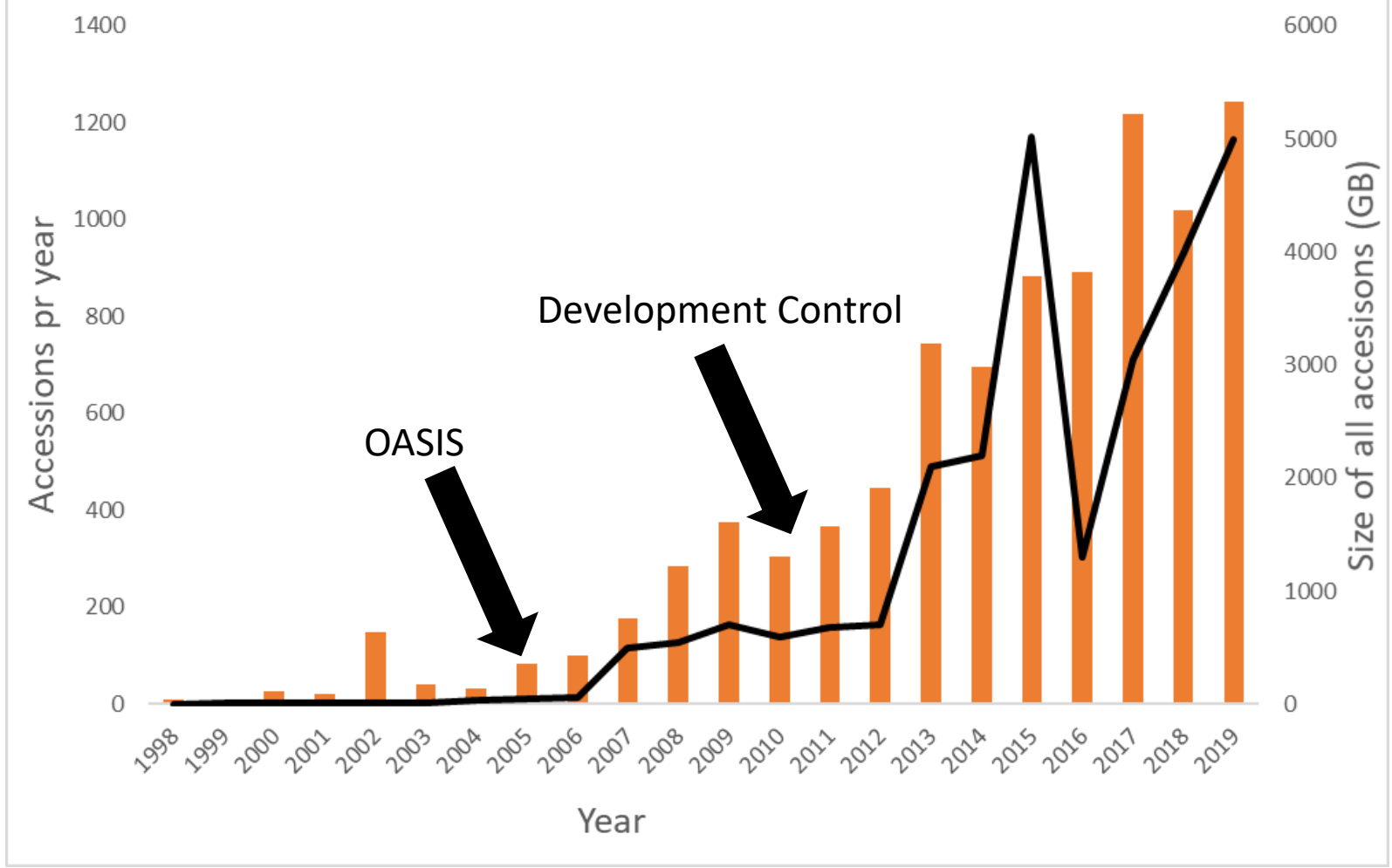
Development control



Everyone else!



ADS Accessions 1998-2019

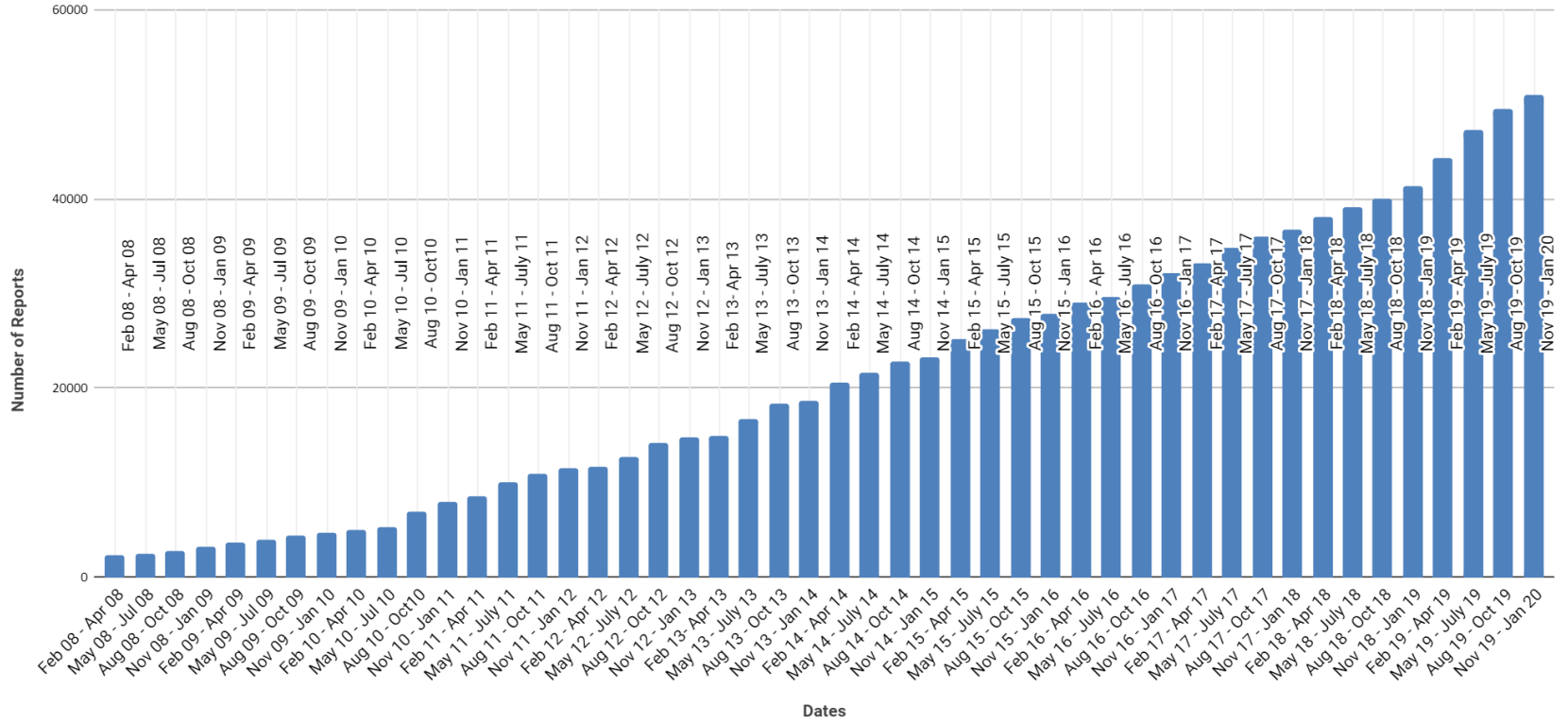


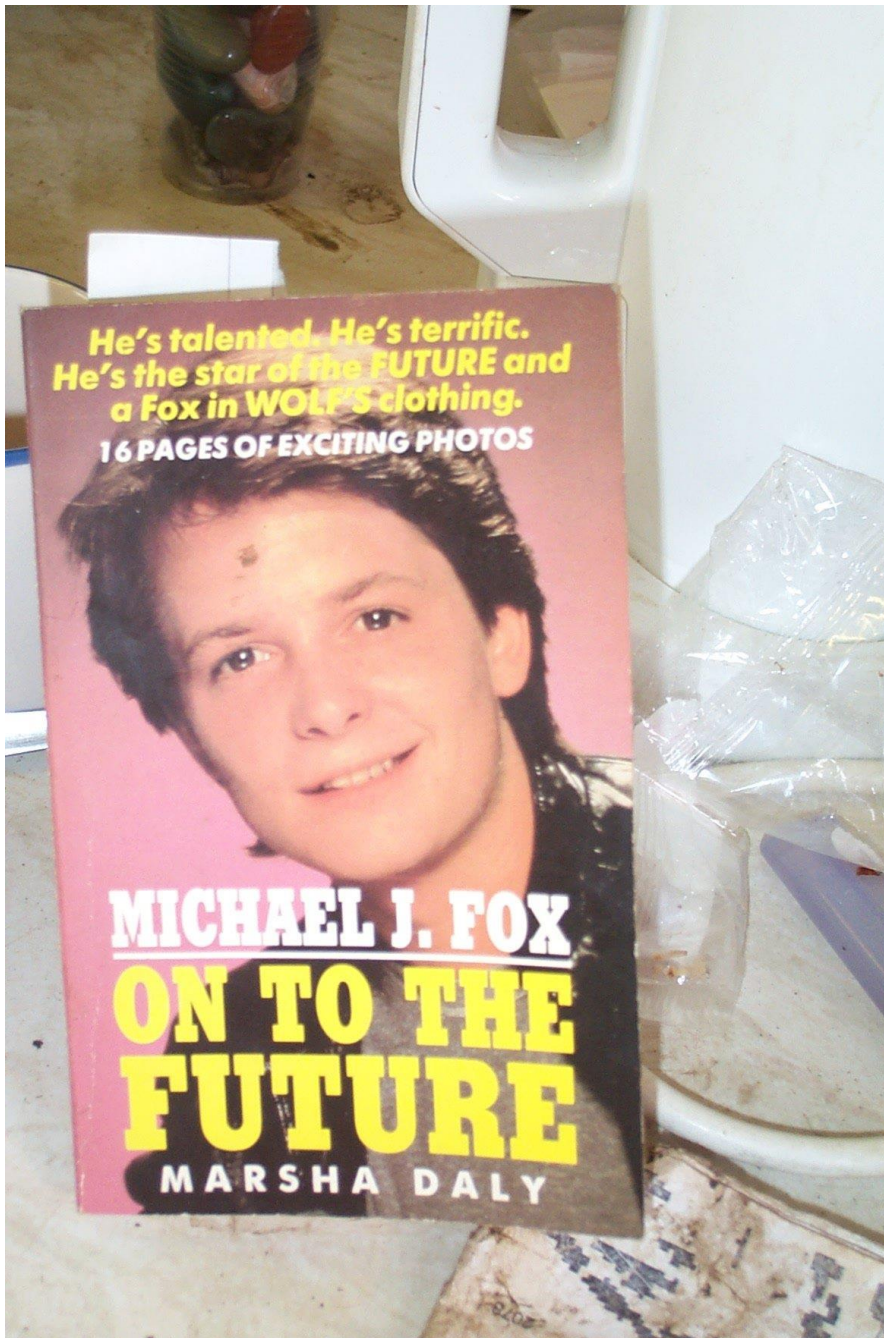
Our Changing Attitudes



Evans, T.N.L. and R.H. Moore (2014) 'The Use of PDF/A in Digital Archives: A Case Study from Archaeology' *International Journal of Digital Curation*. Vol. 9, No. 2, pp. 123-138. <https://doi.org/10.2218/ijdc.v9i2.267>

Cumulative Uploads to the Grey Literature Library via OASIS





Quality





TRENCH RECORDING FORM

SITE NAME <i>Land south of A379</i> <i>LSAR16 (RESIDENTIAL AREA)</i>				SITE CODE <i>LSAR16</i>		AREA <i>T1</i>	TRENCH No. <i>Trench 1</i>
Length <i>75m</i>		Width <i>2.0M</i>		Ground level (AOD)		Max. depth <i>0.55M</i>	
Plan Nos	Section Nos	Colour photos Film Frames	B & W photos Film Frames	Digital Photos	Co-ordinates <input type="checkbox"/> Site Grid <input type="checkbox"/> OS		
<i>GPS</i>	<i>1-1</i> <i>1-2</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>106-0008-18</i> <i>106-0011-18</i>	<i>—</i>		
Context No.	Context type	Description			Dimensions	Context Sheet	
<i>100</i>	<i>LAYER</i>	<i>TOPSOIL: MID BROWN CLAY, VERY SOFT + DRY CLAY SILT, <1% STONE <1% BURNT CLAY <1% CHARRED FRAGS, RECENTLY ROUGHED.</i>			<i>LOE; <0.6M</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>101</i>	<i>LAYER</i>	<i>NATURAL: MAINLY A SOFT SILT SAND, VARIES IN COLOUR - LIGHT ORANGE-BLUE, LIGHT WHITE BROWN, MID ORANGE, BANDS OF FINER + COARSER MATERIAL SOME PHOTOGRAPHY (BURIED) IN SURFACE.</i>			<i>LOE</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>102</i>	<i>CUT</i>	<i>DITCH OF BOUNDARY.</i>				<i>✓</i>	
<i>103</i>	<i>FILL</i>	<i>FILL OF 102</i>				<i>✓</i>	
<i>104</i>	<i>CUT</i>	<i>DITCH OF BOUNDARY</i>				<i>✓</i>	

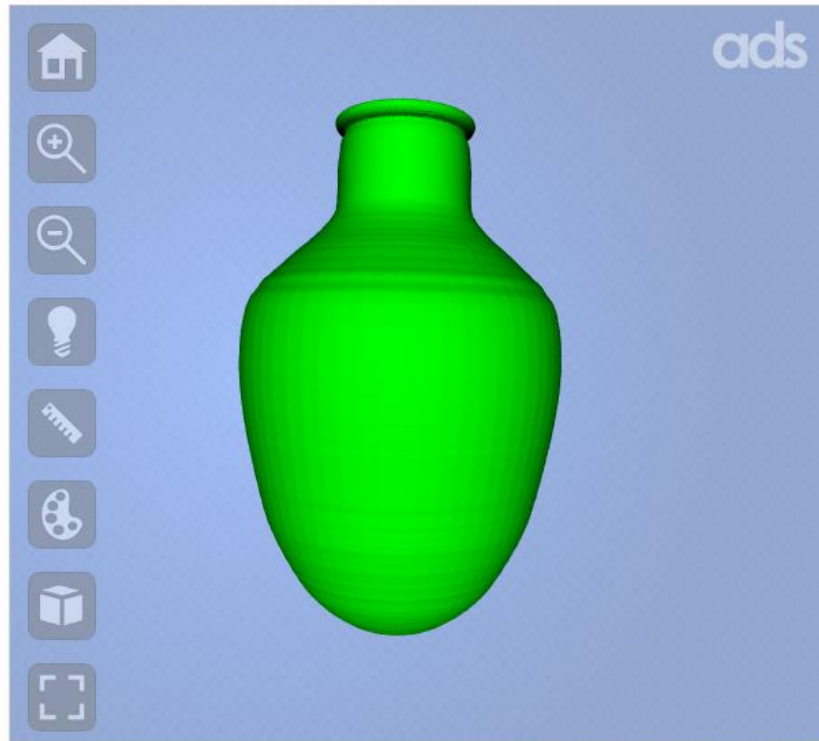


- Idea of a digital archive (and what we think this is) does not fit all our Community?
 - Some Academics: generating research archives, citation, authority
 - Others...

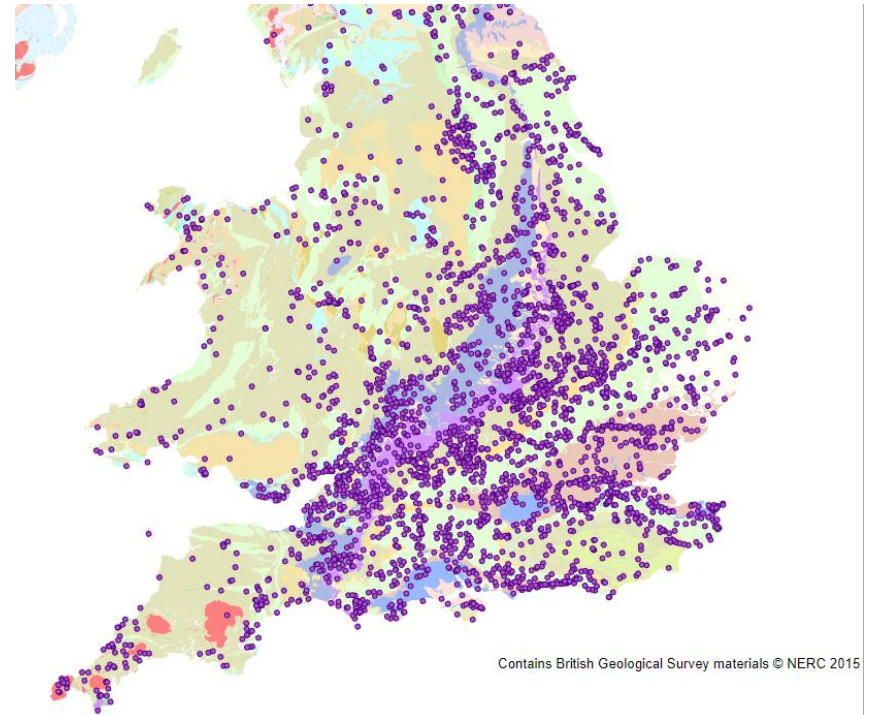


Familiar favourites

<https://doi.org/10.5284/1028192>



<https://doi.org/10.5284/1030449>



- Idea of a digital archive (and what we think this is) has not permeated, our very diverse Community
 - Community groups:
 - not for us?
 - skills/confidence?
 - Development Control:
 - part of a process –sometimes a box to be ticked
 - takes too much time
 - no guidance (historically) on what a digital archive should be
 - “you want what???”
 - focussed (understandably on meeting the planning condition)

Crossrail: Archaeological Investigations Conducted in Advance of Construction of the Elizabeth Line

Crossrail Ltd, 2019

Introduction

Site List

Data copyright © Crossrail Ltd unless otherwise stated

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Primary contact

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Canary Wharf
London
E14 5LQ

[Send e-mail enquiry](#)

Resource identifiers

ADS Collection: 2902
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5284/1055125>
How to cite using this DOI

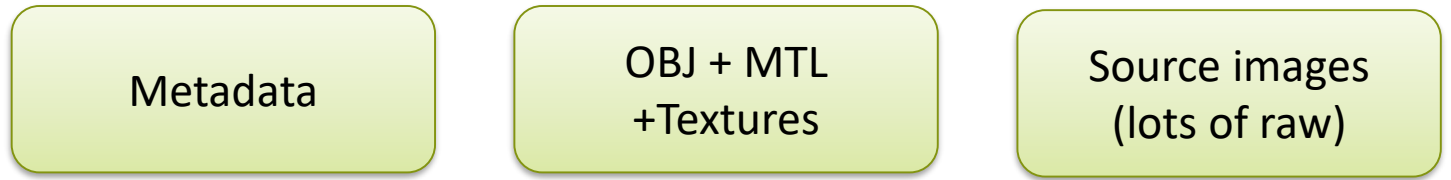
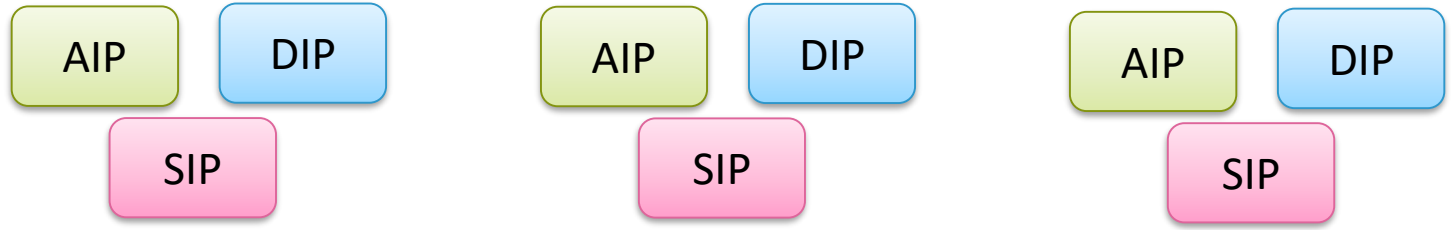


Site List

- 18-19 Hanover Square, Bond Street Station (Eastern Ticket Hall) (Crossrail XSG10)
- Blomfield Street Phase 2 Mitigation, 11-12 Blomfield Street (Crossrail XTB12)
- Blomfield Worksite, Liverpool Street, 11-12 Blomfield Street, EC2 (Crossrail XSL10)
- Bond Street Station (Crossrail XSC10)
- City Wall at Old Broad Street (Crossrail XSZ11)
- Connaught Tunnel (Crossrail XSY11)
- Custom House Station, Victoria Dock Road (Crossrail XTI13)
- Eleanor Street Shaft (Crossrail XTJ13)
- Farringdon Eastern Ticket Hall, Phase 2 Mitigation, Hayne Street (Crossrail XTE12)
- Farringdon Station, Minor Works and Utility Diversions, Hayne Street (Crossrail XSF10)
- Finsbury Circus, Liverpool Street (Crossrail XRZ10)
- Gazetteer of Heritage Assets assessed for Built Heritage and Railway Heritage Publications (Crossrail Publication Series Nos 3 and 4)

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METADATA



REP_ID	PURPOSE	FILE_NAME	FILE_SIZE	CHECKSUM	OBJECT_ID
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3,935,120	Original	Bayo_04_obj.obj	62,254,861	52a77f1a869f06d225930d380a92df09	1,640,995
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3,935,123	Original	Bayo_04_obj3.jpg	2,237,707	b92b8b585a1306524c53fc2a42f53a48	1,640,995

Final thoughts

- It is getting better
- More commercial sites are now giving us plans (vector).
- Maybe we need another indicator (rather than just numbers – reuse quality)?
- Maybe we need to get better at demonstrating impact (all our community)
- Different approaches for different parts of our community?

Thanks!

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

[https://twitter.com/ADS Update](https://twitter.com/ADS_Update)

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