

# Can we have that on a map?



Open Source options for the dissemination of archaeological spatial data

Tim Evans, Archaeology Data Service Dept. of Archaeology, University of York 01-09-2016



## Introduction

- Overview of two decades of archiving + publishing spatial data
- Successes + failures of "Web Mapping"
- Advantages of Open Source approach
- Disclaimer
  - Personal opinion based on 10 years experience
  - A bad workman always blames their tools!



# Introduction to the ADS

#### The Archaeology Data Service:

- set up in 1996
- one of five AHDS subject centres
- based within the University of York

#### Funding:

- initially received funding from
  - Arts and Humanities Research Board (now AHRC)
  - Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)
- presently receives core funding from AHRC alongside a range of project-based funding.



### **Mission Statement**

#### Our remit:

"To support research, learning and teaching with high quality and dependable digital resources."

#### In practice this means three key things:

That ADS collect and preserve datasets
That we allow full, easy and free access to these
Provide guidance and support to data creators

### **Archaeological Maps**



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- ADS hold over 2,000,000 objects
- 12,000 are geospatial
  - ESRI (Shapefile,), GML, MapInfo
  - Images
  - Geodatabases
  - Raw + processed remote sensing data



- All data archived in perpetuity
  - e.g. Shapefiles migrated to GML (3.2)
- On occasion, map interfaces also replicated as Web Mapping





A30 BODMIN BYPASSINDIAN QUEENS IMPROVEMENT

A30 EBSWORTHY

A30 OKEHAMPTON BYPASS

A30 PLUSHA GSJ

A30 ROAD WIDENING SCHEME

A30 SOURTON DOWN



http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk



### Issues with data

Identify		×
Identify from:	<top-most layer=""></top-most>	-
	GreyLiteratureStage IDatabase_point Laying Operations at Star Castle, Isles of Scilly: Results of the Archaeological Watching Brief Bay Hotel Extension, Bryher, Isles of Scilly. Archaeological Watching Brief ork in Scilly, Autumn 1990	
Location:	102.823.758.855.936 Meters	×1
: Results of th	e Archaeological Watching Brief	
I the Garrison	Sate to the Star Castle, a 16th century artillery fort, revealed features beneath the surface of the curtain wall including the cobbled roof of a blocked-off room and what appeared to b	





- Problems with metadata:
  - Lack of projection, or even wrong projection
  - Lack of source where has this data come from, should we even have it (third party Copyright)
  - No documentation for attribute fields, a real problem with archaeologists e.g. what does "field1" stand for/actually do. What do the numbers within it mean?





# Long-termIssues Facing the ADS

#### •Usability

- •User Expectation
- Proprietary technology (inc. licensing)
- •Sustainability



# Traditional approach

- ESRI products used:
  - ArcIMS
  - ArcGIS Server







- ESRI products used:
  - ArcIMS
    - Publishing an MXD as an AXL file additional coding required
    - 32-bit application
    - Management is/was still rigid and does not lend itself well to a distributed system. Any sort of map load / reloads will bring <u>all</u> your services down momentarily

### ArcIMS

#### O Products

#### ArcIMS

#### ArcIMS

ArcIMS will no longer be supported with the release of ArcGIS 10.1. ArcGIS for Server is Esri's primary server technology. Find out more about ArcGIS for Server.



Distribute GIS services over the Web with ArcGIS for Server.







- ArcGIS Server (9.3)
  - Using ArcSDE Geodatabase (9.3)
  - ArcSDE would not restart
  - University upgraded to ArcGIS 10, did not include ArcSDE... problems between Server 10 and older flavour of SDE
  - Trying to migrate data out of SDE was problematic

"The overhead of SDE will suck the life out of you"

### **ArcGIS Server**





- ESRI products are dependent on ESRI providing licenses, which they can discontinue after a certain amount of time.
- Serious problems with ArcSDE continual migration of data
- Systems overhead: maintenance of bespoke servers to keep legacy projects









#### Geoserver

 Open Source server for sharing geospatial data

Built on Open Standards

• Community driven









Geoserver

- Simple management of data
  - Access via file store or Geodatabase
  - 'Publish' as WCS/WMS/WFS and many more
- Simple customization of data
  - Via custom styles (SDL)
  - Allows querying of features and/or underlying data via SQL/CQL



# **OpenLayers 2**





# **OpenLayers 2**

```
function updateFilter(){
    if(pureCoverage)
   var filter_start = document.getElementById('filter_start').value;
   var filterParams = {
       filter_start: null,
       cql_filter: null,
       featureId: null
    if (OpenLayers.String.trim(filter_start) != "") {
           filterParams["cql_filter"] = "DATE_START <='"+filter_start+"' AND DATE_END >='"+filter_start+"'";
   }
   mergeNewParams(filterParams);
}
function resetFilter() {
   if(pureCoverage)
   document.getElementById('filter_start').value = "";
   updateFilter();
```

### Functionality







### ArcGIS Server vs GeoServer





### ArcGIS Server vs GeoServer



#### Base Layer

- Imperium Romanum
- BGS 1:625k Bedrock Lithology
- BGS 1:625k Superficial Lithology
- OS Terrain: 50m grid resolution
- OpenStreetMap
- Google Satellite

#### Overlays

- All sites
- 🕑 鱼 Farms
- Image Service Servi
  - Farms: enclosed
  - Farms: unenclosed
  - 🕨 🔺 Field system
- I + Funerary site
- Iron production site
- Other industry site
- Pottery production site
- Romano-Celtic temple
  - Roadside settlement
- Salt production site
- Shrine
- Tile production site
- Vicus
- 🛛 😐 Villa
- Village
- Koman Roads
- Roman Towns
- Clarge settlements





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- Longevity
  - OpenLayers 3
    - radical overhaul of code base
    - makes heavy use of the new capabilities of modern Web browsers (Canvas, WebGL)
    - e.g. integration of 3D data
- Means learning a whole new library of code!
  - Re-writing rather than migration
- Still a skills investment required





- Dozens of options for Web Mapping
  - MapServer, Geoserver, GeoCommons (purchased by ESRI in 2012!), Google Maps etc
- Although offers a mapping experience with low resource demands



- Open Source solutions a lot more future proof
- Depends on browser support rather than institutional upgrading
- Is "web mapping" ever going to be sustainable?

#### http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk

#### The page cannot be found

The page you are looking for might have been removed, had its name changed, or is temporarily unavailable.

#### Please try the following:

- Make sure that the Web site address displayed in the address bar of your browser is spelled and formatted correctly.
- If you reached this page by clicking a link, contact the Web site administrator to alert them that the link is incorrectly formatted.
- Click the <u>Back</u> button to try another link.

HTTP Error 404 - File or directory not found. Internet Information Services (IIS)

Technical Information (for support personnel)

- Go to <u>Microsoft Product Support Services</u> and perform a title search for the words HTTP and 404.
- Open IIS Help, which is accessible in IIS Manager (inetmgr), and search for topics titled Web Site Setup, Common Administrative Tasks, and About Custom Error Messages.

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### Paradox





# **Final thoughts**



#### About this map:

This map displays layers from the project database, which can be viewed against a range of baseline datasets. The layers also include Roman roads and settlements derived from Historic England NRHE dataset held by the ADS. In addition, the data from Stage 1 of the Assessing The Research Potential of Grey Literature in the study of Roman England project 10.5284/1000418 is also included.

#### Tips:

- Click on the icon to return to the original extent
- Click on a point to view name and to link to the full record
- To zoom in on a specific area: hold down the leftmouse button and the SHIFT key, and draw a rectangle using your mouse



for base mapping layers used in this project

#### Base Layer



Use the search box to filter sites by a specific date, for

D×

example 43 or 410

Year:



- Importance of an archive
  - Access to original data in perpetuity is of fundamental importance
  - Embrace the potentials of web-based dissemination for innovation and impact
- WMS Publishing & Consumption
  - Why aren't we producing more?
- Linked Data & GeoSPARQL
- Lookups for historic placenames/boundaries