



UNDERSTANDING AND EXPANDING CAPACITY IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA MANAGEMENT BEYOND WESTERN EUROPE

Holly Wright and Julian Richards

Archaeology Data Service, University of York

Franco Niccolucci

PIN S.c.r.l. - Polo Universitario "Città di Prato"

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Background

ARIADNE

- EU FP7 project under the 'Infrastructures' theme, including 23 European partners across 16 countries
- Four-year project: ended January 2017
- 17 Workpackages – primary deliverable: collection level metadata aggregation portal
- Coordinator: PIN Scri - Polo Universitario "Città di Prato" at the University of Florence
- Deputy Coordinator: ADS

Our mission: to interpret and answer research community needs for studying the past to better understand the present with the tools and the methodology of the future, in the service of research, culture and society.



Background

The screenshot displays the ARIADNE portal interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Catalog', 'Services', and 'About'. The main header features the ARIADNE logo, which consists of a stylized square with internal lines, followed by the word 'ARIADNE' in large, bold, red letters. Below the logo is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to 'All fields' and a search button. The main content area is divided into three sections: a 'Welcome' section with a brief description of the portal's purpose, a 'Browse the Catalog' section, and a 'What' section. The 'Browse the Catalog' section includes a map of Europe, a bar chart showing data over time, and a list of archaeological features. The 'What' section lists various features such as pits, churches, houses, farms, and vessels.

Navigation: Catalog Services About

ARIADNE

All fields Search for resources in the Ariadne catalog ...

Welcome

ARIADNE brings together and integrates existing archaeological research data infrastructures so that researchers can use the various distributed datasets and new and powerful technologies as an integral component of the archaeological research methodology.

Browse the Catalog

Where

When

What

- pits (earthworks)
- churches (buildings)
- lime kilns
- forts
- ditches
- cairns
- churchyards
- houses
- drains
- farms
- farmhouses
- vessels (containers)



<https://ariadne-infrastructure.eu/portal/>

Background

- **ARIADNE Community**

- 9 ICT organisations
- 14 archaeological organisations
- 15 Associate partners
- Community building
 - Transnational access
 - Training events
 - Special interest groups



Background

Internal Capacity Building

- Paper was given by partners in Slovenia and Ireland talking about “have’s and have nots” when it comes to having an acceptable place for their archaeological data
- Plans were made to offer data management workshops to partners in their own countries - Austria and Slovenia both accepted
- Much more successful than anticipated!



Background

Data management workshops

- Local ARIADNE partners worked hard to make sure governmental and institutional stakeholders attended, and took on understanding and presenting the state of play in their country
- Level of interest was much higher than expected
- Conversations continued on how to take expertise within ARIADNE and collaborate beyond current network
- Good practice guidance but “one size did not fit all” and working together was going to be critical to moving forward



Background

Challenges

- Archaeological data often derived from non-repeatable interventions
- Digital data more fragile and subject to obsolescence
- Risk losing a generation of research – Urgency!



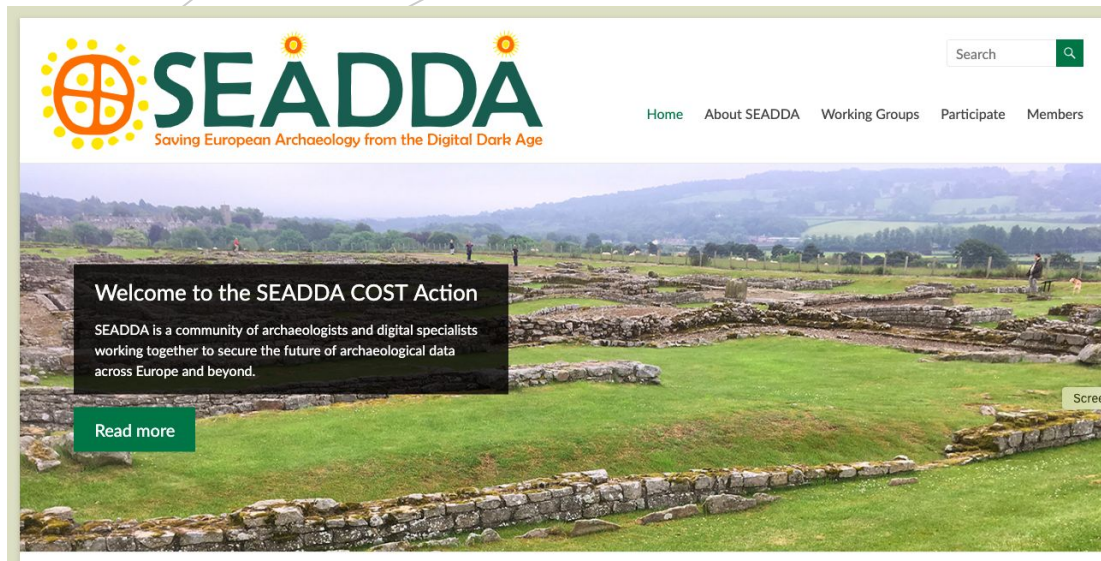
Background

COST Action SEADDA

Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age

EU funding (four years) for networking: meetings, training sessions, scientific missions, open access publications

Partners representing 34 European countries and 5 international partners



<https://www.seadda.eu/>



Background

Objectives

- Coordinate information collection to understand the current state-of-the-art regarding the preservation, dissemination and re-use of archaeological data.
- Develop a common understanding of international best practice for preservation, dissemination and re-use of archaeological data
- Foster knowledge exchange around international best practice for preservation, dissemination and re-use of archaeological data
- Extend capacity online, conferences, workshops, etc.
- Foster knowledge exchange through innovation, working with other leading initiatives



Background

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Internet Archaeology: Issue 58 (2021)

Digital Archiving in Archaeology: The State of the Art

Edited by Ulf Jakobsson, David Novák, Julian D. Richards, Benjamin Štular and Holly Wright



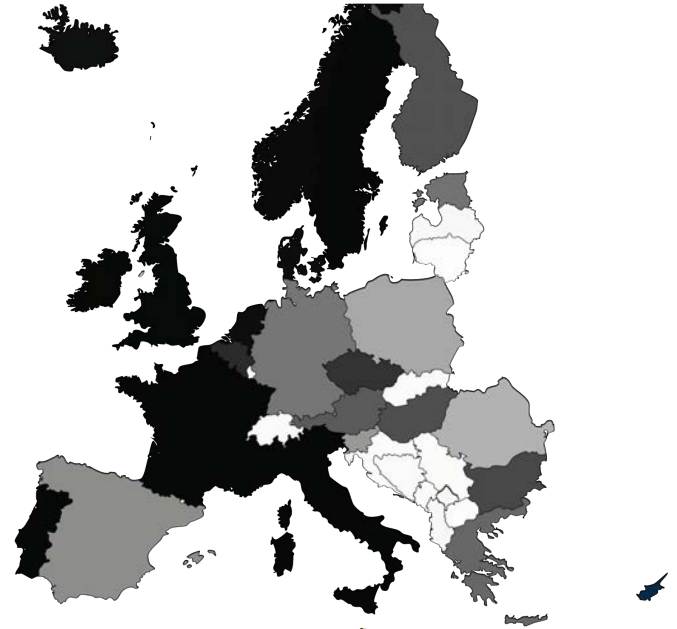
This special issue of Internet Archaeology is jointly sponsored by [COST Action](#), [SEADDA](#) and the [European Archaeological Consilium \(EAC\)](#). It originated in a SEADDA workshop hosted by the [Swedish National Data Service](#) in Gothenburg in November 2019, in which participants presented the current state-of-the-art for digital archiving in their respective countries, with additional contributions from SEADDA members and others invited by the EAC Working Group for Archaeological Archives.

<https://intarch.ac.uk/journal/issue58/>



Background

- **ARIADNEplus Community**
- 41 partners
- 28 countries
- Majority are archaeological partners
- Extending thematic coverage
- Expanding participation



<https://ariadne-infrastructure.eu/>



- The pandemic has exacerbated or made more visible many known inequalities across borders and societies including access to archaeological resources, both physical and digital.
- As both the creators and users of archaeological data adapted to working from their homes, cut off from artefact collections and research data siloed within organisations and institutions, the importance of making data freely and openly available internationally became even more pronounced.



- The ARIADNE infrastructure (ariadne-infrastructure.eu) for archaeological data, and the SEADDA COST Action (seadda.eu) are working to secure the sustainable future of archaeological data across Europe and beyond.
- ARIADNE and SEADDA invite papers discussing the challenges, opportunities and lessons learned across all aspects of archaeological data management during the pandemic, and how it may change and inform our best practice going forward, particularly on how the COVID-19 pandemic created barriers or opportunities, so that we may better understand capacity building during a post-COVID era.

