



# The **ARIADNE<sup>plus</sup>** infrastructure for open data and the **SEADDA COST Action** for stewardship and best practice



**CAA Greece**  
16 April, 2021

UNIVERSITY *of York*

Holly Wright  
holly.wright@york.ac.uk

## The Archaeology Data Service

- Set up in 1996
- Based at the University of York



## Mission

Supporting research, learning and teaching with free, high quality and dependable digital resources

- Preserve data
- Free online access to data
- Guidance and support for data creators

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

## ArchSearch

- Online catalogue indexing over 1.3 million metadata records including ADS collections
  - 2000+ Project Archives
  - 62,000+ Grey Lit Reports
- Metadata harvested from over 30 UK national and regional historic environment inventories.

The screenshot shows the ArchSearch website interface. At the top, there is a teal header with the 'ads' logo and 'ARCHAEOLOGY DATA SERVICE' text. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: HOME, ARCHSEARCH, ARCHIVES, LEARNING, ADVICE, OUR RESEARCH, BLOG, ABOUT US, and LOGIN. A search bar is located in the top right corner.

On the left side, there is a vertical sidebar labeled 'BROWSER BASIC' with a list of categories and counts:

- WHAT
  - Event 32872
  - Evidence 276111
  - Maritime 48893
  - Monument Types 992590
  - Object Types 166196
- WHERE
  - England 775432
  - Scotland 293166
  - Wales 41468
- WHEN
  - Early Prehistoric 14807
  - Later Prehistoric 92152
  - Roman 78141
  - Early Medieval 19531
  - Medieval 136779
  - Post Medieval 327500

The main content area displays search results for 'English Heritage NMR Excavation Index for England'. It shows 1131170 total results. Three results are visible:

- ABBEY FIELDS ABBEYMEAD**  
English Heritage NMR Excavation Index for England  
Followed by excavation 14/86 (Event 652905). Observation of sewer trench.  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE
- AINSBROOK SITE**  
English Heritage NMR Excavation Index for England  
Evaluation and excavation of the site of a Viking period hoard recorded a disturbed burial with grave goods and a large Bronze Age enclosure. Metal detectorists had previously removed '7000' artefacts from the site, the location of which is kept secret.  
NORTH YORKSHIRE
- APPLEGARTH WEST OF ST ANDREWS CHURCHYARD**  
English Heritage NMR Excavation Index for England  
Two small trial trenches in the garden of a 1960s bungalow adjacent to the churchyard boundary wall on the west side of St Andrew's Church revealed traces of the Roman road from the Mendips to the River Avon, possibly RR540. There were also indications of a possible Roman riverside settlement, as well as earlier

On the right side, there is a vertical sidebar labeled 'EXTERNAL ADVANCED MAP'.

# What do we disseminate?

## Dissemination

- Disseminate our own data
- Provide integrated resource discovery across data we aggregate
- Also disseminate to other international aggregators
  - Europeana
  - ARIADNE
- Part of a collaborative ecosystem based on shared metadata standards

The screenshot shows the ADS website homepage. At the top left is the ADS logo and name. To the right is a search bar and a 'LOGIN' button. Below the header are three main navigation buttons: 'EXPLORE', 'DISCOVER', and 'DEPOSIT'. Below these is an 'INNOVATE' section with the text: 'Supporting research, learning and teaching with free, high quality and dependable digital resources'. To the right is a 'Featured collection' section titled 'The Bosworth Battlefield Project' featuring a bronze bull sculpture. Below this is a news article titled 'August 2013: Bosworth Battlefield Project Archive Launched to Coincide with Battle of Bosworth Anniversary Weekend'. The article text reads: 'The Battlefield Trust and the ADS are pleased to announce the official launch of the of the Bosworth Battlefield Project Archive as part of the Battle of Bosworth Anniversary Weekend events. In 2004, for Leicestershire County Council and the Battlefields Trust, Glenn Foard undertook an assessment of the current state of knowledge of Bosworth battlefield. Between 2005-2010, with funding from the H... more'. At the bottom left, there is a 'Workbook' section with the text: 'I link the tools at the bottom of each page'.

# Introduction to 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



[ariadne-infrastructure.eu](http://ariadne-infrastructure.eu)



## ARIADNE Community:

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



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)

## **What is the role of collaboration for ARIADNE?**

- Aggregation platforms not typically built out of a large international partnership – had to figure out how to work together on a technical and best practice level
- Greater variability in capacity across the network than anticipated—used ARIADNE as internal leverage
- While able to contribute their data, most partners had no appropriate, persistent archiving and dissemination options within their own countries



## **What is the role of collaboration for ARIADNE?**

- 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!

## Data management workshops in Vienna and Ljubljana

Local partners worked hard to make sure governmental and institutional stakeholders attended, and took on understanding and presenting the state of play in their country



## Data management workshops in Vienna and Ljubljana

Level of interest was much higher than expected:

- Pressure from funders to deposit data
- Pressure from institutions to deposit data
- Funding available; but no guidance
- No appropriate options for archaeological data

## Data management workshops in Vienna and Ljubljana

- Conversations continued on how to seize the moment, take expertise within ARIADNE and collaborate beyond the current network
- Became apparent that while there was plenty of good practice guidance “one size did not fit all” and working together was going to be critical to moving forward
- Archaeological data is often derived from non-repeatable interventions, and digital data is more fragile and subject to obsolescence than analogue data, so we risk losing a generation of research - Urgency!

# SEADDA



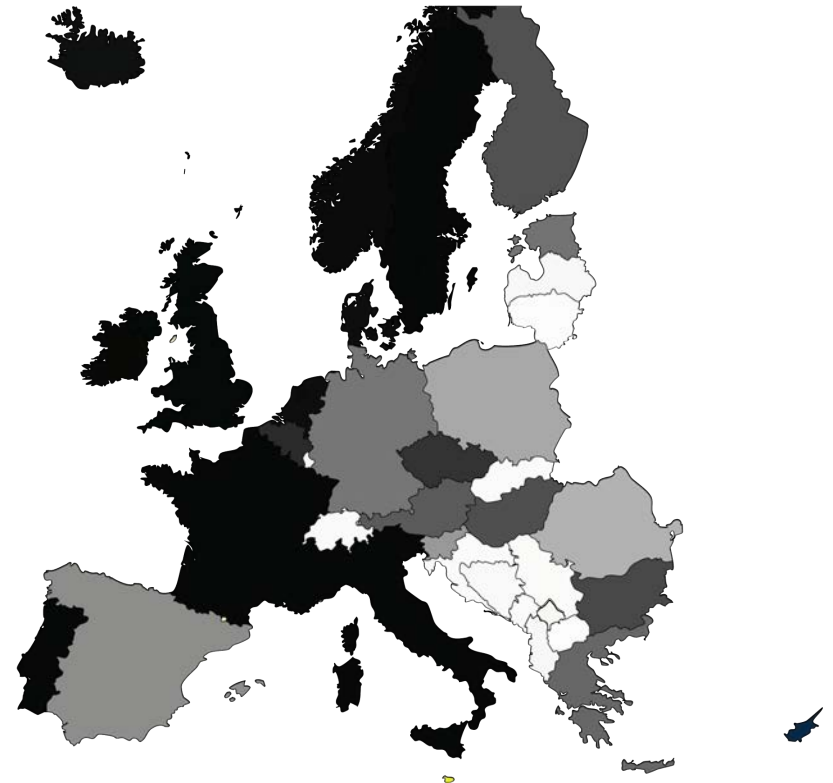


## **COST Action: Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age (SEADDA)**

- EU funding (four years) for networking: meetings, training sessions, scientific missions, open access publications
- Partners representing 35 countries
- Working Groups
  - WG1 Stewardship of Archaeological Data
  - WG2 Planning for Archiving
  - WG3 Preservation and Dissemination best practice
  - WG4 Use and Re-Use of Archaeological Data

## ARIADNEplus Community:

- 41 partners
- 28 countries
- Majority are archaeological partners
- Linked data backend
- Extending thematic coverage
- Expanding participation



The screenshot displays the ARIADNEplus interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Start a new search..." and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar are navigation links for "Catalog", "Services", and "About".

On the left side, there is a "Filters" sidebar. It includes a dropdown menu for "All fields" and a search input for "Search for resources...". Below this are input fields for "Year (from)" and "Year (to)". There are expandable sections for "Resource type", "Publisher", and "Original subject". The "Dating" section is expanded, showing a table of filter datings:

Filter datings..	Name	Hits
-0800 +0324		13
-1100 -0700		1
-0800 +1543		1

The main area is a map of Mikonos, Greece, showing the island's coastline and internal roads. Several green circular markers with numbers (2, 4, 5, 2) are placed on the map, indicating resource locations. Labels on the map include "Μικρός Ρεματιάρης", "Δήλος (Μικόνου)", "Μικόνου", "Μεγάλος Ρεματιάρης", and "Οίλος". A "Filters" label is positioned above the map. In the top right corner of the map area, a box indicates "15 resources in the current section" and a button labeled "Display as search result".

At the bottom of the map, there is a copyright notice: "© 2021 the ARIADNEplus partners. All rights reserved, visit [this page](#) for further details. ARIADNEplus is funded by the European Commission Horizon2020 programme under under Grant Agreement n. 823914." Below this is a "Contact" link with an envelope icon. The map is powered by Leaflet and OpenStreetMap contributors.

# Final Thoughts

**We conflate our data and how we interact with the data into a single approach, to the detriment of both...**

- The ARIADNEplus portal is (and should be) finite
- The capacity building in SEADDA, promoting data persistence and equity of participation is how we will move data stewardship forward and save our data for the next ARIADNE in the long-term
- We live in a world of project-by-project funding that requires sustainability plans
- Need to define long-term stewardship trajectories for our data to battle the *Myth of Persistence*

## Further Information

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



Follow us on Twitter:  
**@ADS\_Update**



Friend us on Facebook:  
**<http://www.facebook.com/archaeology.data.service>**