



Intro to Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age

National Workshop – Oslo, 24 August 2023

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UNIVERSITY *of York*



COST Action SEADDA (CA18128)
is funded by the Horizon 2020
Framework Programme of the
European Union.



The Archaeology Data Service

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

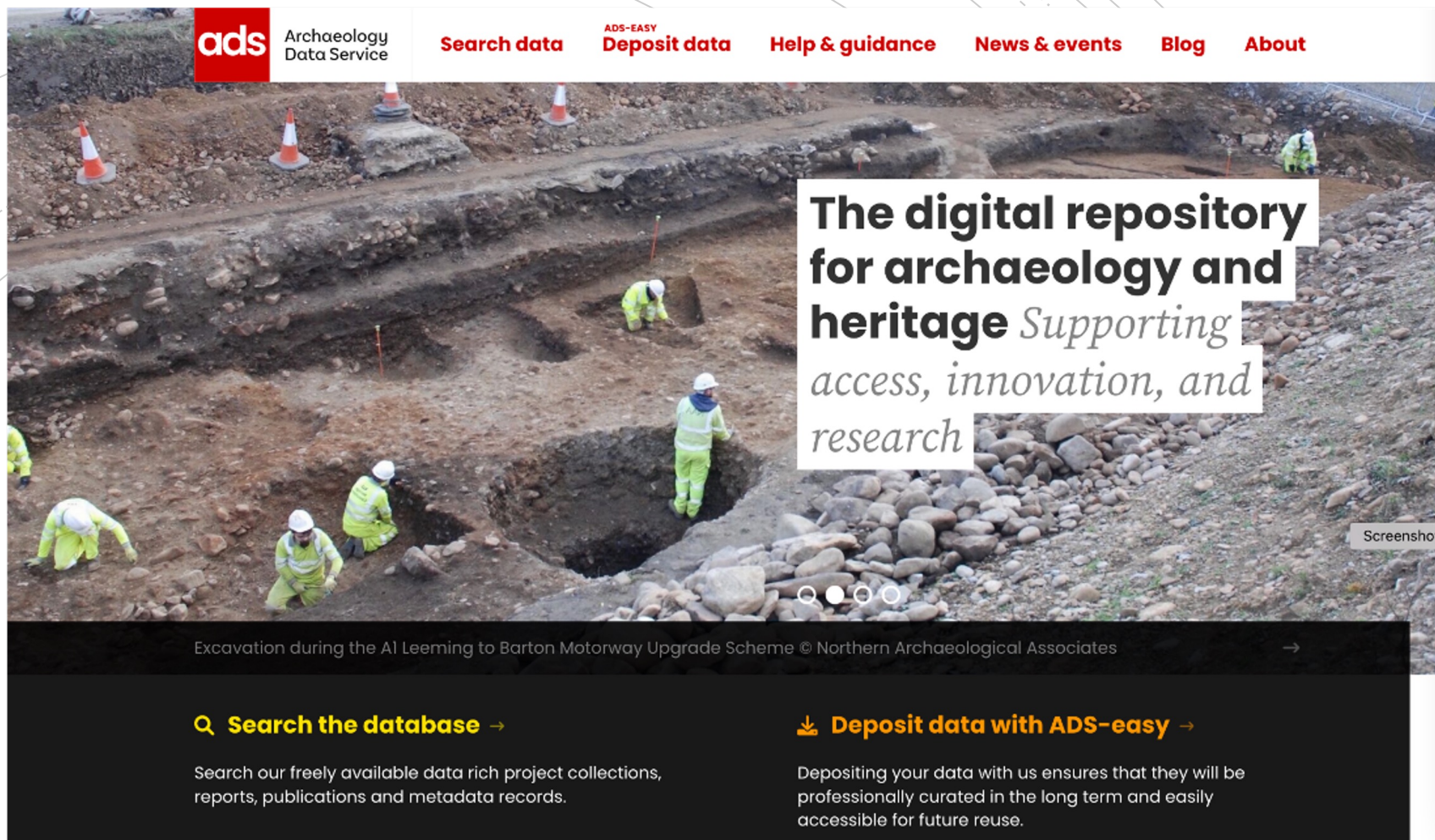


Mission

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
- Research

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



ads Archaeology Data Service

[Search data](#) [ADS-EASY Deposit data](#) [Help & guidance](#) [News & events](#) [Blog](#) [About](#)

The digital repository for archaeology and heritage *Supporting access, innovation, and research*

Excavation during the A1 Leeming to Barton Motorway Upgrade Scheme © Northern Archaeological Associates

🔍 Search the database →
Search our freely available data rich project collections, reports, publications and metadata records.

📄 Deposit data with ADS-easy →
Depositing your data with us ensures that they will be professionally curated in the long term and easily accessible for future reuse.

What do we disseminate?

ArchSearch: Online catalogue indexing over 1.3 million metadata records including:

- ADS collections
 - ~3,000+ Project Archives
 - 80,000+ Unpublished Fieldwork Reports

Metadata aggregated from over 30 UK national and regional historic environment inventories.



ads ARCHAEOLOGY DATA SERVICE

ADS Main Website Help

RESET QUERY

KEYWORD SEARCH 1407814 results (page 1 OF 28157) << 123 ... >>

[Download results as XML] [Download results as CSV]

BROWSER BASIC

▼ WHAT

- ▶ ○ Event 179573
- ▶ ○ Evidence 261855
- ▶ ○ Maritime 69977
- ▶ ○ Monument Types 1267164
- ▶ ○ Object Types 210118

▶ WHERE

▼ WHEN

- ▶ ○ Early Prehistoric 15622
- ▶ ○ Later Prehistoric 107350
- ▶ ○ Roman 81294
- ▶ ○ Early Medieval 24538
- ▶ ○ Medieval 165199
- ▶ ○ Post Medieval 388441
- ▶ ○ Modern 85831

▶ RESOURCE

ADVANCED MAP

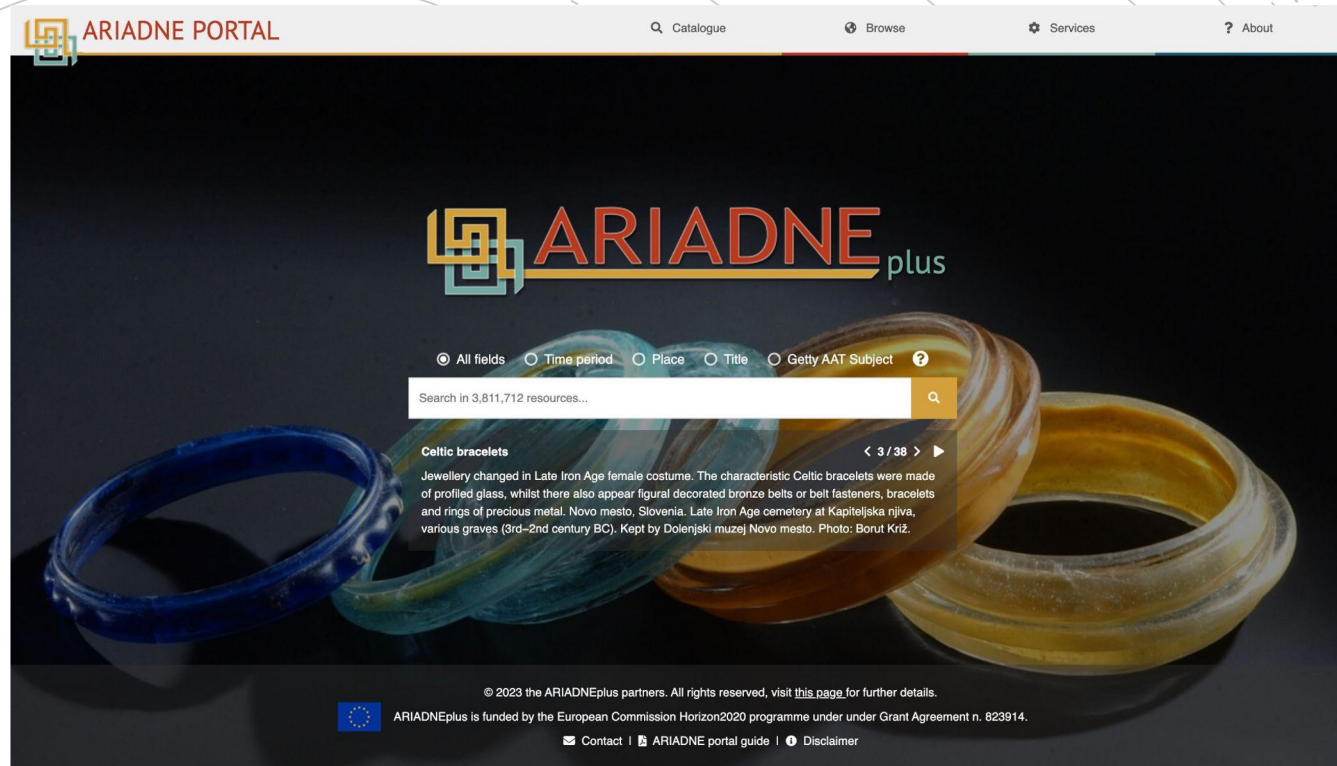
A LOOK IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR
Historic England NRHE Excavation Index for England
Report examining the developing relationship between modern road construction, particularly motorways, and the development of archaeology, primarily in the period since the Second World War.
WILTSHIRE

ABBEY FIELDS ABBEYMead
Historic England NRHE Excavation Index for England
Followed by excavation 14/86 (Event 652905). Observation of sewer trench.
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

AINSBROOK SITE
Historic England NRHE 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. County location data applied to aid retrieval 2018.
NORTH YORKSHIRE

What do we disseminate?

Also disseminate what we aggregate to other, larger aggregators such as *Europeana*, *Unpath'd Waters* and of course, **ARIADNE...which is why SEADDA exists.**





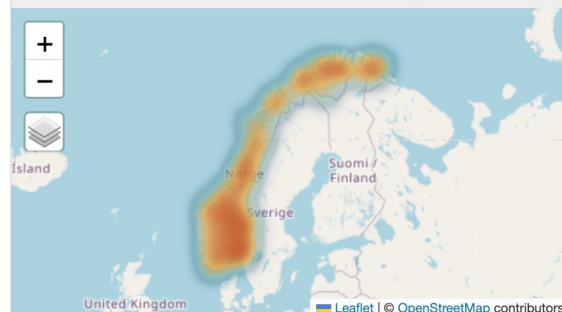
Filters

🔍 All fields ▾ Search 3,974,925 resources... 🔍

Clear All Filters ✕

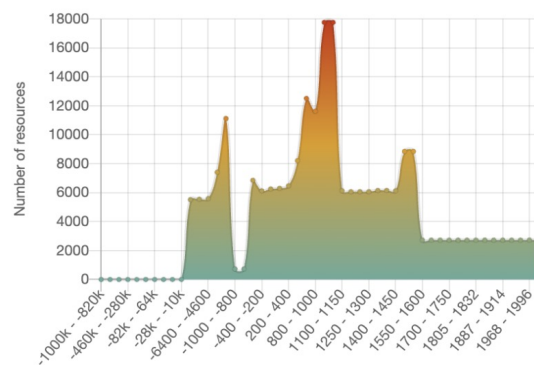
Where

🔍 Advanced Search



When

🔍 Advanced Search



Results

Time: 0.72s. Total: 295,674. Page: 1 / 14784

Publisher: Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo ✕

« 1 2 3 4 5 »



C5930614, avslag

Resource type: Artefact
Place: Oslo (akershus), oslo (østre aker), maurtu
Publisher: Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo
Original subject: Avslag, Flint
Contributor: Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo



C30341r, avslagsstykke/flekk/skive

Resource type: Artefact
Place: Agder (aust-agder), arendal (flost), vatnebu
Publisher: Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo
Original subject: Avslagsstykke/flekk/skive, Flint
Contributor: Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo



C2887, håndkle

Resource type: Artefact
Place: Ukjent kommune, ukjent gård
Publisher: Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo
Original subject: Håndkle, Tekstil
Contributor: Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo



C3723, belte/stølebelte

Resource type: Artefact
Place: Vang, ukjent gård
Publisher: Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo
Original subject: Belte/stølebelte, Messing, Tekstil
Contributor: Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo

Why SEADDA? Internal Capacity Building

- Paper was given in 2015 by ARIADNE partners from Slovenia and Ireland talking about “have’s and have nots” when it comes to having an acceptable place for their archaeological data in the long term
- Plans were made to offer data management workshops to partners in their own countries - Austria and Slovenia both accepted

National 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 the art in their country



Data management workshops

Level of interest was much higher than expected:

- Pressure from funders to deposit data into an open repository
- Pressure from institutions to deposit data into an open repository
- Funding available; but no guidance
- No appropriate options for archaeological data
- Conversations continued about how to take expertise within ARIADNE and collaborate beyond current network
- Working together was going to be critical to moving forward

Challenges for Archaeology

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



COST Action SEADDA :

Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age

Funding (four years) for networking: meetings, training sessions, scientific missions, open access publications, with members representing 35 countries



- 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

Stewardship of archaeological data

Objective: To bring together members with varying levels of experience to share their successes and challenges around the stewardship of archaeological data to create a sub-network.

Practical and ethical considerations will be explored:

- Encouragements and resistances to sharing data and making it openly accessible within archaeology
- Who should be responsible in short and long-term for preservation

The starting point for those who wish to begin or progress dialogue in their region or country.

National workshops!

Planning for Archiving

Objective: To identify the practical and technical issues surrounding the creation of an appropriate repository for archaeological data

- Understanding hardware and software options
- Management structures
- Training of archivists

The WG identifies existing best practice, changing future needs, and pragmatic technical and structural solutions.

Preservation and Dissemination Best Practice

Objective: Understand current international best practice for archiving and dissemination, and implementation by existing repositories.

- Open Archival Information System (OAIS) model
- The FAIR Principles
- Repository accreditation
- Cost modelling
- Dealing with data types

Will bring together archaeological digital archivists to share current practice, and survey future trends to understand the changing archaeological and digital landscapes (domain and technology watch).

Use and Re-Use of Archaeological Data

Objective: To understand how to optimise archives and interfaces to maximise the use and re-use of archaeological data. To explore how archaeological archives can better respond to user needs, and ways to document and understand both quantitative and qualitative re-use.

- Explore barriers to re-use, such as IPR and licencing
- Explore design of underlying data structures and their interfaces

Will focus on initiatives like the FAIR Principles and technologies that improve and optimise searching, issues around how data is created, organised and disseminated, different options for interface design, and developing best practice around qualitative re-use.

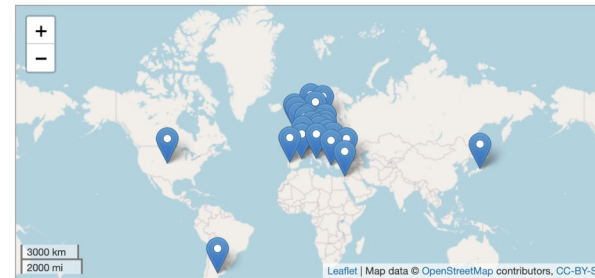
Open Access Publications

- **Internet Archaeology** SEADDA themed issue *Digital Archiving in Archaeology: The state of the art*
- 28 + 6 papers representing the current state of archiving in 34 nations and states.
- Includes Curation of Digital Archaeological Data in Norway by Matsumoto and Uleberg
- Other relevant SEADDA papers!

Digital Archiving in Archaeology: The State of the Art. Introduction

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


Cite this as: Richards, J.D., Jakobsson, U., Novák, D., Štular, B. and Wright, H. 2021 Digital Archiving in Archaeology: The State of the Art. Introduction, *Internet Archaeology* 58. <https://doi.org/10.11141/ia.58.23>



The advent of ubiquitous computing has created a golden age for archaeological researchers and participating publics, but the price is a digital resource that is now in jeopardy. The archaeological record, in digital form, is at risk not simply from obsolescence and media failure, but the domain is also unable to fully participate in Open Data. Without swift and informed

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<https://intarch.ac.uk/journal/issue59/2/index.html>



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

Five new COST Innovators Grants:



Sustaining AGITHAR – building a Global Tsunami Model Association (IG18109)



Sharing Heritage and Archaeological Data Effectively (IG18128)



Technical, commercial and societal innovations on aerogels towards circular economy (IG18125)



AIR particulate reference material for elemental quantification and CALibration procedures (IG18130)



A quality assurance implementation protocol for family support services in Europe. An evidence-based and culturally informed model for professional practice (IG18123)

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<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk>

SEADDA COST Action

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