ads Archaeology Data Service

Evolution of the Ingest Process @ ADS

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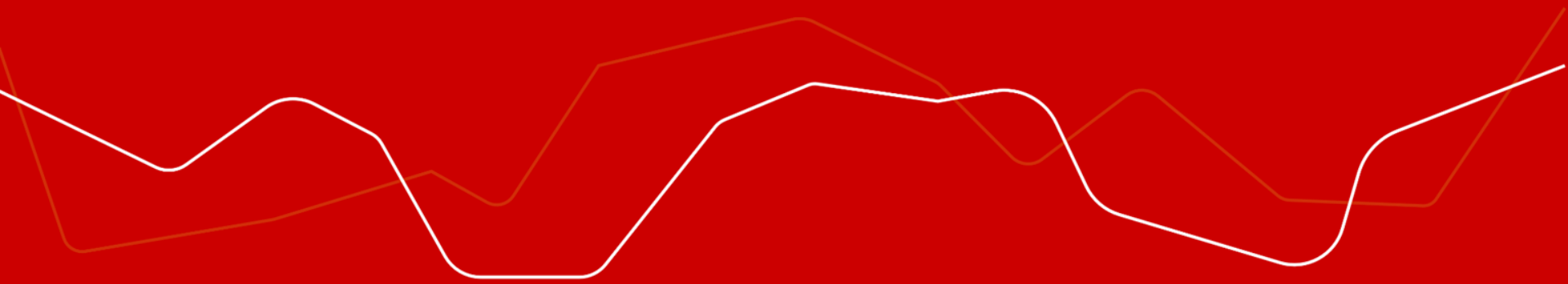
Who are we?
What do we do?

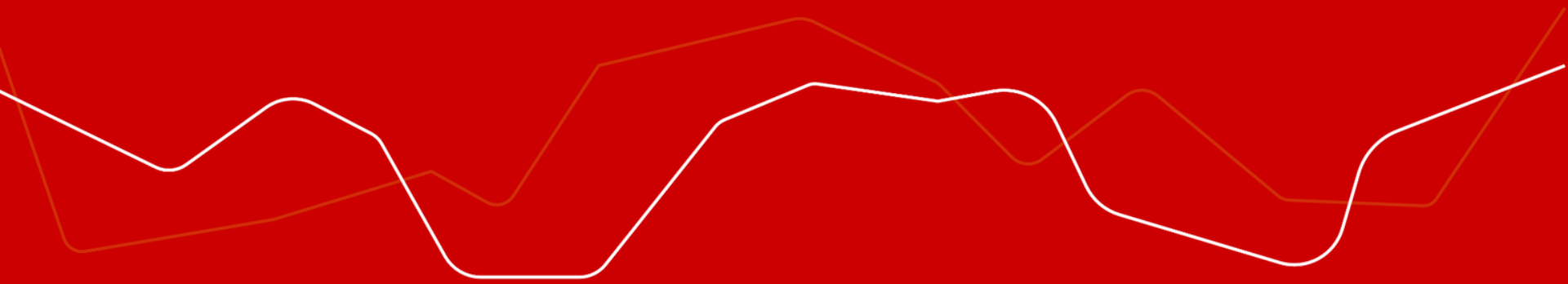


Archaeology Data Service

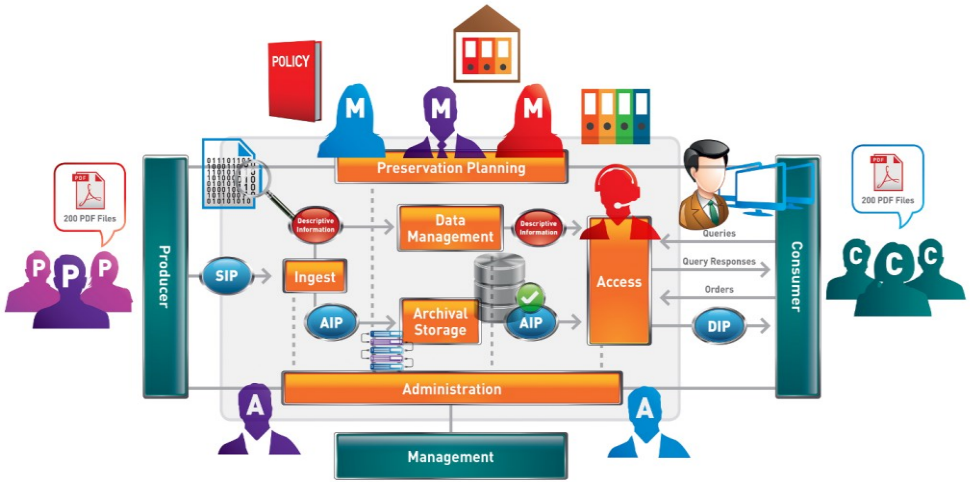
A Different Type of Archive: ‘Preservation by Record’

- Outputs of **archaeological projects** (where the record becomes the primary source)
- Established in 1996 in response to a **community need**
- **Digital-only** archive
- **Paid** business model
- Curated and published data **freely available** on our website

How do we get things into our archive?



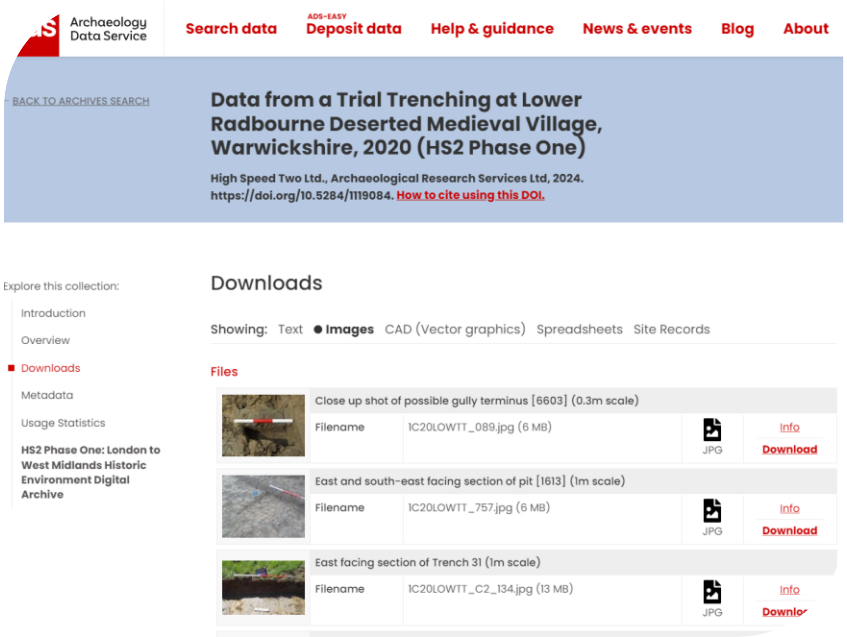
Digital Preservation by Migration



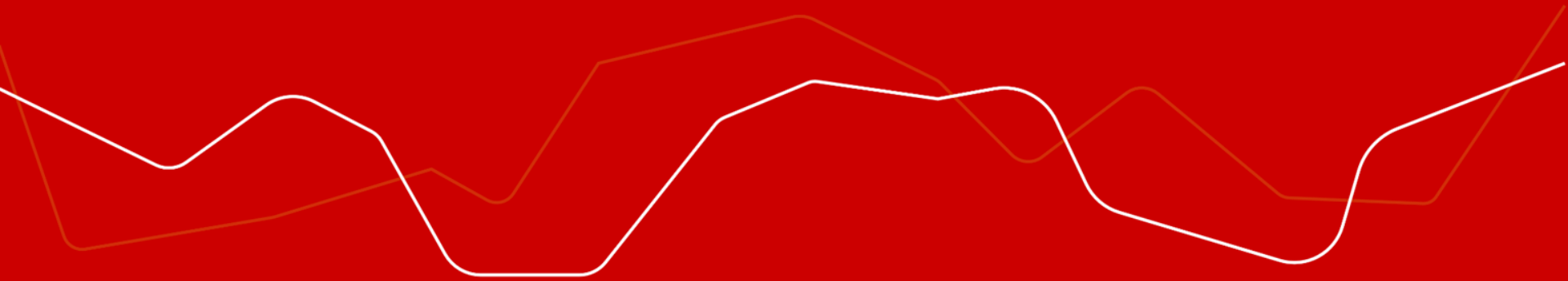
- Following the **OAIS** model
- Collection Management System (**CMS**) based on **Dublin Core**
- Object Management System (**OMS**) to manage **item-level** processes
- CMS and OMS have been **created 'in house'** according to our needs
- Data **and Metadata** provided by depositors

The Overall Process

1. **Appraise** data and metadata (AKA documentation)
2. **Ingest** and **Accession** data into file store
3. Add **collection-level metadata** into CMS
4. Add **file-level metadata** into OMS
5. Define **Data Types**
6. Create **preservation copies** (normalised to stable formats)
7. Create **dissemination copies** (normalised to web accessible formats)
8. Create **web pages** using database-driven web page templates
9. Ensure any image/video/3D model **previews** are working correctly
10. **Mint DOI** and **release** web pages
11. Copy to **long-term backup**



Ingest @ ADS
The Past: Our Foundations



Project-based Archiving

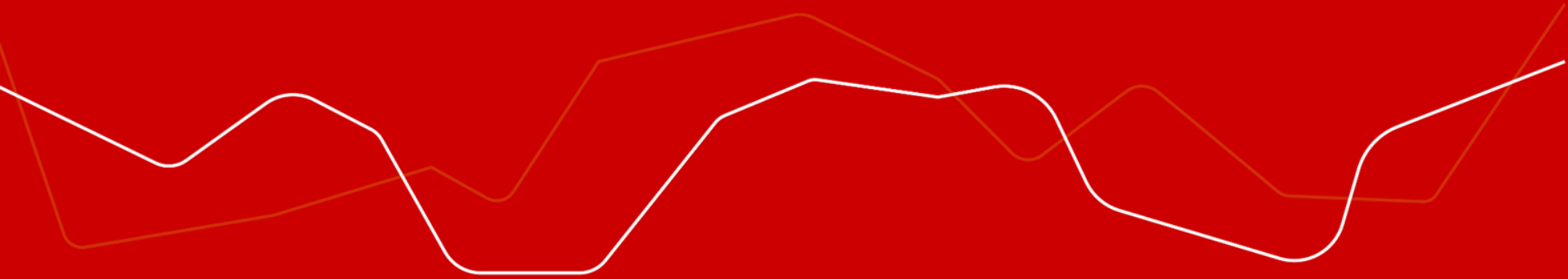
- Data obtained from depositors **by email** or **by physical media** like hard drives, CD etc.

Very **manual** process, including:

- **Renaming files** and **moving them** to our preservation file store after accession
- **Object-matching** not automated yet

- HOWEVER this informed us on **templates** and **processes** eventually put in place during the next phase

Ingest @ ADS
The Present: 3-Way System



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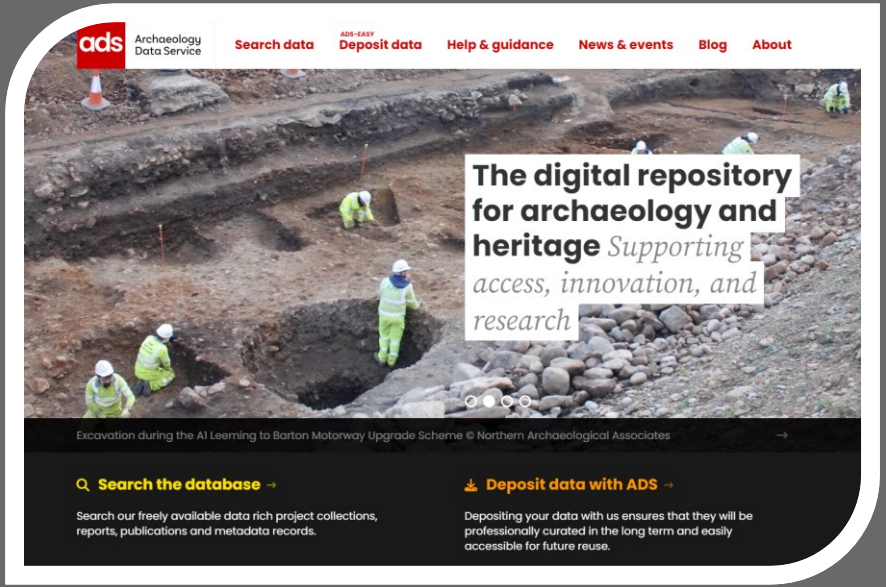
Getting Archives to ADS today

- **ADS-easy**
  Fast way to deposit small to medium-sized project archives
- **“Traditional” Deposits**
  When ADS-easy is not enough
- **OASIS V**
  Online portal for ‘Grey Literature’ reports



ADS-easy

It enables depositors to upload **digital content** and **associated metadata** from archaeological fieldwork and research **securely** to the ADS

It allows depositors to:

- **Generate project metadata** as the basis of the resource discovery metadata
- **Carry out selection and retention** through adding and removing data according to specific criteria
- **Generate costing information** using the costing calculator
- **Automate** the creation of **technical metadata**
- Enhance data through the **creation of file level metadata** which can be created either
  - Within the interface
  - Uploaded using a pre-populated template

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“Traditional” Deposits

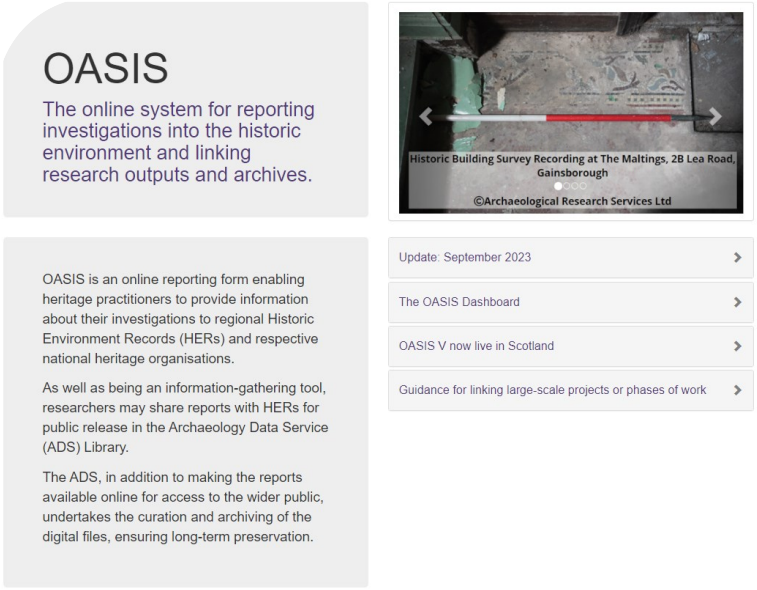
USB/Hard drives, email, file transfer etc. deposits still accepted when:

- Files not found in the **list of accepted ADS-easy formats**
- Files over a maximum size of **100MB**
- Deposits over a maximum of **1000 files**
- Geophysical surveys totalling **more than 50Ha**

BUT

Automated archiving processes like **running DROID**, **matching objects** etc. still available

OASIS V



The main method to **deposit reports**

- A way of **getting information** about archaeological investigations to local and national **government bodies**
- Funded by and created in consultation with **Historic England** and **Historic Environment Scotland**

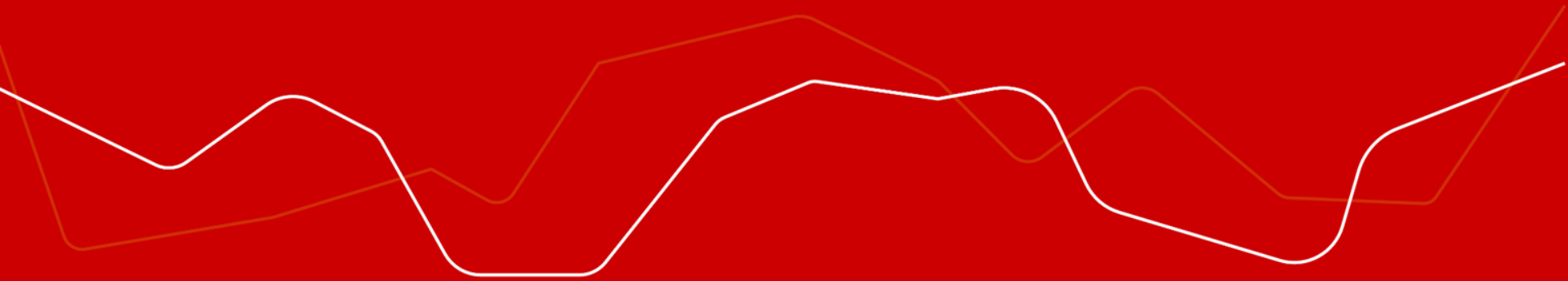
The current version includes

- **Keywords** from established heritage vocabularies
- Standardised defined terms about **what was found**
- Short **descriptions** of the project
- **Key metadata** about the reports such as creators, copyright holders, funders of the work

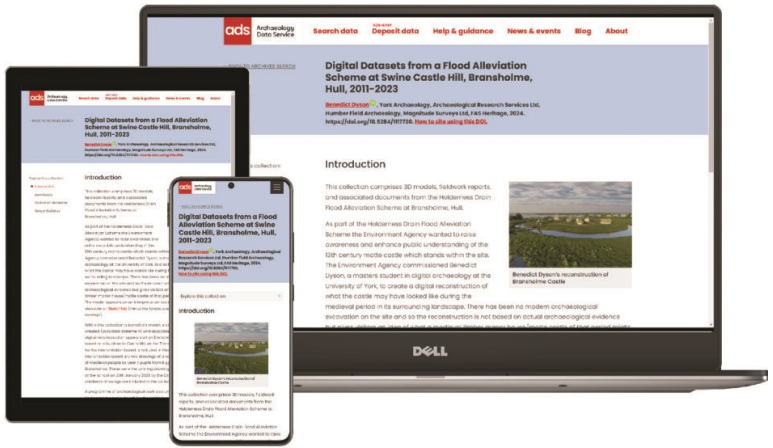
ALSO

An OASIS report can be linked to a **corresponding ADS-easy deposit**

Ingest @ ADS
The Future: Further Automation



ADS-ingest



ADS-ingest = “next-gen ADS-easy”

- Addressing **current limitations** of ADS-easy
- New system with **unified core metadata** based on ISAD(G)
- Pre-appraisal checks **during the deposit process**
- It will **preview to depositors** several aspects of the final archive

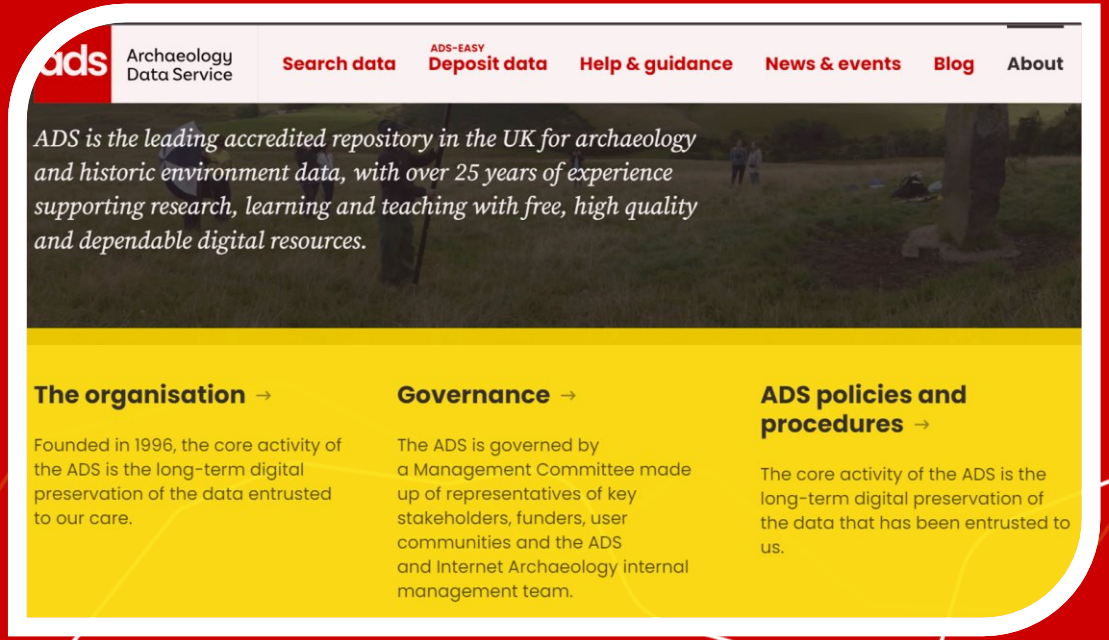
Overall this will **streamline** the deposit process

To find out more...

Blog via the **ADS website**
archaeologydataservice.ac.uk

About Pages

Help & Guidance
for Data Management advice and Guides to Good Practice



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Thank you!

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