Introduction to Recording and Archiving

How we know what we know, how we put that to best use



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Introduction

- NPPF, HERs and Archives
- What do HERs do?
- What do HERs enable?
- Where do HERs and Archives meet?
- What do Digital Archives do?
- What do Digital Archives enable?
- Case studies in working together



What the NPPF says

"Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of planmaking or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible.* However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted."

*Copies of evidence should be deposited with the relevant **Historic** Environment Record, and any archives with a local museum or other public depository.



...but why?

"Historic Environment Record: Information services that seek to provide access to comprehensive and **dynamic** resources relating to the historic environment of a defined geographic area for **public benefit and use**."

Archives – preserve information (data) for **research and for posterity** (see later).

Everything that has gone before informs everything that comes next



HERs make sense of it all...



... then make it accessible



ads



What do HERs enable?

- HERs are the *living* resource, or evidence base, used for decision-making.
- They are indicative of archaeological potential...
 - ...but require specialist interpretation for reliable inference and assessment (e.g. significance).



Where do HERs and Archives meet?





The ADS: Who we are and what we do





- Founded 1996
- Department of Archaeology, University of York
- Collections
 - 1,100,000 metadata records
 - 34,535+ unpublished fieldwork reports
 - 700+ rich archives
- Guides to Good Practice
- DPC Decennial Award 2012



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"The rate of change in computing technologies is such that information can be rendered inaccessible within a decade..."

Joint Information Systems Committee: Why Digital Preservation?



15/05/201

How?

Dysan

E 2HD

Dysan

Hardware failure / obsolescence

"...erm, does anyone have a floppy disk drive...?"

Format failure / obsolescence





How?

Lack of Documentation

"Have we got the box with the picture on?"

Access Failure

"Dear former employer / supervisor, I need my project from a few years ago as my laptop met with an accident, can I have a copy please...?"







How we preserve data

How do you know you can trust the way we preserve our data?

- We hold a Data Seal of Approval
- We follow the Open Archival Information System (OAIS) reference model



What are the benefits of digital archiving?



Primary contact Gail Falkingham Historic Environment Team Leader chalk, and silica sand. As minerals can only be worked where they are found, and as this may be in environmentally-sensitive or designated landscape areas, the need to manage impacts to an acceptable minimum in the planning and operating of extraction sites is a high priority. North Yorkshire County Council, as the mineral planning authority, is currently engaged in preparing its Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF) to cover the period to 2030.

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15/05/2019

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The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain: an online resource

Martyn Allen, Nathan Blick, Tom Brindle, Tim Evans, Michael Fulford, Neil Holbrook, Julian D Richards, Alex Smith, 2015

Home Map



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 I 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 left-mouse button and the SHIFT key, and draw a rectangle using your mouse



Legend and Layer control

Click on the <u>Key</u> icon to see information and symbols for base mapping layers used in this project

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

Assessing the Research Potential of GREY LITERATURE IN THE STUDY OF ROMAN ENGLAND

STAGE 1 REPORT

For

ENGLISH HERITAGE

CA PROJECT: 2205 CA REPORT: 08002

JANUARY 2008



"We've almost found 'another Roman Britain" - Prof M Fulford





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