

**Digital  
Scholarship  
@Oxford**

# Digital data sustainability

A one year retrospective

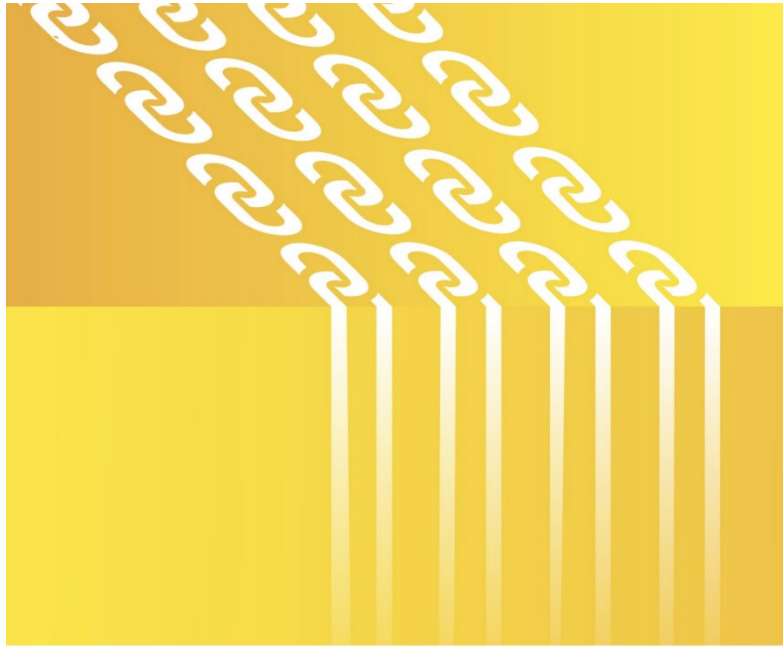
11/03/22

Alwyn Collinson, Digital Projects Manager,  
Digital Scholarship @ Oxford



**Sustainable  
Digital Scholarship**

# Sustainable Open Access: challenges



## THE PAPER OF RECORD MEETS AN EPHEMERAL WEB:

AN EXAMINATION OF LINKROT AND CONTENT DRIFT  
WITHIN THE *NEW YORK TIMES*

JOHN BOWERS • CLARE STANTON • JONATHAN ZITTRAIN

SPRING 2021

LIL.LAW.HARVARD.EDU

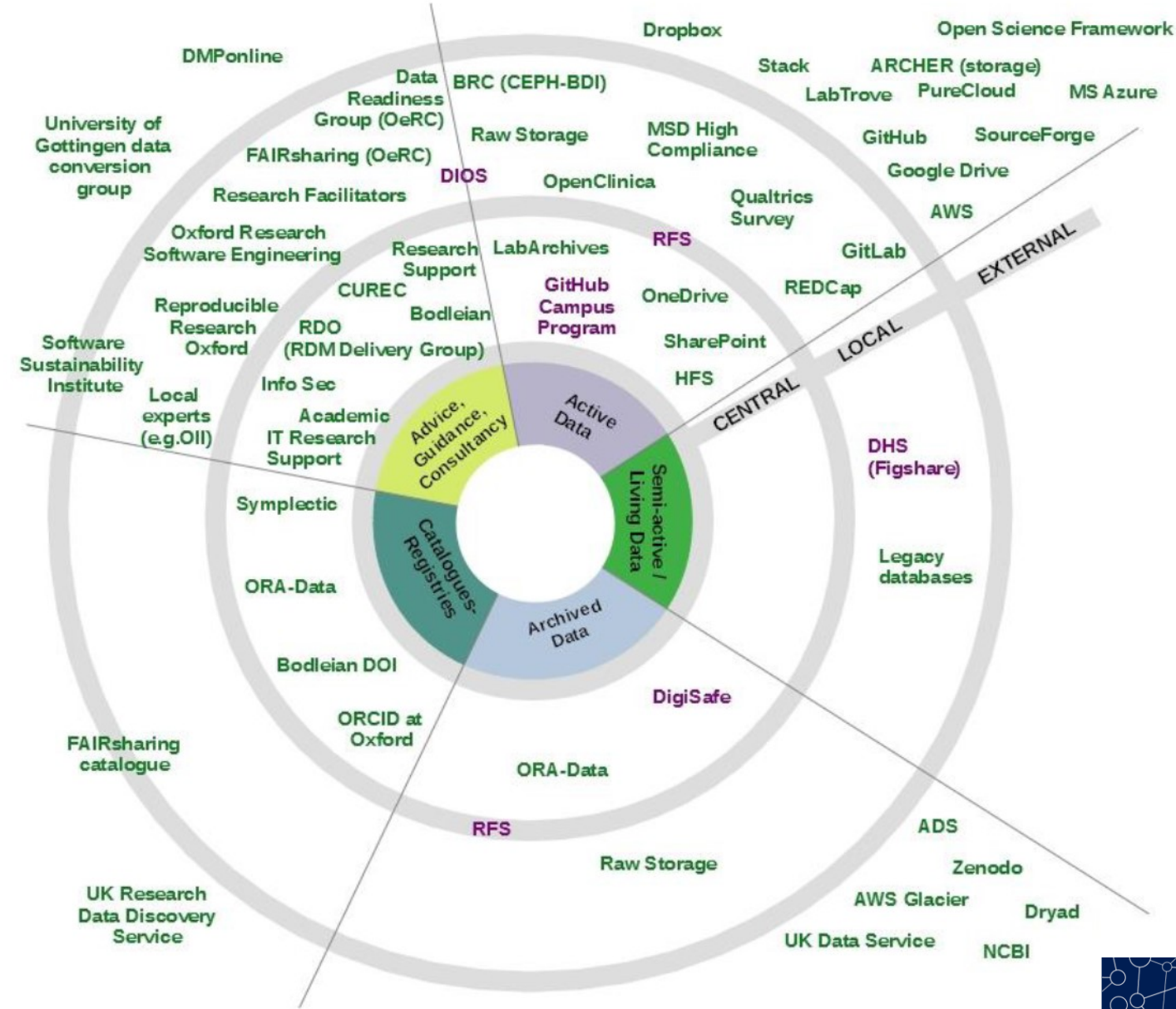


[dash.harvard.edu/handle/1/37367405](https://dash.harvard.edu/handle/1/37367405)

- **Link rot:** Over 50% of all URLs in New York Times articles 1996-2019 were dead
- Repository model mitigates but...
- “Semi-active” or “warm” research data
- File-level access
- Programmatic access
- Retrospective sustainability
- **Flawed data creation:** unclear copyright, lack of personal data release, no metadata schema



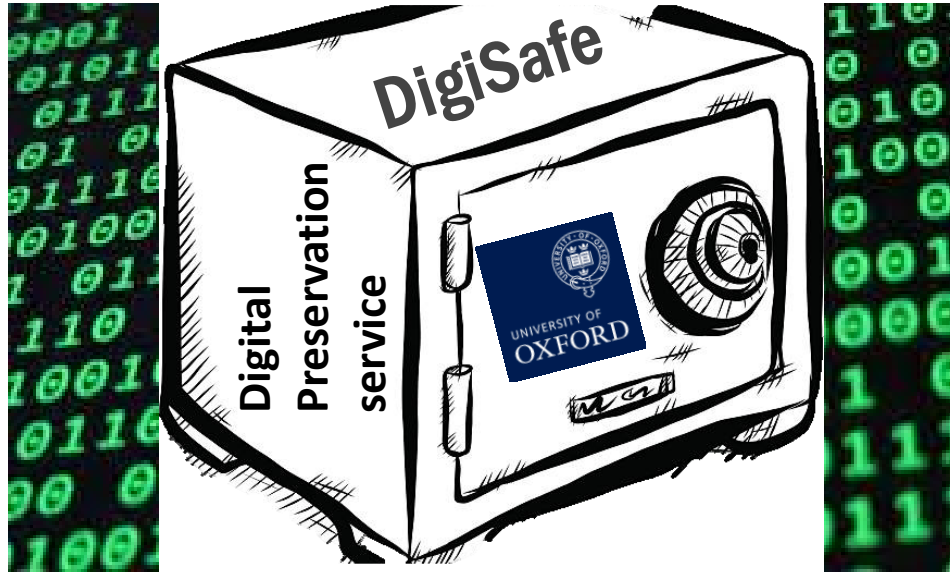
Figure 3. Map of RDM services and projects mentioned by stakeholders in the review.



Legend: Current service or project; Proposed service or project

# 'Archive' / Cold Data Services & Solutions

## Centrally / Locally Supported



*NB. Not a DigiSafe created or endorsed image / logo, created by the SDS Team..*

<https://researchdata.ox.ac.uk/preserving-your-data/archives-and-other-options/>

Locally provisioned  
and supported  
archival services



## Externally Supported



UK Data Service







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[www.sds.ox.ac.uk](http://www.sds.ox.ac.uk)

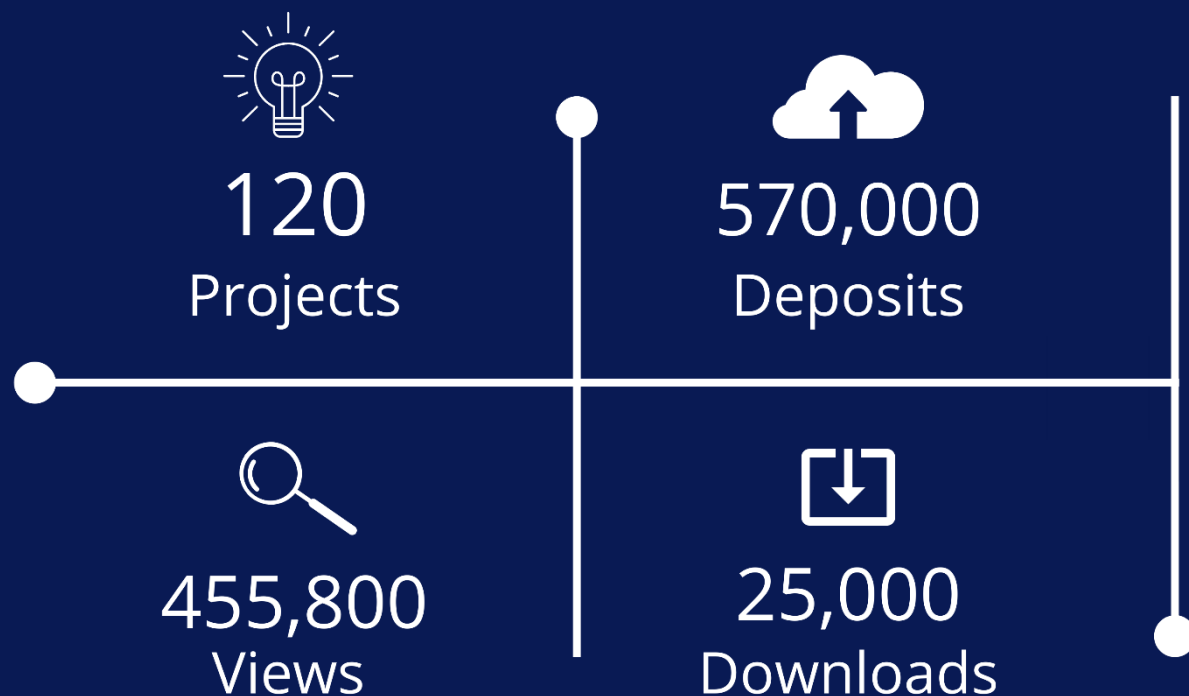


# What Sustainable Digital Scholarship does

- Supports researchers seeking digital sustainability for project outputs, whether completed, currently operating or planning for future
- Offers free consultation & advice to find right technical support
- Offers long-term open home for digital projects & research outputs
- Offers collaboration, publication, & preservation for digital research
- Based on Figshare web platform
- Complements ORA-DATA, Digisafe, and Research File Service but has key differences from each of them



# Sustainable Digital Scholarship In Numbers



Faculties & Departments  
Represented Include



# WHAT? SDS Technical Solution

- What is [Figshare](#) and what can I do with it?
  - An online open access repository where researchers can preserve and share their research outputs, including figures, datasets, images, and videos;
  - A ISO27001 secure & WCAG 2.1 accessible platform;
  - Simple and usable interface for researchers, with SSO account creation;
  - Flexible and customisable metadata fields for item creation to personalise collections;
  - Ability to upload any file format, with the possibility of visualising many within a web browser;
  - Simple search function for querying a collection
- How do we intend to use it?
  - 1) Retrofit Sustainability for pre-existing Research Projects & data collections
  - 2) Sustainability-by-Design for new Research Projects
  - 3) Individual Accounts for Humanities Researchers looking for a secure & managed space for research data



# Figshare Overview



- Accepts any file type
- Assigns a DOI (persistent identifier)
- Tracks reuse information
- Outputs marked for indexing in search engines
- Assigns reuse license
- Has standard metadata & additional custom metadata configurable by the project group
- Branded pages & URLs for each project
- Basic search & filtering for user discovery
- API for programmatic upload/download and FTP uploader

University of Oxford logo, Browse, Search on University of Oxf..., Log in

1/1

E05836\_1.jpg (139.5 kB) view download

E05836\_2.jpg (3.22 MB)

Switch View | 2 files

**E05836: Image of a praying girl, on a marble plaque in low-relief, perhaps labelled as 'Agnes (virgin and martyr of Rome, S00097)'. The label is, however, scarcely legible, and its text and date have been questioned. According to different reports found in the cemetery or church of Agnes on the via Nomentana (Sant'Agnese fuori-le-mua), Rome. Usually dated to the 4th c.**

Cite Download all (3.35 MB) Share Embed + Collect

Online Resource posted on 20.06.2018, 01:00 by pnwawowski

USAGE METRICS 45 views 26 downloads 0 citations

Categories: History

Keywords: S00097

Licence: CC0

Exports: Select an option

Fragment of a marble plaque, H. 0.90 m; W. 1.30 m. Possibly from a latticework or a chance screen. Decorated with geometrical patterns resembling conchs, with an image of a young woman in low-relief, shown in the posture of an orant. The female figure is about 0.68 m high. The inscription, scarcely legible, is scratched to the right and to the left of the head. Different editors suggested several contradictory readings which cannot be verified due to the present-day poor condition of the stone.

Mariano Armellini's reading:

SS /AN NEAS

s(anc)t(e)sima Anneas = 'The most holy Agnes'

This reading is the most widely accepted, and, for example, reproduced in the Epigraphic Database Bari as the basic text. Antonio Ferrua, was, however, unable to confirm it when he examined the stone. He managed to recognise just the damaged letters A and N. Ferrua also points out that Pietro Amato Frutaz was even more sceptical about the accuracy of Armellini's reading, calling it entirely imaginary.

Orazio Marucchi's reading:

SCA Agnes

s(an)c(t)a Agnes = 'Saint Agnes'

Rudolf Herzog's reading:

n(umerus) f(oli) 4 m(armorum) SS. Anneas = 'Number of the plaque: 4. Of the marbles (of the church of) the most holy Agnes.'

This reading is refuted by Ferrua.

As no inscription features in the earliest reports of the discovery of this carving, one can suppose that it is a later addition, resulting from a modern identification of the praying girl as Agnes. Similar images of unidentified praying women are, however, a common iconographic motive in Roman suburban cemeteries.

Text: ICVR, n.s., VIII, no. 20759 = EDB9579.

HISTORY

20.06.2018 - First online date, Publication date, Posted date

EVIDENCE ID

E05836

SAINT NAME

Agnes, virgin and martyr of Rome : S00097

SAINT NAME IN SOURCE

Anneas, Agnes

[https://figshare.sds.ox.ac.uk/The\\_Cult\\_of\\_Saints\\_in\\_Late\\_Antiquity](https://figshare.sds.ox.ac.uk/The_Cult_of_Saints_in_Late_Antiquity)



# SDS: Supporting Open Access

<https://digitalscience.figshare.com/articles/report/The State of Open Data 2021/17061347>

## FAIR DATA PRINCIPLES

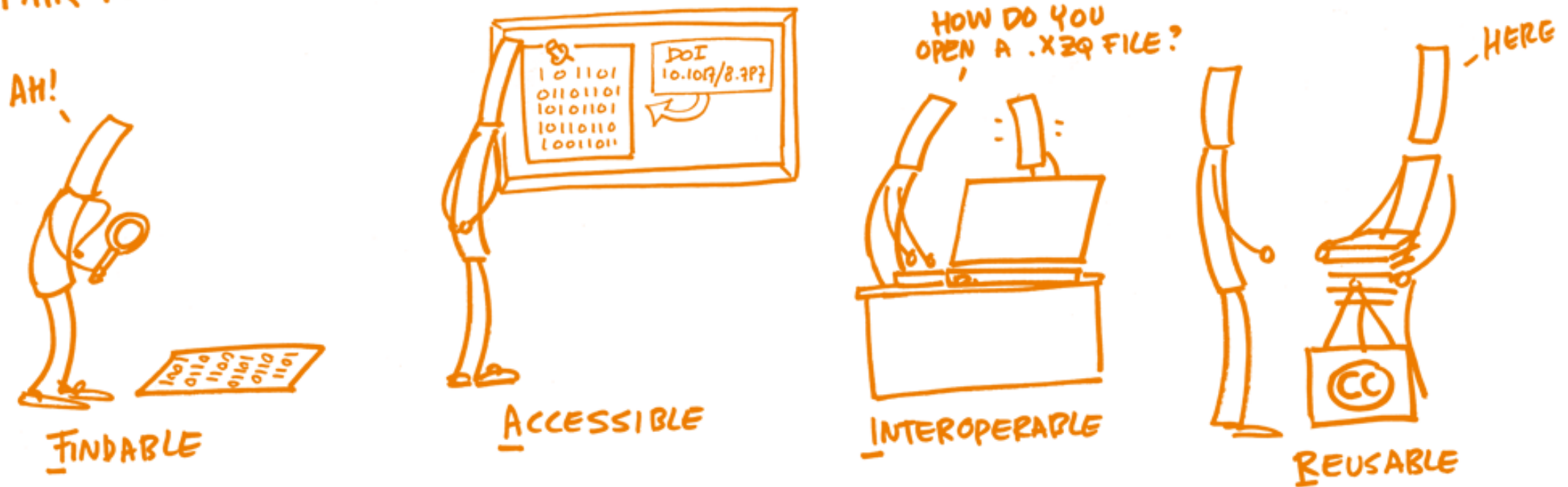


Image: <https://www.fosteropenscience.eu/learning/open-and-fair-research-data/#/id/5e3741af3ccdf1010dbc6f26>

# SDS: Supporting FAIR Research principles

- Findable
  - On-platform search, metadata & tagging to aid discovery
  - Indexed by search engines
- Accessible
  - Public-facing web portal
  - Tiered access control for sensitive datasets
- Interoperable
  - Controlled vocabularies & shared metadata standards across projects
  - In-platform viewer for many file types (now including TEI!)
- Reusable
  - Transparent licensing with default to Creative Commons
  - In-platform citation and sharing tools
  - Native analytics for impact tracking
  - API & other programmatic retrieval methods
  - Egress & mass download

# Inaccessible data: Novum Inventorium Sepulchrale



- <https://sds.web.ox.ac.uk/novum-inventorium-sepulchrale>
- Failure of database solution rendered many files inaccessible and detached metadata from records
- Project was reduced to two CSV files hosted on an old Faculty website
- Revised metadata schema & project taxonomy
- Supporting future grant applications / partnerships





# Novum Inventorium Sepulchrale

## Kentish and Anglo Saxon Grave Goods in the Sonia Hawkes Archive

The online project database is currently offline for maintenance until further notice. The datasets are available here though as two Excel (XLSX) spreadsheets:

Inventorium Graves.xlsx

Inventorium Objects.xlsx

Additional metadata information is available through the [Archaeology Data Service](#). For any further help, please e-mail [webofficer@arch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:webofficer@arch.ox.ac.uk)

*August 2018*

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Calibri (Body)

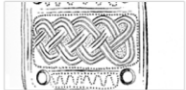
12

well known buckle, plate and belt-plate. Buckle is convex with long thin slight ridge to provide tongue-tip. Rather flat tongue with small plain top and longer attached to plate by means of pins. Pins with similar lugs at top of plate and are so set as to hold; slight projection half-way between for rivets, non-functional behind, sides are decorative domed bosses, now missing, but whose Plate Fastened to belt. Secured by means of 3 or 4 or for transverse rivets. Plate decorated on one most of shield-like ornament. Surface ornament

IC\_M6489biv.jpg (198.98 kB)



N\_M6489-buckle-2.jpg (164.96 kB)



PI\_M6489b.jpg (64.09 kB)

similar to that on the buckle-plate, but slightly hollowed behind.

IC\_M6489rev.jpg (138.03 kB)



N\_M6489-buckle.jpg (67.6 kB)



LD\_M6489-2.jpg (455.26 kB)



N\_M6489-plate-2.jpg (119.45 kB)



LD\_M6489.jpg (158.93 kB)



N\_M6489-plate.jpg (59.24 kB)



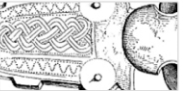
MS723\_M6489.jpg (232.92 kB)



PI\_M6489a-2.jpg (171.43 kB)



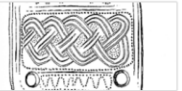
MSDiary4\_M6489-plate.jpg (99.79 kB)



PI\_M6489a.jpg (74.81 kB)



MSDiary4\_M6489.jpg (157.12 kB)



PI\_M6489b-2.jpg (133.49 kB)

### Tinned? copper-alloy shield-on-tongue buckle, plate and belt plate

Cite

Download all (2.24 MB)

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Online Resource posted on 27.10.2021, 20:19 by [Helena Hamerow](#)

Tinned bronze buckle, plate and belt-plate. Buckle and plate, length 8.5cm. Convex oval loop with slight ridges to provide emplacement for tongue-tip. Rather flat tongue with broad plain shield on back. Loop and tongue attached to plate by means of pierced lugs which engaged with similar lugs at top of plate and are held by an iron bolt. Plate a curved triangle with slight lobes at sides near top angle and at foot; slight projection half-way between. These lobes pierced by rivets, non-functional behind, which served to anchor decorative domed bosses, now missing, but whose imprints remain. Plate fastened to belt behind by means of 3 pierced lugs, for sewing or for transverse rivets. Plate decorated on front by rectangular panel or lightly scratched 2-strand interlace, the spaces between filled by rows of punched dots, bordered by scratched parallel line borders, and flanked by dotted undulating design between dotted border and single scratched grooves. Another undulating line of dots at right-angles at foot of plate. Rectangular belt-plate, length 3.7 x 3.11 cm. Large rivet holes in corners for the non-functional rivets securing missing domed bosses, whose traces are there still though less distinct than on the buckle plate. 4 fixing lugs behind to attach it to belt. Decoration on front similar to that on the buckle plate. Both plates slightly hollowed behind.

#### HISTORY

27.10.2021 - First online date, Posted date

#### GRAVE ID

Sibertswood Downs Grave 95

#### OBJECT ID

M6489

#### CATALOGUE NUMBER

M 6489

#### USAGE METRICS

3

views

0

downloads

0

citations



#### CATEGORIES

Archaeology

#### KEYWORDS

shield-on-tongue buckle plate

belt plate

Sibertswood Downs Grave 95

#### LICENCE

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#### EXPORTS

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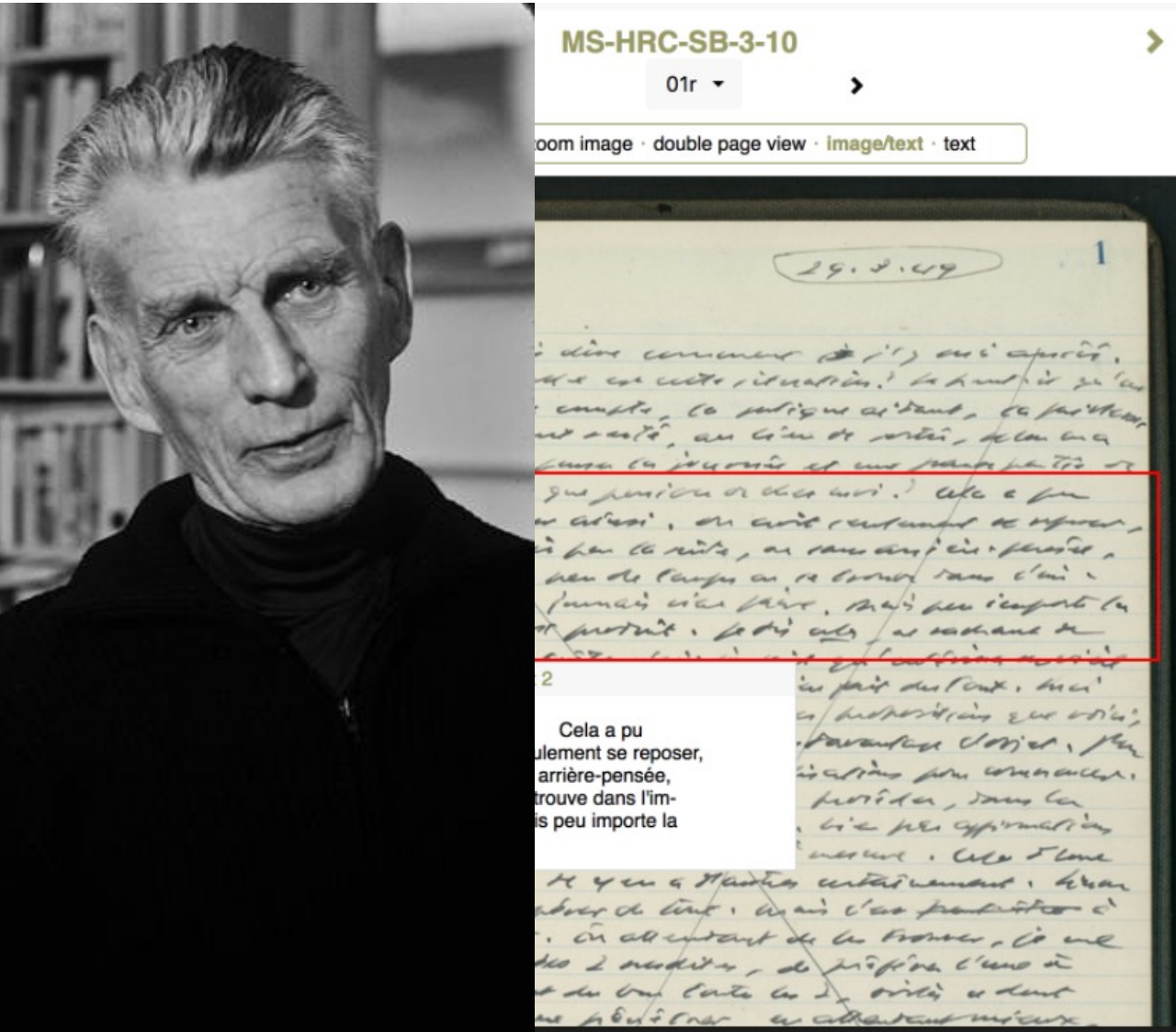
# Sensitive data: Around 1968



- <https://around1968.history.ox.ac.uk/>
- Oral histories contain personal data under GDPR
- Tiered access control
- Permissions governed by project team using SSO / Figshare logins
- Embargo of files containing data of living persons



# Copyrighted data: Beckett Digital Manuscript Project



- <https://www.beckettarchive.org/>
- Challenges around in-copyright material
- Creating bespoke genetic editions of manuscript or annotated texts
- Transferring a project from a paywalled publisher model to enable open access
- Creating a backup edition in anticipation of sustainability issues
- Looking forward to 2059!

# What can Sustainable Digital Scholarship do for you?

- Free consultation to identify the right Open Access & sustainability solutions for you
- Build sustainability & FAIR principles into your project from grant application
- Retrofit sustainability into existing legacy datasets/projects
- Work with Research Data Oxford to draft your Data Management Plan
- Provide hosting on Sustainable Digital Scholarship repository



# Benefits of Sustainable Digital Scholarship

- Ensure future access & ongoing improvement to research outputs for legacy and/or new projects
- Reduce technical debt of digital projects
- Reduce reputational risk for important research projects
- Reduce costs for faculty IT departments hosting & support
- Restore inaccessible digital resources
- Better evidence of research impact
- Assure funders & partners of commitment to digital sustainability



# Thanks for watching

- Celebrate with us! Wednesday 27 April, St. Luke's Chapel. Book now: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=G96VzPWXk0-0uv5ouFLPkTa0d9KU7HtDhuE36K-yZSVUNVFVMVcxQzVKTEVTOU1HUK45NFNSU09KRS4u>
- Sustainable Digital Scholarship website: [www.sds.ox.ac.uk](http://www.sds.ox.ac.uk)
- SDS Figshare platform is available now: [figshare.sds.ox.ac.uk](http://figshare.sds.ox.ac.uk)

[Alwyn.Collinson@humanities.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Alwyn.Collinson@humanities.ox.ac.uk)

Or

[sds@it.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sds@it.ox.ac.uk)





# HOW MUCH? SDS repository: what it costs

- Existing projects in the Humanities or Social Sciences: Free
- New projects across Oxford: Grant-funded costs (using SRF)
- Existing projects outside Humanities: Setup & hosting costs
- Sample costs:

Project size & complexity	One-off setup fee	Hosting fee during funded period (free thereafter)
Small (<1TB )/simple	£547.40	£219.42-£438.84/year
Medium(1-5TB)/simple	£547.40	£1316.52/year
Large/complex	£1368.50	£5485.50/year