



Historic England



Community-generated archaeological content

Developing ways to improve access to
information and synthesis of knowledge



What is OASIS?



OASIS is a data collection form for historic environment investigations – above and below ground

Upload grey literature – becomes available **Open Access**

Widely used by UK **archaeological community**

Issues

- Multiple communities of users
- Encouraging new user groups
 - Community fieldwork groups
 - Buildings recording
 - Amenity groups
 - Graveyard recording
- No “one size fits all”
- Validation of content

HERALD-OASIS



HERALD – OASIS major
redevelopment project
2016-18

What happens now...



The Library of Unpublished Fieldwork Reports



- Currently 38000+ reports in the library
- They are linked to by HERs and Units
- Every report has a DOI
- They are widely used by public and archaeological profession

The screenshot shows the ADS website interface. At the top is the ADS logo and the text 'ARCHAEOLOGY DATA SERVICE'. Below this is a navigation bar with links for HOME, ARCHSEARCH, ARCHIVES, ADS-easy, LEARNING, ADVICE, RESEARCH, ABOUT US, BLOG, and LOGIN. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled 'Library of Unpublished Fieldwork Reports' and includes an 'Introduction' section. The introduction states: 'The aim of this resource is to make available unpublished fieldwork reports in an easily retrievable fashion. There are currently 34538 reports available and this number is increasing steadily through the OASIS project in England and Scotland.' Below the introduction, there are two columns of text. The left column contains links for 'Introduction', 'Browse by contractor', 'Contractors A-Z', and 'Search reports'. The right column contains the full text of the introduction. Below the text, there is a section for 'Primary contact' with the following information: Archaeology Data Service, Dept. of Archaeology, The King's Manor, University of York, YO1 7EP, UK, Tel: 01904 433954, Fax: 01904 433939. There is also a 'Send e-mail enquiry' button. At the bottom, there is a 'Resource identifiers' section with the text 'ADS Collection: 1093'. On the right side of the screenshot, there is a collage of various archaeological reports and documents, including one from 'Wessex Archaeology' and another from 'HERITAGE'.

OASIS is like a transit lounge...



(... and currently about this old too!)

Unfortunately we have to deal with some problems too...



There's a problem of flow in and out of the transit lounge

And in some places it isn't used enough!

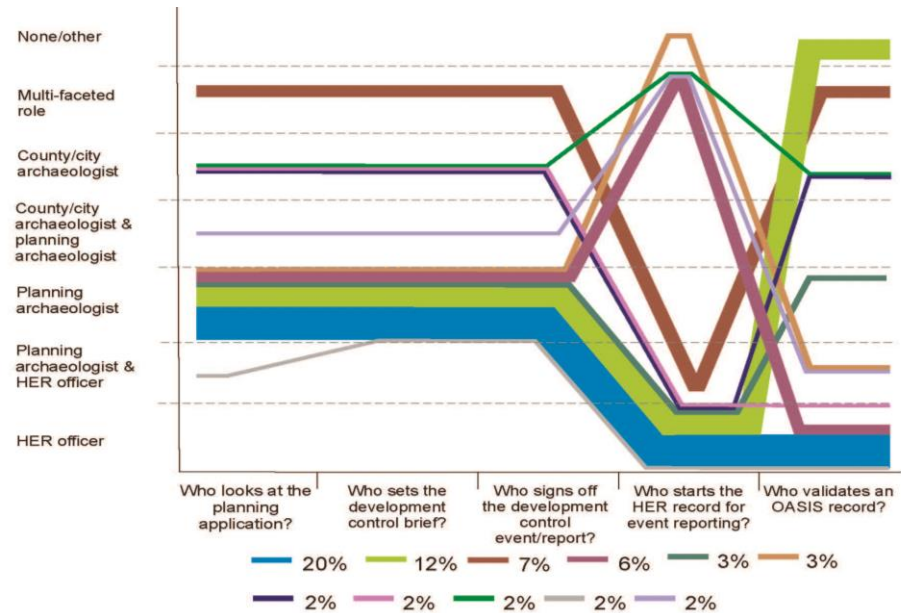


Example: Work flow lines



Different for almost everyone:

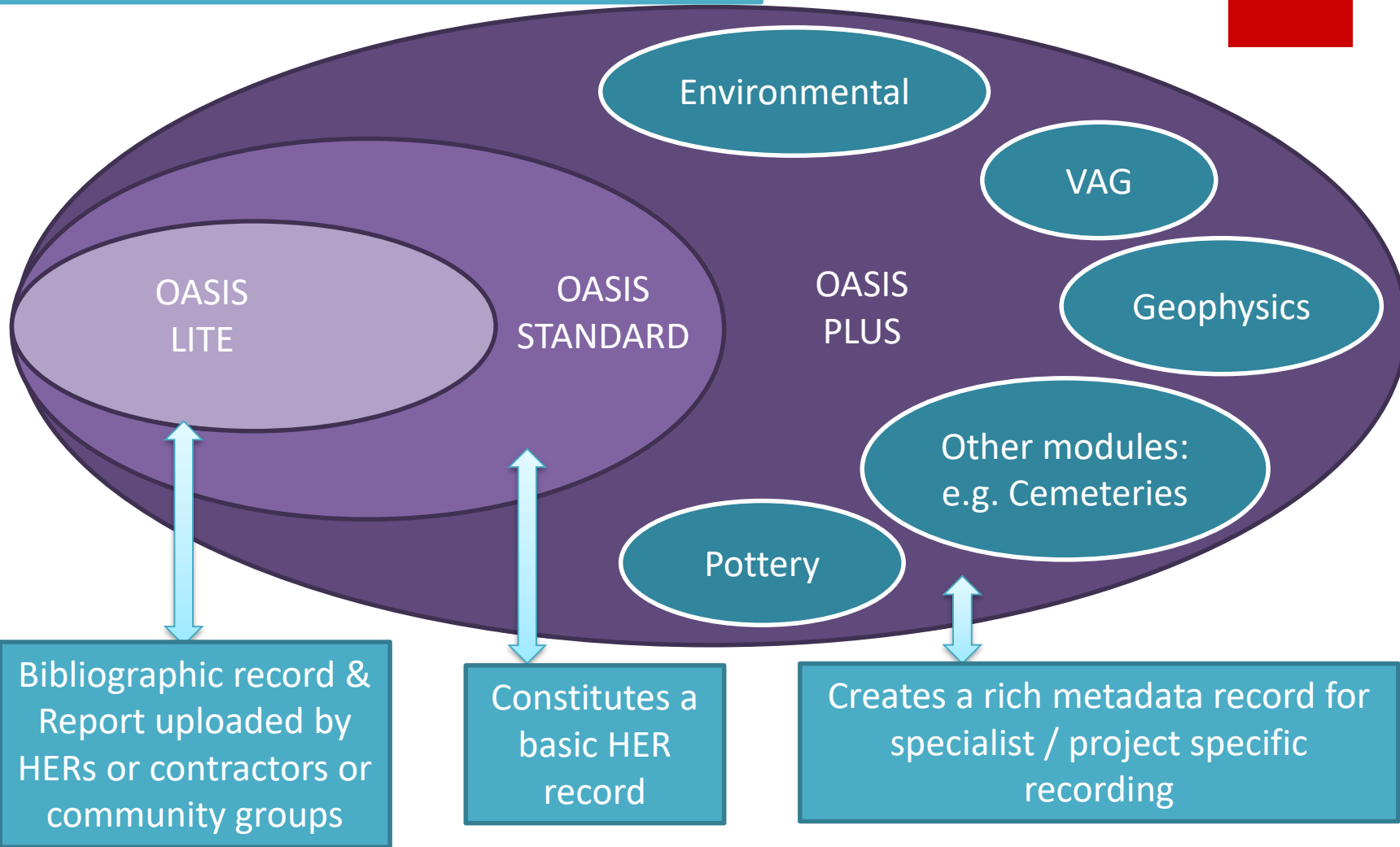
- some want to start and complete the record
- some want units to do it
- some want a mini record
- some want a very rich record
- some want access to richer records but may not use them
- Some community groups say it is too complicated
- some want the museums involved....

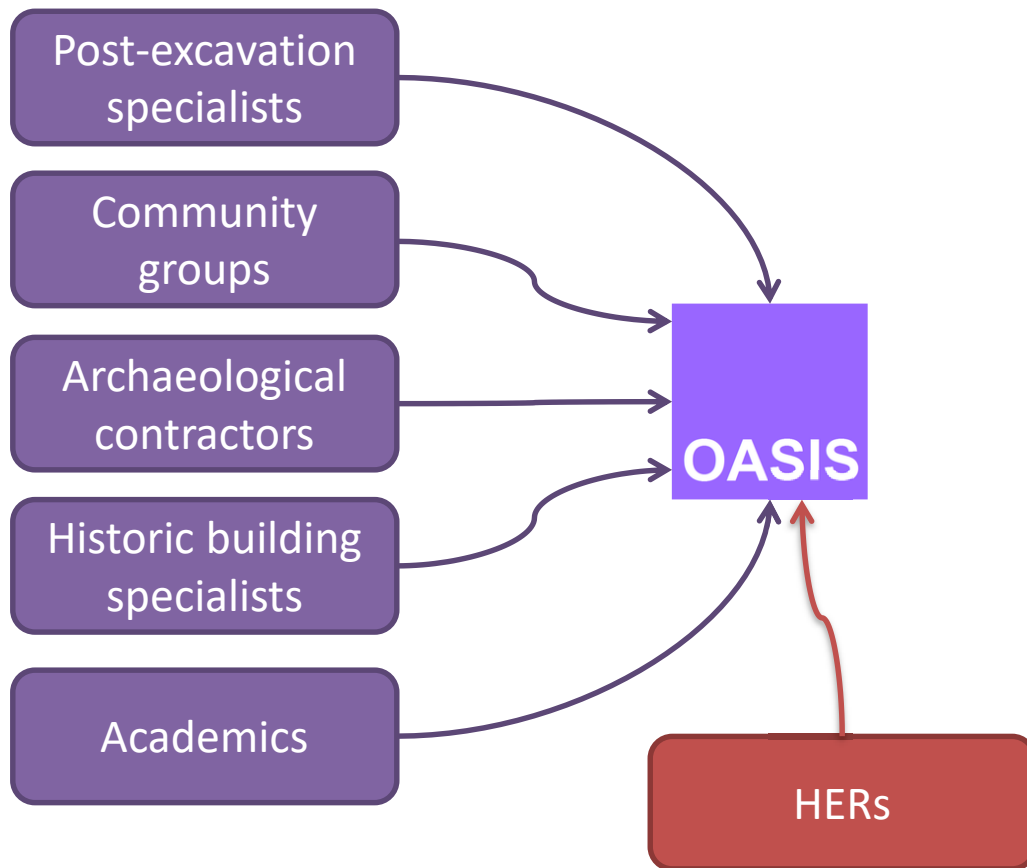


...so no one size fits all!!

How will the new OASIS be different?

Records remain 'OPEN' with alerts when core fields are completed





More
projects
from more
widespread
sources

Dealing with the issues



- OASIS lite
- Multiple tailored versions of the OASIS form – branding e.g. buildings recording
- Accommodate multiple workflows, rather than “top-down” imposition
- Allow release of unvalidated reports, appropriately tagged
- Promotion and training

But how do these fieldwork
recording events get back into
the research domain?



Volunteers



GREY LITERATURE LIBRARY

Small publishers



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS



Oxbow Books

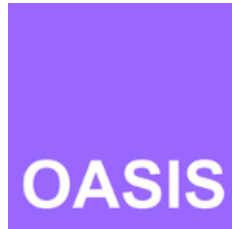
Jacklin Image Consulting



ADS Library will be available from Autumn 2016

The redeveloped OASIS will be available in 2018

Keep up with developments



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