



Case Study: OASIS: accessing archaeological grey literature online.

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Process of recording fieldwork events

- Vast majority of UK archaeological work undertaken as part of the planning process, administered by local authority archaeologists.
- 4,500 fieldwork events each year in England alone.
- Use of different recording standards for events recording.
- Many level of record, local and national, information also of use to museums community, period societies etc.

The process of reporting fieldwork events



Contractor



Local Archive



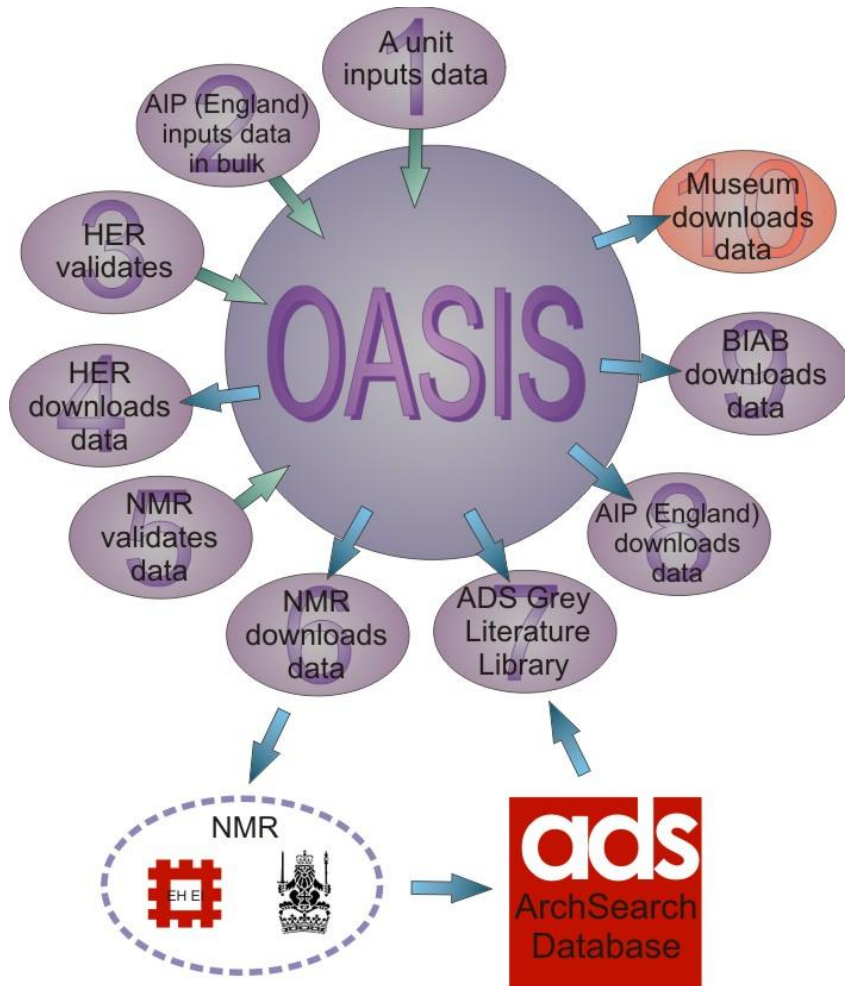
National Archive



Problems

- Very slow
- Information changes with every input
- Inefficient
- Backlogs build up
- Information rarely reaches the wider public

Reporting the OASIS way



One 'pool' of data into which different archaeological bodies can dip, either adding supplementary information, validating information or extracting information.

The OASIS Project :Introduction

OASIS: *Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS*

[OASIS Home](#) | [OASIS Scotland](#) | [OASIS Form](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Training Materials](#) | [FAQ](#)

OASIS (Scotland) project is a strategic partnership across the professional archaeological community in Scotland. Supported by Historic Scotland, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) and the Local Authority Archaeologists, OASIS (Scotland) builds upon the original OASIS project undertaken in England by the Archaeology Data Service, University of York.

Information gathering

The project complements and encourages the continued reporting of fieldwork to the wider public through the Council of Scottish Archaeology's annual publication *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. Underpinned by the ASPRE protocol, the OASIS data capture form has been designed to help the reporting of information from developer-funded archaeological fieldwork by data producers, such as contracting units, to the local authority archaeology Sites and Monuments Record / Historic Environment Record (SMR/HER) community and to the database and archives of the RCAHMS. The data capture form provides the opportunity to upload digital copies of both completed project archive reports (grey literature) as well as files defining the geographical extents of projects.

Collection and curation

On completion, information gathered through OASIS will be validated by the relevant curatorial body (usually the SMR/HER) before inclusion in the respective local and national databases and Geographic Information Systems. Copies of the grey literature reports will be held at the relevant SMR/HER as part of their records management systems and at the archives of the RCAHMS, not only for long-term preservation but also to provide an additional online delivery through CANMORE.

Sharing

Open access to information gathered through OASIS is encouraged through online resources, principally, the ADS ArchSearch catalogue, PASTMAP and CANMORE. From these sites users may search for information on fieldwork by particular area, type of monument, or by the name of a contributing archaeologist or contracting unit. Search results will provide links to grey literature reports, available directly from the RCAHMS CANMORE website.

OASIS is a partnership between the private and public sectors. It ensures efficient, effective and economic collection, management and dissemination of information for the benefit of the entire archaeological and wider community of Scotland and beyond.

OASIS has been adopted nationally by Scottish Local Authority archaeologists as part of the requirements for reporting developer funded archaeology in Scotland. Click on the map for contact details for each council area.

OASIS: Please e-mail RCAHMS for OASIS help and advice
© ADS 1996-2013 Created by Jen Mitcham, email Last modified Wednesday 13 September 2006
Site only: <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/scotland/index.cfm> for this page

OASIS: *Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS*

[OASIS Home](#) | [OASIS England](#) | [OASIS Form](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Training Materials](#) | [FAQ](#)

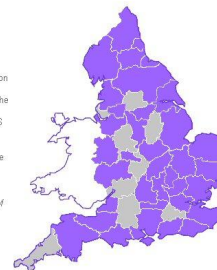
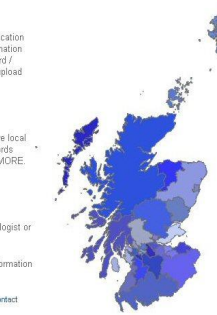
The OASIS project brings together a number of strategic partners: the Archaeology Data Service, the Archaeological Investigations Project (AIP) of Bournemouth University, the Archaeology Commissions Section of English Heritage, and the National Monuments Record of English Heritage, under the umbrella of the University of York.

The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large-scale developer funded fieldwork. As part of this overall vision, the OASIS data capture form has been designed to help in the flow of information from data producers, such as contracting units, through to local and national data managers, such as SMRS and NMRs. The resulting information will be validated by the relevant NMR and passed onto the ADS for inclusion in its online catalogue ArchSearch. The inclusion of information in ArchSearch will enable users search for the latest information pertaining to a particular site, type of monument and so on and either provide direct web links through to the grey literature reports or at least act as a pointer to the physical holding place of a report or archive. Grey literature reports are also being made available directly through the ADS Library, where it will be possible to search and retrieve reports based on a variety of different data fields. It is hoped that the OASIS project will facilitate the rapid flow of information from producer to user.

If you would like further information about the project please see the FAQ on the relationship between OASIS and HERs, EI and AIP. Alternatively, for advice on data entry and use of the OASIS form or a copy of the OASIS manual, please email English Heritage. For technical advice, please contact the ADS Technical Team.

The map (right) is intended as a rough guide to OASIS take-up within England. Counties where the OASIS form is in use are shaded purple. Click on any of the purple areas for more specific information on OASIS usage within that county.

OASIS: Please e-mail English Heritage for OASIS help and advice
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Site only: <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/england/index.cfm> for this page



The OASIS Project :Introduction

- On-line form
- Used by all fieldworkers
- Records event level data
- Data accessible by HERs & NMRs
- Upload of 'Grey Literature'
- Record acts as metadata for report

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

List of Projects

Main

This is the main page of the OASIS form, the form is split into sections as listed below.

You can fill as much or as little of each section in at any one time. Once you have filled in a section completely, please tick the **completed** box at the bottom of that section. The form will then check to see that all the mandatory fields (marked with a *) have been completed. If this is the case it will return to this page, if not it will ask you complete the missing fields.

There are some fields that **must** be filled in: the project name, the location and your name and email address.

Please note: the form entries are only saved when the **Save record** has been pressed. If you leave the form inactive for over 30 minutes any entries will be lost, this is to retain the security of your username and password.

OASIS ID: catherin1.1388Z

<input type="checkbox"/> Project details	Add or edit entries
Status Incomplete	
<input type="checkbox"/> Project location	Add or edit entries
Status Incomplete	
<input type="checkbox"/> Project creators	Add or edit entries
Status Incomplete	
<input type="checkbox"/> Project archives	Add or edit entries
Status Incomplete	
<input type="checkbox"/> Project bibliography 1	Choose a Publication type Add or edit entries
Status Incomplete	

Please enter your name and personal email address here so that any queries about this form can be directed to you.

Name Email address

The OASIS Project

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

[List of Projects](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Log out](#)

Projects for Oasis User

Click on the **Oasis ID** of each record to view more details or amend the record.

To **download** Oasis records tick the checkboxes and click on the **download selected records** button at the bottom of the page.

Click on the table headings to **sort records** by that column

1 to 10 of 178 projects Pages: [1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [4](#) | [5](#) | [6](#) | [7](#) | [8](#) | [9](#) | [10](#) | [11](#) | [12](#) | [13](#) | [14](#) | [15](#) | [16](#) | [17](#) | [18](#)

[All records](#) | [Completed records](#) | [Uncompleted records](#)

<input type="checkbox"/>	OASIS ID (version)	Location	Project dates	Validating HER	Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	hereford2-7108 (3)	WALK MILL FARM, EWYAS HAROLD, HEREFORDSHIRE	Aug 1999	Herefordshire SMR	Signed off and complete
<input type="checkbox"/>	hereford2-7113 (3)	MANSELL LACY, MANSELL LACY, HEREFORDSHIRE	Nov 2000	Herefordshire SMR	Signed off and complete
<input type="checkbox"/>	norfolk1-5399 (3)	THE PRIORY RESTAURANT, FRITTON AND ST. OLAVES., FRITTON AND ST OLAVES, GREAT YARMOUTH	Jul 2004	Norfolk HER	Signed off and complete
<input type="checkbox"/>	norfolk1-5401 (3)	THE STREET, SPORLE, NORFOLK, SPORLE WITH PALGRAVE, BRECKLAND	Mar 2004 to Jun 2004	Norfolk HER	Signed off and complete
<input type="checkbox"/>	norfolk1-5463 (3)	LAND TO REAR OF 95, LYNN ROAD, DOWNHAM MARKET, NORFOLK, DOWNHAM MARKET, KINGS LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK	May 2004	Norfolk HER	Signed off and complete
<input type="checkbox"/>	norfolk1-5465 (3)	STREETGATE COTTAGE, ROUDHAM, ROUDHAM, BRECKLAND	Mar 2003	Norfolk HER	Signed off and complete

OASIS XML as Metadata

In order to download the selected records you must first select the format you require, and then select the parts of the form you wish to download.

- As MIDAS XML
- As OASIS XML
- As HTML list

More options will be added at request

All the fields below have been pre-checked, if you would like to uncheck a whole section use the **All** option.

Please note: Not all fields are relevant to all record types. If an irrelevant field is ticked and is not needed it will be ignored.

Project details

- All project details
- Project name
- Description
- Project dates
- Previous/Future work
- Associated identifiers
- Type of project
- Details of project type
- Status
- Landuse
- Monument type
- Significant finds

Project Location

- All location details
- Country
- County
- District or Unitary Authority
- Parish or equivalent
- Site name
- Postcode
- Study area
- Grid references
- Height OD

Project Creators

- All creator details
- Name of organisation
- Project brief originator
- Project design originator
- Project director
- Project manager/supervisor
- Sponsor or funding body

Project Archive

- All archive details
- Locations
- Archive IDs
- Contents
- Media
- Notes

Project Bibliography

- All bibliography details
- Title
- Serial title
- Monograph title
- Authors
- Editors
- Page numbers
- Edition
- Other bibliographic information (report no etc)
- Date
- Publisher
- Place of publication
- ISBN/ISSN
- Description
- Web address

Generate text file

Default values

OASIS XML or MIDAS XML

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<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
- <oasis xmlns="http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/oasis/" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/oasis/ http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/oasis/oasis.xsd">
  <download_on>14-Mar-2005</download_on>
  <download_by>oasis</download_by>
- <oasis_id id="norfolka1-5401" created="08-Dec-04" created_by="Neil Moss" last_edited="02-Mar-05" edited_by="Mark Barratt"
  status="Signed off and complete">
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  observed.</project_desc>
  <project_dates start="25-MAR-04" end="18-JUN-04" />
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  <assoc_id type="Contracting Unit No." id="Rep: 976" />
  <assoc_id type="NMR No." id="1405540" />
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  <county>NORFOLK</county>
  <district>BRECKLAND</district>
  <parish>SPORLE WITH PALGRAVE</parish>
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</location>
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  <grid_refs mapcode="TF" easting="8484" northing="1122" type="Point" />
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Reuse of Metadata

The image shows a screenshot of the ADS (Archaeology Data Service) website. On the left, there is a red sidebar with navigation links: Information, Search, Project Archives, Special Collections, and Library. The main content area displays search results for 'GRIMLEY PONDS, GRIMLEY'. The results include a description of a survey, location details (GRIMLEY PONDS; GRIMLEY; GRIM HILLS; HEREFORD AND WORCESTER), subject type (FISHPOND, MEDIEVAL), project dates (1995), and intervention type (Evaluation). A 'PDF' button is visible next to the search results. On the right, a preview of a PDF document is shown, titled 'SURVEY OF GRIMLEY PONDS'. The document content includes a 'Sites and Monuments Record' table with handwritten entries: Monument No. 26730 and Activity No. WSM 29812. The author is listed as Martin Cook. The browser window shows the URL 'http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/mn_data2/greylit_2003/wsm29812.pdf'.

Or search the library directly

ads
ArchSearch

Information

Search

Project Archives

Special Collections

Library

Unpublished Fieldwork Reports

Library: [Series](#) | [Bibliographies](#) | [Journals](#) | [Theses](#) | [Grey Literature](#) | [Other](#) | [Help](#)

Grey literature reports: [Introduction](#) | [Browse by contractor](#) | [Search the Reports](#)

Search Page

Enter your search terms, select the type of search and click on the search button. It is possible to build up quite specific queries but we would recommend that you start simple. You can add more boxes by using the + button. For more tips on searching see the text at the bottom of the page.

Book details

Enter the author, producer, place of production or publication date and select the relevant box

Title Author Producer Place of production Date

Where

Where categories are Site name, Parish, District and County - select the relevant box

Site name Parish/Non parish area District/Unitary Authority County

What

Please select an artefact or monument and enter one term (use the plus button to add another)

Monument Find

When

Select a period from the list of MIDAS period terms

Period

Identifier

OASIS id or ADS Record ID

Id number

Order results by Year of production Title Contractor/producer

Search for Iron Age sites/finds in Suffolk reported in 2005.

Library Results

ads
ArchSearch

Information
Search
Project Archives
Special Collections
Library

Unpublished
Library: Series |
Grey literature rep

Results
Click on the title to link to download th

Records 1 - 3 of 3

PDF (458KB)
PDF (4460KB)
PDF (634KB)

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Cite only : http
page
ADS hosts AHDS Archa

ahds

ads
ArchSearch

Information
Search
Project Archives
Special Collections
Library

Unpublished Fieldwork Reports

Library: Series | Bibliographies |
Grey literature reports: Introduction

Details of Document

Click on the title to display document (PDF)

Sommers, M. (2005) *Archaological SCCAS Report No. 2005/7. Suffolk C*

<< display document details >>

Site details

Location

Site name	SKT 037 - Cedars Park 6a+b)
Parish	STOWMARKET
District	MID SUFFOLK
County	SUFFOLK
Country	ENGLAND
Grid reference	TM 0570 5903 (point)

Other details

Description printed sheets of A4 paper in card covers and comb binding

Associated identifier SUFFOLKC1-6645

ahds

http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/adsdata/oasis_reports/suffolkc1/ahds/dissemination/pdf/suffolkc - Microsoft Internet Explorer p

File Edit Go To Favorites Help

Save a Copy Search Favorites Media 118% Adobe Reader 7.0

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

**CEDARS PARK (PHASE 6A+B)
STOWMARKET**
(SMR Ref. SKT 037)
Oasis ref. Suffolk.1 - 6645

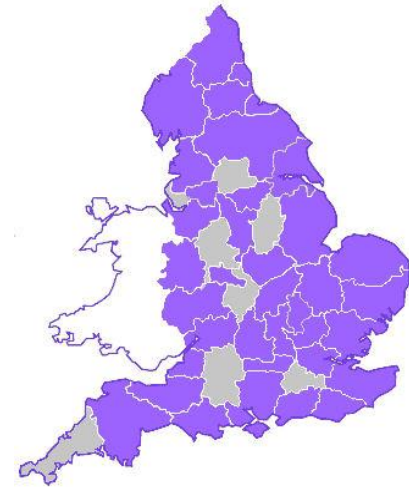
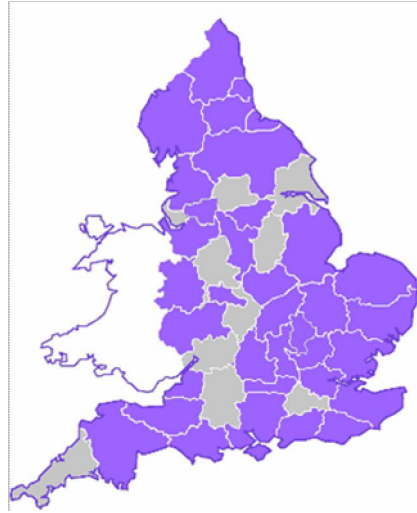
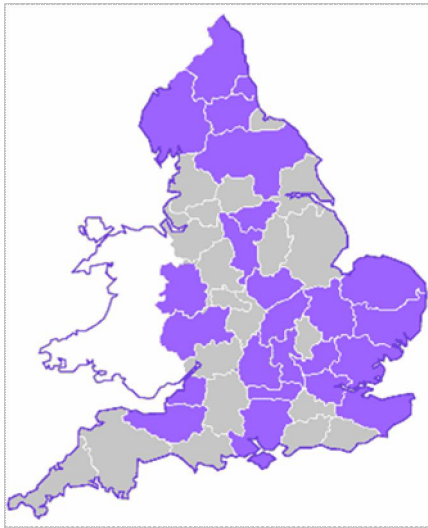
A REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF THE SITE OF A PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON LAND TO THE SOUTH OF STOWUPLAND ROAD, STOWMARKET

CONTENTS

1. Introduction

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OASIS: uptake of the form

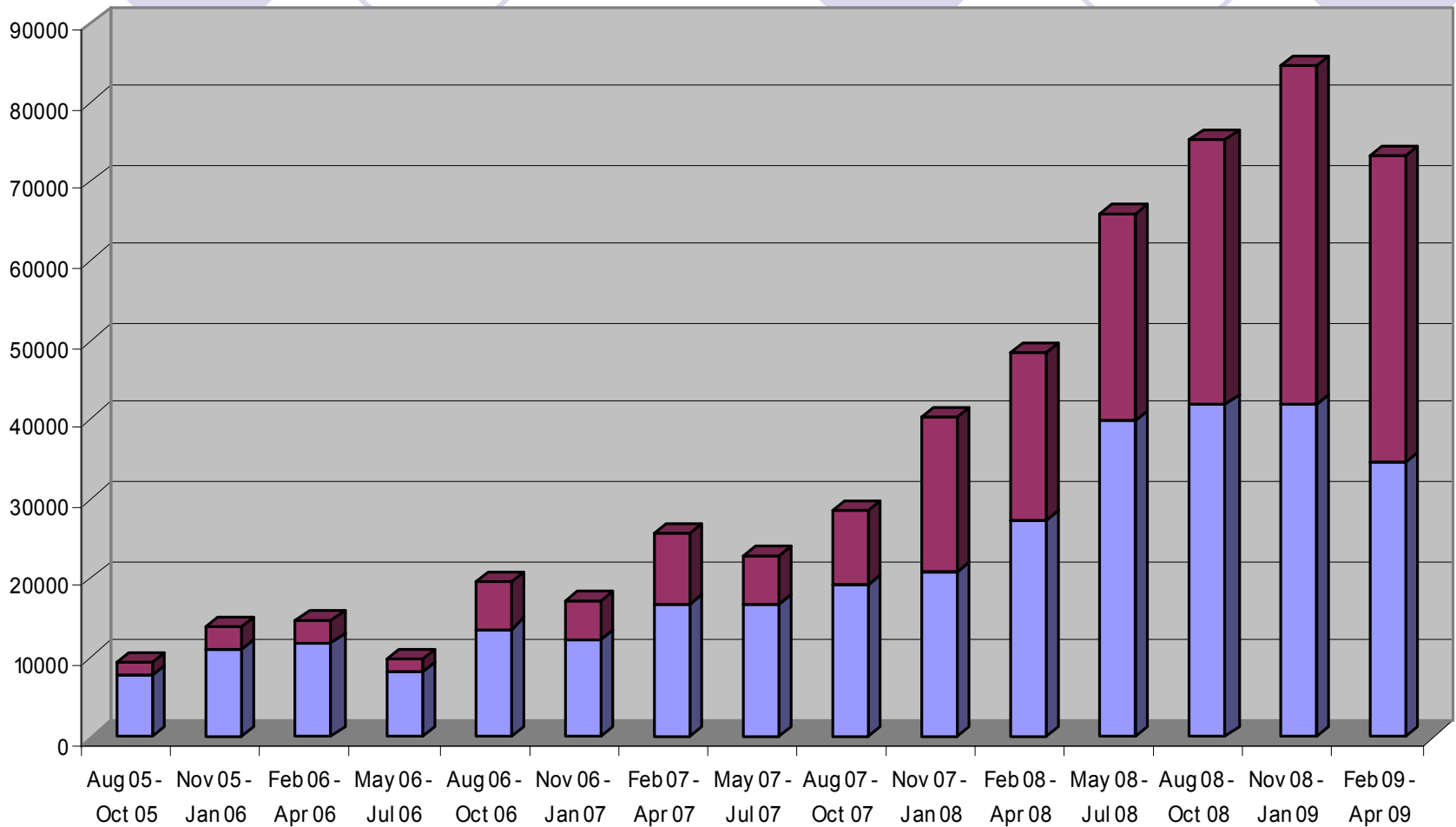


Showing the spread of OASIS uptake by HERs across England in, from left to right, April 2005, April 2006 and April 2008

The Growth of the Library

- OASIS reports in the Library = c. 3500+
- OASIS reports in the system = c. 4500+
- OASIS reports released per month = c. 100+
- Other Grey Literature included ad hoc
- GLADE

Use of the Grey Literature Library

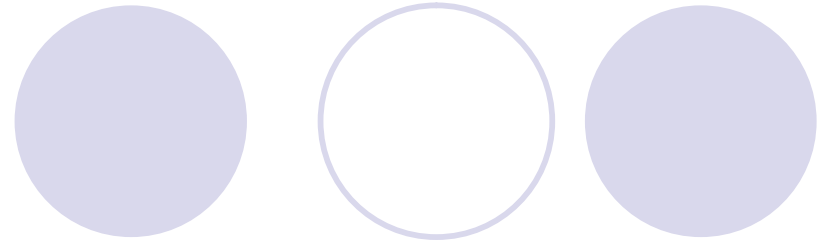
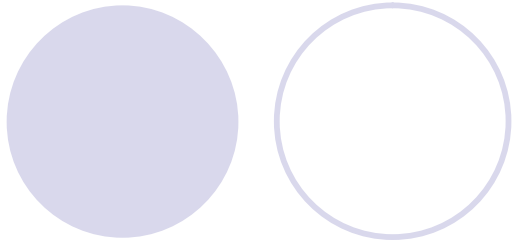


■ Page Requests ■ Downloads

30/06/2009

Future Plans

- Use OASIS as a basis for a range of other on line recording forms;
- ‘Backlog grey literature’
- Recording C14 dates
- England’s Rock Art



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- <http://oasis.ac.uk/>