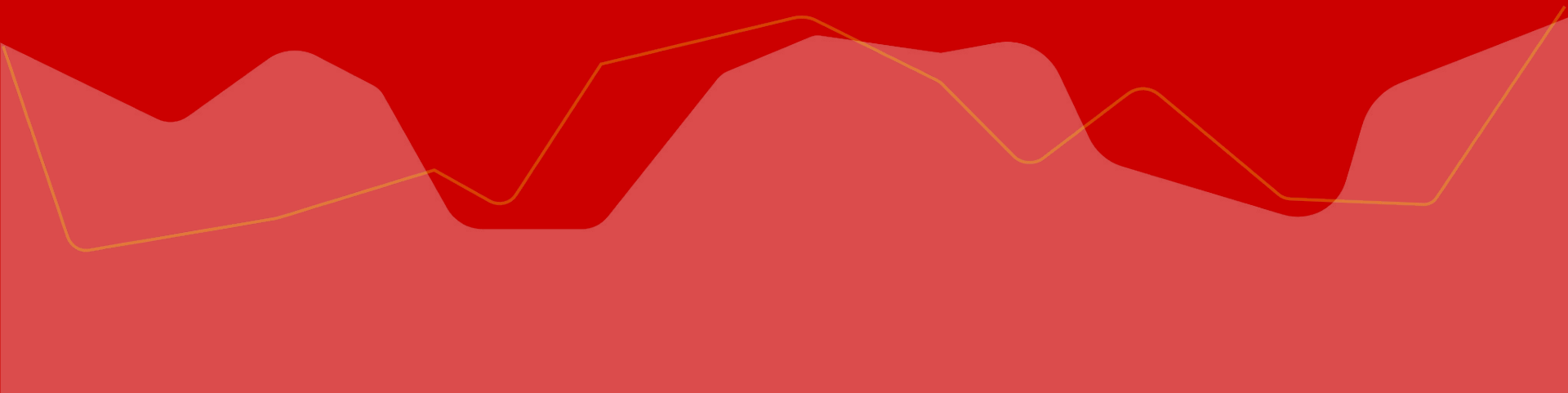




# What is Metadata?

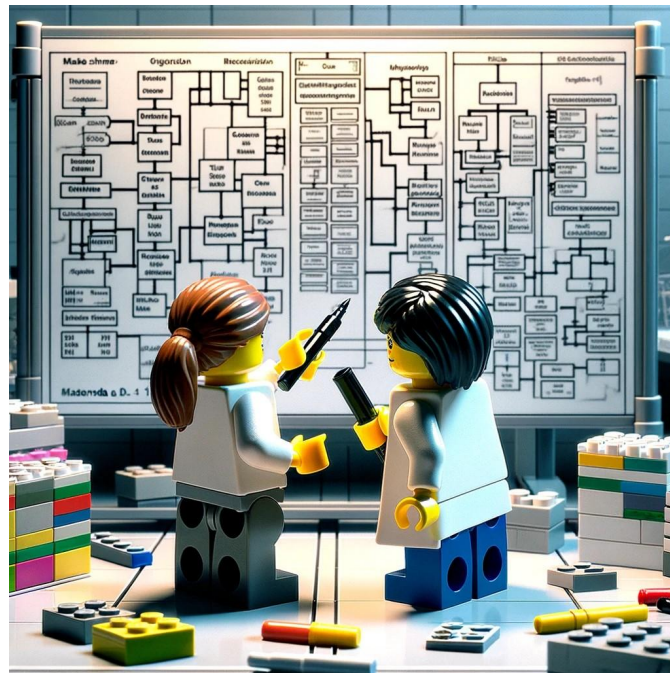


## What do we mean by Metadata?

Data About Data

~~Data About Data~~

Documentation - Information



## Why is metadata important?

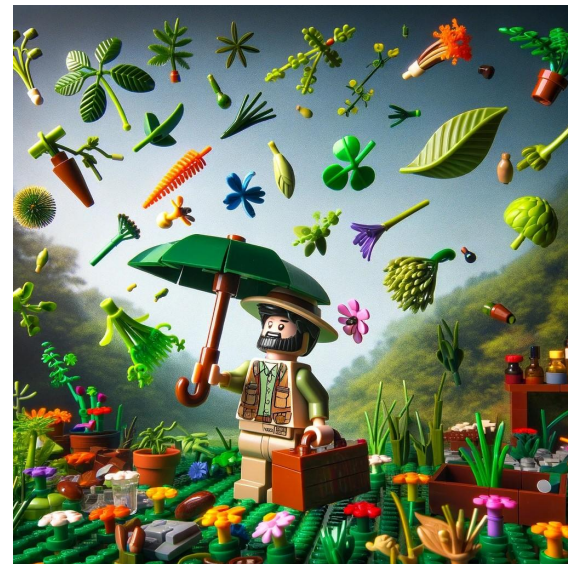
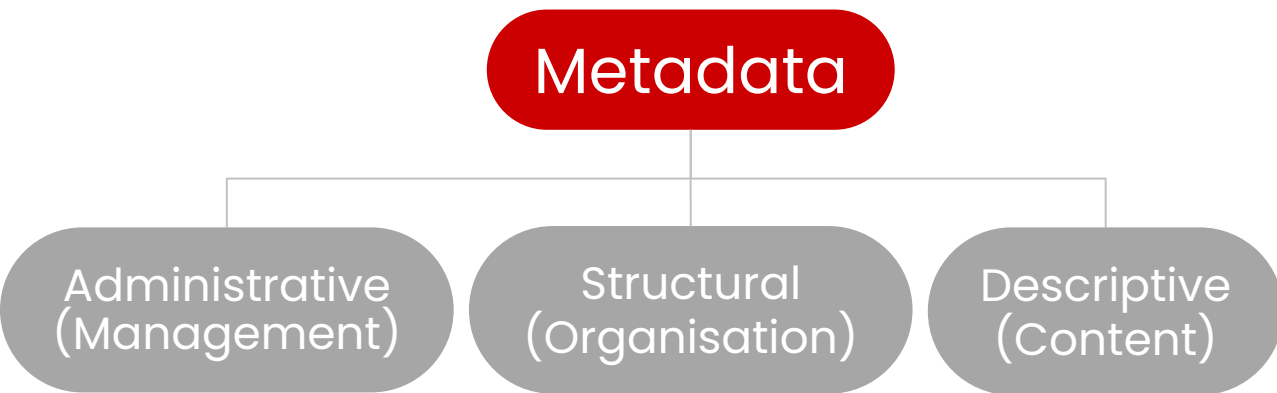
- Context
- Meaning
- Marketing



## Why is so much metadata important?

Providing Access – But this means different things to different people

## Types of Metadata



## Administrative Metadata



Created date	2018-03-01
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Copyright	MOLA
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Creator	MOLA (AC photographer)
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Sitecode	EX-PRO03
----------	----------

Accession Number	44
------------------	----

File Type	JPEG File Interchange Format 1.01
-----------	-----------------------------------

Checksum	663a5d5cb9b1091ebf8d8e53494063a4
----------	----------------------------------



## Structural Metadata



Collection

The Prittlewell princely burial

Related

Prittlewell image metadata (ADS\_raster\_metadata.csv).

Prittlewell image registry 02 (EX-PRO03\_image\_reg02.csv).

Documentation

Pg 57 of 'The Anglo-Saxon Princely Burial at Prittlewell, Southend-on-Sea.

## Descriptive Metadata



Title

A pair of wooden bottles with elaborate decorative metal rim mounts placed to the north of the coffin

Location

England, East of England, Southend-on-Sea, Prittlewell

Subject(s)

COMPOSITE (Material), VESSEL (Object)

Period

EARLY MEDIEVAL (England)



## Types of Descriptive Metadata



- **What** – What type of resource is it, and what is it about? What topics or themes does it cover?
- **Where** – Is the resource about a specific place?
- **Who** – Is the resource about a specific person?
- **When** – What time period does the resource cover?

# What is this Digital Resource?

- The Type of Resource
- The Subject or Content

Five photographs of trenches excavated during archaeological field evaluations from the following ADS Collections:

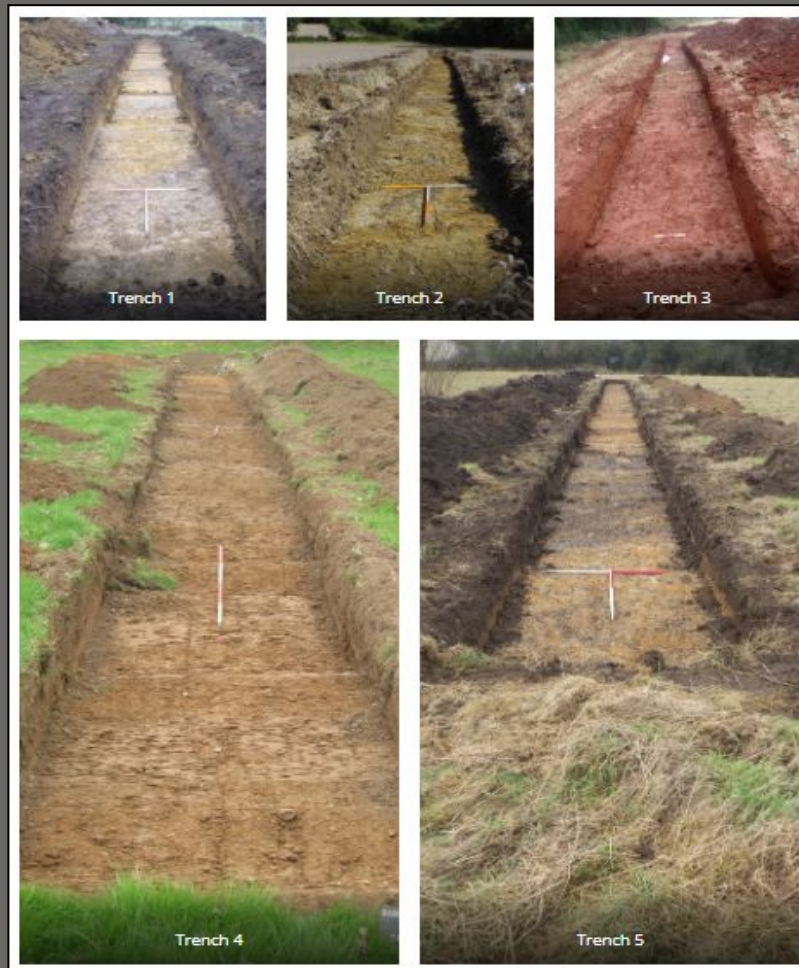
Trench 1: East Street, Milton Keynes.

Trench 2: Proposed Solar Development, Mill Farm, Grantham, Lincolnshire

Trench 3: South Devon Link Road, Kingskerswell, Devon

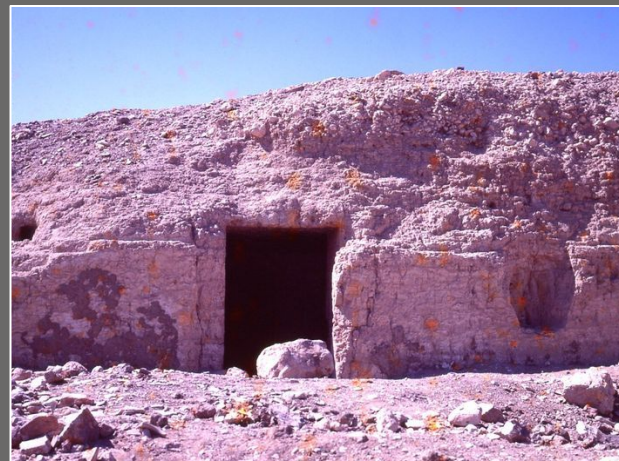
Trench 4: Abberton to Wormingford Pipeline route

Trench 5: Land off Tatenhill Lane, Archaeological Evaluation Report



## Where: Describing place

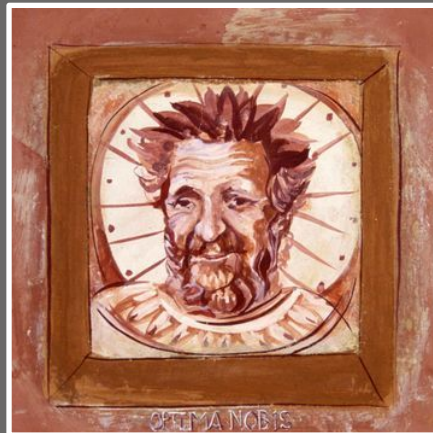
- A place might be known by different names
- Place names are not unique
- Place names come and go
- Is the place historical, contemporary, current, mythological, or even fictional.



## Who is it about?

- Alternative names
- The type of person
- Name preferences
- Name changes
- Any background information

Fresco portrait of experimental Archaeologist Peter Reynolds (from the Butser archive), Roman Coin depicting Emperor Constantine I (from the Cottam B archive), A depiction of Apollo from a 2,000-year-old mosaic in Rome (Day of Archaeology Archive), and A Black and White photograph of pottery specialist Alan Vince (from the Alan Vince archive).





## When: Describing time

**Administrative:** Photograph, taken in 2013 and deposited as part of The Newport Medieval Ship Digital Archive.

**Descriptive:** Image shows a 15th-century ship, post-excavation, when the assemblage of ship's timbers and associated artefacts was systematically cleaned, recorded, and analysed.



## Metadata Adds Value

- Defining meaning
- Building Trust
  - Using standards
  - Being consistent
- Connecting to other resources
- Sharing with others







Archaeology  
Data Service

# What if?...

## All that was left was the record?



Image of empty cabinets at Lviv National Museum from BBC News

# Q & A Session

A decorative white line graphic runs horizontally across the bottom of the slide. It consists of several connected, irregular shapes that resemble a stylized wave or a series of peaks and valleys. The line is thin and white, contrasting with the dark purple background.