

CALL FOR PAPERS: ClfA Archaeological Archives Group Day Conference and AGM

Thursday 25 September 2025 – Chester House Estate, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire NN8 2DH

From Past to Future: Archiving 2000–2025

How do current archaeological archiving practices reflect the changes, challenges, progress and transformation of the sector since the millennium?

The world of archives has transformed dramatically in the last quarter of a century. Just ten years ago, the AAG was running basic training on how to 'put things in boxes', and now members of our group tackle a wide variety of more complicated challenges. To name a few:

- Large infrastructure projects, and their often-collaborative nature, have changed the way that archivists work, offering challenges, opportunities and room for new specialisations.
- Legacy projects, and the associated task of bringing collections up to date with modern guidelines, are more central to our practice.
- New technologies – changing and advancing all the time – offer new data and information as well as challenges for data gathering in the field.
- The introduction of digital archiving and the Archaeology Data Service have revolutionized our processes, making our archives more accessible than ever.
- Cross-sector collaboration and awareness of archiving within individual organisations have significantly increased in recent years, opening new avenues of working and changes to project processes and management.

So, what is going well, and what has room for improvement? Where do we see archiving going over the next 25 years, and can we agree on the next set of priorities for the AAG?

This call for papers seeks contributions from a wide range of archivists, museum specialists, archaeological consultants, students, researchers and other colleagues. We are interested in hearing about your projects and experiences in line with the suggestions above, or on any other topic that you think fits the theme of the conference.

ToT Guidance Discussion Panel

We are also proposing to host a panel to discuss the new Transfer of Title guidelines (consultation period closing in September 2025), their functionality and implementation. We invite professionals from planning, project management, post-excavation, archiving, museums/repositories and consultancy who have practical experience of using the new guidance. Do you have an example that can be shared with the group of implementing or attempting to implement the new guidance from any point in the project lifecycle? If you are interested in participating in this, then please apply through the same channels as below, including a few sentences on the example you will be discussing.

Please send short (200 word) abstracts for papers via Microsoft Forms, the link can be found here: <https://forms.office.com/e/WFUnPSE3dH>. This conference will be run in-person. Speakers receive free entry and a contribution towards their travel costs.

The call for papers will close on Monday 16 June 2025.