

The logo for the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) features the letters 'NDA' in a stylized, green, sans-serif font. The 'A' is unique, with a horizontal bar extending to the right.

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# Harwell decommissioning– lessons learned

## End states / delicensing

## Record keeping – challenges, approach and lessons learned

*Angela Bartlett (RSRL)*

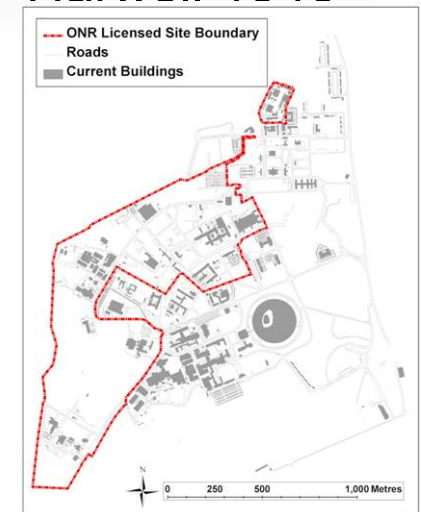
*IMAGES (GIS) and Delicensing Project Manager*

# DELICENSING RECORDKEEPING

- Introduction: 70 years of records...
- Why are records required for Delicensing?
- Harwell's approach to Delicensing Recordkeeping
- Delicensing Project Example
- Lessons learnt



Harwell 1946



Harwell 2012



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# Record keeping – challenges, approach and lessons learned

## RECORDING HARWELL: THE CHALLENGE



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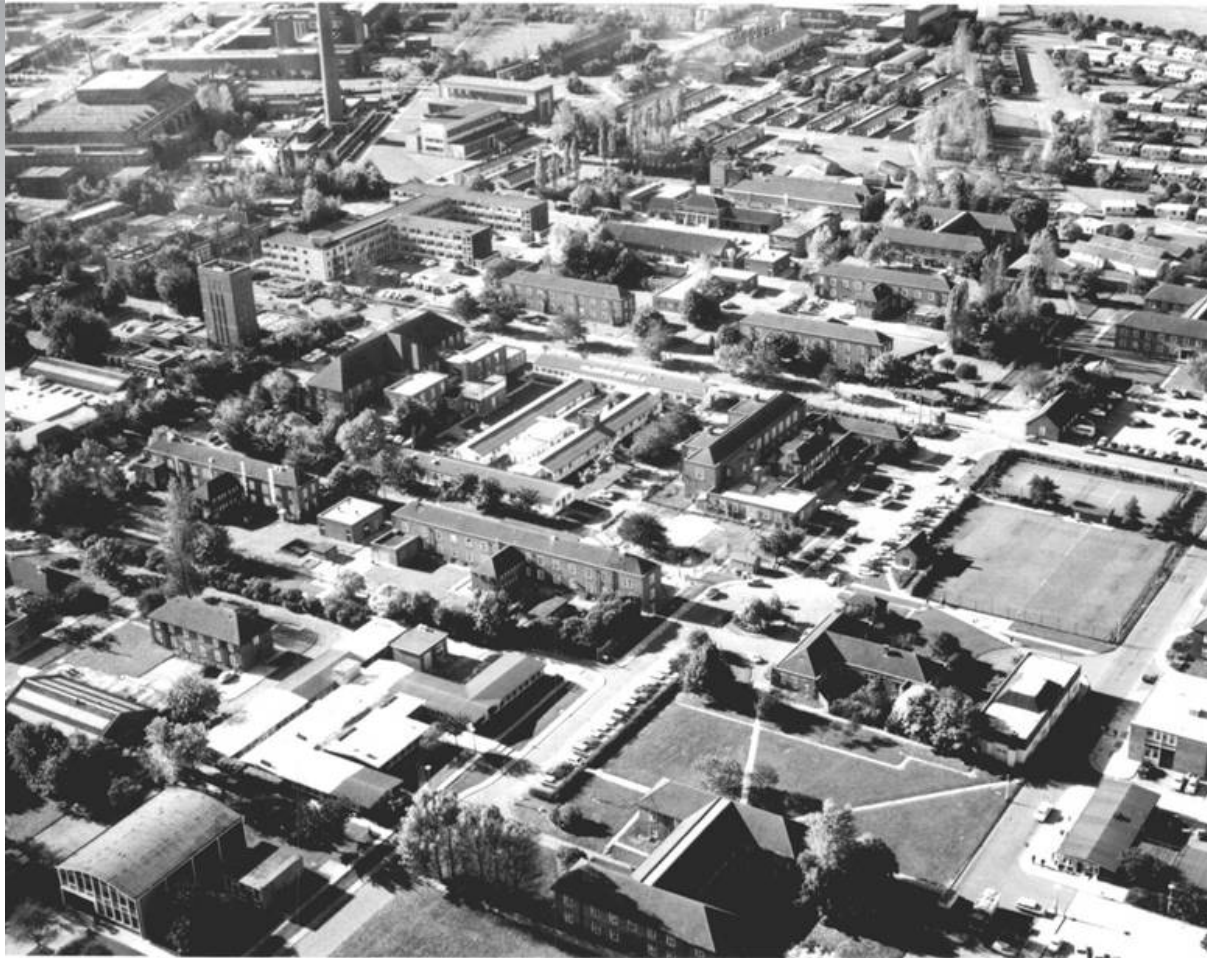


# RSRL- 70 YEARS OF RECORDS...

- Industrial use of Harwell site dates from RAF era to present
- Civil nuclear power research 1946 – 1990s
- 6000 scientists and technical staff employed at its height
- Originally ~ 107 hectare licensed site (now 90ha)
- 10s of kilometres of drainage systems
- IMAGES: 737 main building records (1900 individual sub records), plus over 7,000+ documents and 7500+ photographs
- Complex contaminated land legacy
- Large volumes of historical information held by varied sources (TNA, NRS Archive, National Monument Record etc)



# HARWELL (1960s)- Q: How to Delicense?



# THE ANSWER- GOOD RECORDKEEPING...

1. What activities occurred in a particular area?
2. What current and legacy infrastructure is present?
3. What type of clean-up work has been done?
4. How do you define area boundaries?

1. Records- Historical building schedules
2. Records- Infrastructure schedules, archive drawings, AutoCAD/GIS
3. Records- post decommissioning reports, safety cases etc
4. Records- maps/photos: current and historical infrastructure/buildings
5. Records- building usage, accident/incident reports
6. Records- recording work done by area (documents/data)
7. **Records- to target legacy features, justify area of concern ('grid size') for systematic sampling**
8. **Records- use standardised data formats for data capture and storage to allow analysis in GIS/statistical software tools**

# Record keeping – challenges, approach and lessons learned

## HARWELL'S APPROACH TO DELICENSING RECORDKEEPING



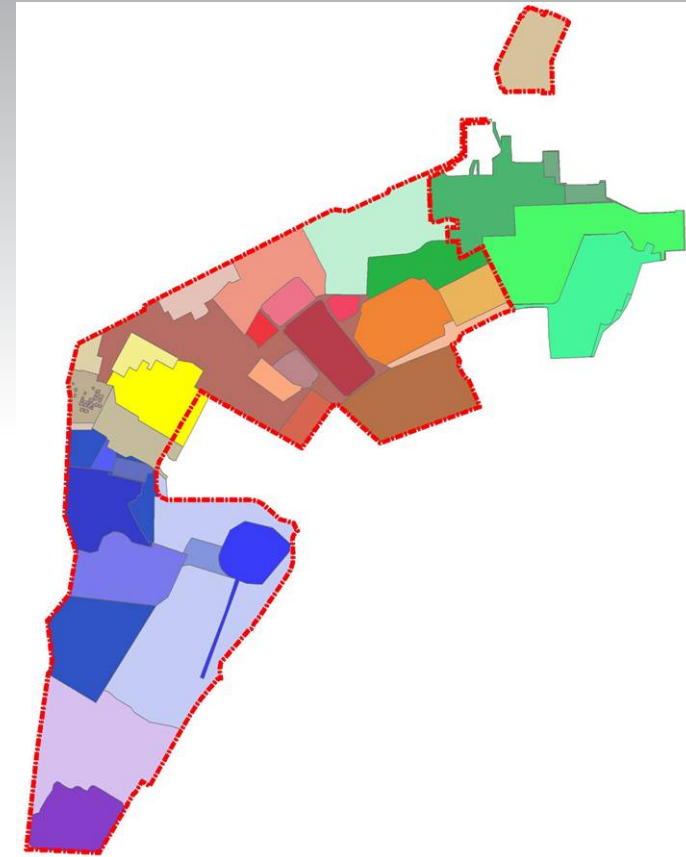
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# PROGRESSIVE SITE RELEASE

- Zoned according to
  - site history
  - site infrastructure
  - main facilities
  - decommissioning strategy
- Need structured recordkeeping to allow effective planning of site release
- Large volumes of many types of records for each delicensing area
- Targeted characterisation to characterise and remediate legacies followed by validation surveying and sampling
- Delicensing- lots of questions, what are the answers?

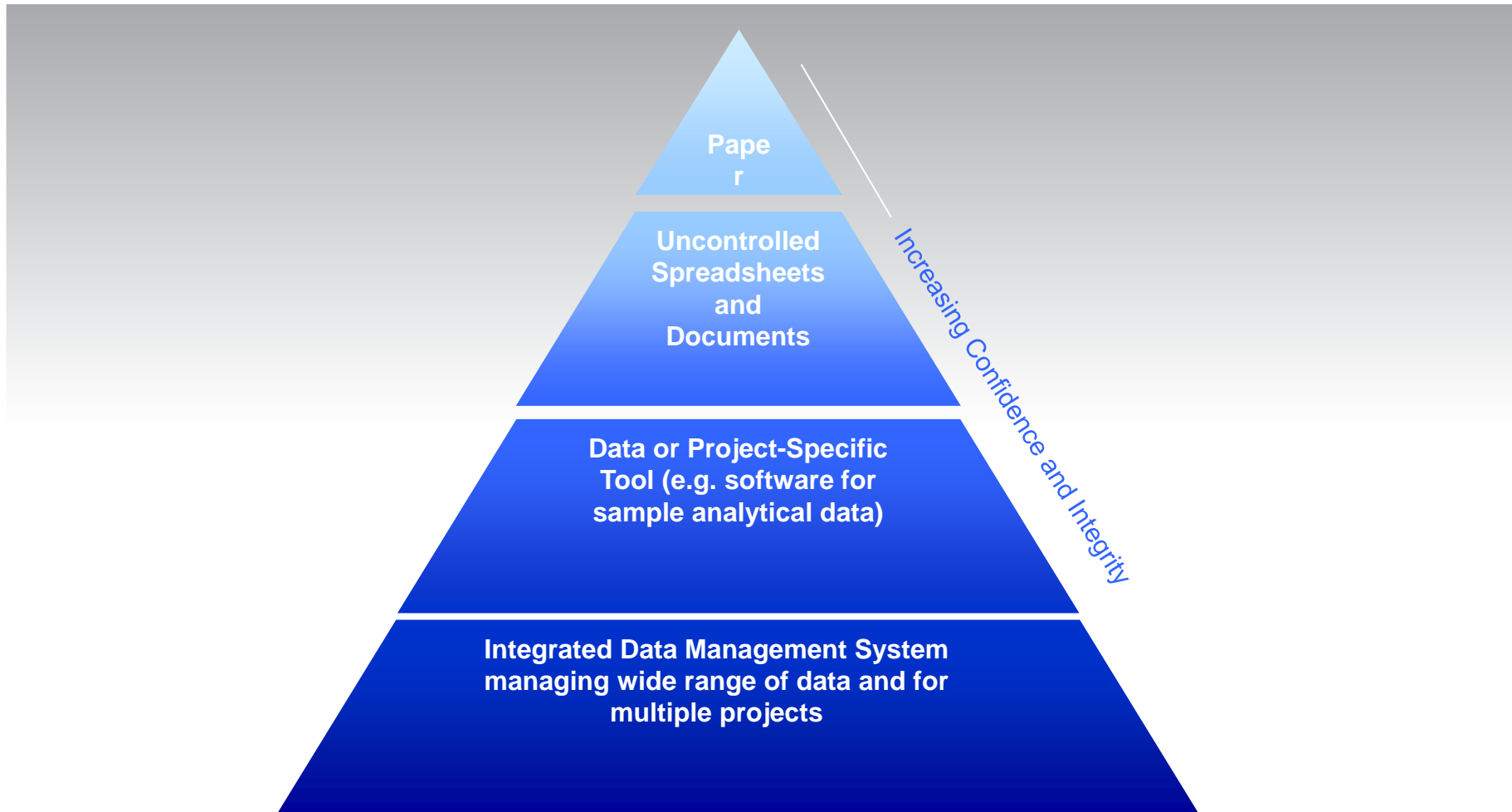


# INFORMATION MANAGEMENT: THE CHALLENGE

- Large volume and range of project data
- Need to align with wider site data management
- Act early!



# RECORDS MANAGEMENT OPTIONS



# CHOSEN SOFTWARE SOLUTION (IMAGES)

- Implemented in response to need to manage historical decommissioning records and site characterisation data
- Key features:
  - Standardises data capture
  - Divide data into logical zones
  - Long term data security
  - Links to GIS
  - Revision & quality control
  - Flexible reporting



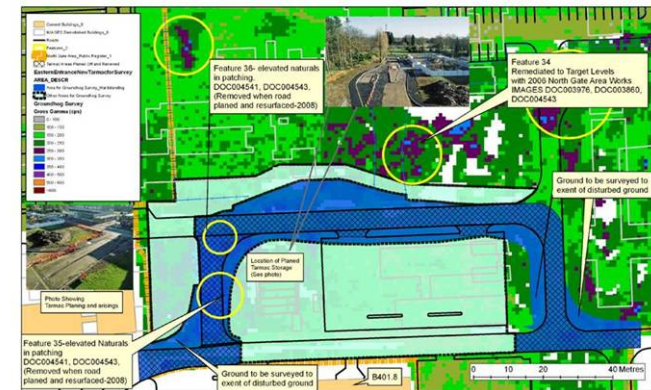
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# RECORDS TOOL: GIS- SPATIAL ASSESSMENT

- Spatial problems need spatial solutions!
- Patterns can be seen clearly on a map which aren't obvious in data tables...
- Also- sanity checking
  - are all the samples you expected to be there on the map?
  - are the values as expected?
- Spatial populations (lithology, natural background etc)
- Determination of what is an outlier/ 'hotspot'
- Importance of layers of information
  - AutoCAD base mapping
  - Historical drawings
  - GIS/GPS mapping files
  - Surveys/sampling results in IMAGES
  - Data analysis results/symbology



# Record keeping – challenges, approach and lessons learned

## USE OF IMAGES: PROJECT EXAMPLE- DELICENSING

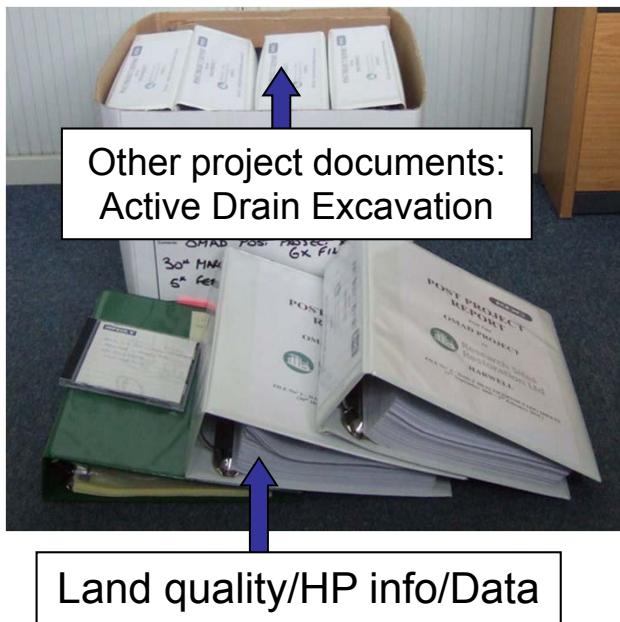


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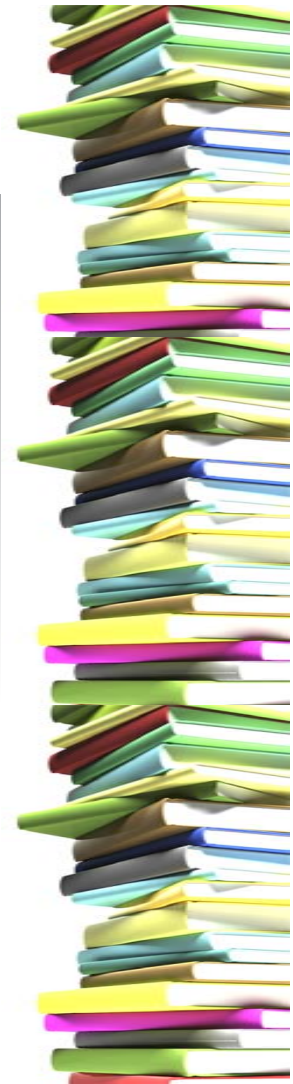


# DELICENSING: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Volume/type of information depends on project complexity
- Quality can be variable for historic records
- Good quality records/reports/data getting to IMAGES need good planning from project outset
- Important that delicensing/site endpoint teams work with other site projects, NOT in isolation



*"It's all in the report"- what is?*



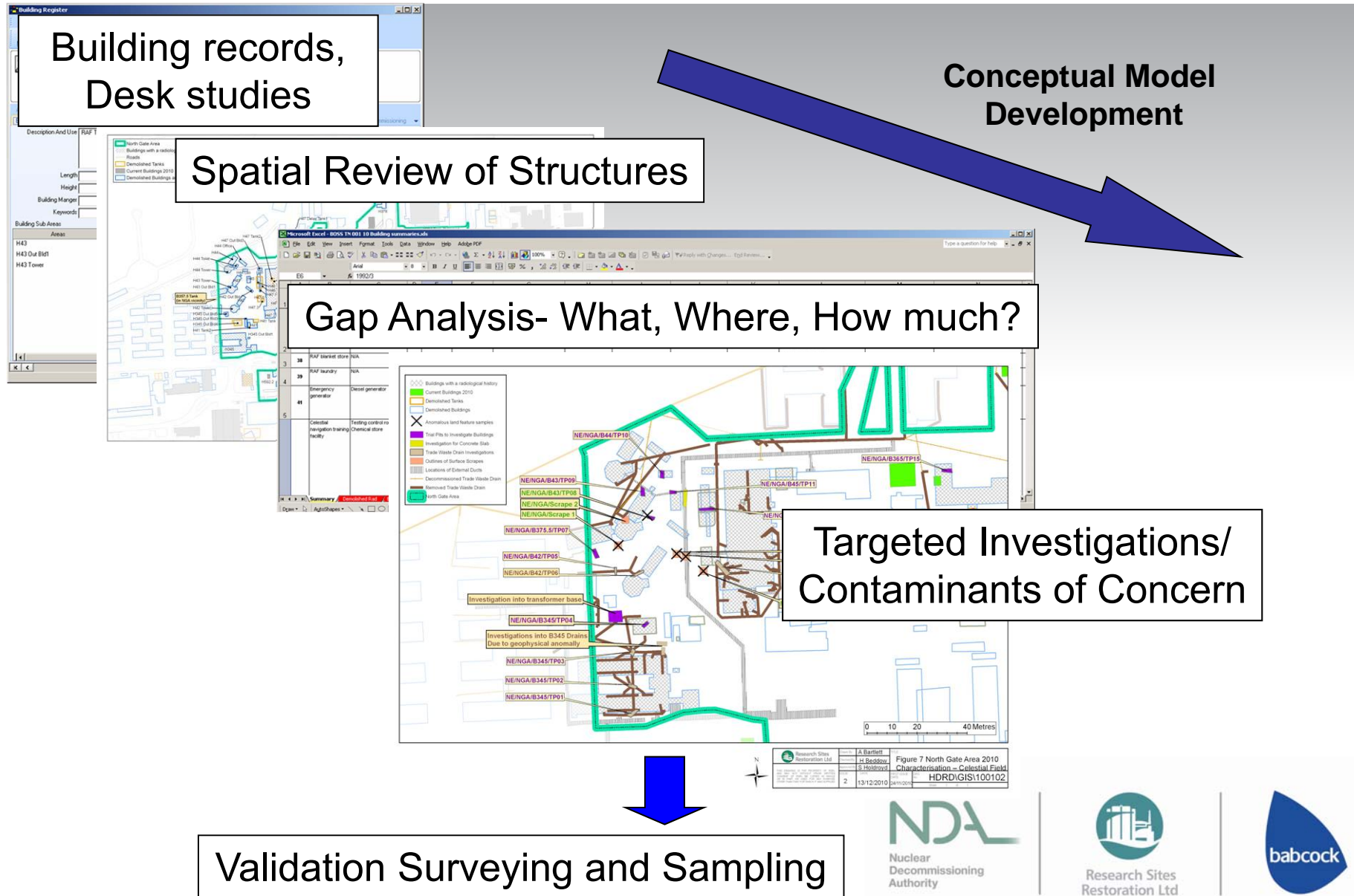


# NEW RECORDS- OPTIMISING DATA CAPTURE

- Need for good methods of data capture is well known
- Putting this into practice is more difficult
- Aspects of data capture related to
  - Desk Study
  - Contract Specification
  - Field monitoring data collection
  - Logical lab data reporting
  - Data transfer formats from projects
  - Contents of project technical reports
  - Transfer to IMAGES
  - End-use of data

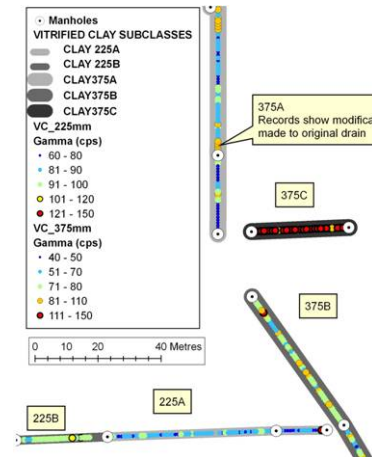
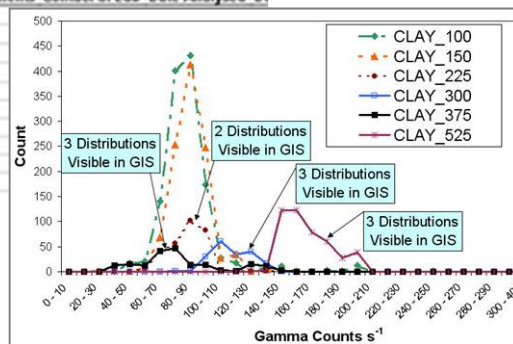
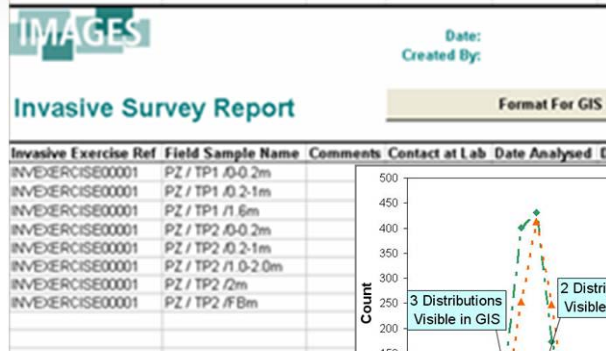
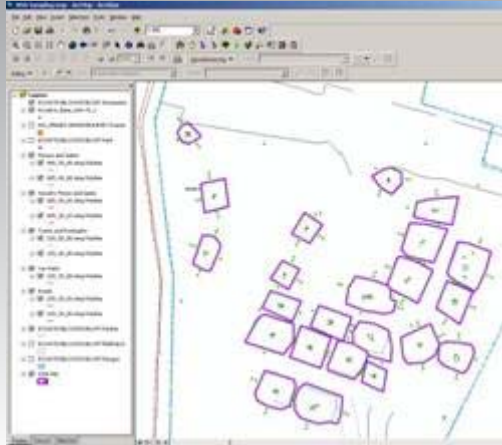


# TARGETED CHARACTERISATION



# DATA ACCESS AND REPORTING

- Good quality data is of little use if it can't be accessed efficiently and used effectively
- Require access & reporting for all types of target audience
  - Technical (e.g. GIS, database, csv)
  - Non-technical (e.g. maps & charts, interactive web mapping)





# Record keeping – challenges, approach and lessons learned

## LESSONS LEARNT

# RECORDKEEPING- LESSONS LEARNT (1)

- Historical and modern data- all is important
- Limitations of documents (paper, pdf, word) v data  
→ Consider end use of information
- **Benefits of using database:**
  1. Data accessibility- who and in what format?
  2. Ability to link different data sources
  3. Optimising data assessment: automated data QA checks and data processing essential to good quality land quality datasets
  4. Efficient compilation of a delicensing case



Pilot Area Delicensing



# RECORDKEEPING- LESSONS LEARNT (2)

- Good records = valuable resource for decommissioners/estimators
- Taking the 'opportunity of sampling' to record relevant information to prevent costly reinvestigation but not 'data for data's sake'
- Importance of data verification and validation
- Importance of keeping track of site works by area as work progresses
- Using computers to do what they are best at:
  - routine processing of large volumes of standardised data
- **All you are left with is an empty field and the information...**

