

Building a community through a cultural heritage repository service

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Repository Services at the British Library

UK Electronic Theses Online Service (EThOS): <https://ethos.bl.uk/>



Shared
Research
Repository

UK Shared Repository Service for cultural heritage organisations: <https://iro.bl.uk/>

Overview

Context to 'GLAM' research and funding

Our shared repository service model

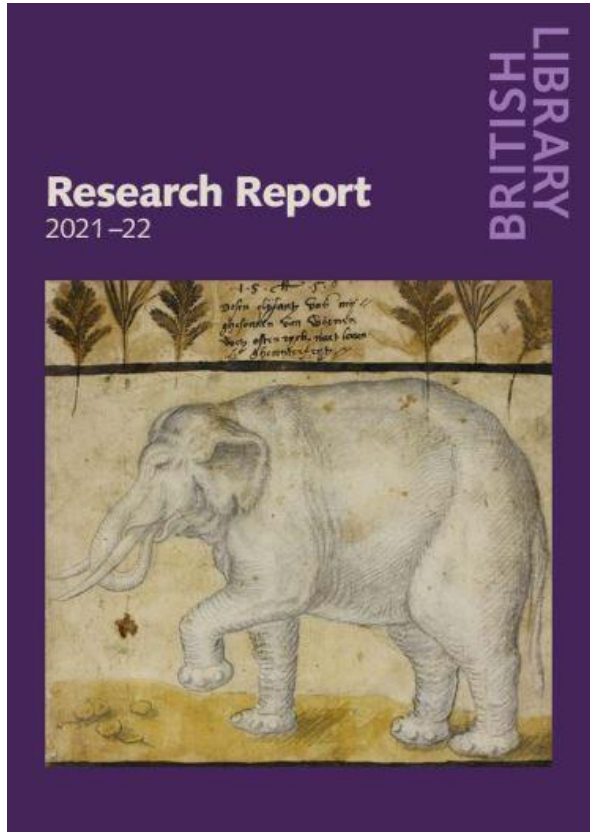
Roles and responsibilities

Community building



Shared
Research
Repository

Context to 'GLAM' research and funding



Collaborative research projects active in 2021-22

We were involved in
66
research projects



11
projects were led by
the British Library (LRO)

9
projects were co-investigated by
the British Library (Co-I)

37
were projects on which we were
a project partner (PP)

9
projects involved British Library
representation on advisory boards

New collaborative research projects in 2021-22

We were involved in
26 new
research projects



4
new projects are led by
the British Library (LRO)

4
new projects are co-investigated by
the British Library (Co-I)

14
new projects involve
the British Library as a project partner (PP)

4
new projects involve British Library
representation on advisory boards

Download from the BL repository:
<https://doi.org/10.23636/dfq-1g79>

Shared Repository Service



Shared Research Repository
for cultural and heritage organisations

Welcome to our shared repository where you'll find research produced by staff of the British Library and our current partner organisations: the British Museum, MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology), National Museums Scotland and Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Visit one repository at a time, or use the search box to search and explore publications, reports, datasets and papers from across our combined content.

Explore Our Research Repository



Browse our partner repositories:

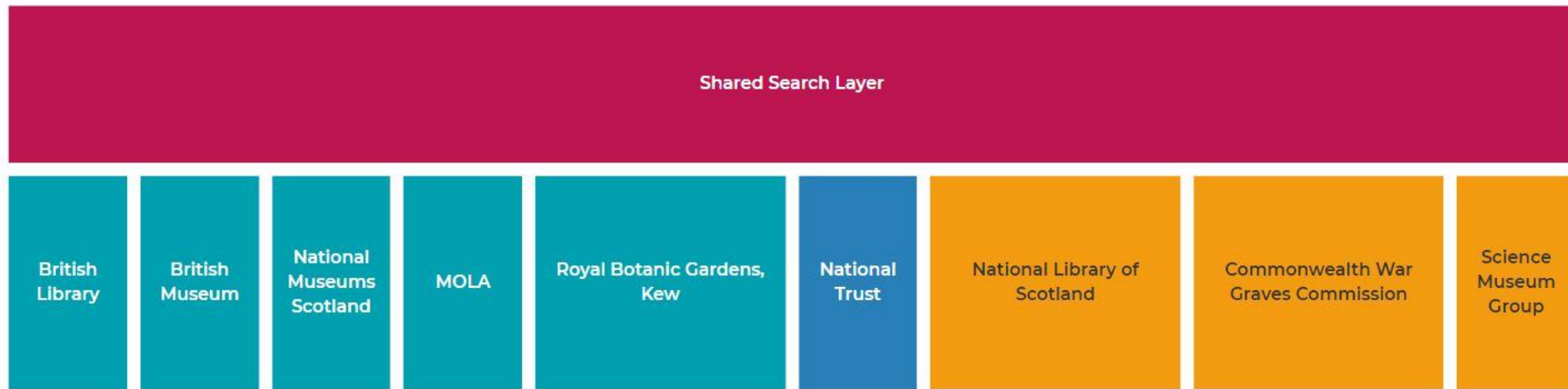


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Managed by the **British Library**
Provided by **Software Services by Scientist.com & CoSector**

<https://iro.bl.uk>

One instance,
many repositories,
one service



Delivered with our technical partner CoSector (part of the University of London) and as an open-source software, developed with the wider sector in mind.

Roles and Responsibilities

British Library

- Co-ordinate service
 - Procurement
 - Finance
 - Legal
 - Training: Open Access, copyright, technical
- Technical platform
 - Spec developments
 - Test and sign-off features
 - Raise issues/bugs

Partners

- Maintain own content
 - Deposit and monitor content uploaded
 - Respond to take down requests
- Feedback
 - Raise bug queries
 - Suggest features for development
- Motivation
 - Partners' use of the Service unites us

Community building

Beyond 'IROs' (Independent Research Organisations)

Feedback on developments and service roadmap – metadata, technical, training

Workshops around the UK and online for partners and non-partners in cultural heritage on OA, copyright, scoping exercise on skills needed – CHOSN network

Community building (2)

‘Our senior stakeholders were enthused that we had the chance to **shape the direction of the service** to align with our organisational values’

- IRO partner feedback (2022)

‘We want our outputs to be showcased along with the other household names - to raise “**brand awareness**” via the shared search’

- IRO partner aims for the repository service (2018)

Next steps

The infrastructure for digital innovation and curation for arts and humanities (iDAH) programme is an investment from AHRC to build a national infrastructure by establishing a family of interlinked trusted digital repositories that will ensure our data is discoverable, accessible, reproducible and secure. ([Chang](#), 2021).



Thank
you

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