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Securing a Future for Maritime Archaeological Archives

Element Two: Review of Maritime Archaeological Archives and Access



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2009

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i. Acknowledgements

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This report is the second of three to be delivered as part of the ‘Securing a Future for Maritime Archaeological Archives’ Project. Element One report *Mapping Maritime Collection Areas*, can be viewed at:

<http://www.hwtma.org.uk/archaeological-projects/research/maritime-archaeological-archives/>

Or from the Archaeology Data Service website, where the project has been archived:

http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/resources.html?maritime_archive_2009

Project financial management is being undertaken by the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA), with project work being delivered by the Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology (HWTMA). This project is being managed for the IFA by Kenneth Aitchison, work is being coordinated and delivered by the HWTMA. The project steering group includes: Kathy Perrin (EH/ AAF), Ian Oxley (EH Maritime), Philip Robertson (Historic Scotland), Lesley Ferguson (RCAHMS) and Philip Wise (SMA/ AAF).

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Main background image: Diver working on the *Invincible* Protected Wreck Site (Invincible Project)

Inset images:

Work on the archive of the Warship *Hazardous* (Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology)

Extract from the *Invincible* archive database (HWTMA/ Invincible Project)

Selection of artefacts from the *Stirling Castle* held by Thanet Archaeological Trust (HWTMA)

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1. Executive Summary

This report *Review of Maritime Archaeological Archives and Access* presents the results of Element Two of the Securing a Future for Maritime Archaeological Archives project. The aim of this element of the project is to establish where maritime archaeological archives are currently held, determine their accessibility and security and highlight issues affecting them.

The objectives are:

- To identify the locations of existing maritime archaeological archives (object/documentary/ digital etc), whether in public museums, private exhibitions or with contractors, private individuals or other groups;
- To assess their public accessibility and their long-term security; and
- To produce an assessment of the nature and scale of undeposited, uncurated maritime archaeological archives.

Data gathering has included a range of methods, including an on-line questionnaire, email correspondence, meetings, phone calls and research of publications and on-line resources. Data was gathered on the quantity, content, storage and access situations related to maritime archaeological archives. The survey was distributed to a wide audience which included public museums, archives and HERs, private museums, exhibitions and collections, archaeological contractors, research organisations and societies, and individual divers and collectors.

The survey responses represented were:

Geographical:

England – 222 (74%)

Scotland – 65 (22%)

Devolved Nations and adjacent territories – 11 (4%)

Sectoral: Those responding to the survey from each sector included:

- Public museums, archives and HERs: 142
- Private museums and collections: 110
- Contractors: 11
- Research & societies sector: 24
- Licensees and archaeological advisors: 19

However, some respondents hold many individual archives, so the number of maritime archaeological archives represented within the survey data is much larger.

Analysis of the results demonstrated a range of issues relating to maritime archaeological archives that have a direct impact on their access and security. A number of recommendations for action to improve this situation have been put forward.

Quantity of undeposited archives

Key Facts: Detailed responses to the online survey revealed the following numbers of type of archive not currently residing within public museums or archives*:

- Objects – 48,864
- Paper – 172,168
- Photographs – 153,191
- Video – 1,420
- Sample – 4,358
- Digital – 191,145

Additional summary information included thousands more archive elements, as well as over 30,000 artefacts from the RoW Amnesty report that are held in private collections.

* Note- the definition of a public museum includes those that are government or local authority funded

Action: Use results to underpin enhancement of maritime archaeological archiving capacity

The results of this project have sought to provide baseline information which should now be used to formulate future developments of capacity, facilities and support to ensure more maritime archaeological archives reach public museums and repositories.

Accessibility and security

Key Facts:

- A small percentage of maritime archives are currently held within public museums and repositories
- Private museums and exhibitions play an important role in making archives accessible to the public
- A large percentage of maritime archives have very uncertain long-term security
- The full scale of archives not within public museums remains unquantified in detail

Actions required:

- Further quantification studies, where outcomes will enhance public access and security
- Development of research and reference collection priorities
- Development of acquisition approaches and appropriate resources
- Provision of interim archive measures
- Innovation in access

Storage and curation

Key Facts

- Many archives are held in private collections which do not have ready access to advice on storage and curation, and operate outside of established guidelines on collections care
- Digital data poses particular storage and curation challenges
- Curation in terms of heritage management suffers from a lack of clarity over roles and responsibilities for archives from the marine zone

Actions: Improving storage and curation

- Detailed review of storage and curation of a range of archives not within public museums, including examples from a number of sectors (such as protected wrecks, larger regional shipwreck exhibitions and archaeological contractors) to gain a more accurate picture of storage and curation conditions
- Review of sources of advice on marine archive storage and curation for private collections and exhibitions
- Work with Receiver of Wreck to promote storage and curation of marine recoveries while ownership is being established
- Review of current best practice in relation to digital data, strategies for long-term storage, copyright and licensing agreements and their applicability to a maritime context

Actions: Curatorial and management framework

- Clarity in relation to roles and responsibilities for archives within the marine zone that is clearly articulated to all heritage agencies, local authorities, museums, archives and those undertaking the investigations

- Curatorial input to include digital archiving is included within project briefs and conditions of consent which will allow it to be properly costed into tenders and to reach deposition

Guidance, support and training

There is a need for a range of measures to develop guidance, support and training in relation to marine archives across the sectors. Again, the lack of clarity over responsibility means that no single organisation has promoted maritime archaeological archives and issues specifically related to them. Hence, it is now appropriate for all organisations and agencies involved with archaeology, museums and archives to review this situation.

Actions:

- The promotion of the AAF archive guidance (Brown 2007) and, where necessary, the development of further guidance clearly articulating the archiving process in relation to marine material, such as those being developed by the ADS for digital archive
- A review of current education and training within available courses from vocational through to post-graduate
- The involvement and consideration of all sectors currently producing maritime archives within the development of training, guidance and support
- Recognition that the provision of adequate support for all sectors during the process of improving the deposition of maritime archives will require resources

Ownership, disposal and attrition of the seabed archive

Key Facts

- The salvage system means that historic objects are treated as ‘lost property’ rather than heritage assets
- Regular, small scale recovery of artefacts from sites is gradually reducing the seabed archive with no consideration of the continued loss from historic assets
- It is common for artefacts to be recovered from the seabed with the prime motivation being profit from their sale
- Significant shipwreck collections have been dispersed through sale without consideration of the regional or national significance of the collections

Actions

- The continued inclusion of historic wreck material within the salvage regime (Merchant Shipping Act 1995) should be kept under review
- Methods for encouraging the acquisition of historic material through the RoW system should be reviewed and developed
- Methods for reviewing the archaeological and historic significance of material, whether individual artefacts or collections, declared to the Receiver of Wreck should be assessed to ensure archive of regional and national importance is not being dispersed

Research potential and developing coordination

Key Facts

- Lack of coordinated collection of maritime archaeological archives has negatively affected the development of the discipline and related research interests
- Poor communication and integration between archaeology, maritime archaeology, museums and maritime museums is a barrier to developing maritime archaeological research and associated reference collections and centres of specialism

- Highly significant archives have been overlooked due to residing in private ownership or being difficult to access
- Without developing access to privately held collections maritime archaeological research and understanding will be hampered and remain poorly developed

Actions

- Review ways in which archives within private ownership (including RoW reported material) can be integrated within research programs and frameworks
- Promote the dataset from the 2001 RoW Amnesty as a source for research and for consideration during the development of management approaches
- Analysis of the data gathered for this project in terms of its research potential for ships and shipping of various periods

Actions

- Articulation of responsibility for championing maritime archaeological research, to enable better integration across maritime museum, maritime history and historic ships sectors and raise the profile of the maritime archives

While it is not claimed that this survey was comprehensive of every archive it does provide a detailed snap-shot of the situation facing maritime archives and further underlines the urgency for action. The survey results have provided qualitative and quantitative data which highlight a wide range of issues affecting maritime archives.

The current situation is a product of the history of the development of marine archaeology and maritime museums that now requires serious consideration and investment from the whole heritage sector. This should help ensure that the future is less 'issue laden' than at present, and will result in greater access, engagement and enjoyment of maritime archaeology and heritage for the nation.

2. Project Background

The Securing a Future for Maritime Archaeological Archives Project was formulated in response to work by the IFA Maritime Affairs Group (MAG) which highlighted the dire situation facing maritime archaeological archives (Ransley & Satchell 2006). At present there are a lack of museums and archive repositories willing or able to take collections from the marine environment. Thus our maritime heritage is 'slipping through the net'; it is being dispersed, is deteriorating, remains un-interpreted and un-curated, is sold or sometimes simply abandoned. As this continues more of our past is placed beyond the reach of the research community, of schools, of community groups, and of the public as a whole.

The maritime heritage community is in agreement that there is an urgent need to develop approaches to maritime archaeological archives at all levels from strategic policy to local or regional repositories. Without the development of 'best practice' and the capacity to accession maritime archaeological material, collections are likely to remain in their current precarious situation, considered neither by archaeological archive organisations nor by maritime museums.

In order to address this situation there is a need to have a firm knowledge base on which to build future initiatives. *Securing a Future for Maritime Archaeological Archives* is addressing this through research which aims to:

- Understand how museum and archive repository collection areas and collection policies consider the marine zone;
- Review where maritime archaeological archives are currently held and assess their public accessibility; and
- Analyse current maritime archive creation and assess the scale and nature of future maritime archives.

This report presents the results of Element Two of this project – *Review of Maritime Archaeological Archives and Access*. The aim of this element of the project is to establish where maritime archaeological archives are currently held and determine their accessibility.

The objectives are:

- To identify the locations of existing maritime archives (object/ documentary/ digital etc), whether in public museums, private exhibitions or with contractors, private individuals or other groups;
- To assess their public accessibility and their long-term security; and
- To produce an assessment of the nature and scale of undeposited, uncurated maritime archaeological archives.

3. Survey and Methodology

Element Two of the project has included desk based research complemented by a range of meetings and interviews with selected archive holders. This element of the project has been designed to gather detailed information on current maritime archive holdings, whether they are within museums, archives, research organisations, contractors, private collections, exhibits, or with individuals.

3.1 Defining the maritime archaeological archive

To avoid confusion over the scope of the project which is primarily focused on the results of archaeological investigations, collections and material from the marine zone, the following definition of 'archive' was developed and included within survey correspondence:

Maritime archaeological archives considered within this project include:

- Material relating to shipwrecks and associated artefacts (whether single finds or collections), aircraft remains, prehistoric landscapes, now submerged terrestrial sites and any other types of sites or finds lying below the high water mark.
- Archive material might be documentary including field notes, reports, photographs, drawings and slides (including site reports held by HER's and NMRs), object (both artefactual and environmental samples) or digital. This includes grey literature reports.
- Records of investigations, or archaeological interventions, which have produced any of the above types of archive including desk based assessments, survey (direct and remote), evaluation, excavation and artefact recovery/ salvage.

The phrase 'maritime archives' has been adopted throughout the rest of this document and should be considered as including all archives in the above definition.

Types of archive NOT included within the project include:

- Inventories or 'records' not focused on cultural heritage such as the UKHO;
- Documentary records of shipping losses and or maritime related trades;
- Records derived from historic ships which are still afloat; and
- Archives from projects undertaken outside of UK territorial waters.

3.2 Scope and survey recipients

Due to our funding support, *Review of Maritime Archaeological Archives and Access* has focused on England and Scotland in detail. This element of the project has concentrated on six key sectors of archive holders:

- Public museums and archives;
- Private collections, exhibitions and non-public 'museums';
- Archaeological contractors;
- Research sector;
- Designated Wreck Site licensees and archaeologists; and
- Other individuals e.g. those reporting recovery through the Receiver of Wreck.

These sectors were targeted through a variety of mechanisms. This included a range of email and electronic communication through individuals, groups and discussion lists. A number of articles were written for newsletters and websites. Hard copies of the questionnaire were also posted out to those that do not regularly use email and the internet. This resulted in information about the project reaching a broad spectrum of potential archive holders, aiming to gain as comprehensive coverage of results as possible. However, it should be acknowledged that due to the diversity of organisations, groups and individuals holding archive material it is possible that some may have

been missed. Despite concerted attempts to gain responses to the survey the data gathered from some sectors is not as comprehensive as others, this has been acknowledged within the analysis and reporting.

The results have been analysed by region; when there was sufficient data available these have been split down into county, district and/or city areas. These areas have been based on those used for the Element One report. Those in England were based on the areas used in the ‘*English Museums and the Collection of Archaeological Archives*’ (Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA): Bott 2003) which mapped terrestrial collection areas and the subsequent follow-up project ‘*Archaeology Collecting Areas Survey*’ (Edwards 2006). For Scotland the areas utilised by Museums Galleries Scotland <http://www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk/search-for-museums-&-galleries/results/?all> have been used.

Although Wales, Northern Ireland, Isle of Man and Channel Islands were not specifically targeted with the detailed survey of archives, contact was made with relevant heritage professionals to gain information on the situation regarding maritime archaeological archives. This has allowed a broad assessment of the situation across the UK and adjacent territories.

3.3 The survey questionnaire

The survey questionnaire was designed to be simple to use to encourage participation. Questions asked for Element Two of the project were:

Question one: archive holdings

1. *Do you hold any maritime archives or parts of archives? If yes; Which sites do you hold archives for and what are their approximate locations?*

Site name/ identifier	Approx location (including which county)	Coordinates if known	Year started work on site	Date of most recent work on site

Question two: what is in the archive

2. *What is the archive composed of?*

Archive	Tick if yes	Approx number	Detail e.g. digital photographs, database type, dendro sample
Object			
Paper records			
Photographs			
Video			
Environmental sample			
Digital file			

The online questionnaire allowed information for up to 10 sites to be included within the survey.

Question three: access, ownership and storage

- 3.1 *Do you own the archives that you hold? If no, please provide details of ownership.*

Site/ identifier	Ownership (yes or no)	Detail

3.2 Is the archive accessible to the public?

If yes, is this by [tick box]:

Open access

Open access by appointment

Ad-hoc – in response to specific requests

Currently unavailable, is this due to:

Work on archive is in progress

Archive is not indexed and difficult to use

No facilities for visiting researchers

Currently unwilling to make available

3.3 How is the archive stored? Please give details.

Site	Archive component	Where stored/ deposited	How stored?	Stable conditions? Y/N	Actively curated? Y/N

Respondents were also given the opportunity to request email updates and electronic copies of the project reports and were encouraged to provide any additional comments relevant to the project.

Survey and data formats

The survey questions were initially developed in Microsoft Word and circulated to the project steering group for comment. The revised questions were then made available online using ‘Survey Monkey’ software. All target groups and individuals were then emailed to request their participation in the survey, they were encouraged to use the online version, although were also given the option of a hard copy. Participants were asked to respond within a set timescale and several reminder emails were sent out before and after the initial deadline.

In response to feedback from respondents to both Element One and Element Two sections of the survey an Excel version was created. This could be downloaded and saved onto individual computers so those with larger or multiple collections could add information and return to it over time until it was complete. This was made available from the project website (<http://www.hwtma.org.uk/archaeological-projects/research/maritime-archaeological-archives/>).

The Survey Monkey software collated online responses into spreadsheets, which were downloaded and added into the main project database which was created in Microsoft Access. When responses were provided in hard copy or verbally over the phone these were inputted manually into the project database. This database was then used to query the responses for analysis and reporting.

The responses to the survey raised a number of issues and questions. Some of these responses resulted in changes to the original project timetable and methodology.

Response rate

As the survey was distributed to a wide number of individuals and groups it was not possible to determine exactly how many responses should be expected for this element of the project. However, due to knowledge of the various sectors it was possible to identify the broad range of respondents who should reply.

As had been the case with Element One of the project the number of responses received by the original deadline was low. While some improvement was gained through chasing emails, the deadline for the survey was extended to provide more time for responses. Despite the extension it was still necessary to undertake a campaign of chasing individuals and organisations both via email and phone calls. Continued problems with relatively low responses prompted other methods of gathering information to enhance the dataset (see 3.4).

Failure to reply/respond

Despite the efforts made to gain responses from as many archive holders as possible there were differences in the volume of responses gained from the different sectors. There were a number of reasons why responses could not be provided, the most common were:

- Lack of time required to fill in the survey in detail;
- There was no catalogue of archive material available on which to base the response;
- Appropriate person was unavailable after email requests and numerous phone calls.

To gain as complete a picture as possible in relation to maritime archives considerable time was invested in attempting to gather as many responses as possible. Due to the need to complete the project the decision was made to discontinue attempts to gain responses after numerous email correspondence and a chasing phone call.

Response formats and quality

The levels of information provided within the full on-line questionnaire by individual respondents varied considerably. For those with multiple archives some filled in high levels of detail for each archive, while others chose to create a single entry which considered all archives together.

Later in the project it was acknowledged that the levels of information being asked of archive holders was considered by some to be too extensive and was putting them off completing the full survey. In response to this a set of questions were developed that mirrored those within the on-line survey, which could be emailed out in the body text of an email to make it simpler to provide a response. This approach did improve the response rate and provided further quantitative and qualitative information for the survey dataset. The set of questions from the chasing emails were often used when phoning individuals and organisations for their responses.

It was also realised that while those familiar with best practice, such as public museums, understood what terms such as ‘stable conditions’ and ‘actively curated’ meant, other respondents may not. This has resulted in some of the responses to the yes/ no questions related to these terms perhaps not being fully representative of actual circumstances.

In general the direct responses to the survey have provided good quality information on which to base the reporting. During the project it was recognised that there were other published sources of data available on archives and collections that could add to the survey (see section 3.4), these were incorporated within the main project dataset. The different level of detail of the responses has not prevented the assessment and analysis of the data.

Enhancing survey results using available published information

Acknowledging the response rate for this survey element was not going to be as high as for Element One a number of other methods were employed to enhance the database of known archive holdings. This utilised a range of published sources including books, catalogues, project reports, online information and databases. These sources were distinguished from those surveys that had been completed by archive owners and holders by a new field in the database.

This approach allowed information on known archives and collections to be included within the study. Where appropriate the organisation or individual was often subsequently contacted with specific questions about their archive. This direct approach did have success for gathering qualitative information but was time consuming, meaning only targeted individuals or organisations with larger collections could be questioned in detail.

Response numbers and archives represented

A large number of individuals and organisations that were targeted through newsletters, general emails and discussion lists, in addition to direct mailing of the survey via email. A database of all those individuals and organisations that were targeted directly has been maintained. The following figures have been generated as an indication of the dataset, although it should be remembered that some of the respondents provided responses which ‘lumped together’ information on a number of archives.

- Individuals and organisations contacted directly (email or phone): 620
- Number responding to the survey: 297
- Number of respondents filling in full details of archives on the on-line questionnaire: 72
- Number of archives included in the on-line questionnaire: 232
- Approximate number of archives (and groups of archives) represented in the dataset: 443 (This number has been generated by subtracting the number of on-line responses (72) from the total number of respondents to survey (283) and then adding the number of archives represented in the on-line questionnaire (232)).

Out of the total survey response of 297, the number of respondents in each sector was:

- Public Museums: 106
- HERs: 36
- Private museums and collections: 110
- Contractors: 11
- Research sector (including Universities & Societies): 23
- Licensees and archaeological advisors: 19

Adding the above figures reaches a total of 305, this is due to a small number of organisations being represented in two categories (see above).

3.4 Meetings and interviews with respondents

In response to completed surveys a number of individuals were identified who typified each of the six key sectors. They were selected for meetings or extended interviews via phone or email to develop case study examples which gathered further detail on the extent and composition of archives. During interviews issues related to public access and long term security were explored. Meetings and interviews were also used to target particular sectors where there had been a low response rate to the survey.

3.5 Data ordering, extraction and presentation

Due to the diversity of the sectors holding maritime archive material and the methods used to gather it there were some differences in the format of the responses. Although the on-line questionnaire went a considerable way to standardising responses, the need to integrate more text based responses to email questions and data gathered from publications meant that some data could not be directly inputted into the table of detailed responses. This resulted in the creation of two key project data tables:

- *Table One: Responder details and summary information* – this included basic information on all those who responded to the survey whether they had provided detailed responses on multiple archives or a single summary response
- *Table Two: Detailed archive data* – this held all the information on individual archives. A single responder could have filled in multiple entries in this table

Key characteristics of the data gathered from the sectors were:

- Public museums and archives – this sector included the highest number of responses using the on-line questionnaire, although additional information was gathered from publications. Data from publications usually included outline information on the collection, occasionally this included specific sites represented.
- Private collections, exhibitions and non-public museums – there were some responses to the on-line survey from this group, although a significant amount of chasing was required by email and phone. Further information on collections held was gathered from websites and publications. Where particular wreck sites were referenced these were included within the survey information. Some of the responses from this sector included more descriptive text rather than figures on the exact nature of archive holdings.
- Archaeological contractors, research and societies – it proved challenging to gain responses from these sectors. A concerted email campaign did provide further information on archives held, but this was not always in a format that could be directly inputted into the detailed archive table. There were not significant numbers of publications or web-based information available to enhance knowledge of archive collections so follow up phone calls were used to gather data.
- Designated Wreck Site licensees and archaeological advisors – there were some responses through the on-line survey for this sector. Due to having a definitive list of past and present licensees and advisors it was possible to accurately track responses. It was hoped to gain information on collections other than those for the Designated Wreck Sites that were held by this sector, there was some limited success with this, however, most information gathered was related to the designated sites. Further research through publications and websites, in addition to phone calls to individuals, was undertaken to illicit responses from this sector.
- Individual divers and collectors – the on-line response from this sector was low, particularly with consideration of the numbers of divers and collectors that are known to exist. It was possible to enhance analysis of this sector through a key dataset - the database from the Receiver of Wreck Amnesty. This details thousands of previously undeclared wreck items that were reported in 2000 and is the largest body of information available on the archive material removed from the seabed. As such it provides a key research resource. Information on individual reporters was not available, but detail of the reports were, these were analysed by location of the find where the information was available and added to the project dataset. Each amnesty report was treated as an individual archive holder, as most frequently each person had listed all material on a single report form.

Due to the various datasets used for the survey there is some potential for overlap between entries. For instance, all wreck material is reported through the Receiver of Wreck, so some objects may appear in this dataset, and again within the other sectors. It has not been possible to identify and ‘clean’ all of these types of entry, however, it is believed that potential overlaps do not significantly affect the results of the survey and analysis.

The data collected for this project has primarily focused on the project aims of identifying collections, their nature and scale, and assessing access and security in order to analyse current and future archiving requirements. However, it is clear that the data has considerable research potential in relation to maritime history, marine archaeology, museums and more broadly across heritage management fields.

4. Analysis of Archives by Location

This section presents the results of the survey by location, it examines the responses given to assess the scale and nature of archives across England and Scotland, brief consideration is then given to archive within the Devolved Nations and adjacent Territories. Further detail of the responses are contained within the Appendix (Section 9).

As outlined in Section 3 the nature of the survey responses meant that there were two sets of data, the detailed responses and summary responses. The detailed responses provided high levels of data on a proportion of archives within each region. Although further information was available within the summary responses, due to the timescale of this project it was not possible to translate all of these into a format to include them in more detail other than indicating their existence. The summary responses have been reviewed and when there are particularly large or significant archives they have been highlighted within the text. This means that the detailed statistics give a 'snap-shot' of the true scale and nature of different types of maritime archaeological archives, with the summary responses adding further information on the actual numbers of archives and / or archive holders within each region (Figure One).

It should be noted that even in the detailed response table not all respondents had put a figure in the 'how many' column, but they had put detailed information in the adjacent box. Where a description of the archive type but no specific number was included, the response was interpreted and a figure was added into the database, these have been shown in brackets to distinguish them. Where respondents had put a certain number of 'lever arch files' these have been counted as having 100 paper sheets within each of them. Hence, the numbers of 'pieces' of archive should be considered as approximate. Full details of all responses are included within the appendix, which is available on CD or on-line at:

http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/resources.html?maritime_archive_2009

The data from the Receiver of Wreck Amnesty dataset was analysed by county. The dataset included the entry for each reporter, but did not always include the number of objects each report was notifying. As it is known that there were over 30,000 objects reported during the amnesty and around 4,000 reports submitted (excluding those from outside of the UK), it was decided to take an approximation that each report contained 8 objects. So, the numbers of objects are very approximate, but are a very useful guide in determining the geographical distribution of archive material.

4.1 England

This section reviews data from England, analysing archives held by region in addition to national collections. There were 222 responses from England which represented 74% of the survey responses.

4.1.1 Regional

4.1.1.1 South West England

The South West provided the largest number of responses to the survey (Figure Two). This data was reviewed together with the summary responses and information from the RoW Amnesty (Figure Three).

Total survey responders for region - 57

Summary responses – 42

Detailed responses – 15, who provided details of 54 archives

Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 96

Of the 57 survey responders:

Cornwall & Isles of Scilly – 19 (33%)

Bristol City – 2 (4%)

Devon – 16 (28%)

Dorset – 10 (18%)

Gloucestershire – 5 (9%)

Somerset – 5 (9%)

Detailed Responses		
Archive type	Number	%
Object	12,973	16
Paper/ documentary	25,835	32
Image (photo/ slide)	32,113	40
Digital	8,672	11
Sample	83	> 1
Video	32	> 1
Approx total pieces of archive:	79,708	
RoW Data		
County	No of Reporters	Very approx no. objects
Cornwall & Isles of Scilly	629	5,032
Devon	372	2,976
Dorset	551	4,408
Somerset	2	16
Bristol	2	16
Unknown/ Various	11	88
TOTALS	1567	12,536

There are clear concentrations of archive within Cornwall, Devon and Dorset.

4.1.1.2 South East England

There were also a large number of responses from the South East (Figure Four). This data was reviewed along with the summary responses and information from the RoW Amnesty (Figure Five).

Total survey responders for region - 55

Summary responses – 39

Detailed responses – 16, who provided details of 69 archives

Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 108

Of the 55 survey responders:

- East Sussex – 11 (20%)
- Hampshire – 9 (16%)
- Isle of Wight – 5 (9%)
- Kent – 7 (13%)
- Oxfordshire – 2 (4%)
- Portsmouth – 5 (9%)
- Southampton – 5 (9%)
- West Sussex – 11 (20%)

Detailed Responses			
Archive type	Number	%	minus Mary Rose
Object	34,769	8	6,271
Paper/ documentary	166,535	38	40,535
Image (photo/ slide)	123,917	30	16,542
Digital	114,393	26	14,393
Sample	3,728	> 1	195
Video	278	> 1	18
Approx total pieces of archive:	443,620		
RoW Data			
County	No reporters	Approx no objects	
East Sussex	234	1,872	
Hampshire	34	272	
Isle of Wight	283	2,264	
Kent	341	2,728	
Surrey	2	16	
West Sussex	143	1,144	
Unknown/ various	23	184	
	1,060	8,480	

This area dataset is somewhat skewed by the Mary Rose, which alone counts for 28,498 objects, 126,000 paper archive, 107,375 photos/ slides, 260 videos and 10 terabytes of digital data which has been estimated at 100,000 files. The figures for this region, minus those represented by the Mary Rose collection have been included for information.

4.1.1.3 Greater London

There were considerably less responses for the Greater London area than the preceding two regions (Figure six). As there was little detailed data for this region it has not been considered separately here, but the information has been included within statistical assessments elsewhere in the report.

Total survey responders for region - 9

Summary responses – 7

Detailed responses – 2, who provided details of 3 archives

Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 10

There is little specific information that could be gathered from the RoW data for the ‘Greater London’ area as the geographical location is confined to more general county areas.

4.1.1.4 Eastern England

Responses from Eastern England were also reasonably high (Figure Seven), although very few filled in the detailed survey response. This data was reviewed along with the summary responses and information from the RoW Amnesty (Figure Eight).

Total survey responders for region - 29
 Summary responses – 26
 Detailed responses – 3, who provided details of 3 archives
 Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 29

Of the 29 responders:
 Cambridgeshire – 3
 Essex – 9
 Norfolk – 8
 Suffolk - 9

RoW Data		
Objects	No Reporters	Approx no objects
Essex	9	72
Norfolk	39	312
Suffolk	8	64
Totals	56	448

4.1.1.5 East and West Midlands

As there were so few detailed responses there were too few figures of archive type to provide meaningful statistics for this area alone (Figure nine). However, it should be noted that this area does include an exceptionally large digital archive held by the University of Birmingham from the North Sea Palaeolandscapes project which has generated over 58,000 digital files.

Total survey responders for region - 8
 Summary responses – 7
 Detailed responses – 1, who provided details of 1 archive
 Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 8

RoW Data		
Objects	No Reporters	Approx no objects
Lincolnshire	3	24

4.1.1.6 Yorkshire and the Humber

Responses from Yorkshire and the Humber are show in Figure Ten. This data was reviewed along with the summary responses and information from the RoW Amnesty (Figure Eleven).

Total survey responders for region - 19
 Summary responses – 14
 Detailed responses – 5, who provided details of 33 archives
 Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 47

Of the 19 responders:
 East Riding of Yorkshire – 3
 Kingston-upon-Hull – 1

Leeds – 1
 North and NE Lincolnshire – 2
 North Yorkshire – 11
 York - 1

Detailed Responses		
Archive type	Number	%
Object	5,005	17
Paper/ documentary	10,125	35
Image (photo/ slide)	4,130	14
Digital	9,891	34
Sample	100	>1
Video	24	<1
Approx total pieces of archive:	29,275	
RoW Data		
Objects	No Reporters	Approx no objects
Barnsley, Doncaster & Rotherham	1	8
East Riding of Yorkshire	55	440
Kingston-upon-Hull	1	8
North & North East Lincolnshire	6	48
North Yorkshire	110	880
Unknown/ various	6	48
Totals	179	1,432

4.1.1.7 North East England

Responses from the North East are show in Figure Twelve. This data was reviewed along with the summary responses and information from the RoW Amnesty (Figure Thirteen).

Total survey responders for region - 20
 Summary responses – 13
 Detailed responses – 7, who provided details of 13 archives
 Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 26

Of the 20 responders:

County Durham – 6
 Hartlepool & Stockton-on-Tees – 5
 Northumberland – 2
 South Teeside – 1
 Tyneside - 6

Detailed Responses		
Archive type	Number	%
Object	170	7
Paper/ documentary	735	30
Image (photo/ slide)	1,030	42
Digital	454	19
Sample	0	0
Video	53	2
Approx total pieces of archive:	2442	
RoW Data		
Objects	No Reporters	Approx no objects
Hartlepool & Stockton-on-Tees	11	88

Northumberland	121	968
South Teesside	5	40
Sunderland	8	64
Tyneside	59	472
Unknown/ various	2	16
Totals	206	1,648

4.1.1.8 North West England

Responses from the North West are show in Figure Fourteen. This data was reviewed along with the summary responses and information from the RoW Amnesty (Figure Fifteen).

Total survey responders for region - 22

Summary responses – 17

Detailed responses – 5, who provided details of 15 archives

Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 32

Of the 22 responders:

- Cheshire – 4
- East Cumbria – 6
- Greater Manchester – 3
- Halton & Warrington – 1
- Lancashire – 4
- Liverpool – 2
- West Cumbria – 1
- Wirral - 1

Detailed Responses		
Archive type	Number	%
Object	986	7
Paper/ documentary	1000	7
Image (photo/ slide)	12,262	85
Digital	100	> 1
Sample	0	> 1
Video	5	> 1
Approx total pieces of archive:	14,353	
RoW Data		
Objects	No Reporters	Approx no objects
Blackpool	1	8
Cheshire	1	8
Liverpool	9	72
Unknown/ various	3	24
Totals	14	112

4.1.2 National Bodies

England wide and special interest collections were considered together.

Total survey responders for region - 6

Summary responses – 2

Detailed responses – 4, who provided details of 25 archives

Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 27

Detailed Responses		
Archive type	Number	%
Object	1,428	9
Paper/ documentary	7,465	41
Image (photo/ slide)	7,539	42
Digital	1000	6
Sample	468	3
Video	210	1
Approx total pieces of archive:	18,110	

Represented within these statistics is a large nationally important Protected Wreck Site archive at the NMR that, despite being held for a number of years, currently remains uncatalogued making it difficult to access and use. The 1000 digital files is an estimate of the number likely to be included within the Designated Wreck Site archives which are currently uncatalogued. It is also worth noting that there are relatively large numbers of samples held at the National Maritime Museum; these mostly relate to excavations undertaken in the 1980s and sites include Graveny, Brigg, South Edinburgh Channel and Ferriby.

4.2 Scotland

This section reviews data from Scotland, analysing archives held by region in addition to national collections. There were 65 responses from Scotland which represented 22% of the survey responses. The fact that Scottish responses made up a smaller proportion of the survey data may be partially accounted for by the generally more structured system for museum and archive acquisitions within the country.

4.2.1 Regional

Responses from the Scottish regions are show in Figure Sixteen. This data was reviewed along with the summary responses and information from the RoW Amnesty (Figure Seventeen).

Total survey responders for region - 59

Summary responses – 51

Detailed responses – 8, who provided details of 9 archives

Approx total archives or groups of archive represented - 60

Of the 59 responders:

Aberdeenshire & N E Moray -12

Angus & Dundee City - 5

Clackmannanshire and Fife - 2

E and W Dunbartonshire and Helensburgh & Lomond - 1

Dumfries and Galloway - 1

East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland -1

East Lothian and Midlothian – 1

Edinburgh, city of - 2

Eilean Siar -2

Glasgow City - 1

Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire - 1

Inverness & Nairn and Moray, Badenoch & Strathspey – 4

Lochaber, Skye & Lochaish and Argyll and the Islands - 8

Orkney – 4
 Perth & Kinross, and Stirling – 2
 Scottish boarders – 1
 Shetland Islands - 3

Detailed Responses		
Archive type	Number	%
Object	310	2
Paper/ documentary	5,900	53
Image (photo/ slide)	1,200	11
Digital	3,700	33
Sample	30	>1
Video	5	>1
Approx total pieces of archive:	11,145	
RoW Data		
Area	No of responders	Approx no objects
Aberdeenshire & N E Moray	19	152
Angus & Dundee City	3	24
Caithness & Sutherland and Ross & Cromarty	11	88
Clackmannanshire and Fife	12	96
E and W Dunbartonshire and Helensburgh & Lomond	1	8
Dumfries and Galloway	6	48
East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland	7	56
Eilean Siar (Western Isles)	18	144
Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire	6	48
Inverness & Nairn and Moray, Badenoch & Strathspey	2	16
Lochaber, Skye & Lochaish and Argyll and the Islands	267	2,136
Orkney	141	1,128
Scottish boarders	4	36
Shetland Islands	32	256
South Ayrshire	2	16
Unknown/ various	15	120
Totals	546	4,368

The relatively small number of artefacts represented within detailed responses is likely to be due to the low response levels to the full online survey. There were a higher number of summary responses, but these did not provide so much information on individual archives, so their component parts are not fully represented within these figures.

4.2.2 National Bodies

Although there were 8 responses from those with a National remit, only one (the Scottish Fisheries Museum) provided full details related to archive holdings.

4.3 Devolved nations and adjacent territories

While the survey concentrated on gathering detailed information from England and Scotland there were also responses from other devolved nations and adjacent territories. This information is useful for providing a broader picture of maritime archive holders and access.

Wales

There were 8 survey responses from Wales, these included 2 national bodies and 6 others. They only provided summary information on their archives. However, the data from the RoW Amnesty showed 225 reports:

RoW Data		
Area	No Reporters	Approx no objects
Wales	225	1,800

There is further detailed information available on the area of Wales the RoW reports relate to and often the name of the shipwreck they are derived from (when known). This could provide further useful data for the development of Welsh approaches to maritime archives.

Northern Ireland

The Ulster Museum completed the detailed survey providing 3 entries into the full survey for La Trinidad Valencera, Santa Maria de la Rosa and Galleass Girona. There was also a summary response from the University of Ulster.

Data data from the RoW Amnesty, included 66 reports:

RoW Data		
Area	No Reporters	Approx no objects
Northern Ireland	66	528

Again the RoW data has the potential to add useful information on the shipwreck archive around Northern Ireland.

Channel Islands

Guernsey has filled in the detailed survey, providing archive details related to the excavation of the Roman shipwreck off St Peter Port.

There were also some entries from the RoW Amnesty which showed 15 reports from the Channel Islands:

RoW Data		
Area	No Reporters	Approx no objects
Channel Islands	15	120

Isle of Man

Manx National Heritage provided detailed entries for two archives HMS *Racehorse* (80 objects, plus associated paper, photographic and digital material) and *John Fairfeid* cargo (1,500 objects, plus associated records).

Data from the RoW Amnesty included 6 reports:

RoW Data		
Area	No Reporters	Approx no objects
Channel Islands	6	48

4.4 Summary and issues

The review of archive holdings has highlighted a number of issues related to access and security as well as others with wider relevance. This section takes an overview of the results as a whole and highlights a range of issues, many of which are analysed in more detail in Sections 5 and 6.

4.4.1 Types of archive holdings

There were a range of different types of archive holdings from England and Scotland represented in the survey:

- Objects – 43,668 (7%)
- Paper – 193,363 (33%)
- Photo – 153,278 (26%)
- Video – 595 (less than 1%)
- Sample – 4,326 (less than 1%)
- Digital – 192,538 (33%)

It should be remembered that the figures used to generate these statistics are based only on those detailed responses provided for the survey, and so are just a proportion of archives in existence.

4.4.2 Archive ‘themes’

Not surprisingly the majority of archives represented in the survey were related to shipwrecks, although some of the other holdings demonstrated the wide diversity of the marine cultural heritage.

Shipwreck – the density of the UK shipwreck heritage has been widely acknowledged (English Heritage 2002: 5). This is certainly reflected in the archive holdings represented within the survey. One of the key sources of information from divers has been the RoW Amnesty, the data from which “encompasses the whole of the UK and finds reported range from the Roman period to the late 20th century” (2001: 24). The shipwreck archive that has been raised from the seabed represents over 50 years of recoveries by divers since the wide availability of SCUBA diving equipment. This material provides an important gauge of the archaeological and historic potential of current archives and surviving seabed sites.

Submerged landscapes – while not heavily represented within the survey results there were a number of archives related to submerged prehistoric landscapes. These include fully submerged sites and those occasionally exposed in the inter-tidal zone. When related to research or development control investigations these archives can include extensive digital data and a relatively high number of samples. This reflects the differences in the nature of the seabed archive and the techniques required for investigation and analysis. The growth in this area of archaeology is likely to lead to further archives of this nature in the future.

4.4.3 Location of archive holdings

There is some significant clustering of archive holdings within the study area with figure one showing the number of holdings across England and Scotland. The densest concentrations of maritime archive are found in the South West and South East of England, although there are also notable levels of archives in other areas.

It is perhaps not surprising that areas that have an extensive history of ship losses and shipwreck sites and favourable diving conditions have the highest numbers of archives, Figure Eighteen demonstrates the density of shipwrecks around the UK in just one year (1876-7). These clusters can be cross-referenced with the locations of Designated Protected Wreck Sites (Figure

Nineteen). The resulting clusters around the South West and South East of England cannot be ignored in terms of archive provision, currently accessible material (see below) and potential future capacity requirements.

The issue of the location (or dislocation) of archives in relation to their site of recovery is raised by a number of sites and responses. This is particularly noticeable in a number of situations:

- Sites which have extensive recoveries that have subsequently been dispersed, usually through the sale of objects;
- Sites subject to investigation through commercial contractual work (many without identified repositories for future deposition);
- The extent to which individual divers and dive clubs travel – items are often held a significant distance from the site from which they were recovered; and
- Sites which have been accessioned by national or UK wide museums (these are often particularly significant sites).

Conversely it appears that archives from structured archaeological research investigations are more frequently found closer to the site from which they are related. Again there are a range of factors influencing this:

- The number of local amateur groups or regional organisations/trusts involved in the investigation of sites close to their residence or location;
- Lack of receiving museum or archive meaning that archives are held by the organisation undertaking the investigation;
- A local or regional museum having taken a pro-active approach to engaging with maritime archives (e.g. Poole Museums, Isle of Wight Museum Service and Portsmouth Museum)

5. Analysis of Archives by Sector

This section of the report reviews archives by sector. It examines the distribution and scale of archive held by each sector (further consideration of the types of archives being generated will be presented in Element Three report *Analysing Present and Assessing Future Maritime Archive Creation*). Based on the results key issues relating to maritime archives are reviewed for each sector, these include broader issues that are contributing to the current situation, in addition to examining those specific to access and long-term security. The more detailed assessment of each sector has allowed the use of a number of case study examples, which have been selected as highlighting particular collections or issues.

There are a number of areas where there has been some overlap between the sectors, one of these is the Designated Historic Wrecks, where, for instance, a Protected Wreck archive may be within the research sector, a private collection or with a contractor. Additionally there are some large private collections and exhibitions which are based around the archive of an individual diver or collector. Where these are displayed within exhibits or visitor attractions they have been included under that sector.

5.1 Public museums and archives

Maritime collections currently held in public museums and archives represent the most accessible and secure of those within the survey. This section presents an analysis of the size and nature of maritime holdings within public museums and archives before examining issues of access and long-term security. The definition of ‘public museum or archive’ for this section includes all government or local authority supported establishments. These collections are essentially owned by and curated for the nation, and are highly unlikely to be dispersed or removed from public access. This includes all museums that were included within Element One of this project survey in addition to other archives such as Historic Environment Records (HERs).

5.1.1 Summary of archives

The public museums and archives sector was relatively well represented within the survey responses, forming around 35% of the responses. The response rate was helped by their engagement in Element One of the project, which for this sector also combined the Element Two survey. However, as many of the museums were contacted via phone for Element One, this often meant they did not necessarily complete the full survey at the time. Another factor in the good response rate is that public museums and archives usually have accessible catalogues and dedicated staff curating the collection, so had the resources to respond to the survey. A large additional set of archives within this sector were the HERs, a number of which held material related to the marine zone. Further details on the specific holdings of individual museums and archives are available within the accompanying digital appendix.

This sector represented around 35% of the survey respondents (mentioned above), Figure Twenty shows the distribution of the respondents. This included:

- 106 museums, with 22 of these providing detailed responses relating to 94 archives
- 36 HERs, with 3 providing detailed responses for 9 archives

5.1.2 Analysis of archives

A detailed review of the archives held within this sector has been undertaken to analyse the current holdings in terms of the nature and scale of the archives, whether there are any concentrations of material and whether there are any particular issues related to access and security within this sector. Much of the detailed analysis has been based on the detailed

responses, which only account for a proportion of the archives represented. The summary responses have been used to provide additional information for the examination of sector issues.

5.1.2.1 Size and nature of holdings

Using the responses from the fully completed on-line questionnaire the total number of each archive type were added together to gauge the percentage of the individual archive ‘pieces’ represented. This provides a total which is approximated as some responses were given in numbers of boxes. The following breakdown of archive type was found:

- Object – 13% (13,564 objects)
- Paper/documentary – 47% (50,740 paper records)
- Image (photo/slide) – 31% (33,700 images)
- Digital – 0.8% (9373 files)
- Video - less than 1% (256 videos)
- Sample – less than 1% (690 samples)

The numbers and types of archive held by each institution vary quite significantly. Some have large integrated archives which include object, paper, image, sample and digital records, whereas others hold only a single type of archive such as documentary. This is a reflection of the nature of the archive – whether a museum, HER or other specialist archive. The size and nature of these holdings provides a gauge of maritime archive that is currently held within public museums and archives – and hence most accessible and secure for the long-term. The results demonstrated a number of different ‘types’ of collection:

Public museum holdings are dominated by objects, documents and images – this is not surprising as these are the primary types of archive generated through archaeological investigation. The relatively low levels of digital archive held within this sector may indicate these archives have been accessioned in the past, as more recent investigations tend to have higher levels of digital archive. Or this may be due to a single CD or DVD being counted as one archive, when they may hold many individual files, which would mean the figures here are lower than in reality.

Museums holding large archives from individual sites – the relatively small number of extensive maritime archaeological investigations undertaken around England and Scotland mean that there are few large shipwreck archives held within public museums. Of those held, the archive is often incomplete with some elements being held by other organisations or individuals.

Museums holding smaller amounts of archive from a larger number of sites or parts of archive - some of these museums are based in regions with strong maritime connections and/or are in areas where shipwrecks commonly occur. Others have collected due to particular research interests or collection policies. This type of archive is more common than larger examples which include much waterlogged wood that requires specialist conservation. They demonstrate the types of archive that should be expected in the future and for which resources and facilities should be developed.

5.1.2.2 Concentrations of archive holders

140 museums and archives provided responses to the survey, giving either detailed or summary information, their regional distribution breaks down into:

England

- East & West Midlands – 6

- Eastern England – 13
- Greater London – 4
- North-East England – 10
- North-West England – 17
- South-East England – 22
- South-West England – 20
- Yorkshire & the Humber - 6

- National Body – England – 6
- England total: 104 (74%)

Scotland

- Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and North East Moray – 9
- Angus and Dundee City - 3
- Dumfries & Galloway - 1
- E and W Dunbartonshire and Helensburgh & Lomond – 1
- East Lothian and Midlothian – 1
- Eilean Siar (Western Isles) – 2
- Glasgow City – 1
- Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire - 1
- Inverness & Nairn and Moray, Badenoch & Strathspey – 2
- Orkney Islands – 2
- Perth & Kinross, and Stirling – 2
- Scottish boarders - 1
- Shetland – 1

- National Body – Scotland – 3
- Scotland total: 30 (21%)

Devolved nations and adjacent territories

- Channel Islands – 1
- Isle of Man - 1
- National Body – Wales – 3
- Northern Ireland – 1
- Total: 6 (4%)

Museum location and demand issues – there are clear links between the location of museums and potential archive demand where the maritime archaeological resource is most extensive and where development and use of the marine area is most frequent. This is shown by the high levels of responses from the South West and South East of England. In terms of future development of archive capacity these factors must be taken into consideration. However, they must also be reviewed against the findings from Element One of the survey which revealed that there were few museums willing and/or able to collect from the marine zone.

5.1.2.3 Access and security

The archives held within this sector represent the most accessible and secure of those within the survey. By definition public museums are fully open to those who wish to enquire after, view or research the archives, so it was not surprising that 100% of detailed respondents indicated that the

archives were accessible to the public. Many completed further details relating to the access provided to archives, demonstrating the following types of access:

- Open access – 5 (5%)
- Open access by appointment – 46 (49%)
- Ad-hoc – in response to specific requests – 36 (38%)
- Currently unavailable – 7 (7%)
 - is this due to:
 - Archive is not indexed and difficult to use - 5
 - Currently unwilling to make available – 2

Clearly the majority of these archives are widely available to those who wish to consult them. One of the archives that a museum is unwilling to make available is due to an object being extremely fragile.

There are a limited number of issues relating to access and security affecting this sector, however, it is clear that in comparison to the levels of maritime archive that exists within England and Scotland the material currently in public museums and archives does not represent a high percentage.

While there is good access to current collections, it should be remembered that the archives represented within the survey have often ended up there by chance rather than design, and there are few museums taking a proactive approach to collecting maritime archive to improve public access to this area of our cultural heritage.

While the long-term security of these archives is generally good it should be noted that even publicly funded museums are not immune from reductions in funding. This sometimes results in reduced opening hours, or the confinement of archive to stores only, but occasionally means the future of a collection is under question.

It should also be noted that the accessioning of archives by museums does not always mean they will be kept in perpetuity. With increasing resource pressures museums are looking at options for de-accessioning and 'rationalising' collections e.g. the National Maritime Museum's Collections Reform Project. There has been recent debate on aspects of disposal policies for archaeological collections (Archaeological Archives Forum), which has been generated due to the large volumes of material from terrestrial excavations. However, it could be argued that due to the small percentage of maritime archaeological archives within public museums, it is too early to debate the application of disposal policies (other than in general terms) in relation to maritime, as there are no type series collections or reference collections. However, it is useful to learn from the situation that has evolved in relation to terrestrial archives. As maritime archaeological work expands and appropriate archive facilities are made available it will be important to plan collection policies and acquisitions.

In terms of public museums and archives making digital data available there can be an added level of complexity for museum curators and staff. Those wishing to consult digital archives that are held on CD, DVD or tape will need access to a computer and appropriate software, hence providing access to digital archives can mean additional resource pressures for equipment and time.

5.1.3 Broader sector issues

The results from this sector have demonstrated a range of issues related to access and security, but also others which have, and are continuing to have, an effect on the current situation. The Element One report *Mapping Maritime Collection Areas* examined a range of issues affecting the deposition of archives in public museums. These have only been reiterated here if the Element Two report has added further information.

Paucity of maritime archive within public museums – the volume of archive held within this sector reinforces the findings from the Element One report *Mapping Maritime Collection Areas* which demonstrated that a relatively small percentage of archives are finding their way to public museums and archives. Although further research on these public holdings would be beneficial, the survey results provide evidence of the scope of collections in terms of type series and reference collections that need to be developed to support knowledge and understanding of the maritime cultural heritage. Without development in this area the potential to add to regional and national research priorities and frameworks will remain poor.

Lack of clarity over roles and responsibilities - as highlighted in the Element One report there is a lack of understanding over the route maritime archives should take to deposition. This stems from the lack of clarity over responsibility. This is worryingly demonstrated through HERs and the NMR within England. At present whether HERs include archive from the marine zone or not is up to the individual institution. For many responsibility stops at the low water mark, whereas others take a more pro-active approach and collect to the limit of territorial waters. The NMR holds the national database for the marine zone, however, they do not generally collect the archives related to investigations at sea. For instance, it is currently unclear where the archive from marine development control work should be deposited. Particular issues in this sector are:

- Who is responsible for maintaining the HER for the marine zone?
- Where should archives from the marine zone be deposited? In England if the NMR hold the record for the area, should they also hold the archive?

At the heart of this lies the lack of clarity within development briefs and conditions of consent. Without clear specification within these documents for deposition of archive this situation is likely to persist.

5.2 Private collections, exhibitions and non-public ‘museums’

This sector represents one of the largest within the survey, and holds the highest number of maritime archives which consist of multiple elements (objects, paper, image, digital). Reflected within this sector are the large number of privately owned museums, exhibitions and displays around the coast of the UK, the existence of which demonstrates widespread interest in maritime heritage. Archives included within this section are not owned or generally funded through public sources (e.g. local or national government), but are privately held and funded through grants, donations, entrance fees etc. As the collections are not publicly owned, there is a possibility that they could be sold or dispersed or have access withdrawn from them. It should be noted that some collections held by charitable trusts have been included within this section; while many of these organisations have educational and outreach aims at their core, should their future be in doubt the future of their archives would also be in question.

Also included within ‘private collections’ are archives held by companies and authorities such as ports and harbours, aggregate extraction companies and fishermen.

5.2.1 Summary of archives

This sector represented around 37% of the survey respondents, Figure Twenty One shows the distribution of the respondents. Of the 110 responders, 27 provided detailed responses relating to 64 archives. Further details on the specific holdings of individual museums, exhibitions and collections are available within the accompanying digital appendix.

Within these collections we find the largest amount of archive material that is on display, including some key large regional collections, mostly object based, which represent a high number of individual sites. They often hold small collections from a large number of sites, many of which are close to the museums' location. As they are often shipwreck themed there are also a lot of single or very small groups of material from sites where material has commonly been sold (*Association, Invincible, Duruo* etc) to demonstrate various aspects of ship history.

5.2.2 Analysis of archives

The review of archives held within this sector has revealed fascinating evidence on the types and numbers held. There are clear indications of densities of material, which provides important data to consider when planning future development of collections and capacity.

5.2.2.1 Size and nature of holdings

This sector is one of the most varied in terms of the size of archives, spanning from single items to many thousands of items. Many of the collections held by exhibitions have high numbers of objects, while those held by some charitable trusts show more diversity within the type of archive represented.

Within the sector we find the following breakdown of archive type:

- Object – 10% (41,039)
- Paper/ documentary – 34% (141,868)
- Image (photo/ slide) – 29% (115,788)
- Digital – 27% (112,250)
- Video – less than 1% (356)
- Sample – less than 1% (4,001)

These statistics represent different sized archives with varying constituents. They reveal a range of information on archive content:

High numbers of object holdings – this sector has the highest number of object holdings within the survey (although it should be noted that this figure is influenced by the Mary Rose collection which alone totals over 28,000 objects). High numbers of objects are a reflection on the motivation behind many of the collections, some of which are based around a personal interest in the maritime cultural heritage of a particular area and the volume of SCUBA diving undertaken since the 1950s and 1960s which has generated much of the archive. Some of these object collections represent large holdings from single sites, and hence are the most substantial archive available for study for certain wrecks.

Some Protected Wreck Sites are well represented – private collections also hold large amounts of archive from designated historic wreck sites (section 5.5 reviews Protected Wrecks in more detail). There are some regional exhibitions, such as the Charlestown Shipwreck and Heritage Centre and the Shipwreck and Coastal Heritage Centre Hastings which hold material from a number of local sites. Some Protected Wrecks are well represented in a large number of exhibits

– these commonly include sites such as the *Invincible* where auctions of material have distributed the archive widely.

Potential of the many and varied un-designated wrecks demonstrated – there are a number of undesignated wreck sites represented within the survey responses. These include some significant object archives from sites, some of which now have little evidence remaining on the seabed, while others have large sections still underwater. For sites where little remains on the seabed these archives provide the principle evidence of significant features and histories. These findings demonstrate that many sites and their associated archives have local and regional importance, the presence of their archive must add to this importance and should be recognised in the future.

Companies holding private collections – a number of collections are held by companies and organisations, usually linked to their work or function. While they are not heavily represented within the survey responses, research has demonstrated collections include objects held by aggregate companies and a number of references were also found to collections held by Port Authorities (Gale 1992). However, it is the range of digital archives held by this sector that are of particular interest for maritime archaeology. These include a range of marine geophysical survey datasets and information on seabed and sub-seabed deposits from borehole and core sampling. Many of these archives hold substantial research potential for a range of disciplines, but in particular for archaeology, which has rarely been able to undertake such data gathering due to lack of funding. A number of survey and data gathering exercises that have been undertaken in relation to Environmental Impact Studies have been collected to fulfil maritime archaeological assessment requirement, and hence are considered ‘maritime archaeological archive’ in the strictest sense; whereas some datasets held have been collected for general prospection and are relevant for archaeological research by circumstance rather than design. The volume of undeposited digital archives, particularly from marine survey, is a particular issue and will become more so as further data is collected (this is considered in section 5.3 under archaeological contractors).

Mostly shipwreck archives held – this section, again, shows a predominance of shipwreck material, although there are a few notable exceptions, particularly the prehistoric flint and artefact collection from the Western Solent held by Michael White. This bias in archive type reflects the predominance of shipwreck investigation and diving activity, with less focus on submerged prehistoric landscapes both academically and recreationally. While this is unlikely to change significantly within the diving community, there are growing numbers of archaeological investigations of such sites.

5.2.2.2 Concentrations of archives

The responding collections, exhibitions and museums whether they provided detailed or summary responses (which totalled 110) can be broken down into the following regional locations:

England

- East & West Midlands – 1
- Eastern England – 16
- Greater London – 2
- North-East England – 7
- North-West England – 5
- South-East England – 19
- South-West England – 24
- Yorkshire & the Humber - 7

- National Body – England – 3
- England total: - 84 (76%)

Scotland

- Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and North East Moray – 2
- Angus and Dundee City – 2
- East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland - 1
- Edinburgh, city of - 1
- Inverness & Nairn and Moray, Badenoch & Strathspey – 2
- Lochaber, Skye & Lochaish and Argyll and the Islands - 8
- Orkney Islands – 1
- Shetland – 2

- National Body – Scotland – 5
- Scotland total: 24 (21%)

Devolved nations and adjacent territories

- National Body – Wales – 1

Again there are clear concentrations of archives in the South West and South East of England (Figure Twenty One - above). This reflects the local diving conditions, seabed type, hydrodynamic regime, and density of sites.

A key finding from this sector is the location of key large archives in regional locations. Often over time a person has developed a collection which has now grown to become a significant holding (some examples are outlined below). These collections must be recognised as being particularly significant due to the volume of archive that they hold and the importance of the material to the local area, although many of them also hold material relating to wrecks located around the UK and abroad.

Case Study examples: regional archive collections

Isle of Wight Shipwreck Centre, Arreton - <http://www.iowight.com/shipwrecks>

“Many sad and tragic stories of shipwreck and loss of life are told in the displays, including famous wrecks such as the SS “Mendi”, and the mystery of the missing submarine HMS “Swordfish”. Famous local shipwreck stories such as the “Clarendon” and “Sirenia” are also to be found in the displays. Literally thousands of treasures and artefacts are on display in the museum complex.”

Shipwreck and Coastal Heritage Centre, Hastings - <http://www.shipwreck-heritage.org.uk>

The centre tells the maritime story of the Hastings area. This includes information on the two major historic shipwrecks on the beach nearby, in addition to the story of numerous other shipwrecks lying on the seabed of the English Channel. Prehistoric forests and changing sea level are also covered in the centre.

Charlestown Shipwreck and Heritage Centre – <http://www.shipwreckcharlestown.com>

“The collection of artefacts on display at the Charlestown Shipwreck Centre is probably the largest collection of objects recovered from historic wrecks in existence. There are well over 8000 objects on display from 70 different historic shipwrecks in UK waters. There are about 600 exhibits from 11 wrecks which are designated under the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973. This is likely to be the single largest collection of material from protected wreck sites”. (Camidge 2006: 6)

5.2.2.3 Storage and curation

Those providing full responses to the survey gave details on how archives were being stored and curated, which has revealed:

Where is the archive stored: Most commonly at the museum or exhibition. Many of the objects are on display or within museum stores or offices.

Is the archive in stable conditions: (this was a yes/no answer) and *Is the archive actively curated:* (this was a yes/no answer)

The response to these questions depended on the type of archive material:

- Objects: 49 archives have objects, 23 are in stable conditions with 14 of these being actively curated
- Paper: 56 archives have paper or document records, 30 are stable, with 11 actively curated
- Image: 35 archives contain photos or slides, 26 are stable with 11 being actively curated
- Video: 11 archives contain video, 7 are stable, with 6 being actively curated
- Samples: 14 archive contain samples, 12 are stable, with only 1 being actively curated
- Digital: 10 archives contain video, 5 are stable, with 4 actively curated

Further information on issues relating to storage and curation are explored alongside those related to access and security (5.2.2.4).

5.2.2.4 Access and security

The archives held within this sector generally have good accessibility, although their long-term security is less certain. The general level of access in this sector is good as there are a large number of displays and exhibitions open to the public, with many other private organisations also willing to provide access to their archives. Some survey respondents completed the full range of questions, providing data on the different types of access to archives, although due to the number failing to complete the full survey it should be noted that these results provide a representative sample rather than a comprehensive picture. 100% of archives represented in the detailed responses are 'open to the public', from which the following additional data was provided:

Open access – 8 (18%)

Open access by appointment – 24 (54%)

Ad-hoc – in response to specific requests – 8 (18%)

Currently unavailable – 4 (9%)

Is this due to:

Work on archive is in progress - 2

Archive is not indexed and difficult to use - 1

No facilities for visiting researchers - 1

Within these responses it was possible to see some differences which were dependant on the particular type of organisation/ exhibition holding the archive.

Private exhibitions and museums - Access to this material is generally good when the private collection is a museum or exhibition. Many of the owners of these establishments are passionate about heritage and can provide access and information by appointment. A number of private museums are accredited the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) scheme and/ or are members of the Museums Association (MA).

The MLA accreditation and designation scheme recognises commitment to standards and ethics (http://www.mla.gov.uk/what/raising_standards/accreditation/about_accreditation). Commitments within the scheme have relevance to the long-term accessibility and security of archives. The Scheme:

- encourages museums to reach national standards in museum management, user services, visitor facilities and collections care;
- offers a shared ethical basis for all bodies that meet the definition of a museum;
- fosters public confidence in museums as institutions which hold collections in trust for society and which manage public resources responsibly, for both present and future generations;
- provides a benchmark for grant-making bodies, sponsors and donors wishing to support museums;
- makes available a framework to develop core policy and planning documents that can be re-used and adapted for grant applications;
- provides a sense of achievement for the organisation at meeting the national standard and can increase staff morale on completion of the process;
- provides confidence to potential lenders of the ability of your museum to care for the items loaned;
- gives increased credibility and profile to the governing body.

A number of private museums are also members of the Museums Association (MA) which promotes the development and maintenance of best practice, meaning that the museum has signed up to a code of ethics based around public access and enjoyment. This code has particular relevance to access and security, with its ten core principles being that 'Museums must:

- 1: Hold collections in trust for the benefit of society
- 2: Focus on public service
- 3: Encourage people to explore collections for inspiration, learning and enjoyment
- 4: Consult and involve communities, users and supporters
- 5: Acquire items honestly and responsibly
- 6: Safeguard the long term public interest in the collections
- 7: Recognise the interests of people who made, used, owned, collected or gave items in the collections
- 8: Support the protection of natural and human environments
- 9: Research, share and interpret information related to collections, reflecting diverse views
- 10: Review performance to innovate and improve

(<http://www.museumsassociation.org/ma/10934>).

MLA accreditation and/or adherence to the MA code should also help with the long-term security of collections as conservation and maintenance of archives. It should be noted that many of the public museums considered within section 5.1 are also accredited with the MLA and/or members of the Museums Association, and hence adhere to the same standards for access, curation and security. However, for those private exhibitions which are not accredited with the MLA or members of the MA security can be much more questionable. Without adhering to any particular guidance or code these exhibits are not bound to conserve artefacts which can be left to deteriorate, and when maintenance is no longer possible it is likely that collections will be dispersed through sale.

The many small private museums and exhibitions which include maritime archives are currently responsible for displaying a large percentage of shipwreck material available to the viewing

public. They are usually located on the coast and are dependent on visitor numbers and revenue to keep them open. While this means that a large amount of private archive is accessible, it does mean that its long term security is often questionable and there are a range of examples where such museums and exhibits have closed and the contents been sold off. Camidge (2006) quotes known examples from Cornwall which include Portreath, Porthleven, Padstow, Penzance and St Mary's, all of which have closed and been dispersed. Once collections have been dispersed it makes it very difficult to study or reference the archive of a site as there are no indications of where parts of the collections are held.

Charitable trusts – Most of the charitable trusts represented are focused around a particular museum, exhibit or archive. Many of these have been established specifically to develop and maintain facilities which provide public access to collections. The access and security situation for these collections is often very similar to those for private museums, although many of these organisations also have the distinction of having specific aims and objectives directly related to public education, access and enjoyment.

Private collections and individuals – These archives include the collections of fishermen, interested individuals who have purchased material (much of which is from auctions) and individuals conducting searches for marine material for personal research. While these collections do not feature heavily within the survey results, many are known to exist in private ownership. The situation in relation to access and security for these collections is at best 'ad hoc'. There are examples of individuals being willing to grant access (see case study below), but in general these collections remain 'private'. This highlights that these archives are private property and hence are subject to the wishes of their owners. It also reveals further information on the archaeological research potential of the marine zone, and of these extant collections, if access can be gained.

Case Study – the Michael White Collection

Keyhaven based fisherman Michael White was first visited by the Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology in 1993 when they received information about his collection of prehistoric material. This visit revealed evidence of the submerged prehistory of the Western Solent and adds substantially to knowledge of the potential of the marine cultural heritage in this area. Mr White's collection was included within Wessex Archaeology's ALSF funded 'Artefacts from the Sea' project (2004), within which they were able to record the collection in detail and develop a catalogue of finds. This has made information on this private collection available to the public. http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/archive/artefactssea_eh_2007/

From the review of the access and security within the different groups represented in this relatively diverse sector there are clearly a number of key issues which have been highlighted:

This sector provides high levels of general access – due to the relatively small number of maritime archives held within the public museum sector, it is clear that private museums and exhibitions are currently contributing significantly to levels of general public access to maritime heritage through direct visits. Many of the larger private museums are located in areas with high tourist numbers, which also happen to coincide with good diving conditions and densities of underwater cultural heritage. The high numbers of visitors to these attractions demonstrate the public interest in maritime cultural heritage.

Action: *The continuance of this provision of access to these collections should be encouraged.*

Care and curation of collections – for those private exhibitions which operate outside of the MLA and MA, there are concerns for the long-term security of archives due to conservation and/or storage requirements for marine material. While resources are an issue for some private exhibitions, for others it is a lack of available advice on conservation measures.

Action: *Review of sources of advice for marine conservation currently available for private museums and exhibitions, or indeed private companies, in order to develop capacity in the future.*

Increasing access to private archives must be a priority – while it has been noted that visitor access to private exhibitions is good, it should be also be recognised that other means of access to these collections is often poor. Those museums and exhibitions which are not MLA or MA members may not have catalogues of material that they hold, and hence access to specific items, sites or themes is not possible. Lack of understanding of the full nature of these collections means their research potential cannot be assessed alongside other maritime archives. There have been a number of projects which have demonstrated ways of increasing access to private maritime archives, such as the cataloguing of Protected Wreck Site material held by the Charlestown Shipwreck and Heritage Centre (Camidge 2006) and the Archiving HMS Invincible project (<http://www.hwtma.org.uk/index.php?page=hms-Invincible>). These approaches have concentrated on creating a digital record with associated report. When these results are archived in a publicly accessible digital archive, it not only increases public access immediately, it also provides a record in the event of a collection being dispersed, and provides a connection between different parts of one archive.

Actions:

- *Create partnerships to promote the development of access to private collections*

There is a need to develop links with private exhibitions, particularly those operating outside of MLA and MA membership, to promote the creation of methods of access through cataloguing, photography, survey and deposition of the result in publicly available archives. The archiving of paper copies of generated work with local libraries, HERs and the NMR would develop ‘hard copy’ access, while digital archiving with ADS would provide remote access for local, national and international researchers.

- *Develop list of targets for access development*

As highlighted above there are a number of key privately owned local and regional maritime archive collections. These should be assessed in terms of their current access, long term security and research potential to create a priority list for access development. Such a list is also relevant for actions in relation to the acquisition of private collections at threat of dispersal (see below).

Fate of archive if owning organisation or individual is no longer able to keep it – the long-term security of many private archives is questionable. Although some key museums are run by charitable trusts, who due to their status as organisations for the benefit of the public may help to secure a more accessible future for the collection, in the event of winding up the trust most private collections are still at threat of dispersal through sale. One of the key issues for private exhibitions is the maintenance of funding streams, which when insufficient to create a return large enough mean they have to close. With the archives as ‘assets’ these often have to be sold to recover money for the repayment of debts. It should be noted that the fate of archaeological archives in the event of a company or trust being closed is currently being reviewed for terrestrial archaeology due to the current economic climate and rapid reduction in development lead archaeology (Aitchison 2009).

Actions:

- *To provide resources to purchase whole or parts of significant local and regional collections if they are under threat of dispersal*

There is an urgent need to provide some form of contingency in cases such as that of the Penzance Maritime Museum where many items from Protected Wreck Sites, those most significant maritime heritage assets, were auctioned. Such acquisitions would serve to rescue collections for the nation and help develop much needed national reference collections and type series for maritime archaeological material.

- *Provision of 'interim' measures to store and curate purchased archives*

While it has been recognised that there is a lack of public museum or archives facilities for such material at present, this should not be allowed to prevent the acquisition of significant collections for the nation.

5.2.3 Broader sector issues

The diversity of the types of organisations within this sector means there are a large number of relevant 'issues'. Many of these have been highlighted above, however there are some which are not strictly related to access and security.

Research potential, protection and management of non designated wreck sites – there are a number of wreck sites for which there are relatively large archives held within the private museums and exhibitions, just one example being the non-designated sites recorded from the Charlestown Shipwreck and Heritage Centre (Camidge 2006: 13). These archives demonstrate the research potential and importance of these sites. The existence of these collections enhances the significance of the sites, and hence should be taken into account through future management and protection. It could be argued that a number of these sites are candidates for designation under the Protection of Wrecks Act, but they have never been put forward for consideration. This is particularly relevant in light of proposed changes to legislation in England which, if brought into force, will mean a larger number of sites designated as 'marine heritage assets', potentially recognising more sites of regional significance. With current progress on new legislation stalled, which has particular relevance for the marine zone as the current protection regime has long been recognised as inadequate (JNAPC 2000; JNAPC 2003; EH 2005), a programme of assessment of marine sites represented through significant archives should be undertaken. This programme should assess sites against the current criteria for Designating Protected Wreck Sites and in light of recent developments in guidelines for principles of selection, such as *Selection Guide: Boats and Ships in Archaeological Contexts* (Wessex Archaeology 2008).

Actions:

- *Undertake a more detailed assessment of maritime archives related to non-designated wreck sites held in private museums and exhibitions.*

This could be combined with priorities for developing methods of access outlined above and would be a way of developing public access.

- *Ensure that the presence of site archives is fully taken into consideration in assessment of significance, and instigate a program of proposals for designation under the PWA, if new legislation is not forthcoming.*

Should new legislation allowing a wider range of 'marine heritage assets', including more sites with regional significance, come into force, the survey results will be useful for informing new designations.

5.3 Archaeological contractors

The number of contractors working in maritime archaeology within the UK remains small. Although there has been an expansion in offshore and marine development this has not prompted a large increase in commercial operators, however some established terrestrial archaeological units are moving into the field of marine services. The targeting of contractors has included a review of IfA Registered Organisations offering maritime archaeology as a service, internet searches and through the author's knowledge of the sector.

There is some potential cross-over between archaeological contractor and the research sector, however, in general, contractors have been defined as undertaking a majority of work related to development control projects or work won via competitive tender.

5.3.1 Summary of archives

11 different contractors were represented in the survey responses (Figure Twenty Two), with further data from Wessex Archaeology being added based on responses from an interview. Of the 11 responding directly to the survey, only 4 filled in complete details using the on-line form. This number of respondents (around 33%) is slightly disappointing as over 30 different companies and organisations known to be undertaking contractual work were targeted directly by the survey through emails and phone calls.

However, the results gained demonstrate the variability of archive content within this section. In general there are fewer objects and more paper and digital archive. A number of contractors hold high levels of undeposited archive, mostly generated from development control activities, although some of this archive is also generated through contractual work for heritage agencies.

5.3.2 Analysis of archives

Data on the archives held by archaeological contractors has provided evidence of the types of development control and contractual work being undertaken and the archives they are generating. This area of archaeology is expanding and the survey results reveal densities and types of archive which have been produced. The number of undeposited archives within this sector demonstrates the need for addressing current backlogs and developing future capacity.

5.3.2.1 Size and nature of holdings

This sector represents the largest number of archives structured according to accepted archaeological practice. Many of the archives demonstrate the diversity of material derived through planned archaeological investigation within the marine zone, using a variety of survey, evaluation, sampling and excavation techniques.

Using the limited number of responses from the fully completed on-line questionnaire the total number of each archive type were added together to gauge the percentage of the individual archive 'pieces' represented. This provides a total which is approximated as some responses were given in numbers of boxes. The following breakdown of archive type was found:

- Object – 4% (213 objects)
- Paper/ documentary – 55% (3260 paper records)
- Image (photo/slide) – 25% (1490 images)
- Digital – 16% (941 files)
- Video - less than 1% (3 videos)
- Sample – 0%

As expected these are often the most comprehensive archives in terms of including object, paper, image and digital material.

Digital datasets – there are relatively large numbers of digital files represented within the survey, and these can be further broken down into general types. Some of these types of digital files are common types of file found in many archaeological archives, however, others represent files types more specific to maritime archaeology which require specific consideration for archiving.

- Geophysical survey data sets – the gathering of these datasets from the seabed often produces files of many gigabytes in size and in a number of formats that can be related to proprietary software (although most allow for export of data into an open format), or are formats which are unfamiliar to many users. These can have broad research potential and require urgent attention in relation to archiving (see below).
- Photographs – due to the often limited time it is possible to spend underwater investigating archaeological features there is a high reliance on digital photography for recording. This means projects can produce gigabytes of photographs, some of which require manipulation to achieve the best results because of light levels and suspended particles in the underwater environment, others are mosaic-ed to form composite images of features or whole sites. Due to the underwater conditions, which include water movement and suspended sediment in the water, the resolution of the data capture is often set high to allow for maximum clarity of image, which increases file size.
- Video – again due to time available on marine sites video is often gathered for survey, recording and monitoring. This is sometimes from a ‘hat camera’ worn by the diver, or from a hand held camera. With the former it is often the case that many hours of footage is collected as the camera is kept running during the entire dive generating lots of imagery that is not specifically archaeological.
- Databases and GIS files – these include a range of files generated in support of analysis and reporting.
- Reports – due to the lack of clarity over depositing archives generated from this sector (see below) digital reports can be the most direct way of accessing data on particular investigations.

There are a number of issues related to digital archive which are demonstrated within this section, but are also relevant to the other sectors as well. Due to the proliferation of digital recording on all archaeological sites there is a tendency to create large digital archives. Often this involves taking a number of similar images, which are then all archived without much selection of specific key images or features within them. The reluctance to undertake selection strategies prior to deposition is not surprising when seen in context of maritime work which can often be relatively high cost, but also suffers from inconsistent funding.

Range of site types represented – this sector holds archives relating to maritime and coastal sites. This diversity includes shipwrecks, submerged landscapes, isolated marine ‘anomalies’, area surveys of the marine zone and coastal surveys and investigations. This provides a more balanced representation of the types of sites archives are being, and will continue to be, generated from.

Most archives are not large in terms of physical storage requirement – many of the archives represented are not large in comparison to those generated from substantial terrestrial archaeological investigations. There are a high percentage of archives from desk based work that have not generated large archives. Even those projects which include objects are usually of a modest size (see case study example below). This information is useful in terms of dispelling the common conception that maritime archives will include large amounts of waterlogged wood and artefacts that require extensive conservation and will be useful in developing long term archive strategies. It should be noted, however, that these results will have been influenced by mitigation measures which favour preservation in-situ whenever possible, which in the marine zone often involves imposing exclusion zones, unless intervention is unavoidable.

The Princes Channel Wreck (Gresham Ship)

This site was discovered during maintenance of shipping channels by the Port of London Authority. Subsequent work by Wessex Archaeology resulted in the production of an archive which includes a

material collection consisting of sections of hull, and a collection of artefacts – a pewter candlestick, pieces of a leather garment, cannon, a quantity of iron bars and several ingots (WA website, Firth 2006). While this site highlighted a number of other issues in relation to archiving and work undertaken by Port Authorities (these have been highlighted in Ransley and Satchell 2006 and will not be re-iterated here), it also demonstrated the problems of finding a museum or archive facilities for a relatively modest maritime archive. The hull section is currently residing at Horsea Island, which was formerly used as a recreational diving facility, and after protracted negotiations the rest of the archive will be deposited in the Docklands Museum.

5.3.2.2 Concentrations of archives

Not surprisingly there are clear concentrations of archives in the locations of the contractors. Many companies are holding archives due to lack of clarity over where these should be archived.

In England there are archives held in:

- South East Region - Portsmouth, Southampton and London
- South West – Cornwall and Salisbury
- Central – Birmingham
- Eastern England – Essex
- North East – Teeside and York

In Scotland the only entry represented is in Edinburgh. There were also responses provided from Ulster and Wales, which although strictly outside of the survey area serve to demonstrate the distribution of archives.

Figure Twenty Two demonstrates that archives are more numerous in England, with a cluster in the south. A closer analysis of the locations of the sites or developments from which the archive was derived demonstrates that archives can be held some distance away from their area of origination. This further highlights the need for the clarification of roles and responsibilities in relation to maritime archives as it is currently unclear where many of these archives should be deposited.

5.3.2.3 Storage and curation

Those providing full responses to the survey gave details on how archives were being stored and curated, which has revealed:

Where is the archive stored: Most commonly at the company or organisations offices, occasionally with a storage company or in a store.

How is it stored: This was dependant on the type of archive, but provided further detail in terms of storage within offices. Much material was boxed or in hanging files. Digital material was often held on a server.

Is the archive in stable conditions: (this was a yes/no answer) The response to this question again depended on the type of archive material that was being referred to. Most of the digital files were ticked as being stable, with the objects least frequently being ticked as stable.

Is the archive actively curated: (this was a yes/no answer) Around 50% of the archives were ticked as being actively curated.

Further information on issues relating to storage and curation were revealed through detailed interviews, of particular relevance for this sector were responses from Wessex Archaeology (WA), who although were unable to complete the full survey, are the largest holder of archive

within this sector. A number of these issues were also revealed from the survey responses of other companies as well.

Lack of clarity over deposition causes archives to ‘jam’ - the lack of deposition was most frequently due to a lack of specification of conditions for archiving. This is a product of the general lack of clarity of where responsibility for archiving and curating maritime archives lies. This issue was highlighted in the Element One report *Mapping Maritime Collection Areas*, but has been further stressed through the survey responses. Without clear conditions being placed on consents for development control work that archives are deposited with in a public repository there is no incentive for the client to ensure this is undertaken. This has resulted in a significant archive back log with contractors. (This issue is explored further in section 5.3.3 Broader sector issues). A further problem associated with older archives is that the staff most familiar with them have often moved on, making organising for deposition more problematic.

Action:

- *Understanding the full scale of the backlog and developing immediate and long term solutions*

Further research into the scale and nature of the backlog of archives from development control work is required to enable the situation to be fully understood. This should include a review of how archives are included in conditions of consent and also assess how capacity to deposit these archives can be provided in the short term while future capacity is developed. This would allow archaeological best practice to be followed and also allow costs of archiving to be fully included in tendering and paid for by developers.

Storing archives costs money – the holding of archives with contractors means they are facing on-going costs for the space that undeposited archive requires. This includes physical space in terms of shelving, but also digital storage costs.

Lack of clarity over specific archiving requirements - it was noted that many archives were in ‘pre-archive’ stage due to a lack of clarity over standards or guidance on the preparation of archives. Inevitably without a receiving museum or archive identified it is not possible to prepare the archive to their particular requirements, however, a number of other issues related to archive formats and organisation were highlighted:

- How geophysical survey data should be archived - should the raw data and processed data plus any other outputs all be archived?
- For photographs should raw files, enhanced versions and mosaic images all be archived?
- For video – how much should be retained? All footage, or only selected sections showing archaeological features or work in progress?
- How much ‘reworked’ data, such as that used in support of DBAs should be archived?

It should be noted that there are a range of guidance documents available related to some of these issues, such as the ADS guides for digital data, but these may not be followed and applied to archives when there has been no specification for deposition, and potentially no funding to undertake this. Even within the maritime archaeological profession there is a lack of experienced practitioners who are familiar with aspects of archiving, largely due to the lack of repositories which are able to take them.

Digital archives provide particular archiving issues – While ADS has become the established archive for digital data from archaeological research investigations, there remain issues over where marine geophysical survey datasets should be archived as they are often of relevance to a wide range of disciplines and due to their size and file types require specialists to archive and

curate them. Significant progress has been made in exploring issues of file type and size through the ADS 'Big Data' project (Austin & Mitcham 2007) which 'investigated preservation (storage methods), reuse (usability) and dissemination (delivery mechanism) strategies for exceptionally large data files generated by archaeologists, researchers and cultural resource managers undertaking fieldwork and other research' (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/bigdata/>). The project outcomes include a range of comments and recommendations of relevance to marine data, the actioning of which should contribute to resolving some of the issues over data formats for archiving.

The outcomes of the Big Data report are to be incorporated into the new range of Guides, the first of which is available at <http://muninn.york.ac.uk/g2gpwiki/> and http://muninn.york.ac.uk/g2gpwiki/Wiki.jsp?page=VENUS_Toc and concentrates on Marine Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry.

These issues are also being explored at a government level through MEDIN, the Marine Environmental Data & Information Network (<http://www.oceannet.org/>) which is reviewing requirements for Data Archive Centres (DAC). There is a possibility of having a heritage DAC but discussions on this are currently in early stages (Olivia Merritt pers comm.).

Actions:

- *Work to support the recommendations from the ADS 'Big Data' project, and subsequent guidance particularly related to large data sets, should ensure that best practice is disseminated to all those creating maritime archives, particularly contractors*

This would help provide clarity on the archiving of specific files types and the involvement of any proprietary software.

- *Full engagement with MEDIN should be maintained to ensure digital archives from archaeological work can be deposited in line with archaeological best practice (Brown 2007)*
- *While strategies for long term digital archive capacity are being developed, interim measures must be put in place to enable digital archives to be deposited.*

This would allow for archiving to be properly costed into tenders for contracts and funded by developers.

- *Curatorial input to ensure digital archives are included within conditions of consents which refer to archive deposition*

This is likely to require additional curatorial time in liaising with developers to provide detail of archiving requirements, which to date are often not stipulated within conditions of consent, and hence are unfamiliar to some marine development sectors.

Marine licensing issues require clarification – there are a range of issues related to data from the marine zone, much of which is only available under license from the UKHO via SeaZone. Definitions of what constitutes derived data is often unclear, making it difficult to judge what can be archived. A specific query raised during interviews asked: when data from the UKHO and NMR has been amalgamated and enhanced to form a gazetteer in support of an EIA is it derived data or not? These issues are of relevance through contractual work but also for research work as well. Some of these issues were explored in the 'Big Data' Project (Austin & Mitcham 2007), and some recommendations on possible actions provided.

Actions:

- *Clarification over what constitutes derived data in relation to a range of commonly used marine data sets and situations where they are regularly applied for archaeological purposes is required.*

Gaining consensus on this would help develop the process of archiving and clarify a number of 'grey areas'. This will involve the liaison between a range of heritage agencies and data providers (e.g. UKHO/ SeaZone, BGS) to resolve these issues before guidance can be issued to the sector.

5.3.2.4 Access and security

The archives held within this sector have varying levels of accessibility and security. One of the most common factors linked to access for this sector is client confidentiality related to a number of development control projects. Detailed responses provided by contractors revealed that 75% of archives were accessible, with the following statistics:

Open access by appointment – 64%

Currently unavailable (36%), is this due to:

Work on archive is in progress – 4%

Archive subject to client confidentiality – 32%

This demonstrates that around a third of archives are affected by client confidentiality. While some clients may be willing to make certain data available for non commercial research, few contractors have the available resources to make such enquiries and arrangements. However, not all archives are inaccessible due to confidentiality issues, and most contractors replied that they will try to provide access by specific appointment on request.

Considering the results gained from Element One Mapping Maritime Collection Areas which highlighted that few archives from offshore Environmental Assessment work or marine development control are being offered to public museums it is not surprising to find significant numbers of archives residing with contractors.

Many contractors are currently holding archives due to a lack of museums or public repositories that are willing or able to take them. As has been previously mentioned this is a result of a lack of established system to ensure the route of these archives to deposition, but the net result is poor levels of public access to these archives. The only other sector demonstrating worse levels of public access are individual divers and collectors. This is surprising as the archives from the contractual sector are created in a regulated commercial archaeological environment which should be adhering to archaeological best practice, resulting in the public deposition of the archive funded by the client.

Some of the key issues for access are:

Contractors have only become archive holders by default – the backlog of archives with contractors is the product of the lack of clarity in the system. As a result contractors are having to store archives for which a depository has not been identified. Most archives are considered to be held temporarily, and contractors feel it is the responsibilities of curators to specify archiving within conditions and briefs to help relieve this situation in the future. While contractors could be accused of not demonstrating archaeological best practice due to lack of deposition, it should be equally recognised that this is not possible when the curatorial system is not demanding and enforcing archiving and the responsibilities for archives from the marine zone are unclear. This situation is explored further in 5.3.3.

Contractors often do not have the resources or facilities for visiting researchers – in terms of facilitating access to these archives, although some contractors may be willing to do this within a commercial environment there are not often the resources available to help provide access, whether that is with staff time or space to consult them.

Issues over ownership, copyright and commercially sensitive material - these issues were touched on above in section 5.2.2 for data held by private companies, although it is most noticeably highlighted within the contractual sector as many projects are subject to commercial 'in confidence' and cannot be made accessible. These are not issues confined to maritime archaeology and are also an issue for terrestrial archaeology. While it may not be possible to archive all data from projects, ensuring that copies of final reports are archived should be the basic minimum. These reports are likely to become part of the 'grey literature' body of work, but if they are within an archive they will at least be accessible.

As there is now a maritime element to OASIS <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/> this could help enable the reporting of maritime work to the relevant authority and upload an archive of the related report to the ADS grey literature library. This would help develop access to many of the reports generated through development control archaeological work

Actions:

- *Ensure archiving of copies of all project reports is a condition of consent for all marine and coastal projects. Encourage the submission of an OASIS report for all marine development control related work.*

The key security issues for archives held within this sector are:

Long term future of individual contractors - with increasing economic uncertainty a number of contractors are taking measures to reduce resource pressures (Aitchison 2009), but if they were to close the fate of their archives would be uncertain.

Action:

- *Develop understanding of where backlog archives are held to ensure deposition*
This is of relevance if the contractor can no longer hold the archive, whether they are at threat of closure or have simply run out of space to hold them.

There is now a backlog to be resolved – related to both access and security issues are the archives which now reside in units for which the development and/or investigation project has been closed and signed off. It is unlikely that clients will be asked to contribute to the costs of archiving once projects are signed off, especially if deposition of the archive was not a condition of consent and/or there was nowhere willing to take it. This means resources will have to be invested to ensure the long term security of these archives.

Actions:

- *Develop strategy for the interim deposition of these archives while long term solutions to archive capacity and facilities are resolved*

5.3.3 Broader sector issues

There is one key issue affecting a large percentage of the archives represented within this sector:

Roles and responsibilities

This issue arises in a number of sectors (e.g. research and protected wrecks), but is most demonstrably clear here. There are a range contributing elements to this situation, which have resulted in the following key queries:

- Who is responsible for the collection and curation of archaeological archives from the marine zone?
- Why is there no specific guidance on where archives for the marine zone should be deposited – with local or regional museums near the coast or with national repositories?

- Why is archiving of marine projects often not included in briefs and conditions on consent from curators and/or those commissioning investigations?
- Who should take responsibility for these archives in the short term while long term solutions are formulated?

This situation has arisen as a product of the development of maritime archaeology over the past 30 years. However, there is now a circular situation in place – it is difficult for public authorities and/or agencies to place deposition of archives as a condition of consent when they are aware there are few, if any, public repositories to take them. It is often the same authorities and agencies who should be taking responsibility for providing the archive capacity to ensure these valuable elements of our cultural heritage are not lost. Hence, it can be argued that the public authorities/agencies should take urgent action to resolve this situation. It should be recognised that investment in this project is providing the baseline information to enable measures to be put in place for the future to help resolve this. It is also important to state that the whole of the discipline of maritime archaeology must take some responsibility for resolving this situation as there are clearly areas where archaeological, museum and archive organisations can, and should, contribute.

Actions:

- *Clarify where responsibility for maritime archives from the coastal zone, territorial waters and beyond territorial waters lies*
- *Clarify responsibility for archiving maritime sites within ports, harbours and tidal rivers*
Specific issues raised by the Princes Channel wreck have highlighted how works involved with maintenance of navigation routes and waterways can impact on cultural heritage sites. At the moment responsibility for such sites remains ‘grey’ at best.
- *Make available training on maritime archives for local authority and national heritage agency curators who are specifying conditions on consents for coastal and marine work*
This training should also be made available to other organisations which may be commissioning or funding marine archaeological investigations such as the Heritage Lottery Fund.

5.4 Research and societies sector

This sector mostly includes universities, charitable trusts and societies, with the addition of some ‘not for profit’ organisations which concentrate on the investigation of underwater cultural heritage (these are mostly run by committee rather than an individual). A number of the investigations represented in this sector involve some of the most intensive research on sites which has generated some substantial archives. Also included is the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), which holds a substantial research archive.

5.4.1 Summary of archives

This sector represented around 8% of the survey respondents. 24 different organisations, institutions and societies were represented in the survey responses (Figure Twenty Three). Of the 24 responding directly to the survey, only 10 filled in complete details using the on-line form.

The 24 respondents included:

- Universities: 10 (three in Wales)
- Societies, charities and groups: 14

The societies, charities and groups included some which focus on a single site and/or local area, while others cover broader regions or have a national remit. Their activities vary considerably in size and scope, with many groups undertaking active research and investigation. Two of the responses were from societies concerned with the preservation of historic ships that are still floating, and hence are outside of the key area of concentration for this survey.

In general these archives consist of a variety of archive types, and they include some large archives from marine archaeological investigations. In particular there are archives which include larger numbers of objects, environmental samples and digital files. Some of these archives have been generated over many years and often still remain 'open' for further accumulation from ongoing work.

5.4.2 Analysis of archives

This sector generates some of the larger archives represented in the survey. As they are mostly held by universities or charities with public educational aims, many are available for research.

5.4.2.1 Size and nature of holdings

This sector represents some archives of a significant size, most of which have been structured according to accepted archaeological practice. Many of the archives demonstrate diversity of material derived from a range of research focused projects which have involved a variety of survey, evaluation, sampling and excavation techniques.

The statistics from the detailed on-line survey have been used to generate a breakdown of different types of archive. It should be remembered that not all of the respondents filled in the full survey, so the total number of archives from this sector within the survey are larger than those below:

Breakdown of archive type includes material from 70 different sites or projects:

- Object – 2% (2,646)
- Paper/ documentary – 18% (2,6292)
- Image (photo/ slide) – 26% (38,075)
- Digital – 53% (76,310)
- Sample – less than 1% (275)
- Video – less than 1% (96)

Of particular note from this sector are:

Digital archives - the 76,310 digital files represented includes the particularly large archive from the North Sea Palaeolandscapes project (Birmingham University) and also the digital archives held by the ADS (9,271). These represent the range of types of digital files generated through maritime archaeological work, including photographs, video, databases, GIS files and geophysical survey datasets. A number of public museums and archives hold examples of these, however, the ADS is becoming one of the largest holders of digital archives, much of which is generated through research work. As maritime archaeology produces and works with some very large digital data sets derived from geophysical survey, digital archiving is an increasing issue. The problems of coping with volumes of digital data, particularly from the marine zone, are being addressed through a number of national groups and initiatives (MEDIN www.oceannet.org), and certainly are not confined to archaeology.

These results show how the research sector, in particular, is generating large volumes of digital data and underlines the importance of developing capacity to archive it. It also demonstrates the numbers and types of files which are being utilised during commercial work, but as they are often collected for a range of environmental purposes, are not often archived as ‘archaeological’ material.

Diversity of site types – this sector demonstrates the largest diversity of types of site and investigation. An approximate breakdown shows:

- Protected wreck sites – 20%
- Unprotected shipwrecks – 19%
- Local area archives – 3%
- Coastal – 6%
- Submerged prehistory – 6%
- Area based marine investigation – 11%
- Desk based research/ survey – 21%
- Inter tidal hulks – 6%
- Aircraft – 2%
- Geophysical survey – 7%

Inevitably some projects involved multiple elements of work and could have been represented under more than one of these categories, but they have only been shown in one for the purpose of this review. These statistics provide one of the best indicators of the broad types of archive being produced by marine archaeological investigations, they represent a good baseline for use when analysing future archive generation, and hence planning for future acquisitions.

5.4.2.2 Storage and curation

Many of the archives are being held due to long term research interests and often remain ‘open’ as more material is being added to them. Hence they are stored with the organisation or institution involved in generating them, rather than deposited in a museum or archive. Those providing full responses to the survey gave further details on how archives were being stored and curated, which has revealed:

Where is the archive stored: Most commonly at the institutions or organisations offices, although large numbers of digital files are stored and backed up on servers which may or may not be ‘on site’.

How is it stored: This was dependent on the type of archive, but provided further detail in terms of storage within offices. Much material was boxed, on open shelves or in hanging files. Environmental samples were often in cold storage facilities.

Is the archive in stable conditions and is it curated: (these were yes/no answers) The response to these questions depended on the type of archive material that was being referred to. From the detailed information on 70 different archives the following statistics were produced:

- Objects – of the 21 archives which included objects, 16 answered yes to their objects being in stable conditions, but only 6 are actively curated
- Paper/ documentary – all of the 39 archives with paper records are in stable conditions, but only 16 are actively curated
- Image (photo/ slide) – of the 34 archives including images, 32 are in stable conditions, with 12 being actively curated
- Digital – all of the 62 archives with digital material are in stable conditions, 45 are actively curated

- Sample – all of the 10 archives including samples are in stable conditions, 5 are actively curated
- Video – of the 13 archives with video, 11 are in stable conditions, 2 are actively curated

Most respondents from this sector indicated that the archives would be deposited in a museum or public repository in the future, and this has already been agreed for a number of archives. Others had every intention of depositing when a willing repository had been found. A number of respondents in this sector indicated they considered themselves an archive and hence were the residing place for the collections.

5.4.2.3 Access and security

The archives held within this sector generally have good levels of accessibility. As Universities are geared towards research there is usually a willingness to make information and data available. Many of the charities represented in this sector are established with an educational remit, which also promotes access and learning. Detailed responses demonstrate that 67 out of the 70 archives (96%) represented within the detailed survey information are accessible to the public, with the following related statistics:

Open access – 28 (40%)

Open access by appointment – 6 (9%)

Ad-hoc – in response to specific requests – 33 (47%)

Currently unavailable, is this due to:

Currently unwilling to make available - 3 (4%)

This highlights that most archives held in this sector are accessible, although there are a few issues that have been raised by the results or during discussions with those producing archives, or using them:

‘Finding archives’ –discovering the existence or presence of archives within this sector can be a problem. The fact that work on some sites or areas has taken place is not always well known, especially when projects have not yet been published. The internet is helping this situation with project summaries often being available. Problems arise for older projects which may not be well signposted and for which publication has not yet been undertaken, this can be compounded when work has stopped and the resources are not in place for analysis, publication and deposition.

There is also the issue within University Departments of student projects and dissertations which have been undertaken, often involving primary research or fieldwork. These documents are often the only available record of such work and can be difficult to gain access to as this relies on staff familiarity with the individual pieces of work.

Another issue raised was archives from the work of an individual being donated or passed to a university for future research. One example was the existence of an archive from Cape Gelidonya (not a UK site, but an important one in the development of maritime archaeology on an international scale) which resides within the University College London archive having been produced by Joan du Plat Taylor during her involvement with the project. Archives becoming ‘lost’ within university departments and systems can also be an issue when a department gives up teaching in a particular area, without staff who are familiar with archives these can become difficult to access.

Actions:

- *Greater understanding of archives residing in university departments and charitable trusts is required to develop signposting of available material and documents (e.g. dissertations) and contribute to current understanding and future research agendas.*

This is particularly important for those organisations which consider themselves an archive and hence the material will not be deposited within a museum or public repository.

In general there are fewer issues related to security within this sector due to the research and educational focus of the organisations involved, although a number of issues arise:

Fate of charitable trusts and societies is not always clear – as has been seen with other sectors, if an organisation is forced to close there are question marks over the future of the archives, some of which can be seen as an asset. Should charities or societies cease to operate there is a much higher likelihood that archives would be offered to a museum or public repository rather than disposed of via sale.

Back-log/ non deposition – there are some issues of backlog within this sector. This seems to be due to a number of factors, one of the most frequent being a lack of time and/or funds to order, index and prepare archives for deposition, others due to a lack of a receiving museum or repository.

Actions:

- *Gaining a more detailed understanding the scale and nature of archives held by charitable trusts, societies and groups to help develop ‘disaster management’ scenarios and future deposition requirements*

These archives, which in the event of closure are likely to be offered to public museums or repositories, should be included in strategies for development of future capacity.

- *Use information on archives to target funding to ensure deposition in a public museum*
- More detailed understanding of work required to enable deposition would help develop plans to move this forward, possibly through the provision of funding to help key archives get to public repositories.

5.5 Designated Wreck Site licensees and archaeologists

This section includes material that is held with individual licensees and nominated archaeologists, or licensed groups from designated Protected Wreck Sites. It also includes information on other site archives held by licensees and archaeologists who are often active across a number of non-designated sites as well. It should be noted that designated wreck site material that is currently residing within public or private museums and exhibitions has also been considered in sections 5.1 and 5.2. There is also some cross over with the research sector as some of those organisations are working on Protected Wreck Site material.

During the survey a large number of past and present licensees and archaeological advisors from designated historic wreck sites were contacted, this numbered 63 individuals. Of these 63 only 19 replied to the survey, with 9 filling in the detailed on-line survey (Figure Twenty Four). Some of the respondents providing summary information were licensees for multiple sites, so the individual number of the protected wrecks represented was 25. As there are now over 60 protected wreck sites, and over the past 30 years there have been multiple licensees and archaeological advisors for each site the response rate is considered to be rather low (despite persistent emails and phone calls), particularly bearing in mind how active many of these individuals are in the investigation of a range of wreck sites. The analysis below includes data

from the detailed on-line responses and the more general summary responses. It has been made clear which data sets have been used for generating statistics.

5.5.1 Summary of archives

The size and composition of these archives varied quite considerably, but in general they represent some of the larger archives related to historic shipwrecks. Many of these archives have been generated over several years and often still remain ‘open’ for further accumulation from ongoing work.

5.5.2 Analysis of archives

Archives included within this sector represent the accumulated work and knowledge of sites which have been recognised as being of national importance and are highly significant collections. Further information on non-designated sites which have been or are being investigated by licensees and archaeological advisors provides more detail on the archives being generated by this sector. The detailed assessment of the archives has revealed data which reflects the numbers of individuals and groups involved with sites, the length of time they have been under investigation and seabed remains.

5.5.2.1 Size and nature of holdings

Many of the archives represented in the detailed on-line responses are quite balanced in their composition, often including all of the different types of archive components. The extent to which these are structured according to standard archaeological practice is currently unknown. These archives reflect the information gathered through diving investigation of sites, the majority of them being shipwrecks in the marine zone.

The breakdown of detailed responses included:

- Object – 17% (2800)
- Paper/documentary – 35% (5638)
- Image (photo/slide) – 36% (5851)
- Video – less than 1% (27)
- Sample – less than 1% (82)
- Digital – 10% (1644)

These statistics were derived from the detailed on-line survey responses, however, for this sector there was quite a large amount of information added in summary format. These responses provided the following additional information on archives from around 707 other sites, (these numbers are approximate as some responses amalgamated numbers of sites). Of these 707:

- 501 include objects
- 705 include paper records
- 505 include images
- 501 include video
- 500 include digital files
- No archives include samples

These additional statistics give us a more comprehensive picture of the archives held within this sector.

It should be recognised that the archives generated from Protected Wreck Sites have essentially been partially ‘regulated’ through the system of licensing that is in place through the Secretary of State and Advisory Committee on Historic Wreck Sites and have been designated as being of

national importance. There are four levels of licence – visitor, survey, surface-recovery and excavation – with the most intrusive requiring more detailed levels of project documentation to secure them. While excavation licenses are perhaps the least common, to be granted one the requirements for appropriate archiving and publication have to be demonstrated, which should ensure best practice is adhered to. However, these requirements are relatively recent refinements to the system, and can only really be seen to have had an effect on archives produced within the past five years.

5.5.2.2 Storage and curation

Many of the archives are held by individuals and have been created over many years, sometimes several decades. The conditions in which they are stored and cared for is usually dependant on the interest and available space of these individuals.

The detailed on-line responses and the summary responses were used to provided the following analysis of how archives were being stored and curated, which has revealed:

Where is the archive stored: This sector provided some variety in terms of where the archive is stored. A significant number of objects are stored in museums, but high numbers of other archive parts are held in individual homes or offices.

How is it stored: Again there were a variety of answers depending on the type of archive element that was included. The vast majority of paper and image archive is stored in folders or boxes. The fate of digital archives depends on whether there is access to a server. Approximately half of the files are on a server, with the rest on CD, DVD or hard drives.

Is the archive in stable conditions and is it curated: (these were yes/no answers) The response to these questions depended on the type of archive material that was being referred to. These statistics have been derived from the detailed on-line responses:

- Objects – of the 15 archives which included objects, 10 answered yes to their objects being in stable conditions and actively curated
- Paper/documentary – of the 24 archives with paper records 16 are in stable conditions, and are actively curated
- Image (photo/slide) – of the 16 archives including images, 12 are in stable conditions and are actively curated
- Digital – of the 22 archives with digital material 17 are in stable conditions, with 16 being actively curated
- Sample – of the 4 archives including samples, 3 are in stable conditions and are actively curated
- Video – of the 7 archives with video, 2 are in stable conditions, 1 is actively curated

Some respondents from this sector indicated that they would be prepared to offer their archive to a museum if there was willing to take it, others highlighted that some of the material had a financial value and hence would require recompense if a museum wished to accession it.

Archive from nationally important sites is housed in highly variable conditions – although there have been improvements in archiving practices as a result of recent licence conditions, it remains the fact that many archives are held by private individuals in offices, garages, sheds and a wide range of ad hoc facilities. In many cases individuals are doing the best they can for collections, with no funding and little available support.

Action:

- *Develop understanding of the extent and nature of protected wreck archives to help devise measures to improve conditions*

Possible solutions to this may be a greater amount of support, particularly for amateur groups with archiving – whether that is through guidance or the provision of materials and/or facilities.

5.5.2.3 Access and security

The archives held within this sector generally have variable levels of accessibility. Detailed responses demonstrate that 22 out of the 25 archives (88%) represented within the detailed survey information are accessible to the public, with the following related statistics:

- Open access – 1 (4%)
- Open access by appointment – 10 (40%)
- Ad hoc – in response to specific requests – 11 (44%)
- Currently unwilling to make available – 3 (12%)

These responses, and available published information, have raised a number of issues related to access:

Acknowledging access contribution made by protected wreck groups – the work of Protected Wreck Site groups is making a substantial contribution to access to Protected Wreck Sites. Without the many decades of work by these groups very little would be known about some of Britain's most significant historic wreck sites.

Improving access to private archives – there is a large amount of archive from Protected Wreck Sites that is privately owned, for which access can be difficult. It should be a priority to improve these levels of access. There have been a number of case studies demonstrating this potential have been undertaken in recent years with the Charlestown Shipwreck and Heritage Centre (Camidge 2006), Warship *Hazardous* (HWTMA 2004) and *Invincible* (HWTMA 2009). These provide examples of the positive outcomes possible when working with 'backlog' archives and private archives from protected sites. These case studies have been funded through the English Heritage Historic Environment Enabling Programme, or through the Heritage Lottery Fund. They each demonstrate different methods and approaches to improving access.

Actions:

- *Encourage the development of access initiatives for archives in private hands*
- This should ensure that there are publicly available records of collections, even if they are digital copies of originals, which will enable access to collections which are currently inaccessible.

Publication backlog – this has developed due to a number of factors which include the motivations and abilities of those involved with specific sites and the resources available. This situation has already been highlighted in *Taking to the Water: English Heritage's initial policy for the management of archaeology in England* (2002) which has a section devoted to 'The protected wreck site post-excavation backlog'. Since this date there has been progress with some of the Protected Wrecks, but there remains much to be done and it is worth reiterating within this document.

The long term security of many of these archives is also variable, the following key issues have been raised through the survey and associated research:

Ensuring deposition through licence condition – due to recent changes to licence conditions more Protected Wreck archives are now being deposited in public museums or archives (or at least a copy of it). Current licence conditions include:

- ‘the licensee submits in advance a Project Design for the excavation in accordance with guidance offered in the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment and by the Institute of Field Archaeologists; and
- a copy of the archive of the project be deposited with the National Monuments Record of England and the disposal of material remains is carried out according to the agreed project design’ (EH 2004)

It should be acknowledged that due to a lack of public museums willing or able to take archives it is not always possible for the primary archive to be deposited. While these conditions should help develop long term security for archives, it should also be acknowledged that making deposition a condition of a government licence should mean that government facilities (public museums or archives) are also provided. Without this it is not possible to maintain best practice.

Past licensees who have given up diving or passed away – during the survey attempts were made to contact a high proportion of the current Protected Wreck Site licensees and a number of past ones, but it should be recognised that as licences have now been issued for over 25 years there may be further archive residing with past licensees. Additionally, a number of individuals who have been involved with sites over a long time are now reaching old age, with some of them being concerned about what to do with collections they hold. There are also examples of individuals having passed away and their family having disposed of archives as they were unsure of their relevance.

Action:

Developing detailed understanding of archives to further quantify a number of security issues - this should be undertaken to provide baseline evidence to use for developing detailed strategies to address the security issues outlined above. Such information would allow an appraisal of work required for individual archives in terms of ordering, indexing, cross referencing etc and the size and nature of any object collection. If this archive was offered for deposition in the future it would mean facilities could be prepared. Such a detailed review would also help to understand any archive training requirements (see below) that would inevitably help long term security as more archive is gathered.

5.5.3 Broader sector issues

As this sector represents some of the longest running archaeological investigations of the most nationally significant historic wreck sites, it is perhaps inevitable that it raises a number of issues of broader relevance to maritime archives.

Lack of familiarity with archiving requirements – as many of the Protected Wreck licensees have not received any training in relation to archives and archiving requirements there is inevitably a lack of familiarity with established procedures. Although it is also important to acknowledge that many professional maritime archaeologists have not had specific training in archiving either. These issues are not confined to maritime archaeology and recent initiatives by the Archaeological Archive Forum have sought to address this situation through guidance and awareness raising (AAF website www.britarch.ac.uk/archives/ ; Brown 2008)

However, at present there is very little specific guidance available to provide enough detail for largely amateur individuals and groups to develop their archives into standards for deposition. There are courses provided by the Nautical Archaeology Society related to aspects of survey and excavation that help develop skills which are put into practice on the seabed and hence promote archive creation through records of diver activity logs and record sheets. Other available NAS

courses also include aspects of archiving (Mark Beattie-Edwards pers comm.), these are options which can be taken by those within the training system.

There is little on-going support available for many of the licensed groups. Investigations on Protected Wrecks have generated large archives, but many could have been more structured if more support was available through face to face meetings and staff time. The valuable role of Archaeological Advisors should also be highlighted. The provision of guidance is all undertaken on a voluntary basis, and hence is subject to the availability of individuals. This contribution could be supported further through providing additional sources of guidance on archiving requirements.

Actions:

- *Develop support mechanisms for Protected Wreck Site Groups in relation to archiving*
With conditions of licences increasingly specifying deposition of archives, it should be recognised that PW groups may need support and resources to be able to achieve this. It is perhaps the role of the heritage agencies to assess the feasibility of providing staff time to dedicate to face to face meetings and time spent with those creating the archives on a regular basis. Due to the density of sites within England in particular this could easily be a full time role, particularly if backlog issues are to be addressed. However, the investment in staff time should provide a large return in terms of data acquisition from these important wreck sites.

- *Review provision of training in relation to archives through higher education courses and any other currently available courses*

Through the survey some information on currently available training was gathered, however, this was largely incidental rather than specifically targeted. More structured research in this area would allow training and education requirements for maritime archives to be better understood and appropriate responses developed.

Archive ‘creator’ diversity – there are a large number of individuals, groups, organisations, charitable trusts, contractors and universities involved in with Protected Wreck Sites. These sites provide the broadest ‘snapshot’ of the range of archive creators that are involved in maritime archaeology.

Action:

- *Will need to include recognising this diversity within training, support and management mechanisms to enhance archive creation, analysis and deposition.*

Dispersed archives – over time there have often been multiple individuals and groups working on sites. This has resulted in archives for certain sites being split between owners, as well as the split of some artefact collections into public and private museums and exhibitions. The Protected Wreck Sites in particular demonstrate the extent to which some archives are split between a range of locations and sectors. There is often a range of archive which is ‘pre-designation’ and was collected prior to the regulation of activity, an amount of which often comes up for sale on eBay (see section 5.6). This all adds up to some of the most nationally important maritime archives being highly dispersed.

Action:

Undertake research to determine the location of archive material from the designated sites in order to develop strategies to harness the research potential of these sites, make them more accessible and enhance long term security

5.6 Individual divers and collectors

By far the largest collection of archive material lies with those divers, dive clubs and salvors who regularly visit shipwrecks. Although this sector was poorly represented within the Element Two survey responses there is a key body of data available to assess the extent of material in private holdings, the report from the 2000 Receiver of Wreck Amnesty (RoW 2001), and subsequent RoW Annual Reports (2002; 2003; 2004; 2005; 2006; 2007). These sources were used in combination with data gathered during interviews and other published sources to assess archive held by this sector.

5.6.1 Summary of archives

Due to the different datasets available for this sector it has not been possible to assess percentages in a similar way to the other sectors. However, it is clear that the Amnesty dataset represents one of the key sources of information on the marine historic environment of the UK. This data is all related to the shipwreck resource and consists of objects only. Additional information was gathered during email correspondence and interview which has demonstrated that some individuals with large collections have undertaken considerable personal research on the items and sites from which they came.

Individual divers and collectors

Despite targeting divers and collectors through a number of different routes there were no responses to the on-line survey received. A number of individuals were aware of the project (during author's questioning at seminars and events), but they have chosen not to take part (it would be interesting to investigate reasoning behind this further in the future). However, to develop further understanding of the potential collections within this sector, interviews and other available sources have been drawn on to provide further quantitative and qualitative information which adds detail to the statistics provided by the RoW data.

Receiver of Wreck data

The Amnesty dataset was generated as a result of the legislative requirement for the reporting of recoveries from wreck sites. Under current legislation – the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 – all wreck finds from in or on the shores of tidal waters have to be reported to the Receiver of Wreck (see RoW website for detailed description of the RoW and its duties - <http://www.mcga.gov.uk/c4mca/mcga07-home/emergencyresponse/mcga-receiverofwreck.htm>), and also section 5.6.2.4 for more detail of impact of legislative responsibilities on archives). In 2000 the RoW held an Amnesty for all finders or holders of material from the marine zone that had not been declared as required under the legislation, meaning that they could report them without fear of prosecution. The aims of the Amnesty were to improve understanding of the Law, help return objects to their owners, identify items of historic importance, bring to light munitions and dangerous material and to make future enforcement of the law more effective (RoW 2001).

There were 4,616 report forms submitted relating to approximately 30,000 objects. Of the total number of reports 19% were from historic wrecks (which the RoW defines as being over 100 years old), this was more than twice the number expected. Those reporting included private individuals, diving clubs, fishermen and salvage companies.

It should be noted that the age distinction of being over 100 years old is only used to help define statistics, and that material of a younger age that is of archaeological or historic importance is not treated differently to that over 100 years by the RoW.

As the identification of items of historic significance was one of the main aims of the Amnesty it is not surprising that this data has added significantly to this project. Thanks to the RoW supplying details of the reports in database format (omitting any data on the finders) it has been possible to review the data in terms of distribution and volume of material (Figure Twenty Five). This has helped demonstrate some key archives issues.

Post amnesty RoW reports

Since the RoW amnesty in 2000 finders have continued to report material they have recovered. The following statistics have been gained from the RoW annual reports.

Year	Total no of reports	Historic wreck reports	% of total
2001	380	85	22%
2002	376	96	25%
2003	287	Approx 80	28%
2004	317	Approx 115	35%
2005	258	Approx 85	34%
2006	275	Approx 110	34%
2007	290	90	31%
2008	299	93	31%

These figures only represent information on items over 100 years old, and hence do not include items of historic significance younger than that date. However, the statistics serve to show the numbers of reports submitted to the RoW each year. The percentage of items which are within the 'historic' category is relatively constant over recent years at around 30% - 35% of those reported. This is a relatively high figure and demonstrates the continued gradual attrition of marine historic assets.

5.6.2 Archive analysis

This section has utilised all available data as outlined in the section above. It provides a review of shipwreck archive held in private hands and reveals some important information and issues for maritime archaeological archives.

5.6.2.1 Size and nature of holdings

Not surprisingly all the archive represented in this sector consists of objects. This is a product of the Merchant Shipping Act legislation through which they are reported. Over 30,000 are held within this sector, with the actual total likely to be much higher than this. This is a vast number, despite the fact it does not take into account all material declared to the RoW prior to the Amnesty, (for which there are only limited records available as they predate the centralisation of the RoW function). The true level of material that has been recovered from the shipwreck resource in British waters cannot be accurately calculated, but these available statistics demonstrate important aspects of the nature of archive recovered from the seabed and its research potential.

Through interviews and review of other available published sources the following two case studies have been selected for inclusion as they add further qualitative data to the extensive lists of objects. They reveal important considerations for the development of future archive capacity.

Case Study – Dave Wendes

Dave Wendes runs Wight Spirit Dive Charters, he is also an active diver and wreck researcher. He has recently published the results of 30 years of wreck diving and research in 'South Coast Shipwrecks off East Dorset and Wight 1870 – 1970'.

Dave holds archive related to over 180 shipwrecks, mostly dating from the 19th and early 20th centuries. His collection, which is stored at home, includes artefacts, research notes and copies of documents and photographs from various national and international archives and museums.

Most of the archive relates to sites south and west of the Isle of Wight into the English Channel, some off East Dorset, with a limited amount of material from off the North Cornish coast. The archive has been added to over many years due to on-going research of the vessels.

Case Study – For the Record: Cataloguing held by Dive Clubs in the North East of England

This pilot project aimed to target dive clubs with histories of wreck diving and the collection of seabed archive in order to record their material. The involvement of three large dive clubs resulted in staff spending 10 days recording their collections. Although the project report (Green 2006) does not provide figures for the total number of artefacts held by each of the clubs, communication with the author suggests the figure was several hundred.

This project demonstrates the willingness of divers and dive clubs to become involved in heritage recording, and the amounts of data it is possible to obtain when staff resources are available to meet with groups.

Some collectors also have other types of archive – although a high number of those individuals represented in this sector only hold objects, there are some who also have a range of archive which includes supporting documentation and research. As shown with the case study above these research collections can be extensive when they have been accumulated over many years of diving. They represent a massive investment of time and energy in investigating and researching the UKs shipwreck heritage.

Objects are usually highly ‘portable’ and intact – with some exceptions most of the objects within this sector are items that can be easily carried by a single diver. They are often very intact as well, with the ‘best’ items being selected for recovery to the surface. There is also a high proportion of objects made from robust materials that survive well in marine conditions – metals, ceramics, glass etc.

Representative nature of dataset – it should be recognised that the data in the Amnesty Report represents a period when SCUBA diving became widely available and popular. Prior to the 1960s few wrecks were visited by divers. The data in the report should be used for its huge research potential, but isn’t representative of the volume or type of material that should be expected to be recovered on a regular basis in the future. Many of the most accessible and popular wrecks have now been stripped of most of their contents, fixtures and fittings that are easily removable by divers. There will continue to be new sites discovered and also more material recovered from deeper sites due to technical diving techniques, but the volumes of material seen in the Amnesty are unlikely to be replicated. This is borne out in the figures for post-Amnesty material being reported (see 5.6.1).

Prehistoric material from submerged landscapes is not included – while the RoW system provides useful statistics on the type and volume of material being raised from the seabed it is worth noting that there is no obligation to report any ‘non wreck’ finds. This means that prehistoric material from times of lower sea level and material from terrestrial sites which have since eroded into the sea do not have to be reported through this system. Hence, gaining information on this material, if it has been located, is difficult if not impossible.

5.6.2.2 Concentrations of archives

There are clear concentrations of archives reflecting the density of diving undertaken and the shipwreck resource in particular areas. As was highlighted in the Amnesty Report “The largest

numbers of reports came from the Central South Coast area and Cornwall, both areas totalling nearly 700 reports each.This distribution reflects the popularity of wreck diving in these areas. The south coast in general was the most popular area for recoveries from wrecks. The second and third highest rate of recoveries were the East Sussex/ South Kent coast and the south coast of Devon. The report forms themselves were most frequently received from areas of Dorset and Kent, with Surrey, Hampshire and the Midlands also being well represented.” (2001: 21).

The quote from the Amnesty Report raises an interesting point that has been difficult to analyse in detail from the survey responses – the location of the archive in relation to the site from which it originated. Particularly with divers the archives are often removed from their area of origin. This reflects the nature of diving where individuals and clubs frequently travel considerable distances for diving trips.

5.6.2.3 Storage and curation

There is very little information available on storage and curation conditions for this sector. This is due to the private nature of the holdings. In general, divers who have recovered objects are proud of them and are likely to try to care for them, but this does not always mean that appropriate conservation will be undertaken. There are a range of ‘home remedies’ available to try to prolong the lives of certain artefact types, some of which have some success, and others will not help retain the original condition of the artefact.

Legislative conditions for storage and conservation - the effects of the legislative system again impacts on archives in this area. There is a requirement for the finder to notify the RoW within 30 days of the items being raised. Once the report is received the process of determining ownership begins, this could take up to a year. During this time finders should not allow material to deteriorate, but they are not required to actively carry out conservation either.

5.6.2.4 Access and security

Access is obviously a problem with much of this material held in private hands. Although some owners are happy to provide access to their material when asked it is often difficult to get in touch with them as that has to be done through the RoW who holds their details on file. This also makes it very difficult for researchers to know who holds archive from which sites.

Considering the large size and research potential of the archive held within this sector it means that a vast amount of maritime cultural heritage is held in private hands and hence is inaccessible. This has a number of implications for developing future approaches to archives:

Ownership and legislative responsibilities – under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 all recovered objects, defined as ‘wreck’, must be reported to the RoW, who then has a year to determine ownership and to establish what will happen to that material. The legislation is derived from a commercial perspective and relates in the most part to salvage traditions; nonetheless it is a legal process through which the ownership of the material archive of all maritime sites must go. Responsibility for reporting material rests with the archaeologist/diver/developer who undertook its recovery, and in most cases the ‘wreck’ material will eventually legally belong to the archaeologist/diver/developer who reported it. This can make ownership questions related to the material archive much less complex. However, it can also place parts of an archaeological archive in private hands, and add to the pressure to disperse an archive.

It is worth noting that the term ‘wreck’ is somewhat ambiguous when applied to prehistoric material recovered from maritime contexts. It is possible that ownership of such material may lie with the owner of the seabed, in most cases the Crown Estate, though this has not yet been

properly established. Ownership is not only a key issue with regard to transfer and deposition of whole archives, but also with regard to responsibilities of conservation and treatment of the material archive.

Action:

- *Debate over the appropriateness of including historic wreck within the Merchant Shipping Act should be continued.*

It has been widely acknowledged that this legislative system was not intended for dealing with historic material. There have long been calls to remove historic wreck from this ‘salvage’ regime (JNAPC 2000, 2003). However, to date there has been little progress with this situation.

Fate of historic wreck within Merchant Shipping Act – it should be acknowledged that the role of the RoW was also never intended to have to deal with historic wreck. In practice the RoW has archaeological experience (although this is fortuitous rather than a specific part of the job description) and tries to ensure that historic material is offered to museums. As stated “MCA (the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, which the RoW is a division of) policy for the disposal of historic wreck is that, wherever possible, wreck of historic interest will be offered to a registered museum in the vicinity of the find site or to a national museum for items of national importance. Wherever possible dispersal of collections is avoided” (2001:10). However, as the Element One report revealed there are few museums willing or able to take marine material. This situation is likely to be influenced by the fact that not only will a museum have to make a payment of a salvage award to the finder, they are also likely to have to pay for conservation – significantly increasing the costs to the museum.

In the Amnesty Report the MCA has also stated that it “...has no wish to over burden museums with wreck items that they cannot afford to conserve and store or do not fit in with their collecting policy. Although some items reported under the Amnesty are likely to be placed on permanent display in an appropriate museum, the majority of historic wreck will be recorded and then remain with the finder” (2001: 15). This statement is perhaps masking the reality that very few museums have the funding, remit or role to collect material from the marine zone (again as shown with the Element One report). Hence, if action is not taken to clarify roles and responsibilities in this area then large amounts of historic wreck will continue to be in private hands.

Also of note is the fact that the DfT and Ministry of Defence are by far the most extensive owners of wrecks around the UK (RoW 2001). This means that a large amount of the material reported to the receiver will be government property, and hence is likely to be offered to these departments who could choose to acquire the material, through providing the finder with a salvage award.

Actions:

- *Provide resources and facilities to acquire historic objects through the RoW system to ensure their long term access and security for the nation*

While long term solutions to the lack of facilities for maritime archives are being developed, short term measures must be put in place to ensure reported historic items can be secured for the nation. This will require liaison between the RoW, heritage agencies, relevant government departments and museums.

Improving ‘remote’ access and security – the need to improve access to material reported through the RoW system has been recognised. As Camidge points out “Recording of this collection has led to the realisation that material has been recovered from historic shipwrecks (protected and unprotected) without any publicly accessible record of these objects. Although there is a legal requirement that all objects recovered are declared to the Receiver of Wreck (RoW) - this does not ensure that any adequate archaeological record is made of the objects or the context from which they were removed” (2006:17).

Although the archives represented in this sector are within private ownership there are ways in which 'remote' access could be developed if the owners were willing to share information about their collection. Consideration should be given to whether the records provided to the RoW by finders could be more comprehensive (to include a photograph and basic dimensions?) to develop the information base, and then be made available for research. This would improve understanding of any newly recovered material. To address past recoveries, which as we have seen are numerous, it would be possible to develop digital methods of access through asking owners to photograph objects which could be made available for research online. Other possibilities would be more projects cataloguing private collections, such as the 'For the Record' project in the North East (Green 2006) and the project at Charlestown (Camidge 2006), which at least create a basic record from which the information could be used for a variety of research. Such projects are likely to highlight particularly significant objects and develop the research potential for maritime archaeology.

Actions:

- *Liaise with the RoW to develop potential approaches for enhancing object records and making them available for study*

It should be acknowledged that the RoW does make available information on recoveries on request and is also in liaison with the NMR and Heritage Agencies. However, dialogue should be undertaken to discuss possibilities within the current requirements for reporting that could be developed to help long term access to the resource.

- *Develop methods for improving access to recovered archives when owners are willing to share information*

As mentioned above there are a range of ways that digital recording of collections could be taken forward. This would require the help of the RoW who would be the main point of contact with archive holders, but could also be taken forward through direct contact with dive clubs and well known local collectors.

Improving access and security through acquisition – it is clear that there is a large and as yet untapped source of information on maritime cultural heritage that is held within this sector. This could help underpin a wide variety of research approaches and frameworks, in addition to current explorations of importance and significance which have been undertaken (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, b & c; Bournemouth University 2007; also see Section 5.6.3). Archives represented in this sector include examples of fixtures, fittings, structure, cargo etc, for which there is no currently available research collection or type series. These examples must be identified to enable access to be developed. For particularly significant objects and important large archives consideration must be given to acquisition of these collections if possible. It may be the case that some collectors are willing to donate their material if they can be assured that it will be made available for study and cared for in the long-term, whereas other collections would have to be purchased.

Action:

- *Develop programme of acquisition to ensure access and security through deposition within public museums and archives.*

As has been recommended for a number of other sectors where significant collections lie in private hands, resources and capacity should be put in place to allow for the acquisition of key archives whether that is via donation or purchase.

5.6.3 Broader sector issues

The collections held within this sector raise a number of issues which are of wider relevance for maritime archives. As noted above, many issues are related to the legislative context, which has long been debated in relation to material from historic wrecks. Legal debates will not be reviewed

in detail within this report (see JNAPC website, particularly the publications page, for further details www.jnapc.org.uk), but their effects on archives have been highlighted.

Although the archive in this sector has not been collected as part of structured archaeological investigation, it often represents the largest (or sometimes only) surviving archive from a particular site. As such these collections must be taken into account during the development of research, investigation and management.

Unharnessed research potential – the object collections of individual divers represent the physical remains of many and varied shipwreck sites. As sites have been visited and items removed there has been a gradual degradation of the remaining seabed archive, and hence divers' collections now represent a significant amount of site archives. The RoW Amnesty Report stated “It was hoped that information gained from the Amnesty would help to further the creation of a full and valuable record of Britain’s maritime heritage. This would assist historic and archaeological research and would help to devise strategies to preserve this valuable record.” (2001:10). While the data gathered has created an invaluable resource, to date its research potential has been ignored as it has not been used to develop of research or acquisitions.

The potential of this data may have been overlooked due to a lack of understanding of how marine cultural heritage can add significantly to much broader areas of research. Maritime archaeology is not just the study of ships and shipping, the diversity of material carried onboard ships of all periods reflects the trade and economics of the UK, including imports and exports. This was again highlighted in the Amnesty report which presented some specific examples where maritime collections could add to research, “More modern collections of material will also be of invaluable assistance for future research. These include the huge range of glassware and ceramics from wrecks such as the *Duke of Buccleuch* (1889) and the *WA Scholten* (1887), and the various collections of watches and perfume bottles from the wreck of the *Kyarra* (1917).” (2001: 24).

Actions:

- *Recognise the importance of the archive held by divers and collectors and use it in the development of future research and investigation*

A number of suggested actions have included developing access to this material which would help further enhance the available dataset and its use for research. This could have a large impact on how research and investigation programmes are developed and also for the protection and management of sites on the seabed.

Unharnessed management potential - linked closely to the research potential of the data revealed in the Amnesty report and from within this sector, is the potential of this data for management of the resource. It is surprising that the Amnesty Report is not referenced more in management documents and strategies (e.g. English Heritage (2002), Historic Scotland (2009)), and has not had a higher profile, particularly considering some of the findings which are highlighted by these extracts:

“The information amassed under the Amnesty encompasses the whole of the UK and finds reported range from the Roman period to the late 20th century.This wide-ranging information will be invaluable for the development of policies on the management of underwater cultural heritage throughout the UK” (2001: 24).

“As the percentage of reports relating to historic wreck was almost double the expected rate, the Amnesty provided valuable information for heritage organisations tasked with the management of underwater sites” (2001:).

“The *Douro* (1843), for example, is regularly visited by divers and large numbers of artefacts, particularly manilas (or slave tokens), have been reported. Although the site is of historic and local interest, it is unlikely to be recorded by professional archaeologists

whose current resources are already over-stretched. Similarly, the information that the *Strathclyde* (1876) and its cargo of crockery and ceramic figurines has to offer is gradually being lost. The *Kyarra* (1918) is one of the most popular dives on the south coast. The knowledge and observations of the many divers who visit the wreck regularly represent a valuable resource for heritage organisation, as is the information the Amnesty has provided on material that has already been recovered from this wreck” (2001: 23)

Action:

- *The finding of the 2001 Amnesty Report should be drawn on in the development of management approaches.*

This should include the recognition of the private archive related to sites when determining significance and for management and protection.

Heritage and salvage – as has already been mentioned, the inclusion of historic wreck within the Merchant Shipping Act which is legislation closer to property law than any related to the historic environment, has had a significant impact on the archives of sites. While it has been argued that at least with the RoW system at least makes known what is brought up from the seabed, from a heritage management perspective there are also many negatives of this system, not least that it provides a financial reward for the recovery of historic assets.

These issues have recently been debated again in relation to the drafting of new heritage legislation through Heritage Protection for the 21st Century (DCMS 2007) and the subsequent draft Heritage Protection Bill (2008). Although the intention was to bring marine heritage protection in line with that in the terrestrial zone in practice the draft Bill does not deliver this. In particular in relation to salvage and the RoW, the Bill falls short of making it a statutory responsibility for the RoW to report material of historic interest to heritage agencies, meaning that a chance to improve the fate of maritime archives has been lost. It should be noted that Scotland is not included within the proposals for the marine area within the draft Bill having chosen to develop its own approaches to legislation. It is currently uncertain how new legislation will affect the long term situation related to maritime archives.

A further impact of the current RoW system is that if a museum is interested in acquiring an object that has been recovered they not only have to pay a salvage award to the finder, but they also have to pay to conserve the item. In effect this means paying twice to acquire historic material, which may be a disincentive for museums to collect archive from the marine zone.

Actions:

- *The continued inclusion of historic wreck material within the salvage regime should be kept under review*

Although this issue was not tackled within the recent drafting of legislation any opportunity to improve the archiving of historic material within this regime should be taken, for instance if the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 is due to be revised.

- *Methods for encouraging the acquisition of historic material through the RoW system should be reviewed and developed*

This might include making available finances for public museums seeking to acquire objects for which they are required to pay a salvage award and for subsequent conservation.

6. Key Archive Collection Issues and Required Actions

As has been demonstrated in sections 4 and 5 there are a range of issues affecting maritime archaeological archives. This situation has arisen due to a number of factors, and while it cannot be attributed to a specific policy or area, it is now time to review the current situation in order to develop actions to improve the fate of maritime archives.

This report has focused on the accessibility and security of archives, and the specific issues in relation to particular areas, sectors and archive types, which have been articulated within the above sections. Section 6 concentrates on providing a concise summary of the key issues and potential actions previously identified, in addition to considering broader issues highlighted by the survey findings.

Many of the most serious issues relating to maritime archives are most relevant in England where the system for the acquisition, storage and curation of archives is much less structured than that in Scotland. The following sections considering issues and potential actions are therefore most appropriate to England. However, it should not be overlooked that in Scotland there is also a high level of maritime archive held in private hands, such as individual divers, which has the potential to contribute to long term approaches to research and management of the marine historic environment.

6.1 Quantity of undeposited maritime archive

Key Facts: Detailed responses to the online survey revealed the following numbers of type of archive not currently residing within public museums or archives*:

- Objects – 48,864
- Paper – 172,168
- Photographs – 153,191
- Video – 1,420
- Sample – 4,358
- Digital – 191,145

Additional summary information included thousands more archive elements, as well as over 30,000 artefacts from the RoW Amnesty report that are held in private collections.

* Note- the definition of a public museum include those that are government or local authority funded

There is clearly a large amount of undeposited maritime archaeological archive. As discussed, the figures above are representative of a proportion of undeposited archive, with the real figures being much higher. This material forms the record of our maritime past and as such is a vital part of our heritage which should be valued for its potential to contribute to our understanding of human history.

Action: Use results to underpin enhancement of maritime archaeological archiving capacity

The results of this project have sought to provide baseline information which should now be used to formulate future developments of capacity, facilities and support to ensure more maritime archaeological archive reaches public museums and repositories.

6.2 Accessibility and security

Key Facts:

- A small percentage of maritime archives are currently held within public museums and repositories

- Private museums and exhibitions play an important role in making archives accessible to the public
- A large percentage of maritime archives have very uncertain long-term security
- The full scale of archives not held within public museums remains unquantified in detail

In terms of general access to our maritime cultural heritage the survey has demonstrated that access levels are variable. As much of the extant physical traces of maritime sites lie underwater and out of reach of the majority of the public, access to recovered archives is one of the most important ways people can directly engage with this aspect of their heritage. The lack of physical access to sites combined with the high levels of archive which are in private collections and/or remain undeposited, means that as a maritime nation with a long and developed involvement with the sea, large parts of this heritage are inaccessible. The importance and urgency of improving access and security to maritime archives must be promoted to ensure it is included within strategies and priorities from central to local government, and also reviewed by the heritage and museum sectors to ensure this inequity in 'access' is addressed in the future.

One of the key underlying problems for access and security issues is a lack of clarity over roles and responsibilities for archives from the marine zone. Currently there are no museums or archives taking a coordinated approach to collection in order to improve public access to this area of heritage. (The lack of museums willing and/or able to collect maritime archaeological archives was highlighted in the Element One report). Taken in conjunction with the long term disengagement of maritime archaeological archives from both terrestrial archaeology and maritime museums, a lack of leadership in this area and low levels of resources, it highlights the desperate need to coordinate a range of measures to improve this situation.

In the past there has been a somewhat cyclical argument that there is not a framework, facilities or resources within which to acquire maritime archives or curate them and this should be in place first. This has resulted in a lack of sufficient pressure to develop such measures. This report demonstrates there are already significant archive 'backlog' problems. However, as these are split across a number of sectors and responsibilities the magnitude of these problems have not previously been fully realised.

The survey responses and the detailed review of issues revealed that actions are required in a number of areas:

Action: Further quantification studies

This survey has only gone so far in identifying the location of a range of archives and collections, and more work is required. A number of exhibitions, collections and individuals indicated they have significant volumes of material but did not have time to provide in depth detail for this survey as there was no current catalogue available.

Key sectors which would benefit from further studies of the archive held and its condition in relation to potential deposition are: private museums and exhibitions, contractors, universities, charitable trusts and protected wreck sites.

A likely outcome of such studies will be the requirement of resources to develop access and potential acquisition measures (see below).

Action: Development of research and reference collection priorities

The current archives held within public museums and repositories are far from representative of the breadth and diversity of the marine cultural heritage. The scarcity of numbers means there are no existing reference collections for those wishing to undertake research. Despite the long history

of maritime trade, transport and defence there is no reference collection for ship structure, fixtures and fittings.

It is essential that a programme to develop maritime research and reference collections is developed, this would underpin future acquisition approaches (see below). This issue is also timely due to the development of research frameworks, in England the Maritime and Marine Historic Environment Research Framework (http://www.southampton.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/maritime_research_framework.html), and in Scotland the Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (<http://www.socantscot.org/scarf.asp?Menu=>). It should be acknowledged that the development of reference collections will need to be undertaken in liaison with the MLA and relevant museums and archives agencies and organisations to ensure a coordinated approach.

Action: Development of acquisition approaches and appropriate resources

The high numbers of maritime archives in private ownership, some of which have very uncertain long term security, means that it may be possible to acquire collections in the future, both to make them more publically accessible and to add to national reference collections. This will require the development of priorities for acquisition and, importantly the resources and facilities to house them. High priority areas where acquisition should be undertaken are:

- Archives which may be offered for donation to museums (whether single items or substantial archives)
- Private exhibitions and collections at risk of dispersal through sale
- Significant objects and collections reported through the RoW and the salvage system

Action: Provision of interim archive measures

It is clear that the development of long-term archive provision for maritime material will take years to set in place, however, it is of utmost urgency that interim measures are put in place to enable the deposition of archive in a public facility. This 'stop gap' will help prevent the further accumulation of backlog while longer term solutions are being formulated. In particular it will help enable:

- Acquisition of archive in private ownership that may be donated or purchased
- Storage and curation of archives from past and on-going development control projects

Action: Innovation in access

In addition to the physical deposition of archives there are a range of possible approaches that could be developed to allow access to maritime archives that are in private exhibitions and collections and to gather data which otherwise remains out of reach. Key areas highlighted within this report include:

- Potential partnerships with private museums and exhibitions to promote access to archives – whether through physical access or through cataloguing initiatives where the results are made available through public means e.g. digitally
- Work with Protected Wreck Site groups to develop access initiatives
- Development of partnerships with commercial companies to improve access to data for research
- Potential work through RoW salvage regime to enhance information provided by reporters and engage with those who recover significant archive components

6.3 Storage and curation

Key Facts

- Many archives are held in private collections which do not have ready access to advice on storage and curation and operate outside of established guidelines on collections care

- Digital data poses particular storage and curation challenges
- Curation in terms of heritage management suffers from a lack of clarity over roles and responsibilities for archives from the marine zone

The high levels of archive in private collections means that storage and curation of these collections are varied. While there are some examples of good practice, inevitably there are a number of cases where storage and curation are poor. This situation has arisen due to the lack of public museums and archives willing to accession maritime material, but also due to a lack of established practice of offering archives for deposition. This is applicable to physical and digital archives. The need to improve storage and curation is closely bound up with the lack of current facilities available for marine material, hence the resolution of capacity should have a significant impact on improving this situation. There is also little consideration given to material that is being recovered, often by individual divers, through the Receiver of Wreck system. Finders are obliged to keep material in ‘as found’ condition, but do not have to take any active measures for conservation.

Actions: Improving storage and curation

- Detailed review of storage and curation of a range of archives not held within public museums, including examples from a number of sectors (such as Protected Wrecks, larger regional shipwreck exhibitions and archaeological contractors) to gain a more accurate picture of storage and curation conditions
- Review of sources of advice on marine storage and curation for private collections and exhibitions
- Work with Receiver of Wreck to promote storage and curation of marine recoveries while ownership is being established
- Review of current best practice in relation to digital data, strategies for long-term storage, copyright and licensing agreements and their applicability to a maritime context

In addition to the curation of individual archives, it is clear that ‘curation’ in terms of heritage management is having a significant effect in this area. The lack of clarity over responsibility for areas of the marine zone – territorial waters, ports, harbours, estuaries and beyond territorial waters – means that archiving considerations are not featuring within project briefs and consents, and hence the results of archaeological investigations are not reaching public museums and archives. There is an urgent need to get the ‘framework’ in relation to archives clearly established.

Actions: curatorial and management framework

- Clarity in relation to roles and responsibilities for archives within the marine zone that is clearly articulated to all heritage agencies, local authorities, museums, archives and those undertaking the investigations
- Curatorial input to include digital archiving is incorporated within project briefs and conditions of consent which will allow it to be properly costed into tenders and to reach deposition (it should be recognised that this can be a problems with terrestrial archives as well and that digital archiving capacity is also likely to require enhancement to cope with the volumes being generated)

6.4 Guidance, support and training

There is a need for a range of measures to develop guidance, support and training in relation to marine archives across the sectors. Again the lack of clarity over responsibility means that no single organisation has promoted maritime archaeological archives and issues specifically related to them. Hence, it is now appropriate for all organisations and agencies involved with

archaeology, museums and archives to review this situation. Areas where a dearth of guidance, support and training has been identified include:

- Guidance and support mechanisms for Protected Wreck Site groups and private exhibitions
- Archive teaching and training within higher education and more vocationally targeted courses
- Local authority and national heritage agency staff who are specifying conditions of consents on coastal and marine development control work

Actions:

- The promotion of the AAF archive guidance (Brown 2007) and, where necessary, the development of further guidance clearly articulating the archiving process in relation to marine material, such as those being developed by the ADS for digital data
- A review of current education and training within available courses from vocational through to post-graduate
- The involvement and consideration of all sectors currently producing maritime archives within the development of training, guidance and support
- Recognition that the provision of adequate support for all sectors during the process of improving the deposition of maritime archives will require resources

6.5 Ownership, disposal and attrition of the seabed archive

Key Facts

- The salvage system means that historic objects are treated as ‘lost property’ rather than heritage assets
- Regular, small scale recovery of artefacts from sites is gradually reducing the seabed archive with no consideration of the continued loss from historic assets
- It is common for artefacts to be recovered from the seabed with the prime motivation being profit from their sale
- Significant shipwreck collections have been dispersed through sale without consideration of the regional or national significance of the collections

The current legislative situation in relation to wreck material is having an effect on maritime archives from the seabed, through recovery to ownership and their long-term fate. This is further illustrated by the following case study which sought to quantify the types of objects and volumes of material that are commonly available through the internet auction site eBay.

Case Study: The eBay Market Place

A survey of items from historic wrecks commonly available for sale on the auction site eBay was undertaken on two occasions during July and August 2008, each reviewed the items available on a single day. All the items were listed in either the ‘antiques’ or ‘coins’ categories. In total there were 39 entries of objects for sale:

Ship	Date	No of entries	Brief Description
<i>Admiral Gardner</i>	1808	7	All items were coins from this East India vessel lost on the Goodwin Sands (Kent)
<i>Avalanche</i>	1877	1	A tin-plate match box, complete with waxed paper matches. Ship was lost 12 miles off Portland Bill (Dorset)
<i>Campan</i>	1627	3	Silver coins from this East India vessel lost off the Needles (Isle of Wight)
<i>Douro</i>	1843	6	Slave manilas from this wreck off the Isles of Scilly (Cornwall)
<i>HMS Invincible</i>	1758	10	2 cannon flint locks, 3 cannon crow blocks, 2 pieces of wood, 2 lead

			shot, 1 piece of rope from this Protected Wreck site in the Eastern Solent (Hampshire)
<i>Hollandia</i>	1742	1	1 knife handle from this East India vessel wrecked of the Isles of Scilly (Cornwall)
<i>Luna</i>	1903	1	2 glass bottles from this German barque which wrecked off Lands End (Cornwall)
<i>Santo Christo de Castello</i>	1667	2	Set of 25 brass pins and wire linked musket shot from this ship lost of the Lizard (Cornwall)
<i>The Earl of Abergavenny</i>	1805	3	Gun flints recovered from this East India Vessel lost off Dorset
Unknown wreck	?	3	1 deadeye and 2 silver coins

Sellers were located in a variety of UK places, with the most common being Hampshire and the Isles of Scilly.

Many of the artefacts represented are from sites which often provide archive material for sale, such as the *Admiral Gardiner*, *Invincible* and the *Earl of Abergavenny*. However, there are also a number of sites that are either unknown, or are of archaeological or historic potential.

The archive held by individual divers represents the largest and most diverse collection of maritime archaeological material from around the UK. At present this archive is out of reach in terms of access, preventing its inclusion within research and management approaches. This system by which the seabed archive continues to be recovered and dispersed, although much debated in relation to its appropriateness for heritage assets, is likely to be in place for the foreseeable future. The development of approaches, resources and facilities for maritime archives, should acknowledge the types of archive produced through the salvage regime and include this material within plans for acquisition where appropriate.

Actions

- The continued inclusion of historic wreck material within the salvage regime (Merchant Shipping Act 1995) should be kept under review
- Methods for encouraging the acquisition of historic material through the RoW system should be reviewed and developed
- Methods for reviewing the archaeological and historic significance of material, whether individual artefacts or collections, declared to the Receiver of Wreck should be assessed to ensure archive of regional and national importance is not being dispersed

6.6 Research potential and developing coordination

Key Facts

- Lack of coordinated collection of maritime archaeological archives has negatively affected the development of the discipline and related research interests
- Poor communication and integration between archaeology, maritime archaeology, museums and maritime museums is a barrier to developing maritime archaeological research and associated reference collections and centres of specialism
- Highly significant archives have been overlooked due to residing in private ownership or being difficult to access
- Without developing access to privately held collections maritime archaeological research and understanding will be hampered and remain poorly developed

There are some systemic problems affecting maritime archaeological archives due to the dislocation of maritime collections from archaeological collections. While there have been some attempts to review the research potential and possible organisational collaborations within a

'maritime' theme on a regional scale (e.g. Gale 1992; Steward & Ford 2007), this project is the first attempt at a large scale review concentrating on maritime archaeological archives. The findings of the survey have highlighted a range of areas related to research and coordination.

Over-looked archives

An important finding of this project has been the identification of the Receiver of Wreck Amnesty database as a key source of information on the maritime archaeology of UK waters. The information held within it has the potential to shed light on a vast array of research subjects from artefact specific studies of ship fixtures, fittings, utensils, machinery, cargoes, etc to broader subjects related to the political, economic and social development of the UK. The Amnesty report itself highlighted that "It was hoped that information gained from the Amnesty would help to further the creation of a full and valuable record of Britain's maritime heritage. This would assist historic and archaeological research and would help to devise strategies to preserve this valuable and finite resource in the future" (RoW 2001). Also that "The vast array of items recovered from these wrecks may prove to be of great value to future research into specific vessels, types of vessel, general vessel construction and adaptation, or cargo" (2001:18). To date this dataset has been overlooked.

However, this is not the only archive that has not been appreciated for its research potential, a wide range have been revealed within the different sectors creating archives, but also more broadly within companies and private exhibitions.

It has not been possible within the scope of this project to review the research potential of the data gathered during this survey in terms of what it might add to knowledge of ships and shipping of various periods. However, it is clear there is a need to undertake such a review. This would help feed into a number of current projects such as the emerging Maritime Archaeological Research Framework for England (Southampton University 2009), and Scottish Archaeological Research Framework Project (SCARF 2009). This would also help highlight the potential and value of marine archaeological archives across the marine and maritime research disciplines. Additionally it would help under-pin future acquisition strategies to develop reference collections and centres of specialist research.

Actions

- Review ways in which archives within private ownership (including RoW reported material) can be integrated within research programs and frameworks
- Promote the dataset from the 2001 RoW Amnesty as a source for research and for consideration during the development of management approaches
- Analysis of the data gathered for this project in terms of its research potential for ships and shipping of various periods

Separation and lack of coordination

As has already been articulated the position of maritime archaeology between the disciplines of 'archaeology' and 'maritime' has led to a lack of coordination between those collecting, researching and curating in these areas. There are a range of initiatives which have been promoted by the maritime museum sector, such as the approach of the UKMCS (Mulhearn 2005) and studies such as '*Setting the Course: The scope and future of Maritime Heritage in the East of England*' (Stewart & Ford 2007). However, these studies have focused on extant collections, and some have aimed to 'dove tail' and 'rationalise' collection policies (Mulhearn 2005: 30). This reflects the trend within museums, which under resource pressures, are not seeking to expand collections. It also demonstrates how maritime archaeological archives are rarely considered

alongside traditional ‘maritime museum’ collections with little or no consideration of how archive which remains on the seabed may help to develop particular collections or areas of research.

There is very little integration when considering the research potential of the marine historic environment as a whole. This means that the combined research potential of museum collections, archaeological archives, historic ships and associated maritime facilities is poorly understood.

Actions

- Articulation of responsibility for championing maritime archaeological research, to enable better integration across maritime museum, maritime history and historic ships sectors and raise the profile of the maritime archives

6.7 Concluding remarks

Slipping Through the Net: Maritime Archaeological Archives in Policy and Practice (Ransley and Satchell 2006) was the basis on which the Securing a Future for Maritime Archaeological Archives project was conceived. This closed with:

“In concluding, it is worth first reiterating again the importance of these archaeological archives. The archaeological record itself, the physical remains of our past, is a finite resource. In the marine environment, it is one that is constantly under threat from the dynamics of currents, tides, storms and human impacts, and at the same time is a resource that is often destroyed by the process of archaeological investigation itself, by excavation. Archaeological archives are a nationally important resource; they offer the means to re-access, re-interpret and re-assess our past, and as a result to re-define and re-articulate our own identity. Yet they are falling through this large gap in policy and practice. They are being dispersed, are deteriorating, remain un-interpreted and un-curated, are sold and sometimes simply abandoned. As this continues, more of our past is placed beyond the reach of the research community, of schools, of community groups, and of the public as a whole.”

This survey has gathered data which demonstrates the extent to which this statement is true and further articulates problems and issues on both a geographical and sectoral basis. While it is not claimed that this survey was comprehensive of every archive it does provide a snapshot of the situation and further underlines the urgency for action.

Undertaking this project has felt like it has ‘opened a can of worms’ in relation to maritime archives. There are so many different issues involved which are the product of the development of maritime archaeology over the last 50 years. They have not arisen due to any single factor, but are a product of history that now requires serious consideration and investment to ensure the future is not as ‘issue laden’ as the current situation.

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8. Figures

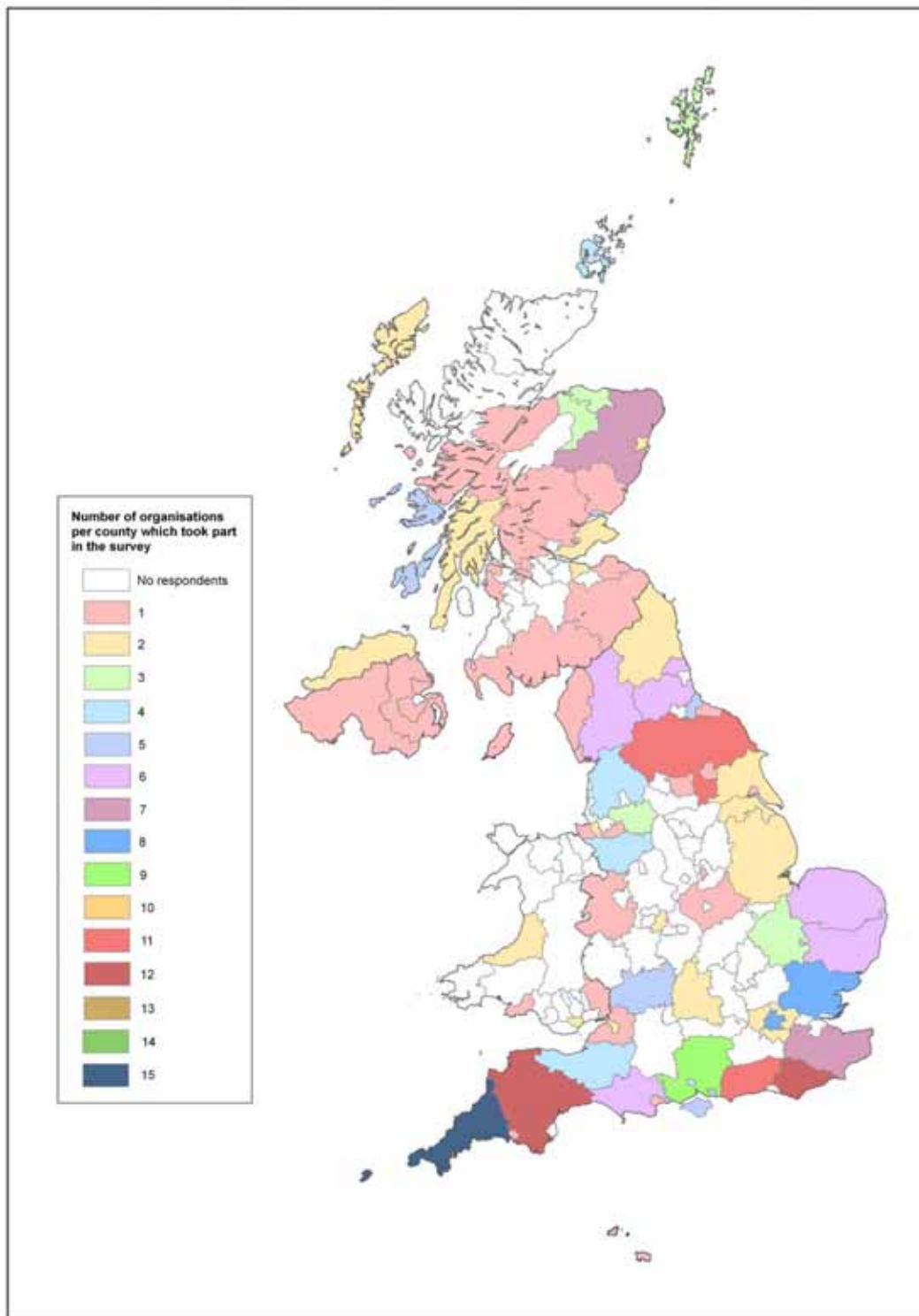


Figure One: Location of all those taking part in the survey, whether through the detailed on-line response or summary response

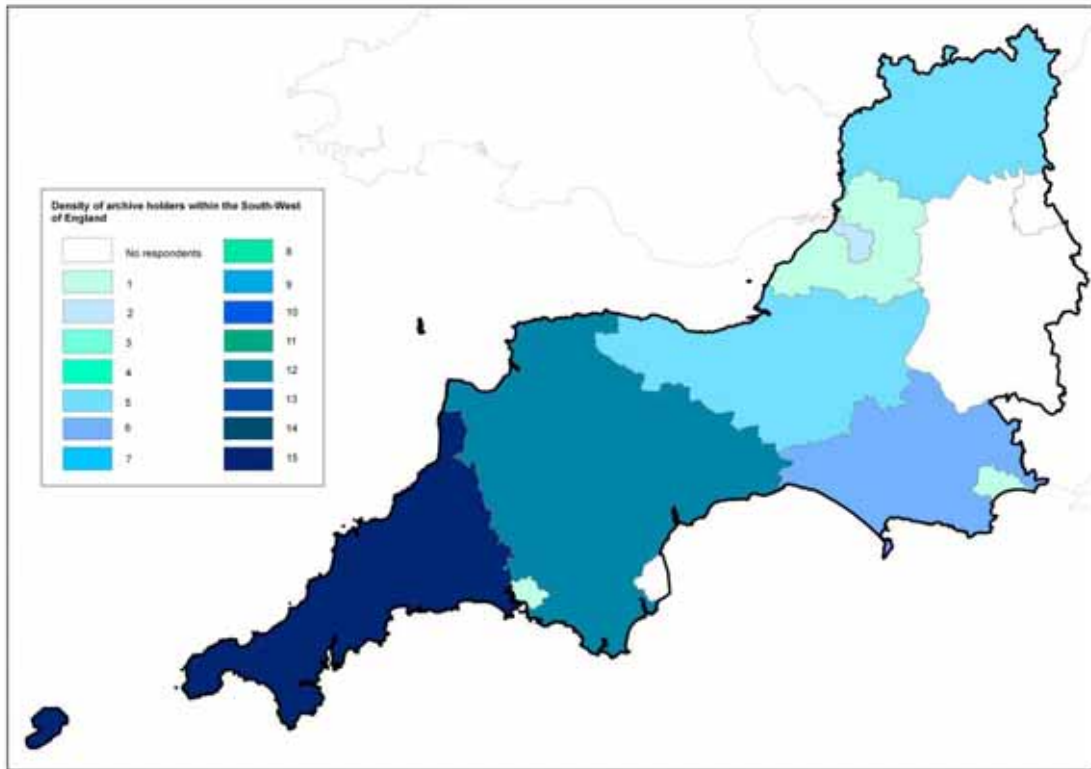


Figure Two: Distribution of archive holders within the South West of England based on survey results

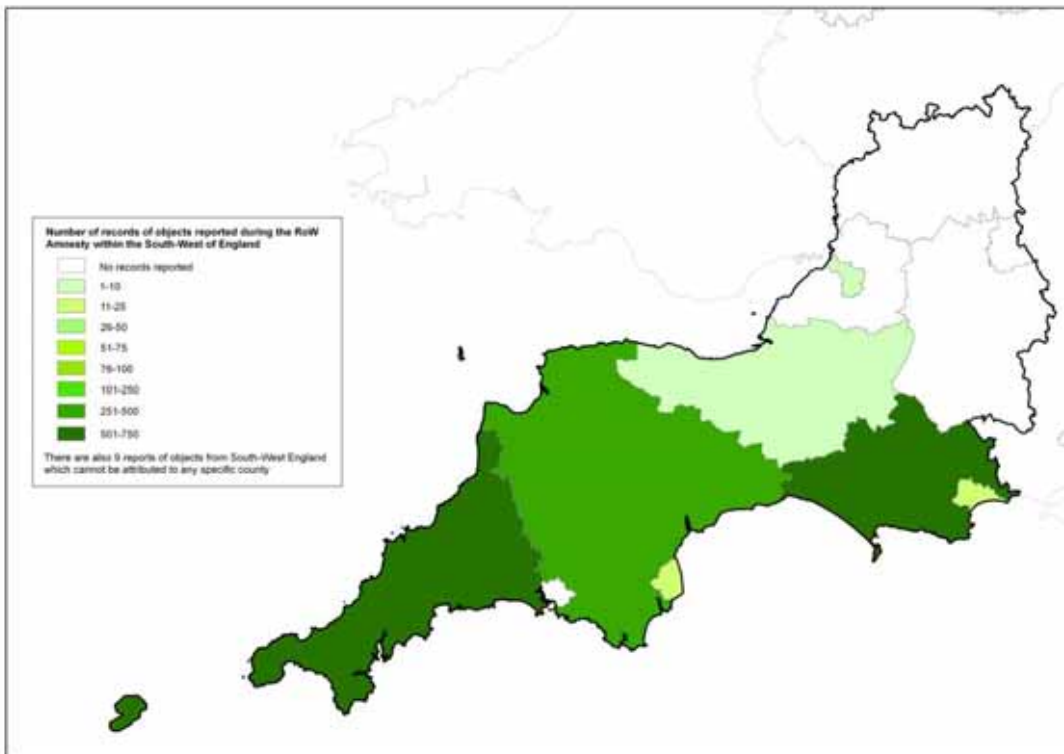


Figure Three: Distribution of RoW Amnesty reports in the South West of England

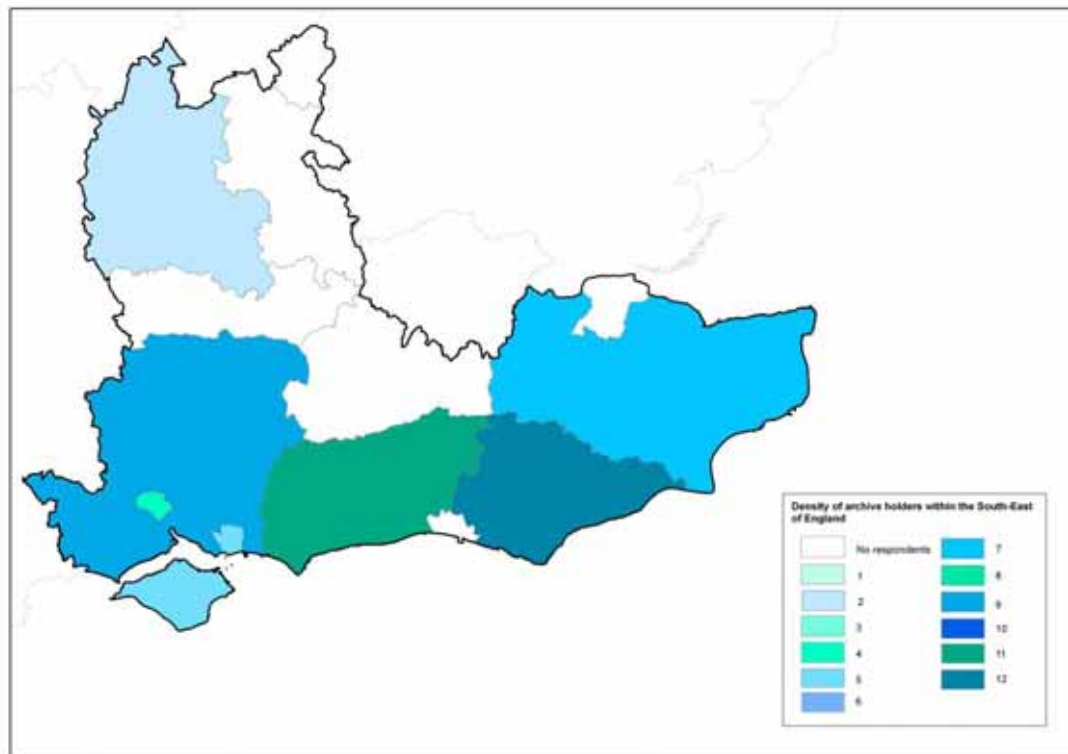


Figure Four: Distribution of archive holders within the South East of England based on survey results

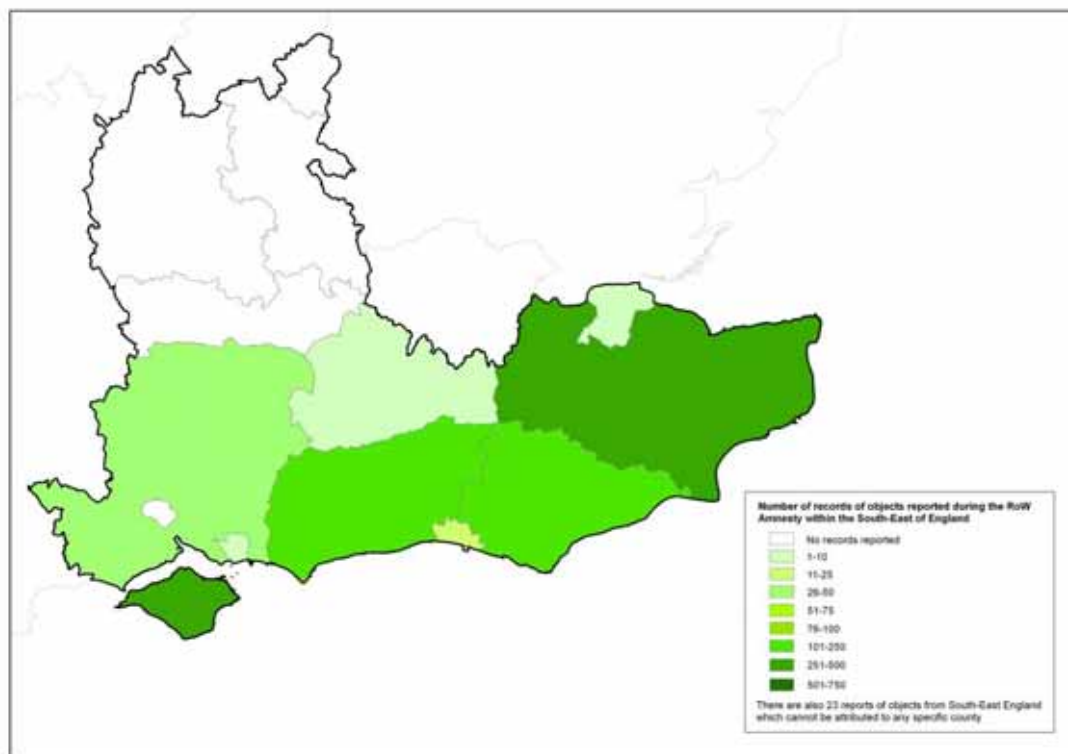


Figure Five: Distribution of RoW Amnesty reports in the South East of England

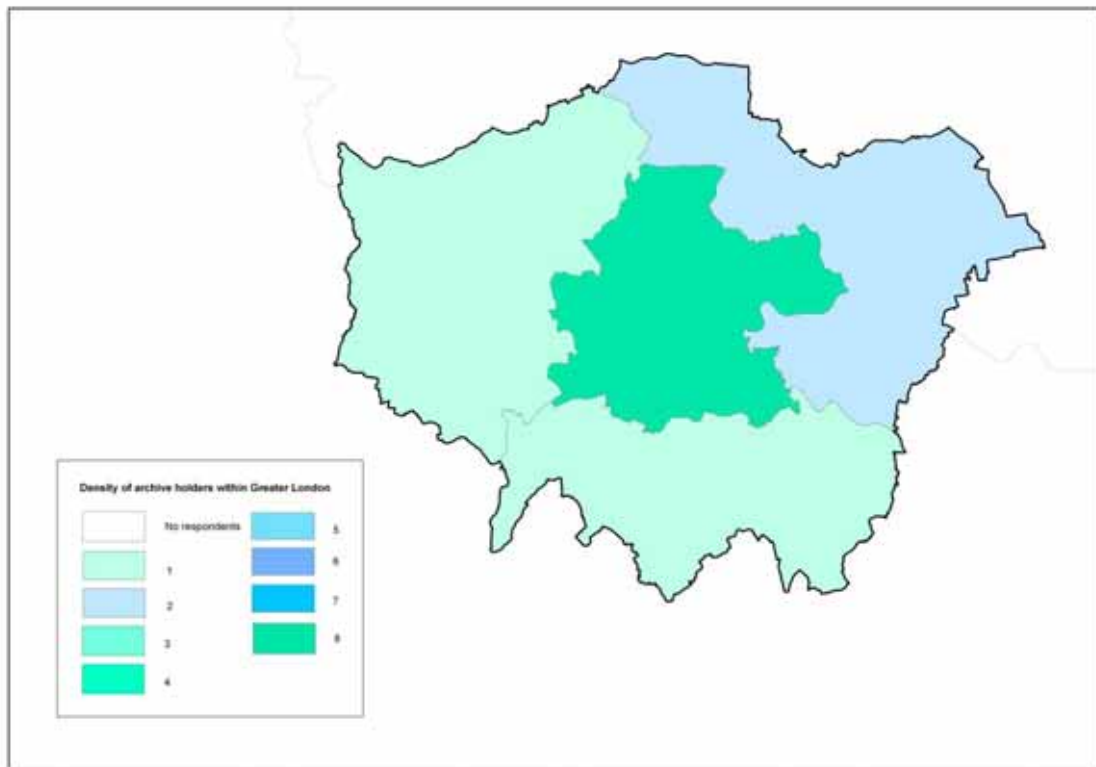


Figure Six: Distribution of archive holders within Greater London based on survey results

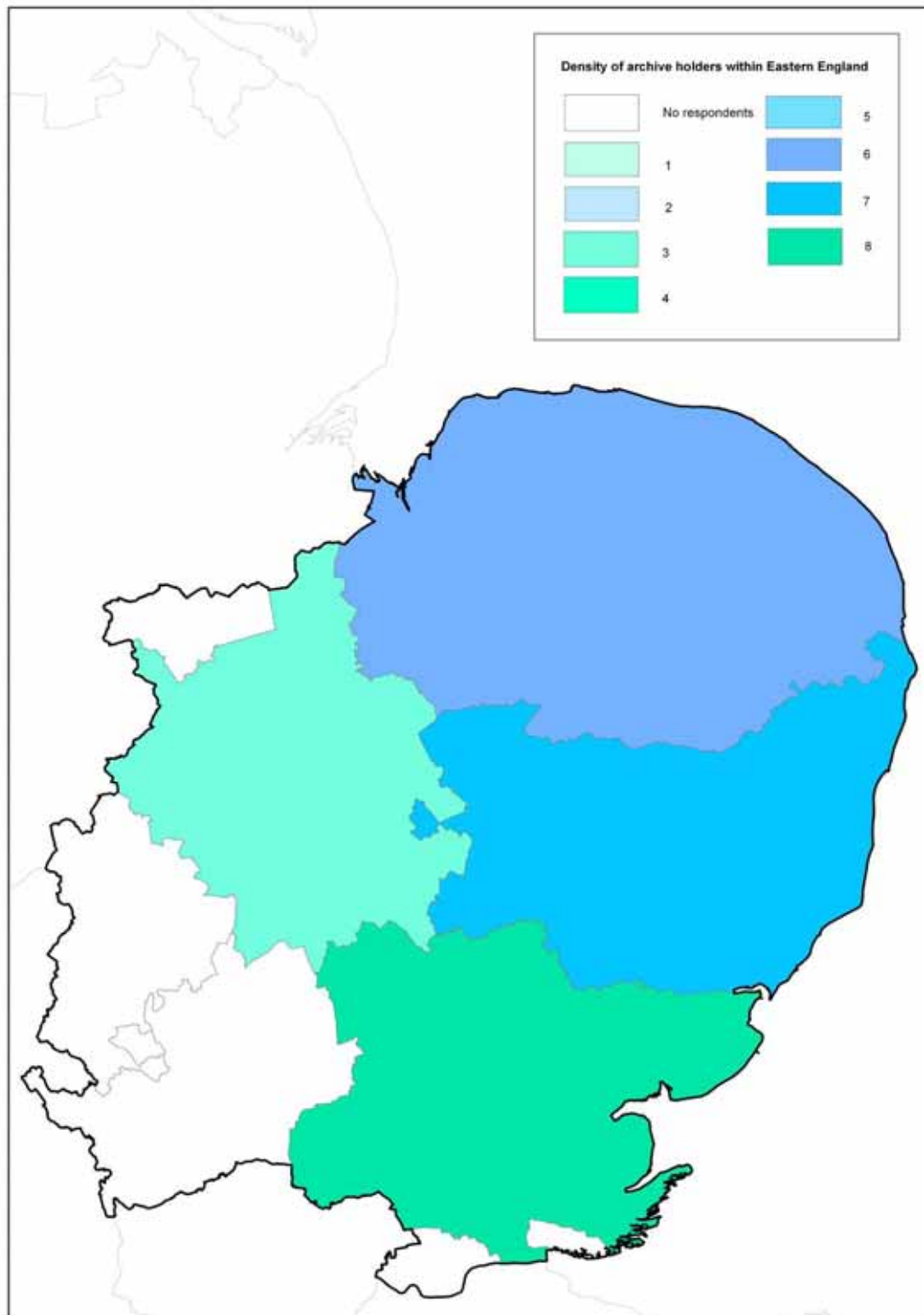


Figure Seven: Distribution of archive holders within the Eastern England based on survey results

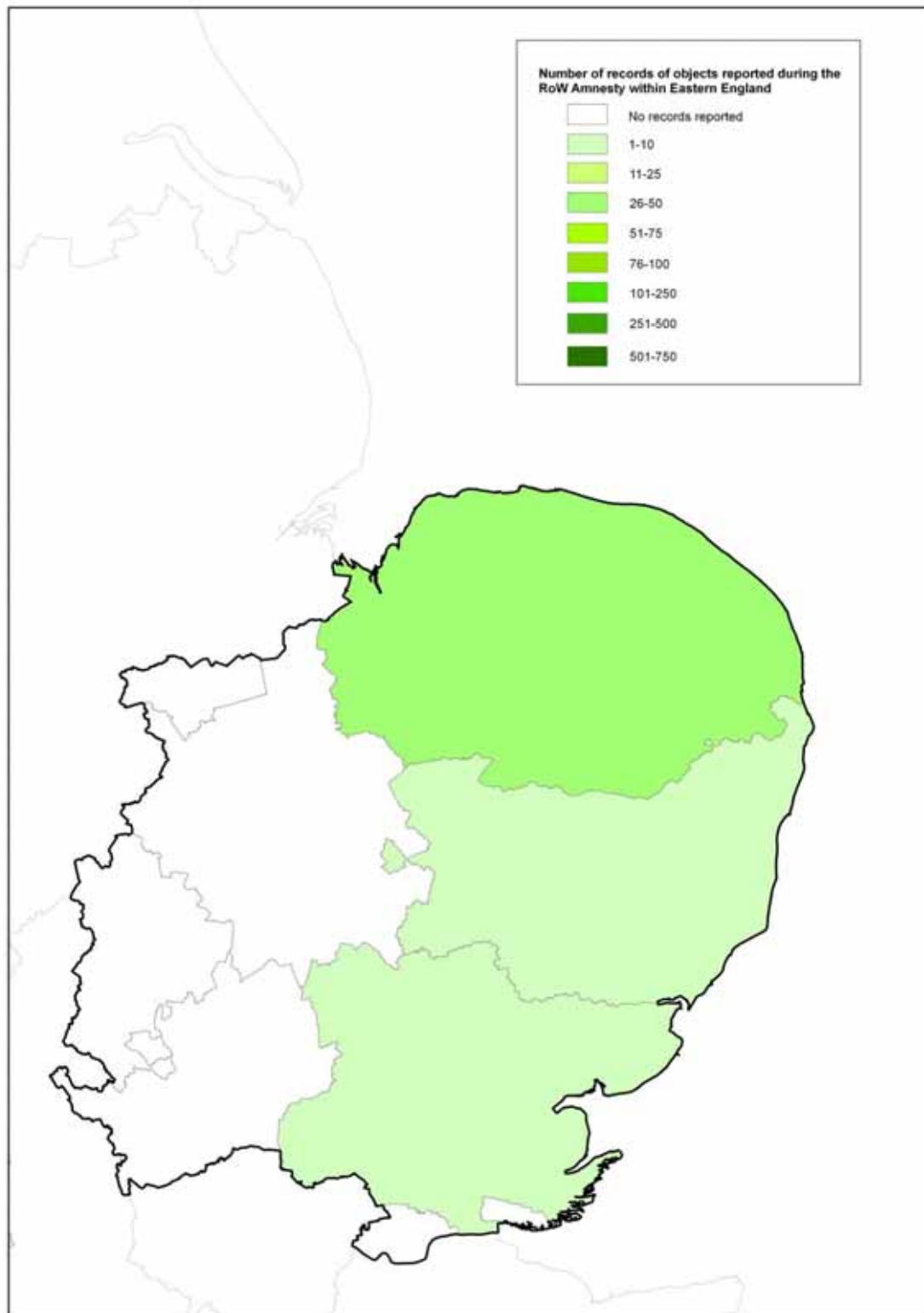


Figure Eight: Distribution of RoW Amnesty reports in Eastern England

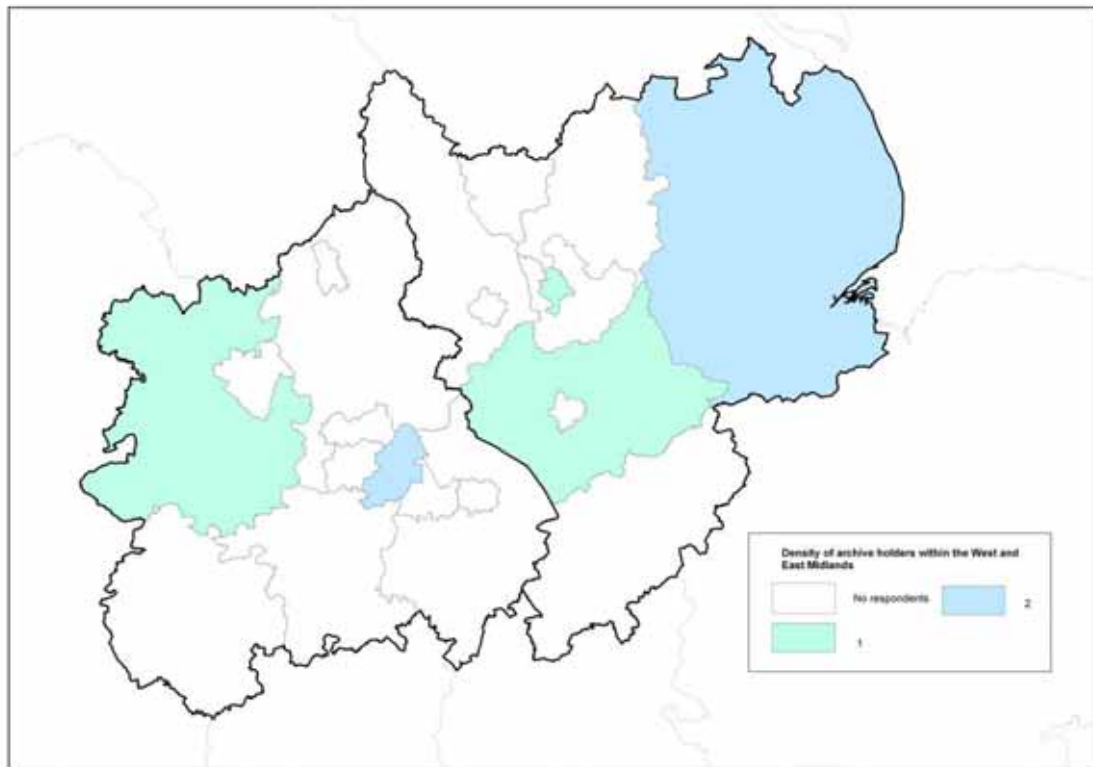


Figure Nine: Distribution of archive holders within East and West Midlands

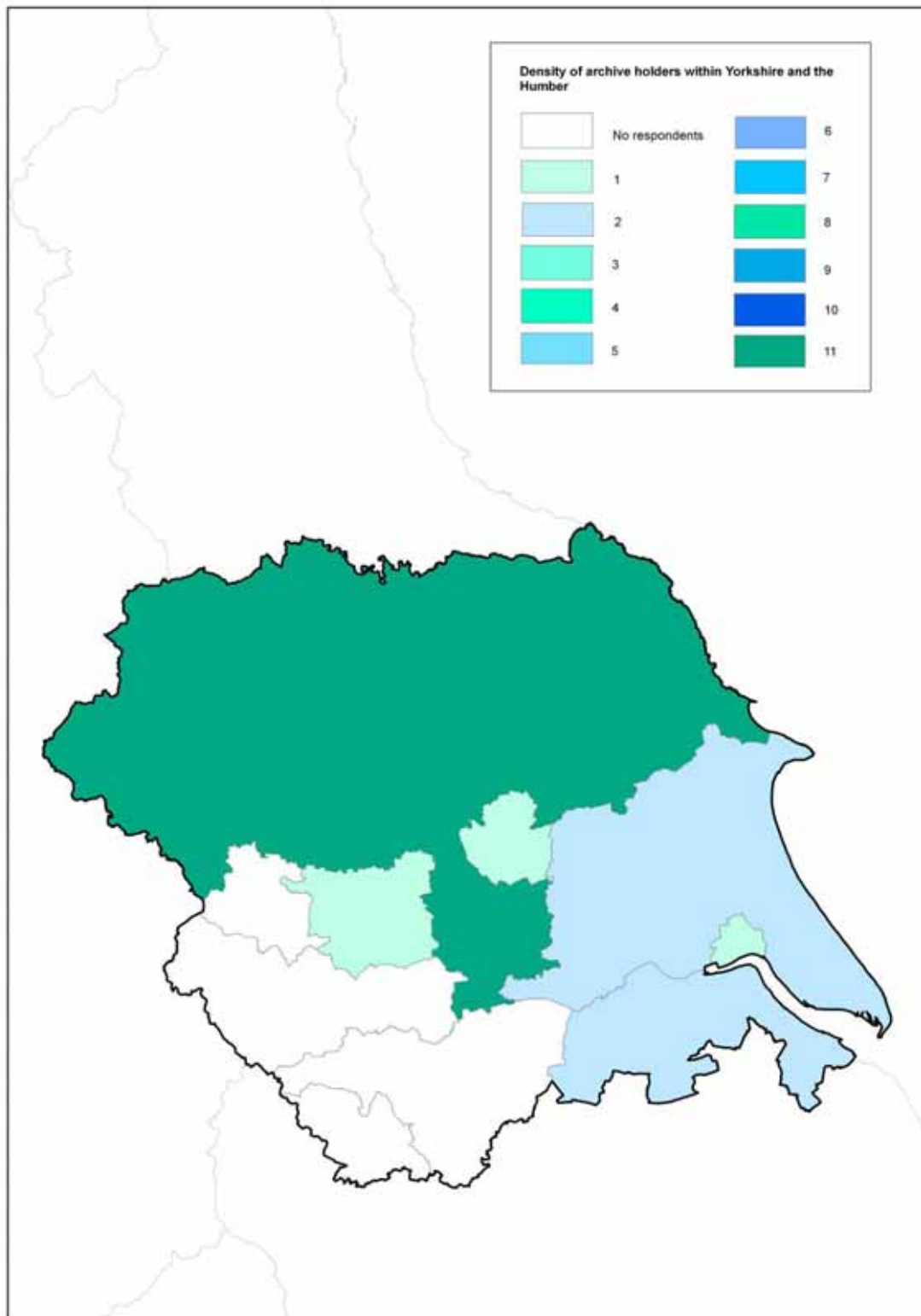


Figure Ten: Distribution of archive holders within Yorkshire and the Humber based on survey results

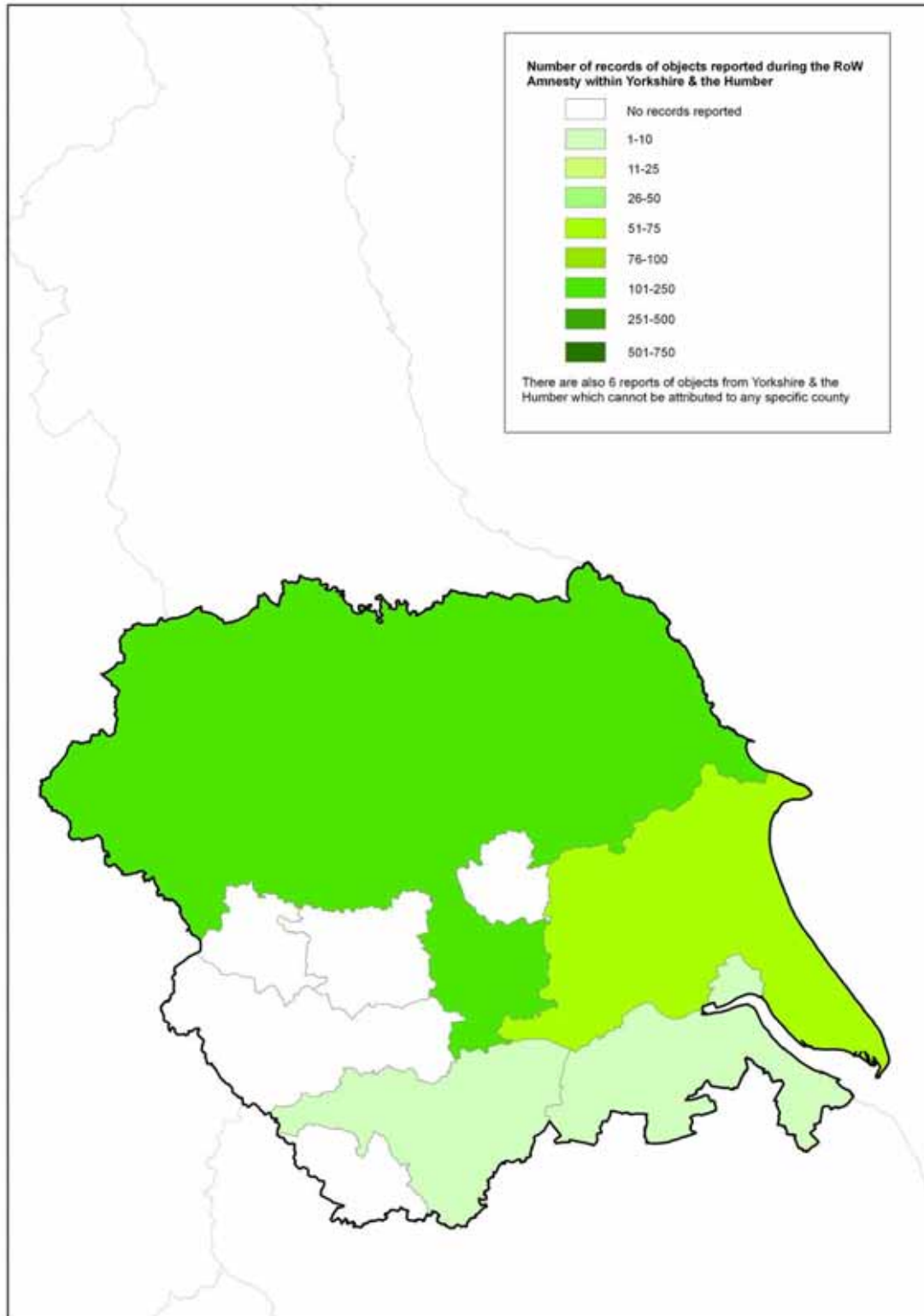


Figure Eleven: Distribution of RoW Amnesty reports in Yorkshire and the Humber

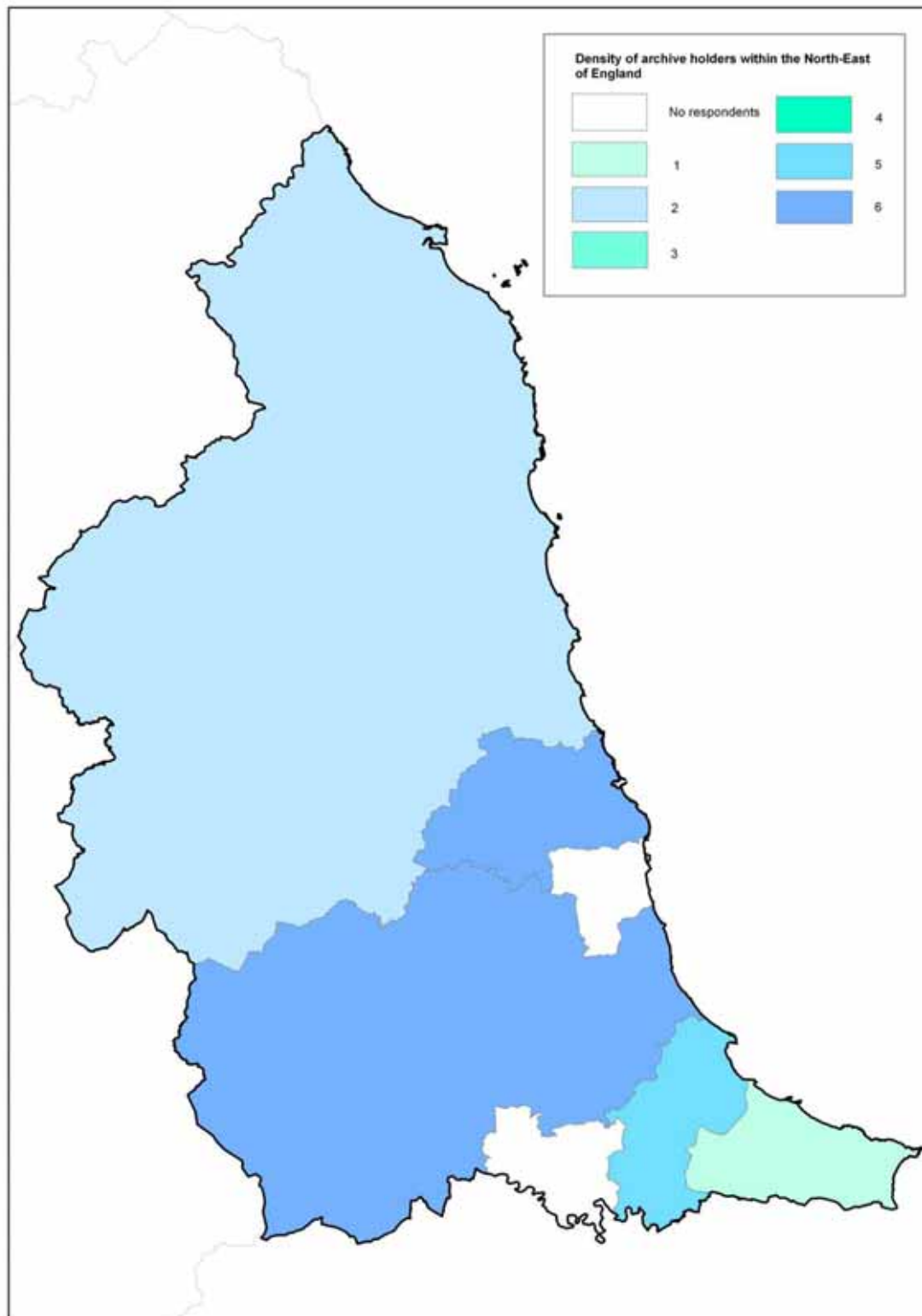


Figure Twelve: Distribution of archive holders within the North East of England based on survey results

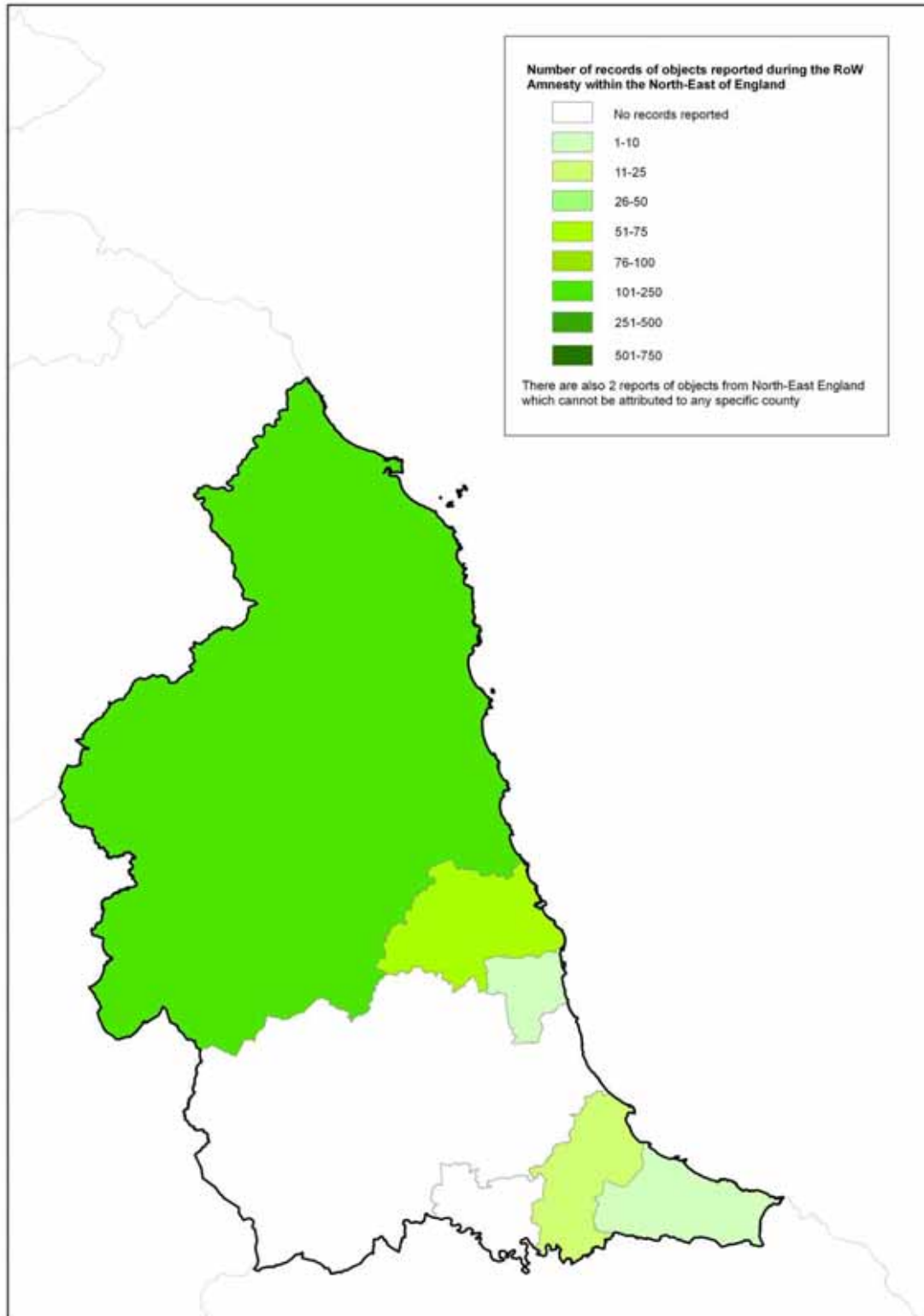


Figure Thirteen: Distribution of RoW Amnesty reports in the North East of England

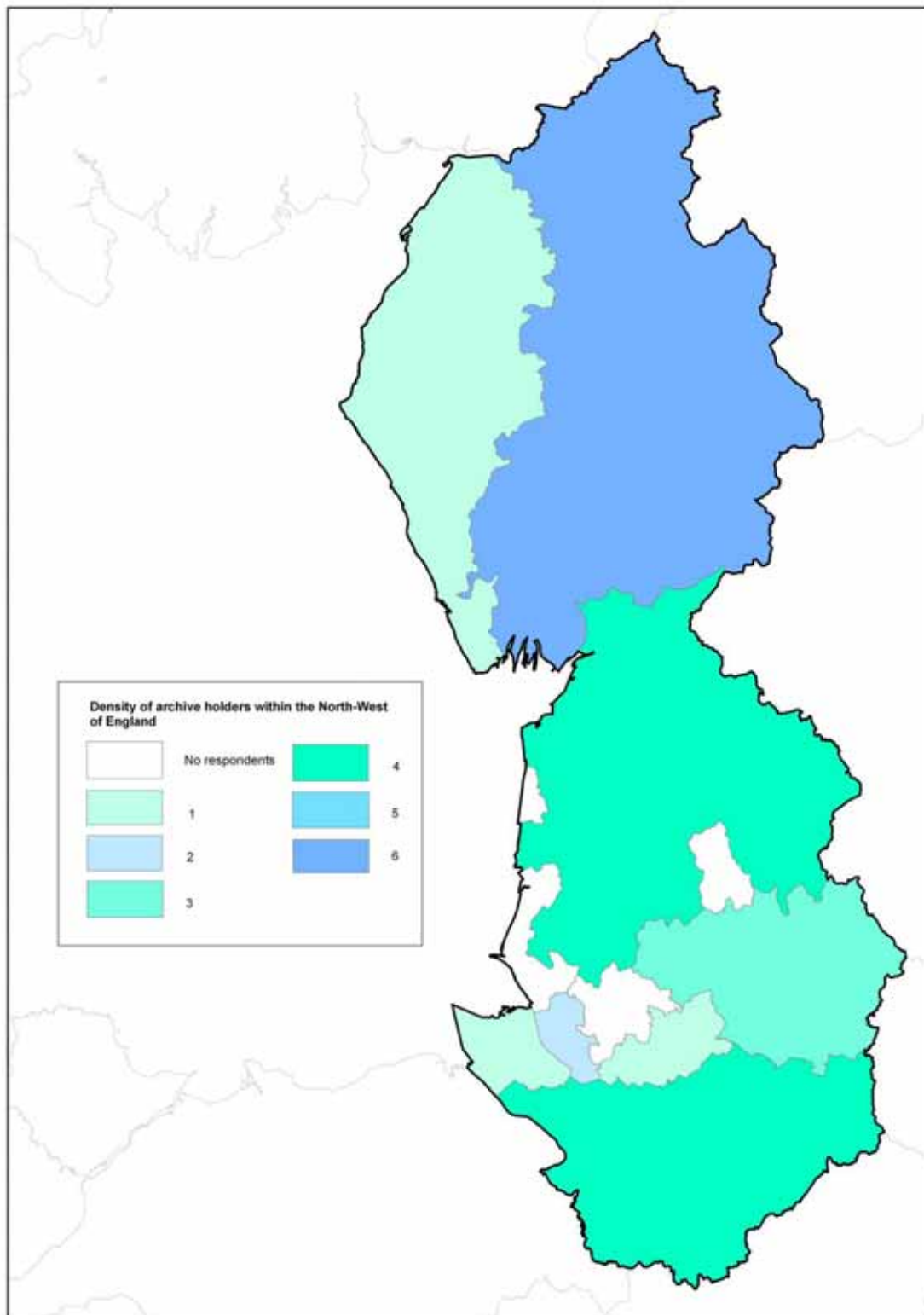


Figure Fourteen: Distribution of archive holders within the North West of England based on survey results

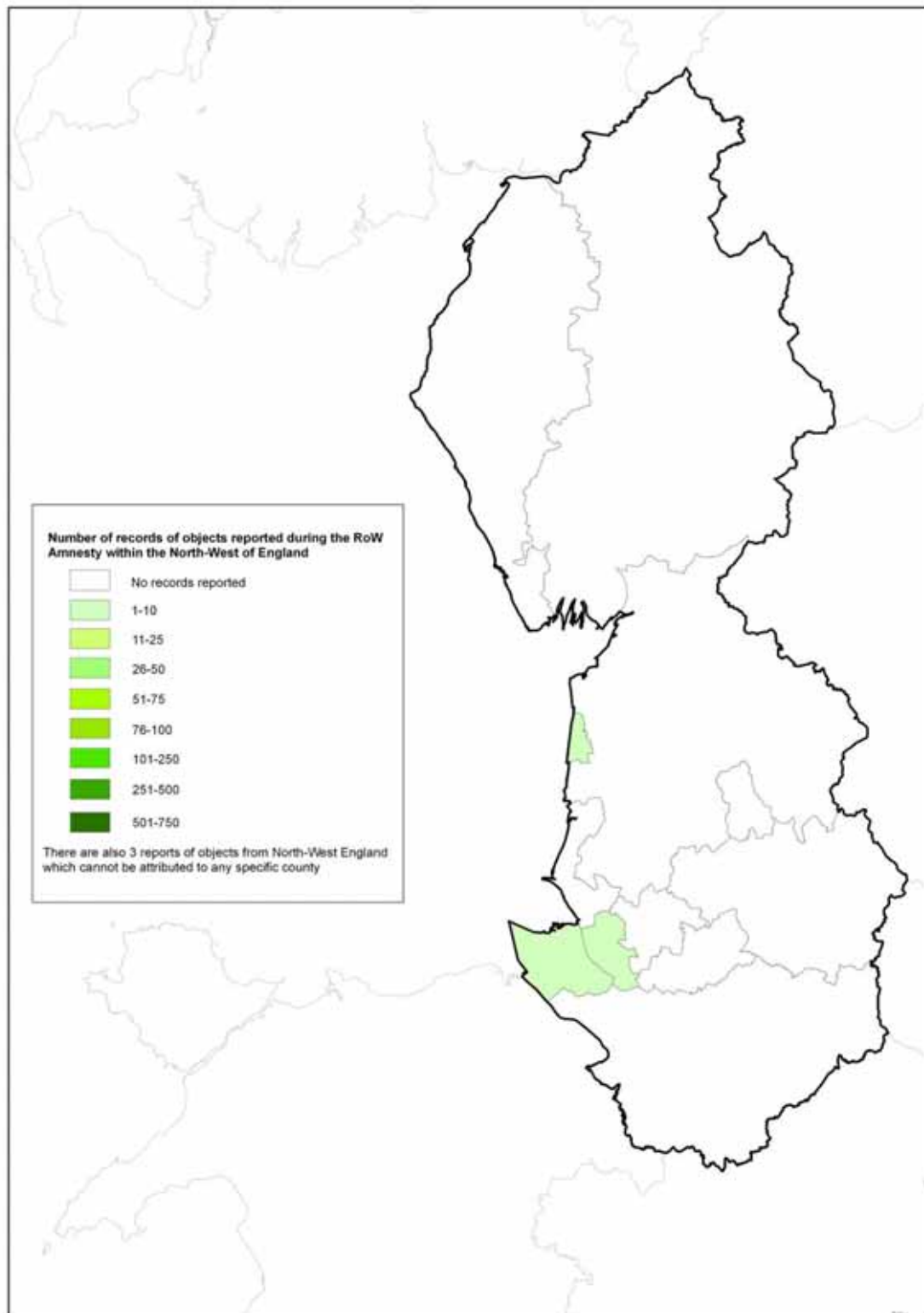


Figure Fifteen: Distribution of RoW Amnesty reports in the North West of England

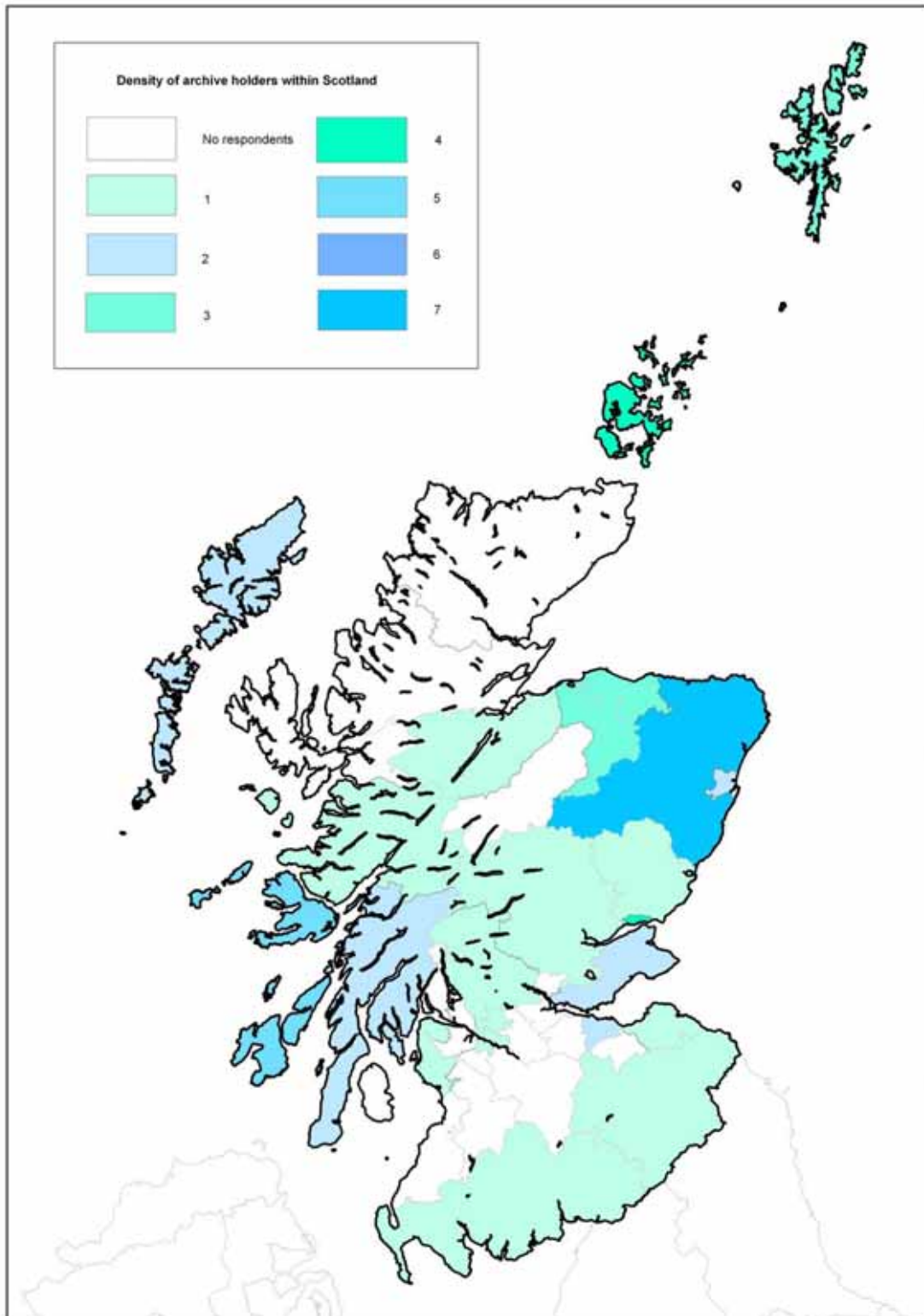


Figure Sixteen: Distribution of archive holders held within the Scottish regions based on survey results

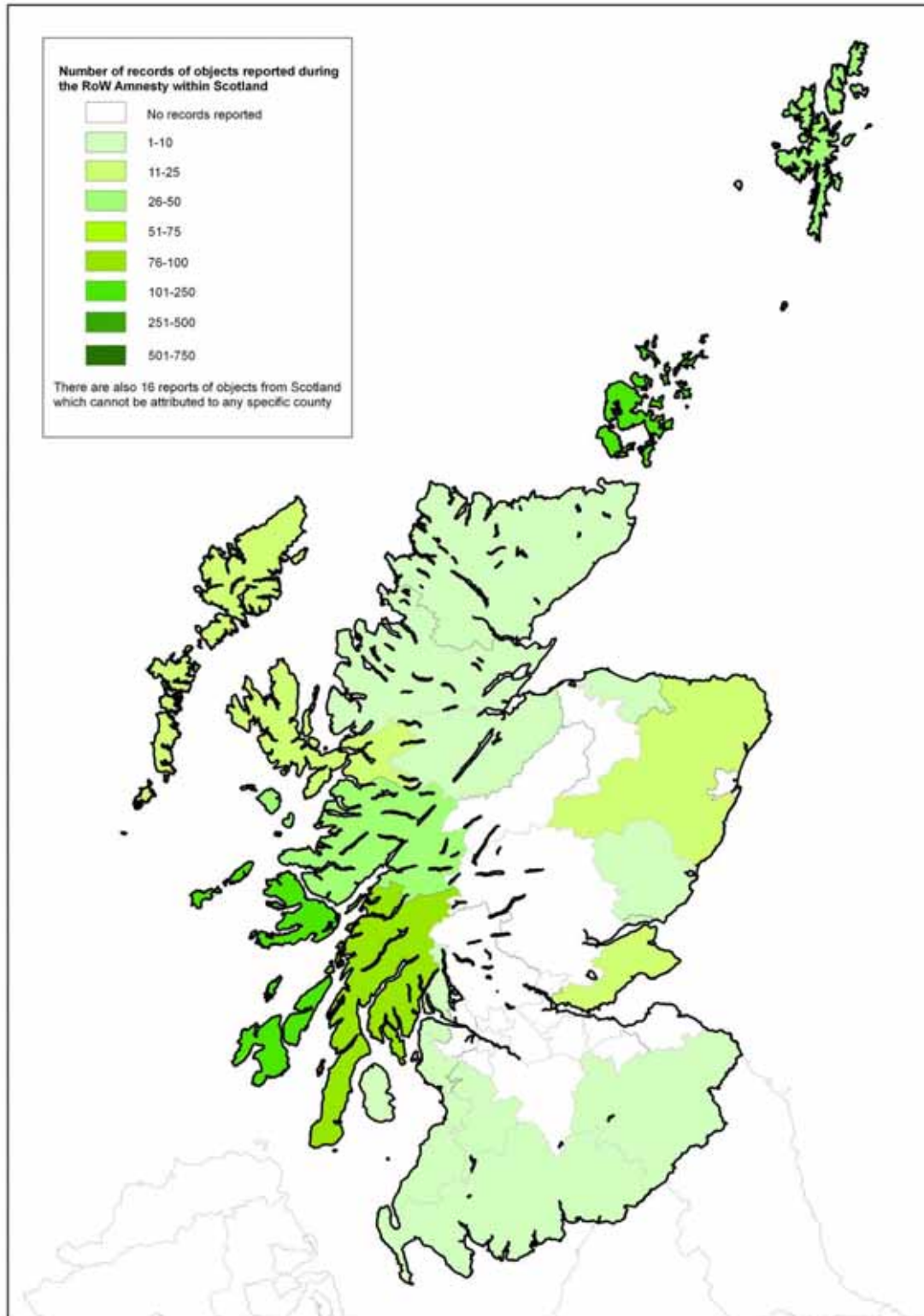


Figure Seventeen: Distribution of RoW Amnesty reports in the Scottish Regions



Figure Eighteen: Distribution of wrecked vessels during 1876 -7 (Reproduced by permission of the RNLI from the Lifeboat Journal, vol. X, no.110)

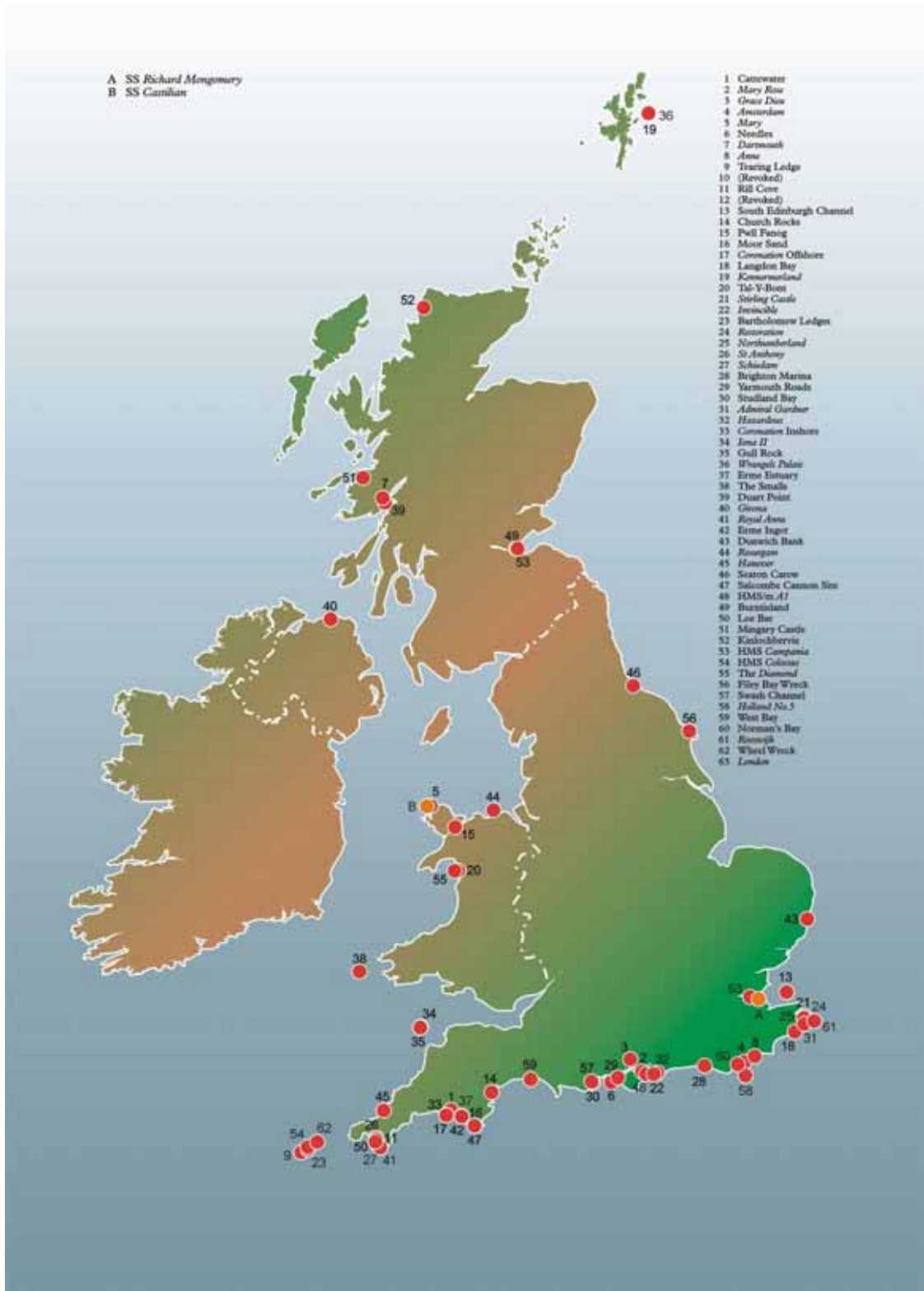


Figure Nineteen: Distribution of Designated Protected Wreck Sites (Reproduced with permission of English Heritage)

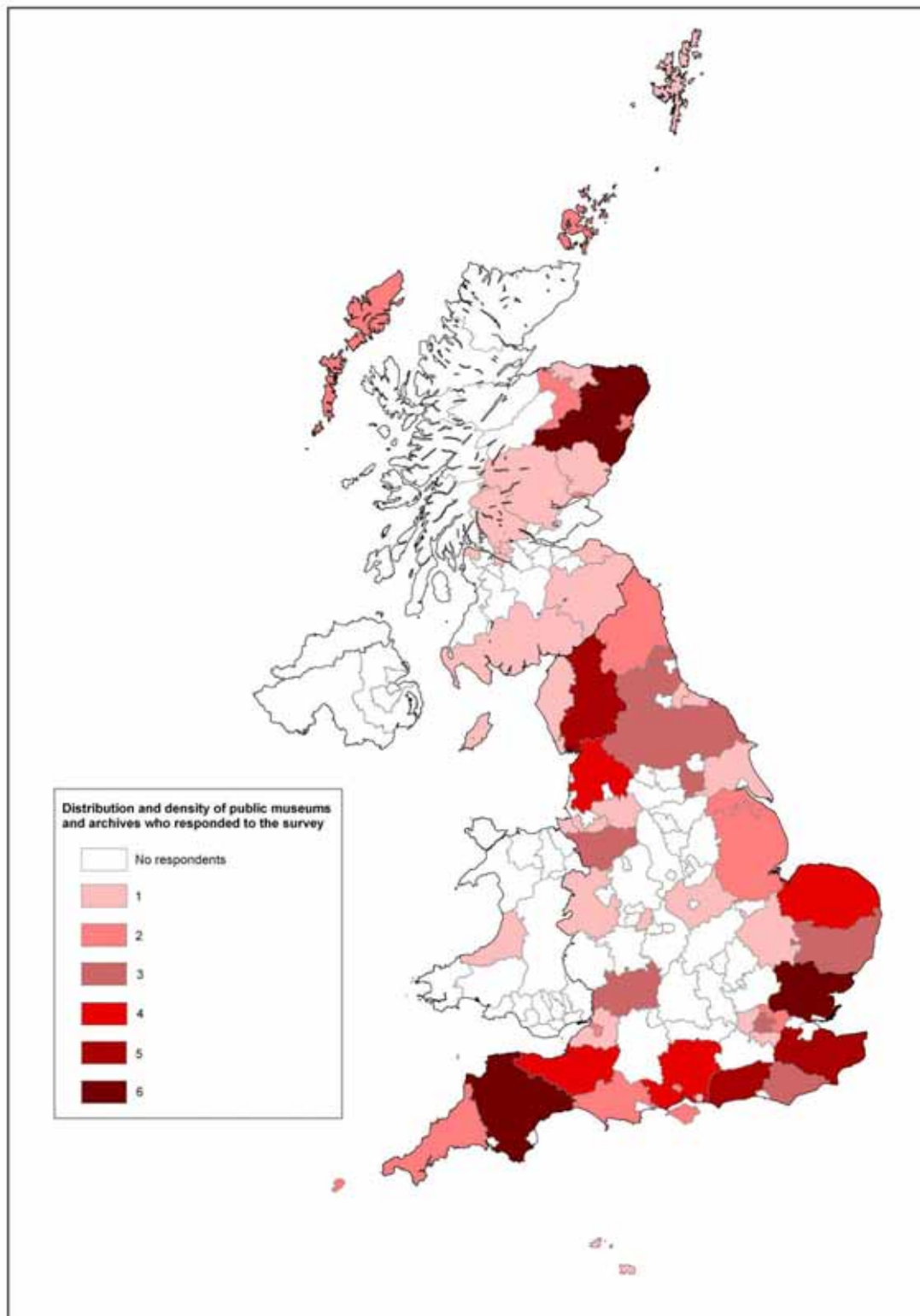


Figure Twenty: distribution and density of public museums and archives responding to the survey

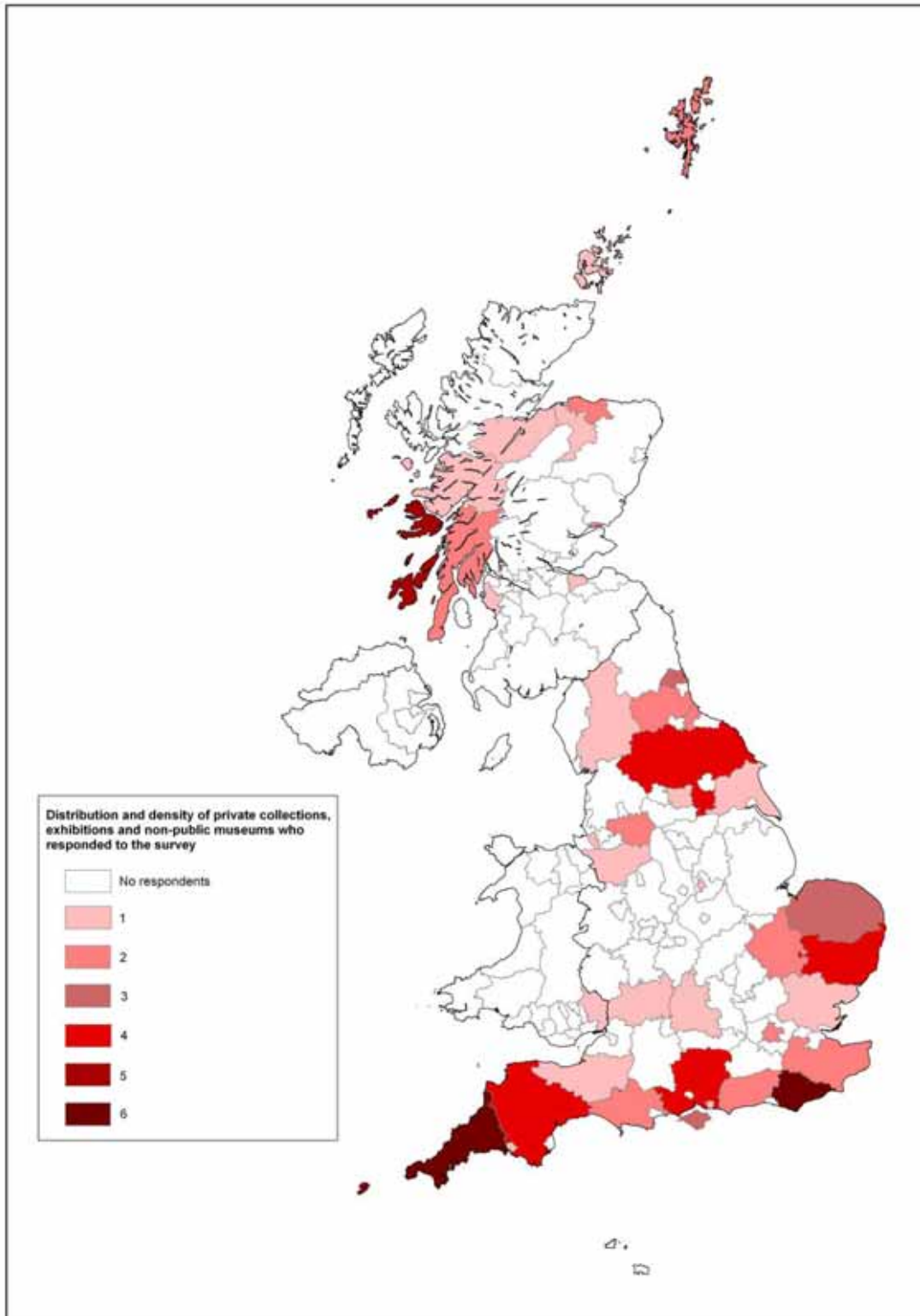


Figure Twenty One: Distribution of private collections, exhibitions and non-public museums responding to the survey

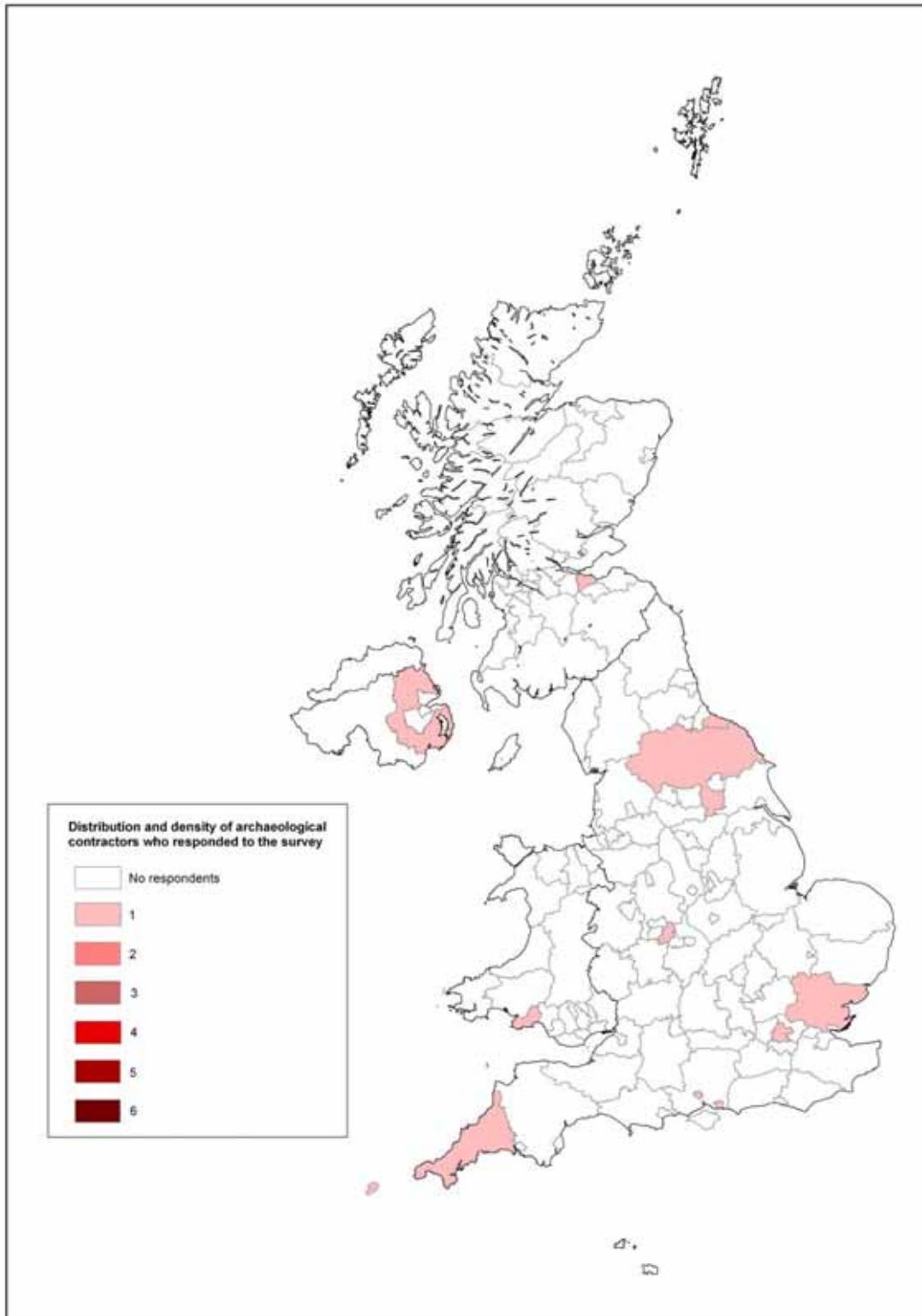


Figure Twenty Two: Distribution of archaeological contractors responding to the survey

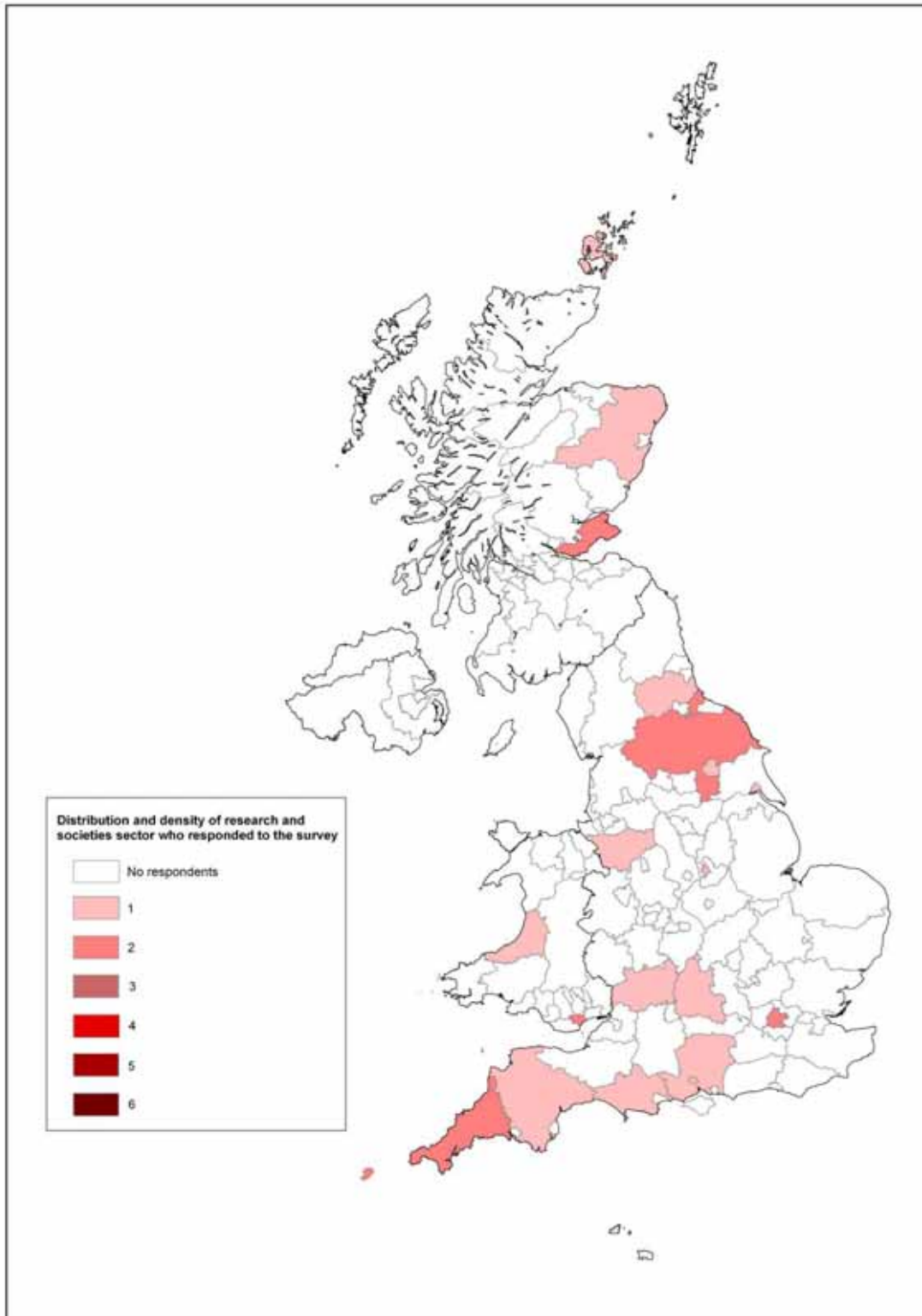


Figure Twenty Three: Distribution of research and societies sector responding to the survey

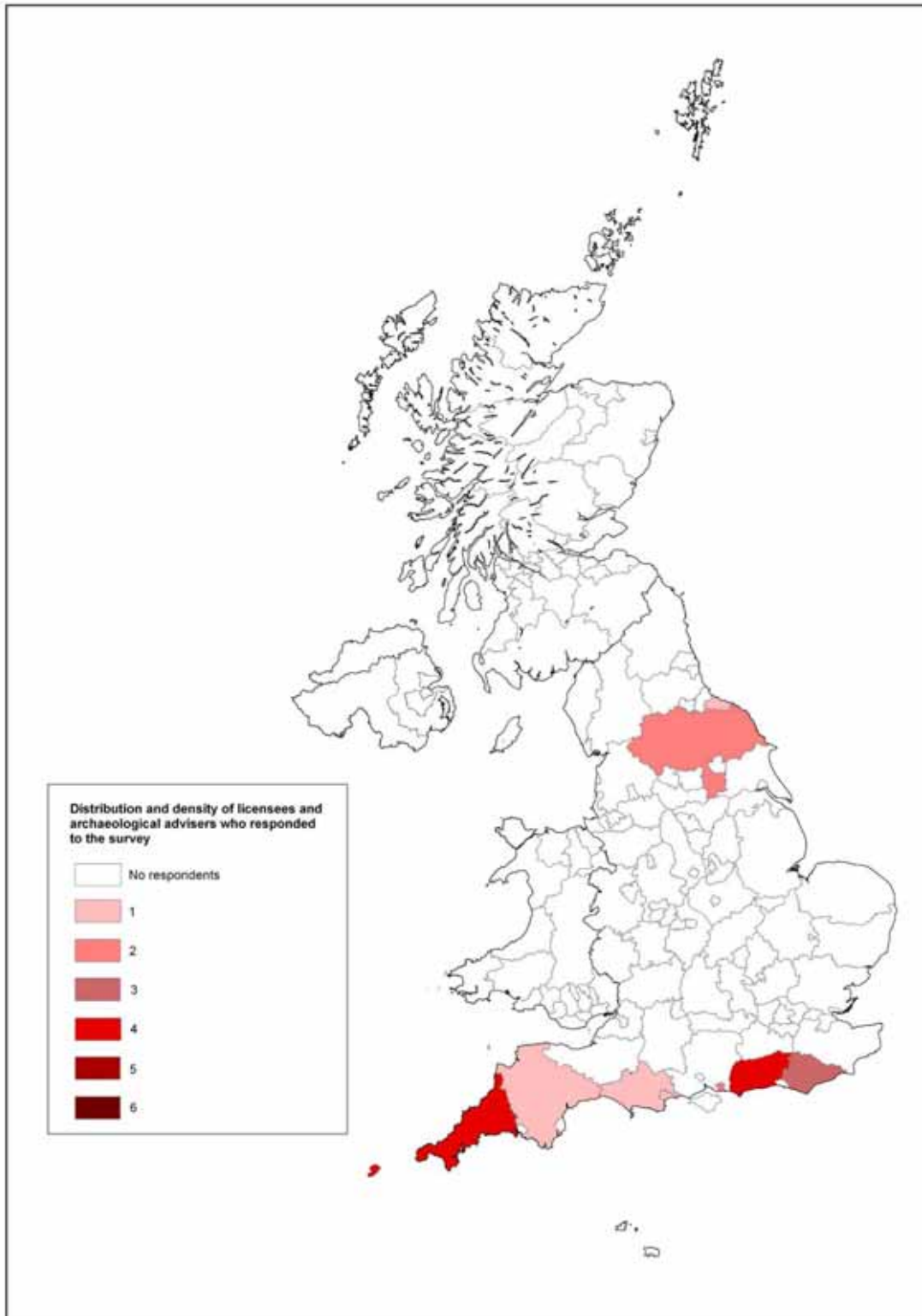


Figure Twenty Four: Distribution of designated wreck site licenses and archaeologists responding to the survey

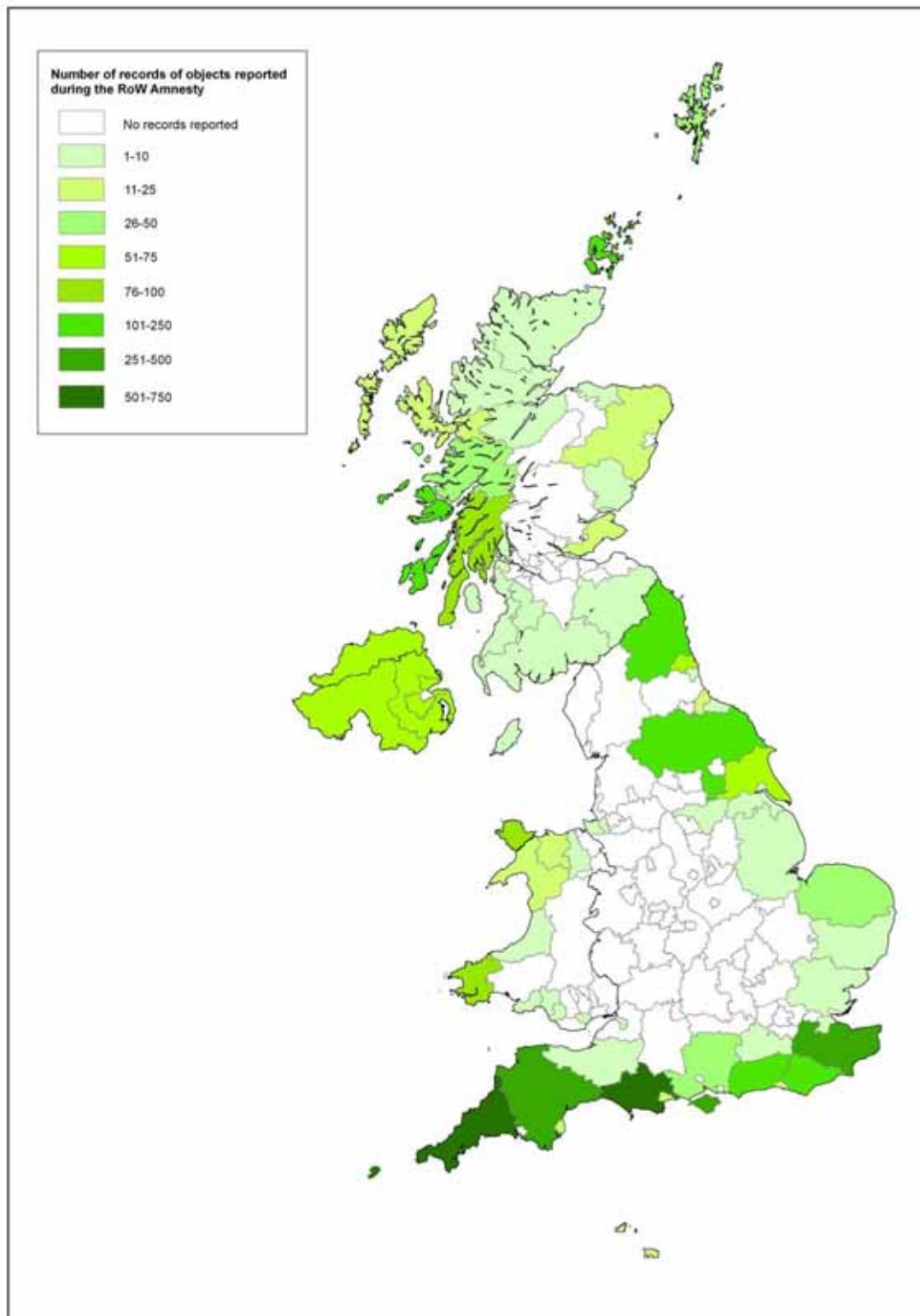


Figure Twenty Five: Distribution of reports received during the RoW Amnesty

9. Appendices

The data gathered for this project has been stored within a Microsoft Access database. This is included with this report as a CD copy, it is also available on-line with the project archive via the Archaeology Data Service:

http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/resources.html?maritime_archive_2009