



# Accessing the intangible

**Leontien Talboom**



## Digital preservation

[Home](#) [About us](#) [Challenges](#) [Strategy](#) [Research](#) [Collaboration](#)

### Our digital preservation strategy



Our digital preservation strategy applies to the whole of the British Library.

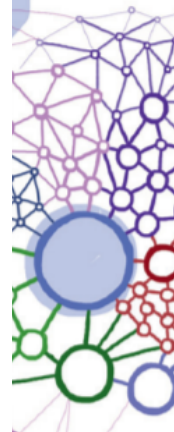
## Nationale strategie digitaal erfgoed

Een initiatief van het Netwerk Digitaal Erfgoed

 The National Archives

## Digital Strategy

March 2017





Advanced Search	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">LT000041 - Transport for London (TfL): TfL Corporate: Human Resources Digital Documents</a>																								
Showcase	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">008 - Industrial Relations Management</a>																								
About the catalogue	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">002 - Negotiations</a>																								
FAQs	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Ref No</td><td><a href="#">LT000041/008/002/013</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>ArchiveRefNum</td><td>LT000041/008/002/013</td></tr> <tr> <td>Level</td><td>Item</td></tr> <tr> <td>Title</td><td>Minutes of TfL Company Council Meeting</td></tr> <tr> <td>Description</td><td> <p>Agenda for this meeting was as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome and introductions</li> <li>2. Review of actions from the last meeting</li> <li>3. Company Council Information Pack</li> <li>4. <b>Olympics</b></li> <li>5. Museum Assistant Grade.</li> </ol> </td></tr> <tr> <td>Date</td><td>3 Feb 2012</td></tr> <tr> <td>Extent</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>Physical Description</td><td>pdf(s)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Language</td><td>English</td></tr> <tr> <td>Related Material</td><td> <p>Other records in this series may be relevant to your research but will not have been returned in your search results because the description does not include the search term you used. If you want to browse through a particular series it is possible to do so by accessing the <a href="#">Hierarchy Browser</a>. If you click on the SysID code you will be able to view the <a href="#">Hierarchy Browser</a> for the entire series. Clicking on any of the codes in the browser list will take you directly to the full record view of that individu</p> </td></tr> <tr> <td>Contact Us</td><td> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Repository Held By</td><td>Transport for London Group Archive</td></tr> </table> </td></tr> </table>	Ref No	<a href="#">LT000041/008/002/013</a>	ArchiveRefNum	LT000041/008/002/013	Level	Item	Title	Minutes of TfL Company Council Meeting	Description	<p>Agenda for this meeting was as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome and introductions</li> <li>2. Review of actions from the last meeting</li> <li>3. Company Council Information Pack</li> <li>4. <b>Olympics</b></li> <li>5. Museum Assistant Grade.</li> </ol>	Date	3 Feb 2012	Extent	1	Physical Description	pdf(s)	Language	English	Related Material	<p>Other records in this series may be relevant to your research but will not have been returned in your search results because the description does not include the search term you used. If you want to browse through a particular series it is possible to do so by accessing the <a href="#">Hierarchy Browser</a>. If you click on the SysID code you will be able to view the <a href="#">Hierarchy Browser</a> for the entire series. Clicking on any of the codes in the browser list will take you directly to the full record view of that individu</p>	Contact Us	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Repository Held By</td><td>Transport for London Group Archive</td></tr> </table>	Repository Held By	Transport for London Group Archive
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Glossary																									



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READING ROOM\* OF A UK LEGAL DEPOSIT  
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- [National Library of Scotland](#)
- [National Library of Wales](#)
- [Bodleian Library, University of Oxford](#)
- [Cambridge University Libraries](#)



## Catalogue description

## Animation for re-opened formal investigation: rotating view of ship's structure.

Reference:	MT 205/6
Description:	Animation for re-opened formal investigation: rotating view of ship's structure.
Date:	2000 Jan 1 - 2000 Dec 31
Held by:	<a href="#">The National Archives, Kew</a>
Legal status:	Public Record(s)
Language:	English
Physical description:	1 digital record(s)
Closure status:	Open Document, Open Description
Access conditions:	Open on Transfer

This record is not available to order. More information may be available in the catalogue description.

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How to [use this catalogue](#)

Need more context? View the catalogue description for [MT 205](#)

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What constraints are digital preservation practitioners facing when making born-digital material accessible?



# Approach

- Literature Review
- Interviews



# The digital environment





[Home](#) > [Discovery](#) > [Tags](#)[Start new search](#) [Print](#)

## Help us tag records in our collection



Search tags

[Browse tags](#)[What are tags?](#)[How to tag records](#)

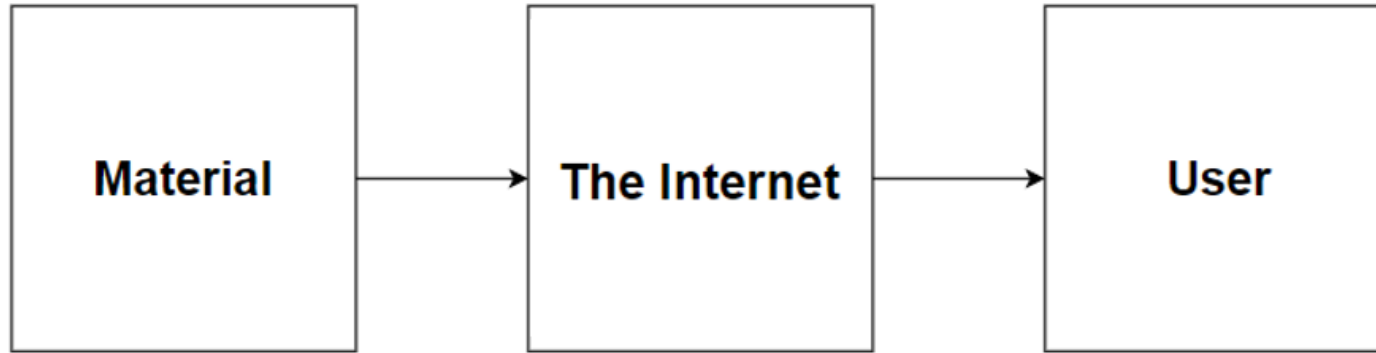
### Browse tags by starting letter

Please select a letter to begin browsing tags that have been added to items in our collection.



### Popular tags

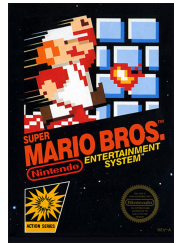
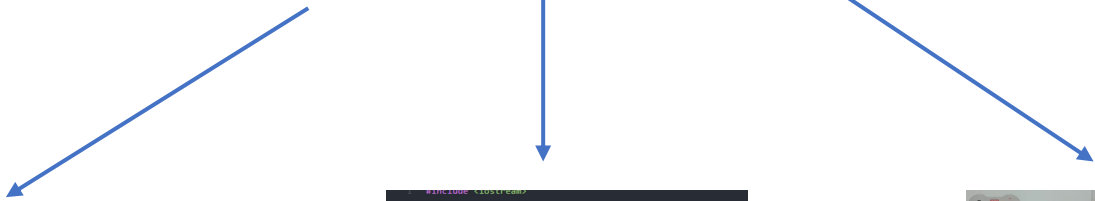
- movcon
- royal fleet reserve
- a level - korean war
- a level - chartism
- anson
- grandad
- cycle
- haiti list
- a level - records on the spanish civil war, 1936-1939



**Archivist ?**



# Born-digital material



```

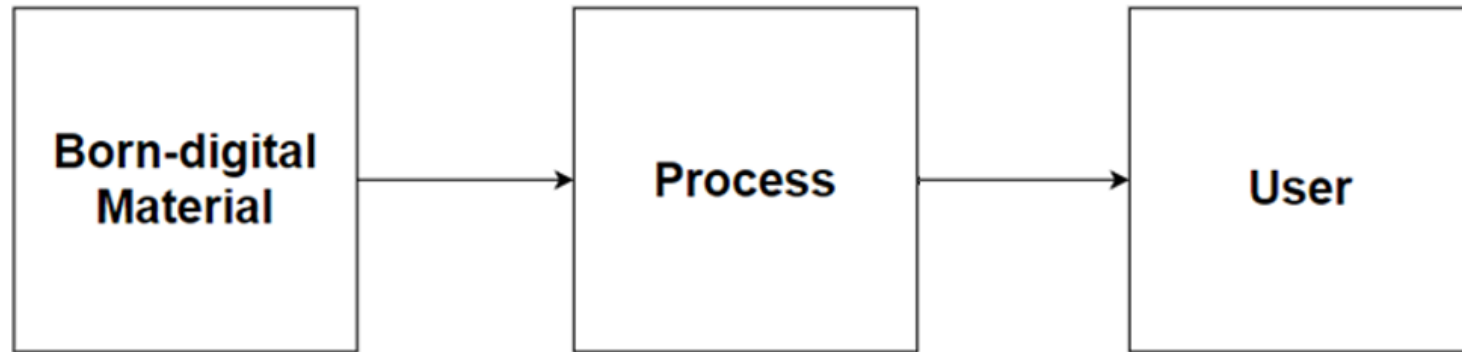
1 #include <iostream>
2 using namespace std;
3 int main()
4 {
5     int year;
6     cout << "Enter a year: ";
7     cin >> year;
8     if (year % 4 == 0)
9     {
10         if (year % 100 == 0)
11         {
12             if (year % 400 == 0)
13                 cout << year << " is a leap year.";
14             else
15                 cout << year << " is not a leap year.";
16         }
17         else
18             cout << year << " is a leap year.";
19     }
20     else
21         cout << year << " is not a leap year.";
22 }

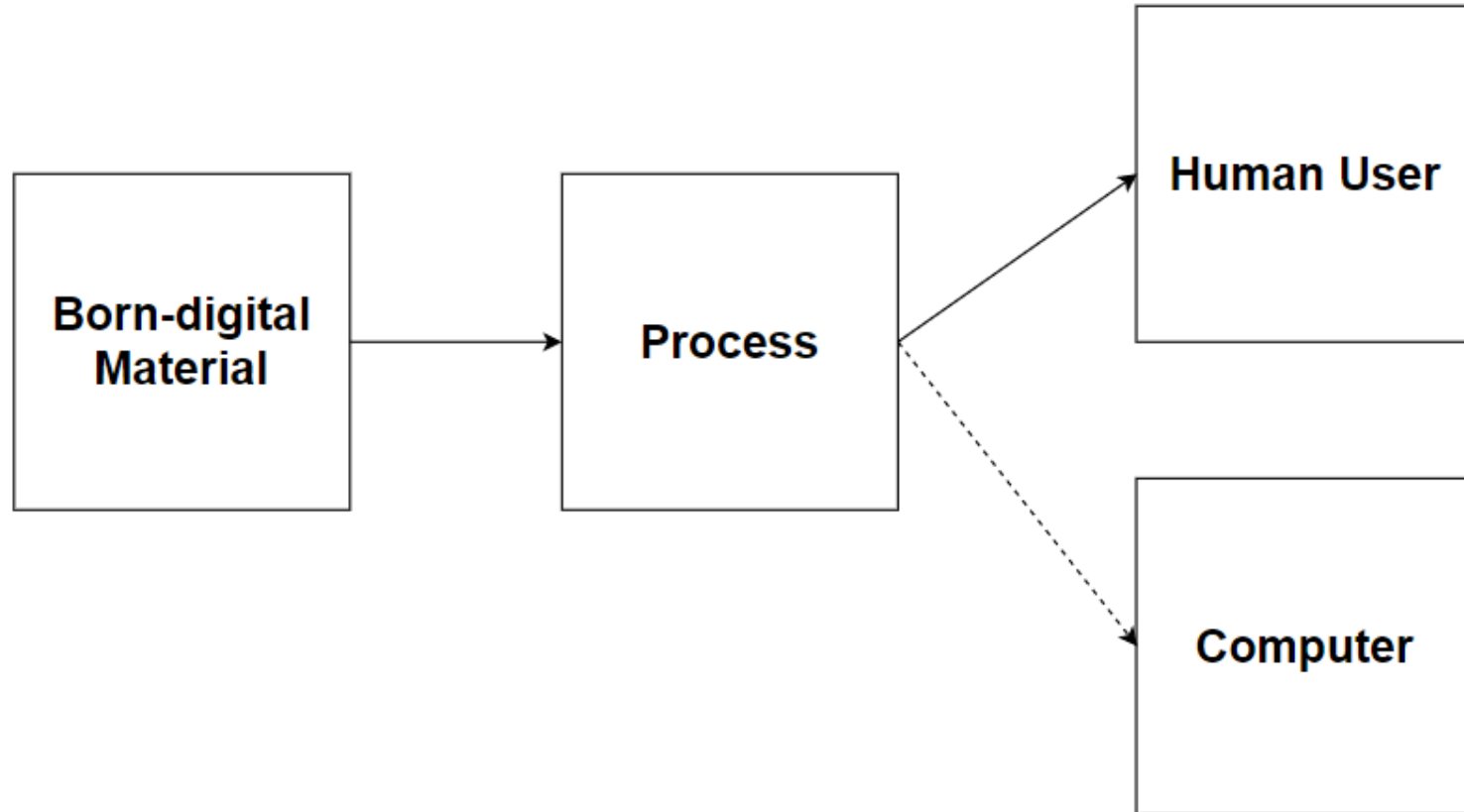
```





# Processes used for born-digital material









# Expectations of users





# Interviews



Transport  
for London



London  
Community  
Video  
Archive





# *Deposited material*



*‘...we get what we are given.’*



*‘At the moment that just sits there, and we keep looking at it every now and then, working out how the hell we’re meant to appraise all this material.’*



# ***Losing control***



*‘...people always want to retain control of their program, their data, whatever it is. They are aware that once you push it out there, it becomes fixed and it is more accessible to people and people can pick holes in it and identify or use it in ways that you might not necessarily agree with.’*





# *Expectations from users*



*‘I was expecting there would be a group of people who wanted data and certainly most of the researchers who are regular users of <our organisation> are still using very traditional, historiographic, kind of small data type research techniques actually.’*



# *Reluctance to computational techniques*



*‘I think leaping from completely manual processes to completely automated is really dangerous because you have no way of troubleshooting where it goes wrong...’*



# ***Doubting own processes***



*‘Dodgy archive, dodgy practices’*



*‘Our position is that digital preservation is not something that my team alone can do, it’s much too big a task for that and that’s the message we put out to everybody that we work with.’*



# *Changing mindset*





‘And ultimately, the base skills that we’ve been taught, and we’ve acquired as an archivist, are there for a reason and the principles still apply whether you’re in an analogue world or a digital world, it’s just a case of adapting them.’



# Wrap Up

- Digital environment
- The digital material
- Processes used



# Questions?

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Twitter: @makethecatwise