

Fortezza da Basso · FLORENCE (Italy)

30th September • 2nd October 2019

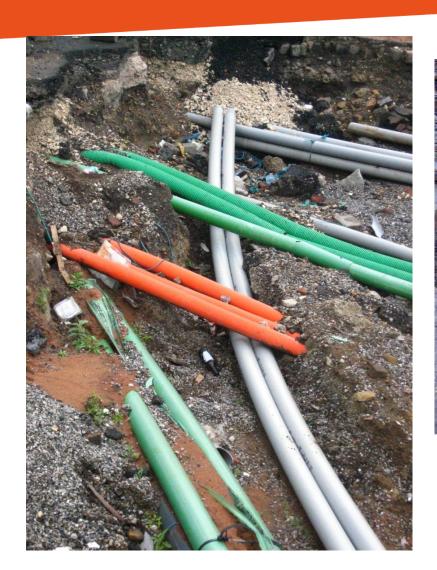
From Hades to Heaven?

Developments in integrated buried asset information systems in the UK

Jo Parker

### The sub surface environment can be crowded



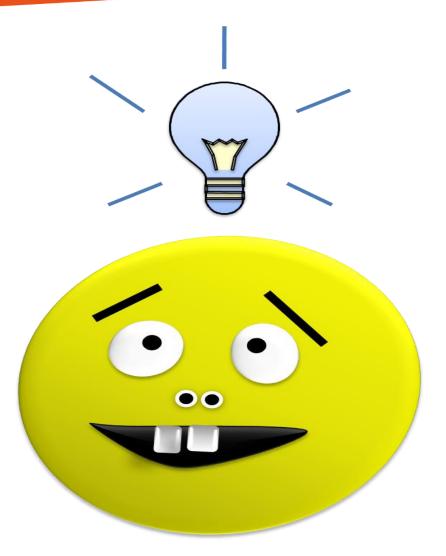




And getting records can be tedious

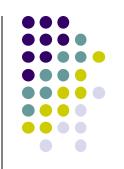
### Wouldn't it be good to have a single records system?





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## Plenty of Trials in the UK – for the last 30 years!



- Microfiche exchange Bradford currency an issue
- Digital records trial Dudley successful but not continued
- PIG '1 call' initiative failed due to lack of funds
- Cheshire trial successful but not implemented
- VISTA research project
- NUAG National Underground Records Group
  - London Trial in 2011 but went no further
- Still nothing for the whole country outside of Scotland

# Integration – the VISTA project defined the problem & developed a process



- Different ways of storing and sharing asset data
  - Paper CAD GIS
  - Raster scanning
- Different ways of structuring digital asset data
- Different ways of describing asset data
  - HDPE, HPPE, Poly, PE,
  - DBV, Standshut, BV
- Different ways of representing asset data
  - Different symbols, colours and conventions
- Uncertainty is it really where it says it is?

## What VISTA didn't manage to do



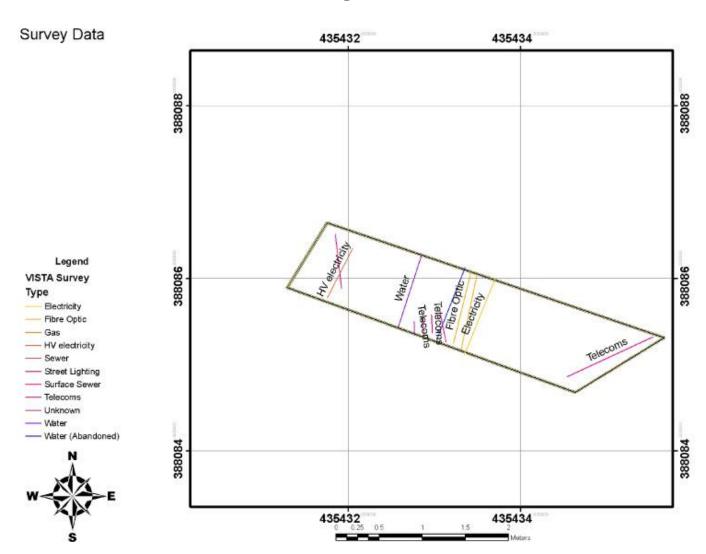
- Develop a practical way to convert raster scanned documents to vector coordinates/layers
- Develop a practical way to overcome 'urban canyons'
- Develop a practical way to depict uncertainty on drawings

#### Field trial results – open trench





### **Detailed Survey**



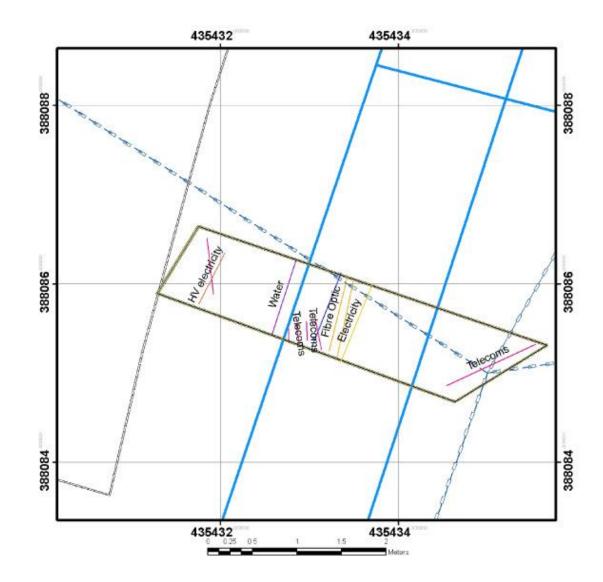


#### **Utility Records**









#### **Surface Survey**



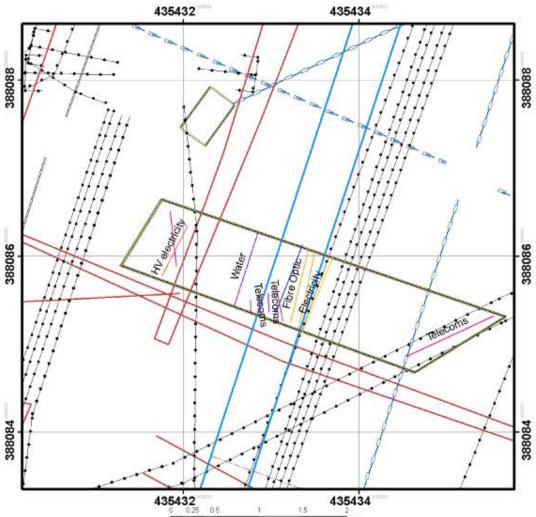
Legend **VISTA Survey** Type

Electricity Fibre Optic - Gas - HV electricity — Sewer — Street Lighting — Surface Sewer — Telecoms

- Unknown - Water

- WATER

- Water (Abandoned) Adien\_Utility utilityTypeVISTA - ELECTRICITY - GAS - MANHOLE - SEWER — SURFACE WATER · + TELECOM --- UNKNOWN UTILITY

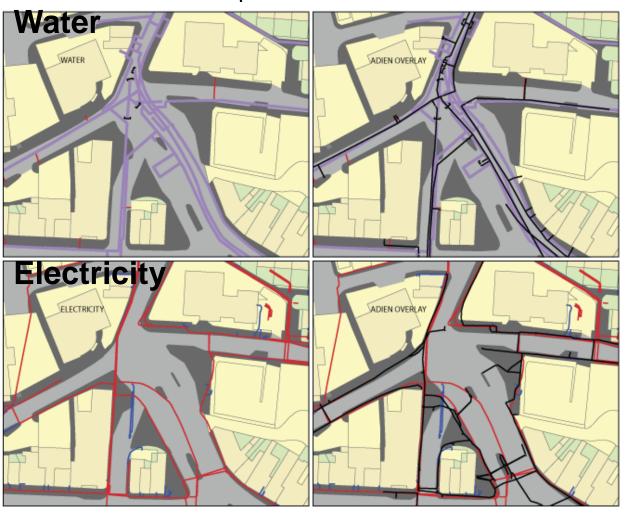




#### Uncertainty about survey results



Which representation is correct?



#### Water:

- Omissions
- Inconsistencies
- Spatial inaccuracies

#### Electricity:

- Omissions
- Inconsistencies
- Spatial inaccuracies

# Learning points from VISTA Field Study

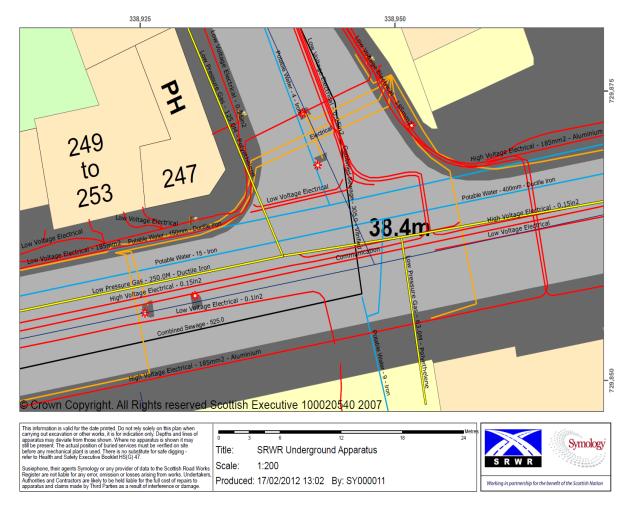
- Depth essential
- Records are out of date very quickly
- Surface surveys help but aren't the total solution
- If you have a surface survey done, how do you know whether to believe that or the drawing?
- Even excavations may not show everything
  - How low do you go?
- High percentage of services belong to cable companies

#### **Scottish Vault**



- Implemented 2011
- Allow improvements and adaptions
- Facilitates rapid updating
- Improves data quality
- Reduces risk to both people and infrastructure
- Allows maintenance of infrastructure using the most cost effective approaches
- Improves Health & Safety
- Can link to Field Information Systems and BIM

#### Screen Shot of the Scottish Vault





### National Underground Assets Group (NUAG) trial



- Funded by DfT (Department for Transport)
- Similar partners to VISTA
- Greater highways participation
- 3 reports developing recommendations
  - Standards for records
  - Mandatory
  - Clear procedures
  - Specification for a web based service
- Identified a 3 stage approach
- Trial carried out in London Envista





- Highways
- Asset
- Data
- Exchange
- System

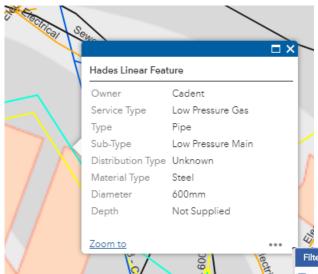
#### **Hades**

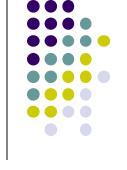
- Pilot trial in London
- Lead by Thames Water
- Funded by TfL's Lane Rental Fund
- Working group included
  - Cadent, UK Power Networks, Openreach, GLA, OS, Utility Survey Exchange, TfL, University of Leeds
- Successfully developed 3 trial sites with integrated data

### Hades – general shot



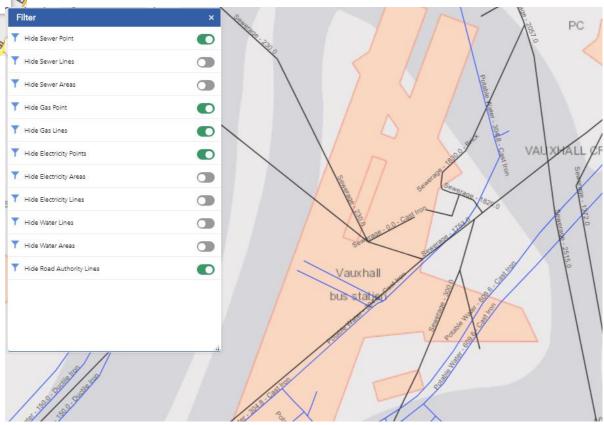


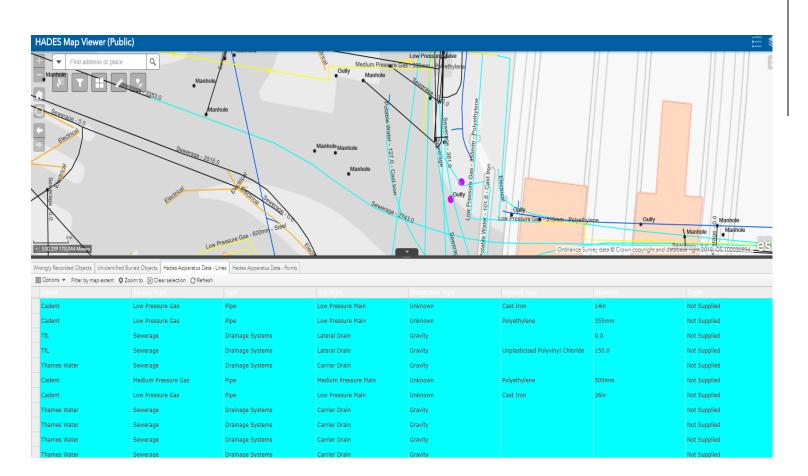




#### Possible to select features to view

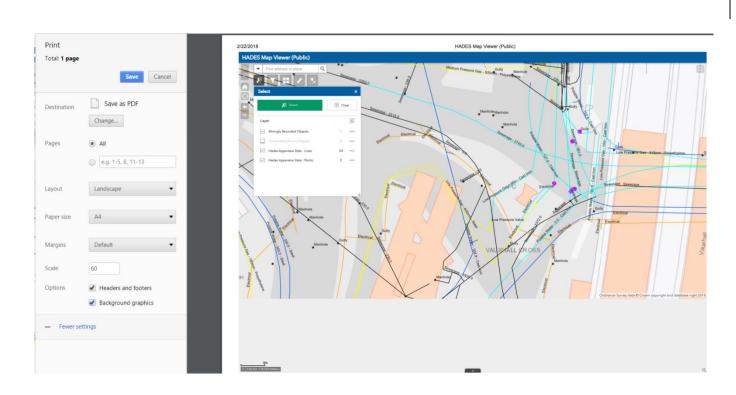
Details of linear features available when you click on feature





Summary list of assets in any area can be viewed

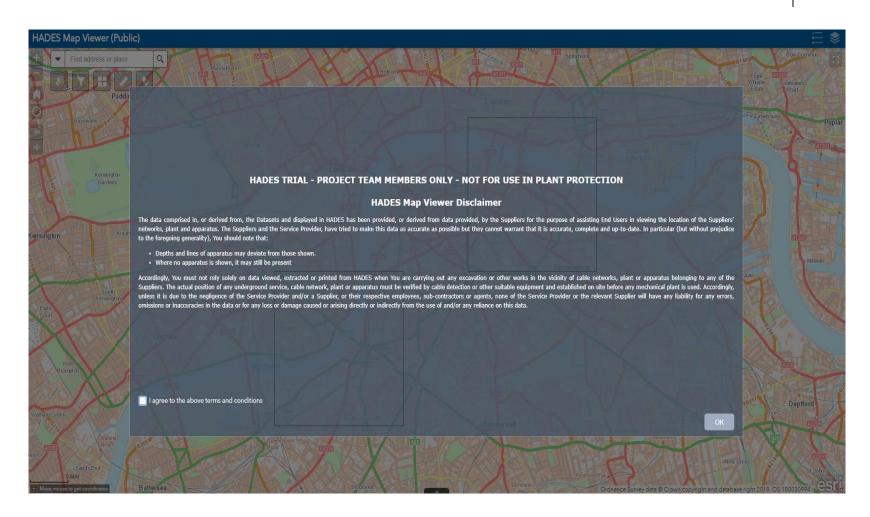




Data can be printed – view of print screen

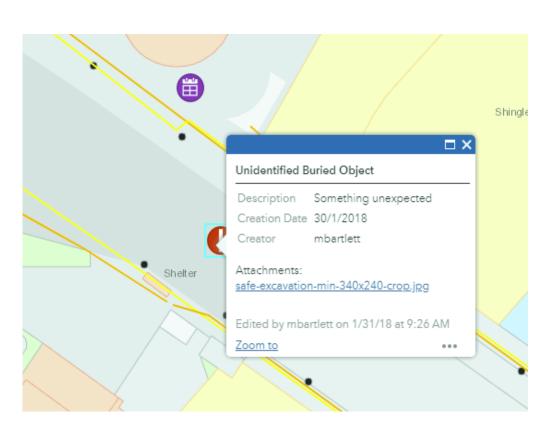
#### **Disclaimer**





# Unidentified Buried Objects and Wrongly Recorded Buried Objects can be included





#### Further developments



- The system was reviewed at the Northumbrian Water Innovation Festival
- Using a similar approach a system has been developed for Sunderland
- Now the UK Geospatial Commission has started an extended trial in London and Sunderland costing £3.9 million
- The intention is to develop a national records system – watch this space!

## Will Hades deliver trenchless heaven?





### Will Hades deliver streetworks heaven?



- Do the organisations involved this time have the clout to delivery?
- Will it continue to develop and improve?
- What do we do about raster scanned drawings?
- How do we deal with 'the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension'?
- Will users take the information as 'gospel' when we know it's not accurate?
- Will record drawings continue with suboptimal accuracy?



#### **THANK YOU**

Any questions?

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