

# Building a digital future

Enabling the development of digital  
archives in Australia and New Zealand

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NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES  
OF AUSTRALIA

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# Context

- Australian and New Zealand public records offices are mandated to preserve government records
- Australian and New Zealand governments have committed to exploiting new digital technologies

*therefore...*

- Records and archival authorities have committed to building digital archiving capacity



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# Is digital more challenging?

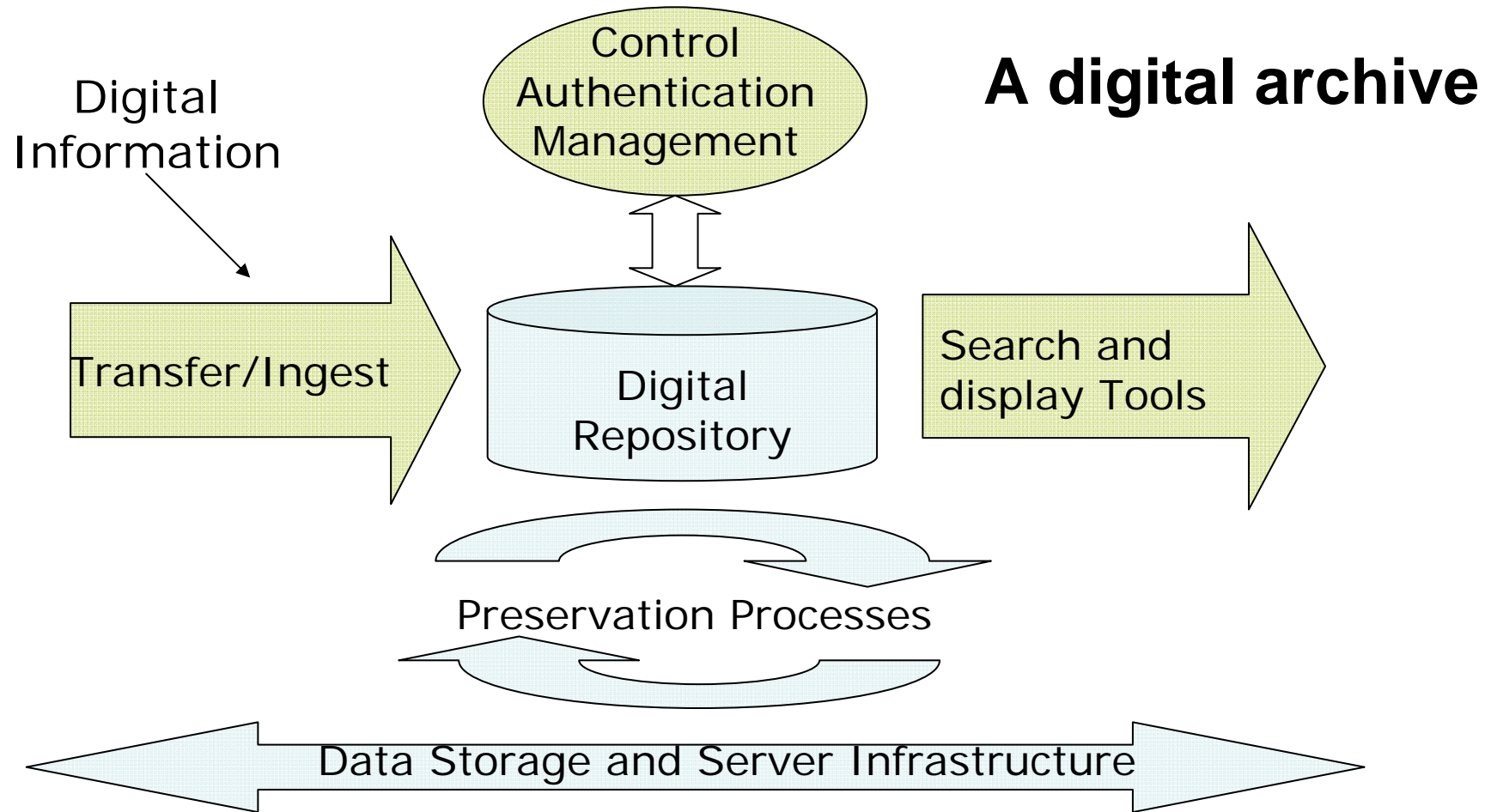
Digital **behaves differently**, but -

The **issues are the same**:  
ensuring appropriate archival  
processes



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## *Background*

**70's** - developed internal knowledge dealing with early computer record transfers

**90's** – provided recordkeeping advice to agencies

**2000's** – staff initiate early digital preservation work

**2000** - Agency to Researcher project – defined digital preservation principles and strategy



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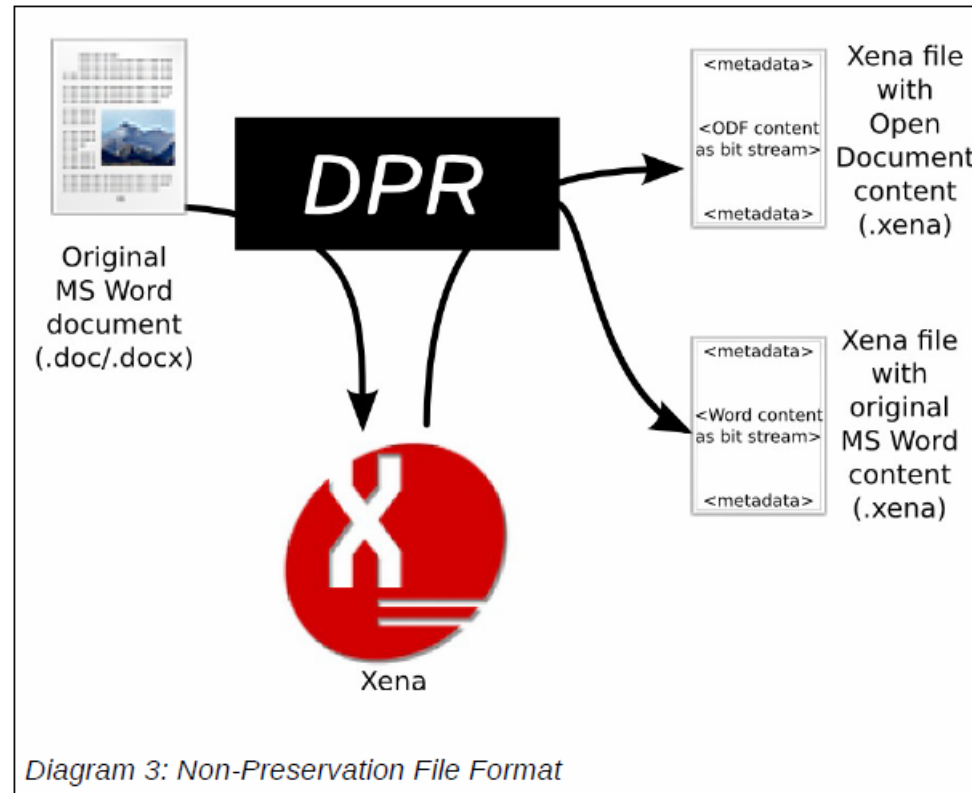
**2003** onwards – Digital preservation software tools developed

- Xena (XML Electronic Normalising for Archives)
- Manifest Maker
- Digital Processing Recorder
- Checksum Checker



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# National Archives of Australia



# National Archives of Australia

## **Cost:**

Digital preservation project: \$7 million (includes software, hardware and physical build of digital repository)



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# Public Record Office Victoria

## *Background*

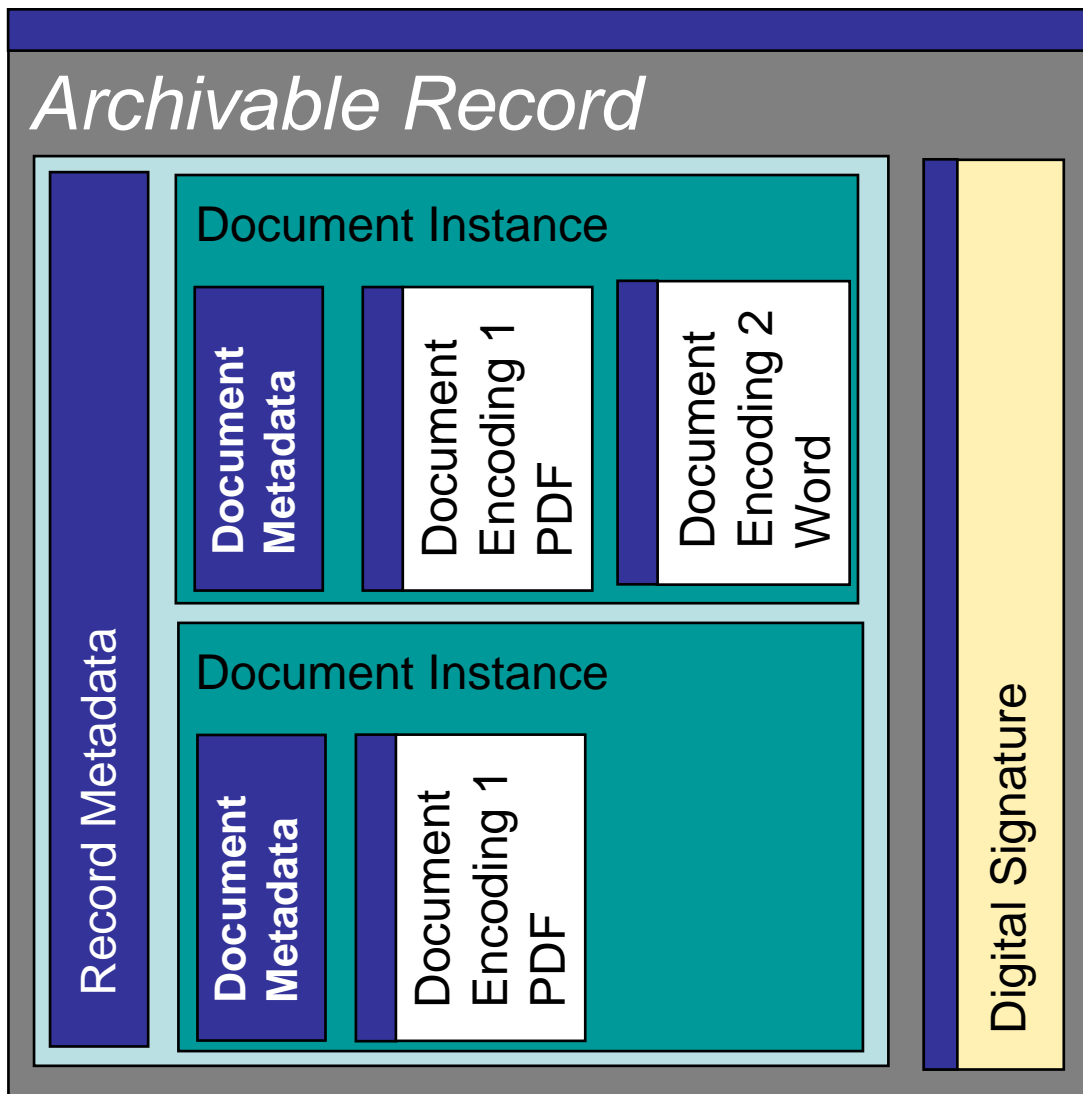
**1995** - Initial collaboration between government, industry and academia on keeping electronic records

**2000** – VERS standard released

**2002/03** – PROV makes successful bid for funding for digital archive



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**VERS Encapsulated Object (VEO) =**

Content in long-term format

+

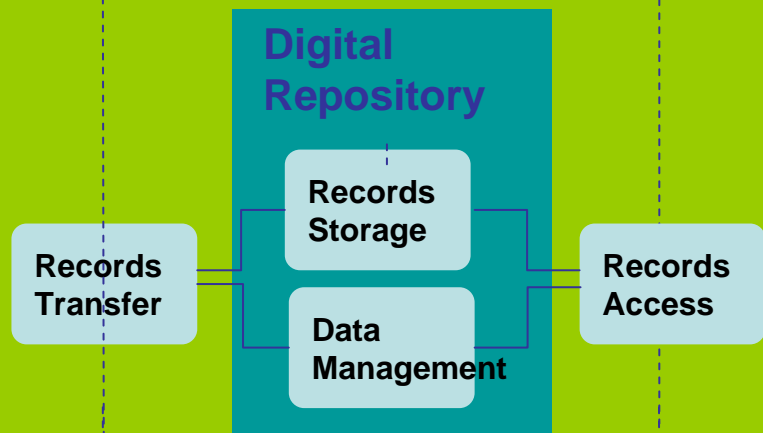
XML (record container and metadata)

+

digital signature

# PROV DIGITAL ARCHIVE

Management



Administration

Five phases

- Transfer
- Processing
- Digital Repository
- Access
- Administration



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# Public Record Office Victoria

## Cost:

- VERS Centre of Excellence - \$8.2 million (includes \$5.5 million for a digital repository)
- Sustaining VERS - \$1 million per annum



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# Archives New Zealand

## *Background*

**2008** - Digital Continuity Action Plan developed by ANZ

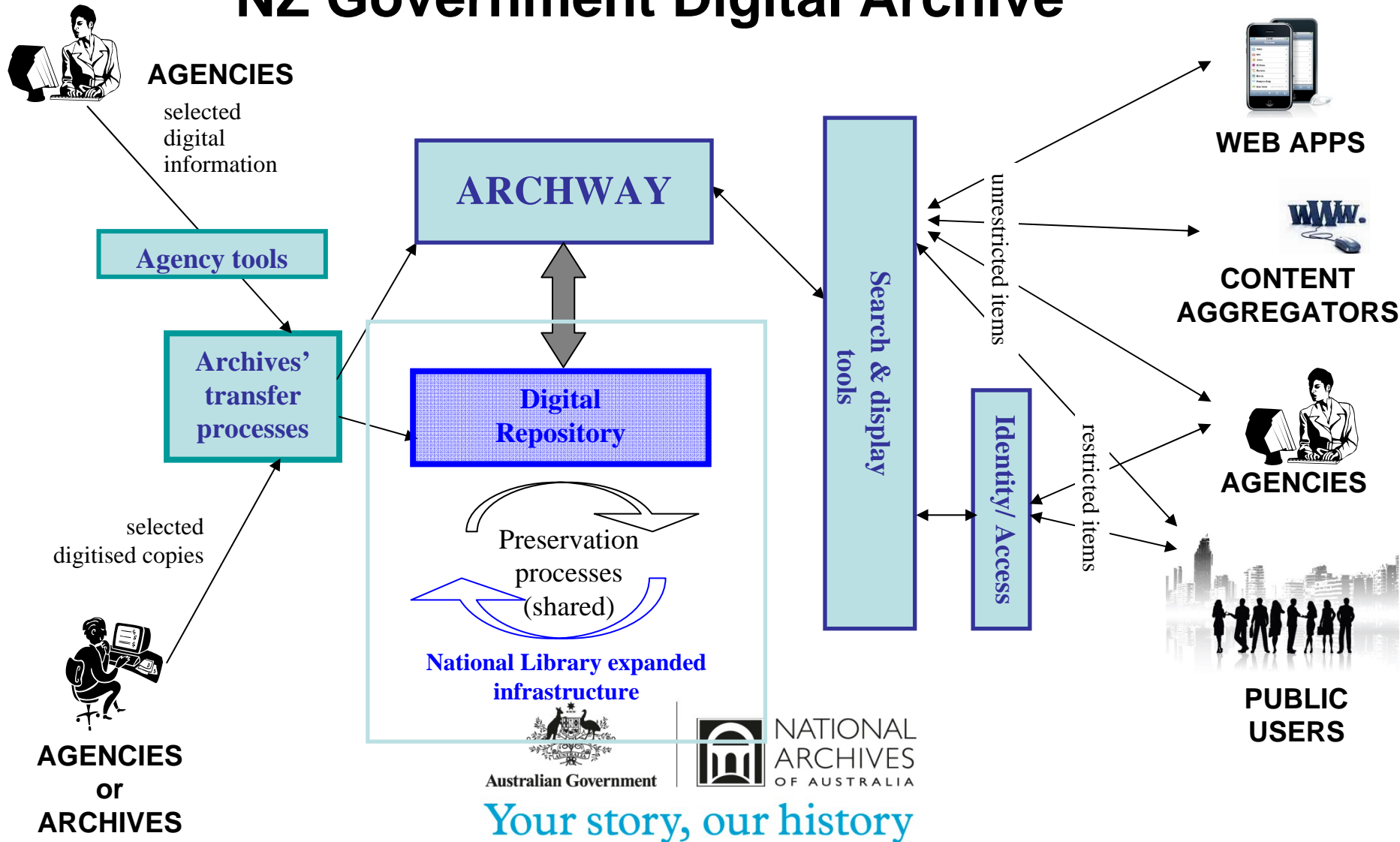
**2009** – Plan launched by government

**2010** – ANZ submit successful bid to build digital archive



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# NZ Government Digital Archive



# Archives New Zealand

**Cost:**

Archives New Zealand awarded \$12.6 million over 4 years to build digital archive



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# State Records New South Wales

## *Background*

**2003** – initial business case for a digital archive developed

**2007** - discussion paper, policy statement developed

**2010** – successful bid for funds to government IT fund



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# State Records New South Wales

**Cost:**

State Records granted \$3.62 million over 3 years to build the digital archive



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# Queensland State Archives

## *Background*

**2000's** - early digital recordkeeping discussions with agencies

**2009** - all of government IT strategy released

**2010** - QSA lead review of digital archiving in government, develop digital archiving program framework



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# Findings

- Digital archiving activities can be done without massive investment
- Australian and NZ records and archival authorities are all active in the digital archiving space
- A visible government statement helps, but is not a necessity



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# Questions?



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