Towards a networked archive for the digital age

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We are the Victorian Government’s archive:

• ~8 million (100km) identified records -- 90% paper, 10% born digital
• 2% of the paper collection has been digitised
• Replacing key business systems for managing and facilitating access to the collection
• Implementing a revised Archival Control Model for describing the collection.
SAMS data model (e.g. a register of prisoners)

- Record (ACM)
- Record (SAMS) PID-as-URL
- Page 1
  - Rendition (image)
  - Extended description (fielded)
- Page 2
  - Rendition
  - Annotation
- Page 3
  - Transcription
  - Rendition
  - Annotation

PID
data from Archival Control Model

data from SAMS
SAMS URI: .../rest/records/1002/4852/58/images/13/descriptions/1
Questions and challenges for the archives community

- How can archival communities best repurpose/leverage generic semantic technologies?
- How should relatively well-resourced archives support a broader strategic approach to utilising these technologies?
- Reinterpreting archival practice using semantic web tools: theory is great, implementation is hard!
- Semantically structured but minimal use of ontologies: how to engage with others to overlay meaning?