

Storage and obsolescence

Secondary storage is designed to be long-term data storage. It can be used for backing up data and for archiving it

Part of the role of secondary storage is that it should be able to store data in the long term – for years or decades

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Secondary storage mechanisms can become obsolescent

If something is obsolescent it means that it's outdated and can no longer be used

This is an issue in computing in general. We're continually improving and updating computers so things won't work anymore – programs won't run, apps won't work etc...

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For example:

I have stacks of floppy disks, CD ROMs and DVDs But none of the computers I own have a floppy disk drive or an optical drive. None of them

So I can't access any of that data, including photos of my grandparents, my dad, and my kids when they were babies

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Here's an example of obsolescence that was solved

Domesday Project reborn online after 25 years

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Domesday Project producer Alex Mansfield shows Rory Cellan-Jones life in the UK as recorded by the 1980s project

[Read the article and watch the short video on the BBC website](#)

I'm old enough to have been part of the original mapping project for this...