



HRE V0.5 – ONE TESTER'S EXPERIENCE

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10 OCTOBER 2026

INTRODUCTION

- A little about me:
  - Doing Family History since 1986
  - Inherited my mother, grandmother & great-grandmother's researches
  - Started with Brother's Keeper,
    Moved to Ultimate Family Tree,
    In 1998, moved to The Master Genealogist
- I am very hopeful the HRE project will succeed and impressed with the progress to date

SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF MY TMG DATA

- A Single Data Set in one file
  - Focused on US Names & Places but with some UK styles and tag types
  - 3,847 People
  - 2, 105 Places
  - 791 CUSTOM Sources (principally Splitter type but with a few Lumper types)
    - Some Source sentences use formatting codes; a few have escape character sequences
  - 91 Repositories
  - 1,770 External Exhibits (Pictures-JPGs, PNGs, a few BMP; Acrobat PDF files; some Text files)
    - Exhibits are attached to people, sources and some to individual tags
  - 345 Tag Types with many custom sentences
  - 436 Source Elements
  - 2060 Open Research Tasks

BETA TEST PROCESS

- Testers were given a URL to a download site for the MSI install file and a Tester's Guide document.
- The Tester's Guide included:
  - Installation instructions for Windows, iOS and Linux
  - An overview of the menus, what is working, what remains to be done
  - An overview of program behavior in response to Left, Right, and Double clicks in particular windows
  - A form for reporting issues to the development team
  - Requests to focus our testing on TMG imports

TMG IMPORT DEMONSTRATION

(See Backup slides for some screenshots)

IMPORT RESULTS

- HRE takes between 11 and 16 seconds to import my TMG database.
  - All people, events, source types, sources, source sentences, tag sentences and flags were imported correctly.
  - All partners, associates, relatives, and relationships were imported correctly.
  - Thumbnails of pictures attached to people and events were imported.
  - Thumbnails of pictures attached to sources or citations were not imported
    - Current implementation doesn't support media to be attached to a source or citation.
  - PDFs were not imported (not yet supported).

LIKES,
ISSUES / DISLIKES,
FEATURES

LIKES

- The import process is working well and brings in all information except for media
- Adding, editing, and deleting Persons, Events (i.e., Tags), Citations, Sources, Source Types, Name Types, Locations, etc. , are working well
- The Plugin and Server Support capabilities, although not yet available, are promising
- The program responds quickly for my size database
- The development team was very responsive during testing

ISSUES / DISLIKES – 1/2

- Navigation from one person to another is currently not as easy as in TMG
  - In TMG, in many places, double-clicking on a name switches to that person's entry
  - In HRE, one must either enter a person's number or go through the picklist or Person Viewpoint
- Tabbing policy is not yet implemented for Event windows and other places
  - I attempted to build an ORA Auto-Type script to add a Census event and had to break it up into several additional steps
- On the Manage Person window, the Role is displayed but not the corresponding Role memo text as in TMG
- On the Add Event dialog, can't select an existing location

ISSUES / DISLIKES – 2/2

- Cannot attach a citation on the Add New Person/Partner/Father/Mother/etc. dialog
- When adding an Associate/Witness to an Event, changing the Role sentence and entering Associate/Witness memo text is clumsy – one has to use multiple dialogs.
  - This may be a bit unfair, Sentence Processing and support for reports is planned
- Doesn't seem to be a way to list one's Siblings or navigate to them easily
- HELP capability needs a little work
  - An open HELP window doesn't stay on top if focus changes to another window.
  - HELP content is sufficient but could be better
- Person/Event/Location Viewpoint behavior is confusing

FEATURES

- If using more than 1 screen:
  - The HELP window and Manage Location window can be moved to another screen and will open there again the next time accessed
  - If the HRE window is not on screen 1, doing an Import will open the Progress Report window on screen 1.
- ViewPoints - not sure how to use them day-to-day
- Reminder Text - One Reminder Text for all windows of the same type, i.e., Manage Person, Add Person, Add Partner/Father/Mother/etc., Define/Edit Events, Manage Locations, etc.

WHAT ISN'T DONE
MY PUNCH LIST

WHAT ISN'T DONE 1/2

- Sentence processing – under construction
- Reporting and Charting
  - There is an Ancestor / Descendant Report
  - Support for other reports is planned
- Research Tasks & Log
- Various Maintenance tasks – for example, data validation
- GEDCOM 7 export & import
- Comparing or merging Projects; Splitting a Project
- Accents
- Copying a person to a new Person,
- Renumbering a Person

WHAT ISN'T DONE 2/2

- Date / Time dialog doesn't support other calendars or time zones or Historical Dates
- Adding or deleting Media files
- Most Keyboard shortcuts and Function Key support (e.g., TMG's F3)
- Timelines
- Focus Groups
- The only import function is from TMG

MY PUNCH LIST

- Improved Navigation from one person to another
- Adding capability to select an existing location on the Add Event dialog
- Adding capability to attach a citation on the Add New Person/Partner/Father/Mother/etc. dialog
- Adding capability to list a person's Siblings with the ability to navigate to them
- Adding a Tabbing Policy
- Adding some keyboard shortcuts
- Support for Sentence Processing and Reports
- Adding a Role-based Memo text column to the Manage Person window
- Improved or more consistent Viewpoint creation and display
  - Being able to move a VP to another screen would be good
- Adding a 'Medium' Font size between Small and Large



BOTTOM LINE

- I am impressed and encouraged with the progress to date, although there is a little way to go yet
- I would pay money to purchase the 1.0 version if asked
- I encourage you to make a donation to support the effort

QUESTIONS?

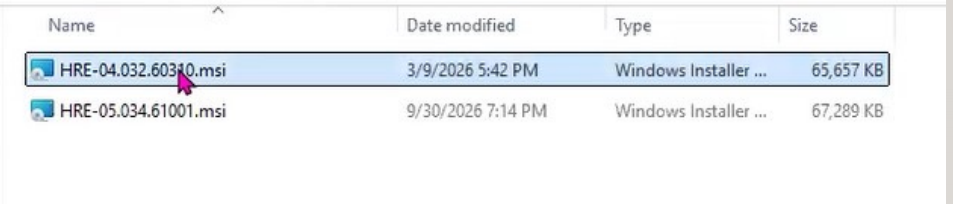


BACKUP

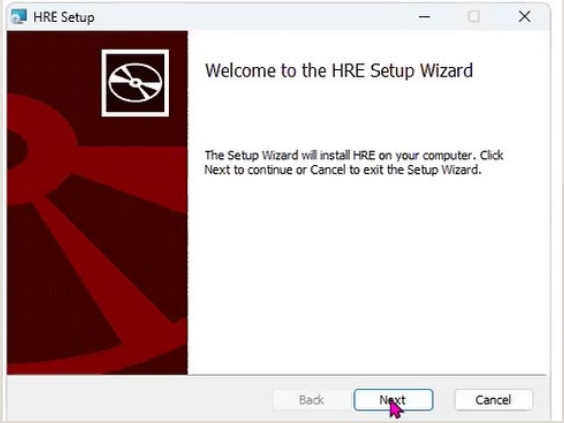
HRE INSTALLATION AND UPDATE WITH BOTH FAILED AND SUCCESSFUL TMG IMPORT

HRE INSTALLATION 1/3

- Install file is provided as an MSI file



- Which, when executed, performs a typical Windows install process

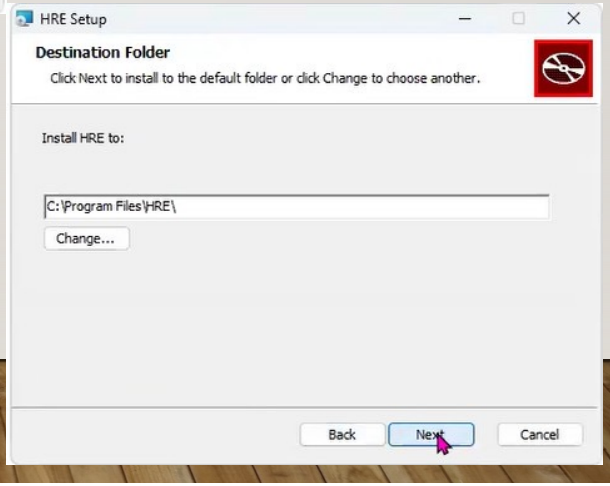


HRE INSTALLATION 2/3

- First, one accepts the End-User License

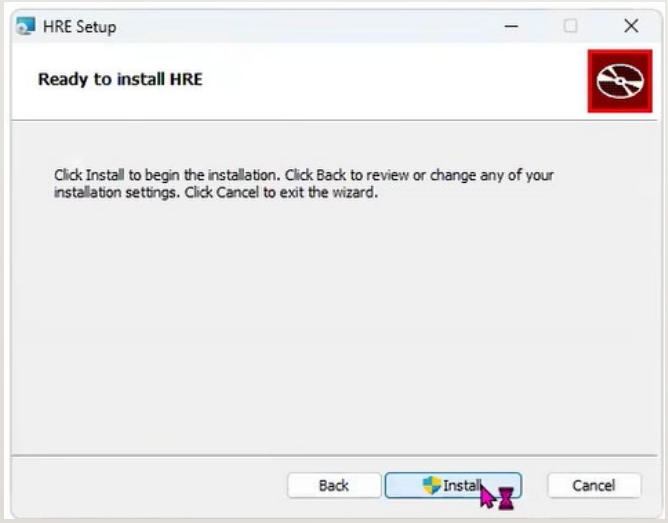


- Then, since HRE is a 64-bit program, default installation is under C:/Program Files

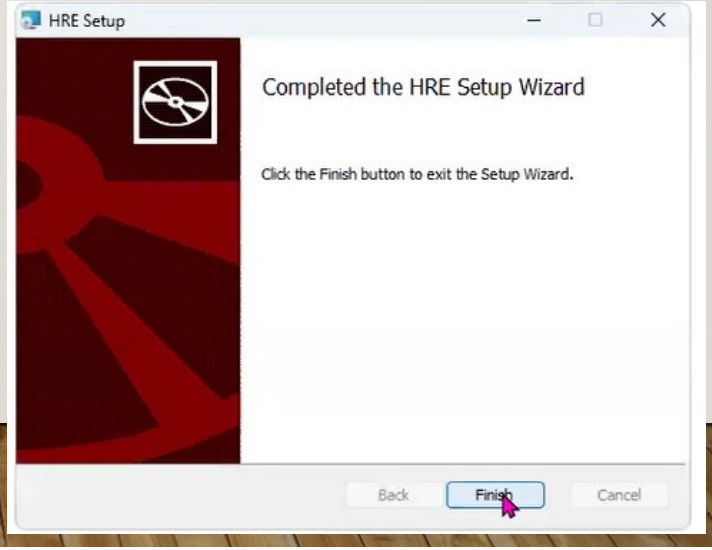


HRE INSTALLATION 3/3

- Installation then proceeds

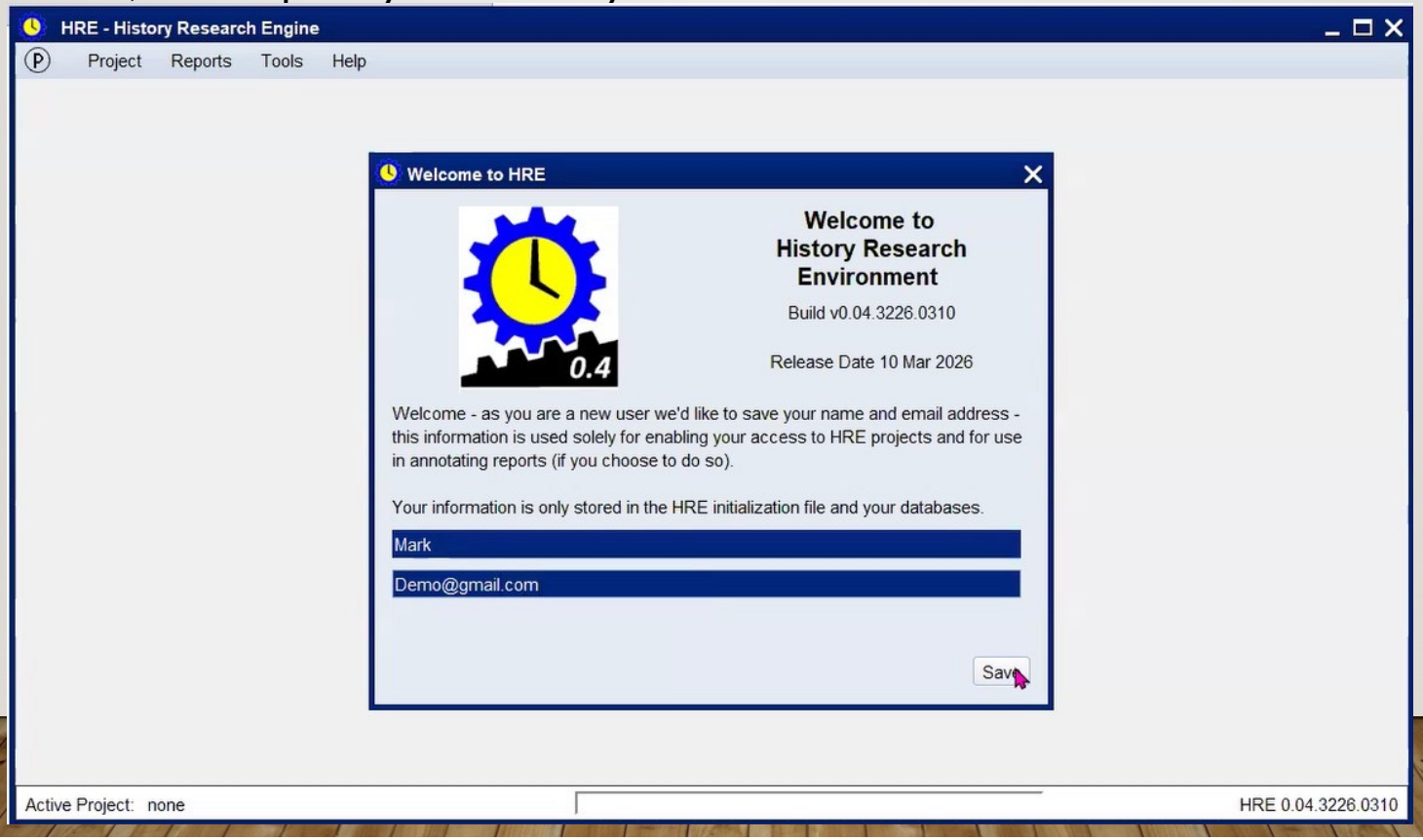


- And finishes normally



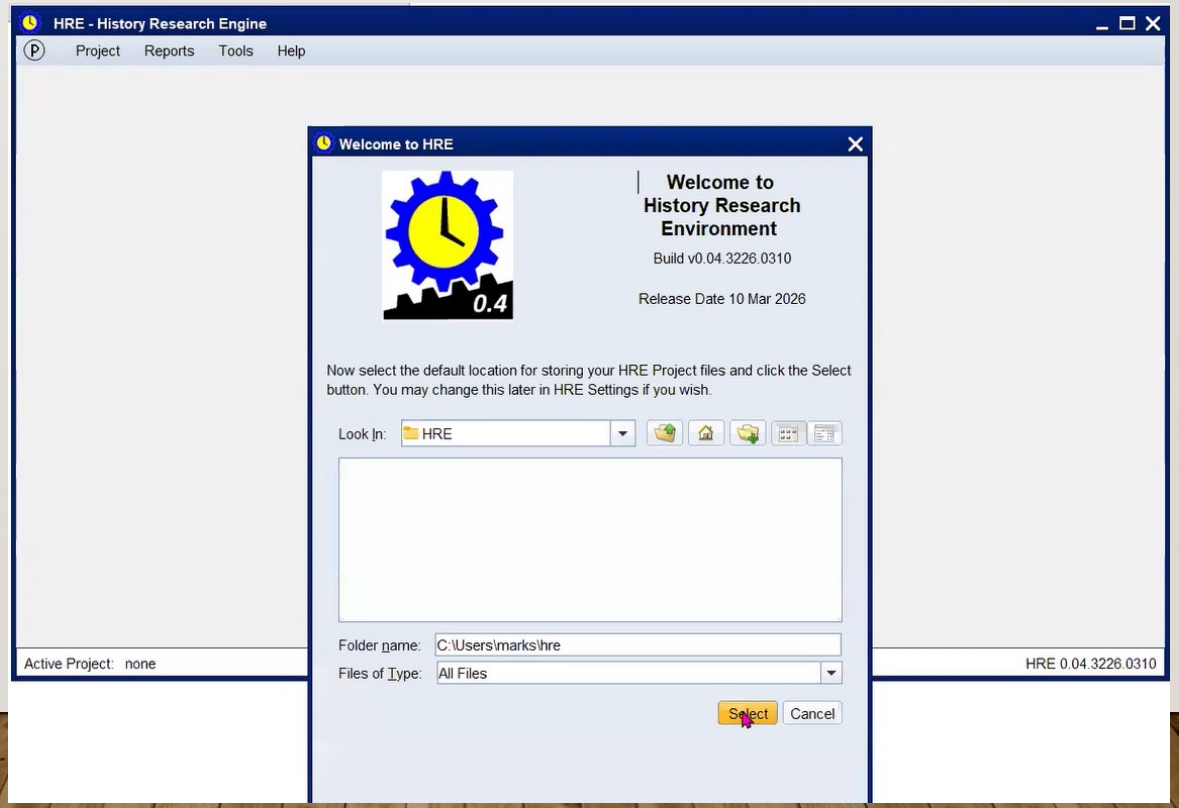
HRE STARTUP 1/3

- When 1st launched, HRE requires you to enter your name and email address



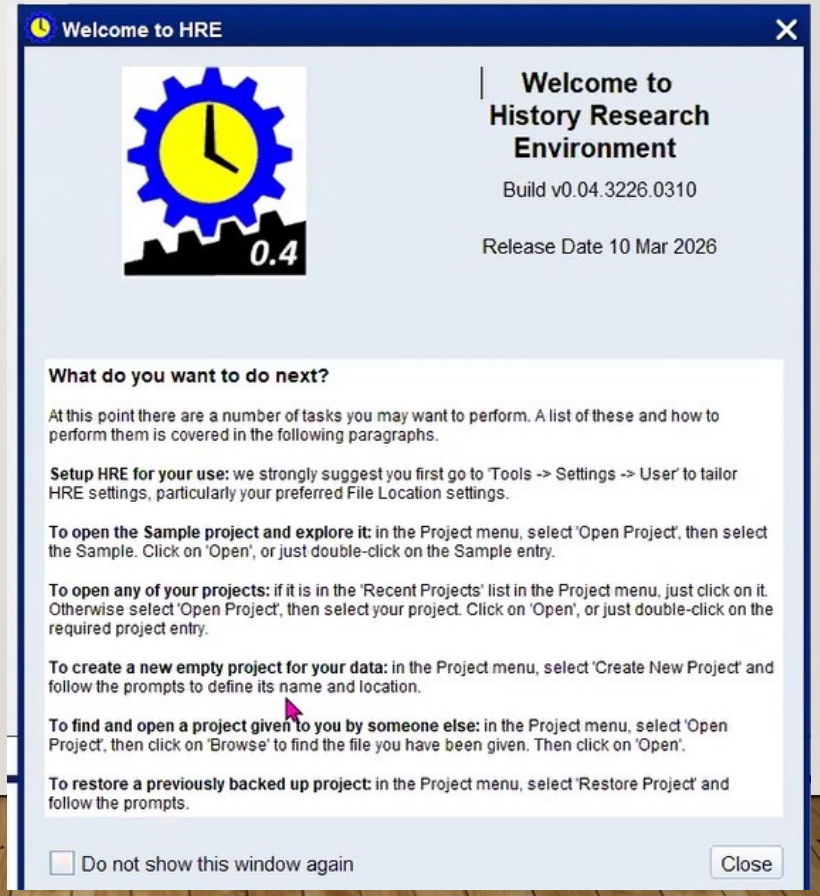
HRE STARTUP 2/3

- HRE then allows you specify where Project files are to be stored - default is in C:/Users/<name>/HRE



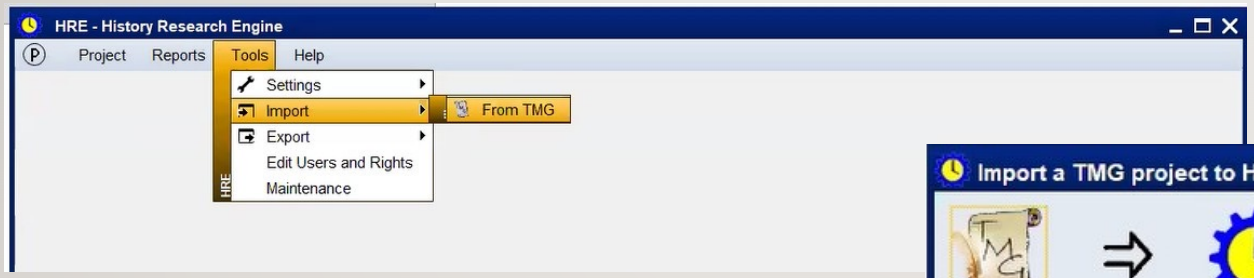
HRE STARTUP 3/3

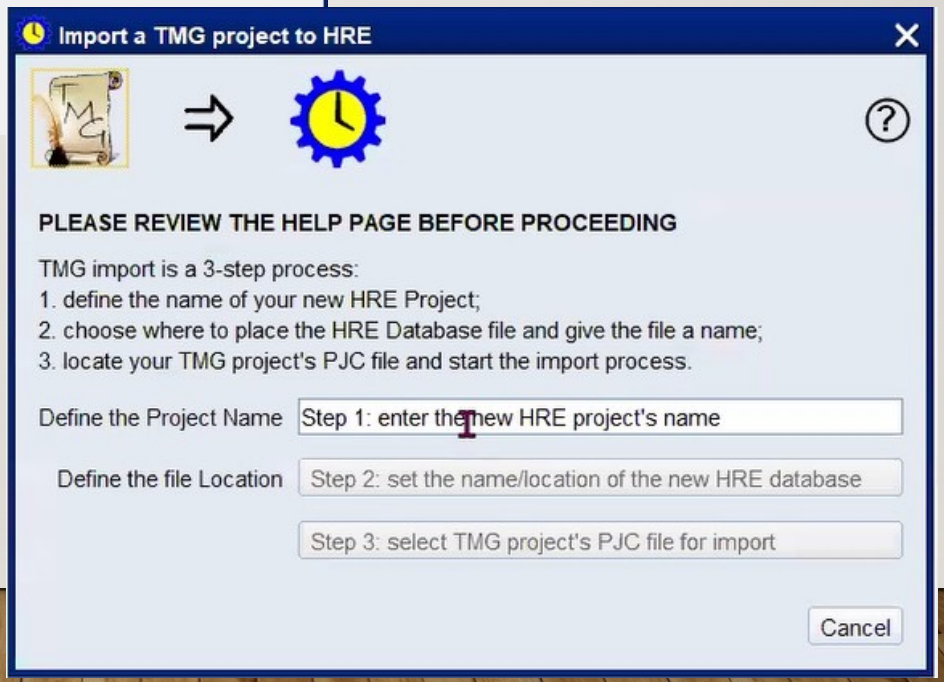
- HRE then displays a WELCOME screen



TMG IMPORT 1/7

- To Import a TMG Project, Select Tools > Import > From TMG

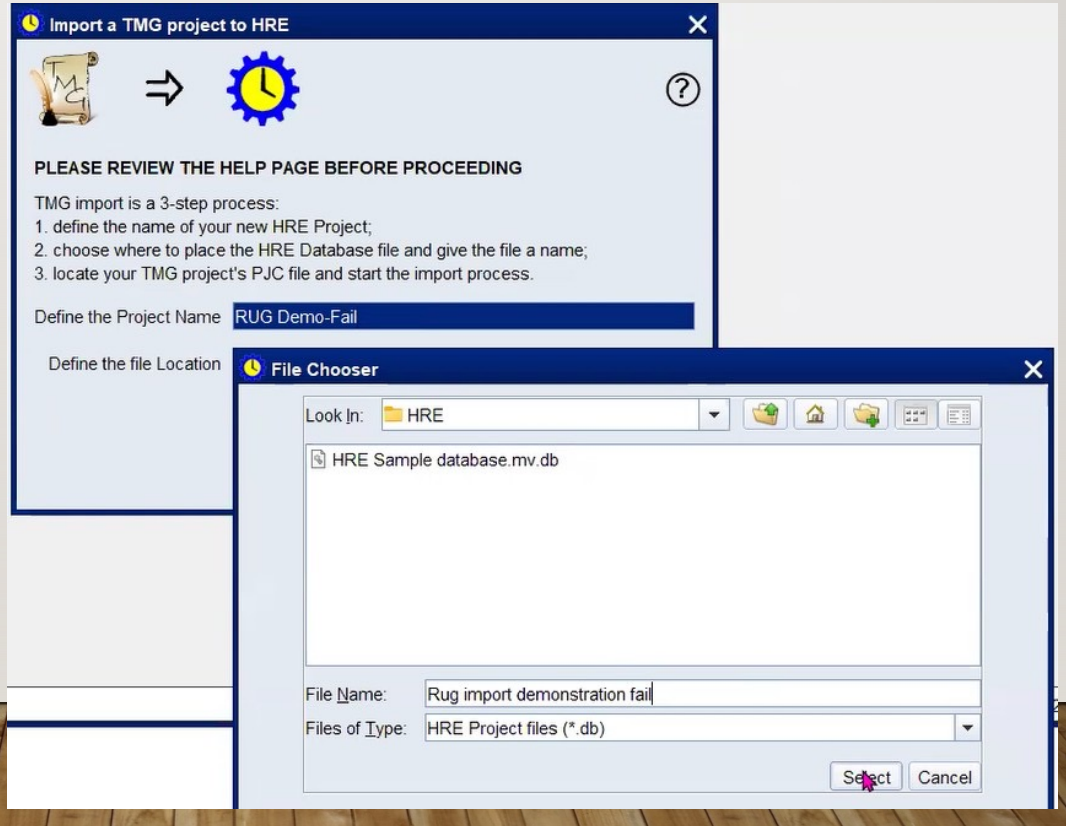




- The Program asks for import information:
  - The HRE Project Name
  - The HRE Project filename and location
  - The TMG Project to be imported

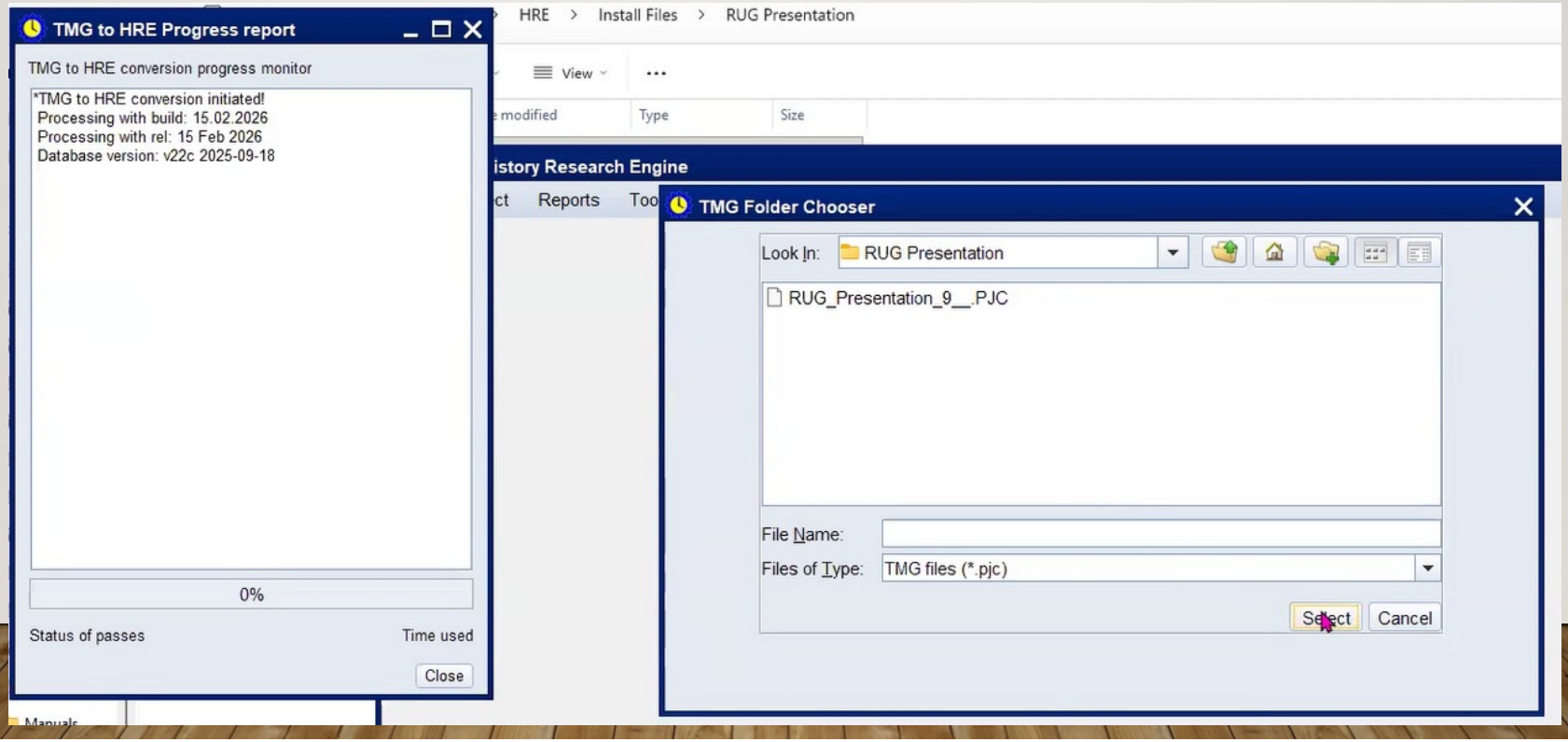
TMG IMPORT 2/7

- Enter the HRE Project Name and HRE Project filename and location
  - Default location is the file storage location specified earlier



TMG IMPORT 3/7

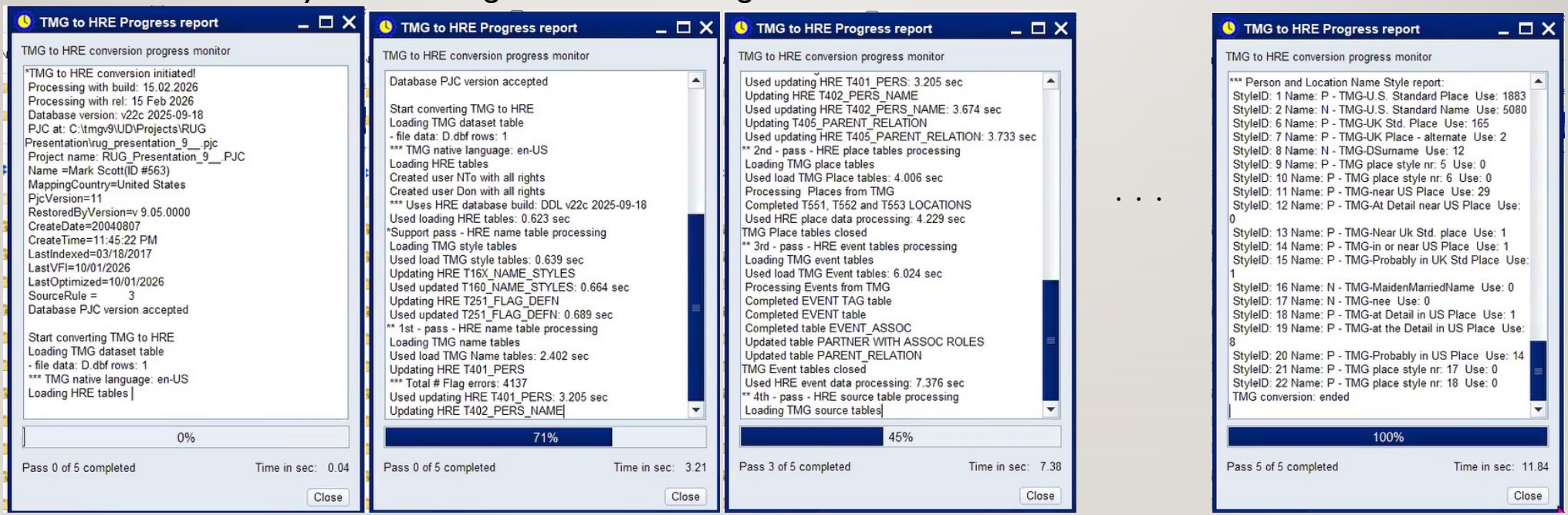
- The Program displays a Progress Report window and a BROWSE window to select the TMG project to be imported.



The ROOTS Users Group of Arlington, VA

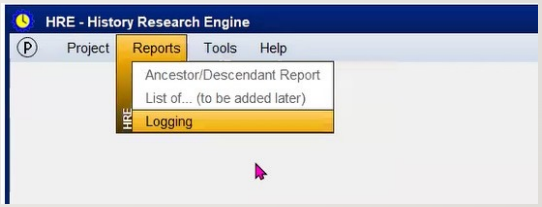
TMG IMPORT 4/7

- Import progress is shown on the Progress Report window but doesn't do very well showing Errors or Warnings.

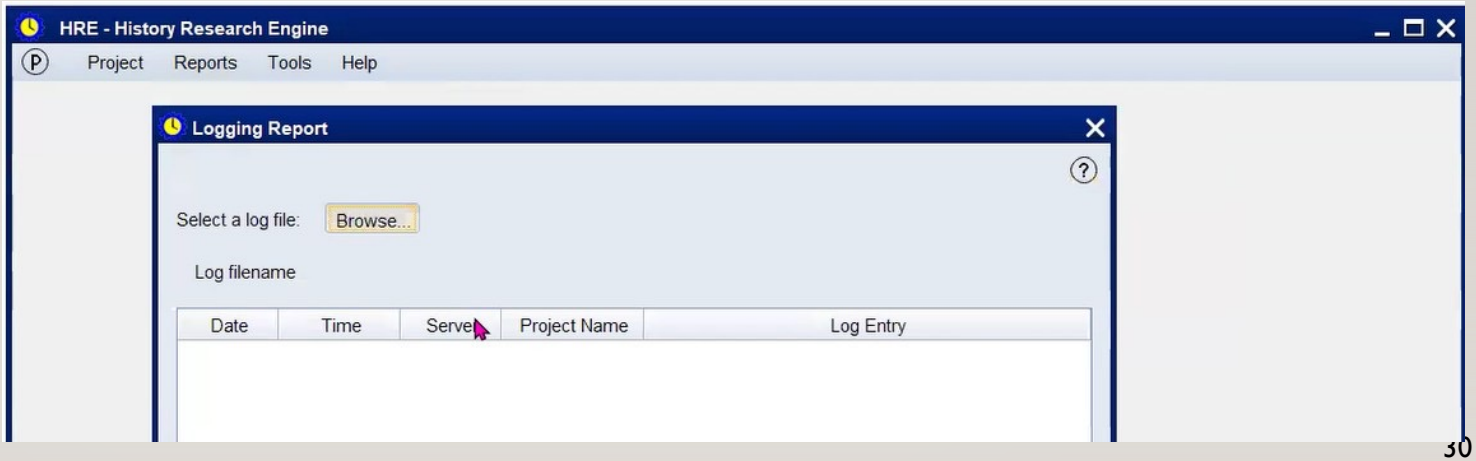


TMG IMPORT 5/7

- Always check the HRE Log to see if errors occurred
  - Open the HRE Log by selecting Reports > Logging

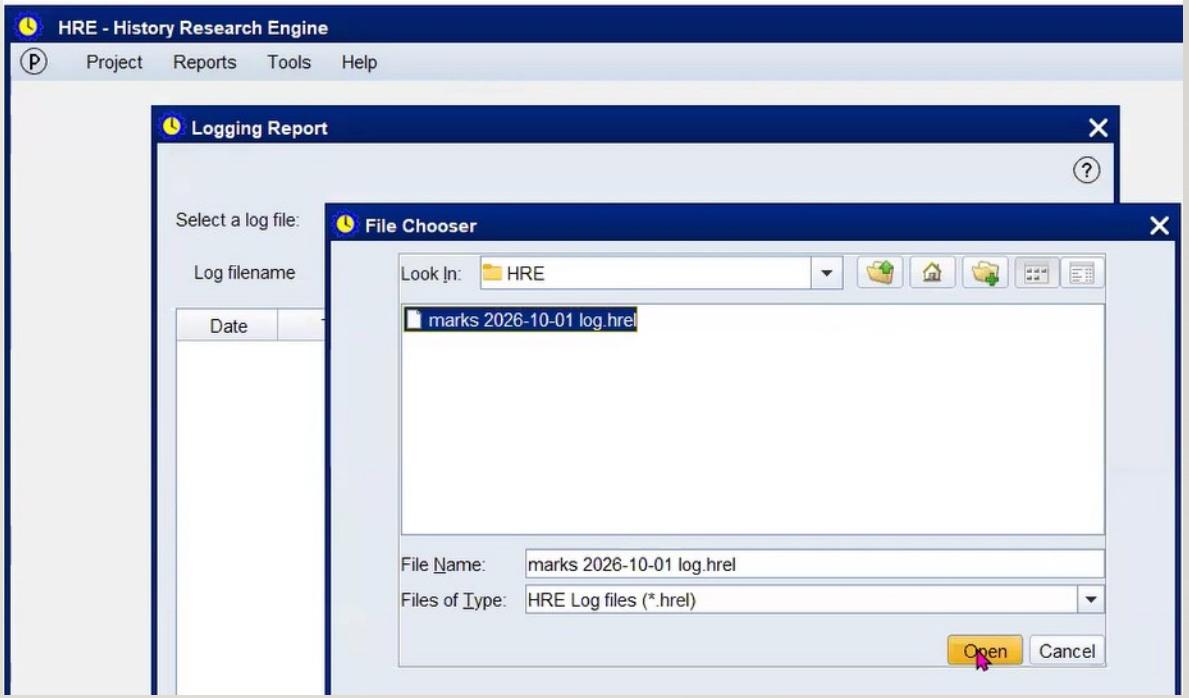


- HRE allows you to select which Log file to examine



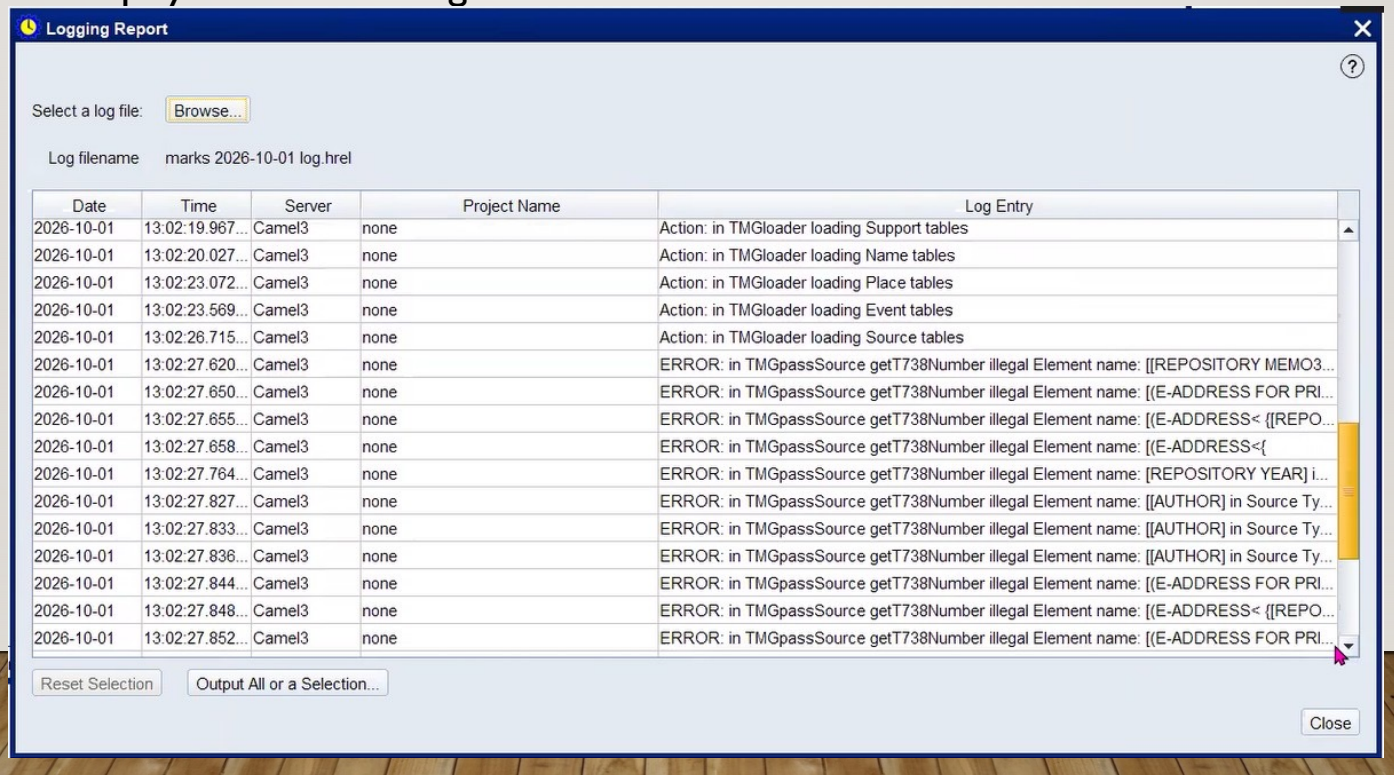
TMG IMPORT 6/7

- HRE creates a new Log file every day unless turned OFF in User Settings
- HRE only keeps three (3) Log files with today's being one of them



TMG IMPORT 7/7

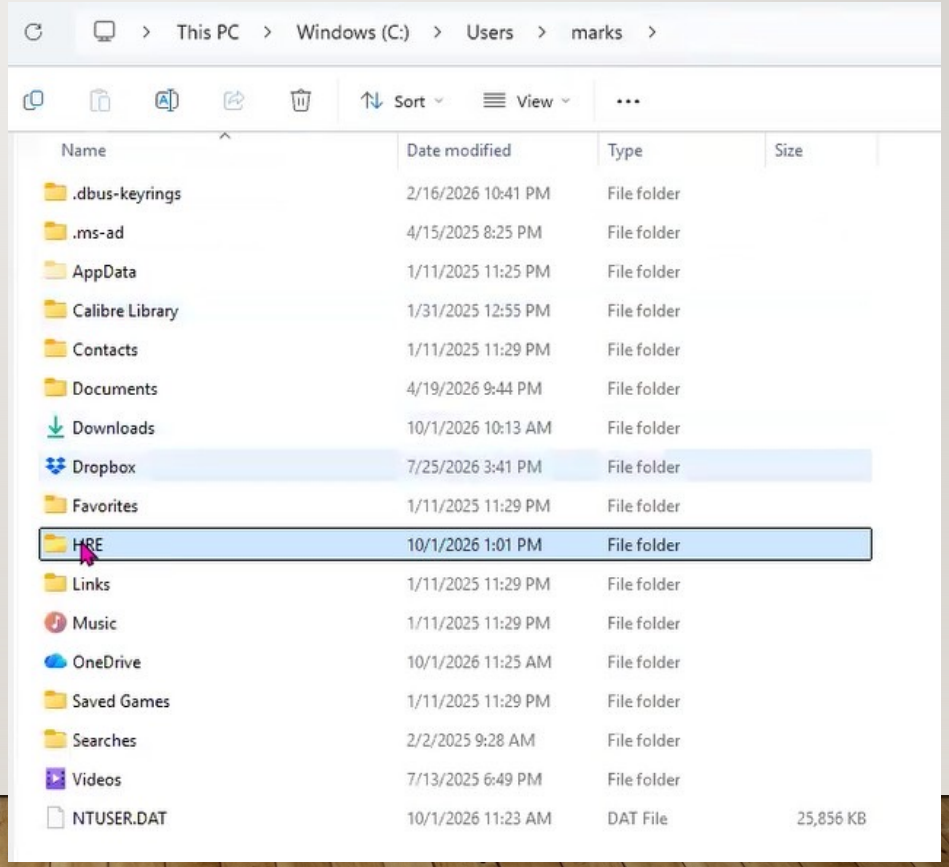
- This import had several errors
- Note that this Log file display is from the original Beta Test version



Date	Time	Server	Project Name	Log Entry
2026-10-01	13:02:19.967...	Camel3	none	Action: in TMGloader loading Support tables
2026-10-01	13:02:20.027...	Camel3	none	Action: in TMGloader loading Name tables
2026-10-01	13:02:23.072...	Camel3	none	Action: in TMGloader loading Place tables
2026-10-01	13:02:23.569...	Camel3	none	Action: in TMGloader loading Event tables
2026-10-01	13:02:26.715...	Camel3	none	Action: in TMGloader loading Source tables
2026-10-01	13:02:27.620...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [[REPOSITORY MEMO3...
2026-10-01	13:02:27.650...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [(E-ADDRESS FOR PRI...
2026-10-01	13:02:27.655...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [(E-ADDRESS< {[REPO...
2026-10-01	13:02:27.658...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [(E-ADDRESS<{
2026-10-01	13:02:27.764...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [REPOSITORY YEAR] i...
2026-10-01	13:02:27.827...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [[AUTHOR] in Source Ty...
2026-10-01	13:02:27.833...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [[AUTHOR] in Source Ty...
2026-10-01	13:02:27.836...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [[AUTHOR] in Source Ty...
2026-10-01	13:02:27.844...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [(E-ADDRESS FOR PRI...
2026-10-01	13:02:27.848...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [(E-ADDRESS< {[REPO...
2026-10-01	13:02:27.852...	Camel3	none	ERROR: in TMGpassSource getT738Number illegal Element name: [(E-ADDRESS FOR PRI...

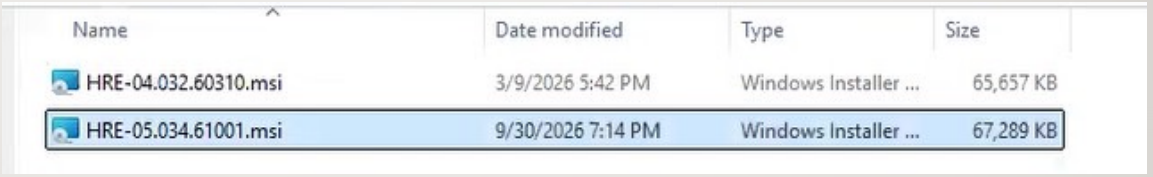
HRE INSTALLATION UPDATE 1/4

- BEFORE installing the new version, delete the HRE folder under c:/users/<name> and any HRE projects stored in another location
  - This is done because the HRE database structure may have changed.

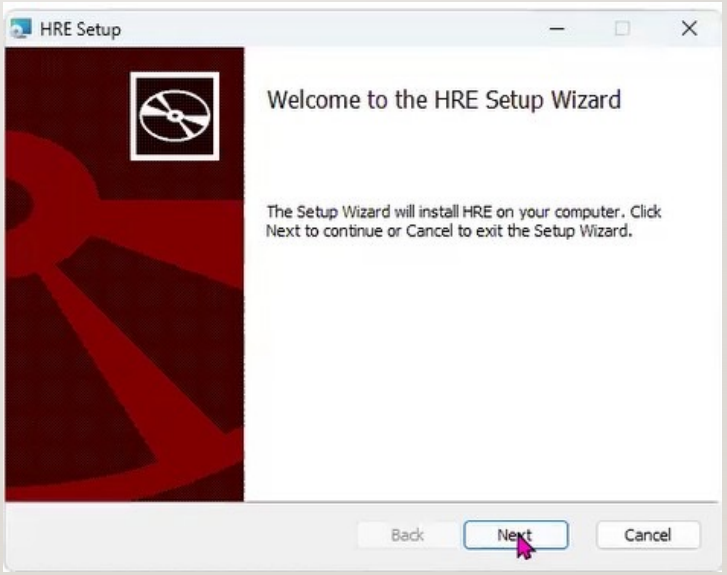


HRE INSTALLATION UPDATE 2/4

- Select the new MSI file

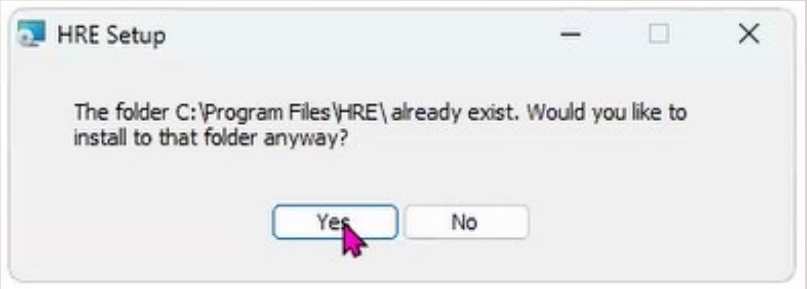


- As before, a typical Windows install process is initiated



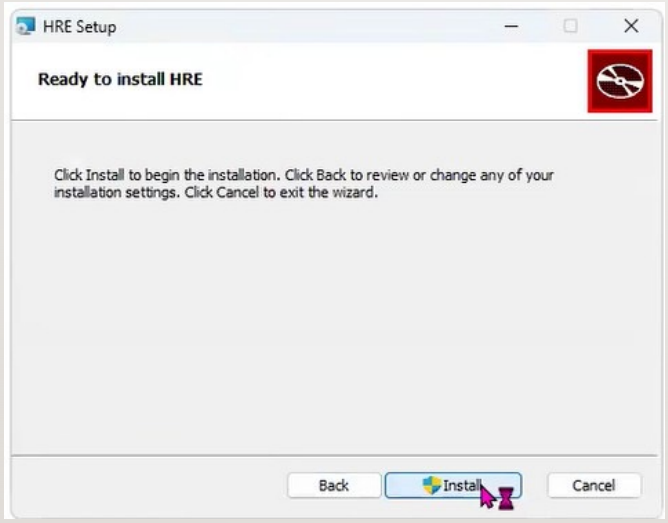
HRE INSTALLATION UPDATE 3/4

- Accept the End-User License and the program installation location (again, since HRE is a 64-bit program, default installation is under C:/Program Files)
- Then the install file warns that an installation already exists and asks if you want to proceed.

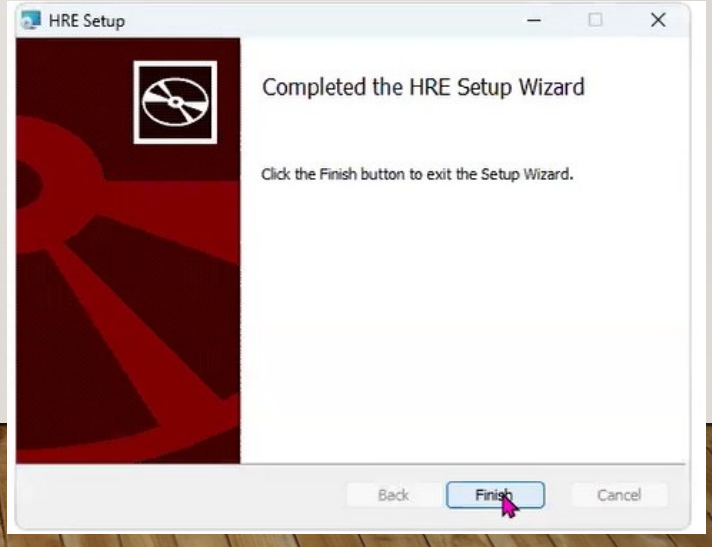


HRE INSTALLATION UPDATE 4/4

- Selecting YES allows Installation to continue

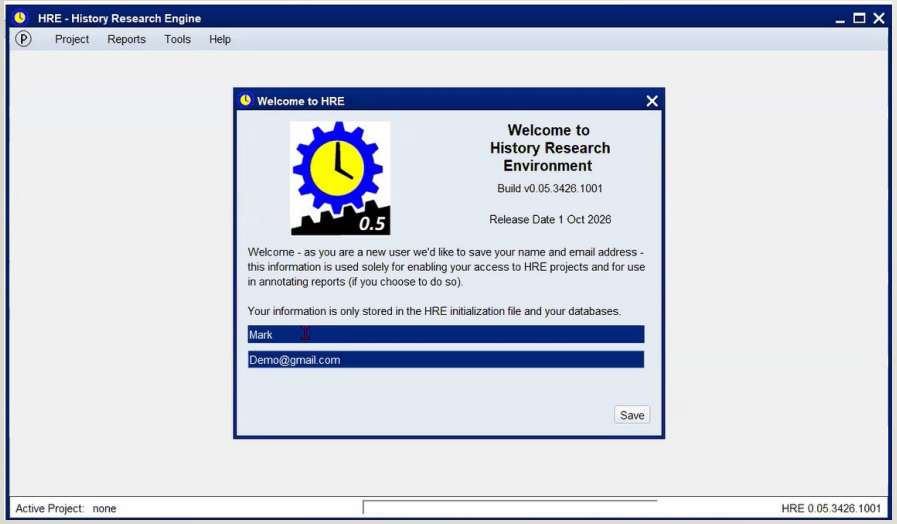


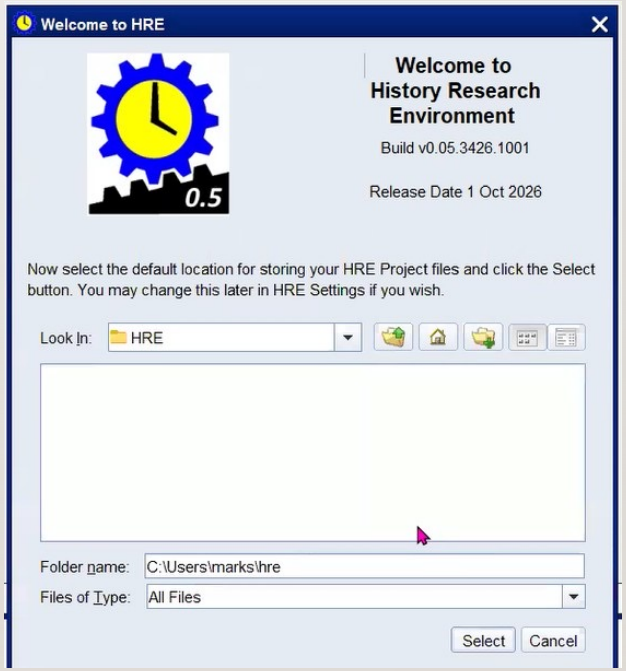
- Until it finishes normally



UPDATED HRE PROGRAM STARTUP

- HRE startup is the same, you must enter your name and email address and select a default file storage location.



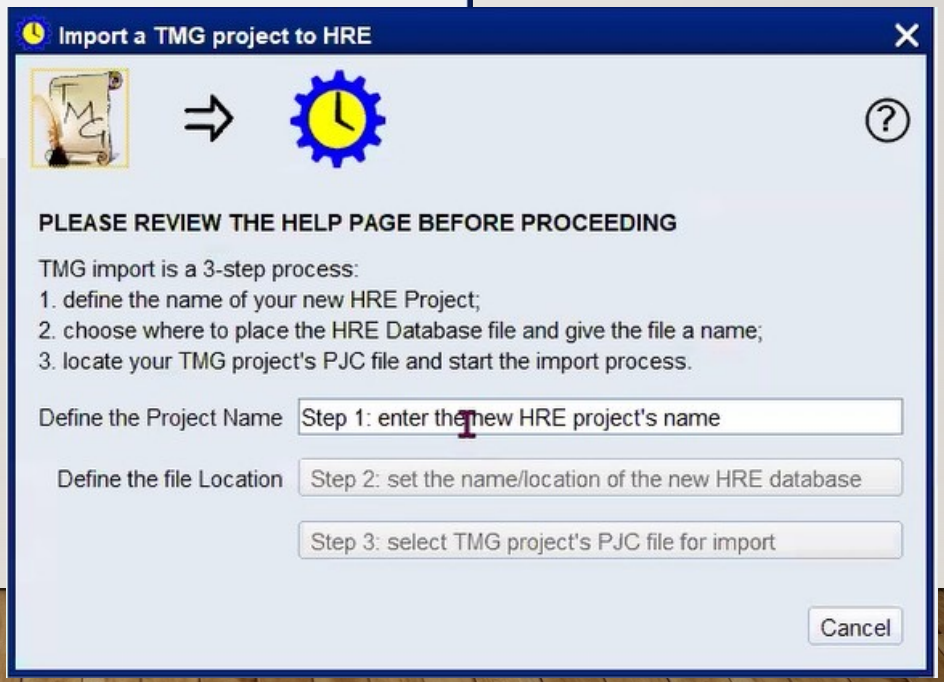


TMG IMPORT 1/4

- As before, to Import a TMG Project, Select Tools > Import > From TMG

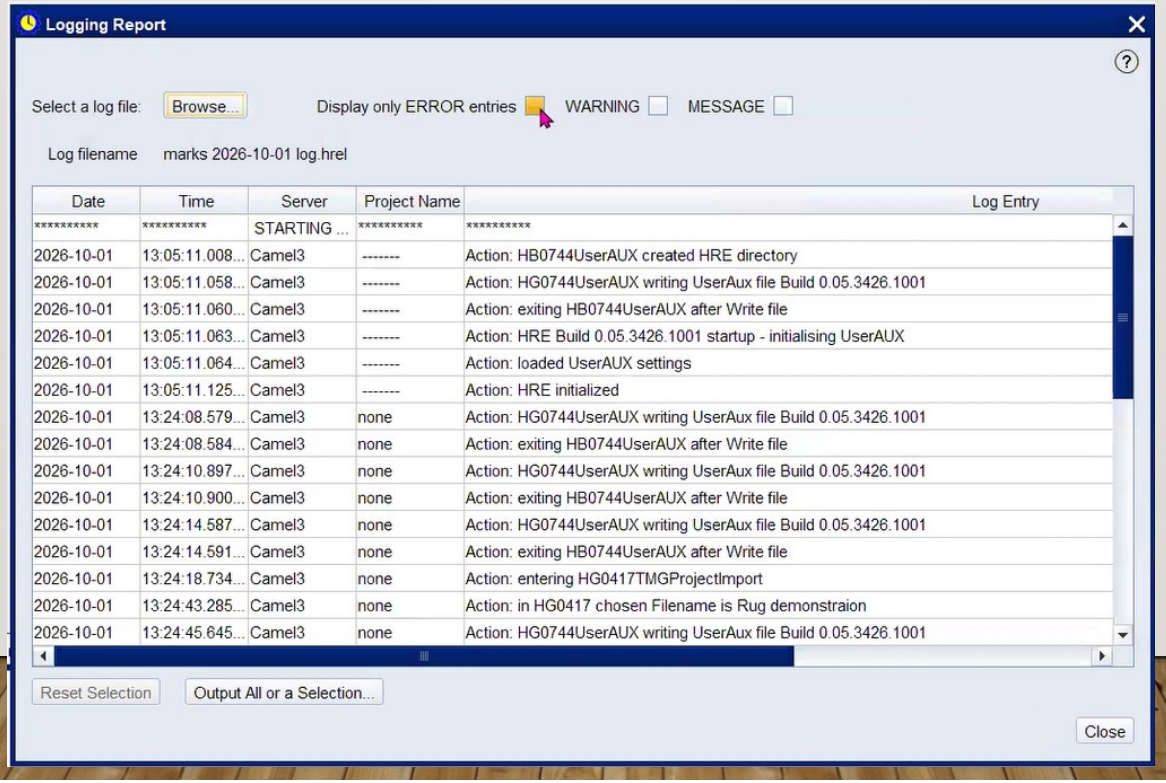


- The Program asks for import information:
  - The HRE Project Name
  - The HRE Project filename and location
  - The TMG Project to be imported



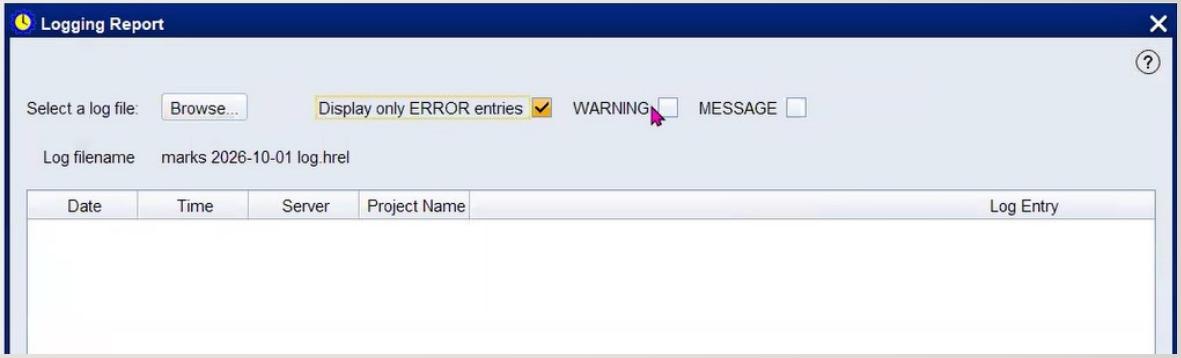
TMG IMPORT 2/4

- Once the import has completed, check the Log file
  - Note the new capability to display only Errors, Warnings, and Messages

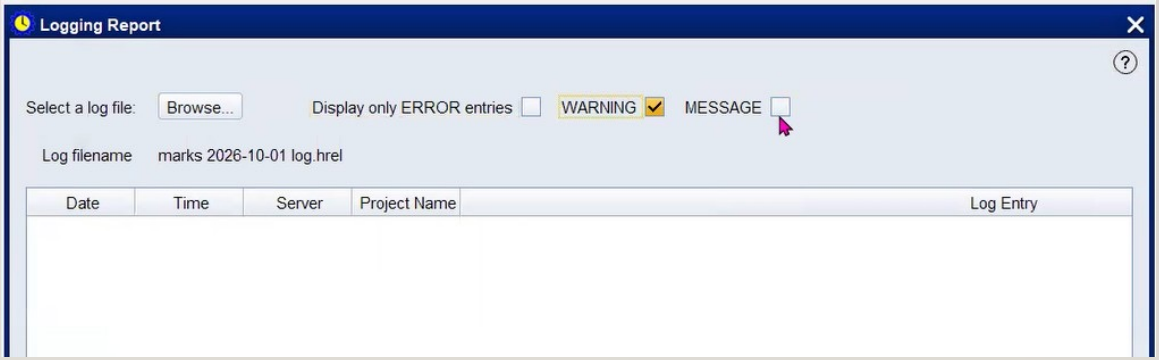


TMG IMPORT 3/4

- This time, there were no Errors

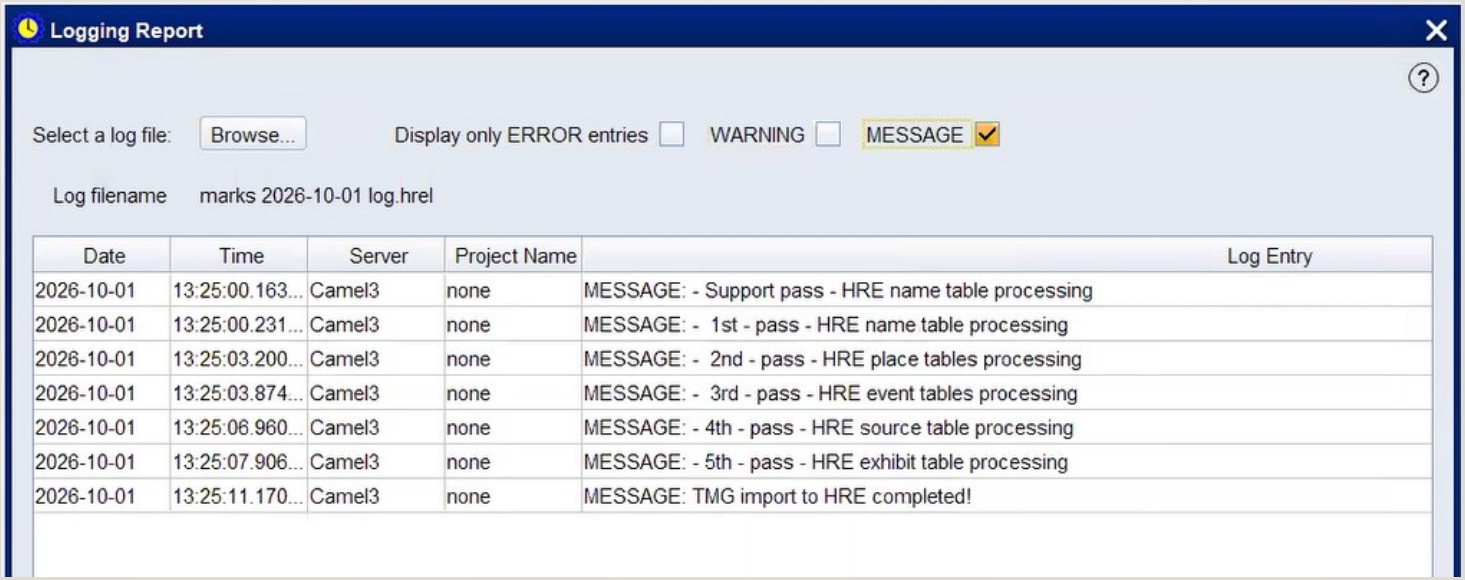


- There were no Warnings



TMG IMPORT 4/4

- And Messages showed only the import progress



Date	Time	Server	Project Name	Log Entry
2026-10-01	13:25:00.163...	Camel3	none	MESSAGE: - Support pass - HRE name table processing
2026-10-01	13:25:00.231...	Camel3	none	MESSAGE: - 1st - pass - HRE name table processing
2026-10-01	13:25:03.200...	Camel3	none	MESSAGE: - 2nd - pass - HRE place tables processing
2026-10-01	13:25:03.874...	Camel3	none	MESSAGE: - 3rd - pass - HRE event tables processing
2026-10-01	13:25:06.960...	Camel3	none	MESSAGE: - 4th - pass - HRE source table processing
2026-10-01	13:25:07.906...	Camel3	none	MESSAGE: - 5th - pass - HRE exhibit table processing
2026-10-01	13:25:11.170...	Camel3	none	MESSAGE: TMG import to HRE completed!