Audio Preservation: Diagnostic Breakthrough

Audit record • November 2, 2026

1. Purpose of this record

Document the investigation into MP3 playback failures on the Eskesthai Music/Songs page, the successful comparison with an individual post, and the corrective action reported on November 2, 2026. This record is intended to preserve the procedure and reasoning for future site builders and custodians.

2. Diagnostic evidence

Test / observation	Finding
Replacement MP3 inspected	WordPress Media Library identified the file as audio/mpeg; 9 MB; 6:15; 180 kb/s VBR.
Individual post playback	The inserted player started when Play was pressed, displayed approximately 06:14, and its elapsed-time counter a
Music/Songs page before correction	The same song displayed 00:00 and did not play when Play was pressed.
Media reference comparison	The published Songs page appeared to reference From-Symbol-to-Substance.mp3, while the replacement supplie
Corrective action	The user replaced the MP3 source for “From Symbol to Substance” and “Beyond the Known Geometry” on both th
Result reported	Both songs appeared to work after replacement, and the user reported that the rest of the page seemed to fall in li

3. Working diagnosis

The evidence points to an incorrect, outdated, or unavailable media reference on the Music/Songs page as a likely cause of the observed failure. The replacement MP3 played in the individual post, and playback on the Songs page reportedly recovered after the media sources were replaced.

> *This is a working diagnosis, not proof that every earlier 0:00 failure had the same cause. The page-wide improvement should be verified by testing additional songs, especially the previously identified group of 17 songs.*

4. Corrective procedure for future audio replacements

1. Upload the replacement MP3 through the WordPress Media Library.

2. Confirm that WordPress recognizes the file as audio/mpeg and displays a plausible file size and duration.

3. Test the direct media URL before changing the page.

4. Test the MP3 in its individual post; confirm that playback starts and the elapsed-time counter advances.

5. On the Music/Songs page, inspect the song’s audio source and replace any old or missing media reference with the verified replacement MP3.

6. Update the individual post as well if it contains a separate audio reference.

7. Test playback on the published Songs page and individual post. Record the result and the exact filename used.

8. Only after successful replacement playback should the obsolete WAV or MP3 source be considered for removal, and only after confirming that no other page depends on it.

5. Preservation safeguards

• Do not assume that a file is defective merely because one page’s player displays 00:00.

• Do not delete an original or alternate file until the replacement has been tested in every known location that uses it.

• Keep the source file independently addressable; a working media file and a working page player are separate preservation requirements.

• Use MP3 as the established cross-platform delivery format for this workflow, while retaining a clear record of any source files that are deliberately removed.

6. Status and remaining verification

Reported successful: “From Symbol to Substance” and “Beyond the Known Geometry” after their MP3 sources were replaced on the Music/Songs page and in their individual posts.

Still to verify: Test several additional songs, including entries from the previously identified 17-song failure list, to determine whether the correction resolved a shared page-reference problem or only the two corrected entries. Record any exceptions individually.

7. Archive classification

Recommended location: Eskesthai Legacy Archive → Audio Preservation / Workflow and Audit Records
Suggested filename: Eskesthai_Audio_Preservation_Diagnostic_Breakthrough_2026-11-02.pdf
Record type: Technical audit and corrective procedure
Scope: WordPress Media Library, individual posts, and Music/Songs page audio references.

> *Custodial principle: Preserve the integrity of the recording independently of the website player. A file can be healthy while a page points to the wrong source.*