At the Spring 2002 BRICMICS meeting it was suggested that BRICMICS should maintain a list of British and Irish digital projects, to include announcements of upcoming projects, details of those in progress or completed, and information about new maps on the Internet.

The intention of the list is to alert colleagues to projects which might be of interest. It is also hoped that it will help to prevent duplication of effort.

It is not meant, however, to replicate information already available on the History of Cartography website at: http://www.maphistory.info/projects.html and http://www.maphistory.info/webimages.html

All lists compiled so far are available at: http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/deptserv/maps/digital.html

This list is in two sections:

1) Projects Reported by BRICMICS Members
2) Other Projects and Reports

1) PROJECTS REPORTED BY BRICMICS MEMBERS

BODLEIAN LIBRARY

Project previously listed:

Large Scale Ordnance Survey Holdings

Digitisation and geo-rectification of the Bodleian’s large-scale Ordnance Survey holdings by DigiData Technologies has been underway since early 2005 and is still ongoing.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

Over the summer we scanned and added to our website some smaller-scale, regional maps of Scotland, 1856-1935.

This included:

1. The first three editions of Ordnance Survey one-inch to the mile mapping of Scotland:
   
   1856-1891 – 131 sheets
   1885-1900 – 131 sheets
   1903-1912 – 131 sheets

2. Bartholomew half-inch to the mile mapping (1926-1935) – 29 sheets

3. Ordnance Survey quarter-inch to the mile (1921-1923) – 10 sheets

See http://www.nls.uk/maps for links to these new map pages.

These latter two map series, along with the OS Popular edition maps, have been cropped, seamed and geo-referenced, to form a digital mapping backdrop in our web-mapping applications: http://geo.nls.uk/indexes and http://geo.nls.uk/bathymetric. We have also made them available as a seamless mosaic using Openlayers open source software (http://geo.nls.uk/quarter – http://geo.nls.uk/bartholomew – http://geo.nls.uk/popular).

Projected:

- William Roy’s Military Antiquities of the Romans in North Britain (1793) has been scanned over the summer and will be online as a complete digital facsimile in December.
- John Kirk’s estate plans for Golspie and Loth parishes in Sutherland (1771-3) have been scanned and will be online in December.
- Our Ordnance Survey large scale town plans (initially Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow) are being geo-referenced, with completion anticipated for early 2008.

The NLS Digitisation Programme, with details of several ongoing/forthcoming map projects, is available at http://www.nls.uk/professional/digitalprojects/digitisation_programme.html
NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM
(Gillian Hutchinson)

Further items - principally sixteenth and seventeenth century printed materials – have been added to the NMM’s Collections Online website http://www.nmm.ac.uk/collections/

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND
(Valerie Adams)

The website for the digitised Ordnance Survey maps for Northern Ireland is nearing completion. It is expected that viewing of the maps on-line will be free but there will be charge for copies.

TRINITY COLLEGE LIBRARY DUBLIN
(Paul Ferguson)

1. Ordnance Survey Ireland’s historic maps website now features first edition 6 inch mapping (1837-1842) in both colour and black and white as well as first edition 25 inch mapping (1888-1913) for the 26 counties. Both series were scanned in the Library. The paytoview / paytoprint site can be accessed at www.irishhistoricmaps.ie/historic/

2. Scanning of large scale maps of Great Britain by Groundsure Ltd. was completed in May and some of these maps can be ordered through their commercial website. Groundsure was taken over by media giant Emap early in the summer.

2) OTHER PROJECTS AND REPORTS


Although not specifically related to maps this report prepared by Intelligent Television for RLG Programs, OCLC Programs and Research and available at http://dlib.org/dlib/november07/kaufman/11kaufman.html may be of interest.


During the 32nd session of its General Conference in 2003, UNESCO adopted the Charter on the Preservation of the Digital Heritage. Amongst the many issues that are mentioned in the Charter are selection of material and the division of tasks and responsibilities between institutions. Principles and policies for preserving the digital heritage were discussed at the international conference of 4-5 November 2005 in The Hague organized by the Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO and the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, the National Library of the Netherlands, as a follow-up activity to the Charter. The recently published report Preserving the digital heritage: principles and policies contains selected papers from that conference. Copies can be ordered from the European Commission on Preservation and Access (ECPA) Secretariat, details at http://www.knaw.nl/ecpa/publications.html but is also available online at: http://www.knaw.nl/ecpa/publi/pdf/6190.pdf

c) DIGMAP – Discovering our Past World with Digitised Maps

The 24 month project started on 1st October 2006 and will develop solutions for georeferenced digital libraries, especially focused on historical maps and in the promoting of cultural scientific heritage. The first DIGMAP workshop takes place on 7 December in Lisbon, Portugal:
http://www.digmap.eu/doku.php

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