DIGITAL PROJECTS – LIST 18 (BRICMICS 2 June 2011, updated following the meeting)

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

BODLEIAN LIBRARY
(Nick Millea)

Previously listed:

Large Scale Ordnance Survey Holdings
Digitisation and geo-rectification of the Bodleian’s large-scale Ordnance Survey holdings by Data Holdings, now known as Protinus Holdings, has been underway since early 2005.

BRITISH LIBRARY
(Peter Barber & Kimberly Kowal)

- There are plans for the digitisation of the Bauza collection of (mainly) eighteenth century manuscript maps and texts relating to Spanish America. We hope that this will be financed by Gale.
- Efforts continue to raise funds for the digitisation of King George III’s geographical collections.
- The newly updated Georeferencer tool will be made available to the public for use with selected collections of BL digitised maps online in October this year.
- BL has joined as a partner in an EU bid to develop components of Europeana, including semantic tagging (including allowing linkage of place names in metadata to information from open source gazetteers) of scanned material and online georeferencing of maps.
- The BL is preparing an app based on its Treasures (including maps) and, while reviewing its policy respecting collaboration with third-party apps, is in negotiations to supply content for the Time Travel Explorer app for London, New York, and other cities and with other apps with cartographic content.
- The BL’s collaboration with the University of Chicago’s Digital South Asia Library and the University of Tokyo’s project Audio, Maps and Images from South Asia in the provision of pre-1947 quarter inch, half inch and one inch mapping of India has been brought to a premature close because of spending cuts in the USA.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
(Anne Taylor)

John Speed proof Maps.
An unexpected opportunity arose to scan the 66 maps in our set of proof maps for John Speed’s Theatre of the Empire of Great Britaine, published in 1611/12. The images can be seen at: http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/deptserv/maps/speed.html where printed copies can also be ordered.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND
(Chris Fleet)

Previously reported:

- Visualising Urban Geographies
  Formally completed with a website launch in February 2011. Using Edinburgh as a case study, VUG provides mapping tools for historians, enabling them to use digitized and georeferenced maps in conjunction with historical information based on either addresses or districts. Additional funding (using up project funding in May-June 2011) is allowing further georeferencing of Edinburgh maps and boundaries:
  http://geo.nls.uk/urbhist/
• AddressingHistory, Phase 2 (May – July 2011)

The AddressingHistory project developed a pilot application in 2010 for linking Post Office Directory information to historical maps of the same time and place through georeferencing names of people, professions and their addresses for three directories relating to Edinburgh. Phase 2 of the project, funded from May – July 2011, is attempting to improve the ingest of directory XML/OCR files, to improve parsing accuracy, and broaden the scope of the resource. This will result in additional directories for Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow in the 1880s and 1890s.

http://addressinghistory.edina.ac.uk

• ScotlandsPlaces

18,000 NLS map records were added in December 2010 to this collaborative website, hosted by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, allowing access through good spatial search methods to records and images of material held by the National Archives of Scotland, RCAHMS, and NLS. A pilot project this year is incorporating the early digitised records of Ordnance Survey Name Books (from RCAHMS) and linking them with OS 25 inch sheets (from NLS), with the intention of extending this across Scotland:

http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/

Scanning

• Ordnance Survey 25 inch to the mile, Scotland, 1890s – 1940s
17,000 sheets. Completed February 2011. We hope to make these available on the website by the end of 2011.

• Bartholomew printed publications, 1877-1912
15,000 items from the Bartholomew Printing Record. Scanning began in March 2011

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES  (Huw Thomas)

• The Tithe Map Project has passed Phase One of the HLF bidding process, work is now under way to prepare for the Phase Two submission

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND  (Wesley Geddis)

• Minute Books of Derry City Council 1673-1901. Joint project between PRONI and Derry City Council.
• Allison Glass Plates ca. 1870-1935. 1,000 images captured with over 500 on Flickr.
• Valuation Revision Lists, 1860-1930. These list the names of all householders in Northern Ireland, providing updates to the popular ‘Griffiths’ valuation and comprises 3,500 volumes. Counties Antrim, Down, Armagh and Fermanagh have been completed. Counties Londonderry, Tyrone and City of Belfast remain to be done.

TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN  (Paul Ferguson)

Trinity College Library will launch its Digital Collections Repository later in June. This new digital resource will provide free internet access to our growing collections of digitised library materials. At the moment the contents are drawn from the Departments of Manuscripts and Early Printed Books but it will eventually include some maps. For a preview see http://digitalcollections.tcd.ie/home/

MISCELLANEOUS

Geospatial Data Preservation Resource Centre http://geopreservation.org/
Resource Center being developed to offer capabilities for finding freely available web-based resources about the preservation of geospatial information.

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