DIGITAL PROJECTS – LIST 21 (BRICMICS 8 November 2012, 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

Previously listed:

Large Scale Ordnance Survey Holdings
Digitisation and geo-rectification of the Bodleian’s large-scale Ordnance Survey holdings by Protinus Holdings (previously known as Data Holdings) has been underway since early 2005. The scanning operation has been moved from Oxford to Swindon to be close to the maps which are now stored there.

BRITISH LIBRARY

BL Georefrerencer http://www.bl.uk/maps/index.html
A second batch of scanned maps was released for georeferencing via online crowdsourcing using BL’s customised Georefrerencer tool in October 2012. All 700 maps were completed by the public in six days; these will be added to the Old Maps Online search portal in due course.

WWI maps
Maps selected for inclusion in the WWI EU-funded digitisation programme being led by the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin will be digitised in-house in Jan-Feb 2013.

Goad fire insurance mapping of British towns
All first editions of BL-owned Goad mapping of British towns are being scanned and will be posted online in the coming months.

Mapping of the Persian Gulf
Maps of areas in the Persian Gulf and Middle East will be scanned as part of the larger BL / Qatar Foundation partnership in the next year http://pressandpolicy.bl.uk/Press-Releases/Transforming-our-understanding-of-Middle-Eastern-history-The-British-Library-and-Qatar-Foundation-unveil-project-to-digitise-half-a-million-pages-of-archive-material-5b8.aspx

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

Website enhancements

- From June 2012 we completed a project to add bounding boxes to all 48,000 of our online maps. This allows easy geographic searching of all our website maps that cover any location in the Sheet Viewer: http://geo.nls.uk/search

- From August we upgraded all the zoomable map viewers using OpenLayers to make them mobile / tablet compatible.

- We hope to complete the revision of our main maps website by December, with a new architecture, design and integration of the geo and maps domains into one to allow easier navigation and consistency.
Recent website additions – georeferenced map mosaics:

- **Bartholomew’s Survey Atlas of Scotland, 1912.** 45 half-inch maps [http://maps.nls.uk/openlayers.cfm?m=1&id=7]
- **Bartholomew half-inch maps of Great Britain, 1897-1907.** 60 half-inch maps - the first complete coverage of Great Britain by Bartholomew at this scale [http://geo.nls.uk/maps/bartholomew/great_britain/]
- **Bartholomew Cairngorms layer explorer, 1890-1905.** 6 half-inch maps showing the evolution of layer colouring palettes over 15 years for one area. [http://geo.nls.uk/maps/bartholomew/layers/]
- **Maps of Perth, 1715-1948.** 15 georeferenced maps, in collaboration with an M.Sc student: [http://geo.nls.uk/search/mosaic/]
- **Ordnance Survey six-inch to the mile, Scotland, 1892-1905.** ca. 4,000 maps [http://maps.nls.uk/openlayers.cfm?m=1&id=6]

Recent digitisation:

These two book digitisation projects have been scanned with the Internet Archive and are currently available on their website (URLs below). They will be integrated into the NLS website during 2013.

- **Descriptive Gazetteers of Scotland (19th century)** A collection of 20 volumes of descriptive gazetteers of Scotland, dating between 1803 and 1901 by Chambers, Wilson, Fullarton and Groome, etc. Also includes John Wood's 'Descriptive account of the principal towns in Scotland' (1828) [http://archive.org/details/scottishgazetteers]

Planned digitisation:

- Ordnance Survey six-inch to the mile, England and Wales, ca. 1890 - 1910

**NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES (Huw Thomas)**

- Some maps have been included in the Old Maps Online project [http://www.oldmapsonline.org]
- It is hoped to have images on the NLW website by the end of the year.
- A third batch of maps is to be digitised in 2013, possibly some Welsh town plans, in particular those by John Wood of Edinburgh.
- The People’s Collection Wales [http://www.peoplescollectionwales.co.uk/Places] includes 6” County Series maps of Wales. There is the possibility of a crowd sourced gazetteer project based on these maps.

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