DIGITAL PROJECTS – LIST 27 (BRICMICS, 3 December 2015)

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/collections/departments/maps/digital-maps/digital-projects-list [note new address]

BRITISH LIBRARY (Jim Caruth)

- **Geo-referencing.** Work continues on the large releases from November 2014 and March 2015, using the BL Georeferencer online tool. So far volunteers have georeferenced just under 10,000 maps, around 20% of the total volume. The map images, in the public domain, are being added to Wikimedia Commons in their own ‘British Library Georeferencer’ subset along with geo-location metadata for use by Wikipedians.

- **Know Your Place West of England,** in which BL is a partner, is now up and running. Maps OS 25” maps of Gloucester have been provided to the team who are currently building the web interface and the digitisation of materials from Somerset and Wiltshire is ongoing. NLS is assisting with the georeferencing, as well as a number of other elements of the project. Towards the end of the year Goad Fire Insurance plans for Bath, Bristol and Gloucester will also be made available to Know Your Place.

- The Library continues to submit metadata for inclusion in Old Maps Online (http://www.oldmapsonline.org) the portal for historic scanned mapping from map collections worldwide. This is now being used as part of the recently released app (for iOS and Android) which allows users to browse maps, text search, or search based on the GPS location of the phone.

- The Library’s imaging department are beginning to deliver reproductions of various **Arctic and Antarctic maps,** as part of a digitisation project associated with the exhibition Lines in the Ice: seeking the Northwest Passage. Photography and single sheet mapping have been a focus, using money provided by the Delmas Foundation, and included are fascinating maps of voyages such as the drift of Nansen’s Fram, Dr. John Rae’s overland expeditions and much more.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY (Anne Taylor)

Cambridge University Digital Library (CUDL) http://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/maps

This now includes a dedicated Map Collection, extremely modest in scope, but a star!. As well as John Speed’s county maps (proof copies; the Cheshire map is one of only 2 known copies) the collection now includes some maps of Cambridge – for example Lyne (1574), Braun & Hogenberg, Fuller, Loggan (1688), Custance (1798). Maps can also be found in other Digital Library collections such as Treasures, Waterloo, and Board of Longitude http://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND (Chris Fleet)

Recent website additions:

- **OS 25 inch County Series England and Wales, 1841-1952.** An ongoing project, with 32,744 sheets available so far – all NLS 1:2,500 holdings covering southern counties of England (currently south of a line from Gloucestershire to Essex). Please note that NLS often lacks the earliest editions. A georeferenced layer of 2nd ed ca. 1900 mapping and other counties is also available.

• **OS 25 inch County Series Scotland, 1892-95.** A georeferenced layer of the 2nd edition of the County Series maps for Scotland.

  [http://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=6&lat=58.1142&lon=-5.3513&layers=168](http://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=6&lat=58.1142&lon=-5.3513&layers=168)

• **Land Utilisation Survey, Scotland, 1931-1935.** The one-inch to the mile land utilisation maps from the Dudley Stamp survey - a mixture of printed and manuscript sheets for Scotland. Available as individual sheets and as a georeferenced layer.


• **Soil Survey of Scotland mapping (1950s-1980s).** A collaboration with the James Hutton Institute, these one-inch to the mile/1:50,000 maps cover the Lowland parts of Scotland. Available as individual sheets and as a georeferenced layer.

  [http://maps.nls.uk/series/soils/index.html](http://maps.nls.uk/series/soils/index.html)

• **Ordnance Map of Hong Kong by Thomas Collinson, 1846.** This finely engraved map depicts Hong Kong just after the time that it was formally ceded to Great Britain under the Treaty of Nanking in 1842. Available as individual sheets and as a georeferenced layer.

  [http://maps.nls.uk/hongkong/102621568.html](http://maps.nls.uk/hongkong/102621568.html)

• **Historic Maps Subscription API.** This allows the incorporation of five detailed historic georeferenced map layers into other websites, through an annual subscription fee to cover hosting. The layers include coverage of Great Britain at scales of six-inch to the mile or 1:10,560, medium-scale mapping at 1:25,000 and 1:63,360, as well as London at 1:1,056 scale. The layers have been optimised for very quick display and distributed under reliable and fast hosting.


• **Blaeu Atlas Maior, 1662-5.** An 11 volume edition with Latin text of the *Blaeu Atlas Maior or Cosmographia Blaviana* - one of the largest and most splendid of the multi-volume Dutch world atlases, published in 1662-5, with 594 maps and 3,368 pages of texts. We are working on a georeferenced access to the atlas - at present, access is just by the geographic arrangement of the volumes.


• **Dumfries-shire and Kirkcudbrightshire estate maps, ca. 1750-1900.** An initial set of 30 estate maps, in association with the Dumfries Archival Mapping Project ([http://www.damproject.org/](http://www.damproject.org/)). We hope to add more over the coming months.

  [http://maps.nls.uk/estates/index.html](http://maps.nls.uk/estates/index.html)

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**Planned scanning projects / website additions**

- OS 25 inch County Series England and Wales, 1841-1952. Continuing to scan counties moving north
- Post Office Directory maps, Scottish towns, ca. 1830s-1940s
- Two Ptolemy Geographia atlases from 1525 and 1585
- OS 1:500 town plans - Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire, 1870s-1880s. A collaborative project with the British Library

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**NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES**

(Huw Thomas)

1. **The Cynefin project** is continuing [http://cynefin.archiveswales.org.uk/](http://cynefin.archiveswales.org.uk/)

2. Some of our digitised maps which are still not available through our website (hopefully to be remedied soon) have been added to [Wikimedia Commons]: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Maps_in_the_National_Library_of_Wales](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Maps_in_the_National_Library_of_Wales)

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Anne Taylor, 2 December 2015 [aemt2@cam.ac.uk](mailto:aemt2@cam.ac.uk) [No updates required following the meeting]