

BRICMICS 21 November 2002

DIGITAL PROJECTS - PRELIMINARY LISTING (revised)

Anne Taylor, with considerable help from committee members

At the last meeting I was actioned to look into the following:

'It was suggested that BRICMICS should maintain a list of digital projects, such as announcements of upcoming projects, those in progress or completed, and new maps on websites'

The following information was received from members of the committee for inclusion this preliminary listing.

The present intention of the list is to alert members to projects which might be of particular interest. It is not meant to replicate information available on the History of Cartography website at:

<http://ihr.sas.ac.uk/maps/projects.html> or at <http://ihr.sas.ac.uk/maps/webimages.html#europe>

Comments welcome on the format, contents and usefulness of the list.

1. INSTITUTIONAL PROJECTS

BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(Graham McKenna)

William Smith 1815 and 1820 geological maps .

- The 1820 map has been reproduced from a scanned image as a facsimile poster.
- The 1815 map is 6x8ft and BGS are currently looking into how they might best make it available to interested parties. Graham McKenna reports that the initial scale prints of the scans of the 15 sections are very good.

BRITISH LIBRARY

(Peter Barber, April Carlucci)

In Place, New Opportunities Fund (NOF) project.

Maps play a major role in this massive project:-

a) The Unveiling of Britain: maps and views created in Britain, 1000-1600.

These 350 maps and views mirror the growing awareness of the form and content of these islands and their place within the world. They are predominantly unique manuscripts, e.g. the 13th-century maps of Britain by the St Albans monk, Matthew Paris, but also include such great printed rarities as the 16th-century Lily and Mercator maps of Britain. Some of the maps are of iconic importance, but most have hitherto been virtually unknown: all offer a fascinating insight into early depictions of places in Britain. [Online mid 2003?]

b) The Image of Regency England: the Ordnance Surveyors' drawings for the first edition O.S. maps.

These 351 maps are the original preliminary drawings, ca.1781-1840, for the first edition, one inch to the mile O.S. maps, published from 1801 onwards. The maps, at scales from 2 to 6 inches to the mile include much more detail than is found in the printed maps. Their coverage of the whole of the area south of the line from Liverpool to Hull presents a picture of Regency England of unparalleled accuracy, which is of great value to local and national historians. [Online early 2003?]

c) Images of Early Modern Britain: King George III's topographical collection of maps and views relating to Britain.

King George III's topographical collection (K Top) contains 50,000 images dated c.1500-1824. The collection contains manuscript and printed maps as well as topographical prints, watercolours and drawings. Drawings, watercolours and aquatints of places in the British Isles and the former empire (but no maps and nothing from e.g. Europe) will be digitised for *In Place*. [UK collection online mid 2003; Colonies collection late 2003?]

d) The Crace Collection of maps of London and its vicinity, 1570-1860.

1000 printed and manuscript maps of London, from the collection of Gregory Crace, purchased by the British Museum in 1878. The collection is an essential source for learners interested in the history of London. It links with the proposal of our partner, The Ragged School Museum Trust, since the East End is well represented and would also supplement, but not duplicate, the holdings of the Guildhall Library, available on its Collage website. Note that the views part of the Crace Collection remains in British Museum Prints and Drawings - there is a possibility that these will be scanned, as part of a the Motco Project (<http://www.motco.com/default-Markou.asp>) [BL images online early 2003?]

DEFENCE GEOGRAPHIC CENTRE, MOD

(Peter Jones)

DGC is planning to embark on a programme to completely digitise the Map Library holdings - currently about 550,000 individual maps. A scoping study is currently being carried out and this is due to report in February 2003. Informed by this, they will then be issuing an invitation to tender for the scanning and storage of the total map library holdings.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

(Diana Webster & Chris Fleet)

Around 500 images of maps from 1740-c.1900 were added to NLS's maps website in July (www.nls.uk/maps). These were selected from 1000 map images which were scanned for the *Resources for Learning in Scotland* NOF-funded project last February. They include maps of Scotland as a whole, the principal county maps (c.1740-1830), John Thomson's 1832 *Atlas of Scotland* and John Wood's town plan atlas. They complement the pre-1740 images already on the website, which were selected from the scanned images prepared for the *Charting the Nation* project (<http://www.chartingthenation.lib.ed.ac.uk/>). The website now provides most of the pre-1850 maps needed for local and family historians.

In Spring 2003 we plan to add the Latin texts from the Scottish volume of Blaeu's 1654 *Atlas Novus* together with an English translation. The Pont website (www.nls.uk/pont) will also be enhanced with transcriptions from the texts associated with Pont.

NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

(Gillian Hutchinson)

NOF PortCities consortium

As part of the NOF PortCities consortium, NMM is creating a web resource tracing the influence of Britain's maritime past on the built environment along the Thames corridor from Rotherhithe to Woolwich. Maps and charts are among the items which will be used.

Collections Online Project

A selection of 1,000 of NMM's sea-charts and maps will form part of NMM's Collections Online project. The first 500 should be available in Spring 2003. The records will also be incorporated in NMM's on-line library catalogue. Globes will also be included.

TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

(Paul Ferguson)

Ordnance Survey Ireland

OSi are about to scan the 1st and 2nd ed 1:10,560 county series maps of Ireland (all 32 counties). The maps are being sourced from Trinity College Library, Dublin. They will be marketed as 'Vintage Maps' by OSi and their regional agents next year (2003).

Sitescope

On 17 September 2002 Sitescope announced a new agreement with Trinity College Library, Dublin, that will give them access to large scale Ordnance Survey mapping of Great Britain from the 1840s to the 1990s. The press release can be viewed on the Sitescope website at <http://secure.sitescope.co.uk/info/pressreleases.asp?howhear=#p3>

2. OTHER NEWS***Fully Indexed CD of Stanford's 1862 Map Of London motco.com***

'The most important map of Mid-Victorian London is available with a full index for the first time since the map was originally published (without an index). Invaluable for genealogists, reseachers, historians, writers, producers, etc.'

Available from www.motco.com (which has lots of other interesting products).

Cambridge Explorer CD-ROM and Cambridgeshire Explorer CD-ROM

Both include maps (early to mid 20th century) plus extracts from directories, photographs, etc.

More details at: <http://www.cambridge-explorer.org.uk/> or from: The Cambridge Explorer, Ash House, Prickwillow Road, Queen Adelaide, Ely, Cambs, CB7 4TZ

An *Oxford Explorer* is under development.