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Film & Sound Online users invited to have their say

Following on from the theme of listening to users in the last issue of *Newsline*, we are delighted to introduce tools for users to comment on the service and content provided by Film & Sound Online (FSOL).

There are two new features in this service for the new academic year: a Forum and Film Trails are both presented as linked icons on the service home page, and highlighted as being New.

Forum

This new feature is being introduced as a supplement to contacting local, institutional or national support, and is envisaged as a peer-to-peer discussion area that also allows users to comment on individual FSOL items.

All users can view the comments posted but registration using an Athens account is necessary to add a comment. IP-only (direct access) users are not presently able to add their views.

Film Trails

We have been soliciting Film Trails for some time via the 'View or Create Learning Materials' icon on the service home page.

The first three of these have been completed and are now in service under the new 'Film Trails' icon: British Social History, Social Spaces and the Cold War.

We are keen to receive proposals for more trails. Payment of £500 per trail is available. Please follow the instructions at <http://www.filmandsound.ac.uk/makefilmtrails.html>



Standard search page, showing the new Forum and Film Trails buttons.



Home page for the new Film & Sound Online discussion forum.

Other learning materials

Case Studies and Reviews are now also available via the 'View or Create Learning Materials' icon on the FSOL Home Page.

There are currently five case studies. Payment of £500 per case study is available. Please follow the instructions at <http://www.filmandsound.ac.uk/>

[makecasestudies.html](http://www.filmandsound.ac.uk/makecasestudies.html). Reviews are commissioned by EDINA through the HE Academy Subject Centres.

As ever, we welcome your feedback and suggestions for future development.

- <http://www.filmandsound.ac.uk/>

About EDINA

EDINA is a JISC-funded national datacentre based at the University of Edinburgh. It offers a library of data, information and research resources. All EDINA services are free of charge at the point of use. For information on institutional subscription fees, visit the EDINA web site, or contact us (details below).

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Suggestions and comments may be sent to edina@ed.ac.uk

OS MasterMap® at EDINA

Tuesday 4 September 2007 saw the long-awaited release of Ordnance Survey's OS MasterMap® data to all institutions subscribing to the Digimap Ordnance Survey Collection.

After the lengthy and complex production of a data delivery mechanism and the integration of the new data into the existing online mapping tools (a process spanning a period of 18 months), staff and students now have the opportunity to gain from the benefits that OS MasterMap offers:

- features with a unique identifier through which other data can be associated
- area features representing individual real-world objects such as buildings, orchards and lakes
- seamless data rather than a file-based dataset of fixed tiles.
- a new and better system of feature classification
- greater control over the data users can download

Digimap now offers two OS MasterMap Layers, each of which offers different views on the landscape of Great Britain:

- The Topographic Layer contains more than 450 million uniquely identified geographic features, and provides highly detailed data about natural and man-made features within Great Britain at scales of 1:1250 1:2500 and 1:10 000 and is created from a master database which is refreshed every six weeks.
- The Integrated Transport Network (ITN) Layer offers a national definitive digital map for Great Britain's road structure, including comprehensive routing, restriction and advisory route information.

Land-Line.Plus to Topographic Layer

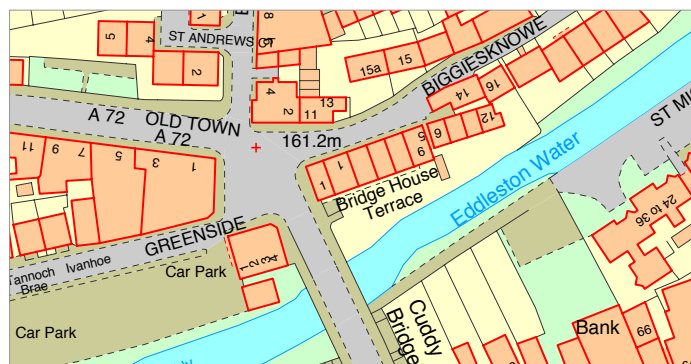
OS MasterMap Topographic Layer is the replacement dataset for the popular Land-Line.Plus® dataset (which accounted for around 45% of the approximately 560,000 OS data files

downloaded from Digimap over the past 12 months), which Ordnance Survey recently announced will be withdrawn on 30 September 2008.

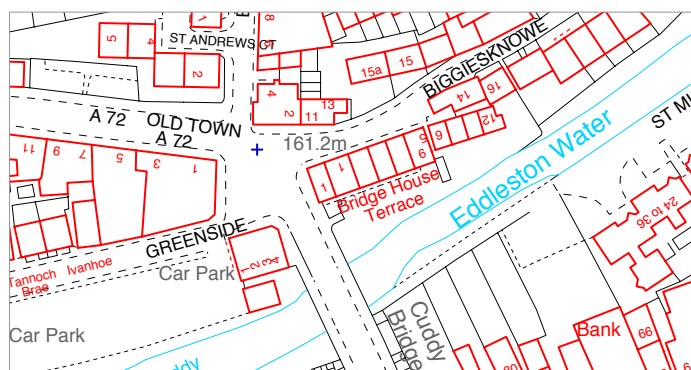
Although Digimap will continue to deliver Land-Line.Plus data through the usual Data Download facility until August 2008, the data available is dated July 2006, and will therefore be increasingly out-of-date.

We recommend that users move to the OS MasterMap, particularly if more up-to-date data is required.

EDINA will be regularly receiving updated OS MasterMap



OS MasterMap in full colour mode (Peebles, Scotland) Crown Copyright © 2007



OS MasterMap in line-drawing mode (Peebles, Scotland) Crown Copyright © 2007

data from Ordnance Survey, and has designed the data supply facility so that users, after taking a full initial supply, can just download the data changes for the area they are interested in rather than a complete re-supply. Using this, they can build historical records of change.

EDINA will also archive the data so that at some time in the future users can obtain historic views of OS MasterMap data.

Data Tools

OS MasterMap data are available through a new online facility within Digimap called MasterMap Download, which enables you to select any rectangular area covering the appropriate area of interest, since OS MasterMap is a seamless database; you are no longer constrained by the notion of data tiles which each cover a fixed area.

You can also select individual themes of data rather than the whole layer. For example, if your research requires only details of building outlines, you

can choose to download only the Buildings theme from the Topographic Layer.

Mapping Tools

As well as a new data supply facility, the mapping tools have also been modified.

Classic and Carto both now display OS MasterMap maps where previously they displayed Land-Line.Plus maps.

However, in both mapping facilities there is the option to convert the maps from full colour to line drawing style. (See the maps on this page.)

Making OS MasterMap fit

OS MasterMap data is delivered in a very different way from the other Ordnance Survey data products available through Digimap.

For datasets such as Strategi® or Meridian™, Digimap simply delivers files as they were sent from Ordnance Survey.

There is no further processing of the data done by EDINA; it is unchanged from Ordnance Survey's version.

However, OS MasterMap cannot be delivered in this way since it is a seamless, rather than a file-based, dataset.

The challenge presented by OS MasterMap was to design and implement an efficient and scalable data publication mechanism that delivered data which replicated the format of the data produced from Ordnance Survey's master database.

This was necessary so that it would load into the standard GIS applications found on researchers' desktops and public lab machines.

This is no mean feat, complicated by the volumes of data involved.

Working with third-party software companies – Snowflake Software and Oracle – EDINA has built a robust, scalable, fault-tolerant facility for delivering OS MasterMap data as Geography Mark-up Language (GML).

A full overview of the MasterMap project can be found at <http://edina.ac.uk/mastermap>

Those used to the Land-Line.Plus 'look' or who use the maps to compare with earlier OS maps, will appreciate this additional function.

Continuous Improvement

EDINA will monitor the uptake and use of these new datasets, and identify improvements to the service so that it continues to meet the needs of users as their experience of OS MasterMap matures.

- <http://edina.ac.uk/digimap>

Go-Geo! to expand data on offer

Over the coming months, Go-Geo! users will discover that there is more to the portal than the new design enhancements and improved functionality, which were outlined in the previous issue of Newsline (12.2).

The geographic information community in UK academia have published a significant number of geospatial metadata records on Go-Geo!, made possible through a JISC-funded Phase 5 metadata initiative scheme between EDINA and several institutions including

- Kingston University
- University of Aberdeen
- University of Cambridge
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Sheffield

These institutions are using the Go-Geo! Metadata Editor tool and UK Academic Geospatial Metadata Application Profile (AGMAP) guidelines to generate compliant, quality controlled metadata records for publication on Go-Geo!

UK AGMAP was created for the UK academic community to document spatial datasets. This ensures that Go-Geo! portal users can search, harvest and access hundreds of metadata records from other online catalogue sources.

These harvested metadata records augment those currently found on the Go-Geo! portal, as well as metadata records

which participating institutions will submit over the next few months as part of the metadata initiative scheme.

Over the past month, Sheffield and Edinburgh universities have already contributed 73 records to Go-Geo!; it is anticipated that the metadata initiative scheme will deliver another 200 to 300 records.

If you want to start using the Go-Geo! Metadata Editor tool to create geospatial metadata for managing your spatial data, or for publication on the Go-Geo! portal, please contact your Athens representative to request access to this resource.

Athens authentication allows users of the metadata editor tool to create, edit and store metadata records in private and secure directories. Metadata records can also be exported to desktop computers or submitted to Go-Geo! for review and publication on the Go-Geo! portal.

Nodes on offer

EDINA also offers a scheme that allows a UK academic institution to have its own catalogue node for the publication of institutional metadata records.

Athens authentication makes it possible for users affiliated with the institution to use the Go-Geo! portal to search and access institutional metadata records via the institution's

node which is made available on the Go-Geo! portal's 'Advanced Search' page.

The node would be visible only to users affiliated with the institution and logged in through Athens authentication.

Workshops

There will also be eight metadata workshops organised over the next six months and there are still dates available for anyone interested in hosting one.

These events will be advertised on the EDINA and Go-Geo! websites.

Please contact the Go-Geo! metadata support team for questions about these activities or for assistance with metadata creation.

- <http://www.gogeo.ac.uk/>

Grade repository

Institutional users and other spatial data creators who publish their metadata records on the Go-Geo! portal, are also invited to submit their documented datasets for deposit on the GRADE repository (<http://gradedemo.edina.ac.uk/dspace/>).

GRADE now hosts 165 datasets, which were uploaded to the repository over the past year. EDINA plans to move GRADE to the Digimap Collection services platform (<http://edina.ac.uk/digimap/>) over the next few months, when subscribers to the Digimap service will continue to have access to GRADE.

UKBORDERS and census.ac.uk

Census.ac.uk is the one-stop location for all academic Census needs; UKBORDERS remains the key resource for those requiring UK geographic boundary datasets – both census and non-census.

Census.ac.uk is the home of the ESRC Census Programme and allows users in UK higher and further education institutions access to data from each UK census from 1971 to 2001.

UKBORDERS is now the Programme's Geography Data Unit and provides a wide range of digitised boundary files and associated geographic boundary-based products: administrative, census, electoral, environmental (e.g. national parks, urban footprints), postal, historical and other boundaries (e.g. synthetic neighbourhood localities).

In addition, geographic look-up tables are important supporting datasets. These include the latest versions of the National Statistics Postcode Directory (NSPD) from the Office for National Statistics.

This dataset provides a valuable means by which events or occurrences (such as disease, crimes, customer residence etc) can be allocated from a postcode to another area such as an electoral ward or health area.

As part of the recent integration, metadata about data holdings in UKBORDERS has been made accessible for census.ac.uk to enable users to discover what data is available and from which support unit.

Users of UKBORDERS may have noticed minor differences and the inclusion of new data although the functionality remains exactly the same as before.

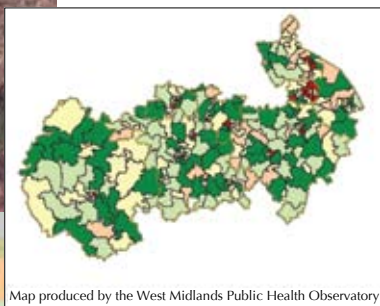
The Census Programme also comprises the following: The Census Dissemination Unit at <http://cdu.mimas.ac.uk/>; The Centre for Interaction Data Estimation and Research at <http://cids.census.ac.uk/>; The Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research at <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/>; The Centre for Longitudinal Study Information and User Support at <http://www.celsius.lsh.ac.uk/> and the The Longitudinal Studies Centre – Scotland at <http://www.lscs.ac.uk/>.

- <http://edina.ac.uk/ukborders>

There is a lot of spatial data out there ...



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Map produced by the West Midlands Public Health Observatory



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Newsline survey

In an effort to improve the quality of *Newsline*, we have written a short online survey for our readers to help us understand what you like or dislike about *Newsline*.

We hope you will take a few minutes to fill it out:

- <http://www.survey.ed.ac.uk/newsline>

Annual Digimap data update

Digimap's annual data update took place on the evening of Tuesday 4 September 2007.

All Ordnance Survey® products for which updates are available have been updated.

A list of the dates of each dataset is posted on the EDINA website at <http://edina.ac.uk/digimap/description/products/revisionpolicy.shtml> and within the Digimap Help pages.

The timing of the OS updating regime, combined with the fact that EDINA aims to offer the same data throughout an academic year, means that some data will already be nearly a year old.

For example, a new version of Strategi data is issued by Ordnance Survey each January. These maps, and the associated data files, are then released to the user community the following September.

Index to *The Times* – one-year agreement 2007/2008

Following a recent consultation, we are now offering a further one-year agreement to the Index to *The Times* service.

The database offers summaries of all articles appearing in *The Times* newspaper between 1790 and 1980 and is an invaluable tool for students and researchers of modern history.

Access is via the Athens or UK Federation systems and institutional subscription rates range from £55–716.

Please contact edina@ed.ac.uk for a free trial, or view the service demonstration on our web pages at <http://edina.ac.uk/times-index/>

Jorum update

Video Interviews

The Jorum team are looking for people willing to be interviewed on video about their experiences of using Jorum. Each interviewee will last about 30 minutes, and an edited version will subsequently appear on the Jorum website. We will reward interviewees with Amazon vouchers to show our appreciation. Contact support@jorum.ac.uk if you are interested.

On the road

The Jorum team have been on the road over the last few months attending a wide range of conferences, workshops and training sessions to promote the service, particularly Jorum Con-

tributor, which allows colleges and universities to upload learning and teaching resources.

Jorum Training and Outreach events in Manchester, Edinburgh and London were well attended by delegates in June 2007.

On completing the sessions, delegates were able to make a learning object, upload it to the Jorum repository, and then download it for use in a virtual learning environment.

Another series of training events is being planned to take place before and after Christmas 2007, across the UK.

- <http://www.jorum.ac.uk>

UK Federation increases membership

The UK Access Management Federation for Education and Research, the new authentication scheme for online resources, has been adding members at a rate of over 10 a month since its inception on 30 November 2006; Brunel University joined on 23 August as the 100th member. The number of providers and services is also increasing.

The EDINA SDSS team designed and ran the development Shibboleth Federation, and continue to provide technical support to JANET(UK) in its operation.

- <http://www.ukfederation.org.uk/>

SUNCAT promotion

We are including a SUNCAT flyer with this issue of *Newsline* to advertise an important EDINA service as it enters a crucial phase of its development.

Established since August 2007 as a national union catalogue of serials from major academic and research libraries, the service is now consolidating in order to ensure its long-term future for the community.

There is plenty of supporting material at the SUNCAT website outlining the benefits and features of using the service, and we are in the process of producing further case studies. Additionally, we have a stock of posters and flyers which we are more than happy to send to institutions in order to promote the service. Please contact us if you would like a quantity sent to your college or university.

- <http://www.suncat.ac.uk>

Forthcoming Events

EDINA is exhibiting at the following events:

Internet Librarian International 2007

8-9 October 2007 at the Copthorne Tara Hotel, London

<http://www.internet-librarian.com/>

Geographical referencing for social scientists: a practical workshop

21 November 2007 at the ESRC regional training centre, Edinburgh

<http://www.geog.soton.ac.uk/geo-refer/workshop3.html>

Sharing vision, planning practice: the 2nd SLIC FE Conference

23 November 2007 at the Clydebank College, Glasgow

<http://www.slainte.org.uk/events/EvntShow.cfm?uEventID=727>

Online Information 2007

4-6 December 2007 at Olympia, London

<http://www.online-information.co.uk/>

See the latest events and training information at:

- <http://edina.ac.uk/events/>

Subscribe to the Newsline RSS Feed:

<http://edina.ac.uk/news/newsline.xml>