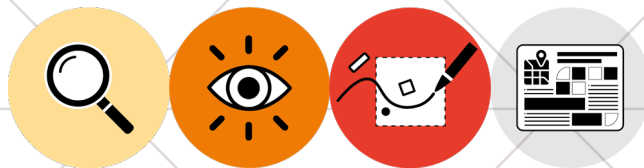




Graphic Skills Lab

Handout series

DigiMap



Graphic Skills Lab

The Bartlett School of Planning, UCL

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BUPS - Bartlett Urban Planning Society (Established in 2012, the Bartlett Urban Planning Society (BUPS) is a student-led organisation based under the Bartlett School of Planning (BSP) and BUPS represents, reinforces and protects the interests of planning students while inspiring the community-at-large of our role in the Built Environment.)

Cover photo

Matt Clayton

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1. Introduction



Digimap is an online map and data delivery service, available by subscription to UK Higher and Further Education establishments. Operated by EDINA at the University of Edinburgh, Digimap offers a number of data collections, including Ordnance Survey, historical, geological, LiDAR and marine maps and spatial data.

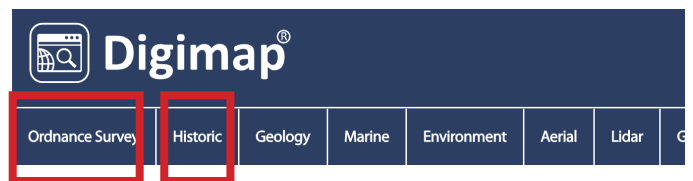
Digimap is available to UCL students – Individual registration is required, but the service is free at the point of use.

<https://digimap.edina.ac.uk/>

2. Types of maps

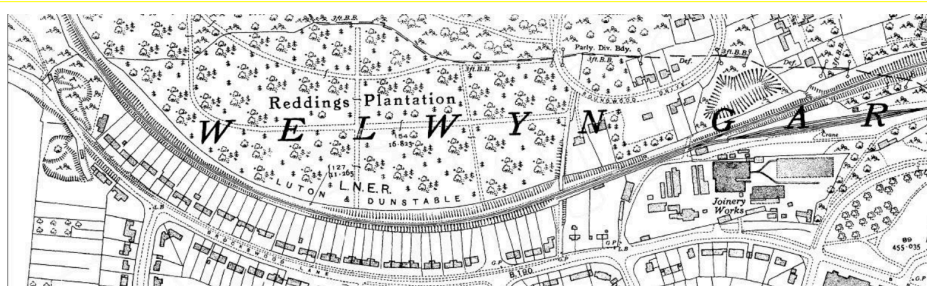
There are several ways to download maps from Digimap. However, the most common used in urban design and planning are via:

1. Historic map
2. Ordnance survey



1. Historic map

Historic Digimap provides historical Ordnance Survey maps of Great Britain. Historic map is useful in reviewing how a place has changed over time, and therefore to analysing site history.



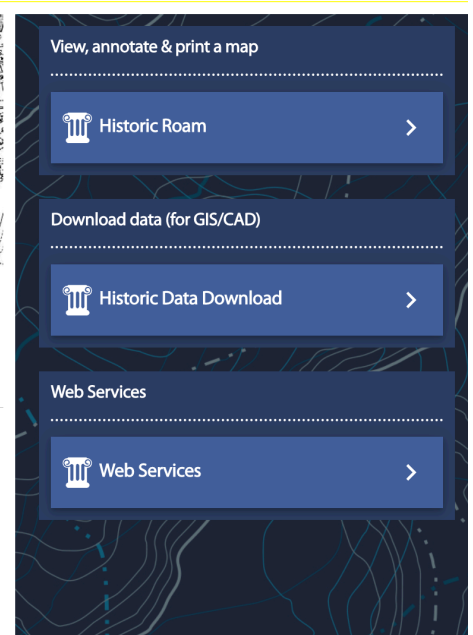
Historic

About Getting Started FAQ

Historic Digimap provides historical Ordnance Survey maps of Great Britain. The historical mapping is licensed from Landmark Information Group. Historic Digimap offers the following map images, the originals of which were published between 1846 and 1996:

- All available County Series maps at 1:2,500 and 1:10,560 scales
- All available British National Grid maps (1943 to 1996) at 1:1,250, 1:2,500 and 1:10,560/10,000
- Selected Town Plan maps (1848 and 1939) at scales of 1:500, 1:528 and 1:1056
- Over 400,000 geo-referenced digital map images are available for use in GIS and CAD.
- Available coverage of Great Britain varies between the historical map editions. Generally, the 1st editions in each Map Series provide full coverage of Great Britain. The subsequent revisions of each Series tend to have increasingly sparse coverage.

Check our help pages for a [full list of the historical mapping available](#).



2. Ordnance survey

The most useful Digimap tool to create base plans is the Ordnance Survey (sometimes you may find the map is slightly outdated, in this case you may have to make some alterations yourself, however this is very rarely the case unless a new development has just been built in the area you are studying).

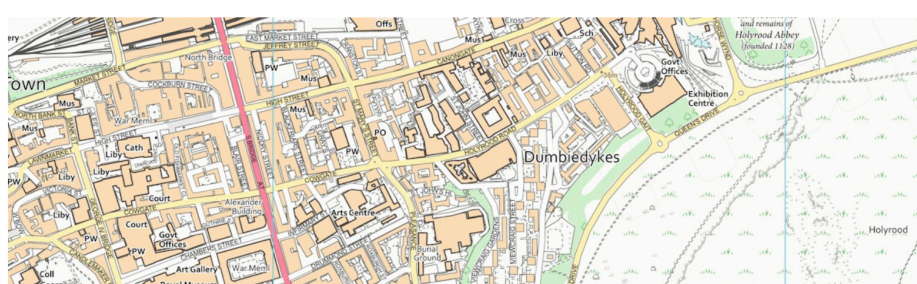
Ordnance Survey is divided in:

Roam: download PDFs of detailed Ordnance Survey data for use in Illustrator, etc. It is possible to download raster images (JPEG images editable using Photoshop) or vector images (layers-based images editable using Illustrator – **SUGGESTED!**).

Data download: download CAD files (Dwg) from a wider range of data sources, the most useful ones are:

- 'OS Mastermap Topography' (it includes buildings' trace, streets, blocks, etc.)
- 'OS Mastermap Building Heights' (useful for 3D context)

Web services: Web Map Services (WMS) can be used to display mapping images from the Ordnance Survey Collection in most GIS systems.



Ordnance Survey

About Getting Started FAQ

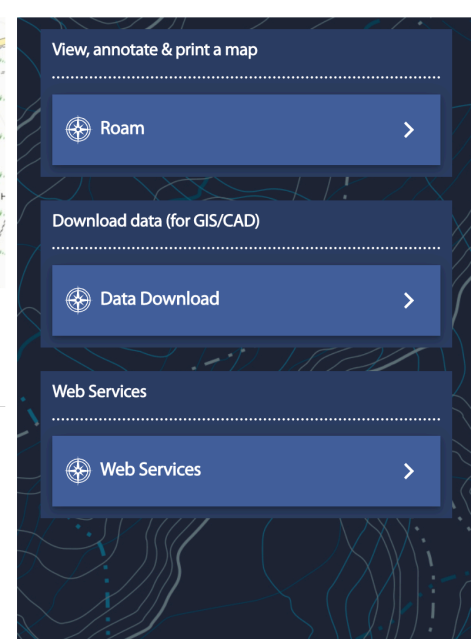
Digimap's Ordnance Survey Collection is our original collection, providing a full range of topographic Ordnance Survey data for the UK.

Digimap Ordnance Survey provides licensed and open mapping data at scales ranging from 1:1,250 up to 1:750,000. Digital versions of Ordnance Survey's paper maps are available as well as vector maps in a range of cartographic styles. Several layers of OS MasterMap™, the most detailed available large-scale mapping of the UK, are available to browse and download.

The service includes many other products from Ordnance Survey including postcodes, administrative boundaries, OS identifiers, contours and digital terrain models. Check our [help pages for a full product listing](#).

Complete coverage of Great Britain is available for all the products listed with the exception of the Isle of Man, which is not covered by some data products.

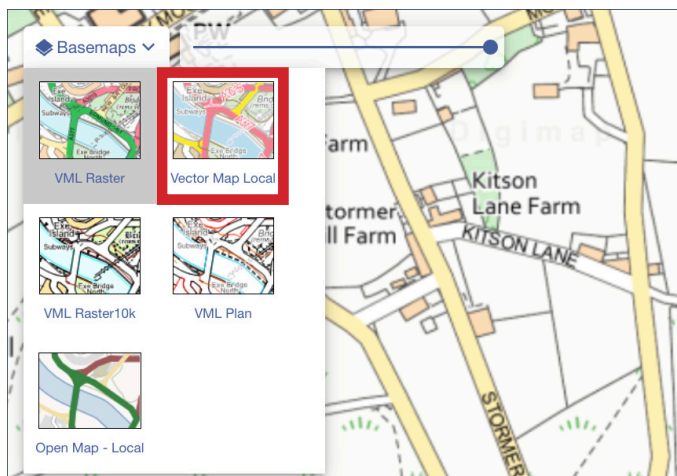
Open data from Ordnance Survey Northern Ireland (OSNI) is also available, as well as a wide range of local government data from the [Improvement Service Scotland](#).



3. Creating a map via 'Roam'

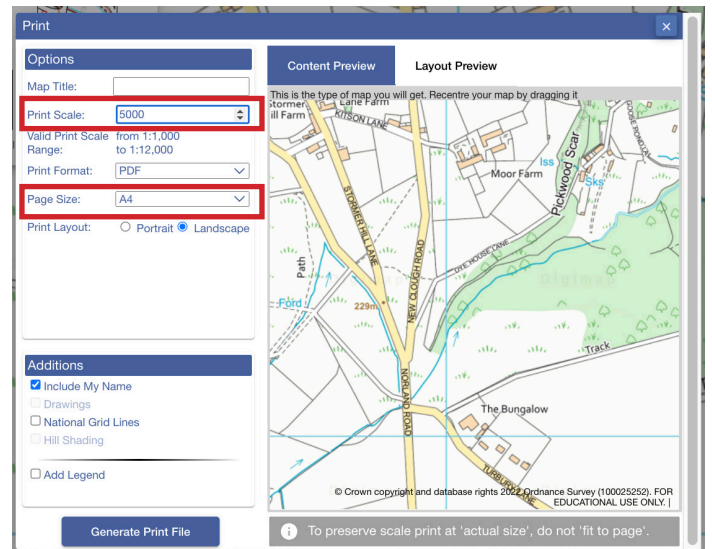
Here some steps to follow in order to download a map using the 'Roam' option in Digimap:

1. Find the site you want to survey.
2. Zoom in and out to view various levels of detail for each site. Turn off and on layers that may be useful in the type of map you wish to create.
 - Only the most zoomed in level will reveals vector data, and therefore is editable in Illustrator – you will see a change in the appearance of the map when you are zooming in enough.
 - If you open the drop-down menu 'basemaps', it would be good to select the option 'Vector Map Local' to download a map that would be editable with Illustrator.



- It is usually helpful to turn off all layers that have text or symbols, as these will come through as individual objects
- At this point, you can also calculate the floor area by selecting the map tool option in order to calculate distance and area of buildings.

Once you are satisfied, select the print icon. Here, you can choose the paper size and the scale. *Note:* Higher is the scale (2500, 5000, 10000, etc.), smaller will be the map.



Click 'generate print file', download the file and save it in a folder labelled.

This image will be editable using Illustrator, but you can also modify it using Photoshop.

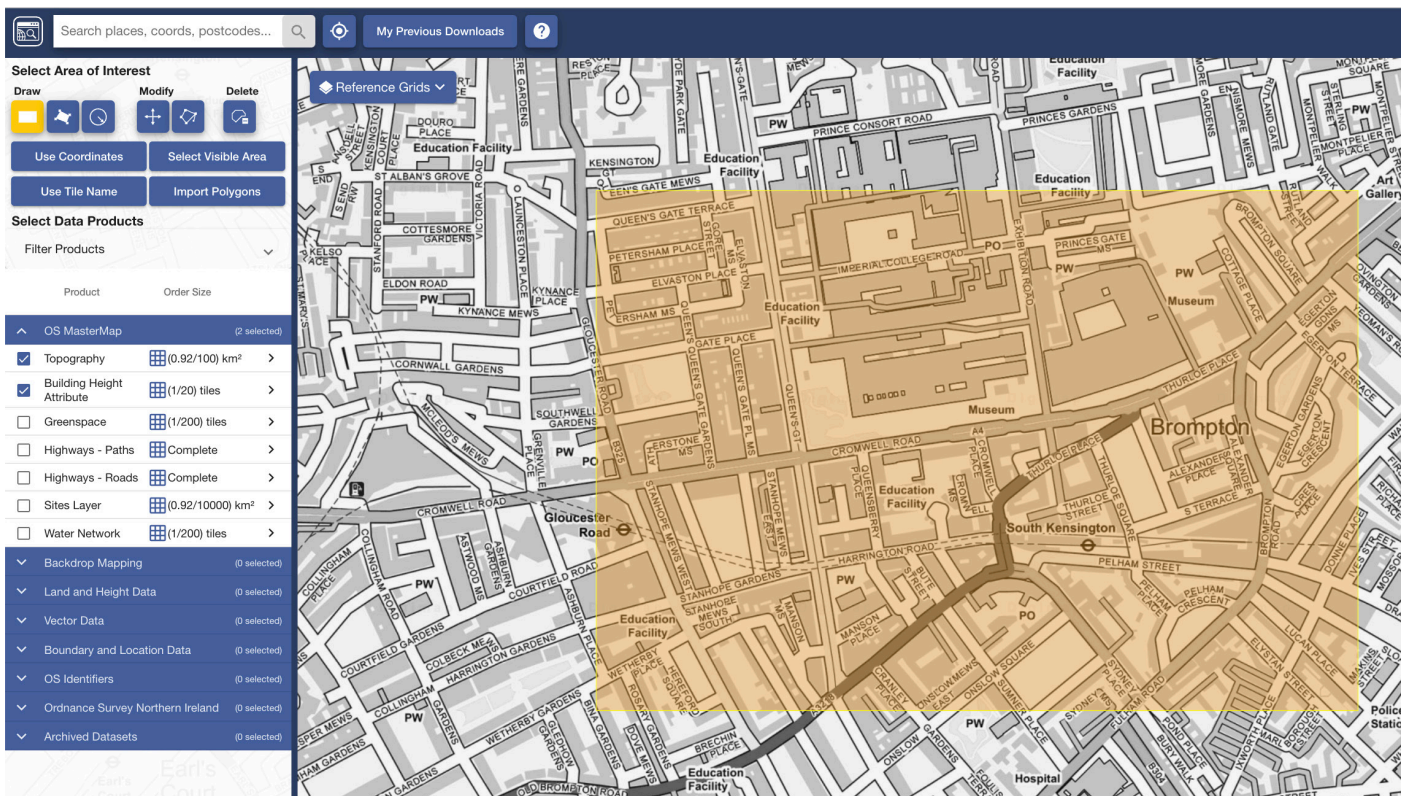
4. Creating a map via 'Data download'

Here some steps to follow in order to download a map using the 'Data download' option in Digimap:

1. Find the site you want to survey.
2. Zoom in and out to view various levels of detail for each site. In this case, it would be good to go as close as possible to the area to be downloaded in order to reduce the amount of data to download.
3. From the left-side toolbar select the 'draw rectangle' option. Pick one corner of the map, and then select the opposite corner to release the area to be downloaded.
4. A yellow area will be visible. Now, form the 'Select Data Products' on the left-side

toolbar, pin the data to be downloaded. The most useful ones to select are:

- 'OS Mastermap Topography' (it includes buildings' trace, streets, blocks, etc.)
 - 'OS Mastermap Building Heights' (useful for 3D context)
5. Once you are satisfied with the selected data, click on 'add to basket' below.
 6. Now you should be able to (a) choose the version; (b) change the format of your selected data (use Dwg); (c) Select layers you may want in your map.
 7. Request download – once ready, the data will be sent to you via your UCL email.





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