

## Historic Digimap: Ancient Roam

*Historic Digimap contains maps of Great Britain from 1843 to the early 1990s. The Ancient Roam service can be used to view and print maps at 12 pre-set historical map scales. Historic download is also available for downloading historic map data for use in a geographical information system (GIS) or image processing software.*

### Getting started

Load an Internet browser (Internet Explorer, FireFox). Go to Cardiff Portal at <http://portal.cf.ac.uk>. Click on the **Library** menu and select **Databases**. Click on the letter **H** in the A-Z and then **Historic Digimap**.

### Retrieving a map


On the Historic Digimap home page, choose **Ancient Roam**.

Click on **Search** on the left-hand sidebar then enter a place name, postcode or grid reference and click on **Find**. If more than one place name matches your search, click on the correct place to load the map.

If you carried out a place name or postcode search, Historic Digimap will retrieve the oldest map available for your location. A 2, 4 or 6 digit grid reference search will retrieve a contemporary map. You will then need to zoom in on your chosen location in order to view the historical map. An 8 digit grid reference will retrieve the earliest map available for that location.

### Adjusting the location of your map and zooming


To adjust the location your map:

- click and drag the map in the direction you want to view
- use the  buttons on the map to pan up, down, left and right

- click on **Search** in the left sidebar to look for a different map.

You can also click on **Overview Map** in the left sidebar to view a modern map of your location in a wider geographical context. Click and drag the red box to move the historical map to a new location.

To zoom in and out of your map:

- double click on the area of the map required
- hold down shift on your keyboard and click and drag your mouse, to mark out a zone to zoom into
- click on the **zoom to position** button  in the panel above the map. Click and drag an area on the map to zoom in on its location
- use the scroll wheel on your mouse
- click on the plus and minus buttons on the slider scale bar
- click and drag the blue marker on the scale.

### Viewing the historic map

#### *Changing the historical period*

The timeline across the top of the screen will indicate the time periods of the maps available for each zoom level. Click on any of the decades highlighted in blue to view the map in a different time period. The decade you are currently viewing is highlighted in red.


Please note that the period you have selected will remain if you zoom in or out of the map. If there is no map data available in that period for the new area you have selected, you will be prompted to amend your choice of time period or zoom level.

## Addressing overlapping map sheets


Maps are sometimes drawn using overlapping map sheets from more than one county. When this occurs, the **Overlapping Map Selection** menu will appear in the left-hand sidebar. Click on the plus sign next to it to reveal the county sheets which have been used.

If the overlapping sheets are causing the map to appear blurry, you may wish to select one specific county sheet which will improve the clarity of the display. Scroll down the **Overlapping Map Selection** pane and select the county you require. To re-set the map to its original view, click on **All**.


## Viewing map details

To find out more details about the map you are currently viewing e.g. map series, scale, year of publication or grid reference, click on  on the toolbar then left-click once on the appropriate area of your map to open a pop-up window.


## Comparing maps

It is possible to compare two maps of the same area from different periods. Click on the **Go to 2-up view** button  in the toolbar. Select your required decades in the timeline above each map.


You can use the slider scale bar or panning buttons to adjust the location or zoom of your maps. Both maps will be adjusted simultaneously.

Click on the **View this map 1-up** button  below the map of your choice to return to the single map view.


## Annotating your map

Click on  to add annotations such as symbols, labels and polygons to your map. Hover your mouse over an icon to discover more about its function. Click on an icon to select the tool you need and then click on the map to begin adding the annotation. More information can be found at <http://digimap.blogs.edina.ac.uk/2011/05/18/annotation-tools-now-in-digimap-rooms/>

## Measuring distance and area

To measure distance or area on your map, click on  to open the Measurement Tools. Select the distance or area tool then single click on the map where you'd like to start your measurement. Double click to finish your selection.

## Saving and printing your map

To save your map within Ancient Roam, click on **My Maps** in the left sidebar. Then click on  **Save current map**. Enter a title for your map in the map title box (maximum 30 characters long) and click on **OK**. You can then select your map to re-open it. Please note, **My Maps** cannot save overlapping county map sheets. To store your map you will need to select a specific county.

To save the map to a local drive, click on the floppy disk icon. Your map will open in a new browser window. Right-click on your map and select **Save Picture** or **Save Image As**.

To print your map, click on the printer icon. If you wish, you can enter a title which will appear on your map print out. Select the orientation and paper size you require. Click on **Generate Print File**. Select **Open** to print the map from Adobe Reader.

## Copyright

Maps from Historic Digimap which are used in printed or electronic documents must be accompanied by a reference to the source and the following copyright statement:

"© Crown Copyright and Landmark Information Group Limited (insert current calendar year). All rights reserved. (Insert year of map(s))."

## Leaving the database

To exit Historic Digimap, click on **Log-Out**.

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*For further advice or assistance contact the Bute Library*

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*This guide is available in alternative formats.  
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