

## Archaeological Resources

### Part 4: Ordnance Survey Open Mapping Handout

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/opendatadownload/products.html>



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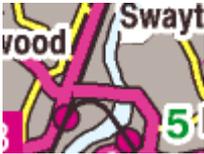
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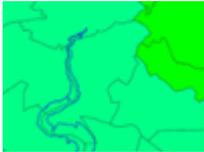
#### Order OS OpenData here

- Please note that the file sizes for selected products, shown in brackets under the 'coverage' column, refer to downloaded files only, not DVD products.
- All files for download are supplied as .zip archives. Windows computers will have an integrated program that will unzip them for you.
- More information on the products can be found online at: <http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/products/>
- This part of the OS website also covers mapping products you have to pay for such as better scale detailed mapping like Mastermap and more sophisticated, modern and maintained versions of open data products. These are generally costed based on the size and detail of mapping you are requesting and its length of use in a project. Depending on how long and how often you plan on using these maps you could pay for items on a one off basis or set up an account.
- All open mapping can be downloaded straight to laptop, be aware that an unstable or download limited internet connection may be a problem with this method. It normally arrives within an hour or two.
- You can also request the data by DVD through the post. In my experience it takes about 4-5 working days to arrive so order well in advance of projects.

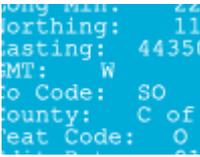
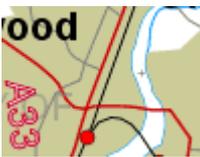
#### Products

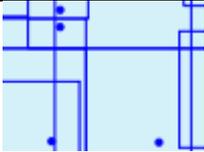
Product and Description	Data Type	Supply Format	Eg of use (archaeological)
<b>MiniScale<sup>®</sup></b> <i>Data type: Raster</i>	Raster 	TIFF-LZW (similar to jpeg)  You	Location map showing site as a dot against wide landscape context – e.g. map of Scotland

<p><i>Supply format:</i> TIFF-LZW</p> <p><i>Version:</i> 01/2012</p> <p>MiniScale is the smallest-scale product in the OS OpenData catalogue and has been designed primarily for use within desktop graphic applications, where simple backdrop topographic mapping of Great Britain is required. It clearly shows the landscape features relevant to its scale, including boundaries, settlements, main communications and physical features.</p> <p>Adobe Illustrator CS<sup>®</sup> and editable Encapsulated Post Script (EPS) vector formats are also supplied as part of the download or data supplied on DVD.</p>		<p>download the whole of UK as one file.</p>	<p>or UK</p>
<p><b>1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster</b></p> <p><i>Data type:</i> Raster</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i> TIFF-LZW</p> <p><i>Version:</i> 06/2011</p> <p>1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster is a small-scale, digital, raster mapping product giving a regional view, similar in content and appearance to a typical road atlas. It clearly shows the landscape features relevant to its scale, including cities, towns, many villages, motorways, A and B class roads, railways, rivers and some woodlands.</p>	<p>Raster</p> 	<p>TIFF-LZW (similar to jpeg)</p> <p>You download the whole of the UK as one file.</p>	<p>Location map showing Scotland or UK, archaeological sites marked as dot only. Maybe a distribution map but background detail might get crowded out by many site dots.</p>
<p><b>OS Street View<sup>®</sup></b></p>	<p>Raster</p>	<p>TIFF-LZW (similar to</p>	<p>More detailed location map</p>

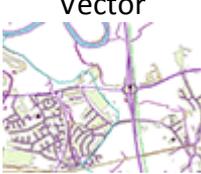
<p><i>Data type:</i> Raster</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i> TIFF-LZW</p> <p><i>Version:</i> 11/2011</p> <p><b>Selecting National Grid Reference squares</b></p> <p>OS Street View is 1:10 000 scale street-level, colour, digital raster mapping that has been specifically designed to cartographically emphasise road carriageways, road names and their Department for Transport (DfT) numbers. Major public buildings are also highlighted and annotated</p>		<p>jpeg)</p> <p>You select which grid squares you want to download.</p>	<p>showing a regional rather than national level. Could also be useful for regional site distribution maps.</p>
<p><b>Boundary-Line<sup>™</sup></b></p> <p><i>Data type:</i> Vector</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i> ESRI<sup>®</sup> Shape</p> <p><i>Version:</i> 10/2011</p> <p>Boundary-Line is a vector digital mapping product that is a complete set of local government administrative boundaries and electoral boundaries used in local and general election voting. It has been specifically designed to show the area of each administrative or electoral boundary</p>	<p>Vector</p> 	<p>ESRI Shape (.shp) file</p> <p>You download this for the whole of UK.</p>	<p>Unless trying to show regional administrative boundaries this is not very useful for archaeological maps.</p>
<p><b>Code-Point<sup>®</sup> Open</b></p> <p><i>Data type:</i> Point Data</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i> CSV</p> <p><i>Version:</i> 02/2012</p>	<p>Database or text file – once loaded into QGIS will become vector point data.</p>	<p>CSV (basically an excel spreadsheet with eastings, northings and attribute</p>	<p>Don't see much use for most archaeological projects.</p>

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<p>Code-Point Open provides a precise geographic location for each postcode unit in Great Britain. The product is a CSV file containing postcodes, grid references, NHS<sup>®</sup> health and regional health authority codes, administrative ward, district, county and country area codes.</p>		<p>data for each post code area)</p> <p>Download for whole UK.</p>	
<p><b>1:50 000 Scale Gazetteer</b></p> <p><i>Data type:</i> Point Data</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i> ASCII text, Colon separated</p> <p><i>Version:</i> 06/2011</p> <p>The 1:50 000 Scale Gazetteer is a reference tool or location finder, similiar to the index in a road atlas. It can be used as a simple list to find out relevant coordinates and six-figure grid references for a town or area</p>	<p>Text or Vector</p> 	<p>Download for whole UK.</p>	<p>Find it easier to go on a website like Highland HER or Where's the Path or Bing to find out coordinates so don't use this much for archaeology.</p>
<p><b>Strategi<sup>®</sup></b></p> <p><i>Data type:</i> Vector</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i></p> <p><i>Version:</i> 01/2012</p> <p>Strategi is a small-scale, vector, digital mapping product that is the vector companion to the 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster product. It is a generalised dataset designed for use at a regional level</p>	<p>Vector</p> 	<p>ESRI shape file. Comes with points, polylines and polygons.</p>	<p>Good for regional-national location or distribution maps. Can zoom in and retain resolution on this type of data in a way that raster images pixellate.</p>

<p><b>Meridian™ 2</b></p> <p><i>Data type:</i> Vector</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i></p> <p><i>Version:</i> 01/2012</p> <p>Meridian 2 is a mid-scale vector product delivered through a number of layers of data, including motorways, A roads, B roads, railways developed land-use areas, hydrology, woodland.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Vector</p> 	<p>ESRI shape file.</p> <p>Points, Polylines and Polygons.</p> <p>You download this for the whole UK.</p>	<p>Good for regional location and distribution maps. Also good for sites/groups of sites covering larger areas. Can do detailed overlays of information – add in site plans, survey results and still retain background mapping resolution.</p>
<p><b>OS Locator™</b></p> <p><i>Data type:</i> Point Data</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i> ASCII text, Colon separated</p> <p><i>Version:</i> 11/2011</p> <p>OS Locator is a fully searchable point-based national gazetteer of road names. Specific locations can be found and identified by a number of criteria, including locality, settlement, local authority and county.</p>		<p>Download this for whole UK.</p>	<p>Find little use for this for archaeological projects.</p>
<p><b>Land-Form PANORAMA®</b></p> <p><i>Data type:</i> Vector (Contours), Grid (DTM)</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i> DXF [Contours], ASCII grid [DTM],</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Vector</p> 	<p>DTM (Digital Terrain Model) or DXF Digital Exchange Format (compatible with AutoCAD</p>	<p>Useful to represent topography or derive basic coarse height data for an area. A detailed topographic survey with total station will be much! better resolution but this will cover a larger</p>

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<p>NTF [DTM]</p> <p><i>Version: 04/2010</i></p> <p><b>Note</b></p> <p>This product is supplied both as a set of contours and spot heights (Contours) and as a gridded digital terrain model (DTM).</p> <p>Panorama data was collected between 1970 and 1980. This product has not been updated since this date. A more detailed product at 1:25000 is available free if you are a student from Edina Digimap or for a cost from OS.</p>		<p>and ArcGIS)</p> <p>ASCII (DTM)</p> <p>NTF (DTM)</p> <p>These are compatible with ArcGIS and QGIS.</p>	<p>area. can be used as alternative background mapping. Often used to present landscape wide areas free of 'clutter' like roads etc on modern mapping. Can involve large file sizes and takes longer to load on slow computers.</p>
<p><b>OS Terrain 50</b></p> <p><i>Data type: Vector</i></p> <p><i>Supply Format: ESRI SHP</i></p> <p>Or GML contours or ASCII Grid</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Vector</p> 	<p>ESRI SHP</p> <p>Or GML contours</p> <p>or ASCII Grid</p>	<p>10m contour data for all of Scotland. Good for backdrop mapping to represent topography.</p>
<p><b>OS VectorMap™ District</b></p> <p><i>Data type: Vector</i></p> <p><i>Supply format: ESRI® Shape</i></p> <p><i>Version: 03/2011</i></p> <p><b>Note!</b></p> <p>Please note that this is the <b>vector</b> format of OS VectorMap District.</p> <p>This is a beta release and will be further developed. Please see the</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Vector</p> 	<p>ESRI Shape</p> <p>Points, polylines and polygons.</p> <p>You can download by national grid square or country.</p>	<p>Detailed mapping product, good for site specific mapping. It is full of detail so large file sizes and takes longer to load on slower computers – only download what you need and use small area around archaeological site not across huge area.</p> <p>This and raster</p>

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<p><a href="#">product web page</a> for more information.</p>			<p>version are the best detail available for free.</p>
<p><b>OS VectorMap™ District</b></p> <p><i>Data type:</i> Raster</p> <p><i>Supply format:</i> TIFF-LZW</p> <p><i>Version:</i> 03/2011</p> <p><b>Note!</b></p> <p>Please note that this is the <b> raster</b> format of OS VectorMap District.</p> <p>This is a beta release and will be further developed. Please see the <a href="#">product web page</a> for more information</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Raster</p> 	<p>TIFF-LZW (similar to jpeg)</p> <p>You can download this by national grid square or country.</p>	<p>Raster version of above map type. Use for same sorts of purposes at a site scale. Presentation is better with a raster – more attractive if at correct resolution. Don't zoom in too far or out too far. This and vector version are the best detail available for free.</p>
<p>Need a more detailed scale for georeferencing or showing every mapped detail for an area?</p>	<p>OS Mastermap products are recommended at 1:500 scale.</p>		<p>Cost: – they cost a lot unless you are a student and have access to Edina Digimap.</p>