

As reported in the AHDS Newsletter in Spring 2002, the AHDS has, along with UKOLN, formed part of a Technical Advisory Service to assist digitisation projects funded by the New Opportunities Fund. These projects, as the article below relates, are now coming to fruition.



A major Internet gateway to the cultural, social, artistic and historical tapestry of the UK was launched this year (March 12, 2003) by the New Opportunities Fund, the main distributor of lottery good causes money.

The website portal <www.EnrichUK.net> draws together the 150 Internet projects supported with £50 million of lottery funding under the nof-digitise programme. Lottery grants have enabled libraries, museums and galleries, universities and other centres of excellence across the UK to digitise their collections and archives for Internet access. The EnrichUK site is the end product of a unprecedented number of digitisation projects initiated throughout the country.

<www.EnrichUK.net> provides collection level access to the full range of 150 sites reflecting the cultural, social, artistic and historical variety of the UK, making a wealth of unique material available that will have much potential for use in learning, teaching and research in Higher Education.

The New Opportunities Fund believes that <www.EnrichUK.net> will help meet the public appetite for online learning generated by the huge amount of work being done by libraries, schools, universities and other academic institutions to

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A Guide to the Resource Galaxy

Emma Beer, Resource Guide Adviser for Arts and Humanities, reports on how you can get to grip with the wide range of scholarly resources on the Internet.

Every student, researcher, academic and librarian has struggled at some point to navigate the plethora of digital resources available on the Internet. Help is at hand! Following successful pilot projects with the Resource Guide for Social Sciences and the Resource Guide for Arts and Humanities, a further FIVE Resource Guides, coordinated to cover all subject areas are now in place. The Guides are funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) to promote awareness of the wide range of networked resources and other services available to support research, teaching and learning in Higher Education.



The Resource Guide links through to helpful services such as Amico, Zetoc and of course the AHDS.

The Resource Guides are all available on the Internet at <www.jisc.ac.uk/resourceguides/>, and printed copies can be ordered, individually or in bulk, from the same address.

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Handy URLs

- Copyright Resources
<http://ahds.ac.uk/copyright_workshop.htm>
- Resource Guide for Arts and Humanities
<<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/resourceguides/artshum>>
- Enrich UK - NOF Collections Portal
<<http://www.EnrichUK.net>>
- Technical Advisory Service for Images
<<http://www.tasi.ac.uk>>

News from the AHDS Subject Centres

Datasets relating to historic churches, new methods of searching image and work on electronic books are some of the projects AHDS staff have been working on.

VADS (Visual Arts): Looking for Images

The Visual Arts Data Service (VADS): The AHDS Centre for Visual Arts, <<http://vads.ahds.ac.uk>> has enhanced access to its collection of over 16,500 visual arts images, by developing a 'Lightbox' and 'Visual Search' feature.



New VADS search mechanisms allow you to search for similar visual content in different images

The Lightbox allows users to personally manage images they find within VADS. It provides the options to store images in sets, annotate, e-mail and adopt them. The Lightbox also assists with the saving and comparing of images.

The Visual Search allows users to locate similar images by colour, shape and contrast. Visual searching is particularly useful where text descriptions are ambiguous or limited such as with patterns, colour or abstract designs.

To enable the Lightbox feature and provide improved user feedback, VADS has also implemented user registration for use of the image collections. The Visual Search is offered on a trial basis, in association with The Institute for Image Data Research, University of Northumbria. The new features result from a Joint Information Systems Committee (5/99) funded project: PICTIVA - Promoting the use of on-line Image Collections for learning and Teaching in the Visual Arts.

Emma Wood, Visual Arts Data Service

HDS (History): Guide on Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

Shortly to be published by Oxbow Books is the AHDS' most recent Guide to Good Practice. Entitled *A place in history: a guide to using GIS in historical research*, it introduces historians to methods of exploiting a geographical context within their historical research.

The guide is written for those who have little or no prior knowledge of GIS and outlines the main principles of GIS and how they can be used in historical research. The research process from printed map through to using the GIS to carry out quantitative data analysis as well as using the GIS as an effective visualisation tool is described in detail with concrete examples from a variety of historical projects that have used GIS. While the guide is very much focused towards the use of historical data within GIS, it provides an introductory text that all potential GIS users will find of value. A comprehensive bibliography is included which provides up-to-date further reading for historians and other researchers.

This guide was commissioned by the History Data Service, the AHDS Centre for History, as part of the AHDS publication series *Guides to Good Practice in the Creation and Use of Digital Resources*. The series aims to provide guidance about applying recognised good practice and standards to the creation and use of digital resources in the arts and humanities. There is also a GIS guide for archaeologists.

The author, Ian Gregory, is Lecturer in Geography at the University of Portsmouth and has long experience of historical GIS through his involvement with the Great Britain Historical GIS (a sizeable database of British nineteenth- and twentieth-century statistics.)

The guide is already available on the Internet at: <<http://hds.essex.ac.uk/g2gp/gis/index.asp>> and will shortly be available from Oxbow Books, Oxbow Books, Park End Place, Oxford, OX1 1HN. <<http://www.oxbowbooks.com>>, ISBN: 1842170368

Matthew Woollard, History Data Service

ADS (Archaeology) The Christ Church Spitalfields Archive

The ADS has recently launched an inter-disciplinary archive of study and research materials associated with the excavation of the crypt of Christ Church, Spitalfields.

This Hawksmoor church in central London was the subject of detailed archaeological excavation in the 1980s in advance of the crypt being turned into a shelter for the homeless. The excavations of the crypt, which was in use for burials through the eighteenth and nineteenth century, produced a rich and complicated dataset, which is of interest to archaeologists, historians, architects and art historians. Moreover, the detailed forensic analysis that followed allows for an exceptional insight into the health and demographics of the population.



A nineteenth-century depiction of Spitalfields

The ADS archive includes details of the excavations of one vault in the crypt, as well as a detailed set of images and photographs. The archive also includes digitised transcripts of some of the parish registers, including the baptism, marriage and burials register. The archive is supported by the full text of three publications from the Council for British Archaeology, and other unpublished working papers.

The archive was brought together specifically to support the PATOIS project, in a section designed to show archaeologists the advan-

tages of inter-disciplinary research, and describing the broad range of skills required by modern large-scale research projects.

The archive, which has been a collaborative endeavour by the Friends of Christ Church Spitalfields, the Natural History Museum, English Heritage and others, is available online at:

http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/projArch/spitalfields_var_2001/index.cfm

William Kilbride, Archaeology Data Service



PADS (Performing Arts): Supporting Research Resources

Two new collections recently accessioned at the PADS, AHDS Centre for the Performing Arts, illustrate the different ways in which the AHDS can offer advice and support to projects with similar needs.

Both funded in whole or part by the Research Support Libraries Programme (RSLP), the Backstage and Cecilia projects offer researchers, in the performing arts and music respectively, the opportunity to discover key research resources in a huge variety of libraries, archives and other special collections. PADS has offered advice and support for both projects in applying the RSLP/UKOLN collection level schemas and in managing the creation of object-level records. In addition, the PADS is offering a long-term home to the web-accessible version of the Cecilia database and will be maintaining a preservation copy of the Backstage data.

The Backstage database can be accessed at: <http://www.backstage.ac.uk>. The Cecilia Project website is at: <http://www.cecilia-uk.org/>. The Cecilia dataset will be available from the PADS website shortly.

Catherine Owen, Performing Arts Data Service

OTA (Literature, Language and Linguistics): Free e-Books

Are you using free e-books? If not, why not?

Earlier this year, the Arts and Humanities Data Service was approached by the JISC E-Book Working Group to undertake an investigation into free e-books and their potential use within the HE and post-16 community. This activity has been delegated to the AHDS Centre for Literature, Languages, and Linguistics based at the Oxford Text Archive (OTA), as the part of the AHDS with the most relevant expertise and experience. The OTA is located within the newly-established Research Technologies Service of Oxford University Computing Services, and is able to draw upon a wealth of additional expertise in e-books, digital resources, and user needs analysis.

The focus of the study will be on materials that are freely available and can support work within the Arts and Humanities disciplines of the HE and FE community. The study will investigate the possible users, uses, and usability of free e-books and will explore the extent to which existing freely available e-books can be re-purposed, converted to other delivery formats, and assimilated into other activities, such as Virtual Learning Environments (VLEs).

As well as drawing on the expertise available at the Oxford Text Archive and elsewhere in the academic and publishing communities, the study will also seek extensive consultation with a representative cross-section of users from the community such as HE and post-16 students as well as staff engaged in teaching and research. Anyone interested in finding out more or getting involved can visit <http://www.ota.ahds.ac.uk/ebooks/JISC/>

Martin Wynne, Oxford Text Archive

AHDS Projects

The e-books project cited by Martyn Wynne is one of fifteen projects which the AHDS is involved in. Through this project work, the AHDS explores numerous different avenues in the use of digital resources in Higher and Further Education: this includes developing specialist advisory services, creating learning and teaching modules, exploring archiving mechanisms, aiding resource discovery and creating digital content. Full details are available from <http://ahds.ac.uk/projects.htm>

Copyright & Digitisation

The AHDS recently held a workshop on copyright and digitisation. Iain Wallace, of the Performing Arts Data Service, takes note of the key issues that were tackled during the day.

The first AHDS Copyright and Digitisation Workshop was held in London on 21st January 2003. Although the workshop was aimed primarily at the United Kingdom Higher Education sector, it attracted a wide range of delegates from universities, museums, archives and the commercial sector. All the day's presentations and further resources on copyright have now been made available from http://ahds.ac.uk/copyright_workshop.htm

The workshop focused on the challenges of dealing with copyright in a digital environment. The emphasis was on practical information and to this end several related issues were explored, including how to find out if copyright subsists, identification of rights holders and the development of licence agreements.

The first presentation of the day was an introduction to copyright and related legal concerns by John Kelly from the Jisc Legal Information Service (JLIS) <http://www.jisc.ac.uk/legal/>. John outlined the work of JLIS in assisting Further and Higher Education Institutions with legal compliance in the Information and Communication Technology field. He then focused on Intellectual Property Rights and addressed several key basic topics, from legal definitions to coverage, ownership, and duration of copyright. The application of Fair Dealing, which allows for the partial use of copyrighted material was also examined.

The next presenter was Alastair Dunning of the AHDS who examined methods for dealing with copyright issues in more detail. Alastair offered several pragmatic solutions for tackling copyright clearance in the course of a digitisation project. Specific advice was given on how to trace copyright holders, what to do if you can't identify the rights holders, identifying potential costs, and how to negotiate rights for different purposes and media. The Darwin

Copyright remains one of the most difficult problems for digitisation projects.

Correspondence Project
<<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/Departments/Darwin>> was held up as a good example of a digitisation project which has encountered difficulties with tracing rights holders, but has developed practical solutions and overcome potential copyright obstacles.

Next up was Simon Stokes from the law firm Tarlo Lyons <<http://www.tarlolyons.co.uk/>> investigating current issues and developments in copyright law. Simon is author of the book *Art and Copyright* and shared his considerable experience of copyright law and the Museums and Education sector with the audience. He discussed the law as it stands in the UK, and also the likely impact of the new European Community Copyright Directive (2001/29/EC), with particular reference to the digital environment.

Before lunch, there was time for a question and answer session with the three morning speakers. An excellent discussion took place, with delegates raising issues such as the ramifications of high profile copyright law cases, how to determine copyright ownership when an archive has been bequeathed to an institution, and the development of licence agreements with commissioned photographers.

The first speaker of the afternoon session was Polly Christie, Fine Arts Project Manager with the Visual Arts Data Service (VADS) <<http://vads.ahds.ac.uk/>>. VADS is in the process of digitising art works associated with and held within UK Higher Education Institutions, which represent the value and influence of the artist practitioner in fine art education. Polly described the copyright issues associated with the project, and how a unique licence for use of the digital resources was developed between the artist, the Higher Education Institution, and the VADS. More information, including a link to the licence used, is available from <<http://vads.ahds.ac.uk/fineart/index.html>>.

Unfortunately the next scheduled speaker from the Copyright Licensing Agency <<http://www.cla.co.uk/>> was unable to attend due to ill health. However, Alastair Dunning of the AHDS ably filled in and talked in more detail about developing license agreements. He explored the similarities and differences

between digital and traditional resources, and the implications for copyright. The need for protection and long term preservation of digital resources was examined, and the impact this might have on the development of licences for their use.

This theme of preservation and access to resources was taken up by Hamish James, also of the AHDS. He explained how to deposit digital resources with the AHDS, the copyright requirements and the licence agreement involved. Hamish stressed the essential role that the AHDS can play in offering advice to data creators and depositors, and in ensuring the long-term preservation of high quality digital resources.

The final speakers of the day were Joan Beal and Charley Rowe from the Universities of Sheffield and Newcastle respectively. This was another case study, this time looking at data protection issues in the digitisation of oral history transcripts to form The Newcastle Electronic Corpus of Tyneside English (NECTE) <<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/necte/>>. They outlined the relevant data protection legislation, and explained how they had tackled problems relating to making their data more widely available in the electronic domain.

A second question and answer session brought the day to a close. Questions were raised about the impact of the recent UK Copyright (Visually Impaired Persons) Act 2002 legislation <<http://www.hmsso.gov.uk/acts/acts2002/20020033.htm>>, the differences between copyright laws in different countries, changes in copyright law over time, and rights clearance for digital learning objects for use in Virtual Learning Environments.

Copyright is clearly one of the fundamental issues which anyone embarking on a digitisation project must deal with as early as possible. Although there are often no clear cut answers, this workshop offered delegates the chance to query experts in this field, and also to learn from the experiences of other delegates involved in similar digitisation work. Initial feedback from the event has been very positive, and the AHDS plans to run the workshop again in the near future.

Iain Wallace, Performing Arts Data Service

TASI - Putting you in the Picture

Karla Youngs and Ed Bremner bring information on a JISC-funded service which has close links with the Arts and Humanities Data Service.

The AHDS aims to provide a range of advice for those initiating digitisation



projects in the arts and humanities. This includes advice for all varieties of data formats, including text, image, database and virtual reality. For those dealing with digital images, the AHDS Centre for Visual Arts, VADS, is a good starting point. But further help is often required with particular issues, such as purchasing scanners or digital cameras, attempting the digital capture of rare or precious material, or manipulating and editing high-quality images.

TASI runs a wide range of training workshops, many of which provide hands-on experience in scanning and editing images.

The Technical Advisory Service for Images (TASI) provides in depth advice for such topics. Funded by JISC, and hosted at the Institute for Learning and Research Technology at the University of Bristol, TASI helps members of staff within the Further and Higher Education community

create and use digital images across all subject disciplines. In providing such advice, TASI is committed to the same philosophy for dealing with digital resources as the AHDS. TASI objectives are to encourage the creation of high quality digital image collections; promote good practice in the creation, delivery and use of digital images and in the management of digitisation projects; promote and support the use of standards within digitisation projects; promote technical expertise within the FE/HE community by providing advice, guidance, support, training and consultancy; and encourage networking and the building of an imaging community within FE and HE.

TASI Expertise and Knowledge

TASI has a wide range of expertise and extensive depth of knowledge within digital imaging. This knowledge reflects the life-cycle of a digital image, dealing with its creation, management, delivery and

use. This expertise is disseminated via a number of methods. An online Information Service provides over 50 technical and theoretical reports, along with links to FAQs, tools and resources. Users are welcome to contact TASI's Enquiry Service for help, advice and guidance. TASI experts are always on standby, ready to answer all questions about any aspect of digitisation or digital imaging. TASI commits to answering all queries from the FE & HE sector within five working days. TASI also runs a mailing list to discuss issues relevant to digital imaging. TASI also use the mailing list to release regular "Common Problems and Answers" bulletins through the mailing list. Recent topics have included Image tagging, File naming and Best practices when writing to CDs. Additionally, TASI provides a searchable database of online image collections.

User Training Service

TASI runs a wide range of training workshops, many of which provide hands-on experience in scanning and editing images. These provide a useful compliment to the introductory digitisation workshops provided by the AHDS. The current programme contains over 20 workshops all run on a choice of dates. Courses include a variety of different workshops (from beginner to advanced standard) on image capture, as well as topics like Collections Management and Quality Assurance. TASI has also recently teamed up with the SCRAN to co-host a workshop "Finding and Using Images for Learning and Teaching". This was launched in November 2002 and so far, five dates have been set for further workshops around the UK. These workshops will be principally run at RSC facilities to encourage members of the FE community to participate.

How you should use TASI

If you are planning or undertaking a digitisation project, then TASI would love to hear from you. We can provide advice and guidance, offer an on-site visit to discuss particular issues, put you in contact with similar projects or help to disseminate information about your project.

The best way to contact TASI directly is by email: info@tasi.ac.uk Workshop booking and a full range of advice packs are available from the TASI Web site : <http://www.tasi.ac.uk/>

There is also a mailing list available via <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/tasi.html>

Karla Youngs, TASI Director

Ed Bremner, Senior Technical Research Officer

A Guide to the Resource Galaxy

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Humbul Humanities Hub and Artifact

An important aspect of the work of the Resource Guides is collaboration with their Resource Discovery Network <<http://www.rdn.ac.uk/>>, and in the case of the Resource Guide for Arts and Humanities, this means the Humbul Humanities Hub. Humbul is the UK Higher and Further Education's first choice for accessing online humanities resources. A developing hub, 'Artifact', the Arts and Creative Industries hub, is a second hub that the Resource Guide for Arts and Humanities will collaborate with. Many readers will remember Artifact's predecessor, ADAM (the Art, Design, Architecture and Media Information Gateway). Artifact aims to become the UK Higher and Further Education's first choice for accessing quality online resources for teaching and learning in the arts and creative industries. It will be launched in the winter of 2003.

arts & humanities online



Arts and Humanities Online Workshop Series

One of the most exciting products of this collaboration will be the repeat performance of the successful Arts and Humanities Online Series hosted at various UK locations in 2001. The audiences formed a wide group of end-users, including subject librarians; IT subject specialists; departmental IT representatives; staff development officers; and all those with responsibility for the promotion and provision of online resources in the Arts and Humanities within their institution. The series provided a comprehensive overview of all the major services and resources in the field, offering strategies on how to promote the services within institutions, hints and tips on how to keep up-to-date with all the latest developments, and finally giving a valuable opportunity to question key representatives from the various different services in an open forum discussion.

Preliminary planning has scrutinised user feedback from the previous series in order to revamp the format of this next series of workshops. We are looking to develop a user-centric approach - in order to capture the attention of both the librarian, who may be interested in learning about more than one subject area, and the academic, who more often than not will have a particular interest in one subject category. We hope that as well as better serving the large groups of librarians who attended this series of talks, we may also get in touch with academics to encourage them to disseminate guides to their students. We are also investigating the feasibility of providing a hands-on workshop. Ideally, all attendees will have access to a PC for hands-on training (both structured and informal) so that attendees can really get a feel for what is available in their own subject areas. Such a subject-centric approach is particularly important for the Arts and Humanities, which covers an enormous range in subject matter, from linguistics to film studies to the history of art.

Emma Beer, AHDS Executive



Edinburgh - 3rd April
London - 10th April
London - 13th May

The AHDS is currently in the middle of its workshops series for those beginning or running digitisation projects. While the workshops are open to everyone, they may be of particular interest to those seeking funding from the AHRB or JISC.

Themes covered include:

- ◆ Funding and Managing Projects
- ◆ Data Capture
- ◆ Metadata and Documentation
- ◆ Depositing and Disseminating Resources
- ◆ Copyright

Delegates also have the opportunity to book one-to-one surgery sessions so as to discuss their projects in greater detail.

All workshops are free.

More details, including an online booked form, are available from <<http://ahds.ac.uk/workshops.htm>> Alternatively, you can book a place by telephoning Gill Veldon, 0207 928 7267.



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encourage familiarity with ICT. Initiatives such as ukonline, The People's Network, The National Grid for Learning, Learn Direct and others are part of a coherent approach that is bringing the Internet to the entire UK population.

The Fund works strategically across the Government, public and voluntary sectors. It is delivering £100 million to create the People's Network in public libraries; £100 million to support IT-based learning at community level through its CALL (Community Access to Lifelong Learning) programme; £250 million on IT training for school teachers and public library staff. The digitisation programme being brought together under the EnrichUK banner offers the vital content component of that strategy through the £50 million used in the digitisation of materials for lifelong learning.

The programme is a huge collective endeavour by organisations across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Its technical standards - including emphasis on accessible multi-platform operation and making data interoperable - have attracted international interest. Some of the techniques involved - for instance, the digitisation of the complete British Pathe newsreel archive - are world firsts.

The material digitised for display and use on the worldwide web comes from some of the most prestigious organisations and centres of learning across the UK: science, visual arts, historical documents, virtual reality displays as well as rights and benefits advice and skills generation.

Among universities creating digital content through the New Opportunities Fund programme, the University of Sheffield is creating an interactive learning package that enables Internet users to explore the medieval Cistercian abbeys of Yorkshire using virtual reality reconstructions. Another project from the same institution is creating an online searchable edition of Old Bailey proceedings from 1670 to 1834. A New Opportunities Fund grant to London Metropolitan University will help create Internet access to the material in the Trade Union Congress collections, providing a timeline from 1860 to 2000 illustrated by images, video and manuscripts.

Other universities are working in conjunction with organisations outwith the HE environment. The Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde, for example, are contributing to The Glasgow Story. This project is creating multimedia essays which chronicle, illustrate and explain the evolution of the city and the fortunes of its citizens from the time of the earliest settlements until the present day.

The Science Museum, the British Film Institute and the National Maritime Museum are just a few of the other major institutions involved in the New Opportunities Fund's digitisation projects.

Eddie Barrett, New Opportunities Fund

New Staff at the AHDS

Two members of staff have been appointed at the AHDS Executive. **Malcolm Polfreman** has been employed as Information Officer and **Greg Simpson** recently joined the team as Project Officer for the FAIR Hybrid Archives Project.

Meanwhile, **Matthew Woollard** has taken up the mantle of Head of Service of the History Data Service from **Cressida Chappell**, who has relinquished her position at the AHDS to become Academic Registrar of St Catherine's College, Oxford. Prior to his appointment, Matthew was a Senior Research Officer at the University of Essex, employed in the preparation of the 1881 census for wider research purposes. He completed his MA in Computing for Historians in 1992 and is currently working on his PhD, provisionally titled 'Historical conceptions of occupations through use of classification schemes, 1662-1921.'

Elsewhere within the AHDS **Jenny Mitcham** has joined the Archaeology Data Service as Curatorial Officer and **Eileen Maitland** is now Collections Description Officer at the PADS.

The AHDS
is funded
by the

