Getting started on the Project 2026 Website

www.bhsaccess.org.uk/project2026

The Project 2026 website is a county-by-county based online resource to help volunteers research applications for Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs). The site has been designed and developed by Adrian Bigg, RABO South West.

Site Overview

The primary aim of the site is to enable volunteers to gather and share evidence about routes of interest with others. It is organised on a county basis as this broadly reflects the management of public rights of way, the storage of documentary evidence in county records offices / archives and also the BHS volunteer structure.

The site has a wide range of functions, the main ones of which are briefly described below, but at its simplest it should help volunteers identify routes for research and prevent duplication with other individuals and groups engaged in similar projects.

Whilst it is a BHS badged system, it is open to volunteers from any organisation or none to view and contribute to. The BHS is working closely with the Ramblers and Open Spaces Society amongst others, and it is our intention to ensure the widespread sharing of information and resources.
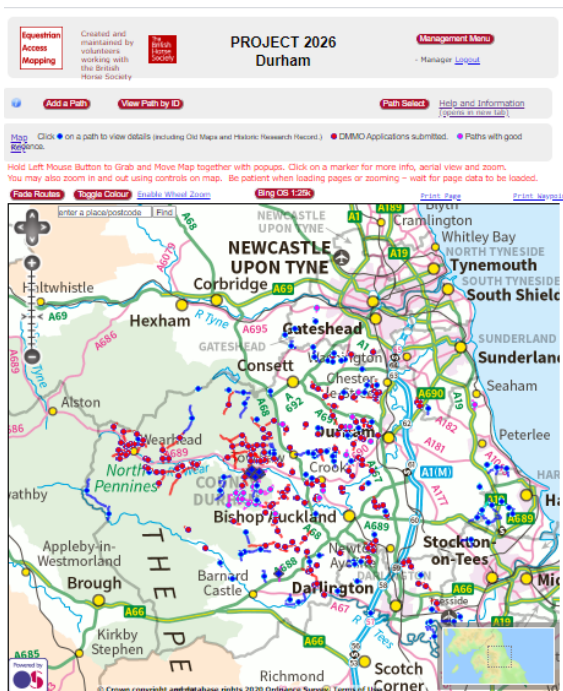
The main interface of the site is a zoom-able map (including OS 1:25,000 mapping using Bing Maps) of each county or highway authority (county council or unitary authority) area onto which users can plot routes to research. Each plotted route has an associated research record which helps researchers collect and record evidence (including photos of documents, maps, etc.) in a systematic way.

The Research Record now enables the production of a fully editable Summary of Evidence which can be used as part of the formal DMMO application. It can also generate a set of DMMO application forms populated with details of the application taken from the Research Record, again editable to cover all eventualities.

It is recognised that people work in different ways and recording research and generating application documents using the site may not suit everyone. However, **as a minimum the BHS would strongly encourage everyone to plot the routes they are researching on the site as this is the best way to avoid duplication, thus ensuring time and other resources are used most efficiently, and to update the research record if and when a DMMO application is submitted for a route.**

Registration and access to the site

The site is specifically designed to be accessible to everyone to encourage the sharing of information and evidence amongst fellow researchers. You don't need a personal password to view data on Project 2026, but you do need a PIN to add paths or save research records you have edited. You will be prompted when you need to enter a PIN. All information added to the site is viewable by others. However, your registered email and name, etc. is never displayed or visible to others (unless you directly put it in a research record, which we advise against).

The first page you see on visiting www.bhsaccess.org.uk/project2026 is an introduction and list of regions.

Either select a region or "View ALL Projects" and a list of county projects will appear. Next to each county or highway authority area are two numbers, the first is the number of paths that have been plotted on the site and the number in brackets is how many of those have been marked on the research record as having a formal DMMO application made in respect of it.

Select the county in which you are interested by clicking on the red county name.

Select county

Password is "2026"
and the Get
Password prompt
will remind you.

An email address is given for
the administrator for the
specific county site and also
for any technical problems.

Project 2026 Derbyshire

The DMMO Application Factory 🔴   Using the Factory

Recent Problems with Plotting have now been fixed - please do let us know of any other issues you encounter.

The project is for those interested in Restoring the Record (of Rights of Way) in Derbyshire

The Project is map based.

The working map is password protected.
(to prove you are human)

Please enter password and open the map.

[   ] Open Map   Get Password

For more information, please email the address below giving details of your interest in the project.

Email: lwpnfs@gmail.com

If you encounter problems with the website or have any techinical query. Please email: maps@bhsaccess.org.uk

Information about Project 2026 Derbyshire

Important Note: Choice of Browser

The project pages will work on most up to date common browsers.

HOWEVER: We find that Google Chrome is particularly slow at displaying the map pop-ups.

If this is a problem to you we suggest you try using Edge, Firefox or Safari instead.

Once you have entered "2026" and clicked "Open Map" , the Map Window should open as below:

Use the Search bar to find a particular location. You can search by name or by postcode.
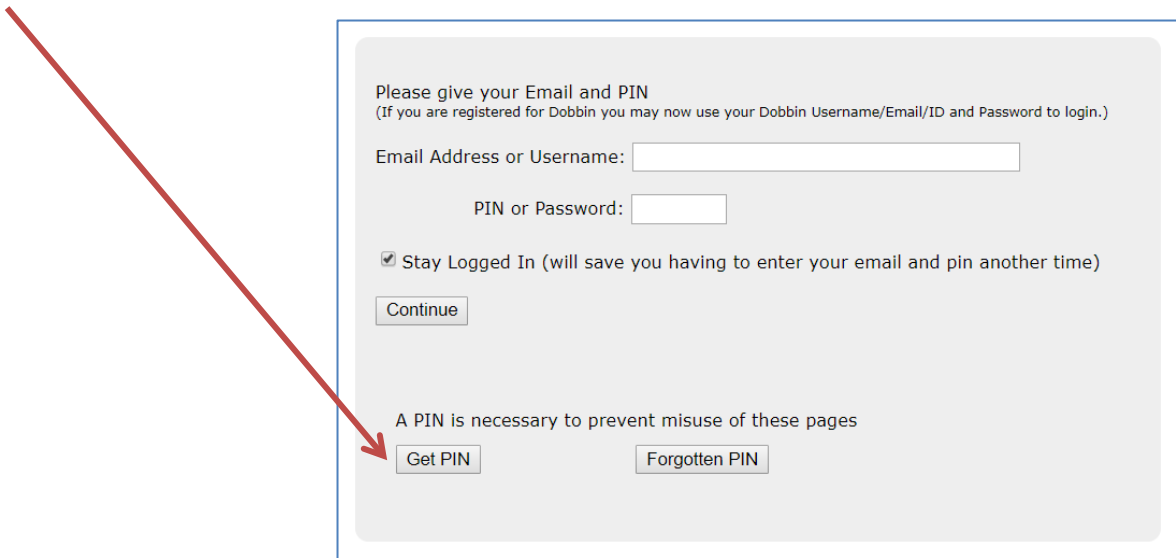
Be sure you are viewing the correct highway authority area!

Use the Scale Bar
to zoom in or out
of the map
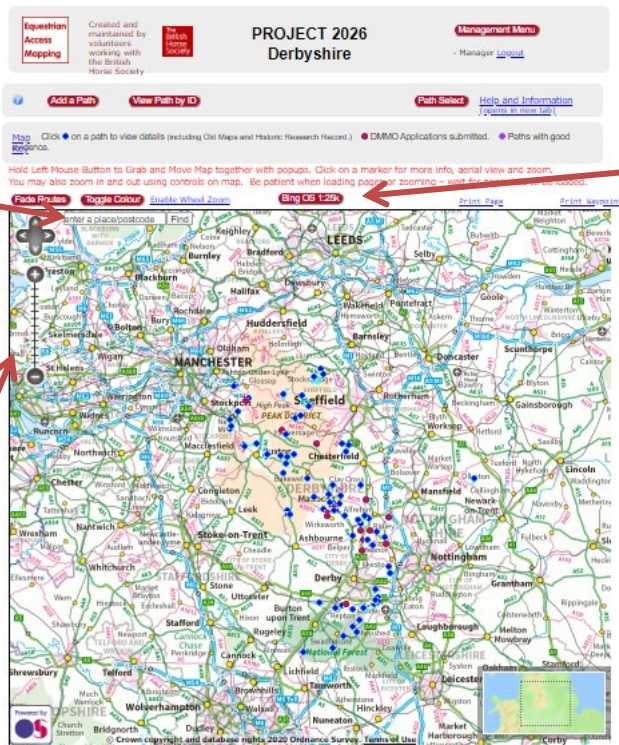
Selecting "Bing OS 1:25K" enables viewing of OS 1:25,000 mapping when zoomed in to the right scale

When you try and add a path or save a research record that you have edited for the first time you will be prompted to enter your email address and PIN or to obtain one.
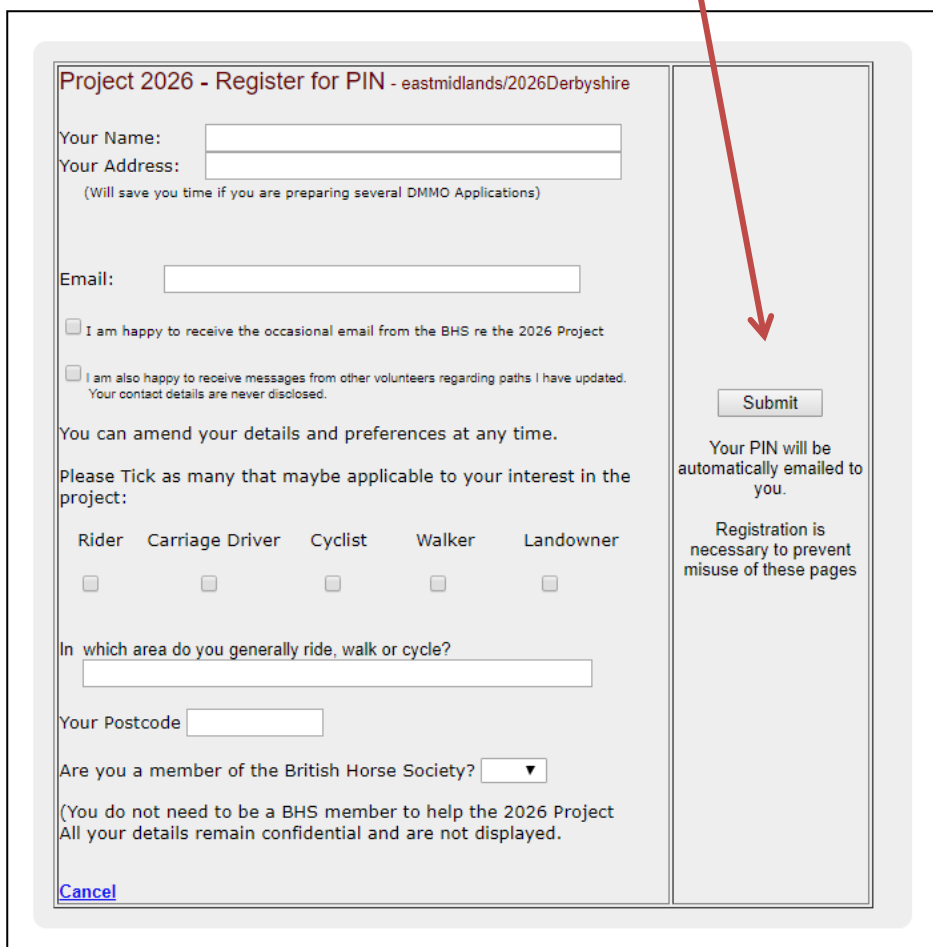
The form below opens. Complete the form, select "Submit" and the PIN normally arrives in your email account within 5 minutes or so. It may go to your junk folder so do check there if you have not received it within a few minutes. The PIN then works on all 2026 sites and also on other Dobbin functions such as Map my Hack.

Demonstration Projects

The key features of the site are illustrated and explained below. However, if you want to experiment with these without worrying about damaging existing data (hard but not impossible to do!) then you may choose to use one of the Demonstration Projects listed at the bottom of the County sites (when you use the "View ALL Projects" option). These function in exactly the same way that the main county sites do except the data is not permanently saved so is a good place to practise and build your confidence.

Wiltshire   21 paths   (0 submitted)
West Midlands:
Herefordshire   36 paths   (2 submitted)
Shropshire   34 paths   (8 submitted)
Staffordshire   25 paths   (4 submitted)
Warwickshire   0 paths   (0 submitted)
Worcestershire   1 paths   (0 submitted)
Wales:
Anglesey   0 paths   (0 submitted)
Bridgend   0 paths   (0 submitted)
Ceredigion   0 paths   (0 submitted)
Conwy   6 paths   (0 submitted)
Denbighshire   0 paths   (0 submitted)
Powys   16 paths   (0 submitted)
Rhondda   0 paths   (0 submitted)

Demonstration Projects:

You may practise uploading routes and editing research records on these project maps
All information on these sites will ultimately be discarded.

Eastern Region: DemoE
East Midlands: DemoEM
Greater London:
North East Region: DemoNE
North West Region: DemoNW
South East Region   DemoSE
South West Region: Demo   DemoSW
West Midlands: DemoWM

Adding a path

To plot a new path select "Add a Path" from the options at the top of the main county map page.

Be sure you are adding any new path to its correct county /highway authority area. You cannot move a path to another area after it has been added.

A map window will open. Use the search bar to move close to the location and drag the window to centre on the exact spot where you wish to plot the route.

It is possible to upload routes to the site from other programmes (e.g. GPX files) but much the easiest way is to plot your path directly onto the map.

To **Plot a Path**, select the drawing tool in the top left of the map window. Click with your mouse at the start of the path you wish to plot and then click along the course of the path. Double click to complete the plotting of the route.
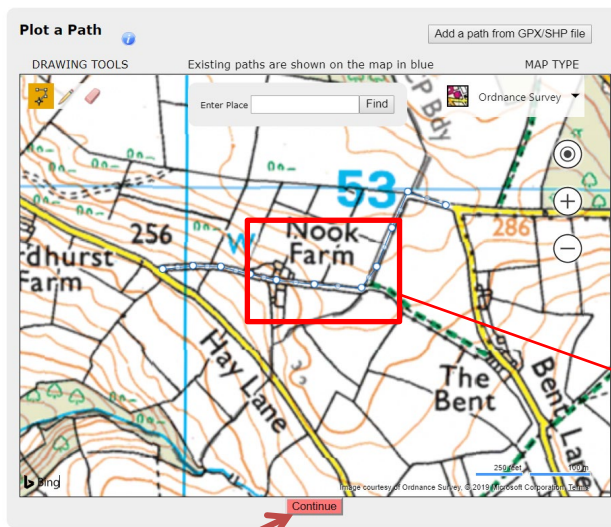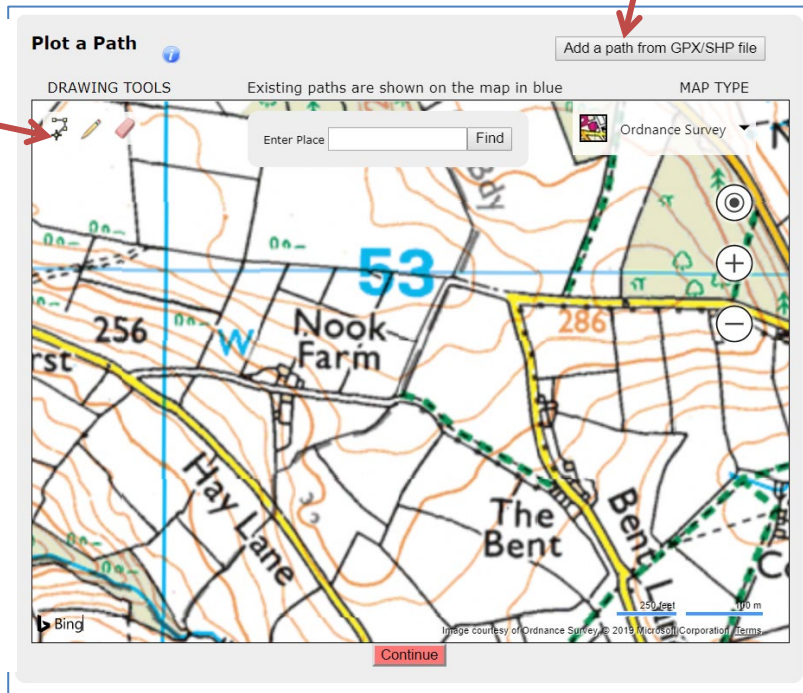
Once you have double clicked, the nodes you have plotted will appear as white circles. You can select and drag these circles to refine the alignment of the path.
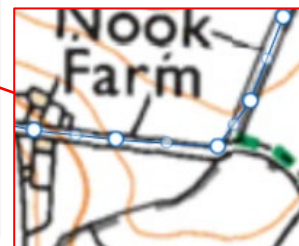
When you are happy with the route plotted, click "Continue" and then "Add Your Path" on the next window and "View Map" on the following one.
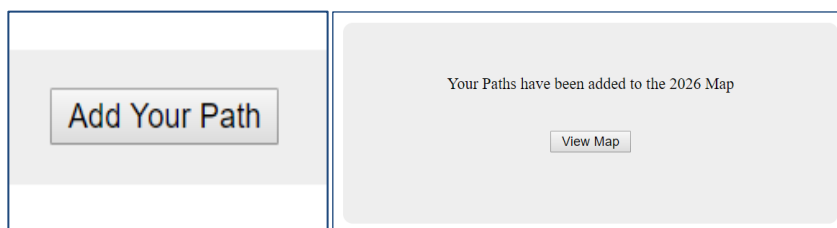
The research record

Every path plotted on the map has an associated research record. This can be opened by clicking on the blue node at the centre of the plotted route (or at one end if the plotted route is a straight line).
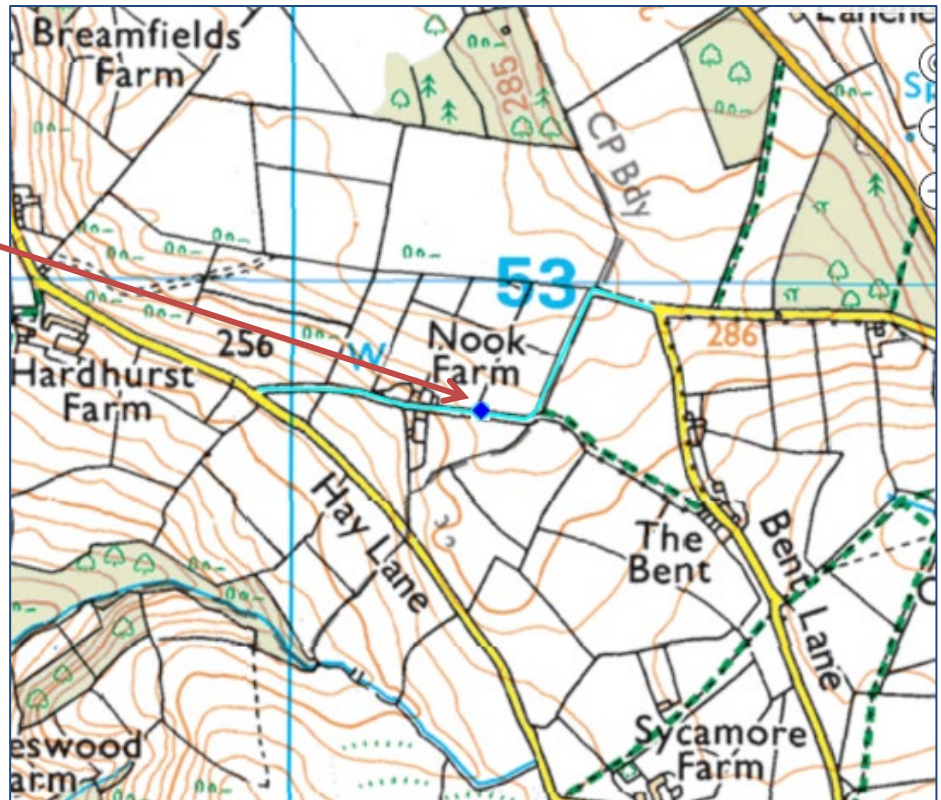
A menu box opens and select the "Research Record" button
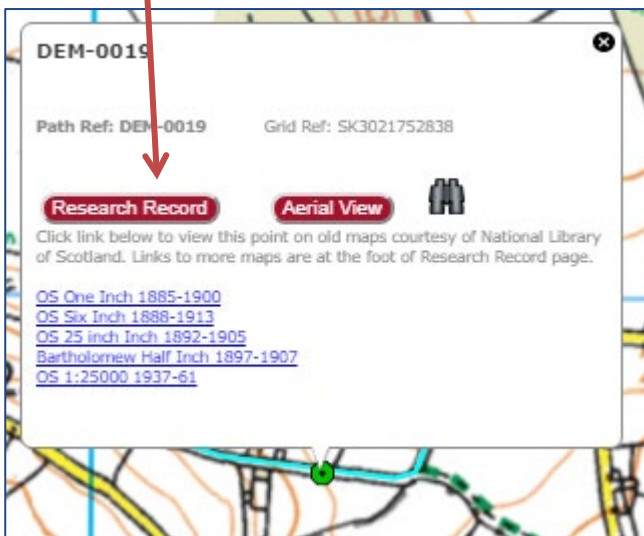
The Research Record is quite long and can appear daunting but the important thing to remember is that you do not need to complete every box, only the information you choose and is relevant. You can enter text in

the various boxes and upload images wherever you see the little camera icon [icon]. A red icon [icon] indicates that images have already been uploaded (a maximum of four images may be uploaded for any individual category). To view the images, just click on the icon.

There are Information buttons [icon] in many places on the research record. Just hover your mouse over these to get more detail and help about how to complete the form.

The first section of the form covers basic details about the path, its current status, usage and some general notes. The grid references of the ends of the plotted path are automatically generated.

Research Record - Herefordshire
Path ID HER-0001 Current Record: 23 2019-09-23 16:11:09
Unique Path Reference: HER-0022

will.steel@bhs.org.uk
Logout View Your Registration

When you have saved any changes:
Return to Map Mark this Path ☑

Contact Us

Previous Record

Research Status DMMO Submitted ▼

See Old Maps of this Path   Online Library   Download Research Data for this Path   Download Guidance for preparing DMMO Applications

Path goes from Marcle Ridge   SO63063553 to The Wonder   SO63383652   ⓘ

Parish Much Marcle ▼   **Grid Ref** SO632358   Map Image ⊙   Save Edits

Before Saving any changes - Please check on the map at bottom of this page that you are reporting on the correct path or path segment.

Please note that double quotes ["] must not be entered in any text on this page. If they are there they will be removed. You may use single quotes.

Description The Wonder - route should follow line of white road   ⊙   ⓘ

Is path Recorded on Definitive Map? No ▼   Recorded as Footpath? No ▼   ⓘ
Is path Recorded on the list of Streets? No ▼   ⓘ
Does the path exist on the ground? Yes ▼   Is path obstructed? Not yet known ▼   ⓘ
Is there known usage on: (please tick)   Foot ☑ Horse ☑ Cycle ☑ Carriage ☐ Motor ☐

Notes
Route is promoted but not legally recorded.
Route research by WS

Path Priority ▼ Reason for giving this Priority
(We will have to make careful judgement of where we spend our effort)

The OLD MAP EVIDENCE section is the place to record evidence found from the main published Ordnance Survey maps, Bartholomew's Maps and Old County Maps that may be relevant to your area. You will also notice links (⤵)to the National Library of Scotland website and its collection of online maps – see below for further detail.

OLD MAP EVIDENCE: Hide Detail   Important Guidance   Download Photos   Images Help

When items have been checked please note in box what you find.

OS One Inch   Help   1898 Clearly shown as a Second Class Metalled road apart from SW link to Hooper's Oak which is shown as an unmetalled road.   ⤵ ⦿ ⓘ

OS 25 Inch   Help   [XLI.5 1888] Path is clearly shown as a road or lane, plot nos. [61,127,173]. Coloured sienna as other known public roads except for SW   ⤵ ⦿ ⓘ

OS Six Inch   Help   ⤵ ⊙ ⓘ

OS25k 37-61   Help   ⤵ ⊙ ⓘ

Bartholomew   Help   Consistently shown as Road except for SW link to Hoopers Oak   ⤵ ⦿ ⓘ

Greenwood Map   Help   Bryant's Map (1835) shows the route. The SW and SE links appear more prominent, perhaps as Good Cross and Driving Road and the remained as   ⦿ ⓘ

The PRIMARY EVIDENCE section is for some of the most common and important types of evidence – 1910 Finance Act, Tithe, Inclosure, OS Area Books and the Council's Handover Records and List of Streets evidence. Remember that not all of these sources exist for every area – just record what you can find!

PRIMARY EVIDENCE: Hide Detail

IR 1910   Help   IR 129/3/479 shows path clearly excluded from adjoining hereditaments indicating public road.   ⦿ ⓘ

Tithe Map   Help   The Woolhope Tithe Map 1844 (HARC ref. BJ68/3) shows the entire route coloured sienna and unnumbered - exlcuded from titheable assessment - in   ⦿ ⓘ

Inclosures   Help   ⊙ ⓘ

OS Area Book   Help   ⊙ ⓘ

Handover Map   Help   ⊙ ⓘ

List of Streets   Help   ⊙ ⓘ

The final Evidence section is for any OTHER EVIDENCE. Some of these – Def Map Records and Land Ownership – you will probably want to check for every route where a claim is being considered but the others you may or may not choose to research. There is an "Any other evidence" box at the bottom for evidence not covered specifically elsewhere on the form.

Below the Evidence sections is an area headed DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER. This enables the researcher to indicate when they are actively preparing or have actually submitted a formal DMMO application to their local Council. There is a tick-box marked "DMMO Appl. submitted." – until this box is ticked it is possible for any registered user to edit and add evidence to a research record but ticking the box has the effect of locking the research record so that only the applicant and the site manager can make further changes. It also turns the plotted line and node red on the map so it is easy to see if a route has already had an application made for it.

There are two important links at the top of this section which enable the automatic generation of a Summary of Evidence document and prepopulated Application forms which are covered in more detail below. There are also many other aspects of the Research Record which you will find as you use it – remember there are lots of Information buttons throughout to help you make the most of the resource.

Links to the National Library of Scotland (NLS) Online Map Collection

Within the OLD MAP EVIDENCE section, wherever you see the NLS logo - - that means there is a link direct to the NLS online collection of that series of mapping for the area of your plotted path.

When you first click on the link it will open a general NLS help page. You will get bored of this after a while but you just need to close it (the "Don't show this message again" button at the bottom doesn't seem to work!).
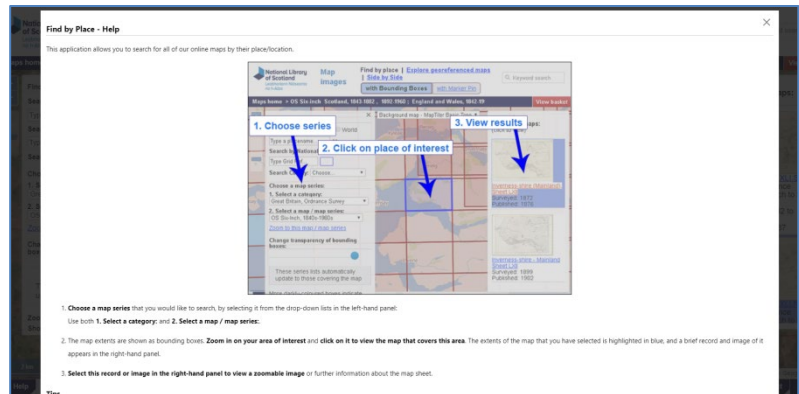
A new window will appear showing an aerial photo of the general area with a grid overlaid on top of it.

Information about the series of mapping is shown here

You can choose the background and change from the aerial photo to an OS map for instance if you find that easier to navigate.
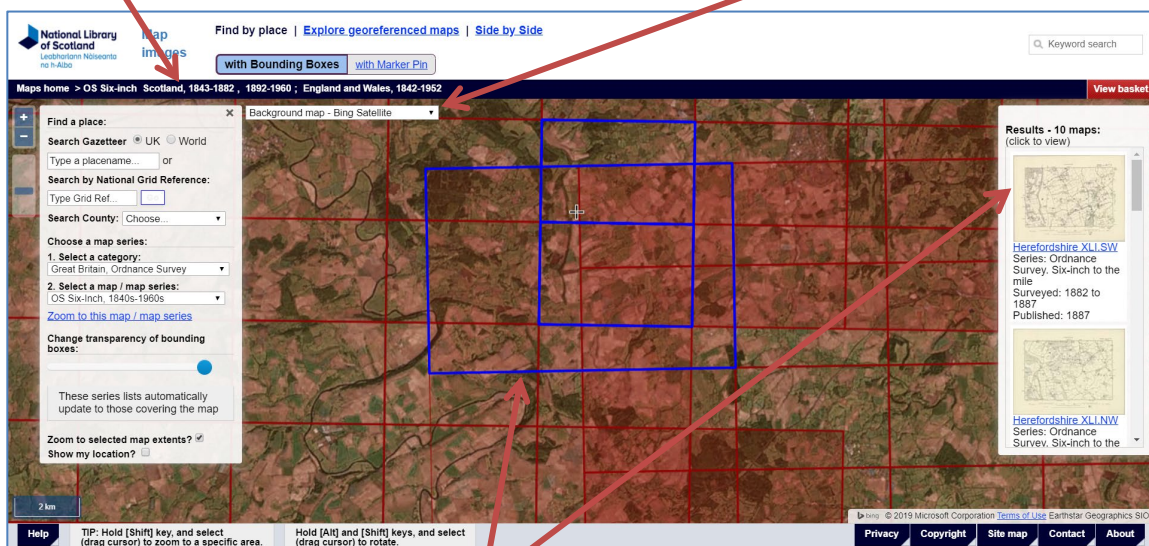
The Results box on the right hand side lists the maps within the series for the grid squares coloured blue. If you click on different grid squares, different maps may be shown in the results box. The NLS collection is not complete – it may list a map but indicate that it is not available online.

Select the map you wish to view from the Results box and after a Copyright notice is displayed you will be able to view your chosen map.

You can zoom in to see a high level of detail using the Zoom buttons

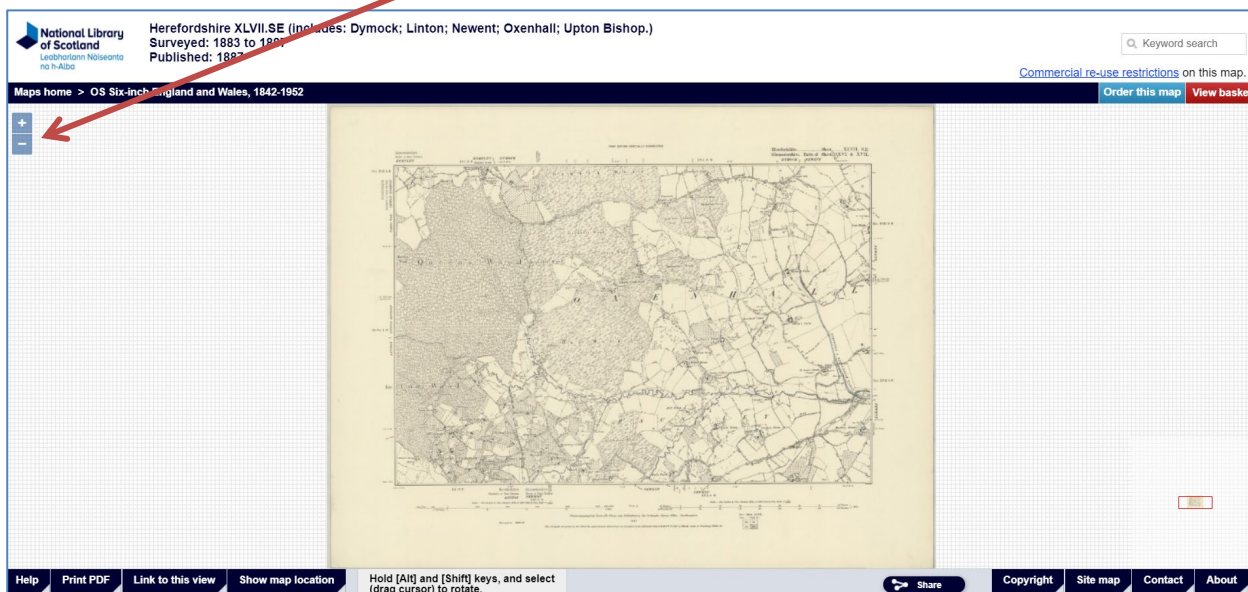Once you have identified the detail that you require, you can take a screenshot to produce an image you can upload to your research record. When you take a screenshot, be sure to include the NLS title and map information to make identification of the document clear in the future.
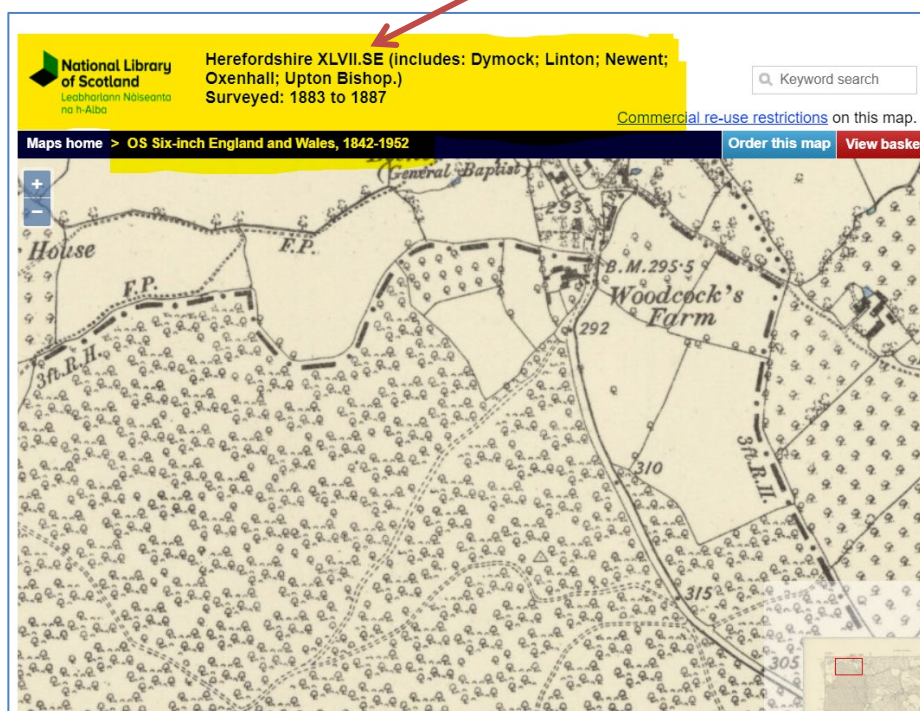
There is the facility to save a PDF of the whole map but the definition is not great when you zoom in, so you are better off zooming in on the NLS site and screen-shotting it.

The Online Library

The Help and Information link at the top of the initial County Map page opens a menu with a link called "Online Library".

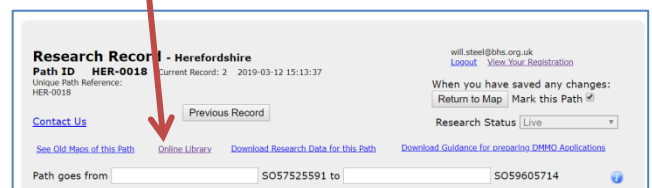There is also a link to the Online library from the top of each Research Record.

Online libraries allow evidence to be shared amongst all volunteers working on Project 2026 research using a Cloud-storage system (such as pCloud, Dropbox etc.). Where they have been set up, any user can view and download copies of documents that have been stored in the Library and some allow users to upload documents that they have obtained.

Once the Library Front Page is opened there may be options to view particular sets of evidence such as Tithe Maps or 1910 Finance Act Plans or just an option to see the Main Library.

The Main library is document. Some the library (PDFs are downloaded to be

Please contact the about the Online done. BHS County have often clubbed
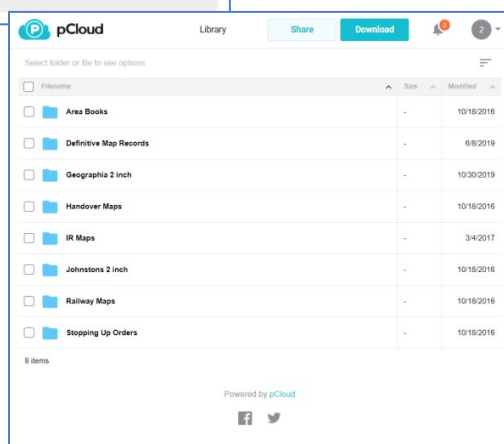
normally organised by the type of documents can be viewed easily within zoomable, photos are not) but all can be saved and used locally.

Site Manager if you have any queries Library or setting one up if it hasn't been Committees and groups of researchers together to get digital copies of

evidence, e.g. from the National Archive, which has then been uploaded onto a Library for all to use.

Summary of Evidence and DMMO application forms - The DMMO Factory

The Project 2026 Site now has the capability to produce a fully editable document setting out all the evidence that has been entered on the Research Record, including any images that have been uploaded to the record, as well as a basic set of pre-populated application forms and notices. This enables researchers to use the use the site to gradually collect and record evidence over a period of time and then, when they consider they have sufficient, to generate all the application paperwork at the touch of a button. As with most things in life what you get out of it depends on what you put in!

PRIVATE NOTES: Show Detail

DMMO Application Preparation:
View and Download Full Evidence Details

DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER: Hide Detail   ⓘ

Download prepopulated Application Forms

Star Rating of Evidence [   ]   ⓘ (Reference Restoring the Record) Star Rating Assistant

Overall Strength of All DMMO Evidence [very good ▼]   Suggested Status to be Applied For [Bridleway   ▼]
This assessment will be made by the Project Coordinator or other designated volunteers

You are progressing this DMMO Application (will.steel@bhs.org.uk).

If you are planning to submit a DMMO Application for this path, please record here:
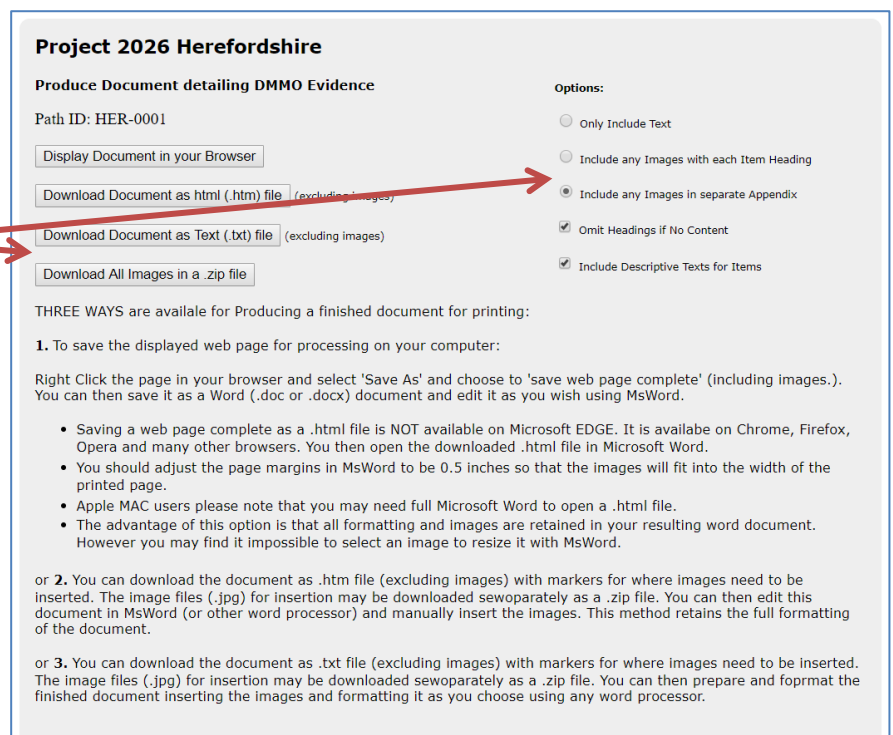
ⓘ
Summary of Progress: [Application submitted for BW status though evidence suggests RB.]

Application is for [Bridleway   ▼]   ☑ DMMO Appl. submitted.   Date Submitted [19/09/2019]

Highways Auth. DMMO Ref. [M364]   DMMO Status: [▼]   ⓘ

You can choose how you would like the documents to appear including their format, if images are included and if so where and so on.

Even if you wish to present your evidence in a different way this may provide a really useful first draft which you can then edit to create your preferred format.

Project 2026 Herefordshire

Produce Document detailing DMMO Evidence   Options:

Path ID: HER-0001
○ Only Include Text

[Display Document in your Browser]
○ Include any Images with each Item Heading

[Download Document as html (.htm) file] (excluding images)
◉ Include any Images in separate Appendix

[Download Document as Text (.txt) file] (excluding images)
☑ Omit Headings if No Content

[Download All Images in a .zip file]
☑ Include Descriptive Texts for Items

THREE WAYS are availale for Producing a finished document for printing:

1. To save the displayed web page for processing on your computer:

Right Click the page in your browser and select 'Save As' and choose to 'save web page complete' (including images.). You can then save it as a Word (.doc or .docx) document and edit it as you wish using MsWord.

- Saving a web page complete as a .html file is NOT available on Microsoft EDGE. It is availabe on Chrome, Firefox, Opera and many other browsers. You then open the downloaded .html file in Microsoft Word.
- You should adjust the page margins in MsWord to be 0.5 inches so that the images will fit into the width of the printed page.
- Apple MAC users please note that you may need full Microsoft Word to open a .html file.
- The advantage of this option is that all formatting and images are retained in your resulting word document. However you may find it impossible to select an image to resize it with MsWord.

or **2.** You can download the document as .htm file (excluding images) with markers for where images need to be inserted. The image files (.jpg) for insertion may be downloaded sewoparately as a .zip file. You can then edit this document in MsWord (or other word processor) and manually insert the images. This method retains the full formatting of the document.

or **3.** You can download the document as .txt file (excluding images) with markers for where images need to be inserted. The image files (.jpg) for insertion may be downloaded sewoparately as a .zip file. You can then prepare and foprmat the finished document inserting the images and formatting it as you choose using any word processor.
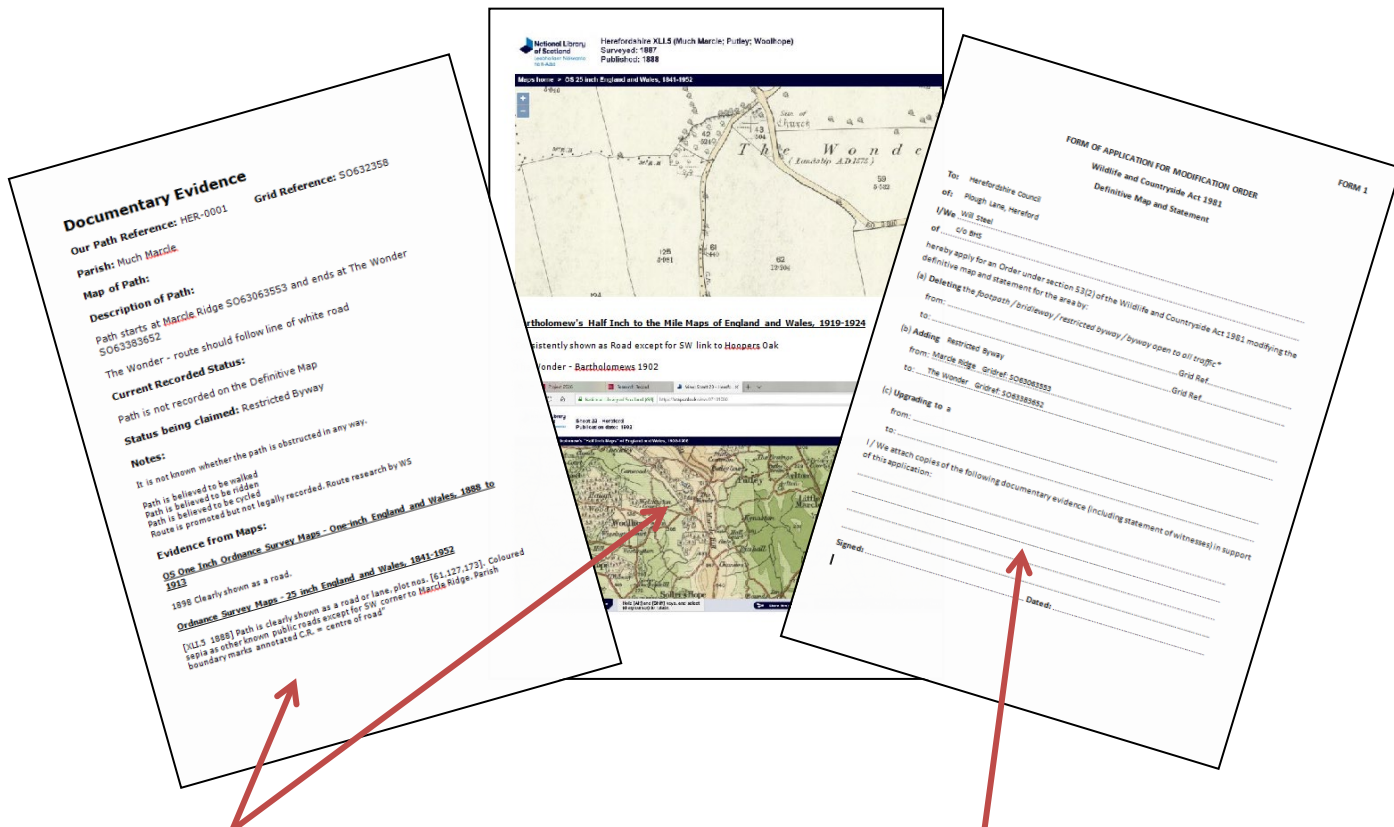
The DMMO Factory will generate a fully editable summary of your evidence including images. Much of the text is based on the entries you have made in the research record.

The application form and notices will be pre-populated with basic details such as grid-references, status, names and address of Council and so on. At the moment it works well for simple additions or upgrades but not for more complicated things such as combinations of these modifications. However, you can still use it to generate the basic form and then edit that as required.

KEY POINTS

- Have a go! The best way to learn is by trial and error but there is plenty of help available on the site and from the contacts below.
- The website is here to help Project 2026 Researchers but it is not compulsory to use every aspect.
- As a minimum, try to plot paths you are researching and update the Research Record when you are about to submit a DMMO application; this will help avoid duplication and wasted effort!
- The more evidence you input into the Research Record, the more comprehensive will be the Summary of Evidence document and the easier it will be to generate the application paperwork quickly.
- Online libraries can be a very valuable resource for researchers but they need some local collaboration and support to build up and manage.

If you have any queries about the site or suggestions as to how it can be improved please email access@bhs.org.uk or maps@bhsaccess.org.uk .

The site is continuously being developed so some aspects of this guide will need to be updated periodically. The BHS is grateful to Adrian Bigg, BHS Regional Access & Bridleways Officer for devoting so much time to building and managing the site.