



The National Geological Records Centre - Data and Services for Academics

The National Geological Records Centre (NGRC) is a unique archive of national importance containing over 9 million items with information which dates back over 200 years. It is also the NERC Dedicated Data Centre for Earth Sciences and as such is the repository and distribution centre for data gathered or produced as a part of NERC funded research grants. The collections are a valuable resource that is used by the BGS and a wide variety of academic and commercial researchers. The records contain a wealth of data from detailed geological field observations and land use information through to laboratory test results. Originally used by the Survey as an aid to production of the geological map the collections now provide information for a wide variety of uses including environmental assessments, safety and planning. This resource is available to academic researchers and can be used as a teaching aid.

Projects or exercises can be based on data held by the archive and students can learn to appreciate the value and challenge of dealing with real data. The NGRC has regularly provided short half-day exercises for groups of up to 20 postgraduate students and currently runs one module on Data Acquisition as part of Field Methods Training Course in conjunction with Sheffield University

Some of the current holdings are listed below:

- Borehole records – over 1 million records
- Site investigation reports – 45,000 reports
- Geological maps – over 100,000 maps
 - Geologist's original field slips with accompanying notebooks and Sheet files
 - National Grid maps (1:10,000 and 1:10,560 scale)
 - County Series map sheets (1:10,560 scale)
 - New Series medium scale maps (1:50,000 and 1:63,360 scale)
 - Old Series one inch maps (1:63,360 scale)
- Memoirs
- Technical reports – over 9,000 reports on open file
- Waste sites – 3,500 records
- Plans – 60,000 relating mainly to mining activity
- Geophysical logs

Information about some of these holdings is available for interactive searching via the BGS GeoIndex via our web site at: <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex>.

Although the data is suitable for all levels of academic work the service is mainly aimed at final year or postgraduate students.

For further information about the data holdings or group visits and training exercises please contact:

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To obtain information or arrange a visit to view records please contact
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