DC-NET
How cultural heritage can benefit
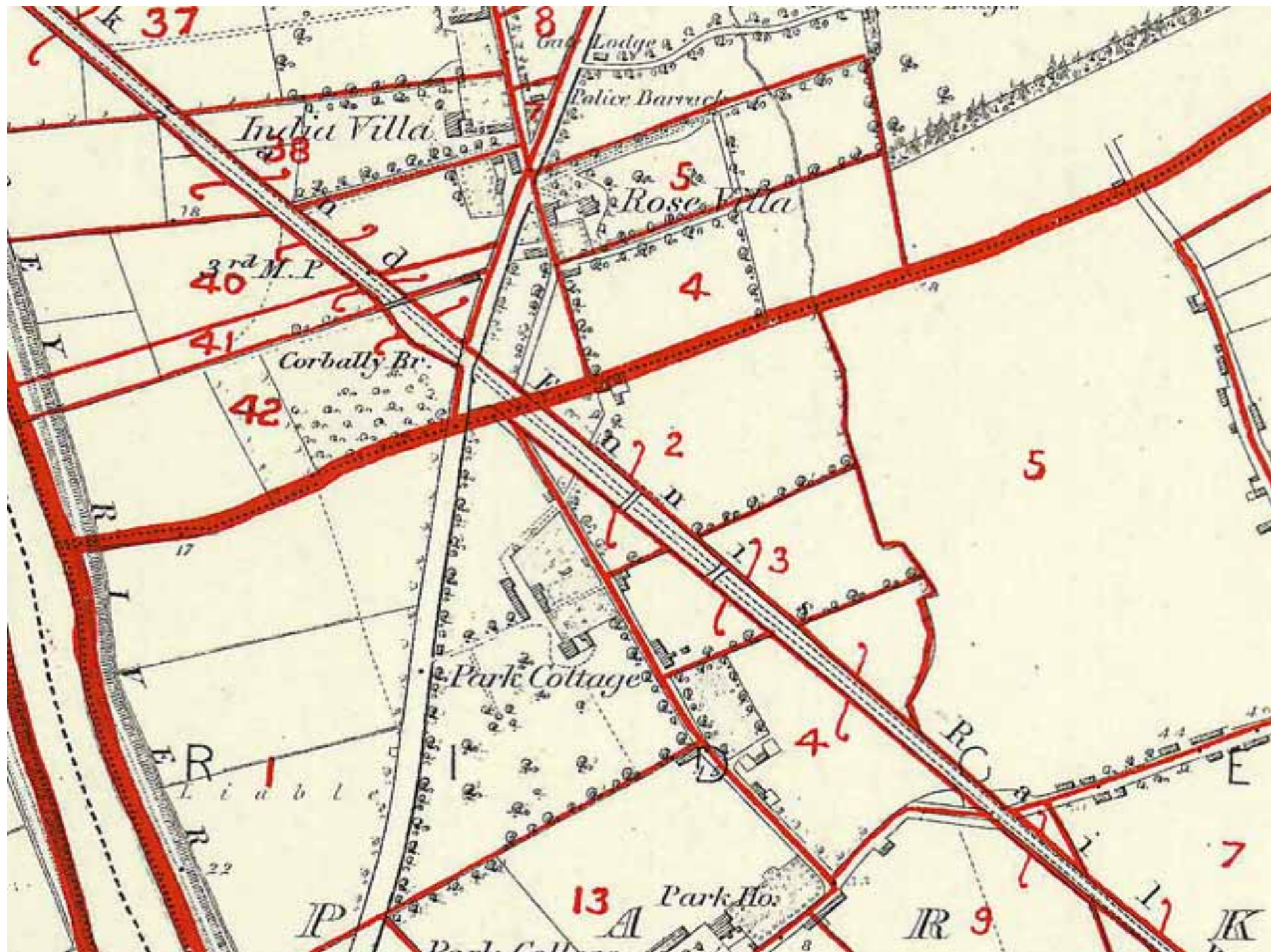
Annette Kelly

An Chomhairle Leabharlanna

Ireland

Overview

- How cultural heritage organisations can benefit from the work of DC-NET

- Some technology issues that arise for cultural heritage organisations

- …with reference to the www.askaboutireland.ie site in particular

www.askaboutireland.ie

- Set up 2002
- Input from 32 local libraries, museums, archives, National Museum, Royal Irish Academy, Linen Hall Library
- 32,000 visitors last week
- 75,000+ digital items, plus national datasets
- User upload, map based interface

37

8

Gate Lodge

India Villa

Police Barrack

38

5

Rose Villa

3rd M.P.

40

4

41

Corbally Br.

42

2

5

3

I

Park Cottage

4

RC

I

Liable

7

13

Park Ho.

9

P

A

R

Ask about Ireland

• About Us •

Search

Reading Room | **Learning Zone** | **Libraries** | E

Coopering

Coopering is the traditional process of making watertight containers out of separate pieces of wood called staves. This is a highly skilled craft and was much in demand in Ireland in times past. Traditionally, coopers were apprenticed, studying under a master cooper for a considerable time, until they had learnt the craft sufficiently and were able to work independently.

The craft flourished when huge numbers of coopers were at work. In the cities and towns, the brewers, distillers, provision merchants and butter merchants all employed coopers. Each product demanded a container of different type, depending on what materials were being stored, be they liquid or solids.

Upload to this pa

Uploa

Add your photos, text, page.

Map Search
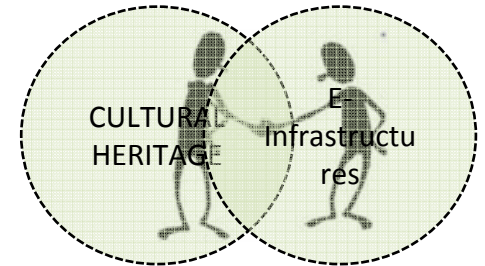

Find inf
videos

Content

History & Heritage

Architecture

DC-NET

- The DC-NET initiative
  - Brings together cultural heritage actors and e-Infrastructures providers
  - Provides guidance and examples of how other cultural heritage organisations have engaged with, and benefited from, e-Infrastructures providers in their own countries.
  - Explores how cultural heritage organisations can benefit from interaction with e-Infrastructures
  - Considers also how e-Infrastructures can benefit from engagement with cultural heritage
  - Acts as a "match maker" between the two sectors.
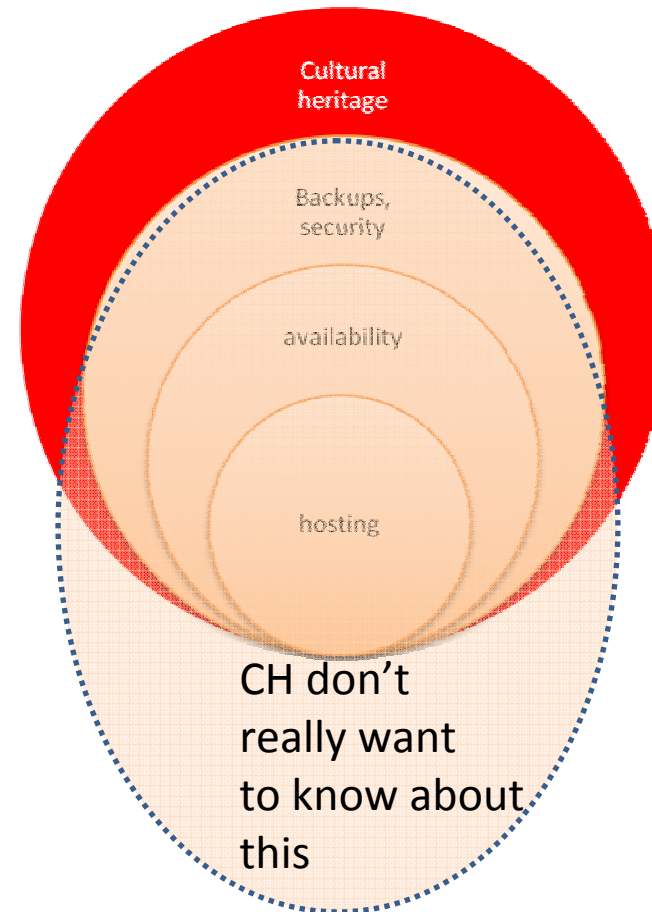 - Stimulates collaboration with like-minded cultural heritage actors too.

Shared Awareness

- Working with DC-NET
  - Has raised our awareness of the value of "cloud" computing for cultural heritage
  - Opportunities to deliver new services and to improve existing ones
  - e-Infrastructures can help to reduce non-core workload

Platform

- Cultural heritage organisations invest time and effort in the minutiae
- Not core competence
- Working with DC-NET - potential of cloud-based platforms for cultural heritage online facilities

Cultural heritage

Backups, security

availability

hosting

CH don't really want to know about this

Platform for askaboutireland

- Askaboutireland.ie uses two servers
- Periodically we need to upgrade storage
- Capacity and performance can lead to disruption of content creation
- A flexible "space on demand" e-Infrastructures facility would save time and money
- Long term preservation and persistent identifiers would be attractive

Availability

- Cultural heritage online sites -strategic and the public face of heritage.
- "Down time" is unacceptable
- DC-NET highlighted capability and resources of e-Infrastructures to provide very high levels of availability
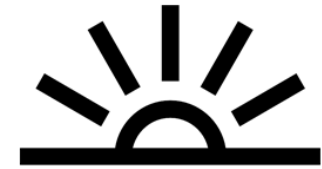
Long Term Preservation

- Long term preservation of cultural heritage materials requires expertise in media, formats, migration, emulation, etc.

- Also needs physical storage and periodic migration of media

- Working with DC-NET has demonstrated that an e-Infrastructures approach can provide long term preservation without the need for local media, backup and format migration.

New opportunities

- DC-NET has raised awareness among the cultural heritage community of the facilities which can be offered by the NRENs and other e-Infrastructures.

- New opportunities for providing new services and improving existing ones for our users, which take advantage of e-Infrastructures

New Opportunities: CIP

- Cloud-based facilities for smaller cultural heritage organisations
  - Facilitating their going online
  - Minimising their effort and ongoing investment
  - Obviating any requirement for technical skills

New Services for Users

- Exciting cultural heritage services such as virtual reality

- Working with DC-NET has raised awareness of how new services can be envisaged

New services for Cultural Heritage

- DC-NET has demonstrated how E-Infrastructures-based services can underpin new collaborations and new services for cultural heritage organisations. Two examples:

    - *Permanent identifier* services.
    - *Interoperability* services

DC-NET benefits for askaboutireland.ie

- Helped to develop our relationships with e-Infrastructures providers
- Provided guidance and best practice on how to engage with national e-Infrastructures
- Enabled networking with like-minded cultural heritage organisations
  - Intra-sector as well as inter-sector networking.
- Opened our eyes to new opportunities.

Where Next?

- The Joint Activities Plan is already begun.
- Focus on long term preservation, persistent identifiers, etc. is important and relevant for the cultural heritage sector.
- Closer working with e-Infrastructures offers
  - New services
  - Reduced workload
  - Greater focus on our own areas of expertise
  - Reduced costs