

## **Exemplar Projects in Humanities Grid Computing**

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There is an opportunity to use GIS and Grid technologies to assist scholars in using e-resources in humanities and arts, particularly through the use of the data grid. Despite the opportunities that e-Science affords fundamental problems remain concerning the location, retrieval and analysis of e-resources. Recent developments in GIS suggest that this technology might resolve some of the brakes on e-Science development in the humanities. GIS now allows multimedia e-resources to be managed and related in time and space using the software and provides tools to visualise and analyse these resources. The vast majority of humanities e-resources are referenced spatially and, to a degree, chronologically and hence can be deployed within a GIS software environment. This paper reviews GIS e-Science developments and identifies and discusses potential exemplar projects. One project, based on the Great Britain Historical GIS is complete; another based around the activities of the Electronic Cultural Atlas initiative and under development; and a third looks at the potential for e-Science GIS based around the Robert Hart archive based at Queen's University.