This paper examines early developments in the use of e-Science techniques in the Humanities from the perspective of the Centre for Data Digitisation and Analysis at Queen’s University Belfast – a large provider of humanities e-research resources particularly with reference to Irish Studies. It identifies key exemplar projects developed by CDDA and its international partners including the Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative, JSTOR and the School of Information at UC Berkeley. It reports of findings on a Humanities GIS e-Science Workshop funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council organised by CDDA, and develops an agenda for bringing e-Science techniques to the Humanities in a practical and measurable way.