

Managing a Master Map System

by Ken Thompson Version 1.5 25th Jan 2016

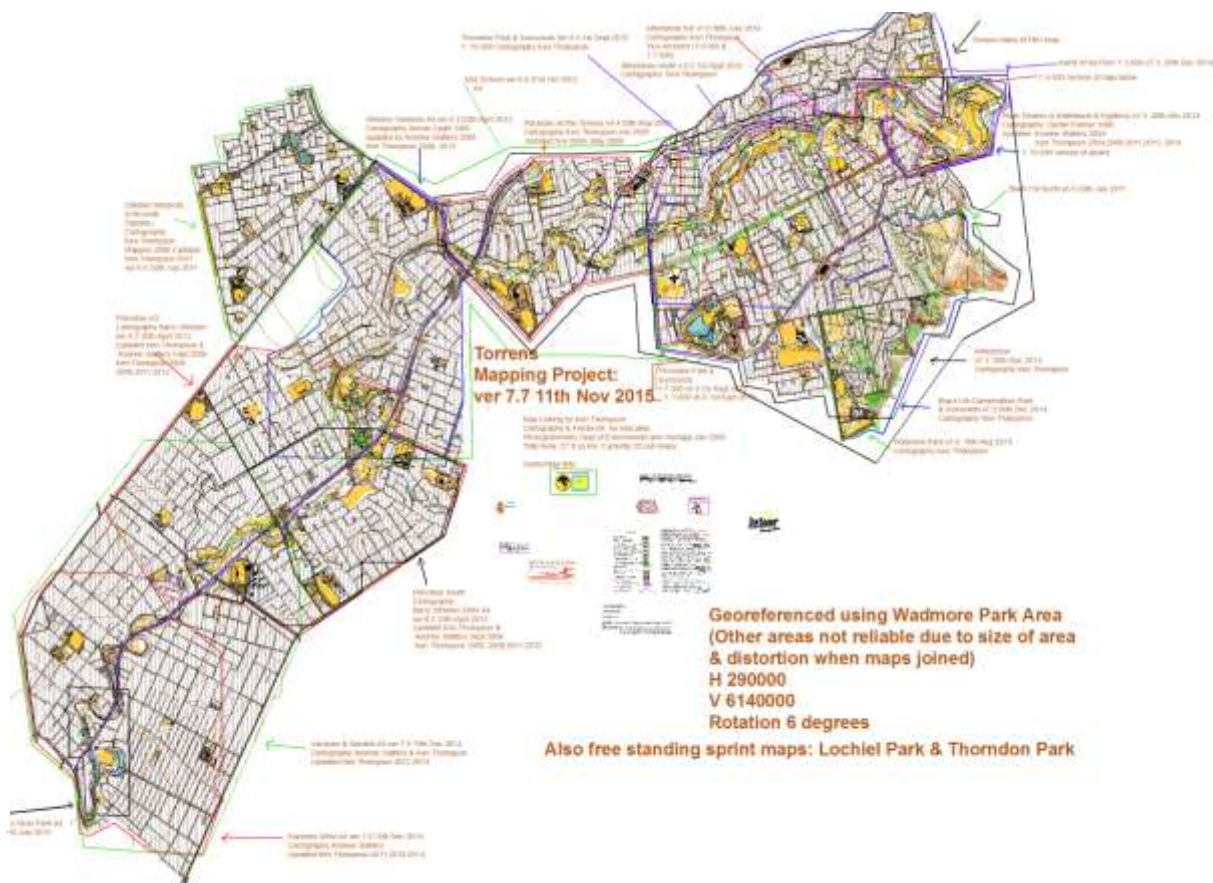
These notes have been updated based on OCAD 11 but can easily be followed in earlier versions. Some menu items are in a different location in earlier versions. Some of the content has also been changed to make the process easier to follow. Suggestions & comments welcome. Please email cartography@ihug.com.au

Updating Maps: The key element of this suggested process is that all updates within a master map system should only be carried out on the master map using the current version of OCAD. This should be clearly indicated on any sub-maps. Saving the master map back into earlier versions should be avoided as some features of the later version will be lost.

Suggested method for setting up master map system

1. Create a folder specifically for master map files. E.g. Torrens master map.
2. Make unmerged files and merged files subdirectories.
3. Place a copy (always retain copies of original base map in case of problems) of overall map in unmerged files directory. Rename this file clearly as master map including version designation and version date. E.g. 1torrensmaster_ver7.1_11thNov2015 I always make a practice of putting the numeral 1 in front of the master map file name so that the master map appears at the top of the list for quick access. Always increment the version number and date no matter how small the change made. A good practice is to align the sub-map version numbers with this so that you know which sub-maps you have updated.

Below is an example of a master map. The Torrens Mapping Project covers 27.8sq km and currently



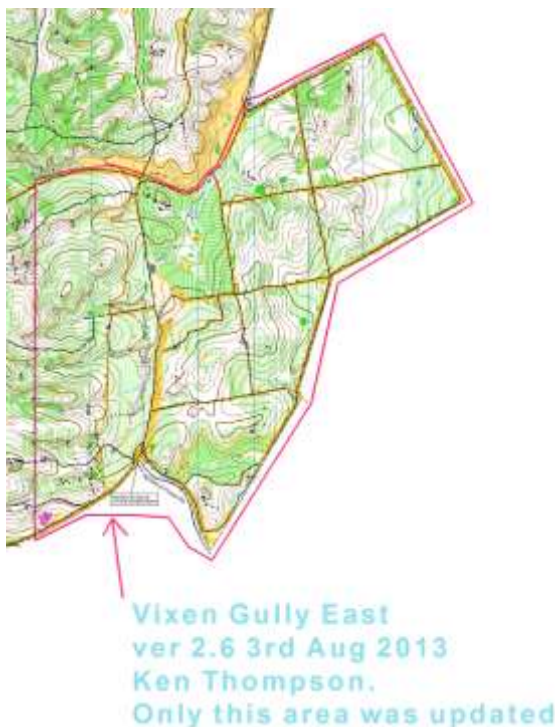
contains 22 sub maps. Carefully drag all extras such as title, legend and logos to one side so that the map itself can be selected easily. The north lines should be retained. It may be useful to add an intermediary extra hidden line for use when printing a 1: 15 000 map. This should be done with a duplicate symbol. That way one symbol can be hidden when printing at 1: 15 000 . This way you ensure your map ISOM requirements to have northings between 20mm and 40mm on the map. I have not done this with the Torrens Mapping Project as sub maps are not printed at 1: 15 000

4. Make several copies of symbol 707 (uncrossable boundary) depending on how many sub-maps you intend to make initially. For each new symbol rename map boundary and select a suitable different bright colour for each. (I find the logo colours ideal) If need be you will have to add some colours to the colour table. If you have some of the more recent logos on your map you will find you already have suitable colours. You may want to re-number these new



some earlier versions of OCAD) for symbols.

symbols so they appear at the beginning or end of your symbols when sorted. I make a practice of putting these sub map boundaries at the top of the favourites section (this feature is not available in



5. Use one of these symbols to draw the outline of your first sub-map. Make sure the line is continuous and that the ends join. It is easy to add points to this line and move it around to fine tune the boundary. Clearly label the sub-map. The sample to the left is part of Yalanga's Vixen Gully South Para Master Map (Copyright)
6. Select the sub-map boundary
7. Map > Partial map > Use selected object > OK
8. Save as template_mapname.ocd (ie name of sub-map) This name should remain constant & not contain version or date information.

9. Open the template file and remove any remnants of map boundary lines. A strange glitch with OCAD is that the template may be overlayed with a symbol such as scattered trees. This will need to be deleted. **On no account move the position of the new sub map as this will affect any geo referencing that may exist.**
10. The **next steps ensure that real world coordinates are retained in the sub-map .** It also ensures all symbols and colours needed in the final map are retained and not duplicated.
11. Optimize and then Close the new template file

12. Load the master map and using save as save what will be the framework file with a suitable name. mapname_ver1.0_10thSept2011.ocad . This becomes the **sub-map framework file.**
This should still be saved in the unmerged folder



referencing of the map

13. Delete the entire map and any parts you do not need as in the example to the left.

Left Sample sub-map framework file before opening template file (Copyright Yalanga Orienteers Inc.)

14. Background map > Select and open template file.
15. Draw a map frame around the map & check that it prints at the size you require (A4, A3 landscape or portrait. It is always handy to have some of these frames pre-drawn on your master map so they are already there to use.
16. Move the required framework details to the best location for the new sub-map such as title, legend, scale line, and logos. **Remember NOT to move the template map image** otherwise you will alter the geo

The final stage is to **merge the framework file and template file** follow steps 12 – 18 below

How to update a sub-map following an update:

1. Load master map
2. Select correct sub-map boundary
3. Map > Partial map > Use selected object > OK
4. Select existing template name. E.g. template_BonythonPark.ocd
5. Close master map
6. Open template file & deal with as in A 10 above.
7. Change scale of template if necessary: map > change scale > enter new scale > click off enlarge/reduce symbols unless changing from 1:15 000 to 1: 10 000 or visa versa (otherwise you will produce oversize non-standard symbols which may be fine for some specific purposes such as school or training use)
8. Close template
9. Open framework file
10. Update version information

11. Save as with new version filename. E.g. NorthAdelaidever1.4_12thDec2015.ocd

Steps 12-18 are needed if you choose to **merge framework file & template file** to make files easier to manage by others. Merging the two files also ensures that the correct combination of map files is used by the printing company.

12. Save a copy of framework files in merged file folder with m (to distinguish from unmerged file) designation in version number. E.g. NorthAdelaidever1.4m_26thNov2011.ocd

13. Open this file if not already open.

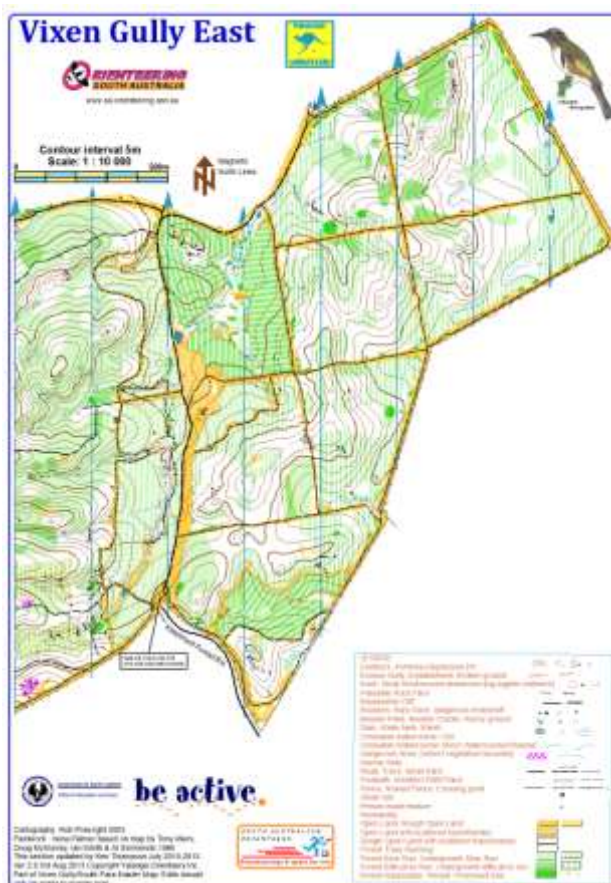
14. Close template: background map > options > remove

15. Import template file: file > import

16. Click Position > Place with offset 0, 0 Doing this should import to exactly the correct spot and maintain any existing geo referencing information.

17. Click Symbols > Import symbols only if symbol number do not exist. Using this setting avoids duplication of colours in the colour table and symbols. I was fixing a map recently that had no less than seven sets of colour tables and symbols many of which had different settings! Needless to say the file was rather large!

18. Finally: Optimise new merged file : map > optimise/repair



Sample merged sub map file (copyright Yalanga Orienteers Inc)