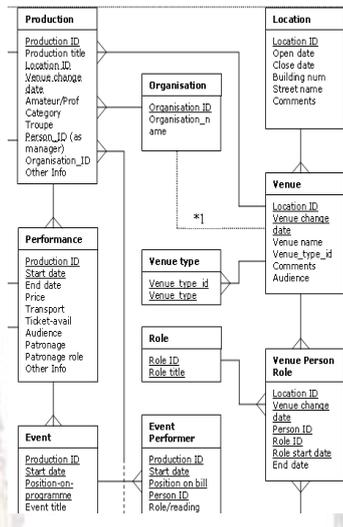


# Mapping Performance Culture in Nottingham, 1857 - 1867

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This project investigates the performance culture of Nottingham, 1857-1867. In a key collaboration between theatre history and geographical information science, it will develop an intuitive mapping website and research database, which will layer social, cultural and economic data onto a spatial representation of the town.

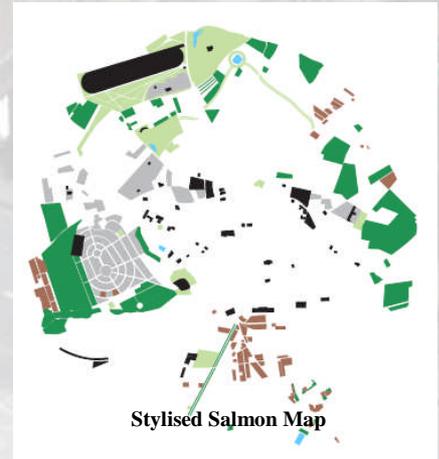
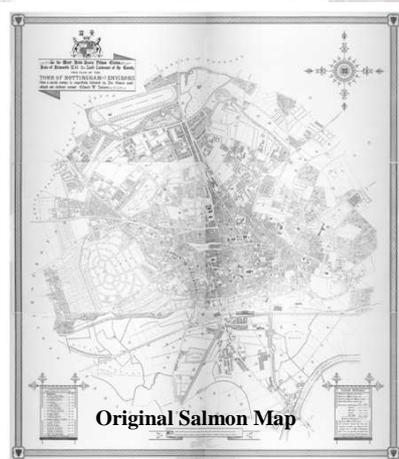
## Data Collection and Manipulation



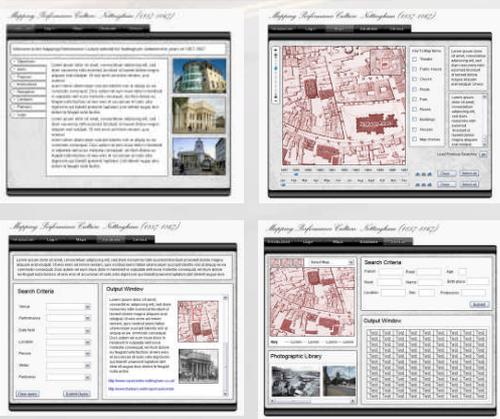
- Data collection has been via extensive research carried out at the library and local archives.
- Textual and pictorial information have been collected and documented. Particular focus has been on the performances that took place during the period of study, venue locations, audiences, participants and reviews of the events.
- A MySQL database has been set up for housing the information collected from this research.
- MySQL has been used for the development of the database as it has great capabilities at storing information, but more importantly it is commonly used for linking to web enabled tools.
- Large volumes of data are being collected. The database will help to store and compress this information so that it can subsequently be used and manipulated for further purposes, and extrapolated in a format that is viewable by the end users of the developed tools.

## Mapping Development

- Two maps supplied by Angel Row Library: Salmon (1861) and Tarbotton (1871)
- The Salmon map will be used to represent the town up until 1865. For 1865 to 1867 the Tarbotton map will be used. The reason being that in 1865 the new Theatre Royal was built and this is represented on the Tarbotton map. 1865 saw various changes to the layout of the town which need to be recorded visually.
- It will be necessary to overlay the two maps to help highlight changes in layout and infrastructure of the town. Spatial and temporal changes will be recorded. A stylised version of the map(s) is being produced to aid the clarity of the map for the website.
- Locations (areas) and venues (points) have been determined from the maps along with recording photographically the town as it is today by walking around the town.



## Website Development



• The outcome from this research is to have developed an interactive website that will utilise the acquired maps and database information, and present this information in an accessible way for a variety of end users.

• Macromedia FLASH is the software being used for the development of the website. With the aid of Action Script programming and the concept of Flash Remoting, the information housed in the database will be able to be pulled across into the website and displayed in a format described by the website developers.

• The centre piece of the tool is to be a map. On this map various objects will be highlighted – namely the performance venues. From these venues further information about the performances that took place at them can be determined. This information will be extrapolated from the database. Database queries will be formed via check box criteria whereby the user of the tool can specify years and/or months of interest. Outputs will be displayed on the map and from these further interactivity will take place to allow the user to press on the objects shown on the map and learn more about the venue or location. The process of searching and interrogating the database will be an iterative one. The tool is to be used by a variety of end users – academic researchers, scholars and the public.

• In the future we hope to be able to develop this technology and incorporate it into potential mobile technologies or extrapolate the methods to other areas of the arts

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