

Spatial data-sets for geographical referencing

Part 4. Specification of a data-set for recording public rights of way

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Foreword

This Part of BS 7666 has been prepared by Technical Committee IST/36. It has been developed by the National Land and Property Gazetteer Working Party, sponsored by the Local Authorities' Geographic Information Advisory Group, through the Local Government Management Board.

BS 7666 comprises four Parts:

Part 1 Specification for a Street Gazetteer

Part 2 Specification for a Land and Property Gazetteer

Part 3 Specification for addresses

Part 4 Specification of a data-set for recording public rights of way

Part 1 specifies a unique alphanumeric code for streets, and specifies that a street has to be located by a maximum of three location fields.

Parts 1, 2 and 3 specify references for particular basic items of geographic data, and introduce the requirement for addressing.

Part 3 specifies a general address structure.

Part 4 specifies the format for a data-set for recording public rights of way. Public rights of way (PROW) are routes over land in England and Wales along which any member of the public has the right to pass and repass. Designated local authorities have a statutory duty to record these in the form of Definitive Maps and Definitive Statements.

The aim of this specification is to identify the form, content and internal relationships of a data-set for recording public rights of way in order:

- a) to save time for any organization involved in the design, compilation and use of such data-set;
- b) to permit the ready exchange and aggregation of such data from several sources;
- c) to facilitate the design of common information systems, which may be databases or geographic information systems.

It has been assumed in the drafting of this British Standard that the execution of its provisions is entrusted to appropriately qualified and experienced people.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Section 1. General

1.1 Scope

This Part of BS 7666 specifies the data to be recorded for public rights of way (PROW) in England and Wales. It defines a data model for PROW, consistent with Part 1 of BS 7666, and itemizes the contents of each record.

1.2 References

1.2.1 Normative references

This Part of BS 7666 incorporates, by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are made at the appropriate places in the text and the cited publications are listed on the inside back cover. For dated references, only the edition cited applies; any subsequent amendments to or revisions of the cited publication apply to this Part of BS 7666 only when incorporated in the reference by amendment or revision. For undated references, the latest edition of the cited publication applies, together with any amendments.

1.2.2 Informative references

This Part of BS 7666 refers to other publications that provide information or guidance. Editions of these publications current at the time of issue of this standard are listed on the inside back cover, but reference should be made to the latest editions.

1.3 Definitions

1.3.1 General

For the purposes of this Part of BS 7666, the definitions given in BS 7666 : Part 1 : 1993, BS 7666 : Part 2 : 1994 and BS 7666 : Part 3 : 1994 apply, together with the following, which are derived from Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and other relevant legislation.

1.3.2 bridleway

A way over which the public has a right of way on foot or on horseback or on a pedal cycle.

1.3.3 byway open to all traffic (BOAT)

A highway over which the public has a right of way on foot, on horseback or in or on vehicles, but which is used by the public mainly for the purposes for which footpaths and bridleways are used, i.e. it is used mainly by walkers, cyclists and horse-riders.

1.3.4 definitive map

A map that is a legal record of the public's rights to walk, ride or drive on public rights of way.

NOTE. The duty of the responsible surveying authority is to show on the definitive map all footpaths, bridleways, BOATs and RUPPs in its area, whether urban or rural. Definitive maps are prepared everywhere in England and Wales except in the area of the former London County Council (LCC), where their preparation is optional.

1.3.5 definitive statement

A legal textual record which accompanies the definitive map.

NOTE. The definitive map and statement provide conclusive evidence (i.e. evidence that can be used in court) of the existence of public rights of way and their extent, legal conditions and limitations.

1.3.6 event

The coming into operation of an order, agreement or other legal instrument which creates, widens, diverts, extinguishes or changes the status of a public right of way, or the taking effect of an order under Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, or the preparation of a consolidated map and statement under Section 57, Wildlife and Country Act 1981.

1.3.7 footpath

A way over which the public has a right of way on foot.

NOTE. A footpath is not to be confused with a footway which is a way set aside for pedestrians at the side of a road, otherwise known as a pavement.

1.3.8 furniture description code

A code identifying types of PROW furniture.

1.3.9 local area

The geographical area (usually the administrative area) within which the PROW is located.

NOTE. A local area may be a neighbourhood, suburb, district, village or parish that may form part of a town, or stand in its own right within the context of an administrative area.

1.3.10 path surface

A description of the character of the surface of a path.

NOTE. An example of a path surface is 'gravel' or 'grass'.

1.3.11 path type

A description of the nature of a path.

NOTE. An example of a path type is 'cross-field' or 'field-edge'.

1.3.12 promoted route

A route comprising a series of PROW and/or PROW links, with a specific geographical identity.

NOTE. An example of a promoted route is 'The Pennine Way'.

1.3.13 promoted route element

A PROW link which forms part of a promoted route.

1.3.14 PROW furniture

Objects associated with a PROW.

NOTE. Examples of PROW furniture are 'stile', 'fingerpost', 'steps'.

1.3.15 PROW link

A continuous subdivision of a PROW.

NOTE. A PROW link may be defined by its intersection with other streets including another PROW, and/or its extremity points and/or local area boundaries.

1.3.16 public rights of way (PROW)

Routes over land in England and Wales along which any member of the public has the right to pass and repass.

1.3.17 road used as a public path (RUPP)

A way recorded on definitive maps as having been a way other than a footpath or bridleway, used mainly for the purpose for which footpaths and bridleways are used.

NOTE. All RUPPs are due to be reclassified as either footpaths, bridleways or byways open to all traffic.