



There is no open dataset of UK addresses...

...let's fix that today!

Many have tried to make the case for a free and open list of UK addresses including their location. There is no doubt that this would benefit individuals and companies alike, however complexity and legacy arrangements have hindered progress to date. Nothing will change unless we do something together.

We have a solution that can be implemented today. By combining forces we can solve this and the solution is not even that difficult - in fact it is rather simple.

Our proposal

We are not going to be provided a dataset on a silver plate, so we need to create one. We believe that is now possible by combining existing open data, with simple geospatial processing tools, and a community of OpenStreetMappers, both new and existing.

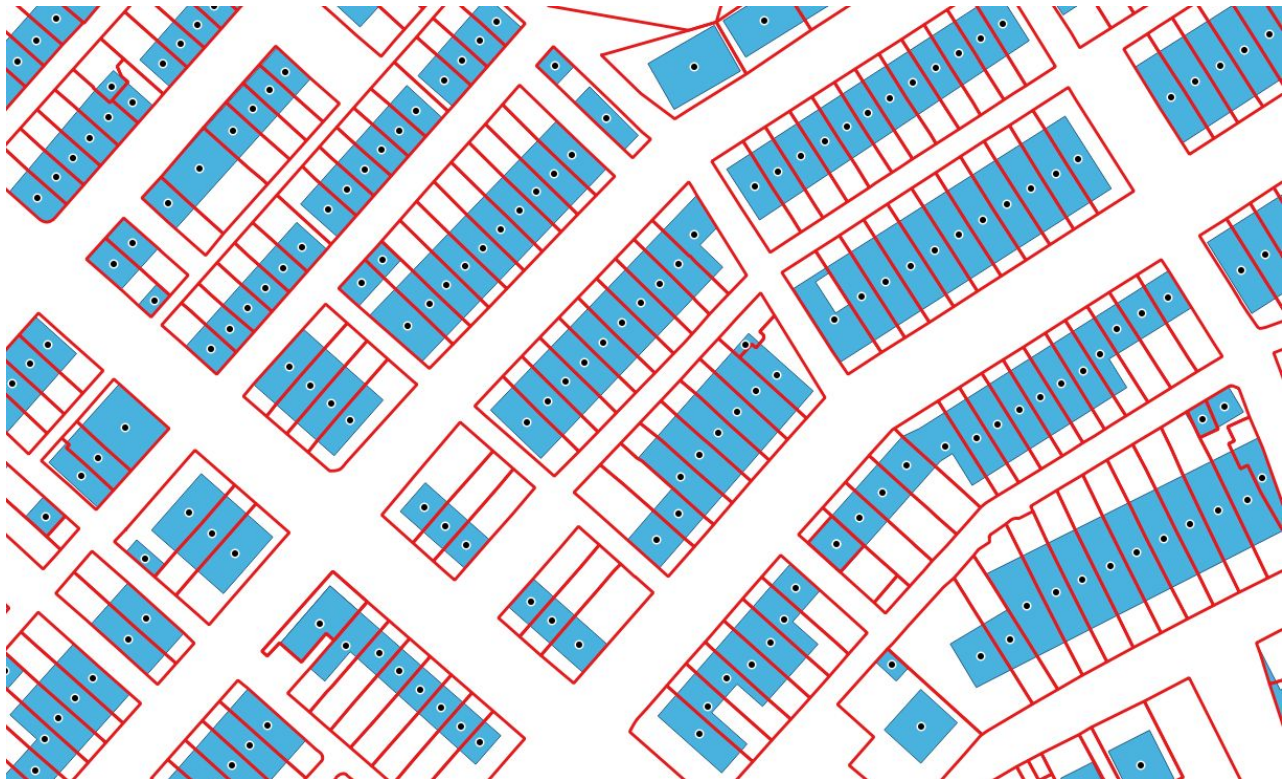


Figure 1: Combining open data polygons to predict addressable locations.

By combining two open datasets (Land Registry polygons and generalised building outlines from OS Open Data) we can derive a set of address centroids. These can then be fed into a mobile and web application - made so easy to use that we increase the number of contributors 100-fold. Addresses will be mapped in no time at all!

Steps to success:

1. Download open data Land Registry polygons ([England & Wales](#), [Scotland](#)).
2. Filter for a cleaner data set. For example we may want to filter out any with very large area size (unlikely to represent property boundary of a dwelling) and any that already contain an OpenStreetMap address centroid within them.
3. For those remaining, use the polygons to split ('Clip') generalised building outlines from [OS OpenMap Local](#) or [OS Open ZoomStack](#).
4. Filter again. For example to select the larger building within Land Registry polygons that contain multiple buildings (e.g. to remove sheds, garages, etc).
5. Extract the centroid of each split building.
6. Present those centroids to an army of volunteers all keen to contribute a few addresses to ensure that deliveries make it to them and their friends.
7. After collecting address details via a simple mobile or web app, upload them into OpenStreetMap.

Help required

We are seeking help to get this project up and running. From processing the data, to building a simple web app (something like [OSMyBiz](#) but even easier to use), to helping promote this far and wide we need your help. To discuss further please contact board@osmuk.org.

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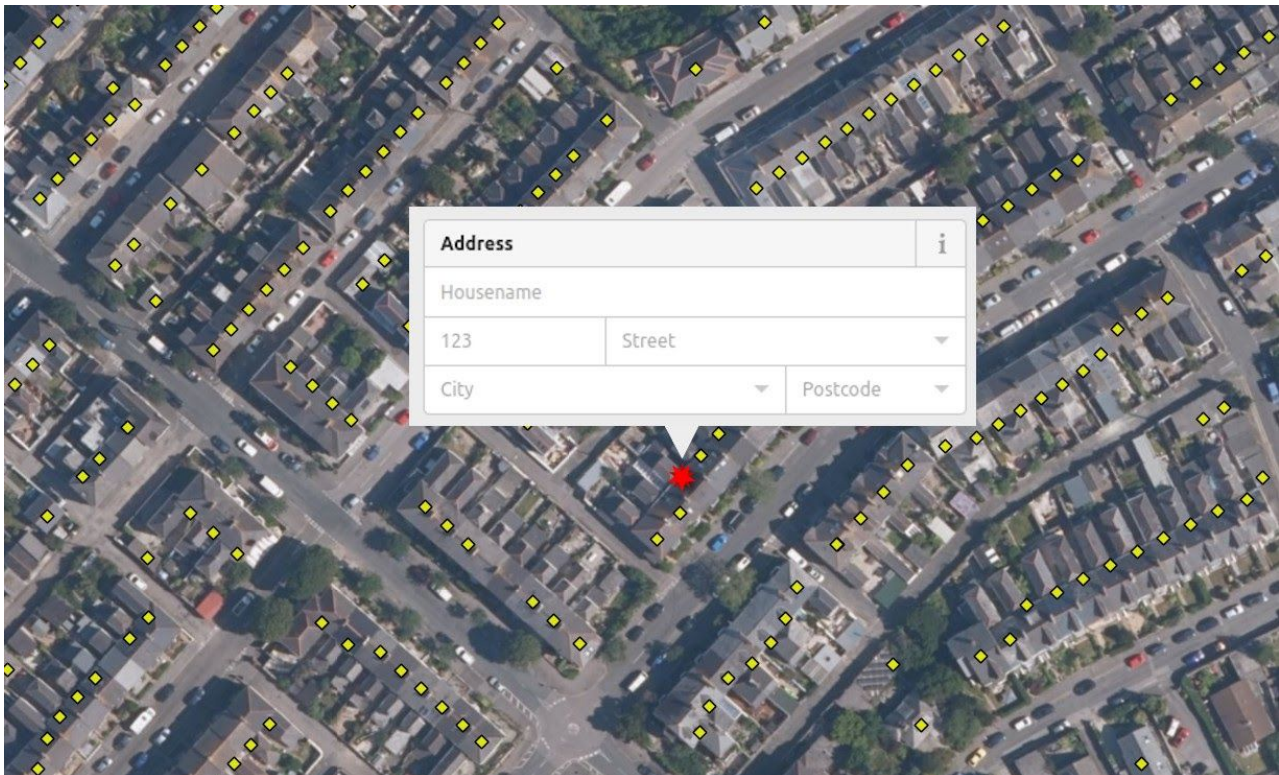


Figure 2: Entering addresses can be sped up by using the predicted addressable locations.

About us

OpenStreetMap United Kingdom (OSMUK) represents the interests of the OpenStreetMap community in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands. Our members contribute to, are users of, or otherwise have an interest in, the OpenStreetMap project.

The OpenStreetMap project was founded in the UK in 2004, with the goal of creating an openly licensed map of the world. It has subsequently grown to become one of the most successful collaboratively maintained open datasets in the world. This success has meant that OpenStreetMap has become part of the global geospatial data infrastructure and is supported by a rich ecosystem of individuals, community groups, small businesses and multinational organisations.

As a not for profit community interest company, we are delighted to be able to support our community and we will strive to be a leading player within the OpenStreetMap project. We aim to:

- Increase the quality and quantity of data about the UK in OpenStreetMap.
- Improve and increase the size, skills, toolsets and cohesion of the OpenStreetMap community in the United Kingdom.
- Promote and facilitate the use of OpenStreetMap data by individuals and organisations in the United Kingdom.
- Promote and facilitate the release by organisations in the United Kingdom of data that is suitable for use in OpenStreetMap.

Our relationship to the OSME

The OpenStreetMap Foundation (OSMF) is an international non-profit organisation supporting but not controlling the OpenStreetMap project. Although the OSMF is also a company registered in England and Wales, it's scope is global.

We became a Local Chapter of the OpenStreetMap Foundation (OSMF) in 2017. The agreement established a framework of mutual support and recognised that OSMUK will represent the interests of the OpenStreetMap community within our designated geographic region as defined above.