



Meridian™ 2

User guide and technical specification

Meridian 2

User guide

Contents

Section	Page no	
User guide	3	
Preface	3	
Contact details	3	
Use of the product	3	
Purpose and disclaimer	3	
Copyright in this guide	3	
Data copyright and other intellectual property rights	4	
Trademarks	4	
Back-up provision of the product	4	
Using this guide	4	
Chapter 1	Introduction	5
OS Opendata	5	
Meridian 2 features	5	
Applications of Meridian 2	5	
What you need to use Meridian 2	6	
Computer hardware	6	
Computer software	6	
Supply	6	
Meridian 2 supply options	6	
Meridian 2 supply formats	7	
Meridian 2 supply media	7	
Chapter 2	High-level product overview	8
Source of Meridian 2	8	
Currency	8	
Accuracy and resolution	8	
Completeness	9	
Meridian general specifications	9	
Chapter 3	The National Grid	10
Chapter 4	Data measures	11
Annexe A	Metadata	12
Annexe B	Product and service performance report form	13

v5.7 –04/2011

D05300_01

User guide

Preface

This user guide (hereafter referred to as the guide) is designed to provide an overview of Meridian 2 (hereafter referred to as the product) and it gives guidelines and advice on how a customer might derive the maximum benefit from the product. It assumes a general knowledge of geographic information. If you find an error or omission in this guide, or otherwise wish to make a comment or suggestion as to how we can improve it, please contact us at the address shown below or complete the product and service performance report form at [annexe A](#) and return it to us.

Contact details

Our Customer Service Centre will be pleased to deal with your enquiries:

Customer Service Centre
Ordnance Survey
Adanac Drive
SOUTHAMPTON
SO16 0AS

General enquiries (calls charged at local rate): +44 (0)8456 05 05 05

Dedicated Welsh Language HelpLine: 08456 05 05 04

Textphone (deaf and hard of hearing users only please): +44 (0)23 8005 6146

customerservices@ordnancesurvey.co.uk

www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

This document has been screened in accordance with Ordnance Survey's Equality scheme. If you have difficulty reading this information in its current format and would like to find out how to access it in a different format (Braille, large print, computer disk or in another language), please contact us on: +44 (0)8456 05 05 05.

Use of the product

The product is made available to you and your organisation on the terms of the OS OpenData™ Licence at www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/opendata/licence.

If there is any inconsistency between the terms of the licence and this guide, the terms of the licence prevail.

Purpose and disclaimer

This guide is provided for guidance only and does not constitute any warranty, representation, undertaking, commitment or obligation (express or implied) about the product or its suitability for any particular purpose. It is your responsibility to ensure that this product is suitable for your intended purpose.

Ordnance Survey does not accept any liability (whether for breach of contract, negligence or otherwise) for any loss or liability you or any third party may suffer in relying on this guide and any guidance, suggestion, advice or explanation provided in it. Ordnance Survey's liability to you in relation to the product is limited, as set out in the OS OpenData Licence.

We may change the information in this guide at any time without notice.

We do not accept responsibility for the content of any third party websites, referenced in, or accessed through, this guide or through the Ordnance Survey website.

Copyright in this guide

This guide is © Crown copyright 2010.

You may copy or distribute any part of this guide to support the use of OS OpenData, including for your personal use, use in your organisation or business, or for use with, or incorporation in, your product or application.

Data copyright and other intellectual property rights

The Crown (or, where applicable, Ordnance Survey's suppliers) owns the intellectual property rights in the data contained in this product. You are free to use the product on the terms of the OS OpenData Licence, but must acknowledge the source of the data by including the following attribution statement: Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

Trademarks

Ordnance Survey, the OS Symbol, Land-Form PANORAMA, OS MasterMap, Landranger and Strategi are registered trademarks and Boundary-Line and Meridian are trademarks of Ordnance Survey, the national mapping agency of Great Britain.

Adobe and Acrobat Reader are registered trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated. ArcInfo, ArcView and ESRI are registered trademarks of Environmental Systems Research Institute Inc. MapInfo is a registered trademark of MapInfo Corporation. Microsoft is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation. Unisys is a registered trademark of Unisys Corporation. Helvetica and Univers are registered trademarks and Times is a trademark of Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG.

Back-up provision of the product

You are advised to copy the supplied data to a back-up medium.

Using this guide

The documentation is supplied in portable document format (PDF) only. Free Adobe® Acrobat Reader® software, which displays the guide, incorporates search and zoom facilities and allows you to navigate within. Hyperlinks are used to navigate between associated parts of the guide and to relevant Internet resources by clicking on the blue hyperlinks and the table of contents.

If you are unfamiliar with any words or terms used and require clarification please refer to the [glossary](#) at the end of the document.

Chapter 1 Introduction

The concepts of Meridian 2 are explained fully in [chapter 2](#).

Meridian 2 is supplied as data only and does not include software for data viewing or manipulation. Meridian 2 is supplied in NTF or DXF and will require specific software such as GIS or CAD.

NTF is a nationally agreed standard for the transfer of geographical data. NTF allows users of GIS to customise their own definition of the data for display and/or plotting for their specific applications.

Meridian 2 is also available as data in Mid/Mif and Shapefile formats, which require specific software such as MapInfo® Professional or ArcView®.

The database has been derived from Ordnance Survey's existing large and small-scale digital databases.

OS Opendata

On 1 April 2010 Meridian 2 was made available as part of OS OpenData in DXF and ESRI Shapefile formats. Prior to OS OpenData release, Meridian 2 was available as a licensed product and formats included NTF and Mid/Mif. This user guide and technical specification includes all formats in order to support new and existing users. Please refer to [Meridian 2 supply options](#) in this user guide.

Meridian 2 features

- Meridian 2 has feature codes that allow everything in the database to be allocated to a specific category; users can group like features for search, display and output routines.
- Meridian 2 is defined as a limited link-and-node structure within each layer. It contains points, lines and nodes. Nodes have pointers to lines that join at the node and, similarly, there are lines that enclose an area containing a point. Some points are not contained within areas enclosed by lines.
- Department for Transport (DfT) road classification numbers are stored in attribute records and are applied to features such as roads. Names applying to administrative areas and developed land use areas are also included in the attribute record of the appropriate point feature.
- Annual updating of many of the source databases ensures that high standards of currency and integrity are maintained. The road network in Meridian 2 is a derived and simplified network that has been produced from Ordnance Survey Roads Database.

Applications of Meridian 2

There are many potential applications for Meridian 2. These include:

- Environmental analysis.
- Flood areas analysis.
- Land management.
- Commercial and/or business site development.
- Retail and/or wholesale trades.
- Distribution networks:
 - store and/or warehouse locations; and
 - strategic business expansion and/or development.
- Marketing and media planning:
 - sales force locations and/or territories;
 - sales prospecting;
 - market analysis of customers, competitors or outlet densities;
 - market analysis of direct mail responses;
 - poster distribution;
 - TV and/or radio advertising regions; and

- product and/or brand promotion campaigns.
- Financial/insurance:
 - customer bases; and
 - high/low-risk areas.
- Health:
 - community health; and
 - health black spots.
- Leisure activities:
 - large site planning, for example, golf courses;
 - tourism; and
 - theme park locations.

What you need to use Meridian 2

Computer hardware

This product may be used on a wide range of hardware platforms (provided sufficient memory and storage facilities are available), varying from desktop PCs using GIS or CAD to mainframe computers with specialised translators and applications.

Computer software

Meridian 2 is supplied as inert data and does not include software for data manipulation. To exploit fully the potential of Meridian 2, it is necessary to use appropriate application software such as GIS or CAD.



NTF allows users of GIS to customise their own definition of the data and/or plotting for their specific applications. The parameters defining colours, line styles, text styles, symbols and so on should be built into user software. Meridian 2 may be customised by viewing or plotting features in different colours, line styles and scales to suit different applications. Certain classes of features may be omitted from customised plans on the basis of selection by feature code.



DXF is designed for use with Autodesk® Ltd CAD software, particularly AutoCAD. The parameters defining colours, line styles, text styles, symbols and so on are embedded within the DXF file, as is customary with this CAD format.

Please check with your supplier if you are unsure of your CAD system's compatibility with Meridian 2.

Meridian is also available as data in Mid/Mif and shapefile formats, which require specific software such as MapInfo Professional or ArcView.

Supply

Meridian 2 supply options

The options for data supply are as follows:

- Combined theme: all layers.
- Communication theme: cartographic names, roads and railways, boundaries and coastline.
- Topographic theme: boundaries and coastline, developed land use areas (DLUAs), cartographic names, hydrology, woodlands and gridded height.

NOTE: Gridded height is supplied with the Meridian 2 supply options but on a separate CD.

All themes are available as:

- Complete national cover of Great Britain (2 848 tiles).
- England.
- Scotland.
- Wales.

(These areas correspond with Nomenclature des Unites Territoriales Statistique (NUTS) Level 1 Areas.)

- 10 km by 10 km DXF tiles.

Meridian 2 supply formats

Meridian 2 is available in the following formats for OS OpenData:

- DXF (conforming to AutoCAD release 12 with extended entity data).
- Shapefile (ESRI®).

Meridian 2 supply media

Data is supplied on DVD or as an online download for OS OpenData customers.

Data supply structures:

MID/MIF Root directory

|_Doc
|_|_MERIDIAN2_RELEASE_1*_2011**_CHANGE.TXT
|_Data
|_Data files

DXF and NTF Root directory

|_Doc
|_|_MERIDIAN2_RELEASE_1*_2011**_CHANGE.TXT
|_Data
|_100k Folder structure (for example, TQ)
|_Data files

SHAPE Root directory

|_Doc
|_|_MERIDIAN2_RELEASE_1*_2011**_CHANGE.TXT
|_Data
|_cartotext
|_info
|_Data files

*This number will change to reflect the issue

*The year changes to reflect the year of release.

Chapter 2 High-level product overview

Source of Meridian 2

Meridian 2 data are derived from large-scale and small-scale digital databases. The data capture source and scales are:

Feature	Original data source	Source scales
Road network	Roads centrelines Ordnance Survey Roads Database	1:1250, 1:2500 and 1:10 000
Railways	Large-scale database	1:1250, 1:2500 and 1:10 000
County, district and London borough for England	Boundary-Line™	1:10 000
Unitary authority areas for Wales	Boundary-Line	1:10 000
Unitary authority areas for Scotland	Boundary-Line	1:10 000
Coastline	Landranger®	1:50 000
Developed land use areas and place names	Strategi®	1:250 000
Hydrology	Strategi	1:250 000
Woodlands	Strategi	1:250 000
Gridded height	Land-Form PANORAMA®	1:50 000
Cartographic text	Strategi	1:250 000

Currency

Meridian 2 data is derived from the latest available versions of Ordnance Survey's databases. The Meridian 2 dataset will be refreshed twice a year.

The large- and small-scale databases are controlled by the revision criteria for topography that are defined by Ordnance Survey for the various geographical areas.

Accuracy and resolution

The resolution of the data supplied is one metre. Meridian 2 data retains the same accuracy as the source data during its capture; however, it is not possible to calculate meaningful accuracy criteria for these data due to different source databases.

The Ordnance Survey Roads Database used to have a 20 metre filter applied to the centreline, which was supplied to a one metre resolution. Since the source data of Meridian 2 has changed this 20m rule no longer applies as the source data is intrinsically more accurate.

During the updating of the road data, there is a comparison buffer created – around the existing road data – to detect change. This buffer is set to three metres either side of a feature, five metres at each end, and 10% of the length.

Administrative areas have a 20 metre lateral filter applied to the boundary. The 20 metre filter does not affect the positional accuracy of node points.

Features derived from the small-scale databases have been subjected to generalisation – information is cartographically represented in areas where accurate positional representation would cause confusing clutter on the viewed image. To maintain positional relationships, such data has been further adjusted to fit the hierarchy where necessary.

Completeness

During production, many checks are undertaken to ensure that data supplied to customers are both accurate and complete. During digital manipulation in creating the upgraded data, all sources of that data are checked against specification documentation to identify whether any features have been omitted or misaligned.

These quality control checks take the form of:

- visual checks by operators;
- independent quality assurance checks; and
- computer validation with the specification.

Meridian general specifications

The following gives details of the product specification identity and its relationship to Ordnance Survey data capture specifications. Version details of these specifications are also stated.

Product	Product specification			
Meridian 2	Meridian_02.00			
Transfer format specifications				
Name	NTF (BS 7567)	DXF (Release 12)	Shape	MID/MIF
Level	3			
Version	2	1		
Issue date	15 May 1992	1 January 1997		

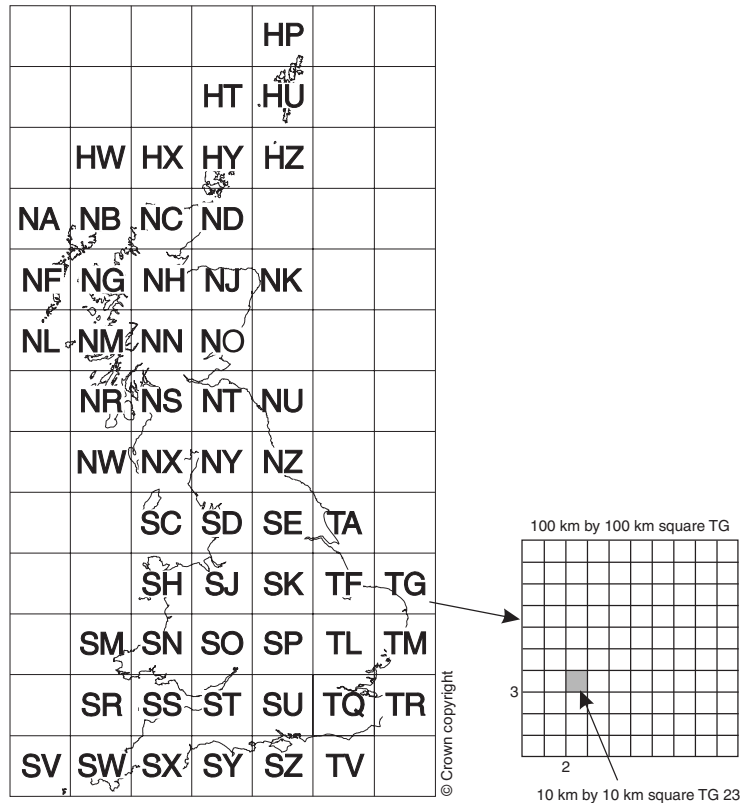
Chapter 3 The National Grid

Meridian 2 tiles are identified by quoting the National Grid reference of the south-west corner of the area they cover. The Ordnance Survey National Grid divides Great Britain into squares 100 km by 100 km. Each of these squares has a unique two-letter reference, for example, TG in the diagram below.

Each Meridian 2, 10 km by 10 km tile is described by adding a two-digit reference to the 100 km by 100 km square reference, with the easting first followed by the northing, for example, TG23.

For additional information on how to use the National Grid, visit Ordnance Survey's website at:

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/>



Chapter 4 Data measures

Ordnance Survey measures the data in its products in one or more of the ways set out in table 1 below.

Table 1 Definitions of data measures

Data measure	Definition	Sub-measure	Definition
Completeness	Presence and absence of features against the specified data content*	Omission	Features representing objects that conform to the specified data content but are not present in the data
		Commission	Features representing objects that do not conform to the specified data content but are present in the data
Logical consistency	Degree of adherence to logical rules of data structure, attribution and relationships	Conceptual consistency	How closely the data follows the conceptual rules (or model)
		Domain consistency	How closely the data values in the dataset match the range of values in the dataset specification
		Format consistency	The physical structure (syntax): how closely the data stored and delivered fits the database schema and agreed supply formats
		Topological consistency	The explicit topological references between features (connectivity) – according to specification
Positional accuracy	Accuracy of the position of features	Absolute accuracy	How closely the coordinates of a point in the dataset agree with the coordinates of the same point on the ground (in the British National Grid reference system)
		Relative accuracy	Positional consistency of a data point or feature in relation to other local data points or features within the same or another reference dataset
		Geometric fidelity	The 'trueness' of features to the shapes and alignments of the objects they represent*
Temporal accuracy	Accuracy of temporal attributes and temporal relationships of features	Temporal consistency	How well ordered events are recorded in the dataset (life cycles)
		Temporal validity (currency)	Validity of data with respect to time: the amount of real-world change that has been incorporated in the dataset that is scheduled for capture under current specifications
Thematic accuracy (attribute accuracy)	Classification of features and their attributes	Classification correctness	How accurately the attributes within the dataset record the information about objects*

*When testing the data according to the dataset specification against the 'real world' or reference dataset.

Annexe A Metadata

ISO 19115 compliant UK GEMINI discovery level metadata is provided for the data and can be found on the Glgateway® (www.glgateway.org.uk)

The following is a detailed description of the metadata elements that are provided on the Glgateway:

Title: The title of the product.

Abstract: The abstract gives a brief description of the product.

Currency: The currency takes the form of date of last update for the feature.

Lineage: The lineage metadata takes the form of product specification name and date of product specification.

Spatial extent: The spatial extent is supplied in the form of geographic identifiers (for example, England, Scotland and Wales) and in the form of geographic coordinates.

Spatial reference system: The spatial reference system for all products takes the form of a British National Grid system, namely OSGB36®.

Data format: Data format takes the form of the name of the format or formats the product is supplied in.

Frequency of updates: Frequency of update takes the form of a stated period of time.

Distributor contact details: Distributor contact details include with postal address, phone number, fax number, email address and website.

Data originator: Given as the company having primary responsibility for the intellectual content of the data source; in all cases this will be Ordnance Survey.

Other metadata available includes keywords, start date of data capture, access constraints, use constraints, level of spatial data, supply media and presentation details.

Annexe B Product and service performance report form

Ordnance Survey welcomes feedback from its customers about Meridian 2.

If you would like to share your thoughts with us, please print a copy of this form and when completed post or fax it to the address below.

Your name:

Organisation:

Address:

.....

.....

Postcode:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Quotation or order reference:

Please record your comments or feedback in the space below. We will acknowledge receipt of your form within three (3) working days and provide you with a full reply or a status report within 21 working days.

If you are posting this form, please send it to:

Meridian 2 Product Manager, Ordnance Survey, Adanac Drive, SOUTHAMPTON, SO16 0AS.

Any personal information that you supply with this report form will be used by Ordnance Survey only in the improvement of its products and services. It will not be made available to third parties.

Meridian 2

Technical specification

Contents

Section	Page no
Introduction	17
Purpose of this specification and disclaimer	17
Copyright in this specification	17
Data copyright and other intellectual property rights	17
Chapter 1	18
Overview of Meridian 2	18
Using this technical specification	18
Data overview	18
Basic principles	18
Meridian 2 vector data structure	18
Chapter 2	20
Meridian explained	20
Features	20
Points and lines	20
Feature position	21
Feature attribute data	22
Feature codes	22
Names as attributes	22
Road number (RN) attribute	22
Trunk road (TR) attribute	22
Line length (LL) attribute	23
Link level at node	23
Proper name (PN) attribute	24
Roundabout (RT) attribute	24
Junction name (JN) attribute	24
Settlement name (SN) attribute	24
Unique identifiers	24
Feature layer descriptions	25
Chapter 3	29
NTF explained	29
An overview of Meridian 2 in NTF	29
Jackson structure	30
Transfer set structure	31
Record size	31
Record terminator {EOR}	31
Supply of data on formatted media	31
Version management	32
General	33
Section body	33
Point and line features	33
Name detail	34
Node detail	34
Feature information relevant to NTF	35
Point features	35
Line features	35
Coordinates	35
Bearings	35
Attribute codes	35
Unique identifiers	36
Record IDs	36
Feature layers	37
Roads	37
Railways	37
Administrative areas and coastline	37
Developed land use areas (DLUA)	37
Cartographic names	37
Hydrology	38

	Woodlands	38
	Height	38
Chapter 4	Record structures for the transfer of Meridian 2 in NTF	39
	NTF Record List	39
	Volume Header Record [VOLHDREC] 01	40
	Database Header Record [DBHREC] 02	41
	Feature Classification Record [FEATCLASS] 05	42
	Section Header Record [SECHREC] 07	43
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for road links	44
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for road nodes	45
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for administrative area links (county, district, coastline and neat line)	46
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for administrative area points and/or seeds	47
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for nodes (administrative areas, DLUA, coastline and railway, hydrology and woodlands) and/or edge nodes (all layers)	48
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for DLUA links	48
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for DLUA points and/or seeds	48
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for cartographic name text	49
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for railway links	49
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for railway station nodes	50
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for water link features	50
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for water area seeds	51
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for administrative area points and/or seeds	51
	Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for gridded height point	52
	Point Feature Record [POINTREC] 15	52
	Node Record [NODEREC] 16	53
	Two-dimensional Geometry Record [GEOMETRY1] 21 associated with POINTREC	54
	Two-dimensional Geometry Record [GEOMETRY1] 21 associated with LINEREC	54
	Line Feature Record [LINEREC] 23	55
	Attribute Description Record [ATTDESC] 40	55
	Text Record [TEXTREC] 43	56
	Text Position Record [TEXTPOS] 44	56
	Text Representation Record [TEXTREP] 45	57
	Comment Record [COMMENT] 90	57
	Volume Terminator Record [VOLTERM] 99	58
Chapter 5	DXF explained	59
	An overview of Meridian 2 in DXF	59
	DXF	59
	Structure of Meridian 2 in DXF	59
	Line features	59
	Area features	59
	Name features	60
	Drawing content and format	60
	Coordinate system	60
	Height	60
	Layer names	60
	Neatline	60
	Grid	60
	Grid values	60
	Meridian 2 DXF layers	61
	DXF footnotes	63
Chapter 6	DXF file structure for Meridian 2	64
	General	64
	Data structure	64
	Header	65
	Tables	67
	Blocks	71
	Entities section	72
	End of File group	76
Chapter 7	An overview of Meridian 2 in Mid/Mif	77
	Meridian 2 is available in Mid/Mif	77
	Structure of Meridian 2 in MapInfo	77
	Line features	77

	Area features	77
	Names features.....	77
	Drawing content and format.....	78
	Coordinate system.....	78
	Height.....	78
	Layer names	78
	Neatline.....	78
	Grid	78
	Grid values.....	78
	Important information.....	78
Chapter 8	An overview of Meridian 2 in ESRI shapefile	79
	Shapefile Symbology table	79
Annexe A	Glossary.....	81
Annexe B	Meridian 2: (MapInfo) Mid/Mif layers	89
	Important information.....	89
	Roads – post 1 January 2000–current; FC 3000 full specification of Roads Database, tiles as 10 km by 10 km.....	90
	Administrative areas and Coastline	90
	Developed land use area (DLUA).....	90
	Railways.....	91
	Cartographic names.....	91
	Hydrology.....	91
	Woodlands	92
	Height.....	92
	Roads – prior to 1 January 2000; FC 6000 stripped Roads Database, tiles as 20 km by 20 km	92
	MIF file format.....	92
	Admin_In, coast_In, rail_In, DLUA, lake, river, woodland and station column definition	93
	Text column definition	93
	County and district column definitions	93
	A_road, b_road, minor_rd and motorway column definitions	93
	Gridded Height*	93
	Settlement, junction, rndabout and roadnode column definitions.....	94
	Example	94

Introduction

Purpose of this specification and disclaimer

This is the technical specification (hereafter referred to as the specification) applicable to the Meridian 2 (hereafter referred to as the product).

We may change the information in this specification at any time.

We do not accept responsibility for the content of any third party websites referenced in or accessed through this guide or through the Ordnance Survey website.

Copyright in this specification

This guide is © Crown copyright 2010.

You may copy or distribute any part of this specification to support the use of OS OpenData, including for your personal use, use in your organisation or business, or for use with, or incorporation in, your product or application.

Data copyright and other intellectual property rights

The Crown (or, where applicable, Ordnance Survey's suppliers) owns the intellectual property rights in the data contained in this product. You are free to use the product on the terms of the OS OpenData Licence, but must acknowledge the source of the data by including the following attribution statement: Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010.

Chapter 1 Overview of Meridian 2

Using this technical specification

Please refer to the glossary if you are unfamiliar with any of the words or terms used. The glossary can be found at [annexe A](#) (attached after the technical specification).

Data overview

Basic principles

Links represent roads, railways, administrative areas, coastline, DLUA, inland water and woodland area lines.

Nodes represent all intersections of links within each layer, changes in attributes in links and link ends.

Each feature has associated geometry; this may be a single coordinate pair for a single point feature for a railway station, or two or more coordinate pairs for a linear feature.

Each feature is classified by means of a feature code.

Roads, railways, railway stations, administrative area seed points, DLUA seed points, inland water and woodland area seed points have unique identifiers.

Meridian 2 vector data structure

Meridian 2 data within each layer is supplied as vector data, in a link and node structure. Geographical features are represented as data entities, either as points or lines. Points are fixed positionally by one coordinate pair, for example, a railway station. Lines are fixed positionally by a series of connected coordinate points to represent linear map features such as roads, railways and so on. Points and lines within the data model determine the geometric (positional) characteristics of the data.

Points and lines within the data model also have associated attributes. These give the point and line entities meaning; that is, they represent the descriptive characteristic of an entity such as a feature code, a name or numerical value. Lines are also added as closing links (neat lines) along tile edges; these are required to complete the enclosure of an area. The closing link has a different feature code to the other links enclosing the area.

Throughout Meridian 2, no line feature crosses from one tile to the next, however a point feature created at the tile edge has the same coordinate value as its partner on the adjacent tile.



All features having the same feature code are recorded on the same layer. DXF has a limited link and node structure; within this structure, a feature may be a name, point, or line. Each feature is free-standing; that is, its topological relationship to any other feature is not expressed in the data.

Other important data structure concepts include **networks** and **polygons**.

Networks are interconnecting features structurally related by means of an explicit point described as a node. Between the nodes are series of non-intersecting line segments described as links; hence **link** and **node** – see [figure 2.1](#). This is of special interest in GIS where there may be a need to analyse the network in order to follow routes or to close polygons.

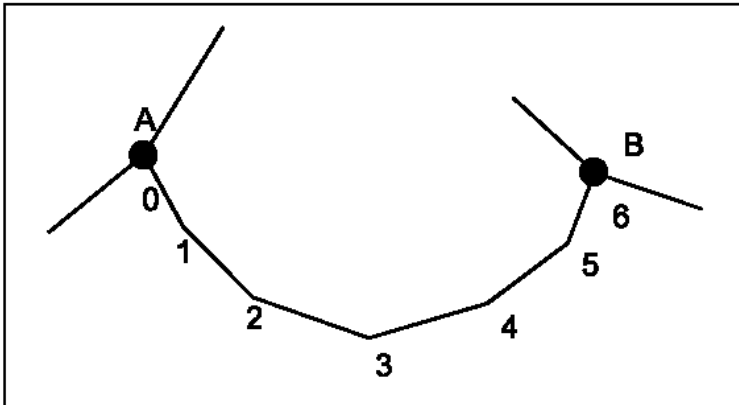
Proprietary GIS software can be used to build and maintain networks for linear features such as roads, railways and so on, and provides the functionality to store, manage and manipulate this data.

However, caution is advised in constructing a network with the intention of using this as a de facto routing solution; Meridian 2 contains a generalised road network and will therefore not contain every road in GB. Also, Meridian 2 does not contain information on drive restrictions such as one way streets or prohibited turning for example.

The properties of Meridian 2 make it a suitable basis for users wishing to develop applications using Meridian 2 together with their own data. As Meridian 2 is based on the National Grid, there is a simple way of overlaying users' own data provided the position is given within the National Grid.

The National Grid, as it applies to Meridian 2, is explained in [chapter 3](#) in the user guide section of this document.

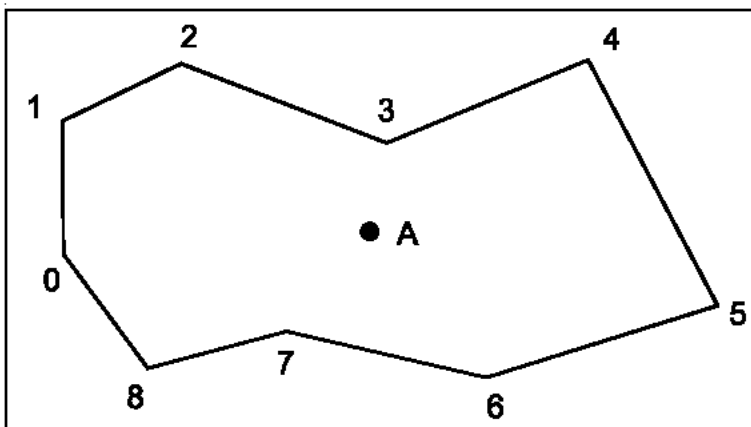
Figure 2.1: Link and node



Points A and B are nodes, as they intersect with other features. The line A–B is the link, and, in this example, is made up of six individual line segments.

Polygons are continuous areas defined by sets of bounding closed lines. These are implicit within the data, but can be explicitly created with appropriate software. Stored within recognisable polygons are **seed points**, which hold information about that polygon, for example, a county name.

Figure 2.2: Polygon



Point A is the polygon seed point for the area: attached to this point are attributes such as the feature code, which defines the polygon and its definitive name. These attributes may be transferred to the polygon itself. The polygon in this example comprises nine individual line segments.

There are also free-standing points, which are not associated with a defining polygon, for example, Liverpool Lime Street Station.

Chapter 2 Meridian explained

Features

Meridian 2 has two feature classes:

- Point features.
- Line features.

In Shape and MidMif lines have been converted to polygons for specific features.

Point features, such as administrative area seed points, and line features, such as roads, railways, and developed land use areas, are arranged into recognisable categories. A full listing of individual features is given in [chapter 3](#) of the technical specification.

Each feature has two components:

- Feature position.
- Feature attributes data.

Also explained in this chapter:

- Feature layer descriptions.



Each feature recorded in Meridian 2 should be considered as a DXF entity. Line features are recorded as DXF line(s) or polyline(s).

Point features will be recorded in the data as INSERT BLOCKS. Certain standard symbols are defined in the BLOCKS section of the data file. A list of these standard symbols is shown in [chapter 5](#). Attributes are stored as extended entity data.

Points and lines

Real-world geographic features are represented in the digital map data as structures of lines and points. Each point or line has a geometric and attribute component.

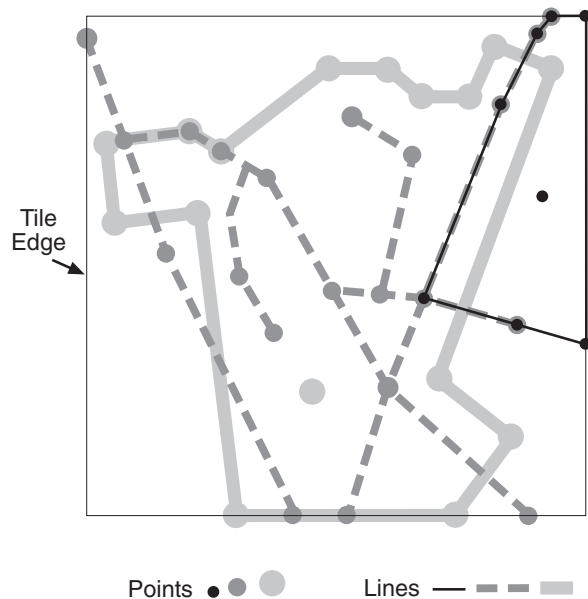
The geometric component defines the positional characteristic of the feature, and implicit relationships exist between points and lines based on relative position. The attribute component defines the descriptive characteristics of the feature.

Points may exist independently of lines.

A diagrammatic example of a geometric structure is shown in figure 2.1a.

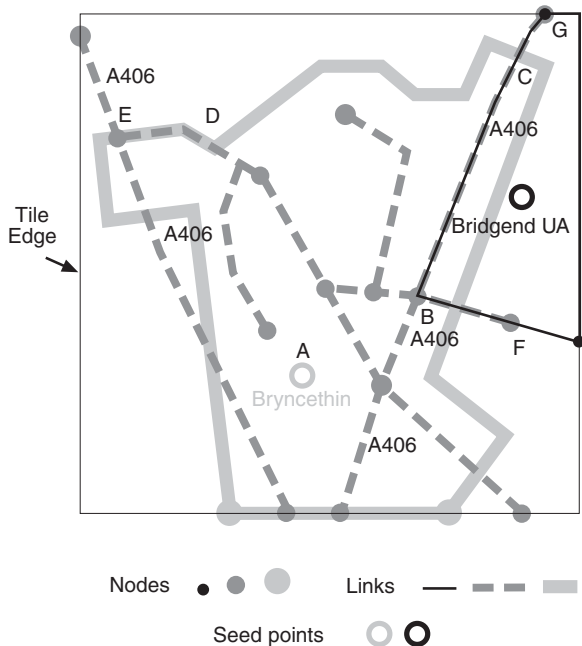
Figure 2.1a: A geometric structure of points and lines.

Solid black, grey and broken grey lines and associated points are on different layers.



Points and lines from the geometric structure become features when an attribute, the feature code, has been added, for example, DLUA seed points are created from points, or DLUA boundaries from lines.

Figure 2.1b: The same geometric structure as features.



The same geometric structure as features.

Solid black, greys, and broken grey are on different layers.

In figure 2.1b:

Point A is a seed point with a feature code that identifies it as a DLUA; the seed point also carries its name attribute – Bryncethin.

Point B is a coordinate junction between intersecting features – in this case, where a minor road intersects with the A406. This is an example of a node.

Point C is a position where the A406 in one layer crosses the DLUA boundary in another layer. There is no node at this point.

Some points and lines are common to more than one feature, as in figure 2.1b. Features between D–E and G–B–F are overlapping features and are stored separately within each layer of data.

Separate storage of overlapping features

Figure 2.1c: Roads

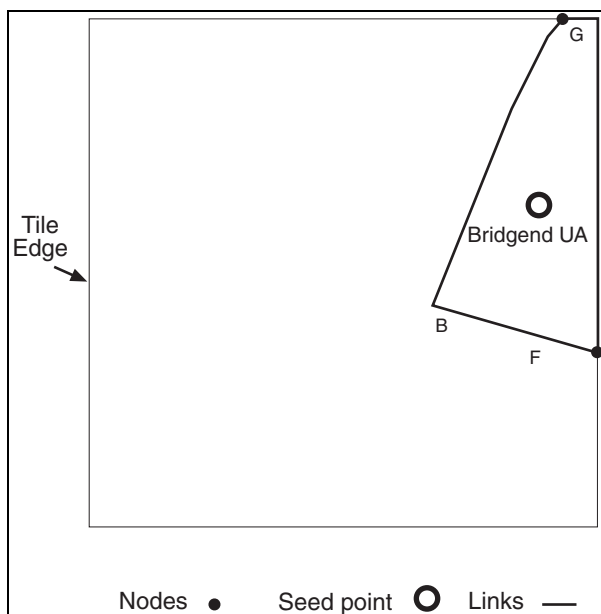
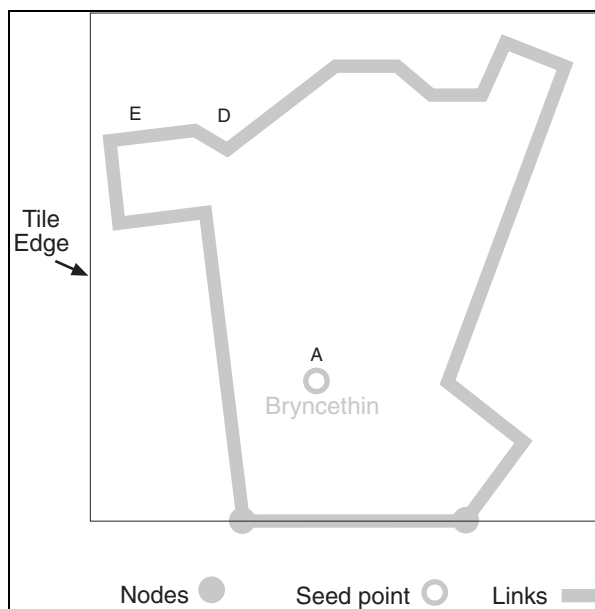


Figure 2.1d: DLUA



In figures 2.1c and 2.1d, line G–B–F is common to the A406, the minor road and administrative area boundary, the DLUA boundary; the geometry of each feature is stored separately.

Feature position

The geometry of map features is defined in terms of coordinates. All coordinates used in Meridian 2 are based on the National Grid coordinate referencing system and are quoted to a resolution of one metre.

The National Grid, as it applies to Meridian 2, is explained more fully in [chapter 3](#) of the user guide.

Feature attribute data

An attribute is the descriptive characteristic of a feature, that is, a non-spatial element.

The geometry of the points and lines within the data would be meaningless to the user unless they are assigned some distinguishing property. In Ordnance Survey map data terms, an attribute can be a feature code (in NTF these are numeric codes), for example, 3000, or a distinctive name or number, for example, Birmingham or M40.

Attribute codes relevant to NTF are listed and described within [chapter 3](#) of the technical specification but an overview is given below.

Feature codes

Each feature is classified by means of a feature code (FC). A feature code is allocated when each feature is initially interpreted and captured from the map base. In this way, an A road is distinguished from a B road and other kinds of line feature by the feature code allocated to it.



Each feature is classified as belonging to a specific feature code. These feature codes are listed in [chapter 3](#).



Each feature is classified as belonging to a specific feature layer. These layers range in value from G8050570 to G8056801; see the AutoCAD publication *Layer Naming Convention for CAD in the Construction Industry*, version 2, based upon guidelines in BS 1192: Part 5 – *Guide for structuring of computer graphic information*. These feature layers are listed in [chapter 5](#). Attributes are stored as extended entity data.

An additional text feature code for layout of footnotes is included. This feature code is listed in [chapter 5](#).

These differences in the data are inferred during translation from Ordnance Survey's internal data format to the required customer transfer format.

Names as attributes

The criteria for names attribute attachment are:

- Admin name (NM) is an attribute of a seed point in its administrative area, for example, Hampshire County.
- Proper name (PN) is an attribute of a seed point in a DLUA, for example, Bexhill, or a node point for a railway station, for example, Great Ayton Station.
- Text (TX) is a text string transferred in an attribute record to be displayed as stand-alone cartographic text, for example, Southampton – a place name.
- Hydrology (WA) is an attribute of a seed point in a water area.
- Woodlands (FA) are an attribute of a seed point in a woodland area.

Road number (RN) attribute

This attribute defines the DfT road classification number – for example, M40 – that relates to a link. If a road is not classified, then this attribute will not be present.

Trunk road (TR) attribute

This attribute defines whether the link forms part of a trunk road. If it is, then the link will have a trunk road attribute with a value of Y; if it is not a trunk road, then there will be no value in this field.

Line length (LL) attribute

This attribute defines the length of the link in metres and will be present for all link records. It is calculated from the planimetric coordinates making up the link and does not take into account the effect of slope.

OSODR attribute

This attribute defines the Ordnance Survey Roads Database Reference (OSODR). This will uniquely identify any link or node within the national Roads dataset. The OSODR will be used as the unique identifier for each link and node, rather than the NTF identifiers. The NTF identifiers will be unique within each tile that is supplied.

A road object is part of a road between nodes (junctions) uninterrupted by tile or map edges.

An OSODR refers not just to a single link but may refer to many links that make up a road object – which may be chained together across tile edges. Thus, on adjoining tiles there may be two or more links with the same OSODRs. This attribute applies to links and nodes. It will be present for all features.

An OSODR has been assigned to all existing features (links and nodes) in the Roads Database. Any features that are new to Roads after the initial allocation will be assigned an OSODR when they are loaded to the database.

The OSODR for a feature will never be modified – only created and deleted. However, there may be many changes to a feature with a specific OSODR during the lifetime of that OSODR allocation. There are two reasons for changes. These are:

- 1 The coordinates of the feature may move within a specified tolerance – currently three metres either side of a link, 10% of its length, and five metres movement of any node.
- 2 The attributes associated with a feature may change. Any changes to these attributes will not affect the OSODR allocated to that feature.

The following attributes may change for link features:

- feature code;
- length of link;
- road name;
- road number; and
- trunk road indicator.

The following attributes may change for node features:

- direction of links at node;
- feature code;
- junction name;
- number of links at node;
- level of link at node; and
- settlement name.

If a feature is deleted from the Roads Database, then the OSODR allocated to that feature will cease to exist.

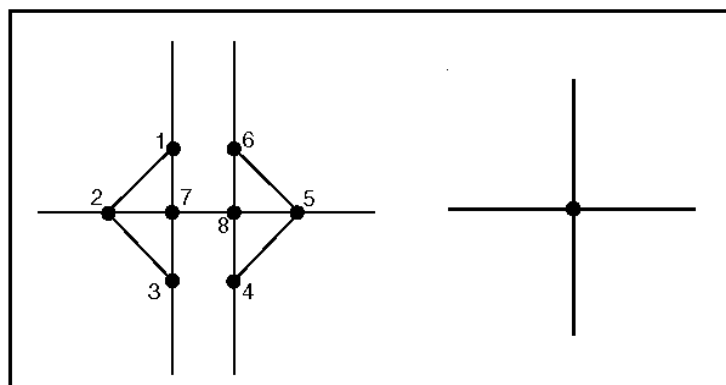
Link level at node

The level field in Node Record 16 indicates – for roads – the relative height relationship between intersecting links at a node. It does not relate to ground surface level. If a road over a bridge can be accessed then a level value of 0 is used; a value of 1 used when there is no access from one road to the other at an intersection. See figure 2.2.

Figure 2.2: Grade separation

In this instance, the single node will show a level 0 for all links in Node Record 16 as it is possible to access any carriageway from any approach road.

A bridge over a road that cannot be accessed will show a level value of 1.



Proper name (PN) attribute

This attribute defines the road name associated with any link in the Roads Database. If a link does not have a proper name then the attribute will not be present. Where the road is otherwise not named and part of a named estate, the estate name will be allocated to the road.

Roundabout (RT) attribute

This attribute defines whether a node is a generalised representation of a roundabout in the Meridian 2 road data. If it is, then the node will have a roundabout attribute with a value of Y.

Junction name (JN) attribute

This attribute indicates the junction number of motorway junctions and the other classified roads at that junction. The junction name is variable length text, and is in the format M6J10A, where M6 is the DfT road number, and J10A indicates that this is the junction numbered 10A of the M6. If the junction has no junction number, then that part of the junction name is not supplied.

There could be any number of roads at a junction; therefore, each classified road at that junction may be repeated in the junction name attribute. An oblique character (/) separates each road number and junction. The following is an example of a junction name attribute:

M40J1/A40/A413/A4020

This attribute only applies to nodes. If the node does not have a junction name, then this attribute is not present.

Settlement name (SN) attribute

This attribute defines the name of a location or settlement. This name will be attached to the node that is closest to the position of the location or settlement.

Unique identifiers

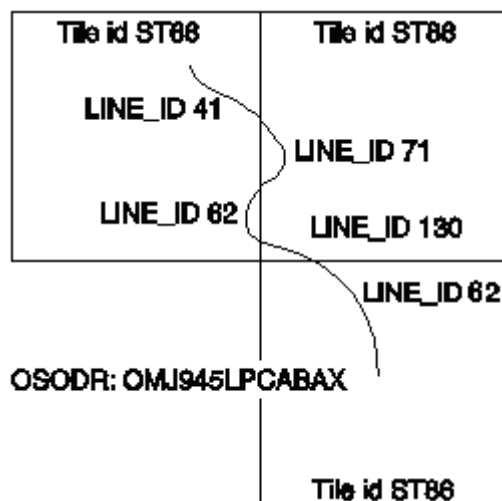
Unique identifiers are used to uniquely identify some features within Meridian 2. These are:

- OSODR attribute defines the Ordnance Survey Roads Database Reference (OSODR). This will uniquely identify any link or node within the national roads dataset. Links are not merged at tile edges.
- Railway and railway station identifiers. These uniquely identify any railway link or railway station within the national Meridian 2 database between junctions and/or stations.
- Developed land use area identifier. This uniquely identifies any DLUA polygons within the national Meridian 2 database.
- Global identifier. This uniquely identifies any administrative area seed point and will not change between tiles. Each administrative seed within a county or District polygon holds the same unique ID.
- Forestry identifier. This identifies any forestry area seed point.
- Hydrology identifier. This identifies any hydrology area seed point.

The unique identifiers are unique references and will be maintained, except where there has been significant change to a feature.

The unique identifier may refer to several links representing a linear object across tiles, for example, a road or a railway, which may be chained together across tile edges. Thus, on adjoining tiles there may be two or more links with the same unique identifier. Figure 2.3. illustrates this principle; the LINE_IDs are different but they all share the same OSODR across tile edges.

Figure 2.3: Unique identifiers



Unique identifiers have been assigned to all existing roads (links and nodes), railway links and railway stations and to seed points for administrative areas, DLUAs, hydrology (inland water) and woodlands. Any of these features that are new to Meridian 2 after the initial allocation will be assigned an appropriate unique identifier when the database is refreshed.

The unique identifier for a feature will never be modified – only created and/or deleted. If a feature is deleted from the Meridian 2 database, then the unique identifier allocated to that feature will cease to exist.

Feature layer descriptions

The feature codes that appear in Meridian 2 within each layer are detailed in [chapter 6](#) of the technical specification. The individual layers are described below.

NOTE: Names or numbers appear in all layers as attributes. The roads layer is the first hierarchical layer; the other layers will be manipulated to fit in the following 1–8 hierarchical order.

1 Roads

Motorways, major and minor roads are represented in the data. Complex junctions are collapsed to single nodes and multi-carriageways to single links.

To avoid congestion, some minor roads and cul-de-sacs less than 200 m are not represented in the minor road feature description of the data unless the minor road terminates in a roundabout or where their removal would leave an isolated DLUA. Private roads and tracks are not included.

Hierarchical position 1

2 Railways

All railway stations open to passengers and all standard gauge passenger rail tracks are represented.

A railway intersection consists of links and a node. Where railways cross at different levels links are broken and a short tunnel created on the lower level. Links and nodes carry a feature code.

The railway station points will carry the station name.

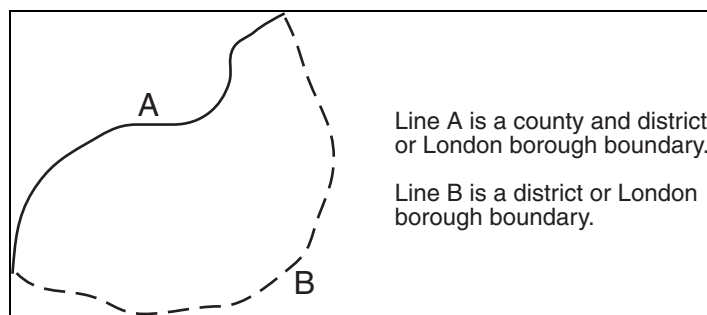
To maintain positional relationship, features in this layer will be adjusted and fitted to the roads.

Hierarchical position 2

3 Administrative areas and coastline

Administrative areas include information for unitary authority areas for Scotland, Wales, county, district and London borough boundaries for England.

Figure 2.4: Hierarchical relationship of boundaries for England



Each link for an administrative area carries a feature code and the administrative level associated with the left and right sides of that link. This also applies to coastline, but only to the landside of the coastline, that is, no administrative area information is added to the seaward side.

Each administrative area contains a seed point that identifies the enclosed area and carries a feature code and the associated administrative area name. Separate areas of the same administrative unit carry seed points with different identifiers.

Offshore islands carry a county and district or unitary authority seed point. There is no logical connection in the data between them and administrative units other than the same name attribute.

There is no explicit information to identify which links form the bounds of a particular area. The left and right county and district pointers on links do not contain the name of the administrative area, but refer to the seed point that has the administrative area name as its attribute.

The coastline follows the mean high water (MHW) up all estuaries to the normal tidal limit (NTL). Administrative areas are only shown down to MHW.

The administrative areas are adjusted to the coastline.

To maintain positional relationship, features in this layer may be adjusted and fitted to roads and railways.

Hierarchical position 3

4 Developed land use areas

Developed land use area (DLUAs) features represent the polygons around cities, towns, villages and industrial, commercial and business parks as contained within the Strategi dataset.

Link features enclose DLUA features. Such areas contain a seed point that identifies the enclosed area and carry a feature code and the associated DLUA name. **There is no explicit information to identify which link forms the bounds of a particular area.**


The whole DLUA has been positioned to the road pattern by best-fit practice.

Hierarchical position 4

5 Cartographic names

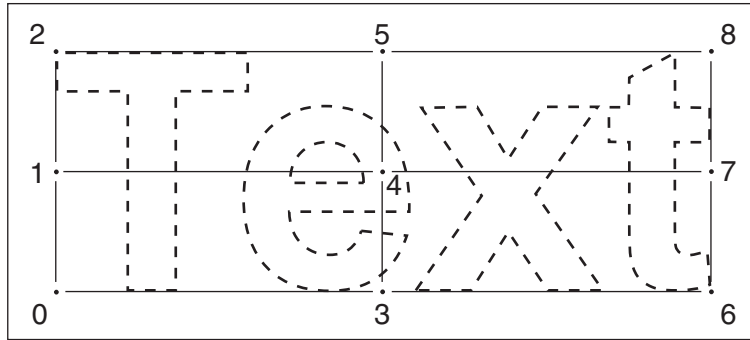
Place names from the small-scale database and railway station attribute names are shown as independent text features and located near the feature that they describe.

Place names are collapsed from double-banked, treble-banked or composite text to a single text feature with all the text as one string.

	The text font and text height in metres have been used for these cartographic names and are – as layers – separate from the feature with which they are associated.
---	---


The Ordnance Survey convention for the digitising of names is as follows: all names are digitised as point features, given as X and Y National Grid coordinates. The point has been digitised relative to the map feature it describes, and the actual point represents one of the standard positions shown in figure 2.5.


Figure 2.5: Standard Ordnance Survey text positions



Names are normally placed on the printed map parallel to the horizontal grid.

Text in Shape and Mid/Mif are positioned at a converted position 0 as the true text position is not supplied.

	Position 0 is supplied.
---	-------------------------

	The text string may start, end or be centred on this coordinate pair; the relationship of the text to its coordinate pair is expressed as an original digitised position. Where the position of text features is recorded, one of these positions is digitised.
---	---

Hierarchical position 5

6 Hydrology

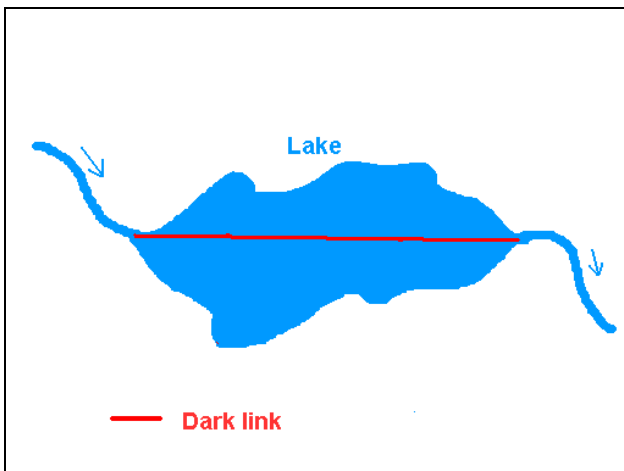
Each water area contains a seed point identifier that carries a feature code and the associated attribute. Each link for water boundaries carries a feature code.

To maintain positional relationship, features in this layer may be adjusted and fitted to the hierarchy. See the [note](#) at the beginning of feature layer descriptions earlier in this chapter.

Dark links have been used to maintain the connectivity of the network across lakes and reservoirs. Where links entering and leaving the lake or reservoir carry the same name, the dark link is attributed with this name.

Hierarchical position 6

Figure 2.6: Dark link diagram showing connectivity



A river flows into a lake. The amalgamation of this is a dark link running through the middle of the lake and outputting as a river again.

7 Woodlands

Each link for woodland boundaries carries a feature code. Each woodland area contains a seed point identifier, which carries a feature code and the associated attribute. To maintain positional relationship, features in this layer may be adjusted and fitted to hierarchy.

Hierarchical position 7

8 Gridded height

Height information is produced in the form of digital terrain model (DTM)-style data.

Gridded height information is averaged from the 50 m resolution Land-Form PANORAMA dataset to a resolution of 200 m and rounded down to the nearest 1 m value.

NOTE: Gridded height is supplied with Meridian 2 on a separate CD.

Chapter 3 NTF explained

An overview of Meridian 2 in NTF

This chapter gives a detailed breakdown of the data structure of Meridian 2 in NTF.

Meridian 2 data is supplied in the British Standard national format common to several Ordnance Survey digital map data products – namely NTF – and is transferred in Level 3 as variable length records. An overview of the data structure of a Meridian 2 data file is on the following page. The convention used for this diagram is in the industry standard adopted for Jackson Structured Programming (JSP).

The British Standard for NTF stipulates the following for Level 3:

'This level supports a variety of data models that may include network data, polygons, semantic relationships and complex features – for example, a school consisting of its buildings, boundaries and playing fields.'

This level is designed for:

- Transferring basic geometry and simple features through the use of geometry and feature records.
- Relating basic geometrical and topological elements to one or more features through the use of chain, polygon and complex line records.
- Combining features to form complex features through the use of collection and complex polygon records.
- Using text records both to relate text strings to features and cartographic output.
- Referencing and positioning external features, for example, raster data.

The record structure at this level may also be defined to be compatible with data in Levels 1 and 2.

There are certain conventions used in this technical specification, which are:

[] Square brackets are placed around record names, for example, [VOLHDREC].

{ } A pair of braces denote field names, for example, {REC_DESC} is the Record Descriptor field.

[] 90 A two-digit number following square brackets denotes the record descriptor that uniquely identifies the record name between the brackets.

<S> This is the space character (ASCII code 32).

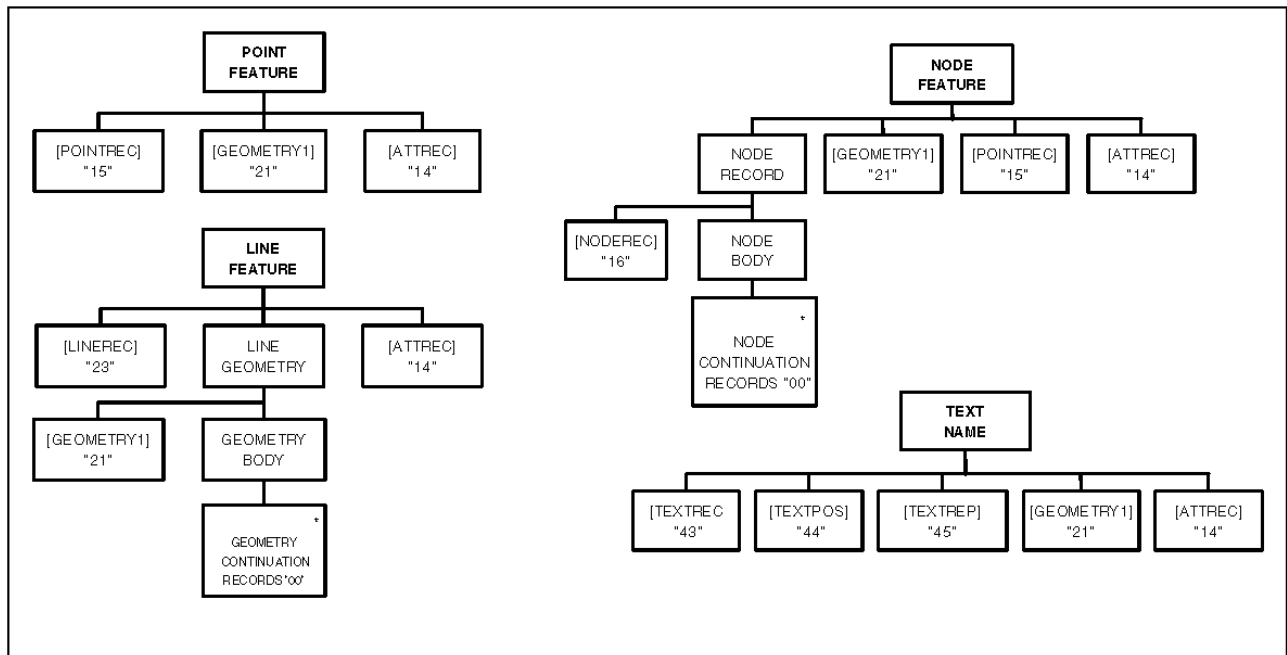
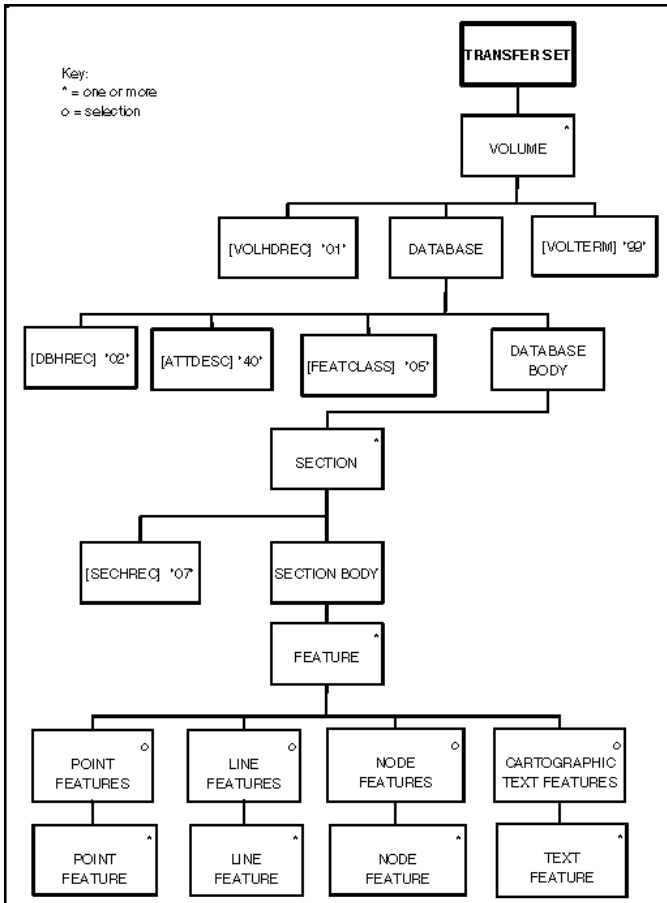
<3S> This denotes three successive space characters.

% The percentage character (ASCII code 37).

| This denotes a repeating group (ASCII code 124).

Jackson structure

The following diagrams are examples of Meridian 2 files and no fixed record sequence or relationship is implied.



The governing body for the industry standard NTF is the British Standards Institution (BSI). Their address is:

British Standards Institution
389 Chiswick High Road
LONDON
W4 4AL

Phone: +44 (0)20 8996 9001
Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7001
cservices@bsigroup.com

Any queries relating to the Meridian 2 product should be referred to the Customer Service Centre at the address given in [contact details](#) at the beginning of the user guide section.

Transfer set structure

Record size

NTF data is written to the output device in variable length records, with a maximum record length of 80 characters, which includes {CONT_MARK} and {EOR}.

Record terminator {EOR}

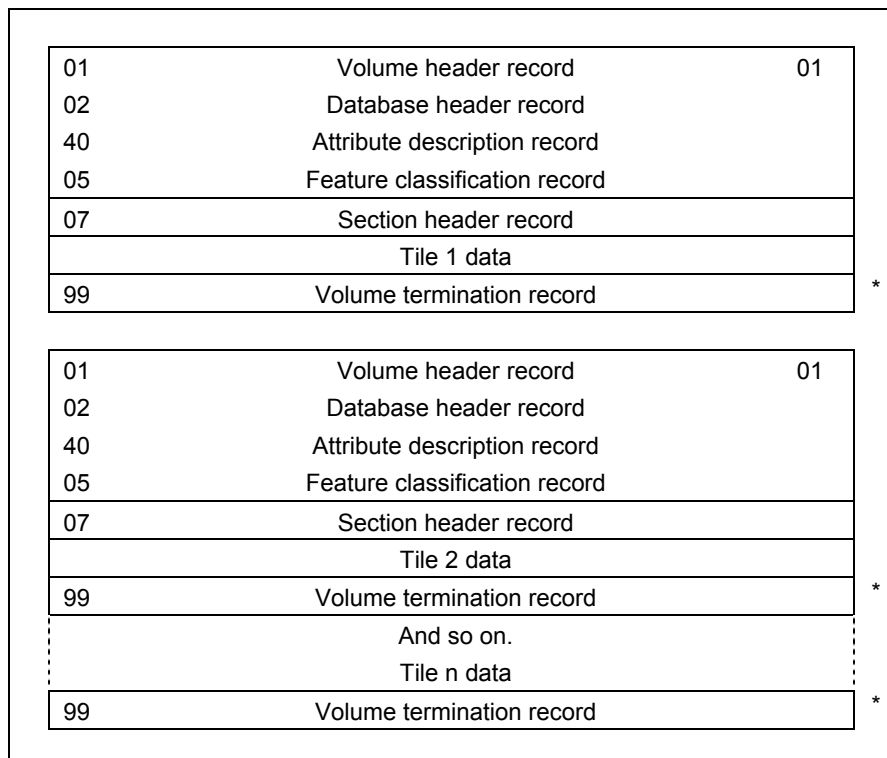
The end of record terminator is the percent (%) (ASCII 37) character for both formatted and unformatted media

A transfer set normally equates to a single file except where continuation volumes are used when the transfer set exceeds the capacity of the media. The data the customer receives is in one or more transfer sets. Each transfer set starts with a [Volume Header Record](#) [VOLHDREC] and terminates with a [Volume Terminator Record](#) [VOLTERM].

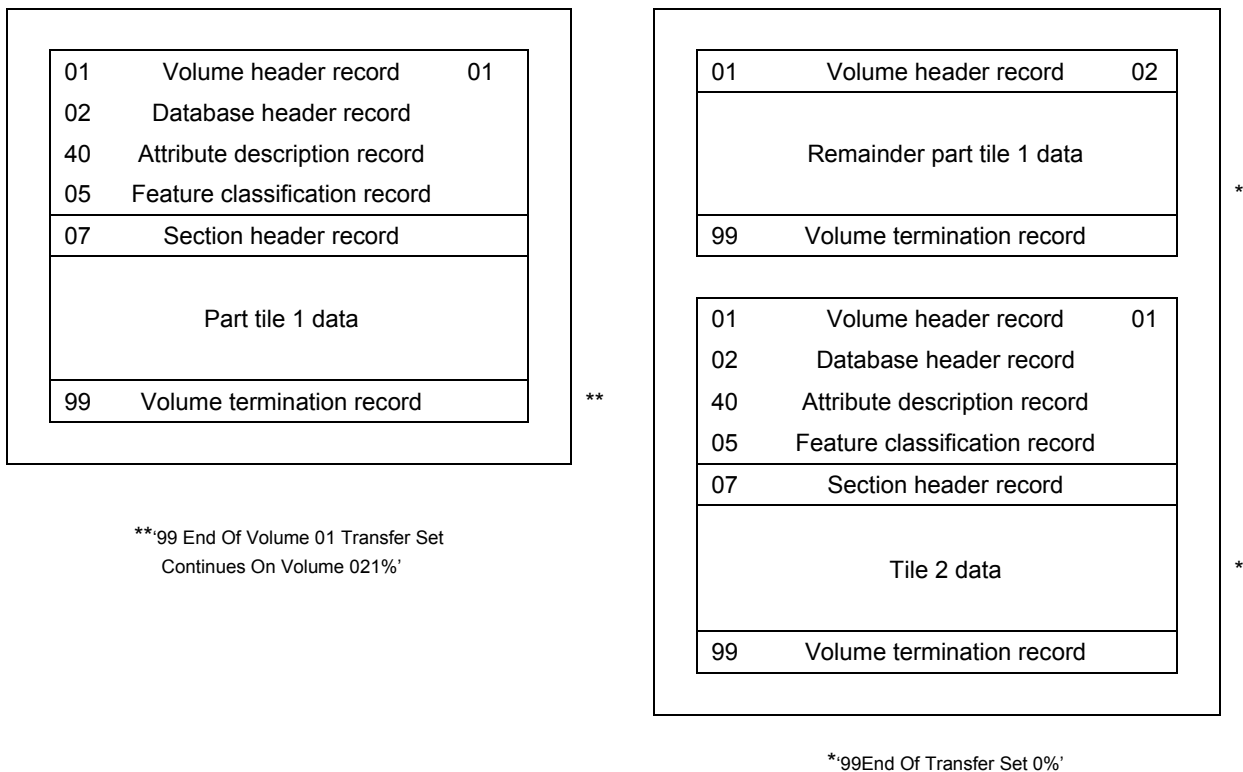
Supply of data on formatted media

Data requested on CD is not blocked but is written directly to the output device. The transfer set has one dataset and one section. One or more transfer sets are put onto the medium. A customer's order that is larger than the capacity of the medium is put on to two or more of that media. Continuation volumes are only to be used if a transfer set is larger than the capacity of the medium.

Formatted media (transfer set less than media capacity)



*:99end of transfer set 0%



The beginning of each transfer set is structured with the following introductory, or leading, records:

[Database Header Record \[DBHREC\]](#) – this gives details of:

- 1 The database name.
- 2 NTF release date.
- 3 Feature classification table name.
- 4 Release date that applies to the whole of the transfer set.

[Attribute Description Record \[ATTDESC\]](#) – this lists and gives a description of the attributes that can be applied to features within the transfer set.

[Feature Classification Record \[FEATCLASS\]](#) – this lists and gives descriptions of all possible feature codes for the transfer set.

These introductory records are followed by the data requested by the customer that are contained in the section.

The section consists of two parts:

- 1 [Section Header Record \[SECHREC\]](#): this gives the National Grid coordinates of the section and on unformatted media informs the customer that a new section is starting.
- 2 Section body: this comprises all the features within the section.

Version management

Each version and release of all Meridian 2 products is defined by a unique product version number and release number – these are reflected in this technical specification. The product version number relates to the specification of the data being supplied, and the release number relates to the release of the product.

The product version number takes the form xx.yy, where xx is the major product number, and yy is the minor change number. Thus, version 02.00 would indicate that this is the major product version 02, and that the 00 indicates no minor amendment to the product specification.

The release number takes the form xx.yy, where xx is the sequential release within a year, and yy is the year of the release. Thus release 01.09 would indicate that this is the first data release in 2009.

The product version number and the release number are specified in the [Database Header Record \[DBHREC\]](#), as supplied in NTF.

General

- The following are the record definitions for the transfer of Meridian 2 data in NTF:
- [Volume Header Record](#) [VOLHDREC]
- [Database Header Record](#) [DBHREC]
- [Feature Classification Record](#) [FEATCLASS]
- [Attribute Description Record](#) [ATTDESC]
- [Section Header Record](#) [SECHREC]
- Section body – see [Point and line features](#)
 - name detail
 - node detail
- [Volume Terminator Record](#) [VOLTERM]

Section body

This comprises all the features within the tile that correspond to the feature types selected by the customer.

Point and line features

Point feature

Each point feature is depicted by the use of the following records:

	Description in NTF
POINT RECORD	[POINTREC]
GEOMETRY RECORD	[GEOMETRY1]
ATTRIBUTE RECORD	[ATTREC]

Line feature

Each line feature is depicted by the use of the following records:

	Description in NTF
LINE RECORD	[LINEREC]
GEOMETRY RECORD	[GEOMETRY1]
GEOMETRY CONTINUATION RECORDS	
ATTRIBUTE RECORDS	[ATTREC]

Geometry records

Geometry records contain the coordinate position(s) in metres of the feature. Point features contain one coordinate pair; line features contain two or more coordinate pairs. Geometry Continuation Records are used where required. {X_COORDS}, {Y_COORDS} and {QPLAN} are treated as separate fields.

Name detail

Each cartographically positioned name is depicted by the use of the following records:

	Description in NTF
TEXT RECORD	[TEXTREC]
TEXT POSITION RECORD	[TEXTPOS]
TEXT REPRESENTATION RECORD	[TEXTREP]
GEOMETRY RECORD	[GEOMETRY1]
ATTRIBUTE RECORD	[ATTREC]

Records

Text details are only given when a name has been cartographically positioned. The [Attribute Record](#) [ATTREC] contains the definitive name and is pointed to by the [Text Record](#) [TEXTREC].

The Text Record [TEXTREC] points to the Attribute Record [ATTREC] and also points to the [Text Position Record](#) [TEXTPOS].

The Text Position Record [TEXTPOS] refers back to the Text Record [TEXTREC] and points to the Geometry Record [GEOMETRY 1] containing the coordinates of the digitised position. The Text Position Record [TEXTPOS] also points to the [Text Representation Record](#) [TEXTREP], which contains the standard digitising position and orientation of the text.

All other names are held as attributes only.

Node detail

Node feature

Each node feature is depicted by the use of the following records:

	Description in NTF
NODE RECORD	[NODEREC]
NODE	
CONTINUATION	
RECORD	
GEOMETRY RECORD	[GEOMETRY1]
POINT RECORD	[POINTREC]
ATTRIBUTE RECORD	[ATTREC]

All links in Meridian 2 terminate in explicit node records; each node is related to a point and its attributes via a common geometry record. This structure allows an attribute with a node within the constraints of NTF.

Records

Node Record [NODEREC] transfers details of the bearings and number of lines that meet at a point or node.

The [Node Record](#) [NODEREC] contains references to each [Line Record](#) [LINEREC] that meets at that node and to the [Geometry Record](#) [GEOMETRY 1]. The Geometry Record [GEOMETRY 1] is referenced by the [Point Records](#) [POINTREC] containing the feature attributes of the node.

Where lines do not meet at a previously specified point feature, a special point feature is created.

The Node Record [NODEREC] can contain details of up to five line features that meet at a node. Further lines meeting at that node are written to the Node Continuation Record.

It is important to note that, although the Node Record contains references to its appropriate point and line features, the point and line features do not contain references to the node.

Feature information relevant to NTF

Point features

Point features can exist independently and at the junction or ends of lines. The point feature gives a position and attribute to the corresponding node.

Line features

All line features, with the exception of where railways cross at different levels, are broken when they intersect one another within a layer.

NOTE: A layer is a subset of digital map data, selected on a basis other than position. For example, one layer might consist of all features relating to roads and another to railways.

The first and last coordinate pairs in a line correspond exactly with the start or end coordinates of any adjoining line(s).

A line cannot cross from one tile (10 km by 10 km square) to the next – it is split on the tile edge; see [Unique identifiers](#).

All linear features are continuous. Cartographic gaps are closed during the digitising process.

Coordinates

Coordinate values and the number of coordinate pairs in a feature are transferred in the [GEOMETRY1] NTF record.

All coordinates within the data are expressed as strings of five numeric characters. Leading zeros are present to complete the five characters.

All coordinates are measured from the local origin, which is the south-west corner of the tile.

To convert coordinate data to full National Grid coordinates, add the coordinates of the feature to those of the south west corner of the tile. The south-west corner coordinates are contained within the {X_ORIG} and {Y_ORIG} fields of the [Section Header Record](#) ([SECHREC] '07').

Bearings

Bearings are transferred in the {ORIENT} field of the [Node Record](#) [NODEREC].

Bearings are National Grid bearings, in degrees, measured clockwise from grid north.

The start of line bearing, indicated by a value of 1 in the {DIR} field of the Node Record [NODEREC], is the bearing of the first segment of the line. The direction is from the start of the line to the next pair of coordinates or, if there are only two coordinate pairs, from the start to the end of the line.

The end of line bearing, indicated by a 2 in the {DIR} field, is the bearing of the last segment of the line. The direction is from the end of the feature to the last-minus-one pair of coordinates.

Attribute codes

Attribute codes provide supplementary information on a feature, providing such qualifying information as feature code, feature name, orientation and so on.

In NTF, the structure of user-defined attributes is described in the [Attribute Description Record](#) [ATTDESC].

The actual attribute detail of a record is written in the [Attribute Record](#) [ATTREC].

Attributes that are used in the supply of Meridian 2 data are:

- FC Feature code – contains the numeric feature code of the feature.
- OD OSODR – a unique identifier for links and nodes on road features.
- LL Length of link.
- RN Road number – DfT route number.
- TR Trunk road indicator.
- RT Roundabout indicator.
- JN Junction name – the name of a road junction.
- LC Left county boundary indicator.
- RC Right county boundary indicator.
- LD Left district* boundary indicator.
- RD Right district* boundary indicator.
- PI Global ID – a unique identifier for administrative areas.
- DA DLUA ID – a unique identifier for a developed land use area.
- PN Proper name – for example a road, a developed land use area or a railway station and so on.
- RI Rail ID – a unique railway link identifier.
- SN Settlement name text.
- SI Station ID – a unique railway station identifier.
- NM Admin name – an administrative area name.
- TX Text – independent text.
- FA Forest ID – a unique identifier for forest areas.
- WA Water area – a unique identifier for water area.
- WI Water link – a unique identifier for water links.
- HT Height ID – a unique identifier for gridded height.

* Includes London borough and unitary authority area.

Unique identifiers

Unique identifiers are used to uniquely identify some features within Meridian 2. These are:

- Ordnance Survey Roads Database Reference (OSODR) – this uniquely identifies any road link or road node within each tile.
- Railway and railway station identifiers – these uniquely identify any railway link or railway station within the Meridian 2 tile.
- Developed land use area identifier – this uniquely identifies any developed land use area seed point within the national Meridian 2 database.
- Global identifier – this identifies any administrative area seed point within the 10 km by 10 km tile.
- Water identifier – this uniquely identifies the hydrology (inland water) seed.
- Woodland identifier – this uniquely identifies the woodland seed.

The unique identifiers are unique references and are maintained, except where there has been significant change to a feature.

Record IDs

The identifying fields for each NTF record, for example, NODE_ID for [NODEREC], LINE_ID for [LINEREC] and so on, are unique within each individual section (tile) supplied. They are not maintained between supplies.

Feature layers

This section contains a list of all the valid features used with Meridian 2. The list contains a description of each feature, its feature type, its feature code (FC) and a list of the attributes, other than FC, which can be associated with that feature. The list is segmented by feature layer.

NOTE: All features carry the attribute FC as the feature code.

Roads

Feature description	Type	Code	Attribute(s)
Motorway	Line	3000	FC, LL, OD, RN, TR, PN
A road	Line	3001	FC, LL, OD, RN, TR, PN
B road	Line	3002	FC, LL, OD, RN, TR, PN
Minor road	Line	3004	FC, LL, OD, RN, TR, PN
Road node	Point	3500	FC, OD, JN, RT, SN
Road edge node	Point	3501	FC, OD, JN, RT, SN

Railways

Feature description	Type	Code	Attribute(s)
Railway	Line	6140	FC, RI
Tunnelled railway	Line	6142	FC, RI
Railway station	Point	6155	FC, SI, PN
Railway node	Point	6730	FC
Railway edge node	Point	6731	FC

Administrative areas and coastline

Feature description	Type	Code	Attribute(s)
County boundary	Line	6401	FC, LC, RC, LD, RD
District* boundary	Line	6403	FC, LD, RD
County/district* boundary	Line	6405	FC, LC, RC, LD, RD
Neat line	Line	6800	FC, LC, RC, LD, RD
County seed	Point	6411	FC, PI, NM
District* seed	Point	6415	FC, PI, NM
Boundary node	Point	6710	FC
Boundary edge node	Point	6711	FC
Coastline	Line	6200	FC, LC, RC, LD, RD
Coastline node	Point	6740	FC
Coastline edge node	Point	6741	FC

NOTE: Includes London borough and unitary authority areas.*

Developed land use areas (DLUA)

Feature description	Type	Code	Attribute(s)
DLUA boundary	Line	6300	FC
DLUA seed	Point	6310	FC, PN, DA
DLUA node	Point	6720	FC
DLUA edge node	Point	6721	FC
Neat line	Line	6801	FC

Cartographic names

Feature description	Type	Code	Attribute(s)
Place name	Point	6500	FC, TX
Station name	Point	6551	FC, TX

Hydrology

Feature description	Type	Code	Attribute(s)
Water feature river small	Line	6223	FC, WI, PN
Water feature river medium	Line	6224	FC, WI, PN
Water feature river large	Line	6225	FC, WI, PN
Water feature hidden*	Line	6230	FC, WI, PN
Water feature aqueduct	Line	6231	FC, WI, PN
Water feature dark link	Line	6232	FC, WI, PN
Water feature canal	Line	6243	FC, WI, PN
Water feature lake	Line	6255	FC
Area water seed	Point	6292	FC, WA, PN
Water text	Point	6552	FC, TX
Water feature node	Point	6770	FC
Area water node	Point	6771	FC
Area water edge node	Point	6772	FC
Water feature edge node	Point	6773	FC
Area water neat line	Line	6803	FC

*Hidden water runs below ground and can apply to both rivers and canals.

Woodlands

Feature description	Type	Code	Attribute(s)
Woodland boundary	Line	6664	FC
Woodland seed	Point	6663	FC, FA,
Woodland node	Point	6750	FC
Woodland edge node	Point	6751	FC
Woodland neat line	Line	6802	FC

Height

Feature description	Type	Code	Attribute(s)
Gridded height	Point	6762	FC, HT

Chapter 4 Record structures for the transfer of Meridian 2 in NTF

NTF Record List

This list comprises the valid record types used in the Meridian 2 NTF transfer set.

Descriptor	Description	Record name
01	Volume Header Record – defines the donor and data type.	[VOLHDREC]
02	Database Header Record – transfers data about the database.	[DBHREC]
05	Feature Classification Record – defines data classifications.	[FEATCLASS]
07	Section Header Record – defines coordinate and structure types, unit scale, factors and so on.	[SECHREC]
14	Attribute Record – defines the attributes for line and point records.	[ATTREC]
15	Point Record – identifies the definition of node points.	[POINTREC]
16	Node Record – defines the topological relationship between links and nodes.	[NODEREC]
21	Two-dimensional Geometry Record – defines the two-dimensional geometry for a link or node.	[GEOMETRY1]
23	Line Record – identifies the definition of a link.	[LINEREC]
40	Attribute Description Record – defines attribute descriptions and their fields.	[ATTDESC]
43	Text Record – identifies the Text Position Record and Attribute Record.	[TEXTREC]
44	Text Position Record – identifies the Text Representation Record and Geometry Record.	[TEXTPOS]
45	Text Representation Record – defines the font, text height and digitised position.	[TEXTREP]
90	Comment Record – transfers change information or information about empty tiles.	[COMMENT]
99	Volume Terminator Record – defines the end of the transfer set.	[VOLTERM]

NOTE: Where Meridian 2 height differs from Meridian 2 full dataset, a record example will be shown.

Volume Header Record [VOLHDREC] 01

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	01	
DONOR	03:22	A20	ORDNANCE SURVEY<5S>	
RECIPIENT	23:42	A20	<20S>	Not used.
TRANDATE	43:50	DATE	yyyymmdd	Supply date.
SERIAL	51:54	I4	0000	Not used.
VOLNUM	55:56	I2	nn	Volume number 01 to 99.
NTFLEVEL	57:57	I1	3	NTF Level 3.
NTFVER	58:61	R4.2	0200	NTF Version 2.0.
NTFOR	62:62	A1	V	Variable length records.
EOR	63:63	A1	%	Sets [EOR] to % on formatted media
			or <S>	or default % for formatted media.
DIVIDER	64:64	A1	\	Divider used to terminate variable length text fields.
CONT_MARK	65:65	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	66:66	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

01ORDNANCE SURVEY										2001121000000130200V										\0%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2

Template

Database Header Record [DBHREC] 02

Record 1

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	02	Record type identifier.
DBNAME	03:22	A20	Meridian_02.01<6S>	Database name.
DDNAME	23:42	A20	DEFAULT_02.00<7S>	Standard data dictionary name.
DDATE	43:50	DATE	19920515	Release date of NTF version being used.
DDBASE	51:70	A20	<20S>	Not used.
DDBDATE	71:78	DATE	00000000	Not used.
CONT_MARK	79:79	I1	1	Continuation record follows.
EOR	80:80	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record 2

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	00	
FCNAME	03:22	A20	Meridian_02.00<6S>	Data specification (product version).
FCDATE	23:30	DATE	20000901	Date of data specification.
DQNAME	31:50	A20	<20S>	Not used.
DQDATE	51:58	DATE	00000000	Not used.
DATA_MODEL	59:60	I2	00	
CONT_MARK	61:61	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	62:62	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

```
02Meridian02.01          DEFAULT_02.00          19920515          000000001%
00Meridian 02.00          20000901          000000000000%
```

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	

Template

Gridded height record example:

```
02Meridian2_ht_01.99    DEFAULT_02.00          19920515          000000001%
00Meridian 02.00          20000901          000000000000%
```

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	

Template

Feature Classification Record [FEATCLASS] 05

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	05	
FEAT_CODE	03:06	I4		Contains four-character feature code.
CODE_COM	07:16	A10	<10S>	Not used.
STCLASS	17:36	A20	<20S>	Not used.
FEATDES	37:*	A*		Feature description.
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	Divider.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer

Record example:

053000								Motorway\0%																																																																								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8																																																																								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Template

Section Header Record [SECHREC] 07

Record 1

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	07	
SECT_REF	03:12	A10		10 km by 10 km tile reference, for example, TQ24<6S>.
COORD_TYP	13:13	I1	2	Rectangular.
STRUCT_TYP	14:14	I1	1	Vector.
XYLEN	15:19	I5	00005	Five-character coordinate fields (to 1 m).
XY_UNIT	20:20	I1	2	Metres.
XY_MULT	21:30	R10.3	0000001000	Default.
ZLEN	31:35	I5	00000	Not used.
Z_UNIT	36:36	I1	0	Not used.
Z_MULT	37:46	R10.3	0000001000	Not used.
X_ORIG	47:56	I10		X coordinates of south-west corner of unit.
Y_ORIG	57:66	I10		Y coordinates of south-west corner of unit.
Z_DATUM	67:76	I10	0000000000	Not used.
CONT_MARK	77:77	I1	1	Continuation record follows.
EOR	78:78	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record 2

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	00	
XMIN	03:12	I10	0000000000	
YMIN	13:22	I10	0000000000	
XMAX	23:32	I10	0000010000	
YMAX	33:42	I10	0000010000	
XY_ACC	43:47	R5.2	00000	Not used.
Z_ACC	48:52	R5.2	00000	Not used.
SURV_DATE	53:60	DATE	00000000	Not used.
LAST_AMND	61:68	DATE	yyyymmdd	Date last amended.
COPYRIGHT	69:76	DATE	yyyymmdd	Copyright date.
CONT_MARK	77:77	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	78:78	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

```
07TQ24      210000520000001000000000000000100000000520000000014000000000000001%
000000000000000000000000000000100000000010000000000000000000000020011210200112100%
```

		1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0

Template

NOTE 1: Last amend date will not be used for Mer_2_rds.

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for road links

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique ID for record.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	OD	
VALUE	11:23	A13		Unique ID (OSODR) for link.
VAL_TYPE	24:25	A2	FC	
VALUE	26:29	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	30:31	A2	LL	
VALUE	32:33	I5		Length of link.
VAL_TYPE	*.*	A2	PN	
VALUE	*.*	A*		Road name.
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	
VAL_TYPE	*.*	A2	RN	
VALUE	*.*	A*		Road number.
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	
VAL_TYPE	*.*	A2	TR	
VALUE	*.*	A1	Y	Trunk road indicator.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records.
			or 1	Continuation record.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

14000001ODO338UHK0PLWAXFC3001LL00342PNCOMMERCIAL STREET\NP02POO1J945LPCABAXPO1%
0001CB3HJ50VFWARNA315(T)\TRY0%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81
82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90

Template

NOTE 1: PN, RN and TR records will only be included where a name exists.

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for road nodes

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique ID for record.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	OD	
VALUE	11:23	A13		Unique ID (OSODR) for node.
VAL_TYPE	24:25	A2	FC	
VALUE	26:29	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	**.	A2	JN	
VALUE	**.	A*		Junction name.
DIVIDER	**.	A1	\	
VAL_TYPE	**.	A2	SN	
VALUE	**.	A*		Settlement name (optional).
DIVIDER	**.	A1	\	
VALUE TYPE	**.	A2	RT	
VALUE	**.	A1	Y	Roundabout.
CONT_MARK	**.	I1	0	No further records.
			or 1	Continuation record.
EOR	**.	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

14000023ODO3DF42CK0VTEGFC3500NP03POO1J945LPCABATPOO142WFUP80AA0POO1CV33LKPCBXE1%
00JNM27 J2\SNSOUTHAMPTON\RTY0%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

NOTE 1: JN, SN and RT records will only be included where a name exists.

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for administrative area links (county, district, coastline and neat line)

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
AL_TYPE	15:16	A2	LC	
VALUE	17:22	I6		Left county pointer to seed (optional).
AL_TYPE	23:24	A2	RC	
VALUE	25:30	I6		Right county pointer to seed (optional).
VAL_TYPE	31:32	A2	LD	
VALUE	33:38	I6		Left district pointer to seed (optional).
AL_TYPE	39:40	A2	RD	
VALUE	41:46	I6		Right district pointer to seed (optional).
CONT_MARK	47:47	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	48:48	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

14000014FC6405LC043050RC043084LD069234RD0697200%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for administrative area points and/or seeds

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	15:16	A2	PI	
VALUE	17:22	I6		Unique global (seed) identifier.
VAL_TYPE	23:24	A2	NM	
VALUE	25:*	A*		Administrative area name.
DIVIDER	*:*	A1	\	Divider.
CONT_MARK	*:*	I1	0	No further records
			or 1	or continuation record follows.
EOR	*:*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

```
14000032FC6411PI043050NMHAMPSHIRE COUNTY\0%
```

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890								

Template

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for nodes (administrative areas, DLUA, coastline and railway, hydrology and woodlands) and/or edge nodes (all layers)

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
CONT_MARK	15:15	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	16:16	A1	%	Record terminator.

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for DLUA links

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
CONT_MARK	15:15	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	16:16	A1	%	Record terminator.

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for DLUA points and/or seeds

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	15:16	A2	DA	
VALUE	17:29	A13		Unique DLUA (seed) identifier.
VAL_TYPE	30:31	A2	PN	
VALUE	32:*	A*		DLUA name.
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	Divider.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records
			or 1	or continuation record follows.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable

Record example:

14000032FC6310DA4418200463301PNGrafton\0%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81
82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90

Template

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for cartographic name text

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	15:16	A2	TX	
VALUE	17:*	A*		Text string.
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	Divider.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0 or 1	No further records or continuation record follows.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable

Record example:

14000012FC6500TXANDOVER\0%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Template

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for railway links

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	15:16	A2	RI	
VALUE	17:29	A13		Unique railway link identifier.
CONT_MARK	30:30	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	31:31	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

14000002FC6140RI41842002735110%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Template

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for railway station nodes

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	15:16	A2	SI	
VALUE	17:29	A13		Unique railway station identifier.
VAL_TYPE	30:31	A2	PN	
VALUE	32:*	A*		Station name.
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	Divider.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records
			or 1	or continuation record follows.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

14000003FC6155SI4169010274901PNSandling Station\0%

		1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for water link features

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	15:16	A2	WI	
VALUE	17:29	A13		Unique water feature identifier.
VAL_TYPE	30:31	A2	PN	
VALUE	32:*	A*		River name (optional).
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	Divider.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records
			or 1	or continuation record follows.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

14000003FC6223WI6169050279090PNRiver Lydden\0%

		1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

NOTE: The WI identifier in the record example is fictional and does not relate to River Lydden.

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for water area seeds

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	15:16	A2	WA	
VALUE	17:29	A13		Unique water area (seed) identifier
VAL_TYPE	30:31	A2	PN	
VALUE	32:*	A*		Water area name (where applicable)
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	Divider.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records
			or 1	or continuation record follows.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

14000032FC6292WA0060273530510PNULLSWATER\0%

		1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0

Template

NOTE: The WA identifier in the record example is fictional and does not relate to Ullswater.

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for administrative area points and/or seeds

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	15:16	A2	PI	
VALUE	17:22	I6		Unique global (seed) identifier.
VAL_TYPE	23:24	A2	NM	
VALUE	25:*	A*		Admin area name.
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	Divider.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records
			or 1	or continuation record follows.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

14000032FC6411PI043050NMHAMPSHIRE COUNTY\0%

		1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0

Template

Attribute Record [ATTREC] 14 for gridded height point

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	14	
ATT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique attribute record identifier.
VAL_TYPE	09:10	A2	FC	
VALUE	11:14	I4		Feature code.
VAL_TYPE	15:16	A2	HT	
VALUE	17:24	I8		Height attribute.
CONT_MARK	25:25	I1	0 or 1	No further records or continuation record follows.
EOR	26:26	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

14000090FC6762HT000000070%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

Point Feature Record [POINTREC] 15

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	15	
POINT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique point record identifier.
GEOM_ID	09:14	I6		Pointer to [GEOMETRY1] record.
NUM_ATT	15:16	I2	01	
ATT_ID	17:22	I6		Pointer to [ATTREC] record.
CONT_MARK	23:23	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	24:24	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

15000027004804010048040%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

Node Record [NODEREC] 16

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	16	
NODE_ID	03:08	I6		Unique node record identifier.
GEOM_ID	09:14	I6		Pointer to [GEOMETRY1] record of point feature.
NUM_LINKS	15:18	I4	>0	
DIR	*.*	I1	1 or 2	1 for start of link or 2 for end of link.
GEOM_ID	*.*	I6		Pointer to [GEOMETRY1] of link.
ORIENT	*.*	R4,1		Bearing of first/last segment of link clockwise from grid north (not used for roads).
LEVEL	*.*	I1	0 or 1	Link level at node (roads only).
			1	Link level at node for all other layers.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records
			or 1	or continuation record follows.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

1600000800480400012004921226000%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3
6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5
8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

NOTES:

| indicates repeating group.

The pair of fields {VAL_TYPE} and {VALUE} will repeat to specify all the attributes required. It may be necessary to utilise a continuation record to specify all attributes.

Two-dimensional Geometry Record [GEOMETRY1] 21 associated with POINTREC

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	21	
GEOM_ID	03:08	I6		Unique geometry record identifier.
GTYPE	09:09	I1	1	Point feature.
NUM_COORD	10:13	I4	0001	Point has one coordinate pair.
X_COORD	14:18	I5	X coordinate	
Y_COORD	19:23	I5	Y coordinate	
QPLAN	24:24	A1	<S>	Not used.
CONT_MARK	25:25	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	26:26	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

21000031100011564044030 0%

		1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0

Template

Two-dimensional Geometry Record [GEOMETRY1] 21 associated with LINEREC

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	21	
GEOM_ID	03:08	I6		Unique geometry record identifier.
GTYPE	09:09	I1	2	Line feature.
NUM_COORD	10:13	I4		Number of coordinate pairs, in range 0002–9999.
X_COORD	14:18	I5	X coordinate	Repeated until {NUM_COORD} has been transferred.
Y_COORD	19:23	I5	Y coordinate	Repeated until {NUM_COORD} has been transferred.
QPLAN	24:24	A1	<S>	Not used.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0 or 1	No further records or continuation record follows.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTES:

* = variable integer.

This record may contain many CONTINUATION 00 records.

| indicates a repeating group.

The pair of fields {VAL_TYPE} and {VALUE} will repeat to specify all the attributes required. It may be necessary to utilise a continuation record to specify all attributes.

Line Feature Record [LINEREC] 23

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	23	
LINE_ID	03:08	I6		Unique line record identifier.
GEOM_ID	09:14	I6		Pointer to [GEOMETRY1] record.
NUM_ATT	15:16	I2	01	
ATT_ID	17:22	I6		Pointer to [ATTREC] record.
CONT_MARK	23:23	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	24:24	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

23004804005369010053690%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Template

Attribute Description Record [ATTDESC] 40

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	40	
VAL_TYPE	03:04	A2		Attribute mnemonic.
FWIDTH	05:07	A3	001–999 or <3S>	If fixed or if variable.
FINTER	08:12	A5	format desc or A*	If fixed or if variable.
ATTNAME	13:*	A*	Attribute name	See below.
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	Divider.
FDESC	*.*	A*	Attribute description	See below.
DIVIDER	*.*	A1	\	Divider.
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example for a variable record:

40JN A* JUNCTION NAME\Name Of Road Junction\0%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Template

Text Record [TEXTREC] 43

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	43	
TEXT_ID	03:08	I6		Unique text record identifier.
NUM_SEL	09:10	I2	01	
SELECT	11:12	A2	00	
TEXT_CODE	13:16	A4	0000	
TEXP_ID	17:22	I6		Pointer to [TEXTPOS] record.
NUM_ATT	23:24	I2	01	
ATT_ID	25:30	I6		Pointer to [ATTREC] record.
CONT_MARK	31:31	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	32:32	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

4300000701000000000007010002670%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Template

Text Position Record [TEXTPOS] 44

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	44	
TEXP_ID	03:08	I6		Unique text position record identifier – cross reference from [TEXTREC].
NUM_TEXR	09:10	I2	01	
TEXR_ID	11:16	I6		Pointer to [TEXTREP] record.
GEOM_ID	17:22	I6		Pointer to [GEOMETRY1] record.
CONT_MARK	23:23	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	24:24	A1	%	Record terminator .

Record example:

44000007010000070002670%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Template

Text Representation Record [TEXTREP] 45

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	45	
TEXR_ID	03:08	I6		Unique text representation record identifier – cross reference from [TEXTPOS].
FONT	09:12	I4	0004	Text font Identity.
TEXT_HT	13:15	R3,1		Text height in millimetres.
DIG_POSTN	16:16	I8		Digitising position 0–8.
ORIENT	17:20	R4,1		Anticlockwise from grid east.
CONT_MARK	21:21	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	22:22	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

450000070004020300000%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3
6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5
8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

Comment Record [COMMENT] 90

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	90	
RECORD_TYPE	03:04	I2		Changed NTF record type.
RECORD_ID	05:17	A13		Unique ID (OSODR).
CHANGE_TYPE	18:18	A1	D or I or U	Type of change.
CONT_MARK	19:19	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	20:20	A1	%	Record terminator.

Record example:

902301J945LPCABAXU0%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3
6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5
8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	90	
FREE_TEXT	03:*	A*		
CONT_MARK	*.*	I1	0	No further records.
EOR	*.*	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTE: * = variable integer.

Record example:

90 TILE0%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3
6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5
8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

Volume Terminator Record [VOLTERM] 99

Field	Position	Format	Value example	Description
REC_DESC	01:02	A2	99	
FREE_TEXT	03:*	A*		See note below.
CONT_VOL	*+1:~+1	I1	0 or 1	No continuation volume or continuation volume follows.
EOR	*+2:~+2	A1	%	Record terminator.

NOTES: If there are further volume(s) to follow then the FREE_TEXT field comprises the following message:

'End Of Volume (nn). Transfer Set Continues On Volume (nn+1)'

If there are no further volumes then the FREE_TEXT field will read:

'End Of Transfer Set'

* = variable integer.

Record examples:

99End Of Volume 01 Transfer Set Continues On Volume 021%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

99End Of Transfer Set0%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Template

Chapter 5 DXF explained

The purpose of this chapter and [chapter 6](#) is to:

- Provide a brief description of the presentation of Meridian 2 in the DXF transfer format.
- Data Exchange Format (DXF (conforming to AutoCAD release 12 with extended entity data)). As part of this description, data structure diagrams are used to give greater explanation where necessary.
- Provide Licensed Partners with as much detail as necessary to enable Meridian 2 files in DXF to be easily understood and processed by application software.

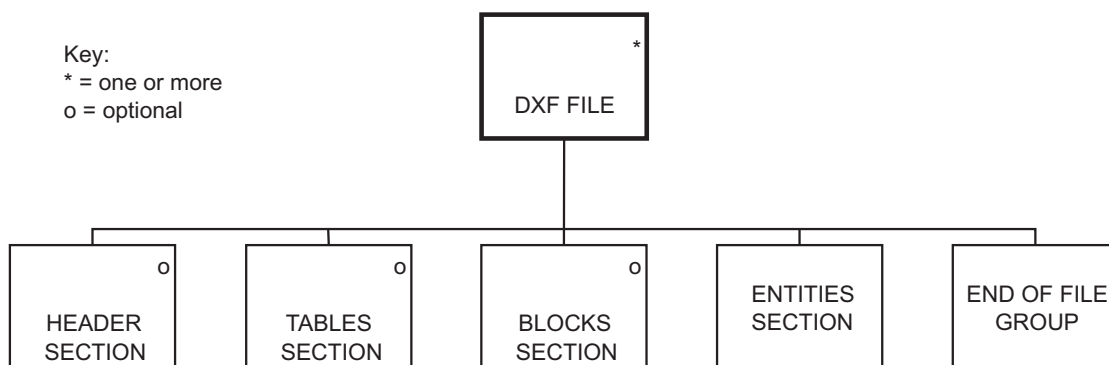
The term data structure used in these chapters refers to the organisation and sequence of the records in the data file and not to the geographical topology of the data.

These chapters should be read in conjunction with [chapter 1](#) and [chapter 2](#), which describe the content of Meridian 2.

An overview of Meridian 2 in DXF

DXF

Meridian 2 is available in DXF, conforming to AutoCAD release 12, using extended entity data to store attributes. The transfer format is that defined by the NEDO working party for the exchange of two-dimensional drawings in the construction industry. An overview of the data structure of a Meridian 2 file in DXF is shown below.



Structure of Meridian 2 in DXF

Meridian 2 has a limited link-and-node data structure; within this structure a feature may be a name, a point, or a line (or series of lines forming a coherent unit). Each feature is free-standing; that is, its topological relationship to any other feature is not expressed in the data.

Features are classified by type and each type is placed in a separate DXF layer.

Line features

A feature is a subjective entity; that is, so long as the constituent lines are of the same description (layer), a feature need not fully describe a logical piece of detail.

The extent of a feature is determined by digitising conventions and does not always coincide with the topology. Each linear feature is composed of a string of XY coordinate pairs implicitly joined by straight lines.

The colour and line weights of some layers may differ when DXF is used with certain software packages.

Area features

Area features are not defined within vector link and node data. Features that might be thought of as area features are treated in the data as linear features, for example, a DLUA boundary is treated as a polyline in layer G8056300.

Name features

Name features are treated as free-standing text data. There is no explicit relationship (in the data) between a text feature and the point or line feature to which it belongs.

Ordnance Survey distinguishes between layer name types – for example, place names and station names – by placing each name type in a separate DXF layer.

Text has position, expressed as a single coordinate pair held as X and Y offsets from the map origin (south west corner). Text that is double or treble banked is treated as two or three separate features. The text string may be considered to be contained within an envelope whose bottom left-hand corner is positioned on this coordinate pair. Text is oriented; that is, it may run from west to east across the map, or it may be plotted at some other angle measured anticlockwise from grid east.

Drawing content and format

Coordinate system

The coordinate system is National Grid (NG).

The National Grid coordinates are to a resolution of 0.01 m. This is the resolution of the source data.

Height

No height attributes are applied to any feature.

See chapter 2 of the technical specification, [8 Gridded Height](#).

Layer names

See the AutoCAD publication *Layer Naming Convention for CAD in the Construction Industry*, version 2, which is based upon the guidelines laid down in *BS 1192: Part 5 – Guide for structuring of computer graphic information*.

Each layer name is an eight-character string. The first four characters relate to the AUG/Autodesk system, with G (GIS) as the source of the information, and 800–899 as the part code. This product is G805.

The remaining four digits relate to existing Ordnance Survey digital map data in their own NTF system and are leading zero-filled.

For example:

G8053000 – Motorways

Neatline

Neatlines around the extent of the map data are added as lines in the ENTITIES section (layer name G8050572).

Grid

A grid is added as lines in the ENTITIES section (layer name G8050572). The grid is created by the translator and, therefore, must be specified before the translation takes place.

Grid values

Full 100 000 metre National Grid easting and northing values followed by an *m* are added as text strings in the ENTITIES section (layer name G8050573) at each corner of the map extent, either horizontal or vertical, to read from the lower left corner of the tile.

Intermediate grid values are shown as multiples of 1 000 metres from the nearest 100 km National Grid (layer name G8050572). These are horizontal.

Meridian 2 DXF layers

Layer name	Feature name	Line type	Line	Entity	Colour	Block
G8053000	Motorway	CONTINUOUS	3	POLYLINE	BLUE	
G8053001	A road	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	RED	
G8053002	B road	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	ORANGE	
G8053004	Minor road	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	WHITE	
G8053500	Road node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE (small)
G8053501	Road edge node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE (small)
G8056140	Railways	CONTINUOUS	3	POLYLINE	WHITE	
G8056142	Tunnelled railway	DASHED	1	POLYLINE	WHITE	
G8056155	Station	DOT		INSERT	RED	CIRCLE
G8056730	Railway node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE (small)
G8056731	Railway edge node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE (small)
G8056401	County boundary	DASHDOT	1	POLYLINE	GREEN	
G8056403	District boundary/London borough/unitary authority	DASHED	1	POLYLINE	GREEN	
G8056405	County/district/London borough/unitary authority boundary	DASHDOT	1	POLYLINE	GREEN	
G8056800	Boundary neat line	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	GREEN	
G8056411	County seed	CONTINUOUS		INSERT	GREEN	SEEDPOINT
G8056415	District seed	CONTINUOUS		INSERT	GREEN	SEEDPOINT
G8056710	Boundary node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE
G8056711	Boundary edge node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE
G8056200	Coastline	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	BLUE	
G8056740	Coastline node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE
G8056741	Coastline edge node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE
G8056300	DLUA boundary	CONTINUOUS	2	POLYLINE	GREY	
G8056310	DLUA seed	CONTINUOUS		INSERT	GREY	DLUASEED
G8056720	DLUA node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE
G8056721	DLUA edge node	DOT		INSERT	GREEN	CIRCLE
G8056801	DLUA neat line	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	GREY	
G8056500	Place name	CONTINUOUS		TEXT	WHITE	
G8056551	Station name	CONTINUOUS		TEXT	WHITE	
G8050575	Default	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	WHITE	
G8050571	Footnotes	CONTINUOUS		INSERT	WHITE	ME_FOOTNOTES
G8050572	Grid lines and values	CONTINUOUS	1	LINE/TEXT	WHITE	
G8050573	Grid values	CONTINUOUS		TEXT	WHITE	
G8056223	River – small	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	YELLOW	
G8056224	River – medium	CONTINUOUS	2	POLYLINE	YELLOW	
G8056225	River – large	CONTINUOUS	3	POLYLINE	GREEN	
G8056230	River – hidden	DASHED	1	POLYLINE	GREEN	
G8056231	Aqueduct	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	GREEN	

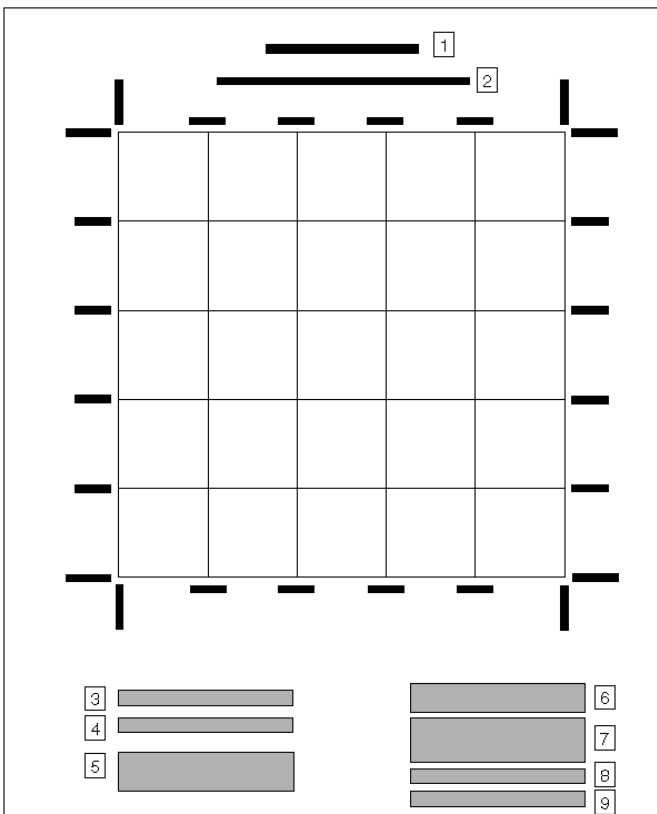
Layer name	Feature name	Line type	Line	Entity	Colour	Block
G8056232	Dark link	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	BLUE	
G8056243	Canal	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	YELLOW	
G8056255	Area water (lake)	CONTINUOUS	2	POLYLINE	GREEN	
G8056292	Area water (seed)	CONTINUOUS		INSERT	BLUE	SEEDPOINT
G8056552	Water text	CONTINUOUS		TEXT	RED	
G8056770	Water feature (node)	DOT		INSERT	BLUE	CIRCLE
G8056771	Area water (node)	DOT		INSERT	BLUE	CIRCLE
G8056772	Area water (edge node)	DOT		INSERT	BLUE	CIRCLE
G8056773	Water feature (edge node)	DOT		INSERT	BLUE	CIRCLE
G8056803	Area water (neat line)	CONTINUOUS	2	POLYLINE	YELLOW	
G8056664	Woodland boundary	CONTINUOUS	2	POLYLINE	CYAN	
G8056750	Woodland boundary node	DOT		INSERT	BLUE	CIRCLE
G8056663	Woodland seed	CONTINUOUS		INSERT	WHITE	SEEDPOINT
G8056751	Woodland (tile edge) node	DOT		INSERT	WHITE	CIRCLE
G8056802	Woodland (tile edge) polygon	CONTINUOUS	1	POLYLINE	CYAN	
G8056762	Gridded height	DOT		INSERT	MAGENTA	

DXF footnotes

The following footnotes are added as an insert BLOCK in the ENTITIES section of the DXF data file. The positions of the footnotes are indicated in figure 5.1.

- NOTE 1: Top margin centrally aligned, 1 750 ground metres, Layer: G8050571 Ordnance Survey®
- NOTE 2: Top margin centrally aligned, 1 500 ground metres, Layer: G8050571 Meridian 2 data
- NOTE 3: Lower left margin, 500 ground metres, Layer: G8050571 Translation date dd Mmmmmmmmm CCYY
- NOTE 4: Lower left margin, 500 ground metres, Layer: G8050571 Tile reference number _ _ _
- NOTE 5: Lower left margin, 500 ground metres, Layer: G8050571 Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Meridian™ 2 data with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright CCYY
- NOTE 6: Lower right margin, 500 ground metres, Layer: G8050571 The derived scale of the product is dependent upon the source data.
- NOTE 7: Lower right margin, 500 ground metres, Layer: G8050571 The representation of a road, track or path is no evidence of a right of way. The alignment of tunnels is approximate.
- NOTE 8: Lower right margin, 500 ground metres, Layer: G8050571 Date of last amendment dd Mmmmmmmmm CCYY
- NOTE 9: Lower right margin, 500 ground metres, Layer:G8050571 Product specification. 'Meridian_02.04'

Figure 5.1: Layout of footnotes



Chapter 6 DXF file structure for Meridian 2

General

The following paragraphs describe the DXF group and section structure for the transfer of Meridian 2. It is assumed that the reader of this chapter is familiar with the AutoCAD, release 12, reference manual, which is published by:

Autodesk Ltd
1 Meadow Gate Avenue
Farnborough Business Park
FARNBOROUGH
GU14 6FG.

Website: www.autodesk.co.uk

or an equivalent document published by the reader's software supplier if a CAD package other than AutoCAD is to be used.

Meridian 2 DXF files containing Ordnance Survey data can be very large and so are supplied on CD-ROM media only.

This chapter gives a detailed breakdown of the data structure of Meridian 2 in DXF. This is a two-stage procedure that consists of:

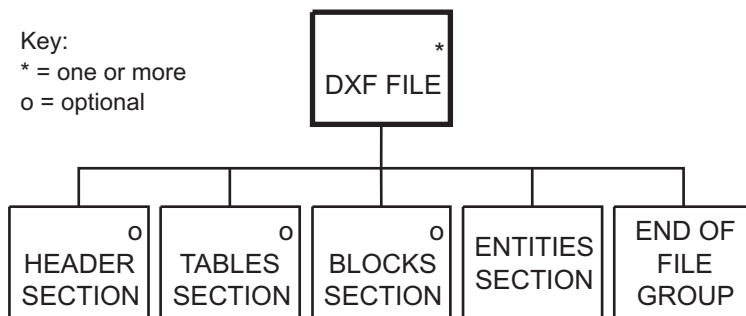
- a diagrammatic view of the data structure with a preceding outline description of that part of the data structure; and
- detailed examples of the record sequence and contents of the data structure. A diagram of the record group precedes each example.

Data structure

The following diagrams (figures 6.1–6.14) represent the data structure of DXF. Where one element of a figure is the starting point for another figure, this is indicated beneath the relevant box.

For details of the specification for the DXF group, see the AutoCAD, Release 12, reference manual.

Figure 6.1: Level 1

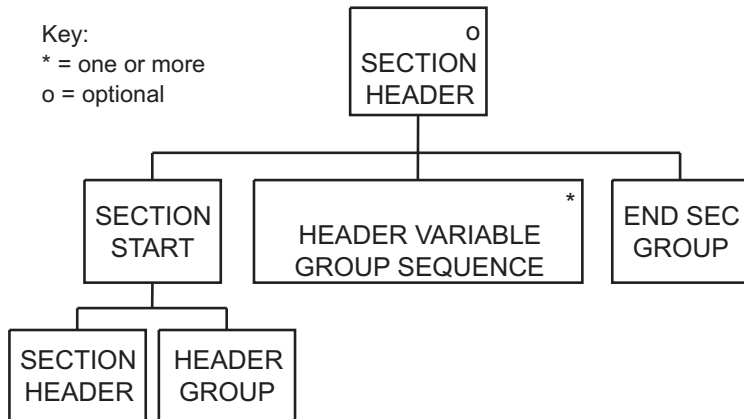


(Figure 6.2) (Figure 6.3) (Figure 6.9) (Figure 6.11)

Header

The header will be constructed as follows, with only those fields being supplied.

Figure 6.2: Level 2



The header must be structured in the following order.

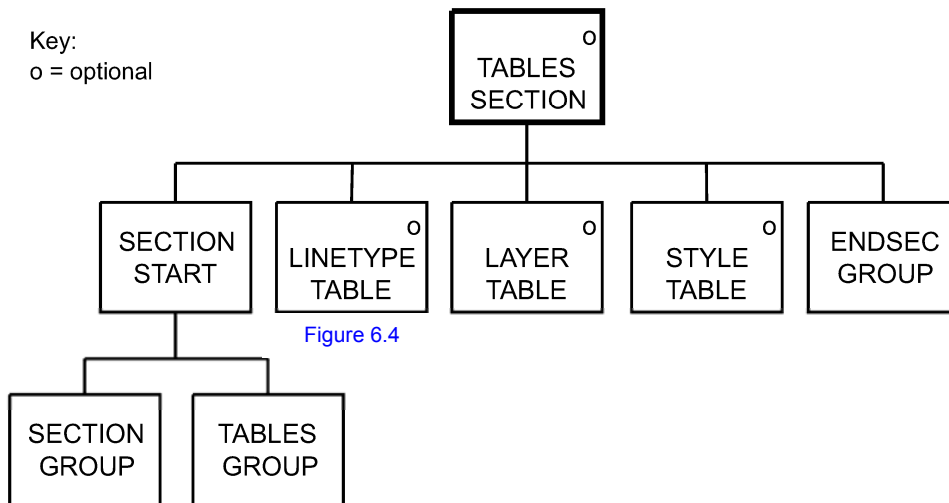
0	
SECTION	
2	
HEADER	
9	
\$ACADVER	AutoCAD drawing database version number
1	
AC1009	This indicates Release 11 or 12 (not 9)
9	
\$EXTMIN	X and Y drawing extents lower left corner
10	
nnnnnnn . nn	Minimum eastings, (National Grid coordinates)
20	
nnnnnnn . nn	Minimum northings, (National Grid coordinates)
9	
\$EXTMAX	X and Y drawing extents, upper right corner
10	
nnnnnnn . nn	Maximum eastings, (National Grid coordinates)
20	
nnnnnnn . nn	Maximum northings, (National Grid coordinates)
9	
\$LIMMIN	X and Y drawing limits, lower left corner
10	
nnnnnn . n	X drawing limit, lower left corner, (in the AutoCAD World Coordinate System (WCS))
20	
nnnnnn . n	Y drawing limit, lower left corner, (in WCS)
9	
\$LIMMAX	X and Y drawing limits, upper right corner
10	

nnnnnn . n 20	X drawing limit, upper right corner, (in WCS)
nnnnnn . n 9	Y drawing limit, upper right corner, (in WCS)
\$LTSCALE 40 100.0 9	Global linetype scale
\$ATTMODE 70 1 9	Attribute visibility This sets attributes to on when the file is open
\$TEXTSIZE 40 1.0 9	Default text height
\$TEXTSTYLE 7	Current text style name
STANDARD 9	
\$CELTYPE 6	Entity linetype name
BYLAYER 9	
\$CECOLOR 62 256 9	Entity colour name Indicates colour ID BY LAYER
\$LUNITS 70 2 9	Units format for coordinates and distances
\$LUPREC 70 1 9	Units precision for coordinates and distances
\$AUPREC 70 1 9	Units precision for angles
\$ANGBASE 50 0.0 9	Angle zero direction

\$ANGDIR Angle rotation
 70
 0 1 = clockwise angles, 0 = anti-clockwise angles
 9
 \$PDMODE Point display mode
 70
 1
 9
 \$PDSIZE Point display size
 40
 0.0
 9
 \$PLINEGEN Sets the linetype pattern generation around the vertices of a 2-dimensional polyline
 70
 1
 0
 ENDSEC End of section

Tables

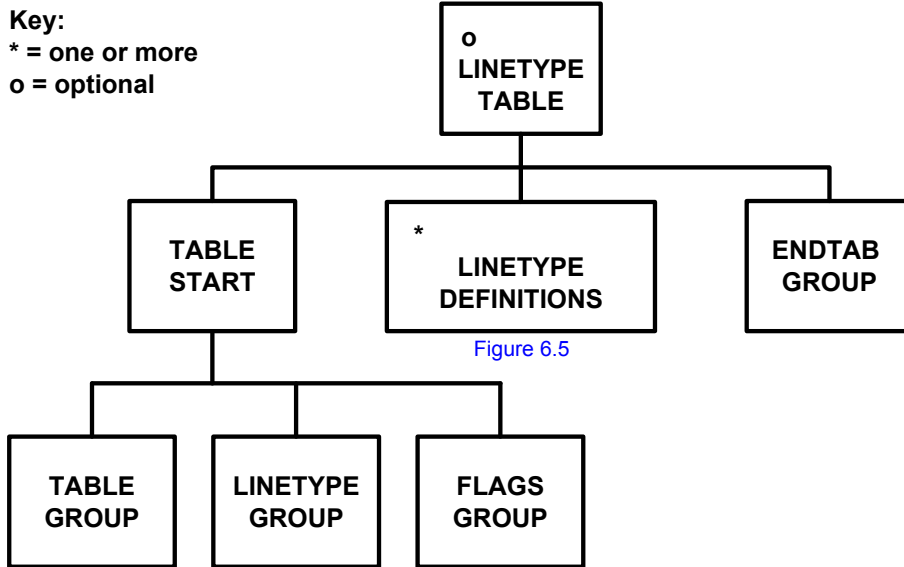
Figure 6.3: Level 2



The Tables Section will follow the Header Section and will contain three tables:

- Linetype Table.
- Layer Table.
- Style Table.

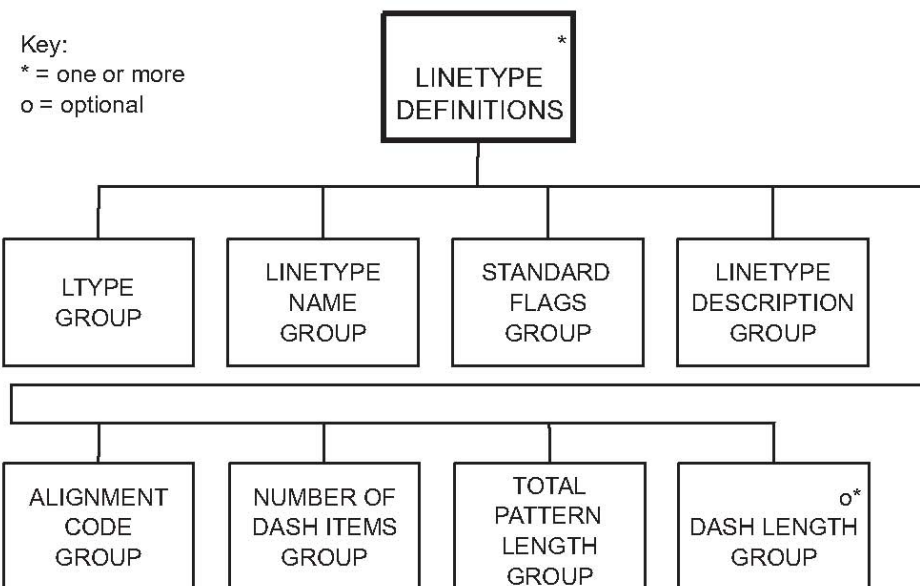
Figure 6.4: Linetype Table Level 3



The Linetype Table will contain definitions for the following line types:

- solid line (CONTINUOUS)
- dashed line (DASHED)
- dashdot line (DASHDOT)
- dotted line (DOT)

Figure 6.5: Level 4



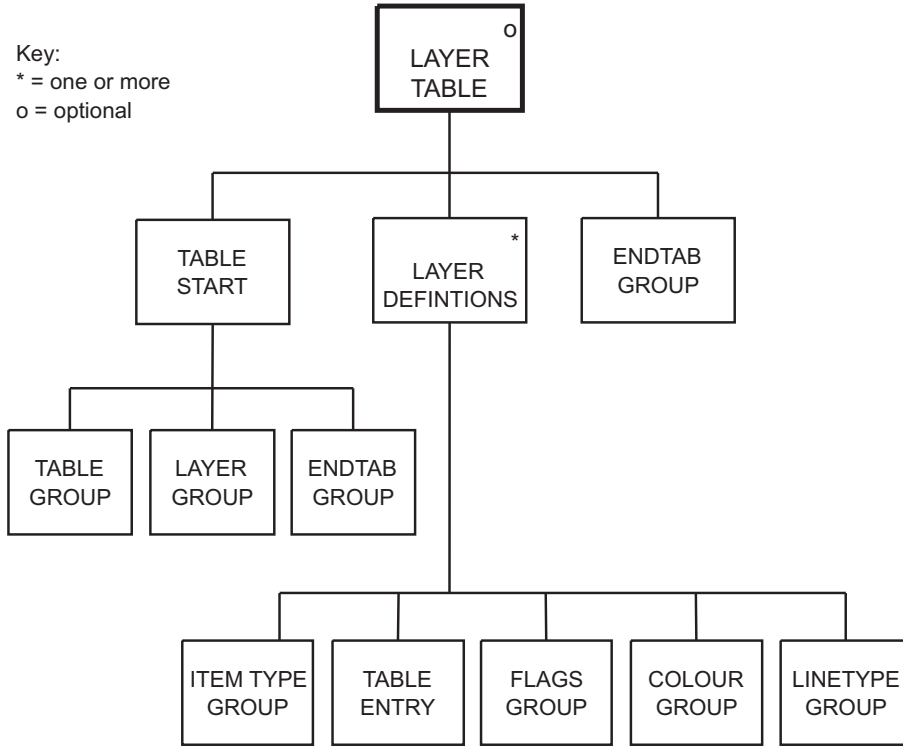
Thus:

```
0
TABLE
2
LTYPE
70
5
0
LTYPE
2
CONTINUOUS
70
64
3
Solid Line
72
65
73
0
40
0.0
0
LTYPE
2
DASHED
70
64
3
-----
72
65
73
2
40
0.75
49
0.5
49
-0.25
0
LTYPE
2
DASHDOT
70
0
3
-----
72
65
73
4
40
1.0
49
0.5
49
-0.25
49
0.0
49
-0.25
0
LTYPE
2
DOT
70
64
3
.....
72
65
73
```

2
 40
 0.25
 49
 0.0
 49
 -0.25

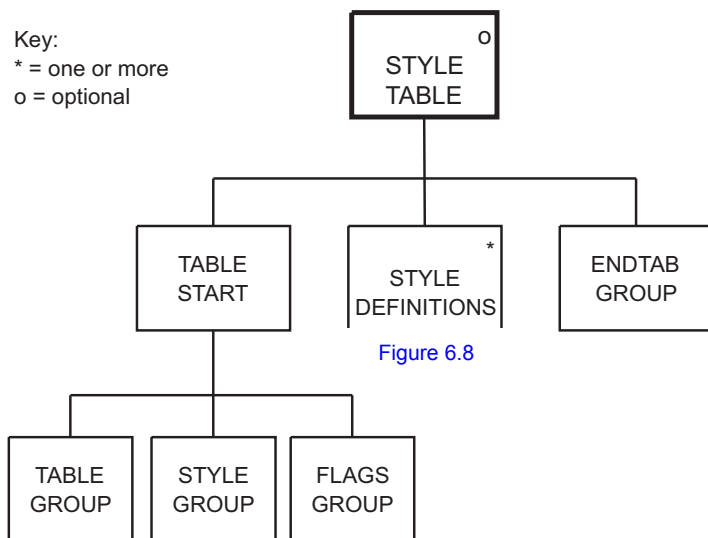
0
 ENDTAB

Figure 6.6: Level 3



Details of the Layer Table can be seen in [Meridian 2 DXF layers](#) in chapter 5.

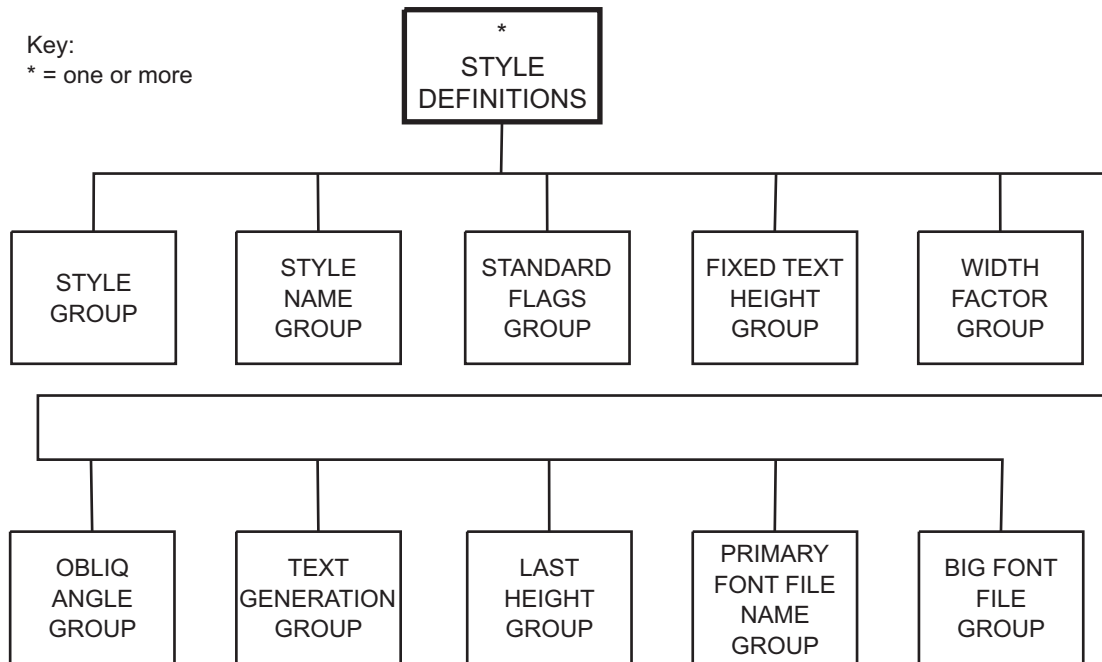
Figure 6.7: Style Table level 3



The Style Table will contain the text file load instructions for:

- SIMPLEX.SHX
- MONOTEXT.SHX

Figure 6.8: Level 4



Blocks

Figure 6.9: Level 2

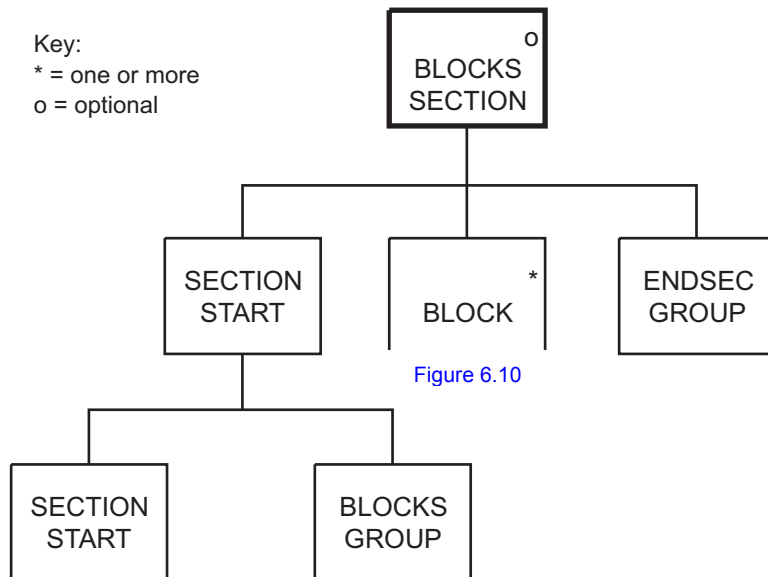
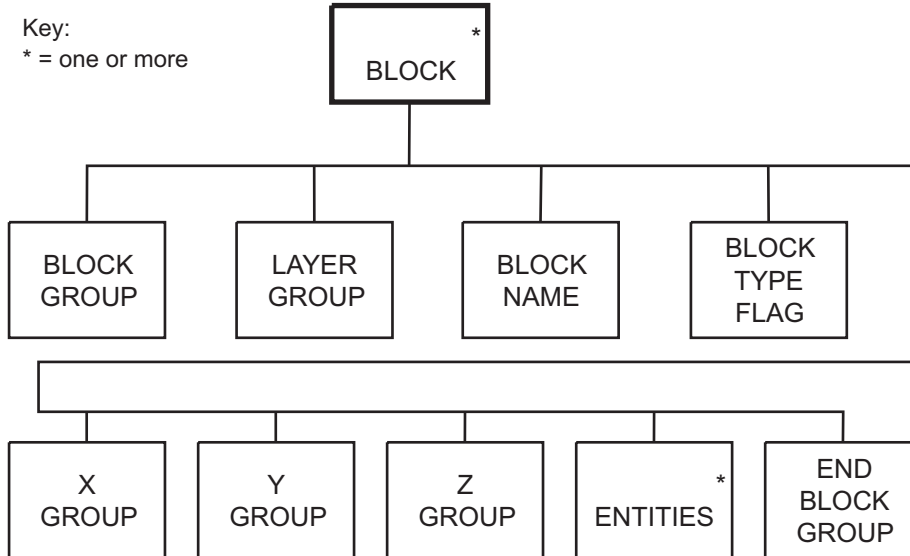


Figure 6.10: Level 3



Entities section

The Entities Section will contain DXF entities for:

- Ordnance Survey map footnotes data (INSERT entities);
- Grid and neatline (TEXT and LINE entities); and
- Ordnance Survey features (TEXT, POLYLINE and INSERT entities).

Extended entity data will be used to store attributes.

The structure of each different entity is as follows:

a – INSERT entities – these consist of:

- INSERT entity type group (Attribute number 0)
- Layer name group (8)
- Block name group (2)
- X coordinate group (10)
- Y coordinate group (20)
- X scale factor (41) [optional]
- Y scale factor (42) [optional]
- Orientation group (50) [optional if 0]

b – LINE entities – these consist of:

- LINE entity type group (0)
- Layer name group (8)
- Start X coordinate group (10)
- Start Y coordinate group (20)
- End X coordinate group (11)
- End Y coordinate group (21)

c – POLYLINE entities – these consist of:

- POLYLINE entity type group (0)
- Layer name group (8)
- Vertices follow flag group (66)
- Polyline flags group (70) [optional]
- A number of VERTEX entities [shown below]
- SEQEND group (0)

d – VERTEX entities – these consist of:

- VERTEX entity type group (0)
- Layer name group (8)
- X coordinate group (10)
- Y coordinate group (20)
- Z coordinate group (30)

e – TEXT entities – these consist of:

- TEXT entity type group (0)
- Layer name group (8)
- X coordinate group (10)
- Y coordinate group (20)
- Text height group (40)
- Text string group (1)
- Justify type group (72) [optional if 0]
- Justify type group (73) [optional if 0]
- Orientation group (50) [optional if 0]
- Text style group (7) [optional]
- Align X group (11) [only present if Justify type group is present and has a value of 2]
- Align Y group (21) [only present if Justify type group is present and has a value of 2]

f – EXTENDED entities – these consist of:

- Application name (1001)
- Control string (1002)
- String (1000) [one or more]
- Control string (1002)

Figure 6.11: Level 2

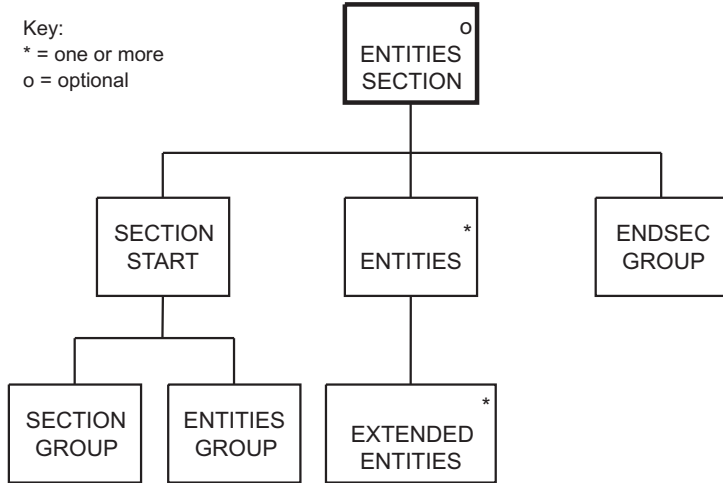


Figure 6.12: Level 3

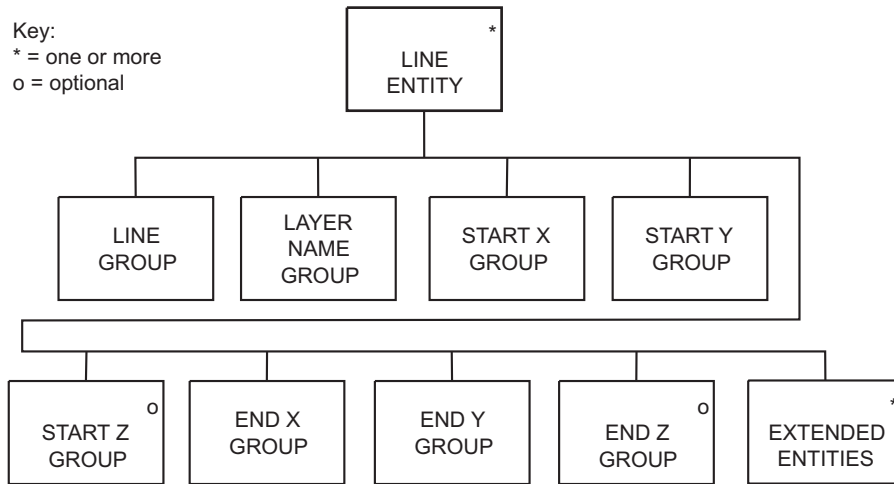


Figure 6.13: Level 3

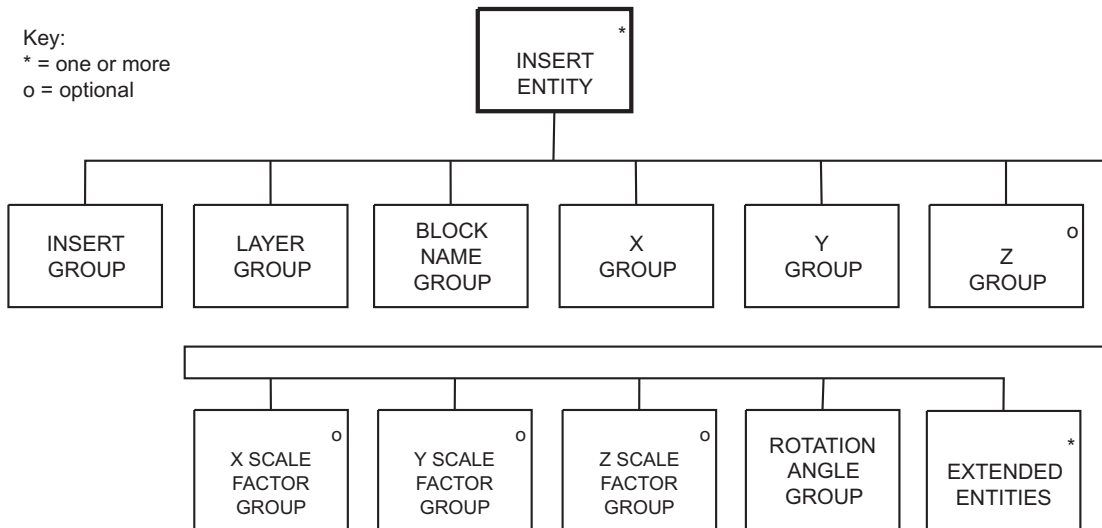


Figure 6.14: Level 3

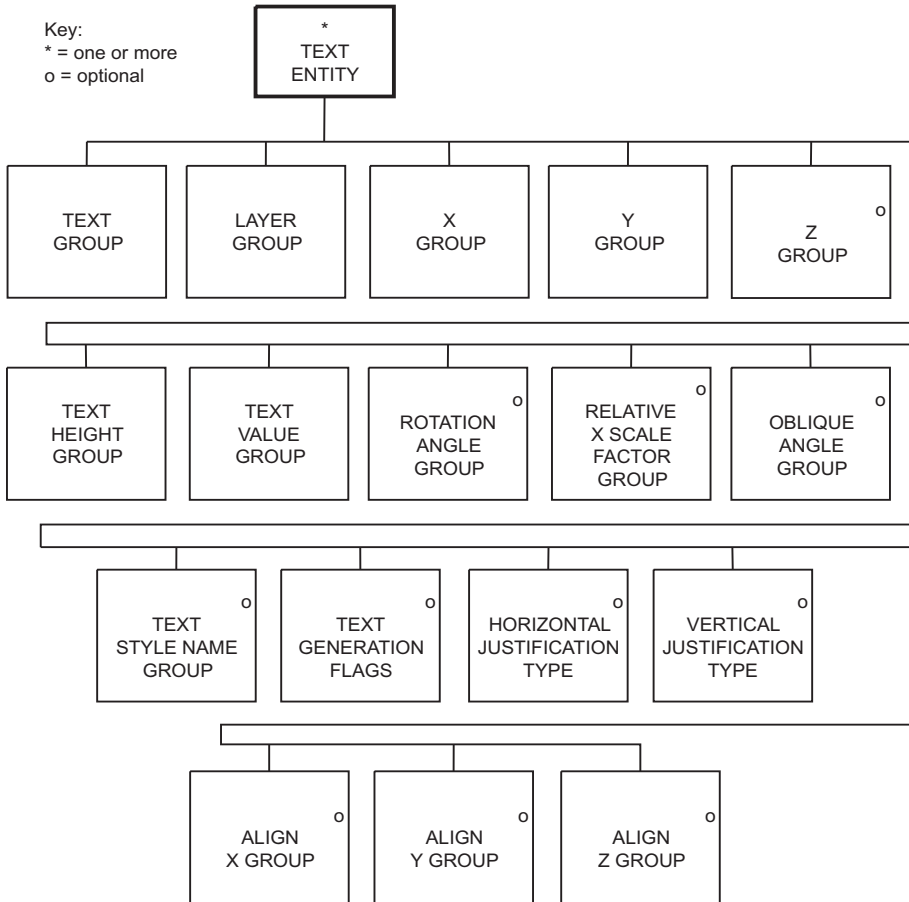


Figure 6.15: Level 3

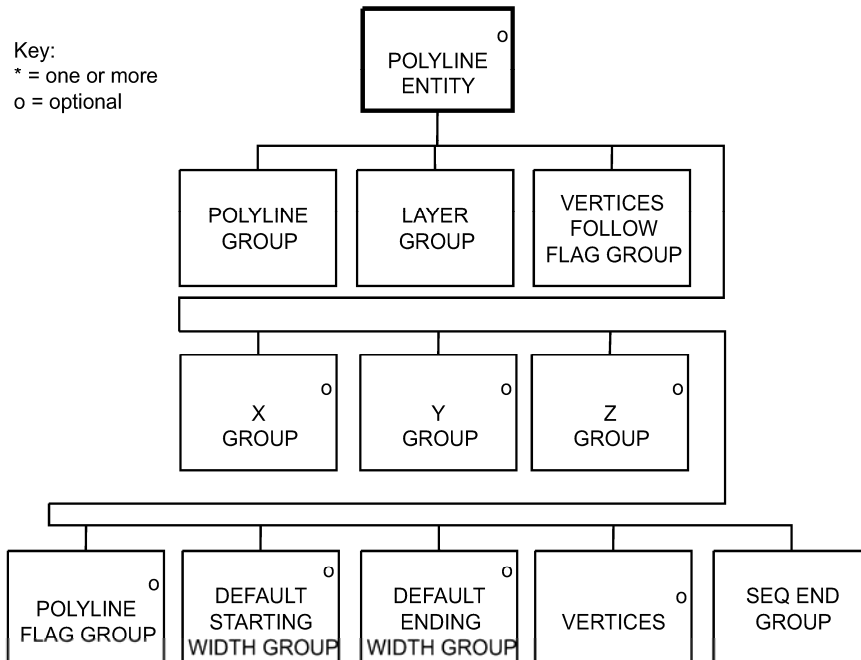
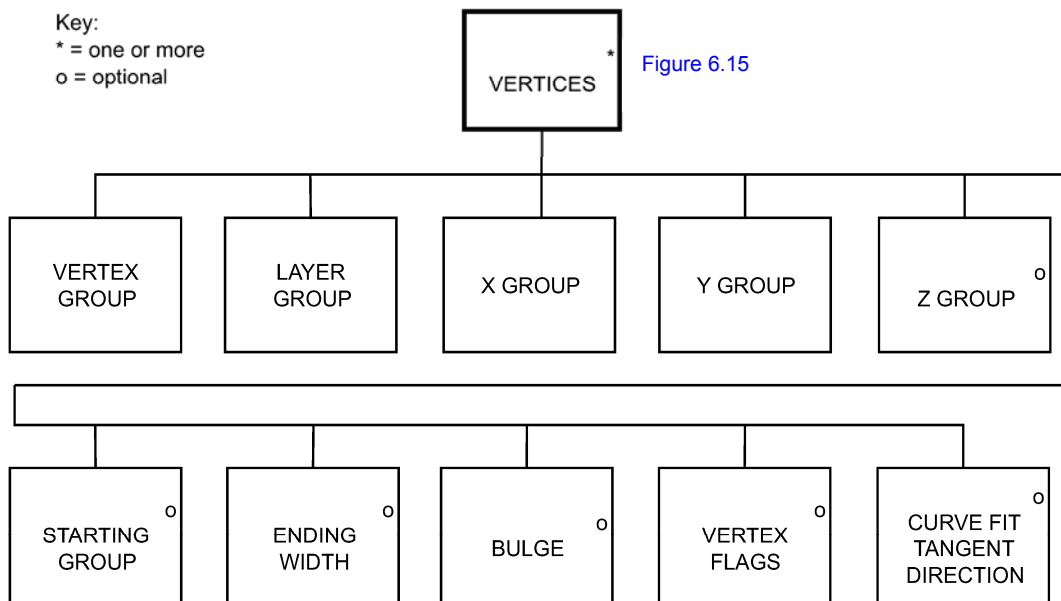


Figure 6.16

Figure 6.16: Vertex entity (level 4)

Key:
* = one or more
o = optional



End of File group

This group will end with DXF EOF (End of File) group.

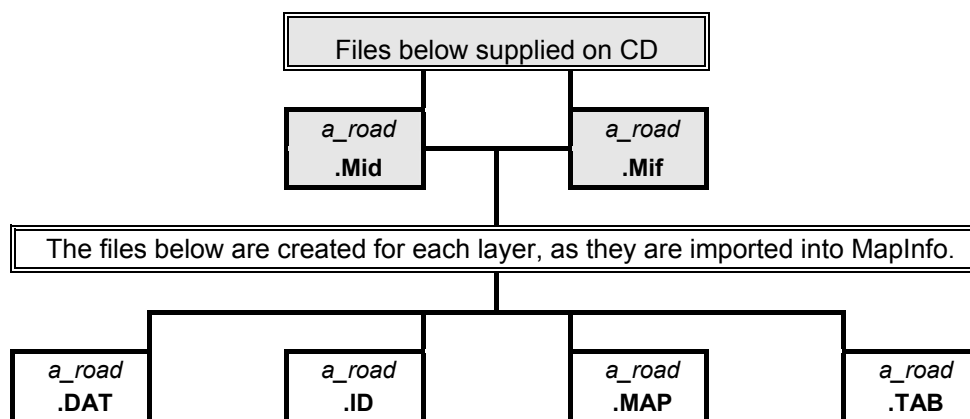
Chapter 7 An overview of Meridian 2 in Mid/Mif

Meridian 2 is available in Mid/Mif

The transfer format is as defined by the MapInfo Professional User's Guide (v8.0): MapInfo Map Interchange Format. MapInfo Interchange Format (MIF) is an ASCII file format that can fully describe a MapInfo database. Both graphic and tabular data are exported into MIF files. The graphic data is in a file with a '.mif' extension, and the tabular data is in a file with a '.mid' extension.

MapInfo Interchange Format files can be translated into other formats with other programs.

An overview of the data structure of a Meridian 2 file in Mid/Mif is shown below.



Once this is done, it is ready for use (the above example is for the A road layer).

Structure of Meridian 2 in MapInfo

Meridian 2 has a limited link and node data structure: within this structure, a feature may be a name, a point or a line (or series of lines forming a coherent unit). Each feature is free-standing; that is, its topological relationship to any other feature is not expressed in the data. Features are classified by type and each type is placed in a separate TAB layer.

NOTE: Road change information only consists of tabular data, that is, it will not have any geographic (map) data.

Line features

A feature is a subjective entity; that is, so long as the constituent lines are the same description (layer), a feature need not fully describe a logical piece of detail.

The extent of a feature is determined by digitising conventions and does not always coincide with the topology. Each linear feature is composed of a string of XY coordinate pairs implicitly joined by straight lines. The line weights for the layers are defined by the parameter file shown in [annexe B](#).

Area features

Area features are polygons with attributes added.

Names features

Names features are treated as free-standing text data. There is no explicit relationship (in the data) between a text feature and the point or line feature to which it belongs. Ordnance Survey distinguishes between layer name types – for example, place names and station names – by placing each name type in a separate layer. Text has position, expressed as a single coordinate pair held as X and Y offsets from the map origin (south-west corner). If there are any double- or treble-banked names they will be treated as two or three separate features. Anchor points at the bottom left hand corner and digitising positions define the text string content. Text is oriented, that is, it may run from west to east across the map, or it may be plotted at some angle measured anticlockwise from grid east.

Drawing content and format

Coordinate system

The coordinate system is National Grid (NG).

The National Grid coordinates are to a resolution of 0.1 m. This is the resolution of the source data.

Height

Height information is produced in the form of DTM-style data. Gridded height information is averaged from the 50 m resolution Land-Form PANORAMA dataset to a resolution of 200 m and rounded down to the nearest 1 m value. See [chapter 2](#) in the technical specification.

Layer names

MapInfo supports long file names. This allows you to use up to 260 characters when naming your file. In addition, any one name within your directory path can be up to 255 characters. You can insert spaces in the file name and long file names can have more than one "." in them. When using more than one ".", you must remember to type in the file extension in order to save the file correctly. For example, you can name a table as follows: \\Meridian2\release.date.dbf.

Layer names were created and set when the original NTF data was translated (number of layers = 20), The Meridian import parameters in the translator highlights a feature code and allocates it to a layer. The logic behind which layer the feature code was allocated to was down to relationship of features.

Neatline

No neatline.

Grid

No grid.

Grid values

No grid values.

Important information

Certain feature codes that are used and defined in NTF, are not required or used in MapInfo. Some examples of this are:

- 3501 – Road Edge Node
- 6411 – County Seed
- 6710 – Boundary Node, unspecified

Other feature codes that are not used: 6415, 6711, 6800, 6741, 6310, 6720, 6721, 6801, 6731, 6730, 6292, 6770, 6771, 6772, 6773, 6803, 6663, 6802, 6750, 6751 and 6740.

See [annexe B](#) for more detail on feature codes.

Chapter 8 An overview of Meridian 2 in ESRI shapefile

ESRI shapefiles are a simple, non-topological format for storing the geometric location and attribute information of geographic features. A shapefile is one of the spatial data formats that you can work with in ArcView GIS.

The shapefile format defines the geometry and attributes of geographically referenced features in as many as five files with specific file extensions that should be stored in the same project workspace. They are:

.avl – the file that stores the legend template

.shp – the file that stores the feature geometry.

.shx – the file that stores the index of the feature geometry.

.dbf – the dBASE file that stores the attribute information of features. When a shapefile is added as a theme to a view, this file is displayed as a feature table.

.prj – the file that stores the projection information

.sbn and .sbx – the files that store the spatial index of the features. These two files may not exist until you perform theme on theme selection, spatial join, or create an index on a theme's shape field. If you have write access to the source data directory, the index files will be persistent and remain after your ArcView session is complete. If you do not have write access to the source data directory, they will be removed when you close the project or exit ArcView.

.ain and .aih – the files that store the attribute index of the active fields in a table or a theme's attribute table. These two files may not exist until you perform link on the tables. If you have write access to the source data directory, the index files will be persistent and remain after your ArcView session is complete. If you do not have write access to the source data directory, they will be removed when you close the project or exit ArcView.

The native shapefile format used by ArcView GIS does not support text; text files are supplied as shapefile format will become a coverage of points.

ArcView will display shapefiles (and Arc coverages as supplied) with a random point/line/region/text style each time they are opened. ArcView legend files can therefore be created to enable the data to be displayed with the same symbology whenever it is displayed. When using a legend file, it is possible to display the features in a theme based on one of the theme's attributes (this essentially creates a thematic or unique values map). In a unique values map a different colour is used to symbolise each value in an attribute.

In the case of Meridian 2, the cartographic text theme uses a unique values legend to distinguish place names, station names, and water text. All other themes use single symbol legends, that is, all features in the theme will be displayed using the same symbology.

In order for the legend files to work, they must have the same file name as the one to which they correspond, for example, 'motorways.shp' must have a legend file called 'motorways.avl'.

Structure as MID/MIF, see [chapter 7](#).

Drawing content and format as MID/MIF also see [chapter 7](#).

All polygons are represented as single-part features.

Shapefile Symbology table

Feature code	Description	Symbol	Legend
FC3000	Motorway	Single	MOTORWAY_L
FC3001	A Road	Single	AROAD_L
FC3002	B Road	Single	BROAD_L
FC3004	Minor Road	Single	MINORROAD_L
FC3500	Road Node, Unspecified	Single	ROADNODE_P/JUNCTION_P / ROUNDAABOUT_P / SETTLEMENT_P
FC3501	Road Edge Node, Unspecified	Single	(not used)
FC6140	Railway	Single	RAILWAYLINE_L
FC6142	Railway (Tunnelled)	Single	RAILWAYLINE_L

Feature code	Description	Symbol	Legend
FC6155	Station, Point	Single	RAILWAYSTN_P
FC6200	Coast	Single	COASTLINE_L
FC6223	Water Feature (River Small)	Single	RIVER_L
FC6224	Water Feature (River Medium)	Single	RIVER_L
FC6225	Water Feature (River Large)	Single	RIVER_L
FC6230	Water Feature (Hidden)	Single	RIVER_L
FC6231	Water Feature (Aqueduct)	Single	RIVER_L
FC6232	Water Feature (Dark Link)	Single	RIVER_L
FC6243	Water Feature (Canal)	Single	RIVER_L
FC6255	Area Water (Lake)	Single	LAKES_A
FC6292	Area Water (Seed)	Single	(not used)
FC6300	DLUA Boundary	Single	DLUA_A
FC6310	DLUA Seed-Point	Single	(not used)
FC6401	County Boundary	Single	ADMINLINE_L / COUNTY_A
FC6403	District Boundary	Single	ADMINLINE_L / DISTRICT_A
FC6405	County/District Boundary	Single	ADMINLINE_L
FC6411	County Seed-Point	Single	(not used)
FC6415	District Seed-Point	Single	(not used)
FC6500	Names	Unique	CARTOTEXT_T
FC6551	Station Name	Unique	CARTOTEXT_T
FC6552	Water Text	Unique	CARTOTEXT_T
FC6663	Woodland Seed	Single	(not used)
FC6664	Woodland Boundary	Single	WOODLAND_A
FC6710	Boundary Node, Unspecified	Single	(not used)
FC6711	Boundary Edge Node	Single	(not used)
FC6720	DLUA Node, Unspecified	Single	(not used)
FC6721	DLUA Edge Node, Unspecified	Single	(not used)
FC6730	Railway Node	Single	(not used)
FC6731	Railway Edge Node	Single	(not used)
FC6740	Coast Node, Unspecified	Single	(not used)
FC6741	Coast Edge Node, Unspecified	Single	(not used)
FC6750	Woodland Node	Single	(not used)
FC6751	Woodland Edge Node	Single	(not used)
FC6762	Height Point Feature	Single	HEIGHT_P
FC6770	Water Feature (Node)	Single	(not used)
FC6771	Area Water (Node)	Single	(not used)
FC6772	Area Water (Edge Node)	Single	(not used)
FC6773	Water Feature (Edge Node)	Single	(not used)
FC6800	Admin Area (Neat Line)	Single	(not used)
FC6801	DLUA (Neat Line)	Single	(not used)
FC6802	Woodland (Neat Line)	Single	(not used)
FC6803	Area Water (Neat Line)	Single	(not used)

Annexe A Glossary

accuracy

The closeness of the results of observations, computations or estimates to the true values or the values accepted as being true. Accuracy relates to the exactness of the result, and is the exactness of the operation by which the result is obtained.

administrative area

A term used by Ordnance Survey to refer to all public administrative areas, specifically local government management and electoral areas.

American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII).

A seven-bit code for encoding a standard character set.

area

A spatial extent defined by circumscribing lines that form a closed perimeter that does not intersect itself.

area seed

A point within an area that can be used to carry the attributes of the whole area, for example, ownership, address and use type

attribute

An attribute is a property of an entity, usually used to refer to a non-spatial qualification of a spatially referenced entity, for example, a descriptive code indicating what an entity represents or how it should be portrayed.

attribute class

A specific group of attributes, for example, those describing measure, serviceability, structure or composition

attribute code

An alphanumeric identifier for an attribute type.

attribute value

A specific quality or quantity assigned to an attribute.

basic scale

The scale at which the survey is maintained. For Ordnance Survey mapping, three scales (1:1250, 1:2500 and 1:10 000) are used. Any area is only maintained at one basic scale.

block

Data on magnetic media may be recorded in blocks of characters for more efficient movement within or between computer systems. The length of the block will vary according to the medium and the data transfer format used.

boundary

A boundary is the limit of a predefined and established area whose limit is determined by one or more [lines](#), for example, county area boundary and DLUA boundary.

byte

A unit of computer storage of binary data usually comprising 8 bits, equivalent to a character. Hence [megabyte \(Mb\)](#) and [gigabyte \(Gb\)](#).

CAD

Computer-aided design.

cartography

The organisation and communication of geographically related information in either graphic or digital form. It can include all stages from data acquisition to presentation and use.

character

A distinctive mark; an inscribed letter; one of a set of writing symbols.

character string

A one-dimensional array of characters held either in memory or in another storage medium.

coding

Allocation of a feature code to a feature being created from constituent construction data – points and/or segments; with optional linking to an existing feature of the same feature code.

compact disc-read only memory (CD-ROM)

A data storage medium. A 12 cm disc similar to an audio CD. Ordnance Survey uses the writable CD, a WORM (write once read many) device. The digital bits are encoded into a vegetable dye and, once written, cannot be erased by overwriting with subsequent data. A laser reads the disc.

continuation mark

A logical record may contain more data than can be held in a single physical record. The physical record contains a continuation mark – the penultimate character of the record in NTF – to indicate whether more data is to be found in a continuation record.

continuation record

A specific NTF term. A continuation record is used where space does not allow one logical record to be contained wholly within one physical record.

coordinate pair

A coordinate pair is an easting and a northing.

coordinates

Pairs of numbers expressing horizontal distances along original axis. Alternatively, that triplet of numbers measuring horizontal and vertical distances. Row and column numbers of pixels from raw imagery are not considered coordinates for the purpose of the standard.

copyright

Copyright is a legal property right that enables the creator of an original work to protect it from unauthorised use. Through the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988*, Crown copyright continues to subsist in all Ordnance Survey products until the end of the period of 50 years from the end of the year in which they were published, and in the case of data, from the end of the year in which it was extracted from the Ordnance Survey database. Crown copyright is vested in The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, who has delegated powers to the Director General, Ordnance Survey for the administration of copyright in publications and data, including the determination of terms and conditions under which permission for their reproduction is given.

currency

An expression of how up to date data is

data

A representation of facts, concepts or instructions in a formalised manner suitable for communication, interpretation or processing.

data capture

The encoding of data. In the context of digital mapping, this includes map digitising, direct recording by electronic survey instruments and the encoding of text and attributes by whatever means.

data format

A specification that defines the order in which data is stored or a description of the way data is held in a file or record.

data model

An abstraction of the real world that incorporates only those properties thought to be relevant to the application or applications at hand. The data model would normally define specific groups of entities and their attributes and the relationship between these entities. A data model is independent of a computer system and its associated data structures. A map is one example of an analogue data model.

database

An organised, integrated collection of data stored so as to be capable of use in relevant applications, with the data being accessed by different logical paths. Theoretically, it is application-independent, but in reality it is rarely so.

dataset

An Ordnance Survey term for a named collection of logically related features arranged in a prescribed manner, for example, all water features. A dataset has more internal structure than a layer and is related to another dataset only by position.

DDS

Digital Data Storage.

density

A measure of the number of units of data held on a stated length of storage surface.

detached part

A term applying to a part of a local government or parliamentary area that is completely surrounded by other local government or parliamentary areas, and is not connected to the parent area by direct access on the ground.

digital

Data that is expressed as numbers (digits) in computer-readable form is said to be digital.

digital map

Any map sold by Ordnance Survey or its agents in any form, that is, on computer-readable media or as hard copy on paper and/or film or microfilm – produced mainly, or wholly, using computerised means.

digital map data

The digital data required to represent a map. The data includes not only map detail but also feature header data, map header data and management data.

digitising

The process of converting analogue maps and other sources to a computer-readable form. This may be point digitising, where points are only recorded when a button is pressed on a cursor, or stream digitising where points are recorded automatically at preset intervals of either distance or time as the cursor is traced along a map feature.

distinctive name

A text feature consisting of text string(s) that form(s) a proper name.

DXF (Data Exchange Format)

A proprietary data format, devised by Autodesk, by which digital drawings may be transferred between users of CAD systems. DXF has become an industry standard data format and is used for the transfer of some Ordnance Survey data products.

eastings

See [rectangular coordinates](#).

edge match

The process of ensuring that data along the adjacent edges of map sheets, or some other unit of storage, matches in both positional and attributes terms.

entity

Something about which data is stored in a databank or database, for example, building or tree. The data may consist of relationships, attributes, positional and shape information and so on. Often synonymous with feature.

Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Code (EBCDIC)

An eight-bit character encoding scheme.

Extent of the realm (EOR)

The external bounding lines of Land-Line® data is EOR. The *Territorial Waters Jurisdiction Act 1878* and the *Territorial Waters Order in Council 1964* confirm that EOR of Great Britain as used by Ordnance Survey is properly shown to the limit of mean low water (mean low water springs in Scotland) for the time being (except where extended by Parliament).

feature

An item of detail within a map that can be a point or symbol, a line or text. See also *entity*.

feature classification record

A specific named NTF record that lists the feature codes in use in the current database.

feature code (FC)

An alphanumeric attribute code used in digital map data to describe each feature in terms of the object surveyed, its representation on the map, or both.

feature serial number (FSN)

A number used as a feature identifier usually allocated on a sequential basis. For example, the order in which features are digitised.

field

A specific part of a record containing a unit of data, such as the date of digitising. The unit of data may be a data element or a data item. In NTF, a field is a subdivision of a physical record. Every field has a name and a predefined interpretation.

file

An organised collection of related records. The records on a file may be related by a specific purpose, format or data source – the records may or may not be arranged in sequence. A file may consist of records, fields, words, bytes, characters or bits.

font

The style of text character used by a printer or plotter.

format

The specified arrangement of data, for example, the layout of a printed document, the arrangement of the parts of a computer instruction or the arrangement of data in a [record](#).

geographical information system (GIS)

A system for capturing, storing, checking, integrating, analysing and displaying data that is spatially referenced to the Earth. This is normally considered to involve a spatially referenced computer [database](#) and appropriate applications software.

geometric structure

The ground is modelled in the data as a series of lines and points.

gigabyte (Gb)

1 073 741 824 bytes; a measure of data storage capacity.

grid

The planimetric frame of reference. For example, the National Grid.

hard copy

A print or plot of output data on paper or some other tangible medium.

junction

A connection between two or more links at a common node.

kilobyte (Kb)

1 024 bytes; a measure of data storage capacity.

layer

A subset of digital map data selected on a basis other than position, for example, one layer might consist of all features relating to roads and another to railways.

line

A series of connected coordinated points forming a simple feature with homogeneous attribution.

line feature

The spatial abstraction of an object in one dimension. Lines may intersect with other lines. They are defined as a series of two or more coordinates and may be curved or straight. Curved lines consist of a series of very short straight-line segments. Lines may be concurrent with other lines under certain conditions. As an object abstraction, a line has no width.

line segment

A vector connecting two coordinated points.

linear feature

Map feature in the form of a line, for example, road centre lines that may or may not represent a real-world feature.

link

Links are the representation of line features. They are made up of one or more consecutive, non-intersecting, link segments with common attributes, between two terminating nodes. Links have no connection with other links except at the start or end via common (shared) terminating nodes (points). All links contain their terminating coordinates. Links may form the boundaries of polygons and may be shared between polygons. See also [line](#).

link and node data

A form of vector data in which linear features are represented as links. Links are terminated where they intersect other links. These intersection points, and link ends, may carry nodes whose feature records express the geometric relationships between links.

link and node structure

A data structure in which links and nodes are stored with cross-referencing.

map

The representation on a flat surface of all or part of the Earth's surface, intended to be communicated for a purpose or purposes, transforming relevant geographic data into an end-product that is visual, digital or tactile.

map generalisation

A reduction in map detail, so that the information remains clear and uncluttered when map scale is reduced. May also involve re-sampling to larger spacing and/or a reduction in the number of points in a line.

map header

Data at the start of the digital map file describing that data. It may contain information on the source and history of the geometric data within the map and the coordinate system in use as well as holding information essential to the management of Ordnance Survey's digital mapping system.

map scale

The ratio between the extent of a feature on the map and its extent on the ground; normally expressed as a representative fraction, for example, 1:1250 or 1:50 000.

megabyte (Mb)

1 048 576 bytes; a measure of data storage capacity.

Mid/Mif definition

MID is a MapInfo database and Mif is a MapInfo Interchange, which is an ASCII file format and is used for export.

Tabular data is held in a file with a *.mid* extension and graphic data is held in a file with a *.mif* extension.

Mif files can be translated into other formats and used with other programmes.

name or text feature

The proper name or label of an object (real-world) or feature (object abstraction) consisting of one or more text strings. A name position is defined by a coordinate pair.

National Grid

A unique referencing system that can be applied to all Ordnance Survey maps of Great Britain at all scales. It is based on 100 km squares covering the whole of GB based on a Transverse Mercator projection. It is used by Ordnance Survey on all post-war mapping to provide an unambiguous spatial reference in Great Britain for any place or entity whatever the map scale.

National Transfer Format (NTF)

A format designed in 1988 specifically for the transfer of spatial information; it is published as British Standard BS 7567 and is administered by the British Standards Institution. It is now the standard transfer format for Ordnance Survey digital map data.

node

An object representation of a point that either does not form any part of a link (isolated node or polygon seed point); or is the representation of a point at the start or end of a link (terminating node). The position of a node is defined by a single coordinate pair – which is repeated within all links logically connected at that node and/or containing it. A node is only deleted if the link containing it as a terminating node is deleted.

northings

See [rectangular coordinates](#).

orientation

Orientation of a point or a text feature is measured in degrees anticlockwise from grid east.

origin

The zero point in a system of [rectangular coordinates](#).

packing

Spaces used as fillers to complete a record or field.

pecked line

A line drawn as a series of dashes.

physical record

A physical record may be fixed length, containing 80 characters or variable length, containing up to 80 characters.

point

A zero-dimensional spatial abstraction of an object represented as a coordinate pair.

point and line data

A form of vector data designed for map production in which all map features are designated as points, lines or text. Point and line data does not carry the topological relationships between features.

point feature

A zero-dimensional spatial abstraction of an object with its position defined by a coordinate list. Points are represented by nodes, which may be isolated or part of a link (terminating). Points may also be represented by symbols that may have attributes such as rotation and size.

polygon

Polygons are a representation of areas. A polygon is defined as a closed line or perimeter completely enclosing a contiguous space and made up of one or more links. At least one node occurs on the perimeter of a polygon where the bounding link completes the enclosure of the area. There may be many nodes connecting the bounding links of a polygon. Links may be shared between polygons. Polygons may wholly contain other polygons, or be contained within other polygons. Each may contain a single isolated node (seed point) that identifies the polygon.

polygon boundary

The link or links that enclose a polygon, projected into the horizontal plane.

polygon point

See [seed point](#).

positional accuracy

The degree to which the coordinates define a point's true position in the world, directly related to the spheroid/projection on which the coordinate system is based.

precision

The exactness with which a value is expressed, whether the value be right or wrong.

record

A set of related data fields grouped for processing.

recording format

The logical and/or physical levels of the protocol governing the laying down of data on the physical transfer medium.

rectangular coordinates

Also known as X-Y coordinates and as [eastings](#) and [northings](#). These are two-dimensional coordinates that measure the position of any point relative to an arbitrary origin on a plane surface, for example, a map projection, a digitising table or a VDU screen.

resolution

A measure of the ability to detect quantities. High resolution implies a high degree of discrimination but has no implication as to [accuracy](#). For example, in a collection of data in which the [coordinates](#) are rounded to the nearest metre, resolution will be 1 m but the accuracy may be ± 5 m or worse.

section

In NTF terminology, this is a subdivision of a database. In Ordnance Survey terms, this equates to a single map sheet, that is, a digital map file or a tile.

seed

A seed is a digitised point within an area; usually a defined polygon, for example, a lake or woodland, but not always, for example, a geographical seed such as the South Downs.

seed point

A coordinated point (an isolated node) within an area (usually a defined polygon) to which alphanumeric information may be attached as an attribute, for example, a name or a feature code. Also known as a polygon seed, area seed, or representative point.

segment

A chord defined by two consecutive [coordinates](#) in a line string.

shapefile or '.shp'

SRI shapefiles are a simple, non-topological format for storing the geometric location and attribute information of geographic features. A shapefile is one of the spatial data formats that you can work with in ArcView GIS.

source scale

The scale of the source information from which the map was digitised, that is, the scale of survey for a basic-scale map, or the scale of the source map for a derived map.

spatial data

Data that includes a reference to a two- or three-dimensional position in space as one of its attributes. It is used as a synonym for geometric data.

structured data

Data within which collections of features (of any type) form objects. Topographically structured data also contains topological information defining the relationships between features and objects.

terminator

A character, character string, field, or record used to signal the end of a record, section, volume or database.

text coordinates

Each text feature has a start-of-text coordinate that is digitised.

text feature

A free-standing text string in the digital data describing a feature, or particular instance of a feature, for example, Factory or Acacia Avenue.

text height

The height at which a text string is intended to be plotted out at the nominal map scale. This information is included in the feature header of the text feature.

text position

See [text coordinates](#). Also known as *original digitising position*.

tile

Broadly synonymous with digital map file, it implies evenly sized map sheet units.

topographic database

A database holding data relating to physical features and boundaries on the Earth's surface.

topography

Topography is the study of the physical features of the Earth. A topographic map's principal purpose is to portray and identify the features of the Earth.

topology

The study of the properties of a geometric figure that is not dependent on position, such as connectivity and relationships between lines, nodes and polygons.

transfer format

The format used to transfer data between computer systems. In general usage this can refer not only to the organisation of data but also to the associated information, such as attribute codes, which are required in order to successfully complete the transfer.

transfer medium

The physical medium on which digital data is transferred from one computer system to another, for example, CD-ROM.

transfer set

A specific NTF term for the data, together with its supporting information, which the customer receives.

update

The process of adding to and revising existing digital map data to take account of change.

vector

A straight line joining two data points.

vector data

Positional data in the form of coordinates of the ends of line segments, points, text positions and so on.

volume

A physical unit of the transfer medium, that is, a single disc.

Annexe B Meridian 2: (MapInfo) Mid/Mif layers

This section contains a list of all the valid features used with Meridian 2. The list contains a description of each feature code, its feature name, its feature type and list of the style information required to create an output. Each feature layer then contains other information as attributes.

Important information

Certain feature codes that are used and defined in NTF, are not required or used in MapInfo. Some examples of this are: 3501 – Road Edge Node, 6411 – County Seed, 6710 – Boundary Node, unspecified. Other feature codes that are not used: 6415, 6711, 6800, 6741, 6310, 6720, 6721, 6801, 6731, 6730, 6292, 6770, 6771, 6772, 6773, 6803, 6663, 6802, 6750, 6751 and 6740.

File	Description	Data type	Feature code
1	motorway	Line	3000
2	a_road	Line	3001
3	b_road	Line	3002
4	minor_rd	Line	3004
5	junction	Node	3500
6	rndabout	Node	3500
7	settlemt	Node	3500
8	roadnode	Node	3500
9	rail_ln	General	6140, 6142
10	station	General	6155
11	county	General	6401
12	district	General	6403
13	coast_ln	General	6200
14	admin_ln	General	6401, 6403, 6405
15	dlua	General	6300
16	text	General	6551, 6500, 6405, 6552
17	river	General	6223, 6224, 6225, 6230, 6231, 6232, 6243
18	lake	General	6255
19	woodland	General	6664
20	height	Height	6762

Roads – post 1 January 2000–current; FC 3000 full specification of Roads Database, tiles as 10 km by 10 km

Feature code	Feature names	Type	Style
3000	Motorway	Line	Pen (3,2,5278719)
3001	A Road	Line	Pen (2,2,16711680)
3002	B Road	Line	Pen (2,2,16750640)
3004	Minor Road	Line	Pen (1,2,8421504)
3500	Road Standard Node (Motorway junction)	Font Symbol	Symbol (63,7381247,9, "MapInfo Weather",16,0)
3500	Road Standard Node (Roundabout)	Symbol	Symbol (34,8421504,6)
3500	Road Standard Node (Settlement)	Symbol	Symbol (32,16776960,5)
3500	Road Standard Node (Link information)	Font Symbol	Symbol (50,8421504,2, "MapInfo Symbols",0,0)
3501	Road Edge Node	Font Symbol	Symbol (51,8421504,5, "MapInfo Symbols",0,0)

Administrative areas and Coastline

Feature code	Feature names	Type	Style
6401	County polygon	Polygon	Pen (1,2,16776960), Brush (2,13697000,16777215)
6403	District polygon	Polygon	Pen (1,2,16777215), Brush (2,13696976,16777215)
6403	District boundary line	Line	Pen (1,24,0)
6405	County/District boundary line	Line	Pen (1,23,0)
6411	County seed	Symbol	Symbol (34,0,9)
6415	District seed	Symbol	Symbol (34,0,9)
6710	Boundary node unspecified	Symbol	Symbol (34,0,9)
6711	Boundary edge node	Symbol	Symbol (34,0,9)
6800	Admin area (neat line)	Line	Pen (1,2,0)
6200	Coast	Line	Pen (1,2,4227327)
6740	Coast node, unspecified	Symbol	Symbol (34,4227327,9)
6741	Coast edge node, unspecified	Symbol	Symbol (34,4227327,9)

Developed land use area (DLUA)

Feature code	Feature names	Type	Style
6300	DLUA polygon	Polygon	Pen (1,1,16768208), Brush (2,16762032,16777215)
6310	DLUA seed-point	Symbol	Symbol (34,16768208,9)
6720	DLUA node, unspecified	Symbol	Symbol (34,16768208,9)
6721	DLUA edge node, unspecified	Symbol	Symbol (34,16768208,9)
6801	DLUA (neat line)	Line	Pen (1,2,16768208)

Railways

Feature code	Feature names	Type	Style
6140	Railway	Line	Pen (2,2,0)
6142	Railway (tunnelled)	Line	Pen (2,3,0)
6155	Station, point	Symbol	Symbol (34,16711680,9)
6731	Railway edge node	Symbol	Symbol (34,16711680,9)
6730	Railway node	Symbol	Symbol (34,16711680,9)

Cartographic names

Feature code	Feature names	Type	Style
6551	Station name	Text	Font ("Times New Roman")
6500	Place Name	Text	Font ("Arial Names")
6652	Water Text	Text	Font ("Times New Roman")

Hydrology

Feature code	Feature names	Type	Style
6223	Water feature (river small)	Line	Pen (1,2,4243711)
6224	Water feature (river medium)	Line	Pen (2,2,4243711)
6225	Water feature (river large)	Line	Pen (3,2,4243711)
6230	Water feature (hidden)	Line	Pen (1,3,4243711)
6231	Water feature (aqueduct)	Line	Pen (1,193,4243711)
6232	Water feature (dark link)	Line	Pen (1,3,32896)
6243	Water feature (canal)	Line	Pen (1,2,65535)
6255	Area water (lake polygon)	Polygon	Pen (1,2,65535),Brush (2,11593215,16777215)
6292	Area water (seed)	Symbol	Symbol (49,4227327,12)
6770	Water feature (node)	Symbol	Symbol (49,4227327,12)
6771	Area water (node)	Symbol	Symbol (49,4227327,12)
6772	Area water (edge node)	Symbol	Symbol (49,4227327,12)
6773	Water feature (edge node)	Symbol	Symbol (49,4227327,12)
6803	Area water (neat line)	Line	Pen (1,2,255)

Woodlands

Feature code	Feature names	Type	Style
6664	Woodland polygon	Polygon	Pen (1,1,32896), Brush (2,11599792,16777215)
6663	Woodland seed	Symbol	Symbol (49,0,12)
6802	Woodland (neat line)	Line	Pen (1,2,32896)
6750	Woodland node	Symbol	Symbol (49,0,12)
6751	Woodland edge node	Symbol	Symbol (49,0,12)

Height

Feature code	Feature names	Type	Style
6762	Height Point feature	Font Symbol	Symbol (35,12632256,2, "MapInfo Symbols",0,0)

Roads – prior to 1 January 2000; FC 6000 stripped Roads Database, tiles as 20 km by 20 km

Feature code	Feature names	Type	Style
6001	Motorway [Meridian 1]	Line	Pen (2,2,5278719)
6041	A Road [Meridian 1]	Line	Pen (2,2,16711680)
6061	B Road [Meridian 1]	Line	Pen (2,2,16744448)
6080	Minor Road [Meridian 1]	Line	Pen (1,2,8421504)

MIF file format

Each MIF file will contain the graphical data relating to one feature type, for example, rivers or motorways. The header will be laid out in the following formats.

Field	Value	Notes
Version	450/300	Indicates the version of the file format used
Charset	"WindowsLatin1"	The character set used, in this case the Windows US and Western Europe character set
Delimiter	“,”	The delimiter character used in quotation marks
CoordSys	Earth Projection 8, 79, "m", -2, 49, 0.9996012717, 400000, -100000 Bounds (0, 0) (700000, 1300000)	Specifies that the data is stored using National Grid, the datum, unit of measurement and so on.
Columns	See, 0, 0 and 0	Specifies the attributes to be used within the data
Data		Indicates the start of the data

Admin_In, coast_In, rail_In, DLUA, lake, river, woodland and station column definition

Column name	Value
Feature_Code	Smallint
Identifier	Char(13)
Name	Char(70)

Text column definition

Column name	Value
Feature_Code	Smallint
Name	Char(70)

Identifier has been removed since this is an empty field. It is not present in the NTF and therefore cannot be output in translation.

County and district column definitions

Column name	Value
Feature_Code	Smallint
Identifier	Char(13)
Name	Char(70)
Admin_Identifier	Integer

A_road, b_road, minor_rd and motorway column definitions

Column name	Value
Feature_Code	Smallint
OSODR	Char(13)
Route_Number	Char(8)
Road_Name	Char(70)
Length_metres	Integer
Trunk_Indicator	Char(1)

Gridded Height*

Column name	Value
Feature_Serial_Number Integer	Integer
Feature_Code Integer	Integer
Height Integer	Integer

*This is a frozen data set which is replicated by DRS and is for information only; not for production purposes

Settlement, junction, rndabout and roadnode column definitions

Column name	Value
Feature_Code	Smallint
OSODR	Char(13)
Junction_Name	Char(40)
Settlemt_Name	Char(50)
Roundabout_Indicator	Char(1)
Link_OSODR	Char(13)
Level	Smallint
Terminal	Char(1)
Number_of_links	Smallint

The data section of the MIF file will follow the header and must start with DATA on the first line.

Example

```
Version 300
Charset "WindowsLatin1"
Delimiter ","
CoordSys Earth Projection 8, 79, "m", -2, 49, 0.9996012717, 400000, -100000
Bounds (0, 0) (700000, 1300000)
```

```
Columns 3
  Feature_Code Smallint
  Identifier Char(13)
  Name Char(70)
Data
Point 258249.0001 903901
  Symbol (34,16711680,9)
Point 272489 901968.9998
  Symbol (34,16711680,9)
Point 284855.0002 901251
  Symbol (34,16711680,9)
Point 286192.0002 931625.0002
  Symbol (34,16711680,9)
Point 289091.0001 942497.0003
  Symbol (34,16711680,9)
```