

The Domesday Discs, published by the British Broadcasting Corporation to mark the 900th anniversary of William the Conqueror's Domesday Book, use Advanced Interactive Video technology to present a detailed portrait of life in the United Kingdom in the 1980s.

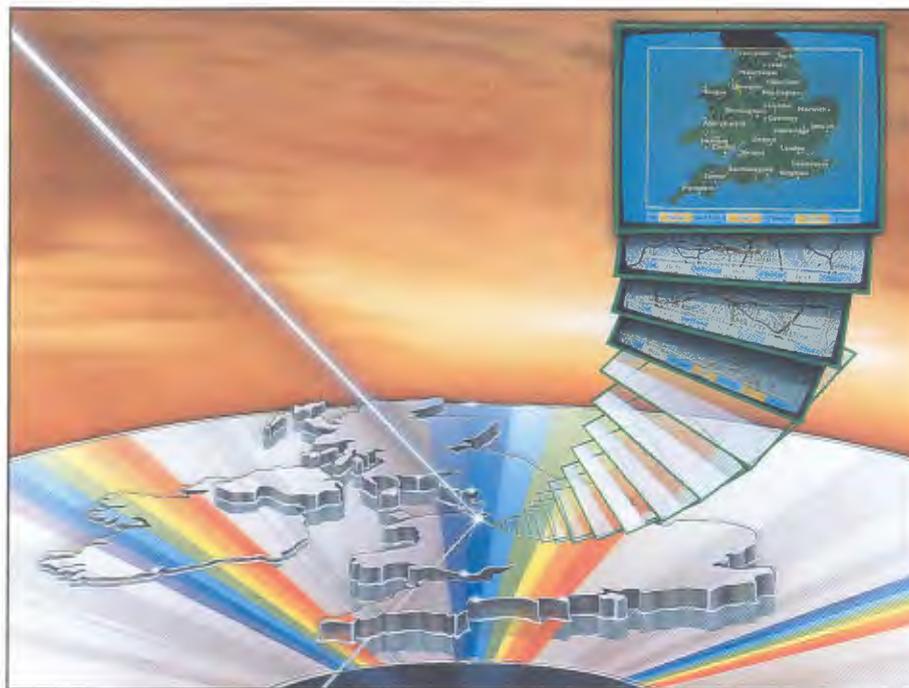
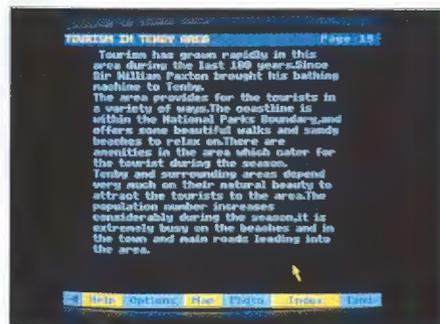
Information which, if printed, would fill 300 volumes is contained on just two videodiscs, giving instant access to maps, photographs, aerial views, texts, statistics and video sequences.

The BBC Master AIV Microcomputer, from Acom Computers and the BBC AIV LaserVision player specially developed by Philips Electronics, allow instant access to information by using the keyboard or a trackerball.

### THE FRIENDLY SYSTEM

The *National Disc* brings together data, text and pictures on a wide range of subjects, including a substantial video record of Britain in the 1980s. Sources include the 1981 population census, the General Household Survey, the Family Expenditure Survey, and the BBC's own Daily Life in the 1980s. The Disc covers culture, the economy, society and the environment. To locate your information you can start at one of these and specify progressively more precise keywords, as you home in to the subject. Alternatively you can type a keyword and go straight to the subject.

**CULTURE** includes arts, beliefs, language, leisure, religion, sports, customs, fashion, media, crafts.



**ECONOMY** includes personal finance, national economy, industry, public sector finance, labour relations, prices, consumption.

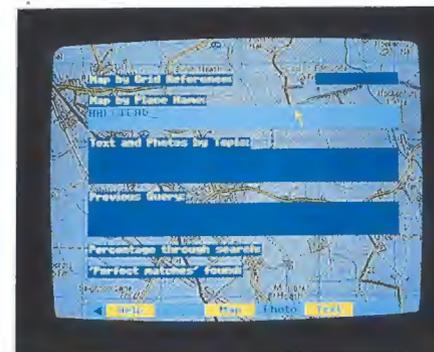
**SOCIETY** includes education, health, housing, defence, welfare, people, events, transport, communications, law and order.

**ENVIRONMENT** includes conservation, climate, agriculture, ecology, pollution, soil surveys, water resources, urban environments, wildlife, landscape, oceanography, energy.

You can browse through the pictures and essays on the National Disc using the *Domesday Gallery* (an exciting visual index). From the Gallery you can enter the *surrogate walks*, in which some of the 32 500 photographs on the disc are used to present a series of contemporary environments through which you can 'walk' using the trackerball.

The *Community Disc* contains some 23 500 photographs, 10 000 sets of statistical data, representative contemporary articles and reports, over 2000 text items and specially commissioned essays and 60 minutes of video sequences. It uses Ordnance Survey maps to organise its information. The user moves from map to map, either across the country on maps at the same scale, or between maps of different scales. At each level, text and photographs are instantly available, including satellite views for the larger areas. Six levels of maps are used:

- LEVEL 0: The United Kingdom
- LEVEL 1: Countries and island groups
- LEVEL 2: 40 X 30 km regions
- LEVEL 3: 4 X 3 km local blocks
- LEVEL 4: Street maps
- LEVEL 5: Floor plans of special sites



You can enter and move through the system by typing in a *place name*, a *grid reference*, or a *keyword*, or by *map walking*—ie moving across the map with the trackerball.

### GATHERING THE FACTS

Over a million people worked to bring the Domesday Project to a successful conclusion.

The British Broadcasting Corporation's project team coordinated software and technical teams, systems designers and manufacturers. They also, together with data sub-contractors at universities and research institutions, sifted and collated vast quantities of information from all over the country.

**National data** came from official and public sources, and included 22 000 photographs, representative contemporary articles and reports, and over 2000 text items and specially commissioned essays.

**Community data** was gathered by over 15 500 schools and community groups. Each assembled descriptions and photographs covering one or more 4 X 3 kilometre blocks. A team of specially trained readers worked for eight months scanning and processing this material.



T H E D O M E S D A Y P R O J E C T



## TECHNOLOGY FOR IDEAS

Domesday is the first system to present so wide a range of information at a single source, and the first to present that information *interactively*, responding instantly to the needs of the enquirer.

**Schools and colleges** will have a discovery learning system on a scale never imagined before.

**Libraries** will have a rapid, interactive method of locating and comparing information from many disciplines.

**Commercial organisations** will have a means of assessing likely market areas, locating statistics, checking facts, selecting operating sites, etc.

**Tourism and travel organisations** will be able to plot routes, and display visual and text information on any area of the country.

**Land and estate agents** will have impressive technology to demonstrate the characteristics and amenities of local and distant areas.



**Courier and distribution services** will have instant access to large-scale maps, with automated measurement of distances.

**Local and national government offices** will have an instant database which not only presents facts but links them with associated information.

**Writers and journalists** will be able to assemble facts, events, opinions and images on many subjects in a comprehensive and coherent way.

**Film and television companies** will be able to check out the general appearance and facilities of locations before going there.

For all who share an interest in the world around us, Domesday is a uniquely simple way of exploring our surroundings in the broadest sense. It is also, in its technology, a look into the future.

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

### Domesday Discs (LV-ROM format)

The LV-ROM format allows up to 324 Mbytes of digital data and 54 000 analogue video frames can be stored on each (read only) disc. Data may be replaced with analogue audio where required, allowing video/data or video/audio at any point.

### BBC Master AIV Microcomputer

This is an enhancement of the Master 128 microcomputer made by Acorn Computers Ltd, incorporating:

- all the features of the Master 128, with 128 Kbytes of memory, including 64 Kbytes main memory; 64 Kbytes sideways memory; 128 Kbytes ROM (BASIC, EDIT, VIEW, VIEWSHEET, ADFS, DFS, and operating system with extended graphics); interfaces for disc, cassette, parallel printers, serial RS232, user

- port, 1MHz bus, analogue, RGB, video
- the Turbo co-processor (65C102)
- the Internal Small Computer Systems interface (SCSI)
- a trackerball for selecting items
- a Video Filing System ROM

A kit to upgrade the Master 128 to Master AIV is available.

### BBC AIV VP415 LaserVision Player

Front-loading BBC LaserVision videodisc player specially developed by Philips Electronics to read and transfer digital data to a host computer system, and to display video pictures from a LaserVision disc.

An integral SCSI interface allows data downloaded from an LV ROM to be output to an external computer as well as enabling commands to be sent to the player.

### Colour Monitor

14 inch medium resolution (600 lines) monitor with 0.42mm dot pitch etched tube and amplifier/loudspeaker.

In this leaflet the initials BBC refer to the British Broadcasting Corporation.

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The monitor stand in the photographs in this brochure is not part of the AIV System as supplied by Acorn Computers Ltd, British Broadcasting Corporation and Philips Electronics Ltd.

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