

Placing the Social and Cultural Capitals of the
Deaf Community in Brighton and Hove city.

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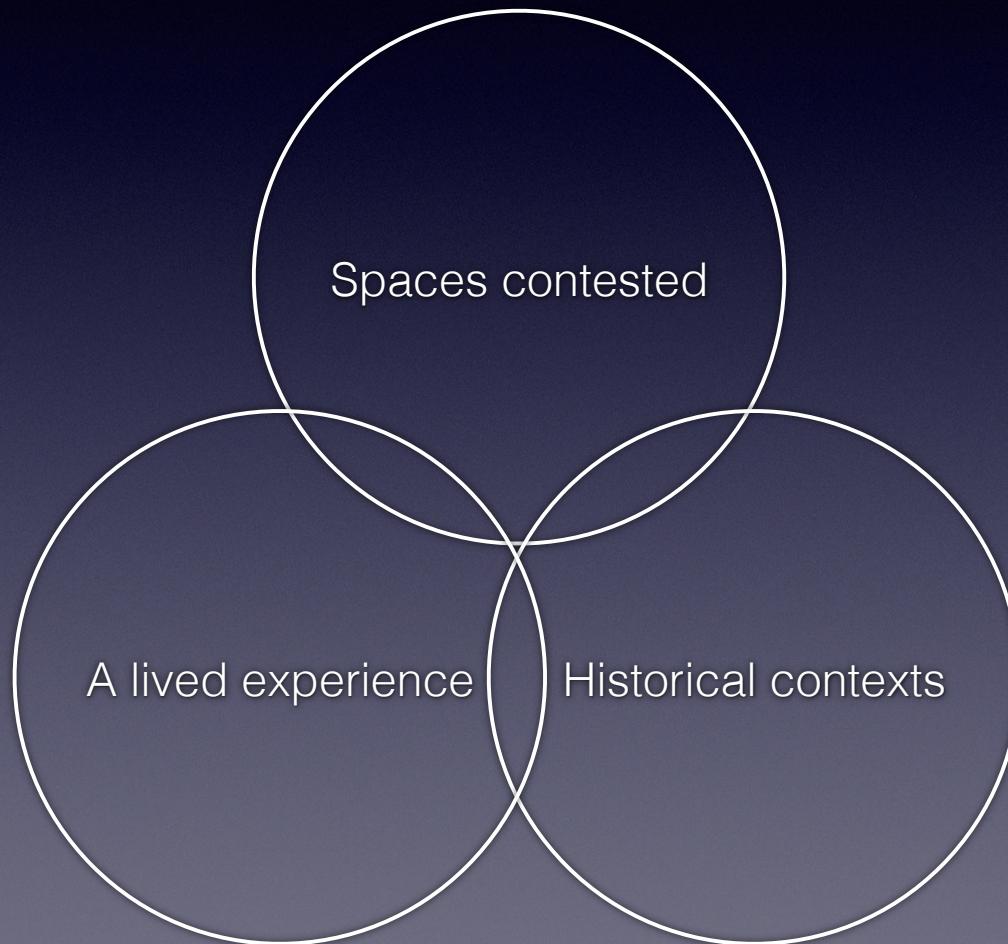
A Space Inspired

- Our Space (HEFCE, 2008-12). Exploration of contemporary Deaf spaces in Brighton and Hove city through Communities of Practice (Wenger 1998).
- Hidden Histories: Intercultural dialogue (EU, 2010-12). Changes in deaf education during the 1970's and reminiscence from the Deaf community using Oral History interviews.

A Work in Progress

- First year PhD
- Situated in Social Geography, a sub-discipline of Human Geography.

Social Geography



Performativity

- The social, cultural, language manifestations of the Deaf community are performed.
- Speech Act (see Austin and Searle). An utterance inspires the recipient to act, which may be implicit or explicit, and otherwise known as Illocutionary Acts. Language does not exist for language's sake, it is a means to influence our environment and persuade others to act.
- Furthermore, before an utterance is expressed, the 'speaker' has a split second imagination of one's intentions on the recipient.

Leuven
Station

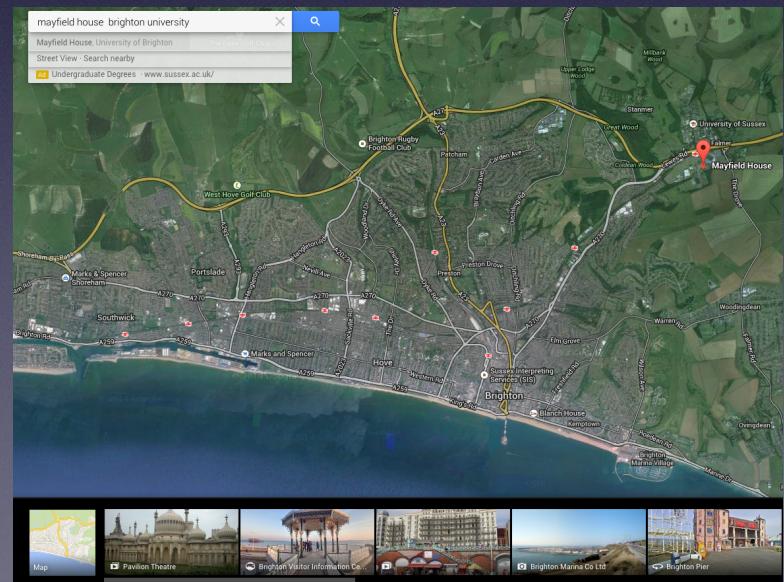
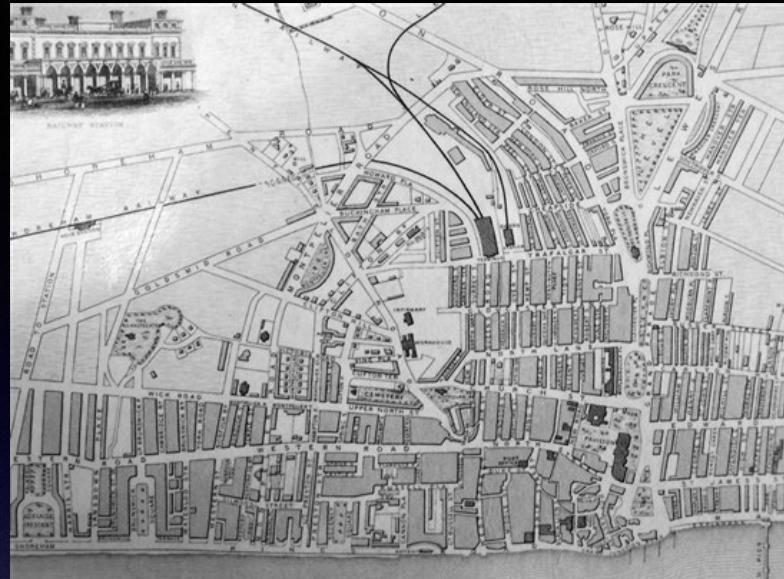


More-Than-Representational Thought

- Derived from Non-Representational Thought (Thrift)
- ‘Witnessing’ can take place from different positions: in the square, in shop/cafe, top floor flat, walking across, walking to the train station, sitting on a bench.
- And what can we see: people meeting, saying goodbye, hugs/fistbumps, meeting up and moving away, interaction with inanimate objects, interactions with symbolic objects.
- People’s actions can reveal their identity(s) and their relationship with space.

Landscape, body and identity

- “The simultaneous and ongoing shaping of self, body and landscape via practice and performance.” (Wylie 2007)
- Landscape is corporeal, embodied, experienced and existential - we are all in the act of doing and becoming.
- Such actions are repeated in everyday life, hence the repetitions and differences are of interest to a NRT researcher.



Main language (detailed)

Sign Language: Total



0 LQ	0%
Average	0%
2.0 LQ	0%
3.0 LQ	0.1%
4.0 LQ	0.1%
5.0 LQ	0.2%
6.0 LQ	0.2%
7.0 LQ	0.2%
	100%

Data geography: OA
Across England/Wales
OA average: 0.04%
Standard deviation: 0.18%
Scale 1:34200

Map shows % of All usual residents aged 3 and over.
Census data (c) Crown Copyright Office of National Statistics.
Contains Ordnance Survey data (c) Crown copyright & database right 2014.

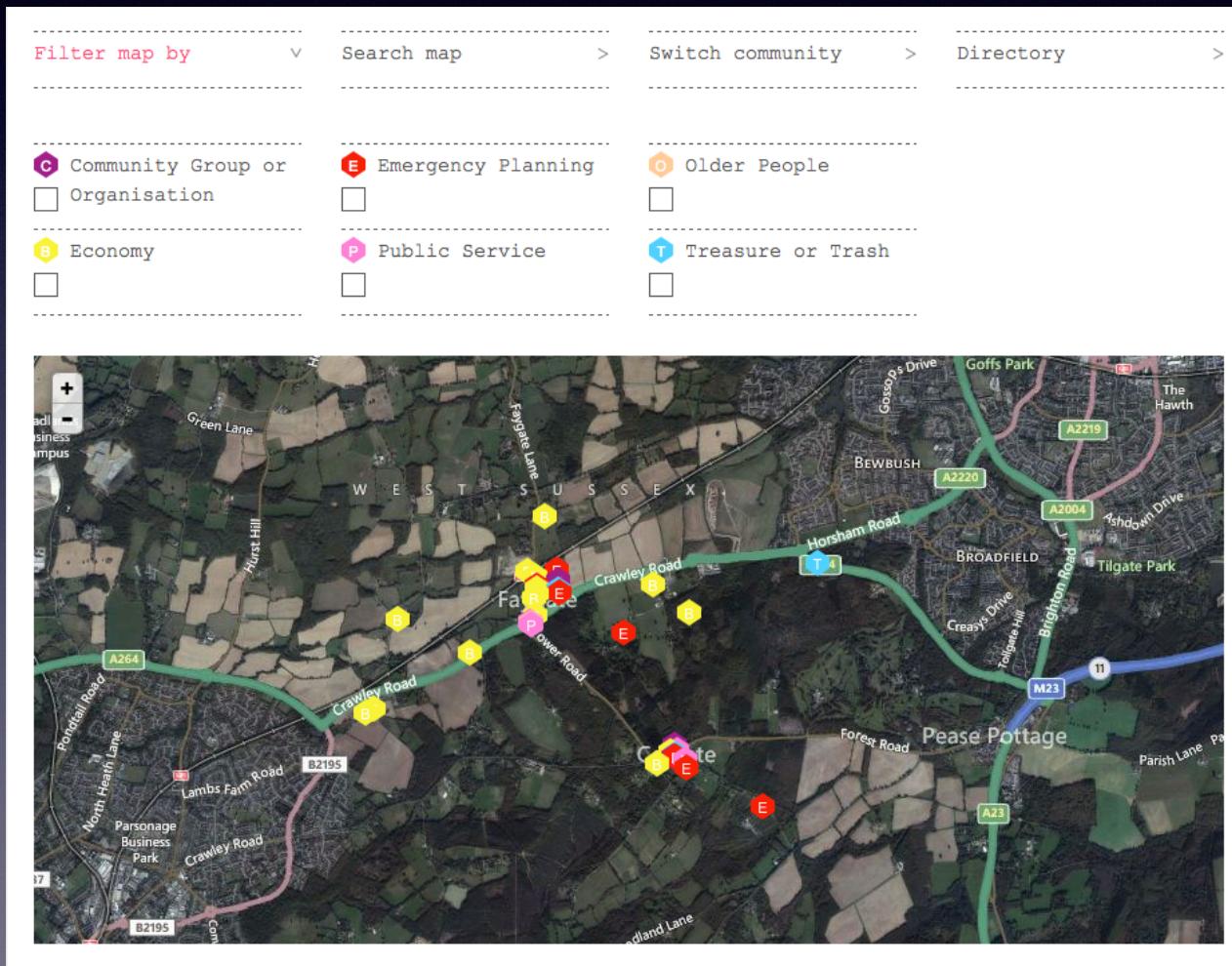
DataShine Census is produced by the BODMAS project at UCL CASA.
Visit <http://www.datashine.org.uk/> for an interactive version.

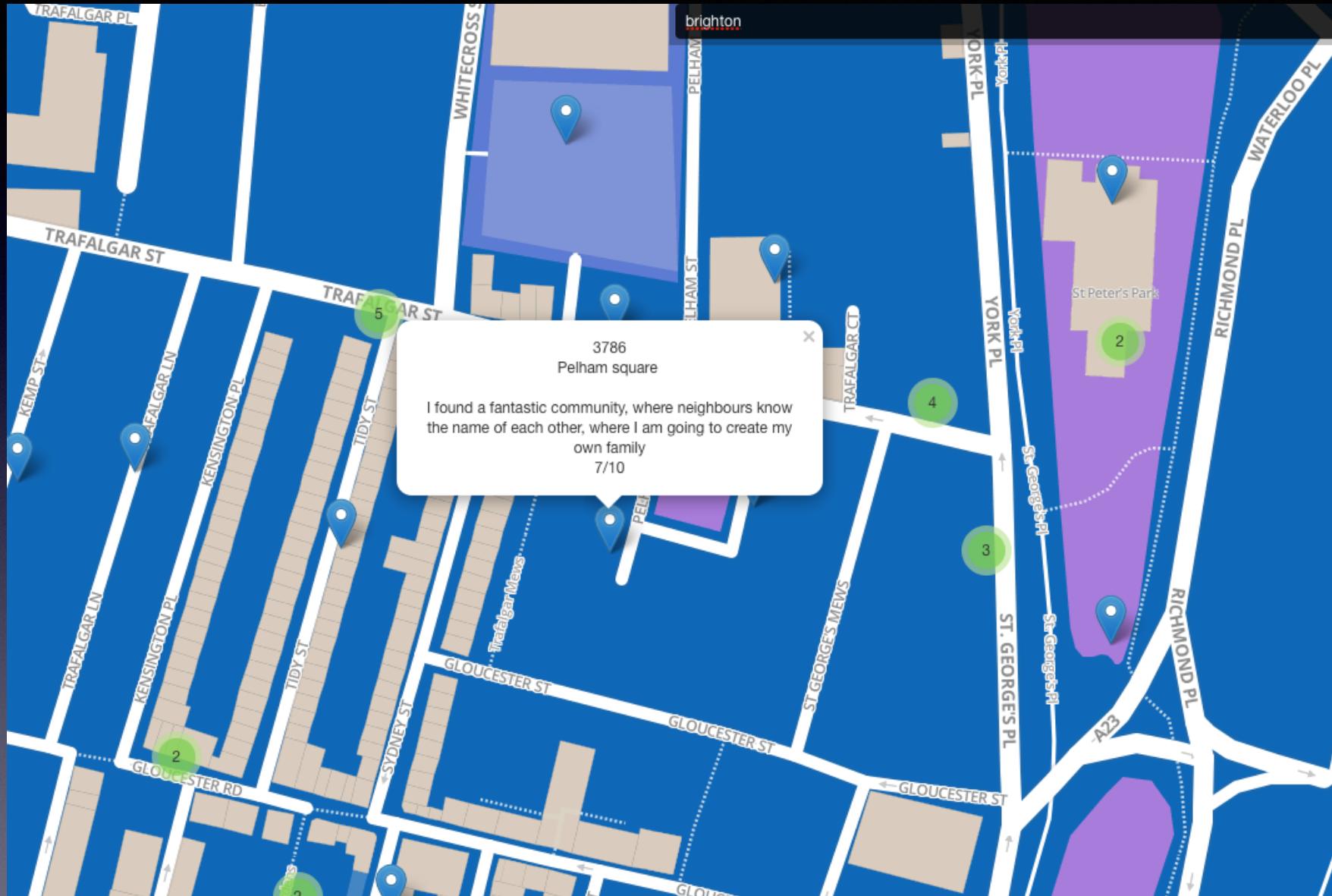
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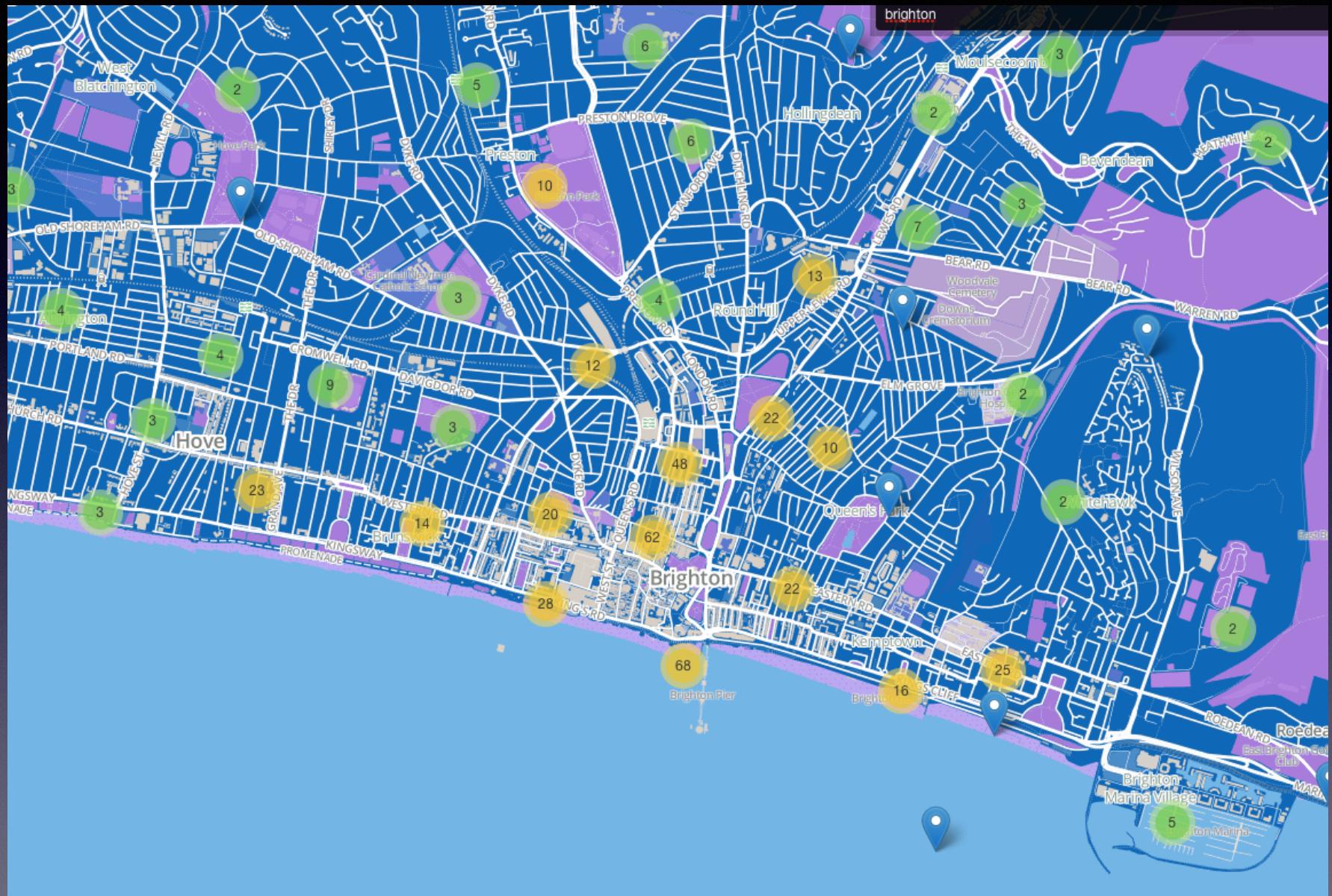


If you live here, this is the highest population of deaf people in Brighton in one given area.

Method 1 (quantitative/qualitative)







Types of information

- Locations: Home, work, landmarks (community and mainstream).
- Narratives from the Deaf community: text, photo, film (in BSL), symbolic references.
- Capture meta data: time/date, happiness/ unhappiness, connectedness, trustworthiness (social capital).

Method 2 (qualitative)

- **Photo elicitation**
- Work with the Sussex Deaf Photographers group (60 members).
- Take photographs of everyday life, as they see it, including: the mundane, inspired, embodied, imagined, material and immaterial.
- Work with photographers to draw out symbolic significance from the images.
- Interview wider members of the Deaf community in the same location using photo to ‘trigger’ relationship between landscape/material and the Deaf self.

Delivering the project

- Project delivered by a Deaf-led social enterprise.
- Engages with the Deaf community in current Academic/ community/public sector spaces for engagement (Our Space)
- Deaf people trained to gather the data.
- More importantly: the final map will become the property of the Deaf community.
- Additionally: data collated will, where possible, collaborate with centre for public health analysis and research (Brighton and Hove City Council).

Deaf Geographers?

- Please do get in touch!
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