Welcome to the Esri Shortlist template

Introduction

This template enables you to publish a web map as an easy-to-use, attractive map application that enables people to discover a small number of places of interest in an area. Users can browse the places in a series of tabs next to the map, each showing a particular set of places based on a theme. Places are listed with images to make the browsing experience fun and attractive. When users see a place they are interested in, they can click (or tap) on the place in the tab, and a popup will show its location on the map. Users also click or tap on a place directly on the map to get the popup about it. As users navigate around the map, the list of places shown in the tab updates to show them places in the current map extent, so the experience is similar to travelling around in the real world and discovering new places . So if a user navigates to a particular location, the tabs just show places in that location.

Potential uses of this template include:

- displaying a selection places that you recommend in an area, like a state or a city.
- a city agency can showcase the location of planning initiatives
- a state tourism agency can highlight key activities and attractions.
- an environmental agency can display its projects and show off its successes and places where there are still issues.

The template is designed to be used in any web browser. It fits nicely on the iPad and iPad Mini but doesn't work well on smartphones or smaller tablets. We would like to enhance the template in the future to add support for those.

This template can be deployed by anyone who has access to a web server on which to host the application. We don't currently support this template as a hosted template on Esri's cloud, so you'll need to install the template's source code files on a web server you have access to.

The web map you use in the application is created and hosted on ArcGIS Online. You author this map using ArcGIS Online, Esri's online GIS and mapping system. There's no software to install. You can access ArcGIS Online at http://www.arcgis.com/home/ with either a free public account (for use by individuals, non-profits, in education, etc.) or an ArcGIS organizational subscription (commercial and government use). To create your web map that will be displayed using the Shortlist template, you have to upload the point features that represent your places into your web map as files. You can use shapefiles or text files (such as CSV, TXT and GPX files). In other words, you use the standard, functionality available in ArcGIS Online for uploading file-based features into your web map. The only other ArcGIS software that is recommended to make a Shortlist map is ArcGIS Desktop, which makes it easy to create and manage shapefiles. But ArcGIS Desktop isn't required because you could upload your point feature data as text files instead of as shapefiles. This means that is very easy for anyone to create a Shortlist map.

This document describes what data the Shortlist template expects to find in your web map so it can be displayed in the template's UI. It also describes how to configure the template so that it uses your map. This document doesn't cover standard ArcGIS Online functionality like how to upload file-based feature data, because you can find that in the ArcGIS Online help.

1. Create the ArcGIS web map for your Shortlist

You use the standard ArcGIS Online functionality to create the web map that will be used in your shortlist. Assembling your content in the required format, writing your descriptive text and organizing the photos is likely to be the most time consuming part of creating your Shortlist. You can continue refining your content after you've made your web map and after your Shortlist is up and running but it is easier if you can assemble and proof read your content first before you upload your data into your web map, so you only have to do it once.

The Shortlist template will use whatever **basemap** you use in your web map (although note that the template won't work with any of the three Bing Maps basemaps unless you obtain your own Bing Maps keycode from Microsoft). The Shortlist app depends on users being able to easily see the numbered points so it is best to choose a basemap that doesn't overwhelm them. In the San Diego Shortlist we use the light grey basemap (actually we just wanted the light grey base but without the reference overlay of dark text labels so we used the Light Gray Base map service as our basemap, rather than simply choosing the Light Gray Basemap from the basemap gallery). The light grey basemap works nicely for the San Diego area because the coastline is easily recognizable. If the basemap you want to use is a bit too dark, don't forget that in your web map you can apply transparency to the basemap to dim it and make your places pop out more. In the Palm Springs Shortlist we use the World Topographic basemap with transparency applied to it, so that people can see the striking terrain in the area.
Here is what to put in your web map so that the Shortlist template can use it:

1.1 Add point layers containing the places that will appear in the tabs and on the map as numbered points.

Each point layer in your map becomes one tab in your shortlist. Your shortlist can contain one or more tabs. There's no limit to how many tabs you have but we recommend either 3 or 4 tabs. 6 is probably the practical maximum number of tabs you should consider.

Each layer's name is used as the name for the tab, and the drawing order of your layers becomes the tab order, so the top-most point layer in your map becomes the top-most tab.

Each point layer is a feature layer created by uploading a shapefile or text file (i.e CSV, TXT or GPX). Each layer can contain up to 99 features. Feature services and map services are currently not supported as point layers by this template.

Your layer names need to be short enough to fit in the available space in the Shortlist template's tabs. The tabs don't automatically expand to fit the length of your layer names.

In your web map you don't need to specify a particular **symbology** for these point layers, because the Shortlist template automatically applies its own built-in symbology (numbered symbols) to the data in the layers. So it doesn't matter what symbology you apply to these point layers in your web map.

In your web map you don't need to specify a particular **popup configuration** for these layers, because the Shortlist template automatically applies its own built-in popup configuration to the data in the layers. So it doesn't matter whether you configure popups or not for these point layers.

Each point layer is expected to contain the following **user-defined fields** (i.e. fields in addition to the standard required fields used by the file the layer is based on, such as FID and Shape in the case of shapefiles, and the Lat, Long or Address fields in the case of text files). The field names have to match the names in English shown below but this match is case in-sensitive. All of the fields listed below have to be present in each of your point layers except where noted. Despite that, it is simplest to just use this exact schema in all of your point layers.

NUMBER An integer field containing a unique number between 1 and 99 assigned to the features in the layer. This is the number each place is given that identifies it on the map. Places are listed in this numeric order in each tabs. Places don't have unique numbers across the layers (so in other words each point layer's features are numbered 1-99). Which places on your map you start your numbering scheme at your places on the map is up to you, but you will most likely want to ensure that the initial map extent that the user sees when the open your map includes the first set of places in the first tab, so the user immediately sees a consecutive set of places starting at number 1. For example, the San Diego Shortlist opens up to show the downtown area, so we started the place numbering for each layer in that area. *This field must be present and must be populated for each feature.*

TITLE A text field containing the name of the place. This appears in the tab below each photo, as a map tip when the user hovers their cursor over the place on the map, in the title bar of the popup that the user sees on the map if they click or tap the place on the map or in the list, and in the title bar of the Details panel that they see if they click or tap the 'Details' link in the popup for a place. The main constraint on name length is that it has to fit into the available space underneath the photo in the tab, which is roughly a limit of 40 characters, but as the font is proportional this will depend on your text. *This field must be present and must be populated for each feature.*

ADDRESS A text field containing the address of the place. This appears in the left hand column of the Details panel that appears if the user clicks or taps the 'Details' link in the popup for a place. This address field is only used to give the user useful information: the Shortlist app doesn't use this field to locate the places on the map because it gets the locations of your places from the layers in your web map. So this doesn't have to be a street address. For example you could tell the user roughly where a particular neighborhood or area is located. *This field can be left empty if you don't want to provide this information for some or all of your places. This field can also be omitted completely if it doesn't apply to any of the places in your layer.* (Note: if you are uploading your places into your web map using a text file instead of a shapefile, and the location of the places in your file is specified by their street address as opposed to latitude and longitude, then you can either use this Address field to store the full address of each feature, or use a different set of address fields: either way the geocoding isn't performed by the Shortlist template: it is performed when you add your file into your web map.)

HOURS A text field containing the opening hours of the place. This appears in the left hand column of the Details panel that appears if the user clicks or taps the 'Details' link in the popup for a place. *This field can be left empty if you don't want to provide this information for some or all of your places. This field can also be omitted completely if it doesn't apply to any of the places in your layer.*

SHORT_DESC A text field containing a short description of the place. This appears in the popup that the user sees on the map if they click or tap the place on the map or in the list. These are best kept short, and are easiest to read if they aren't complete sentences. We do not display this field in the Details panel. This is on purpose so that the user doesn't have to read the same text twice. *This field must be present and must be populated for each feature.*

DESC1 This is the first of five text fields containing the long description of the place. Each of these fields contains the text for one paragraph of the description. This description appears in the right hand column of the Details panel that appears if the user clicks or taps the 'Details' link in the popup for a place. We support up to five description fields. *This field can be empty for some or all of your places, and can also be omitted completely from your layer. However you would be unlikely to omit the Desc1 field because if you did there would be no additional descriptive text in the Details panel for your places, and the whole point of the Details panel is to give people more information.*

DESC2 Text field containing the second paragraph of the long description. *This field can be empty for some or all of your places, and can also be omitted completely from your layer.*

DESC3 Text field containing the third paragraph of the long description. *This field can be empty for some or all of your places, and can also be omitted completely from your layer.*

DESC4 Text field containing the fourth paragraph of the long description. *This field can be empty for some or all of your places, and can also be omitted completely from your layer.*

DESC5 Text field containing the fifth paragraph of the long description. *This field can be empty for some or all of your places, and can also be omitted completely from your layer.*

Note: why do we provide five Description fields? Firstly in a shapefile the maximum length of a text field is 254 characters, so this enables a description longer than that to be displayed. Secondly, in the Details panel we automatically format the contents of each Description field into separate paragraphs, to improve the readability of long descriptions. If the right hand column of the Details panel exceeds the height of the panel because of the amount of text in these description fields, then the user can scroll down to read all the text. The text in each description field should be a self contained paragraph. The text must be plain text and HTML formatting is not supported. If you are using a text file instead of a shapefile to upload your features into your web map, there is not a 254 character limit on each of these fields, so each of these fields can contain a lot of text. For example, if you have a 2000 character description for each place in your layer, you could put all of that text into Desc1 and omit the other fields. That text will be displayed in a single paragraph in the Details panel. This may be easier than manually dividing up existing text into separate paragraphs, and, in the case of a shapefile, trying to keep the length of each paragraph to below 254 characters.

WEBSITE A text field containing the full URL of a website or web page about the place. This appears at the bottom of the left hand column of the Details panel that appears if the user clicks or taps the 'Details' link in the popup for a place. When the user follows this link, it gets launched in a new tab in their web browser. This field has to be populated for each place. This URL can't be longer than 254 characters for shapefile based point layers. If you can, it is a good idea to use redirectable URLs in this field. In this way, if the target URL of a place's website or a web page about it changes, you can redirect the URL that is stored in this field to point at that target URL without having to make an edit to the data in the web map. *This field can be left empty for some or all of your places if they don't have a corresponding web URL giving useful further information about them that you want to give to users. This field can also be omitted completely if it doesn't apply to any of the places in your layer.*

IMAGE_URL A text field containing the full URL of a graphic representing the place. This graphic appears in the tabs to the left of the map and in the top of the left column of the Details panel. The image will usually be a photograph of the place but could also be a graphic such as a logo. (See the Food tab in the San Diego Shortlist for how using a mixture of photos and logos adds interest to a tab). Each photograph needs to be in either PNG or JPG format and should be 200 pixels wide by 150 pixels tall. This small size ensures speedy loading of the graphics, and this aspect ratio means that the graphics fit perfectly into the space available for them in the template UI. (This size is also generally the recommended size for images in popups in web maps). The graphics can reside on any web server (ArcGIS Online doesn't provide graphic hosting). *This field must be present and must be populated for each feature.*

The fields list above can be in any order in file the layer is based on. Additional fields not listed above are allowed to be present in the data but are ignored by the application.

For easy access to this schema, see the Sample folder that comes with this template. This folder contains the complete set of shapefiles we use for the Palm Springs Shortlist, the MXD file, and a CSV file for one of the layers. You can use these as the basis for your shapefiles or your CSV files. They use the schema described above. For convenience and consistency, all of the text fields in the shapefiles are formatted as being 254 characters wide in the shapefiles, even if the content of the field, as in the case of the Title field, shouldn't use that full length. If you are going to use CSV files to upload your point features, there is no limit to the number of characters you can use for your text fields. See the section later in this document that describes what is in the Samples folder.

1.2. Optionally, add line or polygon layers providing additional supporting features

In addition to the point layers, your web map can optionally also contain supporting layers containing line or polygon features.

For example the San Diego Shortlist uses these supporting layers to indicate some recommended neighborhoods and beach areas, and also to show users the ferry routes over San Diego Bay. The Palm Springs Shortlist uses supporting layers to show neighborhoods, trails and the route of the tramway up San Jacinto Mountain.

These supporting features are not listed in the tabs as places, and they appear on your map all the time. Just like the point places on the map, users can hover the cursor over your supporting line and polygon features to find out their title, and they can click or tap on them to get a popup and details about them. These layers are totally optional, so you can have no supporting layers, just one, or multiple. You can't have a supporting layer containing point features, because file-based layers containing point features are automatically treated as being places in the tabs.

Each supporting layer is a feature layer created by uploading a shapefile. Text files aren't supported for supporting layers because text files can't (currently) be uploaded into a web map to define line or polygon features. You'll probably be unlikely to want to have more than a handful of features in your supporting layers.

As we said above, the features in your supporting layers are not listed in the tabs, but if you want you can of course have point features in your places layers next to or inside your supporting features to represent them in the tabs. For example in the San Diego Shortlist we show the Gaslamp Quarter, Little Italy and Balboa Park as areas using supporting layers, but we also have point features representing them in the 'Fun' tab because we want users to be able to see entries for them in that tab when they open the app. This gives you a lot of flexibility. For example in the San Diego Shortlist we have a supporting layer showing the three ferry routes across the bay, but we just have one place point, located at the departure point for the most frequently used ferry, in the 'Fun' tab to represent going over the bay in a ferry, because it would be overkill to include all three ferry rides as separate 'Fun' entries.

Unlike with the point layers that contain your places, the **symbology** you choose for your supporting layers in your web map is used as-is by the Shortlist template. So be sure to symbolize your supporting layers the way you want them to appear in the map.

Although features in supporting layers don't get shown in the tab, users can click or tap on any feature in a supporting layer on the map and get a popup telling them about it, and access to a Details panel, just like they can with your point places. This applies to all supporting layers. So just like with the point layer used to define the places, you don't need to specify a particular **popup configuration** for supporting layers, because the Shortlist template automatically applies its own built-in popup configuration to the data in the layers. So it doesn't matter whether you configure popups or not for these supporting layers.

The names of the supporting line or polygon layers aren't displayed in the Shortlist template, so any name can be used.

Each supporting layer is expected to have the same fields that are listed above for the places point layers, with the only difference being that the Number field is not required for supporting features because these features are not numbered on the map. (In the sample supporting shapefiles that come with this template you'll see that for consistency we still have the Number field nevertheless, even though it isn't populated). All the file-based line and polygon layers in your web map are automatically treated as supporting layers, and they have to contain the set of fields described above. This means that any shapefile based line or polygon layer in your web map will be treated as a supporting layer, which in turn means that users can click on them to get the popup and details, which in turn are driven by the fields described above.

Note: You may also notice if you use the San Diego Shortlist or Palm Springs Shortlist app, or look at the sample shapefiles, that for supporting features that represent areas, like the Gaslamp Quarter and Little Italy neighborhoods, we actually use **line features instead of polygon features**. This is by design to maximize usability. In these maps, a lot of the places fall inside these areas. If we used polygons for these areas, the user would get the map tip when they hover the cursor anywhere inside these areas and the popup if they clicked or tapped anywhere inside these areas. We wanted to avoid that, so that when the user interacts with the places inside the areas they don't accidentally get the information about the area when they are trying to get information about a place that falls inside it. So in this way, if you move the cursor around inside one of these areas, the only map tips you see are for the places in the area. You only see the map tip for the Gaslamp Quarter if you click on the boundary of the Gaslamp Quarter itself. Similarly, if you are using the San Diego Shortlist app on an iPad and you tap inside the Gaslamp Quarter and miss the restaurant you were trying to hit, you don't keep getting the popup for the Gaslamp Quarter (which you would then have to dismiss) like you would if that area was handled using a polygon. PS: Using line features to represent areas also improves the usability of these Shortlist web maps when they are accessed in standard clients like the ArcGIS.com map viewer and the ArcGIS for iOS app. In those clients if you click or tap on a point feature that is drawn on top of a polygon feature, the popup that appears gives you access to the popups for both features, which is usually not what you want.

For some examples of shapefiles used for supporting layers, see the Sample folder that comes with this template. This folder contains the complete set of shapefiles we use for the Palm Springs Shortlist, and the MXD file in which they were edited. You can use these as the basis for your supporting shapefiles

1.3. Optionally, add additional background layers

In addition to the file-based layers described above, your web map can optionally also contain additional layers to enhance your map display. For example, if your web map is using the Imagery or Imagery With Labels basemap, and you also want your web map to contain roads, road labels. and street names, you can add the World Transportation map service from ArcGIS Online into your map. The Shortlist template supports any type of service based layer as a background layer, including map services, image services and feature services. Another example would be a map service showing bus routes or light rail routes that you add into the map of a city that will be used in the Shortlist template.

The **symbology** for these additional services you add into your map is used as-is in the Shortlist template. **Popups** are not supported on these background services (because the Shortlist template has its own built in popup format and only supports these for the file-based point layers and supporting line and polygon layers). So you don't need to configure popups to service-based layers you add into your web map. The names of these additional background layers are not displayed in the map, nor is the legend.

The Shortlist template will also display map notes drawn onto your web map using the editable layers functionality. As these are just drawn as background layers, popups are not supported. This can be a good way to put additional features, annotation, or labels on your Shortlist web map.

Design tip: If you want users to be able to find out about, say, a polygon drawn on your map as a background layer, you can simply put one of your point features that appears in the tabs on that polygon to represent it.

1.4. Choose the initial extent of your map

The initial extent of a web map is simply the spatial extent it shows when it is opened. This extent is whatever extent was being displayed the last time that the map's author saved the map.

When a user opens a Shortlist app, the first extent they see is the initial extent of the web map. After they've navigated around the map, they can also return to this initial extent by using the Home button (the house icon) on the map. This provides a nice way for people to get back to base after they've been somewhere else.

Your initial extent is an important information design choice for your Shortlist application. As the tabs only show places that are inside the extent that the user is currently viewing in the app, if your initial extent doesn't cover the entire area of your map that contains your places, people will only see a subset of the places in your map when they first launch the app. They'll have to navigate to other areas to see all your places. But if your initial extent does cover the extent of all the places in your map, it may look too cluttered when the user first launches the app and they'll immediately have to zoom in on the map in order to get to an easy-to-use level of detail. Your choice may depend on the density of places on your map.

In both the San Diego and Palm Springs Shortlists we chose to start off with a useful initial extent covering the central business area of the town instead of the entire town. In the case of San Diego, we start zoomed in to the downtown area because downtowns serve as the 'gateway' to a city and many of the San Diego Shortlist's users are attending conventions in the downtown area, such as the Esri User Conference. In this way people can immediately start exploring places in this frequently visited part of the city. People can then use the bookmarks menu in the top right hand corner, or navigate manually, to branch out and explore the surrounding neighborhoods. So we felt this was a natural progression that nicely mirrors the way San Diego is often experienced by visitors. As they venture beyond the downtown they'll hopefully see that the list of places in the tabs updates to show them a new set of places. We also added an Overview entry into the bookmarks menu (see the next section for how these entries are defined) in both maps that lets users zooms out to an extent that covers all the places on the map.

1.5. Optionally, add some bookmarks to your map

Your web map can optionally contain some bookmarks. When your web map contains some bookmarks, they appear in a dropdown menu in the top right hand corner of the Shortlist. By default, this menu is called 'Zoom' but you can change this name easily (see later in this document for how). For example, for a city Shortlist where you've defined bookmarks for key neighborhoods you might want to change this to Neighborhoods. If you choose not to have any bookmarks, the menu is automatically hidden in the Shortlist.

This menu is an important way for you to guide your users around the areas on the map you want them to look at. Some users might navigate around your Shortlist map primarily using this menu. For the San Diego and Palm Springs Shortlist maps, we treated the bookmarks as part of the set of recommendations we want to give users. So instead of trying to list every neighborhood in town, we chose the ones that we wanted to recommend people visit. As described above, we also included a bookmark called Overview that covers the entire city. We avoided bookmarks for areas that would give the user no places, especially in the first tab 'Fun', so that the user always gets something in that tab if they visit each of the places in the bookmarks dropdown.

Your bookmarks should have fairly short names. You can add bookmarks to a web map in either the ArcGIS.com map viewer or the ArcGIS Explorer Online client. The Shortlist template doesn't sort the bookmarks alphabetically. It simply uses the same order in which they occur in your map. The ArcGIS.com map viewer doesn't let you change the order of existing bookmarks but the ArcGIS Explorer Online client does, so use that client if you want to change the bookmark order.

1.6. Specify the name and summary for your web map

The Shortlist template automatically uses the name of your web map as the title of the Shortlist application and uses the summary text of your web map as the subtitle in the application. To edit the title and summary of your map in ArcGIS Online go to the Details page for your map. The other information on the Details page, such as Description, Access Constraints and Tags is not used by the Shortlist template. For example, here's the Details page for the web map used in the San Diego Shortlist app. The only things on the page that appear on the Shortlist app is the title and summary.

1.7. Finally save your map and share it

You need to share your web map publically (via the Details page) If your Shortlist app will be available to the public. This is the usual configuration (because you want everyone in the world to see your nice map right!).

You are done with the web map part of the process! That's the hard part done. Now you just need to put the Shortlist template on your server and configure it so that it uses your web map.

2. Install the Shortlist template

Now you've created your web map and shared it publically, you are ready to install the application on your website or web server.

We're not talking about ArcGIS Server here. ArcGIS Server is a product that allows organizations to create and serve web services that use GIS data. ArcGIS Server is not needed in order to use this template. By 'web server' we mean the standard web server that you use for your website or web pages. This might be a web server that you or your organization maintains. Or it may simply be a folder on a shared or hosted web server that you use for your website or web pages. So in other words, when we say 'you install the Shortlist template on your web server', we simply mean that you or your web site admin person puts the set of files that comprise the template onto your web server in the same way that you or they would put HTML, PNG, and other files if you were adding a new web page.

Copy the contents of the Shortlist template zip file into a folder on your website or web server. The location of the template's Index.html file defines the URL that will be used to access your shortlist. For example if your website is using a web server like Internet Information Services(IIS) you can create a folder in its root file structure (C:\inetpub\wwwroot) and copy the contents of the template zip file into it. So if you created a folder called:

```
C:\inetpub\wwwroot\shortlist
```

and your website's domain is http://www.example.com then the URL of your shortlist will be:

```
http://www.example.com/shortlist
```

Tip: We don't recommend installing the template in a file sharing system like Dropbox. We have noticed that story map templates installed on a Dropbox account sometimes don't load when opened in certain browsers because of how they handle Dropbox security.

3. Configure the application

To configure the application, the only one of the Shortlist source code files you have to edit is **index.html**. Open this file in the editor of your choice.

3.1. In the Config section of the index.html file you'll see the following variables

```
/*****************************************************
*******************  config section *****************
*****************************************************/

var    WEBMAP_ID = "1966ef409a344d089b001df85332608f";
var    BOOKMARKS_ALIAS = "Zoom";
var    COLOR_ORDER = "green,red,blue,purple";
var    BINGMAPS_KEY = "";
```

3.1.1. Update the WEBMAP_ID variable to be the ID of your ArcGIS Online web map. This tells the Shortlist app which web map to use. For example, our Palm Springs Shortlist web map has this URL: http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=**88b187a860934d8491bdff591d0b1e1a** and the ID of this map is the last part 88b187a860934d8491bdff591d0b1e1a

3.1.2. Update the BOOKMARKS_ALIAS variable if you want to specify a different name for the bookmarks menu in the top right corner of your Shortlist app. By default, this name is "Zoom".

3.1.3. Update the COLOR_ORDER variable to specify a different color ordering for the four colors that the Shortlist template supports for the places in each of your tabs. The default order is green, red, blue, purple, so green is used for the points in the first tab, red for the points in the second tab, etc. If your application has less than four tabs, you don't need to specify all the colors.

3.1.4. If your web base is using one of the Bing Maps basemap, enter your Bing Maps Key in the BINGMAP_KEY variable

3.2. In the "social" section of the index.html file you'll see the following lines. These control the links that you see in the top right hand corner of your Shortlist app:

```
<div id="social"><a id="msLink" href="http://storymaps.esri.com"
target="_blank">A story map </a><span  class='st_facebook' ></span><span
class='st_twitter' ></span>
</div>
```

If you want to have a different link and target where we currently have 'A story map', modify that line.

3.3. In the "logo" section of the index.html file you'll see the following lines. These specify the graphic logo that you see in the top right hand corner of your Shortlist app:

```
<div id="logo"><a id="logoLink" href="http://www.esri.com"
target="_blank"><img id="logoImg" src="images/Logo.png" alt="Esri - Home"></a>
</div>
```

If you want to use your own logo graphic, update the images/Logo.png file in the source code with your own design. We recommend using the same size graphic to keep the same layout. Update the URL target as well to where you want the user to be taken if they click the logo.

You are done!

PS. You can of course edit and customize the code in any way you want! That's why we freely provide the code for the app as part of the template. It can also be a good way to start learning JavaScript.

Sample folder

The Sample folder contains the complete set of shapefiles we use for the Palm Springs Shortlist, the MXD file, and a CSV file for one of the layers. They use the schema described above, so you can use these as the basis for your shapefiles or your CSV files.

URL to the Palm Springs Shortlist app:
http://storymaps.esri.com/stories/shortlist-palmsprings

URL to the Palm Springs Shortlist web map that is displayed by that app. It has seven file-based layers, each of which uses one of the
http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=88b187a860934d8491bdff591d0b1e1a

Here's what the folder contains:

The four point shapefiles containing the places in each of the four tabs:

Fun.shp
Food.shp
Hotels.shp
Design.shp

The three line shapefiles containing the supporting features displayed on the map

Neighborhoods.shp
Trails.shp
Tramway.shp

The MXD file, in ArcGIS for Desktop 10.0 format, that was used to assemble and edit the shapefiles. You can of course prepare your shapefiles using any version of ArcGIS for Desktop, or any other program that lets you generate shapefiles.

Palm Springs Shortlist.mxd

A sample CSV file showing the format that can be used to prepare your point features instead of using shapefiles. This file contains Latitude and Longitude fields used to locate each place. These two fields use Decimal Degrees to six decimal places. (Alternatively you could also use the Address field in the CSV file to locate each place when you upload it into the web map).

Food.csv

An Excel worksheet containing the CSV file data. You can use Excel to edit the data and generate the CSV file. That workflow doesn't require ArcGIS for Desktop.

Food.xlsx

The Schema.ini file defining the schema used for the CSV file. (This file isn't required but is being included for convenience.

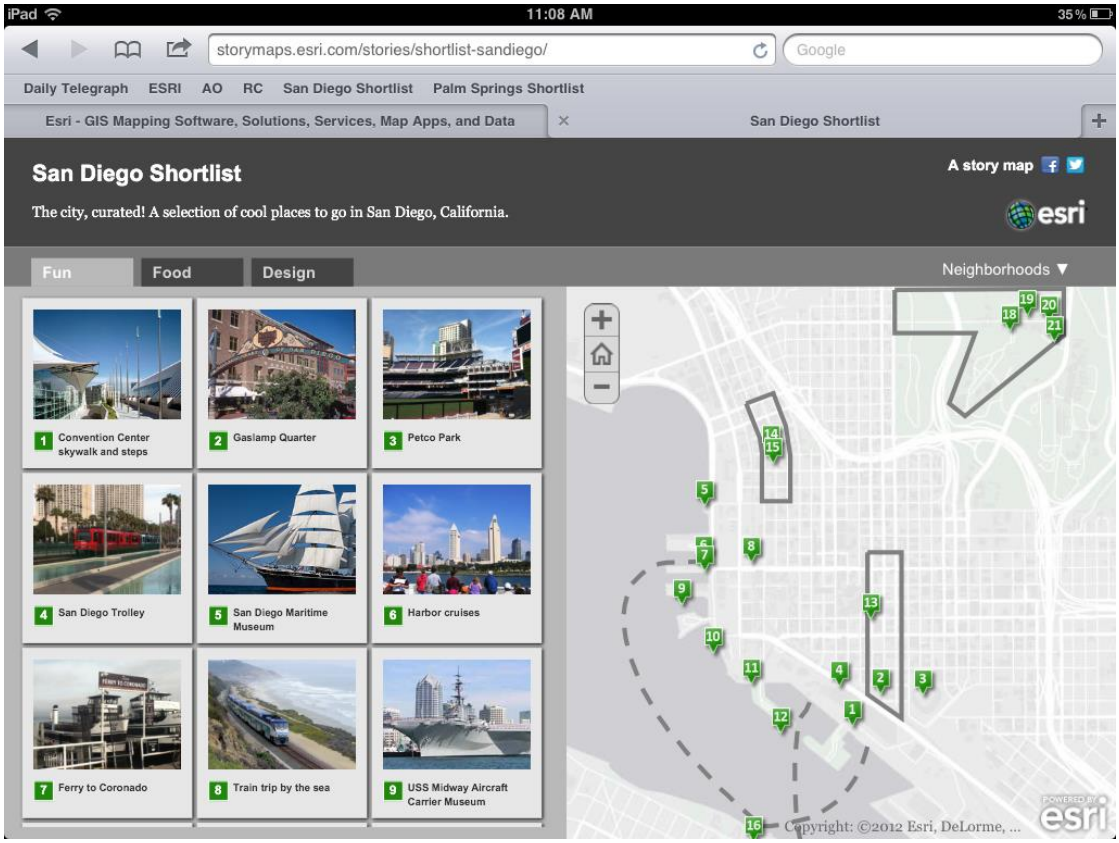
schema.ini

Tips

- After you've uploaded shapefiles into your web map, if you want to make changes to the information, or add or remove features, don't forget that you can make edits to the layers in the web map. You don't need to reload the data. However, making the updates to the original source data and then reloading the data might be easier, and makes it easier if you want to use that source data in multiple maps.

- Don't put too much information in the Address and Hours fields, such as detailed directions in the Address tab. In the Details panel, the left hand column isn't scrollable, so if those fields are too long, and the user is viewing the Shortlist in a small browser window, the bottom of the left hand column may be clipped.

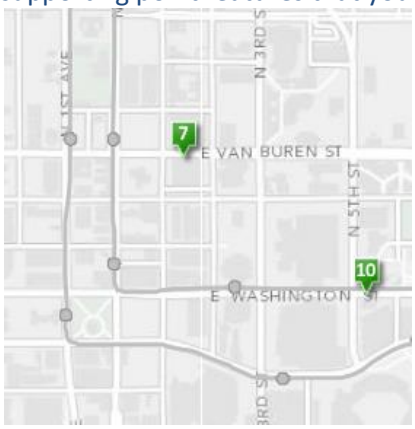
- If you customize the application, avoid making the height of the title area (i.e. the black strip across the top of the app) any taller than it currently is. (It is currently 96 pixels tall). We chose that height so that the application fits nicely in landscape mode on an iPad when it is displayed in Safari with the browser's Bookmarks bar turned on (the default Safari configuration on the iPad). At this size, the user can completely see the first 9 places and also a few pixels of the next row of places underneath those 9, which helps the user see that more places are available. If you make the title area any taller you will lose that nice effect:



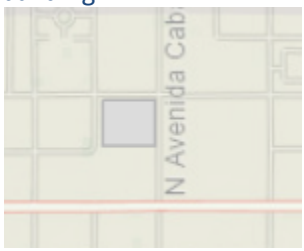
- We don’t have a specific field for photo credits but you can always use the last paragraph of the description to give a credit. It would be a nice enhancement to the template to have a specific, but optional Photo Credit field that appears in small text under the photo in the Details tab.

- How about if you want to have some point features appear as supporting features in your map rather than as number places that appear in the tabs? We've kept the configuration of the template as simple as possible, so we've just told it to treat all point feature layers in the map as being places that will be displayed in the tabs. So this precludes having supporting point features in your web map.

  This issue came up in the Phoenix Shortlist we have been working on, which at the time of writing isn't finished or announced yet. This shows the METRO light rail system and each of the stations as supporting features. In order to show the stations I actually buffered the station point features in ArcMap to create a set of tiny polygons, which I then added to the underlying web map to represent the stations. I used a buffer distance of 60 feet. This seems to work OK and also has the nice effect that as you zoom in the stations get bigger on the map, so if you zoom to the neighborhood level you see quite big spots where the stations are so that you are aware they are there. I also applied a scale dependency to the Light Rail Stations layer so that when you zoom a long way out, they don't get drawn at all. Anyway, that is one way to handle supporting point features that you want to look like points.



  Another example is where there is a particular place you want to add onto the map, which you would perhaps normally add as a point feature. This came up in the Palm Springs Shortlist where we wanted to add the Convention Center as a supporting feature, so that if someone is visiting Palm Springs to attend a convention or meeting there they'll be able to see it on the map. But we didn't want to make it too prominent because it's not an important location for the typical recreational visitor. So we added it as a supporting polygon feature and symbolized it quite subtly so that looks like it is part of the basemap. As a polygon feature the user can hover their cursor anywhere over the feature to see a map tip with its name, or click or tap anywhere on the feature to get its popup. This also looks better than using a point feature because as the user zooms in on the Convention Center it gets bigger on the map showing the footprint of the building.



Known issues and limitations

- If you use one of the Bing Maps basemaps in your web map, the Shortlist app won't work unless you have your own Bing Maps keycode and include it in the index.html file as described above.

- The point layers containing the places that appear in the tabs, and the supporting line and polygon layers for which popups are available have to be based on uploaded files. Service-based layers such as feature services are not supported for these layers.

- If any of the point layers in your web map is turned off, it is still drawn on the Shortlist app and shown as a tab.

- The template works OK on the iPad Mini but isn't designed for screens smaller than that. It isn't currently really usable on smartphones.

- When the bookmarks dropdown menu is expanded, tapping the map or interacting with the tabs doesn't automatically close it like you might expect.

- Between 1 and 4 tabs are supported, and each tab can contain a maximum of 99 places.

- Layers based on KML are not supported as point layers supplying places for the tabs or as supporting layers. If your web map contains any layers based on KML, the KML layers are ignored: your Shortlist app will still work.

- If you double-click a supporting feature like a polygon feature, its popup appears and the map also zooms in centered on the point you clicked. On the double-click, only the zoom in should happen: the popup should not be appearing. This works OK in the web map clients but not in the Shortlist template.

- It’s a known issue with the ArcGIS Javascript API (that the Shortlist template is built with) that touch gestures don’t work in Internet Explorer on Windows 8 metro mode and desktop mode. So if you open an ArcGIS Online web map in the web map viewer, or in any template like the Shortlist template, and try and zoom and pan via touch, it doesn’t work.