

Collaborative tagging in OpenStreetMap



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OpenStreetMap

Edit

History

Export

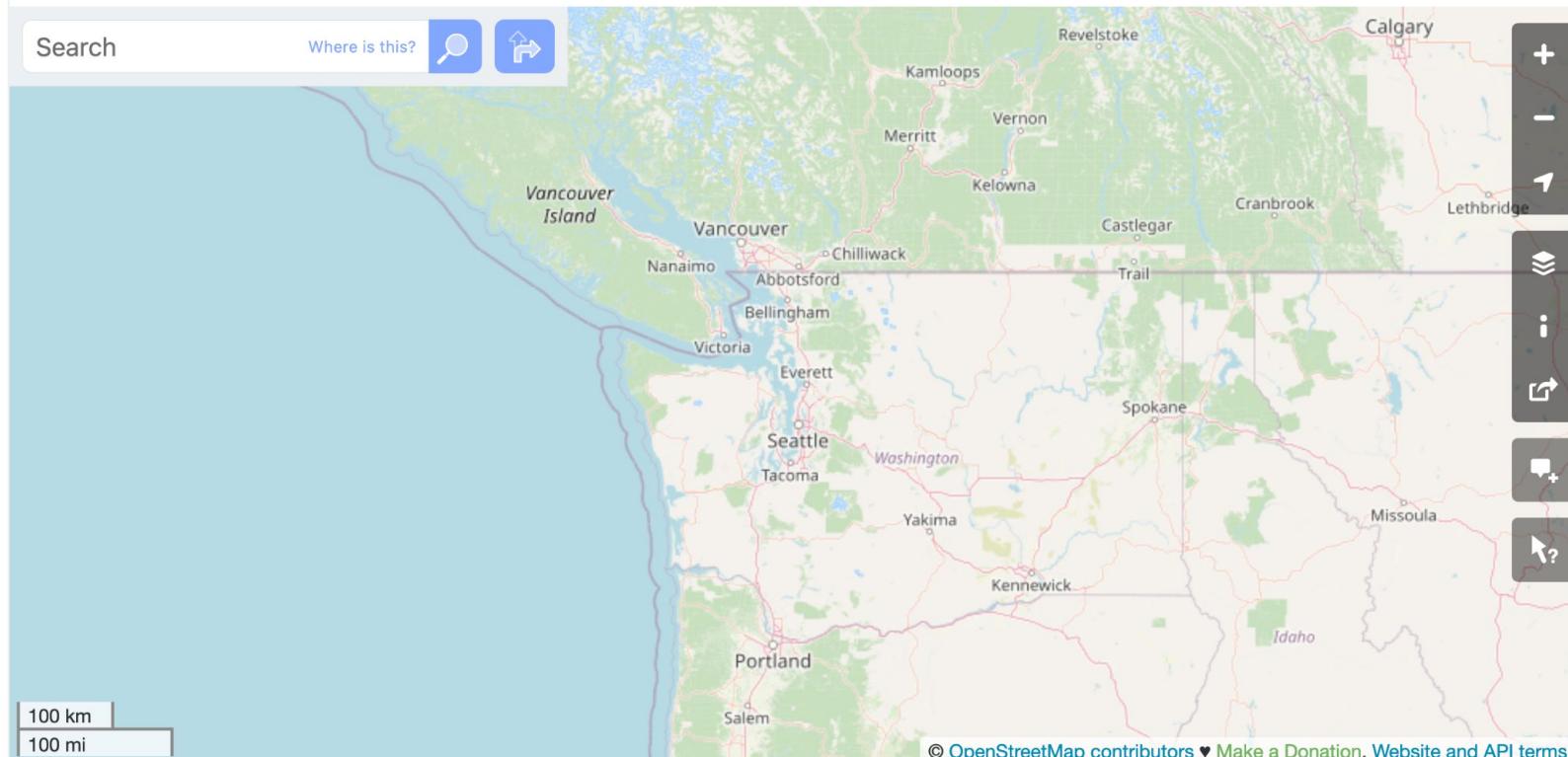
More



quincyvania

Search

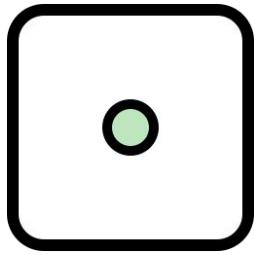
Where is this?



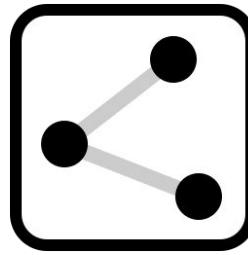
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OpenStreetMap data model

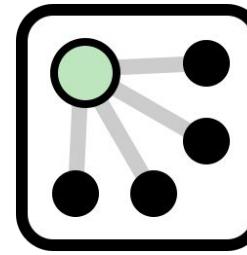
OpenStreetMap geometry types



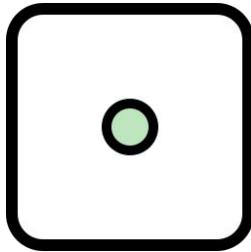
Node



Way



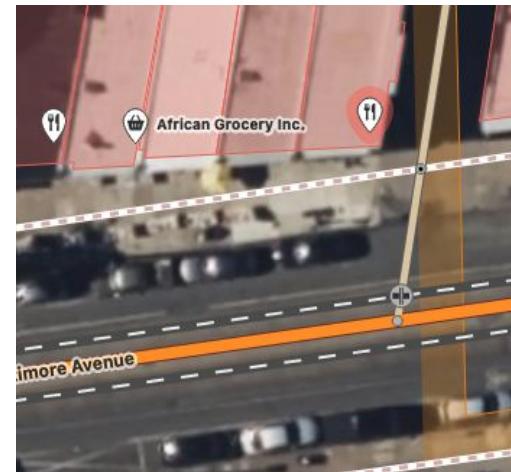
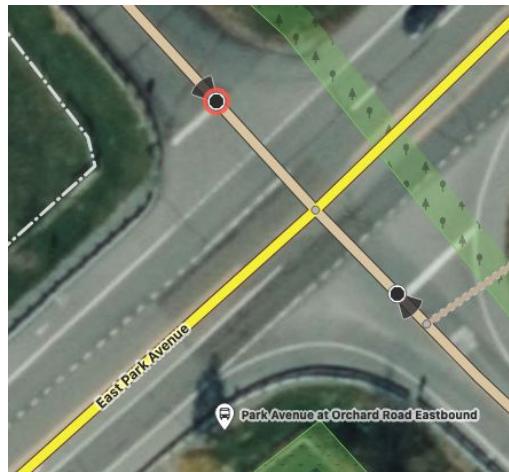
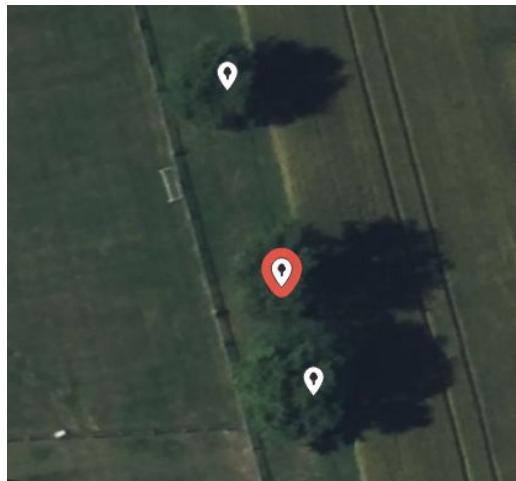
Relation

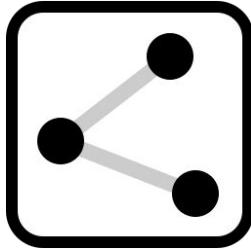


Node

id: n123456

lat: 48.1032142 **lon:** -75.9302422



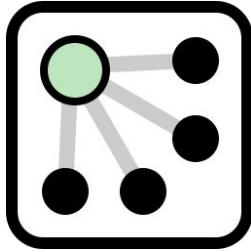


Way

id: w123456

nodes: n123456, n123480, n123499, n123456

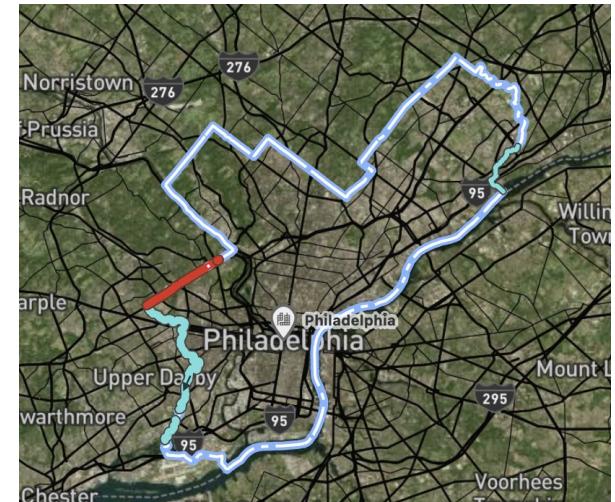
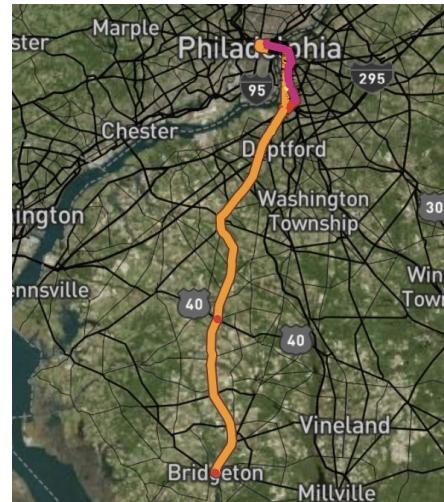




Relation

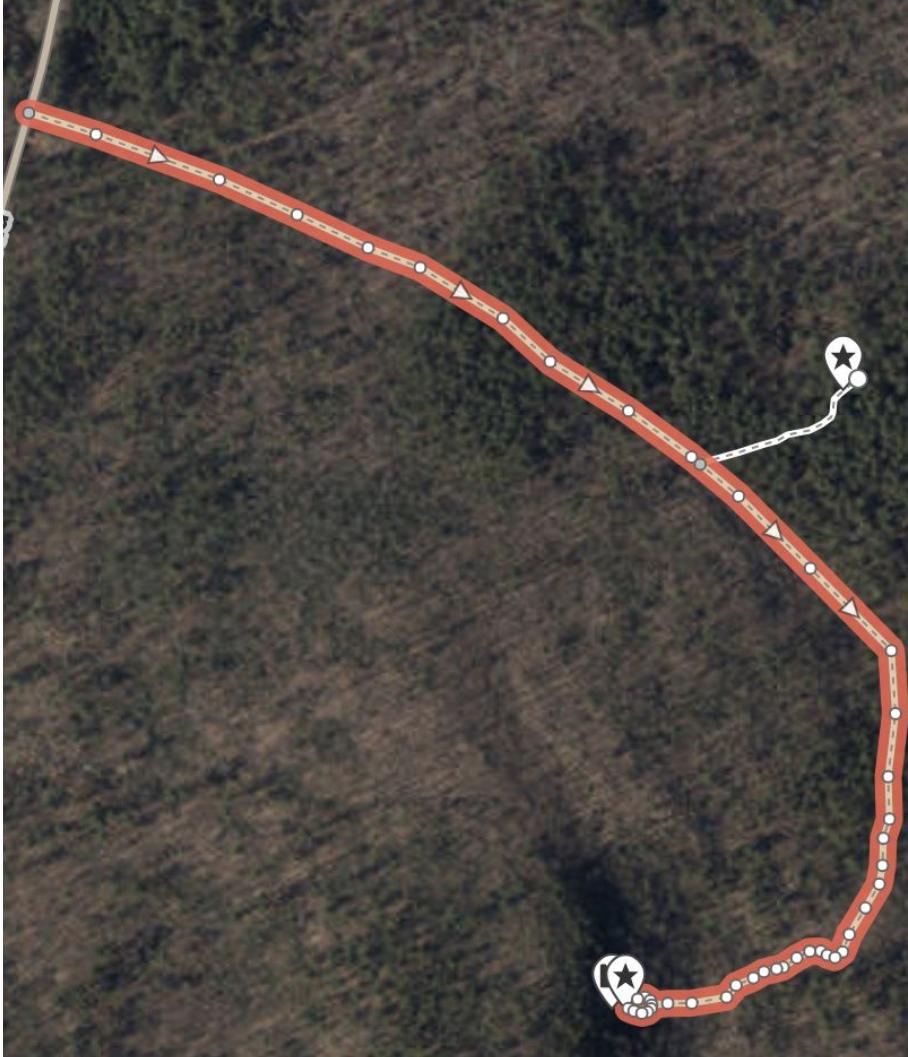
id: r123456

members: w123456 outer, w129402 inner

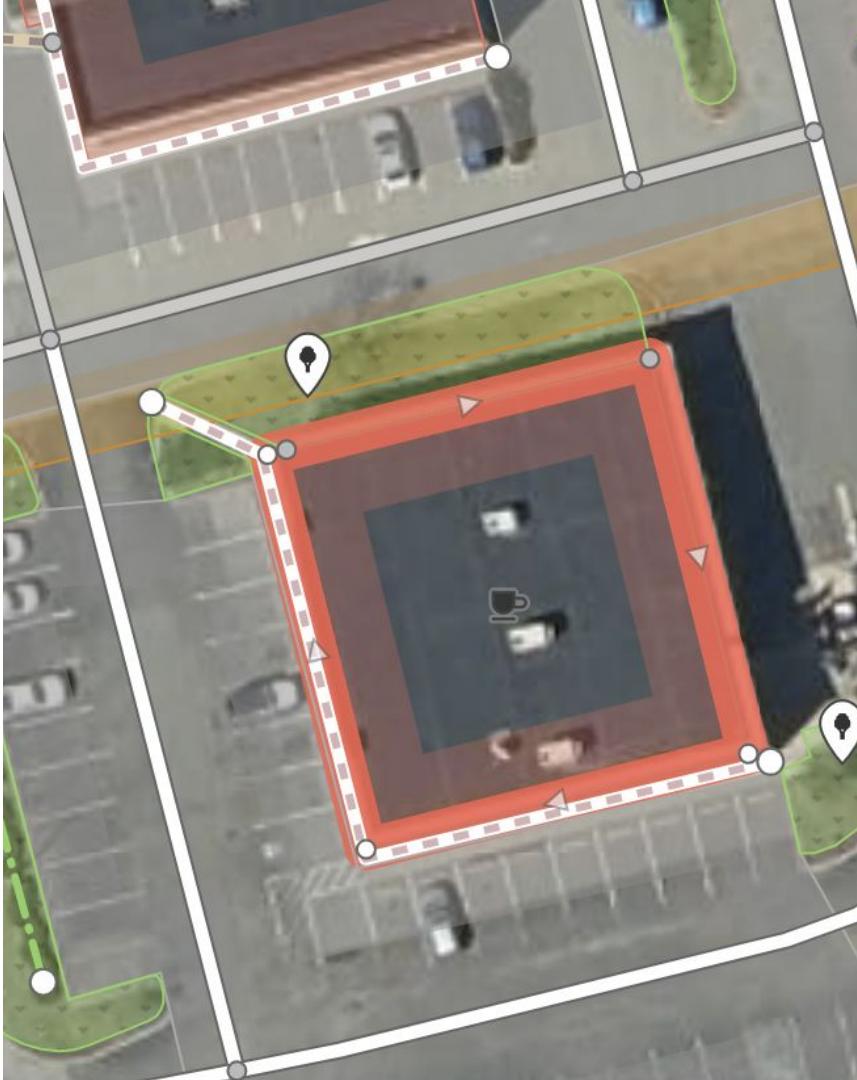


That's it!
(except for tags)

highway=path
name=Blue Trail
foot=designated
bicycle=dismount
motor_vehicle=private
surface=dirt
smoothness=bad
incline=up
start_date=2003-06-24
informal=no
operator=MassDCR
dog=yes
fixme=Are horses allowed?
source=survey



building=yes
height=3.8
amenity=cafe
name=Sunrise Cafe
addr:housenumber=270
addr:street>Main Street
cuisine=coffee_shop
diet:vegetarian=yes
drive_through=no
wheelchair=limited
phone=+1 940-555-1232
internet_access=wlan
internet_access:fee=no
note=Wrong hours on website



OpenStreetMap tagging basics

- key=value
- Freeform strings
- 255 character limit
- British English
- Special characters allowed
- “Any tags you like”

Any tags I like?!

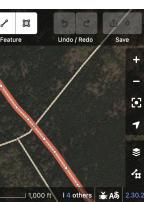
(You and everyone else)

General tagging goals

- Model any feature on Earth
- Useful and unambiguous
- Easy to map
- Easy to consume

Goals are in tension...

Constant feedback loop



Mappers create data

Apps add support for useful tags



Mappers use tags that apps support

Apps consume data



Are dogs allowed?
(tagging example)

Are dogs allowed?

- dog=yes
- dog=no



Are dogs allowed?

- dog=yes
- dog=no
- dog=leashed
- dog=unleashed



Editors support preset tags...

Edit feature

Foot	yes
Motor Vehicles	no
Bicycles	yes
Horses	yes

Incline
up, down, 0%...

Dogs

- Allowed
- Leashed Only
- Leashes Not Required
- Not Allowed

[View on openstreetmap.org](#)

Inspect Add Feature

Point Line Area

Undo / Redo Save

+

-

Map Tools

Bing

1,000 ft

, diamondarmorsteve, woodpeck_fixbot, and 3 others

2.30.2

... and also “raw” tags

Edit feature

Add field: Covered, GNIS Feature ID, Hiki...

Tags (5)

- highway=path
- tiger:cfcc=A51
- tiger:county=Hampshire, WV
- tiger:reviewed=no
- dog=leashed

Relations (0)

+

[View on openstreetmap.org](#)

Point Line Area

Inspect Add Feature Undo / Redo Save

Bing 1,000 ft , diamondarmorsteve, woodpeck_fixbot, and 3 others 2.30.2

taginfo.openstreetmap.org

taginfo · Data from: 2024-08-27 00:59 UTC · English · ·

KEYS · TAGS · RELATIONS · PROJECTS · REPORTS · SOURCES · ABOUT

dog

Describes if dogs are allowed

Comparison list (0 items) · Filter: No filter · XAPI · JOSM · Level0 Editor · Overpass turbo · OSM Tag History · ohsome

Overview · Values · Combinations · Similar · Chronology · Map · Wiki · Projects · Characters

Values used with this key

Page 1 of 7 · JSON · Displaying 1 to 13 of 90 items · Search for: Value

Value	Count	Wiki	Description
leashed	49 015 42.10%	✓	Indicates that dogs are allowed if on leash.
no	34 707 29.81%	✓	Indicates that dogs are not allowed.
yes	29 727 25.53%	✓	Indicates that dogs are allowed.
unleashed	1 476 1.27%	✓	Indicates that dogs are allowed, and do not need to be leashed.
designated	478 0.41%	✓	Indicates that a feature is intended for dogs
permissive	284 0.24%	-	
private	159 0.14%	-	
outside	142 0.12%	✓	Indicates that dogs are allowed in an outside area.
permit	62 0.05%	-	
on_request	46 0.04%	-	
voice_control	42 0.04%	-	
no_@_(Mar_15_-_Aug_...)	30 0.03%	-	
outdoor_seating	24 0.02%	-	

→ OpenStreetMap · Data © OSM contributors (ODbL) · Download · API · Help · → Wiki

Value	Count	Count
fee	22	0.02%
discouraged	19	0.02%
under_control	14	0.01%
unknown	12	0.01%
clean	11	0.01%
limited	10	0.01%
maybe	9	0.01%
0	9	0.01%
not_allowed	9	0.01%
only	7	0.01%
leashed;clean	6	0.01%
guide_only	6	0.01%
permissive;leashed	5	0.00%

Value	Count	Count
official	5	0.00%
ss	4	0.00%
assistance	4	0.00%
customers	4	0.00%
small	3	0.00%
1	3	0.00%
unset	3	0.00%
designated;clean	3	0.00%
guide	3	0.00%
german_shepherd	2	0.00%
restricted	2	0.00%
partial	2	0.00%
free_dog_waste_bags	2	0.00%

Other keys used together with this key



Page

1 of 285

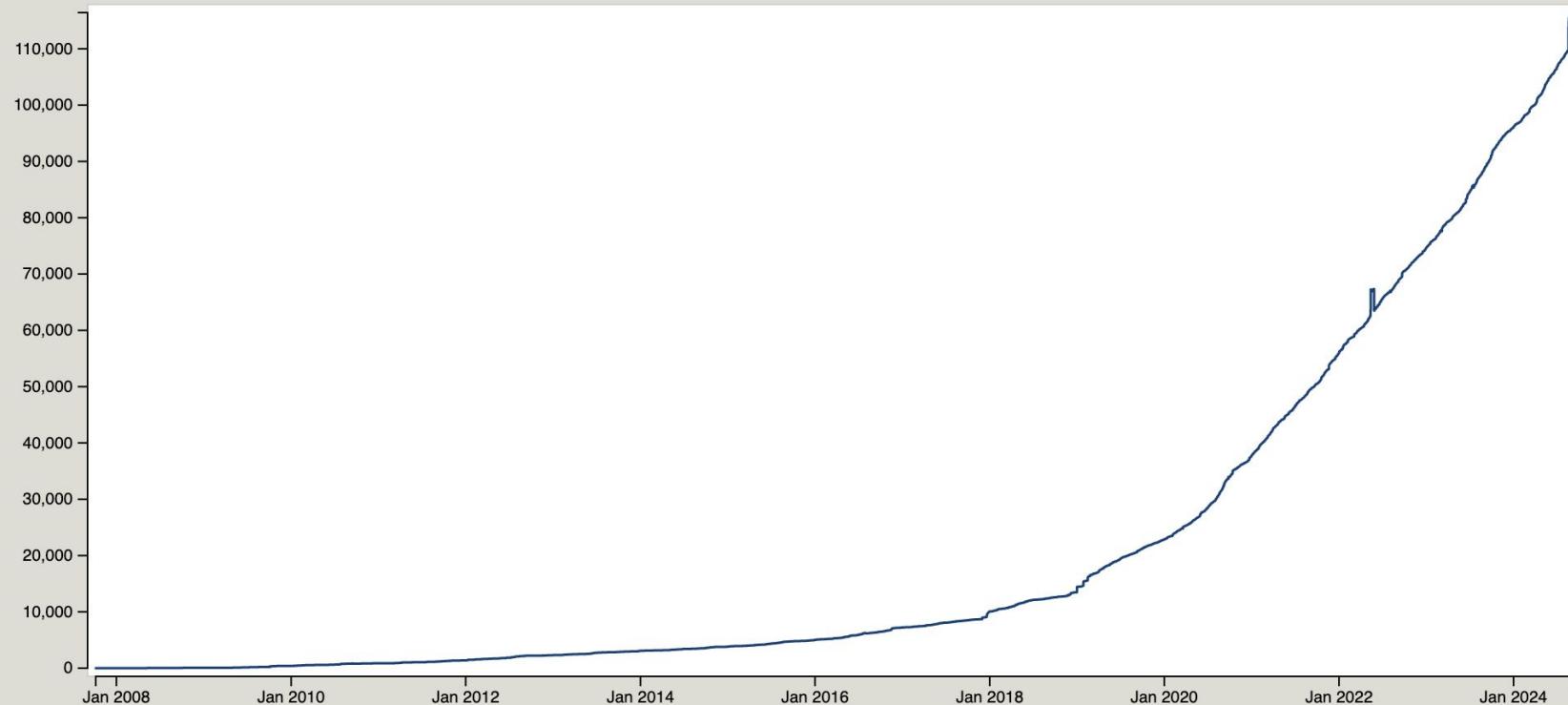


JSON

Displaying 1 to 13 of 3696 items

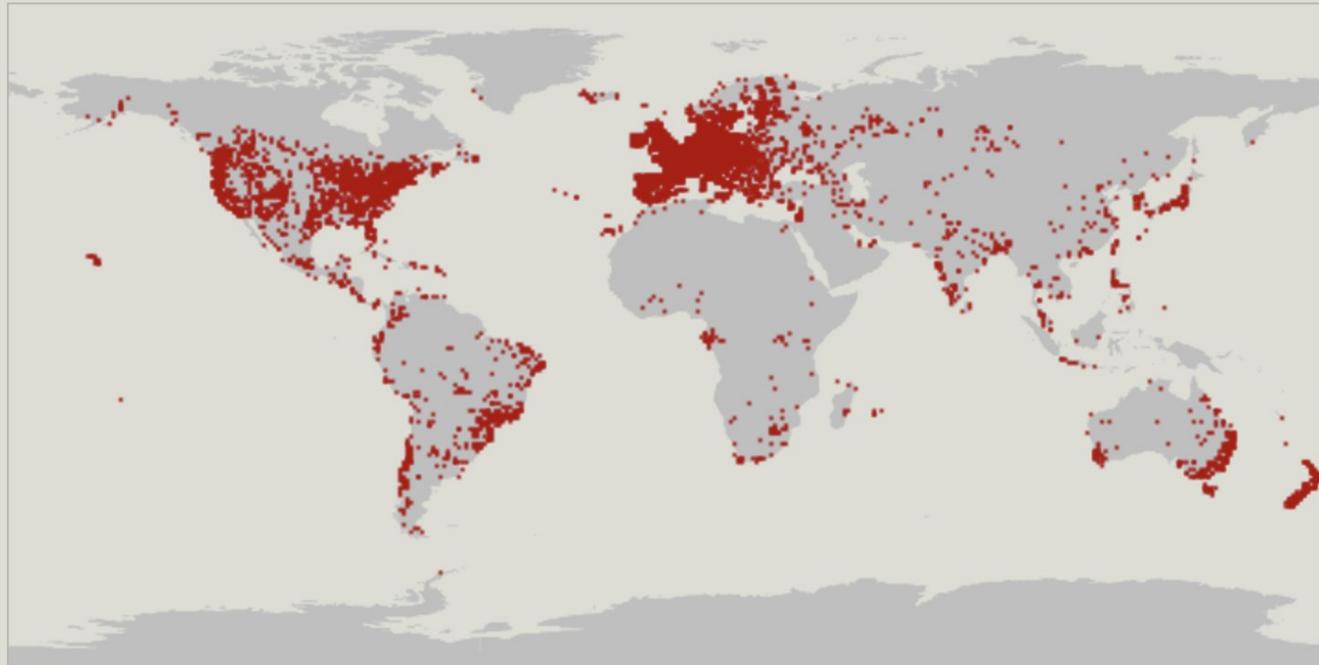
Count →		Other keys		
85 672	73.58%	highway	85 672	0.03%
73 584	63.20%	surface	73 584	0.12%
58 256	50.04%	bicycle	58 256	0.73%
52 518	45.11%	foot	52 518	0.71%
49 803	42.78%	name	49 803	0.05%
40 797	35.04%	horse	40 797	2.29%
32 709	28.09%	motor_vehicle	32 709	1.41%
30 709	26.38%	wheelchair	30 709	1.00%
27 767	23.85%	lit	27 767	0.24%
25 652	22.03%	smoothness	25 652	0.52%
16 786	14.42%	operator	16 786	0.14%
16 022	13.76%	access	16 022	0.07%
15 287	13.13%	width	15 287	0.47%

Chronology



Geographical distribution of this key

This shows the distribution of nodes and ways with this key, relations are not shown.



Wiki pages about this key

Language	Wiki page	Description	Image	Objects	Status	Implied Tags	Com
de Deutsch	→ DE:Key:dog		no image				
en English	→ Key:dog	Describes if dogs are allowed	→ File:Noun 36...		de facto		highway
fr Français	→ FR:Key:dog	Règle d'accès pour les chiens.	→ File:Noun 36...				highway
ja 日本語	→ JA:Key:dog	犬が許可されているかどうか	no image				leisure
nl Nederlands	→ NL:Key:dog	Beschrijft of honden toegestaan zijn	no image				highway
ru Русский	→ RU:Key:dog	Указывает, допускаются ли в данное место собаки.	→ File:Noun 36...		de facto		highway

Wiki English Quincylvania Preferences Watchlist Contributions Log out

Page Discussion Read Edit Edit source View history More Search OpenStreetMap Wiki

Key:dog

Key:dog - Other languages

Deutsch English français Nederlands русский 日本語 Other languages...

Describes whether dogs are legally allowed in a certain area (like a park) or if an amenity is meant to be used by dogs (for example a place to drink water).

Contents [hide]

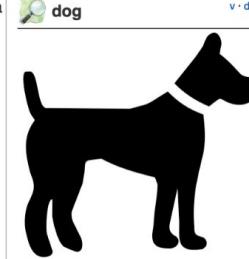
- 1 As an access restriction
 - 1.1 Leashed or unleashed
 - 1.2 Assistance dogs
 - 1.3 Conditional access
- 2 As extra information on amenities
- 3 Gallery
- 4 See also
- 5 Possible tagging mistakes
- 6 Weblinks

As an access restriction [edit | edit source]

Due to a variety of reasons dogs may be explicitly (i.e., by means of signage) or implicitly (e.g., when local rules and regulations stipulate it) banned from certain ways or areas. The following tag-values can be used:

Key	Value	Element	Description	Image	Count

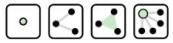
dog v · d · e



Description
Describes if dogs are allowed ↗

Group: restrictions

Used on these elements



Documented values: 6

Useful combination

- highway=*
• leisure=park

wiki.openstreetmap.org

Key	Value	Element	Description	Image	Count
dog	yes		Indicates that dogs are allowed.		4 276 25 055 396
dog	no		Indicates that dogs are not allowed.		4 147 29 811 749
dog	leashed		Indicates that dogs are allowed if on leash.		892 47 649 474
dog	unleashed		Indicates that dogs are allowed, and do not need to be leashed.		32 1 420 24
dog	designated		Indicates that a feature is intended for dogs		199 268 11
dog	outside		Indicates that dogs are allowed in an outside area.		99 43 0

Useful combination

- [highway=*](#)
- [leisure=park](#)
- [vending=excrement_bags](#)

See also

- [access=*](#)

Status: de facto

dog=*
116,427
9,821
104,933
1,673

Tools for this tag

- [taginfo](#) • [GB](#) • [IN](#) • [US](#)
- [overpass-turbo](#)
- [OSM Tag History](#)

Tagging documentation on OpenStreetMap Wiki

- Anyone can write anything on the Wiki
- Docs may or may not reflect real-world usage

Tagging proposals

- Most have relatively few voters
- Bad tags may get “approved”
- Good or popular tags may get “rejected”
- Most tags were never formally proposed

OpenStreetMap Wiki tag statuses

approved · **de facto** · **deprecated** · **discardable** ·
imported · **in use** · **obsolete** · **undefined** · **voting** ·
proposed

Abandoned proposals

Wiki logo

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Page information
Cite this page

Proposal Discussion Read Edit Edit source View history More Search OpenStreetMap Wiki

Proposal:Pet

Access tag pet

Proposal status: Abandoned (inactive)

Proposed by: ZeiP

Tagging: `pet=*` Data item

Applies to:

Definition: Allow specifying access for all pets, not just `dog=*`.
[taginfo \[More...\]](#)

Statistics:
 891
 660
 7

Draft started: 2018-06-10

RFC start: 2018-06-10

Contents [hide]

- 1 Proposal
- 2 Rationale
- 3 Examples
- 4 Tagging
- 5 Applies to
- 6 Features/Pages affected
- 7 External discussions

Approved proposals

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Proposal:public_bookcase

The Feature Page for this [approved](#) proposal is located at [Tag:amenity=public_bookcase](#)

amenity=public_bookcase

Proposal status: Approved (active)

Proposed by: Zethradon

Tagging: amenity=public_bookcase [Data item](#)

Applies to: node

Definition: A street furniture containing books. Take one, leave one.

[taginfo \[More...\]](#)

<input type="radio"/>	28 204	0.19 %
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	470	0.00 %
<input type="radio"/>	0	0.00 %

Statistics:

Draft started: 2014-12-17

RFC start: 2014-12-17

Vote start: 2014-12-29

Vote end: 2015-01-12

Contents [hide]

1 [Proposal](#)
1.1 [Rationale](#)
2 [Taginfo](#)



An example public bookcase in Hannover.

Approved proposals

- Français: [Bure à livre](#)

- Русский: Общественный книжный шкаф

Voting [[edit](#) | [edit source](#)]

- I approve this proposal. Being the author of the document I think this proposal is complete. I would like to further introduce a tag literature:genre to support amenity=public_bookcase, but that will be another discussion. --[Zethradon](#) ([talk](#)) 06:08, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. although there will certainly be the same confusion of `name=*`/`brand=*`/`operator=*` tags as for `amenity=fuel`. --[Fkv](#) ([talk](#)) 08:48, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. though I think more work is needed on "brand", as that concept exists for other amenities such as Bike Repair Stations. [Brycenesbitt](#) ([talk](#)) 10:02, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. -- [LordOfMaps](#) ([talk](#)) 10:55, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. -- [Polarbear w](#) ([talk](#)) 11:22, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. [Mateusz Konieczny](#) ([talk](#)) 12:30, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. [Neuhausr](#) ([talk](#)) 14:59, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. I like the `amenity=public_bookcase` tag. reuse is to unspecific and might cause confusion --[Werner2101](#) ([talk](#)) 16:12, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. --[Kaitu](#) ([talk](#)) 16:15, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. The rationale why to use this tag instead of reuse makes sense to me. I'm not sure about the rendering part: the ones in my city are definitely less visible than phone booths. And I also think a different icon than that for a regular library should be used. --[Hobbesvsboyle](#) ([talk](#)) 22:18, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. [Waldhans](#) ([talk](#)) 23:05, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. [Peuc](#) ([talk](#)) 23:29, 29 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. [clointier](#) ([talk](#)) 10:39, 30 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. [Danstowell](#) ([talk](#)) 19:59, 30 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. --[Kotya](#) ([talk](#)) 21:14, 30 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. [Xxzme](#) ([talk](#)) 21:54, 30 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. --[Hedaja](#) ([talk](#)) 12:07, 31 December 2014 (UTC)
- I approve this proposal. --[Tordanik](#) 17:51, 2 January 2015 (UTC)

 Public bookcase in Karlshagen, Germany [\[edit\]](#)

Page generated at 2024-01-02 08:00:00 UTC

Rejected proposals



Main Page
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Proposal:Training

Training

Proposal status: Rejected (inactive)

Proposed by: Guerda, Something B

Tagging: amenity=training Data item

Applies to:

Definition: A training establishment or facility

[taginfo \[More...\]](#)

<input type="radio"/>	3 475	0.02 %
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	1 003	0.01 %
<input type="checkbox"/>	53	0.03 %

Statistics:

Draft started: 2010-01-10

RFC start: 2022-09-26

Vote start: 2022-10-10

Vote end: 2022-10-24

Contents [hide]

- 1 Proposal
- 2 Rationale
- 3 Tagging
- 4 Special cases
- 5 Features / Pages affected

Rejected proposals

Voting [edit | edit source]

Voting closed

Voting on this proposal has been closed.

It was **rejected** with 10 votes for, 14 votes against and 3 abstentions.

- I approve this proposal. -- [Something B \(talk\)](#) 09:22, 10 October 2022 (UTC)
- I have comments but abstain from voting on this proposal. I think the idea of the proposal is good but it is not well worked out. There reason and general idea are not explained. It is written as if the tag were just one more amenity tag, while in reality the aim is to regroup a whole category of tags under one new, more generic, tag. This becomes clear to the reader only if they read through the discussion page. Also, it is not clear what "additional" means in the *Proposal* section. -- [Martianfreeloader \(talk\)](#) 09:28, 10 October 2022 (UTC)
- I oppose this proposal. Stated rationale is to deprecate bunch of things ([Proposed_features/training#Rationale](#)). I consider it as negative effect and as cost. It may be worth deprecating something because tag is confusing, broken, misleading, poorly defined, less popular and duplicating other tag and so on. But depreciation for the sake of depreciation is a bad idea. In other words, this proposal is missing rationale [Mateusz Konieczny \(talk\)](#) 10:39, 10 October 2022 (UTC)

Also, for example driving school would now have two ways to tag it: (1) popular (2) approved. What is the benefit here? Maybe there is some, but it should be mentioned (is it allowing to tag things not taggable previously?) For depreciation fans (like myself): it is better to finish already started deprecations done with good reasons or target actually problematic tags. [Mateusz Konieczny \(talk\)](#) 17:40, 10 October 2022 (UTC)

- I oppose this proposal. For the same reason as Mateusz. [Diacritic \(talk\)](#) 11:04, 10 October 2022 (UTC)
- I oppose this proposal. There is absolutely huge amount of work to basically rename one tag to another (getting consensus and updating wiki are actually *trivial* parts of that; having to modify all editors/ navigation programs/maps/validators etc, then getting all users to upgrade their software [sometimes embedded in unmodifiable GPS devices, or old devices which are too weak for running new versions of programs!], then finding & contacting & reeducating millions of mappers who are used to all taggings, then creating and validating bots to fix the discrepancies for years (as some people/programs will continue using old tags unaware of the changes), while at the same time having all tools having to support both old and new semantics, etc etc.)), so it practically should never be done, especially on such huge amount of tags at once. **Advantages gained should heavily outweigh the effort needed**, and "more nicely grouped" is very tiny gain compared to huge amount of effort needed. --[minalis \(talk\)](#) 13:02, 10 October 2022 (UTC)

Tags with low usage (less than 300) are unlikely to be supported anywhere (with some exceptions, e.g. [place=country](#)). Status of popular tags, e.g. [amenity=driving_school](#), isn't affected. -- [Something B \(talk\)](#) 13:19, 10 October 2022 (UTC)

So no depreciation is ever done because it is too difficult? Just set up a process with a timetable and it will work. If you can't depreciate any tags, you'll get

“How do I tag _____?”

Tagging mailing list

Tagging -- Tag discussion, strategy and related tools

About Tagging

English (USA)

Discuss the tags used in OSM, how they could evolve, and how editors and renderers might interact with them.

To see the collection of prior postings to the list, visit the [Tagging Archives](#).

Using Tagging

To post a message to all the list members, send email to tagging@openstreetmap.org.

You can subscribe to the list, or change your existing subscription, in the sections below.

Subscribing to Tagging

Subscribe to Tagging by filling out the following form. You will be sent email requesting confirmation, to prevent others from gratuitously subscribing you. This is a private list, which means that the list of members is not available to non-members.

Your email address:

Your name (optional):

You may enter a privacy password below. This provides only mild security, but should prevent others from messing with your subscription. **Do not use a valuable password** as it will occasionally be emailed back to you in cleartext.

If you choose not to enter a password, one will be automatically generated for you, and it will be sent to you once you've confirmed your subscription. You can always request a mail-back of your password when you edit your personal options.

Pick a password:

Reenter password to confirm:

Which language do you prefer to display your messages?

English (USA)

Tagging mailing list

May 2024 Archives by thread

- Messages sorted by: [\[subject \]](#) [\[author \]](#) [\[date \]](#)
- [More info on this list...](#)

Starting: *Wed May 1 03:45:49 UTC 2024*

Ending: *Mon May 27 14:38:54 UTC 2024*

Messages: 49

- [\[Tagging\] Difference between "yes" and "designated" in access tags \(was: Re: How to Tag Steps in a Bridleway\)](#) *stevea*
- [\[Tagging\] Difference between "yes" and "designated" in access tags](#) *Greg Troxel*
 - [\[Tagging\] Difference between "yes" and "designated" in access tags](#) *Mateusz Konieczny*
 - [\[Tagging\] Difference between "yes" and "designated" in access tags](#) *Andy Townsend*
- [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *iriman at chmail.ir*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *bkil*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *Martin Koppenhoefer*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *bkil*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *Graeme Fitzpatrick*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *Warin*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *bkil*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *Frederik Ramm*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *Martin Koppenhoefer*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *bkil*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *Zoon van Michiel*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *bkil*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *Zoon van Michiel*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *Martin Koppenhoefer*
 - [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#) *Iman*

Tagging mailing list

[Tagging] breads of bakeries

[iriman at chmail.ir](#) [iriman at chmail.ir](#)

Thu May 2 08:16:11 UTC 2024

- Previous message (by thread): [\[Tagging\] Difference between "yes" and "designated" in access tags](#)
 - Next message (by thread): [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#)
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-

Hi

I've tagged a few bakeries for the bread they sell.

At first I used semicolon to separate values:

```
shop=bakery
bread=x;y;z
```

Since I'm focused on adding/updating bakeries that are using wholemeal flour in their products, I added a general tag
`bread:wholemeal=yes`.

But this tag was too general because some bakeries sell more than one type of bread and not all of them are made of wholemeal flour.
So I decided to separate values with a namespace scheme:

```
shop=bakery
bread:x=yes
bread:y=yes
bread:z=yes
```

and expanded this tagging by another tag per bread to know if it's made of wholemeal flour:

```
bread:x:wholemeal=yes
bread:z:wholemeal=yes
```

By this method it's possible to face a long list of tags of bread types for a single bakery and also a lot of namespaced keys in

Tagging mailing list

[Tagging] breads of bakeries

Graeme Fitzpatrick graeme@fitz1.com

Fri May 3 06:07:01 UTC 2024

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On Thu, 2 May 2024 at 21:21, bkil <bkil.hu+Aq@gmail.com> wrote:

> Yes, that would be even better.
> sells:bread=wholemeal:x;y;wholemeal:z
>

But if you're selling ="white variety-a", "wholemeal variety-a",
"multi-grain variety-a", "gluten-free variety-a", then the same for
varieties b, c & so on, I can see a 255-character limit approaching rapidly!

Thanks

Graeme

----- next part -----

An HTML attachment was scrubbed...

URL: <<http://lists.openstreetmap.org/pipermail/tagging/attachments/20240503/2ce3b73a/attachment.htm>>

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- Previous message (by thread): [\[Tagging\] breads of bakeries](#)
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More information about the Tagging mailing list

OpenStreetMap Community Forum

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Help and support Tagging help & support tags all Latest Top

Topic	Replies	Views	Activity
<p>🔒 🚪 About the Tagging help & support category Space dedicated to tagging help and support questions. For general discussion or proposal, please create topics over #general:tagging Guidelines for this category: OSM Etiquette Guidelines You can... read more</p>	1	3.0k	Oct 2022
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Best way to tag a path with many spread out steps</p>	0	13	1h
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Map Street sign tagging</p>	7	58	2h
<p><input type="checkbox"/> How to tag photo opportunity board?</p>	4	219	2d

OpenStreetMap Community Forum

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How to tag a Photo point?

Help and support Tagging help & support

AlesKubr Aug 2 1 / 9 Aug 2

Hello, I would like to tag a photo point specifically designed for tourists to take photos. Examples include large frames of various shapes, such as rectangular or heart-shaped, often featuring signs with the name of the location in sight. It could also be large letters spelling out the name of the location.

Examples:

- Photo point Ještěd 10
- Photo point Matterhorn 10
- Photo point Nice 7

2d ago

How to tag photo opportunity board? 1

OpenStreetMap US Slack #tagging channel

The screenshot shows the Slack interface for the **# tagging** channel. On the left, there's a sidebar with various channels listed under the **OpenStreetMap** category. The **# tagging** channel is currently selected and highlighted.

A message from **UsefulRabbit** at 10:31 PM on Wednesday, August 7th, asks if `hazard=forest_fire` would be appropriate for a `tourism=information`, `information=board`, `board_type=hazard`. Below the message is an image of a wooden sign titled "FIRE DANGER TODAY" with a circular scale ranging from "LOW" (green) to "EXTREME" (red), with "MODERATE" and "HIGH" also marked.

On Saturday, August 10th, **Quincy Morgan** replied to a thread about tagging distributed backcountry campsites, mentioning complex camping situations and subsections of campgrounds. They attached a screenshot of a map.

The bottom of the screen shows the Slack message input field with placeholder text "Message #tagging" and various emoji and formatting options.

OpenStreetMap World Discord #tagging channel

OpenStreetMap World # tagging Need help tagging certain features? Or want some feedback? This is t... 🔍 ⚡ 🎵 💬 Search

maplemoths [US-CO] 08/25/2024 6:53 PM how to tag what seems to be a tunnel for cows to pass through? at about <https://www.openstreetmap.org/#map=19/36.297866/-121.871754>



OpenStreetMap OpenStreetMap OpenStreetMap is a map of the world, created by people like you and free to use under an open license.

AntiComposite [US-NH/NJ] 08/25/2024 6:55 PM hm, https://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/Tag:man_made%3Dwildlife_crossing exists if you'll excuse cows not being wildlife

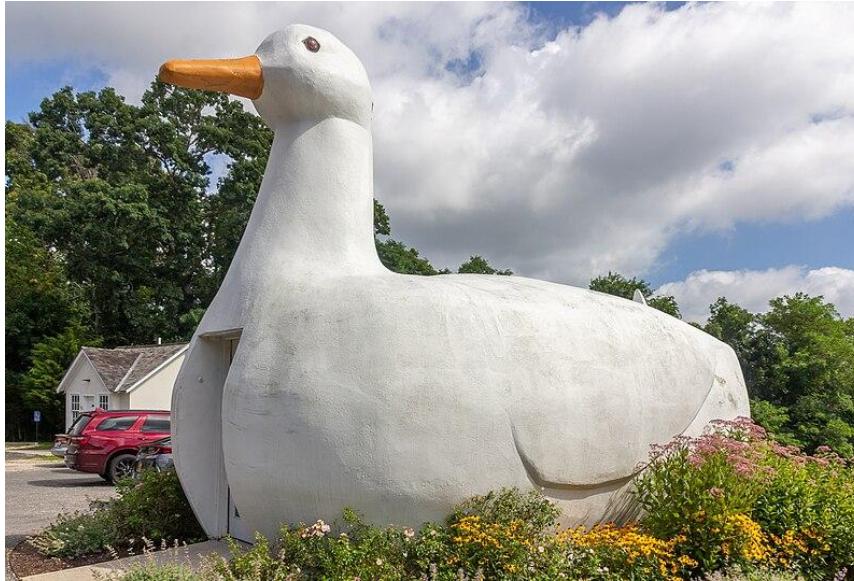
tagging

Quincy Mo... Online

Message #tagging

“Duck tagging”

If it looks like a duck and it quacks like a duck, tag it as a duck.



- building=yes
- mimics=duck

Pros and cons

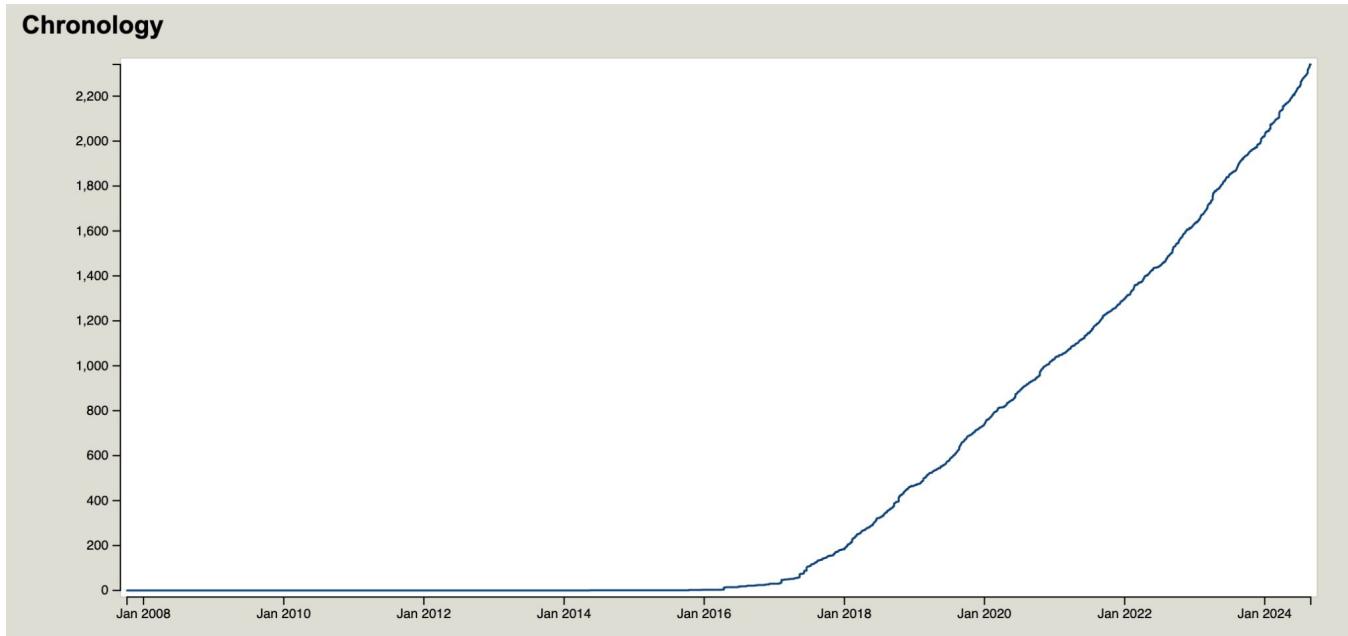
(Bugs or features?)

Upsides to OpenStreetMap tagging system

- Highly flexible
- Can define features in very high detail
- Supports unexpected use cases
- Relatively future-proof
- Organic, bottom-up control
- Fosters community
- Has worked for 20 years

Reacting to new types of features

Escape rooms: leisure=escape_game



Adapting to complex scenarios: What's the speed limit?

- maxspeed=100
- maxspeed=60 mph
- maxspeed=100 cars; 70 trucks
 - maxspeed:hgv=70
- maxspeed=80; 60 backwards
 - maxspeed:forward=80
 - maxspeed:backward=60
- maxspeed=20 when wet
 - maxspeed:conditional=20 @ wet
- maxspeed=RU:rural
- maxspeed=80; 100
- maxspeed=wheeeeeee!



Downsides to OpenStreetMap tagging system

- Entrenched tags can be hard to improve
- Multiple competing ways to tag the same thing
- Tags may vary by region
- Lots of energy spent on debating tags
- Wiki approval system and docs create false “official” tagging
- Outsiders (and insiders) may find parsing tags tedious
- Tools must account for many edge cases (e.g. building=no)
- Heavily biased toward English-speakers

Thanks!

- Sign up for OSM: <https://www.openstreetmap.org/user/new>
- Sign up for working groups: <https://openstreetmap.us/working-groups/>
- Contact us: team@openstreetmap.us



Quincy Morgan

Tech Lead, OpenStreetMap US

quincy@openstreetmap.us



Credits

- All map data © OpenStreetMap
- Screenshots are copyright their respective owners
- Images:
 - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:%22No_Dogs_Allowed%22_notice,_Campsie,_Omagh_-_geograph.org.uk_-_2633763.jpg
 - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:31_Dogs_Must_Be_Kept_On_Leash.jpg
 - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Big_Duck_2018_05.jpg