

Map Collections Outside Cambridge

See [Information Sheet 2A](#) for details of map collections in Cambridge.

MAJOR BRITISH AND IRISH MAP COLLECTIONS

<u>Bodleian Library</u>	Map Room Weston Library Broad Street OXFORD OX1 3BG	Tel: 01865 277013 maps@bodleian.ox.ac.uk www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/maps/home	<i>Legal Deposit Library with large collection of modern and antiquarian material. Full set of Ordnance Survey 25" County Series maps (1st eds. are bound in volumes).</i>
➤ Online catalogue on their website and via Library Hub Discover https://discover.libraryhub.jisc.ac.uk/			
<u>British Geological Survey</u>	BGS Library Nicker Hill Keyworth NOTTINGHAM NG12 5GG	Tel: 0115 936 3205 libuser@bgs.ac.uk www.bgs.ac.uk/services/library/home.html	<i>The Survey's library includes geological mapping from all over the World.</i>
➤ See their website for online catalogues			
<u>British Library Map Library</u>	96 Euston Road LONDON NW1 2DB	Tel: 020 7412 7702 maps@bl.uk www.bl.uk/visit/reading-rooms/maps-reading-room and www.bl.uk/subjects/maps	<i>The largest publicly accessible map collection in Britain. Legal Deposit Library. Extensive antiquarian holdings.</i>
➤ Includes the map collection of the India Office Records , documentary archives of the administration in London of the pre-1947 government of India www.bl.uk/subjects/south-asia which include mapping of Indian sub-continent and the Far East.			
➤ Comprehensive Online Catalogue for the map collection is available through the BL's website http://explore.bl.uk and via Library Hub Discover https://discover.libraryhub.jisc.ac.uk/ . The India Office Records can be searched at http://searcharchives.bl.uk/			
➤ See also images in the Online Gallery www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/viewall/index.html			
<u>Geological Society</u>	Burlington House Piccadilly LONDON W1J 0BG	library@geolsoc.org.uk www.geolsoc.org.uk/Library-and-Information-Services/The-Map-Room	<i>Extensive collection of geological maps and related documents. Non-members are charged for access (see www.geolsoc.org.uk/Library-and-Information-Services/Visiting-the-Library)</i>
➤ Part of the collection can be identified via their online catalogue at www.geolsoc.org.uk/librarycatalogue			
<u>Historic England Archive</u>	The Engine House Fire Fly Avenue SWINDON SN2 2GZ	Tel: 01793 414600 archive@HistoricEngland.org.uk https://historicengland.org.uk/services-skills/archive-services/	<i>The public archive of Historic England (new name from 1 April 2015 for English Heritage) providing information on the archaeology and architecture of England. Includes maps, plans, drawings, aerial photographs.</i>
➤ Online catalogue https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/			

P.T.O.

London Metropolitan Archives (LMA) [incorporating the Guildhall Library's print and map collection] 40 Northampton Road Clerkenwell LONDON EC1R 0HB Tel: 0207 332 3820 ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk <https://search.lma.gov.uk/> London maps and related documents, including prints and drawings. Emphasis is on City of London but also have items more general in scope.

- Maps and prints are included on the library's image database, **London Picture Archive**, at www.londonpicturearchive.org.uk/

National Collection of Aerial Photography (NCAP) Unit 3, Seven Hills Business Park 41 Bankhead Crossway South EDINBURGH EH11 4EP Tel: 0131 651 6821 ncap@hes.scot <https://ncap.org.uk/> One of the largest collections of aerial imagery in the world, containing tens of millions of images featuring historic events and places around the world.

- For aerial photographs also try: **Britain from Above** www.britainfromabove.org.uk/ (website is run jointly by Historic Environment Scotland (HES), Historic England (HE) and The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW)); Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photography (CUCAP) www.cambridgeairphotos.com/ (some of whose images can be viewed on Cambridge Digital Library at <https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/landscapehistories/1>); Ordnance Survey Air Photo Mosaics of Scotland, 1944-1950 <https://maps.nls.uk/os/air-photos/>

National Library of Scotland Map Collections Causewayside Building 33 Salisbury Place EDINBURGH EH9 1PH Tel: 0131 623 4660 maps@nls.uk www.nls.uk/collections/maps/ Legal Deposit Library with large collection of modern and antiquarian material. Particularly strong in mapping of Scotland. Useful website for all things Scottish including excellent images of maps.

- Online catalogue for part of map collection available on their website and via Library Hub Discover <https://discover.libraryhub.jisc.ac.uk/>

National Library of Wales Map Collection National Library of Wales ABERYSTWYTH Ceredigion SY23 3BU Tel: 01970 632 800 gofyn@llgc.org.uk www.library.wales/collections/le-arn-more/maps/ Legal Deposit Library with large collection of modern and antiquarian material. Particularly strong in the mapping of Wales.

- Online catalogue for part of map collection is available on their website <https://discover.library.wales> and via Library Hub Discover <https://discover.libraryhub.jisc.ac.uk/>

National Maritime Museum Caird Archive & Library National Maritime Museum Greenwich LONDON SE10 9NF Tel: 020 8312 6516 library@rmg.co.uk manuscripts@rmg.co.uk www.rmg.co.uk/research-collections/caird-library Extensive collection of manuscript and printed hydrographic charts and related materials.

- Catalogue and map and chart images are available via their **Collections** pages at <http://collections.rmg.co.uk/>

Natural History Museum Cromwell Road LONDON SW7 5BD Tel: 020 7942 5460 www.nhm.ac.uk/our-science/departments-and-staff/library-and-archives.html Extensive collection of geological maps and related documents. World-wide coverage.

- Online catalogue for much of collection is available on their website and on Library Hub Discover <https://discover.libraryhub.jisc.ac.uk/>

P.T.O.

Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers)	Foyle Reading Room 1 Kensington Gore LONDON SW7 2AR	Tel: 020 7591 3000 enquiries@rgs.org www.rgs.org/about/our-collections/	<i>Excellent collection of modern and antiquarian mapping. Unpublished expedition reports of RGS sponsored expeditions. Note: Entry to the Reading Room is free to education users and Society members but others are charged.</i>
➤ Online catalogue for much of collection is available on their website at www.rgs.org/about/our-collections/search-our-collections/ (Records are NOT available on Library Hub Discover)			

The National Archives	Ruskin Avenue Kew RICHMOND Surrey TW9 4DU	Tel: 020 8876 3444 enquiry@nationalarchives.gov.uk www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/maps	<i>Numerous maps accrued in government departments can be found throughout the records in TNA but many are not catalogued.</i>
➤ Part of the collection can be identified via their online catalogue http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk			

Trinity College Library	Glucksman Map Library College Street DUBLIN 2 Republic of Ireland	Tel: 00 3531 8962087 or 8961544 map.library@tcd.ie www.tcd.ie/Library/map-library/	<i>Legal Deposit Library. Mapping of Ireland a speciality.</i>
➤ Online catalogue for part of map collection is available on their website and via Library Hub Discover https://discover.libraryhub.jisc.ac.uk/			

UK Hydrographic Office	UKHO Archive Admiralty Way TAUNTON Somerset TA1 2DN	Tel: 01823 483341 / 483409 research@ukho.gov.uk https://www.gov.uk/the-ukho-archive	<i>Supports the day-to-day operations of the UKHO and is also a place of deposit under the Public Records Act. It contains hundreds of thousands of hydrographic records in varying formats and in different languages</i>
➤ No Online catalogue but have catalogued thousands of documents which have been transferred to The National Archives; see https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/admiralty-charts-maps/			

OTHER MAP COLLECTIONS IN BRITAIN

It is not possible to list here all of the many institutions and organisations that have map collections. A list of Map Collections throughout Britain and Northern Ireland can be found in:

A directory of U.K. map collections. (3rd ed.) Compiled by Joan Chibnall. Map Curators' Group Publications no. 4. 1995. ISBN 0904482111 [CUL Classmark: S696.c.042.4]

This directory is also available online at: www.cartography.org.uk/ukmca

See also:

- *World directory of map collections.* (4th ed., see also below).

Also try:

- Record Offices (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archon), Public Libraries or Museums, especially for maps of the local area.
- Some universities still maintain map libraries, usually in the Department of Geography or in the University Library. Some also have significant antiquarian atlas collections, often in the Rare Books Department of the University Library.

P.T.O.

MAP COLLECTIONS OUTSIDE BRITAIN

Two major collections outside Great Britain and Ireland are:

**Bibliothèque
nationale de
France**

Département des Cartes et Plans
5, rue Vivienne
75002 Paris
FRANCE

Tel: 00 331 53 79 59 59
cartes.plans@bnf.fr
www.bnf.fr/fr

*An internationally
important collection*

**Library of
Congress**

Geography & Map Division
James Madison Memorial
Building
101 Independence Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20540-4650
USA

Tel: 00 1 202 707 6277
maps@loc.gov
www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/

*Internationally important
collection - probably the
largest and most
comprehensive in the
world. Lots of catalogue
records for maps in their
online catalogue and many
map images on their
website*

More information on these and other collections throughout the world (and in Great Britain) can be found in:

World directory of map collections. (4th ed.) Compiled and edited by Oliver Loiseau on behalf of the Section of Geography and Map Libraries. IFLA Publications 92/93. 2000. ISBN 3598218184
[CUL Classmark: S696.c.200.26 ; check iDiscover for [online access](#)]

Remember to contact all libraries in advance of a visit to check on entry restrictions, availability of material, delivery times, etc.

**This Information Sheet is available online at
<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/departments/maps/information-sheets>**

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maps@lib.cam.ac.uk

20 October 2021