Maps and atlases

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1. Maps in the Headington Library

The Map and Atlas Collection is located in Zone E, on level 3 of the JHB Library. However, the majority of Atlases can be found in the Special Collections & Archives Room in the basement of the JHB Library.

Maps of the Oxford area

- For quick reference, various local maps and street maps of surrounding towns are located in the magazine files on the shelves at the end of the book sequence in Zone E, level 3 of the JHB Library.
- Detailed maps at 1:1250 (50" to 1 mile) and 1:2500 (25" to 1 mile) are available for the city of Oxford and some surrounding areas. These are shelved in Cabinet B; an index sheet is located on top of this Cabinet, along with directions for finding your map.
- Maps at 1:5,000 or 1:10,000 of the Oxford area are shelved in Cabinet B.
- Other miscellaneous maps of the Oxford area are shelved in the 7th drawer of Cabinet B.

Maps of Great Britain and Ireland

Topographic maps

These maps are located on the shelves at the end of the book sequence in Zone E, level 3 of the JHB Library. They include:

- A complete set of current Ordnance Survey Explorer series maps at 1:25,000 for England, Scotland and Wales including Key sheets. These may be borrowed.
- A complete set of current Ordnance Survey Landranger series maps at 1:50,000 for the whole of England, Scotland and Wales, including Key sheets. These may be borrowed.
- The current 1:50,000 maps for Northern Ireland (Discoverer series) and the Republic of Ireland (Discovery series) are shelved in Cabinet B. An index sheet to these maps is on the top of Cabinet B.
City/town street maps (Great Britain)
- For quick reference, various city/town street maps are located in the magazine files on the shelves at the end of the book sequence in Zone E, level 3 of the JHB Library.

Thematic maps
- Cabinet A holds British Geological Survey (incl. Hydrogeological) and Soil Survey maps for England Scotland and Wales. Where available, key sheets for these are located on top of the Cabinet.
- Cabinet B holds Land Use and Agricultural Land Classification map series for England and Wales, along with a selection of other thematic maps relating to English Nature, Climate, Waterways and History.

International maps
- The main focus of the map collection is the United Kingdom.
- For world maps and maps of other countries, consult the atlas collection.

2. Use of the map collection

Indexes to the collection
- For quick reference, the collection is broadly arranged by series of theme. Each cabinet drawer lists details of the contents. Key sheets are located on the top of each cabinet.

Access
- The map collection is available during Library opening hours. The cabinets are labelled and kept unlocked.
- All flat maps are for reference use only, and should be consulted at the tables nearby.

Equipment
- Maps may be photocopied, if required, but should be returned to the Map Collection.

Care of maps
- Maps should be handled with care. They should not be folded, annotated or come into contact with glue, sticky tape or Blue Tack.
- Maps should be replaced in their correct location after use. If you are not sure of the correct location, leave maps on one of the cabinets for re-shelving.

3. Atlas collection

Atlases are located in the Special Collections and Archives Room in the basement of the JHB Library
- The atlas collection incorporates the Harold Fullard Collection of Atlases and is a collection of about 1,200 regional and thematic atlases both current and historical.
- All atlases are listed on the Library Catalogue and can be found by searching for ‘atlas’ and the region or topic of interest. (eg atlas and desertification or atlas and Japan).
- If you need a general world atlas, look at shelfmark 912 in the collection. The Times Atlas of the World (13th edition) at Atlas Collection 912 TIM would be a good, current starting point.
- Atlases of Britain are included in the collection at 912.41. However, road atlases and more detailed street atlases for the counties immediately surrounding Oxfordshire are located in the Map Collection in Zone E, on level 3 of the JHB Library. A search for ‘atlas’ and the county will locate these (eg atlas and Gloucestershire).

Gazetteers
- A number of gazetteers, both British and international, are shelved in the Map Collection in Zone E, on level 3 of the JHB Library.
4. Digimap

Digimap provides access to digital maps and data from the Ordnance Survey over the Internet. The service covers current OS maps for England, Scotland and Wales, along with Historic, Geology, Environment maps (Environment maps also cover Northern Ireland) and Aerial photography maps. All staff and students of Oxford Brookes can use the service, free of charge, for academic purposes. First-time users are required to register and agree to the data licence for each Collection before access. For further details, go to http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/subject-help/geography/digimap-information-and-registration/

5. Maps on the Internet

An increasing number of maps are freely available over the Internet, and some of the most useful sites we’ve found are listed at http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/resources/maps/. These include:

- Bodleian Library map room links: http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/maps
- Perry-Castaneda Library Map Collection: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/
- Streetmap: http://www.streetmap.co.uk Street map facilities for the UK
- Google Maps: http://maps.google.co.uk/ and Google Earth: http://earth.google.com/

6. Aerial photographs

These are located on the shelves at the end of the book sequence in Zone E, on level 3 of the JHB Library. They include:

- Atlases of aerial photographs for England, London, Oxford and Edinburgh. You can search the library catalogue for photographic atlas. Other titles may be found by searching for aerial photograph.
- Aerial Digimap provides aerial photography maps of Great Britain. Maps from 1:250 to 1:200,000 scale can be viewed, annotated, saved and printed. Aerial imagery data can also be downloaded for use in GIS and CAD software. This is a subscription service available to Brookes users – see Digimap section above.
- Aerial photographs of some major European cities are available online, via Mappy. Google Maps and Google Earth also provide aerial photographs (see above).

7. Other map collections in Oxford

- At Oxford Brookes, teaching collections are kept in the department of Geography and in the Built Environment Resources Room.
- The Oxfordshire History Centre holds historic maps and original documents for the Oxfordshire area. This collection is open to members of the public. It is recommended that you contact the office before visiting (01865 398200). Further information can be found at https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/oxfordshire-history-centre
- The Bodleian Library of the University of Oxford holds a collection of national importance – details are at http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/maps. Certain categories of students can apply for access – ask at the Library HelpZone for details.

8. Further help

For further information about the map and atlas collection, please ask at the Help Zone in the first instance. If you need any more information, contact Richard Persaud, in Room 310, Third Floor of the JHB Library, extension 3137 (or 01865 483137 from outside the University), or by e-mail: rapersaud@brookes.

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