

### Maps and atlases

**Contents:**

1. Maps in the Headington Library
2. Use of the map collection
3. Atlas collection
4. Digimap
5. Maps on the Internet
6. Aerial photographs
7. Other map collections in Oxford
8. Further help

#### 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 scale 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 scale 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 scale 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 scale 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. Also see the 'Digimap' section of this guide for details of how to access Global maps and data.

## 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 Comprehensive Atlas of the World* (13<sup>th</sup> edition) at **Atlas Collection 912 TIM** would be a good 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 is an online service which provides access to digital maps and data, from the Ordnance Survey, for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Also provides access to global maps and data via Global Digimap.

- [Digimap Ordnance Survey](#): contemporary Ordnance Survey maps, at 15 fixed scales, can be viewed, annotated, saved and printed (A4 - A0). Ordnance Survey mapping data can also be downloaded for use in CAD and GIS applications.
- [Environment Digimap](#): land cover maps from the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, for the years 1990, 2000 and 2007 and 2015 at 11 fixed scales, can be viewed, annotated, saved and printed (A4 and A3). Environmental mapping data can also be downloaded for use in CAD and GIS applications.
- [Geology Digimap](#): British Geological maps, from 1:50000 to 1:625000 scale, can be viewed, annotated, saved and printed. Geological mapping data can also be downloaded for use in CAD and GIS applications.
- [Historic Digimap](#): historic Ordnance Survey maps, from 1839-1997, can be viewed, annotated, saved and printed. Historic mapping data can also be downloaded for use in CAD and GIS applications.
- [Aerial Digimap](#): aerial photography maps from 1:250 to 1:200,000 scale can be viewed, annotated, saved and printed. Aerial imagery data can also be downloaded (in JPEG format) for use in GIS or CAD software.
- [Society Digimap](#): allows you to visualise and explore a range of demographic data along with Ordnance Survey data, providing census and socio-economic information for Great Britain.
- [Marine Digimap](#): offers two types of data to view and/or download 1) Raster Nautical Charts 2) Marine Thames Vector – covers all UK waters and is a feature rich dataset derived from the UK Hydrographic Office.
- [agCensus Digimap](#): offers data derived from the regular Agricultural Censuses of England, Scotland and Wales.
- [Geomni Digimap](#): provides access to 1) UK Map: a detailed feature rich mapping database of Greater London based on 1:1,000 scale. 2) UK Buildings: understand the age, structure, characteristics and use, of commercial, public and residential buildings across GB and the Belfast urban area in Northern Ireland. 3) UK Land: a national land/land use information database.
- [Lidar Digimap](#): offers detailed Lidar data and vertical aerial photography from the Environment Agency. Lidar data is a very accurate model of the earth's surface.
- [Global Digimap](#): provides access to global maps and data which can be viewed, annotated and printed. Global map data can also be downloaded for use in GIS software.

## Registration and Access

All Oxford Brookes staff and students are entitled to use the service, free of charge, for academic purposes.

Once connected, first-time users are required to register and agree to the data licence for each Collection before access.

## Using Digimap at home

Your registration allows you to access all Digimap services from your home computer within Great Britain, providing you delete any data once your course/project has finished. Digimap is designed to be

used over a university network, so services may be slower, and cannot be guaranteed when accessing via a modem router.

**Please note:** although you are allowed to access Digimap from a place of work eg. local council, you may not use the data for the purposes of your employment, the data may not be issued to or used by anyone who is not an Educational User (unless your workplace also subscribes to Digimap).

### Using Digimap on a mobile device

Digimap 'Roam' services may be accessed on a mobile device, however 'Download' services are not available due to the large file sizes often involved.

### Further help and training

Extensive help is available online on Digimap itself, including the Digimap Resource Centre: <https://digimap.edina.ac.uk/help/>

For further help and advice email: [libraryenquiries@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:libraryenquiries@brookes.ac.uk)

## 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 Online: <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/>.
- Streetmap: <http://www.streetmap.co.uk> Street map facilities for the UK
- Google Maps: <https://www.google.co.uk/maps>
- Google Earth: <http://earth.google.com/>
- Bing Maps: maps of UK, Europe and the World: <https://www.bing.com/maps>
- Mappy: European itineraries, town maps and some aerial photographs: <http://www.mappy.com/>
- Old Maps Online: <https://www.oldmapsonline.org>
- A Vision of Britain through time: <https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/index.jsp>
- British National Grid Map and Grid Reference Finder: <https://britishnationalgrid.uk/>

## 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 **aerial atlas**. Other titles may be found by searching for **photographic atlas**.
- **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 JHB112, First Floor of the JHB Library, extension 3341 (or 01865 483341 from outside the University), or by e-mail: [rapersaud@brookes](mailto:rapersaud@brookes).

RP January 2022