

Maps in the Library

An introduction to the James Hardiman Library's map collection

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Maps in the Library

The James Hardiman Library has a substantial map collection comprising of many different types of maps, both historical and current. Maps are available in print and manuscript format, on microfilm, and electronically. The library acquires this cartographic material on legal deposit, by purchase and donation and the collection is constantly being developed as resources permit. Most maps relate to the island of Ireland but there is a small collection of international maps.

The collection includes maps published by the Ordnance Survey of Ireland since the 1840s. The library also has historical maps of Ireland, Connacht and Galway, as well as historical street maps of the major cities and towns of Ireland. In addition the library holds archaeological maps for Co. Galway.

Most maps are located in map cabinets adjacent to the Reference collection on the ground floor. Some maps are also held in cabinets underneath the stairs, also at ground floor level. Microfilm map collections are located in the Microform area. Copies of some historical maps are located in the Special Collections Reading Room or are available by appointment with the Archivist. If you require assistance with the map collection, please contact staff at the Customer Services Desk or in the Special Collections Reading Room.

The library also has an atlas collection. Atlases are located in a wooden shelf unit beside the metal map cabinets. The collection includes international and Irish atlases.

The library holds many books, indexes and journals that help to contextualize the map collections. Some of these are noted below as are a selection of websites connected with maps.

Ordnance Survey Maps

- The first edition Ordnance Survey maps, surveyed in the 1830's and 1840's, cover all counties of Ireland. The scale is six inches to one mile, and the maps are available digitally and on microfiche. Digital copies may be viewed using the Ordnance Survey of Ireland Historic Map Viewer at www.osi.ie. Please note, however, that it is necessary to pay to print copies from this resource. It is also possible to view digital copies of these maps for some individual counties on the Web. Maps for counties Clare, Donegal, Galway, Mayo and Sligo may be accessed at the following web sites: www.clarelibrary.ie, <http://gis.donegal.ie/librarymaps/index/index.htm>, www.galwaylibrary.ie, www.mayolibrary.ie , www.sligolibrary.ie . Please note that at present it is necessary to download an Adobe SVG plug in [available free from www.adobe.com] to view the maps on these sites.
- The microfiche copies of these six-inch maps are located in the Microform area on the ground floor, and they may be viewed and copies made on the microfilm reader printers.
- Revised editions of the six-inch maps were produced in the later 19th and early 20th centuries. The library holds these maps in hardcopy for **County Galway only**, located in Cabinets E and F in the map area. In the 1890s, a larger scale (25 inches to one mile) was produced. Digital editions of this series, for all of Ireland, are available on the OSI Historic Map Viewer at www.osi.ie.
- Ordnance Survey maps of the city of Galway, with the very large scale of ten feet to one mile and dated 1872, are located in Cabinet D in the map area. There are 49 maps as well as an index map indicating the areas covered.
- A series of maps was produced in the 20th century, with the scale half-inch to one mile. The library holds this series for all of Ireland. They are located in Cabinet R under the stairs. Please ask staff at the Customer Services Desk for help with consulting these.
- The latest Ordnance Survey of Ireland, with a metric scale of 1:50,000, is known as the Discovery Series. A parallel set, known as the Discoverer Series, covers northern counties on both sides of the border. The library has a full set of these maps in paper format, and they are located in Cabinets A and B in the map area.
- Details of holdings of maps for individual locations may be located by choosing "Browse Collections" in E-Knowledge. Type the placename and then choose "Words from the title" in the drop-down menu. Click on the link in the Title Column and then "Name Tags" to see the map location. It is better to be as specific as possible, e.g type "Castlegar" rather than Galway if seeking maps of that area.

Related material

- The original manuscript versions of *O'Donovan's Letterbooks* were produced during the survey for the first edition OS maps in the 1830s and 1840s. The books for some counties were later produced in typescript format. These *Letterbooks* give descriptions of historical and archaeological sites and also contain some drawings of notable antiquities. The available typescript volumes are held in the Special Collections Reading Room. Four Masters Press in Dublin is engaged in a project to produce all of the volumes in book format. To date counties Donegal, Down, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, King's (Offaly), Mayo and Meath have been published. Data from *Letters* for County Clare is available online at www.clarelibrary.ie
- The *Ordnance Survey Namebooks* were also produced at this time. These are more comprehensive than the *Letterbooks* as they cover every townland in each county. Physical descriptions of the townlands, including antiquities, are noted and explanations of the place names are given. About 16 counties were later produced in typescript form and these volumes are held in the Special Collections Room with the remainder on microfilm at 941.5ODO. The data for county Galway is available on www.galwaylibrary.ie.

Street Maps and Plans

- OS street maps, covering all the cities and some towns in Ireland, including Ennis and Letterkenny, as well as Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Derry, Limerick and Galway -are located in map Cabinet C1.

- The library has maps accompanying both the Galway County and Galway City Development Plans. Please note that you can access the Galway County atlas on the council's website: www.galwaycoco.ie. Links to the **development plans** from all Irish local authorities are available at www.environ.ie
- Duchas, the heritage service, now part of the Office of Public Works, has published an inventory and map covering the architectural heritage of many Irish towns. These are held in the Special Collections Reading Room, 720.941.
- Orthophotography: It is possible to view aerial photography carried out by the OSI since 1995. This is especially good for tracking changes in the built environment. Go to www.osi.ie and click on **Online Shop** and then choose Orthophotography. As with other OSI services it is necessary to pay to print from this resource.

Historical maps

Historical maps of Ireland- reprints and facsimiles (*All held in Special Collections Room*)

- William Petty *Hiberniae delineation: atlas of Ireland 1685* (Shannon: Irish University Press reprint, 1969) Shelved at 912.415 PET [individual sheets]
- Phoenix Map Series *Historical maps principally of Irish cities and towns from the 19th century*
- Taylor and Skinner *Maps of the roads of Ireland*. (London, 1777, Irish University Press reprint, 1969) 912.415 TAY

Related books (All held in Special Collections Reading Room)

- G.A. Hayes McCoy *Ulster and other Irish maps, c 1600* (Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 1964) 912 (415)
- Anngret Simms *Irish historic towns atlas* (Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 1996-) 911.415 See the library catalogue for a list of towns included.
- Samuel Lewis *A topographical dictionary of Ireland: Vol 3: Atlas* (Galway: Kennys 1995 reprint) 914.15 LEW
- Michael Swift. *Historical Maps of Ireland*. (London: Parkgate books, 1999) 912.415 SWI

Historical maps of Connacht

- John Browne's map of Connaught 1591 –Special Collections Reading Room
- Speeds Map of Connaught 1610 – Archives
- Jannis Aries' Military map of Connaught, 1640's – Archives
- Moll's Map of Connaught 1728 - Archives

Historical maps of Galway

- 1651 Map of Galway presented to the Duke of Orleans – Archives [framed reprint copy on wall of Special Collections Reading Room]
- Microfilm copies of manuscript maps of Galway 1610-1717- 941.74 Microform area
- Maps of Galway city accompanying Griffiths valuation, mid 19th century, Map cabinet D5. [Note that the entire valuation, for all of Ireland, including maps, is available at www.askaboutireland.ie]

Landed estate maps

The Encumbered/Landed Estates Court Sale notices (1850-1885) frequently contain maps of individual estates. The Library holds microfilm copies of a set of these, the originals of which are in the National Archives of Ireland. Unfortunately, there is no index to the entire set as yet but the notices covering counties Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo have been indexed on the Connacht Landed Estates Database at www.landedestates.ie The Library also holds a set of these notices, in hardcopy, for county Clare. An index to this set is available with the Clare material in the Local Studies section of the Special Collections Reading Room.

Several of the landed estate collections held in our Archives contain estate maps, please see the Guide to Archival Holdings at <http://archives.library.nuigalway.ie/Guide/CollectionListAlpha.html>

- For more information and to view these maps please contact Kieran Hoare, the Archivist.

Archaeological maps

- The 1987 edition of the Sites and Monuments maps for Co Galway is held in map cabinets C2-C4. The sites and monuments are numbered and encircled on the map

(Revised edition 6" OS maps). An Index entitled *Sites and Monuments record, Co. Galway: a list of archaeological locations in Co. Galway* is shelved in General Reference at 936.174 SIT. Details of the Sites and Monuments records for counties in the Irish Republic are available at www.archaeology.ie and at <http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/built/owning.htm> for the six counties of Northern Ireland.

- A map of Ireland indicating monastic sites is located in map cabinet D4.

Hydrographic Charts

The Library holds a full set of Admiralty Charts of the coast of Ireland. They are stored in Map Cabinet D3.

Map Libraries

- Trinity College Dublin Map library - www.tcd.ie/Library/libraries/map.php
- UCD Map Library www.ucd.ie/library/maps
- National Library of Ireland <http://www.nli.ie/en/printed-maps-introduction.aspx>
- British Library - www.bl.uk/collections/maps.html
- Links to many other international map libraries can be found at the British Cartographic Society at www.cartography.org.uk

Online Databases

- GEOBASE is a citation database with worldwide literature on Geography (including Cartography), Geology and Ecology. It includes journals, books, conference proceedings and reports. GEOBASE can be accessed via **E-Knowledge**

Online Journals

- *Imago Mundi: the International Journal for the History of Cartography* is available online on JSTOR via the Library's electronic resources.
- Mapforum, an online periodical for antique map collectors, is available freely online at www.mapforum.com.

Books

The library holds many books which complement the maps collection.

For example, In order to search for material on cartography in Ireland using the library catalogue, Choose Advanced Search on **E-Knowledge**, type the words Ireland and cartography then select Subject from the drop down menu and click Go.

Internet resources for maps and cartography

- Subject gateways
 - BUBL subject links: maps - www.bubl.ac.uk
 - Oddens' Bookmarks – subject gateway with over 20,000 links - <http://oddens.geog.uu.nl/index.php>
 - Map history – Information on early maps – updated weekly - www.maphistory.info/
- Irish Maps

Ordnance Survey of Ireland: www.osi.ie and www.irishmaps.ie
Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland: www.osni.gov.uk
Envision: environmental & other maps:
<http://maps.epa.ie/InternetMapView/mapviewer.aspx>
Irish Place Name Database: www.logainm.ie
Ireland: Inventory of Architectural Heritage: www.buildingsofireland.ie
- British Maps

Scottish historical maps: www.chartingthenation.lib.ed.ac.uk/index.html
Old maps of Britain: www.old-maps.co.uk
UK Ordnance Survey: www.ordsvy.gov.uk

- World Maps
 Historic European cities: http://historic-cities.huji.ac.il/historic_cities.html
 National Atlas of Canada: <http://atlas.gc.ca?site/index.html>
 Australian place name search: www.auslig.gov.au/mapping/names/natgaz.htm
 National Atlas of the United States: www.nationalatlas.gov
 Cartographic links: <http://oddens.geog.uu.nl/index.html>

Further Information

- Please refer to the Maps section of our library website <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/>. This can be accessed by clicking on Library Resource Centre and then clicking on Special Collections. For further information on geographical and archaeological sources, including books, journals and electronic databases, please contact Niamh Walsh, Arts and Celtic Studies Librarian, in the Information Office on the Ground Floor.

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