CATALOGUE OF BRITISH TOWN MAPS TO 1900 (CBTM)

GUIDE FOR USERS

SCOPE OF THE CATALOGUE

CBTM IS one of the principal outcomes of a British Academy Research Project adopted by the Academy's Council in 1998 and directed by Professor Roger Kain FBA. The database underpinning the Catalogue is mostly comprised of records created as part of a project based at the University of Exeter and funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council, the fieldwork for which was conducted by Dr Richard Oliver. CBTM also contains some records relating to British towns created by two earlier works by Roger Kain and Richard Oliver on (a) the tithe maps of England and Wales and (b) enclosure and related maps of England and Wales (see section 'Fieldwork' below). CBTM includes only those maps (with some very few exceptions) that are accessible to the public and has a terminal date of 1900 by which time the first Ordnance Survey large-scale mapping of British towns was complete, was subject to periodic revision, and thus provided a base for almost all twentieth century and later large-scale town maps.

DEFINITION OF 'TOWN'

CBTM contains records of maps of places that appear in one or more of the following:


2 - Christopher Saxton's Map of England & Wales, surveyed c.1570-76

3 - John Adams, Index Villaris, 1680

4 - Samuel Lewis, Topographical Dictionary, 1833

5 - Ordnance Survey, one-inch Old Series, surveyed 1784-1840
6 - Ordnance Survey, one-inch New Series of England and Wales, and one-inch first edition of Scotland, surveyed 1841-95

7 - Ordnance Survey, one-inch revised mapping of Great Britain, surveyed 1893-8

8 - Ordnance Survey, one-inch Third Edition mapping of Great Britain, surveyed 1903-13

On Saxton’s maps, ‘towns’ are taken to be those represented by emphasised lettering; on Ordnance Survey maps they are those indicated by upper-case lettering.

DEFINITION OF A ‘TOWN MAP’

A town map is defined by a scale of about 1:25,344 – 2.5 inches to 1 mile – or larger which covers one of the following:

(a) the whole of a built-up area;

(b) the central core of a town;

(c) the whole of a constituent parish or other formal administrative division within a town;

(d) a discrete suburb or other district.

The following are normally excluded:

Estate maps that show part only of a town and cannot be reconciled with (c) or (d).

Maps of utilities (water, gas, sewers etc).

Maps that are substantially intended to show ‘projected works’, and cannot be relied on to show what is actually present on the ground.
Deposited plans for utilities, transport and other ‘public works’. 
DIMENSIONS OF MAPS

These are expressed in centimetres as width followed by height.

FIELDWORK AND RECORD CREATION DATES

The fieldwork for this project was carried out as follows:

(1) for an investigation of tithe maps, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, between 1987 and 1991: these records have CBTM numbers in the range 00001-11830.

(2) for an investigation of enclosure, rating, sanitary and other unpublished ‘parish’ and ‘public’ mapping, funded by the Economic & Social Research Council, mainly undertaken between 1993 and 1997: these records have CBTM numbers in the range 11831-18216.

(3) for an investigation of British urban mapping before 1900 funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council, mainly undertaken between 1999 and 2006: these records have CBTM numbers in the range 18217-23525.

The records created in groups (1) and (2) that were complementary to the mapping investigated in group (3) were re-edited in 2006-7 and assimilated and added to the database created for group (3).

The database in its present form reflects its state in April 2008 when it was first made publicly available.

In the online web resource hosted by the IHR there are 144 entries, largely from Scotland, for which there are no extant 'town maps' references although there are references to Ordnance Survey maps for these entries. These entries have limited information listing only the town, county, year, and scale of the relevant OS map(s). The CBTM for these entries range from 200003 to 200146.
It is important to note that the ‘repository’ field reflects the location of maps at the time of the original fieldwork and that locations and titles of collections are liable to change over time (and see ‘Explanation of Repositories...’ below).

Maps referred to in secondary or other works but which archivists / librarians were unable to produce, have been excluded.

LOCATION OF COPIES

In principle, all maps listed in the database should be accessible to bona fide researchers in public or quasi-public institutions. The main exception is that a few maps in private collections are included in CBTM. These are only included where either (a) they contain an exemplar that is also represented elsewhere in a publically-accessible collection, or (b) where the database entry was originally prepared from a publically-available facsimile copy.

MAPS OF LONDON

These are any map covering at least either (a) the whole built-up area at the time of making the map, or (b) the central core of London, roughly defined by from Park Lane in the west to Mile End in the east and from Pimlico in the south to Euston Road in the north. Appended names of boroughs or parishes give a more precise indication of coverage.

Scales

These are expressed as representative fractions. Where scales are absent on a particular map, they are supplied by comparative measurement, and indicated with an asterisk (*). Such scales when provided for ‘early’ mapping, before about 1700, should be regarded as indicative only.

EXPLANATION OF REPOSITORIES AND CITED CARTOBIBLIOGRAPHIES
NB:

(1) In all cases where a town or city library is listed, it is the ‘central’ library unless otherwise specified.

(2) Common changes to names since the date of fieldwork include substitution of ‘archives’ for ‘record office’, and sometimes adoption of radically different titles from previously such as ‘Centre for X-shire Studies’ or ‘X-shire Heritage Centre’.

Aberdeen City Archives
Accrington Library Local Studies
Anglesey RO = Anglesey Archives, Llangefni
Ashmolean Museum
Ayrshire Archives
Bath City RO = Bath City Archives
Bath Library
Bedford Central Library Local Studies
Bedfordshire Archives
Bedfordshire RO = Bedfordshire Archives
Berks RO = Berkshire Record Office
Berwick upon Tweed RO = Berwick upon Tweed Archives
Birkenhead Library
Birmingham Archives = Birmingham Central Library, Archives
Birmingham Central Library, Archives
Birmingham Central Library, Local Studies
Bishopsgate Institute, London Collection
BL = British Library
BLML = British Library Map Library
Bodleian Library
BOL = Bodleian Library, Oxford
Bolton Archives = at Central Library, Bolton
Bolton Archives & Local Studies = at Central Library, Bolton
Borthwick = Borthwick Institute, York
Bournemouth Library, Local Studies Section
Bradford Central Library, Local Studies
Brigend Library
Brighton History Centre
Bristol City Archives
Bristol Record Office = Bristol City Archives
British Library
Buckinghamshire RO
Bury Archives
Cambridge City Library, Cambridgeshire Collection
Cambridgeshire RO
Camden Local Studies
Canterbury Cathedral Archives
Canterbury City Library, Local Studies
Cardiff City Library, Local Studies Section
Carlisle Public Library, Local Studies
Carmarthen RO
Carnarvon RO
Centre for Kentish Studies
Cheltenham Library
Ches RO = Cheshire RO
Cheshire RO
Chesterfield Library, Local Studies
CL [Central Library]
CLRO [City of London Record Office]
Colchester Library, Local Studies
Colne Library
Cornish Centre (Redruth)
Cromwell RO
Coventry City Archives
Coventry City RO = Coventry City Archives
Crosby Library
CUL = Cambridge University Library
Cumberland RO = Cumbria Archives, Carlisle
Darlington Local Studies Library = Darlington Library, Local Studies Library
Denbigh[shire] RO = Clwyd [Denbighshire] Record Office, Denbigh
Derby Local Studies Library = Derby Town Local Studies Library
Derbyshire Local Studies Library = Derbyshire Local Studies Library, Matlock
Derbyshire RO = Derbyshire Archives, Matlock
Devon & Exeter Institution = Devon & Exeter Institution, Exeter [access may be restricted for non-members]
Devon RO = Devon Record Office, Sowton, Exeter
Doncaster Archives
Doncaster RO = Doncaster Archives
Doncaster Library, Local Studies
DOR RO = Dorset Record Office
Dover Library Local Studies Section
Dudley Archives
Dumfries, Ewart Library
Dundee Central Library, Local History Section
Durham RO = Durham County Record Office, Durham
Durham University Library (Manuscripts)
East Kent Archives = East Kent Archives, Whitfield
East Riding RO = East Yorkshire Archives, Beverley
East Suffolk RO = East Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich East
Sussex RO = East Sussex Record Office, Lewes
Edinburgh Central Library, Edinburgh Room
Edinburgh City Archives
ESRO = East Sussex Record Office, Lewes
Essex RO = Essex Record Office, Chelmsford
Essex RO [Colchester] = Essex Record Office, Colchester Branch
Essex RO [Southend] = Essex Record Office, Southend on Sea Branch
Falkirk, History Research Centre
Flint[shire] RO = Clwyd [Flint] County Record Office, Hawarden
Furness RO = Cumbria Record Office, Barrow in Furness
Gateshead Library, Local Studies
GHL = Guildhall Library, London
GL = Guildhall Library, London
Glamorgan Record Office = Glamorgan Record Office, Cardiff
Glasgow City Archives
Glasgow, Mitchell Library, Local Studies
Gloucester Library, Local Studies
Gloucestershire RO
Greater Manchester Record Office
Greenwich Local Studies Library = Greenwich Heritage Centre, Woolwich
Greenwich Heritage Centre = Greenwich Heritage Centre, Woolwich
Grimsby Archives = North-East Lincolnshire Archives, Grimsby
Grimsby Central Library
Guildhall Library
Gwent RO = Gwent Record Office, Cwmbran
GwUL = Glasgow University Library [access may be restricted]
H = map number in Ralph Hyde, *Printed maps of Victorian London 1851-1900*, Folkestone: Dawson, 1975
Hackney Archives
Halifax Library, Reference Section
Hamilton Reference Library
Hammersmith and Fulham = Hammersmith & Fulham Archives & Local History Centre
Hampshire RO
Hants RP = Hampshire RO
Harrogate Library, Local Studies Section
Hastings Public Library, Local Studies Section
Hereford City Library, Reference Section
Hereford RO = Herefordshire Record Office, Hereford
Herefordshire RO = Herefordshire Record Office, Hereford
Hertfordshire RO
Herts RO = Hertfordshire RO
Highland Council Archive [Inverness]
Hod = map number in D. Hodson, *Maps of Portsmouth before 1801* (Portsmouth Record Series [no.4]), City of Portsmouth, 1978
Horsham Museum
Hull City RO = Kingston upon Hull City Archives
Hull Library = Kingston upon Hull City Library, Local Studies
Hull University Library [access may be restricted]
Huntingdonshire RO = Cambridgeshire Record Office, Huntingdon Branch
Isle of Wight Record Office
Islington Central Library, Local Studies and Archives
Keighley Central Library
Kensington Library, Local Studies
Kent RO = Centre for Kentish Studies, Maidstone
Kidderminster Library Local Studies
Kings Lynn Borough Archives
Kirkcaldy Public Library
Knowsley Archives
Lancs RO = Lancashire Record Office, Preston
Lancashire RO
Lancaster Library
Leamington Library
Leeds City Library = Leeds Central Library, Local Studies Section
Leeds Central Library, Family History & Local Studies
Leeds Central Library, Family History
Leicester Municipal Library
Lichfield Joint Record Office
Lincoln Library = Lincoln City Library
Lincolnshire Archives
Lincolnshire Archives Office
Lincoln City Hall, Planning Dept [maps were recorded on understanding that they would shortly be publicly deposited, but this has not yet (2012) happened]
Liverpool City RO
Liverpool RO
Liverpool Record Office
LlGC = National Library of Wales
LMA = London Metropolitan Archives
London Metropolitan Archives
London Metropolitan Archives [ex City of London Record Office]
LMA-GLC = London Metropolitan Arches [ex-Greater London Council Collection]
Lord Louis Library, Newport, IOW, Local History Room
Lowestoft Library: Archives
Luton Library
Maidenhead Library, Local Studies
Manchester CL = Manchester Central Library
Manchester Central Library
Manchester Central Library Archives
Margate Library, Heritage Room
Medway Archives
Merionydd Archives
Middleton Library Local Studies
Minet Library = Minet Library, Lambeth
Morley Public Library, Local History Collection
Morpeth Records Centre
MSGlam RO = Glamorgan Record Office, Cardiff
NASc = National Archives of Scotland
National Library of Scotland, Map Room
N.E. Scotland Library Headquarters, Oldmeldrum
Newcastle Central Library, Local Studies
Newport Public Library, Reference Section = Newport (Gwent)
NLS = National Archives of Scotland
Norwich Library Local Studies = Norwich Library, Norfolk Heritage Centre
Norwich Library, Norfolk Heritage Centre

North Ayrshire Local History Library, Ardrossan
North Riding Record Office = North Yorkshire Record Office, Northallerton
North Riding Registry of Deeds (at North Riding Record Office) = Records at North Yorkshire Record Office, Northallerton
Northumberland RO = Northumberland Record Office, Gosforth
North Yorkshire RO = North Yorkshire Record Office, Northallerton
Norwich Library Local Studies = Norwich Library, Norfolk Heritage Centre
Norwich Library, Norfolk Heritage Centre
Nottingham Central Library, Local Studies
Nottinghamshire Archives
Oldham Archives
Oxford Library, Oxfordshire Studies
Oxfordshire RO = Oxfordshire Archives
Oxon RO = Oxfordshire Archives
Oxfordshire Archives
Perth & Kinross Archives
Perth, A.K. Bell Library, Local Studies
Peterborough Central Library
Plymouth Archives = West Devon Record Office, Plymouth
Plymouth Central Library, Local Studies
Poole Local History Centre
Portsmouth Central Library
Portsmouth City RO
Powis RO = Powis Archives, Llandrindod Wells
Preston, Harris Library
Reading Central Library Local Studies
RGS = Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers
RO = Record Office
Rochdale Local Studies = Local Studies Library, Rochdale
Rotherham Library, Archives
Royal Scottish Geographical Society = Royal Scottish Geographical Society, Perth
Rugby Library, local studies section
S = map number in Elisabeth Stuart, *Lost Landscapes of Plymouth: maps, charts and plans to 1800*, Stroud: Alan Sutton, 1991
St Helens Archives
St Helens Library, Archives & Local Studies
St John’s College, Cambridge = St John’s College, Cambridge, Archives [access may be restricted]
Salford Archives
Salford Museum - Local History Library
Sandwell Archives
Scarborough Library
Shakespeare Birthplace Trust = Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, Stratford upon Avon
Sheffield Archives
Sheffield Library
Shropshire RO = Shropshire Records and History Centre, Shrewsbury
Somerset Record Office
Somerset RO = Somerset Record Office
Southampton City Archives
Southampton Library, Local Studies Section
Southport Library, Reference and Local Studies
South Shields Library, Local Studies
Southwark Library = Southwark Local Studies Library
Southwark Local Studies Library
SRO = National Archives of Scotland
Staffordshire RO
Stockport Archives
Stockport Central Library
Stoke-on-Trent Museum, Archaeology Section
Stornoway Public Library
Suffolk RO [Ipswich] = East Suffolk RO
Sunderland Library Local Studies
Surrey RO = Surrey History Centre, Woking
Sur R.O. = Surrey History Centre, Woking
Swansea City Archives
Swansea Library, Reference Section
Tameside Archives
Teeside Archives
TNA [PRO] = The National Archives [formerly Public Record Office]
TNA [PRO] Library
Tower Hamlets Library, Local Studies Section
Trafford [Local Studies Library] = Trafford Local Studies Library, Sale
Tyne & Wear Archives
University of Exeter Geography Department = University of Exeter Geography Department
Map Collection [access may be restricted]
Wakefield Library, Local Studies
Walsall Local History Centre
Waltham Forest Archives = Waltham Forest Archives, Walthamstow
Warrington Library, Archives
Warwickshire RO = Warwickshire Record Office
Warwickshire Record Office
West Country Studies Library = West Country Studies Library, Exeter
West Devon Record Office = West Devon Record Office, Plymouth
West Glamorgan RO
West Lothian Local History Library
Westminster Archives
Westmorland RO = Cumbria Archives, Kendal
West Riding Record Office = West Yorkshire Archives Service, Wakefield office
West Riding Registry of Deeds (at West Riding Record Office) = Records at West Yorkshire Archives Service, Wakefield office
West Suffolk RO = West Suffolk Record Office, Bury St Edmunds
West Sussex RO = West Sussex Record Office, Chichester
West Yorkshire Archives [Calderdale] = West Yorkshire Archives Service, Halifax Office
West Yorkshire Archives [Kirklees] = West Yorkshire Archives Service, Huddersfield Office
West Yorkshire Archives [Wakefield] = West Yorkshire Archives Service, Wakefield Office
Wigan Archives
Wiltshire RO
Wirral Archives
Wirral Archive Service
Wisbech Museum
Wolverhampton Archives
Worcestershire RO = Worcestershire Record Office, Worcester
WYAS Bradford = West Yorkshire Archives Service, Bradford Office
WYAS Wakefield = West Yorkshire Archives Service, Wakefield Office
York Central Library = York City Library
York City Library
York Minster Archives
Yorkshire Archaeological Society = Yorkshire Archaeological Society, Leeds [access may be restricted for non-members]