



Aberdeen Local Studies

MAPS AND PLANS



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Aberdeen
City Libraries



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Map and plan collection

Maps and plans have substantial research potential. Maps can show much more than a particular area, reveal the history and development of a place over time.

Aberdeen Local Studies hold a large collection of maps and plans, including Ordnance Survey maps and many other useful items. We welcome any suggestion or request to ensure our collection continues to develop.



This guide provides a short overview of the collection as well as some advice on accessing the documents, both at the library and online.

Care of the collection

All maps and plans must be consulted **at the Information Centre**, on the second floor of Aberdeen Central Library. Large tables and magnifying glasses are available on site.



Most of our cartographic material is **fragile and valuable**. As a result, members of staff may ask you to wear gloves (provided by the library) to handle the documents.

We would appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Pencils must be used during the whole time you are handling these cartographic documents.

Useful Information

Copyright

Many of our maps and plans are under copyright, which means restrictions might apply to reproduce, use and share them. Please ask a member of staff for more information.



Reproduction

Photographing cartographic material is allowed for personal and research use only.

You can use your digital camera, your camera phone or your tablet. Please ask a member of staff before taking any photograph to ensure the item is not excluded from this service.

The Local Studies department can also provide **high-quality scans** on demand for large items. Copies can be printed out, costing 20p per A4 sheet and 40p per A3 sheet.

Accessing the collection

At the library

Our maps and plans are mainly stored at Aberdeen Central Library, Rosemount Viaduct, but some documents that are in less demand are held in external stores. Please note that there might be some delay in providing these documents. We advise you to contact the library prior to your visit to ensure the material requested is available at the library.

To ensure their conservation, the documents are not stored in public areas. Use the contact details at the back of this leaflet to enquire about seeing our maps and plans.

Online



maps.nls.uk

The National Library of Scotland (NLS) provides **free and remote access** to a broad collection of digitised historic maps, with a wide coverage, including Aberdeen City, the United Kingdom and some foreign countries.



www.silvercityvault.org.uk

The Aberdeen Local Studies' own website gives access to a growing collection of maps, plans, architectural drawings (elevation, floor plans, perspective).

Free and unlimited access from home.

Collection Overview



Ordnance Survey

Ordnance Survey maps

A large collection of the national mapping agency for Great Britain, including historic and current maps.

- ◇ *Areas : Aberdeenshire, Banffshire, Elginshire, Kincardineshire.*
- ◇ *Dates: from 1870s to the present day.*
- ◇ *Scales: very large (1:500) to smaller scales.*



Street plans

City plans including details of Aberdeen harbour, road plans, canals and bridges, tramway and railway.

- ◇ *Aberdeen Plans: from 17th Century to the present day.*
- ◇ *Surrounding cities: historic plans dating from 1850s to the present day.*



Goad Plans

Plans showing shopping areas in great detail, useful to trace the history of a shop or look for information about an urban area.

- ◇ *Aberdeen: from 1970s to the present day.*
- ◇ *The collection includes Goad plans of Elgin, Fraserburgh, Peterhead and Stonehaven (various dates).*

Collection Overview

Architectural drawings

A collection of floor and site plans, elevations and sections of individual buildings.

The most substantial holdings relate to public buildings in Aberdeen (libraries, hospitals, churches, schools) and date from the 19th Century.



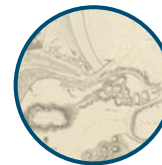
Historic Scottish county maps

Maps from the 17th Century, including extracts from Johan Blaeu's atlases.

The collection primarily dates from the 17th and the 18th Centuries.



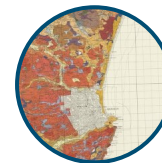
Miscellaneous materials



Admiralty Charts, 1970s-1980s
Maps with information designed to assist navigation (depth, coasts, land).

Feuing plans, 1840s-1900s

Plans showing boundaries of property being sold and/or rented.



Geological and soil survey maps, 1970s-2000s
Maps showing the nature, extent and relative stratigraphical age of different rocks within a district.