General Information

Jersey Archive has a large collection of maps, both of the Island and individual parishes. Listed below are details of some maps, which have proved to be useful for research. The selection covers a range of dates and subjects and is broadly divided into two sections, Town and Island. Other collections of maps, which may be useful for research purposes have been added to the end of the list.

Researchers will not find tithe or estates maps in Jersey and the earliest Ordnance Survey maps of the Island that the Jersey Archive holds were created in 1935. The map collections at the Jersey Archive do date back to a copy of the Gough Map of Great Britain, 1360. However the first really accurate and detailed map of the Island was not created until 1795.

Jersey Archive also holds a number of aerial photographs of Jersey that can be useful for providing visual evidence of changes to the Island.

Access

Each collection and item held by Jersey Archive has a unique reference code. These references have been included in the following information after the collection or item title.

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Island Maps

1795 Richmond Map D/AP/B/20
An accurate survey and measurement of the Island of Jersey 1795, commissioned by the Duke of Richmond in response to the threat of invasion by the French. A copy of this map is available on the walls of the reading rooms. Also available is a guide to the Richmond Map by Jean Le Boutillier, which gives details of colour coding and an illustrated guide to the marking of individual features.

1845 Railway Map including St Helier L/F/54/B/1
A map of the proposed Island of Jersey Railway from St Aubin to St Helier and St Helier to St Catherine. This includes the boat routes to England and a projected railway line from St Germain to Paris.

1849 Godfray Map L/F/120/A/107
The Godfray Map was created from data obtained from the Le Gros Survey of 1834. It shows boundaries of parishes and Vingtaines, roads, and individual houses (excluding heavily populated areas) including the name of the landowner.

A copy is available in the Help Desk area and has been laminated and cut into sections to make it easier to use. Each section is numbered and relates to a key. There is also a copy of the whole map available on the walls of the reading rooms.

1867 Map of Jersey surveyed by Staff Commander Richards L/F/120/A/114
A large-scale chart in three parts. Roads are detailed, the position of railway routes are clearly marked, as are churches. Coastal soundings are marked, as is the position of coastal rocks, each of which is numbered. Martello towers, semaphore stations and other defences are clearly shown. The Richards Map does not include every property in the Island.

1871 Railway Map including St Helier L/F/120/A/116
A plan of the proposed Jersey Eastern Railway prepared for the Jersey Eastern Railway Company Limited, 1871.
1935 Ordnance Survey Maps of Jersey D/Z/L/8
Ordnance survey maps are the most accurate scale records of the Island that we have. They are extremely detailed and give the position of all major features on the Island, including major developments, churches, hospitals and schools. Ordnance survey maps also include accurate details of individual properties and therefore are extremely useful for house historians.

The 1935 maps are the earliest ordnance survey maps we hold at Jersey Archive and show details of the Island before the changes brought about by the German Occupation. Digital copies of the 1935 maps are available to view in the archive reading rooms.

Jersey Archive holds ordnance survey maps of various scales for the above years. As not all sets are complete the 1981 map with a scale of 1:1000 (reference D/W/H1) is probably the best starting point for researchers.

Useful Map Collections

Plans of the Jersey Gas Network, 1930s-1970s K/B/H
These technical plans show the position of gas mains in St Helier and across the Island. They give specific detail relating to the position of underground pipes and features. The maps also include locations of properties and can be useful tools for house history.

Planning Department Map Collection D/W/H/I1/1-25
Miscellaneous outsize maps of Jersey [undated] showing details of features such as Island footpaths, landfill sites, admiralty charts, green lanes, streams and wetlands. These detailed maps are too large for photocopying, however it may be possible to take a digital photograph of particular features.

Clarke Map Collection - L/F/120
The Clarke Map Collection contains nearly two hundred maps of Jersey dating from the very earliest medieval maps through to maps of St Helier in the 1970s. The collection includes maps by several of the most famous mapmakers and publishers of the seventeenth century as well as copies of later, more detailed maps of Jersey such as the Richmond and Godfray.

The collection also includes maps of the English Channel and Normandy. L/F/120/A/224a shows the towns and villages of Normandy and is useful for research into French Ancestry.

Aerial Photographs

Original aerial photographs are kept in cold storage to prevent their deterioration and require 24 hours notice before they can be viewed. The photographs listed below from 1942 - 1945, 1965, 1974, 1992 have now been scanned and digital copies are available to view in the reading rooms of the Jersey Archive.

1942 - 1945 Occupation Photographs L/C/14 and L/C/34
Occupation reconnaissance photographs from Operation Nestegg and the Brigadier Snow papers. These two sets of wartime photographs, taken by the RAF, give views of all the Channel Islands between 1942 and 1945. The photographs show military targets, landing sites, areas of evacuation and demarcation lines.

There are detailed views of many areas in Jersey including St Helier, however this is not a comprehensive set of photographs of the whole Island.

1965 Huntsing Surveys Limited D/W/E3/1-2
This series of photographs, which includes a key map, contains detailed aerial views of the whole of the Island.

1974 - D/AL/B Aerial Photographs
This series of photographs contains detailed aerial views of the whole Island. D/AL/B1 is an index map which shows specific areas photographed and gives a key to the legends used.

1992 - D/W/E3/4-5 Aerofilms Survey
The Aerofilms survey of 1992 contains detailed aerial views in colour of the whole Island at a scale of 1:10000.

1997 - D/W/E3/6 BKS Surveys Limited
This survey by BKS Surveys Limited from 1997, which includes a key map, contains detailed aerial views in colour of the whole Island at a scale of 1:10000. The photographs are kept in cold storage and therefore a minimum of 24 hours notice is required prior to viewing.