

Liverpool RECORD OFFICE

Please note that unlike pre World War II maps these are still in copyright and only limited photocopying is allowed.

NUMBERING

Each Ordnance Survey map has its own unique reference number. Prior to World War II each county had a separate numbering sequence, using a grid system.

Key sheets are available for all the Ordnance Survey maps in the Record Office collection.

An index which gives map references for major Liverpool streets is available for the 25" = 1 mile series.

HANDLING HINTS

Please handle all maps with care

Never fold maps

Do not remove any plastic covers, they are there to help protect the maps

If you would like to photocopy a map please check with the staff first.

LIVERPOOL RECORD OFFICE, LOCAL STUDIES AND FAMILY HISTORY SERVICE

Central Library, William Brown Street, Liverpool L3 8EW

General enquiries 0151 233 5817
0151 233 5811
Fax (Central Library) 0151 233 5886
E-mail recoffice.central.library@liverpool.gov.uk

For opening hours, some catalogues and development news, please visit our website at www.liverpool.gov.uk/archives

Appointments are not essential for viewing sources on microfilm and on microfiche. A reader's ticket is needed to request archives, books, maps, photographs and watercolours. Please bring proof of name and address. You will be asked to leave any bags in lockers before consulting original material.

Annual closure for stock-taking and special projects 3rd and 4th weeks in June.

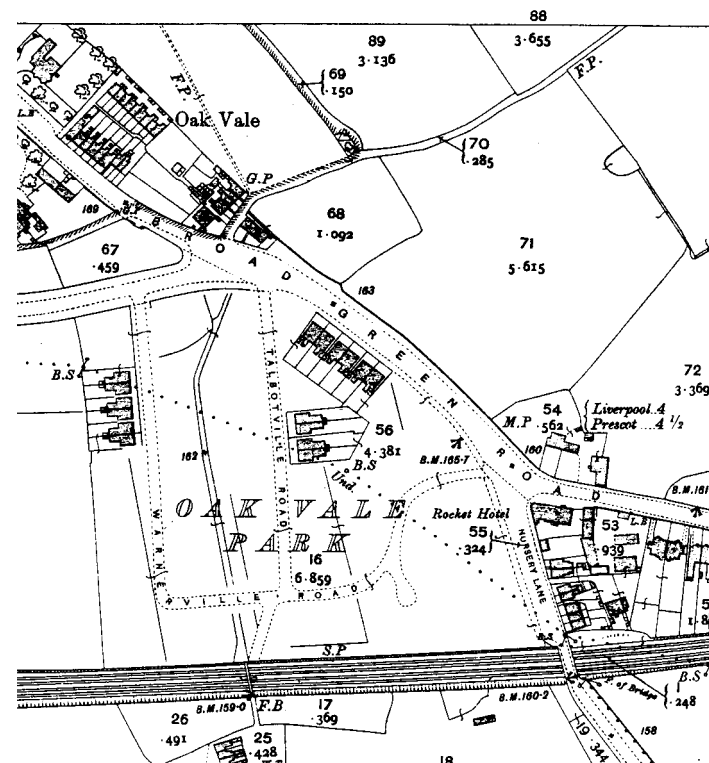


May 2008

Liverpool RECORD OFFICE

ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS

INFORMATION LEAFLET - 4



The Ordnance Survey was founded in 1791 as a military organisation, prompted by the threat of invasion by Napoleon. The first map covering the Liverpool area was not surveyed until the 1840's and was at the scale of 1" = 1 mile. Ordnance Survey maps provide excellent coverage of the area, from the mid-nineteenth century onwards and Liverpool Record Office is fortunate in having a large collection, which is very heavily used.



The City of Liverpool



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SCALES AND DATES AVAILABLE:

**1" = 1 mile (1 : 63,360) 1840, 1842, 1913,
1952, 1966, 1968, 1972**

**6" = 1 mile (1 : 10,560) Lancashire 1845, 1893,
1908, 1927, 1935 Cheshire 1910-14, 1927, 1935**

The 1845 Lancashire edition is particularly useful as it gives details which are not included in other maps of this period. Street maps of Liverpool generally just show the built-up area around what is now the city centre. These maps cover a much wider area, and not just Liverpool. We have 6" maps, for at least one date, for most of Lancashire and Cheshire.

**25" = 1 mile (1: 2,500) Lancashire 1893, 1908,
1927, 1935 Cheshire 1880-81, 1898-9, 1910-
12, 1935-7**

These are probably the most widely used of the different types of Ordnance Survey maps. They are useful for people who want a map of a relatively small area, as they show plenty of detail and cover a reasonable area. General street maps of the whole city and 6" Ordnance Survey maps may not give sufficient detail and large scale maps cover such a small area that they can be confusing.

Reprints of the 1908 edition have been published, at a slightly smaller scale, by Alan Godfrey and these are available for sale in the Record Office, or can be bought online from www.alangodfrey.com. A self-service selection of 6" and 25" scale maps of Liverpool is also available.

5 ft = 1 mile (1 : 1056) Liverpool 1847 - 1849

Known as Town Plans these maps were only published for towns with a population of more than 4,000, mostly in the north of England. Only one edition was published at this scale and they show excellent detail, including the interior layout of certain buildings such as churches.

However as they only cover the built-up area, coverage is limited. Reprints of some of these Town Plans (1:1056)



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have been published at a reduced scale by Alan Godfrey and are available for sale from the Record Office.

10ft = 1 mile (1 : 500)

Liverpool, c.1891

These are also called Town Plans, but again they only cover the built-up area, although the city has grown by this date and the maps, therefore, cover a wider area than the 1840's Town Plans. They are very detailed and show, amongst other things, steps, garden paths and street furniture and can be useful for example for studying housing history, showing details of building patterns, courts etc. The Town Plans cover the area along the coast from Great Crosby in the north to Sefton Park/St. Michael's Hamlet in the south end. There are also parts of Garston, Birkenhead and Southport.

**1:1250 (50" = 1 mile) Liverpool 1950's, 1960's, 1970's
1980's and some 1990's**

The numbering system for these maps is based on the National Grid, which was introduced after World War II and has just one numbering sequence covering the whole country. Liverpool Record Office has a book called List of Streets adopted and unadopted in Liverpool (1957) which gives the OS map number for each street. please ask at the enquiry desk for this book.

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**1:10,560 (6"=1mile) and 1:10,000 Liverpool area
1950 - 1991**

These maps are particularly useful as they show topographical details including contours, vegetation and general features. The contours which aren't shown on scale 1: 1250 are clearly marked and there is a key to symbols used on the map. These maps are useful for studying land use and the lie of the land. Maps for the Wirral, Sefton and Knowsley are available in the Humanities Reference Library.