

# Map Room Guide

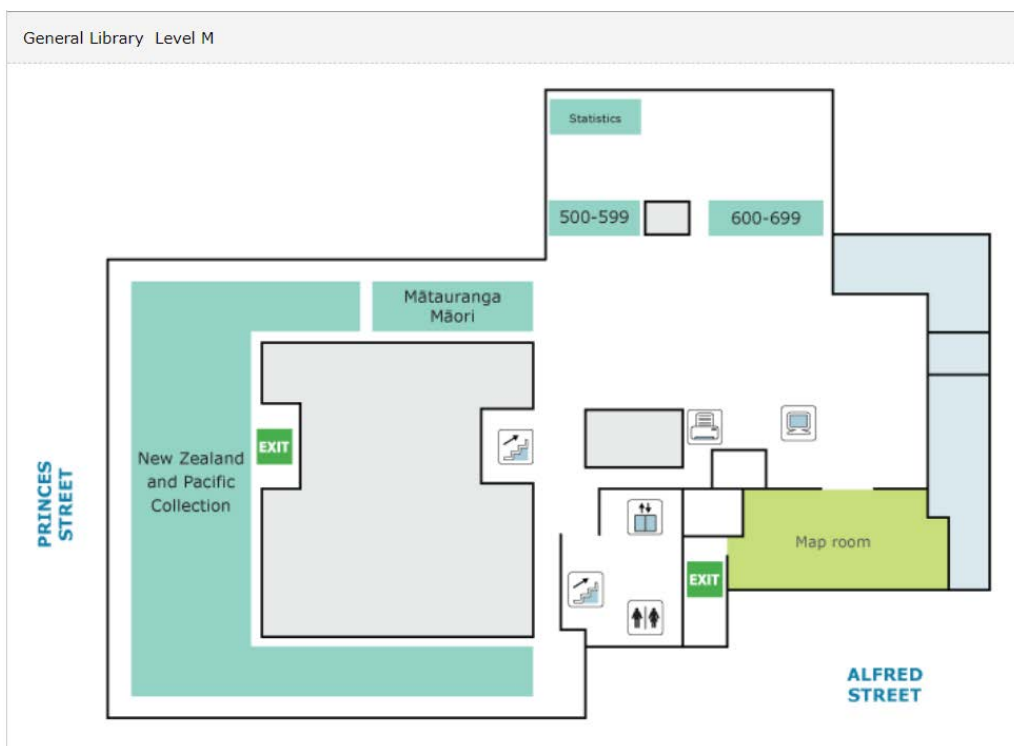
## Introduction

The Map Room holds a large collection of sheet maps, atlases, aerial photographs, gazetteers and other reference materials. The coverage is worldwide but with an emphasis on New Zealand, Ross Dependency in Antarctica, and the Pacific region. For online resources see also the [Geospatial data guide](#).

Maps provide information about the environment, both physical and human, and about relationships and distributions of a wide range of phenomena. Maps are essentially a portrayal of place, in diagrammatic form, and are second only to the spoken and written word as a means of communicating what places are like.

## Location and hours

The Map Room is located in Room M05, Level M, General Library. It is open 8.30am-5pm Monday to Friday.



## What's in the collection

Most of the maps are stored flat in horizontal plan cabinets and are divided into two sequences.

The sequence closest to the entry to the Map Room includes maps of the world as a whole, and for parts of the world excluding New Zealand, Australia, the Pacific, and the Arctic and Antarctic regions. This sequence starts with maps of the whole world, followed by continent (Europe, Asia, North America and then South America) subdivided by country.

The sequence nearest the windows is the New Zealand, Pacific, Australia and Polar Regions collection. The labels on the map cabinets detail which maps are in which drawer.

**Please note** parts of the collection are currently being worked on.

## New Zealand material

A comprehensive collection of New Zealand maps including general maps, topographic and cadastral series, urban plans, hydrographic charts, a selection of aeronautical charts, and a wide range of thematic maps, including geology, soils, land resources, transportation. Mostly the material dates from 1945 onwards, but a small amount of earlier material is held.

The New Zealand collection is strongest for Auckland and Northland regions, weakest for Otago and Southland.

## International material

A collection is also maintained for Ross Dependency in Antarctica and the Pacific islands. For other parts of the world, a basic collection of general, topographic and thematic maps, mainly geological is available. This includes a 1:1,000,000 map of the world is available, although many maps are dated.

**Please note** many of these maps are not catalogued and are unsearchable via our Catalogue.

## Pocket maps

Pocket maps are folded maps issued with a protective cover, sometimes a booklet of text is enclosed as well. Many geological maps published by GNS Science, including a 1:250,000 QMap Series, appears as a booklet with a map enclosed in a pocket at the back of the booklet.

All these maps are classified in the Catalogue as Pocket Maps and are kept on the shelves located on the right as you enter the Map Room. They may be borrowed for one week and are issued from the Level G self-issuing machines or Helpdesk, General Library.

## Atlases

Atlases are held on Level M, just outside the Map Room. Oversize atlases are kept horizontally on purpose-built shelves, smaller volumes are held on bookshelves.

## Borrowing

This is a self-service collection but please note that maps may not be borrowed, except by teaching staff for teaching purposes. A scanner is available for those with University ID. Exceptions are pocket maps that may be borrowed for one week, non-renewable – these are issued from the Level G self-issuing machines or Helpdesk, General Library, and should be returned there.

## Digital geospatial resources

The [GeoDataHub](#), the centralised repository of authoritative cartographic and geospatial resources curated by Libraries and Learning Services, contains a substantial collection of digitised maps, geospatial datasets, and aerial and satellite imagery.

The focus of this repository is on providing cartographic and geospatial resources for New Zealand, its offshore islands and territories; South Pacific, particularly Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau; and Ross Dependency in Antarctica. Regional coverage focuses on Auckland, although datasets for Waikato, and parts of Northland, Hawke's Bay and Canterbury are available.

See the [Geospatial data guide](#) for information, support and links for accessing geospatial resources.

## Contact

For more help please [Ask us](#) via the [library website](#).