Mapping Manchester
Cartographic Stories of the City

This exhibition reveals some of the ways in which mapping is ingrained into urban life. It demonstrates how maps change over time in response to technology, society and economic imperatives, highlighting visually striking cartographic representations of Manchester.

Mapping Manchester showcases the wealth of cartographic treasures held by the University of Manchester and other institutions in the city, including generous loans of materials from the Manchester City Library and Archives and Chetham's Library. The maps exhibited are more than just ‘pretty pictures’ – they are powerful tools, instrumental to the development of contemporary Manchester, and can be read as rich stories of urban life. Over eighty different maps, plans, diagrams and photographs of the city – published over the last two hundred and fifty years – are on display. These range in date from the first large scale survey of the city published by William Green in 1794, to a 2008 statistical map of binge drinking hotspots across Manchester. A wide range of formats can be seen – from network diagrams, building plans and strip maps, to three-dimensional bird’s-eye views, such as Heywood’s iconic Victorian Pictorial Map of Manchester and digital animated mapping.

We hope this exhibition will encourage you to visit Manchester’s rich map collections and to explore for yourself the changing cartographic stories of the city.

The exhibition has been curated by Martin Dodge and Chris Perkins who work as lecturers in Geography in the School of Environment and Development at the University of Manchester. It builds upon a longstanding research interest in the many roles that maps play in society.

For further information about their research, see www.sed.manchester.ac.uk/geography/research/maps/
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Mapping Manchester – Curatorial Stories
Exhibition tour and Close-Up session
Thursday 27 August & Saturday 24 October
12.00–12.45
With the curators of Mapping Manchester: Stories of the City, explore the themes of the exhibition through key objects on display and discuss the role of mapping in documenting the history and development of the city.

Tickets £2.50, available from Visitor Services on 0161 306 0555 or jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk

Cartographic Tales of the City:
Manchester and Mapping
Public lecture
Thursday 10 December 5.30–7.00
FREE
This talk, given by Chris Perkins, will illustrate many of the ways in which Manchester has been mapped in the past and explore how and why these themes continue to resonate in the contemporary city.

Chris Perkins is Senior Lecturer in Geography at The University of Manchester.

Opening times for exhibition
Mon 12.00 – 5.00
Tue – Sat 10.00 – 5.00
Sun 12.00 – 5.00

The John Rylands Library
150 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3EH
0161 306 0555
www.manchester.ac.uk/library
jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk

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25 June to 17 January 2010
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Manchester M3 3EH
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