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Use of the Collection

It is advisable to contact the library in advance to make an appointment to view material on microfilm e.g. Census returns, newspapers.

Anyone undertaking detailed research and who is likely to need a wide range of material is also advised to contact the library before making a personal visit as much of the collection is not readily accessible in the Reference Library.

Photocopying facilities are available, subject to the restrictions of the Copyright Acts and providing the material is of a suitable size and can be copied without damage. A standard charge is made for photocopies.

The staff will be pleased to give further information and advice of the collection. Enquiries can also be made by post or telephone but it is not possible for staff to undertake lengthy genealogical or historical research on behalf of enquirers.

The library is constantly adding to its collection and anyone willing to donate items or allow copies to be made from older material in their possession is invited to contact the Librarian.

Hours of opening (Reference Library)

Monday	9.30 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.	
Tuesday	9.30 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.	
Wednesday	9.30 a.m. - 5.00 5.00 p.m.	2.30 2.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.
Thursday	9.30 a.m. - 7.00 7.00 p.m.	
Friday	9.30 a.m. - 7.00 7.00 p.m.	
Saturday	9.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.	

Address:

Canterbury Library,
High Street,
Canterbury,
CT1 2JE

Telephone:

Canterbury (0227) 463608 and 69964

CANTERBURY LIBRARY



Westgate, built 1380

A guide to the CANTERBURY LOCAL STUDIES COLLECTION

Introduction

This leaflet is intended to draw attention to the range of material about the locality available at Canterbury Library.

The Local Studies Collection is available for reference use although many items are not kept in the Reference Library but are stored separately and will be produced on request.

The Collection

This consists of:

1. General material on Kent
2. A comprehensive range of sources on the City of Canterbury and surrounding area.
3. Catalogues, indexes and guides.

Kent

a) Books

These include publications dealing with the history and topography of the County e.g. Hasted, E. The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent; Lambarde, W. A Perambulation of Kent, as well as more specialised subjects such as natural history, geology, agriculture, architecture, biography.

b) Maps

There is a county-wide coverage of the first edition one-inch Ordnance Survey series. Later editions of the small-scale Ordnance Survey maps, specialist maps such as the Geological Survey, Land Utilization and Footpath Maps are also available for much of east Kent.

c) Periodicals

Most of the periodicals and serials of Kentish interest are taken and back files maintained e.g. Archaeologia Cantiana, Kent Life, Bygone Kent.

Canterbury

The library has a comprehensive collection on the City of Canterbury.

a) Standard Works

Books including Somner, W. The antiquities of Canterbury, Gostling, W. A walk in and about the City of Canterbury, Urry, W. Canterbury under the Angevin Kings, are in stock.

Many specialist topics are well-represented including archaeology, planning, architecture.

There is a comprehensive collection on Catherbury Cathedral.

b) Lists of Inhabitants

Sources listing inhabitants include directories, poll-books, electoral rolls and lists of Freemen. The library has the 1841 - 1881 Census Returns on microfilm for the Canterbury area.

c) Newspapers

The Kentish Gazette from 1768 to date and The Kentish Post 1726 - 1768 are available on microfilm. Original copies of some of the other local newspapers are held. An extensive file of local press cuttings is maintained.

d) Maps

These include historic plans of the City, the 1:500 scale Ordnance Survey plan (c1874) of Canterbury, modern Ordnance Survey 1:1250 (50 inch) maps and pre-war Insurance Plans.

Illustrations

Illustrations are collected, including photographs of older properties demolished for modern development or destroyed during World War II.

f) Genealogy

As well as the main guides to the study of family history, the library contains Indexes to wills and the Canterbury Marriage Licences and several Parish Register Transcripts.

g) Special Collection of Music

The library contains the music scores used by the Canterbury Catch Club, a male voice choir which flourished in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. A prior appointment should be made to consult this collection.

Catalogues, Indexes and Guides

There is an author/title/subject catalogue to the book and pamphlet collection and a separate map catalogue.

The library also has a comprehensive index, county-wide in scope, to the contents of periodicals and some of the books in its collection. There is no complete index to the Newspapers at the present time.

The printed guides to the contents of the Public Record Office and the Kent Archives Office are also available for consultation.

Additional useful publications to be found in the library are 'The Kent Bibliography' and 'Supplement' which lists books and pamphlets available in libraries throughout Kent, 'Kent Directories Located' and the 'Bibliography of British Newspapers. Kent' which list respectively directories and newspapers, together with their locations.