

Norfolk Heritage Centre Map Guide

No.	Series / Name	Scale	Imp scale	Metric scale	Year	Purpose / Coverage	Availability at Norfolk Heritage Centre	How do I find it?
1	OS 1inch	1:63360	1in : 1m		1830's to 2 nd world war in some cases	The original OS reliable general purpose UK maps. Not large enough scale to show detailed urban change but county wide road systems, railways, general growth of towns etc.	All Norfolk covered for a wide timespan	
2	6 inch	1:10560	6in : 1m	9.5cm : 1km	1 st ed 1882-7 2 nd ed 1902-7	More detail than (1), e.g. roughly 400 maps cover Norfolk and four maps cover current Norwich urban area, but only major street names shown for cities.	Almost complete Norfolk coverage of both series	Big Map Key
3	6 inch	1:10560	6in : 1m	9.5cm : 1km	1950's, 60's version of (2) using T? grid numbers	As above	Virtually all Norfolk	Small Map Key
4	1:10000	1:10000		10cm : 1km	Superseded (3) from 1960's – 90's	As above	Virtually all Norfolk	Small Map Key
5	25 inch Note: not exactly 25inches to a mile	1:2500	25.344in : 1m	40cm : 1km	A – 1882-7 B – 1902-7 C - 1913 D – 1926-27 E – 1937 F – 1938	Use for detailed historical information on streets in cities, towns, villages, field boundaries etc. Not all streets named in Norwich	We have mainly A & B for county, more for Norwich. Coverage shown on key map. Unfortunately no photocopying is allowed of these maps - tracing only	Big Map Key
6	25 inch	1:2500 1:1250		40cm : 1km	1945 onwards	Continuation of (5) above. Many urban areas are at 1:1250 scale.	For most of Norfolk at least 1 post war map.	Ask at desk
7	Superplan	1:1250		80cm : 1km 1cm:12.5m	Late 1980's on.	Really large scale maps of mainly Norwich and other urban areas. Use for property boundaries especially.	Norwich. Other areas shaded on 1:50000 key map in public map drawer.	Small Map Key
8	1:500	1:500		200cm : 1km 1cm : 5m	1882 - 7	The most detailed maps we have. Show street names in urban areas, even trees! Only available for Norwich, Dereham, Kings Lynn, Thetford, Yarmouth.	Not complete for Yarmouth. No copying – tracing/digital photography only	Big Map Key

Note: 1 mile = 1760 yards = 5280 feet = 63360 inches

Using the Map Keys to find which map you want

1. The two most important details to establish are **when** and **what detail** is required, which will inform which scale map is required. Use the chart above to work out which map series will be the most useful.

We have many other maps available to consult – the above are only the most regularly used. Examples include footpath maps, geological surveys, land use maps and tithe maps, plus older historical maps and prospects. Many of these are listed in the purple and green index folders. Please ask staff for help.

2. Next, once you decide what map series you want, you need to find the **map number** that the place is on in order to request the map from the Heritage Centre stored collection. The old maps use one numbering series and newer post war maps use OS's current system based on a grid of **T? numbers** covering the whole country and **grid references** within those T? numbers.

Which **numbering series** is it? There is a relationship between the numbering for the old 6 inch (1:10560), the 1:2500 (25 inch) maps and the 1:500 maps and between the newer post war 6 inch (1:10560), the 1:10000, 1:2500 and 1:1250 (superplan) maps. The 1st 2 editions of the 6inch (1:10560), 1:2500 (25 inch) and 1:500 maps use the same (older) base numbering system. The newer 6 inch (1:10560), 1:10000 series (which replaced the 1:10560), 1:2500 (postwar) and 1:1250 (superplan) both use the more modern grid system based on T? letters.

1:10560 (6 inch) First 2 editions

1. Go to the **big map key** on top of the map drawer.
2. The county is divided into a series of **numbered rectangles**. Find which number rectangle your place is in and this is the **number of the 1:10560 sheet required**.
3. Each number is then broken down into a **NW, NE, SW, and SE map** (based on compass directions), so note which of these you require (each map is 4 of the smaller boxes). The maps are labelled in Roman numerals so if you want the NW map of sheet 63 then you want LXIII NW.
4. Choose which edition you require.

1:10000 (loosely called 6 inch) and post war 6 inch (1:10560)

1. Use the **smaller map key** that says 'Map guide for 1:10000 scale maps' in the top right.
2. Find which **T? letter** the place is in - e.g. Aylsham is in TG. The **square numbers** within that T? number are written on the map in the centre of the square - e.g. Aylsham is in TG12. As with the 6inch maps, each sheet is split into 4 physical maps labelled **NW, NE, SW, SE** so you need to decide which part of the sheet you need. This is then the number of the map you want – e.g. Aylsham TG12 NE.

3. If you don't know exactly where your place is and it isn't on the key map the easiest thing to do is to ask staff to look up the place in the '**Gazetteer of Norfolk Place-names**' (produced by Norfolk Museums Service) behind the desk. This then gives you the T? number and the grid number, eg. TG20. This is the 1:10000 sheet that you need, and you can either guess which of the four (NW, NE etc.) maps it is on, or ask staff to work it out from the 1km grid reference given in the Gazetteer.

1:2500 (25 inch) pre war

1. Go to the **big map key** on the top of the map drawer.
2. Each 1:2500 map is roughly 4 times more detailed than a 1:10560 sheet, so each sheet is broken down into 4 by 4 squares - i.e. 16 1:2500 maps numbered 1-16 from top left to bottom right. Assess which of these **16 squares** your location is in and add this number to the main sheet number.
3. Choose which edition you require.

1:2500 (25 inch) & 1:1250 post war

The coverage of these maps has been marked up in a copy of Philips 'Norfolk Street Atlas' – please ask staff for help.

1:1250 (Superplan)

The superplan maps follow **the same T? grid as the 1:10000 maps** although it may not seem like it at first. Each sheet number on the 1:10000 key is a 10km by 10km square. Each superplan sheet is a 1km by 1km square. Each superplan sheet is broken down into 4 500m by 500m maps. The key to understanding the superplan numbers is that you need an "**easting number**" and a "**northing number**" within the T? grid. This is the number of km east and north from the bottom left corner of the whole T? grid, e.g. TG00.

To find a place in Norwich either ask staff to use the Norwich A-Z street atlas in the 'Maps and Plans' holder behind the desk or the newer Philips Norfolk Street Atlas, or use the laminated Norwich street map on top of the cabinet drawer. See example below.

1:500

1. Go to the key map for the town you are after on or in the public map drawers (2nd draw down 1:500 key maps), e.g. Norwich.
2. The 1:500 map numbers are extensions of the 1:2500 numbers. Norwich city is covered by mainly LXIII.11 (63.11) and LXIII.15 (63.15) at 1:2500. The 1:500 maps are 5 times more detailed than the 1:2500 maps and so 1 map from 1:2500 equates to 5 by 5, i.e. 25 maps at 1:500. These are numbered from 1-25 from top left to bottom right. Choose which of the 25 maps your place is in.
3. Add this to the main 1:2500 number. e.g. LXIII.11.2.

A Superplan Example: Junction of Town House Road and The Street in Old Costessey.

Using the A-Z or Norfolk Street Atlas

1. Look up Town House Road in the index and go to the correct page and square number of the road. Find the junction of the 2 roads.
2. Look westwards across the page and note the first vertical numbered line – 17. Now go south to the first numbered horizontal line – 11.
3. The convergence of these 2 lines is the bottom left corner of the superplan sheet TG1711 which is a 1km by 1km square. There are grid lines in between each 1km line to create 4 500m by 500m squares each of which is a superplan map. Our junction is in the NW of these 4 squares and so we want superplan TG1711 NW.

Laminated plan

The same procedure as for the A-Z. As with the A-Z the grid pattern on the plan is 500m by 500m squares which equate to individual superplan maps.

Gazetteer

The gazetteer behind the desk also contains the 1km grid reference and hence the superplan sheet number for locations in Norfolk.

1. Look up Costessey . The entry shows it is on 1:10000 sheet TG11 and has grid reference TG1711.
2. The grid reference is the 1km by 1km superplan sheet that Costessey is on.
3. Work out which map of the 4 in that sheet you want - you could ask staff to go to the actual maps in the stack and look at which of the NW, NE, SW, SE the junction is on or use the A-Z or laminated plan for further detail. The gazetteer does not index Norwich streets.

For areas other than Norwich there is a map in the public map drawers (1:50000 sheets and superplan key) that shows what we have. If an area is shaded then we have superplan maps, e.g. Acle. You can then guess roughly which plan is required by estimating the easting and northing km's or look it up in the gazetteer.