



## Church of England Record Centre & Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide Maps

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The bulk of the map collections are held at the Church of England Record Centre.



## 1 General Information

Ecclesiastical Commissioners Maps is a collection of over 10,000 maps related to the Ecclesiastical/Church Commissioners work.

- Firstly maps drawn up when the Ecclesiastical Commissioners took over the running of the Church estates in the mid nineteenth century and should be examined in conjunction with the relevant survey of the area.
- Secondly maps drawn up to show the creation of new parish areas out of existing ones.
- Thirdly maps of local church property - glebe, church sites, churchyards, parsonage sites.
- Fourthly copies of tithe maps and finally maps reflecting pastoral re-organisation in the twentieth century.

All the maps apart from the tithe maps were in the care of the Church Commissioners Property Investment Department until 2000 when they were transferred to the Record Centre. The tithe maps came to light as part of a survey of the Centre's holdings. Some maps listed in the main sequence were transferred to CERC from the mapping department in 2014.

## 2 Formats

- Printed ordnance survey maps (of various scales) with various markings/colourings/annotations
- Hand drawn and coloured maps on paper lined with cloth or tracing lined with cloth
- Waxed tracing paper or tracing paper

## 3 Particular series in greater detail

### 3. General series: Reference ECE/11/1/

This series, created before other series were added to the collection, falls into four distinctive groups:

#### 3.1.1 Survey maps

Maps drawn up when the Ecclesiastical Commissioners took over the running of the Church's estates in the mid nineteenth century and should be examined in



conjunction with the relevant survey of the area (ECE/6/1) series and occasionally relevant five figure file (ECE/7/1).

Most of those maps are hand drawn, coloured and annotated, apart from Edwardian surface sheets which are regular, printed Ordnance Survey maps later marked and annotated. Some of the hand drawn maps might be copies of tithe maps used for purposes of survey of particular estates when being taken over by the Commissioners. Numbers on the plots correspond to listing in relevant survey volumes.

### **3.1.2 New parish boundaries maps**

This group of c. 950 maps was drawn up to show the creation of new parish areas out of existing ones, which was a result of transferring the power to form new parishes to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in the years 1843-1856.

### **3.1.3 Local church property maps**

This group consists of the following:

- Maps of glebe land (60 items)
- Plans of church sites (300 items)
- Plans of churchyards (8 items)
- Plans of parsonage sites (30 items)

### **3.1.4 Copies of tithe maps (1,350 items)**

## **3.2 Urban estate maps including Public Houses: Reference ECE/11/5/**

Maps accumulated and used by the Estates Department throughout its existence.

Most of the maps in this collection of 404 items cover the area of London as the majority of the urban estates owned and managed by the Commissioners was located in London providing 97% of income from this type of property.

Standard Ordnance Survey maps were most often used with property owned and managed by the Commissioners marked in colour with relevant deed, lease terms and ECE/7/1 [five figure files] names inscribed. Numbers inscribed on property that are preceded with D are deed numbers, numbers preceded with F are ECE/7/1 file numbers and numbers without letters inscribed on the property are most likely lease numbers.



As the maps were in constant use for decades they also often bear other annotations describing particular transactions a given map illustrates.

### **3.3 Pastoral reorganisation maps: Reference ECE/11/6/**

This collection consisting of 3,163 items is different but relates to the new parish boundaries maps group from the general series (see 3.1.2). It falls into two subseries of one inch to mile and six inches to mile maps illustrating changes to parish boundaries during 19th and 20th century.

#### **3.3.1. Collection of 1 inch to 1 mile maps pre dating the Ordnance Survey.**

Published by Lt Col William Mudge in 1820. Reference ECE/11/6/1. The maps have various pencil annotations on them including existing and proposed parish and deaneries boundaries. Most probably the maps have been used as a reference for marking up the later 6 inch to mile county series with parish boundaries (ECE/11/6/2). Some maps also include new parishes boundaries marked in red. Please note that maps have been used at least until 1920s as the latest annotations come from that period.

3.3.2 Collection of six inches to mile ordnance survey maps used for marking boundaries of Church of England parishes in England. Boundaries shown are the ancient parish boundaries and boundaries of parishes created from the first half of the 19th century until the 1960s. The new parishes started to be created after the reform of the Church administration of the 1830s and the process accelerated when powers of creation of new parishes and unification of existing ones were gradually transferred to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners between 1848 and 1856. Maps are arranged by county. There is a PDF of list of parishes in the county giving the relevant sheet numbers attached to each online catalogue entry.

## **4 Potential research value**

Maps can provide a valuable source or finding aid for a variety of research relating to architectural and urban history, local history and the changing relationship between the Church and the society it served.

In particular they can provide wealth of information on the following subjects:

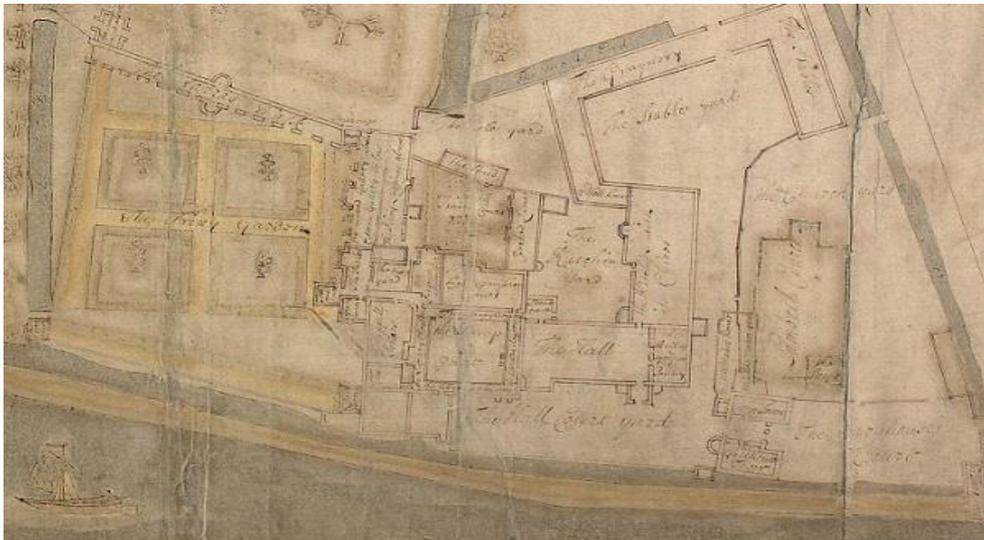
- History of the Church as landowner
- Structure, organisation and evolution of the Church estates and manors
- Agricultural history
- Urban development history
- Architectural history
- Creation and evolution of parish boundaries



In addition, it should be noted that the maps themselves act as finding aids to other types of material (e.g. deeds and ECE/7/1 files) as they give cross-references to other categories of document for which the finding-aids can be defective.

## 5 Maps at Lambeth Palace Library

Map holdings within the Library collection are small by comparison with those at the Church of England Record Centre. They principally comprise maps of the Archbishops' estates within the Temporalities archive, mainly referenced TD. The TD series comprises some 350 maps dating from the 1620s to the 1860s. They cover in particular properties in Kent but also include other counties such as Surrey, Buckinghamshire and Lancashire. Plans for Lambeth Palace itself include a 1700 copy of a map made in 1648 (ref: TD 216). After the death of Archbishop Sumner in 1862 the archiepiscopal estates were administered by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners rather than the Archbishop's officials.



Plan of Lambeth Palace, Lambeth Palace Library (fragment)

TD 216

## 6 Related information

For information on plans within the collections, see the Research Guide on Architectural History.

For more background on property holdings, see the Research Guide on Church Property.



*This book bought by  
St. John's College  
Oxford 1921*

LAMBETH PALACE LIBRARY



Fulham Estate Map CERC (fragment)

ECE/11/5/42