Introduction

This is a guide to maps, air photos, city directories, and resources that will be useful in your assignment that are available at York University Libraries, the Toronto Reference Library, and key websites published by archives, libraries, and the City of Toronto. The URL to this guide is: http://researchguides.library.yorku.ca/sosc2710maps/

York University Libraries

In this assignment you will have to use the Map Library collection extensively. The Map Library is open Monday to Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM. The Map Library website is located at: http://www.library.yorku.ca/web/map/. The Map Library email is gislib@yorku.ca.

Intersection Kit

For the purposes of this assignment, the staff at the Map Library have created a starting “map kit” for each intersection. The kits are on reserve at the Map Library Service Desk for a period of 2 hours. You may copy, photograph, or scan the contents of the kit. Each kit has maps, fire insurance plans, and air photos from several decades.

Fire Insurance Plans (FIP)

Fire insurance plans provide detailed information about buildings and neighbourhoods. They can be used to determine when a building was built or demolished, details of building materials, position of building on lot, lot and address numbers, and lot sizes and shapes.

Where and How to Find Fire Insurance Plans at York University Libraries

- Insurance plan of the City of Toronto. 1923. Print copies are available in the kit for most of the assigned intersections (not all intersections have Fire Insurance Plans for 1923). To see black and white version go to Map Cabinet #70, Map Library. http://arcg.is/1TYaYjY. The digital version: https://bit.ly/2AHp8Ff
- For a complete guide to Fire Insurance Plans at York University please consult this website: http://researchguides.library.yorku.ca/fips.

Where and How to Find Fire Insurance Plans beyond York University

- The City of Toronto Archives has fire insurance plans ONLINE of Toronto from 1880 to 1924. To view these plans go to this site: https://bit.ly/2RxXAII
- The Toronto Reference Library has extensive collection of Fire Insurance Plans...much more than York University Libraries! Before you visit the TRL, please consult the complete listing of their collection, located at this url: https://bit.ly/1TYb6ji
- The University of Toronto also has an extensive collection for more information go to: https://mdl.library.utoronto.ca/collections/maps-atlases/fire-insurance-plans
Air Photos

- **York University Map Library, Air Photo Collection.** We have a collection of Air photos of Toronto region for 1954, 1971, 1976, 1978, and 1982. The air photos are in print only and are located at the Map Library in the black filing cabinets to the left of the computers. The air photo indexes located [online](https://www.library.yorku.ca/web/map/collections/airphotos) have the flight line, and image numbers which help you identify the location of the air photos.
- **Greater Toronto Area Air Photos. 1964. University of Toronto Map Library.** [http://maps.library.utoronto.ca/cgi-bin/datainventory.pl?idnum=12&display=full](http://maps.library.utoronto.ca/cgi-bin/datainventory.pl?idnum=12&display=full)

Toronto Photo Maps & Orthophotos

The York University Map Library has photo maps of Toronto. A photo map is a map sized large scale air photo which shows detailed features such as buildings and trees. To determine which sheet number you need, please consult the indexes in the map cabinet drawer or [online](https://www.library.yorku.ca/web/map/collections/photomaps). This is the list of photo maps we have:

- **1954 Photo Maps.** Map Cabinet #25, Call Number G/3521/A4/15/1954
- **1974 Photo Maps.** Map Cabinet #29, Call Number G/3524/T6 A4/4/1974

Property Data Maps

**Property Data Maps** depict buildings, railway lines, major watercourses, curbs, hydrants, streetlights/poles, addresses, street names, park names, property lines, and much more. The Map Library has Property Data Maps covering the years 1966, 1982, 2003, and 2008. To determine which sheet number you need, consult the indexes in the map cabinet drawer or within the book. Below is a list of the series we have:

- **1966.** Print format. City of Toronto. Map Cabinet #34, Call Number G3524/T62 G43/1/1966
- **1982.** Print format. North York. Map Cabinet #34, Call Number 3524/T67 G46/2/1982
- **1998.** Print format. City of Toronto. Map Cabinet #34, Call Number G3524/T62 G46 2 1998
- **2002.** Print format. North York & Toronto. Map Cabinet #33/#34, Call Number G/3524/T61 G46/2/2002
- **2013/2014/2015.** Digital. Toronto Interactive Maps. [http://map.toronto.ca/maps/map.jsp?app=TorontoMaps_v2](http://map.toronto.ca/maps/map.jsp?app=TorontoMaps_v2) Zoom into your neighbourhood to get a detailed map of your area of interest.
Other Maps and Books at the York University Map Library

- City of Toronto and Toronto Metropolitan Maps can be found in Map Cabinets #31-34
- City of North York Maps can be found in map cabinet #35
- General Maps of the City of Toronto (1700s – present). Map Cabinet # 34. 3524/T62/A1
- Toronto. 1:126,000 [Regional Map of Toronto, 1926]. Map Cabinet #13. G3400 126 30M/NW
- The Toronto guide: the city, the fringe, the region. Map Library Service Desk: FC/3097.18/ R44/2002
- Your guide to Toronto neighbourhoods. Map Library Service Desk: FC/3097.18/Y98/V.1

Toronto City Directories

Might’s Metropolitan Toronto City Directory – 1876-1999. Print format. Located in the Scott Library, 3rd Floor. FC 3097.18 M53. [http://www.library.yorku.ca/find/Record/10415](http://www.library.yorku.ca/find/Record/10415). Note: York University doesn’t have directories for each year. The directories are also available online from ~ 1830s to 1922 at [http://torontofamilyhistory.org/researching-toronto-ancestors/city-directories/](http://torontofamilyhistory.org/researching-toronto-ancestors/city-directories/)

Citation Guides

It is important to cite/reference maps for your assignment. Here are a couple of resources that can help you out:

- Cartographic Citations : a style guide. Located at the Map Library Service Desk, Z 6021 K65 2010. Very detailed and can be used for just about any map.

Toronto Reference Library – Toronto Public Library

Depending on your intersection and the time period that you are researching, you may have to go beyond the York University Libraries and venture downtown to the Toronto Reference Library.

**Location**: Toronto Reference Library (Toronto Public Library), 789 Yonge Street (located one block north of Bloor and Yonge, Bloor Subway Station)


**Getting Assistance**: The librarians on the second floor of the Reference Library can assist you with finding city directories, fire insurance plans, property data maps, books about Toronto and specific neighbourhoods, and government documents published by the City of Toronto and North York.

Useful Websites

- Local History: Toronto Neighbourhoods - [http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/history-genealogy/lh-toronto-neighbourhoods.jsp](http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/history-genealogy/lh-toronto-neighbourhoods.jsp). Browse by a map or neighbourhood for books, pictures, and maps.
- City of Toronto Archives. Digitized photos. [http://www.toronto.ca/archives/](http://www.toronto.ca/archives/). The Toronto Archives is the municipal archives for the city. There are over one million photographs of Toronto in our collection, as well as tens of thousands of maps, plans and architectural drawings.
- Scholars Geoportal – [http://www.library.yorku.ca/e/resolver/id/1948733](http://www.library.yorku.ca/e/resolver/id/1948733) Online Map and Imagery Portal of Ontario (and beyond); also includes current imagery and map information about Toronto.

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