



The County Road Records

The County Road Records comprise: The County Road Maps & The List of Streets

The County Road Maps

The predecessors of the records currently in use were compiled in the 1930s, such that they pre-date the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way by some 25 years. They were not submitted for local consultation to the same degree as the Definitive Maps; as a consequence, whereas the Definitive Maps are “conclusive evidence as to what they contain”, the Road Maps do not enjoy this status and form only contributory evidence.

There are 5 volumes of 1:10,000 Ordnance Survey sheets relating broadly to the District Council areas: North and South Cotswolds, Forest, Tewkesbury, and Southern. In addition, the urban areas of Stroud, Nailsworth, Dursley, Cinderford, Tewkesbury, Cirencester, Gloucester and Cheltenham are covered by 1:2500 / 1:1250 OS sheets kept in separate volumes.

The List of Streets

Each highway is numbered on the Maps (currently excepting Cheltenham and Gloucester), and the number recorded in the ‘List of Streets’, which the County Council, as Highway Authority, is required to keep under Section 36 of the Highways Act 1980. The list is kept in highway number order, and is therefore not as ‘user-friendly’ as the maps.

Is a particular piece of land part of the highway?

A limitation of the road maps is that their small scale does not permit the accurate determination of the status of small areas or lengths of land. In such cases, it is necessary to consult some, or all, of the following:

- The Definitive Map & Statement
- Adoption records for recently constructed estate roads (available for inspection by appointment with Highway Records)
- The relevant Stakeholder Manager and Area Highways Representative at Glos. Highways.
- Previous editions of Ordnance Survey maps (available for inspection at Glos. Archives at Alvin Street, Gloucester).
- 1910 Finance Act Map, Enclosure Award Tithe Award maps (available for inspection at Glos. Archives at Alvin Street, Gloucester).
- The Register of Common Land & Village Land (available for inspection by appointment with County Legal Services).
- Earlier County Road Maps & the List of Streets (available for inspection by appointment with Highway Records).

Highway Classifications

Class	Colour on Road Maps	Description
1	Red	Classified Principal (A-roads)
2	Blue	Classified Numbered (B-roads)
3	Yellow	Classified 'Un-numbered'
4	Green	Unclassified (village loop roads, housing estate roads, and roads serving local traffic.)
5	Brown	Unclassified (metalled carriageway roads for wheeled traffic, consisting of unimportant accommodation roads or cul-de-sacs serving a few properties only. Newly constructed cycleways are adopted as Class V highways)
6	Black	Unclassified (when the highway records were compiled in the 1930's, the County Surveyor of the time listed these highways as "unmetalled tracks, bridle roads, and public footways maintainable by the County Council, <u>but not including those suitable for wheeled traffic</u> ". Notwithstanding the subsequent publication of the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way maps in the 1950's, the understanding is that Class VI highways do not normally carry vehicular rights. This can, of course, be rebutted by evidence to the contrary. This group of highways now also includes the footpaths associated with new housing developments).