



Geological Surveys: A Guide

Most countries have a national Geological Survey, which studies the geology of the parent country and produces reports. Physical copies of geological survey reports are issued as monographs (bound books) but in numbered series like journals. To reflect this different format, geological surveys are kept in a separate section from other geology material, in the same area of the Library. The shelf mark on the spine of the book will read GEO/SUR.

You should be able to find most British Geological Surveys using Library Search and entering the author's surname and selected keywords from the title. US, Canadian and other international geological surveys are often not listed on Library Search. You may find it quicker to look on the shelves at the relevant location.

Where geological surveys are divided into series (usually memoirs and bulletins), you need to know the series and number of the geological survey you are interested in. If you do not have this information you can find it by conducting a search on the database GeoRef (see the Databases A-Z or the Geology My Subject page) or by consulting the geological surveys website for the appropriate country, if one is available.

See the following geographical sections on Britain, America and Canada and the rest of the world for more information on referencing styles, formats and locations.

For further help and information on Geological Surveys or Geology please contact librarians@le.ac.uk

British Geological Surveys

All of the British Geological Surveys held by the Library are kept in the Geological Surveys section 554-554.3. Some of the older British Geological Surveys are not listed on Library Search but all of them can be found on the shelves.

They are divided into sections as follows:

- Geological Surveys covering England & Wales - Geo/Sur 554.2 - 554.236
- Geological Surveys covering Scotland - Geo/Sur 554.13 - 554.131
- Geological Surveys covering Ireland - Geo/Sur 554.15
- Geological Surveys covering Northern Ireland - Geo/Sur 554.16

Surveys are usually arranged alphabetically according to place name within sub-sections of these shelf marks.

For some series you will need to locate the title of the series in Library Search and then locate the correct volume, as with a paper journal. These are the *Annual report of the Institute of Geological Sciences*, *Report of the British Geological Survey*, *Report of the Geological Survey Board* and *Summary of Progress of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and the Museum of Practical Geology*.

British Geological Survey References

A typical British Geological Survey reference looks like this:

Howells, M.F. Geology of the Country around Snowdon: Memoir for 1:50 000 geological sheet 119 (England & Wales), British Geological Survey: HMSO, London, 1997

This is in the format:

Author. Geological Survey Title: Series Title (Place), British Geological Survey: Publisher, Place & Year of publication

US & Canadian Geological Surveys

All of the Geological Surveys of the United States and Canada held by the Library are kept in the Geological Surveys area at 557 - 557.97. Some states receive minimal or no coverage; however, there are geological survey holdings for a number of key states. It is recommended that you examine the collection for yourself to appreciate its relative strengths.

General United States of America Geological surveys are at shelf mark **Geo/Sur 557 UNI**. This includes the *Aggregate Resources Inventory Papers, Bulletin, Bureau of Mines Circulars, Journal of Research (1973-78)* and *Professional Papers*. Individual state collections are shelved as per the table below.

State	Shelf Mark	State	Shelf Mark
Alabama	Geo/Sur 557.61	New Hampshire	Geo/Sur 557.42
California	Geo/Sur 557.94	New Mexico	Geo/Sur 557.89
Georgia	Geo/Sur 557.58	North Carolina	Geo/Sur 557.56
Idaho	Geo/Sur 557.96	Ohio	Geo/Sur 557.71
Illinois	Geo/Sur 557.73	Oklahoma	Geo/Sur 557.66
Indiana	Geo/Sur 557.72	Pennsylvania	Geo/Sur 557.48
Iowa	Geo/Sur 557.77	South Carolina	Geo/Sur 557.57
Kansas	Geo/Sur 557.81	Tennessee	Geo/Sur 557.68
Kentucky	Geo/Sur 557.69	Texas	Geo/Sur 557.64
Louisiana	Geo/Sur 557.63	Utah	Geo/Sur 557.92
Maryland	Geo/Sur 557.52	Virginia	Geo/Sur 557.55
Montana	Geo/Sur 557.86	West Virginia	Geo/Sur 557.54
Nevada	Geo/Sur 557.93	Wyoming	Geo/Sur 557.87

General Canadian Geological Surveys are at shelf mark **Geo/Sur 557.1 CAN**. This includes the *Bulletin, Memoirs, Papers and Reports*. Ontario has a separate Geological Survey which issues the *Deposits Circular, Miscellaneous Papers, Northern Ontario Engineering Geology Terrain Studies, Reports and Studies*. Publications on Newfoundland are at shelf mark Geo/Sur 557.18 and on Quebec are at Geo/Sur 557.14.

US & Canadian Survey Series

Many of the recent US Geological Surveys are also available free online at: <http://www.usgs.gov/>
The following historical geological surveys can be found at Geological Surveys 557 - 557.1 on the first floor:

- US Geological Survey, Monographs, 1892 (XX) - 1906 (L)
- US Geological Survey, Annual Reports, 1880 (2) - 1903 (24)
- US Geological Survey, Bulletin, No. 141 (1904) - 1289 (1980's)
- US Geological Survey, Professional Papers, No. 3 (1903) - 665 (1960's) Some missing
- US Geological Survey, Water Supply Papers, No. 232 (1909) - 2174 (1970-1974)
- Canada Geological Survey, Bulletin, No. 1 (1945) - 170 (1969)
- Canada Geological Survey, Memoirs, Some pre-1950's, No. 289 (1950's) - 354 (1962)
- Canada Geological Survey, Papers, No. 56-1 (1950's) - 69-55 (1970)
- Ontario, Department of Mines, Geological Report, No. 1 (1960) - 78 (1969)

US Geological Survey References

A typical US Geological Survey reference looks like this:

United States Geological Survey, Implications for earthquake risk reduction in the United States from the Kocaeli, Turkey earthquake of August 17, 1999. United States Geological Survey Circular; 1193. United States Government Printing Office: Washington, 2000

This is in the format:

Author. Geological Survey Title. Series; Number. Publisher: Place & Year of publication

Note that in the above example the US Geological Survey is a corporate, rather than individual, author.

Geological Surveys in the Rest of the World

The Library holds a small number of geological surveys from other countries; ranging from a single item to larger series. It is recommended that you examine the collection for yourself to appreciate its relative strengths.

Surveys in the collection are divided into sections, by country, as follows:

Area	Country	Shelf mark	Area	Country	Shelf mark
Africa	Botswana	Geo/Sur 556.81	Europe	Belgium	Geo/Sur 554.93
	Ghana	Geo/Sur 556.67		Finland	Geo/Sur 554.71
	Kenya	Geo/Sur 556.762		Italy	Geo/Sur 554.5
	Libya	Geo/Sur 556.12		Norway	Geo/Sur 554.81
	Malawi	Geo/Sur 556.897		Portugal	Geo/Sur 554.69
	Namibia	Geo/Sur 556.88		Sicily	Geo/Sur 554.58
	Nigeria	Geo/Sur 557.69		Sweden	Geo/Sur 554.85
	Sierra Leone	Geo/Sur 556.64	Middle East	Bahrain	Geo/Sur 555.369
	Somalia	Geo/Sur 556.77		Cyprus	Geo/Sur 555.645
	South Africa	Geo/Sur 556.8		Egypt	Geo/Sur 556.2
	Sudan	Geo/Sur 556.24	North America	See separate section	
	Swaziland	Geo/Sur 556.83	South America	Argentina	Geo/Sur 558.2
	Tanzania	Geo/Sur 556.782		Brazil	Geo/Sur 558.1
	Uganda	Geo/Sur 556.761		Columbia	Geo/Sur 558.61
	Zambia	Geo/Sur 556.894		Peru	Geo/Sur 558.5
	Zimbabwe	Geo/Sur 556.891	Oceania	Australia	Geo/Sur 559.4
Asia	India	Geo/Sur 555.4		New Zealand	Geo/Sur 559.31
	Japan	Geo/Sur 555.2		Fiji	Geo/Sur 559.611
	Malaysia	Geo/Sur 555.95	Greenland	-	Geo/Sur 559.82