

The Library offers:

- * A friendly welcome for all visitors
- * Expert advice
- * Superb research facilities for the New Forest's past
- * Items not available from other sources
- * Microfiche readers
- * On-line computer
- * Information by telephone, post or e-mail
- * Group, school and student visits welcome by arrangement
- * Research service at £25 per hour

Entry is **FREE** to the Library

Access

Please contact reception

The Library is on the first floor, there is a lift

For more information

Please contact the Librarian, Richard Reeves or Peter Roberts

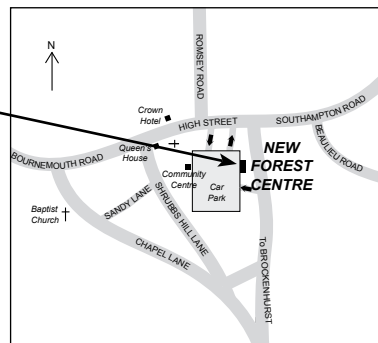
Tel: 02380 286150

E-mail: library@newforestcentre.org.uk

Web site: www.newforestcentre.org.uk

Where to find us

New Forest Centre
High Street
Lyndhurst
Hampshire
SO43 7NY



Car parking

Immediately outside

The Christopher Tower New Forest Reference Library is run by a registered charity (No. 279373) the New Forest Ninth Centenary Trust

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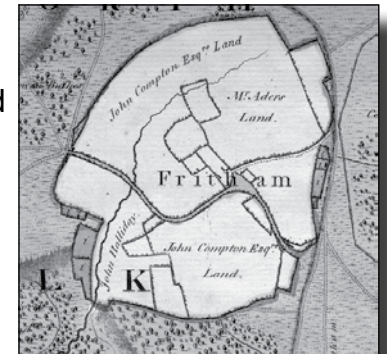
Want to discover more about the New Forest?

Visit the Library at the New Forest Centre

An essential resource for:

Local and family historians, researchers and students - relating to all aspects of:

- * History
- * Archaeology
- * Art
- * Genealogy and family history
- * Topography
- * Natural History
- * Industrial archaeology
- * Commoning
- * Forest history



Fritham in 1787

Opening hours:

Wednesday to Saturday
10 am to 4.30 pm



CHRISTOPHER TOWER NEW FOREST REFERENCE LIBRARY

Books

We probably have the most comprehensive collections of books in the world about all aspects of the New Forest. Although a relatively new library we have benefitted from donations by many people including leading Forest figures whose collections have been made over a life-time. The material ranges from all the editions of the major New Forest works to complete sets of enquiry papers into Dibden Bay, the Shell Oil Enquiry and the National Park.

Guide books, pamphlets, ephemera and booklets play an important part in understanding the New Forest.

Manuscripts and Typescripts

Many people have given us their working papers used in management or research of this unique area.

Maps and Plans

A range of Ordnance Survey maps at varying scales and editions are complemented by Forest surveys from 1787 through some tithe and estate maps to smaller property plans.

Family history

Microfiche and film of parish registers covering christenings, marriages and burials for south west Hampshire are available alongside the 1988 International Genealogical Index for England. Census enumerations for the New Forest parishes covering 1841-1901 are held. Kelly's and biographical directories and dictionaries are also available.



Newspapers cuttings

Comprehensive cuttings files have been made since 1990 with a small number of older newspapers also available. The Times on-line archive covering 1785-1985 is accessible on our computer terminals.

Photographs

We have a range of mostly topographical photographs, many from the 19th century including some from John and Elizabeth Short, pioneer Lyndhurst photographers.

Postcards

There are more than 2,000 cards covering both topographical and individual subjects in the collections.

Paintings, prints, drawings and literature

Depiction of the Forest by artists, travellers and writers adds considerably to an understanding of the area in earlier times. There is an expanding collection of Forest fiction together with (auto)biographies and memoirs from the humble to government ministers.

Property sales catalogues

We have a large number of sales particulars, some dating from the 19th century and covering both large estates and small properties. Many have maps or plans.

Forest management and land use

All the important reports on the New Forest from 1789 to the present day are available including many of the 19th century Commissioners of Woods. The Verderers minute books from 1877-1961 are stored along with records of Forest societies.