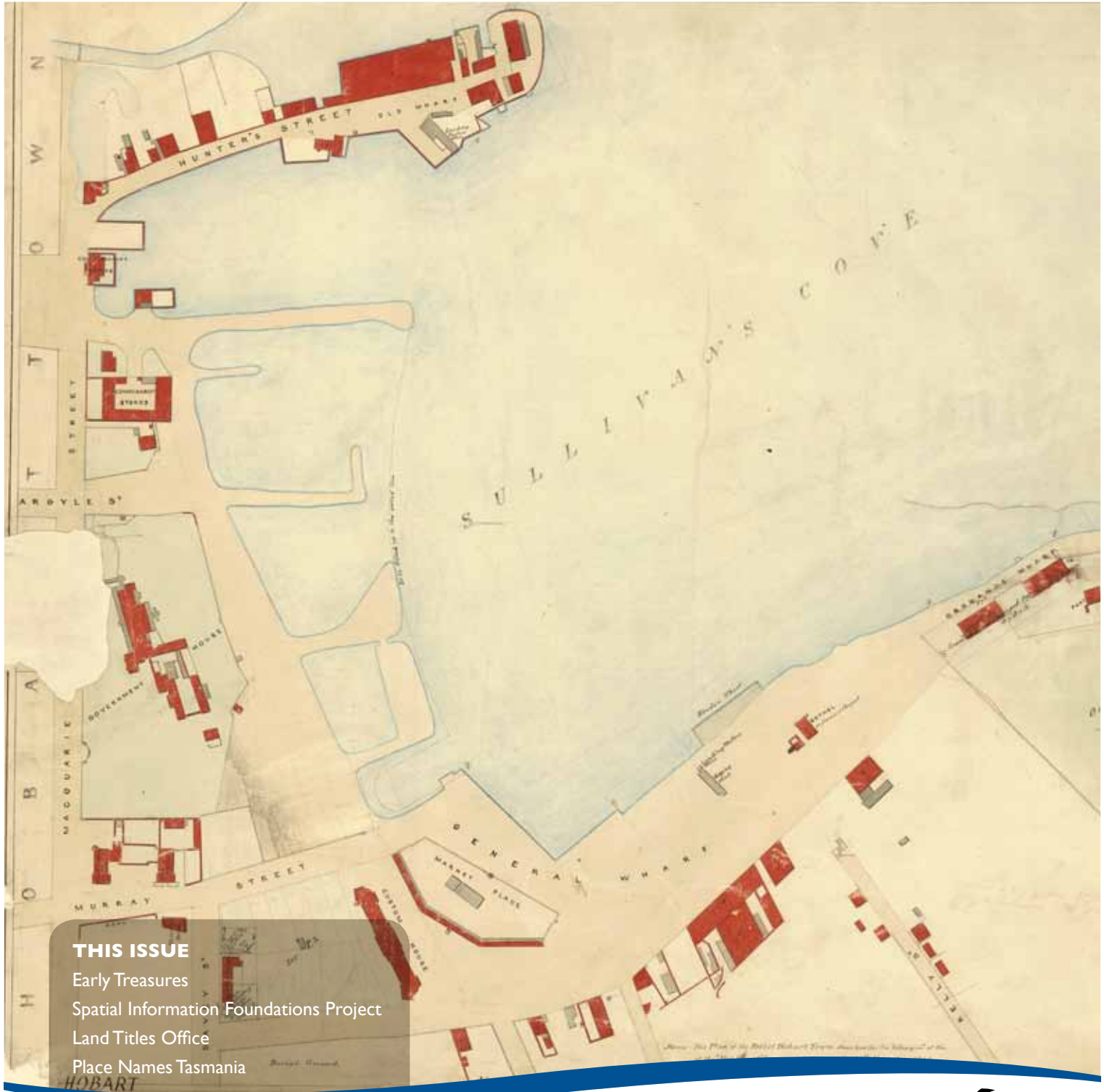


location matters

A *point of reference* for Tasmanian land information



THIS ISSUE

- Early Treasures
- Spatial Information Foundations Project
- Land Titles Office
- Place Names Tasmania



This newsletter is designed, written, edited and produced by the Information and Land Services Division of the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE).

This newsletter aims to provide technical specialists and the general public with interesting articles and news about land information in Tasmania.

We encourage you to provide feedback or ideas for future issues and hope you take advantage of this opportunity to keep in touch. Comments can be emailed to geodata.clientservices@dPIPWE.tas.gov.au

An electronic version of this publication can be found at:

www.dPIPWE.tas.gov.au/locationmatters

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Cover image

Hobart 19, 1840.

This plan depicts the 'Port of Hobart Town' in 1840, showing progress with the reclamation of land for a new wharf area. The plan clarifies the original position of the 'Commissariat Stores' and 'Commissariat Office'. Now part of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery complex, the Commissariat Stores played a vital role in the colony's fledgling economy.



The new edition of Inglis 1:100 000 Series map - available for purchase from Service Tasmania shops, TASMAT resellers and agents, and online at www.tasmap.tas.gov.au

Message from Kate Kent...



When the first edition of *locationmatters* was published in May 2010, I remarked that this was an exciting time to be involved in the spatial industry as the true value of spatial information in planning and decision-making processes was being realised right across private business and public sectors.

Since then, the Tasmanian Government responded to the escalating dependence on spatial information for cost-effective planning, management and delivery of services and infrastructure through investment in the two-year Spatial Information Foundations (SIF) project. Through this improved infrastructure, Tasmania will be better placed to support significant imperatives, including those in emergency management, planning and property addressing. Now past the half-way mark, it is pleasing to see the first project outputs developing, on schedule for delivery by 30 June 2013.

Earlier this year, I experienced the joy of travelling with my family overseas – and the frustration of not having accurate spatial resources: "What do you mean 'I think we're lost'?"

As the use of spatial information becomes more and more ubiquitous in our everyday lives, we don't expect to understand how the data is obtained but we do expect our navigational devices to get us there without incident (or argument). We expect that

the information we are seeking is quickly discoverable, accurate, immediate and – most of all – easy to use.

Over the next year, many of the projects currently underway in the Division will contribute towards making spatial information in Tasmania more accessible, more accurate and easier to use. The wider variety of services accessed through the LIST will be faster and more intuitive. Our emergency services organisations will be better equipped to manage emergency incidents. Place naming processes will be more connected and efficient.

As the year draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the hard-working staff in ILS for their dedication and professionalism in 2012 and wish them and all our clients and colleagues a safe and happy festive season and all the best for 2013.

Kate Kent
General Manager

Information and Land Services Division

Have your say...

locationmatters aims to keep clients and members of the community informed about new developments and progress with existing projects, as well as introduce you to staff and the work they do.

Please take a few minutes to tell us what you think by completing the short questionnaire at www.dPIPWE.tas.gov.au/locationmatters.

Your feedback will help to ensure that we can continue to provide you with timely, relevant information in the most cost-effective format.

This publication has been printed on Revive Pure Silk, which is 100% recycled and is certified carbon neutral. It is manufactured process chlorine free (PCF) by an ISO 14001 certified mill.

Early Treasures...

TASMANIAN
HISTORICAL CHARTS & MAPS
1811-1859

preserving the past for the future

The 'Early Treasures' exhibition in the foyer of Hobart's redeveloped Service Tasmania shop is providing the local community and visitors with a captivating insight into Tasmania's early colonial history.

This fascinating selection of digital reproductions represents just part of a prized collection of historically significant maps, charts and plans that have been preserved, scanned and catalogued, with the originals handed over to the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office for storage in a controlled archival environment.

As far back as 1803, survey plans were prepared and later registered with the former Lands and Surveys Department,

now part of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE). These and many other historic documents have been used as a point of reference by generations of government employees, on a regular basis over many years, providing context for the evolution of land use and development in Tasmania.

While the level of detail varies, many of the 200 year old plans and charts show the position of original residences and government buildings, vegetation, streets and waterways, names of property owners and occupants, sometimes even construction materials.

Hosted by DPIPWE and LINC Tasmania, the exhibition is on display in the Service

Tasmania Shop, on the ground floor of the Lands Building at 134 Macquarie Street, Hobart.

High quality reproductions suitable for framing or laminating, including those featured in the exhibition, may be ordered for purchase through www.tasmap.tas.gov.au.

Below left: Tony Brown, former Director of Mineral Resources Tasmania and Paul O'Halloran MP, Member for Braddon, examining one of the historical charts.

Below right: Paul O'Halloran acknowledges the handover of the original documents to the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office.

Bottom: Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Bryan Green, opening the Early Treasures exhibition.



Spatial

INFORMATION FOUNDATIONS

Project update

The Spatial Information Foundations (SIF)

project is developing a contemporary platform for the distribution of spatial information across all tiers of government and the private sector to facilitate the improved use of spatial information and support key priorities of the Tasmanian Government. This involves parallel implementation of seven inter-dependent sub-projects that rely on a number of common and/or compatible technological components.

Services

The mapping **Services** sub-project is all about developing contemporary web service access to land-related services and spatial information. This means that users and organisations will be able to easily embed configurable maps and spatial analysis functionality into their web-based systems and common GIS software. This technology supports better planning, operational and decision-making capabilities for improved outcomes across government and the broader community. See page 5 for information about the new tiled Tasmanian topographic basemap.

Services includes the development of a Tasmanian Government address validation service that will provide automatic verification and more efficient management of clients' address information and internal business processes.

Mapping

The new web-based **Mapping** interface will provide users with faster, more intuitive access to a wider range of authoritative spatial information, including imagery. The new map interface will make it much simpler for both non-specialist and expert users to discover, browse and download spatial data and services, and create their own maps.

Other features include the ability to consume and display administrative information (such as statistical and social data), customise maps, add a workflow system for extended functionality and implement analysis capabilities.

Access

The **Access** control framework and security sub-project will provide a secure, single sign-in across all new LIST infrastructure and data services. This will provide data suppliers with greater confidence in the security of restricted information, and support reliable, rapid discovery of and access to spatial information and services by a wider range of government and community users.

This upgraded level of security will enhance delivery of the **COP** sub-project, enabling emergency management organisations to share and access critical emergency and incident-related information.

Directory

The new data and services **Directory** will be a web-based application that enables the discovery of spatial data and services and facilitates efficient metadata management activities. The **Directory** will cater for all users, from one-off users with limited spatial knowledge through to experienced spatial technicians and analysts.

By using a simple search interface with an integrated map viewer, users will be able to browse metadata and access the associated spatial data and services. Data custodians will be able to maintain their metadata and manage access permissions to data or services for specific individuals or organisations.

COP

The Common Operating Picture – **COP** – sub-project will deliver a secure interface that brings together emergency management spatial information from a range of different, authoritative data sources and makes this information available via the internet, using desktop and mobile browsers. By sharing real-time and static spatially-enabled information, Tasmania's emergency management organisations will be better equipped to plan, make decisions, respond, manage and help communities recover from emergency incidents.

Within the scope of the SIF Project, development of the **COP** is limited to

bushfire and flood hazards, and incidents requiring major police response. At the end of the project it will be possible to build on this framework to accommodate other incident types.

Cadastre

Moving from a digital to a numeric **Cadastre** involves transition to the use of a survey model for holding and managing property boundary information. Surveyed measurements will be permanently stored with each parcel of land, reducing the effort required for maintenance tasks, the integration of new subdivision information and the alignment of associated information, such as planning schemes. There will also be more opportunities for improving cadastral accuracy and greater efficiencies for internal work processes.

Imagery

The objective of the remotely sensed **Imagery** sub-project is to develop a sustainable strategy for the ongoing acquisition and delivery of imagery of Tasmania to better meet the needs of users.

The use and variety of imagery is increasing, in line with efforts to tackle land use issues such as environmental monitoring and climate change. Better rationalisation and coordination will reduce the costs associated with purchase, storage and distribution.

More information

Additional information about SIF and the seven inter-dependent sub-projects is available on the DPIPWE website at www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/sif.

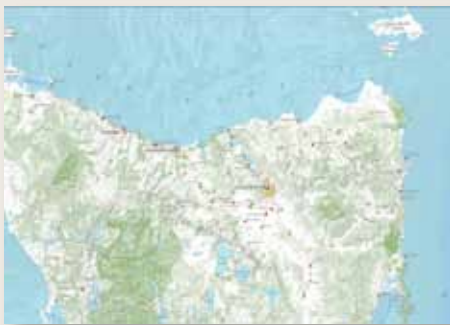
Regular updates on progress will be issued throughout the duration of the project. If you would like to be added to a distribution list to receive this information, please email sif@dpipwe.tas.gov.au.

Technical enquiries may be directed to Michael Harding (03) 6233 3223.

For **general enquiries**, contact Caroline Palfreyman (03) 6216 4476.

Below: A sample of the range of scales and level of detail available through the new Tasmanian topographic basemap.

New Topographic Basemap



A key component

of the Spatial Information Foundations (SIF) project is the development of a new Tasmanian topographic basemap. This new digital product will provide a contemporary basis for generating online maps, underpinning the full range of other dynamic spatial datasets accessible through the LIST.

Thirteen scale levels, from 1:9m to 1:2k

The new basemap will display a significant amount of geographic information in a format that can be easily transmitted via the internet. This will provide specialist government and private sector users and members of the general public with ready access to a high quality reference map suitable for a multitude of uses, with a range of intuitive features and up-to-date functionality.

Development of the basemap has been influenced by a number of advanced mapping products, such as Google Maps, Bing Maps and Esri's ArcGIS online topographic basemap.

How does it work?

Information displayed on the basemap is extracted from existing digital spatial data holdings within LIST and manipulated into an Esri File Geodatabase. The process focuses on simplifying and generalising the data so that the speed of map production is as efficient as possible, while maintaining data accuracy and completeness.

A multi-level ArcMap document combines the extracted and manipulated data to produce statewide coverage over thirteen distinct scale levels. The use of scale levels and modern map caching principles allows integration of the basemap into a wide variety of web mapping applications,

including external users' business systems and processes.

Through the use of simple symbology and annotation, the map production process is highly efficient and features on the map are quickly displayed. The end product is a basemap that is readily produced, easily updated, flexible and useable, but does not detract from other layers of core business information that are the key focus for specialist users, planners and decision-makers.

Map Caching

No matter how simple the map symbology is, or how much you are able to generalise and manipulate datasets, the number of features to be displayed heavily influences the speed at which digital maps can be produced. Add to this the complexity of multiple, simultaneous online map requests, and the end result is that the computing power to quickly process and deliver this data generally outstrips the capabilities of most organisations.

Map caching helps to solve this problem, by pre-processing the map file and creating frozen snapshots of the dynamic basemap at its various scale levels. These snapshots are broken down into 'tiles' and stored as image files that can be delivered to end users and applications much more rapidly.

It is expected that the new topographic basemap will be routinely updated every six weeks, with the flexibility to schedule additional updates to reflect significant changes to datasets or map layout as necessary.

For more information, please contact Mike Harding on (03) 6233 3223.

*Julian Ward
Senior Spatial Information Analyst*



News

from the Land Titles Office



The first grant of land recorded by Tasmania's Land Titles Office was a General Law grant to the Reverend William Bedford in 1832. Along with a plan depicting the location of the grant in Hobart's Liverpool Street, the grant was hand recorded at the time by staff in the Land Titles Office.

The practice of manually recording details of survey plans remained largely unchanged until just seven years ago, with staff using a variety of 'master' maps and charts to note the location of the plans.

In 2005, the Land Titles Office started digitally recording the location of survey plans through the addition of spatial coordinates that are searchable through the LIST.

To complement that work, a comprehensive scanning program was initiated in 2011 to convert survey plan diagrams – and the various maps and charts used to record the location of those plans – into a digital format. To date, over 115,000 plan diagrams and 3,000 maps and charts have been scanned. Deeds Office plans and notes are also currently being digitised.

The eventual goal is that all survey plan documentation held within the Land Titles Office will be available in a digital,

spatially referenced format. This will provide registered land surveyors and other practitioners with easy access to a significant land information resource, while preserving and protecting the original documents.

Tasmanian Online Plan System

The Land Titles Office has also been working on development of a new *Tasmanian Online Plan System (TOPS)* which will enable online lodgement of digital images of survey information (notes and plans). The system has been designed to support workflows between surveyor/solicitor, local government and water authorities, and the Land Titles Office. TOPS provides for the early allocation of plan numbers (title references) and features pre-population of information and email notification to relevant clients at key points in the plan approval and registration process.

TOPS is currently being tested internally and is expected to be released in early 2013.

The long term vision for the Land Titles Office is a land survey information process that can be seamlessly managed 'from field to finish' within a fully digitally enabled environment.

Michael Varney
Manager, Land Titles Office



Left: Plan Sprent's Book Pg. 26, with highlighted area showing the first grant of land to the Reverend William Bedford in 1832.

Find what you need!

Land information
online



the **LIST.**
Land Information System Tasmania.

Providing **all** the information
about **your property**

www.thelist.tas.gov.au



Client Services contact details

Normal operating hours for all client enquiries are

9.00am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday

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Fax (03) 6233 6568

Web via the client request form
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TASMAP

E-mail tasmap@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au

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Place Names Tasmania

Coming soon ...

A streamlined, new web-based system

for the assignment, maintenance and publication of official names for places and geographical features in Tasmania is soon to be released by the Office of the Surveyor General.

Efficient digital processes and systems are being embedded into the new **Place Names Tasmania** website, significantly reducing the resources and time involved in the proposal, assessment and assignment of names to places in Tasmania.

The primary purpose of the website is to maintain and publish a register of official names under the provisions of the *Survey Co-ordination Act 1944*. It also provides access to limited information about unofficial names.

Place Names Tasmania allows you to:

- Search for an existing place name, matching name with location
 - see more details about the name
 - show the place or feature on a map
 - submit new information about the name
- View current notices of names advertised for comment
- Check a potential name against the relevant rules
- Register or login to
 - propose a new name
 - propose a change to an existing name
 - lodge an objection to a proposed name
 - monitor progress with a proposal or objection
- Find more information about the processes and legislation involved

The use of place names is an important part of everyday life, helping us to connect people, events and objects with places and geographic features of the landscape.

The system of processes and principles connected with the assignment of names is often referred to as nomenclature. In Tasmania, the Nomenclature Board is largely responsible for the official naming of places and features, presided over by the Surveyor General under provisions of the *Survey Co-ordination Act 1944*.

All proposals and objections lodged through **Place Names Tasmania** will be assessed for approval by the Nomenclature Board of Tasmania.

Keep an eye out for the public release of the website over the next few weeks:

www.placenames.tas.gov.au

Aboriginal and dual naming policy

The cultural significance of Aboriginal names for Tasmanian features is being formally recognised through the development of an *Aboriginal and Dual Naming Policy*, instigated by the Tasmanian Cabinet in late 2011.

Development of the draft policy has been undertaken by DPIPWWE, in consultation with the Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre and key stakeholders including local government.

The policy is consistent with existing legislative provisions for nomenclature in accordance with the *Survey Co-ordination Act 1944*.

The policy will provide clear direction and a framework for decisions relating to the naming of significant geographic features and places.



Spatial Professional of the Year

Congratulations to Surveyor General and Director Geospatial Information, Peter Murphy, who was named 2012 Spatial Professional of the Year at the SSSI Tasmania Spatial Excellence Awards.



The Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI) is Australia's peak body representing the interests of surveying and spatial science professionals.

The Spatial Professional of the Year Award recognises leadership and outstanding performance by a practitioner working in any of the disciplines of the surveying and spatial sciences, whose professional achievements are acknowledged by peer citation as exemplifying the highest standards of excellence and ethical conduct.



Malaysian delegation visits ILS

In early October, the Information & Land Services Division hosted a nine member visiting delegation from the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia, comprising valuers, surveyors and specialist staff from private sector companies and the Lands & Surveys Department in the Malaysian State of Sabah.

Members of the delegation visited offices of the Valuer General, Surveyor General and Land Titles, seeking to gain a greater understanding of current and developing businesses processes and the management of electronic services within the Tasmanian land administration system. Of special interest were web-based services such as those available through the LIST, LISTmap and SIF Project.

Malaysia has a rapidly developing spatial information sector and plays a prominent role in the global surveying and mapping industry, leading the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) through its presidency and hosting of the FIG Congress in 2014. This was a mutually important visit that should encourage ongoing and valuable professional relationships with our Malaysian counterparts.

Above: detail of the new Cradle Mountain Day Walk Map.

New TASMAM products

Recently released map products are now available for purchase online at www.tasmap.tas.gov.au or from Service Tasmania shops, TASMAM resellers and agents.

1:25 000 Topographic/Cadastral Maps

- Burnie
- Richmond
- Keith
- Giblin
- Borradaile
- Pencil Pine



1:100 000 Topographic Maps

- Inglis



National Park and Day Walk Maps

- Cradle Mountain Day Walk Map
- Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair National Park Map
- Wellington Park Recreation Map
- Visitors Map of Tasmania



More details about recent releases can be found at www.tasmap.tas.gov.au

Now available online at
www.tasmap.tas.gov.au

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