

GLOSSARY OF FRENCH TOPOGRAPHICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
Ab., Abbe	abbaye	abbey
	aber (<i>Brittany</i>)	river
Ab:	abreuvoir	drinking-place
	accord	sheer, abrupt, steep-to
	aérien, -ne	aerial
	affluent	tributary stream
Aig ^t	aiguille	needle ; spire, steeple ; peak
	aimanté, -e	magnetized
	allemand, -e	German
	amer. f. amère	bitter
	amers	natural or artificial landmarks on the coast
	amont	up-stream
anc., anc ^e	ancien, -ne	ancient, olden ; former
	ancrage	anchorage
	anglais, -e	English
	annexe	parochial chapel ; dependency
	anse	bay, creek ; ear, handle
	antre	cave, cavern ; lair, den
	appontement	(wooden) staging
Arb.	arbre	tree
Ardre.	ardoisière	slate-quarry
	arête	sharp rocky crest
	argile	clay
	argilière	clay-pit
A ^t :	arrêt	stopping-place
	arrière	rear ; hinder, hind
	arrière-pays	back country, hinterland
	arrière port	inner harbour
Arrond ^t	arrondissement	ward of a town ; sub-division of a département
	assèchement	draining off, pumping off
	assise	stratum
	auberge	inn, tavern
	auto	motor-vehicle
	aval	down-stream
	avalaison	flood, torrent
	avant	front ; fore, before
	avant port	outer harbour
	avec	with
	avion	aircraft
	azur, -e	sky-blue
B.	bac	ferry ; tank, hopper, truck, <i>etc.</i>
B.T.	bac à traîle	trail-bridge
B.V.	bac à vapeur	steam-ferry
	bagnères	mineral baths
	baie	bay, bight, gulf
	bain	bath
	balise	beacon
	ballon	balloon ; rounded mountain-top
	bananeraie	banana plantation
	banc	bank, sandbank
	banche	clay and sand bank under water
	banlieue	outskirts of a town
Bque	baraque	hut, shed, barrack
B ^{sc}	barrage	barring, stopping, blocking ; dam, weir
	barre	bar, rail

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
Bre	barrière	gate
Bs ; Bse. : Bses.	bas, en bas, -se bas côté bas fond	below, lower low ; Lower- a side track low ground ; deep bottom ; hole (in a river) ; shoal (in the sea)
B ⁱⁿ , B ⁱⁿ	basse basse, f. bassin	shoal <i>see</i> bas basin, dock
Bide	bassin de virage	turning basin
Batt., B ^{ic}	bastide bateau-feu batterie beau or bel (<i>old form</i>), m. bec (<i>Normandy</i>)	small country-house lightship battery beautiful, fine
Bie	belle, f. bergerie bief or biez	small stream beautiful, fine sheep-fold
B.	bief d'amont bief de partage biez bis blanc, -he bleu, -e bœuf (<i>Normandy</i>)	reach of a river or canal; mill-race; bay of a canal-lock head bay (of a canal-lock) summit-level (of a canal) <i>see</i> bief <i>particle indicating repetition</i>
B ^{de}	bois bois de conifères bon, -ne bonde bonne, f. bord	an abode a wood coniferous wood good sluice <i>see</i> bon edge, margin ; shore, bank, strand ; deck
B ^{che} , B ^{che}	borde (<i>Provence</i>) borne borne frontière borne kilométrique bosquet	small farm landmark ; boundary ; limit boundary-pillar “ mile ”-stone
Briq ^{ic} , Briq ^{ic} , Briquie.	bouche bouée boule, en bourg briquetrie brisant	grove, thicket mouth (of a river or strait) buoy, beacon round
Bon	brousse broussailles bruylère buisson buron butte	town brick-kiln breaker, reef, shoal ; half-submerged rock
C ^{ac} Cab ^{et}	cabane cabaret câble caférière calanque (<i>Mediterranean</i>) caldeira calvaire campagne	bush, forest scrub, brushwood, undergrowth heath ; heather bush, thicket hut, cottage knoll ; (<i>U.S.A.</i>) lone hill with steep or precipitous sides ; small isolated mesa
Canl. CT C.	canal canton cap carré, -e carrefour carrière	cottage tavern cable coffee plantation creek, little bay basin-like depression Calvary, crucifix country, open country, country- fields
Carr., Carref ^r Carre ^r	canal, channel group of parishes cape, headland square a cross-roads a quarry	canal, channel group of parishes cape, headland square a cross-roads a quarry

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
G ^a d ^e	carrière à ciel ouvert carrossable carroyage kilométrique cascade case caserne cassine causse (<i>S. of France</i>) cense cent chaîne	quarry (open cut) passable for vehicles kilometric gridding cascade hut, cabin, dwelling barracks little country-house ; box limestone plateau small farm hundred chain ; chain of hills, ridge of mountains ; harbour-boom
Cse., C ^s e	cense	
Ch ⁿ e	cent	
Ch ^b r ^e	chaîne	
Chl ^e , Ch ^{ll} e	chambre	
Chau., Ch ^a u, Ch ^{au}	champ	
	champ de tir	
	chapelle	
	château	
	château fort	
	châtel (<i>old word</i>)	
	chaufour	
	chaumine or chaumière	
Ch ^é e	chaussée	
	chaux	
	chef-lieu	
	chemin	
Chin., Ch ⁱⁿ , Ch ⁱⁿ	chemin de fer	
	chemin d'exploitation	
	chemin d'intérêt commun	
Ch ⁿ e ^e	cheminée	
	cheminement	
	chemin muletier	
	chenal	
	chevalis	
	chiffre	
	chute (d'eau)	
	ciel	
	cime	
Cime., Cim ^r e	cimetière	
	circulation à double courant	
Cit ^é	citadelle	
Cit ^e , Cit ⁿ e	citerne	
	clairière	
	clocher	
	clos	
	clôture	
C.	col	
	colline	
	combe	
	commune	
conféd ^{on}	confédération	
	contre-digue	
	contrôle	
	coquilles	
	corniche	
	cote	
	côte	
	côté, -e	
	côté	
	coteau	
	cote de niveau	
	cote de nivelllement	
	côtière	
	coupole	
	coupure	
	range of coast, seaboard	
	dome	
	sheet (cut, as a rule, to special lines or dimensions)	

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
Ct.	courant courbe courbe de mer courbe de niveau cours	course, current, stream form-line, contour-line (<i>lit. curve</i>) submarine contour-line contour-line course, stream, current
Couv ^t	couvent crête crique croisée croisement	convent ridge, crest of mountains creek, cove (rectangular) intersection, crossing crossing
Cr ^x , Cr ^x , Cx.	croix crue cultures	a cross fresher, flood (of tide) products of the soil, land under cultivation, crops
	cuvette	basin, depression
	dans ¹ darse daya débarcadère déblai déclinaison découvert défini, -e défrichement dent	in basin low ground, swamp wharf, landing-place (railway-) cutting (magnetic) declination open (of country) defined, definite clearing in a forest tooth; peak
Dépar ^t	département	sub-division of France administered by a prefect
Dép ^e , Dép ^{le}	départemental dérivation derrière descente déshabité, -e déssèchement desserte, de dessous dessus déroit	county- diversion (of water) behind, at the back of a down-slope uninhabited, deserted draining off ; drainage connecting, service- (road) below above strait, narrows
Devt.	devant	before, in front of
Dig.	digue	embankment, dyke, mole, break- water
D ^{ne}	douane double courant, à double voie douteux, se	customs-house two-way (traffic) double-track (railway)
	droit, -e dur, -e	doubtful, uncertain right ; upright, straight hard
	eau eau potable éboulis échelle échelle de marée éclats, à	water drinking water débris, fallen earth; (<i>Alps</i>) scree scale (of a map) tide-gauge flashing
É., Ecl ^{se} ., Ec ^{se} , Ec ^{te}	écluse éclusier écriture écueil écurie édité, -e égal, -e	lock of a canal or basin; sluice lock-keeper (on maps) lettering shoal, rock, reef; breaker stable published, issued equal
Ec ^{te}	église embarcadère embouchure encaissé, -e enceinte enclave	church landing-stage, terminus estuary, mouth of a river, affluent boxed in, sunk; in a trench or cutting precincts area isolated within the territory of another government

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
	encorbellement	corbelling out, overhang, cantilever
	entours	surroundings
	entre	between
	entrée	entrance, mouth of a river
	entretenu, -e	maintained
	entre-voie	the six-foot way (of railways)
	environs	neighbourhood
	épi	groyne
	équidistance (des courbes)	contour-interval
Ermge.	ermitage	hermitage
	escarpe	a bluff
	escarpé, -e	bluff
	espagnol, -e	Spanish
E.	est	East
	estacade	line of stakes ; stockade ; pier
	estompage	(hill-) shading
	et	and
Ets, Etg.	étang	pond, tarn, lake, lagoon
Etg Pque	étang périodique	seasonal pool
	étape	halting-place, stage
	état	State
	état-major	staff; headquarters
	étiage	low-water mark of a river
	étier	creek or canal which can take small vessels ; a conduit to salines
Ete	étoile	a cross-roads (<i>lit.</i> star)
	exploitation	working (of a deposit, commodity, etc.)
Fab ^e , Fab ^e	fabrique	factory
	facture	(style of) execution
	faite	top, summit, ridge
	falaise	cliff
	fanal	lighthouse
Fbg.	fascicule	part (of a publication)
	faubourg	outskirts, suburb
	fau-x, sse	false
	fer	iron
Fm., F ^{me} , F ^{me} : Fmes.	ferme: fermes	farm
	fermé, -e	closed, shut
F.	feu	light (<i>lit.</i> fire)
F ^{le}	feuille	leaf, sheet
	feuillu, -e	deciduous (<i>lit.</i> leafy)
f.	figuré	representation (by drawing)
	fixe	fixed, steady
	flèche	spire, sharp peak (<i>lit.</i> arrow)
	fleur	flower ; (<i>Normandy</i>) flowing stream
Fl.	fleuve	large river
	flot	flood
	flottage	floating
	flottage en train	rafting
	fond	bottom ; ground
Frie	fonderie	foundry
F ^{ne} , F ^{nc} , Fne.	fontaine	spring, source
	force	power
	foresti-er, ère	forest-
Ft.	forêt	forest
F ^{re} , F ^{rc}	forge	forge, smithy
	forme de radoub	dry dock
Ft., Ft., ft.	fort	fort, fortress
	fort, -e	strong
Ft ^e	fortifié, -e	fortified
	fosse	pit, hole, grave
	fossé	ditch, trench
	four or fourneau	oven, kiln
fr.	franc	silver coin worth about 10d. at par
	franchissement	crossing, traversing across
	frontière	frontier, limit
	fuseau, en	spindle-shaped

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
	gamme	scale, gradation (of colour)
	garage	docking, shunting; parking, storage
	gare	siding, recess, (railway-)station, terminus; wet dock
	gare de triage	marshalling yard
	gare maritime	harbour-station
	garnison	garrison
	gave (<i>Pyrenees</i>)	torrent
	gendarmerie	the police ; police-station
	genêt	broom, furze, gorse, whin
	golfe	gulf, bay
	goulet	narrow entrance, gut
	grade	grad
G.	grand, -e: grand-s, es	great, large
G ^d , G ^{de} : Gdes.	grange	barn
G ^{re} , Grge.	grau (<i>Mediterranean</i>)	channel connecting a salt-lake with the sea
	gravier	gravel
	grève	sandy beach
	grille	(iron) bars, railing
	gris, -e	grey
	gros, -se	large, heavy, rough
	grossi, -e	thickened
	grue	crane (bird or engine)
G.	gué	ford
	guéret	land ploughed but not sown
	guerre	war
	guet	watch-house
h., h., Hab ^t	habitants	inhabitants
	haie	hedge
	halle	covered market
	hallier	thicket
H ^e	halte	stopping-place
H ^{au} , Hau.	hameau	hamlet
	hangar	open shed ; hangar
	haut	height, top, summit
Ht.; Hte.: Htes	haut, -e: haut-s, es	high ; Upper-
	haut, en	above, upper
	hauteur	height, elevation, altitude ; rising ground, eminence ; depth (of water); head (of water)
	haut fond	shoal, shallow bottom
	havre	harbour, port
Hect.	hectomètre	hectometre
h.	hen (<i>Picardy</i>)	home
	heures	— o'clock
	horaire	pertaining to time ; time- ; hourly ; time-table
	hors texte	not included
	hôtel	mansion, large house, hotel
	hôtel de ville	city hall
	Hôtel-Dieu	principal hospital
	houblonnière	hop-field
	hutte	hut, shed, shanty
	hydravion	sea-plane
I.	île	island, isle
	îlot	islet
	inculte	uncultivated, waste
	indéfini, -e	undefined, indefinite
	indicatif	code-letter
	indigène	native
Inf ^{re}	inférieur, -e	lower
	interdit, -e	prohibited
	isolé, -e	isolated

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
J ^{ēe}	jardin jaune jetée	garden yellow jetty, pier
K. K. kilog. kil., Kilom., km.	kear (<i>Brittany</i>) ker (<i>Brittany</i>) kilogramme kilomètre	house, village, town fortress kilogram kilometre
L.	lac lacune, en	lake not carried through, not completed (of roads, railways)
Lag.	lagune laie forestière laisse lan (<i>Brittany</i>)	lagoon forest lane, a ride (high or low) watermark church
L ^{de}	lande	sandy ground
L ^r	langue lavoir layon lès levé, -e lez (<i>old form</i>) lieu lieue ligne de coupe ligne de faite limite limitrophe lit locature (<i>provincial</i>)	tongue or neck of land washing place cross-ride, service-path near, beside surveyed, drawn near, beside place, locality league (of distance) narrow cutting through a wood water-parting boundary neighbouring, bordering bed, stratum; bed of a river farm, holding
maçon ^{ie}	maçonnerie	masonry
M ^{ea} , Mon. M ^{on} . Cant ^{re}	mairie maison maison cantonnière	town-hall house road-mender's house
M ^{on} F ^{re} Mal ^{re}	maison de santé maison forestière maladrerie mamelles mamelon manufacture maquis (<i>Mediterranean esp.</i> <i>Corsica</i>)	lunatic asylum forester's lodge lazaretto paps rounded hill (<i>lit. pap, breast</i>) factory thicket of shrubs
M ^s	marais	swamp, marsh
Mar ^{ss}	marché mare marécage marée marine	market stagnant pool, pond marsh tide marine, navy; (<i>Corsica</i>) beach or landing-place for a village or town inland
M.	marne mas (<i>Provence</i>) massif	clay, marl small country-house mountain-block, mountainous mass of high country
	mât d'amarrage mauvais, -e menhir (<i>Brittany</i>)	mooring-mast (for dirigibles) bad large raised stone dating from Neolithic times
	ménil or mesnil	small country-house, small farm; hamlet
Méridne.	mer méridienne mesnil métairie mètre midi, le milieu mille	sea mid-day <i>see</i> ménil small farm metre the South the middle thousand
Mét ^{re} ^m , Mèt.		

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
M., Mil.	mille	French sea-mile (0.992 nautical miles)
Millim.	millimètre	millimetre
M ^r	Ministère	Ministry
	moins de	less than
	môle	mole, pier
	monde	world ; people
M., Mt., Mt.	mont	mount, mountain
M ^{me} , Mgne.	montagne	mount, mountain
	montée	an up-slope
Mon ^t	monument	monument
	morne	hill ; bleak, gloomy, dismal
	mouillage	(place of) anchorage
M ⁱⁿ , M ⁱⁿ , Mln.	moulin	mill
	moulin à vent	windmill
	moûtiers (<i>old word</i>)	monastery
	mouvementé, -e	undulating (country)
	moyen, -ne	middle, mean
	mû: mûs	moved, driven, worked
	mur	wall
	musoir	mole (or pier) head
N.	nacelle	skiff ; car, cockpit
	nappe	sheet (of water)
	neuf	nine
	neu-f, ve	new
	névé	half-solidified snow
	nez	nose ; cape, point
	niveau	level
	noir, -e	black
N.	nord	North
N.D.	Notre-Dame	Our Lady
Nlle.	nouve-au, île	new
N°, n°	numéro	number
	numéroté, -e	numbered
Obs ^{re}	observatoire	observatory
o.	occidental, -e	western
	occultations, à	occulting
	octroi	municipal customs (-house)
	olivier	olive tree
	oriental, -e	eastern
O.	ouest	West
	oules (<i>Pyrenees</i>)	semi-circular escarpments over which streams fall at immense heights
	ouvert, -e	open
Ouv.	ouvrage	work
	pailleur	farm-yard
	palais	palace
	palais de justice	law-court
	palétuvier	mangrove
	palier	landing-place
	palmeraies	palm-groves
	palmier	palm tree
Pap ^{ic}	papeterie	paper-mill
P.	parc	park
	paroisse	parish ; parish-church
	particuli-er, ère	private (property)
	pas	channel ; passage, defile
	pas	not
P ^{se}	passage	ferry
	passage à niveau	level crossing
	passé	pass, channel
P ^{le}	passerelle	foot-bridge
	pâtis	grazing-ground
	patte d'oie	a junction of several roads
	pâturages	pasture-land

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
P ^{oa}	pavé, -e pavillon pays	paved (usually with stone setts) pavilion, summer-house country ; native country ; small natural region
Ph.	péage pêcherie penché, -e pente pépinière pertuis petit, -e phare phare flottant	toll-house fishery sloping, leaning declivity, slope <i>hort.</i> nursery opening, strait little lighthouse ; cf. feu
P.	pic pied pierre piéton pignon pin piste piton piz (<i>Valais</i>) pla, plé, pleû, plo, plou, or plu plage plaine plateau plâtre plé, pleû, plo, plou ploué (<i>Brittany</i>) plu plus de point point coté pointe pointillé ponceau pont pont de bateaux pont-levis or pont-levant	peak foot stone a pedestrian gable pine tree, fir tree track, trail mountain-peak peak village, parish beach, shore a plain table-land ; flat under water plaster <i>see</i> pla village, parish <i>see</i> pla more than <i>geom.</i> point reference-point, landmark (on maps)
P ^{te} , P ^{tc}	a point of land stippled ; dotted line small one-arched bridge ; culvert	
P ^t , P ^t , Pt. P.B.	pont pont de bateaux pont-levis or pont-levant	bridge ; deck
P.S.	pont suspendu	pontoon-bridge
P.T.	pont tournant	drawbridge
P ^t	port	suspension-bridge
P ^{te}	port d'attache	swing-bridge
P ^{te} , P ^{tc} . Poudre	port d'escale	port, harbour
PF	porte	home port
Pr. d'E.	portée	port of call
P ^{ts} , P ^{ts} .	poste	gate, door
Q ^r	poudrerie or poudrière prairie pré préau	range (of a light) post, guard-house powder-mill
R ^{au}	préfecture presqu'île prise d'eau profondeur puits puy (<i>Auvergne</i>)	meadow, grass-land small meadow courtyard prefecture peninsula intake (of water) depth a well peak
	quai quartier quelconque queue	quay, wharf a quarter in a town whatever ; any ; (some) . . . or other projecting piece or end (<i>lit.</i> tail)
	rade radeau rapide ravin	roadstead raft a rapid in a river ; fast train stopping at few places ravine

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
	raz	a race, bore ; violent tidal stream in a narrow passage ; (<i>Brittany</i>) whirlpool, swift current
	récif	reef of rocks
	recouvert, -e	covered up again
	rédaction	composition, wording ; editing ; editorial staff
Red°	rédigé, -e	edited
	redoute	redoubt, fort
	régime	(postal) system
	remblai	(railway-) embankment ; lynchet
Rise	remise	coach-house
R voir	réservoir	reservoir
	ressac	surf
	reserrement	tightening, confining, narrowing
	revisé, -e	revised
	rive	shore ; bank of a river
R., Riv.	rivière	river
	rizièrē	rice-field
	roche	a rock, boulder
Rer	rocher	(mass of) rock (<i>naut.</i> generally above water)
Roubne	roubine	canal joining a salt-basin to the sea
	rouge	red
Rte	route	road
	route carrossable	carriage road
	route de grand parcours	road for through-traffic
Rte Natl°	route nationale	State highway
	route principale	main road
R.	rue	street
Rues	ruines	ruins
Rau, Rau, Ru.	ruisseau	stream, brook, rivulet
S., St, St	sable	sand
S., St, St	sablonnière	sand-pit, gravel-pit
	saint, <i>m.</i>	holy ; Saint
	sainte, <i>f.</i>	holy ; Saint
	salant, -e	salt, salty, saline
Sal.	saline	salt-water lagoon ; salt-works
	sans	without
Sapre	sapinière	fir-plantation
Scie, Scie	scierie	sawmill
	sec, <i>f.</i> sèche	dry
	secours	aid ; resources (for assistance, repair, etc.)
Sém., Sém°	sémaphore	semaphore
	sens unique	one-way (traffic)
	sentier	footpath
	Service géographique	Geographical section (of the French G.S.)
	seuil	sill (as of a dock); threshold
	seul, -e	(before a noun) only, sole, single ; (after a noun) alone, by itself
Sai, St, Sigl.	signal; signaux	signal
Sai	signalé, -e	remarkable, conspicuous
	signal horaire	time-signal
	sillon	furrow, ridge
	simple voie	single-track (railway)
	socle	base, stand, pedestal ; socket
	sol	soil, ground
Som.	sommet	summit
Sce	source	source, spring, fountain
S°	souligné, -e	underlined
	sous	under, below, sub-
	sous-marin, -e	submarine
SP	sous-préfecture	sub-prefecture
	souterrain, -e	underground, subterranean
Sta., St ^{on} , St ^{on}	station	station, railway-station
	station balnéaire	bathing resort

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
S.	sud	South
s.	sur	on, over, above
	survol	flight (above, over, across)
TSF, T.S.F.	tableau d'assemblage taille taille douce tampon télégraphie sans fil terrain terrain d'atterrissement terrain de secours terre tête tirage tiré, -e toise torrent tour tourbe tourbière tourrelle trace trait trait fin trait fort trait plein trait ponctué trait tireté transbordeur treillage tribu trottoir trou	index-diagram cutting, trimming ; size ; gap copper-plate engraving buffer, <i>as buffer-state</i> wireless telephony ground landing-ground emergency landing-ground earth, land head impression (of printed matter) printed a fathom stream, torrent tower peat peat-bog small tower, turret track, trail line fine, light or thin line heavy line full, continuous or unbroken line dotted line pecked or broken line transporter-bridge trellis tribe footpath (urban) hole ; cavern ; little opening or indentation in the coast ; uneven bottom opening ; gap between heights tile-kiln, tile-works
T. ^{nt} , T. ^r , T. ^f		
T., Tr., Transb:		
T ^{ie} , T ^{ic}	trouée tuilerie	
Us ^e , Us ^s	usine	factory
V ^{ee}	vague	wave ; waste (land)
V ^{on}	val (<i>old word</i>) vallée	vale, dale, valley
V ^{rie}	vallon varaigne varenne vase verger verrerie versant	valley small valley tide-sluice (of salt-marshes) waste land mud orchard glass-factory, glass-works declivity, side (of a mountain) ; watershed
Ville	vert, -e viabilité vicinal, -e vieil, -le Vierge	green (traffic-) condition (of a road) local old Virgin ; shrine with an image of the Madonna
Vx.	vieux vigie vigne village ville villiers virage	old a look-out ; doubtful shoals vine, vineyard village town abode, house turning, slewing round ; sharp bend or twist in a road
Vir ^e		

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Meaning on maps</i>
Ver	vire-vire	whirlpool
	vives eaux	Spring tide
	vivier	fishpond
	voie	way, road, track
	voie étroite	narrow-gauge (railway)
	voie unique	single-track (railway)