



SHEETLINES

The Newsletter of
THE CHARLES CLOSE SOCIETY

No. 10 August 1984

Friday, August 24, 1934

The Evening

They Put England On The Map

By Ian Coster

IF a couple of soldiers leap over your back fence and begin to measure the distance between your garage and your henhouse there is no need to be alarmed. They will simply be two Royal Engineers intent on bringing up to date one small section of an Ordnance Survey map.

One hundred and fifty men, divided into parties of five and scattered over Surrey and Middlesex, are now recording with meticulous care all the changes in those areas, the new roads and railways, the mushroom suburbs, the factories. Not a single prominent tree, not a shed escapes them.

They carry the last maps and surveyors' instruments with them and they note down in neat lines, figures and letters, the march of progress since the last survey. Their work is eventually published as the maps in which town-planners, motorists, property-owners, airmen, transport chiefs and local authorities have implicit trust.

London is only one division of the Ordnance Survey (which employs 1100 men and costs the taxpayer £300,000 a year), the other divisions being centred at Edinburgh, Bristol and the head-



Soldiers whose peace-time work has a same purpose.

At first the Army paid for the cost of the survey and housed the maps in the Tower of London. Now the Survey is a sub-department of the Ministry of Agriculture, but its military origin is still obvious. About 90 per cent. of the map-makers are Royal Engineers, and they scour the countryside

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The end of an era - see p.9

THE DEVELOPMENT OF ARTILLERY SQUARES AND ARTILLERY TRAINING MAPS OF THE U.K.1914-1918 PART I.BY PETER CHASSEAUD

During the war years, the Ordnance Survey was involved, under the direction of the Geographical Section of the General Staff, with the production of many types of war maps, most of which went to the Army in France, and a certain number to other theatres, but some were of this country and were intended for specific defence or training purposes.

Following the South African War the $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch map was adopted for training, but the 1-inch was also used, particularly as a manoeuvre map, in the years before 1914. On the outbreak of war a special training edition of the $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch was printed at Southampton from the outline, water and contour plates, but this, being a smaller scale than the 1:100,000 of Belgium (GSGS 2364) and the 1:80,000 hachured French Staff map (GSGS 2526 - with contours added in red) which had before the war been adopted as the "tactical" maps for the B.E.F., was of little use in training officers and men to use the type of maps they would encounter at the front.

Not only was the $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch practically useless as a tactical map except in a war of rapid movement, but events in France were quickly rendering obsolete pre-war conceptions of mapping requirements. At the Battle of the Aisne in September 1914 the beginning of a "war of position" necessitated the introduction of large-scale topographical maps with a grid or squaring system, in order accurately to locate targets and to direct artillery fire from the air. Squared maps had been used for this purpose, using ground observation-posts, by the Japanese in 1904 at the Battle of the YA-LU¹ and had since been adopted by the French who had introduced a theatre grid. Lieutenant Ralph Glyn of the Air Battalion had observed and reported on the French use of this system at their air-manoeuvres at Chalons in 1911,² but the Royal Artillery was not impressed. Air co-operation, with wireless-fitted planes locating enemy batteries and directing fire, both airman and battery-commander using identically-squared maps, began on the Aisne and developed rapidly. At first the French 1:80,000 and new topographical 1:50,000 were used, the former being squared by hand, probably with marginal letters and numbers, and both very shortly afterwards were overprinted with squares covering a portion of the sheet³ by Captain Wilbraham's 1st Printing Company, R.E., G.H.Q. Lieutenant D.S. Lewis of the Royal Flying Corps was the pioneer in this work, the system first being used on the Aisne on 13th September⁴. The next step was to arrange, through Major E.M. Jack of "Maps G.H.Q.", for the Ordnance Survey to enlarge some of the French 1:80,000 sheets to 1:40,000, and print a system of squares on these sheets. Certainly the French sheet No. 14 Rocroi was so treated⁵, and probably No. 24 Mezieres. The Rocroi sheets were designated GSGS

2741, but the Mezieres sheets appear in the GSGS Register under the original number of the 1:80,000 series, GSGS 2526. It is possible that other sheets were enlarged and squared at this time (September 1914).

In early October the B.E.F. moved to Flanders, and sheets of the Belgian topographical 1:20,000 (GSGS 2742) and 1:40,000 (GSGS 2743) were reproduced at Southampton and the War Office. Some of these were squared and others unsquared; as before, the Printing Company overprinted squares on a portion of some of these sheets, 1:40,000 sheet 28 (Ypres) certainly being so treated. The 1:40,000 sheet 28 which was printed at the War Office was overprinted there with a system of squares in blueish-green; this was in October. The system of squaring introduced at this time was based on 5,000 yard large lettered squares, subdivided into 25 1,000 yard numbered squares, which in turn were subdivided into 4 lettered squares (lower-case). It was based on the sheet, and could not be extended over sheet-lines. It was not a grid covering the whole theatre from a common origin, and the British Army did not introduce such a grid onto its maps officially until 1st January 1919⁶. The 1:20,000 sheets were squared in a similar way, but the systems were not compatible. A reference to a position on a 1:40,000 sheet would be completely different to the reference to the same place on the 1:20,000 sheet. The 1:20,000 system of squaring was based on large, lettered 4,000 yard squares, subdivided into 16 1,000 yard squares which were each divided into 4 lettered squares (lower-case). This dual system was patently ludicrous, and potentially dangerous, and it was soon decided that rationalisation was necessary. At the very end of December a "Revised System of Squaring" was introduced, based on the 1:40,000 sheet with lettered 6,000 yard squares subdivided as before. An identical reference could now be given on either scale. At the same time the system of pinpointing using rectangular co-ordinates within the small 500 yard squares was introduced. At first 2-figure co-ordinates were used but in the middle of 1915 4-figure co-ordinates were introduced to give greater accuracy.

Several people were closely involved with the introduction of "artillery squares", as they were first called. A committee had been appointed (by whom?) to evolve an appropriate system of squaring after the Aisne battle. Colonel Charles Close, Director-General of the Ordnance Survey, had a lot to do with it⁷; Major Jack of "Maps G.H.Q.", Colonel Coote Hedley of the Geographical Section at the War Office, Major W.G.H. Salmond of the Flying Corps, and Brigadier E.A. Fanshawe representing the Royal Artillery, were all associated in some way with this development. It was the last who suggested the use of rectangular co-ordinates⁸. It was the Artillery, also, who insisted on the map-squares being in yards⁹, even on a metric map; this meant that the squares didn't fit the Belgian sheetlines which had been adopted, after

the experimental "A" Series of maps of France and Belgium, as standard. This was undoubtedly a mistake, and the lack of a theatre grid severely hampered British artillery work throughout the war. The "A" Series would have provided this grid, albeit in yards (the actual unit of measurement was immaterial) as the sheetlines for this series were fitted around the 4,000 yard squares on the 1:20,000 sheets of this series (also GSGS 2742); it is not clear whether the "A" Series was begun in October or November.

The regular 1:20,000 series with red artillery squares was designated GSGS 2742a, the suffix "a" indicating the squares. The earliest "Artillery Training Maps" of the U.K.¹⁰, which were produced on this scale, were possibly given the same serial before a new one, GSGS 2748, was designated specifically for maps of the U.K. A few of the British Library Map Library sheets carry this serial, and the GSGS Register for the period interestingly gives "Chelmsford and Hilsea 1:20,000 Artillery Training" under the entry 2742a. Perhaps these were the first sheets? All the copies in the B.L.M.L. have the "Revised System of Squaring", but it is possible that sheets with the older system were printed, but did not find their way into the copyright libraries. It is uncertain how many sheets in this series were produced; there are 186 in the B.L.M.L., covering permanent and temporary training areas and 10 or so others mentioned in contemporary Catalogues. They were reduced from the domestic 6-inch and squared on the same system as that used in France. The 1:20,000 Western Front sheets were numbered, but these Training Maps were given names. A very similar system of squaring was overprinted in red on certain sheets of the 1-inch scale; Aldershot District (North) was certainly so treated, and probably the South sheet. Perhaps there were others. The 1:20,000 sheets were originally intended to train artillery units, but as the use of square references became general in the Army in early 1915 they were probably used by other arms as well.

The 1:20,000 series was produced throughout the war. The changes in the printing of the squares followed closely the changes in the maps produced for France and Belgium. At first, the squares and their descriptive letters and numbers were all printed in red, but from mid-1915 it became the practice to include the grid lines on the detail plate so as to avoid problems with registration¹¹. The letters and numbers in the squares still appeared in red. Experiments with grey letters and numbers were being made at the end of 1915, and this colour was adopted until, in 1916, it became policy to include the letters and numbers on the detail plate as well. Red was abandoned because at the end of 1915 it was decided to print trenches, in that colour, on the 1:20,000 used in France. Contours were at 5-metre vertical interval, as was the practice in France, and these were mostly interpolated, though on a very few sheets they were at least partly instrumentally surveyed.

E11 Barrow O.S. May 1918 was an example of this. This sheet was apparently the only 1:20,000 sheet to be redrawn in the style of the large-scale GSGS topographical and trench maps of France and Belgium. The style was developed by Ordnance Survey draughtsmen at Southampton and serving with field survey units. Apart from its unusual dimensions (100 cm x 50 cm) it was also unique in having water printed in blue. This "GSGS style", with its sans serif typed names, appeared as early as October/November 1914 in the "A" Series of France and Belgium. An interesting sheet which appeared towards the close of the war was Middleham O.S. Sept. 1918 which was overprinted in red with a "Quadrillage Kilometrique Systeme Lambert", the new French grid which the Allies were to adopt for the expected 1919 campaign, at Foch's insistence, together with the Lambert orthomorphic projection and sheet lines. This Lambert grid was to be introduced for operations on 1st January 1919, and before this troops had to be trained to use it. In the event it was not used in anger by the British in this theatre until 1939. Several other sheets were also overprinted with this grid.

In 1916 the production of a small number of 1:10,000 Artillery Training Maps of the U.K. was begun. It had become the practice in France for the field artillery to use this scale, their artillery-boards being made up from squares of the map pasted onto the grid lines drawn or engraved onto the rigid board. This system was developed to overcome problems created by changes in temperature and humidity when range and 'switch' or bearing were being taken off the map. The 1:20,000 sheets were primarily used by the heavy and siege artillery. Each 1:10,000 sheet of the U.K. was given its own GSGS number, reflecting the fact that it was not intended as a general series; sheets were produced occasionally as need demanded. From a cross-check of the sheets in the B.L.M.L. with those listed in the GSGS Register, it would appear that the appendix to this article is a complete list of the 1:10,000 sheets.

A single 1:5,000 sheet for Bovington was also printed:
GSGS 3573 Bovington Camp - Trench Map probably O.S. May/June 1917. My authority for this is the GSGS Register, but I have yet to see a copy of the sheet. It may have been a straight enlargement of part of 1:10,000 GSGS 3374, or it could have been redrawn to suit the larger scale. At the time this was prepared, a series of special 1:5,000 Trench Maps was being printed for the great assault of Plumer's Second Army on the Messines Ridge (GSGS 3566-9 O.S. May 1917). This attack was to begin with the simultaneous explosion of a number of huge mines (19 were eventually blown on June 7th 1917) but tanks were also to be used. It seems probable that the printing at this time of a 1:5,000 sheet for Bovington, the home base of the Tank Corps, was not just coincidence.

It is possible that another 1:5,000 sheet was produced. A manuscript note in a GSGS Catalogue for May 1918 refers to the following:

Trench map 1/5000 197th Infantry Brigade SE of Colchester (1916). This Brigade was part of the 66th (2nd East Lancashire) Division, which was not sent to France until March 1917, seeing action for the first time at Passchendaele in the most ghastly circumstances, graphically described by Phillip Gibbs. Why it should have required a 1:5,000 trench map at this time is a moot point, but such maps had been used by the B.E.F. since February 1915, the Battle of Neuve Chapelle in March of that year being planned on them. These Neuve Chapelle sheets were among the first British-produced maps to be revised with the help of air-photographs. In March 1915 the Ordnance Survey produced a series of "inverted" (north at the bottom) maps to this scale for First Army, but it was Major B.F.E. Keeling's 5th Field Survey Company on the Somme in 1916 which reintroduced the scale as a major issue. In the intervening period the scale had been used sporadically for minor operations which involved much close-quarter trench fighting.

It has been suggested that Artillery Training Maps on the 1:40,000 scale were produced for the U.K. If so, they prove elusive, and the GSGS Register makes no mention of them. This scale was only used by artillery of the longest range, primarily railway guns. Opportunities for training in the U.K. for this type of equipment, firing on land targets, must have been rare. On the other hand, this scale was used extensively for movement and administration in France and so could well have been reproduced for the U.K. on this basis. Has anyone seen such a sheet?

The only 1:40,000 sheet I have come across was a piece of private enterprise. Entitled "Map of the Country round Berkhamstead", it was "enlarged (with additions) from the Ordnance Survey Map, with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office, by Sifton Praed & Co. Ltd..." in 1916, for the Inns of Court O.T.C. This map was enlarged from the 1-inch, measured 54 x 48 cm, and was folded on linen in buff covers. Details was in black, roads yellow, water blue, woods green, and contours black overprinted in red. The Western Front "Revised system of squaring" was overprinted in red. While undoubtedly produced as a training map, it was probably never used for artillery training. Its principal advantage over the 1-inch lay in the provision of the grid on a map of a scale used extensively on the Western Front for administration and movement. Familiarisation with the system of referencing must have been of great assistance to the cadets once they arrived in France as subalterns.

There is still much more work to be done on this subject. Part II of this article will include a listing of all the 1:20,000 sheets in the B.L.M.L., and mentioned in the GSGS Catalogues but I am sure that investigation of the sheets in other copyright libraries will add to the list of sheets, editions and states. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has information about any sheets which could fall into the category of "Artillery Training Map", either those which were specially produced as such, or those domestic sheets which were overprinted with the Western Front system of squaring or any similar system in the years up to 1919. I have not touched on the interesting 2½-inch map of East Anglia (GSGS 3036, not 3146 as appeared recently in Sheetlines). It is possible that sheets of this series were also overprinted with the "artillery squares". I rather doubt this, at least for the early years of the war, because in late 1916 an "Identification Trace" (GSGS 3293) was printed for this scale. Incidentally, an index was produced (in 1914?) for the 2½-inch series (GSGS 3002) which may give useful information, and was presumably reissued at later dates. The production of 1:20,000 sheets for areas well within the 2½-inch coverage again supports the idea that this scale was not used as an artillery training map.

Acknowledgements

I should like to thank Peter Clark for his great assistance over the last couple of years, affording me facilities for the study of the Western Front maps at M.R.L.G., M.C.E., R.E. (Tolworth) without which my main study, and this spin-off, would not have progressed very far. Also to Andrew Callow and Brian Garvan of M.R.L.G. for their help and patience. Richard Oliver has provided useful notes and observations, and Jim Elliot of the British Library, Map Library has been most helpful.

References

1. Historical Section, Committee of Imperial Defence, Official History of the Russo-Japanese War, H.M.S.O. 1910, Vol. 1, pp 118-9.
2. Sir Walter Raleigh, The War in the Air, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1922, Vol.1, p 178.
3. (E.M.Jack - comp.), Report on Survey on the Western Front 1914 - 1918, H.M.S.O., 1920, p 159.
4. Raleigh op.cit. pp 338-9, and Brig.J.E.Edmonds (comp.), Official History, Military Operations, France and Belgium 1914 Vol.1, 3rd Edn., Macmillan, London, 1933, p 435.
5. War Diary of Officer i/c Maps on Lines of Communications 1914-1918, PRO WO 95/3986.
6. Col. G.H.Addison (comp.), The Work of the R.E. in the European War - Miscellaneous, Chatham, 1927, p 360.
7. Brig.H.St.J.L.Winterbotham, notes in file at R.E.Corps Library, Chatham, compiled by M.N.MacLeod, Draft History of MI4 (GSGS), class 355.486 (R.E./GSGS/MI4), Accession No.8785.

8. Jack, op.cit., p 159.
9. Ibid.
10. 2 Volumes of these in British Library, Map Library, Maps 150 d.14
11. Lt.Col. F.W.Salmon, photocopy of typescript, notes on British military maps, in author's collection. Copy with Salmon Collection in R.G.S. Map Room.

Appendix - 1:10,000 SHEETS OF UNITED KINGDOM

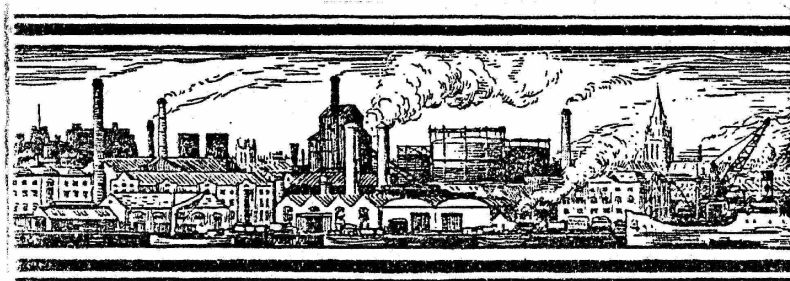
GSGS 3132	Harlaxton Park (Grantham) (Note A)	O.S. Apr 18
GSGS 3184	Lydd Camp (Note B) (all black)	O.S. Jan 18
GSGS 3258	Clipstone North (Dukeries) (all black)	O.S. Dec 17
GSGS 3259	Clipstone South " " "	O.S. Jan 18
GSGS 3282	Sutton Heath (S.E.Suffolk) (all black)	O.S. 1916
GSGS 3340	Chitterne NW1 (Salisbury Plain)(Note C)	O.S. 1916
GSGS 3341	Chitterne NW2 " " " "	O.S. 1916
GSGS 3342	Chitterne NW3 " " " "	O.S. 1916
GSGS 3343	Chitterne NW4 " " " "	O.S. 1916
GSGS 3374	Bovington Camp (Note D)	O.S. Feb 17
GSGS 3417	Durrington (Salisbury Plain)(Note E)	O.S. Feb 17
GSGS 3630	Barkston Heath (Belton) (Note F)	O.S. Oct 17

All were enlarged direct from the domestic 6-inch unless noted as "redrawn"

Notes:

- A) Dated 1916 in GSGS Register. Black base with brown contours.
- B) Home base of the Royal Garrison Artillery - howitzer training.
- C) Redrawn completely in Western Front 1:10,000 style. Grey/brown base.
3343 also exists overprinted with batteries in blue; on linen.
- D) Home of the Heavy Branch, Machine Gun Corps, later Tank Corps.
Trenches overprinted in red and blue with names: Hohenzollern Redoubt, Mad Point, Schwaben Redoubt etc. Also exists without trench overprint
Grey base with brown contours.
- E) Small format - only 55 cm x 45 cm. Trenches overprinted in red and blue at Lark Hill. Grey base with brown contours.
- F) Black base with brown contours.

The standard size was 80 cm x 50 cm (width first, then height) as with all the large scale regular series sheets of the Western Front. To judge by the allocation of GSGS serial numbers it seems likely that the first four sheets listed were originally printed in 1916, and the Register appears to confirm this for 3132. The 1:10,000 was the standard Western Front infantry trench map from March 1915 onwards and was also used, among others, by the Machine Gun and Tank Corps. Perhaps the appellation "Artillery Training Map" on these sheets was rather too narrow.



THE END OF AN ERA

The ceremony of Beating Retreat performed by the band of the Corps of Royal Engineers on Tuesday 18th October 1983 marked the end of 192 years of direct military involvement in the Ordnance Survey, and by courtesy of OS News the text of the subsequent speech made by Director General Walter P. Smith, CB OBE FRICS is reproduced here.

"May I first bid you all a very warm welcome to the Headquarters of the Ordnance Survey here at Southampton. I am pleased to see so many who have either been personally concerned with the development of the Survey or who represent institutions whose work has interacted closely with that of the Ordnance Survey over the years. I am especially pleased to welcome the Engineer-in-Chief, Major General Matthews, and my own Minister, Mr. Waldegrave Parliamentary Under Secretary to the Secretary of State for the Environment, who has immediate responsibility for the Ordnance Survey. I would like to take this early opportunity to thank General Matthews for the presence here today of the Royal Engineers Band. Beating Retreat - always a moving and impressive ceremony - was never more so than this afternoon. It was a source of pleasure to us all and of special pride to those of us who have at one time or another been privileged to serve in the Corps of Royal Engineers.

It is on occasions such as this that I feel the humility of my office, because I am, after all, no more than the 25th Director General and I have no doubt that there will be many more Directors General to follow me. Photographs of my predecessors decorate the wall outside this room and they are, as you will see, all army officers, mostly from the Corps of Royal Engineers. Our purpose here today is to pay tribute to the contribution made to the Ordnance Survey by them and by all their military colleagues and through the Ordnance Survey to the official mapping of this country. This is a contribution and direct management involvement which has been evident to the world since our foundation in 1791 but it is one which was born many years earlier when General Roy put forward his own personal vision of how British national mapping might be organised. Regrettably, General Roy, whom we of course regard as our founder, did not live to see the foundation of the organisation which he had envisaged.

Ladies and Gentlemen there would be no point in my attempting to summarise the whole of the contribution which the Army has made to the Ordnance Survey over the years - the recently published Ordnance Survey History records this in some detail - and I would just like to mention three aspects and to ask you to accept them as a sample of many others.

First Geodesy; I ask you to remember that it was General Roy who, as part of his overall scheme for the "making of a General Military Map of England", had proposed the measurement of an English arc even in 1766, a quarter of a century before the Survey's foundation, and that the foundations of a British geodetic framework were laid very firmly by military officers of the Ordnance Survey during the first sixty years of its existence. Since then there has been work of progressive improvement and extension, to the present day when an aerial on the roof of these buildings receives Doppler Satellite signals, the latest in the systems of survey available to provide the essential accurate geodetic framework on which so many other longer term activities in our society depend.

Second, esprit de corps. When I came to the Ordnance Survey in 1977 I quickly recognised that one of the Department's outstanding assets was the loyalty of its staff; it was a unique blend of professional interest, family connection and, almost, regimental pride. This asset is one on which we have been trying to build, recognising that the questioning approach of our younger generation

was not always compatible with what had gone before and that morale has often come under severe, frequently punishing, strain as a result of the events and the uncertainties of these past four years Yet it has not only survived but has been vital to Ordnance Survey's achievement of a number of important objectives. As Director General during this period I will always be grateful to those who helped to create it in the first place.

And finally, to the resurvey of Great Britain, begun in 1938 and completed only this year. This was a massive operation by any standards, involving nearly 220,000 new maps. Here in 1983 we may look back and with the benefit of hindsight see how some parts of the job might have been done differently, but let us again recognise the contribution made by the officers of the Survey who were responsible at the time and who saw it through with such success. General Close once described the Ordnance Survey as being like a "well-oiled machine where every man knew his part". This was the secret of the execution of the resurvey and the years when it was completed were the years of post-war Directors General; Generals MacLeod, Cheetham, Brown, Carey, Dowson, Edge and Irwin, and I am delighted that General Dowson and General Irwin are here with us this afternoon.

But times change, ladies and gentlemen, and we are more concerned, now, with looking forward to the future. A future which looks exciting and full of interest and I am sure that it is one in which the Ordnance Survey will be playing its full part in our national life. As many of you know, the Government decided last year that Ordnance Survey should henceforward be an entirely civilian organisation and as a result all our remaining military colleagues have now left us. This departure marks the end of a process of diminishing involvement which has been going on since 1946 and even though it may be recognised that the Ordnance Survey's unique co-existence of civilian and military accountability, especially at senior levels, was no longer sustainable against present day needs, this final departure inevitably sparks off some nostalgia for many of our older staff. But let us not be too disturbed, because there will be no iron curtain between Ordnance Survey and the Corps of Royal Engineers. We are already arranging reciprocal training facilities for both military and civilian officers, and we hope next year to begin setting up exchange postings, on an opportunity basis, between the Directorate of Military Survey and the Ordnance Survey. Even apart from these new measures, there will always be our existing structure of liaison committees which have been in existence since the second world war and where service and civilian officers concerned with surveying and mapping meet frequently to discuss matters of common interest. And, of course, because the surveying and mapping world is so small - and because we are all such good and likeable people! - I have no doubt that good links at personal level will endure and increase beyond the end of 1983.

General Matthews, I have been around in surveying and mapping for some years but with the Ordnance Survey for only six. I am therefore still able to take quite a detached view. From what I have seen, in Europe and around the world, there can be no doubt that the Ordnance Survey is one of the three or four truly great national mapping institutions. Of course, like any institution it will always be capable of improvement - and we have at least our fair share of armchair critics - but its greatness, to which many people, civilian no less than military, have contributed, is unquestioned. It is therefore my pleasure and my very great privilege to thank you and through you the Corps of Royal Engineers for the contribution which you have made since 1791 and ask you to accept on behalf of the Corps this specially bound and inscribed copy of the History of the Ordnance Survey, which is in itself a record of that contribution since the foundation of this Department".

SECRETARY'S NEWS

It is with great regret that I have to record the death in July of two members: David Garnett, who lived at Chippenham and with whom several have corresponded; and Dr. Harold Egan, until 1982 the Government Chemist, and whom many will have met at the last two AGMs. Both were early members of the Society. We send our sympathy to their relatives.

Third Annual General Meeting, 12 May 1984

At this meeting I undertook to supply formal Minutes with this issue of 'Sheetlines'; this has proved financially impractical and so I hope that the precis in "Recent Meetings" will suffice. Full Minutes are in the Society's files.

We owe our thanks to Ian O'Brien, who prepared the first draft of the Constitution and to those members, notably Leigh Collier, who wrote in with detailed suggestions. We are especially grateful to Brian Garvan who collated all the decisions made at the AGM into the Final Draft, which is circulated with this Newsletter.

The alterations to the Constitution suggested by the Charity Commissioners have been incorporated, so also have all those written suggestions, sent by absent members, and which were approved at the AGM. The suggestion (made by a male member) that the title 'Chairman' should be changed to take account of sexual equality was not endorsed by the ladies, and no gentleman present supported the motion. Concern was expressed that the Society's name was too long and should be contracted. The meeting agreed that the wording of para. 1 of the constitution did not preclude the use of a standard contraction in the form of 'The Charles Close Society'. This form has already appeared in print in publications such as the Geographical Journal and the OS Annual Report, and will continue to be used by this Society.

The Committee

The Committee met three times during 1983-4, most of its time was taken with the formulation of the constitution. The committee for 1984-5 is: Peter Clark (Chairman); Mrs. Yolande Hodson (Secretary); Julian Williams (Treasurer); Brian Garvan (Membership Sec.); Dr. Chris Board; Richard Dean (Editor of the Newsletter); Guy Messenger; Mike Miller.

We owe many thanks to Alan Godfrey, who has resigned his post as Treasurer, owing to increasing business commitments. A Founder Member, he has, since the inception of the Society, given unstintingly of his time, not only in the counting of our pennies, but also in arranging most of our meetings. Thank you, Alan. We wish you every success in your publishing ventures.

Publications Sub-Committee

This was set up at a Committee meeting held in July. Its members are: Dr. Chris Board (Chairman); Richard Dean; Yolande Hodson; Dr. Tim Nicholson. It is intended to supplement this group on an ad hoc basis by those who are directly involved in the publication tasks which are to hand from time to time. Richard Oliver has undertaken the bulk of the work of preparing extracts from the Geographical Journal of Ordnance Survey related articles (up to, and including 1934). The volume which we propose to publish next year (in cheap form of course) will be about 200 pages long; Richard has already indexed 40% of this.

Professor T.W. Freeman* has completed the first draft of his short biography (about 7000 words) of Sir Charles Arden-Close. It is to be published in 1985 as part of volume 9 of Geographers: biobibliographical Studies (Mansell). We are hoping to acquire offprints of the essay for sale to members.

Anyone who has ideas about useful publication work which this Society could undertake, or promote, is encouraged to write to Dr. Chris Board, 36 Wakefield Gardens, Upper Norwood, London SE19 2NR.

* Emeritus Professor of Geography, Victoria University of Manchester and Secretary, Commission on the History of Geographical Thought, International Union of the History and Philosophy of Science, International Geographical Union.

RECENT MEETINGS

Third AGM, London, 12 May 1984

The AGM was opened by the Chairman, Peter Clark, who pointedly kept his address brief, instructing us that our main duty of the day was the finalising of the Constitution. Thus ordered, the Officers gave short reports of their work during the year, questions were asked by members who then valiantly set to, to wrestle with paragraphs and clauses - some even appeared to enjoy themselves !

After luncheon, which was a hurried but convivial affair in an adjoining room (the pub had cancelled our booking at short notice!) we were entertained by John Paddy Browne of the O.S. Cartographic Library, who gave us a wonderfully illustrated talk on the work of some of the O.S. artists. Many of the Map Covers and drawings which he produced were new to us, and we are most grateful to him for an informative exposition. The day ended, as usual, with too little time for discussion.

Our very grateful thanks go to Professor David Rhind for the generous provision of space, to Merle Abbott for arranging the supply of the tea urn, and to Barbara Manterfield, who stoically made coffee and tea for the masses! - Y.H.

Leicester, 30th June, 1984 - notes by VS 891940

Some twenty members, including one or two new faces, gathered at Leicester on June 30th, in the Geography Department of the University. Those early risers who 'did' the town's bookshops beforehand, discovered that one of them holds the record for the most overpriced secondhand O.S. map - £18 for a New Series, 2nd (coloured) ed sheet 142. In contrast, the lunch - organised by the University and Mrs. Hodson - was excellent value, at a good deal less than £18 per head !

The morning was devoted to a talk by Brian Garvan on O.S. methods of map production and printing in the 19th century, plentifully illustrated by slides, and ranging freely over the available material, (for which a good starting point is found in the 1875 and 1902 editions of Methods and Processes of the Ordnance Survey). The slides, which encompassed such things as spring-punches for tree-symbols, and cross-sections of electrotyping baths, were copiously supplemented by numerous "real" maps, including a very early (1873) specimen of a zincographic printing of an (initially) engraved 6" sheet, of Middlesex, and what is believed to be one of the combined sheets, (in this case New Series small sheets 109 and 122, with hills), specially produced, in the 1900s, for educational use, at bargain rates.

After lunch, Guy Messenger recounted his latest researches, which were primarily into his forbears, but which involved cartography, in the form of investigating the various locales in Leicester where these people had lived. It was basically a matter of seeing how far O.S. material could be used, and to what extent it had to be supplemented by other maps. The result was a sort of illustrated bibliography of Leicester's maps over the past 150 years, demonstrating what can and can't be achieved with limited resources.

The first map to be considered was a 4" to the mile plan of Leicester prepared from O.S. MS field-survey material by Robert "Tithes" Dawson, for the boundary commissioners who worked in the wake of the 1832 Reform Acts. In June, 1835, 1" Old Series sheet 63, based on the same materials, appeared; it was to be the last thorough O.S. depiction of the area for nearly 50 years. Later states of sheet 63, exemplified by the David & Charles reprint of an 1867 state, simply had new railways added from time to time. It was therefore necessary to turn to commercial maps, and successive examples dated 1844, 1862, 1866, 1874 and 1879 recorded progressing expansion of the town; these fitted neatly with the extra-cartographic evidence provided by such as census records and local directories.

In the 1880s, the O.S. returned, and provided mapping at the 1:500, 1:2500 and 1:10,560 scales, all effectively summarised in New Series 1st edn (NS-1-0) sheet 156 of 1890. Further development of Leicester was recorded by 1" revisions of 1898, 1906 and 1916-18, and large-scale revisions of c.1900 and c.1912-14, exemplified both by slides and by original maps from the Leicester C.R.O. collection, as well as that of Guy Messenger.

As the 20th century moved on, so did the supply of O.S. material fall off; firstly there was a dearth of field-revision, and then, after 1945, there was the problem of locating known states of the various National Grid 1:1250 sheets. Once again, the assistance of commercial street-maps was enlisted, and a prodigious display of these nearly filled a very large bench-top.

The nature of the talks - both highly illustrated, and intricate in description - means that it has only been possible here to give a mere travesty of them. An item on display, not directly connected with either, but of extraordinary interest, was a book of 1:25,000 sheets of GSGS 3906, cut up into 5 x 5 km squares, covering Rutland, and annotated with field-names; it was compiled at the instance of a Home Guard officer, who cannily reasoned that many farmers would have no means of giving a grid-reference, but could locate, say, enemy paratroopers by naming a field.

Thanks are due to Guy Messenger, for providing the basic organisation, to Terry Garfield of the University of Leicester's Geography Department, and Mr. Farrell of Leicestershire County Record Office, for their assistance in making for a most interesting and original meeting.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Ordnance Survey Annual report 1982-83: Ordnance Survey, 1983. pp 32.

7 plates 11 appendices 30 cm. ISBN 0 319 00021 4 (paperback) Price £2.50.

This issue is divided in the usual manner into narrative and appendices. A short statement on the OS Advisory Board is given together with a photograph of the seven members, and describes the financial targets which were set while the future of OS as a Trading Fund was still in doubt. Every major activity of OS is covered; interesting snippets are to be gleaned: did you know that advertisements for OS products appeared on London parking meters? Or that the Maritime England map was an example of how to 'exploit the national mapping archives in novel form to meet customer requirements'? A major study of user needs for digital mapping elicited a high 67% response rate to the 830 questionnaire packs sent to a wide range of public and private sector organis-

ations. The conclusions deduced are set out in the Report.

The transfer of archaeological responsibility to the three Royal Commissioners on Historical Monuments was made on 1 April 1983, and these have taken charge of what is now known as the National Non-Intensive Record (see our first meeting of the Autumn). We learn of the disbandment of the Map Users Conference, and the re-organisation of the OS consultative committees - turn to the relevant Appendix and you will see that 'The Charles Close Society' is part of the Royal Geographical Society Ordnance Survey Education Committee (what - no major libraries on any of the committees?). Another interesting appendix shows the age bands for scales from 1:1250 to 1:25000 and reveals that more than 15000 25" plans are over 20 years old.

The Annual Report, though dry in content compared with some of its predecessors, is always a useful precis of the OS year, and the text is well-supplemented by the various informative index maps.

- Y.H.

T.R.NICHOLSON. *Wheels on the road: maps of Britain for the cyclist and Motorist 1870-1940*. Norwich: Geo.Books, 1983. pp vii, 101, illus. 23.5 cm. ISBN 0 86094 125 6 (paperback) Price £7.50 (US \$15.00)

Tim Nicholson is well-known in this Society for his unparalleled collection of OS ephemera which many have seen in part at our various meetings. His interest in OS was sharpened while completing a detailed study of the history of the motor car, on which subject he is a prolific author. His latest book 'The Birth of the British Motor Car 1769-1897' (Macmillan 1982) is an extension of his Ph.D. thesis; and this little book, which elucidates the history of road maps in Britain from 1870 to 1940, is a spin-off from his previous work.

When it comes to tackling vast subjects, Tim Nicholson appears to be fearless! Here, in a concise and most readable manner, he outlines the development of a map trade catering for an enormous market which grew steadily during the period discussed. Dreadful, but cheap maps enjoyed large, profitable print-runs; the high-quality maps, aimed at securing a reputation for excellence, were commercially less successful (someone in OS must have been reading Tim's book recently!) The impact of this highly organised map-producing network on OS is assessed and the background to the production of the OS tourist and district maps is given more clearly here than in any other work, and in this respect sets the Ordnance Survey products firmly in their social context. The narrative is complemented by a thirteen-page cartobibliography, which all map librarians will wish to study for each of the maps described was examined in its complete state - with covers, guides, advertising material, and all the associated material which normally goes missing.

This work is an important 'first' in filling a gap in the history of the

cartography of this country, and the publishers are to be congratulated on their clear production. A feature which combines with the text to make this a most worthwhile account is the inclusion of 50 black and white illustrations of excellent quality. The whole is an essential addition to the reference shelf.

- Y.H.

J.B.HARLEY, 'The Ordnance Survey 1:528 Board of Health town plans in Warwickshire 1848-1854' (In) Field and forest. An historical Geography of Warwickshire and Worcestershire edited by T.R.Slater and P.J. Jarvis. Norwich: Geo Books, 1982 pp.347-384

Three series of town plans were prepared by the Ordnance Survey during the second half of the nineteenth century. Surveyed at the scales of 1:1056, 1:528 and 1:500, all became obsolete after the 1890s, when the expense of maintaining any revision became prohibitive. This essay concentrates on the 1:528 plans of Warwickshire, which resulted from 1848 Health of Towns Act, and in it, Brian Harley makes yet another original contribution to our knowledge of Ordnance Survey history. In his exploration of previously untapped documentary sources he reveals a wealth of information, demonstrating that much still remains to be learned about O.S. It is an instructive exercise to compare this account with the description of the 'Battle of the Scales' in Seymour's History, for although Harley's is essentially a local study, it sets the context for the wider issues affecting national urban mapping, and broadens our understanding of the events surrounding OS's involvement in this field of mapping.

The conflict between local authorities and Whitehall, private surveyors and Ordnance Survey are here carefully reconstructed, principally from Public Record Office sources and demonstrate how for want of speed of execution at a reasonable cost, the OS failed to 'meet a national need for accurate and very large-scale town plans'. Of particular interest in this essay is the reproduction (not in facsimile) of part of the specification for the Warwickshire plans which came to light during the author's search of the Chadwick papers in University College.

Dr.Harley concludes that the formulation of this specification was a marked advance in the development of urban mapping in this country, and that the exercise served to persuade Government that large-scale surveys should be undertaken at public expense. It also gave Ordnance Survey valuable practical experience before taking on the 1:500 series.

- Y.H.

J.B.HARLEY and GWYN WALTERS. 'Welsh Orthography and Ordnance Survey. Mapping 1820-1905'. Archaeologia Cambrensis, CXXXI (1982), pp 98-135.

Brian Harley's collaborator on this paper, Gwyn Walters, is a Welsh linguist from the National Library of Wales, and together they have produced a fascinating account of one of the most important aspects of Ordnance Survey work; the selection and verification of place names. This was a difficult enough task in England and for the surveyor, one which was clearly fraught with problems of orthodox rendering versus local dialect in Wales. Indeed, it is obvious from the number of place-name corrections made between the states of some early Welsh one-inch sheets that surveyors initially made crude phonetic renderings of oral information. Eventually it became necessary to employ Welsh-speaking surveyors.

Many of the points made in this paper are valid for Great Britain as a whole, and it is to be hoped that the authors' planned sequel paper, reconstructing the contemporary OS treatment of Welsh place-names does not have as long a gestation period as the first.

- Y.H.

ABC London street atlas. Ordnance Survey/Newnes Books, Southampton and Feltham, 1984. pp.ix, 1-113 (index not paginated) 20.5 cm ISBN 0 600 35768 6 (paperback) Price £1.95.

Such a direct assault as this, at the beginning of the London tourist season, on a large and well-established private sector of map publishings, was bound to raise an outcry - as can be seen from the recent reactions in the press. Sales figures show that this latest OS 'cheapy' is an obvious success: published in May this year it has already (July) sold out of the first 100,000 print run and is now into its second impression of 100,000.

Any discussion of the quality of cartography which is usually expected of the national survey is out of place here for the aim is clearly to make as large a profit as possible with the least expense. Two scales are used: 1:10560 for the central London section and 1:18103 (derived from 1:50,000 'blow ups') for the surrounding area. To the layman's eye the six-inch maps are attractively printed in green, yellow, brown and blue with black lettering, and one-way systems are clearly shown. The smaller-scale maps are printed in brown with water features and lettering in blue and include footpaths, woodland and other symbols which appear on the 1:50,000 map, making this more than just an ordinary street atlas for the discerning eye. Together with lists of hotels, places of entertainment, multilingual text and a substantial index, the maps are clearly a viable commercial exercise.

- Y.H.

NEW OS MAPS

The only new special maps promised us by the 1984 O.S. Catalogue were to be the latest Outdoor Leisure map, of Dartmoor, and a new 1:10 000 town plan, of Falkirk, both due in the spring. Dartmoor arrived on time, a splendid bargain of a double-sided map for only £2.95. (I do wish the O.S. would try integral covers on outdoor Leisure double-sided maps as they have for the Doncaster and Falkirk Town Maps - the reverse is very difficult to use against the folds when a laminated cover constantly gets in the way). It is in the now standard O.S. styling already in use on the second series versions of the Dark Peak and Lake District O.L. sheets, and the Cotswold (now singular!) Tourist map, of a pale yellow background to the map with a grey border to the sheet. Dartmoor's packaging, however, is wholly new, with its O.L. series number (28) boldly printed, together with a photograph, on the cover. Thus the O.L. series joins the standard O.S. 1980's photographic cover designs, though I cannot help lamenting the passing of Harry Titcombe's vivid bird illustrations.

Other new maps have appeared unannounced. There is now an ABC street atlas of London (published in conjunction with Newnes Books and priced £1.95), which joins a very competitive market, there is a second edition of the Londinium map, and there is an O.S. first: a Tourist map at the 1:50 000 scale.

The second edition Londinium map was published just in advance of the opening on 21 May 1984 of the London Wall Walk, which is featured on the new map. The opportunity has also been grasped to make amendments to the 1981 original.

The illustration No. 12 is now directed towards the correct feature on the map.

The key is much improved with a clearer and more concise lay-out. Also improved is the map itself by being contoured, and the background colour layered, at 3' intervals, based on a survey of 1841, though apparently this survey should not necessarily be considered accurate. The fruits of the most recent research has been included, permitting the site of London Bridge to be fixed, rather than presumed, and new road finds added. One, on the corner of Bishopsgate and Threadneedle Street, has obviously led to considerable doubt in the minds of the experts as to the actual line of the road from the Bishopsgate to the Basilica, as its removal from the new edition demonstrates.

Just one carto-bibliographic curiosity: why does the O.S. not include its print code letters on either edition of this map?

Finally a brief word about the latest Tourist map, of the Broads, the first to be published at the 1:50 000 scale, and very competitively priced at £1.95. The styling of the Dartmoor O.L. cover is also used here, with its Tourist map number (11) prominently displayed. (Can anyone explain to me the logic behind the number sequence of the Tourist maps?) The now

familiar pale yellow background to the map and grey border to the sheet have been retained, and it follows the Cotswold map in having the National Grid printed in black rather than the blue of the O.L. series and standard 1:50 000 maps. The reverse is however true of the built-up area infill - screened orange rather than stipple black. The Broads map is obviously designed for the river user and walker, though the walker might be assisted by an explanation of the intended difference between 'Broadland Walk' and 'Recreational Path' (there is a misprint in the German text here). But for the driver, or cyclist, or indeed anyone else? Oh dear no. Photographs among the excellent information notes on the reverse I like. Even photographs in the sea I can just about accept, though I cannot see the necessity. But as for photographs actually covering land areas - and not just one or two, but nine in all - please, O.S., never again. Be commercial if you have to be, but there must be more acceptable ways than this.

- R.H.

NOTES AND QUERIES

"I'd like a map...." In celebration of the twenty-fifth birthday of their separate Map Reading Room the National Library of Scotland have mounted their first map exhibition. The title, which prefaces many enquiries received in the Map Room, is reflected in the different themes of the exhibits which illustrate the many different purposes for which maps have been created. The O.S. are well represented, and Margaret Wilkes the Superintendent draws attention of CCS members to a 1" brown hatchured example of a Scottish Sheet, a rare hand-coloured 1:1056 plan (Edinburgh and its environs 1852-55) and an 1890 Cavalry Manoeuvres plan of part of the Berkshire Downs. The exhibition is open until 26th September from 0930 to 1700 Monday to Friday, 0930 to 1700 Saturday, and 1400 to 1700 Sundays. Admission free, with an informative leaflet. An accompanying booklet (£1.95) about the NLS Map Room details those indexes maintained by members of staff - most prominently Peter Milne - relating to the Library's holdings of OS maps.

Information Wanted Peter Chasseaud, 10 Priory Street, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1HH (Tel: Lewes (07916) 3090) has been working on British Maps & Survey, Western Front, 1914-18 for several years, and hopes soon to publish the results in book form. Much original documentation of Field Survey Units has been lost, and he would be grateful for the loan, or a reference to the location, of any papers, photographs, war diaries etc., as well as maps, relating to this activity. The units involved were Printing Company R.E., Ranging Section, Ranging & Survey Section, Topographical Sections, Field Survey Companies/Battalions, Overseas Branch of the Ordnance Survey, Army Printing & Stationery Services. Other relevant material would also be useful.

Scots whae hae - Alan Godfrey touches 50 "Members of the Society will recall that 194 years ago on July 1st - the closing day for items for this issue - Major General William Roy died. Though his manuscript maps of the Military Survey of Scotland remain in England, he and they, have not been forgotten north of the Border.

Appropriately, a small and informal anniversary in connection with Ordnance Survey matters took place a few days earlier this year, when some six northern members of CCS, and others, found themselves celebrating a 50th anniversary. After some confusion when no-one would admit to such a birthday, it emerged that Alan Godfrey had just published his 50th map. Significantly this is a reduced facsimile of the 2nd (1897) Edition of the OS 1:2500 Stirlingshire, Sheet XVII.7. covering the St.Ninians area of Stirling and the site of the Battle of Bannockburn. On the reverse is the related 1: 10560 sheet, XVII.N.E. of 1899. Toasts were made to the role that those in northern Britain had played in the development and appreciation of early Ordnance Survey mapping, and two of the assembled company - both CCS members - found themselves asked to accept the compliment of having this 50th map dedicated to them".

- so writes Margaret Wilkes. Francis Herbert enlarges on Alan's remarkable achievement -

"The CCS membership has embraced from its inception map sellers, map dealers and publishers - A.John Coombes (who has issued some remarkably comprehensive and large catalogues of OS material), Richard Dean of Cartographics (now our editor of Sheetlines too), Jean Mahoney, Ann Young, and last but not least Alan Godfrey. Unique amongst these has been Alan with his pioneering venture into the publishing of reduced, but clear, reproductions of old OS maps - mainly 1: 2 500 scale originals - known as "The Godfrey Edition". Since starting with his present home area of Tyneside (see review in Sheetlines, December 1981 No.2, p.(7) in 1981, Alan has been helped and encouraged by many CCS members, public librarians and archivists, who have grasped at the educational potential and incredible value of his maps of NE England, central Scotland and London. Indeed, some members as well as local studies librarians have also contributed the accompanying notes printed - often with a local directory extract and a contemporary illustration - on the map sheets; throughout, also, he has had the good fortune to have the services of a fine printer.

Now, three years later, Alan has published his 50th reproduction OS map, (and by the time of issue of this Sheetlines there will be more). Time, perhaps, to celebrate the achievement of collaboration of those noted above. The review of his first efforts in this field of activity ended with "Alan must be the Sir Freddie Laker of facsimile map publishing!" Not only do we all remember what happened to Laker's business shortly after (which Alan keeps

telling me prevented him from using that quote as a sales gimmick), but two things preclude a similar rash opinion: another cheap bargain air service to the USA has just begun - and its name is Virgin. Not that I'm at a loss for words - just careful!"

English Place-name Society

Amongst the many diverse organisations with which Sir Charles Close was involved, he had a particular interest in this Society, of which he was President. From the many county volumes that they prepared for publication by Cambridge University Press, a typical page from that of Cumberland has been supplied by Colonel Richard Arden-Close which illustrates the painstaking work involved, and gives the history of many of the names adopted on the OS maps.

District and Tourist Queries From Tim Nicholson: can anyone assist?

- 1) What was the latest date at which Third Edition based maps were being sold to the public? The 1910 Cambridge District Sheet, date-coded 1912, with early 1920's Arthur Palmer pictorial cover, exists with a sticker announcing a price rise from September 1945. And what was the latest reprint of such a map? Torquay of 1914 with roads only coloured was reprinted in 1931. Any advances on these dates?
- 2) Can anyone offer a plausible explanation how a Guernsey Three-inch map of 1934 with reprint Codes 500/40 and 5000/46 could be signed and dated by a proud owner 1939? (other than deliberate pre-dating by the said owner for reasons unknown).
- 3) Does the Island of Skye Half-inch Special District Relief map of 1932 and 1937 exist in a cover other than the normal plain brown one? There is a rumour of a special pictorial cover a la Peak District (1936).
- 4) Has the Popular-based District map of York appeared in the "Special Sheet, Popular Edition" form? It seems likely since a York District map is listed throughout the 1920's and 30's, and it is improbable that this was invariably the Provisional Popular Edition sheet of 1919, even though this does exist in District-type covers. And, was either of these maps sold in covers depicting the arms of the City in red and white, as was the 6" Town Map?

Fifth Edition Publication dates

In amplification of the article in Sheetlines No.4 and Tim Nicholson's note in the following issue, Richard Oliver confirms that the original intention was apparently to publish the maps in three forms: Relief, Black Outline; and Physical Features only. Those sheets published between 1931 and 1934 (Nos.113, 114, 118, 119, 123, 127, 128, 136, 137, 138, 143, 144, 145 and 146) duly appeared in these three forms only. In 1934, as sales of the Relief format fell

short of what had been hoped for, the decision was taken to issue a "Non-Relief" style of the 5th, and new versions of all the above sheets (except, oddly, 123) were announced in the OS Publications List for January-March 1935. Publication dates were unchanged from the originals but with the addition of 1934 print-codes. The remaining 5th edition small sheets (95, 96, 106, 107, 108, 115, 124 and 125) were simultaneously published in all four versions in 1935-6.

Ordnance Survey Maps from your Post Office

It is almost 100 years since OS last tried selling maps through the Post Office. Ephemeria collectors can now acquire from their local branch a fold-out brochure (42 x 86 cm folding to 21 x 9.5 cm) which exhorts you to order your Landrangers, Tourist maps and Routemasters from the Post Office and pay by Trans Cash ! The brochure shows the location map from each of the 204 Landrangers.

What the papers say (1) Francis Herbert has sent a copy of a notice spotted in The Times of Monday 31 May 1875: this follows Dr. Brian Harley's request in Sheetlines No.1

"NOTICE. - ORDNANCE SURVEY of ENGLAND.

To LANDED PROPRIETORS, Clergymen, Agents of Estates, Parish Officers, and all others interested in having the Boundaries of the Parishes correctly ascertained and accurately laid down on the Plans of the Ordnance Survey.

THE BOUNDARIES in Part of the COUNTIES

of MONMOUTH and BRECKNOCK have been ascertained as directed by the Act of Parliament, 4th and 5th Victoria, cap.30; 9th and 10th Victoria, cap.46; and 14th and 15th Victoria, cap.22, renewed by the Act 19 and 20 Vic. Reg., cap.61 and continued in force by 32 and 33 Victoria, cap.85; and the Sketch Maps drawn, which, with the field notes of the perambulation of the following places, viz. :

(Here follows list of 39 areas in Monmouthshire and 3 in Brecknockshire)

will be open for inspection at the Town-hall, Newport, between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock, on the 9th and 10th June, 1875.

As the boundaries laid down on the Government maps were pointed out to the Ordnance Surveyors by meresmen, or persons appointed by Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace assembled in Quarter Sessions, as directed by the Acts of Parliament quoted above, the maps may possibly become evidence respecting the boundaries, and thus affect the right of rating lands. Therefore, proprietors, agents and other persons, to whom this notice is addressed, are particularly requested to examine the sketch maps, to ascertain that the boundaries of those lands in and for which they are interested have been correctly defined and laid down, and to bring with them plans of their estates for comparison with the boundary sketch maps, that, should any differences be found, they may be inquired into and corrected before the maps are engraved and published.

HENRY JAMES, Lieut-General, Royal Engineers,
Director-General.

N.B. - These are mere skeleton outline maps and do not show the boundaries of private property.

What the papers say (2) from The Daily Universal Register
(subsequently The Times of 5th December 1785 comes this extract from
Richard Oliver.

"A party of engineers and artillery, during the greatest part of last summer, have been employed, under the direction of General Ray, in surveying the county of Kent; it being the intention of government to have a survey of the whole counties of England, on a much more accurate and extensive scale than has hitherto been done. It is not however intended to publish them, because they are to contain surveys of the coast, with the landing places, and the depth of water &c, made from actual experiment. A similar plan has lately been adopted in France. Scotland has been already surveyed on the same plan some years ago; but the late war having called away the engineers, the business was put a stop to; but it is now the intention of the Master General of the Ordnance to have it completed".

["General Ray" is evidently a mistake for General Roy. The reference to France is presumably to the Cassini map of 1740-86; that to Scotland to the Roy map of 1746-55.) The reason why this snippet has been overlooked hitherto is no doubt due to the index for The Times for 1785-90 having only been published after the writing for the Seymour History and the Margery Old Series reprints had been completed. It does not fit at all easily into what has come to light in official documents, which imply that surveying in Kent did not begin until 1787 or 1788. Can anyone shed any light on this, or reconcile it with the known documentary evidence?]

MAP MARKET

WANTED - Francis Herbert has bought a leather-cased near-complete set of the $\frac{1}{2}$ " England and Wales Ministry of Transport road map (with the accompanying Index and reference book). Some maps have been sold separately before this cased set was spotted, and any member (or non-member) who can help fill in the gaps is asked to contact the above at 46 Chilcombe House, Fontley Way, Roehampton London SW15 4NB.

The maps are mounted, dissected (usually into 8 sections) and folded to a size of $11\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$ " (29 x 19.5 cm); the front and back sections have typical OS light brown covers with statement of sheet number on front at top right and full index ("Key" printed on the back. He is wanting 2, 3, 5, 6, 11, 26, 29, 30, 34, 39 and 40. These may be denoted as "in accordance with the classification for the year 1922-23" or ".... 1924-25" with 1923 reprint or just 1923 (sic) publication dates respectively.

WANTED - Anything OS, interesting or unusual, 1903-1965, maps or otherwise.

AVAILABLE - usually a motley surplus: currently some Ellis Martin non-OS watercolour landscapes; and OS staff lapel badge; a colour proof of the Snowdon Tourist Map cover; and even some maps, including 6" and 25" flat sheets, 1910+, of the Kent/Sussex border.

Tim Nicholson, 187 Russell Court, Woburn Place, London WC1.
Tel. 01 837 6319 (evenings/weekends).

WHY NOT TRY IT? A Note in this column is free to members (Your editor's advert in the last issue produced six responses and resulted in his acquiring all three maps wanted.)

PUZZLE CORNER

Which L.M. & S.R. station can be found in square S.11 on an O.S. map with a life span almost contemporary to that of the railway company? Answer in the December issue.

The map which Guy Messenger refers to in Sheetlines No.9 is GSGS 2738 Sheet 1A of September 1917 which includes London, Brighton and Southend.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Saturday 29th September 1984 - Visit to the National Non-intensive Record of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments located at OS Southampton, and now embracing the archaeological work formerly undertaken by the Ordnance Survey. Assemble at 10.30 for 11.00 hrs. lunch provided at approx £3.00 per head. For further details send SAE to Yolande Hodson,

Saturday 3rd November 1984 - Map Library, National Library of Scotland, 137 Causewayside, Edinburgh. The programme provisionally includes a talk by an OS representative on current developments in the mapping of Scotland, and an exhibiton of the Library's recent acquisitions. Coffee served from 10.00 hrs. For security purposes you are asked to notify Margaret Wilkes in advance of proposed attendance (031 667 7848 during working hours).

The British Cartographic Society's meeting on Thursday 1st November will also be open to CCS members. Their speaker on that day being Ian Kember (President Elect) of the MOD Hydrographic Department, whose subject will be remote sensing on Admiralty Charts. It may also be possible to arrange a 'social' on the evening of Friday 2nd. For further details of any of these events please send SAE to Mike Miller at

Membership

The Society is open to all at an annual subscription of £3 (UK) or £5 for family, corporate or overseas (payable in Sterling, please) members. The membership year commences on 1st March, but those joining after 1st January will be considered as paid up for the forthcoming year. Cheques payable to 'The Charles Close Society' should be sent to the Membership Secretary: Brian Garvan,

'SHEETLINES'

Contributions should be sent to the Editor: Richard Dean,
to reach him by the first of March, July,
or November for the following month's issue.