No. 27 April 1990

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EDITORIAL

As this is to be the last issue of Sheetlines for which he will be responsible, your Editor would like first to record his thanks to those who have helped him over the last three years, to Hilda Dixon who has produced the master typescript, to Peter Clark who has arranged for its reproduction and who has undertaken the distribution, and to all who have contributed articles, letters or short notes. This must include those who have contributed items which have yet to appear in our pages. While an editor may sometimes feel guilty at delays in publishing material offered, nevertheless it can be a comfort to know that there are things waiting in the file which he could use for his next issue.

Any editor will leave some sort of personal impression on his publication. This one set out his objectives in a previous editorial (Sheetlines 23). While some have been achieved, there have also been disappointments. Firstly our circle of contributors remains small. Few readers have responded to the request for short contributions while even "letters to the editor" seem to have dried up. Doesn't someone have more news, more interesting events, have spotted more relevant publications that we might have otherwise missed? Inevitably if readers rely entirely upon the editor to turn up such tittbits they will be restricted to those which appear in the particular journals that he reads or which come to him through his own limited circle of contacts. (At this point your editor must express his thanks to Peter Opie-Smith and his successor as MIPR, Charlie Payne, for allowing him to see, and to use material from OS News).

Looking ahead there are clearly important decisions to be made concerning the format and future of Sheetlines, for example whether it could/should attract advertising, whether it should be enclosed in a cover and whether we could, within the limitations of the Society's budget, improve the reproduction of illustrations. Underlying all this is the unresolved issue of whether Sheetlines is a newsletter, a substantial part of which is written by its editor or whether it is a magazine in which case the editor, by and large, should just edit. Whatever the outcome your retiring editor hopes that you will give his successor your unstinted support, which should be rather more than a few kind words at the AGM. (Until his successor is named your retiring editor will continue to deal with any correspondence relating to Sheetlines).

On a more mundane level, members receive with this issue the agenda for the 1990 Annual General Meeting. This issue incorporates the minutes of the 1989 AGM. Please bring both with you to Birkbeck College on 12 May.

Finally we come to the Editor's "red face" paragraph. When the December issue came to be assembled it emerged that squeezing in three main articles, rather than the usual two, was going to be a very tight fit indeed. Unfortunately, in the consequent re-shuffle, the notes relating to Mathew Edney's article on the OS and British Surveys in India were accidently omitted altogether. Apologies go to Mathew whose notes now appear in this issue and to readers for the inconvenience caused. Please note that the acknowledgement to the support of the US National Science Foundation applies to the article previously published as well as to the notes appearing in this issue.
198 YEARS AND 153 MERIDIANs, 152 DEFUNCT

(Continued from Sheetlines 26)

by Brian Adams

Part Four - The Story Of The County Origins

Most of the textual references to county meridians or county origins in OS publications for at least sixty-five years have contained errors, particularly as to the numbers in use at different times, whilst their graphical depiction was shown in Part Three of this series to be a cartographic disaster area. Yet they were fundamental to much the greater part of OS mapping up to the Second World War. Further words on this wider aspect fail me, but it is the purpose of this present part to record the true numbers involved. A History of the Ordnance Survey Chapter 21, mentions some of the differing arithmetic in previous publications and remarks "These discrepancies are not easy to resolve ... it is difficult to establish the initial situation and the subsequent history."

Frankly, I find this nonsense; the bones of the story are adequately documented even though some of the flesh is missing, and a day-and-a-half at Southampton, two afternoons at Kew, and some hours at Parsons Green on my calculator, sufficed to elicit the relatively few details of the old county origins which I did not know already. Chapter 21 also wrongly assigns the transfer of West Lothian to The Buck, which can only have been suggested by the incorrect editions of the maps described in Part Three. I have to admit here that some of the faulty arithmetic on county meridians is in Brigadier Winterbotham's 1938 article, whilst some of his other figures are rather suspect, and these facts cast doubt on the figures in my series title, though there is no question that they are all defunct but one.

The reasons for the adoption of county series mapping by the OS have been frequently aired and I do not wish to expand on them here; very briefly it was the normal practice at the time of the foundation of the Survey. County-based (Large Scale) OS mapping in Great Britain started in 1840 with the six-inch surveys of Lancashire and Yorkshire, using the origins of Bleasdale and York Minster; these were followed by seven Scottish counties (see Terminology, Sheetlines 26, p15), and immediately two anomalies appear. Cleisham, the origin selected for Isle of Lewis, lay three miles outside the county boundary. Although this was unusual for the time, Cleisham was a primary station of the old triangulation conveniently situated to be on the edge of the Lewis sheet line system; whether there was any thought that it would be used for the rest of the Outer Hebrides it is impossible to guess. Secondly, Fife and Kinross were published as unified counties on the origin of West Lomond; it seems to have been early recognised that because of the small size of a few Scottish counties, and the strange configurations of some prior to the extensive boundary rationalisations of 1889-91, the adoption of unified sheet line systems for some pairs of counties, one large and one small, was the only reasonable course. In such circumstances both counties were mapped together on the relevant sheets, whereas the early large scale plans were not otherwise filled to the borders with adjoining counties.

Returning to Fife and Kinross, Winterbotham (1938) makes the categorical statement "Even Kinross-shire ... had its own meridian", but had it? The actual survey consisting of angles and chainings had no origin; only when it reached the computer (a human being armed with log tables) had meridian and origin to be selected for the calculation of co-ordinates. There were certainly instances when the origin chosen initially for these calculations was superseded by another before the publication of the relevant maps, and such may have occurred in Kinross. But there is no evidence of it at all in the surviving material I have examined at Southampton and Kew, and it seems just possible that Winterbotham, writing three years after his retirement, was relying on an imperfect memory. The other
four counties first surveyed and published at the six-inch scale were Edinburgh (later Midlothian) on the origin of Edinburgh Castle, Haddington (East Lothian) on Traprain Law, Kirkcudbright on Bengray, and Wigtown on Knock of Luce.

Thereafter (glossing over the battle of the scales) the twentyfive-inch took over as the ruling scale, but the same pattern of county mapping continued, with Clackmannan & Perth and Argyll & Bute published as unified counties. The 'skeleton' survey of London, undertaken forty years before the creation of the County of London, adopted St Paul's Cathedral as its origin, and this was followed in 1862 by the full survey which was in effect the most extensive of the old town surveys. The Middlesex county survey was executed concurrently with this and naturally used the same origin, but the Hertfordshire survey commenced three years later was also published on the meridian of St Paul's. Although Middlesex and Hertfordshire were drawn on the same origin with a single continuous system of sheet lines, they were not published as unified counties as defined in my terminology but formed two separate series of maps, each individually numbered. However the secondary and tertiary surveys were linked across the common boundary and the cross-boundary sheets were joint sheets with dual numbers in both series.

This first publication of combined non-unified counties was tangible recognition of the difficulty caused by adjoining areas having been independently surveyed and mapped and simply not joining properly. It set the pattern for the greater part of the remaining county series mapping with blocks of combined counties of increasing size, culminating in twelve Welsh and Marcher counties on the origin of Llangeinor and fifteen central English counties on the origin of Dunnoose. For some reason, however, combined counties found little early favour in Scotland apart from the unusual case of Aberdeen and Banff, two more pairs of unified counties (Ross & Cromarty - then still separate counties - on Scournapalich and Orkney & Shetland, or Zetland, on Foula), and the special cases of the Inner and Outer Hebrides. The origin selected for Aberdeen was The Buck, which was also well situated to be that for Banff although at that time it was four miles outside the latter county. So the two were mapped as combined counties but with the cross-boundary sheets issued as two individual sheets, neither filled to the border with the other's ground. Yet these counties were and always remained indexed together on the same sheet and I suspect they may have been intended originally to be unified counties, but were numbered separately under the influence of the almost simultaneous publication of Middlesex and Hertfordshire.

This phase of county mapping was completed in 1891, with all but the original nine six-inch counties having been published on both the twentyfive- and six-inch scales and there was a total of forty-nine county origins in use in Great Britain and the Isle of Man. There followed 'one of the Ordnance Survey's worst errors' (A History of the OS), the infamous episode of the Replotted Counties whose twentyfive-inch maps were largely drawn from the old six-inch surveys from 1887 onwards. The only good thing to emerge from this operation was the tardy emergence of two sets of combined counties in Scotland, where the six mainland counties involved were transferred on to two other existing origins, Kirkcudbright and Wigtown being redrawn on the Ayrshire meridian of Brown Carrick, and Edinburgh, Fife & Kinross and Haddington being redrawn on The Buck. It is a pity that this aspect of the Replotted Counties operation is omitted from the Seymour-edited History as it was the first time that the plans of a published county were transferred, that is redrawn on a new origin with a new set of sheet lines on a slightly different orientation. But an even more significant operation executed a few years later, over the turn of the century, was the transfer of Kincardine from its first origin of Caerloch also on to The Buck. This was the first transfer of a county which had already been published on the twentyfive-inch scale, predating the next by a dozen years, and yet it seems almost certain that it has never been mentioned in print. It was not described in OS reports of the time, nor in the more recent standard works, and I am indebted to Michael Wood and his colleagues at Aberdeen University for confirmation that it does not seem to have
been recorded locally. A glance at the map will suggest that the transfer of the Forthside replotted counties on to The Buck must have been carried out with the eventual transfer of the intervening counties of Forfar (Angus) and Kincardine also in mind, yet the whole process of thought and partial (?) execution appears destined to remain an intriguing mystery.

There were now still forty-three origins in use and the problems of adjoining counties on different origins were becoming more pressing, especially where built-up or industrialised areas crossed the boundaries of non-combined counties. It should also be mentioned that most of the principal estuaries had their opposite shores in different counties, and the hydrographic surveyor, working for example in the Thames Estuary, could fix his position from up stations in Essex or from those in Kent, but he could not obtain a fix from a mix of stations on both sides of the estuary. So it was that Colonel Charles Close decided in 1912 to institute a rolling programme to transfer one-by-one as many counties as possible on to other existing origins, but still recognising that Cassini's projection was not suitable for areas wider than about three average counties at the large scales. The procedure was firstly to compute the co-ordinates of the relevant primary and secondary stations of the new origin, then to re-compute the tertiary points from the old observations on to the new positions, and hence to redraw the plans on the new sheet lines. It has to be said, however, that combining independent surveys on to a single map does not eliminate the intrinsic problems, but merely presents them in a new form.

The programme commenced in earnest in 1913, was interrupted by the First World War, and had to be abandoned 'temporarily' in the post-war stringencies of 1919, never to be resuscitated. By 1919 six counties had been transferred and five origins, not six as has often been stated, had been eliminated, leaving a total of thirty-eight in use for the final period of county series mapping. In Scotland, Dumbarton (later Dunbarton), Linlithgow (West Lothian), Roxburgh and Stirling were all transferred on to Lanark Church Spire, whilst in England, Northumberland was transferred on to Brandon Down and Essex on to St Paul's; this programme eliminated the old origins of the first five (Dumbarton Castle, Mount Airy, Rubers Law, Corkmulaw, Simonside respectively) but the former Essex origin, Danbury Church Spire, still remained in service for Cambridge, Huntingdon, Norfolk and Suffolk, although outwith that combined area. When the transfer programme ceased the data had been re-computed for five more counties - Cambridge, Huntingdon and Suffolk to go on to St Paul's, Dumfries and Selkirk on to Lanark Church Spire - and (not previously recorded) the new sheet line patterns had been devised and the latitudes and longitudes of the full six-inch sheet corners calculated for four more - Norfolk (sheet numbering provisional), Berwick, Edinburgh (Midlothan) and Peebles, on to the same two origins.

Winterbotham (The National Plans) states in his Chronology, Section 27, but not in the main text of Section 12, that Close intended to reduce the number of meridians to eleven. He also lists in Section 12 what he terms 'the remainder of Close's programme' but which only includes the counties south of the River and Firth of Forth, and shows that these would have been combined into eight blocks. The limits of these blocks, the origins involved, and the stages reached in the different counties are illustrated on the map herewith; it will be noticed that four of the replotted counties were to have been transferred a second time! Looking at the areas north of the Forth and west of Loch Long, I conclude that Close's supposed target of eleven could only be met if his programme were restricted to the mainland of Great Britain plus the Inner Hebrides, and my map also depicts a purely personal suggestion as to how the programme might have been completed on that basis. I finish with a table summarising the numbers and changes of county origins in Great Britain and the Isle of Man:-
COUNTY ORIGIN (1920)

- Actual position
- Position shown in OS publications
- Actual position, where the error in OS publications is 3 miles or less
- Superseded before 1920
- National origin for small scale maps on Cassini's projection, and its meridian

A&S Unified counties

TRANSFER OF COUNTIES

1890s OPERATIONS

X Replotted (not transferred)
Y Replotted & transferred
Z 25" county transferred

CLOZE'S PROGRAMME

Origin to be retained
Combined counties proposed
----- New origin undecided
1 Transferred & published
2 Trig points recalcualted
3 6" sheet corners calculated
4 Also listed by Winterbotham
0 Possible completion
---- (suggested by Adams)

For abbreviations see Sheetlines 26 page 20

ECS is origin for N
FBS " " EL FBBK and W

DCS is origin for C, H, M and S
(and was for K before 1920)
Origins used for the first county plans

- either 6-inch or 25-inch 49
- Replotted counties, total 9
- Replotted counties transferred - counties 6
- - origins 5
- 25-inch county transferred 1899 plus 1
- Origins in use 1902-1913 43
- Close’s programme - counties transferred 6
- - origins eliminated 5
- Origins remaining in use 1919 plus 38

Part Five - Ireland

I derived my series title from Brigadier Winterbotham's 1938 article '150 Years and 150 Meridians' and so far I have followed him in restricting my coverage to Great Britain and the Isle of Man, but I wish to conclude by highlighting the situation in Ireland, one of those select places fashioned by nature to fit neatly on to the page of an atlas and equally neatly bisected by the meridian of longitude 8° west of Greenwich. This meridian has served as the central meridian for all the national OS projections of Ireland, the Bonne's projection used for the old one-inch and smaller scale maps, the old Irish Grid on Cassini's projection used for military versions, and the Transverse Mercator projection of Ireland and the new Irish Grid which is its visual manifestation. All these, too, have a common centrally-placed true origin, situated just in the waters of Lough Ree, at latitude 53°30'N longitude 8°00'W, forming a distinct contrast to the four national meridians which have been used in Great Britain, Delamere, 4°W, Dunnose, and 2°W.

So, is Ireland then a cartographer's dream? - for small scales maybe, but for larger scales it has been a cartographer's nightmare. Winterbotham refers to "respectable fully-fledged" meridians; taking these words out of context it could be said that Ireland had only one such, 8°W as above, for all the others were at best provisional. Under pressure to commence large scale surveying in Ireland, the OS started while the primary triangulation was still being completed and well before it was computed and adjusted. Consequently, only provisional values could be determined for the positions of the thirty-two county origins, and no latitude or longitude figures were provided in the sheet borders. But not just their positions were provisional, so were the corresponding directions of true north, and although each county six-inch series could stand on its own as a separate ungraded block, something had to be done when the time came to reduce the thirty-two blocks into a cohesive whole to draw the one-inch series. So the computing staff at Southampton carried out an intriguing but completely lost 'adjustment' to bring the thirty-two blocks into some sort of sympathy, resulting in another set of provisional geographical positions for the county origins and thirty-two 'county twists' or angles of rotation, each applied to the respective county six-inch block in its entirety. The county twists ranged from 32.82 seconds anti-clockwise to 48.34 seconds clockwise, in the sense to bring the county sheet lines on to true north. No suggestion ever appears to have been made to transfer counties and form combined blocks in Ireland.

So far I have omitted reference to the town plans, and it may have been them and the indeterminate nature of much of their surveying backgrounds that decided Winterbotham to omit reference to Ireland altogether; I am indebted to Professor
John Andrews for some additional background to his published works on the subject. It is difficult to decide whether the original manuscript plans would have come within the Brigadier's terms of reference; some fall distinctly short of his requirements whilst the Dublin series was eventually published and would certainly have qualified. Suffice to say here that 125 towns were drawn, probably all on their own meridians, but 19 of these contained their respective county origins and may therefore be expected to have shared those origins (but I decline to say confidently expected). Moving forward to the printed town plans, although they were surveyed independently they were tied in, or more probably forced in, to the surrounding smaller scale work and the majority were on the county origins, but further research is needed to ascertain whether some of the earlier printed plans were oriented on local origins. It therefore appears that the total number of origins or meridians used in Ireland was about 140.

I finish with a Government Health Warning for the unwary - Irish large scale plans can seriously damage your calculations. These plans are drawn to a different module from those in Great Britain, for they are related to the Irish full six-inch sheet size which represents 32000 feet x 21000 feet, not immediately obviously different from the 31680 feet x 21120 feet of the Great Britain plan sheets.

References


Murphy, Thomas The Latitudes and Longitudes of the Six-Inch Sheet Maps of Ireland, Geophysical Bulletin No 13, Dublin, Institute for Advanced Studies 1956.


- - The Replotted Counties, Supplement to .. (above), Official Use Only, OSO Southampton 1934.

- - 150 Years and 150 Meridians, Empire Survey Review Vol.4. (1938) pp 322-326.

Addendum to Part One - Towards a National Grid

'The Choice of a Grid for British Maps' (References, Sheetlines 25, p7), reporting a discussion meeting of the Royal Geographical Society in March 1924, records an early use, possibly the first public use, of the expression "national grid". But the first stirrings towards a national Ordnance Survey Grid, as distinct from a military grid, had appeared a few years earlier. The one-inch Third Edition (Large Sheet Series) had carried an alpha-numeric reference system marked off by cross-ticks in the borders at two inch, or more correctly two scale mile, intervals. Guy Messenger records that on four of the special District sheets of this series the ticks were joined across the face of the map forming a system of two mile squares; starting from the north-west corner these were lettered from A southwards (omitting I) and numbered from 1 eastwards, finishing where necessary with intervals of odd lengths adjoining the east and south borders.

This system was then adopted for the Popular Edition maps of England & Wales, forming as I remarked in Part One an un-numbered Cassini grid, but one which was individual to the sheet concerned. However, on sheets published from 1920 onwards the system was amended so that the squares formed part of a continuous semi-national
two mile grid. Thus standard sheets 35 and 37 conformed to the pattern stated above with one mile wide rectangles numbered 14 at their east ends, but the adjoining sheets 36 and 38 had one mile rectangles numbered 1 at their west ends forming two mile squares with the aforementioned number 14s. The standard sheets were all nine squares deep (A to J), and so the portrait sheets 1 and 2 had rows of one mile rectangles lettered A against their north borders so as to finish with two mile squares (lettered 0) against their south borders adjoining the standard sheets 3 and 4. The portrait sheets 8 and 18 had rows of one mile rectangles on both their west and east sides, numbered 1 and 10 respectively, in order to conform to the continuous grid line system.

This semi-national two mile grid was used for sheets 43 to 47, then 35 to 40 and all sheets northward except 17 (Isle of Man), and on the extension of the Popular Edition to Scotland was duly completed across the whole of that country. All these grid lines are co-ordinate lines of the national Cassini projection on the origin of Delamere, and their co-ordinates are all multiples of 10,560 feet added to the particular co-ordinate of the relevant side of the two mile square containing Delamere; the co-ordinates of the sides of this square (which lies half on sheet 43 and half on sheet 44) are:—

8970 feet west 6700 feet north 1590 feet east
3860 feet south

(Concluded)

THE ORDNANCE SURVEY AND BRITISH SURVEYS IN INDIA

by Mathew Edney

Notes on the Paper Published In Sheetlines No. 26.

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1 India Office Records (IOR) E/1/150, ff.477-79: James Gardner, Memorial, 29 Apr. 1823. For Gardner’s Board appointment, see W.A. Seymour, ed., A History of the Ordnance Survey (Folkestone, 1980), 100.

2 University of Nottingham (UN), Manuscripts Department, Ne P 27 and 28 respectively.


6 Phillimore, 1:164 and 190.

8 Seymour, ed., 21-22.

9 The only known account of this survey is Royal Society L & P.X.140: "A Short Account of the late Mr. Reuben Barrow's (sic) Measurement of a Degree of Longitude, and Another of Latitude, near the Tropic in Bengal, in the Years 1790, 1791" by Isaac Dalby, written between November 1795 and May 1796.

10 IOR P/254/52, 746-57, esp. 748-49: Madras Military and Political Consultations, 11 Feb. 1800: "A Plan of a Mathematical and Geographical Survey extending across the Peninsula of India proposed to be carried into Execution by Brigade Major Lambton. Fort St. George, 10th February 1800."


14 Close, 154, excerpts two letters from Everest to Colby, dated 27 June and 23 Nov. 1829.


17 IOR E/4/720: Court to Bengal, revenue letter, 26 Sep. 1827, paras. 2 and 3. The report was, of course, BPP 1824 (445) 8: "Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to consider of the Best Mode of Apportioning more equally the local burthen's collected in Ireland, and to provide for a general survey and valuation of that part of the United Kingdom."

18 IOR L/MIL/5/413 306, f.11: J.D. Dickenson to Jervis, 9 Sep. 1837.


20 BL Add. 36469, ff.32-34: Jervis to Hobhouse, 27 Jun. 1838. Charles Close, The Early Years of the Ordnance Survey (London, 1969, 2nd ed), 93, cites a letter by Colby of 5 June 1838 that Jervis and Loch 'took up his day'.


22 BL Add. 36469, ff.166-68: Jervis to Hobhouse, 9 Nov. 1838; idem, ff.182-83: Jervis to Hobhouse, 15 Nov. 1838; idem, ff.184-85: Jervis to Hobhouse, undated but after 15 Nov. 1838.

23 BL Add. 36469, f.189: Memorandum, probably by Hobhouse, undated but certainly Nov. 1838.

Editor's Note
Owing to pressure on space these notes were unintentionally separated from the paper to which they relate. The Editor apologises for the inconvenience caused to readers.
THE EARLIEST 'TEN-MILE' MAP

by Roger Hellyer and Richard Oliver

Although the 'ten-mile' (1:633,600) map, and its 1:625,000 successor, covered and covers Great Britain in relatively few sheets, (currently two, or just one if you buy the 'Routeplanner'), it has nonetheless appeared in a great many guises, not least in serving as the basis for the 'Planning Series' produced by the Ordnance Survey from 1942 onwards. This family of maps is now under investigation by Roger Hellyer, assisted by Richard Oliver.

The first 'ten-mile' covering Great Britain to be completed by the Ordnance Survey appears to have been published in 1890. In three sheets, it showed basic topography, and the sheetlines of the one-inch map of Scotland, which had been completed in 'outline' in 1887, and of the one-inch New Series map of England and Wales, which was not in fact finished until 1896. Although no doubt useful as a general map of Britain, its avowed purpose was that of an index to the one-inch, and, indeed, its topography in the part of Britain lying south of a line from Preston to Hull - the south part of sheet 2 and the whole of sheet 3 - differed from that of the New Series mapping of those parts in a number of details, such as road classification. The reason for this was that in southern Britain, at least, the 'ten-mile' of 1890 was anything but new mapping. It had started as an index to the one-inch Old Series, and it was converted to an index to the New Series by the simple expedient of deleting one lot of sheet lines and numbers, and substituting another. Completion of the south sheet, covering Old Series sheets 1 to 84, was authorised in June 1840, (1) and the remaining sheets were completed as the one-inch map crawled northwards, often before the one-inch itself had been published. (It would have been much quicker to engrave than a standard one-inch sheet, covering a hundreth of the area, and lacking hachuring). To give a single example, one of the authors has seen, in a private collection, a state of the sheet covering northern England and southern Scotland in which the Thirsk and Malton Railway in the area of Old Series sheet 96 SW is shown discontinuously, thereby corresponding to Yorkshire 6-inch sheet 104 (surveyed c.1852), rather than to the one-inch 96 SW as published in 1859. This specimen, like a number of others, forms an appendix to a complete set of the Old Series, and many of the extant copies of the 'ten-mile' survive in this form, or else cut up into sections and pasted onto the front of sectioned Old Series sheets.

The date usually quoted for the start of the 'ten-mile' is circa 1817, (2). As is quite well known, between 1811 and 1816 the sale of the one-inch to the public was banned by the War Office on security grounds. Once the ban was lifted it was presumably considered desirable to do something about publicising the maps, and as well as issuing a leaflet, (there is a copy in BL Maps 148.e.27, the so-called 'Banks set' of the Old Series, which belonged originally to Sir Joseph Banks, who died in 1820), it was presumably thought worth the trouble to engrave an index. This is to an extent confirmed by an entry in the Board of Ordnance minutes of 27 June 1817, when, in connexion with a contemplated enterprise of John Cary's for using the Old Series as the basis for a smaller-scale map of Cornwall, William Mudge, then in charge of the Survey, suggested that the Ordnance make its own 'reduced Map', scale unspecified. (3) This is circumstantial evidence for the beginnings of the 'ten-mile'.

What is presumably a very early state of what would later be the south sheet of the ten-mile index-map of Great Britain is in 'the Banks set', BL Maps 148.e.27. This early copy shows Old Series sheets 1-6, 8-12, 14-33, 36-40, 47, 48 and 58 fully engraved, and has sheets 7, 13 and 41 shown in skeleton form, with main roads, rivers, village sites and clusters of buildings for towns, but no names. It has neat lines and the single word 'INDEX' in the sea, bottom right. The rest of the map, covering what would be much of Wales, the Midlands and East Anglia, is blank.

Those who know their Old Series publication dates will at first be somewhat
perplexed by this. The sheet includes all those sheets published by the time of Banks' death in 1820, but it also includes sheets 36 (published 1833) and 37 (published 1830) in complete form, yet it shows sheets 7 (published 1822), 13 (1830), and 41 (1830), in incomplete form, and omits entirely sheets 34, 35, 44, 64, 65, 70, 71, 83 and 84, published between 1824 and 1830; all of which appears inconsistent. The solution to this riddle is hinted at by the name CAERTAFF in sheet 36. On the published one-inch sheet 36, as on a 'complete' ten-mile sheet of c.1843 also in Maps 148.e.27, (i.e. added, like the copies of the Lincolnshire sheets in the same set, a long while after Banks' death), this name is rendered in its modern form, CARDIFF. 'Caertaff' was the form recorded by whoever surveyed the Cardiff area c.1811, i.e. some years before the War Office lifted its ban and, it is presumed, the index was first engraved. Further comparison of the area covered by sheets 7, 13, 36, 37 and 41 with the same areas as shown on the 'complete' south sheet of the ten-mile in Maps 148.e.27 shows a number of other cases where roads and other details were revised along similar lines. The 'answer' would seem to be that the engraving of sheets 7, 13, 36, 37 and 41 had been started before 1820; proofs of sheets 36 and 37, for instance, were printed in July 1820, although in the event further work on these sheets was delayed until further field revision had been undertaken.

What we would like to establish is, does this copy in BL Maps 148.e.27 represent the earliest state of the 'ten-mile', or does anyone know for sure an earlier, i.e. even less complete?

Anyone able to help is asked to write either to Roger Hellyer, 60 Albany Road, Stratford on Avon, Warwickshire, CV3 6PQ, or Richard Oliver, Hollies, Lunghurst Road, Woldingham, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 7EG.

Notes

(1) PRO WO 47/1865, pp 7829-30

(2) e.g. Yolande Hodson, Ordnance Surveyors Drawings 1789-c.1840, (Reading, Research Publications, 1989, p.91)

(3) PRO WO 47/661, pp.2406-7

(4) PRO OS 3/279, p.68

(5) For revision of the drawings for the Old Series before publication, see the introductory essays in Harry Margary, The Old Series Ordnance Survey, vols 4 (1986), 5 (1987) and 6 (forthcoming).

Acknowledgements are due to Yolande Hodson, Ian Mumford and Ian O'Brien for their comments on an earlier version of this note, and to Dr Brian Harley for access to his collection of copies and notes on Board of Ordnance papers.

SOCIETY NEWS AND AFFAIRS

Minutes Of The 1989 Annual General Meeting

THE CHARLES CLOSE SOCIETY

MINUTES of the EIGHTH Annual General Meeting of the Charles Close Society, held on Saturday 13 May 1989 at Birkbeck College, University of London.

Apologies for absence were read out.

1.00 Minutes of the Seventh Annual General Meeting, 14 May 1988.
1.01 The acceptance of the Minutes of the Seventh Annual General Meeting was proposed by Tim Nicholson, seconded by Prof. Campbell and agreed to by the members.

2.00 Matters arising from these Minutes and not otherwise on the Agenda.

2.01 **Logo Competition** The Chairman reported that a winning design had been selected, but was being redrawn, and the winner would be announced in the September issue of *Sheetlines*, and the prize was to be presented at the Southampton meeting in October.

3.00 Hon. Secretary's report.

3.01 **Meetings** A brief résumé was given of the three meetings held by the Society on archaeological mapping, the Edinburgh 3-Day Event and the Harry Margary visit.

3.02 **Acquisitions** The Society's acquisitions for the year 1988/89 are reproduced in full in *Sheetlines* 25.

3.03 **OS Bicentenary** It had been agreed that the CCS should mount an exhibition at the RGS in the summer of 1991. The main theme of the exhibition would be the history and development of the one-inch map, enlivened by the inclusion of as much ephemeral material as possible. Members were asked for suggestions as soon as possible.

3.04 **Publicity Leaflet** A new leaflet had just been produced; the drawing office of the ISE was thanked for providing the artwork.

3.05 **Programme** The October meeting was announced; no date was available yet for the Edinburgh 3-Day Event.

4.00 Hon. Treasurer's Report.

4.01 **Financial year** The CCS financial year should run from 1 March - 28 February, to coincide with the membership year. This period had lapsed unnoticed in recent years, and this year's accounts were therefore presented for an eleven-month period, 1 April 1988 - 28 February 1989 to redress the balance.

4.02 **Balance Sheet** Although the balance sheet indicated a profit of £600 for 1988/9, two bills were soon to be paid: 1) £400 for the new editions of Richard Oliver's 5th and 6th edition booklets and 2) £100 for the publicity leaflets. The real profit was therefore reduced to about £100.

4.03 **National Savings Investment Account** A National Savings Investment Account was opened in June 1988. This was not taxed at source, an advantage for registered charities, such as the CCS, which is exempt from tax payment. (It was not possible, for example, to reclaim tax paid on the interest earned from a building society account). It was predicted that the new account would earn the Society an extra £100 p.a.

4.04 **Refund of charges** The bank had refunded all the charges (£44) paid by the Society since it had registered as a charity. No further charges would be made while the account remained in credit.

4.05 **Publications** Guy Messenger's Monograph was now making a profit. No further publications had appeared in the current year, and therefore all sales, amounting to about £200, were pure profit.
4.06 Sheetlines  The production costs had mounted during the year from about £130 to £190, owing to an increase in printing and typing costs. This was offset by a higher standard of production.

4.07 Balances  The closing balances, as at 28.2.89, were: Deposit £532.85; Current £163.09; Nat. Sav. a/c £1250.

4.08 Auditor  On behalf of the committee and members, the Hon. Treasurer thanked Tony Meatyard for auditing the accounts.

5.00 Hon. Membership Secretary's Report.

5.01 Membership analysis  The following breakdown of membership was given:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members at 1 March 1988</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New members during 1988/89</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former members rejoined during 1988/9</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members resigned during 1988/9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members removed for nonpayment at 28/2/89</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members at 1 March 1989</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New members since 1 March 1989</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member subscribers to Sheetlines</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1989/90 subscriptions paid to date 49

The dollar subscription rate for overseas members had been increased to reflect the exchange rate. Overseas subscribers had also been given the option of choosing between airmail and surface mail.

5.02 Resignation  The membership secretary had decided, with regret, that after four years in that position, the pressure of other commitments made it necessary for her to resign at the next AGM, if not before. Volunteers for the job were requested.

5.03 The Chairman thanked the Membership Secretary for her unremitting hard work for the Society, and also thanked her for giving a generous year's notice of her resignation.

6.00 Hon. Editor's Report.

6.01 Three issues of Sheetlines, nos. 22-24, had been produced since the last AGM. The Editor expressed his thanks to the Royal Geographical Society for their continued help in dispatching the newsletter.

6.02 Content of newsletter  Various views had been expressed by the members, and the conclusion to be drawn was that a good mix of material was essential. An editorial policy statement had been given in Sheetlines 23 which did not seem to have provoked any positive criticism.

6.03 Upgrading of Sheetlines  Discussions on improving the quality of publication, and the inclusion of advertisements and illustrations, had taken place, but no firm decision had been made.

7.00 Publications Sub-Committee Report.

7.01 The Sub-Committee had met once on 3 December 1988 at which sales of publications and progress towards further ones were reviewed. Three numbers of Sheetlines had been edited by Ian O'Brien, with his usual close attention to consistently high quality. The question of Sheetlines
carrying advertising had been investigated but, as there had been no opportunity to hold a further meeting of the Sub-Committee, it had not yet been finally resolved.

7.02 Sales Sales of publications had been encouraging. Guy Messenger's Monograph had sold sufficiently well to pay him a small royalty, although the Sub-Committee decided that this would not be regarded as a precedent. Richard Oliver's two booklets on the One Inch Fifth Edition had sold so well that second editions were thought desirable, and had recently been published.

7.03 Geographical Journal reprint The project to reprint several articles from the Geographical Journal which were devoted to Ordnance Survey matters was reconsidered in view of the forthcoming OS bicentenary in 1991; it had been decided to expand the coverage of this publication to include some significant papers to 1941. Publication was envisaged for 1991. No further booklets or monographs were nearing publication, but the Sub-Committee was anxious to hear from any member who was actively preparing a manuscript.

7.04 Copyright It had been decided that the copyright of signed and pseudonymous articles in Sheetlines should be that of the author(s). The Sub-Committee also clarified the prices of Sheetlines charged to non-members or agents, and at what point an issue became a back-number. All details about these could be obtained from the Publications Manager.

7.05 The Society was grateful to all the authors of articles in Sheetlines and to those who had contributed by editing and proof-reading. We were fortunate to have in Ian O'Brien an editor who made light of the burden of producing three issues a year and could maintain an engaging and hard-hitting correspondence. Guy Messenger's success in managing a growing list of publications greatly helped to keep the Society in the black. As ever, Richard Oliver's indefatigable efforts as secretary to the Sub-Committee had borne much fruit. Our small, specialist Society was indebted to the many hours of work selflessly put in by volunteers and enthusiasts, only some of whom had been singled out in this report.

8.00 Election of Officers and committee members.

8.01 There being no further nominations, the re-election of the present officers and committee-members was proposed by Andrew Cook, seconded by Ian Mumford and carried by the members.

9.00 Appointment of an Auditor.

9.01 Tony Meatyard had signified himself willing to continue as auditor and his re-appointment was proposed by Wilbur Cooke, seconded by Richard Oliver and carried by the members.

9.02 Ian Mumford proposed a vote of thanks to Tony for his continued goodwill in auditing the Society's accounts. This was unanimously agreed by the members.

10.00 Any Other Business.

10.01 Col. Arden-Close proposed that there should be more emphasis on archaeology in Sheetlines, and asked if it could be possible to pay subscriptions by direct debit.

10.02 Professor Eila Campbell thanked the committee for their hard work during the year.

Yolande Hodson
Hon. Secretary
The Society And The Data Protection Act 1984

It is intended to keep the Society's current membership records on a computer database. In order to claim an exemption from Registration under the Data Protection Act 1984, every member must be asked whether they object to the personal data relating to them being held on a database.

Data to be held will be:

1. Name and address of member.
2. Membership number.
3. Contact person for corporate membership.
4. Type of membership if other than personal (e.g. OM, Overseas Member).
5. Code indicating subscription payments.

E.g. David Archer, The Pentre, Kerry, Newtown, Powys SY16 4PD.
    Member 18.
    Subscriptions: P89, P90.

The data held will be used by the Committee in running the Society, for publishing a Membership List at intervals, and for putting new and existing members in touch with each other.

The Committee therefore asks that any member who does not want their personal data kept on the database, should write to the Membership Assistant as soon as possible. Similarly, any member who does not want their name and address to appear on the Membership List, or to be given to other members, should also write to the Membership Assistant, as soon as possible.

The 1990 Membership List will be published with the next issue of Sheetlines.

Membership Assistant: David Archer, The Pentre, Kerry, Newtown, Powys SY16 4PD.

Donations To Funds

The Society has received two donations to its funds: £200 for the publications fund and £500 towards the CCS OS 1991 exhibition. This money forms a substantial contribution to our relatively meagre financial resources, and we are most grateful indeed to the donor, who wishes to remain anonymous.

Yolande Hodson
Hon. Secretary

Meeting At The British Library 17 March 1990

Some Aspects of The Large Scale Series

Tony Campbell welcomed some fifteen CCS members to the British Library's Map Library for a study meeting largely devoted to the large scale series. He apologised for the difficulties participants had experienced in finding their way to the meeting place due to the Museum's current building works but things should be better arranged in the new St Pancras building where a separate seminar room was planned. In the meantime the Library was copying the First edition of the 1:2500 series onto 105 mm microfiche. While this was planned primarily as a conservation measure it would also improve reader access to sheets of those counties which were published on a parish basis.

Work was proceeding by counties (in alphabetical order). So far it was 50% complete. There was a threat that financial cutbacks would cause progress to be delayed but the task should be completed in any case before the move to St. Pancras in 1996.
Among other things the project had revealed some hitherto unrecognised changes in sheetlines.

The first of the two main speakers was Alan Godfrey, who described how his programme for reprinting 1:2500 (and larger scale) plans of urban areas had drawn attention to some unappreciated aspects of these series. No libraries have truly complete sets of the 1:2500 series while British libraries tend to be particularly weak in their holdings of Irish large scale plans. Many "First Edition" 1:2500 sheets were given extensive revision at some point and, contrary to general belief, such revision was not confined to railway developments. (Durham Sheet 37.11, West Hartlepool, was displayed as an example.) Such revision was not always mentioned in the marginal notes. It was also noted that there were discrepancies between the survey dates quoted on the First and Second Editions of some sheets which appeared to arise from a change in the criteria applied by OS. When selecting sheets to be reproduced in the Godfrey Edition it could be necessary to pass over the earliest issues because detail was omitted beyond a parish boundary or because a sheet had been coloured. The majority of Godfrey Editions were reprints from the Second Edition of the 1:2500 series. In a few cases it had been possible to use the special editions produced for the Inland Revenue’s valuation programme following the 1909 Budget. These had the merit of distinguishing between original and revised detail. It was noted that sheets of this edition, and of others produced for specific clients, were very poorly represented in copyright library holdings. It seemed that where issues did not appear on OS publication lists the Survey had recognised no obligation to deposit copies. The reprint programme had also drawn attention to the drastic change of policy in the later 1860s which caused the omission of internal detail previously shown in military establishments and prisons. (Did the attempted mass breakout from Clerkenwell in 1867 lie behind this?).

Looking ahead, Alan felt the time had come to move into the "Shire Counties" with the object that the Godfrey Editions should cover all significant towns in UK by the year 2000. The towns of Cumberland, requiring 12 sheets, would be completed first. Work was also in progress on Dorset and Hertfordshire, probably to be followed by either Worcestershire or Shropshire, a Scottish County and a Welsh County. Critical factors in planning the programme were the location of suitable originals for copying and the identification of potential contributors of written material. It appeared that for many purchasers, the notes, and the directory extracts on the back, were almost as important as the maps they accompanied. It was necessary to sell 400 copies of any map to cover basic costs. In reply to a question Alan said that it had been decided very early on that the main map should always retain its original sheetlines.

After lunch, Richard Oliver considered what was the size of the large scale archive that we needed to safeguard for posterity. Looking at the National Grid series it had been estimated at the time of the Davidson Committee that 220,000 1:2500 sheets would be required. Harley (1973) quoted 170,163 but clearly there had been a further decline, with the decision not to maintain sheets wholly covered by the 1:1250 series (on the other hand the decision that for "digital" areas cover would be recorded by 1km x 1km "sheets" could be held to imply an increase). Early estimates had allowed for about 35,000 1:1250 sheets but with the progressive extension of areas programmed at this scale the present total was about 55,000 sheets. (These figures took no account of the number of revised editions).

Richard then focussed attention upon an area comprising North East Lincolnshire (including Grimsby) and the Yorkshire shore of the Lower Humber. Apart from including his birthplace (appropriately it was Richard’s birthday!) it illustrated many of the points requiring consideration. The Lincolnshire section was surveyed in the 1880s, rural areas published at 1:2500 and Grimsby town also at 1:500. When the first revision of the 1:2500 took place in the 1900s, Grimsby Council accepted an OS offer to revise their 1:500 sheets for £327. Not only were the original sheets revised but new 1:500 sheets were prepared covering areas built-up
since the previous survey. None of these were deposited in the copyright libraries, nor were sheets subsequently revised for the Inland Revenue's land valuers. Fortunately a complete set of the 1:500 plans has been preserved in the Humberside Records Office.

Subsequently patchy 1:2500 revision took place in the area up to 1940. (Some of the revised sheets were not published until peace returned). It was not always easy to explain the selection of sheets for revision in relation to known areas of development. An interesting case was Yorkshire Sheet 269.15, Spurn Head, apparently revised solely to show a single track railway line which ran down the promontory to service military installations. The latter were, however, left off the published map.

In the post-war period, apart from some sheets of mosaics, the study area lagged behind in the implementation of the National Grid mapping. (Priority for 1:2500 mapping of rural areas was given to the coalfields). The first National Grid sheets of the Grimsby area did not appear until 1962, priority being given to Immingham and the new industrial complexes along the shore of the Humber. Within the study area there were some 284 notional 1km x 1km sheets which were covered by some 150 published sheets (i.e. pieces of printed paper). Between one quarter and one third of these have appeared in new paper editions (but this ignores intermediate issues in other forms). Richard felt that notwithstanding OS ability to produce "instant maps" for "digital" areas, there must always be some criteria (such as the present "50 house units" rule) for a minimum amount of new detail needed to justify updating of the digital data base by field survey. Given this assumption the total volume of new mapping to be archived should not be materially increased by the "digital" programme, albeit that its format might change. Finally he asked would there not be an advantage if the survey and revision of county sheet series could be indexed by National Grid sheets?

In response, Tony Campbell said OS was likely to provide updated "editions" of digital sheets after about 20 house units of change had been recorded. The copyright libraries needed something like a customised SIM service to ensure that they received an adequate archival record. In the longer term there was a need for an historical digital archive. In the meantime the libraries needed to digest the full implications of the recent copyright act.

Listing OS District And Tourist Maps

Readers may not all be aware that while Bob McIntosh was working in the British Library he prepared a first draft of a comprehensive list of OS one inch to one mile District and Tourist maps, 1892-1987. Karen Cook told the meeting that following Bob's move to Edinburgh she had taken over responsibility for the revision of this list and she hoped that it could be circulated to CCS members with a view to locating hitherto unknown states. The British Library tends to be relatively weak in its holdings of copies folded in covers which were not deposited for copyright purposes.

The Honorary Secretary thanked Tony Campbell and his colleagues for their hospitality and for displaying the Library's copies of many of the maps that had been discussed by speakers. Tony responded that he hoped that the close relationship between the Society and the Map Library would continue to flourish to the benefit of both parties.

Reference

REVIEW


To those of us whose youthful interest in Ordnance Survey's past was first awakened by Winterbotham's A Key To Maps the Killarney One-Inch sheet was a living legend, a symbol of that lost promise of cartographic excellence which had followed the Titanic to an icy grave, sunk by the cold blasts of the Geddes Axe. Today we can look at it more critically. Killarney, like some others of that group of experimental district maps produced during close's Directorship (this reviewer's favourite is Dorking and Leith Hill), is aesthetically pleasing but it was not an entirely new map, relying as it did for black plate detail on the existing engraved One-Inch series and suffering, as a climber and hill walker's map, from the paucity of contours above 1000 feet. Nevertheless even a 1946 Dublin reprint is still effective albeit that the relief now seems more subdued, as seen perhaps on a 'soft day'.

In 1960 the OSI published a new Killarney district map on modified sheetlines, based on the (Irish) National Grid. Hachures and hill shading were abandoned and a simple layer system substituted. The engraved black plate was retained but some revision was incorporated. The new map looked harsh in comparison with its predecessor but was probably easier to read on a wet day on a mountainside. However it was becoming increasingly clear that a more radical approach to Irish mapping requirements was needed than the periodical updating and adaptation of existing material. In 1964 an "Advisory Committee on Mapping Requirements" was established. This produced a report which effectively recommended the wholesale re-mapping of the Republic including recontouring at a metric vertical interval. The One-Inch map should be replaced by a 1:50,000 series to be revised on a 15 year cycle (Madden 1967). Progress in implementing these recommendations was slow at first (Walsh 1987). In retrospect this was perhaps fortunate. Surveying and mapping technology was developing very rapidly so that when the necessary expansion of OSI took place full advantage of these developments was taken and a computer assisted automated production line established. It was also possible to reach agreement with the Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland (OSNI) for coverage of the whole island by a single 1:50,000 series, on common sheetlines. The first OSNI sheet, 9, Larne, appeared in 1978, but within the Republic priority has had to be given to the larger, basic scales, so that for a decade the only parts of its territory to be covered by regular 1:50,000 mapping were border areas appearing on OSNI produced sheets. (The 1:50,000 district map "Wicklow Way" published in 1981 used enlarged one-inch black plate detail).

The "Preliminary Edition" of Sheet 78 Kenmare, now published represents a revolution in Irish cartography. As the marginal note states, "This map has been compiled completely from DIGITAL information." It is an uncompromising product of the new technology rejecting the niceties of the past such as cased roads typeset lettering and all forms of ornament such as tree symbols or rock drawing. It covers about 50% of the area of the original Killarney Sheet, omitting Killarney town but giving readers the mountain chain that extends south westward from Lough Leane, through Maggillycuddy's Reeks to Teermoyle Mountain and Knocknagantee in the west. The most striking feature is the 10 metre V.L. contouring carried up to the summits of the highest mountains which conveys a splendid plastic relief effect. On very steep slopes contours tend to fuse together. Perhaps traditional rock drawing would have provided a better warning of the hazards to hill walkers in such areas. (It is appreciated that this cannot be achieved using automated procedures at present). Walkers would probably appreciate a more generous provision of spot heights on summits. The representation of woodland by green ruling does not obscure the relief to the extent that the solid blocks of green appearing on the OSNI sheets do. Drainage and the National Grid appear in royal blue while four different colours are
used to categorise roads and tracks. "National Primary Roads" appear in green, presumably in response to national sentiment, but giving them less prominence than "Regional Roads" in scarlet. Fewer names appear than on the One-Inch but those that do are more prominent. For a few more important places both Anglo-Irish and Irish forms are given (e.g. Killorglin and Cill Orglan). Some confusion occurs in places where names and detail have been overlaid, suggesting that there could have been more manual intervention, while the use of diacritical marks on some Irish names can cause ambiguity as to whether a particular mark represents a building or part of a name. What is missing is the indication that appeared, albeit often indistinctly, on the One-Inch map, of the boundary between moorland and bog and enclosed farmland. This reviewer's memories of south west Ireland forty odd years ago were that navigational difficulties really arose when you descended the hill-sides into areas characterised by small stone-walled fields. Perhaps what he would have really liked was the equivalent of the current OSGB "Pathfinder" 1:25,000.

The marginal notes state "This map will later be published in accordance with standard specifications", presumably that is in a similar style to the OSNI sheets. In the meantime OSI are to be congratulated for grasping firmly the opportunities provided by the new technologies to produce a map which is both clear to read and informative. (One surprising omission is, however, a revision date). If a choice has to be made between accelerated production of such preliminary editions and the publication of "standard" sheets this reviewer hopes that all priority be given to the former until such time that all Ireland can be found on this scale.

References


PUBLICATIONS


Although the title of this paper is identical to that of the paper that appeared in Sheetlines 20 and 21 the text has been much expanded so as to include, among other things, a fuller discussion of Ordnance Survey involvement in the International Map of the Roman Empire project. Several maps from the Crawford period are illustrated and a revised list of maps, superseding that published in Sheetlines 21 is appended.


The circumstances in which the OS came rather belatedly to exhibit some of its work at The Great Exhibition are described. (It seemed that the news that the French Depot de la Guerre were to display some maps spurred them into action). Four extracts from contemporary OS maps illustrate the article. Unfortunately the fine linework of the originals has failed to reproduce adequately. One also has an erroneous caption (not, we are reassured, contributed by the article's author!).
Ordnance Survey "Worldmaps" Series

Since the merger of the Directorate of Overseas Surveys with Ordnance Survey in 1984, there have been discussions on the possibilities of DOS products being marketed by OS.

Of the material available, Ordnance Survey - following discussions with the respective countries - selected the following maps to form the basis of the Worldmaps series:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Colours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Mount Kilimanjaro</td>
<td>1:100 000</td>
<td>12 colours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Mount Kenya</td>
<td>1:125 000</td>
<td>8 colours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Indies</td>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>1:50 000</td>
<td>4 colours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cayman Islands</td>
<td>1:50 000</td>
<td>4 colours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>Ambergris Cay</td>
<td>1:50 000</td>
<td>Photo map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seychelles</td>
<td>Mahe</td>
<td>1:50 000</td>
<td>4 colours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Praslin</td>
<td>1:30 000</td>
<td>Photo map</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Problems have been experienced in matching ink colours to some of the original mapping as, with the passing of time, ink dyes have changed; but we have striven to maintain the original overall impression.

In the case of Mt Kenya it was possible to reduce the number of colours from ten to eight, thereby saving the cost of one pass through the 4-colour print machine, and clarity of the mapping has been maintained.

All OS Worldmaps will have hard covers. These hard covers have been used to cope with the variety of paper sizes and the folding schemes of the base mapping.

The maps are revised, in the main, with updated field information and with tourist information checked against any source available, prior to publication.

The launch of the first seven maps took place in October 1989 and was held at Stanfords in London. Apart from invitations being extended to the recognised media, invitations were also sent to respective embassies in London.

Ordnance Survey are now considering further map titles to extend the range. In all it will be an attractive map series, at a variety of scales, using a minimum of four colours. Some will be printed on both sides, and some with multi-lingual tourist text. Each map will carry a unique number pertinent to the whole series.

It is hoped that this new OS Worldmaps series will prove popular and, from a personal point of view, bring the past work of the now disbanded Directorship of Overseas Surveys into the public eye.

K.J. Willcocks
Ordnance Survey
(formerly DOS)

Editor's Note

Barbados was accidentally omitted from the list of Worldmaps appearing in Sheetlines 26. Collectors of OS ephemera may be attracted by the OS descriptive leaflet which presents the continents mirrorwise.
This, the sixth volume of the Margary reprint of the Old Series, effectively completes cover of England to the south of the Hull-Preston line. The sheets in this volume were published between 1835 and 1842 and Harley and Oliver's introduction provides a succinct review of OS activity in England during the 1840s, by no means the dead period it is sometimes assumed to be but one which marked the end of an era in that it was the last decade during which the One-Inch map would be produced independently of larger scale series. The editor found the maps themselves much harder to read than in some earlier volumes and was at first inclined to attribute this to his advancing years. He was relieved to find that Colby himself had observed that his maps had become increasingly crowded in "the manufacturing part of the country" and "require the aid of a powerful magnifier!"

Bibliographers will be relieved to note that "R.R. Oliver" and "Richard Oliver" are one and the same person.

New Catalogues

Alan Godfrey, whose current programme is mentioned in the report on the recent CCS meeting at the British Library, has issued a new Spring 1990 catalogue of old Ordnance Survey maps reprinted in his series. It can be obtained from him at Room 24-26 2nd Floor, Exchange Buildings, Quayside, Newcastle NE1 3BJ. The introduction notes that since 1981 a total of 350 maps have been published in the series.

Phoenix Maps, of 26 Ashington Avenue, Navan Road, Dublin 7, which were mentioned in Sheetlines 26 have also issued a new catalogue. The most notable addition is a reprint of the 205 engraved sheets of the Irish One-Inch map of 1855-1900 which it is suggested "would give an added dimension to a holiday in Ireland" (provided one assumes that one is not planning on touring the country by rail!). Reproductions of five major pre-OS county surveys also appear in the catalogue.

Cartobibliographies: Scotland and Northern Ireland

Richard Oliver has prepared two draft cartobibliographies, covering the one-inch and 1:50,000 maps of the Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland (an expansion of that in Sheetlines 13), and the pre-1945 one-inch Popular of Scotland, and hopes to have copies on sale at the Annual General Meeting on 12 May. The Scottish list, in particular, is known to be very incomplete, but it is hoped that members able to provide further information will do so, so that in due course it will be possible to produce 'full dress' booklets covering these two groups of maps, similar to those already published on the one-inch Fifth and New Popular Editions. Those unable to attend the AGM but who would like copies, can obtain them from Richard Oliver, 'Hollies', Loughurst Road, Woldingham, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 7EG, at £1.25 each or £2.25 for the two.

The Ordnance Surveyors' Drawings

A new publication, entitled: Ordnance Surveyors' Drawings 1789-c.1840, The original manuscript maps of the first Ordnance Survey of England and Wales from the British Library Map Library. By Yolande Hodson, with an introduction, summary listing and indexes by Tony Campbell, has just been issued by Research Publications. This guide to the interpretation of the OSDs was produced to accompany the reproduction of the drawings in fiche form, but is available separately to the public at over £30. Forty-five copies will be available to CCS individual and family members.
only at £7.75. (The authors are giving the income from these sales to the Society's funds). Copies will be sold at the AGM on 12 May 1990 in the first instance, and will thereafter be obtainable from the Publications Manager, Guy Messenger, 5 Wheatley Ave, Uppingham, Rutland, Leicestershire LE15 9SN.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Transfer Of County Object Names Books to PRO

OS News No 101 reported that during December 1989 Ordnance Survey transferred to the Public Records Office, Kew, the County Object Names Books (ONB) for preservation as a national archive. The County ONBs represent the first full collection of names to be recorded and relate to 1:2500 and 1:10,560 County Surveys completed during the period 1898-1939.

Ordnance Survey And H.M. Land Registry

Many readers will be aware that one strong force for the maintenance of the Ordnance Survey's large scale mapping programme has been the need for accurate and up to date maps to meet the needs of land registration. In December 1989 OS and HMLR celebrated the centenary of close co-operation between the two departments which goes back to the formation in 1889 of a three man Mapping Department within the Office of Land Registry in Lincolns Inn Fields, London. Relations between the two institutions have not always run smoothly. With the rapid increase in registrations, following the Land Transfer Act of 1897 and the inability of the Ordnance Survey to keep up with the pace of development in and around London, HMLR was driven to undertake map revision, and even new 1:1056 map production using its own staff during the early years of this century. In due course this overlap was eliminated but HMLR continues to maintain its special series of map sections, based on the relevant OS large scale sheets on which more than 11 million separate registrations have been recorded. It is perhaps remarkable that such an extensive series of maps is so rarely seen by the public in consequence of most householders' deeds being held by banks, building societies and the like. Compulsory registration, on sale, will apply throughout England and Wales from December 1990. HMLR plans to computerise all its records and will then be able to utilise OS digital maps directly. In the meantime we might reflect that the British approach to land registration, with its acceptance of the principal of "general boundaries" rests largely on the firm foundations of a national series of accurate large scale plans. Without such a foundation the individual householder would need to call upon the services of one of the army of private licensed surveyors who are employed to determine the extent of properties for which a title is required in so many other countries.

Ordnance Survey Military Editions (non-existence of..)

In a review of the 1921 Edition of the Manual of Map Reading and Field Sketching, in the RE Journal March 1922 (Vol XXXV No 3) p 168-169, Winterbotham says:-

"It is curious to note that the words 'Military Edition' appear above the samples of Ordnance Survey maps. There is no special Ordnance Survey 'Military Edition' and the samples refer to the ordinary series on sale to the public."

Ian Mumford

The Longevity of The Third Edition Small Sheet Series of The One-Inch Map of England and Wales

Richard Oliver mentioned to me on a recent visit that he had seen printings of the above series dated as late as 1942. This reminded me of an incident nearly fifty years ago which may throw some light on the longevity of this series. At a period
during the Second World War when the civil defence services in eastern England were becoming increasingly involved with Allied bombers which had crashed when limping home from distant raids, the Senior Warden in my mother’s Fens-edge village enquired from his superiors "Exactly what area are we responsible for?". He showed me what he was sent in response, a cutting from a black-and-white Third Edition map with the boundaries of the parish inked over. Here surely we have a reason, possibly the only reason, for the continued use of this series in administrative circles - a one-inch map with the parish boundaries still shown thereon. Although the boundaries would by then have been considerably out of date, the majority of the alterations would have been amalgamations of parishes, keeping the requisite boundaries intact with some superfluous ones to be ignored.

Brian Adams

Large Scale Mapping of Towns, Old And New

A point which arose in discussion at the CGS meeting on 17 March was "Was there any linkage between the abandoned OS "Town Scales" mapping (1:500, 1:528 and 1:1056) and the 1:1250 National Grid series?" An article by Wendy Fellingham in OS News No 101 on the close-down of the Eastern Regional office at Nottingham (which took place on 31 March) mentions "some members of the staff ..... remember the glassine tracing of the turn of the century 1:500 mapping which was reduced to 1:1250 scale so that new detail could then be added." This implies that for some towns rather more was taken from "Town Scales" plans than was acknowledged in Brigadier R.P. Wheeler's 1947 account. Wheeler stated that despite the "shakiness" of the 1:500 plans it was possible to use selected points of detail derived from them as Revision Points (RPs) on which to base the new detail survey but it was found impracticable to use 1:1056 plans in the same way. Elsewhere Wheeler states with regard to the fixing of RPs in general "the RP is also intended to provide standing control for a series of 1:500 plans (should such a scale ever be required)" suggesting that as late as 1947 a revival of the "Town Scales" was not seen as totally out of the question. As it was OS never resumed 1:500 mapping but very considerable areas were to be mapped at this scale for local authorities and development corporations by commercial firms (Peak, 1990).

References


Map of East Anglia 2½ Inches to 1 Mile

In Sheetlines 7 and 10, there was some discussion on the 1:25,344 Map of East Anglia, GSGS 3036. Members may be interested to see the (presumably) complete index of this series, which eventually extended way beyond its eponymous boundaries and as far as the Kent coast. This index was reproduced from a 1933 copy of sheet 68S. Of particular interest is the existence of a Cambridge district sheet. Does anyone know of a copy of this sheet, and can the apparently different projection be confirmed?

Roger Hellyer
The grid shown on this index is the War Office Cassini Grid (Alias "War Office False Origin, WOFO, grid, see Sheetlines 25/7"). It looks as if the Cambridge sheet shown on it must have been an isolated sheet (XXVII D) of the War Office 1:20,000 map GSGS 2748 or an early issue of Sheet 59/26 NW of the War Office 1:25,000 map GSGS 3906. (Both series used the same grid but sheetlines though sheets were differently numbered.) British Library holds the "2nd Provisional Edition" (1942) of the latter sheet which bears the following cautionary note:

"The Contours shown in Brown Are At 10 Ft Vertical Intervals Taken From The 2½ Inch Map And Must Be Regarded As Approximate Only. The Contours Shown In Black Are More Precise."

Editor.

OS Maps On Place's Waterproof Paper

I have received a few responses to the appeal for information which appeared in Sheetlines 26. Most of them are more helpful in adding to our Place's map list, so I now include an update of that, with thanks to Nick Savage, Richard Dean, Michael Cottrell, Mr J.D. Batten, and Mr T.P. Sanderson.
Roger Hellyer

PUZZLE CORNER

Where Is It? (Sheetlines 26)

Roger Hellyer tells us that the piece of map behind the magnifying glass on the 1965 1:25,000 Second Series cover is TQ 3715 with all the names changed except East Ch(iltongton) which was re-positioned. No solutions have yet been offered for the corresponding First Series covers. (Your Editor has convinced himself that the names on the Scottish version are fictitious but has got no further).

Who wrote:

"The gentle and slightly grotesque vein of humour which pervades so many of the publications of the Survey is here rather more conspicuous than usual", when seeking maps of a portion of the country around Llong?

THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF AN OS REVISER

The diary of the Reverend Andrew Clark 1914-1919, published as "Echoes of The Great War" (Oxford University Press 1985), records the misfortunes of an OS reviser at work in rural Essex during a spy scare in 1914. He wrote on 9 November:

"The Walthams are still very much exercised at the action of the man who purports to be revising the Ordnance Survey numbers: his conduct is irreconcilable with the usual behaviour of a government employe. He goes about everywhere making notes; he does this alone, and he does this even on Sunday afternoons. Now did ever any one hear of a government job which did not provide pay for at least two men helping each other to do nothing; and did ever anyone know of men in government jobs who failed to take week end holidays every week?"

On another day the poor man was arrested by six different special constables in the same parish!

(Tony Campbell has very kindly drawn our attention to Mr. Clark's diary).

AN ISLAND LOST AND FOUND

Mr. R.H. Johnston has sent us a copy of a memo addressed by the Director General, Ordnance Survey, to Lady Hobhouse (presumably the wife of Arthur, Baron Hobhouse, Lord of Appeal) which reads as follows:
"Ordnance Survey Office
Southampton 28th September 1892.

The Director General of the Ordnance Survey begs to thank Lady Hobhouse for pointing out in her letter of 24th August, which Mr. Stanford has forwarded to this office, the omission of Denny Island from sheet 264 of the Ordnance one inch scale map.

A copy of the sheet on which the Island is now engraved is transmitted herewith for Lady Hobhouse's acceptance."

The map concerned was 'New Series' One-Inch Sheet 264, Bristol, surveyed 1879-85 and published December 1891. Extracts below show the situation before, and after correction.

The significance of the island was presumably its function as a turning point on the seaward boundary of the City of Bristol (and possibly therefore a turning point on the boundary between England and Wales). Denny Island now appears on 1:50,000 Sheet 172, National Grid Ref ST 459 811.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS


A major exhibition of maps and views of Britain, 1600 to the present day, is to be held as the main visual art event of the Nottingham Festival. The exhibition will be divided between two sites, the Castle Museum, open daily 1000 to 1745, and the University Art Gallery, open Mondays to Fridays 1000 to 1900 and Saturdays 1100 to 1700. It is understood that the work of the Ordnance Survey will be included in the exhibition. One Nottingham link with the exhibition's theme is that it was the birthplace of the artist Paul Sandby, who took part in the military survey of the Highlands. Further information can be obtained from Jane Bevan, Exhibitions Officer, Castle Museum, Nottingham NG1 6EL.
Day School: "Maps And Local History" Sherborne 26 May 1990.

A day school on Maps and Local History, organised by the Centre for South-Western Historical Studies of the University of Exeter, will be held in Sherborne, Dorset, on Saturday 26 May 1990, 1000 - 1700. Subjects will include the evolution of mapmaking in the south-west, enclosure and tithe maps, estate mapping, and the Ordnance Survey in the south-west since 1918; speakers will include Professor William Ravenhill and Richard Oliver. Fee £3.50. For further details please contact Mrs Katherine Barker, St Andrews, Westbury, Sherborne, DT9 3RA.

FUTURE CHARLES CLOSE SOCIETY MEETINGS

Saturday  12 May 1990
Annual General Meeting 1100 am. Room 214, Geography Department, Birkbeck College, 7-15 Gresse Street, London W1. (Agenda is to be circulated to members with this issue of Sheetlines).

The AGM will be followed by:

"Spires and Steeples", a short poster session by Richard Oliver, and

"A good deal of maps" David Archer and John Coombes will give anecdotal accounts of their businesses as map dealers.

The Members Map Market will take place after lunch.

Saturday  16 June 1990
1100 - 1300 HMSO Bookshop, 258-259 Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2HE.
A short visit to see a demonstration of Ordnance Survey's "Superplan Service". As the bookshop is not opened to the public on Saturday mornings, and as members attending must be limited to 12, it is essential that those wishing to attend first contact the Society Secretary.

THE CHARLES CLOSE SOCIETY for the study of Ordnance Survey maps is open to all at an annual subscription of £5.00 (UK) for individual members, or £7.50 for family, corporate or overseas members, which falls due for renewal on 1 March of each year. Remittances, in Sterling please, to the Membership Assistant.

Sheetlines Editor  Membership Assistant  Society Secretary
C. Ian M. O'Brien  David Archer  Mrs Yolande Hodson
1B, Eastway,  The Pentre,  16, Hertford Road,
Epsom,  Kerry,  Tewin,
Surrey KT19 8SG.  Newtown,  Herts,
                           Powys SY16 4PD.  AL6 OY6.

CGS