EDITORIAL

It is a great pleasure to be able to report that the Director General of the Ordnance Survey, Walter P. Smith, C.B., C.B.E., has agreed to become the first Honorary member of the Society. He writes in reply to our invitation, 'I am very happy to accept and would be grateful if you would please thank your members for their kindness.' We look forward to welcoming him to some of our meetings—should his busy schedule permit.

If ever anyone thought that interest in the Ordnance Survey was purely esoteric then the Society's AGM in April would have proved a revelation. Over forty members attended and were welcomed at Birkbeck College Geography Department by Professor David Hind, to whom we are indebted for the use of his premises, and thanks are also due to Merle Abbott for a constant supply of coffee, etc. The Society's Chairman, Peter Clark, astonished the gathering by managing to demonstrate a connection between the mapping of the Falkland Islands (with which he was somewhat preoccupied) and the OS, and this was followed by the usual recitations of business by the Secretary and Alan Godfrey, who has very kindly agreed to take on the task of Treasurer and Membership Secretary for the rest of this year. Although we have operated on an informal level (some might call it autocratic!) to date, we do plan to have elections of officers and committee at the next AGM. Further details will be given in the December issue of Sheetlines.

Clearly one day is not enough for a gathering of OS enthusiasts. The short research presentations in the morning (leaving not a few breathless at the speed of delivery of some) were followed, in the afternoon, by a deliberately curtailed programme of the planned talks, to allow for the questions which all were clearly bursting to ask. These, combined with a splendid display of material, including some Ellis Martin originals from Tim Nicholson's collection, brought the meeting to a close with many new friendships and acquaintances having been made.

While detailed work continues by some members on the cartobibliographies of certain OS map series, it is clear that others would welcome guidance on how to approach the recording of their own collections from a more superficial, yet still accurate, point of view. While it can be argued that the detailed work must precede any generalization, if you would like a 'workshop' afternoon meeting on this subject useful, please let the Editor know your views, and if there is sufficient support such a meeting could be arranged early next year.

This issue's piece of ephemera is the Ordnance Survey's postcard featuring a photograph of OS Headquarters Building inset in a 1:50,000 extract of the surrounding area.

We look forward to seeing many of you at this Autumn's and Winter Meetings, and please note that some subscriptions are still overdue.
THE SALMON COLLECTION OF MAP SAMPLES IN THE MAP ROOM OF THE
ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY: Introductory notes with an inventory

By
Francis Herbert

In a letter from the Survey Department Ceylon dated 24 March 1920 to A.R. Hinks at the Royal Geographical Society in London, F.J. Salmon writes 'I have acquired quite a good collection of foolscap cuttings from different types of maps - mostly trench & topo maps - during the war & am filing & annotating them ... some day I shall bequeath it to the society!'.

Lt-Col. Francis J. Salmon CMG, MC, RE, FRGS died on 8th July 1964 and in 1980 his widow presented to the RGS a collection of chiefly cartographic material (including Ordnance Survey maps) formed by her husband during his years as a surveyor in Ceylon, Cyprus and Palestine from 1918 to 1938 when he retired, together with private-use OS maps of later date. He resigned from the RGS in 1948. Salmon was known to Arthur Hinks as early as October 1915 for in a letter from Hinks to Winterbotham dated 22 October he writes 'I had the pleasure of a visit two days ago from Lieut. Salmon one of your staff', and he was elected to Fellowship of the RGS on 9 December 1916. His address was given as 'Survey Department Ceylon (Temp. 3rd PS Bn BEF)' and his proposer and seconder were Col. W.C. Hedley and Lt-Col. H. St-J.L. Winterbotham. In another letter to Hinks of 25 May 1921 Salmon mentions that he is still in touch with Bamford, Jack, Winterbotham, King and Macleod; in a letter to Hinks again of 1 August 1929 from Colombo he writes that he is 'looking forward to seeing Winterbotham out here before very long ... There is the question of our grid to be discussed, the possibility of tinkering up some parts of the triangulation ...'. It will be apparent therefore that three major influences or connections are evident in the Salmon Collection: Royal Engineers, Ordnance Survey (both of these heavily involved with the War Office), and Royal Geographical Society. This brief paper attempts to show these inter-relationships with a reminder to members of the CCS that the study of OS maps cannot always be taken in isolation.

Following his war service in which he was 'largely responsible for development of Survey for artillery on the Western Front' - according to his 'Certificate of candidate for election' of the RGS - Salmon seems to have developed an increasing interest in cartography and especially in more effective printing methods. Here it is of relevance, and doubtless of interest, to quote from Winterbotham's paper entitled 'British survey on the Western Front' read at the afternoon meeting of the RGS on 20 January 1919 (published in the Geographical Journal, April 1919, 53, 4, pp253-276; see also his lecture entitled 'Geographical and survey work in France' delivered at the Royal Artillery Institution on 24 April 1919 and published in the Journal of the RAIF, 1919-20, 46, pp154-172): 'The making of maps would be of little use unless the printer intervenes and reproduces them in large numbers ... The output of the Ordnance Survey has been a wonderful record. From 4 August 1914 to 31 March 1915 no less than 2,300,000 maps were printed for war purposes, ... altogether over 32,000,000 maps have been printed for military purposes at Southampton alone'.

Apart from the map samples which form the major part of the Salmon Collection there are also a few non-cartographic samples of colour-printing together with publicity hand-outs from commercial printing firms. Several of the samples are annotated, either in typewritten or MS, by Salmon and show his critical analysis of, and concern for, cartographic production standards. His experiences at the Western Front could not but be influential in this aspect of his later occupation. The example in the bound volume War maps entitled New German trench work taken from French air photos of 5 & 9.2.16 has the caption 'special local map produced in 3 hours for 55th Division showing new assembly trenches' and although it may well have been adequate for immediate purposes, his comment on the Ceylon Survey 1:63,360 sheet L 19 (Adam's Peak) of 1929 (accompanying his paper Topographical maps) reveals a search for something far better: 'Contours too coarse. Map overloaded by cultivation colours. This
sheet has 12; some have 14'. The copy of the OS 2" Jersey map of 1930 on waterproofed material (Topographical and other maps vol.1) has comment 'showing faulty registration', while the loose-sheet 1" Survey of Cyprus visitors' map Kyrenia of 1931 (see Fig.1) has 'In 3 colours only, for economy ... Printed by the Ordnance Survey'. The OS 1" 5th (Relief) edition sheet 144 (Plymouth) in the loose-sheet samples is annotated 'Lettering entirely done by hand in a style specially suitable for photo-zinco reproduction'. the maps produced under Salmon's direction by the Survey of Cyprus and the Survey of Palestine in the 1930s show some remarkable similarities in style to the contemporary maps of the OS: use of printing codes, method of folding ('The [1:500,000 Palestine motor] map is folded in accordance with the revised Ordnance Survey system'), publication catalogues with graphic indexes and characteristic signs, and - most interesting for some members of the CCS - pictorial covers. These covers were probably all designed by Salmon - they are usually initialised 'FJS' - and although they cannot be considered anything like as artistic as those of Ellis Martin or Arthur Palmer (which, additionally, are in colour) they nevertheless do add attractiveness and information to the product. It will be recalled that officers of the Royal Engineers and the earlier topographical surveyors were expected to be capable of landscape drawing in addition to purely cartographic work. Perhaps the training and influence of the Royal Engineers and of the Ordnance Survey on Salmon can best be summed up in his own words in his paper Topographical maps of 1929 - to the accompaniment of music by Elgar! - 'The English Maps of the Ordnance Survey are the best in the world.'

Fig.1

INVENTORY

This can be divided into three major categories of (1) mounted map samples bound in 4 volumes, of (2) a miscellaneous collection of loose-sheet maps, and of (3) letterpress items:

1. A (1 volume) entitled War Maps: British, French, Belgian, American, German, Western
Front, Palestine, Gallipoli. Maps with publication dates 1908-36. Includes France (aviation map) 'For night flying', 1:250,000 GSGS 2861, sheet 1, 1918 (roads in white on grey base); First battle of Gaza, [1:95,000 approx.], map 12, compiled by Historical Section (Military Branch) OS, 1925 (1936 reprint by Survey of Palestine); 2 MS maps [by Salmon?].

1.B (3 volumes) entitled Topographical and other maps

1. British, French, German. Maps dated June 1861 to 1933, and includes advertisements for commercial litho- and zinco-printing. Includes OS 1" New Series sheet 271, June 1861 ('found among Lord Kitchener's papers in Cyprus'); 1" Killarney district map of 1913, and of Ilkley of 1914; British Isles: aeronautical series, [1:253,440 approx.], Provisional ed., GSGS (Air) 117, sheet 12, corrections Sept. 1923; OS 2" Jersey and 1" Scotland Popular edition sheet 15, both (on waterproofed material) of 1930; OS 1/2" Cotswolds special district (relief) of 1931, and Skye of 1932; other OS maps of 1:253,440 and 1:1M scales, and thematic maps. Also Carte de France, 1:200,000 sheet 54 Grenoble, ('Showing the unsuitability of using the same system of hill featuring on different sheets'); and Übersichtskarte von Mitteleuropa, 1:300,000, Metz, 1918 printing of 1910 survey ('Full from a German stone found in Lille').

2. Gibraltar, Jamaica, Canada, United States, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Balkans &c., Cyprus, Palestine, Levant. Maps dated 1879 to 1937. Includes Hunting map of the country near Gibraltar of ca 1907; the 1½ pliares 'Jubilee stamp with map of Cyprus Drawn by the Survey Department' (Stanley Gibbons' British Commonwealth, 1870, no.125) of 1928; extracts from British Admiralty and US nautical charts.


2.A: Commercial publications
B: Maps from the Geographical Journal (RGs)
C: Non-cartographic examples of colour-printing
D: Publications of official mapping organizations:


3. Survey of Palestine maps at 1:2,500, 1:10,000, 1:100,000, 1:250,000, and 1:500,000 (including reproduced typescript Notes on 'The Palestine motor map' 1:500,000); and a set of 7 colour separations plus final printing of 1:100,000 sheet 7 Nablus.

4. Ordnance Survey Material:
   1/" England and Wales, hill-shaded, sheet 30 Colchester, 1914, Ellis Martin cover design with blank cartouche (see Fig.2); sheets 27, 33, 36, and 36 of layers edition of 1926-38; 1/" England and Wales 5th (Relief) edition, sheet 144 Plymouth, 1931 (9200-31), with multi-col. cover; sheets 118 and 141 of 4th Popular ed. (1933-34); Wiltshire, 1:10,560, sheet 66 SE, special emergency edition, 1936, 'Not on general sale to the public'; Southampton, 1:12,500, [1940?], 'Reduced from the 6 inch map, with additions from A.R.P...', with MS pencil note 'Specimen of special 1/12,500 ("5 inch") sheet ...' OS Chief Superintendent stamp dated 10 Oct 1940; Road map of Great Britain...
   Ministry of Transport, 1:633,600, sheet 2 [south], [rev. ed.] (4038); Roman Britain, 1:1,000,000, 2nd ed., [1947+], (259.3432), price £0.3.5; plates I, III, V, VIII-XII (on 2 sheets) for A description of Ordnance Survey medium.
scale maps, 1947.

5. A folder entitled in MS (pencil) 'Report to Brig. Anstey' consisting of GSGS maps of Western Europe and Greece at scales 1:100,000 to 1:1,000,000, dated 1942 to 1945 approx.

3 (miscellaneous letterpress items):

1. Lettering on maps: a paper read at the afternoon meeting of the Society on 12 November 1928 by Capt. J.G. Withycombe (Geographical Journal 72, 5, 429-446)


3. Survey of Palestine maps & publications (Jaffa, 1936) with MS (pencil) amendments [for next edition?].

Acknowledgements

For permission to quote from correspondence in the Archives of the Royal Geographical Society, the author would like to thank the Director and Secretary.

The Map Room of the Royal Geographical Society is open to the public from Monday to Friday, 10.00 to 17.00 hours.
NOTES AND QUERIES

CCS Publication Project  Many ideas for CCS publications other than the Newsletter have been mooted among members; these include the previously mentioned guides to series, but which of course will take time to produce thoroughly because most of us do the work on a part time basis. It has now been agreed that a most useful project, and one with a broad appeal, would be to extract from the Geographical Journal all those papers and items relevant to OS from the 1850s up to about 1930, and to reproduce these as a series with an index. A feasibility study into the costing and timing of this is being carried out at the moment - much depends on the availability of journals which are suitable for copying; the method of reproduction has also to be decided. A comprehensive list of items from the Proceedings and Journal is currently being compiled so that a publication programme can be drawn up.

Dr. H. Egan  Those of you who attended the AGM in April will remember signing a card, featuring the peregrine falcon and osprey, to wish Dr. Egan a speedy recovery following his then recent hospitalisation. He writes: 'It really is most kind of you all from the Charles Close Society to send good wishes. These are deeply appreciated.' By remarkable coincidence, it appears that his laboratory was concerned with the original work which traced out the DDT position in the life-cycle of these birds.

Ellis Martin  From J.P. Browne, 5 High Firs Road, Halterworth, Romsey, Hants.

Mr Browne is researching the life and work of Ellis Martin and would be grateful for any information, especially regarding his family life and employment before he joined the Ordnance Survey. He would also like to know the whereabouts of any R.M. material, OS or otherwise, which may be in private or public collections.

In the meantime, does any member recognise this illustration, which may have been a preliminary design for the cover of IMW maps or reports. Please contact him if you know the answer.

Facsimiles of 2nd ed. 6" OS London sheets III NW and SW  Facsimiles of the above sheets, dated 1894-6, have been produced by the Hornsey Historical Society. They show respectively the district around Alexandra Palace (built 1873) and the Highgate-Holloway-Finsbury Park area. Printed on ivory cartridge paper measuring just under 16" x 22", they are obtainable for £1.50 the pair, plus 45p for post and packing from Hornsey Historical Society (Sales), The Old Schoolhouse, 136 Tottenham Lane, London N8.

Hornsey 6", 25" and 5' plans  From Mrs J.P. Schwitzer, Ph.D., 33 Shepherds Hill, London N6 5QJ
I should be glad to hear from any member wishing to dispose of pre-1930 OS maps at
the scale of 6", 25", or 5', featuring Hornsey, now part of the London Borough of Haringey.

Shaded Contours  As a result of the note on page 10 of Sheetlines no.3 concerning the whereabouts of the special folder of maps issued with the Report of the Royal Commission on Water Supply, 1868-9, Francis Herbert has reported that the House of Lords copy of the folder and set of maps and sections was transferred to the Royal Geographical Society (RGS England & Wales G. 47 (A)) in 1930.

Hand-colouring of 19th-century OS plans  From Dr. I.C. Taylor, Associate Professor, Athabasca University, 15015 - 123 Ave, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5V 1J7.

I am pursuing the question of hand coloring on early (19th century) OS large-scale maps and plans (6", 25", etc.,). Could anyone provide information on the following questions:
1. Were the conventions for colours and tones, widths, etc., ever published?
2. Were there different conventions for different scales?
3. Does any information survive on the chemical and color mixes utilized to provide the tones?
4. Were the specifications of brushes, application techniques, etc., ever published?

I have been unable to trace any reference to these matters and would be glad to hear from anyone who can help.

1" 6th Edition-numbers  From R. Oliver, 'Elmwood', Lunghurst Road, Woldingham, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 7EG.

I have recently made some investigations into the 1" 6th (New Popular) Edition, in particular the sequence of four-figure 'edition references'. (which will be found in the bottom left-hand corner of a sheet, numbered between about 1001 and 1310 on the English New Popular, and between 2200 and about 2360 on the post-war Scottish Popular). I am anxious to complete this list: could anyone willing to assist please contact me at the above address.

Survey of the Metropolis  The extract from the London Illustrated News, dated 22 April 1848, No. 313, vol. XII p.259, showing the triangulation observation tower on Westminster Abbey and the cutting of the 'Black Mark', was supplied by Wally Cowan, 35 Hobson Way, Holbury, Southampton. If any other reader knows of similar pieces in local papers do send in a xerox - it all puts flesh on the bones of the Survey's history.

Tenth International Conference on the History of Cartography  

This conference will be held at Trinity College, University of Dublin, from Monday 29 August to Friday 2 September 1983. There will be four main themes: the cartographer's methods and sources; colonial cartography; agrarian cartography; the history of map collecting. Papers may be of up to 20 minutes duration and must be submitted in advance. Abstracts of not more than 300 words should reach the Committee by 31 October 1982. A circular giving further details is available from: The Tenth International Conference on the History of Cartography, 12 Pembroke Park, DUBLIN 4, Ireland.
SURVEY OF THE METROPOLIS.

Those who have had time and inclination to look about them at all, during the stirring events of the last few weeks, will have seen strange and unusual operations going on at the same time here, to which the London eye is wholly unaccustomed; and to the minds of the more timid and inexperienced, kept daily in excitement with revolutions following revolutions, some connection may have been surmised between these mysterious doings and warlike preparations in anticipation of disturbance here. Nothing short of this would appear to warrant the liberty that has been taken with Westminster Abbey and some of our other churches, in putting up signal-houses on their towers, and posts like telegraphs on the tops of our houses; and the fact is quite confirmed with some by seeing men in red coats here and there, busy with tri-colour flags and curious-looking instruments. It is one of the most peaceful of operations that is proceeding, nevertheless; nothing more than the Survey of the Metropolis—the foundation of the great work of Sanitary Improvement. This survey is of more importance than would be generally supposed. Mr. Chadwick pointed out, at a recent Court of Sewers, the enormous advantages, in a pecuniary point of view, that would have resulted, had such a survey been executed some time ago. One would have thought that there had been surveys enough already; and so there have. The cost of many complete surveys has hitherto been expended in piecemeal
irresponsible work, in which no public confidence could be placed. It is
now taken up as a whole, to be thoroughly and completely done; and
we trust that no narrow, interested views will be allowed to interfere
with the same course of proceeding as to the great works of improve-
ment of which this survey is the base.

Our Illustration shows the erection on one of the towers of West-
minster Abbey, which most of our London readers will recognise.
Similar little buildings are to be seen also on St. Luke's and other towers
of churches; and another is contemplated above the cross of St. Paul's.
These are called "crows' nests," and are built to contain the instruments
for observing the telegraph-looking posts on the houses and different
points in and around the metropolis, from which the triangulation is
formed and the distances are calculated. Those who have been curious
to watch the proceedings of the red-coated gentry in the streets, with
their flags and chains, will have seen them also driving little copper
bolts into walls, or cutting hieroglyphics on the pavement, as one is
here seen very busily engaged. These are termed "black marks," and
serve to denote permanent points of the survey and levels, to which re-
ference can at all times be made hereafter.

The body of men engaged in this service are the Sappers and Miners.
They are a superior class of men of their order. Their work is executed
in the most careful manner, and some of them, the most beautiful
draughtsmen and mappers possible, common soldiers as they are.
Colour-Sergeant Smith, who has charge of the London Survey, has been
engaged in the most important works of the general survey of the
kingdom, which, under the Ordnance department, has for years been
carrying on, although these men are strangers in the streets of London.
Welcome to them, we say, as harbingers of great and glorious changes,
from which must spring much physical, and moral improvement of
the people.

"CROW'S NEST" ON WESTMINSTER ABBEY.
MORE ABOUT THE FIFTH EDITION

By
Richard Dean

Guy Messenger's useful notes in the last issue of Sheetlines have prompted me to look again at my own examples of the one-inch Fifth Edition, and some further comments may be of interest to members.

It seems that the series was conceived, and introduced in 1931, solely as the Fifth (Relief) Edition, with the intention of covering the whole country over a period of ten years, and the subsequent issue of a variant without the relief colouring appears to have been an afterthought. I cannot find any such 'Fifth Edition' maps printed earlier than 1934, although they bear the same publication dates as the equivalent 'Relief' maps. This plainer style was probably stimulated by public demand for a clearer map comparable to the Popular Edition (see for example the letter by J.H. Reynolds in the Geographical Journal for 1931) and the Ordnance Survey themselves may have underestimated the work needed to produce the relief plates. The Fifth Edition maps sold for 3d less than their more elaborate sisters, which in itself was probably sufficient to seal the fate of the Relief series, production of which was stopped in 1936 on the grounds of poor sales - less than one third the quantity of the plain edition. Stocks of the 22 maps already published were, however, to remain on sale until exhausted. These maps could also be purchased printed entirely in black (Outline) and with the relief and water only (Physical Features) both in flat sheets only.

Freed of the burden of producing relief plates, the subsequent issues appeared more rapidly - sixteen new maps were published in the period 1937-39. An increased sheet size was adopted, with a distorted numbering sequence, to fit in with the earlier issues. For the avoidance of the worst problems, the first two sheets of the 'new series' Fifth Edition were designated 'St Albans District' and 'London District' although they were new series sheets 95 and 114 respectively; these numbers having already been used for earlier maps. From the meagre information available it seems that the intention was to keep in print the south-western block of smaller sheets, but replacing all those in the London area with the exception of 107, 108, 115 and 125. The new maps were also obtainable in black outline form.

The decision in 1939 to recast the whole series on the National Grid must have been welcomed by many, with a properly organised system of sheets replacing the earlier confusion. By this time only sheets 116, 117 and 135 (Kent and East Sussex) remained to be published to complete the Fifth Edition coverage of Southern England, and the completed drawings for these, and for a band of country from Herefordshire to Norfolk, were adapted both for the Second War Revision (on Popular Edition sheetlines) and for the Sixth Edition of 1940-47.

A list of all Fifth Edition maps together with their publication dates is appended, and an index map. Whilst both are believed to be correct they are compiled mainly from the maps themselves and additional or corrective information would be welcome.

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<td>96</td>
<td>HERTFORD &amp; SAFFRON WALDEN</td>
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ONE-INCH MAP: 5TH EDITION

Northern limit of 5th edn. material published on later maps

Diagram showing approximate dates of publication of the One-Inch 5th (Relief) Edition.

OPTIMISTIC PROPOSALS
From an O.S. leaflet of 1932


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<td>108</td>
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</tbody>
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(Sheets named in capitals and underlined form part of the original 1931-36 series)

- Aldershot North - Special District
- Hindhead (Aldershot South) - Special District
- Dartmoor - Tourist Map
- Exmoor - Tourist Map
- New Forest - Tourist Map

One-inch maps were also issued in Fifth (Relief) Edition style, but using earlier base material, for The Cairngorms (1936), Oban (1936) and Ilkley (1935).
ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS


Many other “Special District” Maps are also published on the one-inch scale. Ask your bookseller for list and full particulars.

ORDNANCE SURVEY OFFICE, Southampton.

The front and reverse of one of the inter-war Leaflets
SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS


The present series of 1:10,000 town and city maps commenced in 1979 with maps for Ipswich and Cambridge, closely followed by Southampton. Attractively produced in card covers, they represented a major attempt to break into the street map market. The roads stood out well against a green background, restricted roads were shown in different colours, variety of tourist and recreational locations were marked. The Cambridge and Southampton maps included 1:6,000 insets of the central areas. In 1980 to Cambridge map was reprinted (B ed) with major improvements to the inset map. In 1982 the Southampton sheets has been reissued (A/*) with an integral cover.

In 1981 a Central London Map was issued, in a smaller format with an integral cover. Principal roads were now yellow on a white base, with orange buildings, so leaving the green for parkland and gardens. This has now been revised (B ed) with a slightly different title, and incorporating a large number of improvements. All streets are now named, there is a large index on the back of the map, and some bus information is given. Hospitals are shown but not named. The greatly increased motoring information (one-way streets, etc...) looks confusing but this probably reflects London's nightmare traffic problem - and are there really no pedestrian-only streets in London?

The Bath City Map is in much the same style as the London sheet but does not work so well. Although very pretty at first sight, many streets are rather lightly shown and this will be a difficult map to use in the gloom. The city centre falls awkwardly across the folds and the lack of a 1:6000 inset is felt.

As capital of the Highlands, Inverness is an important tourist and administrative centre and in need of a good map. The Ordnance Survey have revived the green background of the first three town maps and the roads seem much clearer as a result. The map opens easily to a 1:6,000 inset of the town centre. Especially useful is the list of schools, churches, etc, presumably the result of co-operation with the local authorities. With an attractive cover and reasonable price, this map should be a best seller.

These maps are excellent value and the small integral cover format fits neatly into the pocket. It is to be hoped that OS will eventually produce some symbols to replace the many letters (B for Bowling Green, C for cinema, D for billiards) that litter the maps. In the meantime it is fascinating to watch a new and important series unfold before one's eyes.

A.G.


'Here's the book that every walker needs ... more than 240 routes with maps on 1:50,000 scale.' Before you rush out to buy this book, imagining, perhaps, how cheaply you can acquire all these 1/2" maps in such a condensed form, let us examine the cartographic contribution to this 'Wainwright' like compilation (by over 30 authors). The OS base map extracts are printed in monochrome - green, with the walking routes picked out in white; jars of ale and sundry other symbols in black pinpoint the obvious essential stops along the way. For flattish areas this technique is not unsuccessful, but for the mountainous or hilly districts the illegibility of detail submerged by contours is sufficient to bring on eye-strain well before any muscular strain resulting from walking up said contours. One suspects it is a cunning OS ploy to increase sales of the 'real thing', for anyone taking some of these walks seriously (who wants to fall off a mountain, after all?) could not get by without the fully-coloured version.

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LESS RECENT PUBLICATIONS


Referred to as the Ordnance Survey's 'Blue Print for the 1980s and 1990s', this report makes comprehensive proposals for governing the activities of the OS up to the end of this century. It recommends that with the re-survey of Great Britain nearing completion (it is now complete), the maintenance up-to-date of the national archive of geodetic and topographic information should now be the OS's principal task. The present scales of survey and standards of accuracy should be retained but more attention should be paid to revision of mapping in rural areas. OS's main, or 'core' activities should include the production of large-scale survey material, the 1:50,000 series and, if resources are available, the 1:25,000 series. It should also continue to provide regular surveying and mapping services to HM Land Registry, MOD and other government departments.

The Report recommends that in addition to the core activities, the OS should continue to make information available through its commercially published series, for example the Outdoor Leisure maps, and to undertake some ad hoc repayment mapping and surveying work. These activities should, however, be carried out at no cost to the Exchequer and should reduce OS's grant requirements. In this connection the Report refers to the 'crucial role' of marketing in encouraging the use of OS products and services.

The Report discusses the likely impact of technological progress and argues that the OS will need to take advantage of new technological developments in order to maintain and improve its performance, and refers to a growing demand for topographic data in digital form, notably from local authorities, public utilities and research bodies.

The Report emphasises the need for OS to look to the future and to be responsive to change. To this end, it makes a number of recommendations concerning the organisation and management of OS, including:

a) the OS should continue as an autonomous department but with more clearly defined relationships with Whitehall

b) an advisory body for OS under an independent chairman should be set up

c) OS's research and development capability should be greatly strengthened.

In view of its volume and the costs involved, the evidence put to the Committee has not been published, but copies have been lodged (amounting to an incredible number of volumes) with the British Library, National Library of Scotland, National Library of Wales, Cambridge University Library, the Bodleian and the Ordnance Survey Library.


This booklet, written by a distinguished former Ordnance Survey Archaeology Officer, supplements to a certain extent the information given in the 'Official' History. Phillips's long association with the Survey, which began with his collaboration with OS's Crawford in the inter-war years, and his assumption of office in 1945, gives him unrivalled knowledge of the workings of a division of the OS which the Serpell Committee has now recommended be suppressed. The preface, by W. Grimes, makes it clear that the system of archaeological recording which operated so successfully after WW2 owes its genesis not so much to OS as to Phillips himself. Although the period maps and others are not described in as great detail as might be expected, this short history is a mine of information on the personalities of the period and is a masterly account of the development and decline of a unique part of OS.
MEETINGS 1982

SOUTHAMPTON

Wednesday 20 October 11.00am to 3.30pm at OS HQ, Romsey Road Maybush, SO9 4DH. A tour of five work areas with 2 audio-visual presentations. Lunch will cost about £1.25 to £2.00.

Numbers are limited to 20. Applications, with s.a.e. for details of how to get there, should be made to Y. Hodson, Cowper Cottage, Lower Green, Twy, Herts, AL6 0JX.

EDINBURGH

Thursday 18 November Members are welcome to attend a meeting of the British Cartographic Society at the Map Room, National Library of Scotland, 137 Causewayside, EH9 1PH, at 7.30pm. A lecture by Y. Hodson: 'OS cartography 1914-39 - Trial & Error'.

Saturday 20 November 10.30 for 11.00am to about 3.30 to 4.00pm at the NLS Map Room. Luncheon at a local hostelry. General theme of meeting: chronology of the OS mapping of Scotland. Do also bring along your own items of interest.

Please note: to comply with NLS security procedures, members may not be admitted unless they have first submitted their names to Alan Godfrey, 57-58 Spoor Street, Dunston, Gateshead NE11 9BD. Tel. 0632 6048546.

LONDON

Saturday 4 December 11.00am to about 4.00pm at the Map Library, British Library Reference Division, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG. 'The OS collections of the British Library': Luncheon and other refreshments will be provided on the premises, cost about £2.00.

Numbers are restricted to 20, please inform Y. Hodson if you wish to attend.

TREASURER AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Society's Accounts were presented at the AGM last April. These can be summarised as follows for the period to 28 February 1982:

Income from subscriptions £198
Newsletters and other costs 135.55
Balance in bank £ 62.45

If anybody requires a copy of the accounts could they please send Alan Godfrey an s.a.e. More comprehensive accounts will be produced next year.

The Society currently has a paid up membership of 78, and membership cards are being enclosed with this Newsletter. If you do not receive one then it probably means that your subscription is due! Subscriptions became due on 1st March, but members who joined on or after 1st January 1982 are considered paid up until next March.

If all renew their membership we shall have approaching 100 members, which would be quite healthy and enable us to plan a more ambitious programme.

MEMBERSHIP remains at £3 per annum for UK members and £5 for corporate members and overseas members (payable in sterling, please). Payment should be made to A. Godfrey,

CONTRIBUTIONS to the Newsletter are welcomed. Please address them to the Editor: Mrs Y Hodson, c/o The Charles Close Society, Map Library, British Library Reference Division, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG