



SHEETLINES

The Newsletter of
THE CHARLES CLOSE SOCIETY

No. 8

December 1983

The P R E F A C E.



LET POETS *famed, of other*
times,

The
Making
of a
MAP.

The MUSES *woo with*
measured rhymes;

I from the Nine no offerings bring

To lay in Beauty's lap:

I would of theme prosaic sing —

"The Making of a MAP."

.

(Thus, at this Festive Time, these
lines appear,

To greet the "SURVEY'S" friends
both far & near!)

Southampton:

25th. December, 1920.

THE ORDNANCE SURVEY IN LANCASHIRE IN THE 1840's - BY RICHARD OLIVER

"This magnificent work, which cannot be described adequately here, transcends all previous maps ..." wrote Harold Whitaker in 1938.¹ He referred to the first edition Ordnance Survey six-inch (1:10,560) map of Lancashire, but the comment is equally valid for the cartography of the United Kingdom generally.

Lancashire was the first English county to be surveyed and published at the 6-inch scale. It was not the first county in Great Britain to be finished at 1:10,560 - that honour belongs to Wigtonshire, completed in 1850 - nor was it the first part of England to be surveyed by the O.S. at 6". In the 1790s, much of Kent was surveyed at that scale, primarily for military reasons, and the materials used in the compilation of the 1-inch Old Series maps thereof; and in 1840 the O.S. surveyed the Duchy of Lancaster's Ogmores estates in South Wales, using a party of men especially detached from the Irish survey.²

The 6-inch survey of Ireland had been commenced under Col. Thomas Colby, (O.S. Superintendant, 1820-47), in 1825, and after various vicissitudes, the first county - Londonderry - was published in 1833, with eleven more published by July 1837.³ The advancing publication seems to have had something of a ripple effect: when the British Association memorialised the Treasury in 1835, seeking an acceleration in the progress of the English survey, they had in mind the 1-inch map, derived from a 2-inch field survey, but within the next two or three years, there was a subtle change. Several memorials were sent to the Treasury between 1837 and 1840 from various bodies in Scotland, Yorkshire, and Lancashire, urging a change to the 6-inch scale. Characteristic was the memorial of the Manchester Geological Society, which urged the larger scale as an aid to mining activities.⁴

In 1839-40, the 2-inch survey was moving into southern Lancashire and Yorkshire, and was progressing at the rate of about 130 square miles - or say half a 1-inch quarter-sheet - per month. This gave a sense of urgency to Colby's reports to the Board of Ordnance of May and June 1840, that as the survey was approaching "the manufacturing and closely-peopled districts", a definite decision should be come to as to whether the 6-inch be adopted for northern England, and Scotland. In July 1840, he estimated that a 6-inch survey would only cost 50% more than a 2-inch one, which, in England, was probably a hopeless underestimate. It is possible that he arrived at this conclusion following an experimental survey at 6" of an area near Ormskirk.⁵

Colby's reports were passed on to the Treasury, which on October 1st 1840 authorised the survey of Scotland and northern England at "the Irish scale of six inches to the mile". This seems unambiguous enough, but there ensued a remarkable period of uncertainty as to the scale(s) to be adopted.

At first, the Treasury, leaning on the advice of the Duke of Wellington, whose claims as a cartographic consultant were those of being Master-General of the Ordnance, (i.e. the O.S.'s political boss), at the time of the inception of the Irish Survey, favoured publishing at six-inch only, and leaving any derived mapping to commercial publishers. Colby and the Ordnance protested, and the Treasury sanctioned completion of the English one-inch.

By 1843, there was an idea current in Treasury and Board of Ordnance circles that the O.S. was supposed to be surveying at 6-inch, and publishing only at 1-inch. This extraordinary volte-face appears to have been the outcome of doubts, raised in April 1842 by the Tithe Commissioners, as to whether 6-inch was adequate for "civil purposes", and whether the 3-chain, (1:2376), scale favoured for tithe mapping might not be preferable. There ensued a period of not very fruitful correspondence, and some very stiff estimates from Colby, which was effectively settled in January 1843, when the Treasury consulted James Walker, the railway engineer, who told the financial mandarins what they wanted to hear, that the six-inch was quite sufficient.⁶ At the same time, Peel's government was conducting a squeeze on public expenditure, and it was necessary for Colby to produce another series of reports before six-inch engraving was explicitly authorised in December 1843, on the argument that supplying copies by tracing would cost much the same as engraving. By June, 1844, the engraving had started of 11 6-inch sheets, all of them relating to that part of Lancashire of Preston.⁷

This is at first sight a little surprising, as the area in question was basically rural, rather than "manufacturing and closely-peopled", but I think there may be a peculiar logic to it, resulting from the operations of the 2-inch survey. When this last was abandoned, some time between December 1840 and February 1841, the 2" survey had covered the whole of Old Series sheets 93 and 94, and small parts of 91, 92, and 95, in addition to the area of Lancashire and Yorkshire in sheets 87-90 that was based on 2" survey and published in 1840-44.⁸ From the point of view of keeping 1-inch map production going, the logical starting point for the six-inch survey would be within the limits of sheets 91 and 92.

The survey dates given in the footnotes to the published maps are of practically nil value in establishing the exact dates when particular localities were surveyed; Lancashire 45, for example, purports to have been surveyed in 1844, yet by June 1844 it was in the process of being engraved! To judge by the footnotes, very little work was done on the Lancashire and Yorkshire surveys before 1844, yet survey parties were coming over from Ireland in the winter of 1841-2, and a substantial area had been surveyed at 6-inch by March 1842, according to Colby's quarterly progress reports. Quite how these "survey dates" were arrived at is something that has yet to be elucidated.⁹

Though the Treasury never specifically authorised any other scale than 6-inch in Lancashire and Yorkshire at this time, a small number of 1:2376 tithe plans of townships in these areas were made by the O.S.; they were undertaken on a repayment basis. The fieldwork was much the same as for the 6-inch, and the real difference lay in the scale of "plotting" from the field-books onto paper. This aspect of O.S. work did not develop very much, partly because from c.1843 onwards there was considerable pressure on the O.S. to reduce spending and manpower, partly because so many surveyors were poached by railway promoters in the mid-40's, and partly because the O.S. could only undertake such surveys as and when it was invited so to do by those wanting them. Tithe and poor-law valuation surveys were an area where the O.S. came into competition with established private surveyors, and when, in July 1842, Captain Henry Tucker, R.E., who had charge of the survey division based at Preston, tendered for tithe surveying in the parish of Standish, near Wigan, there was an outcry from the private surveyors of Lancashire and Westmoreland, with the result that the Board of Ordnance instructed Colby that his state subsidised men were not to take bread from the mouths of private surveyors in future.¹⁰

The other large scale employed in Lancashire and Yorkshire at this time was that of five feet to a mile, (1:1056). In authorising the six-inch in October 1840, the Treasury had called it "the Irish scale", which might be interpreted as "Whatever you did in Ireland, so may you do in England". The Irish survey had been undertaken for valuation purposes, and whilst 6" was adequate in rural areas, it soon became apparent that a larger scale was needed for towns; progressively larger scales were tried, until by the late 1830s the 5-foot had been standardised. These Irish town plans were not intended to be published, though in 1838 a start was made on engraving that of Dublin.

On the basis of running the northern English survey as a continuation of that of Ireland, Colby duly introduced the 5-foot into northern England. The Board of Ordnance got to learn of this unauthorised addition in December 1842, and in the next six months, various enquiries were received from towns, seeking copies for use in planning sanitary improvements. As the sanitary improvement movement gathered force in the next few years, so did the demands for copies of the MS 5-foot plans. At first, it was insisted that copies be supplied by hand-tracing, but the increasing squeeze on OS manpower meant that this was increasingly unrealistic. In 1845, Manchester offered to handle the printing of its 5-foot plans itself - which horrified Colby and the Ordnance - and lesser urban fry kept up a stream of anxious requests that resulted in the Treasury giving sanction to the engraving of the 5-foot plans in December, 1846. The order in which the plans were taken up for engraving may have

This is a detailed topographical map of the North York Moors National Park area. The map shows various hills and fells, including Sheep Hill, Wollfenhall Fell, Saddle Fell, and Bartsclark Fell. It also depicts the River Ure and several roads. Elevation contours are marked throughout the landscape.

1" map - part of Sheet 91 SE.

been determined in part by the size of individual towns, and in part by the insistence of their demands: Wigan put in a demand for tracings in January 1847, and its plans were engraved by 30th September, 1848. (Incidentally, the footnotes to the Wigan plans all give 1847 as the survey date!) The "case" of the 5-foot plans is a clear instance of cartography developing as a result of public demand; politically it would have been very difficult to cut off the supply of new 5-foot surveys.^{10, 11}

Both 6-inch and 5-foot plans were engraved in sheets measuring 36 inches West-East by 24 inches South-North, on copper plates measuring 38 3/8 by 26 3/8 inches, and weighing around 35 lb each.¹² The first 6-inch sheet to appear was no.45, on 10 September 1846, and the last was sheet 8, on 20 June 1851. Whatever comparisons might be made with the Mountjoy-engraved Irish 6", the Lancashire sheets were indubitably better than their Irish forbearers in one respect: they were contoured, with surveyed contours at 25, 50, 75, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 800, 1000, 1200, 1400 and 1600 feet and sketched contours elsewhere every 25 feet. As a result of this saturation of altitude information, the lines of altitudes along minor triangulation lines, a marked feature of many Irish sheets, are practically absent from the Lancashire 6-inch. Benchmarks appeared as well, and on sheet 45 exact descriptions of them were provided, e.g. "Mark on flag over pipe", "Mark on gate pier", &c, which was evidently thought to be overdoing it a bit, as such descriptions were quickly dropped. A more abiding feature of the maps was the depiction of hedgerow timber, giving the rural sheets a "fleshed out" appearance that is often lacking from 20th century large-scale mapping. Elsewhere, there was often an exuberant profusion of detail: springs, pumps, sundials, draw-wells, sheep-pens all sought to provide unflagging interest, and some sheets enter into some detail as to the exact nature of uncultivated land, for example "Rocks and Shrubs" on sheet 19. There were 119 6-inch sheets, numbered 1 to 118, plus 33 West. The Irish Survey had managed to avoid the untidy arrangement of "extra" numbers of this sort, but they were to be a feature of large-scale numbering in Great Britain until publication on the National Grid after 1945 did away with such inconveniences.

The commitment to publication of the 1-inch map was not lost sight of, and work on 1-inch sheets derived from the 6-inch was put in hand at about the same time as the last 2-inch derived 1-inch sheets were published, in 1844. The first of the new sheets to appear was 91 SW, on 31 December 1847. The engraving style is slightly more modern than that of sheets 87-90, (the lettering style is perceptibly different, for instance), but what is more interesting is the tendency to simplification - windmills, for example, are often omitted, or else they are identified by a label, in marked contrast to the profuse inform-

ation on previous 1-inch sheets - and the mode of showing relief. Like earlier sheets, 91 SW was hachured, but now the hachures were obtained from the 25 ft contours in the office, rather than sketched in the field. This method was strongly criticised, and field-sketched hachures were reverted to in the mid-'50s, when 25 ft VI contouring was dropped.¹³ There was also a reasonable supply of spot-heights, though many of these were in multiples of 25 ft - being derived from the contours! - and did not relate to summits or depressions.

91 SW seems to have been published in order to show willing more than anything else, (two-thirds of it was sea, and therefore blank), and the remaining quarters of 91 did not appear until 1852, by which time a noteworthy experiment was in hand in connection with 91SE, (later New Series 67). the electrotyping process, introduced to the English survey in 1847, enabled duplicate copper-plates to be made inexpensively, and when the plate of 91 SE had been completed for names and detail, but before adding the hachures, it was duplicated, and contours at 25 ft VI added to the duplicate plate, which became the prototype of the "outline" format of the 1-inch; though I think a 25ft VI is peculiar to this sheet. The object of the experiment appears to have been to demonstrate the practicability of producing a contoured 1-inch, which was much doubted at this time. 91 SE/67 retained its additional contours when republished in revised form in 1898 and 1913, and remained on sale in this form, until 1940 at least.

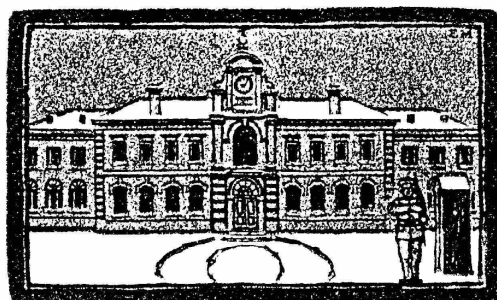
A second map derived from the 6" was a 1/4" index to the 6-inch sheets, which combined large-scale sheetlines with some generalised topography and a useful explanation of the numerous styles of lettering used on the maps. Again, this was a feature of the Irish survey, though outside Ireland, increasing pressure on engraving resources led to abandonment of engraved 6-inch sheets and indexes thereto in the 1880s, and things have never been quite the same since. Indexes such as that of Lancashire made attractive county maps, and used scales - 1/4", 1/3", 1/2" - not usually associated with the O.S. until much later. A common irritant of these indexes is that they don't carry a publication date: that for Lancashire appeared sometime between 1854 and 1857.

The Victorian attitude towards a survey was that it was a once-for-all thing, and the concept of revision took root very slowly. Until circa 1866, there was a policy of adding new railways to six-inch sheets, but more thorough-going revision was unusual. The parish of Ashton under Lyne was revised in 1863 and 6" sheet 105 altered, and in C.1873, Barrow-in-Furness was resurveyed at 1:500 and 6-inch sheet 21 partially revised as a result,

but this was very much an exception, and no comprehensive revision of Lancashire and Yorkshire took place until these two counties were redone at 1:2500 in 1888-93. At the 6 inch scale most of the engraved full sheets were abandoned in favour of newly drawn heliozincographed quarter-sheets to accommodate the massive amount of change but Lancashire sheets 1 to 47, and an adjacent block in Yorkshire, were produced by revising the copper-plates. These de facto 2nd editions remained current until replaced by the results of the large-scale revision of Lancashire of 1904-12, which meant that Lancashire sheets 1 to 14 remained available as engraved full sheets until 1919, when they finally fell victim to the less characterful, more avowedly mass-produced, lithographed quarter-sheets.¹⁴

NOTES

1. Harold Whitaker, ...Printed Maps of Lancashire..., (1938), p.162
2. Public Record Office (P.R.O.) WO 47/1858, pp 4702-4; T1/4436
3. J. H. Andrews, A Paper Landscape, (1975), p.333
4. P.R.O. T1/4060.
5. P.R.O. WO44/702; J. B. Harley, notes on sheet 19 in David & Charles Old Series reprint edition.
6. P.R.O. T1/4909/26797
7. P.R.O. WO47/2013
8. P.R.O. WO47/1868, and M.P.H. 45
9. P.R.O. WO47/1933
10. P.R.O. WO44/702
11. The Wigan request is in P.R.O. WO 47/2102.
12. Ordnance Survey "Day Book", 1827-54, in Ordnance Survey Library, Southampton.
13. See the following Parliamentary papers, e.g.: 1851(519), XX, (Select Committee on O.S. of Scotland), qq 1497-1507, 2069; 1854 (1831) XLI. (the Scales Correspondence), several passages.
14. Acknowledgements are gratefully made to the staff of the British Library, National Library of Scotland, and Public Record Office, Kew, for document production.



WHERE ARE WE GOING? - BY ALAN GODFREY

The Society now has a paid-up membership of 111. The membership is fairly evenly divided between those with a professional interest in maps - librarians, dealers, publishers, etc - and amateurs. However, there is a clear imbalance of the sexes, with only 18 ladies in that number. The Society is very poorly represented in our city and county libraries, and in our record offices. This is an unfortunate weakness in view of their great collections. Birmingham Central Library, Bradford, Rotherham..... are any others represented?

It is just over 2 years since we held our first meeting, at Edinburgh. It was, I think, inevitable that much of the early work would be done by the professionals mentioned above. There is now a danger that their efforts are being taken for granted; they are still carrying out some 95% of the Society's organisational work. Indeed, one map librarian recently suggested to me that, since it is British Cartographic Society members who are most active, perhaps we should merge into that Society. It is our amateur members who would stand to lose most if that happened.

Our Society's activities can be equally divided into the production of Sheetlines, and the organisation of meetings around the country. These are complementary and of equal importance. Yet only some 12 to 15 people are involving themselves actively in the running of our meetings; and in London, Edinburgh and Yorkshire - our principal venues to date - it is always the small number of ladies who carry out the lion's share of the work. In those meetings for which I have had responsibility, I have had painfully few letters or phone calls from people offering to help. (I can only remember one - significantly from a lady librarian!) But anyone who was at this year's meetings will understand how much work went into their preparation, and will have been impressed by the eloquence and scholarship of our speakers, who have often travelled vast distances to be with us. Their work has done so much to put the Society on its feet and (dare one say it) on the map!

There is a similar problem with The Newsletter where I know that our editor would welcome articles and contributions from a greater variety of members. It is unhealthy for a society if the same small number of views and interests are being expressed all the time. But, even more urgently, we need help with the preparation of Sheetlines. Richard Dean asked - quite reasonably - for assistance with the typing, but received only one reply, from somebody who is already doing a lot for the Society. Apart from typing help, we also require members ideally in the Stoke or Manchester area willing to help in sending the newsletter out.

With so small an active membership it is difficult to know exactly what members are looking for in the Society. But from frequent discussions with those in the North of England and Scotland it is clear that there is considerable disquiet about the direction the Society is taking. "There seems to be an obsession with bibliographic minutiae" has become a common complaint; some have compared fellow members with train-spotters, or pointed out wistfully that "the bit in the middle's interesting too, you know!" Could it be that this passion for bibliographic niceties is frightening many members away from a closer involvement in the Society?

A residential weekend might have given the Society an opportunity to spread its wings, but sadly only 3 members expressed an interest; the work involved clearly cannot be justified. Nevertheless, it is intended that the regional meetings next year - and preparation is already underway for events in Newcastle, Leicester and Edinburgh - will reflect a broader outlook. The conservation of maps; an explanation of the various printing processes; and map interpretation are just three possible subjects. We need all the help we can get if the Charles Close Society is to survive and prosper.

It may be, of course, that my friends in the North and I are out on a limb, and that most members do want us to concentrate on "bibliographic minutiae", act as a "Collectors' Corner" perhaps, or even turn ourselves into a "Map-spotters' Club!" I shall await the results of Brian Garvan's questionnaire with great interest. But as a former playwright and actor I am reminded of Shakespeare's plays: how many people have been frightened away from them by an excess of literary analysis, by the constant dotting of "i"s and crossing of "t"s? The Works of the Ordnance Survey comprise the greatest publishing achievement these islands have ever known: to treat them as a textbook is to belittle their beauty, their richness and their importance.

RECENT MEETINGS

Sheffield : July 1983 - Notes by Brian Garvan

Seventeen members, from most points of the compass, gathered together for the Society's summer meeting in Sheffield on a beautiful day that did full justice to the City's hard-won clean air.

The morning session was held in the architectural splendour of Sheffield University's Department of Geography where, in the purpose built map library (which is well worth a visit in itself) our hosts Joan Chibnall and Elizabeth Clutton welcomed us with coffee and an exhibition of local OS large scale plans and other interesting items. The latter included some fine Old Series sheets

(Tithe Index Edition and Geological) and a copy of the Sheffield sheet of Karte von England and Wales, 1:100 000, which the Germans produced just prior to WWII by enlarging the OS half-inch series.

The morning session was introduced by Roger Fairclough who noted that it is always worth getting up early to listen to the Society's Chairman speak on any matter relating to the OS. The illustrated talk which followed, on a subject about which most of us know very little, served to reinforce this point admirably. (See Richard Oliver's notes on this talk, "Maps for the Army: the Ordnance Survey's Contribution" in Sheetlines No. 7).

Lunch was taken at a local pub, another interesting building which had originally served as a terminus for the City's trams, after which a longish bus ride for the paltry fare of 4p (reminding us that we were visitors to The People's Republic of South Yorkshire), took us into the city centre for the afternoon session which was held in the City Library. Our hosts for this session were Martin Olive and Ruth Harmon of the Local Studies Library.

A selection of early estate and town plans from the Sheffield City Archive was exhibited together with a number of early OS town plans from the City Library. The earliest map on view was a plan of the township of Sheffield (population 9695) prepared from Gosling's survey of 1736 but most of the items were from "The Fairbanks Collection". Four generations of this Quaker family dominated the survey of Sheffield from 1746 to 1848. Their entire collection of some 4500 maps, 311 field books and many other varied items including accounts, work diaries and 3000 papers, was donated to the City some 50 years ago. This unique collection of extremely fine work covers schemes for waterworks, railways and canals as well as general architectural work. It even includes a plan which was submitted to the 1835 competition for the rebuilding of the Houses of Parliament.

The later plans in the Fairbanks collection made for interesting comparison with the early OS items such as sheets 274 and 294 of the six inch series of which multiple states were on view. The six inch sheets date from the early 1850s but for the urban area the six inch survey was preceded by the town survey at 1:1056 to which Sheffield subscribed. An example of one of these five foot plans was also on display.

As interest in the items on view began to wane there was the ritual digging into bags and pockets to produce unusual OS items for discussion. Sadly, however, time was running short and after a brief vote of thanks to our hosts there was a quick dash for the station or motorway although a small number of us did manage to prolong the meeting a little longer in the Library's coffee shop.

Our thanks again to Joan, Elizabeth, Martin and Ruth for yet another successful

day out. If you have not yet managed to get to one of the Society's meetings my advice is to try harder! I've thoroughly enjoyed all those I've been to and can't wait for the next. You'll also be surprised at the variety and depth of knowledge that can be picked up in just a few hours.

Exeter : The Annual Symposium of the BCS 9-11 Sept 1983 - Notes by Francis Herbert

Your Committee having decided that the Society should advertise itself at the British Cartographic Society's Annual Symposium (held in Exeter University this year) the writer organised a contribution to the 'Poster Session' on your behalf. To exhibit as much variety of OS material as possible, (and to be 'one up' on other displays!) a glass exhibition case was requisitioned from the University Geography Department (courtesy of Sylvia Morrey, Map Curator). This was then filled with 20 items (maps, accompanying street index, gazetteer, Ellis Martin sketch, descriptive booklet, metal badge, bicycle level, boxed set, glossary) plus 2 maps flat on the wall with the intention of conveying to participants the range of material discussed in Sheetlines: the relevant issue number being placed on the item so that interested persons could pick up the copy laid out for that purpose and see what had been written about it. The exhibit certainly seemed to attract some interest and several people took a Membership Form away with them - I even managed to persuade one Scottish map historian to take two! Whether the membership/financial figures have leaped up may not be so important as the fact that the Charles Close Society was seen to be alive and flourishing.

This small contribution to the Symposium could not have been made without the kind and generous provision of items for the exhibit from C.C.S. members (in alphabetical order) Brian Garvan (who also arranged provision of display-size versions of the Society's name), Yolande Hodson, Guy Messenger, Tim Nicholson, Richard Oliver, and the writer. Alan Godfrey who had set up his own flourishing stand adjacent provided a sample Geographical Journal reprint for display. Brian Garvan was close at hand too, as he was this year in charge of the BSC Map Curators' Group exhibit on the other side of the Charles Close Society, and, by bringing along a selection of different scales of the Exeter/Devon region and laying them out on tables between all three stands, created a visible cartographic link between the three bodies.

Edinburgh : 26 November 1983 - Notes by Brian Garvan

Some twenty members assembled in the Geography Department of the University of Edinburgh. After a brief outline of the programme for the day by Peter Clark Dr. Chris Board gave a most interesting paper describing his recent work on the Third series, the 'A' series and the Fourth series quarter inch sheets. (A fuller report of the paper will appear in the next issue of Sheetlines. For an earlier report on the same subject see Sheetlines No. 1 October 1981) Dr. Board had concluded that there is no clear demarcation between the three groups and it is far more rewarding to consider them as a continuous development of a single series, the real changes not occurring until the introduction of the fifth edition.

After lunch Peter Clark gave a brief summary of the present structure of the O.S. consultative committees. The two tier structure follows the general recommendations of the Serpell Report and replaced the Map Users Conference Committee set up in the early 1960s. The Royal Geographical Society OS Education Committee, of which Peter Clark is a member, has this year taken over the main areas of interest of the Map Users Conference. One representative of each of the seven second tier committees sits on the Director Generals Committee. Some organisations have members on more than one of the second tier committees. To date there have been two meetings of the RGSOS Education Committee. Papers discussed include the draft O.S. Five year plan (now on sale at HMSO) and various consultation papers dating from the early '70s, none of which have been published, which gave valuable supplementary information to the annual reports. Concern was expressed that the general public, even the informed, did not seem to have a place in the structure. Educational interests were not happy with the current O.S. pursuit of commercial interests to the detriment of educational needs. An apparent lack of interest in the O.S. for the retention of original unamended basic reference material was also a problem. Experimental maps, previously deposited with organisations such as the RGS, are now not passed to such bodies automatically. Next years O.S. programme was outlined. It includes : - no changes to the Routeplanner and Routemaster series; an experimental digital 1:50000 sheet 76; a new one inch edition for Dartmoor; outdoor maps to include gradients; and on large scales the identification of 'pedestrian access only' areas.

Richard Oliver then gave a preview of his investigations into imprints on early engraved one inch sheets and the significance of the introduction of the electrotpe date in the mid 1860's. His work seems to indicate that O.S. marketing policy had a substantial influence on the information given on the maps.

Prior to 1866 agents bought from the O.S. with no 'sale or return' condition. In 1866 there was a change in pricing policy which was accompanied by a sale or return of obsolete maps' arrangement. Therefore was it primarily in order to readily identify obsolete maps that the age of the printing plate used for each map had to be shown?

In the open discussion a number of questions were posed. Barbara Bond would like to receive any information on the engraved O.S. maps printed on silk in the 19th century. Brian Garvan had three O.S. sheets of the Royal Parks and would like to know more on this subject. Peter Clark had an intriguing request for information on a map of Aldershot of the 1860s printed on india rubber which is recorded in the O.S. catalogues.

Some items were raised for discussion at the A.G.M. Barbara Bond suggested an arrangement with appropriate bodies whereby Sheetlines could be exchanged for the journals of other organisations. Richard Oliver suggested that a Circulation Officer should be appointed.

Finally Richard Dean made a plea for any material including short notes for Sheetlines. Alan Godfrey suggested that the return of 'Colby's Column' would be welcomed.

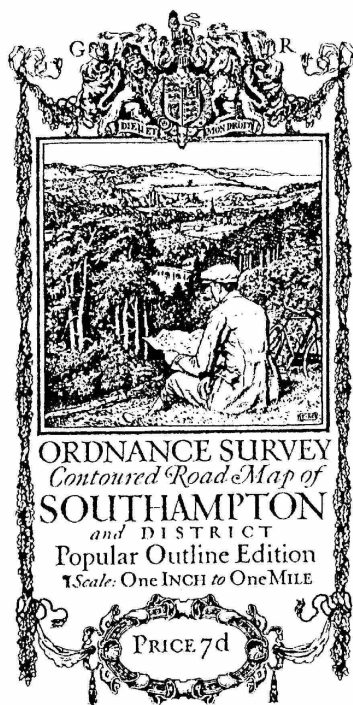
Peter Clark brought an informative and enjoyable meeting to an end with a vote of appreciation to Dr. Board, to the Department of Geography for allowing the use of their building and Barbara Morris, Margaret Wilkes and Ann Sutherland for their considerable efforts in the days arrangements.

ONES THAT GOT AWAY? - BY TIM NICHOLSON

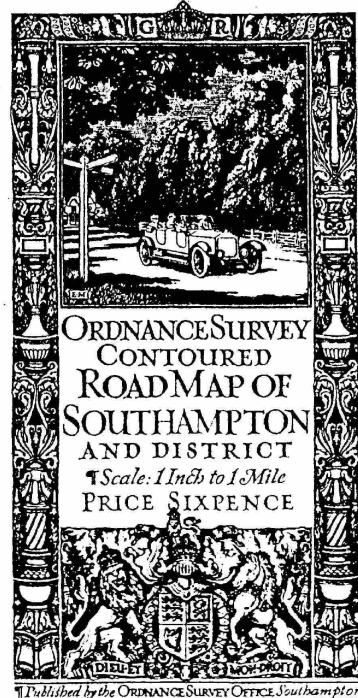
Two sources of material - surviving artwork for designs by Arthur Palmer, in the O.S. archives at Southampton, and proofs of designs by Ellis Martin and E. T. Hoy at Southampton and in the writer's collection - reveal not only map cover designs, but also maps, that seem never to have been published.

The possibility clearly arose at one point that the Popular Edition in Outline form might be offered folded in covers as well as in flat sheets, as witness proof (A). It shows a utility version of the standard Popular cover, in black with the title and price in red. On the subject of the one inch map, the Ellis Martin design adopted, in the event, for the Half Inch map cover was considered for the larger scale as well, as we see in proof (B). This is in black with place name, price and initial letters in red.

Quite the nastiest cover to find its way on to a Half Inch - or any other - map was the notorious brick-red monstrosity perpetrated by Arthur Palmer for the Ministry of Transport map on that scale. How much pleasanter would have been Martin's design of a country road by night (Proof (C)), even though it was only in black, brown and cream. Martin also provided all the covers for



A



B



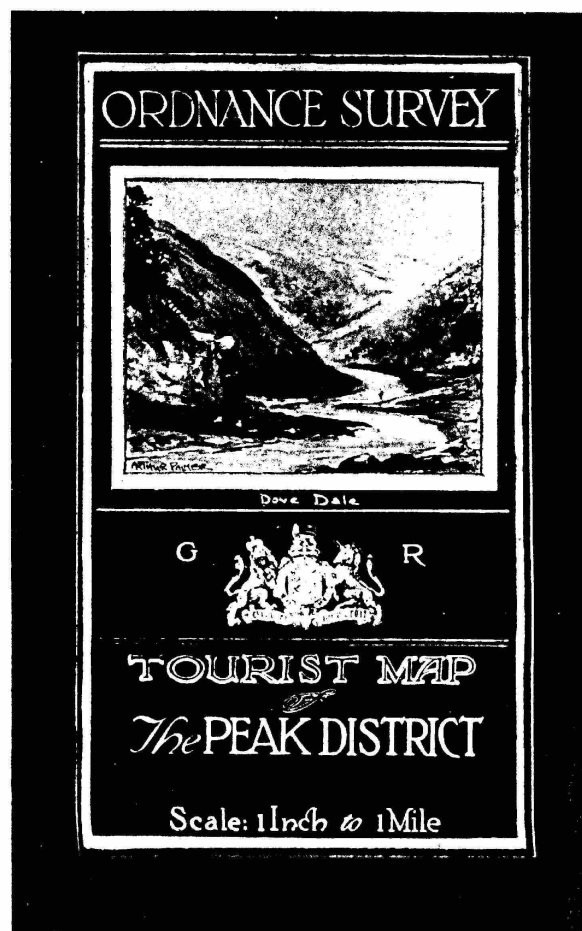
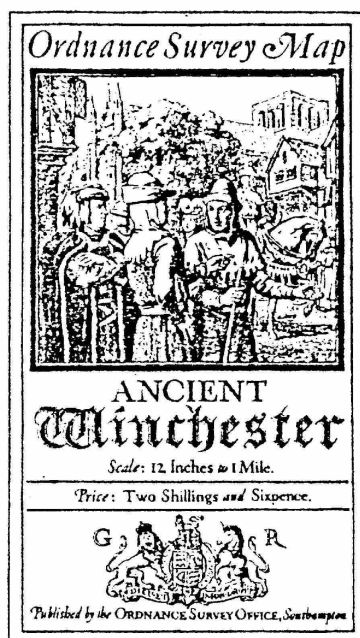
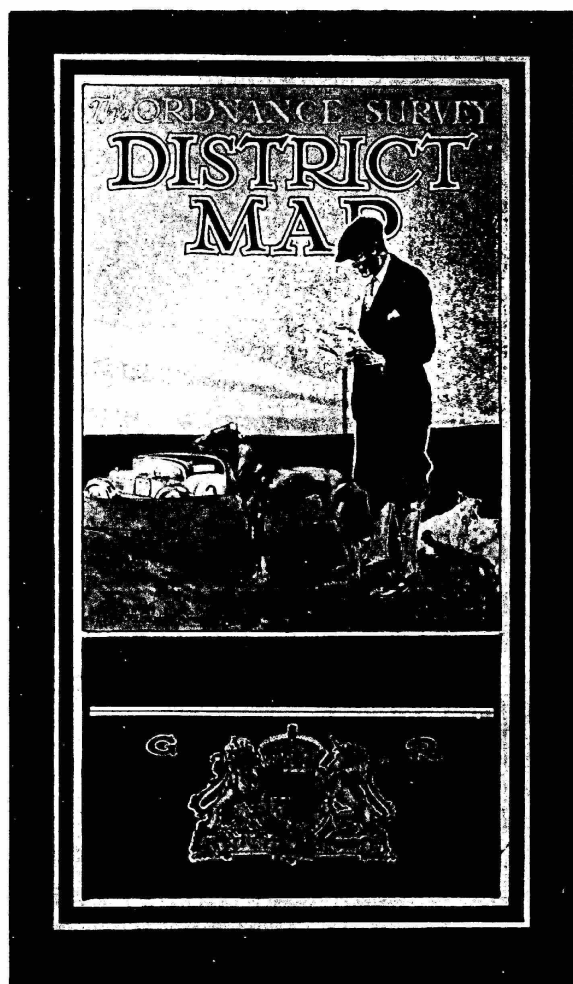
C

the specialised O.S. archaeological maps. The Ancient Winchester Sheet, though offered in flat form (1924 Catalogue p.23) seems never to have been folded into the cover shown in proof (D). The design is in black on buff card.

There appear to be fewer of Arthur Palmer's trials and errors about, perhaps because - although he produced twice as many Tourist and District map covers as Ellis Martin - his total output for the Survey was only half as great. One example was the very attractive alternative to his familiar Peak District Tourist map (artwork E), showing Dove Dale. Much less successful was his alternative design for a standard Popular District map cover (artwork F). Was this discarded in favour of Palmer's very handsome design that became a standard early District cover - red and black, with an open car in silhouette at the top? Both these designs are in full colour.

Though completely artificial, E. T. Hoy's well-known "Manx cat" design for the Popular Isle of Man sheet succeeds as a piece of elegant decoration. His cover for a Tourist Map of the Western Highlands (proof G), another map that "never was", is a disaster because it tries to portray a natural scene with figures, while using the same style. The result comes straight off a chocolate box. Hoy is said to have designed Christmas cards for the Survey as well - has anyone seen these, and did they "work" any better?

The question mark after the title of this little piece is deliberate, and let it end with another. Some of these covers have the assured look of successful designs. The fact that the writer has never seen them on a map means extremely little - has anyone else done so?

D
↑E
→F
↑G
→

NOTES AND QUERIESArchaeology and the Ordnance Survey

Colonel Richard Arden -Close feels that a broader approach to the work of the OS would make the Society more interesting to the non-technical member, and suggests as an example that a piece in the newsletter on the archaeological work sponsored by the Survey and its recording would be appropriate. Is anyone researching this topic? His father appointed O.G.S. Crawford as Archaeological Officer in 1920 - a civilian appointment that was not universally welcomed by the soldiers who had previously enjoyed a monopoly. Crawford was a remarkable and unconventional man: he was an observer in the Royal Flying Corps in World War I, and was a brilliant and innovative archaeologist. He could have had many more lucrative appointments than the OS (where he was paid the princely sum of £300 per year!) but he realised that Southampton gave him enormous scope from the archaeological point of view, particularly with the backing of Charles Close as Director General to whom he had direct access.

O.G.S. Crawford was the founder and editor of *Antiquity* - a quarterly review of archaeology, and pioneered the use of aerial photography for research progress. In 1928 he published (with Alexander Keiller) a marvellous book called "Wessex from the Air" and it was largely due to his efforts that the OS produced their fine series of period maps starting with Roman Britain in 1924. Although his active connection with the Survey ended with the destruction of the Old Southampton Offices in 1940, the impetus he created led to further issues after the War.

Another subject in which the Colonels' father took a great interest was English place names. This too is much connected with the OS and would be deserving of attention in a future issue.

Six-inch Town Plans

C.I.M. O'Brien and Tim Nicholson point out that Southampton (partially revised 1931 and 1934) needs to be added to the list in Sheetlines No. 7, with an initial imprint 1000/35. As further print runs of 1000 were made in 1936 and 1938 it evidently met a genuine consumer need in the OS's home town. Roger Hellyer also mentions a 6" sheet of Bristol prepared especially by the OS for the British Association for the Advancement of Science for their meeting September 3rd - 10th 1930. It is on paper folding into a special envelope and was presumably a companion piece to the half inch excursion map which the OS published for the same occasion.

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Both carry the same print code 3000/30 Dr. Hellyer also draws attention to the 20 London Sheets lettered A-T reprinted unaltered (?) during the 1920's from the regular six inch full sheets and folded into Ellis Martin covers with a view of the Thames at night looking past Cleopatra's Needle and The Old Waterloo Bridge towards St. Paul's.

Two (or more) Heads Are Better Than One.

A good way to further research into a particular map or topic is to photocopy useful references, articles, notes, etc., to a file which is circulated amongst those persons known to be interested. Recipients can add any relevant material of their own and take a fresh view of and comment on any aspect of the contents, which rapidly build up into a comprehensive picture, as previously unconnected data slots together. Distillation at intervals will produce coherent progress reports for publication in Sheetlines. Your editor holds such a file for the 5th edition one inch map which can be made available to seriously interested students, and with further files and a volunteer to circulate and keep custody of them a valuable archive of information could be created.

O.S. Leaflets

The following should now be added to the list on page 12 of the last issue:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Short Title</u>	<u>Code</u>
-	Abridged List.... Small Scale Maps .. England & Wales	OSO 50,000 1-4-30
-	" " " " " " "	OSO 30,000 1-5-29
6/38	" " " " " " "	9215 100,000 3-38
6/39	" " " " " " "	9215 100,000 3-39
6/35	" " " " " " "	OSO 9215 50,000 1-35
7/35	" " " " " Scotland	OSO 9125 10,000 1-35
3	The New OS Map of Scotland ... One inch to one mile	OSO 20,000 1-5-29
1	OS Maps for Tourists. Notes on the Choice of Scale	OSO 20,000 20-3-30

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One Inch Popular "Special Edition with Hills"

Several copies of a curious 1931 issue of Sheet 112 (Marlborough) have been produced at recent meetings, with hatchuring added to the normal contours. The maps are folded in plain style buff covers, and include the parish boundaries missing from the regular series. It seems to have been a more economical alternative to the completely redrawn Fifth Edition, but further information would be welcome. The ordinary version of the sheet was reprinted subsequently without any reference to it, and no similar issues of other Popular sheets have yet come to light.

Bolton and Bury District

Another Popular Edition oddity is this District Map of 1930. It is very small, has no reference to its derivation from the Popular on either map or cover, no magnetic north diagram and no publishing history - simply "Ordnance Survey 1930, 8000/30".

Aldershot North and South

District Maps of these areas with elaborate layering and hatchuring à la "Killarney" were produced in 1913-14 but were probably for military consumption only, as with the parallel plainer contoured issues which were not advertised for public sale until June 1919, together with the first 31 Popular sheets. Richard Oliver would like to know of any examples that were sold to the public - perhaps evidenced by a proper cover rather than the military style of printed title on the reverse of the backing cloth.

PUZZLE CORNER

THE COLOURED LANDRANGER MAPS

In adopting the above title the OS have dispelled any criticism of a lack of historical appreciation as it contains inbuilt reference to several Superintendents/ Director Generals. How many surnames can you find?

The map extract in the last newsletter was from the post war layered Half Inch Second Series Sheet 36 (Birmingham) published in 1958. Only sheets 28,36,39,43 and 51 are thought to have been issued and usually turn up masquerading as special sheets in Half Inch District Map Covers.

EDITORIAL

The task of Membership Secretary has now passed to Brian Garvan, and all future queries and communication regarding membership should now be addressed to him at . Our thanks are due to Alan Godfrey for having handled these duties since the Society was formed. I understand that Brian is preparing a questionnaire for members concerning their various OS interests, and you should be hearing from him soon. There has been some disquiet recently on the direction the Society is taking and the limited range of members who are prepared to share the more mundane work, and this has been crystallised by Alan in the note which you will find in this issue. He points out that these are his own thoughts and not necessarily those of the committee, but the important factor is what the membership thinks - please pick up your pen and let me have your views, your requirements, your contributions, and your offers of assistance.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Saturday 18th February 1984, 11.00 - 16.00 hrs. - A study group at the home of Yolande Hodson, Cowper Cottage, Lower Green, Tewin, Herts. AL6 0JX. (Tel. 043871 7825). The theme will be the OS Half-Inch Map led by Peter Clark and members seriously interested in this topic should contact Yolande if they wish to attend. Numbers will be limited to 12, and lunch will be available.

Tuesday 13th March 1984, 18.30 hrs. - Members are invited to a British Cartographic Society Meeting in the Chemistry Lecture Theatre, Kings College, Strand, London. Yolande Hodson will be talking on the subject of the OS between the Wars, and this will be repeated the following day in Southampton.

The cover is from the OS Christmas 'card' of 1920, which is a booklet of eight pages of verse by Alfred Oscroft describing the operations of the Survey illustrated with drawings by Ellis Martin. (T.R.Nicholson Collection)

MEMBERSHIP

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