

Sheetlines

The journal of THE CHARLES CLOSE SOCIETY for the Study of Ordnance Survey Maps

"Geographic Journal on CCS website" *John Davies Sheetlines*, 97 (August 2013), pp.50

Stable URL:

http://www.charlesclosesociety.org/files/Issue97page50.pdf

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Published by THE CHARLES CLOSE SOCIETY for the Study of Ordnance Survey Maps www.CharlesCloseSociety.org

The Charles Close Society was founded in 1980 to bring together all those with an interest in the maps and history of the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain and its counterparts in the island of Ireland. The Society takes its name from Colonel Sir Charles Arden-Close, OS Director General from 1911 to 1922, and initiator of many of the maps now sought after by collectors.

The Society publishes a wide range of books and booklets on historic OS map series and its journal, *Sheetlines*, is recognised internationally for its specialist articles on Ordnance Survey-related topics.

OS in GJ on CCS www

The Society website has recently benefited from two major enhancements which provide valuable information on the history of Ordnance Survey and the online display of more map series.

Thirty two articles (spanning some two hundred pages) of Ordnance Survey relevance, originally published in *Geographical Journal* in the period 1896 to 1934, have been uploaded to *www.charlesclosesociety.org/GJ* These include several major contributions by Charles Close, HSL Winterbotham, JEE Crater and JG Withycombe which give a unique insight into the politics and practices, strategy and objectives of the organisation. Withycombe's 1929 contribution *Lettering on maps*, for example, was the basis for Richard Oliver's recent article on the subject.¹ In addition, shorter unsigned items include announcements or reviews of new publications and other topical features which bring the period to life.

The project to collect and publish these extracts was initiated by the Society in the early 1980s and the work to compile and prepare the items for printing continued for several years. By 1992, however, the Publications sub-committee decided the costs of printing and distribution outweighed the likely revenue from sales. The project was put on ice and the pages put in storage. Now, happily, with the advances in technology and the advent of the website, the costs of scanning, uploading and web-hosting have become trivial and the articles are now freely available for the enjoyment and edification of all.

One Inch Old Series (England & Wales) One Inch New Series and 3rd Edition Small Sheet Series (England & Woles! Sheet 256, North London One Inch 3rd Edition Large Sheet Series (England & Wales) Sheet 108, NE Landon and Enning Enrost One Inch Popular Edition (England & Wales) Sheet 107, W.S.Landon & Paping Parast One Inch 5th Edition Small Sheet Series (England & Wales). Sheet 107, W.L.Landon & Epping Larest One Inch 5th Edition Large Sheet Series (England & Wales) Sheet 114, London One Inch New Popular Edition (England & Wales) Sheet 160, London MV Une Inch /th Series Sheet 160, London NW 1:50,000 Landranger Sheet 176, West Landon 1:25,000 Provisional Sheet TQ28, Paddington Six Inch County Series London (First Editions c.1050s, 5-Inch sheets): Sheet / London (irst Editions & 1850s, 1:2500 sheets): Sheet 25 Lancon (Edition of 1854-95, 5 inch shocks): Shock 7 London (Edition of 1894-95, 1:2500 sheets): Sheet 49 Lundon (1915-) (Numbered sheets): Sheet 5 London (1915-) (Lettered 6-mich sheets); Sheet K Middlesex: Sheet 17

The second development has been achieved in co-operation with National Library of Scotland and provides the online display in the Sheetfinder page2 of many more original OS maps than previously. Series now available display for any chosen location include One-inch New Popular (England Wales), One-inch Seventh Series, Oneinch of Scotland 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Popular Editions and, for Scotland, England and Wales, the 1: 25,000 Provisional series.

For all other One-inch map series, including all of Ireland, and for Six-inch County series, the map sheet names and numbers for the selected location are listed, but the maps themselves are not yet available for display.

Typical set of results in Sheetfinder, listing the map sheets applicable to the selected location. Results in green provide a link to the online display of the map itself

¹ Richard Oliver, 'A few notes on map lettering', Sheetlines 95,33

² http://www.charlesclosesociety.org/CCS-sheetfinder