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“Survey methods: corrections and additions”

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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.

Survey methods: corrections and additions

John Cole

The following update the lists of 1:1250 survey methods in *Sheetlines 56, 64, 67, 68* and *69*:

1949 *chain survey*: **add** Corringham, Stanford le Hope, Stockton and Thornaby on Tees¹

1951 *chain survey*: **add** Gateshead

1953 *chain survey*: **add** Osset, Redcar,¹ Tynemouth and Whitley Bay

1955 *chain survey*: **add** Batley, South Shields

1956 *chain survey*: **delete** Hamilton

1960 *tachy*: **add** Romford

air machine: **add** Fleetwood, Blackpool, Lytham and St Annes

1961 *tachy*: **add** Hamilton

1962 *tachy*: **add** Hornchurch

1959 *tachy*: **add** Hyde

Although Romford and Hornchurch have been retained in the tachy category there is some doubt about this. Similarly there is doubt about Wrexham (1958) and the Blackpool area as example maps show revision point fixation with air graphic in mind.

The recently republished *Ordnance Survey maps: a concise guide for historians* mentions that the town centres at Montrose, Stranraer and Stonehaven were surveyed at 1:1250 and the rest of the built up area at 1:2500. *Sheetlines 65* quoted the National Grid references of six maps (two for each town) involved. A visit to the OS website in June 2005 indicates a change of situation at Stonehaven.

Maps are now classed as:

- A: 1:1250 mapping (or 1:2500 mapping to this standard),
- B: 1:2500 overhauled maps,
- R: 1:2500 reformed mapping,
- C: 1:10,000 mapping.

At Montrose and Stranraer the town centre maps are classed as AB and the surrounding 1:2500, B (not yet covered by the reformed programme). But at Stonehaven seven maps are now shown as AR indicating that they had been added to the small town / peri-urban area which is now complete.

Northallerton is also quoted as having the town centre surveyed at 1:1250, but in this case complete maps SE3693NE and SE3694SE are at this scale. This also applied at Dawlish, SX9576NE, SX9676NW; Todmorden, SD9342NE, SD9424SW, and Easton (Isle of Portland), SY6871NW & NE. At Fortuneswell (Isle of Portland) four maps are at 1:1250, SY6873NW, NE, SW & SE. At Bridgnorth, there are six, SO7192SE, SO7193SW & SE, SO7292NW, NE & SE and at Teignmouth, four, SX9373SE, SX9473SW, SX9372NE, SX9472NW with a further two, SX9372SW & SE at Shaldon village on the other side of the river mouth. As these areas were all surveyed at 1:1250 during 1987-89 it is assumed the maps concerned have only been available as digital print-outs.

Twenty five inch map

To the provisional list of 1951-56 resurveyed towns should be added: Bo'ness, Broxburn-Uphall and Linlithgow (West Lothian).

¹ This corrects the amendment in *Sheetlines 69*.