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“A different Medway crossing”

Rob Wheeler

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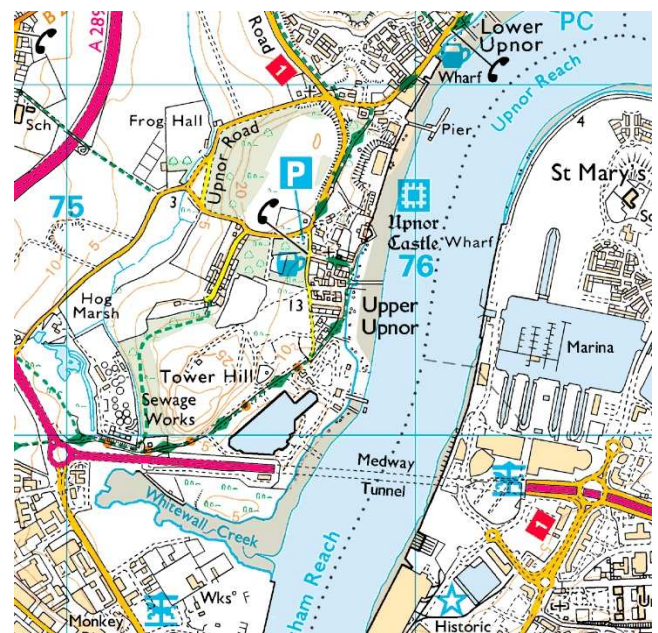
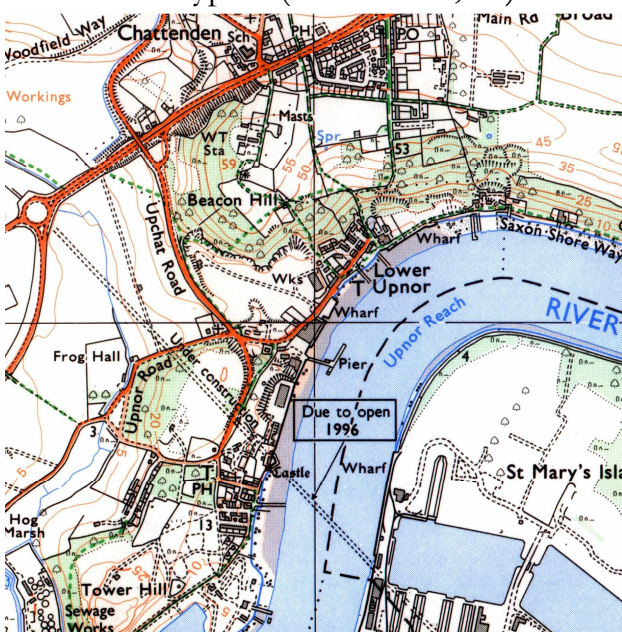
The Charles Close Society was founded in 1980 to bring together all those with an interest in the maps and history of the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain and its counterparts in the island of Ireland. The Society takes its name from Colonel Sir Charles Arden-Close, OS Director General from 1911 to 1922,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

A Different Medway Crossing

Rob Wheeler

The extract below shows the new Medway Crossing as depicted on a Pathfinder sheet of 1993. Those familiar with the area will observe that it is in the wrong place and on quite a different alignment from the tunnel actually built. One presumes that what is depicted here is intended as a tunnel; otherwise Upnor Castle (*see cover*) was about to be straddled by the abutments of a bridge. So what was actually ‘under construction’ at the time? Is anyone aware of an aborted tunnel? Or do we have another OS ‘fingerprint’ like the Redbourne bypass (*Sheetlines 55, 40*)?



1:25,000 Pathfinder 1177 of 1993 compared to current map (right) © Crown Copyright