



Sheetlines

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

“Thumbnail sketches on map covers
- part 5”

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Sheetlines, 91 (August 2011), pp.31-35

Stable URL:

<http://www.charlesclosesociety.org/files/Issue91page31.pdf>

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



***Thumbnail sketches on one-inch map covers from
1945 - part 5 Sketch maps on the later post-war
Scottish Popular covers***

K S Andrews

The first sketches on the covers of the post-war Scottish Popular one-inch maps were described in part 4 of this series of articles.¹ The cover sketches on later covers were studied for this report and some intriguing changes were discovered.

This research was hindered because sales of Scottish Popular maps were sluggish, making the later covers scarce. Just over 20% of New Popular covers have price change stickers (277 out of 1372 seen, data courtesy P S Welham) but for Scottish Populars the figure is double at 40% (108 out of 265 seen). The percentage for the highlands and islands is higher still. Some maps published in 1948 can be found with their first covers re-priced in 1950, then again in 1952 and a third time in 1958. The result is a limited number of examples of late covers for some sheets and apparently none at all for a few others, so it was decided to delay publication until reasonably comprehensive data was available. A short recapitulation may therefore be excused.

Introduction

The Popular Edition one-inch map of Scotland with National Grid was published between August 1945 and April 1948 in the cover illustrated in *figure 1a*. The typical examples alongside show the development of the cover design.

The sketch maps are predominantly landscape format but nineteen are portrait. The font used for place names on the sketches on nearly half of the initial covers was Caslon and for the rest the font was the more modern Times. This difference divided Scotland geographically into three zones. Sheets of zone 1 to the south were published first using Caslon. The publication dates of those of zone 2 in the north-east with Caslon and zone 3 covering the rest of Scotland with Times overlapped each other. The zones revealed by the decision to change from Caslon to Times font as the edition was issued may therefore show the publishing priority that was originally intended.

Zone 1, sheets 59 to 92

The first covers on sheets in this zone, in cover group KA-S3, have Caslon sketches.² When the later KA-S5 covers were printed, new sketches were used with Times font for placenames. All the Times sketches are new drawings. Half of the Times sketches differ significantly from the Caslon in the choice of placenames but many have an unchanged selection. The two extremes are illustrated in *figures 2* and *3*. Some new sketches have more names, some fewer, but nine to eleven is the norm. An extreme example is sketch 83, *Loch Doon*,

¹ Part 1, *Sheetlines* 78, 38-42; part 2, *Sheetlines* 79, 10-16; part 3, *Sheetlines* 80, 47-52; part 4, *Sheetlines* 86, 44-48.

² For a description of Scottish Popular cover variants see *Sheetlines* 84, 33-41.

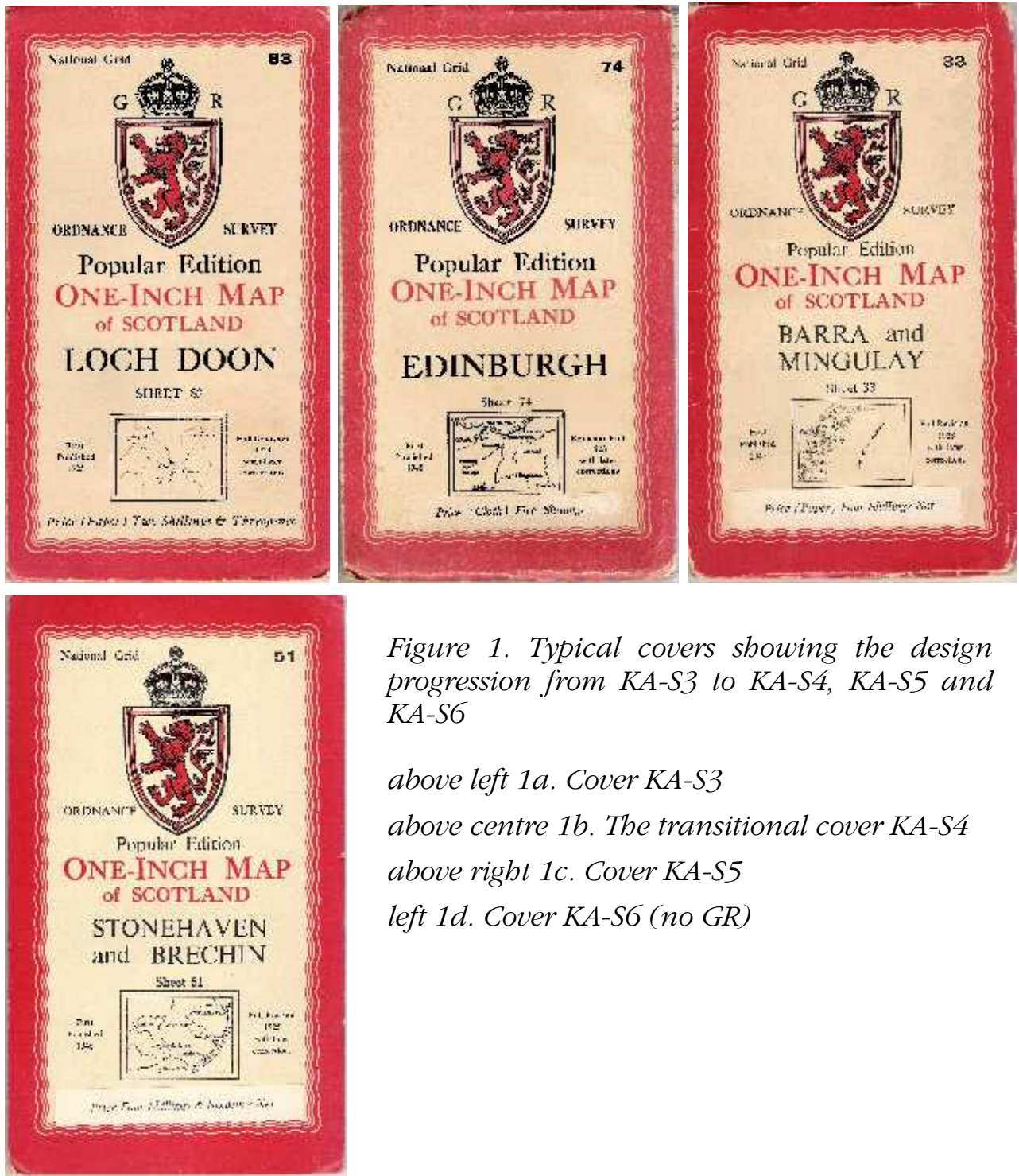


Figure 1. Typical covers showing the design progression from KA-S3 to KA-S4, KA-S5 and KA-S6

above left 1a. Cover KA-S3

above centre 1b. The transitional cover KA-S4

above right 1c. Cover KA-S5

left 1d. Cover KA-S6 (no GR)

where on both versions only a meagre two placenames merited inclusion, besides the loch of the title, see figure 1a.

On sketch 61, *Oban & Loch Awe*, Inveraray in Caslon was changed to Inverary in Times, although all the editions of the sheet use the former spelling. On sketch 76, *Kintyre*, the Caslon version had a mysterious unnamed coastal community – the Times replacement identified it as Glenbarr. On sketch 79, *Lanark*, Blyth Bridge is labelled Blythe Bridge on both the Caslon and the Times sketches.

The scarce cover group KA-S4 is an unpredictable transition, bridging from KA-S3 with Caslon to KA-S5 with Times. As an example, the KA-S4.1,4 cover for

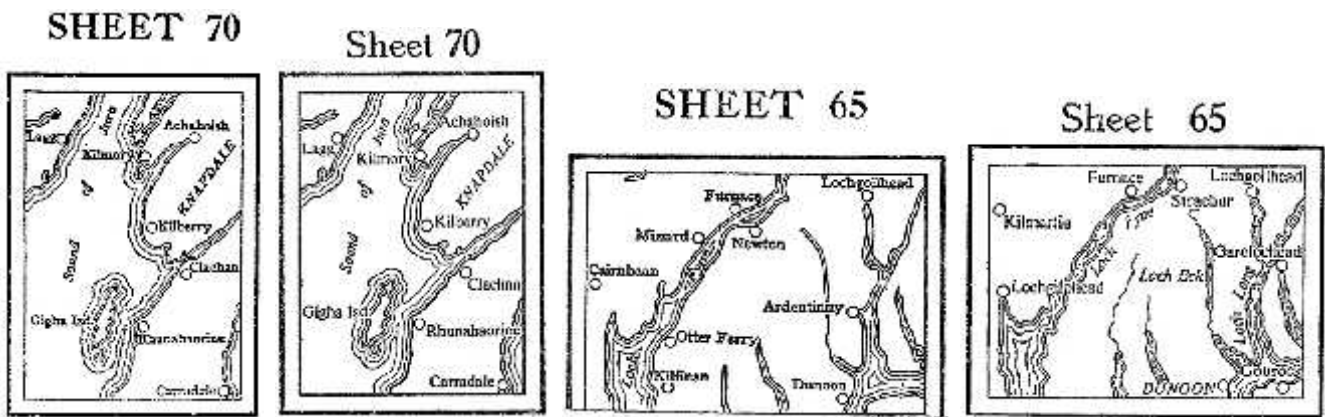


Figure 2. The Caslon and Times sketches for Sound of Jura are very similar

Figure 3. The Caslon and Times sketches for Dunoon & Loch Fyne are very different

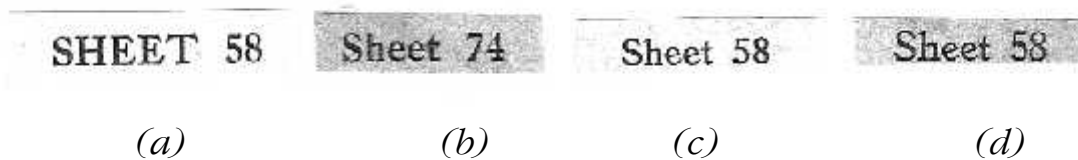


Figure 4. The sheet number lines of (a) KA-S3 and (b) KA-S4, with the (c) small and (d) large versions on KA-S5. Note also the font change from (b) to (c)

sheet 74, *Edinburgh*, is shown in figure 1b, with 'Popular Edition' large, 'Sheet 74' in Caslon Founders Type Old Style, see figure 4b, and the original Caslon sketch retained. On the other hand, the same style KA-S4.1,4 cover of the adjacent sheet 68, *Firth of Forth*, has a new Times sketch.

Zone 2, sheets 27 to 31 and 38 to 40

The KA-S3 covers on sheets in this zone also have Caslon sketches. When the KA-S5 covers were printed, new sketches were used with Times font for placenames. The Times sketches differ from the Caslon in the drawing of coast and rivers, and the selection of settlements, but no overall trend is evident. For the new sketch 31, *Peterhead*, Port Errol is corrected to Port Erroll. The new Times sketch for sheet 39, *Dufftown & Huntly*, appears first on the transitional KA-S4.1,4 cover.

In zones 1 and 2 there were no Caslon sketches on the KA-S5 covers and no subsequent changes to the new Times sketches.

Zone 3

The covers in this zone (all the rest of Scotland) have Times place names on the sketches from first publication. Sketch 34, *The Cuillins, Rhum & Canna*, is the sole example of a change during the currency of the KA-S3 cover – water lining of the coasts was increased from double to the normal quadruple.

The Times sketches of many of these maps were redrawn at some stage, usually for KA-S5 covers. New sketches were made for sheets 4, 10, 11, 15, 19, 23, 25, 26, 33, 34 (2), 35 (2), 36, 37, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 55, 56 (2), 57 and 58.

In a few cases, the old Times sketch was used on an early KA-S5 cover. When this was done, the sheet number line is small, printed with moveable type, 2.7 mm high, point size 12; the new Times sketch on the later cover has the sheet number line the standard height of 3.0 mm by photo-reduction of a drawing with an integral sheet number line. Examples of small sheet number lines have been seen for covers 37, 46, 54, 57 and 58. See *figure 4* where the sheet number lines of sheet 58 are shown for the old Times sketch (c) and the new (d). The same phenomenon was observed on New Popular covers, see part 2 of this study.

There was no apparent fault with most of the redundant sketches, indeed many replacements are very similar. The reason for renewal was likely to be the non-availability of the original artwork to implement the policy of avoiding typesetting errors by having the sheet number line integral to the sketch map block.

The two sketches 34 and 35 originally had just doubled coastlines and the lochs of the adjacent sketch 36 had no water lining. All three were heavily revised. The new sketch 35, *Sound of Sleat*, had added water lining, rivers were introduced and the spelling of Ardvasar used on the map was adopted. The result was cluttered and soon replaced by a third version (see *figure 5*). When the poor quality sketch 36 for *Lochcarron & Dornie* was redrawn, Lochcarron itself and Loch Carron were added and Dornie was moved to a more accurate location. To quote Saul Bellow, '*It is sometimes necessary to repeat what we all know. All mapmakers should place the Mississippi in the same location, and avoid originality.*'³

The new sketch 26 had a fault though, an unnamed settlement ring beside Upper Loch Torridon; so had sketch 56, which replaced Aberfeldy by Abelfeldy – this was corrected later on a third version made by an adjustment to the second drawing. On the new sketch 37 East Croachy was renamed Croachy.

The new sketch 58 identified Friockheim as the unlabelled location on its predecessor.

The original sketches appear to be retained unchanged for sheets 1, 6, 9, 17, 20, 21, 24, 32, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53 and 54 when the sheet number lines were made integral to the blocks. These include some of the less populated areas, presumably with fewer sales.

Some covers in this zone were not available for comparison.

Comparison of Scotland with England and Wales

- For the later covers, all Caslon sketches made for Scotland were replaced with Times, whereas for the New Popular edition, only the covers in England that had Caslon were renewed with Times; the Caslon sketches in south Wales were retained.
- All the Caslon sketches for Scotland were replaced with Times sketches that included the sheet number line which was made integral to the sketch map

³ Mr Sammler's Planet (1970).

block. This is the same as was done on the later covers of the New Popular edition when Caslon sketches in England were replaced.

- In zone 3, the Scottish covers had Times sketches from the start, so, for the later covers, sketch map blocks were made that included the sheet number line, either by re-using the same sketch or by drawing a new one. This is different from the findings of the study of the New Popular edition of England and Wales, where the original Times sketches, found north of a line between Aberystwyth and Hull, were retained and moveable type point size 12 was used for the sheet number lines on the later covers; a small cluster of sketches in the Cumbria region, however, were eventually renewed to the Scottish model.
- When the Seventh Series was introduced, unlike New Popular sketches for England and Wales, Scottish Popular sketches were no use because of the new sheet lines. With the abandoned sketches went the idiosyncratic sloping gridlines on the maps themselves and the distinguished cover design, replaced, though with the same colour scheme, by the retro *art deco* graphic of the Sevenths, one unified series for Great Britain.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Tim Bleasdale, Keith Case, Peter Gibson, Anne Taylor of Cambridge University Library and Peter Warburton for encouragement and access to or information about their collections.

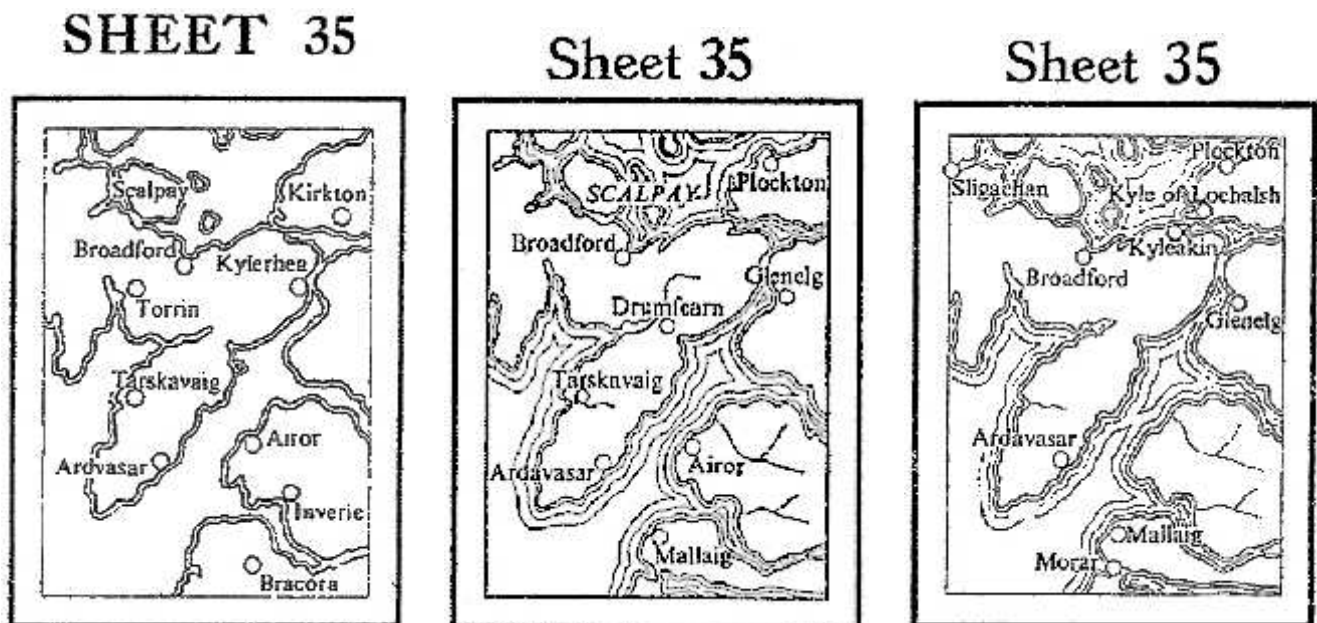


Figure 5. Sketches for the cover of Sound of Sleat

left 5a. Caslon with minimal water lining and 'Ardvasar'

centre 5b. the first Times font version with 'Ardavasar'

right 5c. the second Times font version with 'Ardavasar'

Image 5b courtesy Peter Gibson