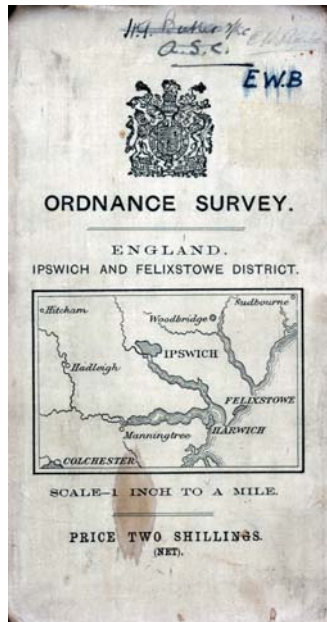




Map 1. New Series 1. 1870s. Stanford wavy cover with stick on. (£8-£10)



Map 2. Third Edition 1911. Ivory Ipswich and Felixstowe. (£8-£10)



Figure 1.



Figure 2.

## Ordnance Survey Part 2 The One Inch Map

by Forbes Robertson.

The one inch map has always been the most popular of the ordnance survey range. As such it deserves an article of its own. Let's look at England and Wales first and Scotland later.

### The Old Series.

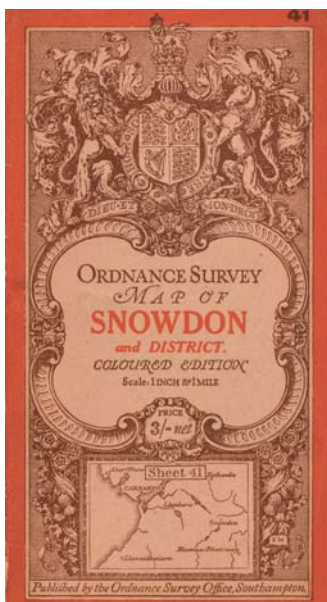
The first ordnance survey map, the 'Old Series' was a one inch to the mile map of Kent published in January 1801. Progress was slow. It wasn't until 1874 that the final sheet for England and Wales was completed. Perhaps the 'surveying team' was one man on his bicycle. One can still find examples of a special spirit level which was attached to the crossbar to indicate the slope of an incline. The earlier sheets 1-90, and roughly up to a line from Hull to Preston were only issued in 'hachured' form. See Figure 1 where hills are shown by shading to indicate the direction and 'steepness' of slopes. The later sheets above this line 91-110 were issued in hachured and outline form. In the latter heights are shown by spot heights and rings of contour lines. See Figure 2. The south to north numbering is unique. These sheets measure about 36" x 24", by far the largest size used in early maps. They were also issued in 'quarter sheets' e.g. 54 N.E. measuring 18" x 12". Although some changes were continually being made to these sheets, it wasn't until 1872 that the earliest maps were considered to be sufficiently 'out of date' to merit a full revision. Some were on sale until 1903. It is only with the publication of the *New Series* that the first edition became known as the 'Old Series'. The title doesn't appear anywhere on the maps. Pristine full sheets of early examples can now sell for £50+.

### The New Series.

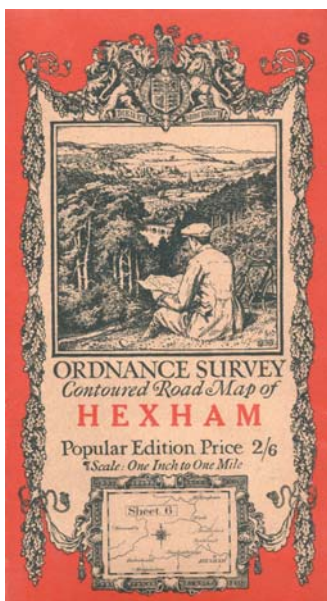
The *New Series* heralded 'all change'. From 1874, England and Wales was covered by 360 small sheets, measuring 18" x 12", and the Series was now numbered from north to south. There was some corner cutting as sheets 1-73 were really just the 'Old Series' 91-110 resized and renumbered with little revision. It was only 74-360 which benefited from a full revision. The complete set was issued in both hachured and outline forms, and this is *New Series 1* (NS-1). These were sold in a variety of commercial covers (e.g. Map 1) and were sometimes hand painted by the mapseller. A further revision of 1893-98 produced *New Series 2* (NS-2) which had the same format of 360 small sheets and was again issued in both hachured and outline forms. In addition a coloured edition of 290 sheets was published using blue for water, brown for hills, red contours and burnt sienna roads. If you find an odd map with burnt sienna roads as the only colour, this is 'District Outline'. All these can now be found in the basic O.S. covers of maroon or ivory, see Map 2, and with or without the 'thumbnail' map, as well as in the commercial covers. See Map 1.

### The Third Edition.

The next revision of 1901-12 produced what is strictly *New Series 3* but all maps are clearly marked 'Third Edition' in the top left corner and this is a convenient title to identify the set. This edition was at first issued in the same hachured, outline, coloured and district forms as above at 18" x 12", though the full 360 maps were never completed in any of the four forms. From 1906 the coloured edition was changed to 152 maps of 27" x 18" and is marked 'Large Sheet Series' in the top right corner. We can now refer to the earlier 18" x 12" maps as 'Small Sheet Series', though this was not stamped on the map. These maps were origi-



Map 3. 1910, 1in. £7-£9.



Map 4. 1in, Popular. £6-£8.



Map 5. Popular Tourist 1920s. Dorking and Leith. (£5-£9)



nally sold in the standard cover, but in 1911 the first artistic cover (see map 3) by Ellis Martin, was introduced. This edition remained on sale, with revisions, until the early 1920s. Don't give up on trying to understand the various editions - it's much simpler from now on.

**Popular Edition.**

This edition was published between 1919 and 1926 in 146 sheets for England and Wales and continued to be issued with minor revisions until 1938. The edition relates to a revision of 1912-22. The legend in the bottom right of the map may say 3rd. Revision. The cover also says *Contoured Road Map of .....* in our example illustrated as map 4 .....HEXHAM. In the early days there was a policy battle as to how commercial the O.S. should be and the maroon cover of this edition, with its cyclist in a country setting, shows a definite move to reach the growing mass market. These are reasonably common in shops and offer some hope of collecting a set. It is convenient to think of this as the 'fourth edition' though for technical reasons it is not marked. Some twenty four 'tourist maps' were also issued (including Scotland) with covers showing a local scene or in a standard tourist cover. (see map 5)

**Fifth Edition.**

This edition was originally published between 1931-39 as the '5th. (Relief) Edition' i.e. the heights were shown by coloured layers. It had a red cover. During its development, the sheet numbers were altered and map sizes were changed and a non relief (i.e. contoured) 5th Edition was added and published in a blue cover. See map 6. The sheets started on the south coast and only got as far as Saffron Waldon before it was abandoned. This was the first edition to introduce the national grid. Previous editions had their squares labelled A1, B2, C7 etc for reference. There are 22 of the red and 34 of the blue covers to collect plus some district maps. Sales at the time weren't great so now they are more collectable. Examples do tend to be tatty.

**Sixth Edition.**

This edition was labelled the *New Popular Edition*. In 1940 eleven sheets were published and after a war time halt the remaining sheets were published between 1945-47. This made 115 sheets in total for England and Wales. In anticipation of the next series covering Great Britain as a whole, these were numbered 64, 71, 75-78 and 82-190. Don't waste time looking for the missing ones! Now there is a much more 'modern' look to the maps. See map 7.

**Seventh Series.**

The first *Great Britain* issue consisted of 190 maps. Map 8 is early and Map 9 is later. These were published between 1952 and 1972 with continuous revision over the period. The earliest forms have an individual number for the map in the bottom left corner, but revisions are shown by a sequence letter A, B, C with partial revisions as A/, A//, A/\* etc. The scale was 1:50,000. The current metric edition has 204 sheets.

**Scotland One Inch.**

The early Scottish issues do not run parallel with the old or the new editions for England and Wales, and are best classified as S1-132 sheets. These were published between 1856-87 in two forms, a) outline with contours, and b) with hills. S2-130 sheets, published between 1898-1903 from a revision of 1894-95 have the same two forms. The Third Edition consisting of 99 sheets was equivalent to England and Wales Large Sheet Series, published between 1904-13, from a revision of 1901-10. Prices as for the England and Wales *New Series*.

**Popular Edition.**

This was published between 1924-32 in 92 sheets and is the Scottish equivalent of England and Wales with its own cover. See map 10. This is not labelled as *Contoured Road Map*. Later the cover loses its thistles.

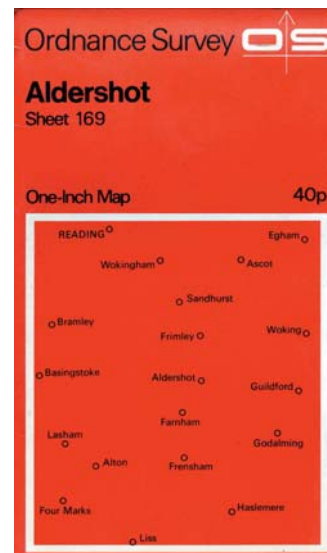
**Popular Edition with National Grid.**

Due to later revisions Scotland missed out on the Fifth Edition. This edition is equivalent to the England and Wales sixth edition, but is neither labelled '6th' nor 'New popular'. A few of the 92 sheets were issued between 1925-29 (really the previous edition with National Grid added and little revision) and the remainder between 1945-47 were issued with full revision. See map 11.

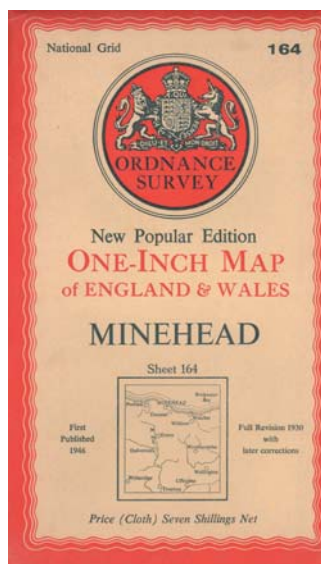
**Further information or any collecting queries:**  
forbescr@u.genie.co.uk or visit <http://you.genie.co.uk/forbescr/>



Map 6. 1in, 5th edition. £6-£8.



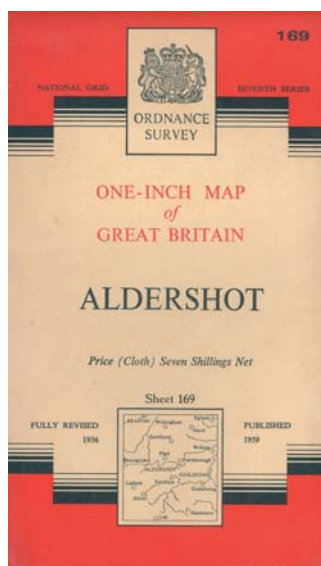
Map 9. 1in, 7th series. £2-£4.



Map 7. 1in, 6th edition. £4-£5.



Map 10. Scottish Popular, 1in. £5-£7.



Map 8. 1in, 7th series. £2-£4.



Map 11. Scottish Popular National Grid. £5-£6.