

A Brief Guide to Dating the Bartholomew Half-Inch to One Mile Maps

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Half-Inch02



Dating a map from the famous Bartholomew Half-inch series can be problematic. While the notes provided here have been compiled in an attempt to make it as simple as possible to date a map from the series, it must be stressed that in some cases it may only be possible to establish an approximate date of publication.

Bartholomew Edinburgh premises—usually given on map covers:

4a North Bridge	1859-1870
31 Chambers Street	1870-1889 (Originally 17 Brown's Square, but changed by the Post Office in about 1875)
Park Road	1889-1911
12 Duncan Street	1911-1995

In 1989 Bartholomew merged with HarperCollins Publishers and in 1995 moved from Edinburgh to the Collins site at: Westerhill Road, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, Scotland.

Dating on the Maps:

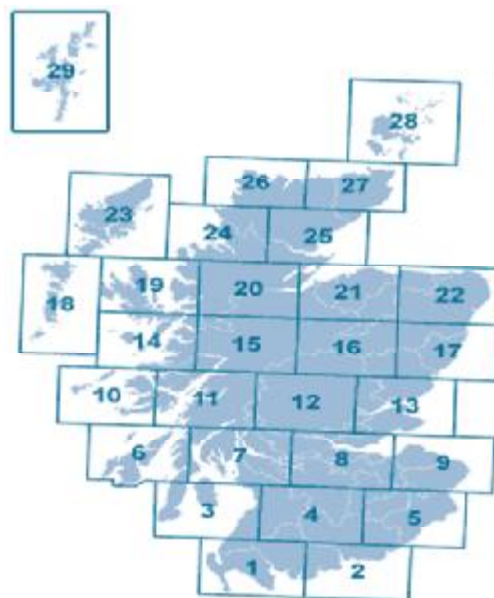
On early editions no date was included on the map and one has to make an estimate from the information depicted, or possibly by the advertising on the map covers. In some cases a 4 digit job number is given, usually against the margin in the bottom left corner, which can be identified from Bartholomew company records now held by the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh. From about 1911 until 1945 an abbreviated dating code was adopted using the last two digits of the publication year preceded by either an "A" or "B" indicating in which half of the year the map was produced, e.g. A14, indicating that the map was published in the first half of 1914. This code can usually be found against the margin at either the top or bottom left-hand corner or sometimes centrally in the bottom margin. From 1946 onwards the date of printing was normally shown at the bottom of the map.

Bartholomew Half Inch to One Mile Series:

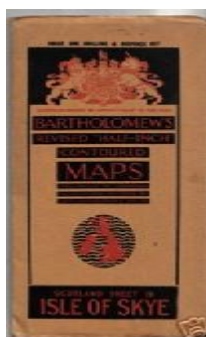
The sheets of this incredibly popular series were revised at frequent intervals and developed through a series of editions with changing sheet lines and numbering. A chronology follows with some notes on the titling of the maps.

Scotland

- 1875-1886 Reduced Ordnance Maps of Scotland
Also: Bartholomew's Reduced Ordnance Survey of Scotland.
[In 30 'District' sheets. Prepared and printed by J. Bartholomew for Adam & Charles Black. Successively coloured by counties, coloured by counties with contours and contoured with layer colours, county boundaries and railways in red.]
- 1890-1895 Bartholomew's Reduced Ordnance Survey of Scotland.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Reduced Ordnance Survey, Maps of Scotland for Tourists & Cyclists.) In 29 sheets. [With open borders and Latitude and longitude values.]
- 1896-1926 Bartholomew's Reduced Ordnance Survey of Scotland, scale 2 miles to an inch.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's New Reduced Survey for Tourists & Cyclists.)
In 29 sheets. [With scale of miles for outer border. Earlier sheets in brown covers, later sheets c. 1911 in blue covers.]
- 1922-1927 Bartholomew's "Half-Inch to Mile" Map of Scotland.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Revised Half-Inch to Mile for Motorists & Cyclists.) In 29 sheets.
- 1921-1932 Bartholomew's "Half-Inch to Mile" Map of Scotland.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Revised "Half-Inch" contoured maps.)
- 1933-1937 Bartholomew's Revised Half-Inch Map. [Top left corner.]
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Revised "Half-Inch" contoured maps.)



Index of map sheets in early Scottish series



Cover design from C 1915



Half-inch mapping from 1922. Sheet 13, Perth & Dundee

England & Wales

- 1897-1903 Bartholomew's Reduced Ordnance Survey of England & Wales, scale 2 miles to an inch.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Reduced Ordnance Survey for Tourists & Cyclists.) [With scale of miles for outer border. Maps included in Survey Atlas of England & Wales, 1903.]
- 1904-1920 Bartholomew's "Half-Inch to Mile" map of England & Wales.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's New Reduced Survey for Tourists & Cyclists.) In 37 sheets.
[Distinction between first class and secondary road (in red) for the first time.]
- 1924-1926 Bartholomew's "Half-Inch to Mile" map of England & Wales.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Revised Half-Inch to Mile for Motorists & Cyclists.) In 37 sheets.
- 1926-1936 Bartholomew's "Half-Inch to Mile" map of England & Wales.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Revised Half-Inch Contoured Maps.)



Features of the series

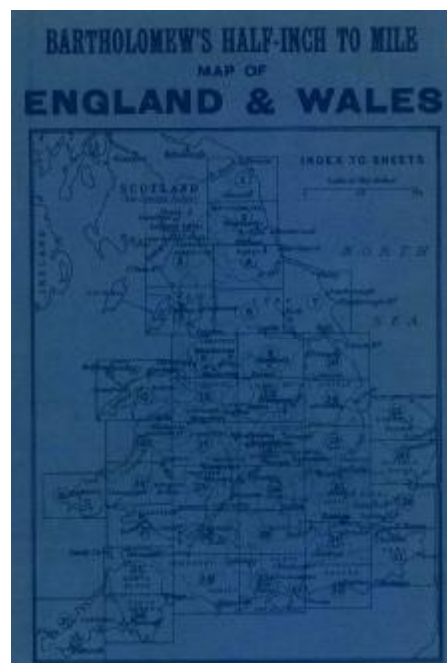
These Maps are all reduced by permission from the Ordnance Survey, and Specially revised to date before going to press.

The Land is coloured according to Contours of Altitude. Counties are named and their boundaries defined.

Roadside Inn and Hotels are indicated. Also all Fishing Streams, Lakes, Woods and Forests, Antiquities, etc.

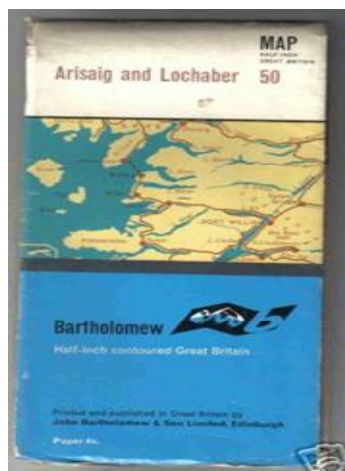
The Roads are coloured Red to distinguish First Class, Secondary, and Indifferent Roads for Motoring and Cycling purposes. Footpaths and Bridlepaths are also shown.

(Taken from the back cover of: New Forest & Isle of Wight, sheet 33, 1917.)



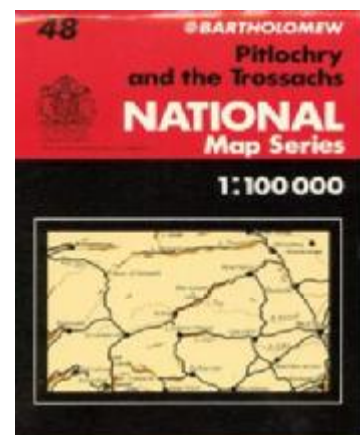
Great Britain

- 1936-1943 Bartholomew's Revised Half-Inch Map.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Revised "Half-Inch" Contoured Maps.) [New numbering system and amended sheetlines in 62 sheets, in preparation for combining Scottish and English series. Old and intermediate (e.g. A9) numbering given on both map and covers.]
- 1940-1963 Bartholomew's Revised Half-Inch Map, Great Britain.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Revised "Half-Inch" Contoured Maps.) [New, slightly amended sheetlines, covering the whole of Great Britain in 62 Sheets.]
- 1961-1974 Bartholomew's Revised Half-Inch Map, Great Britain.
(Cover title: Bartholomew's Half-Inch Contoured Great Britain.)
- 1975-1999 Bartholomew 1:100,000 Map of Britain.
(Cover title: Bartholomew, National Map Series 1:100,000.) Photo-enlargement from 1:126,720 to 1:100,000.



Cover design from the 1970's

In the 1980's sales of these maps dropped and only a few sheets covering certain popular tourist areas were revised and by the end of the 1990's the series finally became out of print.



Cover design from the 1980's

Other clues for dating these maps:

Road numbering was first added to sheets in 1921 following its introduction by the Ministry of Transport the previous year.

Cyclists Touring Club (CTC): Between c 1911 and 1928 an arrangement existed between Bartholomew and the CTC for their members to send in any revisions they found to the maps. This was acknowledged by their logo appearing in the lower border of each map.

Table of prices at different periods

	Paper flat	Paper folded	Cloth folded	Dissected & folded
1897	-	2/6	3/6	-
1890	-	1/-	2/-	-
1898	-	1/-	2/-	2/6
1912	-	1/6	2/-	2/6
1920	-	1/6	3/-	4/-
1943	-	2/6	4/-	5/6
1950	-	2/6	4/-	6/-
1952	2/6	3/-	6/-	9/-
1953	3/-	3/-	5/-	7/6
1957	3/-	3/-	5/-	10/-
1963	-	3/-	5/-	10/-
1968	-	4/-	6/-	12/6
1970	-	4/- (20p)	6/- (30p)	15/- (75p)
1971	-	6/- (30p)	8/- (40p)	20/- (£1)

Resource Box

Archives:

Specific enquiries on Bartholomew maps can be directed to our Glasgow company office which holds a representative collection of Bartholomew maps and atlases and certain bibliographic records. The company archivist can be contacted at:

Tel: +44(0)141 306 3421 Email: david.jamieson@harpercollins.co.uk

Address: HarperCollins Publishers (Collins Geo), Westerhill Road, Glasgow, G62 6HU, U.K.

In 1995 the company passed the majority of its archive to the map library at the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh. This now forms the Bartholomew Archive and contains a vast amount of material including: mapping, printing plates, company and printing records. The NLS map library can be contacted at:

Tel: +44(0)131 623 3970 Email: maps@nls.uk

Address: Map Collections, National Library of Scotland, Causewayside Building, 33 Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SL, U.K.

Web resources:

There are few online resources devoted to the Bartholomew Half-Inch Map Series.

David Archer Maps - Specialises in old Ordnance Survey maps, including the Bartholomew Half-Inch series.

<http://www.david-archer-maps.co.uk>

National Library of Scotland, Map Library - Section on their website devoted to the series with many map sheets scanned.

<http://www.nls.uk/bartholomew/highlights/half-inch-series.html>

Green Lane Association Ltd - Very useful information on dating the series.

http://www.glass-uk.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=106&Itemid=160

R.P.A Smith—Maps New and Old - Has a good selection of original Bartholomew mapping available for purchase.

<http://www.rpasmith.co.uk/index.htm>

Other relevant Quick Reference Fact Sheets

Other Quick Reference Fact Sheets describing the Bartholomew Half-Inch Series are planned. These will be listed here as they become available.