

Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Tourist Map

John Mitchell

22 Muirpark Way, Drymen, Glasgow G63 0DX

ABSTRACT

The Ordnance Survey's one inch to the mile *Loch Lomond and The Trossachs* tourist map and its predecessor the *Trossachs and Loch Lomond* tourist map featuring two of the most visited areas in Scotland are described. Of significance to both naturalists and geographers, the period covered by the maps (1920-1984) saw an unprecedented expansion in blanket conifer planting and the impounding of lochs, rivers and streams for water supply and hydro-electricity. The paper is intended as a guide to the different editions and re-printings of the tourist maps during their long publication run.

INTRODUCTION

All natural historians and geographers have a favourite map of their most frequently visited places, a subject previously touched upon in this journal (Mitchell, 1999). Such maps tend to be used time and time again in all weathers until – despite running repairs with adhesive tape – they finally fall apart and have to be replaced. For many years the present author's first choice for his home area was the Ordnance Survey's one inch to one mile *Loch Lomond and The Trossachs* tourist map first issued in 1961. Previously entitled *Trossachs and Loch Lomond*, not only were two of the most popular parts of Scotland presented on a single sheet, but in the map's folded and covered format it was of a convenient compact size for carrying in the pocket or rucksack out into the field.

Each of the maps in the tourist series – which was first introduced in 1920 - was compiled from the OS one inch sheets current at the time. As the series developed, the tourist maps differed from the standard sheets by the introduction of added information that would be of particular interest to participants in outdoor recreational activities. After a lengthy production run, government policy on metrication of all OS maps led to the phasing out of the tourist series, with the *Loch Lomond and The Trossachs* map issued for the last time in 1984.

In the absence of a definitive work on the OS tourist series in Scotland, the following is offered as a guide to the different versions of the *Trossachs and Loch Lomond* renamed *Loch Lomond and The Trossachs* tourist map published during its 65 years or so history. In keeping with the period described, imperial measurements are used throughout.

A PRECURSOR TO THE TOURIST MAPS

The forerunner to the Ordnance Survey tourist maps for the Loch Lomondside and The Trossachs areas was the one inch *Loch Lomond District* published in 1908, a clean copy of which has since become something of a collector's item. The greater part of the Trossachs was also included in its coverage. This composite map in the district series was based on sheets 38 (Loch Lomond) and 30 (Glasgow) from the third edition of the one inch map of Scotland, which introduced the limited use of colour. An area of just over 520 square miles was taken in, from Balloch in the south to Ardlui (inset) in the north. Although the use of contour lines was by then standard practice on OS maps, old-style hachuring (shading by closely drawn short lines) was additionally used to indicate steep gradients.

THE TROSSACHS AND LOCH LOMOND (1920)

This first *T&LL* map in the tourist series was also based on the third edition of the one inch map of Scotland. Possibly to clearly distinguish it from the discontinued *Loch Lomond District* map, the Trossachs was given precedence in the map's title. From Balloch in the south to Crianlarich in the north, and Lochgoilhead in the west almost to Doune in the east, at approximately 950 square miles the coverage was far more extensive than its predecessor. Contour lines were drawn at 100 foot intervals up to a 1000 feet, then 250 feet thereafter. The introduction of extra shades of brown enabled the use of contour layer colouring to further indicate height, so that hachuring was considerably less dominant compared with the earlier district map.

THE TROSSACHS AND LOCH LOMOND (1930)

[Note: subsequent revised re-printings of this second edition give the date as 1929]

The words 'Second Edition' are printed only on the cover of the folded map and therefore do not appear on the flat version. This was taken mainly from sheets 62 (Loch Katrine & Loch Earn) and 66 (Loch Lomond) of the re-sectioned Popular Edition of the one inch map of Scotland, based on a revision undertaken in 1924/25. Compared to the first edition of the tourist map, the area covered was shifted slightly south, taking in Alexandria in the Vale of Leven but leading to Crianlarich disappearing off the top of the map. Hachuring was abandoned in favour of contour lines drawn at 50 foot intervals, together with improved contour layer colouring. Mid green previously used to

denote woodlands was unaccountably discontinued. One innovation was that a supplementary metric scale was added to the established imperial scale.

The following revised re-printings of the second edition were also published:

(i) T&LL (1934)

For the first time contoured depths of the freshwater lochs (except for those enlarged as reservoirs) were shown.

(ii) T&LL (1938)

Crianlarich was re-instated by inclusion within the map's top margin.

THE TROSSACHS AND LOCH LOMOND (1949)

The third edition of the tourist map was described as the New Popular Edition on the flat sheet, but this information was lost by trimming on the folded version. Contour lines were drawn only every 100 feet, but this was compensated for by further improvements in contour layer colouring. Almost certainly due to a drastic reduction in field work by Ordnance Survey officers during the Second World War, nothing was shown of the rapidly expanding Forestry Commission plantations, which in parts of the region dated back to the mid 1930s. The Carron Valley Reservoir (completed in 1939) appeared on the map for the first time. By far the most important innovation of this edition was the inclusion of the National Grid.

LOCH LOMOND AND THE TROSSACHS (1961)

With a new numbering system brought in by the Ordnance Survey, the fourth edition of the tourist map was prefixed with the letter A. For this edition, Loch Lomond was given precedence over the Trossachs in its title. Drawn mainly from sheets 53 (Loch Lomond) and 54 (Stirling) of the one inch to the mile seventh series map revised in 1954, the emphasis was placed on vertical rather than the horizontal coverage of the earlier editions. The map now extended from Dumbarton in the south to Tyndrum in the north, but omitted the upper Endrick and Carron Valleys in the east. Total area taken in was just over 1,080 square miles. The contour interval reverted back to 50 feet, with hill relief further accentuated by shading as if in late evening sunlight. Mid green to indicate woodland stands was re-instated, with the extensive conifer planting in Loch Ard, Achray, Strathyre and other forests belatedly shown. Loch Sloy (part of a major hydro-electric scheme opened in 1950) shown as greatly enlarged. The boundaries to the Argyll and Queen Elizabeth Forest Parks were clearly demarcated.

LOCH LOMOND AND THE TROSSACHS (1967)

The fifth edition was prefixed with the letter B. The first printing of what proved to be the final edition was virtually identical to the previous A edition (1961).

The following revised re-printings of the fifth edition were also published:

(i) B/* (1973)

The Loch Lomond [National] Nature Reserve (declared in December 1962) was named as such for the first time. Addition of the Glen Finlas Reservoir (completed 1965). Considerable expansion of forestry plantations was evident throughout the region.

(ii) B/** (1976)

Additional forestry plantings were shown around Tyndrum, Loch Voil, Fintry and the Kilpatrick Hills.

(iii) B/*** (1980)

Only very minor changes.

(iv) B/**** (1982)

A few more forestry plantations, including Strath Dubh-uisge to the north of Loch Sloy.

(v) B/***** (1984)

Additional areas of forestry plantings in the Tyndrum-Crianlarich area. The barrage across the River Leven, which came into operation in 1971 – thereby raising the level of Loch Lomond as a reservoir – was not shown. This was the last issue of the *Loch Lomond and Trossachs* tourist map before the series was withdrawn.

THE TOURIST MAP COVERS

By the time the tourist series was introduced, the Ordnance Survey had become very aware that eye-catching front covers helped to sell folding maps intended for the outdoor enthusiast. For the launch of the first edition of the *Trossachs and Loch Lomond* tourist map in 1920, a standard design by staff artist Ellis Martin was chosen. Three people (which include the artist's wife) are depicted in an open touring car, one consulting an OS map. Before the year was out the *T&LL* map was given its own individual cover, again drawn by Ellis Martin. This time the focus was on a lone angler at the eastern end of Loch Katrine, with Ben Venue and the Goblin's Cave in the background. Remarkably, this particular design stood the test of time for over forty years and through three editions and several re-printings of the *T&LL* map. The above two covers and those which followed are illustrated in Plate 1.

With the change in title to *Loch Lomond and The Trossachs* for the fourth edition of the tourist map published in 1961, the pictorial art cover was replaced by a simple graphic design. This comprised of a cream panel with a red surround. The centre panel was topped with the Scottish coat of arms. For the first time the back cover was used for outlining the area covered by the map.

The front cover for the fifth edition of the tourist map, when introduced in 1967, combined both graphic design and illustrative work. Divided into nine panels, some incorporated mini-maps or examples of outdoor activities.

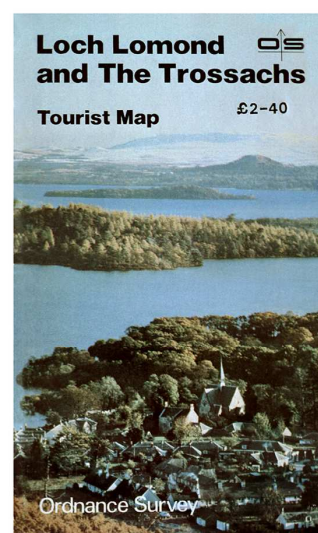
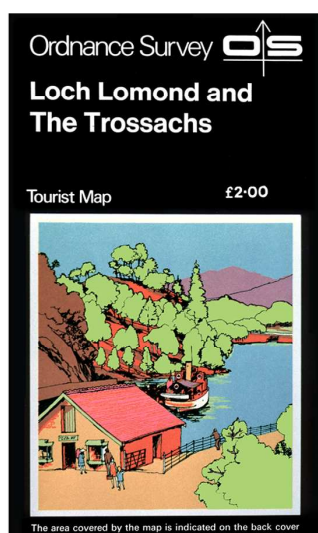
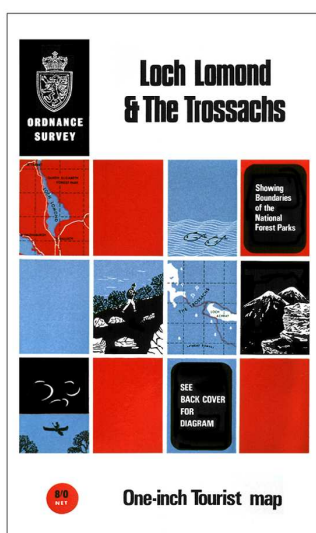
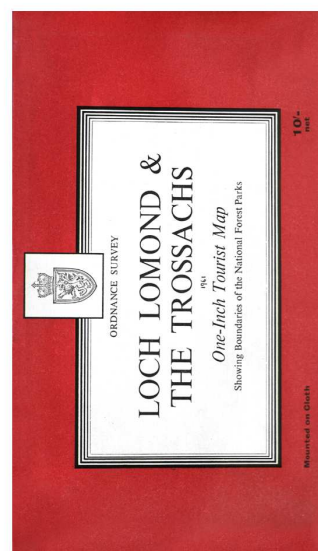
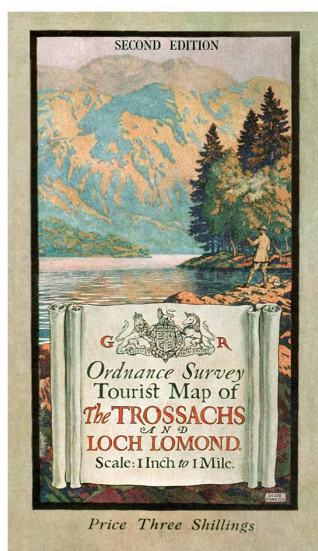
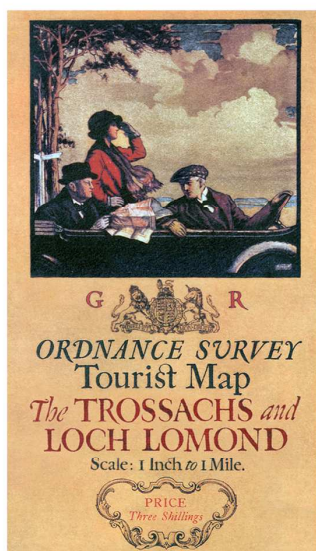


Plate 1. Loch Lomond/Trossachs tourist map covers, 1920-1984 (by permission of the Ordnance Survey).

The first reprinting of the fifth edition in 1973 saw a return to pictorial art for the map's front cover. Depicted again was the eastern end of Loch Katrine, but this time with the steamer *Sir Walter Scott* leaving the Trossachs pier. A mystery still unexplained is whether or not the example shown in the monograph *Map Cover Art* (Browne, 1991) was ever used. In this version the trees are a garish yellow, whereas on every one of the published map covers seen by the present author the trees are coloured green. The new Ordnance Survey symbol – a compass needle set into the letters OS – was included in the cover design.

For the final reprinting of the fifth edition of the *Loch Lomond and The Trossachs* tourist map in 1984, pictorial artwork on the front cover was dispensed with once more, to be replaced by a colour photograph. Illustrated in the photograph is the village of Luss against a background of Loch Lomond and the Kilpatrick Hills.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Assistance with preparing the paper was given by staff at the National Map Library of Scotland, together with additional information provided by members of the Charles Close Society for the Study of Ordnance Survey Maps. My thanks also go to Michael Bell and David Archer for their help in obtaining out-of-print maps in the OS tourist series. Photographic restoration

of the map covers – one or two of these in my map collection fast approaching the dog-eared stage – was expertly undertaken by Norman Tait for the accompanying plate.

REFERENCES

- Browne, J.P. (1991). *Map Cover Art: A pictorial history of Ordnance Survey cover illustrations*. Ordnance Survey, Southampton.
- Mitchell, J. (1999). Loch Lomond Depicted and Described: 2. Early Maps and Map Makers *Glasgow Naturalist* 23 (4), 2-8.

FURTHER READING

- Cook, K.S. & McIntosh, R.P. (1991). *A preliminary list of Ordnance Survey one-inch District and Tourist Maps and selected precursors in the British Library*. The Charles Close Society, London.
- Hellyer, R. (1999). *Ordnance Survey small-scale maps: indexes 1801-1998*. David Archer, Kerry.
- Messenger, G. (1991). *A guide to the Ordnance Survey one-inch map of Scotland: third edition in colour*. The Charles Close Society, London
- Oliver, R. (1991). *A guide to the Ordnance Survey one-inch seventh series*. The Charles Close, Society, London.
- Oliver, R. (2000). *A guide to the Ordnance Survey one-inch popular edition of Scotland*. The Charles Close Society, London.