

The National Grid and Reference System

All modern Ordnance Survey maps show the National Grid. This is simply a series of squares with sides parallel and at right angles to the straight line that represents the central meridian of the projection of Ordnance Survey mapping. For convenience this grid system is sub-divided into 100 kilometre squares which are identified by two letters as shown on the index to the 1:25 000 First Series printed on the reverse of the map. These 100 kilometre squares are further sub-divided and are shown on the 1:25 000 maps at one kilometre intervals, thus providing a simple means of giving an accurate reference to any place on the map.

To give a reference proceed as follows:

- (1) Identify the south-west corner of the square in which the place falls.
- (2) At this intersection read off the grid number of the vertical (Easting) line in the north and south margins and the grid number of the horizontal (Northing) line in the east or west margins.
- (3) The four figure grid reference of the square in which the place falls is obtained by combining the former with the latter. A more accurate six figure reference can be obtained by estimating the distance in tenths east and north of the point of intersection.

To make this reference into a unique one for the whole country it should be prefixed by the two letters representing the 100 kilometre square in which the place falls.

Example:

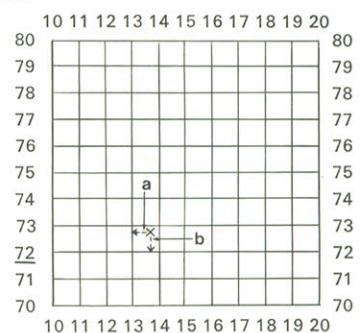
Sheet No. TQ 17

On sheet TQ 17 the grid reference for the point X is TQ 137728 and is made up as follows:

100 kilometre square **TQ**

Eastings **137**

Northings **728**

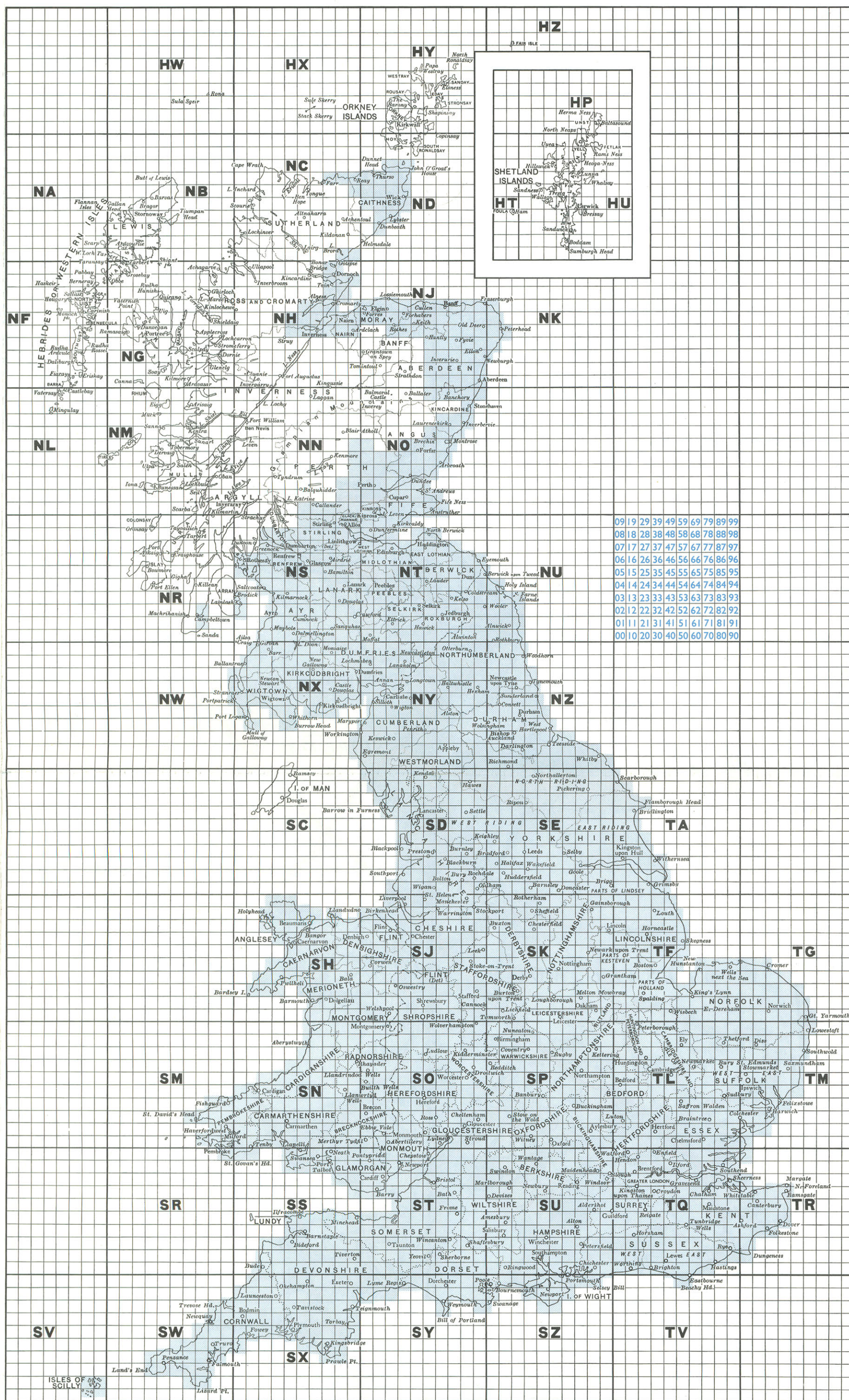


Grid number 13 shown in north and south margins and an estimated distance of 7 tenths (see (a) on diagram) east of grid line 13.

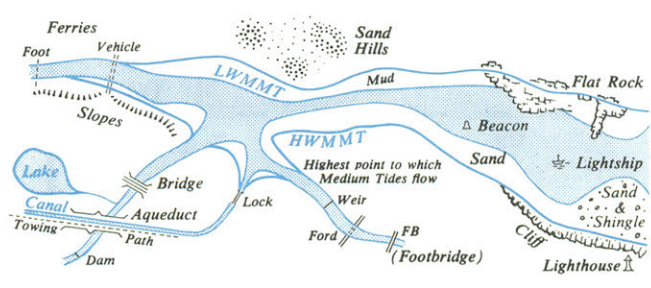
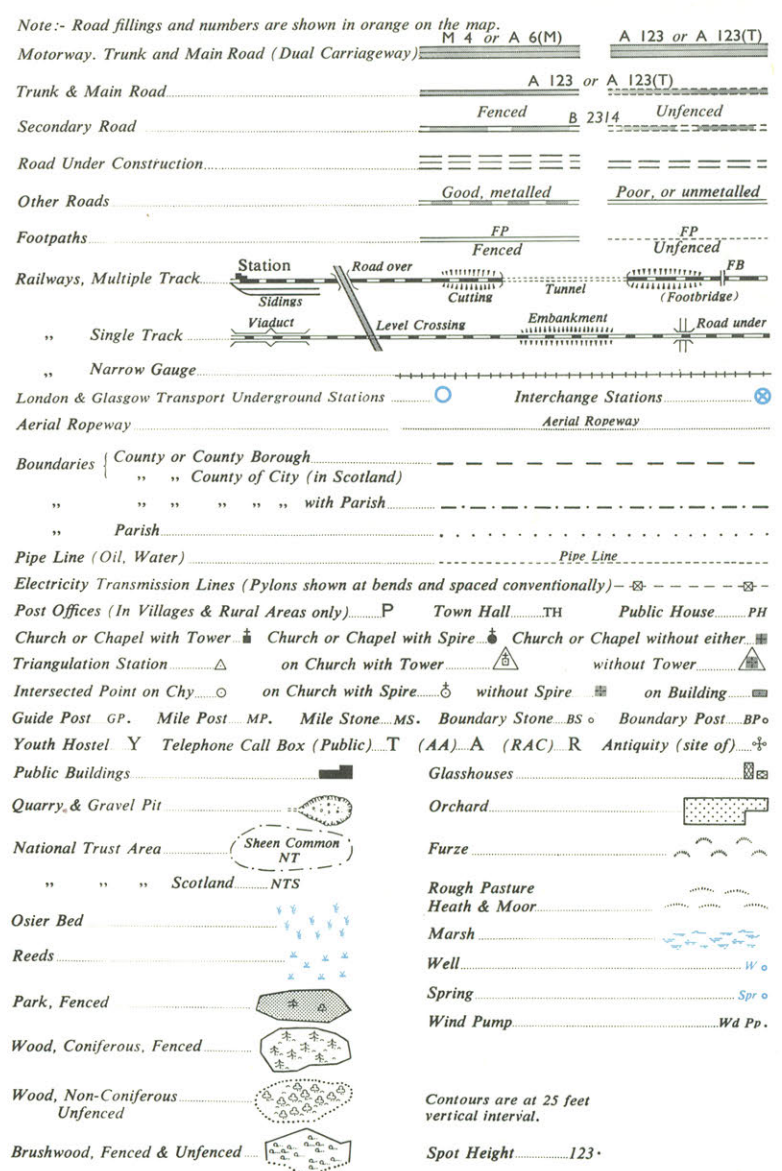
Grid number 72 shown in east and west margins and an estimated distance of 8 tenths (see (b) on diagram) north of grid line 72.

When giving a reference the "Easting" should always be given before the "Northing".

INDEX FOR 1:25 000 FIRST SERIES (Provisional Edition) - See Notes below



Conventional Signs



Note:- Sand is shown as an orange stipple on the map. Sand and shingle are shown in orange, and mud as a combined blue and orange stipple.

An index to the 1:25 000 First Series printed on the reverse side of the map

1:25 000 First Series 45p

Sheet SK 00
Brownhills
Ordnance Survey OS

This map is one of the 1:25 000 First Series (Provisional Edition)

The 1:25 000 First Series (Provisional Edition)

This series (the scale is about two and a half inches to one mile), based upon pre-1939 six-inch mapping, was completely revised for major changes from 1948 to 1965. No further systematic revision is being carried out but major changes in communications and in building development are incorporated on reprint. Each of these maps normally covers an area of 10 km. square (there are variations along the coast) and sets out to show, with much other detail, all roads, tracks and footpaths (although not designated rights of way) and contours at 25ft. vertical intervals.

The 1:25 000 Second Series

These maps normally cover an area of 20 km. x 10 km. (again there are variations along the coast). They are gradually replacing the maps of the 1:25 000 First Series (Provisional Edition), but are unlikely to supersede them completely for many years. The Second Series maps are derived from the latest large scale surveys and give an even more detailed picture of the countryside than do the popular one-inch maps. In addition to the main roads, they show tracks, footpaths and a wealth of other topographical information which makes them invaluable for recreational, educational and business purposes. Contours are shown at 25ft. vertical intervals but these will eventually be replaced by metric contours. The specification provides for public rights of way to be shown on the maps of England and Wales where these have been established by the local authority.

Particulars of the limited number of sheets which have so far been published in this series may be obtained from the Director General, Ordnance Survey, at the address below.

Sheet Numbering

The reference number of a Second Series map, for example SP24/34, is generally made up from the reference numbers of the relevant two First Series (Provisional Edition) maps. In this example the First Series sheet numbers are SP24 (the western sheet) and SP34 (the eastern sheet).

A Map Catalogue

describing all Ordnance Survey small scale maps is available from the Director General, Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road, Maybush, Southampton SO9 4DH.

The black bold letters denote each 100 kilometre square of the National Grid. The blue tint shows the part of Great Britain which has been covered by the 1:25 000 First Series (Provisional Edition); it is not intended to publish any further new sheets of this Series outside this area. First Series (Provisional Edition) sheets are being withdrawn when the corresponding Second Series sheets are published.

The blue figures at the north-east quadrant of the diagram show the incidence of the sheet numbers within each 100 kilometre square. When ordering 1:25 000 sheets please quote 100 kilometre prefix letters shown as capital letters on the diagram, followed by the appropriate 10 kilometre numerals as shown by the blue figures. Say also which style is required, i.e. coloured flat or folded: outline, flat only.

Examples

The sheets covering Bristol and Glasgow are ST 57 and NS 56 respectively.