NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The eighty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the London Topographical Society will be held on Wednesday July 6th 1988 at the Honourable Artillery Company, Armoury House, City Road, London EC1. (Armoury House is just north of Finsbury Square on the west side of City Road.) The meeting will start at 6.30, following refreshments which will be available from 6.00. Please note that these times are half an hour later than usual, since a number of members have found it difficult to get to the meeting in time.

The Honourable Artillery Company celebrated its 450th anniversary last year and there will be a chance to see the small and intriguing museum.

Members attending the meeting will be issued with this year’s publication, Hugh Alley’s Caveat for the City of London. We are also hoping to have available an extra publication, Hollar’s Prospect of London and Westminster taken from Lambeth. This will consist of a folder containing two versions of the four sheet panorama, the British Museum’s unique pre-fire view and the post-fire revision.

After the formal business of the AGM, we hope to have a talk about the Honourable Artillery Company and about Hugh Alley and his Caveat.

Members should write to the Hon Secretary if they wish to nominate anyone as an officer of the Society or as a member of Council, or if they wish to raise any matter under item 6 of the agenda. Please let the Hon Secretary know by June 25th if you are going to attend the AGM and whether you will be bringing any guests.

AGENDA

1 To approve the minutes of the 87th Annual General Meeting in 1987
2 To receive the 88th Annual Report of the Council for 1987 (herewith)
3 To receive the Accounts for 1987 (herewith)
4 To receive the Hon Editor’s report
5 To elect officers and members of Council
6 To discuss any proposals by members
7 Any other business

Patrick Frazer Hon Secretary
36 Old Deer Park Gardens, Richmond, Surrey (telephone 01-940 5419)

PUBLICATIONS FOR 1988

Early representations of London street-scenes are rare: this year’s publication for issue to members offers a unique picture of market life in London at the end of the sixteenth century. It is a facsimile of a manuscript booklet written in 1598 by one Hugh Alley, and entitled ‘A Caveatt for the City of London’. Thirteen of the city’s food markets, ranging from Smithfield to Billingsgate and Southwark, are shown in active progress, together with the Aldermen and Deputies responsible for running them, and four of the city’s gates. Part of the manuscript’s interest must be that it is exactly contemporary with Stow’s Survey, and often the one corroborates a detail in the other, but it is also a lively depiction of events, activities, and physical landmarks. The introduction and commentary on the plates which accompany the facsimile discuss the accuracy of Alley’s illustrations and the background to his work, and show how rewarding detailed study of such a source can be.

This publication will be ready for paid-up members to collect at the AGM. It is hoped that the extra publication, comprising two versions of Hollar’s Long View from Lambeth, each on four sheets, will also be ready for members to purchase at the AGM. The first version, from the single known copy in the British Museum, shows the City skyline reworked to bring it up to date for publication in about 1707.

88th ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1987

The publication issued to members in 1987 was The London Surveys of Ralph Treswell, edited by John
Schofield. This book contained all Treswell’s known London plans, with several reproduced in colour. In addition, there was an extra publication, *The A to Z of Victorian London*. This is the fourth in the A to Z series which the Society has published in association with Harry Margary and the Guildhall Library. During the year progress was made in organising the photography and text for 1988’s publication, Hugh Alley’s *Caveat for the City of London*. It was only possible to issue one newsletter, in May, and the winter newsletter was held over until early in 1988.

The eight-seventh Annual General Meeting was held in Crosby Hall on 7th August and was attended by about 170 members and their guests. The Society’s officers were re-elected, as were the members of Council.

After the business meeting, members heard a talk by Mrs Joan Heath, a former governor of Crosby Hall, about the building and its history. Mr John Schofield, author of the year’s publication, then talked about Ralph Treswell and his work. Members were also able to look at a small display of items relating to Crosby Hall, organised by Mrs Heath.

At the end of 1987 the Society had 6 honorary members and 703 paid-up members. During the year 47 new members joined the Society and about 20 were written off. Sales of publications totalled £11,660, almost exactly twice the previous year’s level.

**NO CAKES NEEDED!**

Usually, members rally round to produce the splendid homemade teas which have become a feature of our AGMs, but this year, the hospitality of the Honourable Artillery Company will provide for us. We are very grateful to them for such kindness. Take a rest while you may, members. 1989 will come round, and we will all need to be baking again. Joyce Cumming will, as always, be the inspiring spirit, but for this year, we can all sit back and enjoy some one else’s hard work.

*Ann Saunders*

**THE LONDON ARCHIVE USERS’ FORUM**

The London Archive Users’ Forum (LAUF) has been established by a group consisting of users of archives and of professional archivists to represent the interests of users of record offices, public and private, in the London area. Other services have their own consumer groups; now that archives services are under particular threat from local government cuts, record offices need theirs.

The Forum was inaugurated on 23rd March at a meeting at the Institute of Historical Research, and already has more than 60 members, both personal and institutional, representing archive depositories as well as special interest groups, and individuals with a wide range of interests, academic, family and local historians. A programme of talks and visits is being planned, and there will be a newsletter keeping users (and anyone interested in London archives) in touch with developments in the field. As well as campaigning for the retention and improvement of London archives services, the organisation will organise educational opportunities for anyone interested in improving their skills in the use of archives, and provide a forum for the exchange of views between users and archivists.

Membership is open to all, and anyone with the interests of London archives at heart is welcome, whether or not they live in the London area. The annual subscription is £6 for individuals (£3 each additional member at the same address) and £10 for organisations (who will receive additional copies of the newsletter).

To join, please write, enclosing the appropriate subscription, to the Membership Secretary, Dr Patricia Croot, Victoria County History, 34 Tavistock Square, London WC1. Cheques should be made payable to the London Archive Users’ Forum. If a receipt is required, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Users would be welcome to indicate the nature of their research interests, and organisations the number of members they represent.

The first Annual General Meeting will be held at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, on June 2nd 1988 at 6.30, followed by talks by London archivists. If (as the Editor hopes) this notice reaches members in time, all will be welcome.

**PANORAMANIA!**

In 1985, the Yale Center for British Art mounted an exhibition of panoramic prints which aroused considerable enthusiasm; the magnificent catalogue by Ralph Hyde, *Gilded Scenes and Shining Prospects*, has since become both a standard work and a collector’s item, despite its price of £20.

The Barbican Art Gallery is about to undertake an even more ambitious display, concentrating on the panorama as entertainment. It is to run from November 3rd 1988 until January 29th 1989, and will include such delights as a reconstruction of *London from the Roof of the Albion Mills* as exhibited in Robert Barker’s Leicester Square Panorama in 1795 as well as the original of the ‘Rhinebeck’ Panorama of London of about 1810, reproduced at half-size by the London Topographical Society in 1981 and still available from the Bishopsgate Institute at £12. There will be special sections devoted to early examples of panoramas, and to the Colosseum and Diorama, both of which formerly graced the eastern boundary of Regent’s Park.

The catalogue will be edited by Ralph Hyde of the Guildhall Library, and will have an introductory essay by Scott Wilcox of the Yale Center. This is going to be an exhibition of exceptional importance, and one which no Londoner should miss.

*Ann Saunders*

**THE GUARDS MUSEUM**

The new Guards Museum was opened by The Queen on February 19th. It is located underground in Wellington Barracks, on the parade-ground side of the Guards Chapel. The Museum was planned as part of the re-designing of Wellington Barracks nearly twenty years ago, and has been designed by Barry Mazur, who has done similar work for the Imperial War Museum and the V & A.

The Museum covers the story of the five regiments of Foot Guards, Grenadier, Coldstream, Scots, Irish and Welsh, over a period of almost three and a half centuries. It is the first time that there has been such a display of historical material relating to the Foot Guards. The Director is Colonel P R Adair LVO, himself a military historian.

Access to the Museum is from Birdcage Walk. Admis-
TION is £2, with concessions, and there is a shop selling publications and souvenirs.

THE MAKING OF MODERN LONDON


These are the books of the outstanding television series 'The Making of Modern London' which ran on London Weekend Television from 1983 to 1986. The volumes correspond to the four series and, allowing for differing typefaces and layouts, themselves form a series. Volume I and II examine the social and economic forces which shaped Victorian and inter-war London. Volume III records the wartime destruction, and Volume IV its post-war remoulding.

The series concentrated on the human contribution to the City's development and the effect of economic forces: the influence, for example, of the cyclical boom and bust of London's industries, and the ebb and flow of demand for housing. These books are therefore as much about the people who lived in London as the place itself, and emphasise on every page that London was made in more ways than by bricks and mortar.

Each book comprises six chapters and each chapter corresponds to one of the twenty-four television programmes. The requirement of the television series was to select separate topics and then to compress them within a single programme. Each chapter is therefore a self-contained essay, linked chronologically to the book's other chapters but not otherwise integrated. This has enabled (or compelled) the authors to separate a series of defined topics from a broad and complicated theme, and to bring into sharp focus, one issue at a time.

It has also necessarily resulted in the authors selecting a series of issues which are easily presented and which provided sufficient visual appeal for a television series, for example, the Victorian East End, the heyday of London Transport, the Blitz, and Post-War London as a Style Capital.

While such topic-by-topic exposition can result in a shallow perspective, and prevents the authors from developing a deeper or more thematic approach, the books are by no means lightweight. While they do not set out to be authorities — there are far more detailed studies for that — each chapter is a compact and erudite essay in some aspect of social cause and effect in London's growth. The style is colloquial and, not surprisingly, occasionally reads like a television script. This, however, is really a compliment. The authors have done well to present so much well researched material in such a pleasantly readable and visually attractive manner.

A particular feature of the television series was use of personal interviews and a number have been incorporated into the text. The authors avoid generalising on the basis of a few interviews, but employ them both to illustrate and to give immediacy to the narrative. These reminiscences from factory workers, seamstresses and hauliers provide social comment on the development of the City; it was these people who helped create the social fabric of London.

The first volume covers nearly a century of change and development. It would be impossible to do justice to this in a single volume, so the authors identify a number of key issues, principally within the period 1880 to 1910. They discuss the growth of the West End and the satellites of poor areas to service it; the rise and decline of the East End; and the evolution of public transport. In each case these studies are presented as well illustrated and self-contained essays.

The inter-war period is the focus of the second volume. It is a study of what the authors describe as a transitional period between Victorian social ideas and the modern welfare state, from when the suburbs were laid out in sober terraces serviced by churches and railway stations to the era of semis and shopping parades.

It offers a perceptive view of the early Americanisation of London, most lasting symbolised by the Edwardian tubes and the building of Selfridges and the Park Lane hotels. Other chapters investigate the growth of the factories in outer London; the great planning and transport projects, often organised as unemployment relief schemes; and the heyday of suburbia. The contrast between the middle-class housewife in her suntrap semi and the isolated working-class housewife recently decanted from neighbourly Poplar to isolated Watling is brought into sharp relief by use of well chosen interviews.

The first two books concentrate on the prodigious expansion of Victorian and inter-war London, while the third volume redresses the balance by highlighting the cataclysm that halted over 100 years' continuous growth. The impact of the last war, as good as ancient history to many young Londoners, is quickly brought alive.

Most immediately, enemy action destroyed thousands of buildings. By late 1940 a quarter of a million Londoners were homeless and in 1944 alone a million homes were damaged by flying bombs. While the dockland boroughs and the City bore the worst brunt of the blitz, there were no safe areas in London and the flying bomb wreaked havoc in the eastern and south-eastern suburbs. This holocaust, though, did more than damage half London's housing, and destroy a tenth of it. By clearing great areas it gave municipal planners an unprecedented opportunity to build a better city by comprehensive redevelopment.

This is the territory of the fourth volume, how the ebb and flow of housing policies helped shape post-war London. We follow the destruction of the slums and the rise and fall of the tower blocks. The development and shifting policy behind the new towns and green belt is graphically explained, as is the effect of siphoning off from London the young, the skilled and the fit into the satellite new towns built 20 or 30 miles from London.

Another chapter highlights London's post-war position as a leading industrial and trading centre, especially in processing Commonwealth goods, and how this came to an end when the Commonwealth became independent and took the trade elsewhere. Finally, the chapter on immigration makes good use of interviews to offer personal insights into a mass economic and social movement. Those interviewed may not be representative, but it is certainly interesting to hear one theory of why West Indians went to Brixton and Indians to Southall. The interviews illustrate the paths leading to immigration, and how tenuous ties with one area in London were subsequently reinforced by chain migration.

Altogether this series is more than a topographical
or architectural history. It offers a series of selected sociological insights into London as a living city over the past century and a half. If you want to know what made, and still makes, London tick then this is a good place to look. Simon Morris

BOOK NOTES


It does not need an expert to realise the importance of this thorough, scholarly, and very attractively produced work. It has brought together a great deal of original research as well as earlier published material to provide an account, as complete as the author could make it, of the London establishments which were involved in this particular branch of pottery. That it is called ‘London Delftware’ is, as the author points out, a contradiction in terms, but the term delftware was adopted in the early part of the eighteenth century and has stuck.

The book exemplifies well the use of meticulous research in records. The most informative source has been the insurance records of the Hand-in-Hand company, giving details of location, ownership and business; another is the complete inventory of a pothouse, printed as an appendix, recording over 100,000 pieces in nineteen rooms and the equipment and materials used.

After brief introductory chapters on delftware as a material and on the provenance from Italy via Antwerp to England, there are accounts of each of the nineteen identified potteries from Rotherhithe to Isleworth, with plans, followed by the detailed and fully illustrated catalogue occupying nearly half the book, and appendices.

It is curious that the first delftware pottery in London, at Aldgate from 1571, had, according to the chronological table, no rival establishments for the forty years of its existence, and that until the last quarter of the seventeenth century, there were never more than four such potteries. This would seem to indicate a somewhat restricted market for these very interesting and beautiful wares, which form an important part of several museum collections.

While the author relies on his earlier work, English Delftware in the Bristol Collection (1982), for greater detail on the design and use of various articles and on manufacturing techniques, we can be grateful to him and his publisher, himself a specialist in early English pottery, for this important contribution on London pottery.


Mr Milne, author of the excellent monograph on the Port of Roman London, reviewed in a recent London Topographical News, has now turned his attention to the Great Fire of London.

This short book is divided into four sections. The first, entitled ‘The Congestion of Mis-shapen Houses’, succinctly summarises the condition of Restoration London before the Fire.

The second part comprises verbatim eye witness accounts of the six days that destroyed a City. The progress of the Fire itself is charted by a series of attractive plans based on Hollar’s Exact Surveys. The use of the chronicles lends immediacy to the narrative, and conveys the confusion and despair of onlookers. It also highlights the initial inability of the authorities to appreciate the vastness of the Fire, and their delays in organising effective action.

The author then goes on to discuss the rebuilding of London, arguing that this was a significant and successful exercise in town planning, rather than the great wasted opportunity it is sometimes said to be. A rather random chronology of rebuilding is appended.

The final pages touch on recent archaeological excavations near Pudding Lane, the seat of the Fire. Here it is suggested that inflammable materials stored in a cellar may have exacerbated what began as a minor and almost routine fire.

The four sections are by their nature fairly disjunctive and do not really integrate to form a coherent flow of narrative. Despite this reservation, the book is well written and generously illustrated, and offers an accessible and informative source of information about the Fire and its consequences. Simon Morris

St James’s Square, by Denys Forrest. Quiller Press, 1986. 182 pages. £11.95.


Miss Kennedy is deputy editor of The Director; Mr Forrest wrote Tea for the British (1973). Their respective histories of Mayfair and St James’s Square are as different as the biographical notes suggest. Miss Kennedy’s romp through the drawing rooms of Mayfair is crammed with gossip, anecdotes and fascinating tales; Mr Forrest’s interest lies primarily in architectural history.

The endpapers of Mr Forrest’s book, comparing the elevations of St James’s Square in 1821, 1930 and 1986 immediately arouse the curiosity. How did it happen that the palatial Army and Navy Club (Parnell and Smith 1848) was demolished? And who condemned the replacement of Brettingham’s Norfolk House with the block which Pevsner dismisses as ‘a brick and stone building of no merit’? The many illustrations, the charming drawings by Theodore Ramos, and the overall design of this book sustain the good impression created by the endpapers. The text, which is clear, lively and supported by footnotes, relies heavily on the relevant volumes of the Survey of London. The author’s other main sources are the Minute Books of the St James’s Square Trust (1726–) and A I Dassen’s History (1895). For the book’s handsome appearance we are indebted to the firms and organizations of St James’s Square who contributed to the cost of production. The Trustees of St James’s Square must also be commended for commissioning this thoroughly good history of ‘that Great Square Place or Piece of Ground called by the name of St James’s Square’.

By comparison, Mayfair, A social history looks old-fashioned. The illustrations are lumped together in the middle of the book, there is only one map (Rocque 1746), and surely the publisher could have afforded a better quality paper? This social history of Mayfair from the Restoration to the present day was inspired by the author’s brittle dream-world and childhood memories of the treats associated with that ‘glittering square mile east of the Park’. Her subsequent investigation of the former residents makes easy reading although some

26.4
readers may be exasperated by the repetitive beginnings to paragraphs: ‘One of the most notorious residents . . .’, ‘One of the most spectacular private houses . . .’, ‘One of the earliest inhabitants . . .’, etc. It takes thirteen chapters to explore the ‘hothouse world of love affairs, gossip and intrigue’ which was Mayfair and the final chapter focuses on the Duke of Westminster, Mayfair’s chief landowner. We are told that Gerald, the sixth Duke, ‘has no pretensions to grandeur whatsoever . . . is an engagingly boyish, good looking man, tall and lean with an eager, friendly manner and an infectious laugh . . . also patently dedicated to the business to which he came by an accident of birth.’ It seems a pity that a book which sets out to be a social history should end in the style of a popular women’s magazine.

Penelope Hunting


This is really two books in one, a series of interesting and thoughtful essays on the history, life and work of the Abbey by Edward Carpenter, formerly Dean, and a varied and lively collection of drawings by David Gentleman, an artist whose work has been noticed before in these pages. There are few points of coincidence in the course of the book, but one can stray from one to the other with pleasure.

Carpenter has comparatively little to say about the architecture of the Abbey, but gives us brief historical or topical accounts of different aspects such as its music, its special status as a Royal Peculiar, coronations: though none of this is new, it is given through the words of someone intimately connected and thoroughly conversant with the ways of the Abbey, and is most enjoyable.

Gentleman displays his customary facility of observation and recording. There are four different classes of illustration: architectural sketches, which are as delightful as ever; numerous drawings of monuments, one of the Abbey’s very special features; vignettes of ecclesiastic figures, simply decorating the pages; and full-page tableaux of medieval activity within the Abbey. The last group, reproductions of pictures commissioned by the Abbey and erected as screens during restoration work, is the least satisfactory contribution to this book. I find them unconvincing, more like modern staged enactments with modern figures. The monumental figures also seem, almost invariably, to have faces with a modern mien which ill accords with their own periods. The artist is at his best in his architectural and topographical work.

Notwithstanding my reservations on some of the illustrations, this is an attractive, well-produced, addition to the extensive literature on the Abbey.


The title is misleading: what we have is not a conspicuous of London’s maps from 1746, but a complete reproduction at reduced scale of Rocque’s Plan of London, each sheet being set opposite its counterpart from the Geographers’ A–Z maps, much enlarged to reach the same scale, together with a commentary to suit each sheet. Comparison is made easy: examples are otiose, as everyone will have his familiar and favourite patch to study.

The juxtaposition of old and modern map making shows up most dramatically the contrast in styles, Rocque, as near as possible true-to-scale, informative and elegant, A–Z with exaggerated road widths, to which much has been sacrificed, rather less informative, and ugly. It is unfortunate that the sheets of Rocque have been reproduced in half-tone, making many of the smaller names illegible; W Crawford Snowden’s ‘London 200 Years Ago’, which the present author acknowledges as his inspiration, used line reproduction. only a little larger, with better effect. A better comparative modern map would have been the Ordnance Survey 1/2500, virtually the same scale as that at which Rocque’s was engraved: perhaps there were difficulties.

The opposed sheets of maps, occupying half the book, are its raison d’être. Poitier histories of the areas shown on each sheet are very much a matter of taste, and this reviewer has not studied them; it is to be hoped, however, that they have been more carefully compiled than the ‘Contents’ which purport to list the twenty-four sections, under such headings as ‘Fitzrovia’, ‘Covent Garden, Whitehall and Lambeth’, and ‘Rotherhithe and Southwark Park’, but manages to miss out one and gives wrong page numbers to two. Whether for entertainment or serious use, members may like to have this book, but it is a disappointing product.

Clapham Saints and Sinners, by Eric E F Smith, with a foreword by Michael Robbins. The Clapham Press, 1987, A4, 84 pages, including plan, paperback. £9 from ‘At Home’, 1 The Polygon, Old Town, London SW4, and The Bolingbroke Bookshop, 147 Northcote Road, London SW11, and by post (post free) from The Clapham Press, 58 Crescent Lane, London SW4 9PU.

As if to prove my point in the previous newsletter about Eric Smith’s compendious knowledge of Clapham’s history, this admirable book arrived while the last newsletter was about to be issued. It consists of a small selection from the very extensive material contained in ‘An Occasional Sheet Issued for Private Circulation to Members of the Clapham Antiquarian Society’, which has appeared almost every month since April 1947. From late in 1967 it has been edited by Eric Smith and covers information on all aspects of Clapham’s past, reports of the Society’s visits, and more domestic matters; with each number almost invariably covering two sides of foolscap (or, more recently, A4), the whole runs to the best part of a thousand pages of diligently gathered information.

This volume concentrates on the notable residents of Clapham, arranged under several broad categories of interest. It makes fascinating reading, easy to dip into, but also easy to consult, since it has a first-class index compiled by Francis Graham. On the last page there is a much-reduced, but remarkably clear, reproduction of Bland’s Plan of the Parish of Clapham, 1849. The appearance of the book is exemplary. It would be very nice if a further volume could cover other material.


This is a short history of the building of an underground line which made an important contribution to the development of London’s outer northern and southern
suburbs. Well researched and well written, it concisely explains the development and complexities of the line.

The first section from the City south to Stockwell was opened as long ago as 1890, and was the earliest deep tube railway in London. By 1900 it ran from Islington to Clapham and between the Wars was extended well into Middlesex and Surrey.

A work of this kind could easily be a train spotters delight, filled with the minutiae of rolling stock and signalling. This it is not, and the author rightly concentrates on the planning, design and construction of the line and its aborted extensions.

The reviewer hopes that the author will now chronicle the other London Transport lines.

Simon Morris


Local history can only flourish if, as this reviewer knows to his cost, it is supported by enough people willing and able to do the hard work of research and by the concommitant opportunity for publication. _Haringey History Bulletin_, until recently _Hornsey History Bulletin_, shows, as do others, of course, how well local history can be served. Each number of a journal may seem to be an odd collection of articles, but they grow wondrously into a valuable corpus of information over a period.

Like all journals cost of production is an ever-present concern: this number includes readers' reactions to the evidently unhappy first attempt to use word processing to save on typesetting costs. This was coupled with the change of name, welcomed by some, distressing to others. It is not invidious, I hope, to single out Anne Trevett's article, 'Rookfield Garden Estate: a study of the influence of the Garden City', as a piece which might appeal to a wider membership. Several earlier issues are still available.


First there was the Blue Plaque Guide: good Londoners who contributed to human wellbeing. Then came the Pink Plaque Guide: Gay Londoners of distinction. And now we have the Black Plaque Guide, a volume mostly concerned with distinctly unpleasant Londoners.

These delightful individuals, the Krays, Crippens and Christies of the Metropolis, have been corralled into seventeen chapters, one for each district of London. They form a distinctly motley collection, and one sees from the index that the authors have diligently ploughed through the alphabet of naughtiness, beginning with adulterers, bigamists and courtesans, through to transvestites, and ending with a solitary whoremaster.

Some of these individuals are justly famous. Orton and Wilde, for instance, feature in all three Plaque Guides. Others are still notorious, and the book includes a plethora of celebrated mistresses and several distinguished rabble-rousers. Many subjects, however, are insignificant, and only emerge from a lifetime's obscurity on account of some botched murder or incompetent fraud. Also, while most inclusions justify themselves, a number are questionable. Does a playwright of Wilde's stature really deserve entry as a sodomite (which he almost certainly was not) or Radclyffe Hall as a deviant (she would have preferred 'invert')?

However, while any reviewer can argue with the contents of an anthology, one cannot possibly quibble with the authors' diligence. Their detective work in tracking down and correctly identifying the homes and haunts of nearly 200 people over a period of 400 years is a signal achievement.

Written in the best 'horrible murder' style, the narrative is entertaining and the pace unremitting. But as well as amusing us with tales of naughty vicars and wanton wenches, the authors may also be reminding us of something quite valuable. And this is, if London was a city of painters, philanthropists and poets, it was also the slum of poisoners, pornographers and procurers.

Simon Morris


An encyclopedia is always fun, in that looking up one item can lead to an evening of diversion from the adjacent entries. This one is no exception, and worth having simply for the mass of interesting information attractively assembled and displayed, in a hardback binding with a dust jacket.

There are alphabetical entries, but in individual chapters or chapter sections devoted to different subjects, with a subject bibliography at the end of each chapter. One's diversions are thus kept within reasonable bounds when browsing through a chapter.

There are plenty of useful lists and data tables, such as a perpetual calendar, a list of the dates of incorporation and opening of all the individual railway companies with a note of the company which absorbed them, a potted religious history from 1535 to 1836, and names and addresses of national, regional and specialist history research organisations.

There is an index, but on the whole it has only single references under each entry and seems to be an amalgamation of the alphabetical chapter entries. Thus if one wants to research Inland Waterways, one has to check the entry under Canal, Barge, Flash etc, there being no multiple references under a larger subject heading.

When I came to check the entries under a subject with which I was already familiar, I found some errors. The transport bibliography gave national coverage to Barker and Robbins' _History of London Transport_ and gave the second volume the wrong publication date; it is surprising in a book from the author of the history of Highgate to find a statement that trams on the Highgate Hill Cable Tramway were hauled up the hill by horses! However these are minor carps and an encyclopedia is intended as a general rather than a specialised reference book, and as this it is strongly recommended.

Roger Cline


John Hillaby's articles in the early issues of the New Scientist introduced me to the delights of scientific subjects such as geology and botany outside my academic cramping courses of Maths and Physics. He is probably best known for his walks accompanying chat through many parts of the world, and this book is more of the same, the walk being from home in West Hampstead, by way of the Heath, Primrose Hill, Regent Street, Fleet Street and the City. Names are dropped in great profusion, and those of our members such as Sir John Summerson, Brigid Cherry and Leslie Ginsburg are well
to the fore. Even your reviewer gets a mention, although fortunately anonymously. Fortunately, because some of our chat on the summit of Primrose Hill got a little garbled by the time it reached the page, the site of the proposed palace for the Prince Regent which was to have been at the summit of the slight rise in Regent's Park where the Sir Cowasjee Gehangir fountain now stands being shifted to the summit of Primrose Hill, which at that time was still in Eton College ownership. It would be interesting to hear how other members' information fared.

The comment on the topography of London through which his walk passes is sharp and interesting; there is much autobiography, but of a man who started his journalistic work writing articles on London forty years ago, so that this gives us a historical perspective to the present scene. Various friends he encounters along the route tend to crop up again later, so you need to remember their names to get the full thrust of the references (and there is no index to help you). The book is adequately illustrated with photographs, with emphasis on people rather than places; the historical pictures are the usual ones. I thought his story about the Roman boat which sank at Blackfriars with a load of Kentish Ragstone was just a tall story, but find it tallies very well with the official account of the discovery in 1962 and much more fun to read!

John Hillaby is off on his travels again, although doing much less walking now, since a non-ecological car caught him unawares recently in a Hampstead road. We wish him a speedy return to full fitness.

The economies of the book trade seem to have gone crazy with this book. I was pleased to be able to pick up what I assumed to be an ex-review copy at about 60% of the price, but soon afterwards found multiple copies on sale in a Cambridge bookshop at £3, less than a year after publication.

Roger Cline


This book is an informative and readable narrative account of the development of Victorian maps of the British Isles. Written principally for the collector rather than the academic reader, it sets out to offer specific information about maps which a collector can add to his or her collection, and to enable the collector to identify and date a map and place it in its cartographical context. Once accustomed to the densely printed two-column format, one starts to appreciate the logical and analytical plan to the book, and the perceptive overview it offers.

The first section discusses map production. It explains the technical process of engraving and how, despite developments, this was eventually overtaken by lithography. This part of the narrative is well illustrated. Next, the author discusses paper. He outlines the development of the technique of lithography and machine produced paper that enabled map production to cater for the mass market. Here, a few diagrams might have helped illustrate the technical description.

The longest section deals with presentation and content. The author explains how, in a buyers' market, maps tended to contain features likely to appeal to purchasers. Hence vignettes of gentry's seats, the location of large houses, and the names of their occupants, were included irrespective of any objective merit or significance; not so with the Ordnance Survey maps, which were indirectly funded. We also note how the move to innovation and quality in Ordnance Survey map making was largely inspired by the Irish, rather than the British, branch of the service.

Other chapters trace the evolution of conventional signs and the decline of the county as the basis for topographical mapping. The entries discussing the development of colouring, illustrated by both Booth and Milne, and relief are illuminating. We read how hachuring, while presenting an elegant 3D effect, was unsuitable for indicating long slopes and gentle undulations, and never gave an accurate measure of relative height and slope angles.

In the chapter on purpose the author discusses knowledgeably on purposes as diverse as scientific maps, cycling and railway maps. Each type is illustrated with several examples and, where relevant, placed in its social context.

The final part of the book is a catalogue which, while a useful aid to identification, seems selective and haphazard. As one can fill a substantial book with 50 years' worth of Victorian Maps for a single city – Ralph Hyde's Printed Maps of Victorian London – the entire production of maps for the British Isles from 1837 to 1901 can hardly be accommodated in 37 pages. This cannot even be a catalogue of 'known atlases and topographical works', as the author claims. The Ordnance Survey is omitted and the entries appear to be distinctly random, including various publishers, geographers and engravers.

Nonetheless, the book stands on its own without the catalogue. It is an attractively illustrated work and the reader gets a clear idea of the skill and diversity of Victorian map-making and its development in various branches.

Simon Morris

NOTES AND QUERIES

The newsletter is issued twice a year. Space is available for you to ask questions relating to London topography or to communicate items of interest to members or information about research in progress. We would also like to print the results of enquiries. Please write to Stephen Marks, Hamilton's, Kilmsdon, near Bath, Somerset.

SIR JOHN CROSBY

In the notice of the last AGM, we referred to Sir John Crosby as Lord Mayor of London. John C Wittick writes as follows:

Sir John Crosby was never the Lord Mayor of London; however, he was the Mayor of the Staple of Calais, France. The error comes from the fact that John Heywood (1497–1580), in his play Edward IV, represents Sir John Crosby as being Lord Mayor of London at the time of the storming of the City by 'Thomas Nevil, the bastard Falconbridge'; the actual Lord Mayor at the time of this incident was Sir John Stockton.

EXTRA-ILLUSTRATED GOS

I refer to the notes in London Topographical News numbers 16 and 18 on the subject of extra-illustrated volumes of CWF Goss's works. I have one which I acquired about twenty years ago. It is The Parish and Church of St Martin Outwich, London published by W Heffer & Sons Ltd, Cambridge, 1929. Like those others, it is a 91-page booklet some 8½ by 5¼ inches, the text of which has been expertly inlaid, as have some 58
illustrations in place of the original seven, to form a book 13\% by 11 inches. There is an undated manuscript page of 'Contents' and 'Illustrations' facing the mounted booklet cover, and a 2-page manuscript Index tipped in after the last page of text. The book is nicely bound in half leather with some wear to the spine. The engravings do not seem particularly rare, but most are in good condition. A few additional loose items relating to the subject are included, together with some additional manuscript notes.  

**ACCOUNTS FOR 1987**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1987**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>expenditure</th>
<th>income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>653 storage and service</td>
<td>576.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106 insurance</td>
<td>74.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,376 printing and stationery</td>
<td>1,149.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329 postage and petty cash</td>
<td>420.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>310 AGM</strong></td>
<td><strong>397.25</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2,774</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,618.56</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,779 publications in 1986</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>156 distribution in earlier years</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- publication no 126 (reprint)</td>
<td>3,006.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6,772 publication no 133</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77 publication no 135</td>
<td>13,539.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- less grants received</td>
<td>1,885.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- publication no 136</td>
<td>5,826.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- publication no 137</td>
<td>288.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- distribution of no 135</td>
<td>1,064.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 royalties no 125 reprint</td>
<td>31.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 other expenses</td>
<td>12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5,622</strong></td>
<td><strong>excess of income over expenditure</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>17,217</strong></td>
<td><strong>£28,886.07</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**profit from sale of publications:**

| sales | 11,659.85 |
| less cost or valuation of publications sold | 5,829.92 |

| 1,952 | 5,829.93 |
| 246 interest on bank deposit a/c | 347.12 |
| 1,025 on National Savings a/c | 1,357.17 |

| 1,704.29 |
| 90 grant: Twenty-Seven Foundation | 290.00 |
| 174 donations | 292.75 |
| 109 miscellaneous income | 110.00 |
| 3,330 publications – undistributed copies to stock | 12,540.00 |
| 932 income tax on covenants | 1,027.70 |

**BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 1987**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>accumulated fund</th>
<th>current assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39,662 balance brought forward</td>
<td>58,742 stock of publications as valued by Council:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,622 excess of income over expenditure</td>
<td>25,000 balance brought forward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>45,284</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,493.12</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>49,668.37</strong></td>
<td>add</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 115 purchases | 3,25 |
| 3,330 publications issued | 12,540.00 |
| 28,445 | 39,036.37 |
| less estimated cost of publications sold | 5,829.92 |
| 1,952 | 33,206.45 |
| 26,493 | bank and cash balances |
| 2,749 bank deposit a/c | 10,596.63 |
| 16,119 National Savings a/c | 4,975.98 |
| 2,830 bank current a/c | 1,097.44 |
| 40 cash with officers | 659.37 |

| Roger Cline |
| Hon Treasurer |
| - 2,947 |
| - 867.50 |
| **48,231** |
| **£50,535.87** |

**Note:** 'Cash with officers' includes US$ remittances in hand to the value of $401.18, converted for the purpose of these accounts at the rate of $2.00 = £1.00.

I report that the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account have been correctly prepared from the books and records of the London Topographical Society.


Edited by Stephen Marks, Hamilton's, Kilmersdon, near Bath, Somerset, and issued by Patrick Frazer, Hon Secretary of the London Topographical Society, 36 Old Deer Park Gardens, Richmond, Surrey

26.8