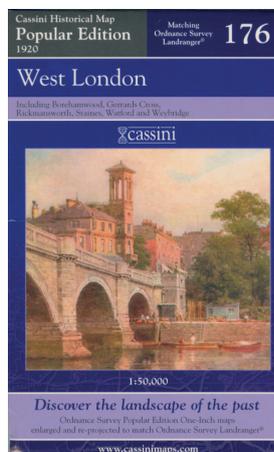


Cassini Historical Maps



Cassini Old Series

£6.49

Cassini Popular editions

£6.99

Cassini Past and Present

£7.99

Reviewed by Clive Orton

If you have ever tried a map regression exercise, that is, studying the changes in a site or area back from the present day through a chronological series of maps, you will appreciate just how difficult and frustrating this apparently simple exercise can be. So many things can go wrong – the maps may be to different scales,

they probably have different boundaries, and (less obvious but equally frustrating) they may be on different projections. Many of these problems have been solved for us (at least for the 19th and 20th centuries) by a series produced by Cassini Historical Maps.

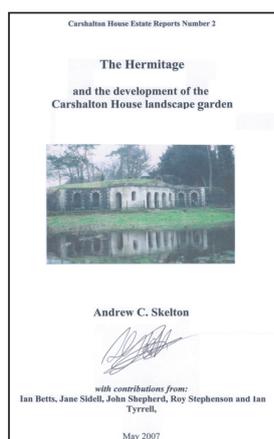
Going back in time, we first encounter the Cassini version of the Ordnance Survey *Popular Editions* of 1919–26, which now all have the same scale, coverage, projection and grid references as the corresponding Ordnance Survey *Landranger*® map. They are also the same size when open or folded and have a similar laminated colour cover. The coverage is of the whole of England and Wales (123 maps in all).

Next comes the Ordnance Survey *Old Series* of 1805–22, which Cassini have also re-mastered to the same scale, coverage, projection and grid references as the corresponding Ordnance Survey *Landranger*® map. This was an even more difficult exercise, as the *Old Series* was produced without a common projection system: as a result, each original had to be re-proportioned to match the *Landranger* grid.

For those who want life really easy, Cassini have also produced a *Past and Present* series, which presents four maps of the same 15 km by 15 km area (the *Old Series*, the *Revised New Series* (1895–99) the *Popular Edition*, and the present-day 1:50,000 map.

The amount of work that has gone into the production of these series is truly remarkable. Not only have the maps been re-scaled and cropped to their new boundaries, but they have been re-projected from the old Cassini projection to the current Transverse Mercator projection, and details have been digitally enhanced. It has also been necessary to remove stains and crease marks from some older maps, and to correct for the yellowing of the paper. Archaeologists will owe this project a great deal, and anyone can just enjoy studying the past of their home area.

The Hermitage and the Development of the Carshalton House Landscape Garden



Andrew Skelton

2007

Carshalton House Estate Reports No. 2

106 pp

40 figs, bibliography

£10 + p&p from

Hon. Research Officer,
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Carshalton SM5 3PN

Reviewed by Clive Orton

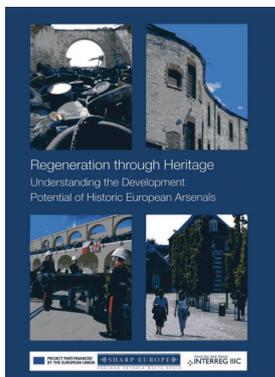
Opportunities to investigate large-scale garden features rarely arise, and must therefore be seized when they do. *The Hermitage* is a semi-subterranean garden building in the grounds of Carshalton House in the London Borough of Sutton, and probably dates to the first half of the 18th century, most likely between 1732 and 1740. Concern about its structural stability led to a programme of investigation and restoration, carried out between 1991 and 1993, with further work in 2005.

This spiral-bound A4 publication is a detailed account of the project's investigative side, carried out to stringent deadlines on a limited budget. The main task was the removal of the earthen mound that surmounted the building, exposing its roof and allowing stabilisation to begin. Although much of the recording had to take place over week-ends, many plans and sections were drawn and details recorded, not only of the roof but of many other structural elements. Enough information was obtained to enable a discussion of the possible phasing of the construction of the building. The building is set in context by a discussion of the landscaping of the garden, and by comparison with similar structures at Woburn, Stowe, Wrest Park and elsewhere.

Specialist reports on pottery, clay tobacco pipes, building materials, glass and other categories of finds complete the book.

The appeal of this book is, by its very nature, limited, but it would be a useful addition to the library of anyone interested in the history of English landscape gardening.

Regeneration through Heritage – Understanding the Development Potential of Historic European Arsenals



Mark Stevens, Editor

2007

English Heritage

128 pages

colour illustrations

£7.99

Reviewed by Richard Gilpin

In his Foreword to what is a combination of progress report and guidance document, Sir Neil Cossons stresses the importance of Europe's military heritage, which includes a number of arsenal sites that have been developed at strategically significant coastline locations through several centuries.

Led by English Heritage, SHARP (Sustainable Historic Arsenal Regeneration Partnership), has been working with partners in other EU countries, sharing experiences drawn from four former military sites - the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich; the Battery, Tallinn, Estonia; the Grand Harbour, Valletta, Malta; and the Real Carenero, Cadiz, Andalusia, and considering their futures.

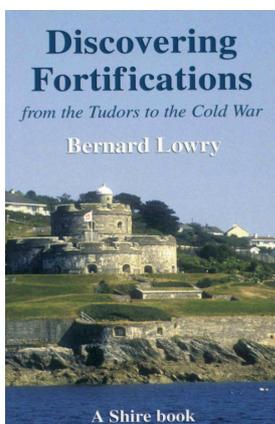
After a short Introduction, the historical background and development of each site is given. In every case there is a story of expansion of facilities in response to increasing military need, followed by a steady decline in the second half of the 20th century, when the strategic positioning of arsenals became less significant and military priorities less demanding. The Royal Arsenal at Woolwich typifies this pattern of growth and decline: during the Great War it employed a work force of over 80,000, yet within eighty years the 31-hectare site became derelict. The issue now at all four sites is how to regenerate for the future while retaining the best of the past.

To enable this issue to be investigated and addressed in a uniform way SHARP chose a structure comprising six themes: Masterplanning; Public-Private Partnerships; Heritage; Tourism; Education; Sustainable Regeneration. Considering each site in terms of the six themes reveals similarities and contrasts. Key concerns are defined, and conclusions drawn. Lessons learned during the process are outlined, and the six themes are used to create a blueprint for regeneration through heritage. All of the sites are currently at different stages of progress, and the specific issues identified at them enable SHARP to propose a generalised approach that may be applied in future to other heritage projects with their own unique characteristics.

For anyone concerned with the regeneration of the built heritage, whether military or civilian, this is a most interesting and important book, packed with enlightened observations and offering well-structured guidance on how to cope with the practical issues faced of regeneration and development. It is highly readable, and its many colour photographs add value to the text; its pan-European credentials are enhanced by translations of key sections into Estonian, Maltese and Spanish.

Readers of *London Archaeologist* are encouraged to pay a visit to the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, where progress in the mixed development is well advanced. While there, readers may wish to visit the Woolwich Heritage Centre and the Firepower military museum, but they may find however that several Anthony Gormley figures have arrived on the site before them.

Discovering Fortifications from the Tudors to the Cold War



Bernard Lowry

2006

Shire

136 pp

colour illustrations, glossary,

gazetteer, index

£10.99

Reviewed by Richard Gilpin

This book 'does what it says on the can'. It starts with the period following the introduction of gunpowder and artillery in the 15th century, and gives an account of the development of fortifications across Britain from Henry VIII to the fall of the Berlin Wall.

A Londoner would observe that many of the City's fortifications had already been built by the start of the Tudor dynasty, and indeed it is the rest of the country that receives most attention from the author. Later in the book however he does return to the capital when giving an account of the measures taken to defend it in the 19th century, including the construction of Thames Estuary defences and the ring of small forts running from the North Downs to the North Weald. In the 20th century, the country's leaders looked after their own safety and security by creating bombproof accommodation in the Cabinet War Rooms; the citizens of London meanwhile received some measure of protection from gun emplacements and radar.

There are relatively few references that are specific to London, and this book will principally be of interest to those readers who wish to learn about fortifications outside the capital. It is another well-written and illustrated volume to add to the impressive list of popular archaeological publications from Shire.