

REVIEW

THE ANTONINE WALL, 2½" folding map, Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1969, 55p.

This publication is a worthy companion to the O.S. *Map of Hadrian's Wall* (1964), maintaining the standards of technique and display which have made the Ordnance Survey's archaeological maps the best in the world. It will prove invaluable to the student of the northernmost Roman frontier, not least in investigation on the ground. It has avoided the inexplicable pedantry of the *Map of Hadrian's Wall* (which omitted the northernmost elements of the Cumberland coast system, giving the impression that the Hadrianic system did not extend west of Bowness-on-Solway), and thus includes Bishopston and Camelon, and even Arthur's Oon, as well as the temporary camps along the line of the Wall itself.

The work is likely to remain in demand for a long time to come. Some small improvements might be considered for future editions. The method of folding the map is such that it is very difficult to consult the central section in windy conditions out-of-doors. The "folding-out" method used in 1" maps (and in the *Map of Hadrian's Wall*) would surely be better. A stout plastic cover would also be worth the extra cost. In the list of publications in the notes, greater prominence could have been given to Miss Robertson's handbook, an indispensable and inexpensive field-companion to the map. The statement in the notes that the more southerly Wall, as built by Hadrian, represented a system of "static defences" is quite untenable. The paragraph which deals vaguely with the later history of the Wall could be reduced to a sentence admitting that all we really know is

that it was finally abandoned little more than half a century after its completion.

These matters are comparatively unimportant. The map itself is a model of its kind.

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