

# Resources for Research

## Godfrey's Maps

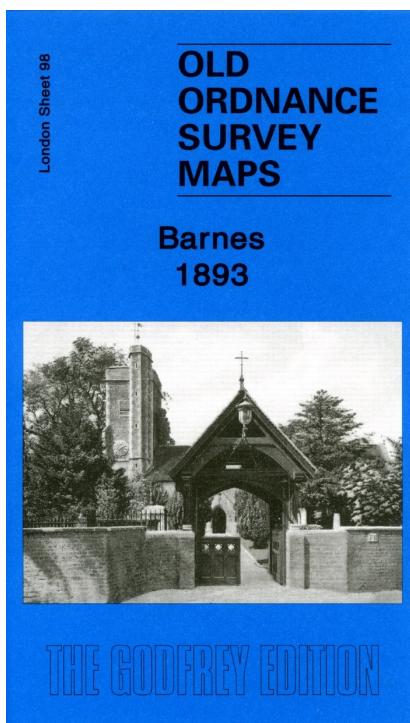
Old large-scale Ordnance Survey maps provide a wealth of information about a local area in the past. But original maps are not easy to find; local branch libraries rarely stock them and Richmond Local Studies only offers a reference service. Alan Godfrey has performed an invaluable service to the local historian by publishing large scale Ordnance Survey maps at a very reasonable price. In 1981 he progressed from selling second-hand maps to reproducing them. There are now over 3000 titles with Greater London completely covered by sheets for 1893/4.

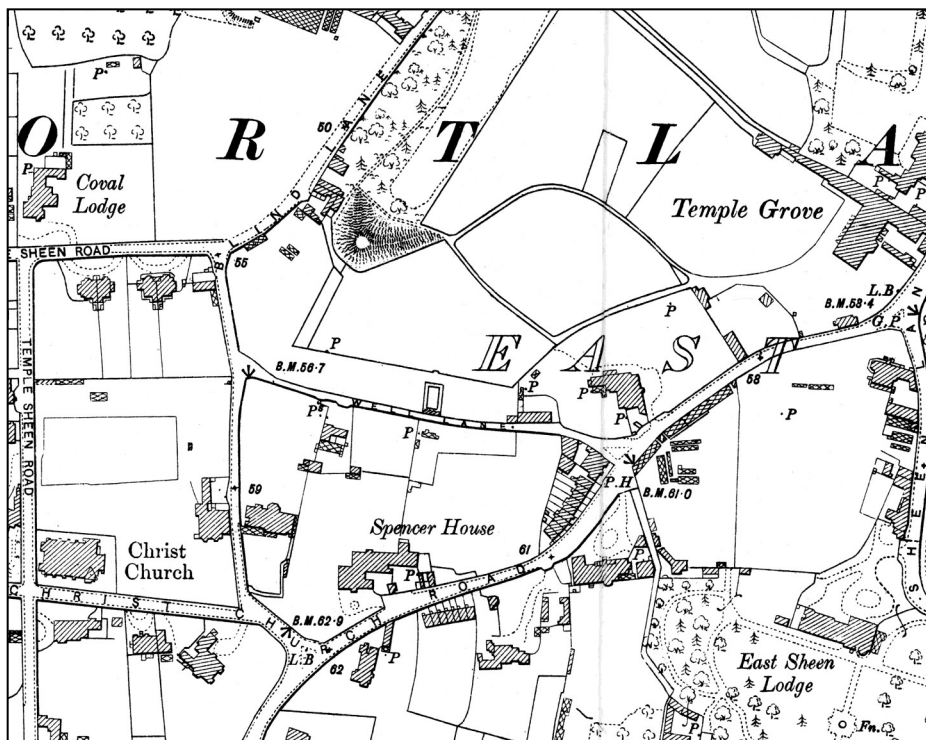
In each case the 1:2500 scale OS map has been reduced slightly to give a map of around 14 inches to the mile. This is a large enough scale to show individual houses, railway tracks, factories, churches, mills, canals, tramways and even minutiae such as dockside cranes, fountains, signal posts, pathways, sheds and wells.

Most of our area is covered by three sheets. Perhaps the most fascinating is the one for East Sheen (sheet number 111) which also covers Richmond Hill and the northern part of the Park). It depicts an area of Victorian villas and older grand houses before the outset of suburban development. The extract opposite from the 1893 map shows several of those houses as well as the recently-built Christ Church and the row of cottages next to The Plough.

The North Sheen sheet (number 97) covers the western part of Mortlake and much of Kew separated by large tracts of market gardens.

It is the Barnes maps that serve the local historian best as there are three maps: for 1867, 1893 and 1913. Centred on Barnes village, these sheets





(number 98) cover the area from Barn Elms in the east to St Mary the Virgin, Mortlake in the west; from half way up Castelnau in the north to the Upper Richmond Road in the south. Together they paint a picture of the development of Barnes and eastern Mortlake. In 1867 housing is concentrated along the Terrace, Barnes High Street and Church Road with farm land to the north and grand houses in substantial grounds to the south. By 1893 Westfields has been developed as well as the area between the railway and Barnes Green, and there are villas along Castelnau. The whole area is filled in 1913 with much of the housing we know today.

Some parts of our area such as Palewell, north Castelnau and the riverside in the east are covered by neighbouring maps.

All these maps are for sale at the Society's talks and stalls, at the National Archives and Local Studies. But when these outlets are unavailable, the maps can be purchased online for £3 each (plus postage) from Alan Godfrey's website: [www.alangodfrey.co.uk](http://www.alangodfrey.co.uk)

**David Deaton**