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## 12.8B Locations on Land

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### INTRODUCTION

1. A Watchkeeper reporting an incident which is happening on land may be required to give a map reference of its location to the emergency services. Map references of the access points to the beach may also be requested. It is therefore important that you are able to supply such information without delay.
2. Ordnance Survey Maps are official topographical maps of the United Kingdom. A key to the symbols and abbreviations is provided on each map.

### SUPPLEMENTARY READING

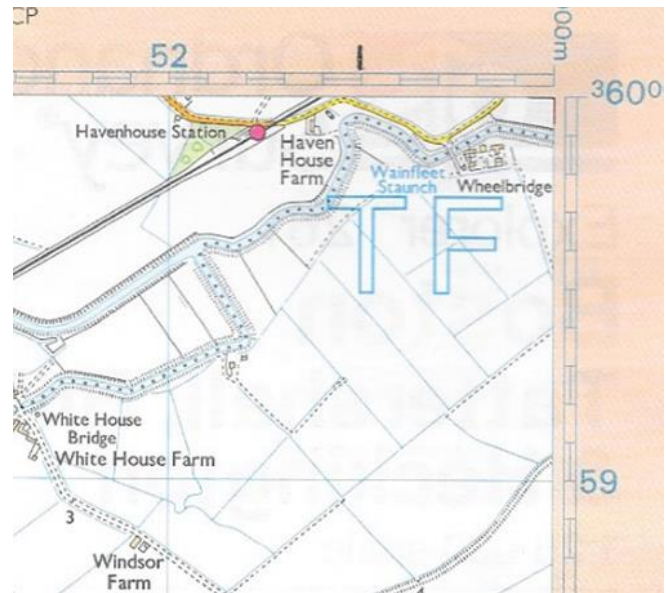
3. This comprises:
  - ✓ Weather – Section 12.6
  - ✓ Tides – Section 12.7
  - ✓ Chartwork – Section 12.8

### BASIC INFORMATION

4. There are two main types of maps:
  - Landranger Map which is 1:50 000 scale, that is 2cm to 1km, or 1¼ inches to 1 mile
  - Explorer Map which is 1:25 000 scale, that is 4cm to 1km, or 2½ inches to 1 mile

### ORDNANCE SURVEY

5. Ordnance Survey divides the UK into 100 km by 100 km squares. A map is provided for each of these squares and each map has a map number and a two-letter code.
6. The two-letter code can be found printed in faint-blue capitals in all four corners of each map.
7. A unique National Grid reference will have this two-letter code followed by the grid reference numbers.
  - for map 274 the two-letter code is TF



### NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE

8. A 'National Grid reference' sometimes called 'OS grid ref', 'grid reference', 'OS map ref' or simply 'map reference' is used to accurately pinpoint a location on an Ordnance Survey map.



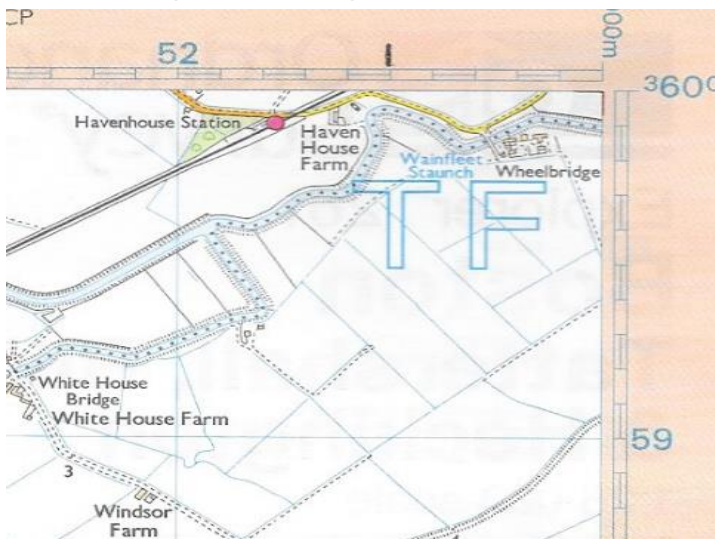
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9. A series of faint blue lines on every map divide the map into 1 km squares.

10. Each blue line is numbered, the number is shown in blue at each end of the line.

11. This allows each 1 km square to be identified, firstly by the number of its left side line and secondly by the number of its bottom line.

- a 4-figure reference for the square shown is TF5259



12. By using the markings between the blue numbers as a guide the 1km square can be further divided into 100m squares. Again, each of these squares can be identified by naming them 1 to 9 across the bottom of the square and 1 to 9 up the left side line.

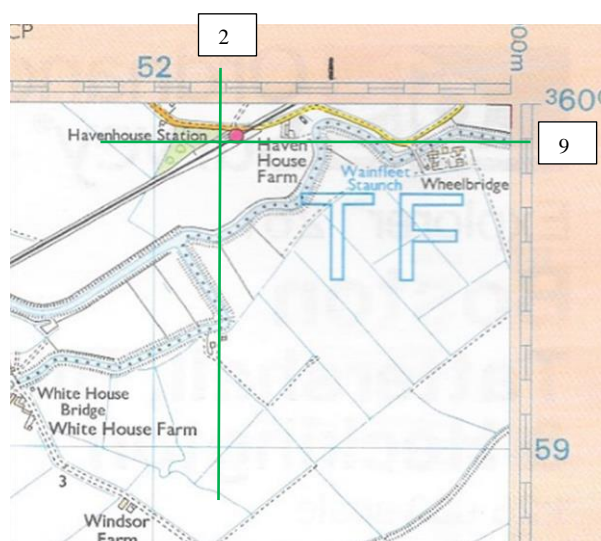
13. The green lines and black numbers have been drawn on this example to highlight the markings and numbering system.

14. A full six figure grid reference for Havenhouse Station on this example is achieved by taking the blue number of the left side line of the large square (52), then counting the marks across, in this case 2. This makes the horizontal reference 522

15. The number of the bottom line of the square (59), is augmented by counting the marks up from 59 in this case 9, making the vertical reference 599

16. The full grid reference for the railway station would be given as "TF522599". Always include the two-letter map code as the prefix.

17. The phrase '*along the passage and up the stairs*' may help to remember to take the reference across the map then up the map. This is the exact opposite of calculating the latitude and longitude on a chart.



### WHAT THREE WORDS

18. What3Words is a free global positioning App, which divides the world into millions of three metre squares and gives each square a unique three word address, for example the bottom of the steps up to NCI Swanage is '*rucksack.fabric.worth*'.



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19. This system has advantages for specifying locations where a postcode does not exist and is used by Police Forces, Ambulance services, Fire and Rescue and HMCG.
20. All NCI Stations have a What3Words position added to the position data in their home page, alongside the usual Lat and Long and OS Reference. It should also be displayed prominently in the watchroom alongside the other position data. This will give the emergency services an accurate location for our stations.