



INSIGHTS

Member News of the
SURVEYORS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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~ Annual Postcard ~

Enclosed with this edition of "Insights", you will find the 2008 annual Surveyors Historical Society postcard featuring a rarely seen miners dial. I had never heard of this type instrument until the photograph was submitted a couple years ago. Then last week I was reading the book Surveying in Queensland, Australia 1839-1945 (written by SHS member #359, William Kitson); and the term "Miners Dial" was used in captions of two illustrations. It was further defined in the glossary. The glossary said that the instrument had been useful in measuring the vertical angle of "winzes". Having no mining experience, I flipped open my Webster's Dictionary to learn that a winze is a "curse". No problem - - surveyors can measure anything! It did make a little more sense to discover that a winze is also "a steeply inclined passageway connecting a mine working place with a lower one".

On a more serious note, the Surveyors Historical Society has reduced the cost for members to acquire the fifteen postcards of surveying instruments series from \$2.00 to \$1.00 each. Please request a price list with the instruments description if you are a postcard collector.

~ Surveying in Queensland, Australia
1839-1945 ~

As mentioned in the previous paragraph, Bill Kitson's new book is a highly illustrated hardback. You may contact Bill directly (address in roster) to obtain a copy. I ended up paying almost twice the asking price of the book for a check made out in Australian dollars from my local bank, plus the postage. Bill did autograph the book for me. The book is worth the international commerce hassle.

~ 2007 Membership Roster and
Membership Update ~

Also enclosed in this mailing are listings of SHS members alphabetically, by geographic location, and by membership numbers. Please check this data and make corrections and updates when paying your 2008 dues (see enclosed statement). As mentioned in previous notification, the Surveyors Historical Society's e-mail address has changed to shs9@embarqmail.com and the society's website is www.surveyorshistoricalsociety.com. Be sure to update our addresses on your mailing lists.

~ Elections ~

No additional names have been submitted for the two positions on the SHS board-of-directors term 2008-2010. The next society mailing will contain ballots, and biographies, of the four approved candidates. Also in that mailing, scheduled for late February, will be detailed information about our June 6-7th Annual Membership Meeting and the September 11-13, 2008 Surveyors Rendezvous in Akron, Ohio featuring a canoe expedition to establish the easternmost point of the Greenville Treaty Line.

~ George Washington, Surveyor ~

The Surveyors Historical Society has made two new items promoting surveying history available to our members, and the general public, as the by-products of "Surveyors Rendezvous '07". Those items are the reprints of the 1932 George Washington Atlas, and - - full color, high quality reprints of Walter Haskell Hinton's painting "George Washington Surveyor" sized to fit a standard 11" x 14" document frame. Both items are detailed on the society's website, and they can now be ordered from headquarters.

~ Mission Statement ~

The following four versions of our society's goals and ideals have been submitted for the SHS official "Mission Statement" during the last two years. If you have a preference or suggested improvements for one of these versions, return this portion of "Insights", or a xerox copy of your preference with your 2008 annual dues payment.

Check one

"The purpose of the Surveyors Historical Society are to preserve historical surveying instruments, records, memorabilia, and relics; and to educate interested persons, and the general public, of the history of the science of surveying."

"The Mission of the Surveyors Historical Society is to promote knowledge of our profession's history, craftsmanship and science and to preserve the records and equipment of land surveying."

"The Mission of the Surveyor's Historical Society, is to Collect, Conserve, and Preserve, Information and Objects, related to the History of the Art of Surveying, and to promote this knowledge through the development and support of educational and institutional venues."

"The Surveyors Historical Society's primary role is to serve the History of Surveying. To this goal, the society will be a forum for the History of Surveying to the public as well as the Surveying Profession. The society shall serve equally and without prejudice; all states, regions, territories and surveying member organizations in matters of land surveying. The society shall strive to provide leadership in the preservation of surveyors tools, their records, historical monuments, land boundaries or other matters related to surveying.

The Surveying Historical Society shall take an active role to encourage the education and training of Surveyors both present and future. The society shall be active in its effort to recognize and preserve historical markers and land boundaries.

Submit other suggestions on separate form