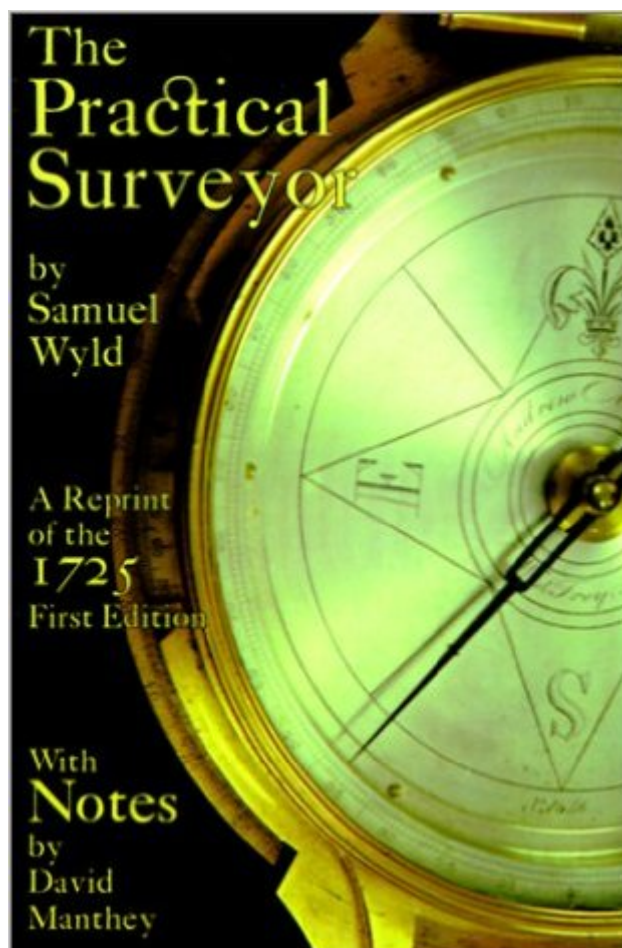


The book was found

Practical Surveyor



Synopsis

"In this small tract you'll find the whole Art of Surveying Land epitomized. The rules and methods here laid down in a plain and familiar manner, such as are fittest for a Practitioner's use, without an unnecessary mixture of useless curiosities and needless repetition. And although brevity be chiefly intended, yet nothing is here omitted, but what might be well enough be spared in a treatise that immediately relates to the Practice."

Book Information

Paperback: 244 pages

Publisher: Invisible College Press (December 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1931468060

ISBN-13: 978-1931468060

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #589,919 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Surveying & Photogrammetry](#)

Customer Reviews

In reading historical surveying works, the Practical Surveyor stands out as an useful guide and not a theoretical textbook. Although there is a slight amount of geometry in the beginning of the book, the bulk of the work relies on basic math, without even the use of sines and cosines. Likewise, although a variety of surveying instruments are detailed, there are complete instructions for surveying with a chain only (which would work equally well with a measuring tape). Modern electronic instruments have largely replaced old tools, and modern computers allow vastly more measurements to be used for improved precision and accuracy. While The Practical Surveyor won't supercede hiring a professional land surveyor, it is sufficient to teach a novice to confidently survey any plot of land. The techniques for measuring with plane table, theodolite, or circumferentor (staff compass) are as valid today as they were in 1725. Once measurements have been made, there are clear directions for drawing a map and calculating areas and other properties. An example is provided of a survey of a small farm, complete with field notes, a field book with all of the measurements, and a finished map. Additional sections detail determining the difference in altitude between two locations, finding true north using either the sun or Polaris, coloring maps using watercolors with details on the

specific pigment materials, surveying rivers and large towns, dividing land, and drawing perspective pictures with the aid of a theodolite. Mr. Wyld prefaces the work with a lively introduction. The text is identical to the 1725 first edition. It has been re-typeset for clarity using the original font, spelling, and punctuation.

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