



Institutional Affiliate of American
Congress on Surveying and
Mapping

The California Surveyor

THE VOICE OF THE LAND SURVEYORS OF CALIFORNIA

No. 27

CONVENTION – SPECIAL EDITION

1973

“Do You Know The Way to San Jose?”

The Santa Clara-San Mateo County Chapter is proud to host Convention '73 in San Jose – “A City of Many Faces.” San Jose is rich not only in the history of our great state, but also rich in our modern way of life. The City has many attractions – from the Historical Museum of life in the 1800's to the modernistic airport of this jet age.

As shown in the program, many innovations are being introduced in Convention '73. Since Monday, February 19, is a national holiday, Washington's birthday, and an extra day for travel, the technical programs start at 1 PM on Friday and end at 1:30 PM on Sunday instead of the usual as in past conventions – all day *Friday and Saturday*.

For the early arrivals, the Chapter is sponsoring a cocktail party Thursday night. Also a tour of the United States Geological Survey Pacific Coast Center in Menlo Park and the N.A.S.A. Space Center at Moffett Field in Sunnyvale has been planned for Friday morning before the opening of the technical programs in the afternoon.

Another special event, for the ladies only, will take place Friday afternoon – a tour of the commercial exhibit area. The ladies will become a little familiar with the Surveyor's “tools of his trade.”

The ladies will have their own dinner and fashion show Friday night, while the men attend a CLSA State Board Meeting with dinner. Most members don't get a chance to see our Board “alive and in action,” so this will afford them this opportunity.

The ladies have a tour on Saturday: The highlights being shopping and a no-host lunch at the well-known Old Town in Los Gatos and then a tour of the internationally famous Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum and Art Gallery.

One of Santa Clara Valley's own wineries and certainly one of the best in California, MIRASSOU, will be hosting a wine tasting experience on Saturday, early evening. After dinner a special program of entertainment will be provided in order to entice people to stay over for the convention highlight on Sunday at noon: Gordon F. Gray of the Space Division, North American Rockwell, in Downey will be presenting a program of the “Space Age.” This program will feature slides taken from outer space not only of the earth, but also of the moon and hopefully pictures taken by America's last manned-moon voyage “Apollo 17.”

If there is interest shown, then a program for children will be arranged for parts of the days. Movies, a tour of Frontier Village and some meals can be provided at a nominal cost and also professional babysitters during the night activities can be hired.

The theme of Convention '73 “The Land Surveyor – A Professional” speaks for itself. The Convention will show the Land Surveyor engaged as a Professional in a few of the many fields in which he actively works. These fields require decisions of a professional nature on a daily basis and thus the Land Surveyor is much, much more than “just a party chief.” We have come a long way since ol' George Washington's time. ▲

C.L.S.A. Convention February 16-18, 1973



Look Into The Series 9800 You'll See Big Savings In Field Data Reduction and General Office Computing.

No matter what methods and equipment you're currently using, an HP Series 9800 Programmable Calculator System will cut your manpower requirements and cost significantly. Take field data reduction, for example. With a Series 9800/Model 10, you can take the raw data from an entire day's work by one crew—and transform it to a typed record, in half an hour. That's just the beginning. Once your field data is out of the way, your secretary can take over and run your payroll, billing, and other bookkeeping.

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Get your hands on the Series 9800 profit builders. Contact one of the 57 Hewlett-Packard Sales and Service Offices in the U.S. and Canada for a demonstration. You'll also want to look into the HP 3800 Electronic Distance Meter. It can boost your field production as dramatically as the Series 9800 boosts your office production. Hewlett-Packard, North Hollywood, Fullerton, Sacramento, Palo Alto, San Diego.

Worth Looking Into

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PROGRAMMABLE CALCULATORS

BO/92/2

Chuck Wooldridge, L.S.

Seven short years! That's all it has been since the organization of the California Land Surveyors Association; the rebirth of the land surveyor. Seven short years ago I was asked to join the fledgling association and queried, "Why do we need another organization? What can it do that one of the existing groups can't do?" The reply is just as valid today as it was seven years ago. "Not can, but will! What will CLSA do that the others aren't doing?"

Seven short years ago a small group of "radicals" met. Like all radical groups, their extremist views created a revolutionary goal, "Get the incompetent civil engineer out of surveying." It is well that this extremist aim guided our early days. Without the dedication engendered by such a position, we could never have made so much progress in so short a time.

Seven years ago this radical dedication was needed. No new movement can succeed without such extremism at the start. In seven years even the goal has changed a little. Now we strive to get the incompetents out of surveying, recognizing they exist among land surveyors as well as civil engineers. We demand full qualification to obtain the right to practice land surveying through education, experience and examination.

Seven years ago CLSA didn't have four hundred members, comprising sixteen chapters, to help reach the goals. Seven years ago the surveyor was a dying minority, relegated to second-class citizenship for his remaining days. Seven years ago we had no real interest in our Board of Registration, the laws governing our profession, nor the decline in available education.

Seven years ago the land surveyor was not exempt from the engineer-in-training examination, as he is now. Seven years ago the civil engineers registration examination did not contain surveying questions, much less the compulsory question it does now.

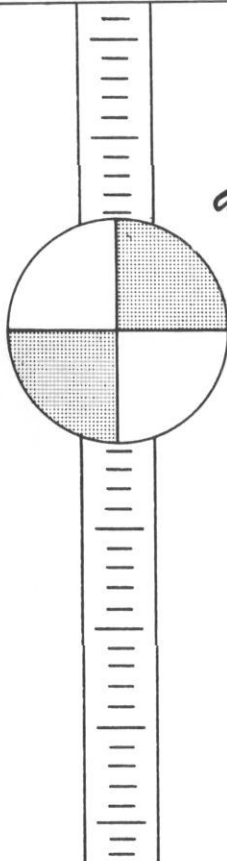
Seven years ago an individual registered as a civil engineer paid no additional license renewal fee if he was also licensed as a land surveyor; indicative of the high regard for this additional certificate. Seven years ago surveyors weren't consulted by legislators nor others regarding pending legislation, as we have been frequently in the past couple years. Seven years ago very few civil service organizations recognized the land surveyors license with increased pay or responsibility, and even this situation is slowly starting to change.

Seven years ago plans weren't under way for ACSM and CLSA to co-sponsor educational workshops. Most important of all, seven years ago, none of the five colleges presently offering baccalaureate degrees in surveying had such programs.

Seven years have brought much change and improvement in the surveying profession and we should pause to thank those dedicated extremists for starting it all. But this progress is all past history; a heritage we can be proud of and take incentive from. It proves that beneficial change can be accomplished.

I would like to thank the membership for the opportunity given me to serve the profession through the association this past year, and for allowing me to be a part of this progress. I would like to give special thanks to the many dedicated workers serving on committees, as chairmen, as Chapter officers, or as members of the Board of Directors. Without

Continued on page 13




*Greetings
and Best Wishes
for a
Successful
Convention
1973*

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FEBRUARY 16-18, 1973

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY
1 PM Friday to 1:30 PM Sunday

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Santa Clara—San Mateo Chapter**

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Registration Fee \$12.00 _____
 Registration Fee 1.00 (Student) _____
 (If mailed before February 1st Registration Fee – \$10.00 and applicant is eligible for special door prizes, which include several free rooms). _____

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16th

U.S.G.S. and N.A.S.A. Field Trip _____ at \$1.00 _____
 Ladies' Dinner (Prime Rib of Beef) at \$7.75 _____
 Men's Dinner (Prime Rib of Beef) at \$7.75 _____

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17th

Ladies' Bus Tour at \$1.00 _____
 Men's Lunch (Crab Louie) at \$4.75 _____
 Trip to Winery _____ at \$1.00 _____
 Dinner (Cornish Game Hen) _____ at \$8.00 _____

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18th

Brunch (Club Breakfast) _____ at \$3.50 _____

Total Enclosed _____

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CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION,
 February 15 to 18, 1973

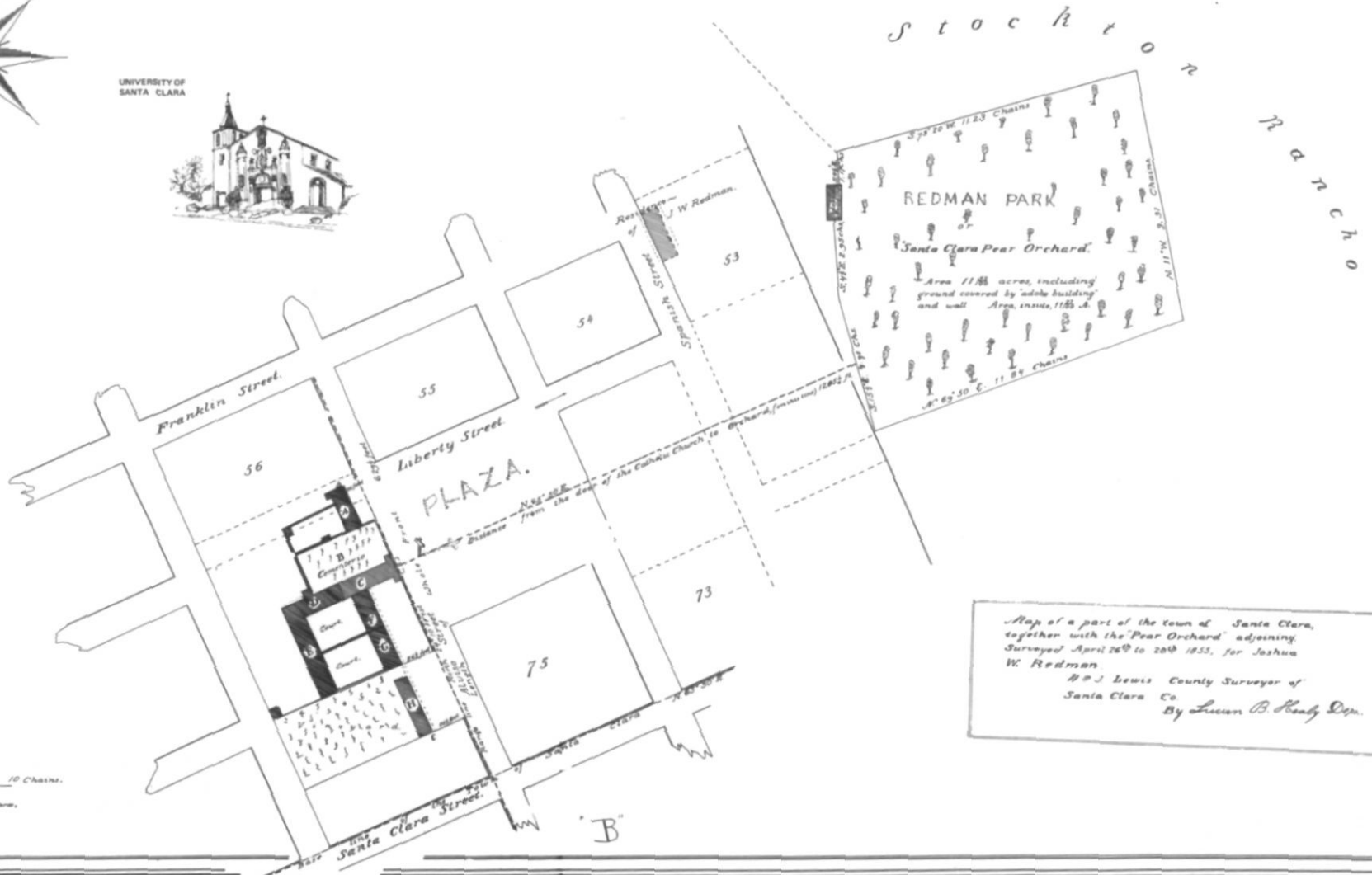
GROUP _____

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UNIVERSITY OF
SANTA CLARA



Explanation of Plot.

A D E F G... Adobe buildings used for the purpose of the Catholic College.

B... Grave yard

C... House formerly occupied by James A Forbes Esq.

H... Old Calabozos

I... Church door.

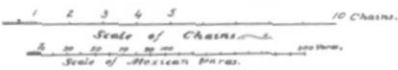
C... Catholic Church

A... Formerly a public house styled "California Hotel"

Distance from Church door to North end of California Hotel (measuring along wall) 258 feet

Distance from church door to South end of building marked G 220 feet.

Distance from B to C (measuring along street) 625 feet



Map of a part of the town of Santa Clara, together with the "Pear Orchard" adjoining. Surveyed April 26th to 28th 1853, for Joshua W. Redman.
H. J. Lewis County Surveyor of Santa Clara Co.
By Lucian B. Hoady Dep.

OLD SAN JOSE

The year is 1900. An Englishman writing for the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* observes the city of 21,500.

"It lies," he writes, "in the heart of the beautiful Santa Clara Valley.

"It is a popular health resort, with the best climate in the state. San Franciscans come here to escape the cold ocean fogs. The valley has great flower seed and vegetable farms, and it is the most fertile fruit-growing region in California, with peaches, plums, grapes, and apricots in abundance."

He finds the history of the place significant. "San Jose de Guadalupe was founded in November 1777, the first Spanish pueblo in California." (Distinct from missions and presidios, the pueblo was colonized as a city, not a fort or site of a religious order.) It was California's first state capital.

Two missions are nearby, San Jose and Santa Clara: the colorful pueblo lay athwart the Mission Trail, today one of the great visitor attractions of the West. Already there were colleges steeped in tradition, and it was, in the 19th century, the most prominent of the northern settlements in which the Hispano-California elements predominated. In the middle of the century the whitewashed bullring was the scene of frequent colorful *corridos*. In those early days the area was cattle country, with thousands of horses, and a silver-chased saddle was worth thousands of acres of land.

When Louis Pellier arrived in 1850 and experienced the mild sunny winters and equable summer temperatures, he saw that it was ideal for grapes and plums. His brother Pierre made

two trips to bring back from France the cuttings of vines and of the *petite prune d'Agen*. The two men changed the entire aspect and the economy of the valley. Owners and operators of the O. C. McDonald Company are the modern-day relatives to the Pelliers. Etienne Thee and Charles LeFranc founded the Almaden winery. (Pellier descendants operate the Mirassou winery.) The great wines of California date from this period — but the missions had been making altar wine from the very first. The state celebrated the 200th anniversary of winemaking in 1969.

Land, which as pasture had been practically valueless, now became precious. Soon the valley floor was a carpet of white blossoms in the spring, and in summer the earth could not be seen for the vines and the fruit.

For almost one hundred years the valley continued this leisurely way, until World War II brought to California a population boom almost unprecedented in history.

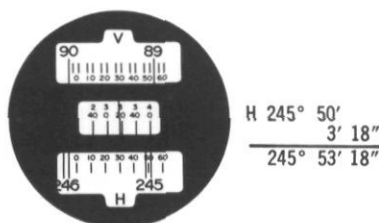
Of all the cities in the state, San Jose was the most powerfully affected. ▲



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CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASS

FEBRUARY 16-18, 1973

THE LAND SURVEY

THURSDAY, February 15th

6:30 A.M. Chapter-sponsored cocktail party for early arrivals.

FRIDAY, February 16th

8:00 A.M. Registration begins.

8:15 A.M. Bus loads for tour of USGS – Menlo Park and NASA – Moffett Field.

10:00 A.M. Commerical exhibit area opens – complimentary coffee.

12:00 NOON Bus tour returns.

1:00 P.M. Convention opening ceremonies:

1:00 P.M. – Convention Chairman, Larry Cloney, L.S.

1:10 P.M. – Welcome by Mayor, Norman Y. Mineta

1:20 P.M. – San Jose Director of Public Works, A.R. Turturici, R.C.E.

1:40 P.M. – Chapter President, Paul W. Lamoreaux, L.S.

1:50 P.M. – CLSA President, Eugene Lockton, L.S.

2:15 P.M. Coffee break in exhibit area.

2:45 P.M. Technical conference:

Moderator – Earl R. Cross, L.S. (Land Surveyor in charge of boundary and control surveys at George S. Nolte and Associates, San Jose).

2:50 P.M. – “Corner Search and Rescue, California Style,” L. Bruce Sumner, U.S. Land Surveyor (Regional Cadastral Surveyor, California Region, U.S. Forest Service, San Francisco; registered L.S. in West Virginia; co-designer of the Sipe-Sumner Surveyor’s vernier compass).

4:10 P.M. – “The Surveyor is a Planner,” Ray J. Peters, L.S. (Private practice in Lafayette; immediate past L.S. member – State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers; Associate member – American Institute of Planners; teaches “Land Surveying” – U.C. Extension, Berkeley).

5:30 P.M. Exhibitor-sponsored cocktail hour in exhibit area. No host after second round.

7:00 P.M. Dinner in conjunction with LCSA State Board Meeting (Roast Prime Rib of Beef).

10:00 P.M. Men and ladies meet for social.

SATURDAY, February 17th

8:45 A.M. Technical conference: “Water Boundaries” a panel discussion.

Moderator – James S. Kor, L.S. (Vice-President, Towill, Inc., San Francisco; Manager of Survey Department).

Submerged Lands – Alvin C. Pond, L.S. (Supervisor of Field Engineering, P.G.&E., San Francisco; responsible for all surveying in P.G.&E. system in northern California – 48 counties).

Swamp and Overflow Lands – Raymond B. Thinggaard, L.S. (Property Engineer in charge of boundary control at Leslie Salt Co., Newark, California).

Submerged Lands and Swamp and Overflow Lands – F.D. (Bud) Uzes, L.S. (Boundary Determination Officer, State Lands Division, Sacramento; supervises boundary determination, surveying and mapping of all California Lands under the State Lands Division).

10:00 A.M. Coffee break in exhibit area.

ASSOCIATION SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

HYATT HOUSE, SAN JOSE

— A PROFESSIONAL

- 10:30 A.M. Technical conference: "Hydrographic Surveys," a panel discussion.
Moderator — James S. Kor, L.S.
Range — azimuth system — William S. Robinson, R.C.E. (Senior Vice-President, Towill, Inc., San Francisco).
(Other panel members to be announced.)
- 11:45 A.M. Pre-lunch break in exhibit area.
- 12:15 P.M. Lunch (Crab Louie)
(Program to be announced.)
- 2:00 P.M. Technical conference: "Earthquake Legislation," a panel discussion on Assembly Bill #2329 (authored by Assemblyman Michael Cullen of Long Beach).
Moderator — Paul W. Lamoreaux, L.S. (Real Estate Engineer at BART involved in surveying and mapping of BART's R/W).
Advisor from the State Attorney General's office for A.B. #2329 — N. Gregory Taylor, Esq. (Deputy Attorney General, Los Angeles).
A Surveyor's point of view of A.B. #2329 — Joseph P. Carey, L.S. (CLSA Chairman for Committee on Seismic-Boundaries).
- 3:15 P.M. Coffee break in exhibit area.
- 3:45 P.M. Technical Conference: "Current position of the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers in regard to Land Surveying issues," a panel discussion by the Land Surveyors' Committee of the State Board.
Moderator — Paul W. Lamoreaux, L.S.
John P. Petri, L.S. (Land Surveyor Member of the State Board; Committee Chairman of the Land Surveyors' Committee; County Surveyor of Tuolumne County).
John R. Winzler, R.C.E. (past President of the State Board; one of three C.E. members of the Board; Chairman of the Civil Engineers' Committee; private practice in Eureka).
Charles R. McGrath, Esq. (Public Member of the Board; private law practice in Oxnard, California).
- 5:00 P.M. Pre-Wine tasting break.
- 5:45 P.M. Bus loads for wine tasting at MIRASSOU WINERY in East San Jose.
- 8:30 P.M. Dinner back at the Hyatt House (Cornish Game Hen).
- 10:00 P.M. Entertainment: San Jose's own Official Musical Ambassadors — "The Entertainers," a lively and talented ensemble of young performers presenting a much acclaimed half hour musical show; and Mr. Wes Stallings, a ventriloquist who has delighted many audiences with his comedy. The "dummy" will amaze the Conventioneers with his mysterious knowledge of their secret thoughts.

SUNDAY, February 18th

- 11:00 A.M. BRUNCH
- 12:00 P.M. Closing Program:
Moderator — Larry Cloney, L.S. (Land Surveyor in charge of the Surveying Section at the City of San Jose).
12:05 P.M. — Special Awards.
12:15 P.M. — "Look Out! — Look Way Out!", Gordon G. Gray, chief, Audio Visual Media, Space Division, North American Rockwell, Downey, California (see following page for a more complete description).
- 1:30 P.M. CLOSE OF CONVENTION

LADIES ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY, February 15th

6:30 PM Chapter-sponsored cocktail party for early arrivals (ladies and men).

FRIDAY, February 16th

8:00 AM Registration begins.

8:15 AM Tour of USGS – Menlo Park and NASA – Moffett Field (ladies and men).

1:00 PM Convention opening ceremonies (ladies and men).

2:00 PM Hospitality Room opens.

3:30 PM Tour of commercial exhibit area.

5:30 PM Hospitality Room closes.

Exhibitor-sponsored cocktail hour in exhibit area.

No host after second round (ladies and men).

7:00 PM Dinner (Roast Prime Rib of Beef) and Fashion Show (J. Silber of San Jose).

10:00 PM Social (ladies and men).

SATURDAY, February 17th

9:30 AM Bus loads for tour.

First stop at Old Town in Los Gatos for shopping and then lunch
(no host – choice of several restaurants).

12:45 PM Bus leaves Old Town for visit to the Rosicrucian
Egyptian Museum and Art Gallery.

2:45 PM Bus leaves for return to Hyatt House.

3:00 PM Hospitality Room opens.

5:30 PM Hospitality Room closes.

5:45 PM Bus loads for wine tasting (ladies and men).

(for rest of Saturday and on Sunday, same program as men)

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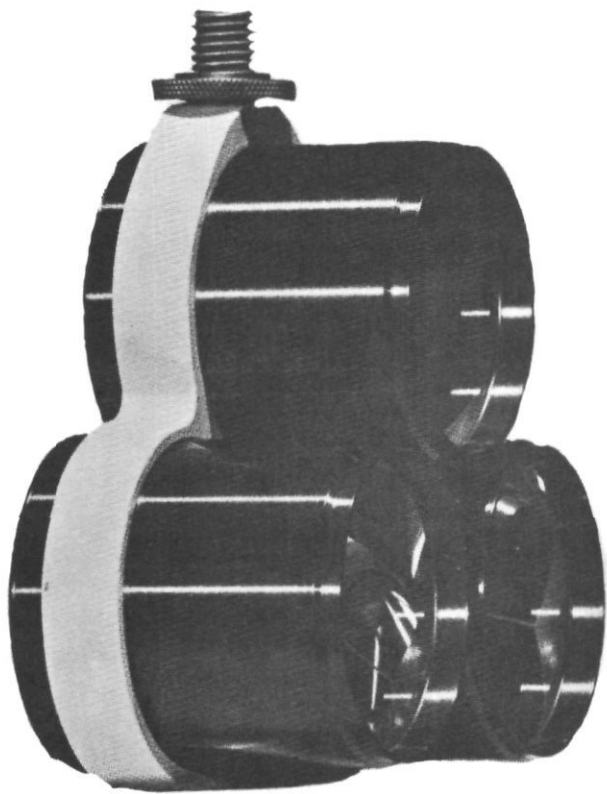
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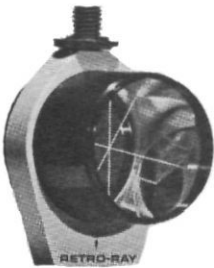
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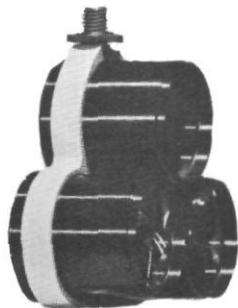
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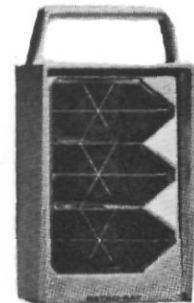
No. 101



No. 111



No. 122



No. 134

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NO. 202 — FOR TRIPLE (either round or lateral)	\$19.50

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AUTOTAPE THERMOELECTRIC GENERATOR — Propane powered, 12 volts, 60 watts	12.00	10.00	8.00	6.00
MOTOROLA RANGE POSITIONING SYSTEM (RPS) — Basic system including two coded transponders	240.00	200.00	160.00	120.00
MOTOROLA MINI-RANGER — Basic system including two coded transponders	150.00	125.00	100.00	75.00
ADDITIONAL RPS OR MINI-RANGER CODED TRANSPONDERS — 2 units	60.00	50.00	40.00	30.00
RPS OR MINI-RANGER PRINTER — Automatically prints out ranges at three second intervals or upon command	12.00	10.00	8.00	6.00
RPS OR MINI-RANGER THERMOELECTRIC GENERATORS — Propane powered, 24 volt, 20 watts ..	6.00	5.00	4.00	3.00
RAYTHEON DE-719 RECORDING FATHOMETER — Portable, 12 VDC or 115 VAC, 410' depth range	18.00	15.00	12.00	9.00
RAYTHEON DE-119D RECORDING FATHOMETER — Portable, 12 VDC, 240' depth range	12.00	10.00	8.00	6.00
CUBIC DM-20 ELECTROTAPES — Two units including tripods, psychrometers and altimeters	36.00	30.00	24.00	18.00
ELECTROTAPE TILTING HEADS — Two units	1.50	1.25	1.00	0.75
HEWLETT-PACKARD 3800A DISTANCE METER — Including power supply, two altimeters, two thermometers, two Kern tripods, one single prism assembly	21.00	17.50	14.00	10.50
SINGLE PRISM ASSEMBLY FOR HP 3800 — Including Kern tripod with adaptor	1.80	1.50	1.20	0.90
TRIPLE PRISM ASSEMBLY FOR HP 3800 — Including Kern tripod with adaptor	3.00	2.50	2.00	1.50
SPECTRA-PHYSICS LT-3 LASER TRANSIT-LITE — Including fan beam attachment 12 VDC-115 VAC power supply and tripod	15.00	12.50	10.00	7.50
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their support and effort, this association could not be effective. My heartfelt thanks go to the many friends I have found this past year in the surveying profession throughout the state.

Seven years of history are great, but re-dedication is in order now to raise the standards of surveying practice today. We will have incompetence in the profession, which must be removed, regardless of the registration status of those responsible. Examination quality can still be improved and entrance prerequisites must be raised. The land surveyors "license" deserves the recognition that it must receive. The law change this past year to permit professionals to participate in investigations, in lieu of merely investigators, is a great step forward. Senator Deukemejian's suggestion of compulsory continuing professional development in surveying to permit a civil engineer to retain his exemption offers much potential for us to pursue.

One baccalaureate program can never supply Californias need for professional surveyors. Nor can it furnish the trained technicians to support the professionals. Survey education reached such an all time low that we could devote our entire effort to improvement and still take many years to catch up. Lack of adequate knowledge is evident at every turn.

Our annual convention offers those of us already in the profession one of the best opportunities to learn what is new. No school shows the latest equipment, even if we were still there, nor can it discuss next years court decision effecting boundary law. Only conferences such as ours permit possible "keeping up with the profession", which is one of the attributes of a profession and the subject of our state Senate's concern. The fellowship with surveyors from all corners of the state can't be beat. I, for one, will look forward to meeting friends, old and new, including meeting you, in San Jose.

FINAL PROGRAM — SUNDAY

"LOOK OUT! — LOOK WAY OUT!" a non-commercial, non-technical presentation by Gordon F. Gray, Space Division, North American Rockwell, Downey, California.

Life on Earth is changing and will continue to change because we are now in the Space Age, whether we know it or not, whether we want it or not. Will it all be worthwhile, is it already worthwhile? What will the Space Shuttle offer humanity?

That is the gist of a layman-oriented speech and slide presentation, "Look Out! — Look Way Out!," presented by Gordon F. Gray, special assistant for Space Programs, at North American Rockwell's Space Division, Downey, California.

Using photographs from space as well as photographic examples of spinoff benefits now in use on Earth, Gray proves conclusively that for the "two cents out of the average tax dollar" which the entire space program has cost, the benefits are far greater than in most any other area of the Federal budget. Those benefits and more to come will have tremendous impact on life in the future. His presentation encompasses Apollo, Skylab, Apollo-Soyuz and the Space Shuttle Programs.

C.L.S.A. POLICY

The California Land Surveyors' Association holds the following view with respect to the place of land surveying in the engineering profession with all that is implied thereby as to ethical conduct, professional development, education promotion and other duties of a practitioner to his profession.

1. The Land Surveyors Act enacted in 1891 by the State of California established the first registration of the surveyor, so-called "civil" engineers, then in 1929 for the protection and welfare of the public the Civil Engineers Act was enacted, recognizing that special qualifications and education are needed to practice Civil Engineering.
2. The Land Surveyors Act was amended in 1939 to allow Civil Engineers to practice land surveying without a qualifying examination as their education requirements included comprehensive course in land surveying, thus allowing those who practice land surveying to have a minimum quality of expertise in that branch of engineering.
3. During the past three decades the education program for professional engineers have become increasingly science-oriented, eliminating required and optional courses in land surveying, thus creating a new generation of Civil Engineers who can offer to the public the service of land surveying without any expertise in that branch of engineering.
4. For the welfare and protection of the public, future professional engineers who wish to offer the public the service of land surveying be required to show qualifications and be examined in the same manner as a Land Surveyor.

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Designing his presentation so that "I can understand it, on the assumption that if I can understand it, anybody can understand it," Gray's non-technical fast-paced blend of humor, fact and prophecy, has been presented before audiences throughout the country.

In addition to his personal appearances before major opinion-leader audiences, his message also has been brought to the attention of hundreds of thousands of Americans via television and radio, on talk shows and telephone call-in programs.

"Look Out!" is a non-commercial presentation implemented by North American Rockwell because surveys have shown that the American public is not apathetic toward space, they just haven't been told the facts in a manner they can understand.

Gray's approach is understandable.

More Surveyors Use The HP 3800 Distance Meter Than All The Others In Its Class Put Together

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Direct Read-Out In Feet Or Meters. Depending on your need, you have your choice of two 3800 Distance Meters. The 3800A gives you direct read-out in feet, up to 10,000 feet; the 3800B, direct read-out in meters, to 3,000+ meters. Both Models feature environmental correction capability for added precision. And, an easy-to-use control panel that reduces training, speeds measurement.

Technology: An Assurance Of Performance. For those of you who don't know us, allow us to introduce ourselves. We're one of the world's leading designers and manufacturers of precision electronic measurement equipment and computing

equipment. To that end, we build over 2,000 products for scientists, engineers, doctors, and businessmen. Typical examples, in addition to the 3800, include: a clock accurate to one second in 30,000 years, used to time Apollo Moon Landings; an electronic "stethoscope" that can listen to the heart of an unborn baby as early as 12 weeks after conception; a thermometer with a resolution of 1/10,000 Centigrade degree; hand-held calculators; and our Series 9800 desk-top computers.

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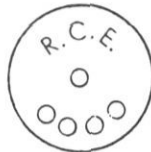
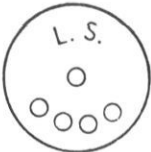
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- MEMBER GRADE: Have a valid California Land Surveyor's or Photogrammetric Surveyor's Licensed
- AFFILIATE MEMBER GRADE: R.C.E. or those who rely upon the principles of land surveying.
- ASSOCIATE MEMBER GRADE: Work in land surveying and be recommended by a member.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Eugene Lockton, L.S.

The conundrum, as a vehicle for humor, has long since passed its heyday. Yet the answer to "When is a complaint not a complaint?" is often little less than humorous when the complainant doesn't know what he is complaining of. The contrapuntal pathos that so well established Charlie Chaplin in the field of comedy, is supplied when the complaint is evaluated by someone whose vocation lies outside the service complained against. In the profession, Doctors and Lawyers in particular have learned how best to handle such problems. Their system of self-policing is predicated upon two propositions. The first is that only the most competent in their respective fields are capable of judging adequacy of performance in that field. The second states that only within their own numbers are the most competent to be found.

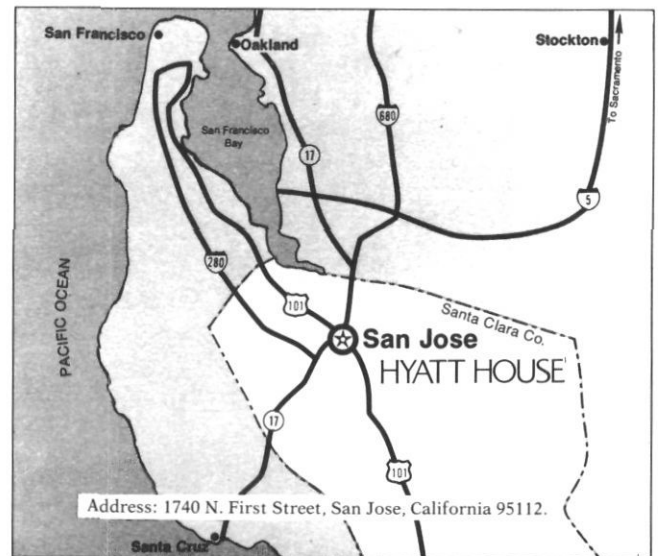
The Surveyor, on the other hand, complacently sits by and permits outsiders to pass on the merits of complaints against his work. If he escapes the guillotine, well and good, he survives, and those who don't deserve their punishment!

If all were black and white this philosophy might hold up, but there are gray areas. A complaint arising from the mis-interpretation of matters that are well understood by the professional may be followed up by others less alert to the circumstances. Once begun, the victim will be damaged even though he may subsequently be cleared. The trial attorneys have a phrase for it - "You can't un-ring the bell."

Take as an example the client who has just had his property surveyed and reports the surveyor to "Sacramento," asserting negligence in marking the corners. Negligence is properly a cause of action against those charged with great diligence, as are all licensees within the field of their privilege. Specifically he states, "I found the stakes marked corner with the little ribbons tied to them, but they weren't even driven straight into the ground, - I had to pull them all out and replace them with some pieces of water-pipe." Tally one against poor old Joe Blow whose carefully placed hubs will outlast the next two generations.

There are many conflicting provisions within the law relating to land division. Those who rely upon the Land Surveyors Act will find the surveyor in error who files a Record of Survey with a fourth certificate on it relating to the Planning Commission's approval of the lot-split it shows. Those who practice surveying may fault the City Engineer for making such a demand. Those in legal practice will tell you, "No problem, - spend two or three hundred dollars and get a Writ of Mandate for a Parcel Map Filing," failing to add that it may be your last job in that town. Although this is a recurring situation, no complaints will be filed and the malady lingers on.

In the first case a bad and useless complaint is filed through ignorance. In the second, a complaint is in order but those who might file one, find themselves to be in a vulnerable position. Relief lies in the surveying profession's assumption of dual responsibilities. The first is to develop a broader understanding of the capacity in which the surveyor serves the public, leading to the elimination of the needless complaint. The second is to place the responsibility for punitive action, as with the Grand Jury, in the hands of a qualified group. Such is the obligation the surveyor must accept. ▲



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