

This reproduction of the 1657 edition has been printed for the International Institution for the History of Surveying & Measurement as a means to acquire funds to progress its activities. In particular it is at present involved in the preservation of selected surviving survey points of the Struve geodetic arc, observed during the first half of the 19th century, as an UNESCO International Heritage site. The site of this spans 10 countries and stretches for some 2880 kms from North Cape to the Black Sea. It is hoped to be able to conclude the case to UNESCO during the coming year.

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A few copies still remain of *Geodaesia* by John Love, 1688 - the first book on Surveying in the USA - at \$50.

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To obtain either, or both, volumes:-

Please supply copies of *The Compleat Surveyor* 2nd Edn. by W Leybourn at a cost of \$50 per copy plus post & packing.

Please supply copies of *Geodaesia* by John Love at a cost of \$50 per copy plus post & packing.

Name and address.....

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Payment can be by cheque or check, payable to Walter Robillard-Book Account or American Express, Visa or Master Card credit card or FAX order to 404-248-1464 or e-mail to robw@mindspring.com

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THE COMPLEAT SURVEYOR

William Leybourn

1657

The International Institution for the History of Surveying & Measurement (a permanent body within FIG) is proud to announce its 2nd publication of a reproduction of an important surveying text of the 17th century.

The Compleat Surveyor was first published in 1653 printed by E & W Leybourn for E Brewster and G Sawbridge and was a folio edition (Wing L 1907).

The second edition of 1657 is a more attractive volume and is 28.0 x 18.0 cm. Further editions appeared in 1674, 1679 and 1722.

William Leybourn (1626-1719) (alias Oliver Wallingby) started as a printer before working as a land and quantity surveyor. He was one of the surveyors of London after the great fire of 1666 where he associated with Robert Hooke. He was very influential in his profession and was often employed on the survey of the estates of gentlemen.

In 1649 with Vincent Wing he wrote the first book in English on astronomy - *Urania Practica*.

Leybourn's book remained one of the standard treatises throughout the second half of the 17th century and the early years of the 18th, combining the necessary mathematics with a practical description of surveying instruments and their use. The book had an extraordinary popularity during that period and is rather well illustrated.

This reproduction is authentic in that all pages were scanned by the latest technology, with side notes retained.

A high quality paper commensurate with the original, except in thickness was used in its reproduction. The cover is a simulated leather binding, similar to the original.

The full title of the 1657 edition is :-

“The COMPLEAT SURVEYOR: containing The Whole Art of Surveying of Land, by the Plain Table, Theodolite, Circumferentor, Peractor and other instruments: After a more easie, exact and compendious manner, then hath been hitherto published by any: the *Plain Table* being so contrived, that it alone will conveniently perform whatsoever may be done by any of the fore-mentioned *Instruments*, or any other yet invented, with the same ease and exactness; and in many cases much better.

Together with the taking of all manner of Heights and Distances, either accessible or in-accessible, the Plotting and Protracting of all manner of Grounds, either small Inclosures, Champion Plains, Woodlands, or any other Mountainous and un-even grounds. Also, how to take the Plot of a whole Manor, to cast up the content, and to make a perfect Chart or Map thereof. All which particulars are performed three several ways, and by three several *Instruments*.

Hereunto is added a new way of Surveying of Land, by which a man may be satisfied whether his Plot will close before he begins to protract the same, with the manner how to order such Water Colours as are necessary for the beautifying of *Maps* and *Plots*; Also how to know whether *Water* may be conveyed from a Spring-head to any appointed place or not, and how to effect the same: With whatsoever else is necessary to the *Art of Surveying*.”

In addition to *The Compleat Surveyor* he published a large series of books on land surveying or dialing including:-

Planimetria or the Whole Art of Surveying. 1650

Arithmetic, vulgar decimal, instrumental and algebraical 1657, 1678

The Art of Numbering 1667

The Line of Proportions 1667, 1678 and 1684

The Art of Dialing, performed geometrically 1669, 1681 and 1700

Introduction to Astronomy and Geography 1669

Nine Geometrical Exercises. 1669

Panorganon. 1672

The Use of the Semi-Circle in the Surveying of Land. 1673

Astroscopion, two large celestial hemispheres. 1673

A Treatise of Navigation. 1674

An appendice containing the Use of all the Instruments. 1678

Dialing plain concave and convex 1682 and 1700

In this book is added Francis Hall's *Description of the Sundials of White Hall's Gardens*

Cursus Mathematicus. The Mathematicall sciences in 9 books 1690

Pleasure with profit. 1694

Mathematical Institutions. 1704.