“Origin of the “Professions”

- Origins of the professions in religious orders;
- Generally recognised that divinity, law and medicine are the original professions;
- Vocations claiming professional status increased in the 19th century;
- There are now many occupations that claim or seek professional status.
Literature

• Literature on the professions abounds;
• There is a seminal work by Carr-Saunders and Wilson (1933);
• More recent writings are mostly about particular occupations, examining whether they meet the criteria for a profession;
• Many lists of criteria have been promoted.

Criteria

• Integrity and trustworthiness;
• Education in specialised and complex matters;
• Standards of entry;
• A self-regulating professional body;
• Disciplinary protocols for the examination of complaints against breaches of standards;
• A code of ethics;
• Altruistic service to clients.
Why do we need to know?

• In answering the greater question “do we need to redefine the profession?” we first need to establish its professional status;
• We need to know the elements to retain to ensure professional status is maintained;
• Then we need to re-define the “body of knowledge” that is required to be a professional surveyor.