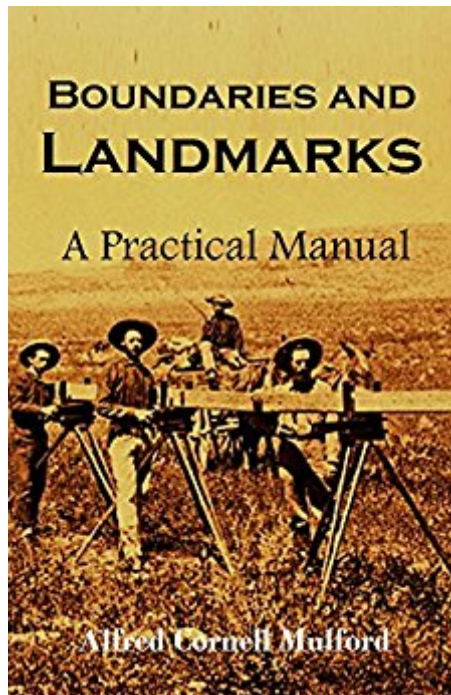




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Boundaries And Landmarks: A Practical Manual (1912)



Synopsis

Alfred Cornell Mulford (1891 - 1957) was the author of the 1912 publication "Boundaries and Landmarks: A Practical Manual". "Boundaries and Landmarks" explains and endeavors to familiarize the surveyor with the types of old boundaries and landmarks commonly found in Eastern United States. This work shows how to meet the conditions that might arise in country surveying, such as the relocation of old boundaries, the significance attached to natural landmarks, their position, and what relation they bear to the land surveyed. The meaning meant to be conveyed by certain kinds of old landmarks is carefully explained and the question of old deeds and how they are to be construed is taken up. Methods of actual measurement and surveying instruments are not discussed in this book, which devotes itself entirely to the question of locating boundaries. Mulford writes: "This manual is intended to familiarize the surveyor with the different types of old boundaries that exist throughout the country. A great deal has been written on this general subject, especially in reference to the public lands of the West. Very little, however, is being done on the conveyances of the Eastern States, and it is my hope to furnish something which may prove useful to those who are likely to meet with cases of this sort. No attempt is made to describe how the lines should be measured; the intent is rather to furnish suggestions as to the method of locating the line to be measured — in short, finding it. It is far more important to have faulty measurements on the place where the line truly exists, than an accurate measurement where the line does not exist at all." The account of the different kinds of landmarks the surveyor may have to look for in tracing old boundaries, of the descriptions in deeds and of the errors that may be expected contains much that is entertaining, while the author writes plain English that every one can understand. Mulford writes: "The vocation of the civil engineer has always been invested with a dignity of its own. But it seems to me that of late years, in paying him the honor which is his just due, we are apt to fix a little too wide a gap between him and his humbler brother, the surveyor. We give engineering the chief attention in our technical schools, but surveying we are wont to relegate to the freshman class. Yet the profession of the surveyor deals with one of the oldest and most fundamental facts of human society — the possession and inheritance of land. Fire, flood and earthquake wipe out the greatest works of the engineer, but the land continueth forever." Curiously enough the surveyor is isolated in his calling, and therein lies his responsibility and his temptations. The lawyer comes nearest to understanding the work, yet of the actual details of a survey most lawyers are woefully ignorant. The business man who can judge to a hair the fulfillment of a contract has no eye for the shortened line or the shifted landmark.

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Customer Reviews

I've been surveying for roughly 18 years and I truly enjoyed this down to earth book. His descriptions of types of tree blazes was something I hadn't thought of, I walked away with a deeper respect for boundary locating.

although this text is over 100 years old, the simple, basic, yet vastly important knowledge contained herein is vital to understanding the how and why of following in the footsteps of the earlier surveyor. I believe all modern surveyors should read this book.

A very well-written book. Many of the thoughts for the surveyors of 1912 still hold true today,

although some of the rights of the public in regards to roads and highways no longer exist.

This is a great book that gives insight into some of the boundary conditions that a surveyor is likely to encounter in the rural areas of the Eastern states. It is a nice addition to any surveyor's library.

I am currently reading the book but its cover is beautiful. I bought this book because it was recommended in one of the seminars I attended in Oklahoma.

Its a deifferent kind of surveying book.....it is very old in copyright, and humorous at the same point

This is a quality reprint, and a nice addition to my library. I ordered 3 copies, and gave 2 as gifts to fellow surveyors.

good ancient book on boundaries for surveyors and land owners.

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