



The Association of Surveyors of Papua New Guinea Inc.

50th ANNUAL SURVEY CONGRESS, PORT MORESBY, PNG.

INVITATION FOR EXHIBITORS

The Association of Surveyors of Papua New Guinea (ASPNG) wishes to invite its members, allied professionals and interested companies (local and international) to be an exhibitor at the 50th Annual Survey Congress to be held at the Gateway Hotel in Port Moresby commencing on Wednesday the 27th to the 29th of July 2016.

The theme is “50 YEARS of SURVEY CONGRESS in PNG”

The theme reflects 50 years of the congress, an annual event where members of ASPNG get together, present technical papers and discuss issues regarding surveying, mapping, education and training, technology (equipment / software), surveyor's registration, Government regulations, policies, and to socialise.

Although the Association was formed on the 4th of May 1960, the history of Surveying and Mapping in Papua New Guinea dates back to 1886. (*Book by James Sinclair, Title Mastamak, The Land surveyors of Papua New Guinea*)

The first Survey plan of Port Moresby was by Walter R. Cuthbertson in 1886. (*Lands Department Port Moresby*). The other survey was Island of Samarai in 1891 (*Lands Department Port Moresby*) and town planning for Finschhafen. This saw the birth of Lands and Survey Department of the British New Guinea on the 28th of October 1899

By 1900 onwards land was alienated as free hold land. Government stations started to take shape with towns like Namatanai in 1904, Kieta in 1905, Rabaul 1906, Bogia, Wewak and Morobe station in 1909. It was estimated that more than 200,000 hectares of land was acquired.

1911 saw the search for Oil in the Gulf of Papua, Surveyors were required as part of the expedition team, eg. the Kikori expedition. *The New Guinea Act* came into force in May 1921. During this time the Mandated Territory of New Guinea was already under Australian Administration and Papua. The Mandated Territory was divided into districts under the control of District Officers. The districts were Aitape, Madang, Morobe, Rabaul, Gasmata, Talasea, Namatanai, Manus and Kieta. These districts were reduced to seven, Sepik, Madang, Morobe, New Britain, New Ireland, Manus and Kieta in 1932.

With the discovery of gold in Morobe district, this lead to the founding and development of Lae, Salamaua, Bulolo and Wau. Surveyors played a role from 1922 to 1942.

The central highlands begin to open up with surveying and mapping of upper Markham valley and onwards to Bena Bena with a police post and construction of an airstrip in Kainantu. This continued to Mt. Hagen in 1933.

Surveyors played a major role in the lead up and during the Pacific War. Accurate topographic maps were needed by the military force. This lead to the formation of the Survey Section under the military control. At that time two map sheet of Papua was published by the Australian Department of Interior in 1932 at a scale of 20 miles to an inch.



A single map sheet for both territories was edited and published in 1934 at a scale of 42 miles to an inch.

After the war, preliminary arrangements were to change from the military control to civilian administration. Departments were formed including, The Department of Lands, Surveys and Mine. As most records were destroyed in the other centers, there was a push to recruit surveyors to fill the new Department headed by a Surveyor as the Secretary. A major task by the Department was to restore the title documents. It was through this office that cadastral and mining surveys including prospective Government Station were funded and surveyed by 1969.

Other departments like the Commonwealth Department of Works & Housing and DCA recruited surveyors to survey road, housing development and airports. There were the surveys for the army barracks when Indonesia overran West Irian in 1963.

More contract surveyors were needed to help with surveys around the country. It was this time that the Department push for the natives to be trained as chainmen. Few have already gone to schools in Australia. Come 1969, the first Papua New Guinea surveyors graduated from the PNG University of Technology in Lae (formerly known as PNG Institute of Technology).

The Survey Division held conferences where senior surveyors from around the territory attend and discuss programs, problems and prospects. It was during these conferences, that came about the formation of Survey Congress. The association flourished then on and from 1966, survey congresses were held and continued over the years with this year marking the 50th anniversary. There have been a lot of technical papers presented on technological and policy changes, challenges and the future of Surveying in PNG.

The Congress Manager hereby requests authors to present an abstract of their paper briefly describing the aspect of the paper. The abstract should have maximum of 200 words and be written in English.

Participants who wish to contribute oral and poster presentation and trade exhibitions are most welcome.

Please include together with a abstract the following information:

- Presenters Name and Address
- Title of the Paper
- Type of presentation paper, oral, poster, workshop or trade exhibition.

Please forward the abstract to the Congress Manager by the 20th of May and the final paper by 20th of June 2016.

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