

SUPERSTAR SURVEYING: HOLLYWOOD STYLE !! (III)

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Institution of Surveyors Australia

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Bachelor of Surveying (UNSW 1978)

Master of Arts (Mac. Uni. 2000) - Egyptology

Registered Surveyor NSW (1981), Licensed Surveyor QLD (1990)

Private Practice Surveyor with Rose Atkins & Associates Pty Ltd.

Blacktown (8 ½ years), previously self-employed for 12 years

Fellow of the Institution of Surveyors, Australia

Committee member of ACSNSW 1983 - 87

Committee member of the Institution of Surveyors NSW 1985 - 1999

Junior Vice-President 1995-1999

Former Convenor of the History and Public Relations Sub-Committees

Past Chairman of the Cumberland Group of Surveyors

Papers to Survey Conferences - Sydney 1981,1988, Cairns 1992, two in

Perth 1996, Newcastle 1997, Launceston 1998, two in Perth 1999, two in

Queenstown, NZ 2000, two in Brisbane 2001, ACSM 2000 Little Rock,

Arkansas, 3 at ACSM, 2001 Las Vegas, U.S.A., with one presentation

in Hawaii 2001, ASPNG, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea 2001, FIG

History Seminar, Brussels, Belgium 2001, BLM/US Forest Service, San

Diego 2002, FIG Congress Washington D.C. 2002, ALSA AGM,

Edmonton, Canada 2002

Surveying History Seminars 1991, 1994, 1996 and 1997 (paper in 1997)

Paper to the inaugural FIG Congress History Seminar Brighton U.K. 1998

Halloran Award 1997 for contributions to history of surveying.

Life member Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology,

Fairfield Patrician Brothers Old Boys Union

Foundation member Australian National Maritime Museum, Friends of
the National Museum of Australian,Royal Agricultural Society (Homebush)

Bradman Legacy

Member National Trust of Australia, Historic Houses Trust of Australia,
Friends of Bradman Museum, Royal Australian Historical Society, Society
of Australian Genealogists, Surveyors Historical Society of the USA,
Australian Science History Club and Liverpool Regional Museum.

SUPERSTAR SURVEYING: HOLLYWOOD STYLE (III) !!

ABSTRACT

The minimum number of Hollywood style movies that contain references or scenes to the profession of surveying has swollen to a huge 82 !!

Even more incredible, it is not just newer productions which have been amassed to this unbelievable total, but even older movies from the 1940's and '50's which have been rediscovered with eminent scenes of surveying in them ! Indeed the ranks of the Silver Screen's favourite sons and **daughters** who star in these epics of celluloid, now include George O'Brien (twice), Allan 'Rocky' Lane, Randolph Scott (four times!!), Robert Young, Dean Jagger, Cary Grant, John Wayne ('The Duke'), Robert Taylor, Syd Saylor, Maximilian Schell, Charlton Heston (twice), Gene Raymond, Fred McMurray, Charles Bronson (once as assistant and once as the Surveyor), Val Kilmer, Harrison Ford, Nigel Stock, Edmund O'Brien (twice) assisted by Alan Ladd and Virginia Mayo in one of his epics, James Mason, Patrick Bergin and Hugh Grant. "New boys" on the block playing surveyors can be found in the recently released movies "The Claim" and "The Heist", so the cameras roll on with surveying even now.

Most of the survey segments are poorly performed in a technical sense, or historically totally out of context, but they do provide some very humorous incidents, nonetheless. The greatest element amongst the whole project is that such a large volume of footage survived the cutting room floors, even of monumental producers such as the great Cecil B.de Mille ("Moses"). Obviously, surveying and surveyors are highly regarded as worthy inclusions in some of these wonderful sagas of world and cinematic history.

As an appendix after the paper I provide a precis of each movie believed or known to have surveying content and each is rated in my original reference system in such a fashion as to distinguish the extent to which surveying is contained within any of the movies, right from just a few words about surveyors to the ultimate entity where the whole plot is based around surveying and the main star or stars play surveyors.

I invite everyone to view this wonderful production and be proud, be very proud, of the fact that you are all members of an eminent, important and colourful profession. **Please join with me and enjoy the production !!**

INTRODUCTION

My first eight video compilations of snippets featuring surveyors, "The Duke Was a Surveyor ... And So Was God!!", "Cinematic Exposure: Movie Star Surveyors – From The Duke to Brad Pitt", "Star Observations - More Surveyor Heroes of the Silver Screen", "Surveyor Heroes of the Silver Screen: From Audie and the Duke to Hugh Grant and Brad Pitt", "Sustaining Superstars: More Screen Legends As Surveyors", "Silver Screen Surveying: De Mille, 'The Duke', The Grants – Cary and Hugh, and a cast of hundreds !!!", "Surveyors Royale: Traversing the Silver Screen" and " Superstar Surveying: Hollywood Style", I continue to come across more movies showing surveyors and their equipment.

Apart from the stars previously mentioned and others playing surveyors, Appendix B provides a list of all movies that I have so far tracked down which contain any reference or scene portraying surveying or surveyors. Naturally, the content dedicated to the topic varies from film to film, and to this end I once again identify the extent of surveying which could be expected in those movies, through my survey content referencing system.

REFERENCING SYSTEM FOR SURVEY CONTENT

Of course some movies merely may have the mention of a surveyor having done or endured something, while others reach the pinnacle of the entire plot of the movie revolving around the main character/s who play/s a surveyor/s. For this reason I have devised a system of ready referencing for easy identification of the content of the production which could be expected to contain surveyors or surveying.

- VS** - Verbal reference to surveyors/surveying only
- BS** - Background/minor scene of surveying
- SS** - Star or one of the main characters are surveyors or do survey work
- MS** - Main theme of movie is surveying related or built around the main star/s as surveyors

Table - Reference System for Survey Content in Movies

The manner in which the producers interject surveying scenes into their movies for effect varies markedly in both amount of such content and the style in which the activities are choreographed. Some segments such as the footage in Middlemarch and especially Rockets Galore range from aggression to slapstick humour and are really great entertainment for everyone including surveyors. Most utilisation of survey instrumentation, even by the great producer Cecil B. De Mille himself in his epic Moses, is used out of context, particularly with regard to historic authenticity and correct usage.

Whatever flawed demonstrations of surveying knowledge are immortalised matters little to the fact that the producers see fit to retain much inclusions which portray their image of surveyors or which provide special depictions offering affect to the screenplay.

TV SHOWS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

Even the renowned public relations offices have made liberal incorporation of surveying scenes or instrumentation to promote product or services for their clients. For the last few years it would seem that surveying has been the flavour of the selling season, and I must say that there have been some very creditable creations to further enhance the image of surveyors, or, at the very least, thrust our profession into the face of the general population. Rather expectedly one such advertisement is an Australian beer commercial, but there others such as four wheel drive vehicle ads, scratch lottery, sports footwear promotions and Australian Army recruitment drives, I include some of these television commercials in my presentation.

Television series are another fertile hunting ground for surveying features, but, unlike movies, they are usually not on video, and, even more daunting, are held by the commercial television networks, making them particularly difficult to retrieve, if at all possible. Despite such obstacles I have still managed to include in my presentation some very tantalising TV show segments from shows like the X-Files and The Simpsons. I shall leave for another day, when I have much more quantity of spare time, to track down the other shows within which I know there is excellent footage of surveyors.

THE CAMERAS ROLL ON – MORE SURVEYOR FILMS !!

Even now more films and TV shows/advertisements come out with surveying in them. Only recently the movie “The Claim” was released into picture theatres, and one of the main characters played by Wes Bentley is a railroad surveyor, who utilises his fine polished brass theodolite to woo one of the leading ladies by showing her how it works in a similar fashion to the techniques employed by tennis coaches for centuries. In addition to this, I was provided with some fantastic footage from an SBS foreign movie called “Mararia”, in which the geological surveyor is killed in most grisly style and, along with all of his gear, his body is stuffed down a steaming volcanic fissure on the Canary Islands !?!

CONCLUSION

Our fickle geological surveyor mentioned in the previous paragraph is not the only such character to make a gruesome departure from his movie, that is for sure !! A television program produced on the British BBC is set in Kenya, shortly after World War One, following the life and work of a British policeman now based in southern Africa, such show being called “The Heat of the Sun”. In one episode a slave trader poses as a surveyor for a French oil exploration company, but discovers in dramatic and horrible fashion what can befall any one who dares to impersonate a surveyor !!! Please keep the children out of the room during this gut wrenching scene !!!

APPENDIX A LIST OF ALL THOSE WHO ASSISTED ME THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY

Bill Stinson, Walter Robillard, Russell Wenholz, Louisa Wenholz, Ian Brock, Tony Atkins, Laurie Rose, Bob Linke, Alan Cavanagh, Institution of Surveyors NSW Incorporated, Members of History sub-committee of Institution NSW, Ian Iredale, Anthony Barbari Productions and Reel.com.

APPENDIX B

MOVIES WITH SURVEYING CONTENT

(in my collection as at 10th May, 2002)

Brief snippets of these first 21 movies will be played at the start of this presentation.

1/ The Englishman That Went Up A Hill But Came Down A Mountain

MS, Comedy/Romance, Rage PG (1996)

Director : Christopher Monger

Starring : Hugh Grant, Tara Fitzgerald, Colm Meaney and Ian McNeice

A marvellous production of a true story about two surveyors played by Grant and McNiece who are sent to Wales during World War I (1917) on a cartographic assignment to determine the height of all the peaks in Wales. Their mission is delayed by locals in a Welsh border town who are trying to have them re-measure their “mountain” which the two surveyors have determined to be 16 feet short of the required height for a mountain. All available townsfolk put in a monumental effort to build up the “hill” to mountain status, Grant re-measures it accordingly and wins the heart of the lovely starlet as well. Great for the whole family and surveyors especially!

2/ Dersu Uzala

MS, Drama, Rated G (1975)

Director : Akira Kurosawa

Starring : Maxim Munzuk, Yuri Solomine

Splendid and graphic epic of a true story about army surveyor Vladimir Arseniev and his survey party who carry out topographic surveying in the harsh climate of Siberia between 1906-10. They meet up with a Goldi bushman named Dersu Uzala who guides them through the unforgiving terrain and saves them in many memorable scenes filmed on location in the wilds of the Ussuri River region of Eastern Siberia. Don't be put off by the subtitles, because this brilliant saga richly deserved its 1976 Best Foreign Film Academy Award and is a wonderful experience.

3/ The Fighting Kentuckian

MS, Western, Rated G (1949)

Director : George Waggner

Starring : John Wayne, Oliver Hardy, Vera Ralston, Philip Dorn, Marie Windsor

A light-hearted western about two Kentuckians played by Wayne and Hardy who are looking to settle down after their years in the fighting Kentucky forces, but are made to feel unwelcome by a shifty group of businessmen and gamblers who have planned to dispossess French settlers who have built up grand homesteads and farms on land upon which the boundary markers had been deliberately moved. Wayne finds himself in the position of pretending to be a surveyor sent to check the boundary stakes after he is persuaded to do so by the glamorous Windsor who appeals to his male ego for help. Good fun and the dialogue and action related to surveying will tickle any surveyor.

4/ Map of the Human Heart

SS, Drama, Rated R, (1993)

Director : Vincent Ward
Starring : Patrick Bergin, Jason Scott Lee, Anne Parillaud, Robert Joamie

The moving story of the bond which materialises between a cartographer (Bergin) mapping the Arctic North and a young Eskimo boy (Joamie), and the effects of human prejudice upon their lives. Humorous scene of the young boy's first encounter with surveying instrumentation.

5/ Journey to the Centre of the Earth

SS, Drama, Rated PG, (1959)

Director : Henry Levin
Starring : James Mason, Pat Boone, Arlene Dahl

Jules Verne's fantastic epic of a journey to the centre of the earth prompted by the discovery of a lava-encrusted surveyor's plumb bob bearing an inscription from a fabled explorer to the inner depths named Arne Sachnusen in the previous century. A good surveying scene involving Mason finding the entry point to the core from atop an extinct volcano.

6/ The Great Escape

SS, Prison/War, Rated PG, (1963)

Director : John Sturges
Starring : Steve McQueen, James Garner, Richard Attenborough, James Donald, Charles Bronson, Donald Pleasence, James Coburn, David McCallum, Gordon Jackson, John Leyton, Angus Lennie, Nigel Stock

Based on a true story the star-studded cast playing Allied P.O.W.s plan a mass breakout from a Nazi prison camp. Cavendish the surveyor (played by Stock) believes that he has measured the correct distance, by estimation, to the tree line so that the tunnel would surface behind cover, but falls about 20 feet short. Many prisoners escape, but most are caught and dealt the ultimate punishment. Graphic portrayal of heroism and savagery in war.

7/ The Big Land

SS, Western, Rated G, (1959)

Director : Gordon Douglas
Starring : Alan Ladd, Virginia Mayo, Edmond O'Brien, Anthony Caruso

Story of a gunman (Ladd), wanting to settle down, with the stunning sister of an alcoholic architect, O'Brien, by helping some farmers build a town to secure a rail link to ship their produce and stock. However, a rival cattle farmer, Caruso, with hired guns sets out to sabotage their plans. Good surveying scene with O'Brien, Ladd and Mayo (the first screen siren to play a female chainman!) just completing the first stake out of the proposed town.

8/ Carson City

SS, Western, Rated PG, (1952)

Director : Andre De Toth
Starring : Randolph Scott, Raymond Massey, Lucille Norman, George Cleveland

1870's western about railway engineer Scott who is sprung from gaol to push through a railway line in the face of opposition from hostile cattlemen against it. Good scene in which Scott shows his skills at surveying the track direction through a mountain.

9/ Raiders of the Lost Ark
SS, Action/Drama, Rated PG, (1981)

Director : Steven Spielberg
Starring : Harrison Ford, Karen Allen, Paul Freeman, Ronald Lacey, John Rhys Davies, Denham Elliott

Adventurer/archaeologist Indiana Jones (Ford) races against time to locate the lost Ark of the Covenant before the Nazis gain it to use for their evil purposes to overthrow the world. Ford surveys the correct location with theodolite among the excavations which in turn show the Germans also engaged in their own measurements with instrumentation.

10/ Red Dust
SS, Drama, No Rating (1932)

Director : Victor Fleming
Starring : Clark Gable, Mary Astor, Jean Harlow, Gene Raymond, Donald Crisp

Set in Vietnam, Gable plays the tough, womanising overseer of a rubber plantation, who has engaged the services of Willis, played by Raymond, to survey irrigation channels and tracks on the estate. Living down to Gable's expectations of a desk bound city boy, Willis arrives on a steamboat resplendent in white suit with tennis racquets and unwelcome wife. However, Gable eventually warms to his task of despatching the surveyor (after he nurses him to health from malaria) to three weeks field duty in monsoon conditions, while he sets about illiciting an affair with the wife (Astor). Great scene of surveying in heavy storms.

11/ The Ghost and the Darkness
SS, Action/Horror, Rated R, (1996)

Director : Stephen Hopkins
Starring : Michael Douglas and Val Kilmer

The true story of two ferocious lions called "the Ghost" and "the Darkness" (by the natives) who terrorise the native labour force engaged by the British Home office to carry out the construction of a railway line through East Africa. Brief scenes of Kilmer standing in front of his surveying instruments and performing some survey observations.

12/ Death Wish

SS, Drama, Rated R, (1974)

Director : Michael Winner
Starring : Charles Bronson, Vincent Gardenia, Hope Lange, Olympia Dukakis

Story of a man driven to become a vigilante after his wife is killed and daughter mentally devastated following a brutal home invasion. Bronson carries out some survey work on a rural land development project before cutting loose on his vengeful rampage.

13/ The English Patient

SS, War Drama, Rated M, (1996)

Director : Anthony Minghella
Starring : Ralph Fiennes, Juliette Binoche, Willem Dafoe, Kristin Scott Thomas, Colin Firth

Flashbacks take the viewer from the bed of a badly burned English pilot into the background of his horrible accident. There is a brief scene showing very basic aerial photography from old aircraft to expedite charting of the topography and route.

14/ Seven Years in Tibet

SS, Drama, Rated PG, (1997)

Director : Jean – Jacques Annaud
Starring : Brad Pitt, Larry Gatlin, David Thawles, B.D. Wong, Mako

Mountaineer (Pitt) flees to Tibet in search of peaks to tame in place of the horror of World War II only to befriend the young Dalai Lama, and find an inner awakening and self discovery. Pitt is engaged in a survey when told by his Tibetan assistant of the wars end, at which he jettisons all the gear and heads back to Austria.

15/ The Color Purple

BS, Drama, Rated PG, (1985)

Director : Steven Spielberg
Starring : Danny Glover, Whoopi Goldberg, Margaret Avery, Oprah Winfrey

Adaptation of Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize winning novel about the cruelty and hardships endured by a black girl, her family and friends in the prejudiced south of the U.S.A. A brief, but highly charged encounter of a survey party in Africa with villagers whose homes are being bulldozed to make way for a road.

16/ Far and Away

BS, Drama, Rated M, (1992)

Director : Ron Howard
Starring : Tom Cruise, Nicole Kidman, Robert Prosky, Barbara Babcock, Colm Meaney

Poor Irish farmer Cruise experiences many adventures with Kidman as the headstrong daughter of a wealthy landowner. Ultimately the story ends in the great land-grab of the 1893 Oklahoma land rush. Surveying scene takes place with Cruise working as a labourer with a railroad gang out in the American West – the surveyor flees for his life, instrument over shoulder, from inside the tunnel dig seconds before an explosion.

17/ The Celluloid Heroes Volume I
BS, Movie documentary, Rated G, (Australian ABC video, 1995)
Narrated by Bryan Brown

A wonderful collection of often very old archival footage showing developments of cinema in Australia, containing a superb clip of a 1908 movie “The Pioneers”, in which a man and wife in a covered wagon find a survey reference tree at the start of their portion of land.

18/ When the War Came to Australia – Saviours, Heroes, Lovers
BS, War Documentary, Rated PG, (Australian ABC video, 1992)

Another great collection of historic cinema with one “public relations” piece of a U.S. army surveyor completing plane table work, then ordering his black assistant to pick up the gear.

19/ Wyatt Earp
BS, Western, Rated M, (1994)

Director : Lawrence Kasdan
Starring : Kevin Costner, Dennis Quaid, Gene Hackman

Re-make of the legendary gunfight at the O.K. Corral between the Earps and Doc Holliday and their gun-toting lawless adversaries. Very brief railway surveying scene as Wyatt Earp rides into town.

20/ Blazing Saddles
VS, Western/Comedy, Rated R, (1974)

Director : Mel Brooks
Starring : Cleavon Little, Gene Wilder, Slim Pickens, Mel Brooks, Harvey Korman, Madeline Kahn, Dom De Luise

Madcap western spoof in the Brooks tradition of scene setting highlighting the bizarre but with social parallels in prejudice and bias. Near the start of the film Pickens, as the foreman of the rail construction team mentions that the surveyor warned of quicksand ahead, to which two of the black workers are sent on a rail car to investigate with obvious results.

21/ Calamity Jane
VS, Musical/Biography, No rating, (1953)

Director : David Butler
Starring : Doris Day, Howard Keel

Enjoyable musical about tomboy heroine Calamity, her adventures and efforts to romance Wild Bill Hickock (played by Keel). Near the early part of the show in the bar room survivors of an Indian attack stagger in to tell that the two surveyors had been killed.

More recent acquisitions to my movie collection of which more extensive clips are shown in this presentation :

22/ Close Encounters of the Third Kind
VS, Sci-Fi/Fantasy, Rated PG, (1977)

Director : Steven Spielberg and Douglas Trumbull
Starring : Richard Dreyfuss, Teri Garr, Melinda Dillon, Francois Truffaut, Bob Balaban

UFO sightings worldwide lead to disappearances and finally alien contact. The analysts call upon Geodetic Survey maps for direction.

23/ 20,000 Leagues Under The Sea
BS, Drama, No rating, (1997)
Filmed in Australia

Director :
Starring : Michael Caine, Bryan Brown

Brief scene of antique surveying geodetic instruments on the bridge of the Nautilus, Captain Nemo's submarine. The gear was hired from Bill Kitson's museum in Brisbane for \$3,000.00 for two days!!!!

24/ Reprisal
SS, Western, No Rating, (1956)

Director : George Sherman
Starring : Guy Madison, Felicia Farr, Kathryn Grant, Michael Pate

Part Indian Madison tries to buy his own land only to be falsely accused of murder. The land agent's pretty daughter has no difficulty in describing exactly what the boundaries of his homestead are, on site.

25/ The Red Tent
SS, Action/Adventure, Rated G, (1971)

Director : Mikhail Kalozov

Starring : Peter Finch as General Nobile, Sean Connery, Claudia Cardinale, Hardy Kruger

The true story of the Italian team which flies via the dirigible “Italia” to the North Pole to ultimately crash and await rescue. At the start of the flight over icy terrain Finch drops a red dye ball, timing its fall to ascertain that they are at a height of 500 feet. Very crude surveying.

26/ My Secret Place

SS, Comedy, Rated G, (1996)

Director : Shinobi Yaguchi

Starring : Naomi Nishida, Go Riju

Model turned actress Nishida tries every way imaginable to locate a stolen fortune which had been hidden. She uses a gyro theodolite in two scenes with her efforts of discovery.

27/ Middlemarch

SS, Drama, No Rating, (1994)

Director : Anthony Page

Starring : Rufus Sewell, Juliet Aubrey, Patrick Malahide, Douglas Hodge

Dramatisation of George Elliot’s 1872 tale of pre-Victorian England. Fear of land dispossession involves a local mob to attack the survey party for the proposed railway line.

28/ Rockets Galore (also called Mad Little Island)

BS, Comedy, No Rating, (1950)

Director : Michael Relph

Starring : Donald Sinden, Jeannie Carson, Roland Culver, Ian Hunter, Duncan Macrae, Ronnie Corbett.

A small Scottish island, named Toddy, is designated by the Government for installation of a rocket launching base. Staunch resistance by the local inhabitants includes the school teacher Carson enlisting her young students to sabotage and destroy the work of the surveyors. The antics are colourfully humorous.

29/ The Ten Commandments

SS, Religious, Rated G (1956)

Director : Cecil B. de Mille

Starring : Charlton Heston, Yul Bryner, Yvonne De Carlo
Anne Baxter, John Derek

The biblical epic of the life of Moses shows the fabled character surveying construction with an instrument invented about 3000 years later, with a briefer scene showing other Egyptian surveyors aligning large stone blocks in place with more primitive sighting vane tools.

30/ Campbell’s Kingdom

SS, Drama, Rated PG (1958)

Director : Ralph Thomas

Starring : Stanley Baker, Michael Craig and Barbara Murray

A very large and rich dam building contractor falsifies the oil surveyor's report, so that the grandson of the original landowner, Campbell, will not be able to stop the dam project due to the oil which is likely to lie beneath the soon to be inundated property. The surveyor verifies that his original survey had been altered and a dramatic battle for supremacy reaches a just end through catastrophic events.

31/ The Castle

MS, Drama, Rated AO, (1968)

Director : Rudolph Nolte

Starring : Maximilian Schell, Cordula Trantow, Trudik Daniel, Helmut Qualtinger

A very dark Franz Kafka satire on the inept workings of the bureaucracy. Appeared to be set in a remote snow covered Baltic town of the nineteenth century, Schell travels a long trek on foot with a commission as a land surveyor for the Castle which administers the town. The land surveyor, and that is all he is ever called about sixty times throughout this very dour production, meets a wall of bureaucratic resistance and incompetence in his continuous effort to meet with someone from the Castle administration, which unfortunately takes a great deal of time with nil result in the end. This mundane megalength monotona is very morose and only for the Kafka cult follower.

32/ Oscar and Lucinda

BS, Drama, Rated PG, (1997)

Director : Gillian Armstrong

Starring : Cate Blanchett and Ralph Fiennes

A moralistic, well-scripted movie on the evils of gambling and its toll. A very brief scene of background surveying can be seen at the time that Lucinda is evicted from her aunt's house at Parramatta, New South Wales. The background surveyor is an actual surveyor named Col Cadman from Newcastle, also in New South Wales.

33/ Heritage of the Desert (also known as "When The West Was Young")

MS, Western, Rated G, (1932)

Director : Henry Hathaway

Starring : Randolph Scott, Sally Blane, J. Farrell MacDonald, Guinn "Big Boy" Williams, David Landau

Scott's first starring role is in this movie, and he plays a land surveyor engaged to prove the estate claim of MacDonald, to prevent the bad guy, dressed in black, from claim-jumping his ranch. The surveyor fights, shoots and sweet talks his way through this rather enjoyable western. He even wrestles a long horn steer to the ground, then stands up, and having not lost his hat, proceeds to produce the survey boundary plan from underneath that headwear. Later on he is wounded, and wins the beautiful Sally Blane just for good measure.

34/ The Howards of Virginia

MS, Drama, No Rating, (1940)

Director : Frank Lloyd

Starring : Cary Grant, Martha Scott, Cedric Hardwicke, Alan Marshal, Richard Carlson and Paul Kelly

Probably Grant's first starring role, as a land surveyor, set in Virginia before the War of Independence. The aristocratic English-style upbringing of Scott (who plays Jane) does not mix with the roughneck nature of Grant's outdoor woodsman style character, causing constant friction between the two. There are, of course, many references to surveying throughout the movie, along with quite an excellent scene of Grant surveying with a circumferentor on a monopod. This movie was nominated for two Oscars.

35/ The Far Horizons

MS, Action/Adventure, Rated PG, (1955)

Director : Rudolph Mate

Starring : Fred McMurray, Charlton Heston, William Demarest, Barbara Hale, Donna Reed and Alan Reed

The true story of the adventures undertaken by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark as they explored and charted the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase and beyond to the

Pacific Ocean, at the behest of President Thomas Jefferson in 1803. Excellent scenes of both Lewis and Clark carrying out plane table surveying on land as well as on the ship, along with sextant observations.

36/ Miss Grant Takes Richmond

BS, Comedy, Rated G, (1949)

Director : Lloyd Bacon

Starring : Lucille Ball, William Holden, Janis Carter, James Gleason, Frank McHugh and Gloria Henry

Gambling racketeer Dick Richmond, played by Holden, employs Ellen Grant (Ball) to be secretary for his sham real estate office, which runs illegal book-making in the back room. Having underestimated the enthusiasm of Ellen, Dick finds himself unwittingly involved in a cheap housing project for which he appoints Ellen supervisor, with comical results typified when she swaps around all the builder's string-lines just before the concrete pour of the foundations !!

**Movies believed to have surveying references in them
(not in my collection as at 10/5/2002):**

37/ The Iron Horse (1924) – **MS**, Starring George O'Brien as a railroad surveyor.

38/ Canadian Pacific (1949) – **MS**, Starring Randolph Scott as a railroad surveyor.

39/ Les Arpenteurs (1971, Switzerland) – **MS**, Title means "The Surveyors".

- 40/ **Zan Boko** (1988, Africa) – **MS**, Story of surveyors in Africa.
- 41/ **Clive of India** (1935) – **BS**, Starring Ronald Colman.
- 42/ **The Baron of Arizona** (1950) – **BS**, Starring Vincent Price.
- 43/ **Killers of Kilimanjaro** (1959) – **SS**, Starring Robert Taylor, Anthony Newley, Anne Aubrey.
- 44/ **The Knack and How To Get It** (1965) – **BS**, Starring Rita Tushingham, Michael Crawford.
- 45/ **The Draughtsman's Contract** (1982) – **SS**, Starring Anthony Higgins, Janet Suzman.
- 46/ **Stark** (1993) – **BS**, Starring Ben Elton.
- 47/ **The Post Mistress** (exact year unknown, Canada) **SS**.
- 48/ **Blackfly** (1991) – **BS**, Animation directed by Christopher Hinton.
- 49/ **Lantliv** (1975) – **BS**, Starring Jacqueline Laurent, Chris Chittell and Eric Edwards II.
- 50/ **Daniel Boone** (1936)– **MS**, Rated PG, Starring, George O'Brien, Heather Angel Boone Surveys and explores territories around Boonesborough.
- 51/ **Congo Crossing** (1956) – **MS**, Starring Rex Ingram, Peter Lorre, Virginia Mayo, Michael Pate. Louise O'Connell and heroic surveyor David Carr end up alone in the jungle.
- 52/ **Curse of the Swamp Creature** (1966) – **MS** Oil Surveyors come across an isolated laboratory.
- 53/ **The Phantom of Hollywood** (1974) – **MS**, Someone kills off the site surveyors.
- 54/ **Fighting Gringo** (1939) – **BS**, Starring George O'Brien, Bill Cody Jr. A man has his land survey falsified and then he is framed for murder.
- 55/ **Stage Coach to Denver** (1946) **MS**, Starring Allan Lane, Martha Wentworth, Peggy Stewart, Ray Barcroft. Red Ryder exposes Coonskin's land survey hoax.
- 56/ **Ride Clear of Diablo** (1954) **SS**, Starring Audie Murphy, Susan Cabot, Dan Duryea, Russell Johnson. Railway surveyor Murphy goes after rustlers.
- 57/ **Lugar en el Mundo** (1992) **MS**, A hasbeen geological engineer surveys land for his patron..
- 58/ **Detenuto in attesa di giudizio** (1971) **MS**, Story of an Italian land surveyor who has lived in Sweden.
- 59/ **Zaskanjalo palno lunic** (1997) **MS**, Wanderer across Bulgaria surveys strange, new world forming.
- 60/ **Young Pioneers' Christmas** **BS**, Starring Michael O'Herlihy, Linda Purl and Roger Kern. Surveyors appear in the background of the developing life on the prairie in the late 19th century, which features a young pioneer family to depict their hardships and joys.
- 61/ **The Wall**, **BS**
- 62/ **Last of the Dogmen**, **BS**, Starring Tom Berenger & Barbara Herschey
- 63/ **The World Is Not Enough**, **BS** and **VS**, Starring Pierce Brosnan
- 64/ **Mararia**, **SS**
- 65/ **The Claim**, **SS**, Starring Wes Bentley
- 66/ **Western Union**, **SS**, Starring Randolph Scott, Robert Young & Dean Jagger
- 67/ **Frontier Horizons**, **BS**, Starring John Wayne
- 68/ **Mr. Blandings Buys His Dream House**, **VS**
- 69/ **The Land of the Pharoahs**, **BS**
- 70/ **Denver and Rio Grande**, **SS**, Starring Edmund O'Brien and Sterling Hayden
- 71/ **Dr. No**, **BS**, Starring Sean Connery
- 72/ **Heist**, **BS**, Starring Gene Hackman
- 73/ **Goethe: Wahverwandtschaften (Swiss)**, **BS**
- 74/ **Stifter: Kalkstein (Swiss)**, **BS**
- 75/ **Chisum**, **BS**, Starring John Wayne

- 76/ The Body, BS**, Starring Antonio Banderras
77/ Goin' South, BS, Starring Jack Nicholson
78/ How The West Was Won, VS
79/ The Last of the Mohicans, BS, Starring Daniel Day Lewis
80/ North By Northwest, BS, Starring Cary Grant
81/ Heroes Mountain, BS
82/ Pitch Black, BS

IMPORTANT NOTE

Movies 37/ through 82/ have not been observed as at 10th May, 2002 and survey content ratings are preliminary only. These ratings may change upon viewing of the movie, and in some instances surveying may not be present at all.

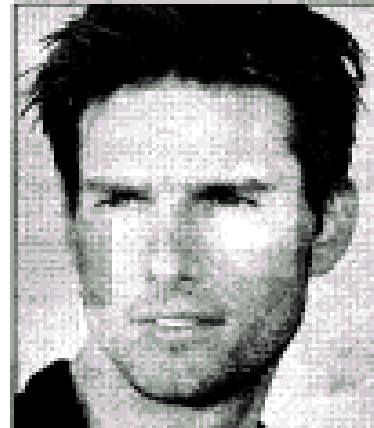
REFERENCE:

1. CINEMANIA ON LINE – THE INTERNET
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APPENDIX C

Page two headline story in the Launceston (Tasmania) Examiner at the start of the 39th Australian Surveyors Congress in Tasmania, 1998

Theodolite view of some of the big names of cinema



HEROES: John Wayne, Brad Pitt and Tom Cruise all share a common character on the silver screen — a hero with a surveying background.

Surveyor heroes of silver screen

By JOHN CAPLES

What do the movies *Raiders Of The Lost Ark*, *Far And Away*, *Blazing Saddles* and *Calamity Jane* have in common?

Apparently they and 42 other movies of varying age and quality all include references to surveyors.

Surveyors portrayed by some of the biggest names in show business — John Wayne, Cary Grant, Edmond O'Brien, Maximilian Schell, Hugh Grant, Harrison Ford and, more recently, Brad Pitt.

This gripping revelation came in a paper delivered at the 89th annual Australian Surveyors Congress now starting at the Launceston Casino. Tucked right between a study of structural monitoring of the Batman Bridge using satellite navigation systems and an overview of the geocentric datum of Australia.

Sydney surveyor and, presumably, movie buff John Brock told learned colleagues at the congress that not in his wildest dreams could he have believed surveying held such cinematic prominence.

His hunt continues for surveying references large or small, but so far he has uncovered no fewer than 18



DISCOVERY: Harrison Ford in *Raiders Of The Lost Ark*.

movies in which surveying is the main theme.

The most recent is *The Englishman Who Went Up A Hill But Came Down A Mountain*, a 1996 comedy starring Hugh Grant and based on a true story about two surveyors in Wales during World War I.

Others include *The Kentuckian* (1949), in which John Wayne has to pretend to be a surveyor, *The Howards Of Virginia* (1940), with Cary Grant, *Night Passage* (1967), with Jimmy Stewart, and last year's offering *Seven Years In Tibet*, in which Brad Pitt plays an explorer-surveyor.

Just for the record, Harrison Ford uses a theodolite to discover the Ark Of The Covenant in *Raiders Of The Lost Ark* and Tom Cruise works as a surveyor with a railroad gang during the Oklahoma land rush in *Far And Away*.

He even flees to safety with shouldered theodolite.

In *Blazing Saddles*, railroad foreman Slim Pickens says surveyors (God bless 'em) have warned of quicksand ahead and immediately despatches two black workers to investigate.

You don't remember surveyors in *Calamity Jane*? Right near the start of the movie, survivors of an Indian attack stagger into a bar to tell everybody two surveyors had been killed. Remember?

Who said national surveying conferences were dull?

SURVEYORS: Page 16.

