Biographical Register of South Australian Surveyors 1836 to 1936 by Andrew G Peake

The first settlers starting arriving in South Australia in mid-1836, and with the arrival of the Governor, the Province was proclaimed on the 28th December, 1836. During this time the settlers had to wait for the arrival of surveyors to survey the new colony. Surveying started in January 1837, and continued unabated for nearly a century as land was surveyed for sale for farming and pastoral use beyond. The process continued beyond the colony's northern border, when South Australia annexed the Northern Territory in the 1860s.



The Biographical Register attempts to provide some basic information on birth and death. and surveying achievements of over 460 surveyors who operated in South Australia. Many were government surveyors, for whom details are readily available in government documents, and also those who became private surveyors, often having previously worked for the government.

Information has been found in government papers, Land Services SA, newspapers and a number of historical data bases on the internet.

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(Illustration: Thomas Alexander Vance with a Repsold 10-inch theodolite)