

## Recommended Reading

This work is primarily a surveyor research resource, to understand the Deputy Surveyors they are retracing. However, some people not in the profession might find parts of this book interesting and informative, and here we will attempt to aim the reader to those sections.

**First**, scroll through the Table of Contents to get a general idea of what is included. (Any Volume v-vi)

**Second**, Read the “Preface” and “Brief History of the Surveyor General’s Office” to lay a platform for understanding what is behind the stories and biographies. Most people are unaware of the politics and corruption that plagued the General Land Office for decades, and how that played out in the survey of the public lands. The discussion begins with the founding of the Colonies and continues from a surveying perspective through the Revolution and Western expansion, finally ending at Oregon and Washington. (Volume 1, 1-38)

The Donation Land Claim Act, Homesteads, Mineral Surveys, Indian Allotments, Railroad and Wagon Road Grants, Townsites, Crime Syndicate, and Examinations are all discussed.

**Third**, go to Demographics to get a flavor of the lifespan, politics, education, and cause of death of the surveyors. (Volume 7, p. 745)

**Fourth** and finally, start to read the individual biographies of the surveyors, initially based on the following recommended list. There are heroes and scoundrels, professionals and blunderers, and others ranging from Governors to fictitious individuals and criminals.

As you read each biography, it may be helpful to open two windows, with the biography in one window and the photo table from volumes 3 and 4 in another window. Many individuals have several photos of themselves, their family, graves, named features, and homes listed in the photo table.

**Fifth**, after reading several biographies, browse through the various appendices to get a sense of the research data presented. If inspired, visit a gravesite and send the author a photo and Gps location. Double click on the GLO Places.kmz file to open Google Earth and explore the Waymarks.