

**1875**

**General  
Instructions for the  
Guidance of  
District Surveyors**

Paul the Regulations as promised 1875. Birth K/13/11

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE GUIDANCE OF DISTRICT SURVEYORS.

2385

1. It will be the duty of District Surveyors to see that the Licensed Surveyors working under their supervision strictly conform to the general rules and instructions issued by the Surveyor-General for the regulation of surveys.

2. When issuing instructions for the survey of lands for sale, the general direction of the main lines of communication affecting the locality should be ascertained, and the Surveyor directed to take such measures as may best preserve not only the main roads, but also those requisite for access to each separate portion, and the vacant Crown lands beyond.

3. Upon the receipt from a Land Commissioner of requisitions for the survey of selections, the descriptions are to be examined, and should any be so far imperfect as not to afford data for the certain determination of the locality and boundaries, a memorandum should be sent to the Commissioner stating the nature of the defect, and, if practicable, suggestions for the amendment of the description.

4. Where requisitions for survey contain descriptions which overlap previous surveys or include land not open to selection, or the boundaries are irregular in the bearings or in any way at variance with the acts, rules, or regulations under which the survey is to be made, a memorandum is to be furnished to the Land Commissioner, indicating not only the nature and particulars of the defect, but also suggestions for the requisite amendment where practicable.

5. In regard to such requisitions as are sufficiently accurate for the purpose of effecting surveys, instructions are to be issued as soon as practicable, and the Surveyor's attention is to be specially directed to the necessity of reserving all roads as in the case of surveys for sale; but as selections before survey are often isolated and more irregular in the boundaries than lands measured for sale at auction, greater care and attention is requisite, both on the part of the District and Licensed Surveyor, to ensure the due preservation of the lines of road, both for present and future use.

6. On the completion of a survey, Licensed Surveyors are to forward direct to the Surveyor-General, one copy of the plan, accompanied by the Requisition for Survey, Field Book, and Vouchers for the payment of the fees for survey; the duplicate plan is to be furnished to the District Surveyor.

7. On the receipt of duplicate plans of selections, the District Surveyor will examine them, and ascertain whether the survey has been duly executed according to the instruction for survey, and the general rules of the Department, especially in regard to the proper provision for roads. A report on each survey is then to be forwarded to the Surveyor-General, stating whether the survey is approved by the District Surveyor, or has been reserved for examination of the work on the ground, or in what respects the work appears to be defective or objectionable, or if returned to the Surveyor for amendment or explanation.

8. When a duplicate plan of a selection is finally examined and approved by the District Surveyor, it is to be forwarded to the Land Commissioner from whom the requisition for survey was received.

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9. District Surveyors are to avail themselves of every opportunity to acquire a personal knowledge of the features of their districts, so as to be able to furnish information and suggestions for the selection of roads, water reserves, camping grounds, or reserves for any other public purpose.

10. Where a District Survey Office and Draftsman are provided, a map of the district is to be compiled showing the positions of all the surveyed portions; and as the surveys of selections, auction lands, reserves, roads, &c., are completed, they are to be charted on the sheets including the localities.

11. Reserves which are often proclaimed before survey should be charted on the district map if the descriptions published afford sufficient data.

12. The scale of the district map should be two miles to one inch, that being the scale of the published lithographs.

13. Groups of small portions should only have the external limits charted, and a reference entered by which the original surveys, or a sheet on a larger scale, can be referred to.

14. In the case of surveys of selections on the requisition of the Land Commissioners, a copy of each map is to be made and retained in the local office, and the original map forwarded to the Commissioner.

15. The duplicate plans of surveys for sale at auction are to be retained as records in the district office.

16. A catalogue of all original maps or copies of originals is to be kept.

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General Rules for the Arrangement of Boundaries of Portions marked for Sale, Lease, or other Alienation.

2365

1. Lands having frontage to the sea or tidal waters are to be bounded by highwater mark; sandy beaches, mangroves, and bare mud flats are to be deemed to be below highwater mark, but ground bearing teatrees, swamp oak, or on which there is any description of grass or reeds, is to be dealt with as above highwater mark, and included in the computation of area. Small patches of mangrove and mud flats which are nearly isolated and included within the general limits of a portion, should be included in the computation of area, as they are of a character to admit of reclamation.

2. Portions having frontage to navigable water or to watercourses exceeding one chain wide are to be bounded by the margin of the water or channel of the watercourse when in the ordinary state and not in flood; but where the watercourse is less than one chain in average breadth, and is not navigable, the frontage of portions is to be a line following the centre of the channel.

3. Where a watercourse has several channels, that which runs latest in the dry season is to be taken as the main channel or last run, and the central line is to be adopted as the frontage bounding a portion.

4. In marking portions in swampy country the limits of swamps are not to be adopted as boundaries; but the lands are to be laid out in rectangular form, and the whole space within the external limits is to be included in the computation of the area.

5. Should the boundary of a portion terminate in a deep swamp, so that the corner is not accessible, the side lines are to be run to the margin of the swamp and posts placed, and the map should show the positions of the posts, and also the portion of the boundary not run, with a note that such part was not chained or marked on the ground.

6. Crown lands selected before survey, and having frontage to any watercourse or main road, are not to have a greater breadth of frontage than equal to half the depth where the area does not exceed 160 acres, or two thirds the depth where the area is greater than 160 but does not exceed 320 acres, or equal to the depth when exceeding 320 acres; and the boundaries not being frontage to roads or natural features are to be at right angles, and directed to the cardinal points, unless some other general bearing has been adopted for that part of the district.

7. The proportion of frontage is to be measured at right angles to the side lines, and not along the windings of the watercourse or road.

8. The extreme length of any portion is not to exceed three times the mean breadth, the boundaries must be rectangular and quadrilateral; no re-entering angles or diagonal lines are allowed, except to follow the boundaries of portions previously surveyed, or lines of road.

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108 113 111 115 Townsville by M. Johnson per

P. Sharkey Esq  
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75. 45 Forwarded copies (one each) of the new  
printed instructions for the guidance of District  
Surveyors

M. Davidson  
A. M. Dowall  
A. Richardson  
P. Sharkey

75. 46 Forwarding 100 copies of Lithograph of  
Sections 2 and from 77 to 84 Row of  
Gympie

The Land Agent  
Gympie