

International Institution for the History of Surveying and Measurement IIHS&M

Report 2019-20

The FIG met last year in Hanoi and John Brock represented our Commission during the general assembly as, Jan and Jim were in no position to travel. John produced 2 major articles for GIM magazine which is widely distributed worldwide in our surveying society. The Commission for the Struve Arc met in URSS, to discuss further actions and a project was developed to teach the younger generations in the Northern countries how important the Struve Arc Meridian measurements are.

Jim Smith and I have finalized the writing of *Notes on the history of the size & shape of the Earth by Meridian Arcs* :2150pp. in 5 volumes which are the result of 35 years of research. We hope to see this printed in due course but that is subject to finding sufficient funding. Alternatively it will at least be advertised at FIG Amsterdam 2020,

Jim and I have also two other books – Meridian arcs in East and Southern Africa with emphasis on the Arc of the 30th Meridian in 500 p. and *Connection between Struve Geodetic Arc and the Arc of the 30th Meridian* in 160p. This covers the crossing of the Mediterranean sea and connection to a central European arc and the Struve arc. These have been edited by our RSA colleagues to prepare for the possible extension of the Struve Meridian Arc from Pole to Pole.

Personally I have given a couple of Power point presentations to a general public in Oudenburg, which was the most northern Roman settlement on the continent . I wrote a comment on a German book about Hyginus the agrimensor and am continuing to work on collect the 16th century scientific books of Gerard Mercator's library and preparing a book on the subject.

We look forward for a good turnout of participants in Amsterdam for the History session. During the FIG week and we hope to meet many young surveyors

We are happy to present our colleague Jim Smith as Honorary member of FIG and the FIG board has approved the initiative. His CV will be joint to the report.

.Jan De Graeve
Director IIHS&M.