Where are we?
Van der Sterr Building, Mowbray, Cape Town

Why the Van der Sterr building?
Dr WC van der Sterr was appointed as the first Director of the Trigonometrical Survey Office in 1920

Modest Beginnings
The staff of Trigsurvey 1920

Trigsurvey – Sir Herbert Baker Building

Our Museum
The museum in the foyer contains a collection of survey instruments that is the envy of National Mapping Organisations worldwide.
What do we do?

- Maintain the National Map Series at various scales
  - 1:10 000 Orthophotic Map
  - 1:50 000 Topographical Map
  - 1:250 000 Topographical / Aerial Map
  - 1:500 000 Aerial Map & Aerial photomosaic
  - 1:1 000 000 Wall Map
  - 1:2 000 000 Wall Map
- Acquire Aerial Photography and Imagery
- Assist with Land Reform and special projects (Census - STATS SA)
- Assist tertiary institutions with Survey / Cartography / GIS education
- Maintain the National Geodetic Platform and TrigNet
- Assist parastates and other government organisations with mapping projects, data acquisition and verification.
- Maintain a comprehensive GIS topographical database (TIS)

Survey Services

One of our many achievements was the Integrated Survey System. Over 32 000 Trig Beacons were built countrywide by teams of dedicated beacon builders.

TrigNet

The South African Network of Permanent GPS Base Stations: The new era in positioning, control and navigation
TrigNet Distribution

Surveying Antarctica

Stereoplotters

A Digital Photogrammetric Workstation

A Monoplotter
Aerial Photography

Complete coverage – revision 5 – 7 years

Orthophoto Coverage

Coverage of Major centers and kernel areas

Aerial Photography - Historical vs. Current

1963 1996
Cartographic Services

Manual Cartography
A steady hand was needed

Photogrammetric Scanner

Digital Mapping

Basic Data flow for Medium & Small scale mapping

TOPO50
AMASS
JOB-FOLDER
MEDSCALE SERVER
LAMPS2
ANCILLARY DATA
Civil Aviation Authority
JOB - & MJ - FILES
Preparation for mapping at medium scale

Annotated field work

Generalisation of Rivers

Final component

Addition of Hypsometric tints

Aeronautical Mapping

Quality Assurance before printing

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

CHIEF DIRECTORATE
SURVEYS AND MAPPING

South Africa’s National Mapping Organisation
Surveys and Mapping takes training very seriously and strives towards both academic and practical excellence!

This is achieved by...

...backed by an excellent Library...

...with the aid of innovative training techniques.

We provide training for Survey Officers, Trainee Technicians as well as Land Surveys in training.
Surveys and Mapping have played a vital part in Land Reform and have assisted in many projects.

Identifying boundaries are of crucial importance in Land Reform.
Surveys and Mapping have assisted with many large projects that were in the national interest. The largest being the professional support given to Statistics SA before and during the recent census - this included acquiring Aerial Photography covering approximately 90 000 km² resulting in 576 mosaiced images covering 144 1:50 000 maps. (± 9% of the country).
CDSM has a proven culture of Teamwork

Having FUN at CDSM !!!!

Excellence through richness of diversity