# Book Review

*Encyclopedia of Geographic Information Science, edited by Karen K. Kemp. Sage Publications, Inc. ISBN 10: 1412913136; 13: 978-1412913133. Hardcover, 584 p.* — ***Reviewed by David McIntire***

The *Encyclopedia of Geographic Information Science* is a treasure-trove of GIS-related definitions, explanations, equations, and graphics which bring the world of GIS home. Its 584 pages weigh in at nearly four pounds, but that is not what makes this tome impressive. Rather, it is its broad scope, diversity of topics, and attention to detail, which is not surprising given that all the authors are respected leaders in GIScience and its application in real life.

The editor of this book, Karen K. Kemp, is no stranger to the world of GIS. She was the founding director of the International Masters Program in GIS at the University of Redlands in southern California, where she used to teach. She continues to be involved in GIS education and leads several important projects on the Island of Hawai'i.

While no encyclopedia is comprehensive within its area of interest, the book probably comes closer to that ideal than any other in its field. Not only does it provide thorough definitions and explanations for hundreds of GIS-related terms and concepts, it often provides graphics and tables which further illustrate the concept at hand. The book is full of additional source information which readers can use to obtain more in-depth knowledge about any GIS topic that interests them. A detailed index is another welcome feature of the book.

Anybody involved in GIS should consider adding the *Encyclopedia of Geographic Information Science* to their collection of GIS texts. Students and those new to the world of GIS will find this book particularly valuable as it provides detailed information across many topics common to GIS. Those endeavoring to branch out into new areas of GIS may be well advised to have this material close at hand, as well. While the *Encyclopedia* is not the type of book one sits down and reads from beginning to end—though there are certainly those who will enjoy doing just that—it does provide excellent reference material for GIS users. Nearly four pounds of it!


Over several years in the 1970s, on behalf of California Garden Clubs, Inc., Gene Bauer explored fifty-six arboreta and public gardens throughout the state of California, creating delicate silk screen prints of the living plant material she found. These serigraphs were initially created for limited-edition booklets celebrating plant life in the Golden State. Serigraphy is the oldest form of print making. In the 1970s, Bauer handcrafted 62 unique booklets of serigraphs, complete with observations of California's many public gardens. These are included in *Botanical Serigraphy*. [ISBN: 9781589482531, 2010, 264 p., $40, ESRI]

## Surveyors' tools

### Topcon's GLS-1500 laser scanner

*—George Smith*

Topcon Positioning Systems's new "all-in-one" laser scanner, the GLS-1500, speeds up point cloud collection—30,000 points per second in a 150-m range—and reduces the amount of equipment needed in the field. With point cloud collection of 30,000 points per second, the GLS-1500 is 10 times faster than the previous model. In addition, it enables hassle-free setups, thereby saving time and improving productivity.

Data collected from the GLS-1500 can be stored onboard on an SD memory card or logged into a PC. Built-in wireless LAN connection makes it possible to control the scanner on a PC sitting in a vehicle.

Topcon's Precise Scan Technology is an innovation that allows consistent, high accuracy measurements over a wide range of distances. Utilizing lens arrays, and SAW filtering, the GLS-1500 provides stable and precise accuracy measurements from 1 to 150 meters.