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you print

The Property Career Guide



The only RICS
Approved Consultancy

MACDONALD & COMPANY

The Property Recruitment Professionals

THE PROPERTY PROFESSION; PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

About the profession

In the past, people often did not choose a career path in property; it chose you. Whether or not you decided to become a surveyor and which type of practice you joined, were often social decisions based on family interests, personal contacts, where you lived and so forth. The type of surveying in which you specialised, if you specialised at all, depended upon your firm's requirements. You became expert at the type of work your firm needed doing, and that in turn, was determined by the commercial and agricultural interests of the area and the partners' social and commercial connections.

Career options may have been limited by the circumstances of your firm but you could expect sufficient remuneration for a comfortable living. Today, competitive pressures continue to change the face of the profession rapidly and realistic financial and commercial decision making is a necessary product of that change.

Entry into the property profession

The profession has changed significantly over the past decade or so. Graduate entry into RICS via exempting degree courses has fallen dramatically and remuneration has increased as a consequence of continued demand and reduced supply. Many feel that the Property profession has lost status and, despite improved remuneration, has lost out at graduate entry to other professions, such as law. Moreover, it has suffered further decline in entry numbers because of the emergence of "new" professions such as Management Consultancy, E-commerce and many others. On the bright side, the resulting demand for Graduate and qualified staff has increased the prospects of those who have chosen to enter the profession.

The future of the profession

Almost all industry experts agree that the future for the property profession is buoyant. The profession has begun to adapt and modify its service offerings to take account of the sophisticated, modern customer. In each and every specialism you consider, real advances have been made. Corporate real estate consultancy has burgeoned and those construction professionals are now advising on the life cycles of buildings, rather than just limited aspects. The profession will continue to adapt and change and its next big challenge will be to infiltrate the boardrooms of the world to cement the critical importance of property in corporate activity and ultimately profitability.

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