



newsletter

MISSOURI MAPPERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 1692
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102

MISSOURI'S CADASTRE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

The Multi-purpose Cadastre is a term that has been used in this country by mapping professionals for the past 10 years. It is a term that is not always well understood, and may mean one thing to one set of professionals and another to another group. The report by the National Academy of Science entitled, "Need for Multi-purpose Cadastre" defines the cadastre as follows:

"A cadastre may be defined as a record of interests in land, encompassing both the nature and extent of these interests. An interest in land (or property right) may be narrowly construed as a legal right capable of ownership or more broadly interpreted to include any uniquely recognized relationship among people with regard to the acquisition and management of land. According to the French etymologist Blondheim, the term cadastre is probably derived from the Greek word *katastichon*, meaning notebook. (Von Simmerding, 1969). In Latin, the term gradually evolved to *captastrum*, or register of territorial taxation units into which Roman provinces were divided."

In 1815 the first major surveying and mapping project to establish a Missouri Multi-purpose Cadastre started. This date marked the beginning of the government surveys in the State of Missouri. The survey along with the plats prepared from the survey work and the creation of a document called a "sales plat" which showed the original ownership of all parcels, became the first cadastral mapping in the State. Even though there may be some inaccuracies in the original government system, it still stands as the basis for all land transactions in this state. The basic system remains unchanged in most of the United States and for all intents and purposes is the framework of most cadastral systems in the United States. When one takes note of the vast amount of informa-

tion that was covered in this original survey, it is clear that it was more than a single purpose survey. The original government surveys not only measured and marked off the land in approximately one-mile square sections, but they also conducted a very careful inventory of the land. The original government surveys record an assessment of the quality of the land in each mile and the type of terrain and vegetation. If the surveyor noted any other special features such as large springs or outcrops of minerals, these were also shown on those original records. Even today these records are being used to determine what our state looked like at the time of the original government surveys in the early 1800's. They clearly delineate forest land, prairie land and swamps.

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ANNUAL CONVENTION IS SET

Hey fellow mappers, are you ready for a convention of education and great exhibitors? We hope so because that is exactly what the program committee has planned for our first annual convention. The convention will be July 9th and 10th at the Holidome in Columbia, Missouri. We have not finalized our speakers yet, so if you have any suggestions please contact Mary Ann Kaiser at 314-443-1666. We hope to bring you a wide variety of exhibitors - everything from equipment to the latest in aerial photography. The registration fee is \$25.00 for members, \$12.50 for spouse or children, \$35.00 for non-members. We are planning to do some things different than most conventions. All members will be getting more information about the convention sometime in May. Until then, mark your calendars and watch for your letter.

For many years the original government surveys have served as the only cadastre in the state. In many respects the system has not kept up with the technology and has not been fully utilized. Many governmental agencies have developed their own means for relating land based records. Most have utilized to some extent the original government surveys, but there has been no uniformity in the procedures or in the quality of the product. The property ownership mapping which is just being completed in the state can easily be seen as the embryo of the next generation multi-purpose cadastre for the State of Missouri. It is based to a large extent on the original government survey system; therefore, begins to extend that system into modern times. To truly meet the qualification for a multi-purpose cadastre, we need to look for a well defined system. The National Science Foundation in its booklet, *Procedures and Standards for a Multi-purpose Cadastre*, sets forth the basic components:

- "1. A spatial reference framework consisting of geodetic control points;
2. A series of current, accurate, large-scale base maps;
3. A cadastral overlay that delineates all cadastral parcels and displays a unique identifying number for each of them; and
4. A series of compatible registers of interests in land parcels keyed to the parcel identifier numbers."

When one reviews current cadastral activity in the State of Missouri with respect to these four basic components, it is clear what must be done to make the cadastre fully operational. The actual framework on the ground of the original government surveys is practically nonexistent. Its location on the surface of the earth is defined only by the corners placed by the original surveyors; therefore, with 80% of the corners destroyed, a large restoration program is needed. The current property ownership mapping program is based upon the perception of the original government surveys as shown on the U.S.G.S. topographical maps. This in itself introduces possible error into the system and does not constitute a solid frame of reference. The topographic maps are excellent maps to show what can be seen on the ground. Boundary lines such as the original government survey lines, are represented on the topographic maps without the benefit of actual survey information; therefore, they rely heavily upon lines of possession such as fences and roads for the delineation of boundary lines. Where there are no roads or lines of possession, the maps may not be as accurate as needed.

The need for a true multi-purpose cadastre is certainly with us today. A study conducted by the State of Wisconsin and sponsored by the Council of State Governments in January, 1978 indicated the magnitude of the need for good information.

The report states that in total Wisconsin Residents paid approximately \$17.00 each or \$78,730,306 in 1976 for information about the state's thirty-five million acres of land. These figures translate into roughly \$2.25 per acre. The report goes on to indicate that at country, state and federal levels there is considerable duplication in effort. Collection and use of data for the activities that occur on the land are not coordinated and do not rely upon one single basic framework.

Property ownership mapping has placed us one step toward a state-wide multi-purpose cadastre. The Missouri Land Survey Program in its programs to reestablish the original corners of the public land survey system, and its programs to provide geodetic control throughout the state, are steps towards the development of the cadastre. Technological changes are making the need for a cadastre more evident and are also making the attainment of this cadastre more realistic. The development of the cadastre is going to call on many professionals to work together. The land surveyor, the geodetic surveyor, the mapper, the assessor, the engineer, the state and local legislators, all have a tremendous role to play in the development of this extremely important system for the future.

Robert E. Myers, P.E., L.S.
State Land Surveyor

NEWS

To all mapping personnel:

I.A.A.O. will be conducting two mapping seminars this year. The (2) day programs will be held in Cincinnati on June 13-14 and in Salt Lake City on September 19-20. These programs were designed especially for people who have responsibility for the administration of mapping departments and those who work in mapping departments. I personally feel, they will be instructive and informative for everyone concerned with property ownership mapping. The speakers have been chosen from senior mapping personnel in government agencies across the country. (George Donatello being one of them.) I strongly recommend that those of you that can try to attend on of these workshops.

For further details and copies of the registration material please contact me here at the State Tax Commission:

Earl Tomberlin
P.O. Box 146
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
(314)751-1735

CHARTER MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Missouri Mappers Association will continue to accept applications as Charter Members through the 1st annual convention in July.

Anyone involved or interested in mapping has the opportunity to join the Association and become an original Charter Member. Do not hesitate! Join now and become a Charter Member of this expanding organization.

SURVEY RESULTS

The board would like to thank everyone who took the time to respond to the survey. The results of the survey showed a great deal of interest in all committees. In the field of education, the maintenance of property tax maps was voted as the number one area of needing education. This was followed closely by intermediate to more advanced training and basics of aerial photographic base mapping and photogrammetry.

On the legislative committee a majority of the responses indicated a major interest in the Maintenance Bill. There were plenty of excellent suggestions on the public opinion survey. Some of the comments indicated wanting a column similar to "Hints from Heloise", or a Vendor's Corner, and Book Reviews. There were many other suggestions which we hope to incorporate into our newsletter.

The convention survey showed Columbia was the leading location to host the convention. One and half days and two days were in a close race on how long the convention should be. Over 50% of the votes indicated they would like the convention combined with an educational program.

The topic which varied the most on opinion was certification/designation. The experience an individual should have before having considered for certification varies from one to ten years. The type of education required ranged from basic introductory courses to having a degree in drafting. It was evident that of those who responded a test on all abilities of mapping should be required. The title PMM-Professional Missouri Mapper was voted as the title for our certification.

The board and individual committees will be using the results of the survey for planning their actions for the coming year. Again thank you for all of your participation.

ARTICLE I

A big thank you to **Harry Kublin** and **Don Cleveland** for agreeing to Co-Chair the Education Committee. Harry works for the State Tax Commission in the Ratio Study Division and is from the St. Louis area. Don is with M.J. Hardin & Company in Kansas City and is in the photogrammetry field. Those Members that have signed up for the Education Committee should be hearing from one of the Co-Chairpersons in the very near future. The Committee needs to get together and organize their plan of action and report to the Executive Board before the next Board Meeting on May 15th at 2:00 p.m. here in Jefferson City. The following is a summary of the charge to the Education Committee: "Thru approval and coordination with the Executive Board, develop a comprehensive curriculum of studies that incorporates courses, both fundamental and advanced, in the maintenance and administration of assessment maps and assessment process, on at least two occasions annually and available to all persons interested in assessment mapping. These courses of study will be designed to fulfill the technical and professional needs of persons wishing to reach a level of professional designation."

A THANK YOU TO MISSOURI MAPPERS

Mr. George Donatello, President
Missouri Mappers Association
P.O. Box 1692
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Dear George:

Thank you and all the officers of the Missouri Mappers Association for granting me an Honorary Charter Membership in your association. I truly appreciate this thought.

IAAO is recognizing the valuable contribution that mappers make to the assessment administration effort. You and the other individuals on the Ad Hoc Mapping Committee and the Mapping Task Force have worked hard to bring this recognition about and I feel that we all share in this success.

I hope that I will be able to thank many of the Missouri Mapping Association members personally at the IAAO Mapping Seminars scheduled for the first time this year.

Thank you for letting me share in the endeavors of your new, vital and growing association.

Very truly yours,
Barbara Brunner
President

HINTS FROM HELOISE

Members, do you have a super idea save time when it comes to inking or cleaning up a mess? The Publication Committee feels a "Hints From Heloise" column will benefit all members. If you have a suggestion, please send it to:

Roger Arnzen
Cape Girardeau County Chief
Appraiser
44 North Lorimer St.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS

If you are a Subscribing Member of the Missouri Mappers Association, this is your chance for free advertising!

By simply sending in your business card, it will be displayed in the newsletter with the business card of other Subscribing members. Act now and do not miss this opportunity!

Send all business cards to:
Roger Arnzen, Coordinator
Cape Girardeau County
44 N. Lorimer
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

FOR SALE/WANTED COLUMN

Members, do you or someone you know have a piece of mapping equipment you have been wanting to sell or buy? The Publication Committee feels a "For Sale or Wanted" column will benefit all members. We will need the name and type of equipment you are advertising; plus, your name and phone number. This service will be free to all. Please send your inquiries to:

Roger Arnzen
Cape Girardeau County Chief
Appraiser
44 North Lorimer St.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

NAME OUR NEWSLETTER

Members, can you name our newsletter? We are running a contest to name our paper. If you would like to enter, send your proposed newsletter name and your name to:

Roger Arnzen
Cape Girardeau County
Chief Appraiser
44 North Lorimer St.
Cape Girardeau, Missouri
63701

All entries must be received by May 5. The newspaper name will be voted on by the general membership at the convention. The winning candidate's title will be announced and they will be introduced Wednesday morning at the convention. Also, their second year membership dues will be FREE. So put on your thinking cap and enter your title.

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT

"ONE MAP CAN SAY

A THOUSAND WORDS"

If I only had the ability to draw a map that could describe how excited I am about the Missouri Mappers Association. . . what a great cartographer I would be. . . because even a million words can't adequately describe the exuberant feeling! My map would show the faces of almost 200 members blended into one determined group of people dedicated to changing the course of property ownership mapping in Missouri and America. What an exciting energetic work of art I see! I am proud of how very far we have come in these last four months together. . . yet I am well aware of how long a journey we still have to fulfill our hopes and aspirations for the Association.

I hope this inaugural issue of our newsletter addresses many of the items you have asked about. The membership survey you completed gave us some direction in planning future programs. However, if we have not addressed your special interest, then please get involved so that in our next issue we can talk about the new project you proposed, and how successful it was. This is your organization and it will only be as successful as you make it!

Thank you again for helping make the Missouri Mappers Association a tremendous success. Your patient, enthusiastic support is deeply appreciated. I want to give a special thanks to our editorial staff for making the newsletter happen. I'll look forward to personally seeing you at our First Annual meeting in July.

THANKS TO YOU: IT'S WORKING

Thanks to **you**, the Missouri Mappers Association is on the high road and gaining ground. Membership now stands at 197, and I believe this will continue to grow.

I salute you for your desire to become involved, gain experience, and knowledge in the mapping field and to expand yourself.

With the goals set for the Association and your support and input, this Association can attain the highest level of excellence and professionalism. However, these programs and schools of continued development cannot be achieved overnight. The Education and Professional Admissions Committees are striving to provide your requests given on the survey. Please allow us your patience as all new groups require time to organize and plan.

The officers of the Association are as close as your telephone, so please call us for questions and suggestions. Your input is vital, and we thank you for your membership and cooperation.
Sincerely,
Rick Stuart
Director

MAP APPRECIATION

We all realize that the Missouri Mappers Association is designed for us to develop better technical skills and maintenance, but do we really appreciate the maps we are working on.

Maps are the basis for work ranging from road construction, surveys, appraisals, and a multitude of other items. But what should we do without them?

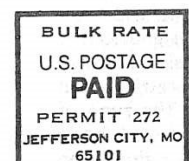
For someone like myself, the answer to the above question is simple. You simply cannot complete your work adequately and answer questions. I am the first county Assessor in a township organization and there obviously were no maps to work with. When a person wanted to know where that ten acre tract was located, when the legal was poorly written or non-existence on the taxbooks, you simply threw up your hands.

Now the maps we have, as a result of Reassessment, are invaluable. They are constantly in use and readily explain a large variety of questions. With this drastic turn around from zero to good quality maps our work is considerably easier. I can appreciate all the time and effort that was needed to develop and produce these maps.



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RECEIVED

APR 17 1985

M. J. HARDEN

Don Cleveland
M.J. Harden Associates, Inc.
1019 Admiral Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64106

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