

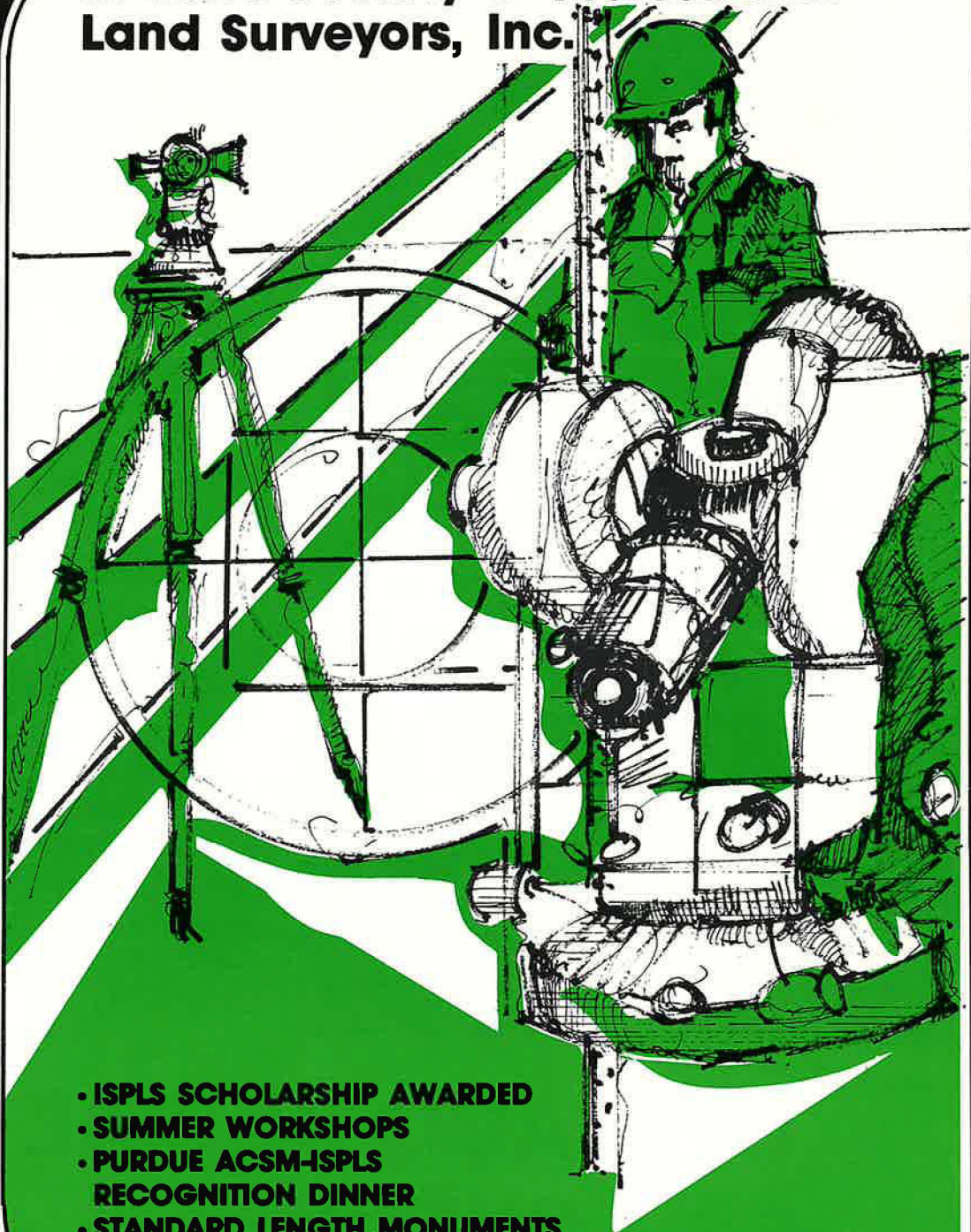
# SURVEYOR

# HOOSIER



VOLUME 2  
NUMBER 2  
JUNE 1975

Indiana Society of Professional  
Land Surveyors, Inc.



- ISPLS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED
- SUMMER WORKSHOPS
- PURDUE ACSM-ISPLS  
RECOGNITION DINNER
- STANDARD LENGTH MONUMENTS



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The Hoosier Surveyor is published quarterly by the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors, to inform land surveyors and related professions, government officials, educational institutions, libraries, contractors, suppliers, and associated businesses and industries about land surveying affairs.

Editorial / Advertising offices: 111 North Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46204 (Telephone: 317 634-6206). Advertising rates, closing dates, circulation data on request. Contributed articles, photographs subject to space limitations.

Kenneth S. Curtis  
Editor

Greg Schenkel  
Assoc. Editor



## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS



I am certain it was an oversight, but due to no response from the membership to volunteer for committee assignments, with one or two exceptions, I have with minor changes appointed the same members to the committees they served on in 1974.

The Legal Survey Law is not what some, if not most, surveyors thought it was. We discovered at the last Board meeting that although the statutory procedure was followed and the time for appeal has lapsed, this is not final and an action to Quiet Title can still be filed. I am referring this to the Legislative Committee for an Amendment in 1976.

The committee appointed to resolve the differences between the County Surveyors and I.S.P.L.S. will meet next month and some recommendations should be ready for the next news letter. The Legislative Report by Tom is included in this issue; I feel we were very fortunate to get the Immunity Bill passed considering the confusion that prevailed at this session. McComb and Associates deserve most of the credit for accomplishing this.

Your suggestions for the good of I.S.P.L.S. are needed. This is your Society and I will appreciate whatever suggestions you may have.

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## ISPLS Members Receive Recognition



Mrs. Earle Fennell presents plaque to Prof. Kenneth S. Curtis.

Professors Kenneth S. Curtis and John G. McEntyre, faculty members at Purdue University and ISPLS members, were recognized at the ACSM Spring Meeting held in March in Washington, D.C.

Professor Curtis was presented the Earle J. Fennell Award as the outstanding educator in the surveying field. This award was given to Professor Curtis "in recognition of his broad and outstanding contributions to education in surveying and mapping to ACSM, and to the surveying profession." He has long been active in ACSM and presently serves on its Board of Directors.

Dr. McEntyre, immediate Past President of ISPLS, was elected Second Vice-Chairman of the Land Surveys Division of ACSM. He is also serving as chairman of ACSM's Publications Committee.

ISPLS, Inc. congratulates these two members on their achievements and awards.

## Recent Purdue Land Surveying Graduates

Twelve Purdue University students are completing their degrees of Bachelor of Science in Land Surveying this summer — ten in May and two in August. Eleven of the graduates were present at the Annual Student Chapter Recognition Dinner held in April. They are, left to right, seated: William Barker, Pittsburgh, Pa. (Frederick Ward Associates, Bel Air, Md.); John Heis, Cambridge City, Ind. (job placement unreported); Paul Bender, Decatur, Ind. (Setser, Owen and Associates, Decatur, Ind.); Thomas Pastore, Rockville, Ind. (AMAX Coal Co., Marion, Ill.); Standing: Stephen Colchin, Decatur, Ind. (will graduate in August); David Riley, Newark, Oh. (Graduate School, Purdue University); Larry Morris, South Bend, Ind. (job placement unreported); Richard Lewis, Lucerne, Ind. (Land Acquisition Dept., Indiana State Highway Commission, Indianapolis, Ind.); Robert Marks, Frankfort, Ind. (School of Law, unreported); Greg Asher, Attica, Ind. (job placement unreported); Eugene Olinger, Ferdinand, Ind. (Graduate School, Purdue University); Absent was Douglas Dowling, St. James, N.Y. (Graduate School, Purdue University).





# ISPLS, Inc. Scholarship Awarded

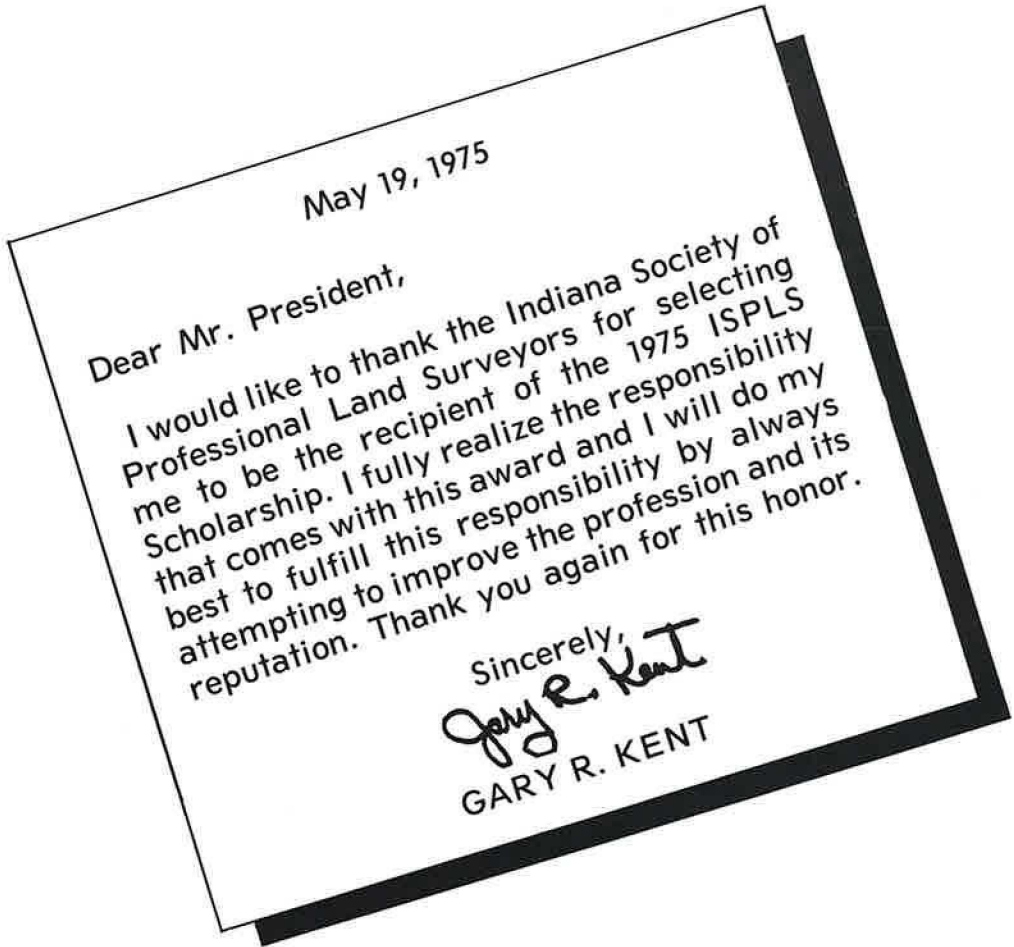
Roger Woodfill, Chairman of the Education Committee, recently presented Gary R. Kent of Indianapolis with the ISPLS, Inc., Scholarship for 1975. Gary is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Kent. He graduated from Pike High School and is presently a student at Purdue University where he maintains a 5.35 grade point average while pursuing a degree in Land Surveying.

ISPLS, Inc. congratulates Gary on receiving this \$500.00 award and wishes him continued success.

Below is a reprint of a letter to ISPLS, Inc. President, William Tanke, from the Scholarship winner:



Third Annual \$500 ISPLS Scholarship awarded to Gary Kent (left) Indianapolis by the chairman of ISPLS Education Committee, Roger Woodfill of Lawrenceburg.



# 1975 Summer Workshops to be Held in July

Once again, ISPLS, Inc., has scheduled a fine summer workshop program. These "Traveling Roadshows" will be a series of one-day sessions held in 10 cities around the state.

The workshops will be conducted by Professors Kenneth S. Curtis and John G. McEntyre, of Purdue University. Professor Curtis will present the session, "Meridian Determination by Solar and Polaris Observation," while Dr. McEntyre's subject is "Law and Surveying."

The registration fee is \$25.00 for members and \$35.00 for non-members of ISPLS, Inc. This fee includes the noon luncheon, and copies of the new ISPLS, Inc. Manuals #3 and #4.

Plan now to attend this beneficial one-day workshop at the site of your choice!

Tuesday, July 1 .....	Lafayette
Wednesday, July 2 .....	Kokomo
Monday, July 7 .....	Valparaiso
Tuesday, July 8 .....	South Bend
Wednesday, July 9 .....	Fort Wayne
Thursday, July 10 .....	Richmond
Friday, July 11 .....	Indianapolis
Monday, July 14 .....	Terre Haute
Tuesday, July 15 .....	Evansville
Wednesday, July 16 .....	Scottsburg
Friday, July 18 .....	Nashville





## Successful Spring Workshop Held

On Saturday, May 17, ISPLS, Inc. sponsored a spring workshop at the Quality Inn in Muncie, Indiana. The topic of discussion was "The Surveyor - His Role in Planning," and ISPLS was most fortunate to obtain the services of six individuals who have expertise in differing aspects of planning. The members of the panel were: Robert Hepler, an attorney from Goshen; Dr. Charles Sargent of Purdue University; Joe Fletcher of Fletcher Consultants in West Lafayette; Paul Saylor of Suburban Homes, Inc., in Valparaiso; and Bruce Yoder of Beckman, Yoder and Seay, Inc., in Fort Wayne.

Those in attendance benefited from the interesting panel discussion as well as an active question and answer session.

## ACSM Delegate's Report Spring '75

As usual, ACSM presented an excellent spring meeting in Washington, D.C., and, as usual, the best part of the meeting was re-establishing acquaintances with the group of dedicated professionals who are busting themselves to add stature and prominence to all of us surveyors. If you all don't support them with your membership in ACSM, it can only be because I have done an inadequate job of interpreting the importance of what they are doing. Walt Robillard, whom most of you know, is the new chairman of the Council of Sections and Affiliates, and he is typical of the persons I am referring to. (Just be sure you serve him Coca-Cola!)

One new topic and two old ones dominated most of the discussions. The new topic was "cadastre" or comprehensive land data system. There is a great need for such a co-ordinated system of land parcel identification, not just for title maintenance, but for valuation, land use, resource inventories, etc., and the surveyor is in a position to make vital recommendations for

the design and implementation of this system. Sam Baker feels very strongly about this, as those of you who heard him speak at our 1975 Annual Meeting know. Also, the New England Section of ACSM is doing some innovative work in this area.

One of the other topics generating considerable comment was our old friend Recertification. Apparently the pilot study last year in Kentucky produced some significant results, with reactions ranging all the way from "dead set against it" to "absolutely-by-God-dead set against it." As a result, the thrust now seems to be away from mandatory periodic re-registration, towards some sort of voluntary certification, with possibly an additional title for those professionals who qualify. Thanks to the efforts of our own Dick Beck, the three alternates that the ACSM Continuing Education Committee was considering in March were the "Kentucky Plan", the "New England Plan", and the "Indiana Plan."

Regionalization was the remaining topic, and the national interest was in the fact that the Great Lakes region is now organized and functioning. ISPLS is an active participant in the Great Lakes region, along with the surveying societies in Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, all under a loose-limit umbrella structure that lets the group meet and share common concerns and objectives without being burdened by officers, dues, and similar organizational trappings.

The next meeting of the Great Lakes region delegates will be held in conjunction with the ACSM mid-year meeting this October in Phoenix. I'll be there, so if there is anything you want said to either group, let me know. Lois is going along this time, John, so you will have to find a new room-mate.

Neil Franklin

## "CAPITOL COMMENTS"

On April 30, 1975 — the last day of the regular session — the Indiana General Assembly adjourned sine die shortly before midnight. At that late hour, an agreement was finally reached between the Democrat controlled House and the Republican Senate on the budget bills, thereby preventing the necessity of a special legislative session. Those bills authorize spending of approximately **50 per cent more** than in the 1973-74 biennium and it is expected that total spending may reach the \$6 billion level. The 1975-76 budget will operate on two bases — a portion on a one-year basis while the other will continue on a biennial basis. Appropriations for **highway construction** (HB 1102) and **Capital Construction** (HB 1103) are for the biennium whereas the **operating budget** (HB 1101) is an annual budget except for approximately \$1 billion appropriated for aid to local schools over a two-year period. The budget bills were signed into law by Governor Bowen on May 7, 1975.

An area of some importance to ISPLS members concerns SB 513 which governs campaign contributions by allowing **corporations** and **unions** to contribute directly to state and local political candidates. The act places a limitation on

corporations and unions from contributing **more than \$3,000** to a candidate or political committee at the **state level** or **more than \$1,000** for any other office or to any other committee. Also, beginning in May, 1976 candidates for the offices of **U.S. senator, governor and lieutenant governor** will be nominated in the spring.

We were extremely pleased that ISPLS sponsored legislation (SB 446) passed and was signed into law. This provides that members and agents of state licensing boards and commissions which regulate professions shall be free from civil liability for any conduct within the scope of their duties, including witnesses appearing before such boards and commissions. This, of course, pertains to the **Engineers and Land Surveyors Registration Board**. Other legislation pertaining to updating the Registration Act, recording of certain undivided plats and corner perpetuation failed to pass. However, your Society shall continue working toward the passage of such legislation.

Out of 1,706 bills introduced, 350 were passed (20.5 percent) — the lowest ever recorded. This low ratio can be attributed to two primary reasons: (1) the large volume of



Thomas V. McComb  
Executive Secretary

vehicle bills that were utilized, and (2) perhaps a high level of selectivity on the part of legislators and committees — a good sign. Perhaps the best thing that can be said about the 1975 General Assembly is that **what it did not do** may be much more important than what it actually accomplished!

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS

The following are sustaining members of the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors. The Society appreciates their continued participation and encourages your support of these firms.

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## PURDUE ACSM-ISPLS STUDENT CHAPTER ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER

The Purdue Student Chapter of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping held its third Annual Recognition Dinner on Friday evening, April 25, 1975 at Morris Bryant Inn in West Lafayette, Indiana. The dinner honored 21 students who will receive a Bachelor of Science in Land Surveying in either December (1974), May, August, or December, 1975, as well as Gary Kent of Indianapolis who was awarded the third annual \$500 scholarship sponsored by the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors. ISPLS Education Committee chairman, Roger Woodfill of Lawrenceburg presented the scholarship award.

The Student Chapter was also presented a charter from ISPLS Executive Secretary, Thomas McComb of Indianapolis. The chapter henceforth will be known as the ACSM-ISPLS Student Chapter, with Professor John McEntyre serving as faculty advisor. Sixty-five students, staff and guests attended the banquet.

Robert Marks of Frankfort was presented the annual award as the outstanding graduate of the land surveying class for the academic year 1974-75. This award is sponsored by the surveying staff and consists of one year's dues to the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping. Eugene Olinger of Ferdinand and David Riley of Newark, Ohio were also recognized as outstanding students and were awarded one year membership by the Congress.

Wesley Crawford, chairman of the Student Chapter, introduced each of the graduates. He also presented the Ph.T. (Pushing Hubby Through) award to wives of the married graduates. Professor Marion Scott, Associate Dean of Engineering, spoke briefly as a representative of the administration.

The main speaker was Captain Leonard Baker, Director of the National Geodetic Survey, Washington, D.C. Captain Baker's topic, "Surveying Needs of the Future," was well received by those present and was inspirational to those who are studying surveying and anticipating an interesting and productive career. Captain Baker is currently president-elect of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping.

The new officers of the student chapter for 1975-76 are chairman, Phil Burress, Scottsburg; vice-chairman, Bill Watson, Mount Morris, Illinois; secretary, Tim Warner, Indianapolis; treasurer, Jeff Tuttle, Scottsburg; and board of director members, Wes Crawford, Bedford, Pennsylvania; Ronald Wharry, Frankfort; and Kevin Potter, Ridgeville.



ISPLS Executive Secretary Thomas McComb presents student chapter chairman Wesley Crawford with a charter.

ACSM National President-Elect spoke at the 3rd Annual ACSM-ISPLS Purdue Student Chapter Recognition Dinner. Capt. Leonard Baker, right, Director of the National Geodetic Survey spoke on "Surveying Needs of the Future." Roger Durham, listens attentively.



Robert Marks, left, Frankfort, was recognized as the outstanding graduating senior by Prof. Kenneth Curtis. Also singled out for outstanding scholarship were Eugene Olinger, Ferdinand, and David Riley, Newark, OH.



# Where, oh where, is your right of way line?

NOTE:  
Second part of a two-part series.

*Vague markings for right-of-way lines too often place the burden of the cost of additional surveys on the property owner. An improved method of designation is now in use in Minnesota. The ASCE Committee on Pipeline Location has made resolutions, the adoption of which will bring clarity and uniformity to such surveys.*

**WILLIAM T. WAMBACH, JR., F. ASCE**  
District Engineer,  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Superior, Wisconsin

Adjoining property owners ask this question; so do land surveyors, abstractors, attorneys and the courts. And how do we answer it? Almost invariably we know the width of a right of way, but far too frequently not the exact location on the ground. This happens because the right of way was never permanently marked.

This holds true for nearly all ground transportation facilities: highways, rail lines, pipelines as well as energy transmission power lines. And who are the managers and design professionals who determine what right of way is needed and determine how it will be measured, marked, described and bought? Unfortunately, the answer is—the civil engineers.

For the past ten years, the Land Surveying Committee of ASCE has been making an inventory of the procedures used by transportation agencies in the United States for surveying, describing, monumenting and mapping their rights of way. This inventory was begun because of the many complaints by private property owners, whose land adjoins or is crossed by a transportation right of way, about the cost to them of a boundary survey when they wish to make improvements on their property. The private property owner is required by governmental regulation to keep his physical improvements some stated distance from the right-of-way line of the government agency or public utility.

### Poor practices in surveying cost owner of abutting property money

Because these lines are not monumented, and are many times ambiguously described, the cost of surveying these lines is disproportionately high, and the burden falls on the private property owner.

Figure 1 is a portion of a map purporting to show a 100 ft (30.48m) right of way acquired from the property of Fred Hammer and described by means of a blanket description such as: "A 100 ft (30.48m) wide strip of land across the property of Fred Hammer in the Town of Henry, Jones County." Such a map gives some idea that the right of way crosses Mr. Hammer's property from southwest to northeast and lies entirely

north of the southwest corner and the northeast corner of Mr. Hammer's property. Since no dimensions are given, the exact location depends solely on an assumption that the transportation facility was built in the center of the intended right of way, and therefore, if the facility can be found, the boundaries of the right of way must be assumed to be equally distant from its center. The description given has little value at all. Without the map, even the direction of the right of way would not be known. This is certainly an extreme example, but there are many recording offices in the United States that still have such descriptions on the books.

Figure 2 shows a slightly improved version of a right-of-way description that reads: "A right of way 60 ft (18.28m) wide on each side of a center line described as beginning at a point 156.2 ft (47.61m) south of the northwest corner of the Arthur Spade property; proceeding thence southeasterly to a point 203.8 ft (62.12m) north of the southeast corner of the Arthur Spade property." Now, if the Arthur Spade property is explicitly described, an accurate survey of the property can be made, and the center line and the two right-of-way lines can be computed and surveyed. However, it is apparent from the description that the exact shape and area of the right-of-way are not known to the acquiring agency, and the burden of paying the cost of determining the exact boundaries has been, rather unfairly, transferred to Mr. Spade.

### Most common designation inadequately monumented

Figure 3 is a sketch showing four U.S. Public Land Survey sections. On it is shown what is probably the most prevalent way of describing a transportation right of way in this country. To describe the right of way in any one of the many properties that might be improved in this approximately two and one-half mile section of right of way, the description usually reads: "All that part of the owner's property which lies in a certain direction from a right-of-way line which is described from the center line by center line stationing and a distance at right angles to the right

or to the left of the center line." As is shown on the sketch, that center line ties into the U. S. Public Land Survey corners only infrequently. The cost to the private property owner of having a land survey done in one of these sections would be immense. Unless the key points of this center line or the right-of-way lines were monumented, the likelihood of any competent land surveyor, (including the one from the transportation organization who did the original survey), of reconstructing this two and one-half mile survey in precisely the location it was originally surveyed is highly remote.

### Improved method used in Minnesota

Figure 4 is a simplified example of part of a plat sheet based on a highly-improved method of monumenting, mapping, and describing right of way developed and now in use by the state of Minnesota, Department of Highways. The first thing that strikes the eye is that this is truly a plat of a land division. Note that there are no center lines shown, no reference lines shown; only land lines appear on this plat. Since Minnesota is under the sectionalized U. S. Public Land Survey System, the basic property boundary controls are the corners placed in the original public land survey. Each of these corners is monumented. One of the corners on each plat sheet has listed for it the appropriate State Plane Coordinates. All azimuths on the plat are based on grid north. All distances shown are ground distances, and the conversion factor to the State Plane Grid Distances is given on each sheet. Monuments are placed on the right-of-way line at changes in direction including beginning and end of curves. The entire piece of land to be acquired on this plat sheet is a closed geometric figure, capable of being checked both by measurement in the field and by mathematical computation in the office. Each plat sheet is recorded separately at the register of deeds office. The parcel of land to be acquired from each property owner is assigned a parcel number on that plat sheet. Instead of a lengthy center line description, or equally lengthy metes and bounds description, the description for

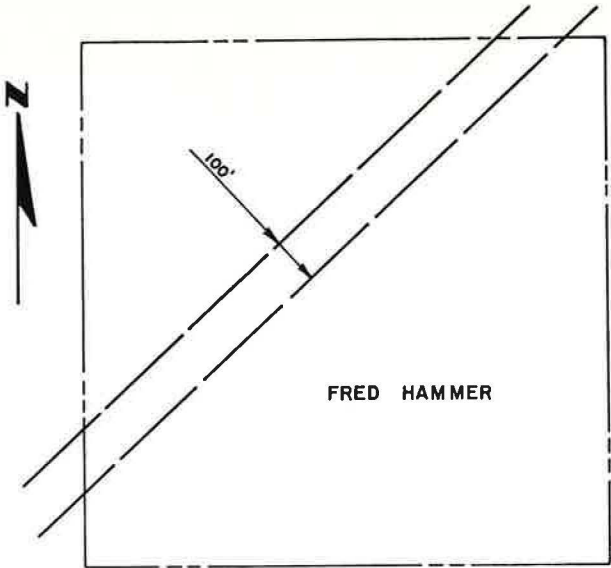


Fig. 1. Sketch of a blanket description for a right-of-way.

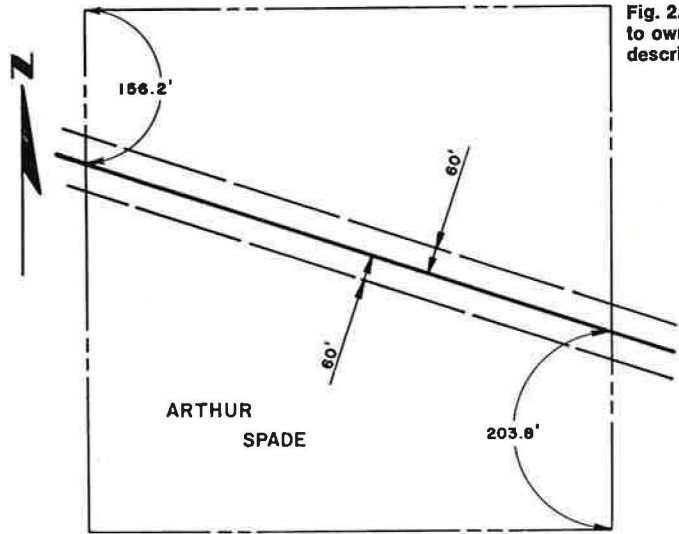


Fig. 2. Right-of-way tied to owner's property description.

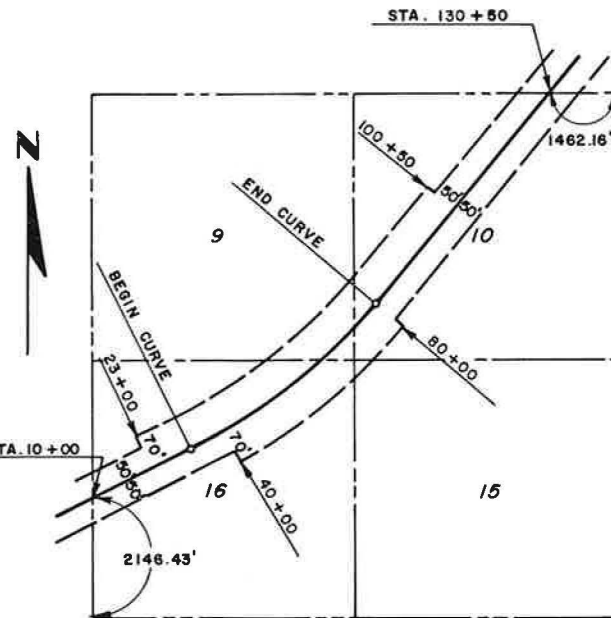


Fig. 3. A sketch of what is probably the most common method of describing right-of-way in this country.

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MARCH 1973



WHEREAS, the Committee desires that increased monumentation be made available for the use of the public and that data pertaining to such monumentation and to land, engineering, and right of way surveys based upon the State Plane Coordinate Systems be made public record,

There is, in this country, a network of such long-lasting markers on the ground, whose positions on the earth's surface are known to a high order of accuracy. These are the monuments of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey (National Ocean Survey). Since 1934, a system of identification of these



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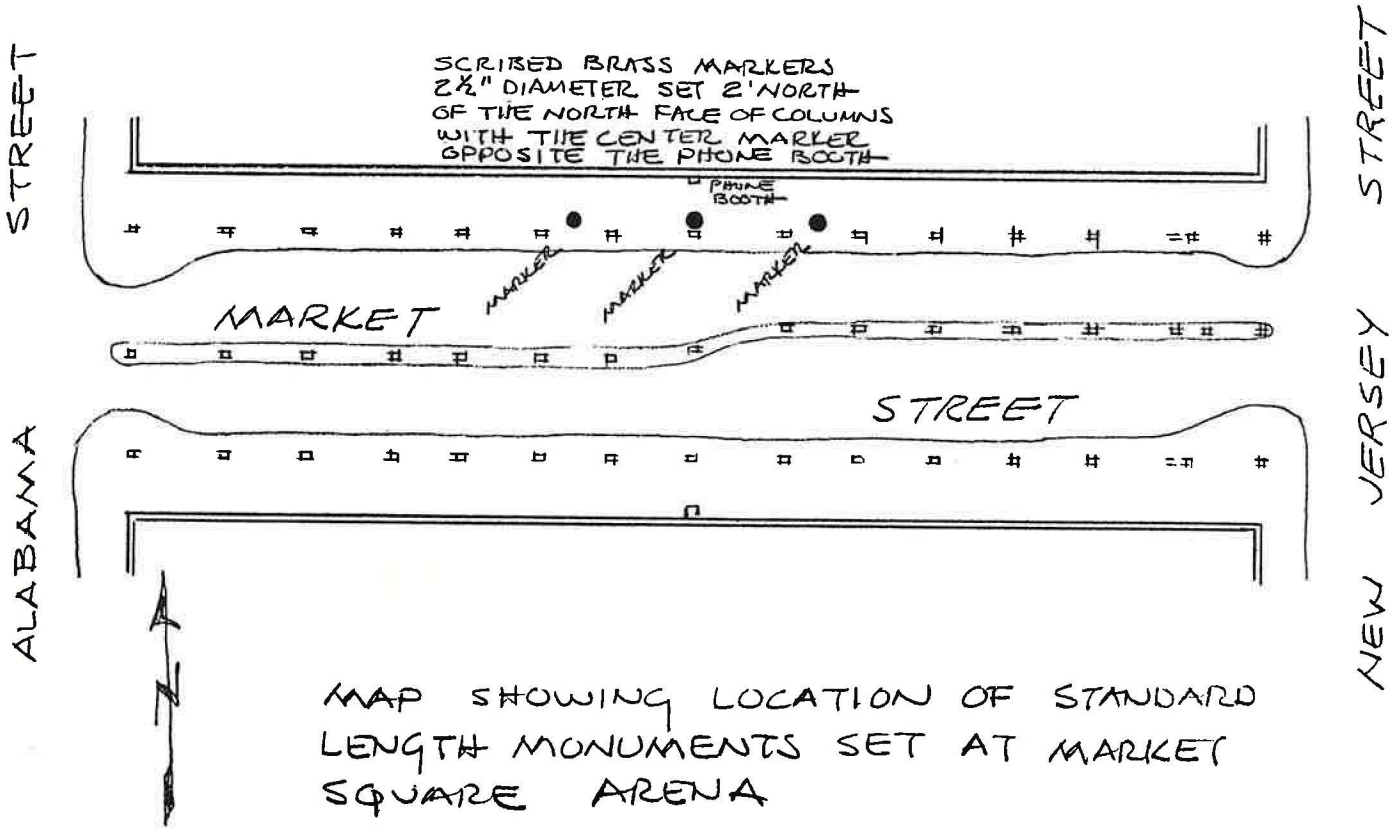


# STANDARD LENGTH MONUMENTS

The Marion County Surveyor's staff has set standard length monuments in the Market Street sidewalk at Market Square Arena. These monuments, set with a Minvar low expansion base line tape certified by the United States National Bureau of Standards to be in error by not more than one-thousandth of a foot, have been set for the use of Surveyors, the Bureau of Weights and Measures, Governmental Offices, and others in the area to standardize their measuring tapes.

The monuments are 2 1/2 inch diameter brass markers set flush in the sidewalk on the north side of Market Street half way between Alabama and New Jersey Streets. This location was chosen because it makes the monuments readily accessible in a clean, dry, well-lighted place protected from the weather. The markers have been set at Zero, Fifty, and one hundred feet. Each marker has been punch marked for an index mark and has been stamped for stationing.

(The sketch below shows the location of the monuments.)



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_____	I.S.P.L.S. Manual of Practice (looseleaf in large three-ring binder)	\$15.25 *	\$22.50 *
_____	I.S.P.L.S. Surveying Publication Series Manual No. 1 - The Perpetuation of Corners in Indiana by John G. McEntyre (June 1972), 100 pages plus 5 page supplement.	\$ 5.25	\$ 7.50
_____	Manual No. 2 - The Indiana State Plane Coordinate System by Kenneth S. Curtis (June 1974), 196 pages.	\$ 5.25	\$ 7.50



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We feel that you, as a member, will benefit in such areas as professional image, continuing education, governmental relations, etc. However, the most important part of ISPLS is the individual member who participates in the Society. Input from the local level is vital in defining and realizing our objectives.

Therefore, we urge you to complete the membership application and return it as soon as possible.

INDIANA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS, INC.  
111 N. Capitol Ave. • Indianapolis, Ind. 46204 • Ph.: 317-634-6206

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



I am familiar with the By-Laws of ISPLS Inc. I am in agreement with the objectives of the organization, and hereby make application for membership as a Member ☐, Junior ☐, Associate ☐, Student ☐, (Check one.)

Annual dues payable on Feb. 1, of each year are for: Member or Associate \$30.00, Junior \$15.00, Student \$5.00.

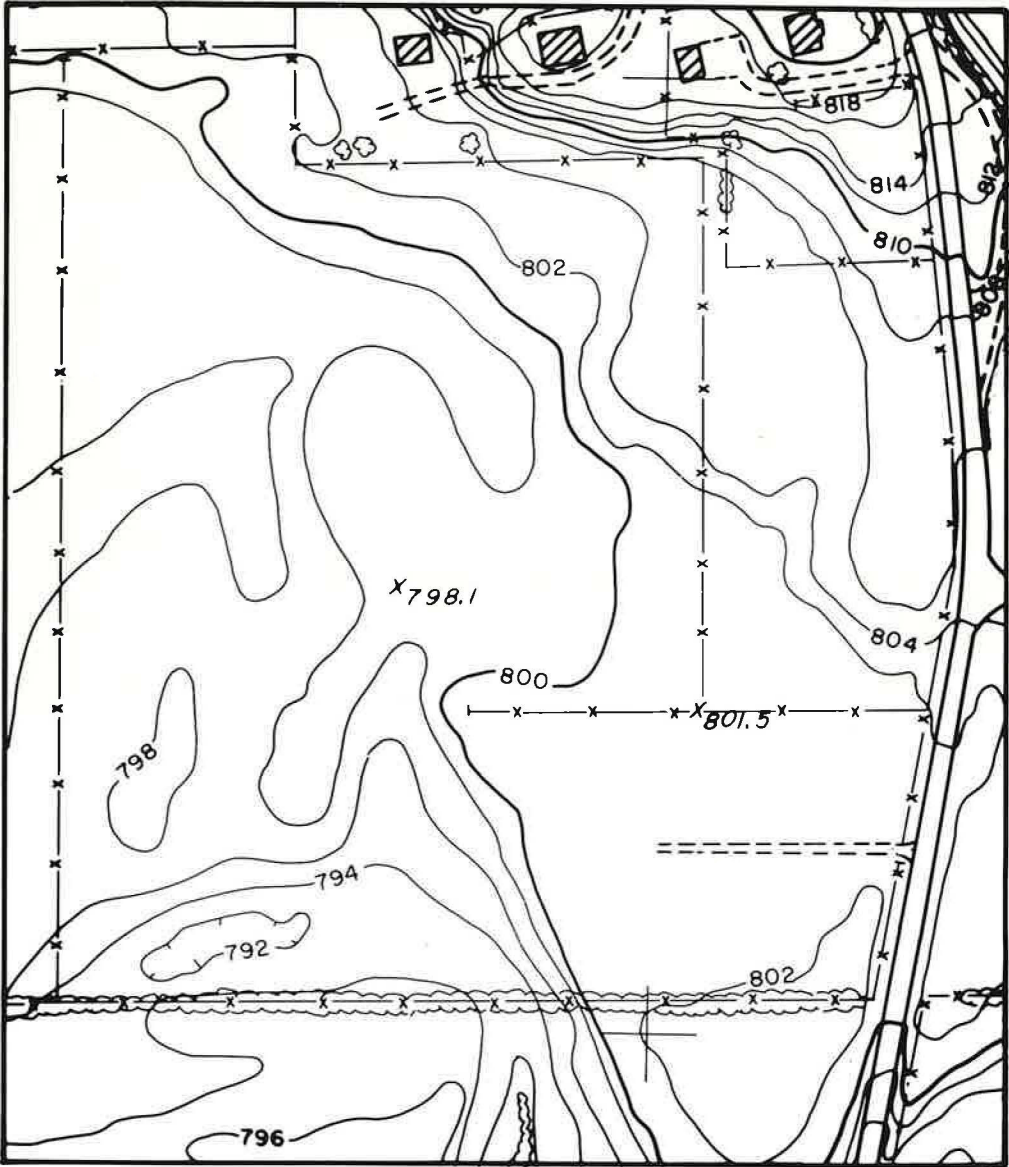
Name _____	Position _____
Home Address _____	Employed by _____
City _____ Zip _____	Business Address _____
Telephone No. _____	City _____ Zip _____
Registration Status: (Give Reg. No. and Branch) (CHECK ONE)	Business Phone _____
R.L.S. _____	ACTIVELY PURSUING REG. (J) _____
R.P.E. _____	ONLY AFFILIATED WITH PROF. (A) _____
Member of American Congress on Surveying and Mapping _____	Yes _____ No _____
Member of a local chapter of ISPLS, Inc.? _____	Yes _____ No _____

Recommended By: \_\_\_\_\_

\* (Must be signed by ISPLS Member)

Board of Directors

Application Approved \_\_\_\_\_



das

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