



THE FLORIDA SURVEYOR

March 2022
Volume XXX, Issue 3



IN THIS ISSUE

FSMS Pioneer William C. Hart

12,450 Acres in 6 Weeks

Tribute to Robert "Buddy" Bannerman



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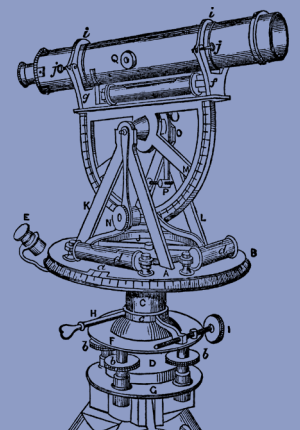
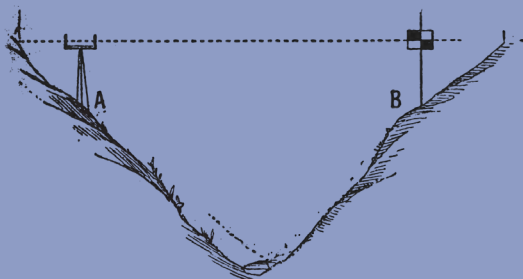
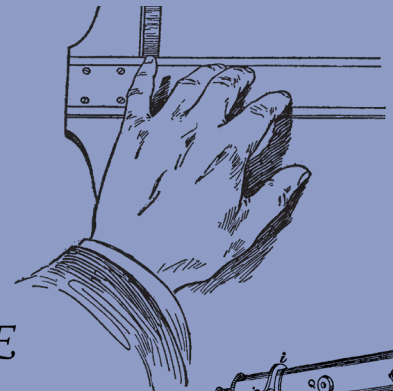
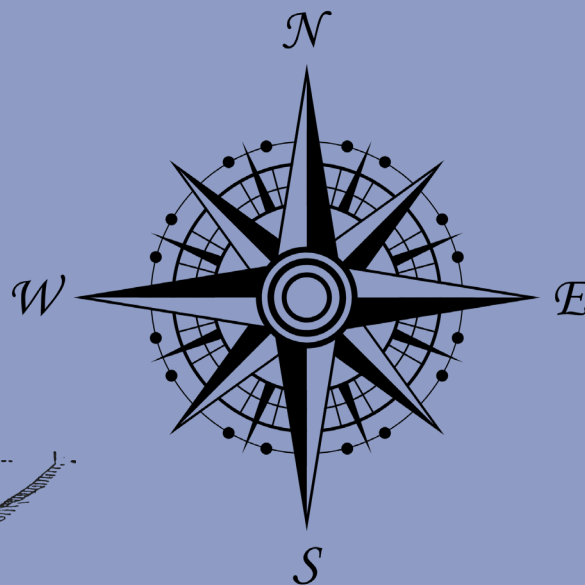
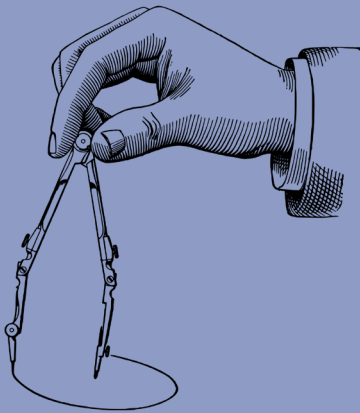
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PRESIDENT'S Message

Florida is a big state. Maybe not so much for land area, but the population there is no doubt. Still, as big as our population numbers are, the surveying population is tight-knit. Along those lines, I want to reflect on the recent passing of Buddy Bannerman, and in so doing, give a brief glimpse into some of our histories.

I have known Buddy for almost 50 years now. To say that he was a giant in the profession would be an overstatement of the obvious. Buddy and my dad served on the Society's Board together, but I had met him before this as I was tagging along with my dad at one of the early 70's conventions. There were for sure other giants of the surveying profession of that era that I met in my youth, such as Dick & Jim Shiskin, Ed Brownell, Bill Keith, Broward Davis, Dave Gibson, George Bolton, Gene Stoner, Lew Kent, Bob Harris, Paul O'Hargan, Bill Thompson, Bob Wigglesworth, and John Gargis, plus so many more. And while some influenced my career more than others, I wanted to reflect on how I came to really know Buddy Bannerman.

It was 1996, and I had been elected Treasurer of the Society, mostly because of my complaints on how we developed a financial budget. So, this (becoming Treasurer) was kind of a "put up or shut up" move by most of my fellow Board members. One that I ended up relishing, but not for the year that I thought it would be, but for the year in which it morphed into being.

The Society was not doing well financially, which is an understatement. At many Board meetings, we had to "pass the hat" in order to come up with the money needed to keep the Society afloat. It got so bad that Ray Niles (our President) and I had to terminate our Executive Director's employment, for the most part, because the Society could not afford to pay her. Our Executive Director (ED) was pretty much unilaterally loved by the membership (a definite understatement), so it is pretty much easy to understand that Ray and I got a lot of guff over her termination. One of the folks that had great admiration for that ED was Buddy Bannerman, and he did contact Ray and me to give us an earful (as did many others).



President

Lou Campanile, Jr.

(954) 980-8888

lou@campanile.net

About a week after the departure of our ED, we received a 3"x5" card in the mail from our bank stating that the mailing address of one of our bank accounts had been changed, coincidentally to the home address of our former ED. We checked the account number on the card, but it did not match our checking account. So, I took the card down to the bank, wherein I was informed that we had 12 accounts at that bank in the Society's name. For all we knew before this, we had one account. So, I started a forensic investigation of our finances, and it quickly became evident that our former ED was stealing money from us. A lot of money. The ironic thing is that she was stealing so much money from us that we could not afford her salary. Yeah, I know, really stupid on her part.

The full investigation took about a year, and I was dealing with the City of Tallahassee Police, but mostly the Secret Service. We compiled an evidence book that was so damning to our ED that she plead guilty and spent time in prison. There was no way that Ray and I were going to let this ED get away with what she thought she could were it not for the fact that she got too greedy.

Again, these were tough times for the Society. We had recently experienced the "train is off the tracks" convention at the Grenelefe Resort, most of which was orchestrated by Buddy Bannerman and Bill Thompson (ask one of us who were on the Board at that time about this), and they were not wrong, but the reason that they were not wrong was not what they thought at the time.

During my forensic investigation, I made a special effort to keep Buddy Bannerman abreast of every step. No one but Buddy and I knew of this. And during this time, I desperately sought and received his input on the investigation issues. I trusted Buddy to keep his involvement in the investigation silent, and he did. I will never forget the respect and guidance that Buddy gave me with what I was doing, and because of this, it was not long before Ray and I were no longer vilified for doing what we had to do in order to keep this Society afloat. So, yes, Buddy Bannerman was a giant of a surveyor that we all can respect, but he also was a giant of a man, and he has my eternal respect and gratitude for that. RIP Buddy!

Oh, in case you wondered, the Society has instilled a series of checks and balances in our finances that preclude a repeat. It is a fact that FSMS is in better shape now in all facets, than at any time in our past.

The Strategic Planning Retreat is one of our most effective vehicles in having members' input on shaping the future of our profession. It will be something that should not be missed, and you even get CEU credits for attending, so attend!

See you there, [March 18 & 19, in Gainesville.](#)

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FSMS Pioneers

A series that honors the legends of surveying in the state of Florida



“Bill” William C. Hart
(1926 - 2004)

Early Life

Mr. William C. Hart was born on January 8th, 1926 in Orlando, Florida. He grew up in West Orange County on Lake Johns with his family. His father, Mr. A.C. Hart, managed the old West Orange County Country Club.

As a teenager, he and his brother Gus lived in downtown Orlando and would help their father with survey projects. Together, they would take the bus as far as they could, and then walked the rest of the way carrying their survey equipment to the job site.

Mr. William originally got into surveying through his grandfather, Mr. Conrad E. Hart, and his father, Mr. A.C. Hart, both of whom were civil engineers and land surveyors. Mr. Conrad came to Orlando after the Great Freeze of 1895, and it was during the land boom of the 1920s that Mr. A.C. Hart surveyed throughout central Florida.

Military Service

Mr. William Hart graduated from Orlando High School and joined the Navy during

FSMS Pioneers

World War II as an aviator, navigator, and tail gunner in the Pacific Theater. After the war, Mr. William attended Indiana Technical College and graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering.

Third Generation Surveyor

After graduation, William returned to the central Florida area and began working for Hank Heath before starting his own surveying business that he named Wm. C. Hart, Surveyor in 1951.

On May 4, 1952, Mr. William married Judith Ann Davis. Together, they had two children, William Hart and Beverly Hart Jones, both of whom became fourth-generation land surveyors, as well as FSMS members. His son Bill Jr. was licensed in 1981 and continued working with his father until starting his own surveying company, Hart Surveys of Osceola in 1989. Beverly also worked with her father



"Bill" in WWII serving in the U.S. Navy as an Aviator, Navigator, and Tail Gunner.

Hart Family Home Located on South Street in Orlando, Florida.



until she became licensed and started BHJ Survey Consultants in Orlando, Florida around 1993. In addition, his brother Gus worked with him as a crew chief from the 1950s until the closing of Hart Surveys, Inc.

In 1955, Mr. Hart was elected as Orange County Surveyor and served four terms until 1969, whenever the position was disbanded. After this, Mr. Hart became the Southeast Regional Vice-President for VTN, Inc. in Orlando, Florida until 1975.

In 1975, Mr. William became the President of Hart Surveys, Inc. located in Windmere, Florida. Although he was most remembered for surveying the Walt Disney Project, he was also monumental in establishing control for the VAB building in Cape Canaveral, the Crystal River Power Plant,

"Bill" working the phone in his Orlando office.



Bill's brother and fellow surveyor, "Gus."

AT&T transmission line alignment from the Florida-Georgia border to central Florida, the centerline alignment of the East-West Expressway (SR 408), and he developed the control grid for Florida Technical University, now known as University of Central Florida.

As mentioned earlier, Mr. Hart was best known for his surveying work done in the 1960s for Walt Disney. In 2007, Patty Winter wrote an article for *The American Surveyor* entitled, ["Mapping the World: How 47 Square Miles of Florida Swamp Became a World-Famous Destination."](#) In the article, Winter tells the story of the difficulties and challenges brought on by surveying and clearing this Florida swampland. She gives an account of the integral roles Bill and his brother Gus played in such a monumental undertaking.

According to his daughter Beverly, Mr. William's favorite component of surveying was to do retracements, as well as digging up tree stains at witness ties to prove section



Walt Disney World Early Construction

corners. Unfortunately, he did not label his many pictures for the particular corners he was attempting to prove, so many of his remaining pictures are of holes in the ground without any documentation because no one knows where they were taken.

His least favorite aspect of surveying a project was vertical construction control. This made him very nervous and he was constantly pointing out buildings or structures that were not plumb. So much so, that he refused to ride the Observation Needle at Sea World for this very reason.

The Consummate Surveyor

Mr. Hart was well known for being a mentor to many local surveyors who were just getting

started in the field. After the workday, he would conduct impromptu classes discussing trigonometry formulas, how to add angles across quadrants, stadia calculations, and more.

“One of the things he loved most about surveying was the combination of science and art,” his daughter Beverly recalls. “He was a bit of a philosopher at heart and enjoyed seeing mathematics physically take shape in the real world.”

When it comes to how Mr. William influenced his children in surveying, Beverly remembers him constantly preaching, “Take your time and do it right. Understand the tools and principles that you are using; that’s the only way to know that your answer is the



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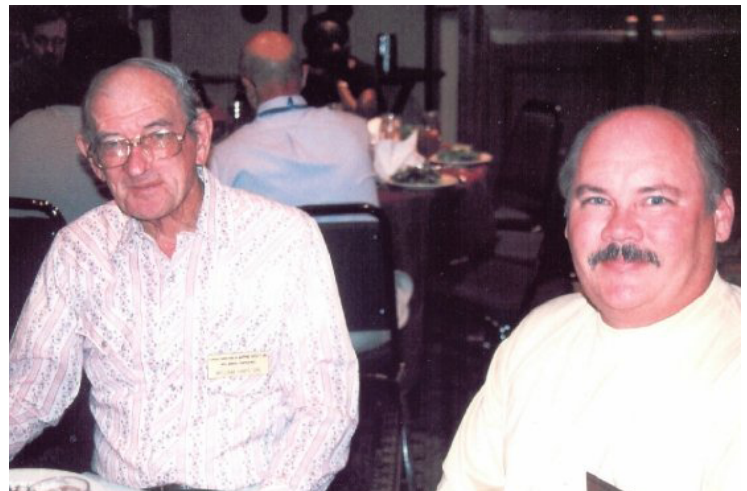
Bill Jr. (Left) and Beverly with their father, William Hart, Sr.

calculations for a large borrow pit off SR 417. The crew was my father and my husband on the rod(s) and myself on the gun. I would call them on the radio ‘Good on you, Steve,’ ‘Good on you, Dad.’ My husband objected to my radio language and familiarity. The next calls were ‘Good on you, Dad’ and ‘Good on you, Honey.’ Dad chuckled. As a child, it was a great treat to ride in the spare tire on the front of the Land Rover through the orange groves. I didn’t understand surveying at the time, but it was fun to ride with him.”

“Some of my fondest memories are of us

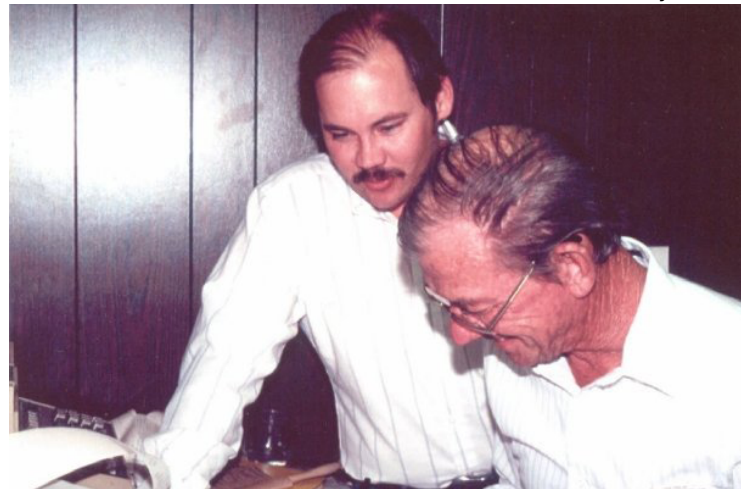
correct solution.” And, “Check your work. He always wanted to have enough backup to defend his decisions and he was not too proud to admit if he had made a mistake, although he did not like that at all. He also fostered my interest in reviewing title work, as well as abstracting, and history.”

Bill Hart (left) with his son Bill Jr. at FSMS' Past President's Dinner.



Mr. William saw a lot of changes during his career. He embraced the advancing technology and enjoyed seeing new equipment from vendors at the annual conference. His daughter Beverly remembers that he may not have always trusted the newest technology, but he was always interested in how it worked. “We were using total stations and data collectors very early on, and the geodimeter he had was the first sold in the Southeast. He would be amazed at the research tools that are so readily available now. He was fascinated when LABINS first became available and would spend hours looking through the records.”

Bill Jr. (Left) with his father William at Hart Surveys, Inc.



Beverly reminisces about the time she and her husband were in the field with her father. “We did a topo and volume

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going to VTN as a child. There was a huge area in the center of a large room that housed a climate-controlled computer. It looked like something you would see in a science fiction movie. At the time they were using punch cards for their calculations. I was always fascinated to watch it work. I also had great Girl Scout cookie sales at that office. Another time I remember driving with my mother way out in the orange groves on a wide clay road. I was convinced we were lost. Finally, my mother found a place and said she would ask for directions. She knocked on the door of a trailer and out came my father. It was the main construction trailer at Disney off Reams Road.”

Mr. Dann Mckee tells of the time Bill's wife, Mrs. Judith Hart, remembers when Bill was the residing president of FSMS, formerly the Florida Society of Professional Land Surveyors. She recalls that the society was so broke at the time, that after the annual conference was over they had to write a personal business check to the hotel to cover all of the expenses.

FSMS Accomplishments

Mr. Hart was part of the original group that helped to create a professional association in Central Florida that grew into FSPLS(Florida Society of Professional



Land Surveyors) and is now known as FSMS. He served as President in 1968–1969, as well as Conference Chairman for the ACSM Conference that was held at the Contemporary Hotel, Walt Disney World in 1973. In addition, he was part of the NSPS committee that developed the NCEES licensing examinations and served as Central Florida Chapter President in 1973–1974. Surveyors that knew and worked with Bill described him as a gentle man who loved the camaraderie of his fellow surveyors. FSMS would like to Thank & Honor Mr. Hart for his commitment to the profession and for being a great example of what it means to be a Professional Surveyor.

(This article could not have been written without the help and assistance of Mr. Hart's daughter, Mrs. Beverly Jones. FSMS would like to personally thank her for sharing their stories and photos. He truly was an accomplished Pioneer in Surveying.)

12,450 Acres in 6 Weeks

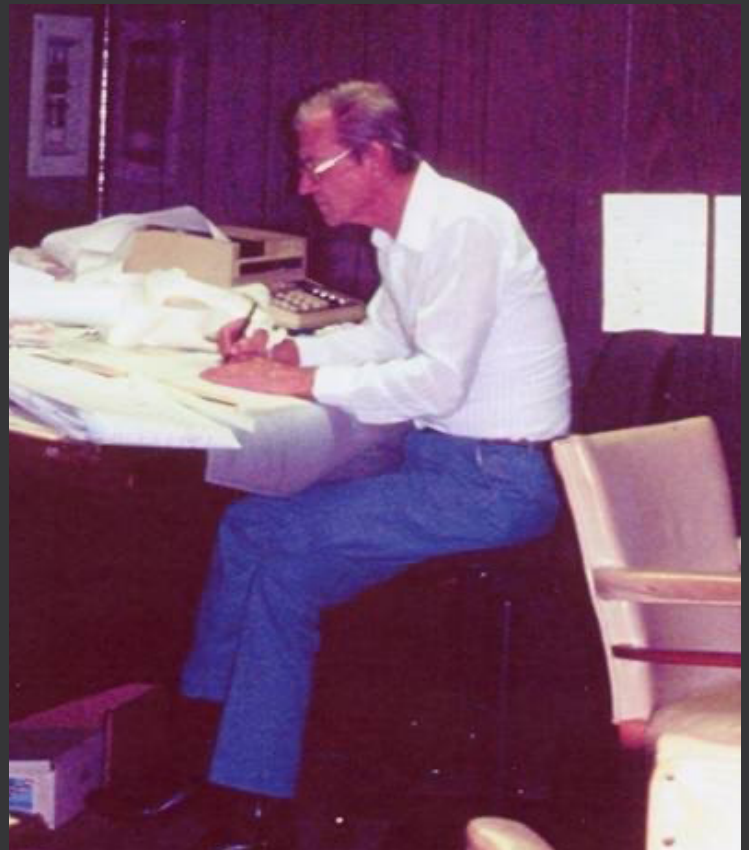
Beverly Hart Jones
NSPS Fellows Breakfast
September 27, 2019



“Good morning. Thank you for having me here this morning. I’m Beverly Hart Jones, a licensed surveyor here in Florida. John Hohol asked me to join you and talk about the survey that my father performed for the acquisition of property here at Walt Disney World. I am going to focus on the first parcel acquired, known as the Demetree Tract.”



“Just a little background on me and my family; My grandfather, A.C. Hart, surveyed in Orange County after he returned from serving in Cuba and the Philippines during the Spanish American war as a member of the Shrine Guard out of Orlando. This picture was taken in the early 1920s at the Osceola/Orange County line. For those of you from this area, you might recognize the name from plats like Sphaler’s Addition to Prosper Colony in Taft; Lakeview Heights in West Orange County and Orange Center right near this area.”



“My father, William C. “Bill” Hart surveyed in the area from the early 1950s until the late 1990s. He was a Charter member of the Florida Society of Professional Surveyors (now FSMS) and served as President from 1968 to 1969.”



1973 ASP/ACSM



FALL CONVENTION

OCTOBER 2-5

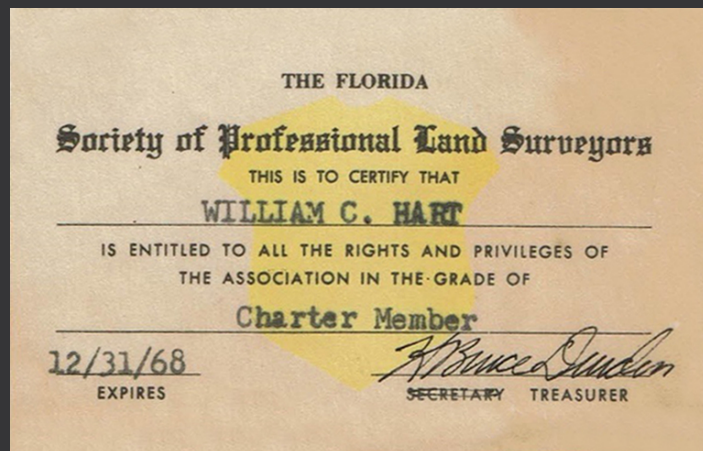


Walt Disney World

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLORIDA

NSPE SUPPORTS BILL ON METRIC SYSTEM

“In October of 1973 he served as the conference chairman for the joint ACSM/ ASPRS conference held here at Walt Disney World. I believe this was the first convention held on property, it was at the Contemporary Resort near the Magic Kingdom. I think the conference theme was interesting, “Technology, Today and Tomorrow”. It seems that technology has been a driving concern for us all for many, many years. He also served as the Elected Orange County Surveyor, yes they were elected at that time and he was the last elected county surveyor before the office was abolished. Currently, the county surveyor is an employee of the County. As an elected official, my father was in private business as Wm. C. Hart, Surveyor.”



Form 162

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Office of
SUPERVISOR OF REGISTRATION

Orlando, Fla., May 20, 1954

This is to certify that Honorable Wm. C. Hart
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in and for Orange County,
at the Primary Election held on the 4th day of May 20, 1954, having received the highest number of
votes for said office at said election, as shown by the Election Returns on file in my office.

Dixie P. Barber
Supervisor of Registration.

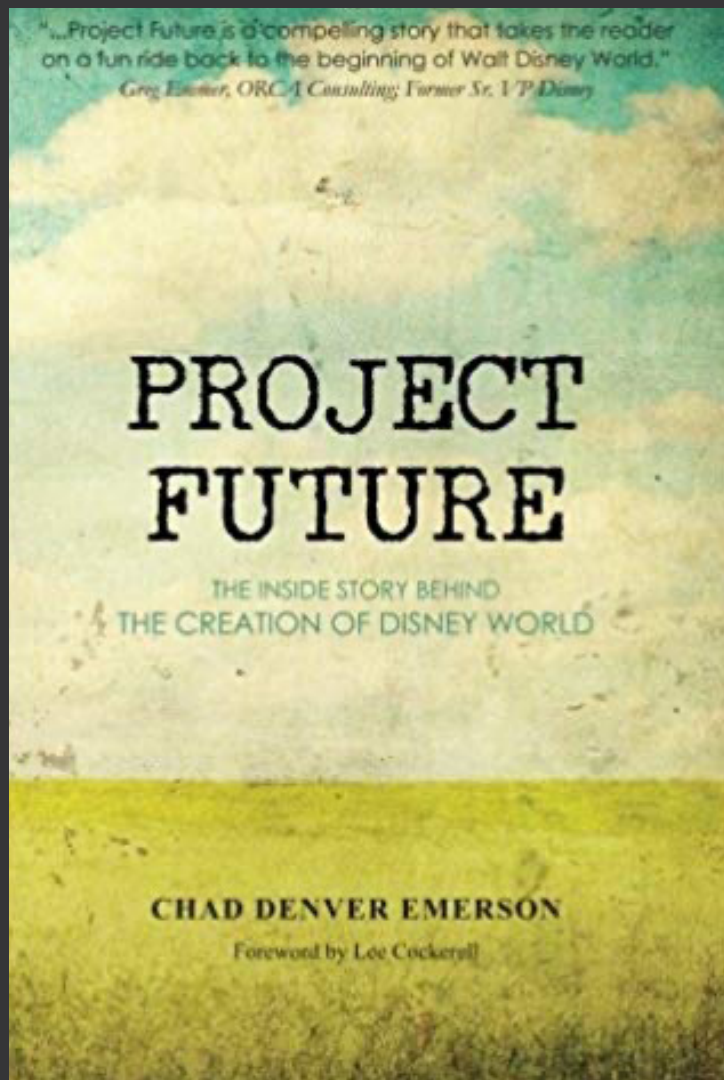
“In 1964, a man by the name of Bob Foster, using the name of Bob Price, walked into my father’s office and requested a survey of 12,450 acres in Southwest Orange and Northwest Osceola Counties. The requirement was that it must be completed in no more than 6 weeks.

In the early 1960s, there were many real estate speculators with big ideas, but not much money to make it happen. My father prepared a proposal for the project and asked for a \$10,000 retainer. That was pretty unheard of at the time and he figured it would let him know if this was really a serious project. He also required that they would be paid weekly or walk off the job. Amazingly, a check for the retainer showed up the following week with instructions to be on property the following Monday to begin work. The weekly billings were to go to a law firm in Miami by the name of Helliwell, Melrose and DeWolf and were to be billed to “Project X”.

The property being surveyed was owned by Bill and Jack Demetree and was used primarily as a hunting camp. This was the first property that was involved in a series of purchases that would become the 27,000 acres of Walt Disney World that we know today.”

Thus began a project so secretive, even within the company, that it would be referred to as “Project X” by the “select seven” official insiders who knew of it at the time: Disney leaders Card Walker, Donn Tatum, Jack Sayers, Larry Tyron, Mel Melton, Joe Fowler, and Bob Foster. (D23.com)





The Walt Disney World Resort near Orlando, Florida is one of the world's most famous vacation destinations.

This iconic resort is now located in what once was thousands of acres of swamp and marshland. Through spylike moves and innovative strategies, Walt Disney and his cadre of creative leaders turned this massive swampland into today's Disney World.

This book shares the amazing behind-the-scenes story of how Disney's Florida resort, code-named Project Future, rose from the marshes of Central Florida to become one of the world's most popular theme park resorts.

Project Future

“There has been much written about the lengths that Walt Disney went to in order to keep his involvement in the Florida purchase a secret.

In a book titled “Project Future” the comings and goings of the project team and the need for secrecy is discussed at length. I highly recommend this book if you want to learn more about how the whole thing came about. Walt first saw the property by air in November of 1963, the same day that John F. Kennedy was assassinated. He desired a significant amount of land where he could control the areas surrounding his development.

At Disneyland in California, the properties immediately adjoining the park had become a distraction from the magic that he wanted his guests to experience.”



courtesy of tfppodcast.com

“The Demetree tract was the first piece in a large puzzle that would help him fulfill his dream. It covers more than 25 sections across 2 Townships and 2 separate Ranges.

Even with all of the tools that we have available to us now, I spent a lot of time just sketching out the contents of the legal description. For any of you here that still remember those days, think about the tools and research options available at the time.

In an article from the *Orlando Sentinel* dated July 4th, 1965, my Dad recalled the challenges and methods that were used to complete this very large task.”



“The general character of the land was pine forests, palmetto scrub and swamp. Other than a few hunting trails and camp sites there was not much out there. It’s probably safe to say that not many had seen most of the section corners since J.O. Fries had re-monumented them.

The original government corners were lighter wood posts. In the late 1800s, John Otto Fries was contracted to retrace the sections and more permanently monument the corners with 6" x 6" concrete monuments. (As an aside, for any locals here, or if you have a little more time to spend in the area, the Orange County Regional History Center has just opened a new exhibit that includes the work and field notes of J.O. Fries)

So, the challenges that faced my dad were not only the overall size of the project, but also the terrain and of course the time factor. Remember, the job had to be delivered in 6 weeks or less.”



Beverly Hart Jones with her brother, Bill Jr., showing off their dad's Geodimeter from 1964. This was the first geodimeter purchased in all of the Southeastern United States.

“To accomplish this, my father purchased the first Geodimeter sold in the Southeastern United States; it was a model 4B. Interestingly, the cost of the instrument was the same amount that they had received as a retainer for the job, \$10,000.

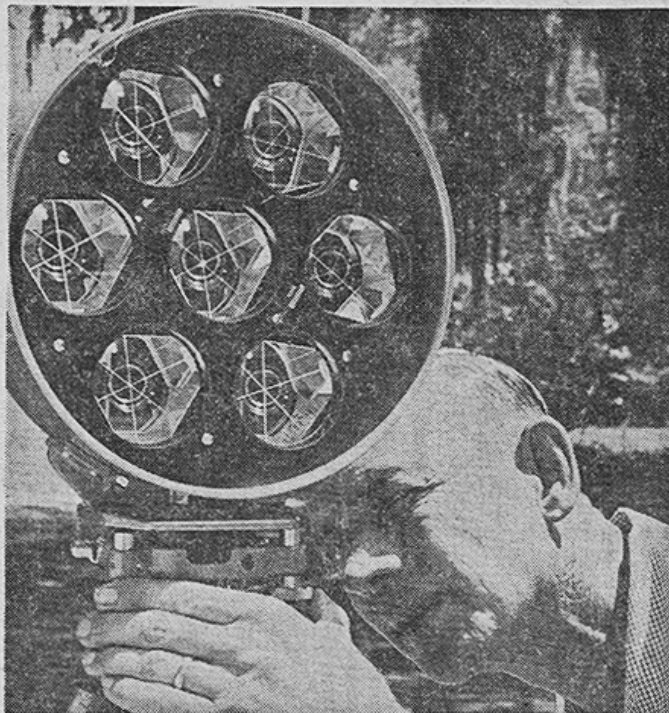
At that time, the Geodimeter was considered the latest in technology. *The Sentinel* even called it “Space Age.” It was an early Electronic Distance Measurement device (EDM). It had a tungsten light source (mercury lights were an option later) that was aimed at a large array of reflectors. There are seven in the picture from the *Sentinel*. Not only did it calculate the distance, but it also corrected for temperature and atmospheric pressure. The unit alone is 35 pounds, without the case or tripod and it was powered by the truck battery. Observations were taken in sets of three to twelve. Six observations per sight seemed to be the norm from the field notes that I have witnessed. Each observation was for 10 minutes. Unfortunately, the field books were ruined, and I don’t believe that I have any of them left.

Dad also purchased a Theodolite to measure the angles as it was more precise than the transits they had. Because of the tricky terrain, dad used Land Rovers to be able to get through the dirt and some of the mucky areas. I have very fond memories as a child of getting to ride on the hood of the truck in the middle of the spare tire.”

however, the error of closure was found to be only .13 foot in one direction and .20 foot in the other — a total error of approximately two inches! This is ten times more precise than the finest work resulting from the best methods utilizing conventional equipment — transit and tape.

Finding it hard to believe such precise figures, Hart carefully rechecked all readings and computations, employing an IBM electronic computer in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Data was telegraphed to the computer center and acreage figures were returned the following day. Everything checked out correctly and the results were proven to be true.

“WHILE the geodimeter would be of little value in measuring a house lot,” explains Hart, “its use in acreage surveys, over difficult terrain and across lakes, opens up a new era of accuracy never before obtainable.” It seems a far cry from the original Government survey of Florida when a group of two or three hardy woodsmen, living off the land and using a magnetic compass with hand-wrought “chain,” staked out the original section corners in this area.



BILL HART AND GEODIMETER PART
... unit receives reflected light to measure

“So I took a deep breath and ordered a Geodimeter,” said Hart, “and then realized that to use it correctly, I would also have to have a Theodolite instead of a transit.”

“BASICALLY, a Geodimeter is an extremely accurate distance-measuring instrument which uses a beam of light shot from the instrument to a distant reflector which bounces it back to a receiver in the instrument which automatically registers the distance.

Corrections for temperature and pressure make its readings even more precise. No plodding crew, dragging a measuring “chain” is necessary, although lines of sight must sometimes be cut through wooded areas.

So precise is this instrument that the ordinary surveyor's transit is not considered accurate enough to measure the angles involved. Hart's purchase of a much more costly Theodolite was thus necessary. Theodolites are used extensively in lining up and launching missiles at nearby Cape Kennedy.”

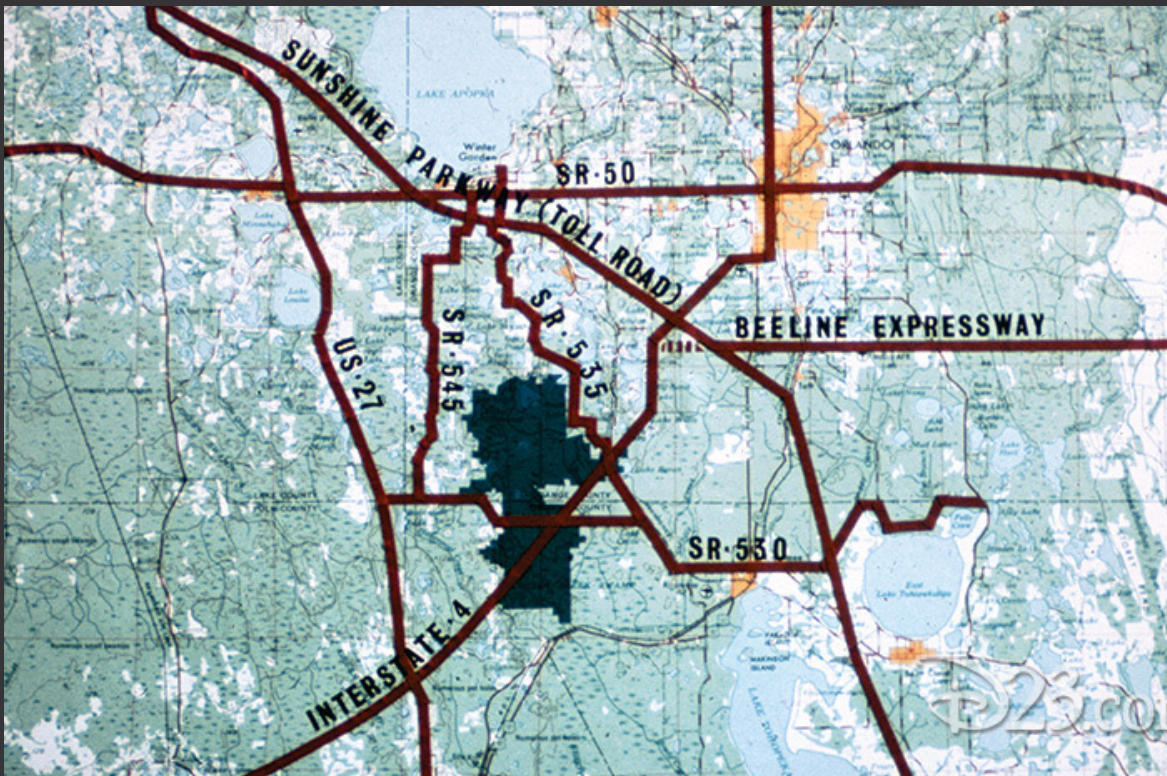
— *The Orlando Sentinel* (July 4, 1965)



Gus Hart (Bill's brother) surveying in waist-deep Florida swamp.

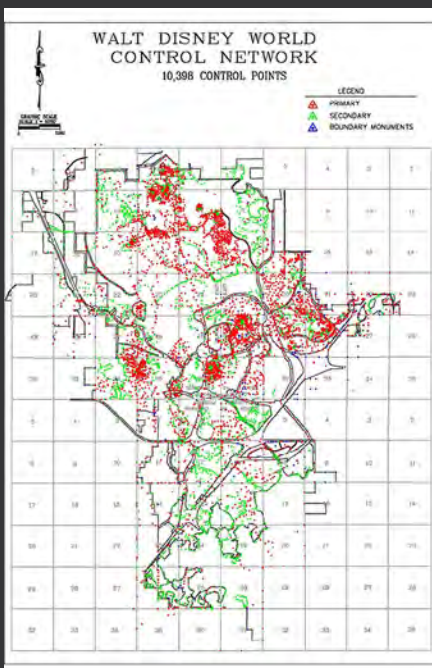
“There’re a few family stories about the original traverses that were run. The crew would carry onions with them instead of canteens with water. The onions were lighter than the canteen and had a high water content to keep them hydrated. Also, after eating a raw onion the mosquitos wouldn’t have anything to do with you.

Another one involves timing. The crews learned very early on how far and how long they could be down the cut lines before heading back out. If they stayed too late as they walked out they would be surrounded by the sound of “plop, plop, plop.” That was the water moccasins/cottonmouths dropping out of the trees to head back into the swamp for the evening. It was always better to hear that sound far behind you, rather than in front of you along your exit route out. The rattlesnakes were also very thick in the palmetto scrub, so most everyone carried guns. I heard that during construction phase, Pinkerton Security was hired to issue guns to the party chiefs every morning, but that’s another part of the story.”



“Back to the original 12,450 acre tract. In order to orient the traverses and ultimately create a boundary, a solar observation was performed on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1964. I had celebrated my 2nd birthday just two weeks before that.

The results of all the observations were carefully calculated and checked by my father. He was astounded with the accuracy of the results. The perimeter of the boundary was about 28 ½ miles and a closure in many feet would not be unexpected given what they were used to working with in the day. To his amazement, the closure was 0.13' by 0.20' or better than 1:630,000, ten times more precise than the finest work resulting from the best methods utilizing conventional equipment - transit and tape (according to the Sentinel article). Since he was still not completely confident in such wild results, he telegraphed his data to Ann Arbor, Michigan to run through an IBM computer and the next day his results were confirmed.”



“Dad developed a cartesian coordinate system to assemble all his control points, section and boundary corners.

This coordinate system was expanded as other adjoining properties were added to the survey and was used during construction. The system was perpetuated until fairly recently when all the existing control was adjusted to state plane coordinates.”

“The resulting boundary survey of the Demetree property was delivered on time and soon thereafter the scope of the project grew to include 9,000 acres of cattle ranch in Osceola County owned by State Senator Irlo Bronson, the Bay Lake parcel of about 640 acres – Section 1-24-27, the Heimrich tract, and numerous 5 acre parcels in the Munger Subdivision ending in a total of 27,000 acres.”



Bill Hart (left) accompanies Walt Disney and other executives strategically planning for excavation and construction.



Courtesy of bestofwdw.com

“Secrecy remained about the 'mystery project' until Walt Disney himself announced it in November, 1965 with Florida's Governor Haydon Burns at Orlando's Cherry Plaza Hotel. By the way, that announcement was the first time that my mother knew who the client was that they had been billing for 'Project X.'

The next phase was construction of the largest private development project in the country, but that again is a subject for another day.”

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**FSMS Pioneer
Robert "Buddy" Anderson Bannerman
(1938 – 2022)**

Dear Members,

It is with regret and sorrow that we inform you of FSMS Pioneer Robert “Buddy” Bannerman's passing. In addition to his many other accomplishments, Buddy served as FSMS President from 1983-1984. In the early 1980s, Buddy and Bunk Hood started the FSMS Chipola Chapter.

He also served for FSMS as governor to The National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS), was awarded Director of the Year in 1982, H.O. Peters Surveyor of the Year in 1991, and became a FSMS Life Member in 1992.

FSMS would like to thank Buddy for all his years of dedication and service. He will be sorely missed and FSMS would not be the same without him. Thank You, Buddy, and God Bless.

Link to Obituary: <https://jacksoncountytimes.net/robert-buddy-anderson-bannerman/>

Link to FSMS Pioneer Article: <https://www.fsms.org/assets/Robert%20A.%20%2522Buddy%2522%20Bannerman.pdf>

“Very sad to hear. He was very respected in our area. He was one of the good ones! He will be missed! May the LORD comfort the family.”

— *Ronald Gibson, PLS*

“Buddy is One of the greatest Surveyors I had the privilege of working with, you will be missed.”

— *Kathy Wade, Professional Surveyor*

“Worked with Buddy on DEP projects years ago. He was always a dedicated surveyor to our profession in every way. Sad news.”

— *Deborah Hill, Retired Professional Surveyor*

“RIP, Buddy. You made the surveying profession and NW Florida proud; a true professional!”

— *John Davis, Retired Public Works Engineer*

“Many years ago, Buddy used tall wood stakes to illustrate the importance of professional associations. He took a single lath and broke it over his knee, saying that like that stake, a surveyor alone is quickly overcome. However, when surveyors band together like a bundle of stakes, they are not easily broken. His Was A Race Well Run!”

— *Don Elder, FSMS Past-President*

“Wonderful person, historian, and Surveyor. May He Rest In Peace.”

— *Richard Pryce, Professional Surveyor*

“Oh, gee. :-(

Buddy was one of the most gentlemanly, warm, inviting people I have been fortunate to know. Right now, my heart is heavy - feeling a loss. The world needs more Buddy Bannermans!”

— *J. Anthony Cavell, LSU Geoinformatics*

2022 UF Geomatics

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Seniors

Records 2/23/22

Karen McMillan, Eric Summers,
Final notes, plats and records



The Tallahassee
Baseline and
Meridian Initial
Point of the
USPLSS



DOT Central Office Surveyors



Florida
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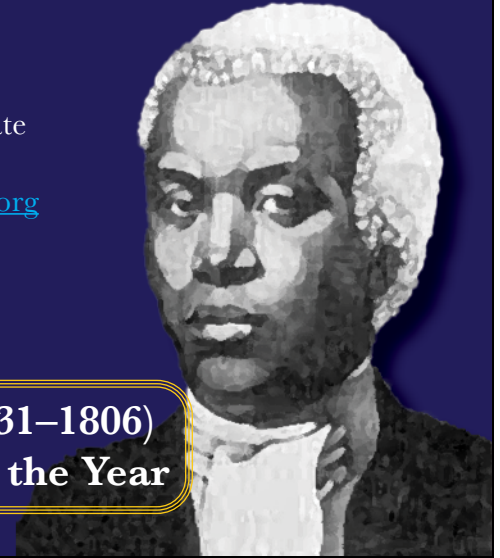
2022 National Surveyors Week

March 20 - 26

Global Surveyors' Day is on March 21st



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when: Thursdays, 5 - 6 pm

- Cost is Free
- Topics will vary each week
- Exam Levels 1-3
- Examples of Study Topics:
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For More Info Contact Alex Jenkins CST, IV
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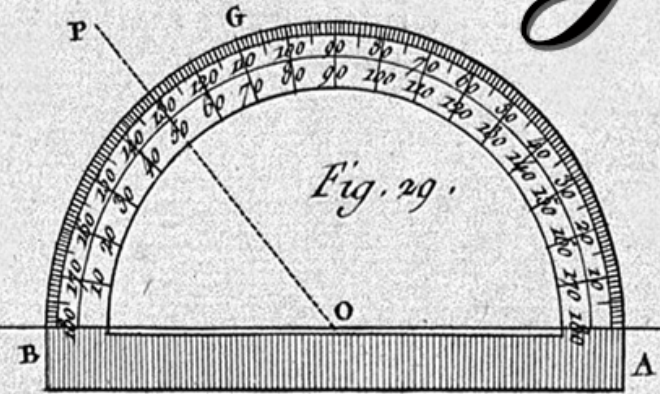


Fig. 16.

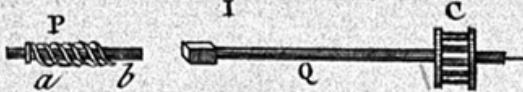
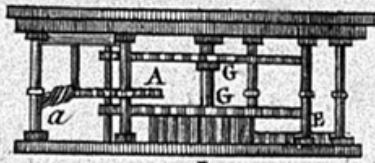


Fig. 23.

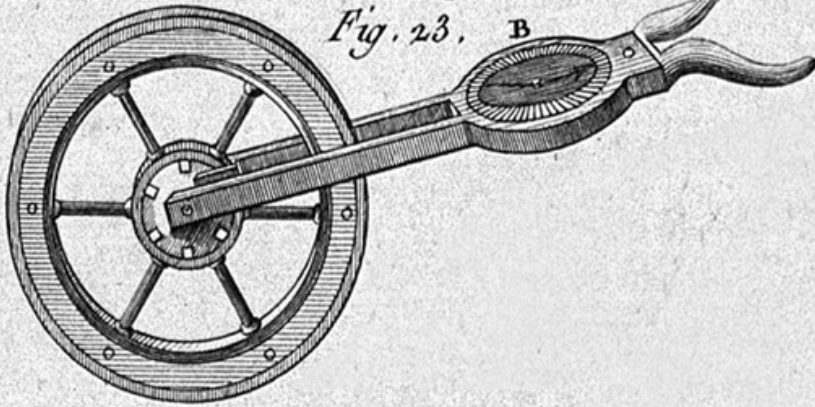


Fig. 16.

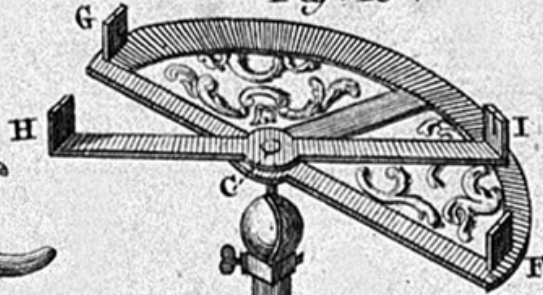
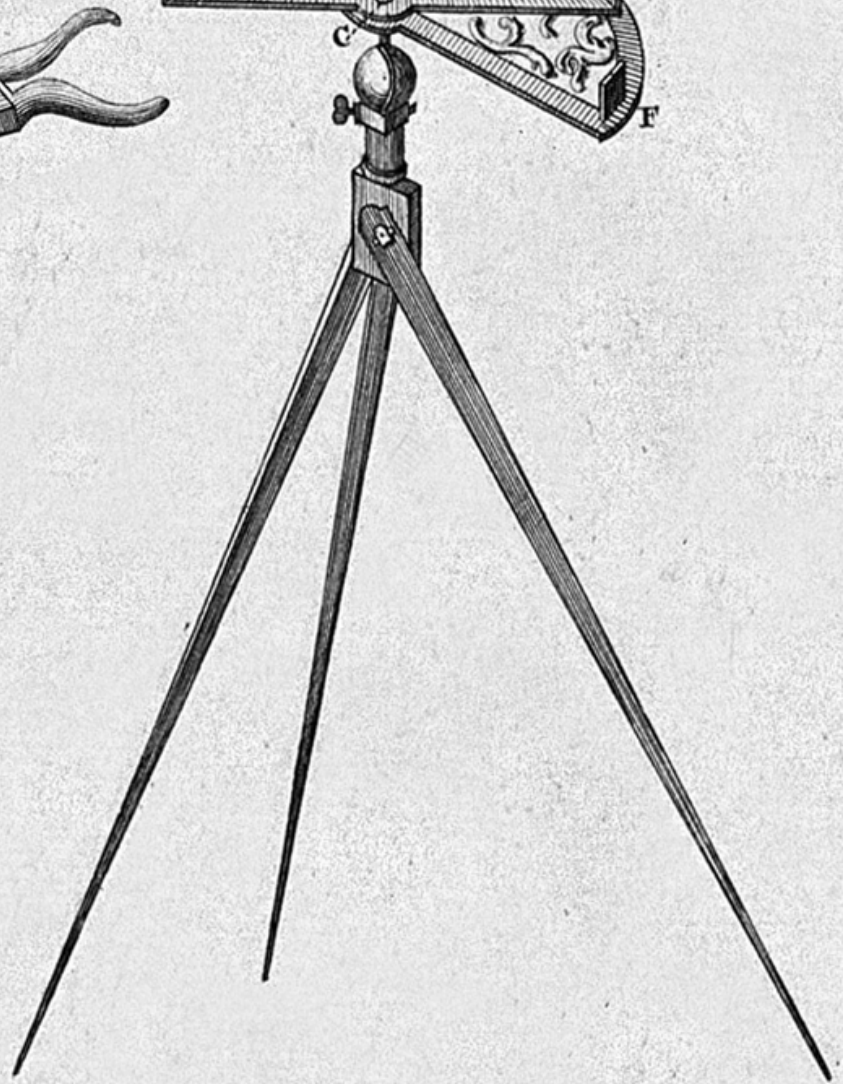
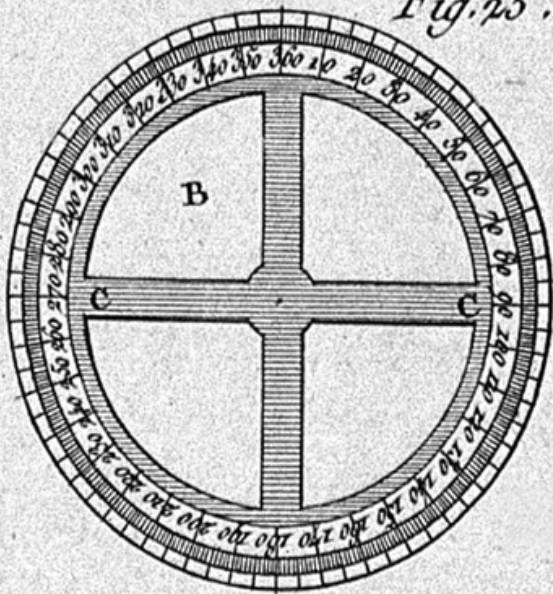


Fig. 25.



A Brief History of The Florida Control Survey and Mapping Project

Sawyer 1934

UP TO THE FIRST OF THE YEAR 1934, only 8% of Florida's area had been topographically mapped. Of that 8%, more than half of the mapping had been done in the 1890s and before the development of roads, highways, railroads, and industries in the State. The only existing control lines or points of the known location to which local surveyors could refer their lines were an arc of triangulation by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey along the East Coast of Florida, and an arc east and west across the northern part of the State, and an arc reaching from about Apalachicola to Tampa along the West coast, together with a few widely separated primary traverse lines of the Geological Survey and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Preliminary and necessary to a survey for mapping operations are control lines. These are traverse lines with monuments at regular intervals, whose geographic locations and elevations are known, and to which the topographic surveys may be referred. These monumented lines may also be used by local engineers and surveyors as a datum to which to refer their local surveys.

In November 1933, at the beginning of the C.W.A. program, a Federal project was set up providing for such control surveys under the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey for all the States in the Union. In Florida, B. R. Van Leer, Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Florida, was appointed as Representative of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and Director of that project for the State. This project was carried on until February 15, at which time, due to a Federal ruling, it was discontinued as a Federal project, but through the efforts of Dean Van Leer and other interested engineers in the State, was made a state C.W.A. project.

After the C.W.A. program in March, the Local Control Survey Project was also concluded, but again the project was continued under the Florida Emergency Relief Administration as a State E.R.A. project. The Florida Emergency Relief Administration approved this project for continuation up to September 13. On that date, in addition to the control work, there was also approved a certain amount of topographic mapping. The funds for carrying on this project were reduced to such an extent, that in the past there had been employed an

average of 250 persons per week. This project employed an average of 140 persons per week.

Three topographic parties working with plane tables were placed in the field in addition to eight control parties. The work continued on this basis until January 1 when the F.E.R.A. required further reduction in expenditures. It was then agreed that work could be carried on as long as funds were available at a maximum cost of \$9,000.00 monthly under the direction of Dean Van Leer. The workforce was eventually reduced to 100 employees.

January 1, 1935, Dean Van Leer secured from the U.S. Geological Survey an agreement to assist in completing a map of a portion of the State. The Geological Survey agreed to supply supervision and to take aerial photographs for maps in those areas recommended by the Florida Mapping Authority if this project would supply the necessary control and prepare the maps from the photographs thus obtained. This agreement was reached after a long period of requests and proposals by Dean Van Leer and the Florida Mapping Authority, and rejections by the Geological Survey.

Since September 13, 1934, all employees on this project have been certified relief clients of the Florida Emergency Relief Administration. On May 9, 1935, the F.E.R.A. again reduced the project to ten

employees. These ten employees were to complete the computations of all fieldwork that had not been previously completed and to close the project out. The promise was made, however, that if funds were available work could be resumed on the first of the following month, or as soon thereafter as funds were available. The staff now employed will complete all the office work and have the data and computations ready for publication in about five weeks.

As a result of this project, there now exists in Florida 2,761.6 miles of traverse lines, along which permanent monuments have been set, none more than two miles apart on any one line and at which the exact geographical location has been determined in accordance with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey standards for second-order traverse work, which means that it is accurate to 1:10,000. There also exist 2,544 miles of level lines established under this project.

The elevations of these monuments have also been determined in accordance with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey standards for third-order leveling. There also exist 728 miles of traverse lines along which permanent monuments have been set at intervals of about three miles under the supervision of and in accordance with the U.S. Geological Survey standards for this type of work. About 275 square miles have been topographically mapped by plane table.

As a direct result of this project and to make the monuments established of greater value to local engineers and surveyors, the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Surveyor has prepared a system of plane coordinates for the location of survey points in the State. There are now available the computed plane X and Y coordinates of each of the monuments along these control lines, by the use of which any surveyor can tie and check local lines by the ordinary methods to these control lines.

The U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey have also now completed the triangulation arc along the whole of Florida's coast except that around the southern tip of the State from Miami to Wiggins. A first-order traverse line along the Tamiami Trail joins the two arcs at the south end. An arc has been run west from Stuart across the State to tie to the west coast arc at Sarasota. Another beginning at Placid reaches north through Gainesville and Lake City to join the arc across the northern part of the State.

The U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey have expanded its leveling net in Florida until there are first and second-order level lines at fairly regular intervals. The U.S. Geological Survey has extended its primary traverse lines somewhat and is now engaged in topographically mapping fourteen quadrangles in the western part of the State.

The U.S. Engineers have in the past

two years extended the mapping, triangulation, traverse, and leveling of their department. Most of their work was done and is being done around Lake Okeechobee and St. Johns and Withlacoochee River valleys and across the State on the line of the proposed canal.

The traverse and level lines established by the Control Survey Project are located in those counties where they were deemed to be of the most importance, and in those counties where the most cooperation from local engineers could be had. The following counties are included: Alachua, Hillsborough, St. Johns, Marion, Clay, Brevard, Volusia, Madison, Lake, Dade, Broward, Polk, Putnam, Hardee, Pinellas, Flagler, Bradford, Lee, Palm Beach, Leon, Duval, Levy, Orange, Sumter, Osceola, Citrus, Pasco, Indian River, Seminole, and Walton.

The topographic work done by this project was performed in Alachua county and consists of a quadrangle that was joined on three sides by quadrangles which had already been mapped by the Geological Survey.

During the operation of this project, there was prepared by employees of the project a very comprehensive and complete map of the proposed Everglades National Park in southwest Florida. This map was printed by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and copies have been distributed to the members of the Everglades National

Park Association and to all parties interested in that section of the State.

Employees paid by funds allotted to the project also prepared the plans for the photographic laboratory at the university and the proposed materials testing and hydraulics laboratories. In addition to this, a complete topographic map of the University of Florida campus and property, showing not only contours, buildings, and vegetation, but power, steam, and water lines as well, has been made by the employees on this project. This extra work, which was charged to the project, has, of course, increased the per-mile cost of the control lines to some extent. However, the work was needed and in line with the work being done on the project, therefore, we believe it to be fully justified.

As a result of the cooperative agreement reached with the Geological Survey, the Bureau led the contract for the taking of aerial photographs for the planimetric making of seven 15-minute quadrangles west from St. Augustine to the Suwannee River. The Geological Survey had further planned, by using the control established under this project, to map 9,000 square miles of Florida. It is not known what effect the curtailment or closing out of this project will have on this plan.

When the above-mentioned agreement with the Geological

Survey was reached, it was planned to first map the following counties: Bradford, Alachua, Union, Putnam, Clay, Gilchrist, Levy, and Columbia. If funds were available, it was planned to work south from these counties.

The reasons for choosing this particular section to be mapped first are as follows:

- (1) The Florida Local Control Surveys in the previous project had run traverse lines in all the counties listed.
- (2) The northern counties of the list have been almost entirely covered by topographic maps and the work still required is simply the connection of the bases of the various surveys and reduction to a common base, as well as to show the latest artificial features. The southern counties in the list have been covered very thoroughly by the Florida Local Control Survey, and the Gulf Coast counties by the triangulation work of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. All this facilitates the work of topographic mapping and allows more work to be done in this area for less money than could be accomplished in those areas where little or no control or triangulation work has been done.
- (3) In their agricultural activities, the counties given in the list cover the entire list of agricultural products from timber to strawberries, and includes all the field and forest areas

devoted to the raising of products for which Florida is particularly noted. Individually, these counties and sections are not able to do the work required to obtain the information they need to make their possessions of the most value to them, partly because they do not know what is necessary, and largely because the expense involved is greater than they can afford.

(4) The mineral resources of the State are very largely located in this district; that is, lime rock, broken stone, building stone, clay for brick, chinaware, phosphate, as well as sand for glass and building purposes, are all represented by large developments in the area proposed. There are many more resources awaiting development, many of them because the data regarding their possibilities are dependent upon an accurate topographic map of the area.

(5) The forest interests of the State are well represented in this district, and their special problems need the data obtained from a topographic map.

(6) The water supply, drainage, and irrigation problems are probably of no more importance to the proposed area than they would be of some other area, but in addition to the other reasons for choosing this particular area to be mapped first, these are some of the many problems which will be solved by a

topographic map.

(7) A topographic map of this section is particularly desirable at this time, because of the development that will be incident to the building of the proposed cross-state canal, which will, if connected, cross the State somewhere within this area.

There are now filed in the headquarters office of this project applications for employment from 59 registered engineers and surveyors; from 136 graduates of engineering schools and colleges; from 83 men who have had more than three years experience in work of this type, and from about 150 with little engineering experience who apply for positions as rodmen and chainmen. These men are all unemployed and have all been certified as eligible for employment on relief projects by the Florida Emergency Relief Administration. ■

Tom's Tip of the Month

There are good ships
and wood ships,
ships that sail the sea,
but the best ships
are friendships,
may they always be!

Irish Proverb



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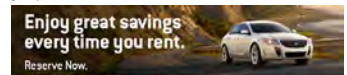


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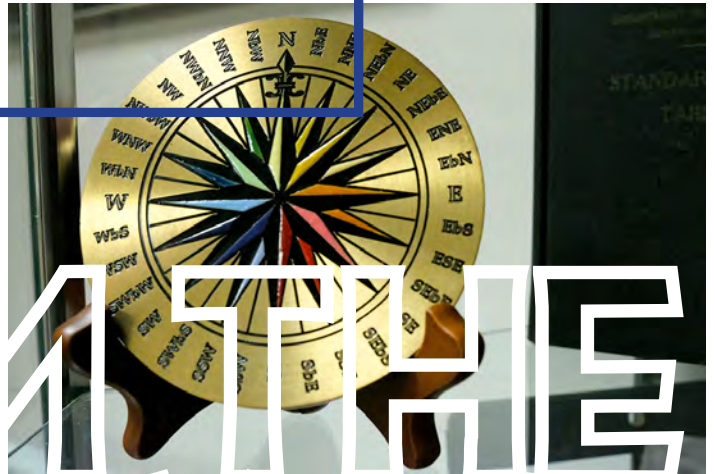
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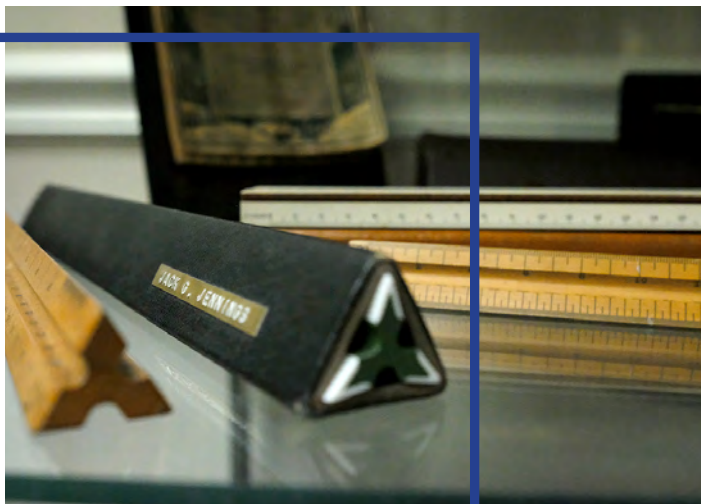
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FROM THE ARCHIVES



Colonel Butler and the Public Land Survey of Florida (1824 – 1849)

by DONALD E. MERKEL
State Location Engineer

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FOREWORD—During this 150th anniversary year of the establishment of the capital of Florida at Tallahassee and of the beginning of the Survey of the Public Lands of Florida seems to be an appropriate time to introduce the period when Col. Robert Butler was surveyor general of Florida. Learning more about the surveyor general and his deputy surveyors will help us to understand the notes and plats of the government surveys and should enable us to do a better job of following in the footsteps of the original surveyors—our professional heritage. Other documented information on Col. Butler and any of his deputy surveyors is welcomed by the author.

The Commission

By letter from George Graham, commissioner of the General Land Office (GLO) in Washington, dated July 9, 1824, Col. Robert A. Butler, then residing near Nashville, Tennessee, was commissioned as surveyor of the Public Lands of Florida. Notification of the appointment sent to Florida Territorial Governor William P. Duval was dated July 10, 1824.

Ties to Andrew Jackson

Col. Butler's appointment as surveyor general for the Territory of Florida was hardly an historical accident. The appointment was made by President James Monroe at the request of Gen. Andrew Jackson.

The friendly relationship between Andrew Jackson and the Butler family is noted in the history of the early 1800's. Col. Thomas Butler, father of Robert, was a U.S. Regular Army officer and friend of Andrew Jackson. Before his death in 1805, Thomas Butler asked Andrew Jackson to “extend a hand of guidance” to his three sons.

Robert A. Butler, the eldest son, was born on December 29, 1786, and grew



COLONEL ROBERT A. BUTLER

into a man of fine stature, more than six feet tall. In 1808 or 1809, Robert Butler married Rachel Hays, niece of Rachel Donelson Jackson, who was the wife of Andrew Jackson. They made their home in Tennessee near Andrew Jackson's Hermitage.

Robert Butler joined Gen. William H. Harrison's forces in the Indian Wars and

served for a time under him as a captain. In June 1814, Gen. Andrew Jackson succeeded Gen. Harrison as commander of the 7th Military District (Tennessee, Louisiana, and the Mississippi Territory); Col. Robert Butler was transferred into the command and was appointed as Gen. Jackson's adjutant general.

During the War of 1812, Col. Butler served with Gen. Jackson and in 1814 was sent back from Mobile to Tennessee to raise a mounted force of volunteers for the command of Gen. John Coffee. In December of 1814 and January of 1815, Col. Butler was with Gen. Jackson during the famous Battle of New Orleans and at the end of the battle was sent, with two other officers, to meet the flag of truce advanced by the British.

Col. Butler continued to serve in the Army for some time under Gen. Jackson. He was sent to Washington in regard to the Chickasaw Indian Treaty in 1818, in 1821 he was stationed in St. Augustine and Pensacola. In November 1821, he returned to Tennessee where he resigned his Army commission. He is described as a “soldier of the old school.”

During the succeeding period, he visited the Hermitage frequently, being invited often with the group of more prominent guests of Gen. and Mrs. Andrew Jackson.

Details Relative to the Commission as Surveyor General

The letter of commission to Col. Robert Butler stated that pursuant to the Act of Congress dated May 8, 1822, he was to be appointed by the President “with the same power and authority as by law appertained to the Surveyor South of the State of

Tennessee.” As surveyor general, Col. Butler's salary was \$2,000 per year (in 1824 money). Gen. Jackson, by letter to President James Monroe in 1816, had previously obtained the appointment of Gen. John Coffee to the position of surveyor (of the Northern Portion of the Lands) South of the State of Tennessee. Subsequently Gen. Coffee was appointed surveyor of all the Public Lands which now comprise the State of Alabama. Gen. Coffee, previously a subordinate commander under Andrew Jackson during the Creek Indian War and the War of 1812, was a close friend and former business associate of Andrew Jackson, who was married to Polly Donelson, another relative of Mrs. Jackson.

In his letter to President Monroe dated October 23, 1816, Gen. Jackson outlined the advantages of “appointing an enterprising individual to superintend the northern district,” of the territory which is now Alabama. He pointed out that the Public Land, if promptly surveyed and offered for sale, would insure a vast sum of money for the U.S. Treasury and give the Territory a permanent population capable of defending the frontier.

A subsequent letter from the General Land Office addressed to Col. Butler at Fountain of Health, Tennessee discussed the equipment which would be necessary for the work. It said, “It will be necessary for you to purchase a Standard chain and compass—the Standard chain should be made in conformity to that in the possession of Mr. Davis at Washington, Mississippi, or that in possession of General Coffee.”

Continuing, the letter contained instructions for Col. Butler to establish

COLONEL BUTLER AND THE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY OF FLORIDA (1824 – 1849)

“a correct meridian line” at or near his office for the regulation of all compasses used on the survey. It further instructed him to correspond with Mr. Davis in the Mississippi Territory to obtain an instrument to determine latitude and longitude—the same type instrument as Mr. Briggs had purchased. (Mr. Isaac Briggs was the first surveyor of the Lands South of the State of Tennessee who initiated the Public Land Survey in the vicinity of St. Stephens, Alabama, using for his initial point a cone monument set by Andrew Ellicott in 1898 on the 31st degree of north latitude.)

The equipment which Col. Butler was to have received from Mr. George Davis of Washington, Mississippi—a transit, sextant, and chronometer—proved to be in bad repair. Also the telescope which was supposed to have been brought to the Mississippi Territory 20 years earlier by Mr. Briggs, but which reportedly was not the same device, was said to be in even worse repair. Instructions were issued by the General Land Office that the equipment should be sent to Mr. William Davenport of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for repair.

The similarity of procedures which were followed in the early Public Land Surveys in the states of Florida and Alabama is striking. Both states have, for example, in their early surveys, the unique existence of half-mile posts established on the exterior of sections which may or may not coincide with the quarter corners which should be used to subdivide the sections properly.

The letter to Col. Butler advising him of his commission as surveyor general states the immediate task as “The object of your

immediate appointment is to have surveyed with as little delay as possible, a body of land adjacent to the Seat of Government, which is located in Gadsden County [now Leon County] and within which tract of country it is understood that there are but few, if any, private claims,” except the Forbes claim.

The Florida Public Land Survey Begins

In due course Col. Butler arrived in Tallahassee and assumed his duties as surveyor general. The selection of the initial point for the Public Land Surveys of Florida was one of the immediate tasks. Col. Butler was requested by Lt. Governor Walton, in the absence of Governor Duval who reportedly was at St. Marks on Indian business, to select the initial point so that the capitol building would be approximately in the center of the first quarter-section to the northwest, which quarter-section had been granted to the Territory by the U.S. Government as the seat of government.

The initial point, located about one-quarter mile south and one-quarter mile east of the site of the capital, fell in a low area near the junction of two meandering streams. Subsequently, the initial point was referenced by Deputy Surveyor Benjamin Clements to four nearby trees—a hickory, a maple, a beech, and a magnolia.

From this initial point the principal Meridian was surveyed north to the northern boundary of the territory and south to the Gulf of Mexico by Benjamin Clements, a deputy surveyor appointed by Col. Butler.

The principal basis parallel (base line) was discussed in the letter informing Col. Butler of his commission, where it was stated that had the northern boundary line of the Territory of Florida been a parallel of latitude for its whole extent, then it would have been better for that line to have been the principal basis parallel. C. C. Stone, deputy surveyor, was employed to establish the Tallahassee base line east to the Atlantic Ocean.

The base line to the west entered the Forbes Purchase about nine miles west of the initial point. The letter of commission received by Col. Butler instructed him that no township within the Forbes claim would be subdivided into sections until the commissioners made their report to Congress regarding the claim. Later, by letter of July 20, 1827, the commissioner told Col. Butler, "I do not perceive the necessity of running the Township lines through Forbes' claim at present, that claim has not been confirmed, and will of course be the subject of much litigation ..."

The letter of commission had instructed Col. Butler to appoint "one of your most skilful [sic] surveyors" to run the Tallahassee base line west to the Perdido River. The work of Benjamin Clements and James Exum on the base line west has stood the test of time and, where not obliterated by the destruction of man, can still usually be recovered successfully.

Instructions were received from the General Land Office in Washington to survey 20 townships of Florida Public Land in the vicinity of Tallahassee as soon as possible. Settlers were arriving and clearing

land even before the survey could be made. Therefore, the emphasis on the Public Land Survey in Florida, as in Alabama and other developing territories, was on getting as many townships surveyed and subdivided in the shortest possible time in order to have the land available for sale by the government to settlers and speculators.

Colonel Butler proceeded to appoint deputy surveyors and to contract work to them. The maximum rate of pay outlined in the letter of commission was to be four dollars per mile of survey. It must be remembered that out of this amount the deputy surveyor had to pay his party and all expenses. Nevertheless, there were many applicants for jobs. Col. Butler received letters of recommendation from various persons. As a matter of fact the list of persons making recommendations reads like an 1824 "Who's Who."

Perhaps the most noteworthy of those recommended was Henry Washington, by George Graham, commissioner of the General Land Office, and by a group of fellow deputy surveyors of the Mississippi Territory. Henry Washington did a large volume of work in Florida, and those who have had occasion to retrace his surveys will join in praise of his work.

The Public Land Survey Progresses

Col. Butler appointed deputy surveyors as required and expedited the subdivision of the Public Lands of Florida into township and sections. He understood very well the nature of the job to be done and the necessity for promptly surveying the land to make it available for sale to settlers and

COLONEL BUTLER AND THE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY OF FLORIDA (1824 – 1849)

speculators and thereby to collect sums of money for the U.S. Treasury.

In the letter of commission to Col. Butler, he was instructed to “exercise a sound discretion, having due regard to the local situation, and to the facilities or difficulties of surveying the lands within the limits of each contract.” Col. Butler was instructed to pay less than the maximum rate of four dollars a mile in open pine and prairie lands which could be surveyed for less. Also, if because of the nature of the country, “peculiar difficulties and impediments arrest the progress of the Deputy Surveyor, he should be reimbursed by including in his contract other Townships where such impediments do not exist.”

To illustrate the complexities of surveying the Public Lands of Florida, by letter of August 20, 1825, the commissioner of the General Land Office, Mr. Graham, wrote Col. Butler about the subdivision of the land. He said that with respect to poor and unsalable lands, which were not to be subdivided smaller than townships, it was difficult to give precise instructions with only a limited knowledge of the topography of the country. He rejected Col. Butler's contention that if a township had enough salable land to pay for the survey it should be sectioned, insisting that no township or part of a township should be sectioned except that a considerable portion of the lands would probably sell for the minimum price and would be required for settlement within a reasonable time. In conclusion, Col. Butler was told to issue appropriate instructions to the surveyors and that, “after all, much must depend upon the judgment,

discretion, and integrity, of your deputies.”

Survey of Private Claims

The survey of private claims or grants proved to be a complication. In a letter dated August 18, 1827, from the General Land Office to Col. Butler, reference was made to a letter of Deputy Surveyor James W. Exum who complained of the difficulty of surveying private claims. Deputy Exum insisted that the claimants refused or were otherwise unable to aid in the location of their boundaries.

By letter to the surveyor general in 1838, Henry Washington discussed the status of private claims in east Florida. He stated that the deputy surveyors were bound by contract to complete the surveys by a stated time and were required to separate the private claims from public domain. Henry Washington further stated that he had, as required, properly advertised in *The Florida Herald*, a St. Augustine newspaper, for private claimants to come forward. Apparently some were reluctant, the reason for which, he explained, was that in many cases the original surveys under Spanish authorities exceeded in quantity the amount of land granted.

From the correspondence of James W. Exum and Henry Washington, it is apparent that many problems were presented regarding the survey of private claims.

The Lafayette Township

One interesting matter arose concerning a grant by the U.S. Congress to General Lafayette of a township of land in Florida

as a partial compensation for his services to the country during the Revolutionary War. Col. McKee was the agent for General Lafayette, and Commissioner Graham instructed Col. Butler to furnish him with "all the information in your possession, which could enable him to make the best possible selection, and ... you will give him free access to the records and surveys in your office." It must be concluded that Col. Butler complied in full with the above instructions. Col. McKee selected Township 1 North, Range 1 East, and apparently took possession of the original field notes of the subdivision of that township. There is no copy of these notes available today in the records of the State of Florida Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

Col. Butler's Plantation

Upon moving to Tallahassee and beginning his work as surveyor general, Col. Butler purchased residential property, located near where the Supreme Court building now stands. He erected a frame building there, which he used to transact official business. The Butler family resided on this property until after Tallahassee was subdivided into lots, and these were placed on sale in 1828.

Col. Butler purchased several city lots and held them throughout his lifetime, but in 1830 he began building a home on about 900 acres on Lake Jackson. This home, built in a grove of large oak trees overlooking Lake Jackson, is where the Butlers reportedly entertained in a manner recalling the days at the Hermitage

in Tennessee. Col. Butler traveled back and forth from his home to his office in Tallahassee along what is now known as Old Bainbridge Road.

Among his hobbies was racing stock which he had brought with him from Tennessee, which he enjoyed riding as well as having them raced. Another hobby and talent of Col. Butler's was woodworking and furniture-making. A beautiful table which he made is still owned by a Butler family descendant.

Other Activities

Col. Butler, a leader in other capacities in early Tallahassee, was chairman of the committee for the construction of Florida's first capitol building in 1827.

In 1825, Florida's first Mason Lodge, Jackson Lodge No. 1, was organized in Tallahassee, and Col. Butler, a transferee from Cumberland Lodge No. 8 in Nashville, Tennessee, was one of its founders. His friend and former comrade-in-arms, R. K. Call, was also a member as were LeRoy May, Romeo Lewis, Benjamin Clements, I. J. Clements (all deputy surveyors), and Samuel Overton. Today Robert Butler Lodge No. 305 stands on E. Lafayette Street in Tallahassee in honor of Col. Butler.

It was in February, 1836, that Col. Butler was ordered with a regiment of soldiers to Volusia County due to trouble with the Seminoles. This assignment appears to have been rather brief, since he reportedly made a trip to Tennessee later the same year.

COLONEL BUTLER AND THE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY OF FLORIDA (1824 – 1849)

Changes in Administration

Appointed as surveyor general of Florida in 1824, Col. Butler served through the term of office of his friend and mentor, Andrew Jackson, who was elected in 1829, and continued in that position until 1842, when Valentine Y. Conway was appointed to the office of surveyor general of Florida by the President.

Under Mr. Conway the office and the records were moved to St. Augustine. In 1845, the year Florida was admitted to statehood and also the year of Andrew Jackson's death, Col. Butler was reappointed surveyor general of Florida. He served in that capacity, working out of the St. Augustine office, until he was removed from office in 1849 upon the election of President Zachary Taylor.

Conclusion

Col. Butler, having served well and long as surveyor general of Florida, spent the remainder of his lifetime at his Lake Jackson estate until his death on January 30, 1860.

As compared to other surveyor generals in other territories, Col. Butler certainly stands out as a good administrator. His tenure in office as surveyor general was remarkably free of controversy. The Survey of the Public Lands of Florida proceeded in a generally orderly fashion, considering the complications inherent in performing this work in territorial Florida.

Many of the deputy surveyors employed by Col. Butler were outstanding, and their work still stands as testimony to his good judgment in their selection. This is evident

even after over a hundred years of neglect of the Public Land Survey.

In this year of commemoration of the 150th birthday of the establishment of the Capital of Florida at Tallahassee, let us not forget the man who through the Public Land Survey provided the basic means for opening up the territory of Florida for settlement.

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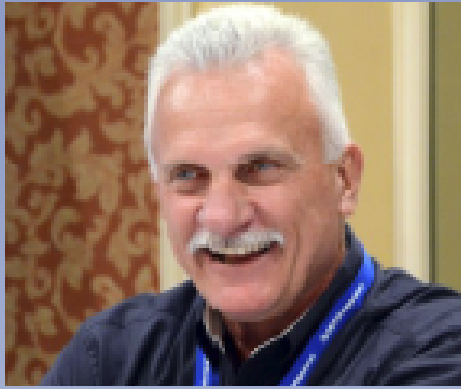
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| Pulice Land Surveyors, Inc. | 954-572-1777 |
| Q | |
| Q Grady Minor & Associates, PA | 239-947-1144 |
| R | |
| Reece & White Land Surveying, Inc. | 305-872-1348 |
| Richard P. Clarson & Associates, Inc. | 904-396-2623 |
| Rhodes & Rhodes Land Surveying, Inc. | 239-405-8166 |
| R.J. Rhodes Engineering, Inc. | 941-924-1600 |
| R.M. Barrineau & Associates, Inc. | 352-622-3133 |
| Robayna and Associates, Inc. | 305-823-9316 |

| S | |
|--|--------------|
| SAM Surveying & Mapping, LLC. | 850-385-1179 |
| Sergio Redondo & Associates, Inc. | 305-378-4443 |
| Settimio Consulting Services | 850-341-0507 |
| SGC Engineering, LLC. | 407-637-2588 |
| Shah Drotos & Associates, PA | 954-943-9433 |
| Shannon Surveying, Inc. | 407-774-8372 |
| Sherco, Inc. | 863-453-4113 |
| Sliger & Associates | 386-761-5385 |
| S&ME, Inc. | 407-975-1273 |
| Southeastern Surveying & Mapping Corp. | 407-292-8580 |
| Stephen H. Gibbs Land Surveyors, Inc. | 954-923-7666 |
| Stoner Inc. | 954-585-0997 |
| Strayer Surveying & Mapping, Inc. | 941-497-1290 |
| SurvTech Solutions, Inc. | 813-621-4929 |
| T | |
| T2 UES Inc. | 407-587-0603 |
| Thurman Roddenberry & Associates | 850-962-2538 |

| U | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Upham, Inc. | 386-672-9515 |
| W | |
| Wade Surveying, Inc. | 352-753-6511 |
| Wallace Surveying Corp. | 561-640-4551 |
| Wantman Group, Inc. | 561-687-2220 |
| WBQ Design & Engineering, Inc. | 407-839-4300 |
| Winningham & Fradley, Inc. | 954-771-7440 |
| Z | |
| ZNS Engineering, LLC. | 941-748-8080 |

ADMINISTRATIVE Staff



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Education Director

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**Communications
Coordinator**

Justin Ortiz

communications@fsms.org



Regional Coordinator

Cathy Campanile

seminolecc84@gmail.com

New Professional Team Members for GCY, INC.

In addition to *George C. (Chappy) Young, Jr., PSM* and *Pete Andersen, PSM*, these two new members to our *Professional Team* bring their vast unique knowledge to GCY to a level that other **Professional Surveying** and **Engineering Firms** would appreciate. They are:



Mr. CORKY RODINE (left) ~ *BLM Senior Cadastral Surveyor, Retired after 37 years of service.* Corky (the “Retracement Professional”) worked for the BLM for 37+ years with many of those years in Florida. (*Ocala National Forest; Seminole and Miccosukee Tribal Lands in the “Everglades, Patent No. 137” and Federal Lands at the Jupiter Lighthouse, Jupiter, FL, to name a few*) Corky may be better known to some surveyors as the Premier Instructor at *Retracement Camps* throughout Florida, Alabama & Mississippi for many years. Where most surveyors may know some about *Retracement Surveying*, Corky’s entire career dealt with *Retracement Surveying* in the field and in the office. Corky brings his knowledge of *Retracement Surveying* to our team in GCY’s unique: *FDEP Retracement Contracts; Litigation Services as Experts, and our more common Sectional Boundary Surveys*, throughout the State of Florida. (Email: CJR@gcyinc.com)

Mr. HOWARD EHMKE, PSM (right) ~ *Retired Senior Surveyor and Project Manager at SFWMD, Retired after 47 years of service.* Howard may be better known to some surveyors at the “Gate Keeper” of the vast survey records at SFWMD and/or as the *FSMS President Elect for 2023*. As the “Gate Keeper”, Howard took it upon himself to establish and maintain a data base of survey records at the “District” by spending untold personal hours researching, scanning, and organizing these records to be made available not only to the District Staff, but also to the public at large. In addition to his service to FSMS, Howard has served several years on the State Board of Land Surveyors in various capacities. Howard’s vast experience at SFWMD not only brings his unique working knowledge at the District and working relationships with hundreds of other professionals in Surveying, Engineering and Contracting Firms throughout Florida. (Email: Howard@gcyinc.com)

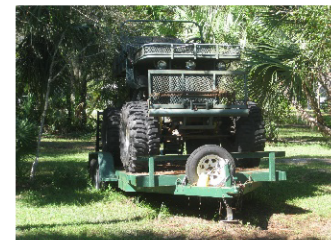
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Airboat



Marsh Master



Woods Buggy

~ **GCY PROVIDES SERVICES as SUBCONTRACTORS TOO!** ~

Contact us at:

GCY, INC. PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS AND MAPPERS

Express Mail: 1505 SW Martin Highway, Palm City, FL 34990

Or by mail at: PO Box 1469, Palm City, FL 34991

By Phone: (772) 286-8083

2022 Committees

Standing Committees

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Nominating Committee | Howard Ehmke |
| Membership Committee | Nick DiGruttolo |
| Finance Committee | Bon Dewitt |
| Executive Committee | Lou Campanile, Jr. |
| Education Committee | Greg Prather |
| Annual Meeting Committee | Jim Sullivan |
| Legal Committee | Jack Breed |
| Strategic Planning Committee | Lou Campanile, Jr. |
| Ethics Committee | Shane Christy |
| Legislative Committee | Jack Breed |
| Surveying & Mapping Council | Randy Tompkins |
| Constitution & Resolution Advisory Committee | Eric Stuart |

Special Committees

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Equipment Theft | Manny Vera, Jr. |
| Awards Committee | Hal Peters |
| UF Alumni Recruiting Committee | Russell Hyatt |
| Professional Practice Committee | Lou Campanile, Jr. |
| Workforce Development Committee | Don Elder |

Liaisons

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| CST Program | Alex Jenkins |
| FDACS BPSM | Don Elder |
| Surveyors in Government | Richard Allen |
| Academic Advisory UF | Bon Dewitt |
| FES | Lou Campanile, Jr. |

Practice Sections

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Geospatial Users Group | Earl Soeder |
|-------------------------------|-------------|

2022

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District 1

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FAU Geomatics

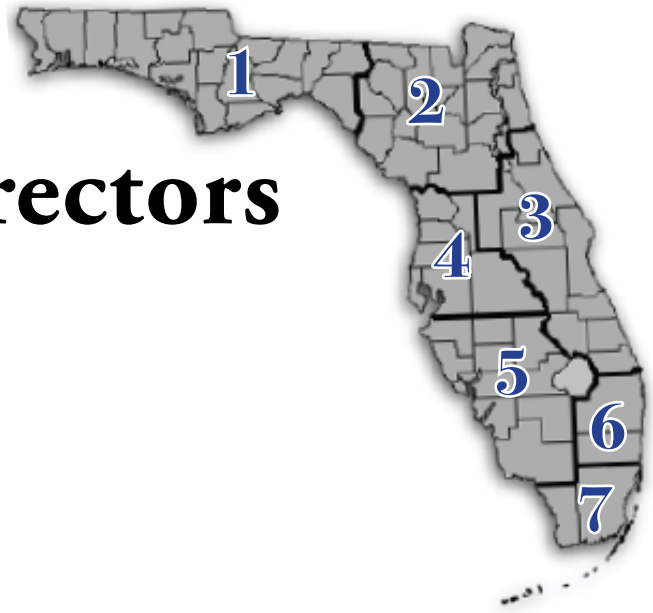
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2022 Districts & Directors



District 1 - Northwest

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Manny Vera, Jr.

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NSPS Director

Russell Hyatt

(941) 748-4693

russell@hyattsurvey.com

Past

Presidents

1956

H.O. Peters
Harry C. Schwebke
John P. Goggin
R.H. Jones

1960

Hugh A. Binyon
Russell H. DeGrove
Perry C. McGriff
Carl E. Johnson
James A. Thigpenn, III
Harold A. Schuler, Jr.
Shields E. Clark
Maurice E. Berry II
William C. Hart
Frank R. Schilling, Jr.

1970

William V. Keith
James M. King
Broward P. Davis
E.R. (Ed) Brownell
E.W. (Gene) Stoner
Lewis H. Kent
Robert S. Harris
Paul T. O'Hargan
William G. Wallace, Jr.
Robert W. Wigglesworth

1980

Ben P. Blackburn
William B. Thompson, II
John R. Gargis
Robert A. Bannerman
H. Bruce Durden
Buell H. Harper
Jan L. Skipper
Steven M. Woods
Stephen G. Vrabel
W. Lamar Evers

1990

Joseph S. Boggs
Robert L. Graham
Nicholas D. Miller
Loren E. Mercer
Kent Green
Robert D. Cross
Thomas L. Conner
Gordon R. Niles, Jr.
Dennis E. Blankenship
W. Lanier Mathews, II
Jack Breed

2000

Arthur A. Mastronicola
Michael H. Maxwell
John M. Clyatt

David W. Schryver
Stephen M. Gordon
Richard G. Powell
Michael J. Whitling
Robert W. Jackson, Jr.
Pablo Ferrari
Steve Stinson

2010

Dan Ferrans
Jeremiah Slaymaker
Ken Glass
Russell Hyatt
Bill Rowe
Dale Bradshaw
Lou Campanile, Jr.
Bob Strayer, Jr.
Dianne Collins

2020

Don Elder
Hal Peters

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FLORIDA SURVEYING & MAPPING POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

What is FSMPAC?

FSMPAC (Florida Surveying & Mapping Political Action Committee) is a non-partisan, non-profit Political Committee formed under Florida law by FSMS to support the profession in legislative and political activities.

Without regard to political party affiliation, contributions and support are made to candidates and political parties that understand issues and initiatives important to the profession.

How does FSMPAC work?

Our mission is accomplished through voluntary contributions by concerned Surveyors and Mappers interested in promoting and protecting our profession. Funds are used to research, select and support the election of candidates who are supportive of our concerns.

Why do I need to be involved?

Involvement in your PAC is essential to maintaining a dialogue with elected officials and candidates that understand the importance of our profession to the organized development of Florida's infrastructure, as well as the impacts of undue regulation on our practice.

There will always be interest groups that have agendas contrary to the interests of our profession, and given the opportunity will encroach on our practice.

This reality demands that we remain vigilant and maintain a well-funded PAC to support and defend our interests. Without your support and input, the PAC cannot effectively complete its mission.

**Click & Donate to FSMPAC Today!
We Thank You for Your Support!**