



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

U. S. SURVEYOR GENERAL OF MINNESOTA An Inventory of Its Plats of Township Boundaries

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** United States. Office of Surveyor General of Minnesota.
- Series Title:** Plats of township boundaries.
- Dates:** 1857-1907.
- Abstract:** Plats of various township boundaries drawn by the surveyor general's office from deputy surveyor's field notes. The surveyor general's office sometimes contracted for surveys of only the exterior lines of townships on designated range and township lines. These townships were subdivided under later contracts for survey. The boundary plats show survey reference points, bearings, and distances, and indicated the type of plant cover along the township boundaries.
- Quantity:** 0.75 cu. ft. (294 items in 1 box).
- Location:** 112.C.2.1 (do)

HISTORY OF THE MINNESOTA LAND SURVEY

The Office of Surveyor General of Minnesota, established by Act of Congress of March 3, 1857, was responsible for conducting the original government survey of the public domain in the territory and state of Minnesota.

The earliest surveys of land in Minnesota were conducted under the jurisdiction of the Surveyor General of Iowa and Wisconsin, headquartered at Dubuque, Iowa. These surveys, completed between 1848 and May 1857, were primarily on land located between the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers or in the southeastern corner of Minnesota. After the establishment of the Office of Surveyor General of Minnesota, copies of the field notes, plats, and other records relevant to these surveys were transferred from Dubuque to St. Paul.

The Office of Surveyor General of Minnesota continued in operation until December 1907, when the survey of Minnesota was essentially complete. After 1907, the commissioner of the U. S. General Land Office served, ex officio, as Surveyor General of Minnesota, and handled any requisite surveying activities and questions. A congressional act of 1940 provided that the records of the Office of Surveyor General of Minnesota be turned over to the Minnesota Secretary of State.

RELATED MATERIALS

Other records relating to these records, including the original field notes, can be found in the records of the Secretary of State and U. S. Surveyor General of Minnesota, in same repository.

OTHER FINDING AIDS

The numerical listing that accompanies this finding aid is organized as the materials are housed and lists range, township, and date.

INDEX TERMS

These records are indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

Public lands—Minnesota—Surveying.
Townships—Minnesota—Maps.

Places:

Minnesota—Surveys.

Types of Documents:

Maps—Minnesota.
Plats—Minnesota.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited item and folder title here]. U. S. Surveyor General of Minnesota. Plats of Township Boundaries. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.
See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

Accession number(s): None

Processing Information:

Catalog ID No.: 1714090

4th MERIDIAN

Range	Township	Date
1, 2	62	November 1882
2, 3	61, 62	January 1886
2, 3	63, 64	March 1886
4, 5	60-63	November 1885
4, 5	64	August 1883
4-6	62-64	November 1893
5	61, 62	February 1899
6	60	October 1882
6, 7	61-62	June 1907
6, 7	61-63	December 1885
7	60	June 1897
7, 8	58, 59	April 1882
7, 8	58	March 1903
7-11	61	December 1886
8	67	January 1902
8	57-60	March 1885
8, 9	61-63	July 1886
9	57-60	February 1886
9, 10	57, 58	August 1906
10, 11	58-60	February 1886
10, 11	61-63	February 1885
10, 11	62-63	March 1885
11	61	October 1904
11-15	61-68	March 1880
12, 13	57	August 1881
12, 13	61-63	February 1881
12, 13	65	December 1900
12-19	65	December 1884

4th MERIDIAN

Range	Township	Date
13, 14	61, 62	October 1880
13, 14	63, 64	December 1890
14	65	September 1894
14-17	63, 64	August 1886
15	62	August 1880
15	66	February 1895
16	61, 62	June 1882
16	63	August 1883
16, 17	60	June 1883
16, 17	65-68	April 1884
17	61	December 1884
17, 18	58, 59	May 1882
17, 18	63	August 1884
17-19	68, 69	August 1883
18	60	July 1882
18	62	April 1885
18	62	June 1897
18	64	August 1893
18	65	January 1899
18	70	April 1884
18, 19	58, 59	February 1882
18, 19	61-63	November 1882
18, 19	69	December 1883
18-20	65-68	January 1892
19-22	60, 62	May 1884
19-21	61-71	April 1881
19-21	62	April 1903
19-24	60-65	April 1882

4th MERIDIAN

Range	Township	Date
20	62, 63	September 1892
20	64	March 1883
20	66	February 1883
20, 21	65	December 1882
20, 21	68	October 1892
21	61	April 1884
21	64	March 1883
21	67	February 1891
21, 22	60	July 1882
21, 22	63	March 1906
22	67, 68	October 1892
22	69-71	May 1881
21-23	64-66	December 1892
21-23	64-66	December 1893
22-23	61, 62	August 1882
22, 23	69	June 1900
23	63	November 1882
23	67	March 1894
23, 24	65-68	October 1882
23-27	66, 67	September 1882
23, 24	66, 68	August 1905
23-25	69-71	December 1881
23, 24	67, 70	May 1899
24	62-64	September 1882
24, 25	60, 61	May 1882
24-27	65-68	November 1882
24, 26	69	April 1901
25	64	January 1898

4th MERIDIAN

Range	Township	Date
25	68, 69	December 1897
25-27	61-64	December 1882
25-27	69, 70	February 1882
25-27	66-68	January 1909
25-27	66-68	June 1905
25-27	66-6 7-69-167	March 1903
25-27	62-63-161-152	June 1901
26	61, 63	July 1897

5th MERIDIAN

Range	Township	Date
25	152	September 1901
25	152, 153	February 1882
25	152-158	January 1882
25	157	August 1903
25-26	150	July 1882
25-26	151	May 1899
25-26-27	152, 65 (4 th)	January 1907
25, 26	153-158	May 1882
25-26-27	156, 157	May 1882
25-27	157-160	July 1893
26	151, 152	October 1896
26, 27	157, 158	April 1897
26-28	153-155	June 1882
26-28	153-156	August 1882
27	150	January 1885
27	154-155	January 1907
27, 28	151, 152	November 1895
27, 28	153, 154, 61 (4 th)	August 1900

5th MERIDIAN

Range	Township	Date
27-29	154-156	October 1894
28, 29	149, 150	September 1897
28, 29	157-160	January 1898
28-31	154-156	August 1892
28-31	157-160	May 1896
29	151	April 1898
29	154	November 1894
29, 30	149-152	November 1892
29, 30	151-153	July 1894
29, 30	157-160	January 1898
30	149	October 1893
30	156	August 1892
30, 31	152	February 1894
30-32	152, 153	November 1891
30-38	151-153	November 1891
31	149-151	August 1892
31	157-161	January 1898
31	160	June 1903
31, 32	149-150	March 1890
31, 32	161	June 1895
31-33	151	December 1892
31-39	157-163	December 1894
32, 33	157, 158	October 1904
32, 33	159, 160	June 1900
32-34	149-151	November 1891
32-35	155, 156	October 1899
32-35	157-158	January 1900
32-35	159-160	September 1895

5th MERIDIAN

Range	Township	Date
32-35	161-163	January 1896
32-38	153-156	September 1892
32-43	150-154	August 1891
33-35	166-168	November 1902
33-37	153-154	January 1893
33-37	152-153	December 1892
34, 35	157, 158	March 1905
34-36	159-160	August 1902
34-36	159, 160	August 1905
34-38	150, 151	June 1892
35-37	147	November 1885
35-38	159, 150	October 1891
36-38	155, 156	March 1893
36-38	157, 158	June 1900
36-38	159, 160	September 1895
36-38	161-163	November 1896
36-38	161-163	December 1896
36-39	163, 164	February 1904
37, 38	147, 148	March 1892
37, 38	159, 160	October 1905
37-40	159, 160	April 1900
37-42	157-164	March 1894
37-43	147-154	November 1885
38, 39	162	January 1902
38-42	141	January 1888
38-42	153-156	December 1892
39	149, 150	January 1896
39	159, 160	June 1895

5th MERIDIAN

Range	Township	Date
39-40	159	September 1903
39-40	159	April 1900
39-40	159	October 1903
39-40	159, 160	June 1895
39-40	163, 164	February 1904
39-41	149-151	September 1891
39-41	157-159	February 1894
39-42	155, 156	June 1893
39-42	161-164	November 1889
39-43	153, 154	March 1893
40	163, 164	July 1899
40	163, 164	October 1904
40, 41	152	May 1892
40, 41	157, 158	November 1893
40-43	150-157	October 1879
41	159	August 1899
41	159	April 1903
41	159, 160	March 1898
41, 42	161-163-164	June 1892
42	158	July 1893
42	159	November 1904
42	159, 160	January 1901
42-44	163, 164	December 1902
45	163, 164	April 1902

Range	Township	Date
20-23	44-47	March 1871
21-22	48-56	January 1871
21-27	54-56	January 1868
19-21	48-53	-----
24-27	54	September 1867
23-24	57	July 1873
23-25	48-50	March 1871
22-25	49-53	May 1871
25-28	46-47	March 1871
25-26	57-58	April 1873
25-31	133-136	April 1858
25-31	133-136	July 1858
25-46	141-149	September 1871
25	141-148	July 1867
25-26	142-143	September 1872
19-21	48-53	September 1871
12-14	59	December 1873
12-14	59	December 1873
14-17	57-59	November 1873
14-27	61	April 1876
16-27	between 54-55	July 1867
16-26	43-47	December 1857
16	43-47	July 1858
16-19	48-53	July 1871
16-22	54-56	November 1867
17-19	43-47	September 1858
12-15	54-56	December 1858
11-13	57-60	May 1872
7-11	54-56	December 1857

Range	Township	Date
6-11	64	March 1880
4-7	65-66	December 1877
4-5	61-64	February 1880
1-3	65	November 1877
1-3	62-64	December 1873
1-4E	63	December 1879
1-2E	63-64	February 1876
1-7W	57-61	November 1858
1-6E	61-64	November 1858
15-21	145-148	March 1874
25-40	between 148-149	February 1872
25	149-152	June 1875
26-28	141-144	August 1873
28-31	125-127	May 1858
29-31	127-128	January 1858
29-31	129-132	March 1858
29-31	137-140	November 1865
29-31	141-144	August 1873
32-38	-----	January 1858
32-38	101-104	January 1858
32-38	105-108	January 1859
32-38	113-116	November 1857

**DIAGRAMS OF RANGE AND TOWNSHIP LINES SHOWING MERIDIAN PARALLEL
AND CORRECTION LINES**

Range	Township	Date
32-38	129-132	July 1858
32-38	125-128	March 1858
32-38	133-136	October 1858
32-38	133-136	August 1858
32-38	137-140	December 1860
32	141-142	September 1873
34-35	141-144	March 1879
35-38	109-112	July 1858
35-38	125-128	April 1858
37-39	141-145	January 1873
37-42	141-146	October 1871
37-40	144-146	August 1873
39-45	101-120	November 1858
39-45	101-104	September 1867
39-45	105-108	September 1861
39-45	105-108	[Undated]
39-46	109-112	October 1866
39-45	113-116	January 1859
39-45	117-120	December 1858
39-45	121-124	September 1859
39-41	125-128	[Undated]
39-45	129-132	December 1858
39-47	129-132	September 1858
39	133-136	December 1858
39-48	133-136	September 1858
39-45	137-140	March 1871
39-45	140-141	November 1860
39-42	147-148	December 1872

**DIAGRAMS OF RANGE AND TOWNSHIP LINES SHOWING MERIDIAN PARALLEL
AND CORRECTION LINES**

Range	Township	Date
39-45	149-153	October 1873
40-45	133-136	February 1859
41-44	125-128	[Undated]
43-45	141-143	September 1871
43-45	145-148	November 1872
43-45	160-162	November 1877
46-47	101-104	November 1867
44-45	125-128	[Undated]
Bet. 45-46	121-128	September 1859
46-49	122-124	October 1870
46-49	125-128	February 1871
46-47	129-132	October 1858
45-49	137-144	August 1859
46-49	137-140	October 1859
46-49	146-148	November 1872
46-48	149-153	October 1872
46-50	149-156	September 1872
46-50	150-156	November 1872
46-51	157-164	September 1872
46-50	157-158	August 1872
46-48	159-160	January 1872
49-50	158	October 1872
49-50	159-160	February 1873
50	151-156	March 1873