A historical map of the central United States, showing the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) grid. The map covers parts of North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Major cities like Bismarck, Fargo, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Milwaukee are marked. The map features a grid of townships and ranges, with labels such as 'T. 164 North', 'R. 106 West', 'T. 128 North', 'R. 19 West', 'T. 100 North', 'R. 47 West', 'R. 49 West', 'T. 35 North', 'R. 31 West', and 'R. 79 West'. The map also shows geographical features like Lake Superior, Lake Travers, Big Stone Lake, and the Mississippi River. The text 'Preserving The Public Land Survey System' is overlaid in white on the map.

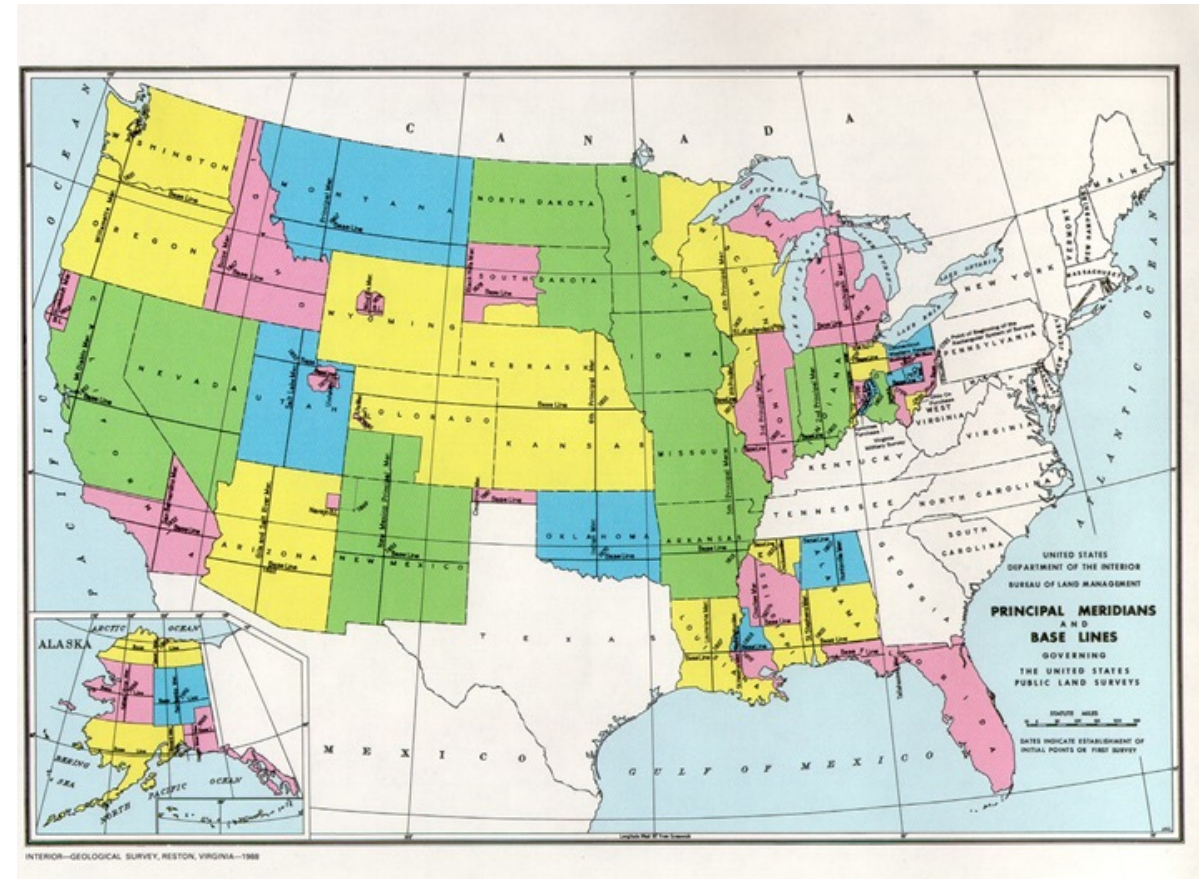
Preserving The Public Land Survey System

Ensuring that Minnesota's Public Land Survey System (PLSS) Monuments are available for everyone

Public Land Survey System Monuments are essential for all property descriptions, location of infrastructure, and are the basis for accurate digital geospatial data.

The Public Land Survey System is?

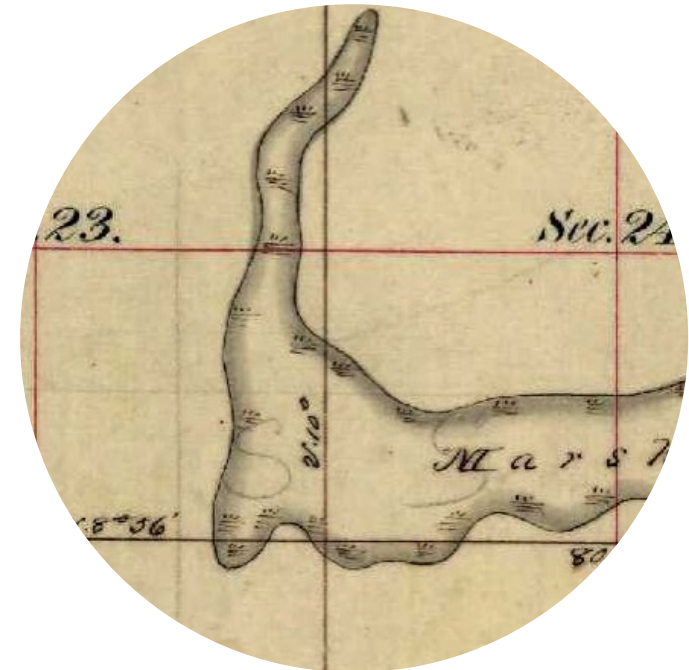
- Legal & geographic framework covering 2/3 of the USA
 - Underpins the land tenure system in the PLSS states
 - Basis for all property descriptions
 - Enables the secure transfer of property
 - Describes the land and where it's at on the earth
 - 90% of GIS data is directly related to the framework
 - Municipalities, parcels, roads, zoning, ad infinitum



Set post for corner to Sec. 23
20, 21, 28 and 29
Black Oak 8 S 52 1/2 E 45 1/2 W
Black Oak 6 N 32 W 19 links
Black Oak 9 S 35 W 18 links
Black Oak 7 S 40 E 22 links
Surface
S 1/2

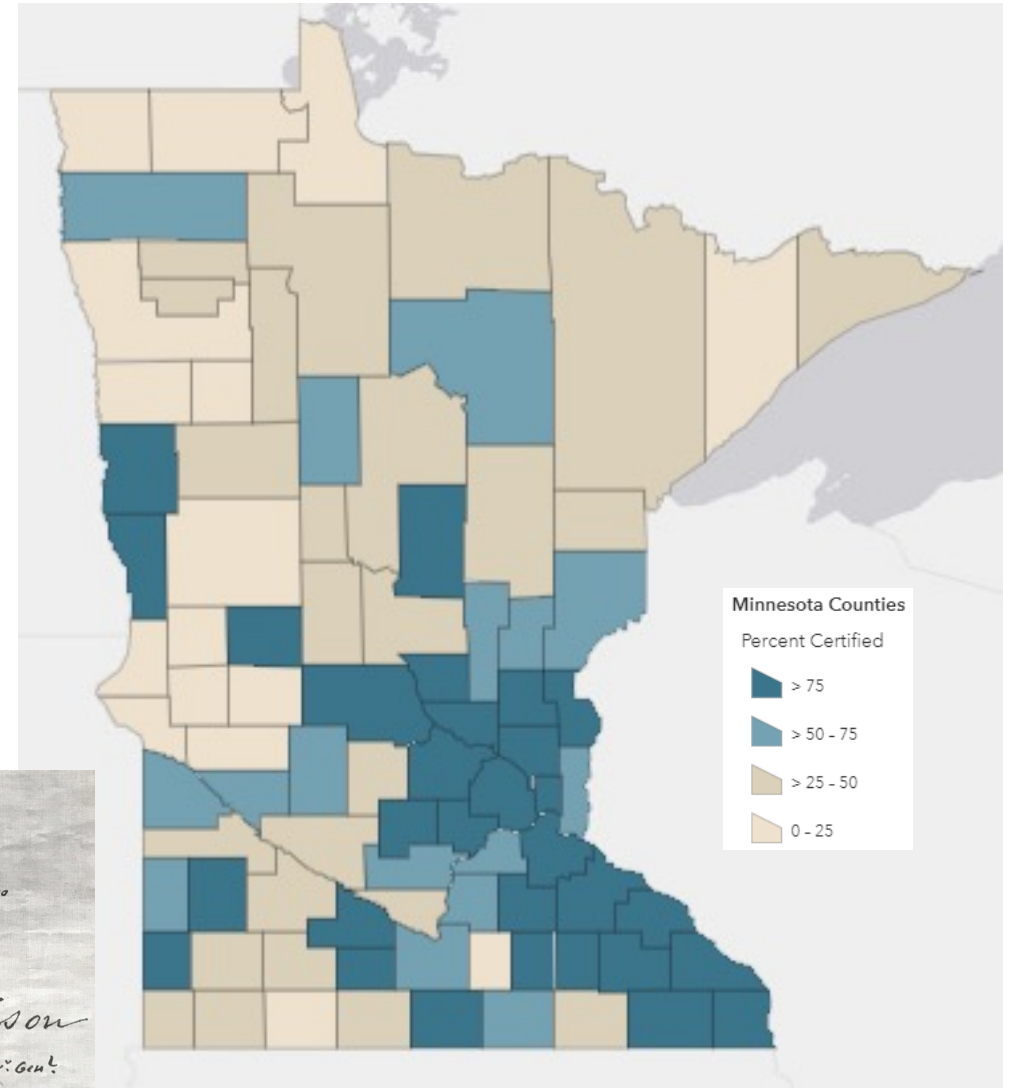
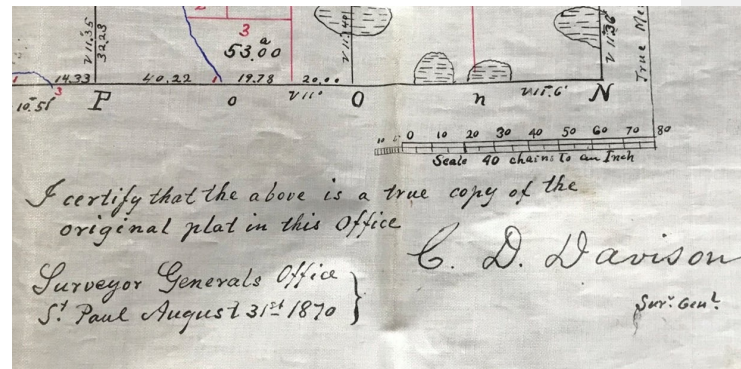
Following in the footsteps

- Evidence of the PLSS is supported by monuments
 - The original monuments in the ground, by law, define the PLSS
 - They were, and continue to be, used to further subdivide property



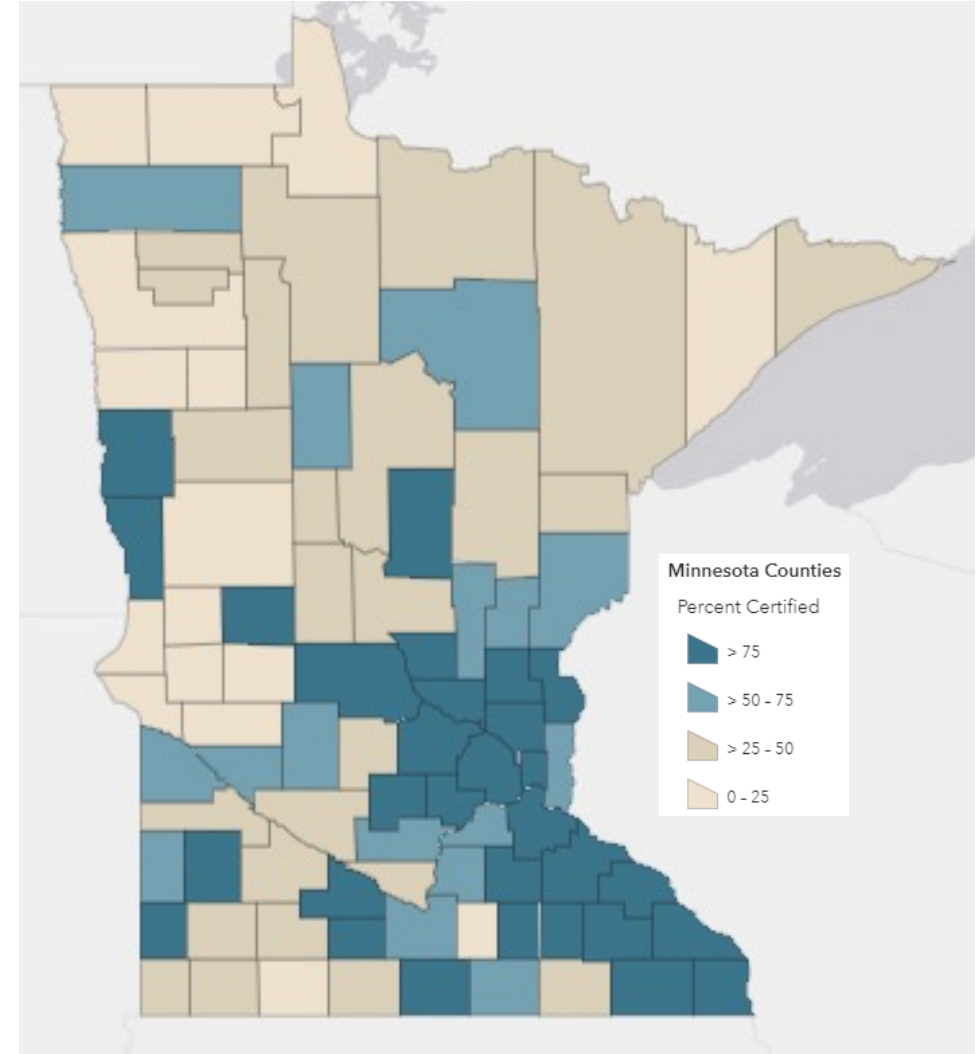
The current state of PLSS monuments

- 325,000 + PLSS Monuments set in MN
- Feds gave authority to the states who gave that to the counties.
- Less than ½ of the monuments (148,000) have a known location
- In 1896 Ramsey County recognized the need and began remonumentation. 30% still in place.



The Solution(s)

- Having a methodical program to preserve the future by perpetuating the PLSS
- Over 150,000 unknown monuments must be found and locked into the digital system.
- Cost is approximately \$1,800 per monument.
- Cannot be done in 1 year.



Benefits of preserving the PLSS

The combination of PLSS records publicly available and the physical monuments in the ground mean that future land and economic development will be assisted with easily-attainable land records that can be verified in the field.

- Accurate location for projects,
- More precise data creates informed records for land management, and accurate taxation
- Creates secure land records for future generations, minimizing future lawsuits (\$15,000 minimum cost per party)
- Brings us into the modern era of land management
- Provides high paying jobs (\$60– 130 k)

Supporters



Summary - PLSS

- The PLSS land survey monument system predates the state of Minnesota and creates our system of property management.
- 150 years of neglect has taken its toll and flaws are becoming worse.
- We must take this crucial infrastructure into the digital age.
 - Introduce by Rep. Mike Freiberg (DFL-Golden Valley) in the House (HF1231),
 - Introduced by Sen. Jim Carlson (DFL-Eagan) in the Senate (SF1659)
- Bi-partisan support
- Cost \$300 million over 30 years (\$10 million per year)
- Wisconsin currently spending \$13 million per year