Public Land Survey Corner Information

A Public Land Survey corner is any corner actually established and monumented in an original survey or resurvey used as a basis of legal descriptions for issuing a patent for the land to a private person from the United States government. Public Land Survey corners are interpreted as meander corners, quarter corners and section corners (corners set in the original government surveys), and are the corners used by the Assessor's office for tax parcel mapping purposes.

Refer to Utah State code 17-23 and Salt Lake County Ordinance 14.17. Any land surveyor making a boundary survey and utilizing a corner shall, within 90 days, complete, sign, and file with the Salt Lake County Surveyor, a written record. The Salt Lake County Surveyor’s Office form is known as the Public Land Survey Corner Filing. This report shall be completed for every public land survey corner and accessory to the corner which is used, unless the corner and its accessories is already a matter of record in the County.

The Public Land Survey Corner Filing form may also be known as a corner report, land survey record, corner file, etc. The Public Land Survey Corner Filing is a document containing the most current description of any public land survey corner, or lesser subdivision corner as defined in the Manual of Surveying Instructions 1973, and/or that corner’s accessories.

Complete the Public Land Survey Filing form located on this website at www.surveyor.slco.org.

When completing the form and to insure readable and legible forms:

- Use black ink for text and line work (halftones and grayscale do not reproduce well)
- Use black ink for your Certification Seal (many colors do not reproduce well and are harder to read)
- Use standard text fonts larger than 1/8 of an inch in height on submitted form (small and fancy fonts are harder to read)
- Attach each graphic or digital image to PLS Corner Page 2 or a Microsoft Word document as separate images

There is no charge when submitting the Public Land Survey Corner Filing with the Salt Lake County Surveyor’s Office. The form may be delivered to the Surveyor’s Office in person, by mail, by fax, or by email.
To standardize the format of information being submitted, and to ensure sufficient content to properly identify and recover the subject survey corner monument, please follow these guidelines:

- The public land survey filing form shall be 8 ½ x 11. Additional pages may be attached.

- Each public land survey filing form shall include the following:
  - Date of Field Work.
  - Type of Corner (section, quarter, benchmark, witness, property, accessory, right of way, etc).
  - Detailed description of monument found (i.e. “corner is a 6 inch by 8 inch (12 inches high above ground) red sandstone found firm in ground with 2 notches on North edge and 3 grooves on South face (stone is 24 inches high overall)” or “corner is a 3 inch dia. Brass G.L.O. cap on a 2 inch dia. Pipe (4 inches exposed above ground with stampings as shown”)  
  - Detailed description to locate the point (i.e. “on West edge of farm field in North-South fence line” or “on East slope of oak brush covered hill in North edge of 10 foot clearing”)
  - Firm name and/or surveyor, address, phone, email, and license number.
  - Location of Township(s), Range(s), and Section(s).
  - Diagram containing corner.
  - Geographic Coordinates (Northing, Easting, and State Plan datum).
  - Sketch/drawing showing markings and orientation to North.
  - Photos or graphics with orientation views.
  - Additional sketch/drawing showing area and relationship and distances of corner to fences, trees, other corners, etc. (including North Arrow).
  - Seal, signature, and date of certification.

Contact us to answer any of your questions: Phone 385-468-8250, Fax: 385-468-8258; E-mail: surveyor@slco.org; Visit us: Salt Lake County Government Center, 2001 South State Street, N1300 (North Building), PO Box 144575, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4575.