



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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FINAL

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Inaccurate Maps Robbing The Landowner

By BOB SLOUGH
News Staff Writer
(First of A Series)

DOUBT may cloud the legal ownership of millions of dollars worth of North Carolina property.

One veteran surveyor estimates there may be errors in at least 50 per cent of land maps now on file in the 100 Register of Deeds offices in the state.

Edgar H. Kimmons of Charlotte, chairman of the property survey and mapping functional section of the Professional Engineers of North Carolina, says many boundary lines set forth on land maps cannot be located on the ground with any degree of certainty.

Kimmons spent several months poring over 800-1,000 maps in a nine-county area. He checked them carefully.

HERE ARE SOME of his conclusions:
★ The accuracy of most surveys is still

far below what are considered to be acceptable standards in the light of the improved surveying equipment and methods, and the increase of land values.

★ Practically all laws dealing with the accuracy of surveys or maps are inadequate.

★ Land descriptions incorporated in some deeds are so insufficient and inaccurate that in many cases it is practically impossible to locate a boundary line on the ground to any degree of certainty.

★ Landmarks used as starting points on some survey maps and deeds have long since disappeared. (One deed listed "the place where Farmer Brown's bull died" as the starting point for surveying one piece of land; another deed dated in 1878 listed "a pine tree in tree field No. 2" another deed says "beginning at a grapevine on the side of the road.")

★ The average person, knowing little

about surveying, does not want to pay much for a survey and sometimes does not get much of a survey for his money. He "gets what he pays for."

★ Under the present system maps and descriptions containing errors may be entered as public record because there is no check on the maps. The register of deeds, through no fault of his own, is not trained to spot errors.

★ Many laws governing surveying specify no degree of accuracy, stating in most cases that the survey and map shall be made by a competent surveyor.

THOSE ARE SOME of the conclusions Kimmons reached.

He wrote them as a preface to a proposed "Manual of Instructions For the Practice of Land Surveying in North Carolina."

The manual was approved by the Professional Engineers of North Carolina. Kim-

mons said, and forwarded to the North Carolina Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

Kimmons said the suggested manual was not adopted by the board.

Here are some of Kimmons' findings in his study:

One survey in a Piedmont North Carolina county in which an error of approximately one and a half acres in the 10 or 12 acres surveyed was revealed.

AN ERROR OF CLOSURE on one map of one foot in every 40 feet, meaning that the boundary lines of a rectangular lot 80 by 160 feet would fail to come together by 32 feet.

A deed in one of North Carolina's larger counties in which three simple lines, not joined at any point, would be

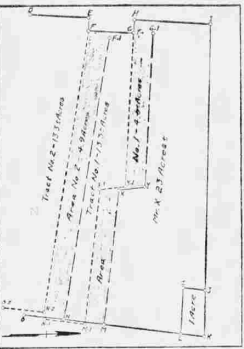
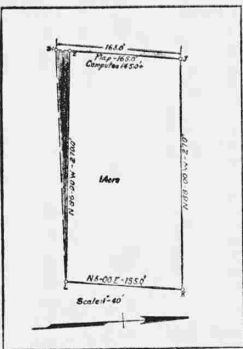
put on the ground if a surveyor attempted to plot the boundary lines from the deed. The property owner thought he was buying a triangular plot of ground.

One map of record shows a 250-ft. frontage on a lot. The surveyor, using bearings given on the map, finds the frontage is only 150 feet.

ONE MAP SHOWS the real lot line to be 60 feet. On the ground, again using bearings given on the map, it's only 41 feet.

In one subdivision map, no bearings are given on the side lines of irregularly shaped lots. No front distances are given, no curve data is given for lots on curving roads in the subdivision.

These are some of the mistakes Kimmons found in his nine-county study. A 100-county study would reveal more, he suspects.



Here are samples taken from maps E. H. Kimmons ran across in his study of maps in a nine-county area. The shaded areas represent disputed property. Kim-

mons said, due to errors in the maps. Disputed property in the map with the large shaded area represents several acres.

Berlin Anti-Blockade Plan Okayed By West

Property At Shell Depot Transferred

Title of the 23,000-acre Naval Shell Depot near here was scheduled to pass formally from the federal government to a group of Charlotte men today.

Representatives of the government came here to present the title to three Charlotte men, Pat Hall, Alex Shattuck and Henderson Bell, at 2:15 o'clock today.

The three Charlotteans submitted a high bid for the property last October. However, there was some delay in accepting the price as the government thought it was too low. The final settlement was \$2,900,000.

BUILT DURING WAR

The shell depot, a \$29-million installation, was built in World War II and was used for loading 20 millimeter shells. After the war it was used as a storage depot for a number of years.

The Chamber of Commerce and other interested groups were instrumental in getting the government to sell it as a parcel so it could be used as an industrial park.

Mr. Hall, who operates a textile machinery business here, has already moved his operations to the property, and it is hoped the site will attract other industries.

The property is fully improved, has electric lines, sewer and water systems and a network of roads.



Dulles Reads Statement to Newsmen On Arrival

Procedure Agreement Reported By Dulles

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Dulles said today the western allies have agreed generally on procedures to follow if Russia invokes "physical means" to block access to Berlin.

He also renewed the West's offer to talk about a general settlement.

"We are willing to talk with the Soviets in a sincere effort to reach agreements," he said.

Dulles returned to Washington after talks at London, Paris and Bonn.

In a prepared statement Dulles told newsmen his talks about "reaffirmed the unity and firmness of our position."

NO SUBSTITUTES

"We do not accept any substitution of East Germans for the Soviet Union in its responsibilities toward Berlin and its obligations to us," he said.

"We are resolved that our position toward Berlin will be preserved. We are in general agreement as to the procedures we shall follow if physical means are invoked to interfere with our rights in this respect."

Eisenhower returned last night from a Georgia quail hunting holiday and was met at the airport by Under Secretary of State C. Douglas Dillon, who presumably gave him an initial report on Dulles' mission.

In advance of Dulles' arrival of Dulles said they were sure he had laid the groundwork for a speed-up in Allied policy planning looking toward a spring foreign ministers' meeting with the Soviet Union.

WEEK'S TRIP

On a week-long trip, Dulles conferred with the leaders of Britain, France and West German during successive visits to London, Paris and Bonn.

Dulles left Bonn Sunday with a hint that some slight conciliatory move toward the Soviets may be in the making, but only if the U.S.S.R. also is in a conciliatory mood.

His series of talks last week Dulles said at the Bonn airport, "will help to assure that we shall be united and firm for our rights. That does not exclude being conciliatory, but it does exclude merely making concessions for which there is no counterpart."

West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, was pictured by a German spokesman as opposed to giving something away in the negotiations without getting anything in return.

Both German and American spokesmen also said the Western powers are still far from agreement on a detailed policy on how to meet the Soviet challenge in Berlin. But they indicated that progress was made in the talks.

SOLUTION
WEST WILLOWD, N. J. — (AP) — Council members have approved hiring a municipal consultant to suggest ways in which they can spend a treasury surplus of \$85,127.

One of the approximately 900 residents had a suggestion: lower the taxes.

Marriage No Solution To Problems

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — "I didn't want two wives," says Brian Wahlken, a 35-year-old draftsman who was jailed yesterday in a bigamy investigation.

"Things just got mixed up and I couldn't straighten them out," he told a reporter.

Police said Wahlken, who lives at nearby Mountain View, started his double life in November when he married Rachel Belasco, a 26-year-old theater usher in Reno. His first wife is Jenny, 24.

"Jenny and I were married early last year and there were bills, bills, bills," Wahlken said. "Bills for the wedding, bills for the honeymoon, bills for clothes and food. I had to get away from it all."

He met Rachel and dated her every night for three weeks, "Things just kept rolling" until they drove to Reno and got married, he said.

"It was going to be a new life. I was going to get a job and, as soon as I got it, I was going to get a divorce (from Jenny)," he said.

He didn't find a job and police said that while he was drawing \$60 per week unemployment checks he lived one night a week with Jenny and the other six with Rachel. He told both working wives his absences were due to job hunting, police added.

Jenny talked Friday to Rachel's mother, Mrs. A. J. Belasco, and compared notes on rumors she had heard about her husband. Among the information exchanged was the fact that both wives were pregnant.

Rachel complained to police and Wahlken said he is finished with Rachel.

"First she talked about an abortion, then she goes for this bigamist charge. If I get a chance I'll try to make it up with Jenny," she can cook!" Wahlken said.

Jenny said she would think about that when he gets out of jail.

"I didn't suspect a thing," she said. "I guess I'm kind of dumb."

Our Weather

Cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle through Tuesday. High yesterday — 56. High tomorrow — 64. High tomorrow — 62.

Sunrise today 7:15 a.m.; sunset today 6:00 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A

The Lighter Side

Extra Work Could Have Saved Him

(From AP Reports)

Jess Reed of Stockton, Calif., will be sentenced Tuesday for petty theft in the case of four allegedly deodorized skunks who weren't.

Reed pleaded guilty last Friday to the charge, which was the way the prosecutor assessed the seriousness of his sale of four unimpaired skunks to pet dealers after representing them as incapable of doing the trick for which skunks are famous.

The dealers learned the truth the hard way.

Not For Them

After quoting a noisy demonstration in the Kansas City jail Sunday, Sheriff Arvid Owsley agreed to hear their grievances.

He said the prisoners didn't like Friday night's show. They objected to its content, claimed it was too thin.

"It was clam chowder," Owsley said, "and these guys didn't know what it was."

Nothing New, Eh?

Now comes a hot dog, "One" E. C. Fogle, used car dealer of Oilton, Okla., says he has a bun mold designed to prevent hot dogs from dripping.

The apparatus bakes the leak-proof bun, with one end open, ready to hold a wiener and its accompaniment.

Dollars Will Be OK

Pennies Not Legal Tender To Judge

By JOHN KILGO
News Staff Writer

County Recorder William Scarborough wants too pleased when the package arrived in his court this morning.

Court Clerk Bob Hinson said, "I thought it was a bomb."

"Was it a bomb?"

No. It was a thousand pennies in a fruit jar.

Norman W. Ard, a ministerial student at Mount Olive College, was arrested last week in Feckenburg for improper license plates on his trailer.

Ard wrote Clerk Hinson a letter after he got the ticket that said, "I'm working my way through college and money is at this time hard to get. I am wondering what is the least amount I can get by with on this citation."

JUST TEN DOLLARS

Hinson wrote back, "Send me 10 dollars and the case will be closed."

So this morning Hinson got a letter and a package. A heavy package.

The letter said, "As I said money is hard to find for a working student. However I was able to scrape up the \$10 enclosed."

"I didn't know what was in that package," Hinson said. "I thought it might be a bomb."

Hinson opened the package, discovered the pennies, and took them into Judge Scarborough.

"That boy's trying to pull my leg," the judge said. "but I'm going to pull his."

"Those pennies in a fruit jar are not legal tender."

CAPIAS ISSUED

Judge Scarborough ordered a capias issued for the future preacher.

"I've got to bring that boy down here as soon as we can get him," the judge said, "and he's going to court every one of these pennies."

"All 1,000 of them."

I don't know if I'll let him distract me that much," Judge Scarborough says, "but he'll come then somewhere."

Hinson says the bank won't accept the pennies in a fruit jar. They won't take our word that there's a thousand pennies in there," he says. "They will have to be rolled in coin wrappers to become cents over 25 cents are not legal tender."

Evening Prayer

We thank Thee, O Lord, for sending Thy Son into the world to save us. We thank Thee for His ministry of salvation. His gracious gospel. His expression of love in Thee. Help us to live by His gospel and to proclaim Him Lord of all. In His name, Amen.

Myers called for an ambulance and drove Mrs. Sigall's Cadillac to police headquarters after the shootings. Though he was shot in the leg, he was admitted later to a hospital.

Sigall was found in his own car in an alley a half mile away, dead from an apparently self-inflicted wound. A .22 caliber rifle was found beside him.

Ten shots had been fired into Mrs. Sigall's car on an east side street about a block from Meyer's home. Mrs. Sigall died from a bullet wound in her left side.

She lived in a new suburban residential area east of Anderson.

Meyer is a non-denominational evangelist.

DEBBIE WELLS

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Address Debbie Reynolds Sunday was released from a hospital where she had been treated since Thursday for a blood clot on the leg.

Woman Killed, Clergyman Shot

ANDERSON, Ind. — An Anderson woman was shot to death on her way to work this morning, an ex-cop riding with her was wounded, and her husband was found dead later, an apparent suicide.

Police identified the dead as Eva Mae Sigall, 42, and her estranged husband, Sam.

Patrolman Doyle Wright said James Meyer, an evangelist and father of four children, apparently was an innocent passenger in Mrs. Sigall's car.

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The New Air Force Missiles Causing Plane Reduction

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Air Force probably will shrink its organizational size to fewer than 90 wings during the next five or six years—smaller since the wholesale demobilization following World War II.

These wings will include missile outfits as well as manned aircraft. Part of the cutback will be in B-4 medium bomber wings as more efficient means of delivering destruction replace these planes.

Economy seems to play only a small part in the trend, which began about two years ago. Improvement of both aircraft and missiles accounts primarily for the change.

The success of power which can be delivered by even 40 wings will be thousands of times that of the huge bomber fleets of World War II.

The military budget now being debated in Congress says that there will be a "modest reduction in the number of wings in the Air Force, from 105 at the end of the current fiscal year (next June 30) to 102 at the end of 1960."

The size of an Air Force wing varies from 45 B-4 bombers to 75 fighters. Normally, a wing consists of three squadrons of planes.

In missiles, the squadron concept is generally used. A ballistic missile squadron will range from 10 weapons for an intercontinental ballistic missile—ICBM—unit to 15 for an intermediate-range ballistic missile—IRBM—squadron. Formation of such squadrons is just beginning.

Many Lick Heart Attacks

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Mail Went Through Okay

Special to The News.
LIMCOLN — The odds were 99 to 1 — 21.
But the postman knocked only once last week and Joyce Hoyle of Rt. 3, Lincoln, answered the door.

Postman C. E. Kiger Jr. had a letter in his hand addressed to "Miss Joyce Hoyle, Rt. 3, North Carolina." No city on the address. No county, either. Just "Rt. 3, North Carolina."

How did the letter, mailed aboard the USS Hartley some where in the Atlantic, get to the Lincoln County city in two days, even though it carried no town or county on its face?

"I've been scratching my head about it ever since," Limcolnton Postmaster V. C. Fair said. "That letter was two days on the road. There was no indica-

tion it had been opened so close as the writer gave some clue as to where the letter should go.

BIG CHANGE

Mr. Fair said the letter came first through the post of New York. Then to North Carolina where it could have gone to any one of 100 counties.

"It's rather marvelous," Mr. Fair said. "I can't explain it. I'd like to but I can't."

"The mailman who mailed it, knocked at her door to ask if the letter was being delivered to the right place.

"— BUT HOW IS MYSTERY —"