

# SECTION CORNER RECORD

## BOONE COUNTY SURVEYOR'S OFFICE

NE 900-000

State Plane grid coordinates NAD83 (CORS96):

Corner 1: North: 1793138.65 East: 3124756.47 (U.S. survey feet)

Corner 2: North: 1793150.42 East: 3124756.44 (U.S. survey feet)

Type of monument: Harrison, 4" disk 'Section Corner'

Depth: six inches below adjacent gravel road surface

Indiana tie card references:

IN02\_T20NR1W13\_80 IN02\_T20NR1E18\_72

IN02\_T20NR1W24\_08 IN02\_T20NR1E19\_00

### CORNER WITNESS DETAIL

SCALE 1" = 40'

① S.E. Corner, Section 13  
N.E. Corner, Section 24  
T 20 N, R 1 W

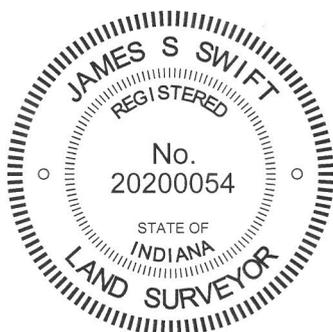
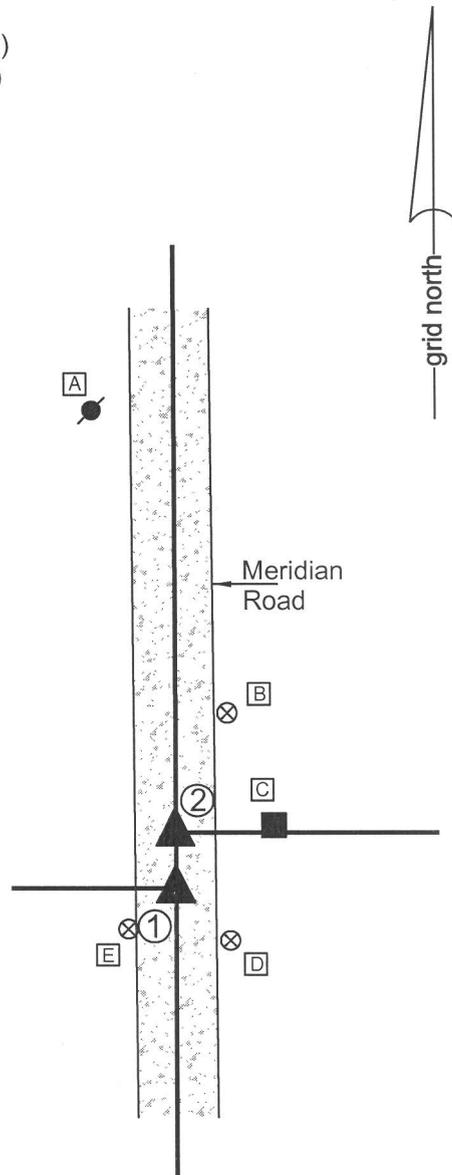
② S.W. Corner, Section 18  
N.W. Corner, Section 19  
T 20 N, R 1 E

Distance between corners = 11.77'

- A - Mag nail set in S.E. side power pole, 2' a.g., 100.8' to corner 1, 89.2' to corner 2
- B - Boone County witness mark, flush, 38.4' to corner 1, 27.3' to corner 2
- C - Mag nail set in W. side wood post, 1' a.g., 22.5' to corner 1, 18.1' to corner 2
- D - Boone County witness mark, flush, 15.7' to corner 1, 25.3' to corner 2
- E - Boone County witness mark, flush, 13.1' to corner 1, 22.5' to corner 2

Boone County witness mark is a 3/8" diameter x 2' long rebar bearing a metal cap stamped "Boone County Witness Point."

See page 2 for written documentation and explanation of findings.



*Kenneth E. Hedge*  
Kenneth E. Hedge, County Surveyor

*James S. Swift*  
James S. Swift, IN LS 20200054  
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Sugar Creek Township	Washington Township
Section 13 T20N, R1W	Section 18 T20N, R1E
Section 24 T20N, R1W	Section 19 T20N, R1E

# SECTION CORNER RECORD

NE 900-000

## BOONE COUNTY SURVEYOR'S OFFICE

The Harrison monument at corner two (SW Sec. 18, NW Sec. 19, T20N, R1E) was set over a stone found and the Harrison monument at corner one (SE Sec. 13, NE Sec. 24, T20N, R1W) was set in place of a portion of an ancient wood post / wood stake found.

Corner one was set in 1819, an original corner defining the Second Principal Meridian. Corner two was set in 1819, 19 links north of corner one.

Two matching records in the BCS Surveyor's record dated February 25, 1879 address this set of corners. With respect to the southeast corner of Section 13, T 20 N, R 1 W (corner one), the record states "Marked rock to place at corner to Sec. 18 & 19, 19 lks North." With respect to the southwest corner of Section 18, T 20 N, R 1 E (corner two), the record states "Found point which marked by chopping notch in crosslaying also marked (+) rock 16.9.6 for parties to set." A BCS tie card dated July 23, 1975 and referencing the southwest corner of section 18 states "No stone found - set rod" and shows the corner in the center of the N-S roadway in line with a fence to the east.

This corner was excavated on July 9, 2014. Corner two was excavated first. Prior to excavation, an iron rod was found 2 inches deep in the gravel road, bent at the top and in line with a post and occupation line to the east. The iron rod was removed and found to be smooth shafted and 18 inches long. The position of the rod fit with the 1975 tie to the post on the east side of the road. Excavation revealed a thin piece of wood, 12 inches long by 5 inches wide found at 18 inches deep in the general vicinity of the rod. Further excavation revealed a stone found at 2 feet deep, south and west of the rebar. The stone was vertical and matched the dimensions described in the 1879 record, being 16 inches tall by 6 inches by 9 inches. The stone was not oriented in cardinal directions, as would be expected if had been set by the County Surveyor. However, the record states that the stone was marked "for parties to set" which indicates that the land owners were responsible for actually placing the stone in the ground. The top of the stone was oriented in a NE/SW orientation but it was noted that the stone had a distinctly flat and vertical side facing east. Given that this is the corner to sections 18 and 19, defining the line to the east, it is logical that the land owners would orient the stone in such a manner. Two other features of the stone were notable: a wood stake was found at the northeast edge of the stone and the stone itself appeared to be set deeper in the ground than would be expected, given the general lay of the land. Both of these features are discussed below.

After the stone was found, a probable location for corner one was determined and excavation was performed at this location. Here, a piece of wood was found at 20 inches deep. This piece of wood appeared to be a fragment of an old post being squared off on the sides and approximately 4 inches by 3 inches by at least 4 feet long. The piece of wood was found embedded in the clay layer below the road and lying perpendicular to the north-south road. An 18 inch fragment of the post was removed from the road, measured and analyzed. The remainder of the post was left in the ground as found. The full length of the post was not determined and it appeared to extend yet further east and west than that portion which was exposed. Careful analysis of the post indicates that in the approximate center of the fragment which was removed, hence directly south of the stone, a vague notch is visible. The notch is not deep and was not observed at the time the post was found. However, after the post dried in the open air and the surface of the post cracked slightly, the notched part of the post became apparent. One edge of the notch bears distinct evidence of having been chiseled. The center of the post was found at 11.8 feet south of the top, center of the stone. The record closing distance is 19 links, or 12.54 feet. This distance is also stated in the 1879 records. It is noted that while the distance between the post and stone was found to be less than the record distance, the distance measured between post and the fragments of the wood stake at the northeast edge of the stone at corner two was very close to the record distance.

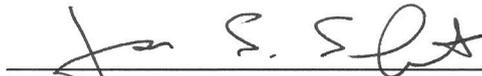
Analysis of the record and the found evidence yields the following conclusions. It is believed that the wood post found under the road and discussed above represents the monument referred to as the "crosslaying" in the 1879 record. The object was found lying perpendicular to the meridian line, or 'crosslaying' the meridian line, with a notch evidently chopped into it. The notations in the BCS Surveyor's Record indicate that this 'crosslaying' was found at the closing corner (corner two), not the standard corner (corner one.) It is believed that the crosslaying is misreferenced to the wrong section. Notably, it can be proven that the record immediately below the reference to the crosslaying, made on the same date, refers to an object in the wrong section. Hence, it appears the record keeping was problematic on that day with respect to which corner was which and what section was what. This is not particularly surprising, given that there are two corners, 12 feet apart, which represent the corners for four different sections in two different ranges, east and west of the 2nd Principal Meridian. With respect to the stone found at the closing corner, several observations are noted: The record clearly indicates that the stone was marked by the County Surveyor but not set by him. The stone was found oriented in a different manner than is typical of corner stones set by the County Surveyor but in a manner which makes sense given that the landowners who set the stone were marking the line to the east, as noted above. A wood stake was found at the northeast corner of the stone. The stone is slightly closer to the 'crosslaying' than the record 19 links, but the wood stake was quite close to that record distance from the 'crosslaying.' It is the opinion of the undersigned that the most probable occurrence on February 25, 1879 was that the County Surveyor or his crew found the post which they referred to as the 'crosslaying' defining the north-south position of the standard corner, chopped a mark in it to define the east-west position of that corner and set a wood stake to mark the position of the closing corner. At some subsequent date, the interested 'parties' set the stone next to the wood stake, leaving the stake in place, and setting the stone in a manner inconsistent with that typically adhered to by the County Surveyor. If this is true, it would hold, then, that the stake marks the true position of corner two and that the stone is slightly south and west of the corner. However, given the inherent conjecture of the above statement and the presence of the apparently undisturbed stone, the stone was held as marking the closing corner. The standard corner was set at the north-south position of the found 'crosslaying' on the prolongation of a line connecting the stone with the standard corner approximately one half mile to the north, where the meridian line crosses the county boundary. Hence, the meridian line bends at the standard corner, as per the original federal procedures, and the distance between the two monuments is slightly less than the record closing of 19 links. As the notch on the crosslaying was not observed during the original fieldwork, it is not possible to state whether the Harrison monument at the standard corner is in the exact position of the notch. In light of the above conclusions, it is thought to be most likely that the Harrison monument is slightly west of the position of the notch on the crosslaying.

Two other features of this corner and the monumentation found are notable. Although the record clearly states that the stone was "marked (+)," no marks were found on the stone. Perhaps a mark was present but was sufficiently vague to prevent detection in the field on July 9, 2014. As stated above, the notch on the crosslaying post was not observed on that date but was subsequently observed upon more careful inspection and after changes in the character of the surface of the wood. As the stone was left in place, buried under the road, with a substantial monument placed above it, further inspection was not practical. The dimensions of the stone precisely matched the 16.9.6 dimensions noted in the 1879 record.

The other feature of this corner which merits comment is with respect to the wood post, accepted as being the 'crosslaying.' This term has not been found mentioned elsewhere in the BCS Surveyor's Record, but as discussed above, fits well with the observation that the post was found laying perpendicular to and across the meridian line. The age of the post is not known, but apparently it was already present in 1879. As noted above, the post is 3 inches by 4 inches by at least 4 feet long. This is quite small for a fence post and rather large for a survey stake but is similar to the dimensions for a monument proscribed by Edward Tiffin's Instructions to the federal Deputy Surveyors, in force at these corners were originally established. It is possible that this post represents the original wood post set to mark this corner in 1819 during the original federal survey of the Second Principal Meridian and the ranges to the west. No further proof of this offered, but the conjecture is sufficiently interesting to merit mention.



Kenneth E. Hedge, County Surveyor



James S. Swift, IN LS 20200054 March 27, 2015, page 2 of 2

PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

Date of photography: July 9, 2014

View prior to excavation, looking across the corners and south along Meridian Road.



View prior to excavation, looking north along Meridian Road from above the closing corner.



The stone found at the closing corner. The chaining pin is stuck in the fragments of wood stake found at the northeast corner of the stone.



View from above the stone at the closing corner looking east along the field division line.



View of the stone found at the closing corner from above and northeast.



View of the stone found at the closing corner from above and east/northeast. Note the flat, vertical face of the east side of the stone.



For details and documentation, refer to related sheet "Section Corner Record."

## PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

Date of photography: July 9, 2014

The stone found at the closing corner from above and west.



The eastern portion of the "crosslaying" as found situated perpendicular to the meridian line at the standard corner.



The east and west portions of the "crosslaying." The western portion had been removed and placed back in approximately the original position.



View from the north, looking across the stone at corner 2 and the area of excavation at corner 1.



The west portion of the "crosslaying." Note that the clay in which this piece of wood had been embedded 'popped' off the wood upon excavation, leaving the wood looking remarkably clean, given that it was embedded in clay as originally found moments earlier.



For details and documentation, refer to related sheet "Section Corner Record."