

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Supplemental Plats

With John Farnsworth

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CADASTRAL SURVEY

Supplemental Plats

In addition to the plats of original surveys and resurveys, many areas have official supplemental plats that impact the setting of corners and the subdivision of sections. John Farnsworth will explain what this edition of the Manual has to say about this important topic.

Let us talk about supplemental plats. Supplemental plats are different than dependent resurveys plats and that they are prepared from official survey records without field work to show revised lotting. Now historically, these were prepared from BLM or GLO official survey record sources only. Now these are prepared when it is necessary for conveyance or management purposes to have revised lotting.

They are always based on the previous official record plat. Now these plats can be as simple as a plat that divides the lot. When we look at this next example, we will see that what used to be lot 2 in section 31 has now been divided into lots 5 and 6. Now this is done because once you get to a lot of a government survey it is ambiguous to have a legal description that calls for the west half or the east half of a lot in a government survey. It could be half by acreage, or it could be half by measurement, so this plat clearly shows the distances that are to be used to divide Lots 5 and 6.

Supplemental plats are also used to segregate special surveys such as mineral surveys. If we look at this next slide, we will see that in the southeast corner of this section, there has been a mineral survey segregated. Let us look at a closer view of this on the next slide and you will see that in the southeast of the south section, we have segregated a mineral survey from the public lands and we created a new Lot 1 with acreage.

Now we have done this one, we can administratively use this lot for management purposes, we can patent based on it. I think the big point you have to understand is that in a federal patent for grant to land, we do not have a description such as the southeast of a section except in mineral surveys. So we do not have exceptions, patents or deeds on the federal government.

Another part that is new in this edition of the Manual is that county and other local surveys, including administrative surveys may now be used to develop supplemental plats. Again historically, we only used official BLM survey records. Now there is a list in this edition of the Manual of criteria to be used to examine a local or administrative survey to see if it meets the federal requirements to be included in our public system. This is the main change in supplemental plats in this edition of the Manual and it adds a lot of credence to some of the work that is done on the private side where we can use that official plat if it meets our criteria. That about sums up the changes that we see in this edition of the Manual for

supplemental plats.

