



# 2014 VIRTUAL GENEALOGY FAIR



## ***Wagons West: Land Records at the National Archives***

### **Rick Martinez**

This presentation is an introductory level discussion of federal land records available at the National Archives. While some examples of records used will be from the National Archives at Denver, they will be applicable to the rest of the National Archives. Tract books, township survey plats and land entry case files will be the main types of records examined as well as some online resources.



**Rick Martinez**

Archives Specialist  
National Archives  
at Denver

Rick has worked with the archival unit of the National Archives at Denver for 15 years. Prior to this, he worked at the Federal records center. He became a Denver area resident after his father retired from the military in 1977. Land questions are among the favorite types of questions he answers for researchers.

# Wagons West: Land Records at the National Archives



Rick Martinez  
Archives Specialist  
National Archives at Denver

# Course Objectives

- Learn about the differences between Federal land records and those maintained at the state and county levels,
- Understand the legal descriptions of land claims,
- Understand the genealogical research value of Federal land records,
- Discover the types of land records held by the National Archives—both in Washington, DC and at regional archival locations,
- Learn how to order Federal land records from NARA.

# Land Transfer or Homestead?

- Most land transfers were by **deed** between two individuals and are recorded in **deed books**. The National Archives **does not** have this type of record.
- Land records other than deeds, such as quitclaims, mortgages, leases, assignments, and divisions are also routinely found in deed books. The National Archives **does not** have this type of record.
- Some actions involving land were recorded originally in the records of the probate or civil courts and then re-recorded in deed books. The National Archives **does not** have probate court records. However, we do have some federal court records that may note issues involving land, land disputes, and land ownership.

# Where to Find Deeds, Probate, and County Court Records

- County courthouses (“County Courthouse Book” by Elizabeth Petty Bentley) or online searches
- State and local archives/historical societies:  
<http://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/state-archives.html>
- Many records have been microfilmed and/or digitized and can be found online

# My Ancestor Was the Original Homesteader of the Land

- The first transfer of a piece of property was from the federal government into the hands of an individual.
- There are different types of records (and locations of records) depending upon which state your ancestor lived in.



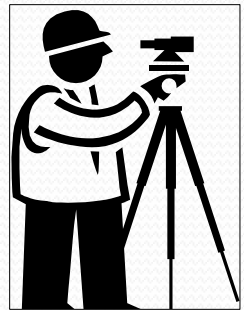
# Federal Land Records

- The Federal government created and maintained records of the first transfer of public domain lands.
- A variety of records were created and they were often created in duplicate and triplicate.
- Records include: survey field notes, tract books, depositions, survey plats, correspondence, land entry case files, and patents.



# Types of Land Claims on the Public Domain

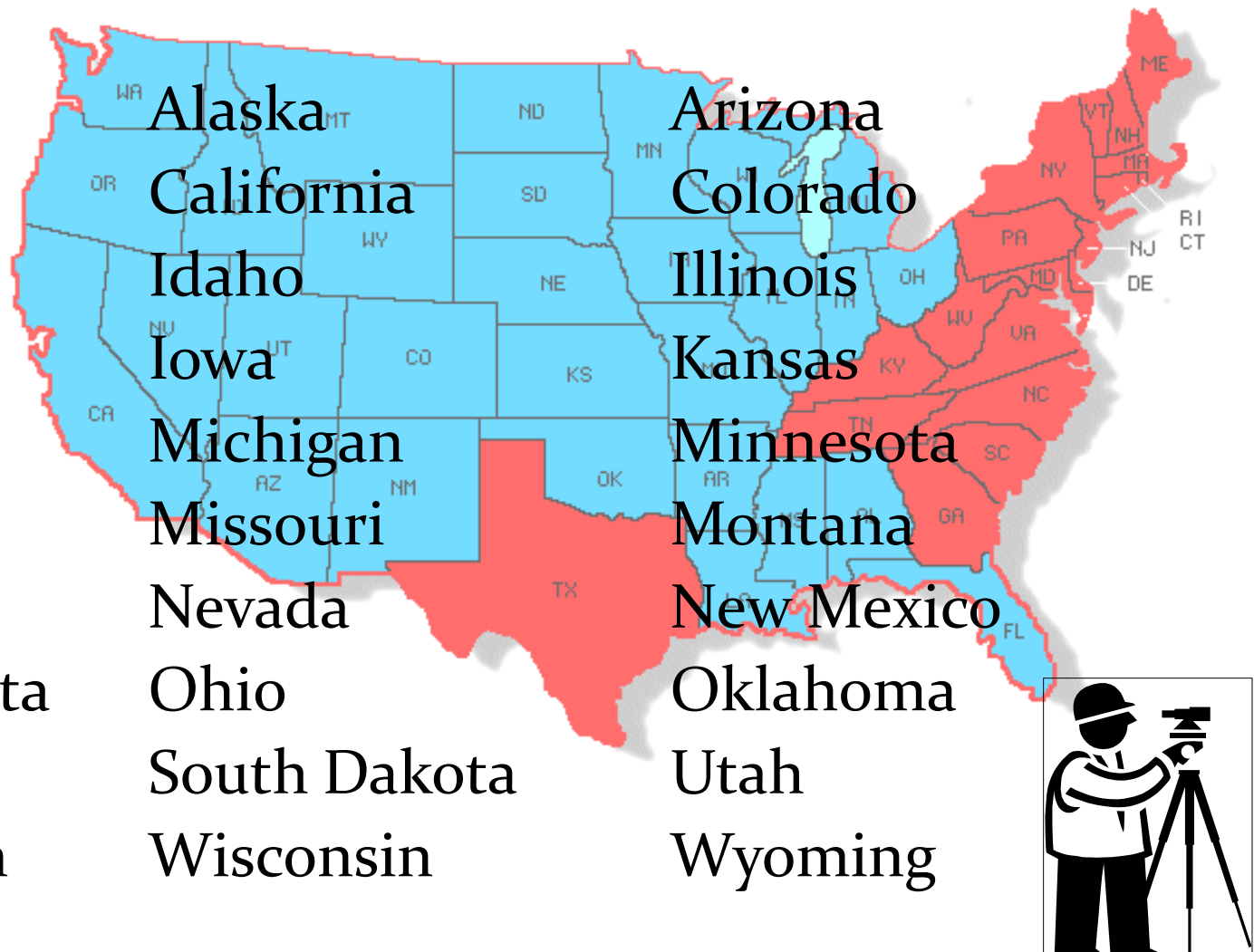
- Homestead Entries- free lands in the public domain
- Timber Culture Entries- to cultivate stands of trees
- Desert Land Entries- to irrigate semi-arid areas
- Preemption Entries- “squatters”
- Timber and Stone Entries- areas “unfit for farming”
- Mineral Entries- mines of various types
- Military Bounty Land Warrants- rewarded service
- Private Land Claims- adjudicated claims granted by other governments



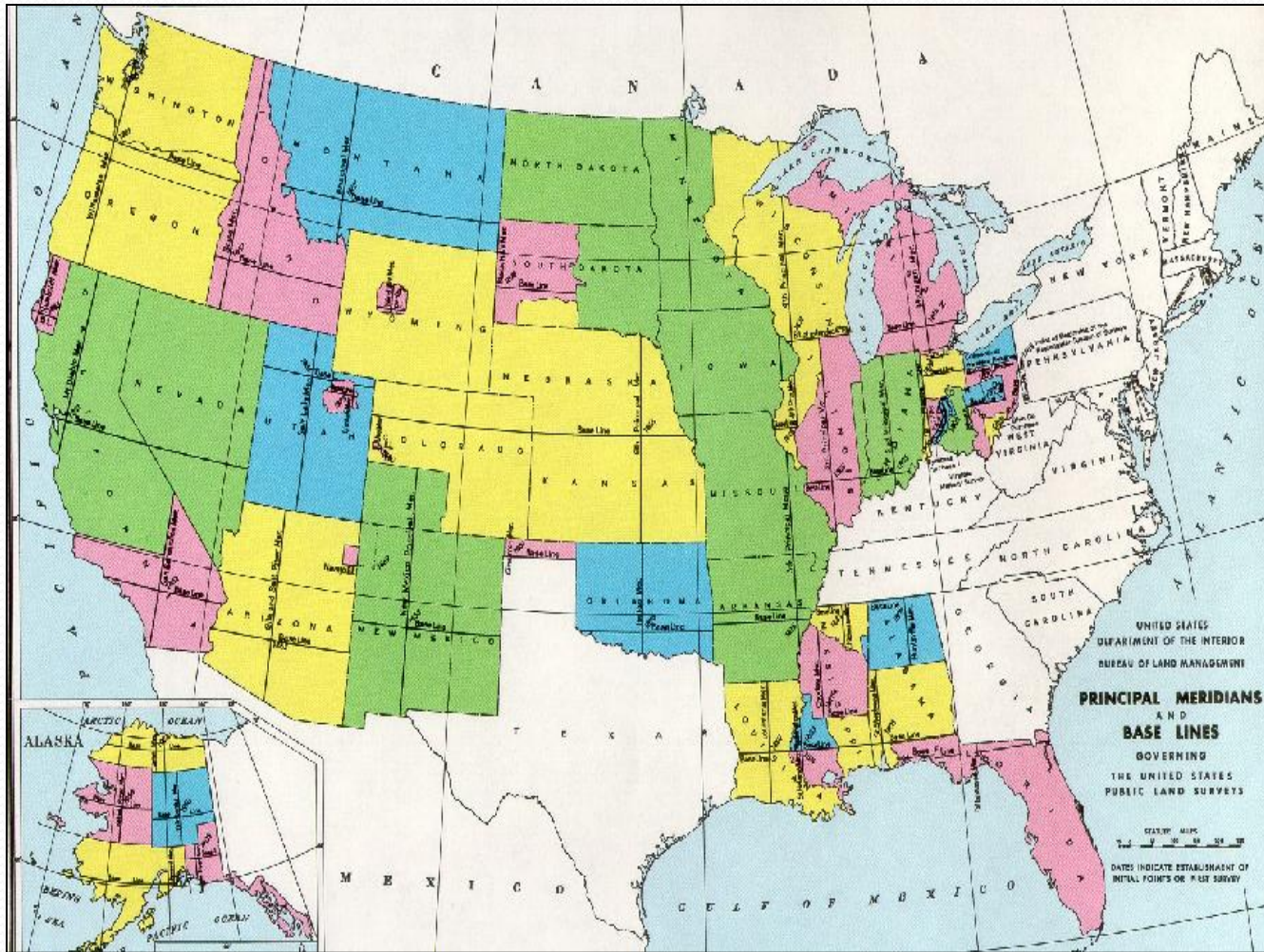
- - Public Lands
- - Non-public Lands

# The 30 Public Land States

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Florida
- Indiana
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- Nebraska
- North Dakota
- Oregon
- Washington



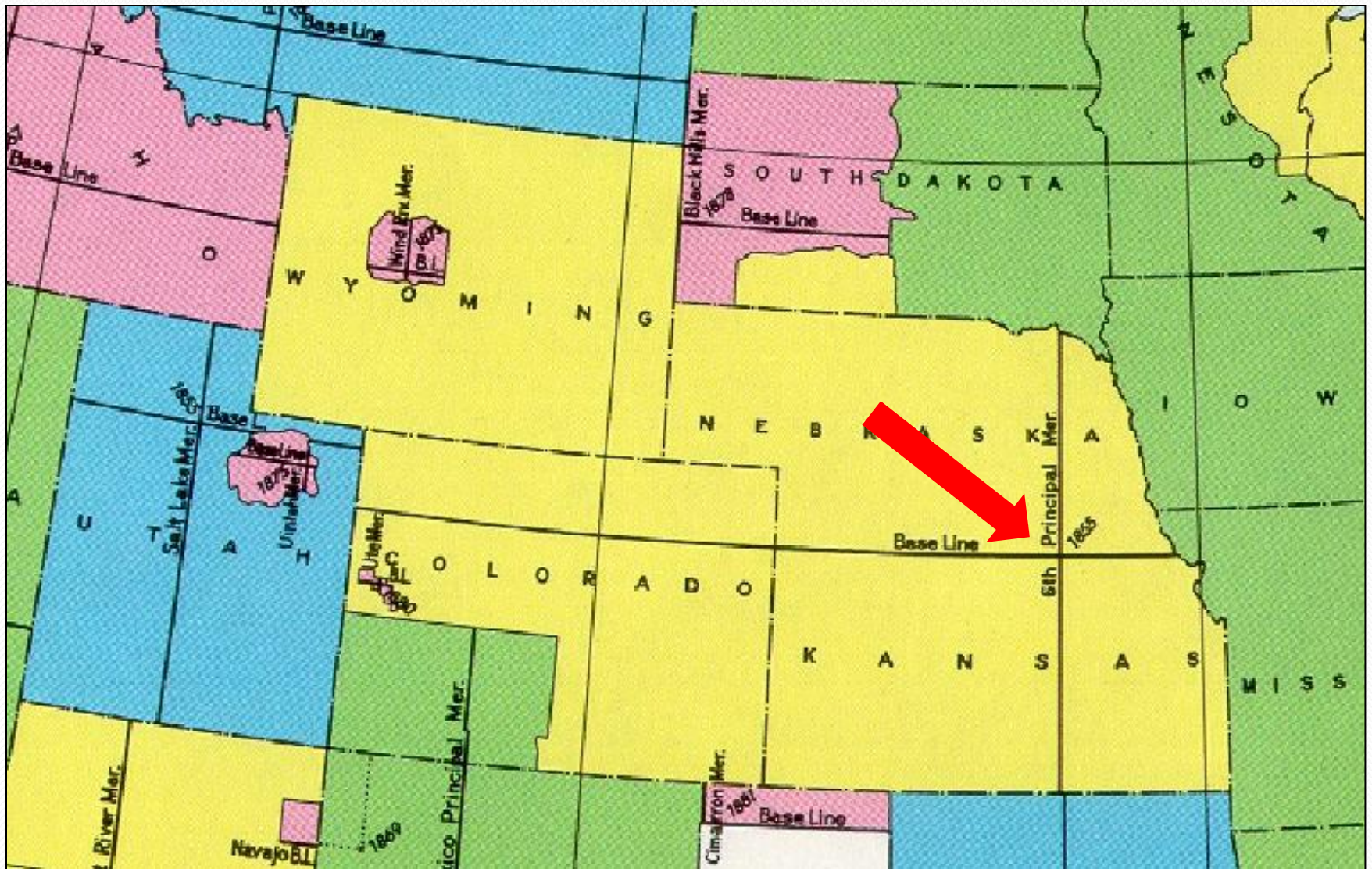
# Numerous Surveys were Done



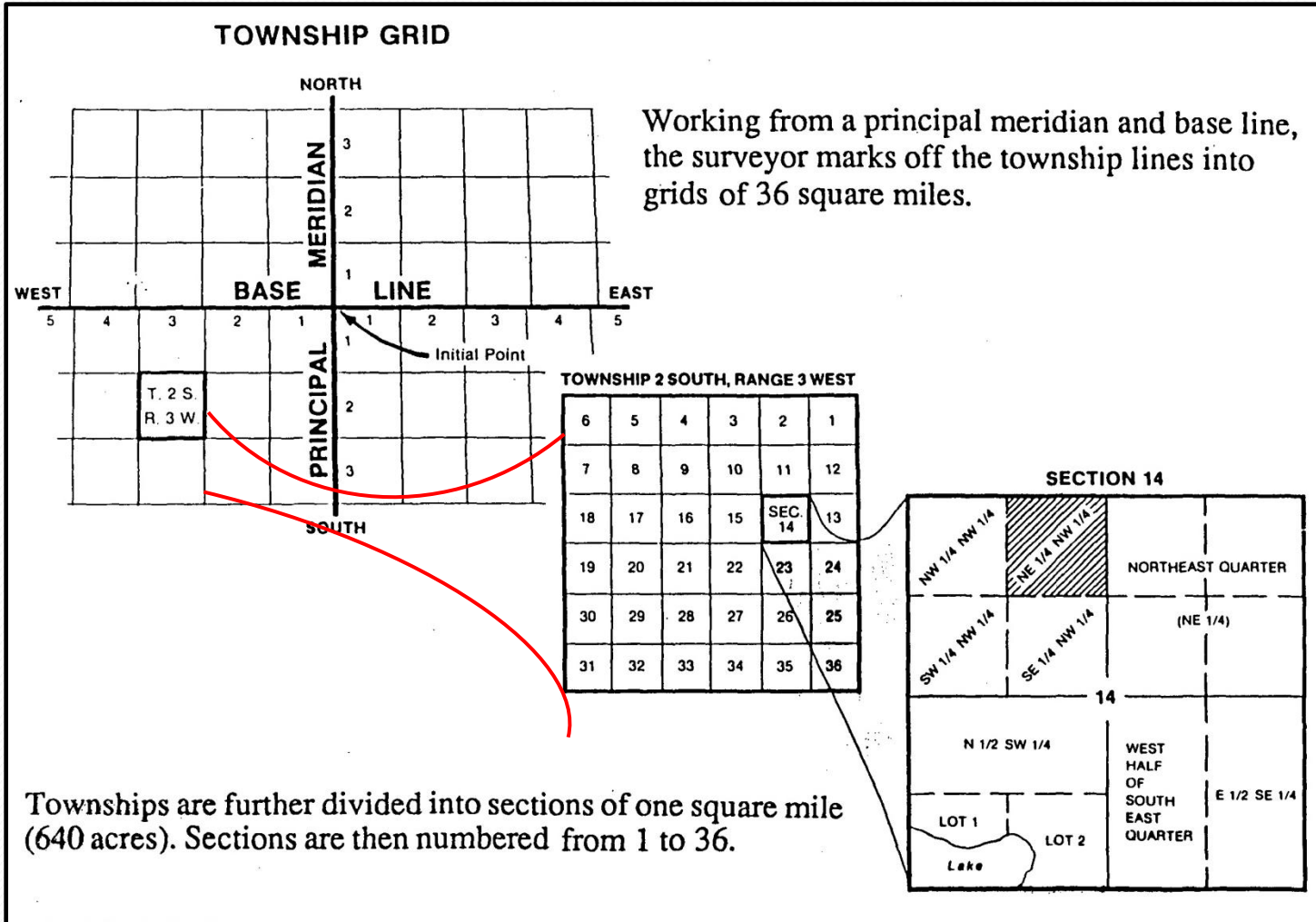
The Rectangular Survey System was proposed by Jefferson. The Land Ordinance of 1785 marked the start of the Public Land Survey System.



# 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian

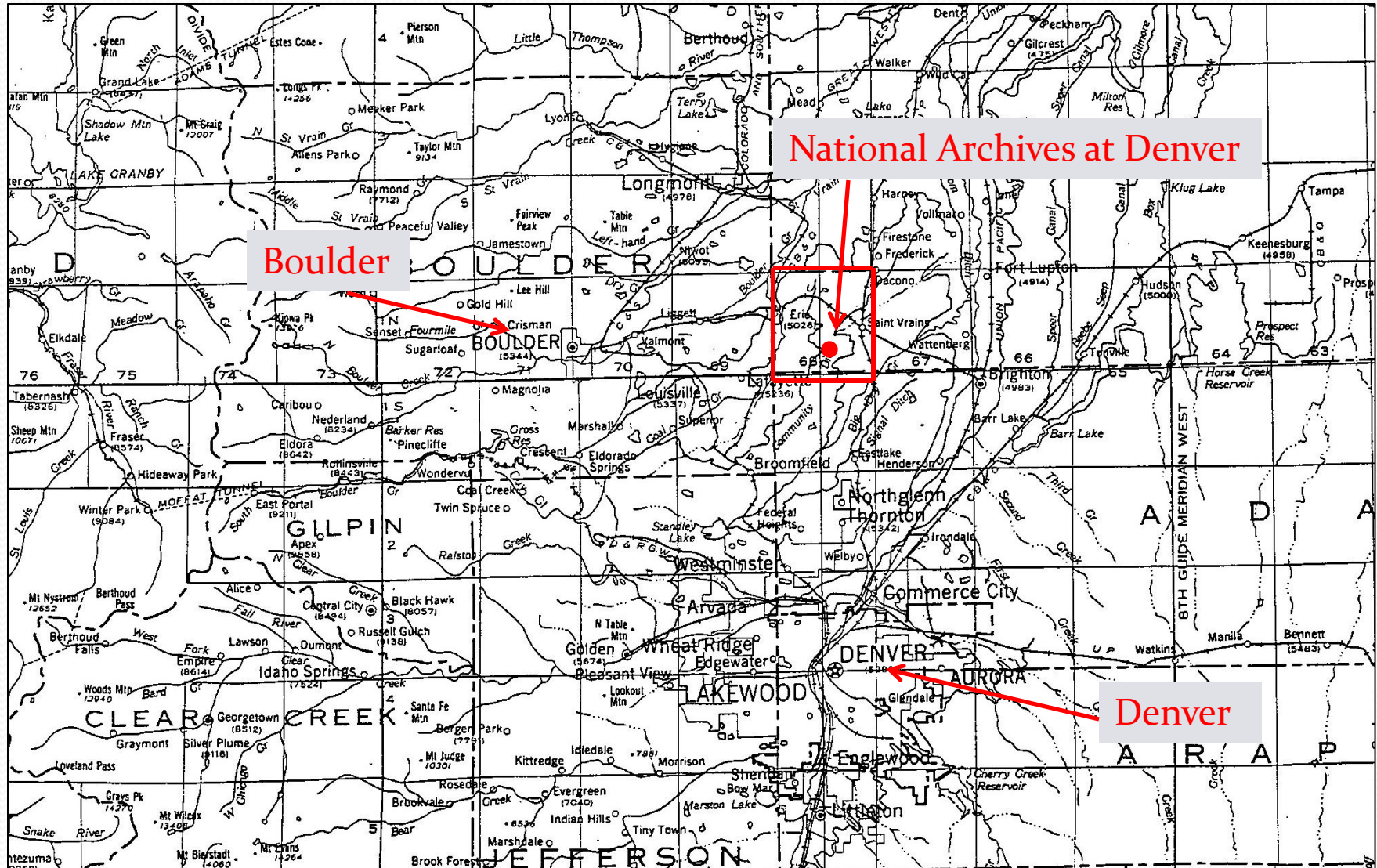


# Township, Range, Section





# The National Archives at Denver sits at Township 1 N, Range 68 W, Section 34

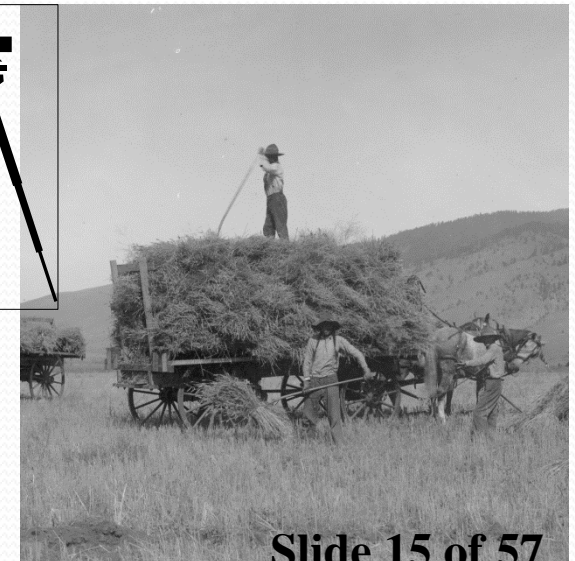
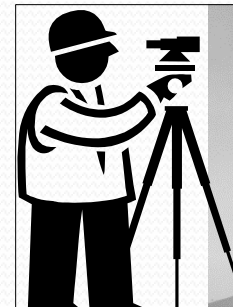


# Aliquot Parts

40 CHAINS 160 RODS 2640 FEET   <	
---	--

In a perfect world, each claim would sit exactly within one of the quadrants of a section, such as NW<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub> (the northwest quarter)...

Instead, you may see something like this:  
SW<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub> SW<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub> 3 S<sub>1</sub>/<sub>2</sub>  
SE<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub> NW<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub> SE<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub>....  
**HELP!**



*Aliquot: "constituting or comprising a part or fraction of a possible whole or entirety"*



# Obtaining the Legal Description

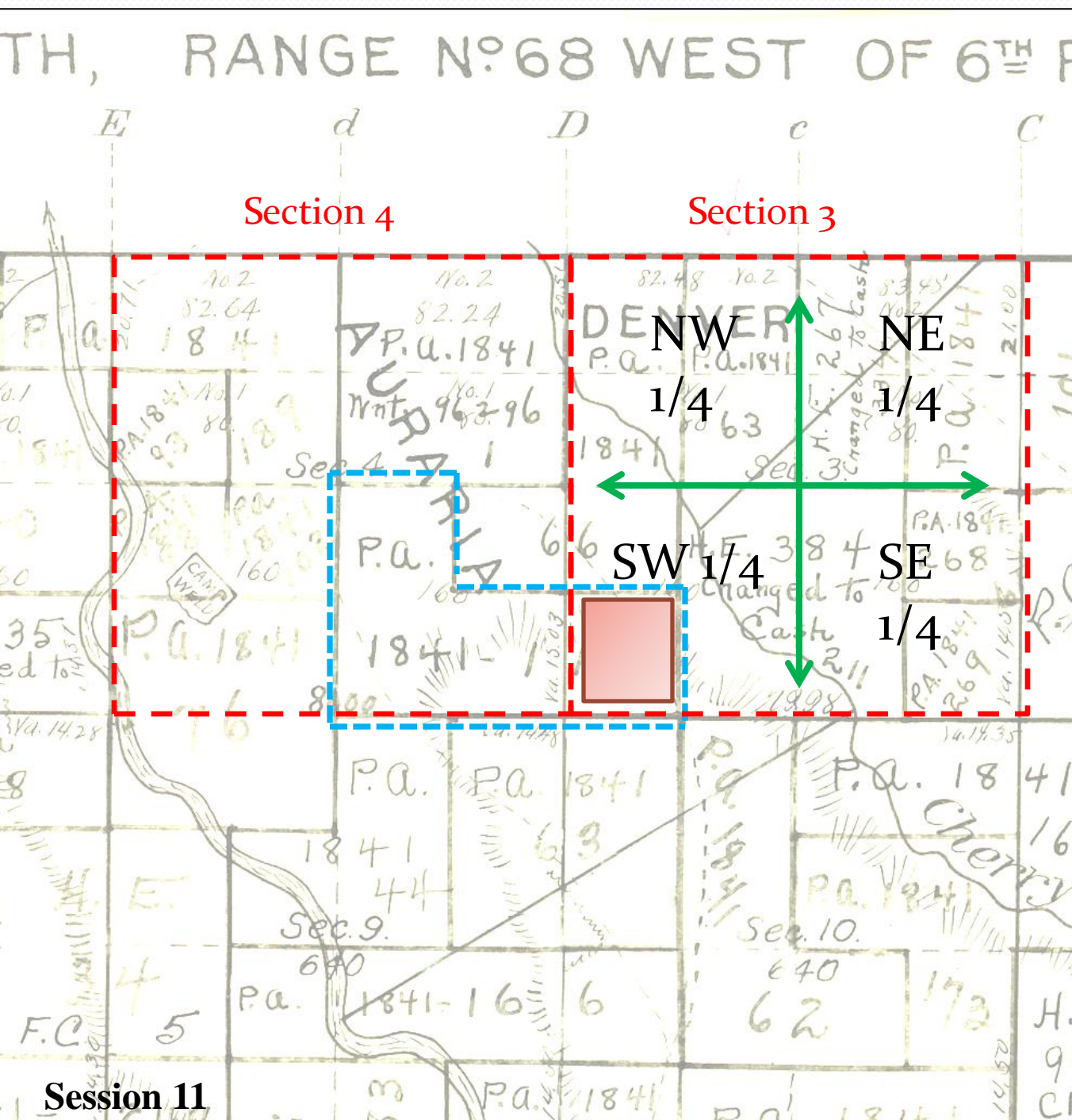
- A patent was passed down
- County Clerk and Recorder
- BLM's GLO Patent Search website
- Online websites and indexes-
  - Denver Land Office index
  - Name Index to Cancelled, Rejected, and Relinquished Land Entry Files, Dodge City, Kansas and Topeka, Kansas Land Offices, ca. 1905-1937
- The law firm of "Hunt and Peck"





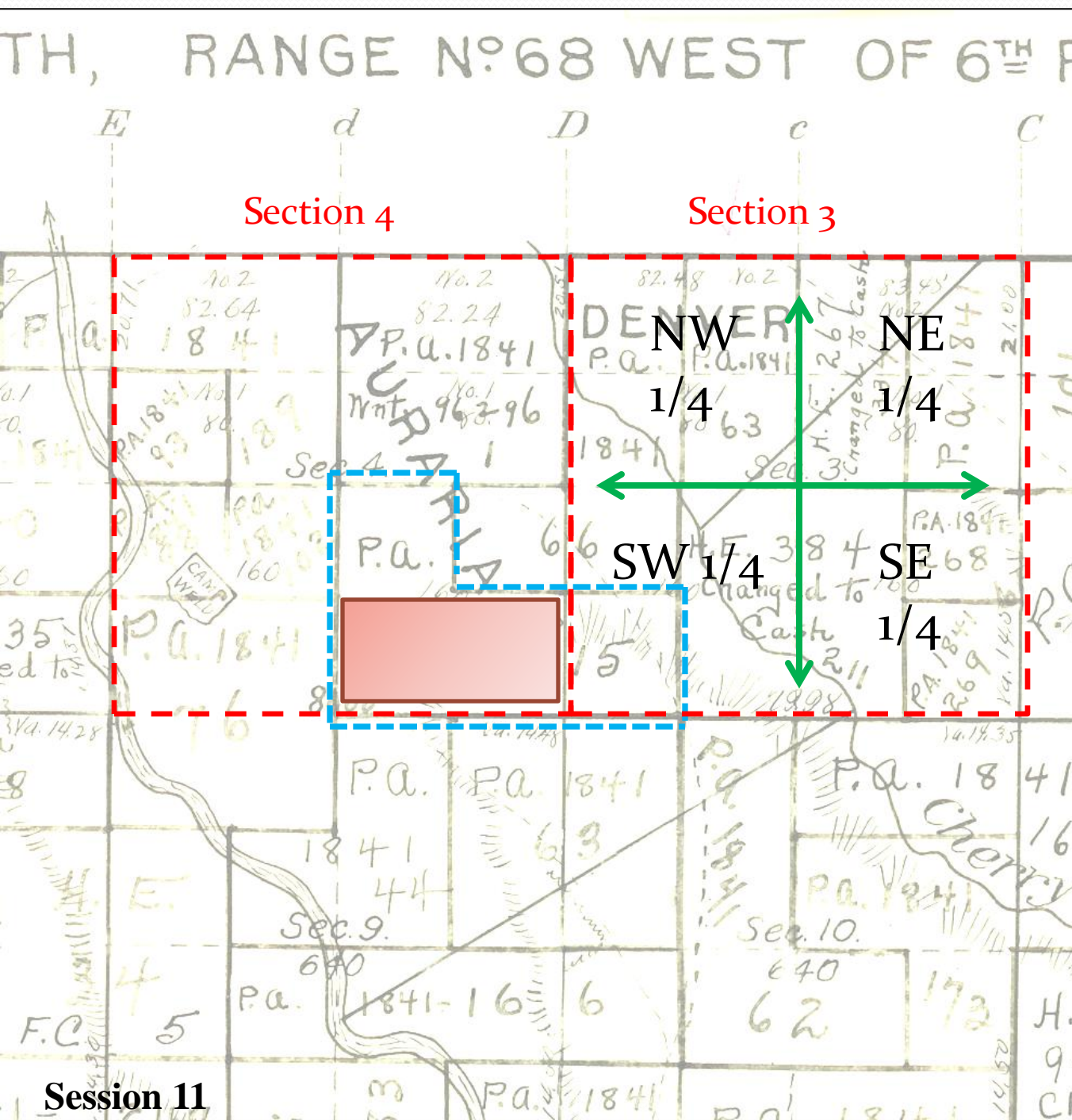






George O. Austin  
 Twp 4 South, Rng 68  
 West, Sec. 4, SW $\frac{1}{4}$   
 SW $\frac{1}{4}$  3 S $\frac{1}{2}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$   
 NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$

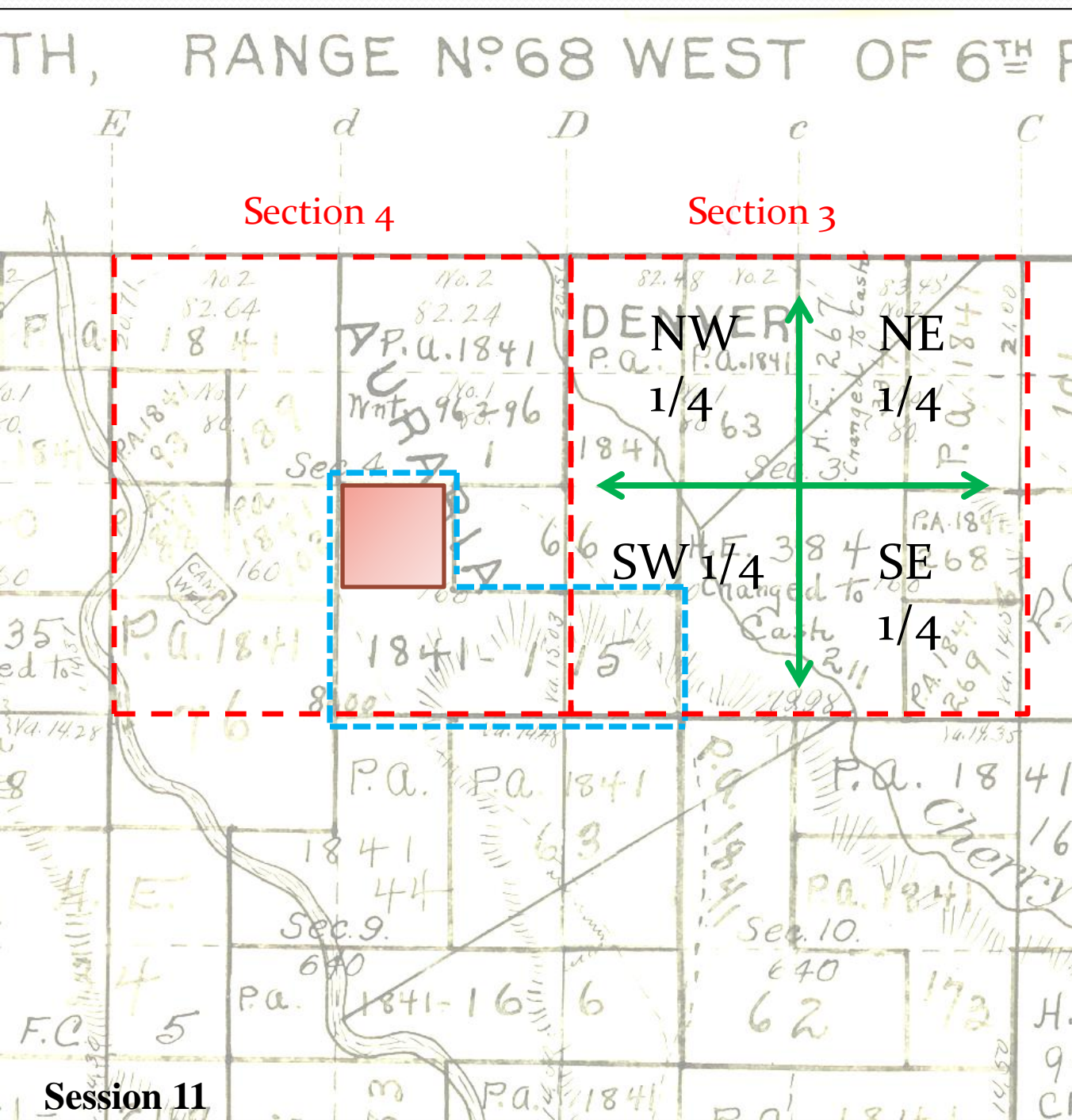
“SW $\frac{1}{4}$   
 SW $\frac{1}{4}$  3”  
 indicates the  
 southwest  
 quarter of the  
 southwest  
 quarter of  
 section 3.



George O. Austin  
 Twp 4 South, Rng 68  
 West, Sec. 4, SW<sub>1/4</sub>  
 SW<sub>1/4</sub> 3 S<sub>1/2</sub> SE<sub>1/4</sub>  
 NW<sub>1/4</sub> SE<sub>1/4</sub>

“S<sub>1/2</sub> SE<sub>1/4</sub>”  
 indicates the  
 southern half  
 of the  
 southeast  
 quarter (of  
 section 4).

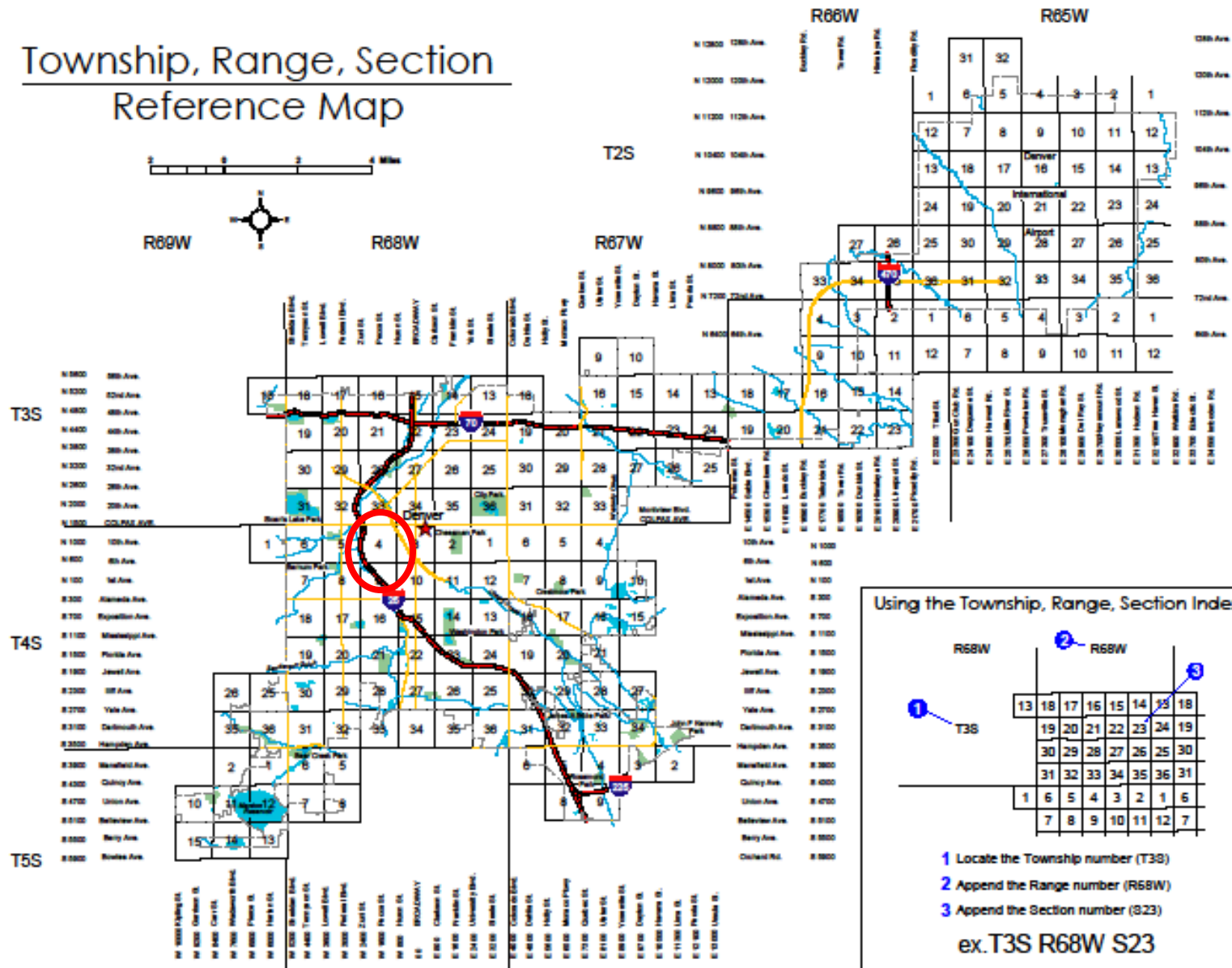




George O. Austin  
 Twp 4 South, Rng 68  
 West, Sec. 4, **SW<sub>1</sub>/4**  
**SW<sub>1</sub>/4 3 S<sub>1</sub>/2 SE<sub>1</sub>/4**  
**NW<sub>1</sub>/4 SE<sub>1</sub>/4**

“NW<sub>1</sub>/4  
 SE<sub>1</sub>/4”  
 indicates the  
 northwest  
 quarter of the  
 southeast  
 quarter (of  
 section 4).

# Township, Range, Section Reference Map





# Tract Books in Washington, DC

- The National Archives in Washington, DC has tractbooks for the states of: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

# Tract Books Held by the BLM

- For the **Eastern States**, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has the tract books and patents. This includes the states of: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

For these Eastern State tract books, contact:

- [Eastern States Office, Bureau of Land Management](#),  
Department of the Interior (BLM-ESO)  
7450 Boston Boulevard  
Springfield, VA 22153

# Tract Books in Denver

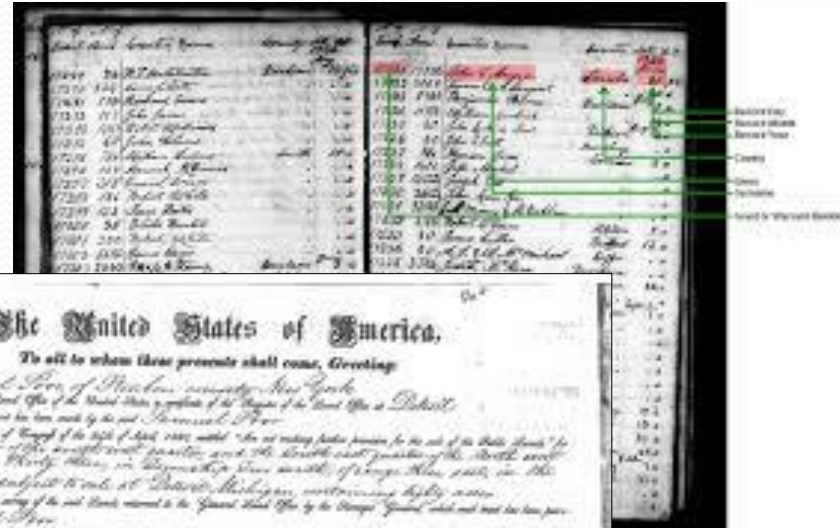
- We have tract books for:
- Colorado
- Utah
- New Mexico
- Wyoming
- Montana
- North Dakota
- South Dakota

Records of the Dakotas actually belong in our Kansas City facility. They are held in Denver because the Dakotas were administered under the Bureau of Land Management in Montana.

# Land Records in Other NARA Regions

[www.archives.gov/locations/](http://www.archives.gov/locations/)

You can expect to find land records at other NARA regional facilities.



<http://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/o49.html>

# Guide to Federal Records, Record Group 49, Bureau of Land Management

## 49.9.6 Records of Colorado land offices

**Textual Records (in Denver):** Records of the Akron land office (1890-1905), consisting of a register of homestead entries, 1890- 1905. Records of the Central City land office (1868-94), including tract books, 1868-94; and registers of homestead entries, coal land cash entries, mineral entries, and timber culture entries, 1868-94. Records of the Del Norte land office (1875-1925), including tract books, 1875-1925; registers of homestead entries and mineral entries, 1875-1915; abstracts of desert land entries and final certificates, 1891-1908; and canceled serialized land entry case files, 1890-1924. Records of the Denver land office (1864-1949) and its predecessor at Golden City (1863-64), including Commissioner's letters, 1934-47; miscellaneous correspondence, 1942-52; tract books, 1863-1949; serial register books, 1908-49; registers of homestead entries, mineral entries, and timber culture entries, 1863-1908; and canceled serialized land entry case files, 1912-15. Records of the Durango land office (1882-1925), including registers of letters received from the Commissioner, 1889-1908; and rejected, tract books, 1882-1925; serial register books, 1908-25; registers of homestead entries, mineral entries, and timber culture entries, 1882-93; abstracts of desert land entries, 1892-1908; and rejected, cancelled, or relinquished serialized land entry case files, 1908-25. Records of the Glenwood Springs land office (1884-1927), including Commissioner's letters, 1922-48; serial register books, 1908-27; and registers of homestead entries, mineral entries, timber culture entries, and desert land entries, 1884-1908. Records of the Gunnison land office (1883-1907), including registers of cash entries, homestead entries, mineral entries, timber culture entries, and desert land entries, 1883-1907. Records of the Hugo land office (1890-1922), including tract books, 1890-1922; serial register books, 1908-22; and registers of cash entries, homestead entries, timber culture entries, and desert land entries, 1880- 1908. Records of the Lamar land office (1887-

# The Fate of Land Claims

- Patented- ownership and title obtained by the homesteader,
- Relinquished- homesteader voluntarily walked away from the claim,
- Cancelled- the General Land Office canceled the claim for various reasons tied to aspects of land laws.

# BLM Website

- <http://www.glorecords.blm.gov/>
  - Patented claims only
  - All 30 public land states
  - Can be searched by many criteria
  - Images of patents often available



# BLM's GLORECORDS Website

Documents By Type

Search Documents By Location

Search Documents By Identifier

Search [Clear Form](#)

Location

State: COLORADO

County: ----- Any County -----

Names

Last Name: austin

First Name: george

Middle Name:

☒ search patentees ☒ search warrantees

Land Description

Township: /

Range: /

Meridian: ----- Any Meridian -----

Section #:

Miscellaneous

Land Office: ----- Any Land Office -----

Document #:

Indian Allot. #:

Survey #:

Authority: ----- Any Authority -----

Issue Date: -- to --

Militia:

Tribe: ----- Any Tribe -----

Geo. Name/  
Mining Claim:

To search for land patents:

1. Start by selecting the State.
2. **You do not have to fill in all fields**, but provide *at least* one additional field.
3. Click the **Search Patents** button.


Search Tips:

- Hover your mouse over a field to get a brief description.
- Get detailed information by checking the [Glossary](#) in the Reference Center.
- For more tips and help, check out our [Patent Search Overview](#).








Search Patents

*Note: This site does not cover every state, but we do have [resource links](#) for most states.*

# Results

Printer Friendly 

**Note:** An *Italic* entry denotes data that has not been indexed against the land patent document, and has no image.

Image	Accession	Names ↑	Date	Doc #	State	Meridian	Twp - Rng	Aliquots	Sec. #	County
---	<u><i>COCOAA 013312</i></u>	 AUSTIN, GEORGE C,  BURRAGE, GEORGE F	12/26/1890	16908	CO	6th PM	006S - 081W		14	<i>Eagle</i>
	<a href="#">MW-0233-009</a>	 AUSTIN, GEORGE O,  MIRABEL, PEDRO	11/1/1865	102618	CO	6th PM	004S - 068W	S1/2SE1/4	4	Denver
							004S - 068W	NW1/4SE1/4	4	Denver
							004S - 068W	SW1/4SW1/4	3	Denver
---	<u><i>COCOAA 067912</i></u>	 AUSTIN, GEORGE O,  MIRABEL, PEDRO	11/1/1865	102618	CO	6th PM	004S - 068W	SW1/4SW1/4	3	Denver
							004S - 068W	W1/2SE1/4	4	Denver
							004S - 068W	SE1/4SE1/4	4	Denver

Digital image is associated with this result- an image of the patent.

Click this link for the full result.

# Details

George O. Austin  
Twp 4 South, Rng 68  
West, Sec. 4, **SW<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub> 3 S<sub>1</sub>/<sub>2</sub> SE<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub>  
NW<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub> SE<sub>1</sub>/<sub>4</sub>**

Patent number 115,

“Act 55” (ScripWarrant  
act of 1855),

P.A. 1841 (Preemption  
act of 1841)


“Per Wt 102618”

Filed May 30, 1864




Date of Sale Sept. 19,  
1864

Accession Nr: MW-0233-009 Document Type: Military Warrant State: Colorado Issue Date: 11/1/1865 Cancelled: N

Patent Details Patent Image Related Documents

Names On Document		Miscellaneous Information	
 AUSTIN, GEORGE O,		Land Office:	Denver
 MIRABEL, PEDRO		US Reservations:	No
		Mineral Reservations:	No
		Tribe:	---
		Militia:	Captain Gonsales Company New Mexican Vol
		State In Favor Of:	---
		Authority:	March 3, 1855: ScripWarrant Act of 1855 (10
		General Remarks:	---
Military Rank:	---		

Document Numbers		Survey Information	
Document Nr:	102618	Total Acres:	160.00
Misc. Doc. Nr:	---	Survey Date:	---
BLM Serial Nr:	---	Geographic Name:	---
Indian Allot. Nr:	---	Metes/Bounds:	No
Coal Entry. Nr:	---		

Land Descriptions					
Map	State	Meridian	Twp - Rng	Aliquots	Section
	CO	6th PM	004S - 068W	S <sub>1</sub> / <sub>2</sub> SE <sub>1</sub> / <sub>4</sub>	4
	CO	6th PM	004S - 068W	NW <sub>1</sub> / <sub>4</sub> SE <sub>1</sub> / <sub>4</sub>	4
	CO	6th PM	004S - 068W	SW <sub>1</sub> / <sub>4</sub> SW <sub>1</sub> / <sub>4</sub>	3

# Land Patents

- Land patents are the legal documents that transferred land ownership from the U.S. Government to individuals. Now you can search for land patent records online, for both Eastern and Western states. See the Bureau of Land Management's [Land Patent Search](#) page.

**Please note that this includes only patented or perfected land entries.** Those claims that were cancelled or relinquished will not be listed there. The case files for them may contain just as much useful information for the researcher. To locate those claims, researchers may need to access the tract books.



# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

And for the purpose of the President shall come, Granting

WHEREAS, In pursuance of the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1861, entitled "An Act in addition to certain Acts granting Bounty Land to certain Officers and Soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States," there has been deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE, Warrant No. 122,618 for 160 acres in favor of Pedro Mirabel, Private Captain of the Company of Mexican Volunteers, Chicago, Indian War.

with evidence that the same has been duly located upon the South half of the South East quarter and the North West quarter of the South East quarter of Section Four and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Three in Township Four South of Range Sixty Eight West in the District of Colorado subject to sale at Denver City, Colorado territory containing One hundred and Sixty Acres.

according to the Official File of the Survey of said Lands returned to the SURVEYOR GENERAL. The said Warrant having been assigned by the said Pedro Mirabel to George O. Austin, in whose favor the said tract has been located.

NOW KNOW YE, That there is therefore granted by the UNITED STATES unto the said George O. Austin, as assignee as aforesaid and to his heirs

the tract of Land above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract of Land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said George O. Austin as assignee as aforesaid and to his

heirs and assigns forever.

In testimony whereof, I, Andrew Johnson, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these Letters to be made Patent, and the SEAL OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN under my hand, at the City of WASHINGTON, the 1st day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and 61, and of the Independence of the UNITED STATES the 35th.

BY THE PRESIDENT:

By

John C. Schmitt

Sec'y.

Recorder of the General Land Office.

# Digital Image

## Bounty Land Warrant of Pedro Mirabel was transferred to George O. Austin

Denver 025730.

## The United States of America,

Do all in us power these presents signifi- cantly, Granting:

WHEREAS, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at Denver, Colorado, has been deposited in the General Land Office, whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the claimant Lydia E. Ferguson according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of April 24, 1920, entitled "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," and the acts supplemental thereto, for the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section eighteen in Township three south of Range seventy west of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado, containing forty acres,

according to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said Land, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by two Surveyors-General;

NOW KNOW YE, That the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the several Acts of Congress in such case made and provided, HAS GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DOES GIVE AND GRANT unto the said claimant and to the heirs of the said claimant, the tract above described, TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances of whatsoever nature, heretofore belonging unto the said claimant, and to the heirs and assigns of the said claimant, forever; subject to any needed and accepted water rights for mining, agricultural, manufacturing, or other purposes, and rights to ditch and reservoir used in connection with such water rights, as may be recognized and acknowledged by the local customs, laws, and decisions of courts; and there is reserved from the lands hereby granted, a right of way therein for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Woodrow Wilson,

President of the United States of America, have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the Seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

(SEAL)

GIVEN under my hand, in the District of Columbia, the TWENTY-SIXTH day of SEPTEMBER In the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and NINETEEN and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and FORTY-FOURTH.

By the President *Woodrow Wilson*  
By *W. P. L. Roy* Secretary  
*J. P. C. Samson*  
Recorder of the General Land Office

RECORD OF PATENTS Patent Number 708315

# A Typical Patent



# Land Entry Case Files

- The land records that are generally of most interest to genealogists are the **land entry case files**. These are records that document the transfer of public lands from the U.S. Government to private ownership.

There are over ten million such individual land transactions in the custody of the National Archives.



# Not All Land Entry Case Files are the Same

- Remember- over **40 separate legislative acts** were used by Americans to make a land entry on the public lands, and each act required different information from the entryman. Thus, the documentation available in the land entry case file depends largely upon the requirements of the act under which the land entry was made.

# Some Types of Case Files at NARA

Cash Entries

Homesteads

(including cancelled  
and relinquished  
claims)

Bounty Land

# Cash Entries

## THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:*

*Graduation*  
*U. S.*

CERTIFICATE

*No. 29785*

*Whereas, Benjamin Wingo, of Dallas County, Missouri,*

has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the UNITED STATES, a CERTIFICATE of the Register of the Land Office at *Springfield,* whereby it appears that FULL PAYMENT has been made by the said *Benjamin Wingo,* according to the provisions of the act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An act making further provision for the sale of the public lands," for *the West half of the North*

*East quarter of Section twenty three, in Township thirty two, of Range twenty, in the District of Lands subject to sale at Springfield, Missouri, containing eighty acres,*

according to the OFFICIAL PLAT of the Survey of the said lands, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the Surveyor General, which said tract has been purchased by the said *Benjamin Wingo,*

Now know ye, That the **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the several Acts of Congress in such case made and provided, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DO GIVE AND GRANT, unto the said *Benjamin Wingo,* and to *his* heirs, the said Tract above described; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances, of whatsoever nature, thereunto belonging, unto the said *Benjamin Wingo,* and to *his* heirs and assigns forever.

In testimony whereof, I, *James Buchanan,* PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the Seal of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, the *first* day of *June,* in the year of OUR LORD one thousand eight hundred and *fifty nine,* and of the Independence of the United States the *eighty third.*

BY THE PRESIDENT:

*James Buchanan*

By *W. Leonard* Sec'y.

RECORDED, Vol. 47 Page 132

*W. Leonard* Recorder of the General Land Office.

# Homestead Land Entry Case Files

## HOMESTEAD PROOF.--TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

*Charles P Ingalls* being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of  
homestead entry No. *40.91* for *North East 1/4 Sec 3-110-56*  
testifies as follows:

Ques. 1.--What is your name--written in full and correctly spelled--your age and postoffice address?

Ans. *Charles P Ingalls 35 years of age*  
*De Mot Kingsbury Co Dak*

Ques. 2.--Are you a native of the United States, or have you been naturalized?

Ans. *Native Born citizen*

~~Ques. 3.--When was your house built on the land, and when did you establish actual residence there----~~  
in? (Describe said house and other improvements which you have placed on the land, giving total value thereof.)

Ans. *In May 1880. In May 1880, Frame House 14 X 20 addition 12 X 16 one story, good well and pump Frame barn hay roof 16 X 24, 60 acres bearing apple trees bearing plum trees bearing small fruit in abundance about 6000 fruit trees worth them 6 years old total value, \$1000.00*

Ques. 4.--Of whom does your family consist; and have you and your family resided continuously on the land since first establishing residence thereon? (If unmarried, state the fact.)

Ans. *Wife and four children. I have exact as answered in next question*

Ques. 5.--For what period or periods have you been absent from the homestead since making settlement, and for what purpose; and if temporarily absent, did your family reside upon and cultivate the

# Bounty Land Warrant Application Files



- From 1788 to 1855, the U.S. government granted military bounty land warrants for military service. Army recruiters used the enticement of free land as an incentive and reward for enlistment.
- Provided a ready force to oppose Indian uprisings.
- Encouraged frontier settlement.
- Provided revenue to help pay off the national debt.

# Requesting Land Entry Case Files

- The case files were filed as either
  - pre-1908 land entry files,
  - 1908 and later land entry files,
  - Surrendered bounty land warrants.

The information required to access and order copies of the records will differ depending on which of these 3 categories the transaction falls into.

# Ordering Land Entry Case Files

NATF  
Form  
84

\$50

-For pre-1908 case files:

Name of the entryman

State and land office

Legal Description

Type of claim

Date of the entry (approximate)

Patent or certificate number



# Ordering Land Entry Case Files

NATF  
Form  
84

-For 1908 and later case files:

Name of the entryman

State

Date of the entry (approximate)

Patent number (ie, 01234)

\$50

# Ordering Bounty Land Entry Case Files

NATF  
Form  
84

\$50

In addition to all the information needed for the pre-1908 files:

- The warrant number.
- The acreage.
- The year of the congressional act authorizing the warrant.
- Submit your order online or print the form and mail it.

# Bounty Land Entry Case Files vs. Bounty Land Application Files

NATF  
Form  
85

\$30

Bounty Land Warrant= a voucher.

(Bounty) Land Entry Case File=  
a case file with information about the land  
claimant.

Bounty Land Warrant Application File= a  
case file with information on a veteran.

# Requesting a Copy of the Land Entry Case File

- All of the patented land entry case files are held by the National Archives in Washington, DC.
- Use Form Number **NATF 84** to order land entry case files (such as credit, cash, homestead, and mineral) or surrendered military bounty land warrants.
- <http://www.archives.gov/research/land/>



# Cancelled and Relinquished Land Entry Case Files

## Homestead affidavit

4-068 a.

HOMESTEAD AFFIDAVIT.—APPLICABLE TO NEBRASKA ONLY.  
Act of April 28, 1904 (Public—No. 233).

Department of the Interior,  
UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,

Valentine, Nebraska.  
March

I, Richard Coen, of Winfeild, Nebraska

having filed my application No. 7545, for an entry under section 2289, Revised Statutes of the United States, do solemnly swear that I am not the proprietor of more than one hundred acres of land in any State or Territory; that I am a native born citizen of the United States of America; over 21 years of age; and that on the distance I am unable to appear at the Land Office to

affidavit;

that my said application is honestly and in good faith made for the purpose of actual settlement, cultivation, and not for the benefit of any other person, persons, or corporation, and that I fully and honestly endeavor to comply with all the requirements of law as to settlement, residence, cultivation necessary to acquire title to the land applied for; that I am not acting as agent, person, corporation, or syndicate in making such entry, nor in collusion with any person, or syndicate to give them the benefit of the land entered, or any part thereof, or the timber thereon; that I do not apply to enter the same for the purpose of speculation, but in good faith to obtain a home for myself, and that I have not directly or indirectly made, and will not make, any agreement or contract in any way or manner, with any person or persons, corporation, or syndicate whatsoever, by which the title which I might acquire from the Government of the United States should inure, in whole or in part, to the benefit of any person except myself, and further, that since August 30, 1890, I have not acquired title to, nor am I now claiming under any of the agricultural public land laws other than the homestead laws, more than one hundred and sixty acres.

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Q What fruit trees or nursery stock have you sold Mr. Coen in the last two years?

A I sold him a bill of trees a year ago last spring, or this spring rather. 100 apple trees, and \$25.00 worth of small currants, strawberries, fruits such as gooseberries, blackberries, blueberries, a cluster of small fruits that we call a small fruit cluster.

Q What was the amount paid?

A \$51.50.

Q What was the nature of your contract with Mr. Coen?

A I sold him these trees with the distinct understanding that I was to replace them from year to year till they were the full number of living growing trees.

Q Have you seen the fruit trees since they were planted?

A Yes, sir.

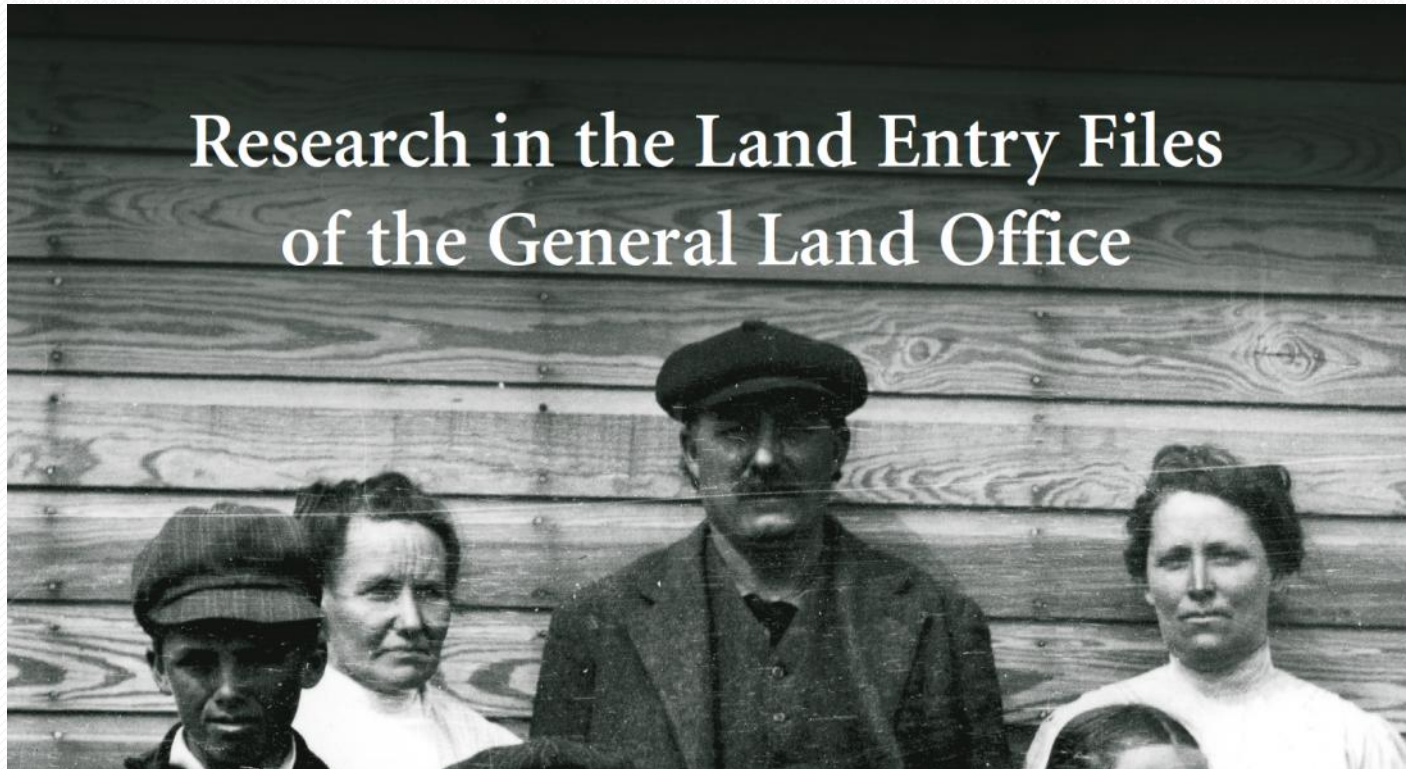
Deposition by witness

# Cancelled and Relinquished Land Entry Case Files

All Pre-1908: Washington DC  
(NATF-84)

Post-1908: Some are in the regional  
facilities (contact directly)

National Archives Publication free on our website at:  
<http://www.archives.gov/publications/general-info-leaflets/67-land-entry-files.html>



# Land Records on Microfilm

Original Records are in Washington DC

Some microfilms have been digitized,  
Includes the complete applications for bounty  
land warrants filed under the act of 1855,  
Other records pertain to lands in Oregon,  
Washington state, California, Idaho and  
other states.





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# Questions?

[rick.martinez@nara.gov](mailto:rick.martinez@nara.gov)





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