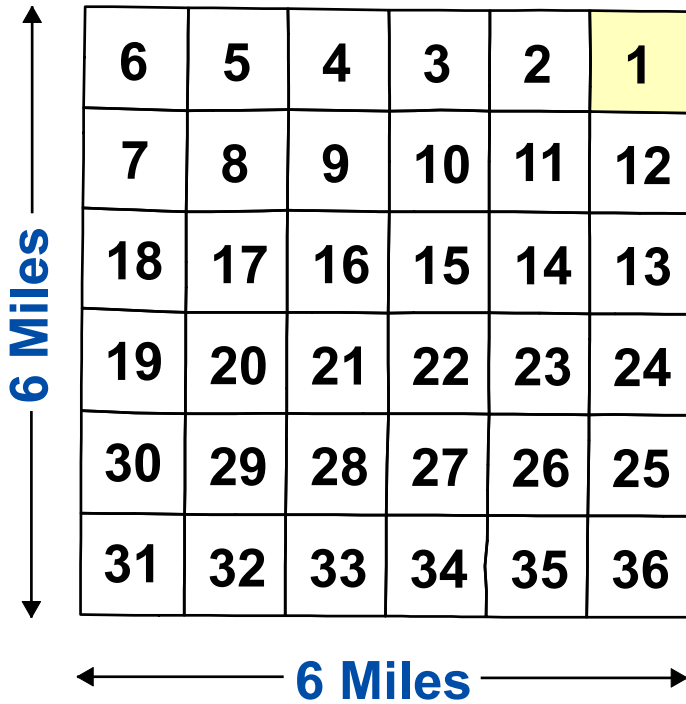


# Land Description Information

## One Town / Township



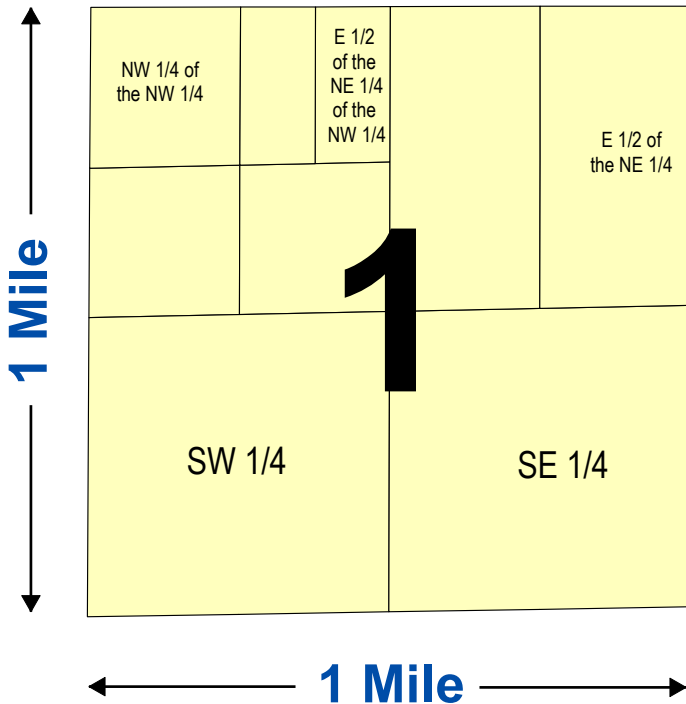
The original government survey, which is now known as the U.S. Public Land Survey System, was enacted by the Land Ordinance Act of 1785. The survey divided land into a grid of 6-mile by 6-mile square townships, which were further divided into 36 sections. Each section is one-mile square and contains approximately 640 acres.

The original survey of land in Washington County was performed by United States Deputy Surveyors in 1847 and 1848. Their work was performed across rugged wilderness while utilizing methods and instruments that seem crude by today's standards. Even so, they produced a surprisingly accurate and reliable survey that continues to define land ownership today.

Thomas Jefferson, and others who developed this system, used great foresight in establishing the rule that the monuments, as set in the ground for the original survey, would represent the correct position of the corners, regardless of the measurements. For this reason, a section may actually be more or less than one-mile square and may contain more or less than 640 acres. Likewise, a "forty" may contain more or less than 40 acres.

Further divisions of sections are performed by local land surveyors according to the rules established during the original government survey. The U.S. Public Land Survey System is the foundation of all land ownership in Washington County. All surveys, plats, conveyances, and mapping are based on this system. The County Surveyor works to preserve and maintain more than 1,500 U.S. Public Land Survey corners established in the original government survey.

## One Section (640 acres more or less)



### Linear Measure

1 inch .....	0.0833 ft.	1 link .....	0.66 ft.
12 in. ....	1 ft.	100 links .....	1 chain
16.5 ft. ....	1 rod	80 chains .....	1 mile
4 rods .....	1 chain	1 mile .....	5,280 ft.
1 chain .....	66 ft.	320 rods. ....	1 mile

### Square Measure

144 sq. in. ....	1 sq. ft.	1 hectare .....	2.47 acres
9 sq. ft. ....	1 sq. yard	1 sq. chain .....	4,356 sq. ft.
16 sq. rods ...	1 sq. chain	640 acres .....	1 sq. mile
10 sq. chains .....	1 acre	1 sq. mile .....	1 section
1 acre .....	43,560 sq. ft.	36 sq. miles ...	1 township