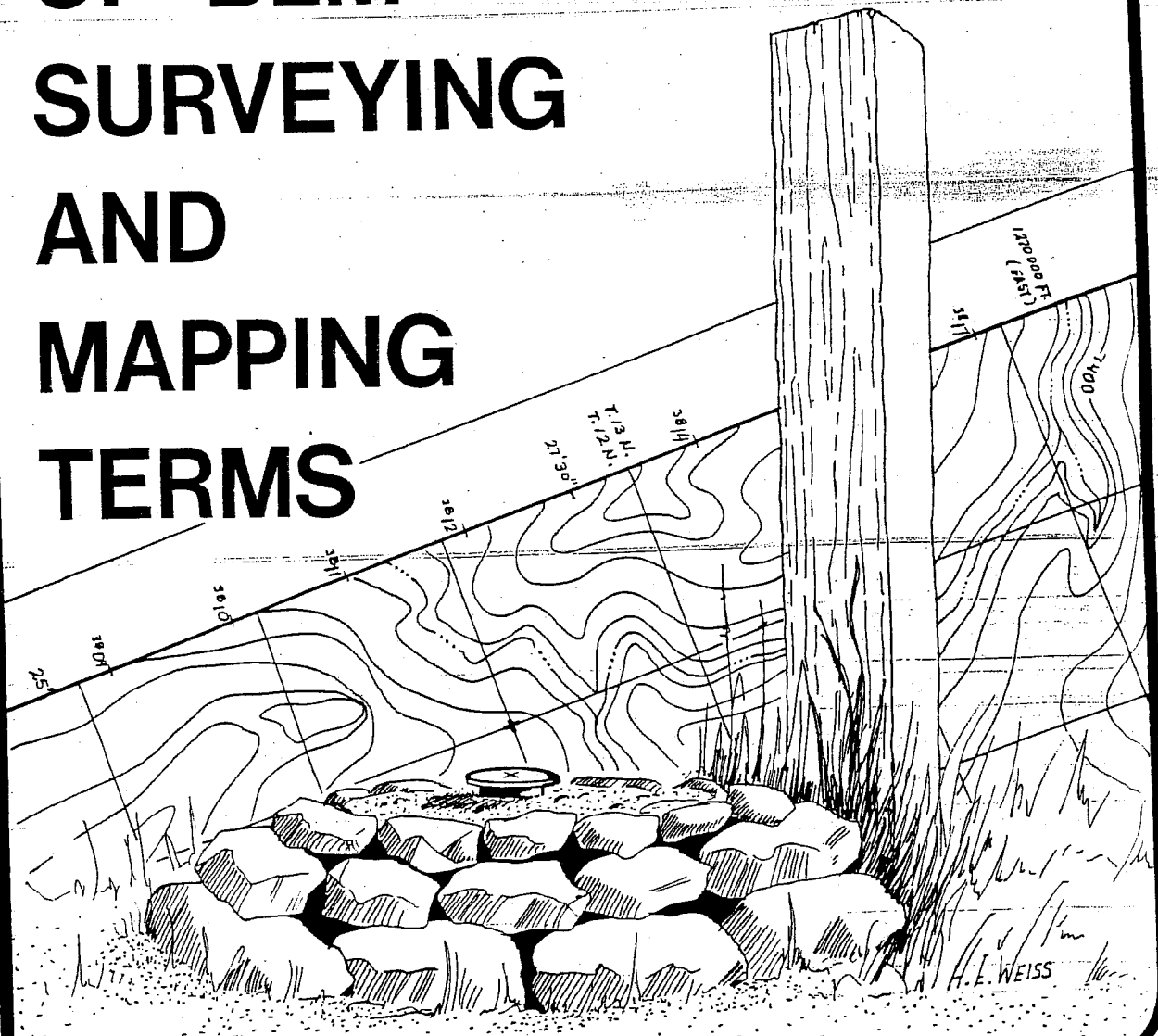


# GLOSSARIES OF BLM SURVEYING AND MAPPING TERMS



**LAND SURVEYING**—The practice of land surveying includes surveying of areas for their correct determination and description and for conveyancing, or for the establishment or reestablishment of land boundaries and the plotting of lands and subdivisions thereof. See CADASTRAL SURVEY.

**LASER\***

**LATERAL BOUNDARIES**—Side boundaries; boundaries between adjacent states extending from shore to their seaward boundaries under Public Law 31; boundaries between adjacent nations through the marginal sea and the contiguous zones.

**LATITUDE**—1) The distance on the earth's surface, north or south of the Equator, expressed in either linear or angular measurements. 2) The north-south component of a traverse course. See GEODETIC LATITUDE\* and ASTRONOMIC LATITUDE\*.

**LEAGUE**—A marine measure of distance. In different times and countries it has varied from 2.4 miles to 4.6 miles. See MARINE LEAGUE\*.

**LEASABLE MINERALS**—Oil and gas; oil shale; coal; potash; phosphate; sodium; sulphur in Louisiana and New Mexico; gold, silver, and quicksilver in certain private land claims; and silica deposits in certain parts of Nevada. See MINERAL LEASE and PLACER LAW OF 1897.

**LEASE**—1) A contract granting possession or control of real property for a determined period. 2) The act of granting the lease. 3) The act of the lessee in taking the lease.

**LEASE MAP**—Former name for the Outer Continental Shelf Official Protraction Diagrams.

**LEDGE**—In mining law, and in popular usage in the Western States, it is synonymous with "lode" and "vein." See LODGE.

**LEFT BANK (River)**—The bank on the left-hand side of a stream or river as one faces downstream. See RIGHT BANK (River).

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**—A written statement recognized by law as to the definite location of a tract of land by reference to a survey, recorded map or adjoining property.

**LEGAL SUBDIVISION**—The subdivision of a township, such as a section, half-section, quarter-section, quarter-quarter or sixteenth-section, or lotting, including the lot, section, township and range numbers and the description of the principal meridian to which referred, all according to the approved township plat. See SUBDIVISION, SMALLEST LEGAL; ALIQUOT PARTS and MINOR SUBDIVISIONS.

**LEGEND**—A description, explanation or table of symbols printed on a map or chart to permit a better understanding or interpretation of it.

**LETTER "E"**—Under a General Land Office system of paperwork classification, Letter "E" documents originated in the Washington Office and referred to engineering functions.

**LEVEL\***

**LEVÉE**—An embankment alongside a river to prevent high water from flooding bordering lands.

**LIEU LANDS**—Former public lands within specified limits (Indemnity Limits) which were granted instead of (in lieu of) areas intended to be granted but which were already patented or otherwise not

**LIEU LANDS** Cont.

available. See INDEMNITY LIMITS, PLACE LANDS and LIEU SELECTION.

**LIEU SELECTION**—An application to acquire title to public lands in exchange for which the applicant relinquishes his rights or title to other lands which he, for some reason, cannot or does not wish to acquire or hold.

**LIMITED DEPENDENT RESURVEY**—A dependent resurvey limited to a certain portion of a township.

**LIMITING BOUNDARY**—The boundary of lands actually surveyed.

The term is usually used to describe a particular boundary in special cases. For example: A fictitious or grossly erroneous meander line may be held to be a fixed and "limiting boundary" of the lands actually surveyed; the exterior boundaries of an area to be independently resurveyed may be termed the "limiting boundary" of that project area. See OUTBOUNDARIES and FIXED BOUNDARY.

**LINE, RANDOM**—See RANDOM LINE.

**LINE TREE**—A tree intersected by a surveyed line, reported in the field notes of the survey, and marked with two hacks or notches cut on each of the sides facing the line. Originally, these trees were called "station trees," and they are sometimes called "sight trees," but since the line intersects them, the term "line tree" is preferred.

**LINE TREES, Ownership of**—Trees whose trunks are wholly upon the land of one owner belong exclusively to him. Trees whose trunks stand partly on the land of two or more abutting owners belong to them in common.

**LINK**—A unit of linear measure, one hundredth of a chain and equivalent to 7.92 inches (0.66 foot). See CHAIN.

**LIQUIDATED DAMAGES**—An assessment of monetary charges determined in advance by contractual agreement as compensation for some breach of a contract.

**LITTORAL**—From the Latin "litus." Of or pertaining to the shore, especially of the sea. A coastal region.

**LITTORAL CURRENTS (T.R. No. 4)**—The nearshore currents primarily due to wave action, e.g. longshore currents and rip currents.

**LITTORAL DRIFT (T.R. No. 4)**—The material moved in the littoral zone under the influence of waves and currents.

**LITTORAL OWNER**—One who owns land abutting a sea or ocean where the tide regularly rises and falls. In common usage, the word "riparian" is often used instead of littoral to include seashore boundaries as well as inland water boundaries.

**LIVERY OF SEISIN**—The appropriate ceremony, at common law, for transferring the possession of lands or tenements by a grantor to his grantee. This method of transfer is now replaced by granting of deeds and by Recording Statutes.

**LOBE\***

**LOCAL CORNER**—Physical evidence accepted by local land owners to be at a corner of the public lands survey; a local point of control.

**LOCAL POINT OF CONTROL**—See LOCAL CORNER.

**LOCATION**—In mining, the perfecting of a right to possession of a mining claim for mining purposes.

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