

# PROPERTY

## TIME FOR DEMOCRACY



(page 1 of 5)

top illustration:  
John Adams  
frontispiece  
The Works of John Adams, Second President of the United States, volume 2  
Adams, Charles Francis (editor)  
Boston (MA): Charles C. Little and James Brown (1850)  
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<https://archive.org/details/worksofjohnadams02adam>

music:  
Paris street song, found at <https://reditrax.sourceaudio.com>

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### Quitrent

Feudal rent paid in kind or money by landless peasants, townspeople, and other free persons for the use of royal, state, church, and gentry-owned farmlands, pastures, forests, ponds, hunting places, mills, shops, and other properties in perpetuity. Quitrent replaced tribute as the main form of peasant exploitation in the late Middle Ages. In Polish and Lithuanian-ruled Ukraine from the 1300s, peasant households paid quitrents in grain, honey, furs, livestock, food, and money. Quitrents had different names, such as ordynschchyna for tribute originally paid to the Mongol horde, chynsh for payments by persons listed in the census; serebschchyno for payments in silver; and pohlolovschchyna for a head or poll tax. Quitrents were regulated by law and varied place-to-place. After 1557, a land reform act replaced quitrents with a more oppressive corvee. Polish princes revived the chynsh in the late 1600s. After Russia took over Ukraine, peasants paid an obrok (quitrent) instead of corvee. In 1724, the tsar imposed both a quitrent and a poll tax on peasants. Of the slaves (serfs) owned by the gentry, most paid their owners by corvee rather than quitrent. Peasants continued to pay quitrents even after serfdom was abolished and they received land. A redemption payment replaced quitrents in 1886. In Western Ukraine, peasants paid quitrents until the Soviet occupation in 1939.

Senkus, R. (author). in Encyclopedia of Ukraine (2016)  
Volume IV; Ph-Sr by Danylo Husar Struk  
<http://www.omnilexica.com/?q=quitrent>

I have been asked to discuss the part played by the peasants in some of the revolts of the 17th century. The latter was a great period of revolts and revolutions, in which all social groups participated. In Europe, in the first place, where the high point of these crises occurred between 1648 and 1653 and which was perhaps the first great bourgeois revolution of modern times, that attempt at reaction against monarchical innovations called the Fronde, in France between 1648 and 1652; the revolt of Catalonia (1640-1652), and that of Portugal (1640-1668), both against Spain; in 1647 the Neapolitan revolt of Masaniello, who was killed on July 16 but whose supporters fought on until February 1648, against the Spanish troops of the Viceroy Arcos and the fleet of Don John of Austria; the attempted coup d'etat by William II, in Holland in 1650; the Ukrainian insurrection between 1648 and 1654. These were the most outstanding episodes, but throughout Europe there were disturbances in both town and country—in Ireland, Switzerland, Germany and in Russia.

A Century of Revolts All Over the World  
Introduction (page xvii)  
in Roland Mousnier (author) and Pearce, Brian (translator)  
Peasant Uprisings in Seventeenth-Century France, Russia, and China  
New York/ Evanston/ San Francisco/ London: Harper & Row Publishers (1970)

The sudden and abrupt departure of his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq., our late Governor, and several of the Council, leaving us destitute of legislation, and no executive courts being open to punish criminal offenders; whereby the lives and properties of the honest people of this colony are liable to the machinations and evil designs of wicked men . . . Therefore, for the preservation of peace and good order, and for the security of the lives and properties of the inhabitants of this colony, we conceive ourselves reduced to the necessity of establishing a form of government to continue during the present unhappy and unnatural contest with Great Britain.

New Hampshire constitution  
1776-01-05  
found at [www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm](http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm)

Property in pdf file (5 pages)  
pages measure 13 x 33 inches



Property is surely a right of mankind as really as liberty.

The moment the idea is admitted into society, that property is not as sacred as the laws of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence.

If 'Thou shalt not covet' and 'Thou shalt not steal' were not commandments of Heaven, they must be made inviolable precepts in every society, before it can be civilized or made free.

The Right Constitution of a Commonwealth Examined  
pages 8-9 in Chapter First. Marchamont Nedham  
in A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America  
The Works of John Adams, Second President of the United States, volume 6  
Adams, Charles Francis (editor)  
Boston (MA): Charles C. Little and James Brown (1851)  
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<https://archive.org/details/worksofjohnadams06adam>  
<https://archive.org/details/worksofjohnadams01unkngoog>

In the beginning, and to the present time, most humans aren't independent and autonomous. Instead, humans fill job slots in the various corporations that a minority of devious and exploitive humans have created. The corporations have hierarchies; and the hierarchies can be visualized with flow-charts. The top of the flow-chart is a patriarch, matriarch, parent, spoiled brat, CEO, director, central committee, duke, king, priest, malicious gossip, tyrant, or mayor, Upper management fills a few job slots below the top. Middle management is in third place. The remaining 95-98% of people do the actual work. They work as drones, robots, slaves, and other synonyms for exploited people.

The corporation owns all the land that people inhabit. A whole clan lives on land to which only a matriarch holds title. A tribe stakes a claim to a large tract and allots shares of it to families in exchange for obedience and loyalty. The leaders of several tribes join forces to make a nation; elect a king; cede their tracts to him; and then receive the tracts back as royal grants that establish them as lords and put them in dominant positions. The grants dispossess most tribal members of their shares and of their modicum of autonomy. The grants make them serfs and lessees of lords.

When Americans were alleged to be the freest people on earth, most Americans could get a roof over their heads, food on their tables, and clothes on their backs only by paying rent to the company and going into debt at the company store. Mortgage coupons, property taxes, association fees, credit cards and juice loans look different but have the same effect. The world is more populous and deceptively complex; but the world is essentially the simple scam it's always been.

In the quotation above, John Adams of the New England Puritans, stated as clearly as necessary the most basic or fundamental principle of US government following the Revolution and George III's cessions. He spoke for the entirety of the new nation. Some citizens might quibble about other things. Everyone wanted to hold individual titles to property without threats of any kind. Without fear of losing what they cherished and needed most while they lived on earth.

Virginia went on to establish an irrefutable and inviolable precedent for how US government officials at all levels must deal with private property.

And that the proprietors of land within this commonwealth, may no longer be subject to any servile, feudal, or precarious tenure, and to prevent the danger to a free state from perpetual revenue. Be it enacted that the royal mines, quit-rents, and all other reservations and conditions in the patents or grants of land from the Crown of England, under the former government shall be and hereby declared null and void, and that all lands, thereby respectively granted, shall be held in absolute and unconditional property, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, in the same manner with the lands hereafter to be granted by the commonwealth, by virtue of this act.

a clause, viz, vide Chy. Rev. of 1783, ch. 13, s. 6, 98  
An act of assembly, passed May 1779, for establishing a land office and ascertaining the terms and manner of granting waste and unappropriated lands  
quoted in  
Error to the Court of Appeals of Virginia  
Fairfax's Devisee v. Hunter's Lessee  
11 U.S. (7 Cranch) 603  
<https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/11/603/case.html>

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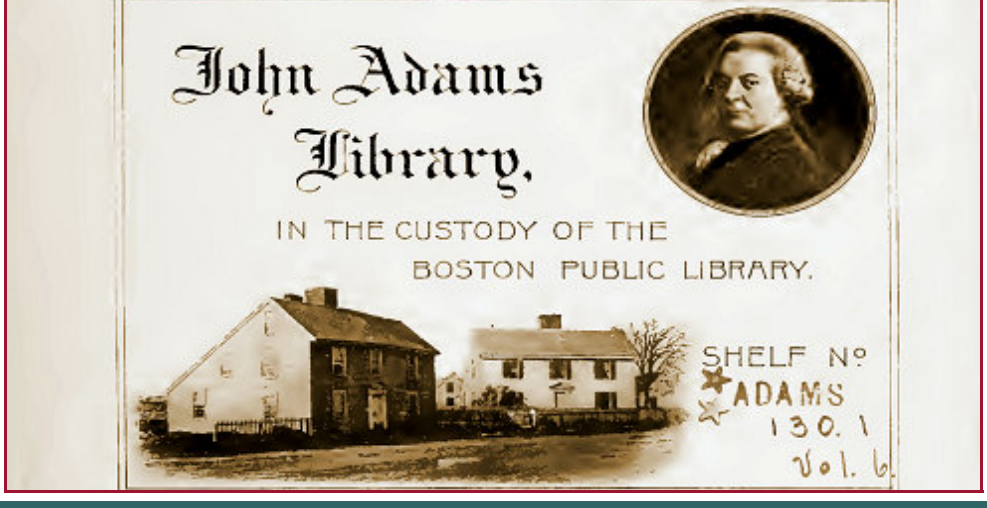
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bookplate  
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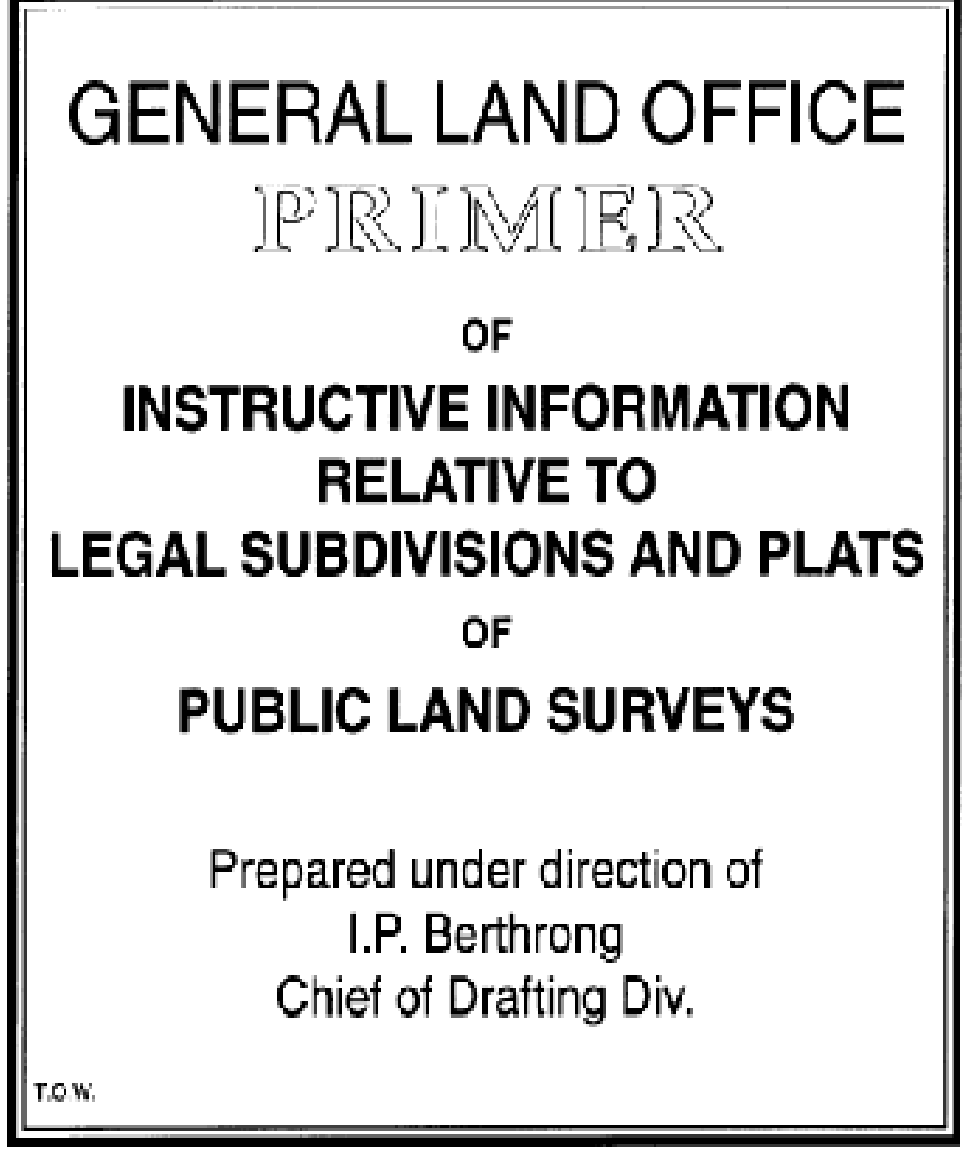


historical records of US Congress



Surveyor George Woolfolk. Riverfront mural. Paducah, Kentucky  
Sponsored by Charles Ferguson Hank and Hank Brothers Hardware.

William Clark, 1770-1838, a soldier, explorer, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and Governor of Missouri Territory, is best known for the Lewis and Clark voyage of discovery up the Missouri River in 1804. William got title to the 37,000 acre site at Paducah on October 13, 1827, from the Kentucky courts. Clark sent his agent, George Woolfolk, to displace squatters from the site of Paducah and to survey it. Previously, the contested site had been called Pekin. The Clark plat of the town was entered into McCracken County records on June 18, 1830. The Clark claim was not clear until 1844 when the Porterfield script case was heard before the U.S. Supreme Court. The rival claim was based on a military warrant, which usually superseded treasury warrants; however, the Clark claim was upheld. The first lots were sold in 1830.



Publication Printed circa 1921  
Reproduced by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States

above and at left:  
General Land Office Primer of Instructive Information Relative to Legal Subdivisions and Plats of Public Land Surveys  
Berthrong, I.P. (Chief of Drafting Division, USDI, BLM)  
US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management Eastern States (1921)

In 1783, George III of England signed over to the American rebels all his titles to real estate south of Canada and north of Florida. At the time, the Spanish colony of Florida extended to the Mississippi River and included the current states of Alabama and Mississippi. Virginia, one of the English colonies south of the Ohio River, also made the Mississippi River its western border. Shortly after the American Revolution, Virginia divided itself into the four states of Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee.

After 1763, north of the Ohio River, the Mississippi River became the western border of several New England states and of Virginia. The reason is that France acquired the real estate from Spain and lost it to England in the French and Indian War. Then the proprietors of various English colonies believed the English monarch extended their royal grants over the former French territory. Their overlapping colonial claims passed to the governments of the new states. The states resolved their differences and created The Northwest Territory—the territory south of Canada, north of the Ohio River, and west of Three Rivers Stadium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

In 1785 May, US founders nailed down their most fundamental principle in the most important act of the Continental Congress. They passed a law that has the status of a compact (irrevocable contract) to describe how they wanted to divide and distribute land in the Northwest Territory. They wanted the land divided approximately the same way land had previously been divided in New England colonies.

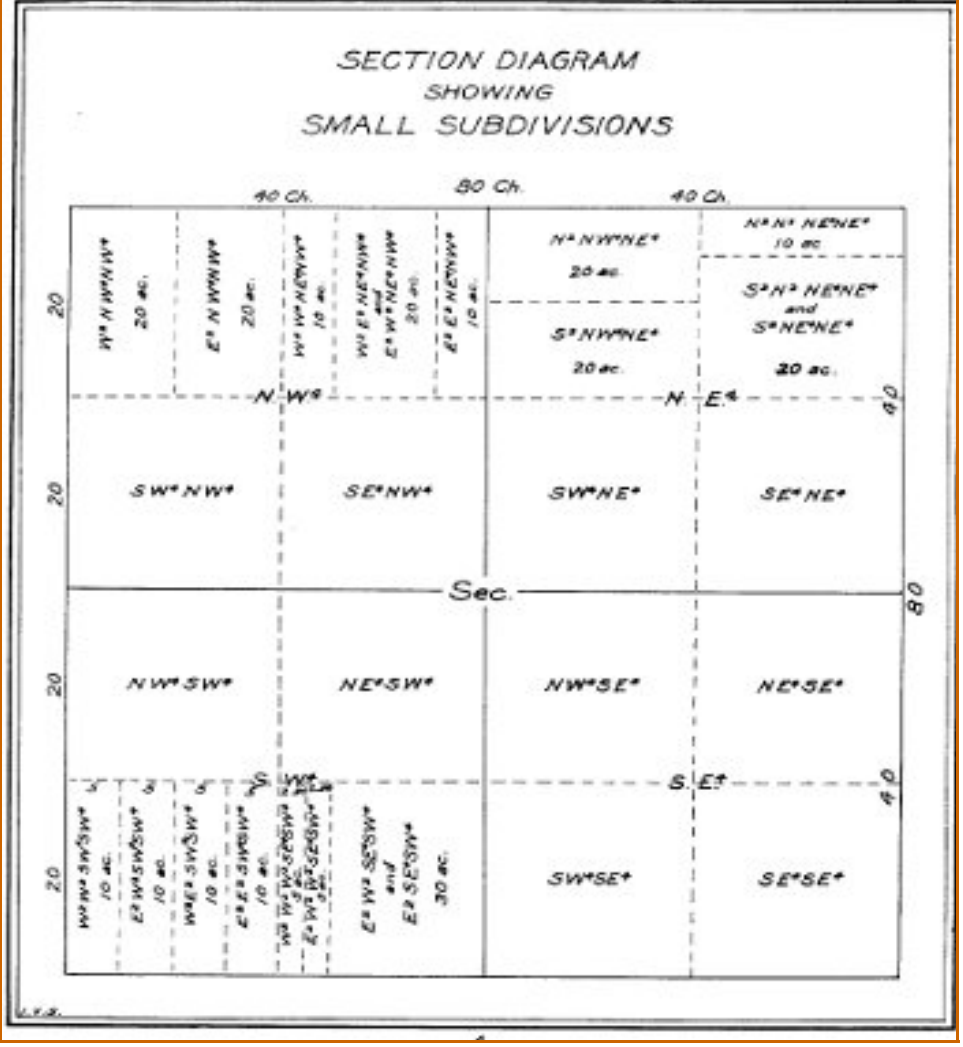
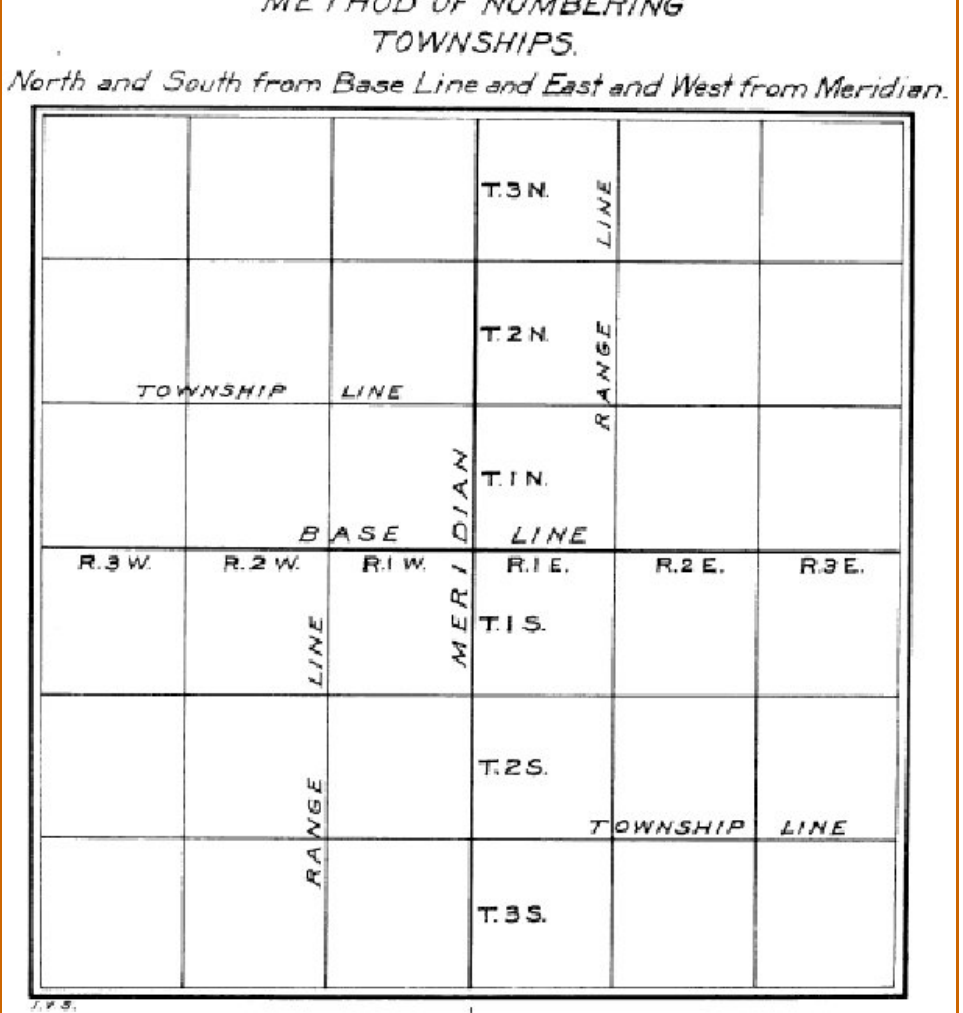
Surveyors would use their instruments to measure squares of 6-miles per side to be known as Townships. They'd draw the squares on plats or maps of the larger areas where they worked. Surveyors would then mark the 6-mile-long lines at one-mile intervals and connect the dots horizontally and vertically. The result would be 6-mile-square grids with 36 one-mile-square Sections.

A township is the size of the feudal estates of Europe's lesser lords. A 6-mile-square estate can include numerous rental properties to give the estate owner ample income; and also a town or villages where shopkeepers and craftsmen can live and work. Similar tracts in Mid-Atlantic and Southern states were named Counties. Counties are larger in size than Townships but about the same in population.

The compact of 1785 May went on to say that after a certain number of townships were surveyed and mapped on plats, they'd go on sale. Some would be sold whole and others would be divided in half or quarters. Americans were tapped out after the Revolution; and most purchasers would be wealthy Europeans. Sales offices were opened in US ports and in Europe. It was expected that purchasers of whole, half and quarter townships would divide their purchases into smaller units to sell at a profit, like a wholesaler. However, some Europeans planned to create feudal estates in the US like those in Europe.

By 1796 US founders were able to stop pandering to wealthy Europeans who wanted a windfall from US soil. US founders revised the 1785 Land Act to allow the survey and sale of US soil in successively smaller, affordable units. The 1785 and 1796 Land Acts for the Northwest Territory became templates for Land Acts for all territory the US acquired from all other governments after the 1783 acquisition from England.

A one-mile-square section is large enough for a profitable family farm. A quarter section or eighth section is large enough for a truck farm or a self-sufficient homestead where an individual, couple or family can live happily-ever-after in an independent way.

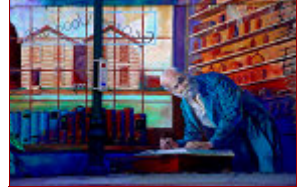


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# PROPERTY

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top illustration:  
marquee at Worth Township building  
Halsted 11601S (State Route 1)  
Chicago Heights, Illinois  
2007 July 14

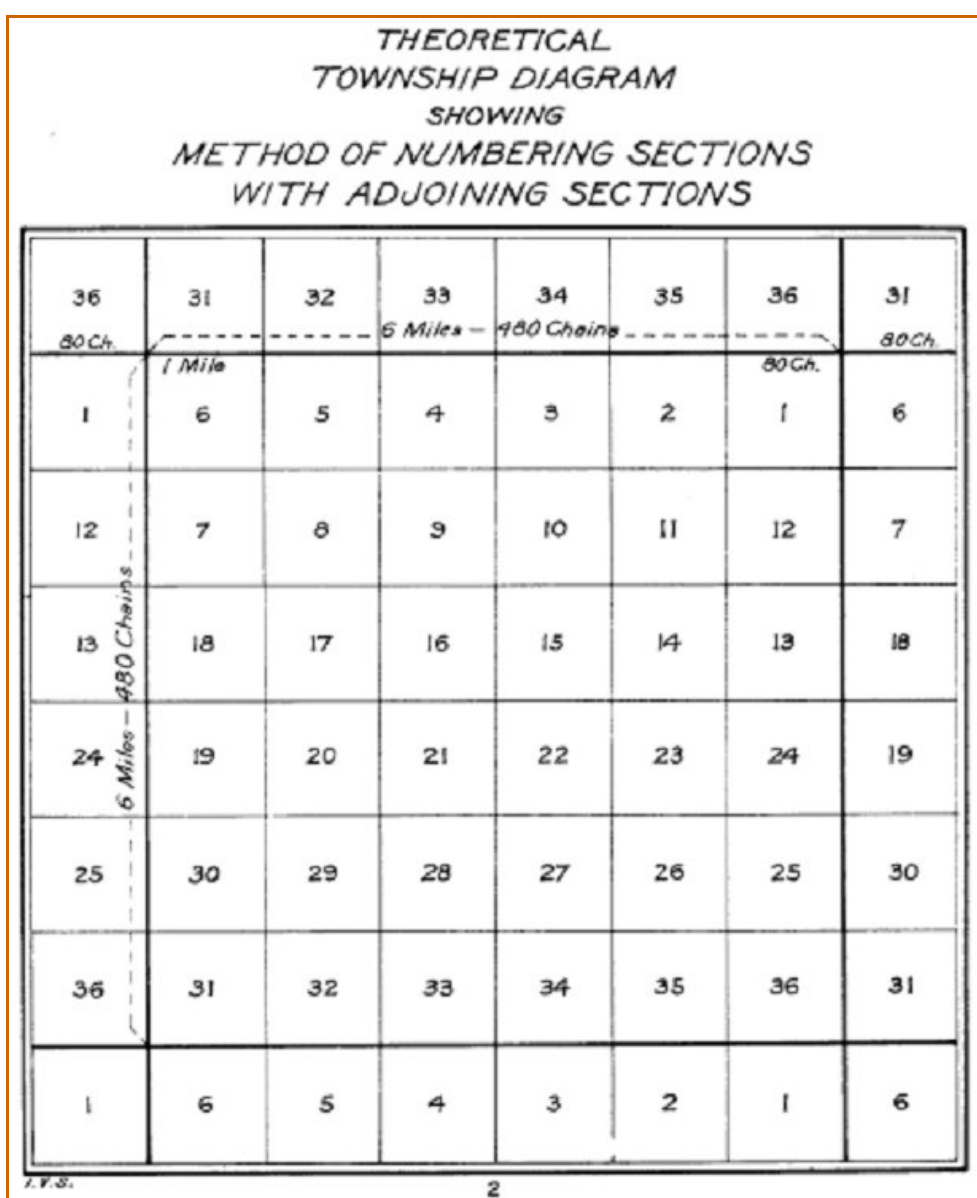
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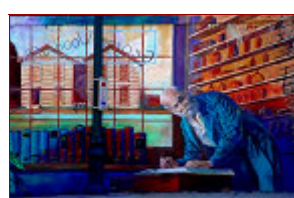
The United States of America, to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:  
Know ye, That for the consideration of dollars, we have granted, and hereby do grant and confirm unto the township, (or fractional part of a township, as the case may be) numbered in the range excepting therefrom, and reserving one third part of all gold, silver, lead and copper mines within the same; and the lots N 8, 11, 26, and 29, for future sale or disposition, and the lot N 16, for the maintenance of public schools. To have to the said his heirs and assigns for ever; (or if more than one purchaser, to the said their heirs and assigns forever as tenants in Common.) In witness whereof, (A. B.) Commissioner of the loan office, in the State of hath, in conformity to the Ordinance passed by the United States in Congress assembled, the twentieth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty five, hereunto set his hand, and affixed his seal, this day of in the year of our Lord and of the independence of the United States of America

Template for deed that transfers whole township from Congress to private buyer  
An Ordinance for Disposing of Lands in the North Western Territory (1785 May 20)  
page 378 in Journals of the Continental Congress, Vol. 28 (1785 Jan 11 - Jun 30)  
Fitzpatrick, John C. (editor)  
Washington (DC): US Government Printing Office (1933)

Reservations for the future disposal of the United States.  
Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That a salt spring lying upon a creek which empties into the Sciota river, on the east side, together with as many contiguous sections as shall be equal to one township, and every other salt spring which may be discovered, together with the section of one mile square which includes it, and also four sections at the centre of every township, containing each one mile square, shall be reserved, for the future disposal of the United States; but there shall be no reservations, except for salt springs, in fractional townships, where the fraction is less than three fourths of a township.  
Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That whenever seven ranges of town-

An Act providing for the sale of the lands of the United States in the territory northwest of the river Ohio and above the mouth of Kentucky river (1796 May 18) (Chapter XXIX)  
page 466 in The Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America, Volume 1  
Peters, Richard (editor)  
Boston: Charles C. Little and James Brown (1845)

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(page 3 of 5)

Independent people are the bugaboo of tyrants and all other narcissists who want to dominate and exploit as much of the human population as possible.

US founders knew this going into the Revolution. They did the best they could to head off the bad guys at the pass. The 1785 Land Act includes templates for two Bills of Sale to be issued at the time of purchase; and two Patents (deeds, real estate titles) to be issued and distributed whenever the US President had time to sign them.

One of each pair of templates is for people who buy whole townships. The other is for people who buy township divisions, sections, and sub-sections.

Whole-township templates remind purchasers that the 1785 May compact doesn't allow the selling of five of the 36 sections they purchased. Congress reserved the five sections from sale as an alternate to taxing inhabitants for the support of government.

One section was reserved to township inhabitants exclusively for the support of K-12 schools. The implication was that the schools would be privately-owned; and the land would be rented to raise money to offset the cost of tuition.

Congress would determine in future the disposition of the other four reserved sections. However, the number four anticipates the development of township (or county) and state government services, as well as federal government obligations to defend the nation and provide the means of communication. The 1785 Land Act also reserves Mineral Lands, like monarchies did. The democratic US government would own all mines and lease them to entrepreneurs for additional income to offset the costs of its services.

Section 16 in the middle of the township is reserved to support schools. The other four sections are near the four corners of townships.

The bills of sale and patents for purchases of less-than-full townships don't mention the reservations. However, they refer to the 1785 May compact; and most early, original purchasers knew about the reservations. The patents guarantee every purchase to the purchaser, his heirs and assigns forever. The guarantee has passed through every division of land, death and subsequent sale up to the present time. Current owners are entitled to the benefit whether or not they've read or heard of the 1785 Land Act and its 1796 revision.

The battle cry of the Revolution had been about taxation. The battle cry was garbled, but still understandable. A government official who wants to tax the people needs the consent of everyone he wants to tax. Good luck getting it. Nobody is fool enough to give his individual, personal consent to taxes. And nobody has the right to give consent on behalf of anyone else.

The American Revolution occurred at the same time as the Industrial Revolution. The reservation of five one-mile-square sections of land out of every 36-square-miles would have worked well to save the planet. Nobody could or ever has developed a more people-friendly and environmentally-friendly plan.

Considering only the school reservation: A person or corporation that wants to make money off industry can go to township residents, cut a deal, and rent whatever reserved land is appropriate to the business. Township residents retain ownership of industrial campuses. Therefore, township residents can include and enforce environmentally-friendly provisions in their lease agreements.

It goes without saying that factory owners will hire locals. Owners can hire locals cheap because (a) Locals own their homesteads free-and-clear and are unencumbered by the high cost-of-living that mortgages and taxes create. (b) Locals can work in the factories part-time for extra income while they get their primary support from their homesteads. Thus, neither factory owners or employees need to jeopardize the environment and inflate the economy to punch out large amounts of product.

Rent can be reasonable for several reasons. First, inflation and taxation go hand-in-hand. To eliminate taxation is to eliminate one of the motives for inflation. Second, to eliminate inflation is to eliminate the inflationary wage and pension demands of public servants and private sector workers.

The reservations disappeared and don't serve the best interests of the people now because the US founders' No Taxation plan flew in the face of the world's perpetually exploitive 1%. They secure and perpetuate their wealth by purchasing government debt paper. They're financially and socially dependent on the levying of taxes to service the debt. Also known as Tax Farmers, the 1% have always had the ability and means to get their way. They seem to use the carrot-and-stick approach to ensure that government officials will borrow huge amounts of money and make huge tax demands on common people.

Though the tax situation has always been unacceptable, Americans of the present had friends in the past. At left are excerpts about reserved sections from the 1785 Land Act and the 1796 Revision. The 1796 Land Act leaves the 1785 Land Act reservations intact except as specified.

- The 1796 Land Act replaces the word lot with the word section for one-mile square divisions within townships.
- The 1796 Land Act changes the section where numbering starts; therefore all sections are numbered differently than in 1785.
- The 1785 Land Act reserves lots (sections) 8, 11, 26 and 29 for future sale or disposition. Apparently, disposition doesn't mean selling.
- The 1796 Land Act reserves four sections at the center of every township for the future disposal of the United States, but doesn't specify the numbers. Apparently, the reserved lots are located as in 1785 but numbered as in 1796.
- The 1796 Land Act drops the word sale from the 1785 Land Act term, future sale or disposal, indicating that in future, the four lots could be assigned to various purposes but never sold. Petitions in American State Papers volumes on Public Lands indicate that county officials wanted donations of land for government buildings and support. It would have been reasonable to specify a section each to house and support the governments of township or county and state or region, as well as federal civilian government and a federal military.
- The provision doesn't mention school reservations because the word sale wasn't in the 1785 Land Act to be dropped. The 1785 Land Act didn't include the option of selling Section 16.

The 1796 Land Act disallows the future sale of all five reserved sections in a provision that appears to be on a different topic. 1796 was the last year of George Washington's presidential term, after which Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson would lose their power as members of Washington's cabinet. It's reasonable to draw the conclusion that Washington, Hamilton and/or Jefferson created excuses to enact the 1796 revision so they could tweak the 1785 Land Act. They wanted to trick the intensely greedy and ambitious people of their generation and ever after.

The language of the revision makes the reservation of all five sections as perpetual as possible. Context clues in the historical records of US government indicate that the word disposal didn't mean or include selling in 1785 and 1796. A Supreme Court decision cited in footnotes on page 465 of the 1796 revision confirms that no subsequent act of any kind can disappear or nullify a reservation.

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PREVIOUS

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# JUSTICE

# TIME FOR DEMOCRACY



top illustration:  
Abandoned  
a farm possibly located near Wilmington in Grundy County, Illinois  
John Culik (artist)  
circa 1977

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In 1787 July, US founders enacted an ordinance to establish a government for the Northwest Territory. They didn't seize on the opportunity to describe a uniform government for all townships so that all township inhabitants everywhere would get equity in the school reservations.

The 1787 Ordinance described how the Northwest Territory would be divided into states. US founders also didn't seize on the opportunity to describe a uniform government for all states so that the inhabitants of one state would get exactly the same rights and privileges as the inhabitants of all other states, in conformity to a principle in the 1776 Declaration of Independence.

US founders did sloppy work. They appear to have caved to pressure from the world's power brokers. They divided the country into unjustifiable spheres of influence where foreign and domestic opportunists could get rich, as happened during the colonial era on other continents.

The majority overpowered the minority of US founders. They re-birthed taxation and the excuses for taxation as sacred cows, as done-deals. Their modern successors allow people to protest the amount of a tax but not the tax itself or its alleged purpose.

Schools are the most sacred of sacred cows though they've consistently failed to fulfill their mandate. The mandate is to increase morality. An immoral theft of property finances schools; and an immoral mandatory education law takes children from their homes and herds them like animals into schools. The morality of the nation goes downhill from there.

To put a child in school is to increase his time and opportunities to be jealous of other children, both their talents and their property. Schooling guarantees that a child will grow into an adult who incurs huge debts to one-up and put-down his siblings, his co-workers, his neighbors, and anyone else who excites his jealousy. His teachers model unproductive labor. He learns that work is strutting in front of groups, scribbling on chalkboards, and bossing people around. He learns that productive labor is degrading. He learns that the measure of status is the number of people a person exploits. Cheating is the new morality. Bankruptcy has replaced budgeting as a financial plan.

To teach a child to read is as likely to make her vulnerable to propaganda as to make her intelligent. She might focus on the financial page and decide to get rich without regard for the people on whose backs she makes her money. She might focus on the social page and decide to dress and live like a princess. She might focus on the real estate section and decide she should live in a penthouse or suburban castle.

Teachers demand and get the lion's share of property tax bills that many property owners can't afford to pay. Police officers, firefighters and other public servants and contractors get the remainder of property tax revenue. The county treasurer seizes the properties of owners who can't afford the tax. Teachers can't explain why the education of children is worth the loss of anyone's shelter or place of business. Cops and firemen can't explain why anyone should lose their property to pay public servants to protect it. The property tax is an insane contradiction. It creates a huge disconnect between the purpose and the reality of municipal government. All too obviously, taxation generally and the property tax specifically are innovations on the depredations and violence that ancient hordes inflicted on settled and productive people.

Where Genghis Khan and his horde once thundered with flashing swords and flying arrows to kill, destroy and plunder, The tax farmer and his tribe now walk softly and carry a big stick. They see people like a farmer sees a field of corn to be harvested and plowed under or a flock of sheep to be sheared and slaughtered. In short, taxation is the antithesis of democracy and humanity. It's a pathological conceit.

I knew about the property tax because of family history. However, my parents never owned a house; and I didn't see a property tax bill until I bought a house when I was 30. I earned the money to buy the house by working as a teacher without knowing that teachers are paid out of property tax revenues. After 43 years of owning a house on a small lot in a metropolitan area, I've learned I would have been better off if I followed through on my original plan to become a rural homesteader.

Tax farmers have always known that it's wise to diversify. Their portfolios include a lot more debt paper than municipal bonds. Each debt represents yet another device to enslave common people. In the US, tax farmers used profits from real estate speculation to start up utility grids such as natural gas and electricity. Natural gas appliances wear out one at a time; and few people are able to quit their dependence on gas cold turkey. ComEd now promotes hybrid power for urban customers. Solar panels on my roof to meet my electricity needs would cost \$20,000, which is too much too late in my life. Thomas Edison might have imagined personal solar power and liberated people from the grid if he wasn't an intimate of the robber barons.

The roof itself exemplifies the many ways that homeowners are vulnerable and dependent rather than independent. Houses seem designed, built and marketed to entrap people in debt forever. A typical homeowner isn't able to put up a new layer of shingles or do a complete tear-down and replacement of the roof he didn't even think about at time of purchase. If he had thought better sooner, he might have realized that a one-story house is smarter than gables and turrets. He should have learned in kindergarten that asphalt shingles wear out fast. They're bad for the environment and shouldn't go in landfills, but petroleum and materials suppliers make money off them.

A typical homeowner can't plaster her walls, fix her plumbing, install an upgraded electrical box, rewire the house, break up and replace a cracked foundation, put in new windows when a tornado blows them out, lay carpeting, build a garage, replace rotten beams, and the many other things that need doing to keep a modern person comfortable and sheltered.

He can't plow his backyard and grow his own food. He can't keep chickens to supply him with fresh eggs, or a cow for fresh milk, or a steer for steak. He can't dig a well for a water.

Other humans expect to profit by supplying all his needs. They've ensured that his only option is to accede to their demands.

The typical homeowner also has a segment in the web of life. She's another leg of the spider in our nightmares. She, too, exaggerates the value of whatever she does for income. If she didn't, she couldn't afford to pay everyone else who thrives on dependencies and exaggerates his worth.

Tax farmers, utility company stockowners, and home improvement contractors are usually content merely to gouge property owners. Most property owners also suffer at least a few neighbors and relatives who encroach or want to take over their property entirely.

A secure foothold on earth is more necessary to life than air, water and food. The three basics are useless without a fourth—a place to breath, drink and munch. What we need most is what we are least likely to get. Our personal castles are almost always under siege. Displacement and destruction are the norm world-wide and throughout time.

(continued on page 5 of 5)

## CONTENTS



essays, tutorials & books

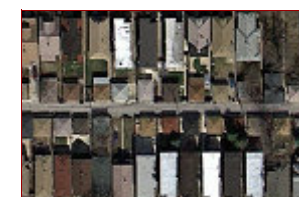


historical records of US Congress

## THIS WEBSITE'S MAIN IDEA



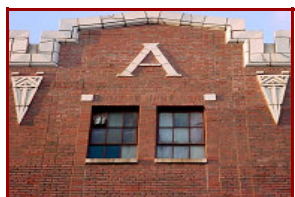
petition for injunction against property tax



spreadsheet of assessments for A, B, and C Streets  
(Two notoriously corrupt Puerto Rican immigrants, the Cook County Assessor and the alderman of the ward for A, B, and C streets, have tampered with property descriptions and the distribution of grants and benefits so that Hispanics and Cook County Democratic Party regulars who support them get more and pay less for city services)



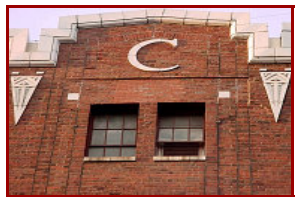
school lands history



school lands more history



school lands US



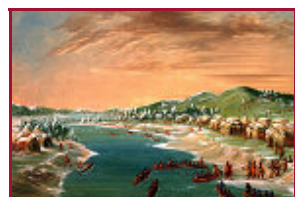
school lands Chicago



counties appendix



counties



History Property Tax Illinois, Haig (1914)



National Land System 1785-1820, v 3, Treat

In 1785, the Continental Congress ordered the reservation of one square mile out every 36-mile-square township to be surveyed and sold in the Northwest Territory (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin). Congress intended rental income from the reservations to support the equivalent of K-8 education for indigent pioneers. Instead, the robber barons engineered the sale of school lands and disappeared the trust funds. When the US Congress acquired additional territory from foreign governments by conquest and purchase, it increased the reservation of school lands from one section to two sections of every 36-mile-square township. Free schools would truly be free if robber barons had left school lands intact. Some of the western states respected school land reservations and didn't sell them. An organization that studies school lands calls them 'Trust Lands'. An article entitled History of the Trust Land Grants is Chapter Two in:

Culp, Peter W., Tuell, Cynthia C., and Laurenzi, Andy (authors)  
State Trust Lands in the West: Fiduciary Duty in a Changing Landscape  
Cambridge (MA): Lincoln Institute of Land Policy/ Sonoran Institute (2006)

The book was revised in 2015 and the revision omitted most of Chapter Two. The 2015 revision is online for free. Google digitalized the 2006 edition as a University of Minnesota textbook with ISBN 1558441611, 9781558441613.

<https://www.lincolnst.edu/sites/default/files/pubfiles/state-trust-lands-in-the-west-updated-full.pdf>

Most of the content of the 2006 Chapter Two is online in a journal article:

Laurenzi, Andy (author)  
State Trust Lands  
Land Lines, volume 16, number 3, pages 1-4 (2004 July)  
[http://www.lincolnst.edu/sites/default/files/pubfiles/909\\_final\\_7\\_04.pdf](http://www.lincolnst.edu/sites/default/files/pubfiles/909_final_7_04.pdf)

US founders reserved from sale an additional 4 square miles and all mineral lands in the townships. Rental income could (a) support all valid government activities; (b) support government in a manner consistent with the absolute rights of the people to their property; (c) defeat all attempts to tax the people; and (d) give the people control over mining and industrial enterprises most likely to rent the land. An early cohort of US Congressmen threw all these tax-alternative lands into the general fund of lands to be sold into private property. With the selling of reservations, democracy disappeared without a trace and with scarcely a whimper. The US Supreme Court wrote the following in a case involving reservations and grants:

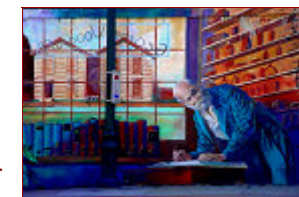
Appropriation of land by government is no more or less than setting it apart for some peculiar use. A tract legally appropriated to any purpose becomes severed from the mass of public lands: and no subsequent law or proclamation, or sale, would be construed to embrace it, or to operate upon it. Nothing passes a perfect title to public lands, with the exception of a few cases, but a patent. The exceptions are where Congress grants lands in words of present grant.

Wilcox v. Jackson, 13 Peters, 498  
footnote a (page 465)  
Decisions of courts as to principles that regulate titles to public lands in Northwest Territory  
Statute XXIX (Public), 4th Congress 2nd Session (1796-05-18)  
Sale of Lands of US NW of Ohio River & above mouth of Kentucky River  
Peter, Richards (1845). Public Statutes At Large Volume I  
Boston: Charles C. Little and James Brown

The website is a work in progress.

All texts are drafts.

The author takes it for granted that you can say the same things better, and will.



updated 2019 September

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Laurel Lee  
Time For Democracy  
Box 477235  
1704 N. Milwaukee  
Chicago, IL 60647-7235

PREVIOUS

NEXT

# PROPERTY

## TIME FOR DEMOCRACY



(page 5 of 5)

top illustration:  
Remington, Frederic (1861-1909) (artist). The Pioneers  
Four Indians, on horseback, looking across body of water  
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### CONTENTS



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historical records of US Congress



frontispiece in Johnson's new illustrated family atlas  
with descriptions, geographical, statistical, and historical (1862)  
<https://lcn.loc.gov/2006458033>



Pioneer home of Abraham Lincoln  
House, John (artist) (copyright V42374) (1890 December 30)  
cdn.loc.gov/service/pnp/pga/01600/01635v.jpg



American Farm Yard – Evening  
Currier and Ives (1857)  
in Currier and Ives' America  
Simkin, Colin (editor)  
New York: Crown Publishers Inc. Copyright 1952 by Crown Publishers, Inc



American progress. Allegorical female figure of America leading pioneers and railroads westward  
Gast, John (artist). Croftutt, George A (lithographer) (copyright 1873)  
Original painting purchased by Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum, 1992  
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<http://memory.loc.gov/service/pnp/pmsca/09800/09855v.jpg>

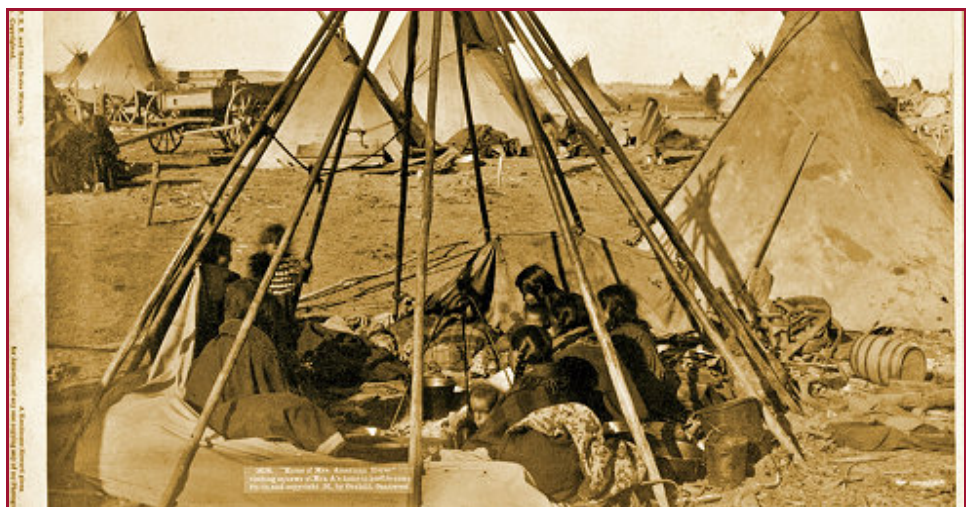


Mount Vernon  
Photograph copyright Detroit Photographic Co. (undated)  
page 187 in Lands and Peoples: The World in Color, Volume VI  
New York & Toronto: The Grolier Society. Copyright 1929-1957 by The Grolier Society

Mount Vernon, on the banks of the Potomac, is inseparably connected with the name of Washington, who loved it better than any other spot. The house was built by his half-brother, Lawrence, and was not a mansion, but the residence of a Virginia gentleman. It was inherited by Washington just after his marriage, and here he spent his happiest years, and here he died. When his heirs were forced to sell, the estate was bought by an association of patriotic women who have preserved it as a shrine of patriotism for the American people.



Pioneer family standing outside a sod house (1882)  
cdn.loc.gov/service/pnp/cph/3a10000/3a15000/3a15900/3a15944r.jpg



Home of Mrs. American Horse  
Oglala women and children seated inside an uncovered tipi frame in an encampment  
probably on or near Pine Ridge Reservation  
Grabill, John C.H. (photographer). (copyright 1891)  
John C. H. Grabill Collection. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division  
Call # LOT 3076-2, no. 3638  
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/99613804>

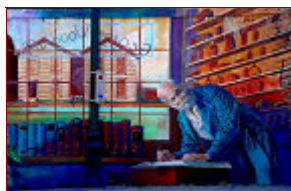


Heilman Villas Bungalow, 1060 Seventh Street, Coronado, San Diego County  
Call number: HABS, CAL,37-CORO,3D  
<http://memory.loc.gov/pnp/habshaer/ca/ca2000/ca2075/photos/047524pv.jpg>

(end of Property)

(continue to Municipalities)

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