

When the area is given in acres it would seem to be advisable to state clearly whether the acres are English or French, if the land is situated in the seigneuries where the terms acre and arpent are considered as interchangeable, so much so that the writer has known of several disputes which have arisen from want of clearness on this point.

As roods and perches are not decimal subdivisions, it is much better when dealing with the English acre to give the fraction in thousandths of an acre; and when using French measure to express the area in arpents, perches and hundredths of a perch, in order to facilitate the calculation of the price as well as of the area.

In the case of a property of four sides, none of which are parallel, or of one with more than four sides it is advisable to give the bearings of the sides, especially when they do not form parts of well established lines, since a description should be drawn up in such a manner as to enable any one to lay out, on the ground, the limits of the property described.

When giving the bearings and lengths of the boundaries of a property care should be taken to make sure that the traverse will close properly and that the area given agrees with that calculated from the given lengths and bearings.

This point does not seem to be always attended to for the writer, not long ago, saw a plan and description of a property quite recently sold in Quebec, in which the traverse of the sides did not close, the difference between the northings and southings being about one foot nine inches (1.9''); while the area given differed by about three hundred and fifty feet from that calculated from the traverse of the sides, the extreme length and width of the property being respectively about three hundred feet and two hundred and ten feet.

In giving the bearings of the sides the writer has noticed that some surveyors use the term "azimuth" of late years, but thinks that the word should not be used for this purpose for the following reasons; viz:—

*Firstly.*—That the meaning of azimuth is not fixed by Act of Parliament, so that it might be counted from either North, South, East or West, and towards either right or left, therefore before using the term it would always be necessary to define what is meant by it.