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Survey Monuments

Permanent Posts of Iron, Bronze and Concrete Now Supplanting Buried Tokens—Paper Read Before the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors

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A MONUMENT has been defined as an object fixed in the soil, whether natural or artificial, and referred to in a document, and used as evidence for the delineation of boundaries or the situation of a particular plot of land.

Possibly too little attention has, in the past, been paid to this most important part of a surveyor's duty, and it is the purpose of this paper to discuss some of the more common types of monuments in use heretofore, with their ad-

was that it would remain in place until such time as the owners had entered into possession of their lands, after which it would naturally appear that the duty of preserving the monument would fall on those immediately interested. Unfortunately, landowners in this country pay little or no attention to the preservation of monuments, with the result that after a lapse of a few years, the great majority of our monuments are lost, in many cases beyond recovery. It is not necessary to point out to land sur-

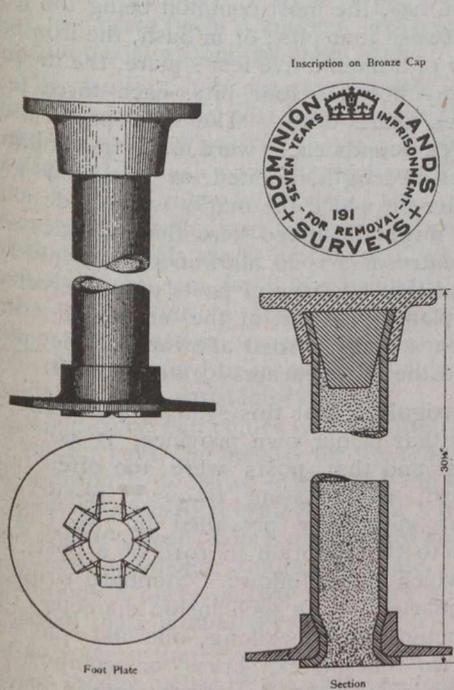


Fig. 1. Standard Survey Post.



Fig. 2. Short Survey Post for planting in rock.

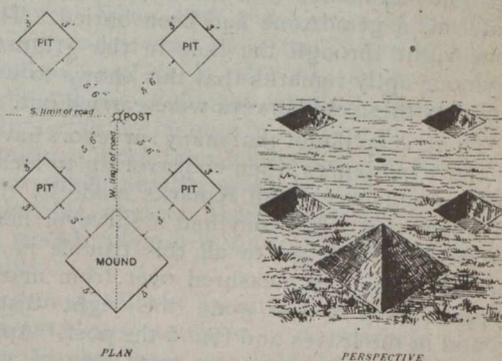


Fig. 3. Monument at township or section corner defining four sections

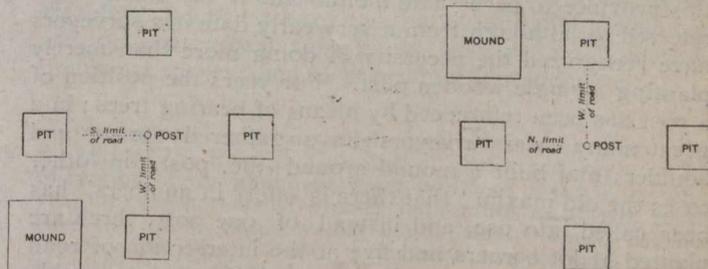


Fig. 4. Monument at township or section corner for south side of correction line.

Fig. 5. Monument at township or section corner for north side of correction line.

vantages and disadvantages, and to describe some improvements that have been introduced.

Until comparatively recently, on ordinary land surveys in Ontario, the wooden post or a tree marked for a post has been used exclusively, due to the readiness with which posts of this material may be everywhere procured, and to the ease with which they may be set in place. Monuments of this class, when made of proper material and firmly planted, are without doubt very satisfactory for a short time after erection; they are readily located and easily interpreted, and if they were only more permanent, they would be ideal. Doubtless, the expectation of those responsible for the use of this type of monument

veyors the multitude of grave evils that are the direct result of lack of permanence of our early, and unfortunately to a great extent, our present type of monument.

There is apparently little room for doubt that it is not good practice to plant these very temporary monuments at the time of survey and leave their perpetuation to others in later years, and it is interesting to note the various departures from the plain wooden post that have from time to time been introduced with a view to making monuments more permanent.

In some of the foreign countries, and in fact in some of the earlier surveys in provinces in this country, it was customary to bury pieces of crockery, glass or other per-