

**EXCERPT from MINUTES
CITY OF LAKE ALFRED
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2015
7:30 P.M.
CITY HALL**

2.) CENTENNIAL PRESENTATION

Rob Stevens introduced himself as a local professional surveyor who has worked extensively within the Auburndale, Lake Alfred and Haines City areas as well as Central Florida. He reviewed the events that opened the wilderness into Central Florida occurred during the Second Seminole War during 1835-1842. He indicated Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Cummings was located at Fort Brook in Tampa, whose commanding officer was Zachary Taylor who later became the 12th President of the United States. Cummings' task was to create a road from Fort Brook, Tampa to tie into the St. Johns River at Fort Mellon, Sanford. He went on to read from Cummings' diary on June 24, 1839 describing the scene where Fort Cummings was located at the ridge near the Lake Alfred, approximately 46 ½ miles from Fort Brook. On June 31, 1839, Cummings wrote that Major Wilcox had completed Fort Cummings, and directed him to proceed towards Fort Maitland, and establish another fort to be named Fort Davenport. Overall, the distance from the Gulf of Mexico to St Johns River is 120 miles and Cummings described the scene as barren, sandy pine, picturesque, with thick hammocks and did not predict it to ever be developed. He also noted Cummings observation that the land had never been traveled or occupied by anyone other than Native Americans.

In 1843, the US Government requested the entire Central Florida land area be surveyed and subdivided into tracts for private ownership, mostly to veterans from the military as compensation for their service. He noted that a survey control known as Washington's Parallel served as the first base line to map this entire area. The Parallel happens to run directly through downtown Lake Alfred. B.F. Whitner was the lead surveyor assigned to work in this area, and described the techniques used to mark corner posts within tracts. Whitner's team used trees as a point of reference for each post set, and was extremely precise in their placement. Mr. Stevens stated his own survey work has been based on the accuracy of posts set and uncovering evidence of these trees, all as noted by Whitner's team in the late 1840s.

Based on journal entries, Whitner described some ruthless weather and environment conditions while surveying in the area and requested an increase in salary from Congress. His contract stated he would receive \$4 per mile, and due to these hardships he requested an increase to \$8 per mile. His journal describes an incident where his supplies were raided and mules taken. After encountering some Native Americans and helping them with medicine and what supplies he had left, he was pleased to discover his remaining supplies and mules were returned to him that evening. Whitner also described the torrential rain and working in several feet of water on a daily basis, as well as a tremendously cold winter where ponds were frozen. Supplies had to be brought in by wagon across 60 miles on the new road constructed by Cummings.

Mr. Stevens concluded by sharing his respect and commendation of Whitner's work, which took 6-months to survey over 580 miles, which is an equivalent distance from Lake Alfred to South Carolina. He also noted that Cummings' road shaped much of the growth of the area, and demonstrated that the railroad line and US Highway 17/92 were built based on this.

A copy of Mr. Stevens' presentation is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

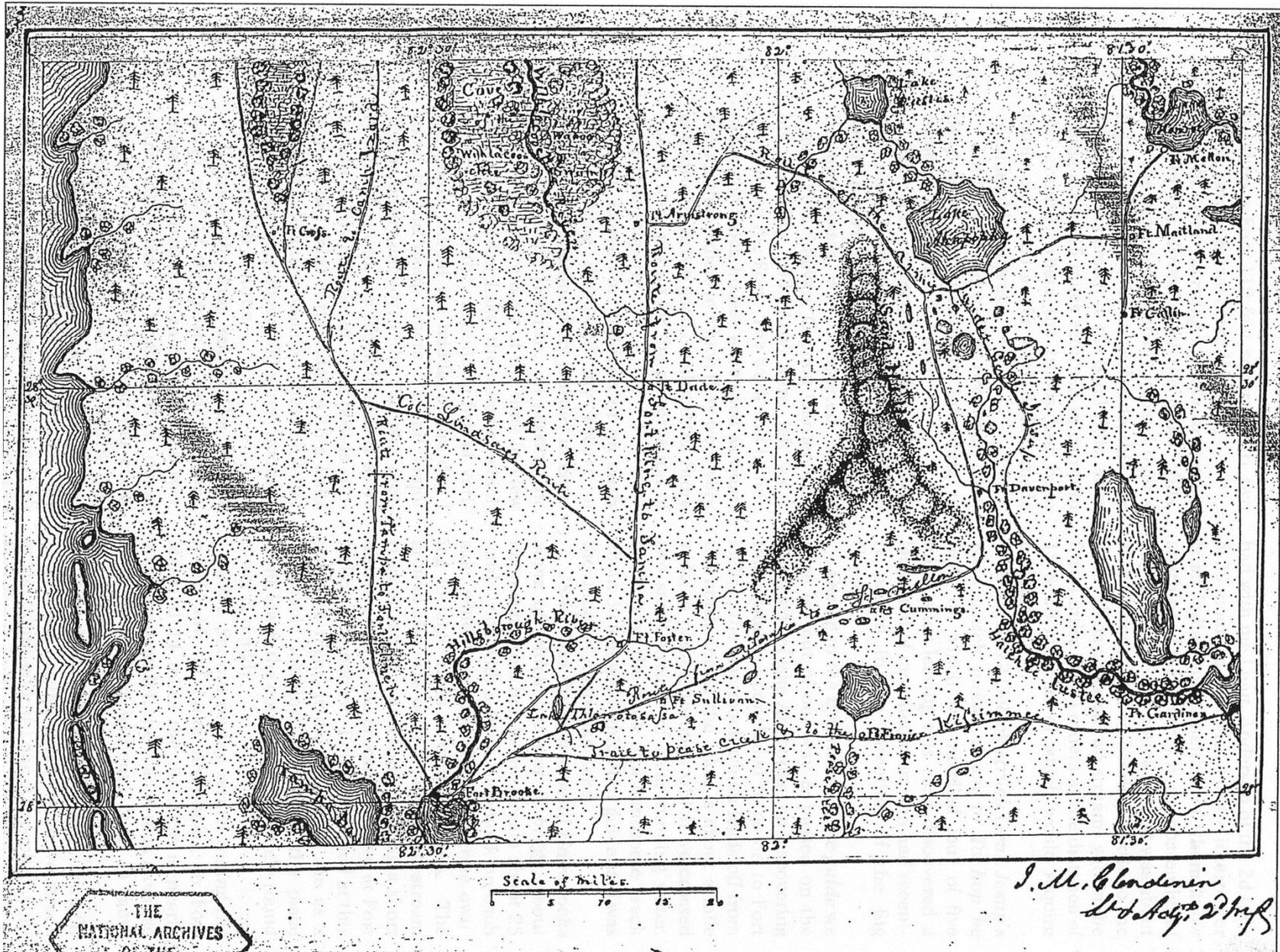
Early History of Lake Alfred

Presented by Robert A. Stevens

Robert A. Stevens & Associates, Inc.

“A Standard of Excellence” Surveying and Mapping, Consulting

210 Lena Vista Blvd. Auburndale, FL 33823 Phone: (863)-559-1216 Fax: (863) 288-9778 Email: rstevens@rsasmc.com



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17

South Boundary of T27 S. R 26 E. 2 E.

Antena Beginning at NW 2nd Corner Variation of the?

19.50 + Pond - Established a post - (Lightwood) where
 North 4° 30' E -
 Pin at 35th 50 Links - 12

40.00 1/2 Mile post (Lightwood post)
 Pin at 56° 198 " - 15

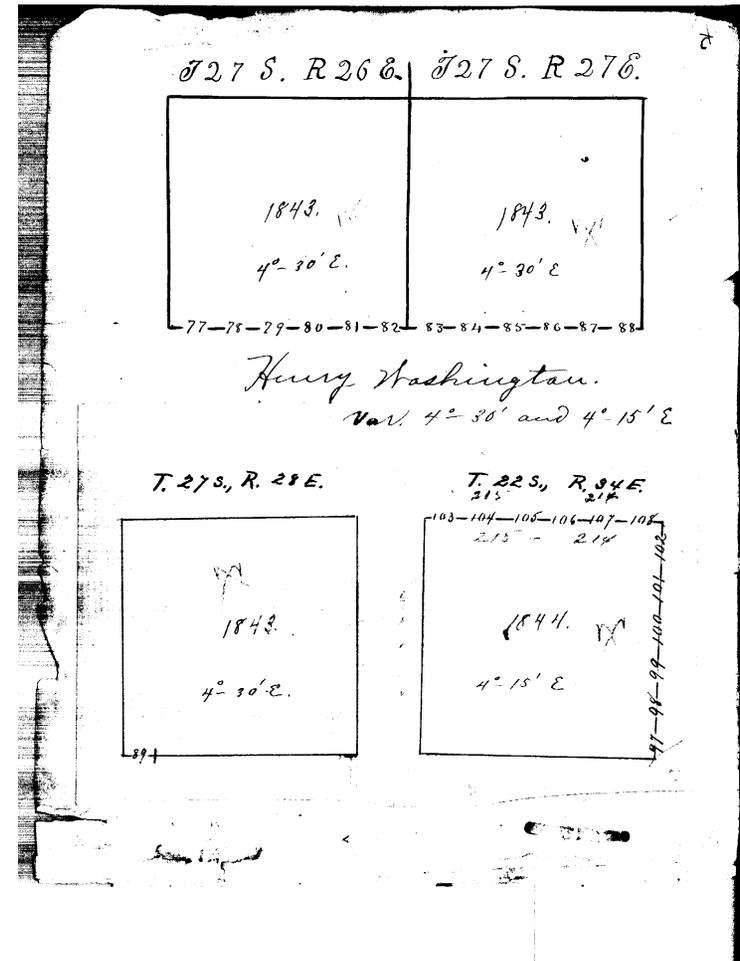
65.00 + High pine & wood to low (thick saw-palmetto)
 wet land - near & south of duck open pond -
 Pin at 9° 64 Links - 15

79.33 To dup open Pond set post (Birch post)
 Pin at 18° 123 " - 5

80.00 1st mile post fully in dup open Lake or pond cannot
 be established -
 Pin at 19° 4 " - 5

Foot 19.50 grassy, se dup pond. Residue chiefly med=
 ically weedy from 3. Pin 243 gack.

Note. at 60 chain the line traps about 30 Chs south=
 side of the Pickets at Fort Remington - which stands
 North west of the Lake, & near the same.



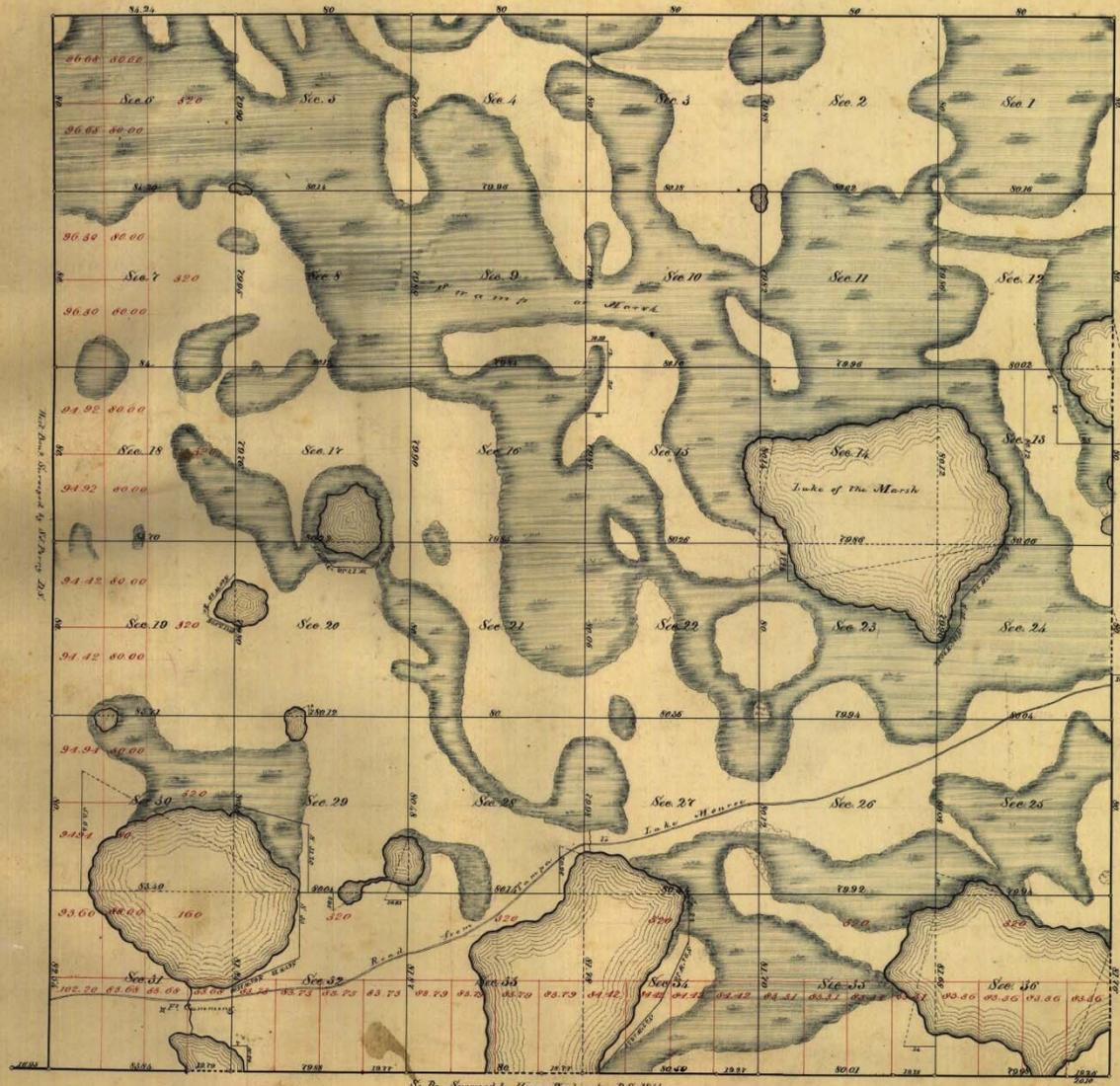


Table of Contents

Sec	Area	Sec	Area	Sec	Area	Sec	Area
1	0 21.00	10	0 33.00	19	0 44.34	28	0 42.10
2	0 29.00	11	0 38.04	20	0 40.30	29	0 44.00
3	0 40.04	12	0 40.10	21	0 39.04	30	0 44.00
4	0 39.00	13	0 40.50	22	0 42.72	31	0 44.00
5	0 39.30	14	0 40.38	23	0 38.80	32	0 40.00
6	0 33.30	15	0 41.20	24	0 40.00	33	0 44.00
7	0 23.00	16	0 37.04	25	0 40.54	34	0 44.00
8	0 40.10	17	0 40.00	26	0 40.24	35	0 44.00
9	0 37.00	18	0 40.00	27	0 41.00	36	0 44.00

23323.64

Variation of Meridian 1° 15' E

South Boundary surveyed by Henry Washington by sheet
143. West Boundary by H. Perry, sheet
The North & East Boundaries of subdivisions by Guy
D. Williams from the mouth of Spring, 1848.
Nathan Lilly
John H. Hall
Examined compared with field notes and approved 17th Aug. 1848.

Comptroller
J. M. General

S. B. Surveyed by Henry Washington D.S. 1843



377
 T27 R26 S4E Section 22
 South Boundary - running West

17.50 x marsh to 2nd pine
 40.18 let 1/4 mile post

Bearing Pine N 60° E. 9
 Trees Pine S 21° E. 13

58.35 To marsh
 89.50 x to pine land
 80.36 Intersect N. B. 6th, south of temporary
 feet permanent post

Bearing Pine N 69° E. 89
 Pine S 22° E. 149
 Trees Pine N 8° W. 13
 Pine S 48° W. 57

Marshes from 1st pine and
 Black Oak R. County

38

Township 27 South, Range 26 East.

6	5	4	3	2	1
405	375	345	315	285	255
7	6	5	4	3	2
406	377	348	319	290	261
18	17	16	15	14	13
407	377	348	319	290	261
19	20	21	22	23	24
408	377	348	319	290	261
30	29	28	27	26	25
409	377	348	319	290	261
31	32	33	34	35	36
410	377	348	319	290	261

B. F. Whitner, 1948.
 Var. not given.

1/1



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B. A. Stevens, Esq.
 Surveyor General
 St. Augustine

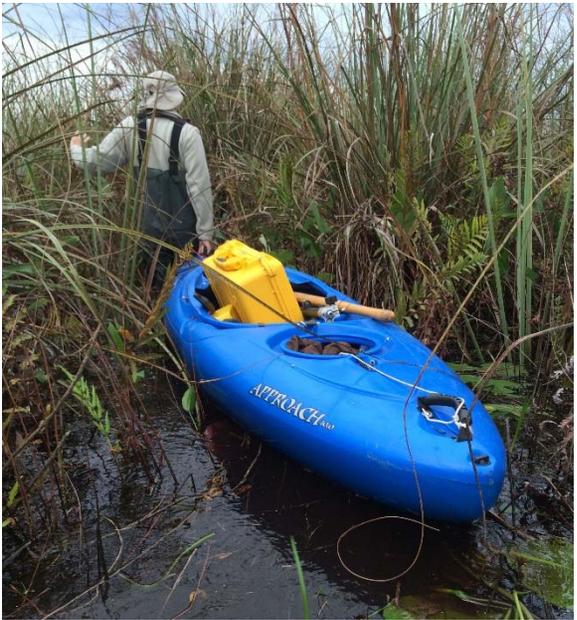
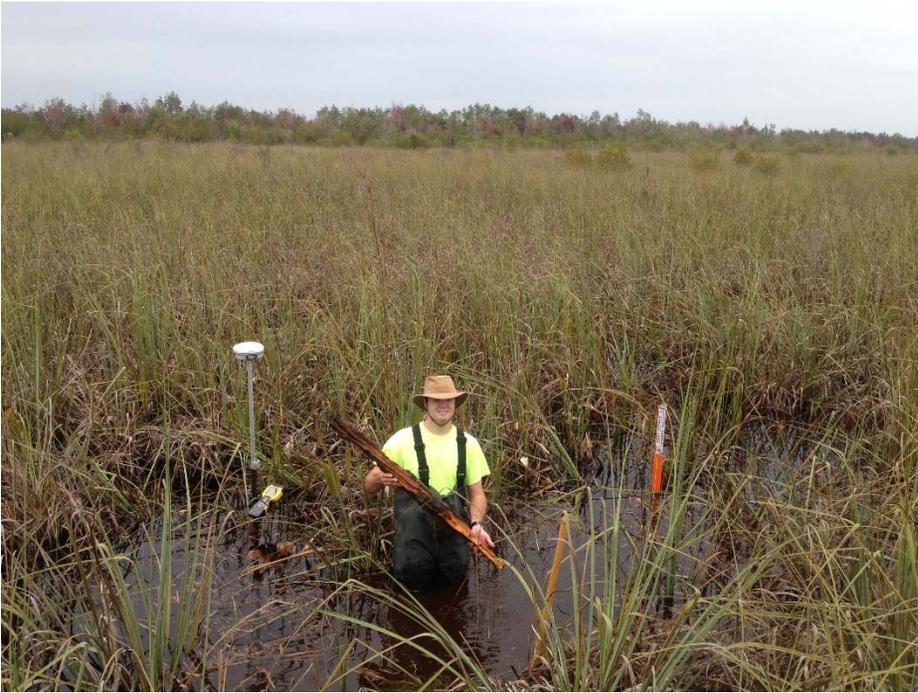
Land District of Florida
 Madison, October 25th, 1849.

Dear Sir,

I deem to submit to your consideration and through you to that of the Comptroller of the Land Land Office, and to Congress, the character of the work executed by me as a Deputy Surveyor, in this Land District, under my contract for surveying Public Lands, during the winter & Spring of 1847-48. The work I performed under that contract was altogether more arduous and difficult than was designed or expected by the Surveyor General or myself at the time of contracting, and at the rate of compensation stipulated - viz. one dollar a mile. And I have no doubt that, when the facts herein stated are known, the Department will willingly recommend, & Congress readily grant, reasonable extra compensation.

My contract embraced eight Townships - viz. Townships 24, 25, 26 & 27 of Range 26 East, and Townships 23, 24, 25 & 26 South of Range 27 East; extending from the Northern to the Southern Base Parallel run by Henry Washington in 1843. These Townships were to be laid off by the necessary exterior lines, & then subdivided into Sections. The work executed under this contract amounted to 581 miles.

I began operations in the field on the 8th day of April, 1847, & finished on the 16th of May 1848, exclusive of the time occupied in going to, & returning from the work.



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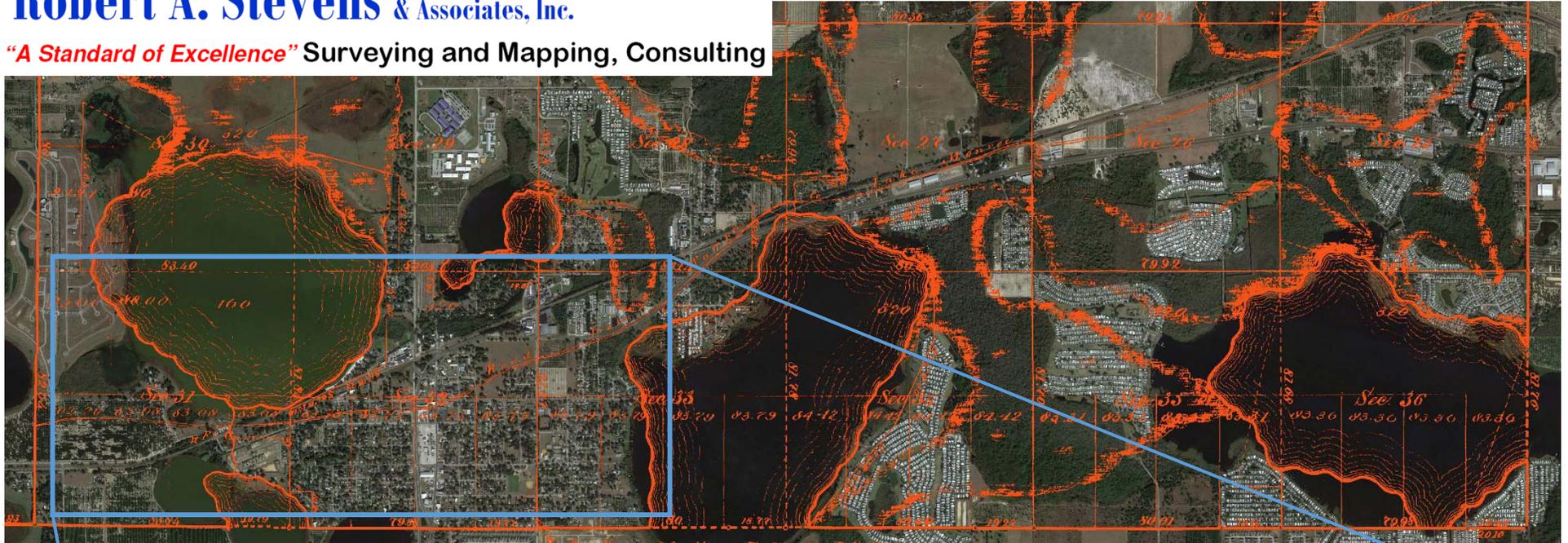


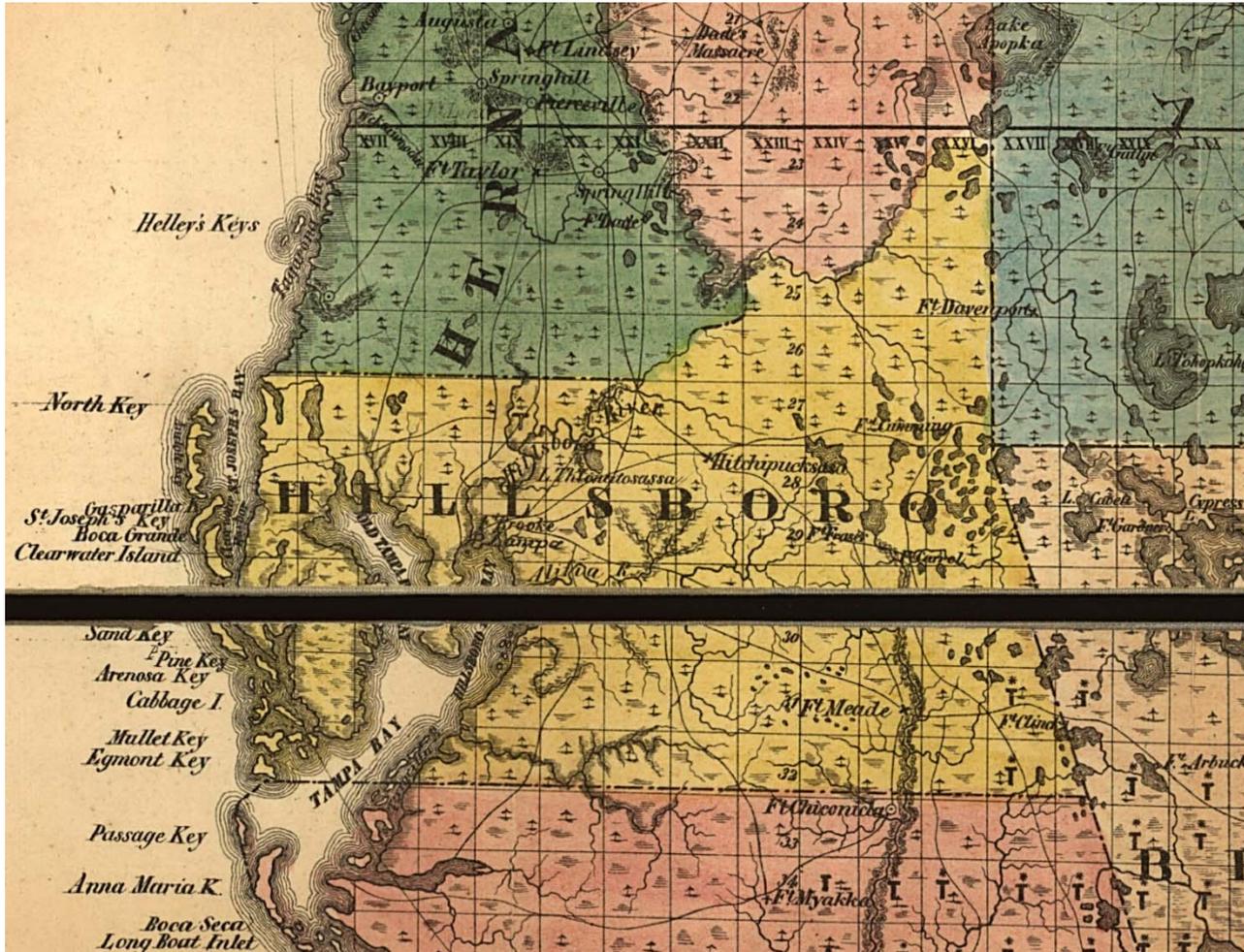
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Date of Purchase	No. of Inches
Jan. 23, 1855	30.03.75
	30.13.95
	60.07.90
	24.42.59

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M A P

OF THE

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Showing the Progress of the Surveys.

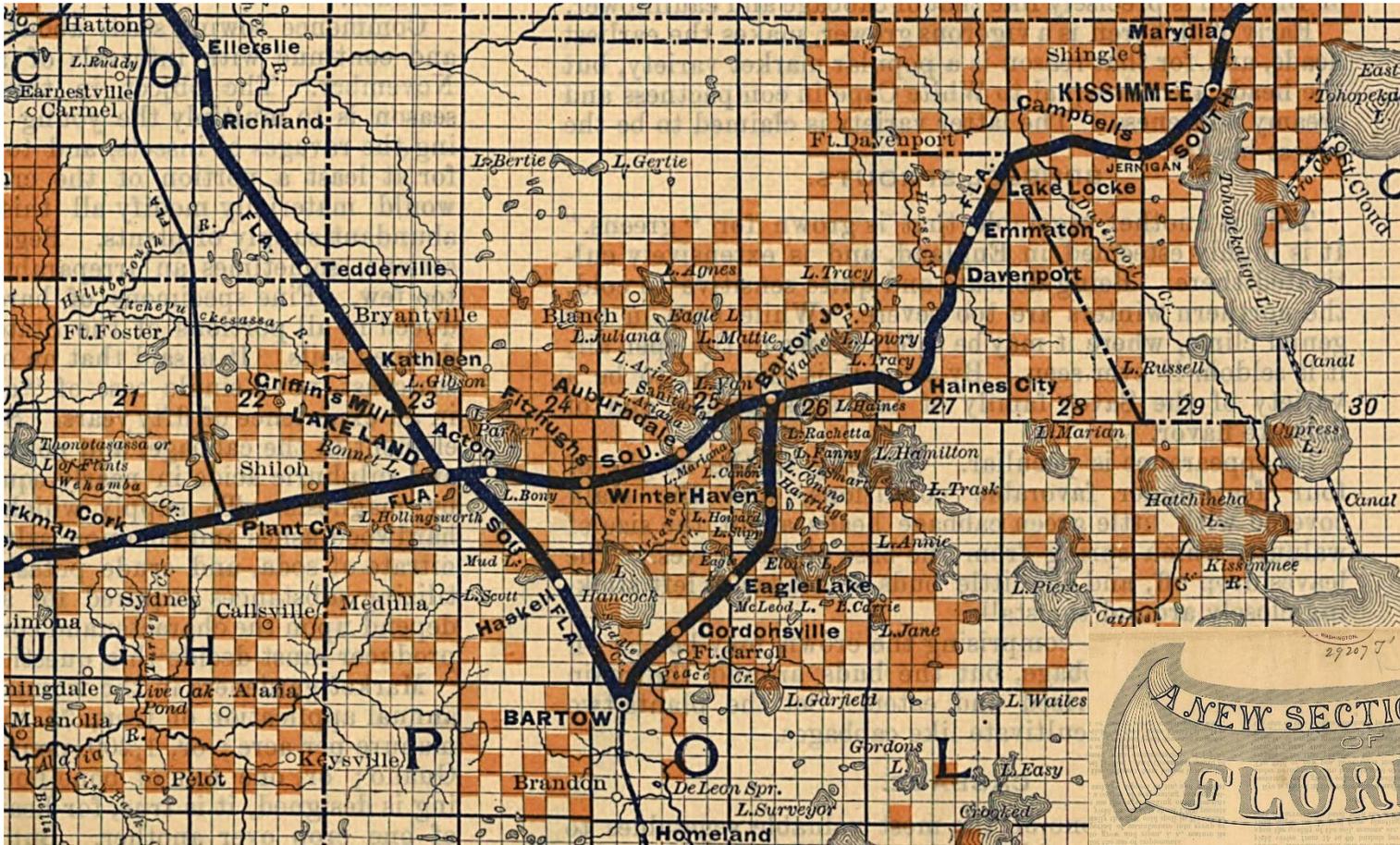
From the Annual Report of the Surveyor General for 1856

Scale. 12 miles to an Inch.

Published by COLUMBUS DREW Bookseller,
JACKSONVILLE
FLORIDA.

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A NEW SECTIONAL MAP
OF
FLORIDA

Issued by the
LAND DEPARTMENT
OF THE
SOUTH FLORIDA R. R. CO.
AND THE
PLANT INVESTMENT CO.
1888.

D. H. ELLIOTT
General Land Agent,
Sanford, Fla.

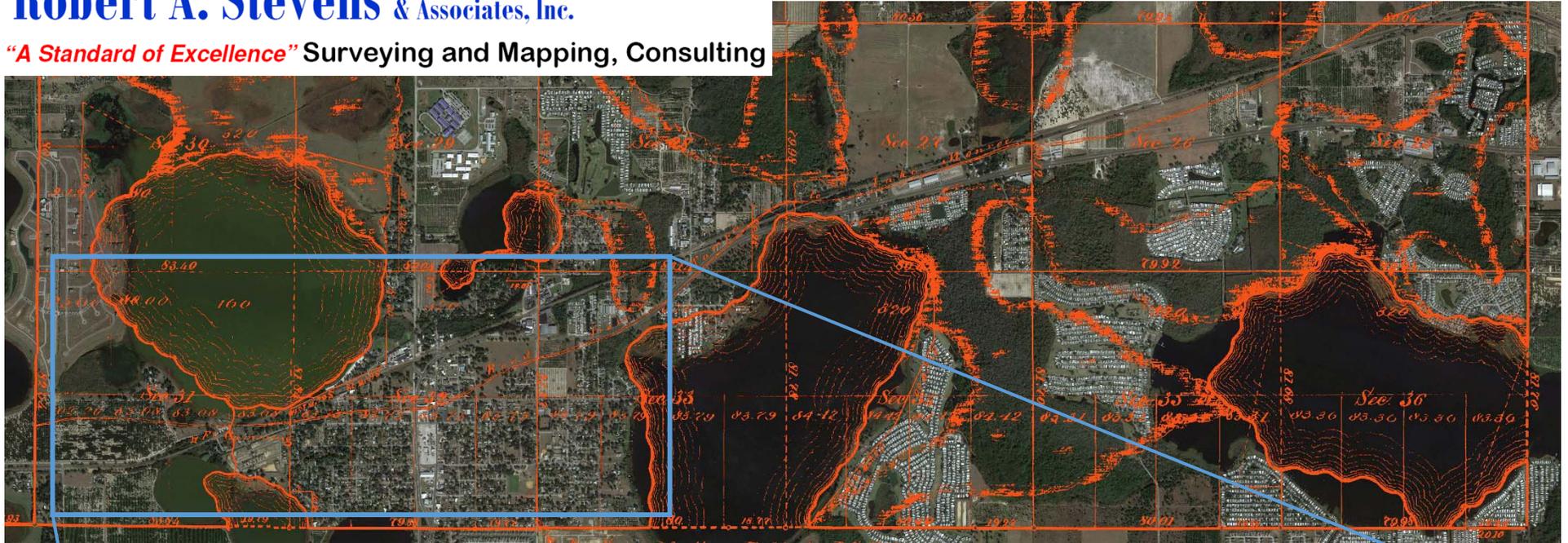
Matthews, Northrup & Co., Art-Printing Works, Buffalo, N. Y.

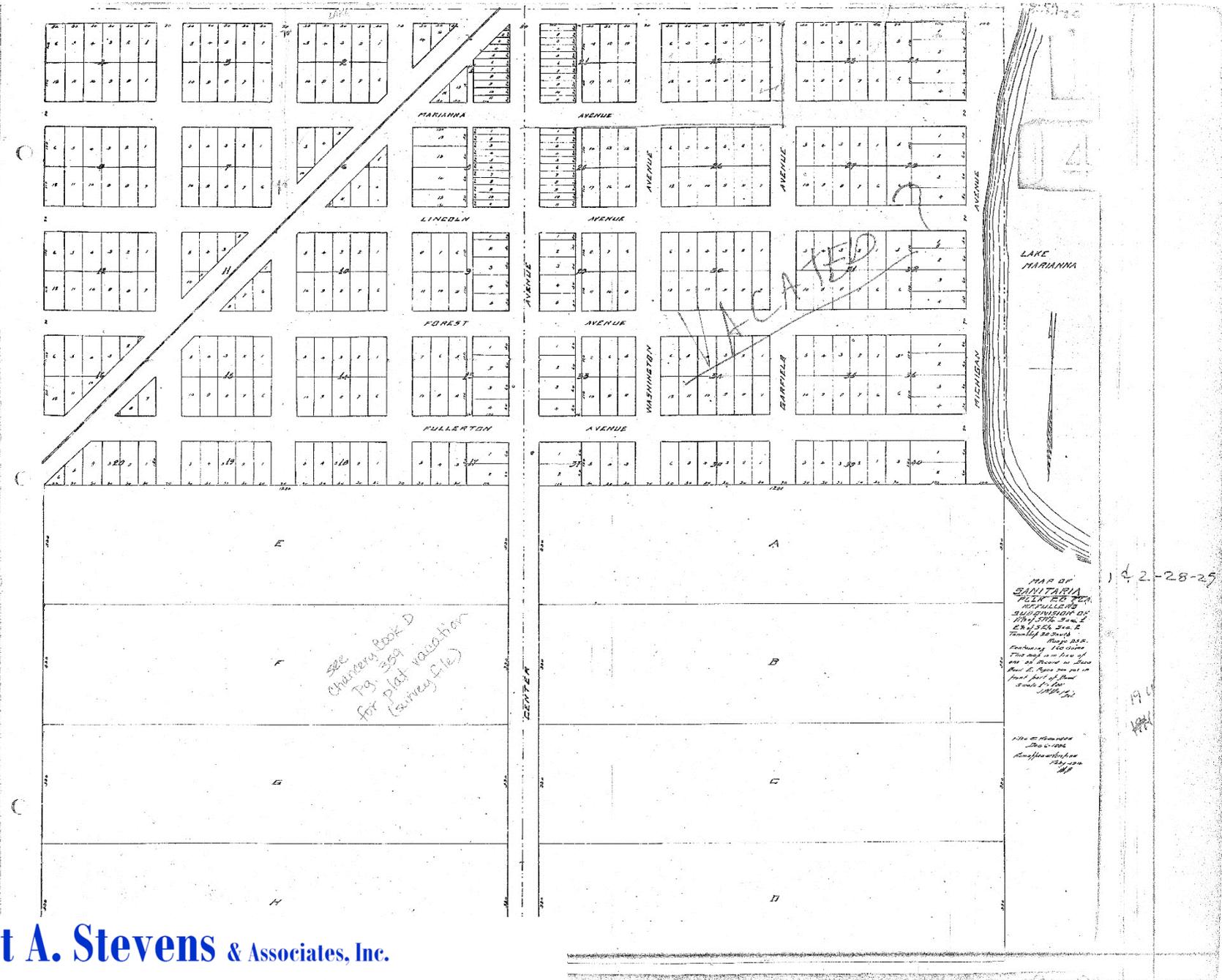
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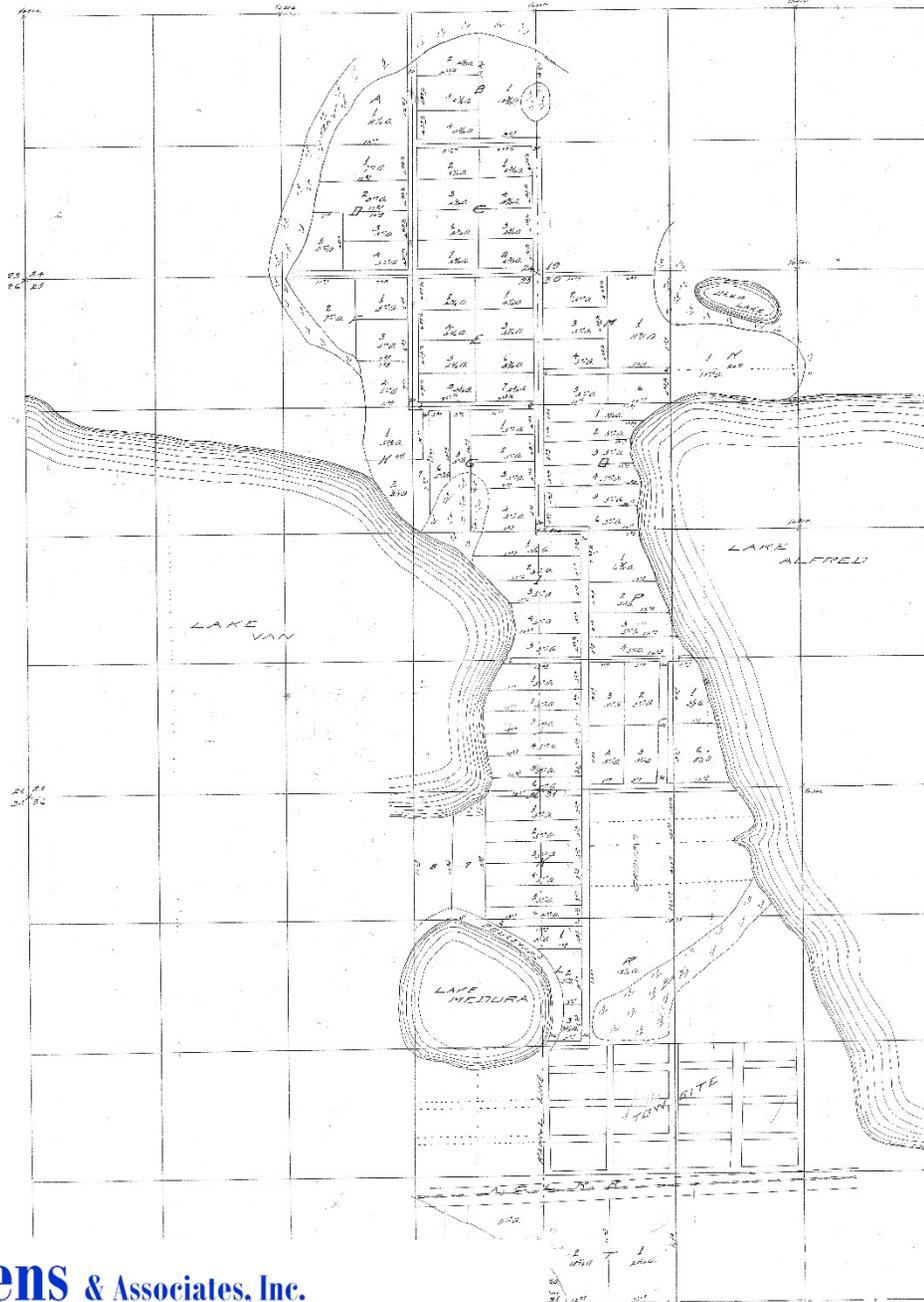


see
 Chancery Book D
 Pg. 354
 for plat location
 (Lawry, C-16)

MAP OF
 SANITARIA
 PLAT 227
 REFULLERS
 SUBDIVISION OF
 1761.5700 ACRES
 2013/24 2nd 2
 Tract 1/2 30 2nd 2
 Range 23R
 Township 140 North
 This map is in lieu of
 one so drawn to show
 that it does not fit in
 front part of the
 same plat
 1914/24

142-28-25

1914

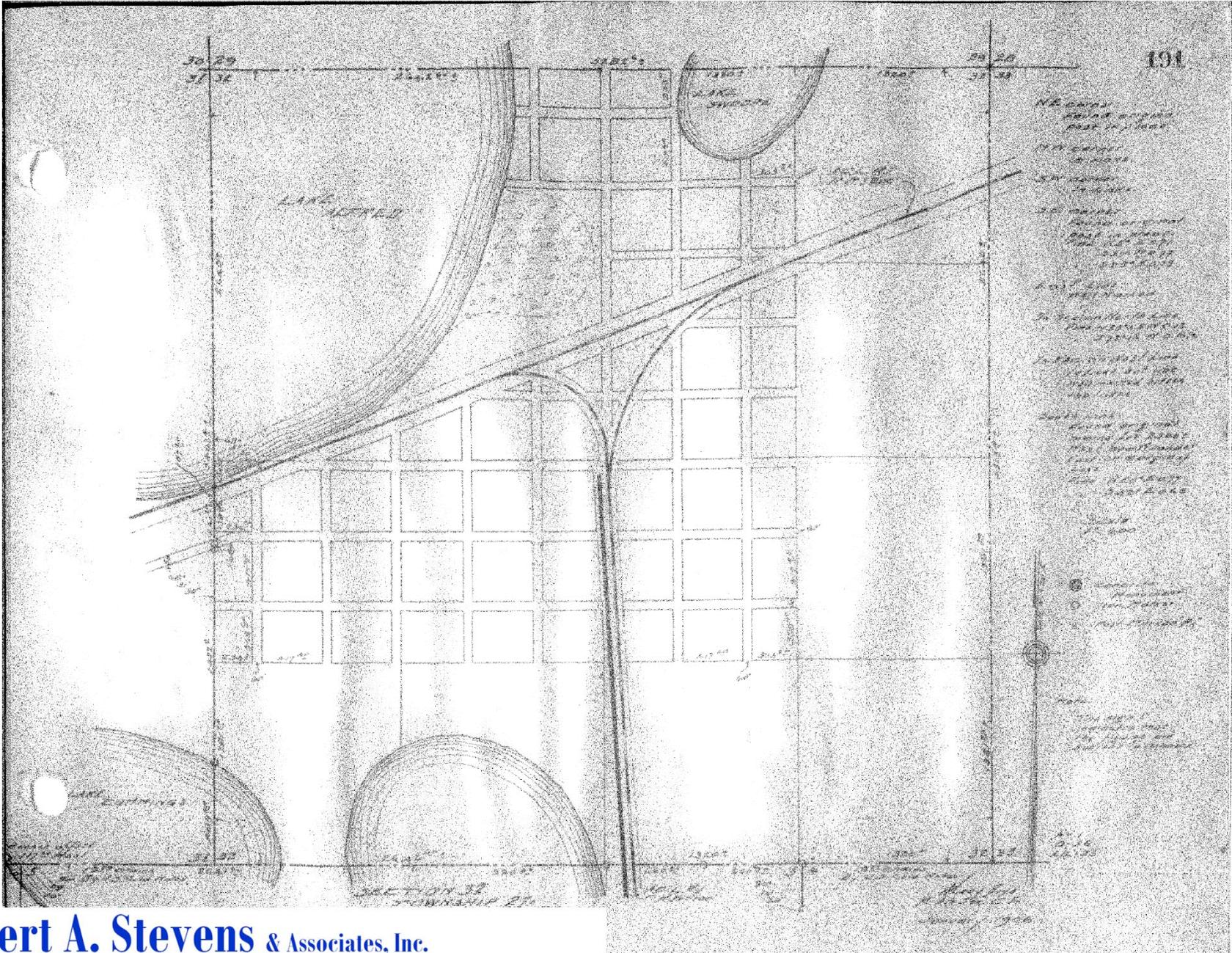


APPOINTED TO CASE 9053
 GS. 48 3478 DSE 1403-1424
 PM 1 FC 68

RESOLUTION VACATING PLAT
 REQUIRED BY
 CIV. CODE, 16550
 PAGES 0717-0719

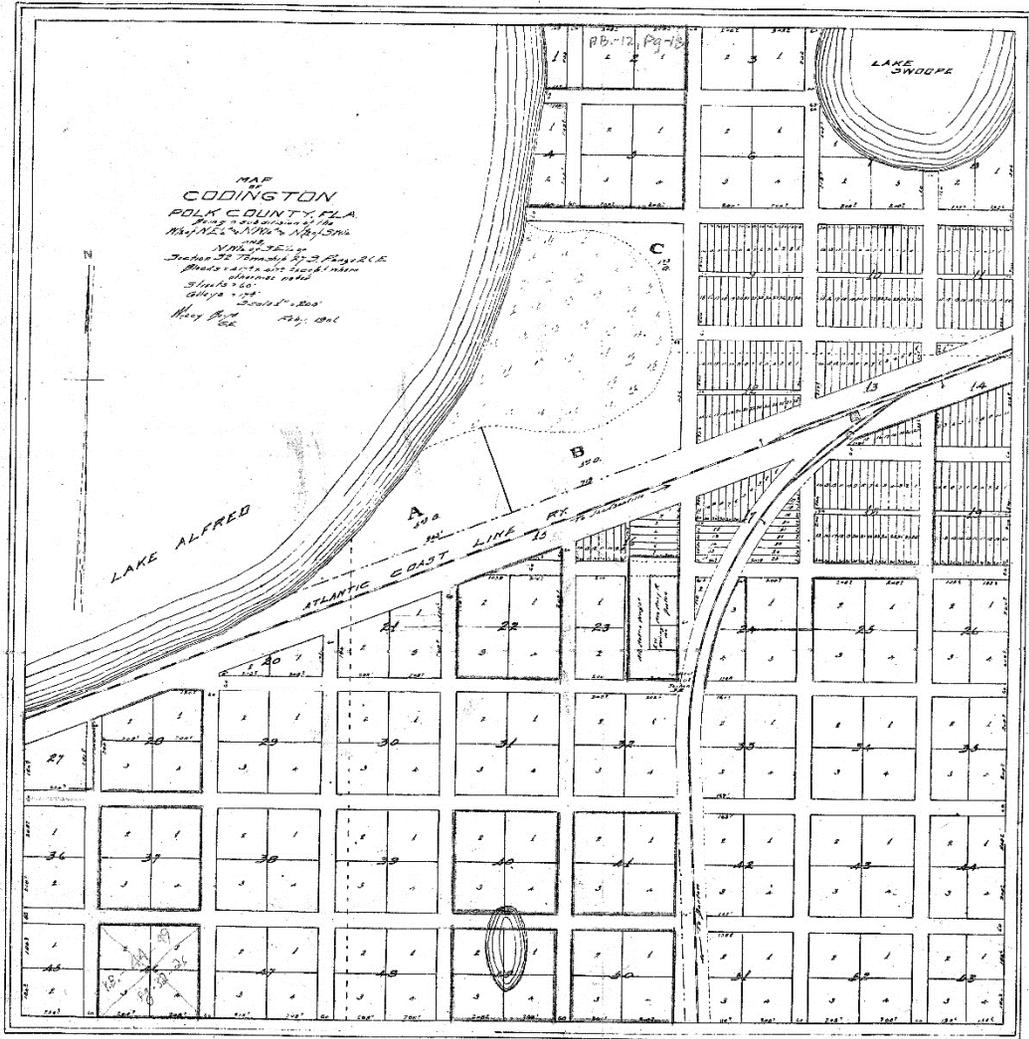
NEW ARMENIA
 BEING A SUBDIVISION
 OF A PART OF
 SECTION 24, T43N
 RANGE 83
 DISTRICT 30 E 2
 T43N R83
 S.W. 1/4
 C. S. GILMAN 1911

Plan No. 29 1917
 C. S. Gilman Owner
 Remains as Survey
 March 1918



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Plan April 1, 1904
C. J. Ferguson, Esq.
Manager of Polk Co. Fla. 1904
M.S.