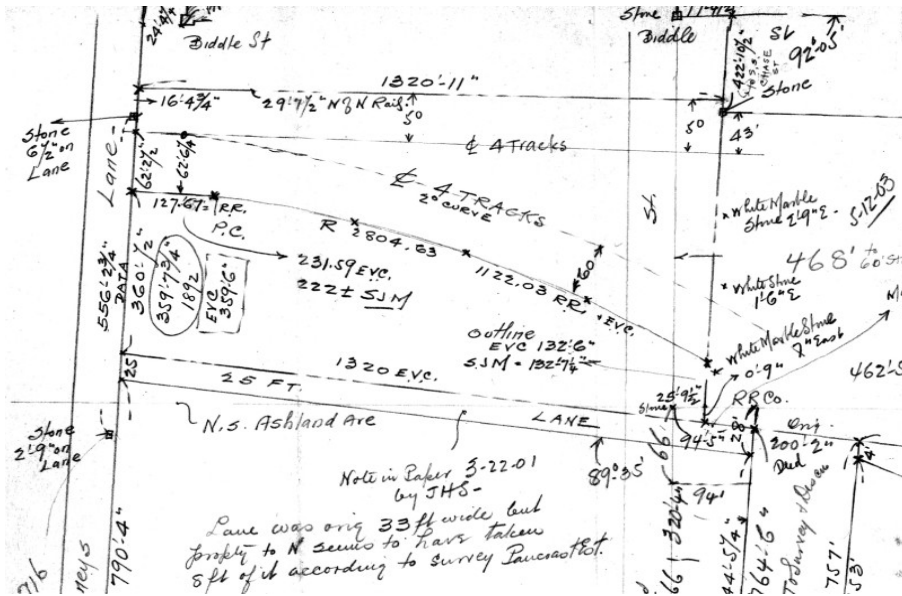


*S. J. Martenet and Co. Inc.*



## Surveyor's Guide to Online Martenet Research.

Boundary research is a daunting task, made so by the innumerable activities of past surveyors, attorneys and landowners, and complicated by the fact that many of those activities were not required to be documented. The boundary surveyor is left to hunt for clues to past actions, with no assurance that the correct data will ever be found. All in all, an uncomfortable experience.

We at Martenet have been in your shoes. All of the current Martenet partners have worked elsewhere, and have been in that head-scratching boat. So we know how useful it is to have a comprehensive source of information documenting those past activities. When we got here and saw what had been maintained by the firm over the years, and how many blanks the information filled in, we knew that the data was priceless. Boundary retracement ceased being a "hope for the best" experience. And our evidence-driven positional uncertainty shrank from tenths of a foot to hundredths of a foot—and sometimes less!

Other survey archives across the country are online, but none quite like this one. Where the others post finished plats, our goal here is a complete, unabridged record of every aspect of every survey, from correspondence to field notes to analytical worksheets to finished plats. Every scrap of paper in the files will be available. At the same time, the data is organized and displayed so that one can quickly focus on the relevant papers and not get bogged down in minutia. There is nothing else like it anywhere. We believe that the most accurate retracement is fostered by unfettered access to the original survey records, and [www.martenet.com](http://www.martenet.com) is as close as it gets. We trust you will agree with us once

you have had the opportunity to use the data we have posted online. Our sole aim is to make retracement a more reliable experience for everyone.

This guide explains our research website so you can find what you are looking for as quickly as possible, and at the same time have confidence that you have considered all there is to consider.

## Preliminaries

Let's get a couple things out of the way: First, although we believe the data in our system to be reliable, we can make no guarantees or warranties about it. You, as the retracement surveyor, are expected to weigh the information found here in light of whatever other evidence you have and come to a conclusion you can stand behind. Which brings us to our second point: Your boundary determination is just that: yours. Hopefully, it will have been informed and enhanced by the data we supply. There can be no correct boundary retracement without having the correct supporting evidence. But at the end of the day, you must stand behind your decisions, not us.

Finally, we think your decisions are important. Your observations on the ground are the most up-to-date available and can document conditions (and decisions) at the time of your survey for future generations of surveyors. All retracement surveyors are in a great continuum of retracing the parcel fabric. Just as you were very interested in what previous surveyors had done, someone sometime in the future is going to be very interested in what you did. That's why we require a copy of your results as a consequence of using the archive. The mindset of hoarding one's work, writ large, got us surveyors into the fix that we were in: very little available data upon which to base decisions.

This topic is not an afterthought for us; we believe this to be so important that if over 120 days have lapsed since we granted access on an earlier project, we will deny future access to the site until the earlier data is received.

### Relax.

One last thing: we don't pore over what you did and critique it, for two reasons: the first is that it's not our job to police others' survey work; if you're willing to sign it, we're willing to file it. The second reason is we don't have the time. We have to index the work, update the databases and scan the data—all at our cost—as it is. But we do require that the data you return actually be usable to a future surveyor, not something meaningless without more of your internal file, a plat with no

monuments, traverse data or coordinates for example. If another surveyor cannot reproduce your work from what you return to us, it's of no value to them, and we probably will not accept it without additional material from your files. We don't expect your entire file (although we supply ours), just enough to follow in your footsteps.

Enough said on all that.

## The Timeline

One of the most important things to remember is not to wait in getting our data. Ideally, our site should be searched at the same time a deed mosaic is being started—and before any crews visit the site. This will save you time and money. It is possible that our data will make preparing the mosaic easier or save on title research time. Sending crews on-site prior to having our data risks having to make another trip to locate the evidence mentioned in the papers.

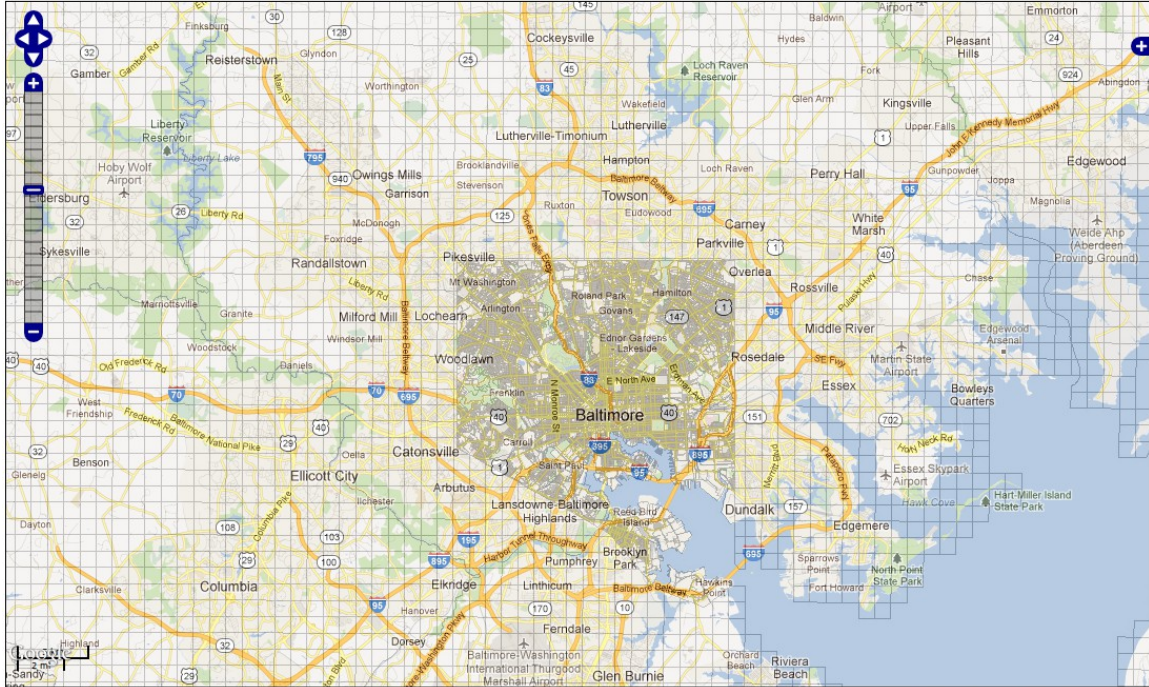
**Note:** The first couple of times it pays to go over the data with the crew chief so that he interprets the papers correctly.  
See *Martenet Packets Guide* on the site.

As with all bodies of evidence, our data is in part a reflection of the geography it covers and in part a reflection of the people making the notes. Familiarity with both will result in better retracements. For instance, we have found that older masonry often has decorative work near the base of building corners, resulting in multiple candidates for “the corner.” It is useful to take pictures of the corners when this occurs because, unfortunately, many times our data does not mention the existence of multiple corners, and one must guess at which corner is intended. Another thing: resist the temptation to use prism-pole locations instead of “plumb-bob prism” locations. Prism poles introduce error that will almost guarantee your results won't match our data as well as it could. Hold the small prisms right on the building corner (or other shot) and enjoy the results. You'll be glad you did.

## The Graphical Portal

*The New Martenet Atlas*

[Atlas Help](#)
[Log In to Access Records](#)



Enter Address or Prominent Feature

Enter an address, or pan and zoom to your area of interest, then click on the location.  
Make sure you allow popups from www.martenet.com.

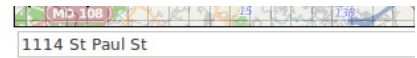
Real-time coordinate readout. Click the checkbox if you want highlights.

<input type="checkbox"/> NAD83(f)	N: 577,606.6 E: 1,420,196.2
<input type="checkbox"/> NAD83(m)	N: 176,054.8 E: 432,876.7
<input type="checkbox"/> NAD27(f) (approx)	N: 516,856.6 E: 907,776.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore	S: 16,567.2 W: 976.8
<input type="checkbox"/> WSSC (approx)	N: 132,171.1 E: 110,429.1

[coordinate information](#)

Our graphical archives portal provides an easy way to see how much data we have in a particular area. Clicking on the “Archives” tab off our main website page will open up The New Martenet Atlas, which is an active grid superimposed over one of several base maps. In most places the grid corresponds to the grids on state tax maps—3,000 feet by 3,000 feet, using the original definition tied to NAD27 coordinates. Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties have abandoned the original scheme in favor of more densified maps, but we have elected to use the original definition across those counties as well. Baltimore City has always used a block system for its tax maps, and we have incorporated that system here, but beware, there are many cases where our blocks do not match the City’s. Always refer to our blocks when requesting access to our system. You can pan around by holding down your left mouse button and dragging across the map, and you can zoom in or out using the scroll wheel or using the navigation bar in the left part of the map.

If you have a particular address of interest, enter it into the address bar at the bottom of the map. The map will instantly update to the new location. If the wrong locality displays, add the city or other area to what you enter. Prominent features are also supported: "Catonsville," "Security Square Mall," "Harford Rd & Taylor Ave" are all valid queries. Both the center of the map and the zoom level will change to display the area queried. If the search engine returns what is known as a "rooftop" value (more precise, in their eyes), a marker is placed at the exact location.



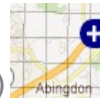
Enter an address, or pan and zoom to you

As you move the mouse around the map, real-time coordinates in five different coordinate systems will display. This can be useful for orientation purposes or to find a location given only the coordinates. Checking the box next to any of the entries will cause that system to display blue values, useful for ensuring that your eye focuses on the right system.

Real-time coordinate readout. Click the checkbox if you want highlights. [coordinate information](#)

- NAD83(f) N:577,799.5 E:1,420,001.0
- NAD83(m) N:176,113.6 E:432,817.2
- NAD27(f) (approx) N:517,049.5 E:907,581.0
- Baltimore S:16,373.5 W:1,171.3
- WSSC (approx) N:132,363.9 E:110,233.8

In the upper right corner of the map is a



which allows you to switch the base map from google maps (the default) to several other possibilities.

Currently we offer five different base maps and one or more overlays. Google Hybrid is a satellite image with roads and other features labeled. Google Satellite is the image without those labels. Google Terrain displays relief, but will not allow zooming in as far as other options. OpenStreetMap is a map "wiki" project that in some areas has detail far exceeding anything else on the market, and in many areas has detail absent in other maps – electric transmission lines, for example. Google maps seems to be in the process of adding parcel lines to its map. The SJM Index is the grid corresponding to our geographic indexes. It can be turned off here, but that will also turn off any querying of those indexes. The Markers layer contains any markers generated as a result of an address search described above. Other areas of the site have layers that are not available unless you are logged into the site.



The log-in button giving access to the restricted part of our site is located in the upper right corner of this screen.

Single-clicking on any location on the map will produce a pop-up window listing the number of records available and, if we have any available, information on the cost and method of accessing the site. Refer to the on-screen help if you run into problems.



**Search Results**

We have **29 records** pertaining to **Baltimore County Map 80 Grid 4.**

SEARCH GUIDE

TAX MAPS GUIDE

RECORDS GUIDE

FIRM

If you would like access to this material, send an email to info at martenet dot com requesting access to Baltimore County Map 80 Grid 4.

Our access price generally runs \$100.00 per area for a week. An area is defined as up to 5 *contiguous* blocks in the City or 1 grid in the counties. The price doubles if the area requested is one for which we have given a recent proposal.

See the Martenet Research Guide at left for more details.

## Our Tiers of Access

We offer in-depth access to our archive in two tiers.

### ***Instances***

The first tier is what we term an *Instance*. An Instance comprises a certain user, granted access to records concerning a certain geographic area, for a certain time. They are created each time you contact us requesting records for a given area, and are numbered sequentially. After creating an account on our system with a user name and encrypted password, we will assign Instance No. 1 to you and link the tax maps/grids (or blocks in Baltimore City) to it.

You will then be able to log into the system and examine or download our information concerning those areas. You may re-log into the system using that same Instance number until it expires (generally a week). While in an active Instance, you have complete access to everything digital we have for that area. You see on your machine what we see in-house on our machines. We do not monitor what you download, and we do not restrict any material. And we will send you a bill for the Instance—a flat charge, unrelated to how much or how little you download. The next time you require records for a different area, we will create your Instance No. 2 and the process will repeat. Your user name and password remain unchanged.

## **Subscriptions**

However, some users complained that buying Instances without knowing what kind of data we had was akin to shooting in the dark; we agree. But since one of the major costs of developing our system was the geographic indexing of the tens of thousands of surveys we possess, we were reluctant to abandon that investment. So we struck a middle chord: we now offer *subscriptions* that allow only limited access to the detailed surveys, but unlimited searches. Thus, one can list the data in a particular area and make an informed decision whether to buy an Instance. Additionally, subscribers have unlimited access to some of the other valuable research resources on our site, such as the McCreary street index and the ancient survey records. And we discount any Instances purchased while having an active subscription.

Subscriptions run for minimum terms of three months, payable in advance.

## **The site itself**

www.martenet.com is divided into a number of sections, roughly divided into two main categories: public access and restricted access. We are focusing on the restricted access area of the site in this guide. This category is itself divided into three parts: The explanatory writings, the Instance Dashboard and the Archives Gateway.

## **Explanatory Writings**

The explanatory writings are found in the left sidebar and contain the Upload Status, this guide, the Packets guide and the Frequently Asked Questions. We suggest you read that material as it will give you a good idea of what's on the site, what's coming, and how to make the best use of it. Any mass of information this size is going to have some complexity, and our attempts to explain it are found here. Moreover, the Upload Status page changes frequently as additional archives are uploaded. Both this guide and the Packets guide may also change over time, and the current on-line edition is noted in the link. We recommend reading the latest editions of each as they will contain information not found in earlier editions.



SEARCH
UPLOAD STATUS
MARTENET RESEARCH GUIDE 7TH EDITION
MARTENET PACKETS GUIDE 2ND EDITION
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ***Instance Dashboard***

The Instance Dashboard focuses on ease of use, but sometimes at the expense of flexibility. It allows you direct access to the locations covered by your Instance—and little else. Clicking on any of the “Current Search Areas” will list all the records associated with that area. The rest of our holdings are found behind the link “Continue on to Archives Gateway.”

**Instance** (#1) for Martin Chuzzlewit

Expires: Jan  
25, 2010

**General Location:**

Quad Avenue, east of North Point Road

**Current Search Areas:**

[BA 96/ 4](#)

[Continue on to Archives Gateway](#)

We recommend reading the [Guide to Martenet Packets](#). This new guide explains what is in packets, how to use them most effectively, and how to interpret what they contain. It's "Packets:101" and contains essential information for using Martenet data.

And watch this space for further aids to retracement using our data.

Thanks for your business.

**Note:** Your data is important. Part of our agreement requires you to return a copy of your finished results to us so we can include them in the archive. This benefits the entire surveying community by memorializing your work. Below are listed any instances awaiting a return.

Jan 25, 2010 Quad Avenue, east of North Point Road

The dashboard lists instances where the return of data is still outstanding, color coded by age, as a reminder to you. Also on this dashboard will be found messages or alerts of which we would like you to be aware.

## The Archives Gateway

The *Search* link at the top of the left sidebar is a direct link to the Archives Gateway, and is present at all times. *The Archives Gateway* lists the entirety of

**Geographic Search:**

**Numeric Search**    or    **Graphical Search**

County:

Map:

Grid:

[Geo Advice](#)

The New Martenet Atlas

**or Select Record Group:**

<p><b>Martenet Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Survey Records</a></li> <li><a href="#">Fieldbooks</a></li> <li><a href="#">Estate Files</a></li> <li><a href="#">Wall Maps and Atlases</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Other Firms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Bouldin Family</a></li> <li><a href="#">E.V.Coonan &amp; Company</a></li> <li><a href="#">Sutton, Britcher and Associates</a></li> <li><a href="#">Purdum &amp; Jeschke</a></li> </ul>
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**Other Records**

- [Original Baltimore City Plats](#)
- [Baltimore City Annex Plats](#)
- [Miscellaneous Maps and Plats](#)
- [Reference Materials](#)
- [Records of Baltimore City Property](#)
- [Miscellaneous Records](#)
- [Architectural Drawings](#)
- [Records from Maryland State Archives](#)
- [Records from Baltimore City Archives](#)

what we have, arranged by topic. The various record groups are explained in the Frequently Asked Questions, so we won't go over that here. Also on this page is geographic search functionality. Despite the focus of your Instance, *you can*

*search our holdings for any geographic area.* There are no limitations on that search. However, the records themselves will not display unless they are in the area covered by your Instance. This is useful, for example, in deciding whether to get another Instance covering a second area. You may have multiple Instances active at once.

You will find here listings of other material in our holdings, such as our 19th century wall maps, railroad valuation maps, city and state archive records, etc. This is the “main street” of the site; everything branches out from this menu.

Hovering your mouse over any of the entries will pop up a description of what is inside.

**or Select Record Group:**

<p><b>Martenet Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Survey Records</a></li> <li><a href="#">Fieldbooks</a></li> <li><a href="#">Estate Files</a></li> <li><a href="#">Wall Maps and Atlases</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Other Firms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Bouldin Family</a></li> <li><a href="#">E.V.Coonan &amp; Company</a></li> <li><a href="#">Sutton, Britcher and Associates</a></li> <li><a href="#">Purdum &amp; Jeschke</a></li> </ul>
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**Other Records**

- [Original Baltimore City Plats](#)
- [Baltimore City Annex Plats](#)
- [Miscellaneous Maps and Plats](#)
- [Reference Materials](#)

Here are the Railroad Valuation Maps for the region produced by most railroads beginning in 1919. We do not have a complete set, but we likely have more in one place than anyone else in Maryland save the National Archives in Silver Spring (which has them all!). Also here are Port Wardens' Line plats, Pierhead and Bulkhead Plats for the Baltimore Harbor, etc.

- [Records from Maryland State Archives](#)
- [Records from Baltimore City Archives](#)

## The Search Results Page

All successful queries of the system will result in a “search results” page listing the relevant records. In general, they will be sorted by series, then by serial number. On the left side of each record listing under the heading “Record No.” is a link to the actual data page.

[Map This Location](#)

**Archives concerning Baltimore County Map 96 Grid 4 (20 records)**

Record No.	Legacy Reference	Title
<a href="#">00-60</a>	BLD 125(PART)	Plat of Stansbury's Land (1865)
<a href="#">04-50614</a>	X1 09/01/1899	PHILADELPHIA RD SS, & B&ORR NS, W OF ROSEDALE, E OF MOORES RUN
<a href="#">04-51176</a>	X1 12/12/1935	PHILADELPHIA RD NEW LOCATION, W OF ROSEDALE, B&ORR
<a href="#">04-51325</a>	X1 09/22/1942	ROSEDALE AV WS, N OF GILMOR AV
<a href="#">04-51818</a>	X1 11/09/1971	PULASKI HWY NWS, SW OF ROSEDALE AV
<a href="#">04-51855</a>	X1 11/23/1973	PULASKI HWY SES, NE OF SIXTY-EIGHTH ST
<a href="#">04-51893</a>	X1 08/25/1977	QUAD AV NS, E OF CITY LN
<a href="#">04-63958</a>	MD 12/10/1998	PHILADELPHIA RD, BALTIMORE CITY TO HAVRE DE GRACE, OPINION ON WIDTH, UN-SIGNED
<a href="#">04-66967</a>	CAN 11/04/1932	NEW CANTON ATLAS - SURVEYS AND CALCULATIONS
<a href="#">04-67003</a>	CAN 1872	CANTON ATLAS, SHEETS 36/37
<a href="#">04-67063</a>	CAN 1932	CANTON ATLAS, SHEET 37W
<a href="#">04-75249</a>	SJM 90046	QUAD AVENUE - CAROLINA FREIGHT
<a href="#">10-70946</a>	EVC 444	SS OF PHILADELPHIA RD TO BACK RIVER (STANSBURY LAND)
<a href="#">10-71286</a>	EVC 784	B&O & PRR, FR EAST AV TO BACK RIVER
<a href="#">10-71940</a>	EVC 1438	OLD PHILADELPHIA RD SS, RED HOUSE RUN ES, BACK RIVER NS (BACK RIVER HIGHLANDS)
<a href="#">11-90213</a>	P&J D-198	PULASKI HIGHWAY - E. LEHNERT & SONS
<a href="#">11-98069</a>	P&J N-2184	PULASKI HWY - McCALL-BOYKIN TRUCK, INC
<a href="#">13-384</a>	V 10.1/25	BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY - PHILADELPHIA BRANCH - VALUATION MAP
<a href="#">17-72</a>	BLD 72	Stansbury Inheritance, Guys Enlargement, A. E. Warner Property, William Litzinger
<a href="#">19-7074</a>	SCL 7/74	WM. F. GILES VS AMOS B. SHOW

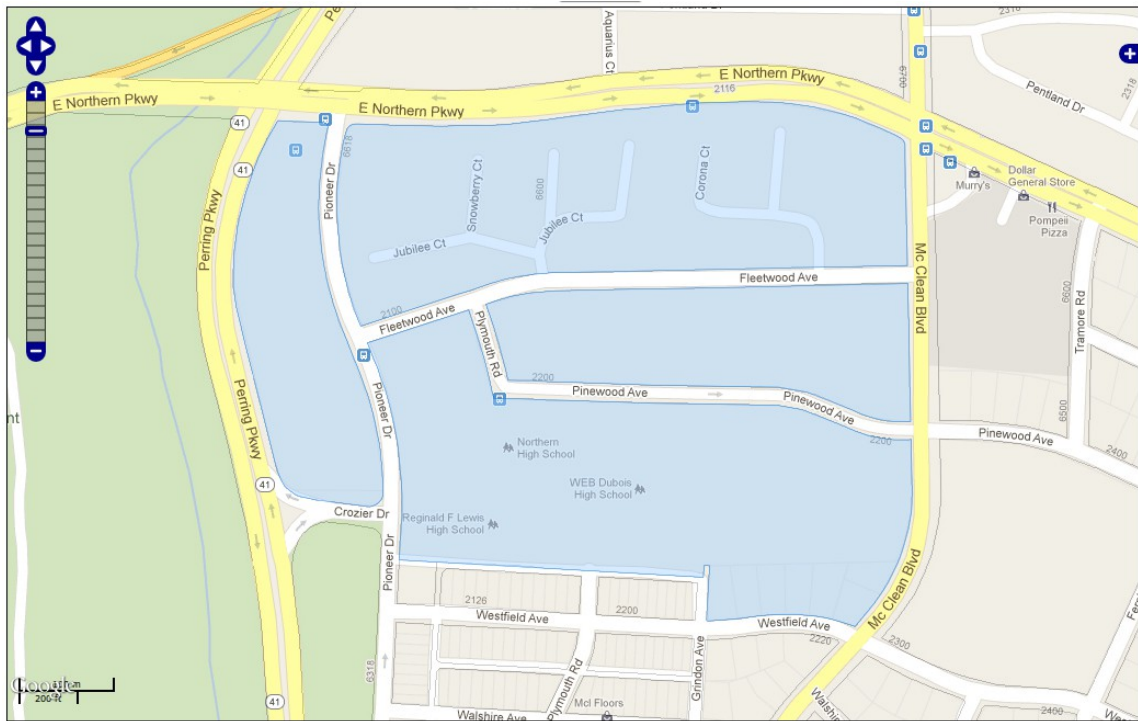
Copyright © 2011, S.J. Martenet & Co., Inc.

Clicking on any one of those links will take you to the Element Retrieval page (provided the geographic indexing of that record matches the geographic area of your Instance. If not, an error message will be generated, “Sorry, your current access privileges do not extend to this record.”)

In this example, records from seven series apply to the area in question. Series 0 is a “pseudo” series which aggregates and indexes parts of other series applicable to a specific location. (See the site FAQ for a more in-depth explanation.) Series 4 generally is Martenet “packets” —containing our main archive and also contributions from other surveyors using our data. Series 10 comprises E.V. Coonan & Co data; series 11 is Purdum and Jeschke records; series 13 is Miscellaneous Plats (the bulk of which are railroad valuation maps, like the one listed here); series 17 are records of the Bouldin family and series 19

are “Annex plats,” subdivision plats in the Baltimore County area later absorbed by Baltimore City. As you can see, we have made location king in the archive: know where you are interested, and everything we have will be a click away.

Sometimes it is useful to know how much land area is included in one index location. The button “Map This Location” at the top of the listing will display the entirety of the location. This is especially useful in the “outer city” blocks where indexing blocks sometimes comprise many physical blocks, as in the example below:



Displaying  
**Baltimore City Block 5288E**

Real-time coordinate readout.  
Click the checkbox if you want highlights.  
[Coordinate information](#)

- NAD83(f) N:618,938.2 E:1,433,995.1
- NAD83(m) N:188,652.7 E:437,082.6
- NAD27(f) (approx) N:558,188.2 E:921,575.1
- Baltimore N:74,704.6 E:12,008.1

## The Various Collections

Keep in mind that our digital archive is composed of data from a number of different sources, including firms that once competed with one another. Thus, overlaps in the material are to be expected. Disagreements between various records are also to be expected. We generally resolve disagreements on a case by case basis using the following rules of thumb:

1. Original surveys (surveys *creating* the lines in question) trump

all others, no matter who was doing the surveying.

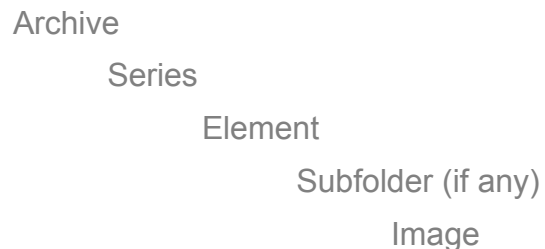
2. Surveys with the most supporting data are honored next, as long as we can identify the boundary decisions made and agree with them.

3. In the case of a toss-up between competing surveys, we hold the Martenet work. Why? On average it was far more precise than anyone else's work, and we say that as observers, not as participants. (We are speaking here of pre-1970 work.) We have had occasion to retrace electronically more ancient Martenet work than anyone else, and we have been continually amazed at the precision achieved by our distant predecessors. Additionally, the Martenet work had the benefit of access to the historical archive, and our presumption is that the surveyors involved incorporated that data into it.

Remember, after the dust settles, you must stand behind your decisions. But our experience has been that following the rules of thumb above places one in a very strong position in the case of a dispute with another surveyor. Ignore them at your risk.

## The General Organization of the Archive

We touched on our Series' earlier. A series is a collection of similar records, such as Sutton-Britcher files (series 9) or Martenet packets (series 4). Each series contains things we've called *elements*, which are our primary archival unit. Each element can contain many images (or pages), and can have folders within to organize pages of similar material. Elements will have a description, a Retrieval Number, which has the format "Series No - Serial No," perhaps a client name, perhaps a Legacy Reference, perhaps field note references, and (hopefully) geographic references. Additionally, the element may have references to other elements used or consulted in its preparation (cross references, in other words), and, occasionally, comments from us about the record—links to other relevant sites, appellate court decisions involved with the survey, etc. Elements are displayed on the Element Retrieval Page, which consists of a header section, subfolders, images (if scanned), and an area to generate pdfs of the material.



## The Element Retrieval Page

Clicking on any record link will bring up the Element Retrieval Page. This page consists of a header section followed by thumbnails of the images making up the element.

### The Header Section

Generally, any item in the header section of the page that looks like a link, is a link. In this example, the packet cross references a plat roll (X1 6300). Clicking on that link will take you to the page displaying that roll's contents, the roll being an element in series 5.

[Historically, any oversized material too large to be folded up and stored in a packet was placed in a roll, which roll was cross referenced on the packet.

Later packets might also contribute material to the roll and reference it, provided they also concerned land in the proximity of the original packet. Thus, many packets could point to one roll. You can step from the roll back to the packets that reference it by clicking on the link. these relationships in the digital archive. Those rolls comprise our series 5.]

Retrieval No.: **04-51855**

Legacy Reference: **X1 11/23/1973**

Description: **PULASKI HWY SES, NE OF SIXTY-EIGHTH ST**

Client: **ARGONAUT DIVISION OF GENERAL MOTORS**

Plat Roll: [X1 6300](#)

#### Geographic References:

[Map These Locations](#)

[BA 89/22](#) [BA 96/ 4](#)

#### Field Note References:

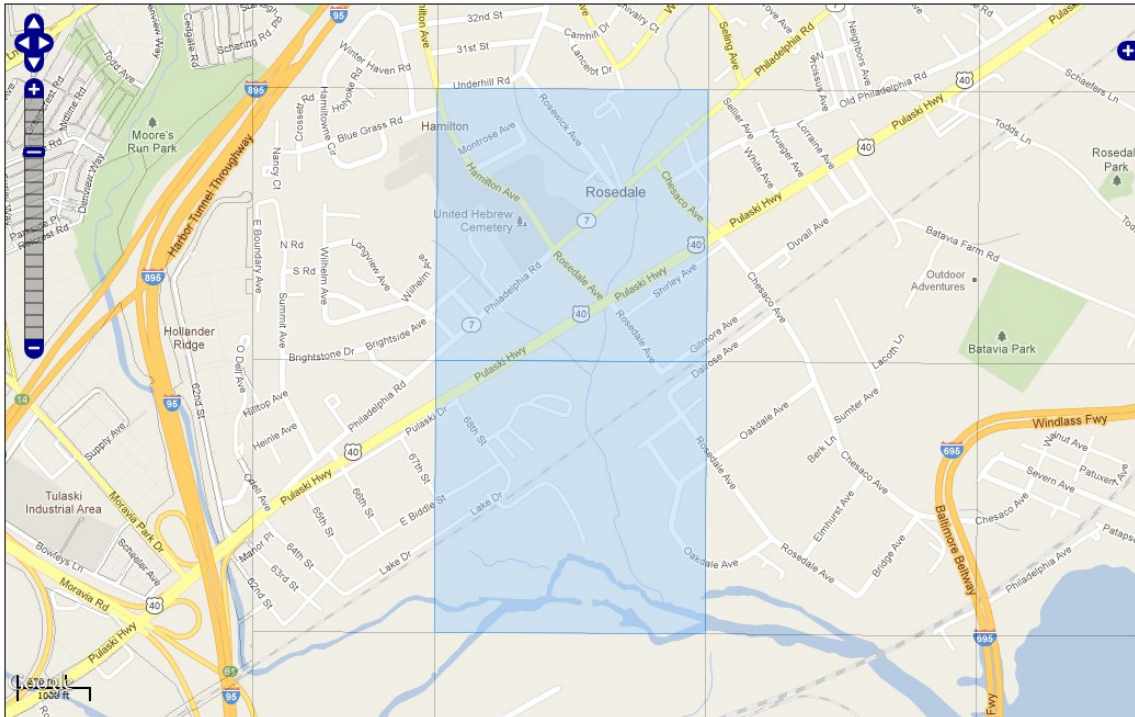
[Book 1210, Page 125](#) [Book 1210, Page 141](#)

**PACKETS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS ROLL** We have preserved

archive. Those rolls

### Geographic References

This packet also concerns property lying in two grids: Baltimore County map 89, grid 22 and map 96, grid 4. Clicking on either of these links will list all records identified with that grid. If you are unsure where the location is, clicking on the “Map These Locations” button will display the grids indexed:



Displaying geographic locations associated with  
**X1 11/23/1973**  
**PULASKI HWY SES, NE OF SIXTY-EIGHTH**  
**ST**

Real-time coordinate readout.  
 Click the checkbox if you want  
 highlights.  
[coordinate information](#)

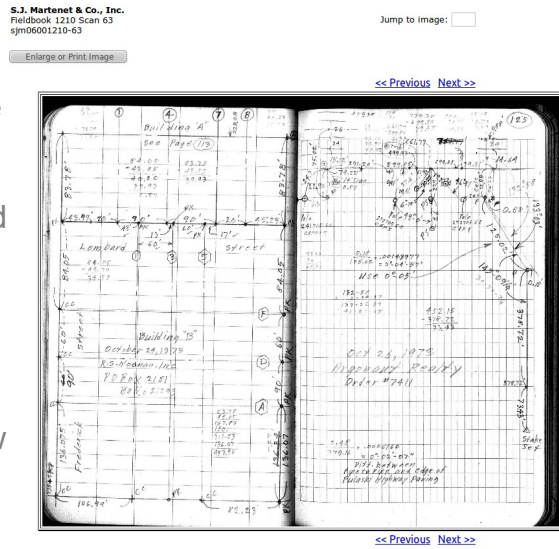
- NAD83(f) N:599,001.4 E:1,449,814.4
- NAD83(m) N:182,576.0 E:441,904.3
- NAD27(f) (approx) N:538,251.4 E:937,394.4
- Baltimore N:4,700.7 E:28,732.0
- WSSC (approx) N:153,570.2 E:140,045.6

Note that *this function does not map the actual limits of the survey*. It maps the limits of the blocks or grids in which the survey falls.

**Note:** It is possible you will encounter references like BA 96/ \*. The asterisk acts as a wild card and indicates that the record concerns the entire tax map, and will appear in search results for any grid on that map. (It saves us from entering 24 geographic references.) However searchers do not need to remember the wild card. Searching for map 96 and leaving the grid blank will also return all records associated with that map.

**Field Note References**

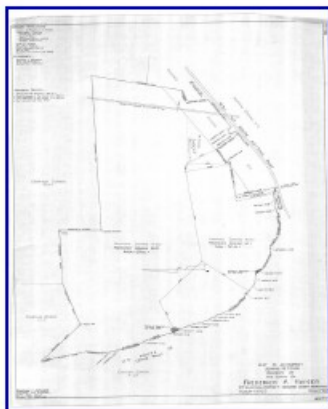
The field note references open a pop up window displaying the page in question. The new window will allow stepping forward or backward through the "book." Each page can be enlarged or printed using a button that appears in the pop-up window. One thing to keep in mind about our field note references is that different books were numbered (by hand) in different ways by the surveyors filling them. Although page *image* numbers are easy to predict, the *page* numbers themselves might vary, depending on how many pages were set aside in the front of the book for indices, etc. As a result, in one book scan 60 might point to pages 118 and 119; in the next book, scan 60 concerns pages 120 and 121. Our algorithms are pretty good at getting within a page or two, but they are not perfect for every book. Therefore, after clicking on the field note reference, you may have to click on the forward or backward links a time or two to display the correct page.



**Associated Plats**

Purdum and Jeschke archives may have another section after the header: Associated Plats. That firm chose to file and index its finished plats under a

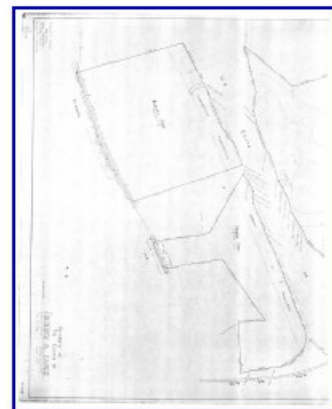
**Associated Plats (P&J filed them separately):**



[HC-2094A](#)



[HC-2582](#)



[HC-2094](#)

separate series of numbers, unrelated to the project number. As this is an unnecessary complication to research, we have attempted to “reattach” the plats to their parent projects. If any of those plats have been linked to the project you are examining, thumbnail images of those plats will appear here, together with the number of the plat beneath. Clicking on the thumbnail will bring up the actual image. Clicking on the image number (which is also a link) will bring up the archives page for that plat. [It is possible that those plats are linked to multiple projects; thus, your interest in one may spark interest in the others.] This link [PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PLAT](#) will display a listing of the projects associated with the plat.

**Subfolders**

Next, subfolders, if they exist, appear. Because survey files can get rather large, we have subdivided some of our records to speed up searching.

**Subfolders:**



Here is what they contain:

comps	Computations concerning the survey.
cons	Construction-support material, such as cut-sheets, etc.
data	Copies of earlier surveys and other data used in the survey.
deeds	Copies of recorded deeds used in the survey.
field	Copies of field notes or data collection print-outs.
misc	Correspondence, legal descriptions written as a result of the survey, letters of transmittal, title commitments, etc.

Clicking on the folder icon will display the images within that folder, much like navigating on your own PC. The header information will change slightly to reflect the current location being a subfolder, and the rest of the subfolders will disappear. However, a folder link labeled “Main” will return you to the main section of the record.

Subfolders are intended to speed your searching by organizing like content with each other. Exercise caution if you do not at first find what you seek. Our folder sorting has not been perfect, and it is possible that the image is in another folder.

## ***The Element Images***

Next appear the images of the record themselves. Each image can be enlarged by clicking on it, or saved to your system by right-clicking on it, and, depending on your browser, selecting the appropriate item from the menu that pops up. However, in most cases we recommend against saving the data this way. A better way is as follows:

Enter page ranges for pdf here, or skip to include entire record:	
Letter: <input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Generate letter-sized pdf file"/>
	<a href="#">Problems?</a>
Legal: <input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Generate legal-sized pdf file"/>

### *Pdf generator*

Near the bottom of the Element Retrieval Page are buttons for generating either letter-sized or legal-sized pdf files of the record. This is a handy way to store the record or print it all at once (in contrast to selecting each page from the thumbnails appearing on the screen), or printing selected pages. The reason we prefer this method is that identifying data is written at the bottom of each page describing the record, when it was generated and by whom. And, it requires one click to grab the whole record (or chunks of it), not multiple clicks meandering all over the place.

Moreover, selected pages of the record can be printed, not just the whole thing. For example, if pages 1-9, 14, 21-26 are desired, entering those numbers in the box to the left of the button will do the trick.

We refer you to our *Guide to Martenet Packets* linked in the Explanatory section of each web page for information on interpreting the actual packets themselves.

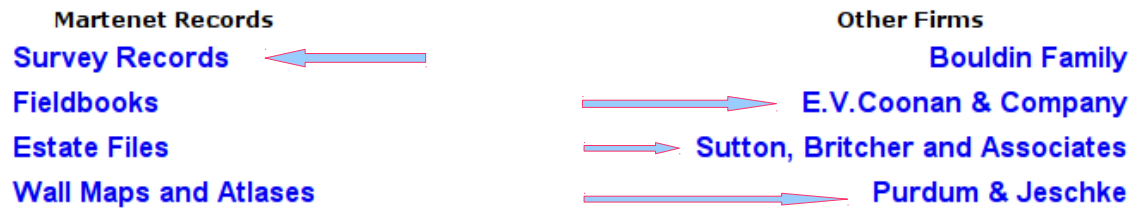
If this element has not been scanned yet, a link saying, "This record has not been scanned yet." appears. If you believe the record is essential to your current project, contact our office to see if we can move it to the head of the queue. There might be additional charges associated with that, depending on the nature of the record and on our workload. Rarely, we won't have the record at all, the element having been referred to by other records, and inserted as a placeholder only (hoping that we will find copies of it in the future). Contact our office to be sure.

## Expanding the Search Area

Sometimes the survey crew will discover that all the calls mentioned in our papers have been destroyed. This situation requires widening the search area to adjacent blocks (or grids), looking for called evidence and geometric relationships between them to the area in question. When this occurs, call us with the new areas, and usually we will expand the Instance area at no additional charge.

## Different Criteria For Searches

Aside from geographically-based searches, [www.martenet.com](http://www.martenet.com) provides alternative criteria to locate records. One may search using project title (which many times included street names), or client names, or legacy reference numbers. To access these options, select any one of the listings with arrows pointing to them in the figure below (part of the Archives Gateway).



<p>If you know the series number and the record serial number, enter that data here to fetch the record.</p> <p>Series: <input type="text" value="4"/> Serial Number: <input type="text"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="button" value="Submit"/></p>	<p>If you just know the legacy accession reference (like SJM section and the packet date, for instance, or the roll number) enter that data here to fetch the record. Remember to add leading zeros to any date, for example, May 6, 1920 is 05/06/1920.</p> <p>Section: <input type="text"/></p> <p>Date or number: <input type="text"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="button" value="Submit"/></p>
<p>Use this box to search the archive looking for <i>names</i>, either street, person, title, etc. Not getting what you seek? Click on the Advice link below.</p> <p>Keyword Search:</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Title      <input checked="" type="radio"/> Exact</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Client      <input type="radio"/> Fuzzy</p> <p><input type="text"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Keyword Advice</a></p>	<p>If you know <i>where</i> you are interested in, enter the geographic location here. Confused? Click on the Advice link below.</p> <p>County: <input type="text"/></p> <p>Map: <input type="text"/></p> <p>Grid: <input type="text"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="button" value="Submit"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Geo Advice</a></p>

All of these options present a page similar to the above (the main difference

being some of the fields are pre-filled-in for your convenience, but which you can change). Here you can search for specific records using the series and serial number (top left), or the legacy accession number (the historical designation of the record, i.e., the reference written on the papers themselves) in the top right. More general searches using project name or client name are available in the bottom left, including a “fuzzy” search. Fuzzy searches are useful when you might not have the exact spelling of a search word or name. Our algorithm uses “metaphones” which are based upon how words *sound* in English. It is not exact (no pun intended), and you may find it useful to try a couple of different spellings if the first results are unsatisfactory. Our friend the geo search is available here as well, in the bottom right.

The Purdum and Jeschke menu has two additional search boxes allowing searches of their Associated Plats:

<p>Remember, P&amp;J stored its finished drawings under separate numbering systems. (See link below for more information on those systems.) Search here for those plats by accession number.</p> <p>P&amp;J Plat Number: <input type="text"/></p>	<p>And here to search by name.</p> <p>P&amp;J Plat Keyword Search:</p> <input type="text"/>
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Finally, specific Annex Plats (series 19) can be retrieved using the recorded book and page number on the Baltimore City Annex Plats page.

## Where are we going from here?

In the short term we need to complete the scanning of the material under our roof. There are too many records with “This record has not been scanned yet.” statements. And, the physical records are a fire hazard with no backup. That's Job One.

In a longer term perspective, the system “scales” well. By that we mean that the same infrastructure can maintain many more collections of survey records (covering different geographic areas, for example) without redesign. The limiting factors are disk space, which is cheap these days, bandwidth (because increased geographic coverage would imply more simultaneous users), and labor to index and scan the material. The labor is by far the largest cost. We have no immediate plans to incorporate other collections, but who knows? A deal may come down the pike too good to pass up. Stay tuned.