

Finding Donation Land Claims (see end of instructions for SOHS print materials)

This is one method if you have a location:

1. Determine latitude and longitude (Google Maps gives this info)
2. Determine township, range and section, using this site:
<http://www.earthpoint.us/TownshipsSearchByLatLon.aspx>
3. Go to [Land Patents](#) to search for Donation Land Claims, surveys and other records

If you have a name to search by, go directly to the Land Patents link

Land Patents

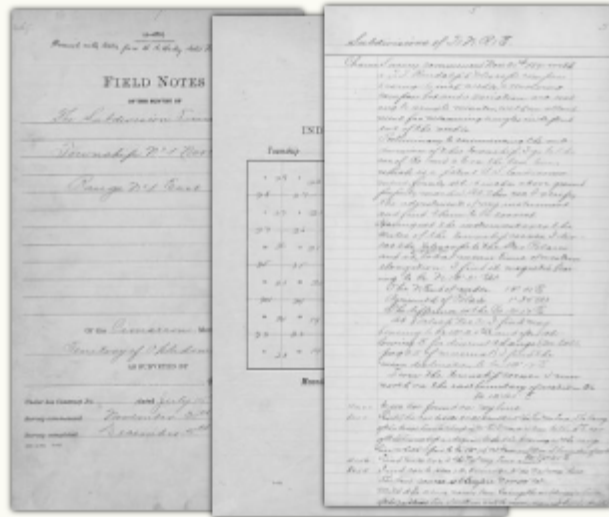
Federal Land Patents offer researchers a source of information on the initial transfer of land titles from the Federal government to individuals. In addition to verifying title transfer, this information will allow the researcher to associate an individual (Patentee, Assignee, Warrantee, Widow, or Heir) with a specific location (Legal Land Description) and time (Issue Date). We have a variety of Land Patents on our site, including Cash Entry, Homestead and Military Warrant patents.



Survey Plats and Field Notes

Survey plats are part of the official record of a cadastral survey. Surveying is the art and science of measuring the land to locate the limits of an owner's interest thereon. A cadastral survey is a survey which creates, marks, defines, retraces or re-establishes the boundaries and subdivisions of Federal Lands of the United States. The survey plat is the graphic drawing of the boundaries involved with a particular survey project, and contains the official acreage to be used in the legal description.





Field notes are the narrative record of the cadastral survey. They are written in tabular format and contain the detailed descriptions of entire survey process including the instrumentation and procedures utilized, calling all physical evidence evaluated in the survey process, and listing all of the individuals who participated in the work.

Land Status Records

Land Status Records are used by BLM Western State Offices to document the ongoing state of a township's Federal and private land regarding title, lease, rights, and usage. These documents include Master Title Plats, which are a composite of all Federal surveys for a township. Other Land Status Records include Use Plats, Historical Indices, and Supplemental Plats.

Control Document Index Records

The Control Document Index includes BLM documents that affect or have affected the control, limitation, or restriction of public land and resources. CDI documents include public laws, proclamations, and withdrawals. CDI documents have been kept on microfilm since the 1950's, but are now being scanned and linked to existing data records from BLM's LR2000 database.

Tract Books

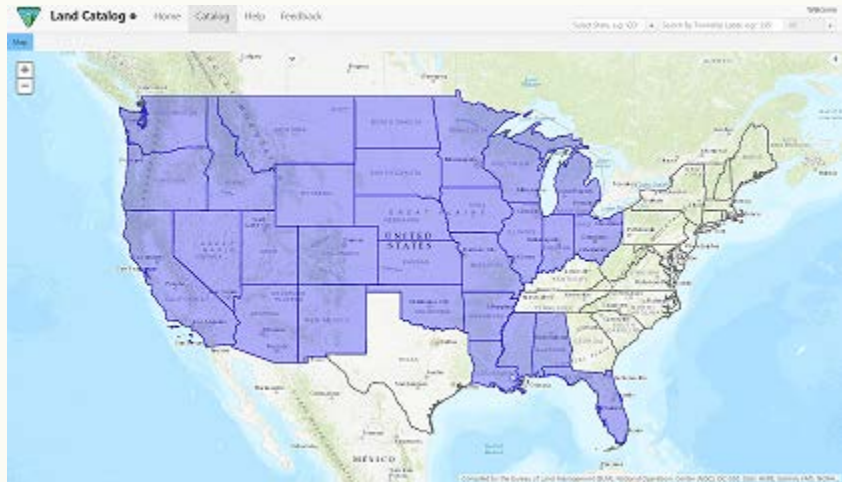
Tract Books are used by BLM Eastern State Offices as the basic index for public land title research. Tract Books are simply listings of all the transactions involving surveyed public lands—by State or territory, meridian, township, range, section, and subdivisions. Today, there are 1,582 original General Land Office tract books at Eastern States, showing



how, when, and to whom title to Public Domain lands passed from the United States—in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Land Catalog

The Land Catalog application allows the public to search for Patents, Surveys, Land Status Records, CDI Documents,



ts, and LR2000 Case Recordation & Land Status reports associated with a specific township. This application displays the PLSS data layer for and a drop-down search menu for easy navigation from a State, Meridian, and Township perspective.

Find townships:

Look under patents:

<https://gloreCORDS.blm.gov/search/default.aspx?searchTabIndex=0&searchByTypeIndex=2#searchTabIndex=1>

The above source works best if you know the section of the township. To find that:

Determine the latitude and longitude, using Google maps or another source

Go to this site:

<https://gloreCORDS.blm.gov/details/patent/default.aspx?accession=ORRAA%20%20009481&docClass=SER&sid=falug2ge.c2m>

Enter latitude and longitude

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This site online leads to various indexes for Oregon donation land claims:

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oregon_Land_and_Property#Online_Resources

IN THE SOHS LIBRARY

The SOHS Library has four volumes of the **Genealogical Material in Oregon Donation Land Claims** (call number 929 G45 1967). The books are in order by Land Claim Office, then DLC number, with indexes to personal names. Volume 3 contains Roseburg Land Claim Office records, where most (if not all) Jackson County claims were filed.

Information included in the books varies according the data included in the applications. Some entries are extensive.

SOHS also has donation land claim maps on microfiche.