



map news



Dave Squires reviews new tax maps with Allamakee County officials.

AT ALLAMAKEE COUNTY, TRAINING IS KEY TO TAX MAP SUCCESS

The officials in Allamakee County, Iowa, may not be map experts, but they can now pinpoint any taxpayer's parcel in minutes thanks to their new tax maps and a comprehensive training program.

These officials, like those in other counties, realized that new aerial based tax maps and a permanent parcel numbering system would provide the basis for more equitable assessments. But changing county record keeping procedures can sometimes be a difficult task.

Realizing this, The Sidwell Company developed a training program to help county officials use their mapping program immediately and effectively.

Complete training in map use and maintenance

As a result, the Assessor, Auditor, and other officials receive complete technical training in the use and maintenance of their new tax maps and parcel numbering system.

Most of the training is handled by Sidwell's Technical Service Representative, Dave Squires. During the course of a project, the training and other meetings often total hundreds of hours and cover items such as parcel number control sheets, discrepancy reports and map maintenance procedures.

Additional training sessions are held with the other county offices so that everyone involved in the tax cycle can begin using the new maps as soon as they're delivered.

The hours of instruction are supplemented with detailed training manuals which explain maintenance procedures, the development of the numbering system, and help provide the answers to the most frequently asked questions.

A color slide/tape program is also used

in the training program to help explain the many steps in the mapping process and how the parcel numbering is designed. When requested, this same program is used by Dave to present the county's new mapping program to interested taxpayers and civic groups. News release information can also be provided to the local news media as an aid in preparing accurate newspaper articles.

Maps reviewed with county officials

Dave's first visit to the county is used to set up the procedures and time schedule for obtaining copies of the various records needed to complete the mapping.

As the mapping work progresses, the new maps are delivered in easy-to-digest batches. The first set of completed maps generally covers one or more townships and is delivered personally by Dave so he can review it in detail with the county officials. This includes a review of the mapping specifications and delivery items listed in the contract.

Tour of Sidwell facilities recommended

Although most training takes place at the county, assessment officials often find it beneficial to have their staff tour The Sidwell Company's mapping facilities. This gives them a firsthand look at the equipment and procedures used to complete their mapping project. It also answers a lot of questions about how the maps will be used.

The information and techniques provided by a Sidwell training program help counties like Allamakee to use and maintain their new mapping program right from the beginning. This can mean the difference between a drawer full of maps and a modern, cost-effective system which benefits all county taxpayers.

BILL BARG SPEAKER AT AUTO-CARTO IV



Sidwell Vice President, Bill Barg, was one of the featured speakers at the 4th International Symposium on Computer-Assisted Cartography recently held in Reston, Virginia.

Mr. Barg's presentation was entitled "Cadastral Aerial Maps and a Permanent Parcel Numbering System—Tools for Local Government" and discussed the practical applications of traditional cadastral mapping.

The theme of the week-long meeting was "Cartography and Computing; Applications in Health and Environment." Sponsoring agencies included the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, the American Society of Photogrammetry, the U. S. Public Health Service, and the National Park Service.

Vigintillionth?

If you think you've seen some strange looking legal descriptions, take a look at the one sent to us by Edna Lippart, Supervisor of the Jefferson County, Wisconsin Real Estate Description Department:

"The E. Vigintillionth of a Vigintillionth of the E 1/64th in of Lot 1 in SW 1/4 of Section 25, T 38 R 7 and E. Vigintillionth of a Vigintillionth of E inch of Lot 2 in NW 1/4 in Section 25 T 38, R 7, County of Kane, State of Illinois.

Recorded office of Register of Deeds of said County, July 10, 1888, Bk 250, Page 286."

STATE MEETINGS HELD

Sidwell's mapping services were represented at various state conferences held in recent months. These included the Missouri County Officials Conference, the Illinois County Officials Conference, the Indiana County Officials Convention, the Ohio Auditors Meeting, and the Ohio Commissioners and Engineers Convention.

SOUND OFF!

Here's your chance to tell us exactly what you think.

Enclosed with this issue of MAP NEWS you will find a postage-paid postcard. We invite you to use it and tell us what you like or don't like about any of our services or how we run our business.

You can comment on any subject, as long as it applies to Sidwell; and you don't even have to sign your name.

So sharpen your pencil, and tell us what's on your mind.



Judy Warnke (on phone) and Judy Erdmann at Sidwell Customer Service Dept.

MAPS ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY

If you're looking for a map or photo in the Chicagoland area, chances are you won't have to look any further than Sidwell's Customer Service Department.

As a result of Sidwell's years of aerial photo and tax map work in Illinois and other states, we have developed an extensive film and map library.

Realtors, surveyors, lawyers and others needing map information can stop by the order desk or call Judy Erdmann or Judy Warnke on our direct line at (312) 231-8200.

A few of the most frequently requested items are shown below. Orders placed for any of these items available for pick-up or mailing after 12:00 noon the day following the order.

Aer-O-Maps

Aerial photo enlargements at a scale of 1"=660' formatted to cover four square miles per sheet. These are available for Cook, DuPage and Lake Counties and parts of Will, McHenry and Kane Counties, Illinois.

Village Street Maps

Bound volume of detailed, individual street maps for 262 Chicagoland cities and villages. The maps show streets, street names and house numbering systems.

Aerial Enlargements

Precision photographic enlargement can be produced at a variety of map scales for areas covered by existing aerial photography.

Tax Map Atlases

Reduced-size copies of the official county tax maps are available for Cook, DuPage, St. Clair, McHenry, Kane, McLean, Sangamon, Champaign and Will Counties, Illinois, and Kent County Michigan. The map scales are generally 1"=200' for urban areas and 1"=800' for rural areas, although some counties may be at different scales. Full-size tax maps are also available, with or without the underlying photo base, for selected counties.

GARY CLARK ADDRESSES PUBLIC WORKS OFFICIALS



Sidwell representative, Gary Clark, addressed Chicago Chapter members of the American Society of Public Works at their September meeting.

In addition to discussing mapping applications for municipal projects, Gary presented a color filmstrip explaining how topographic and other engineering mapping is produced at Sidwell.



TAX MAP ATLASES PUBLISHED

The 1979 edition of the Sangamon, McLean and Will Counties, Illinois, and Kent County, Michigan, Tax Map Atlases are now available for those needing up-to-date property information.

The atlases contain reduced-size copies of the official county tax maps and show parcel boundaries and dimensions, subdivision names and permanent parcel numbers.

PROMOTION ANNOUNCED



Sidwell's Sales Manager has announced the promotion of Judy Erdmann. Mrs. Erdmann has assumed the responsibilities of Supervisor of the Customer Service Department which handles orders for copies of aerial photography and mapping products.

SIDWELL WINS A-V AWARD

For the second year in a row, Sidwell has received a first place award from the Society for Marketing Professional Services.

This year's achievement award competition featured audio-visual productions used to market professional services. Sidwell's winning entry was a filmstrip on photogrammetric mapping services.

Season's
Greetings



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ANY SIDWELL MAPPING SERVICES . . .

Write to The Sidwell Company, 28W240 North Avenue, West Chicago, IL 60185 or phone (312) 231-0206