



SOURCE

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE SIDWELL COMPANY

FALL/WINTER 2003/2004

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SIDWELL HIGHLIGHTS

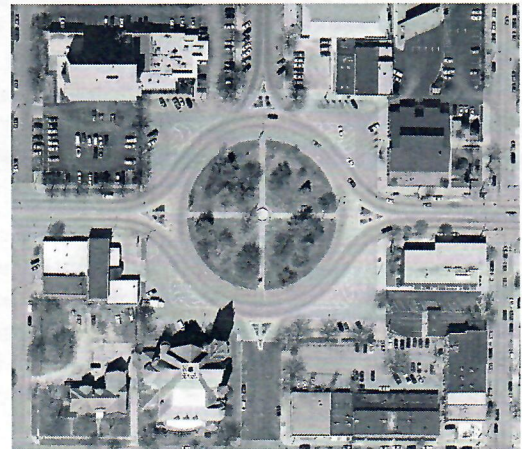
KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS

When it came time for Knox County to choose a company to re-fly, digitize and build the base layer for their GIS, Sidwell's long-term commitment to Knox County, our track record of providing solid and substantial expertise, and our desire to stay ahead of our competition when it comes to technology were critical.

"After our GIS Committee reviewed qualifications, we asked a few firms to give presentations. These presentations made us keenly aware that The Sidwell Company is, by far, much more advanced in technology," said Chris Gray, Knox County's Chief Deputy/Office Manager for the Chief County Assessment Office.

The county is comprised of 20 geographic townships and consists of approximately 720 square miles, with the county seat located in Galesburg.

There are approximately 33,200 parcels that Sidwell will map into a contiguous, digital database using digital orthophotography as the base. A pilot project was performed for the City of Galesburg, which has 13,442 parcels. Sidwell captured new, high-flight aerial photography, covering all of Knox County, at an altitude



of 15,840 feet. Low-flight photography was flown at an altitude of 5,040 feet, covering all of the urban and suburban areas within Knox County that lie outside the City of Galesburg.

The City of Galesburg has already acquired digital orthophotography and that imagery is being used as the base map for conversion of the cadastral data within the city. As a consequence, Sidwell began the countywide conversion process with the City of Galesburg. All information contained on the county's existing maps will be captured in the conversion process.

CONTINUED

SIDWELL HIGHLIGHTS — KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Sidwell will use Knox County's existing permanent parcel numbering system as a means of identification and organization of records covering all real property.

Chris also said, "One of the most important reasons why the Sidwell Company was selected for the Knox County GIS project is their excellent track record, service and commitment. They have maintained our county's maps for more than 23 years, and I have had over six years of hands-on experience working with Sidwell and their staff. They are very pleasant to work with and always respond to questions or

problems in a very speedy manner. Since I am the person dealing directly with the mapping company and doing the map editing, that means a lot to me."

Joyce Skinner learned to use Sidwell's aerials in 1982 as a Deputy Assessor. In 1986 as a Multi-Township Assessor she depended more and more on the maps to answer a variety of questions from the taxpayers on a daily basis. She always felt very

comfortable using the maps as a guide, knowing the accuracy and detail put into the project by the Sidwell Company.

As Chief County Assessment Officer for Knox County for the past four years, Joyce says, "I have a great appreciation of the honesty, friendliness and real concern of all the Sidwell staff from the top down. We have always had prompt answers to questions, correcting any problems. When it was time to choose a vendor for GIS, there was nothing to look for in another vendor that we did not already have with Sidwell. I chose Sidwell!"

Sidwell's in-house map maintenance department has maintained the county maps since 1980. "Knox County has always been an interesting project to work on, and it's presented us with some unique mapping situations over the years," said Betsy Romine, Manager of Mapping Services. "It's very exciting to be a part of the process as we work with the County to take their system to the next level."

Completion of the Knox County project is anticipated in 2006. Products and services for the final project will include all of the following:

Digital Orthophotography

- Aerial photography at 1"=840' for selected urban areas and at 1"=2,640' for rural areas
- Ground control to support airborne GPS
- Softcopy aerial triangulation and stereo compilation
- Digital orthophotography production

GIS Cadastral Design & Development

- Consulting, design, and development of a contiguous cadastral-based GIS
- Document inventory and collection including subdivision plats, existing maps, and all tax roll data
- Quality control/quality assurance using both manual methods and automated software routines
- GIS data model for ESRI's ArcGIS Geodatabase format, including multiple feature tagging of map elements and topological data structuring to create parcel polygons
- Cadastral database delivered in ESRI Geodatabase format
- Available subdivision plats will be scanned and stored as individual image files
- Digital discrepancy report and digital subdivision index
- Composite map plots and plotting setup routines

Software

- NovaLIS Parcel Editor™ 8.x software
- Sidwell's GIS MapViewer™ software
- FARMS™ (Farmland Assessment and Report Management System)
- Sidwell's Construx™

FARMS™

- Soils and agricultural land use mapping
- Computation services and polygon overlay processing for agricultural parcels
- Implementation of FARMS program

Project Management

- Project documentation, project installation and implementation support
- On-site professional services for training or other purposes
- Ongoing technical support and consulting ■

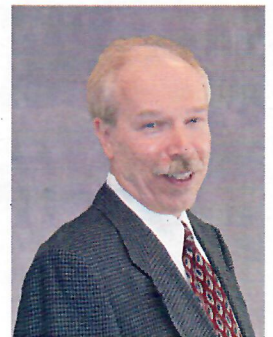
FACES OF SIDWELL

■ EMPLOYEE PROFILE: Manager of Photogrammetry Production

DON MANGUS, CP

Don recently joined Sidwell and is responsible for the management of all photogrammetric production, including aerial photo acquisition, analytical stereoplotter compilation, softcopy digital processing, and raster image conversion and compression. He also oversees all topographic/planimetric map production, digital surface modeling and image orthorectification, ground control selection and airborne GPS processing, analytical aerotriangulation, photo flight operations, and aircraft and sensor systems maintenance.

Don also works with Sidwell production managers and support staff to coordinate project requirements and production schedules. He assists in photo project estimates; coordinates project start-up and deliveries and provides technical support. As the manager for photogrammetric production, he assists clients in refining their project needs, prepares progress reports, and delivers finished products. Don has a BS in Government and Public Administration from George Mason University, is a Certified Photogrammetrist and for the last 26 years Don has been involved in an array of photogrammetric projects and services in various areas of the country.



FACES OF SIDWELL

EMPLOYEE PROFILE: KAREN QUALKENBUSH



When Karen walked through the door back in 1976, little did she know having good penmanship would be the start to her 21 year career at Sidwell. "They liked my printing," Karen says as she remembers the ad she answered in the paper. Karen left in 1980 to start her family and after being asked to return in 1986, has been here ever since.

Karen was born in Chicago and went to Glenbard East High School in Lombard before beginning her illustrious career at Sidwell. Fondly known around the office as Q, she has had the opportunity to work in nearly every department making her well qualified for her current position as Assistant Manager for the Mapping Services Department.

Karen and her team maintain the maps for all of Sidwell's 35 Iowa counties as well as our commercial atlases. A typical day may include, processing, checking, getting jobs ready for printing or final delivery and a significant amount of time on the phone assisting clients. "Most of my conversations with clients are on the phone and not face to face, so a critical part of my job is being able to read between the lines. It's not always easy to interpret what our clients' needs are over the phone lines but I think we do a pretty good job at the end of the day," Karen says.

She tributes her lengthy career at Sidwell to it never being dull, working with a good team, the variety of the work and having a great working relationship with Mapping Services Manger, Betsy Romine.

In her free time she can be found in her garden, going to craft fairs, watching Arnold Schwarzenegger movies and spending quality time with her family, including Dot — her dalmatian.

Years at sidwell
21

Sidwell nickname
Q

Something no one knows
She's a hopeless romantic

Last movie seen
Chicago

Favorite color
Blue

Favorite TV shows
CSI and Animal Planet

Favorite performer
Barry Manilow

Favorite Sidwell experience
Recently attending Marv Knopp's retirement party

Signs of success
Positive attitude, respect, have fun, work for a good company, hard work, good penmanship

SIDWELL TO BE RECOGNIZED BY ESRI

Each year ESRI recognizes business partners for their continued support, sales efforts, ingenuity, creativity and contributions to technological development in the field of geographic information system technology and to ESRI. Awards are presented to business partners based on input from regional offices, industry solutions managers and international distributors.

Sidwell will be presented with an award during the Business Partner Conference Welcome Social at the 2003 ESRI Business Partner Conference in Palm Springs, CA.

Look for more information on this exciting event in our next issue of *The Source*.

TECH CORNER

DATA EXCHANGE CONSIDERATIONS

With so many users of GIS or CAD these days, it's likely there will be a time when an organization or individual will have a need to share data with others — that's what GIS is all about. When these situations arise, it's also common that each organization or department might use different software products, with each software having its own data format. With that in mind, here are some basic points to consider when obtaining data from an outside source:

1. What file format is the data in?

Most of the GIS and CAD software products on the market today can read and/or convert other digital map file formats. Many software products have import and export applications. Each software program works differently so it is advisable to check manuals or the "help" application to find out how the format conversion works.

2. Does the digital map have special coordinates?

Some digital maps have special coordinate intelligence. When requesting the data, it's always good practice to find out the coordinate system it is in. Some software includes conversion functions that can display data in various map projections (e.g., Latitude-Longitude to State Plane NAD 83).

3. Does the digital map have data attribute linkages?

With GIS, the digital map files typically have linkages to non-graphic databases. When converting to other formats, some software products handle the conversion of these linkages effectively and efficiently while others do not. If the data have linkages, determine the file format you will be converting from and see how the software you are planning to use handles linkages and the accompanying non-graphic data.

Many users trained in pure GIS formats assume that CAD maps do not have GIS intelligence. Based on this assumption the attribute databases are ignored during data interchange operations, resulting in GIS data sets that are much less intelligent than the CAD based mapping data sets from which they originated.

Taking the time to explore these types of considerations up-front will save all users time and aggravation — and help you realize the full benefit and potential of GIS.

PHOTOGRAMMETRIC SERVICES



SIDWELL
PHOTOGRAMMETRIC
services department



DIGITAL ORTHOPHOTO MAPS, topographic feature extraction
Aerial photography, PHOTO LAB SERVICES, Planimetric feature extraction

The Sidwell Company has been providing aerial photography and photogrammetry services since the 1960's. We have certified photogrammetrists (ASPRS) and pilots on staff and we own all industry standard equipment including aircraft, precision aerial photography cameras, airborne GPS, flight management software, photo processing labs, digital scanners, softcopy photogrammetry systems, and analytic stereo plotters.

Our in-house capabilities allow the company to offer services to support a variety of mapping:

- Aerial Photo Acquisition
 - Color or Black and White
- Aerial Enlargements
- Digital Imagery
- High Precision Aerial Film Scanning
- Photo Lab Services
- Topographic Feature Extraction
 - Contours
 - Surface Models (DTM's and DEM's)
- Planimetric Feature Extraction
- Digital Orthophoto Mapping
- Volumetric Computations

WHEN IT COMES TO PHOTOGRAMMETRIC SERVICES — WE ARE UNSURPASSED IN COMPLETING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ACCURATELY AND ON TIME!

For information regarding any of our photogrammetric services, please contact:

Gary Lobdell, Photogrammetric Account Manager
globdell@sidwellco.com
630.549.1000

SIDWELL'S TOP 10

TOP 10 REASONS YOU SHOULD CHOOSE SIDWELL TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL GIS, PHOTOGRAMMETRIC OR RELATED MAPPING SERVICES.

1. Sidwell, one of the Midwest's largest cadastral mapping firms, has provided services to local government for 76 years.
2. The process of converting manually drawn parcel maps into a seamless and accurate GIS environment is what Sidwell does best.
3. Having mapped over 140 counties in more than 12 states, totaling in excess of eight million parcels of land, into contiguous databases — we are the parcel-mapping expert.
4. The Sidwell Company maintains a separate department solely devoted to the maintenance of cadastral mapping systems. Mapping Services is staffed by 14 full-time employees with an average 11 years of experience at Sidwell. They collectively maintain the cadastral mapping systems for more than 60 counties.
5. Sidwell's in-house GIS Applications Development Department includes 11 staff members who provide all GIS software development and data systems integration services. Specifically, this department is responsible for data model definition and creation, development of conversion and maintenance software tools, development of farmland assessment software, tax and recorder's systems integration, automated quality control processes and database integrity.
6. As a NovaLIS Technologies development Partner, Sidwell has been instrumental in the design and development of Parcel Editor. Parcel Editor adds robust parcel maintenance capabilities to ArcMap in the Arc8.x Geodatabase platform.
7. Our highly skilled GIS professionals include certified GIS and photogrammetric technicians, GIS programmers/analysts, information system network support and project managers.
8. Our in-house staff of more than 95 employee-owners use their talents to develop integrated workflows, specialized GIS conversion tools, and quality control processes.
9. Our multi-discipline team includes six direct production staff that hold the International Association of Assessing Officers professional designation of Cadastral Mapping Specialist (CMS) and two staff members that hold the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing professional designation of Certified Photogrammetrist (CP).
10. Sidwell has been providing photogrammetric services since the 1960's. Our aerial photography services, in-house aerial image processing and photogrammetric capabilities allow the company to offer digital photogrammetric services to support a variety of mapping applications.

SCENIC AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The Sidwell Company has been providing aerial photography and photogrammetry services since the 1960's.

Throughout the years of securing aerial photography for parcel mapping purposes, Sidwell has captured aerial photography of many notable Midwest landmarks. In fact, many of these spectacular images adorn the hallways and corporate offices of the company.

Late this fall, Sidwell introduced and began offering these items in print format for public purchase. Samples and prices for these pictures have been listed on our commercial Web site and can be found at:

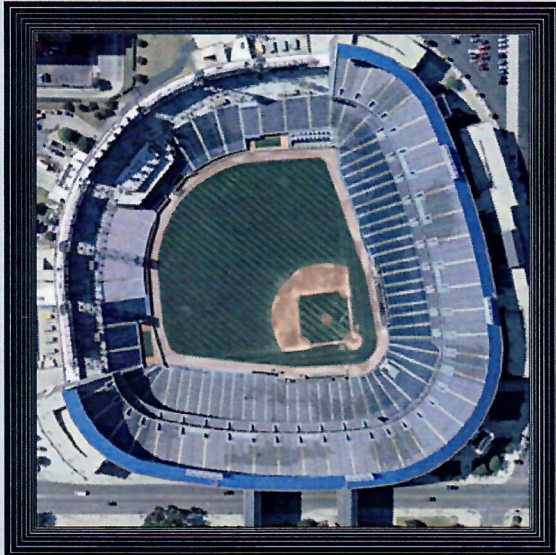
SidwellMaps.com/scenic_aerial_photography.asp

We hope you'll visit our commercial site and find something to your liking. More images will be periodically added to the site as archived films and newer items are processed.

Sears Tower



US Cellular Field



Montrose Harbor



Chicago Skyline



Navy Pier



SIDWELL OFFICES

Adel, Iowa • Decorah, Iowa • St. Charles, Illinois (Corporate Headquarters) •
Calvert City, Kentucky • Herndon, Virginia • Augusta, Georgia



SIDWELL IS
GROWING

Did you know that in addition to our 28,000 square-foot corporate production facility located in St. Charles, Illinois, that Sidwell's has locations in Adel and Decorah, Iowa; Calvert City, Kentucky; Herndon, Virginia; and Augusta, Georgia?

INTRODUCTION TO **ArcGIS I** TRAINING

Sidwell is pleased to offer an ESRI Authorized Instructor-led, two-day training course that introduces participants to ArcGIS™ and provides the foundation for becoming a successful ArcView®, ArcEditor™, or ArcInfo™ user. Participants learn how to use ArcMap™, ArcCatalog™, and ArcToolbox™ and explore how these applications work together to provide a complete GIS software solution. The course covers fundamental GIS concepts as well as how to create, edit, and work with georeferenced spatial data. This course is intended for those who are new to ArcGIS or to geographic information systems.

If you're interested in learning how to:

- Display feature and tabular data
- Work with georeferenced spatial data
- Query features using logical expressions
- Find features using spatial relationships
- Edit spatial and attribute data
- Associate tables with joins and relates
- Produce maps, reports, and graphs

Then this course is for you!

For more information please contact:
Paul Hanson
ESRI Authorized Instructor
The Sidwell Company
675 Sidwell Court
St. Charles, Illinois 60174
phanson@sidwellco.com
630.549.1000 (phone)
630.549.1111 (fax)

To view course pricing, a schedule of upcoming classes or to register online please visit us at www.sidwellco.com.
Classes can be taught onsite at a client's facility (up to 12 participants).

Sidwell Takes GIS on the ROAD!



DATE:
March 30th

TIME:
8:30 am to 2:30 pm

LOCATION:
Holiday Inn
Select — City
Center, Lafayette,
IN

On March 30, 2004, Sidwell will be holding a GIS conference in Indiana. This one-day educational event will feature a variety of GIS-related topics intended to be of interest to all levels of county government. Planned sessions include:

- Integrating GIS & CAMA
- Welcome to the Geodatabase
- Client Showcase — Featuring Allen County, Indiana

Not only will this be the first time we've offered our conference in Indiana, it will also mark the first time that we have a former employee making a presentation for us — from the client's perspective. The client showcase will be presented by former Sidwell employee Alex Wernher, who is currently the GIS Director for Allen County. Alex worked at Sidwell from 1995 through 1997.

This conference is FREE, so mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Registration materials will be available in early February — watch your mail and visit www.sidwellco.com regularly for updates.

SIDWELL TAKES GIS ON THE ROAD TO IOWA!

April 27 — Sioux City

April 28 — Des Moines

April 29 — Amana Colonies

Visit www.sidwellco.com for details.

2004 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

SAVE THESE DATES!

JANUARY 2004

JANUARY 2004						
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FEBRUARY 2004

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MARCH 2004

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APRIL 2004

APRIL 2004						
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Jan. 20-24, Indianapolis, IN
Assessors

Jan. 22-24, Chicago, IL, Parks
& Rec Assoc.

Jan. 23, Des Moines, IA
Supervisors Assoc.

Jan. 28-29, Springfield, IL
Clerk/Rec.

Feb. 4-6, Savannah, GA,
SERUG

Feb. 12, Des Plaines, IL,
NICAR

Feb. 18-21, Springfield, IL,
IPLSA

Feb. 24-26, Indianapolis, IN,
Indiana GIS 2004

Feb. 26-27, Peoria, IL,
ILCMA-Winter

Mar. 6-9, Palm Springs, CA,
ESRI Business Partner

Mar. 10-11, W. Lafayette, IN,
Purdue Road School

Mar. 17-19, Des Moines, IA,
Spring ISAC

Mar. 22-26, Springfield, IL,
March Workshop - IPAI

Apr. 13-14, Springfield, IL,
Spring ILGISA

Apr. 18-22, Kansas City, MO,
MidAmerica GIS

Apr. 25-28, Springfield, IL,
Spring IACO

Apr. 28-30, Mt. Vernon, IL,
IACE

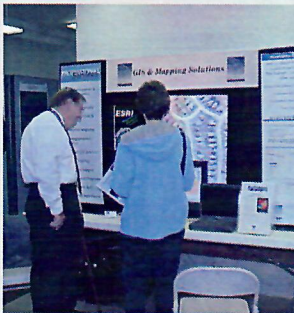
GIS-DAY EVENT PROMOTES TECHNOLOGY AND VALUE

The **SiouxLand Users Group (SLUG)** hosted a GIS-Day festival, SLUG-fest 2003, on October 16th. The event was the first of its kind in Siouxland; at the corner of Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota, the event set the bar for similar events in the tri-state region.

The goal of SLUG-fest 2003 was to celebrate the accomplishments and progress of the Siouxland GIS users while touting the opportunities and advancements of GIS technology. It turned out to be a great day with upwards of 280 people getting together to enjoy the event. "Our group's dual focus is to serve the GIS world through improved access to geospatial information and promoting better decision making through the use of geospatially linked data," event chair Ron Koch reported. "SLUG-fest participants aim to foster public support for GIS while educating and informing the public about its indispensable nature."

The SiouxLand Users Group consists of 70 GIS users and is growing each month. Meetings are open to all GIS users and to anyone interested in learning GIS functions. SLUG meets on the third Wednesday of each month during lunch at the Sioux City Community School District Education Center, 1221 Pierce St.

Sidwell's Senior GIS Account Manager
Dave Squires talks with an attendee
from Winnebago County.



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Thank You!

NEW BUSINESS

ILLINOIS

Wayne County signed a contract for GIS conversion of their existing digital page-by-page mapping system. Included in the contract are digital orthophotography, conversion, integration, viewing software and FARMS. **Henderson County** signed a GIS Contract that includes GIS parcel mapping from scratch, digital orthophotography, integration with their tax system, viewing software, FARMS and map maintenance software and training. **Bureau County** signed a comprehensive GIS conversion project for Sidwell to provide the county with digital orthophotography, parcels in a Geodatabase, FARMS and land use, integration, viewing software, plotting, mapping services (map maintenance through the end of their project), software and training.

Grundy County selected Sidwell to provide aerial photography and digital orthophoto services. **Kane County** signed a contract for professional services and for GIS-based farmland assessment. **Sangamon County** contracted with Sidwell to take their current page-by-page Microstation parcel maps and convert them to a seamless ESRI-compliant Geodatabase.

INDIANA

St. Joseph County signed a contract for conversion of their GIS database into a Geodatabase, training in ArcMap and Parcel Editor, data integration and deployment of the GIS to multiple county offices.

IOWA

Marshall County signed a contract for future professional services to enhance their GIS. **Hamilton County** selected Sidwell to convert the existing county GIS to an ESRI-compliant Geodatabase.

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EDUCATING THE USERS OF GIS, MAPPING AND PHOTOGRAMMETRIC SERVICES

675 Sidwell Court, St. Charles, Illinois 60174



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