

# Reestablishing County Boundaries and Dispute Resolution

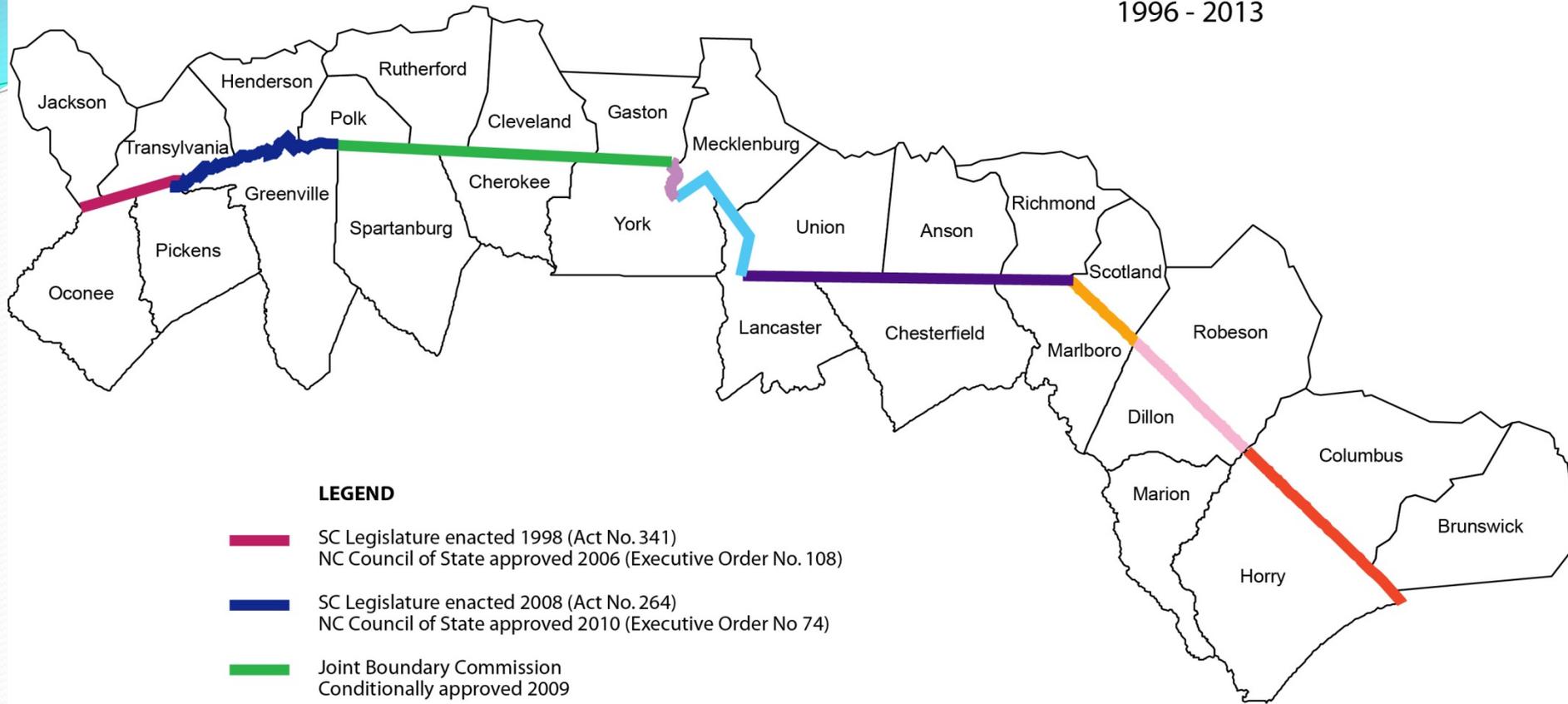
Frank Rainwater and Sarah Khouri  
Revenue and Fiscal Affairs

# Senate Bill 988 (Act No. 262)

- An Act to amend Section 27-2-105
- Relating to the duties of the SC Geodetic Survey (SCGS) with respect to determining county boundaries
- **Purpose:**
  - Exact and precise locations and boundaries of state's political subdivisions are critical for services, enforcement of property rights and election of public officials.
  - Passage of time and growth has led to confusion over statutory county descriptions and the locations of county boundary lines
  - Technology exists now to cost-effectively provide definite and permanent markers of boundary lines
  - Necessary for state government and political subdivisions
  - SCGS is the appropriate instrument to vest with the necessary authority to resolve county boundary issues



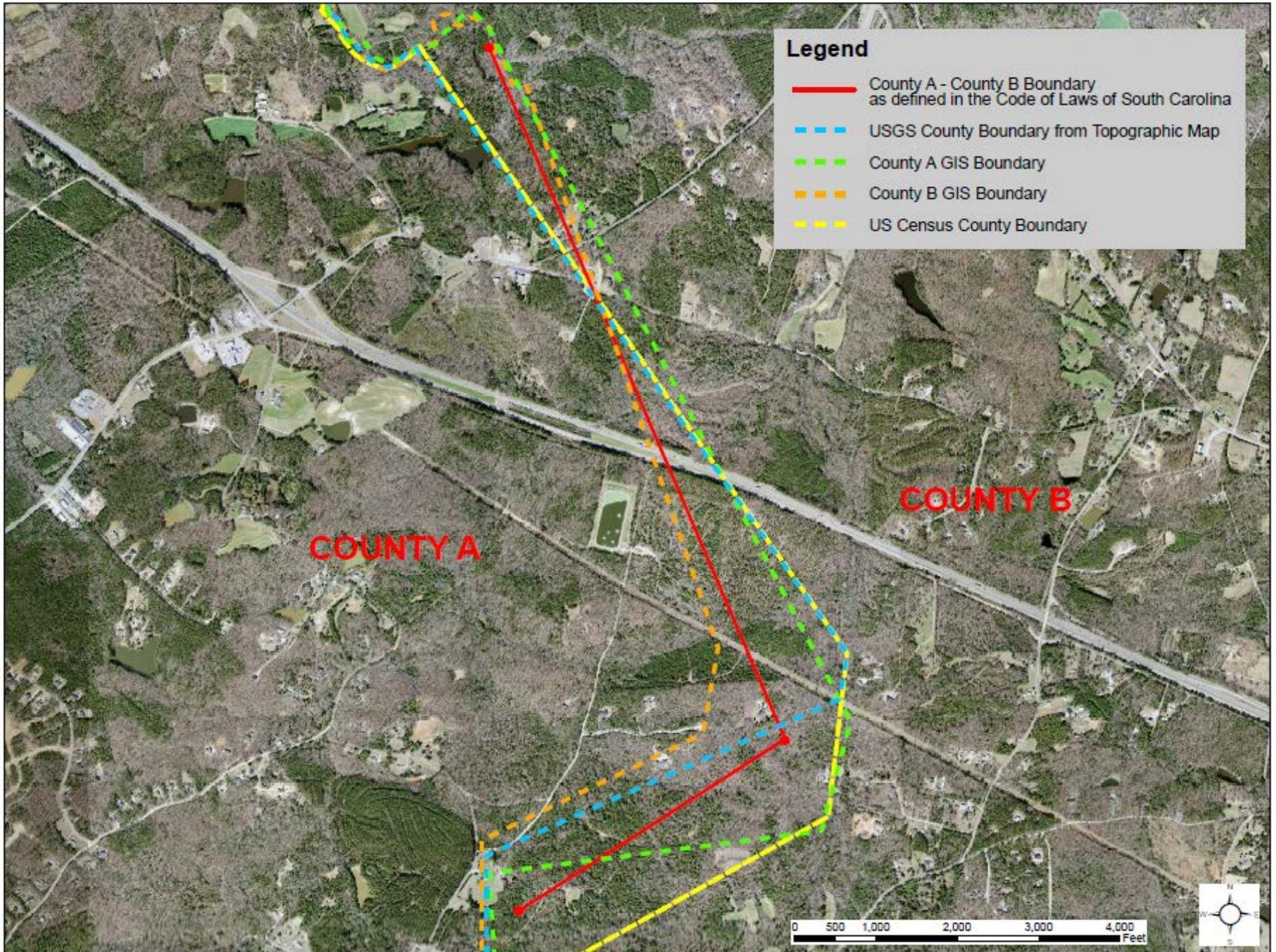
# PROJECT TO RE-ESTABLISH SOUTH CAROLINA - NORTH CAROLINA BOUNDARY 1996 - 2013



## LEGEND

-  SC Legislature enacted 1998 (Act No. 341)  
NC Council of State approved 2006 (Executive Order No. 108)
-  SC Legislature enacted 2008 (Act No. 264)  
NC Council of State approved 2010 (Executive Order No 74)
-  Joint Boundary Commission  
Conditionally approved 2009
-  Joint Boundary Commission  
Approved 2010
-  Joint Boundary Commission  
Conditionally approved 2010
-  Joint Boundary Commission  
Conditionally approved 2013
-  Joint Boundary Commission  
Conditionally approved 2013
-  Joint Boundary Commission  
Conditionally approved 2013
-  Joint Boundary Commission  
Conditionally approved 2013





# Passage Of Time

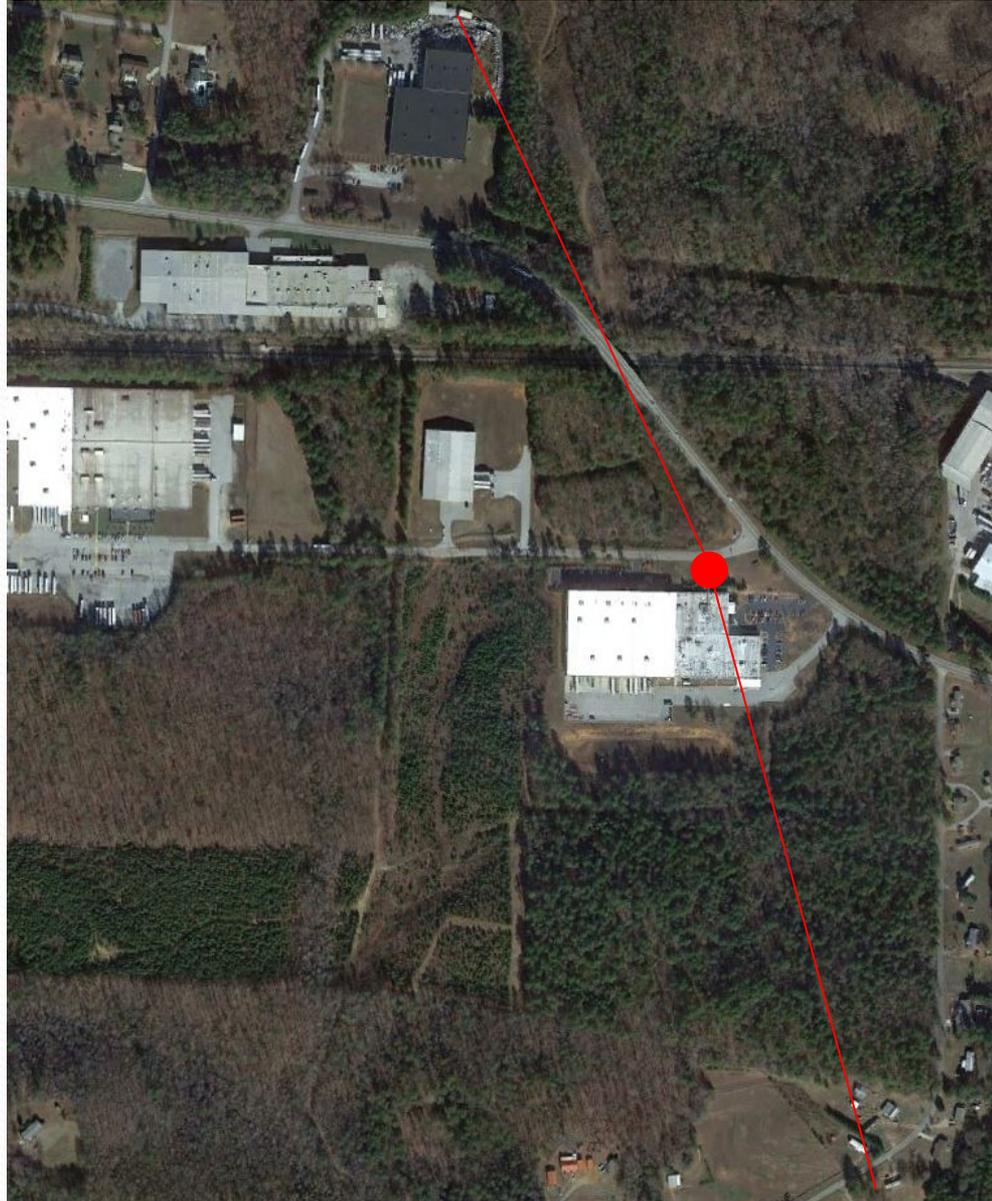
**Cherokee Spartanburg County Boundaries:  
Corner One Mile East of Cowpens**



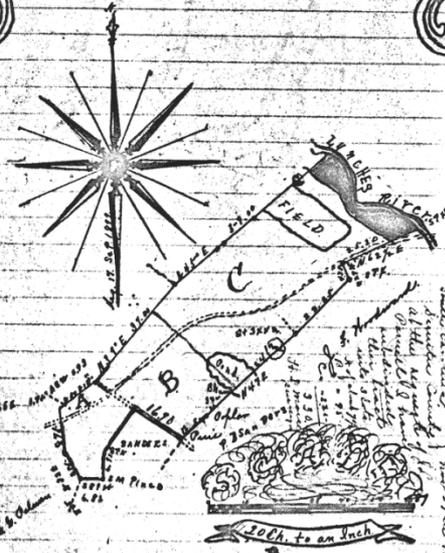
1944



2013







Original  
 recorded  
 in  
 1879-1886

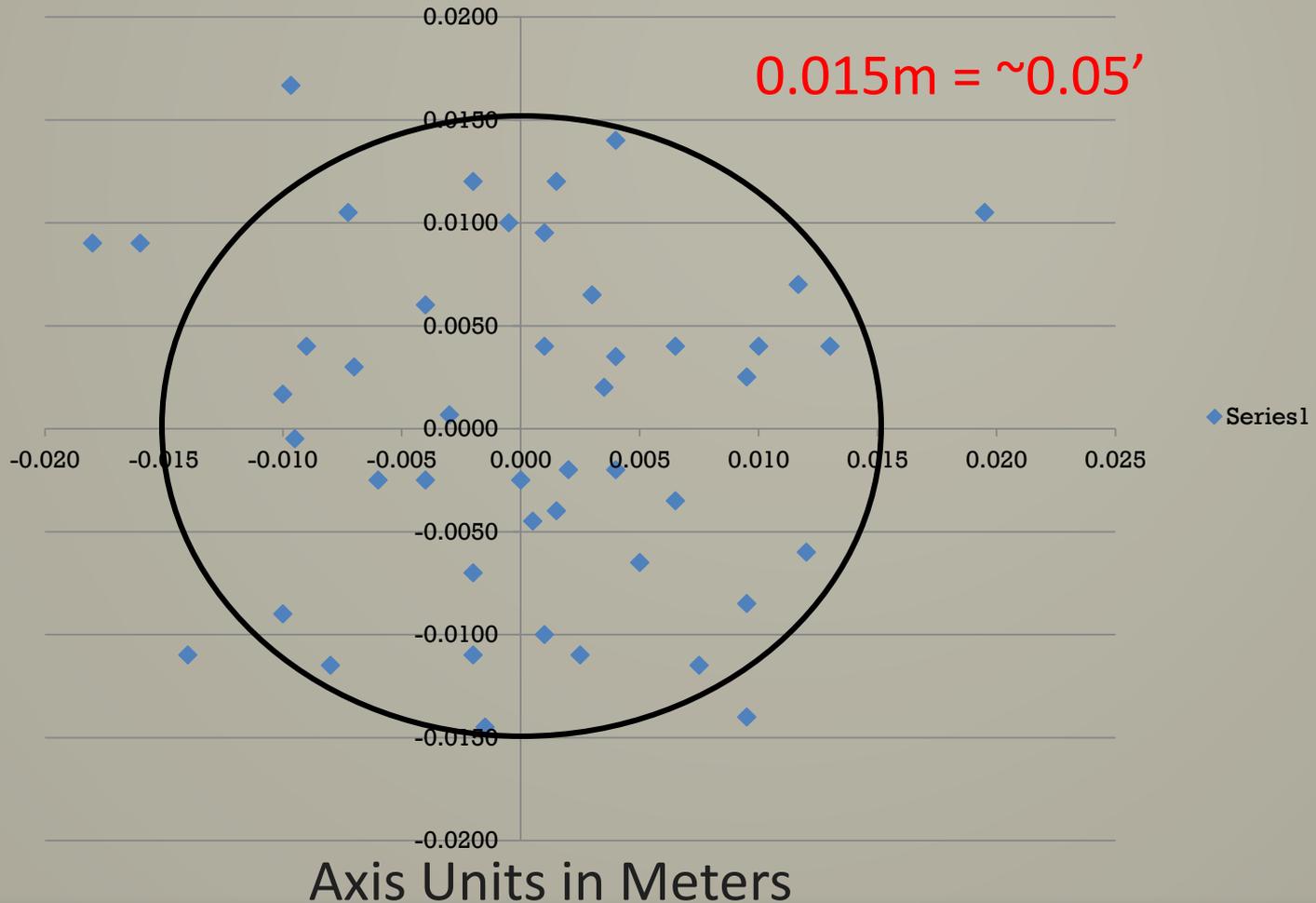
*Part* of 330 acres  
 of land in Ge  
 County S.C. now owned by  
 J. S. Parnell.  
 Harmon D. Moise  
 Surveyor

SCANNED

# Scatter Gram of Differences Between Observations

2 – Five Minute Sessions

RMSE(2-D) = 0.020m @95%



# Senate Bill 988

- **Role of South Carolina Geodetic Survey**

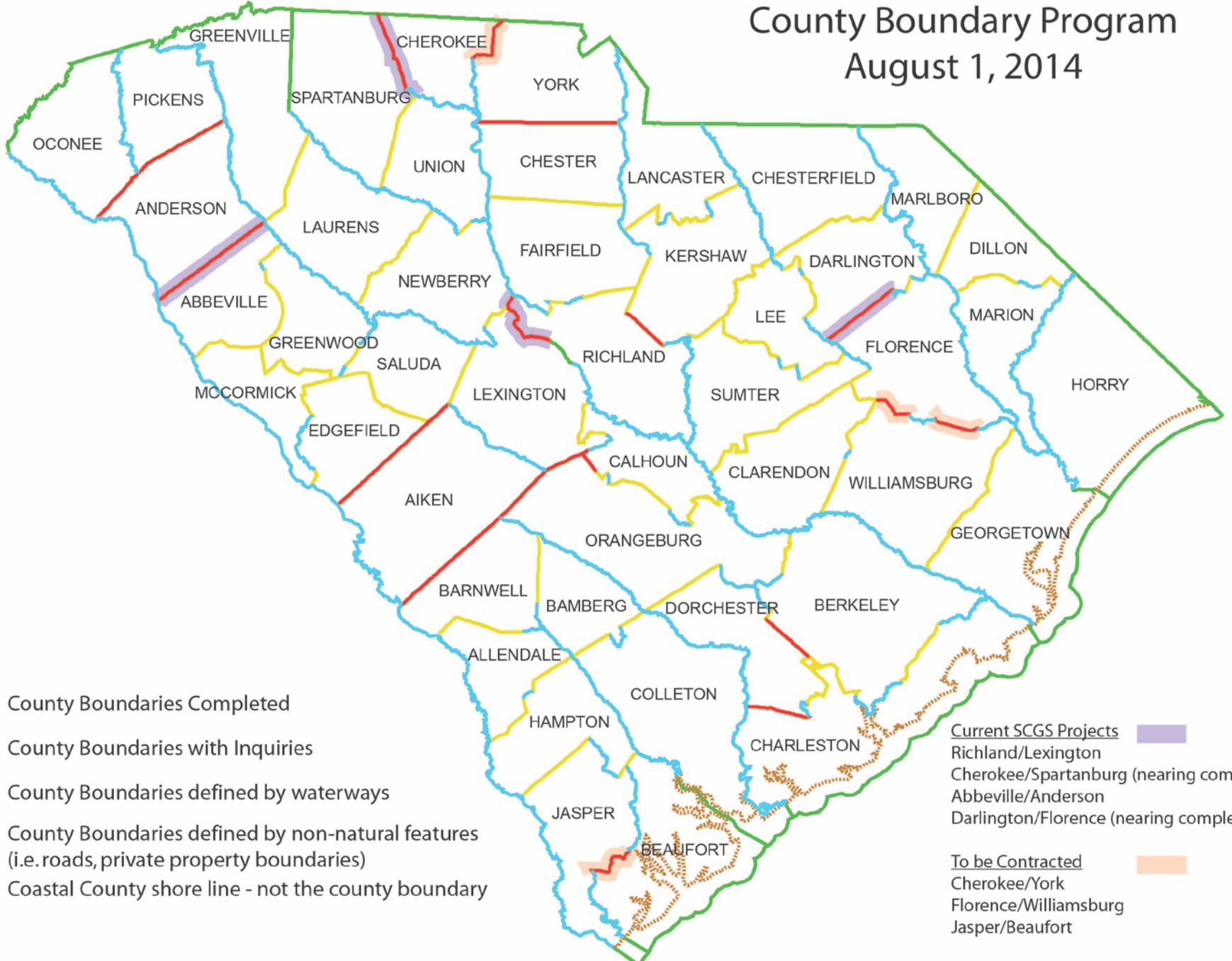
- SCGS to assist counties in defining and monumenting the locations of county boundaries and positioning the monuments using geodetic surveys where counties are ill-defined, unmarked, or poorly marked
- SCGS will clarify county boundaries as defined in Chapter 3, Title 4
- SCGS will analyze archival and other evidence and perform field surveys geographically to position all county boundaries in accordance with statutory descriptions

## **Boundary Disputes**

- Dispute between two or more counties- SCGS will act as mediator to resolve the dispute



# South Carolina County Boundary Program August 1, 2014



# Senate Bill 988

- **SCGS Requirements:**

- Upon reestablishing county boundary, SCGS shall certify its work and within 30 days of certification:
  - Provide copies to the administrator of each affected county;
  - Provide written notification to affected parties
  - Provide notice and copies to the public through its official website and or other means it considers appropriate; and
  - Notify as it determines appropriate, other affected state and federal agencies
- Upon completion of a county boundary, RFA will propose legislation to include state plane coordinates in the boundary description.



# Legislation

- **SECTION 4-3-280.** Greenville County.

Greenville County is bounded as follows: on the north by the North Carolina line; on the east and southeast by Spartanburg and Laurens Counties from which it is divided as follows: from Spartanburg County, by a line commencing on the North Carolina line at a stone marked "S.C. 1815" on one side and "N.C. Sept. 15" on the other side at N 1,225,788.54 and E 1,636,650.35 [North American Datum 1983-86 (NAD 83-86)]; thence following a straight line southsouthwestward to a point at N 1,193,615.00 and E 1,635,730.00 (NAD 83-86); thence following a straight line southsouthwestward to a point at N 1,155,409.00 and E 1,634,410.00 (NAD 83-86); thence following a straight line southsouthwestward to a point at N 1,133,159.00 and E 1,633,701.00 (NAD 83-86) at the north end of North Line Street at its approximate intersection with Arlington Avenue in the City of Greer; thence following a straight line southward approximately along the centerline of North Line Street to a point N 1,131,240.00 and E 1,633,595.00 (NAD 83-86) where North Line Street becomes South Line Street in the City of Greer; thence following a straight line southward approximately along the centerline of South Line Street to a point at N 1,128,573.00 and E 1,633,500.00 (NAD 83-86) where the centerline of South Line Street is approximately tangent to the centerline of New Woodruff Road in the city of Greer; thence following a straight line southsouthwestward to a point at N 1,102,217.00 and E 1,632,108.00 (NAD 83-86) which is a point where the old bridge crossed the Enoree River; thence down the Enoree River to a point about one and three-fourths miles below Anderson's Bridge (the corner of Greenville and Laurens Counties); from Laurens County, by a line commencing at said point (opposite Zadock's Ford) and running S. 17° W. 11 miles and 60 chains to a point; thence S. 4° E. 3 miles and 45 chains to a water oak marked "L. G." on Reedy River; thence running to the mouth of Line Creek where it enters the Saluda River; on the west by Anderson and Pickens Counties from which it is separated by the Saluda River.

# Keys to Re-establishing Boundaries

- Notify County Administrators in advance at work
- Share preliminary results with county and affected parties
- Work to build cooperation with affected parties



# Senate Bill 988

- **Affected Parties Disagreeing with SCGS:**

- May file request for a contested case hearing with the SC Administrative Law Court
- This decision may be appealed
- **“Affected Party”**
  - Governing body of an affected county
  - Governing body of a political subdivision of this State
  - An elected official, other than a statewide elected official
  - A property owner or an individual residing in the certification zone
  - A business entity located in the certification zone
  - A nonresident individual who owns or leases real property situated in the certification zone



# Chapter 5, Title 4

- **Change of Boundaries**

- **Procedure for annexing part of county-** governing body or 10 percent of registered voters petition in writing, shall deposit with the clerk of court an amount of money sufficient to cover the expenses of surveys , plats, annexation commission and the election to be held to determine whether the proposed annexation shall be effected and then file such resolution or petition in the office of the clerk of court
- **Appointment of Commission for annexation-** once presented to the governor then within 30 days the governor shall appoint a commission of four persons
- **Employment of Surveyors-** commission may contract for survey and location of the proposed change of line and for such purpose may employ 3 surveyors
- **Governor shall order election; voting place; eligible electors-** to be held in an area sought to be transferred and an election to be held in the county to which the area is proposed to be transferred
- **Propose and adopt Legislation**

