

# THE MEETING WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 6PM



# **Newberry-Richland County Line**

From the Broad River to an Unnamed Branch



David Ballard, PLS
Revenue and Fiscal Affairs
SC Geodetic Survey





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## **Overview**

- Reason for boundary clarification
- Why is the SC Geodetic Survey the chosen agency
- The requirements and duties of the SC Geodetic Survey
- Explanation of our methods
- Boundary clarification procedure
- Legal process for individuals disagreeing with SCGS findings
- Statutory description of county boundary
- Research and findings
- Monumentation and Survey
- Conclusion

## The Reason...

- Passage of time and growth has led to confusion over statutory county descriptions and the locations of county boundary lines
- Exact and precise locations and boundaries of state's political subdivisions are critical for services, enforcement of property rights and election of public officials.
- Technology exists now to cost-effectively provide definite and permanent markers of boundary lines
- Necessary for state government and political subdivisions

# Why the SC Geodetic Survey?

- Over the last 30+ years, the South Carolina Geodetic Survey has worked with South Carolina counties to help resolve some of the ambiguities present in the current Code of Law
- SC Geodetic Survey was also used in the clarification of the NC/SC boundary
- In the early 90's Greenville and Spartanburg counties asked the Geodetic Survey to help them work out the location of their Statutory Boundary. Their boundary was clarified and placed into law.
- After it's completion the General Assembly decided to enact legislation assigning the SC Geodetic Survey as the mediator to resolve disputes between counties.

# The duties of the SC Geodetic Survey (SCGS) with respect to determining county boundaries

SC Code of Laws §27-2-105
Act No. 262 of 2014

- (1994) Dispute between two or more counties- SCGS will act as mediator to resolve the dispute
- (1994/2014) 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
- (2014) SCGS will clarify county boundaries as defined in Chapter 3, Title 4
- (2014) SCGS will analyze archival and other evidence and perform field surveys to position geographically all county boundaries in accordance with statutory descriptions
- (2014) To amend section 27-2-105, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to the duties of the South Carolina Geodetic Survey (SCGS) with respect to determining county boundaries, so as to authorize and direct the SCGS to clarify county boundaries and mediate boundary disputes between counties by providing a procedure allowing the SCGS administratively to adjust county boundaries, to provide the procedures including notice that SCGS must follow in making such adjustments, to provide that affected parties may appeal these adjustments to the Administrative Law Court in a de novo hearing, to provide the method of determining the effective date of these administrative county boundary adjustments and the notice requirements for these adjustments to be effective and to provide that nothing contained in this administrative process restricts the authority of the General Assembly by legislative enactment to adjust or otherwise clarify county boundaries by legislative enactment.

#### **MONUMENTS**

#### VS

### **MONUMENTS**







# Geodetic Surveys & Common Geographic Coordinate Systems Why we use them for boundary surveys.



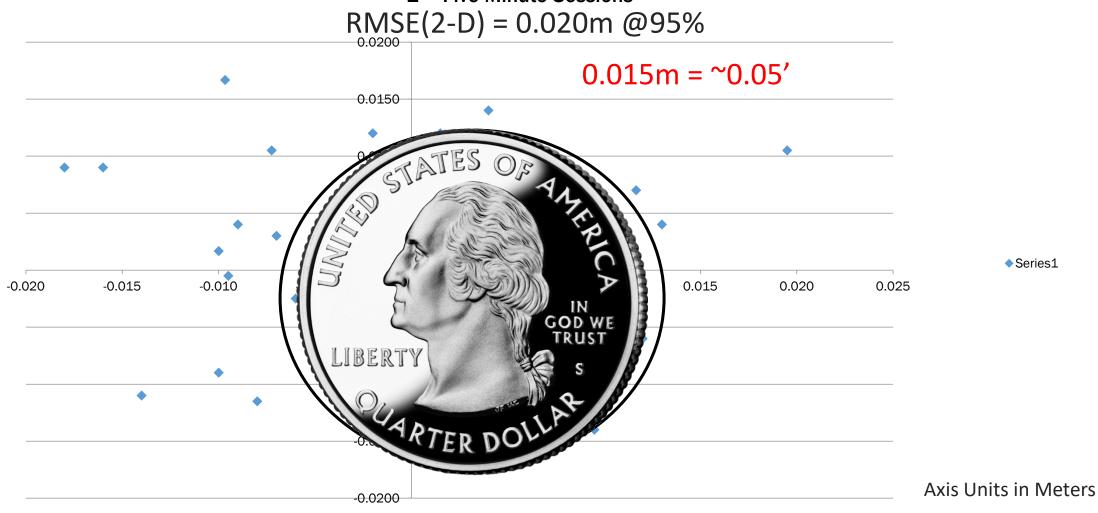






# **Scatter Gram of Differences Between Observations**

2 - Five Minute Sessions



# Steps for Clarifying Boundaries SC Code of Law SECTION 27-2-105

#### **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
- (Initiates 60 Day Appeal Process)
- Certified Surveys submitted to Secretary of State, Register of Deeds Offices, and South Carolina Department of Archives with Cover Letter
- Date of the cover letter is the date the surveys become effective
- Introduce Legislation to update Code of Law to reflect clarified boundary with State Plane Coordinates

## **SCGS Steps for Clarifying Boundaries**

- Notify County Administrators in advance of planned work
- Conduct historical research for documentary evidence of boundaries\*
- Perform field work to locate monuments and corroborating evidence and position on State Plane Coordinates\*
- Share preliminary findings with county officials for impact analysis and to plan public meetings
- Hold public meeting
- Receive feedback and input from local officials and public
- · Review and update findings, as appropriate
- Certify plats\*
- Send out mailings to affected parties along boundary\*
- 60day window for appeals\*
- Record/File plats\*

### SC Code of Law SECTION 27-2-105

- 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

- S.C. Code § 4-5-120: 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
- S.C. Code § 4-5-130: Appointment of Commission for annexation- once presented to the governor then within 30 days the governor shall appoint a commission of four persons
- S.C. Code § 4-5-140: Employment of Surveyors- commission may contract for survey and location of the proposed change of line and for such purpose may employ 3 surveyors
- S.C. Code § 4-5-170: 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

# **Public Meeting Notification (Example)**

SOUTH CAROLINA

EDWARD B. GRIMBALL, Chairman HOWELL CLYBORNE, JR. EMERSON F. GOWER, JR.

REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

FRANK A. RAINWATER Executive Director

July 25, 2017

Re: «Street\_Address»; County: «County»: TMS/PID «TMS\_Number»

Dear Sir or Madam,

Berkeley County and Dorchester County contacted the South Carolina Geodetic Survey (SCGS) requesting the SCGS's assistance to clarify and re-establish their common boundary. Uncertainty regarding the location of the boundary that was established by the creation of Dorchester County in 1897 is causing confusion about jurisdiction. So that this confusion will not continue, Berkeley and Dorchester counties have committed to accurately determining the location of the boundary as defined by the SC Code of Laws, marking it with proper monuments, and referencing it to geographic coordinates. A draft of the survey and other information will be found on the SCGS' website at: http://fra.sc.gov/geodetic/cb projectlist/berkdorc

The reason for this letter is two-fold:

The first reason is to inform you of how the proposed re-established Berkeley-Dorchester boundary will/might affect you as a property owner. Included, with this letter, is an aerial photograph showing your property, the proposed re-established Berkeley-Dorchester county line and the parcel (property) lines used by each county.

For the property referenced in this letter, it appears that there is or may be a significant impact. A significant impact is defined as a residence, place of business, or the majority of a parcel being found in a different county based on the proposed re-established boundary and county GIS lines. The final determination of taxation will be decided by the counties.

The second reason is to inform you that the SCGS will present its findings and work performed in re-establishing the Berkeley-Dorchester boundary at a public meeting. The meeting will be held in the Dorchester County Council Chambers, 500 N. Main Street (Use Cedar Street Entrance); Summerville, South Carolina 29483; Tuesday August 22nd at 6:00 pm.

If you have any historical or legal information regarding the location of the Berkeley-Dorchester boundary, please bring it to the attention of the SCGS staff so that it can be evaluated with respect to finalizing the re-established boundary. Contact information is provided below and staff will be on hand at the public meeting for review.

If you own several parcels along the re-established boundary, you may receive several letters from this agency. Please let us know if you are not the current owner of this property. If any of this property is leased, using the contact information below, please provide us with the name and address of the current tenants of this property.

Condicile

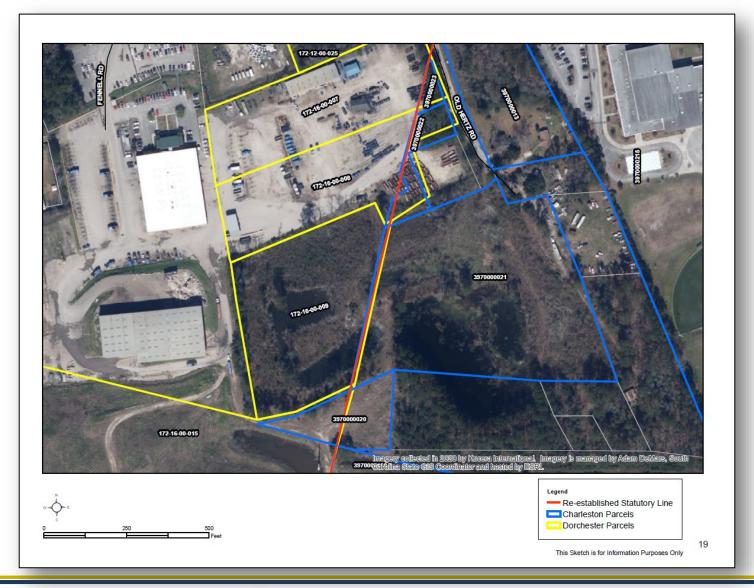
David K. Ballard, PLS Manager, County Boundary Program

SC Geodetic Survey 5 Geology Road Columbia, SC 29212

(803) 896-7710 Email: david.ballard@rfa.sc.gov

1000 ASSEMBLY STREET, SUITE 421 \* COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201 \* (803) 734-3793 \* RFA.SC.GOV

# **Public Meeting Notification (Example)**



# **Newberry Richland Boundary**





#### -Section 4-3-410. Newberry County:

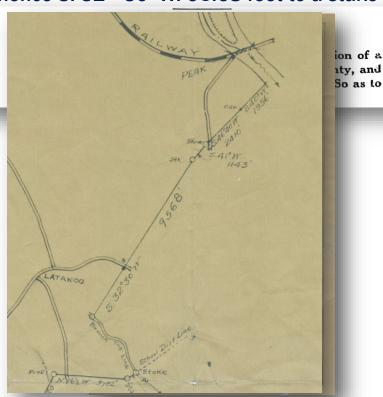
"...thence down Broad River to a point on the Fairfield-Lexington County line about one fourth of a mile below Peak, and running thence S. 40° W. to a point on the west bank of Broad River; thence S. 40° W. 1956 feet to an oak; thence S. 46° 40' W. 2410 feet to a stone in the public road; thence S. 41° W. 1143 feet to a stake; thence S. 32° 30' W. 95.68 feet to a stake on a branch..."

#### -Section 4-3-460. Richland County:

"...To the above-described area of Richland County is to be added all that territory transferred from Lexington County by act approved March 11 1922, to wit: all that certain piece of land containing 8,900 acres, or 14 square miles, situate in the northeastern part of Lexington County on the Broad River, and being bounded and delineated as follows, to wit: beginning at a point on the Broad River, and running S. 41° W. 82.51 chains to a stake; thence turning and running S. 32.5° W. 160.65 chains to a stake; thence running along a creek which empties into Wateree Creek 42.24 chains to a stake; thence running to the point where said creek joins Wateree Creek 71.51 chains; thence running along Wateree Creek 94 chains; thence turning and running S. 23° E. 142.50 chains to a point in Slice Creek known as Rocky Ford; thence turning and running northerly along Slice Creek 164 chains; thence turning and running easterly along Wateree Creek 305.00 chains to the point of entrance of Wateree Creek and Broad River; thence turning and running in a northwesterly direction along Broad River 410 chains, said piece of land being bounded on the west by Newberry County, on the south and southwest by Lexington County, on the south by Richland County, and on the east and north by the Broad River, being more particularly known as the plat of said property, completed on November 25 1921, by W.A. Counts and J.C. Wessinger, surveyors, said plat being filed in the office of the Secretary of State..."

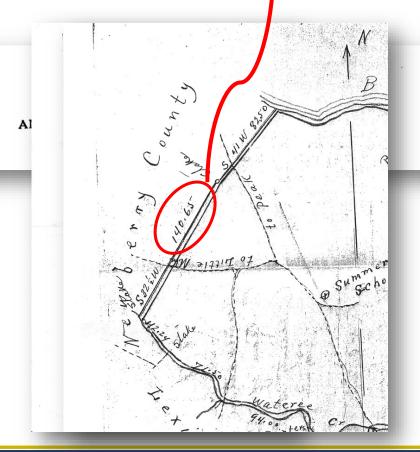
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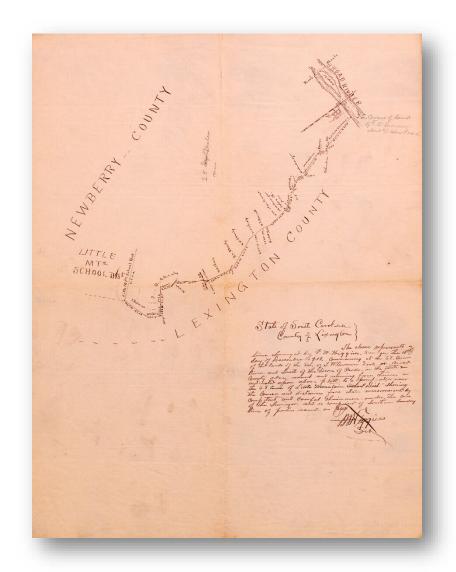


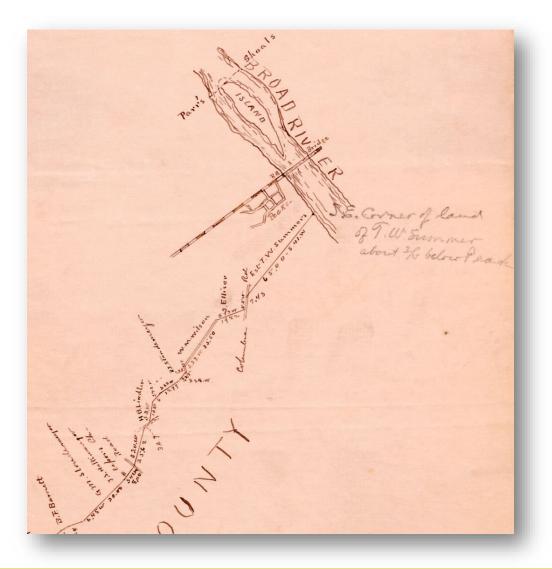
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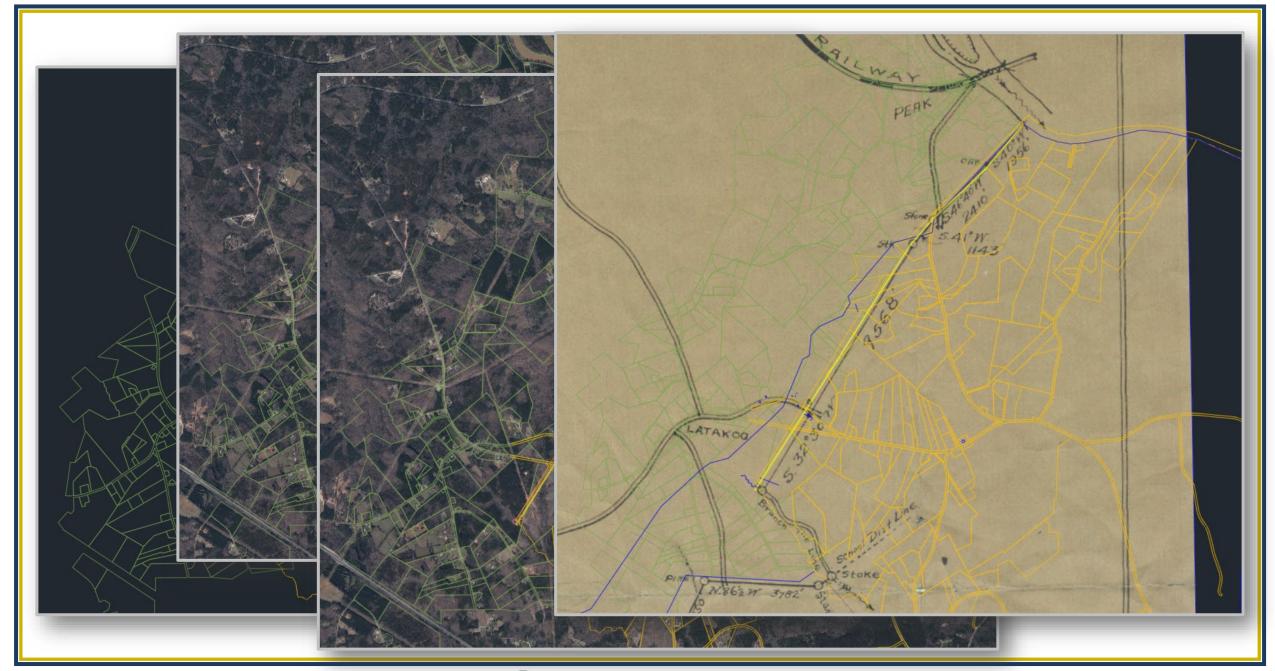
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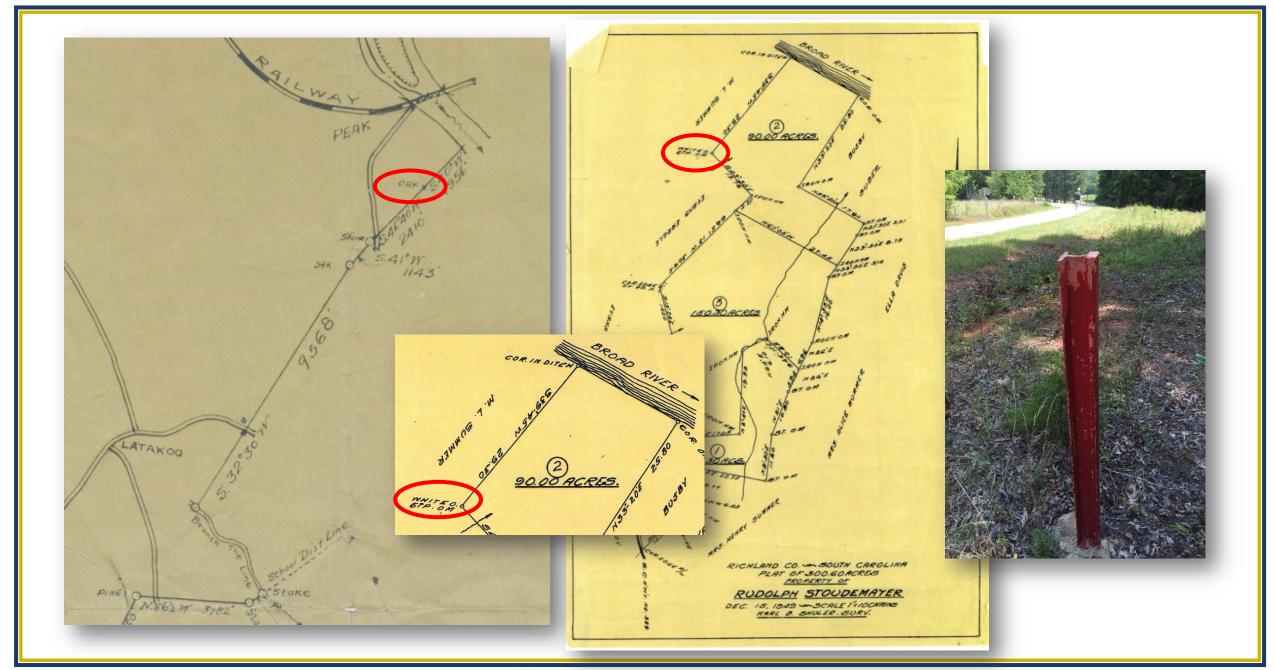


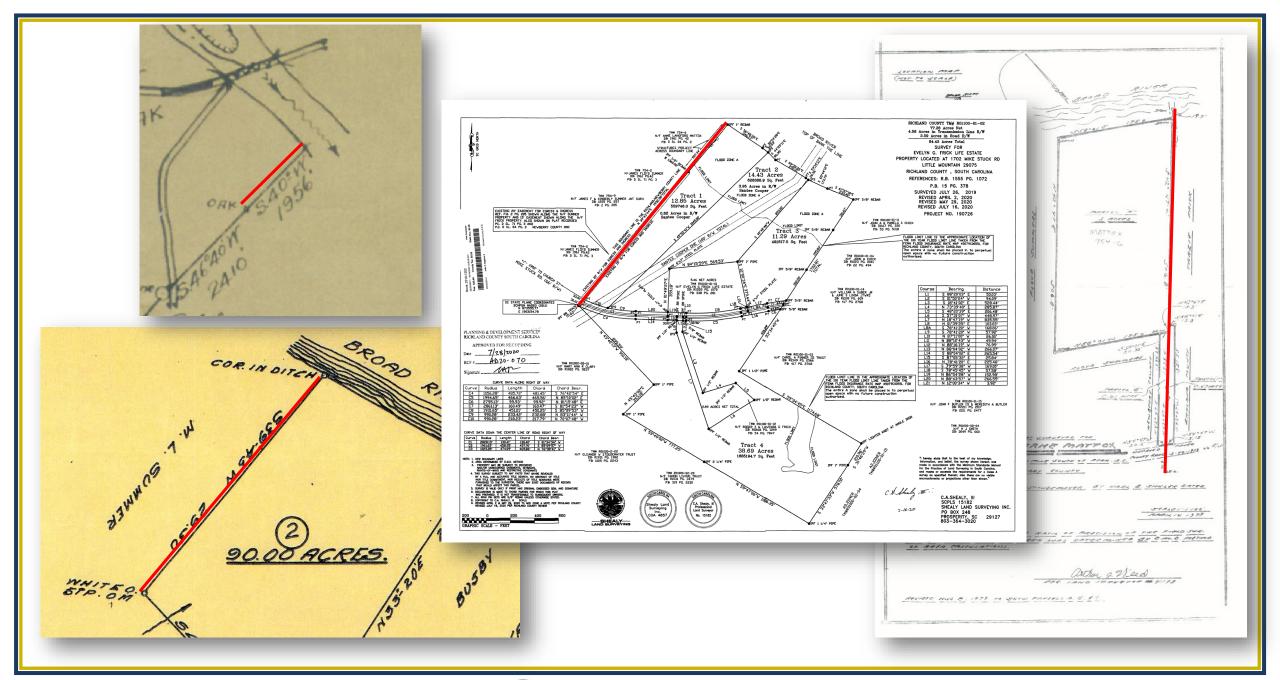
## Annexation Attempt (Lexington to Newberry)



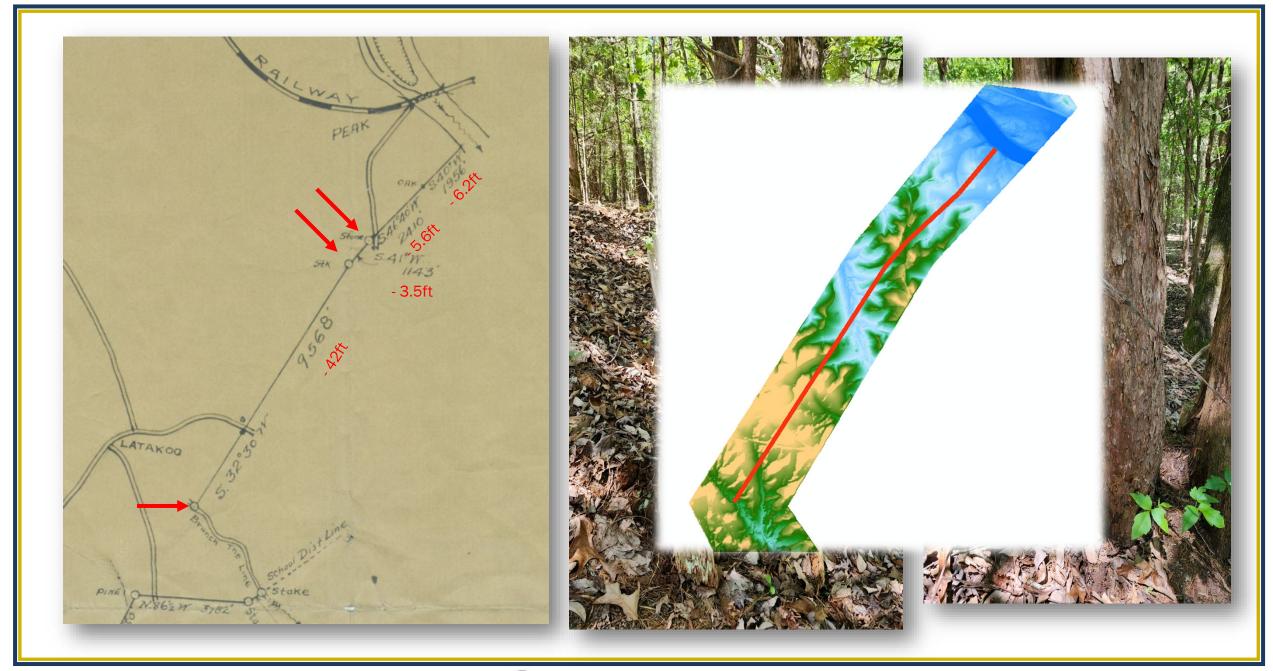


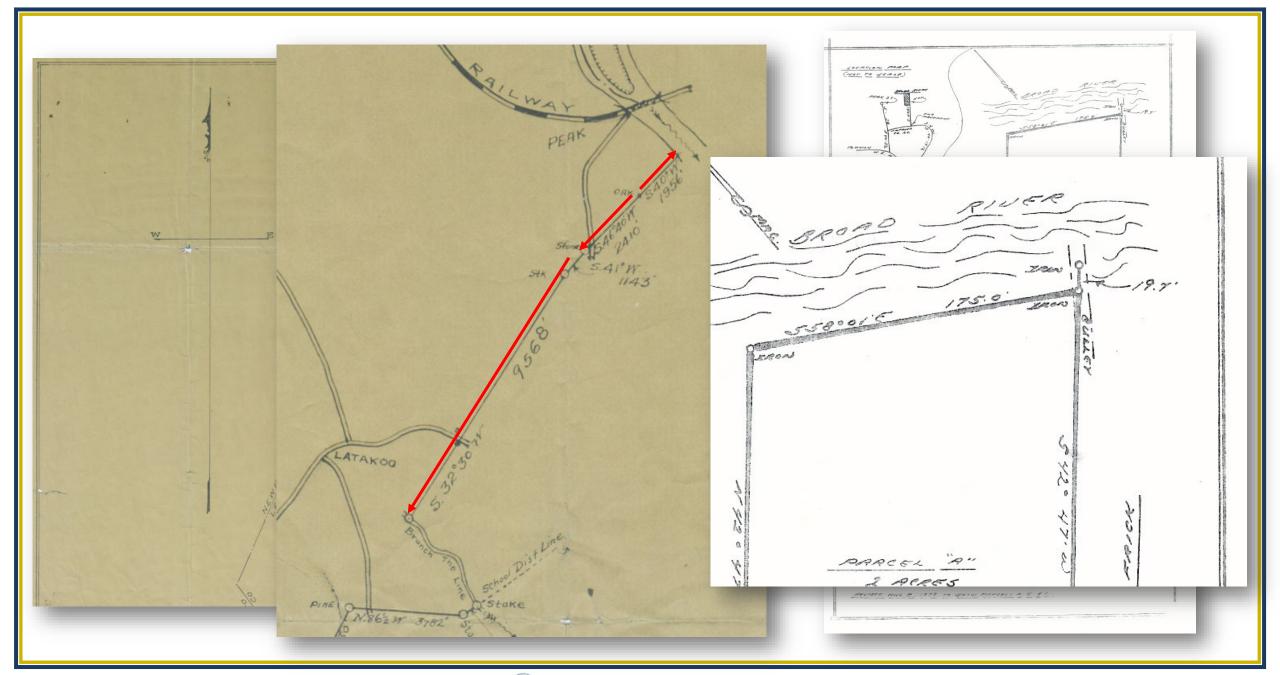


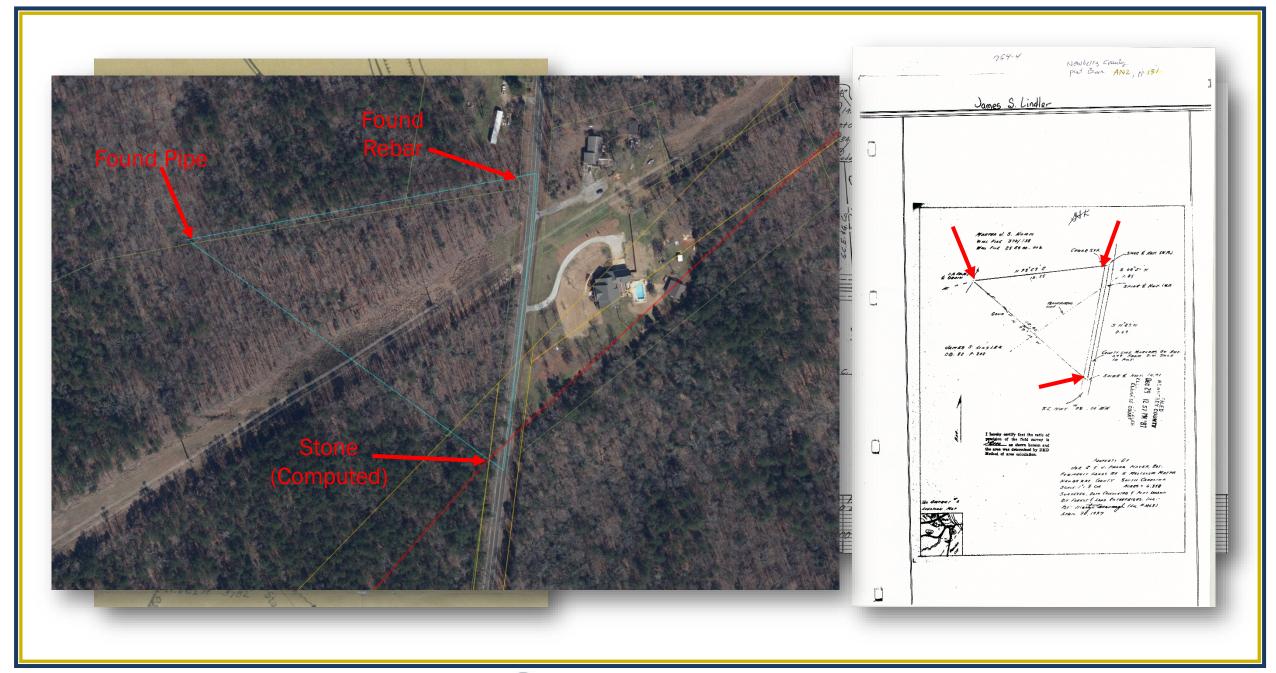






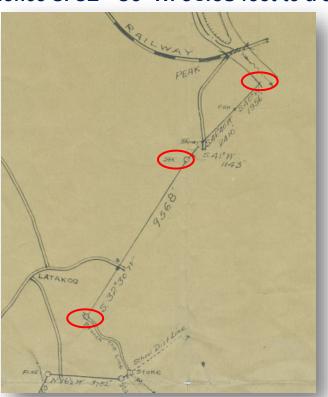






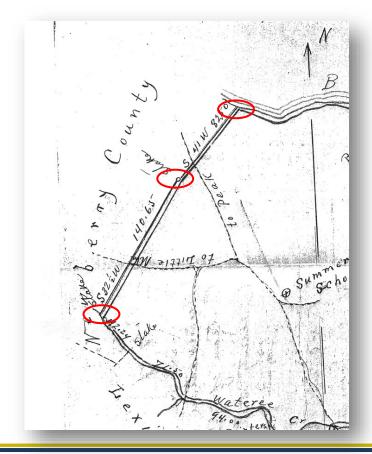
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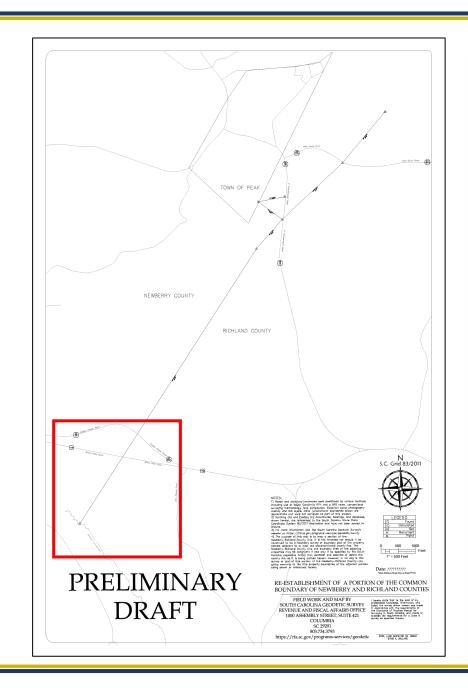
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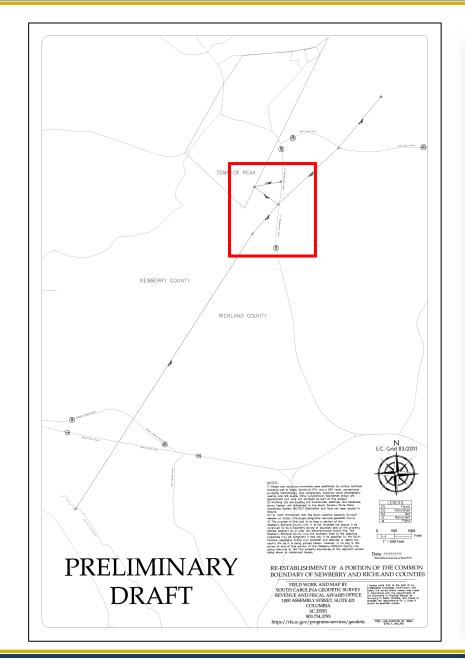
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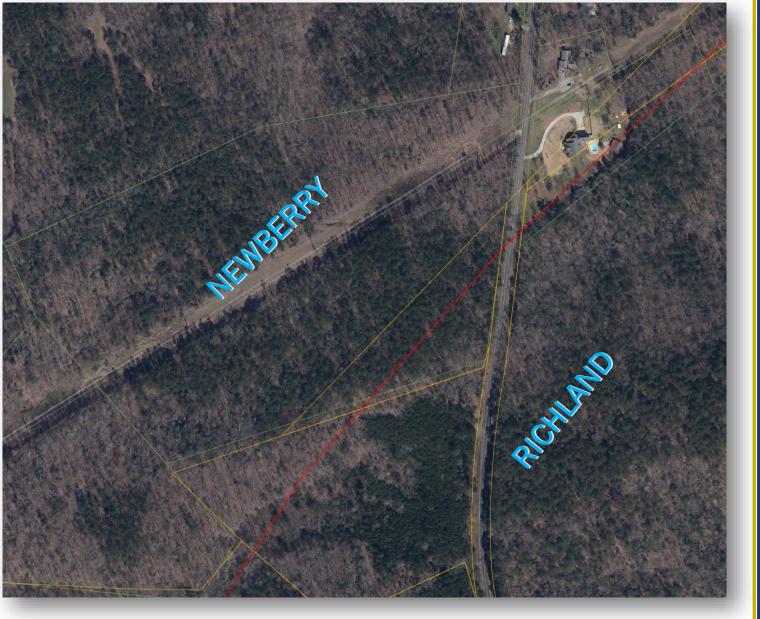
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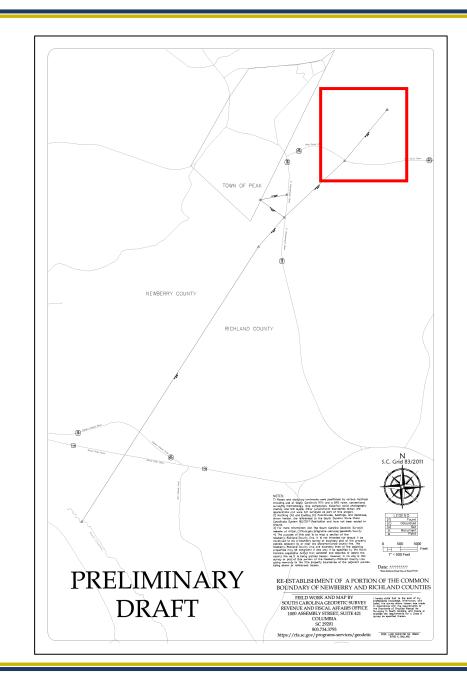














### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- -PUBLIC MEETING
- -CERTIFICATION OF PLAT
- -NOTIFY AFFECTED PARTIES
- -60 DAY APPEAL WINDOW
- -RECORD/FILE PLAT UNDER COVER LETTER
- -DATE OF LETTER IS THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE BOUNDARY

# **Project Page:**

https://rfa.sc.gov/programs-services/geodetic/county/Newb-Rich

# **QUESTIONS?**

Or Information You Would Like to Provide?

PLEASE CALL: 803-734-3793

or EMAIL: <u>boundary@rfa.sc.gov</u>

We Will Work to Address Questions Promptly or Direct Questions to the Appropriate Agency or Jurisdictional Entity