

Maintenance Memorandum

Date: November 11, 1998

Subject: Survey Monuments

The attached procedures are currently valid.

The following are a few of the ideas currently being discussed. If you wish more information on these topics please contact Brian Jersey at 517-373-0061 for more information.

We are in the process of attempting to increase the communication between Regional and Central Survey units, Maintenance and the private sector with regard to the problem of control monumentation being lost and destroyed. The memo that was written in 1981 by MacCreery to Orne is still valid, but only covers a small percentage of monuments at risk. One of the major problems that exist is the destruction of US Public Land Survey Corners (Government Corners). These monuments are the framework to which all property is referenced. Unfortunately, most of these monuments lie in the traveled portion of the roadway and are at constant risk of destruction or disturbance by construction/maintenance crews. We have attempted to remedy this situation in part by developing a pay item for the preservation of these monuments that can be included in each construction contract. We have met with limited success and are currently reviewing the item for improvement. This process does not address the monuments that are disturbed or destroyed unwittingly by maintenance forces.

To attempt to address changes to the Maintenance Memorandum, we would like to see, in addition of the current process outlined by MacCreery's memo, the following take place at a minimum:

1. The area maintenance supervisor (or other appropriate person) contact the regional surveyor prior to planned maintenance projects so that he/she can coordinate the appropriate preservation measures.
2. Supply the regional surveyor with a list of planned maintenance projects on an annual basis so that he/she may plan appropriately.
3. Educate all maintenance personnel as to the existence and importance of these monuments so that they may aid in the preservation effort.

Attachment

“Survey Monuments” October 16, 1981; 2 pgs.



MAINTENANCE MEMO

DATE: October 16, 1981

ADMINISTRATION

TO: District Maintenance Engineers

FROM: W. MacCreery
Engineer of Design

Donald E. Orne
Engineer of Maintenance

SUBJECT: Survey Monuments

Design Surveys, with the cooperation and assistance of Maintenance and Construction divisions, has established over three hundred new survey control stations in the lower peninsula.

These stations are located within road rights of way. Some are at interchanges, some are in median areas and some are simply along a state or county road. None are in the travelled portion of any road.

Each station consists of three concrete monuments - a control station with an aluminum disk with a triangle in the center and stamped with a five digit number and two reference marks; each with an aluminum disk with an arrow pointing in the direction of the control station. All three are stamped with the same five digit number. The first two digits identify the county and the last three are an identity number for the particular station. The station is also marked with a witness post and sign which reads "please do not disturb nearby survey marker." This sign may say to contact the Director - National Geodetic Surveys or Survey Supervising Engineer - MDOT for further information. The actual monument will be approximately four feet from the sign and flush or slightly below ground.

The cost to the Department was approximately \$500.00 to build each set of monuments.

The Department contracted with a private firm to do the surveying required to put precise coordinates on these control stations at a cost of \$1,088 per station, using inertial surveying technology.

This project was completed with the cooperation of several Divisions within the Department. From Design Surveys to the men of Maintenance who provided us with equipment to make the job economically possible, a big "THANK YOU."

District Maintenance
Engineers

-2-

October 16, 1981

We request that Maintenance take an active part in protecting and preserving these valuable survey monuments. If any of your personnel are ever~~y~~ aware of a station that may be disturbed or destroyed and cannot be protected, please contact the Survey Supervising Engineer, Lansing, Area Code 516-373-0060. Information needed would be the station number, location and the nature of the problem.

We are sending a drawing of a typical station and maps of your district.

Engineer of Design

Engineer of Maintenance

DD:EM:jp
AD.monument.mm