

Clay County Public Land Survey System (PLSS) Section Corner Point IDs

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Introduction

This document describes a standard point identifier for section corners identified in Clay County's Public Land Survey System (PLSS). This standard point identifier conforms to the requirements of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Cadastral Data Content Standard requirements for a unique identifier for cadastral corners. The standard system presented here was published by the Bureau of Land management (BLM) in in 2006.

The uniqueness of the section corner point ids facilitates data maintenance and data sharing within Clay County and with external agencies. This document describes the format and structure of the section corner point identifiers for the publication of corner information from Clay County GIS that conforms to the national cadastral data standards.

PLSS Section Corner Point IDs

The PLSS Section Corner Point IDs are a 21 character ID that is made up of two parts, the Township Identifier and the PLSS Point Number. These are detailed in the sections below.

Township Identifier

To make the corner numbers unique, a point prefix is added to the PLSS corner number. This prefix is a concatenation of the State, Principal Meridian, Township and Range in which the point resides. This identifier has been termed the township identifier or TWIP. This point prefix is a standard 15 characters long. It includes two characters for the State (MN), two digits for the Principle Meridian (05), 3 digits for the Township (xxx), 1 digit for the fraction (0), 1 letter for the direction (N), 3 digits for the Range (xxx), 1 digit for the fraction (0), 1 letter for the direction (W), and 1 character to indicate of the Townships is a duplicate (0). Here is an example: MN051400N0440W0

PLSS Point Numbers

The Section Corner Point Numbers use a six-digit numbering system to name PLSS points within a township. This six-digit corner number is the same in every PLSS township to make it easier to determine the location of a corner within a Township.

The first three digits of this number refer to the east-west position in the township (100yyy). The second three digits indicate the north-south position in a township (xxx100. Numbering begins in the lower left corner of the township.

The following picture shows the corner numbering convention for a single township subdivided into sections. This numbering scheme is repeated in each township.



Each corner will have only one PLSS Point Number which normally is the lowest possible six-digit number. However, townships along adjustment lines and county boundaries will have higher numbers. See Appendix B for guidance.

Diagrams

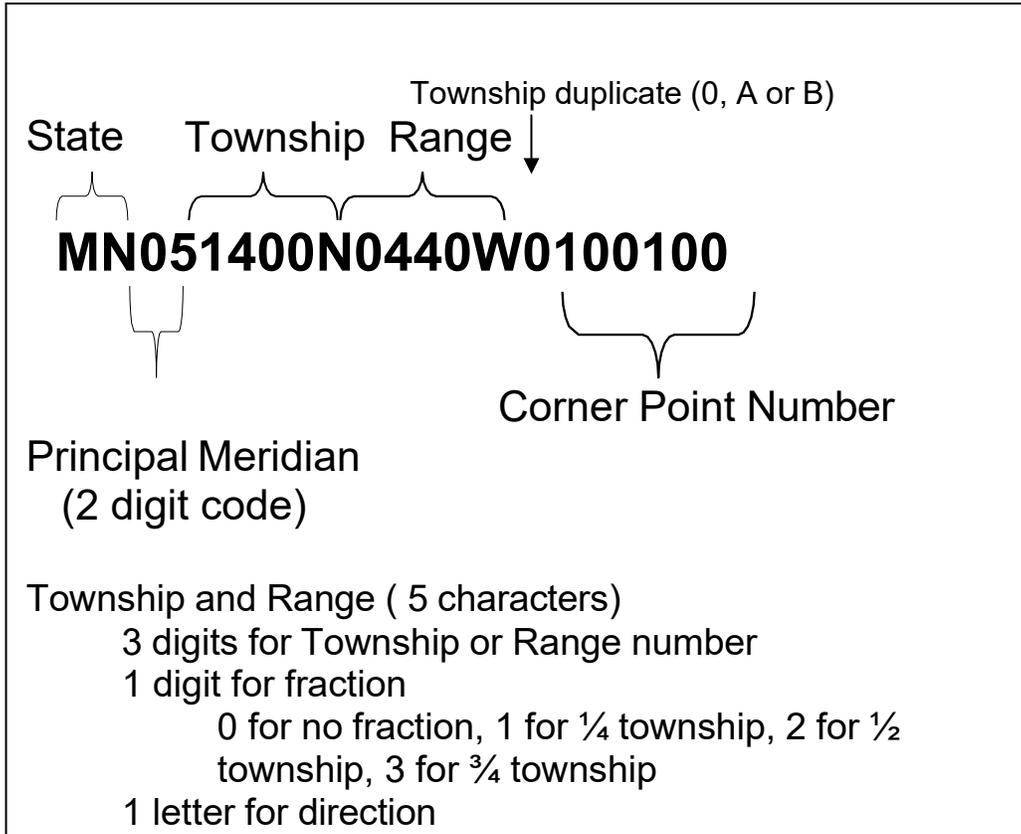
The diagram on the following page shows the proposed corner numbering convention.

Appendix A depicts the detailed PLSS Point Numbering system.

Appendix B is a map of Clay County indicating how PLSS Point Numbers are derived.

PLSS Section Corner Point ID

Below is an example of a complete PLSS Section Corner Point ID.



APPENDIX A: PLSS Point Numbering Guide

PLSS Point Numbers are a six-digit, numerically logical point identification code for all section corners. The following diagram illustrates the PLSS Point Number scheme used to identify the section corners of a township:

