

APÊNDICE I – EXTRACTOS DE ALGUMAS LAND ORDINANCES DE THOMAS JEFERSON

An ORDINANCE for ascertaining the Mode of Disposing of LANDS in the WESTERN TERRITORY.

“By the United States in Congress Assembled. April 23, 1784

Resolved, That so much of the territory ceded, or to be ceded by individual states, to the United States, as is already purchased, or shall be purchased, of the Indian inhabitants, and offered for sale by Congress, shall be divided into distinct states in the following manner, as nearly as such cessions will admit; that is to say, by parallels of latitude, so that each state shall comprehend from north to south two degrees of latitude, beginning to count from the completion of forty a five degrees north of equator; and meridians of longitude, one of which shall pass through the lowest point of the rapids of Ohio, and the other through the western cape of the mouth the great Kanhaway: but the territory eastward of this last meridian, between the Ohio, lake Erie, and Pennsylvania, shall be one state, whatsoever may be its comprehension of latitude. That which may lie beyond the completion of the forty A fifth degree between the said meridians shall make part of the state adjoining it on the south; and that part of Ohio, which is between the same meridians coinciding nearly with the parallel of thirty A nine degrees, shall be substituted so far in lieu of that parallel as a boundary line.

(...)

May 20, 1785

An ORDINANCE for ascertaining the Mode of Disposing of LANDS in the WESTERN TERRITORY.

By the United States in Congress assembled April 23, 1784 resolved, that so much o 05-04-2001.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, that the territory ceded by individual states, to the United States, which has been purchased of the Indian inhabitants, shall be disposed of in the following manner.

A surveyor from each state shall be appointed by Congress or a Committee of States, who shall take an oath for the faithful discharge of his duty, before the geographer of the United States, who is hereby empowered and directed to administer the same; and the like oath shall be administered to each chain carrier, by the surveyor under whom he acts.

The geographer, under whose direction the surveyors shall act, shall occasionally form such regulations for their conduct, as he shall deem necessary; and shall have authority to suspend

them for misconduct in office, and shall make report of the same to congress or to the Committee of the States; and he shall make report in case of sickness, death, or resignation of any surveyor.

The surveyors, as they are respectively qualified, shall proceed to divide the said territory into townships of six miles square by lines running due north and south, and others crossing these at right angles, as near as may be, unless where boundaries of the late Indian purchases may render the same impracticable, and then they shall depart from this rule no farther than such particular circumstances may require. And each surveyor shall be allowed and paid at the rate of two dollars for every mile in length he shall run, including the wages of chain carriers, markers, and every other expense attending the same.

The first line running north and south as aforesaid, shall begin on the river Ohio, at a point that shall be found to be due north from the western termination of a line which has been run as the southern boundary of the state of Pennsylvania: and the first line running east and west, shall begin at the same point, and shall extend throughout the whole territory; provided that nothing herein shall be construed, as fixing the western boundary of the state of Pennsylvania. The geographer shall designate the townships or fractional parts of townships, by numbers progressively from south to north; always beginning each range with No.1; and the ranges shall be distinguished by their progressive numbers to the westward. The first range extending from the Ohio to the lake Erie, being marked No.1. The geographer shall personally attend to the running of the first east and west line; and shall take the latitude of extremes {Begin deleted text} of the first north and south line, and of the mouths of {end deleted text} the principal rivers.

The lines shall be measured with a chain; shall be plainly marked by chaps on the trees, and exactly described on a plat; whereon shall be noted by the surveyor, at their proper distances, all mines, salt springs, salt licks and mill seats, that shall come to his knowledge; and all water A courses, mountains and other remarkable and permanent things over or near which such lines shall pass, and also the quality of the lands.

The plats of townships respectively, shall be marked by subdivisions into lots of one mile square, or 640 acres, in the same direction as the external lines, and numbered from 1 to 36; always beginning the succeeding range of the lots with the number next to that with which the preceding one concluded. And where from the causes before mentioned, only a fractional part of a township shall be surveyed, the lots protracted thereon, shall bear the same numbers as if the township had been entire. And the surveyors in running the external lines of the townships, shall at the interval of every mile, mark corners for the lots which are adjacent, always designating the same in a different manner from those of the township.

The geographer and surveyors, shall pay the utmost attention to the variation of the magnetic needle; and shall run and note all lines by the true meridian, certifying with every plat what was the variation at the times of running the lines thereon noted

(...)

By the United States in Congress assembled April 23, 1784

Resolved, that so much o 05-04-2001

As soon as seven ranges of townships, and fractional parts of townships, in direction from south to north, shall have been surveyed, the geographer shall transmit plats thereof to the board of treasury, who shall record the same with the report, in well bound books to be kept for that purpose. And the geographer shall make similar returns from time to time of every seven ranges as they may be surveyed. The secretary at war shall have recourse thereto, and shall take by lot there from, a number of townships and fractional parts of townships, as well from those to be sold entire, as from those to be sold in lots, as will be equal to one seventh part of the whole of such seven ranges, as nearly as may be, for the use of the late continental army; and he shall make a similar draught from time to time, until a sufficient quantity is drawn to satisfy the same, to be applied in manner hereinafter directed. The board of treasury shall from time to time, cause the remaining numbers, as well those to be sold entire, as those to be sold in lots, to be drawn for, in the names of the thirteen states respectively, according to the quotas in the last preceding requisition on all the states: provided that in case more land than its proportion is allotted for sale in any state at any distribution be made therefore at the next. ¹

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¹ <http://www.loc.gov>