Hi,

I’m Stu Righter, PLS. If you are reading this, you have acquired the disk associated with my “solution” set. This consists of three files on the disk along with this foreword, and a counter-copy which is held by the owner of this set.

This foreword will attempt to guide you through the files and how to use. First, this is based on the collected works of Abbott as found on Assessor’s-DISK #1,” as has been offered for some time. It has been noted by surveyors and other users , of the difficulties associated with the disk. One of the most noted features is how the picture files (tif) all open up atop of each other. This I have surmounted by opening in a free, on-line software called “Irfanview.” This software allows one to open and download all the picture files into a separate folder, in which they are all closed, and numbered. In this case 1-215. There is/was another problem with the Assessor’s Disk format(s) in that even if one closed the file(s) one-by-one, the user was still prohibited from doing so to any file beyond the first 100.

Now, on nearly every page, or picture file, one will often find an Abbott map, (George Abbott, LS, RE)(circa: 1930-1965), which ITSELF has a “ number, assigned by the Assessor. This is how these maps and pages were tracked by the Assessor. So , here’s the deal: You look up the page, or picture you want to find, on the XL(s) file, which will give you all the numbers you need to work with, and then you can easily find the individual file you want. Now don’t be fooled into thinking that there is a one-to-one relationship throughout the entire 215-page series. In the first place, on page “one” there is a statement by the Assessor about how valuable these Abbott maps are. Then, on page-two, is Abbott number one, and so on… This offset (of one) continues until page 27, when the reader/user will find a three page index, which is the basis for another XL(s) file on this disk (“index”).

The “Index” is actually a five-page series—all labeled (page)”27,” with an additional identifier “A,” “B,” and so forth, for the five-page span. I have filled out the index, which in itself, is a valuable tool, but don’t worry, (most of) the info from the index is already included in the main catalog. Now you can see that the page-numbering is offset by three more. So, the idea is that one follows the page-by-page numbering in the catalog, as well as in the index. This will keep it straight throughout the series.

Also on each plat/page are other identifiers, one of which is what I call “map ID,” This consists of an Alpha letter, which is actually the page size, similar to, but NOT identical to the CAD/Ascii page sizes. See below.

Abbott sheet sizes

A=18"X26"

B=13"X18"

C=13"X9"

D=8+1/2"X14"

S=18"X30"

X=larger than "A"

This is then followed by a numerical designation which is probably associated with job, in Abbott’s client file(s). So this Map-ID often looks like—C-123 (ex). This would (seemingly) indicate a plat size of 13” X 19”, and a job/association of #123. This “map-ID” is also in the index as well as the catalog. Now the correlation between the index and the catalog might be considered as the Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN), which was just then coming into use. So here’s the next deal: I have used the index, which identified the APN of about half of the Abbott series, and using the old(er) microfiche series, I have updated with the much newer Assessor designations, which continued until 1990s. This will aid in finding and identifying more parcels from Abbott’s series. This not an absolute fix, but helpful, nonetheless. And the original APNs, as found in the index, are listed in the “index” herein, as well as correlated and updated in the “catalog.”

Then, I have also noted in the counter-copy, these numbers and changes on each paper-page to help in the info search, if necessary. The counter-copy binder also includes a paper-copy of both the indexes and the catalog—spread-sheet style. So, in essence, one could conduct a search using the counter-copy binder, by itself, which I have done, myself. Though it IS limited to those plats from the Assessor’s series.

Then, I have also noted other items of interest, such as road names, township-and-range, significant maps numbers, client names, and other maps which relate to the plat-in-question.

When initiating a search, one can input in the “find” feature, any of these pieces and locate all occurrences thereof. Then one can go to the plat/page/tif and lookup other info which may put one onto further searches. Mostly, in my own searches, with benefit of these XL(s) files, I have located the pertinent elements within a few minutes, versus hours spent in the storage locker. Then, using the info from the catalog, find the correct numerical page, Assessor number page, open THAT file, confirm the map-ID, and you are THERE.

So you may be able to see that the embedded index covers about one-half of the 215 plats, with locative sections, while the catalog is all 215 plats/pages with indicators of the indexed plats, and additional info gleaned from the plats.

Also for consideration, is the fact that additional information is available on the counter-copies which is NOT included in the XL files, or elsewhere herein.

Good luck, and good hunting.

Stu Righter , PLS