### A licensed land surveyor may be needed when:

- ♦ Buying or selling a home or parcel of land
- ♦ Combining or dividing land into smaller parcels
- ♦ Installing fences, septic systems or other property improvements
- You need to clarify your property boundaries
- Verifying amount of land assessed for taxes
- ♦ Identifying things that affect your property e.g. easements, encumbrances, etc.



It is important to hire a **licensed** land surveyor – anyone else is unqualified to determine your property boundaries, set your property corners or testify on your behalf if your neighbor is encroaching on your land.

Visit NYSAPLS' website and click on "For the Public" to use our **Find a Surveyor** tool to find your licensed surveyor!

#### ABOUT LAND SURVEYING

Land surveying is an old and established profession shared by many of this nation's founders. Surveyors use history, math, science, technology and good ole-fashioned sleuthing to create detailed maps of our world. Those maps, (i.e. surveys) can be of your property, a roadway or even of the Statue of Liberty. In order to provide you with a map of your property, the surveyor you chose will inspect your land and take measurements. It's always a good idea to request marks at your property corners where none exist so that you, a contractor, or your children can retrace their steps. The marks are often called monuments and they may be square or round concrete objects, iron rebar (aka pins) set at your corners or spaced along your lines. As with any professional service, be sure to discuss your expectations with your surveyor and sign a contract so both parties understand the work to be done.

### Before you buy, sell, divide or build, hire a professional land surveyor!

Visit us on our website or give us a call to find a licensed land surveyor!

www.nysapls.org

NYSAPLS, Inc.



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# Do you need a surveyor?

LAND: Buying, Selling & Improving Yours



NewYork State Association of Professional Land Surveyors

## Steps to having a successful engagement with your surveyor:

- **1.** Go to www.nysapls.org to find a **licensed** surveyor in your area using our online directory!
- **2.** Call your selected surveyor to set up a consultation.
- **3.** Sign a contract with your surveyor that outlines the work to be performed.
- **4.** Have your land surveyed.
- **5.** Receive a map and other previously discussed materials from your surveyor based on the agreed-upon scope!

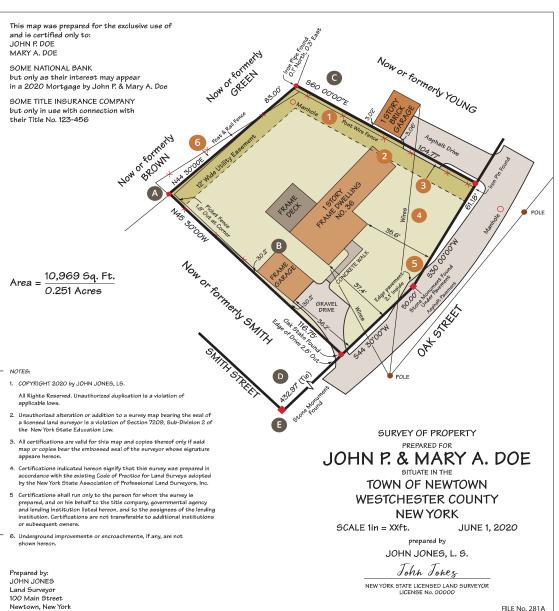
#### **About NYSAPLS**

Founded in 1963 as a membership organization, the New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors (NYSAPLS) represents more than 1,200 members throughout the State of New York and is recognized as the unified voice of the New York surveying profession.

NYSAPLS provides resources to assist consumers such as an online directory of member licensed land surveyors by county as well as other valuable public information on our website.

### This is some of the information which a survey map will provide.

- A The map shows various improvements on the property & their relationship to the property lines.
- The distance called an offset shows the shortest distance from an improvement to the property. It is useful for planning improvements & checking zoning requirements.
- These numbers called bearings & distances define the shape of the property.
- This distance, called a tie, shows the distance from a street intersection, or other referenced corner, to the beginning of the property.
- These points, which were found, indicate some of the field evidence which the surveyor used to locate the property.
- These notes are your assurance that the survey was prepared according to accepted standards of work.



The following are some of the potential problems which a survey could point out. You should consult your attorney concerning them.

- The land within this easement probably has limited useability.
- The house is built within the bounds of an easement. This is a potential problem which might be unacceptable.
- The adjoiners drive is built partly on the property. This could be an encroachment or an easement.
- The wires servicing the adjoiner are encroaching. This could indicate an easement.
- Part of the street pavement is encroaching a potential problem which may not be correctable.
- This land between the fence & the property line appears to be part of the property, but is actually owned by the adjoiner.

### Did you Know >>>

In the old days, before written documents, a deed had a different connotation. When a seller and buyer got together to exchange a parcel of land, the entire village would gather at one corner of the property for sale. The group then executed the "deed" of walking the perimeter of the property so that everyone in town was a witness to the transaction.