

January 2018

### **Homestead Entry vs. Homestead Entry Survey:**

A Homestead Entry is generally any Homestead claim made under the Homestead Act, as amended. Unless special authorization was granted by Congress, the land claimed must be described in conformance with the rectangular system (aka Public Land Survey System). For example, the southwest quarter of Section 5, NE1/4. West Half, etc. Homestead claims were generally not surveyed individually, but the most recent official cadastral survey preceding the patent date was incorporated into the description of the patent by reference.

A Homestead Entry Survey is a survey of a Homestead claim made under the Act of June 11, 1906, as amended (34 Stat. 233). Since these claims “were generally nonrectangular, without regard to the lines of the public surveys, usually made by employees of the Forest Service under special instructions issued by the GLO. The surveys were often many-sided figures with the intent to encompass the grazing and/or agricultural land” (Section 10-58, Manual of Surveying Instructions, 2009). The existence of a Homestead Entry Survey should be noted in the land description on the patent by a Homestead Entry Survey number ### (may be abbreviated H.E. Survey No. ###, H.E.S. No. ###, or similar).

Plats and field notes for all Homestead Entry Surveys within Arizona have been scanned and posted to this website as of December 11, 2017. If you are unable to locate a plat or a set of notes, please contact the BLM Arizona Cadastral Survey Program at [blm\\_az\\_cadastral\\_services@blm.gov](mailto:blm_az_cadastral_services@blm.gov) or 602-417-9200.