

Is there an answer?

WHEN IS A SURVEYOR NOT A SURVEYOR?

The following article "Abraham Lincoln - Surveyor" is reproduced here as it appeared in the APEO publication, "The Professional Engineer", October, 1958. Possibly very few of us realize that the great Abe Lincoln was a Surveyor. It is interesting to note the implication that Surveying is Engineering, for purposes of Engineering History - Mr. John Peters - please note appropos of the tariff review, the rates charged by Mr. Lincoln.

The Editor.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN - SURVEYOR

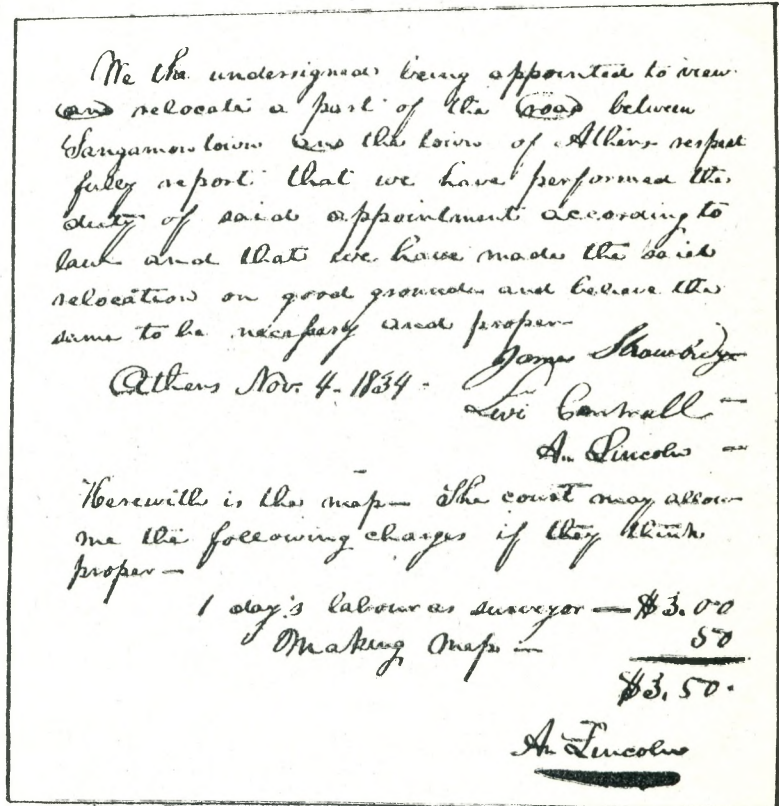
Abraham Lincoln is generally remembered for the part he played in moulding the history of the United States. He was a man of many qualities and skills, not the least of which was that of land surveying. In an article by Kenneth C. Crowder in the "Lawyers Title News" of Richmond, Va., to which we are indebted for this reference and the copy of document reproduced on this page, we are told that economic necessity coupled with ambition was responsible for Lincoln becoming a surveyor.

At the time, 1833, he was postmaster at New Salem and on deciding to accept the offer to become a deputy county surveyor, he spent long hours studying Robert Gibson's "Theory and Practice of Surveying" and Flint's "Treatise on Geometry, Trigonometry and Rectangular Surveying".

What was probably Lincoln's first survey was in January 1834 and it covered a farm property of Squire Golby about ten miles from New Salem. There are also preserved records of numerous other surveys made by him during the time (1833-1836) that he also served as postmaster of New Salem.

Such records as the one which is reproduced lend much to history and tradition and while engineers are not famed (rightfully or wrongfully) for their deep in-

terest in history, there must be many records of engineering Canadiana which should be preserved.



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The world-famous ILLUMINATION OF THE FALLS occurs for 2½ hours nightly throughout the year. Twenty searchlights, each 36 inches in diameter, beam onto both Falls from the Canadian side of the river a total of 4,200,000,000 candlepower of light, either in white or in an extravaganza of colours. In summer the lights go on at nightfall; in winter at 7:30 p.m.

Because Niagara River water can be made to drop 295 feet at Queenston, 50 per cent more power can be generated there than could be generated from the same amount of water in the vicinity of the Falls, where a maximum drop of only 200 feet can be obtained; hence the expenditure of \$343,720,000 on twin HYDRO TUNNELS under the City of Niagara Falls, Ontario.