

**SURVEYS AND MAPPING BRANCH  
DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS  
VICTORIA, B.C.**



THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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ALL COMMUNICATIONS IN REFERENCE TO SURVEYS, MAPS,  
AND AIR PHOTOS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE  
DIRECTOR OF SURVEYS AND MAPPING

THE REPLY TO THIS LETTER SHOULD BE MARKED  
FOR THE ATTENTION OF:

- AIR DIVISION.....
- GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.....
- LEGAL SURVEYS DIVISION.....
- TOPOGRAPHIC DIVISION.....

YOUR FILE NO.

PLEASE QUOTE OUR FILE NO.

0583/2.7

November 28, 1957.

To all B. C. Land Surveyors.

RE: PROTECTION OF SURVEY MONUMENTS

The attached circular letter has been prepared and distributed to operators and some contractors associated with the petroleum and natural gas industry and is also intended to be distributed, through the Department of Highways, to the latter's field crews and associated contractors.

Although it would be desirable to have a similar authority to Order-in-Council 1793 extended to protect all survey monuments, it will be appreciated that our present resources of staff and funds could not begin to accomplish such an objective.

In any case, it was felt that the subject circular will be of some interest and accordingly it has been punched for possible insertion in the B.C.L.S. Handbook.

G. S. Andrews,  
Surveyor-General & Director.

AHR/mir  
Encl:





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IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

PROTECTION OF SURVEY MONUMENTS

Over the past few years there has been reported to this office an ever increasing amount of damage and destruction to official survey monuments, particularly in connection with the broad scope of activities in northeast B. C. attendant upon the thriving oil and gas industry.

The initial cost of setting these monuments, especially in such areas difficult of access, is extremely high, and by the same token replacements are expensive. It behooves everyone therefore to carefully preserve and protect our survey structure, which besides identifying existing sections or lots also forms the necessary foundation for the many leases and other cadastral surveys that are now projected, and which must soon follow.

All operators or associated contractors are therefore reminded that the British Columbia Government has drawn up Regulations, under authority of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act, which provide for the safeguarding of such survey monuments. These Regulations form a part of Order-in-Council 1793 dated 15 July, 1955, and are as follows:-

" SURVEY MONUMENTS

8. (1) Prior to the commencement of any clearing, ditching, or grading work, the operator shall:-
- (a) Ascertain from the Surveys and Mapping Branch of the Department of Lands and Forests the location of survey monuments in the vicinity of the proposed work; and
  - (b) Mark conspicuously the location of each monument by a flag attached to the top of a pole at least five feet from the ground; and
  - (c) Take such other precautions as may be necessary to ensure that no monument is defaced, altered, disturbed, or damaged during the course of work.
- (2) Any monument found in a damaged or disturbed condition by an operator shall be reported by him immediately to the Surveyor-General.

