

2026 ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey Standards

Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors
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Presented by

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Noblesville, Indiana

Biography of Gary R. Kent

Gary Kent is a professional surveyor in his 42nd year with Schneider Geomatics, a land surveying and consulting engineering firm based in Indianapolis. Upon his transition to part-time in 2020, he formed Meridian Land Consulting, LLC through which he provides training, consulting and expert witness services.

Gary is a graduate of Purdue University with a BS in Land Surveying; he is registered to practice as a professional surveyor in Indiana and Michigan. He served as chair of the joint ALTA/NSPS Workgroup on the ALTA/NSPS Standards from 1995 to 2021 and continues to be actively involved in the development of those standards. Gary is a past-president of both the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping and the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors.

A member of the adjunct faculty for Purdue University from 1999-2006, Gary taught Boundary Law, Legal Descriptions, Property Surveying and Land Survey Systems and was awarded “*Outstanding Associate Faculty*” and “*Excellence in Teaching*” awards for his efforts. Gary is on the faculty of GeoLearn (www.geo-learn.com), an online provider of continuing education and training for surveyors and other geospatial professionals. He is also a certified instructor for the International Right of Way Association.

Gary served on the Indiana State Board of Registration for Professional Surveyors from 2004 to 2025. He is frequently sought as an expert or consulting witness in cases involving boundaries, easements, riparian rights, survey standards and land surveying practice. He has presented programs on boundary law, easements and rights of way, surveying standards and practice, and leadership multiple times in each of the 50 states and three times in Europe. Gary is also a columnist for The American Surveyor magazine and is on the faculty of GeoLearn, an on-line provider of surveying continuing education courses..

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**MINIMUM STANDARD DETAIL REQUIREMENTS FOR
ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEYS**
(Effective February 23, 2026)

1. **Purpose** - Members of the American Land Title Association® (ALTA) have specific needs, unique to title insurance matters, when asked to insure title to land without exception as to the many matters which might be discoverable from survey and inspection, and which are not evidenced by the public records.

For a survey of real property, and the plat, map or record of such survey, to be acceptable to a title insurance company for the purpose of insuring title to said real property free and clear of survey matters (except those matters disclosed by the survey and indicated on the plat or map), certain specific and pertinent information must be presented for the distinct and clear understanding between the insured, the client (if different from the insured), the title insurance company (insurer), the lender, and the surveyor professionally responsible for the survey.

In order to meet such needs, clients, insurers, insureds, and lenders are entitled to rely on surveyors to conduct surveys and prepare associated plats or maps that are of a professional quality and appropriately uniform, complete, and accurate. To that end, and in the interests of the general public, the surveying profession, title insurers, and abstracters, the ALTA and the NSPS jointly promulgate the within details and criteria setting forth a minimum standard of performance for ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys. A complete ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey includes:

- A. the fieldwork required pursuant to Section 5,
 - B. the preparation of a plat or map pursuant to Section 6 showing the results of the fieldwork and its relationship to documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4,
 - C. any information from Table A items requested by the client, and
 - D. the certification outlined in Section 7.
2. **Request for Survey** - The client shall request the survey, or arrange for the survey to be requested, and shall provide a written authorization to proceed from the person or entity responsible for paying for the survey. Unless specifically authorized in writing by the insurer, the insurer shall not be responsible for any costs associated with the preparation of the survey. The request must specify that a "**2026 ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY**" is required and which of the optional items listed in Table A, if any, are to be incorporated. Certain properties or interests in real properties may present issues outside those normally encountered on an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey (e.g., marinas, campgrounds, mobile home parks, easements, leases, mineral interests, other non-fee simple interests). The scope of work related to surveys of such properties or interests in real properties should be discussed with the client, lender, and insurer, and agreed upon in writing prior to commencing work on the survey. When required, the client shall secure permission for the surveyor to enter upon the property to be surveyed, adjoining properties, or offsite easements.
3. **Surveying Standards and Standards of Care**
- A. **Effective Date** - The 2026 Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys are effective February 23, 2026. As of that date, all previous versions of the Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/ACSM or ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys are superseded by these standards.
 - B. **Other Requirements and Standards of Practice** - Many states and some local jurisdictions have adopted statutes, administrative rules, and/or ordinances that set out standards regulating the practice of surveying within their jurisdictions. In addition to the standards set forth herein, surveyors must also conduct their surveys in accordance with applicable jurisdictional survey requirements and standards of practice. Where conflicts between the



- standards set forth herein and any such jurisdictional requirements and standards of practice occur, the more stringent must apply.
- C. **The Normal Standard of Care** - Surveyors should recognize that there may be unwritten local, state, and/or regional standards of care defined by the practice of the “prudent surveyor” in those locales.
 - D. **Boundary** - The boundary lines and corners of any property or interest in real property being surveyed (hereafter, the “surveyed property” or “property to be surveyed”) as part of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey must be established and/or retraced in accordance with appropriate boundary law principles governed by the set of facts and evidence found in the course of performing the research and fieldwork.
 - E. **Measurement Standards** - The following measurement standards address Relative Positional Precision for the monuments or witnesses marking the corners of the surveyed property.
 - i. “Relative Positional Precision” is the accepted indicator of measurement quality on an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey. It is defined as the length of the semi-major axis, expressed in meters or feet, of the error ellipse of the line connecting the monuments or witnesses marking adjacent boundary corners of the surveyed property at the 95 percent confidence level. Relative Positional Precision is most commonly estimated by the results of a correctly weighted least squares adjustment of the survey, or alternatively it can be estimated by the standard deviation of the distance between the monument or witness marking any boundary corner of the surveyed property and the monument or witness marking an immediately adjacent boundary corner of the surveyed property (called local accuracy) that can be computed using the full covariance matrix of the coordinate inverse between any given pair of points, understanding that Relative Positional Precision is based on the 95 percent confidence level.
 - ii. Any boundary lines and corners established or retraced may have uncertainties in location resulting from (1) the availability, condition, history and integrity of reference or controlling monuments, (2) ambiguities in the record descriptions or plats of the surveyed property or its adjoining properties, (3) occupation or possession lines as they may differ from the written title lines, or (4) Relative Positional Precision. Of these four sources of uncertainty, only Relative Positional Precision is controllable, although, due to the inherent errors in any measurement, it cannot be eliminated. The magnitude of the first three uncertainties can be projected based on evidence; Relative Positional Precision is estimated using statistical means (see Section 3.E.i. above and Section 3.E.v. below).
 - iii. The first three of these sources of uncertainty must be weighed as part of the evidence in the determination of where, in the surveyor’s opinion, the boundary lines and corners of the surveyed property should be located (see Section 3.D. above). Relative Positional Precision is a measure of how precisely the surveyor is able to monument and report those positions; it is not a substitute for the application of proper boundary law principles. A boundary corner or line may have a small Relative Positional Precision because the survey measurements were precise, yet still be in the wrong position (i.e., inaccurate) if it was established or retraced using faulty or improper application of boundary law principles.
 - iv. For any measurement technology or procedure used on an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, the surveyor must (1) use appropriately trained personnel, (2) compensate for systematic errors, including those associated with instrument calibration, and (3) use appropriate error propagation and measurement design theory (selecting the proper instruments, geometric layouts, and field and computational procedures) to control random errors such that the; maximum allowable Relative Positional Precision outlined in Section 3.E.v. below is not exceeded.
 - v. The maximum allowable Relative Positional Precision for an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey is 2 cm (0.07 feet) plus 50 parts per million (based on the direct distance between the two corners being tested). It is recognized that in certain circumstances, the size or configuration of the surveyed property, or the relief, vegetation, or improvements on the surveyed property, will result in survey measurements for which the maximum allowable



Relative Positional Precision may be exceeded in which case the reason shall be noted pursuant to Section 6.B.x. below.

4. **Records Research** - It is recognized that for the performance of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, the surveyor must be provided with appropriate and, when possible, legible data that can be relied upon in the preparation of the survey. In order to complete an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, the surveyor must be provided with the following:
- A. Given the purpose of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, complete copies of the most recent title commitment or, if a title commitment is not available, other title evidence satisfactory to the title insurer (if a recent title commitment is not provided, in some cases, additional title research may be required on the part of and by the insurer or on the part of the surveyor due to state law);
 - B. The current record description of the real property to be surveyed or, in the case of an original survey prepared for purposes of locating and describing real property that has not been previously separately described in documents conveying an interest in the real property, the current record description of the parent parcel that contains the property to be surveyed;
 - C. The following documents from records established under state statutes for the purpose of imparting constructive notice of matters relating to real property (public records):
 - i. Any recorded easements benefitting (i.e., appurtenant to) the property to be surveyed; and
 - ii. Any recorded easements, servitudes, or covenants burdening the property to be surveyed.
 - D. If desired by the client, any unrecorded documents affecting the property to be surveyed and containing information to which the survey shall make reference.

Except, however, if the documents outlined in B and C of this section are not provided to the surveyor or if non-public or quasi-public documents (e.g., highway or railroad plans) are otherwise required to complete the survey, the surveyor must conduct that research which is required pursuant to the statutory or administrative requirements of the jurisdiction where the surveyed property is located and that research (if any) which is negotiated and outlined in the terms of the contract between the surveyor and the client.

5. **Fieldwork** - The fieldwork must be performed using practices generally recognized as acceptable by the surveying profession for purposes of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey. Except as related to the precision of the boundary, which is addressed in Section 3.E. above, features located during the fieldwork shall be located to what is, in the surveyor's professional opinion, the appropriate degree of precision based on (a) the planned use of the surveyed property, if reported in writing to the surveyor by the client, lender, or insurer, or (b) the existing use, if the planned use is not so reported. The fieldwork shall include the following:
- A. **Monuments**
 - i. The location, size, character (including relationship to surface of the ground), and type of any monuments found during the fieldwork.
 - ii. The location, size, character (including relationship to surface of the ground), and type of any monuments set during the fieldwork, if item 1 of Table A was selected or if otherwise required by applicable jurisdictional requirements and/or standards of practice.
 - iii. The location, description, and character of any lines that control the boundaries of the surveyed property.
 - B. **Rights of Way and Access**
 - i. The distance from the appropriate corner or corners of the surveyed property to the nearest right of way line, if the surveyed property does not abut a right of way.
 - ii. The name of any street, highway, or other public or private way abutting the surveyed property, together with the width of the travelled way and the location of each edge of the travelled way including on divided streets and highways. If the documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4 indicate no access from the surveyed property to the abutting street or highway, the width and location of the travelled way

- need not be located.
- iii. Evidence of physical access (including vehicular access such as curb cuts and driveways) to any abutting streets, highways, or other public or private ways observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
 - iv. The location and character of vehicular, pedestrian, or other forms of access by other than the apparent occupants of the surveyed property to or across the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (e.g., driveways, alleys, private roads, railroads, railroad sidings and spurs, sidewalks, footpaths).
 - v. Without expressing a legal opinion as to ownership or nature, the location and extent of any potentially encroaching driveways, alleys, and other ways of access from adjoining properties onto the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
 - vi. Where documentation of the location of any street, road, or highway right of way abutting, on, or crossing the surveyed property was not disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor, or was not otherwise available from the controlling jurisdiction (see Section 6.C.iv. below), the evidence and location of parcel corners on the same side of the street as the surveyed property recovered in the process of conducting the fieldwork which may indicate the location of such right of way lines (e.g., lines of occupation, survey monuments).
 - vii. Evidence of access to and from waters adjoining the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (e.g., paths, boat slips, launches, piers, docks).
- C. Lines of Possession and Improvements along the Boundaries**
- i. The character and location of evidence of possession or occupation along the perimeter of the surveyed property, both by the occupants of the surveyed property and by adjoining properties, observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork regardless of proximity to the perimeter boundary lines.
 - ii. Unless physical access is restricted, the character and location of all walls, buildings, fences, and other improvements within five feet of each side of the boundary lines observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (see Section 5.E.iv. regarding the location of utility features). Trees, bushes, shrubs, and other vegetation need not be located other than as specified in the contract, unless they are deemed by the surveyor to be evidence of possession or occupation pursuant to Section 5.C.i.
 - iii. Without expressing a legal opinion as to the ownership or nature of the potential encroachment, the evidence, location, and extent of potentially encroaching structural appurtenances and projections observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (e.g., fire escapes, bay windows, windows and doors that open out, flue pipes, stoops, eaves, cornices, areaways, steps, trim) by or onto adjoining properties, or onto rights of way, easements, or setback lines disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor.
- D. Buildings**
- The location of buildings on the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
- E. Easements and Servitudes**
- i. Evidence of Documented Easements: Evidence of any easements or servitudes burdening the surveyed property as disclosed in the documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4 and observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
 - ii. Evidence of Undocumented Use (Prescriptive Easements): Evidence of easements, servitudes, or other uses by other than the apparent occupants of the surveyed property not disclosed in the documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4, but observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork if they are on or across the surveyed property (e.g., roads, drives, sidewalks, paths and other ways of access, utility service lines, utility locate markings (including the source of the markings, with a note if unknown), water courses, ditches, drains, telephone lines, fiber optic lines, electric lines, water lines, sewer lines, oil pipelines, gas pipelines).

- iii. Indication of Underground Easement: Surface indications of underground easements or servitudes on or across the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (e.g., utility cuts, vent pipes, filler pipes, utility locate markings (including the source of the markings, with a note if unknown)).
 - iv. Evidence of Utilities: Evidence on or above the surface of the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork, which evidence may indicate utilities located on, above, or beneath the surveyed property. Examples of such evidence include pipeline markers, utility locate markings (including the source of the markings, with a note if unknown), manholes, valves, meters, transformers, pedestals, clean-outs, overhead lines, and guy wires on and within five feet of the surveyed property, and utility poles on or within ten feet of the surveyed property. Without expressing a legal opinion as to the ownership or nature of the potential encroachment, the extent of all potential encroaching utility pole crossmembers or overhangs.
- F. Cemeteries**
As accurately as the evidence permits, the perimeter of cemeteries and burial grounds, and the location of isolated gravesites not within a cemetery or burial ground, (i) disclosed in the documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor, or (ii) observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
- G. Water Features**
- i. The location of springs, ponds, lakes, streams, rivers, canals, ditches, marshes, and swamps on, running through, or outside, but within five feet of, the perimeter boundary of the surveyed property and observed during the process of conducting the fieldwork.
 - ii. The location of any water feature forming a boundary of the surveyed property. The attribute(s) of the water feature located (e.g., top of bank, edge of water, high water mark) should be congruent with the boundary as described in the record description or, in the case of an original survey, in the new description (see Section 6.B.vi. below).
- 6. Plat or Map** - A plat or map of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey must be prepared using practices generally recognized as acceptable by the surveying profession for purposes of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey and shall show the following information. Where dimensioning is appropriate, dimensions shall be annotated to what is, in the surveyor's professional opinion, the appropriate degree of precision based on (a) the planned use of the surveyed property, if reported in writing to the surveyor by the client, lender, or insurer, or (b) existing use, if the planned use is not so reported.
- A. Field Locations.** The evidence and locations gathered, and the monuments and lines located during the fieldwork pursuant to Section 5 above, with accompanying notes if deemed necessary by the surveyor or as otherwise required as specified below.
- B. Boundary, Descriptions, Dimensions, and Closures**
- i. (a) The current record description of the surveyed property, or
(b) In the case of an original survey, the current record document number of the parent tract that contains the surveyed property.
 - ii. Any new description of the surveyed property that was prepared in conjunction with the survey, including a statement explaining why the new description was prepared. Except in the case of an original survey, preparation of a new description should be avoided unless deemed necessary or appropriate by the surveyor and insurer. Preparation of a new description should also generally be avoided when the record description is a lot or block in a platted, recorded subdivision. Except in the case of an original survey, if a new description is prepared, a note must be provided stating (a) that the new description describes the same real estate as the record description or, (b) if it does not, how the new description differs from the record description.
 - iii. The point of beginning, the remote point of beginning or point of commencement (if applicable) and all distances and directions identified in the record description of the surveyed property (and in the new description, if one was prepared). Where a measured or calculated dimension differs from the record by an amount deemed significant by the surveyor, such dimension must be shown in addition to, and differentiated from, the



- corresponding record dimension. All dimensions shown on the survey and contained in any new description must be horizontal ground dimensions unless otherwise noted.
- iv. The direction, distance, and curve data necessary to compute a mathematical closure of the surveyed boundary. A note if the record description does not mathematically close. The basis of bearings and, where it differs from the record basis, the difference.
 - v. The remainder of any recorded lot or existing parcel, when the surveyed property is composed of only a portion of such lot or parcel, shall be graphically depicted. Such remainder need not be included as part of the actual survey, except to the extent necessary to locate the lines and corners of the surveyed property, and it need not be fully dimensioned or drawn at the same scale as the surveyed property.
 - vi. When the surveyed property includes a title line defined by a water boundary, a note on the face of the plat or map noting the date the boundary was measured, which attribute(s) of the water feature was/were located, and the caveat that the boundary is subject to change due to natural causes and that it may or may not represent the actual location of the limit of title. When the surveyor is aware of natural or artificial realignments or changes in such boundaries, the extent of those changes and facts shall be shown or explained.
 - vii. The relationship of the boundaries of the surveyed property to its adjoining properties (e.g., contiguity, gaps, overlaps) where ascertainable from documents obtained by the surveyor and/or from field evidence gathered during the process of conducting the fieldwork. If the surveyed property is composed of multiple parcels, the extent of any gaps or overlaps between those parcels must be identified. Where gaps or overlaps are identified, the surveyor must, prior to or upon delivery of the final plat or map, disclose this to the insurer and client.
 - viii. When, in the opinion of the surveyor, the results of the survey differ significantly from the record, or if a fundamental decision related to the boundary resolution is not clearly reflected on the plat or map, the surveyor must explain this information with notes on the face of the plat or map.
 - ix. The location of buildings on the surveyed property dimensioned perpendicular to those perimeter boundary lines that the surveyor deems appropriate (i.e., where potentially impacted by a setback line) and/or as requested by the client, lender or insurer.
 - x. A note on the face of the plat or map explaining the site conditions that resulted in a Relative Positional Precision that exceeds the maximum allowed pursuant to Section 3.E.v.
 - xi. A note on the face of the plat or map identifying areas, if any, on the boundaries of the surveyed property, to which physical access within five feet was restricted (see Section 5.C.ii.).
 - xii. A note on the face of the plat or map identifying the source of the title commitment or other title evidence provided pursuant to Section 4, and the effective date and the name of the insurer of same.
- C. Easements, Servitudes, Rights of Way, Access, and Documents**
- i. The location, width, and recording information of all plottable rights of way, easements, and servitudes burdening and benefitting (i.e., appurtenant to) the surveyed property, as evidenced by documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.
 - ii. A summary of all rights of way, easements, and other survey-related matters burdening the surveyed property and identified in the title evidence provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4. Such summary must include the record information of each such right of way, easement, or other survey-related matter, a statement indicating whether it lies within or crosses the surveyed property, and a related note for each of the following conditions, if present:
 - (a) its location is shown;
 - (b) its location cannot be determined from the record document;
 - (c) there was no observed evidence at the time of the fieldwork;
 - (d) it is a blanket easement;
 - (e) it is not on, does not touch, and/or – based on the description contained in the record

- document – does not affect, the surveyed property;
- (f) it limits access to an otherwise abutting right of way;
- (g) the documents are illegible; or
- (h) the surveyor has information indicating that it may have been released or otherwise terminated.

In cases where the surveyed property is composed of multiple parcels, indicate which of such parcels the various rights of way, easements, and other survey-related matters cross or touch.

- iii. A note if no physical access to an abutting street, highway, or other public or private way was observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
- iv. The locations and widths of rights of way abutting or crossing the surveyed property and the source of such information (a) where available from the controlling jurisdiction, or (b) where disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.
- v. The identifying titles of all recorded plats, filed maps, right of way maps, or similar documents that the survey represents, wholly or in part, with their recording or filing data.
- vi. For non-platted adjoining properties, recording data and tax parcel number, identifying adjoining properties according to current tax records, where available. For platted adjoining properties, the recording data of the subdivision plat.
- vii. Platted setback or building restriction lines that appear on recorded subdivision plats or that were disclosed in documents provided to, or obtained by, the surveyor.
- viii. If in the process of preparing the survey the surveyor becomes aware of a recorded easement not otherwise listed in the title evidence provided, the surveyor must advise the insurer prior to delivery of the plat or map and, unless the insurer provides evidence that the easement has been terminated or extinguished, show or otherwise explain it on the face of the plat or map, with a note that the insurer has been advised.

D. Presentation

- i. The plat or map must be drawn on a sheet of not less than 8 ½ by 11 inches in size at a legible, standard engineering scale, with that scale clearly indicated in words or numbers and with a graphic scale.
- ii. The plat or map must include:
 - (a) The boundary of the surveyed property drawn in a manner that distinguishes it from other lines on the plat or map.
 - (b) If no buildings were observed on the surveyed property in the process of conducting the fieldwork, a note stating “No buildings observed.”
 - (c) A north arrow (with north to the top of the drawing when practicable).
 - (d) A legend of symbols and abbreviations.
 - (e) A vicinity map showing the surveyed property in reference to nearby highway(s) or major street intersection(s).
 - (f) Supplementary or detail diagrams when necessary.
 - (g) Notes explaining any modifications to Table A items and the nature of any additional Table A items (e.g., 21(a), 21(b), 21(c)) that were negotiated between the surveyor and client.
 - (h) The surveyor’s project number (if any), and the name, registration or license number, signature, seal, street address, telephone number, company website, and email address (if any) of the surveyor who performed the survey.
 - (i) The date(s) of any revisions made by the surveyor who performed the survey.
 - (j) Sheet numbers where the plat or map is composed of more than one sheet.
 - (k) The caption “ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey.”
 - (l) Notation of any parol statements by interested landowners or occupants as to title or boundary issues relating to the surveyed property.
- iii. When recordation or filing of a plat or map is required by state statute, administrative rule or local ordinance, such plat or map shall be produced in the required form and at a legible scale.

7. **Certification** -

A. The plat or map of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey must bear only the following unaltered certification except as may be required pursuant to Section 3.B. above:

“To (name of insured, if known), (name of lender, if known), (name of insurer, if known),
(names of others as negotiated with the client):

This is to certify that this map or plat and the survey on which it is based were made in
accordance with the 2026 Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/NSPS Land
Title Surveys, jointly established and adopted by ALTA and NSPS, and includes Items
_____ of Table A thereof. The fieldwork was completed on _____ [date].

*Date of Plat or Map: _____ (Surveyor’s signature, printed name and seal with
Registration/License Number)”*

B. Certification may be extended to successors and assigns of the lender if requested.

8. **Deliverables** - The surveyor shall furnish copies of the plat or map of survey to the insurer and
client and as otherwise negotiated with the client. Hard copies shall be on durable and
dimensionally stable material of a quality standard acceptable to the insurer. A digital image of the
plat or map may be provided in addition to, or in lieu of, hard copies pursuant to the terms of the
contract. If the surveyor is required to record or file a plat or map pursuant to state statute,
administrative rule or local ordinance it must be so recorded or filed.

TABLE A
OPTIONAL SURVEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NOTE: When any of the first twenty (20) items of Table A are selected, the exact wording of and fee for any selected item may be negotiated between the surveyor and client. Note that some items may be required by state statute, administrative rule or local ordinance in which case they must be included pursuant to Section 3.B. Any additional items negotiated between the surveyor and client must be identified as 21(a), 21(b), etc. Any additional items negotiated between the surveyor and client, and any negotiated changes to the wording of a Table A item, must be explained pursuant to Section 6.D.ii.(g). Notwithstanding Table A Items 5 and 11, if an engineering design survey is desired as part of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, such services should be negotiated under Table A, Item 21.

If checked, the following optional items are to be included in the ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY, except as otherwise qualified (see note above):

1. _____ *Monuments placed (or a reference monument or witness to the corner) at all major corners of the boundary of the surveyed property, unless already marked or referenced by existing monuments or witnesses in close proximity to the corner.*
2. _____ *Address(es) of the surveyed property if disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor, or observed while conducting the fieldwork.*
3. _____ *Flood zone classification (with proper annotation based on federal Flood Insurance Rate Maps or the state or local equivalent) depicted by scaled map location and graphic plotting only.*
4. _____ *Gross land area (and other areas if specified by the client).*
5. _____ *Vertical relief with the source of information (e.g., ground survey, aerial map), contour interval, datum, with originating benchmark, when appropriate.*
6. _____ *(a) If the current zoning classification, setback requirements, the height and floor space area restrictions, and parking requirements specific to the surveyed property are set forth in a zoning report or letter provided to the surveyor by the client or the client's designated representative, list the above items on the plat or map and identify the date and source of the report or letter.*
_____ *(b) If the zoning setback requirements specific to the surveyed property are set forth in a zoning report or letter provided to the surveyor by the client or the client's designated representative, and if those requirements do not require an interpretation by the surveyor, graphically depict those requirements on the plat or map and identify the date and source of the report or letter.*
7. _____ *(a) Exterior dimensions of all buildings at ground level.*
(b) Square footage of:
_____ *(1) exterior footprint of all buildings at ground level.*
_____ *(2) other areas as specified by the client.*
_____ *(c) Measured height of all buildings above grade at a location specified by the client. If no location is specified, the point of measurement shall be identified.*
8. _____ *Substantial features observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (in addition to the improvements and features required pursuant to Section 5 above) (e.g., parking lots, billboards, signs, swimming pools, landscaped areas, substantial areas of refuse).*

9. _____ *Number and type (e.g., disabled, motorcycle, regular, and other marked specialized types) of clearly identifiable parking spaces on surface parking areas, lots, and in parking structures. Striping of clearly identifiable parking spaces on surface parking areas and lots.*
10. _____ *As designated by the client, a determination of the relationship and location of certain division or party walls with respect to adjoining properties.*
11. _____ *Evidence of underground utilities existing on or serving the surveyed property (in addition to the observed evidence of utilities required pursuant to Section 5.E.iv.) as determined by:*
- _____ *(a) plans and/or reports provided by client (with reference as to the sources of information)*
- _____ *(b) markings coordinated by the surveyor or client pursuant to a private utility locate request.*
- Note to the client, insurer, and lender – With regard to Table A, item 11, information from the sources checked above will be combined with observed evidence of utilities pursuant to Section 5.E.iv. to develop a view of the underground utilities. However, lacking excavation, the exact location of underground features cannot be accurately, completely, and reliably depicted. In addition, in some jurisdictions, 811 or other similar utility locate requests from surveyors may be ignored or result in an incomplete response, in which case the surveyor shall note on the plat or map how this affected the surveyor’s assessment of the location of the utilities. Where additional or more detailed information is required, the client is advised that excavation may be necessary.*
12. _____ *As specified by the client, Governmental Agency survey-related requirements (e.g., HUD surveys, surveys for leases on Bureau of Land Management managed lands). The relevant survey requirements are to be provided by the client or client’s designated representative.*
13. _____ *Names of owners of adjoining properties according to current tax records. If more than one owner, identify the first owner’s name listed in the tax records followed by “et al.”*
14. _____ *Distance to the nearest intersecting street.*
15. _____ *Features, other than the boundary survey portion of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey and the location of features in close proximity to a boundary or other title or relevant setback line, may be shown using imagery; however, the surveyor must:*
- (a) agree with the client in writing on imagery to utilize, including source, date and/or version of imagery, and licensing costs and requirements,*
- (b) discuss the ramifications of such practices (e.g., the potential accuracy, precision and completeness of the imagery gathered thereby) with the insurer, lender, and client prior to the performance of the survey, and*
- (c) place a note on the face of the survey explaining the source, date, precision, and other relevant qualifications of any such imagery.*
16. _____ *Evidence of recent earth moving work, building construction, or building additions observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.*
17. _____ *Proposed changes in street right of way lines, if such information is made available to the surveyor by the controlling jurisdiction. Evidence of recent street or sidewalk construction or repairs observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.*

18. _____ Pursuant to Sections 5 and 6 (and applicable selected Table A items, excluding Table A item 1), include as part of the survey any plottable offsite (i.e., appurtenant) easements disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor.
19. _____ Professional liability insurance policy obtained by the surveyor in the minimum amount of \$_____ to be in effect throughout the contract term. Certificate of insurance to be furnished upon request, but this item shall not be addressed on the face of the plat or map, unless required by the jurisdiction.
20. _____ When observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork or otherwise identified in the process of preparing the survey the following conditions and potential encroachments must be summarized in a table and indicated on the face of the plat or map. Without expressing a statement of legal opinion or an opinion as to ownership, the table must identify the physical conditions, and provide a means by which the conditions can be readily located on the face of the plat or map by a reviewer; however, this table may not be a comprehensive list of all concerns shown on the plat or map of the survey.
- Potential encroachments over boundary lines onto the surveyed property from adjoining property and onto adjoining property from the surveyed property.
 - Potential encroachments into rights of way and easements for which written documentation of the existence of such rights of way and easements was provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.
 - Potential encroachments of front, side or rear setbacks, but only when the setback requirements specific to the surveyed property were provided to the surveyor pursuant to Table A item 6(a) or 6(b) or provided in recorded documents.
 - Physical access between adjoining parcels without benefit of an easement for which written documentation of the existence of such easement was provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.
 - Use of adjoining parcels by apparent occupants of the surveyed property without benefit of an easement for which written documentation of the existence of such easement was provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.
21. _____

Adopted by the American Land Title Association on October 8, 2025. More at: www.alta.org.
Adopted by the National Society of Professional Surveyors on October 17, 2025. More at: www.nsp.us.com.

MINIMUM STANDARD DETAIL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEYS

**(UNOFFICIAL RED-LINED 11/07/25 DRAFT OF 2026 ALTA/NSPS STANDARDS
SHOWING CHANGES FROM 2021 ALTA/NSPS STANDARDS – Effective February 23,
2026)**

1. **Purpose** - Members of the American Land Title Association® (ALTA) have specific needs, unique to title insurance matters, when asked to insure title to land without exception as to the many matters which might be discoverable from survey and inspection, and which are not evidenced by the public records.

For a survey of real property, and the plat, map or record of such survey, to be acceptable to a title insurance company for the purpose of insuring title to said real property free and clear of survey matters (except those matters disclosed by the survey and indicated on the plat or map), certain specific and pertinent information must be presented for the distinct and clear understanding between the insured, the client (if different from the insured), the title insurance company (insurer), the lender, and the surveyor professionally responsible for the survey.

In order to meet such needs, clients, insurers, insureds, and lenders are entitled to rely on surveyors to conduct surveys and prepare associated plats or maps that are of a professional quality and appropriately uniform, complete, and accurate. To that end, and in the interests of the general public, the surveying profession, title insurers, and abstracters, the ALTA and the NSPS jointly promulgate the within details and criteria setting forth a minimum standard of performance for ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys. A complete ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey includes:

- A. (i) the fieldwork required pursuant to Section 5,
- B. (ii) the preparation of a plat or map pursuant to Section 6 showing the results of the fieldwork and its relationship to documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4,
- C. (iii) any information from Table A items requested by the client, and
- D. (iv) the certification outlined in Section 7.

2. **Request for Survey** - The client shall request the survey, or arrange for the survey to be requested, and shall provide a written authorization to proceed from the person or entity responsible for paying for the survey. Unless specifically authorized in writing by the insurer, the insurer shall not be responsible for any costs associated with the preparation of the survey. The request must specify that a "**2021 2026 ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY**" is required and which of the optional items listed in Table A, if any, are to be incorporated. Certain properties or interests in real properties may present issues outside those normally encountered on an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey (e.g., marinas, campgrounds, mobile home parks, easements, leases, mineral interests, other non-fee simple interests). The scope of work related to surveys of such properties or interests in real properties should be discussed with the client, lender, and insurer, and agreed upon in writing prior to commencing work on the survey. When required, the client shall secure permission for the surveyor to enter upon the property to be surveyed, adjoining properties, or offsite easements.

3. **Surveying Standards and Standards of Care**

- A. **Effective Date** - The **2021 2026** Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys are effective February 23, **2021 2026**. As of that date, all previous versions of the Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/ACSM or ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys are superseded by these standards.
- B. **Other Requirements and Standards of Practice** - Many states and some local jurisdictions have adopted statutes, administrative rules, and/or ordinances that set out standards

- regulating the practice of surveying within their jurisdictions. In addition to the standards set forth herein, surveyors must also conduct their surveys in accordance with applicable jurisdictional survey requirements and standards of practice. Where conflicts between the standards set forth herein and any such jurisdictional requirements and standards of practice occur, the more stringent must apply.
- C. **The Normal Standard of Care** - Surveyors should recognize that there may be unwritten local, state, and/or regional standards of care defined by the practice of the “prudent surveyor” in those locales.
- D. **Boundary** - The boundary lines and corners of any property or interest in real property being surveyed (hereafter, the “surveyed property” or “property to be surveyed”) as part of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey must be established and/or retraced in accordance with appropriate boundary law principles governed by the set of facts and evidence found in the course of performing the research and fieldwork.
- E. **Measurement Standards** - The following measurement standards address Relative Positional Precision for the monuments or witnesses marking the corners of the surveyed property.
- i. ~~“Relative Positional Precision” means the length of the semi-major axis, expressed in meters or feet, of the error ellipse representing the uncertainty in the position of the monument or witness marking any boundary corner of the surveyed property relative to the position of the monument or witness marking an immediately adjacent boundary corner of the surveyed property resulting from random errors in the measurements made in determining those positions at the 95 percent confidence level. is the accepted indicator of measurement quality on an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey. It is defined as the length of the semi-major axis, expressed in meters or feet, of the error ellipse of the line connecting the monuments or witnesses marking adjacent boundary corners of the surveyed property at the 95 percent confidence level. Relative Positional Precision can be is most commonly~~ estimated by the results of a correctly weighted least squares adjustment of the survey, ~~or alternatively it~~ Alternatively, Relative Positional Precision can be estimated by the standard deviation of the distance between the monument or witness marking any boundary corner of the surveyed property and the monument or witness marking an immediately adjacent boundary corner of the surveyed property (called local accuracy) that can be computed using the full covariance matrix of the coordinate inverse between any given pair of points, understanding that Relative Positional Precision is based on the 95 percent confidence level, ~~or approximately 2 standard deviations.~~
 - ii. Any boundary lines and corners established or retraced may have uncertainties in location resulting from (1) the availability, condition, history and integrity of reference or controlling monuments, (2) ambiguities in the record descriptions or plats of the surveyed property or its ~~adjoiners adjoining properties~~, (3) occupation or possession lines as they may differ from the written title lines, or (4) Relative Positional Precision. Of these four sources of uncertainty, only Relative Positional Precision is controllable, although, due to the inherent errors in any measurement, it cannot be eliminated. The magnitude of the first three uncertainties can be projected based on evidence; Relative Positional Precision is estimated using statistical means (see Section 3.E.i. above and Section 3.E.v. below).
 - iii. The first three of these sources of uncertainty must be weighed as part of the evidence in the determination of where, in the surveyor’s opinion, the boundary lines and corners of the surveyed property should be located (see Section 3.D. above). Relative Positional Precision is a measure of how precisely the surveyor is able to monument and report those positions; it is not a substitute for the application of proper boundary law principles. A boundary corner or line may have a small Relative Positional Precision because the survey measurements were precise, yet still be in the wrong position (i.e., inaccurate) if it was established or retraced using faulty or improper application of boundary law principles.
 - iv. For any measurement technology or procedure used on an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, the surveyor must (1) use appropriately trained personnel, (2) compensate for

systematic errors, including those associated with instrument calibration, and (3) use appropriate error propagation and measurement design theory (selecting the proper instruments, geometric layouts, and field and computational procedures) to control random errors such that the maximum allowable Relative Positional Precision outlined in Section 3.E.v. below is not exceeded.

- v. The maximum allowable Relative Positional Precision for an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey is 2 cm (0.07 feet) plus 50 parts per million (based on the direct distance between the two corners being tested). It is recognized that in certain circumstances, the size or configuration of the surveyed property, or the relief, vegetation, or improvements on the surveyed property, will result in survey measurements for which the maximum allowable Relative Positional Precision may be exceeded in which case the reason shall be noted pursuant to Section 6.B.x. below.
4. **Records Research** - It is recognized that for the performance of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, the surveyor ~~will~~ **must** be provided with appropriate and, when possible, legible data that can be relied upon in the preparation of the survey. In order to complete an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, the surveyor must be provided with the following:
- A. ~~Given the purpose of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, complete copies of the most recent title commitment or, if a title commitment is not available, other title evidence satisfactory to the title insurer (if a recent title commitment is not provided, in some cases, additional title research may be required on the part of and by the insurer or on the part of the surveyor due to state law);~~
 - B. ~~A. The current record description of the real property to be surveyed or, in the case of an original survey prepared for purposes of locating and describing real property that has not been previously separately described in documents conveying an interest in the real property, the current record description of the parent parcel that contains the property to be surveyed;~~
~~B. Complete copies of the most recent title commitment or, if a title commitment is not available, other title evidence satisfactory to the title insurer;~~
 - C. The following documents from records established under state statutes for the purpose of imparting constructive notice of matters relating to real property (public records):
 - ~~i. The current record descriptions of any adjoining to the property to be surveyed, except where such adjoining are lots in platted, recorded subdivisions;~~
 - i. ~~ii.~~ Any recorded easements benefitting (i.e., appurtenant to) the property to be surveyed; and
 - ii. ~~iii.~~ Any recorded easements, servitudes, or covenants burdening the property to be surveyed; ~~and~~
 - D. If desired by the client, any unrecorded documents affecting the property to be surveyed and containing information to which the survey shall make reference.

Except, however, if the documents outlined in **B and C** of this section are not provided to the surveyor or if non-public or quasi-public documents (e.g., highway or railroad plans) are otherwise required to complete the survey, the surveyor must conduct that research which is required pursuant to the statutory or administrative requirements of the jurisdiction where the surveyed property is located and that research (if any) which is negotiated and outlined in the terms of the contract between the surveyor and the client.

5. **Fieldwork** - The ~~survey fieldwork~~ must be performed ~~on the ground (except as may be otherwise negotiated pursuant to Table A, Item 15 below)~~ using practices generally recognized as acceptable by the surveying profession for purposes of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey. Except as related to the precision of the boundary, which is addressed in Section 3.E. above, features located during the fieldwork shall be located to what is, in the surveyor's professional opinion, the appropriate degree of precision based on (a) the planned use of the surveyed property, if reported in writing to the surveyor by the client, lender, or insurer, or (b) the existing use, if the planned use is not so reported. The fieldwork shall include the following:
- A. **Monuments**

- i. The location, size, character (including relationship to surface of the ground), and type of any monuments found during the fieldwork.
- ii. The location, size, character (including relationship to surface of the ground), and type of any monuments set during the fieldwork, if item 1 of Table A was selected or if otherwise required by applicable jurisdictional requirements and/or standards of practice.
- iii. The location, description, and character of any lines that control the boundaries of the surveyed property.

B. Rights of Way and Access

- i. The distance from the appropriate corner or corners of the surveyed property to the nearest right of way line, if the surveyed property does not abut a right of way.
- ii. The name of any street, highway, or other public or private way abutting the surveyed property, together with the width of the travelled way and the location of each edge of the travelled way including on divided streets and highways. If the documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4 indicate no access from the surveyed property to the abutting street or highway, the width and location of the travelled way need not be located.
- iii. Visible evidence of physical access (including vehicular access such as e.g. curb cuts, and driveways) to any abutting streets, highways, or other public or private ways observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
- iv. The location and character of vehicular, pedestrian, or other forms of access by other than the apparent occupants of the surveyed property to or across the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (e.g., driveways, alleys, private roads, railroads, railroad sidings and spurs, sidewalks, footpaths).
- v. Without expressing a legal opinion as to ownership or nature, the location and extent of any potentially encroaching driveways, alleys, and other ways of access from adjoining properties onto the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
- vi. Where documentation of the location of any street, road, or highway right of way abutting, on, or crossing the surveyed property was not disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor, or was not otherwise available from the controlling jurisdiction (see Section 6.C.iv. below), the evidence and location of parcel corners on the same side of the street as the surveyed property recovered in the process of conducting the fieldwork which may indicate the location of such right of way lines (e.g., lines of occupation, survey monuments).
- vii. Evidence of access to and from waters adjoining the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (e.g., paths, boat slips, launches, piers, docks).

C. Lines of Possession and Improvements along the Boundaries

- i. The character and location of evidence of possession or occupation along the perimeter of the surveyed property, both by the occupants of the surveyed property and by **adjoiners adjoining properties**, observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork **regardless of proximity to the perimeter boundary lines**.
- ii. Unless physical access is restricted, the character and location of all walls, buildings, fences, and other improvements within five feet of each side of the boundary lines observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (see Section 5.E.iv. regarding **the location of utility poles features**). Trees, bushes, shrubs, and other vegetation need not be located other than as specified in the contract, unless they are deemed by the surveyor to be evidence of possession or occupation pursuant to Section 5.C.i.
- iii. Without expressing a legal opinion as to the ownership or nature of the potential encroachment, the evidence, location, and extent of potentially encroaching structural appurtenances and projections observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (e.g., fire escapes, bay windows, windows and doors that open out, flue pipes, stoops, eaves, cornices, areaways, steps, trim) by or onto adjoining **property properties**, or onto rights of way, easements, or setback lines disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor.

D. Buildings

The location of buildings on the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.

E. Easements and Servitudes

- i. **Evidence of Documented Easements:** Evidence of any easements or servitudes burdening the surveyed property as disclosed in the documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4 and observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
- ii. **Evidence of Undocumented Use (Prescriptive Easements):** Evidence of easements, servitudes, or other uses by other than the apparent occupants of the surveyed property not disclosed in the documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4, but observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork if they are on or across the surveyed property (e.g., roads, drives, sidewalks, paths and other ways of access, utility service lines, utility locate markings (including the source of the markings, with a note if unknown), water courses, ditches, drains, telephone lines, fiber optic lines, electric lines, water lines, sewer lines, oil pipelines, gas pipelines).
- iii. **Indication of Underground Easement:** Surface indications of underground easements or servitudes on or across the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (e.g., utility cuts, vent pipes, filler pipes, utility locate markings (including the source of the markings, with a note if unknown)).
- iv. **Evidence of Utilities:** Evidence on or above the surface of the surveyed property observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork, which evidence may indicate utilities located on, **over above**, or beneath the surveyed property. Examples of such evidence include pipeline markers, utility locate markings (including the source of the markings, with a note if unknown), manholes, valves, meters, transformers, pedestals, clean-outs, overhead lines, **and guy wires on and within five feet of the surveyed property**, and utility poles **on-or and** within ten feet of the surveyed property. Without expressing a legal opinion as to the ownership or nature of the potential encroachment, the extent of all **potential** encroaching utility pole crossmembers or overhangs.

F. Cemeteries

As accurately as the evidence permits, the perimeter of cemeteries and burial grounds, and the location of isolated gravesites not within a cemetery or burial ground, (i) disclosed in the documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor, or (ii) observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.

G. Water Features

- i. The location of springs, ponds, lakes, streams, rivers, canals, ditches, marshes, and swamps on, running through, or outside, but within five feet of, the perimeter boundary of the surveyed property and observed during the process of conducting the fieldwork.
- ii. The location of any water feature forming a boundary of the surveyed property. The attribute(s) of the water feature located (e.g., top of bank, edge of water, high water mark) should be congruent with the boundary as described in the record description or, in the case of an original survey, in the new description (see Section 6.B.vi. below).

6. **Plat or Map** - A plat or map of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey **must be prepared using practices generally recognized as acceptable by the surveying profession for purposes of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey** and shall show the following information. Where dimensioning is appropriate, dimensions shall be annotated to what is, in the surveyor's professional opinion, the appropriate degree of precision based on (a) the planned use of the surveyed property, if reported in writing to the surveyor by the client, lender, or insurer, or (b) existing use, if the planned use is not so reported.

A. Field Locations. The evidence and locations gathered, and the monuments and lines located during the fieldwork pursuant to Section 5 above, with accompanying notes if deemed necessary by the surveyor or as otherwise required as specified below.

B. Boundary, Descriptions, Dimensions, and Closures

- i. (a) The current record description of the surveyed property, or
(b) In the case of an original survey, the current record document number of the parent

- tract that contains the surveyed property.
- ii. Any new description of the surveyed property that was prepared in conjunction with the survey, including a statement explaining why the new description was prepared. Except in the case of an original survey, preparation of a new description should be avoided unless deemed necessary or appropriate by the surveyor and insurer. Preparation of a new description should also generally be avoided when the record description is a lot or block in a platted, recorded subdivision. Except in the case of an original survey, if a new description is prepared, a note must be provided stating (a) that the new description describes the same real estate as the record description or, (b) if it does not, how the new description differs from the record description.
 - iii. The point of beginning, the remote point of beginning or point of commencement (if applicable) and all distances and directions identified in the record description of the surveyed property (and in the new description, if one was prepared). Where a measured or calculated dimension differs from the record by an amount deemed significant by the surveyor, such dimension must be shown in addition to, and differentiated from, the corresponding record dimension. All dimensions shown on the survey and contained in any new description must be horizontal ground dimensions unless otherwise noted.
 - iv. The direction, distance, and curve data necessary to compute a mathematical closure of the surveyed boundary. A note if the record description does not mathematically close. The basis of bearings and, where it differs from the record basis, the difference.
 - v. The remainder of any recorded lot or existing parcel, when the surveyed property is composed of only a portion of such lot or parcel, shall be graphically depicted. Such remainder need not be included as part of the actual survey, except to the extent necessary to locate the lines and corners of the surveyed property, and it need not be fully dimensioned or drawn at the same scale as the surveyed property.
 - vi. When the surveyed property includes a title line defined by a water boundary, a note on the face of the plat or map noting the date the boundary was measured, which attribute(s) of the water feature was/were located, and the caveat that the boundary is subject to change due to natural causes and that it may or may not represent the actual location of the limit of title. When the surveyor is aware of natural or artificial realignments or changes in such boundaries, the extent of those changes and facts shall be shown or explained.
 - vii. The relationship of the boundaries of the surveyed property to its **adjoiners adjoining properties** (e.g., contiguity, gaps, overlaps) where ascertainable from documents obtained by the surveyor and/or from field evidence gathered during the process of conducting the fieldwork. If the surveyed property is composed of multiple parcels, the extent of any gaps or overlaps between those parcels must be identified. Where gaps or overlaps are identified, the surveyor must, prior to or upon delivery of the final plat or map, disclose this to the insurer and client.
 - viii. When, in the opinion of the surveyor, the results of the survey differ significantly from the record, or if a fundamental decision related to the boundary resolution is not clearly reflected on the plat or map, the surveyor must explain this information with notes on the face of the plat or map.
 - ix. The location of buildings on the surveyed property dimensioned perpendicular to those perimeter boundary lines that the surveyor deems appropriate (i.e., where potentially impacted by a setback line) and/or as requested by the client, lender or insurer.
 - x. A note on the face of the plat or map explaining the site conditions that resulted in a Relative Positional Precision that exceeds the maximum allowed pursuant to Section 3.E.v.
 - xi. A note on the face of the plat or map identifying areas, if any, on the boundaries of the surveyed property, to which physical access within five feet was restricted (see Section 5.C.ii.).
 - xii. A note on the face of the plat or map identifying the source of the title commitment or other title evidence provided pursuant to Section 4, and the effective date and the name of the insurer of same.

C. Easements, Servitudes, Rights of Way, Access, and Documents

- i. The location, width, and recording information of all plottable rights of way, easements, and servitudes burdening and benefitting (i.e., **appurtenant to**) the surveyed property, as evidenced by documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.
- ii. A summary of all rights of way, easements, and other survey-related matters burdening the surveyed property and identified in the title evidence provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4. Such summary must include the record information of each such right of way, easement, or other survey-related matter, a statement indicating whether it lies within or crosses the surveyed property, and a related note **for each of the following conditions, if present:**
 - (a) its location is shown;
 - (b) its location cannot be determined from the record document;
 - (c) there was no observed evidence at the time of the fieldwork;
 - (d) it is a blanket easement;
 - (e) it is not on, does not touch, and/or – based on the description contained in the record document – does not affect, the surveyed property;
 - (f) it limits access to an otherwise abutting right of way;
 - (g) the documents are illegible; or
 - (h) the surveyor has information indicating that it may have been released or otherwise terminated.

In cases where the surveyed property is composed of multiple parcels, indicate which of such parcels the various rights of way, easements, and other survey-related matters cross or touch.

- iii. A note if no physical access to an abutting street, highway, or other public or private way was observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
- iv. The locations and widths of rights of way abutting or crossing the surveyed property and the source of such information (a) where available from the controlling jurisdiction, or (b) where disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.
- v. The identifying titles of all recorded plats, filed maps, right of way maps, or similar documents that the survey represents, wholly or in part, with their recording or filing data.
- vi. For non-platted adjoining **land properties**, recording data and, **where available**, tax parcel number, identifying adjoining **tracts properties** according to current **public tax records, where available**. For platted adjoining **land properties**, the recording data of the subdivision plat.
- vii. Platted setback or building restriction lines that appear on recorded subdivision plats or that were disclosed in documents provided to, or obtained by, the surveyor.
- viii. If in the process of preparing the survey the surveyor becomes aware of a recorded easement not otherwise listed in the title evidence provided, the surveyor must advise the insurer prior to delivery of the plat or map and, unless the insurer provides evidence **of a release of** that **the easement has been terminated or extinguished**, show or otherwise explain it on the face of the plat or map, with a note that the insurer has been advised.

D. Presentation

- i. The plat or map must be drawn on a sheet of not less than 8 ½ by 11 inches in size at a legible, standard engineering scale, with that scale clearly indicated in words or numbers and with a graphic scale.
- ii. The plat or map must include:
 - (a) The boundary of the surveyed property drawn in a manner that distinguishes it from other lines on the plat or map.
 - (b) If no buildings were observed on the surveyed property in the process of conducting the fieldwork, a note stating *"No buildings observed."*
 - (c) A north arrow (with north to the top of the drawing when practicable).
 - (d) A legend of symbols and abbreviations.
 - (e) A vicinity map showing the surveyed property in reference to nearby highway(s) or major street intersection(s).

- (f) Supplementary or detail diagrams when necessary.
 - (g) Notes explaining any modifications to Table A items and the nature of any additional Table A items (e.g., 210(a), 210(b), 210(c)) that were negotiated between the surveyor and client.
 - (h) The surveyor's project number (if any), and the name, registration or license number, signature, seal, street address, telephone number, company website, and email address (if any) of the surveyor who performed the survey.
 - (i) The date(s) of any revisions made by the surveyor who performed the survey.
 - (j) Sheet numbers where the plat or map is composed of more than one sheet.
 - (k) The caption "ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey."
 - (l) Notation of any parol statements by interested landowners or occupants as to title or boundary issues relating to the surveyed property.
- iii. When recordation or filing of a plat or map is required by state statutes, administrative rule or local ordinances, such plat or map shall be produced in the required form and at a legible scale.

7. **Certification** -

A. The plat or map of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey must bear only the following unaltered certification except as may be required pursuant to Section 3.B. above:

"To (name of insured, if known), (name of lender, if known), (name of insurer, if known), (names of others as negotiated with the client):

This is to certify that this map or plat and the survey on which it is based were made in accordance with the 2026 2021 Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys, jointly established and adopted by ALTA and NSPS, and includes Items _____ of Table A thereof. The fieldwork was completed on _____ [date].

Date of Plat or Map: _____ (Surveyor's signature, printed name and seal with Registration/License Number)"

B. Certification may be extended to successors and assigns of the lender if requested.

8. **Deliverables** - The surveyor shall furnish copies of the plat or map of survey to the insurer and client and as otherwise negotiated with the client. Hard copies shall be on durable and dimensionally stable material of a quality standard acceptable to the insurer. A digital image of the plat or map may be provided in addition to, or in lieu of, hard copies pursuant to the terms of the contract. If the surveyor is required to record or file a plat or map pursuant to state statute, administrative rule or local ordinance it shall must be so recorded or filed.

TABLE A
OPTIONAL SURVEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND SPECIFICATIONS

*NOTE: ~~Whether~~ **When** any of the **first twenty (20) nineteen (19)** items of Table A are ~~to be~~ selected, ~~and~~ the exact wording of and fee for any selected item may be negotiated between the surveyor and client. ~~Note that some items may be required by state statute, administrative rule or local ordinance in which case they must be included pursuant to Section 3.B.~~ Any additional items negotiated between the surveyor and client must be identified as 210(a), 210(b), etc. Any additional items negotiated between the surveyor and client, and any negotiated changes to the wording of a Table A item, must be explained pursuant to Section 6.D.ii.(g). Notwithstanding Table A Items 5 and 11, if an engineering design survey is desired as part of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey, such services should be negotiated under Table A, Item 210.*

If checked, the following optional items are to be included in the ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY, except as otherwise qualified (see note above):

1. _____ *Monuments placed (or a reference monument or witness to the corner) at all major corners of the boundary of the surveyed property, unless already marked or referenced by existing monuments or witnesses in close proximity to the corner.*
2. _____ *Address(es) of the surveyed property if disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor, or observed while conducting the fieldwork.*
3. _____ *Flood zone classification (with proper annotation based on federal Flood Insurance Rate Maps or the state or local equivalent) depicted by scaled map location and graphic plotting only.*
4. _____ *Gross land area (and other areas if specified by the client).*
5. _____ *Vertical relief with the source of information (e.g., ground survey, aerial map), contour interval, datum, with originating benchmark, when appropriate.*
6. _____ *(a) If the current zoning classification, setback requirements, the height and floor space area restrictions, and parking requirements specific to the surveyed property are set forth in a zoning report or letter provided to the surveyor by the client or the client's designated representative, list the above items on the plat or map and identify the date and source of the report or letter.*
_____ *(b) If the zoning setback requirements specific to the surveyed property are set forth in a zoning report or letter provided to the surveyor by the client or the client's designated representative, and if those requirements do not require an interpretation by the surveyor, graphically depict those requirements on the plat or map and identify the date and source of the report or letter.*
7. _____ *(a) Exterior dimensions of all buildings at ground level.*
_____ *(b) Square footage of:*
_____ *(1) exterior footprint of all buildings at ground level.*
_____ *(2) other areas as specified by the client.*
_____ *(c) Measured height of all buildings above grade at a location specified by the client. If no location is specified, the point of measurement shall be identified.*
8. _____ *Substantial features observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork (in addition to the improvements and features required pursuant to Section 5 above) (e.g., parking lots, billboards, signs, swimming pools, landscaped areas, substantial areas of refuse).*

9. _____ Number and type (e.g., disabled, motorcycle, regular, and other marked specialized types) of clearly identifiable parking spaces on surface parking areas, lots, and in parking structures. Striping of clearly identifiable parking spaces on surface parking areas and lots.
10. _____ As designated by the client, a determination of the relationship and location of certain division or party walls with respect to adjoining properties.
11. Evidence of underground utilities existing on or serving the surveyed property (in addition to the observed evidence of utilities required pursuant to Section 5.E.iv.) as determined by:

- _____ (a) plans and/or reports provided by client (with reference as to the sources of information)
- _____ (b) markings coordinated by the surveyor *or client* pursuant to a private utility locate request.

Note to the client, insurer, and lender – With regard to Table A, item 11, information from the sources checked above will be combined with observed evidence of utilities pursuant to Section 5.E.iv. to develop a view of the underground utilities. However, lacking excavation, the exact location of underground features cannot be accurately, completely, and reliably depicted. In addition, in some jurisdictions, 811 or other similar utility locate requests from surveyors may be ignored or result in an incomplete response, in which case the surveyor shall note on the plat or map how this affected the surveyor’s assessment of the location of the utilities. Where additional or more detailed information is required, the client is advised that excavation may be necessary.

12. _____ As specified by the client, Governmental Agency survey-related requirements (e.g., HUD surveys, surveys for leases on Bureau of Land Management managed lands). The relevant survey requirements are to be provided by the client or client’s designated representative.

13. _____ Names of *adjoining* owners of *adjoining properties* according to current tax records. If more than one owner, identify the first owner’s name listed in the tax records followed by “et al.”

14. _____ *As specified by client, d*Distance to the nearest intersecting street.

15. _____ *Rectified orthophotography, photogrammetric mapping, remote sensing, airborne/mobile laser scanning and other similar products, tools or technologies as the basis for showing the location of certain features (excluding boundaries) where ground measurements are not otherwise necessary to locate those features to an appropriate and acceptable accuracy relative to a nearby boundary. The surveyor must (a) discuss the ramifications of such methodologies (e.g., the potential precision and completeness of the data gathered thereby) with the insurer, lender, and client prior to the performance of the survey, and (b) place a note on the face of the survey explaining the source, date, precision, and other relevant qualifications of any such data.*

Features, other than the boundary survey portion of an ALTA/NSPS Land Title Survey and the location of features in close proximity to a boundary or other title or relevant setback line, may be shown using imagery; however, the surveyor must:

(a) agree with the client in writing on imagery to utilize, including source, date and/or version of imagery, and licensing costs and requirements,

(b) discuss the ramifications of such practices (e.g., the potential accuracy, precision and



completeness of the imagery gathered thereby) with the insurer, lender, and client prior to the performance of the survey, and

(c) place a note on the face of the survey explaining the source, date, precision, and other relevant qualifications of any such imagery.

16. _____ Evidence of recent earth moving work, building construction, or building additions observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
17. _____ Proposed changes in street right of way lines, if such information is made available to the surveyor by the controlling jurisdiction. Evidence of recent street or sidewalk construction or repairs observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork.
18. _____ Pursuant to Sections 5 and 6 (and applicable selected Table A items, excluding Table A item 1), include as part of the survey any plottable offsite (i.e., appurtenant) easements disclosed in documents provided to or obtained by the surveyor.
19. _____ Professional liability insurance policy obtained by the surveyor in the minimum amount of \$_____ to be in effect throughout the contract term. Certificate of insurance to be furnished upon request, but this item shall not be addressed on the face of the plat or map, *unless required by the jurisdiction.*
20. _____ *When observed in the process of conducting the fieldwork or otherwise identified in the process of preparing the survey the following conditions and potential encroachments must be summarized in a table and indicated on the face of the plat or map. Without expressing a statement of legal opinion or an opinion as to ownership, the table must identify the physical conditions, and provide a means by which the conditions can be readily located on the face of the plat or map by a reviewer; however, this table may not be a comprehensive list of all concerns shown on the plat or map of the survey.*
- Potential encroachments over boundary lines onto the surveyed property from adjoining property and onto adjoining property from the surveyed property.*
 - Potential encroachments into rights of way and easements for which written documentation of the existence of such rights of way and easements was provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.*
 - Potential encroachments of front, side or rear setbacks, but only when the setback requirements specific to the surveyed property were provided to the surveyor pursuant to Table A item 6(a) or 6(b) or provided in recorded documents.*
 - Physical access between adjoining parcels without benefit of an easement for which written documentation of the existence of such easement was provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.*
 - Use of adjoining parcels by apparent occupants of the surveyed property without benefit of an easement for which written documentation of the existence of such easement was provided to or obtained by the surveyor pursuant to Section 4.*
21. _____

Adopted by the American Land Title Association on MM YY, 202X. More at: www.alta.org.
Adopted by the National Society of Professional Surveyors on MM YY, 202X. More at: www.nsps.us.com.