

"HOMESTEAD" RECORDS

Bureau of Land Management
5001 Southgate Drive
Billings, MT 59102

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Phone number: (406) 896-5004

Serial Register Pages (SRPs): records of land entry applications made after July 1908 and assigned a land office serial number. contains name of applicant, address, legal land description, type of land entry (homestead, cash entry, stockraising homestead, etc.)

Controlled Document Index (CDI): microfilm of land documents mounted in a card (aperture card). filed in chronological order by state, township and range.

Master Title Plat (MTP): ownership of land within a township (six miles square).

Historical Index (HI): chronological listing of actions affecting a township.

Tract Book: bound book in which land entries were written. Public Domain - by township and range with three sections per page. Indian Reservations – by allotment dates, alphabetically or by families.

Survey plats (GLOs): maps created by surveyors. show topography, roads, etc.

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov>

Land patents: legal instruments used by the Federal government to transfer lands to private ownership.

Legal Land Description: location of lands described by meridian, township, range, section or metes & bounds.

Information to be found on website: associate an individual with a specific location & time.

<http://lib.lbhc.cc.mt.us/about/genealogy/>

Crow Indian census for 1885, 1900, 1910, & 1930. searchable by name.

REQUESTING COPIES OF SETTLER'S PAPERS
FROM
NATIONAL ARCHIVES & RECORD ADMINISTRATION

You may purchase copies of settlers' applications, citizenship, military, entry and other such papers filed for transactions entered on BLM land records. These papers are stored in individual files at National Archives & Record Administration (NARA) Service Centers. Your requests for copies of papers for all patented cases prior to 1965, should be addressed to:

Archives 1 Textual Reference Branch
(NWDT1-Land)
National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
Washington, D.C. 20408

Send all information possible for the record search. You will be informed of the copies available and the charges that will be made.

For patent files, provide:

- name of the patentee
- land office
- patent number and date, or if none, the final certificate number and date
- a description of the land by township, range, section, and fraction of section
- along with a description of the desired documents.

Websites

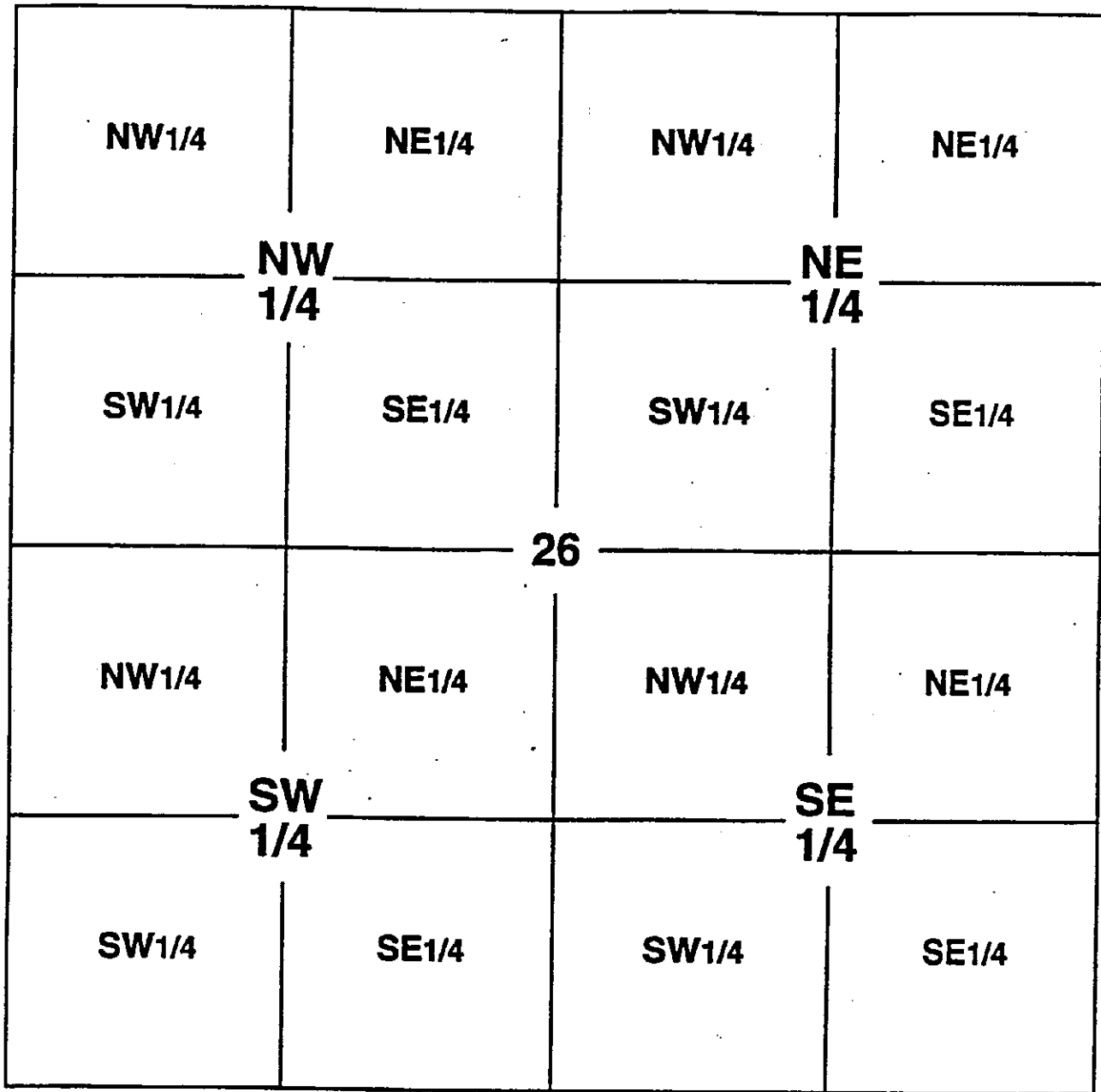
<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov>

land patents

<http://lib.lbhc.cc.mt.us/about/genealogy/>

Crow Indian census for 1885, 1900, 1910, & 1930

LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS



This is the arrangement of the quarter quarters within each quadrant of a section.

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Diagram showing division of tract into Townships

| | | | | | | | |
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| 36 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 31 |
| 1 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| 12 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 7 |
| 13 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 18 |
| 24 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 19 |
| 25 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 30 |
| 36 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 31 |
| 1 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 |

Sectional map of Township showing adjoining Sections

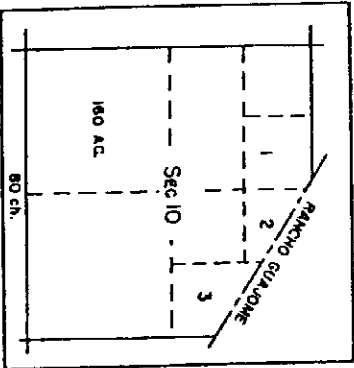
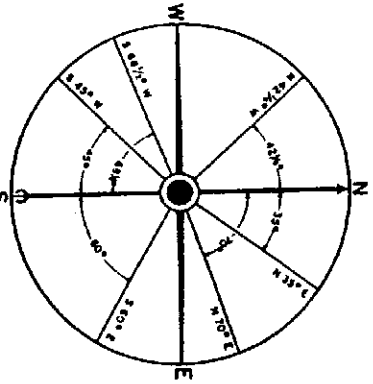
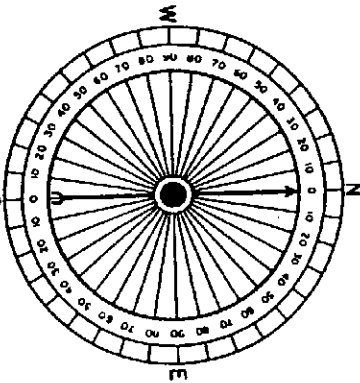


Diagram illustrating division of Tract



60 seconds equal one minute
60 minutes equal one degree



90 degrees in a right angle
160 degrees in a circle

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|----------|
| 40 CHAINS 160 RODS 2640 FEET | NW 1/4 80 ACRES | 20 CHAINS | CENTER OF SECTION | |
| | | | 660 FT. | 1320 FT. |
| 40 CHAINS | | | | |