



St. Louis County Survey Explorer

<http://gis.stlouiscountymn.gov/gisviewers/surveyexplorer.aspx>

Acronyms

CSMI: County Surveyor's Master Index

CPDB: Control Point Database

ESRI: Environmental Systems Research Institute (supplier of GIS software, web GIS, web mapping services and geodatabase management applications)

GIS: Geographic Information System

IE9: Internet Explorer 9

PLSS: Public Land Survey System

SE : St. Louis County Survey Explorer

SLC: St. Louis County

USGS: United States Geological Survey

What is the SE?

The SE is a web map designed to show the survey record resources that are available online and/or in the offices of the SLC Land Survey Division.

Browser Compatibility

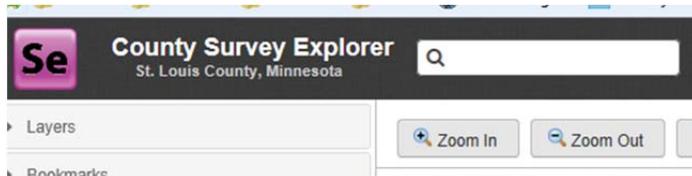
The only supported internet browser is IE9.

Navigation and Interaction

Scrolling with the middle mouse button will zoom in and out. Clicking and dragging will pan around the map.

Click on an object to see what information is available.

General Search Bar



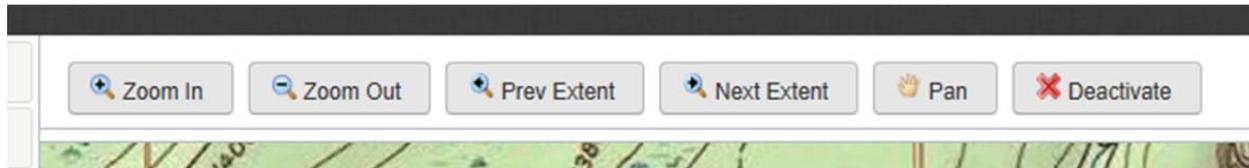
Search for general information based on the arcgisGeocoder. Enter generic search terms into the search bar to find a location.

Basemap options

There are 6 basemap options available in the SE. Select a basemap to change the view

- ESRI Streets (default): Streets basemap published by ESRI
- ESRI Imagery: Imagery basemap published by ESRI
- ESRI Hybrid: Hybrid of street and imagery basemap published by ESRI
- USGS Topo: USGS Topographic basemap published by ESRI
- 1 Meter Hillshade: This basemap contains the hillshade relief map built based on the 2011 LiDAR data. See <http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/chouse/elevation/lidar.html> for more information
- 2013 Pictometry: Aerial imagery based on the 2013 Pictometry flight. See <http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/LANDPROPERTY/Maps/WebServicesGIS.aspx> for more information

Zoom Tool



Use the zoom tools to pan, zoom in and out and zoom to different extents. The deactivate button only deactivates the zoom tools you are using.

These tools are not needed to navigate the map. By default, scrolling with the middle mouse button will zoom in and out. Clicking and dragging will pan around the map.

Layers Tool

Layers available for viewing and identification. Use the checkboxes to turn the layers on and off.

Layers are zoom dependent. Zoom into an area to get more information.

Bookmarks Tool

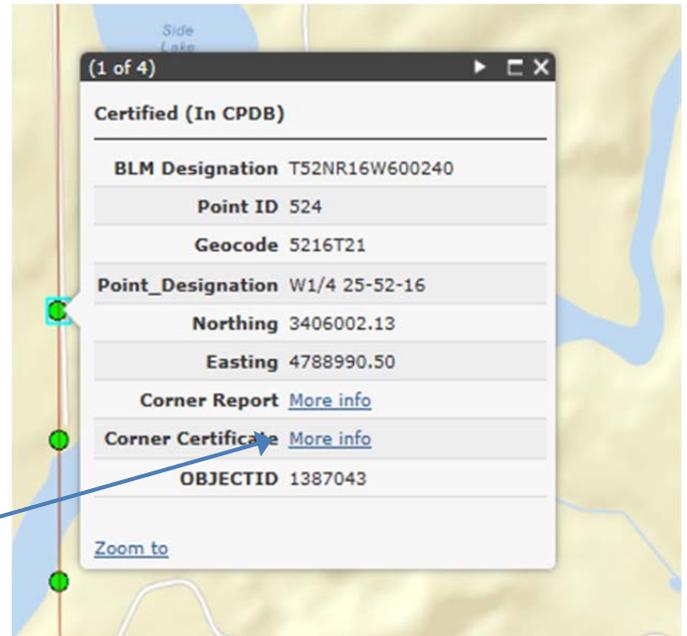
Use the bookmark tool to zoom to predefined extents. Custom bookmarks can be saved for future use.

Identify Tool

By default, all visible layers are identifiable. To identify features on a single layer, select the layer in the pulldown. By clicking on an identifiable feature in the map, a pop-up window provide more information about the feature.

If more than 1 feature is selected, click on the ► arrow to see other selected features.

If a related record is available online, it will show up as a hyperlink in the pop-up window.



Search Tool

Search for parcels based on the SLC Parcel Tax Information Lookup.

“An Address” Search: Search Parcels by address. For more search results use part of the address; ie enter 'Skyline' for all parcels with Skyline in the address.

Hint: Do not include words like Road, Street, Avenue, etc. in the search. If the search is too specific results may not be generated.

“A Parcel Identification Number (PIN)” Search: Enter St. Louis County PIN per the tax statement.

When a search is completed, the map will zoom to the extents of the search. Select a result from the table given in the search tool to zoom to the selected parcel.

Print Tool

Create custom exports of a map in a variety of formats. The Default layout “CSE” will generate a border and map scale.

A variety of settings can be adjusted using the settings button.

When the export is complete, a hyperlink will appear in the results table.

CSMI Tool

The CSMI Tool is designed to query the SLC CSMI based on Township Range and Section and will provide a hyperlink to a related record if it is available online.

CSMI Background:

Historically, completing survey research in the SLC Surveyor's Office has been a daunting task due to the variety and quantity of survey records housed here which span more than 150 years. Visiting two offices which are 1 hour apart and searching multiple record sources and a variety of records indexes can be very time consuming. In 2001 the SLC Surveyors Office undertook the task of indexing these records in a single database with the goal of increasing employee efficiency and productivity. The results have been positive. Internal quality control processes and testing have helped demonstrate the reliability of the index for use by SLC employees, and, as an additional benefit to other users, external entities as well.

To date, over 70,000 lines of data have been entered into the database.

The CSMI is a work in progress. The index does not comprise all of the records available in the SLC Surveyors Office. Other records are available in the SLC Surveyors Office and it is the responsibility of the end user to search all available records.

Data Entry Process:

The process for entering data into the CSMI was to visually inspect each record and add identifiable data into the corresponding data field. If there was an existing reliable index, it was transcribed. If identifiable, the PLSS corner that a survey record was related to was entered and the lowest Section, Township and Range was entered in accordance with the standard SLC corner index system. Please note that the data entered is not consistent from record to record (i.e. not all data fields have a value for each record). Each record is unique and should be analyzed on its own.

See the following hyperlinks for more information.

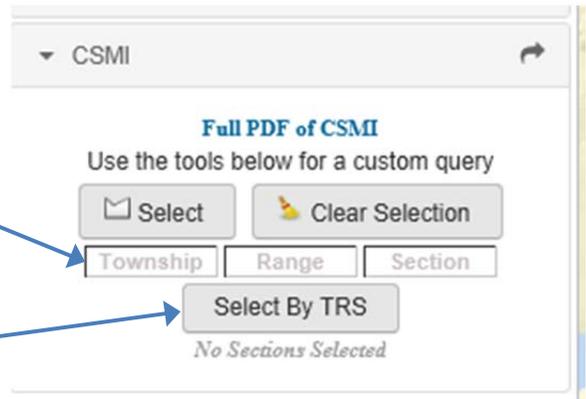
<http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/Portals/0/Library/Land-Property/Land-Survey/research-indexes/LandSurvey-Master-Index-byTRS.pdf>

<http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/LANDPROPERTY/LandSurvey.aspx>

<http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/LANDPROPERTY/LandSurvey/CountySurveyor.aspx>

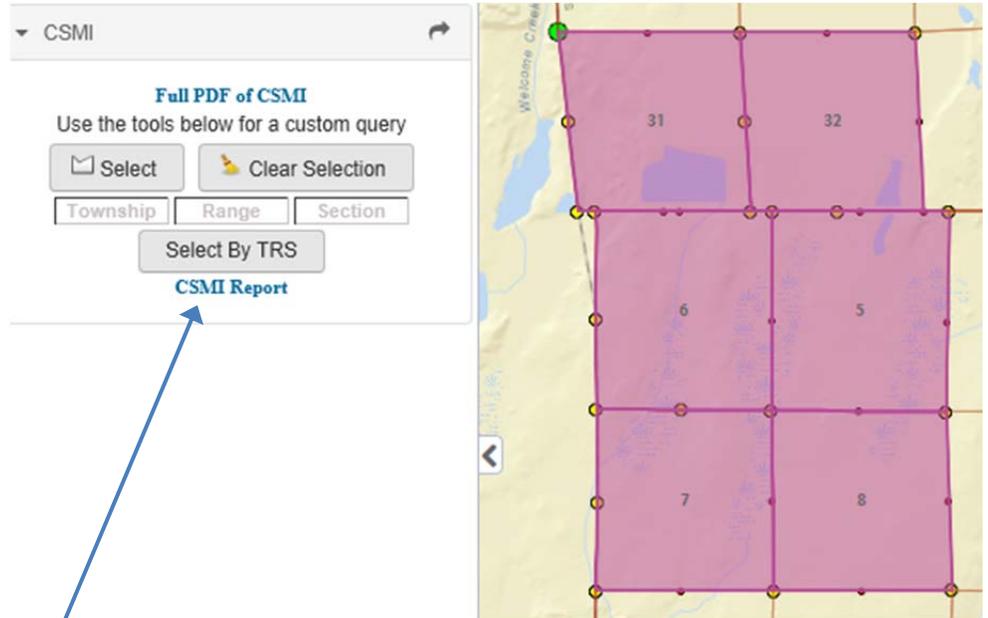
Using the CSMI Tool

If the Township Range and Section are known, enter them into the corresponding boxes in the tool.



Next, click the “**Select by TRS**” button.

The tool will then select the section entered along with all of the surrounding sections. A hyperlink for a “**CSMI Report**” will now appear under the “**Select by TRS**” button.



Select the “**CSMI Report**” hyperlink and a new popup window will open with a custom CSMI report.

Look through the CSMI report to see the indexed information in the queried area.

County Surveyor's Master Index

Total Records in this Report: 89

For information on other records not included in this report, see the [Full PDF of CSMI](#).

Book	Page	Cabinet	Column	Row	Drawer	File No.	Road Name	Client	PLS No.	Date	Plat Name	Remarks	Low Res Image	High Res Image
					Township: 56		North	Range: 21	West	Section: UNK				
Location: SLC Surveyor's Office, Pike Lake and Virginia, MN														
Source: SLC Project Files														
-	-	-	-	-	-	123246	-	-	-	2014	-	Bunker Road/South Townline Rd/ Misc. Corners	-	-
Location: SLC Surveyor's Office, Pike Lake, MN														
Source: SLC Corner Cards														
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Location: SLC Surveyor's Office, Virginia, MN														
Source: SLC Mylars														
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1 Pages)	-
					Township: 56		North	Range: 21	West	Section: 5				
Location: SLC Surveyor's Office, Pike Lake, MN														
Source: Orlin Burkstrom Field Books														

Use the remarks column to get an idea of what the indexed record may contain. If a related record is available online, a hyperlink will appear under the Low Res Image and/or High Res Image column. Select the hyperlink to access the record.

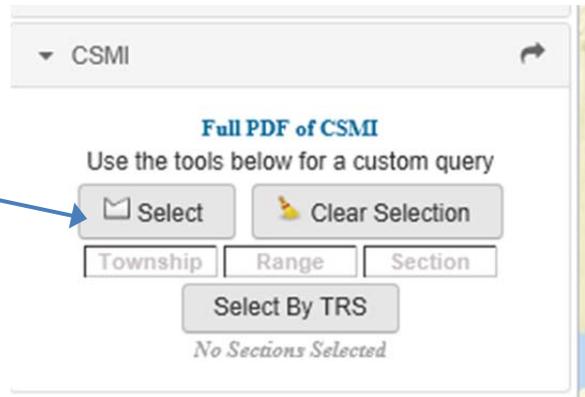
*The Adobe plugin that many browsers use will open the related records in the same window. Save the CSMI report to a local file and open hyperlinks from the local file.

*High Res Images can be very large (100-500mb). Open the Low Res image first to see if it contains the information needed.

*Not all records have been scanned. Check back regularly for updates to what is available online.

Selecting Multiple Sections

To select more than one section at a time, use the polygon **“Select”** button.



CSMI

[Full PDF of CSMI](#)

Use the tools below for a custom query

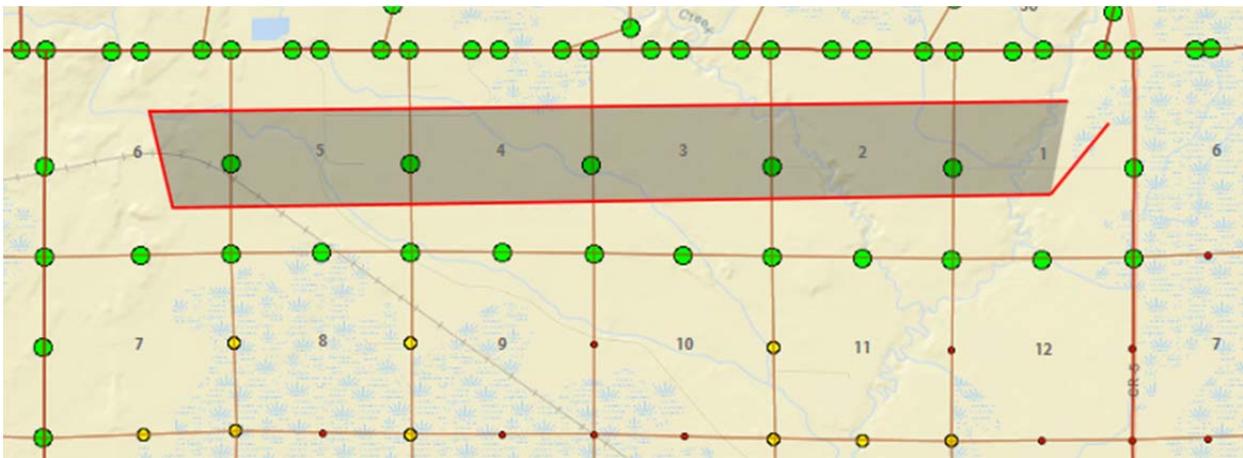
Select Clear Selection

Township Range Section

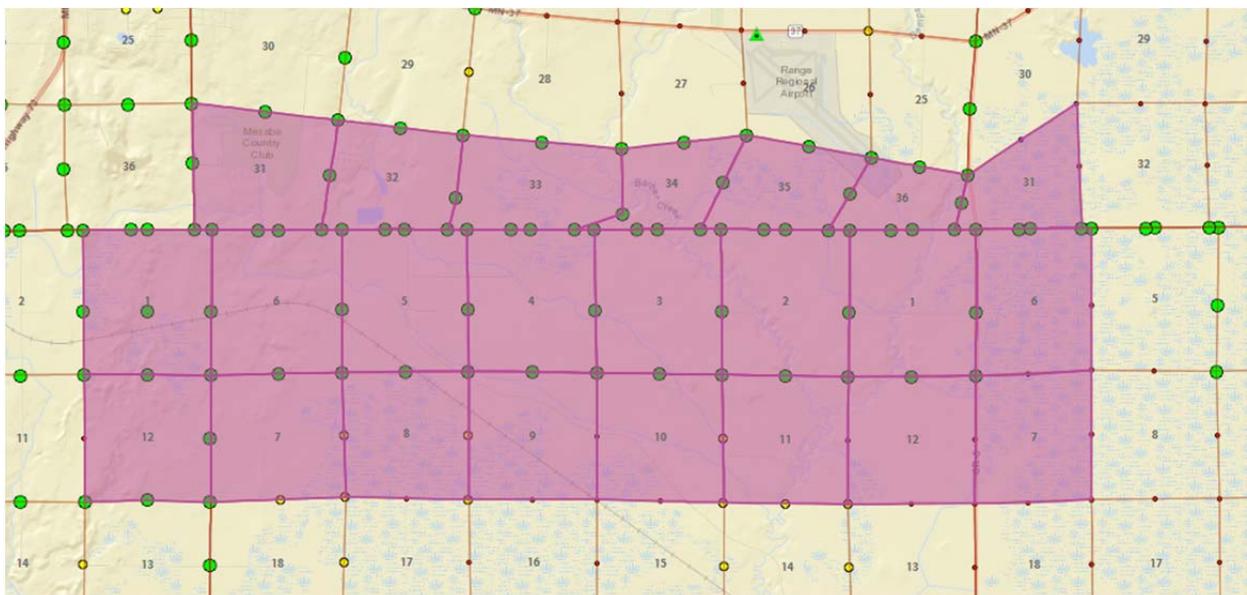
Select By TRS

No Sections Selected

Draw a polygon **INSIDE** the sections to be queried by clicking on the map.



Finish the polygon by double clicking and the appropriate sections will be selected.



The **“CSMI Report”** hyperlink will now be available under the **“Select By TRS”** button.