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Public Records of St. Johns County, FL Clerk# 02-071077 O.R. 1856 PG 1677 07:45AM 12/04/2002 REC \$29.00 SUR \$4.00

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-<u>252</u>

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CLERK OF THE COURTS TO FILE THE SURVEY MAP FOR MESSERVEY ROAD CLAIMING A VESTED INTEREST IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY IN THE RIGHTS-OF-WAY DESCRIBED IN THIS SURVEY BY PRESCRIPTIVE RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC IN ACCORD WITH THE PRINCIPLES SET FORTH IN DOWNING V. BIRD, 100 SO.2D 57 (FLA. 1958)

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, have instructed County Staff to obtain documentation in order to justify continued County maintenance of roads that are neither dedicated to St. Johns County nor are owned by St. Johns County; and

WHEREAS, Messervey Road, as described in Exhibit A, attached hereto, and incorporated herein, is a road that County staff has documented as warranting continued County maintenance; and

WHEREAS, in <u>Downing v. Bird</u>, 100 So.2d 57 (Fla. 1958), the Florida Supreme Court set forth criteria for the public to establish a prescriptive easement; and

WHEREAS, the criteria set forth in <u>Downing v. Bird</u>, <u>supra</u>, is as follows:

- 1) actual, continuous uninterrupted use by the public entity for the full prescriptive period of twenty (20) years;
- 2) that the use be adverse under a claim of right, and either be with the actual knowledge of the owner, or so open, notorious, and visible that knowledge of the use is imputed to the owner;
- that such use be inconsistent with the owner's use and enjoyment of his land and must not be a permissive use; and
- 4) that such use be related to a certain limited and defined area of land, or if for a right-of-way, the use be of a definite route with a reasonably certain line, width, and termini; and

WHEREAS, St. Johns County can demonstrate that Messervey Road meets each of the criteria, set forth in <u>Downing v. Bird</u>, <u>supra</u>; and

WHEREAS, the public has been continuously using Messervey Road without permission of the underlying land owners for in excess of twenty (20) years; and

Shaket P. Degrande BCC Secty WHEREAS, County Road and Bridge Supervisor, Harold Cooper, has stated in an affidavit (Exhibit B, attached hereto, and incorporated herein), that the County has been responsible for maintaining Messervey Road for the last thirty (30) years; and

WHEREAS, by filing the survey map with the Clerk of the Courts of St. Johns County, the County acquires a vested interest in the right-of-way as shown in the survey that is included as Exhibit C, attached hereto, and incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of St. John's County to acquire ownership of Messervey Road, and that such acquisition will benefit the citizens of St. Johns County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, as follows:

Section 1. The above recitals are incorporated by reference into the body of this Resolution, and such recitals are adopted as findings of fact.

Section 2. The Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, and the Clerk of the Courts are hereby authorized to file the attached survey map of Messervey Road in the Public Records of St. Johns County, Florida.

Section 3. The Clerk is instructed to record this Resolution in the Public Records of St. Johns County, Florida.

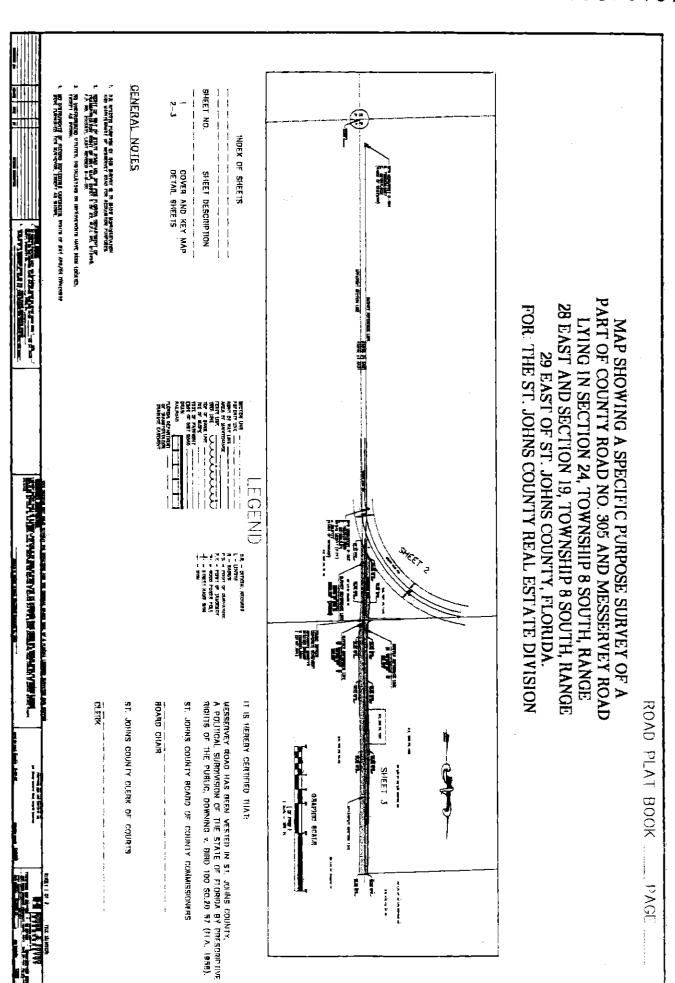
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

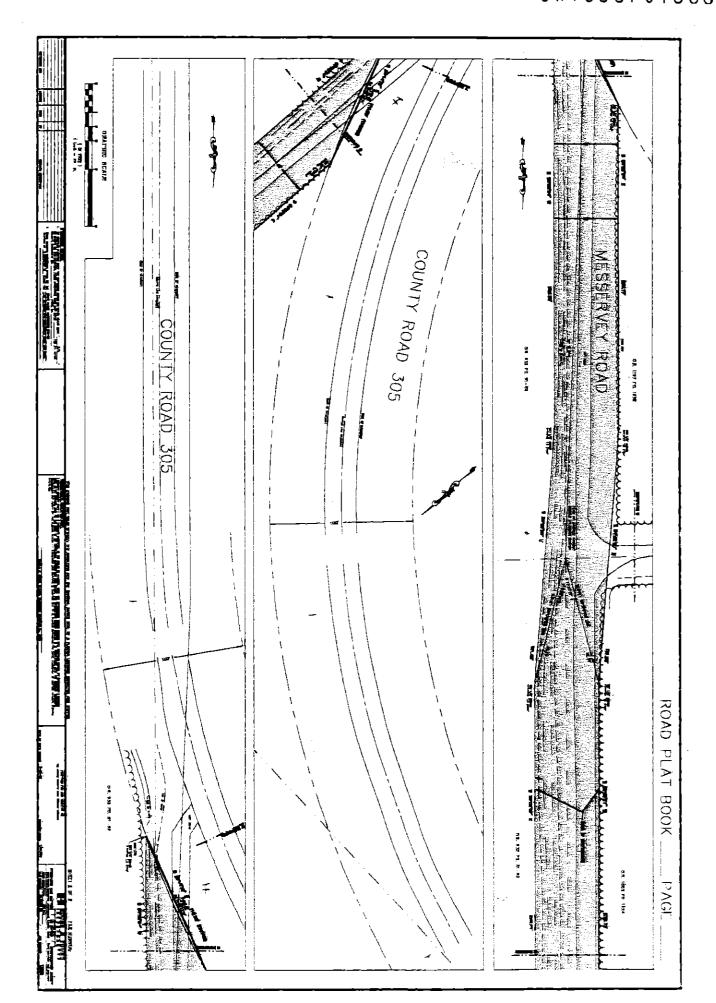
By: James E. Bryant, Charman

TTEST: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk

Deputy Clerk

RENDITION DATE 11.21-02





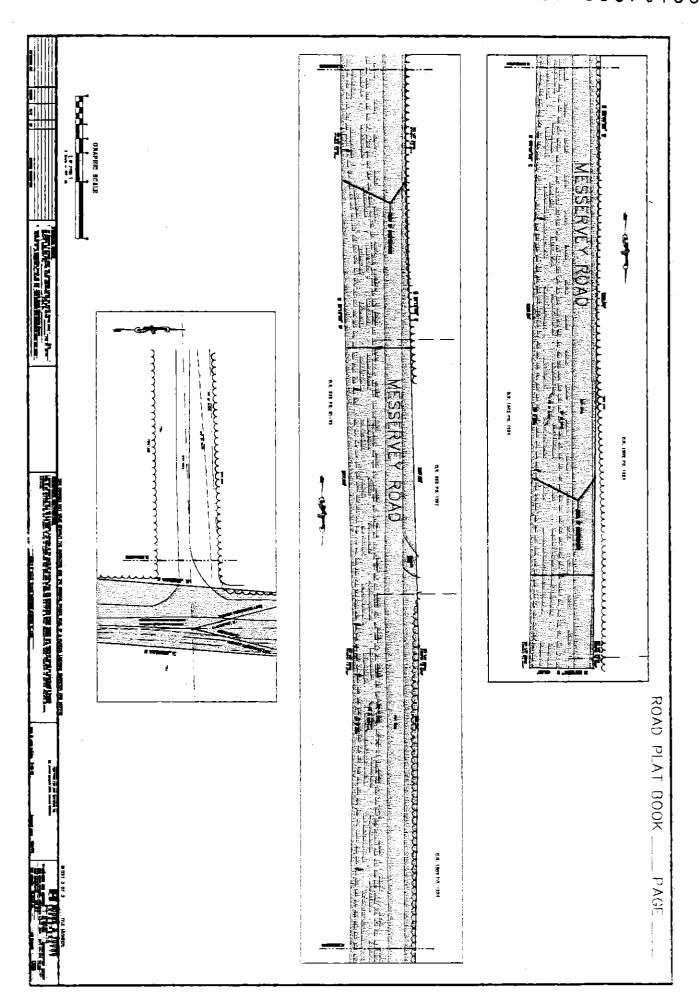


Exhibit "B" to Resolution

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF ST. JOHNS

On this day before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared Harold Cooper, Road and Bridge Supervisor, who being first by me duly swom, deposes and says that the County has been maintaining Messervey Road for the last 35 years and the public has continuously used the road during this time. This maintenance includes digging ditches, road grading and stabilization.

FURTHER AFFLANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

STATE OF FLORDIA COUNTY OF ST. JOHNS

Harold Cooper

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this /// day of 2002, by Harold Cooper, Road and Bridge Supervisor, who is personally known to me.

Motary

Joan E. Gurr MY COMMISSION # D0006694 EXPIRES March 4, 2005 SONDED THRUTTEN FAIR INBURANCE, INC.

