

DONATION OF LANDS MODE OF DISTRIBUTING
Act of Mar. 24, 1818, P.L. 274, No. 148
A SUPPLEMENT

Cl. 68

To the act, entitled "An act for directing the mode of distributing the donation lands promised to the troops of this commonwealth.

Whereas by the act to which this is a supplement, the Surveyor General was directed to survey into lots of different dimensions, lands given to the officers and soldiers of the Pennsylvania line for their services during the revolutionary war, certain unappropriated lands lying north and west of the rivers Allegheny and Ohio. And whereas in pursuance of the provisions of the law, ten districts of donation lands were laid off, surveyed and returned into the Surveyor General's office, designated and known by ten separate drafts all of which remain on record, and patents in pursuance of those surveys have been issued to persons entitled to them, according to their respective numbers as marked in each district and represented by the marks on the corners of lots, and numbered on the several drafts of each district. And whereas great difficulty exists in ascertaining the respective tracts, in consequence of the obliteration of the marks on the corner trees from a variety of causes, either by lapse of time, the burning of the woods, or the improper conduct of persons interested or mistaken in their views. And whereas in ascertaining the respective lots it is not only proper, but very necessary that the respective owners should be governed by the general drafts and the records of the state.

Therefore,

Section 1. Evidence of boundaries of donation lands

From and after the passing of this act, that in all cases of dispute or controversy respecting any boundary or boundaries in any or either of the donation districts thus respecting any lot or lots therein, as marked, surveyed and returned into the surveyor general's office, in pursuance of the act, entitled, "an act for directing the mode of distributing the donation lands promised to the troops by this Commonwealth," passed March 24, 1785, The general drafts of the said surveys as returned into the Surveyor General's Office shall be the evidence of the location of the respective lots, and official copies of the said drafts, or any or either of them, or of any part or parts thereof, shall be evidence before any Court of Competent Jurisdiction, in order to designate the situation of any or every lot, so far as regards its relative situation with the other lots. 1818, March 24, P.L. 274, 7sm.1. 122, Sec. 1.

Section 2. Lines of donation lands to be run and marked

It shall be the duty of the Deputy Surveyor of the proper district or county, on application made to him by any person interested, to run and distinctly mark the lines of any lot or lots, and to remark the original corners, agreeably to the true meaning and intention of the first section of this supplement;

and in order to carry this into effect, it shall be the duty of the Surveyor General to furnish each Deputy Surveyor, free of expense, with a certified copy of the general draft of the donation lands so far as they lie in his district or county, which shall be open to the inspection of any person or persons, they paying the customary fees: provided, that nothing in this act contained shall be construed to affect the right of bona fide purchasers, in cases where the original marked lines can be ascertained. 1818, March 24, P.L. 274, 7 sm.1. 122, Sec 2.