




THIS MAP WAS COMPILED USING SURVEY DATA FROM THE ORIGINAL GOVERNMENT SURVEY (GDS) OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SHEBOYGAN, TOWN 15 NORTH, RANGE 23 EAST OF THE 4TH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN WHICH WAS PERFORMED IN 1834 AND 1835 BY N.W. KING, DEPUTY SURVEYOR FOR THE UNITED STATES. THE PURPOSE OF THIS RETRACEMENT IS TO DETERMINE WHERE THE ORIGINAL SHORELINES OF THE SHEBOYGAN RIVER AND LAKE MICHIGAN WERE LOCATED BEFORE ANY FILLING AND/OR DREDGING WERE DONE, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF THE SHEBOYGAN ARMORY SITE SHOWN ON THIS MAP. VARIOUS HISTORICAL MAPS AND PLATS WERE ALSO REVIEWED THAT DATE BACK TO 1836 ALONG WITH HISTORICAL TEXTS ON RECORD AT THE WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY. BASED ON THIS INFORMATION I HAVE ASCERTAINED THAT THE LOCATION OF THE MOUTH OF THE SHEBOYGAN RIVER WAS MOVED SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THE YEARS OF 1852 AND 1856. THERE ARE HISTORICAL RECORDS OF A CONVENTION OF AREA LOCALITIES IN JANUARY OF 1852 IN WHICH IT WAS DECIDED TO IMPROVE THE RIVER FOR SHIPPING PURPOSES. PRIOR TO THIS TIME THE RIVER MOUTH WAS LOCATED IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE ORIGINAL MEANDER LINES SHOWN ON THIS MAP. THIS CORRESPONDS WITH ALL OF THE HISTORICAL MAPS PRIOR TO 1856. A SURVEY MAP DATED AUGUST, 1856, BY THE U.S. CORPS OF TOPOGRAPHICAL ENGINEERS IS THE FIRST MAP THAT I COULD FIND SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE RIVER (HARBOR) JUST SOUTH OF PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. THIS MAP, ALONG WITH AN 1840 PLAT MAP ALSO SHOWS THE SHORE OF LAKE MICHIGAN TO BE ROUGHLY 300 FEET EAST OF 4TH STREET AT THAT TIME. I RETRACED THE (OGS) FIELD NOTES ROUGHLY 6500 FEET NORTH OF THE CURRENT HARBOR TO WHERE I ASSUMED THE SHORELINE. ASIDE FROM NATURAL EROSION AND WATER LEVEL CHANGES, WOULD HAVE BEEN THE LEAST ALTERED SINCE 1835. AS SHOWN ON THE MAP, THE TRAVERSE OF THAT ORIGINAL MEANDER LINE FITS THIS SHORELINE WELL. IT ALSO MATCHES AN OVERLAY OF THE 1840 PLAT MAP. THE OGS FIELD NOTES ALSO INDICATE WHERE SECTION LINES WERE CROSSED DURING THE COURSE OF THE SURVEY. THESE LOCATIONS ARE SHOWN ON THE MAP AND SEEM TO FIT WITHIN A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF ERROR (5'-10'). THIS ERROR CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE EQUIPMENT USED BACK IN 1835 AND REMONUMENTATION OF SECTION CORNERS SUBSEQUENT TO 1835. THE ONLY AREA OF THIS RETRACEMENT THAT APPEARS TO HAVE A LESS ACCURATE RESULT THAN EXPECTED IS THE MEANDER OF THE RIGHT (SOUTH) SIDE OF THE RIVER AS IT HEADS NORTHWESTERLY FROM THE 8TH STREET BRIDGE TO THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 23. THE 1835 MEANDER LINE SEEMS TO BE ABOUT 40 FEET FURTHER WEST THAN EXPECTED IN THIS AREA. THE TIE IN POINT FROM THE OGS NOTES WHERE THIS MEANDER CROSSES THE WEST LINE OF THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 23 ALSO SEEMS TO BE OFF BY THE SAME AMOUNT. I CAN ONLY SPECULATE THAT THIS MAY BE ATTRIBUTED TO AN ERROR IN AN ANGLE OR DISTANCE IN THE OGS NOTES AS THE REST OF THE TRAVERSE SEEMS TO FIT AS EXPECTED.


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REVISIONS:

PROJECT:
SHEBOYGAN ARMORY
CITY OF SHEBOYGAN, WI

OWNER:
CITY OF SHEBOYGAN

DATE: 02/07/2010

02/27/2019
PROJECT NO.:

SHEET

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