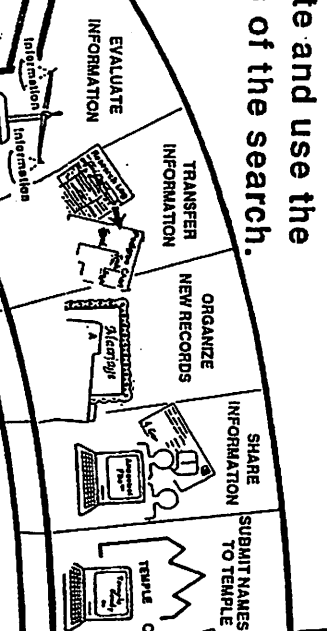


The Research Process

5.

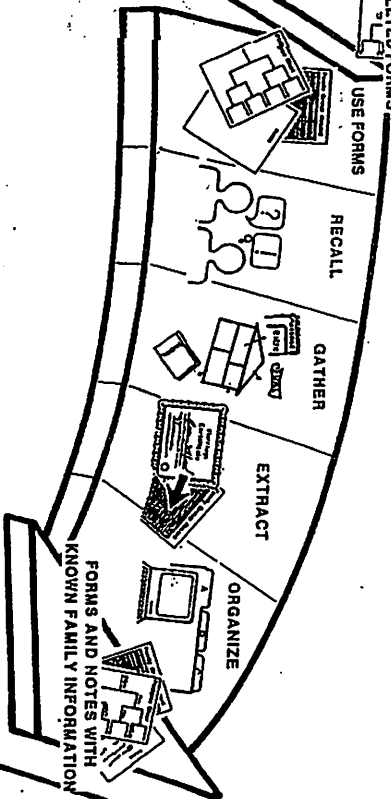
Evaluate and use the results of the search.



UNION FORT COMMUNITY FAMILY HISTORY CENTER
 North east area of the Union Fort Stake Center
 Call a coordinator for an appointment
OPEN TO EVERYONE

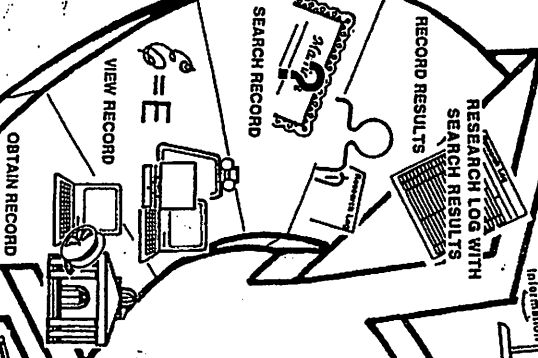
1.

Identify known family information.



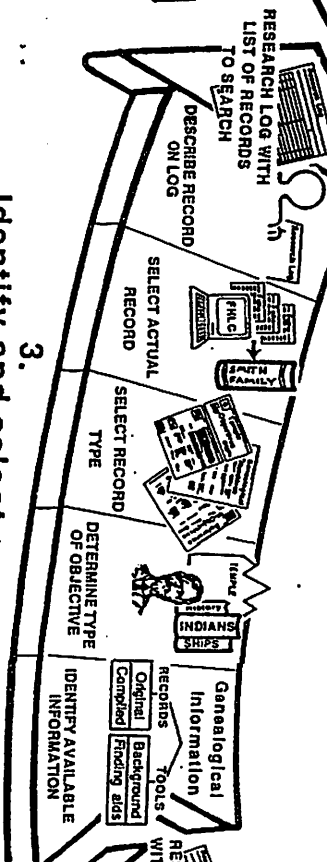
4.

Obtain and search the record.



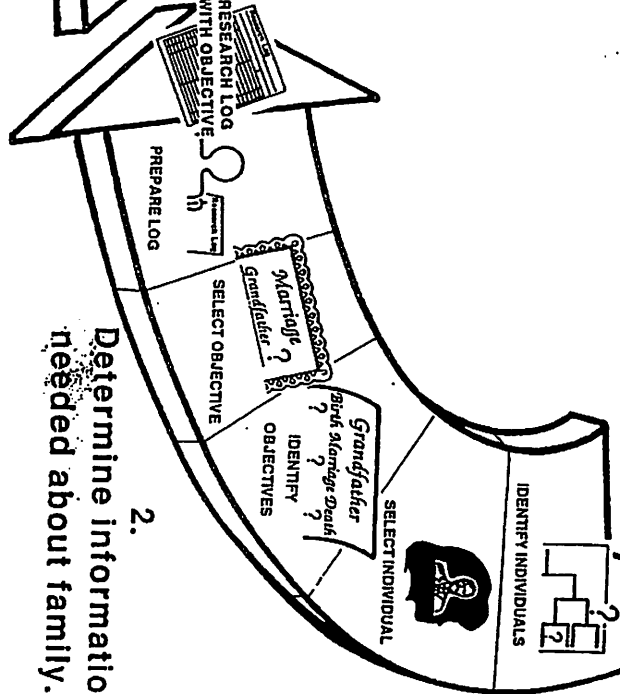
3.

Identify and select a record to search.



2.

Determine information needed about family.



NWNW	NENW	NWNE	NENE
SWNW	SENW	SWNE	SENE
NWSW	NESW	NWSE	NESE
SWSW	SESW	SWSE	SESE

Section:

Twp:

Range:

Name:

LAND RECORDS

Not all claims—homestead and otherwise—were brought to patent. If the entryman did not obtain title by the deadline for the final charges or complete the homestead residency of five years, then the entry claim was canceled and stored, now available from the National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408. However, some went to state and regional federal archives. For the genealogist, these canceled case files, traceable through the tract books (see following), are valuable records of an ancestor's life and sometimes give clues about why the claim was never completed. The number of canceled entries is large:

	Entries	Patents	Percent Canceled
Homestead Act	1,968,264	783,053	60.2
Timber Act	290,300	67,382	76.8
Desert Land Act	87,247	23,984	72.5

More than 1,185,000 homestead entries were never patented but should have files containing some of the same information as patented case files, plus a date and reason for the cancellation.

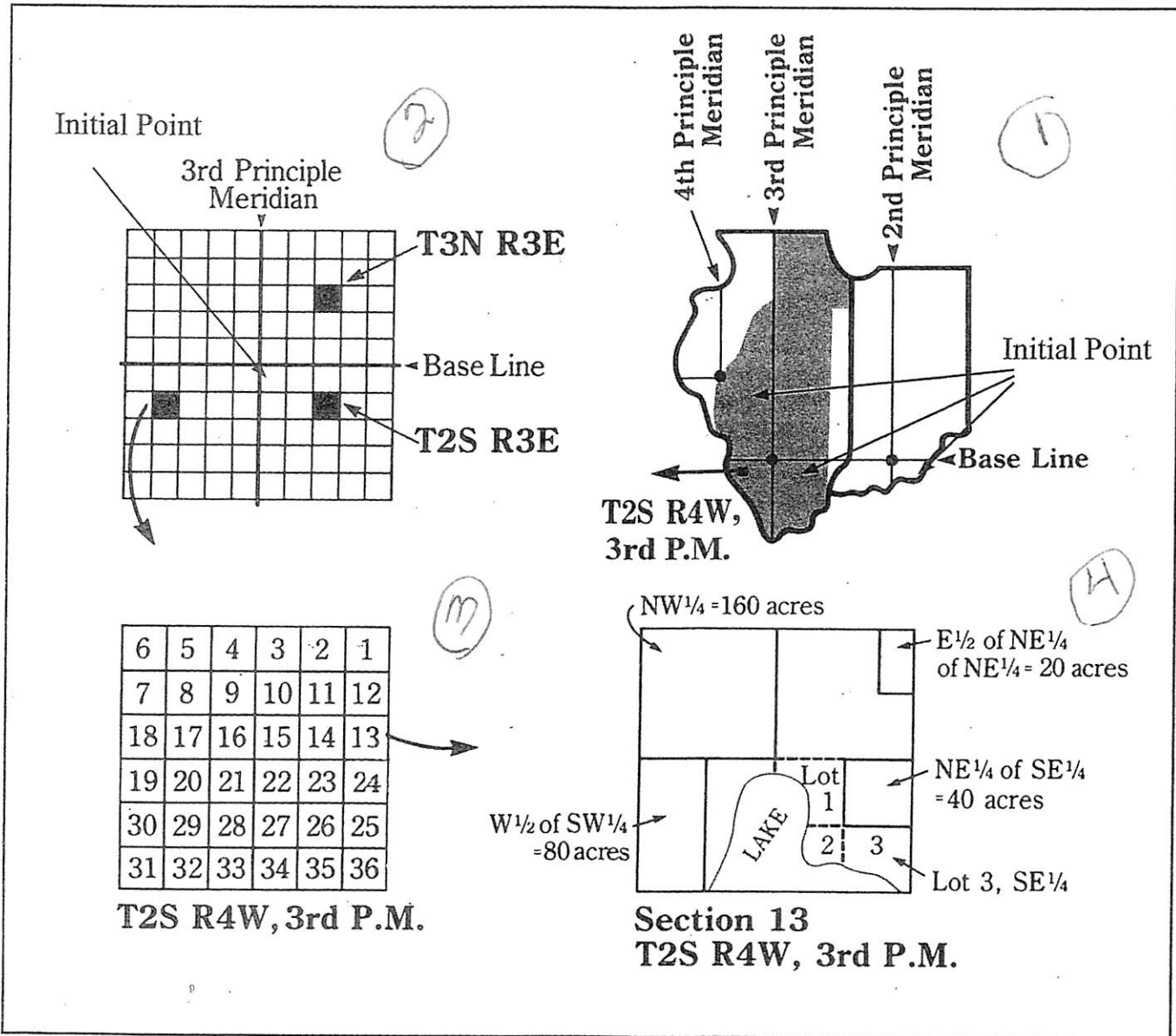
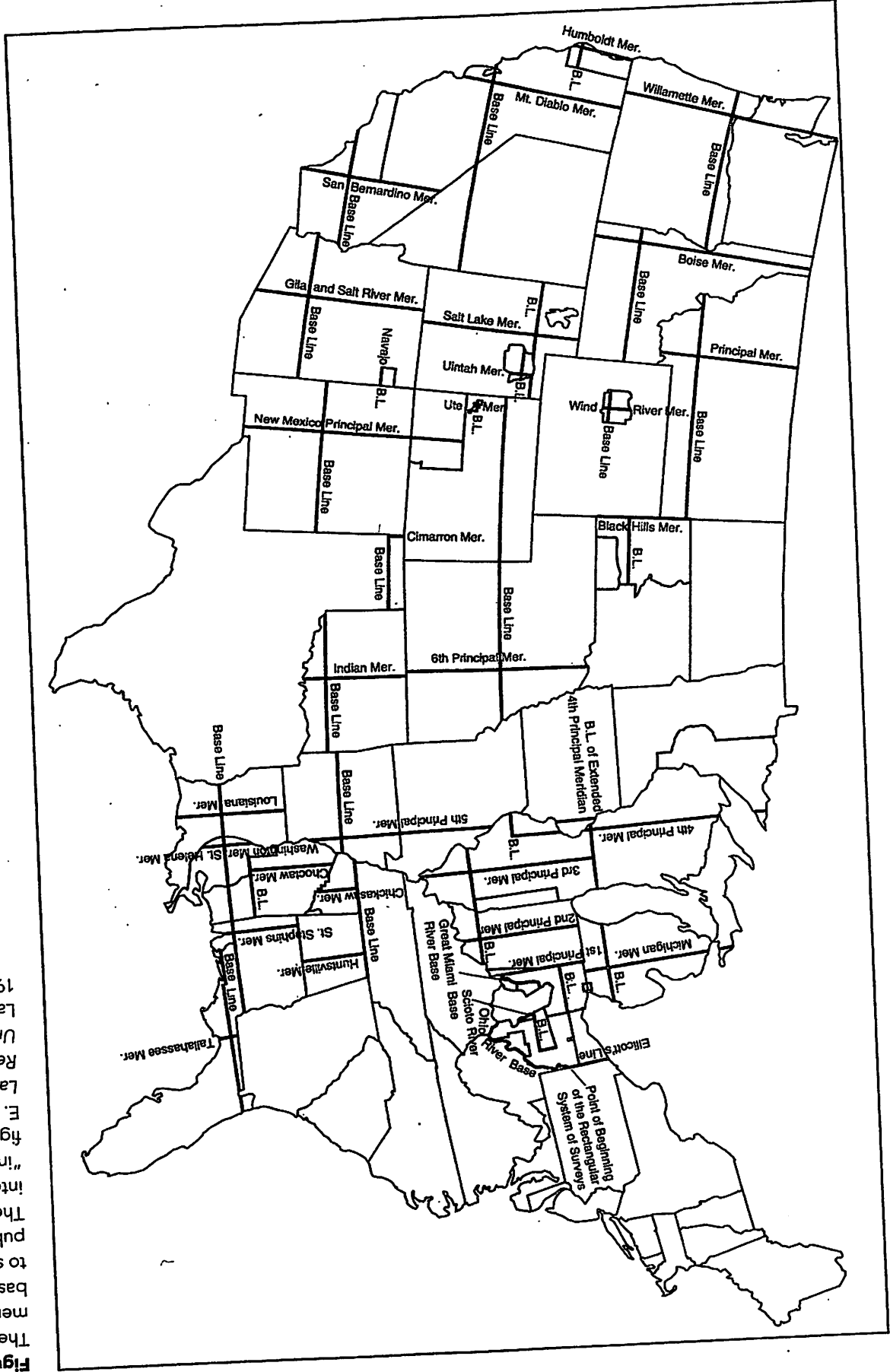


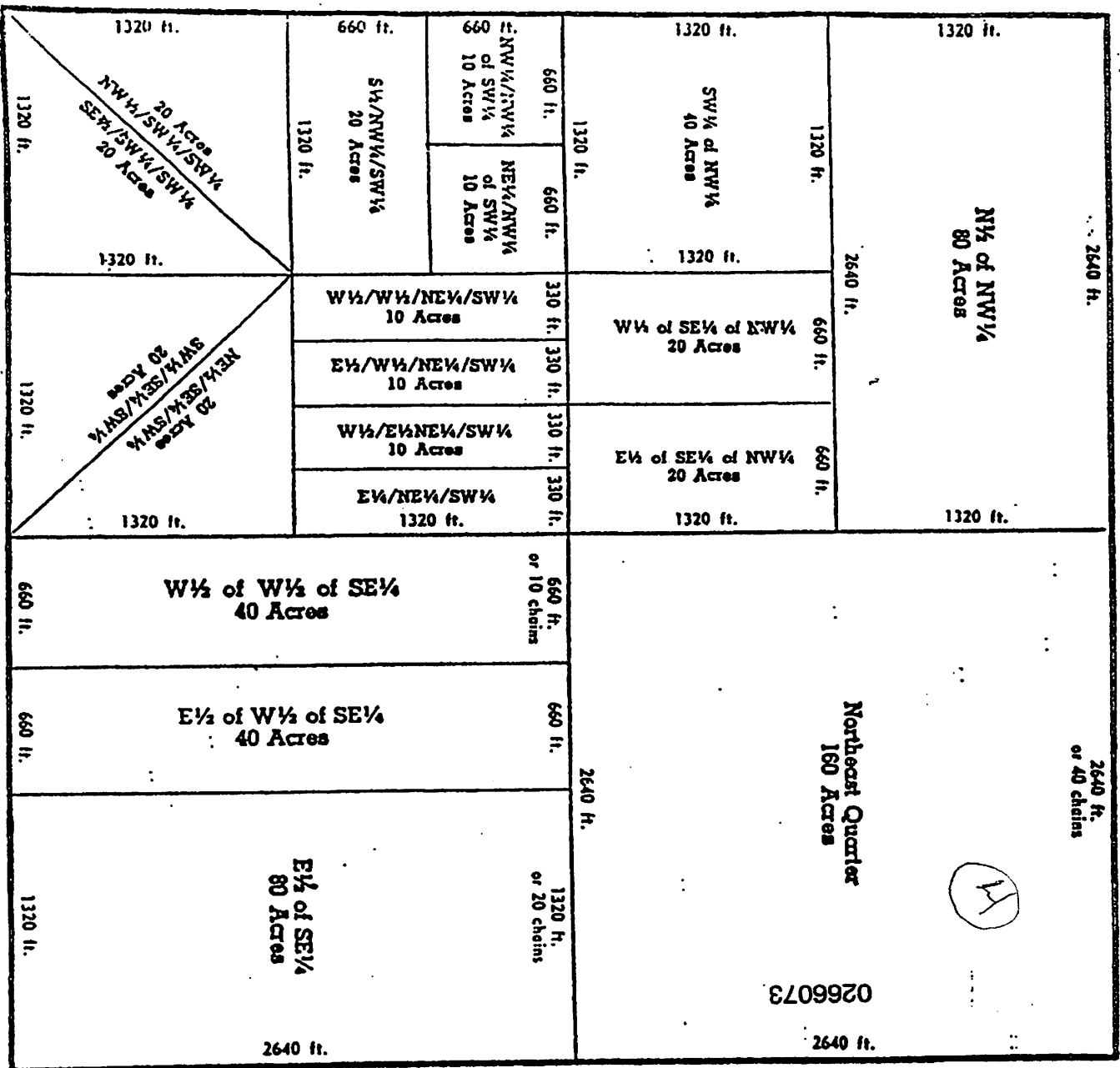
Figure 10-2. Most legal descriptions of a parcel of land include the principal meridian, such as "3rd p.m.," shown in sketch 1, top right. From the initial point, ranges are numbered as "east" or "west" of the principal meridian and townships are numbered as "north" or "south" of the baseline (see sketch 2, top left). Each township has 36 sections (sketch 3, lower left) and each section is further reduced to describe and locate the parcel.

THE SOURCE

Figure 10-1. The principal meridians and baselines used to survey in the public land states. The points of intersection are "initial points." See figure 12-3. From E. Wade Hone, *Land and Property Research in the United States (Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1997 p 104).*



LEGAL METHOD OF DESCRIBING FRACTIONAL PARTS OF A SECTION



LINEAR MEASURE

- 7.92 inches
 - 25 links
 - 16 1/2 feet
 - 100 links
 - 4 rods
 - 66 feet
 - 80 chains
 - 320 rods or poles
 - 5,280 feet
- 1 link
1 rod, perch or pole
1 chain
1 mile

SQUARE MEASURE

- 208,708 x 208,708 feet
 - 43,560 square feet
 - 16 square rods or poles
 - 10 square chains
 - 160 square rods or poles
 - 640 acres (One section)
 - 36 square miles
- 1 acre
1 acre
1 square chain
1 acre
1 acre
1 square mile
1 township

Official Plat of Township Sectionized and Numbered With Adjoining Sections

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

(10)