Validation Program

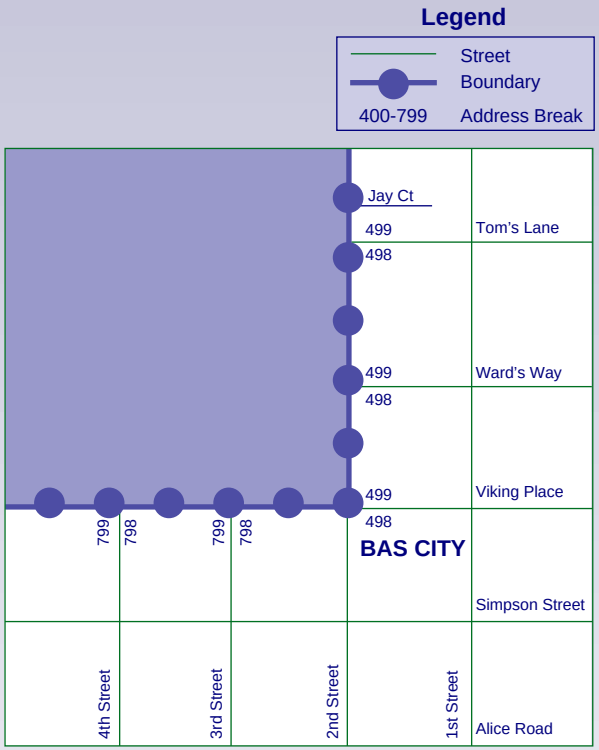
Boundary

After the 2000 Boundary and Annexation Survey, the Census Bureau will send each local government or highest elected or appointed official or tribal council for each tribal nation a Boundary Validation map of their jurisdiction for their review. This map will show the boundary information the Census Bureau will use for the tabulation of Census 2000 data and gives each government an opportunity to review Census Bureau information one last time before the tabulation of Census 2000 data.

Additional Information

For additional information about the Boundary and Annexation Survey or Validation program, please contact Dorothy Stroz by telephone at 301-457-1099, or by e-mail at **dstroz@geo.census.gov**

Section of a **BOUNDARY AND ANNEXATION SURVEY MAP** illustrating an address break and boundary



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The U.S. Census Bureau's

Boundary & Annexation Survey

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

overview....

Census 2000 preparations are underway. One of the U.S. Census Bureau's fundamental strategies is to build partnerships at every stage of the process: partnerships with state and local governments and tribal nations, as well as partnerships with other organizations and individuals interested in the success of the census. Census 2000 will benefit from the knowledge that partners bring, and participating governments will benefit from a more accurate census for their community.

One of the programs where the Census Bureau works with local and tribal partners is the Boundary and Annexation Survey. The purpose of the Boundary and Annexation Survey is to determine the inventory of legally defined entities and the correct names, political descriptions and legal boundaries of counties and equivalent entities, minor civil divisions, incorporated places, American Indian reservations, and American Indian off-reservation trust lands. Specifically, the Census Bureau requests the following information in the Boundary and Annexation Survey:

- Up-to-date boundary information for local and tribal governments
- Information on the legal actions that occurred that changed local and tribal nation governmental boundaries
- Correct legal names and designation for an entity, such as city, township, reservation, etc.
- Updates to the streets and other information shown on Census Bureau maps
- Correct address break information at the boundary of a local and tribal nation government. This would be the last address within the jurisdiction where the street intersects the boundary.

Materials and Process

Process

The Census Bureau requests Boundary and Annexation Survey information as of January 1 and a response from the local government within 15 days or tribal nation within 60 days after receipt of the survey. The Census Bureau will follow up with the respondents that have not returned the Boundary and Annexation Survey materials. The Census Bureau will tabulate Census 2000 data for the boundaries as of January 1, 2000.

Materials

The Census Bureau provides the following materials to Boundary and Annexation Survey respondents:

- Census Bureau maps
- Census Bureau forms
- Procedures on how to complete the survey
- Pencils and postage-free return envelopes and labels

The Census Bureau asks the respondents to return the maps containing any changes and to sign the map sheets stating that the boundaries are correct to the best of the respondents' knowledge. The Census Bureau also requests that the respondent complete the form that is part of the Boundary and Annexation Survey package. For the respondents' convenience, the Census Bureau encloses a prepaid postage return label.

Schedule

Each year the Census Bureau mails a Boundary and Annexation Survey package to respondents for these entities:

- Counties (parishes in Louisiana, boroughs and census areas in Alaska)
- Selected minor civil divisions (towns in New England, New York and Wisconsin; townships in other states)
- Places with a population greater than or equal to 5,000 people
- American Indian reservations recognized by the Federal government
- American Indian trust lands recognized by the Federal government

In years ending in 2 and 7, the Census Bureau surveys the above-mentioned entities plus places with a population greater than or equal to 2,500 people and additional minor civil divisions with a population of 10,000 or more. In years ending in 8, 9, and 0, the Census Bureau surveys all entities in the United States in preparation for the decennial census. For the 2000 Boundary and Annexation Survey, the Census Bureau mailout will start earlier because the Census Bureau must receive responses by March 1, 2000. For entities with house number-street name addresses (for example, 101 Main Street), the survey includes a request for the last address inside the government where a street crosses the boundary. This information will assist the Census Bureau in correctly tabulating the data for each governmental unit for Census 2000.