

# “X” MARKS THE SPOT



**SURVEYORS INSPECT THE LARGE ROCK  
WHERE THE “X” WAS DISCOVERED**

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**CAN YOU SEE THE “X”?**

IF YOU ARE HAVING A HARD TIME FINDING THE  
“X”, PLEASE VISIT  
[WWW.PALMERNET.COM](http://WWW.PALMERNET.COM) TO SEE IT MARKED.



**W**hile Palmer Engineering is well known as a highway and bridge design firm, frequently the survey department has the opportunity to provide their services on a unique project. For the past three winters, Palmer survey crews have been conducting boundary surveys at the Sundquist Nature Preserve for the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency, who manages the property.

“For more than 25 years, I have done route surveys in eastern Kentucky, flood studies in west Tennessee, and flood control in Ohio and West Virginia, but boundary surveys have always interested me the most. What’s so special about boundary surveys? They provide an insight into history through retracing old deeds and relocating old survey markers,” says Kelly Whittington, PLS.

In one of the deeds for the Sundquist property, land Surveyor H. Merwin, who surveyed in east Tennessee in the 1870’s, called for a cut “X” on a large rock as one of the property corners.

While Palmer’s crew gathered field evidence, the locals talked about the big rock which was the corner. As the leaves fell, the crew was able to locate the large rock and after an extensive search on top of the rock, finally located the “X”.

The State of Tennessee acquired the land for the Sundquist Nature Preserve from the Tennessee Land & Mining Company in 2002. The area, located 40 miles northwest of Knoxville, includes portions of Anderson, Campbell, and Scott Counties on the Tennessee Valley Divide - one side flows into the Cumberland River and the other side

into the Tennessee River. The land is available for public use, with proper permits, for outdoor recreation.

The 75,000-acre boundary survey will take several winters to complete. Palmer is partnering with GRW, Inc. on this project.