

# Permanent Survey Marks



**Call 8226 2464 before any construction work. One call could protect a permanent survey mark and avoid a \$2,000 fine.**

Permanent survey marks (PSMs) are major reference points placed by surveyors. Their long term retention benefits the community by providing clear-cut restoration of property boundaries and the reduction in survey costs for construction and development.

It is everyone's responsibility to ensure that PSMs are protected. If you are conducting any type of construction or earth moving work, no matter how small, you must make sure that you do not damage, move or destroy a PSM.

Under the *Survey Act 1992*, a PSM must not be disturbed without prior approval of the Surveyor-General. There is provision under *the Act* for fines of up to \$2000 per PSM disturbed, damaged, removed or destroyed.

Common causes of damage to, or destruction of PSMs are:

- constructing driveways, roads, footpaths and pram ramps
- building fences
- landscaping
- installing underground services.

It is important that PSMs remain accessible and, under *the Act*, surveyors are able to break any surface, including driveways, footpaths and landscaped areas, to locate a PSM.

## How to find a PSM

PSMs are shown on survey plans with references to the boundary corner but do not mark the boundary corner.

They are made of concrete blocks, approximately 200mm square and 300mm deep with a brass plaque or metal rod in the centre.

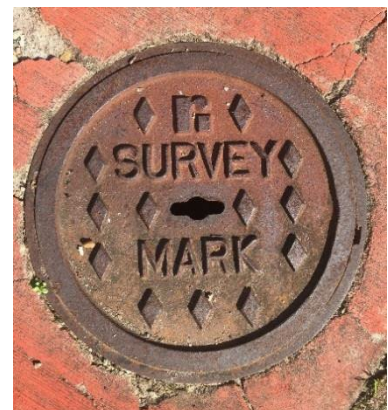
Most PSMs are situated below ground level and are not easily identifiable.

There are no definite rules about where a surveyor should place a PSM.



## In urban and metropolitan areas

In urban and metro areas PSMs are usually placed in footpaths near street corners and bends near the back of the kerb and may be covered with a steel lid.



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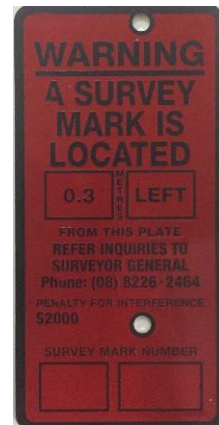
## In rural and developing areas

In rural areas PSMs are usually located in the road reserve, next to fencing at prominent road bends or intersections. Occasionally, they will be located on private property.

Rural PSMs are often marked with a blue star dropper and red indicator plate.

In areas being developed they are usually marked with a white PVC post and red indicator plate.

These witness posts are often mistaken for the PSM itself but the location of the buried PSM will be shown on the red indicator plate.



In the Riverland, many PSMs are concrete pillars 400mm above ground level. This makes them easier to locate and prevents them from being accidentally destroyed by machinery.

## Where to find survey mark locations

Approximate location of PSMs can be found on the Survey Mark dataset of the LocationSA Map Viewer, <http://www.location.sa.gov.au/viewer/>, or by turning on the Survey Marks layer under the Location tab of the South Australian Property and Planning Atlas (SAPPA), <https://sappa.plan.sa.gov.au/>

Horizontal coordinates, elevation and survey plan information relating to PSMs can be found via the South Australian Integrated Land Information System (SAILIS) Survey Mark search, <https://sailis.lssa.com.au/products/surveymark/search?form>.

If you would like to know the exact location of a PSM adjacent your property and the best course of action for its protection, please contact the Surveyor-General's Survey Operations Unit.

Phone: (08) 8226 2464

Email: [DHUD.SurveyOperations@sa.gov.au](mailto:DHUD.SurveyOperations@sa.gov.au)



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