I can tell you honestly that, except for the miracle that happened, I could not have enclosed this check. The Wolf that comes to many doors nowadays just had pups in my kitchen. I sold them and here’s the money.

Yours faithfully
Sam Surveyor
Professional Soil Classifier Consultant
(Source unknown, Editor, E. J. Ciolkosz)

FROM OUT OF THE PAST

Photographs as soil survey base maps in 1899? The 1899 soil survey of Cecil County, Maryland was the first to use photography as a base map for field work. We quote from the Field Operations of the Division of Soils, 1900, “The soils of Cecil County were mapped in 1899 on a photograph of the pencil copy of the base map furnished by the United States Geological Survey, . . . “

* * * * * * * * * *

How good is your memory?
“----(soil survey) party, also in Missouri, did much of the soil mapping in their room. The forenoons usually were spent going over a section of country, but the mapping, i.e. the plotting of the soils, was done after they got home. A good memory is essential to a soil surveyor and no doubt these men had it, but an examination of the soil map shows that in a number of instances their memory failed them.”

The above was taken from the Report of the Second Annual Meeting of the American Association of Soil Survey Workers, 1921, under the heading “Personal Problems!”

* * * * * * * * * *

“Today, a soil man is almost compelled to operate a car, and many times it might seem to him that the greatest problem of the field man is to keep the thing running.” (a quote from the same 2nd Annual Meeting report).