1. You must be there to know:
   “SW ¼ NW ¼ SW ¼ NW ¼ Sec. 31, Highland Twp., 0.6 mile N of Defiance-Putnam County Line Road. 265’ E of centerline of road and 46’ S of fence. 30’ N of top of slope and 78’ W of top of where slope bends toward fence.”

2. Most patriotic:
   “Approx. 2.4 miles S of S.R. 147 on Twp. Rd. 119, 14’ west of fence; 32’ north of cherry tree; SE 160, NW 40, SW 10, Sec. 12, Washington Twp.”

And then sometimes, soil scientists having the rectangular system for their use elected to ignore it, or use it very little.

“3,600 feet east and 1,000 feet north of the SW corner of Sec. 8, York Twp. 1575’ NW Jct. of OH-7 and OH-148; approx. on a line extending northeast of east edge of Mail Pouch Barn, through a telephone pole to Captina Creek, site located 22 feet west and perpendicular to line and 60 feet south of Captina Creek.”

I am sure all of you soil diggers working in metes and bounds country have many distinctive locations that you could share. Why don’t you send in some examples to Soil Survey Horizons for inclusion in a second article, so we can all enjoy these colorful descriptions.

Soil Erosion in Lesotho, Africa

Chris Mack

The Kingdom of Lesotho is located at 30° S Lat on the African continent (Fig. 1). Although only slightly larger than Maryland, Lesotho contains the highest mountains in Southern Africa and has the highest lowest point of any country in the world, beating the nearest rivals Sikkim and Tibet by a comfortable margin. Lesotho lies at another extreme in the physical world. Soil erosion is severe. Dendritic networks of deeply incised gullies spread in mycelial growth over the valleys (Fig. 2 and 3). In the mountains, thousands of hectares of lithic soils have been eroded to bare rock.

Soil Scientist for the Washington State University-USAID Farming Systems Research Project in Lesotho.

Known as Basutoland prior to independence in 1966.