

### CE 506 Homework 7

Assigned Tuesday, 8 November, 2005, due Friday, 2 December

1. Read *Measuring America* by Andro Linklater (note: if English is your second language I will be more lenient on this assignment)
2. Write a general review of the book
3. Describe how an element or anecdote from the book might relate to you in your expected career path.
4. Address one or more of the following “study questions” (you may also reference other supplementary sources):
  - a. Would adoption of the “seconds pendulum” as the length standard by the French have increased the likelihood that America would have been an early adopter of the metric system?
  - b. How, specifically did Borda increase the precision of theodolites from the prevailing standard of 15 arc seconds, to 1 arc second?
  - c. When was Tippecanoe County first surveyed as part of the public land system? Where is the corresponding principle meridian & origin?
  - d. What was the meaning of “enclosures” in Britain, and how did that lead to increased immigration to America?
  - e. What did Hassler discover that led to recognition of a systematic error in the meter bars, then used as a length standard for triangulation?
  - f. (more options to come)