Building Research

Getting Started!

1

The Legal Address

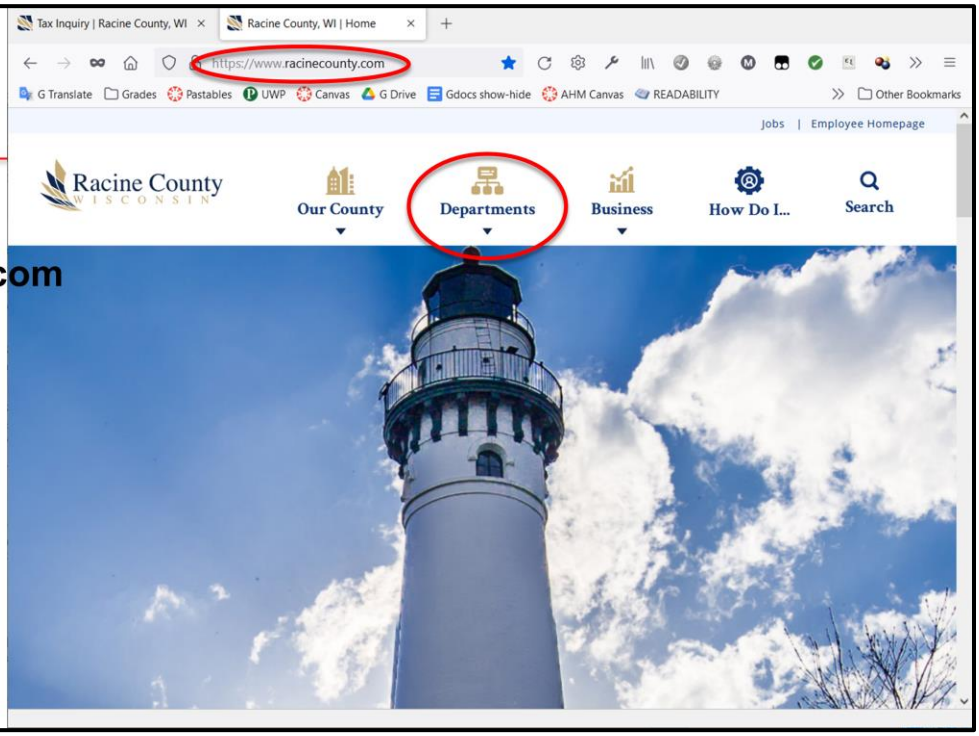
How to find it

2

First:

Go to: RacineCounty.com

Then click on Departments

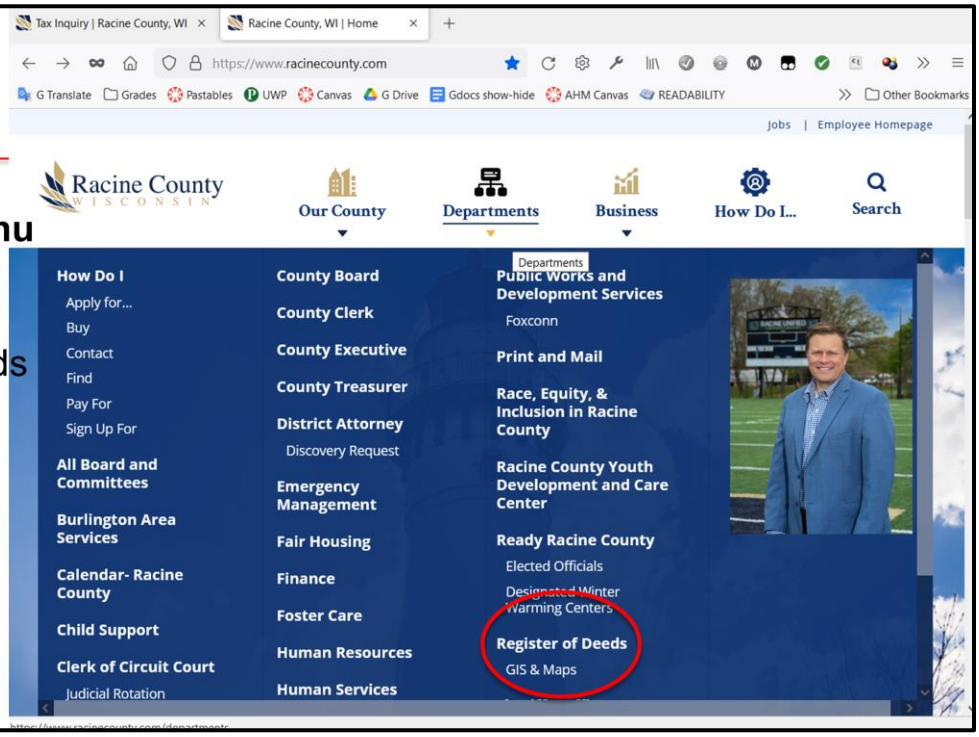


3

Result:

Drop-down Menu

Click on Register of Deeds



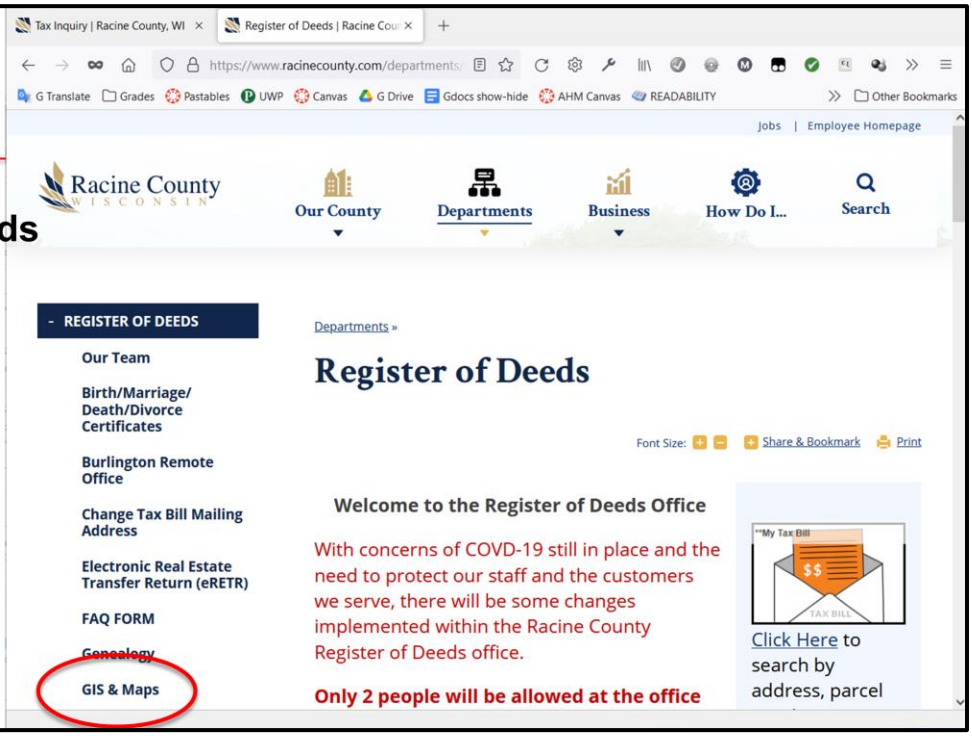
4

A PRESERVATION RACINE RESEARCH AID (c) 2022

Result:

Register of Deeds

Click on
GIS & Maps

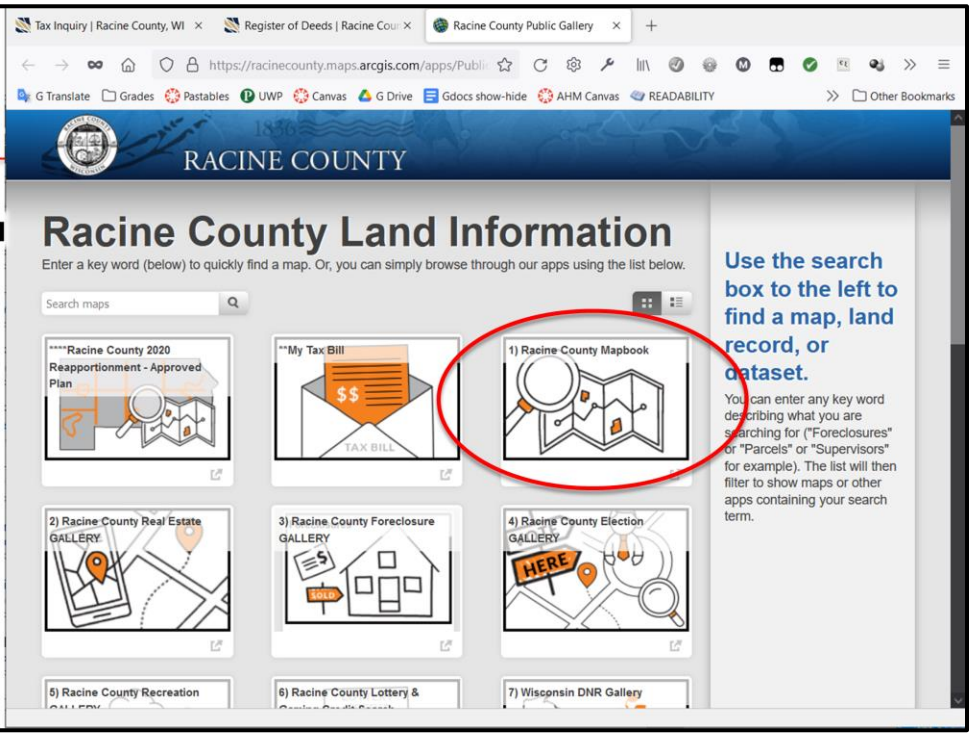


5

Result:

New Page Menu

Click on
Racine County Mapbook



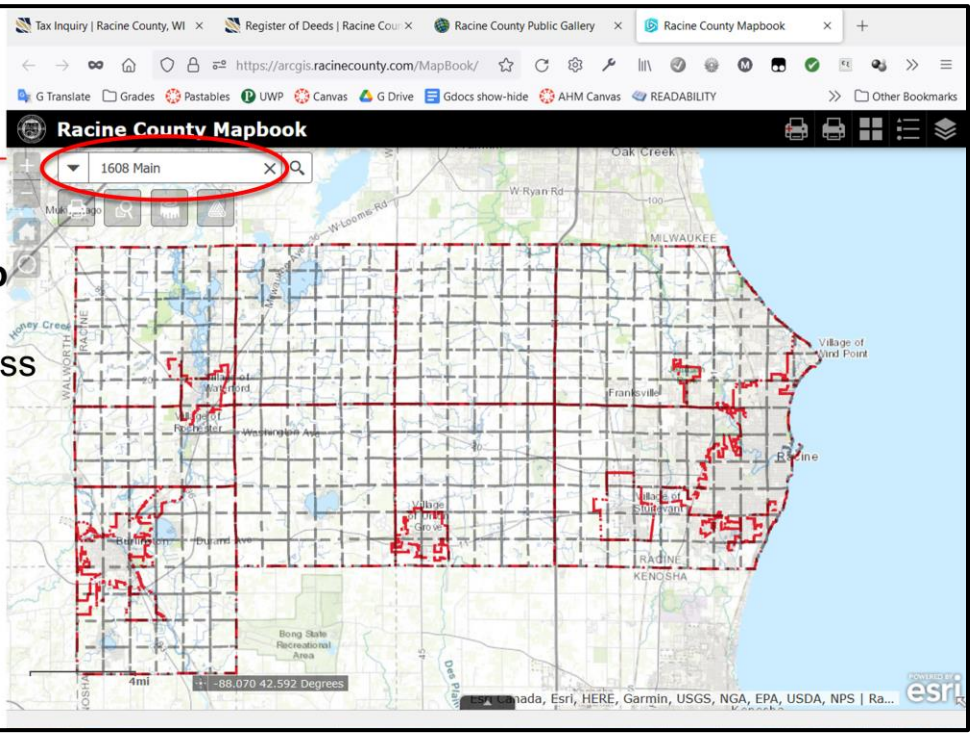
6

A PRESERVATION RACINE RESEARCH AID (c) 2022

Result:

Racine County Searchable Map

Search by Address



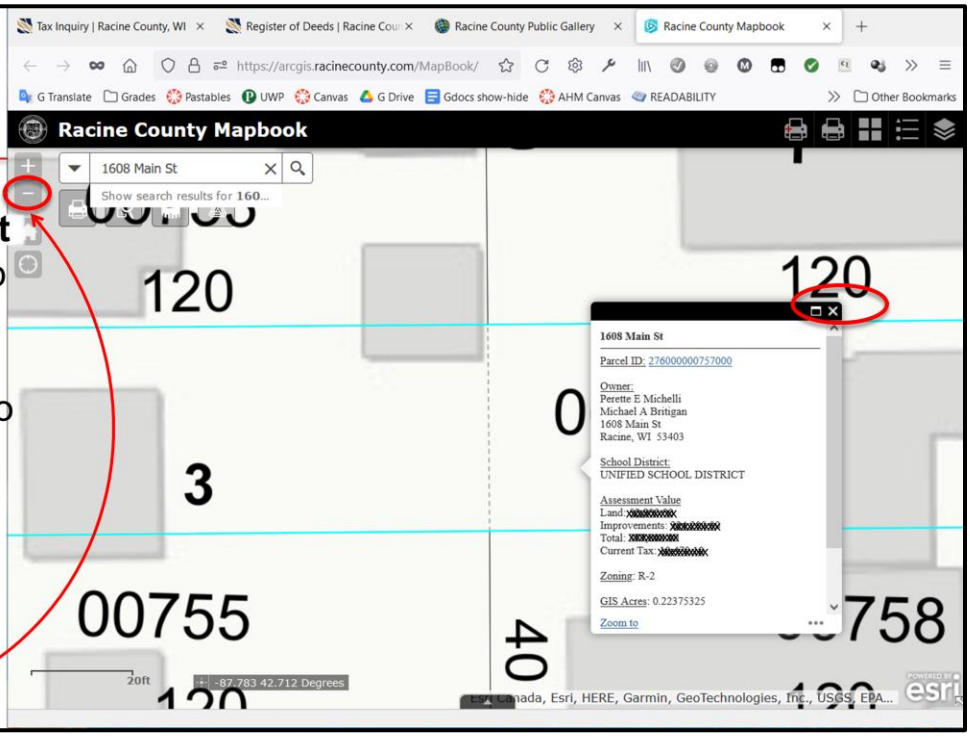
7

Result:

Zooms in to plot and gives pop-up info

Close pop-up info temporarily, to view the entire plot (notional but a start)

Shrink if nec.

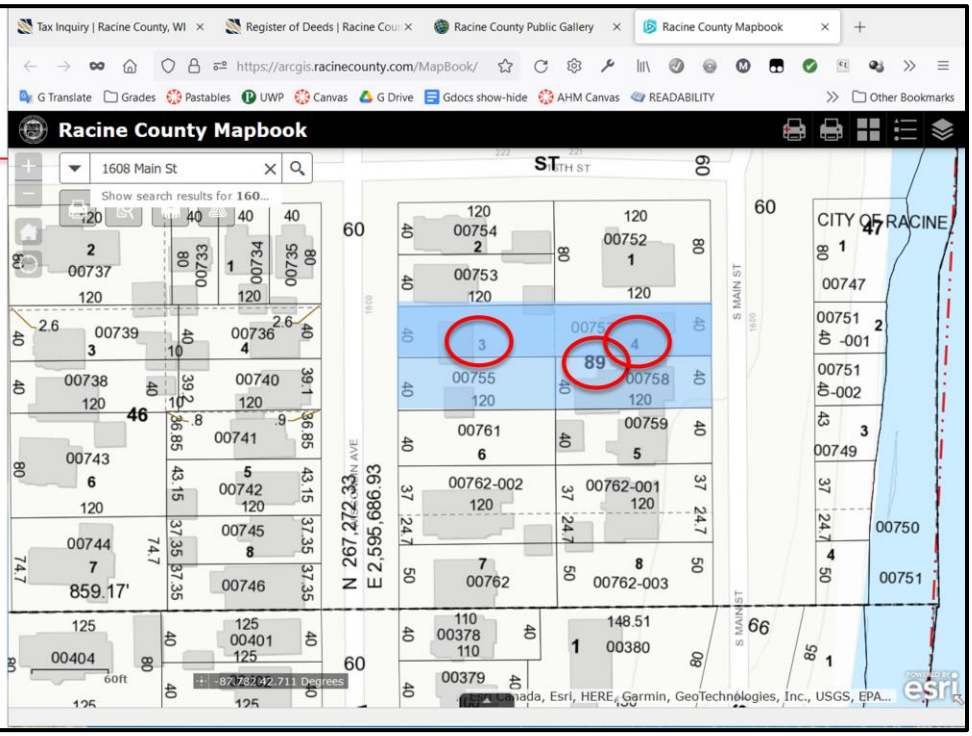


8

Result:

Shrunk to see entire block

Notice:
- Block 89
- Lots 3 & 4
- North 40 ft



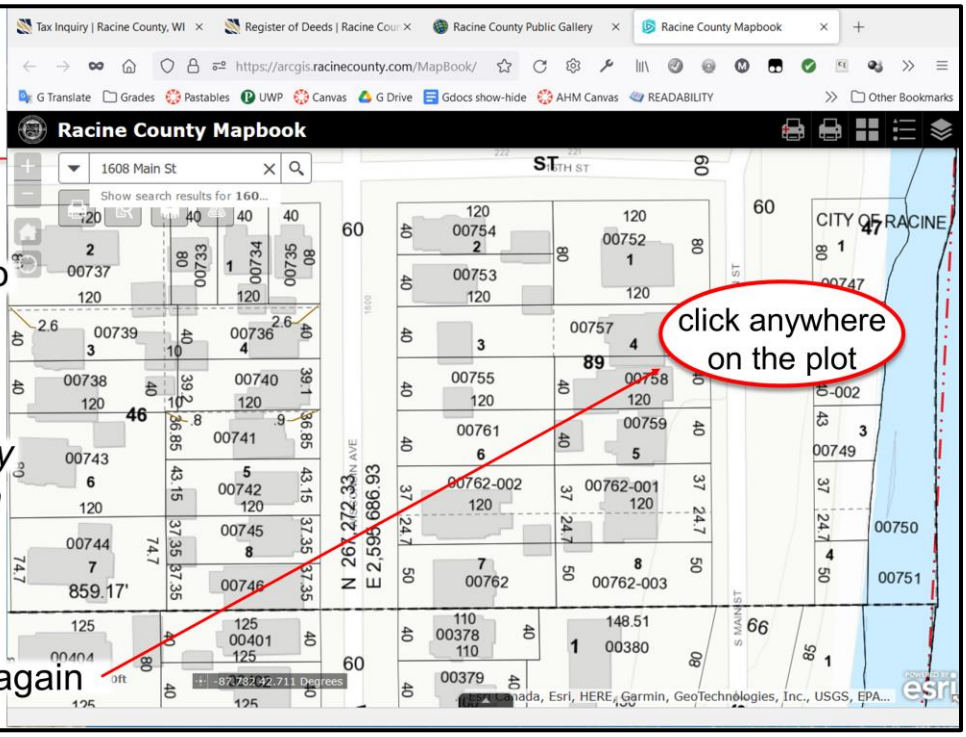
9

Next:

Take a screen shot to paste into your research document

Different for every computer. Take a photo with cell if necessary

Click on the plot again



10

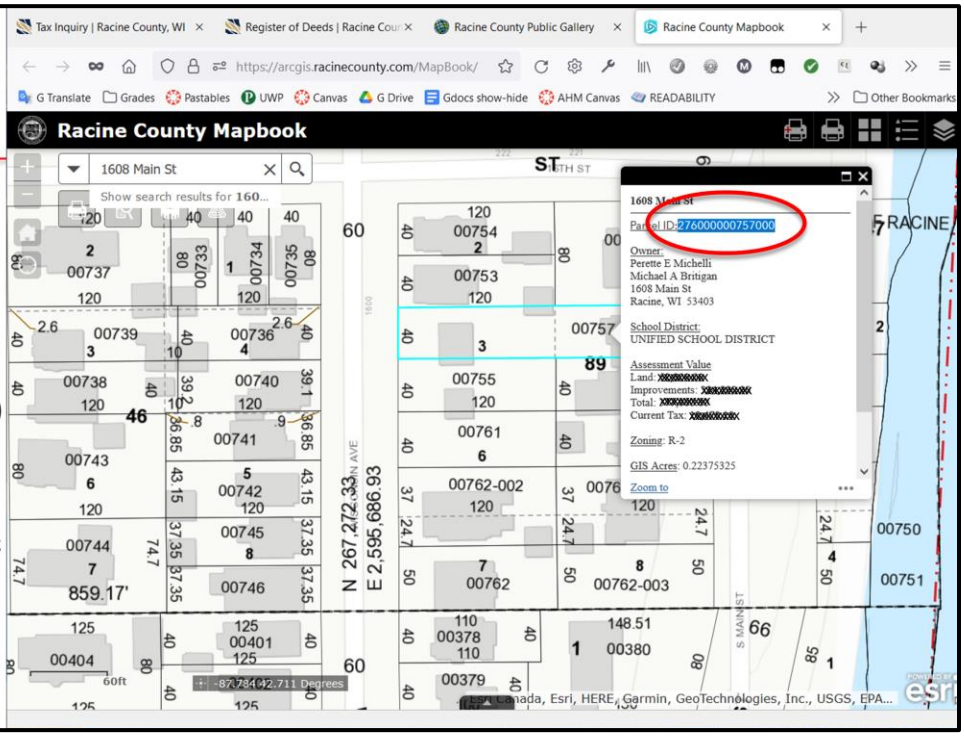
Result:

Brings back pop-up info

Copy Parcel ID (highlight & copy)

Paste Parcel ID into research doc

Then click Parcel ID

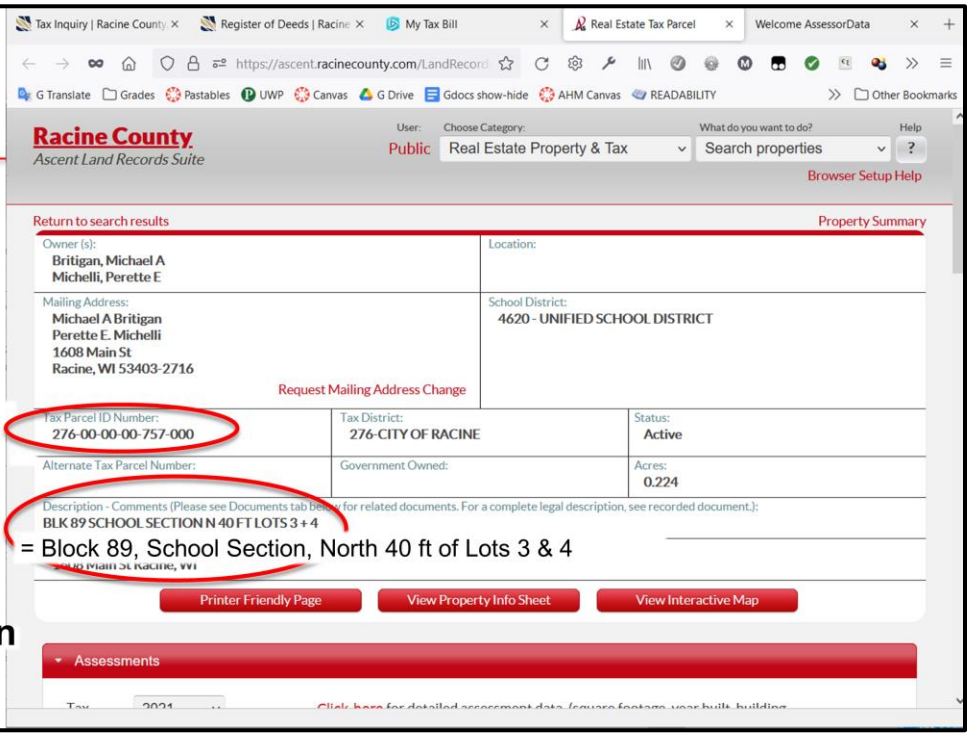


Result:

Property Info

Tax ID number matches Parcel number but with added dashes

legal address aka **legal description**

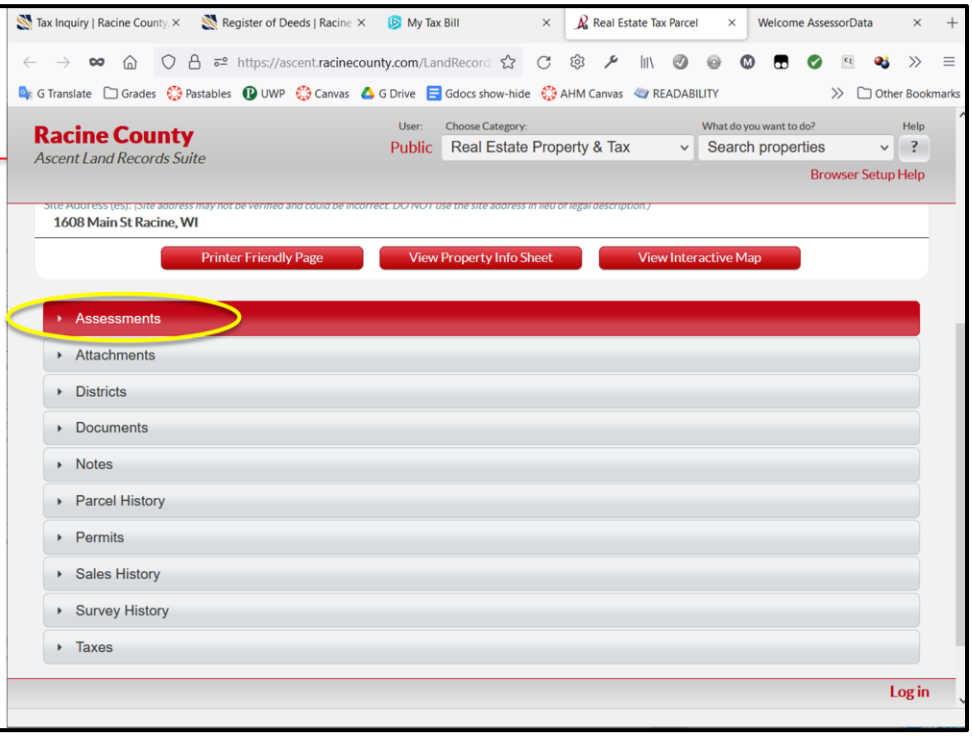


A PRESERVATION RACINE RESEARCH AID (c) 2022

Next:

Having scrolled down …

Click on **Assessments**



13

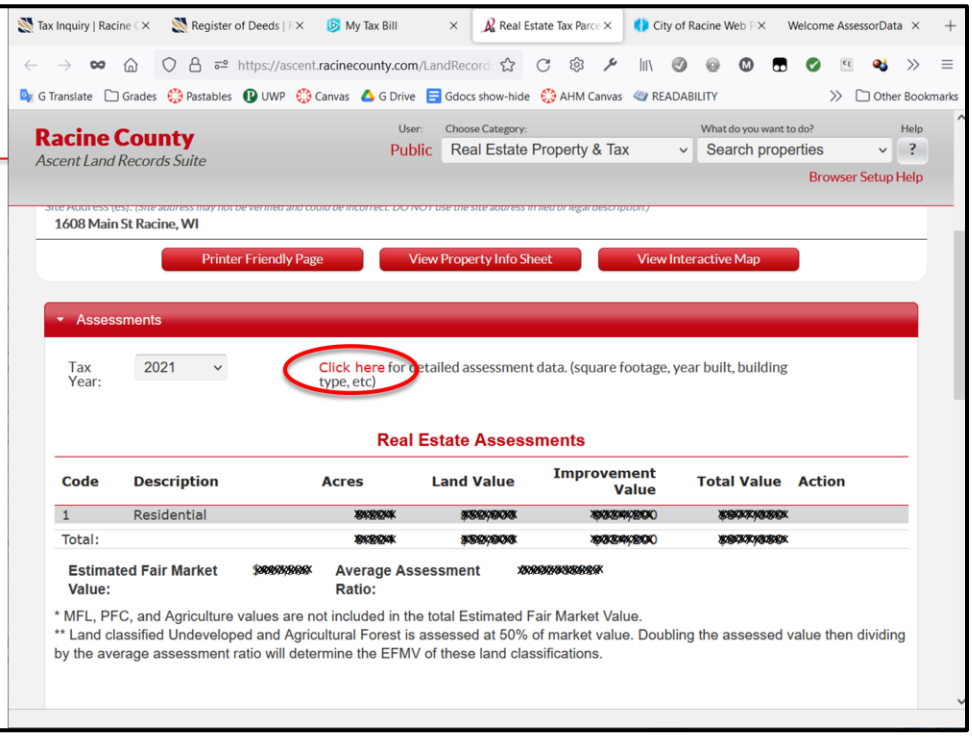
Result:

Drop-down info

Print out whole document

Then:

Click on **Click here**



14

A PRESERVATION RACINE RESEARCH AID (c) 2022

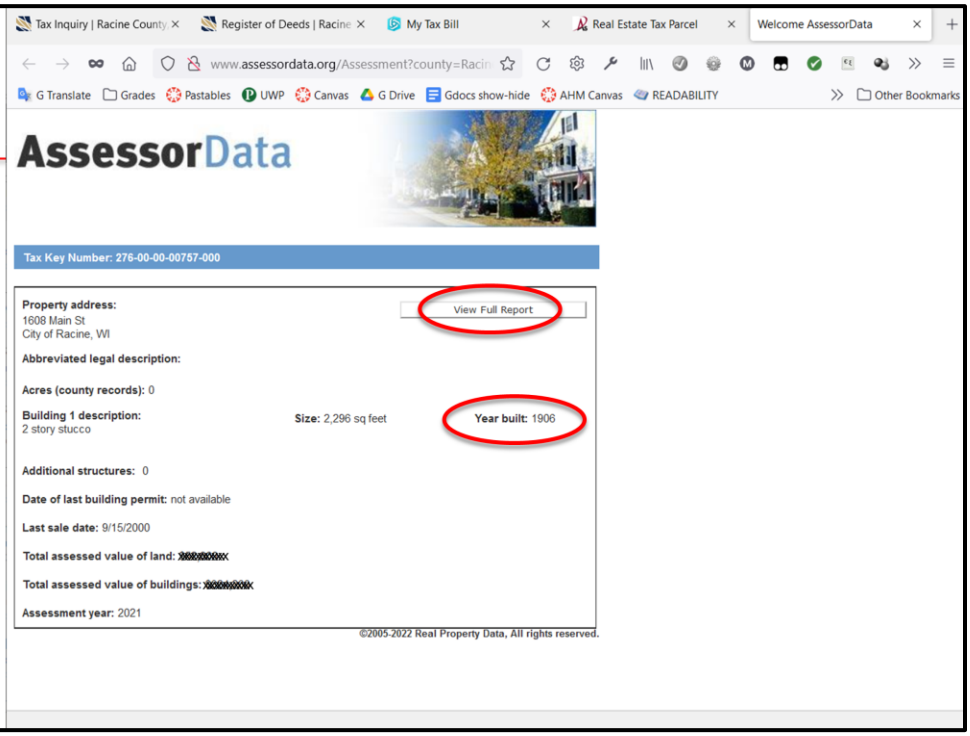
Result:

Assessor's Info

with, if lucky:

year built

Click on **View full Report**

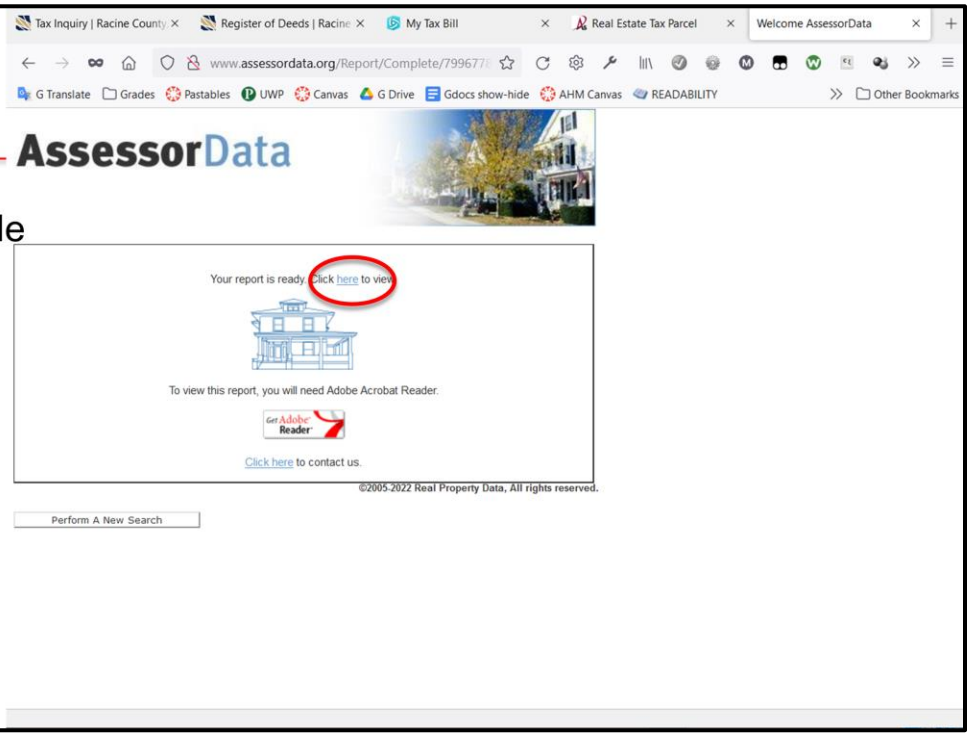


15

Result:

Prepares printable report. (SLOW!)

Click on **here** for report



16

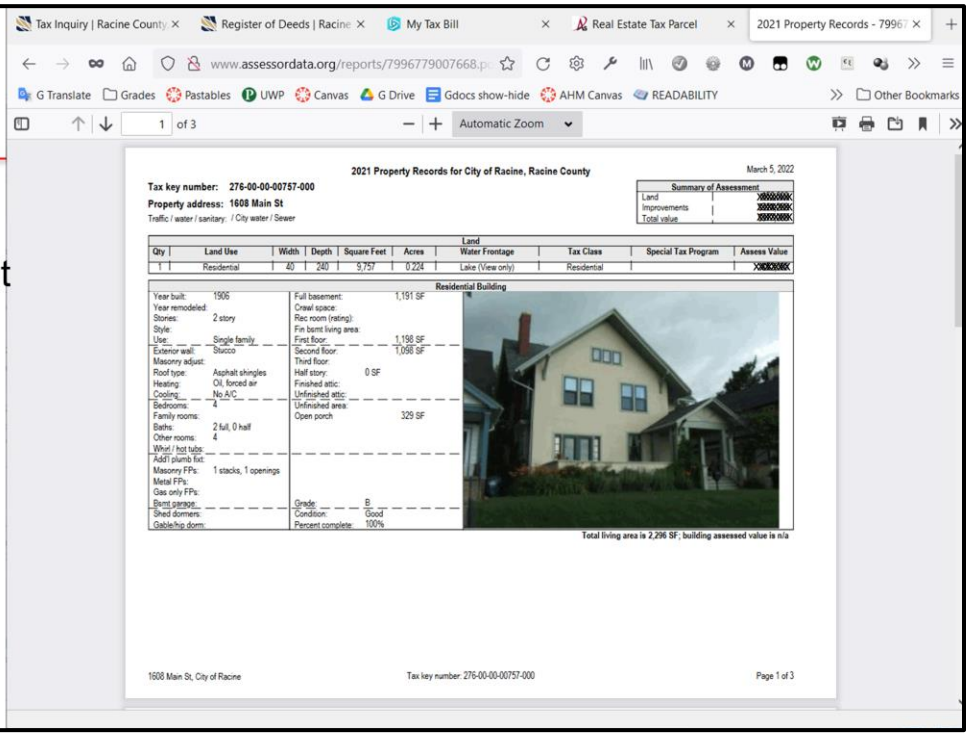
Result:

Property Info
3-page document

with

details
and photo

and …



2021 Property Records for City of Racine, Racine County

March 5, 2022

Tax key number: 276-00-00-00757-000

Property address: 1608 Main St

Traffic / water / sanitary: / City water / Sewer

Summary of Assessment	
Land	
Improvements	
Total value	

Land

Qty	Land Use	Width	Depth	Square Feet	Acres	Water Frontage	Tax Class	Special Tax Program	Assess Value
1	Residential	40	240	9,757	0.224	Lake (View only)	Residential		

Residential Building

Year built:	1906	Full basement:	1,191 SF
Year remodeled:		Crawl space:	
Stories:	2 story	Rec room (rating):	
Style:		Fin bsmt living area:	
Use:	Single family	First floor:	1,198 SF
Exterior wall:	Stucco	Second floor:	1,098 SF
Masonry adjust:		Third floor:	
Roof type:	Asphalt shingles	Half story:	0 SF
Heating:	Oil, forced air	Finished attic:	
Cooling:	No A/C	Unfinished attic:	
Bedrooms:	4	Unfinished area:	
Family rooms:		Open porch	329 SF
Baths:	2 full, 0 half		
Other rooms:	4		
Whirl / hot tubs:			
Add'l plumb fixt:			
Masonry FPs:	1 stacks, 1 openings		
Metal FPs:			
Gas only FPs:			
Bsmt garage:		Grade:	B
Shed dormers:		Condition:	Good
Gable/hip dorm:		Percent complete:	100%

Total living area is 2,296 SF; building assessed value is n/a

1608 Main St, City of Racine | Tax key number: 276-00-00-00757-000 | Page 1 of 3

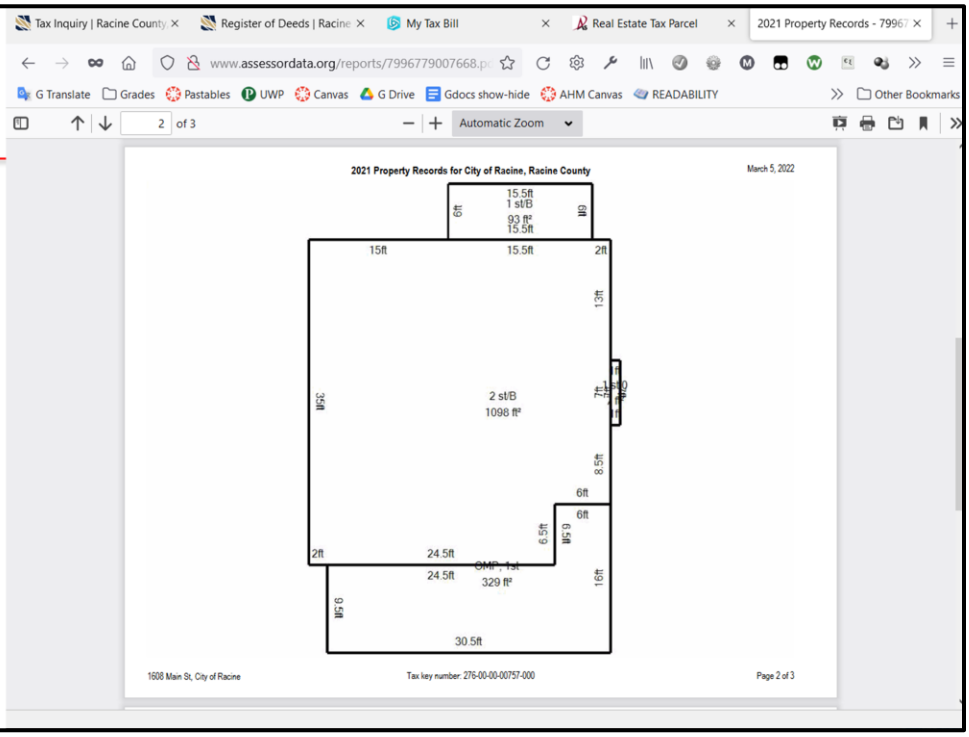
17

Property Info
page 2

with

footprint

and …



2021 Property Records for City of Racine, Racine County

March 5, 2022

1608 Main St, City of Racine | Tax key number: 276-00-00-00757-000 | Page 2 of 3

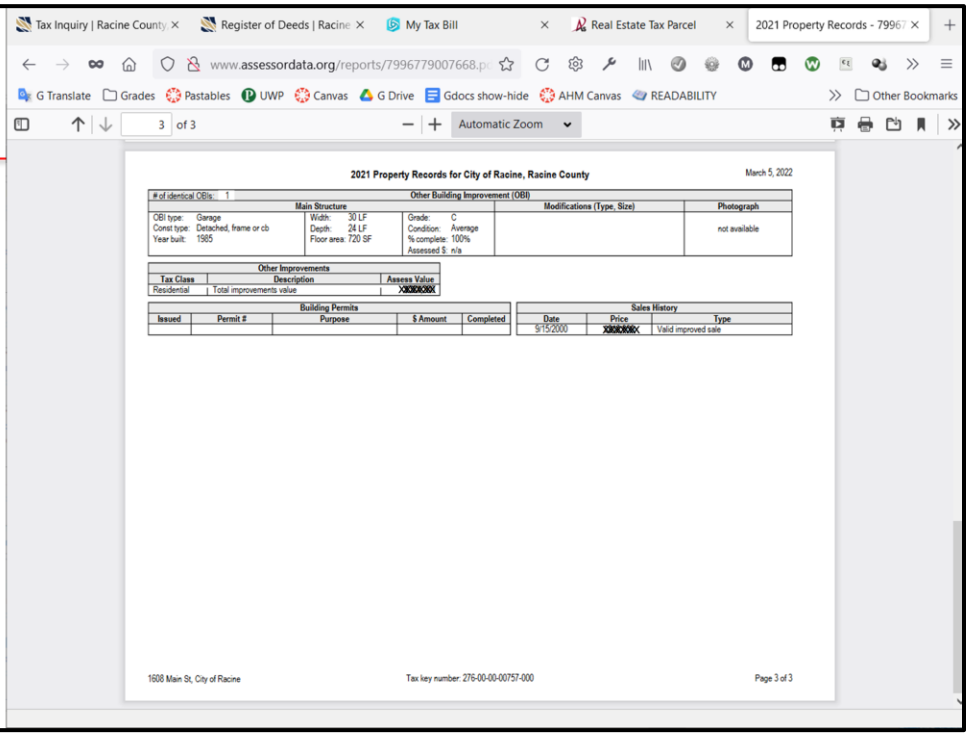
18

Property Info page 3

with

additional info

Print out whole document



19

Finding the Original Ward

Needed for City of Racine buildings only

20

Wards change!

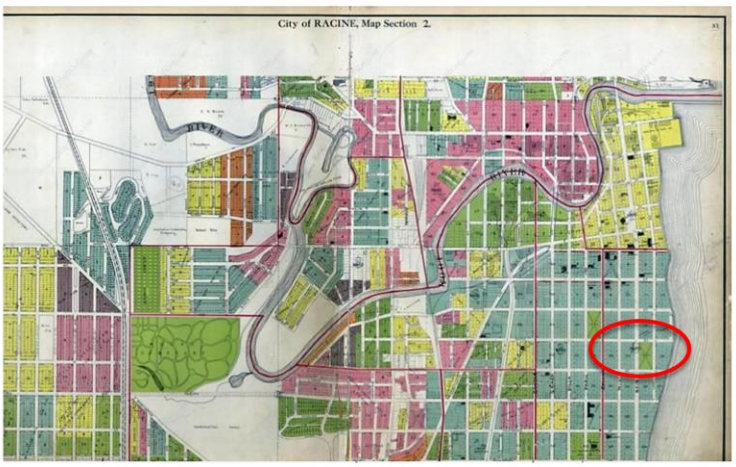
1877, Racine had six wards

1608 Main Street, **Block 89** is in **Ward 2**

Wards change over time

1924, Racine had **nine** wards and needed *four double-page spreads* to map them, starting at the **north.** This is the **second spread**

Wards now easily missed **Ward 2** continues onto the **third spread**, where it is NOT marked. See enlargement on next slide

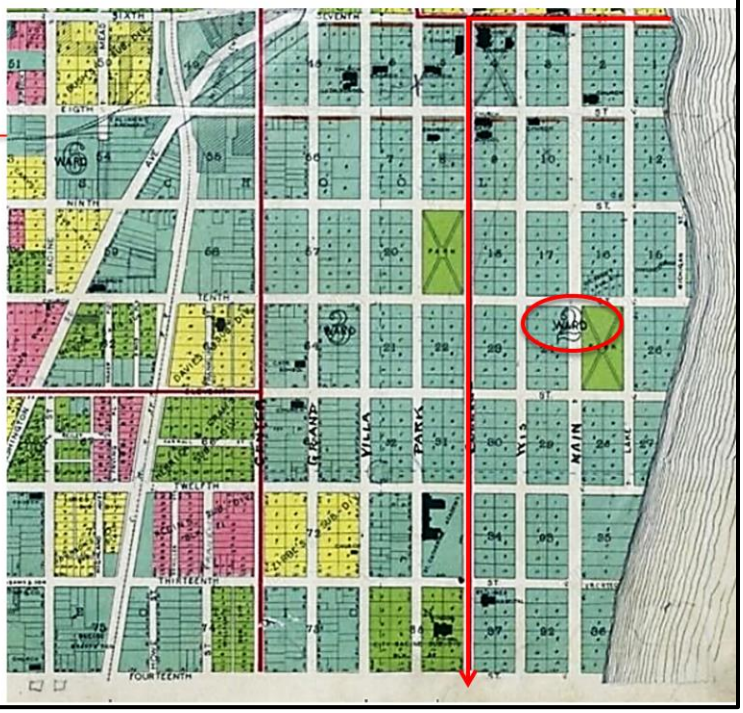


A PRESERVATION RACINE RESEARCH AID (c) 2022

Wards change

This is the enlarged area of **second spread**. You can see **Ward 2** marked but easily missed.

Ward 2 continues onto the **third spread**, where it is NOT marked. Follow the **red lines** (brightened for clarity) Continue to **third spread**



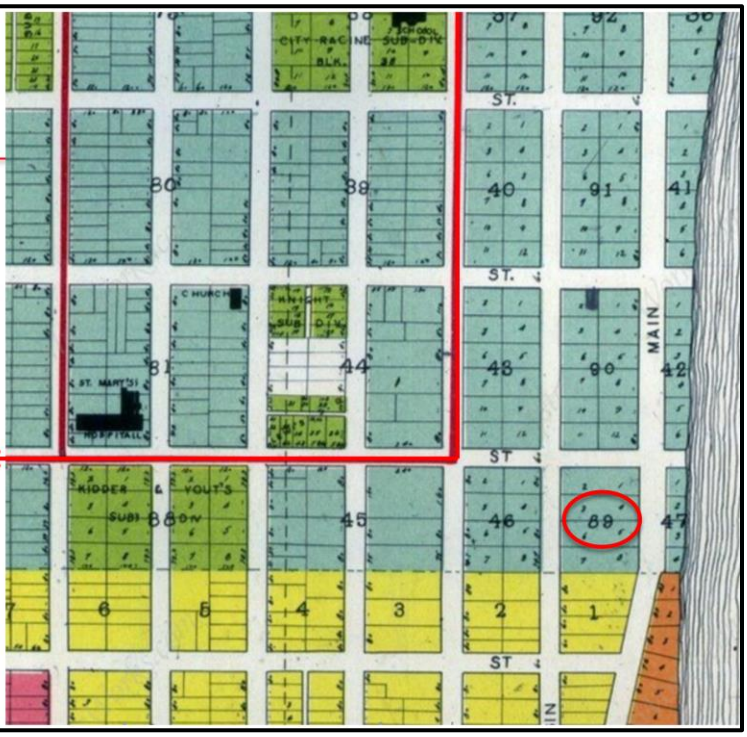
23

Wards change

This is an enlarged part of the **third spread**

Continue following the red line

1608 Main Street, **Block 89** is to the right of the red line so it is in **Ward 2**



24

A PRESERVATION RACINE RESEARCH AID (c) 2022

Online Maps Marking the Historic Wards

https://racinecounty.net/Historic Maps Index Page.htm (***search for Racine***)
City of Racine, **1855,** William Hancock, single page, wards
City of Racine, **1878**, Snyder, Van Vechten & Co, single page, wards
City of Racine, **1883**, Sayrs G Knight & John W King, single page, wards

http://www.historicmapworks.com/Browse/Maps/ (***scroll down***)
Racine and Kenosha Counties **1887**, Illustrated Atlas, HO Brown & Co
Racine and Kenosha Counties **1908**, Plat Book, Hennessy and Co
Racine and Kenosha Counties **1924**, Plat Book, Western Printing & Litho
Wards are noted north to south in 4 quarters & not noted in southern quarters
If ward un-numbered, go north, find it, and follow its red boundaries south

https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Image/IM106428
City of Racine, **1950**, Charles B Cape, single page with wards

25

Summary

Now you're started!

26

This is what you have:

Property ID number (no dashes)
Tax ID number (same, with dashes)

Legal Address/Description
The Ward (if in the City of Racine)

Recent photo
Footprint

So now, you can search the Register of Deeds, or the Tax Rolls, or Historic Maps, or Sanborn Maps, and more!

27

You have what you need, now

Well Done!

28