The topograpgical maps of Carroll, Frederick and Washington Counties are divided into blocks one inch square - each square represents one square mile.

These maps are lettered down the side and numbered across the top - beginning with the Northwestern corner of Washington County. This is the key to the location of the several Land Patents as shown on each card. (examples: CFW C-3 = the Northwestern corner of Washington County CFW C 86-87 = the Northeastern corner of Carroll County)

In the files of the Land office at Annapolis are envelopes containing Certificates of Survey for the several Patents to land. These are filed under the name of each County as Counties were at the time the Survey was made. These files are indicated on the cards as: B.C.= Baltimore County, F.C.= Frederick County, P.G.= Prince George County, and W.C.= Washington County.