

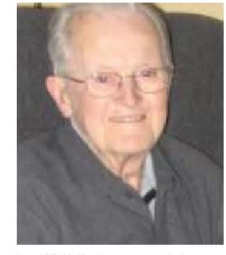
Emerson F. Baker

Head of the Mapping Section 1946 - 1973

From 1946 to 1973, Emerson Baker was the head of the Mapping Section of the Vermont Department of Highways (now the Agency of Transportation). His influence is still felt in the Mapping Unit. He created many of the standards that form the foundation of our work today, and we encounter his work every day, from the correspondence recorded in our town highway files, to various standards manuals he created.
-- The Vermont Agency of Transportation Mapping Unit



Emerson F. Baker March 20, 1968 by E.J. Grimes



Emerson F. Baker

MONTPELIER. Emerson Francis Baker, 93, died Monday, March 7, 2011, at his home, with his family beside him.

Born in Gloucester, Mass., on March 29, 1917, he was the son of Ida Frances (Lorentzen) Baker and William Emerson Baker. He attended Gloucester schools, graduating from Gloucester High School in 1934. He served in Franklin D. Roosevelt's Civilian Conservation Corps from 1935 to 1937 in Weston and Danby.

In 1937, he was hired as a map draftsman by the Vermont Highway Department. He spent several years in the Vermont National Guard. In 1941, he joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In September 1946, he rejoined the Vermont Highway Department's planning division in Montpelier as head of the mapping section. He became mapping and road inventory engineer. In 1973 he transferred to the Vermont Tax Department to head the newly established statewide tax mapping project in the property valuation and review division in Montpelier and Waterbury. After conceiving and instituting the statewide orthophoto mapping project known as the Vermont Base Map, he retired from state service in 1979. For the following two years he was retained by the property valuation division as a consultant and during that period also served as a mapping consultant to the state of Louisiana. In 1981, he retired permanently from the state, and for several years produced tax maps of a number of towns in Vermont for a tax-mapping consultant.

In June 1954, he married Shirley Martin, of Barre. They had two children.

Throughout life he had many interests, including boating, picnicking and traveling with Shirley, rifle marksmanship, hunting and fishing, photography and maintaining his home and grounds. He passed on his love of fishing and fixing things to his son, Mike.

He served on many committees relating to mapping and was a longtime member of the American Society of Photogrammetry and a life member of the American Congress on Surveying & Mapping, the Vermont Society of Engineers and the Vermont Society of Land Surveyors. He was a longtime member of the Knights of Columbus, third and fourth degrees, and a life member of the Montpelier Lodge of Elks.

For many years, he was a volunteer at Central Vermont Hospital, Washington County Mental Health and several other organizations. He enjoyed a lifelong love of the English language and copy edited many books, magazines, technical reports and periodicals. He passed on his love of grammar and maps to his daughter, Cathy. His granddaughter, Claire, has fond memories of playing "Bones" and sharing M&M's with him.

In the early 1980s, he joined Vermont Chapter 112 of the National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni and in 1992 became secretary, was elected president in 1994 and served in that capacity until June 1999, remaining on the board of directors.

Besides his wife of 56 years, Shirley, he is survived by his two children, Mike, of Barre, and Cathy Czajkowski (husband Chris), of Hunt Valley, Md., and his granddaughter, Claire Czajkowski, of Portland, Ore. He also leaves his sister Esther Neelon, of Danvers, Mass., and his sister Mary Tineo, of DuPont, Wash., and numerous nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his sisters Alice Claude and Marge Reper.

A graveside memorial service will be held at Wilson Cemetery in Barre Town in the spring. Arrangements are in the care of Guare & Sons Funeral Home.

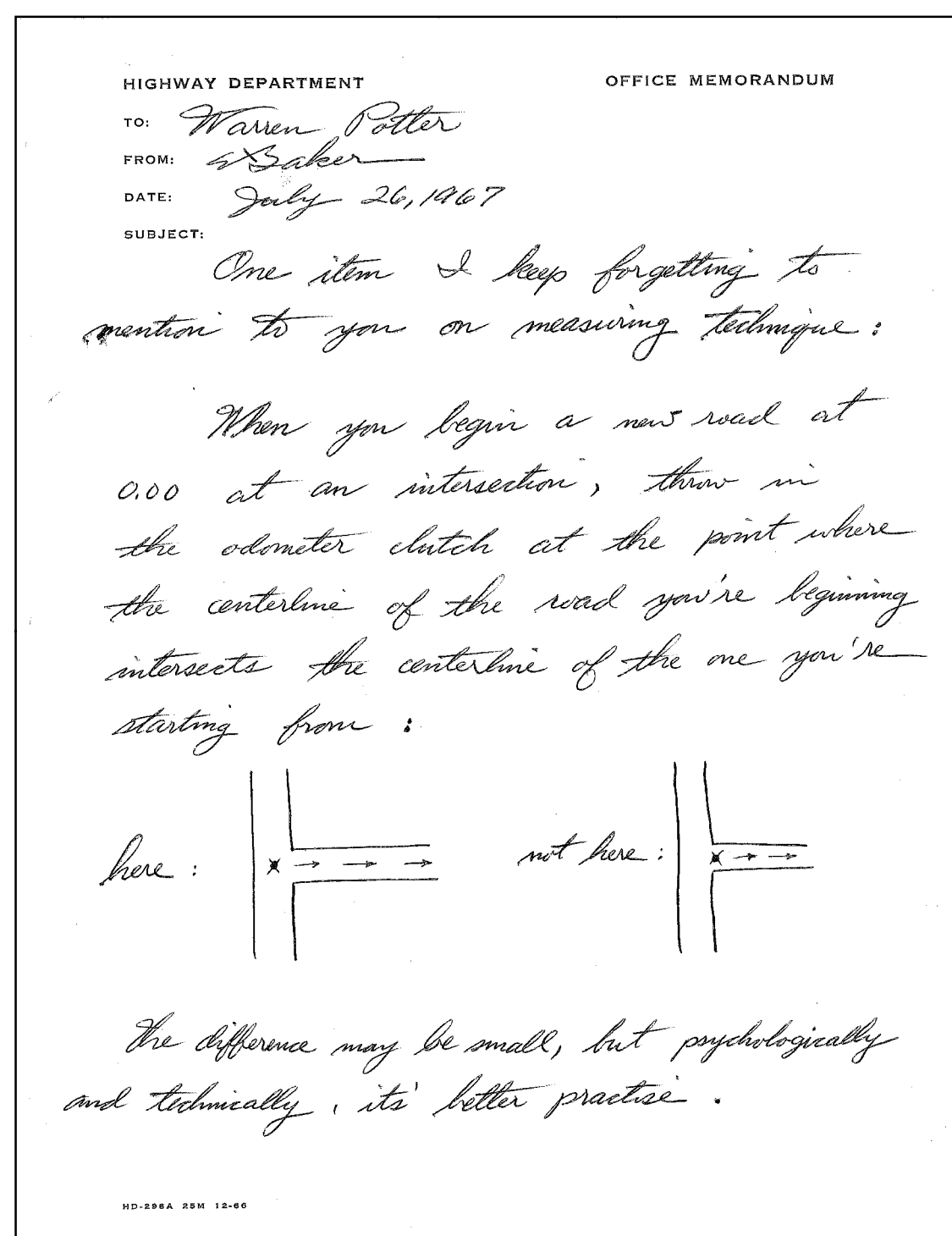
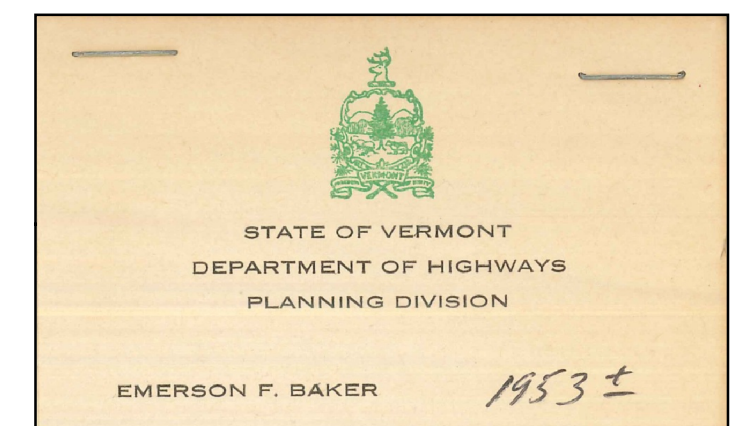
Contributions in his memory may be made to help create a Vermont CCC museum and statue by mailing to the Vermont CCC Alumni Association, c/o VYCC, 1949 E. Main St., Richmond, VT 05477, or Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice, 600 Granger Road, Barre, VT 05841 (www.CVHHL.org) or Central Vermont Humane Society, P.O. Box 687, Montpelier, VT 05602 (www.CVHumane.com).

Those wishing to express online condolences may do so at www.guareandsons.com.

Published in Times Argus on March 9, 2011



Emerson F. Baker March 20, 1968 by E.J. Grimes



Instructions on how to measure a new road from its intersection



Emerson F. Baker March 20, 1968 by E.J. Grimes

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: E. J. Chabot, Road Inventory Supervisor

FROM: E. F. Baker, Mapping Engineer

DATE: March 9, 1970

SUBJECT: Obtaining Road Names in Field

We have run across a substantial number of cases where the road names shown on the Road Inventory form are either mis-spelled, or are two words when they should be one (or vice-versa), or else in some cases they're not the correct, official name, or even the most-used name according to other town officials than the one who travelled with you.

I realize only too well that you can not always trust implicitly the word of the person who is riding with you, particularly if it is a lower-reclusion person "from the road crew", or a new employee, or a summer temporary employee.

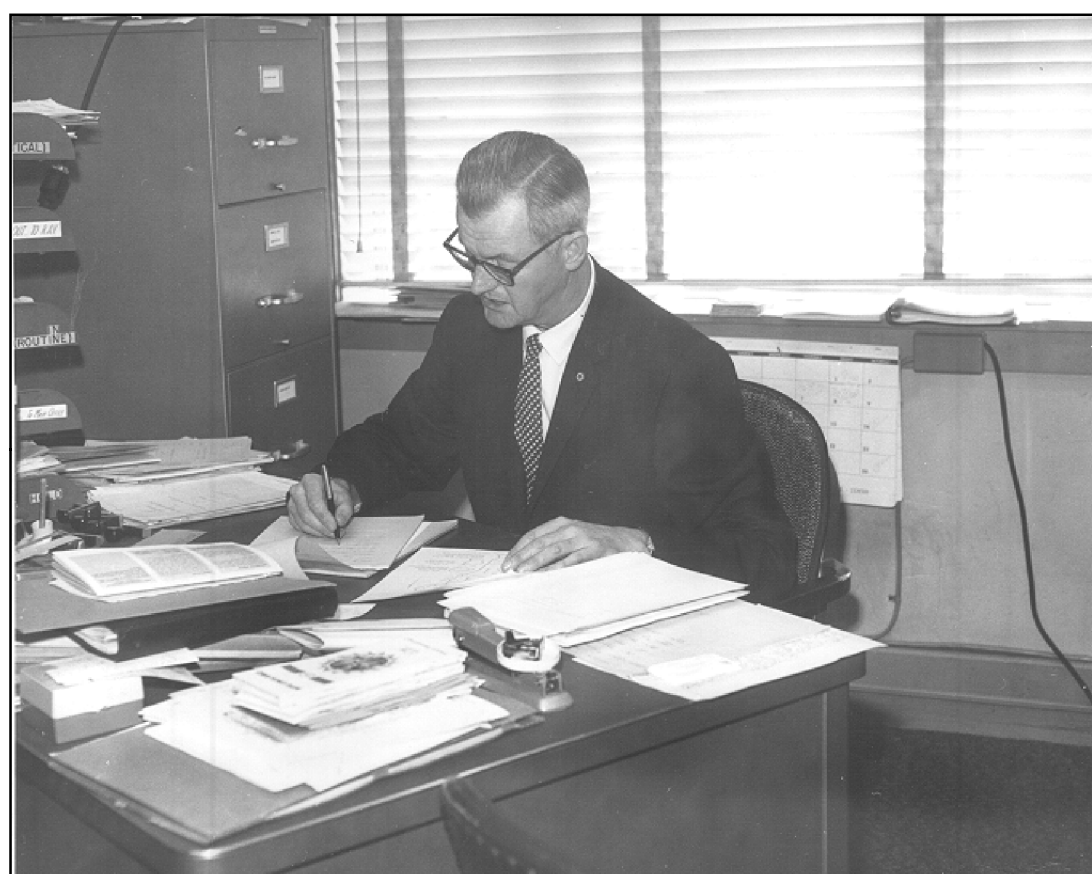
But please do all you can to get the right names, by discussing the origin of the name (whether after some along-the-road resident, old family, physical feature, town official, etc.) and by re-discussing any of those you might feel questionable about for some reason with the Chairman of Selectmen, Town Manager, etc.

Above all, get the correct spelling, don't be afraid to ask. And don't be afraid to make sure your Recorder is getting the correct information.

Remember that the ultimate accuracy of our published information, maps, etc., depends on your notes, because in so many instances, we have no other reference or data source.

EPB/mls
cc: R. J. Nicholls via D. H. Bemick
E. J. Florucci
W. N. Thayer
D. C. Harvey

Even though the road names were not displayed on the town highway maps, it was important to accurately record the highway's name. The Mapping Unit still refers to the old Road Inventory forms and the highway names as they were recorded.



Emerson F. Baker March 20, 1968 by E.J. Grimes

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Warren W. Potter, Road Inventory Supervisor

FROM: Emerson F. Baker, Mapping Engineer

DATE: December 5, 1968

SUBJECT: Road Inventory Form 6 HPS

Beginning with the 1969 Re-inventory season all regular inventory sheets for State Aid and all Town Highways are to carry, along the right-hand margin, all intersection-to-intersection mileages. These are to be done in red pencil and set down opposite the stations (odometer readings) for the road intersections, per attached sample.

Included, of course, will be intersection-to-town-line mileages, to city and village and urban compact lines, and any other features which on our maps constitute a mileage break.

This procedure will effect a substantial saving in time later each year during the office processing of mileage changes due to re-inventory and re-measurement.

It will also ensure that the standing requirement that each mileage being measured be compared with the map mileage for that section of highway, hence we gain a control device and save a later duplication.

EPB/mls
cc: R. J. Nicholls via D. H. Bemick
E. J. Florucci via R. A. Young
D. C. Harvey

Instructions written in 1968 on how to fill out the Road Inventory Form that is still in use today.

ROAD INVENTORY FORM

Vermont Department of Highways
Highway Planning Division
Mapping and Road Inventory Section

PARTY CHIEF: _____ TOWN: _____

RECORDER: _____ COUNTY: _____ HWY. DIST. NO.: _____

TOWN OFFICIAL: _____ ROAD SYSTEM & NO.: _____

TITLE: _____ SHEET NO. _____ OF _____ DATE: _____

SURFACE TYPE	WIDTH	BRIDGE	CROSSING	ADJACENT	IMPROVEMENT	COST	REMARKS
							7-8 0.93
							7-7 0.47
							0.59 7-6
							0.00 SA-2

* COORDINATIONS: # PHOTOGRAPHS