

Reading US National Grid (USNG) Coordinates: *Using a Coordinate Scale*

Information Sheet 3 in this series.

FGDC-STD-011-2001

From www.fgdc.gov/usng

Grid readers are available at www.fgdc.gov/usng

Identifying the coordinates of a feature.

- Identify the grid coordinates of the Jefferson Memorial.

1. Place the corner of the grid reader exactly on the point to be identified -- in this case, the center of the Jefferson Memorial.

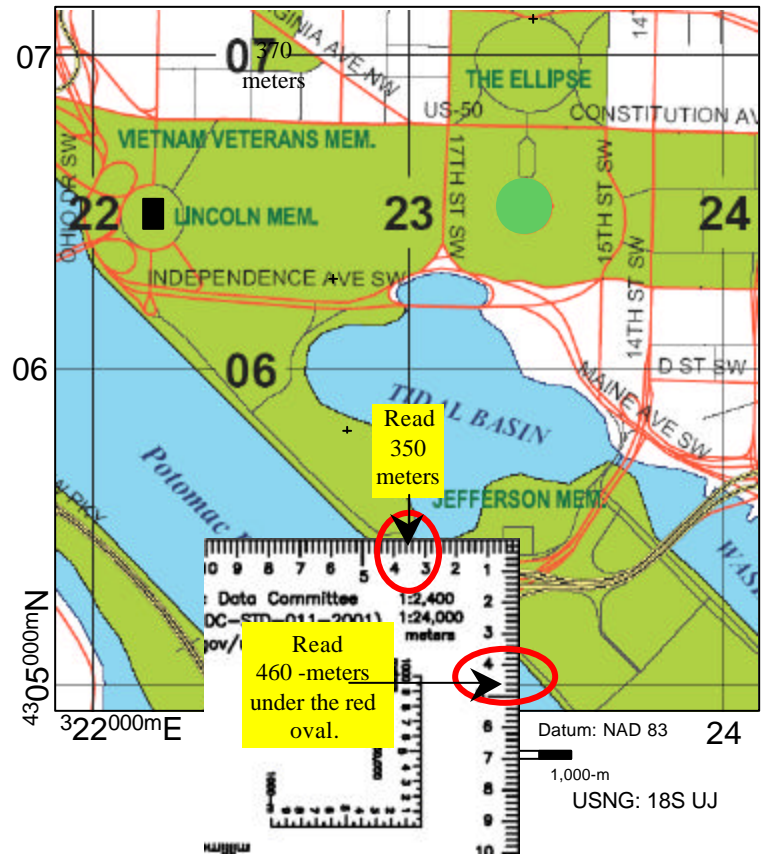
2. Identify the Easting component:
Read right to the grid line immediately before the feature: i.e. grid line 23

3. Identify on the grid reader the grid value where grid line 23 cuts the grid reader: i.e. 35 or 350-meters. Easting = 2335

4. Identify the Northing component:
Read up to the grid line immediately before the feature: i.e. grid line 05.

5. Identify on the grid reader the grid value where grid line 05 crosses the grid reader: i.e. 46 or 460-meters. Northing = 0546

- The Jefferson Memorial is located at grid 2335 0546. Add the Grid Zone Designation and 100,000-m Square ID's to make a complete USNG grid reference: 18S UJ 2335 0546.



Occasionally you need to identify the precise location for a feature or point along the edge of a map that does not have a full grid square to measure from as seen at right.

- Place the grid reader so it references the missing grid line immediately prior to your point of interest (in this case line 22).

- Do this by using the next grid line (in this case line 23 to reference back to grid line 22). Then use the tic marks on the grid reader as references to read right normally.

In this example, the Lincoln Memorial is located at grid 222 065, or 18S UJ 222 065.

