

THE APPLICATIONS SYSTEM VERIFICATION
AND TRANSFER (ASVT) PROJECT PLAN:
A SATELLITE REMOTE SENSING PROGRAM FOR ILLINOIS

An Abstract of a Project Report
Presented to The
Department of Geography
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In Partial Fulfillment
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Master of Arts

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The project report option affords the student an opportunity to combine practical "on the job" experience with the application of geographic principles to a real life problem. This project paper in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Masters of Arts in Geography is an abridgement of a special report and a project plan written while interning at the Department of Local Government Affairs in Springfield, Illinois.* The paper describes the development of a two and one-half year project plan under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Applications System Verification (ASVT) and Transfer Program. The plan is designed to demonstrate the utility of data collected by earth orbiting satellites, known as Landsat, to Illinois natural resource management problems.

Several events led to the preparation of an Illinois ASVT plan. In 1976 and 1977 a 13-county natural resources inventory using Landsat data was undertaken cooperatively by a group of Illinois governmental agencies. The successful results of this demonstration project led to support of a study to determine the feasibility of broad scale Landsat data collection and analysis procedures for state government. The initial Landsat projects and a favorable outcome from the feasibility study led to preparation of the ASVT project plan. The plan proposes to conduct more detailed Landsat applications; to extend successful applications statewide; to train key personnel in state and local government; and to design and initiate a geographic information system for Illinois.

*The Department of Local Government Affairs was reorganized in late 1979 and is now known as the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.