

D-237

Linden, Texas
August 12, 1949

Mr. Bascom Giles
Commissioner General Land Office
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Giles:

In regard to Mrs. B.J. Lawler, F-112880, S W 1/4 Section 21, Block A-31, Andrews County, and the W. Garnet Jones, F-106028, N W 1/4 Section 17, Block A-37:

In making this survey I had before Working Sketch prepared by the General Land Office, March 18, 1949. I also secured from the Deed Records of Andrews County, copy of Mr. Friend's survey of the University Land, Block 13. I noticed in his notes he said he placed a concrete monument, together with an I.P. at the exact spot where he found the original N W corner of said Block 13.

We located the concrete monument, with the I.P. The monument was marked " S E 20, B 37, N E 21, N W 6 B 13 S W 16, B 32. We found this corner to be 1915.5 vrs N 15 3/4 W of the S E corner of Block A-37, Public School Land, which was marked on the ground by an I.P. set in old fence row.

From the N W corner of Block 13, University Land we ran N 15 3/4 W, at 1900.8 vrs we found an I.P. in a fence corner. This we determined to be the N E corner of section 20 and S E corner of Section 11, Block A-37, Public School Land. This was substantiated by a large sign standing a little to the N W of said corner giving the lease number and designation as being on Section 11, Block A-37, PSL; and from our working sketch we noted that it was from this point we should begin checking westward to locate the N W 1/4 of Section 17, Block A-37.

We ran N 15 3/4 W from the I.P. at the S E corner of section 11, 5721.7 vrs and found an I.P. 11.7 vrs W, making the course between I.P.'s N 15° 52' W. This three mile stretch between the S E corner of Section 11 and the S E corner of Section 21, A-31 was along a road that seemed to be mostly on Blocks A-37 and A-31, and though we searched for some distance at each mile point we did not find any corners between the two I.P.'s above mentioned.

From the I.P. at the S E corner of Section 21, Block 31, we ran N 15 3/4 W 1900.8 vrs and found an I.P. imbedded in a very wide concrete base in a mound of sand. We searched for the whiskey bottle called for at this corner, but we concluded, after considerable digging that if the bottle were still in its proper position it was under the concrete base around the I.P. At any rate the name boards on the oil wells showed this to be at the N E corner of Section 21, Block A-31, Public School Land.

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AUG 29 1949

REFERRED TO MAP

COUNTER # 12853

We went back to the I.P. at the S E corner of Section 21, Block A-31 and ran S 74 1/4 W, at 945.4 vrs we found an I.P. This we determined to be the S E corner of the S W 1/4 of Section 21, Block 31, Public School Land. We searched around for any other indication for a corner, but did not find any, and since I was 5 vrs short at this point I checked on S 74 1/4 W, at 1890.8 vrs we found another I.P. Again we looked for a corner at the correct distance, but found nothing, therefore I accepted this as the S W corner of Section 21, and ran N 15 3/4 W 950.4 vrs and placed a stake for the trial NW corner of the S W 1/4 of Section 21, and continued N 15 3/4 W 1900.8 vrs in all and found an I.P. at the N W corner of Section 21.

We went back to the trial stake set for the N W corner of the S W 1/4 of Section 21 and drove an I.P. there and ran N 74 1/4 E 945.4 vrs and placed an I.P. for the N E corner of said quarter section and ran S 15 3/4 E, crossing a lease road at 26 vrs, at 725.4 vrs crossed another road, and at 950.4 vrs was at the iron stake at the S E corner of said quarter section. I then placed concrete markers around the I.P.'s at all corners of said quarter sections, marking each with its proper corner designation.

I went back to the I.P. at the N E corner of Section 20, the S E corner of section 11, and ran S 74 1/4 W, at 1900.8 vrs there was a fence corner with a fence going S 15 3/4 E and one going N 74 1/4 E, with an I.P. lying on the ground a short distance from said fence corner, but I could not determine where it had originally been driven. I continued on S 74 1/4 W, at 3787.6 vrs we found another I.P. in a hard pan glade; at 5688.4 we searched over a wide area for a corner finding no indication of any, at 6638.8 vrs we placed a stake for the trial N E corner of the N W 1/4 Section 17, Block A-37, Public School Land in a high line right of way, and continued on to 7589.2 vrs we placed another stake for the trial N W corner of Section 17.

We then ran S 15 3/4 E 950.4 vrs and placed a stake for the trial S W corner of the N W 1/4 of section 17, and ran N 74 1/4 E 950.4 vrs and placed a stake for the S E corner of said quarter section and ran N 15 3/4 W 950.4 vrs to our stake in the high line right of way.

I then made inquiries as to who might know the position of the original corners in that area, and was referred to Mr. Hunter Erwin, who lives near Shefer lake, and who once had pastured all that part of the country. I went to see him and he informed me that he had been with a surveying crew when they set the I.P. one mile N of the University Land Block 13 N W corner, and had set I.P.'s one mile and two miles westward from there. He identified the I.P. in the glade and said that they had set it for the corner between what they believed to be Sections 12, 13, 18 and 19, Block A-37, Public School Land, and he told me that if there were any other corners nearer than the New Mexico line in that vicinity, he did not know where they were, except for some on the University land.

I also talked with a Mr. Morgan who is at present ranching this area and asked him about corners to be found at the N W corner of Block A-48 and other corners in that vicinity. He says that he has been ranching that land for some time, and rides it constantly, and if there are any other corners standing he has never seen them. He told us about an I.P. being in a fence corner at the N W corner of Section 20, Block A-37, that being as far as his land went in that direction. He also told me about the I.P. in the glade at the N W corner of Section 18, Block A-37, and showed me his map of the area he was ranching, having the parts he did not own or have leased marked out in red. The N W 1/4 of section 17 was shown marked out of his land, but he said he had never been able to find any stakes for its corners.

Since I had laid out said 1/4 section by course and distance from the last accepted corner I had found I set concrete markers where I had placed my trial stakes, and marked the monuments with their proper corner designations.

Thanking you very much, I am,

very truly yours,

R.B. Smitherman
R.B. SMITHERMAN

RBS:BR

Andrews County
SKETCH FILE
Section 18, Block A-37
Section 20, Block A-37
Section 17, Block A-37
Section 18, Block A-37
Section 19, Block A-37
Section 20, Block A-37
Section 21, Block A-37
Section 22, Block A-37
Section 23, Block A-37
Section 24, Block A-37
Section 25, Block A-37
Section 26, Block A-37
Section 27, Block A-37
Section 28, Block A-37
Section 29, Block A-37
Section 30, Block A-37

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