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General Land Office

Scale, 2000

Office of
W.H. LECKIE
Lock Box #103
Runge, Tex.

708
Runge, Texas, Oct. 29th, 1910.

Hon. J. T. Robison
Commissioner, Gen. Land Office
Austin, Texas.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of 19th inst requesting field notes filed in conformity with my recent survey of A.C.H. & B. No 4, in Angelina County, on East bank of the Neches River, came duly to hand and has attention. Herewith please find field notes as requested, which I trust will meet your wishes.

In my report I failed to state that at the end course South, 2017 varas, along the J.B. Hardin west boundary line as marked I had to offset East 10 varas to the old stake with bearing trees as described. This offset is considered in the accompanying field notes. Also the courses of two of the other lines are slightly altered to close with the variation apparently used by Mr Kirkland in his meander courses.

I am satisfied in my own mind that Surveyor Davis, in his resurvey of Jan. 1896, intended his S.W. cor. of the A.C.H. & B. No 4 to be on the bank of the Neches on the west side of the large bend shown on the plat accompanying my report; but his resurvey being made in the office from data furnished by his previous survey of Oct. 1895, he was not aware that his extension of the survey southward would cause it to cross the Neches River twice in its south boundary. But as no marked line or corner was found by me ^{which} I could identify his footsteps, I have made these field notes corner on the bank of the river at the point where I first struck it in running West from the Gann west boundary.

Yours truly

W. H. Leckie
Special State Surveyor

RECEIVED

OCT 31 1910

Referred to Map

Office of
W.H. LECKIE
Lock Box #103
Runge, Tex.

REPORT OF SURVEY IN ANGELINA COUNTY.

STATE OF TEXAS)
COUNTY OF KARNES)

To the Hon. J. T. Robison,
Commissioner, Gen. Land Office
Austin, Texas.

By virtue of your favor of February 20th last, appointing me State Surveyor for the purpose of re-surveying section N^o 4, cert. 71, in the name of N.D. Wright, on the left bank of the Neches River, in Angelina County; and advising me at same time that I should look to Mr N.D. Wright of Lufkin for my compensation; I went to Lufkin on 20th September last, and was met by Mr Wright as previously arranged.

Sect. 4, cert. 71, is the alternate of sect. 3, same certificate, in the name of A.C.H. & B., and these surveys are unalterably linked together upon the ground. The working sketch furnished me by your office of these tracts was compiled from field notes of a re-survey made by J.F. Davis, Deputy Surveyor of Angelina County, on Jan. 15th, 1896. An examination of the Surveyor's Record of Angelina County shows that Mr Davis's re-survey was a correction of a prior survey of these tracts, made by him on Oct. 2nd, 1895; and that again was a correction of a still older survey of the same sections made by County Surveyor Gibson, on or about the year 1884.

Proceeding to the N.W. cor. of Sec. 3, A.C.H. & B. I found a point on the east bank of the Neches River, at the junction of what are called the old and new rivers, from whence a White Oak tree, 16", mkd X, bears East, 12 varas, and a Hickory, 24", mkd X, bears S. 83° E. 11 varas; both old marks. Accepted this as beyond controversy, the corner called for by Surveyor Davis, in his corrected field notes of Jan. 15th, 1896, as N.W. cor. Sec. 3.

Thence running East, retracing an old marked line, at 2085 varas came to a point from whence the burnt stump of what was once a large Pine tree bears N. 8° W. 6 varas, and the roots of a Postoak tree bear S. 60° W. 5 varas. The bodies of both trees are gone. This place was pointed out by Mr Jesse Bonner, who is the owner of the William Elliott survey adjoining, who explained that he had understood for many years that this was the S.E. corner of the John Watson League; and had seen the large Pine and Postoak, as living trees, with the marks on them for years. Continuing my line East to a total distance of 2385 varas, it terminated in an open field which I was informed had been in cultivation over twenty years; but it is the distance called for in the Davis survey of Jan. 15th, 1896. At this point I found no evidence of an old corner nor any line or corner, South 302 varas therefrom, though diligent search was made.

Returning to the point fixed by the Pine and Postoak bearing, East 2085 varas from the place of beginning; I ran South, following an old marked line; at 302 varas found no corner.

Continued South with the old line to a total distance of 954 varas where I found an old corner, with an Overcup Oak tree, 40", mkd X, bearing N. 65° E. 8 varas, and another Overcup Oak, 18", mkd X, N. 14° W 19 varas: Davis's bearings. Also, there is an old leaning Ash tree, with old marks, bearing N. 45° E. 8 varas. If this corner is moved N.N.E. 2 varas, it will bring the Ash and Large Overcup Oak in the precise bearing for the call of the original Elliott survey.

From this Davis corner as described, I followed an old marked line through the timber, that ran in a general course of N. 88½° E., at 861 varas, crossed a marked line running South, the West boundary line of the Thos McClure survey, in all 906 varas to a Pinoak tree blazed and hacked on four sides, from whence the roots of an oak tree were found at S. 76° E. 5 varas, and the roots of another oak tree at S. 45° W. 7½ varas; the bodies of both trees being gone. This corner was also accepted as a true Davis corner.

Thence ran South $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E. following an old marked line for a distance of 460 varas, beyond which no further evidences of a line were found; but continued same course to a total distance of 2066 varas, but found no corner; no marked Water Oak, or other being tree being identified.

Thence ran S. $88\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ W. 54 varas, and intersected the aforesaid marked line in the west boundary of the Thos McClure, at a corner recently fixed for the S.E. cor. of A.C.H. & B. No 3, and N.E. cor. of N.D. Wright No 4, by E.O. Kirkland, County Surveyor of Angelina County, and from whence a Pinoak tree 18", mkd X, bears N. 70° E. 10 varas, and a Red Elm, 20", mkd X, bears N. $84\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ W. 8 varas; both new marks.

Thence along the McClure line as marked, South, 565 varas, and set a stake on the east bank of a slough, from whence a White Oak, 30", mkd X, bears S. 33° W. 10 varas, and a Maple, 8", mkd X, bears N. 12° W. 11 varas; both old marks. This corner also I accepted as a true Davis corner, though no traces of any Maple are found at S. 67° E. 5 varas as called for; but the White Oak and the other conditions are as described.

Thence ran East, with an old marked line, and at 254 varas set a stake from whence a Pine stump bears S. 26° W. 2 varas and another Pine stump bears S. 40° E. 7 varas; a White Oak 20", mkd X, old mark, bears N. 84° E. $10\frac{1}{2}$ varas. This I also recognized as the true Davis corner for the J.B. Hardin survey N.W.

Thence ran South 2017 varas retracing a marked line to an old stake at the J.B. Hardin S.W. corner, from whence a Sweet Gum tree, 24", mkd X, bears N. 20° E. 11 varas, and another Sweet Gum, 20", mkd X, bears S. $33\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E. 8 varas. This is an old corner, and these bearing trees are the original call of the Hardin. There are several other marked trees, but no two will fit the Davis call precisely; nevertheless, to test the corner, as being the one recognized by J.F. Davis, I ran South, 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ varas, and found an Ash tree, 12", mkd X, S. 3° W. 3 varas, and another Ash, 12", mkd X, S. 27° E. 10 varas; both old marks. These trees are described by J.F. Davis in his field notes of his survey of the N.D. Wright No 4, of Oct. 2nd 1895, for its S.E. corner, which is further shown to be 56 varas South of the J.B. Hardin S.W. corner.

Again from the J.B. Hardin S.W. cor. as described I ran East 961 varas, with a marked line, to the N.W. cor. of the John D. Gann survey, and another corner of the N.D. Wright No 4, from whence the roots of a Pine tree bears S. 45° E. 3 varas, and the roots of another Pine bears S. 77° W. 9 varas, Davis's bearings; also another Pine, 10", mkd X, old mark, bears S. 10° E. 4 varas.

Thence South 126 varas, with the marked line in the Gann west boundary, but found no old corner.

Thence ran West, with a new marked line, no old marks being found, and at 1086 varas struck the Neches River bank at a bend.

Thence ran N. 41° W. 50 varas, N. 72° W. 30 varas to clear the river bend.

Thence West, at 490 varas, the river bank is North about 20 varas; at 660 varas, struck the river bank at a point of same: the river coming from the East, and going to the S. 50° E.

There is a Pinoak tree, 24", mkd X, old mark, on west side, which stands North, 5 varas, from the 660-vara point, which I take to be the Oak, 20", S. 65° E. 8 varas, called for on the east bank of the River, in Davis's survey of Oct. 2nd, 1895.

Thence S. 50° E. 73 varas to a point due west from the 126-vara point in the Gann west boundary line, and 1752 varas distant therefrom. Found no marked Sweet Gum tree, or other evidence of a corner, though a search was made.

Returning to the aforementioned stake set by Surveyor Kirkland for the S.E. cor. A.C.H. & B. No 3, and N.D. Wright No 4, N.E. in the Thos McClure east boundary; I ran West, 890 varas, to the River bank at another corner made by Mr Kirkland for the S.W. of A.C.H. & B. No 3, and N.W. of N.D. Wright No 4, from whence a White Oak tree, 24", mkd X, bears S. 42° E. 5 varas, and a Red Elm, 4", mkd X, bears N. 58° E. $5\frac{1}{4}$ /10 varas; both new marks. No old marked line was found on this course. The River at this point was running from N. 40° E. to S. 40° W. approximately.

We here terminated the survey, as Mr Wright, who accompanied me throughout, considered we had covered all the points at issue between your office and himself; Surveyor Kirkland having recently closely meandered the River front of No 4, and his

work, so far as we had gone over it, proving fairly accurate.-

In comparing the foregoing with the field notes of J.F.Davis's survey of A.C.H.& B.NOS 3 & 4, that which first excites comment, is the shortness of all the lines running east or west, from or to the River, compared with the called distances, to say: 2085 varas 890 varas, and 1086 varas or 1752 varas as the case may be, with 2385, 1114, and 1994 varas respectively. There is but one explanation that suggests itself: his error began in some misconception of the true length of his north boundary line of the A.C.H.& B. N^o 3. It is to be observed that he gives this distance as 2385 varas in his survey of Oct. 2nd, 1895. He never really measured either of the other lines, but gave them eastage or westage to balance with his upper boundary, and his river meanders. There can have been no material change in the river bed, at any point that came under my observation. The age of the timber, on both sides of the banks river, the narrow channel, and the undisturbed appearance of the banks, preclude any supposition of rapid eating away by the current. There has been no sudden change of bed, and opening of a new channel along the front of these surveys, that old citizens have any knowledge of. Also the bearing trees at the junction of the old and new rivers, and the Pinoak mkd X, on the bank of the River, at the S.W. corner of N^o 4, according to Davis's survey of Oct. 2nd, 1895, establishes the fact that no change of more than a few feet has occurred since that time. It is questionable if Mr Davis ever run upon the ground the south boundary line of N^o 4, from the point, South, 126 varas, from the N.W. corner of the Gann.

In his survey of Oct. 2nd, 1895, Mr Davis fixed his S.E. corner of N^o 4, South, 56 varas from the Hardin S.W. with the two mkd Ash trees for bearings already described; and at the S.W. corner of his same survey, on the River bank, he calls for an Oak, 20", S.65° E. 8 varas, assumed to be the Pinoak already described. An old marked line is noted between these two points, which passes about 23 varas North of the extreme bend of the River, also already described. In extending the lines of N^o 4, in his survey of Jan. 15th, 1896, Mr Davis does not call for any marked corner South, 126 varas, from the Gann N.W.; no marked line is identified running therefrom, and he failed to note that his extension of N^o 4 would strike the River at 1086 varas, and if continued, would cut across a bend of the same.

There is yet another call in the Davis field notes of survey N^o 3 that requires explanation. He gives the distance running South from the N. or N.E. corner of the survey, along the Elliott line to its S.W. corner, as 302 varas. I find the distance between those identified corners to be 954 varas. This great difference cannot be harmonized by any reasonable supposition, but it is worthy of note that in his survey of Oct. 2nd, 1895, he gives the distance as 942 varas between the same points. Why this change from a nearly correct to a wildly erroneous call is left wholly to conjecture. In effect, his field notes of 1895 give 378 varas more Northage than those of 1896. By inspection I find the meander courses on the River close with the other lines, in both cases; a comparison therefore of the River meanders of the survey of 1895 with those of the corrected survey of 1896, reveals some significant changes. The number of meander courses in both surveys are the same, and they are precisely similar, with two exceptions, to say: The first course in the survey of 1896, which is the last in that of 1895, is extended from 162 varas to 315 varas; and the fourteenth course in the survey of 1895 is eliminated altogether, and an entirely different one, (S.33¼° W. 374 varas) is substituted. The effect of this change is peculiar. Taken in conjunction with the meander course next above and the one next below, it forms a loop or triangle; a condition that can hardly represent the true River front. Also, in running South from the Pinoak, blazed and hacked on four sides, at the N.E. corner of N^o 3, he marked a line for about 460 varas, then appears to have transferred himself to the McClure line some 50 varas to the westward, as we find his own corner at the termination of what is called the McClure line on the east bank of the slough. That change must have had its effect on his eastage from the River, but it does not show in his field notes.

In the given meander courses along the River front of N^o 4, Davis's survey of 1896, there are several changes from those of his survey of 1895. If the Pinoak tree with the old mark is the Oak called for in his survey of 1895, at the S.W. corner of N^o 4,

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and that it is so, is borne out by the old marked line and the distance, 853 varas, from his S.E. corner at the Ash trees; and if the last meander course is reversed from that point, it will at once lead across the River well over into the adjoining county. In fact the River does not go from here as outlined by the meander courses.

Hereto I attach a plat of my survey, and make it a part of this report. It outlines the conditions as I find them on the ground; save and except the River along the front of survey No 4 in the name of N.D.Wright, which is filled in from meander courses adopted from field notes of a survey made by E. O. Kirkland, County Surveyor of Angelina County, dated September 9/II, 1909.

Respectfully submitted

Wm. H. Leckie

State Surveyor

Runge, Texas, Sept 29th, 1910.

I, Wm H. Leckie, State Surveyor, do hereby certify ~~as~~ that the foregoing described survey was made by me upon the ground, and that the lines, boundaries, and corners, with marks of the same, whether natural or artificial, are truly and correctly described and set forth in the foregoing report, and plat attached thereto.

Wm. H. Leckie

State Surveyor

*Wm. H. Leckie
State Surveyor
Runge, Texas
Sept 29th 1910*

St. File 28(a)
Angelina County

Surveyors Statement -
accompanies St - sk File 28
Filed Dec. 12, 1910.

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State Surveyor

Wm H. Beckie

and set forth in the foregoing report, and plat attached thereto, whether natural or artificial, are true and correctly described that the lines, boundaries, and corners with marks of the same; the foregoing described survey was made by me upon the ground, and I, Wm H. Beckie, State Surveyor, do hereby certify that

RUNGS, TEXAS, NOV 20TH, 1910.

State Surveyor

Wm H. Beckie
Respectfully submitted

Surveyor of Angelina County, dated September 21st, 1909, adopted from field notes of a survey made by E. O. Kirkland, County in the name of N. D. Wright, who is killed in from meander courses the ground; save and except the river along the front of survey No 4 part of this report. It outlines the conditions as I find them on

Hereto I attach a plat of my survey, and make it a River does not go from here as outlined by the meander courses; across the River well over into the adjoining county. In fact the least meander course is reversed from that point, it will at once be of course, 853 varies, from his S. E. corner at the Ash trees; and it the and that it is so, is borne out by the old marked line and the dis-

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COUNTER # 13086