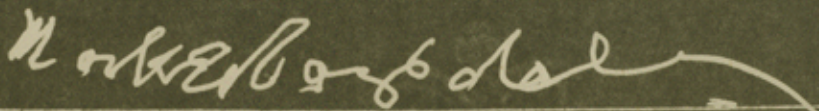


Brownwood, Texas, June 21st 1940.

I, Mark E. Ragsdale, the Original Surveyor for the State of Texas, who laid out Section 3 Block P, Public School Lands in Cochran County, Texas, do hereby Certify that the iron pipe called for in the description of the North West corner of said section 3, set at the foot of sand hill, was set to mark the SW corner of League 89 Lipscomb County School Land, the North West corner of said section 3 and in the East line of section 1 Harrison and Brown surveys, at a point 249 varas North of the SE corner of said section 1 Harrison and Brown, and the re-entrant corner of said section 3 Block P; and that any other interpretation of the field notes of said section 3 Block P are incorrect.



Mark E. Ragsdale, Surveyor.

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JUL 3 - 1940

REFERRED TO MAP

atch File No. 8

1678
8L91

Cochran
Pub. Sch. Land Blocks
at S. edge of County
Filed July 10, 1940.
Bascom Files

H. von Rosenberg
FILE

Descriptive: _____

Conflicts
with SF. 14016

Counter 18556

RECEIVED

JUL 3 - 1940

1678

Lubbock Texas, June 29th, 1940.

REFERRED TO MAP

Hon. Bascom Giles, Commissioner,

Austin, Texas. In re; Section 8 Block L Cochran County.

Dear Sir:-

Today I received a letter from Mr. M.E. Daniel, President of the First National Bank of Breckenridge, Texas, making inquiry as to the present status of the above land, upon which he had me prepare some corrected field notes for patenting purpose back in October 1939, which your department has returned on several occasions.

Upon receipt of a copy of letter to Mr. Daniel of Nov. 1st, 1939, I replied to you Nov. 29th, 1939, asking that you accept the field notes as written, in reply you wrote me January 15th, 1940, as I thought rather harshly, "It will be necessary that you furnish this office with a surveyor's statment and sketch explaining your survey before we can give these field notes further consideration."

As a further service to my cliants owning lands in these Blocks, will try to give you a full and concise statment with plat for your consideration.

My files disclose that on March 13th, 1923, Mr. W.J. Williams, of Plainview, Texas, wrote me a two page letter and enclosed a plat attempting to secure my signature to field notes he had prepared attempting to prove a vacancy between the south line of Harrison and Brown surveys and the north line of Blocks P and L Public School Lands as laid out by Mr. M.E. Ragsdale, the original locating surveyor for said school blocks. I refused to sign, demanding further proof, which was never complied with.

And a letter from Attorney J.W. Hawkins, enclosing an application signed by Mr. D.C. Reed, also of Austin, covering the same area as designated by Mr. Williams. I recorded the application but was not called upon to make a survey therefor.

The east part, (the part in Mr. Reeds pasture) was about January 19th, 1939 awarded and patented to Mr. Reed, S.F. 14016.

Also your letter dated February 11th, 1932, filing and approving corrected field notes for sections 1 and 17 of Block L

Counter 19557

then owned by the late Judge Pierson of your City, these sections were shown to be short their original north-south distance by reason of the fact that Block D John H. Gibson surveys were in conflict with the south line of the School Blocks as laid down by Mr. Ragsdale, further explanation will be found in my report at that time.

Also your letter of January 3rd, 1939, approving a number of sets of field notes, some 16 in all, of lands in these school blocks.

The conflict between the south line of said school blocks and north line of Block D, Gibson, was shown plainly in my survey of the Yoakum-Cochran County line, approved and filed in your department.

In my letter to you dated December 21st, 1938, you will find I tried to show that the crux of the whole matter rested upon the construction placed on Mr. Ragsdales field note call for a 2 inch iron pipe set at the foot of sand hill, I contended that the pipe was set to actually mark the SW corner Lg. 89, and NW corner section 3 Block P, others claiming it was only a bearing marker, your department accepted my corrected field notes for section 3 on their face and my statment. To further clarify the issue I am enclosing photostatic copy of statment recently signed by Mr. Mark E. Ragsdale, the Original Locating surveyor, showing that my interpretation of the notes to be correct and others definitely incorrect.

The above references duly filed and approved by your department were all prior to the time the strip was awarded, and if you had checked them, it seems to me that you would not have made the award, for they disclose that there is a shortage between the SL Harrison and Brown and the North line of Block D, rather than an excess as the strip purports to show.

I also have a photostatic copy of your letter of May 27th, 1939 to Mr. R. T. Evans of Vernon, Texas, owner of section 1 Block P, field notes for which you accepted as corrected by me. This letter acknowledges that I was on the Ragsdale line, and then goes on and quotes the surveyors report on the Reed strip, "and that the lines and corners of the Public School Blocks as marked on the ground do not adjoin the lines and corners of the County School Leagues and the Harrison and Brown surveys

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as resurveyed by Mr. W.D.Twichell and Mr. W.J.Williams."

All my work above referred to filed and accepted in your office, the statment enclosed by Mr. M.E.Ragsdale, clearly shows this Reed and Meeker strip to be superimposed over the positively located lines defining the North line of sections 1,2 and west part of 3 of Block P, and the north part of sections 1,2,3,4,5 6 and 7 of Block L, which were marked by Ragsdale for the State of Texas Public School Funds, and therefore, ^{the strip} should be void of title by reason of prior title vested in the present owners of those sections above mentioned. In other words I contend that your department has in fact and in law sold Reed land that had been previously sold through your department on field notes by Mr. Ragsdale.

Mr. Twichell, Williams and Sanders, I understand, attempt to so read Mr. Ragsdales field notes of section 3 so that the iron pipe called for at ~~foot~~ of sand hill, appears to be a bearing corner 100 varas north of NW corner of 3; I have tried in my letter of Dec. 21st 1938, to show the fallacy of such interpretation, and so took this up with Mr. Ragsdale and have his statment which I am enclosing to clear up that error.

Back to Williams letter of March 13, 1923, quote "found . pipe in edge of hills. As this is a bearing 100 varas north of the corner," I am wondering now if it took Mr. Williams, Twichell and Sanders with other valuable assistance some 16 years to put that over, when I did not fall for it then nor since.

Now as to section 9 Block L; Mr. J.L.Carlisle, of Lake Dallas, Texas, wrote asking for a price to survey and write field notes for this section that he ~~then~~ owned, and a local attorney Chas. Nordyck, ask me for a plat of the section, which I furnished showing the section to be short north-south, evidently they did not like the information for they never paid me for it and had some one else to get them up field notes. I have before me field notes recorded Vol. 21 page 374 DR, and in Vol. 1 page 2 S field note records Cochran County, giving this section 640 acres. First, I notice that ~~they~~ state that there is 300 acres in Cochran and 340 acres in Yoakum Counties. I surveyed, marked and returned field notes for the Yoakum-Cochran county line, and if there is

300 acres of this land only in Cochran county based on the Legal County line so recorded in the Yoakum and Cochran County records, then this survey places the North line of said section 9 approximately a half mile south of the position that I claim it originally was laid out in by Mr. Ragsdale, and brings it into conflict with the accepted north line of Block D. If you want me to base my work on that sort of construction, I pass.

The plat enclosed shows that there is distance enough from the north line of Block D along the East line of Block P, up to the School leagues, that there is a shortage from the north line of D north across block P th the SW corner of league 89, and that there is still more shortage along the east line of Block Q from the North line of Block D, north to the south line of Harrison and Brown surveys, all of which is an accepted record matter in your department, then where do you get the Reed-Meeker strip and full north-south distance and acreage for said section 9 Block L ?

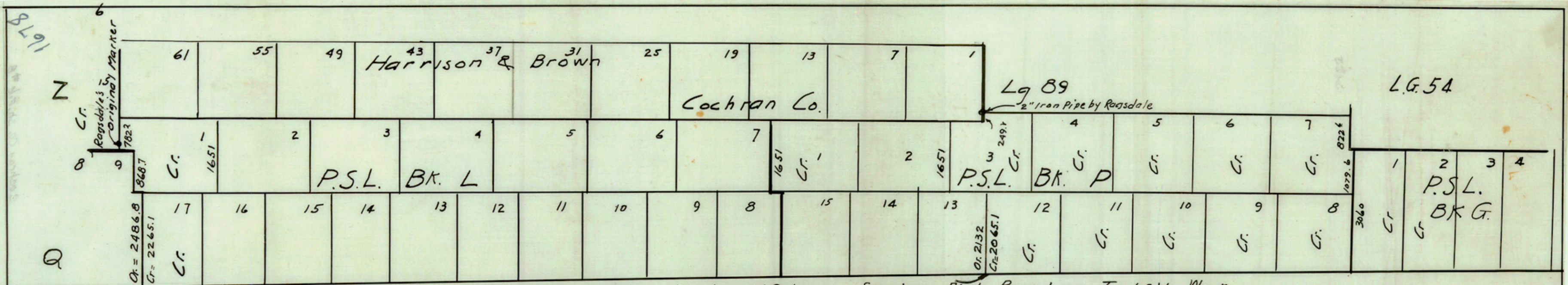
If your department, the Govenor who signed the Reed patent, has been taken for a ride, let it be fully known that it has been done over my protest, as well as the owners who know of the actual facts.

In summary, I would like to offer my good offices to your department, and try to work this matter out before it reaches the courts, which some of my clients propose to do shortly.

I am again returning the field notes for Section 8 Block L for your further consideration.

Yours very truly,

A. L. Davis



North line Block D, Jno. H. Gibson. Sanders Plat Based on Trichell's Work.

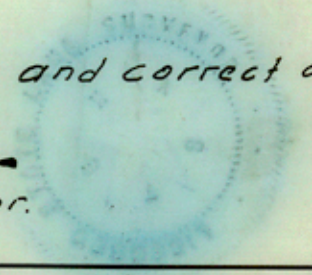
Yoakum Co.

Lubbock Texas June 28th 1940.

I, A.L. Harris, hereby Certify this Map to be true and correct as Surveyed by me on the ground.

A.L. Harris
 Licensed Land Surveyor.

RECEIVED TO RMB
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Counter 18561