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CHAS. E. DAVIDSON CO.  
LAW, LAND AND LIVE STOCK  
OZONA, TEXAS

February 14th, 1923,

RECEIVED

FEB 17 1923

Hon. J.T. Robison,  
Commissioner of General Land Office,

Austin, Texas,

Forwarded to Mar.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of January 29th, 1923, in reference to the six field notes inclosed in said letter, and which are herewith returned to you, we have to say:

We have discussed the matter with County Surveyor Frank F. Friend, and he says that he is convinced that State Surveyor Edgar C. Saunders is correct, and that there is probably no other salution of the question that to accept the connection line as run and determined by State Surveyor Edgar C. Saunders, and in doing so these field notes are correct. In explanation of his work in 1906 Surveyor Friend says that so much confusion on account of the bad surveying of the original surveyor in making the base line controlling the surveys in Block EF, KL, OP and UV and GH that the mere running of any one line without reference to other lines and other connections did not seem to be the proper thing, and Mr. Friend says he has much correspondence with Mr. Powell and the Land Office in reference to the matter of excesses East and West in these Blocks. Mr. Friend says that the Land Office reported to him that it seemed proper that from a platting standpoint the surveys in this Block were really based on the University Lands North of them, and Land Office informed him that it was convinced that these University Lands had an excess East and West of from 33 to 35 varas, and in making his surveys he thought it proper when in doubt to adopt the idea of the excess in the University Lands. So many stone mounds had been built by divers and sundry surveyors since the patenting of the odd numbered sections that it was more or less confusing to determine just what excess should be allowed. To confirm the idea of excess in the University Lands as suggested by Land Office he connected to the Northeast corner of 23, OP, (The Ozona Town Survey) which corner has live oak bearings the base line running North and South from the University Lands through Block EF was made by him, and finding the same by a hurried measurement to warrant the excess suggested by Land Office to be in the University Land, he decided it was best to adopt the suggested University excess. Since then State Surveyor Saunders has been doing a great deal of work and using a steel tape and not throwing in any excess, and rechaining his work I feel that his measurements are more exact than mine were. I think that Mr. Saunders is rather too accurate and particular in matters of land measurement. I mean that he spends a great deal of time on each item of his work, certainly more than he formerly did. I amways tried to keep the surveys in shape as originally intended

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as nearly as possible, and it was my understanding that the Land Office encouraged this. The Land Office seems to be working away from this idea and is now demanding of surveyors more deliberate work, even though it makes the patents now being issued show that patents heretofore issued to not conform.

Mr. Friend says he regrets now that he ever tried so hard to make the surveys in these blocks conform to the University Lands in which they were based, although he believes that if Land Office had adhered to the University excess in reference to issuing patents to the School Lands these Blocks it would have been justified in doing so on the ground of consistency.

Mr. Friend asks us to return these field notes and asks that you let patents issue on same, as he is convinced that the connection line measurement of Edgar C. Saunders (23406 varas) is correct.

Very truly,

CHAS. E. DAVIDSON COMPANY,

By *H. Austin Smith*

No. 55.

CROCKETT CO  
SKETCH FILE NO 55

See Sketch

Filed 2/24/23

Chas E Davidson letter

Filed 2-17-23

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