THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AUSTIN December 17, 1942 SCOTT GAINES J. H. WALKER LAND ATTORNEY UNIVERSITY LANDS OFFICER DEC 1 9 1942 Hon. Bascom Giles, Commissioner General Land Office Austin, Texas REFERRED TO MAP Dear Bascom: This is in reply to yours of the 10th instant addressed to Mr. Frank F. Friend, Special University Surveyor, regarding his report and map of University Blocks 38 to 57 on file in the General Land Office in Volume 12, Crockett, Irion and Schleicher Counties. Under date of March 15, 1932, instructions were given by the Land Commissioner to Mr. Friend at the instance of the Board for Lease, in effect, that in surveying University blocks he should first determine the boundary lines of the blocks, and then he should divide the blocks into sections numbered to correspond with the maps in use in the Land Office. This sentence occurs in the instruc-"The interior sections of the blocks in question have many marked corners which should serve not to fix the particular sections in a certain position on the ground, but to enable you to determine the outside boundaries of the blocks." The purpose underlying the instructions was to secure symmetrical surveys with practically equal quantities in the various blocks. The land still belonging to the State and set apart for the University, it was believed no harm could be done any individual in changing its divisions. The leases generally covered areas without regard to section lines with the exception of some mineral leases. It may be that leases growing out of the development of permits issued prior to the survey would be controlled by the original corners. However, the development of these particular areas having been made since the Friend survey, the Friend lines would probably control. You will find the letter imprinted in your records under date of March 15, 1932. I do not have the book and page number. Sincerely yours, It Walker

. H. Walker JHW: G cc to Mr. Frank F. Friend Counter 19905

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AUSTIN December 18, 1942 SCOTT GAINES J. H. WALKER LAND ATTORNEY UNIVERSITY LANDS OFFICER DEC 1 9 1942 Hon. Bascom Giles, Commissioner General Land Office Austin, Texas REFERRED TO MAP Attention: Mr. Shirriffs Dear Bascom: In my letter yesterday the word "blocks" in the first sentence of the last paragraph should be "sections." The letter of March 15, 1932, was also written by me. The conditions existing in the system of Blocks 38 to 57 were in fact the basis of the directions given Mr. Friend in that letter. The attention of the Board for Lease which at that time had control of the surveying of University lands was called to the situation and the conclusion reached that the interior mounds should be used only to determine the exterior boundaries of the system. There are numerous rock mounds called for in the field notes and far more than are called for may be found on the ground. Some of them undoubtedly are original, but in the absence of bearings and proper coordination it is doubtful whether a majority of those now to be found are original. If a surveyor undertakes to place the sections on the ground by the various rock mounds he finds there, his work on paper will have a kaleidoscopic appearance. In your files relating to Block 57 you will find a sketch by Mr. Goodfellow which illustrates fairly well the shape many of the sections tied to the various mounds would take on the ground. Only a few of these mounds can be established as original by evidence admissible in court, and these mounds will not make any appreciable changes in Mr. Friend's work. It seems that where rights have been acquired by preexisting leases he respected the "original" mounds as far as practicable. All permits and leases that have been issued by the Land Office were on the basis of the maps in use in the office when issued. Mr. Friend's work has made the ground lines conform to the map lines, and certainly those owning leases executed since the Friend survey will take the same in accordance with such survey. Yours very sincerely, J. H. Walker JHW: G

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cc to Mr. Frank F. Friend

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Filed Dre, 19th, 1942

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