

7040

1-3-36

SURVEYOR'S REPORT

RECEIVED

JAN 3 1936

REFERRED TO MAP

Hon. J. H. Walker, Commissioner
State General Land Office
Austin, Texas

Dear Sir:-

Complying with your verbal request of some weeks ago, I made a careful examination of a point in Duval County, Texas, purporting to be the S.E. corner, Survey No. 204 and S.W. corner, Survey No. 205, and submit the following report:

I was conducted to this corner by Mr. Homer De Wolf, Attorney at Law, Austin, Texas, and together we were accompanied by the following gentlemen: A. B. Connor and Hayes Dix, land surveyors, Lloyd Clarkson and C. P. Morris.

Upon arrival at the corner, as pointed out to me by these gentlemen, I found the objects and conditions described in the following memorandum which I wrote at the corner.

The blocks taken from the two mesquite trees to which I refer were brought back to my home in Austin where I polished the surfaces of the blocks, measured them and counted the ages of the trees. I then entered all the resulting figures in my memorandum on December 27, 1935. I left the mesquite blocks, carefully wrapped, in the custody of Hon. Bruce W. Bryant, Attorney at Law, Austin, Texas.

MEMORANDUM

December 20, 1935 Friday - Cold, cloudy and light rain.

At the point pointed out to me, I found a mesquite stake about 2 inches in diameter, 2 feet long without markings, cut about 2 or 3 years ago and driven vertically into the ground. The stake is surrounded by a pile of nine stones about the size of a man's fist. From this stake apparently bearing S. 62 1/4 W. distant 41 varas (measured by pacing), I found a mesquite tree, irregular in cross section and uneven in surface, 29 inches in circumference 9.2 inches in diameter, 8 inches above the ground and bearing southeast at about 45 degrees on the vertical. The tree had been hollow but wild fire, a number of years ago, had gutted out the hollow and flattened the northeast side of the tree which finally died apparently a year ago. On the trunk of the tree, on the side facing the stake, I found a shallow "blaze" 34 inches long and the full width of the trunk. The lower end of the blaze is 10 inches above the ground and extends upward about to where the tree forks out. Since the surface of the trunk is very uneven and the blaze is very shallow, only small, isolated portions of the surface have been planed off by the blaze, leaving most of the bark intact.

I cut a small block from the tree from which I determined, with certainty, that the blaze was made four years before the tree died or about five years ago. I marked this block No. 1. It is about one cubic inch in size.

In the extreme lower end of the blaze I found a new cross mark chopped deep into the wood of the tree, after the blaze had been made. The tree had not grown against the cross mark, consequently the exact age of the mark could not be ascertained, but the general appearance of it indicated that it had been made two or three years ago. This mark is in the bend of the tree about fourteen inches above the ground and is in a very inconvenient position to reach with an axe. The two arms of the cross are about five inches long. They do not extend outward to the margin of the tree at any of the four points.

I did not find the slightest indication of an old mark anywhere on the tree.

The long blaze did not obliterate any old marks because it did not uniformly remove enough of the bark from the trunk of the tree.

The new cross mark did not destroy an old cross mark under it because the undisturbed surfaces of bark intervening between the margins of the trunk and the four ends of the new cross mark do not reveal any old marks; and an old cross made with the ordinary axe, fifty-five years ago when the trunk was much smaller, would now extend out to the very margins of the trunk at all four points of the cross.

In order to obtain some idea of the age of this mesquite tree without destroying or injuring it, I sought out another mesquite tree nearby, nine inches in diameter, as near as possible of the same size, condition and age of the tree in question. I sawed out of this tree a full section about 1 1/2 feet above the ground. This section I marked No. 2. This tree was also hollow and leaning south-east. It had been injured by wild fire nineteen years ago. About half of the section is gone by decay. The remaining portion counts 64 years old in 3 1/2 inches or 18.3 years per inch on the radius from which I estimated that this tree is 82 years old. In the year 1880-55 years ago - this tree was about 2 1/2 inches in diameter; hence, I conclude that this tree, with the new blaze and cross mark, is about the same age; or 80 or 85 years old. It further appears that the tree was 2 1/2 or 3 inches in diameter in the year 1880.

From the tree with the new blaze and cross mark, the second tree bears about S 20.W. 60 varas.

This corner is in the midst of a broad mesquite ~~that is~~ flat between two low rolling ridges. In the immediate vicinity, the ground is covered about equally with large prickley pear, cactus bushes and mesquite trees generally of the size and condition of the two trees described which seem to represent the normal growth of mesquite trees in this locality and condition.

I began this examination at about 10 A.M. and finished it at 11:20 A.M. on December 20, 1935. Leaving the corner at 11:20 A.M., I arrived at my home in Austin at 7:30. P.M.

Respectfully,

Arthur A. Stiles
Arthur A. Stiles, Surveyor

Sketch File No. 67, 49

DUVAL County

Arthur A. Stiles Report on

Br. Tree at S. E. Cor. Sur. No. 204

J. Poitevent

Filed January 3rd 1906

J. H. Walker, Commr.

C. F. Blaker

File Clerk.

Description: 26 Mi. N. 55° W. from
San Diego

In the extreme lower end of the place I found a new cross mark chopped deep into the wood of the tree, after the place had been made. The tree had not grown against the cross mark, consequently the exact age of the mark could not be ascertained, but the general appearance of it indicated that it had been made two or three years ago. This mark is in the bend of the tree about fourteen inches above the ground and is in a very inconvenient position to reach with an axe. The two arms of the cross are about five inches long. They do not extend outward to the margin of the tree at any of the four points.

I did not find the slightest indication of an old mark anywhere on the tree.

The long place did not obliterate any old marks because it did not uniformly remove enough of the bark from the trunk of the tree. The remaining portion complete half of the section as gone and decay. The remaining portion complete 64 years old in 3 1/2 inches or 18.3 years per inch on the radius from the center of the tree. This tree was also hollow and leaning south-ward. This tree was about 3 1/2 inches in diameter; hence, I conclude that this tree, with the new place and cross mark, is about 22 years ago - this tree was about 3 1/2 inches in diameter; hence, I conclude that this tree, with the new place and cross mark, is about the same age or 80 or 82 years old. If further appears that the tree was 3 1/2 or 3 inches in diameter in the year 1880.

This corner is in the midst of a broad mesquite tract in that described which seem to represent the normal growth of mesquite trees between two low rolling ridges. In the immediate vicinity, the ground is covered about equally with large brickley pear, cactus bushes and mesquite trees generally of the size and condition of the two trees in this locality and condition.

I began this examination at about 10 A.M. and finished it at 11:30 A.M. on December 30, 1902. Leaving the corner at 11:30 A.M.

I arrived at my home in Austin at 7:30 P.M.

I began this examination at about 10 A.M. and finished it at 11:30 A.M. on December 30, 1902. Leaving the corner at 11:30 A.M. I arrived at my home in Austin at 7:30 P.M.

I began this examination at about 10 A.M. and finished it at 11:30 A.M. on December 30, 1902. Leaving the corner at 11:30 A.M. I arrived at my home in Austin at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully,

Arthur A. Stiles, Surveyor

R-3-9
Counter 21411