

H-203

FRANK T. DROUGHT
CONSULTING ENGINEER
FROST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
SAN ANTONIO 5, TEXAS
September 4, 1948

LICENSED STATE LAND SURVEYOR
ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

Hon. Bascom Giles, Commissioner
General Land Office
Austin, Texas

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith is map titled, "Area in Southwest Frio County, S 66° W, 17½ Miles from Pearsall;" field notes for SF 14916 and SF 14917, both filed by Good Faith Claimant, Frank Doering, on July 19, 1948; field notes for SF 14918 filed by Good Faith Claimant, R. K. Harlan, on July 19, 1948; and the following explanation of my work in locating the three vacancies.

The senior surveys in the area were laid in by John James, Deputy Surveyor of Bexar District, in 1840, along the Leona River in an easterly direction. In the field notes for these surveys James calls for witness trees at all the front or river corners and for stakes and mounds at all the corners along the back lines, thus indicating that he did not actually run the back lines on the ground. James' notes do not contain meander courses for the north lines along the river.

As shown on the attached map, I have relocated the surveys laid in by James primarily from two of James' original corners, shown double-circled at Points A and B, (the northwest corner of J. M. Tijerina #301 and the northeast corner of S. Flores #305) and secondarily from the south bank of the Leona River. I identified the northwest corner of #301 at Point A from its witness trees as shown on the attached map. As a further proof of this corner, I found the original corner tree for the lower corner of Survey #290 still standing on the north bank of the river, marked and witnessed as shown on the map. James called for the northwest corner of #301 to be "opposite the lower corner of #290." I identified the corner at Point B from its original witnesses as shown on the map.

The portions of the Leona River shown on the map are platted from meanders that I ran on the ground. While running these meanders, I made a diligent search for the witnesses called for by James at the northeast corners of Surveys #301, #302, and #304 but found no evidence of the original bearing trees. Point C is at the northern extremity of the old occupied and recognized east line of #304 and is witnessed by several old marked live oak trees as shown on the map. I found no evidence of the hackberry bearings called for by James at this corner. At this point, permit me to point out one of the apparent errors in James' original work. I made an attempt to relocate the northwest corner of #305 by reversing the calls in the field notes and backed the survey in from the corner at Point B. This construction placed the northwest corner of #305 approximately 100 varas west of Point C and approximately 25 varas north of the north bank of the river. In view of this discrepancy and because of the evidence of old occupation along the east line of #304 and because of the comparatively short life of the hackberry tree, I have accepted Point C as an early replacement of the northeast corner of Survey #304.

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Because of the apparent errors in James' work between Points A and B, a calculated tie line between these corners would not result in the orientation used by James, and I have therefore accepted the bearing of the old occupation on the west line of #301, which is parallel with the occupied and recognized east line of #304, for orientation in projecting the back lines. You will note that the bearings used are only $0^{\circ} 05'$ to left of call.

In accordance with the accepted method of relocating surveys of this type, I have constructed the west or first line of each survey call distance from a beginning corner on the river bank, the south lines either call or to an intersection with a line projected parallel to the west line from an original or recognized corner on the river, and the east lines any necessary distance to return to the river, thereby placing all of the error or discrepancy in each survey in its south and east lines.

BBB&C Survey #1081 and #1082 were laid in by Francis Giraud, Deputy Surveyor of Bexar District, in 1854. I have relocated these two surveys as shown on the attached map from two original corners shown double-circled at Points D and E and four creek calls. At Point D, which I am satisfied is the original northeast corner of Survey #1081, I found a mesquite tree marked as called by Giraud which had been blown over and uprooted. From the stump hole of this mesquite I established a point for corner, and although I did not find a tree for the other witness called for by Giraud, I did find a stump hold at the called bearing and distance. The southwest corner of Survey #1082 at Point E was established on the south bank of Todos Santos Creek from a mesquite stump and a stump hole which checked Giraud's calls for bearings at this corner. You will note that the two creek calls adjacent to this corner check call within 5 and 8 varas, respectively. The second creek call in the south line of Survey #1082 checks call within one vara. Between the original corners D and E, I found an excess factor of 3.25% and have corrected Giraud's call distances by that amount in relocating the lines. I also found that the bearing between the corners is $0^{\circ} 02'$ to left of call bearing and rotated all call bearings $0^{\circ} 02'$ to the left. Although the creek call in the east line of Survey #1082 appears to be 10 varas long, you will note that if the excess factor is applied to Giraud's original call of 430 varas ($430 \times 1.0325 = 444$ varas) this creek call will be only 4 varas short.

ACH&B Surveys #1 and #2 were laid in by Theodore Melms, District Surveyor of Frio County, in 1875. I have placed the west line of Survey #1 and the upper west line of Survey #2 call bearing from the original southwest corner of Survey #1, shown double-circled, which I found and identified by its bearings as shown on the map.

BS&F Surveys #3, #4, #8, #9, and #10 were laid in by Melms in 1876. I have established the lines of these surveys as shown on the attached map from Melms' original corners at Points H, I, J, K, and L. At each of these corners I found either the original witnesses still standing or the original trees dead and down by an identifiable stump or stump hole, as reflected on the map. Although the five corners H, I, J, K, and L, in their entirety, are not in their proper field note relation, you will note that the three upper corners, H, I,

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and J, are in approximately the proper relation one to the other, and that the two lower corners, K and L, are in approximately the proper relation, one to the other. Because Melms did not make an adjoinder, either implied or direct, between Surveys #3 and #10, I have constructed the east line of Survey #3 between Points J and L and the west line of Survey #10 between Points I and K, thereby leaving an unpatented strip of 7.17 acres bounded on the east by Survey #10, on the west by Surveys #3 and #4, and on the south by the previously constructed north line of Survey #1082. This unpatented area has been assigned SF 14918 by your office.

G. W. Webb Survey #90/5 and S. J. Tatum Survey #90/6 were laid in by W. W. Haynes, Surveyor of Frio County, in 1886. Haynes' notes for Survey #90/5 were cancelled and the survey was patented on a resurvey by A. L. Curtis in 1889 with field notes almost identical with Haynes' field notes. I have relocated these two surveys from the original northeast corner of Survey #90/5 shown double-circled at Point G which I identified by its bearings, as shown on the map, and a rock which I have accepted as the original northwest corner of Survey #90/6, shown double-circled at Point F. As relocated from these two corners along old occupation and in accordance with their adjoinder calls for the senior Giraud surveys, all call bearings are rotated $0^{\circ} 27'$ to the left of call, and the lengths of the lines vary from 1.1% excessive to 2.6% excessive. The creek call in the upper east line of Survey #90/6 is 5 varas long of call. I cannot explain the discrepancy in the creek call in the west line of Survey #90/6.

I now call your attention to the 24.45 acre vacant area, SF 14917, between the north line of Survey #90/5 and the south line of Survey #304. As previously explained, the west line of Survey #304 is constructed call distance from the south bank of the Leona River placing the south line in the position shown, approximately 85 varas north of the north line of Survey #90/5, which takes its position from the original corner at Point G.

Day Land & Cattle Company Survey # $\frac{1}{2}$ was laid in by A. L. Curtis, County Surveyor of Frio County, in 1893, and was intended as a filler survey between the north lines of Survey #1081 and #1082 and the south lines of Survey #302 and BS&F Survey #10. It is apparent that in 1893 Curtis was not aware of the true location of the southwest corner of BS&F Survey #10 because he called for the northwest corner of Survey # $\frac{1}{2}$ to be on the south line of Survey #10. I have relocated Survey # $\frac{1}{2}$ as shown on the attached map by honoring its implied beginning call for the north line of Survey #1082 and its adjoinder calls for Surveys #1081 and #1082. Curtis called for the upper southeast corner of Survey # $\frac{1}{2}$ to be common with the northeast corner of Survey #1081 with identical witness trees.

W. L. Crawford Survey #24 was located by Curtis in 1910 as SF 9946. This survey was not monumented on the ground by Curtis but was placed by adjoinder calls for the senior surveys. I have relocated the southern portion of this survey as shown on the attached map from its adjoinder calls for Surveys #301, #302, and BS&F Surveys #10 and #9. Under my construction of the senior surveys, it is impossible to honor Curtis' calls at the lower southeast corner of Survey #24 for both Surveys #302 and # $\frac{1}{2}$.

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File No. 13

Frio County
Sketch File

Filed Nov 1 19 48
Bascom Giles Com'r

V.E. Hedging
File Clerk

Surveyor's report relating
to Rolled St. #11,
S.F. 14916-17-18, Area
S66°W. 17 1/2 mi. from
Pearsall.
Frank T. Drought
Sept. 4, 1948

Respectfully submitted,

Licensed State Land Surveyor

Frank T. Drought

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of the north lines of surveys #1 and #20/c.
line of survey #20/c in the position shown which is approximately 28 acres north
east corner of survey #201 on the south bank of the Leon River, showing the south
stated, the west line of survey #20/c is 211 distance from the connected north
survey #20/c and the north line of survey #20/c and #20/c. As previously
stated this is a vacant area of 10.21 acres between the south line of

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