

Austin Texas Sept. 25/10

Hon. M. E. Kleberg
Galveston, Texas

Dear Sir:

In reading my Galveston
Daily News this evening I see
that the question of who is
the legal owner of the East
end of Galveston Island. I wish to
inform you as to what I know
in regard to the matter from
my long experience in the
G. L. O. of Texas, and to be
very brief, the title rests
in the State of Texas. The
(Bigfoot) ^{W. A. A.} Wallace location on
which a patent issued
is void. Islands were

reserved from location,
and had the proper
endorsement been made
at the time on the papers,
I am almost certain that the
patent would never have been
issued. See S. W. Vol. 110
page 733 Roberts vs Tarrill.

Very respectfully
Ernst von Dumberg
*204 West 16 St.
Austin, Texas.

On the East end of the old Galveston Island map dated 1837 a
is del. on which a Fort and which is also and the outline of a Fort
survey is represented mkd Fort reserve and on a map of Galveston
City. On a copy of the map of Galveston City dated 1838, said
reserve is mkd Government reserve, the Fort represented on the same is
mkd "Old Fort" and at another place ^{on said} the Pilot House is laid down.
West of and outside of this reserve survey, a place is mkd as Barracks.
There are no field notes of the same on file in the Genl Land Office,
The land on which Galveston City is located was ptd to M. B. Menard
in accordance with an act relinquishing one league & labor to M. B. Menard
and others on the East end of Galveston Island, but reserving ^{for the Government of Texas} from the same
from East end of the Island 15 acres, more or less. Decemb. 9th 1836 - p. 70.

W. H. 238

By the act of the 1st Congress passed Decemb. 9th 1836 relinquishing
embracing the East end of Galveston Island, in section 5 of said act
one league & one labor of land to Michael B. Menard, the government
of Texas reserved to itself all that tract of land from the extreme
East end of the Island of Galveston running West on the North side of
the Island until it strikes a Bayou a short distance above the present
fort, thence up said Bayou to its source, thence in a straight line across
the Island to the Gulf, containing 15 acres more or less.

The league & labor was patented to Michael B. Menard in accordance with
said act January 25th 1838.

The map of Galveston Island by Trimble & Lindsey dated 1837 on file
in the Genl Land Office shows said reserve mkd as the Fort Reserve with
a Fort delineated on it.

A printed copy of the map of Galveston City surveyed and drawn by
Joe D. Grossbeck 1838, ^{on file in this Office} represents said reserve as the Government reserve
and the Fort delineated on is marked as the Old Fort, and the barracks
are represented to be outside and West of said reserve.
No patent has been issued to the United States embracing this reserve

At present it is covered entirely by a survey of 9575 acres ptd to the
United States Scrip file 85 - and ^{by} part of a 9870 acres survey in the name
of W^m A. A. Wallace ptd - Donation file 29.

If the Fort mentioned in the Fort mentioned was actually abandoned several
years before.

Sk.
File No. 57

Galveston County
Statement on Galveston Island

Filed Nov 26 19 84

GARRY MAURO, Com'r

By Loe Kibbi

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