

THE WORTHAM CASE.

Greer County was created February 8, 1860. (Vol. IV, *Gann.* footpage 1500). Its west boundary was the 23rd degree of west longitude. (Wash.) On the ground this boundary was treated by the State authorities as running north from the "initial monument" on Red River.

Childress County was created August 21, 1876, from Clay and Jack Land District, which was created April 29, 1874. Its eastern boundary ran north from the initial monument of what was then known as Prairiedogtown River (now Red) on the 100th meridian. The line running north from the initial monument formed a common boundary between Greer and Childress as recognized by the State and county authorities.

As a matter of fact a part of Greer County lay west of the true 100th meridian and east of the 100th meridian running north from the initial monument on Prairiedogtown River. This is the south end of the strip recovered by Texas from Oklahoma.

The United States Government recovered from Texas only that part of Greer County lying east of the true 100th meridian. (U.S.v.Texas, U.S.1) However, following the decision mentioned all of the surveys located in the western part of Greer County including the strip truly in Texas were floated and located elsewhere in this State.

The strip in question was never a part of Childress County prior to an Act of the Legislature following the decision of the Supreme Court in the Texas-Oklahoma case, which Act extended the boundaries of Childress to the true meridian line so as to include the land in question.

Prior to July 6, 1883, Greer County was in the Clay Land District. On that date it was placed in the Wheeler Land District.

The writer has before him the field notes of a survey made for his father in Greer County July 4, 1883, by the district surveyor of Clay District. He has before him another survey in Greer County for which the field notes were made May 16, 1884, by the district surveyor of Wheeler District. This survey was made for Mary A. Martin. It does not appear that Greer County was ever recognized as a surveying district, but it does appear that it continued to remain in Wheeler Land District until its disorganization. It so happens that the writer, representing the State of Texas, participated in the settlement of claims of the State against the United States for the maintenance of order in Greer County prior to its recovery by the United States. There were no lands involved, nor was the question of boundaries a part in the transaction. It is mentioned only because the story of the counties burned into my mind.

The writer cannot escape the conclusion that the strip between the two rivers continued to be a part of Greer County until included by an Act of the Legislature within the boundaries of Collingsworth and Childress. The line running north from the initial monument was an accepted boundary between counties, and the situation in regard to it is not the same as the boundaries north of the upper river. The boundaries of those counties north of the river would extend to the true meridian by operation of law.

*Reference to the
History of County
of Greer*

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line to the Northham case,
History of County.