

Silsbee, Texas.

March 31st, 1932.

Mr. J. H. Walker, Com'r General Land Office,
Austin, Texas.

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REFERRED TO SCHOOL

Dear Sir:

Herewith I submit a plat and outline of the work done on the ground in connection with location of the W. E. Williford and J. G. Williford surveys in the Northern portion of Hardin County on the South side of Village Creek in order for the present owners to obtain patents to their lands.

Before undertaking this work I went to Kountze and obtained from the Surveyors Records and the Deed Records there copies of the field notes of all surveys on the South side of Village Creek from the J. Buckman to the Samuel McDade inclusive.

I began my investigation at the N. W. corner of the Samuel Lint survey on the South bank of the creek and measured South 165 varas and found a corner for the N. E. corner of the Jno. Ingram survey. Both these points are the scenes of fishermans camps and the trees are so badly scarred that no signs of the old marks of the locating surveyors can be distinguished and only one tree at each of the kind called for hence could not say that I had positively identified the corners. However these are the corners now recognized for Lint and Ingram.

From the Ingram corner I ran West but soon struck such dense underbrush and large sloughs that accurate measurements were impossible so I had the line brushed out and paced the distance across the country the best I could and found the N. W. corner of the Ingram according to its patented field notes. Witness trees are two white oaks. This being in such a jungle of undergrowth I here set up a stake and returned to the N. E. corner and ran South through thick underbrush and swampy land to a branch, the only one in the locality. The field notes to the Ingram survey calls for its S. E. corner to be 150 varas South of a branch and 150 varas East of same, the course of the branch being N. E.

I measured from the South bank of the branch a distance of 150 varas and found the S. E. Corner of the Ingram which is in open woods but old timber is cut away.

I then ran West through cut over land crossing above branch at 154 varas and at 1002 varas I found the S. W. corner of the Jno. Ingram which calls for the East line of ~~the East line of~~ the John Dooling survey. The stumps of the trees as called for in the patent to the ^{Ingram} are still sound. About 30 varas West of this corner is a new fence that the owners told me they thought they had built on the East line of the Dooling survey which they had recently had a surveyor from Kountze mark up for them. I followed the fence South to where he marked a corner but no evidence of the original corner found. I turned here West and paced the call of the Dooling which is 871 varas and found the original S. W. corner of same. The corner is witnessed by a sweet gum and red oak. The gum is still green and standing but the red oak is down but evidence of it still visible. I here turned North and paced the distance of 871 varas and found the N. W. corner of the Dooling on an old line. This corner is witnessed by a sweet gum and pine. The gum is dead and down but old marks still visible. Thence I paced East 190 varas and found a new corner marked for the Dooling in the edge of swamp. Too many briars and brush to look for the original witness trees called for in patent which calls for a sweet bay and pine. Several sweet bays in the vicinity also stumps of swamp pines.

We then returned to the S. W. corner of the J. Ingram and ran North without measurement through farms and thick brush to the creek. We passed the stake set previously for the N. W. corner of the Ingram. I found after getting up near the creek that there are three lines marked on the ground. One is 22 varas to the east and another something like 30 varas West of the line we were on.

When we reached the creek I found two very old corners both marked X on cow oaks. One corner on the line East of us and one on the line we were on. On the line West of us the work is of more recent date and we followed it around the creek banks to a corner marked on a beech. The creek at this point has a course of South in a general way for nearly one fourth of mile and the line crosses same 4 times in that distance. Finding nothing satisfactory we returned to the corner on the line we ran for the Ingram and ran a line West and at 152 varas we crossed a very old line shown on plat as A. We ran this line to the creek but found no corner there.

From point A we ran West on the same measurement and at 652 varas we intersected an old line running North and ran it to the creek where we found an old corner witnessed by two beech trees both now dead but standing. This is the recognized N.W. corner of the J.A. Beaumont survey. No evidence of the original witness trees remain as the creek has cut away the South bank of creek for several varas but the timber growth here is the same as called for in the notes of the Beaumont survey.

We continued West from the corner and crossed a line known locally as the Seale line for the J.V. Richardson survey but the work is all new. It is witnessed on the creek by a pecan and white oak bearing the identification brands of a large lumber concern who claim the Richardson survey.

We continued West and at 1939 varas we intersected an old line and ran it North to the creek where we found the old corner set up for the J.V. Richardson survey by R.N.B. Tompkins in 1878. We find another line West of this approximately 50 varas which leads North to the creek to the original corner set up by Tompkins for the Samuel Overstreet survey in 1878. A sweet gum is the witness tree. This tree also bears the same recognition brands as those on the Seale line just mentioned.

We left this vicinity for the time being and began a new survey at the N.E. corner of the Jacob Buckman and the N.W. corner of the Hardin County School Land survey which corner is directly South of the S.E. corner of the Edward Lubititit survey. We identified this corner by its original and also its patented calls. The original witness trees being dead.

From this corner we ran a line without measurement to a point in the open woods. Thence East at 1047 varas we intersected the East line of Hardin County School as it was once located before being patented.

We ran this line North to the creek and found an old corner set up by R.N.B. Tompkins for the Hardin County School Land and the Samuel Overstreet surveys in 1878. At a point 80 varas West of the line here is a very old line and corner but had no field notes describing anything at that point. The witness trees are a sweet gum mkd X and a beech mkd A E F.

We measured South from the Tompkins corner just mentioned and at 420 we pass the S.W. corner of the Samuel Overstreet and the N.W. corner of the J.G. Williford surveys. Stumps of the original witness trees still here.

On a new measurement at 564 instead of 557.5 varas we pass the original corner of the J.G. Williford and W.E. Williford surveys. At 278.5 varas further we pass the corner of the W.E. Williford and J.T. Overstreet corner *Overstreet* and at 579 varas we find the original and patented corner of the J.T. Williford survey. The stumps of the original witness trees of each of these surveys are still visible.

We return to our point at 1047 varas from the West line of the Hardin County School Survey and measure East 326 varas to the intersection of the School survey as it was patented. We then ran North to the creek and find its corner. We then began at the N.W. corner of the J.T. Overstreet and the S.W. corner of the W.E. Williford and measured East through open woods and swamp for 1630 varas find the original N.E. corner of the Overstreet. Both witness trees still green and standing. A black gum and white oak. Continuing North at 278.5 varas we find the corner of the Williford surveys. The sweet gum still standing but other tree dead and down. At 564 varas further on we find the original corner of the Williford and Samuel Overstreet surveys. A holly and large pine both green and marked. At 532 varas further we intersect the creek at the N.W. corner of the J.V. Richardson survey as marked by Tompkins. This is the point arrived at in survey from the West line of the Jno. Ingram.

We then began at the N.E. corner of the Samuel ^{*Overstreet*} as it was patented and ran a line South through brushy ^{*woods*} without measurement and found its S.E. corner as called for in patent, two sweet gums for witness trees.

We then proceeded to survey the J.G. Williford unpatented portion and the W.E. Williford that is clear of conflict with other patents.

With the above work done I deemed that sufficient surveying had been done to locate the lands involved.

Mr. J. H. W. - 3

During the year 1840 a surveyor by name of E. Jewell began a system of surveys at the S. E. corner of the A. Morales league in Polk County and located certificates for land as far down on each side of Village creek as the A. Rodriguez survey.

At the same time a surveyor by the name of M. W. Bumstead was at work on Village Creek and seems to have started where Jewell left off and continued for a long distance down the creek on its South side.

Bumstead located the J. V. Richardson in 1840 beginning at a survey called Jeremiah Goins the N. W. corner of which is called to be on the bank of creek. The West line of Goins being the East line of the Richardson.

In 1846 a surveyor by name of Wm. Armstrong put down the Jno. Dooling, W. D. Cotton and presumably the Jno. A. Beaumont, no field notes in Surveyors Records here to show its locator. The Beaumont survey calls to run North from its S. E. corner with the West line of Goins. The Dooling calls to pass the S. W. corner of the J. Goins at 871 varas North of the S. E. corner of Dooling thus making three surveys using the West line of the Goins as it was known in 1840 and 1846. The Richardson survey was patented in 1841, six years prior to patent of the Beaumont. Beaumont, Dooling and Cotton all call to tie to a survey in the name of S. Newell. No record here of a Newell survey ever being made on the creek but several Newell surveys are located about three miles South of the creek and were laid down by Bumstead in 1840. It is not reasonable to think that Bumstead would make a conflict in his own work when he had the whole country before him to work in.

The Jno. Ingram survey was surveyed three times before a patent was issued for it. In each survey the same line was used for the West line and it appears to take up a portion of the old Goins survey. The H. G. King survey was made in the office by adopting the field notes of the surrounding surveys.

Quite a number of these late Hardin County surveys were made in the courthouse thus causing all kinds of confusion and trouble when they are later marked out on the ground.

I have in the past relocated all the surveys on the North side of the creek from the Hugh Kerr on the County line to the Michael Federspill and a number on the South side of the creek and the only trouble is found from the Hardin County County School to the Samuel Lint.

From my investigation I can only conclude that the Beaumont, Dooling, S. Newell and W. D. Cotton surveys are all laid upon the Richardson survey which is an older survey by six years and all made by a different surveyor to the one who located the Richardson.

On the plat you will note I show dotted lines as the Doucette line, the Pedigo and McElyea line for the West line of the Richardson. I do not know how they arrived at the different conclusions they did unless they started from some survey down in the open woods and ran up to the creek.

If anything not clear in the above will be glad to have you advise me.

Yours very truly,

J. M. Hyde
Licensed State Surveyor.

County 25237

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Richardson Survey

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Sketch File No. ~~60~~

Hardin County

T.M. Hyde's Sketch

Vicinity - J.V. Richardson Sur.

Filed April 8th, 1932

J. H. Walker, Comm.

~~O. F. Blanche~~

File Clerk

Descriptive: 10 Mi. N. 30° W. Kountze.

See Sur. Statement Sketch
accompanying this statement.

See protest in S.F. 13360.

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