

Weatherford, Parker Co. Texas. July 24th 1858



I do hereby certify that this is  
a true sketch showing the  
connection of one eighty acre survey  
and two forty acre surveys made  
in the name of Nathaniel Watson  
with surrounding surveys. It

likewise shows the connection of J. L. Edwards  
preemption and George W. Johnson's preemption  
with surrounding surveys. Lemuel M. Murphy  
County Surveyor of Parker County.

N.B. This sketch differs a little from a  
former sketch of <sup>the</sup> same surveys, that I sent to  
to you; since then I have had better information  
respecting those surveys, and this sketch is taken  
from a new and corrected map that I am  
now drafting, but which is not yet completed;  
As soon as I complete this map I will  
send you a copy of it in four divisions,  
one quarter of the County at a time; in  
doing this I will endeavour to exhibit to you  
a true and correct sketch of all the surveys  
in the County. Dear Sir I was totally igno-  
rant of the late law requiring returns every  
quarter to be made, until I received your  
instructions a short time ago, and it  
was utterly impossible, since that time  
for me to draft a full and complete  
sketch of every set of preemption  
field notes that I had on hand at that  
time in the office and send them up  
to you by the first of next August;  
But by the time another quarter rolls  
around I hope I shall be able to send  
you a complete map of all the

Surveys in the County. In all other respects I think I shall be able to comply with the requisitions of the law. Previous to the first of last April I and my Deputies had made a great many preemption surveys on a credit and in great haste in order to have the field notes in the General Land Office before the time would expire; this was done solely to accommodate the impoverished Citizens. Had I made only such surveys as I was paid for; it would have been an easy task for me to comply <sup>with</sup> the law in all points. The law was unforeseen, unexpected, and has taken me by surprise; but I do assure you that for the future I shall endeavour to comply with it in all its details, and in the mean time I think it highly unjust and inequitable that it should have any retrospective action upon my ~~or account of my conduct~~ benevolent conduct towards my impoverished fellow Citizens. I have sent you up several certificate surveys without sending you the files, as I was ignorant that the law required it, but I will start those files to you by the first of next August. Dear Sir as I have been strongly impetuned by some individuals to make their preemption surveys in this <sup>(Railroad)</sup> reserve, so as to leave out their dwelling house and improvements entirely, for the purpose of getting a better location; and as I have refused to make such surveys believing them to be illegal; I promised those persons in order to silence their clamours against

me, that I would write to you for instruction on the subject and that if you directed me to make such surveys under a promise that you would patent them, I would do so. I wish you to give me positive instruction on this head so that I may act with decision. Mr James Bedfords requested me to ascertain from you whether you would patent his survey in its present form or not; it is his preemption claim covering a part of an old survey made in the name of W Mills which from the best evidence we can get appears to be vacant; it is bounded on the Northwest by an old survey made in the name of J Clayton before the passage of the Mississippi and Pacific Railroad Law; on the Southeast it is bounded by a 160 acre preemption in the name of Isaac Seela and on the Southeast it is bounded by survey in the name of Benjamin J. Fry; ~~and~~ on account of these surrounding surveys I made Mr Bedfords in an oblong shape; and likewise Stephen Bedfords preemption which lies Southwest of James Bedfords survey is oblonged from the same cause and he wishes to know whether you will patent those two surveys or not. These surveys lie on the Brazos River 10 miles from Weatherford. The following is a sketch of those surveys.



not plotted

counter 33510

I have likewise been requested by Hezekiah Culwell

you can only make a preemption survey of land upon which the person is residing. It can be made a survey but a person can have his decision - you can make it a mile and set it can be made one mile off it

to ask you whether you patented the  
 Survey of Thomas Culwell Junior, and  
 if so whether you sent the patent to  
 him or not, or whether you sent it to  
 some one else to be handed over to him.  
 There are two Surveys of 160 acres each  
 made by virtue of the same Colony  
 Headright certificate No. 33 Issued to  
 Thomas Culwell Junr. by ~~the~~ order of  
 the County Court of Berlin County, on the 8th  
 of January 1855 for 320 acres. These  
 Surveys lie on Walnut Creek in the  
 Northeast part of the County, and  
 one of them belongs to Hezekiah  
 Culwell.

Very respectfully  
 Yours, &c.

Lewellen Murphy  
 County Surveyor of Parker County

To the Commissioner  
 of the General Land Office

11313-3-  
 22505-3-  
 27952-3-

2540 1/2

30034  
 30080 - 433  
 4378 Rott

Lewellen Murphy's sk. & ex-  
 plantation  
 Dated July 24, 1858  
 Filed Sep. 2, 1858

Received September 2/58.  
 C. W. Prosser.

11533 reverse

B. Parkers