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SURVEY OF UNIVERSITY LANDS
SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

September 10th, 1929.

RECEIVED

To The:

SEP 13 1929

Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Austin, Texas.

REFERRED TO MAP

Dear Sir:-

Between the dates of Oct. 23, 1928, and January 24, 1929, I made an extensive survey on the ground for the purpose of determining the boundaries of Blocks 16 to 20, University Lands, Pecos County. Subsequently I wrote corrected fieldnotes for all the surveys in said Blocks, filed at Ft. Stockton copies of same in a bound volume with plat, and I understand that now the original corrected fieldnotes and plat has been filed in your office. It is fitting, therefore, that I explain to you in detail my construction which is my interpretation of the original notes based upon original corners found on the ground.

The N. E. corner of Block #16 (which is the N. E. corner of section 1) calls for an earth monument near El Paso road and gives bearings on three different mountains. The N. E. corner of section #1,

Fieldnotes brought to this department on July 25th, 1929 by Mr. F. F. Friend, Licensed Land Surveyor, in person of Blawieity Blocks 16, 17, 18, 19 & 20, Pecos County are this day returned to him in person for the reason that they are not approved. See letter to him and to A. N. Lea, Co Sur. Pecos County of this date. 9-26-35 notes, counter 33698

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Block 19, calls to be 700 varas East and 1200 varas North from East Escondido Spring, and designates a stone monument. The S. E. corner of Block #18 also calls for a natural object, in that the fieldnotes read "Stone Monument on side of hill". With these three exceptions, all other corners, which, might be expected to be found and identified, call simply for "rock mounds" or "rock monuments". In a few cases the corner calls to be "near road", as is the case at the S W corner of Section 1, Block #19, and at the N E corner of Section 1, Block 18.

Permit me to state ~~that~~ at the beginning that regardless of whatever theory he might formulate and work out as to just where Thomson went in his survey of this land in 1879, the surveyor will in all cases find rock mounds of every conceivable size and age, and what is more perplexing, he will find them where they are not called for as well as where they are called for. Along the North line of Block 20, at the N E corners of Sections 15, 16, and 17, there are rock mounds within a few varas of the corners I built that are as old apparently as any found in the field. Yet at these points no mounds are called for in the original fieldnotes. Down at the S E corner of Block #18 a "Stone monument on side of hill" is called for, and one mile North of this the call is for a "stone mound". At the first mentioned point we find at least two rock mounds, but one mile North of either of

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these we find nothing. These two mounds are considerably west of where they should be; so much so that the distance between a N line passing through them and a N-S line through the original Spring Corner at the N E corner of Block #19, would be short of six miles. However, one mile north of the corner I established on the slope near the bank of a creek for the S E corner of Block #18 we find at points not very far distant at least three old rock mounds. Not being able to prove either of them, the surveys were "squared up" by establishing a new corner (See map).

Stone mounds are called for at several corners along E and W through the center of Block #17, also along the line parallel to and one mile N of the S line of Block #16. The center of Block 16 is also designated as a stone mound, as well as the point one mile S of the center of its N line, and west at each mile for three miles. All these were searched for, but nothing found that could be by any method proved as original.

Down on section #5, Block #19, a "stone monument" is called for at its S E corner, while at the N W corner a "stone mound" is the call. Diligent search over a large area for the "monument" at the S E corner was made, but with no success. At the N W corner, however, we find a large typical Thomson rock mound at the point indicated on the map. The mound, very old, and with a central up-

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right stone in center, is South 7978.0 varas and West 2368.³ varas from the stone mound at the N E corner of Section 1, Block 19, known as the Spring corner. West of this mound at the S E corner of Section 19, the distance being 5851.5 we find a small rock mound, and at 1918.1 varas further west is a very old rock mound of about 8 or 9 rocks at the North foot of a mountain.

At a point 7681.0 varas South and 1821.3 varas West of the Spring corner is also a rock mound on a ridge. It was built in a spot where the rocks available were scattering and were nearly round, being partly buried in the soil. At the time I found it (Sep. 1926) the lines around the stones at the edge of the soil, where they originally existed still showed the color changes, which fact indicated that it was not very old. I therefore abandoned it as being the mound described in the original fieldnotes.

An old rock mound on the N W side of a road 727 E and 1241.4 varas N. of ~~East Escondido~~ Spring is, as far as I know, unquestioned, and is undoubtedly the original N. E. corner of Section 1, Block 19.

At the N E corner of Section 1, Block 16, the three mountain bearings not only definitely fix the point for the corner, but furnishes us the "direction" with which to survey the entire block. This condition is brought about by the fact that one point, and no other

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point, can be found that will exactly (to the nearest single minute) satisfy the fieldnote calls. Of the four photographs herewith enclosed, three were taken from a point near the corner, the fourth being a close-up of the "projection". On the North end of 12-mile hill standing out in front of the rim rock is a tall column of rock, averaging about four feet in diameter and about 30 feet high. This is an unusually conspicuous object, and was plainly visible to those traveling the old government road. It is plainly visible from the corner, and I firmly believe it to be the "projection" at which the surveyor directed his instrument.

Attention is called to the fact, that "direction" as established by these bearings does not differ very materially from that used by Thomson in other Blocks of University Land. The North point to be used to retrace University lines in the south part of Reagan and Upton Counties is $0^{\circ} 20'$ to the right of true geographical North; while the North point at the N E corner of Block 16, Pecos County, as referred to a true meridian at that point, must be $0^{\circ} 28'$ to the right of true North.

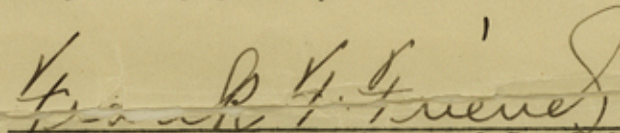
With the starting point and the direction established, the construction of the five connected Blocks is very simple: With azimuth as $S 26^{\circ} E$ (most definite) the cap stone on the middle bearing, I ran south 11495^4 Varas at which point at the N E corner of Block 17, I

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turned 90° to the right and ran West 23329³ varas landing precisely upon the old stone mound, the Spring corner, at the N E corner of Block 19. Thence I ran South 7978.0 varas, turned 90° to the right and ran West - - - at 2368³ pass over large stone mound (known as "granddaddy" corner) - - - at 8219⁸ varas a small old rock mound - - - at 10137.9 varas, an old rock mound at the North foot of a mountain, the S W corner of Section 19, Block 19.

✓ The distance South from the Spring corner to the N E corner of Section 5, Block 19 was divided equally between the four intervening surveys, and the S E corners of Blocks 17 and 18 were established running East from these corresponding division points. The distances West on sections 20 and 21, and south on sections 5, 6, 15, 16, and 17, Block 19, with no corners on the ground to control, take 1900 varas for each survey the fieldnote call.

Very truly yours,


Frank F. Friend, Licensed Land Surveyor

F. F. F. - R. S.

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Friend's report on Blocks
16 to 20. U.T. Lands in Pecos Co.

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