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Alpine ,Texas, Dec. 5 1914

Hon. J. T. Robison,  
Commissioner Gen. Land Office  
Austin, Texas

Dear Sir,

Your letter of instructions relative to investigating supposed conflict in Blks 330 & W. J. @. 2, and accompanying working sketch and maps were duly received and I will proceed at once to make the survey as directed, and report the facts found.

Mr. Burford will be responsible for all expenses attached to the survey,

I have practically finished the field work in Blocks A. B. C. & D. G. C. & S. F. Ry. Co. Pecos Co. and am at work on my report, but there is such an amount of detail that it will take some time to put the report in shape.

We did a good deal of topographic work while making this resurvey and it takes time to check up on this data, yet it gives a nice check on the position of resurvey lines and corners.

Thanking you for the letter, maps and sketch,

Respectfully

*R. L. Dod*

State Sur.

RECEIVED

DEC 10 1914

10 Map

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Procedo to the field

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JAN 9 1915

Related to Map

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Wapine, Texas, Jan 5 1915

Hon. J. T. Robison  
Commissioner Gen. Land Office  
Austin, Texas

Dear Sir,

I forward you today report on recent survey in the Shafter and Cienega country in Presidio Co.

I think this is about as bad a muddle as I have ever come across, so as soon as I had facts sufficient to show conditions on the ground, I stopped work and came in to report.

I was told by Mr. Burford that the Union Land Co. owned some of the patented surveys included in the conflict, so with Burford's consent I forwarded their Agent, Mr. Pert, a copy of sketch and report, and advised him to communicate with your Office.

Mr. Burford thinks that if 10 covers 18 as on my sketch, taking the few acres of good land and most of the water and the rock house, he would not care to have the few acres of rough land left.

I have tried to make the confusing facts in this survey plain but if my report is not clear please advise me and I will try to better it.

Respectfully

*R. A. Dod*

State Sur.

counter 34540

TM'

Report of Progress  
in  
Resurvey of certain Sections of Land  
in Presidio County, Texas  
by R.S.Dod.

Hon. J. T. Robison,  
Commissioner Gen. Land Office  
Austin, Texas.

*Received in G. L. Office  
1-9-15-*

*See sketch of Report by R. S. D., filed 5/29/20  
S.C.C.*

Dear Sir,

In accordance with your letter of appointment and instructions of Dec. 3rd, at the request of Mr. W. W. Burford, I went on the ground and made the following survey and connections.

The object of the Survey was to locate on the ground Surveys 18.28.24.768 all in Blk 330, and survey 6 Blk. 332.

And to make connections from well defined corners on the south to well defined corners in Blocks 23 GH&SA, and WJG2 T.C. Ry. and from these connections to show the relative position of the surveys and any conflict, if it existed.

Data for the survey. A working sketch kindly furnished by the Gen. Land Office covering the surveys in question. Copies of field notes from the Co. Surveyors records of Presidio Co.

Blue print of the Official Co Map, Mabry's resurvey of Blk. 23, Spillers Resurvey of Blk. 9 H&TC, Thompsons Connection from South corner 76 to original cor. 767. F. Gildart's connection from south corner 468 to original cor. 767. Marmions resurvey of 329 & 330, Field notes John Hardiman 21 & 22.

Course. It was impossible to fix a true meridian at any time on the trip, as neither sun nor north star were visible at suitable times, cloudy and wet weather prevailing. At S.W. 21 Blk. WJG2 we had a well defined corner and a bearing on St. Andrews Pk. which we carried by transit through the block.

At N.E. 8 Blk 23, we had a fairly well defined corner, ran east a mile where we had two bearings, and south a mile, crossing the creek as called for, and carried this on by transit. There was some 30' greater variation in Blk. 23 than in Blk WJG2. We dropped the needle from time to time but it was unsatisfactory, owing partly to the weather.

Distance. We started with the chain but had to abandon it, as the country was very broken, one canon after another with very steep walls, and many bluffs the greater part of the measurement was done with the double Stadia readings. We placed a number of flags at various prominent points and the angular measurements were a check on our totals. We also sketched in the resultants of our connections on the U.S. Topographic Shafter sheet, as a further check.

#### History of the survey.

On examining the field notes of surveys 21 & 22 it is seen that they are the older surveys and that they call to begin 10 miles S 45° E from survey 18 as platted on the sketch, also that a cottonwood bearing is given at the S.W. corner of 21.

Going on the ground to the place indicated by the beginning call and shown on the working sketch, would place these surveys on dry, rocky hills east of the Cienega Creek. No indication of any cottonwood now, and it hardly seems reasonable that they would, in '55 have laid these certificates on dry ground so near a flowing stream.

About three miles west of this place I find Las Moras creek, on which the field notes place these surveys, and I was shown the S.W. cor. of sur 21 as placed by Mr. S. A. Thopson years ago. The old rock mound stands on a natural rock outcrop and at 71 varas west runs the creek where stand a row of Cottonwoods. The stump of one of these, which is now some 30 in in dia. & dead and cut off about 4 feet above the ground, is said to have been marked as a bearing.

I was told that Mr. Favors, now dead, located these certificates, went on the ground, put in a small farm and orchard and has been in continuous possession through his assignees ever since. I was convinced by what I saw and heard, that sur. 21 & 22 belonged where they have been occupied, which would be on surveys 2 Giles Upton and 4 C Saylor, and there was nothing but the call of course and distance from 18 to place them elsewhere.

The call for Las Moras Creek is a definite one, the creek is locally known by that name, I was told that at the head spring there is a mott of mulberry trees which gives the creek its name. Las Mors runs into the Cibá llo, and it runs S.W. into the Rio Grande. The Cienega runs S.E. into the Ala

mito, so there would seem no reason for confusing the two.

If the position of 21 & 22 on las Moras is correct it removes them from conflict with the sections to be covered by this survey.

To locate corners in Blk WJG2, we went to the S.W. corner survey 21, as shown to us. Here we found an old rock mound on the north slope of a rocky hill, and found St Andrews (Cathedral Pk.) bearing as called for, and on running course and distance called for we reached a lone cedar stump about 8" in dia.

This corner had every appearance of the original and showed no sign of disturbance and fitted the bearings nicely. Mr. Buck Poole, whose head quarters are on section 21, told me they had found this corner only a few years ago.

From this corner I ran west at  $11^{\circ}30'$  (needle) as determined from the call for St. Andrew. At 435 vrs. found a recent rock mound about 25 vrs north, at 2842 varas found an old rock mound 20 varas south (diff. in var.) from which we could see cedar brush on the courses called for as bearings, but there were too many to make the calls definite, as distance was not given.

Returning to the S.W. corner 21 WJG2, we ran east, at 1998 varas we found a recent rock mound 2 vrs west, six vrs south.

From the 1998 vara point we ran  $S 26^{\circ}W$ ; ~~215121~~, a course practically parallel to the road and creek (vid. Top. Map) thence  $S 73^{\circ}25'E$  490 to a rock mound (old fence line) thence North 161 varas to a large, old rock mound, from which a cedar 24" in dia. marked ~~XXXXX~~, and having three large limbs running out from the trunk, standing ~~XXXXX~~  $S 17^{\circ}30'E$  264 vrs. and a cedar stump  $N 22^{\circ}45'W$  84 varas. The call given by Mr. Marmion for the N.E. corner survey 329 in his resurvey made in Oct 1894, is "a large rock mound in a large draw from which a three pronged cedar 14" in dia bears  $S 17^{\circ}36'E$ , a cedar bush bears  $N 23^{\circ}W$  50

We then went to a rock mound on top of a hill which had been pointed out to Mr. Hector by Mr. Brooks as the north corner of sur. 468 as surveyed by him.

From this corner we ran north, crossing the Cienega, 1900 varas to a rock mound under a fence, thence East 950 varas to a rock mound, from which we could see the rock mound on the foot of the hill, one mile west, the S.W. cor 329, also we could see the tower on the N.E. corner of the old adobe house, known locally as the Cienega Ranch, and it fitted Marmion's call at this cor  $N 66^{\circ}12'W$ , as also did the call for the north side of a little hill  $N 79^{\circ}08'W$  another  $S 54^{\circ}45'W$ , definitely fixing this corner by the three bearings of Marmion's resurvey. Thence we turned north and at 1967 reached the rock mound above described as N.E. 329.

Figuring our traverse from S.W. 21 WJG2, and allowing course and distance for the surveys in WJG2 & Blk ~~XXX~~ F.R. we find that this N.E. corner of 329 is 912 varas east and 781 south from the N.E. corner survey 4 Blk. F.R.

We then went to the S.W. corner of 329, found the rock mound and a rock marked "NW 330" as called for by Marmion. Thence we ran a traverse  $S 25^{\circ}W$  685, thence  $S 86^{\circ}W$  1098, thence  $N 63^{\circ}W$  4754 to west line of survey 6 Blk 23 thence north 258 to a point ~~from~~ on the ~~east~~ bank of a draw and from which high Pk. bears  $N 30^{\circ}16'W$ , another bears  $N 27^{\circ}W$  as called for by the Maybry resurvey of Blk. 23. The rock mound had disappeared, but it is possible that it may have washed away. This makes the west line of 329 ~~X~~ 5620 varas east of this N.W. cor 6.

At 520 varas west of this point located as above for the N.W. cor. 6, we found a large recent rock mound on the east bank of a creek, and two peaks which would fit the calls within a degree.

To further identify our point for N.W. 6, we went to the N.E. corner 8, here we found a corner post which was set true course and distance from the natural rock mound called for at this corner. Chaining east from this post, we reached the recent rock mound at 1380 and reached our point for N.W. cor. 6 at 1903 varas.

Again we ran south from our point for N.W. 6, at  $11^{\circ}30'$  var. we crossed the draw 3 times and reached another draw at about 930, to run south at  $12^{\circ}$  var would keep on the east side of the creek and cross just below where it runs into the creek from the west at 940 as called for, on south at 1900 we found a rock mound on south side of a branch, 34 varas east of our line. This mound was not old enough for the original and was some 18 varas top far east. We could plainly see the "Rough hill  $N 38^{\circ}45'E$  but could not see  $S 31^{\circ}W$  on an account of the slope south of us. There is a bluff to the North west, but the two good bearings at N.W. 6, confirmed by the bearing at N.E. 8 and the calls for the creek crossing on west line of 6, and the crossing of the arroyo to the south side for our distance, and the rough hill, fairly well identify this point.

This run confirms the traverse run from S.W. 21 WJG2 and the position of 329 & 330 as fixed by Marmion. I have indicated on the plat the position of these surveys, as found and also located in their position from the beginning call from N.E. 328.

As a further confirmation of the position given these surveys by Mr. Marmion the fact that the position indicated by the call N 85° E 8100 varas from N.E. cor. 326 ( for 328 ) would place these surveys on dry hills west of the Cienega at a time when (1875) the water was not taken up would make one hesitate to accept this call. The original field notes call for a rock mound at the foot of a hill, and we find the S.E. 329 at the foot of a hill, but in this locality a hill is a poor landmark as all but the creek bed is a succession of hills.

The other original call is a large rock on the hillside, but every hillside is covered with rocks large and small. It would be impossible to locate these surveys by the original calls for bearings. The old adobe house that stands on the SW 1/4 of 329, not only shows age in the condition of the walls and surroundings, but is built in a style used long ago. It is oblong, with high, thick walls and no windows on the outside except port holes in the towers at corners. This house was there when Marmion made his resurvey. I was told that the north line of survey 329 was placed north far enough to take in the ~~mark~~ point where the irrigating ditch came out of the Cienega, although it had to take in rough land to do this. The facts confirm this report.

We now went to the original Corner of survey 767 and found a large, old rock mound about 160 varas west of the Cienega, and from this a prominent Pk. bore S 30° E.

From this mound we ran a traverse north 5915 varas and East 1070 varas to the south corner of 468 Hemphill as surveyed by Mr. Brooks.

In running north from this point we found a rock mound on the east bank of the creek with a rock marked, or scratched, "N E 767", it was 550 north and 356 E whereas the calls in the field notes are 661 north and 375 east.

At 1003 varas north and 356 East we found a rock mound supposed to have been placed by Mr. Tarver for the reentrant corner of 28. From field notes on the working sketch this should be 1119 north and 375 east.

At 910 vars north and 5 varas east of this mound we found another mound presumably set for the south line of 17, but it should be 1113 north.

Our traverse ran from original cor. 767, East 205, N 21° E 257, N 15° 30' E 325, N 3° 20' W 471 to the top of a ridge. North 2653, west 44, North 531, N 26° 30' E 380, N 30° 30' E 529, N 87° 45' E 321 to south corner Hemphill 468.

We had a flag in the north corner of 468 and took three readings on it along this traverse and they checked nicely.

I have sketched in surveys 767, 28, 17, & 18 as shown on the working sketch running north from the 767 corner. Survey 17 calls to begin on the S.W. cor. of sur. 13, but the field notes of 13 as shown on the working sketch are resurvey notes and are tied to 330, and we see that 330 has been moved from the position it was supposed to occupy, and to start 17 on this new position of 13 did not seem as near the intention of the original field notes as to run it in from 767.

By this method we find that 18 begun on 17, will run 73 varas north of the south corner of the Hemphill and the south line 18 will be only 314 varas south of the south line of sur. 9. Sur 13 by its resurvey notes will lie on surs. 7, 9, & 18. Survey 10 calls to begin at S.W. 9 run south 31 varas, west 626 & c it will lie partly on 330, 468, & 18.

If this construction is correct, 18 will be cut down to 143 acres. I have tried to place these facts on the accompanying sketch, and have made an additional sketch of 18 and its adjacent and conflicting surveys on a larger scale, to show the result more plainly.

The actual and relative position of the original corners shown on surs. 7 & 21 Blk 23, sur 21 Blk WJG2, the N.E. & S.E. & S.W. cors of 329 (Marmion) and the N. & S. cors 468 and original cor. 767 can I think be depended on. There is no question in my mind but that the Hardeman surs. 21 & 22 belong over on las Moras crk.

The conflict between 329 & 330 and 468, with surs 4, 3, 7, & 9, seems inevitable. Thirteen is held by 330 and must conflict with 7 & 9, and with 18 if I am right in putting it in from the south.

I would submit the above as a report of progress and would ask your further instruction as to position of these surveys in the premises.

I also send a copy of Litho. Map. With surveys and Thompsons connection from the Hernandez survey. The position on the Map of the Hernandez corner was fixed by a number of observations at the time we connected with the Astronomical point. The result confirms our work, although the details are at times in conflict. Thompsons run places 767 where we find it, and the trails and Pk in Blk 23 fit nicely. The old Cienega ranch is a little too far north, but the N.E. 329 fits nicely and the run from S.W. 21 is exact. Thompsons call for the corner on the creek comes out exactly. It shows that there can be no great error in the relative position of the Blks as shown by our survey.

Respectfully submitted

Alfred J. 5<sup>th</sup> / 15 counter  
34543

Rd. D. C.  
State Survey

Respectfully submitted  
Presidio Co. St. File #

W. H. McDonald

5 M 1

Great error in the relative position of the Bika as shown by our survey. For the corner on the creek comes out exactly. It shows that there can be no N.E. 338 fits nicely and the run from S.W. 31 is exact. Thompsons call in BIK 33 fit nicely. The old Cienega ranch is a little too far north, but the local point. The result confirms our work, although the details are at times fixed by a number of observations at the time we connected with the Astronomical the Hernandez survey. The position on the map of the Hernandez corner was I also send a copy of Litho. Map. With surveys and Thompsons connection from their instruction as to position of these surveys in the premises. I would submit the above as a report of progress and would ask your further if I am right in putting it in from the south. The conflict between 339 & 330 and must conflict with 4, 3, 7, & 9, seems in- worse crk. no question in my mind but that the Hernandez runs. S1&S2 belong over on the N.E. 338, sur 31 BIK W1&S, the N.E. & S.E. & S.W. cor. of 339 (Marimion) and the actual and relative position of the original corners shown on sur. 7. See scale to show the result more plainly. an additional sketch of 18 and its adjacent and conflicting surveys on a far I have tried to place these facts on the accompanying sketch, and have made If this construction is correct, 18 will be out down to 143 acres. & it will be partly on 330, 468, & 18. sur. 7, 9, & 18. Survey 10 calls to begin at S.W. 9 run south 31 acres, west 638 south of the south line of sur. 9. Sur 13 by its resurvey notes will lie on south corner of the Hemphill. and the south line 18 will be only 314 acres. By this method we find that 18 begun on 17, will run N3 varies north of the in from 467.

did not seem as near the intention of the original field notes as to run it fion it was supposed to occupy, and to start 17 on this new position of 13 notes and are tied to 330, and we see that 339 has been moved from the post- sur. 13, but the field notes of 13 as shown on the working sketch are resurvey running north from the 787 corner. Survey 17 calls to begin on the S.W. cor. of I have sketched in surveys 787, 38, 17, & 18 as shown on the working sketch along this traverse and they checked nicely. We had a flag in the north corner of 468 and took three bearings on it N 30.30, E 589, N 87.45, E 331 to south corner Hemphill 468. N 30.30, W 471 to the top of a ridge. N 88.55, west 44, North 531, N 86.30, E 580

Our private ran from original Presidio and for the south line of 339. East 305, N 31. E 327, N 15.30, E 332. Placed by Mr. T. Robinson for the report of this mound we found another mound of 28. From field notes on the N. 30.30, E 589, N 87.45, E 331 to south corner Hemphill 468. N 30.30, W 471 to the top of a ridge. N 88.55, west 44, North 531, N 86.30, E 580

Presidio County Report By P.S. Dad

Filed Jan 9, 1915  
W. H. McDonald, Comr  
J. T. Robinson  
3/29/38 Woodland File Clerk

Descriptive: Report of Survey around Block 330  
For sketches See Presidio County Rotted Sketches Nos. 56, 57, 58 & 59  
3/29/38 J.T.W.  
see sk file 0"84"

Sketch File No. T Box 2  
The other original call is a large rock on the hillside, but every hillside is covered with rocks large and small. It would be impossible to locate these a hill is a poor landmark as all but the creek on the hillside, but every hillside of a hill, and we find the S.E. 339 at the foot of a hill, but in this locality except this call. The original field notes were not taken on dry hills make one hesitate to at a time when (1875) the water was not taken on dry hills make one hesitate to cor. 338 (for 338) would place these surveys on dry hills west of the Cienegas the fact that the position indicated by the call N 85. E 8100 varies from N.E.

As a further confirmation of the position given these surveys by Mr. Marimion