

Jasper
ReSurvey of Area near the Sarah Gray Survey (F1-162)
COUNTY POLLED SKETCH NO. 9-
SURVEYED July 1932 BY J. E. McDonald
48mi S05°W FILED 3-1-76

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REPORT OF
J. E. M c D O N A L D
COUNTY SURVEYOR, JASPER COUNTY, TEXAS
OF HIS RE-CHECK OF A SURVEY
MADE FOR C. R. WILSON

counter 46172

Jasper Co. Rd. 5th. 119

THE STATE OF TEXAS :
:
COUNTY OF JASPER :

I, J. E. McDonald, County Surveyor of Jasper County, Texas, after having made a re-check of a survey made for C. R. Wilson make the following report:

1.

APPLICATION OF C. R. WILSON FOR SURVEY

Mr. C. R. Wilson of Liberty, Texas, on June 29, 1932, at two o'clock P. M. filed with me an application to survey for him a tract of land in Jasper and Orange Counties, Texas, described in his application as follows:

About _____ miles from the county site, said tract is bounded as follows:

Beginning at a point on the bank of a slough 15 feet deep a point West 9242 varas from the southeast corner of Sarah Gray Survey in Jasper County, Texas, in the Southwest corner of the county; Thence West 1634 varas to the East bank of the Neches River; Thence North 21 deg. 15 min. East 357 varas; Thence North 59 deg. 15 min. East 178 varas; Thence North 23 deg. 20 min. East 396 varas; Thence North 70 deg. 15 min. East 362 varas; Thence North 7 deg. 40 min. East 320 varas; Thence North 21 deg. 30 min. East 340 varas; Thence North 51 deg. East 168 varas; Thence North 30 deg. East 242 varas; Thence North 74 deg. 15 min. East 178 varas; Thence North 63 deg. 20 min. East 395 varas to a point on the bank of Neches River, this course being the last along meanders of the Neches; Thence South 450 varas; Thence South 19 deg. West 150 varas; Thence South 20 deg. East 70 varas; Thence South 20 deg. West 200 varas; Thence South 60 varas; Thence South 41 deg. East 320 varas; Thence South 22 deg. East 530 varas; Thence South 51 deg. West 559 varas to point of beginning, and containing 380.37 acres, more or less. A parcel of this tract overlaps into Orange County, Texas, to the South, being a narrow strip with description as follows:

Beginning at the starting point of the above described survey; Thence West 1634 varas to bank of Neches River; Thence North 21 deg. 15 min. West 118 varas to a point on the county (Jasper-Orange); Thence East 1813 varas along the county line; Thence South 51 deg. West 175 varas to the place of beginning.

SURVEY MADE UNDER THE WILSON APPLICATION

On July 11th to July 15th, 1932, with W. A. Adams and N. E. Gallier as chain carriers, I went out on the ground and in accordance with the application made by C. R. Wilson, I surveyed out the tract he desired and prepared the following field notes of my survey:

Field Notes of a survey of 377.5 acres of land made for C. R. Wilson, by virtue of his application filed with the County Surveyor of Jasper County under the laws regulating the sale of unsurveyed school land. Said land is situated in Jasper and Orange Counties, Texas, about 50 miles South of the town of Jasper. Said survey is Number _____ in Jasper County, Texas, situated on the waters of Neches River, a tributary of Sabine Lake about 50 miles south of the town of Jasper. Variation 7 deg. 45 min.

Beginning at a stake on bank of slough or old river 9242 varas West of Southeast corner of Sarah Gray Survey in Jasper County, Texas, from which a water oak stump brs. North 58 East 5 varas and a depression in the ground indicating that a tree of some kind had stood North 41 deg. West 4 varas; Thence up said river or slough following the calls of Sarah Gray notes North 51 deg. East 559 varas, North 22 West 530 varas, North 41 West 320 varas, North 60 varas, North 20 East 200 varas; North 20 West 70 varas; North 19 East 150 varas; North 450 varas to the Neches River; Thence down said river with the meanders thereof South 63 West 396 varas; South 74 deg. West 178 varas; South 30 West 242 varas; South 51 West 168 varas; South 21 West 340 varas; South 8 deg. West 311 varas; South 70 West 362 varas; South 23 West 396 varas; South 74 deg. West 178 varas; South 30 West 242 varas; South 51 West 168 varas; South 21 West 340 varas; 58 deg. West 311 varas, South 70 West 362 varas, South 23 West 396 varas, South 59 West 178 varas, South 63 West 357 varas, South 21 East 432 varas to the northwest corner of H. J. Kane Survey a stake for corner on East bank of said River; Thence East with his North line 1632 varas place of beginning. A parcel of this tract overlaps into Orange County, Texas, being a narrow strip on the South side described as follows:

Being 33-1/2 acres, Beginning at the Southeast corner of the above described tract; Thence West 1634 varas to the Southwest corner; Thence North 21 West 118 varas to the County line; Thence East 1813 varas; Thence South 51 West 176 varas to the place of beginning.

I also prepared at the same time a report worded as follows:

Report on Old River with reference to Sarah Gray field notes.

Beginning at a stake on the North line of H. J. Kanes Survey on the East bank of old slough or river, and being 9242 varas West of Southeast corner of Sarah Gray Survey from which a water oak stump brs. North 58 deg. East 5 varas and a depression in the ground showing that a tree of some kind had stood North 41 deg. West 4 varas; Thence North 51 deg. East 559 varas fell 269 varas East of old slough or river; Thence North 22 deg. West 530 varas, North 41 deg. West at 290 varas steep bluff at 320 varas, point in Old River, North 60 varas in Old River, North 20 East 200 varas, North 20 deg. West 70 varas in Old River, North 19 deg. East at 60 varas steep bluff leaving river at 150 varas fell 60 varas East of Old River; Thence North at 210 varas passed near the East bank of lake or Old River at 450 varas Neches River.

I am not sure whether I gave this report to Mr. Wilson or not but I believe I did.

3.

DETAIL OF THE SURVEY

The application of Mr. C. R. Wilson calls for the survey to begin at a point 9242 varas West of the Southeast corner of Sarah Gray Survey. To locate this point, I began my survey on the East boundary line of the Sarah Gray Survey, at the intersection of the Orange-Jasper County line. I then ran due West on the Orange-Jasper County line, using a variation 8 deg. 30 min. East, 9151 varas to point on bluff. I then ran South 133 varas to what I call the South line of the Sarah Gray Survey. I then ran due West 91 varas for my beginning point. I then ran the first meander line on the East side of the survey. I then went to the Northwest corner of the H. J. Kane Survey on the bank of the Neches River, this point also being known to me to be the generally accepted Southwest corner of the Sarah Gray Survey.

I then ran the meanders of the Neches River as set out in the application of Mr. C. R. Wilson, which I found to be practically correct.



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 1.

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I then ran the meanders given in the Wilson application on the East side of the survey, beginning them on the South side of the Neches River and going in the general direction of South to connect up with the first meander made on the East side from the place of beginning. I then went to the Northwest corner of the H. J. Kane Survey, and what I have always accepted as the Southwest corner of the Sarah Gray Survey, on the bank of the Neches River, and ran due East to the place of beginning, completing my survey.

4.

RE-CHECK OF SURVEY MADE FOR C. R. WILSON

On August 3rd and 4th, 1932, accompanied by W. A. Blakemore, K. H. Cawthon, Chas. E. H. Pearsons, a photographer of Jasper, Texas, and others, I again went on the ground re-checking my lines and taking pictures to show the physical condition of the ground at the various points in my survey.

(a) BEGINNING POINT

We first went to the point which I established as being on the South line of the Sarah Gray Survey, it being 9242 varas West of the Southeast corner thereof.

In the field notes prepared by me of my survey for C. R. Wilson, I state that I find a water oak stump bearing North 58 deg. East 5 varas and a depression in the ground indicating that a tree of some kind had stood North 41 deg. West 4 varas. These bearings were established by me in this manner:

I began my survey on the East line of the Sarah Gray Survey at the intersection of the Orange-Jasper County line. I then ran due West 9151 varas to point on bluff; Thence due South 133 varas; Thence West 91 varas, or a total distance of 9242 varas from the East line of the Sarah Gray Survey and 133 varas South of the Orange-Jasper County line.

When I got to this point I looked for the bearing trees called for in the Sarah Gray field notes, one a water oak 10" in diameter, bearing North 58 deg. East 5 varas and a sweet gum 20" in diameter bearing South 14 deg. East 4 varas. I noticed a stump lying on the South side of a ravine. I investigated it and found it to be a water oak stump. I then set up my instrument on the tap root of the stump and ran a course South 58 deg. West 5 varas. I then moved my instrument to this point, from which I ran a course of North 41 West a distance of 4 varas where I found the depression mentioned in my field notes. I made a further investigation to see if I could find a stump or any indication that a sweet gum might have stood South 14 deg. West from the point I established as my beginning point, but the only evidence I could find of a sweet gum tree within a radius of 4 varas of the point established by me was the depression in the ground, bearing North 41 deg. West 4 varas.

(1) The water oak stump north 58 deg. East from beginning corner

As disclosed by photograph marked #1, it will be noted that the location of this stump is on a smooth sloping bank of a slough or ravine 12 or 14 feet wide, and I am unable to say that this stump is in the exact point from which it fell, I cannot tell.



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(2) THE DEPRESSION IN GROUND NORTH 41 DEG. WEST 4 VARAS FROM BEGINNING CORNER

As disclosed by photograph marked #2 the depression which I found in the ground North 41 deg. West 4 varas from my beginning point measures $5\frac{1}{2}$ " deep at the East end and $2\frac{1}{2}$ " deep at the West end and is 18" long by 15" wide. I have not attempted to find out by grubbing whether there is any part of a stump or roots at this point. The existence of this depression could have been brought about by causes other than the fact that a tree might have stood there at one time, and as I have heretofore stated my reason for picking up this depression is because of the fact that I was looking for a sweet gum tree within a radius of 4 varas from the point I established as my beginning point for the survey made for Mr. Wilson.

(b) MEANDER NO. 1

We then re-traced the meander of North 51 East 559 varas. This point, as stated in my report, is found 269 varas East of the bluff on the East side of an old slough. Between the meander point and the bluff is all high land with various kinds of trees.

No photographs were taken at this meander which is 269 varas East of the bank of the slough. However, we went to the South line of the Sarah Gray Survey and in the bed of the old slough took the following photographs between the south line of the Sarah Gray Survey and a point approximately 275 varas West of the meander point of Meander #1.

At a point just north of the south line of the Sarah Gray Survey a photograph was taken of Mr. E. H. Green, Mr. Will Lowe and myself holding hands across a cypress stump in the bed of the slough. The size



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 3.

counter 76181



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 4.

counter 76182



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 5.

counter 46183



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 6.

counter 46184

and age of this cypress tree, as shown by the photograph, will speak for itself. This stump has been there a long time because cypress stumps in wet ground preserve themselves for many years. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and is marked #3 for identification.

We then took a photograph immediately South of the cypress tree I just described. This photograph was taken in the bed of the slough. The size of the trees can be determined by comparing them with Mr. E. H. Green, Mr. Will Lowe and myself, who are shown in the photograph. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and is marked #4 for identification.

The next photograph we took some distance North of the location of the trees shown in the two photographs which I have just described. In this photograph you will find me looking south in front of cypress trees in the bed of the slough. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and is marked #5 for identification.

We then took another photograph in the bed of the slough North of the points heretofore described. In this photograph you will find Mr. E. H. Green, Mr. Will Lowe and myself in front of the tupulo gums now growing in the bed of the slough. The size of the tree can best be had by comparing the size of the tree with Mr. Green, Mr. Lowe and myself. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and is marked #6 for identification.

We then took another photograph in the bed of the slough North of the points heretofore described. In this photograph you will find me in the center of a group of tupulo gums with large cypress stump in the background. The size and ages of these trees can best be had by



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 7.

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comparing their sizes with the photograph of me in the center. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and is marked #7 for identification.

The next photograph, and the last photograph taken between my beginning point and a point approximately 275 varas West of the meander point of Meander #1, and in the bed of the old slough, was a photograph showing Mr. E. H. Green, Mr. Will Lowe, Mr. K. H. Cawthon and myself standing in the hollow or bowl of an old cypress tree. This tree is a very old one and basing my statement upon my experience with cypress timber I am inclined to believe that this tree, before it died, reached a ripe old age of at least two hundred years. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report and is marked #8 for identification.

(c) MEANDER NO. 2

This meander is North 22 West 530 varas. It is 269 varas East of the bank of the high bluff on the South and at the beginning point, and approximately 100 varas East of the high bluff at the North point. No photographs were taken along this meander line.

(d) MEANDER NO. 3

This meander is North 41 West 320 varas to point in Old River as disclosed by my report. I strike the steep bluff at 290 varas and at 320 varas I am in the center of an old slough approximately 20 varas from the East bank.

At this meander point we took a photograph of the bed of the slough showing the type of timber growing therein. In the foreground is a large stump showing a thermos jug thereon. This photograph is

PHOTOGRAPH NO. 8.



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PHOTOGRAPH NO. 9.

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attached hereto, made a part of this report, and is marked #9 for identification.

(e) MEANDER NO. 4

This meander is North 60 varas. This meander was run by me in the bed of the slough.

At this point we took a photograph showing a tall cypress stump in the foreground with a large gum tree and automobile in the bed of the slough in the background. This photograph was taken from the East side of the slough looking West. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and is marked #10 for identification.

(f) MEANDER NO. 5

This meander is North 20 deg. East 200 varas. This distance is wholly in the bottom and in running the course of North 20 East from Meander point #4 it was necessary for me to cross the bed of one slough in low bottom. This point places me on the East bank of another slough in the bottom and West of the slough following the bluff bank.

At this point a photograph was taken showing the type of timber growing at this meander point. In this photograph I am standing in front of a tree with my hat in my right hand. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and is marked #11 for identification.

(g) MEANDER NO. 6

This meander is North 20 West 70 varas. This point is located in an old slough possibly 20 varas in the water West of the East bank. It is in the bed of a slough which lies West of old slough following the bank of the bluff.



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 10.

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PHOTOGRAPH NO. 11.



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PHOTOGRAPH NO. 12.

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PHOTOGRAPH NO. 13.

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PHOTOGRAPH NO. 14.

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Two photographs were taken on this meander line at approximately North 20 deg. West 25 varas from the beginning point of this meander showing the size and age of the timber growing at this point. I am shown in each of these two photographs holding my hat in my left hand. These photographs are attached hereto, made a part of this report, and are marked #12 and #13 for identification.

Another photograph was taken at this meander point which shows the type and size of timber of this particular point. I am standing in front of a tree showing a hole near the ground. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and marked #14 for identification.

(h) MEANDER NO. 7

This meander is North 19 deg. East 150 varas. This meander, as shown by my report, places me 60 varas East of the high bluff bank.

No photographs were taken at this point. However, there is an 18" red oak and a 24" pine stump at this point with trees of various kinds growing at the present time.

(i) MEANDER NO. 8

This meander is North 450 varas and takes me to the bank of the Neches River. As shown by my report, I was near the high bank at 210 varas and from this point I began to enter lower ground and was in the bottom crossing several low swags before reaching the River.

When we reached the River four photographs were taken, one from the meander point looking South, which shows the size and type of timber at this point. Mr. Goodrain and I are shown in the photograph.

This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and marked #15 for identification.

The next photograph taken at this point was looking North across the Neches River, which shows the size of the River with pine logs, my instrument and myself in the foreground. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and marked #16 for identification.

The next photograph taken at this point was from the North side of the River looking South across the River clearly showing the height of the River bank at this point, which I calculate to be about 15 feet. There is no depression to indicate that the mouth of an Old River ever existed at this point. In this photograph I am sitting on a log of an old tree. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and marked #17 for identification.

The next photograph taken at this point was from the North side of the River looking South across the River to the West of the meander point. This photograph clearly shows the even line of the River, indicating that the River never went South from this point. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and marked #18 for identification.

The next photograph taken at this point was taken from a point just East of my meander point looking West. I am standing on a 24" pine stump with the Neches River in the background. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and marked #19 for identification.

PHOTOGRAPH NO. 15.



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PHOTOGRAPH NO. 16.

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PHOTOGRAPH NO. 17.

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PHOTOGRAPH NO. 18.

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PHOTOGRAPH NO. 19.

counter 46202



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 20.

counter 46203



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 21.

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The next photograph we took is approximately 60 varas South and 20 varas West of my #8 meander point. This photograph shows a number of pignut hickorys and white and overcup oak trees approximately one hundred years old. As shown by the photograph I am standing in the center of these trees. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and marked #20 for identification.

(j) MEANDERS OF NECHES RIVER FROM THE MEANDER POINT #8 TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE H. J. KANE SURVEY, AND WHAT IS GENERALLY KNOWN AS THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SARAH GRAY SURVEY

We did not re-check the meanders run by me in accordance with the application of Mr. C. R. Wilson on the Neches River between Meander point #8 and the Northwest corner of the H. J. Kane Survey, and the generally accepted Southwest corner of the Sarah Gray Survey for the reason that the meanders which I made followed closely the bank of the River.

(k) VILLAGE CREEK-ORANGE COUNTY LINE

The beginning point of the Jasper-Orange County line is a point due West of the mouth of Village Creek, located 131.5 varas North 21 deg. West of the generally accepted Southwest corner of the Sarah Gray Survey and Northwest corner of the H. J. Kane Survey. At this point a photograph was taken showing the mouth of Village Creek and the width of the Neches River which is at this point 320 feet. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and marked #21 for identification.

Another photograph was taken from the opposite side of the River at the mouth of Village Creek, which shows plainly the East bank of the Neches River at this point South to the North line of the Kane Survey.



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It will be noticed by referring to the photograph that the bank of the Neches River at this time is approximately 12 or 15 feet above the water line, and there is no depression or other indication in the shore line which would indicate that Village Creek ever traversed the East bank of the Neches River in a course running East or Southeast at this point. Neither is there any indication on the ground that Village Creek ever existed East of the East bank of the Neches River. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report and marked #22 for identification.

(1) GENERALLY ACCEPTED SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SARAH GRAY SURVEY
AND NORTHWEST CORNER OF H. J. KANE SURVEY

I was first elected as County Surveyor of Jasper County in the year 1906. About a year thereafter, and in 1907, Mr. W. J. B. Adams, and others, employed me to locate their holdings East of the Sarah Gray Survey and in doing the work it became necessary for me to locate and establish the Southwest corner of the Sarah Gray Survey and the Northwest corner of the H. J. Kane Survey, which I have always understood to be a common corner on the bank of the Neches River. Judge W. W. Blake, an old surveyor, told me at that time that he knew where the Southwest corner of the Sarah Gray and the Northwest corner of the H. J. Kane Surveys was located and that he could show it to me. He, together with his son, Roi Blake, a surveyor, Mr. R. F. Adams, also a surveyor, and myself went upon the ground to locate this corner. We did not find the water oak called for by Armstrong in his field notes for the Sarah Gray Survey, nor the white oak called for by Ingalls in his field notes of the H. J. Kane Sur-



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vey, but we did find a very large sweet gum there marked "x", which appeared to be a very old mark at that time. It appeared to be an original mark. Knowing the location of this corner pointed out by Judge Blake I have always recognized the Sarah Gray Survey as being bounded on the West by the natural object, viz. the Neches River, and in making my survey for Mr. Wilson I was merely discharging my duty to survey the land contained in his application, and in so doing I did not designate the same and do not now designate it as vacant unappropriated public domain.

When we went to the point yesterday we did not find the sweet gum shown to me by Judge Blake. The bank of the Neches River at this point appeared to have caved in and it is possible the sweet gum which we found in 1907 is either in the River or lying on the bank as there is a log there which has rotted and it is impossible to tell what kind of a tree it was.

We took a photograph of this point from the West side of the River. It clearly shows the fact that the River has caved in at this point as it will be noticed there are several logs in the River at this point. The photograph also shows the rotted log, which I mentioned as possibly being the sweet gum marking this corner. This photograph is attached hereto, made a part of this report, and marked #23 for identification.

(m) SOUTH LINE OF SARAH GRAY SURVEY

From the generally recognized Southwest corner of the Sarah Gray Survey we ran due East on a variation of 7 deg. 45 min. East a distance of 1677 varas, which placed us 29 varas South of my beginning corner. By

correcting my variation to 8 deg. 30 min. East to correspond with the variation on which the County line was run, I closed my survey. In running the South line on the variation of 7 deg. 45 min. East I followed a blazed line with indications of timber estimators marks. The correcting line between my beginning point and the generally accepted Southwest corner of the Sarah Gray Survey on the River bears very old hacks and blazes, while on the line I ran there is only blazes, approximately twenty-two years old.

(n) TOPOGRAPHY OF LAND BETWEEN NECHES RIVER AND STEEP BLUFF

The land between the Neches River and the steep bluff is very low, and is traversed by many sloughs and small lakes. The elevation is practically the same between the River bank and the bluff. This area is heavily timbered with oak, gum, willow and some cypress left, most of which is of low grade.

J. E. McDonald

THE STATE OF TEXAS :
:
COUNTY OF JASPER :

I, J. E. McDonald, County Surveyor of Jasper County, Texas, do hereby certify that I did on the days and dates above named go on the ground and prepare the above report consisting of 14-1/2 pages, which is correctly described as I found it on the ground.

J. E. McDonald
County Surveyor Jasper County, Texas.

THE STATE OF TEXAS :
:
COUNTY OF JASPER :

I, J. E. McDonald, County Surveyor of Jasper County,
Texas, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing pages, Nos. 1 to 15,
inclusive is a true and correct copy of report as recorded in Surveyor's
Records of Jasper County, Texas, in Volume "A", Page 271 Private Surveys.

J. E. McDonald
County Surveyor Jasper County, Texas.