

Before me the undersigned authority this day personally appeared Price Cooper who being by me duly sworn upon his oath says:- I am 77 years of age and came to El Paso in 1843, then known as the Ponce Ranch. I have lived within the limits of El Paso county as they are now fixed, since 1849. I was connected with the Overland Stage Company from 1857 to 1862 and had occasion to traverse the country North and East of El Paso. Our stage line extended from El Paso through the Guadalupe mountains, thence down the Pecos river to Horse Head crossing, thence across the plains to the head of Concho river to Ft. Chadbourne. I was the agent of the line named, had under me about sixty men and built stations from El Paso to Chadbourne, worked the road etc. and had occasion to travel both along the line and across the country during said period of time. Prior to that time I carried out freight to Pope's camp on the Pecos. Scouted a great deal over the country especially El Paso and what are now known as Reeves, Jeff Davis and Pecos counties, and both before and since the war have been very familiar with and know well the country composing said counties. Along in the seventies I had charge of about 8000 head of sheep for Col. Marr now in El Paso. These sheep I grazed on the range from the Guadalupe mountains North, East and South over the counties aforesaid. I ranged them up and down the Delaware, the Pecos and other streams, also down about Ft. Davis, around the Apache mountains, Gomez Peak, and watered these sheep at every spring in the country.

I am well acquainted with San Martin Springs in the Apache mountains and a few miles North of what is known as Gomez Peak. I have known that Spring since 1858 or about that time. It has always been well known as San Martin Springs, and the established corner of El Paso, Presidio, Reeves and Jeff Davis counties. Prior to the formation of Reeves and Jeff Davis counties it was known as the corner of Pecos, Presidio and El Paso counties. For some years there has stood a monu-

El Paso Co Bdry Line
15
[1]

4

ment near these springs, which is known as the county corner monument. I never heard of these springs being called Peach Springs or Peach Seip. They are and for 32 years to my knowledge have been well known throughout these counties and by old settlers and scouts as San Martin Springs.

I have known since 1857 or 1858 Saladito Creek and Saladito Springs or Salt Springs. This Salt Spring is about 25 miles North of San Martin Springs. Salt Spring is not in the Apache mountains, nor are there any mountains within four or five miles of Salt Spring. San Martin Spring is not a seip but a Spring running boldly for 2 or 3 hundred yards and is North of Gomez Peak in the Apache mountains and is the corner of El Paso county.

I have read the affidavit of Col. John S. Ford of July 31st. 1889, He refers to a San Martin Spring about 10 or 12 miles S.E. of the point of the Guadalupe mountains, but that Spring is entirely different from the San Martin Springs in the Apache mountains North of Gomez Peak known as the corner of this El Paso county. The Spring Col. Ford refers to is not in any mountains but in the White Sand Hills. It must be 60 or 70 miles from the San Martin Springs East of the Guadalupe mountains and situated in the Sand hills to the San Martin Springs in the Apache mountains, which is well known as the corner of El Paso and other counties.

I did tell Daniel Murphy in 1858 of San Martin Spring near the Guadalupe mountains but that is not San Martin Spring probably 60 or 70 miles distant in the Apache mountains. Strangers travelling sometimes got these Springs by the wrong name or gave them a new name, but we old settlers and scouts knew them well as I have stated.

Prise Barry

Sworn to and subscribed before me May 26th. 1891.

C. J. Blacker
County Judge of El Paso
County Texas

15

Ed Paso body evidence

Box 1

Filed June 5/91

1891

5-26-1891

Case No 53188

52