

Before the undersigned Authority personally appeared James Corwin to me well known who after being duly sworn according to law deposed and says that

"I am acquainted with the country that part of Texas lying between the Rio Grande and Pecos rivers

Some time in the year 1857 I for the first time, crossed the plain from the head of Colorado west beyond the Pecos. Previously to that time I resided with Robert Crenshaw, near Austin, who was a civil engineer and was for a long time draftsman in the Land Office at Austin. He it was who compiled John S. Ford's map and guide book from notes kept by Ford, of Major Neighbors Route to Rio Grande on his expedition of 1849. I had in my possession several of said maps together with the little book attached, which book was descriptive of the route and of watering places. I followed Major Neighbors trail easily, without any other guide, than the map and book referred to

Col Ford's description of places was exceedingly accurate but the map was misleading in one particular. It represented the upper route, or the route taken on the return trip, to be much farther south of the South boundary line of New Mexico, than it really was, on the ground. Hence, I suppose, the error that is found in most of the maps of Texas, placing the South end of the Guadalupe Mountains some 20 miles south of the North boundary line of Texas whereas the most extreme South point of the range is not more, I think, than 4 miles in the State. I am well acquainted with the Spring described by Col Ford and called by him "El ojo de San Martin" or San Martin Spring. It is situated at, or near, the head of Delaware Creek, and is known as "Independence Spring". It is about 15 miles S. E. from the South point of Guadalupe range of Mountains. It is noted as the finest fresh water Spring in all that Country.

I saw myself when standing near this spring, observed through a field glass, the trees on the slopes of the Guadalupe mountains.

The Cottonwood Spring is 25 miles S. 26° E. measured by myself from the "San Martin" spring described by Col. Ford, and does not in the least resemble it, but is an insignificant water hole compared with the other, and is not on, or near any trail or practicable route from Pecos to Rio Grande and is about 40 miles from Guadalupe Mountains.

The Cottonwood Spring is not, in nor near any range of mountains. The Spring now called St. Martin which is near St. Martin station, or section house, on the S. P. & Texas & Pacific Railway, are situated some distance, but in full view of Honey Peak, and which is claimed by some to be the original San Martin Spring, cannot well be mistaken for the Spring described by Col. Ford, as "Ojo de San Martin". It is a small Spring, without

~~This is~~

any creek flowing from it  
and was never suitable for  
a large party, such as Major  
Neighbors had, to camp at and  
water.

As to the "Apache Mountains"  
I have never been able to locate them  
I have traversed all that Country  
between Pecos and Rio Grande  
first in the capacity of Scout  
for Sibley's Brigade of Confederates  
and afterwards, and many  
times as surveyor, and am  
sure that I have seen all of  
the "mountains and prominent  
peaks, but have not found  
any that I could identify  
as the "Apaches" (except on maps)

Jimmie Corwin

Sworn to & Subscribed before  
me this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 1891

C. J. Hill

Notary Public  
Tarrant County Tex

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25/ <sup>18</sup>  
Dennis Corwin

El Paso Co. Bdry.

(18)

Affidavit

El Paso Co. Bdry line Book

El Paso, Texas  
& Jeff Davis  
Co Boundary

1891

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Filed June 6<sup>th</sup>  
1891