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May 1, 2007

**Honorable Jerry Patterson, Texas Land Commissioner**

Texas General Land Office  
1700 North Congress Avenue  
Suite 935  
Austin, Texas 78701-1495

05-21-07P02:47 RCVD

**Re.: Notification of a possible vacant public school land in Wise County, Texas.**

As per Texas Occupations Code, Title 6, Subtitle C, Regulations of Land Surveying and Related Practices, Chapter 1071, § 1071.360. Discovery of Undisclosed Land, my obligation as a Licensed State Land Surveyor of the State of Texas is to "forward a report of the existence of the tract [undisclosed tract of public land] and the tract's acreage to the commissioner."

On April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007, a representative for Swaim Engineering and Surveying contacted our firm to review and investigate what they believed to be a potential area of vacant public school land in Wise County, Texas. This area is located approximately 16 miles North 42° West from the court house in Decatur, Wise County, Texas. It is described by bounds as follows:

- Bounded to the north by the Waid H. Hudson Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 388 (Fan. 3-4372);
- Bounded to the east by the Falls County School Land Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 988 and Montague County Abstract No. 1575 (Fan. 1-1192);
- Bounded to the south by the George R. Jackson Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 1197 (Fan. Pre-2842) and the J. D. Jackson Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 1198 (Fan. Pre-2841);
- Bounded to the west by the Richard Gilliam Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 342 (Fan. Bounty-578), containing approximately 40.3 acres per patent field note calls.

I began my investigation with the copy of the Wise County Working Index map obtained from the General Land Office. This map shows that the General Land Office has a working sketch prepared in this area, working sketch number six (6) {counter number 72620}. This sketch was done for Bascom Giles, Texas Land Commissioner, in 1950, and shows this same area, but does not include the Woods Survey. The Woods Survey is described to be located in the northeastern inward corner of the Hudson Survey, completely in conflict with the Falls County School Land Survey. Wise County tax maps, other abstract maps, and a survey from a previous licensed state land surveyor have the Woods Survey situated in the northeast inward corner of the George R. Jackson Survey. I have prepared a working sketch of my own (see enclosed). I included the following land grants:

1. John Woods Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 1215 (Fan. Pre-2808)
2. (Heirs of) Ephriam Peebles Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 886 (Fan. 3-4041)
3. George R. Jackson Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 1197 (Fan. Pre-2842)
4. J. D. Jackson Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 1198 (Fan. Pre-2841)
5. Richard Gilliam Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 342 (Fan. Bounty-578)
6. H. M. A. Cassidy Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 178 (Fan. 3-1897)
7. Waid H. Hudson Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 388 (Fan. 3-4372)
8. Falls County School Land Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 988 and Montague County Abstract No. 1575 (Fan. 1-1192)
9. Alex Follette Survey, Wise County Abstract No. 301 (Fan. 3-1898)

File No. Sketch File 53 Sheet 1

WISE County

See Sketches - Sheets 3 & 4

FILED FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Notification of a possible vacant public school land

Date Filed: May 23, 2007

Jerry Patterson, Commissioner

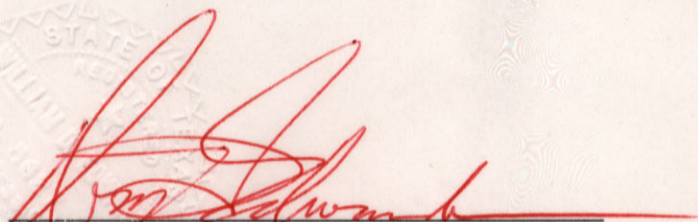
Douglas Howard

By

As you can tell, by this working sketch there appears to be a portion of public school land that has not been surveyed or sold. There is a lack of calls to adjoiners on any of these surveys in that area that would allude to excess in the surveys surrounding this vacancy.

I have researched the records at the Wise County Clerk's office. They have the county tax assessor's tax maps of the 1930s. This map did not account for that area as being taxed at that time and has labeled the area as possibly being owned by the state (see enclosed).

The above information gathered and used to determine this conclusion is the preponderance of evidence. My opinion is that field work would need to be done to give a more absolute decision as to the existence of a vacancy. At this time, no field work has been done by me.

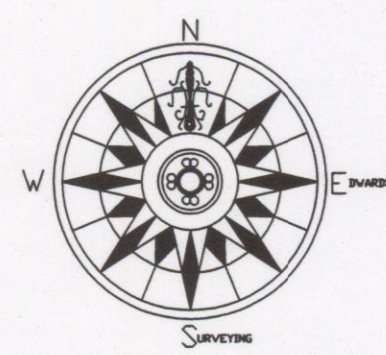


William David Edwards  
TRPLS 5627 / LSLS, OLPLS 1612, CFS 1038

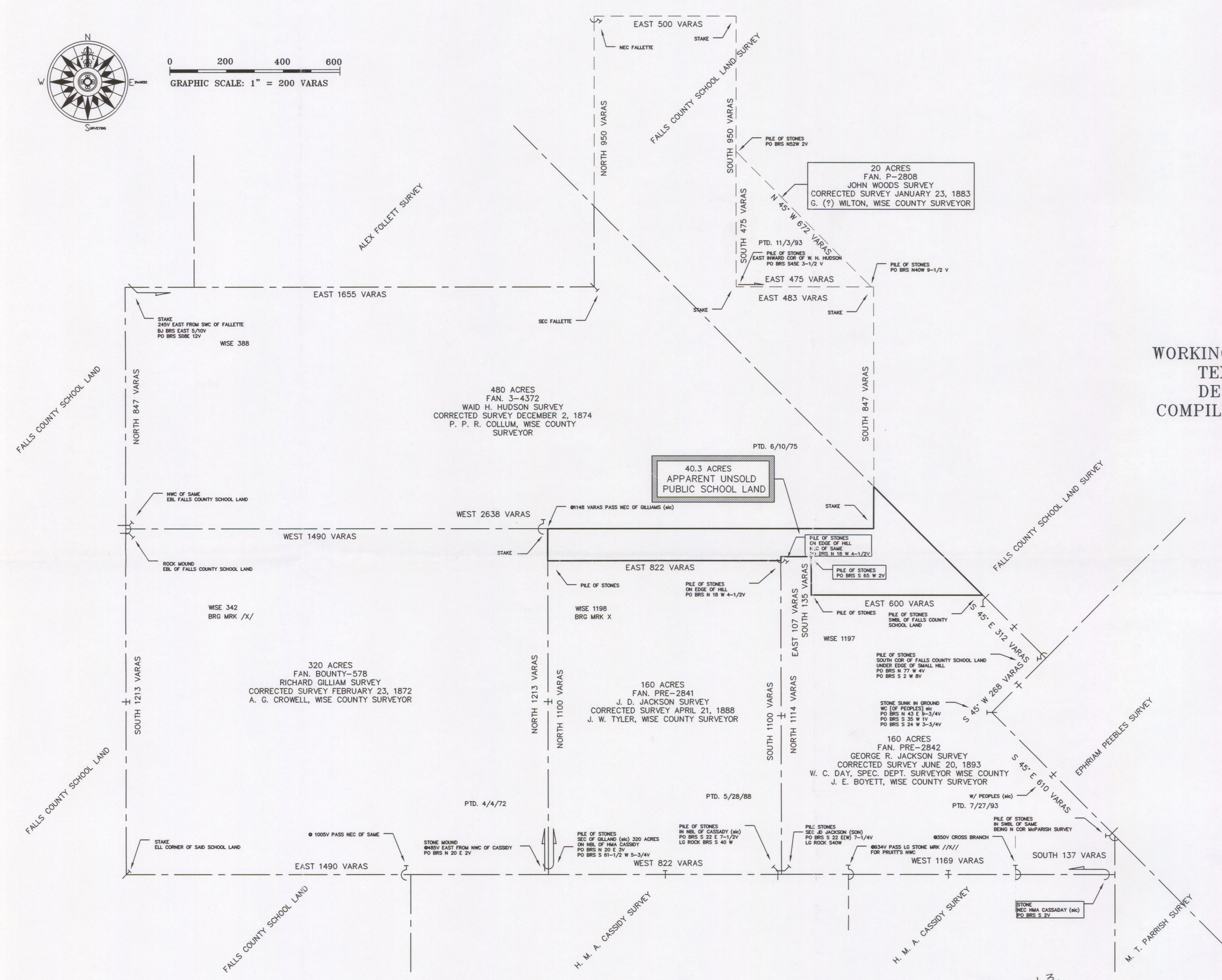


Cc Wm. "Bill" David O'Hara, TRPLS 4878 / LSLS, Texas GLO Director of Surveying  
Cc Jason Glen Swaim, TRPLS 5550, Swaim Engineering & Surveying  
Enc Area working sketch prepared by William David Edwards.  
Enc Wise County Tax assessor's tax map.

SKETCH FILE No. 53 sht. 2  
COUNTY Wise



0 200 400 600  
GRAPHIC SCALE: 1" = 200 VARAS



WORKING SKETCH OF ORIGINAL SURVEYS IN WISE COUNTY,  
TEXAS, BEING LOCATED 16 MILES N 42° W FROM  
DECATUR, COUNTY SEAT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.  
COMPILED FROM THE TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE FIELD  
NOTES

BY WM. DAVEY EDWARDS, TRPLS 5627 / LSLS, OLPLS 1612, CFS 1038

File No. Sketch File 53 sheet 3  
Wise County  
FILED FOR INFORMATION ONLY  
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By Douglas Howard  
See Report - sheets 1 & 2

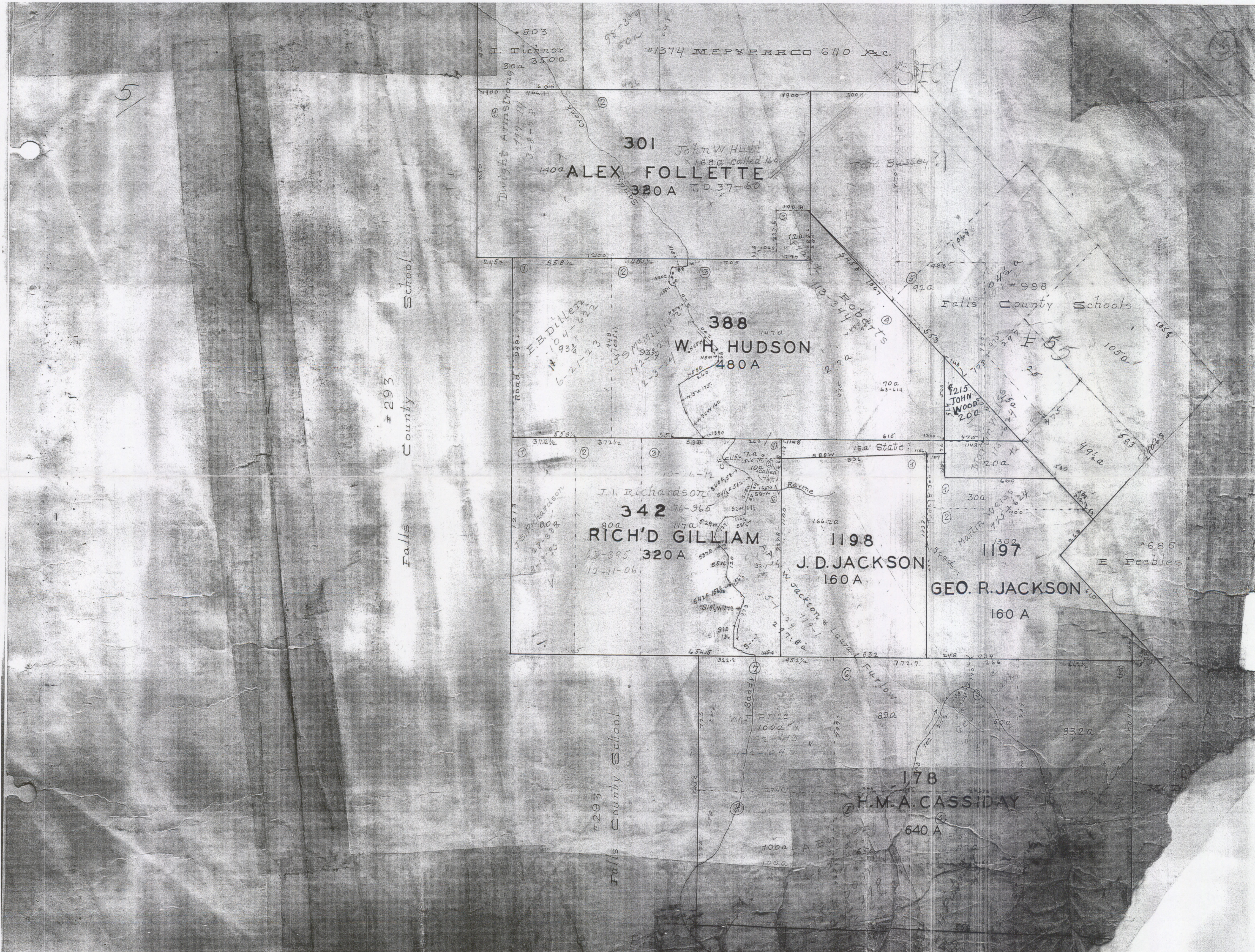
THIS IS A WORKING SKETCH AND DOES NOT REPRESENT AN  
ON THE GROUND SURVEY.

JOB # 2007-000  
SURVEY DATE: MAY 1, 2007  
DRAWING SCALE: 1" = 200 VARAS

OKLAHOMA CERT. AUTH. # 4780 EXP. DATE JUN. 30, 2008  
PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS SINCE 1975  
**EDWARDS SURVEYING, L.L.C.**  
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TEXAS & OKLAHOMA PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYING  
CERTIFIED FEDERAL SURVEYING  
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File No. Sketch File 53 Sheet 4  
Wise County  
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