

AFFIDAVIT

1866

STATE OF ALABAMA)
SHELBY COUNTY)

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County in said State, personally appeared W.A. Crim, who is known to me, and who, being by me duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

I am 77 years of age and have been a resident of Shelby County, Alabama, all of my life. I am at present a justice of the peace in said county and have been a justice of the peace for 12 years.

I am personally familiar with that certain farm of approximately forty acres in area which is described as the Southeast quarter of Northwest Quarter (SE¹/₄ of NW¹/₄) of Section 20, Township 22, Range 2 West, located in Shelby County, Alabama. This forty-acre tract of land is located about one mile west of the town of Calera, Alabama, and roughly three-quarters of a mile north of the Montevallo Road. The said farm is intersected by the Spring Creek Road, which road separates roughly about thirteen acres of this farm from the remainder of the said forty.

The house located on this farm is located on the approximately thirteen acres which lie west or southwest of the said Spring Creek Road. I have had occasion frequently continuously to see and know this land for more than twenty years and I knew this land in the year 1922 when Minnie Lee Finley purchased this property by deed from the estate of J.M. Atkins, deceased. I knew the said Minnie Lee Finley and immediately upon her purchase of the said property she and her family moved upon the same and she lived upon the said property and actually occupied the house thereon continuously from the time she bought the said property in 1922 until she sold the same to John Kratz in 1934. During all of the years that she owned the same and lived thereon, and in each of said years, she cultivated that part of said farm lying across the road from the farmhouse, and raised a crop thereon every year during said period. During the said entire period that portion of the farm lying across the road from the farmhouse occupied by Minnie Lee Finley was surrounded by a fence which was continuously maintained during the said entire period. In October, 1934, the said Minnie Lee Finley sold the said forty acres to John Kratz, who now owns and lives on said property.

Immediately after his purchase of said property Mr. Kratz and his family moved there and occupied the house located on said property and have lived in and occupied the said house continuously and without interruption from the time of their purchase of said property in 1934 down to and including the time of the making of this affidavit. Mr. Kratz has continuously and without interruption from the time he purchased this property used that portion of the said forty-acre tract lying across the road from the house occupied by him as a pasture for cattle. During this entire period the fences around the said portion of the property lying across the road from the house have been maintained continuously and without interruption and he has used the said tract of land so under fence for the raising of cattle continuously and without interruption during the said entire period. He has every year and from year to year raised a garden on that portion of the forty-acre tract lying on the side of the road occupied by his residence, and such cultivation has been continuous and uninterrupted during the said entire period of his ownership.

As a matter of fact, I knew this land for many years prior to the time the same was bought by Minnie Lee Finley. This property was purchased by James M. Atkins whom I knew in the year 1912, and the said James M. Atkins and his family were in the active, open, hostile, notorious, continuous, and uninterrupted adverse possession of this land from the time he bought the same until his administration sold it to Minnie Lee Finley in 1922.

W.A. Crim

Signed and sworn to before me, a notary public,
this 23rd day of June, 1944.
Dixon B. Jones
Notary Public, Shelby
County, Alabama.

NOTARIAL SEAL

STATE OF ALABAMA)
SHELBY COUNTY)

Before me, the undersigned a notary public in and for said County in said State, personally appeared R.E. Bowdon, Sr. who is known to me, and who, being by me duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

I am a resident of Shelby County, Alabama, and am 69 years of age. I have read the within and foregoing

affidavit made by Mr. W.A. Crim with reference to the lands now owned by John Kratz. I have known and been familiar with said lands for 60 years, and I knew the people referred to in said affidavit and I know of my own knowledge that the averments of said affidavit are true.

R.E. Bowdon, Sr.

Signed and sworn to before me, a notary public,
this 23 day of June, 1944.

Dixon B. Jones
Notary Public, Shelby County,
Alabama.

NOTARIAL SEAL

Filed in the office of the Probate Judge the 28th day of June, 1944 at 1 o'clock P.M. and recorded in the
Deed Record 118 on page 510 on this the 28th day of June, 1944.

L.C. Walker,

NO TAX DUE ON THIS INSTRUMENT

Judge of Probate
