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STATE OF ALABAMA )

BOOK 187 PAGE 43

SHELBY COUNTY )

Before me, the undersigned authority in and for said County in said State, personally appeared Forrest C. Oates, who, being by me first duly sworn, deposes and says to the best of my knowledge-

I am 74 years of age and I knew Mrs. Lillie Lee Leonard who was, prior to July 8, 1912, the owner of the tract of land conveyed by her to The Alabama Baptist Encampment by deed executed by her, together with her husband, C. E. Leonard, and recorded in Record of Deeds, Volume 49, page 200, in office of Probate Judge of Shelby County, Alabama, which said land lies in the west parts of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 23, Township 20 Range 3 West in Shelby County, Alabama. I have been familiar with this land and with the ownership and possession of same for fifty (50) years or more.

I am a merchant and my store is now, and has for approximately 50 years, been less than one-half mile from the above described land.

The above described land has been in the actual, open, notorious possession of its successive record owners as follows:

The Alabama Baptist Encampment owned the land from about 1912 to 1921 and during that time was in full possession thereof, exercising all rights of ownership therein, actually occupying it, improving it with buildings and being generally regarded as the owner. About the year 1921, Mrs. Bess M. Leeper became the owner of said land and took possession of same and she and her successors in title, A. A. Chapman, J. N. Cheney, Euna Mae Proctor and Laura E. Borrman, successively, had possession and were regarded as the owners of the land for more than ten (10) years and until about the year 1938 when the said Laura E. Borrman conveyed said land to Talladega College. Talladega College owned the said land until a little more than ten (10) years ago when it conveyed same to Martha Eleanor Dunnam, who,

shortly thereafter, conveyed the same to Lula F. Richards.

The said Lula F. Richards was the owner of said land for approximately ten (10) years, having sold same to R. H. Bailey about two years ago, who shortly thereafter sold the same to S.J. Price.

Mrs. Lula F. Richards, R. H. Bailey and S. J. Price have, successively, owned this land for more than ten (10) years continuously next preceding the date of this affidavit. They have successively exercised all rights of ownership during all said period of time, cutting timber therefrom, and have, successively, been recognized as the owners. No one has claimed any right, title or interest in said lands adversely to the said successive owners, Lula F. Richards, R. H. Bailey and S. J. Price, nor had possession of the land or any part thereof under any such adverse claim. I have never heard of anyone other than the three persons last above named owning or claiming any right, title or interest in the land for more than ten years immediately next preceding the date of this affidavit.

A. B. Oates

Subscribed and Sworn

to before me this 30

day of April, 1957.

M. R. Brown  
Notary Public

State of Alabama, Shelby County  
I, L. C. Walker, Judge of Probate hereby certify that the within  
day of 5-22-57 May 1957 at 8 o'clock A.M. and recorded in ded Record 187 Page 17 & examined  
and the Mortgage Tax of \$       Deed Tax of \$       has been paid.  
Fee \$       L. C. Walker Judge of Probate