

STATE OF ALABAMA  
SHELBY COUNTY

Before me, the undersigned authority in and for said County in said State, personally appeared Willis H. Moore, who, after being by me first duly sworn to speak the truth, deposes and says:

My name is Willis H. Moore, I am 57 years of age and have lived in Shelby County, Alabama, all of my life and have lived within 1½ miles of the following described land:

SE½ of NW¼ of Section 14, Township 21, Range 1 West,  
Shelby County, Alabama.

When I was a child and first remember said forty acres, it was a part of the land owned by J. H. Milner and he used and occupied the same as a farm and it was generally known around Columbiana as the "Goat Farm". The Columbiana-Chelsea paved road runs pretty generally where the old Columbiana-Chelsea dirt road ran in this area and I distinctly recall Mr. Milner had that part west of the road fenced in and this, of course, included the north line of the above described 40 acres and the fence ran along the westerly side of the road and Mr. Milner kept goats and other animals in the pasture. I certainly could remember it as far back as 1915 and this was the condition then and said land continued to be fenced in until after Mr. Milner sold it in 1922 and right on up through the different owners of the land until I purchased it and there was a fence on it when I purchased it from J. E. Embry and wife in 1957, as shown by deed recorded in Deed Book 189 page 282 in the Probate Office of Shelby County, Alabama. The fence was along the north line of said 40 acres and along the west side of said road when I purchased it, although it was not in good repair at that time. Not long after I purchased the land I cleared the same and have not maintained the fence since I purchased it, but I know that for more than 40 years said land was under fence, including the one acre off the northwest corner of said forty acres and it was in the possession of J. H. Milner and his successors in title throughout the years to the present date and I have never heard of anyone making any claim to said one acre off the northwest corner and never knew there was any question about the one acre until I saw it in the abstract a few years ago. No one has ever questioned my entire ownership of said 40 acres of land. In 1950 J. E. Embry assessed said one acre parcel off the northwest corner of SE½ of NW¼ of said Section 14 in the name "Owner Unknown" and let the same sell for taxes and he bought it in at the Tax Sale. This sale covered the years 1945 through 1950. Through some error the property was not taken off the assessment records in the name "Owner Unknown" and was sold again for taxes for the

years 1947 through 1950. James Hollis Williams purchased the State's interest in this particular sale; however, this was clearly a duplicate and erroneous tax sale as the prior sale had been for the same years. Sometime thereafter Mr. Williams came to me and told me he had bought the land at a Tax Sale and asked if I wanted to pay him for his interest in it. I told him he did not own any interest in it and I would not pay him anything. Sometime after that Mr. J. E. Embry showed me an affidavit signed by J. H. Williams to the effect J. H. Williams made no claim to said one acre of land by tax sale or otherwise. I thought this affidavit was on record. I know James Hollis Williams lived in Chilton County and I know he has never assessed or exercised any act of ownership on said land. And, as mentioned above, the actual owners have had the same under fence and in their possession since 1915 to my knowledge. Affiant further says that the said J. E. Embry, affiant and Lewis B. Walker have assessed the property each and every year for more than the past 15 years and no other person has assessed the same during this time.

Willis H. Moore  
Willis H. Moore

Sworn to and subscribed to before me on  
this the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1965.

Martha B. Jones  
Notary Public

STATE OF ALABAMA  
COUNTY OF CHILTON  
WAS FILED  
JUN 29 1965  
RECORDED  
& INDEXED  
F.D. C. 115  
[Signature]  
NOTARY PUBLIC

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