800x 248

Before me, L. E. Parker, a Notary Public in and for the State of Alabama at Large, personally appeared Alex Etress, who is known to me and after first being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

My name is Alex Etress . I am 72 years of age and reside in Shelby County, Alabama. I have been familiar with the land described hereinbelow and have known its possessors for more than 50 years. This land is best described as:

The Southwest Quarter of Southwest Quarter (SW of SW), Section 21, Township 24 North, Range 15 East, Shelty County, Alabama.

Excepting rights and interests owned by Alabama Power Company to all of the hereinabove described lands that lie below the 420 foot contour line established in survey of Cooss River made the 2nd day of August 1903, by the Corps of Engineers.

I know that in about 1913, the above described land was in the possession of William H. Shrader under the claim of title. The said William H. Shrader and his wife Lenora Shrader continued as possessors and title claimants until their deaths. The said William H. Shrader died on or about March 3, 1938. Lenora Shrader died on or about August 1, 1940 leaving Clara B. Shrader in possession of this land under the claim of title. The said Clara B. Shrader was sole devisee under the terms of the Wills of the said William H. Shrader and Lenora Shrader. In about 1942, Clara B. Shrader conveyed a portion of the hereinabove described land to Climmie Lee Shrader Martin and another portion of this land to Claude J. Shrader, both of whom moved into immediate possession of their respective parcels of land under the claim of title and remained in this position until in about 1960, when Climmie Lee Shrader Martin conveyed her interest in this land and relinquished her possession to Claude J. Shrader, who has continued in the possession of all the hereinabove described land up until the present time.

I know that Claude J. Shrader and his predecessors in title and possession have been in the actual, continuous and exclusive possession of the hereinabove described land for more than 50 years. Their possession has been open, visible, hostile and notorious. They have assessed this land for taxes and have paid the taxes due thereon.

I know that Claude J. Shrader and his predecessors in title and possession during the past 50 years have used this land in conjunction with other lands in maintaining a farm family homeplace. During the past few years this land has been used for the harvesting of timber for the use of the owner and for market. They have granted road right of ways and power line easements across portions of this land and they have exercised every other act necessary to the peaceful use and enjoyment of this land as was consistent with the nature of the land.

I know of no person or persons disputing the possession of the hereinabove described land by Claude J. Shrader and his predecessors in title, under the claim of ownership during the past 50 years.

I more specifically know that certain deed executed by W. H. Shrader and wife Lenora Shrader and delivered to W. P. Brown and Sons Lumber Company dated October 12, 1936, was intended to convey only certain timber standing on this land. I also know that the time allowed by said deed to harvest timber on this land has long expired and the W. P. Brown and Sons Lumber Company has relinquished any rights, interests, claim or control over the timber on this land and have never claimed any title or exercised any possession over the land itself.

