

Joel S. - 2
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on it by guess. And when I came to Carnegie--that was before Carnegie started--the station--there was a station here--on a bicycle, I rode south to find the place. I found the markings on a stone a mile west of the corner of my other place I was looking for. Between about a half a mile from the marking east was one of the foothills and I knew that I'd have to go over that to get to the place, so I lined up, dragged out my bicycle on over the hills. I got up to the top. I had stepped off and I figured I was about where the corner ought to be. I figured there was no land near there that was worth fooling with so I went on a cowpath around the hills and got on the trail to Hobart. And I stayed to Hobart then and finally took the team and wagon back to Alfalfa County, then went back to Washington County. The next spring I had decided I'd come down and look it over again and I stopped at El Reno and conferred with Dick Morgan, who was a prominent lawyer there, about getting my rights back, that I had filled on something that wasn't worth keeping. He advised me to find the cornerstones on the place, get a neighbor to certify the condition of the land, and he says if it's what you think it is, when you want to buy a relinquishment you can put this statement in and it would go through all right.

PROBLEMS OF LOCATING LAND

So I went on to Lawton--my brother was doing some teaming work there--and from Lawton we come back up and hunted the same cornerstone that I had found the fall before. And we walked up over the hill the way I had gone and my brother said, "Heck, there's no land here worth fooling with." "Well," I says, "I got to find the cornerstone to get my affidavit." So I lined up what I thought was the right direction and I actually found the cornerstone on that corner and just a little ways from it a valley had led down into the east, so I lined up to get the other cornerstone and when I found the other cornerstone, I found there's 40 acres of land that could be broken, and after examining it, I decided that I'd hang on to it. So we drove to Hobart. My time was up April 3rd and that