

Activity History of Jesse Robertson Property – Upshur County, Texas

October 21, 2011

Date:	Activity Description:
12/13/1879	Jesse Robertson bought 100 acres of land from T.F. and Sallie McKissick for \$500 – deed on file. (Vol.11,Pg .268 or 269.) – Mel has a copy
04/10/1903	Jesy Robertson willed the property to his children and their offspring. (Will on file. Page 270, Vol.?) – Mel has a copy
12/30/1910	J R Robertson sold approximately 4.9 acres of the land to the Port Bolivar Iron Ore Railway Company for \$50 (deed on file, volume 25, page 39.) – Mel has a copy
??/??/1968 ?	A questionable deed filed with 7 names and 6 signatures attempting to deed the 100 acres to Dossie Robertson (minus 4.9 acres sold to Port Bolivar). However, the 7 names are children of Will Robertson who is 1 of Jesse Robertson’s 14 children. (Amount \$10 each) – Deed on file volume 351, Pg 270-271 (after a title search, it was determined to not be a complete deed) – Mel have a copy. Mel will negotiate with Dossie’s Power of Attorney to buy this deed to make it go away to allow the property to be whole.
10/31/1975	Dossie and Niche Robertson sold 1 acre to Harold and Bobbie Easley for \$500. The thirteen other heirs, off- springs did not sign-off on this transaction. (Deed on file, Vol.372 Pg. 338-339.) This acre of land was later bought by Conrad Coppedge for back taxes in May of 1997. – Mel has a copy. The current owners are expanding their usage beyond the 1 acre limit.
03/14/1989	Cargill Interests, LTD sold 4.9 acres (originally sold to Port Bolivar) to O.V. Milton for \$10.00 – (Deed on file Vol. 31 Pg 856-857.). – Mel has a copy
05/12/1994	O.V. and Bettie Lynette Milton sold 4.9 acres (originally sold to Port Bolivar) to Conrad Coppedge for \$10 – (Deed on file. Vol.159 Pg451-452) – Mel has a copy
06/--/1998	Melvin Robertson, Sr., his daughters Letha Barrett, Alma Bryant, and son- in-law Patrick Barrett went to the Gilmer court house and obtained the deed to the Robertson acreage then went to the Gilmer tax office and learned the property was to be sold for back taxes. Melvin, Sr. was very disturbed upon learning this. Melvin had kept apprised of the status of his Grandfather’s land from the Gilmer newspaper over the years. He had often called relatives in Gilmer to relate that the property was for sale and sent money to pay the taxes.
--/--/1998	Before Melvin Robertson, Sr.’s death, Melvin Robertson, Sr. and his daughter, Letha Barrett, made a Robertson family tree based on Melvin Robertson, Sr.’s. recollection of his grandfather Jessy ‘s fourteen children. (This was done to get a valid family tree since the material we obtained from the court had people who were not direct descendants of Jessy Robertson. Melvin was 81 years old and remembered his grandfather rather vividly.)

12/30/1998 Melvin Robertson, Sr. expired on December 30,1998. Before his death Melvin Sr. asked his son Melvin Jr., to get involved in saving the land his grandfather Jessy had bought thirteen years after he, Jessy, was freed from slavery.

01/04/1999 After Melvin Sr.'s funeral a meeting was held with all direct Robertson heirs who were at the funeral to plan a strategy for regaining the property.

6/15/1999 Robertson heirs were sued by Upshur County, Texas for delinquent property taxes, interest, attorney's fees, court costs and abstractor's fees - amount \$23,408.50.

12/14/1999 Robertson heirs were given notice of court date of January 5, 2000 for the delinquent taxes case.

12/31/1999 Melvin Robertson, Jr. sent a letter to the court documenting his interest in resolving the delinquent tax case but could not attend the hearing scheduled for January 5th due to a job related commitment. He requested the court to reschedule the hearing to a suitable time for him to attend.

01/11/2000 The Upshur County Court reschedules the tax hearing to March 6, 2000 so Melvin Robertson, Jr could attend.

03/06/2000 March 6th hearing attended by Melvin Robertson, Jr., Letha Barrett, Betty Robertson, Alma Bryant and Charles Robertson. Jessie Robertson , Roxana Robertson , and Ruby Lean Robertson (Lamb) arrived too late for the meeting although, their intention was to be in attendance at this hearing. Other Robertson's from a different side of the family also attended.

03/06/2000 A meeting was held at the Alma Robertson (Bryant) home after the hearing for the purpose of discussing a strategy for paying the delinquent taxes on the Jessy Robertson property and to discuss ways to make the property profitable. The following people were in attendance: Roxana Robertson, Jessie Robertson, Ruby Lean Robertson (Lamb) ,Letha Robertson (Barrett), Betty Katherine Robertson, Melvin Robertson , Jr. , Charlie Robertson , and Alma (Robertson) Bryant.

03/06/2000 District Court 115 of Upshur County entered a judgement against the Robertson heirs:

\$26,787.34	delinquent property taxes
161.63	abstractor's fees
750.00	attorney fees
1,969.00	court cost

\$29,667.97	current total amount due

Notice given in court that property will be sold at auction if delinquent taxes were not paid by May 1st, 2000.

03/09/2000 A group of Robertson heirs planned a strategy to collect the money needed to pay the taxes and to communicate to all known heirs the current status:

- create a business in the form of a corporation or foundation to utilize the resources of the property

- heirs pledge money to pay the taxes and receive shares for their contributions until the business can pay the pledges back
- document proposal and send out to all know heirs

03/15,20/2000 Sent additional letters to known Robertson heirs with status and requesting the target date to collect the money and pay the taxes by April 26th, 2000.

04/06/2000 Robertson heirs received official “Notice of Sale” by the Sheriff of Upshur County to auction the property on the 1st Tuesday of May 2000 if back taxes were not paid.

04/13/2000 Melvin Robertson. Jr. received a letter from Michael Martin, court appointed lawyer for Robertson heirs that he thought it was a good idea for those interested heirs to continue with the idea to incorporate since there are so many heirs.

04/27/2000 Payment was made to Upshur County, Texas to clear judgement. Payment made by a number of Robertson heirs:

\$26,969.42	delinquent property taxes
161.63	abstractor’s fees
110.25	publication fees
2,802.00	court and attorney cost

\$30,043.30	payoff total

05/11/2000 Letter of Release of Judgment submitted to all parties to officially document that the judgment had been satisfied and released

11/00/2000 Paid 2000 property taxes in the amount of \$1612.05

11/00/2001 Paid 2001 property taxes in the amount of \$1599.44

03/14/ 2001 Completed a survey of the property by a certified Surveyor (paid \$2000.00)

08/09/2002 Timber Management Plan started and filed with the County Appraisal District of Upshur County to reduce the property taxes

08/09/2002 Timber Company offered to buy timber on Robertson property and sent a contract for review

08/21/2002 Informed Timber Company that I would sign as Power of Attorney since I have been in charge of managing the property activities. Timber Company did not accept this arrangement.

12/00/2002 Paid 2002 property taxes in the amount of \$2049.52

12/01/2003 Paid 2003 property taxes in the amount of \$261.06 - a reduction due to Timber Management plan

* Now need to create a “Property Resources Management” LLC business:

- Need a Business Plan and a Operating Agreement

04/25/2005 Created and filed the “Jesse Robertson Resource Coalition, LLC” for operation in Texas

- 04/27/2005 Created and implemented the Operating Agreement for the JRRC Company
- 08/24/2005 JRRC Company contracted with a timber company to sell the Robertson property timber
- 2009 – 2010 Around this period of time, an oil company contacted Mel about doing research drilling for oil but would not accept my signature authority as a signee to create a valid binding contract for all of the heirs

new dates and activity listings start here.....

- * Now need to clear the title to position the company or owner to sell other resources such as gravel or oil
- * We need to know what is the best way to clear the title – putting the property title into my name or putting the title into the name of a corporation?

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