Corner Search in Section 27, T7S, R42E By Leland Myers on November 27, 2004

This is a narrative of my findings of original GLO survey evidence in Section 27, T7S, R42E. I was asked to establish the East and South lines of this section for the purpose of building a fence around fairly low quality range land. The original GLO survey was done about 1875 by W.B. Barr with a majority of his corners on this section being marked with chiseled stones in a rock mound. Barr is notorious for his less than desirable work making retracing him difficult at best. I used a handheld GPS unit with an accuracy of about 20 to 30 feet, plus or minus, as a search tool along with a USGS Quad Sheet.

In the vicinity of the SE section corner there is a good condition fence running East and South. About 2½ feet South of the fence corner there is a rock of the proper dimensions set firmly in the ground with a pointed end up which I believe to be the corner stone. I could not find any chisel marks on the stone, but I did not thoroughly clean the stone either. If any stones are actually marked in this area, the chiseling must be very light and is not distinctive. Using Muriatic Acid may clean the stones and make any markings more evident. I used the fence corner as base point for the GPS search.

Along most of the East side of Section 27 there is an old down fence with barb wire that lines up with the good fence running South from the SE section corner. Both my compass and GPS unit confirm this old fence is running in a North-South direction. At a point approximately ½ mile North of the above fence corner, I found a rock of the proper dimensions loosely standing on end in a rock mound. Again no markings were found, but I am 99% sure that this stone is the East quarter corner of Section 27 and it is directly in the old fence line. About another 6 feet North from the stone is a pile of rock from a rock jack for the fence. I believe this indicates the old fence builder knew the quarter corner was there and did not use the corner stone or any of the mound for the rock jack. I tied a red ribbon around what I believe to be the corner stone.

At the approximate location of the NE section corner, there is an East-West fence that is standing and about 6 feet North of it is a down fence with wire. At the junction of the old N-S fence with the E-W fences there are rock mounds of which one may be the section corner. When I was at this location I had no certainty of it being the corner so a thorough search for the marked stone was not made. After going South about 1000 feet along the old fence, it became apparent this fence was or is very near the section line. Daylight was running out so I did not go back to make additional search.

The North quarter corner of Section 27 had a 36" Pine bearing tree. I found two stumps that could have been the BT, but no visible scribing was found on either one. The stumps are around 70 feet apart in a near N-S direction. At call bearing and distance from the North stump, there was only one rock of a much smaller dimension then what was called for by the record. The call position from the South stump is located on a rock talus slope with many rocks of the described size and livestock trails disturbing the area. Based on the GPS, it seems the South stump would be a stronger candidate for the BT, but more survey and search would be required to be conclusive.

The South quarter corner is on or near a rock talus slope and I did not detect any definitive mound of rock. There is not any evidence of a fence along the section line, but there is an old and down meander fence higher on the hill. I projected the Easterly fence line running from the SE corner of Section 27 along the South side of this section. The projected line fit very well with