

Original document:

1854-021

E. S. C. Robertson Letter Collection

Robertson Plantation

Salado, Texas

Transcription:

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Fort Graham Texas  
March 7th 1854

My Dr Sir:

Every person here and many at Waco are making daily enquiries of me concerning the laying out of a town at this point, and when you would take measures to effect the same. All eyes are turned in this direction and such is the interest taken in the matter especially by those who have the money that I am satisfied you could sell the lots at a large price. It is an object to throw the great current of emigration, which last year passed the Brazos at Waco, through here, and this can easily be expected by adhering to your design of laying out and selling lots this Spring. Your interest here is extremely valuable and will be trebled by acting at once. The country is filling up and there will and must be a town on the Brazos at or near this point. Why not come up at once and examine for yourself. You could make some private sales that I think would be advantageous. Bring up such of my land papers as have been patented. I write this in much haste Colonel Jesse Stem, late Indian Agent and another gentleman who accompanied him from Waco were murdered the other day by the wolves within three miles of Belknap. The commandant of that post is in pursuit with 25 men, all of the disposable force at his command. The Indians have driven away large quantities of cattle from the Clear Fork even in open day and certainly with impunity. This is the affect of removing the troops from this line and concentrating them upon the Rio Grande. These incursions were prevented as long as the line was occupied, but the withdrawal of the troops left the whole country open and defenceless and the miserable asses who have thus sported with human life cannot be made to see their error. Cannot you wake up the Austin Press upon this subject? If this part of the frontier is again overran by the Indians our lands will be set back and our interest for years retarded.

Your Friend  
JM Steiner

ASC Robertson } [sic, Steiner wrote ASC even though the letter was to ESC Robertson]  
Austin Texas }