

Richardson's Almanac, 1870, contains an old map which shows the San Saba Trail northward and westward from Fredericksburg. It proceeded to Ft Mason, then to Ft San Saba in the center of Menard County. On this map also is shown the old upper stage coach road to El Paso through the Green Mountains; thence up the main Concho river, south of Castle mountains, crossing the Pecos at Emigrant Crossing (?); thence up the Pecos river and Delaware creek and on to El Paso. All these trails west of Fredericksburg are also shown in Reht's "History of the Davis Mountains and the Big Bend Country."

This upper trail to El Paso however, was not successful, because of difficulty in finding the needed amount of water along the way. The other road through the Davis mountains and Ft. Davis was the more traveled way.

Mr. Locke suggests there must have been considerable population around the old Spanish fort on the San Saba. Old irrigation works there and other ancient construction indicate this. The Spanish fort on the San Saba river is the initial starting point for surveys just as the headstone of an officer's grave at Ft. Lancaster is the initial starting point for blocks of surveys in Crockett county.

Julius Luckenbach remembers a course different from this shown by Mr. Locke but old surveys and records before Mr. Luckenbach's time show that the ancient San Saba Trail ran essentially as Mr. Locke outlines it. The country came into general use and other roads developed which could lead to confusion and traditions. This can only be cleared up by reference to more ancient maps.

Mr. Luckenbach's father, 70 years ago, went with other pioneers to Llano then came back with other settlers and established Fredericksburg. Beginning about 53 years ago Mr. Luckenbach teamed over the road which ran approximately as follows. This was undoubtedly a later development road matters from the old Spanish days of the past two centuries.