

HISTORICAL NOTES

REPORT OF THE SURVEY OF THE INDIAN HUNTING GROUNDS*
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF ST. EDMOND, BRUCE CO. ONTARIO

To the Depty. Superintendant General
of Indian Affairs

Eugenia, Feb. 21st, 1898

Ottawa

Sir:

I have the Honor to submit to your Department my report of the survey of the Indian Hunting Grounds in the Township of St. Edmond, Bruce Co. Ontario.

In accordance with your letter of Instructions No. 760-542 - dated at Ottawa 19th of August 1897, I made careful enquiry from several sources as to the best means of Transport. I found that I would be obliged to hire a team at least from Wiarton, to St. Edmond so I concluded to take my own team through. Therefore on the 29th of September with my Assistant I proceeded by team, reaching Mr. McVicker's Lumber Farm on the evening of the Third day, the next day I proceeded in company with Mr. McVicker to find some starting point on the survey, having learned that the whole country was burnt, and that it was absolutely necessary to have some guide who knew the locality of the Hunting Ground, as there were no posts to be found. After considerable search we found one of the side roads and during the day I found the other. In the afternoon my Assistant and I run about 20.00 of side road 20 & 21.

Completing the survey on the evening of the 19 of October, the 20th and the forenoon of the 21st there was an extreme heavy rain storm, we reached home on the 23rd of October. The time occupied is a little longer than I estimated and perhaps exceeds your estimate.

In the first place I was short of men; only two of the Indians came to me. However there is no blame attached to any person. It occurred in this way. The Indians had an Agricultural show held at Cape Croker. This was the first year, and the Agents and all were anxious that all should attend and especially the Chiefs. It was held during the week I commenced the survey you will see from a card which I enclose. Your agent at Cape Croker wrote me to postpone a few days, which I would gladly have done. (Indeed I would have made it a point to have attended the Fair) but unfortunately it did not arrive until the day after I left home. When they came, the Indians from the Chippewa Band told me they thought it was on account of the Fair, and we expected them to come on. When they did not, I consulted with the Indians, and considering the possible difficulty or perhaps impossibility to procure men, we all concluded to do the best we could ourselves. They were all first class men I had, but for such rough work I would have required double the number.

The whole country is the worst I ever encountered on a survey. It is nearly all burnt, and the fallen timber is piled up several feet high with all the brush on it, and over most of it a very thick second growth which made it very difficult to cut out a line, and it being very rough and rock it was difficult to keep axes in order, besides there is a great many holes of all sizes in the rock, which makes it both slow and dangerous, as we were obliged to travel a great deal on the fallen timber, (one of the Indians and I got hurt dropping into a hole).

Then add to all these troubles the chances of encountering a rattlesnake at any step, the Indians were exceedingly afraid of them. The weather being very warm, we were obliged to carry water with us along all the lines except one cross-

ing Willow Creek. My Assistant is a good Axeman and he assisted in cutting out the line, and he and I kept up the Chaining. But notwithstanding every effort and economy of time it was necessarily slow. We camped and cooked together, and made the best of it, one of the Indians and I doing the cooking, while the others were hewers of wood and drawers of water. We put in long days, being sometimes on our way in the morning with starlight. I never worked so hard on a survey before, and all the others although younger were often completely exhausted.

You instructed me to run transit lines but I found that would not only be useless but impossible with the small party I had, without adding considerable to the time. I run a transit line through on the Bury Road, where we had good walking, and not quite so much chopping. All the other lines I run with the compass which is just as good for the purpose required, as I was able to trace the old blazes. The Bury Road is posted only on the East Side. We could not put them in the centre as they would have been in or too near the travelled track. On the side roads the 2 & 3 Con. Road and the 4 & 5 Con. Road, I posted in the centre and the side adjoining the Hunting Grounds, all the posts are large and made of cedar with good sized stone mounds built around them all except two. It involved considerable work to do so but I considered that the most important part of the work. On each shore of Lake George where the dispute arose, we built a very large mound around a cedar tree standing in each case five links West of the centre line of the Con. Road.

The whole Reserve and adjoining land is entirely unfit for cultivation. There is a considerable deposit of what I think is shell marl (a sample of which I sent to your Department) on the West shore of Lake George, that is on the Indian Land. There is no water only Lake George and Willow Creek, and it only runs about a mile into it, except in the wet season when there will be some ponds.

There is scarcely any pine or timber of any kind of any material value. Very little of the green pine reaches one foot in diameter. The large pine has all been cut.

I am satisfied the lines were all run with the compass and if I had run transit lines not at all likely they would have corresponded with the old blazes. There would then have been a conflict at once, besides while the old lines can be traced we would be obliged to follow them. One of the Indians with me a very clever man and Forest Bailiff was not in favor of planting more than one row of posts, or of spending any more work on it than we did.

The only dispute between them and the whites was with a Hunting Club which has a Block East of the Indian Reserve. The Club claimed that all Lake George was in theirs, while Chief McGregor held that part of it was in his Domain. It is a beautiful sheet of water, with a good margin around it clear of timber, which makes it convenient and desirable for hunting and from the amount of tracks we saw Deer appear to be plentiful.

Being so very short of help I did not carry my theodolite back to Lake George and therefore I did not take the measurement across it. I run the Con. from each end to the Lake which is all that is necessary.

In conclusion, I would say that although I worked very hard and every man made the best of their time, if it appears to have cost more than you were inclined to spend on it, I would be willing to reduce a little on my own pay. However, I was informed by Mr. Ritchie that Chief McGregor was determined to have it surveyed no matter what cost and put an end to disputes. And further with a full party if I

had carried out your instructions to the letter, it would have cost as much or more.

T. B. Gilliland, O.L.S.

Note, all the roads are four rods wide and the located line is run in the centre, leaving two rods on each side.

T.B.G.

Note, 2nd, The lines through the small second growth are cut out clear the largest saplings trimmed and blazed on each side of the line, but where the large timber is standing and very thick we could not attempt to cut it clear but they are sufficiently cleared out to be seen a considerable distance ahead, and extra well blazed. The building of the mounds involved a great amount of work. Very few places there was soil enough to hold them and seldom we could get a hole or crack in the rock in the proper place. So that many of them the mound is the only support and nearly always we had to cut and clear away more or less timber to plant the post, without which the posts would all disappear with the first fire which may sweep over it.

T.B.G.

*Submitted for publication by J. C. Milne.

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A SHORT HISTORY OF THE COURSE OF
INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENTS PROVIDED BY THE O. L. S. ASSOCIATION*

by John E. Jackson

In the 1946 Annual Report, Mr. C.H. Fullerton, the president, stated, - "One of the greatest problems of the members of our Association is to provide adequate service to the public. Our membership is being decreased by death faster than it is being augmented by natural increase". Tracey LeMay in his report, stated, "The Council has been under pressure from various sources for a year or two to admit into the Profession, by short cut methods, Engineers, where there is a dearth of Surveyors."

At the Annual meeting in 1947 an educational committee was set up, consisting of W.L. Cassels, Chairman; W.F. Weaver and E.G. Mackay, with power to add to their numbers. Those added were: F.W. Beatty, W.J. Fulton, W.J. Baird, R.M. Anderson and John E. Jackson. The Committee met many times the first year or two to plan the course of instruction, preparation of precis, etc. and at each meeting every member of the Committee would be present.

The actual course of instructions was started in January 1948, with a registration of 49 students for the intermediate and 33 students for the final course.

For the first two or three years through the courtesy of Dr. F.S. Rutherford, the Deputy Minister of Education, and by arrangement with Col. F.H. Wood, the Director of the Training and Re-establishment Institute, we were able to secure free accommodation for the lecture courses at what is now known as the Ryerson Institute at Church and Gould Streets. But afterwards they got so over-crowded they were unable to accommodate us.

One year the lectures were given at the Amps Clubs on Wellesley Street, another year at the University. For a number of years they have been held at the Legion Building on College Street.