

Post Office at St. John's 12 Decr 1849.

Messrs. Steel and others,

Gentlemen

According to your request I have measured and determined the proposed line of road through the North part of the Indian Reserve. I find the distance from the front land on the River St. Clair to the point at which the proposed road would cross the eastern boundary of the Reserve to be some what less than 2½ Miles.

As far as my acquaintance with the lay of the land enables me to judge, I think the site selected to be the best, as it takes advantage of the dry ridge on the east of the Reserve as far as it extends, and then appears to crop in the most direct line the large tract of wet land which extends all along the north of the Reserve, and which consequently cannot be avoided - I observe also that the water in the swamp runs in the same direction, which will prove of material service in the formation of the road. I fully coincide with your views of the necessity and importance of opening such a road, and I shall not but that upon a proper presentation being made to the Government, the required sanction may be attained, for though the Indians are ignorant of it will be of very great benefit to their land and enable them to bring into cultivation many hundreds of acres, which without such drainage and facility of transport must long remain unimproved.

I enclose herewith a sketch of the Reserve on which I have marked the line of the proposed road, and which also shows the relative position of Post Service and the adjacent parts of the Township of Somidandukwe.

I have the Honour to be

Gentlemen

Your Obedt Servt
Alexander Vidal
Post Land Surveyor.