

Surveyor General's Office  
11 January 1875 ~

At a meeting held at the Surveyor General's Office on the 11 January 1875 for the purpose of organizing a "Board of Examiners" under Cap. XXI-37 Victoria, passed 8 April 1874 there were present Hon. B.R. Stevenson Sur. Genl, D<sup>r</sup> W.B. Jack, Edward Jack and W<sup>m</sup> Crockett Esquires, the appointed members of this Board, by an Order in Council under date of July 27, 1874.

The meeting ordered "That the Surveyor General for the time being, be chairman of this Board".

Ordered " That W.P. Flewelling be appointed Secretary" Thereupon the "Board" was declared to be organized ~

D<sup>r</sup> Jack, having been previously requested by the Surveyor General to establish a True Meridian Line" Submitted the following Report.

"The Hon. B.R. Stevenson  
Surveyor General  
Sir ~

I beg to report that I have attended to your instructions about the laying down of a "True Meridian Line" for the purpose of determining the Variation of the Magnetic Needle, and for testing the accuracy of Surveyor's Compasses ~

At a point in the Meridian of the University of N.B. and 8.82 chains due south from the Transit Room, I had a stone pillar erected, and to prevent its being affected by the frost, I had the ground around it thoroughly drained and a drain formed leading to some distance from it. After having made the

necessary observations for ensuring the accuracy of the position of the pillar, I then look from it with an eight inch Theodolite, reading by Vernier to 10 seconds of arc, the true bearings of the following conspicuous objects:

1<sup>st</sup> On the East side of the Meridian Line

- A. The upper part of the cross on the Spire of the Roman Catholic Church ~
- B. The upper part of the cross on the Spire of the Episcopal Cathedral ~
- C. The top of the Spire of M<sup>r</sup> Gibsons Church on the Nashwaak ~

2<sup>nd</sup> On the West Side of the Meridian Line

- D. The vertical finger of the hand on the top of the Spire of the Methodist Church ~
- E. The Eastern edge (below the Coping) of the most Easterly Chimney of the University building ~
- F. The Western edge (below the Coping) of the most Westerly Chimney of the University building ~

From observations made on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October 1874 (two sets being taken each day, and the mean of all deducted) I obtained the following results.

True Bearing of

- A. N.4° 47' 50" E.
- B. N.20° 59' 10" E.
- C. N.40° 30' 50" E.
- D. N.2° 57' 8" W.
- E. N.8° 44' 40" W.
- F. N.19° 0' 30" W.

The needle attached to the Theodolite being short, is not susceptible of great accuracy, but as well as I could make out from it, the Magnetic Variation is at present 19° 15' West at Fredericton:

As I understand that there is no good Surveyor's Compass

in the Crown Land Office, I beg to suggest that you should purchase at as early a date as convenient a superior instrument of this kind for the use of the Board of Examiners in testing the accuracy of the Compasses of the Deputy Crown Land Surveyors employed in the Province.

Fredericton !

I have the honor to be

Oct 17, 1874!

Yours Respectfully

W. Brydon Jack" ~

Ordered that the Report be received and placed on file. Under Section 8 of the above mentioned Act it was ordered "That Dr. Jack and Edw<sup>d</sup> Jack be a Committee to lay down the exact length of a Standard chain, in the Hall of the University ~

The application of Peter Daigle of Richibucto for an appointment as Land Surveyor, having been received, he (Daigle) was examined orally and by written questions (the questions proposed being of the simplest nature) but he failed to give satisfaction. Moreover he professed no knowledge of Algebra, and also has no instruments. The Board therefore resolved that he could not receive a Commission ~

Ordered "That the examination of Candidates for Commission as Land Surveyors be conducted as follows:

The First day (morning and afternoon) by D<sup>f</sup> Jack ~

The Second ay by M<sup>f</sup> Crocket and the third day, in the morning by M<sup>f</sup> Jack in the use of instruments. The Board to meet on the Third day in the afternoon to receive the Reports of the Examiners and examine the Candidate orally if thought necessary

Ordered "That printed forms of Bond and Commission be processed by the Secretary

Board adjourned sine die

W.P. Flewelling

Secy.