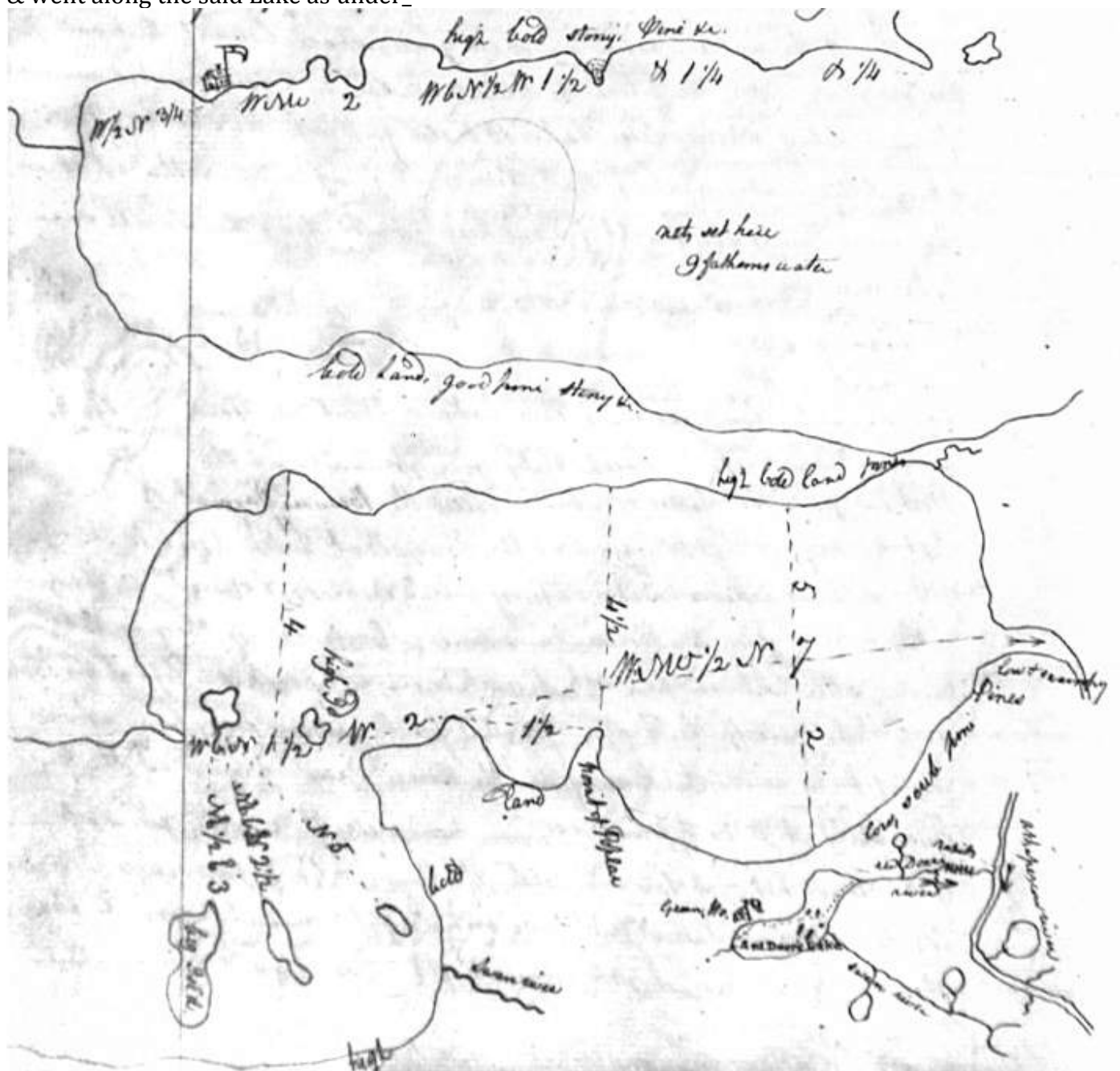


January 25th Saturday ~ As some Canadians are going from this House to their settlements at the entrance of the Slave river that falls out of the Little Slave Lake, Myself, John Ballenden, & Magnus Isbister accompanied them – we have all Dogs & Sledges to haul our Bedding Provisions, &c_ Several of those Berryer & Foreow Indians are there whom I gave credits to this fall – our principal motive for going there is to see some of them if at the House & to either get some part of our Credits or else tell them to bring them to the Red Deers Lake in the Spring when the rivers clear of Ice – as they only will come at that time – Mr Robert Henry & 2 Canadians in Company – at 8 am got away from Greenwich House Red Deers Lake & went along the said Lake as under_



[Map/Sketch with annotations:] high bold stony. Pine &c. WSW 2 WbN ½ N 1 ½ N 1 ¼ N ¼ W ½ N ¾ nets set here 9 fathoms water bold land, good pine stony &c. high bold land pines WbN ½ N 7 Low swampy Pines long reach Pine Athapescow River Red Deers Lake Green Ho. Point of Pines Island Swan River bold NE WbS 2 ½ W ½ S 3 Big Island high

Jan'y 25th Entered Red Deers river at 2 PM - & went down it NNW $1\frac{1}{2}$ - N $\frac{3}{4}$ - N $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ a small kind of swampy branch on the North Side - then afterwards about NWbW or NWbN 4 miles & put up at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM on the South side - a small grass Isd and a barren knowl on the N side a little below - saw a herd of Buffalo of about 20 Cows on the river where we put up but could not get a near shot at them - This is very low in this part of the Country - for such animals - being hereabout very thicketty & swampy - River not froze over from the Lake 5 miles down it - obliged to keep close along shore on that account. Morning Clear & Calm Middle of the Day Cloudy & hot - with a strong breeze at West - Evening clear, calm & Cold - the Snow melting on our Shoes in the Day, froze very hard towards evg - which occasioned our putting up rather earlier than usual - low banks & swampy in general - with thick small pine & poplar -

at the place - Dec 24 116.. 2..30
 Lat. 54..58..20 116.. 2..30

We have 2 Sleges with 5 Dogs - & the Canadians 2 Sleges with 4 Dogs -

26th Sunday Calm Clear sharp weather at 5^h..55' am got underway went down the Red Deers river as last night near NNW 4 miles - WNW 2 miles in shorter reaches - these two last courses the river from 60 to 70 Yards wide & appears to have very little descent - consequently easy current - near WNW 1 mile in shorter reaches, & 2 small grass Islands in the river - Shorter reaches & more crooked 3 miles about a WNW Course made a fire here & got breakfast - left it at 10 $\frac{1}{3}$ - then as before 5 miles making about WNW 3 & cut thro the woods on the South side the river making 3 long stretches to the N & returning nearly to the same Place as in the margin -



To keep the river it is about 5 or 6 miles - & thro the Bank of Woods only $\frac{1}{2}$ mile - arrived at the mouth of the Pine river on the West side, that falls out of a pretty large Lake - river about 15 Yards wide & comes from WbN - a steep bare bank opposite to the mouth of the river - Then went very crooked short turnings betwixt W & NbW 7 miles making about NW or NWbN 3 miles & passed a place where the pine Trees have fallen into & nearly across the river & stops the navigation here for Canoes - unless a road is cut thro it with Axes - rather more straight 2 miles making N 1 - here the pines are fallen into the river as above - & the river has a good descent - some small rapids - Then 6 miles in short crooked reaches about $\frac{1}{6}$ of a mile each making NW 3 - & put up on the North side at the head of a reach $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long that runs EbN - & a high knowl at the head of it on W side - 5 PM

at the place - Dec 24 115.. 59..0
 Lat. 55..0..5 115.. 59..0

January 27th Monday _ at 6 am got underway & went from NW to N 6 miles makg about NWbN 3 & passed a small river on the East side – a fine grassy dry point on the South side where they join – the continued rapids begin here – & the river has a great descent – low banks in general above – muddy with small pine & poplar – tho a few large ones of each near the banks – Went down the rapids which are shoal, & very stony 2 ½ miles near WbN – just below the river mouth on East side a very crooked reach, that runs much to the Eastwards – & a little above this river on same side, last June 2 Men, 2 Women & 3 Children (Bungees) was killed by the Beaver Indians of Peace river – The year before several of the Southern Indians had been in their country & killed several of the Beaver Inds & destroyed & took the greater part of a number more their Tents, Kettles, &c &c – however they made a stand for some time, & killed 2 Southern Inds before they ran away – This affair made them visit these parts this Summer to kill any one they could fall in with – The Bungees – were coming to Red Deers Lake in Canoes – when they were murdered & scalped the usual custom of all Indians. – a high steep bank bare on the East side at the end of last course – Then about 7 miles, making about N or NbW 5 miles – all in very short & very crooked reaches – & some rapids in the upper parts – running from South on the right to North on the left hand – which is the most crooked river I have ever seen – a small Pine Island on the South side the river.

Min. Dehat. 012 32-46-30
 Lat 55-2-12 32-46-30

Just above where this Observation was taken a reach very short runs N to the right & below a reach near a ¼ mile long – got off again at 12 ⅓ & went about 7 miles in short crooked reaches making NWbS & entered the Athapescow river at 2 ⅔ PM – about ¾ of a mile above the mouth of the Red Deers river is a very small pine Island on the North side – River opens from the Athapescow river SW Good pines this day with steep banks & low woody Points – some few bare open places on the South side – Went up the Athapescow river SbE 2 – SSW 1 ½ WSW 2 a willow Island – W 1 – NWbS 1 & put up on the N Side at 5^h..5' PM below the Small river on E^t side in Red Deers river – steep high banks on both sides in places & several fine bare places on both sides. that river from 20 to 40 Yards wide –

Lat. Dehat. aldelain 102-10-30
 Lat 54-57-10 102-10-30

Fresh breezes at SE. Clear & pretty warm –

January 28th Tuesday ~ Light breezes at S. Clear & warm – evening Overcast – could not obtain an Observation for Latitude – at 5^h..45' am reassumed our Journey, & went WSW 1 a Poplar & Pine Island in the middle of the river – WSW 1 – WNW 1 – WbS 1 – WbN 1 – SWbS 3 – WbS 1 – SSW 5 – SWbW 1 – WNW 1 – WSW 1 – SbW 1 ½ high bare bank on the North side & a small creek on the same side a little below, which we passed at 1 ¾ PM. SbE 1 ½ – S ½ – ESE 2 a Poplar Island (at the middle of this last reach on the North side, in returning back the 2^d February observed the Emersion of the first Sattelite of Jupiter pr Watch

*of the first Sattelite of Jupiter & Watch. 6^h 20. 40 good sight
 Some Private Procyon
 at 7.0. 42 D. Alt. 51. 21. 30
 7. 19
 6. 53. 23 } 113. 21. 0 P. Argentinus } Tell.
 6. 13. 29 Long } 113. 16. 45 D. Lambert }*

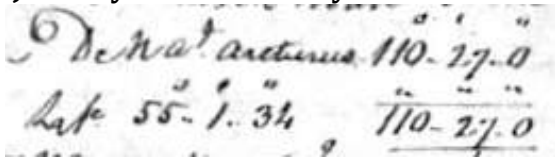
The Estimated Lat^{de} for computing the True time is 54. 27 ¼ N

The Estimated Lat^{de} for computing the True time is 54°..47' ¼ N used the Stop at the Watch in taking the D Alt Procyon – as where I observed was a good distance from the fire – Course by the Indian Account from this to Red Deers Lake or Greenwich House is about SSE true – Drift wood on the South shore on the South side the Island –) Then we went SSE 1 ¼ – SWbS 1 ¼ – SbE 1 ¼ & put up at 4 ½ PM – The Latitude for correcting the Watch is deduced from the Alt of Arcturus the 29th Inst – Saw the Track of an Indian a little below the Island – & on our return found their Tent & got from them a little Provisions which we were much in want off before –

29th Wednesday

*day D. Alt Arcturus 111. 2. 0
 Lat. 54. 44. 3 } 111. 2. 0*

At 6 am got underway & went SE 1 a good large Creek on the South side & a high steep, fine grassy hill with a few small firs on the North side WbS 1 NW 2 a poplar Island on the North side – ~ found that our men had left my Gun – sent one man back for it – & we waited until he returned – W ¼ another Island & small Creek on the South side – W ¼ – SWbW 1 – WbN 1 the Elbow of the river here – above it takes a more Northerly course to the mouth of the Little Slave river – a steep bank & the earth fallen down on the North side, passed it at 9 am – Then went NWbN 3 – NNW 1 – NbE 1 – the bank fallen down on the South or left hand side in 4 or 5 places – a smallish Poplar Island – NbE 1 – NWbN 2 very rough Ice – a steepish bare bank & a small creek on the North side – WbN 2 – NW 1 ½ – NWbN 3 & put up half way thro a long reach on the North side – at 5^h..50' PM – light breezes at East – Clear & Sharp – evening overcast. – Saw the Tracks of several herds of Buffalo – crossing the river – Pretty good Pine & Poplar & pretty lofty banks on both sides of the river – river from 200 to 400 Yards wide a little above the red Deers river the widest we have seen as yet ~

January 30th Thursday


De Notaratus 110. 27. 0
Lat 55. 1. 34, 110. 27. 0

not very clear. at 5^h..50' am reassumed our Journey & went NWbN 3 – W 1 – SW 1 – W 1 – Burnt woods on the South side fallen down – NWbW 1 ½ – NWbN 1 a creek on the South side – NbW 1 – high bare steep banks on the South side & a few Burnt sticks upon it – NWbN 1 a good creek on the North side NW 1 ½ – WbN 1 ½ a kind of lost pine on the North side – stoped at 10 ⅓ & got away again at 11 ⅓ & went up the Athapescow river as before – WbN 1 a Creek on the North side – & very rough Ice – W ½ – WSW 2 – NbW 1 much drift wood on the North side & the lower end of a Long Point on the South side to go round – began it at 1 ⅓ & went from N to S till 4 ½ PM about 9 miles & got round it – 2 Islands together mostly pine near the end of the Point (upper) & Wind fall wood on South shore & a creek just above the Islands on South side – two small Willow & Poplar Ids above the Creek & much drift wood – Then went about 5 Reaches from SW to N 7 miles making SWbW or WSW 6 miles – but as all this part of miles was dark could not well ascertain each course – & arrived at the Canadian House at the mouth of the Little Slave Lake river at 8 ½ PM – as it was dark on our return I took the Courses betwixt the House & the upper end of the Long Point as under – SSW 1 ½ – SWbW 1 ½ 2 small Islands on N Side & drift wood & very bad – SW 2 two Islands on the North side – SW 1 – WbS 1 – W 1 ½ – WSW 1 ½ – W 1 ½ – SSW ½ – Mouth of Slave river & House – Light breezes & Northerly light Snow – a good deal of Poplar the latter part of the day ~ no rapids betwixt this & the Red Deers river, but rather shoal in some places – of Sands & stones – for several miles below the Red Deers River smooth easy current & then a great number of rapids & falls all the way together nearly to the mouth of it where it joins the Track from Isle a la Crosse by Portage La Loche to the Athapescow Lake – in the Year 1800 Oct^{br} the New Compy proceeded down this way to that Lake & had the misfortune to lose several pieces of Goods – & 2 men nearly drowned – 5 Canoes – they carried & Goods over Land from Edmonton House to the Pembina berry river a distance of 20 or 30 miles – Messrs Alex^r McKenzie John Haldane – George Keith &c also in the Spring (May) this Year 3 Canoes went down this way. Mr Alex^r Kennedy – Mr Heaven &c & arrived safely at the Athapescow Lake 22^d May. Mr David Thompson the first who ever passed down here in Spring 1799 ~

January 31st Friday ~ Took the following Observations at the Canadian House here

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{D Alt Jupiter } 115^{\circ} 40' 45'' \\ \hline 115^{\circ} 40' 45'' \text{ Lat } 55^{\circ} 9' 13'' \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{r} \text{D Alt Arcturian } 101^{\circ} 54' 15'' \\ \hline 101^{\circ} 54' 15'' \text{ Lat } 55^{\circ} 9' 26'' \end{array} \right\} \text{mean Lat } 55^{\circ} 9' 19''$$

The observed Emersion of the first Satellite of Jupiter betwixt $11^{\circ} 53' 15''$ and $-11^{\circ} 54' 53''$ Jupiter being hid by clouds the intermediate time – suppose the true emersion to have been at $11^{\circ} 54' 0''$ – as at the first time the satellite could not be seen & at the last time very plain – assuming $11^{\circ} 54' 0''$ for the true time of Emersion pr Watch & the error of the watch at that time as determined by the D Alt of Saturn (which I mistook for Procyon as they were pretty near together)

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{D Alt Saturn } 11^{\circ} 54' 0'' \\ \hline 11^{\circ} 30' \\ \hline 11^{\circ} 42' 30'' \text{ Long } 113^{\circ} 57' 30'' \text{ Wt from Greenw.} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

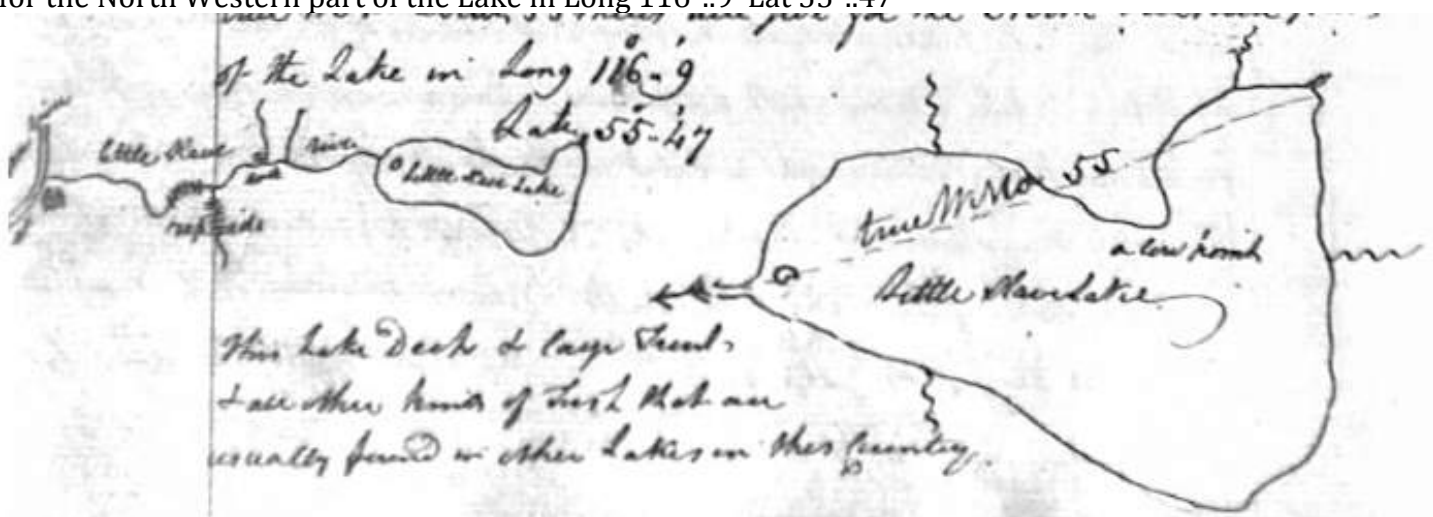
$$\begin{array}{r} \# \\ \text{D. } 50.20 - 82.11.30 \\ 51.46 - 32.30 \\ 53.3 - 53.45 \\ \hline \text{D. } 57.43 \quad \text{D. } 32.35 \\ - 11.30 \\ \hline \text{D. } 40.13 \quad \text{D. } 32.35 \end{array}$$

t AR is found by computing it from the Long^{de} & Lat^{de} adapted to the time of observation viz. Long. $4^{\circ} 6' 16'' 36''$ AR $128^{\circ} 51' 24''$ t from Merid $2^{\circ} 56' 40''$ –

$$\text{Long } 4^{\circ} 6' 16'' 36'' \text{ AR } 128^{\circ} 51' 24'' \text{ t from}$$

Went to the top of the Bank which is pretty steep & high NNW $\frac{3}{4}$ & climbed to the top of a lofty pine Tree – from whence an extensive view of the country may be seen, particularly from the SE – S & to NWbN The high banks of the Slave Lake can be plainly seen bearing pr Compass WbN & appears about 30 miles off – by both Indian & Canadian Information who have been all round that Lake, they say that it is from 60 to 50 miles long – with high rocky shores on the N side, with scrubby small woods & intersected in many places with deep swamps amongst the Rocks – The SW side is more level & the ground in general is more dry & free from Rock, About the Lake particularly to the N & NW borders of it the Buffalo is pretty plentiful & fine plains – with little wood – hereabout the Beaver Indians sometimes kill Beaver, who inhabit on the banks of the Peace river, towards the rocky Mountains – It is estimated at from 50 to 60 miles betwixt the Northern shores of this Lake & the South Branch or Forks of the Peace river situated in $56^{\circ} 9'$ & Long $117^{\circ} 45' 0''$ Wt – The Slave river is said to be very crooked similar to the Red Deers river with a stony bottom strong

Jan 31 current – with a number of rapids in it about the middle to the Lake in a Summers day a Canoe will easily run before the current the whole length of the river – The Athapescow river from the Canadian House runs NE 2 miles & appears from the Pine Tree afore mentioned to keep nearly a South or SSW Course until where the Summer berry or Pamb in na river falls into it on the South Side 2 Days journey above this about 45 or 50 miles – a long reach below their confluence & 2 or 3 Islands from thence it is said to tend more Westerly the Athapescow river towards the Rocky Mountains – The river here at the Canadian House here is about 200 Yards wide or 250 & increases in width all the way down, where at the junction of the Red Deers river it is 400 Yards wide – The Slave river is about 40 or 50 Yards wide at the entrance & a small gravel Island at its mouth The Canadian House is upon a steep bank on the North side the Mouth of the Slave river – built last October Decoygn master – saw 2 Iroquois at the House – they live here principally upon Buffalo meat – but at this Time the Canadian Master was near starving – only having one Beaver amongst 11 of us – then 2 Savages brot. a little with them just before we returned back which we was supplied with a little of it – This Account concerning the Slave Lake & river is in general extracted from this Canadian Masters account for the truth of which I cannot vouch but imagine that the distances &c are tolerably near the truth. An Island 2 miles from the Head of the Slave river in the Slave Lake, estimated from the mouth of this river where it falls into the Athapescow river – at 30 miles a direct course WbN pr Compass – variation of the Compass supposed to be 22° East (which is near the Truth) gives for the Island } Lat – $55^{\circ}..25'..45''$ Long $114^{\circ}..42'..0''$
& from the same authority the mean direct course of the Slave Lake is true WNW about 55 miles will give for the North Western part of the Lake in Long $116^{\circ}..9'$ Lat $55^{\circ}..47'$



[Map/Sketch with annotations:] Little Slave River rapids Little Slave Lake true WNW 55 a low point Little Slave Lake This Lake deep & large Trout & all other kinds of fish that are usually found in other Lakes in this Country.

Feb'y 1st Saturday ~ Returned back to Greenwich House Red Deers Lake – by ourselves with 2 Canadian men – Mr Henry remains behind at the House here – These remarks below are made more particular with a view of ascertaining the Distance in Walking – as we walk faster & make longer days journeys than on our going down Left the House at 6 am arrived at the 2 pine Is at 9 ½ – to the lost Pine at 2 – & put up in our old hut the night before we got to the House at 5[#]..40' – stoped about 15 minutes in the day & walked fast – distance about 40 miles.

2nd Sunday – Got away at 5..20 – stoped 22' & passed the upper Poplar Island below the Elbow at 12 – put up at 3..30 – on account of one Tent of Beaver Indians from whom we got some meat we are very much in want off – 1 mile below a Poplar Island on South side – & observed an Emersion of 1st Sattelite as mentioned the 28th Jany – Distance this day about 34 miles.

3rd Monday ~ Got away at 4..20 – stoped 1 hour & passed our hut above the Red Deers river at 11 ½ – entered the mouth of red Deers river at 2..30 distance this day down the Athapescow river to the mouth of Red Deers river 32 miles ~ Went up red Deers river from 2 ½ to 5 – ¾ of an hour above where the ☉s Meridian Altitude was taken – About 8 miles in this river –

4th Tuesday Got away at 5..30 passed the small river on East side at the head of the bad rapids at 7..40 – Distance 9 miles – Got to the Pine river on West side at 12 stoped 1 hour – distance betwixt these 2 rivers about 16 miles put up in our old hut the day after we left the Red Deers Lake – at 5..30 – Distance from Pine river to here about 15 miles – but part of this distance is very crooked – had we always followed the river the distance would be near 20 miles

5th Wednesday ~ Got away at 3 ¼ arrived at the Lake at 5..40 about 8 miles along the Lake from 5..40 to 10..40 but stoped ⅓ of an hour & arrived at our House – Distance thro this Lake about 17 miles – The distances in Red Deers river are estimated rather too much –

In the Athapescow river 30h..25' at 3 ½ mile pr Hour is 106 Miles

Red Deers river 16..50 at 3 ¼ Do good – – 55

Red Deers Lake 4..20 at 4 Do good – – 17

From Greenwich House to the mouth of Slave river – – – – – 178

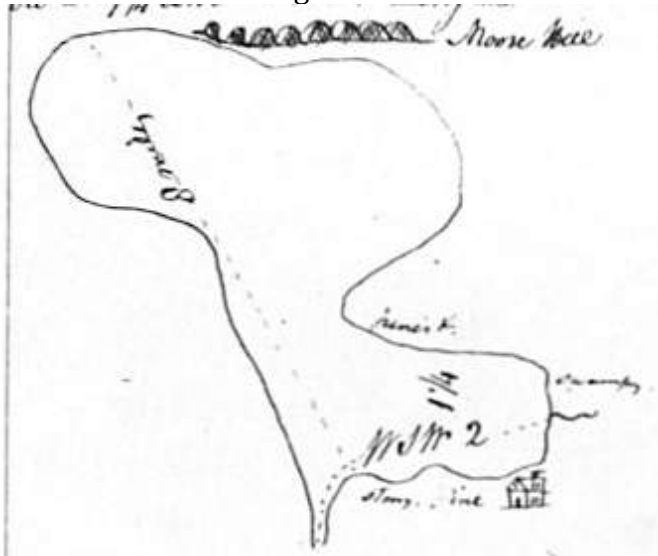
To follow the Red Deers river quite through & never cut across any of the Points of Land is about 60 miles. – Found Mr James Bird on our arrival at our House he had come here from Edmonton House & been here about 7 Days – I also made a Journey overland last December from the 18th to 31st to & from this to Edmonton House – & the Lakes, rivers Creeks &c – are all inserted in the map of the Beaver & Athapescow rivers &c

1800 May 15th Thursday at 2 PM, proceeded up the Moose Creek from Beaver river mentioned at page 105 – Went up the Creek – SEbE $\frac{1}{3}$ – SEbS $\frac{1}{4}$ a rapid – SE $\frac{1}{3}$ 2 rapids – ESE $\frac{1}{4}$ all along shoal rapid – E $\frac{1}{8}$ 2 rapids & a small willow Island – E $\frac{1}{4}$ a steep strong rapid – near E 1 in which are 7 Rapids – 3 of them strong & steep – a stony Beaver Dam quite across the Creek – barren open ground on the North side – ESE $\frac{1}{3}$ easy current & a strong rapid at the upper end of the reach ENE a strong rapid – ESE $\frac{1}{4}$ stony & easy current & 1 rapid – ENE $\frac{1}{8}$ (burnt woods all along on both sides of the river) easy current & deep – betwixt the rapids the water is from 10 to 12 feet deep & very little current – SEbE $\frac{1}{2}$ in which are 3 rapids – near East 2 miles in which are 11 rapids & put up on the North side at the Head nearly of all the rapids at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM – swampy low Land on both sides the river near where we put up & thicketty of Pine &c for 1 mile; in the Creek from the mouth at Beaver river to here 27 rapids & has a great descent from 50 to 60 feet – the last rapid at the head of which we put up is the longest & shoalest also the worst in the whole river – & formerly a fishing weir built here by Indians – since the river has taken a more Easterly & Southerly course it is about 30 or 40 Yards wide & below near the Beaver river not above 25 Yards & in some places not 15. –

15. - Schall. Arcturus 111. 50. 0
 Act. 54. 20. 12 111. 50. 0

not Good, Star quite hazy. 3 of our Canoes left the Red Deers Lake with 3 men each 21st April & did not arrive at Buckingham House until the 3 Inst – on account of the very little water in the Beaver river & this Creek on the rapids – they were 5 Days in going the distance we have gone up the Creek this day – being obliged to make a carrying Place at every rapid – we left the Red Deers Lake & Greenwich House the 13 Inst at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM – & found very good water considering it being near the height of Land – for 2 Days before we embarked 2 successive Days & Nights of heavy rain made these Little rivers full of water which was very lucky for us – 13th Embarked at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM from West end of Long Portage (3 men in the Canoe) & put up at the lower end of the Little Lake on N S[ide] – 14th at 4 AM got away & arrived at the portage at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ – am – entered Beaver river at 4 PM & went a good way down it – left my small Canoe here that I came in from our House to lighten the Large one that 4 people Embarked & entd the Moose Creek at 1 PM – which bears SW – & proceeded up it at 2 PM Fine warm & Calm.

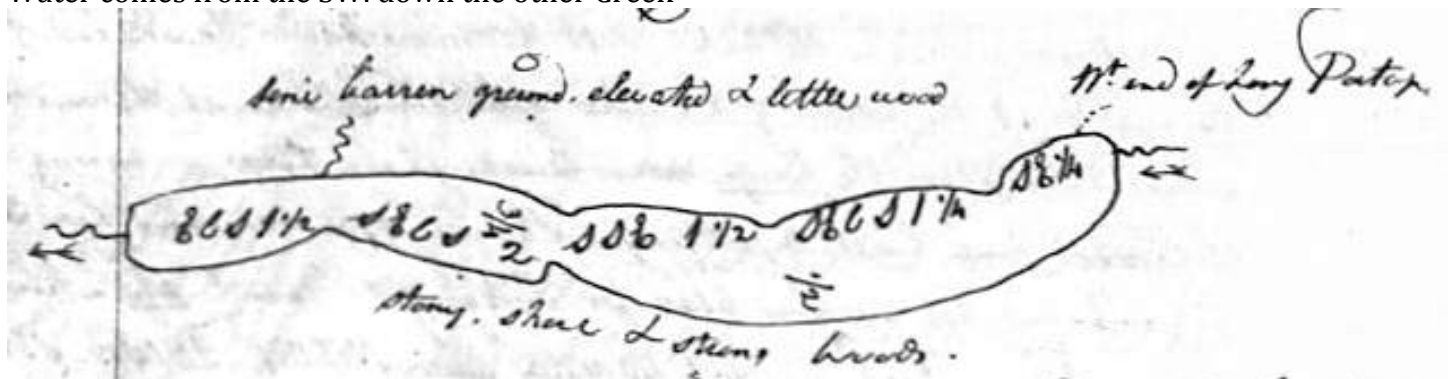
May 16th Friday ~ at 4:15 am embarked & proceeded up the Moose Creek as yesterday SEbE $\frac{1}{2}$ – SSE $\frac{1}{3}$ – SbE $\frac{1}{4}$ – SE $\frac{1}{4}$ a rapid SEbS 15 Yards – SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ – SEbS $\frac{1}{4}$ & here about 60 Yards wide – ESE $\frac{3}{4}$ 150 Yards wide – E $\frac{1}{8}$ 60 Yards wide – 80 Yards wide – SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ 100 Yards wide – SW $\frac{3}{4}$ – 100 Yards wide – and got the first view of the Moose Hill the SWestern part of it bears SE $\frac{1}{2}$ E – also came of the Moose Lake – S $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{3}{4}$ from 100 to 300 Yards wide – a hill & small woods on the East side the entrance of the Lake – below this day – very thicketty of pines & low swampy Land – low banks & grassy – & pretty deep & very little current wet sides – Good pines on the West side at the entrance into the Lake – which Did at 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ am – & went along the Moose Lake as below –



[Map/Sketch with annotations:] 8 miles Moose Hill Pines &c. WSW 2 Stony.. Pine

Good Woods all round the Lake – at the Moose Hill – the N end of which terminates at the bottom of this Lake & the other end is at the middle of Small Lake above the Bridge near Buckingham House – running S Westerly The French House built by Mr Angus Shaw in 1790 & remained here 3 years before it was left – a good place for Tickamy &c. went up a kind of narrow kind of Creek from 10 to 40 Yards wide SWbW 1 – SWbS $\frac{1}{3}$ – SSW $\frac{1}{3}$ SSE $\frac{1}{3}$ – SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ – 5 reaches as before making SW 2 miles – SWbW 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a narrow kind of swampy Lake about 300 Yards wide – at the upper of it the Horses last fall carried the Goods over Land from Buckingham House & was embarked in the Canoes – a Grass Island Creek on the North side near the Head of this Lake – – went then in a narrower creek with strong current also as the last on account of the late heavy rains – in the time of **mossing** in the Summer scarce water thro all these creeks to float an Indian small canoe left the narrow Creek 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile making SWbS $\frac{1}{4}$ & passed a Pine hammock on the North side keeping near the woods on that side – a small Lake on E^t side – the hammock before mentioned – 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles near SSE making 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ S – 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making ESE 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ fine barren bank on the East side – strong current – sharp turnings in this Creek & entered a small Lake called

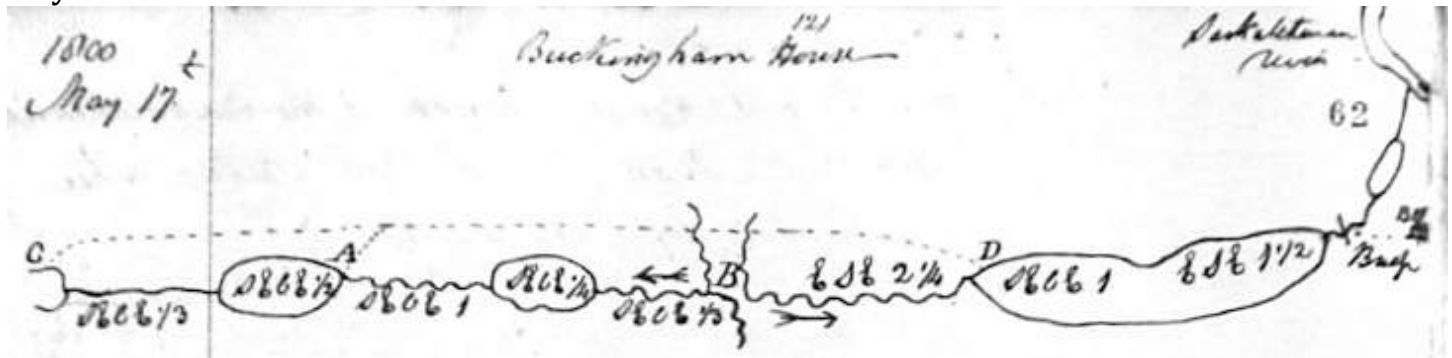
May 16th Swan Lake I found 3 of our men here from Buckingham House with 6 Horses. they are to assist us over Land by Dragging the Canoe & carrying our Pieces &c when we cannot proceed further with the Canoe by Water The creek comes from the SW that we have just now come up & we leave it on our right hand - a small one the way we are going - went thro Swan Lake SbW 3 miles - this is $\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide - low grassy sides - I entered the creek which is now very crooked & narrow only 5 or 7 yds wide $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile making SbW 1 I entered a small Lake & went thro' it SbE $\frac{1}{2}$ mile & about 300 Yards - grassy, low, wet sides as before - and entered another Creek went up it 3 miles making EbS 2 & came to a shoal bad rapid - Carried the Canoe & every thing on the North side good 150 Yards - then up the same creek as before $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile making EbS $\frac{1}{2}$ & entered another small Lake & went thro' it EbS $\frac{3}{4}$ - 200 Yards wide - then up the same creek which is now become very shoal & narrow - SbE $\frac{1}{2}$ & left in the Canoe at the upper end - & entered a pretty long Lake as below - easy current ever since we met our Men - & the larger part of the Water comes from the SW. down the other Creek



Some barren ground. elevated & little wood Wt end of Long Portage SbE $1\frac{1}{2}$ SbE $\frac{1}{2}$ SbE $1\frac{1}{2}$ SbE $1\frac{1}{4}$ SbW $\frac{3}{4}$ stony shore & strong Woods.

Put up at the bottom of the Lake at the West end of the Long Portage at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - I tied up & made things ready to carry upon the Horses tomorrow - Fresh breezes at NW. fine weather. very grassy low wet side all along from the Moon Lake & above the 1st Long Lake from Moon Lake the 2^d creek high willows on both sides about the Pine Hammock a plentiful place for Ducks, Geese &c.

17th Friday ~ at 4 Am loaded the Horses with every thing we had & 2 men went a little further with the Canoe by water & then carried it for near 4 miles - 4 men - 2 at a time - as on the other side - the creek becoming so very narrow near the height of Land that there is not room to wind the Canoe round -

May 17th

C to D carry all the Goods &c on North side -

A to B carry the Canoe on the same side - in the intermediate space the creek is too narrow to admit turning the Canoe - fine high banks on each side with a gentle ascent & in some places rather steep - the valley betwixt the feet of the opposite banks about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile across - low grassy land - & very bad walking along it - B the height of Land the current towards D runs into the Saskatchewan river about 2 miles below Buckingham House called the Moose Creek but not passable for any sort of Canoes. The Bridge is over the creek built of wood - about 200 yards from the lower end of the Lake - which is very grassy & swampy - at the bridge the Canoes are carried up the bank on the S side which is steep & miry & then hauled upon a sledge - made of 2 long pieces of wood about 4 inches square & turned up at each end a little before & 6 or 8 upright posts at proper distances on each side - a line betwixt each is put across & the Canoe is laid upon them & so conveniently & safely conveyed from one place to another - Paddle the Canoe & Goods from D to the Bridge - from the Bridge to Buckingham house across a fine level open grass plain is SE 3 miles & arrived at that House at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ am - Mr Bird arrived from Edmonton House exactly at the same time..