New Westminster

30th May 1865

Sir

Your letter dated the 20th inst. only reached me on the 27th inst; by which I am informed that there will be no objection to the purchase of 100 acres of land adjoining the site selected by me for the Sawmills on the Reserve at Burrards Inlet; provided that the spot selected by Colonel — Moody on the South point for a Fort shall not be included within the purchase.

By the South I suppose is meant East point

I was not before aware that any part of the Reserve had been selected for a Fort; now do I now know the exact position or ground it will occupy —

I beg to remind you that when His Excellency Governor Seymour was at Victoria I then pointed out to you on

Copy to Hon'ble A. R. Birch
Colonial Secretary
30th May 1865

Hon'ble A. R. Birch
Colonial Secretary
New Westminster

on a tracing from the official map of Burrards Inlet the exact spot marked on the tracing where I wished to place the Saw Mill and to purchase one hundred acres of land adjoining it; I at the same time stated that this was the only place I had found suitable to build the Saw Mill —

After the tracing had been laid before the Governor you informed me that there was no objection to placing the Saw Mill on the site I had selected — and that I was at liberty to proceed with the work; acting on this permission from the Governor; I at once commenced to clear the ground and prepare the foundation of the Saw Mill; I had working — Plans of the Mill, Buildings, and Wharf — made; the whole costing a very large — amount; the whole of which is lost if I am not allowed to build the Saw Mill on the site already approved of by His Excellency; we could do with 100 feet South of the Mill and the balance of the 100 acres adjoining North of it. —

I go to Burrards Inlet early tomorrow morning to stop the work now proceeding there; I take a Surveyor with me and beg to suggest that some one should be sent on the part of the government to point out the ground necessary for the Fort; and at once to inform me whether I have to abandon the place selected or to proceed with the work, as the time left me is now very short if I have again to go over the same work that has employed me during the last two Months.

It is unnecessary ~~now~~ to take into consideration other portions of your Communication until after the Question of the Sawmill ~~is~~ site has been decided but, over

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obt Servt
[illegible]

but I may now state that should the Sawmills co establish their Mill a Burrards Inlet, many thousand pounds will be permanently in--vested there from which ~~Burrards~~ British Columbia will derive great benefit; the Company does not ask any privilege but what is necessary to enable them to compete with the Sawmills on the American side, and without which they cannot go on. It is very necessary that whatever arrangement is made with the govt. should be so clearly stated that no after misunderstanding can occur

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obt Servt

1865 / Mill site
Captn E Stamp
to Honble A. N. Birch
May 30th