

EAST AFR. PROT

CO
18078

18078

REC'D
25 MAY 1913Sidi Soda
Colt.

Site in Masai Reserve

1913

28 May

as previous Paper.

for settlement of wives & children of Co. White
officials & workmen.

Request grant of about 102 acres of land on
Kajiado River in S. Masai Reserve, Ukamba
Province - Encloses plan.

Dr. G. Fiddes

It is not clear from the maps
whether the site falls within the
old Southern Masai Reserve or within the
extension of 3100 square miles referred to
at the bottom of p. 13 of [Ch. 5584].
Of the former, the original Masai lease
was anterior in date to the original Masai agreement
(which is dated 5 days earlier but was made
subject to the approval of the S. of S., & this
approval was not given until 3 months or so
after the latter) & I take it that the agreement
must be held to have been made subject to the
rights of the incumbrances. These rights would
presumably include reasonable facilities for working
the deposit, including the grant of a site such
as is referred to in the letter
of the letter, you will see from p. 14 of
[Ch. 5584] that the Govt. undertook a liability

LAL-WI 20 807-C-6
1908 APR 12 A.S.E.W.

as subsequent Paper.

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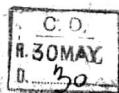
within the said area (except such land as may
be required for mining purposes or for any public
purpose) without the sanction of the Paramount
Chief & the approval of the Messrs. take
part thereto. Perhaps this is the
difficulty.

Copy to Gov^{ty} for report - & inform the
Co^y that this has been done?

H. J. R.

28/5/13

I think we shall have to telegraph about
this. Anyway, send to Gov^{ty} as proposed by ordinary
mail, & enquire for further instructions. Send
copy to Co^y in the meantime.
at once P.D. 29.5.13



THE MAGADI SODA COMPANY, LIMITED.

M. SAMUEL & CO. MANAGERS

GRAMS "SODAGADI, LONDON"
PHONE: LONDON WALL 1883

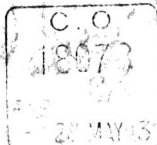
Shell House

251 27, Bishopsgate St

London 29th May 1913

S/T

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office, S.W.



Sir,

White Settlement for the Magadi Soda Co. in
British East Africa.

We have the honour to point out that, when Mr Symonds of this Company was in East Africa at the beginning of 1912, it was decided, after careful consideration, that it was impossible for the wives and children of the White officials and workmen of the Magadi Soda Co. to live anywhere in the neighbourhood of the Lake, and it was decided, therefore, to look for a Settlement site some little distance back along the Magadi branch line, where concrete houses, a European hospital and a school for the European children could be laid out.

Two sites suggested themselves, one at a place called Turoko about Mile 40, and another at a place called Kajiado at Mile 28. The late Mr Currie favoured the Kajiado site, as it would have meant that the Magadi White Settlement would have been quite close to the principal station on the Magadi branch line, where, without doubt, there would have been some white railway employees.

As it was some few hundred feet higher than

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Turoko, we eventually came to the conclusion that this site would answer our purposes best. Mr Symonds discussed the matter both with Sir Percy Girouard and with the late Mr Currie, and, although we have no writing to show this, we would refer to a memorandum, which is retained in the Railway Offices at Nairobi and is headed "Points discussed with Mr Symonds on the 8th January 1912". Paragraph 5 reads: "Moving staff regularly from Magadi to the Settlement on top, to be done in special cars to be built and used in place of brake vans." Paragraph 9 reads: "Special season tickets may be issued to members of the Magadi staff between the Lake and Mile 26 for about, 1st class £18 per annum and 2nd class £11 per annum. These amounts are merely approximate estimates and are given without prejudice." We quote this interview to show that the matter had been considered officially in January of last year, although there is nothing in writing between ourselves and the East African Authorities.

In February of this year Mr H.F. Ward, who is acting in the matter for us, went to the site at Kajiado and had a plan made, copy of which we beg to enclose, showing an area of 102 acres, which is about the amount we shall require to allow each house a small plot of garden, and he selected a site on the Kajiado river, which, owing to its elevation on top of a rounded hill, appeared most suitable for the purpose. He had an interview with Mr Bowring on the matter, and it was arranged that, after Mr Ward had seen us in London,

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his Company would put in an official application for the grant of this land. On the 21st April Mr Ward wrote to his firm in Nairobi enclosing a draft application addressed to the Chief Secretary for the grant of this land, and on the 24th of this month we received a cable from Messrs H. F. Ward & Co. reading as follows:

"Great difficulty in acquiring Settlement site
"owing to land being in Masai Reserve Indefinite-
"ly hung up. Doing all possible Writing H. F.
"Ward & Co."

We would point out that, unless we arranged our Settlement on the far side of the Uganda Railway from our branch line (in which case the distance from the Lake would be so great as to practically prohibit the moving of the men from the Lake to the Settlement for their spare time and the site itself also would not be so high by nearly 1,000 ft as that now under consideration) it would be impossible for us to find any site which was not in the Masai Reserve, and as the only land on which we presumably would have any right to put up a Settlement is in the neighbourhood of the Lake and is consequently comparatively lowlying and therefore no healthier than the Lake itself, we do not see how we are to obtain a suitable site for this Settlement, unless the Government can grant us permission to use the land in the Masai Reserve for this purpose.

For the health of our staff and their women folk we consider a settlement on as high ground as possible, without going too far away from the Lake, is absolutely essential to us, and there is, in our opinion, no little urgency in getting this matter settled, because

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it is intended to start work on the Settlement houses at once, and furthermore the material required for the Settlement has already been shipped and, unless we know roughly where the Settlement is to be, all this material must either be left at Kilindini or carried up to the Junction and left there pending the settlement of this question, and this will mean double handling and consequent expense and delay.

We would respectfully submit, therefore, that you should ask the Authorities in East Africa to help us in this matter.

We have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servants

W. L. ...

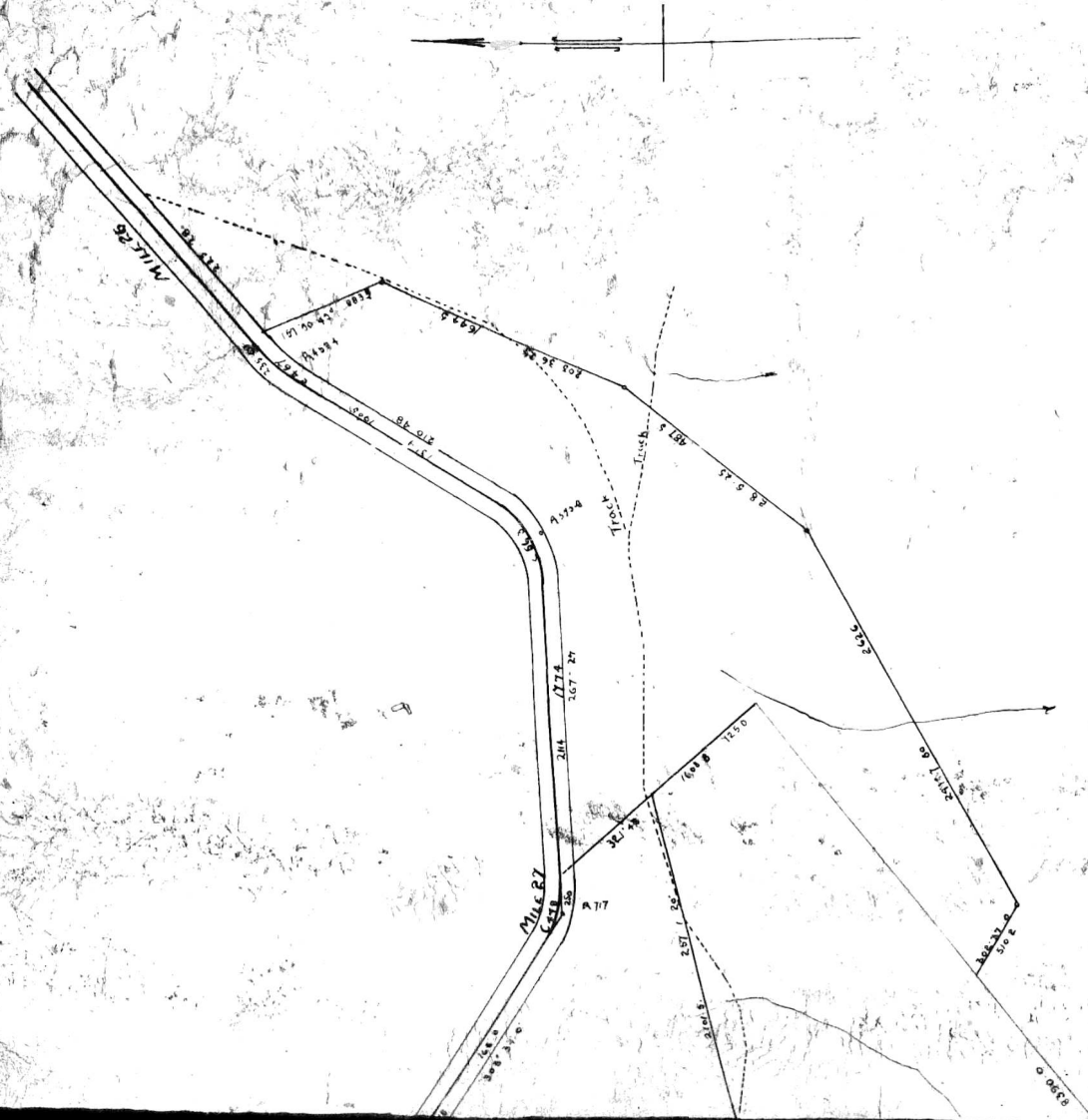
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE.

One Document, being a plan of new settlement area
between Mile 26 & 29 Magadi Railway.

has been removed to MPGG 87

21.11.70

H. Anderson



Plan of new Settlement Area
Between Mile 26 & 29 Magadi Railway
MAGADI SODA CO. LTD
District, South Masai Land, Province, Ukamba



Surveyed by me March 1913

Blouin Licensed Surveyor

Kilimangoro