

Minnesota - Indian trails

November 16, 1912

Hill to Mrs. James T. Morris, Dau. of Amer. Rev
"The principal Indian trail was between Fort
Snelling or the Amer. Fur Co's trading post at
Mendota at the mouth of what was then known as
the St. Peter River, now the Minn. River. That
trail crossed the International Boundary at Pem
bina Mt. and continued along the foot hills of
the west side of the Red River Valley to the
foot of Lake Traverse, now Browns Valley. There
it crossed into Minn. & on to Traverse des Sioux
or crossing of the Sioux, about two and a half
miles east of St. Peter, thence down by Shakopee
on to Mendota. The Selkirk settlers at Red Riv-
er made their first [redacted] about 1826 as far as
Prairie du Chien and the lead mines in the neig

borhood of Galena. Owing to the danger from attacks by the Sioux in [redacted] they opened a new trail crossing the Boundary east of St. Vincent and following the ridge bounding the eastern side of the Red River Valley by way of Detroit Lake, which was formerly called 'Lake 44' after the year in which the trail was opened. It continued to Crow Wing and thence down the valley of the Middissippi by way of Sauk Rapids to Fort Snelling."

JJH LetterBook, 5/27/11 - 6/10/16, p. 268