

## Old Agency on the Teton contract Page 1

[Transcribed by Nancy Thornton]

This Agreement made this seventh day of October in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty Eight, Between W. J. Cullen, Special U.S. Indian Agent acting on behalf of the United States, party of the first part, and James B. Hubbell of the County of Chouteau, and Territory of Montana, party of the second part.

Witnesseth

That the party of the second part has agreed, and does hereby agree, to and with the said party of the first part to furnish all necessary material for, and to build, erect and furnish in a good substantial and workmanlike manner, and in accordance with the specifications hereto annexed marked A. and made a part of this contract, and the general plan and elevation accompanying these presents, and marked B. a Fort or Post to be called and known as Fort W. T. Sherman, to be used for an Indian Agency for the Blackfeet, Blood and Piegan tribes of the Blackfeet Nation of Indians, for the sum and at the price of Thirty Seven Thousand Dollars.

Said Fort or Post to be located at the most suitable point at or near the junction of Birch Creek with Marias River, regard being had for good farming, timber and grass land, to be not less than seventy five (75) miles from Fort Benton.

Said Fort to be a Stockade, One Hundred and Eighty (180) feet square, with Bastions at opposite corners, and to enclose an Agents House, Physicians House, Farmers House One School House, one Ware House, One Blacksmiths and Carpenters shop, House for Mechanics, and House for Interpreter the whole to be constructed and arranged according to the plans and specifications aforesaid.

And said party of the second part further agrees to and with the party of the first part, that he will in like manner erect and finish at such suitable point near said Fort W.T. Sherman, as may be selected for such purposes, Six Houses of like dimensions, and constructed in every particular as the Interpreters House within said Fort W.T. Sherman, which said houses shall be for the use and occupation of the two principal Chiefs of the Three above mentioned tribes of Indians, One House for each Chief, and also to build Twenty-Four (24) houses, for the other chiefs and head men of said tribes.

Said houses to be of the character designated in the specifications heretofore referred to. Said buildings, and said Fort W.T. Sherman to be built, erected and finished on or before the (15) fifteen day of December 1868.

And said party of the first part agrees to pay said party of the second part when said Fort W.T. Sherman and said buildings are so erected, the Sum of Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars, at such time and in such funds as the Indian Department of the United States may order.

In Witness Whereof:

The parties aforesaid have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written.

W.J. Cullen, Special Ind. Agent.

J.B. Hubbell.

In the presence of Will W. Smith

Jno Harrington

I approve of the above contract and recommend that the Secretary of the Interior order its payment when due, so far as there are funds applicable.

Oct. 10, 1968.

N.G. Taylor, Comr. Indian Affrs.

## Old Agency on the Teton contract Page 2

A. Specifications of Fort W.T. Sherman, M.T.

No. 1. The Fort to be a Stockade, built of hewn logs, not less than ten (10) inches in thickness, to be at least Twelve feet above the surface of the earth, and set in the ground Three (3) feet. Logs to be securely fastened by a plat at the top. Stockade to be one hundred and eighty (180) feet square with a gate or main entrance twelve feet wide - to have double gate or door so constructed as to close and fasten itself. Also one smaller [sic] door four (4) feet wide to be situated in most convenient place in Stockade, to be bulletproof and so constructed as to close and fasten.

Bastions Twelve (12) feet square and two stories high, to be built at South West and North East Corner of Stockade. To be built of Hewn logs not less than ten (10) inches in thickness and to contain as many loop-holes and port-holes as may be necessary for the complete defence [sic] of the place.

No. 2 Specifications for Agents House.

House to be built inside of Stockade on the side of, and to the left of the main entrance. The main building to be (16x56) sixteen by fifty six feet with a wing or L, eighteen by twenty (18x20) feet for a council room. To be one story high, eleven (11) feet in the clear. The main building to be divided into four (4) rooms, suitable, and convenient for one sitting room, one dining room, one bed-room, and one kitchen. The wing to contain but one room (18x20) eighteen by twenty feet. The whole building to contain eight (8) twelve (12) light windows. Three (3) outside, and four (4) inside doors to be placed in such position as may be most convenient. To have a piazza on the front of main building and wing piazza to be at least six (60) feet wide. See plan and elevation.

No. 3 Physicians House.

To be built on the opposite side of the Stockade from the Agents House. To be built and constructed in all respects like and of the same dimensions as the Agents house. Except that the wing or L shall be sixteen by eighteen (16x18) feet and divided into an office, bedroom and pantry. See plan and elevation.

No. 4. Warehouse

The warehouse to be sixteen by sixty (16x60) feet built inside of Stockade on north side near N.W. Corner To contain two (2) doors, and two (20) windows. One door four (4) feet wide opening through the Stockade, and suitable for issuing provisions. To be well secured in all respects and to be bulletproof. The other door to open inside of the Stockade, double, and well constructed in every particular.

No. 5 Specifications of Blacksmiths and Carpenters Shops.

To be located inside of Stockade on North side near N.E. corner building to be sixteen by thirty (16x30) feet. To contain three doors and two windows (2). One door opening to the outside through the Stockade to be safely constructed as in the case of the outside door to the warehouse. Building to be divided into (2) two rooms each to contain one door opening to inside of Stockade. See plan and elevation.

No. 6. Mechanics House.

To be built on east side of Stockade and near the N.E. corner. To be sixteen by twenty (16x20) feet, divided into two rooms with one door and one window in each room.

No. 7. School House.

### **Old Agency on the Teton contract Page 3**

The school house to be located on the south side of Stockade, near the South East corner, to be sixteen by thirty (16x30) feet to contain three windows and one door.

No. 8 Interpreters House.

To be located on south side of Stockade near the center: to be of same dimensions as the Mechanics House above specified to have two (2) windows, and one outside and one inside door.

No. 9 Farmers House.

To be located on the south side of stockade near S.W. corner leaving sufficient room or space between building and west side of Stockade to afford a free passage into the Bastions. Main building to be sixteen by fifty-six (16x56) feet with a wing or L sixteen by eighteen (16x18) feet the whole building to contain eight (8) rooms suitably arranged for convenience of Farmer. To contain ten (10) windows one sash door for kitchen two (2) outside and eight (8) inside doors. To have a porch or piazza (60 feet wide on front of main building and wing as on Agents house. See plan and elevation.

No. 10. Three water closets of reasonable dimensions and to be conveniently located and to have good vaults sufficiently deep.

No. 11. One flag staff in center of court to be sixty (60) feet high with crossties and lookout, at least thirty (30) feet above the surface of the ground.

All of the above buildings are to be of hewn logs not less than (8) eight inches in thickness to have good solid foundations and sills not less than (14) inches square. The building to be put up with gained? Posts, both at the corners and when necessary throughout the building, and the logs to be tenanted into the same. To be well worked and chinked and painted, have good pine floors and to be finished in a good substantial manner and workmanlike with seasoned pine lumber throughout.

Buildings to be all one story high and at least eleven (11) feet in the clear, good chimneys and fire places of adobe or sun dried brick. To be built as follows, viz., Two in Agents house, two (2) in farmers house, (2) two in Physicians house and one in each of mechanical and interpreters house, one chimney in schoolhouse, and a forge, hearth, and chimney in Blacksmith's shop. Doors and sash to be of good seasoned pine lumber, and all material of whatever nature and kind, to be found by builder.

No. 12. Chiefs Houses.

Six houses for principal chiefs, of same dimensions and finished in every particular as the Interpreters house above specified. To be located outside of Stockade but near the same.

No. 13. Indian Houses.

Twenty-four Indian Houses for chiefs and headmen. Each to be fourteen by sixteen (14x16) feet, one story high, good roof and good floor, well chinked and pointed. To have one door each and one window and a good fireplace and chimney of adobe brick.

Any alteration or deviation from the above specification and general plan and elevation herein before referred to, made by the mutual consent of either parties hereto is not in any way to invalidate the contract, or to subject the party to any additional charges therefor. [end]