### COMPLETION REPORT

O F

CAMP SEVIER,

GREBNVILLE, S.C.

-1919 -

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# COMPLETION REPORT AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF CAMP SEVIER, SOUTH CAROLINA.

Camp Sevier is one of the camps originally constructed for the use of the federalized National Guard. The first troops reached the camp on July 10, 1917. The first Constructing Quartermaster, Major A. C. Doyle, began his work on July 16, 1917. As originally constructed the camp accommodated eight regiments of infantry; three regiments of artillery; one regiment of cavelry; one of Engineers, together with Depot, Signal, Sanitary, Supply Train, Remount Stations, and Base Hospital.

The camp site proper includes 1963.31 acres; the rifle and small arms range 3963 acres, and the artillery range located at Cleveland Mill, S.C., 8296 acres. No artillery troops were trained after the 30th Division.

Camp Sevier is located in Greenville County, S.C., four miles northeast of the city of Greenville. The main lines of the Southern Railway and the Piedmont & Northern (Electric) pass through the camp and offer unusually satisfactory transportation facilities. The camp site lies on the rolling country adjoining the Blue Ridge at an elevation varying from 950 to 1130 feet above sea level. The Topography is such as to offer satisfactory drainage conditions. The soil is a red clay overlaid with sandy loam. Where the top soil is not stripped off, wet weather does not interfere seriously with the operations of troops in training. The clay sub-soil is not a satisfactory surface when exposed.

The camp site was used by the War Department under a blanket lease made with the Greenville Chamber of Commerce at a rental of one dollar per year, with the exception of the tract owned by M.C. Greene, occupied by part of the Base Hospital, containing 52.62 acres. Rental on this runs \$43.85 per month. The rifle range was used by the War Department under a series of leases made with individual property owners at rates indicated in a section of this Report devoted to "Losses and Claims," The Cleveland artillery range was occupied under like terms.

The first troops to be trained in Camp Sevier were formed into what is known as the 30th Division. The personnel of this organization was made up of the National Guard Units from Tennessee, North and South Carolina. This Division was followed by the 81st. This organization was made up of selective service men. The troops in this Division were not drawn from any particular section of the countyy. Following this, the 20th Division was in training at the time the armistice was signed. No artillery was trained after the 30th Division left.

No addition to the capacity of the camp in the way of regimental areas was made following the original construction. Accommodations for a Depot Brigade of six thousand men were in the process of construction when the armistice was signed. This was not completed nor occupied by troops in training.

Major A. C. Doyle was the first Constructing Quartermaster. Upon the completion of his work, the duties of this officer were performed by the Camp Quartermaster. Upon re-separation of the departments, Major William J. Cooper acted as Constructing Quartermaster until January 30th, 1919. From this date until April 10, 1919, the duties of this office were performed by Captain Harry E. Jordan. At this time the work was taken over in the consolidated offices in Washington under the direction of Captain Ira J. Hooks.

The principal contractor on the construction of Camp Sevier was the Gallivan Building Company. Sub-contracts were executed by the Farrell Plumbing Company, (Plumbing) West Construction Company, (Roads), Slattery & Henry (Concrete Roads), W.B. Guimarin & Company, (Electrical). The supervising engineer was Mr. J. E. Sirrine, Cotton Mill architect, located in Greenville, S.C.

The order for the discontinuance of the use of Camp Sevier issued from the office of the Adjutant General, January 22, 1919. Following receipt of this order, abandonment of the various sections of this Camp was made in the form of a memorandum from the Commanding Officer to the Undersignate Quartermaster. The dates of these orders, and the area covered by each are tabulated herewish.

```
Jan. 25th, Areas, 9-10-11-12,
     27th,
                   4-5
     28th,
                   2-3-20.
     31st,
                   6.
              11
Feb. 7th,
                   19.
     12th,
 11
     26th,
              11
                   17.
                   1-8.
Mar. 26th,
```

On April 8th, the following letter was issued by the Commanding Officer closing the remaining unoccupied areas.

"You are informed that all parts of this Camp, not already abandoned, will be abandoned at mid-night this date, except such as are in use by Camp Hospital, Auxiliary Remount Depot No.310, Camp Utilities Officer and Camp Supply Officer, and will be taken charge of accordingly by your Division."

At mid-night April 8th, Headquarters Camp Sevier, was officially closed and by order of the Adjutant General of the Army the various Staffs were for administrative purposes placed under the jurisdiction of the Commanding Officer, Southeastern Department. This order is as follows:

"Re your telegram April fourth concerning closing your Camp Headquarters period Camp Sevier and Detachments remaining thereat after April eighth comma except Auxiliary Remount Depot comma hereby thansferred to Southeastern Department for Administrative purposes period Report by wire Attention Operation General Staff Room Three Three Six total Commissioned and Endisted Strength remaining after Camp Headquarters has been closed."

In accordance with order of the Adjutant General of the Army, file 602.3, dated March 19, 1919, the Base Hospital Property was turned over to the United States Public Health Service on April 1st.

Following receipt of each order in relation to the abandonment of areas, the electrical, plumbing and heating fixtures were removed. Tent Frames in areas 2, 3, 5, 19, and 20 were salvaged. Under later advice from the Chief of the Construction Division, this work was discontinued until sale of the camp structures had been consumated in accordance with bids received April 15.

601.1 Camp Sevier (Mise. Day.)

January 22, 1919.

From: The Adjutant General of the Army.

To: The Commanding General, Camp Sevier, S. C.

subject: Discontinuance of use of Camp Sevier, S. C.

- It has been decided to discontinue the use of Camp Sevier with the exception of the Base Hospital thereat, with the least practicable delay, and to dispose of all supplies, equipment and transportation except those pertaining to the Base Hospital and to salvage such property as is considered necessary, and this will be accomplished in such a way as to be for the best interests of the Government.
- 2. With this in view, you will denobilize all units at your camp including permanent camp one inflations, not previously ordered demobilized, excepting the Coth Infantry and discharge such of the enlisted personnel as he sigible for discharge, under general instructions issued or that hereafter may issue. Your attention is especially invited to current War Department Circulars that are applicable. The man enlisted prior to April 2, 1917, and others who desire to small in the military service either permanently or temporarily will be attached to 39th Infantry and reported to this office, attention room 336. Report under each of above three classes the number, vocation, grade and arm or corps, of such men held and available for transfer. When the organizations of the 89th Infantry at your camp, which have not been ordered elsewhere, are no longer required at Camp Sevier, you will request instructions of this office as to their disposition.
- 5. The reduction of permanent camp organizations will be gradual and will keep pace with the discharge of enlisted men and the disposal of supplies, equipment and transportation, in order that the discontinuance of the use of Camp Sevier may proceed in a systematic manner and with the least practicable delay, until the personnel remaining is reduced to that necessary for the proper functioning of the Base Hospital and the necessary caretakers who will be supplied from the personnel now at your camp. The caretakers will include the Fire Truck and Hose Company now at Camp Sevier.

- The Chiefs of the interested Supply Departments have been directed to arrange for the prompt disposal of all supplies, equipment and transportation except those pertaining to the Base Hospital, and the Construction Divasion has been directed to salvage or otherwise dispose of the buildings except those pertaining to the Base Hospital; all supplies equipment, transportation and buildings pertaining to the Supply Departments and Construction Division will be disposed of by you only in accordance with their instructions. You will co-operate with the Chiefs of the Supply Departments and Construction Division in every way possible in order to expedite the closing up of your camp. Upon the abandenment of any portion or all of your camp, you will turn it over to the representative of the Construction Division who will thereafter take responsible charge of the abandoned facilities and all salvage work under the direct supervision of the Chief of Construction Division.
- 5. You will inform without delay the nearest representative of all volunteer organizations which have erected buildings at your camp that the use of the camp is to be discontinued and will request that they remove their buildings from the camp or otherwise dispose of them as they see fit.
- 6. Enlisted men not eligible for discharge by reasons of physical disability will be segregated into groups according to the State from which they were drafted or inducted into the Service and will be transferred, in accordance with Circular No. 14, War Department 1919, and such other War Department Circulars as may apply in each case, to a demobilization center in or near their respective States, after arrangements have been made by you with the Commanding Officer of the proper demobilization center to receive them.
- 7. When the reduction of the personnel at your camp makes necessary such action, you are authorized to transfer all prisoners at your camp except those pertaining to the Base Hospital to the nearest demobilizations Camp, after arrangements have been made by you with the Commanding Officer of the proper camp to receive them.
- 8. The Chiefs of the Staff Corps have been directed to advise you as to the disposition of specially qualified enlisted men of their Corps required at other Camps, and you will transfer such men in accordance with their instructions, provided that no man who has established the merits of his claim to discharge under Circular 77, War Department 1918, will be so transferred. All other enlisted men of Staff Corps Organizations at your Camp will be discharged or disposed of as provided in paragraph 2 above.
- 9. Officers will be disposed of as provided for in general instructions which have been or may hereafter be issued from this office.

By order of the Secretary of War.

LEASES AND CLAIMS.

#### CAMP SITE.

The area covered by the site of Camp Sevier is leased by the War Department from the Chamber of Commerce of the city of Greenville. The consideration is one dollar per year. The Chamber of Commerce in turn leases the various tracts of land comprised within the reservation from the original property owners. The lease is a modification of Quartermaster Corps Form No.101. The modification of clauses Nos. 1, 8, and 9 of this, are as follows:

"1. That the said lessor shall, and by these presents does hereby lease, demise, and let to the lessee the following described premises, to have and to hold the same with their appurtenances, unto the lessee, for the term beginning with July 1, 1918, and ending with June 30, 1919, at the rate per month and under the conditions named below, viz: For rental of a certain tract of land containing ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED (1900) ACRES, more or less, located in Chick Springs Township, County of Greenville and State of South Carolina, as shown on plat hereto attached, together with the entire use and control of all buildings, waterways and improvements thereon, with the further right on the part of the lessee to cut, use and remove all brushwood, saplings or trees thereon, by paying to the owner of the land a compensation to be based on the market price of the brushwood, saplings or trees, and the further right on the part of the lessee to work, grade, ditch, or drain any part of the aforesaid tract of land, and to erect or construct thereon such buildings, waterways, sewer systems, roads, etc., and to remove, alter or raze any or all buildings and improvements on the aforesaid tract, as may be deemed necessary for the Government's interest by paying to the owner of the land the value of damages to said buildings, improvements or property.

That all damages to crops prior to January 1, 1918, brought about through the making of this lease shall be paid for by the lessee.

The amount of damages to be paid in any or all of the aforesaid cases shall be arrived at by agreement between owner and the lessee, or a duly authorized agent of the Government, and if they fail to agree, they shall select a third arbitrator and the decision of any two shall be final, this plan of settlement to decide the extent of damages which may arise from the aforesaid causes during the entire period of this lease, or any renewal thereof.

The lessor agrees to construct a public highway from the City of Greenville, State of South Carolina, to the said Camp Site, so that there will be a twenty four (24) foot concrete road, except in such sections where there are two (2) sixteen (16) foot concrete roads; the Lessor further agrees to improve the roadways to the Maneuver Grounds and Artillery Range, by the construction of top soil roads where necessary to give a continuous roadway from the Camp Site, provided the Artillery Range is not more than twenty two (22) miles from the Camp Site.

That the aforesaid land and buildings to be used as a Camp Site and Training Grounds, or Cantonment, for United States Troops.

That for rental of the aforesaid premises and in consideration of the conditions pertaining thereto, the Lessor shall be paid the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) per annum.

8. That the lessee reserves the right to quit, relinquish and give up the said premises at any time within the period for which this lease is made or may be renewed, by giving to the said lessor or agent, Thirty days' notice in writing on or before May 31,1920.

9. That, at the option of the lessee, this lease, with all its covenants and agreements, may be renewed yearly as often as the needs of the public service may require, so as to give the lessee continuous possession of the premises, not extending, however, behand June 30, 1920, but no renewal shall be made to include more than one fiscal year. On and after July 1, 1920, the Lessor will continue to lease to the lessee any or all of the tracts of land covered by this lease as actual cost to the Lessor, in accordance with the terms of the various leases to be executed under options now on file in Register of Mesne Conveyance Office of Greenville County, State of South Carolina, under which this tract of land is leased by the lessor.

Work "annum" substituted for "month"4, Article 1, all of line except that" and first three words line two, and words "within days after" stricken out, and insertion of word "when" line 4, Article 3 and words "On or before May 31, 1920" added to line 3, Article 8, before execution of this lease. Frasure of lines one and two article 6, from the word "nor" to, and including the word "States", and lines 4 and 5 same Art., from word "so", to, and including the work "Commissioners" made before signing."

The damages to crops incident to the initial occupation of the camp were settled by an agreement made by the Chamber of Commerce. Following this, a series of claims, the result of wood cutting and building damages, were heard and agreed upon by the Board convened under Special Order No.31, dated December 28, 1917. The members of this were Major A.C. Doyle, Lieut. J.W. Franklin and Lieut. L. R. Collins. Their report was made to the Commanding General, Camp Sevier, S.C., February 11, 1918. This was forwarded by indersement to the Adjutant General of the Army on March 18, 1918, with the following notation:

"2.(a) It is recommended that immediate steps be instituted to bring about the purchase of the 1900 acres within the camp site proper at an approximate cost of from \$200.00 to \$300.00 per acre; thereby absorbing all claims whatsoever and avoiding payment of a very large part of the value of this land in damages and which will in many cases amount to the present purchase price of the land. These damages will be resultant from concrete foundations, trenches, artillery dug-outs, and net work of roads, and the general result of the occupation of a large area by a large number of troops!"

This was referred back by the Chief of the Construction Division, directing that options be obtained for the various tracts of land. These were not obtained until October 25,1918, and, with the exception of those originally given to the Chamber of Commerce, have expired.

The following claims for damages to land within the reservation were considered by a board appointed under authority of letter from the Adjutant General of the Army, dated December 23, 1918, and confirmed by Special Order No. 8, dated January 8, 1918, consisting of Captain Harry E. Jordan, Lieut. L.R. Collins and Mr. W.E. Treathaway, representing the Real Estate Section of the Purchase, Storage and Traffic Division. The report of this Board was made April 7, 1919, and forwarded by indorsement of the Commanding General to the Adjutant General of the Army on April 8th.

#### RIFLE RANGE.

The Rifle Range was rented directly by the War Department by a series of leases dated November 1st, 1917, and Form No. 101 was modified in clause one by the following:-

"Except it is further agreed, that, in case this lease is extended to cover any fiscal year beyond June 30th, 1918, that the total annual rental for that fiscal year shall not exceed the total amount of said rental from January 1st, 1918, to June 30th, 1918, and that inasmuch as said land is valueless to the lessor except for agricultural purposes that said lesses shall have the right to full use and occupation, as such, upon lessee's election and free of any further cost from June 30th, 1918, to December 31st, 1918; Provided, that the lessee, having extended this lease beyond the end of any fiscal year, for the next succeeding fiscal year, shall, if this lease be vacated on or before December 31st, of said fiscal year, pay no rental whatever, but, if this lease be not vacated before January 1st of said fiscal year, pay the entire amount of the rental agreed upon above for the whole fiscal year, Said lease is hereby made upon the following terms and conditions:"

The Board convened under Special Order No.63, dated November 6,1917, and determined the initial crop damages, - their total allowance for this was \$8,717.60. Payment was made March 26, 1918 by the Constructing Overtermaster. Final Claims for damages were considered by the same

Board that considered the damages to the Camp Site, and report was made on April 7, 1919, and forwarded the following day to the Adjutant General of the Army.

## (ARTILLERY RANGE)

The Artillery Range was leased by the War Department by a series of leases dated November 1st, 1917. When the use of the artillery range was terminated, notice of termination of leases as of December 31, 1918, was given. Claims for damages were considered by a Board appointed under Special Order No. 162, dated September 30, 1918.

#### DAMAGES ADJACENT TO CAMP SITE.

Two special groups of damage claims have been adjusted, - one for embankment placed in preparation for the construction of an overhead bridge at Paris Station, and the damages resulting from the laying of the Sewer Line to the South Septic Tank.

Damages of all classes except original crop claims are summarized in the following tabulation:

	Claimed by Property Owners		Allowe	. •
,	1918	1919	1918	1919.
A.Base Hospital B.Remount C.Storage, D.Rifle Range, E.Camp Site, F.Outlying Area. G.Artillery Range	No data as to original amount claimed	\$ 10270.00 18587.75 12056.30 50275.62 155734.75 3370.00	\$3423.00 2787.50 2800.00 0 91183.24 2688.66 1604.25	\$ 6564.00 8111.13 9629.90 39774.62 75701.88 3370.00
D.W.H.Roberts Con- demnation.Federal			Allowed by Jury	
Court		13000.00	ر مساسم	2736.78
Total		meritin elitioshiethanbiert technischer Gertant ponocher a gi	\$104486.65	\$145888.31

The series of sheets following give the number of acres leased; the Board's estimate of their value, and damages allowed on the camp site proper and rifle range. The same information, with the exception of estimated value is given on the lands included in the Artillery Range.

# DAMAGE CLAIMS APPROVED BY CLAIM BOARD FOR 1918 DIVIDED ON THE BASIS OF THE SUB-DIVISION OF THE CAMB.

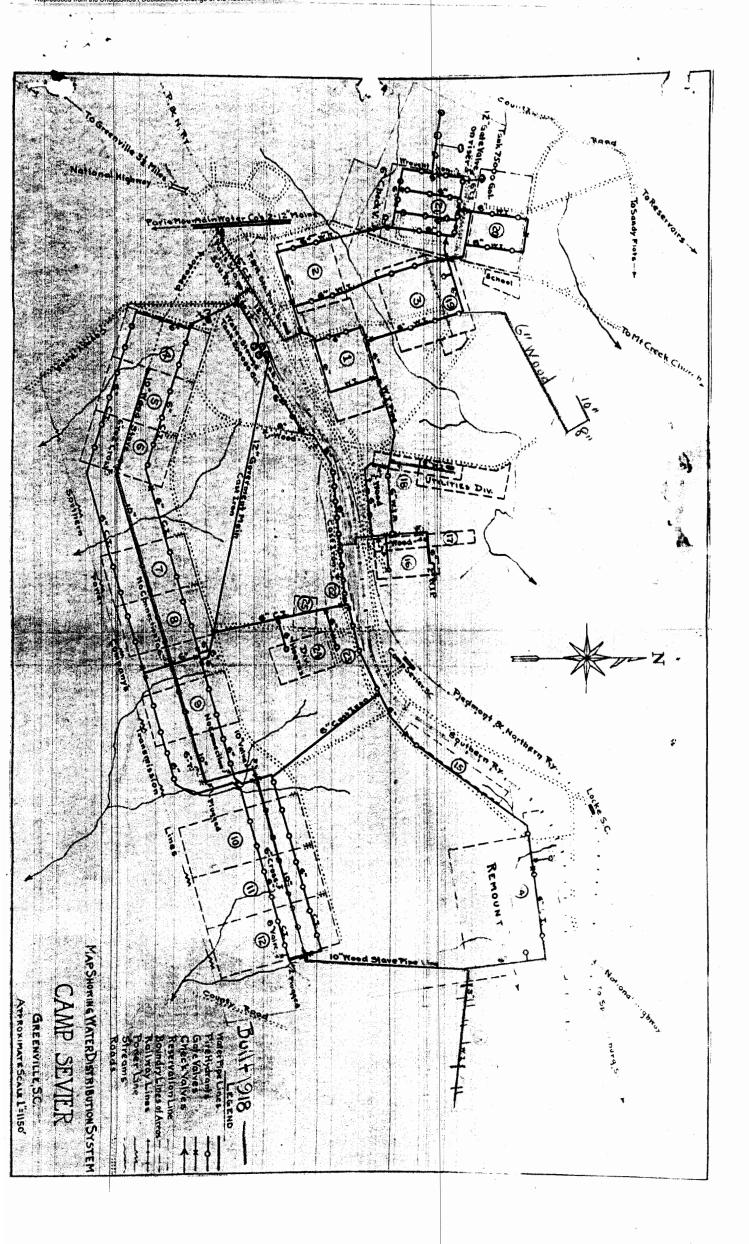
Name	Base Hospital	Remount \$	Storage Area	Camp Site	Outlying Area.
Ballenger, J.H.	•	•	•	955.00	•
Black, S.G.				925.00	
Cole, J.L.				1110.00	
Edwards, B. Perry		2000.00		36574.50	
Edwards B. Perry, Trustee				6750,00	725.00
Edwards B. Perry			2800.00	950.00	•
Edwards, Vance,				15450.00	<b>558.5</b> 0
Fair, J.H.	•			190.00	
Findlay, Alexander,				10952.85	37 <i>5</i> .00
Green, J.L.				600.00	
Green, M.C.	2000.00				
Green, Q.A., Trustee	975.00			2989.00	
Green, Q.A.				11039,00	
Green, T.E.				915.49	391.41
Howard, Mrs. Elranza,	448.00			672.00	
Locke, W.B.		50.00			
Miller, O.L.			•	200.00	•
Osland, Paul J.				150.00	
Realty Corporation,				122.90	
Tanner, Alfred		187.50	1		•
Tannahill, Co.R.N.				450.00	
Wharton, E.M.	•			187.50	
Smith, Walter, (Watson's					
land 1919.		550.00			
Nesbit, C.R.					100.00
Stuart, L.A.					371.25
Stuart, T.C.					117.50
Wynne, C.W.					50.00
TOTAL	3423.00	2787.50	2800.00	91183.24	2688,66
		(P-	1)		

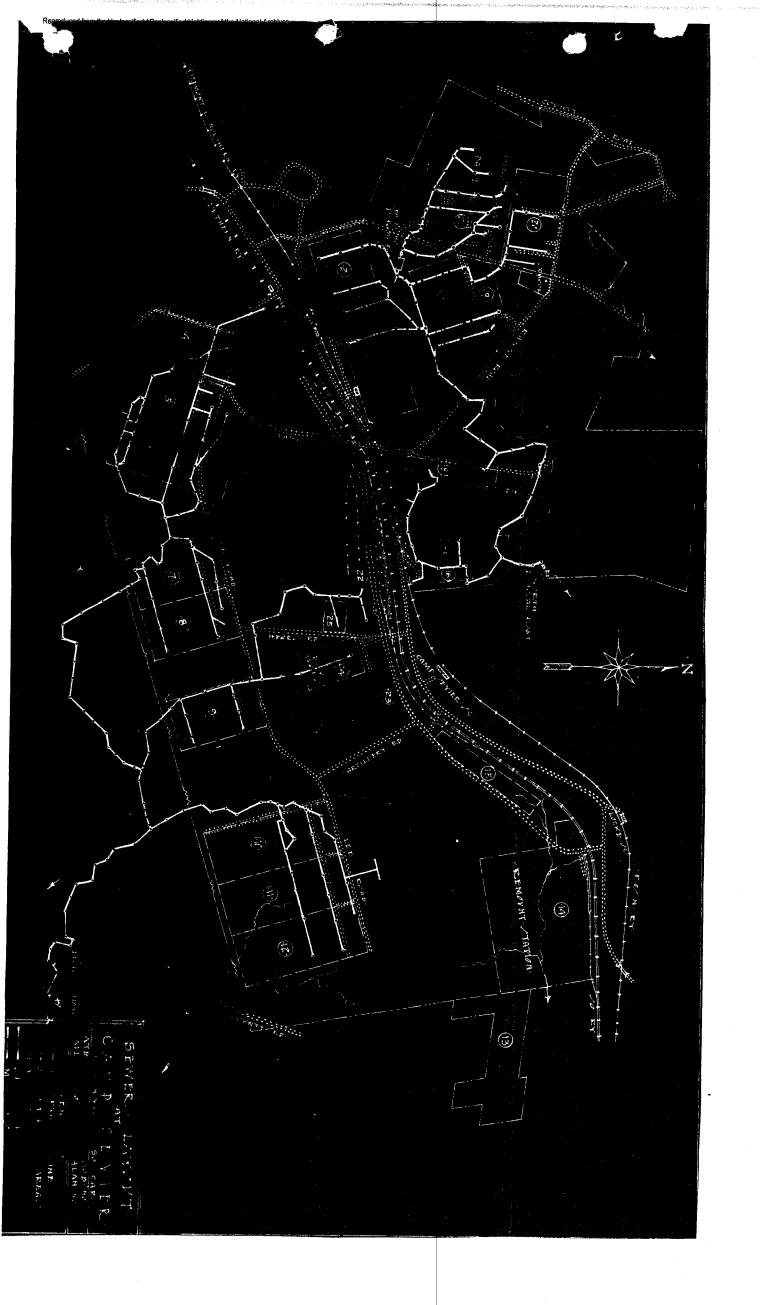
## CLASSIFICATION OF DAMAGE CLAIMS APPROVED BY CLAIM BOARD FOR 1918.

RESERVATION

		Lumber	Soil	•	_	
Name	Buildings	Timber	Preparation	Fences	Misc.	Total.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	Ş	Ş
Ballenger, J.H.		770.00	60.00	125.00		955.00
Black, S.G.	75.00	750.00	00,00	100.00		925.00
Cole Miss Elranza, G.	150.00	950.00		100,00	20.00	1120.00
Green.J.Iee,Trustee	500.00	375 <b>.0</b> 0	160.00		75.00	1110.00
Edwards, B. Perry,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	37729.50	320.00	325.00	200.00	385 <b>74.5</b> 0
Edwards, B. Perry		3750.00	320.00	327.00	200,00	3750.00
Edwards, P. Perry, Trustee		6750.00				6750.00
Edwards, Vance,		15750.00	(~)		<b>75.</b> 00	15450.00
		50.00	80.00	60.00	17.00	190.00
Fair, J.H.	•	9941.00	120.00	447.25	444.50	10952.85
Finlay, Alexander 3 Ola Lee	e	600.00	120.00	441.62	444.70	600.00
Greene, J.Lee	1000 00	450.00			770 00	2000.00
Green, M.C.	1220.00	-	400.00	480.00	330.00	
Green, Q.A.	1290.00	8782.00	400.00		87.00	11039.00
Green, Q.A., Trustee	1090.00	2550.00	200.00	20.00	104.00	3964.00
Greene,T.E.		687.50		81.74	146.25	915.49
Locke, J.D.		50.00	4			50,00
Miller, O.L.		140.00	60.00			200.00
Celand, Paul J.	15.00			135.00	-	150.00
Smith, Walter,		<b>500.0</b> 0			50.00	550.00
Tannahill Co., R.N.	450.00					450.00
Tanner,Alfred		187.50				187.50
Realty Corporation,		20.00			102.90	122.90
Wharton, E.M.		187.50				187.50

NOTE (x) Less \$375.00 payment made by Camp Quartermaster.





15 Jan 2016 NARA JUKT RG 92 ENTY 1974 Box 245 Cp Servier, 5°C.