

PROPERTY FOR INDIAN SCHOOL PURPOSES.

L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

IN RELATION TO

An appropriation of \$25,000 to purchase property for Indian school purposes.

JANUARY 17, 1885.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *January 16, 1885.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith, for the consideration of Congress, a communication of the 14th instant from the Secretary of the Interior, with inclosures and maps, relating to an appropriation of \$25,000 to purchase what is known as the Keam's Cañon property, situated within the Moquis Indian Reservation, in Arizona, for Indian school purposes.

Very respectfully,

CHARLES E. COON,
Acting Secretary.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 14, 1885.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of letter of 15th ultimo from Mr. Thomas V. Keam, of Keam's Cañon, Arizona, with inclosures noted therein relating to the purchase of what is known as the Keam's Cañon property, situated within the Moquis Indian Reservation in Arizona, for Indian school purposes.

The purchase of this property for Indian school purposes has heretofore been the subject of correspondence with the Congress as will be seen from copies of letters dated the 18th and 20th of April, 1884, addressed to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, presenting an item of appropriation in the sum of \$25,000 for incorporation in the Indian appropriation bill, then pending for this object.

Under the direction contained in section 2 of the act of July 7, 1884 (Pamph. Ed. U. S. Stat., p. 254), the matter is respectfully transmitted

for presentation to the Congress, with the recommendation that the appropriation may be made and authority granted for the purchase of the property for the purpose named.

Very respectfully,

M. L. JOSLYN,
Acting Secretary.

The Hon. the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

KEAM'S CAÑON, ARIZONA,
December 1, 1884.

To the Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following statement concerning the property known as Keam's Cañon. It is situated about 13 miles east from the Moqui villages in the northeastern part of Arizona, and which an executive order, dated December, 1883, places inside of the boundaries of what is known as the Moquis Reservation.

In the year 1875, I began the erection of buildings at this place for the purpose of trading with the Navajo and Moqui Indians, deeming it at that time, not only a good locality for such business, but with necessary improvements a suitable place for a stock ranch, the grazing in the vicinity being good. At that time the water-supply was extremely limited, but I was satisfied from indications that a sufficient quantity could be obtained by opening up the springs in the cañon, conveying the water to reservoirs by ditches, building dams, &c. Having constantly improved the property in this manner, I now have an ample supply of the best water in the Territory, enough to irrigate several hundreds of acres of land, and is daily used by both Navajoes and Moquis to water several thousand sheep and numerous bands of horses.

At present I have about 100 acres of land inclosed within good stone walls, surmounted with barbed-wire fence, and according to the best of my judgment I believe there is a sufficient supply of water to irrigate the entire width of the cañon for 4 miles from the upper spring; there are about twenty springs, large and small, along this section of the cañon.

There are seven substantial stone buildings, containing twenty rooms, beside wood-house, work-shops, poultry-houses, cellars, stables, corrals, wagon-sheds, &c., also all built of stone.

The principal springs are walled and otherwise protected from evaporation; in the spring-house is a hydraulic ram which forces water, to the upper house, through 1,500 feet of iron pipe.

I transmit herewith an itemized statement of the total outlay upon these improvements since my first settlement in the cañon, and also submit a topographical map of the cañon, showing position of some of the springs, improvements, &c., relative to the buildings, and also two ground plans, explaining with more detail the building comprised in each group.

The establishing of the reservation prevents me from carrying out my intention of having a cattle ranch here, as the herds of Indian sheep and horses coming to water consume the grass in this vicinity. I therefore propose to sell the property, which, from the number of good stone buildings, abundant water-supply, and agricultural facilities, is peculiarly fitted for an Indian industrial school.

I would also state that the cañon is centrally situated as regards the Western Navajoes, who number at least seven thousand; it is convenient to Moqui villages, and the principal men of both these tribes have repeatedly expressed their desire to me to have such schools established here.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

THOMAS V. KEAM.

DESCRIPTION OF BUILDINGS, DWELLINGS, OUTHOUSES, ETC., COMPRISING THE UPPER AND LOWER SETTLEMENTS IN KEAM'S CAÑON.

I. One large square house (dwelling) built of stone laid in mortar, with 2-foot walls, new shingle roof, containing four large rooms (square), large windows, closet rooms, excellent floors, walls, and ceilings, well finished and handsomely papered. This house is surrounded with a fine yard, with fountain immediately in front, which is supplied with the finest of cold spring water brought through an iron pipe from the side of the mesa, forced up by a hydraulic ram. Also a fine cistern lined with cement, 12 feet deep and 10 feet in diameter.

II. Adjoining this dwelling is another house of stone containing an ante-room and one larger room about 17 by 25 feet; the walls are plastered and both rooms have good flooring, and other conveniences, such as water-closets, &c., are attached. This house is also inclosed within a good, substantial picket fence. The lower group of buildings are about 500 yards below. These consist of—

(1.) A dwelling-house with two large rooms, a good flooring, doors, windows, &c., well and substantially finished, neat corner fire-place in each, with small front yard in picket fence.

(2.) Kitchen of moderate size; dining-room, adjoining to which is attached a bedroom. Adjoining these is a large, long room suitable for school-room. Attached to these are also two rooms suitable for bed-rooms, or any other ordinary purpose. To this is also attached a blacksmith's shop.

(3.) This house is about 40 yards distant; contains two large rooms in good condition.

(4.) Carpenter's shop.

(5.) Hay corral.

(6.) Stables for horses and cows fenced in with large, high, stone wall, with gate opening into the court or yard, and gate opening out to the road for wagons, &c.

(7.) Stone fowl-house, well arranged for chickens, ducks, and turkeys.

(8.) Large new water-closet.

(9.) Large shed 75 feet long, which with a small addition could be converted into dwelling-rooms, if desired.

(10.) Commodious cellar adjoining the kitchen.

(11.) Near the kitchen is a new dwelling with windows, two large rooms. All this lower group, except one, are inclosed within a large stone wall or fence.

(12.) There are about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of stone and wire fence inclosing about 100 acres of good arable land, which has been under cultivation for several years, readily irrigated by the streams flowing from each side of the valley.

(13.) Below this the valley is susceptible of cultivation for several miles by the streams mentioned. The roads approaching the dwellings are good and in good repair.

A mail route was established between this point and the railroad, and the mail arrives and leaves weekly.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, April 18, 1884.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith copies of papers in the matter of proposition of Thomas V. Keam, of Arizona, for the sale to the United States, for use as an Indian industrial school, of what is known as Keam's Cañon, situated 13 miles east of the Moqui villages and within the limits of the Indian reservation declared by Executive order of December 16, 1882.

A copy of an exhibit showing the improvements upon the premises and the valuation placed thereon by Mr. Keam is inclosed, showing the total sum asked for the property to be \$25,000.

By the accompanying papers in the case, I am satisfied that the property offered is worth the sum asked therefor.

As it is desirable to enlarge the school facilities for Indian youth in this locality, it is believed that the purchase of these improvements, situated within an Indian reservation, afford a favorable opportunity for so doing; at the same time it will relieve the reservation of the presence of this white settlement, and open to the Indians an abundant supply of water, of which they at present have not sufficient for their sheep and other cattle.

I therefore recommend that provision for the purchase of the improvements be made in the Indian appropriation bill now pending before your committee.

Among the accompanying papers is a copy of a report on this subject made by Mr. James Stevenson, executive officer of the Geological and Geographical Survey, dated April 14, 1884, giving a detailed statement of the present condition of the premises, and also a copy of a re-

ply received from Senator Logan, dated the 13th instant, stating that the property is well adapted for the purposes of an Indian school or agency, and that the value set upon it by Mr. Keam is reasonable.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
UNITED STATES SENATE.

MEMORANDUM OF REAL ESTATE IN KEAM'S CAÑON, ARIZONA.

Private dwelling-house and garden, picket fence, water cistern, and out-houses	\$5,000
Servant's house (stone cottage)	500
Post dwelling-house and garden	1,500
Trading post, store and warehouses, cellar, office, dining-room and kitchen..	5,000
Museum building and picket fencing	800
Laborers' quarters	500
Wool-shed (stone), 75 feet long	500
Blacksmith shop, carpenter's shop, and wagon-shed	800
Stables, hay, corral, and horse yard	500
Cow stable and corral, poultry house	400
Two miles stone fencing, 1 mile stone and wire fence	1,000
Dams and ditches, hydraulic ram, fountain, 1,500 feet iron piping	2,000
General improvements, roads, reservoirs, gardens, waters, duck-pond, stone pig-pens, transplanted trees	6,500
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	25,000

All the buildings are of stone, laid in adobe plaster.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, April 20, 1884.

SIR: In response to request contained in your telegram of yesterday, I have prepared and have the honor to transmit herewith a draft of a suitable amendment to the Indian appropriation bill, for the purchase for industrial school purposes of the buildings and other improvements in what is known as Keam's Cañon, within the Moquis Indian Reservation in the Territory of Arizona, an appropriation for the purchase of which was recommended in my letter to you of the 18th instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
UNITED STATES SENATE.

To enable the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, to purchase for Indian industrial school purposes the buildings and other improvements in what is known as Keam's Cañon within the reservation, in the Territory of Arizona, established for the use and occupancy of the Moquis and other Indians by Executive order dated December sixteenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, and to pay therefor such sum as he shall deem just and reasonable, not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars; *Provided*, That upon payment therefor the owner of said buildings and other improvements shall execute and deliver to the Secretary of the Interior a full relinquishment of all his right, title, and interest in and to the same, and to any and all buildings and other improvements of whatsoever character owned by him within the limits of said reservation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 14, 1884.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report relative to the character, capacity, and adaptability for industrial school purposes, as well as the advisability of the purchase of the same by the Government, of the group of dwellings and other buildings situated in Kean's Cañon, Arizona.

This settlement is located in Kean's Cañon, in the northeastern part of Arizona, which by a recent Executive order is brought within the boundaries of the Navajo and Moquis Reservations.

As it is now proposed to order the Moqui and Navajo Indians within their reservation limits, beyond whose borders many of their number have improved farms, and have cultivated the soil for many years, and a large portion of the tribe have subsequently followed from necessity, as their herds have increased, all on account of an inadequate supply of water within the area set aside for their reservation, it therefore becomes a matter of the utmost importance both to the Indians and the Government to secure all the farming lands and water available.

The Navajo tribe numbers about 17,000 individuals. They have about 1,000,000 head of sheep, 20,000 head of horses, and about 800 head of cattle. Their reservation, though very large, does not contain within its borders enough water to supply the wants of more than one-fifth of the tribe. At the present time, from lack of water, four-fifths of the tribe have been obliged to go beyond the limits of their reservation. The country surrounding the Navajo Reservation is rapidly settling up by an energetic and aggressive class of white settlers, and unless the Indians are required to move within the limits of their reservation within a very short time, serious difficulties will inevitably arise between them and these settlers. To compel the whole of this large tribe to go within their reservation with their large herds of sheep, horses, and cattle, where they must soon famish for want of water, would be a great injustice to them. It therefore becomes a matter of great importance on the part of the Government to secure every available locality possessing water, at least until such time as the Government can, either by artesian wells, dams, or other means, aid them in obtaining a sufficient amount of water to supply their absolute wants.

The locality referred to, Kean's Cañon, is situated between the Navajo and Moquis Reservations, and convenient to both.

The water supply in this cañon is sufficient to accommodate all the Indians from either or both these tribes that are very likely to congregate in this vicinity, and more than ample to supply the needs of an industrial school on the largest scale. This locality is readily approached by excellent wagon roads from three different directions. One from the railroad at Holbrook, distant about 69 miles; another by way of Fort Defiance, leaving the railroad at Manuelito, passing directly through the reservation. Kean's settlement, while centrally located, is sufficiently distant from all points to be free from contact with the whites.

There is no other water nearer than 35 miles in any direction sufficient to supply the wants of even a dozen families, the nearest being the stream known as the Pueblo Colorado, which is 40 miles east by the road. In consideration of these circumstances, I would most earnestly recommend the purchase of the buildings and all the appurtenances at Kean's Cañon, for the purpose of establishing an industrial school for the accommodation of the Moqui and Navajo Indians. These buildings and the practical advantages connected with them, as will be seen by the list herewith inclosed, could not be constructed by the Government for double the sum for which they are offered, even if there was a locality anywhere in that country suitable for them.

The attachment, through association, which both the Navajo and Moqui Indians possess for this region, its excellent water, climate, and good grass, all make it superior to any spot within that entire country; and the Indians of all these tribes would with perfect willingness send their children of all ages to a school establishment here.

These quarters are ample to accommodate as many teachers and instructors in industrial arts, and their families as will be necessary for the prosecution of a large industrial school. The land, which has been under cultivation for several years, is inclosed within good and substantial stone and wire fences, and is sufficient in area to provide employment and products for a school of 300 children, and as many teachers and attendants as will be necessary for the control and management of such a school.

Very respectfully, yours,

JAMES STEVENSON.

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior.

H. Ex. 100—2

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April 13* [1884].

DEAR SIR: Your letter of April 10, inclosing copy of Mr. Keem's statement in regard to his property in Keem's Cañon, Arizona, is received. I have examined his letter describing his property, and the value he has placed thereon.

In reply to your request for information in reference thereto, I will say that I have visited his place some two or three times; remained there at one time for several days. Last summer I traveled all around that country in every direction. As to fitness for the purposes he suggests, *i. e.*, Indian school or agency, I must say that my judgment is that it is the most suitable location in all that country for either or both of said purposes.

I have no hesitancy in recommending the purchase of this property by the Government, and deem the value set upon it by Mr. Keem as very reasonable.

Very respectfully,

JOHN A. LOGAN.

HON. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior.

[Extract from annual report of Maj. J. H. Bowman, United States Indian agent for the Navajoes and Moquis.]

NAVAJO AGENCY, NEW MEXICO, *September 9*, 1884.

SIR: In compliance with the Congressional act which combined the Moquis Agency with that of the Navajoes, I submit the following additions to my annual report of the Indians under my charge.

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The Moquis manifest an earnest desire to educate their children. After a careful estimate with some of the most thoughtful of their head men, I am assured that out of their population of 1,920 they will furnish at least 250 pupils of suitable age for schooling. I think with proper encouragement they would maintain a school, and keep it well filled with their children; and I believe the Government should do something for them in this way during the present year. It is true the Government has no building which could be used for that purpose, nor are there any in the vicinity of their villages, but Mr. Thomas V. Keam, of Keam's Cañon, has kindly offered to place at my disposal a comfortable building adjoining his trading post, about 12 miles on this side of the villages, easily accessible, and centrally located for them as well as for the Western Navajoes, and could be used for both as an experimental school. It would be but a trifling cost to start and conduct it. It must, however, be borne in mind that the locality is 75 miles from this agency. Keam's Cañon is 12 miles east from the Moqui villages. The children being removed to school at that place would preserve them from the annoyance and interruption of daily visits from parents and relatives.

I have been given to understand that the attention of the proper authorities has already been drawn to the adaptability of Mr. Keam's property as an industrial school. The houses are well and substantially built of stone, are numerous and commodious, and well planned. They are surrounded with well cultivated gardens, producing the more nutritive class of vegetables hitherto unknown to these Indians, but which must convey to them many practical ideas and suggestions of improvement. The place is well calculated in every way for an Indian school, where industry, book knowledge, and the care of stock could be taught to advantage.

There have been no employés at the Moqui Agency, or rather among these people, during the past year. They have received nothing from the Government in the way of annuities or rations, and they do not ask for much now.

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In conclusion, I sincerely hope that you will interest yourself in the establishment of a school for them, believing that if you do so, they will give it their hearty support, and keep it full. If their little ones could be educated what stores of interesting legends of the dead past they could give to the world from the traditions of their race.

Very respectfully,

JOHN H. BOWMAN,
Indian Agent.

To the Hon. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.