

D

(Formerly)

D/3/58/III	D/3/58/III

NEW DISCOVERY HOUSE - S. GEORGIA.

CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER

D/3/58/A.

^{of contract}
Plans kept in A.C.S.'s classified room.

New Discovery House - Passages for Personnel.

446

S.G. No. 162.....



MEMO

C.S. No.....

From:—

...9th April,..... 1963.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,
SOUTH GEORGIA.

To:—

The Honourable,
.....
The Colonial Secretary,
.....
STANLEY.

447-451

Attached for your information please find copy of
Final Report to Crown Agents on the New Discovery House
Contract.

Administrative Officer.

Ref: 162.

King Edward Point,
SOUTH GEORGIA.

9th April, 1963.

The Crown Agents for Oversea
Governments and Administrations,
4, Millbank,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Gentlemen,

New Discovery House Contract

The above contract was completed on the
22nd February, 1963.

The workmanship generally is good with
the following two exceptions :-

P.V.C. Tiles and Sheeting.

The two main bathrooms on the second
floor were covered with P.V.C. Sheeting; due to
bad laying there were numerous bulges and waves.
These were pointed out to Mr. Redden and the sheet-
ing was relaid, but still in an unsatisfactory
manner; again it was ripped up and a third attempt
at satisfactory laying made. One bathroom floor
was then passed as acceptable but the second bath-
room floor had to be stripped a fourth time and was
eventually covered with P.V.C. Tiles. As a result
of this experience with the P.V.C. Sheeting all floor
areas listed to be covered with sheeting as shown on
page 14 of Simms' Tender were in fact covered with
Tiles.

From the time Tile laying commenced until the completion of the contract, I continually found tiles lifting. This was due in many cases to careless laying as some tiles on being lifted had no fixture adhering. When the contract was completed all appeared to be well, but shortly after occupation, tiles were again found to be lifting. Some of these appeared to be affected by traffic through the building, and localised pressure, as from tables and chairs. On the other hand unoccupied and locked rooms, i.e. Dormitory, Doctor's Consulting and Treatment room, also had a considerable number of lifted tiles. These were all resaid using "Evo-Stik" and it is hoped they will now stay in position.

I am not at all satisfied with this job and I am not prepared to say that we will not have tiling trouble in the future.

I consider a fundamental cause of this trouble was inexperienced craftsmen. The man who was supposed to be specially trained had not the experience or the skill. The coving, which is in position is of an extremely poor finish and defeats its purpose due to bad corners with overlaps and gaps.

2nd Floor Ceilings.

The appearance of the 2nd Floor Ceilings is poor. The ceiling panels do not give a good finish, they are uneven and numerous gaps up to $\frac{1}{2}$ " had to be covered with battens. Even now there is sufficient openings between panels for dust and loose fibre from the mineral woolquilting to penetrate into rooms causing much dust.

Charges additional to Contract Price.

Simms' Representative, Mr. Oseroft, visited South Georgia to examine the site prior to Tender, also to obtain information on local conditions. In this connection it was stressed and demonstrated to Mr. Oseroft the inadvisability of sending heavy vehicles or equipment to South Georgia. He had a practical demonstration of how easily a light Tractor could get bogged in.

The late Mr. Watt, on arrival, appreciated the difficulty and realised that the 3-ton Trailer, presumably to be towed by the J.C.B. were entirely useless as transport. He then told me that he intended hiring a Tractor and Trailer from Albion Star (South Georgia) Limited to compensate for the J.C.B. and Trailer, and stated that under the circumstances this would be Simms' liability. I agree and stress that all charges in this connection should be to Simms' account.

Attached for your information please find Lists of Variation Orders, Items listed under Tender but not supplied, and Breakages.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



Administrative Officer.
SOUTH GEORGIA.

C.C. Colonial Secretary, Falkland Islands. ✓
Mr. Redden, Simms' Sons & Cooke Ltd., South Georgia.

Ref: 162.

VARIATION ORDER - Engineers' Representative.

Items not fitted:-

- 1. Ski Store toilet
 - " " " dividing wall
 - " " " door
 - " " Wash basin and taps
 All indoor and outdoor plumbing for above, and man-hole with connections to Main drainage.
- 2. Changing cubicle in Doctor's consulting room.
- 3. Billiard table light.
- 4. Fire Checks in roof space - only three erected as Simms' Supervisor considered it impossible to fit remaining two.

Additional items fitted:-

- 1. Cat-walk fitted in roof space
- 2. Four shelves fitted in Medical Store First floor.

ITEMS LISTED UNDER TENDER BUT NOT SUPPLIED.

Item B. H.C.055 CREDA HEAVY DUTY BOILING TABLE.

Item I. ANGLE SHAPED STAINLESS STEEL WASHING AND ELECTRICALLY HEATED STERILISING SINK UNIT.

Item R. No.3904 MAG PORTABLE PLATFORM SCALE.

Kitchen Equipment.

50	3"	Aluminium	Pudding basins
50	8"	"	Stacking Rings
50	18"	"	Cafeteria Trays
1		No.5.	Spring Balance
1		No.22.	Mincer
1			Cork Screw

Item 164. 16 Desks not fitted with Book shelves.

Item 177. Fitted Carpets (16 Carpets size 6'x 9' supplied instead).

Item 202. 4 Slatted Seats 4' long (Only 2 supplied).

BREAKAGES.

- Item 108. 1 Vegetable dish
- 3 Egg Cups
- 1 Pepper Pot
- 1 Mustard Pot
- 1 Marmalade Pot
- 3 Soup Bowls and plates
- 1 Tea Plate
- 1 Tea Cup
- 1 Bread Bin
- 1 Pastry Board 22" x 16" x 1" } Cracked
- 1 Chopping Board 18" x 12" x 2" } and warped.
- Item 60. 1 1/2 pint Glass
- Item 71. 1 Wall Thermometer
- Item 72. 1 Wall Barometer
- Item 49. 1 Vyanide Armchair - Upholstery torn
- Item 51. 1 " Coffee Chair - Upholstery torn
- Item 164. 2 Knee-hole Desks badly scored woodwork

Owing to large number of "Cetus" electric fittings broken in transit four were not fitted

8 Bell Push Covers - wrong size supplied.

mail from 446.

S.S. for information
30/4/62

30.4.63
Pa

452

G.S.

H.C.T. has asked me about B on

has 2 of the estimates for 1962-63 at G/C.

This item was inserted by G.S. and nobody else seems to know anything about it. Unfortunately, when H.C.T. asked me, A.O. was about 15 miles out on his way to make video, though I doubt where he would have known.

Discovery House at present contains a surgery and two wards and it would appear that G.S. must have got C.D.W. to agree to give a grant for this.

✓ Shall we point out to G.S. that this is provided for and that if we can assume that he will take necessary steps to obtain the grant?

(I have not submitted all to banking files)

or 3/5/63.

453

~~RA~~

15.5.63

454

H.C.T.

→

H.C.S.

455

Noted for draft despatch on estimates. Thank you. H.C.S. 22.5.63

H.C.S.

456

✓ on 452

Please see para 4 of fo. 23 2/6/59/D

1.6.63

457

Gen N = R.V.

2/6/63

~~RA~~
Ra



W. J. SIMMS SONS & COOKE LTD

JOINERY MANUFACTURERS

TELEPHONE:
66264 (8 LINES)

HAYDN ROAD · SHERWOOD
NOTTINGHAM

TELEGRAMS:
CONTRACTS NOTTINGHAM

BRANCH WORKS: SPRING CLOSE LENTON NOTTINGHAM

HB/ESB

8th May, 1963

Sir Edwin Porter Arrow Smith, K. C. M. G.,
Governor & Commander in Chief,
Government House,
Falkland Islands.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Directors of W. J. Simms Sons & Cooke I am writing to thank you for your letter expressing appreciation of the Erection Team at New Discovery House.

It is very gratifying to us to know, that a job of this nature has gone through without seemingly any troubles. These as you can well realize on work carried out so far from the main Company, require careful pre-planning, and careful as we may be, sometimes things go astray, but in this particular job everything seems to have gone smoothly.

If ever you find yourself in the vicinity of Nottingham, don't hesitate to call on the Writer who will be delighted to see you and to listen to some of your problems in your remote part of the world.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

H. Brown.
Director.

My Ref. FST 223/15/01
Your Ref. D/3/58/11

452

ng

In the Secretary of State for the Colonies.
to the Officer Administering the Government of FAKLAND ISLANDS
DEPENDENCIES

Date 13 May 1963

No. 3 Saving

440 in Vol. II Your savingram No. S.G.1 of 1st March.

New Discovery House, South Georgia

Crown Agents confirm that no provision was made in estimates for an Engineer's Representative to supervise works at site. They are now waiting for Messrs. Simms' final account and when this is settled there is a possibility that sufficient funds will remain under contingencies to pay Captain Coleman for his services.

SECEP

THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE AND THE
DATE OF THIS LETTER SHOULD BE
QUOTED IN COMMUNICATIONS.

459

CROWN AGENTS

FOR OVERSEA GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS

EC3/South Georgia F.I.D. 232/1.

TELEGRAMS { INLAND: "CROWN, SOWEST, LONDON."
OVERSEA: "CROWN, LONDON SW 1"

TELEPHONE: ABBEY 7730
TELEX No. 24209



4, MILLBANK,
LONDON, S.W.1.

24th May, 1963.

Dear Sir,

New Discovery House.

447
We refer to a letter Ref.162 dated 9th April which we have received from the Administrative Officer, South Georgia, in which he comments on two cases in which he considers that the workmanship is below the average for the rest of the building. We are taking up this matter with the Contractor, and we will contest any charge if it should be made in respect of the hire of the Tractor and Trailer from Albion Star in South Georgia, to which the Administrative Officer has also referred. In this connection, we have not yet received the Contractor's final invoice for the contract.

With reference to the list of items shown in the tender but not supplied, it must be explained that after a meeting at this office shortly before the contract was placed, several of these items were withdrawn or amended from Simms, Sons & Cooke's proposed list by mutual agreement between the firm and ourselves. It seems that these items may not have been cancelled in the copies of the Contract Document sent to the Administrative Officer and yourself. The items withdrawn or amended in quantity are as follows:-

- | | | |
|----------------|---|------------|
| <u>Item B.</u> | H.C.055 Creda Heavy Duty Boiling Table. | Withdrawn. |
| <u>Item K.</u> | Angle Shaped Stainless Steel Washing and Electrically Heated Sterilising Sink Unit. | Withdrawn. |
| <u>Item R.</u> | No.3901 AAG Portable Platform Scale. | Withdrawn. |

Kitchen Equipment.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 50 No. 3" Aluminium Fudding Basins. | Amended to 20 No. |
| 50 No. 8" Aluminium Stacking Rings. | Withdrawn. |
| 50 No. 18" " Cafeteria Trays. | Amended to 20 No. |
| 1 - No.22 Mincer. | Withdrawn. |

We have written to Simms, Sons & Cooke regarding those items where there are shortages in supply and where breakages and damage have been reported by the Administrative Officer. We will pursue these matters further when we have had the Contractor's reply.

Sent to alo. s.g. | A copy of this letter is enclosed for the Administrative Officer.

Yours faithfully,

hw Poynter

for the Crown Agents.

The Colonial Secretary.,
Port Stanley,
FAKLAND ISLANDS.

LWP/STB.

460
See NFA at home

mail from 458.

19/6/63

September 4, 1963.

(Dear Lord Shackleton,)

Until last year the single men at our Government station in South Georgia lived in a building called "Discovery House". The accommodation was poor, and over the years the building had become dilapidated. Last year, a very fine new building was put up, containing 16 single rooms, a six-bed dormitory, accommodation for a doctor and a dentist, and an excellent lounge, kitchen and dining room. We should very much like to call this new building SHACKLETON HOUSE, and I hope you would have no objection to our doing so.

(Yours sincerely,

Edwin Arrowsmith.)

Reply at 462

The Lord Shackleton, O.B.E.

BV 20-1253

462

38, South Audley Street,
London, W.1.

18th September, 1963.

Dear Governor

461

Thank you very much for your letter. It is kind of you to consult me on the suggestion that the new Government station building in South Georgia should be named "Shackleton House".

I have, of course, no objection to this and, indeed, am delighted at the proposal. I only wish I could have the chance of seeing the building.



(Shackleton)

Li

His Excellency E. P. Arrowsmith, K.C.M.G.,
Government House,
Falkland Islands.

S/JK

Shackleton
Sender's name and address:.....

EX 38, South Audley Street

London, W.1.

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE ; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

← Second fold here →



His Excellency Sir E. P. Arrowsmith,
K.C.M.G.,

Government House,

The Falkland Islands,

DECODE.

463

TELEGRAM.

From H. E. THE GOVERNOR

To A. O. SOUTH GEORGIA

Despatched : 15th October 19 63 Time : 1545

Received : 19 Time :

No. 194. Lord Shackleton is delighted at proposal
that New Discovery House should be called Shackleton House.
Let us so refer to it in future.

GOVERNOR.

Pa

EPA/ER

P/L

Extract from a Confidential letter to His Excellency the Governor from the Administrative Officer, South Georgia (D. J. Coleman) dated the 10th of February, 1964. Original filed in P/847/II.

The second point I would like to raise is in connection with Shackleton House (New Discovery) contract and my fee as Engineer's Representative. I am aware that you took definite action on the matter and a tentative figure was reached, but to date I have received no payment. As almost a year has passed since the completion of the contract, your assistance in the settlement of the matter would be very much appreciated.

468

Extract from an In Confidence letter to Mr Coleman, South Georgia (Administrative Officer) from His Excellency the Governor dated the 27th of February, 1964. Original filed in P/847/II (reply to above).

On the second point there must have been some telepathy at work, for just about the time you wrote your letter I rang up the Secretariat to find out if anything had come through on a fee for you as Engineer's Representative for Shackleton House. Nothing has, in fact, and a reminder has been sent.

Bu 12.4.64
Lud

tel

Pl. send usual remm. to S/S re 466.

17.2.64

~~Bu 25.5.64~~

No reply to 466

Bu 17.6.64

No reply to 466 yet

No reply to 466

Bu 16.8.64

Bu 27.9.64

Our Ref: FST. 223/15/01.
Your Ref: D/3/58/II.

47

vinge

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To the Officer Administering the Government of FALKLAND ISLANDS

Date 20 August, 1964.

No. S.G. 14 Saving



466 Your Saving No. 4. South Georgia

New Discovery House

Final account of Messrs. Simms, Sons & Cooke Limited has now been agreed, and Crown Agents advise that from records available to them they have compiled an estimate of the total cost of the project amounting to £188,960:14: 10d, which includes all freight, passages, insurance, demurrage etc., costs and Crown Agents charges.

2. Provided you are satisfied that the supervision of this building entailed much extra work and a great deal of responsibility, for Captain Coleman, we agree that it would not be unreasonable to recompense him for his services and suggest that a payment not exceeding £400 would be suitable.

300471

SECEP.

471

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Colonial Secretary, Stanley.

To Administrative Officer, South Georgia.

Despatched : 25th September, 19 64. *Time* : 1108

Received : 19 *Time* :

No. 263. Personal for Coleman.

SECRET

Discovery House. Four hundred pounds granted for your supervision of Shackleton House contract. How would you like this paid.

Colonial Secretary

Reply at 472

fa-
25.9.64

DECODE.

No. 134.

TELEGRAM.

472

From Administrative Officer, South Georgia.

To Colonial Secretary, Stanley.

Despatched : 28th September, 1964. Time : 1800

Received : 29th September, 1964. Time : 0900

471

No. 319. Your telegram No. 263. To Lloyds Bank Ltd Saint Helier Jersey account 104673 D.J. Coleman.

Administrative Officer

G.F.C. : IH
(Intld.) NIB

473
ACT. keep
specie roll
John 470.
wi

474

RECORDS

Checks were paid to pay the \$2400 (L. S. D/6/59/45
of file 50) on D. N. No 4 of 1964/65 Ministry of State Affairs
D. S. 47 of 4/14/44.

When checks were reported by telegram to pay the \$2400
to Lloyd Bank in accordance with Captain Johnson's request
on file 471.

OK
18.12.44.

✓
G. P.
for