



FORT EDMONTON

F O R T E D M O N T O N

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8619 - 77 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
October, 28, 1972

Mr. C. Fincay
Head of Historical Department
City Of Edmonton Park and Recreation

Dear Mr. Fincay

I wish to express Thanks to you for making me able
looking in to the information about the Fort Edmonton.

I want to present one copy of my work about the Fort
Edmonton. I had some difficulty making a report because
my background is not that familiar in North American
History, and language difficulty to understand some
fine details in English language.

I was enjoying making a report i am hopeful you will
enjoying looking over.

Respectfully yours


Mihaly Huszar

ACKNOWLEDGMENT'S

I wish to express thanks to the following peopole
who assisted me in the making this report.

Mr. C. Fincay

Head of Historical Department

City of Edmonton Parks and Recreation

Mrs. H. LaRose

From Historical Develapment & Archives Br.

City of Edmonton

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Glenbow Photograph, Calgary, Alberta
File number: NA - 936 - 2
Subject: South - West Stockade of Fort Edmonton
From inside the post
Date: @ 1884
Photog: N. O. Cote
Rem: For study purpose only NOT TO BE REPRODUCED
without permission

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ABSTRACT

Back in 1795 year Fort Edmonton was built for a trading post by Hudson's Bay Company.

Time past by Fort Edmonton in live come strategic center for a district, and obtend, and expand a traders plays fair roll for a traders and setlers. Till in 1915 Edmonton outgrow the fort, and was remaning bildings dismantled.

In conscious fort the past history we found in reconstruction one of the early's forts.

FORT EDMONTON

INTRODUCTION

In expansion for the fur trade to west Hudson's Bay Company buildet Fort Edmonton. From where today ours City carry a name Edmonton.

Et was build and move a few times so we found informations on side from present power plant, below Legistlative bilding even 65 miles out from present City. In changing face of the City 1915 Fort Edmonton disapear from the seen till now we found reconstruction of the old Fort Edmonton et is a Citizens Project.

In every year we come closer to Fort Edmonton which was seen even on painting 1847 by Paul Kane.

From the History of Fort Edmonton

In demand for furs necessitated and expansion, to new areas farther Northwest Hudson's Bay Company, and the 1200 miles Great Saskatchewan river a natural roadway, from the Mountains as far as Lake Winnipeg. becoming to the development of the Fort's Edmonton's and western settlements.

Beginning 1795 on a small area of flat land from North bank of the Saskatchewan river to the present site of the town of Fort Saskatchewan.

Number of fur traders from the North West Company built a small fort called "Fort Augustus same year that fall Hudson's Bay Company few yards away built Fort Edmonton"¹ (see fig. 1. number 1.)

Belived because of lack of wood fuel and building materials in year 1802 the two posts moved to the present site of City Power plant Companies see fig. 1. number 2. retaining the names and center of the fur trade for the Northwest.

Names Fort Edmonton or Edmonton House et is belived was named after " Edmonton in County Middlesex England"² which is now a suburb of London.

1. H.B.C. (Information for model contest-1970)
2. James G. MacGregor (Blankets and beads p. 165)

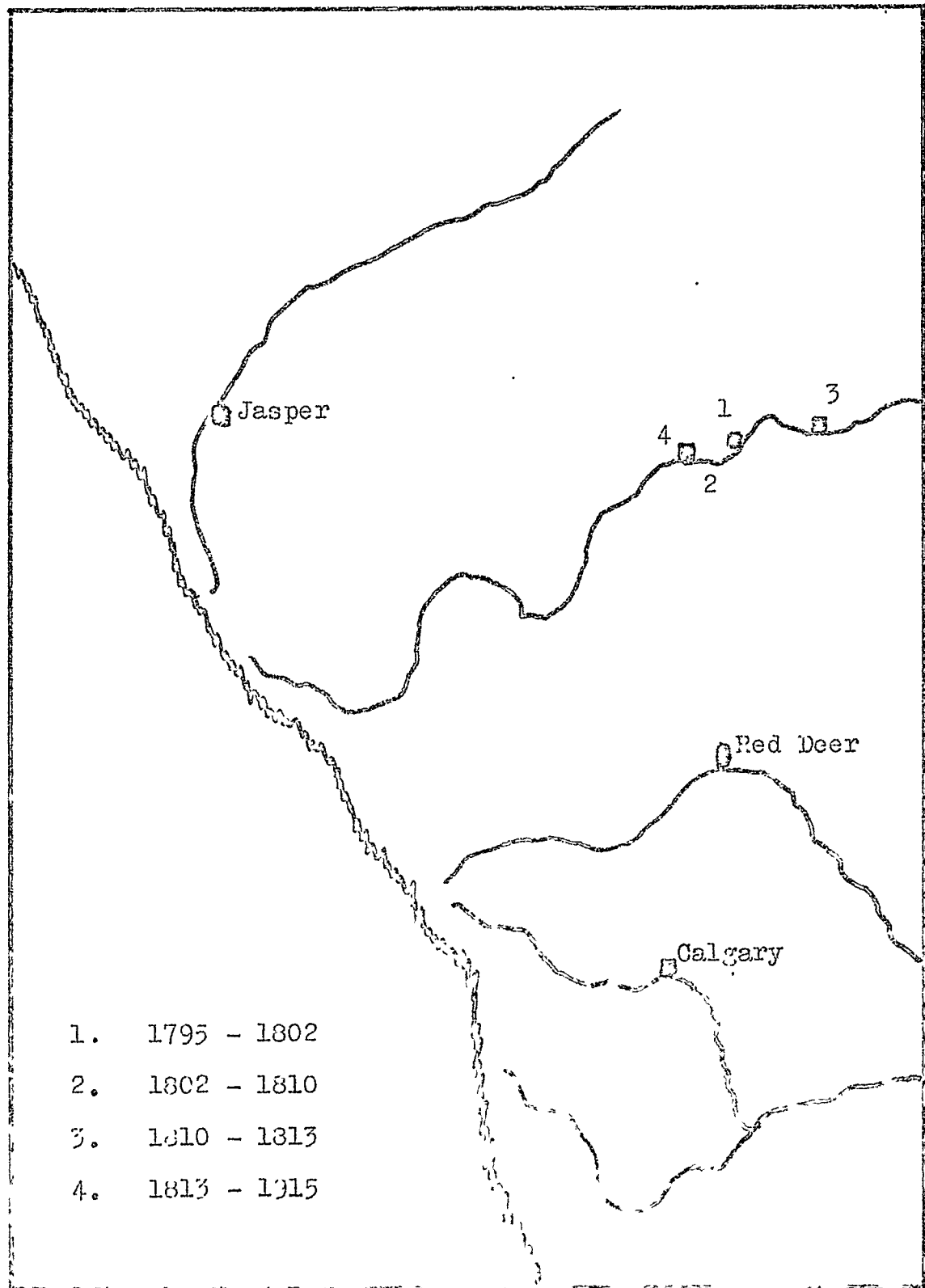


Fig. 1 Locations and dates of the Forts Edmonton

From Museum and Archives Notes No. 4.

According to one story, it was given this name because this was the birth place of a prominent Hudson's Bay Company official.

"Sir John Lake who was a deputy Governor Hudson's Bay Company"³

Second story:

"George Sutherland is reputed to have the actual builder of Edmonton House, and it has been suggested alternatively that it was named in compliment to George Sutherland's clerk, John Pruden, who was also a native of Edmonton - England"⁴

Two companies constructed 1810 new forts some 65 miles down river, to the mouth of the Sturgeon and White Earth river, near present Smoky Lake on North bank of Saskatchewan river (see fig. 1. number 3), retaining the old names, and also were referred to as "Terre Blanche" and "Fourth White Earth"⁵

The post continuing to collect the furs and supply the need of local Indians.

After three years, the companies moved again back to the Power plants area, and shared a common stockade from defence purposes (see fig. 2. "Fort Edmonton and Fort Augustus in year 1814"⁶

3. Ibid

4. Historic sites of the Province of Alberta p. 15

5. Museum and Archives Notes No. 4 - 1971

6. Ibid

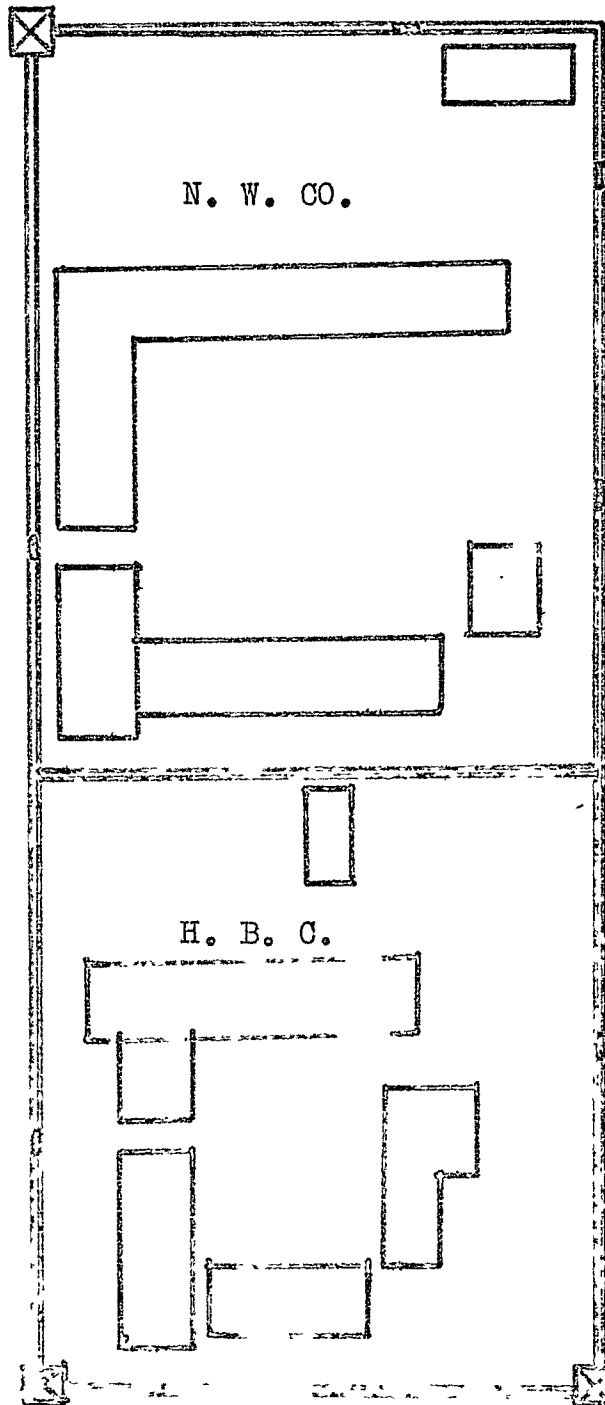


Fig. 2 Fort Edmonton - Fort Augustus, 1814

From: Museum and Archives Notes No. 4 - 1971

Under the name of the Hudson's Bay Company and in " Spring 1830 Forts"⁷ near the power plant experienced flooding so logical step was to moved up to the hill. (see fig. 1 number 4)

Many years later in a London museum plans were discovered of the first plan we have of the Fort Edmonton, drawn in 1846 by officers in the Royal Engineering Copr. of the British Army. H. J. Warre and M. Vavasour both army lieutenants had been sent out to settle boundary disputes with the United States and evaluate all Western posts for their military potencial"⁸ (see fig. 3. 4. 5.)

By this time Fort Edmonton had become the second largest and most important fort west of Winnipeg second only to Vancouver and until 1875 remained the most westerly post of the Hudson's Bay Company on the North Saskatchewan river.

Back in 1861 the fort had becom small, but for the growing trade it was enlarged again (see f: 5.6)

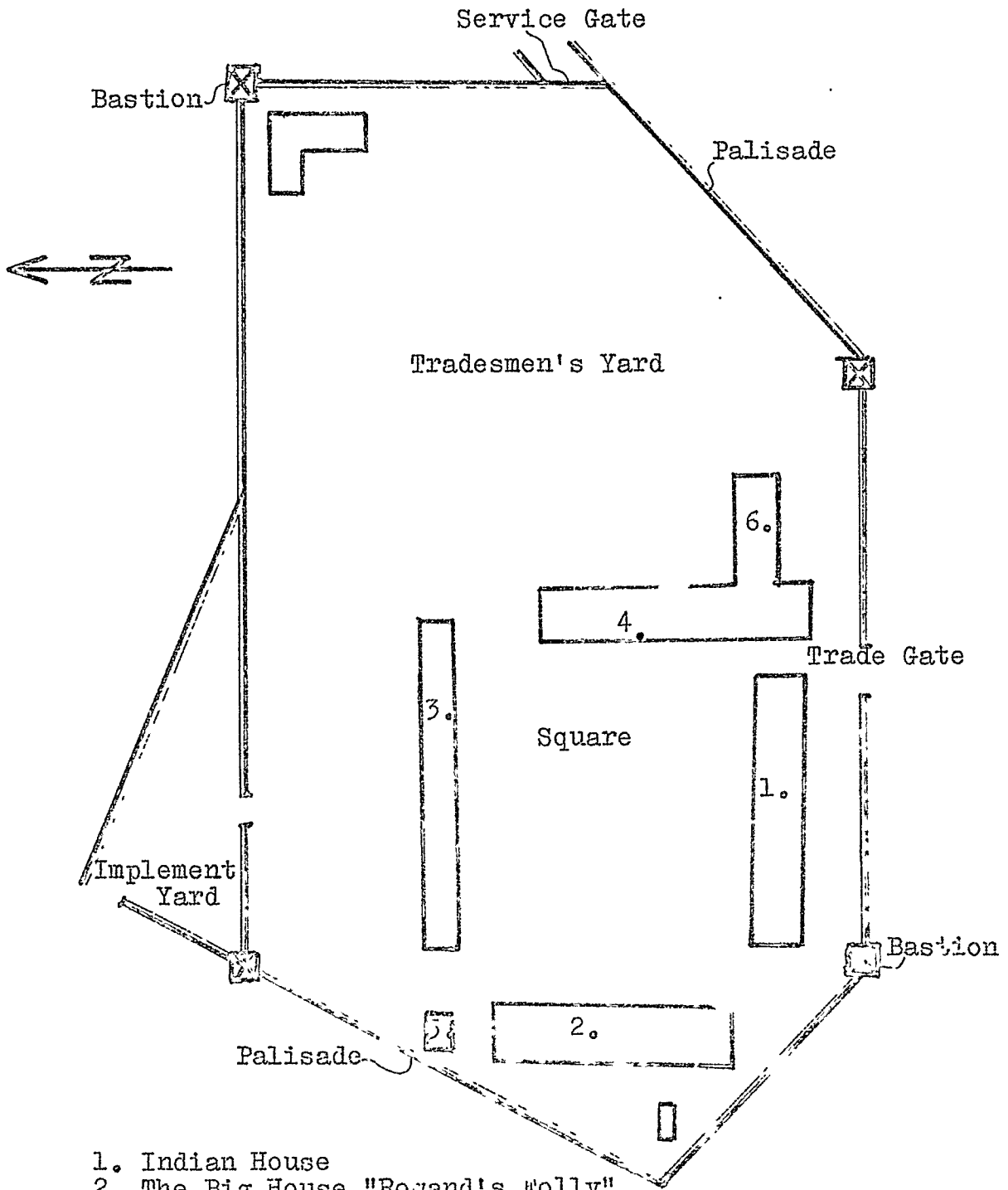
Fort Edmonton Which started as trading post, to become a strategic center for the district.

" The growing City of Edmonton 1915 finale in the History of Fort Edmonton came to an end when the remaining buildings were dismantled"⁹

7. H.B.C. (Information for model counist -1970)

8. Ibid

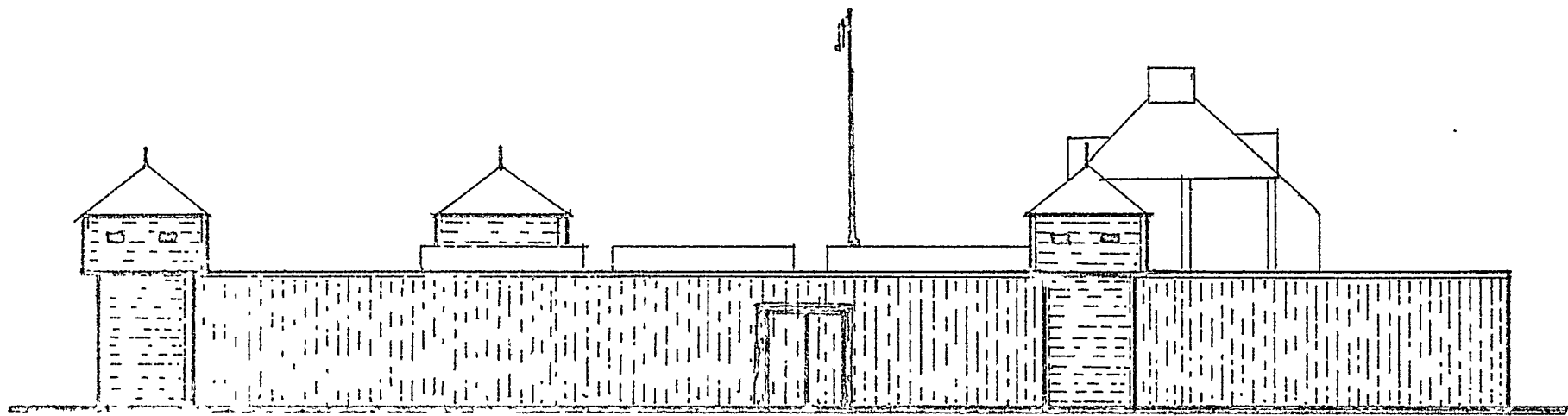
9. Macdonald, G. H. (1959) Edmonton, Fort-house, Factory



1. Indian House
2. The Big House "Rowand's Molly"
3. Bachelor's House
4. Men's House
5. Rundle House
6. Blacksmith Shop

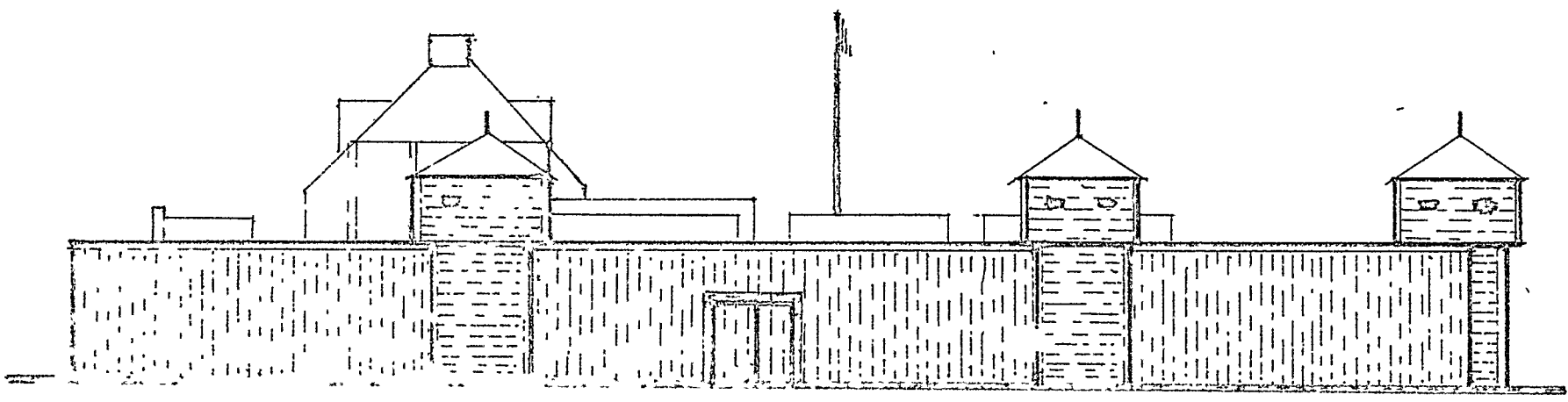
fig. 3 Fort Edmonton--1846 "Vavasour" plan

From: Museum and Archives Notes No. 4 -1971



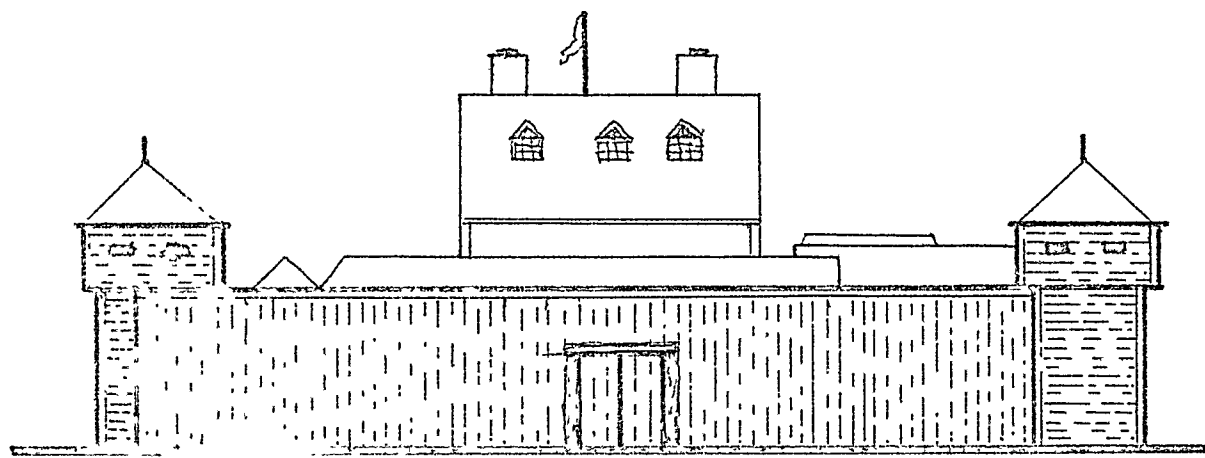
NORTH.

a



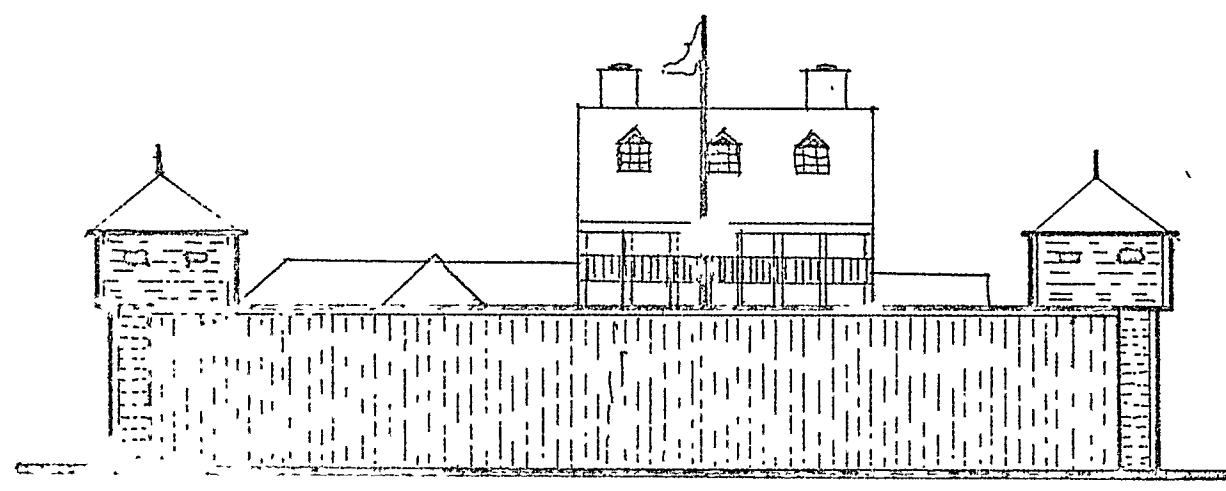
SOUTH.

FIG. 4. ELEVATIONS



EAST.

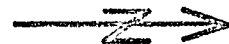
6



WEST.

1

Bastion



Palisade

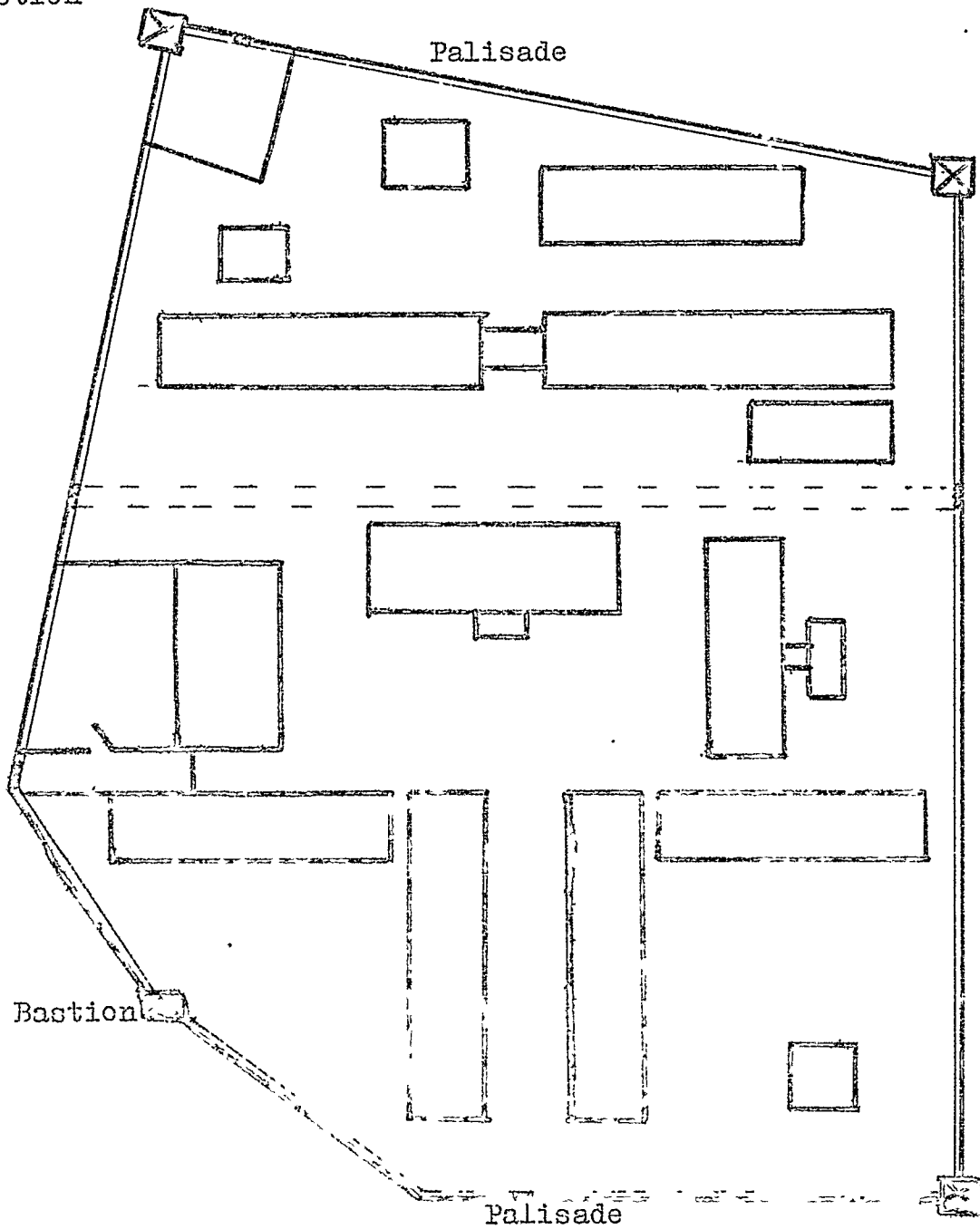


Fig. 6 Fort Edmonton, 1861

From: Museum and Archives Notes No. 4 - 1971

Authentic reconstruction one of the early Fort
Edmonton is funded jointly by the Fort Edmonton
Historical Foundation and the City of Edmonton as a
Citizens' Project operated by Edmonton Parks and
Recreation.

In Edmonton in charge is the Architectural
firm of Bell, McCulloch, Spotowski for reconstruction.

STRUCTURAL

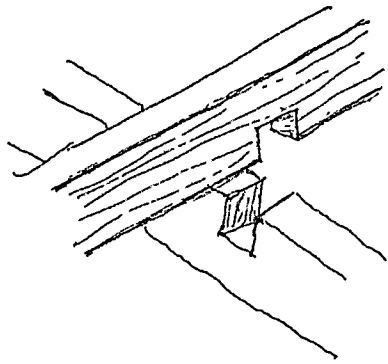
From the History of fort we found out, the material used was from surrounding area for construction and fuel so was heavy need for a wood.

In structural we found heavy timber construction was used, one of the oldest types of construction, tradesmen was used from England, but probable local people was as well used. Most of work was done by hand the some of the logs was on old way broadaxed in square form for different members, some of logs was used in round form like for palisade - (stockade .)

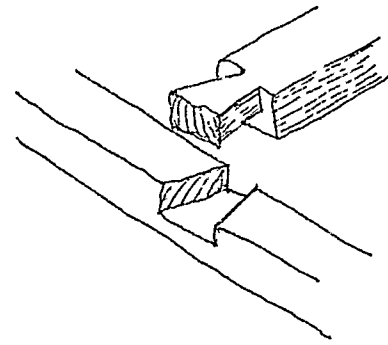
In building we found different type assembly, from simple edge crosslap to more complicated (see fig. 7.8. details.)

In reconstruction of new fort today craftsmen using methods from 13 century together with modern methods to cut down a labour cost but must appear authentic.

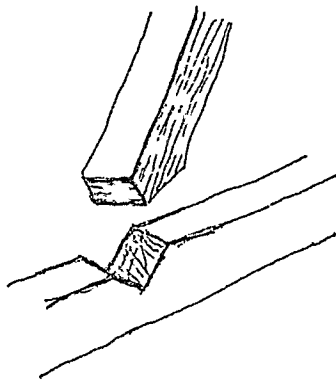
DETAILS



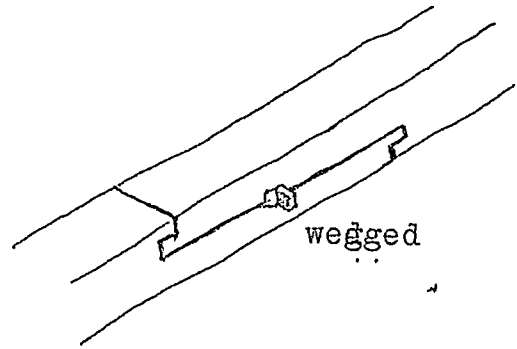
Edge Cross Lap



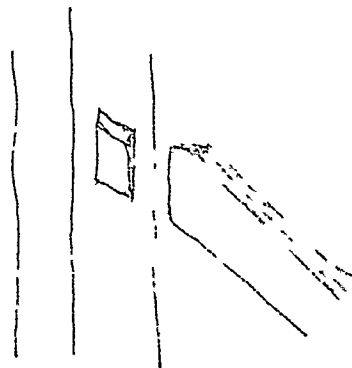
Dovetail lap



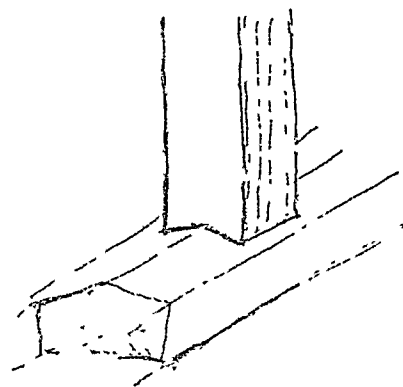
Thrust



Splice



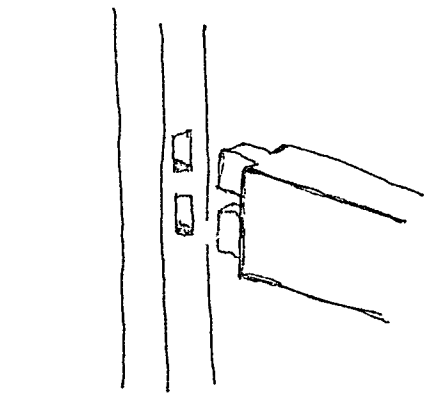
Wind Brace



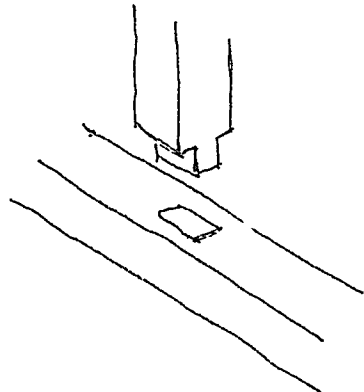
Notched

Fig. 7. Details

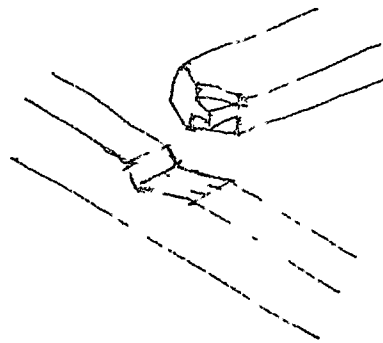
DETAILS - SECTION



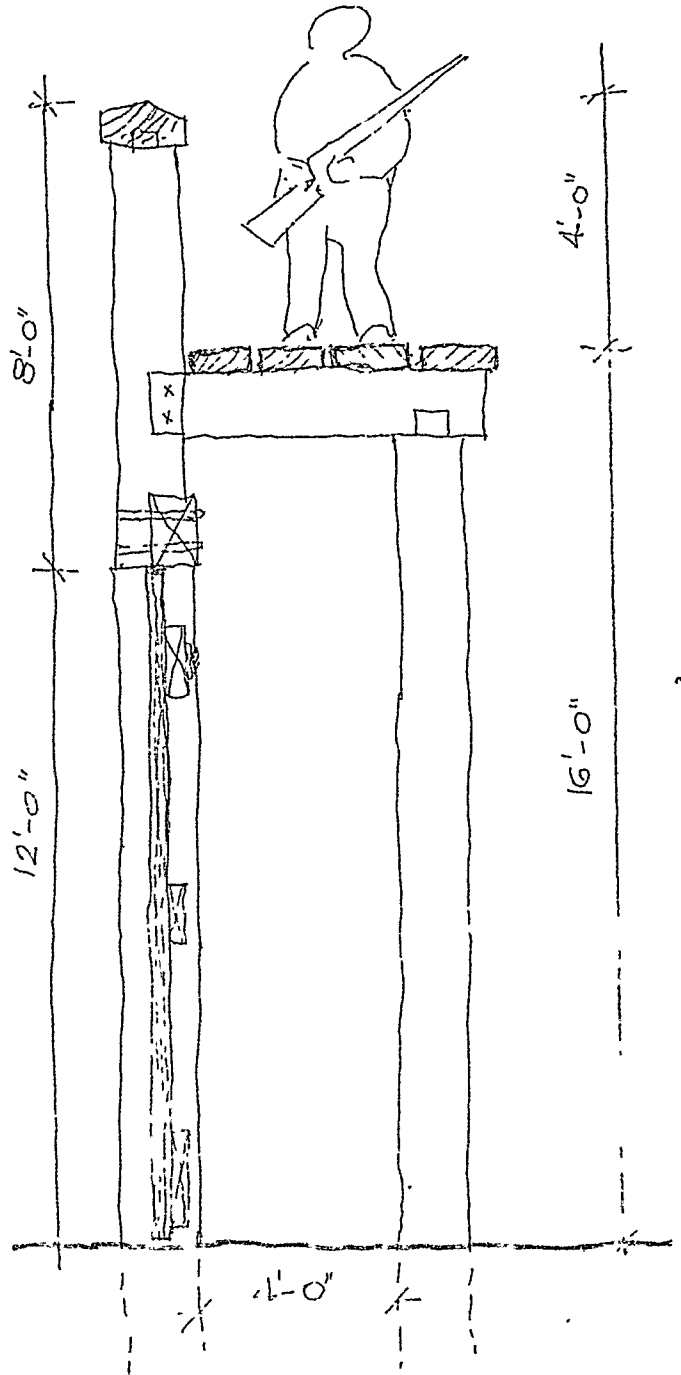
Double Mortise & Tenon



Pinned Mortise & Tenon



Straddle or Bridge



Section: thru Gate - Gallery

Fig. 8. Details - Section

Officers in charge of Edmonton House

(The trade year started in the fall)

1795	William Tomison
1796	George Sutherland
1797 - 1798	William Tomison
1798 - 1815	James Bird
1816	Hugh Carswell
1817 - 1820	Francis Heron
1821	James Sutherland
1822	Calin Robertson
1823 - 1840	John Rowand
1841	John Edward Harriott
1842 - 1846	John Rowand
1847	John Edward Harriott
1848 - 1853	John Rowand
1854 - 1856	William Sinklair
1857	John Swanston
1858 - 1871	William Joseph Christie
1872 - 1882	Richard Hardisty
1883 - 1884	James McDougall
1885 - 1888	Richard Hardisty
1889 - 1891	Harrison S. Joung
1891 - 1910	W. T. Livock

EDMONTON EARLY POPULATION

Year	No.	Population	Source
1878	-	148	unofficial
1881	-	263	N.W.M.P. unofficial
1887	-	350	Author,s estimate
1892	-	700	Town census

From J. G. MacGregor Edmonton, A. History

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Book 2. Edmonton a History

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Douglas Printing Co; Edmonton

Peter J. Ream
The Fort on the Saskatchewan

MS-176

Mihaly Huszar fonds

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