

**CHAP. 29.**—An act to provide for the construction of a public building at Meridian, in the State of Mississippi.

December 24, 1890.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to acquire, by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, a site, and cause to be erected thereon a suitable building, including fire-proof vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, and approaches, for the use and accommodation of the United States post-office and other Government offices, in the city of Meridian and State of Mississippi, the cost of said site and building, including said vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, and approaches, complete, not to exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars.

Meridian, Miss.  
Public building, etc.  
Site.  
Building.

Cost.

Proposals for the sale of land suitable for said site shall be invited by public advertisement in one or more of the newspapers of said city of largest circulation for at least twenty days prior to the date specified in said advertisement for the opening of said proposals.

Proposals to be advertised for.

Proposals made in response to said advertisement shall be addressed and mailed to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall then cause the said proposed sites, and such others as he may think proper to designate, to be examined in person by an agent of the Treasury Department, who shall make written report to said Secretary of the results of said examination, and of his recommendation thereon, and the reasons therefor, which shall be accompanied by the original proposals and all maps, plats, and statements which shall have come into his possession relating to the said proposed sites.

Responses.

Examination, etc. by Treasury agent.

If, upon consideration of said report and accompanying papers, the Secretary of the Treasury shall deem further investigation necessary, he may appoint a commission of not more than three persons, one of whom shall be an officer of the Treasury Department, which commission shall also examine the said proposed sites, and grant such hearings in relation thereto as they shall deem necessary; and said commission shall, within thirty days after such examination, make to the Secretary of the Treasury written report of their conclusion in the premises, accompanied by all statements, maps, plats, or documents taken by or submitted to them, in like manner as hereinbefore provided in regard to the proceedings of said agent of the Treasury Department; and the Secretary of the Treasury shall thereupon finally determine the location of the building to be erected.

Appointment of commission.

Hearings.

Examination and report.

Determination of location.

The compensation of said commissioners shall be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury, but the same shall not exceed six dollars per day and actual traveling expenses: *Provided, however,* That the member of said commission appointed from the Treasury Department shall be paid only his actual traveling expenses.

Compensation of commissioners.

*Proviso.*

Treasury member.

No money shall be used or applied for the purposes mentioned until a valid title to the site for said building shall be vested in the United States, nor until the State of Mississippi shall have ceded to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over the same, during the time the United States shall be or remain the owner thereof, for all purposes except the administration of the criminal laws of said State and the service of civil process therein.

No expenditure until valid title, etc., pass.

The building shall be unexposed to danger from fire by an open space of at least forty feet on each side, including streets and alleys.

Open space.

Approved, December 24, 1890.