This treaty with the Lower Band of the Chinook Tribe of Indians was one of 13 agreements made with tribes of western Oregon Country in August 1851. The treaty ceded land on the north side of the Columbia River to the United States, including much of what became Pacific County. It promised removal of Washington Hall, a settler who moved to the county in 1849 and proceeded to illegally offer Chinook land for sale to incoming settlers, land that comprised the entire Chinook village at Chinook Point (now McGowan). In the document that follows, the Lower Chinook reserved the right to fish, hunt, build, and otherwise use their ancestral lands as they wished. In addition, the U.S. government promised payment in annual provisions of cash, blankets, clothing, and tools for a ten-year period. Congress never ratified the treaty or supplied provisions, leaving its promises unfulfilled. As Chinook Indian Nation Chairman Ray Gardner described it in 2009, “The treaty with the Lower Chinooks and the Willapas reserved all of the land around their villages. In short, the Treaty of Tansy Point contained the vital promise that most of modern-day Pacific County and the sites of our other main villages would be our reservation in exchange for the cession of the rest of our land. The failure of the U.S. Senate to ratify our treaty was the beginning of the unjust treatment of the Chinook Nation by the United States.” The Chinook tribes have continued to seek formal recognition since this time. Treaty images donated and used by permission of Records of the U.S. Senate, RG 46, National Archives, Washington, D.C., SEN 32B–C4_009_MA & 010_MA. Available at ccrh.org.
Articles of a Treaty

Made and concluded at Treaty Point, near Klospau Plains this
Nineteenth day of August, Eighteen Hundred and Fifty One
between Andrew D. H. Webster, Lieutenant-Governor of Indian Affairs
Henry S. Rial, Indian Agent, and Joseph L. Harl and
in the name of the United States of America, the one part,
and the Undersigned Chiefs and Sachems of the Lower band
of Chinook Indians, of the other part.

Article 1. The lands, forests and water of the Chinook Indians hereto
by cede to the United States the tract of land included
within the following boundary to wit: Beginning at the
mouth of a certain stream entering Gorge Bay on the north
side of the Columbia River, which stream forms the western
boundary of lands ceded to the United States by the Nau-
kanum band of Chinooks, running thence northerly on
said western boundary to lands of the Whelpepa band
of Indians, thence westerly along said lands of the Whel-
pepa band to the Strait Water Bay; thence southerly and
easterly, following the coast of the Pacific Ocean and the
Northern Shore of the Columbia to the place of beginning.
The above description is intended to embrace all the
land owned or claimed by said Lower band of Chinook Indians.

Article 2. The said band of Chinook Indians reserveth
the privilege of occupying the grounds they now occupy, for
the purpose of building, fishing and grazing their stock
with the right to cut timber for their own building purpose and
for fuel, also the right to piotevallies on the marshes, and the right to
cultivate as much land as they need for their own purpose, so white man shall
be allowed to subsist with these rights; and it is hereby agreed that a white man
by the name of Washington Hall shall be removed from the land above ceded
by the reservations in this Article shall continue during the lives of Indians who
Article 3. In consideration of the cessions made in the first article of this Treaty, the United States agree to pay to the said Sioux band of Chippewa, an annuity of Two Thousand Dollars for ten years, in the following manner to wit: Ten Hundred Dollars in money, Fifty Blankets, Thirty Cotton coats, Thirty pair Pants, Thirty Vests, Fifty Shirts, Fifty pair Shoes, One Hundred and fifty yards Livery Plaid, Two hundred and Fifty yards Calico, Four Hundred and fifty yards Shirting, Twenty Blanket Shawls, Three hundred pounds Sugar, Three hundred pounds Salt, Fifty bags Flour, Three hundred pounds Tobacco, Twenty Aces, Ten Aces, Thirty knives, Thirty Cotton Handkerchiefs, Two barrels Molasses, Ten hundred pounds Sugar, Thirty pounds Tea, Ten eight-quinl Baj Kettles, Fifty five-quinl Teas, Fifty Five-quinl Teas, Thirty Six-quinl Pots, Thirty Six-quinl Pots, One Bag Powder. All the above to be of good quality, and delivered at Fort Pond aforesaid.

Article 4. There shall be perpetual peace and friendship between all the citizens of the United States of America and all the individuals comprising said Sioux band of Chippewa Indians.

Article 5. This agreement shall be binding and obligatory upon the contracting parties as soon as the same shall be ratified and confirmed by the President and Senate of the United States.

In testimony whereof the said Sioux band Indian Superintendent, Henry C. Spalding, Agent, and John G. Parshall, Sub-agent aforesaid, and the said Chiefs and Headmen
of the lower band of the Chinook Tribe of Indians, have
agreed to set their hands and seals at the time and
place first herein above written.

Asst. Dir.
Superintendent
H. H. Spalding
Agent
Joseph G. Parvin
Sub-Agent

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Sealed, Stamped and Witnessed in
Presence of W. D. Bird's clerk

W. Murphy, Interpreter
Mr. Charlestown, Sub-Agent
L. H. Judson