

STATEMENT OF WORK
HISTORIC REPRODUCTION INGRAIN CARPET
FORT SMITH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

1.0 Background

Fort Smith National Historic Site seeks to acquire a woven 100% wool authentic historic reproduction ingrain carpet. This carpet, to be installed in the historic Courtroom, is to be of a pattern that is similar enough to the current carpet to be practically identical. The carpet will be installed in the western portion of the Courtroom, “behind the bar”, over padding which will cover the existing wood floor. The historic Courtroom, also known as “Judge Parker’s Courtroom,” was initially created in the existing structure left empty after the U.S. Army left Fort Smith; previously the space had been the barracks for the enlisted men stationed at Fort Smith.

Historical documentation of the floor coverings for the Courtroom are sparse. Judge Parker opened court in 1875, and although an inventory of the courtroom was conducted in 1876, it is not until the 1880s that there are more detailed records of the furnishings in the Courtroom, primarily the result of multiple furnishing requests. In 1883, funds were requested to replace straw matting that was falling apart. It was the custom at the time for straw matting to be used in the spring and summer while carpet was used in the cooler months. However, the decision to install carpet permanently behind the bar was made for a multitude of reasons: 1) straw matting is appropriate only in the spring and summer months, 2) while carpet would have been used through the cooler months, it is still appropriate for use throughout the year, 3) straw matting is not as sturdy as carpet and would not hold up nearly as well, and finally, 4) the historical weave patterns of straw matting are no longer available. During the period of significance, the standard carpet available would have been double-sided wool ingrain.

The floor plan of the Courtroom is attached. The following description of the Courtroom is for estimating purposes only. The Contractor shall take measurements for production. The room dimensions are:

The area behind the bar is 29 feet 3 inches (351 inches) by 24 feet 8 inches (296 inches). There is a two-level dais located in the middle of the far western wall as well as two wooden support columns. A wooden railing separates the area behind the bar from the spectator’s section; the carpet shall end at the western edge of this railing and not extend into the spectator’s section.

2.0 Scope

The contractor shall provide Fort Smith National Historic Site (FOSM) of the National Park Service with all the labor, supplies, materials, travel, facilities and shipping/delivery necessary to fabricate, deliver, and install wool ingrain carpet in the historic Courtroom. The new carpet must be based on the historically-based carpet currently installed in the Courtroom, similar in both pattern and colour.

The carpet must be mothproofed wool ingrain carpet woven in 36" widths, which are to be hand-sewn together.

The contractor will submit the proposed mothproofing product name, product label and associated MSDS sheet to the NPS for review and agreement prior to application.

Production of sufficient carpet of a single dye lot to carpet the Courtroom is required. Sufficient yardage to accommodate pattern matching and unavoidable waste due to normal installation procedures and accommodating the unique configuration of the room including raised dais, plus and additional 10% surplus yardage for Fort Smith NHS to keep on hand shall be provided and left with the park at the completion of the project. The surplus left with the park shall be a continuous sample and not cut-offs.

The Contractor shall:

- Travel to Fort Smith National Historic Site to examine and obtain accurate measurements of the Courtroom.
- Submit yarn samples for carpet colorway to the FOSM Supervisory Park Ranger, who will authorize the colors to be used.
- Verify the amount of carpet to be provided for the Courtroom.
- Submit a carpet sample woven with selected colorway and pattern at a minimum size of 36" x 36".
- Upon acceptance of sample submitted, complete and deliver finished carpet of identical dye lot in the accepted pattern.
- Provide an additional 10% surplus yardage for Fort Smith NHS to keep on hand for future repairs.
- Provide mothproofing with a product accepted by the NPS in advance of application.
- Provide and install .023 - .025" thick padding rated for moderate foot traffic.
- Remove all items from the area to be carpeted to the other side of the room.
- Remove and dispose of existing carpet and padding, salvaging two 36-inch x 36-inch sections for the park archives.
- Install carpet wall-to-wall behind the bar, hand-sewing the 36-inch strips together, around all obstructions such as the support columns and the dais.
- Replace all furnishings to their original location.

3.0 Objectives

The goal of this project is to acquire historically accurate late 19th century reproduction ingrain carpeting for installation in the historic Courtroom at Fort Smith National Historic Site. The pattern of the current carpet is appropriate for circa 1883, as is using a 100% wool ingrain. Park staff are opting for a reproduction of the current carpet as there are multiple photographs and movies that have been taken in the Courtroom, and it has been decided that for consistency's sake, the new carpet should be as close as possible to the current carpet. The carpet must be woven in 36-inch-wide strips and be hand sewn together to create one larger piece to fit behind the bar. The carpet must use 100% wool fibers, and the colors must be consistent with the current carpet. The carpet will be installed in the Courtroom, which is part of the Fort Smith NHS museum, and is open to the public to year round. The new carpet will not only enhance the visitor experience with historically accurate reproduction carpet but will also improve both visitor and staff safety by removing the old carpet which is in extremely poor condition and poses multiple trip hazards.

Fort Smith National Historic Site will provide any background documentation or information on the historic site, the Federal Court Period, or the historic Courtroom that the contractor might require to fulfill the objectives.

4.0 Tasks

1. The Contractor shall travel to Fort Smith National Historic Site to examine and obtain accurate measurements of the floor behind the bar. Measurements provided in this document are for reference purposes only.
2. The Contractor shall consult with the FOSM Supervisory Park Ranger on colorways for the carpet and submit yarn samples of historically accurate colors in 100% wool. The FOSM Supervisory Park Ranger will authorize colorways in writing based on consultation and yarn samples.
3. The Contractor shall verify the amount of carpet to be provided for the Courtroom.
4. The Contractor shall submit a sample in selected colorways at a minimum size of 36" x 36" for acceptance by FOSM Supervisory Park Ranger before weaving both carpets in their entirety.
5. Upon acceptance of the submitted samples, the Contractor shall weave enough ingrain 100% wool carpeting using the same dye lots to cover the floor behind the bar of the Courtroom.
6. In addition to the amount needed for the floor, the Contractor shall provide an additional 10% surplus yardage for Fort Smith National Historic Site to keep on hand.
7. The Contractor shall submit proposed mothproofing solution name, product label, and MSDS sheet to the NPS for agreement prior to any application.
8. Contractor shall apply mothproofing to the carpet after written agreement of mothproofing solution by the NPS.
9. The Contractor will remove all furniture from the area of installation to be stored at the opposite end of the room.

10. The Contractor shall sew seams together to create a full-sized carpet for the Courtroom. Carpet strips are to run north – south.
11. The Contractor will remove and dispose of the current carpet and padding, salvaging two 36-inch x 36-inch sections for park archives.
12. The Contractor shall supply installation services by an installer with at least five years of experience doing installation of ingrain carpeting wall-to wall in a historic setting.
13. The Contractor installation must include ¼” padding to be acquired and installed by the Contractor when the carpeting is installed.
14. After installation is complete, the Contractor will replace all furnishings to their original location.

5.0 Delivery

The contractor shall deliver and install one woven ingrain carpet for the Fort Smith NHS historic Courtroom no later than February 29, 2024. The installation date must be at a mutually agreed upon date and time scheduled in advance of January 30, 2024.

6.0 Security

The contractor must arrange in advance for entry to the FOSM museum and must be accompanied at all times by a Fort Smith National Historic Site staff member or other designee.

7.0 Place of Performance

The carpet shall be produced at the contractor’s facility. The carpet shall be installed in the Courtroom in the museum of Fort Smith National Historic Site, at 301 Parker Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

8.0 Period of Performance

A sample for a wool ingrain carpet will be submitted for acceptance by the park by September 15, 2023.

The ingrain carpet shall be completed, delivered and installed by the contractor by February 29, 2024.

Fort Smith National Historic Site

Courtroom Carpet Replacement Overview

- Pattern and texture to match current
- Approximate Measurements (exact size to be confirmed by contractor):
29 feet 3 inches x 24 feet 8 inches
- Contractor to remove furnishings to opposite side of the room prior to installation, replace furnishings after installation complete

Current carpet:

100% wool

Ingrain

36 inches wide,
seamed together
in strips oriented
north - south

Wool padding
underlay

Installation with
tack strips

Mothproofed
with
mothproofing
agreed upon by
the NPS



[illegible]

≈ 724 square feet
→ N

FOSM COURT ROOM DIMENSIONS

MONDAHL
20 MAR 23



