

## Reservation Plan (Continued)

homes and non-Indians who coveted Indian farms and village sites and who demanded that the Indians be removed. By 1855 lawless frontier elements were advocating extermination of the Indians. Land cession treaties were hurriedly concluded with a view to clearing the legal impediment to white settlement.

### TREATIES AND THE EXECUTIVE ORDER OF 1857

The Indians of the lower Columbia and the Willamette Valley negotiated treaties with Federal representatives beginning in 1851 which would have secured to them small reservations in their own territories. The Senate declined to ratify these treaties. Finally, in the years 1853 through 1855 the United State negotiated seven ratified treaties with Indian tribes and bands of the Willamette, Umpqua and Rogue River valleys in western Oregon. These treaties provided for the extinguishment of Indian title to lands lying between the Coast and Cascade ranges in western Oregon. The seven treaties and the bands who were parties to each are shown in the accompanying table.

The treaties provided that the separate bands would confederate and remove to land that would be reserved as a permanent home for them. The Indians were insistent that they would not leave the Willamette Valley. Beginning in 1856 and for the next several years the United States removed over twenty Indian bands from their traditional homes and lands in these valleys and adjacent areas and relocated them on the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation. In the 1870s these people were joined by some Indians from the Salmon and Nestucca rivers.

The reservation was established pursuant to treaty arrangements in 1855 and an Executive Order of June 30, 1857. The text of the Executive Order does not clearly set out the exact boundaries of the Reservation. This, combined with other problems, has created some confusion as to the exact acreage contained in the original Reservation.

The Grand Ronde Reservation was located on the eastern side of the Coast Range of Mountains on the headwaters of the Yamhill River in the Willamette Valley. The center of the Reservation was about sixty miles southwest of Portland and about twenty-five miles from the ocean.