

Project: Kansas – Santa Fe Trail Buildings Survey (2016-2017)

CONDITION ASSESSMENT:

Assessment date: 05/25/2017; 08/16/2017

Assessor: KSHS/Anderson, Rick.

County: Ford

Site: Fort Dodge – Enlisted Men’s Barracks

Alternate site name: Fort Dodge – Nimitz Hall

KHRI: 057-1821-00003

Address: 600 Sheridan Street; Fort Dodge, Kansas 67843

Sequence number: FO_002

Attachments: Sketches; photographs; research

Coordinates: *[See notes.]*

Coordinates 1*: 37.731090 -99.935600

Coordinates 2*: 14S 417557 4176391

Coordinates 3*: 14S 417559 4176392

Assessment date: 05/25/2017; 08/16/2017

Area assessed: Interior and exterior

Type of resource: Building

Occupied: No

Ruins: No

Historic use: Domestic/Institutional Housing

Present use: Storage

Date of construction: 1867

Verified:

Reported:

Estimated:

Number of stories: 1

Plan: U-Shaped

Architectural style: Vernacular

Roof type: Side-Gable

Roof material: Asphalt shingles

Exterior wall material: Limestone

Chimneys: [Original chimneys]: Interior; limestone (4): one chimney at each end of the main building and one chimney each at the east gables of the wings. The newer wood-frame addition on the south wing has a large brick chimney. There are numerous other vents and chimneys installed at later dates in various places on the roofs.

Window type: Windows have been replaced with metal framed 1/1, double-hung replacements. The window openings still retain their limestone lintels.

Foundation: Limestone

Landscape features: Concrete sidewalks parallel Sheridan Street and run to each of the three front (east) entrances. There are three mature pine trees planted along the sidewalk in front of the building, one at each end and one near the center. Parking along the front of the building is limited due to “No Parking” signs. There are five mature deciduous trees growing east of the building from the north to the south. A concrete sidewalk and steps lead up to the east entrance of the center addition from a parking lot behind the building. A similar sidewalk and steps lead up to the entrances from the parking lot to both wings.

Historic designation: No

Is there a sign or plaque: Yes; one sign mounted on a metal base located in front of the building.

“Enlisted Men’s Barracks.”

“Three barracks were completed in 1867, two built of stone and one of adobe. For about eighteen months, until the permanent buildings were finished, the men lived in seventy dugouts at the river bank. Each dugout accommodated four men, had bunks carved out of the earth, and was heated with a fireplace.

Each of the new stone buildings provided quarters for eighty-eight men, had good ventilation, and was heated by wood stoves. Wells behind the buildings provided drinking water of excellent quality, while water for washing was carried from the river. Latrines were 30 yards away behind the buildings.

‘At Fort Dodge we secured a few supplies such as fresh milk and baker’s bread-sweet and delicious. The water was good and refreshing. Mrs. Frank D. Baldwin. September 1867.’

In the early 1930s, as a WPA project, the adobe barracks was removed and the stone buildings were linked together into one with the center addition of office and day room space. Not open to the public.”

*** Evaluation of the building ***

Collapsed or off foundation: None evident

Leaning, other structural damage: None evident

Damage to windows, doors: Severe damage to most wood window openings trim due to lack of paint, moisture intrusion and wood rot. See “Other notes” below.

Chimney, parapet, or other falling hazard: None evident

Roof damage: Minor; the roof on the east side of the main building is sagging a little at the leading edge between the center addition and the north wing. The building has asphalt shingles.

Foundation damage: Severe; concrete has been inappropriately poured on at least two different occasions coming in direct contact with the foundation and the lower wall surfaces of all elevations. See “Other notes” below.

Exterior wall damage: Keystones have settled down out of position approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ ” to $\frac{3}{4}$ ” and the arches above the three front (east) entrances have wide mortar gaps and some limestone blocks are cracked through. Several of the window sills on the east elevation have spalled; possibly aggravated by moisture intrusion from the concrete on the walls underneath. See “Other notes” below.

Exterior structural cracks: Minor/none

Interior wall damage: None evident

Interior structural cracks: None evident

Damaging vegetation (trees, shrubs, etc.): Minor; a tree or bush is growing almost against the concrete sidewalk outside the east side of the center addition.

Insect/rodent/bird damage: None evident

Moisture damage/accumulation: Severe; see “Exterior wall damage” above and “Other notes” below.

Inappropriate repairs/additions: Severe; see “Exterior wall damage” above and “Other notes” below.

Other notes: 05/25/2017: An overall assessment of individual concerns is listed here by photograph number and the concern. Each of these can be viewed in “Images and Documents”:

Photo #:	Concern:
001	Limestone blocks separating, mortar gaps wide, on southwest corner near roof.
002	Example of the concrete poured up against the lower surfaces of all elevations.
005	Missing mortar and slight spalling.
009	Wood window trim with lack of paint and wood rot.
013	Crack from doorway arch half-way up to gable; keystone has dropped about ½” to 1”.
019	Arch is dropping slightly; seams are not in alignment and has excessive mortar gaps.
020	Indication of the keystones having lowered past the other arch stones.
021	Limestone spalling and a severe crack near a window opening around the window sill with additional signs of wood rot and unpainted surfaces of the window opening trim.
027	Infilled window and a developing crack above the extant window opening.
035	SEVERE spalling of a limestone window sill and the associated wall stones above the inappropriate application of concrete.
036	Additional similar spalling above the concrete.
037	Additional SEVERE spalling below the window above the concrete.
038	Indication of an early application of concrete on the exterior walls. This application is older (darker) in color.

Estimated Building Damage:

None: 1-10%: 10-30%: 30-60%: X 60-90%: 90-100%:

Intervention level: Items to be kept under observation

Association with the Santa Fe Trail: Documented: the Fort Dodge – Enlisted Men’s Barracks is located 650 feet south of the trail. The north side of Fort Dodge is located on the Santa Fe Trail.

Proximity to SFT: *[See notes.]*

KHRI-GLO *: 225 ft. (0.04 miles [south])

NPS ARC-GIS *: 650 ft. (0.12 miles [south])

Ancillary structures/buildings: Other Santa Fe Trail related ancillary buildings are as follows.

Fort Dodge – Commanding Officer’s Quarters; ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00002)

Fort Dodge – Officers’ House; ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00005)

Fort Dodge – Old Fort Dodge Hospital; ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00004)

Fort Dodge – Army Quartermaster Building; ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1399)

Fort Dodge – Junior Officers’ Quarters; ca. 1872 (KHRI: 057-1426)

Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated); ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1427)

*** NOTES ***

Coordinates:

Coordinates 1 - ACME Mapper Google coordinates [*default setting: NS d.ddd EW d.ddd*]

Coordinates 2 - ACME Mapper Google coordinates [*UTM*]

Coordinates 3 - Handheld GPS [*WGS84 datum*]

A difference between UTM readings for 'ACME Mapper Google' and 'Handheld' coordinates would be the placement of the GPS unit outside center front of the buildings when possible.

Proximity to the SFT: Two readings may be recorded per NPS's advice whenever there are possible discrepancies in the distance from the trail to the resource when comparing the KHRI map measurements and the NPS ARC-GIS map measurements.