

Kansas Historical Society

Preliminary Site Information Questionnaire (PSIQ)

National Register of Historic Places / Register of Historic Kansas Places

Information provided on this questionnaire allows the staff of the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to provide feedback on a property's potential eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and/or the Register of Historic Kansas Places. **This is not a nomination form.** The assessment is based on the staff's understanding of the property as it relates to the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and physical integrity requirements. If the property appears to meet the criteria, we will contact you with recommendations on completing a register nomination form.

Please include with this questionnaire **current photographs** of the property, showing all sides of buildings and overall building interior photographs. A **site plan** is helpful if there are multiple buildings or structures. For a property with a single building, we expect to receive at least 12 photos. If available, please include a copy or scan of historic photos of the property. We accept photograph prints and/or digital images on a CD or flash drive. We request high-resolution digital photographs of at least 300dpi.

This form has no space limitation, and we encourage you to attach as many pages as necessary. Submitting copies of your research and sources is helpful and recommended. Please keep a copy of your completed form for your records, as **materials submitted will not be returned.**

Please allow 30 days for staff review.

1. **Historical Name of Property:** Fort Dodge
2. **Current Name or Other Names of the Property:** Fort Dodge: Kansas Soldiers' Home
3. **Street Address or Location (or Section/Township/Range):** Fort Dodge is located approximately 5 miles east of Dodge City, Kansas, on Highway 400 at 714 Sheridan, Fort Dodge, Kansas 67843
4. **City (or Vicinity):** Dodge City, Kansas **County:** Ford
5. **Historical Use:** Fort Dodge was a United States Army Post that protected those traveling the Santa Fe Trail and provided supplies and a resting place for traders and bison hunters. **Present Use:** The Kansas Soldiers Home is a State-operated facility on the grounds of Old Fort Dodge, an active military post from 1865-1882. The Fort was deeded to the State of Kansas in 1889 for conversion into a Soldiers' Home.



Historic Preservation Office
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615
kshs.org • 785-272-8681, ext. 240

REAL PLACES. REAL STORIES

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6. **Date of Original Construction:** (See General Description of Property: Notable Features and Individual Condition Assessment) **Date(s) of Known Alterations:** (See General Description of Property: Notable Features and Individual Condition Assessment)
7. **Architect or Builder (if known):** (See General Description of Property: Notable Features and Individual Condition Assessment)
8. **PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:** Generally describe the property and any notable features.

The buildings at Fort Dodge are owned by the Kansas Commission on Veteran's Affairs located at 700 SW Jackson, Ste #701; Topeka, Kansas 66603. The maintenance of the buildings at Fort Dodge has been impacted by budget constraints and the owners' annual capital improvement plans. Many of the buildings require maintenance while others will require more extensive repairs. A few of the buildings have fallen behind on maintenance while others have sat vacant for several years.

Fort Dodge closed as a military establishment in 1882 and was placed under a caretaker appointed by the War Department. This position, which paid the holder seventy-five dollars per month, was eagerly sought by several applicants. However, Secretary of War, Lincoln considered the position to fall under those to be filled through political patronage and appointed James Langton as the first custodian on the recommendation of the governor of Kansas.

Mr. Langton, tired of the monotony of watching over the fort, resigned his position in 1883 after serving for only one year. Then, ironically, Robert M. Wright, a man whose exploitive talents in merchandising along the frontier had helped to precipitate clashes between the troops of the former garrison and the Indians, was appointed to be the next custodian.

Wright's earlier business ventures, which included whiskey distribution and speculation in buffalo hides, had returned handsome dividends, part of which had been invested in land adjacent to the Fort Dodge reservation. The opportunity to supplement his ranching income with the custodian's salary proved to be a minor windfall.

Wright opened the reservation lands, post buildings, and corrals to cattle drovers and their herds while they awaited the sale of their cattle to Dodge City buyers. The opening of these facilities was an apparent departure from traditional military policy, which denied public use of government reservations until they had been disposed of through proper channels.

In 1888, the Methodist College Association of southwestern Kansas asked permission from Congress to purchase the grounds of Fort Dodge for one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. In addition, the Methodist College Association proposed to convert the fort into a liberal arts college. When the news of this petition reached Topeka, the Kansas legislature responded immediately by requesting Congress to donate the reservation to the state to be utilized as a state soldier's home. Congress acted favorably on the appeal of the Kansas legislature but stipulated that the land was to be

transferred for one dollar twenty-five cents per acre rather than by donation as had been requested.

The citizens of Dodge City welcomed the opportunity to preserve the fort and soon collected the necessary funds to purchase six of the permanent quarters built for officers. These funds also included three barracks buildings, the hospital, the quartermaster building, the commissary storehouse, and several smaller frame structures that remained on the reservation to be used by the newly organized Kansas State Soldier's Home. Several frame buildings had already been razed by the army and the material taken to Camp Supply. By January 1, 1890, the soldier's home had been readied for occupancy.

When the State of Kansas gained title to Fort Dodge, there were “six large buildings known as officers’ quarters, three large buildings known as soldiers’ quarters or barracks (stone), a large cut-stone building built for a hospital, two large cut-stone buildings, used formerly as quartermaster and commissary buildings, and some fifteen or twenty smaller wooden buildings...” In the first biennial report of the State Soldiers’ Home (1889-1890), the Board of Managers reported that “when turned over to the State [the buildings] were all in a more or less dilapidated condition, consequent from neglect and non-occupancy, but many of them well built of good material, and capable of being repaired at the slight expense and lasting many years.”

Feasibility studies with similar histories – like Forts Scott, Larned, and Leavenworth – are subject to federal preservation laws, which require that buildings be evaluated for national register eligibility and that projects be reviewed to determine their impacts on historic properties. But for various reasons, the historic preservation movement left Fort Dodge a significant frontier fort behind. The Ford County Historical Society has identified five historical sites which are in need of consideration to be placed on the National Historic Register of Historic Sites. The following listings are general descriptions and notable features and their current condition assessments of these identified sites located at Fort Dodge.

9. (See General Description of Property: Notable Features as Indexed Below:)

Primary Considerations

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Kansas Historical Society

Site One: Fort Dodge Junior Officers Quarters

<https://khri.kansasgis.org/index.cfm?in=057-1426>

CONDITION ASSESSMENT:

Assessment date: 05/25/2017

Assessor: KSHS/Anderson, Rick.

County: Ford

Site: Fort Dodge – Junior Officers Quarters

KHRI: 057-1426

Address: 226 Custer Street; Fort Dodge, Kansas 67843 Sequence number: FO_006

Attachments: Sketches; photographs; research

Coordinates: [See notes.]

Coordinates 1*: 37.732070 -99.935730

Coordinates 2*: 14S 417546 4176500

Coordinates 3*: 14S 417543 4176507

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

Area assessed: Exterior and exterior

Type of resource: Building

Occupied: No Ruins: No; slated for demolition

Historic use: Quarters for junior officers. This building is the only remaining officers' quarters at Fort Dodge. There had been a similar building east of the Commanding Officer's Quarters. This wood-framed building is separated in the interior by a common north/south wall in the center of both floors creating two separate units. Both sides have identical rooms, features, staircases, etc. downstairs and upstairs alike. See photos in "Site One; Document Pages 8 - 10".

Present use: Vacant; storage [Owners are planning to demolish this building.]

Date of construction: 1870

Verified: ☒

Reported: **Estimated:**

Number of stories: 2

Plan: Rectangle

Architectural style: Federal/Vernacular

Roof type: Side-Gable; with dormers

Roof materials: Asphalt shingles

Chimney: No extant original nor later chimneys. There is evidence of an original brick chimney in the north room of the east side of the building.

Exterior wall material: Wood-framed construction with lap-siding; asphalt shingles.

Window type: multiple configurations of the windows:

West elevation: 2/2; double-hung with screens on both levels.

South (front) elevation: first-floor – two east windows are 2/2; double-hung. Two west windows are 1/1; double hung. None of the first-floor windows have screens. Dormer windows – center and west dormers have 2/2; double-hung with screens. The east dormer has a 6/6; double-hung window with a screen.

East elevation: 2/2; double-hung with screens on both levels.

North elevation: all windows except one on the north have 2/2; double-hung windows with screens. The difference is in the west side of the north gable whereas the window is a 1/1; side-by-side window. On the interior this window does not look an original installation.

Doors: The south (front) primary entrances have identical doors with 5-lite top transoms and 3-lite side transoms.

Foundation: Limestone; crawlspace access in southwest corner foundation. There may be a basement although one was not mentioned. A boiler for the building's steam heat would have to have been installed somewhere; like a basement.

Foundation notes: The limestone foundation has been covered with concrete and painted the same color as the rest of the building. Concrete and other similar methods have been used to cover the foundation of other buildings at Fort Dodge. See for more information about the other foundations: Fort Dodge – Enlisted Men's Barracks; ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00003); Fort Dodge – Officers' House; ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00005); Fort Dodge – Old Fort Dodge Hospital; ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00004); and the Fort Dodge – Army Quartermaster Building; ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1399).

Landscape features: The building is located on a corner lot at the northwest corner of Custer and Sheridan Streets. A concrete sidewalk parallels both streets on the building's south (front) and east elevations. A sidewalk leads from Custer Street, adjoins the main sidewalk, and extends to the porch steps near the primary entrances on the south. A wood privacy fence separates the backyard (north) from an adjoining lot and partially runs the length of the east sidewalk along Sheridan Street. The yards have been kept mowed around the building. There is no other vegetation (trees, bushes, etc.) growing on the west, south or east elevations. Close to the north elevation, there was a walnut tree growing between the building's original north elevation wall and the steps to the east side of the shed addition. This small tree could cause problems and may have been removed since the August 16, 2017 survey.

Other notes: Most of the interior doors have original glass door knobs, latches/locks, and hinges. The cabinets and hardware are identical on both sides and both floors of the building and generally are in good condition. The hardwood floors upstairs have not been covered and still appear to have a natural varnish-type finish. The staircases and banisters on both sides appear original and in good condition. Years of use can be seen in the photos of the east side staircase by looking at the leading edges of the steps having been worn down. Both sides of the building have steam heat registers still in place. Access to the attic was noted to be possible on the west side.

Historic designation: No; not assessed

Is there a sign or plaque: No

Evaluation of the building

Collapsed or off foundation: Not evident by inspecting the exterior of the foundation.

Leaning, other structural damage: Minor/none; north elevation may have concerns below the windows behind the original siding. (See “Other Evaluation” notes below.)

Damage to windows, doors: Minor/none. (See “Other Evaluation” notes below.)

Chimney, parapet, or other falling hazard: There are no extant chimneys (original or later).

Roof damage: Minor/none: asphalt shingles are turning up on the edges of the roof’s southeast side.

Foundation damage: Moderate; (See “Other Evaluation” notes below.)

Exterior wall damage: Moderate; (See “Other Evaluation” notes below.)

Interior wall damage: Moderate; (See “Other Evaluation” notes below.)

Interior structural cracks: Floor in the northeast corner of the northeast room is settling lower than the wall. (See “Other Evaluation” notes below.)

Damaging vegetation (trees, shrubs, etc.): Minor/none; close to the north elevation there was a volunteer walnut tree growing between the building’s original north elevation wall and the steps to east side of the shed addition. This small tree may have been removed since the survey conducted August 16, 2017.

Insect/rodent/bird damage: Minor/none

Moisture damage/accumulation: Moderate; (See “Other Evaluation” notes below.)

Inappropriate repairs/additions: Moderate; application of paint and concrete to the face of the limestone foundation. (See “Foundation notes” above.)

Other evaluation notes: Summary of the buildings’ concerns:

Exterior/paint and siding

West elevation: of the four elevations, paint is flaking off in large patches on the east elevation. The lower row of siding is missing in two places. There is a gap in the siding approximately five-feet up near the center window. The interior studs and lathe are exposed to the elements.

South (front) elevation: paint and siding are OK as they are protected by the porch.

East elevation: siding is intact but bowing out below the first-story windows due to probable water intrusion. Paint had been flaking. The building was repainted without first scraping the surfaces of the old paint. The siding is still intact although some of it had split before the most recent application of paint.

North elevation: At the northeast corner of the building, the lower three rows of siding are sagging and one row is missing.

Exterior views of foundation, steps

West elevation: a hole has been cut in the limestone foundation giving access to a crawls space. A wood door covers the opening.

South (front) elevation: the concrete steps in front of the porch are cracked midway. The west end of the steps has dropped approximately four inches.

East elevation: concrete has been applied to the face of the limestone foundation. Some of the concrete has fallen off at the south corner of the building. The foundation has been painted the same color as the building after part of the concrete came loose. See also “Foundation notes” above for more information of other Fort Dodge buildings with inappropriate methods of applications to other buildings’ exterior surfaces.

North elevation: The shed addition along the north elevation was constructed on a concrete block foundation. Both entrances (east and west) have a concrete pad and steps for access.

Interior

West; downstairs: water has leaked through the plaster and lathe towards the back corner of the exterior wall (See photo S1 - #009) and from the ceiling of the bathroom, also near an exterior wall.

West; upstairs: Wood window sill and trim have fallen off below the window in the northwest room. Water has been leaking in from outside the window and frame.

East; downstairs: northeast room has plaster cracking and loosening from the lathe on both sides of the window; most likely due to water intrusion. **Note:** this area matches the exterior where the siding is bowing near the windows. The ceiling in this same interior area shows the same concern from water above the window in this case. The plaster over the doorway between the east rooms is cracking in the same manner on both sides of the doorway. This may indicate a shift in the interior wall or floor. The floor in the northeast corner of the east room has settled/dropped down next to the exterior wall in the same area as the wall’s water intrusion.

East, downstairs: southeast room: the inside wall is exhibiting the same concern as the outside wall as did the northeast room from probable water intrusion. (See photo S1 - # 010 for a view of the cracked plaster around the window area.)

East, upstairs: Several layers of wallpaper are beginning to loosen and beginning to fall off. Note: this might be a good opportunity to “see” the transitions of the room and/or building over the years by looking at the different layers of wallpaper and paint. This method was used to determine the first color of paint applied to the inside of the Last Chance Store in Council Grove, Morris Co. Kansas. (KHRI 127- 1180-00004).

Other notes of observation and conversations

The building was slated by the owners to be demolished sometime during the fiscal year 2017. Comparing the exterior photos from the 2015 survey to those taken the past August 2017, there was not a noticeable increase in the building’s overall deterioration. The west side of the building had been used into possibly the 1990s. The east side had only been for storage.

Estimated Building Damage:

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

Intervention level: Noted items should be kept under observation.



S1-001: Fort Dodge Junior Officers' Quarters ca. 1870 (KHRI: 057-1426). West and south (front) elevations; looking northeast.



S1-002: Fort Dodge Junior Officers' Quarters ca. 1870 (KHRI: 057-1426). South (front) and east elevations; looking north-northwest.



S1-003: Fort Dodge Junior Officers' Quarters ca. 1870 (KHRI: 057-1426). South (front) elevation, primary entrance to the east side of Junior Officers' Quarters; looking northeast.



S1-004: Fort Dodge Junior Officers' Quarters ca. 1870 (KHRI: 057-1426). North and west elevations: looking south-southeast.



S1-005: Fort Dodge Junior Officers' Quarters ca. 1870 (KHRI 057:-1426). First-floor, east side of Junior Officers Quarters; details of the lower newel post and hand rail; looking north



S1-006:Fort Dodge – Junior Officers Quarters. 226 Custer Street. Interior, second-floor west side of Junior Officers Quarters; view of hardwood floor's current condition. 08/16/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



S1-007: Fort Dodge Junior Officers' Quarters ca. 1870 (KHRI: 057-1426). Interior, first-floor east half of Junior Officers Quarters; looking southeast in the northeast room. The wall with the window is the area of water intrusion. Note plaster above register and to the right of the window.



S1-008: Fort Dodge Junior Officers' Quarters ca. 1870 (KHRI: 057-1426). First-floor, east side of Junior Officers Quarters; water damage and settling of the floor from the wall in the northeast corner of the northeast room.

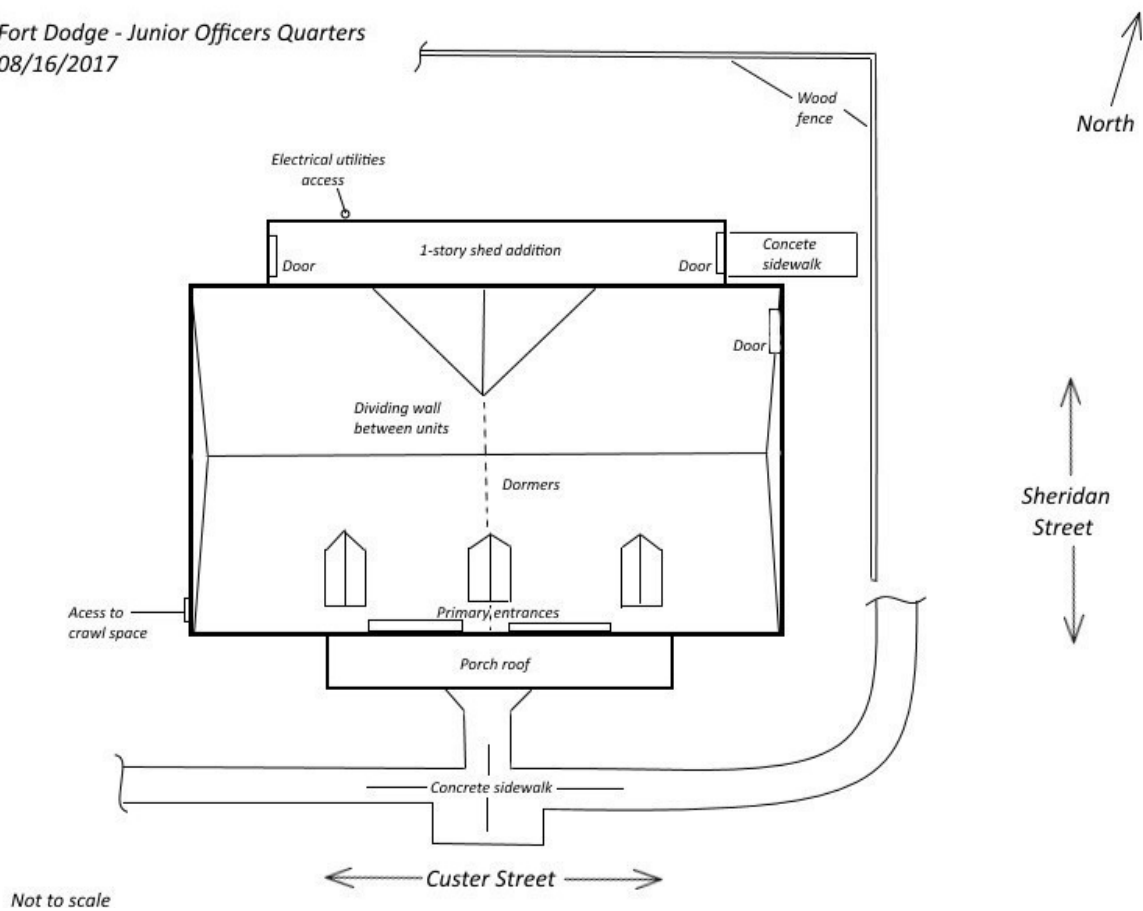


S1-009: View of plaster/lathe in ceiling



S1-010 Water entry damaging plaster & floor

Fort Dodge - Junior Officers Quarters
08/16/2017



S1-011: Site Plan Junior Officers Quarters

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Site Two: Fort Dodge – Officers House

<https://khri.kansasgis.org/index.cfm?in=057-1821-00005>

CONDITION ASSESSMENT:

Assessment date: 05/25/2017

Assessor: KSHS/Anderson, Rick.

County: Ford

Site: Fort Dodge – Officers House

Alternate site name: Fort Dodge Post Office

KHRI: 057-1821-00005

Address: 702 Sheridan Street; Fort Dodge, Kansas 67843

Sequence number: FO_003

Attachments: Sketches; photographs; research

Coordinates: [See notes.]

Coordinates 1*: 37.731650 -99.935460

Coordinates 2*: 14S 417569 4176453

Coordinates 3*: 14S 417558 4176445

Assessment date: 05/25/2017

Area assessed: Exterior

Type of resource: Building

Occupied: Yes

Ruins: No

Historic use: Domestic/Single Dwelling

Present use: Government; Fort Dodge Post Office

Date of construction: 1867

Verified: Reported: X

Estimated:

Number of stories: 1

Plan: T-Shaped

Architectural style: Gothic Revival

Roof type: Cross-gable Roof material: Asphalt shingles Exterior wall material: Limestone

Chimney: There are no extant original chimneys. There is a galvanized metal flue pipe on the northeast side of the roof.

Window type: 2/2, double-hung (7); with limestone lintels and sills. The south and west elevation windows have storms. The T-wing's north elevation window and the main building's northeast corner window have been replaced with a 1/1, double-hung windows. The addition's windows (5) are also 1/1, double-hung. A portable AC window unit is fitted into the north elevation window.

Foundation: Limestone; with a crawlspace under the east elevation.

Landscape features: The ground on the north, east and south sides of the building (approximately ten feet out from the walls) is covered with landscaping gravel and railroad ties serving as an edging. A concrete sidewalk parallels Sheridan Street in front of the building. A sidewalk extends from the front entrance porch to the main sidewalk and then to the edge of the street so that people can park their cars.

From there they can walk up a concrete sidewalk ramp to the building. One honeysuckle bush/vine is growing at the southeast corner of the porch addition. A replica-covered wagon (less the top) is displayed on a poured concrete pad under a galvanized tin-covered porch roof constructed upon four poles southwest of the building. Two concrete park benches are along the sidewalk in front of the building with a flagpole behind the north bench.

Historic designation: No

Is there a sign or plaque: No

Evaluation of the building

Collapsed or off foundation: No

Leaning, other structural damage: None evident; see “Exterior wall damage” below.

Damage to windows, doors: Minor/none

Chimney, parapet, or other falling hazard: There are no extant original chimneys. Roof damage: None evident; shingles appear to be fairly new

Foundation damage: Moderate; south elevation has a crack extending from the foundation upwards through a window sill. See “Images and Documents” for photo.

Exterior wall damage: Severe; the north, east and south elevation limestone blocks below the windows have suffered severe deterioration; possibly from water intrusion and inappropriate repairs.

South elevation: has a crack extending upwards from the foundation through the window sill to the window. The window sill is broken in half. Concrete has been poured to replace the damaged wall stones below the window. A similar condition has occurred to the lower stones towards the front, southwest corner of the building on this elevation.

East elevation: same deterioration of the wall stones and sill below the window at ground level up to the window. The face of a stone has completely spalled off at the foundation level south of the damaged window sill and stones. This has also occurred towards the northeast corner of the building. This damage is above the concrete applied to the foundation.

North elevation: similar deterioration as the south and east elevations. The original limestone window sill has been replaced with a concrete sill.

West (front) elevation: the stones below the windows are missing mortar and are gapped a little wider than normal. There appears to be no spalling of the stones at this time. This may be due to the protection given by the porch roof along the west (front) elevation.

Wood-framed addition: wood is bare, paint has peeled, all surfaces of the addition need scraped and repainted.

Other notes: the original gables with “fish-scale” siding has been recently painted and appear to be in good condition along with the asphalt shingles on the roof.

Exterior structural cracks: See “Exterior wall damage” above.

Interior wall damage: Not evaluated Interior structural cracks: Not evaluated

Damaging vegetation (trees, shrubs, etc.): Minor/none; one honeysuckle bush/vine is planted close to the southeast corner of the wood-framed porch addition.

Insect/rodent/bird damage: None evident

Moisture damage/accumulation: Severe; see “Exterior wall damage” above.

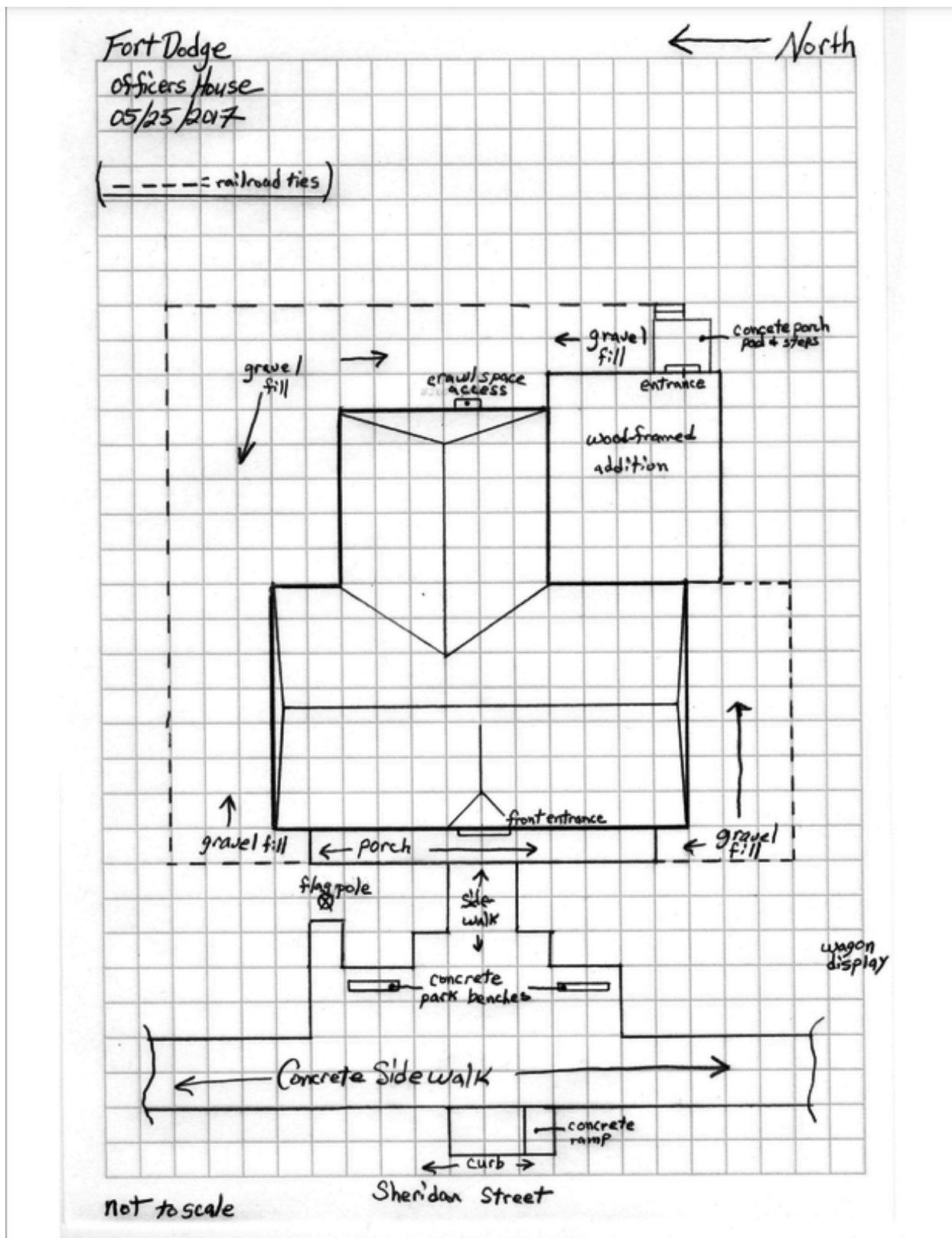
Inappropriate repairs/additions: Severe; see south and north elevation comments in “Exterior wall damage” above. The inappropriate application of concrete to the walls has caused problems.



S2-001:Fort Dodge Officers House ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00005). West elevation; looking east.



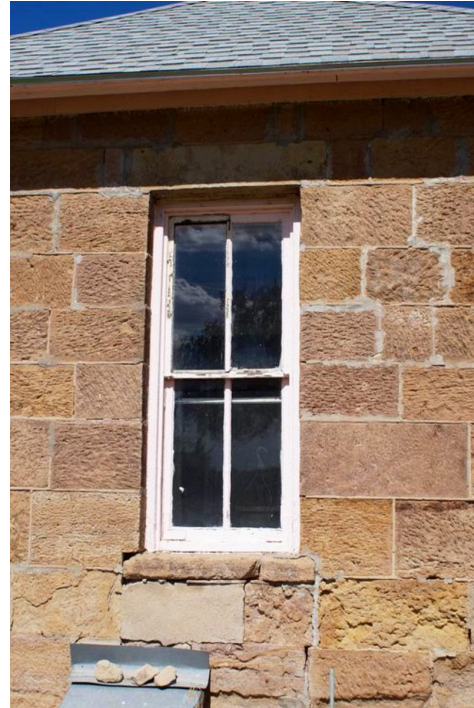
S2-002: Fort Dodge – Officers House. 702 Sheridan Street. South elevation windows; looking north. 05/25/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



S2-005: Site Plan Fort Dodge – Officers House. 702 Sheridan Street. 2017 Site plan. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



S2-003: Fort Dodge – Officers House. 702 Sheridan Street. North elevation window and a replaced, concrete window sill; looking southeast. 05/25/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



S2-004: Fort Dodge – Officers House. East elevation, typical 2/2, double-hung windows; looking west. 05/25/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



S2-004: Fort Dodge – Officers House. 702 Sheridan Street. East elevation at ground level; looking west. 05/25/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.

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Site Three: Fort Dodge Army Quartermaster Building

<https://khri.kansasgis.org/index.cfm?in=057-1399>

CONDITION ASSESSMENT:

Assessment date: 05/25/2017 Assessor: KSHS/Anderson, Rick.

County: Ford

Site: Fort Dodge – Army Quartermaster Building **Alternate site name:** Fort Dodge Museum/Library

KHRI: 057-1399

Address: 217 Pershing Street; Fort Dodge, Kansas 67843

Sequence number: FO_005

Attachments: Sketches; photographs; research

Coordinates: [See notes.]

Coordinates 1*: 37.731330 -99.937530

Coordinates 2*: 14S 417387 4176419

Coordinates 3*: 14S 417394 4176426

Assessment date: 05/25/2017

Type of resource: Building

Ruins: No

Area assessed: Interior and exterior

Occupied: Yes

Present use: Fort Dodge museum & library

Date of construction: 1867

Verified: Reported: ☒ **Estimated:**

Architect/Designer/Builder: Hesselberger, Lieutenant George A. [U. S. Army]. Hesselberger also directed the construction of the Enlisted Men's Barracks (KHRI 057-1821-00003) and the Old Fort Dodge Hospital (KHRI 057-1821-00004) in 1867. See signage notes below for more information about Hesselberger and the Fort Dodge buildings he constructed.

Number of stories: 1

Plan: Rectangle

Architectural style: Vernacular

Roof type: Side-Gable

Roof material: Asphalt shingles

Exterior wall material: Limestone

Chimney: No extant chimneys.

Window type: Per a 1916 image of the south elevation, these windows were 2/2, double-hung. All windows, but possibly one, have had early replacement 1/1, double-hung windows with storms. The window at the north end of the east elevation may be partially original. The top half of this double-hung window has sixteen panes of glass. See photo in “Images and Documents”. North and east elevation windows have mock shutters.

Doors: All exterior entrance doors have been replaced and have storm doors. Per the 1916 historic image, the south elevation double-doors have been replaced as well as the door opening has been reconfigured. The arch seen in the 1916 image is no longer extant.

Foundation: Limestone; basement

Landscape features: See the 2017 site plan in “Images and Documents” for landscape features and the building’s footprint. There is an L-shaped 3’ high limestone block wall at the northwest corner of the building along Pershing Street and borders the concrete sidewalk to the west elevation entrance. A 1’ high limestone block wall borders a bed for flowers and shrubs on the north end of the east elevation between the central and primary entrances. This bed is lined with decorative fill gravel. There is a sidewalk on this side from both entrances going north along the porch and out to Pershing Street. On the east side of this sidewalk near the street is a flagpole. There is only one tree (large, mature Elm) on this parcel and is located at the northeast corner of the building between the L-shaped wall and Pershing Street. The tree leans towards the street but the roots may be growing towards the foundation of the building. Along the front of the building is a display of small antique plows and other equipment for planting. A square pit with concrete walls for storing road sand abuts the south end of the west elevation. (One wall extends to the west and another to the south from there.) Access to the sand pit is south from the alley.

Historic designation: No; not assessed.

Is there a sign or plaque: Yes; two signs. One sign at the front entrance and one near the street.

Sign near entrance: “Storehouse. Twin storehouses, each 130 ft. by 30 ft., and a bakery were the first stone buildings to be completed in 1867. The second storehouse stood a few yards to the east. The north ends of each building were portioned to provide offices for post headquarters and for the quartermaster. A bakery, located several yards behind, had two ovens, and was capable of baking 500 rations of bread each day. The frame structure, two doors to the right, was the original “dead house” and was moved from north of the hospital to its present location.

Major Henry Douglas, in command, and Lieutenant George A. Hesselberger, quartermaster, were severely reprimanded by General R. B. Marcy for reckless extravagance in constructing buildings grand enough ‘for the national capitol’.

Fort Dodge was a pivotal fort during the Indian campaigns of 1868-69 and 1874-75. The Wet and Dry Routes of the Santa Fe Trail met here; the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Trail ended here, and the Fort Dodge-Fort Supply Trail began here. Millions of pounds of armaments and supplies were shipped south in trains of as many as 270 wagons.

Fort Dodge was considered the most important of all the forts along the Santa Fe Trail. It was in the heart of Indian country. William Darnell, Freighter, 1866.”

Sign in front near the street: “Museum & Library. Army Quartermaster Building. 1867.”

Evaluation of the building

Collapsed or off foundation: No

Leaning, other structural damage: None evident.



S3-001: Fort Dodge Army Quartermaster Building ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1399). East (front) and north elevation; looking southwest.



S3-002: Fort Dodge Army Quartermaster Building ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1399). West elevation; looking east. Note the application of concrete first under the second attempt with stucco.



S3-003: Fort Dodge Army Quartermaster Building ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1399). West elevation; looking southeast.



S3-004: Fort Dodge Army Quartermaster Building ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1399). East elevation at southeast corner of building; looking west. Note bottom corner stone has totally spalled.

Damage to windows, doors: Original windows and single entrance doors have been replaced. Chimney, parapet, or other falling hazard: There are no extant original chimneys.

Roof damage: None evident

Foundation damage: Severe; see “Other damage notes” below.

Exterior wall damage: Severe; see “Other damage notes” below.

Exterior structural cracks: Minor/none

Interior wall damage: Minor/none; paint is starting to peel in places in the museum area of the building.

Interior structural cracks: None evident

Damaging vegetation (trees, shrubs, etc.): Minor/none; possible concern from the Elm tree’s roots at northwest corner of the building.

Insect/rodent/bird damage: None evident

Moisture damage/accumulation: Severe; see “Other damage notes” below.

Inappropriate repairs/additions: Severe; see “Other damage notes” below.

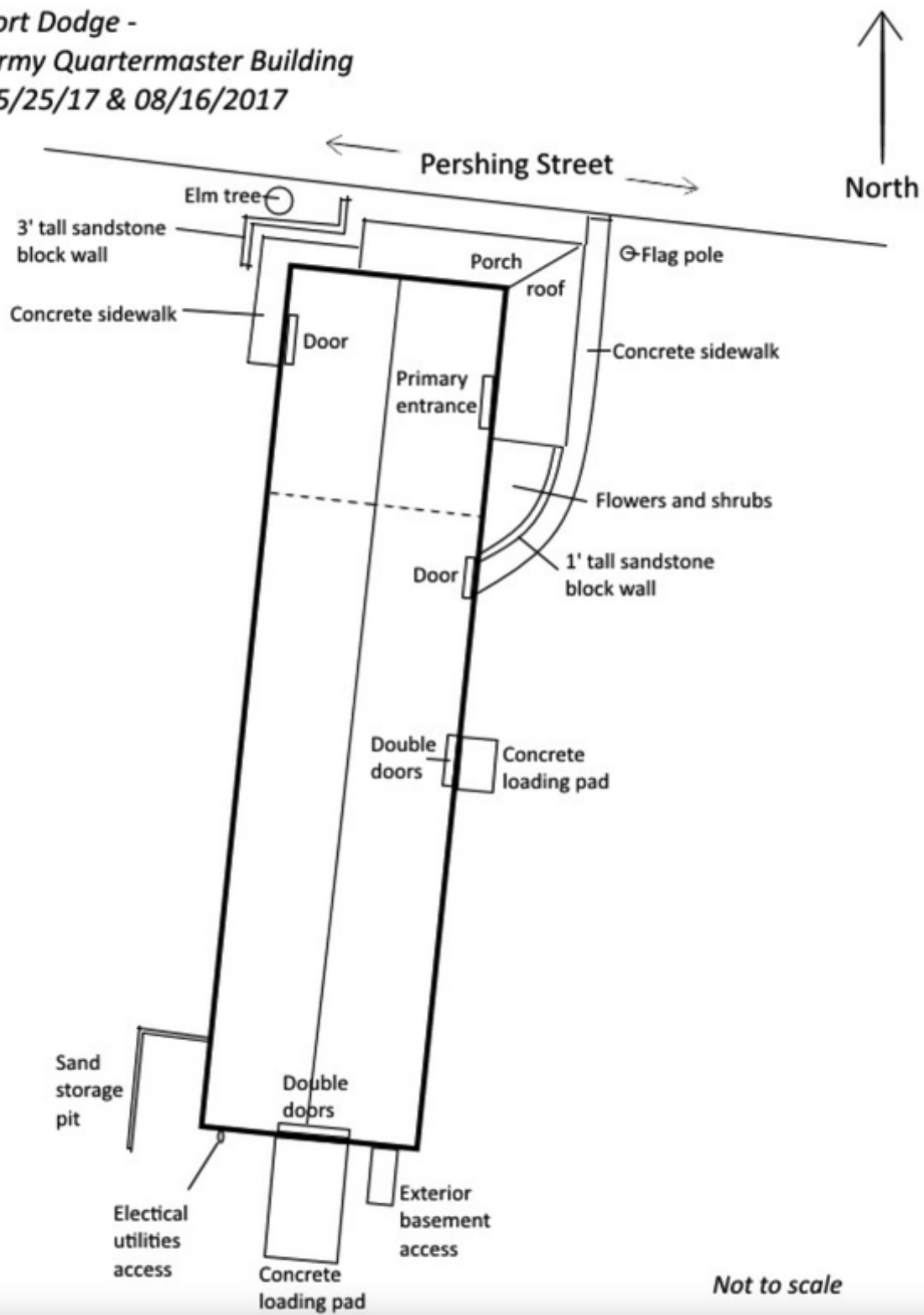
Other damage notes: To summarize the damage would be best to address the application of stucco to the whole of the building. The stucco covering is separating and falling off in large patches on the west, south, and east elevations. The west and south elevations have sustained the most damage from the stucco. The faces of the limestone blocks on the affected elevations have suffered considerable spalling from the stucco removing itself. The lower level of the west elevation has an application of concrete (similar to the Enlisted Men’s Barracks building; KHRI 057-1821-00003) that is visible where the stucco has flaked off. Closer inspection of the damage shows the same concern in that the limestone blocks are spalling and cracking just above the concrete application.

Estimated Building Damage:

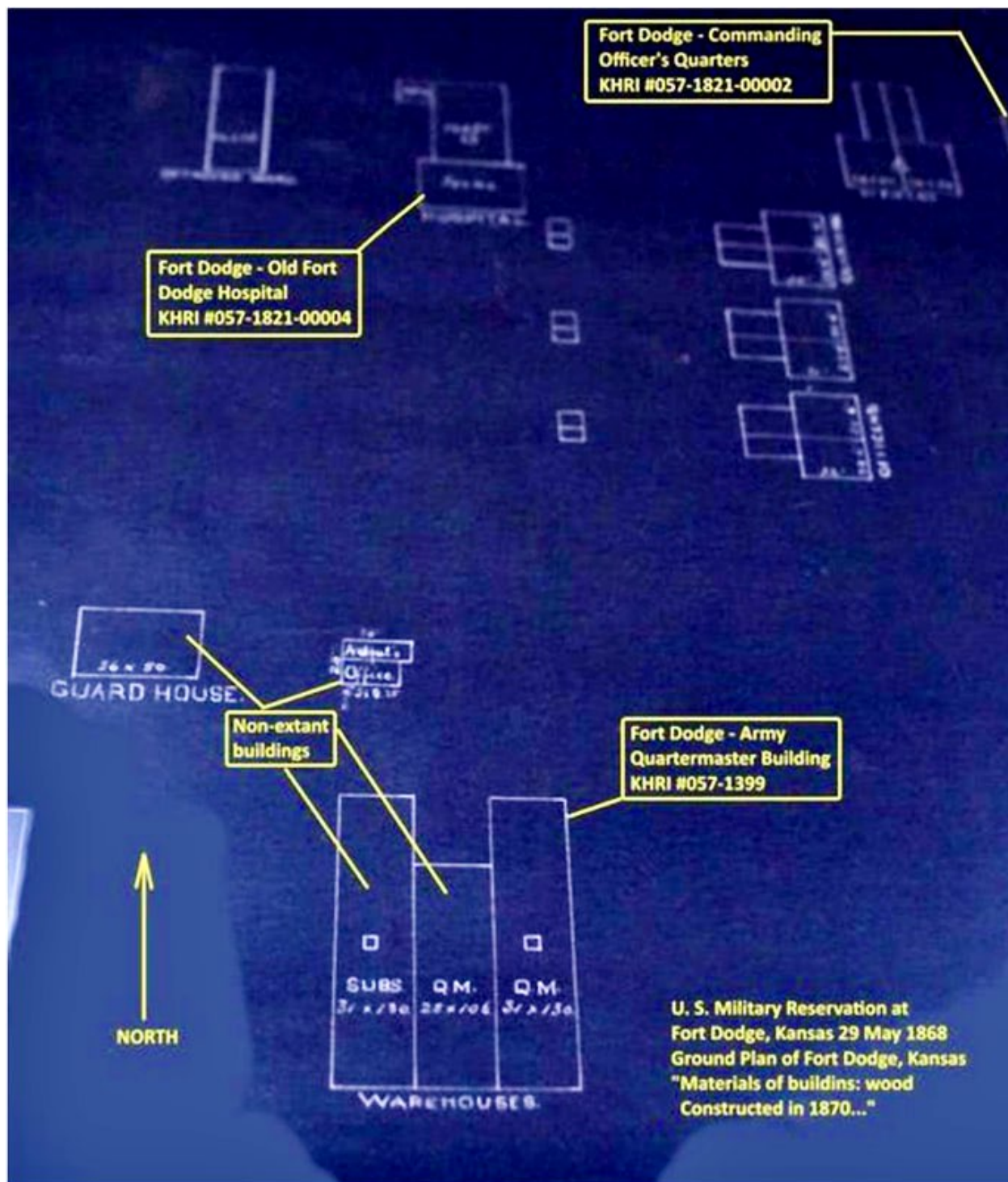
None: 1-10%: 10-30%: 30-60%: X 60-90%: 90-100%:

Intervention level: Noted items should be kept under close observation. Develop a plan to slow down or eliminate further deterioration of the exterior.

**Fort Dodge -
Army Quartermaster Building
05/25/17 & 08/16/2017**



S3-006: Quartermaster Building Site Plan



S3-005: Army Quartermaster Building, 217 Pershing Street. Locations of Santa Fe Trail related buildings on fort. U. S. Military Reservation at Fort Dodge Ground Plan. 29 May 1868. [Note Army Quartermaster Building bottom center.] Image created from photo of map. 05/25/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.

Kansas Historical Society

Site Four: Fort Dodge – Enlisted Men’s Barracks

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

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 1/2” to 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.



S4-001: Fort Dodge Enlisted Men's Barracks ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00003). West (front) elevation of south barracks; looking northeast.



S4- 002: Fort Dodge Enlisted Men's Barracks ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00003). South end of south barracks at the west (front) and south elevations; looking northeast. Note application of concrete/gunite at base of walls that encompasses the entire building; shown here in green.



S4-003: Fort Dodge Enlisted Men's Barracks ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00003). East elevation of north barracks; looking northwest.



S4-004: Fort Dodge Enlisted Men's Barracks ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00003). East elevation of south barracks; looking west. Note two different applications of concrete/gunite to lower areas of the walls.

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

An overall assessment of individual concerns is listed here by number and the concern. Each of these can be viewed in “Images and Documents”:

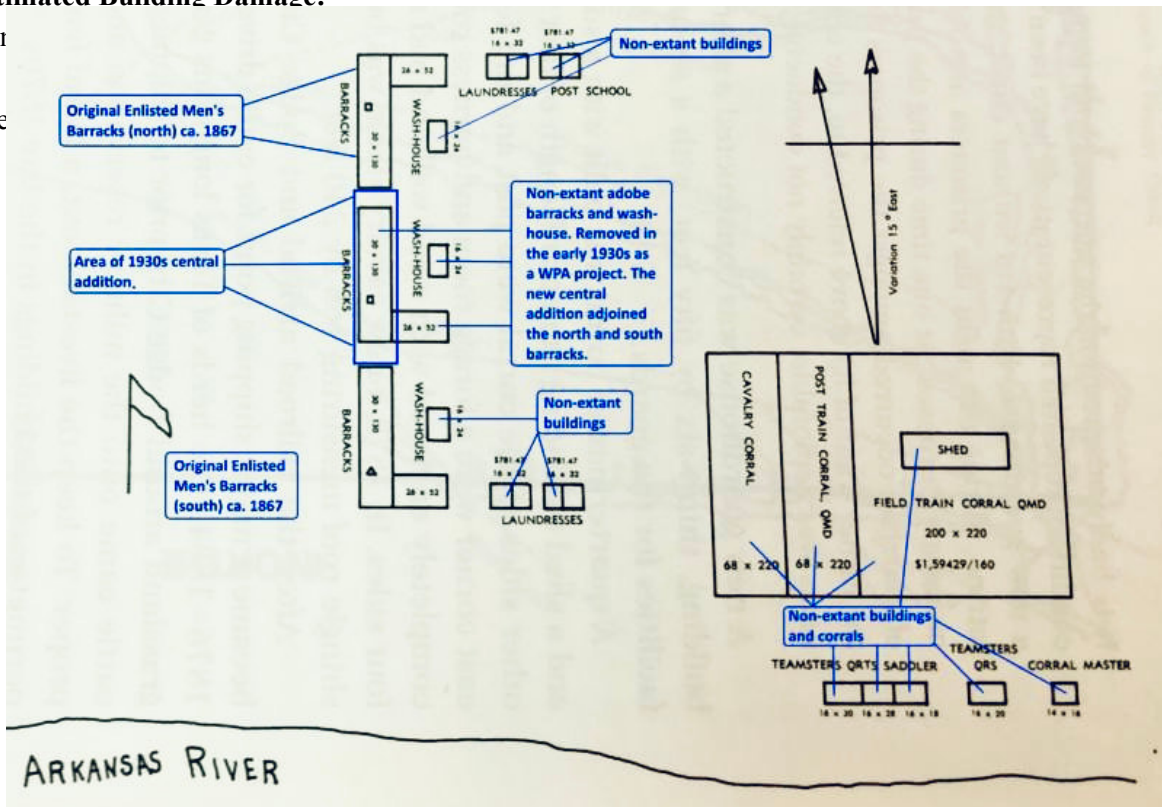
Concern:

1. Limestone blocks separating, mortar gaps wide, on southwest corner near roof.
2. Example of the concrete poured up against the lower surfaces of all elevations.
3. Missing mortar and slight spalling.
4. Wood window trim with lack of paint and wood rot.
5. Crack from doorway arch half-way up to gable; keystone has dropped about 1/2” to 1”.
6. Arch is dropping slightly; seams are not in alignment and has excessive mortar gaps.
7. Indication of the keystones having lowered past the other arch stones.
8. 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.
9. Infilled window and a developing crack above the extant window opening.
10. SEVERE spalling of a limestone window sill and the associated wall stones above the inappropriate application of concrete.
11. Additional similar spalling above the concrete.
12. Additional SEVERE spalling below the window above the concrete.
13. Indication of an early application of concrete on the exterior walls. This application is older (darker) in color.

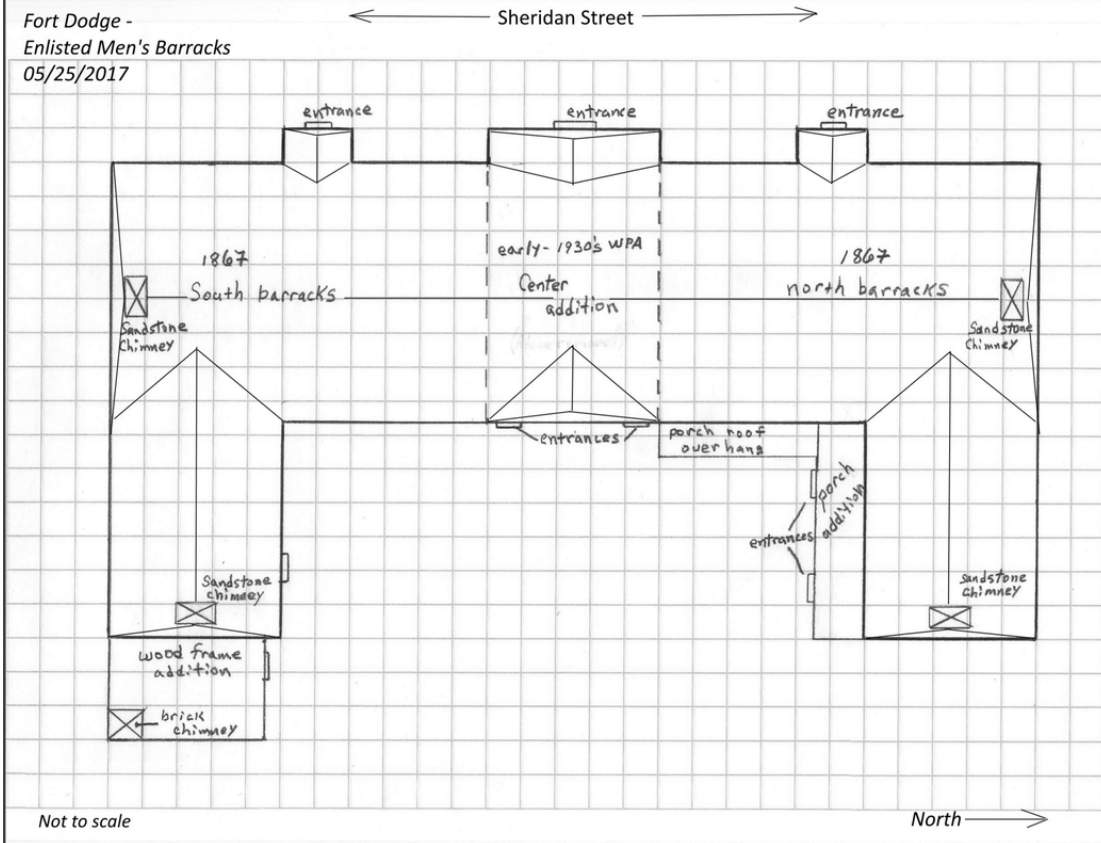
Estimated Building Damage:

Not

Inter



Fort Dodge -
Enlisted Men's Barracks
05/25/2017



S4-007: Enlisted Men's Barracks Site Plan



S4-005: Fort Dodge Enlisted Men's Barracks ca. 1867 (KHRI: 057-1821-00003). South barracks east elevation, typical window sill and spalled sandstone just above the concrete/gunite; looking west.

Kansas Historical Society

Site Five: Fort Dodge – Dead House

CONDITION ASSESSMENT:

Assessment date: 05/25/2017

Assessor: KSHS/Anderson, Rick.

County: Ford

Site: Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated)

KHRI: 057-1427

Address: 317 Pershing Street; Fort Dodge, Kansas 67843

Sequence number: FO_007

Attachments: Sketches; photographs; research

Coordinates: [See notes.]

Coordinates 1*: 37.731370 -99.937900

Coordinates 2*: 14S 417354 4176425

Coordinates 3*: 417357 4176424

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

Area assessed: Interior and exterior

Type of resource: Building

Occupied: Yes

Ruins: No

Historic use: Funerary/Mortuary: The Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated) was an example of the military's version of a morgue. The dead houses were used as temporary storage facilities for bodies especially during the winter months when the ground was frozen. Fort Riley in Riley Co. Kansas had a similar building referred to as "...well adapted for a post-mortem room". Fort Riley's building (12'x14') was about the same dimensions as that at Fort Dodge (10'x12') except that Riley's dead house was constructed of limestone instead of wood. Source: "Circular No. 4. War Department, Surgeon General's Office, Washington, December 5, 1870. A Report on Barracks and Hospitals with Descriptions of Military Posts." Washington, Government Printing Office, 1870. p. 289.

Present use: Vacant; storage

Date of construction: 1870

Verified: X **Reported:** **Estimated:**

Number of stories: 1

Plan: Rectangle (10'X12'; cost \$38.50 in 1870.)

Map source: "Ground Plan of Fort Dodge, Kansas. Established 1864. Adjutant General's Library. U. S. Military Reservation at Fort Dodge, Kansas. Designated by General Orders, No. 17, Headquarters Department of the Missouri, 29 May 1868. President's Order June 22, 1868..." (See photo # 19 in "Images and Documents" below.)

Architectural style: Vernacular

Chimney: No chimneys

Roof type: Gable-Front

Roof material: Asphalt shingles; several layers

Exterior wall material: Wood-frame construction with lap-siding; gable-ends are clad in wood shingles. The square wood-framed shed addition has also lap siding but is narrower than on the original building. The north gable has a louvered vent for the attic. The shed addition's roof is flat, sloped to the south.

Window type: (4) 1/1, double-hung. One in the east and west elevation of the original building. One in the east and west elevations of the shed addition. There are no windows or doors on the south elevation. There is a louver vent in the north (front) gable and no vent in the south gable.

Entrance: A single door serves as the north (front) elevation's entrance. Upon inspection of the interior, it was noticed that the door and doorframe have been replaced with modern dimension lumber that abuts the older plaster and lathe in the wall. A poured concrete pad serves as a porch for the entrance. Foundation: Unknown; building was relocated here from northwest of the Old Fort Dodge Hospital. The type of foundation under the shed addition is also unknown. There may be crawlspace access on the east elevation.

Landscape features: There are no landscape features associated with the building other than a poured concrete pad at the front entrance. The lawn has been kept mowed on all four sides of the building.

Interior: The south wall of the original building was removed from the east to the west walls creating one large room extending into the shed addition. Approximately 2 1/2-feet of the south wall remains overhead possibly serving as a header to support the opening. (Although currently there was a 2X4 propped up from the floor to the ceiling. The shed addition walls have been covered with unfinished sheetrock; most likely done several years ago. All shed addition walls show indications of probably water intrusion. (See "Interior wall damage" below.) The original building's interior walls are covered with plaster and lathe. The plaster and lathe can be seen where the exterior door and door frame have been replaced with new dimension lumber. Except for the non-historic loose articles stored there, the interior is void of any other types of shelving, doors, cabinets, etc.

Other notes: the building was once wired for electricity. Tri-plex electrical cable runs from the alley electrical line to the back, south gable of the building. Only two wires (one insulated 110-volt cable and the ground cable) appear to have been used of the tri-plex indicating the building was only wired for 110-volts of electricity. Conduit carried the electrical lines around the gable to the west elevation where a power distribution box is located.

Historic designation: No; not assessed

Is there a sign or plaque: No

Evaluation of the building

Collapsed or off foundation: No

Leaning, other structural damage: Moderate; shed addition: The east elevation of the shed addition sags in the middle when looking at the exterior. On in the interior when comparing the south wall of the shed addition to the ceiling of the original building, the shed addition would seem to be leaning/sagging to the west.

Damage to windows, doors: Minor/none; entrance door and door frame have been replaced with modern dimension lumber

Chimney, parapet, or other falling hazard: There are no chimneys.

Roof damage: Minor/none; has multiple layers of asphalt shingles. The most recent layer has missing shingles that reveal the other layers underneath.

Foundation damage: Unknown

Exterior wall damage: Moderate; bottom three rows of siding on the east elevation are sagging. The bottom row is split and missing pieces of the board. The corner trim boards on the bottoms of the southwest corners of the original building and the shed addition have wood rot. All wood surfaces need to be scraped and repainted.

Exterior structural cracks: None evident

Interior wall damage: Water intrusion from the south gable's ends have leaked into the northeast and northwest corners of the shed addition. The sheetrock has water stains on all the walls indicating probable other water intrusion. (See photos # 005-007 of 08/16/2017 in "Images and Documents".) Interior structural cracks: Not evaluated

Damaging vegetation (trees, shrubs, etc.): None evident

Insect/rodent/bird damage: None evident

Moisture damage/accumulation: Severe; see "Interior wall damage" above.

Estimated Building Damage:

None: 1-10%: 10-30%: **30-60%: X [40%]** 60-90%: 90-100%:

Intervention level: Items noted need to be kept under observation. The multiple layers of shingles on the original building should be removed and then re-roofed. The shed addition should be shored back up to the correct height or remove the addition and repair the original building's south wall for period correctness and to save the building from further deterioration. (See "Leaning, other structural damage" above.)



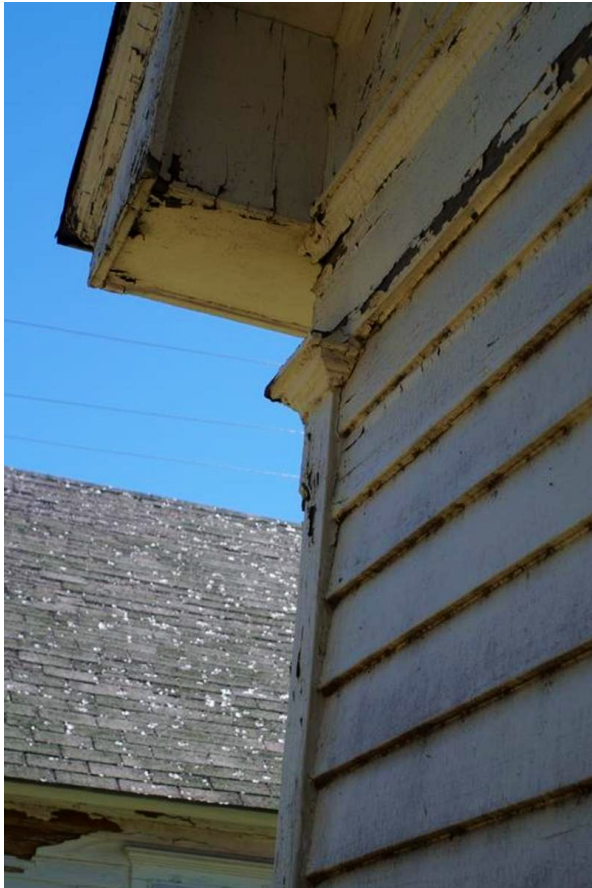
S5-001:Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated). 317 Pershing Street. North (front) and west elevation; looking south-southwest. 05/25/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



S5-002: Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated). 317 Pershing Street. South and east elevations of the shed addition; looking northwest. East elevation of the original building and its south gable shown above the shed addition. 05/25/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



S5-003: Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated). 317 Pershing Street. West elevation of the original building (left) and shed addition (right); looking north-northeast. 05/25/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



S5-004: Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated). 317 Pershing Street. North elevation details of corner trim boards, eave, soffit and fascia; looking east. 08/16/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



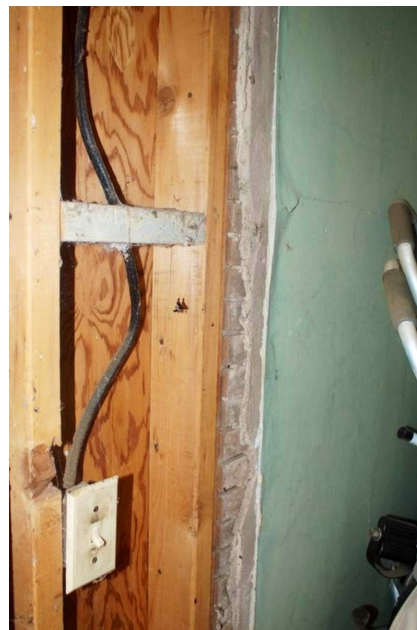
S5-005: Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated). 317 Pershing Street. North elevation louver; looking south. 08/16/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



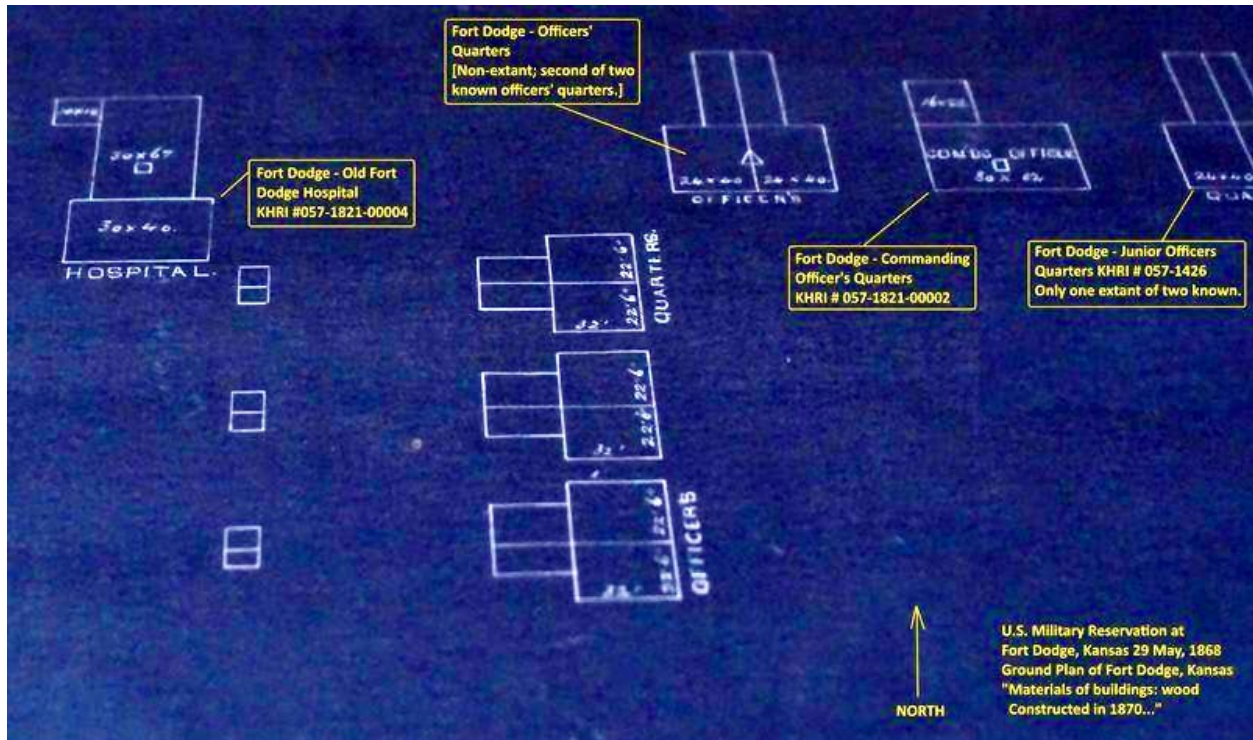
S5-006: Fort Dodge – Dead House Interior, looking south through the original building towards the interior of the shed addition. Note removal of the south wall has created a larger space. 08/16/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



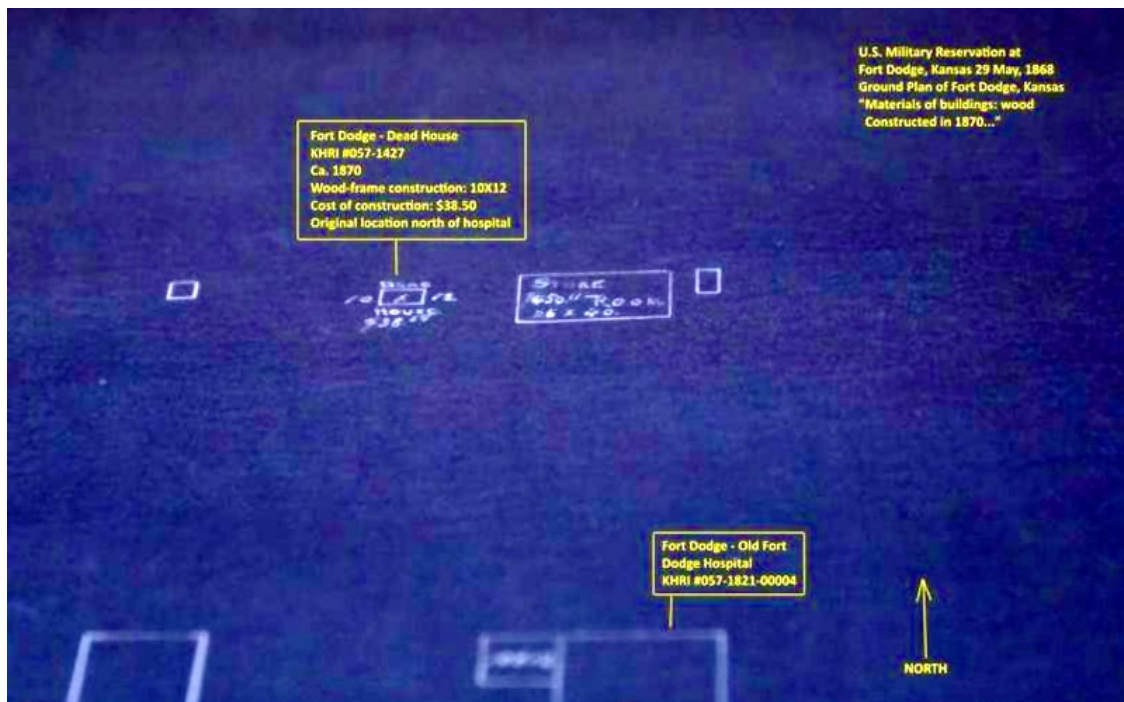
S5-007: Fort Dodge – Dead House Interior, northeast corner of the shed addition where it adjoins the original building; looking northeast. 08/16/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.



S5-008: Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated). Installation of faulty wiring & removal of wall.



S5-009: Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated). 317 Pershing Street. Locations of Santa Fe Trail related buildings on the fort. U. S. Military Reservation at Fort Dodge Ground Plan. 29 May 1868. Image created from map photo. 05/24/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.

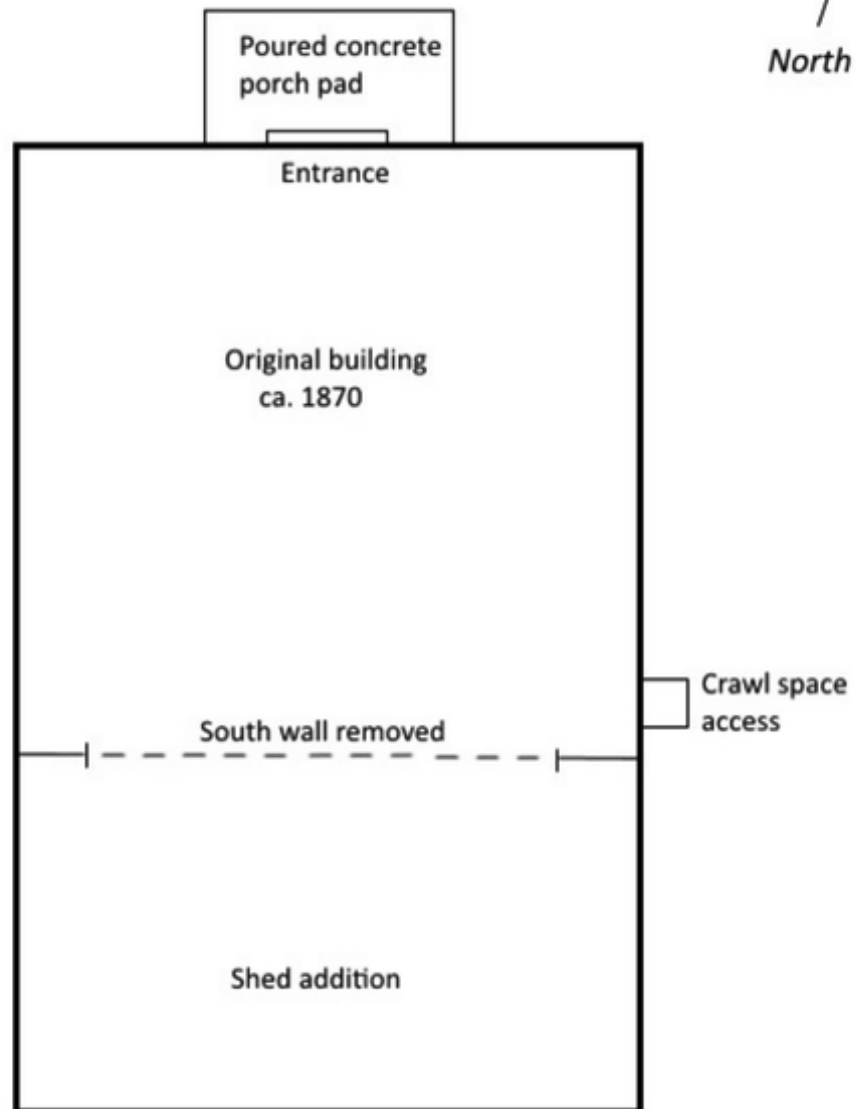


S5-010: Fort Dodge – Dead House (1870 location of Dead House and Old Fort Dodge Hospital. U. S. Military Reservation at Fort Dodge Ground Plan. 29 May 1868. Image created from map photo. 05/24/2017. KSHS/Anderson, Rick

Fort Dodge - Dead House (Relocated)
05/25/2017 & 08/16/2017

← Pershing Street →

North



Not to scale

S5-011: Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated). 317 Pershing Street. 2017. Site plan. KSHS/Anderson, Rick.

Kansas Historical Society

10. SIGNIFICANCE: Why do you think this property is important? Who lived here? Is this place associated with any important events? Is this property an interesting example of its type of construction/design? Explain:

The assistance rendered by Fort Dodge to the expanding frontier was significant, yet it has been largely overlooked in the process of shaping the pattern of American military history. The men of the post were involved as scouts, marches, and campaigns almost continually from 1865 until 1878. Weary cavalymen often found that they had ridden more than fifteen hundred miles during a single season while guarding the Kansas frontier. From 1867 until 1874, the fort was involved in several major campaigns to eliminate the menace of Indian depredations on the plains. Although Fort Dodge was part of the series of frontier forts that made the settlement of the west possible, its historical significance has never been comprehensively evaluated.

It is our intent here to provide readers with how significant Fort Dodge became during its seventeen-year reign as a military garrison protecting travelers, and commerce along the Southwestern regions of Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and Colorado.

The origin of Fort Dodge, now the Kansas Soldiers' Home on Highway 400, just east of Dodge City, goes back to 1847 when Fort Mann was established at the Cimarron Crossing on the Santa Fe Trail, 22 miles west of the present Fort Dodge.

Colonel Gilpin's volunteers were garrisoned at Fort Mann to protect the Santa Fe Trail traffic from Indian attacks. His recommendation for several adobe posts along the course of the Trail was well received by the War Department which led to the establishment of Fort Dodge at the close of the Civil War, according to David K. Strate, whose "Sentinel to the Cimarron" defines the "frontier experience of Fort Dodge, Kansas."

The importance of posts such as Fort Dodge in ensuring peaceful passage along the trail and eventual settling of the area and establishment of cities, such as Dodge City, has never been adequately recognized. The intensity of Indian assaults along the routes resulted in the suspension of mail service and lost travel by 1864.

Major General Grenville Dodge was placed in command of the 11th and 16th Kansas Cavalry Regiments and began work during the harsh winter of 1865, to repair telegraph lines and reopen travel routes. The Indians usually refrained from combat in the winter months.

The new post was ordered built on March 17, 1865, between two fordable crossings, the Mulberry which was 17 miles east of Fort Dodge, and the Cimarron, 22 miles west. The post rested in a narrow pasture off the Arkansas River, overlooked by a limestone bluff to the north. This bluff extended into an open plain where ravines proved handy to Indians who approached the Fort usually to steal horses and livestock.

Initial fortifications were crude earth dugouts excavated along the north bank of the river. Many men first stationed there were Confederates who preferred a fight with the Indian's to languishing-perhaps dying - in northern prisons.

The Soldier's had no lumber or hardware, so they had to use the available materials, grass and earth, to create the 70 sod dugouts. These were 10 x 12 feet in circumference and 7 feet deep. A door to the south faced the river and a hole in the roof admitted air and light. Banks of earth were bunks for the soddies that slept from 2 to 4 men. Sanitation was poor and spring rains flooded the dugouts.

Pneumonia, dysentery, diarrhea, and malaria were common the first year in the isolated fort. The General decided the Soldier's named the dismal Fort "Dodge" in its unpromising start to get even with him for them being brought there. The War Department made the name official.

The first shipments of lumber arrived in the summer of 1866 and the officer's quarters and temporary hospital were erected, still sod with wooden bunks. Supply houses and horse corrals were the first permanent structures of lumber. A field oven was the first piece of army equipment that improved the Soldier's lot at the post. Sutler's Store was built and immediately the Sutler took advantage of the Soldier's pay in their pockets. When they began to quarry stone, twelve miles to the North, desertion became an acute problem. It was a choice between hard work with stone or to face the Indians.

A 43,000-acre military reservation was established. A cemetery and guardhouse were built, along with a supply store for destitute civilians off the barren plains and sometimes victims of Indian raids. During the next 2 years, permanent facilities of sandstone were erected, which included 2 barracks, a hospital, quartermaster buildings, headquarters building and commanding officer's quarters. Several buildings still stand and are in use today, including the commanding officer's quarters, now the residence of the Kansas Soldiers' Home Superintendent.

Both Civilian's and Soldier's quarried the stone, utilizing sixty teamsters and two hundred mules to haul it. Lieutenant George A. Hesselberger directed the construction. He demonstrated a taste for durability and subtle beauty, apparent in some buildings still in use at the Fort. The stones used were of varying length but were cut to 18 inches in height and two-foot thickness. Each barracks held fifty men and was equipped with a kitchen and mess hall. Latrines were erected behind the barracks. The hospital had a wardroom, adequate for the sick of 4 companies, an administration section, and a kitchen.

The Commanding Officer's quarter was the two-story structure on the post. The first floor had administrative rooms where the Commanding Officer could host fellow officer's or hold court martials. The second floor, provided with rifle ports, was for family use. There was a blacksmith shop to keep horses shod and sixty wagons in repair. Two large corrals of sod with four feet thick walls, kept the Indian's from raiding the supply of mounts and protected the horses and cattle herds from the severe winters.

Negro troops that made up a large part of the population on the post after the Civil War were segregated and housed in a 20 x 40-foot structure, part of which served as storage. They were also segregated at the hospital in a small separate frame structure. All buildings were arranged in a circle, which faced inward to form a parade ground.

Skilled craftsman earned from \$85.00 to \$199.00 a month. Unskilled laborers were paid \$35.00, however, there was always a shortage of men and materials. Lumber and hardware were delivered from eastern Kansas or Santa Fe, New Mexico, where a thousand feet of lumber could be delivered for only \$30.00.

Many problems encountered during the construction were local in origin. There were frequent Indian attacks on the Fort and shortages of supply wagons and work details. Few workers could be enticed to work at hard, dirty labor for \$35.00 a month, with the possibility of a scalping thrown in.

The men at the Fort received criticism from headquarters for their lack of control of the Indians. General Marcy came out to investigate and his wagon train was attacked in route. Once there, he sent back a critical report of the newly erected building's, saying, "quarters are so magnificent and smoothly dressed that they appeared to be designed for the National Capital." The director of the building, Lieutenant Hesselberger, was singled out for criticism. His feat was rewarded with a court martial and his name on the dedication stone was covered over with a buffalo robe during subsequent ceremonies.

A barracks once used for cholera victims was converted to a recreation room. The Chaplain, Major White, complained that the spiritual and cultural life of the men was neglected. As a result, church services were held in the building on Sunday, although the chaplain complained frequently of having to conduct his worship rites from a pool table. Life was hard on the Plains and desertions were frequent. Dr. Tremaine, the Post Surgeon, was an advocate for better treatment and reduction of unnecessary hardships for the troopers.

The Fort distributed food and water to civilians during the severe winter of 1874, just 2 years after the establishment of Dodge City. It also contributed a column to the Dodge City newspaper on military and social activities at the post. The Sutler's Store was a very popular spot on the reservation. Whiskey could be served from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. each evening, with 3 drinks allowed per man. However, it appeared the count was not always accurate. The Fort Dodge Cemetery held the bodies of many of Dodge City's early day resident's, in addition to post inhabitants. One of these is Edward Masterson, brother of Bat, who was buried after being shot by a drunken gunfighter. The saying then was "the rich are buried at the Fort and the cowhands and poor are buried on Boot Hill and gone to hell."

As civilization advanced, the Indians found no sanctuary from the white man's army. General William T. Sherman, a typical example of the military mindset, was sure that all attempts at civilization of the Indian were ridiculous.

Extermination or reduction of their status to that of paupers with complete dependence on the government was his idea for their fate. Many Easterners were shocked at the treatment of the Indians. The men on the frontier had reason to complain of the Easterner's lack of comprehension of the savagery of the Indians.

With the coming of the railroad to Dodge City in 1872 and the threat of extinction of the buffalo, the Indians conducted a final outburst of violence in an attempt to preserve their livelihood. At that time, buffalo hides were selling for \$3.50 each and plenty of hunters were on the scene to benefit from the price. By 1873, most of the buffalo had been annihilated, even to the south of the Arkansas River where the Medicine Lodge supposedly protected the buffalo and Indian's rights. In 1874, the Army renewed engagement against the Indians, for asserting their rights by forays to the north of the Arkansas River. General Nelson Miles continued these attacks until the spirit of the Plains Indians was broken and their wild and independent culture had virtually disappeared.

Between 1870 and 1875, more new buildings were built at Fort Dodge. Ten sets of officer and family quarters were erected, in addition to buildings for civilian employees. A new guardhouse replaced the old, overcrowded original structure. A granary for storing one million pounds of grain was also erected. Between 1874 and 1882, life on the post was fairly stable. The most excitement came out of Dodge City where trail herds waited to be sold. Longhorns strayed onto the fort, sometimes tearing down the laundry and threatening Soldiers and their families.

In 1878, there were 100,000 cattle driven from Texas to Dodge City. Poor relations existed between the cowboys and the Soldiers. A uniformed man could not enter the town without being harassed by a cowman, often aided by a local lawman. The drinking establishments often took advantage of the Soldier's.

At one time in 1877, Colonel William Lewis assembled a detachment of men and marched on Dodge City. The town judge hoisted a white flag and arbitration ensued. Dodge City's famed "Peace Commission" was formed soon after the incident with the help of Colonel Richard Dodge, who was furious when his personal servant, a young black, was shot and left to die in the street. The Commission consisted of such famed names as Wyatt Earp, Charlie Barrett, and Bat Masterson.

The last of the Indian scares was an attempted migration by the Cheyenne under Dull Knife, from El Reno, Oklahoma to their former home in South Dakota. During the Indian's march through Kansas, several dozen settlers were killed. Several Indians' were taken to Topeka for trial, with Ford County Attorney Michael Sutton as prosecuting attorney. The natives were acquitted for lack of evidence.

In December 1880, some of Fort Dodge's reserved land was opened to homesteaders. The first seventy -five homesteads were claimed by Dodge City residents that included gamblers, saloon keepers, prostitutes and a few actual homesteaders. In 1889, the rest of the area was opened, creating a real land rush.

It is believed the Dodge City homesteaders purchased the land for \$158.00. On April 5, 1882, the Fort was abandoned by the U. S. Army. The last of the troops marched southward to Camp Supply when the flag was lowered on October 2, 1882. Fort Dodge, guardian of the commercial frontier, the cattleman and homesteader, had fulfilled its purpose.

For the next eight years, the land and Fort were managed by a Custodian of the Department of Interior. Robert Wright, a Dodge City entrepreneur, managed to exploit the facilities by housing drovers who awaited the sale of their cattle. He purchased the land surrounding the Fort with money he earned selling whiskey and buffalo hides. In January 1890, Fort Dodge was deeded to the State of Kansas for use as a Soldiers' Home.

Veterans began arriving at Fort Dodge. Most of them were Civil War Veterans. Others were veterans of the Mexican and Indian Wars, many of whom had served with great honor in the Army. Records show these early residents did not always retire peacefully. Many were dismissed from the Kansas Soldiers' Home for quarrelsomeness, drunkenness, and the like. Even croquet had to be abandoned as a form of recreation when the mallets proved too handy a weapon to settle quarrels among the members. Eventually, dependents and relatives of Kansas Veterans were admitted along with Confederate and Negro Veterans.

11. Why is Register Listing being sought?

Unable to prevent the post's closing, the people of Southwest Kansas focused their energy on advocating for reuse of the buildings: "If it must be abandoned," argued the Globe, "let us keep it intact and prevent its destruction and have it put to other uses - - if not by the general government, let it be turned over to the State as she can utilize it in many ways." Although the Army had already begun disposing of the materials and buildings, the fight escalated. On May 5, 1882, President Chester Arthur asked Congress to amend the original act to dispose of Fort Dodge. With support from President Arthur, U. S. Senator Preston Plumb from Kansas, a member of the Military Committee and Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, was able to usher through legislation that forced the Army to leave the buildings at Fort Dodge. In December 1882, Senator Plumb, himself a Union officer in the Civil War, introduced a bill in Congress to establish a state soldiers' home at Fort Dodge. In 1889, Congress finally authorized the Secretary of the Interior to sell part of the Fort Dodge reservation to the State of Kansas for a state soldiers' home. It was the people of Dodge City who donated the money to purchase the property on behalf of the State of Kansas.

Fort Dodge is considered the most important of all the forts along the Santa Fe Trail. It was in the heart of Indian country. William Darnell, Freighter, 1866." Because of William Darnell's statement, it is once again time to establish the next phase in the restoration of our nation's history by preserving Fort Dodge as a National Historic Landmark and protecting its presence in the long-standing tradition of Kansas History.

Kansas Historical Society

12. Provide a list of sources that document the historical and/or architectural significance of the property.

(See below listings and reference pages for Historical Significance of Property) Attaching copies of these sources is recommended.

Site One: Junior Officers Quarters (See Pages 4 - 10)

Association with the Santa Fe Trail - Direct Association: the Fort Dodge – Junior Officers’ Quarters is located 350 feet south of the trail. The north side of Fort Dodge is located on the Santa Fe Trail. This building provided quarters for Fort Dodge's junior officers. This building is the only remaining wood-frame officers’ quarters at Fort Dodge. There had been a similar building east of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. The Junior Officers Quarters is separated in the interior by a common north/south wall in the center of both floors creating two separate units. Both sides have identical rooms, features, staircases, etc. downstairs and upstairs alike. See photos in “Images and Documents” below.

Site Two: Fort Dodge – Officers House (See Pages 11 - 15)

Association with the Santa Fe Trail - Direct Association: the Fort Dodge - Officers House is located 430 feet south of the trail. The north side of Fort Dodge is located on the Santa Fe Trail. Originally constructed as housing for officers; after the fort was purchased by the state in the early 1900s, the building served as housing for veterans

Site Three: Fort Dodge – Army Quartermaster Building (See Pages 16 - 22)

Association with the Santa Fe Trail - Direct Association: the Fort Dodge – Army Quartermaster Building is located 835 feet south of the trail. The north side of Fort Dodge is located on the Santa Fe Trail. Signage at front entrance reads: "Storehouse. Twin storehouses, each 130 ft. by 30 ft., and a bakery were the first stone buildings to be completed in 1867. The second storehouse stood a few yards to the east. The north ends of each building were portioned to provide offices for post headquarters and for the quartermaster. A bakery, located several yards behind, had two ovens, and was capable of baking 500 rations of bread each day. The frame structure, two doors to the right, was the original “dead house” and was moved from north of the hospital to its present location. Major Henry Douglas, in command, and Lieutenant George A. Hesselberger, quartermaster, were severely reprimanded by General R. B. Marcy for reckless extravagance in constructing buildings grand enough ‘for the national capitol’.

Site Four: Fort Dodge – Army Quartermaster Building (See Pages 23 - 29)

Association with the Santa Fe Trail - Direct Association: 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. Signage located near 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 were 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."

Site Five: Fort Dodge – Dead House (See Pages 30 - 36)

Association with the Santa Fe Trail - Direct Association: in its original location, the Fort Dodge – Dead House would have been located approximately 240 feet south of the trail. The north side of Fort Dodge is located on the Santa Fe Trail. The Fort Dodge – Dead House (Relocated) was an example of the military's version of a morgue. The dead houses were used as temporary storage facilities for bodies, especially during the winter months when the ground was frozen. Fort Riley in Riley Co. Kansas had a similar building referred to as "... well adapted for a post-mortem room". Fort Riley's building (12'x14') was about the same dimensions as that at Fort Dodge (10'x12') except that Riley's dead house was constructed of limestone instead of wood. Source: "Circular No. 4. War Department, Surgeon General's Office, Washington, December 5, 1870. A Report on Barracks and Hospitals with Descriptions of Military Posts." Washington, Government Printing Office, 1870. p. 289.

13. SUBMITTER: Check here if you are also the property owner:

Name:

Telephone:

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

Date

14. PROPERTY OWNER: If you are not the property owner, do you have the consent of the property owner to pursue register listing?

_____ Yes _____ No If no, explain: _____

I give my consent for the Ford County Historical Society in conjunction with the Kansas Historical Society to pursue National Historic Registration of Historic Places on the following sites listed below as established by ownership initials.

To be included :

Site One: Junior Officers Quarters	_____ Yes Initial Verification	_____ No (Check)
Site Two: Fort Dodge – Officers House	_____ Yes Initial Verification	_____ No (Check)
Site Three: Fort Dodge – Quartermaster Building	_____ Yes Initial Verification	_____ No (Check)
Site Five: Fort Dodge – Dead House	_____ Yes Initial Verification	_____ No (Check)

Alternative sites to be considered:

Old Fort Dodge Hospital	_____ Yes Initial Verification	_____ No (Check)
Custer House	_____ Yes Initial Verification	_____ No (Check)

Signature _____ Date _____

Property Owner:

Telephone:

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

Date:

Submit this form to:

Kansas Historical Society
Attn: National Register Coordinator
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66615
kshs.shpo@ks.gov

Don't forget:

_____ Keep a copy for your file
_____ Include photos (prints and/or CD or flash drive)
_____ Copy or scan of historic photos (if available)
_____ Copies of research (recommended)
_____ Site Plan or aerial image (recommended)

Web links to additional information:

- The National Register of Historic Places & the Register of Historic Kansas Places: kshs.org/14635
- How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation: kshs.org/14636
- The state preservation law (KSA 75-2724): kshs.org/15577
- State and federal rehabilitation tax credits: kshs.org/14673
- Heritage Trust Fund grant: kshs.org/14617
- Technical preservation assistance: kshs.org/14649
- Kansas Preservation newsletter: kshs.org/15064