

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE Texas	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. Military and Theme XV, Westward Expansion, subtheme: Indian Affairs	4. APPROX. ACREAGE 400
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Fort Davis		
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) Jeff Davis County, State 118, north edge of town of Fort Davis		
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) Estate of D. A. Simmons, 3100 Gulf Bldg., Houston, Texas		

7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)

Named for Secretary of War Jefferson Davis, Fort Davis was established in 1854 by Lt. Col. Washington Sewell, in the Davis Mountains northwest of the Big Bend. Its function was to help check predatory bands of Apaches and Comanches, who could be intercepted from this point at the various crossings of the Rio Grande. The site was noted for its healthy climate, defensibility, and communication with El Paso and San Antonio by a fine, natural road. Located on the southern route to California, the fort provided a way-station for California-bound immigrants. From 1854 to 1861, Col. Sewell's command, operating from Fort Davis, fought the hostile Comanches and Apaches infesting the region. In 1858 a train of camels, with which the War Department was experimenting in the Southwest, stopped at Fort Davis. The garrison withdrew in 1861, and Confederates under Col. John R. Baylor occupied the post, but remained only a few months. The fort was deserted until U.S. troops returned in 1867, to find that the old establishment, primarily of log construction, had been all but wrecked by Indians. They built a new post, using substantial rock and adobe materials. Until 1880 it was a base of operations against Kiowas and Comanches, and played a prominent part in the wars against Victorio and the Warm Springs Apaches. It continued to serve as an important stop on the roads to Mexico and California, and as the mother post of many scattered subposts. The Indian barrier removed, cattlemen moved into the area in the 1880's and established ranches. The post had outlived its usefulness, and was abandoned in 1891.

The remains of Fort Davis are probably more extensive and impressive than any other frontier post in the West, including Forts Laramie and Union. The walls of nine sets of adobe officers quarters are still standing, several with roofs intact. Seven other sets of officers quarters, of slab limestone construction, are in excellent condition, complete with roofs. Three of these, however, have been rehabilitated and are now used as guest cottages. On the opposite side of the parade ground stand the roofless walls of two long adobe barracks. The adobe commissary and barrack-like shop, together

(Continued on Supplemental Sheet)

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

C. C. Rister, The Southwestern Frontier, 1865-1881 (Cleveland, 1928). Barry Scobee, The Story of Fort Davis (Fort Davis, 1936). J. H. & J. R. Toulouse, Pioneer Posts of Texas (San Antonio, 1936). War Dept., A Report on the Hygiene of the U.S. Army, with Descriptions of Military Posts, Circular No. 8 (Washington, 1875).

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

None

10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION Excellent	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) Guest Ranch	13. DATE OF VISIT Oct. 20, 1958
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) <i>Robert M. Utley</i>		15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE Dec. 16, 1958

* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS
SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

This sheet is to be used for giving additional information or comments, for more space for any item on the regular form, and for recording pertinent data from future studies, visitations, etc. Be brief, but use as many Supplement Sheets as necessary. When items are continued they should be listed, if possible, in numerical order of the items. All information given should be headed by the item number, its name, and the word (cont'd), as, 6. Description and Importance (cont'd) . . .

STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
Texas	Fort Davis

7. Importance and Description (cont'd)

with the ruins of numerous utility buildings and other miscellaneous structures, completed the physical layout. It is picturesquely located in the heart of the Davis Mountains near the Davis Mountains State Park.

A private concern operates a guest ranch on the site under lease from the D. A. Simmons estate. On the date of visit the lease, according to a local informant, had two years to run. The Fort Davis Historical Society, which has long been active in attempting to preserve the fort and secure its admission to the National Park System, operates a small museum and trading post in a building that has been constructed for the purpose on the northeast edge of the parade ground. The property is for sale, but because of its historical value, the price has been set, according to Mr. Barry Scobee, at \$110,000 for something over 400 acres. Mr. Scobee, Justice of the Peace in Fort Davis and author of the book cited below, is a moving spirit in the effort to have the fort made a National Monument. According to Mr. Scobee, the spring winds each year do considerable damage, and stabilization is urgently needed.



Fort Davis, Texas. Above: Officers Row, looking north. Below: Barracks and parade ground, looking southeast. Photos by George Grant, Sept., 1953. Negatives in Region Three Office, National Park Service, Santa Fe, New Mexico



Fort Davis, Texas. Chapel, looking northwest.
Photo by George Grant, Sept., 1953. Negative
in Region Three Office, National Park Service,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.



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98

50. The ruins of Fort Davis are the most extensive of any fort in the Southwest. This is officers' row. National Park Service photograph.

Handwritten initials

April 25, 1936

Miss Melissa Castle,
Director of Research and Cachets,
Texas Centennial Celebrations,
Dallas, Texas

Dear Miss Castle:

Your letter of April 17 addressed to the Secretary of the Interior, requesting information on Old Fort Davis in Jeff Davis County, Texas, has been referred to the National Park Service for reply.

I regret to inform you that this Service has no information regarding the present ownership of the area to which you refer, nor do we have any information on the story of the averted Indian attack mentioned in your letter.

For information regarding the transfer of title from the Federal Government to the State in 1910, it is suggested that you address an inquiry to the War Department.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) VERNE E. CHATELAIN

Verne E. Chatelain
Acting Assistant Director



CC: Chatelain
Lee

File notes

FORT DAVIS, TEXAS.

Fort Davis, situated near the head of Limpia Creek ,
446 miles N. W. of San Antonio, and 225 miles S. E. of El Paso,
was created by an order of the Headquarters of Texas, dated October
23, 1854. It was named for Jefferson Davis.

It was built by Companies A, C, D, F, G, and H of the 8th
U. S. Infantry, and occupied by the 8th Infantry until April 18,
1861, when it was ^{temporarily} abandoned.

On June 29, 1867, it was again occupied and finally
abandoned July 31, 1891.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION THREE
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

R 21 1941

REC
Mr. Kahler
Dr. Neasham
Dr. H. Hill
(Fort Davis)
Has study
been made
of this site.
REC



April 16, 1941.

Memorandum for the Director:

Transmitted herewith, for the attention of the Branch of Historic Sites, are rotogravure sections of the December 5, 1937, edition of the Fort Worth Star Telegram and the July 2, 1939, edition of the Houston Chronicle, together with several photographs taken by Regional Supervisor of Historic Sites Neasham on April 8, covering the historic site of Fort Davis, Texas.

This Office earnestly recommends that Fort Davis be submitted for classification by the Advisory Board as a national historic site at the earliest opportunity. It is the opinion of the undersigned and Dr. Neasham that no historic fort of the Southwest exceeds this area in interest and importance. Not only are its buildings in the best state of preservation of any to be seen in the Southwest, but, also, its location is such that it should receive heavy visitation by those visiting the proposed Big Bend National Park and various State parks in the vicinity of Alpine, Texas.

Regional Director.

Encl. 2371940.



ADDRESS:
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
158 WASO

25, D. C.

Survey

AUG 16 1940

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Three
From: Assistant Director
Subject: Fort Davis, Texas, proposed national historic site

This refers to your memorandum of August 4 concerning Fort Davis, Texas. The Advisory Board in 1941 failed to take action on this proposal and we shall again submit it for their consideration at the meeting tentatively scheduled for November. If there are additional data that would be helpful to the Board, we shall appreciate receiving them.

We have a copy of Mr. Neasham's report, prepared August 1941 and Mr. D. A. Simmons' letter of May 30 indicates change in ownership.

(SGD) HILLOBY A. TOLSON

Assistant Director

In duplicate

Copy to: Mr. R. F. Lee
Mr. Wirth

HEKahler-fmd

COPY

WEST TEXAS HISTORICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY, Inc.

Alpine, Texas

January 12, 1952

Mr. Eric Reed
National Park Service
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Reed:

I am torn between addressing you at Sante Fe and Albuquerque so here goes, Albuquerque.

I may be possible for me come out there within the next few eeks as I am architect for four buildings for the Texas Game Management Area near here. This brings me to the point of my letter.

Is there any official in your group interested in Old Fort Davis as a possible national monument? Mr. Simmons is dead and his estate has announced the Fort for sale. They much prefer to see it in the hands of State or National Park Service. I have only a sentimental interest in preserving and restoring the buildings to their original authentic design, in fact, have done some measuring and drafting already on the Hospital and other buildings.

A number of friends have indicated their willingness to organize a non-profit group, incorporate, and attempt to raise the necessary money to buy the place provided there is some agency ready to accept it and provide perpetual care and restoration.

If you can give me some suggestions as how to proceed I will appreciate the assitance.

Last September I retired from teaching and have an office down town in Alpine (next to Western Union if you drive in here).

Sorry my home juvenily typewriter is cutting up so much.

With best regards,

Very sincerely,

/s/ Victor J. Smith

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Region Three
Santa Fe, New Mexico

January 18, 1952

Mr. Victor J. Smith
West Texas Historical and Scientific Society, Inc,
Alpine, Texas

Dear Mr. Smith:

This is in reply to your letter of January 12 addressed to Regional Archeologist Erik K. Reed, who is now on a temporary assignment in Guam.

The National Park Service has long been interested in Fort Davis as a National Historic Site and as long ago as August 1941 a report was made on the area following a detailed investigation on the ground. This report, which included a complete description of the site and a resume of its full historical significance states that Fort Davis is the best preserved historic United States military fort in the Southwest.

Although our Service is quite sympathetic to Fort Davis as a unit of the National Park System, we have never been able to accomplish this objective because of the fact that the land is in private ownership and we are, of course, without funds with which to acquire it. At the time of the investigation and report made in 1941, the property was owned by the James Estate of San Antonio. Later we were advised that it was acquired by Mr. D. A. Simmons of Houston and a letter from him dated May 30, 1949, addressed to Mr. Gordon K. Shearer, Executive Secretary of the Texas State Parks Board, gave the appraised valuation of the 454 acres included in the property and the improvements thereon at \$171,694.32. I note your statement that Mr. Simmons is dead and that his estate has announced the fort property for sale. Although our Service would still be unable to purchase it at any price, I would be interested in knowing at what figure it is being held by the estate, if this information is readily obtainable.

I appreciate your interest in the matter and thank you for writing us as you did.

Sincerely yours,

Copy to: Director /signed)
Supt., Big Bend M. R. Tillotson
Mr. Gordon K. Shearer Regional Director
with copy of Mr. Smith's letter of Jan. 12

C
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

In reply refer to:
L58 WASO

Region Three
Santa Fe, New Mexico

January 18, 1952

Memorandum

To Director

From: Regional Director

Subject: Fort Davis, Texas, Proposed National Historic Site

I believe that the first recommendation that Fort Davis be submitted for classification by the Advisory Board as a national historic site was made in my memorandum of April 16, 1941, to you. I wrote you again on this subject August 4, 1949, and Mr. Tolson's reply of August 16, 1949, stated that the proposal would again be submitted to the Advisory Board for their consideration at the next meeting scheduled for November 1949. Please let me know if any action has been taken by the Board.

I am still very much interested in the establishment of Fort Davis as a national historic site if arrangements can be made for acquisition of the property. In this connection, there is attached copy of a letter received under date of January 12 from Mr. Victor J. Smith of Alpine, together with a copy of my reply.

/s/ M. R. Tillotson
M. R. Tillotson
Regional Director

Attachments 2

Copy to: Supt., Big Bend



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Prop. H.S.
In reply refer to:
L58 WASO-H

Survey

2/27/52

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Three
From: Director
Subject: Fort Davis, Texas

We appreciate your memorandum of January 18 enclosing copies of your correspondence relating to the proposal that Fort Davis be designated as a National Historic Site.

The Advisory Board was scheduled to consider this proposal in 1949 but our records indicate that no action was taken. In fact Dr. Leland, Chairman of the Board, requested specifically that three topics be given primary consideration, namely, National Parks and Historic Sites in International Relations, Water Control projects and recreational responsibilities of the Service. This was done. We shall be glad to discuss the site at the next meeting of the Board, which is scheduled for April 21-22. In view of the pending legislation in regard to Fort Union, New Mexico, it would probably be advisable to settle that problem before attempting to carry Fort Davis beyond the Advisory Board, assuming that it is approved.

Director

In duplicate

Copy to: History Division w/c of inc. corr.
Recreation Planning Div.

CWPorter:RFL:bb

OCT -6 1952

Survey

Miss Winnie Allen, Archivist
The Mirabeau B. Lamar Library
University of Texas
Austin, Texas

Dear Miss Allen:

We have received your letter of September 15 suggesting that Fort Davis, Texas be established as a national monument.

Pursuant to the Antiquities Act of 1906, national monuments may be established by Presidential proclamation on lands owned or controlled by the United States. However, under the terms of the Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666) national historic sites under certain conditions may be designated by the Secretary of the Interior regardless of whether title thereto is vested in the United States. At the present time the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments, created under the authority of the Historic Sites Act to assist in classifying those areas in this country which are of outstanding national significance, is making a comparative study of frontier posts in the Southwest.

We are glad to have your suggestion regarding Fort Davis which will be carefully considered in the course of the comparative study that is being made.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) Ronald F. Lee

Ronald F. Lee
Assistant Director

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Three
History Division ✓

CWPorter-fmd

Fort Davis, Texas

Survey

RESOLVED, that the Committee (Committee on Historical Problems) recommends that the Park Service make a comparative study of frontier posts in the Southwest and submit its recommendations to the Board at its next meeting.

Passed by the Advisory Board on National Parks,
Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, at its
26th meeting, April 21-22, 1952

*Copy sent ~~to~~ H.K.
5/29/52*

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

June 11, 1953

Memorandum

To: Regional Director
From: Superintendent, Big Bend
Subject: Old Fort Davis, Texas

In accordance with your suggestions in your memorandum of May 26 I attended the meeting of the Fort Davis Historical Society on June 8 at Fort Davis, Texas. About 30 persons were present.

I spoke on park objectives, mentioned the importance of Big Bend National Park, and concluded with a review of tourist travel economics. Several questions were asked which indicated that the group has some thoughts that the National Park Service might take over the area for restoration after purchase and administration as a National Monument. I explained the procedures necessary, including clearance by the National Park Advisory Board, but added that as a practical matter the problem of securing funds for the extensive work necessary just seemed almost impossible. My suggestion was that they study the matter further and that if the National Park Service entered the picture, Historic Site status similar to San Jose Mission in San Antonio would be preferable. This would permit local management and control, with competent historical and historical-architectural advice--but no money.

The group does not seem to be well unified, which is regrettable, for old Fort Davis is a charming place and deserves better treatment than it is receiving now. As you may know, when Judge Simmons purchased the place, he invested some money in it, in so-called "restorations" which are far from accurate. However, most of the buildings are about gone, and another year will just about complete the ruin. Mrs. Simmons leases the property to Mr. Malcolm Tweedy who operates a concession type of business with a few rooms in the old officers' quarters, and a curio store. Tweedy advised me that Mrs. Simmons is now asking \$200,000 for the 480 acres which is quite unrealistic in my opinion.

One point on which I could not obtain further information indicates that Texas has recently authorized the Governor to appoint an advisory Historical Commission to work with various privately financed societies such as the Fort Davis Historical Society. This appears to be a very recent development and I will attempt to obtain

COPY

further information on it. However, it does not appear to be a group that will have any money to spend, and will be limited in its functions to advisory assistance only. The Fort Davis group has been corresponding with the governor on this and otherwise attempting to secure outside assistance for their project.

1954 is the Centennial Year for Fort Davis and they are hoping to use this as a publicity feature to secure interest in their problem. I assured them of my personal interest in the site, and stated that I knew that Mr. Tillotson also was highly appreciative of the values of this old fort located both on the Old Overland Trail and the Chihuahua Trail. I offered to consult with them at any time they felt it would be helpful.

However, the first job remains for them to pull together better, and this is a field where I do not believe that we can provide leadership.

One of the interesting moments for me came when I first realized that my own great grandfather who went to the California goldrush in 1849 over the Old Overland Trail from New Orleans, had undoubtedly been at Fort Davis both coming and going. I had not anticipated this personal tie-in with the local history.

If you have further suggestions I will be pleased to have them, and will advise you if I hear from the group at a later date.

/s/ Lon Garrison

Lemuel A. Garrison
Superintendent

COPY

The Fort Davis Historical Society
Box 771
Fort Davis, Texas
June 15, 1953

COPY

Mr. Lon Garrison, Supt.
Big Bend National Park
Texas

Dear Mr. Garrison:

As I believe you are aware, the Fort Davis Historical Society was founded this spring in Fort Davis with the avowed objective of obtaining national recognition for Old Fort Davis.

In the opinion of the Society the Fort well deserves consideration by the National Government as either a national monument or historic site.

Situated in one of the most scenic of locations in the boulder-strewn heart of the Davis Mountains, old Fort Davis is probably the most complete and best preserved of all the frontier forts in the Southwest.

Located on the old Overland Trail that wound its way from San Antonio to El Paso and thence to the West Coast Fort Davis was one of a series of posts built for the protection of settlers and immigrants along the trail. This route through the Davis Mountains also became in the 1850's the chief business link between the United States and Mexico....the Chihuahua Trail.

Thus Fort Davis played a leading role not only in protecting the travellers east and west but also in offering escort and protection to traders bent on plying their wares with the peoples of Mexico. In a word, it has been a vital cog in the internal and external development of our country.

On October 7th, 1954, Fort Davis will be exactly one hundred years old. The Society deeply feels that in view of the above qualifications there could be no more fitting way to mark the Fort's centennial than for it to become a national landmark.

With this in mind, Mr. Garrison, knowing of your familiarity with the property and being aware of your interest in it, the Society would greatly appreciate your bringing Old Fort Davis to the attention of the National Parks Advisory Board.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Mrs. Malcolm Tweedy, Sec.-Treas.
The Fort Davis Historical Society

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

June 17, 1953

Memorandum

To: Regional Director
From: Superintendent, Big Bend
Subject: Old Fort Davis

Enclosed in duplicate are copies of a letter of June 15 from Mrs. Malcolm Tweedy, Secretary-Treasurer of the Fort Davis Historical Society requesting that the National Park Service consider Old Fort Davis as either a National Monument or a National Historic Site.

I have already sent you my report on meeting with the Historical Society on June 8.

Review of current policies and instructions indicate that this fort might well come within classification XI of the major historical themes, Westward Expansion and the Extension of the National Boundaries, 1830-1890. Since your previous report on this was made in 1941, and considerable deterioration has occurred since that time, I believe a new study should be made whenever you deem it proper. Possibly the matter of land status and maintenance and operational procedures should be gone into before anything further is done.

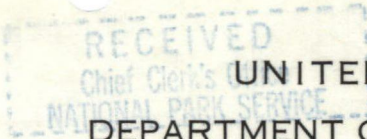
However, I will await your further advice before taking any action myself. Meanwhile, I am acknowledging to Mrs. Tweedy receipt of her letter, and advising her that I am forwarding it through channels for study.

/s/ Lon Garrison

Lemuel A. Garrison
Superintendent

Enclosures

COPY



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

1953 JUN 29 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Region Three
Santa Fe, New Mexico

In reply refer to:
L58

~~JUL 1953~~
JUL 2 - 1953
~~Kahler~~

June 24, 1953 *tee*

Kahler

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Big Bend
From: Regional Director
Subject: Old Fort Davis, Texas

We are forwarding to the Director, by a copy of this memorandum, copies of your memorandums of June 11, reporting on the June 8 meeting of the Fort Davis Historical Society, and June 17, transmitting copies of Mrs. Malcolm Tweedy's letter of June 15 to you.

A general survey of the old U. S. military posts of the frontier in the Southwest was requested by the Washington Office some time ago, arising specifically from a recommendation on Fort Davis, and is to be completed this year, if at all possible, for the consideration of the Advisory Board at their November meeting. Fort Union, New Mexico, Fort Bowie, Arizona, and Fort Davis are sure to be at the top of the list. We shall undoubtedly call on you for further assistance in connection with the present status and possible development of Fort Davis in compiling this report.

In the meantime, there is little else we can do about it except to keep in touch generally with the activities of the Fort Davis Historical Society. We leave this entirely to you, and I feel that you have handled it excellently to date. Your memorandum of June 11 is a particularly clear and helpful report on the situation.

(SIGNED)

M. R. Tillotson
Regional Director

Copy to: ✓ Director, with copies of
Mr. Garrison's memos of 6-11-53 and 6-17-53, and
Mrs. Tweedy's letter of 6-15-53

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Dr. Glenn E. Stone
Optometrist
Pecos, Texas

August 10, 195

The Honorable Lyndon Johnson
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Johnson:

Recently we had the opportunity to visit the Big Bend National Park. We have lived in this southwestern area for over 35 years and have seen most of the places of interest. But we had not seen the Big Bend National Park yet, and even though all our friends who had seen it told us we would be very disappointed which they were, we still wanted to see it for ourselves. How right they were! I have never seen more desolate, barren God-forsaken country, particularly to be a national park. I cannot conceive of a reason why that area should be designated as a national park and justify a cent of federal or state money being spent on it. And we covered it from Marathon and Boquillas on the one end to Santa Elena canyon and Terlingua on the other.

What makes it difficult to understand is why the National Park Service and federal government would pass up an area of outstanding natural beauty such as is found around Ft. Davis and which also has a point of high historical interest with lots of possibilities of development and restoration for that uninteresting wasteland.

The past two week ends we have driven ^{up} to Ft. Davis and around there to picnic and relax. The canyons, Limpia, Madera, The Scenic Loop, The Observaatory, the old Fort itself, had many, many people picnicing and enjoying the beauty of the country. It is hard to find a spot that is not already taken.

And so it is that I am interested in wondering why the government has set aside the Big Bend country as a national park and why it has not developed old Fort Davis as a historic site and natural scenic spot. Would appreciate your answer.

Sincerely,

/s/ Glenn E. Stone

Glenn E. Stone

C O P Y

C
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L 58

LYNDON B. JOHNSON
TEXAS

UNITED STATES SENATE
OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 13, 1953

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a communication which I have received from one of my constituents. I will appreciate your giving serious consideration to this problem, based on its merits.

Please let me have as prompt a reply as possible, returning the enclosure, in order that I can inform the writer.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lyndon B. Johnson

Lyndon B. Johnson

Office of the Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

XL1415 BIBE

SEP 18 1953

In reply refer to:
L 58

Kahler

Porter

Mr. Spright

H. File

SEP 16 1953

Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Senator Johnson:

This will acknowledge your letter of August 13, enclosing one which Dr. Glenn E. Stone of Pecos, Texas, wrote you regarding the Big Bend National Park and Fort Davis in Texas.

We are sorry that Dr. Stone formed such an uncomplimentary opinion of Big Bend. Many others have been impressed by the spectacular canyons, the geologic interest and the plant and animal life of the Park-- features which were judged to be so outstanding as to merit inclusion in the National Park System. The geological story is read in the rocks themselves. Yawning canyons carved across slowly uplifted mountain ranges show the erosive action of the Rio Grande through the ages. Big Bend is a biologic island with a wide variety of wildlife. Unusual animals and birds which may be seen include the wild hog or Texas peccary, Mexican black bear, mountain lion, Colima warbler and aplomado falcon. Beautiful displays of desert flowers and cacti are to be seen during March and April. Desert shrubs and grasses bloom and reach the peak of their growth during the rainy season from mid-July to mid-September. The various species of oak, madroña, maple, and aspen display their beautiful autumn colors in the mountain areas from mid-November to the latter part of December. From almost any section of the Park the view to the south is dominated by the rugged Sierra del Carmen, Fronteriza, and other spectacular mountain ranges in Old Mexico. Romantic interest is added by the close proximity of the people of Old Mexico and by the colorful legends and stories of the country. The Park was a gift from the people of Texas to the Nation. You are, of course, familiar with the great interest in the State of Texas and elsewhere in the preparations being made for the formal dedication of the Park in 1954.

To interpret the role of the United States Army in aiding in the opening and settlement of the American West, the National Park Service administers Fort Laramie National Monument in Wyoming. A comparative study of Western forts and military parks, including Fort Davis, Texas, is now being made by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments. Federal aid in preserving any area that might be selected by the Board would have to be limited to advisory assistance in planning. Many western forts and military posts, of course, figured prominently in our early Western history, but the Service must count upon the States and local patriotic organizations to preserve them. At the present time, there are 118 historical areas included in the areas in the National Park System. These are scattered widely over the United States and represent an effort to commemorate, so far as possible, the most significant phases of American history, within the limits of funds available for historical conservation. It is our hope that the States will be able to supplement our work by preserving other places deserving of historical conservation measures.

We appreciate knowing of Dr. Stone's views and hope that this information will be useful to him. His letter is returned as requested,

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) Hillary A. Tolson

Hillary A. Tolson
Acting Director

Enclosure

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Three (2) w/copy of incoming
do
History ✓ do
Mr. Diederich do

JHGadsby:CWP:LJD:bg (Rewritten)

NOV 24 1958

Survey
Fort Davis,
Tex.

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Three

From: Chief Historian

Subject: National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings: Photographs
of Fort Davis, Texas

We do not find in our files the negatives of Fort Davis which Historian Utley was seeking in his memorandum of November 17.

Mr. Littleton remembers Mr. Grant's work at Fort Davis very well, and recalls that at that time Mr. Grant was also on a trip in connection with the AWR studies. It may be that the Fort Davis negatives are in the files of the Arkansas, White and Red River Basin studies at the Region Three Office. We have looked in the AWR files here, but have not found them.

(SGD) HERBERT E. KAHLER
Chief Historian

In duplicate

Copy to: Branch of History ✓
Historic Sites Survey

JLittleton:jc:11/24/58

FORT DAVIS, TEXAS

April 21, 1959

Hon. J. T. Rutherford
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

As representative of the citizenry of Fort Davis, Texas, I take this measure in writing you pertaining to the historical old fort at this location of which, I am sure, you are familiar.

We citizens of Fort Davis are extremely interested in the restoration of Old Fort Davis and having it become a national park. The low cash price of the fort is now \$115,000.00. This comprises all buildings, improvements and approximately 450 acres of land adjacent to the city of Fort Davis.

Can you advise me if it is possible to obtain any financial assistance from the government in the purchase of this fort as it would be a gigantic effort on everyone concerned to raise that amount.

Thanking you, I am

Yours truly,

s/ Frank P. Edwards

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

House of Representatives

Washington, D, C.

April 28, 1959

Mr. Conrad Wirth, Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Conrad:

The attached letter from Mr. Frank P. Edwards is self-explanatory, and is in reply to his suggestion that I investigate the possibility of having old Fort Davis purchased by the Federal Government and designated a National Park.

Mr. Edwards states that the low cash price for the Fort is now \$115,000. This comprises all buildings, improvements and approximately 450 acres of adjacent land to the City of Fort Davis.

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Conrad, I would greatly appreciate it if you would investigate the possibility of the government in some way helping with the restoration of this site, if conditions permit. Old Fort Davis, located in the Davis mountains area of Texas, is one of our early frontier forts. Some of the ruins are in fairly good shape, and it is located in beautiful scenic surroundings. It is not too far from the Big Bend National Park and would attract many visitors on their way to the Big Bend from throughout the nation.

Please let me hear your thoughts on this, and feel free to call on me if you need additional information.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

s/

J. T. Rutherford

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

May 5, 1959

Mr. Conrad Wirth, Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Conrad:

Supplementing my letter to you of April 28th concerning Old Fort Davis, I am transmitting herewith additional information which I have received in this connection.

Mr. Frank Edwards, Manager of the Fort, tells me that they have a number of tourist cottages, a trading post, museum, riding stable, and a boys' camp on the reservation. These features attract some 25,000 tourists annually and gives them a gross income from such meager facilities - and with no operating capital - of approximately \$15,000 per year.

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Out of this income they pay an annual lease of \$1,500, plus salaries to an average of six employees. Mr. Edwards states that because of lack of funds they are unable to reconstruct or add to the existing buildings. He feels that if the National Park Service purchased the property it would soon become a tremendous asset financially and would also increase the flow of traffic to the already acquired Big Bend Area.

It would be greatly appreciated if officials of the Park Service would pay a visit to the Old Fort. Mr. Edwards states that if such a visit can be arranged he would personally show the books and go over other other details to the satisfaction of the visiting authorities.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter at your early convenience.

Sincerely,

s/ J. T. Rutherford

MAY 15 1959

Dear Mr. Rutherford:

We are glad to be able to inform you in connection with your inquiry about old Fort Davis in Texas that a study already is in progress which will include it. This study is the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings and is being carried out by the National Park Service, a Bureau of this Department.

For purposes of expediting the work and giving it some logical breakdown, the National Survey has divided the field of American history into a number of themes. The theme in which Fort Davis falls in The Military and Indian Frontier. Work on that theme is now in progress. It is expected that this theme study will be completed this summer. Upon its completion, the study will be presented to the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments for evaluation of the sites associated with that theme. In the course of that evaluation, Fort Davis will receive the attention of the Board, and its recommendation will then be made to the Department.

We are glad to have the information you gave in your letter of April 26 to Director Wirth of the National Park Service about the condition of Fort Davis and its immediate environs, and also to learn from a copy of Mr. Edwards' letter, which you provided, of the interest of the local community in the proposal to preserve old Fort Davis. Your supplementary letter of May 5 is also helpful. A copy of it is being sent to the Region Three Office of the National Park Service in Santa Fe which is conducting the National Survey work in Texas and the Southwest. If they are not already familiar with Fort Davis from previous study, they will be glad to accept the kind invitation to visit it.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Roger W. Ernst

Assistant

Secretary of the Interior

Hon. J. T. Rutherford
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Copy to: DCCO
Asst. Secy., Pub. Land Mgmt.
Adm. Asst. Secretary
Division of Legislation
Division of Budget and Finance
Reg. Dir., Reg. Three w/c inc. ltrs. - adv. copy

Copy to: Mr. John Littleton w/c inc. ltrs.
Hr. of Nat. Park Syst. Plans.
Branch of History w/c inc. ltrs.

REAppleson/CMP:gr:5-8-59

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COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
House of Representatives, U. S.

Washington, D. C.

June 17, 1959

Mr. Conrad Wirth, Director
National Parks Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Conrad:

I ran across two pictures in the El Paso Times edition of June 14th of a very distinguished gentleman named Conrad Wirth, so I am sending them along. I hope you enjoyed your Texas visit.

Conrad, noting that you met with members of the Fort Davis Historical Society and that you discussed the history survey being conducted under Mission 66, I would appreciate having a report from you as to what you told them with relation to Old Fort Davis. As you know, I have received inquiries on this in the past and I'd like to be kept informed of your statements down there as I will surely be approached on the subject in the future. Also, if you have any special knowledge to impart concerning the Big Bend National Park after your trip, I'd be most interested to hear about it.

With best wishes and kindest personal regards,
I am,

Sincerely,

(Sgd.) ~~Wayne H. Aspinall~~
J. E. Rutherford

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Callahan
H.B.S.
Commitment Noted
153-100
file

JUL 2 1959

Hon. J. T. Rutherford
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rutherford:

Upon my return from a western trip, I found your letter of June 17 and the clipping from the El Paso Times showing Superintendent Miller of Big Bend, Regional Director Hugh Miller of our Region Three Office, and me in conversation with Martin Merrill about Fort Davis, Texas.

The newspaper article under the photograph reports quite accurately the gist of my conversation with Mr. Merrill. There is currently in preparation, as a part of the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, a study on the theme of the Military and Indian Frontier. This will include Fort Davis. We expect this report to be submitted this summer. If we find it in good order, we expect to submit it to the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments this autumn for evaluation of the sites discussed in it. If all goes well, therefore, Fort Davis should receive Advisory Board evaluation later this year. The Board will submit its recommendations to the Secretary. At that time, we will know where Fort Davis stands in the Survey. I was glad to learn from Mr. Merrill that the Fort Davis Historical Society has a one and one-half year lease on the Fort Davis property with an option to buy it. We certainly will keep you posted as we proceed with our studies. *Texas*

As to Big Bend National Park, I have never seen it looking better. Things are shaping up very well and in a few more years our roads should be all completed and our camp grounds in full use. Big Bend is truly a wonderful country.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) CONRAD L. WIRTH
Director

Copy to: DCCO
Asst. Secy., Pub. Land Mgmt.
Division of Legislation
Reg. Dir., Reg. Three w/c inc. ltr.
Br. of Nat. Park Syst. Plann. "
Br. of History ✓ "

~~6-26-59~~ PMS 1589

TO SECRETARY
MAR 2 1960
FOR SIGNATURE
LETTER COPY

NSHS + B

3/7/60 commitment posted
no eps. incoming rec'd
L58-IBH
PARKS
Jim
Survey
m 3/16/60

MAR 4 1960

Dear Senator Johnson:

There has been considerable interest in the last few years in the preservation of old Fort Davis in Texas. It has come to our attention that bills have been introduced in both the House and the Senate proposing to authorize the establishment of Fort Davis as a national historic site. Professor John P. Bloom's letter to you is another indication of the public interest in this proposal.

Fort Davis was included in the subtheme study on "Military and Indian Affairs" in the theme of Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898, carried out as a part of the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings by the National Park Service of this Department. The Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments considered this study at its October 5-8, 1959, meeting, and in so doing classified Fort Davis as a site possessing exceptional value for the purpose of commemorating and illustrating the history of the United States.

Because of the Advisory Board's classification of Fort Davis in this category, and the bills recently introduced into the Congress proposing its establishment as a national historic site, we are undertaking further studies relative to Fort Davis to determine whether this Department should support the proposal to establish it as a national historic site. We hope to be able to give our recommendation on this matter during the present session of Congress.

We are returning herewith Professor Bloom's letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Roger T. Ernst

Assistant Secretary of the Interior

Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosure

Copy to: DCCO
Asst. Secy., Pub. Land Mgmt.
Div. of Legislation
Reg. Dir., Reg. Three w/c inc. ltrs.
Mr. Frank Harrison " " "
Mr. L. Diederich " " "
Branch of History ✓ " " "

Survey files
L58-IBH

MAR 10 1960

~~Reg file~~
~~W.A. Br~~

Memorandum

To: Legislative Counsel, Office of the Solicitor
Through: Assistant Secretary
Public Land Management

From: **Acting** Director, National Park Service

Subject: H. R. 10352 - A bill to authorize the establishment of a national historic site at Old Fort Davis, near the town of Fort Davis, Jeff Davis County, Texas.

This is in response to your request for our views on the legislation proposed in this bill.

Fort Davis, near the town of Fort Davis, Texas, was considered by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments at its October 5-8, 1959, meeting. The Advisory Board approved Fort Davis as having exceptional value in commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States.

Fort Davis was established in 1854, the largest and most important of the new chain of forts erected to protect the Texas frontier. Named after Secretary of War Jefferson Davis, it was situated in the Davis Mountains, north of the Big Bend of the Rio Grande, at the junction of the trails from San Antonio to El Paso and Santa Fe, and to guard the principal crossings of the Rio Grande. Troops from its garrison were involved in many engagements with hostile Indians. After the Civil War, the fort was rebuilt of rock and adobe bricks and became a base for operations against Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches. In 1879-1880 it played a major role in the arduous and costly campaign against Victorio and the Warm Spring Apaches. It continued to serve as an important station on the roads to Mexico and California. Fort Davis was abandoned by the Army in 1891. It has extensive and impressive remaining structures and ruins. It is the best remaining example in the Southwest of the typical post Civil War frontier fort.

While the historical significance of the site has been established, we have not yet carried out studies needed to indicate what would be desirable boundaries of the proposed historic site in order to provide

for protection and preservation of the site and its structures, and to allow for proper development of administrative and visitor facilities. Until these studies are completed it will be desirable to defer a final report on the bill. A study of boundary and related problems has been scheduled. We expect that it will be completed in time to permit a report to the Congress on this proposed legislation before the end of this session.

It is recommended, therefore, that an interim report on this bill be submitted to the Congress together with the stated intention of reporting on it finally before the end of this session of Congress.

(Sgd) E. T. Scoyen

Acting Director

Attachment

In triplicate

Copy to: Asst. Secy., Pub. Land Mgmt. w/c bill
Reg. Dir., Reg. Three
Mr. L. Diederich
Mr. Frank Harrison w/c bill and memo
Branch of History ✓
Branch of History Leg. File

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not a commitment

NSHS + B file

153-RFS

MAR 16 1960

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Three

From: Director

Subject: Proposed Study, Fort Davis, Texas

As you know, Congressman Rutherford introduced H.R. 10352 on February 10, to authorize establishment of the Fort Davis National Historic Site and you have a copy of our interim report on this bill. Senator Yarborough introduced on February 22, a companion bill, S. 3078.

We have assured Mr. Rutherford's office that we believe we can accomplish the necessary studies mentioned in our interim report by July 1. The feasibility of doing this was confirmed in a telephone conversation with your office.

The historical part of the report should give particular attention to identification of specific sites where structures formerly stood if they no longer remain; where important events occurred either in the fort or in its immediate vicinity; the location of trails; old roads, and any other features that had a bearing on the fort; and the events that gave it importance. Mr. Utley, who presumably will work on this part of the report, will be familiar with this aspect of the task since he has performed similar work in connection with the studies on Fort Bowle and Apache Pass and the report on Promontory Point that currently is in progress. This part of the report should be accompanied by maps that will locate sites discussed in the text. Good photographic coverage also is desired. This record of historical data should be complete in all respects, because of its bearing on the question of suitable boundaries for preservation and protection of the historic site and its values.

Will you please schedule necessary planning studies on boundaries and requirements so that we may have a report thereon by the last week in June.

(SGD) CONRAD L. WIRTH

Director

In duplicate

MAR 17 1960

(Mr Appleman)

Copy to: History
NPS Planning
JHGedsby:REA:ts 3/11/60

NOV 25 1960

L58-IBH

NSHS + B file

Hon. J. T. Rutherford
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rutherford:

We are glad to comply with your request of November 16 for a transcript of the action taken by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments at its recent meeting of September 17-22 concerning Fort Davis, Texas. A transcript of the Board's action follows:

Fort Davis, Texas

"WHEREAS, the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, in October 1959, classified Fort Davis, Texas, as possessing exceptional value in commemorating and illustrating the history of the United States during the period of the extension of the national boundaries 1830-1898, and

"WHEREAS, the Board concurs in the findings of the National Park Service that Fort Davis is suitable for establishment as a unit of the National Park System,

"The Board therefore recommends: that Fort Davis be authorized for acquisition and establishment in the National Park System as Fort Davis National Historic Site. The Board expresses its hope that such legislation will be enacted by the 87th Congress."

We shall be glad to give you any further information you may need on this subject.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) E. T. SCOYEN

Acting Director

Copy to: DCCO
LM
US
DL
Regional Director, Region Three.
Mr. L. Diederich.
Branch of History. ✓

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}W/c of inc.
}

PRS 3621

REAppleman: 11-21-60

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 16, 1960

The Honorable Fred A. Seaton
Secretary of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Reference is made to my bill, H. R. 10352,
authorizing the establishment of a national historic site
at Old Fort Davis in Jeff Davis County, Texas.

I would appreciate it if you would let me have
a copy of the transcript of the action of the Advisory
Board on National Parks on Fort Davis at its recent meeting
on this matter.

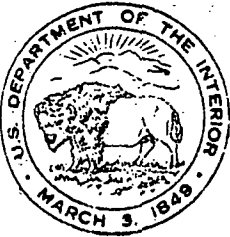
Thanking you for this courtesy, I am

Sincerely,

signed/

J. T. RUTHERFORD

COPY



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR INFORMATION SERVICE

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

For Release to PM's, DECEMBER 19, 1960

ADDITIONAL SITES RECOMMENDED FOR HISTORIC LANDMARK STATUS

Seventy additional sites have been declared eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark status, Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton announced today.

The sites possessing exceptional historic and archeological value are among 111 described in six new "theme studies" in the National Park Service series covering all the major periods of human history in America. The six studies are: Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830; The Civil War, 1861-1865; and four sub-themes under Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries; entitled: The Santa Fe Trail; The Cattleman's Empire; Military and Indian Affairs; and The Texas Revolution and the War with Mexico, 1820-1853.

National Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth said that, of the 111 sites, 41 are already represented in the Park Service and the remaining 70 sites have been recommended by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments as eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark status.

The National Registry of Historic Landmarks was approved by Secretary Seaton and established by the National Park Service in October of this year. Five theme studies covering the English, French, and Spanish Exploration and Settlement; the Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775; and The Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830 were announced. A total of 124 sites were recommended, with 92 declared eligible for Landmark status and the remainder already in the National Park System or having received Federal recognition.

The National Registry of Historic Landmarks is designed to recognize and endorse the preservation and protection of structures and sites now administered by States, other public agencies, or historical societies and to encourage private owners of historic landmarks to maintain them.

The Registry is an outgrowth of the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings program of the National Park Service. This program was authorized by the Historic Sites Act of 1935, which provided for a "survey of historic and archeological sites, buildings, and objects for the purpose of determining which possess exceptional value as commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States."

Administrators of sites found eligible for Landmark status may apply to the National Park Service for such recognition and will receive a certificate. Arrangements are also being made to make available a suitable marker.

Descriptive summaries of the sites in the presently announced theme studies are attached. A list of themes under study is also attached. Additional studies will be announced from time to time. The various theme studies may later be published for public distribution. Only reading copies are currently available.

x x x

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

List of Themes, Subthemes,
and Special Studies

- I. Prehistoric Hunters and Gatherers
- II. Early Indian Farmers
- III. Indian Villages and Communities
- IV. Spanish Exploration and Settlement
Special Study: Spanish Colonial Sites in the Panama Canal Zone
- V. French Exploration and Settlement
- VI. English Exploration and Settlement to 1700
- VII. Dutch and Swedish Exploration and Settlement
- VIII. Contact with the Indians
- IX. Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775
- X. The War for Independence
- XI. The Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830
Subtheme: The Lewis and Clark Expedition
Special Study: Lincoln State Park and Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial
- XII. Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830
- XIII. Political and Military Affairs, 1830-1860
- XIV. The Civil War, 1861-1865
- XV. Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898
Subthemes: The Santa Fe Trail
The Mining Frontier
The Cattlemen's Empire
The Farming Frontier
Military and Indian Affairs
Special Study: Fort Bowie
" " Fort Davis
The Texas Revolution and the War with Mexico, 1820-1853
The Fur Trade Era
Special Study: The Bailly Homestead
Overland Migrations of the Trans-Mississippi West
Great Explorers of the West
Transportation and Communication
Special Study: Promontory Summit (Golden Spike)
Special Study: The Hubbell Trading Post

- XVI. Indigenous Peoples and Cultures
- XVII. Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture
- XVIII. Travel and Communication
- XIX. Development and Conservation of Natural Resources
- XX. The Arts and Sciences
 - Subthemes: Education
 - Architecture
 - Literature, Painting, and Sculpture
 - Inventions and Scientific Discoveries
- XXI. Political and Military Affairs after 1865
 - Special Study: Fort De Soto
 - " " Hawaii
 - " " Alaska
- XXII. Social and Humanitarian Movements.

Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830

In the study of Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830, 34 sites have been recognized as possessing exceptional value. Twenty-six of these, not administered by the National Park Service, are eligible to receive certificates as Registered National Historic Landmarks as follows:

1. Maryland State House, Annapolis, Maryland. This was the meeting place of the Continental Congress 1783-1784; scene of the ratification of the Treaty ending the Revolutionary War and of General George Washington's resignation as Commander-in-Chief; scene of the conference which resulted in the calling of the Constitutional Convention of 1787. State owned.
2. Old State House, Hartford, Connecticut. An architectural monument, this is an early public building designed by Charles Bulfinch and one of the best restored civic structures of the Federal period. Owned by the city of Hartford.
3. Massachusetts State House, Boston, Massachusetts. This famed architectural monument is called the master work of Charles Bulfinch. It is a superb example of civil architecture in the early years of the Republic. State owned.
4. City Hall, New York City. This structure, which has considerable architectural significance, tells the story of municipal administration in New York City, and is associated with important political and military affairs and public figures since its erection in 1811. Owned by the city of New York.
5. United States Capitol, Washington, D. C. This structure has been the seat of the Congress of the United States since 1800, with one brief interruption. It is not only a key structure associated with the historic development of the Nation, but is also a building of architectural and artistic interest. Federal ownership.
6. The White House, Washington, D. C. Considered to be the most important residence in the United States, the White House has been the home of every president since the administration of John Adams in 1800. Federal ownership.

7. Octagon House, Washington, D. C. The Octagon, built in 1798-1800 is a superb example of an 18th century colonial town house. It was designed by Dr. William Thornton, architect of the U. S. Capitol. Occupied temporarily in 1814 by President Madison, after the destruction of the White House, it was the scene of the signing of the ratification of the Peace Treaty ending the War of 1812. Owned by the American Institute of Architects.
8. Decatur House, Washington, D. C. This architectural monument is one of the finest examples of a Georgian town house in Washington, and for a short time it was the home of naval hero Stephen Decatur. Owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States.
9. Tudor Place, Washington, D. C. This structure, of great architectural significance, had important historical associations with the families of George Washington and Robert E. Lee. Privately owned.
10. St. John's Episcopal Church, Washington, D. C. This notable example of late Federal architecture was designed by the American architect Benjamin Latrobe. Because of its situation on Lafayette Square, opposite the White House, this Church has served many of the Presidents and has become known as "The Church of the Presidents." Owned by St. John's Parish.
11. Old City Hall (District Court House), Washington, D. C. One of the finest examples of Greek revival architecture in Washington, this structure is one of the earliest Federal buildings erected in the city, and George Hadfield, one of the architects of the Capitol, designed the structure. Scene of notable trials of national interest. Federal ownership.
12. Mount Vernon, Fairfax County, Virginia. Home of George Washington, Commander-in-Chief of Patriot forces during the Revolution and outstanding statesman, serving as first President of the United States. Owned by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association.
13. Monticello, near Charlottesville, Virginia. A classic example of American architecture, Monticello was the home of President Thomas Jefferson. This structure was a place of pilgrimage for the great and humble who admired Jefferson's character and accomplishments. Owned by the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation.

14. Gunston Hall, Fairfax County, Virginia. This structure, a colonial architectural gem, is a living monument to George Mason, noted for his constitutional papers of basic importance in American history, including the "Virginia Declaration of Rights" of 1776, which was in part an inspiration for the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Bill of Rights. Owned by the Commonwealth of Virginia and administered by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America.

15. Montpelier, Orange County, Virginia. This important structure was the home of President James Madison for 76 years, including 19 years of his retirement after he served as President of the United States. Privately owned.

16. Oak Hill, Loudoun County, Virginia. This striking historic residence is a monument to the memory of President James Monroe. The structure has an important relationship to the famed Monroe Doctrine issued during Monroe's last term in the White House, and existing records show that he outlined the ideas for this great state paper in a letter written from Oak Hill. Privately owned.

17. John Marshall House, Richmond, Virginia. For 45 years, this was the home of the famed Chief Justice, John Marshall, during his distinguished judicial career, sessions of the Court were so held that Marshall was to spend much of his time at this structure in Richmond, where many of his important opinions on constitutional questions were undoubtedly written. Owned by the city of Richmond.

18. The Hermitage, near Nashville, Tennessee. For over 40 years, during which Andrew Jackson rose from a frontier militia commander to the Presidency, he made his home at the Hermitage. Owned and administered by the Ladies Hermitage Association, Nashville, Tennessee.

19. Ashland, Lexington, Kentucky. Home of the distinguished American political leader, Henry Clay, the present structure appears to have been in part reconstructed after his death in 1852. Owned by the Henry Clay Memorial Foundation.

20. Fort Hill, Pickens County, South Carolina. This structure, the home of John C. Calhoun during the last 25 years of his life is a fitting memorial to the great American political leader. Owned by the State of South Carolina, it is located on the campus of Clemson Agricultural College, and is administered by the John C. Calhoun Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

21. Grouseland, Vincennes, Indiana. The home of William Henry Harrison, 1804-1812, during which period he was Territorial Governor of Indiana, and a foremost defender of white settlement against the Indian tribes attempting to block westward expansion of the United States. From "Grouseland," in September 1811, Harrison undertook the offensive which reached its climax at the Battle of Tippecance, which destroyed the forces of the famous Indian leader, Tecumseh; a victory which influenced the campaign of Harrison for the Presidency thirty years later. Owned and administered by the Francis Vigo Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Vincennes, Indiana.

22. Hamilton Grange, New York City. Built in 1801, this structure was the only home ever owned by Alexander Hamilton, a major draftsman and proponent of the Federal Constitution, and foremost architect of American financial policy in the first critical years of the Federal Union. It is one of the few Federal period structures surviving in New York City. Owned by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

23. Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is the United States Government's oldest manufacturing arsenal and the site of the decisive defeat of rebellious farmers in Shay's Rebellion, 1786-87. Federal ownership.

24. United States Military Academy, West Point, New York. Established in 1802, the United States Military Academy has been in continuous existence since that time and is noted for training the officers who have developed and commanded the regular Army establishment of the United States. Troops have been stationed at West Point since January, 1778, making it the oldest permanently occupied military post in the country. Federal ownership.

25. Frigate Constitution, Boston, Massachusetts. This famed vessel, "Old Ironsides," is a stirring symbol of American naval history. Although extensively restored, it has retained its lines and characteristics, and has never lost its identity as a commissioned ship of the United States Navy. Launched in 1797, it was involved in the naval war with France, 1798-1800, and made a brilliant record in the War of 1812. Federal ownership.

26. Plattsburgh Bay, Plattsburgh, New York. Scene of the decisive victory of American naval forces over the British squadron, which won control of Lake Champlain in the War of 1812. Cumberland Head, overlooking the scene of this famed naval action, is owned by the State of New York.

In addition, eight sites are represented and interpreted in the National Park System, as follows:

1. Independence National Historical Park, Pennsylvania.
2. Federal Hall National Memorial, New York.
3. Adams National Historic Site, Massachusetts.
4. Fort Washington, National Capital Parks, near Washington, D. C.
5. Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial National Monument, Ohio.
6. Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, Maryland.
7. Chalmette National Historical Park, Louisiana.
8. Castle Clinton National Monument, New York.

The Civil War, 1861-1865

The Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments has recognized 39 sites as possessing exceptional value in this period of American history. Fourteen of these, not administered by the National Park Service, are eligible to receive certificates as Registered National Historic Landmarks. These are as follows:

1. Confederate Capitol, Montgomery, Alabama. First Capitol of the Confederacy. Still used as Alabama State Capitol. State owned.
2. Fort Morgan, Mobile, Alabama. Commemorates the famous battle sealing off one of the last two Confederate ports. In this sea battle, Admiral Farragut uttered the famous words, "Damn the torpedoes - full speed ahead!" State owned.
3. Lincoln Home, Springfield, Illinois. This simple frame house saw the emergence of Lincoln from position of a small town lawyer to that of a national figure. State owned.
4. Lincoln Tomb, Springfield, Illinois. A moving memorial symbolizing the legacy of compassion, courage, and understanding which Abraham Lincoln left to the Union he preserved. State owned.
5. U. S. Grant Home State Memorial, Galena, Illinois. Presented to General Grant by the city in recognition of his military service, this was Grant's home before he became president; again in 1879, and for two years following. State owned.
6. Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana. The home of Abraham Lincoln in his early childhood. State owned.
7. Perryville Battlefield, Perryville, Kentucky. Climax of the Confederate invasion of Kentucky. State owned.
8. Fort Jackson and Fort St. Philip, Louisiana. Failure of Fort Jackson to stop the Union Navy caused the Confederacy to lose New Orleans. Fort St. Philip also played a gallant part in the fight against Farragut's fleet in 1862. Privately owned.

9. Franklin Battlefield, Franklin, Tennessee. Here, General Hood shattered the Confederate Army of the Tennessee in their attacks on his strongly posted Union force. Owned by an association.

10. Confederate Capitol, Richmond, Virginia. For nearly four years, this building, designed by Thomas Jefferson, served as the Confederate capitol. State owned.

11. Five Forks Battlefield, Dinwiddie County, Virginia. Here Grant outflanked the Confederate Army to force Lee from the Richmond-Petersburg defenses. Privately owned.

12. Fort Monroe, Virginia. The nearest continuously-held Union stronghold to the Confederate capital. This fort witnessed the historic fight between the U. S. S. Monitor and the C.S.S. Virginia (Merrimac). Administered by the U. S. Army.

13. White House of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia. Served as the Executive Mansion of the Confederacy during the nearly-four years of President Jefferson Davis' residence in Richmond. Owned by an association.

14. Lee Chapel, Lexington, Virginia. In this chapel, Robert E. Lee and members of his family are buried. The chapel also contains Lee's office as President of Washington and Lee University. Owned by the University.

In addition, 25 sites recognized as having exceptional value are already included in the National Park System. They are as follows:

1. Abraham Lincoln National Historical Park, Kentucky.
2. Antietam National Battlefield Site, Maryland.
3. Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Virginia.
4. Brices Cross Roads National Battlefield Site, Mississippi.
5. Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, Georgia and Tennessee.
6. Custis-Lee Mansion National Memorial, Virginia.
7. Fort Donelson National Military Park, Tennessee.
8. Fort Jefferson National Monument, Florida.
9. Fort Pulaski National Monument, Georgia.
10. Fort Sumter National Monument, South Carolina.
11. Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, Virginia.
12. Gettysburg National Military Park, Pennsylvania.
13. Harpers Ferry National Monument, Maryland-West Virginia.
14. House Where Lincoln Died National Memorial, D. C.
15. Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Georgia.

16. Lincoln Memorial National Memorial, D. C.
17. Lincoln Museum National Memorial, D. C.
18. Manassas National Battlefield Park, Virginia.
19. Pea Ridge National Military Park, Arkansas.
20. Petersburg National Military Park, Virginia.
21. Richmond National Battlefield Park, Virginia.
22. Shiloh National Military Park, Tennessee.
23. Stones River National Military Park, Tennessee.
24. Tupelo National Battlefield Site, Mississippi.
25. Vicksburg National Military Park, Mississippi.

The Santa Fe Trail - Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898

In the subtheme study of the Santa Fe Trail in the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, six sites have been recognized as possessing exceptional value. Five of these, not administered by the National Park Service, are eligible to receive certificates as Registered National Historic Landmarks as follows:

1. Bent's Old Fort, Colorado. Built about 1833 on the north bank of the Arkansas River at the southern boundary of what was then the United States, this post was in the heart of the Southern Plains tribes and on the route of the Mountain Branch of the Santa Fe Trail. Until after the end of the Mexican War, it was easily the most important point on the Trail between the Missouri frontier settlements and the Spanish-Mexican settlements at Santa Fe and in the Rio Grande Valley. State owned.
2. Fort Larned, Kansas. Built in 1860-1861 by the United States Army, this post became the most important military establishment on the eastern part of the Santa Fe Trail and was a base for military protection of the Trail against hostile Southern Plains Indians during the 1860's and 1870's. Privately owned.
3. Raton Pass, Colorado. This defile through the Raton Mountains was one of the most difficult and yet important sites on the Mountain Branch of the Santa Fe Trail. It became increasingly important during the Mexican War and in the period of the Civil War when hostilities of the Southern Plains Indians almost halted traffic over the more exposed Cimarron Cut-off Route eastward. State and private ownership.
4. Santa Fe (Plaza Area), New Mexico. The commercial and social center of the Plaza Area in Santa Fe, in the heart of the capitol of Northern Mexico, may be considered as the end of the Santa Fe Trail. State, city, and private ownership.
5. Wagon Bed Springs, Kansas. This spring, sometimes called Lower Cimarron Springs, on the Cimarron River afforded the first water during the dry season in the 60-mile stretch of the desert or Cimarron Cut-off Route of the Santa Fe Trail after crossing and leaving the Arkansas River. It was the objective and stopping place of all travelers over the Desert Route of the Trail. Private ownership.

In addition, one site is represented and interpreted in the National Park System. This is Fort Union National Monument, New Mexico.

The Cattlemen's Empire - Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898

In the Cattlemen's Empire, subtheme study of the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, five sites have been recognized as possessing exceptional value. Four of these, not administered by the National Park Service, are eligible to receive certificates as Registered National Historic Landmarks, as follows:

1. Grant-Kohrs Ranch, Montana. This ranch in Deer Lodge Valley was one of the first in Montana, beginning about 1853, and in the succeeding decades of the 1860's, 1870's, and 1880's, its owner, Conrad Kohrs, became one of the most famous cattlemen of the Northwest and contributed significantly in breeding up the beef herds in that part of the country. Privately owned.
2. JA Ranch, Texas. This ranch with headquarters in the Palo Duro Canyon of the Texas Panhandle, was perhaps the most famous of several associated with Charles Goodnight, trail blazer, frontiersman, and great pioneer cattleman of the Southwest. With John A. Adair, he built the JA Ranch spread to 700,000 acres in the 1870's and ran 40,000 cattle. In subsequent years, this progressive cattleman improved the stock, introducing fine Hereford blood into the Longhorn herds, and organized Stockmen's associations to bring order into the Open Range industry. Privately owned.
3. Lincoln, New Mexico. One of the best preserved of the old cow towns, county seat of vast Lincoln County when it comprised nearly one-fourth of New Mexico, and center of the Lincoln County War which featured the Chisum, Tunstall, McSween, Billy the Kid faction against the Murphy-Dolan group and involved Lew Wallace, author of Ben Hur, which he was writing at the time. State and private ownership.
4. Tom Sun Ranch, Wyoming. An unusually well preserved ranch layout on the Sweetwater River near Devils Gate, on the Old Oregon Trail, and typical of the medium sized ranches of the Open Range period. Private ownership.

In addition, one site is represented and interpreted in the National Park System. This is Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, North Dakota. The Jackson Hole country in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, also has associations with the Cattlemen's Empire.

Military and Indian Affairs - Westward Expansion and extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898

In the Military and Indian Affairs subtheme study of the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, 12 sites in non-Federal ownership have been recognized as possessing exceptional value for the purpose of commemorating and illustrating the history of the United States. These sites are the following:

1. Fort Bowie and Apache Pass, Arizona. Fort Bowie, established in 1862 by the California Volunteers during the Civil War to control a key water source in the Arizona desert, was a strategically located post in the pass through the Chiricahua Mountains of Arizona on one of the early and important travel routes from the Rio Grande to California. It was located in the homeland of the Chiricahua Apache Indians, and during the 1860's, 1870's, and 1880's it was identified with the Chiricahua wars led by Cochise, Geronimo, Natchez, and other hostile leaders that spread terror throughout the Southwest. Federal and private ownership.
2. Hubbell Trading Post, Arizona. Dating from 1878, this post under the guidance of its founder, John Lorenzo Hubbell, became the most important trading post in the Navajo Reservation and through its influence caused rug weaving among the Navajos to become an ever increasing activity and means of economic livelihood. It has had a continuous, unbroken history of benevolent influence among the Navajos and is the oldest surviving post still among them. Privately owned.
3. Fort Smith, Arkansas. The first fort at the junction of the Poteau and Arkansas Rivers dates from 1817 and was established because of the removal of the Cherokees and other Indians from the Southeast to beyond the Mississippi adjacent to the powerful Osage tribe. A second fort was established here in 1838 and continued to play a part in the frontier history of the country and was a factor, including Judge Isaac Parker's Court, in Indian relations and law enforcement for the next half century. City of Fort Smith and private ownership.
4. Fort Larned, Kansas. Dating from 1859, this fort was the most important post guarding the northern part of the Santa Fe Trail, and for more than a decade was a base for operations against hostile Indians on the central plains, including Cheyenne, Kiowa, Arapaho, and Comanche. Privately owned.

5. Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. This post was established in 1827 and has been in continuous use ever since. Its original purpose was to guard the Santa Fe Trail and it was the starting point for supplying most of the western frontier military establishments beyond the Missouri, and was the base for many military explorations to the western plains and the Rockies. From it General Kearny's Army of the West set out for the conquest of New Mexico in the War with Mexico. It remains today one of the most important military establishments in the country. Federally owned, Army.

6. Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Established in 1819 at the strategically located juncture of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers, this fort was one of the early western forts established after the War of 1812 to protect the western frontier and guarded a vast extent of territory reaching from the Missouri River to the Great Lakes. For more than a third of a century it was the most northwesterly military establishment in the United States. Indian Affairs with the powerful Sioux and Chippewa tribes for several decades were largely conducted from and under the protection of the fort. The Army abandoned the post in 1946. Federal ownership, Veterans Administration.

7. Fort Robinson and Red Cloud Agency, Nebraska. The Red Cloud Agency, established in 1871, was moved to this site in 1873, and was the storm center for the reservation Sioux during the 1870's and the focus of northern plains Indians-white relations during that period. Fort Robinson was established adjacent to the Agency in 1874 when it became evident that military protection was necessary for the Agency, and was the base for several Indian campaigns during the decade that saw widespread Indian hostilities on the northern plains. Fort federally and State owned; Agency site State owned.

8. Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. Established in 1824, this fort during the next decade and a half played a dominant role in receiving and caring for the Cherokee, Creeks, and Seminoles removed from the Southeast of the United States to the Indian Territory, and in attempting to keep the peace between them and the wild plains Indians. The fort was a key military post in the then Southwest for many years for military expeditions in the southern plains. Abandoned shortly before the Civil War, it was reoccupied during that war by Union troops and remained active until 1889. Two periods of construction are represented. Site of first fort, State owned; site of second fort, State and private ownership.

9. Fort Jill, Oklahoma. Established in 1870 to control the hostile southern plains tribes, particularly the Kiowa and Comanche, this fort was actively identified with the pacification and control of these tribes during the 1870's-1890's, and from 1870 to 1878 was the Kiowa-Comanche Agency. In 1911 the post became the Artillery School and is still active as one of the most important U. S. military establishments. Federally owned, U. S. Army.

10. Fort Belknap, Texas. Established in 1851 following the Mexican War when the Texas frontier was being ravished by Comanche-Kiowa raids, Fort Belknap became the key post in a chain of outer, border posts to protect the exposed frontier. During the 1850's and 1860's it bore the brunt of retaliatory action against the southern marauding tribes. Owned by Young County and administered by Fort Belknap Society.

11. Fort Davis, Texas. Established in 1854 in the Davis Mountains north of the Big Bend, this fort guarded the junction of the trails from San Antonio to El Paso and Santa Fe and maintained surveillance over the principal Rio Grande crossing sites used by hostile Indian war parties. The post was an important station on the southern overland route to California travelled by stage coaches and emigrants and played a continuing role in protecting the routes of travel in the trans-Pecos country. In 1879-1880 it played an important part in the costly campaign against Victorio and his War Spring Apaches. Privately owned.

12. Fort Phil Kearny and Related Sites (Fetterman Massacre, Wagon Box Fight, Bozeman Trail), Wyoming. Established in 1866 by Col. Henry B. Carrington at the eastern base of the Big Horn Mountains in the heart of the Sioux country north of the Oregon Trail to protect the Government Bozeman Trail to the Montana mining settlements; this fort was the focus of the Red Cloud War in the next two years which resulted in driving the military from the area and the abandonment of the Bozeman Trail forts, the only time hostile Indian action compelled the Government to relinquish control of an area it had set out to protect. Among the actions fought in the shadow of Fort Phil Kearny were the Fetterman "Massacre" in which Capt. William J. Fetterman and 80 men in his command were killed to the last man, and the Wagon Box Fight, one of the most noted engagements in the history of plains warfare. During the two years of its existence the post was held in a state of virtual siege by hostile Sioux. State and private ownership, with small Federal holding at Fetterman site.

The National Park Service presently administers six federally owned areas associated with Military and Indian Affairs, 1830-1898. The six established areas in the National Park System are the following:

1. Big Hole Battlefield National Monument, Montana
2. Custer Battlefield National Monument, Montana
3. Fort Laramie National Historic Site, Wyoming
4. Fort Union National Monument, New Mexico
5. Lava Beds National Monument (Captain Jack's Stronghold), California
6. Whitman National Monument, Washington.

The Texas Revolution and the Mexican War - Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898

In the Texas Revolution and the War with Mexico, subtheme study of The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, nine sites have been recognized as possessing exceptional value for the purpose of commemorating and illustrating the history of the United States. These sites are the following:

1. The Alamo, Texas. In the Alamo, which was the chapel of the San Antonio de Valero Mission, established in San Antonio in 1718 by Franciscan Friars, Lt. Col. William B. Travis' force of 188 men were killed to the last man on March 6, 1836, when Santa Anna's Mexican army of about 3,000 men breached the walls. Among the killed defenders were frontiersmen James Bowie and David Crockett. "Remember the Alamo" became a battle cry among the Texans. State ownership; custodianship, Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

2. San Jacinto Battlefield, Texas. General Sam Houston on April 21, 1836, won the decisive engagement of the Texas Revolution against a numerically superior force of Mexicans under General Santa Anna, capturing the latter, and resulting in the independence of Texas from Mexico. State ownership; administered by the State Parks Board and the San Jacinto Museum of History Association.

3. Fort Brown, Texas. General Zachary Taylor's army constructed earthworks in March 1846 on the north side of the Rio Grande opposite the Mexican town of Matamoros. In the series of maneuvers and battles resulting in Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, a Mexican force besieged this fortification during Taylor's absence, and Maj. Jacob Brown, the commander, was mortally wounded in his successful defense of the works, which was subsequently named for him. A later and second fort was built nearby in 1868. City of Brownsville and private ownership.

4. Palo Alto Battlefield, Texas. On May 8, 1846, General Zachary Taylor engaged the Mexican army in this battle, a few miles north of present day Brownsville. It was the first sizeable battle of the war, resulting in the repulse of the attacking Mexicans, and led to their retreat toward the Rio Grande. Private ownership.

5. Resaca de la Palma Battlefield, Texas. The general engagement between Taylor's American force and the Mexican army, begun on May 8 at Palo Alto, continued the next day, May 9, 1846, at the Resaca de la Palma, a few miles closer to the Rio Grande. The Mexicans were defeated in this battle with considerable losses in artillery and personnel and fled back across the Rio Grande, ending the military action north of the Rio Grande in Texas in the war with Mexico. Private ownership.

6. Monterey Custom House, California. On July 7, 1846, Commodore John D. Sloat, commanding the Pacific squadron, raised the American flag over the Custom House at Monterey, the capital of California, and officially proclaimed the province as part of the United States. The building dates in part from 1827. State owned.

7. Larkin House, California. Important for both historical and architectural values, this house was built by Thomas O. Larkin in 1834-1835 and became the first American consulate in Mexican California. Commodore Sloat, and General Stephen W. Kearny, the first military governor of California, resided in the Larkin House, causing it sometimes to be called the first American capitol of California. State owned.

8. Sonoma Plaza, California. On June 14, 1846, a group of 33 Americans seized Sonoma, home of General Vallejo who was a dominant figure in north California, and raised in the plaza their homemade Bear Flag as the symbol of independent California after electing William B. Ide as president of the newly proclaimed republic. This beginning of the Bear Flag revolt preceded news in California of the official breaking out of war with Mexico. State and private ownership.

9. Palace of the Governors, Santa Fe, New Mexico. General Stephen Watts Kearny raised the American flag over this historic old building, which dates from 1610, on August 18, 1846, following his entry into the capital of New Mexico, and proclaimed the province as United States territory, completing the conquest of New Mexico. State owned.

There are no historic sites in Federal ownership representing this subtheme of study.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D.C.

December 20, 1960

Hon. Fred Seaton
Secretary of Interior
Department of Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have your letter of December 19th, and the report you enclosed relative to Old Fort Davis, Texas, saying that the Old Fort is "eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark status."

I note with some concern, however, your statement that "in recognizing the historical importance of this site, the Federal Government encourages its preservation but does not seek ownership of the property," and that, apparently, the only act of the Government will be to issue the property owner some sort of certificate.

This is contrary to what I had been led to believe was the purpose of your investigation of Old Fort Davis and it seems to me that the time, money and effort spent in studying the project is simply wasted if the action of the Government is to be limited to the issuance of a certificate with no provision for improving or owning the site.

This is to notify you that I shall, immediately upon the convening of the 87th Congress, again introduce a bill on this subject, identical in content to H. R. 10352, which I sponsored in the 86th Congress. Such bill will provide for the ownership of Old Fort Davis, and the proper investment to preserve it, as provided in the bill I had last year. You will recall I withheld action on the bill in the 86th Congress at the Department's request until the study could be completed by your organization, but this time I shall push for prompt enactment.

Sincerely,

signed/

J. T. Rutherford

C O P Y

JAN 9 1961

TO SECRETARY

JAN 4 1961

FOR SIGNATURE
ADVANCE COPY

NSH 4 x B J
Fort Davis
 Texas

Dear Mr. Rutherford:

We are sorry that our letter of December 19 and the enclosed copy of a press release which indicated that Fort Davis, Texas, is eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark status have caused some confusion in your mind relative to previous proposals that the Fort be established in Federal ownership.

Our viewpoint on this has not changed as previously expressed to you, and we have gone ahead with our studies on the feasibility of establishing old Fort Davis in Federal ownership. That report has now been completed and it is favorable. We are in a position now to report on the Fort Davis bill. We did not have the necessary information in time to report on the bill prior to the adjournment of Congress and, of course, with the 87th Congress convening in January and requiring a new bill, we felt that no time would be gained in reporting on the old one. But we are in a position now to report immediately on the bill you state you will introduce in the 87th Congress.

The letter of December 19, with its accompanying press release, informed you of a list of historic sites that have been evaluated by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, and accepted by the Department as eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark status. This is a new category recently established for sites that are not usually intended for Federal ownership. While this is generally true of the sites in the list, there is a very small number of these sites that are being considered for Federal ownership but are not publicized and announced as such in the press release. Among these is Fort Davis. The fact that Fort Davis is listed in the Registered National Historic Landmark category does not adversely affect in any way our desire to consider it for Federal ownership and development, which will be the subject of the Department's report on your bill.

We regret that this confusion has developed, but we realize it is a natural one to have taken place from your point of view. It does raise the question whether, in the future, we should include in the publicly announced list of sites eligible for Registered

National Historic Landmark status those which are the subject of legislation and under serious consideration for establishment in Federal ownership. We appreciate very much your writing to us on this subject.

Sincerely yours,

SGD. GEORGE W. ABBOTT

Secretary of the Interior

ASSISTANT

Hon. J. T. Rutherford
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Copy to: DCCO
US
LM (2)
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Regional Director, Region Three (2))
Mr. L. Diederich } W/c of inc.
Branch of History ✓)

REAppleman:gr:12-29-60

Fort Davis National Historic Site
Fort Davis, Texas 79734

N22

December 5, 1966

*H. F. Fulk
H. Davis*

Memorandum

To: Chief, Division of History Studies

From: Historian

Subject: Resource Study: Austin and San Antonio Archives Field Trip

From November 20 through November 25, I was in travel status to and from Austin and San Antonio in quest of documentary sources relating to the First Fort Davis, 1854-62.

The rationale for this investigation arises from the fact that little of the early records appear to reside in the National Archives. It may be, therefore, that these records found their way into Texas State Archives, assuming that they were turned over to Confederate authorities both when General Twiggs surrendered his command of the Department and Fort Davis troops were arrested in San Antonio on their way to the coast.

Several repositories were investigated and the results were negative. That is, early documents were not located and almost certainly were not contained in the archives examined. The trip was made pursuant to RSP-FODA-7a and was deemed necessary because of the gap in knowledge which developed from an investigation of the National Archives holdings last year.

While early documents were not located, the trip should not be written off as completely unsuccessful. By elimination of certain holdings, the search has narrowed and librarians and archivists have given new leads. Furthermore, two sets of papers were located having valuable bearing on Fort Davis, even though during the later period. The trip was a valuable experience for this writer since it gave him broader perspective in regard to archival collections, their variety and administration. It also gained us friends and new searchers keeping their eyes open for us.

A brief rundown of the archives examined follows with an assessment of each:

1. Texas State Library and Archives, Austin: No federal records as such exist, but it was hoped that Confederate papers might contain relevant material. Reviewed the Governor's correspondence, 1861-62, and the records of the State Adjutant General. Found only three letters

from West Texas in the vicinity of El Paso. None relevant. Other citations from the general catalog were taken down. Most of these were published material and time did not permit their examination.

2. University of Texas Library and Archives: The best material was found here, although again it did not pertain to the early years. Two sets of papers were located bearing on later years--the Quimby and Duval papers. The former are a nice stack of Quartermaster Quimby's (1872-78) records and contain marvelous reports on stores, equipment, civilian employment, etc. The latter contains a journal of a prospecting trip to West Texas in 1879. Both ought to be Xerox copied and added to the Fort Davis collection.

3. Daughters of the Republic of Texas and Daughters of the Confederacy collections, Old Land Office Building, Austin: Nothing

4. Daughters of the Republic of Texas collection, Alamo, San Antonio: Again, nothing located, although the wonderful ladies who assisted the effort ate their hearts out looking and must have been severely depressed by not uncovering anything. There are several collections contained there that have not yet been examined and filed. They may have something and if it turns up they shall notify us.

5. Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio: The records have been moved in a great economy wave and are deposited elsewhere, perhaps with GSA in St. Louis. Have written the Army for more definite information. This mass could contain records of those early days.

6. Bexar County Court House: Nothing

Several new leads were uncovered and will be investigated. The Federal Record Center in Fort Worth may contain the nucleus of these documents. Chester Kielman, Archivist at University of Texas Library put us onto Keith Jennings at the center. Kielman tells us that records bearing on Hanging Judge Parker are located there. This might be of interest to Fort Smith. Also, it was suggested at Fort Sam Houston, that the old Arsenal building in San Antonio may have some dust-laden papers. The Arsenal goes back to pre-Civil War days and there is a chance that post and department documents found their way in there.

SIGNED

Benjamin Levy

In duplicate ✓

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RECEIVED