

Dodge -- established as a military post in '64, became a fort in '65. Soldiers' home in '86. Fort Dodge ^{is} ~~was~~ established on the north bank of the Arkansas River on the old Santa Fe Trail near the 100th meridian between 40 and 37 latitude, at the foot of a range of limestone bluffs about 75 feet high. Established by Major C. M. Dodge as a camp on ~~the lower~~ ^{the} ~~camping grounds of~~ ^{the} wagon trains, ~~on~~ ⁱⁿ what was known as the dry route from Laredo. Deep between the two principle points at which Indians crossed the Arkansas River. One was the ^(?) Cummarren, 25 miles west, the other was Mulberry Creek, 15 miles east. The Fort was established September 9, 1865 by Wisconsin Volunteer soldiers and named Fort Dodge. This early established fort was a base ^{of} ~~base~~ operation against hostile