

Dodge -- established as a military post in '64, became a fort in '65. Soldiers' home in '86. Fort Dodge <sup>is</sup> ~~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~~ <sup>the lower</sup> ~~camping grounds of wagon trains,~~ <sup>on</sup> 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 <sup>(?)</sup>, 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 <sup>of</sup> ~~base~~ operation against hostile