

FORT DODGE, KAN. (1865-82)

Fort Dodge, located on the north bank of the Arkansas River on the old Santa Fe Trail, was founded upon the site of an old camp ground for the wagon trains bound for Santa Fe. A military camp was established there as early as 1864 by Maj. Gen. G. M. Dodge but the fort itself was not formally established until September 9, 1865, by Wisconsin volunteer soldiers. Fort Dodge was a base of operations against hostile Indians (Arapahoes and Cheyennes) during the 1860's and in 1874, 1875 and 1878 (Dull Knife episode).

The military reservation at Fort Dodge was declared by the President June 22, 1868. The fort was discontinued as a military post and the garrison withdrawn on October 2, 1882. The reservation was relinquished on January 19, 1885.

Records. 1865-82. 6 ft.

The records consist of letters sent, 1866-75 and 1881-82; registers of letters received, 1869-70 and 1873-82; document file, 1865-82; endorsements, 1867-77 and 1880-82; telegrams received, 1874; orders, 1866-82; fragmentary correspondence of the post quartermaster, 1867-82; and one volume of Reports and Journals of Scouts and Marches, 1873-79.