

Fort Leavenworth
Leavenworth
Leavenworth County
Kansas

HABS No. KS-53

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

ADDITIONAL

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS HABS NO. KS-53

- Location: Fort Leavenworth is bordered on the east by the Missouri River. Beyond the main entrance of the fort, to the south, is the town of Leavenworth. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad and U.S. Route 73 run to the west and southwest.
- Present Owner: United States Department of the Army
- Present Use: Army post
- Significance: Founded in 1827, Fort Leavenworth is one of the oldest Army posts in the American West. During the mid nineteenth century the post protected travelers on the Santa Fe Trail and supplied all military posts further to the west. The post served as headquarters for numerous military campaigns including the Mexican War and Indian Wars, and policing actions in the slave state/free state conflicts of the 1850's. After 1870 Fort Leavenworth increased in size and importance as headquarters for the Army's Department of the Missouri and the new School of Application for Infantry and Cavalry. Following the Spanish-American War, and throughout the twentieth century, officer education became the post's primary mission.

PART I. PREFACE

This report was prepared to explain the procedures followed by the Historic American Buildings Survey field team in conducting the Inventory of Historic Structures at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and to present the findings of the team. The inventory was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) during the summer of 1985.

The report describes the purpose of the inventory, its scope, the methods used, and the results of evaluating the resources inventoried. Next it presents the findings of the inventory team, including a description and analysis of the historic resources found and a statement summarizing the themes and subthemes of national significance represented by the post. The report concludes with a bibliography.

The inventory was undertaken pursuant to a memorandum of agreement between the HABS/HAER Division of the National Park Service and the post command at Fort Leavenworth. Completion of the inventory and the accompanying categorization of resources is part of an effort to bring the post into compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and Regulation 420-40 (April, 1984) of the Department of the Army.

Lt. Col. Robert D. Lowry, Director of Engineering and Housing at Fort Leavenworth, directed the post's support for the inventory project, assisted by Ronald D. Harrod and Herb Mayfield of the Master Planning Branch. Robert J. Kapsch, Chief of the HABS/HAER Division, National Park Service, provided general supervision of the inventory, Sally Kress Tompkins served as program manager, and Robie S. Lange as project leader. James A. Glass acted as field supervisor and Alice Cerniglia and Wendy Walton as inventory historians.

PART II. INTRODUCTION

A. Scope:

The objective of the inventory was to provide a description, evaluation of significance, and categorization of relative value for all pre-1945 structures at Fort Leavenworth. HABS/HAER inventory cards were completed for two hundred and sixty-eight structures over a three-month period, from June through August, 1985.

The cards will be provided to the Directorate of Engineering and Housing (DEH) at Fort Leavenworth. Archival copies of the cards, along with photographic negatives for each structure, will be transmitted to the Library of Congress.

B. Methods Used:

Inventory methods were based on the HABS/HAER Guidelines for Inventory of Historic Buildings and Engineering and Industrial Structures (n.p., 1982).

The project began with a search of primary and secondary sources related to extant structures and preparation of a working bibliography. A field survey form was then developed especially for Fort Leavenworth. Before field work began, the DEH Building Information Schedule was checked and a master list of all pre-1945 structures compiled, to ensure no resource was overlooked.

In the field, the survey forms were filled out. Notes on the distinguishing features of each structure were taken, as well as on any historical information available on site. Field notes included recording the type of structural system, masonry, bonding, roof, verandah, windows, doors, decorative details, orientation, and setting. Interiors were visited only if the surveyor ascertained in advance that a notable interior feature existed.

Each structure surveyed was photographed using a 35 MM camera. Film and frame numbers were recorded on National Park Service photo identification cards and on the final inventory card. This double control ensured accurate identification of photographs.

Following the field work, the inventory cards were completed, using the survey forms to prepare a description of each structure and a range of primary and secondary sources to supply data on date, cost, building uses, and historical associations. When a group of identical or similar structures was encountered, a card was prepared in detail on a single building, and the cards for the other buildings of the group noted only differences. After considering the historical and architectural values represented by each resource, a statement of significance was written. Finally, contact photographs and location maps were dry mounted on the back of the card.

In early August, after about two-thirds of the field work and inventory card preparations were finished, an evaluation and categorization conference was held to rate each resource according to its relative contribution to the significance of the post. The conference participants, including the project leader, field supervisor, and inventory historians, first agreed on three values to be used to evaluate the significance of each structure:

1. Architectural significance (the quality of design, rarity of type, degree of integrity of important features);
2. Historical significance (association with the historic missions of the post; historic functions or activities; or important events or individuals. Rarity of the type of association pertaining to a structure was also considered); and
3. Contribution to its physical context, streetscape, or site of contribution to the sense of time and place at a particular location.

In measuring the degree to which each resource represented a specific value, four ratings were adopted. These numbers and definitions used for each included

1 = outstanding or unusual significance individually;

2 = individually significant, more than contributing to the National Historic Landmark District;

3 = contributes to the historic qualities of the district, but not individually significant; and

4 = presently does not contribute to the district.

The categorization process then proceeded, with each participant rating the architectural, historical, and contextual significance of each structure using the 1-4 categories. An average of the four evaluations for each building produced the team's recommended category.

A later conference completed the categorization process for the remaining structures. Of two hundred and sixty-eight resources inventoried, forty-four emerged in Category I, eighty-one in Category II, one hundred and nine in Category III, and thirty-four in Category IV. The largest single group of pre-1945 structures fell into Category III, or contributing to the historic character of the National Historic Landmark district of the post. The inventory cards and categorizations were sent to HABS/HAER headquarters at the end of August, for final review.

In addition to the inventory, HABS documentation was prepared on sixteen historic family housing units at Fort Leavenworth buildings. Architectural Historians Kristie Struble and Judith Hunt, and Field Supervisor James A. Glass conducted historical research, site surveys and prepared descriptive and historical written documentation. Mike Whye, working under contract to the National Park Service, was directed in the undertaking of large-format photographic documentation of these buildings. Copies of this documentation will be provided to DEH, and the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress.

PART III. FINDINGS

The following section presents the findings of the inventory team. First, is provided a description of the historic resources at Fort Leavenworth, and second, an overall presentation of the significance of the resources at Fort Leavenworth.

A. Description of Resources:

Fort Leavenworth is a military reservation that contains 5,842 acres. It is located along the west bank of the Missouri River, immediately north of the city of Leavenworth, Kansas. The historic, pre-1910

section of the reservation is located approximately one and a half miles north/northeast of the post's southern limits. The topography of the pre-1910 area is varied. The most commanding feature are the bluffs, which rise above the banks of the Missouri. Irregular contours characterize the east slopes of the bluffs, as well as the topography to the west. The mildly undulating terrain is terminated to the west and southwest by several hills.

The buildings, structures, objects, and other resources of the historic section of the post occur in clusters, each usually associated with a specific land use or activity. The oldest such cluster is found lining the north and east sides of the Main Parade, the bowl-shaped depression that served as the original parade ground of the fort. The parade ground cluster is composed of several of the oldest officer's quarters on post. Due north of the Main Parade is the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks (USDB), a self-contained compound used to house and rehabilitate military inmates. Several of the southernmost buildings were originally erected as quartermaster depot storehouses. To the east of the USDB is a group of frame officer's quarters, picturesquely sited along the winding Riverside Avenue. Originally, officers of the U.S. Military Prison (now the USDB) resided in these quarters.

A row of large nineteenth century officer's quarters lines Scott Avenue, which runs southeast of the Main Parade. By the 1870's, the commanders and staff officers of the Army's Department of the Missouri lived on Scott Avenue. A cluster of administrative buildings now used by the Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth terminates Scott Avenue. Centered on Grant Hall, these buildings served from 1890 to 1959 as headquarters, for first the School of Cavalry and Infantry, and later the Command and General Staff College. To the west and south of the former college complex is the College Section district, containing thirty-six officer's quarters erected for students attending the school. Due south of the College Section, along Sedgwick and Gibbon Avenues, are a cluster of barracks and stables associated with the 10th Cavalry, a black regiment headquartered here after the Civil War and in the early twentieth century.

Along the west side of Grant Avenue, to the northwest of the College Section, is a row of eight duplexes erected for student officers. Between Pope and Doniphan Avenues to the southwest are two rows of former barracks (now officer's quarters) erected for an infantry regiment serving as troops for command exercises at the Army Staff College (now General Staff) College. Additional groups of barracks that originally housed troops related to school exercises are the so-called "Beehive" complex (Building # 45) on Kearny Avenue (used initially by the infantry and later by engineer detachments) and the former Artillery barracks (Buildings #'s 196-226), also on Kearny Avenue.

A row of officer quarter duplexes and former junior officer's cottages erected for student officers stands on Thomas Avenue, south of the old

artillery and engineer barracks. Bachelor officer's quarters from the turn of the century (now apartments) are grouped near the intersection of Kearny and McClellan Avenues. A cluster of former hospital buildings is found along the east side of Thomas south of Custer Avenue, including the second post hospital (Building # 55), erected in the 1880's, and the third hospital complex (Building # 198), erected in 1904.

Virtually all the support buildings for regiments stationed at Fort Leavenworth after 1880 stand north of Organ Avenue and west of McClellan Avenue. Three clusters are found in this section. One, composed of former cavalry stables and a riding hall, extends along the west side of McClellan Avenue north of McPherson Avenue and was constructed after the School of Application for Cavalry and Infantry opened in 1881. A second row, immediately west of the McClellan group consists of warehouses, former hay barns, and old wagon sheds erected after the turn of the century. The third cluster, at the west end of McPherson Avenue, contains additional former stables, corrals and warehouses, built during the expansion of the Army Service Schools (now Command & General Staff College) after 1900.

There are seventeen building types represented at Fort Leavenworth. Nearly all illustrate the Army's increasing reliance after the Civil War on standardized designs for the multitude of buildings and structures erected at posts throughout the United States. As seen above, groups of officer's quarters predominate in the eastern section of the post. Officer's quarters fall into two sub-types: detached, or single family, and semi-detached, or duplexes. After 1865 detached quarters were erected for field officers (majors or above) and duplexes for company officers (captains and lieutenants). Detached quarters occurred principally on the Main Parade and along Scott Avenue. The large number of junior officers entailed a large number of dwellings. No where is the visual rhythm of standardized design more evident than along Grant Avenue or along the streets of the College Section.

Barracks erected in the 1880's tended to be a single large building housing a whole detachment (e.g. the "Beehive"). After 1900 barracks were built in groups of multiple unit structures, arranged in a formal plan. Another striking example of design standardization is seen along the two rows making up the former barracks below Doniphan Drive.

Resembling barracks, but of a more spacious and ornamented design were the bachelor officer's quarters erected at the turn of the century. The galleries on the facades of Buildings # 197 and # 213 are in the barracks tradition, but the refinement of detail is new.

Standardization nearly always governed the design of utilitarian building types at the post. The cavalry stables, with their rectangular shape and shed-like roofs, extend in a row of identical designs along McClellan Avenue, while former hay sheds, wagon sheds, and warehouses, all with gable roofs, barn-like character, and little exterior detail,

line an old rail spur further west. A distinct building type peculiar to cavalry posts was the riding hall. This long, rectangular edifice with gable roof is found twice at the post, once as an 1880's hall on McClellan Avenue (Building # 86) and a second time as a 1908 hall on Reynolds Avenue (Building # 302). Although the specifics of design differed, the imposing scale and refinement of details distinguish the riding halls from neighboring buildings.

Surviving guardhouses at the post seem to present an exception to the rule of standardization. Three such houses from three different decades stand along McPherson Avenue. Building # 80, a small, two-story building with gable roof, quoins, and pedimental trim, represents the 1870's. Building # 79, from 1887, is a long, two-story structure with hipped roof. Building # 326, an early twentieth century guardhouse immediately to the west, is two stories, with gable roof, two-tiered verandah, and Georgian details.

The two surviving hospitals from 1883 and 1900 represent a standardization in plan for the period in which they were erected, but do not resemble each other in most respects. The T-shaped plan of the second hospital afforded isolation of patients with communicable maladies in wards. The elevations are stark with few ornamental details. The third hospital complex resembles a campus, with multiple buildings for different functions. The ward system was retained in the wings of the main building, but the elevation is a carefully studied composition of Georgian inspiration.

Another institutional complex is centered around Grant Hall, formerly the headquarters of the Command and General Staff College. The west and east wings, Sheridan and Sherman Halls, started existence in 1859 as storehouses for the U. S. Army Ordnance Arsenal at Fort Leavenworth. Their design was simple and monumental, undoubtedly similar to storehouses at other arsenals. Grant Hall, the central section between Sheridan and Sherman Hall, was erected in 1904 to serve as headquarters building for the reactivated Army Service Schools. The design drew on details current at the time, but was prepared especially for this situation.

The three former central steam heating plants at the post represent a building type devised to take advantage of a technical advance that appeared in the 1880's and 1890's and was superseded in the mid-twentieth century. Although the details of the elevations of Building # 72, Building # 399, and Building # 474 differ in plan, they were similar in the features they included--boiler pit, smoke stack, coal bin, etc. Building types associated with transportation are represented by 1920's and 1930's gas stations (e.g., Building # 152), consisting of an office cubicle, porte cochere, and pumps, and the former interurban station at Grant and Pope Avenues (Building # 275). The interurban structure, with its hipped roof and extended eaves supported by ornamental brackets, represents a variation on a design once seen at countless interurban and

steam railroad depots across the United States in the early twentieth century.

The U.S. Disciplinary Barracks (USDB) presents a microcosm of building types found in the post at large, as well as several peculiar to its function. The most commanding edifice is the radial cell block complex erected between 1909 and 1921 (Buildings #'s 475-483). The centralized plan, with rotunda and dome intersected by eight radial wings, represented the most advanced thought in penal design in the early years of the century and was used in similar form for many civilian penitentiaries. Only a few remain in service. Other more common building types within the USDB include a former hospital of 1930, old blacksmith shop, vocational buildings, and administration buildings.

An early instance of standardized design at the post is seen in the former storehouses of the Quartermaster Depot (Buildings #'s 466 and 473) that stand inside the USDB. These buildings, erected on a simple rectangular plan with few details, were once part of a row of three along McPherson Avenue. Only two remain, now used for cell blocks.

Brick is the principal building material of the historic section of Fort Leavenworth. Visually, it unites all the clusters of buildings described above. The earliest extant use of brick came in the construction of the second post commander's residence (Building # 17) in 1838-39. Few other brick buildings were erected for the next thirty years. After the Civil War, with the establishment of both the headquarters of the Department of the Missouri and the School of Application for Cavalry and Infantry at Fort Leavenworth, a program of new construction using brick masonry and replacement of frame structures with permanent, masonry buildings began. Brick was the material adopted in nearly every situation after 1880 and continued to serve as the preferred medium for construction until World War II. It played a symbolic role in the transformation of Fort Leavenworth from a frontier post of modest size and temporary appearance into a permanent military community.

However, during the earliest period of construction at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas limestone was available in the bluffs along the Missouri River. One of the first buildings erected on the post's parade ground, the original post commander's quarters (Building # 19), was constructed before 1832 of randomly coursed, ashlar limestone from a nearby quarry. Despite its proximity, limestone was used sparingly for construction at the fort. The only other extant stone buildings are the former Quartermaster Depot storehouses at the USDB; Building # 357, a former quartermaster depot warehouse and office; and the Memorial Chapel of 1878. Stone for these buildings may have come from a quarry just north of Riverside Avenue.

Wood frame construction rivaled both brick and stone masonry from the 1820's to about 1875 at the post. The officer's quarter and barracks of

the original parade were constructed of logs (razed), as was the original first story of the sutler's home of 1841 (Building # 5). During an expansion in the regiments stationed at Fort Leavenworth in the 1850's, wood frame edifices, including three "Syracuse Houses" on the Main Parade (Buildings # 20 and # 21 survive), infantry barracks (razed), and cavalry stables (razed), rose along the sides of the parade. In 1870 two field grade detached quarters (Buildings # 15 and # 16) of wood frame construction were erected on the north side of the Main Parade.

When the U.S. Military Prison was established in 1875, a group of wood frame detached and double quarters were erected along Riverside Avenue to the east. After 1880, nearly every new structure constructed was brick and "permanent."

The architecture of pre-1945 buildings at the post reflects the influence of several civilian periods and idioms. Nevertheless, the designs retain a character distinctive of Army posts. Fort Leavenworth's architecture has several distinguishing characteristics. It displays far more homogeneity than in civilian communities dating from the same eras. This is a natural result of a single agent, the local constructing quartermaster, and to a lesser extent, the Office of the Quartermaster General in Washington, D.C., producing all designs for the post. The incentives to change patterns constantly and to introduce the latest architectural fashions that dominated civilian real estate speculations did not come into play at an army post. The suitability of the same or similar design for the same use over an extended period led to lags in the adoption of architectural idioms popular in civilian life. In addition, the larger volume of buildings required for the same use led to ever-increasing reliance on standardized plans and elevations. The usual inferences made about the date of construction of an urban building because of the architectural details employed frequently do not apply at a post like Fort Leavenworth.

One of the earliest outside influences on the buildings at the post was that of the vernacular French Colonial plantation house of the Lower Mississippi Valley. Its two-tiered galeries, or verandahs, and narrow dormer windows appear to have been adopted for shelter from both the winds of winter and heat of summer in three demolished buildings at the post, the original hospital and the two dragoons barracks, both erected about 1839-40. A much altered surviving example is the original post commander's quarters of c. 1832 (Building # 19). A two-level verandah was attached to the facade of the one story, high basement quarters. The roof had no dormers, but the west slope continued unbroken over the upper tier, much as in vernacular French Colonial examples (see Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture, pp. 263-67). Building # 19 was rebuilt in the 1870's, losing much of its original character.

Building # 17, the old post commander's residence, also originally had a two-tiered verandah attached to its facade, the present verandah

replaced it about 1855-56. In other respects, the design of the brick residence recalls several elements of the American Federal period, including flared, flat arches of gauged brick and twin chimneys on the gable ends connected by brick parapets.

The influence of the Greek Revival era is seen in only a few surviving post buildings, all of which were constructed after the idiom's sway had ceased in civilian circles. The dentils and "eared" window architraves of Building # 5 (reconstructed c. 1870), the block modillions on the frieze of Building # 19 (reconstructed c. 1870-75), and the pedimental returns on the east end of Building # 357 (added c. 1878-80) all have origins in the Greek Revival.

The presence of the Italianate idiom is more apparent, but also lags after its use in civilian practice in most examples. On the other hand, the earliest evidence of it was in a design drawn from the latest Eastern architectural currents. The design of the Syracuse Houses (1855-56) was a sophisticated synthesis of the passe Greek Revival and the popular Italianate, or Italian Renaissance mode. The attenuated, well-proportioned pavilions with their projecting cornices and supporting brackets drew from the Italianate, while the pediments that crowned each pavilion, dentils along the frieze, and "eared" architraves looked back to the Greek Revival. Building # 5, although built in its current form probably fifteen years later, shows in one respect a similar formula: paired brackets alternating with dentils on the frieze. Another late version of the Greek-Italianate combination can be seen in the surviving two 1870 frame residences on the Main Parade (Buildings # 15 and # 16). The horizontality of the main block, the side lights flanking the main entrance, and dentils on the frieze all recall features of the vernacular Greek Revival, while the hipped roof, verandah with large ornamental brackets, and bracketed cornice form links to the Italianate.

Mergers of the Italianate vocabulary with English medieval motifs are seen in several of the frame residences along Riverside Avenue and in Building # 7 on Scott Avenue. In Buildings # 432 through # 435 (c. 1877-82), a long, horizontal block and pedimental point on window heads harken back to the Greek Revival style. Italianate elements are seen in the brackets of the verandah, window consoles, and main frieze. The medieval idiom comes to play in the king post trusses hanging from the bargeboards of the three main gables. In Building # 7, a more pronounced use of Italianate details is used, including a three-faceted bay window with brackets, a bracketed entry porch and paired, arched windows. The medieval truss motif again hangs from the bargeboards. The ensemble in plan and composition recalls the picturesque country cottage advocated by A. J. Downing, A. J. Davis, and Calvert Vaux in the 1850's, thus showing another sort of lag.

The only bona fide revival of the Gothic idiom on post is seen in the design of the Memorial Chapel. The exterior, with its parish church

plan, paired lancet windows, frontal vestibule, and medieval truss bargeboards, appears to be a late reflection of the parish churches designed by Richard Upjohn in the East before the Civil War.

The most original residential designs are those of four field officer quarters erected during the early 1880's. The asymmetrically massed quarters of Buildings # 2 and # 4 (1883) recall the period during the 1870's when the old classical rules of symmetry were discarded by American architects. The two tiered verandahs that project from the facades of the two similar quarters exhibit a bold exploitation of chamfered posts, brackets, and shed roofs. Buildings # 3 and # 6 represent a related, but more symmetrical design, in which a two-tiered verandah, with chamfered posts and brackets extends across the facade of the horizontal main block.

The so-called Queen Anne idiom is best seen in two double quarters of 1889 on Thomas Avenue (Buildings # 37 and # 38), with their asymmetrical massing, combination of brick walls and frame gables, and fishscale shingles. The Queen Anne also is represented by the richly patterned north chimney and the varied details of the roof of Building # 1, dating to a remodeling in 1887.

The Georgian idiom entered the post during the 1890's. From that point until World War II, nearly every building erected at the post featured Georgian details. At first the flat-arched gauged brick and pedimental trim on gables was mixed with round-arched windows reflecting the popularity of Romanesque-derived architecture. This synthesis is seen in Buildings # 13 and # 14, erected in 1893-94, and still seen to a lesser degree in the Grant Avenue duplexes built in 1901 (Buildings #'s 184-91). After 1900, Georgian emerged as the primary "style" of the post, reflecting an apparent policy of the Quartermaster General's Office to supply Georgian-inspired buildings for every purpose.

Several Georgian formulas emerged during the major building campaign at the post between 1900 and 1910. Perhaps the most refined domestic formula was used for detached field officer and company officer duplexes along Sherman Avenue and on McClellan Avenue between Pope and Kearny Avenues. Gable roofed main blocks with rear perpendicular wings were constructed of pressed brick and stood on smooth-faced ashlar foundations. Gauged bricks formed flat arches over windows, while lavender-colored mortar matched the tone of the bricks and gave a monolithic appearance to the walls. Dentils along the cornice and pediments formed the only overt ornamental details.

A second formula, along Augur and Meade Avenues, for student officer duplexes used either pressed brick or common brick and drew on a stylized interpretation of the Palladian motif and an oval fan light design for ornamental details. The plan was symmetrical, dividing the frontal pavilion and two rear wings into two quarters. A third Georgian design in the College Section used a cross gable plan for a row of

duplexes on Meade Avenue (Buildings #'s 270-74). A full pediment lined by dentils crowned each pavilion. In the infantry barracks between Pope and Doniphan Drives, a simplified Georgian formula guided the design: gable-roofed main blocks and wings given flat window arches composed of gauged brick and in-turning pedimental trim on the gables. Round-arched windows on the gables form a non-Georgian element.

Institutional buildings erected after 1909 saw elaborate Georgian designs appropriate to their importance in the life of the post. Probably the most impressive Georgian edifice on post of the 1901 to 1910 era was the third hospital. Centered on a half block of Thomas Avenue, the monumental hospital building consisted of a large pavilion flanked symmetrically by wings and side pavilions. Pressed brick was used and limestone keystones accented the gauged brick window arches. The Patch YMCA at McClellan and Pope also featured an imposing design, in which a brick main block, with gable roof, high verandah, gauged brick flat arches, and white frame cornice and frieze caught the eye. When older buildings were expanded, Georgian details were grafted on the existing structure, as in the case of the "Beehive" barracks (Building # 45) in 1910.

The Georgian theme had become a tradition at Fort Leavenworth by the 1920's and 1930's, nearly to the extent that brick construction had become customary. The favor Georgian design enjoyed owed much to a policy adopted by the Construction Service of the Army's Quartermaster Corps, designers and builders during the 1920's and 1930's of all Army structures. A 1928 article in the Quartermaster Review by the chief of the branch producing architectural plans stated that the Georgian style had been adopted for posts in all sections of the country first settled by English-speaking settlers (see Wheaton, "The Architecture of the Army Post," pp. 11-12). Late examples of Georgian designs locally include the 1938 post theatre and the present 1940's officer's club.

The many support buildings erected after the turn of the century were erected of brick, for permanence, but with little architectural detail. Exceptions include a fine neo-Italian Renaissance 1908 warehouse (Building # 303) and the two riding halls already noted. On the other hand, a few Georgian details, e.g., the flat window arch or fan transom, frequently appeared in warehouses, stables, etc.

Evidences of town planning and landscape design are found in several sections of the main post. The most notable example of a nineteenth century park planning is the small ensemble at Grant, Scott, and Kearny Avenues. A limestone gazebo serves as the centerpiece of a triangular park between Grant and Scott Avenues. Immediately to the northwest, occupying its own triangular plot and serving as a visual northern terminus to Grant Avenue is a statue of General U.S. Grant by Lorado Taft. A limestone wall dating to before 1849 serves as a backdrop for the Grant statue and interjects the suggestion of ruins into the more formally landscaped foreground. This small park composition recalls the

movement toward establishing a permanent community at Fort Leavenworth during the 1880's. Parks were appearing in many American cities during the decade; it was therefore natural for the Department of the Missouri, then headquartered at Fort Leavenworth, to adopt such features for its home post. A mid-1880's plan designated the hollow encircled by Riverside Avenue as a site for another park. A limestone gazebo also was erected in the informal Riverside Avenue setting.

Town planning in a comprehensive sense arrived at Fort Leavenworth in 1904, with the planning and construction of the College Section of the post. Captain E. T. Cole of the 6th Infantry Regiment and Sergeant J. Howry of the engineers detachment at the fort prepared a plan for the new district in 1904 under the direction of Brigadier General J. Franklin Bell, Commandant of the Army Service Schools and the post. The plan provided for a modified gridiron of residential streets grouped to the west and south around Grant Hall, headquarters of the schools. Respect was paid to the topography, as witnessed by the terracing of quarters on Meade and Augur Avenues. A system of sewerage was also installed. Fill from the preparation of the site and road construction was used to create the present bluff along Sherman Avenue. A sweeping vista for the residents of the field officer quarters erected on Sherman Avenue was thereby afforded. A variety of setback and silhouette was accomplished along Sherman Avenue by oblique siting of the corner quarters either to the northeast or southwest. Today the view from the southwest of the College Section community of quarters rising in rows on the hill around the Grant Hall clock tower is one of the most impressive sights at the post. Note should also be made of the formal layout provided during the same period for the infantry barracks between Pope Avenue and Doniphan Drive, arranged in parallel rows to the north and south of a mall (now occupied by garages). Building # 220 forms a terminus to the east-west axis running along the mall. The Pope-Doniphan complex, with its formal, axial plan, contrasts with the more informal residential grouping erected during the same period to the east.

B. Statement of Significance:

When Colonel Henry Leavenworth founded the post in 1827, the mission of its garrison was to protect the developing trade of American merchants with Mexican vendors in New Mexico. In 1834 Fort Leavenworth became the headquarters of the First Dragoons Regiment of the Army. Commanded first by Colonel Henry Dodge and later by Col. Stephen W. Kearny, the dragoons explored during the 1830's and 1840's the principal trails leading to Oregon, the Rocky Mountains, and New Mexico. They also attempted to pacify warring Indian nations in the Plains region.

The Mexican War of 1846-48 changed dramatically the area encompassed by the American West, and the opening of California and Oregon to settlement led to a change in the role of Fort Leavenworth. Beginning about 1850, the post became the chief quartermaster depot for all Army

supplies shipped from the East to the host of military posts being established along the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California Trails. In addition, by the mid-1850's, Fort Leavenworth Levee had become a transfer point from Missouri River steamers to wagons for thousands of settlers beginning the trek west. During the 1850's and 1860's, the post served as one of the starting points for the Oregon and Santa Fe Trails.

With the rush for Western land came the settlement of the Kansas Territory and accompanying strife over whether the area should be admitted to the Union as a slave or free state. Fort Leavenworth served briefly in 1854 as the territorial capital. From 1855 to 1860 it became the base for efforts by Col. Edwin V. Sumner and later Maj. Gen. Parsival F. Smith to uphold federal law in "Bloody Kansas."

In 1859 the Fort Leavenworth military reservation assumed added importance as the location for a U.S. Army ordnance arsenal. The two large storehouses, munitions workshops, magazine, and quarters formed a satellite community southeast of the post's Main Parade. During the Civil War the fort saw little military action, but several times was taken over as headquarters for the Army's regional administrative department.

Following the war, Fort Leavenworth became the permanent headquarters for the Army's Department of the Missouri, administering a military jurisdiction including all or part of six states or territories. The primary activity of the commanding generals and their staffs was direction of the campaigns of the Army to force the Indian nations of the Plains to accept a settled existence on reservations. The post itself was far from most of the battles that took place during the 1870's and 1880's; its time as a frontier post was over.

An event of importance for the fort occurred in 1881, when it was chosen as the home of the Army's new Schools of Application for Cavalry and Infantry. The school grew out of the opinion held by Gen. William T. Sherman, Commanding General of the Army, and several other generals in the post Civil War period that officers lacked both adequate formal schooling and sufficient instruction in military tactics to fight a war effectively. In 1881 Gen. Sherman created the school at Fort Leavenworth to remedy these deficiencies among junior cavalry and infantry officers. Col. Elisha S. Otis, the founding commandant, initiated a program of practical instruction in the command of troops in battle maneuvers, general tactics involving all branches of the Army, and specialized tactics involving either the cavalry or infantry.

In 1890 the headquarters of the Department of the Missouri was moved to St. Louis, the Indian campaigns nearly at an end. Two activities filled the vacuum left. One was the Cavalry and Infantry School, which continued to develop the range and depth of its curriculum, under the influence of such instructors in military tactics as Maj. Arthur L.

Wagner. Also of increasing importance was the U.S. Military Prison, founded at the post in 1875 to provide for a centralized program of incarceration for army convicts.

The Spanish American War saw a vindication of the principle of formal training for officers. Junior officers who had attended the Leavenworth school acquitted themselves well in the war. Concerned over the weaknesses observed in military operations during the conflict, Secretary of War Elihu Root launched a series of major reforms. The general staff concept was established for the efficient and effective command of army operations. The Army required officers having a knowledge of both line, or field command, and staff, or logistical and tactical command, in order to engage in modern warfare. Professionalism though post-graduate schooling appeared to be the solution, and Secretary Root designated the Army Service Schools at Fort Leavenworth as an integral part of the Army's new educational system. Every regular army officer was expected to attend the Leavenworth schools.

With the expansion of the U.S. Army after the Spanish American War, Fort Leavenworth embarked on an ambitious, decade-long plan of growth, preparing for the steady increase in student officers. The College Section was developed and new barracks built for the infantry and artillery troops serving as practice detachments for student command exercises. Merritt Lake was created south of the College Section for both pontoon building exercises and recreation. Fort Leavenworth's identity was re-molded to fit the requirements of the Army Service Schools.

The influence of the Leavenworth school was felt in the conduct of the Army's role in both World War I and World War II. Nearly every general officer of the Second World War was a graduate of the Service Schools or their successor after 1921, the Command and General Staff College. The refinement of post facilities during the 1920's and 1930's continued to reflect the college's importance as Fort Leavenworth's primary mission.

The extant plan and buildings at Fort Leavenworth represent several themes of national historical significance. Of the themes and subthemes set forth by the National Park Service for representation by National Historic Landmarks (see "History and Prehistory in the National Park System and the National Historic Landmarks Program"), three are represented by resources in the main post area of the fort. The subtheme "Military--Indian Conflicts," under the theme of "Westward Expansion" is recalled by the c. 1832 and c. 1870-75 Rookery (Building # 19), the 1838-39 former Post Commander's Residence (Building # 17), the 1855-56 Syracuse Houses (Buildings # 20 and # 21), Buildings # 15 and # 16 (1870-71), Building # 7 (c. 1868), and Building # 5 (c. 1841; 1857; c. 1870). The subtheme "Western Trails and Travelers" under "Westward Expansion" is represented by the former Quartermaster Depot storehouses of c. 1860-63 at the USDB (Buildings # 466 and # 473), Building # 357 (c. 1850's; c. 1878-80), Building # 53 of 1875, and the ruts left by

wagons beginning the journey on the Oregon or Santa Fe Trails (between the former Levee and Kearny Avenue).

Fort Leavenworth's primary claim to national significance, its association with the evolution of the Command and General Staff College, fits under no current National Historic Landmark subtheme. A new subtheme, "The Rise of a Professional Army, 1881-1917," would encompass the nature of the post's significance to military education, under the existing theme "Political and Military Affairs, 1865-1914." The Army's embrace of the general staff concept of operation carried with it the requirement for a professional corps of officers, trained in both line and staff work. Fort Leavenworth helped to supply the professional education required. Most of the post-1880 buildings of the post have been related to the execution of the educational mission. The original school building, # 44, and the Grant Hall complex (Building # 52) both served as headquarters for the School and later College. The surviving barracks and stables, support buildings, riding halls, and student officer quarters erected between 1880 and 1900 are associated with the original School of Application for Cavalry and Infantry. The College Section district, former infantry barracks on Pope Avenue and Doniphan Drive, support buildings, artificial lakes, etc. developed after 1900 are associated with the Root reforms of the Army and the accompanying rise of professional military education.

Prepared by: James A. Glass
Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
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ADDENDUM TO
FORT LEAVENWORTH
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