

FORT RILEY, CARPENTER COURT APARTMENTS, BUILDING NO. 440
(Fort Riley, Carpenter Court Apartments, Building No. 302)
440 Carpenter Place
Fort Riley
Geary County
Kansas

HABS No. KS-78-G

HABS

KS-78-G

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MIDWEST SUPPORT OFFICE
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1709 Jackson Street
Omaha, NE 68102

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FORT RILEY CARPENTER COURT APARTMENTS BUILDING NO. 440 (Building No. 302)

HABS No. KS-78-G

Location: 440 Carpenter Place, in the Main Post Historic District, Fort Riley, Kansas.

Original Cost: \$33,947.05.

Total Square Footage: 10,791 square feet overall, including Sun Porch and Basement.

Significance: Fort Riley received many new buildings and facilities during the Army building program initiated in 1927. Completed in August 1928, building 440 was part of the first phase of construction, comprising what is known as Upper Carpenter. Building 440 (formerly 302) meets the seven National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria for location, design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling and association. As a member of the 1927-1940 thematic group within the Main Post Historic District, it contributes to an understanding of the twentieth century historical development of the installation. The group is made up of permanent buildings constructed at Fort Riley during the Army building program of that period. It was built around open courts or facing open greens, as seen on the Key to Photographs Drawing, page 2. The buildings were built in an area that had previously been the site of the Hospital Training School which was razed in the late 1910s and early 1920s. This type of layout exemplifies the type of planning which was growing in popularity at the time.

Fort Riley was established by the United States Army in 1853 under the command of Colonel Thomas T. Fauntleroy. Originated to supplement Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and extend the U.S. Military presence further west, Fort Riley has had two additional major phases of development.

The second phase, from 1886-1955 followed General Philip Sheridan's recommendation to establish the headquarters for the U.S. Cavalry at Fort Riley. This led to the creation of the Cavalry and Light Artillery Schools, which standardized training, practice, and tactics. World War I led to Fort Riley's selection as the site for the 14th National Army Cantonment and its designation as a division-level training camp. Between World War I and II, Fort Riley's training mission continued and it was during this time that many new quarters for officers, like the Carpenter Court Apartments, were constructed.

The third phase of development came between 1955-present, and saw the First Infantry Division adopt Fort Riley as its headquarters. "The Big Red One" headquarters remained at Fort Riley until 1996, when it relocated back to Germany as a part of the

Base Realignment and Closure Program. Fort Riley remains active as a training facility and as a major base for the First Division.

Description: Building 440 is a red brick Colonial Revival Style, two-and-one-half story, over-under style, four-plex with a full basement as illustrated in Drawings A1.1 and A1.2 on pages 9 and 10. The original drawings and specifications for the Upper Carpenter buildings are no longer in existence. The architectural plans referenced depict the similar, yet larger Lower Carpenter buildings with the longer 100'-0" length. This building was built in the first phase of construction for the Carpenter Court Apartments, and is one of the buildings located in what is typically referred to as Upper Carpenter. The Overall building size is 96'-0" length by 29'-0" width, with additional sun porches centered at each end, both 8'-0" in length by 16'-4" width.

The foundation is comprised of concrete, tile and common bond (six stretcher rows to one header row brick walls). Composition shingles replace the original slate tile roof, and the roof has side-gables with six, hipped dormers, a low-hipped metal-clad roof over side wings, and an enclosed eave soffit with returns at the gable ends.

There are four entrances located in pairs across the courtyard or front side of the buildings. Each porch serves two units, and is divided by a partial brick wall with wrought iron decoration above, brick corner piers and concrete bases with concrete capitals. Wood entablature, quarter-turn concrete steps, and metal railings are additional features of the porch design. The original wood balustrade at the top of the porch has been removed, possibly at the same time that the shingle roof replaced the slate tile roof in 1962. The street side porches are of a platform style with straight concrete steps, and metal railings. See Drawing A2.1, page 11 for building elevations.

For decoration, six-paneled wood doors with four-light transoms were added, in addition to flat brick arches, a six-over-six light, a single and paired four-over-four light, and paired three-over-three lights. When these units were built, the courtyard side was designed to be the main entrance to the buildings, and thereby received more decorative treatment than the street side entries. With the continued development and popularity of the automobile, the less adorned street side of the buildings became the functional main entry. The wood, double-hung sash windows have stretcher flat arches and concrete sills. There is a round arched window in each gable end.

The interior is comprised of four apartments, with a central shared laundry room and two separate storage rooms in the full basement. One storage room per side contains a full bathroom that may have been originally designed for hired staff. There is one central interior brick chimney that services all units.

Floors on the upper levels are wood joists with $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick oak plank flooring, with ceramic mosaic tile in setting bed in the bathrooms. Basement floors are concrete. Walls and ceilings are plaster and wood lath, sun porches have some exposed brick. Utilities include all electric lights with surface mounted conduit, gas fired furnaces and gas cooking ranges.

The attic, or dormer level, has one finished bedroom with a full bathroom, and was originally designed for the hired staff working for the occupants living in the units below. The apartments are in an over-under configuration with a central, winder stairwell from basement to dormer level. The first floor has two single level apartments, the second floor has two apartments which have a main level plus access to the dormer level.

Street side doors lead to the central winder stairwell that goes down to the basement or up to the second floor apartment. The stairwell in the Upper Carpenter buildings has a 32" inside width dimension. The first floor apartments contain a kitchen, dining room, living room, bathroom, study, master bedroom, second bedroom, and sun porch. The second floor apartments have the same layout on the main level, with the exception that the study is replaced by a small bedroom, and that is only differentiated by the addition of a closet, otherwise the location and size are the same. The kitchen has received the most significant modernization with the addition of new cabinets, new appliances, and sheet vinyl flooring. It was during the first kitchen modernization that the corridor side door was filled in to increase functional work area. The main level bathrooms were altered to add a tub with a shower. Supporting spaces include an entry with closet, and a corridor with linen closet

History: Architectural floor plans were developed by the Office of the Quartermaster General, Standardized Plan No. 625-801/805. Fort Riley received many new buildings and facilities during the Army building program initiated in 1927. The goal of this program was to replace dilapidated temporary World War I structures with permanent structures for a peacetime army. Besides many support facilities, Fort Riley received several single-family duplex and four-family apartment houses built of brick or limestone around the edges of the old cavalry and artillery posts and at Marshall Army Airfield. Standard plans designed by the Quartermaster General's Office in Washington D.C. would be modified depending on the regional style. At Fort Riley, most of the residential structures built during this period are in the Colonial Revival Style.

Sources: The primary historical documentation and recordation of the Carpenter Court Apartments was collected from the Cultural Resources Management Plan-Fort Riley, Kansas, Section 4-Cultural Context; Mariani and Associates Report, dated 1986, Real Property Records, and Architectural Drawings and Specifications. All recordation, to date, includes photo-documentation. This report is the first known to photo-document the original drawings, and it must be noted that there are no known original drawings of the Upper Carpenter units, Plan No. 625-801/805. The recordation conforms to the standards of the Historic American Buildings Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Andros, Pamela, Dan Lapp, Mira Metzinger, Patrick Nowlan, Carla Spradlin, Steve Turner, and Julie Webster

- 1993 Historical and Architectural Documentation Reports for Fort Riley, Kansas. Ms. on file, Tri-Services Cultural Resources Research Center, U.S. Army
- 1994 Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Laboratories, Champaign, Illinois.

Architectural Drawings and Specifications

- 1930 on file at the Directorate of Public Works Office, Fort Riley, Kansas.

Bader, Robert Smith

- 1988 *Hayseeds, Moralizers, and Methodists: The Twentieth-Century Image of Kansas*. University Press of Kansas, Lawrence.

Bala Pioneer Heritage Society

- 1984 *Era of the One Room School, Southwestern Riley County, Kansas*. Bala Pioneer Heritage Society, Riley, Kansas.

Barr, Thomas P., and Don D. Rowleson

- 1977 *An Archaeological Inventory of the Fort Riley Military Reservation*. Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka. Submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District in fulfillment of Contract Order DACA41-76-C-0019.

Barry, Louise

- 1972 *The Beginning of the West: Annals of the Kansas Gateway to the American West, 1504-1854*. Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka.
- 1973 The Kansa Indians and the Census of 1843. *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 39: 478-490.

Barry, Louise (editor)

- 1962 Kansas Before 1854: A Revised Annals— Part Six, 1830-1832. *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 27:167-204.

Beck, Warren A., and Ynez D. Haase

- 1989 *Historical Atlas of the American West*. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.

- Binford, Lewis R.
1980 Willow Smoke and Dogs' Tails: Hunter-Gatherer Settlement Systems and Archaeological Site Formation. *American Antiquity* 45: 4–20.
- Blackmar, Frank W.
1912 *Kansas: A Cyclopedia of State History, Embracing Events, Institutions, Industries, Counties, Cities, Towns, Prominent Persons, Etc.* Standard Publishing Company, Chicago.
- Brooke, James
1995 Russians Have Landed in Kansas! But they come to Make Peace. *The New York Times* 27 October: A14.
- Brower, Jacob V.
1898 *Quivira*. Memoir, Explorations in the Basin of the Mississippi. Volume 1. St.Paul.
1899 *Harahey*. Memoir, Explorations in the Basin of the Mississippi. Volume 2. St.Paul.
- Brown, Kenneth L., and Alan H. Simmons (editors)
1987 *Kansas Prehistoric Archaeological Preservation Plan*. Historic Preservation Department, Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka.
- Coburn, Carol K.
1992 *Life at Four Corners: Religion, Gender, and Education in a German-Lutheran Community, 1868–1945*. University Press of Kansas, Lawrence.
- Chattey, Paul, Horace Foxall, Flossie McQueen, Cynthia Nielsen, Mary Shipe, Terri Taylor, Jamie Tippet
1997 *Context Study of the United States Quartermaster General Standardized Plans 1866-1942*. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District Technical Center of Expertise for Preservation of Structures and Buildings.
- Coopridger, Kevin B.
1979 *An Archeological Inventory of the Training Areas, Fort Riley Military Reservation*. Contract Order No. DACA41-76-C-0019, Supplemental Agreement Modification No. P00005. Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas. Ms. on file, Directorate of Environment and Safety, Fort Riley.
- Cronon, William
1991 *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*. W. W. Norton, New York.
- Davidson, Osha Gray
1990 *Broken Heartland: The Rise of America's Rural Ghetto*. Free Press, New York.
- Davies, Phillips G. (editor)
1977 Welsh Settlements in Kansas. *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 43:448–469.

Davis, Kenneth S.

1984 *Kansas: A History*. W. W. Norton, New York.

Dobyns, Henry F.

1983 *Their Number Become Thinned: Native American Population Dynamics in Eastern North America*. University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville.

Fort Riley History

n.d. Fort Riley: Its Historic Past. Informational Brochure, U.S. Army, Fort Riley, Kansas. Ms. on file, Geary County Historical Society, Junction City.

Glaab, Charles N.

1993 *Kansas City and the Railroads: Community Policy in the Growth of a Regional Metropolis*. University Press of Kansas, Lawrence.

Halpin, David J.

1997 *National Register Evaluation of Eight Historic Period Archaeological Sites at Fort Riley, Riley County, Kansas*. Research Report No. 30. Public Service Archaeology Program, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Halpin, David J., and David W. Babson

1997 *An Inventory of Historic Period Archaeological Sites at Fort Riley, Riley and Geary Counties, Kansas*. Research Report No. 31. Public Service Archaeology Program, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Hickman, Russell K.

1970 The Reeder Administration Inaugurated: Part II—The Census of Early 1855. *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 36:424–455.

Hope, Clifford R.

1979 Strident Voices in Kansas Between the Wars. *Kansas History* 2(1):54–64.

Jeffries, John B.

1963 *An Early History of Junction City, Kansas: The First Generation*. Unpublished Master's thesis, Department of History, Political Science and Philosophy, Kansas State University, Manhattan.

The Junction City Union

Geary County Historical Museum, Junction City, Kansas. Selected articles between 1928-29.

Kansas Historical Quarterly

1959 U.S. Army and Air Force Wings over Kansas—Concluded. *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 25(3):337–367.

Katz, Paul R.

1971 Archaeology of the Sutter Site in Northeastern Kansas. *Plains Anthropologist* 16:1–19.

1973 Radiocarbon Dates from the Sutter Site, Northeastern Kansas. *Plains Anthropologist* 18:167–168.

- Largent, Floyd B., Jr., and Philip R. Waite
1996 *An Inventory of Training Area 79, Fort Riley, Riley County, Kansas.* Miscellaneous Report of Investigations No. 93A. Geo-Marine, Inc., Plano, Texas.
- Larson, Thomas K., and Dori M. Penny
1996 *Results of a Phase II Archeological Inventory of Fort Riley, Kansas.* LTA, Inc., Laramie, Wyoming. Submitted to Kansas City District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- Lees, William B.
1986 *Jotham Meeker's Farmstead: Historical Archaeology at the Ottawa Baptist Mission, Kansas.* Anthropological Series No. 13. Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka.
1989 *Kansas Preservation Plan, Section on Historical Archeology.* Archeology Department, Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka.
- Mariani & Associates
1986 *Mariani & Associates Report,* on file at the Cultural Resources Office, Fort Riley, Kansas.
- McConnell, Stuart
1992 *Glorious Contentment: The Grand Army of the Republic, 1865–1900.* The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.
- McDowell, Jacqueline M., and Kevin P. McGowan
1993 *Phase I Archeological Survey at Fort Riley, Geary and Riley Counties, Kansas.* Research Report No. 6. Public Service Archaeology Program, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- McMath, Robert C.
1976 Preface to Populism: The Origin and Economic Development of the “Southern” Farmers’ Alliance in Kansas. *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 42:55–65.
1993 *American Populism: A Social History, 1877–1898.* Hill and Wang, New York.
- Miner, Craig, and William E. Unrau
1990 *The End of Indian Kansas: A Study of Cultural Revolution, 1854–1871.* University Press of Kansas, Lawrence.
- Omer, George E.
1957 An Army Hospital: From Dragoons to Rough Riders—Fort Riley, 1853–1903. *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 23:337–367.
- Pride, W. F.
1987 *The History of Fort Riley.* U.S. Cavalry Museum and Fort Riley Historical and Archaeological Society, Fort Riley.

Ramenofsky, Ann E.

- 1982 *The Archaeology of Population Collapse: Native American Response to the Introduction of Infectious Disease*. Ph.D. dissertation, University of Washington, University Microfilms, Ann Arbor.

Real Property Records

- n.d. Maintenance Logs and Post Plans, on file at the Directorate of Engineering and Housing, Fort Riley, Kansas.

Richmond, Robert W.

- 1955 The First Capitol of Kansas. *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 21:321–325.
1989 *Kansas: A Land of Contrasts*. 3rd Ed. Forum, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Robinson and Associates, Inc., and Patricia J. O'Brien
1989 *Fort Riley: An Historic Overview*. Robinson and Associates, Inc. Submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District.
1983 American Indian Artifacts from the Kansas River. *Transactions of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences* 11:13–18.

Waite, Philip R., and Floyd B. Largent, Jr.

- 1995 Cultural Setting. In *An Inventory of Training Area 79, Fort Riley, Riley County, Kansas*, by Floyd B. Largent, Jr., and Philip R. Waite, pp. 11–41.
1996 Miscellaneous Report of Investigations No. 93A. Geo-Marine, Inc. Plano, Texas.

Historian: Marsha A. Walkup, M.A., IIDA, 1999
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Kansas City District

