

FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

Fort McKavett, Texas

On-Site Activities

High School

Overview: Fort McKavett's Place in American History

As the students tour Fort McKavett site and museum, find opportunities to share primary sources such as letters and telegrams that reinforce major moments in Fort McKavett history, such as its establishment, troop orders to abandon and report for Civil War service, re-establishment in 1868, and abandonment to local civilians in 1882. Discuss the assignment of Buffalo Soldier troops to Fort McKavett and other western forts after the Civil War.

Activity 1: Exploring Fort McKavett

Distribute the **exploration graphic organizer** to students before they begin a tour. Have them complete the graphic organizer individually or with a partner. Share responses as a group when completed.

Activity 2: Who and Where?

Distribute the **fort map, Who and Where? graphic organizer**, and any additional resources, such as the Fort McKavett brochure. Share responses as a group when completed.

P.O. BOX 68
FORT MCKAVETT, TEXAS 76841
P 325-396-2358 F 325-396-2818

visitfortmckavett.com
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On-Site Activity: Exploring Fort McKavett

Complete this graphic organizer as you tour the fort.

	Officer's Quarters	Company Barracks	Hospital
How was this building used?			
What materials were used to build it?			
Write a description of the building. How is it different from the other buildings at the fort?			
What does this building tell us about the people who lived or worked there?			
What questions do you have for the Fort McKavett staff?			

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On-Site Activity: Fort Map



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On-Site Activity: Who and Where?

Use the fort map and other resources to match the person and the building where he or she lived or worked. Write the building number in the column.

Number	Title	Description
	Commissary of Subsistence	Distributed the food, oversaw the bakery and storehouses, and handed out the soldier's daily food rations..
	Enlisted Men	Men who volunteered to join the army. They did the fort's most difficult work including construction, hauling water, chopping wood, maintaining buildings and roads, standing guard, cleaning, and gardening. They lived in cramped living conditions.
	Laundress	A female civilian (non-soldier) in charge of washing and fixing the men's clothing. She received one ration of food per day, and was paid by each piece of laundry she completed. She was often better paid than most enlisted men.
	Officers	Responsible for drilling, training, and disciplining the enlisted soldiers. Most officers had attended college. They were provided better living quarters and pay than the enlisted men. If married, they were allowed to bring their wives and children with them.
	Post Surgeon	Medical person who provided examinations and treatment for the soldiers as well as visiting civilians.
	Quartermaster	In charge of construction of the fort and all supplies except food. He worked very closely with the skilled workers including the blacksmith, carriage-maker, carpenter, and tailor.
	Sutler	A civilian who sold items at the fort including tobacco, toothbrushes, beer, wine, candy, books, playing cards, pencil, paper and other personal items. Prices were set by the military.

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