

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

## Post-Visit Guide

## High School

### Overview: Taking the West

In this lesson, students will how displaced Native Americans viewed western expansion, the Great Menard County Indian Raid of 1866, and the unrest in the west during the Civil War.

### U.S. History Since 1877 TEKS

(12) Geography. The student understands the impact of geographic factors on major events. The student is expected to:

(A) analyze the impact of physical and human geographic factors on the settlement of the Great Plains.

(13) Geography. The student understands the causes and effects of migration and immigration on American society. The student is expected to:

(A) analyze the causes and effects of changing demographic patterns resulting from migration within the United States, including western expansion.

(29) Social studies skills. The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of valid sources, including electronic technology. The student is expected to:

(A) use a variety of both primary and secondary valid sources to acquire information and to analyze and answer historical questions; and

(B) analyze information by sequencing, categorizing, identifying cause-and-effect relationships, comparing and contrasting, finding the main idea, summarizing, making generalizations, making predictions, drawing inferences, and drawing conclusions. (D) use the process of historical inquiry to research, interpret, and use multiple types of sources of evidence.

### Materials

- Historical images and maps for display/distribution
- *Unrest in the West* primary source resources and activity sheets
- *The Forts Changing Hands* timeline

### Activity: Fort McKavett Visit

*10 minutes*

Ask students to reflect on their visit to Fort McKavett by completing all columns of their **KWL chart**. Have students share their experiences including any new questions raised by the visit.

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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

## Historical Context

Before Texas became a state in 1845, settled lands in Texas were limited to the coast, east Texas, and land grant settlements in central and south Texas. All of the western lands were dominated by Native American peoples, most notably Lipan Apaches and Comanches.

In the 1800s, immigrants from the United States, Mexico, and Europe poured into frontier territory, threatening tribal hunting grounds and buffalo herds. Native groups raided livestock and settlements to slow the loss of their land. In the 1850s, in response to the tribal attacks and in order to increase safety for travelers heading west, the U.S. military established forts like Fort McKavett throughout west Texas. Native American tribes remaining in Texas, such as the Comanche and Lipan Apaches, lost as many as half of their population due to hunting lands being blocked by forts and settlements, professional hunters and settlers decreasing the buffalo herds, and deaths caused by diseases brought by European settlers.

After battling starvation and disease for years and losing most of their supplies and horses in battles with the U. S. Army, Native American resistance on the frontier came to an end as a result of the Red River War of 1874-1875. Remaining native groups were forced to move to reservations near Fort Sill in present-day Oklahoma.

Although combat was a small part of the frontier soldier's life, Fort McKavett troops participated in several major Indian campaigns including Mackenzie's and Shafter's raids into Mexico, and the Battle of Palo Duro Canyon during the Red River War.

## Activity: Views of the Texas Frontier

*20 minutes*

Display or distribute the **1850 map of Texas**. Point out the settled lands in the east and the open prairies of the west including the "Apaches Farones" and the "Range of the Comanches" territories.

Display or distribute the **Texas frontier quotes resource**. Give students time to skim the text to identify and define any unknown words. As a class, identify the speakers and each speaker's intended audience. Ask students to analyze why the speakers' life experiences influenced their views of the frontier.

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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

## Primary Source Activity: Unrest in the West

20 minutes

Have students read about the Great Menard County Indian Raid of 1866. A summary is available online on the Fort McKavett website at <http://www.thc.texas.gov/historic-sites/fort-mckavett/history/great-menard-county-indian-raid-1866>. This raid is the most “widely-known raid ever committed by Indians in the State of Texas.”

Ask:

- **How did the Great Menard County Indian Raid of 1866 affect Texas history?**  
[This and other skirmishes lead to the re-establishment of U.S. federal troops at west Texas forts.]
- **What are two primary sources used in the article?**  
[Jasper Newton’s account and William McDougall’s gravestone]

Have students work in pairs to create a visual representation of the raid. Their representation must include causes, primary events, and settler and Native American viewpoints of the skirmish.

## Activity: Frontier Settlement and Its Impact on Native Peoples

25 minutes

Distribute or display the **image of Comanches** on the reservation at Fort Sill. Have students complete the **National Archive photo analysis worksheet**. Point out the Library of Congress citation that gives information about the photo. Discuss responses.

As an extension, have students write a personal narrative reaction to the photo or a fictional narrative from the photo subjects’ point of view.

## Assessment

Evaluate students’ final KWL charts for completeness and understanding.

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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

## Lesson Extension: Perspectives on Progress

**Context:** John Gast's 1872 painting, *American Progress* (alternate title: *Westward the Course of estiny*), depicts an allegorical America (female figure) leading pioneers westward where they encounter Native Americans, and herds of bison and other wildlife. An allegory is a story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one.

Display or distribute **John Gast's 1872 painting, *American Progress***. Have students complete the **National Archive artwork analysis worksheet**. Discuss responses.

To extend the activity, have students create a drawing or cartoon that represents the same concepts depicted in Gast's painting, but from a Native American point of view.

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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

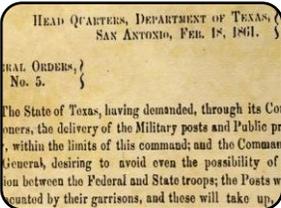
## Resource: Frontier Fort Timeline



1855

• **Fort McKavett Established**

- The U.S. Army established Fort McKavett on the San Saba River along the Upper Road from San Antonio.



1861

• **U.S. Soldiers Evacuate Forts**

- Having voted to secede from the United States, Texas demanded that the U.S. Army surrender all of its property, including the forts. On February 18, 1861, Gen. Twiggs ordered all U.S. soldiers to evacuate Texas.



1861-1863

• **State of Texas Takes Control**

- Texas seized control over all frontier forts and supplies. In the 1861 "Act to provide for the protection of the frontier," the state allowed for the recruitment of local volunteers to serve as troops of armed minutemen.



1863

• **Confederates Take Charge**

- Texas convinced the Confederacy to take over the expense of border defense in December 1863. Soon after, the Confederate Army reassigned nearly half of the Frontier Regiment to defend the Texas coast.



1866-1868

• **U.S. Army Re-establishes Control of the Forts**

- After a rise in Native American attacks in the west, the U.S. Army once again patrolled the western frontier from the forts. U.S. troops arrived at Fort McKavett in 1868.

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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

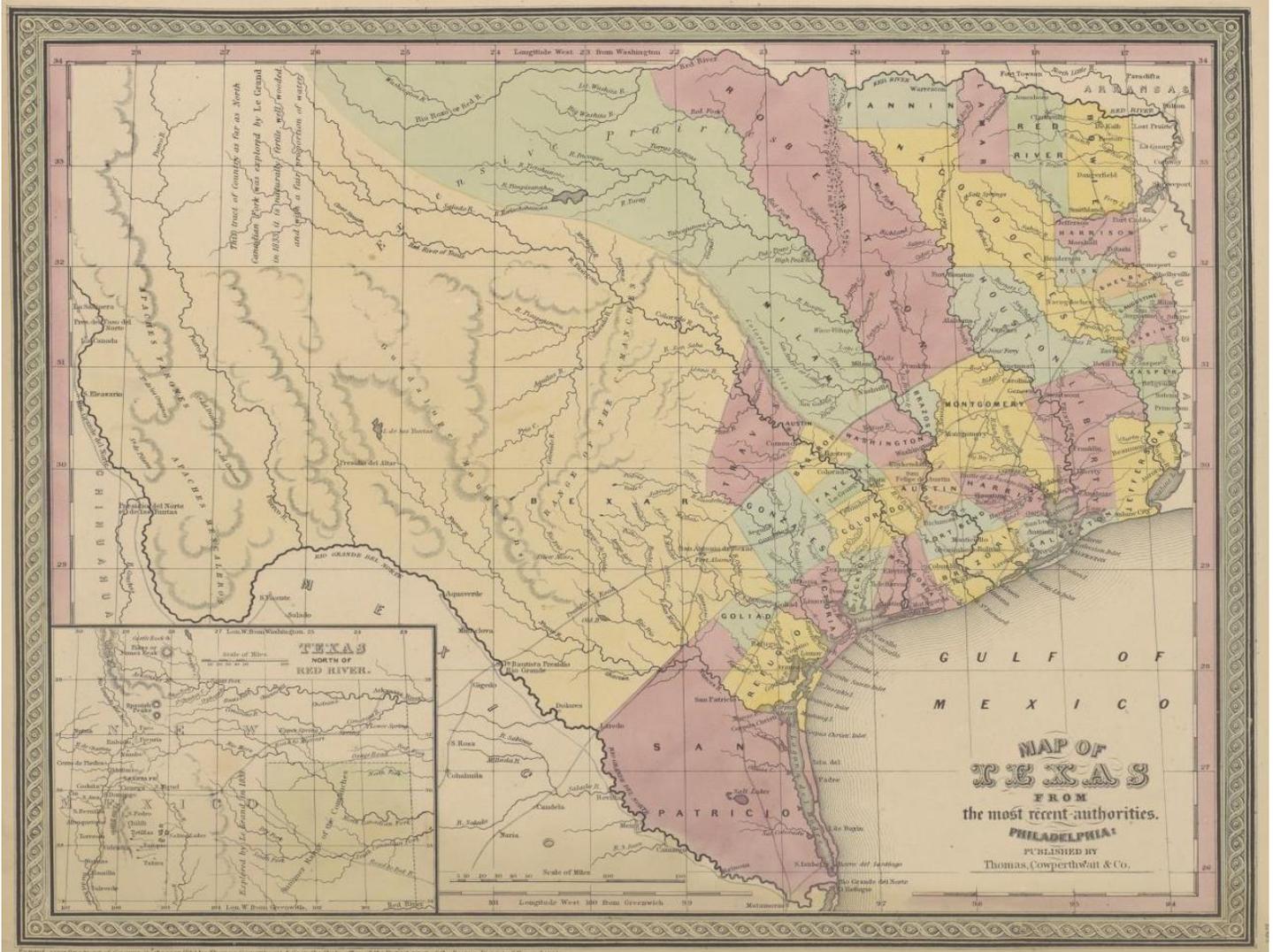
# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

## Activity Map: Views of the Texas Frontier, 1850

Map of Texas from the most recent authorities., map, ca. 1850, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, texashistory.unt.edu; crediting University of Texas at Arlington Library. texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph50225/m/1/1/?q=apache (Accessed November 18, 2017).



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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION  
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

## Activity Quotes: Views of the Texas Frontier

*These outposts are connected by a road, now in considerable use, which passes by Forts McKavett, Chadbourne, and Phantom Hill. A line of settlements will soon follow, and the Indians will then be confined to the great desert planes, which can furnish them with little game and, probably, no cultivated food. Starvation will compel submission or emigration, and this great district will become open to peaceable occupation.*

**Frederick Law Olmsted 1857**

Olmsted, Frederick Law. *Journey through Texas, or, A saddle-trip on the southwestern frontier : with a statistical appendix*. New York: 1857, p202. University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, [texashistory.unt.edu](http://texashistory.unt.edu).  
[texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph2407/m1/2/?q=fort%20mckavett](http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph2407/m1/2/?q=fort%20mckavett) (Accessed February 17, 2018).

*A long time ago this land belonged to our fathers; but when I go up to the river I see camps of soldiers here on its bank. These soldiers cut down my timber; they kill my buffalo; and when I see that, my heart feels like bursting; I feel sorry.*

**Santana, Chief of the Kiowas 1867**

Santana, Chief of the Kiowas, 1867. *U.S. Bureau of Ethnography Annual Report*, 17th, 1895–96.

## Activity Image: Frontier Settlement and Its Impact on Native Peoples

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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

Soule, William S, photographer. Ta-Her-Ye-Qua-Hip or Horse-Backs Camp. No-Co-Nie. Comanches / W.S. Soule, photo. Fort Sill, I.T. Fort Sill Oklahoma, ca. 1873. Mar. 22. Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2006675508/>. (Accessed November 18, 2017.)



W. S. Soule, Photo.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1873, by John P. Soule, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

Fort Sill, I. T.

TA-HER-YE-QUA-HIP or HORSE-BACKS CAMP. B.

NO-CO-NIE. COMANCHES.

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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

## National Archives Graphic Organizer: Frontier Settlement and Its Impact on Native Peoples

### Analyze a Photograph

**Meet the photo.**

Quickly scan the photo. What do you notice first?

Type of photo (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Portrait	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial/Satellite	<input type="checkbox"/> Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Architectural
<input type="checkbox"/> Event	<input type="checkbox"/> Family	<input type="checkbox"/> Panoramic	<input type="checkbox"/> Posed	<input type="checkbox"/> Candid
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary	<input type="checkbox"/> Selfie	<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

Is there a caption?  yes  no

---

**Observe its parts.**

List the people, objects and activities you see.

PEOPLE	OBJECTS	ACTIVITIES

Write one sentence summarizing this photo.

---

**Try to make sense of it.**

Answer as best you can. The caption, if available, may help.

Who took this photo?

Where is it from?

When is it from?

What was happening at the time in history this photo was taken?

Why was it taken? List evidence from the photo or your knowledge about the photographer that led you to your conclusion.

---

**Use it as historical evidence.**

What did you find out from this photo that you might not learn anywhere else?

What other documents, photos, or historical evidence are you going to use to help you understand this event or topic?



Materials created by the National Archives and Records Administration are in the public domain.

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

visitfortmckavett.com  
#TXTimeTravel  
storiedsites.com



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

## Activity Image: *American Progress* by John Gast, 1872

Citation: Crofutt, George A. *American Progress*. ca. 1873. Chromolithograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/97507547/>. (Accessed November 21, 2017.)



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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

# FORT MCKAVETT

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Fort McKavett, Texas*

## National Archives Graphic Organizer: *American Progress* by John Gast

### Analyze Artwork

**Meet the artwork.**

Quickly scan the artwork. What do you notice first?

Type (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Painting	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing/Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Engraving/Lithograph	<input type="checkbox"/> Mural	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed Media	<input type="checkbox"/> Scene/Event	<input type="checkbox"/> Portrait	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstract	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

What is the title?

---

**Observe its parts.**

List the people, objects and activities you see.

PEOPLE	OBJECTS	ACTIVITIES

Write one sentence summarizing this artwork.

---

**Try to make sense of it.**

What do the colors, people, objects or activities represent?

Who made this?

When was it created?

Does it depict a different time? When?

What was happening at the time in history it was created?

What is the message? List evidence from the artwork or your knowledge about the artist that led you to your conclusion.

---

**Use it as historical evidence.**

What did you find out from this artwork that you might not learn anywhere else?

What other documents or historical evidence are you going to use to help you understand this event or topic?

 NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Materials created by the National Archives and Records Administration are in the public domain.

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

[visitfortmckavett.com](http://visitfortmckavett.com)  
#TXTimeTravel  
[storiedsites.com](http://storiedsites.com)



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION   
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES