This historical data section is prepared as a part of the Historic Structures Report, Part II, for Fort Scott, as set forth in Historical Resource Study Proposal, Fort Scott-H-3. This structural history of the buildings is designed to be of use in the restoration, reconstruction, and interpretation of the old army post.
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E. N. T.

Washington, D.C.
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INTRODUCTION

The new post quartermaster, Capt. Thomas Swords, arrived at Fort Scott from Fort Leavenworth in July 1842. He found the officers and men of the 1st Dragoons living in crude log cabins at the new post, then only two months old. With his characteristic energy, Swords undertook the construction of permanent buildings on the high bluff overlooking the junction of the frontier military road and the Marmaton River. A graduate of West Point, which then emphasized engineer training, he had been assigned to quartermaster activities since 1838. Fort Scott was fortunate to get the captain for he was considered to be one of the brighter assistant quartermasters in the Army. For the next four years, until the Mexican War, he was to labor against difficult problems to erect the necessary buildings around the parade ground that would provide relative comfort for the dragoons and infantrymen stationed at the frontier post.

Located ninety miles from navigable water--nearly all frontier forts at that time could be reached by boat--Fort Scott would rely wherever possible on native materials such as stone and woods--walnut, ash, and oak. Nails, glass, paint, etc., would be transported from St. Louis first by water then by wagon.¹ To assist him,

¹. As an illustration, the post quartermaster let contracts to civilian suppliers in 1842 for 500,000 laths, 100,000 bricks, and 300,000 shingles. House Documents, 27th Cong., 3d Sess., No. 68, pp. 38 and 49.
Swords acquired a water-powered sawmill and a kiln for drying lumber. From time to time he employed skilled civilians to work as carpenters, bricklayers, stonemasons, joiners, and glaziers. But usually he had to depend on finding skilled workers among the enlisted men of the post.

Swords and his successors experienced many frustrations during the 1840's, as construction crawled toward completion. Ever mindful of economy the Quartermaster General periodically reduced the number of civilians the post could employ. As a further aggravation, the post quartermaster very often found that few enlisted men possessed any building skills that might be of use. Then, too, the sawmill failed to live up to its promises. From time to time it would break down; and spare parts took weeks to travel from St. Louis. Furthermore, the water in Mill Creek was too low for the greater part of each year to operate the mill anyway.

Despite the trials, the fort gradually took on the appearance of permanency as conceived by Swords, "The buildings are all to be finished in a plain and substantial manner but at the same time as much neatness of appearance to be preserved as is consistent with a proper economy." 2

2. National Archives (Hereafter cited as NA), Record Group (Hereafter cited as RG) 92, Quartermaster (Hereafter cited as QM) Consolidated File, Swords to QMG T.S. Jesup, Dec. 16, 1842.
By the end of the 1840's the fort stood completed much as Swords had conceived it in the beginning. Its total cost to the government lay somewhere between $30,000 and $50,000. The permanent structures included four sets of officers quarters (each designed for two families), three barracks, a headquarters-ordnance building, a quartermaster-commissary building, a dragoon stable, a quartermaster shop and corral compound, a hospital, a guardhouse, a bakeshop, a magazine, and a number of outbuildings. Only rarely were either the officers quarters or the barracks crowded. The largest number of officers ever assigned to the post was eleven, and then only briefly. The average commissioned strength at Fort Scott was six. At one time the number of enlisted men reached the high point of 202 -- about 70 to each rather crowded barracks; but generally the enlisted strength was about one-half that figure.

By 1853, the frontier had moved so far westward that the Army abandoned Fort Scott. One year later the Territory of Kansas came into existence, and settlers crossed the Missouri border to establish new cities in the wilderness. The Army put the buildings at Fort Scott up for sale in 1855, recovering only $5,000 from its investment.

3. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File. Figures compiled from the various reports by the post quartermaster.


5. Kansas Weekly Herald, Leavenworth, Mar. 9, 1855.
The old officers quarters became residences, and the former barracks, stables, and hospital witnessed the coming and going of businessmen. Fort Scott became the leading town in southeast Kansas, providing services and goods to farmers and travelers. During the late 1850's it was part of the turmoil of "Bleeding Kansas," as its citizens struggled violently to settle the issue of slavery in the new territory. The old parade ground became a town plaza. The town itself quickly spread over the old Fort's boundaries and bustled along the south bank of the Marmaton. However the old fort structures continued for a while longer to be the focal point of the community.

When the slavery issue blossomed into a national civil war in 1861, Fort Scott again became a military headquarters in the western theater. Where once a couple of hundred soldiers had seemed a crowd, there were now thousands. Some of the old fort buildings renewed their military roles. One of the new post commanders was Charles Blair, a resident of Fort Scott and who already lived in one of the old officers quarters. The hospital again was filled with wounded and sick. The old dragoon stables became a storehouse for army supplies. For four years the town wore its military appearance proudly, growing ever larger as a military headquarters, a supply depot, and the site of a general hospital.

Following a temporary lull after the arrival of peace in 1865, Fort Scott again experienced a boom with the construction of a railroad in 1869. Troops were once more called in, if briefly, to keep
the peace between the settlers and the railroad, who were quarreling over land ownership. The old fort was barely affected by this short time of troubles. Instead, its buildings continued to serve as hotels, boarding houses, and schools. As the city, sparked by the development of coal mining, spread around it, the area that comprised the old post became isolated by a wall of ever more imposing business houses along Market and Wall Streets. The local newspapers referred to it less and less often until, by 1875, it virtually disappeared from the columns of local news.

But neither the site nor its history ever completely disappeared. One hundred and twenty-five years after its founding, the old fort is still identifiable. Some of its handsome quarters still line the tree-shadowed parade ground. A dormer window, a deep verandah, or a shadowy hallway remain to remind the imaginative visitor of Captain Swords' workmen who in building Fort Scott pushed the frontier a little farther west.
1. Officers Row, from the left, HS 1, 2, 3, and 4. Fence around parade ground built in 1860's.
Almost identical in plans, four white, wooden, duplex officers quarters graced the northeast side of the parade ground. Each structure was two and one-half stories high. The ground floor was considered to be the basement; the second floor was looked upon as the main story; while the upper half-story contained bedrooms. Today, HS 1, recently damaged by fire, HS 2, and one-half of HS 4 remain standing. The approved Master Plan calls for HS 1 to be restored on the exterior and one-half of its duplex interior to be restored and furnished so that it may be interpreted as a house museum. HS 2 and the one-half of HS 4 are to be rehabilitated on the exterior so as to become part of the historic scene. HS 3 no longer stands. Its outline and that of the missing one-half of HS 4 are to be marked on the ground with stone.

HS 1, Officers Quarters No. 1

At the end of 1842, Captain Swords prepared a report for the Quartermaster General wherein he outlined his plans for the officers quarters.¹ Existing evidence shows that Swords succeeded in carrying

¹ NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to QMG Jesup, Dec. 16, 1842. In the initial NPS report on Fort Scott, I stated that this set of quarters was probably the oldest standing building in Kansas. Since then I have learned that Fort Leavenworth has older structures.
out his plan. Quarters No. 1 (and the others) was a framed, weather-boarded structure, consisting of the above-ground basement, the principal story having broad verandahs on the front and back, and a half-story upstairs lit by dormer windows—in this case, two on the front and two on the back.

Each half of the basement floor had two rooms and a long hall. One of the rooms was designed as a kitchen, the other as quarters for servants or slaves—depending whether a particular officer had originated in the northern or southern states. While the hall was not designated for any special purpose, it was large enough to have served for any of several functions: storeroom, workroom, or additional sleeping quarters. Both the kitchen and the servants' quarters had large stone fireplaces on their interior walls. Each of these was part of a double fireplace with a single chimney, serving the apartments in each half of the duplex.

The basement walls, as well as those on the other floors, were lathed and plastered. They were possibly covered with whitewash or painted white. Records exist of the post quartermaster ordering lime; furthermore, the basement rooms were fairly dark, their windows being shaded by the main floor verandahs. Swords reported that the basement ceiling was eight and one-half feet high.

The quarters sat on a native stone foundation. Recent investigations show that the post quartermaster did not allow for ventilation—
a problem that was widespread throughout the Army until well after
the Civil War. There is no record of how the occupants reacted to
this lack of ventilation but, since the post was active for only
eleven years, the simple wooden flooring probably had not time to
show signs of rotting. Staircases led from the middle of the halls,
neat the kitchen doors, to the main floors above. Today the stairs
are to be found relocated at the rear of the halls.

Each half of the main floor was also divided into two rooms,
each with a fireplace, and a long hall. These, the principal rooms
for the family, reflected the considerable skill of the workmen,
despite Swords' repeated cries of not having enough craftsmen. The
broad verandahs, resting on six brick pillars, were lined with six
handturned walnut pillars, all bored through lengthwise to prevent
cracking. A broad imposing flight of steps swept up from the front
walk at each end of the verandah. Walnut doors and wide windows
opened into handsome rooms having 12-foot ceilings. The dark luster
of the woodwork contributed a sense of elegance to the quarters.

The upper floor was similar in plan to those below except for
the partially gabled ceiling. It also had two fireplaces in each
half, making a total of 12 in the structure. On both the front and
back two dormer windows provided light.

The construction of this first set of quarters probably got
underway in the late summer or fall of 1842. In his first annual
report, October 1843, Swords wrote that Quarters No. 1 was completed "with the exception of an upper floor being required in one half."

While the porch floors had not yet been laid, he anticipated work would be completed in eight to ten days. He was overly optimistic, for one year later he again reported that the porch floors were incomplete. From then on however the building was regarded as finished.2

The precise date of occupancy is unknown. In September 1844, the commanding officer of the post noted that Swords and another captain, Burdett A. Terrett, in charge of the dragoons, were living in the duplex.3 Inasmuch as commanding officers have prerogative in all matters it is somewhat surprising that Capt. William M. Graham, then the post commander, did not occupy the new quarters himself. Unfortunately there is no additional source material on quarters assignments at Fort Scott, and it is not possible to determine if Quarters No. 1 housed any of the commanding officers. Nevertheless, local tradition today is strongly inclined toward thinking of this as the post commander's quarters, so much so that it is known as Headquarters House.

This structure continued to serve as officers quarters until, in April 1853, the Army abandoned Fort Scott in favor of a new post, Fort Riley, farther to the west. One further military reference to

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2. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to QMG Jesup, Oct. 1, 1843, and Oct. 1, 1844.

the structure was made on March 9, 1855, when the Army advertised its sale:

Four buildings for Officers' Quarters (with porches in front and rear 10 feet wide) each 58 feet 6 inches by 37 feet, and containing four rooms in the first story, and four rooms in the attic story.4

The bill of sale has disappeared, but it is reported that an A. Hornbeck purchased the quarters for $500. He promptly opened it as the Fort Scott Hotel and for a number of years the building was one of the leading hostelries in the young town. One of its early managers was Charles Dimon who in partnership with others would later own it for a short time. There is no clear record of changes of ownership during this early period, but the "Casey Bros." appear to have been involved in the ownership at an early date.5

A second hotel was opened in the infantry barracks directly across the parade ground from Officers Quarters No. 1. As the struggle between pro-slavery and free soil settlers developed in eastern Kansas throughout the late 1850's, it is said that newcomers to Fort Scott who favored slavery tended to stay in the former barracks, named the Western Hotel, while those who were free soilers congregated around the officers quarters hotel. Local citizens found it convenient to call the two inns the Free-State and the Pro-Slavery Hotels. This distinction was possibly drawn a little too finely for, in their day-


to-day activities, the citizens of the town as well as newcomers
found it essential to mingle freely in their associations.

Little is known of changes made in the interior of the struc­
ture after it became a hotel. In an 1858 advertisement the current
owner, "Col." W. T. Campbell, announced that he had "spared no pains
or expense in its complete refittal and renovation. The apartments
are commodious and airy. Separate rooms have been reserved for the
traveling public." Charles W. Goodlander, later to become Fort
Scott's most prosperous citizen, arrived in the community in 1858
and made his first residence in the Fort Scott Hotel. He recalled
that the most exciting event of the time was the arrivals of the
stage from the north. The stage came directly to the hotel from
crossing the Marmaton and by the time it came to a stop, "all the
occupants of the hotel were on the sidewalk to receive the new
arrivals." This is the earliest reference to a sidewalk in front
of the structure. While there is an abundance of suitable stone
in the vicinity, it is not known if the Army installed this walk
along officers row or whether it came with the permanent settlers.

Besides functioning as an inn, this structure was also Fort

6. *Fort Scott Democrat*, Dec. 23, 1858. Campbell acquired the
hotel in the fall of 1857. Brown, "Centennial History."

Goodlander of the Early Days of Fort Scott* (Fort Scott, 1900), p. 6.

8. Although the present flagstones along the front of the house
under the porch appear to have been placed there recently, it is thought
there was a similar development in army days.
Scott's first civilian post office. William Gallagher served as both desk clerk and postmaster and performed both duties in the hotel. However, by 1858, he concluded to move the post office to a new building in the town proper on what became Market Street.9 Another new citizen who was also to become prominent, Charles Blair, also opened his office in the quarters. By June 1859, and possibly earlier, he and his partner, A. Ellison, had set themselves up as "attorneys at law & general land & preemption agents" in the hotel.10 However they did not remain there for long; by August they had a new office elsewhere in town.11

As far as this set of quarters was concerned, Bleeding Kansas came to a climax in 1858. The first of two exciting events occurred on May 30, 1858. Capt. Nathaniel Lyon with two troops of cavalry was stationed at Fort Scott in an effort to maintain peace both there and in the countryside between the pro-slavery and free soil forces. On that day, Deputy U. S. Marshal Samuel Walker rode into town at the head of a posse. He carried writs for the arrest of a pro-slavery leader, George Clarke, who lived in Officers Quarters No. 4 (HS 4). Riding with Walker was James Montgomery, then the notorious leader of border Jayhawkers.

Walker divided his posse, and the separate groups searched

10. Fort Scott Democrat, June 14, 1859.
11. Ibid., Aug. 18, 1859.
Clarke's house, the Western Hotel, and the old hospital building. While the search was in progress, Walker learned that his quarry was calmly standing on the steps of the Free State Hotel. Proceeding to the quarters, Walker successfully arrested Clarke, and the tensions of the troubled community did not explode.

In an attempt to bring peace to the area, Gov. James Denver, appointed to his position in May, arrived at Fort Scott on June 15, 1858. He remained in the town overnight and, while there is no evidence as to his abode, possibly stayed at the Fort Scott Hotel. On his arrival he addressed the townspeople from the walk in front of the hotel; the walk, being higher than the parade ground, provided a natural platform. On the whole, Denver's visit was a success, and a temporary peace resulted.

Another visitor to Fort Scott that same year was highly impressed with the quarters along officers row. In contrast to the humble appearance of most frontier towns, he found the structures impressive, "Every house . . . would cost $3,000 in Illinois."  

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Toward the end of the year the old quarters again experienced drama and excitement. In the middle of November, local officials arrested Benjamin Rice on a robbery charge. Rice was a known jay-hawker and a supporter of Montgomery. Probably because of a lack of more secure quarters, Rice was kept under guard in the Fort Scott Hotel. According to tradition, Rice was held in a tiny cell-like room on the top floor of the quarters. Today there are two small rooms under the front eave on this floor, possibly having served as large closets. One of them has a door, suitably heavy and fitted with a small opening for ventilation, that is said to identify Rice's cell. Architects who have examined this have expressed some doubt if the present structure is very old.

Montgomery, who had promised Governor Denver to keep the peace, waited a month before taking action to secure Rice's release. At daybreak, December 16, at the head of a large party of armed men, he rode on to the old parade ground and surrounded the hotel and the adjacent structures. Awakening the town by firing weapons, Montgomery rounded up the citizens and made them his prisoners temporarily. One citizen who resisted, John Little, was killed, but no other bodily harm occurred. The raiders entered the hotel and successfully rescued Rice.

15. The city fathers had not yet acquired the fort's guardhouse as a city jail.

The worst of the time of troubles was over. An uneasy peace descended on Fort Scott and for the next two years, with the free soilers in the ascendancy, the officers quarters witnessed the comings and goings of local society. On July 4, 1859, a holiday hop was held in its stately rooms. The local reporter said that "the Ball at the Fort Scott Hotel . . . was a splendid affair. There was a large crowd in attendance"17

Later that year Gov. Samuel Medary came to town. To honor the distinguished guest, who may have stayed at the hotel also, the citizens held a supper party in the old quarters. All the town's leading citizens turned out, including the Governor's son-in-law, Charles Blair. The then manager of the hotel, B. B. Dillon, arranged the entertainment, and the evening sparkled with numerous champagne toasts.18

Charles and George Dimon (Charles had been associated with the hotel earlier) purchased the building from W. T. Campbell in 1860.19 A few months later they dissolved the fraternal partnership and, on the eve of the Civil War, George Dimon became the

17. Fort Scott Democrat, July 14, 1859.
proprietor. On May 26, 1861, "having purchased the furniture etc. of said hotel," he reopened it for business.20

As far as it may be determined, Officers Quarters No. 1 continued to function as the Fort Scott Hotel throughout the Civil War. Until 1863 it (and for a time the Western Hotel) continued to be the leading inn in the rapidly expanding town. In that year, a large, brick hotel, the Wilder House, was erected and became the place to stay.21 But until then such notable visitors as Senator-Gen. Jim Lane and Gen. James Blunt very likely stayed at the Fort Scott Hotel when they were in town.

Although Fort Scott did not become a scene of hostilities itself, an event in the fall of 1861 made it seem that way. Confederate Gen. Sterling Price, making his way northward toward the Missouri River, marched past Fort Scott just a few miles to the east. Neither General Lane nor the citizens of the town had much faith in their defenses. In panic, nearly all the civilians fled leaving the town empty except for a few hundred volunteer cavalrymen, who skirmished briefly with Price's flank guard.

The Confederates ignored the town, but the cavalry did not.

20. Ibid., May 25, 1861. George Dimon may have had as partners at this time George A. Crawford and W. R. Judson. See Brown, "Centennial History."

21. The Wilder House, now occupied by several businesses including the office of the executive secretary of the local urban renewal project, still stands.
Taking advantage of the citizens' temporary absence, the volunteers proceeded to loot the houses and to live very high on the hog for the next few days. While details are lacking, the damage seems to have been extensive. In the case of the Fort Scott Hotel, it appears that the vandals wreaked sufficient havoc to force it to close for six months. Not until March 1863 was the newspaper able to report:

Geo. Dimon, Esq., will soon have the Fort Scott Hotel open . . . . The marks of the "stampede" are being gradually obliterated. Mr. Dimon is refitting his house entirely with new furniture.  

A few weeks later Dimon proudly announced that not only was the hotel in order again but he had installed a fine marble-bed billiard table in the saloon of the hotel. However Dimon did not enjoy his new table long for he sold the hotel that fall to a Mr. Short from Leavenworth. Short's management was brief; in February 1863 he sold the establishment to R. D. Keyes. The new proprietor, possibly noticing the competition from the Wilder House, announced that the building would be thoroughly renovated.

22. Western Volunteer, Fort Scott, March 31, 1862.
24. Ibid., Oct. 4, 1862.
25. Ibid., Feb. 27, 1863.
By the end of the Civil War, Fort Scott had changed from a struggling frontier village to a sizeable town bursting with civic energy. As the town grew larger and other hotels, such as the Gulf House, were constructed, the old fort structures fell gradually into obscurity. This is especially true of Officers Quarters No. 1. Although it appeared in business directories and newspaper advertisements from time to time, it no longer was the social center of earlier days. Finally, in 1870, an advertisement appeared, "For Sale.--The lease and furniture of the Fort Scott Hotel on reasonable terms. For particulars enquire of Chas. H. Wooledge, 51 Market Street." 26

At an unknown date, Judge William Margrave, who had been Justice of the Peace since 1854, acquired the structure and made it his residence until his death in 1904. 27 Following Margrave, Ralph Richards, who also acquired other properties in the vicinity of the old fort, purchased the quarters. Still later, the City of Fort Scott acquired ownership and still retains it. In 1938 the Work Projects Administration undertook to remodel the quarters. The extent of this effort is unknown. 28 In recent years the basement

26. Fort Scott Monitor, May 7, 1870
hall and rear room in the west half were divided into a number of smaller rooms to provide a small apartment for a custodian. The Professional and Business Women's Club of Fort Scott has maintained the rest of the structure as a museum.

**Grounds:** A relatively recent concrete sidewalk extends along the front of officers row, including Quarters No. 1. A picket fence separates the sidewalk from a narrow front yard. The rear yard is enclosed with a stone fence. The west and north sides of this wall appear to have been rebuilt, reportedly by the WPA in 1938. The east wall, which separates the rear yards of HS 1 and HS 2 is much older, not having been reconstructed. Although it is not mentioned in the records, it possibly originated in the 1840's.

The Army's plan of the structure, drawn in 1848, shows two small sheds of two rooms each and a double latrine at the rear of the yard. The latrine and the west shed have long since disappeared. But a small stone structure still stands on the site of the east shed (which adjoined a similar shed at the rear of the back yard of HS 2). It is not known if the present rock-walled shed, now used as rest rooms, is the original structure or a more recent one. There are wood doors at either end and, on the north side, two small window-like openings. The roof today is covered with modern tar shingles. The Master Plan calls for the rehabilitation of this structure and for its continued use as a public rest room.
Postscript

Before dawn, May 7, 1967, a fire of unknown origins raced through portions of HS 1, destroying the roof, the rear wall, and the rear porch. Water also added considerably to the damage. This fire was a near-disaster, but the 125-year-old set of officers quarters still lives. Its walls contain the history of the military frontier, Bleeding Kansas, the Civil War, and the social and economic expansion of the American people in their westering.

HS 2, Officers Quarters No. 2

This set of quarters was essentially the same in materials and architecture as the others. The most noticeable difference between it and HS 1 was that it had four dormer windows on both front and back, while HS 1 had only two on each side.

HS 2 was the last of the four sets of quarters to be constructed. Although it was planned from the first, Assistant Quartermaster Swords did not report a start in construction of the building until 1845. In October he was able to state that its frame was up and ready for covering. 29

For the next few years several circumstances combined to slow further construction of the quarters. In the spring of 1846, a kiln caught fire and 6,000 feet of oak flooring burned up. 30 A few months

29. NA, RG92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to Col. Henry Stanton, Oct. 1, 1845.

30. Ibid., Swords to Jesup, Mar. 1, 1846
later, the Mexican War began, resulting in reductions of manpower and budgets for western forts. From then until the fall of 1848, Fort Scott's strength fell below 50 enlisted men.

Swords' replacement, 1st Lt. George W. Wallace, managed to keep construction alive by hiring a few civilian mechanics and laborers and scratching up extra-detail men from the tiny war-time command. In the spring of 1848, three years after the building's start, Wallace submitted a plan of the fort showing Quarters No. 2 as "nearly ready for plastering." The records do not show the completion date of the structure.

For much of this period there was no shortage of officers quarters at the post and probably no urgency felt to get the work finished. However, in November 1852, two companies of the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen arrived at Fort Scott. The number of officers between then and the abandonment of the post in April 1853 was between seven and eleven. With HS 2 completed, there were quarters

31. Ibid., Wallace to Jesup, July 24, 1847; and "Muster Rolls of Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates . . . on Extra Duty . . . July 1848."

32. Ibid., Wallace to [Jesup?], Mar. 16, 1848, with plan of Fort Scott.

33. Ibid., Wallace last mentioned it in a report to Jesup, Sep. 9, 1848, when its status was apparently the same as in March.
for eight officers with families. Even assuming that some of the officers were bachelors, HS 2 was probably much in demand during the last six months of military occupancy.

The Army's advertisement offering the house for sale in 1855 described it as being identical to HS 1. However, the reported sale price was only $300, as contrasted to $500 for the other. This was the lowest price received for any of the officers quarters; but why it was lower is unknown.

Hiero Wilson, the former post sutler, was the purchaser of the house. In the 1850's and at least the early '60's, he retained only one-half the building for his family, while Samuel Williams lived in the other half. Wilson, who was a slave owner, apparently was considered to be sympathetic to the South's cause during the period of Bleeding Kansas. When James Montgomery raided the town on December 16, 1858, to free Benjamin Rice, Montgomery's men surrounded Wilson's house as well as its neighbor, the Fort Scott Hotel. The paper reported that "Col. Wilson, one of our leading merchants, with his wife and servant man were the first that were taken. They were marched into 'the prisoner's wing' -- a circle formed . . . by about 20 of these ruffians." Other than the scare, the Wilson family suffered no harm.

Wilson, like other early settlers, found it possible to make

34. Fort Scott Democrat, Dec. 23, 1858.
whatever philosophical adjustments necessary to accommodate the growing Union sentiment at Fort Scott on the eve of the Civil War. Throughout the war, his family maintained its residence in Officers Quarters No. 2. When Price's army caused the townspeople to flee in panic in the fall of 1861, Mrs. Wilson was one of only four women to remain. Her presence undoubtedly saved her half of the quarters from the looters.35

Williams' half of the building was occupied by officers of the Union forces. He may have voluntarily given over his residence, or the officers may have acquired it at the time of the looting incident. At the same time Price was marching past, a Union officer, Joseph H. Trego, wrote his wife:

Col. [James] Montgomery, Adjt [Casimio B.] Zulasky, Chaplain [H.H.] Moore, Capt Jewel & [Henry C.] Seaman, Lieuts Trego & [Orin C.] Morse, (I forgot to mention Capt Flint) with four soldiers as servants and a contraband wench for cook are occupying the house where Mr. Williams was living. The parlor and one bed room are richly furnished, fine paintings & engravings on the walls, spring bottom sofa, divan, chairs, etc. A good piano which Zoulasky is now amusing himself with. Preserves and jellies, magazines and book[s] and everything we want are here, so you see we are living high at present.36

How long these temporary occupants continued to live high was not recorded. Not until a decade later does Quarters No. 2 again

35. Ibid., Sep. 21, 1861.

enter the historical record. In 1873, Hiero Wilson put an advertisement in the local newspaper offering what appears to have been only one-half of HS 2 for sale:

My residence on the Plaza, a well arranged house, conveniently located for business men. The house contains six rooms, ten closets, three halls, porches front and rear, a good cistern and out-houses, with gardens attached -- near two acres, handsomely improved -- a geneeal [sic] variety of fruit trees, shrubbery, evergreens, etc, in fact one of the finest gardens in Southern Kansas.37

The outcome of Wilson's offer is not known; local tradition is that he lived in this house until his death in 1892.38 Not long after Wilson died, his long-time friend and associate, Charles Goodlander, acquired the property. In 1901, Goodlander deeded one-half of the structure to the Goodlander home for children. The Home then bought the other half and maintained the institution until 1955. During this period, the interior of the building underwent extensive remodeling but continued to retain its basic structural layout.

In 1955, the Fort Scott Business and Professional Women's Club leased the building and today occupies the ground floor as a club-room. The two upper floors are unoccupied.

Today, the principal changes to the exterior of the quarters

38. Fort Scott Tribune, Sep. 4, 1959. Previously, I reported that Wilson died in 1898; but a check of his tombstone shows the dates 1806-1892.
include an iron fire escape leading from the top floor on the east end, an elegant iron balcony on the main floor at the east end, and on the back of the building a long, one-story, brick ell. Stone walls enclose the west and north sides of the backyard, but there's no visible evidence of a wall on the east side. All that is left of the sheds and latrines shown on the 1848 plan is the small stone structure discussed under HS 1.

Interior modifications include the presence of wall-board throughout the building, leaving evidence of plaster only in the vicinity of fireplaces. Two bathrooms were installed on the top floor. All the stairs are today located at the rear of the halls. No investigations have been made to determine if, like HS 1, they were originally in the middle of the halls. The double fireplaces and massive chimney in the front of the house have been removed, the spaces now marked with simple mantels or closets.

HS 3 and HS 4, Officers Quarters No. 3 and No. 4
The structural history of these two quarters during the military period cannot be separated in that the evidence does not disclose which of the two was first constructed. The problem is somewhat mitigated in that the structures were identical. Their plans show them to be the same as HS 1 except that they both (like HS 2) had four dormer windows on the fronts and backs of the upper floors, whereas HS 1 had only two.
In his first annual report, October 1843, Quartermaster Swords said that he had finished the foundation walls for both structures.\(^{39}\)

One year later the word went up that one of the two buildings, suitable "for a Captain and two lieutenants or two Captains," had been covered in and was nearly ready for plastering. It would be ready for occupancy by Christmas.\(^{40}\) Although Swords was fighting the usual problems of low water and breakdowns of the sawmill, he was able to report at the end of 1844 that the materials were finally ready for the completion of the third block of quarters.\(^{41}\)

Construction progressed throughout 1845, and in October Swords could say that one of the two was completed except for the floors on the porches, while the other was ready for plastering. He predicted that the latter would be completed in two months. Again, construction reports fell off from then on because of the Mexican War. Nevertheless, it is probable that both HS 3 and HS 4 were ready for occupancy by the spring of 1846. In any case, the 1848 plan shows them completed.\(^{42}\)

\(^{39}\) NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to Jesup, Oct. 1, 1843.

\(^{40}\) Ibid., Graham to Turner, Sep. 7, and Swords to Jesup, Oct. 1, 1844.


\(^{42}\) Their completion is confirmed by NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Wallace to Jesup, Sep. 9, 1848.
HS 3, Officers Quarters No. 3.

When the Army sold this structure in 1855, it brought in the highest price of any of the four blocks, $505. A Mr. E. Greenwood was the purchaser. When Goodlander arrived at Fort Scott in 1858, the structure was occupied as residences by Alex. McDonald and Epaphroditus Ransom, the latter dying the next year. 43

Gov. Samuel Medary visited Fort Scott in 1859. He was so struck with the town that he arranged to purchase HS 3 the next year. 44 The governor never lived in the house himself, but his son-in-law Charles Blair, already a citizen of Fort Scott, did move into the building. An attorney who had quickly won the esteem of his fellow townsmen, Blair entered the Volunteers early in the Civil War. From April 1863 to November 1864, he served as commanding officer of the military establishment at Fort Scott. It is probable that he lived in his own home, Quarters No. 3, during that period. Blair House, as the residence was called, undoubtedly reflected the colonel's high standing in the community.

Sometime between 1864 and 1869, Blair left Fort Scott. By December 1869, G. W. Webb had opened a boarding house in the west half of the residence. He advertised "excellent board at a reasonable price," saying that his establishment contained "a number of

43. Goodlander, illustration between pp. 6 and 7; Fort Scott Democrat, Nov. 17, 1859.

44. Fort Scott Democrat, Aug. 11, 1860.
large, well ventilated rooms, making the very best sleeping apart-
ments." Quarters No. 3 was torn down about 1900. Today another
frame house stands on the site, covering whatever traces of the
original structure that might still exist.

HS 4, Officers Quarters No. 4.

The Army sold this structure in 1855 to J. Mitchell for the
sum of $450. When Goodlander first saw it in 1858, it was occupied
by George Clarke and Willis Ransom. 46

George Clarke, a leader of the pro-slavery forces in the area
during the late 1850's, was the cause for a moment of excitement in
the structure's history. It was he whom Deputy U.S. Marshal Samuel
Walker came to arrest in May 1858. A part of Walker's posse sur-
rounded the quarters and prepared to enter forcibly. At the criti-
cal moment, Walker discovered that Clarke was standing on the steps
of the Fort Scott Hotel. The armed men left Clarke's house and ar-
ested him where he waited. 47

It was possibly this same Clarke who, a few years later, royally
entertained Union officers in his residence when he held a masquerade
ball during the Civil War. 48 If so, then he, like Hiero Wilson, had
not found it impossible to support the Union cause when the bullets
began to fly.

46. Goodlander, illustration between pp. 6 and 7.
47. Wilder, p. 236.
Little is known about the structure in the post-Civil War years. Dr. and Mrs. Short operated a boarding house along officers row in the 1870's. Since the Fort Scott Hotel was still in being in HS 1, Wilson was still living in HS 2, and Webb had his boarding house in HS 3, Dr. Short's boarding house possibly was housed in HS 4. About 1900, the building was remodeled and divided into apartments. Then, in 1945, fire destroyed its eastern half. The surviving portion was remodeled further, including its dormer windows, additions to the rear, concrete steps and iron balustrades in front. Because it has been occupied as an apartment house, the condition of the interior is unknown. Upkeep of the exterior has been noticeably poor.

49. Other possibilities for Short were the east half of HS 3 or the half of HS 2 not occupied by Wilson.
HS 5, Enlisted Barracks

When Capt. Thomas Swords arrived at Fort Scott in 1842, there were two companies of dragoons at the new post. Knowing that one company of infantry was due, Swords planned three barracks, two for the dragoons to be located on the east and west sides of the parade ground, and one for the infantry to be situated on the south side of the parade, next to the hospital.

In December he outlined his general plan for the barracks. On the exterior they would be somewhat similar in appearance to the officers quarters, being framed and weatherboarded and having an above-ground basement. A 10-foot verandah across the front of the main floor, supported by six pillars, was also similar to the officers quarters; however, it had but one flight of stairs in the center as contrasted to two flights at the extremities of the officers quarters. The dimensions of each of the three barracks were 65 feet by 32 1/2 feet.

Swords wrote that the ceilings of the basements of all barracks would be 10 feet high, and that the basements would serve as "cook and mess rooms, store rooms for company clothing, etc. and rooms for laundresses." Altogether there were six rooms on this floor. The
main floor, containing the squad rooms, would have twelve foot ceilings. The 1848 plan shows HS 5 as having two squad rooms separated by a hall and a small room. The hall opened onto the porch. The small room possibly served as an orderly room and sergeants' quarters. The chimneys and fireplaces were located at both ends of the structure.¹

By the fall of 1843, this barracks was "under roof," but Company A, 1st Dragoons, did not move into its new home until May, 1844.²

Two months later, Col. George Croghan, one of the Army's two Inspectors General, visited Fort Scott and carefully examined the new barracks. While he decided that the interior arrangement was good, he noted that neither the bunks nor the arms racks had yet been built.³ The quartermaster noted in October 1845 that this barracks still did not have its permanent flooring.⁴ By 1848, the main

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¹. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to the QMG, Dec. 16, 1842; Kansas Weekly Herald, Leavenworth, Mar. 9, 1855.
². Ibid., Swords to Jesup, Oct. 1, 1843; Graham to Lt. H. S. Turner, Sep. 7, 1844.
⁴. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to Stanton, Oct. 1, 1845. The temporary floors consisted of loose boards. Permanent flooring was waiting on seasoned lumber.
floor had its permanent boards at last, but the ground level was still temporary. Also still missing in 1848 were the bunks that Croghan had discussed four years earlier. The post quartermaster now requested that he be allowed to hire a joiner to build them.5

After the Mexican War, the Army increased the number of men per company. This caused a small flurry of correspondence at Fort Scott because the barracks had been designed for the 50 men of the pre-war dragoon company. There was enough space for the moment, but should another company be added, Fort Scott would need a fourth barracks. In the end, no additional structures were erected although the three barracks were well filled with the arrival of two companies of Mounted Riflemen toward the end of the fort's existence.6

During the early town period, HS 5 served a number of public uses -- in contrast to the officers quarters' continuing use as residences. The most important business in the building was the U. S. Land Office, located on the main (or second) floor.7 For a

5. Ibid., Wallace to [Jesup?], Mar. 16, 1848.

6. Ibid., Wallace to Jesup, Sep. 9, 1848; Burbank to Jesup, Sep. 14, 1852. "The company quarters were built to accommodate fifty men, but I suppose room might be found in each set of quarters for sixty or seventy men."

7. Goodlander, pp. 9 and 42.
short time the post office shared the main floor with the Land Office. There is a possibility too that the first issues of the Fort Scott Democrat, the town's first newspaper, were published on this floor. 8

In the basement floor, D. W. Johnson opened a wine and liquor store around 1858. One of his neighbors was R. Blackett, who established a tailor shop in the southeast corner. Also located on this floor for a short time was an attorney named John C. Sims. 9 By 1859, a portion of the basement floor had been converted into the Ashland Saloon under the management of a Mr. Rashe who offered his customers "fresh oysters and choice game." In 1860 he changed his establishment's name to U. S. Land Office Saloon and announced the fact by hanging an immense sign on the west side of the building. Rashe sold his equipment and furniture in February 1861 and moved to Kansas City. Whether or not a new management continued to operate a saloon in this building is unknown. 10 One other office was established somewhere in the barracks in the fall of 1859 when Dr. John S. Redfield, Physician, rented a room there as a place of work. 11

8. Ralph Richards, "Bourbon County, Kans.," ms; Fort Scott Democrat, Oct. 20, 1859.


10. Fort Scott Democrat, Dec. 15, 1859; Aug. 18, 1860; and Feb. 9, 1861.

11. Ibid., Sep. 22, 1859.
Sometime before the Civil War, the U. S. Land Office moved to a new structure in the town proper. Its old room in the barracks was then converted into a barber shop. Peter Slavens, "a free colored gentleman," was the new proprietor; his pride and joy was "an 8x10 looking glass."\(^\text{12}\)

HS 5 was rented by the Army during the Civil War, but for what purpose has not come to light.\(^\text{13}\) An 1871 lithograph of Fort Scott shows this barracks still standing and apparently in a good state of repair. However, the structure's later history is unknown. The building had disappeared by 1900, when Charles Goodlander identified its site as being then occupied by Brown's lumber yard.\(^\text{14}\) A lumber yard still occupies the site.

**HS 6, Enlisted Barracks**

Also designed as a dragoon barracks, HS 6, as described in the Army's 1855 advertisement and in the 1848 fort plan, appears to have been identical to HS 5. Although Fort Scott began with two companies of dragoons and one of infantry, this ratio was reversed by mid-1843. From then on, HS 6 was occupied by infantry rather than the intended dragoons.

Construction of this barracks did not get well underway until

\(^{12}\) Fort Scott Weekly Monitor, May 15, 1873, reminiscenses by O. Dieffenbach.

\(^{13}\) NA, Cartographic Division, "Map of Fort Scott and Vicinity," Jan. 28, 1863.

\(^{14}\) Goodlander, p. 42.
the fall of 1843. At that time, Swords reported that its frame was ready for raising, "the stone work of the chimneys cut preparatory to being put up, the foundation walls are built, and part of the sashes are made." When Croghan made his inspection in July 1844, the building was on the verge of being ready for occupancy. He noted that Company D, 4th Infantry, would move in that week, although "the quarters will not be completely finished . . . but sufficiently so for comfortable accommodation." Like HS 5, this set of quarters still lacked bunks and permanent flooring on the ground level in 1848.

Unlike the other barracks, HS 6's history disappears with the abandonment of Fort Scott by the Army in 1853. It is known that the Army rented the structure during the Civil War and that it was still standing in 1871. However, its later uses and the date of its demolition are unknown. Today the approximate site of this barracks is occupied by a 2 1/2-story brick house. To the rear of the present structure there are traces of stone foundations and walls; these have not yet been excavated sufficiently to establish patterns. There is also a stone cistern, presently covered

15. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to Jesup, Oct. 1, 1843.
with a huge single slab of native rock. The possibility exists that this cistern dates from Army days, although there is no supporting documentary evidence.

One additional note should be made with regard to HS 6. In the early 1870's, troops were assigned to southwest Kansas to protect railroad construction workers from settlers who believed the railroad was taking their lands. The commanding officer of these troops established his small headquarters at Fort Scott. One of these commanders was Maj. Lewis Merrill, 7th Cavalry, who was at Fort Scott 1870-71. When he received orders transferring him elsewhere, Merrill placed an advertisement in the local newspaper offering his furniture for sale. He informed his readers that they should "inquire at the house of Col. Merrill, east side of Carroll Plaza." At that time six houses besides HS 6 stood on that side of the old parade. Major Merrill might have lived in any one of the seven. 18

HS 7, Enlisted Barracks

Designed from the start to be the infantry barracks, this structure differed slightly in its interior arrangements from the other two. The 1848 plan shows that the two squad rooms on the main floor, one slightly larger than the other, adjoined; while on each

18. Fort Scott Monitor, Mar. 8, 1871
end of the building were two small rooms, probably used as ser­
geants' quarters and the orderly room. Each of these small rooms
had its own fireplace. According to the 1848 Army plan, this
building, like the other barracks had a porch on the front only.
However, the 1871 lithograph discloses what looks very much like
a porch on the rear of the structure as well.

The first note of the construction of HS 7 appears in
Croghan's inspection report of July 1844, in which he stated that
it would be far enough advanced to be occupied by August.¹⁹ This
prediction proved approximately correct; Company C, 4th Infantry,
moved in on September 3. Like the other barracks, this one lacked
permanent flooring and a floor for the verandah for several years.
By 1848, it too was completed except for the flooring in the base­
ment (ground level).

Shortly after the army structures were placed on sale in 1855,
the infantry barracks became the Western Hotel, a rival to the Fort
Scott Hotel across the parade ground. By 1858, the proprietors,
William Linn and J. G. Harris, were advertising regularly that the
building had been "repaired and furnished" as a "FIRST CLASS HOTEL,"
with "good stabling attached."²⁰

¹⁹. NA, RG 108, Document File: Inspections, Headquarters of
the Army, Entry 37, Croghan, inspection report, Fort Scott, July 8,
1844.

²⁰. Fort Scott Democrat, Dec. 23, 1858.
During the troubled year of 1858, pro-southern sympathizers tended to gather at this establishment, and the local citizenry attached to it the tag of Pro-Slavery Hotel. Many believed that the gang that carried out the infamous Marais des Cygnes massacre plotted its crime in this building. Later that summer, a portion of Marshal Walker's posse surrounded the hotel in the search for George Clarke. 21

In June, the hotel again entered the news when Montgomery's band of jayhawkers rode into town and attempted to burn the building. They rolled a wagon of hay next to the structure, set fire to the hay, and dashed out of town firing their weapons. The hay disappeared in flames, but the solid building survived the attack. 22

Within a year, a delicate state of peace came to southeast Kansas, and the Western Hotel renewed its business of catering to the public. The newspaper noted several public dances held in its public rooms; William C. Roscopt set up his "taylor" shop in the building; and the Reverend Mr. Thompson performed a marriage ceremony there. 23

During the Civil War, the Army rented the old barracks and

23. Fort Scott Democrat, July 21 and 28, Sep. 8, and Dec. 15, 1859.
converted it into a ward for the general hospital established at Fort Scott. Little is known of this period except that the hospital was an important one and undoubtedly a considerable number of patients received treatment here.

After the war, the structure resumed its role as the Western Hotel. In the early 1870's, however, after the arrival of the railroad, it faced increasing competition from newer and larger hotels in town. Gradually, it sank to the role of a boarding house. An indication of its decline is the large number of successive owners during these years who attempted to make it a profitable undertaking.²⁴ The character of its advertisements also indicate the decline in its fortunes. In 1869, an article read, "The house is crowded to its utmost capacity, and the proprietors are making ample arrangements for the accommodations of all who may favor their house with a call." In contrast, an 1873 ad announced that "Mr. J. T. Parker ... wishes a few more good boarders. Accommodations first class. Day board, $4 per week. A few boarders can be accommodated with rooms at $5 per week."²⁵


²⁵ Fort Scott Monitor, April 21, 1869, and April 25, 1873.
The various advertisements also give a glimpse of the hotel. In 1867 the proprietor announced that he needed three "dining room girls," offering candidates a wage of $3.50 to $4.00 per week. Although the proprietor of 1870, C. F. Powers, announced in August that it was the "best $2.00 a day house in the West," he was ready to sell it one month later, disclosing that it had 22 rooms.  

This is ten more rooms than is known to have existed in Army days, suggesting the squad rooms may have been sub-divided.

A Fort Scott editor noted a near-disaster that occurred to the structure at the end of 1870: "The floor of the Western House took fire underneath the hearth yesterday and was finally extinguished by tearing up about half the floor. The building had one of those 'narrow escapes' which are so disgusting as itemizers, but so pleasant to property holders." Reduced to the role of a boarding house, "with or without furniture," by the 1870's, HS 7 slipped from the historical record. The date of its demise is unknown. The site is occupied today by a modern brick building.

26. Ibid., Feb. 19, 1867; Aug. 3 and Sep. 18, 1870.

27. Ibid., Dec. 20, 1870.
2. Officers Row about 1900. HS 2 has become a home for boys.
Chapter 3

HOSPITAL, HS B

The Master Plan calls for the restoration of the outward appearance of this once-handsome structure and for the remodeling of its interior to provide modern facilities as an interpretive center.

Swords' plans called for a frame, weather-boarded hospital. Here too he considered the ground floor to be the basement and the upper story to be the main floor. The lower ceiling was nine feet in height, while the main floor had a 13-foot ceiling. The dimensions of the building were about 32 by 48 feet. A 10-foot wide porch ran completely around the main floor of the building. Like the barracks, the basement had six rooms, while the main floor was divided into two wards, separated by a hall and a stairway.

The hospital got early attention from its builders and, by October 1843, Swords was able to report that it was almost ready for occupation but, as usual, lacking flooring. When Croghan gave it a thorough inspection in the summer of 1844, he was well

1. The 1855 advertisement gave the dimensions as 52 by 48 feet, but this seems to be a little too large when the 1848 plan is studied.

2. NA, RG 92, SM Consolidated File, Swords to Jesup, Dec. 16, 1842; Kansas Weekly Herald, Mar. 9, 1855.

3. Ibid., Swords to Jesup, Oct. 1, 1843.
pleased with the structure: "Proper attention is paid to the sick, and every ward room and office are in the neatest possible order. The building is well arranged, and when the floor of the gallery... is laid, the convalescent patient will have a delightful place for exercise." He added, "there is no want of either medical stores or medicines." 4

The permanent flooring was laid before 1848, for in that year the quartermaster noted that all that remained to be done for the structure was the completion of the balustrades and the finishing of two small sets of out-buildings behind the hospital.

When the Army sold the post buildings in 1855, the budding town of Fort Scott purchased the hospital. Even before the deal was completed, the structure was used for public purposes in March that year when it served as a poll for the election of members to the Territorial Council and House of Representatives.5 In these early town years it also served as a meeting hall for itinerant preachers and Methodist circuit riders.6

Other uses were more private in character. According to


5. Elmer Coe, Fort Scott As I Know It (Fort Scott, 1940), p. 13; Richards, "Bourbon County."

Goodlander, J. S. Simms temporarily established his law office in the former doctor's office and indulged in his habit of sleeping during the day on a shelf in a large closet attached to the room. Upstairs, local thespians rehearsed Othello in one of the former wards but, in the end, failed to produce the play. An aftermath of the 1858 crises in the slavery struggle was the creation of Fort Scott's first militia in January 1859. This boisterous group of amateur soldiers also used a former ward as a guardhouse, "where those who were not on guard duty would keep up a pretty lively time all night." 

Early in the Civil War, the Army rented the structure and again used it as a hospital. Eventually, the medical facilities expanded into a general hospital, and the Army rented other nearby buildings to increase the number of beds. This wartime activity caused a setback in local education, for during the year or two preceding the war, the hospital had become Fort Scott's only public school.

Soon after the war, the hospital reverted to its use as a school. In 1870, the local editor in an unsigned series of articles

7. Goodlander, pp. 32-33; Fort Scott Democrat, July 21, 1859.
on education described the structure in considerable detail. This editor was most likely Eugene Ware, Fort Scott's most famous literary light. Because these articles give the most detailed descriptions of any post-military account, they are quoted from at length:

The primary schools are scattered . . . but those of higher grade (four in number) are together, in what is known as the "Plaza Building." This building is the old government hospital. It is grand, gloomy and peculiar; it is grandly peculiar and peculiarly gloomy.

Scraping our feet upon an old piece of wagon tire which had been generously donated by an adjacent blacksmith . . . we entered. On our right was the Secondary School, which we made the object of our visit.

This school room is 20 x 30 feet, floor area. It has twenty-two desks capable of accommodating forty-four scholars, but is obliged to accommodate an average attendance of fifty-five. . . . The ceiling is very low, the room is damp and poorly lighted. The ground on the front side of the building drains toward the building, and in wet weather there is nothing that could prevent the floor from being damp.

The building is surrounded by a double tier of porches, which while they are a benefit to the second floor, are a disadvantage to the lower story. These porches would be an advantage to the lower story if the story was four feet higher in the ceiling and the floor was raised above the ground on a basement . . . it has only four windows when it should have eight of the same size.

The inside of the room . . . desolate in the extreme. Two old fire places, now bricked up, stand out prominently, while the old patches of
broken off plaster, whitewashed over, give the room a quiet, shady, subdued heartbroken demeanor -- a sort of an old government hospital appearance. . . .

The second article in the series continues:

On the lower floor . . . is the Secondary School, taught by Miss Emma Schofield. This school room has the same damp location, low, dingy ceiling and gloomy appearance that the room of Miss Will has [above]. . . . these two rooms constitute the lower floor of the Plaza Public School. Miss Schofield's room is poorly lighted and poorly furnished. The walls have a time-worn appearance, and the porch on the east side is used as a sort of stable.

The stable in the west porch was cleared out and whitewashed, and made into a school room for the superintendent of the school.

Miss Schofield's room is about 20 x 30. It has 26 desks. . . .

The editor recounted his visit to the upstairs rooms in his third article. There was little of descriptive value in this account. It is of interest to note that the high school was on this floor and was located in the northwest side. Even as he wrote, the town was rapidly finishing the construction of a new school building.10

When the white students moved to their new school, Negro children moved into the hospital building and for a number of years the structure continued to serve in this capacity.11 Around 1900, Mrs.


Terry converted the structure into a "bus barn." Today only the heavy timber frame, a few laths, and the stairwell remain of the building. It is now used as a storehouse for a nearby furniture store.
GUARDHOUSE, HS 9, WELL CANOPY HS 15, FLAG POLE HS 16, MAGAZINE HS 17, AND PARADE GROUND

The four structures -- guardhouse, well canopy, flag pole, and magazine -- no longer stand at Fort Scott. The Master Plan provides for their reconstruction as part of the historic scene. In the case of the guardhouse and magazine, this reconstruction will be of the exterior only; thus the two structures will be only shells.

HS 9, Guardhouse

Work on this one-story, stone building did not commence until after October 1, 1844. Inasmuch as this was one of the few buildings made of native limestone, it is especially regrettable that the post quartermaster did not leave a detailed report on it. No reference to the structure appears in the records until Lieutenant Wallace's transmittal of his 1848 fort plan. At that time he showed the guardhouse as completed. It too had a 10-foot porch along the front, lining up with the porches of the hospital and the infantry barracks. This porch was shorter than the others and had only four pillars supporting its roof.

The interior of the building was divided into four rooms,

1. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to Stanton, Oct. 1, 1845.
one of which was further divided into three cells. Although the uses of the rooms were not indicated, they undoubtedly were similar to other guardhouses at other posts. Based on this assumption, the northeast room, being the largest, would have housed the off-duty reliefs of the daily guard mount. This guard room opened into the room containing the three dark cells, in the southeast corner. This room, in turn, opened into what would probably have been the prison room (for drunks and other, less serious cases), in the southwest corner of the structure. The room in the northwest corner, which opened only onto the porch, would undoubtedly have been set aside for the officer of the guard.

When the Army advertised the fort buildings for sale in 1855, its description of the guardhouse was terse, "a stone building, 32 feet square, containing four rooms." Who purchased the building and for what use is unknown. There is a possibility it was acquired by the town prior to the Civil War for use as a jail. However, other evidence suggests that the city did not acquire the guardhouse for that purpose until 1870. In the meantime, the Army

2. Ibid., Wallace to [Jesup?], Mar. 16, 1848.


4. Fort Scott Monitor, Jan. 18, 1870, "The City are about to purchase the old stone house on the corner of the Plaza, for a lock-up."
rented the building during the Civil War and converted it into a part of the general hospital.

The guardhouse was definitely used as the city jail in the post-war years. A photograph taken about then shows it looking much like it was described by the Army. One significant difference is a stone lean-to at the rear of the building that appears in the photograph but not in the Army's plans. It did not make the best of jails: "Escaped -- A couple of prisoners at the calaboose, on Sunday night, getting tired of their enforced restraint, tunneled through some masonry which had been poorly laid in to block up an old window, and took leg-bail."5

Today the site is occupied by a brick building that until recently was the police headquarters and city jail. This more modern structure is unused today, but its yard still serves as a parking area for city-owned vehicles.

HS 15, Well Canopy

The digging of the well toward the north side of the parade ground received a high priority in Swords' plans. By October 1843, he was happy to report that the 65-foot well had been dug, "the whole of it, with the exception of about 5 feet near the surface, having been blasted through successive strata of limestone, slate

5. Ibid., Feb [?], 1870.
and coal."  

Neither Swords nor his successors referred to the construction of the pillared canopy over the top of the well. They probably avoided mentioning it for fear that the quartermaster general would get exercised over its elaborate use of materials at a time when supplies were scarce and budgets low. The first reference to the octagonal canopy was a suggestion of its existence in the 1848 plan of the fort, wherein the well was described as being completed. A sole photograph, taken about 1865, shows the canopy in the background. While this is not a clear picture, it depicts the eight white columns and the low domed roof that architecturally complemented the magazine on the opposite side of the parade. One 1850's description referred to the columns as being Doric in order, another said they were Corinthian.  

In 1870, the local paper reported that this well was the deepest in town. Even then, the newspaper chopped ten feet off it, saying it was 55 feet, "and on examination recently, after being long unused, it was found to contain thirty feet of water." The reporter added that it was "to be cleaned out, a pump inserted, and made to do service again for the public who visit the Plaza."  

6. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to Jesup, Oct. 1, 1843.  
7. Langsdorf, KHQ, 19, 132; Fort Scott Democrat, Dec. 15, 1859.  
Today the well is covered with a concrete cover, and no trace of the original canopy remains.

**HS 16, Flag Pole**

Captain Swords planned to place the flag pole in the center of the parade ground. As late as 1848, however, the pole had not been erected simply because no suitable timber with which to make one had been procured. There is no other reference to the flag pole in the records during the military period. Whether or not a staff was put up in the last years of the fort's existence remains unknown. The town newspaper, in 1861 on the eve of the war, editorialized that a flag pole should be erected on the Plaza.\(^9\)

The 1848 plan shows an unidentified object that had been erected on the south side of the flag pole site. While it is not possible to identify this semi-circular structure with certainty, its location and shape suggest it may have been a sun dial, a not unusual item to be found on Army posts at that time.

**HS 17, Magazine**

The appearance of Fort Scott's magazine indicates clearly that Captain Swords borrowed the concept of its design from the magazine at Fort Leavenworth. Photographs of the two illustrate the striking similarity between them.

\(^9\) Fort Scott Democrat, May 4, 1861.
By October 1843, Swords had built the stone foundation for the structure; and a year later he said that the "fire and ball-proof magazine has been finished except for the tinning of the roof."\(^{10}\) Captain Graham, the post commander, wrote that the walls of the octagonal building were made of brick. He also referred to the "laying of the floor," but did not disclose the kind of material (stone, brick, wood, etc.) that would compose the floor.\(^{11}\)

When the Adjutant General, Roger Jones, learned about the cost of constructing Fort Scott and the cost of the magazine in particular, he wrote the department commander, Col. S. W. Kearny, asking, "Does not this report show that the buildings being erected are too costly -- and more permanent, perhaps, than necessary. Why for ex[ample] build the magazine with brick and cover it with tin?"\(^{12}\) It was a pertinent question, for Fort Scott could not foresee any chance of its being attacked by hostiles. But the thick walls of the magazine had already been built. Swords reported in 1845 that the magazine was finished.\(^{13}\)

Although it was a handsome structure, having a white domed

\(^{10}\) NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to Jesup, Oct. 1, 1843, and Oct. 1, 1844.

\(^{11}\) Ibid., Graham to Turner, Sep. 7, 1844.

\(^{12}\) Ibid., Jones to Kearny, Sep. 24, 1844.

\(^{13}\) Ibid., Swords to Stanton, Oct. 1, 1845.
roof and giving the appearance of being as solid as Gibraltar, the Army could not foresee much civilian use for the building. The 1855 sale advertisement listed the magazine simply by name, without any description. It is not known if anyone purchased the structure and, if so, to what use it may have been put.

During the Civil War, the Army again rented the building, presumably for its original purpose. In 1868, much to the sorrow of the local editor, the magazine disappeared from the parade ground:

The magazine, a very pretty little octagon brick building with thick walls and heavy doors, has been torn down and the material used in other buildings. It may have been more profitable to do this; but we cannot help thinking such things should be left to remind the pioneer of old scenes.  

Today no visible trace of the magazine may be found on the old parade ground.

Parade Ground

The center of post functions, the 350-foot square parade ground continued to serve as the first park for the young city of Fort Scott. In Army days it contained the well, flag pole site, and magazine. The troops laid out two paths that formed a cross, meeting each other at right angles at the well. After the

soldiers left, Fort Scott's first citizen, Hiero Wilson, renamed the parade Carroll Plaza, after one of Maryland's signers of the Declaration of Independence.

The Army planted a number of trees on the parade ground, apparently quite soon after the fort was established. In 1870, an ex-soldier described that in 1843 he was a member of the party that "went over to 'Squire Redfield's and procured locust trees, and set them out in the Plaza." Many of them were still growing when this sergeant visited, "though quite a number have died for want of proper care and attention." Another visitor to Fort Scott wrote in 1858 that the parade ground was "a fine Plaza . . . planted with trees which are of probably eighteen years growth."

In 1859, the paper argued that a fence should be erected around the parade "in order to preserve the grass and the fine growth of trees upon the same." The fence was built before the Civil War, but it apparently did not suffice to protect all the trees. On the eve of the war, the city council directed the planting of additional trees. Further damage was done during the

16. Langsdorf, KHQ, 19, 132.
looting by Union soldiers in the fall of 1861, "Our streets are littered with filth and rubbish; trees torn down, the Plaza fence is going to decay, and desolation prevails generally." The reporter added, "The record of last September will never be forgotten." 19

As Sergeant Zeal observed, some of the original trees survived the war. Although the newspaper now felt that more trees could be planted, and some may have been, it decided that the trees and grass on the parade ground were in much better condition than on other public squares in the town. 20

The 1871 lithograph of the town shows a row of trees around the parade ground, with a second smaller rectangle of trees within it. No trees are shown directly in front of any of the structures facing on the parade. Whether this condition reflects actual fact or artistic license is unknown. Still one other visitor to town, in 1871, wrote that the "large trees standing within the court ... give signs of having been planted many years before." 21

19. Western Volunteer, Apr. 5, 1862.
3. Market Street foreground. Hospital, HS 8, in center. End of infantry barracks, HS 7, is tallest structure extreme left. Post headquarters, HS 11, is beyond tree in upper left. To its right is Officers Quarters No. 1. 1863.
DRAGOON STABLES HS 10, ORDNANCE AND POST HEADQUARTERS HS 11,
QUARTERMASTER STOREROOMS HS 12, QUARTERMASTER STABLES HS 13,
STONE BUILDING HS 30

The first four of these structures are placed together here because the Master Plan calls only for their being outlined on the ground. Site clearing and archeological investigation will be required, but no reconstruction is involved. The stone building HS 30 is also included inasmuch as it stands on the site of the Quartermaster Stables, HS 13, and may have been a part of the original compound of stables, storerooms, and corral.

**HS 10 Dragoon Stables**

Swords first planned two sets of stables, one adjacent to each of the two dragoon barracks, on opposite sides of the parade ground. When the two companies of dragoons were reduced to one in 1843, he decided not to build the second set, on the east side of the parade. Although discussion renewed the idea from time to time, the second set was never built.

HS 10 was a framed and weather-boarded building having doors at either end and in the middle of its west side (the side away from the parade ground). A row of stalls extended along both sides of the structure. According to the 1848 plan there were 68 stalls. Capt. Sidney Burbank recalled that there was stabling for about 80
horses. At the north end of the structure two small rooms, one on either side, bordered the doorway. Three similar rooms were located at the opposite end.

The 1848 plan suggests that a roof overhung the feeding doors along the east side of the building. And the 1871 lithograph suggests that a similar roof extended along the west side. Above the stables a small loft, having a small window in at least the south end, was used to store hay.

By October 1843, the 210-foot structure was "covered and nearly weather-boarded in." When Croghan saw it the next year, he was displeased that the building was in line with the barracks and that it faced directly on the parade. He thought it should have been located behind the barracks and at right angles to it. Although the stable was not yet finished, the dragoons' horses occupied it from November 1843 on. The permanent flooring appears to have been laid by October 1845. But the fort plan of 1848

1. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Burbank to Jesup, Sep. 14, 1852.
2. Ibid., Morrow to Jesup, Feb. 9, 1849.
3. Ibid., Swords to Jesup, Oct. 1, 1843.
4. NA, RG 108, Document File, Inspections, Headquarters of the Army, Croghan, inspection report, Fort Scott, July 8, 1844. A steep cliff behind the dragoon barracks on the west side of the parade would have made Croghan's idea impracticable.
5. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to Stanton, Oct. 1, 1845.
contains the comment, "inside work, stalls etc. not yet commenced."

Like so many other of the structures, the dragoon stable experi-
enced a variety of occupants in its post-military history. As early as 1858, C. F. Drake established a thriving business within its walls. He was a tinsmith and retailer; his stock consisted of cooking and heating stoves, tinware, kettles, and stove pipe.6

When the Confederate troops threatened the town in the fall of 1861, the Union troops at Fort Scott occupied the former stable as a barracks. However, they returned the building to Drake in April 1862.7 Hardly had Drake resumed his business when the Army again took over the building, using two-thirds of it as a warehouse for commissary stores. "It will," said the local editor, "hold a vast amount of hard bread." The Army quickly discovered that the roof needed repair and began to recover it in July 1862. The quartermaster also laid a floor in the building at this time. The structure proved useful in other ways too during those exciting hectic days of the war. The paper reported "a very pleasant party in the Commissary building last Wednesday evening."8

By 1870, the old stable was apparently becoming dilapidated. Plans were made to remove the building and to erect a number of neat

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7. Western Volunteer, April 5, 1862.
cottages on the site. Said the Monitor, "We trust the idea will be carried out; nothing would tend more to beautifying that portion of our city." These plans must have fallen through for, five months later, Check and Benner advertised they had acquired the building and named it the Western Feed and Livery Stable. Not only did they keep horses by the day or week, they offered for sale carriages, buggies, and stock. The site today is occupied partly by a lumber yard and partly by a sheet metal works.

HS 11, Ordnance and Post Headquarters

This frame, weather-boarded, one-story building had two functions: post headquarters and the ordnance storerooms. The structure contained three rooms. The most southerly room contained both the commanding officer's desk and the court martial office. The middle room was divided between more space for the commanding officer and the ordnance storeroom. Although the 1848 post plan does not show partitions in these two rooms, it would seem likely that they were partitioned because of the dual use of each. Furthermore, the 1855 advertisement described the building as having five rooms. The room to the north, having large double doors at

9. Fort Scott Monitor, Sep. 7, 1870

10. Ibid., Feb. 15, 1871.

11. Kansas Weekly Herald, Mar. 9, 1855. The ad refers to the building as the Adjutant's Office.
both ends, was the gun house. Contrary to most other structures, the building did not have a verandah.

By October 1845, the frame for this 32 by 57-foot structure had been erected. The quartermaster considered the building to be completed when he prepared his 1848 map.12 Apparently the structure had other names during military days. The post ordnance sergeant, Phillip Zeal, claimed in 1870 that when he was at Fort Scott, 1842-45, it was known as "the Sergeant's house, from the fact that the Sergeant's office or headquarters were in the building." When the building came up for sale in 1855, ex-Sergeant Zeal, then settled just over the Missouri border, purchased HS 11. He apparently did not live in the building himself, but either rented or resold it.13

In December 1858, the most violent act of the Bleeding Kansas period in Fort Scott occurred around this building. By then, Blake Little was living in it and also had his store there. When James Montgomery and his gang raided the town on December 16, John Little grabbed his gun and went to the doorway to determine what was happening. When one of Montgomery's men attempted to enter, Little fired at him then closed the door. A few minutes later he peered

12. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Swords to Stanton, Oct. 1, 1845.

through the transom above the door and was instantly killed by a jayhawker's bullet.

HS 11 was one of the structures the Army rented at Fort Scott during the Civil War. Apparently, Justice of the Peace Margrave, who is said to have lived in Officers Quarters No. 1 next door, acquired this property about this time. The Monitor referred to it in 1870 as the "old Margrave house." The date the building was removed is unknown. Today a small frame house stands on the site.

**HS 12, Quartermaster Storerooms**

Similar in appearance and size to the ordnance-headquarters building, HS 12 contained four rooms and a short narrow hall, and was said to be 60 by 32 feet. It was one of the first buildings to be completed, being reported as occupied in June 1843. Besides the quartermaster's office, the building contained the quartermaster's storeroom, the subsistence storeroom, and a loft. The fourth room was not identified on the 1848 plan. This was the only building at the post known to have a basement, undoubtedly for the storage of perishables.

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15. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Graham to Turner, Sep. 7, 1844.

Inspector Croghan thought it was a fine storehouse, "sufficiently spacious for a much larger supply." This is one of the few fort buildings that appear not to have been rented by the Army during the Civil War. The 1871 sketch of Fort Scott shows that the building was still standing at that time. Today its site is occupied by a large frame residence.

HS 13, Quartermaster Stables

Although Croghan believed the quartermaster storehouse to be sufficiently large for supplies, he did not mention other activities and facilities for which the post quartermaster was ordinarily responsible: oxen and mules for hauling supplies, wagons, butchering facilities, smithy, forage, etc. The post quartermasters seemed to feel that the structures required for housing these various activities had a low priority in the construction schedule (in contrast to the priority of their own office). For several years they mentioned the need for quartermaster stables, but did not undertake this construction until about 1848. The post plan of that year shows that work had begun on a large enclosed compound east of the quartermaster building. It was labeled "Quartermaster's Stables, Shops, etc."

As proposed in the plan, the interior court could serve as

a corral and work area. On the east side was a stable containing (in the drawing) 21 stalls. The only other identification given was for six small rooms north of the gate on the west side which were listed as corn and oat cribs. At that time work had begun on only this part of the complex and only the frame was up for it. Three larger rooms were planned for the west side south of the gate. The plan does not show the intended use of the long structures on the north and south sides of the compound. According to the scale given, the outside dimensions of the compound would be about 140 by 115 feet.

It appears that work continued on this complex despite the late date in the post's history. Captain Burbank recalled that when he left Fort Scott in the fall of 1848, "the foundation had been laid and the commencement made for another [in addition to the dragoon stable] stable intended for the animals of the Quartermaster's Department." Burbank had no way of knowing if the work was ever completed, but he thought the stable would have been large enough for 60 horses.°° It would appear that work did proceed after Burbank's departure. In February 1849, Quartermaster Morrow, in trying to decide where he could store hay, wrote that some of it could be put in the quartermaster stables, as well as the dragoons'.°°

18. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Burbank to Jesup, Sep. 14, 1852.
19. Ibid., Morrow to Jesup, Feb. 9, 1849.
In the same letter Morrow requested authority to build a hay barn with a shed attached for sheltering oxen. The quartermaster general approved the shed only, providing troop labor performed the work. It is not known if Morrow proceeded with the shed or, if so, if it was located in the quartermaster complex.\(^{20}\)

When the Army offered the buildings for sale in 1855, it listed in a common grouping such quartermaster activities as blacksmith shop, carpenter shop, granaries, root houses, and ice house. While it might be logical for the quartermaster to place all these within the complex, there is no documentary evidence to support the assumption.\(^{21}\)

The Army's 1863 map of Fort Scott, which designated the buildings rented by the military in the Civil War, only muddles any concept of this area. Instead of showing a compound, it depicts five separate structures in a wild disarray of alignment in that area.\(^{22}\) The next chronological evidence, the 1871 sketch of Fort Scott, reverses this process. It shows a neat compound that generally follows the 1848 plan. On the east side is a long building where the quartermaster originally planned the stables. On the west side are two buildings separated by a gateway that

\(^{20}\) Ibid.

\(^{21}\) Kansas Weekly Herald, Mar. 9, 1855.

\(^{22}\) NA, Cartographic Division, Map of Fort Scott and Vicinity, Jan. 28, 1863.
leads into the corral, again as the quartermaster planned. Smaller structures enclose the north and south sides. Because of the remarkable accuracy of the artist's work where it may be checked against documentation, it must be assumed that HS 13 is depicted at least generally accurately. This implies that the 1848 plan was eventually brought to completion.

The site today is covered with a scattering of residences and the stone structure that is discussed next.

**HS 30, Stone Building**

The Master Plan recommends that this old, tall, stone building, about which almost nothing is definitely known, be preserved for the time being. It is difficult to describe this one and one-half, ungainly building with clarity. The stonework is poor enough to suggest that it was done by inexperienced workmen -- such as were present in Army days. The south end is a solid rock wall without any openings. The north end has a large door-like opening in the middle. The west side, which might have been considered the front, has two double windows and a door on the ground level (the double window south of the door adjoins it), and a single opening above, set low above the door. On the east side there is today a door toward the north end and a single opening directly under the eave in about the middle of the wall. The
doorway on this side is evidently a modification of a much wider and higher door that once was located there. The lintel of the former door is still in place, while the space around the smaller door has been filled in with stone.

Several theories have been offered concerning the origins of this structure: 1. That it is a remnant of the old Army quartermaster complex. (It is located so that it could have been in the southwest corner of the quartermaster's 1848 plan for the compound. There is no hint in the military records that any of the original complex was stone.) 2. That No. 1, above, is correct and that this was the blacksmith shop mentioned in the Army's 1855 advertisement. 3. That it is a post-army structure that just happened to be located where it is. 4. That it is typical of the kind of building erected in Missouri, Kansas, and elsewhere for the butchering of beef. The large door allowed for moving animals or carcasses into the building, while the interior was large enough to construct the wheel-axle-pulley arrangement with which to suspend the carcass while it was being butchered. Such a building might have been built by the post quartermaster before 1853 or later by a citizen of the town.

Future archeological and architectural investigations may add support to any or none of these theories.
4. Post hospital, HS 8; magazine, HS 17, with dome; well canopy, HS 15, with white pillars; and Officers Quarters No. 3. Photo taken before 1868.
Lack of written evidence has made it difficult to satisfactorily identify these four structures. The Master Plan calls for their preservation at least temporarily in the hope that additional information will come to light. In that the master planning team based some of its decisions on the statements made in the writer's earlier report on Fort Scott, it seems justified to include here the results of some additional investigation and thought, with the hope that the comments may lead toward decisions covering the eventual disposition of these structures.

HS 14, Bake Shop

The Army records contain only two brief references to the bake shop. On the 1848 plan of the post, it is shown as being located about 25 feet northeast of the quartermaster corral complex (HS 13), with its west wall aligned with the west wall of the latter. The plan contains the brief comment that the bake shop was completed. The small building had two rooms, the larger one containing the oven in its northeast corner. In the 1855 advertisement, the Army described it as "a stone building, 37 feet by 18 feet, containing two rooms."¹

¹ Kansas Weekly Herald, Mar. 9, 1855.
Today a stone building of approximately that size sits on what appears to be the same site. For a good many years the one-story structure has been a residence, having a front porch and fairly-recent frame additions to the rear. The interior is divided into two rooms, as shown on the 1848 plan, their walls and ceilings being plastered. The roof of the building has almost completely decayed, causing extensive damage to this plaster. The wood flooring, however, has remained solid in the main part of the house, thus covering any possible evidence of the oven. There are traces of stone work in the immediate vicinity of the building that, when investigated, may shed further light on the structural history.

HS 31 and HS 33, Stone Structures

These buildings, located behind officers quarters no. 2 and no. 4, have been identified as stables and carriage houses. There would seem to be no doubt but that they were constructed for those purposes. However, the fine construction of their stonework and their large lofts (one reached by an exterior stairway) strongly suggest they were constructed by an affluent civilian society after the Army abandoned Fort Scott in 1853. The military records contain no mention of stables behind officers row. Nor is it thought likely that the quartermaster would have invested so largely in stone carriage houses. In 1848, Quartermaster Wallace rejected the proposal to construct stone quarters
for the commanding officer as being too much more expensive than wood.\(^2\)

Not only does it appear that these stone carriage houses would have been too expensive for the post's extremely limited budget, it is equally unlikely that the quartermaster general would have authorized stables of any kind for the officers quarters. All that the Army guaranteed the officer at that time was a set of quarters. Luxuries such as stables were not considered to be the Army's responsibility.

It is also unlikely that the company-grade officers stationed at Fort Scott, even if there should have been some of independent means, would have invested in the construction of such permanent buildings. Few of them would have counted on an extended stay at the post; a heavy investment in a stone carriage house would have been a complete loss when transfer orders came.

The Army's 1863 map of Fort Scott carefully delineates all structures in the town, including the tiny outhouses behind officers row. It does not show any structures behind HS 2 and HS 4 that could be identified as carriage houses.\(^3\)

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2. The two stone buildings that did exist at that time were essential, authorized structures. Also, their simple design and relatively small size allowed them to be built at reasonable costs. The bake shop was stone because of the danger of fires. The guardhouse was stone for security of prisoners.

3. This map does show a structure behind officers quarters no. 1, then the Fort Scott Hotel. This may have been stables for the hotel, which advertised in 1858 that it had ample stable accommodations. *Fort Scott Democrat*, Dec. 23, 1858.
Three small buildings do appear behind HS 2 and HS 4 in the 1871 sketch of Fort Scott. However they appear to be wooden, and their ridges are oriented north to south, while the present ridges run east to west.

The above assemblage of negative evidence when combined with the absence of supporting evidence, gives reasonable grounds to conclude that the existing structures were erected after 1871. In this line of reasoning, it seems more probable they were erected by well-to-do civilian residents, such as Hiero Wilson in Quarters No. 2.

Although they are fine structures and occupy a space devoid of historic structures, neither building should be considered as having historical associations with the original fort, 1842-53.

HS 33, Scale House?

In 1966 a reputable source informed the writer that the small frame house across Lincoln Avenue from the site of the Army's guardhouse was the oldest civilian house extant in Fort Scott, and that it was originally constructed as a hay scale house. Supporting this in part is a description by C. W. Goodlander of his arrival at Fort Scott in 1858: "I walked . . . across the plaza to the house east of the present calaboose where a saloon was kept by a man named Head. This building had been the wagon scale house for fort purposes."

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4. Goodlander, p. 7
Goodlander's statement that the Army had a scale house cannot be supported by military documentation. In fact, the area east of the guardhouse had long been set aside as the site for an additional dragoon stables should the need ever arise.5

Today the small frame residence on this site has every outward manifestation of a modern house. To the casual eye, its appearance suggests that it is of very recent origin. It seems improbable that the structure has an association with the military post of the 1840's. As soon as architectural historians have examined the structure and confirmed these conclusions, the building should be removed from the category of a historic structure and from the site.

A similar determination should be made concerning another house located diagonally across the same block and facing an unnamed alley. Another local historian has made a similar claim for this much older-appearing house, now sheathed with tin.

5. NA, RG 92, QM Consolidated File, Plan of Fort Scott, 1848.
ADDENDA

STONE STRUCTURE, HS 34

Since the initial study and the master plan were completed, an additional stone structure has been identified at Fort Scott that should be considered, at least temporarily, as possibly having some historical significance.

This small, low, stone building, about 10 by 15 feet, is located a few feet off the east corner of the site of HS 11, the Ordnance-Headquarters building. It gives the appearance of being quite old, but its purpose and history are unknown. In recent years its length has been doubled to about 30 feet by the addition of a frame room of the same width and height. The frame addition should be removed.
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1. Manuscript Material

National Archives. Three groups of records contain pertinent material on the structures at Fort Scott: RG92, Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General; RG98, Records of United States Army Commands; and RG108, Records of the Headquarters of the Army. Cartographic Records had a very useful map of Fort Scott, 1863, showing structures rented by the Army.

Kansas State Historical Society. The Post Returns for Fort Scott were not available at the National Archives, but the Kansas State Historical Society provided them through its microfilm collection.

Fort Scott, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Richards made available the Ralph Richards Papers, including manuscripts concerning the history of Bourbon County.

2. Government Publications

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5. Alignment of band instruments suggests that building in background is Officers Quarters No. 3. Photo thought to have been taken during Civil War.
6. Post hospital, HS 8, from parade ground.
8. From lithograph of Fort Scott, 1871. The post hospital, HS 8, is identified on the original as the public school, while "22" is identified as the first non-military house built in Fort Scott.
9. Modern view of Fort Scott from same angle as 1871 lithograph (above).
10. Magazine at Fort Leavenworth. While generally similar to Fort Scott's magazine, it differs in detail.
FORT SCOTT
APPROXIMATE SITES OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES, AND PRESENT STREET SYSTEM
FORT SCOTT

SITES AND STRUCTURES USED DURING CIVIL WAR
(compiled from written sources)