

Military Records at the South Dakota State Archives - Forts and Posts

Fort Robinson (Nebraska)

Built on the White River in 1874, Camp Robinson provided security for the nearby Red Cloud Agency. Soldiers also guarded the Sidney-Deadwood Trail to the Black Hills and surrounding region. The agency was moved in 1877, but the camp remained and became Fort Robinson in 1878. Fort Robinson remained active for many years, serving as a remount depot and animal training center, then as a prisoner of war camp during World War II. The army abandoned the fort in 1947 and transferred the post to the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture for use as a beef research station. The area became a state park in 1955, and a National Historic Landmark in 1960.

Collections

General Photo Collection - Fort Robinson (P95)

Consists of the following images: a bird's eye view of the fort from 1897; a photo of a sketch of the fort drawn by Lt. W. H. Carter; and a view of the fort from high ground, 0.75 miles to the east, taken in 1903.

Fanny Hoyt McGillicuddy Diary, 1877-1878 (H74-140)

This collection consists of a nineteen-page typescript copy of the diary kept by Fanny McGillicuddy while her husband, Valentine T. McGillicuddy, was stationed at Fort Robinson. Covers April 11, 1877 to October 31, 1878. (Box 03474 A)

U.S. Office of the Adjutant General. Bimonthly Roster of Fort Robinson, 1877 (2016-098)

This series contains a bimonthly muster roll of soldiers at Fort Robinson, Nebraska from April to August 1877. A typical roster page contains the regiment, the colonel, the date, the name of the soldier, information about their enlistment including when, where and by whom, when they were last paid, whether they owed any money on clothing or tobacco and other remarks. The pages appear to be photocopied from the original record. The names of the soldiers are generally arranged alphabetically. (FB 331)

Publications

Buecker, Thomas R. Fort Robinson and the American West, 1874-1899. Lincoln, NE: Nebraska State Historical Society, 1999.

Letter from the Secretary of War to the Chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs: Information in relation to the escape of the Cheyenne Indians from Fort Robinson. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1879.

Schubert, Frank N. Buffalo Soldiers, Braves, and the Brass: The Story of Fort Robinson, Nebraska. Shippensburg, PA: White Mane Publishing Co., 1993.

Schubert, Frank N. Outpost of the Sioux Wars: A History of Fort Robinson. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1995.

Mentions in South Dakota Historical Collections. Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society.

Fort Robinson: Vol. 19, page 481; Vol. 40, page 120-121

Mentions in South Dakota History. Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society.

Camp Robinson: Vol. 17, page 226-230; Vol. 23, page 29-31; Vol. 25, page 98-101, 107-112; Vol. 26, page 2; Vol. 28, page 212; Vol. 30, page 288; Vol. 31, page 191, 197; Vol. 37, page 20, 28-29, 33, 35

Fort Robinson: Vol. 9, page 238, 245; Vol. 21, page 279; Vol. 25, page 83-84, 114-115; Vol. 26, page 27, 42; Vol. 29, page 224; Vol. 34, page 198

Vertical Files

“Fort Robinson”