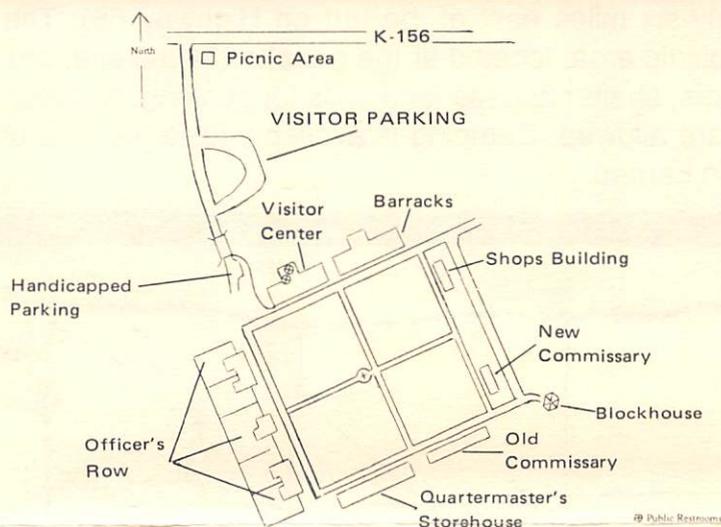
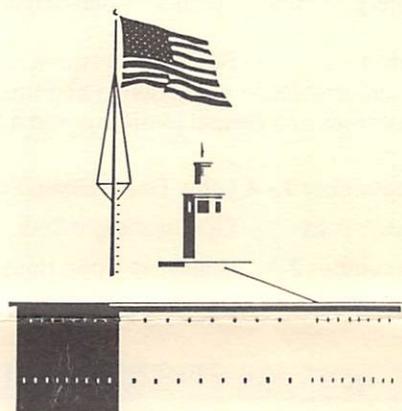


Fort Larned

Fort Larned
National Historic Site
Kansas

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

VISITOR GUIDE



Guardian of the Santa Fe trail from 1859-1878, Fort Larned National Historic Site commemorates the fort's significance as an important military post established to protect travelers and commerce on the Santa Fe Trail. Fort Larned was also a key post during the Indian Wars of the late 1860's and the site of an Indian Agency from 1861-1868. The fort is located six miles west of the city of Larned, Kansas, on Highway K-156.

PLANNING YOUR VISIT

Begin at the visitor center where museum exhibits and a ten minute slide presentation acquaint you with the park and the history of the fort. Next, we invite you to take any one of several intriguing self-guided tours. The choices available include a tour through the ten historic structures of Fort Larned, a one-mile "History Walk" to stage station and corral sites on the eastern edge of the fort, or a visit to a section of native prairie containing original ruts of the Santa Fe Trail. This detached forty-four acre area is located 5 1/2 miles southwest of the fort. Brochures for these tours are available at the information desk. Guided tours are available to school groups and organizations on a reservation basis by writing the park superintendent or calling (316) 285-6911.

FACILITIES

A visitor center contains exhibits, an audio-visual program, and a bookstore operated by Southwest Parks and Monuments Association. Restrooms, a picnic area, and hiking trails are located nearby. There is no camping allowed in the park.

HOURS

Open daily except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Years Day. Summer hours, beginning Memorial Day and continuing through Labor Day, are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and winter hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FEES

Admission fee to Fort Larned National Historic Site is \$1.00 per person, ages 16-61. Golden Eagle Passes entitling free entrance to all National Park Service units (including Fort Larned) for one calendar year are available for \$25.00. The Fort Larned NHS Annual Pass is also available for \$10.00. Golden Age (senior citizens age 62 and over) and Golden Access (handicapped) Passes entitling free lifetime entrance to all National Park Service units are available free of charge to eligible visitors.

1989 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS*

January thru March A series of Winter Programs every Sunday afternoon at 2:00 P.M. These programs will specifically deal with topics related to Fort Larned, Plains Indians, Kansas history, and the National Park System.

April 22 - 24 Buffalo Hunters' Weekend. Living history groups portraying the buffalo hunters of the northern and southern plains will join together at Fort Larned for interpretive programs and demonstrations dealing with buffalo hunting in the nineteenth century.

May 27 - 29 Memorial Day weekend. This weekend will feature a traditional commemoration of the role of the military at Fort Larned. Living history interpretive programs and demonstrations will focus on the importance of the military role at Fort Larned and on the Santa Fe Trail.

July 1 - 4 Santa Fe Trail week. Co-hosted by Fort Larned NHS, the Santa Fe Trail Center and the community of Larned, Kansas, this grand celebration will feature a performance of Indian dances by the Koshare Dancers of La Junta, Colorado, a musical jamboree of Jazz, Bluegrass and Gospel musicians and a traditional Fourth of July picnic and horse race.

September 2 - 4 Labor Day Weekend. This event will commemorate the role of the black soldier on the frontier.

October 21 Fall Candlelight Tour.

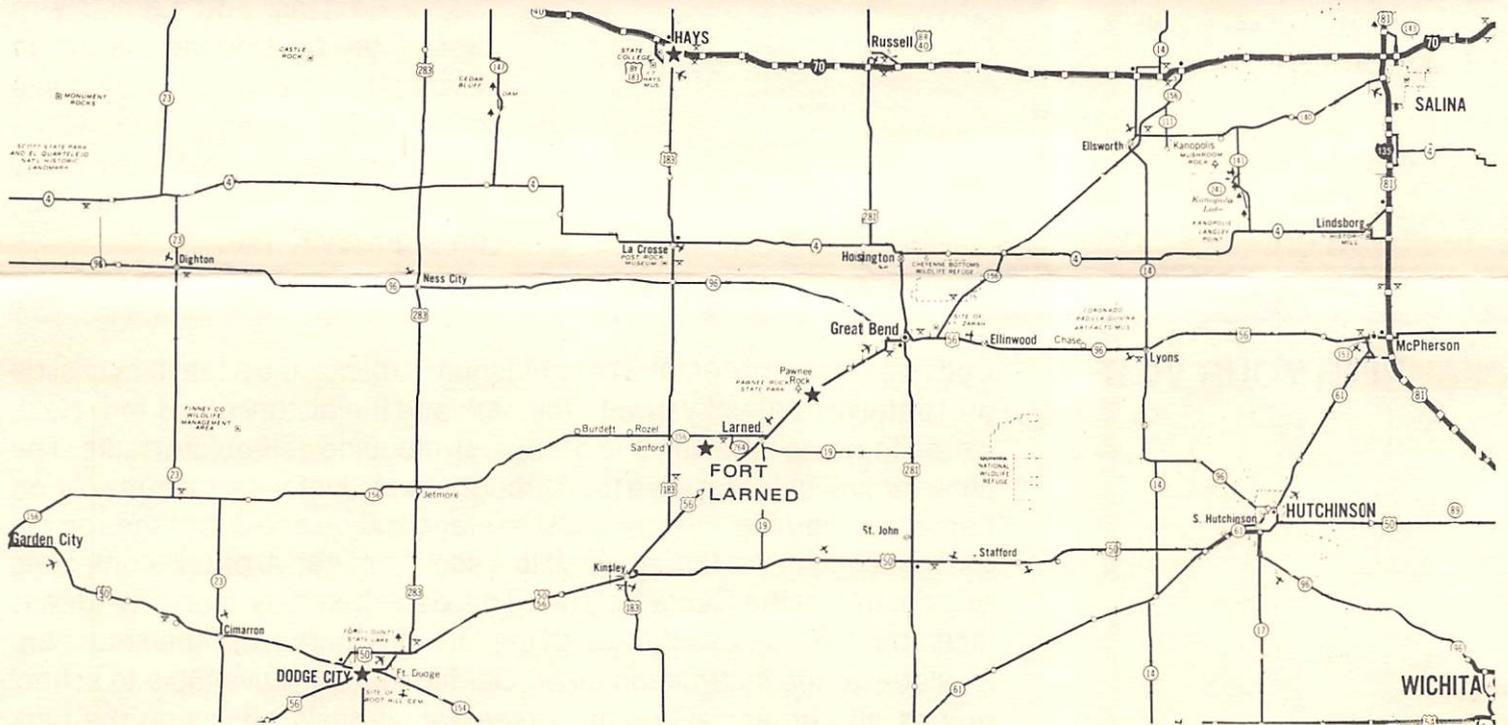
December 2 Christmas Open House.

December 16 Christmas Candlelight Program.

*Programs and Dates are Tentative

ACCOMMODATIONS

Food and lodging are available in nearby Larned and Great Bend, Kansas (twenty-six miles east of the fort on Highway 56). The Fort Larned NHS picnic area, located at the entrance to the site, provides public restrooms, shelter houses, and grills for cooking. No open fires nor camping are allowed. Camping is available for a fee at a private campground in Larned.



OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

Combine your visit to Fort Larned National Historic Site with other places of interest. The Santa Fe Trail Center, a museum that interprets the history of the Santa Fe Trail and the surrounding region, is four miles east of the fort on Highway K-156. Seven miles east of Larned, Kansas, on U.S. Highway 56 is Pawnee Rock State Monument, a familiar natural landmark on the Santa Fe Trail. Fort Dodge and Old Dodge City, the home of Front Street Museum, are sixty-five miles southwest of Larned on Highway 56. Fort Hays State Historic Site, originally a military post established to protect the Smoky Hill Trail, is located near Hays, Kansas fifty-six miles north of Fort Larned on U.S. Highway 183.

FOR YOUR SAFETY



To make your visit a safe one, use caution and common sense. Please observe all "hard hat" and "warning" signs around buildings undergoing restoration or stabilization. Also, please keep children a safe distance from the Pawnee River. A unit of the National Park Service, Fort Larned National Historic Site is administered by a superintendent, whose address is Route 3, Larned, Kansas, 67550.

The printing of this schedule of activities was provided through the courtesy of The First National Bank & Trust Company of Larned, 102 West 6th Street, Larned, Kansas.