

# historic furnishing study

january 1978

## FORT DAVIS

ENLISTED MEN'S BARRACKS  
HB-21



NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE / TEXAS

HISTORIC FURNISHING STUDY  
ENLISTED MEN'S BARRACKS  
HB-21  
FORT DAVIS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

by

A. Berle Clemensen

Denver Service Center  
Historic Preservation Division  
National Park Service  
United States Department of the Interior  
Denver, Colorado

January 1978

## PREFACE

This report is intended to fulfill the requirements for a historic furnishing study of HB-21 at Fort Davis National Historic Site. Its purpose is to provide descriptions and illustrations of furniture, clothing, and accouterments found in a frontier fort barracks inhabited by black cavalry troops during the Indian wars period. The time interval selected for the study, 1880-82, was chosen to coincide with the furnishing date of the commanding officer's quarters and to provide some flexibility in the choice of items found in a barracks. It matters little that the cavalry with its equipment was often absent from the garrison in pursuit of marauding Indians, for the purpose of the study is to present a barracks during occupancy. The 1880-82 time sequence facilitates easier acquisition of standardized barracks furniture which the Army began to standardize and supply in the 1870s. By limiting the terminal date to 1882, one will not encounter the numerous modifications of clothing and accouterments made after that date. Most of those items listed in the report were adopted in the 1872-76 period and were changed little until 1883-84.

Suggestions are made in the report for the location of the furnishings as well as a suggested floor plan (see appendix). These recommendations are offered only as a helpful guide and need not be followed.

I wish to thank the many people who aided research on this project. Superintendent Derek Hambley of Fort Davis National Historic Site and his staff, especially Mary Williams, graciously placed their records at my disposal. Paul Hedren, Historian at Big Hole National Battlefield, provided valuable information. Erwin N. Thompson, Historian with the Historic Preservation Division, lent his extensive bibliographical collection on black military history. Finally, a special thanks to Historian Jerome A. Greene of the Historic Preservation Division who patiently answered questions, provided material from his collection, and directed me to valuable sources.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE . . . . .	iii
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS . . . . .	vii
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
 I. SQUAD ROOM FURNITURE . . . . .	 5
A. Bunks . . . . .	5
B. Bed Sacks . . . . .	10
C. Pillow Sacks . . . . .	13
D. Woolen Blankets . . . . .	13
E. Footlockers . . . . .	15
F. Stoves . . . . .	16
G. Chairs . . . . .	19
H. Tables . . . . .	22
I. Spittoons . . . . .	22
J. Lighting . . . . .	22
K. Arms Rack . . . . .	26
L. Carbine and Pistol . . . . .	31
M. Fire Fighting Equipment . . . . .	31
N. Brooms and Scrubbing Brushes . . . . .	32
O. Water Cooler . . . . .	35
P. Barracks Decoration . . . . .	35
Q. Hook Strip and Clothing Shelves . . . . .	35
 II. THE ENLISTED MEN'S UNIFORM . . . . .	 37
A. Dress Helmet . . . . .	37
B. Campaign Hat . . . . .	41
C. Forage Caps . . . . .	45
D. Cork Helmet . . . . .	47
E. Overcoats . . . . .	49
F. Dress Uniform Coat . . . . .	51
G. Blouse (Fatigue Coat) . . . . .	53
H. Trousers . . . . .	53
I. Shirts . . . . .	55
J. Undershirts . . . . .	57
K. Drawers . . . . .	59
L. Stockings . . . . .	61
M. Boots . . . . .	63
N. Shoes . . . . .	65
O. Gloves . . . . .	66
P. Barracks Bag . . . . .	68

III. CAVALRY ACCOUTERMENTS . . . . .	71
A. Saber Belt . . . . .	71
B. Saber Slings . . . . .	71
C. Saber and Scabbard . . . . .	71
D. Carbine Cartridge Pouch . . . . .	73
E. Cartridge Loops . . . . .	73
F. Pistol Holster . . . . .	73
G. Pistol Cartridge Pouch . . . . .	75
H. Carbine Sling . . . . .	75
I. Spurs . . . . .	75
J. Haversack . . . . .	76
K. Meat Can and Plate Combined . . . . .	76
L. Knife, Fork, and Spoon . . . . .	79
M. Tin Cup . . . . .	79
N. Canteen . . . . .	79
O. Cleaning Material . . . . .	79
IV. FIRST SERGEANT'S ROOM . . . . .	81
A. Living Quarters . . . . .	81
B. Office . . . . .	81
APPENDIX . . . . .	93
BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .	103

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1:	Standard plan for arrangement of bunks . . . . .	6
Figure 2:	The Composite Bunk . . . . .	7
Figure 3:	The Composite Bunk . . . . .	8
Figure 4:	Interior of a barracks at Fort Yellowstone, ca. 1890 . . . . .	11
Figure 5:	Bed and Pillow sacks . . . . .	12
Figure 6:	Blanket . . . . .	14
Figure 7:	Army Cast-Iron Wood Heater No. 2 . . . . .	17
Figure 8:	Army Cast-Iron Wood Heater No. 3 . . . . .	18
Figure 9:	Fort Robinson, Early 1890s . . . . .	20
Figure 10:	1882 Model Barracks chair . . . . .	21
Figure 11:	Drawing of a Squad Room Table . . . . .	23
Figure 12:	Fort Custer, 1895 . . . . .	24
Figure 13:	Fort D. A. Russell, Late 1880s . . . . .	25
Figure 14:	Army Lamp, Two Burner, Pendant . . . . .	27
Figure 15:	Army Lamp, One Burner, Brad . . . . .	28
Figure 16:	Arm Rack for 20 guns . . . . .	30
Figure 17:	Ax . . . . .	32
Figure 18:	Broom and Scrubbing brush . . . . .	34
Figure 19:	1872 Enlisted Man's Helmet . . . . .	38
Figure 20:	Eagle Emblem on front of Model 1872 Dress Helmet . . . . .	39
Figure 21:	Model 1881 Infantry Officer's Dress Helmet . . . . .	42
Figure 22:	1872 Dress Helmet Shell . . . . .	43
Figure 23:	1876 Campaign Hat without Yellow Cord . . . . .	44
Figure 24:	Forage Cap and Summer Helmet . . . . .	46
Figure 25:	Metallic Ornaments for Forage Caps . . . . .	48
Figure 26:	Overcoat . . . . .	50
Figure 27:	Uniform coat for Cavalry Mounted . . . . .	52
Figure 28:	Blouse . . . . .	54
Figure 29:	Trousers for Mounted Troops . . . . .	56
Figure 30:	Undershirt . . . . .	58
Figure 31:	Drawers . . . . .	60
Figure 32:	Wool and Cotton Stockings . . . . .	62
Figure 33:	1876 Model Boot . . . . .	64
Figure 34:	White Berlin Gloves . . . . .	67
Figure 35:	1884 Barracks Bag . . . . .	69
Figure 36:	Cavalry accoutrements . . . . .	72
Figure 37:	Cavalry accoutrements . . . . .	74
Figure 38:	Haversack and Meat Can . . . . .	77
Figure 39:	Haversack, Meat Can, Tin Cup, Knife, Fork, and Spoon . . . . .	78
Figure 40:	Canteen . . . . .	80

## INTRODUCTION

Fort Davis Military Reservation, located in the Davis Mountain range of west Texas, contains the remains of two forts. The first post was founded in 1854, only to be abandoned in 1861. Two years after the Civil War, in 1867, the army returned to reactivate Fort Davis. The deteriorated condition of the original buildings necessitated the construction of a second post which was placed at the mouth of Hospital Canyon. The initial site was in the floor of that canyon.

Construction on the new fort began immediately. In March 1869, however, with only half the proposed structures completed, the Department Quartermaster General ordered that additional work cease. At this point the post consisted of ten sets of officers' quarters and two barracks. (One of these two barracks now houses the visitor center while the other is designated HB-21.)

In 1872 Lt. Colonel W. N. Shaft described the two enlisted men's barracks as adobe structures with shingled roofs. Each building, designed for a company, contained two front rooms, 23 by 83 feet with a 23 by 80 foot dining room and kitchen in the rear. These barracks had dirt floors.<sup>1</sup> Assistant Surgeon Daniel Weisel complained that the dirt floors made the barracks "untidy" and soiled "all articles of clothing in the barracks."<sup>2</sup> This condition was not a permanent feature, for some time between 1873 and 1875 wooden floors were installed in the barracks. An order dated May 12, 1875 indicated the existence of flooring since it stated, "The practice of throwing water upon the floors of barracks and quarters, and scrubbing them with a broom must be discontinued at once."<sup>3</sup> The floors were evidently constructed of 1 x 6-inch tongue and grooved lumber fixed with eight penny nails because an 1883 repair order gave these specifications.<sup>4</sup> Since HB-21 had no ceiling, the joists were visible. This

---

1. "Report on Communications, Buildings, Supplies, and Indians of Fort Davis, Texas," by W. N. Shaft (Lt. Colonel, 24th Infantry), Feb. 24, 1872, RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands, Fort Davis, Letters sent, 1867-81, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 63-146 (1777).

2. "Medical History of the Post" (Fort Davis) by Assistant Surgeon Daniel Weisel, January 1869-1873, p. 12, RG 159, Records of the Inspector General, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-790 (7834).

3. General Order #26, May 12, 1875, Fort Davis, Orders, Circulars, Memoranda, 1867-91, RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 4.

4. "Report of Annual Inspection of Public Buildings, at the Post of Fort Davis, Texas," March 31, 1883, RG 92, Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 63-172 (2082).

condition existed at other Texas forts, for the barracks at Fort Concho, similar in design and size to those at Fort Davis, also had no ceilings.<sup>5</sup>

Much of the history of Fort Davis is a chronicle of black troops and their role in the Indian wars. During the Indian wars period, black regiments were used almost exclusively on the frontier. Most of these men enlisted in the Army to find employment and to better their life. Until 1868 they were recruited almost exclusively from the South. After that date northern cities supplied the bulk of the ranks. The "typical Negro recruit was twenty-three years of age, five feet four inches tall, could not read or write, and worked as a laborer or farmer before enlisting."<sup>6</sup> In 1867 black soldiers, in the form of four companies of the Ninth Cavalry, participated in the reactivation of Fort Davis. The years which followed witnessed the arrival and departure of companies from the other black units. In addition to the Ninth Cavalry these units included the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Infantry and the Tenth Cavalry. If one were to select a company to exemplify these units at the post, it should fall to the one with the greatest longevity--Company H of the Tenth Cavalry which served there for ten years from 1875 to 1885. It cannot be proved, however, that this company inhabited HB-21. If it did, it was for only a short period since the March 1877 medical report stated that Company H had moved from their previous quarters to a new barracks.<sup>7</sup>

Life for the first enlisted men who inhabited HB-21 at this remote post of the Texas frontier must have indeed been miserable. Beside the daily drilling, policing, and fatigue duty, the condition of the barracks did not promote an easy existence, for with only a dirt floor dust covered everything. Winter only added to the burden. On January 28, 1873 the mean temperature for the day was ten degrees below zero. Since the barracks had only one open fireplace as the source of heat at that time, the cold caused a greater number of men to report for sick call.<sup>8</sup>

Off-duty attractions at the post included a band, library, chapel, and school. Since most black enlisted men were illiterate, the school offered them a welcome opportunity to improve themselves. Many took advantage of this

---

5. Marguerita E. Kubela, "History of Fort Concho, Texas," unpublished Master's thesis, University of Texas, Austin, 1936, p. 46.

6. Thomas D. Phillips, "The Negro Regulars: An Examination of Some Aspects of the Army's Negro Policy, 1866-1897," unpublished Masters thesis, University of Wisconsin, 1966, p. 82.

7. Medical Report of March 1877, Fort Davis, RG 159, Records of the Office of the Inspector General, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-790 (7834).

8. Inspection Report, January 31, 1873, Fort Davis Inspection Reports 1872-73, RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 6. This recorded temperature, however, was more the exception than the rule.



occasion to receive some education. Chaplain George G. Mullins, who taught the school, observed that a number of the men showed a remarkable ambition and ability to learn.<sup>9</sup> The lure of Chihuahua, a village just outside the fort's boundary, drew a number of off-duty troops, for there one could partake of gambling, drinking, and the female camp followers. These pursuits often led to violence.<sup>10</sup>

The black units at Fort Davis spent many months in the field as they patrolled the region protecting the communication routes. A major preoccupation involved covering vast areas in search of marauding Indians who moved back and forth across the international border. A return from the rigors of field duty must have made the monotony of garrison life more bearable.

---

9. Chaplain George G. Mullins (25th Infantry), to the Adjutant General, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 905 (8821); Bi-Monthly Inspection Report of Fort Davis, Texas, November 3, 1877, RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands (located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 6.

10. Robert M. Utley, "Special Report on Fort Davis, Texas," June 1960, p. 62, located in the Historic Preservation Division files, Denver, Colorado; Robert M. Utley, "Fort Davis," p. 122, found in John M. Carroll, ed., *The Black Military Experience in the American West* (N.Y.: Liveright, 1971).



## I. SQUAD ROOM FURNITURE

The barracks served as the enlisted men's military home. It provided them with the few comforts available in a bleak existence. HB-21 was designed to house one company of men. Half of a company stayed in each of the barracks' two front rooms. Although evidence has shown that, at times, one company lived in half the barracks, it would seem that furnishing half of HB-21 with equipment for a full company would restrict the flow of visitors and almost double the furnishing expense. As a result it would probably be best to limit the furnishings to the amount for which that half of a barracks was designed--a half company. Since Company H of the Tenth Cavalry, like most cavalry companies of the period, averaged about fifty-five men, approximately twenty-seven to twenty-eight men would have inhabited each front room of HB-21.

This study is focused on the early 1880s (1880-82) to provide some flexibility for furnishing the barracks. Since no interior photographs exist of a barracks at Fort Davis, the major thrust of the study will center on standard army-issued material and comparative photographs of other period barracks. There were certainly some differences between the barracks life of black and white troops, but these variations remain intangible because black enlisted men left no known diaries or descriptions of their army existence.

### A. Bunks

In 1872 a Board on Revision of the Army Regulations adopted a standard plan for the arrangement of bunks in a barracks (Figure 1). Since there are not interior photographs showing the bunk arrangement in HB-21, this standard plan for bunk placement, in a modified form, could be used as a guide. Two bunks were placed together with a larger space before the next two. The two bunks shown at either end of the barracks plan in Figure 1 would not appear in HB-21. Since HB-21 did not have as many windows as the barracks plan shown in Figure 1, a slightly different arrangement around the windows might be necessary. Approximately twenty-seven to twenty-eight bunks would be found in that half of HB-21 slated for furnishing.

For a number of years after the Civil War the army continued to use two-tiered wooden bunks that slept two men per bed. This arrangement proved unsatisfactory. As a result in 1871 the army adopted an iron bunk, called the Composite bunk, which gave each soldier a separate bed (Figures 2 and 3). In the first year 8,666 of these bunks were distributed.<sup>1</sup> They probably arrived at Fort Davis in that year, for Daniel Weisel, the Assistant Surgeon at Fort

---

1. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1872, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1872), p. 142.

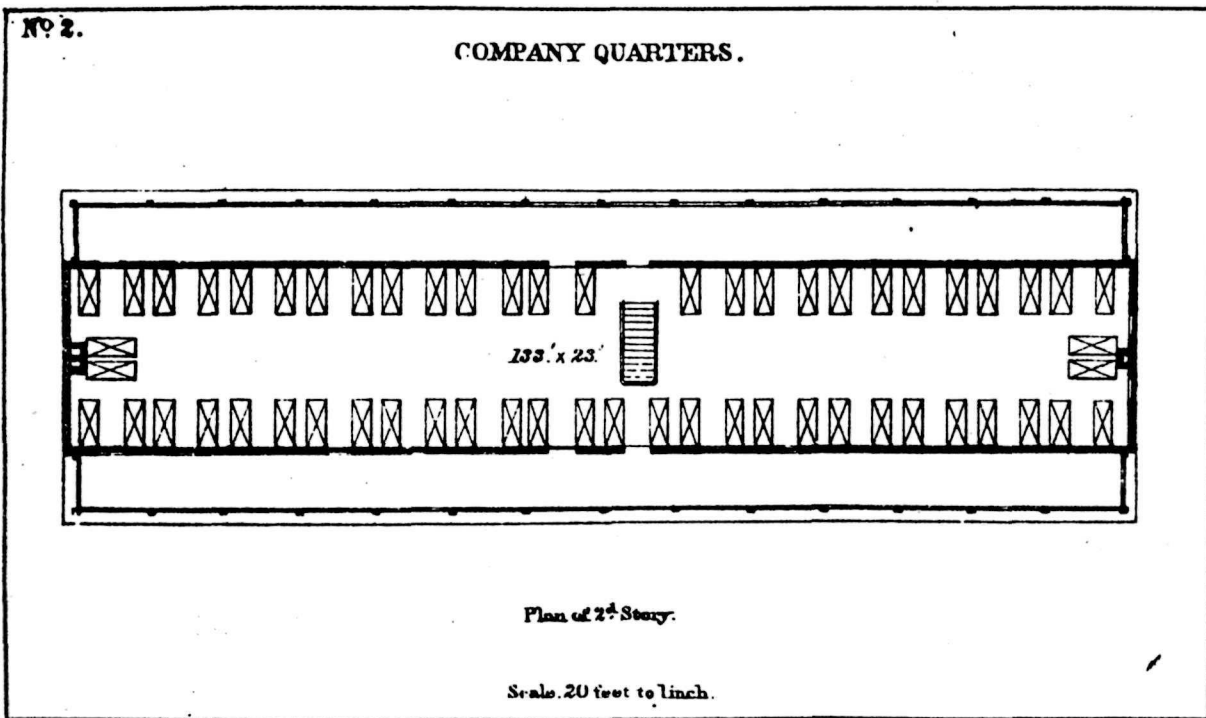


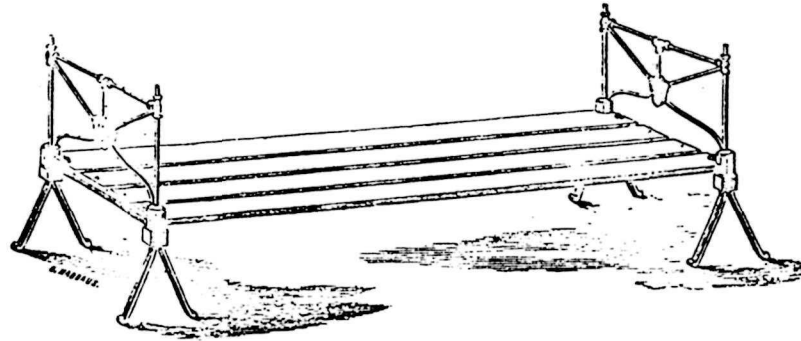
Figure 1  
Standard plan for arrangement of bunks

# THE COMPOSITE BUNK.

Adopted by the Secretary of War, November, 1871, for Use in the Barracks of the United States Army.

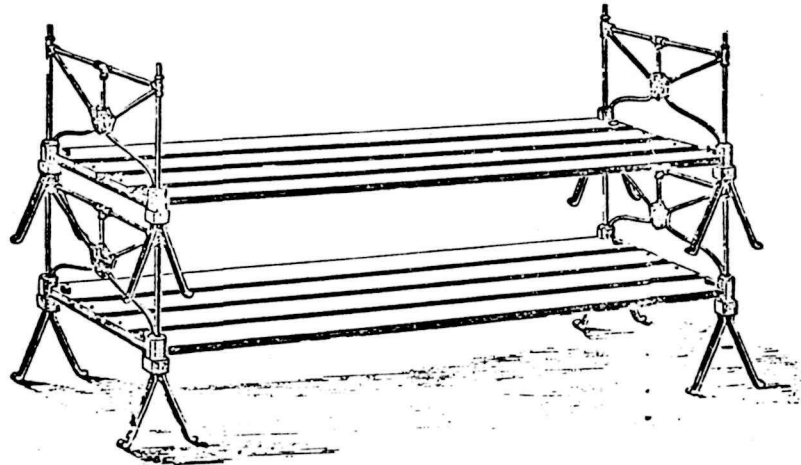
PATENTED, AND DESIGN SECURED BY COPYRIGHT.

No. 9.



Width of Bunk.....3 feet 6 inches.  
Length of wooden Slats....6 feet 10 inches.  
Width of wooden Slats....6 inches.

The Bunk complete with four Wood Slats ready for use; the two outside Slats secured in place by Thumb Nuts.

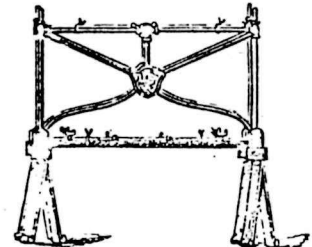
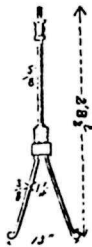
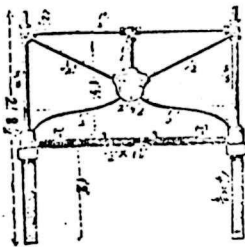


Any number of Bunks may be thus stacked and held securely in place.

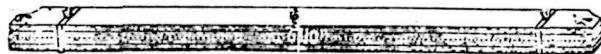
The Bunks Stacked when not in use.

*Holes in Slats for spindles to be 7/8 in diameter; Spindles to receive the wooden slats must be 1 1/4 in height, and 3/4 in diameter.*

Details of exact dimensions of the ends; sizes of iron used.



The two ends wired together ready for transportation.



The four Slats in bundles for transportation.

MANUFACTURED EXCLUSIVELY BY THE COMPOSITE IRON WORKS COMPANY,  
Office and Warerooms, No. 109 Mercer Street, New-York.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1871, by the COMPOSITE IRON WORKS COMPANY, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, D. C.

THE COMPOSITE BUNK

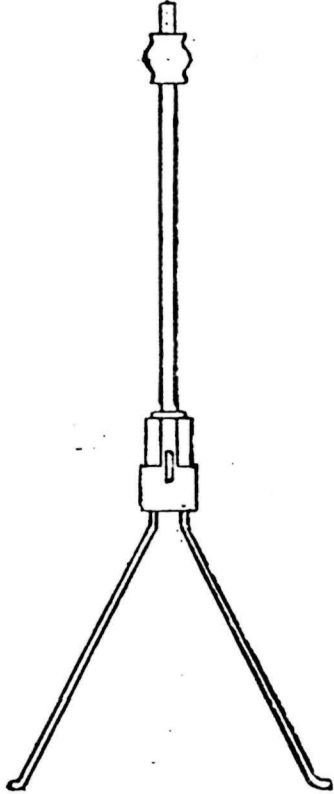
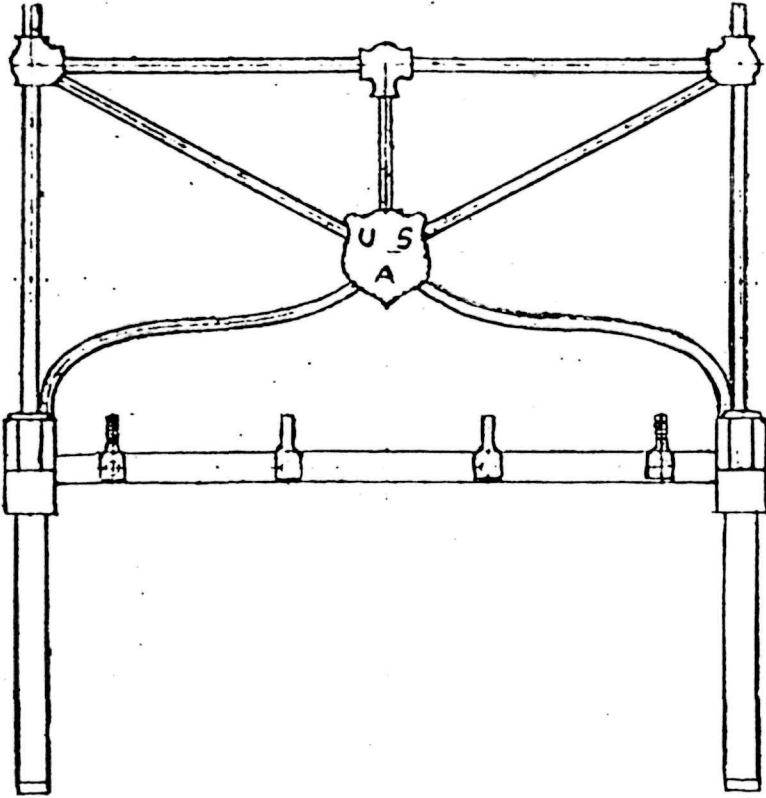


Figure 3


Davis, noted their existence in his medical history. By mid-1875 the army had disposed of nearly all the old two-tiered bunks.<sup>2</sup>

Specifications for the Composite bunk stated:

To consist of two trestles, one for the head, the other for the foot, made of the best quality American wrought iron, and painted.

Each trestle to have four (4) legs, two on each side, made of wrought-iron bars one and one-fourth (1 1/4) inch wide, three-eighths (3/8) of an inch thick, and one (1) foot long, slightly turned up on the bottom.

The two legs on the same side are, at the top, firmly united in a solid iron socket two and one-half (2 1/2) inches long, one and three-fourths (1 3/4) inch broad, one and one-half (1 1/2) inch high, diverging at right angles with the body of the trestle toward the bottom to a distance of from ten (10) to twelve (12) inches.

The same sockets hold also the cross-piece, an iron bar one and one-fourth (1 1/4) inch wide, one-half (1/2) inch thick, and two (2) feet two (2) inches long in the clear. Strongly riveted to this cross-piece are four upright iron pins one-half (1/2) inch thick and about one and one-half (1 1/2) inch high, at equal distances from each other, to receive and hold the slats. The two outer pins have screw-threads with corresponding thumb-nuts for the better security of the slats. On the top of the sockets that connects the cross-piece with the legs in another socket, octagonal, two and one-half (2 1/2) inches high and two (2) inches in diameter, to hold the upper frame; the latter, consisting of two (2) upright iron rods five-eighths (5/8) of an inch thick and about seventeen (17) inches high, an iron rod one-half (1/2) inch thick across the top of the two uprights, and four iron braces, one-half (1/2) inch rods, running diagonally from the four corners of the upper frame and meeting at center in an ornamented iron shield with the letters U.S.A. The two braces running from the upper corners down toward the center are straight; the lower ones are bent thus: . All the rods forming the upper frame are connected with neatly-turned iron sockets. There are to each bunk four slats made of pine, ash, oak, or maple wood, about six (6) feet ten (10) inches long,

---

2. "Medical History of the Post," (Fort Davis), by Assistant Surgeon Daniel Weisel, January 1869-1873, p. 12; "A Report on the Hygiene of the United States Army, with Descriptions of Military Posts," Circular No. 8, War Department, Surgeon General's Office, May 1, 1875 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1875), p. xviii.

six (6) inches wide, the two outside ones one (1) inch, and the two inside ones three-quarters (3/4) of an inch thick. At a distance of one and three-quarters from each end of the slats are holes of sufficient diameter to admit the slat-pins.<sup>3</sup>

Later specifications modified (shortened) the footboard, but since evidence indicates that Fort Davis received the early Composite bunk shown in Figures 2 and 3, these would be the type found in HB-21. Although Composite bunk specifications stated that they were painted, no color was indicated. Evidently, bunks were shipped to a post unpainted where it fell to the discretion of the commander to paint them any color he wished. Occasionally, bunks were painted with white lead, but most often a green color was chosen. As a result the bunks in HB-21 could be either white or green, but most likely green.<sup>4</sup> Each bunk also contained a name tag attached to the footboard.

#### B. Bed Sacks

A bed sack, placed on the bunk slats, provided the enlisted man with a crude mattress. These sacks were filled with straw or hay which was changed monthly. Daniel Weisel's medical history of Fort Davis indicated that hay was used at that post. During the day, bed sacks were folded (G) and not laid over the slats until evening (shown in Figure 4).<sup>5</sup> Specifications for bed sacks (Figure 5) stated:

*Material.*--To be made of cotton or linen drilling, or seven (7) ounce cotton duck of good quality.

*Size.*--Length, six (6) feet ten (10) inches; width, thirty-one and one-quarter (31 1/4) inches (measurement from corner to corner when filled); depth, four and one-half (4 1/2) inches.

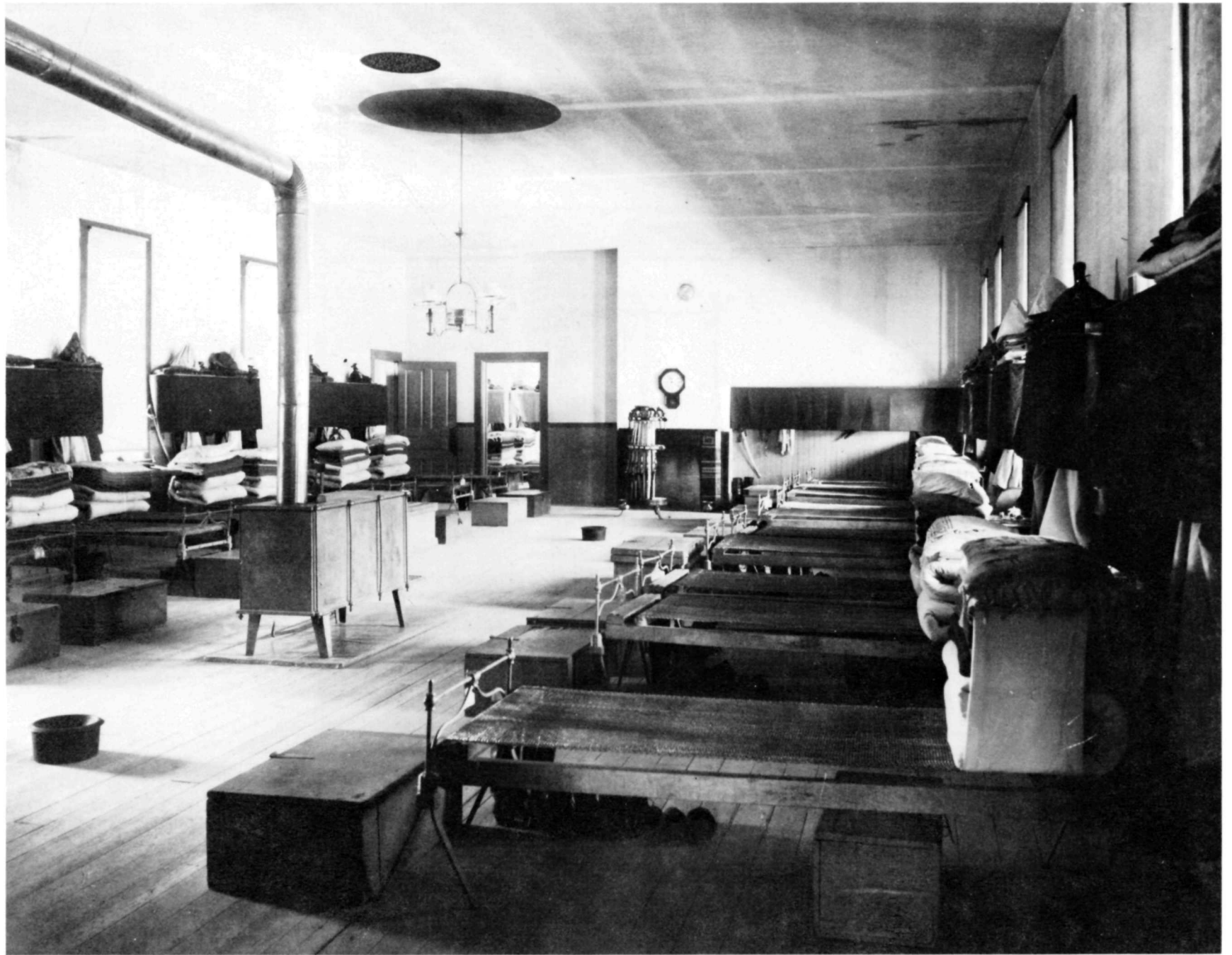
---

3. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), pp. 269-70.

4. Paul L. Hedren, Historian, Big Hole National Battlefield, to Berle Clemensen, November 10, 1976. Historian Hedren used a "Kem Accent Colors" chart for a comparison with the green paint on bunks to which he had access. He found three colors, "Rain Forest Accent 2646," "Imperial Jade Accent 2645," and "Carriage Green Accent 560," most closely matched the green bunk color.

5. Don Rickey, Jr., *Forty Miles a Day on Beans and Hay* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1963), p. 81; "Medical History of the Post," (Fort Davis), by Assistant Surgeon Daniel Weisel, January 1869-1873, p. 12, RG 159, Records of the Office of the Inspector General; "Post Inspection Report" (Fort Davis), Headquarters, Department of Texas, Office, Acting Assistant Inspector General, San Antonio, Texas to the Assistant Adjutant General, Department of Texas, December 15, 1879, RG 159, Records of the Office of the Inspector General, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm 66-790 (7834).





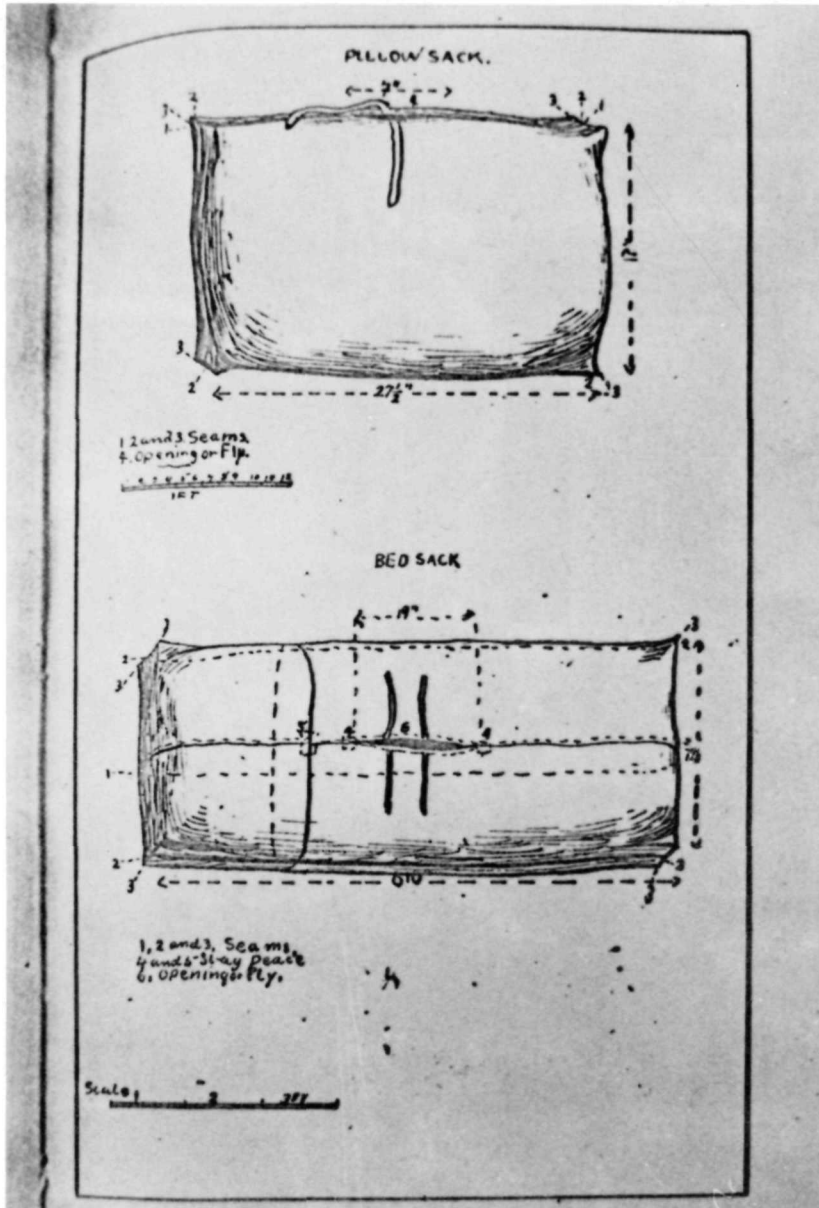


Figure 5

Bed and Pillow Sacks

*Opening.*--To have an opening or fly in the center nineteen (19) inches in length, with one (1) by one and a quarter (1 1/4) inch stay piece at each end; opening fastened with four (4) strings of three-quarter (3/4) inch tape, placed equidistance from each end.

*Finish.*--All seams to be double; ends cut square; openings, button-hole stitched at each end.<sup>6</sup>

For display these bed sacks should be folded in the prescribed manner. One, however, could be left unfolded for visitors to see.

#### C. Pillow Sacks

Pillow sacks issued to enlisted men were similar to the bed sacks. They, too, were filled with hay or straw. No pillow cases were issued. During the day, when bed sacks were folded, a folded blanket was placed on the bed sack and the pillow sack was laid on the blanket. Specifications for the pillow sacks (Figure 5) stated:

*Material.*--To be made of cotton or linen drilling, or seven (7) ounce cotton duck of good quality.

*Dimensions.*--Length, when filled, twenty-seven and one-half (27 1/2) inches; width, when filled, seventeen (17) inches; depth, when filled, three and three fourths (3 3/4) to four (4) inches. Measurement to be made from corner to corner.

To have an opening or fly in the seam in upper side seven (7) inches long, to be fastened with two (2) strings of three-quarters (3/4) inch cotton tape. Ends of opening to be properly stayed with button-hole stitch. Ends of sack to be cut square.<sup>7</sup>

#### D. Woolen Blankets

Each enlisted man received one blanket for his bed. During the day, they were folded and placed atop the folded bed sacks under the pillow sack. Specifications for blankets (Figure 6) stated:

Each blanket to be seven (7) feet long and five (5) feet six (6) inches wide, and to weigh five (5) pounds. To be gray in color, and made of pure long-staple wool, free from shoddy, reworked wool or cotton, or any impure materials; to have the letters "U.S." in dark blue, four (4) inches long, in the center;

---

6. Report of the Quartermaster General, September 30, 1880, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880), p. 408.

7. *Ibid.*

BLANKETS.

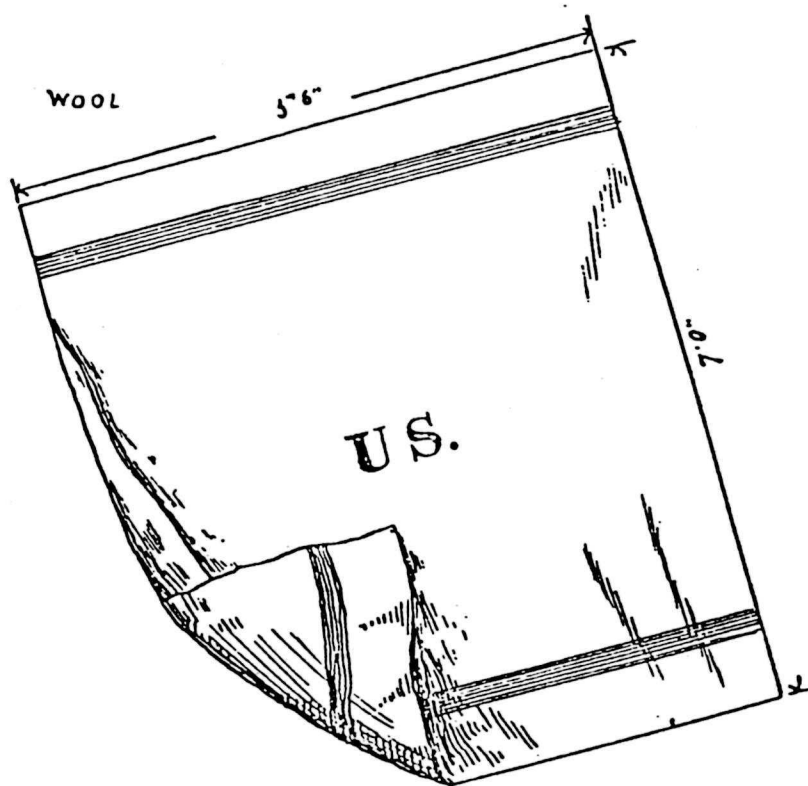


Figure 6

to bear a strain of not less than twenty-five (25) pounds per inch for the warp, and thirty (30) pounds per inch for the woof without tearing, and to have not less than twenty-two (22) threads of warp and twenty-five (25) threads of filling of woof to the inch. The threads to be well driven up. The stripes at ends of blanket to be dark blue, of pure indigo dye.

*Note.*--It is immaterial whether the letters "U.S." be stamped on the blanket or woven into the fabric; their color must be pure indigo dye.<sup>8</sup>

#### E. Footlockers

Footlockers were introduced in the 1870s with the initial standard specifications developed in 1875. A larger model was introduced in the early 1880s, but, since the army did not discard barracks' furnishings when new items were adopted, the earlier footlockers in all likelihood were the type found in HB-21. Although several styles appear together in interior barracks photographs, those shown in Figure 4 appear to be constructed from the 1875 specifications. Located at the foot of each bunk, footlockers were Prussian blue and did not have the letters "U.S." stenciled on them. Since they were considered a permanent part of the barracks, it seems unlikely that they were stenciled with a soldier's name.

Soldiers kept their full dress uniform and extra clothing in their footlockers.<sup>9</sup> For the sake of display, however, this uniform could be placed in an open clothing shelf. Personal effects such as underclothing, stockings, gloves, and any civilian clothing which a man may own would also be kept in the footlocker. A deck of cards, pipe, tobacco, and a family picture could possibly also be found there. Specifications for the 1875 footlockers stated:

The box or locker will be of the following dimensions: length twenty-four (24) inches, breadth twelve (12) inches, height ten (10) inches. To be constructed of pine, three-quarters (3/4) of an inch thick, with iron hinges ten (10) inches in length one and one-half (1 1/2) inches in width, together with suitable staple and hasp. Each man will provide his own padlock. The boxes will be permanent features of the barracks.<sup>10</sup>

---

8. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 269.

9. Rickey, *Forty Miles a Day on Beans and Hay*, p. 124.

10. Report of the Chief of Ordnance, October 9, 1875, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1875), p. 90; General Orders and Circulars, No. 56, April 30, 1875, RG 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1875).

## F. Stoves

Although the original source of heat in HB-21 was a single, open fireplace, stoves were undoubtedly introduced soon after the army adopted standardized heating equipment in 1876. HB-21 contained two stoves as evidenced by the two circular openings in the fireplace chimney. Fort Davis received both the army cast-iron wood heaters No. 2 and No. 3 (Figures 7 and 8). Since coal was unavailable, wood (scrub oak) was the fuel used at Fort Davis.<sup>11</sup> Both of the above stoves were recommended by the Quartermaster General for general army use, especially for heating large rooms. Two of either the No. 2 or No. 3 heaters would be placed at either end of the barracks in the center aisle. Stove pipes, hung by wire from the ceiling joists, would run down the center of the barracks and make a ninety degree turn to connect with holes in the fireplace chimney. Specifications for the No. 2 heater stated:

*Length.*--51.9 inches.

*Width.*--17.8 inches.

*Height.*--24 inches.

*Thickness of iron.*--3/4 inch.

*Thickness of front plate.*--1 inch.

*Height of Legs.*--10 inches.

*Size of door.*--10 x 15 inches.

*Size of pipe.*--7 inches.

The sides of the stove are formed by three plates of equal dimensions, and the same as the end plates; the longest edges of the sides and end plates have a bevel of 45°, which renders any one of them interchangeable with any other, and are fastened at the top and bottom by eight half-inch round iron rods, the top by the knob of the rods, and the bottom by screws.

The door is held by a loose hinge, the base of which is attached to the front plate by screw-bolts; the hinge being loose, the door can be opened and shut without a movable latch.<sup>12</sup>

Specifications for the No. 3 stove stated:

It is the same as the No. 2, except that this stove has two doors and two hearths, and all the upright plates are interchangeable, and the stove-pipe hole is in the middle of the stove. The size of the pipe to be 8 inches.<sup>13</sup>

---

11. "History of Fort Davis," corrected and approved by Lt. Colonel. M. A. Cochran, June 19, 1889, p. 1, RG 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 905 (8821).

12. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1876, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1876), pp. 261-62.

13. *Ibid.*, p. 262.

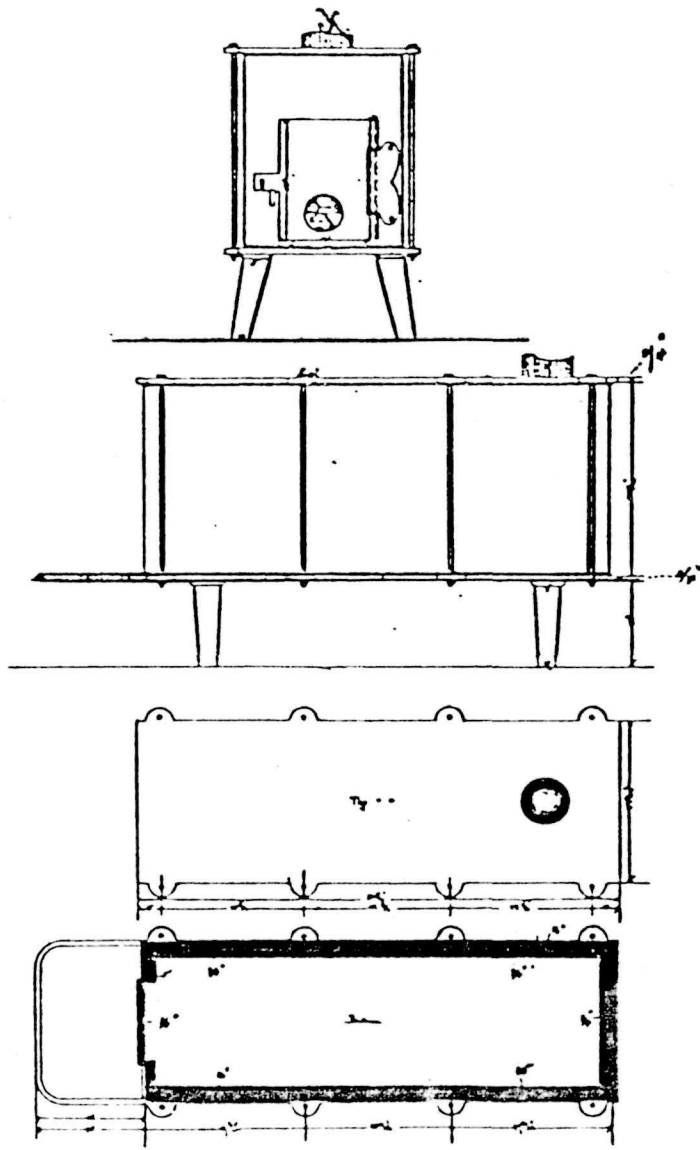


FIGURE 7  
ARMY CAST-IRON WOOD HEATER No. 2

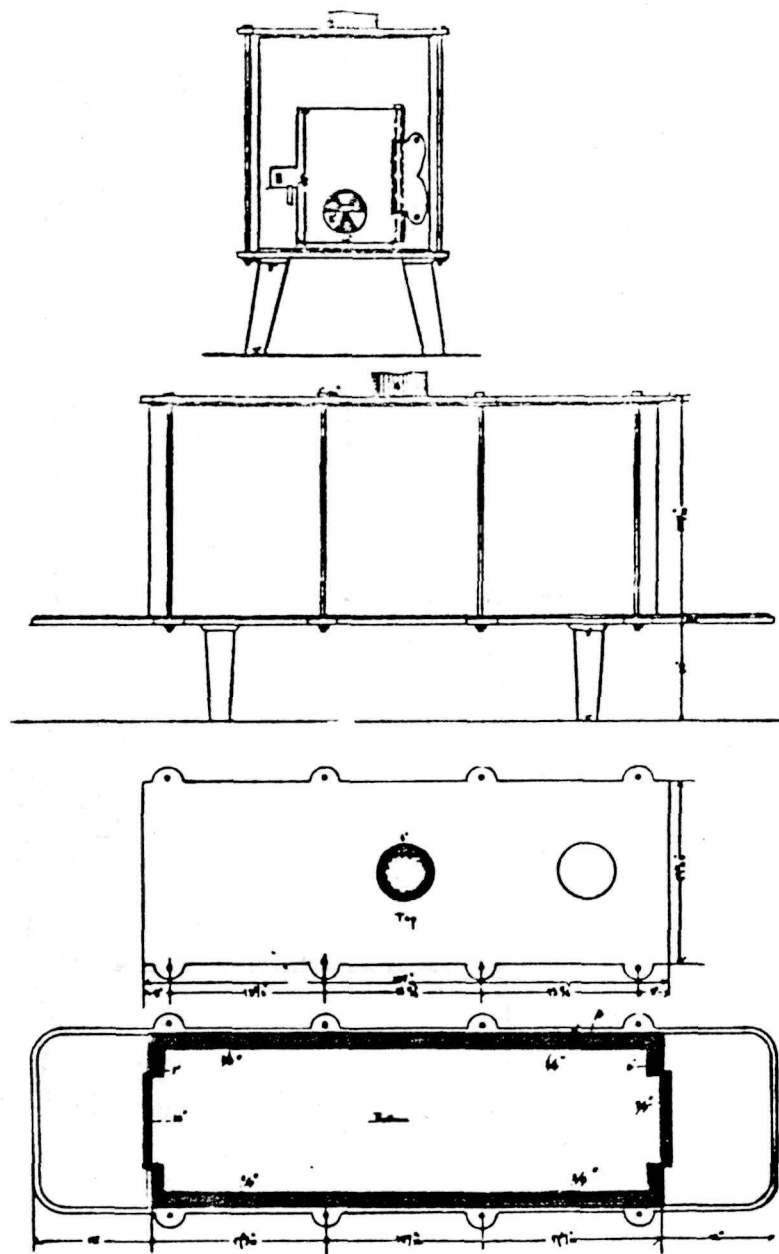


FIGURE 8  
ARMY CAST-IRON WOOD HEATER No. 3



Barracks stoves were usually placed on a sheet of iron or set in a box which contained a layer of sand. A wooden box, probably made from any available lumber or a packing crate, was located in back of the stove to hold the fuel. A poker and ash shovel would be located nearby, perhaps even placed beneath the heater.

#### G. Chairs

Prior to 1878 chairs were not issued by the Quartermaster. If they were not obtained by company funds, soldiers sat on benches, boxes, or bunks. On January 8, 1878 the army adopted a standard barracks chair which was wooden with a wooden molded seat (Figure 9 contains an example). These chairs were issued at the rate of one for each noncommissioned officer above the rank of corporal and one for every two enlisted men of other ranks. Specifications stated:

The chairs to be delivered knocked down, i.e. not put together but packed in crates of convenient size for transport by rail. The seats to be of pine or white wood, concave on top. The rest of the chair of oak, ash, or maple, sound and well seasoned, free from all knots, checks, or imperfections.<sup>14</sup>

Because of rough usage, these chairs tended to become loose and unsteady. As a result instructions were issued on December 23, 1879, to have them braced with iron rods. This order stated:

. . . it is suggested that their defects be remedied by inserting iron rods and nuts of 5/16 inch iron through the arms and screwing them to the seat, and further by connecting, in the same manner, the four legs diagonally . . .<sup>15</sup>

Chairs with rod braces would be the type most probably found in HB-21. If these were not available, and since army-issued chairs were found in a barracks by the period covered in this study, it would be more appropriate to use the 1882 model (Figure 10) than a civilian style chair or no chair.

Based upon the recommended issue rate, the half of HB-21 to be furnished would contain approximately twelve chairs. These could be placed in the center

---

14. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 9, 1878, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1878), pp. 262, 325; "Specifications for Barracks Chairs," January 8, 1878, RG 92, Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General, Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NNMO 74-316 (351).

15. Report of the Quartermaster General, September 30, 1880, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880) p. 381; Circular, December 23, 1879, RG 92, Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General, Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm 74-316 (351).



F<sup>TE</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 9

FORT ROBINSON, EARLY, 1890s (NATIONAL ARCHIVES)

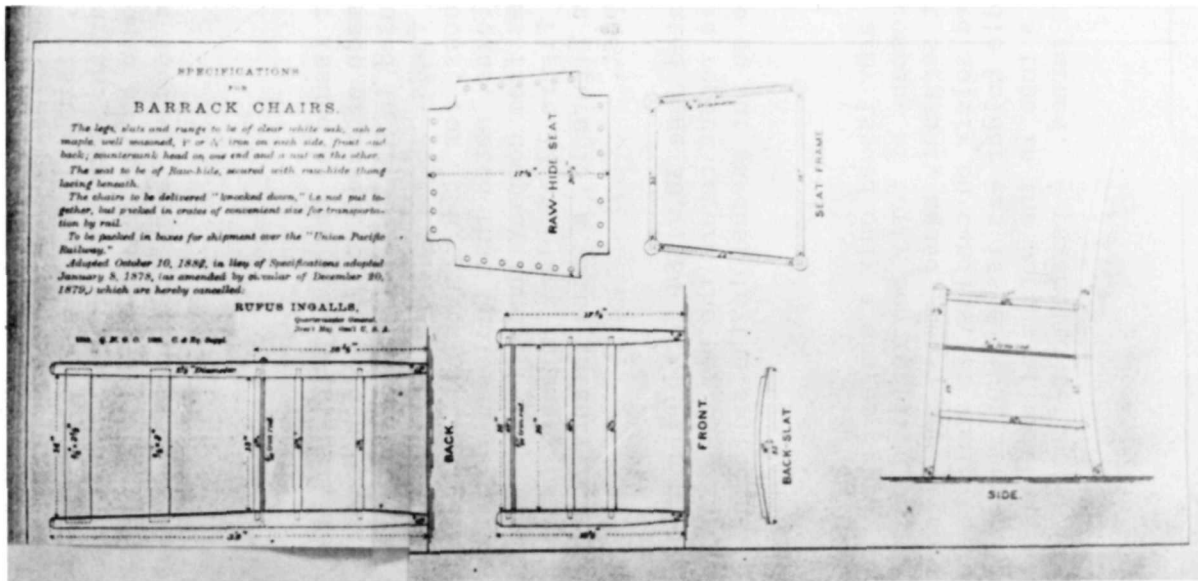


Figure 10

aisle and around a table, as shown in Figure 9, or against the wall in the larger space between two sets of bunks.

#### H. Tables

Tables were not issued by the army, but instead were made at the post by the quartermaster with material either obtained from packing crates or the post sawmill. Those tables, visible in interior photographs of barracks, appear as very simple and utilitarian. The drawing in Figure 11 is similar to most barracks tables and should be the design used to furnish HB-21. One table is sufficient and would be located in the center aisle probably close to a heater for warmth.

#### I. Spittoons

Spittoons were not issued by the army. Instead, they were either purchased with company funds or made of small, crude wooden boxes. No evidence indicates the style of spittoon used in HB-21, but probably several brass ones were purchased with company funds. Some conclusions can be drawn that company funds were used to buy spittoons, for J. R. Smith, the Surgeon and Medical Director for the Department of Texas, noted that "colored regiments expended far more money for non-food items from company funds than white regiments."<sup>16</sup> In addition the spittoons shown in Figure 12, a black Infantry barracks are metal, while those near the table in Figure 13, a white Infantry barracks, are the wooden box style made at the post.

A post circular dated June 30, 1884 forbid the use of sawdust in barracks spittoons.<sup>17</sup> Since this report covers the period prior to that circular, it might be appropriate to put sawdust in the spittoons.

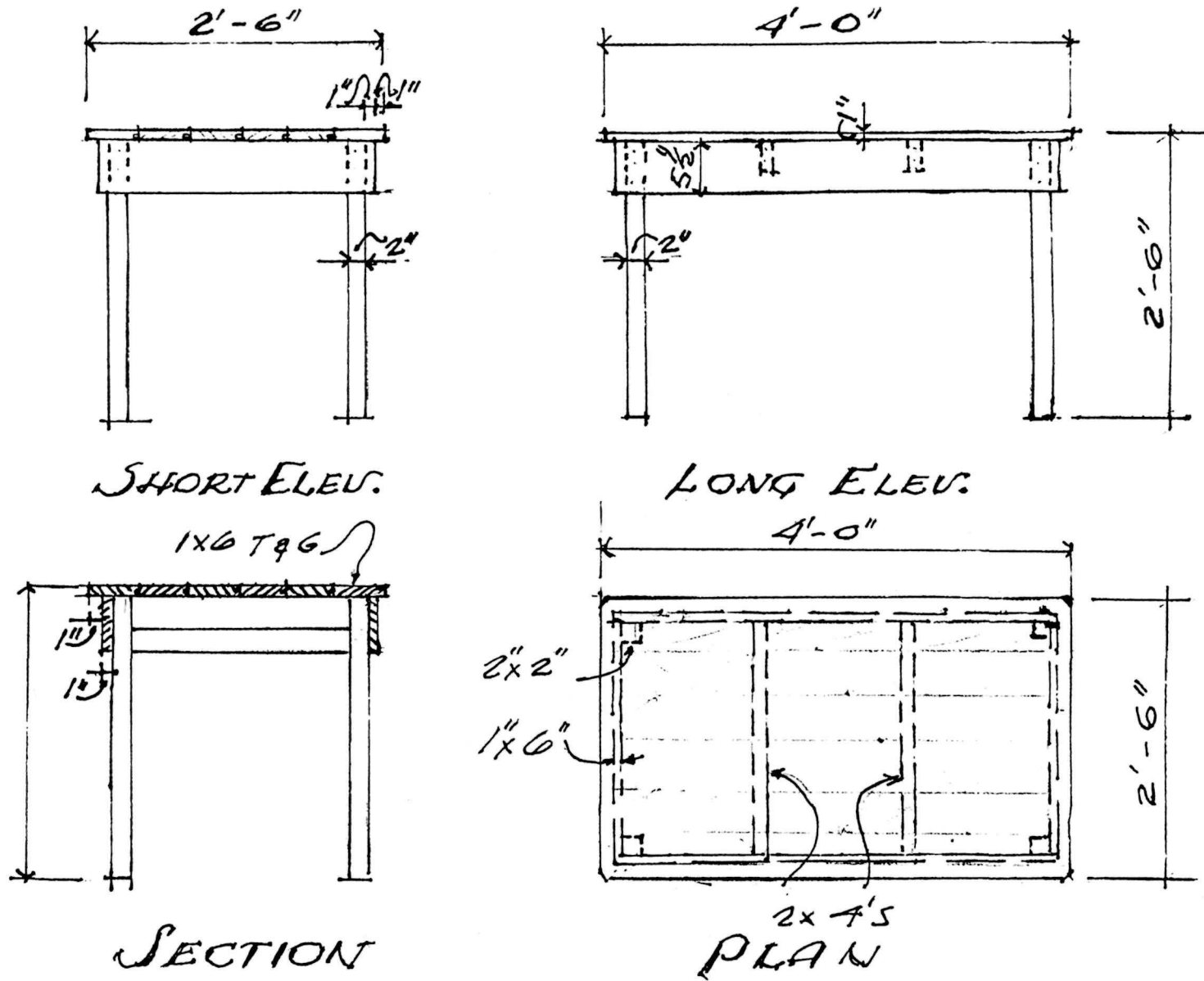
#### J. Lighting

Prior to 1881 the army issued only a meager supply of adamantine candles to light barracks. A company of forty men received only three candles daily to light four rooms (first sergeant, squad, mess, and kitchen rooms). Needless to say, if a company relied solely on candles, it would be left almost in the dark. No specific candle holder was issued, but many companies used a common type. This holder was a tube in the bottom of which was a spring that pushed the candle upward as it burned. A parabolic reflector was attached to the top of the tube.

---

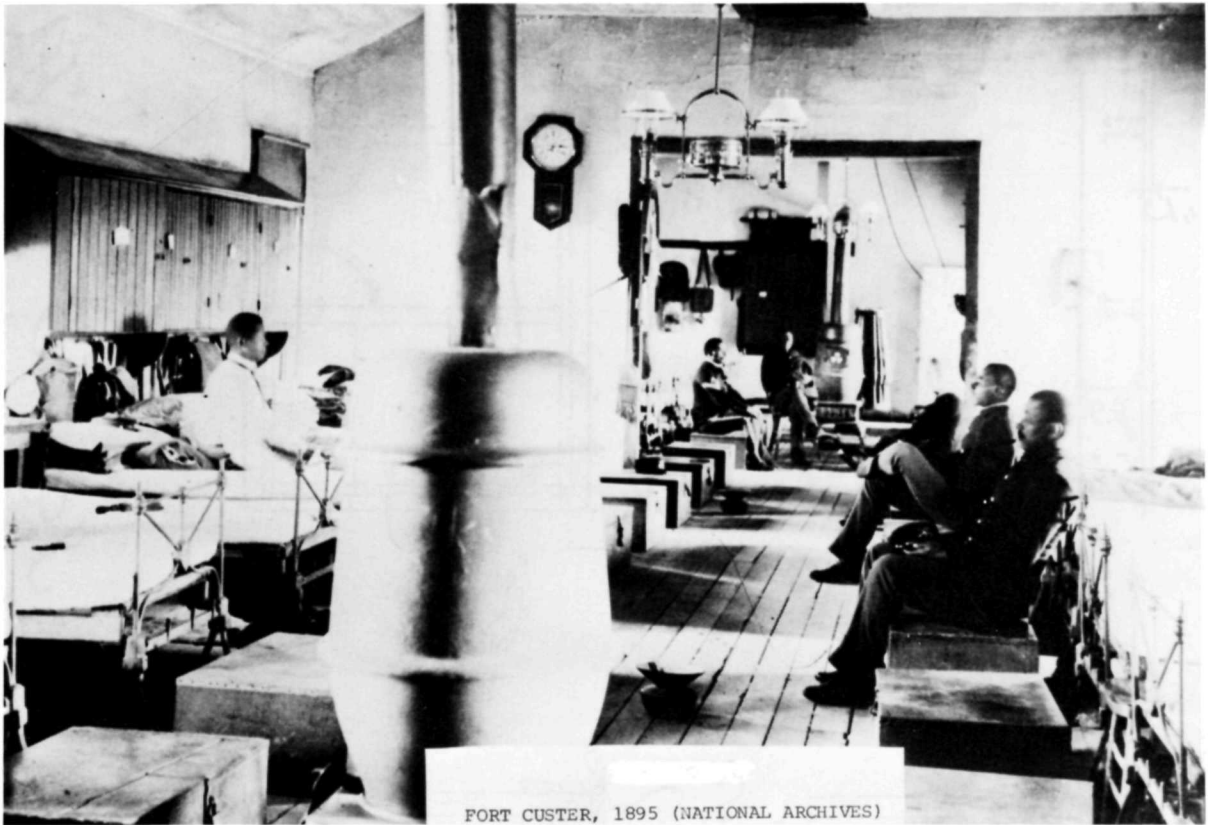
16. "The Army Ration," by J. R. Smith, Surgeon and Medical Director, Department of Texas, November 3, 1880, p. 11, RG 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 905 (8821).

17. Post Circular (Fort Davis), June 30, 1884, RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 8.



DRAWING OF SQUAD RM TABLE  
 Scale  $\frac{3}{4} = 1'-0''$

Figure 11



FORT CUSTER, 1895 (NATIONAL ARCHIVES)

Figure 12



FORT D.A. RUSSELL, LATE 1880s (NATIONAL ARCHIVES)

Figure 13

To cope with the lighting situation, company funds were used to purchase period-style oil lamps for added light. In fact black units in the Department of Texas had more of these lamps in their barracks than white units. Evidence for this conclusion came from the fact that black regiments purchased much more lamp oil than white regiments.<sup>18</sup>

Concern about inadequate lighting in the barracks caused the Secretary of War to assemble a board of officers on June 30, 1879, for the purpose of investigating the feasibility of illuminating barracks with oil lamps. Although some past uneasiness had existed because of possible fire hazard, the board ruled favorably on oil lamps. On August 25, 1880, with this recommendation, the Secretary of War authorized lighting barracks with mineral oil lamps. The Quartermaster General's office prepared drawings for a brass pendant two-burner lamp fueled with mineral oil having a flash point not lower than 135° Fahrenheit. Using these army specifications, the Manhattan Brass Company of New York produced the lamp. After an experimental trial this lamp was adopted as the standard army light. An act approved on February 24, 1881 provided an appropriation for purchasing and distribution. Subsequently, General Orders No. 50, May 24, 1881, listed the supply regulations. It stated, "one burner for every ten men or fraction thereof when the fraction is over one-half of this number, and a lamp with single burner for each of the noncommissioned staff officers and each first sergeant." In barracks where lights were extinguished at taps, mineral oil was to be issued at the rate of 2 ounces per burner for each hour of authorized illumination. Since a gallon of mineral oil weighed 104 ounces, it would supply a burner for 52 hours.<sup>19</sup>

These new lamps (Figures 14 and 15) reached Fort Davis by 1882, for an inspection report of that year stated, "Mineral oil and lamps are economically used under Department General Orders and are a great boon to the soldier."<sup>20</sup> Probably two of the two-burner pendant lamps hung from the ceiling joists at either end of the squad room in HB-21. If these lights are not available, one could use the later style shown in Figures 4, 12, and 13 or revert to the use of two candles in holders and several period-style oil lamps placed at either end of the room.

#### K. Arms Rack

Little is known of the storage of arms before the army adopted an arms rack in 1880, but possibly they were stored in a wall rack. The style utilized

---

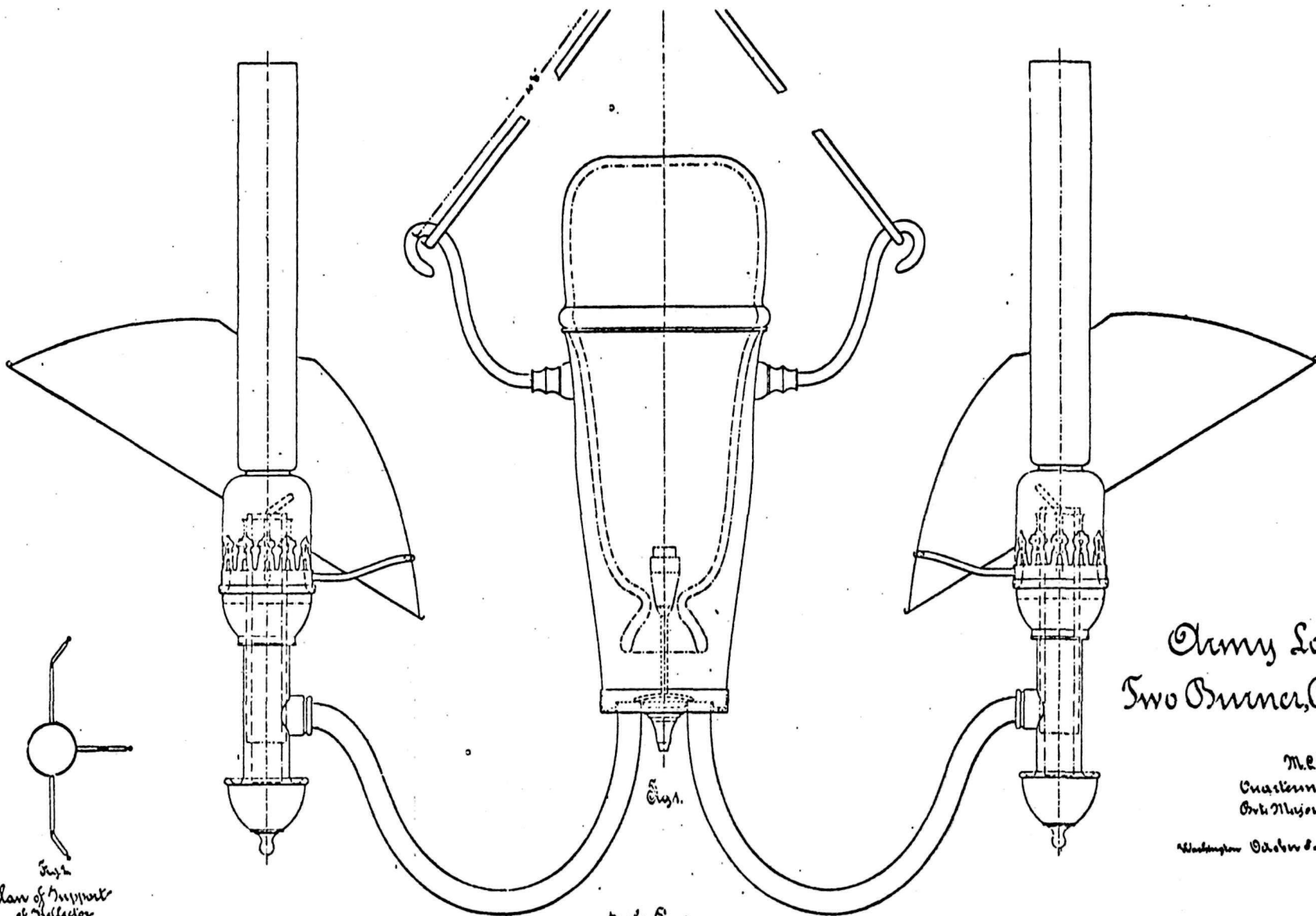
18. "The Army Ration," by J. R. Smith, Surgeon and Medical Director, Department of Texas, November 3, 1880, p. 23.

19. Report of the Quartermaster General, November 1, 1881, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1881), pp. 327, 434-35.

20. Report of Inspection of Forts Stockton and Davis, 1882, RG 159, Records of the Office of the Inspector General, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-790 (7834).



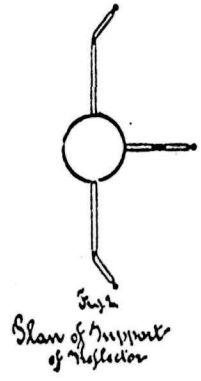
2-1



Army Lamp  
Two Brunnet, Bender

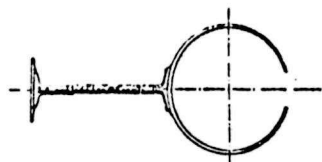
M. R. Malye  
Quartermaster Gen.  
Ordn. Major General.

Washington October 8. 1911



Scale Fig. 1.

Figure 14



Top View of Malleable iron Bracket  
Fig. 2

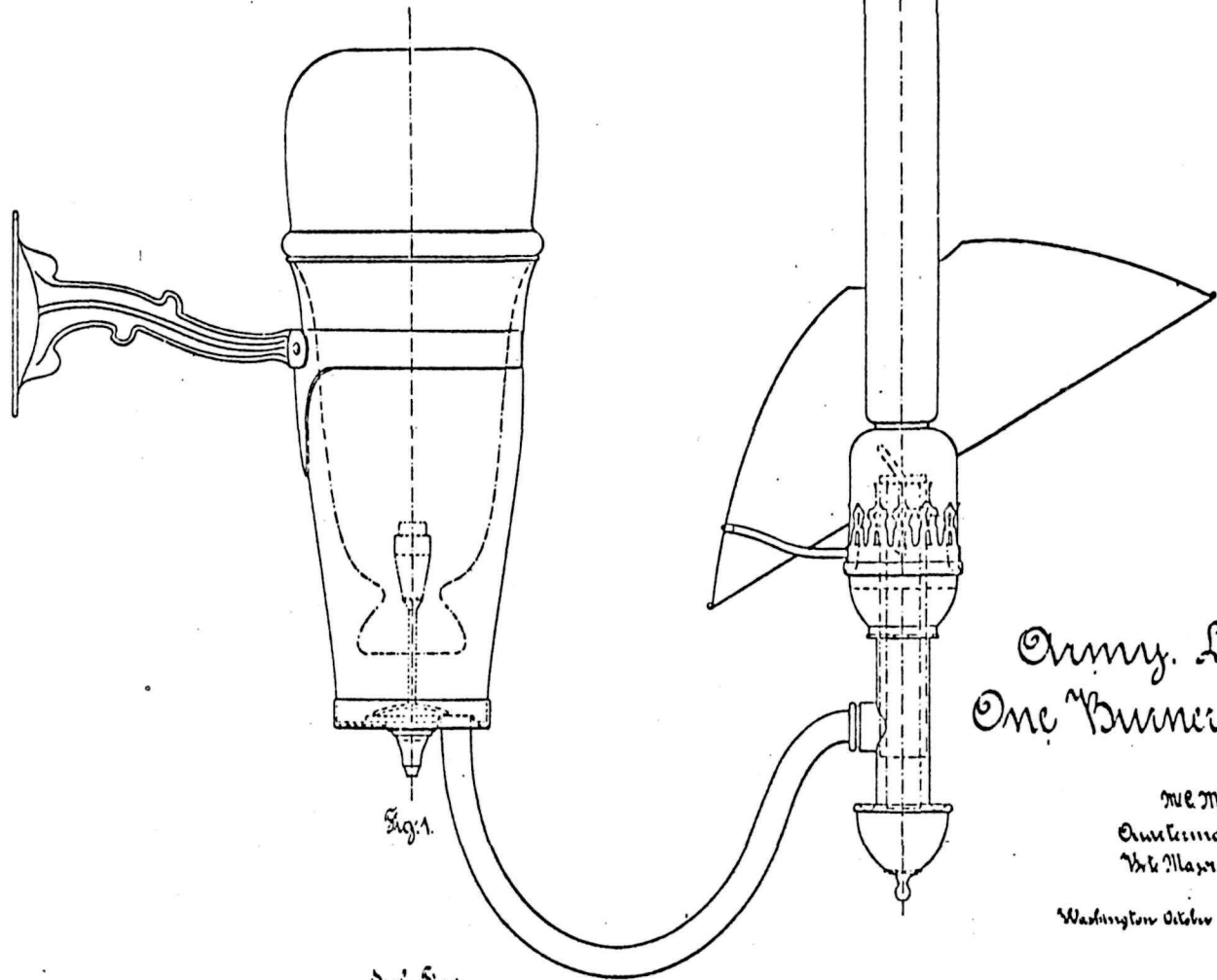


Fig. 1

Detail Fig. 1

Detail Fig. 2

Army Lamp  
One Burner, Model

M. E. Meigs  
Quartermaster General  
The Major General, U. S. A.

Washington October 5, 1851.

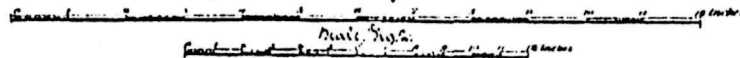


Figure 15

in 1880 (Figures 13 and 16) provided only for the storage of the caliber .45 rifle or carbine. A later modification allowed the addition of the cavalry enlisted men's caliber .45 pistols (Figure 9). For purposes of this study, the rack shown in Figure 16 would probably be the type used in HB-21. Under this circumstance the pistols would be stored in a locked box in the first sergeant's room. Since one rack held only twenty carbines and there were twenty-seven or twenty-eight men housed in the half of HB-21 to be furnished, two racks could be used if space permits. They would be found in the center aisle, probably at either end of the barracks. Specifications for the rack stated:

*Top.*--Made of two 1-inch white pine boards, glued together crossing grain of wood. Diameter of top, 13 inches. Top cut to receive twenty rifles. The guns are held in place and secured by a strap of iron 1 inch wide, leather covered, hinged, and secured on opposite side by padlock; hinge and padlock fastening secured by irons shown in the diagram.

*Bottom.*--Made of one 2-inch and one 1-inch white pine boards, 22 inches in diameter and one 7/8-inch board of white pine, 12 1/2 inches in diameter, glued together, crossing grain. Twenty triangular-shaped partitions of poplar, 1 3/4 inches wide at base, by 4 5/8 inches long, separate butts of rifle. A band of sheet-iron 1 1/2 inches wide, secured by screws, whose heads are filed to prevent removal, surrounds the upper part of base, the top being flush with top of partition.

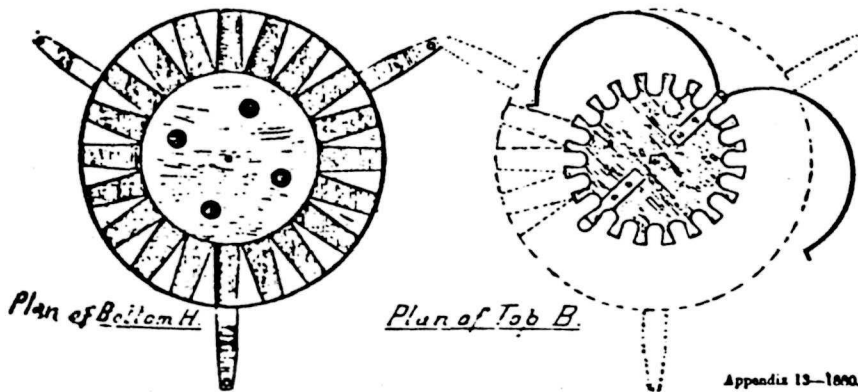
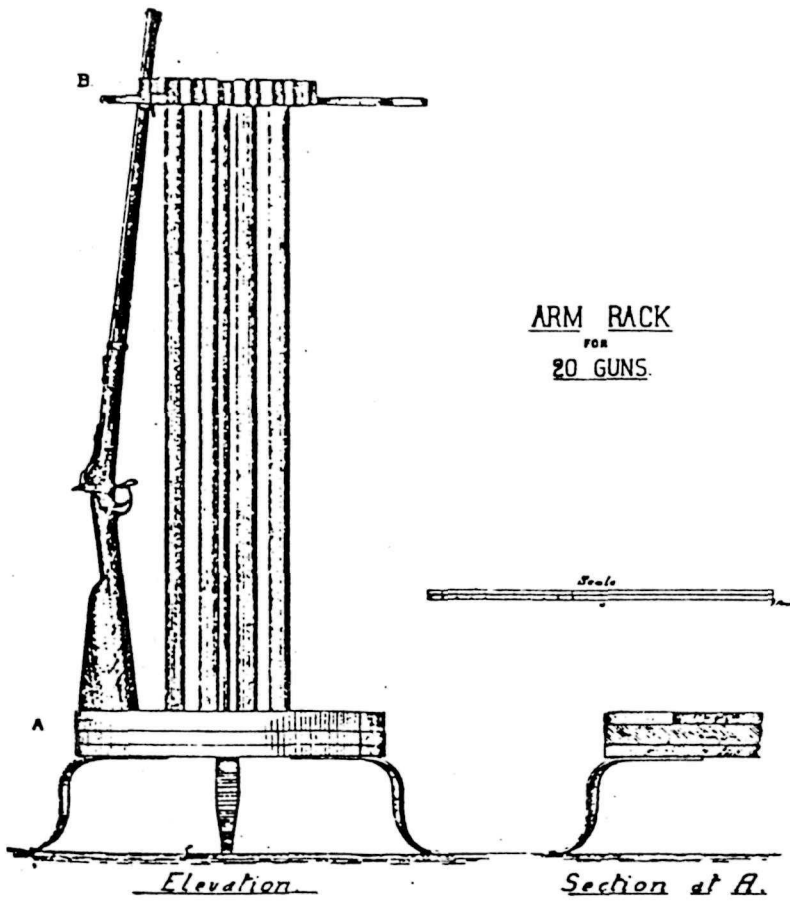
Four round pieces of white pine, 1 1/2 inches in diameter and 3 feet 11 inches in length (total), connect top and bottom of frame. A rod of iron, 3/8 inch diameter, with square head at top and threaded for nut at bottom, binds the whole together. In lieu of the four wooden posts and iron rod a single one of gas-pipe might be substituted.

The distance between the top and bottom is such that the upper band of rifle just touches the under side of top; and all is so arranged that, without removing the padlock and turning back the straps, no rifle can be removed. The three iron feet which support the whole can be screwed to the floor of the barracks.

*Racks for Carbine.*--To be similarly constructed, differing only in height and in the arrangement of top, which, instead of being cut entirely through to receive the barrel, is cut to the depth of only 3/4 inch to receive the muzzle of the carbine.<sup>21</sup>

---

21. Report of the Chief of Ordnance, October 1, 1880, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880), p. 271.



Appendix 13-1890

Figure 16

#### L. Carbine and Pistol

The chief weapon of the cavalry was the Springfield Model 1873, caliber .45 carbine. By 1875 the entire cavalry had been supplied with that weapon.<sup>22</sup> The carbine barrel was 25.4 inches long, the total length was 41.3 inches, and it weighed 6.87 pounds. The exterior metal work was browned. An open swivel was attached to the upper band for stacking.<sup>23</sup> In July 1884 an inspection at Fort Davis revealed that many cavalry troops had carbines with bright barrels. The inspector stated that the browning had partly worn off from carrying the weapon in the boot and the soldiers had removed the rest of the color to give it a neat appearance.<sup>24</sup> The metal parts of carbines displayed in HB-21, therefore, need not be in perfect condition, but could show some color worn from them.

By the late 1870s pistols carried by the cavalry were Colt Model 1873, single action, caliber .45. The change to this revolver proceeded slowly, for even in early 1876 the Tenth Cavalry carried a mixture of Colt .45 and Schofield Smith and Wesson .45 caliber pistols.<sup>25</sup>

Each company had its own tools, cleaning fluid, and oil to keep their weapons in good condition (see page 45), but these items would be kept in storage and not on display in the barracks.

#### M. Fire Fighting Equipment

Fire protection at Fort Davis relied upon a primitive system. To control a possible fire, each barracks contained a water barrel kept filled at all times.<sup>26</sup> This barrel, undoubtedly a former packing barrel, was probably kept just inside the entrance. At least six galvanized metal buckets would be located around the barrel with several axes nearby. The buckets would be

---

22. Report of the Chief of Ordnance, October 9, 1875, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1875), p. 8.

23. Thomas Wilhelm, *A Military Dictionary and Gazetteer* (Philadelphia: L. R. Hamersly & Co., 1881), pp. 539-40.

24. Inspection Report, Fort Davis, Texas, July 15, 1884, RG 159, Records of the Office of the Inspector General, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-790 (7834).

25. First Quarter Report, March 31, 1876, Department of Texas, RG 156, Records of the Chief of Ordnance, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 816 (8091).

26. Inspection Report, March 31, 1873, Fort Davis Inspection Reports 1872-73, RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 6.

AX

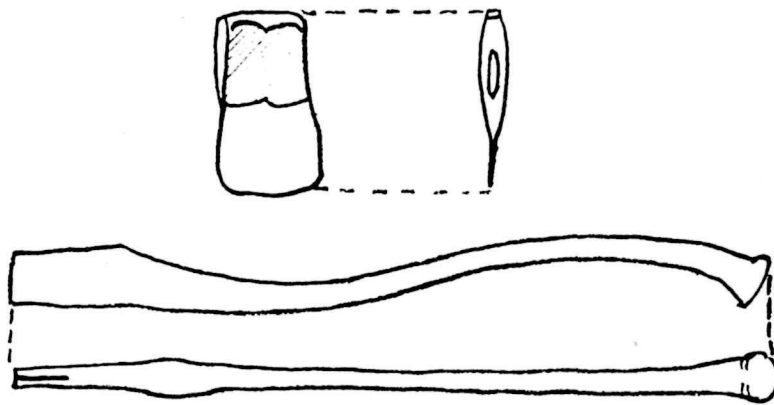


Figure 17

period style. The ax type (Figure 17) would have a blade  $7 \frac{3}{4}$  inches long, a pole  $3 \frac{7}{16}$  inches wide and  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch thick. The eye of the ax head would be  $2 \frac{3}{8}$  inches by  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch, oval in shape. Handle specifications stated, "made of good, seasoned, straight-grained hickory, thirty-four (34) to thirty-six (36) inches long, and free from knots or shakes."<sup>27</sup>

#### N. Brooms and Scrubbing Brushes

Brooms and brushes for cleaning the barracks were stored out of sight, but perhaps a broom might be found in one corner of the barracks. Specifications for brooms (Figure 18) stated:

The body of the broom is to be made of the best broom-corn, strong and pliable, from sixteen (16) to eighteen (18) inches long from the neck to the ends; held in shape by three ties of strong twine one (1) inch apart, the lower about five and one-half ( $5 \frac{1}{2}$ ) inches distant from the handle.

At the middle tie the broom must be perfectly solid, about seven (7) inches wide and one and one-half ( $1 \frac{1}{2}$ ) inch thick, spreading at the ends to a width of about sixteen (16) inches.

The upper end of the broom is fastened around the handle by three (3) strands of twine nearest to the body of the broom, two strands near the handle, the part between these (2) fastenings being strongly interwoven with single strands of twine.

The handle, made of bass-wood, is about thirty-nine (39) inches long and one (1) inch in diameter. Whole weight about two (2) pounds. The broom accepted as Army standard is in the trade known as "Carpet Broom, No. 2."<sup>28</sup>

Specifications for scrubbing brushes (Figure 18) stated:

The block to be made of oak, ten (10) inches long, one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) inch thick, one (1) end miter-shaped. Knots made of the best sharp, strong, Western bristles.

At the straight end of the block are two (2) parallel rows of six (6) and seven (7) knots, respectively, of white bristles, about one (1) inch long, slanting knots of the same size and material.

---

27. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 270.

28. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 273.

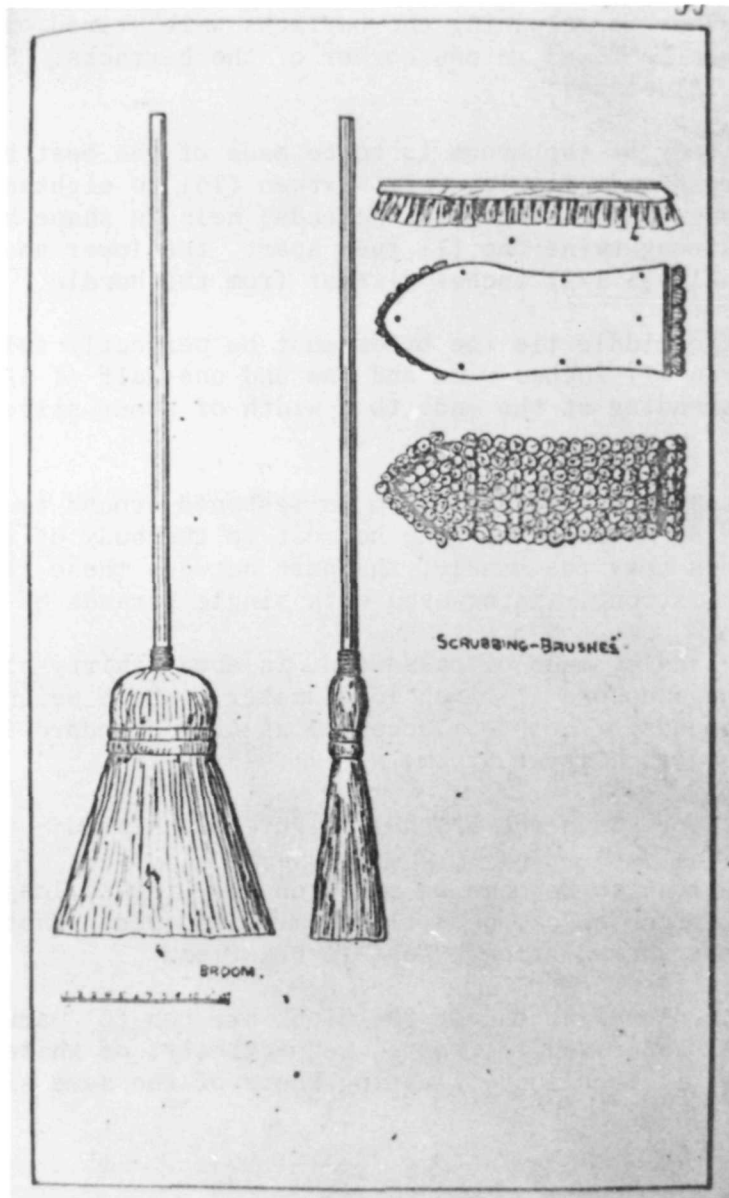


Figure 18



The body of the block contains four (4) rows of white bristles, eleven (11) knots in a row, and three (3) rows of black bristles, twelve (12) knots in a row, black and white knots are placed closer together, and about seven-eighths (7/8) of an inch high. There are altogether one hundred and fifty (150) knots, drawn through the block with good strong wire.

The back of the block has a cover of bass or other suitable wood one-eighth (1/8) of an inch thick, firmly nailed to it.<sup>29</sup>

#### O. Water Cooler

Since HB-21 did not have water piped to the barracks until 1884, a water barrel or cooler for drinking water would be located about half way down the center aisle of the barracks. A period-style water cooler could be used since it originally was purchased with company funds. The post surgeon recommended that all drinking water barrels be scrubbed once a month.<sup>30</sup>

#### P. Barracks Decoration

A few utilitarian and decorative items adorned the barracks walls. A clock similar to that shown in Figures 12 or 13 would probably be placed on the far wall of the barracks above the entrance to the first sergeant's room. Perhaps a picture was found at the opposite end of the barracks above the exit. It could be one of the "great emancipator," Abraham Lincoln. A duty roster board would be located on the wall either by the entrance to the first sergeant's room or the exit. It would contain a list of those on guard or other duty for the coming week as well as post regulations, circulars, and service calls (see appendix for service calls). If a calendar for 1880, 1881, or 1882 could be obtained, it could also be placed on the duty roster board. Most items appearing on the board would be written in long hand.

Personal items such as family pictures do not appear on barracks walls in available interior photographs. Regulations probably did not allow placing those items on barracks walls. Instead, they were undoubtedly kept in the footlockers.

#### Q. Hook Strips and Clothing Shelves

Nearly all barracks contained hook strips from which to hang clothing and equipment. Evidence of a hook strip can be seen in HB-21. It was either a 1 x 4 or 1 x 6-inch board which ran the entire length around the barracks. A

---

29. *Ibid.*

30. Circular No. 6 (Fort Davis), May 12, 1875, RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 4.

reconstructed hook strip can be placed in the same location as the original. Nails or hooks, on which to hang clothing and equipment, were driven into the strip.

The army had no standardized clothing shelves; they were manufactured by the post quartermaster. As a result those in each barracks had a different design. No evidence is available to reveal the type which appeared in HB-21. Clothing shelves were fixed to the wall behind the bunks just above the hook strip. As shown in Figures 9 and 13 helmets were placed on the top of the shelves while clothing and equipment were hung on the hook strip below. Some shelves, as seen in Figure 13, had a smaller inner shelf above the hook strip. If such a shelf is utilized, then items as a shaving mug, brush, soap, and razor could be placed on it. A long cloth, usually of brightly colored calico, provided a curtain to enclose the shelf. The curtain on one shelf could be left open to show the contents to visitors. Under this condition only that rack open to the public need be furnished.

## II. THE ENLISTED MEN'S UNIFORM

Mass production of military clothing during the Civil War resulted in a surplus in 1865. Although the items manufactured toward the close of that war proved inferior in quality, the army continued to issue this clothing until adopting new styles in 1872. Since the old items were not recalled, enlisted men wore their original clothing until it became unserviceable. As a result some uniform items found in a barracks may have varied from man to man. Considering the quality of the pre-1872 clothing, however, it undoubtedly was no longer worn by the period covered in this study. Few changes occurred in the uniform style between 1872-82. Not until 1883 did the army again begin to alter clothing in any significant manner. Uniforms were noted for their ill-fit. As a result most enlisted men paid a company tailor or civilian to alter their clothing.

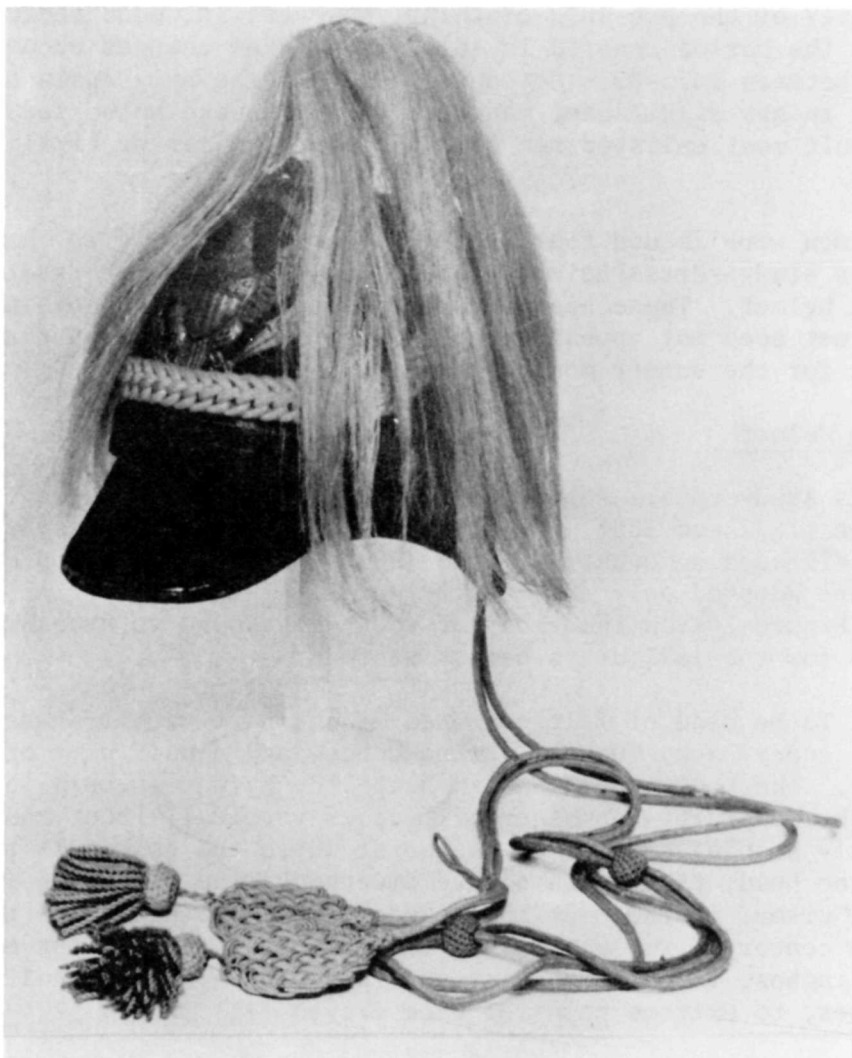
Enlisted men were issued four types of caps and helmets in the period covered by this study--dress helmet, forage cap, campaign hat, and, for summer wear, the cork helmet. These headgear were stored atop the clothing shelf. The latter helmet need not appear in the barracks, for it was probably kept in storage except for the summer months.

### A. Dress Helmet

Since this study covers the period of the early 1880s, one of two patterns of dress helmet (1872 and 1881 models) could be selected for display. The 1872 dress helmets differed somewhat from the 1881 pattern. In 1872 plumed helmets (Figure 19) were adopted only for cavalry and light-artillery. As a result the eagle emblem (Figure 20) on the front of the helmet bore no branch insignia. Specifications for the 1872 dress helmet stated:

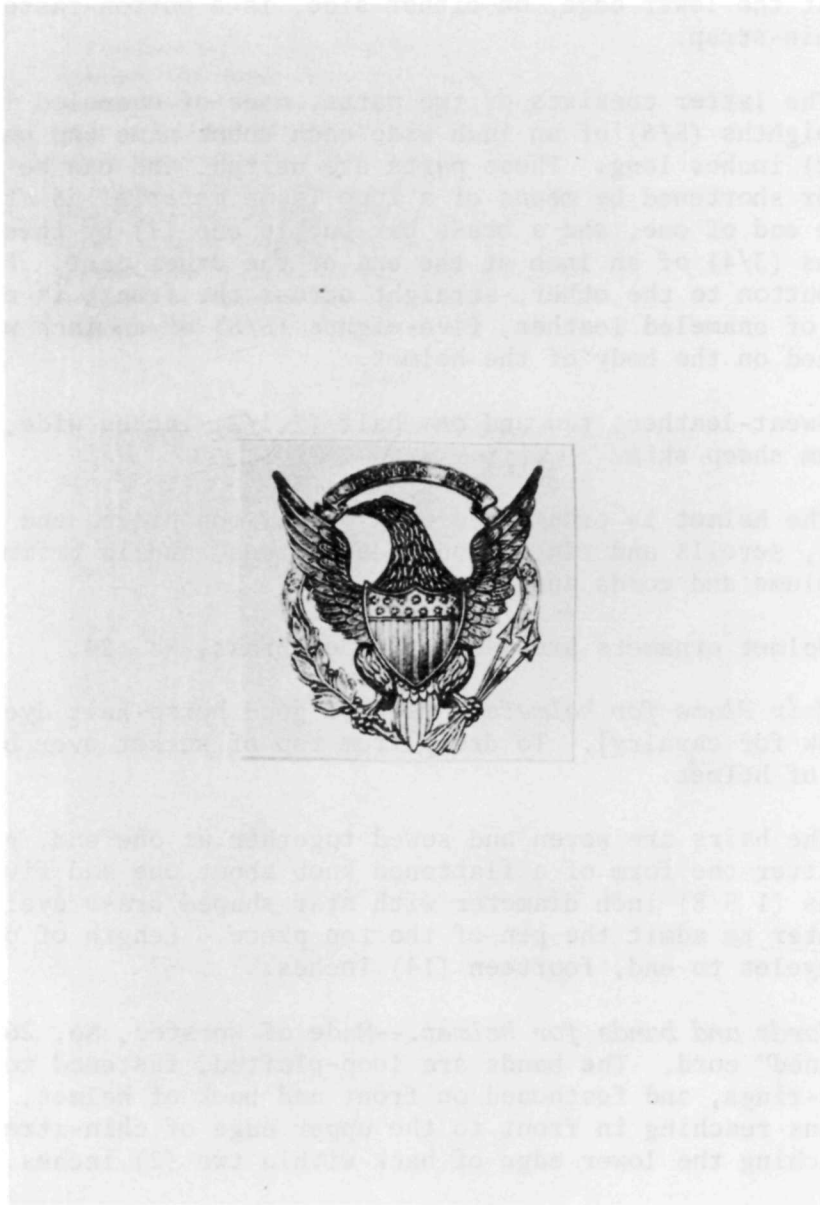
To be made of felt composed of one part each of Russia, best coney-back, muskrat, extra coney, and a half part of wash blow. The body approaches in shape the helmet as seen in antique Greek sculpture--top spherical, sides vertical, front and back gently sloping outward to the point where the helmet is to rest on the head; thence, in a more diverging line extending in front to a visor, in the back to a cape for the protection of the neck. From center of top along the sides to lower edge, about eight (8) inches, to extreme point of visor eleven and one-half (11 1/2) inches, to extreme point of back eleven (11) inches.

Visor is gradually narrowing, and rounded at the front; length about three and one-half (3 1/2) inches, width across the forehead about twelve (12) to twelve and one-fourth (12 1/4) inches, across the front (one inch above the extreme point) about five (5) inches.



1872 Enlisted Man's Helmet

Figure 19



**Eagle Emblem on Front of Model 1872 Dress Helmet**

**Figure 20**

The neck-cape is about seven and one-fourth (7 1/4) inches wide, three and one-fourth (3 1/4) inches long, corners rounded.

The edge of helmet, visor, and cape is bound with fine enameled leather. On either side, about three and one-half (3 1/2) inches above the lower edge, is a ventilator.

At the lower edge, on either side, is a button-fastening for chin-strap.

The latter consists of two parts, made of enameled leather five-eighths (5/8) of an inch wide each about nine and one-half (9 1/2) inches long. These parts are united, and can be lengthened or shortened by means of a loop (same material as strap) at the end of one, and a brass bar-buckle one (1) by three-fourths (3/4) of an inch at the end of the other part. From one side button to the other, straight across the front, is another strap of enameled leather, five-eighths (5/8) of an inch wide, stitched on the body of the helmet.

Sweat-leather, two and one-half (2 1/2) inches wide, of Belgium sheep skin.

The helmet is ornamented with eagle, top piece, and plume-socket, scrolls and rings, and side buttons, and is trimmed with hair plume and cords and bands.

Helmet ornaments are made of sheet-brass, No. 24.

*Hair Plume for helmets.*--Made of good horse-hair dyed [yellow for cavalry]. To droop from top of socket over back sides of helmet.

The hairs are woven and sewed together at one end, giving the latter the form of a flattened knob about one and five-eighths (1 5/8) inch diameter with star-shaped brass eyelet in center to admit the pen of the top piece. Length of plume from eyelet to end, fourteen (14) inches.

*Cords and bands for helmet.*--Made of worsted, No. 26, and "machined" cord. The bands are loop-plaited, fastened to the scroll-rings, and festooned on front and back of helmet, the festoons reaching in front to the upper edge of chin-strap, and approaching the lower edge of back within two (2) inches.

The loop-plaiting is about one (1) inch wide, and ends under the scrolls on the left side in a tassel of sixty (60) to seventy (70) fringes, one and three-fourths (1 3/4) inch diameter, passes the continuation of the bands in the form of two cords, each five (5) feet eight (8) inches long, with two (2) slides netted over

a fuller's board three-fourths (3/4) inch in diameter, five-eighths (5/8) of an inch high. Three inches from the lower end of the cords are fastened together by a braided knot holding a loop about two and three-fourths (2 3/4) inches long. At the end of each cord is also a small braided knot and an aiguillette, plaited flat in three strands of smaller cord, in oval shape, two and three-eighths (2 3/8) inches long, two and three-fourths (2 3/4) inches wide. From the lower end of each aiguillette is suspended another tassel of from sixty (60) to seventy (70) fringes, one and three-fourths (1 3/4) inch long, with braided head three-eighths (3/8) of an inch high, three-fourths (3/4) inch diameter.<sup>1</sup>

In 1881 the Army adopted dress helmets for each branch (Figure 21). The eagle on the shield changed from the 1872 model, for it faced the other direction and held a beak scroll with the motto "E pluribus unum." Since each branch received helmets, appropriate insignia were added on the eagle shield to distinguish the branch. Figure 21 is an infantry officer's helmet since the shield contained crossed muskets. A cavalry helmet would have contained crossed sabers. The regimental number, made of German silver, was removable. In 1881, with the issue of the new helmet, all 1872 models were recalled to be altered to conform to the new style.<sup>2</sup> As shown in Figure 22, the 1872 helmet shell had a long visor and neck cape which were much shortened on the 1881 model. The new helmet shell no longer resembled the antique Greek sculpture style. Additional changes included the widening of the enameled leather band to 7/8-inch and extending it to surround the helmet at the base of the crown, and lining the underside of the visor with green Morocco leather.<sup>3</sup> The 1872 style helmet would be the more appropriate helmet for display, but unless a replica can be found, the 1881 model should be used.

#### B. Campaign Hat

In June 1876 the Army adopted a new, black campaign hat (Figure 23) to replace the broad-brimmed 1872 model which lacked durability. Since the 1872 hat wore out quickly, only the 1876 type would be found in HB-21. Specifications for the 1876 wool campaign hat stated:

*Mixture.*--To be of clean wool, of fine grade, equal in quality to XXX Ohio fleece. No waste or shoddy to be used in mixture.

---

1. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), pp. 263-64.

2. Edgar M. Howell, *United States Army Headgear 1855-1902: Catalog of United States Army Uniforms in the Collection of the Smithsonian Institution, II* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1975), p. 47.

3. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 9, 1882, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1882), p. 321.



Model 1881 Infantry Officer's Dress Helmet

Figure 21



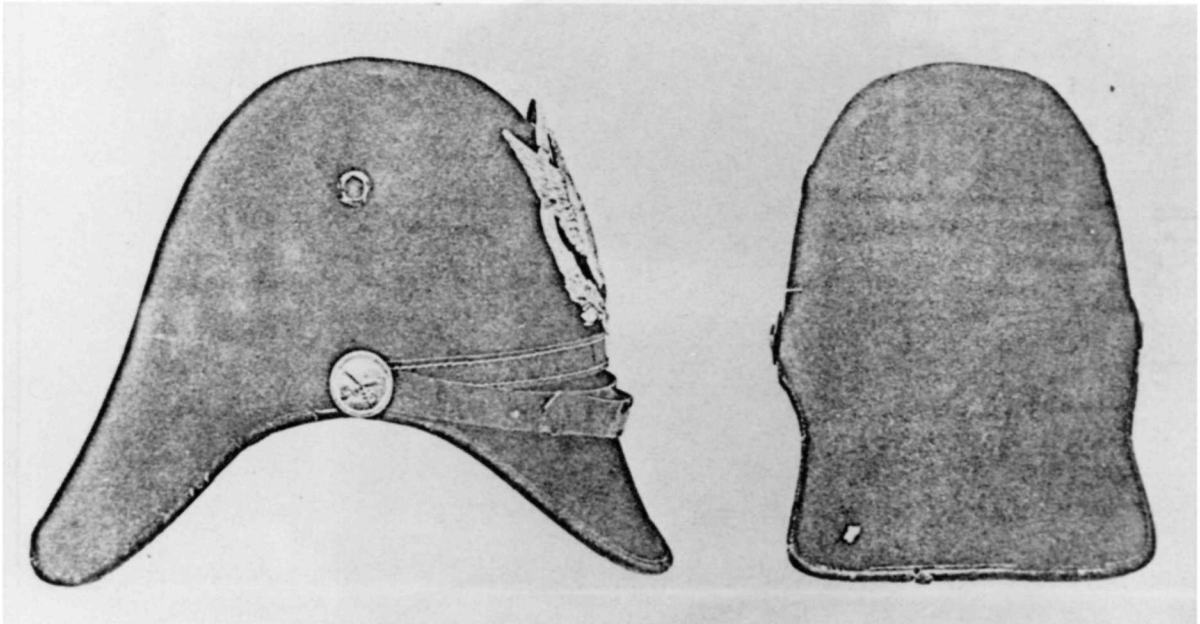


Figure 22



1876 Campaign Hat Without Yellow Cord

Figure 23

*Weight.*--Hat bodies to be weighed out, five and one-half (5 1/2) ounces heavy, of clean wool.

*Shape.*--The 7 1/8 size block to be six (6) inches deep to center of tip, and five and one-half (5 1/2) inches deep at front and rear. Other sizes in proportion, varying one-sixteenth (1/16) of an inch to each size.

*Brim.*--Edge of the brim to be turned over three-eighths (3/8) of an inch on the upper side, and stitched down with two (2) rows of stitching, and to measure two and a half (2 1/2) inches in front and rear and two and five-eighths (2 5/8) inches in width at sides.

*Trimming.*--Trimmed with eight (8) ligue Union braid [yellow], same quality as on sample hat; to be sewed on by sewing-machine. Sweat to be of brown Japanned leather, turned on top, one and three-quarters (1 3/4) wide, and sewed in hat by sewing-machine. Two of "Brachers' patent ventilators," one on each side of crown, three and one-half (3 1/2) inches from brim.

The hat to be velvet finished, soft and pliable, same as standard sample.<sup>4</sup>

The 1876 model did not change until a drab or slate colored hat was adopted in 1883.

### C. Forage Caps

Forage caps were worn during garrison duty as opposed to field duty. The 1872 model (Figure 24) would be the type found in HB-21. Specifications for this forage cap stated:

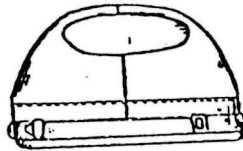
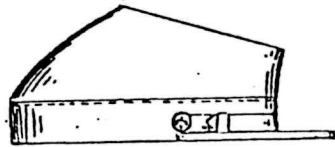
Made of the best wool-dyed indigo-blue cloth. Band about one and one-fourth (1 1/4) inch wide, strengthened by a strip of strong split-leather of the same width, sewed in between the cloth and the sweat-leather. The front rises straight and vertical one and one-half (1 1/2) to one and five-eighths (1 5/8) inch above the band, sides straight and slightly converging toward the crown. The back, about five (5) inches long, rises from the band forward at an angle or 45 degrees, slightly convex.

The crown is circular, about four and three-fourths (4 3/4) inches in diameter, made upon strong "tarred board." The shape of the cap would thus give an incline to the crown of one (1) to one and one-fourths (1 1/4) inch from rear to front.

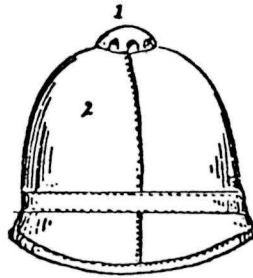
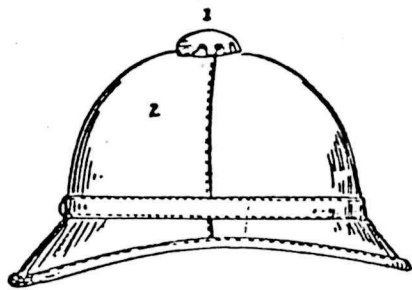
---

4. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 265.

FORAGE CAP.



SUMMER HELMET.



- 1. Shell Ventilator.
- 2. Helmet.
- 3. Brim.
- 4. Chin Strap.

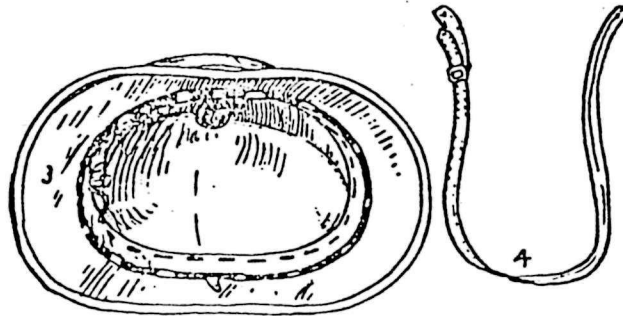


Figure 24

A straight horizontal visor of patent enameled leather, about three-sixteenths ( $3/16$ ) of an inch thick, shaped as described for dress-caps. A small brass regulation button on each side, immediately behind the end of the visor, for chin-strap.

The latter is made in two parts, of fine enameled leather about one-half ( $1/2$ ) inch wide, each part about nine (9) inches long, and arranged, as on dress-cap, to be lengthened and shortened at will.

Sweat-leather of Belgium leather, one and one-half ( $1\ 1/2$ ) inch wide.

Lining of glazed muslin, fastened by its lower edge only, to the inner stiffening of the band, the upper edge gathered with strong thread.<sup>5</sup>

The cavalry wore a crossed sabers metallic ornament on the front of the forage cap. A regimental number was located above the point where the sabers crossed and the company letter was below that point. The crossed sabers as well as style of letters and numbers are shown in Figure 25.

#### D. Cork Helmet

The search for a summer helmet to protect troops from the heat of southern climates led to the adoption of the cork helmet in May 1880 (Figure 24). These white colored helmets did not arrive at Fort Davis during the period covered by this study, so they need not appear in HB-21. Specifications for the cork (summer) helmet stated:

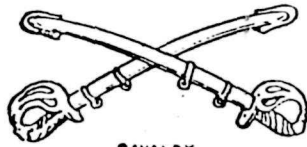
*Shape and Weight.*--To be in shape according to standard sample, and to weigh about seven and one-fourth ( $7\ 1/4$ ) ounces when finished; reasonable variations (from this weight) due to sizes to be allowed.

*Material, etc.*--The shell to be composed of two thicknesses of the best quality of cork, laminated or scarf-seamed, and securely cemented together with shellac. The linings to be firmly shellacked to the inside of shell; that for the dome to be of slate-colored drilling, and that for the visor or shade to be of emerald-green merino or cashmere. Sweat-leather to be on frame or hoop as in sample, well separated from the shell (for ventilation) by ten (10) small cork studs securely fastened; sweat to be about one and three-eighths ( $1\ 3/8$ ) inches deep, and to be provided with a drawing string. Outside covering to be of the best quality of bleached cotton drilling, in four (4) sections, welt seamed and secured to the shell with shellac.

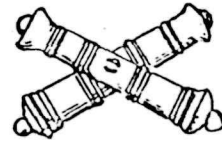
---

5. *Ibid.*

METALLIC ORNAMENTS FOR FORAGE CAPS.



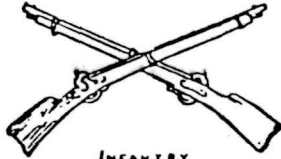
CAVALRY.



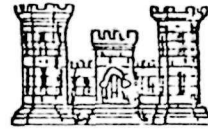
ARTILLERY.



ORDNANCE.



INFANTRY.



ENGINEERS.

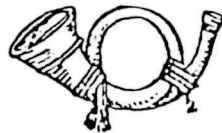


HOSPITAL STEWARDS.



COMMISSARY SERGEANTS.

1 2 3 TO 0 A B C TO M



FOR MUSICIANS

SCALE  $\frac{1}{16}$

Figure 25

Band of same material, about three-fourths ( $3/4$ ) of an inch deep. Edge to be bound with stout bleached stay-binding. Adjustable ventilator at top as in sample. Chin-strap of white enameled leather, and brass hooks for same, as in sample.<sup>6</sup>

#### E. Overcoats

Each enlisted man received an overcoat with cape.<sup>7</sup> This item would have hung from the hook strip. Specifications for the overcoat (Figure 26) stated:

*Material.*--Sky-blue kersey, twenty-two (22) ounces, Army standard. Linings: for body  $6/4$  dark-blue flannel, to weigh five and three-quarters ( $5\ 3/4$ ) ounces to the linear yard, or  $3/4$  to weigh five and three-quarters ( $5\ 3/4$ ) ounces to the linear yard; for capes, colored flannel, Army standard  $6/4$  to weigh ten (10) ounces to the linear yard, or  $3/4$  to weigh five (5) ounces to the linear yard; for sleeves, unbleached muslin.

*Shape and dimensions.*--To be according to standard sample, double breasted, with two rows of five (5) buttons each, and with full cape extending to end of sleeve when arm is extended. Eight (8) to ten (10) buttons (small regulation) and button holes in cape, according to size. Skirt straight and to reach below the knee of wearer; slit in back of skirt to be from sixteen (16) to nineteen and one-half ( $19\ 1/2$ ) inches long, according to size of coat. Falling collar from four and one-half ( $4\ 1/2$ ) to five (5) inches high when up. Cuff of double thickness of material, and to be from five (5) to five and one-quarter ( $5\ 1/4$ ) inches deep when turned up. Back strap to consist of two straps seven (7) to ten (10) inches long, three and one-quarter ( $3\ 1/4$ ) inches wide at end joining coat, and one and one-half ( $1\ 1/2$ ) inches at bottom end. Left-hand strap to have two bottom holes; right-hand strap two buttons, held in place by small straps stitched to back seam. Lining of body to extend down to top of opening in back. Two inside breast pockets.

Color for cape linings to be: for Cavalry, yellow.<sup>8</sup>

---

6. Report of the Quartermaster General, September 30, 1880, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880), p. 398.

7. Specification for the uniform cloth are listed in the appendix.

8. Report of the Quartermaster General, September 30, 1880, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880), pp. 400-401.

OVERCOAT



Figure 26



## F. Dress Uniform Coat

Each man received a dress coat, which he would have stored in his footlocker but for display purposes can be placed on the hook strip. Specifications for the coat (Figure 27) stated:

*Material.*--Dark blue cloth (Army standard). Linings: For body and sleeves, slate-colored jeans; for skirt, black Italian cloth. Regulation brass buttons.

### Pattern and dimensions

For Foot Troops--Single-breasted dark basque, according to standard sample. Nine (9) buttons in front. Standing collar, one and one-quarter (1 1/4) to one and one-half (1 1/2) inches high, cut square to hook in front. Cloth facings and pipings, of color for the various arms of service [yellow for cavalry], on collar, cuff, and back of skirt according to pattern. Shoulder-straps of facing cloth let into seam at point of shoulder, and to button at collar with one button. Two belt straps or supporters, three (3) to three and one-half (3 1/2) inches high, of cloth same as coat, piped with facing cloth, rising from waist seam at each side and buttoning above with single button. Inside pocket in left breast opening perpendicularly.

For Mounted Troops--To be similar to the above, except that the skirt be two (2) to two and three-quarters (2 3/4) inches shorter, and be slashed and piped at sides to within about two (2) inches of the waist, and the back facing to be according to standard sample.<sup>9</sup>

### Measurement Chart

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Length of Waist	18	18 1/4	19	20	21
Length of Coat, mounted	26	27	28	29	30
Length of sleeve	32	32 1/2	34	34 1/2	35
Collar	15	15 1/4	16	16 1/2	17
Breast	35	36 1/2	39 1/2	42	44
Waist	31 1/2	33	35	37	41
Sleeve, hand	5 1/2	6	6	6 1/2	6 1/2

9. *Ibid.*, p. 399.

UNIFORM COAT  
FOR CAVALRY MOUNTED

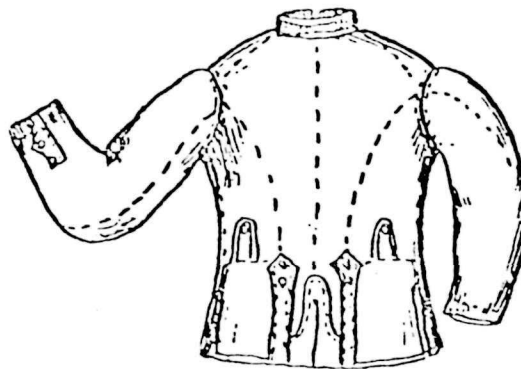
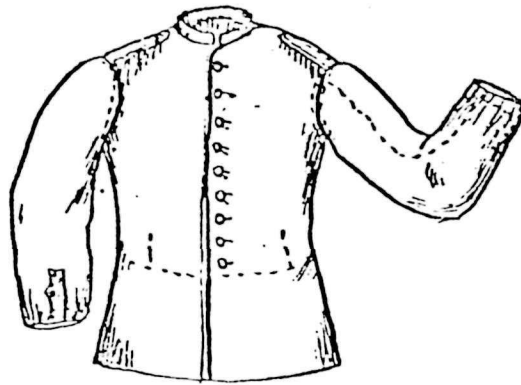


Figure 27

### G. Blouse (Fatigue Coat)

These jackets were the basic everyday coat. Each man received two blouses which would be found hanging from the hook strip. Probably only one need appear in the display. Specifications for these blouses (Figure 28) stated:

*Material.*--Dark-blue wool flannel, Army standard. Gray twilled mixed flannel lining for body, and unbleached muslin lining for sleeves.

*Pattern.*--To be a single-breasted coat with falling collar, and having five (5) regulation buttons in front from neck to waist, similar to standard sample.

Depth of collar two and a half (2 1/2) to three (3) inches, according to size. Collar rounded at corners and trimmed on outer edge with worsted cord, corresponding in color to the facing cloths for the various arms of service [yellow for cavalry]. The cuffs also trimmed with cord [similar to that on collar], forming an inverted  $\wedge$  on upper side of sleeve and straight across the lower side. Point of angle four and one-half (4 1/2) inches from edge of cuff, distance of cord above edge on under side of cuff about one and three-quarter (1 3/4) inches. Small regulation button on outer seam of cuff, one and three-quarter (1 3/4) inches from edge. Two inside breast pockets. Canvas or vest padding in shoulders, breast, and collar.<sup>10</sup>

Measurement Chart

	Breast Measure	Length	Waist Measure	Collar Measure	Length of Sleeve
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Size 1	34	29	32	15 1/2	32
Size 2	36	29 1/2	34	16	32 1/2
Size 3	38	30	36	16 1/2	33 1/2
Size 4	40	31	38	17	34
Size 5	44	32 3/4	42	18	35

### H. Trousers

Each man was issued two pair of sky-blue kersey trousers which would be displayed on the hook strip. Since suspenders were not issued until 1882, nearly all the men before that date used only the buckle adjustment in the back of the trousers to keep their pants up. Privates did not wear the yellow

---

10. *Ibid.*, p. 401.

BLOUSES.

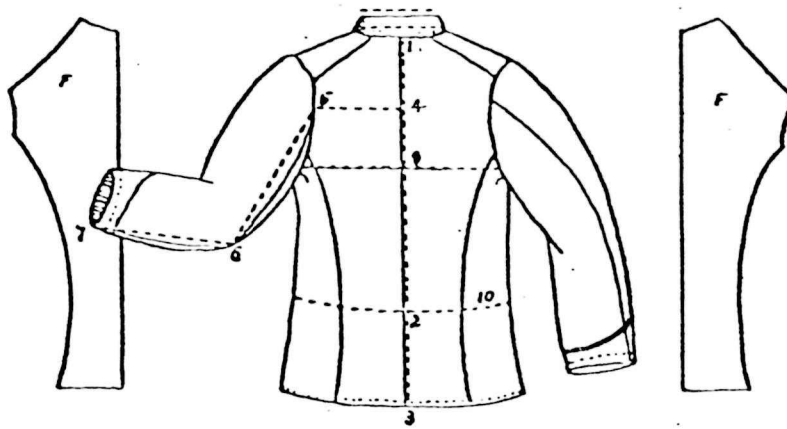
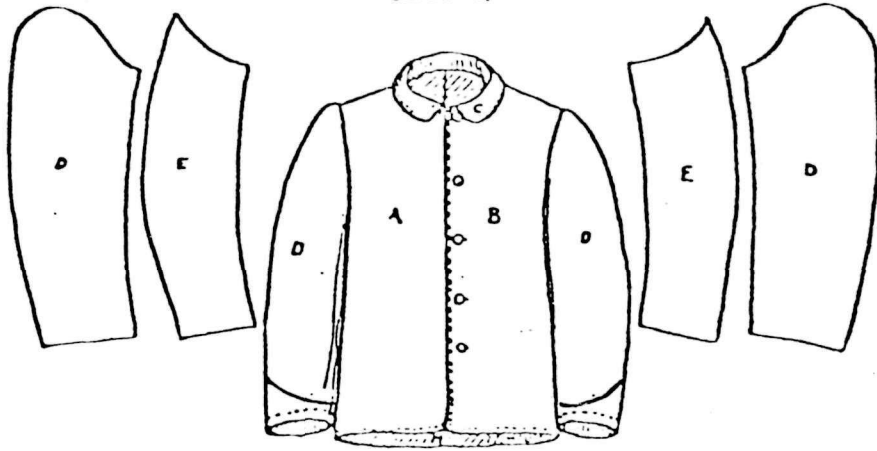


Figure 28

stripes down the outside seam of the trouser legs. Specifications for trousers (Figure 29) stated:

For foot troops--To be cut according to standard sample, loose, without lining or plaits, and without waist-band. Bottoms to spread well over shoes. Pockets in front, opening at top.

For mounted troops--To be similar in pattern to those for foot-men, with the addition of a re-inforced or saddle piece of same material on the seat and legs. Four buttons at bottom of each leg, two on each side, for straps.<sup>11</sup>

#### Measurement Chart

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Length of side seam	41 1/2	42 1/2	43 3/4	45 1/2	47 3/4
Length of leg	31 1/2	32	33 1/4	34 1/2	36
Waist	32	34	36	37 1/2	42
Bottoms	19	19 1/2	20	20 1/2	20 1/2

#### I. Shirts

Two types of shirts were issued during the period covered by this study. Through the 1870s until July 1, 1881 gray flannel shirts without collars were issued. After the latter date a dark-blue flannel shirt replaced the gray. Each man received two shirts. Undoubtedly, the enlisted men in HB-21 would have possessed the gray flannel shirts in the 1880-82 period. However, some dark-blue shirts possibly could have been found there, for recruits who arrived from the East after mid-1881 would have been issued them. Specifications for gray flannel shirts stated:

To be made of Army standard gray shirting flannel. Loose, with shoulder-yoke, collar band, and one (1) plait two (2) inches wide, and about twelve (12) inches long, in the front. Collar-band to be about seven-eighths (7/8) of an inch deep. Two buttons and button-holes in front plait, one at the end of collar-band, and one at each waist-band. The yoke to be lined with gray flannel same quality as shirt is made of. A slit, eight (8) inches long, at the lower edge of each side seam, rounded off at the two front edges.<sup>12</sup>

11. *Ibid.*, p. 403.

12. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 9, 1878, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1878), p. 331.

TROUSERS.  
FOR MOUNTED TROOPS.

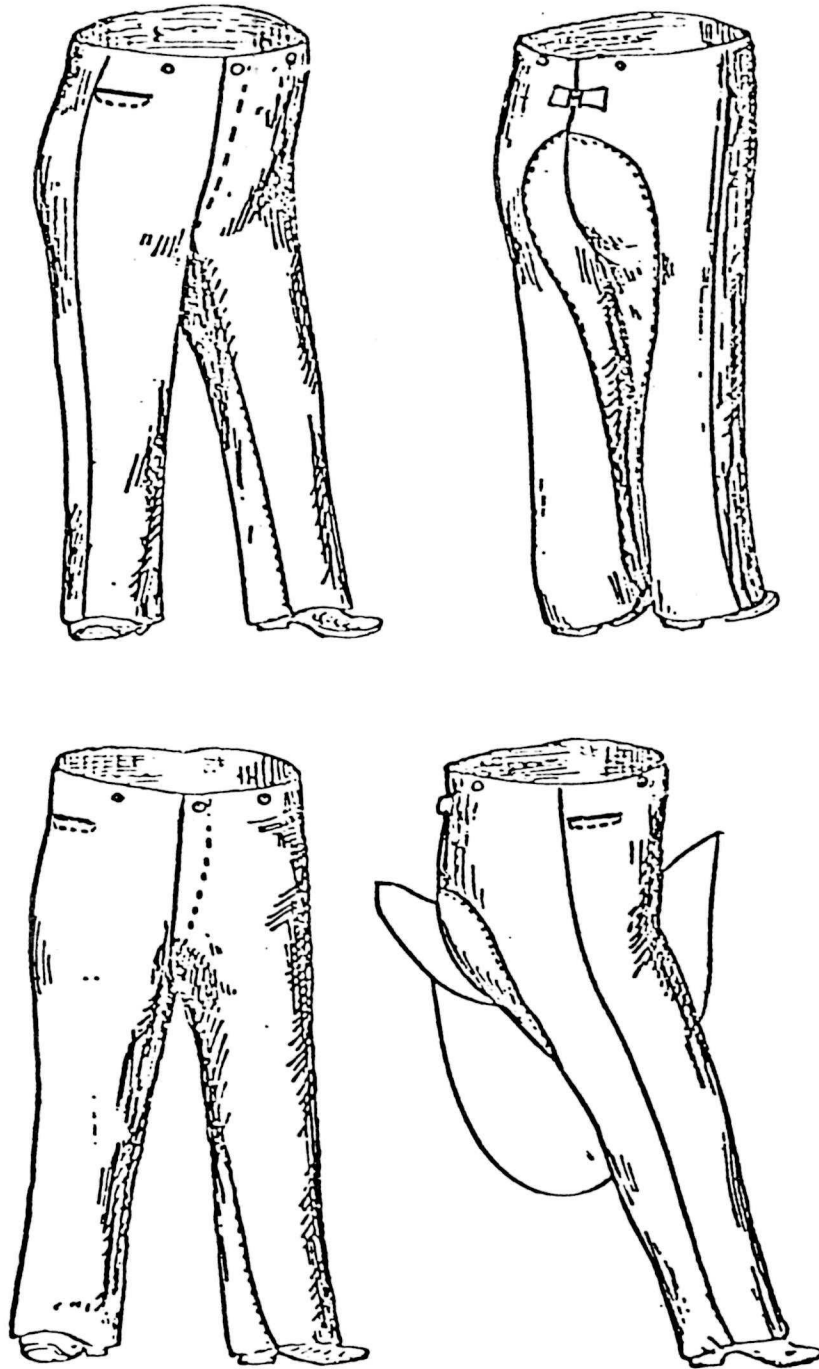


Figure 29

Specifications for the dark-blue flannel shirt stated:

*Material.*--Dark-blue wool flannel, Army standard, ten (10) ounces; shoulder lining, light-gray cotton jeans.

*Patterns.*--To be according to sample, single-breasted, with falling collar and coat sleeves, and without yoke or slits at sides. The front to open all the way down and be fastened with five (5) small regulation brass buttons. The collar and cuffs to be trimmed with worsted cord, of color according to arm of service [yellow for cavalry], as shown on pattern. A small regulation button on each cuff. To be without pockets or lining (except the small stay or lining in the shoulders, as in sample). To be of five sizes, of the following dimensions:<sup>13</sup>

---

	Breast Measurement	Length	Collar Measurement	Length of Sleeve
Size 1	36	29	15	31
Size 2	38	30	15 1/4	32
Size 3	40	31	16	33
Size 4	42	32	16 1/2	33 1/2
Size 5	44	33	17	34 1/2

---

#### J. Undershirts

Each man was issued two undershirts which were kept in his footlocker. Specifications for undershirts (Figure 30) stated:

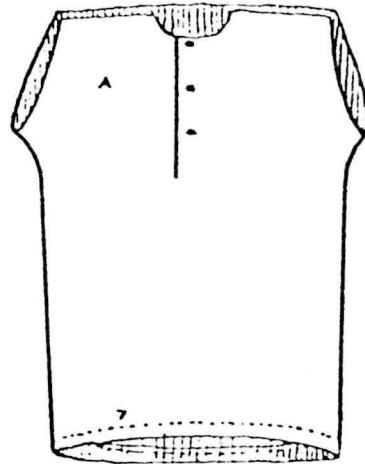
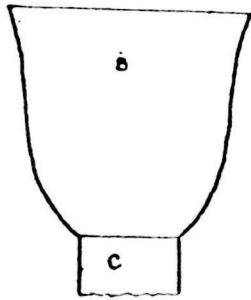
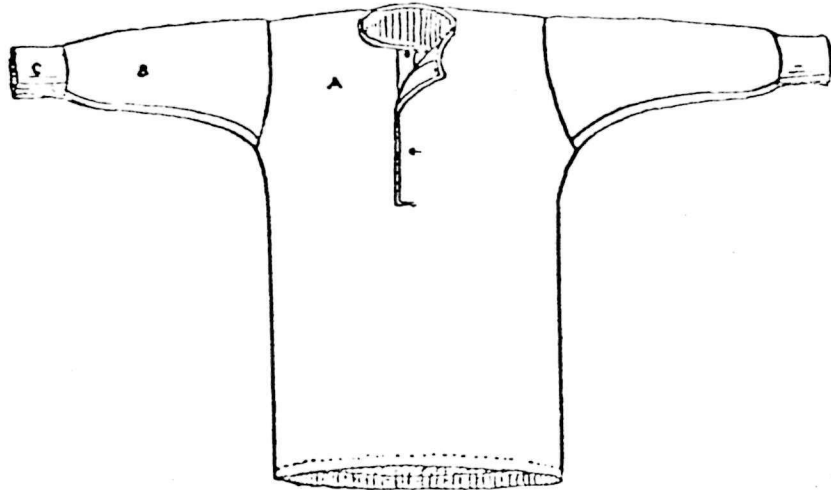
*Material.*--The mixture to consist of fifty per centum (50 per centum) of super-pulled natural sheeps-gray and fine medium or X fleece wool, mixed to the shade of standard sample, and fifty per centum (50 per centum) of good middling cotton, and to be free from shoddy, flocks, reworked wool, or other impurities. The whole mixture to be thoroughly carded.

*Workmanship.*--To be firmly knit on a sixteen (16) guage machine; to be "taken up" on the shoulder, self finish, with "regular" cuffs; to be bound with drab Prussian binding around the neck and down the breast opening.

---

13. Report of the Quartermaster General, November 1, 1881, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1881), pp. 303-4.

UNDER SHIRT.



A, BODY.  
B, SLEEVE.  
C, WRIST BAND

Scale 1/4" = 1"

Figure 30



To have three (3) eighteen (18) line pearl buttons on front, and corresponding button-holes properly made; to be scoured in the garmet, and dried on forms. To be finished like, and equal in all respects to, the standard sample.

To be six (6) sizes, the breast measures and lengths of which shall be as described and weights not less than the figures given below.<sup>14</sup>

Size number	1	2	3	4	5	6
Breast Measure	36 ins.	38 ins.	40 ins.	42 ins.	44 ins.	46 ins.
Length of Shirt	31 ins.	32 ins.	33 ins.	34 ins.	34 ins.	35 ins.
Weight	14 ozs.	15 1/2 ozs.	16 1/2 ozs.	18 ozs.	19 ozs.	20 ozs.

#### K. Drawers

Two pairs of drawers were issued to each man and would be stored in the footlocker. The drawers in use during the period of this study proved too loose or baggy and new specifications for smaller sizes were adopted in 1883. Specifications for the earlier drawers (Figure 31) stated:

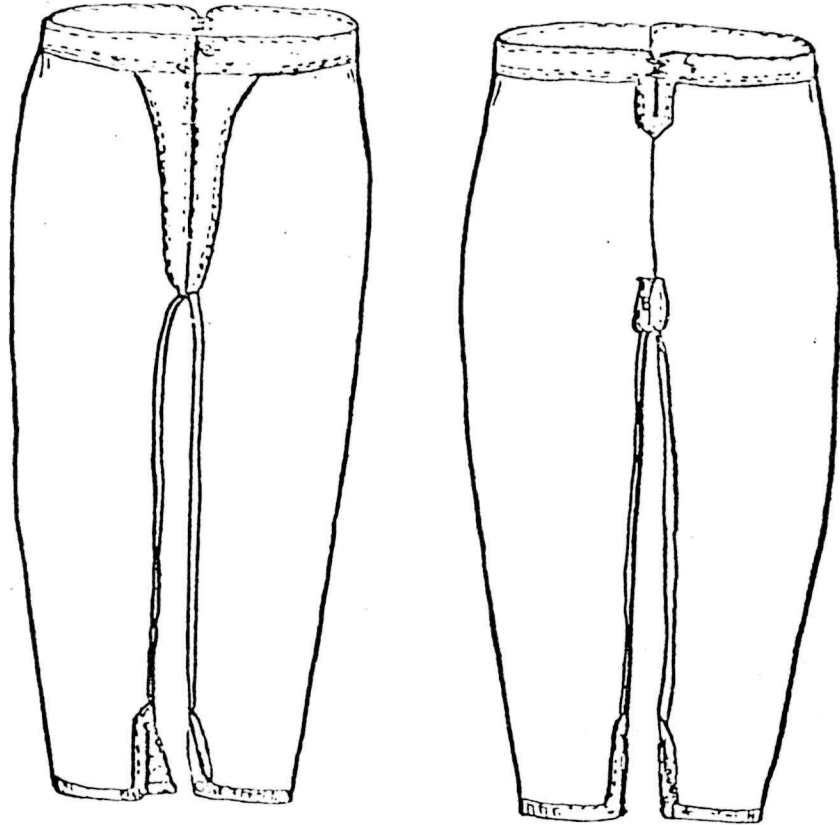
*Material.*--To be of unbleached Canton flannel, Army standard. To be made loose, like standard sample, with waist-band three (3) inches wide, buttoning in front with two (2) buttons. Opening at back of waist with four (4) worked eyelet-holes, and lacing-string of white cotton tape. A slit four and a half (4 1/2) inches long at bottom of each leg. Two strings or ties of white tape about nine (9) inches long at bottom of each leg. The bottoms of legs and slits in legs and at back of waist to be neatly faced with white cotton tape.<sup>15</sup>

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Length of side seam	40	41	42	43	44
Length of leg seam	30	31	32	33	34
Waist	32	34	36	38	40

14. *Ibid.*, p. 304.

15. Report of the Quartermaster General, September 30, 1880, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880), p. 404.

DRAWERS.



Front

Back

Figure 31

## L. Stockings

Each man received both wool and cotton stockings that he kept in his footlocker. Both styles evidently proved unsatisfactory for the men often purchased civilian cotton stockings. In 1875 the commander at Fort Davis thought that only wool stockings should be issued. Unhappily, he noted that many soldiers bought cotton stockings and wore them exclusively.<sup>16</sup> As a result any civilian style cotton stockings of the period could appear in an enlisted man's possession as well as the standard army issue. Specifications for woollen stockings (Figure 32) stated:

To be pure, brown, woollen yarn, made with three threads double and twisted to have fashioned toes, and to be of three sizes, viz: 10, 10 1/2, and 11 inches long in the foot. Length of leg for all three sizes, fourteen (14) inches.<sup>17</sup>

Specifications for cotton stockings (Figure 32) stated:

*Colors.*--To be of three (3) colors, viz: gray mixed, brown mixed, and white (unbleached), and to be put up in dozens of one color.

*Material.*--The brown and gray mixed to be of good long-staple American cotton, free from impurities, of a grade not lower than "New Orleans middling," double corded; and the white to be of good long-staple American cotton, free from impurities, single corded.

*Workmanship.*--The brown and gray mixed to be "full regular," made according to the standard sample, with fashioned heels and toes, and to be knit on the "Shaw" machine; the yarn to be spun from two (2) rovings in the regular hosiery twist for cotton. The top to be ribbed to a depth of about four and a half (4 1/2) inches and to be joined to the leg without seam or linking, forming an integral part of the stocking, to be knitted from two (2) No. 9 yarns and have the upper edge welted. The leg to be knitted of two (2) No. 8 yarns. The substance of heel to be increased by an additional yarn of No. 23. Length of leg from lower edge of ribbed top to be not less than seven and one-half (7 1/2) inches.

---

16. George S. Andrews (Commander at Fort Davis) to the Adjutant, U.S.A., Washington, D.C., February 25, 1875, RG 98, Fort Davis Letters sent, 1867-81, Records of the United States Army Commands, located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files, microfilm NMRA 63-146 (1777).

17. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 267.

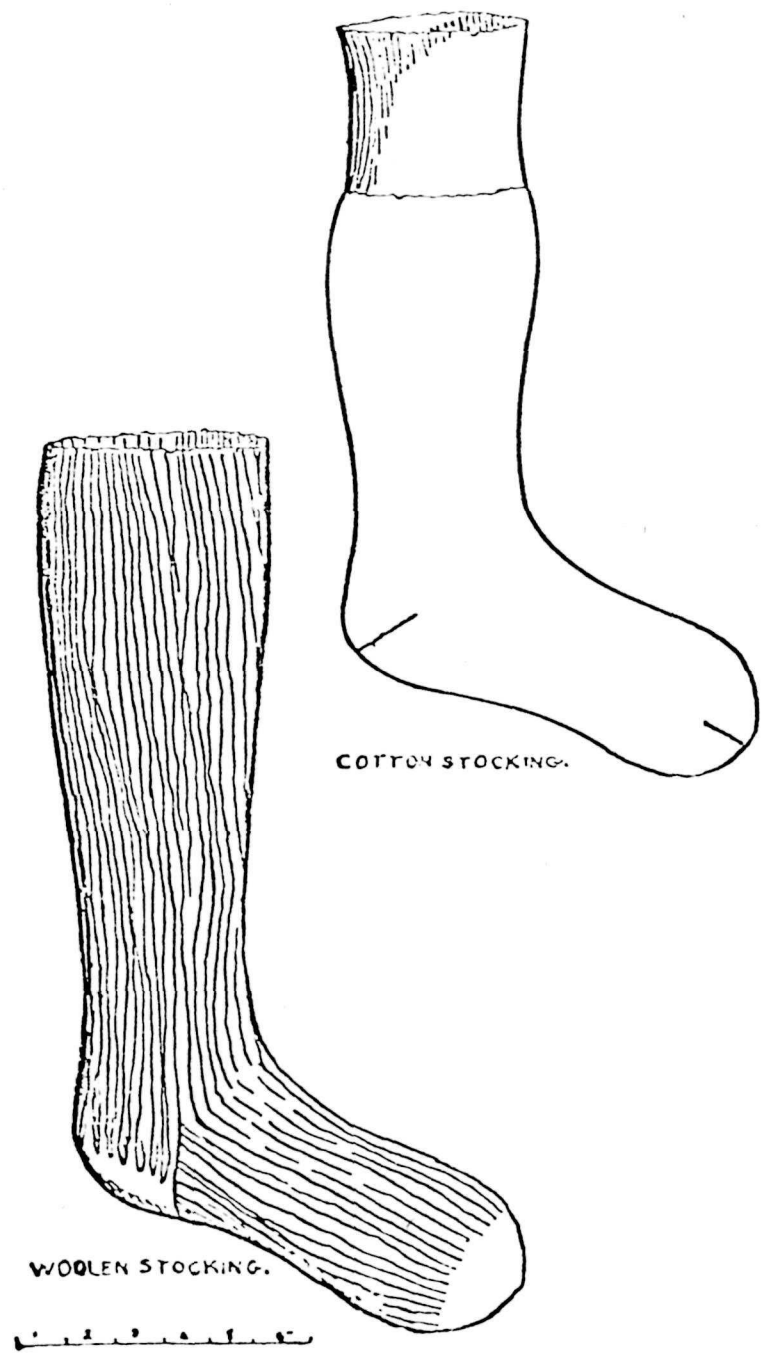


Figure 32

The white (unbleached) to be similar to the above, except that the yarn be spun from a single roving.

*Sizes.*--To be of five (5) sizes, viz: 9 1/2-inch, 10-inch, 10 1/2-inch, 11-inch, and 11 1/2-inch, put up in the following proportions: Two 9 1/2, four 10, three 10 1/2, two 11, and one 11 1/2 to the dozen pairs.

*Weight.*--To weigh not less than two (2) pounds to the dozen pair.<sup>18</sup>

#### M. Boots

Inadequate footwear seemed to plague the Army. The Civil War boot was replaced in 1872 with a new design. In 1876 the Army adopted still another style. These boots, with several modifications, remained a standard issue until 1884. Undoubtedly, the 1876 model would be the boot found in HB-21 during the period covered by this study. Although Figure 4 shows boots displayed under the bunks, it would be better to place them against the wall under the clothes shelf. In this way boots would be displayed only in the clothes shelf open for public viewing. Specifications for the 1876 boot (Figure 33) stated:

To be worked square with the last on which they are made; the edges to be finished with shouldersticks, without heel-ball, and must measure at least half a size (outside) more than they are marked.

The upper leather to be the best oak-tanned from slaughter-hides. The soles to be the best oak-tanned from South America (commonly called Spanish) dry hides. No split leather to be used.

The width of the soles across the ball of the foot to be graduated as follows, and to be in proportion throughout: No. 5, 3 5/8 inches; No. 6, 3 3/4 inches; No. 7, 3 7/8 inches; No. 8, 4 inches; No. 9, 4 1/8 inches; No. 10, 4 1/4 inches; No. 11, 4 3/8 inches; No. 12, 4 1/2 inches.

The insteps and toes to measure as follows: No. 5, 9 1/4, 9; No. 6, 9 3/4, 9 1/8; No. 7, 9 3/4, 9 1/2, No. 8, 10, 9 7/8; No. 9, 10 1/8, 10; No. 10, 10 5/8, 10 1/8; No. 11, 10 7/8, 10 1/2; No. 12, 11, 10 3/4.

The measurement for a No. 8 boot, standard, is as follows, viz: Heel, 13 1/2 inches; instep, 10 inches; ball or

---

18. Report of the Quartermaster General, September 30, 1880, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880), p. 404.



1876 Model Boot

Figure 33

toe, across, 9 7/8 inches; length of legs, 15 1/2 inches in front, 14 inches back; width of leg at top, 14 3/4 inches; width of strap, 1 3/8 inches; length of strap, 9 inches; height of counter, 2 1/4 inches (counter to be sewed over side seam); length and width of heel, 3 inches; width of sole or ball, 4 inches. They are to have six (6) stitches to the inch in the side seam in the upper part of the leg, eight (8) stitches to the inch about the counters, and twelve (12) [modified to ten (10) on February 25, 1878 and to nine (9) on November 21, 1878] stitches to the inch on counter and straps.

To have double soles, fastened to the upper leather and inner sole firmly together with brass screws (the threads of which shall be cleanly cut by the machine on 12 1/2 brass wire and inserted in the sole, so that there will be five spaces to every two (2) inches) well clinched inside, so as to render the inner sole perfectly smooth.

Modified August 24, 1876, so as to admit the use of the Estabrook & Wise patent clinching-screw, which is driven into the leather with a hammer and not screwed in.<sup>19</sup>

#### N. Shoes

Shoes were issued to enlisted men for use on garrison duty. Problems seemed to develop with shoes more than boots. Shoes issued immediately after the Civil War lacked durability. In the 1870s to compensate for this condition, the army specified shoes made of heavy Spanish leather, but this modification created an ill-fitting, unyielding shoe. As a result enlisted men often purchased civilian shoes. A pair of period style civilian shoes could, therefore, be substituted for the military issue. The shoes, worn by the cavalry during garrison duty, would be displayed next to the boots under the clothes shelf. Specifications for the 1876 model shoe stated:

To be worked with the last on which they are made; the edges to be finished with shouldersticks, without heel-ball, and to measure at least half a size outside more than they are marked. Upper leather to be of the best oak-tanned South American (commonly called Spanish) dry hides. No split leather to be used. Width of soles across ball of foot graduated as follows, and to be in proportion: No. 5, 3 5/8 inches; No. 6, 3 6/8 inches; No. 7, 3 7/8 inches; No. 8, 4 inches; No. 9, 4 1/8 inches; No. 10, 4 1/4 inches; No. 11, 4 3/8 inches; No. 12, 4 1/2 inches.

---

19. Reports of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, October 9, 1878, and October 10, 1879, found in the *Reports of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877, 1878, 1879), p. 268 (1877), p. 332 (1878), p. 284 (1879).

The instep and toes to measure as follows: No. 5, 9 1/4, 9; No. 6, 9 1/2, 9 1/4; No. 7, 9 3/4, 9 1/2; No. 8, 10, 9 3/4; No. 9, 10 1/4, 10; No. 10, 10 1/2, 10 1/4; No. 11, 10 3/4, 10 1/2; No. 12, 11, 10 3/4.

Double soles fastened to upper leather and inner sole with brass screws made of No. 12 1/2 brass wire, the thread of which must be cleanly cut by the machine.

Screws to be well clinched inside, so as to render inner sole perfectly smooth.

Tongues to rise one-half (1/2) inch above the upper when on the foot, and to measure at least two (2) inches across top; to be joined to the upper front by a flat seam at a point just above the thong-holes, and cut so as to mold to the instep.

To have at least nine (9) stitches to the inch in the fitting.<sup>20</sup>

#### 0. Gloves

Prior to 1884 cavalrymen at southern posts were issued only white Berlin gloves and woolen mittens. Since Berlin gloves were intended for use with the dress uniform, mounted troops had no issued gloves for field duty until the leather gauntlets were adopted in 1884. As a result some men purchased civilian style gauntlets. For purposes of this study it is optional to include civilian gauntlets among a soldier's possessions, especially since gloves would be kept in a footlocker. Specifications for white Berlin gloves (Figure 34) stated:

Made of strong white cotton known commercially as "Berlin cotton-wool." Gored between the fingers. Three (3) welts stitched along the back of hand.

A white elastic band, one-fourth (1/4) inch wide, about one (1) inch long, fastened to the inner side of the wrist.

Stitched hem around the wrist. To be of three sizes: No. 9, 10, and 11.<sup>21</sup>

Woolen mittens, kept in a footlocker, were designed with the forefinger separate from the others to enable a cavalryman to fire his carbine. Specifications for these mittens (Figure 34) stated:

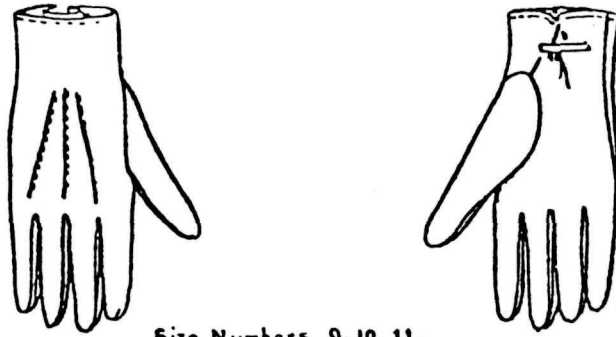
---

20. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), pp. 268-69.

21. *Ibid.*, p. 268.

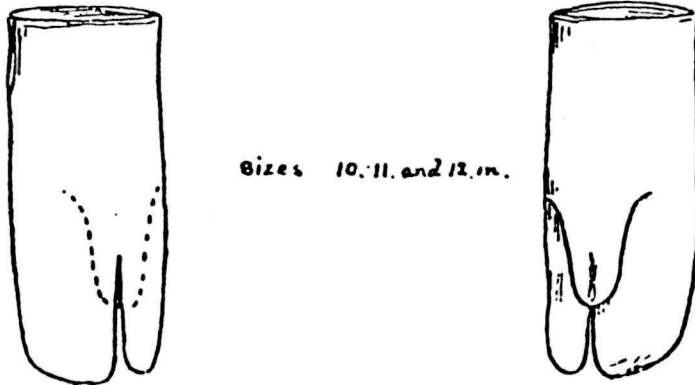


WHITE BERLIN GLOVES.



Size Numbers, 9. 10. 11.

Woolen Mittens.



Sizes 10. 11. and 12. in.

Scale,  $\frac{1}{2}$  IN

Figure 34

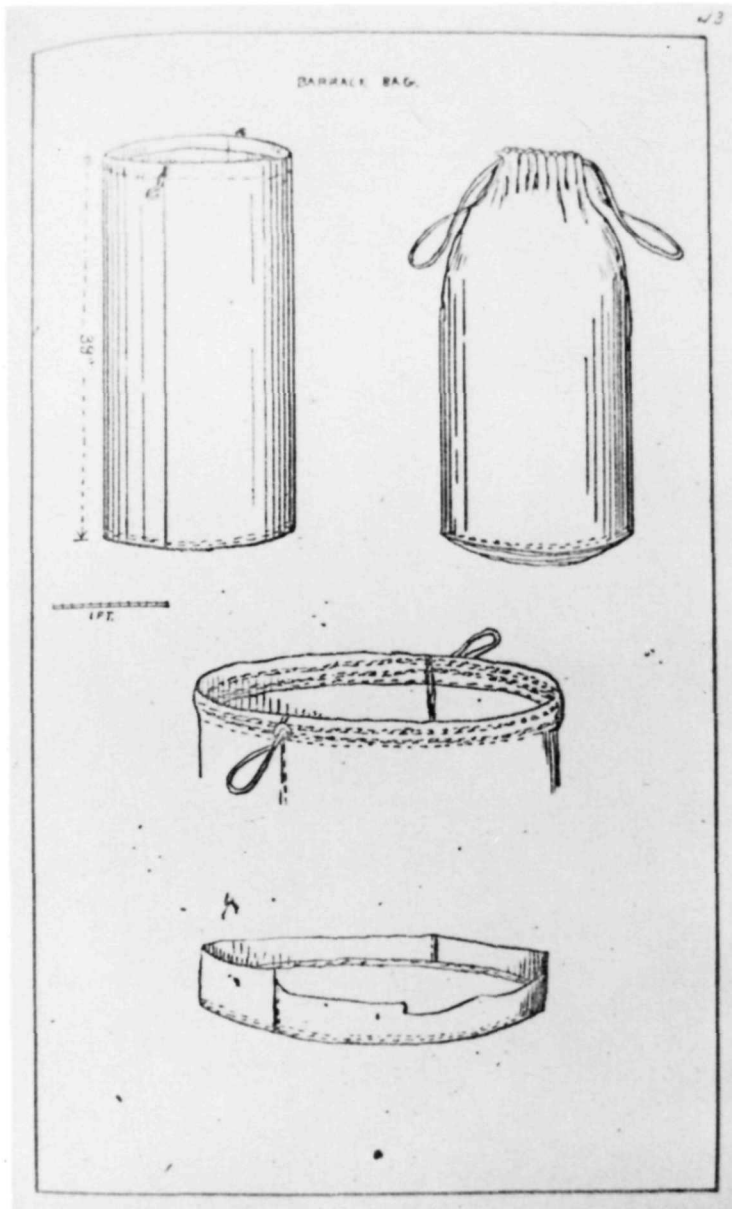
To be made of pure gray woolen yarn, double and twisted; thumb and forefinger formed. To be of three sizes, viz: 10, 11, and 12 inches in length.<sup>22</sup>

P. Barracks Bag

Since barracks bags for dirty clothing were not issued until 1884, enlisted men furnished their own bags. In lieu of a civilian bag, the 1884 bag, made of cotton duck, dyed brown (Figure 35) or one of similar style could be used. It would be found hanging from the hook strip.

---

22. *Ibid.*



1884 Barracks Bag

Figure 35

### III. CAVALRY ACCOUTERMENTS

On October 7, 1873, A. B. Dyer, the Chief of Ordnance, requested that the Secretary of War call a board of ordnance and cavalry officers to update cavalry accouterments. This group, which met in early 1874, devised the new standard of cavalry equipment issued beginning in the 1874-75 fiscal year. Most of the following items would be attached to the saber belt that would be found hanging from the hook strip.

#### A. Saber Belt

This belt (number 2 in Figure 36) was the basic belt on which most accouterments were attached. Specifications stated:

Saber-belt of black leather, 38 inches and 42 inches in length, and 1 7/8 inches wide; to have two slides of cast brass, with loop cast at lower end for hooks of the saber-slings. The slides to be free and to move on the belt. A flat brass hook to be riveted to one end of the belt for regulating the length. A loop of cast brass, sewed and riveted at the other end of the belt, to connect with the plate [buckle]. With the loop of one of the brass slides is fastened, by a cold shut-bend, a saber-hoop, made of sheet brass, 3/8 inch wide at loop and 3/16 wide at point.

The belts to be made and furnished of two sizes:

No. 1, 38 inches long, 50 per cent.

No. 2, 42 inches long, 50 per cent.<sup>1</sup>

The 1874 saber belt buckle contained a two and one-eighth inch oval in the center of which was stamped US.

#### B. Saber Slings

These two black leather slings (number 3 in Figure 36) were not changed from the previous issue. One sling was 29.2 inches long while the other was 16.3 inches. Both were one inch wide and had a hook at one end which was attachable to the brass slides on the saber belt. The opposite ends were passed through two scabbard rings and fixed to the sling buttons located about four inches from that end.

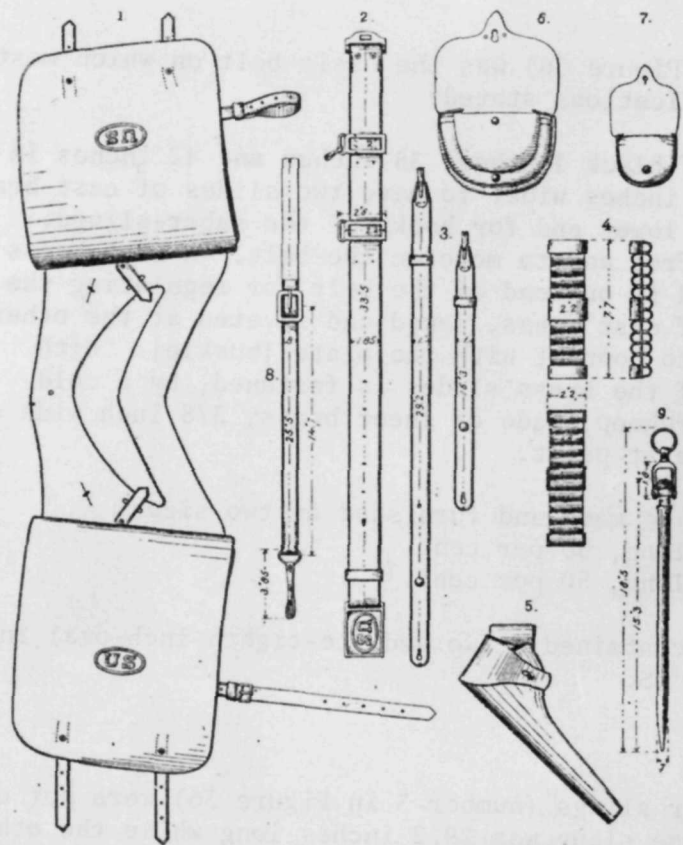
#### C. Saber and Scabbard

The saber and scabbard were "Light Cavalry" pattern. By the time period covered in this study sabers had proved too cumbersome to carry in the field

---

1. Report of the Chief of Ordnance, October 6, 1874, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1874), p. 325.

PLATE 5.



- 1, SADDLE BAGS.
- 2, BELT AND PLATE.
- 3, SABRE SLINGS.
- 4, MOVABLE CARTRIDGE LOOPS.
- 5, PISTOL HOLSTER.
- 6, CARBINE CARTRIDGE POUCH.
- 7, PISTOL CARTRIDGE POUCH.
- 8, LINK.
- 9, PICKET PIN.

H. PETERS, PHOTO LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Figure 36

and were worn only for dress parades at the garrison. Sabers were worn on the individual's left side.

#### D. Carbine Cartridge Pouch

The Dyer cartridge pouch (number 6 in Figure 36 and number 1 in Figure 37) was introduced in 1874 to hold metal cartridges as opposed to the older tin pouch designed for paper cartridges. Since, for the first time, the Army authorized cartridge loops for field duty in 1874, the Dyer pouch was usually used for garrison use with the dress uniform. It was carried on the saber belt. Specifications stated:

Carbine-cartridge pouch of black collar-leather, to contain 40 cartridges for the carbine, composed of one back and one flap cut in one piece, one front, one gusset, 1 1/2 inches wide, excluding seams; the ends of the gusset to extend 1 1/2 inches over the top of pouch, each end to be attached by one rivet to a piece of leather sewed to the front of the pouch; the pouch to have a pocket for the screw-driver, closed by a brass button. The back and front of the pouch to be lined with sheep-skin. The flap to the pouch to be fastened by a brass button. The letters U.S., 3/4-inch long, to be stamped on the front of the flap. Two loops, sewed and riveted to the back to receive the waist-belt [saber belt]. The back, front, and flap to have the natural grain of the leather; the gusset to have the grain broken.<sup>2</sup>

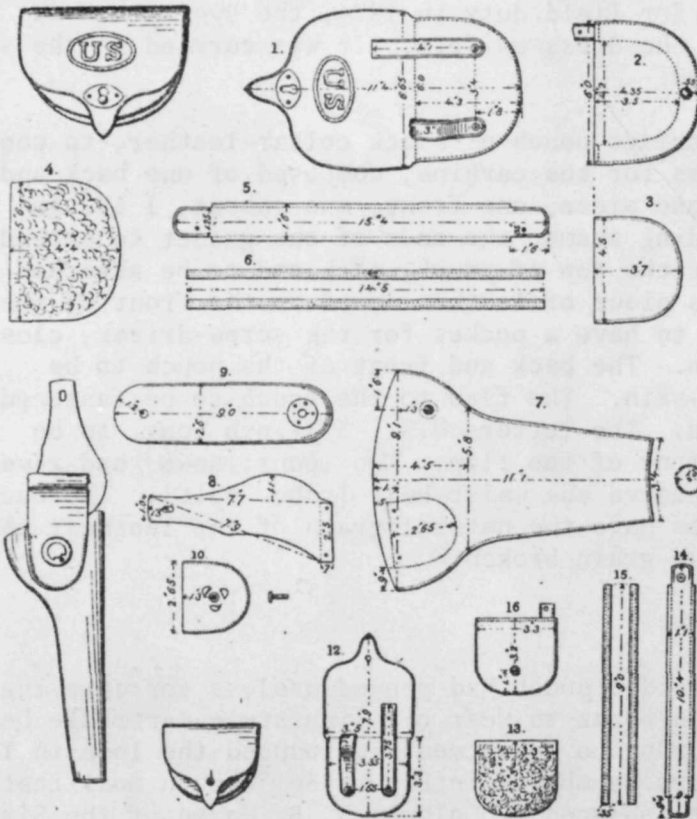
#### E. Cartridge Loops

Since the old tin cartridge pouch had proved useless for carrying metal cartridges, many cavalry men began to wear civilian style cartridge belts in the field long before the Ordnance Department introduced the loop in 1874. These cavalry cartridge loops (number 4 in Figure 36) were a modification of the infantry cartridge belt designed by Colonel W. B. Hazen of the Sixth Infantry. In late 1876 this belt was superseded by a canvas and leather cartridge belt known as the "prairie" belt. During 1881, troops began to receive another cartridge belt developed by Major Anson Mills. The "Mills belt" was made from cotton yarn with the cartridge loops woven as part of the fabric. A large brass plate comprised the buckle. Since the buckle was uncomfortable to wear, the Army changed to a simple strap and buckle device in 1884. At the same time a saber hook was added, which allowed the sword to be worn from the cartridge belt while in the field. The saber belt was then relegated for use at parades and inspections during garrison duty.<sup>3</sup> For the purposes of this

---

2. *Ibid.*

3. Report of the Chief of Ordnance, October 6, 1874, p. 325; Gordon Chappell, *The Search for the Well-Dressed Soldier 1865-1890: Developments and Innovations in United States Army Uniforms on the Western Frontier*, Museum Monograph No. 5 (Tucson: Arizona Historical Society, 1972), p. 27; *Ordnance Memoranda No. 29: Horse Equipments and Cavalry Accoutrements*, Introduction by James S. Hutchins (Pasadena, Calif.: Socio-Technical Publications, 1970), pp. 17-18.



DETAILS OF  
CARBINE CARTRIDGE POUCH, PISTOL HOLSTER & PISTOL CARTRIDGE POUCH

- |                   |                                 |                    |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1, Buck and Flap. | 7, Body.                        | 12, Back and Flap. |
| 2, Front.         | 8, Flap.                        | 13, Wool lining.   |
| 3, Pocket.        | 9, Frog.                        | 14, Gusset.        |
| 4, Wool lining.   | 10, Snivel attachment<br>piece. | 15, Welts.         |
| 5, Gusset.        |                                 | 16, Front.         |
| 6, Welts.         |                                 |                    |

Figure 37

study, the "prairie" cartridge belt was most likely worn by Fort Davis troops. As an alternative, the "Mills belt" with the brass plate buckle could be used.

#### F. Pistol Holster

In the period covered by this study, cavalry troops at Fort Davis carried a Model 1873 Colt, caliber .45, single action revolver. The holster for this pistol (number 5 in Figure 36 and numbers 7-10 in Figure 37) was carried on the saber belt. Specifications for the holster stated:

The pistol-holster to be composed of body, strap, and loop for the belt and swivel attachment. The body to be of black bridle-leather, made so that the pistol shall fit neatly into it. The strap to confine the pistol in the holster to be 2 3/4-inches wide at the widest part, to be sewed to the back of body and fastened in the front by a brass button. The loop for the belt to be attached to the body by a swivel-bolt, with head and plate, with stop riveted firmly to loop, and a slot cut in the head into which the stop operates. The end of the swivel-bolt to be riveted to a plate, which is fastened by rivets to a leather safe, this latter being attached to the body of the holster by stitching and by three brass rivets. The swivel attachment allows the holster to move on the belt through an arc of 45°. <sup>4</sup>

#### G. Pistol Cartridge Pouch

The pistol cartridge pouch (number 7 in Figure 36 and numbers 12-16 in Figure 37), approved for manufacture in 1874, was never produced. Instead, faced with an abundance of 1855 cap pouches from the Civil War period, the Ordnance Department continued to issue that pouch. It, too, was worn on the saber belt. This 1855 cap pouch would be the type carried by the cavalry at Fort Davis during the period covered by this study.

#### H. Carbine Sling

In the field, when mounted and dismounted, a cavalry trooper carried his carbine on a sling which passed over his left shoulder and crossed his chest diagonally with the sling hook positioned on the right side of his waist. The sling, made "of black bridle-leather, with brass buckle and tip," was about 56 inches long and 2-1/2 inches wide. The sling swivel was not blued. <sup>5</sup>

#### I. Spurs

Each cavalry-enlisted man received a pair of brass, plain surface spurs with black leather straps. They would probably be hung from the hook strip or attached to the boots for display.

---

4. Report of the Chief of Ordnance, October 6, 1874, p. 325.

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 325-26.



In 1874 an Infantry board met to update infantry accouterments shortly after the cavalry board adjourned. Several items it recommended for change were service wide in use. These alterations included the haversack, mess gear, and canteen.

#### J. Haversack

Haversacks (Figures 38 and 39), carried over the shoulder, were used in the field to carry extra clothing and mess gear.<sup>6</sup> It could be either stored on the top of the clothing shelf with the helmets or hung from the hook strip. Specifications stated:

The haversack is made of the same material as the clothing bag [stout canvas duck], but is a little smaller. The flap is cut 14 3/8 inches long by 13 1/4 inches wide. The front is cut 12 inches deep by 9 7/8 inches wide. It has an outside pocket for meat-can and plate combined, 9 1/4 inches wide by 10 inches deep, rounded at the bottom, with selvage top. Gusset 32 1/2 inches long by 3 1/2 inches in width in the middle and 3 1/8 inches at ends, tapers back from the ends 5 inches. Three-eighths of an inch for all seams included in these dimensions. The haversack has a buckle at each upper corner to attach it to the yoke [for infantry], a buckle and a strap to hold the clothing-bag and it together [for infantry], to secure steadiness. The haversack belonging to this equipment has been constructed under the directions of the board, so as to contain a knife, fork, spoon, meat-can, and plate, combined, with a tin cup attached to the strap, and may be carried over either shoulder or attached to the brace yoke [the brace yoke was used by the infantry]. The strap for the shoulder is much longer and broader than those now furnished, and is adjustable to the size of any man by means of a double-barred brass buckle, invented by Maj. Alex. Chambers.<sup>7</sup>

#### K. Meat Can and Plate Combined

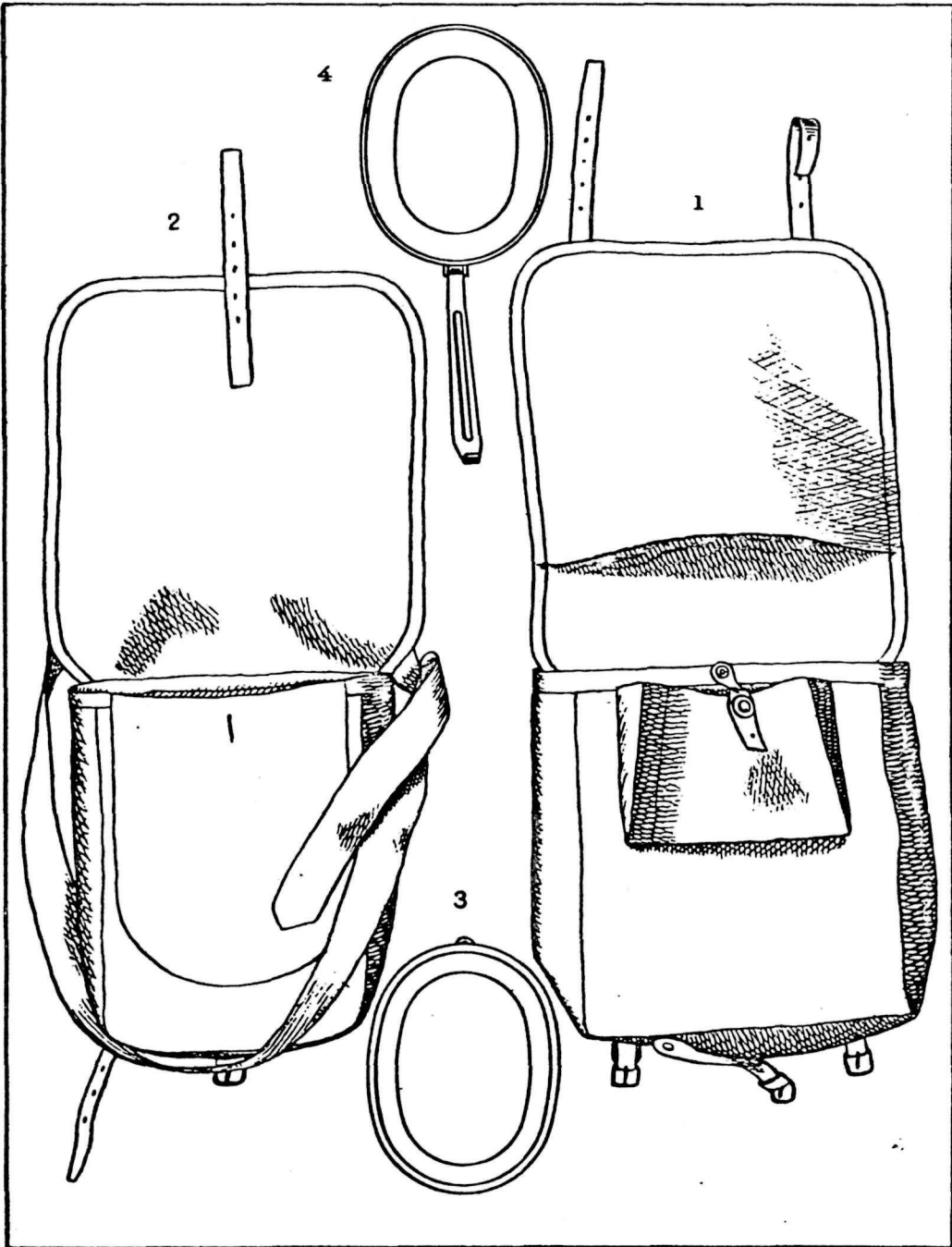
The meat can and plate were oval in shape with the meat can deeper than the plate (Figures 38 and 39) and were carried in a special pocket of the haversack. They were 8 inches in length by 6-1/2 inches in width. The depth when combined was 1-1/2 inches. A light iron handle, which folded over the two pieces when combined, was attached to the meat can.<sup>8</sup>

---

6. The clothing bag shown in Figures 38 and 39 was an infantry item.

7. Report of the Chief of Ordnance, October 9, 1875, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1875), p. 88.

8. *Ibid.*

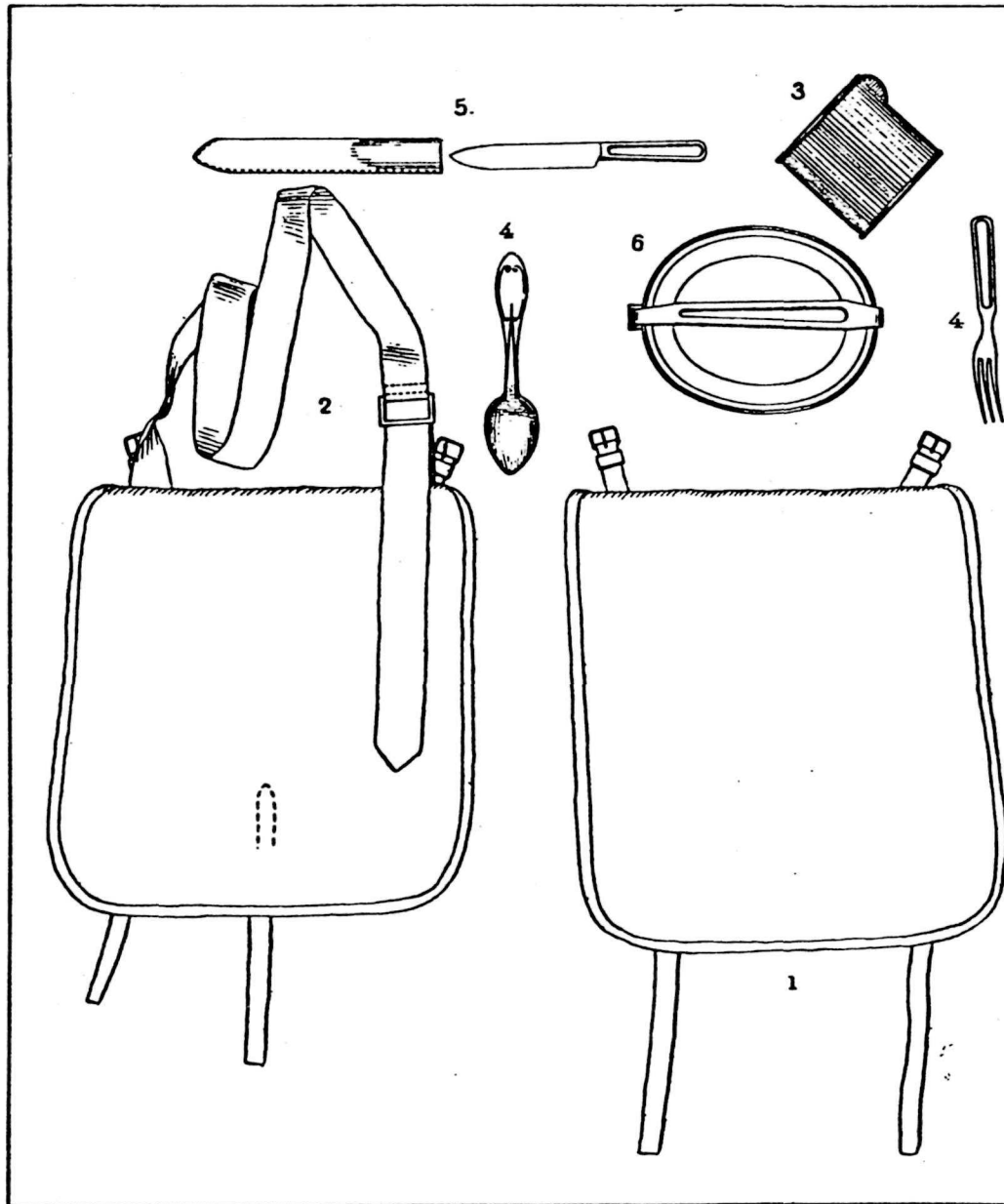


ARMY PHOTO-LITHOGRAPH, WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. CLOTHING BAG, OPEN.  
 2. HAVERSACK, OPEN.

MEAT CAN. { 3. PLATE.  
 4. SOUP PLATE.

Figure 38



B. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

- 1. CLOTHING BAG .
- 2. HAVERSACK, STRAP AND BUCKLE .
- 3. TIN CUP .
- 4. FORK . SPOON .
- 5. KNIFE AND KNIFE - SHEATH .
- 6. MEAT CAN, CLOSED .

Figure 39

L. Knife, Fork, and Spoon

These three eating utensils (Figure 39) were also carried in the haversack. The spoon was changed in 1884 to have a more rounded tip on the handle.

M. Tin Cup

Tin cups (Figure 39) were carried attached by the handle to a strap on the haversack. They measured 4 inches high and 4 inches in diameter.

N. Canteen

Canteens (Figure 40) were changed in 1874 to have a cover of two thicknesses of felt.<sup>9</sup> A broad strap with chambers buckle was attached to allow the canteen. When mounted, a cavalry trooper usually tied a knot in the strap to shorten it and then hung the canteen from the saddle horn. Upon dismounting, the soldier untied the knot and carried the canteen by putting the strap over his shoulder. In the mid-1880s, after the period of this study, the canteen was modified to allow it to be attached on the belt.<sup>10</sup>

O. Cleaning Material

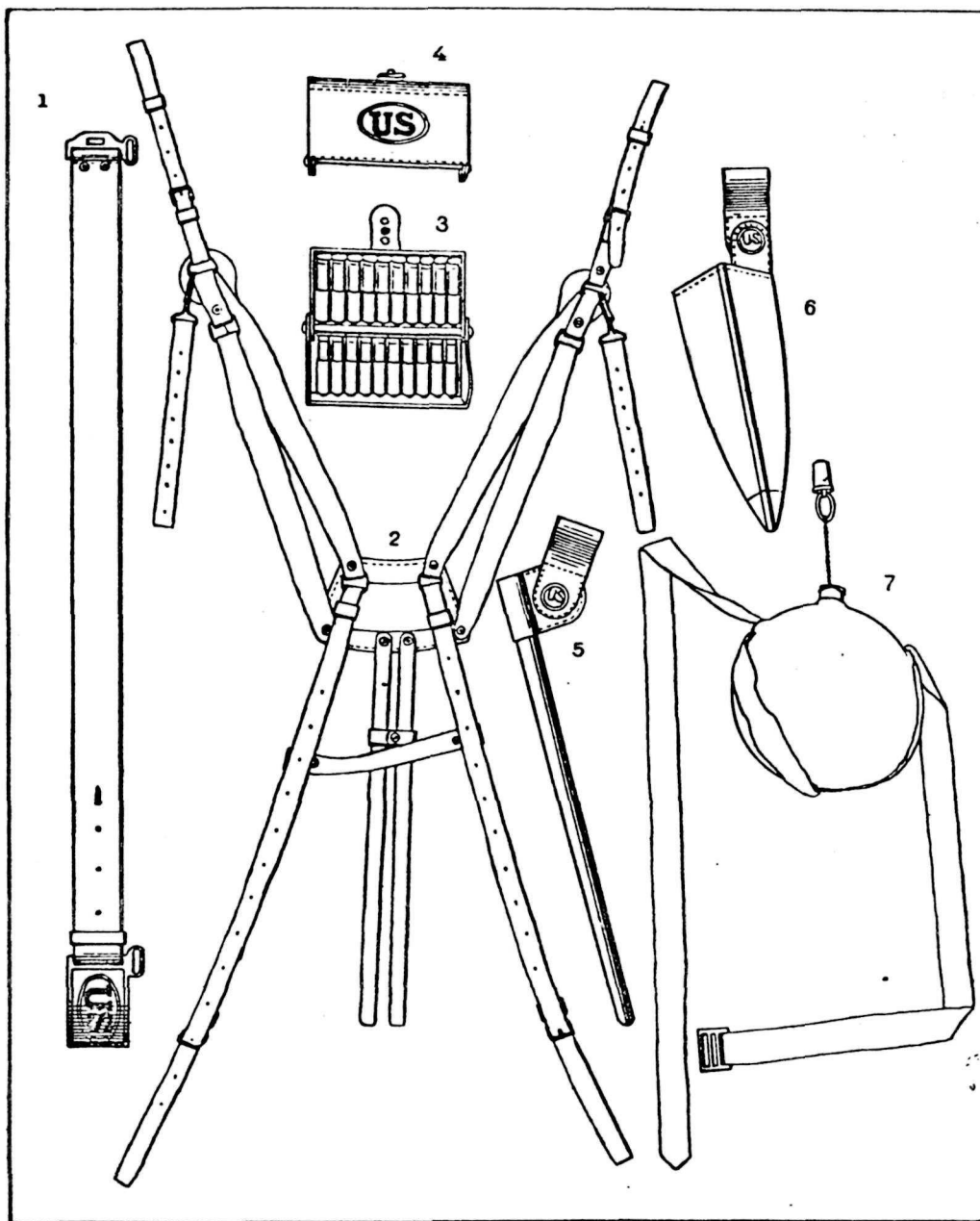
Each company received a box of cleaning material for weapons and leather. It would have been stored out of sight. Each box contained the following: two quart cans of anti-corrosive and lubricating oil; one box holding forty ounces of scouring-material, marked I; one box containing 16 ounces of polishing material for leather, marked II; one box holding 40 ounces of whiting; two chamois about 2 feet square; and one wire scratch brush.<sup>11</sup>

---

9. The other items in Figure 40 are infantry equipment.

10. Report of the Chief of Ordnance, October 9, 1875, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1875), p. 89.

11. *Ibid.*, pp. 91-92.



U. S. ARMY PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. WAIST BELT AND PLATE .

2. CARRYING - BRACE .

3. CARTRIDGE BOX , OPEN .

4. CARTRIDGE BOX , CLOSED .

5. BAYONET SCABBARD .

6. TROWEL BAYONET SCABBARD .

7. CANTEEN , STRAP AND BUCKLE .

Figure 40

#### IV. FIRST SERGEANT'S ROOM

##### A. Living Quarters

The small room located on the north end of HB-21 served as both the company first sergeant's living quarters and an office where the first sergeant conducted company business and kept records. The room would, therefore, be split with the living quarters on one side and the office on the other.

Most furnishings in the living quarters would be the same as the squad room. The bunk, bed sack, pillow sack, woolen blanket, and footlocker would be displayed in a similar manner to those found in the enlisted men's quarters. The hook strip and clothing shelf would also be identical. Clothing and equipment would be similar and displayed in the same fashion except that a sergeant's trousers would have a 1-inch wide yellow stripe, made of facing cloth, on the outer seam of the legs. The rear edge of the stripe followed the seam. In addition the dress uniform coat and blouses (fatigue coats) would bear first sergeant's chevrons. A small table which served as a night stand could be placed next to the sergeant's bunk. The living quarters portion of the room also would contain a wash stand against one wall on which could be displayed a pitcher, wash basin, soap, and shaving equipment. A period mirror would be found on the wall above that stand. Finally, a barracks chair would also be located in the living quarters. A table similar to that in Figure 11 could be placed in the center of the room.

The type of heating and lighting fixtures in the room depends upon those used in the squad room. Since there is no evidence of a chimney in the room, it would prove difficult to install a stove. As a result it would be better not to display a heating device in the room. Lighting is another matter. Regulations in 1881 authorized a single burner lamp (Figure 15) for each first sergeant. If the two burner pendant lamps are used in the squad room, then the above style lighting should be used in the sergeant's room. However, if this lamp is unavailable, a period style oil lamp could be placed on the table in the center of the room.

##### B. Office

The office portion of the room would contain a desk, chairs, small bookshelf, wastepaper basket, and perhaps a spittoon. The desk would undoubtedly be one of period style. It would contain a quill or steel pen, an ink stand, a paper folder, a ruler, an eraser, and a letter-copying press.<sup>1</sup> A minimum of ten company books for various reports also would be found in the desk. These books, adopted in March 1876, consisted of (1) a descriptive book, (2) a clothing book, (3) a morning report book, (4) an order book, (5) a letter

---

1. Revised Army Regulations, March 1, 1873 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1873), p. 151.

No.	Names.	Rank.	Date of appointment.	Remarks.

EXHIBIT E, No. 2, (2 pages.)—List of non-commissioned officers.

No.	Names.	Rank.	Date of appointment.	Remarks.

83

EXHIBIT E, No. 3, (2 pages.)—Register of men transferred.

No.	Names.	Rank.	When.	By whose order.	What reason.	Remarks.





EXHIBIT E, No. 6, (4 pages.)—Register of deserters.

No.	Name.	Rank.	When.	From where.	Remarks.
85					

No.	Names.	Age.	DESCRIPTION.						
			Height.		Complexion.	Eyes.	Hair.	Where born.	
			Feet.	Inches.				Town or county.	State.

Occupation.	ENLISTMENT.				Remarks.
	When.	Where.	By whom.	Term.	

book, (6) a sick report book, (7) a target practice record book, (8) a record book of deposits by enlisted men, and (9) two blank record books. Using the specifications and illustrations as a guide, these books could be reprinted for display. Specifications with examples stated:

*Company-Books.*--The company-books to consist of a descriptive book, a clothing-book, a morning-report book, an order-book, a letter-book, and a sick-report book, all to be of the same quality of paper as the regimental and post books, and all, except the sick-report book to be 16 inches long by 11 inches wide, extreme outside measurement, demi, full-bound rough sheep, tight back, side labeled, and all paged except report-books. The descriptive book to be of two quires of paper, faint cross-ruled, with an index in front of four letters to a folio; the pages and folios to be red-ruled up and down and across, with spaces and headings as shown in Exhibit "E", numbers 1 to 7, hereto appended; two pages to be appropriated to the list of commissioned officers, two to the list of non-commissioned officers, two to the register of men transferred, four to the register of men discharged, two to the register of deaths, four to the register of deserters, and the remainder for the descriptive roll of the company.

The clothing-book to be of three quires of paper, faint cross-ruled, with an index in front of four letters to a folio; the folios to be red ruled up and down, with spaces and headings as shown in Exhibit "F", hereto appended, and the book to have a printed copy of exhibit, *in full*, inserted in front of book.

The morning-report book to be of two quires of paper, faint cross-ruled, the folios to be black ruled up and down, with spaces, headings, and numbers as shown in Exhibit "G", hereto appended, the first page to be ruled as the pages of folio No. 1 of the exhibit, the next two folios as No. 2, the next folio as No. 1, and so on throughout the book; the faint cross-lines beneath the headings to be spaced for 31 daily entries.

The order-book to be of one quire of paper, faint cross-ruled.

The letter-book to be of one quire of paper, faint cross-ruled, with an index in front of six letters to a folio, each page red-ruled up and down with one line, same as regimental and post letter-books.

The sick-report book to be 8 inches long by 11 inches wide, extreme outside measurements, of 200 pages, each page faint cross-ruled and black-ruled up and down, with spaces and headings as shown in Exhibit "H" hereto appended.

In addition to the foregoing, the board recommends that ordinary two-quire cap-paper blank record books be supplied as follows, viz: . . . to a company, two per annum, in addition to such as may be required for record of target practice, and records of deposit by enlisted men.<sup>2</sup>

In addition to the company books, a set of stencil plates used to mark company property and enlisted men's clothing would be kept in the first sergeant's desk. Specifications for stencil plates stated:

A complete set of stencil plates consists of two full alphabets Roman capitals, and including the usual mark for "G", and two series of numbers from "1 to 0."

One set of letters and numbers to be one (1) inch, the other one-half (1/2) inch high. They are cut on plates of sheet-brass, No. 28, the larger two and a quarter (2 1/4) by two (2) inches, the smaller one and three-quarters (1 3/4) by one and a half (1 1/2) inch. The upper edge of each plate is turned up so as to form a rim about one-half (1/2) inch high.

These plates are issued in Japanned tin boxes eight and a half (8 1/2) inches long, four (4) wide, and one and three-quarters (1 3/4) inch high, with hinged lids. Each box contains, besides the full sets of stencils, a cake of marking-paste in tin box, a sponge, and a stencil-brush. Printed directions for the use of the latter materials are fastened to the inside of the lid.<sup>3</sup>

A standard barracks chair or a period civilian one of better quality would be placed at the desk. Two or three other barracks chairs could be placed near the desk and a period wastepaper basket could be situated on one side of it. For convenience a brass spittoon should be near the desk. Finally, a small, simple bookshelf could be fixed to a wall on which training manuals would be displayed.

---

2. Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1876, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1876), p. 208.

3. *Ibid.*, p. 272.

EXHIBIT F.—

John Smith, Company I, Third Regiment of Artillery, enlisted at Brooklyn, N. Y., on the 1st day each issue being

DR.

Date of issue.	Money value.		Rank.	Signature.	Witness.
	Dollars.	Cts.			
May 1, 1876...	15	75	Private.....		
	15	75			
Aug. 2, 1876...	14	29	Private.....		
Nov. 5, 1876...	12	04	do.....		
Dec. 31, 1876...	10	45	do.....	Balance due soldier.....	
	36	78			
Jan. 15, 1877...	4	75	Private.....		
April 20, 1877...	15	20	do.....		
June 30, 1877...	22	66	do.....	Balance due soldier.....	
	42	61			
Aug. 15, 1877...	15	93	Corporal.....		
Dec. 1, 1877...	12	40	do.....		
Dec. 31, 1877...	18	46	do.....	Balance due soldier.....	
	46	12			
Jan. 20, 1878...	15	10	Corporal.....		
May 31, 1878...	20	15	do.....		
June 30, 1878...	8	61	do.....	Balance due soldier.....	
	43	86			
Nov. 15, 1878...	12	27	Sergeant.....		
Dec. 31, 1878...	25	56	do.....	Balance due soldier.....	
	37	83			
Jan. 5, 1879...		32	Sergeant.....		
May 1, 1879...	44	81	do.....	Credited on final statement.....	
	43	13			

Discharged at Fort Hamilton, N. Y., May 1, 1879.

Clothing-book.

of May, 1876, for three years, in account, for clothing, with the United States, money value hereby acknowledged.

CR

Date of credit.	Money value.		Rank.	Period. Year of enlistment and rate of credit.
	Dollars.	Cts.		
June 30, 1876...	12	26	Private.....	Two months' allowance, first year, at \$73.57. Charged on muster and pay rolls.
June 30, 1876...	3	49	do.....	
	15	75		
Dec. 31, 1876...	36	78	Private.....	Six months' allowance, first year, at \$73.57.
	36	78		
Jan. 1, 1877...	10	45	Private.....	Balance due soldier on last settlement.
April 30, 1877...	24	59	do.....	Four months' allowance, first year, at \$73.57.
June 30, 1877...	7	61	do.....	Two months' allowance, second year, at \$45.83.
	42	61		
July 1, 1877...	22	68	Private.....	Balance due soldier on last settlement.
July 31, 1877...	3	83	do.....	One month's allowance, second year, at \$45.83.
Dec. 31, 1877...	19	61	Corporal.....	Five months' allowance, second year, at \$47.13.
	46	12		
Jan. 1, 1878...	18	40	Corporal.....	Balance due soldier on last settlement.
April 30, 1878...	15	71	do.....	Four months' allowance, second year, at \$47.13.
June 30, 1878...	9	69	do.....	Two months' allowance, third year, at \$58.18.
	43	80		
July 1, 1878...	8	61	Corporal.....	Balance due soldier on last settlement.
Sept. 30, 1878...	14	51	do.....	Three months' allowance, third year, at \$58.18.
Dec. 31, 1878...	14	68	Sergeant.....	Three months' allowance, third year, at \$58.72.
	37	83		
Jan. 1, 1879...	25	58	Sergeant.....	Balance due soldier on last settlement.
April 30, 1879...	19	57	do.....	Four months' allowance, third year, at \$58.72.
	45	13		

Captain Third Artillery, Commanding







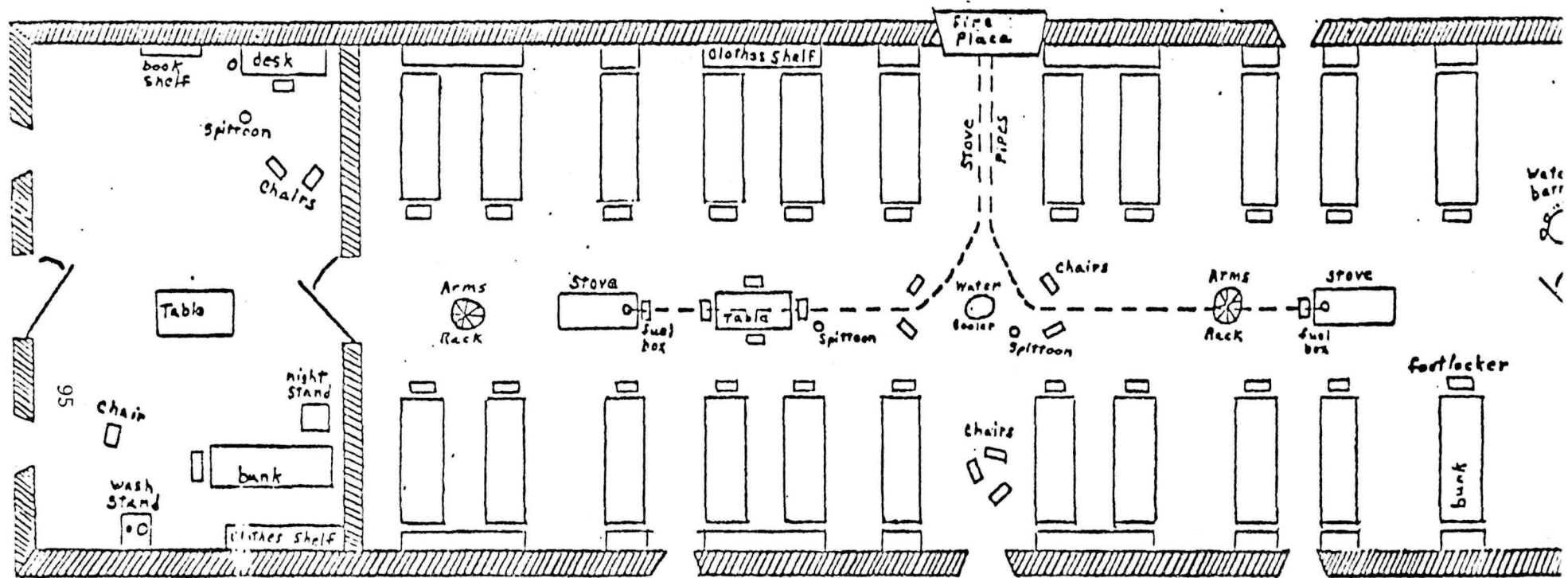
APPENDIX

## SERVICE CALLS

Service calls, which regulated the daily garrison routine, varied over the years. In fact the work day increased as the years passed. In 1869 the fatigue call at Fort Davis sounded at 7:50 a.m. with recall at 5:10 p.m. By 1875 the duty day began at 7:30 a.m. and ended at 5:00 p.m. In 1879 the service calls changed again with fatigue call sounding at 6:30 a.m. and recall at 5:30 p.m. Although the duty day varied with the season, the following duty calls are representative of those in use during the period of this study.

Reveille	4:50
Assembly	5:00
Breakfast call	5:10
Stable call	5:30
Fatigue call	6:30
Sick call	6:45
Drill call	7:00
Recall from drill	8:00
Water call	8:05
Assembly of Guard Details	8:55
Adjutant's call	9:00
Recall from fatigue	12:00
Dinner call	12:05
Fatigue call	1:00
Recall from fatigue	5:30
Retreat	twenty minutes before sunset
Assembly and Inspection by Co. Commanders	fifteen minutes before sunset
Tattoo	8:50
Taps	9:30

Sunday morning inspection invariably in heavy marching order, and cavalry mounted at least twice each month. 9:00 a.m. Guard mount on Sunday morning as soon as the inspection is completed.



SUGGESTED FLOOR PLAN

More bunks would appear in HB-21 than in this plan

Specifications for Gray Shirting-Flannel, Light Quality\*

To be full twenty-seven (27) inches wide when finished. To have fifty-six (56) threads of chain and forty-eight (48) threads of filling to the square inch.

The chain to be made of the best long-staple American cotton yarn, No. 46, doubled and twisted, dyed pure indigo-blue, and to weigh one and one-half (1 1/2) ounces to the yard. The filling to be composed of good quality American fleece-wool (at least one-quarter blood) and of the best long-staple American cotton, in the proportion of seventy-five (75) parts wool to twenty-five (25) parts cotton, and to be free from shoddy, flocks, or other impurities. To be dyed with indigo and logwood to color of filling of standard sample, and to weigh three and one-half (3 1/2) ounces to the yard. Weight to be not less than five (5) ounces to the linear yard. The breaking strain to be not less than thirty-four (34) pounds to one inch width of warp and thirty-one (31) pounds to the inch width of filling in the piece.

To be neither hot nor cold pressed.

To be properly fulled, and of the shade of the standard sample.

Discontinued after July 1881.

---

\*Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 274.

Specifications for Sky-Blue Kersey, Light Quality\*

To be fifty-four (54) inches wide, and made of pure long-staple American fleece-wool free from shoddy, flocks, or other impurities; wool dyed with pure indigo to color of standard sample; nap very slightly raised; to contain forty-eight (48) threads of warp and forty-six (46) threads of filling to the square inch, and to weigh eighteen (18) ounces to the linear yard.

To be capable of sustaining the following strain to the inch, viz, thirty-three (33) pounds for warp and thirty-six (36) pounds for filling to the inch.

---

\*Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 274.

## Specifications for Dark-Blue Wool Flannel\*

To be fifty-four (54) inches, or 6/4 wide, and to be made of pure, long staple American fleece-wool, not less than full one-half blood, free from shoddy, flocks, or other impurities.

To be twilled and the nap slightly raised. To contain not less than fifty-six (56) threads of warp and forty-eight (48) threads of filling in each square inch. To weigh not less than eleven and one-half (11 1/2) ounces to the linear yard. To be capable of sustaining a strain of thirty-two (32) pounds to the inch in width of warp, and twenty-five (25) pounds to the inch in width of filling.

All flannel to be of the strength herein given, with an allowance of two (2) pounds for variation in samples; but no flannel breaking under a strain three (3) pounds less than the standard will be accepted from contractors.

The color to be dark blue, of same shade as the standard sample, and to be dyed in the wool with pure indigo.

---

\*Report of the Quartermaster General, October 9, 1878, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1878), p. 331.

Specifications for Dark-Blue Wool shirting Flannel\*

To be fifty-four (54) inches, or 6/4 wide, and to be made of pure long-staple American fleece wool, not less than one-half blood, free from shoddy, flocks or other impurities, and to weigh not less than ten (10) ounces to the linear yard.

To be twilled and the nap very slightly raised; to contain not less than fifty-six (56) threads of warp and forty-eight (48) threads of filling in each square inch, and to be capable of sustaining a strain of not less than twenty-six (26) pounds to the inch in width of warp, and not less than twenty-two (22) pounds to the inch in width of filling, tested in the piece.

The color to be dark-blue, similar in shade to the standard sample, and to be dyed in the wool with pure indigo.

---

\*Report of the Quartermaster General, September 13, 1881, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1881), p. 303.

Specifications for Cotton Duck (12 oz)\*

To be of long-staple American cotton; to be twenty-eight and one-half (28 1/2) inches wide; to weigh twelve (12) ounces per linear yard, and to be free from sizing.

The warp to contain from forty-two (42) to forty-three (43) threads, and the filling from thirty (30) to thirty-four (34) threads per square inch; the breaking-strain to be not less than seventy-six (76) pounds for one-half (1/2) inch width of warp in the piece, and sixty-eight (68) pounds for one-half (1/2) inch width of filling in the piece, subject to a variation of five (5) pounds per half (1/2) inch for variation in sample; but no piece breaking under a strain five (5) pounds per half (1/2) inch, warp or filling, less than the standard will not be accepted from contractors.

---

\*Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 275.



### Specifications for Facing-Cloth\*

To be made six-quarter (6/4) of a yard wide, of best American fleece-wool, free from shoddy, flocks, or other impurities; twilled; all wool, dyed in the following colors viz: Sky-blue, dark blue, scarlet, yellow, crimson, orange, gray, enerald-green, and white.

To contain sixty-four (64) threads in the chain, sixty (60) threads in the filling to the square inch, and to weigh sixteen (16) ounces to the linear yard.

Capable of sustaining the following strain to the inch, viz, thirty (30) pounds for chain, twenty (20) pounds for filling.

---

\*Report of the Quartermaster General, October 10, 1877, found in the *Report of the Secretary of War* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877), p. 274.

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Primary Sources

#### 1. Unpublished Government Documents

- Fort Davis, Texas. Fort Davis National Historic Site files. RG 92, Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General. Circular. December 23, 1879. Microfilm NNMO 74-316 (351).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. "Report of the Annual Inspection of Public Buildings, at the Post of Fort Davis, Texas." March 31, 1883. Microfilm NMRA 63-172 (2082).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. "Specifications for Barracks Chairs." January 8, 1878. Microfilm NNMO 74-316 (351).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. RG 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office. "The Army Ration," by J. R. Smith, Surgeon and Medical Director, Department of Texas. November 3, 1880. Microfilm NMRA 905 (8821).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. "History of Fort Davis." Corrected and approved by Lt. Colonel M. A. Cochran. June 19, 1889. Microfilm NMRA 905 (8821).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands, Fort Davis Letters sent, 1867-81. Andrews, George S. (Commander at Fort Davis) to the Adjutant, U.S.A., Washington, D.C. February 25, 1875. Microfilm NMRA 63-146 (1777).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands. Bi-Monthly Inspection Report of Fort Davis, Texas. November 3, 1877. Microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 6.
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. Circular No. 6 (Fort Davis). May 12, 1875. Microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 4.
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. General Orders No. 26. May 12, 1875. Fort Davis, Orders, Circulars, Memoranda, 1867-91. Microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 4.
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. Inspection Report, March 31, 1873. Fort Davis Inspection Reports 1872-73. Microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 6.
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. Inspection Report. January 31, 1873. Fort Davis Inspection Reports 1872-73. Microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 6.
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. Post Circular (Fort Davis). June 30, 1884. Microfilm NMRA 66-783 (7675) 8.

- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. RG 98, Records of the United States Army Commands, Fort Davis, Letters sent, 1867-81. "Report on Communications, Buildings, Supplies, and Indians of Fort Davis, Texas," by W. N. Shaft (Lt. Colonel, 24th Infantry). February 24, 1872. Microfilm NMRA 63-146 (1777).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. RG 156, Records of the Chief of Ordnance. First Quarter Report. March 31, 1876. Department of Texas. Microfilm NMRA 816 (8091).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. RG 159, Records of the Office of the Inspector General. Inspection Report. Fort Davis, Texas. July 15, 1884. Microfilm NMRA 66-790 (7834).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. "Medical History of the Post." (Fort Davis). By Assistant Surgeon Daniel Weisel. January 1869-1873. Microfilm NMRA 66-790 (7834).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. Medical Report for March 1877, Fort Davis. Microfilm NMRA 66-790 (7834).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. "Post Inspection Report." (Fort Davis). Headquarters, Department of Texas, Office, Acting Assistant Inspector General, San Antonio, Texas to the Assistant Adjutant General, Department of Texas. December 15, 1879. Microfilm NMRA 66-790 (7834).
- \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. Report of Inspection of Forts Stockton and Davis. 1882. Microfilm NMRA 66-790 (7834).

## 2. Printed Government Documents

- General Orders and Circulars, No. 56. April 30, 1875. RG 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1875.
- Report of the Chief of Ordnance. October 6, 1874. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1874.
- Report of the Chief of Ordnance, October 9, 1875. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1875.
- Report of the Chief of Ordnance. October 1, 1880. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880.
- Report of the Quartermaster General. October 10, 1872. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1872.
- Report of the Quartermaster General. October 10, 1876. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1876.

- Report of the Quartermaster General. October 10, 1877. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877.
- Report of the Quartermaster General. October 9, 1878. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1878.
- Report of the Quartermaster General. October 10, 1879. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1879.
- Report of the Quartermaster General. September 30, 1880. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880.
- Report of the Quartermaster General. November 1, 1881. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1881.
- Report of the Quartermaster General. October 9, 1882. Found in the *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1882.
- "A Report on the Hygiene of the United States Army, with Descriptions of Military Posts." Circular No. 8, War Department, Surgeon General's Office. May 1, 1875. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1875.
- Revised Army Regulations. March 1, 1873. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1873.

### 3. Letters

- Hedren, Paul L., Historian, Big Hole National Battlefield, to Berle Clemensen. November 10, 1976.
- Mullins, Chaplin George G. (25th Infantry), to the Adjutant General. Located in the Fort Davis National Historic Site files. Microfilm NMRA 905 (8821).

### Secondary Works

Unfortunately, secondary works on the black military experience during the Indian Wars contain few references to garrison life. Instead, those authors have chosen to dwell on the military campaigns or the philosophy behind the creation of black military units in the post-Civil War period. The first five secondary works served as a general guide to military uniforms worn during the period of this study.

Brinckerhoff, Sidney B. *Metal Uniform Insignia of the Frontier U.S. Army, 1846-1902*. Museum Monograph no. 3. Tucson: Arizona Historical Society, 1972.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Boots and Shoes of the Frontier Soldier, 1865-1893*. Museum Monograph no. 7. Tucson: Arizona Historical Society, 1976.

Chappell, Gordon. *The Search for the Well-Dressed Soldier 1865-1890: Developments and Innovations in United States Army Uniforms on the Western Frontier*. Museum Monograph no. 5. Tucson: Arizona Historical Society, 1972.

Howell, Edgar M. *United States Army Headgear, 1855-1902: Catalog of United States Army Uniforms in the Collections of the Smithsonian Institution*, vol. 2. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1975.

Langellier, John Phillip. *They Continually Wear the Blue: U.S. Army Enlisted Dress Uniforms 1865-1902*. San Francisco: Barnes-McGee Historical Military Publications, 1974.

*Ordnance Memoranda No. 29: Horse Equipments and Cavalry Accoutrements*. Introduction by James S. Hutchins. Pasadena, Calif: Socio-Technical Publications, 1970.

Rickey, Don Jr. *Forty Miles A Day on Beans and Hay*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1963.

Utley, Robert M. "Special Report on Fort Davis, Texas." June 1960. Located in the Historic Preservation Division files, Denver, Colorado.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Fort Davis." Found in John M. Carroll, ed. *The Black Military Experience in the American West*. N.Y.: Liveright, 1971.

Wilhelm, Thomas. *A Military Dictionary and Gazetteer*. Philadelphia: L. R. Hamersly & Co., 1881.

#### 4. Master's Theses

Kubela, Marguerite E. "History of Fort Concho, Texas." Unpublished Master's Thesis. University of Texas, Austin, 1936.

Phillips, Thomas D. "The Negro Regulars: An Examination of Some Aspects of the Army's Negro Policy, 1866-1897." Unpublished Master's Thesis. University of Wisconsin, 1966.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities to protect and conserve our land and water, energy and minerals, fish and wildlife, parks and recreation areas, and to ensure the wise use of all these resources. The Department also has major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U. S. administration.

NPS 1262

