

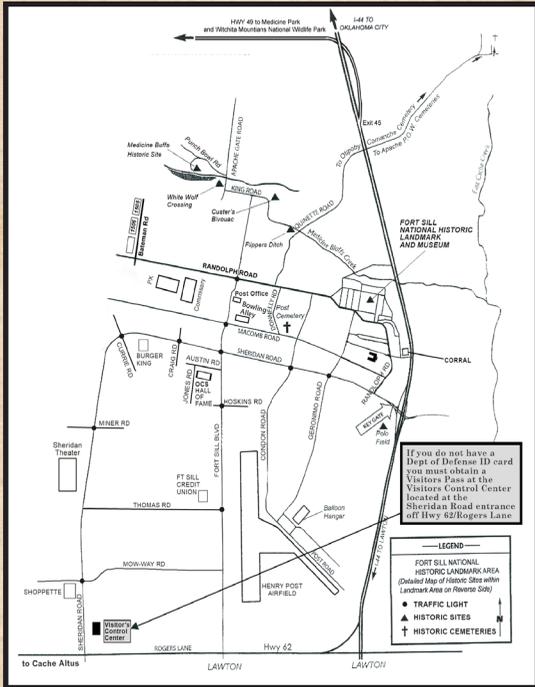
## CONTACT INFORMATION AND MUSEUM HOURS

435 Quanah Road  
Fort Sill, OK 73503-5100  
Main number - (580) 442-5123

Open Tuesday through Saturday  
9am to 5pm

Closed on New Years Day, Thanksgiving Day and  
Christmas Day

Admission to the museum is free



## HISTORIC FORT SILL

Fort Sill was established by General Philip H. Sheridan on January 8, 1869. Its purpose was to control the Comanche, Cheyenne, Kiowa and other tribes of the Southern Plains who were making frequent raids on settlements in Texas and Mexico.

Some of the most famous military leaders and Native American figures in American history have contributed to Fort Sill. The first military incursion of the area was in 1834 when the 1st US Dragoons arrived and began negotiations with the local tribes. Some of the individuals that were part of this expedition were General Henry Leavenworth, Jefferson Davis, George Catlin and Nathan Boone.

In 1852, Captain Randolph Marcy, while exploring the Red River, made the first recommendation that a permanent fort be established at this location. This was followed in 1858 by the recommendation of Colonel Douglas Cooper, who was scouting the Medicine Bluffs area.

In late 1868, General Philip H. Sheridan arrived in the area with the 7th US Cavalry under Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer, the 10th US Cavalry under Colonel Benjamin Grierson, the 19th Kansas Volunteers and the 6th US Infantry. The new post was soon staked out and construction began on the permanent stone buildings in 1869-1870. The post was soon named Fort Sill in honor of General Joshua Sill who was killed during the Civil War in 1862. All four of the Black regiments that were later referred to as the "Buffalo Soldiers", the 9th and 10th US Cavalry and the 24th and 25th Infantry served at Fort Sill during the late 19th Century.

Colonel Ranald S. Mackenzie and the 4th US Cavalry conducted operations from Fort Sill during the Red River War of 1874-1875. With the final surrender of the Southern Plains tribes in 1875, the mission of Fort Sill shifted toward maintaining law and order: the protection of Indian lands from the illegal Kansas and Texas settlers; patrolling the Chisholm Trail in pursuit of cattle rustlers, murderers and whiskey peddlers; and maintaining the peace in this part of the Indian Territory.

In 1894, the Chiricahua Apache Prisoners of War came to Fort Sill from their prisons in Alabama and Florida. For the first time since their surrender in 1886, they were able to regain their respect and warrior status by enlisting in Troop L, 7th US Cavalry, the all Indian unit at Fort Sill. One of the more famous individuals of this group was Geronimo.

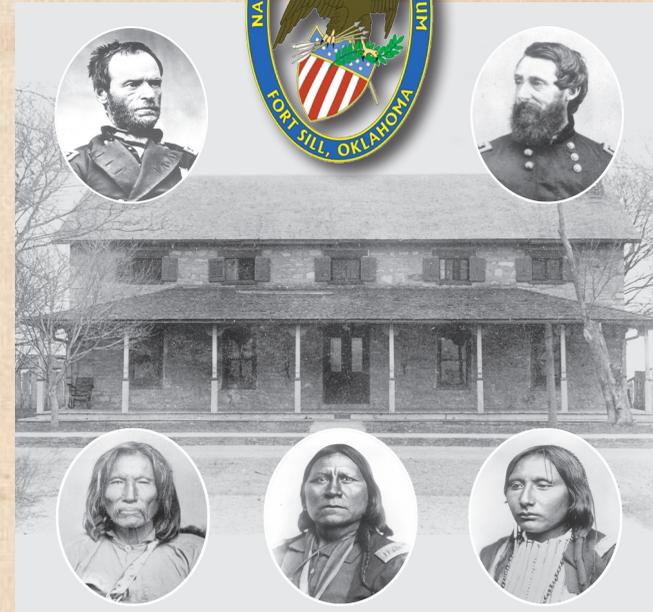
Fort Sill was an important post during the Indian Wars of the late 19th Century but was almost abandoned around 1900. With a changing mission from the Cavalry and Infantry to Artillery, Secretary of War William H. Taft visited Fort Sill in 1907 to determine what was to happen with the Frontier Army post. Even at this time the history of the post was so significant that the future President decided to change its mission rather than rebuilding or tearing it down.

A "New Post" was constructed further west in 1909-1911 to accommodate the Field Artillery. The last Cavalry unit departed in 1907 and in 1911, the new Field Artillery School of Fire was established on the Quadrangle and continues through today.

In 1915, Fort Sill would come into the air age with the arrival of the 1st Aero Squadron, the first aviation unit in the American military. This unit trained at Fort Sill until receiving orders for Texas and the Mexican border. Their move to Texas became the first squadron flight in American aviation history. Fort Sill soon became the home of Army aviation and continued until 1954 when that mission shifted to Fort Rucker, Alabama.



# FORT SILL NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK AND MUSEUM



## WHERE HISTORY COMES ALIVE



## MUSEUM INFORMATION AND AUDIO TOUR



Museum Website

sill-www.army.mil/fs-museum/



Audio Tour

bycell.co/rqw



Find us on  
**Facebook**

www.facebook.com/pages/Fort-Sill-National-Historic-Landmark-and-Museum/368889589827678

100 Introduction

101 Limestone Quarry  
On East side of I44



102 Quartermaster Corral



103 Quartermaster Warehouse



104 Quartermaster Commissary



105 Quartermaster Granary



106 Quadrangle



107 First Field Artillery School of Fire



108 Artesian Springs Quarters  
Private Residence



109 "Cricket's" House  
Private Residence



110 Chaplain Quarters  
Private Residence



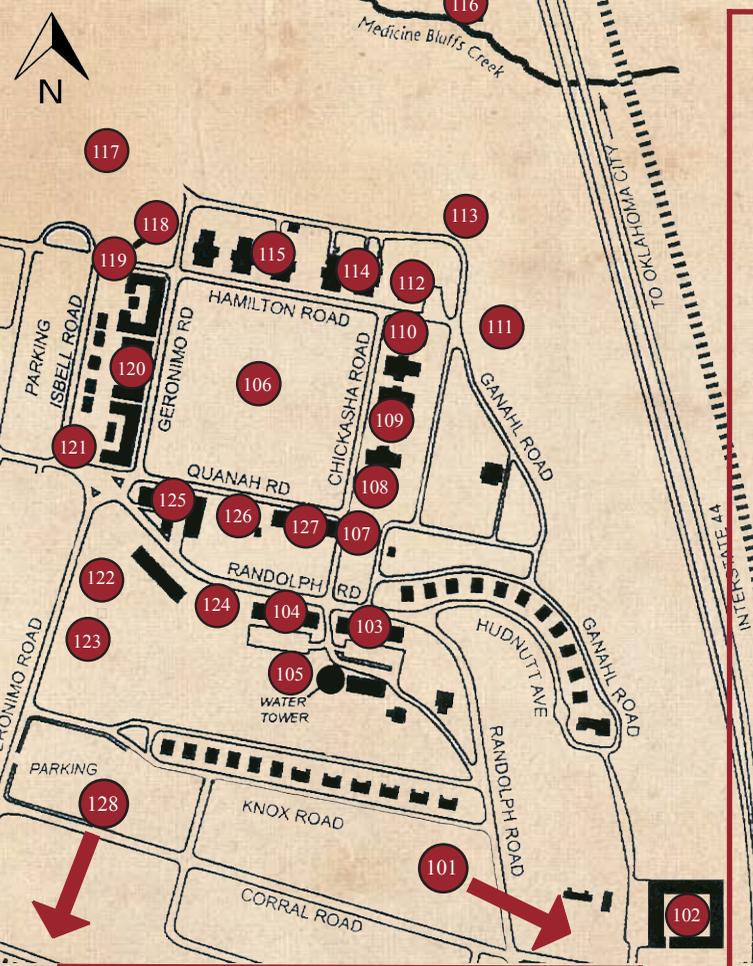
111 Picket House



112 Chapel



113 Interpreter House  
Foundation only



114 Senior Officer Quarters  
Private Residence



115 Sherman House  
Private Residence



116 Ambrosia Springs House



117 Apache Hospital  
Where Geronimo Died  
Plaque only



118 Comanche House  
Post Lodging



119 Glass Topped Stone Wall



120 Cavalry Barracks



121 Laundress Quarters



122 Guardhouse



123 Bakery  
Foundation only



124 Band Quarters - "Wichita House"  
Private Residence



125 Infantry Barracks



126 Post Headquarters



127 Infantry Barracks  
Visitor Center



128 Balloon Hanger  
At Airfield



129 Conclusion

PLEASE TURN **ON** YOUR CELL PHONE



**SELF-GUIDED TOUR**

Get more out of your Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum visit. Our self-guided audio tour offers information on historic Fort Sill structures and sites. This tour is available for free\* any day, any time, at your own pace. You control what you hear.

Dial (580) 354-7045 to start the tour. Follow the tour in numerical order or create your own sequence. When prompted, enter the number of the stop you wish to learn about.

Each stop is approximately one to two minutes long and is a unique experience. You may start and stop the tour at any point or enter another number anytime you want.



\*Will utilize call plan minutes. Roaming charges may apply.

