

American Veterinary Medical History Society

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Crawford (Dawes), Nebraska

Fort Robinson [Stable] & the Red Cloud Agency

NRHP Ref #66000442

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About 4 miles west of Crawford, Nebraska on U.S. Route 20

As one the great history places of the American West, Fort Robinson and the Red Cloud Agency installations are located along the White River in northwestern Nebraska and were the scene of many events during the last two decades of the Sioux and Cheyenne resistance on the Northern Plains. The fort was founded in 1874 to protect the Red Cloud Agency which had been moved there a year earlier from its first location on the Oregon-California Trail. The Agency's purpose was to control and issue food and annuities to the Sioux and Cheyenne, including Oglala Chief Red Cloud.

As it was expanded, Fort Robinson became one of the largest military installations on the Northern Plains. It has served as a cavalry base, remount depot, war-dog training center, and prisoner-of-war camp. Since 1949, or two years after the Army departed, it has been occupied by the Fort Robinson Beef Cattle Research Station, a joint enterprise of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the University of Nebraska.

Currently, Fort Robinson State Park consists of the principal historic buildings: six sets of frame-covered adobe officers' quarters, built in 1874-75, and six sets of brick officers' quarters, constructed in 1887. Several miscellaneous structures, including storehouses, shops, and office date from 1886-1910, but the rest of the buildings are later additions, such as a reconstruction of the guardhouse where Crazy Horse was mortally wounded and the adjutant's office, both built in 1874.

No remains are extant at the Red Cloud Agency site, to the east of the fort, but a monument commemorates its location and Red Cloud Campground is popular.

MORE INFORMATION: Brief History of Fort Robinson. History Nebraska,
<https://history.nebraska.gov/visit/brief-history-fort-robinson>

Fort Robinson (Nebraska) and the Red Cloud Agency. Legends of America,
<https://www.legendsofamerica.com/ne-fortrobinson/>

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