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## **Fort Riley Firing Ranges and Military Training Lands**

A History and Analysis

Madison L. Story

October 2023



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# **Fort Riley Firing Ranges and Military Training Lands**

## **A History and Analysis**

Madison L. Story

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Final Report

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## Abstract

The US Congress codified the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), the nation's most effective cultural resources legislation to date, mostly through establishing the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NHPA requires federal agencies to address their cultural resources, which are defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object. Section 110 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to inventory and evaluate their cultural resources, and Section 106 requires them to determine the effect of federal undertakings on those potentially eligible for the NRHP.

Fort Riley is in north-central Kansas within Riley and Geary Counties. It consists of six functional areas, including the Main Post, Camp Funston, Marshall Army Airfield (MAAF), Camp Whitside, Camp Forsyth, and Custer Hill. This report provides a historic context for ranges, features, and buildings associated with the post's training lands in support of Section 110 of the NHPA.

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## Preface

This study was conducted for the Cultural Resources Program, Natural Resources Branch, Environmental Division, Fort Riley, under Project Number 497353, “Training Ranges and Areas,” and MIPR 11443255. The technical monitor was Ms. Theresa de la Garza (cultural resources manager, DPW).

The work was performed by the Training Lands and Heritage Branch of the Operational Science and Engineering Division, Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (ERDC-CERL). At the time of publication, Ms. Angela Rhodes was branch chief, Training Lands and Heritage Branch; Dr. George Calfas was chief, Operational Science and Engineering Division; and Mr. Jim Allen was the technical director for Environmental Quality and Installations. The deputy director of ERDC-CERL was Ms. Michelle Hanson, and the director was Dr. Andrew Nelson.

COL Christian Patterson was commander of ERDC, and Dr. David W. Pittman was the director.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

The US Congress codified the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), the nation's most effective cultural resources legislation to date, to provide guidelines and requirements for preserving tangible elements of the nation's past. This preservation was done primarily through the creation of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Contained within this piece of legislation are requirements for federal agencies to address their cultural resources, defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object. Section 110 requires federal agencies to inventory and evaluate their cultural resources. Section 106 requires the determination of effect of federal undertakings on properties deemed eligible or potentially eligible for the NRHP.<sup>1</sup>

Fort Riley is located in north-central Kansas between Junction City and Manhattan on the Kansas River (general area shown in Figure 1). Fort Riley lies within Geary and Riley Counties. It consists of six functional areas, including the Main Post, Camp Funston, Marshall Army Airfield (MAAF), Camp Whitside, Camp Forsyth, and Custer Hill. The US Army first established Fort Riley as Camp Center in 1853 at the junction of the Smokey Hill and Republican Rivers.<sup>2</sup>

Fort Riley is currently home to the US Army 1st Infantry Division (ID), a unit with a distinguished past and present, including being first on the beaches at Normandy in WWII and the first division called to fight in the Vietnam War. The 1st ID and Fort Riley, Kansas, provide training and support to ensure Soldiers are constantly ready for battlefield deployment.<sup>3</sup>

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1. National Historic Preservation Act, Pub. L. No. 89-665, as amended by Pub. L. No. 96-515, Sections 110, 106 (1966).

2. Susan I. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, ERDC/CERL TR-12-22 (Champaign, IL: US Army Engineer Research and Development Center, 2012), 10.

3. US Army Fort Riley, "About," US Army Fort Riley Home of the 1st Infantry Division, accessed July 9, 2021, <https://home.army.mil/riley/index.php/about>.

Figure 1. Boundary outline and location of Fort Riley, in north-central Kansas. (Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory [ERDC-CERL] 2022.)



## 1.2 Objective

The objective of this effort was to create a historic context regarding training lands that can be used to assess the integrity for listing on the NRHP of ranges, features, and buildings associated with Fort Riley's training lands as they reach 50 years of age.

## 1.3 Approach

### 1.3.1 Site visits

ERDC-CERL personnel made two trips to Fort Riley in June 2021 and June 2022. They also traveled to the National Archives and Records

Administration (NARA) in Washington, DC, in December 2021 and June 2022.

### **1.3.2 Archival repositories**

ERDC-CERL researchers conducted a review of books, archival repositories, and online resources related to Fort Riley, training lands, and range building construction. The following places were contacted and/or searched:

- NRHP listings and nomination forms (online at <https://www.nps.gov/Nr/publications/index.htm>)
- Historic drawings, maps, photographs, and information were provided by the Cultural Resources Office of the Directorate of Public Works, the Center for Military History Archives at the Fort Riley Museum Complex, and the Real Property Office's database at Fort Riley
- Kansas Historical Society (online at <https://www.kshs.org/>)
- NARA, College Park, Maryland (NARA 111-SC, 111-SCA, and 111-CCS)

### **1.3.3 Analysis**

After initial research was completed, the team analyzed the gathered information. Archival information and field information were integrated throughout the course of the project. The information available was contained in text documents, photographs, and historic maps. Using archival sources, the research team extracted relevant historical information. The material was then combined to tell the story in both text and images.

### **1.3.4 Researchers**

This project was conducted by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Engineering Research Development Center, Construction and Engineering Research Laboratory (ERDC-CERL) in Champaign, Illinois. The research and writing were done by Madison L. Story, master of science in historic preservation, with over 2 years of experience. The project manager and report reviewer was Adam D. Smith, master of architecture, with 25 years of experience in military architectural history.

## 2 Chronology of Training Activities

Fort Riley is located approximately 135 miles west of Kansas City, Kansas, and 130 miles northeast of Wichita, Kansas.<sup>4</sup> This location was chosen in October 1852 for its supposed proximity to the geographical center of the United States (and intended ability to prevent conflicts between new settlers or commercial shippers and the Indigenous peoples living in the region), and, for this reason, it was initially named Camp Center.<sup>5</sup> The site and layout of Fort Riley's first cantonment associated with the frontier-era fort, now known as the Main Post, were approved by the secretary of war in 1852.<sup>6</sup>

Training has been a major component of Fort Riley's mission since the last decades of the 19th century. Fort Riley's original cantonment area consisted of 20,000 acres; however, expansions in 1942 and 1965 increased the post's size to 101,733 acres.<sup>7</sup> Today, 91,597 of these are dedicated to training areas.<sup>8</sup>

For much of Fort Riley's early history, the installation's primary focus was cavalry training; as such, many important training areas were topographical features rather than built structures. The most important of these features are labeled for reference for the duration of this chapter in Figure 2.

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4. For a full list of the spelled-out forms of the units of measure used in this document and their conversions, please refer to *US Government Publishing Office Style Manual*, 31st ed. (Washington, DC: US Government Publishing Office, 2016), 248–52 and 345–47, <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GPO-STYLEMANUAL-2016/pdf/GPO-STYLEMANUAL-2016.pdf>.

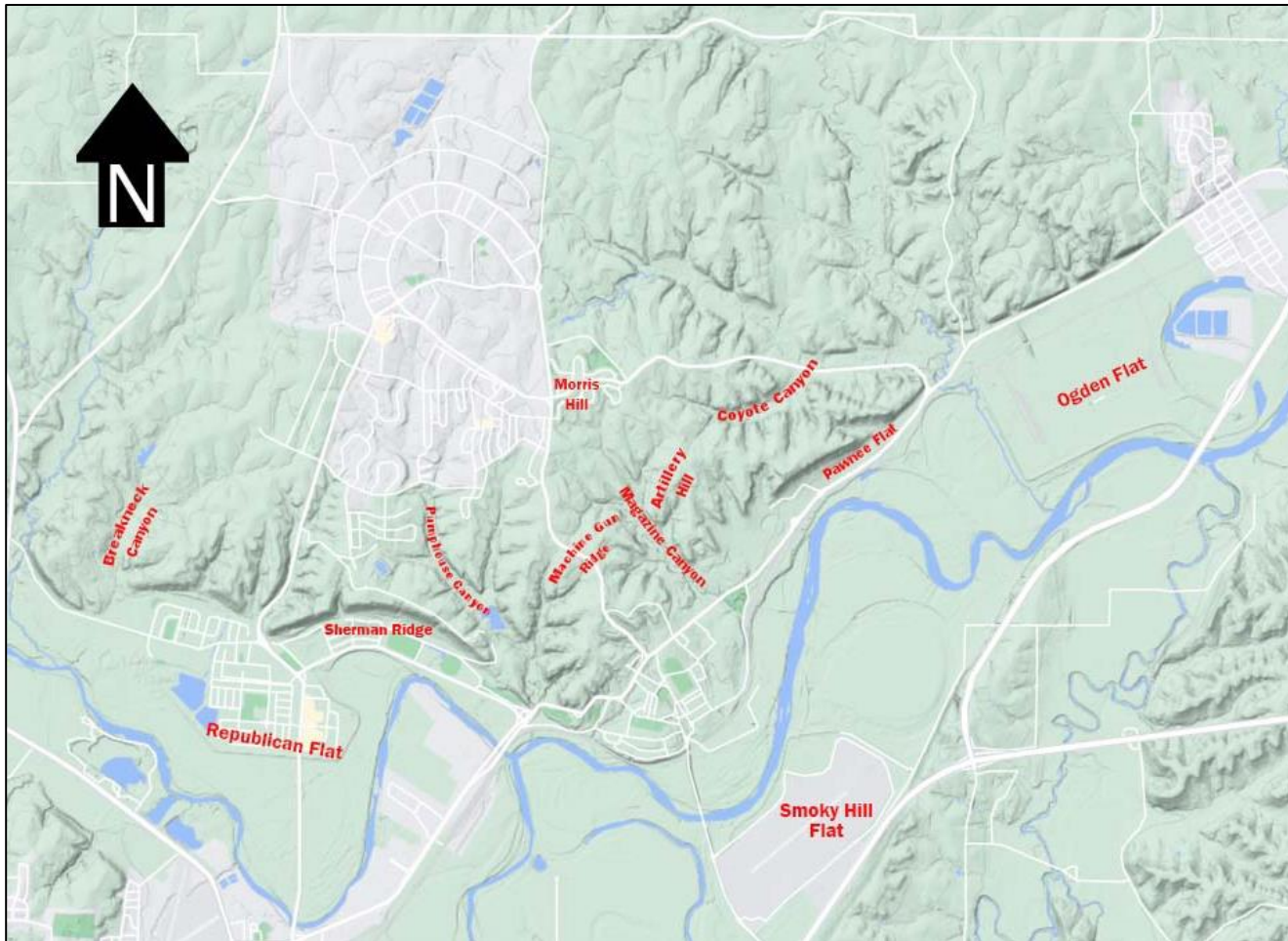
5. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 10.

6. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 11.

7. David L. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," (unpublished report, ERDC-CERL, Champaign, IL, 1996), 5–6; US Army Fort Riley, "About."

8. US Army Fort Riley, "About."

Figure 2. Terrain map of Fort Riley's original installation area with topographic features that were frequently used for training labeled in red. (Map data: Google, 2022. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.)



## 2.1 Establishment to WWII (1853–1939)

In June 1853, Camp Center was renamed Fort Riley in memory of Major General Bennett Riley. Major General Riley had commanded the first wagon train escort over the Santa Fe Trail, a primarily commercial high-way connecting Missouri and Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1829.<sup>9</sup> He later became governor of California.<sup>10</sup> Construction on the year-old installation proceeded quickly, with temporary facilities erected by late 1853 and early 1854 based on the 1852 plan.<sup>11</sup> The arrangement of the Main Post followed a traditional plan, with barracks and officer housing centered on a parade ground.<sup>12</sup> The buildings were likely constructed of materials brought overland or upriver from Fort Leavenworth.<sup>13</sup> In March 1855, Congress appropriated funds for the construction of permanent buildings that would accommodate 10 companies of dragoons and 10 companies of infantry.<sup>14</sup> Permanent facility construction was slow due to a cholera epidemic on base, but 12 major buildings and several auxiliary structures were completed by the end of 1855 (Figure 3).<sup>15</sup> The buildings constructed included the barracks, a hospital, an ice house, carpenter and blacksmith shops, a commissary storehouse, a brick magazine, a chapel and parsonage, and a saddler shop and stables.<sup>16</sup>

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9. Susan I. Enscoe and Julie L. Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, ERDC/CERL TR-09-37 (Champaign, IL: US Army Engineer Research and Development Center, 2012), 12; National Park Service, "History & Culture," Santa Fe National Historic Trail, last modified August 31, 2020, <https://www.nps.gov/safe/learn/historyculture/index.htm>.

10. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 12.

11. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 11.

12. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 11.

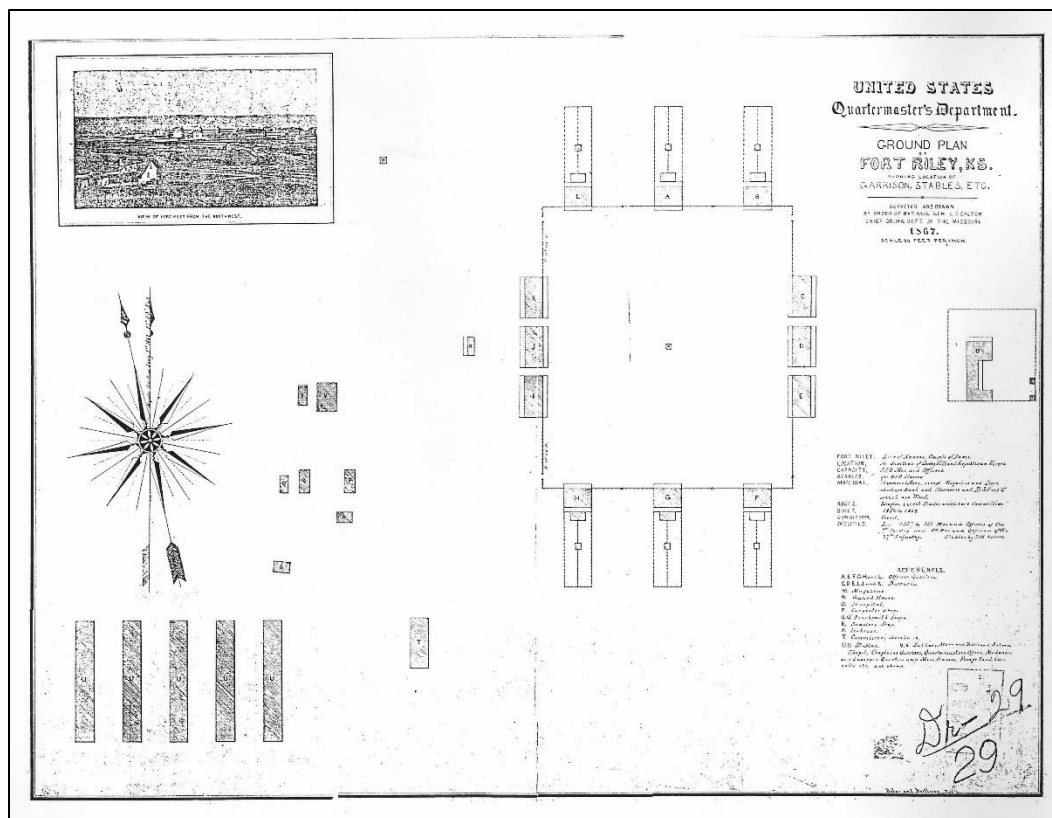
13. Limited pictorial records of these early temporary structures exist, and none of the structures are extant; Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 11.

14. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 11.

15. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 11; Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 13.

16. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 11; Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 13.

Figure 3. Fort Riley Main Post plan, 1867. (L. C. Easton, *Ground Plan of Fort Riley, KS. showing location of Garrison, Stables, Etc., 1867*, 1:90 scale [Fort Riley, KS: US Quartermaster's Department], ERDC-CERL, Champaign, IL. Public domain.)



Following the start of the Civil War in 1861, however, development at Fort Riley ceased and it soon fell into disrepair.<sup>17</sup> There is no evidence of training at Fort Riley occurring during or related to the Civil War. After the Civil War, as Kansas's Indigenous peoples were pushed further north and west, Fort Riley's location became less strategic; consequently, the post was left garrisoned by a small number of cavalry troops and volunteer infantry with the mission to protect travelers on the Santa Fe trail and the state's rail lines.<sup>18</sup> This mission continued through the 1870s.<sup>19</sup>

17. Ensore et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 14.

18. Ensore et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 14; US Army Fort Riley, "About: History of Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division," US Army Fort Riley Home of the 1st Infantry Division, accessed 9 July 2021, <https://home.army.mil/riley/index.php/about/history>; Ensore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 18.

19. Ensore et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 14.

From 1869 to 1871, the 4th Artillery Battery conducted the School for Application of Light Artillery at Fort Riley.<sup>20</sup> Staff for this school came from California, while horses were obtained from Detroit, Michigan.<sup>21</sup> No permanent buildings were constructed in conjunction with the school.<sup>22</sup> The school offered practical instruction, though regular classes were not offered. Critiques were given during or after exercises. The school closed in March 1871, however, when the War Department imposed budgetary restrictions.<sup>23</sup> Fort Riley was subsequently nearly abandoned by 1872.<sup>24</sup>

In 1881, four companies of the Ninth Cavalry—the famed all-Black “Buffalo Soldiers”—arrived at Fort Riley.<sup>25</sup> Their residence at the fort may have contributed to Lieutenant General Philip H. Sheridan’s 1884 argument that Fort Riley should become a headquarters for training cavalrymen and their horses. In the same year, Major General J. M. Schofield proposed that the fort could be a location for a practical school of artillerymen. Subsequently, funding was allocated and a plan featuring separate posts for cavalry and artillery troops was approved in 1885 (Figure 4).<sup>26</sup> The following year, Congress allocated \$200,000 for the establishment of a “permanent school of instruction for drill and practice for the cavalry and light artillery service of the Army” at Fort Riley.<sup>27</sup> Despite the addition of an artillery parade, cavalry training remained Fort Riley’s focus; as such, construction to support training at the installation included only the two planned parade fields, stables, gun sheds, and a magazine.<sup>28</sup> Training continued during the construction (Figure 5).<sup>29</sup>

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20. US Army Fort Riley, “About: History of Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division”; Dubois, “Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939,” 12.

21. Dubois, “Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939,” 12.

22. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 18.

23. US Army Fort Riley, “About: History of Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division.”

24. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 15.

25. William A. Dobak, “Fort Riley’s Black Soldiers and the Army’s Changing Role in the West, 1867–1885,” Riley News 1880, SD125-22 reading file 5, drawer 9, Cavalry Museum Archives, Fort Riley, KS, 219.

26. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 15.

27. H.R. Rep. No. 1948, 49th Cong., 1st Sess. (1886).

28. W. H. Stair, *Proposed Plan for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 1887, scale not given (Fort Riley, KS: Geo. E. Pond), ERDC-CERL, Champaign, IL.

29. [40th US Volunteer Infantry], 1889, Training, Miscellaneous Fort Riley: Dogs, Tack Rooms, Training, Presidential Visits, ROTC, Prints, Monuments, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS.

Figure 4. *Proposed Plan for Fort Riley, Kansas, showing proposed artillery parade field (right) and proposed cavalry parade field (left), 1887. (Stair, Proposed Plan for Fort Riley, Kansas. Public domain.)*

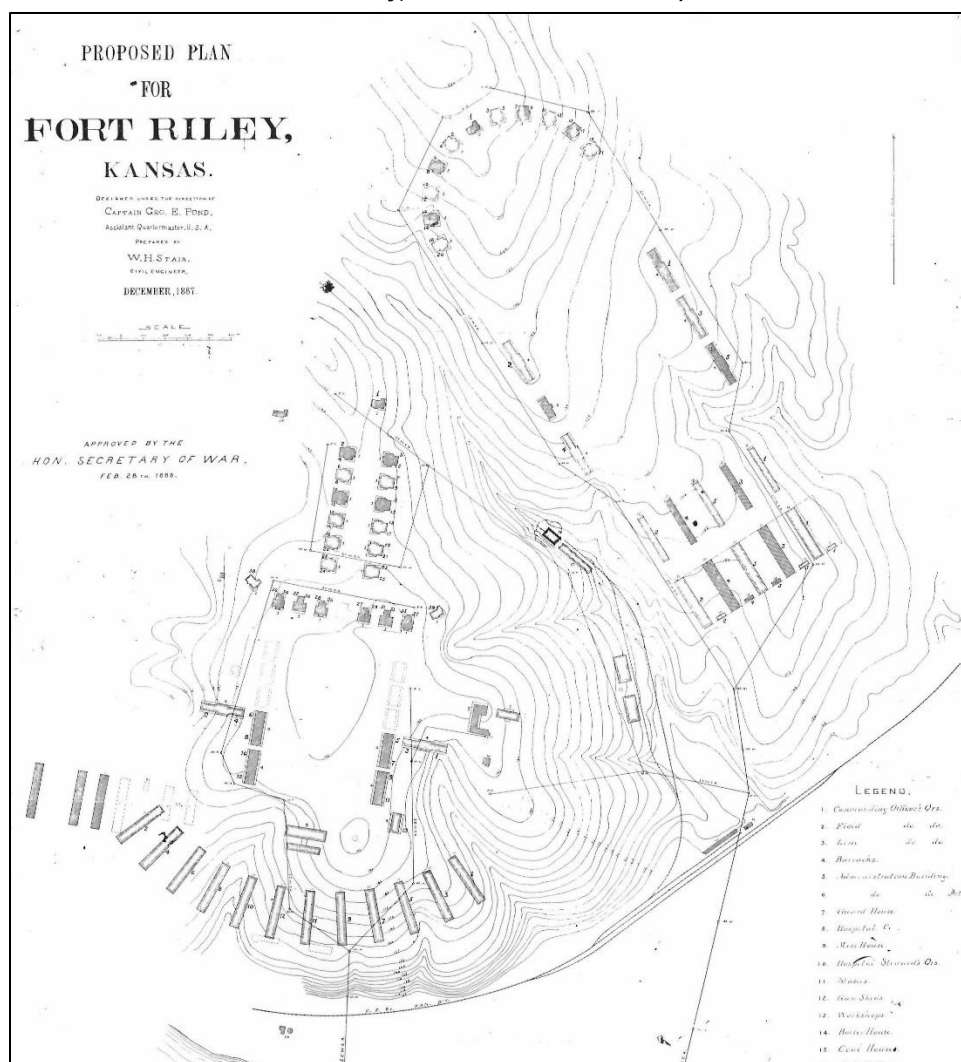


Figure 5. Encampment of the 40th US Volunteer Infantry, fall 1889. ([40th US Volunteer Infantry]. Public domain.)



The School of Instruction for Cavalry and Light Artillery officially opened in 1891, with subschools for cavalry and light artillery, respectively. Instruction was temporarily interrupted by the Spanish-American War of 1898, but classes generally included hippology, tactics, equitation, horse training, horseshoeing, and topography, as well as training related to the combined operation of cavalry and light artillery.<sup>30</sup> The curriculum was organized to allow half the year to be devoted to classroom-based work, while the other half was devoted to “field work and exercise combining horsemanship and the use of horse-drawn artillery pieces.”<sup>31</sup>

Training typically occurred on three “regular” drill grounds, which were established at Fort Riley by 1902 (Figure 2 and Figure 6). The largest drill ground was Smoky Hill Flat (also referred to as Smoky Hill Bottom), which was located approximately one mile southeast of the main cantonment between the Kansas River to the west, the Smoky Hill River to the south, and bluffs to the east. This is the current location of MAAF.<sup>32</sup> Smoky Hill Flat is two miles long and one mile wide, encompassing over 1,200 acres, and it featured 23 horse jumps of various types arranged into a course (Figure 7–Figure 10). The flat was considered suitable for troop, squadron, and regimental drills and was easily accessible by bridge until

30. Dubois, “Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939,” 12, 13.

31. “Army General School Nears its 64th Year at Fort Riley,” *Junction City Union*, 24 February 1955, 4.

32. Dubois, “Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939,” 18.

1903, when it was washed out. After this point, the flat could only be reached by fording the Smoky Hill River.<sup>33</sup> This made training difficult, as target practice and artillery firing made areas north of the Kansas River unsafe for use as drill grounds.<sup>34</sup>

Figure 6. Map of Fort Riley Military Reservation showing training areas, early 1890s. (Map of Fort Riley Military Reservation, [early 1890s], scale not given, [Fort Riley, KS: US Quartermaster's Department], ERDC-CERL, Champaign, IL. Public domain.)



33. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 21.

34. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 22.

Figure 7. Varieties of horse jumps at Fort Riley, c. 1914. (Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas, 1852-1939," Appendix F, n.p. Public domain.)

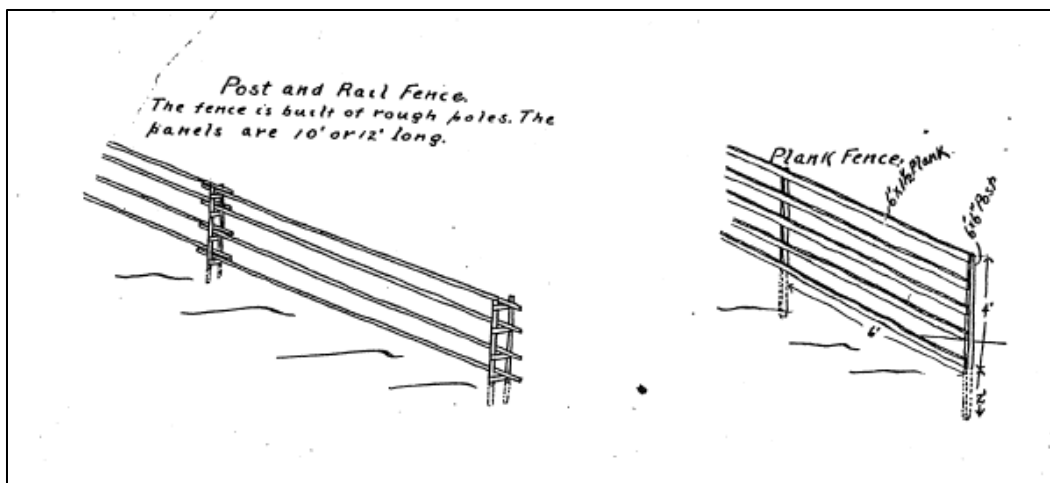


Figure 8. Varieties of horse jumps at Fort Riley, c. 1914. (Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas, 1852-1939," Appendix F, n.p. Public domain.)

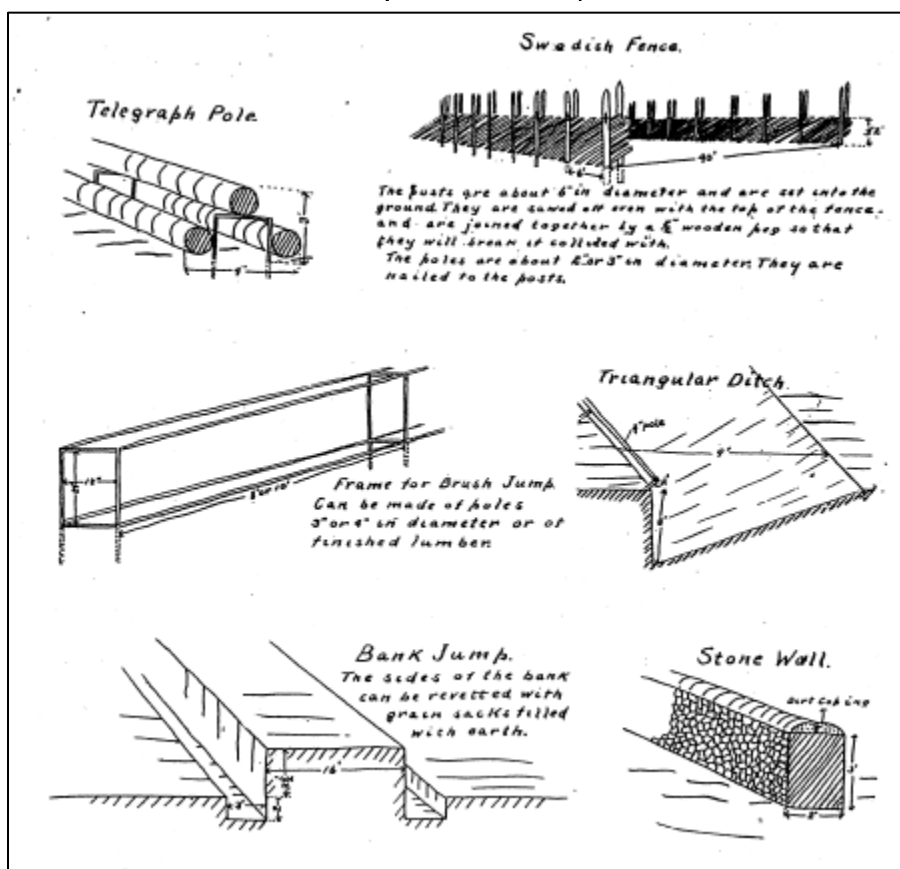


Figure 9. Varieties of horse jumps at Fort Riley, c. 1914. (Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas, 1852-1939," Appendix F, n.p. Public domain.)

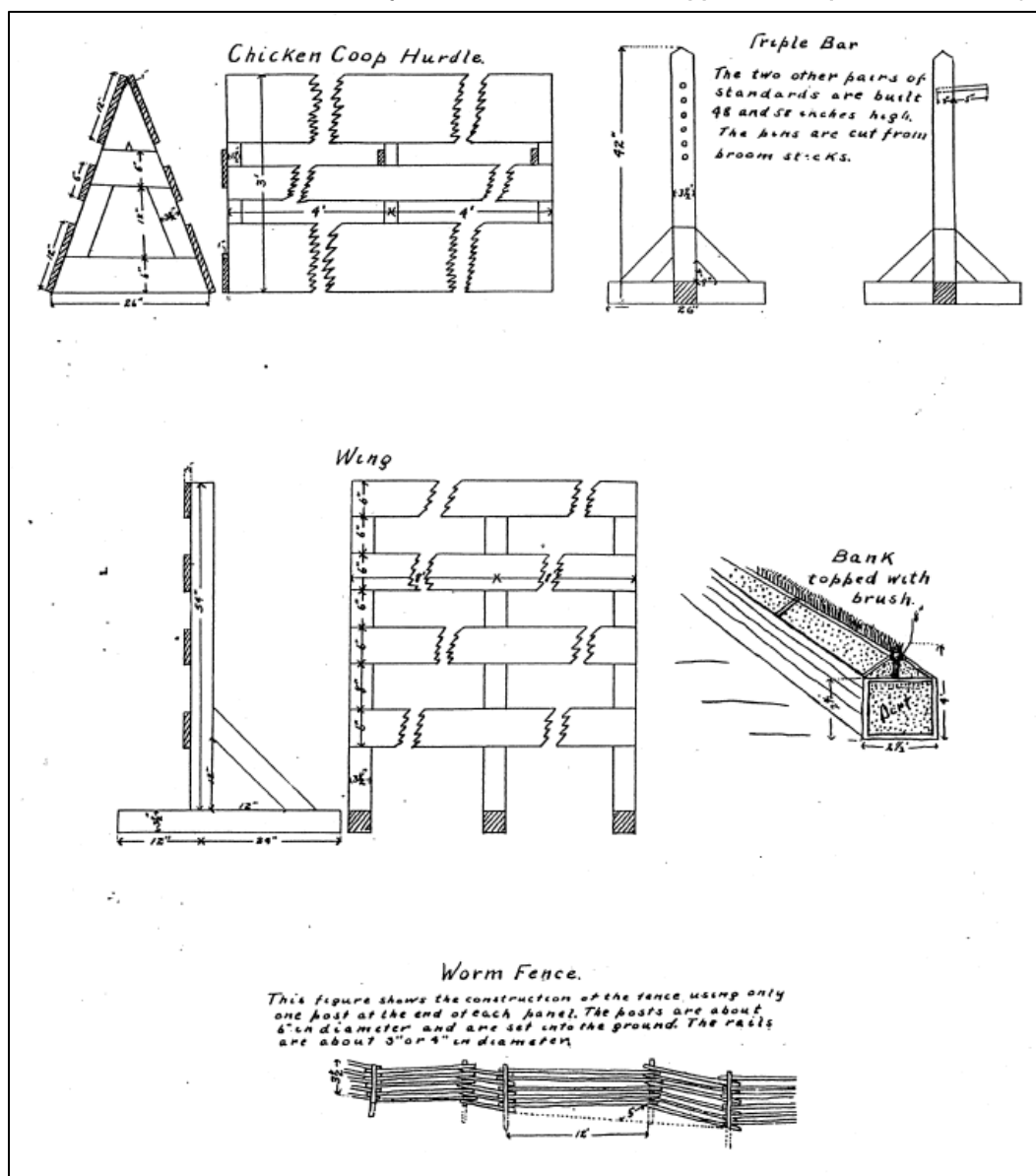
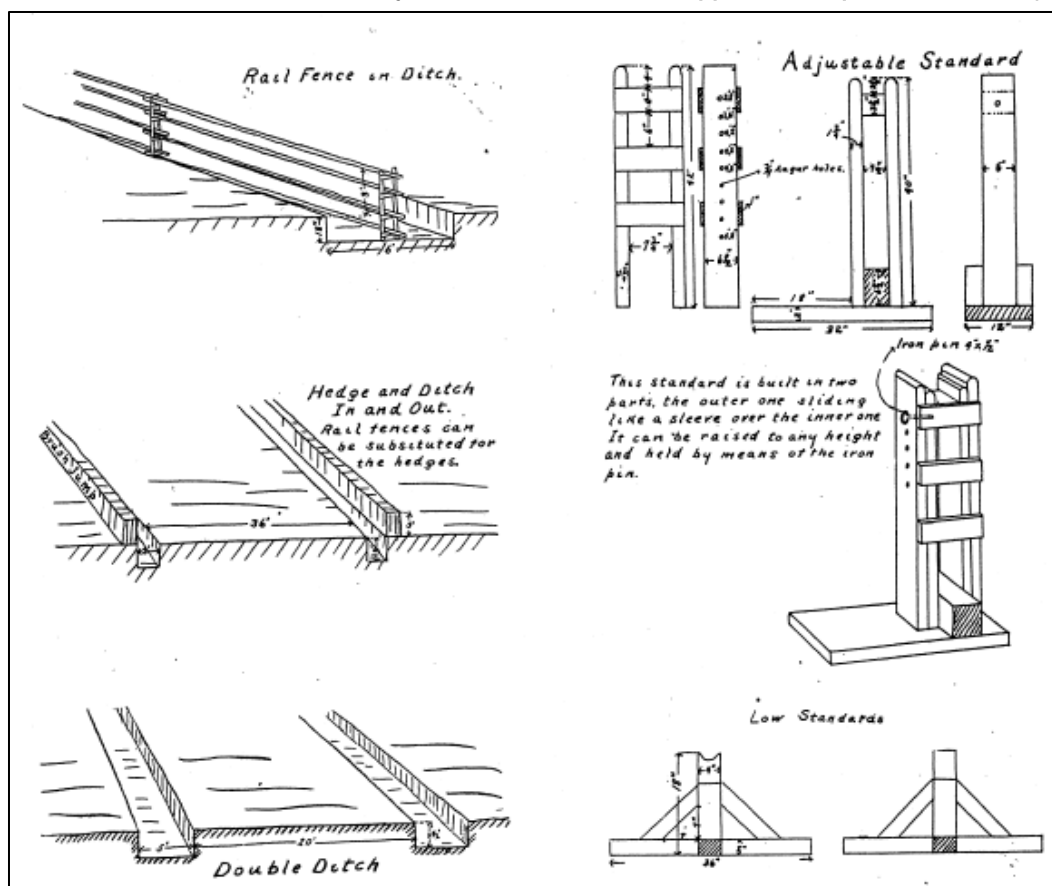


Figure 10. Varieties of horse jumps at Fort Riley, c. 1914. (Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas, 1852–1939," Appendix F, n.p. Public domain.)



After the bridge to Smoky Hill Flat washed out, a second drill ground, the Republican Flat, became more commonly used.<sup>35</sup> The Republican Flat was approximately 1.5 miles west of the Main Post, adjacent to the Republican River. This flat, which was considered inferior to the Smoky Hill Flat due to its somewhat swampy nature and the presence of ravines and sand hills, featured the Riverside Race Course, polo fields, and a 1,000-yard target range.<sup>36</sup> The range, constructed c. 1900 for approximately \$10,000, later came to be known as the National Rifle Range.<sup>37</sup> All three of these features were used for training. The polo fields were also used recreationally.<sup>38</sup>

35. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 22.

36. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 18, 22.

37. "Will Start Tuesday," *Junction City Union*, Sept. 12, 1914, 1; "Riley Gets \$60,000," *Daily Union*, March 4, 1904, 1.

38. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 18, 22.

There were also grounds for skirmish firing, volley firing, and company field practice.<sup>39</sup>

The final drill ground, the Pawnee Flat, was located approximately one mile northeast of the main post and confined by the Kansas River and river bluffs in the current location of Camp Whitside.<sup>40</sup> The Pawnee Flat was the smallest of the three and was used primarily for ceremonies and artillery drills.<sup>41</sup> It housed the temporary encampments Camp Root from September to October 1902 and Camp William Sanger from 1902 to 1903 (Figure 11 and Figure 12).<sup>42</sup>

Figure 11. Camp Root, 1902. (*Camp Root*, n.d., Views of Fort Riley: Including Camp Sanger, MOTC [Medical Officers Training Camp], Marshall AAF [Army Airfield], Oldest View of Main Post, etc., US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



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39. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 18.

40. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 39.

41. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 18.

42. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 33.

Figure 12. Camp William Sanger, 1903. (*Birds-Eye View Looking West, 1903, Views of Fort Riley: Including Camp Sanger, MOTC, Marshall AAF, Oldest View of Main Post, etc., US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.*)



Camp William Sanger was likely associated with the 1902 Camp of Instruction, the first large-scale cavalry maneuver ever held in the United States.<sup>43</sup> The 1902 Camp of Instruction involved troops of the 4th and 8th Cavalries competing in courses in advance and rear guard, reconnaissance, outposts, patrols, and minor problems in tactics, as well as practice marches. Battle exercises with blank ammunition and silhouettes of both mounted and dismounted men were also conducted, and a squadron marched northward across the Washington Street bridge.<sup>44</sup> Maneuvers were facilitated by agreements with the owners of property beyond post boundaries that stipulated unimpeded use of the land.<sup>45</sup>

On-post training facilities included, but were not limited to, three courses adjacent to Magazine Canyon, Coyote Canyon, and Pump House Canyon

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43. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 36–38; Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 28.

44. Press of the School of Application, *Annual Report of the Commandant, School of Application for Cavalry and Field Artillery*, 31 August 1905, Fort Riley, Kansas, War Department, 1833–1947, box 834, page 39, Publications of the Federal Government, Record Group (RG) 287, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Washington, DC

45. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 36.

for training horses and Soldiers. Each used a different variety of jumps, with the Coyote Canyon course being the most difficult and the Pump House Canyon course featuring the greatest diversity of jumps.<sup>46</sup>

Fort Riley hosted additional Camps of Instruction in 1906 and 1908. The 1906 Camp of Instruction was located near One Mile Creek in the same location as the 1902 camp, with the brigade headquarters on the creek's west slope. The 1908 Camp of Instruction was located northwest of the Kansas River, bounded by Fort Riley and Three Mile Creek, in an area that encompassed Pawnee Flat, Hog Back Ridge, and Magazine Canyon (Figure 2 and Figure 13).<sup>47</sup> Both the 1906 and 1908 Camps of Instruction featured training activities at numerous sites throughout the post, following the precedent set by the 1902 Camp of Instruction.<sup>48</sup>

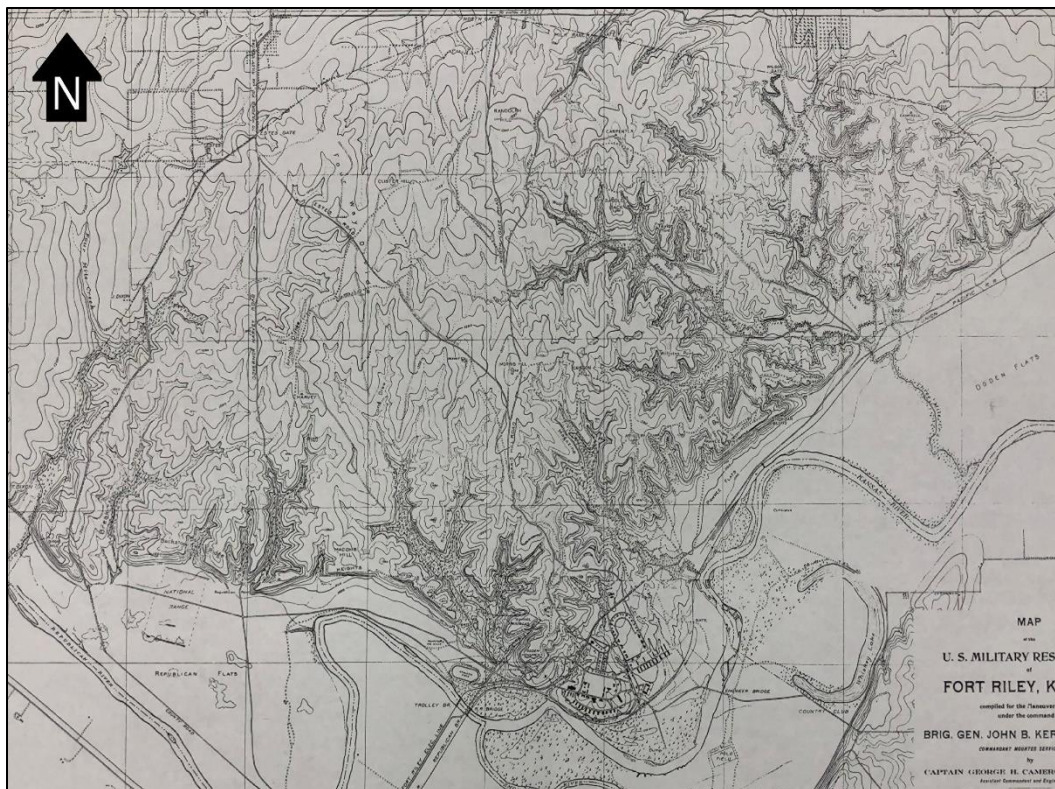
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46. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 26–30.

47. The location of Hog Back is unknown.

48. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 36–38.

Figure 13. Maneuver map for 1908 Camp of Instruction. (George H. Cameron, *Map of the US Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas, compiled for the Maneuvers of 1908, 1908, 1:21120 scale* [Fort Riley: Fort Riley, KS]. Public domain.)



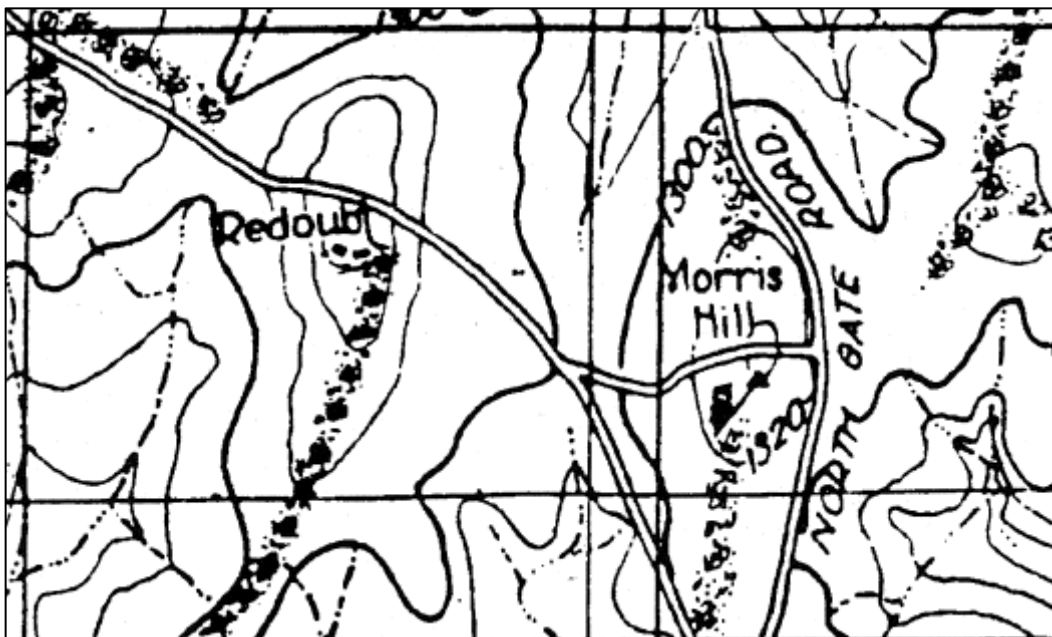
Maneuver and artillery training at these camps were able to use the Riley Redoubt, constructed in 1906. The redoubt was located approximately 1,000 meters west-northwest of Morris Hill and had two wings forming a 120-degree angle (Figure 14).<sup>49</sup> It was over 300 feet long.<sup>50</sup> Each wing featured three open trenches for three lines of defense, and open trenches communicated via a covered “way” running from front to rear (Figure 15). The first and second trenches were also connected by covered “ways,” and eight flights of steps led from the banquette to the first trench. The outer ends of the trenches featured a six-foot barbed wire entanglement and machine gun pits. The redoubt was used for instructional purposes in construction and to visualize the effects of field artillery on the redoubt, and it was designed to accommodate four machine guns and a battalion of infantry for the purpose of resisting fire from a regiment of field artillery and

49. W. M. Whitman, “The Riley Redoubt,” *Journal of the United States Cavalry Association* XVIII, nos. 65–68 (July 1907–April 1908): 353–359, AUL/LDEB, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

50. “At Work on the Redoubt,” *Junction City Union*, July 9, 1909, n.p.

the advance of a brigade of infantry.<sup>51</sup> In 1907, the redoubt was tested through artillery firing, which “failed to have any effect.”<sup>52</sup>

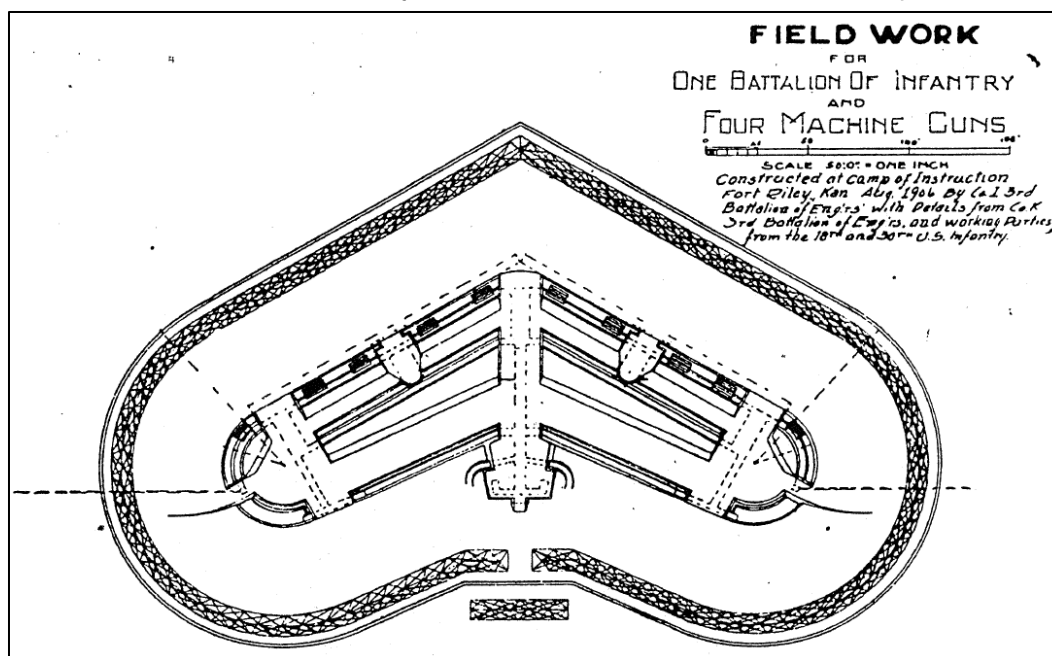
Figure 14. Location of Fort Riley redoubt near Morris Hill, 1929. (Dubois, “Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas, 1852–1939,” 30. Public domain.)



51. Whitman, “The Riley Redoubt.”

52. “Engineers Coming to Build Concrete Redoubt,” *Junction City Union*, Aug. 26, 1909, 1.

Figure 15. Layout of Fort Riley redoubt, c. 1907. (Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas, 1852–1939," 31. Public domain.)



In 1909, the redoubt was reconstructed of concrete (it is unclear what material the original redoubt was constructed of). The main ditch was approximately 10 ft deep, starting at 10 ft wide at the bottom and expanding to 12 ft wide at the top. This ditch was 600 ft long.<sup>53</sup>

Apart from the redoubt, though, there were few permanent training facilities at Fort Riley for artillery firing or maneuvers in the early 20th century due to the heavy focus on cavalry training, including mounted artillery firing. In a 1936 letter, Colonel L. J. McNair noted that “in the past, the unoccupied portion of the Fort Riley reservation almost in its entirety has been used for artillery firing, with innumerable combinations of gun positions and targets. It may well be that, under present conditions, the range is restricted materially by installations, for example, riding courses and jumps.”<sup>54</sup>

Though initially considered too open and void of vegetation for training, Fort Riley’s uplands—the area north of and immediately adjacent to the Smoky Hill, Republican, and Kansas river valleys—were frequently used

53. “At Work on the Redoubt,” *Junction City Union*, Aug. 19, 1909, n.p.

54. L. J. McNair, Colonel, Field Artillery, Fort Riley, Kansas, Letter to Assit. Chief of Staff, Adjutant General’s Office, Washington, DC, 5 May 1936, Central Decimal Files, 1926–1939, 537.4 to 824.1, box 3080, Records of the Adjutant General’s Office, RG 407, NARA, Washington, DC.

for training after forestation efforts that occurred between 1905 and 1907 (Figure 16 and Figure 17). During this period, approximately 17,000 trees were planted in the uplands.<sup>55</sup>

Figure 16. Mounted cavalry training in a forested area, n.d. ([Mounted cavalry training], n.d., Camp of Instructions Baking Cooking, Fort Riley: Camp of Instruction, Centen.1 Parade '53, Equestrian Teams, Gov's Visit 1909, Horse Racing Portraits, Riding, Mule Packing, Mules ROTC [Reserve Officer Training Corps]. @FRK [at Fort Riley, Kansas], West Point Cadets. [at FRK], 4th Army Maneuvers. [1930s], US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



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55. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 19, 20.

Figure 17. Mounted cavalry training with packs in a forested area, n.d. ([Cavalry training with packs], n.d., Camp of Instructions Baking Cooking, Fort Riley: Camp of Instruction, Centen.1 Parade '53, Equestrian Teams, Gov's Visit 1909, Horse Racing Portraits, Riding, Mule Packing, Mules ROTC. [FRK], West Point Cadets. [FRK], 4th Army Maneuvers. [1930s]. US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Morris Hill and the surrounding area—the approximate location of the re-doubt—was a common site for artillery practice (Figure 13 and Figure 14). In 1913, annual target practice featured firing lines near Morris Hill and targets near Governor Harvey Hill “at ranges from 2,400 to 2,700 yards.”<sup>56</sup> This target practice likely occurred on a temporary range.

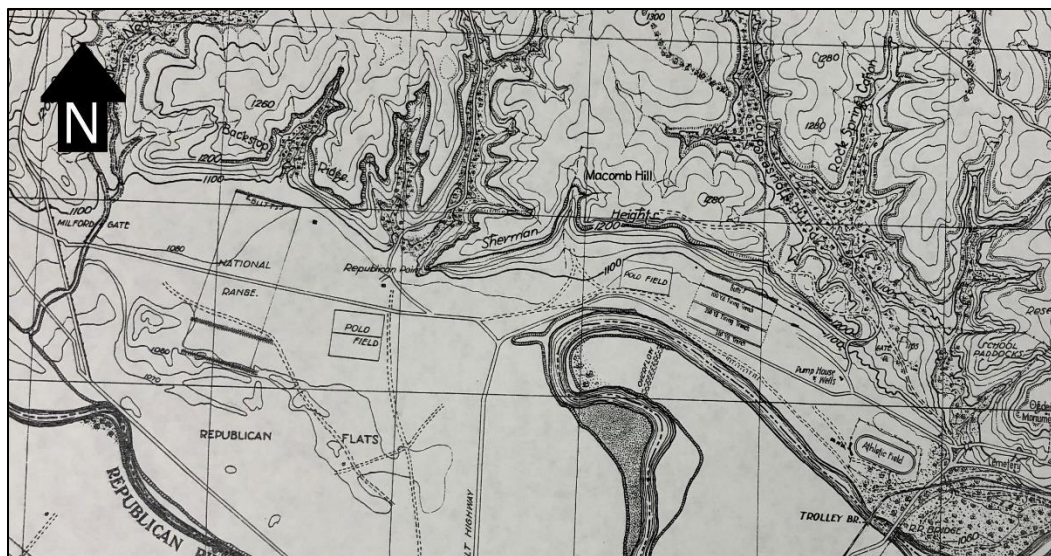
By 1910, the 1,000 yd range constructed c. 1900 was referred to as the “National Range” or “National Rifle Range” (Figure 18). It was a permanent range at Fort Riley with “28 groups of targets, 14 of which comprise[d] each side of the system, so that maneuvers on one part of the range [would] not in any way interfere with those on the other half.”<sup>57</sup> The targets were outfitted with electric signals to notify target attendants of

56. “Fired from Morris Hill,” *Junction City Union*, Sept. 15, 1913, 1.

57. “A Perfect Signaling System,” *Junction City Union*, May 6, 1910, 2.

firing, allowing the target attendant to raise the target at the correct time, as well as notify the range house operator when a target was hit.<sup>58</sup>

Figure 18. Detail of map showing National Rifle Range and target range to the east, 1917. (Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*. Public domain.)



Another permanent range, referred to as the Sherman Heights Small Arms Range, Class B Range, or Camp Funston Range, with 100, 200, and 300 yd firing trenches located east of the National Rifle Range is noted on maps by November 1917 (Figure 18).<sup>59</sup> This range was an existing training area that was modified for trench firing.<sup>60</sup> Evidence suggests that there was a small-arms range called the Sherman Heights Small Arms Range, Class B Range, or Camp Funston Range, near the pump-house polo fields, though it is unclear if this range and the 100, 200, and 300 yd firing trenches are the same training area.<sup>61</sup> Fort Riley also received funding for a permanent range in October 1917, though this was likely used to construct the 1,000 in. machine gun range located northeast of the Main Post on what would

58. "A Perfect Signaling System," *Junction City Union*, May 6, 1910, 2.

59. Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 1917, 1:166 scale, (Fort Riley, KS: 89th Division National Army), ERDC-CERL, Champaign, IL; Puckett and Barnett, "Case Study," 26, 62.

60 R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., *Archaeological Evaluation of a Portion of World War I Camp Funston (14RY2169)*, Riley County, Kansas (Fort Riley, KS, March 2012), 30, 16.

61. Puckett and Barnett, "Case Study," 26; R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. *Archaeological Evaluation of a Portion of World War I Camp Funston*, 30, 16.

later be called Machine Gun Ridge.<sup>62</sup> This machine gun range was constructed by July 1918.<sup>63</sup>

Despite the construction of these artillery training facilities, cavalry training remained the primary focus at Fort Riley. In 1904, the Department of Equitation was established within the Cavalry and Light Artillery School to train cavalry and field officers with less than 10 years of service. Equitation training included one-and-a-half hours of instruction each day for a total of 90 hours in courses such as equitation and horse training, horseshoeing, hippology, special studies, quartermaster harness and transportation, pioneer duties, topography, drill regulations, military sanitation and hygiene, field service regulation, campaigns, and professional reading (Figure 19).<sup>64</sup>

Figure 19. Cavalry preparing for march, n.d. (Geo. Harding, "Fort Riley Transportation Ready for a March," Fort Riley: Camp of Instruction, Centen.1 Parade '53, Equestrian Teams, Gov's Visit 1909, Horse Racing Portraits, Riding, Mule Packing, Mules ROTC, @FRK, West Point Cadets, @FRK, 4th Army Maneuvers, [1930s], US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



62. "For a New Target Range," *Junction City Union*, Oct. 18, 1917, 3.

63. "News of Camp Funston," *Junction City Union*, July 6, 1918, 4; Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*.

64. Mounted Service School, "Equitation," in *The Rasp*, 1912, 35–37, Fort Riley, KS: Mounted Service School, 1912, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS, 15–19.

In 1906, the School of Instruction for Cavalry and Light Artillery was reorganized to feature a one-year curriculum focused on equitation and horse training, which featured classes on equitation and horse training, quarter-master harness and transportation, hippology, horseshoeing, baking and cooking, pioneer duties, forage, package, topography, and tactics.<sup>65</sup> This reorganization led to the acquisition of young horses and the improvements of facilities, including the construction of a large stable and the enlargement of school pastures.<sup>66</sup>

In 1907, the school was renamed the Mounted Service School, and the separate subschools for cavalry and light artillery were abolished. The Department of Equitation remained as a distinct department, with courses that included breaking and training of mounts; outdoor training that consisted of 23 jumps on Smoky Hill Flat and 14 obstacles, including stone walls, hedges, post and rail fences, double barriers, logs, and ditches, which were not located on Smoky Hill Flat (Figure 20); and polo.<sup>67</sup> Polo training used the polo fields on the Republican Flat, which were likely also used for recreation.<sup>68</sup> By November 1912, the polo fields were also used to direct artillery fire from aircraft and as landing strips for aircraft.<sup>69</sup>

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65. Mounted Service School, "History of the Mounted Service School," in *The Rasp*, 1911, 73–80 (Fort Riley, KS: Mounted Service School, 1911), US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS.

66. Mounted Service School, 1912, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS, 23–25.

67. Mounted Service School, 1912, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS, 24–27; Press of the School of Application, *Annual Report of the Commandant, School of Application for Cavalry and Field Artillery*, August 31, 1905.

68. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 18, 22.

69. Puckett and Barnett, "Case Study," 65–66.

Figure 20. Cavalry troops and horses standing near a training obstacle at an unknown location, n.d. ([Cavalry near an obstacle], n.d., Camp of Instructions Baking Cooking, Fort Riley: Camp of Instruction, Centen.1 Parade '53, Equestrian Teams, Gov's Visit 1909, Horse Racing Portraits, Riding, Mule Packing, Mules ROTC. [FRK], West Point Cadets. [FRK], 4th Army Maneuvers. [1930s], US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



In 1909, all coursework not directly related to equitation and horse training, with the exception of pioneer duties and explosives, was dropped from the Mounted Service School's curriculum.<sup>70</sup> The school continued to play an important role at Fort Riley (Figure 21 and Figure 22), however, and by 1912, the Mounted Service School's built environment included stables, a riding hall, pastures, and cross-country courses (Figure 23). Other features included 170 mounts, a detachment of grooms and caretakers, four instructors, and over 1,100 hours of instruction.<sup>71</sup> The school continued, relatively unchanged, until the reassignment of instruction personnel during WWI, resulting in a suspension of instruction until 1919.<sup>72</sup>

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70. Ensore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 29.

71. Mounted Service School, 1912, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS, 28–37.

72. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 17.

Figure 21. Troops examine a weapon during mounted artillery training. (Fred E. Hughes, [Mounted Artillery Training], 1910, Early 20th Century Artillery, Artillery: Mess Halls, Pack, People, Spots, Targets, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 22. Cavalry training, c. 1910. ([Cavalry training], n.d., Early 20th Century Artillery, Artillery: Mess Halls, Pack, People, Spots, Targets, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 23. Training in a field north of the west riding hall, n.d. ("Barracks no. 40," n.d., Training, Miscellaneous Fort Riley Dogs, Tack Rooms, Training, Presidential Visits, ROTC, Prints Monuments, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



It is unclear if this suspension of instruction affected other training schools that had opened at Fort Riley during the early 20th century. These schools included the Farrier's and Horseshoe School, which opened in January 1903; the schools for instruction of the Hospital Corps and Signal Corps, which opened sometime prior to 1911; and the School for Bakers and Cooks, which opened in February 1905.<sup>73</sup> Facilities used by the School for Bakers and Cooks included one large facility constructed in conjunction with the Medical Officers' Training Camp and a second facility at the east end of Camp Funston, along the railroad tracks (Figure 24 and Figure 25). This second facility, a bakery, produced 38,888 lb of bread each day to sustain 50,000 men daily.<sup>74</sup> Students of the School for Bakers and Cooks participated in field training, learning to operate a field expedient kitchen (Figure 26) and testing experimental outdoor ovens

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73. The School for Bakers and Cooks later became the Food Service School and was ultimately removed from Fort Riley in 1957; Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 30–32; Ensore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 29; Mounted Service School, "History of the Mounted Service School."

74. Puckett and Barnett, "Case Study," 66–67.

(Figure 27, Figure 28, and Figure 29);<sup>75</sup> however, the School for Bakers and Cooks also used training kitchens and other facilities outside the range and maneuver areas, though the extent and exact locations of these field facilities are unknown.<sup>76</sup>

Figure 24. Kitchen for Fort Riley School for Bakers and Cooks, 1907. (Pennell, *Members of Cooks and Bakers School in Kitchen, Fort Riley, 1907*. Public domain.)



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75. "Field Expedient Kitchen in Daily Use at Training School," n.d., Camp of Instructions Baking Cooking, Fort Riley: Camp of Instruction, Centen.1 Parade '53, Equestrian Teams, Gov's Visit 1909, Horse Racing Portraits, Riding, Mule Packing, Mules ROTC (@FRK), West Point Cadets (@FRK), 4th Army Maneuvers (1930s), US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS; Joseph Pennell, *Experimental Outdoor Ovens, Cooks and Bakers School, Fort Riley*, 1908, Joseph Judd Pennell Photographs Collection (1888–1923), KU Libraries Digital Collections, <https://digital.lib.ku.edu/ku-pennell/3053>.

76. Joseph Pennell, *Members of Cooks and Bakers School in Kitchen, Fort Riley*, 1907, Joseph Judd Pennell Photographs Collection (1888–1923), KU Libraries Digital Collections, <https://digital.lib.ku.edu/ku-pennell/2836>; Joseph Pennell, *Members of Cooks and Bakers School in Fort Riley Bakery*, 1908, Joseph Judd Pennell Photographs Collection (1888–1923), KU Libraries Digital Collections, <https://digital.lib.ku.edu/ku-pennell/2912>.

Figure 25. Bakery for Fort Riley School for Bakers and Cooks, 1907. (Pennell, *Members of Cooks and Bakers School in Fort Riley Bakery*, 1908. Public domain.)

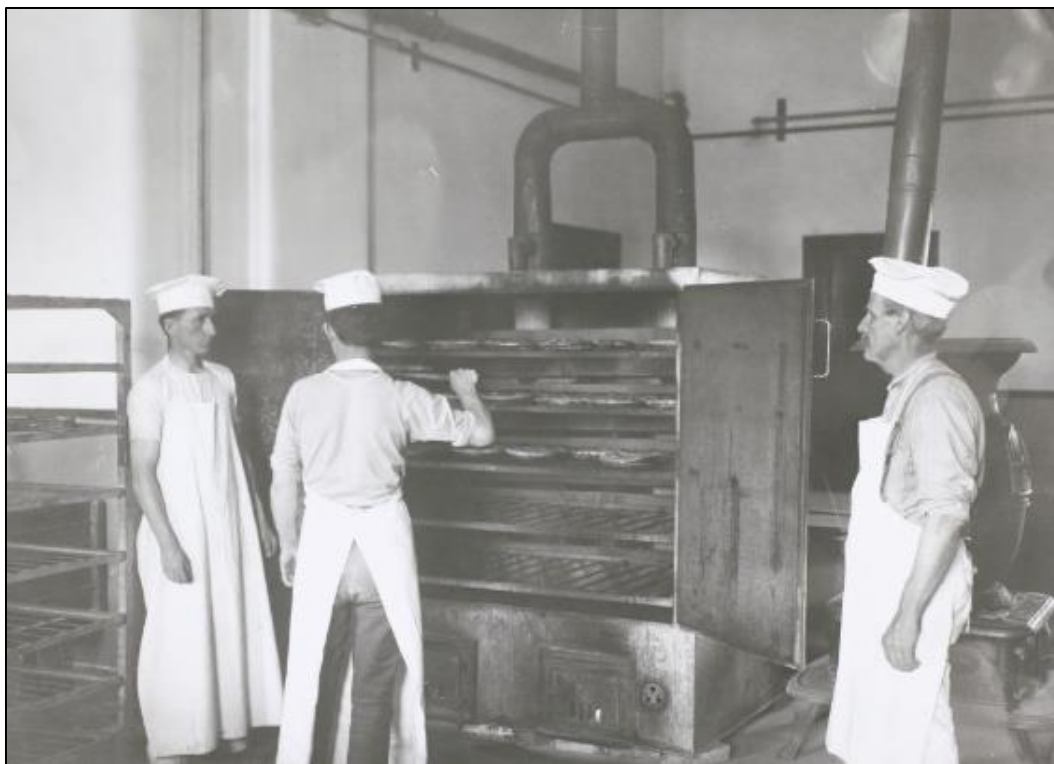


Figure 26. Field kitchen used by the School for Bakers and Cooks, n.d. ("Field Expedient Kitchen in Daily Use at Training School," n.d. Public domain.)

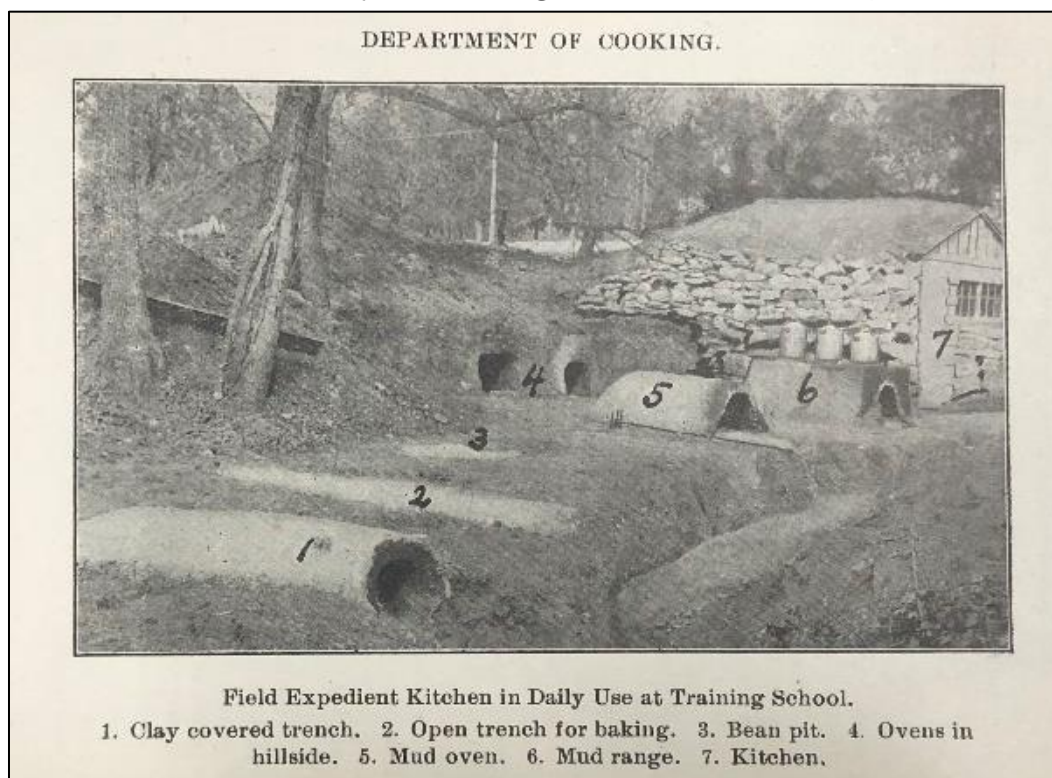


Figure 27. Experimental outdoor oven used by School for Bakers and Cooks, 1908. (Pennell, *Experimental Outdoor Ovens, Cooks and Bakers School, Fort Riley*. Public domain.)



Figure 28. Students of the School for Bakers and Cooks using experimental ovens in a tent, 1908. (Joseph Pennell, *Men Working at Experimental Ovens in Tent, Cooks and Bakers School, Fort Riley, 1908*, Joseph Judd Pennell Photographs Collection [1888–1923], Kansas University [KU] Libraries Digital Collections, <https://digital.lib.ku.edu/ku-pennell/3055>. Public domain.)



Figure 29. Field oven. (Joseph Pennell, *Cooks and Bakers Field Oven, Fort Riley, 1908*, Joseph Judd Pennell Photographs Collection [1888–1923], KU Libraries Digital Collections, <https://digital.lib.ku.edu/ku-pennell/2913>. Public domain.)



### 2.1.1 World War I and the interwar period

Though instruction at Fort Riley's Mounted Service School was suspended from 1917 to 1919, the post continued to offer important training during WWI.<sup>77</sup> In 1917, responding to events taking place in Europe, President Woodrow Wilson enacted a draft law authorizing federal conscription for the armed forces, effectively abolishing state militias and allowing other men to be drafted into federal military service. This action created a high demand for trained officers; as a result, Fort Riley was selected as the site of a Reserve officer's camp. That year, 2,500 men trained at Fort Riley (Figure 30 and Figure 31).

The same year, Congress appropriated funds to build a large training center at Fort Riley, and construction soon began on the 14th National Army Cantonment, which would be located on Ogden Flat, five miles northeast of the permanent post (Figure 2). This temporary cantonment would be named Camp Funston in honor of the late general, who died in February 1917. Construction began in July 1917, and the camp became one of the

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77. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 17.

largest temporary training centers in the country. Within a three-month period, 1,401 buildings were constructed for \$10 million.<sup>78</sup>

Figure 30. Cavalry training using fence as a jump, n.d. ([Cavalry jumping fence], n.d., Cavalry School: Instructors, Cav Training, Officers Classes, Ferrier Class, Riding Class, Vet Class, Allied Students, Baking School, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

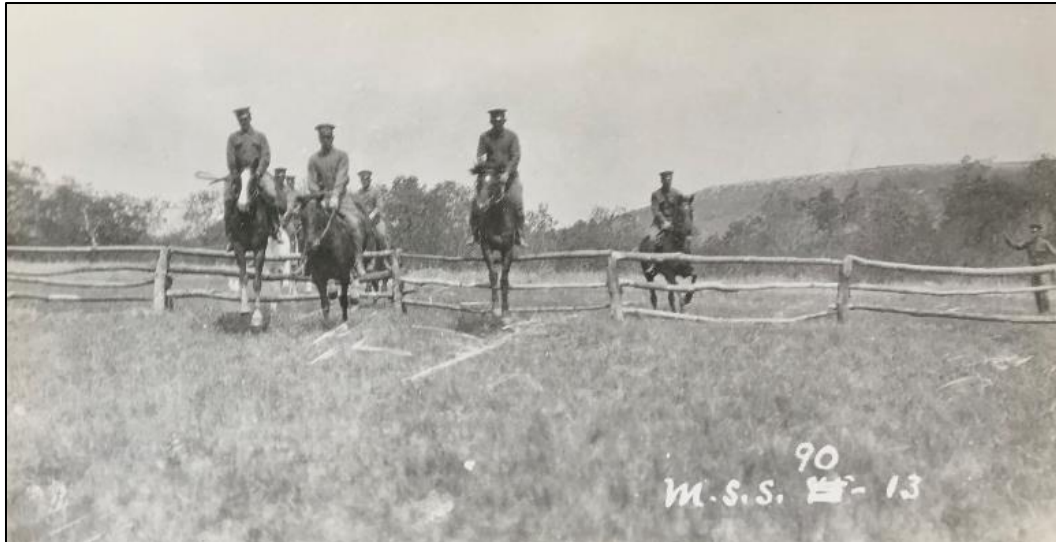


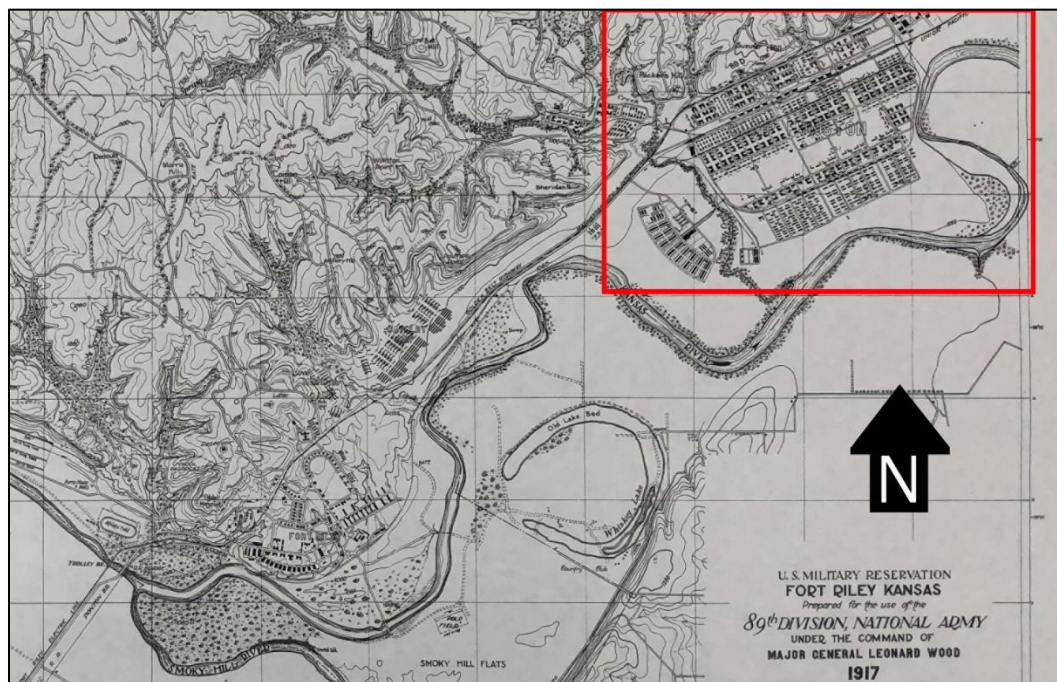
Figure 31. Horsemanship training on Main Post, n.d. ([Main Post cavalry training], n.d., Cav. Training Horsemanship Photos, Cavalry School: Instructors, Cav Training, Officers Classes, Ferrier Class, Riding Class, Vet Class, Allied Students, Baking School, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



<sup>78</sup> Ensore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 30.

On Camp Funston's completion in December 1917, it could house and train 50,000 men (Figure 32). Consisting mainly of two-story wood buildings constructed based on temporary WWI standard plans, the camp had complete waterworks, electrical, and refrigeration systems. Other facilities built simultaneously and associated with Camp Funston included a cavalry camp, a veterinary camp and a remount depot, and an engineer camp.<sup>79</sup> A Medical Military Officers Training Camp, featuring semipermanent facilities, mess halls, and latrines, was constructed in 1917 and early 1918 in what was later named Camp Whitside (Figure 33).<sup>80</sup> The Medical Military Officers' Training Camp was moved to Fort Oglethorpe in Georgia in July 1918, leaving the semipermanent construction in the command of Fort Riley's commanding officer.<sup>81</sup>

Figure 32. Location of Camp Funston, 1917. (Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.)

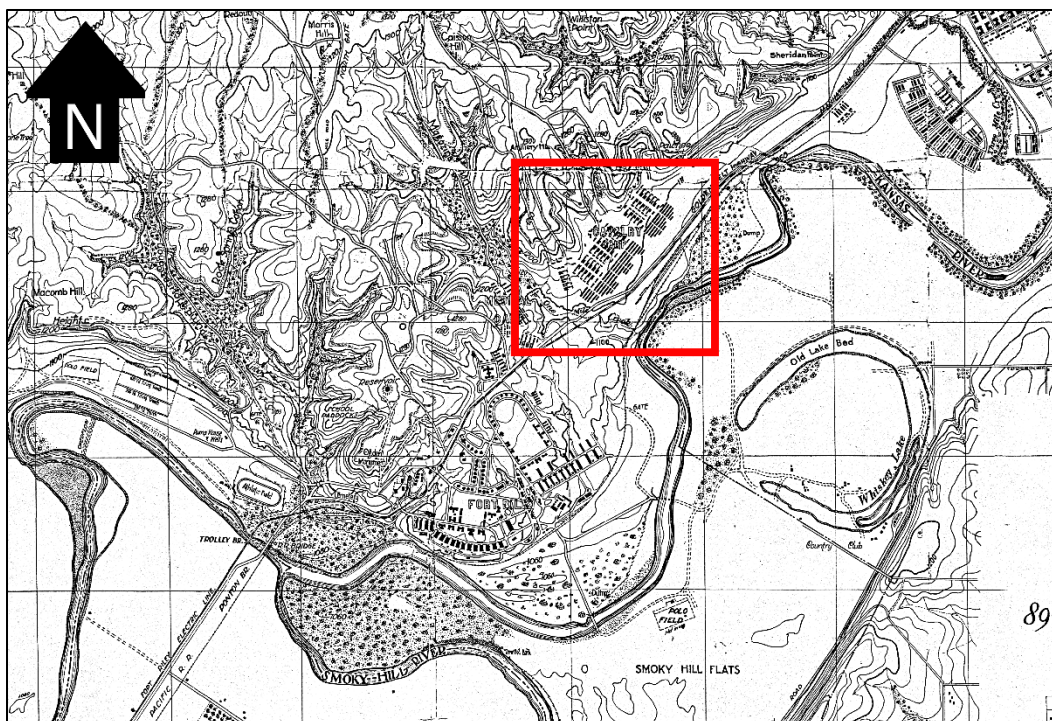


79. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 30.

80. This area was named "Camp Whitside" in 1924; Puckett and Barnett, "Case Study," 24.

81. Puckett and Barnett, "Case Study," 24.

Figure 33. Location of Medical Military Officers' Training Camp, 1917. (Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.)



Camp Funston was quickly put into use, as Fort Riley began using it to host a series of Officers' Training Camps. The first of these camps—the First Officers' Training Camp—was hosted from May to August of 1917. It consisted of 160 men who were organized into companies and led by a Regular Army officer. Soldiers attending the camp studied varied subjects, including drilling, camping, trench digging, tactics, and topography. While the location and time at which the Second Officers' Training Camp was held are unclear, the Third Officers' Training Camp was held from January to April of 1918 at Camp Funston, and the Fourth Officers' Training Camp was held from May to June 1918, also at Camp Funston.<sup>82</sup>

Education and training at Camp Funston that was not associated with an organized training camp included drilling, target practice, bayonet and grenade practice, night warfare, gas practice, marksmanship, equitation, French language, and special courses through the divisional schools in subjects such as topography and teaming. Because of the frequency of drilling, alfalfa was planted on the drill grounds, and drill locations changed often.<sup>83</sup> Other training areas included Smoky Hill Flats, which

82. Puckett and Barnett, "Case Study," 12–13.

83. Puckett and Barnett, "Case Study," 69–60.

featured facilities for bayonet, grenade throwing, automatic rifles, and trench and combat training, and the Republican and Kansas Rivers, which were crossed by Soldiers using pontoon bridges. There was also a gas house for gas drills, though its location is unclear.<sup>84</sup>

Fort Riley Soldiers also trained with a rolling-bridge-type miniature terrain, constructed by members of the 89th Division at Camp Funston during the winter of 1917–1918. This miniature terrain was a 1:100 scale miniature landscape constructed and used indoors with white woolen balls dropped as simulated “bursts” from a rolling bridge operated over the terrain. The terrain allowed Soldiers to simulate firing and train large classes during all weather conditions.<sup>85</sup>

By 1919, Fort Riley was also home to two trench systems constructed by the 89th Division—the locations and layouts of these trench systems are shown in Figure 34, Figure 35, and Figure 36.<sup>86</sup> The first divisional trench system was constructed in November 1917 along Carpenter Hill, with the aim of using it to train Soldiers in trench warfare (Figure 37 and Figure 38). As such, the 89th Division sought to mimic the trench systems used in France. Soldiers lived in the trenches for several days and nights and trained in cooking, sleeping, and mending underground, as well as the use of Lewis machine guns and gas warfare training. The trench system consisted of three lines of trenches with communicating trenches, dugouts, wire entanglements, and machine gun emplacements. The system comprised an area of approximately 1,000 sq yd.<sup>87</sup>

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84. Puckett and Barnett, “Case Study,” 64–65.

85. Puckett and Barnett, “Case Study,” 63.

86. “News of Camp Funston.”

87. Puckett and Barnett, “Case Study,” 63–64.

Figure 34. WWI trench blueprint, n.d. (Office of Division Engineer, 89th Division, *Map showing Divisional Trench System on Carpenter Hill*, n.d., 1:100 [Fort Riley, KS: Fort Riley Cultural Resources Manager (CRM Office), Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.]



Figure 35. WWI trench systems shown on a 1934 map of Fort Riley. (Image created by Fort Riley CRM Office. Public domain.)

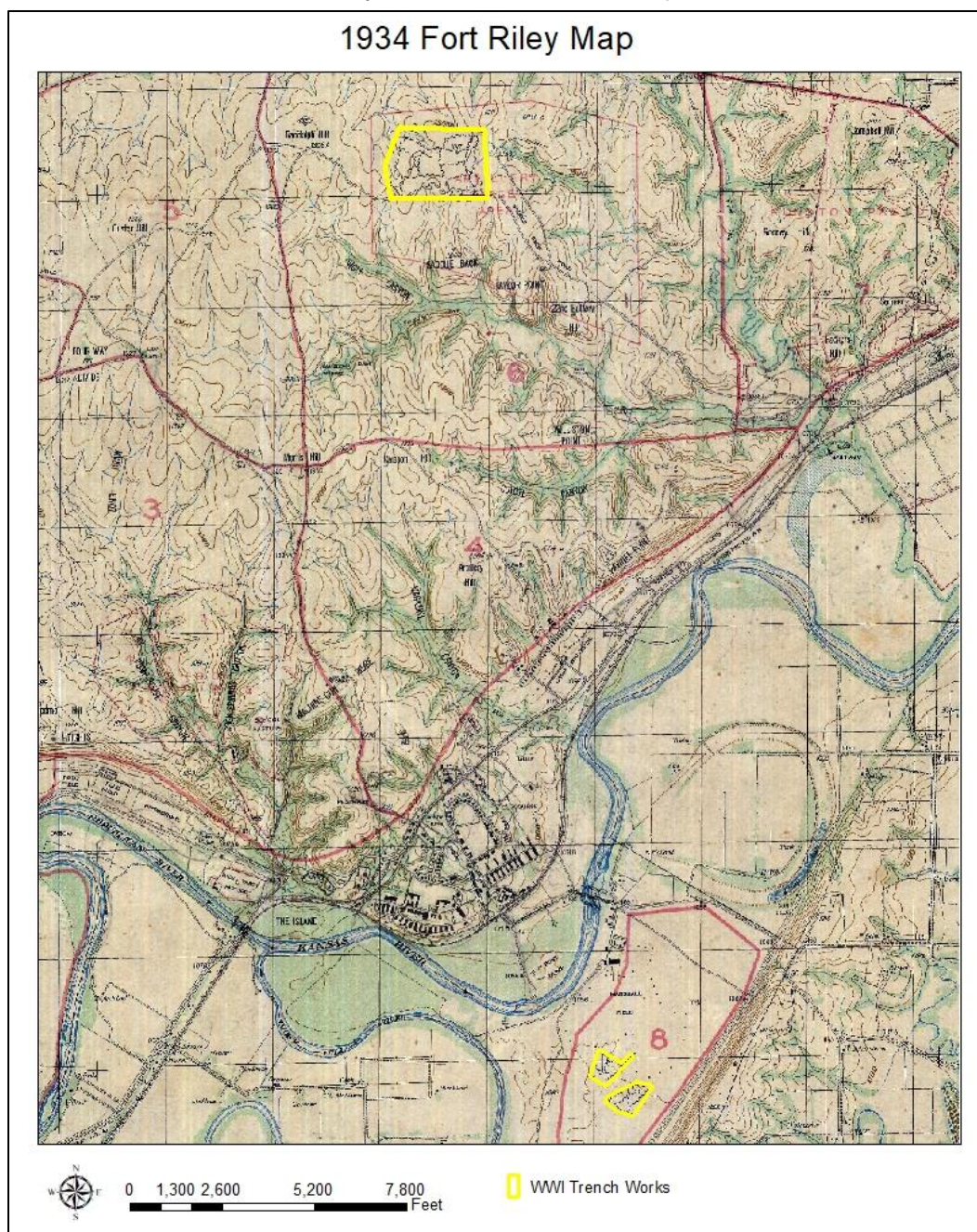


Figure 36. WWI trench systems superimposed on contemporary aerial image of Fort Riley.  
(Image created by Fort Riley CRM Office. Public domain.)



Figure 37. "Going Over the Top" at Fort Riley, Kansas, 19 July 1918. (Box 112, 15006A, Records of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer, Record group [RG] 111, National Archives and Records Administration [NARA], College Park, MD.)



Figure 38. Medical Soldiers entering underground hospital, Fort Riley, Kansas, 19 July 1918.  
(Box 113, 15019A, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD.)



Another trench system was constructed along the Smoky Hill Flats within the present-day MAAF. These trenches included features to support training in the use of hand grenades, rifle grenades, one-pound cannon, and bayonets. The exact date of construction of this trench system is unclear, but it was extant by 1919.<sup>88</sup> Finally, a series of firing trenches—with firing lines of 100, 200, and 300 yd—is visible on a 1917 map of Fort Riley.

Following WWI, Camp Funston was deactivated. It was dismantled by 1925.<sup>89</sup> Additionally, the Mounted Service School was again reorganized, this time as a training ground for the Army's US horse show teams. Prior to WWI, Fort Riley hosted numerous horse shows, hunts, and polo games. The show teams also participated in Olympic competitions.<sup>90</sup> During WWI, however, the Army curtailed the activities of the Mounted Service School and, following a postwar War Department directive that

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88. Puckett and Barnett, "Case Study," 64.

89. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 39.

90. Ensore et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 17.

service schools be created for all arms of service, the artillery training component was removed from the Mounted Service School and it was reorganized as the Cavalry School (Figure 39, Figure 40, and Figure 41).<sup>91</sup> Notably, nonmilitary equestrian training continued through this period, and most of the famous US equestrian teams of the 1920s and 1930s trained at Fort Riley.<sup>92</sup>

Figure 39. [Fenced cavalry training], n.d., Cavalry training, Cavalry School: Instructors, Cav Training, Officers Classes, Ferrier Class, Riding Class, Vet Class, Allied Students, Baking School, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.



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91. US Army Fort Riley, "About: History of Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division"; Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 12.

92. Ensore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 31.

Figure 40. A cavalry soldier successfully completes a jump, n.d. (p.79-24-6, Photos-Originals/Postcards-Pre-WWI and Interwar Era, DA312 Cavalry/DA 308 Aviation, Fort Riley Historic Photos, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 41. [Uplands cavalry training], n.d., Photos-Originals/Postcards-Pre-WWI and Interwar Era, DA312 Cavalry/DA 308 Aviation, Fort Riley Historic Photos, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.



### 2.1.2 The Cavalry School and mechanization

The Cavalry School, which operated at full capacity during the interwar period, consisted of four departments: tactics, cavalry weapons, horsemanship, and general instruction.<sup>93</sup> Department of Tactics instruction included cavalry tactics, marching, camping, troop leading, field fortifications, tactical rides, terrain exercises, map problems, lecture, and conferences. Department of Cavalry instruction included combat firing practice and musketry problems, as well as weapons instruction regarding sabers, pistols, machine guns, and autorifles (Figure 42). Department of Horsemanship instruction included equitation, care of horses, care of equipment, harness and wagons, hippology, and horseshoeing. Finally, Department of General Instruction curriculum included administration, military law, riot duty, hygiene and first aid, military courtesy, rules of land warfare, sketching and map reading, and military history pertaining to cavalry. Each department's curriculum included the basic course, troop officers' course, and field officers' course with instruction specific to the needs and levels of each class.<sup>94</sup>

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93. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 13, 17.

94. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 17.

Figure 42. [Artillery training], n.d., Photos-Originals/Postcards-Pre-WWI and Interwar Era, DA312 Cavalry/DA 308 Aviation, Fort Riley Historic Photos, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.



As Fort Riley's primary focus continued to be cavalry training, other activities could not impair the Cavalry School (Figure 43 and Figure 44). Thus, when Camp Whitside was constructed in the mid-1920s for use by National Guard units, its location was approved by the commandant of the Cavalry School (Figure 45). This, as well as the fact that 25 concrete foundations, stone walks, and water and sewer systems remained from Camp Root in 1924, was a deciding factor in choosing Pawnee Flat as the location of Camp Whitside. Camp Whitside was used through the 1930s, and the \$44,202.90 that was authorized for site development was used to construct 27 mess hall or kitchen buildings, 27 bath houses, concrete and wooden tent floors, a post exchange building, and officers' mess buildings and bath houses.<sup>95</sup>

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95. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 39–40.

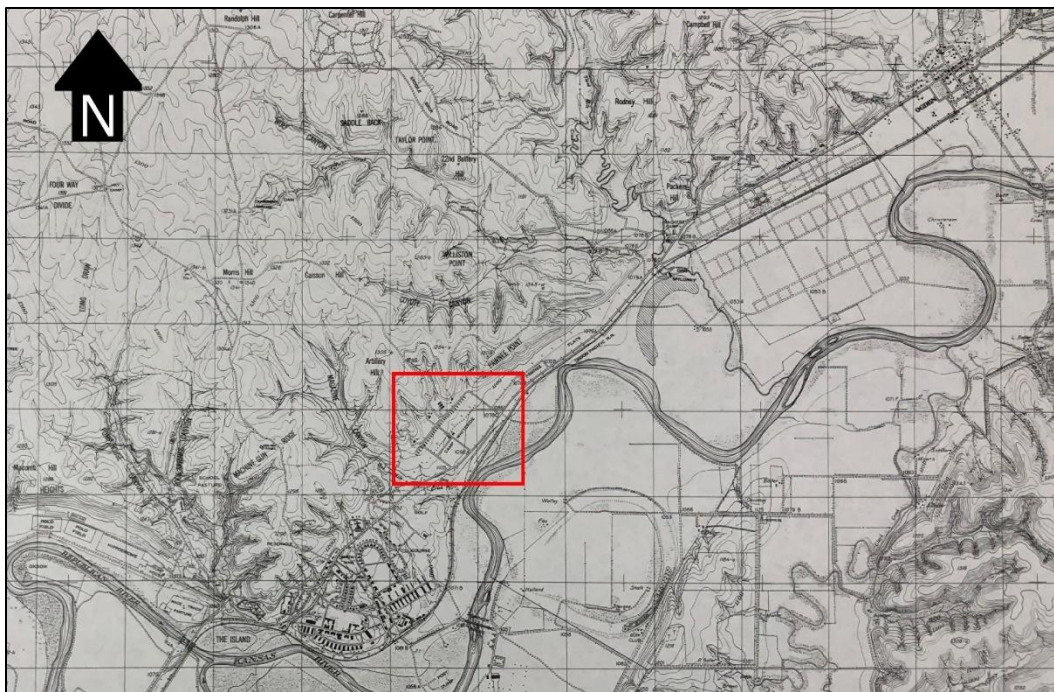
Figure 43. [Cavalry jumping stone wall], n.d., Cavalry School: Instructors, Cav Training, Officers Classes, Ferrier Class, Riding Class, Vet Class, Allied Students, Baking School, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.



Figure 44. [Cavalry in uplands], n.d., Cavalry School: Instructors, Cav Training, Officers Classes, Ferrier Class, Riding Class, Vet Class, Allied Students, Baking School, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.



Figure 45. Location of Camp Whitside, 1934. (Corps of Engineers, US Army, *Special Military Map*. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.)



In the 1930s, the War Department sought to create a mechanized brigade of two cavalry units. The Cavalry School therefore introduced coursework on the employment of mechanized units and defensive measures focusing on technical and tactical aspects of the mechanized unit, as well as how horsed and mechanized cavalry could work together.<sup>96</sup> Though the 13th Cavalry (then stationed at Fort Riley) was not mechanized until 1936, maneuvers were held in April 1934 at the post to examine the best methods for employment of mechanized cavalry, as well as its relationship to horsed cavalry.<sup>97</sup> As such, the maneuver participants included cavalry (and artillery) regiments from Fort Riley, as well as the then-mechanized 1st Cavalry from Fort Knox, Kentucky. The findings of the maneuver indicated that mechanized units are more sensitive to demolition and variations in

96. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 40.

97. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 13, 40.

terrain, are more vulnerable at night, and require more careful fuel planning when compared to other units.<sup>98</sup>

Prior to the maneuvers, the 1st Cavalry (mechanized) gave a series of demonstrations to Cavalry School personnel. These demonstrations included reconnaissance by an armored car platoon, an attack by an armored car platoon reinforced by a mechanized machine gun platoon, and an attack by a mechanized unit. Other demonstrations included target practice with .50 caliber machine guns aimed at small-scale targets resembling armored cars at distances of 800 to 1,400 yards.<sup>99</sup> It is unclear where these demonstrations took place.

Following the demonstrations, a series of maneuvers employed mechanized cavalry opposing horsed cavalry in combat.<sup>100</sup> The maneuvers consisted of two parts: mechanized cavalry opposing horsed cavalry and mechanized and horsed cavalry working in concert against an enemy. Each part consisted of six maneuvers: (1) mechanized cavalry of an aggressive reconnaissance mission opposed by horsed cavalry on a counterreconnaissance mission; (2) engagement between mechanized cavalry and horse cavalry with attached scout cars; (3) a mechanized regiment, reinforced with artillery, securing and holding a position when opposed by horsed cavalry; (4) mechanized cavalry in parallel pursuit; (5) reconnaissance, approach march, and attack with horsed and mechanized cavalry employed in concert; and (6) horsed and mechanized cavalry, reinforced by other arms, covering the front and flanks of a larger force. During these maneuvers, fire from automatic weapons was indicated by high-powered flashlights and artillery fire by smoke “puffs” dropped from airplanes on areas under fire.<sup>101</sup>

### 2.1.3 Training facility development

Through the entirety of the interwar period, Fort Riley was also home to a Citizens Military Training Camp (CMTC). CMTCs were organized under

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98. Dubois, “Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939,” 40–41; United States Cavalry Association, “Cavalry Maneuvers at Fort Riley, Kansas, 1934,” *The Cavalry Journal* XLIII, no. 184 (July–August 1934): 4–14, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS.

99. United States Cavalry Association, “The Fort Riley Maneuvers,” *The Cavalry Journal* XLIII, no. 182 (March–April 1934): 4–14, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS.

100. United States Cavalry Association, “The Fort Riley Maneuvers.”

101. United States Cavalry Association, “Cavalry Maneuvers at Fort Riley, Kansas, 1934.”

the National Defense Act of 1920, and the first camps were held in 1921.<sup>102</sup> The camps offered four courses of instruction:

The Basic [course was offered] during the first summer and more advanced Red, White, and Blue Courses during the second, third, and fourth summers.

The Basic course provided physical, mental, and “moral” training for candidates between the ages of seventeen and twenty-four. This included athletics, camp sanitation, personal hygiene, military courtesy, and discipline. The Red Course provided training in different arms of the Army, including the Infantry, Cavalry, Field Artillery, Coast Artillery, and the Signal Corps. Candidates in this course were between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five, and graduates of the Basic Course or possessing prior military training. . . . The White Course trained candidates to qualify as noncommissioned officers in the Enlisted Reserve Corps. The candidates of this course were between the ages of eighteen and twenty-eight, graduates of grammar school, and graduates of the Red Course possessing the equivalent military training. The Blue Course trained candidates in the duties of junior commissioned officers in preparation for an appointment in the Officers’ Reserve Course. Candidates for appointment were to have been either warrant officers of enlisted men of the Regular Army, National Guard, or Enlisted Reserve Corps. Candidates for this course were between the ages of nineteen and twenty-nine with a high school education and had completed the White Course.<sup>103</sup>

After completing all four courses, participants were potential candidates as second lieutenants in the US Army Reserve. It is unclear if the camps were

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102. Dubois, “Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939,” 44.

103. Dubois, “Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939,” 44–45.

located at the same site each year; however, the 1936 camp was located across the street and to the west of the 9th Cavalry barracks and parade ground. Trainees were quartered in pyramidal tents, which were floored and supplied with electricity.<sup>104</sup>

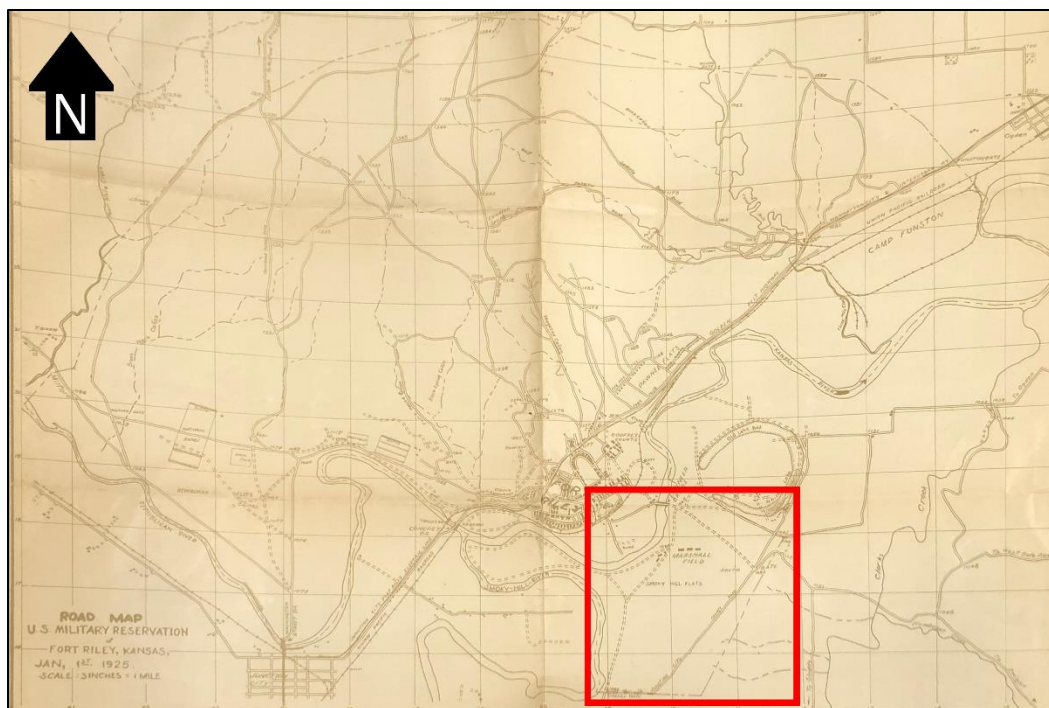
Also in 1921, the Smoky Hill Flats was selected as the location for a new airfield. The Fort Riley Flying Field opened in August of that year and was home to the 16th Observation Squadron. Initially, the primary responsibility of the fliers was to provide demonstrations and participate in training exercises for the Cavalry School. The airfield was planned as a refueling point for cross-country flights and was equipped with metal hangars, underground fuel storage tanks, and lights for night operations. The airfield was renamed the Marshall Army Airfield after the late Brigadier General Francis C. Marshall following facility completion in 1923 (Figure 46). MAAF remained a quiet place for most of the 1920s and 1930s, with a mission of observation and photography during tactical exercises at Fort Riley, as well as performing aerial demonstrations.<sup>105</sup> No known training occurred at MAAF during this period.

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104. Dubois, *Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939*, 45.

105. Ensore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 33.

Figure 46. Road map of Fort Riley showing MAAF, 1925. (*Road Map US Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas, Jan. 1, 1925, 3 in.:1 mi scale, map box #1, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.*)



Beyond magazine construction, minimal development occurred on Fort Riley's training lands. Communications between the Colonel J. R. Davis and Captain H. B. Sepulveda from 1935 to 1936 indicate that field artillery target ranges were present at Sumner Hill and Custer Hill by this time; however, the impact area was not large enough to ensure safe simultaneous firing from each hill.<sup>106</sup> These ranges are not noted on maps from 1934 (Figure 47, Figure 48, and Figure 49), and they appear to have been altered or removed by 1943.<sup>107</sup> Additionally, visibility was limited by the absence of an observation tower, and only Sumner Hill had concrete emplacements. On 27 July 1936, the secretary of war approved \$1,000 of National Guard Bureau funds for construction of a forward observation post at the range.<sup>108</sup>

106. *Record of Communication Received*, CG, 7th C. Area to Chief, NGB, 23 Dec. 1935, Central Decimal Files, 1926–1939, 537.4-824.1, box 3080, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, RG 407, NARA, Washington, DC

107. Corps of Engineers, US Army, *Special Military Map*, 1934, 1:20,000 scale (Fort Riley, KS: Command and General Staff School), ERDC-CERL, Champaign, IL; Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoff, *Plan of the Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas*, 1943, scale not given (Fort Riley, KS: Fort Riley), Fort Riley, KS, CRM Office.

108. *Record of Communication Received*, CG, 7th C. Area to Chief, NGB, 23 Dec. 1935.

Figure 47. Map of Fort Riley, 1934. (Corps of Engineers, US Army, *Special Military Map*. Public domain.)

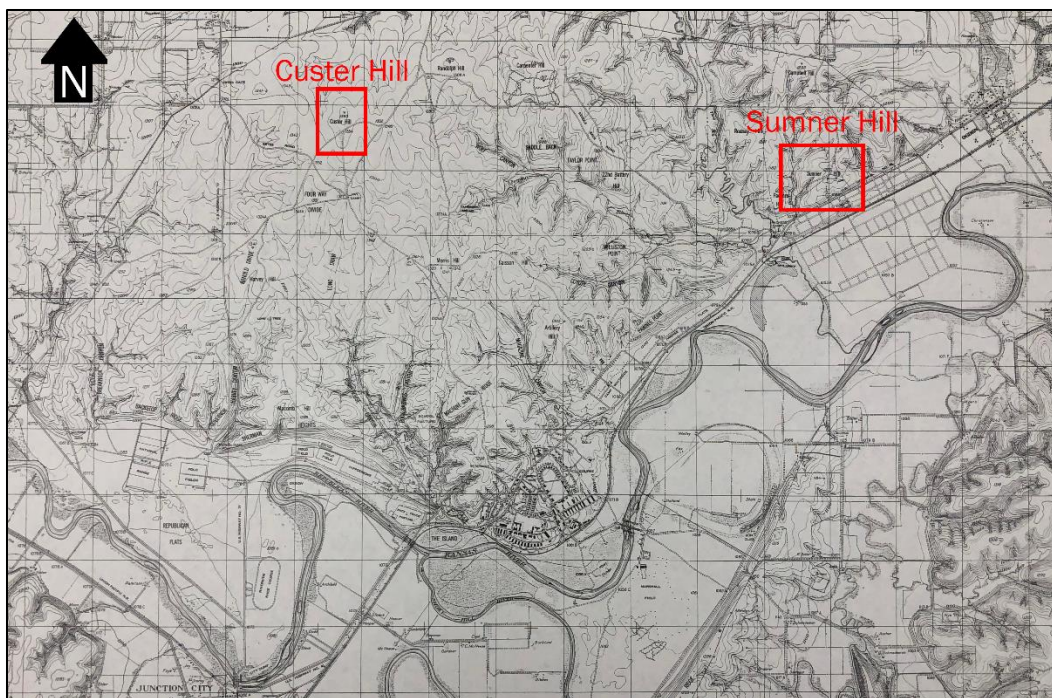


Figure 48. Close-up of Custer Hill, 1934. (Corps of Engineers, US Army, *Special Military Map*. Public domain.)

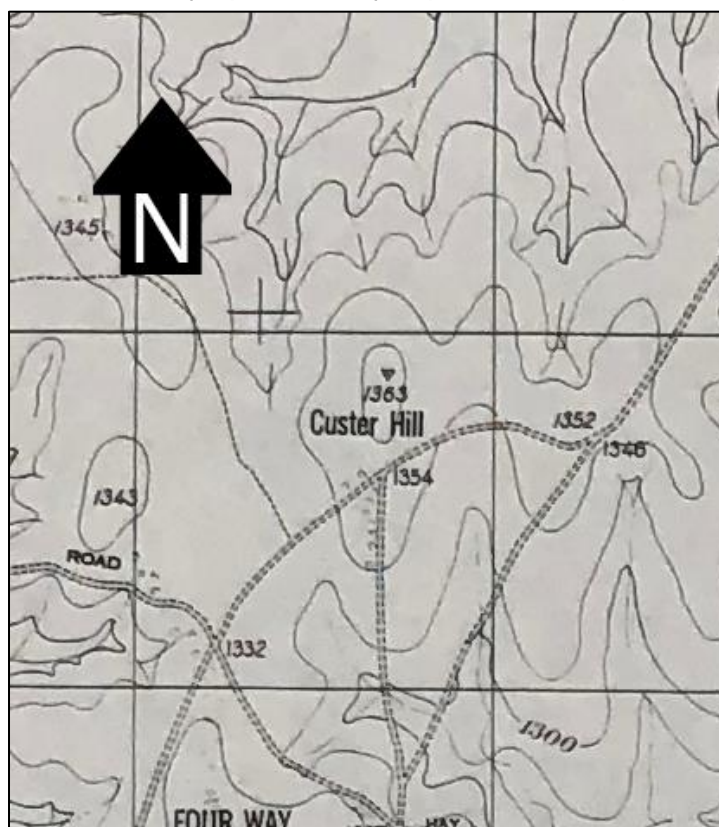
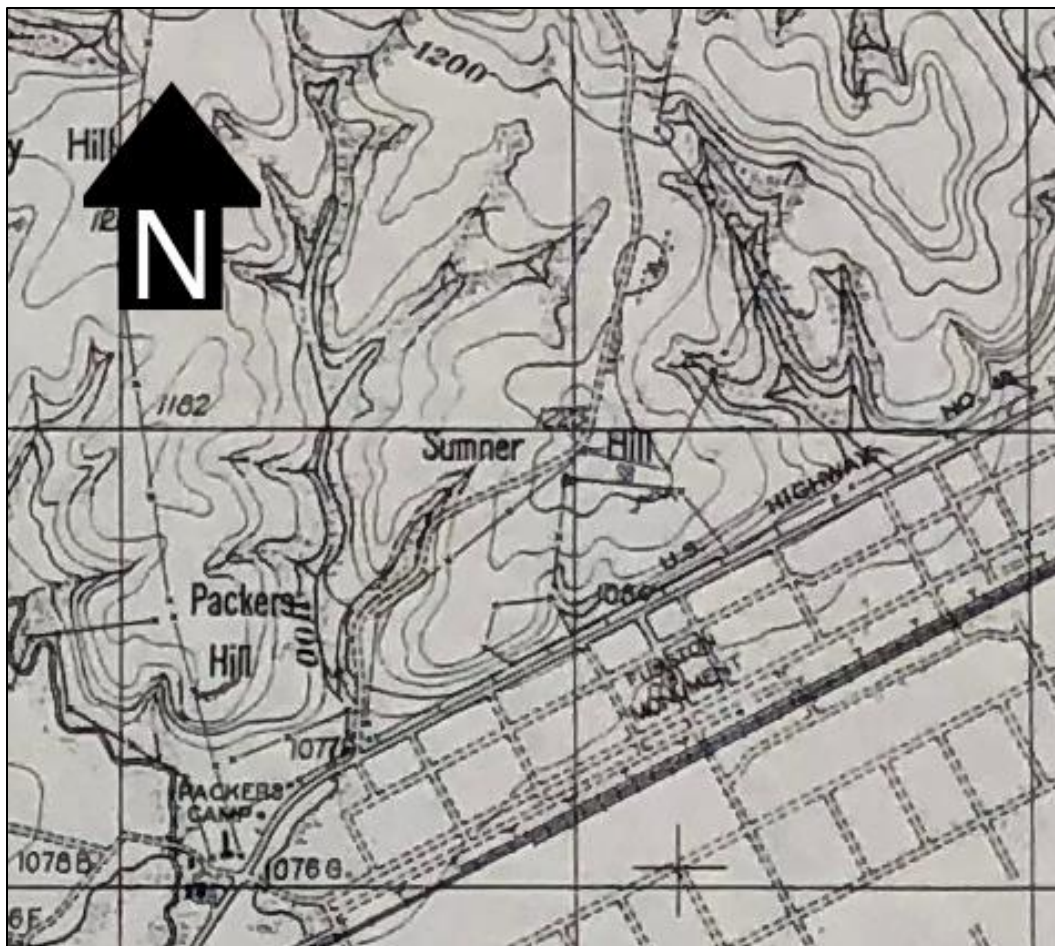


Figure 49. Close-up of Sumner Hill. (Corps of Engineers, US Army, Special Military Map. Public domain.)



As of April 1936, Fort Riley's training lands included the following: National Range, used for all known-distance rifle practice (north of the Bungalow polo fields and at each end of Backstop Ridge); light machine gun, 1,000 in. range (east of the Pumphouse dismounted pistol range); heavy machine gun, 1,000 in. range (at the mouth of Breakneck Canyon), which encompassed the machine gun field range and the 37 mm gun range; and mounted and dismounted pistol ranges (on the flats north of the practice polo fields between Pumphouse and Sherman Heights and on Pawnee Flats east of Camp Whitside), of which the dismounted range encompassed the collective pistol practice range.<sup>109</sup> The light machine gun,

109. *General Orders No. 11*, The Cavalry School, Fort Riley, Kansas, April 23, 1936, General Admin. Files, 1936–1943, 00.4-300.4, box 1, Records of the Chiefs of Arms, RG 177, NARA, Washington, DC

1,000 in. range, and the mounted and dismounted pistol ranges were constructed sometime after 1934.<sup>110</sup>

## 2.2 WWII, the first expansion

In 1939, in preparation for entry into WWII, the Army initiated a vast expansion program that included the mechanization of the entire US cavalry. Building on the use of motor vehicles within cavalry units that began earlier in the 1930s, the cavalry gradually developed a completely mechanized force as the forerunner of the armored force.<sup>111</sup> By the end of WWII, mechanized tank corps replaced all horse-mounted troops, and the last major action to be undertaken by mounted cavalry came early in 1942 during the Philippine Campaign;<sup>112</sup> however, limited training of horse cavalrymen continued to occur at Fort Riley until at least April 1946 (Figure 50 and Figure 51).<sup>113</sup>

Figure 50. "Mounted drill," 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Cavalry Division: Camp Funston, 1941, n.p., 22.25B Black Military History—9th/10th Cav., Presidio of Monterey Command History Office, Monterey, CA. Public domain.



110. Corps of Engineers, US Army, *Special Military Map*.

111. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 41–42.

112. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 17; Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 42.

113. "Importance of Fort Riley in War Department Program Is Revealed by Secretary of War and General Devers," *Junction City Union*, April 4, 1946, 1.

Figure 51. Cavalry officer candidates in a sand ring, 1942. (RG 111-SCA Album 524, Book #2, 128844, Riley, Fort, Kansas THRU Forsythe, Camp, Kansas—Buildings and Views, US Army Signal Corps Photographs Of Military Activity During World War II and The Korean Conflict, between 1941 and 1954 [Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954], RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



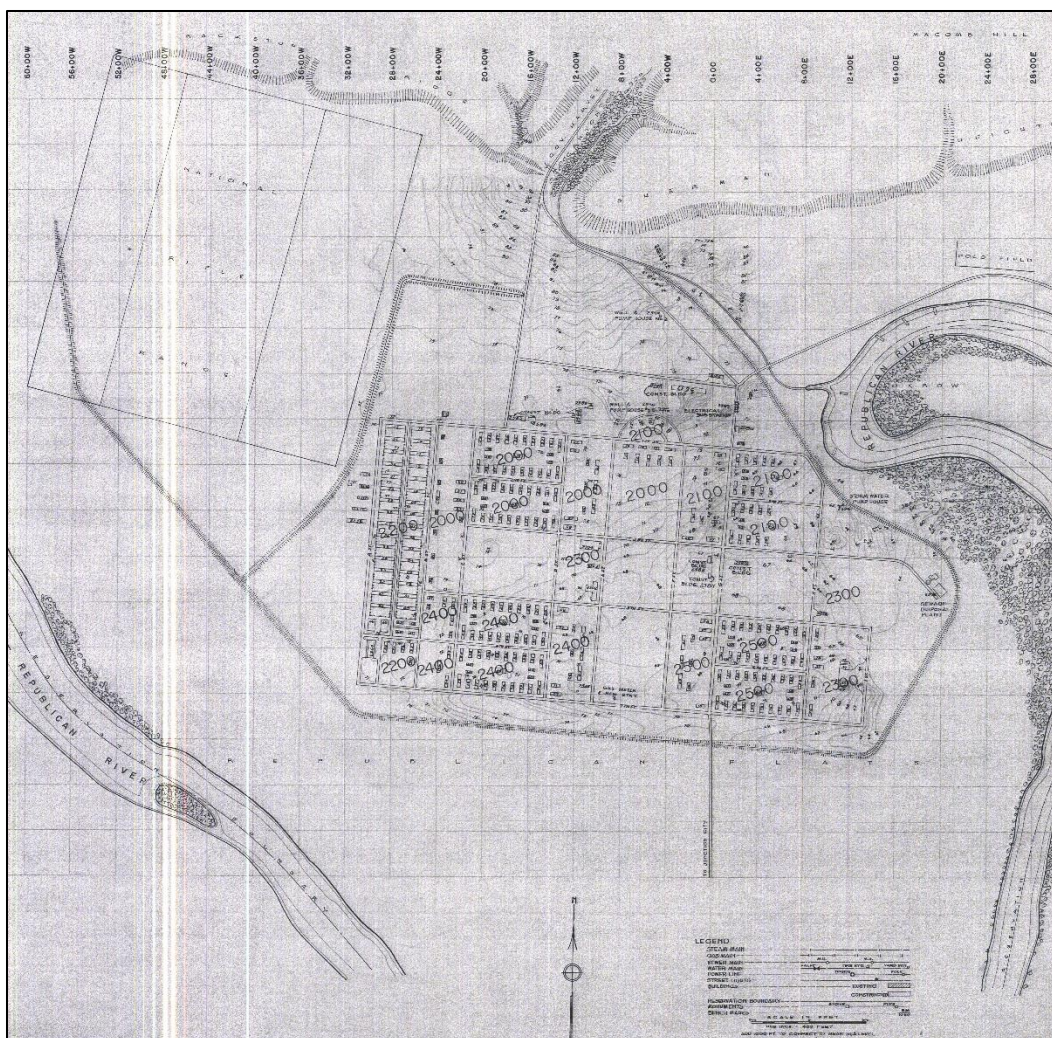
Because of the gradual phase-out of mounted cavalry, the Army had to reorganize, retrain, and reequip the cavalry for combat as separate units and as elements of armored and infantry divisions. To train officers and enlisted men for this purpose, the Republican Flats was chosen to be the site of the Cavalry Replacement Training Center (Figure 52). This area was intended as a large, temporary cantonment and was later renamed Camp Forsyth. Construction occurred from December 1940 to March 1941. On completion, the Cavalry Replacement Training Center consisted of 210 barracks, 50 mess halls, officer's quarters, warehouses, and administration and headquarters buildings using the standard 700-series for a temporary wood building. In addition, a theater, a service club, a swimming pool, indoor and outdoor boxing arenas, tennis courts, football fields, five dispensaries, a dental clinic, two chapels, and a guest house were also constructed. During WWII, 150,000 horse and mechanized cavalry troops were housed at Camp Forsyth for training.<sup>114</sup> It is unclear if any training

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114. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 42.

occurred within the Cavalry Replacement Training Center itself; troops likely trained elsewhere within Fort Riley.

Figure 52. Cavalry Replacement Training Center, 1941. (Widmer Engineering Company, Replacement Center, May 15, 1941, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



As US entry into WWII became increasingly likely in the latter half of 1940, Fort Riley experienced another massive growth in troop size. Consequently, Camp Funston, previously extant in Ogden Flat from 1917 to 1925, was rebuilt as training grounds, and 890 temporary buildings (using the standard 700-series for a temporary wood building), 77 miles of electric lines, 23 miles of roads, 3.4 miles of railroad, and two viaducts were constructed between November 1940 and July 1941. Camp Whitside, located

in Pawnee Flat and initially a National Guard training field, was expanded in 1940 and 1942 for use as the cantonment's hospital.<sup>115</sup>

MAAF was also expanded during WWII. Before expansion, MAAF had two hangars and three unpaved landing strips, the longest being 3,700 ft. To support wartime aviation, which featured larger, heavier planes, the runways were paved and lengthened, resulting in two 4,500 ft long concrete runways, six taxiways, and 5,400 sq yd of parking apron.<sup>116</sup>

As the facilities at Fort Riley expanded during WWII, so did its boundaries. In 1941 and 1942, farmland was acquired directly north of the original reservation and west of the town of Ogden. Approximately 31,720 acres were added to the existing 19,446-acre reservation—in 1951, a Congressional hearing identified Fort Riley as 50,168 acres.<sup>117</sup> The new lands were used as ranges (Figure 53). In total, approximately \$28,681,000 was spent on land and construction at Fort Riley between 1940 and 1945 (Figure 54).<sup>118</sup>

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115. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 19.

116. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 20.

117. US Congress. House of Representatives. Committee on Appropriations, *Military Public Works Appropriations for 1952: Hearings Before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations*, 82nd Cong., 1st sess. (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1951), 765; "Ask 32,370 Acres for Fort Riley," *Junction City Union*, Feb. 26, 1941, 1–2.

118. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 20.

Figure 53. Students fire light machine guns on the 1,000 in. range. (RG 111-SCA Album 525, 128852, Riley, Fort, Kansas—Buildings and Views [Riley—Views], Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)





three hand grenade ranges, shown in Figure 55–Figure 59, continued in use through the 1960s.<sup>119</sup>

**Table 1. List of ranges at Fort Riley in 1945.**

Range Type	Range Name	Range Yards
Grenade	AT (Antitank) M9A1	75
	Chemical	50
	Frangible AWM1	25
	Hand, Fragmentation	50
	Hand, Offensive, Mk IIIA-1	50
	Hand, Smoke (White Phosphorous)	50
	M15	50
	Rifle, Fragmentation, Impact M17	220
Mine	AP (Antipersonnel), M3	In Place
	AP, M2A1	In Place
	AT, Practice	In Place
Mortar	60 mm Shell, HE	200 to 1,985
	60 mm l11, M83	1,000
	81 mm Shell, HE M43	200 to 3,290
	81 mm Shell, HE M56	300 to 2,655
Rocket	AT M6	800
	AT M7	800
Signal	Ground	200
	Very	65
Torpedo	Bangalore	In Place
Artillery	105 mm Howitzer	10, 300
	HE, Time Fuze	10, 300
HE, Point	Detonating	10, 300 <sup>120</sup>

119. *Training Directives, C.R.T.C.*, Sept. 17, 1945, SD 134 Schools & Training Centers CRTC (6), SD 134 Schools & Training Centers CRTC(6) to OCS, SD 134.5 Transportation Pack (1), US Cavalry Museum Archive, Fort Riley, KS.

120. *Training Directives, C.R.T.C.*

Figure 55. Protective trench on hand grenade range (range 25) and board-formed concrete pits, 13 July 1966. (RG 111-SCA Album 528D, 631509, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 56. Safety features on the hand grenade range (range 25), 13 July 1966. (RG 111-SCA Album 528D, 631508, Riley–Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 57. Command protective shield and sandbags on the hand grenade range (range 25), 13 July 1966. (RG 111-SCA Album 528D, 631506, Riley–Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 58. View downrange of command and individual protective bunkers on hand grenade range (range 25), 13 July 1966. (RG 111-SCA Album 528D, 631505, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 59. Individual protective concrete bunker with sandbags on hand grenade range (range 25), 13 July 1966. (RG 111-SCA Album 528D, 631504, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



### 2.2.1 The postwar period, through 1949

Following the end of WWII, a separation center opened at Camp Funston. The separation center operated from September 1945 to January 1946.<sup>121</sup> A new separation center opened at Camp Funston in July 1946. This second separation center became colocated with a reception center that October, as the US Army had determined a need to retain troops for a peacetime Army.<sup>122</sup> Recruit training continued to supply Soldiers both to US installations and for postwar operations in Europe and Japan. Postwar reorganization and swiftly changing manpower needs resulted in several organizations stationing and withdrawing from Fort Riley in a short amount of time.<sup>123</sup>

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121. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 21–22; Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 56–57.

122. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 56–57.

123. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 22.

Recruit training was ongoing during this period, though the form of this training changed in accordance with the shift in emphasis from cavalry to infantry. In January 1946, the Cavalry School's program of instruction was expanded in January 1946 to include the Intelligence School, which served to train officers and enlisted men in intelligence methods developed during WWII. Classes in radio operation and repair, as well as motor mechanics, were offered. The focus remained on cavalry operations.<sup>124</sup>

The focus on cavalry operations, though, increasingly narrowed on the use of mechanized, rather than mounted, cavalry. The US Army had noted during WWI that mounted cavalry were not able to compete with the modern tactics and technologies used in warfare.<sup>125</sup> By the end of the war, millions of horses had died, demonstrating that they were just as vulnerable as humans to the new tactics, such as the use of trenches and poison gas, and technologies, such as machine guns.<sup>126</sup> Consequently, most cavalry units were disbanded c. 1939–1949.<sup>127</sup>

In October 1946, the Army announced that the Ground General School would relocate from Fort Benning, Georgia, to Fort Riley, and functions of the Cavalry School not related to animals (such as training in mechanized cavalry) were transferred to Fort Knox, Kentucky. Both of these changes were related to an Army-wide plan to reorganize six Army schools to meet the goal of eventually having all ground forces air transportable.<sup>128</sup> The Cavalry School closed in November of 1946, and the final tactical horse unit was officially inactivated in March 1947.<sup>129</sup>

Factors contributing to the choice of Fort Riley for the Ground General School included the reservation's size and good climate for training, its central location, and the extant structures available for use (Figure 60

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124. "Broaden Courses at Cavalry School," *Junction City Union*, January 26, 1946, 1.

125. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 43; American Museum of Natural History, "Retreat of the Cavalry," accessed April 14, 2023, <https://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/horse/how-we-shaped-horses-how-horses-shaped-us/warfare/retreat-of-the-cavalry>.

126. American Museum of Natural History, "Retreat of the Cavalry."

127. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 43; Shawn Farnsworth, "Mustangs in the US Army," *Our Stories* (blog), US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Dec. 2, 2021, <https://www.blm.gov/blog/2021-12-02/mustangs-us-army>.

128. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 65.

129. US Army Fort Riley, "About: History of Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division."

and Figure 61).<sup>130</sup> In fact, a 1945 utilization study had determined that idle WWII facilities were adequate for continued postwar use and could be remodeled for most necessary uses.<sup>131</sup> The school was expected to have a capacity of 6,000 students, increasing Fort Riley's population to nearly 10,000.<sup>132</sup> On 31 October 1946, the Cavalry School was officially closed; however, the Ground General School opened the next day, maintaining the post's unbroken string of service schools stretching back to the late 19th century.<sup>133</sup>

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130. "Army General School Nears its 64th Year at Fort Riley," *Junction City Union*, February 24, 1955, 4; *Fort Riley: Its Historic Past*, Vertical File: "228.03 HRC 331 Posts—Riley, Fort" (Washington, DC: Center for Military History, ca. 1973), 12.

131. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 29–30.

132. "A New Fort Riley Era," *Junction City Union*, October 21, 1946, 1.

133. "Army General School Nears its 64th Year at Fort Riley"; *Fort Riley: Its Historic Past*.

Figure 60. Extant buildings and ranges in the Camp Funston area of Fort Riley, 1946. (Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, War Department, Ft. Riley Vicinity Kansas, East Sheet No. 4. Public domain.)

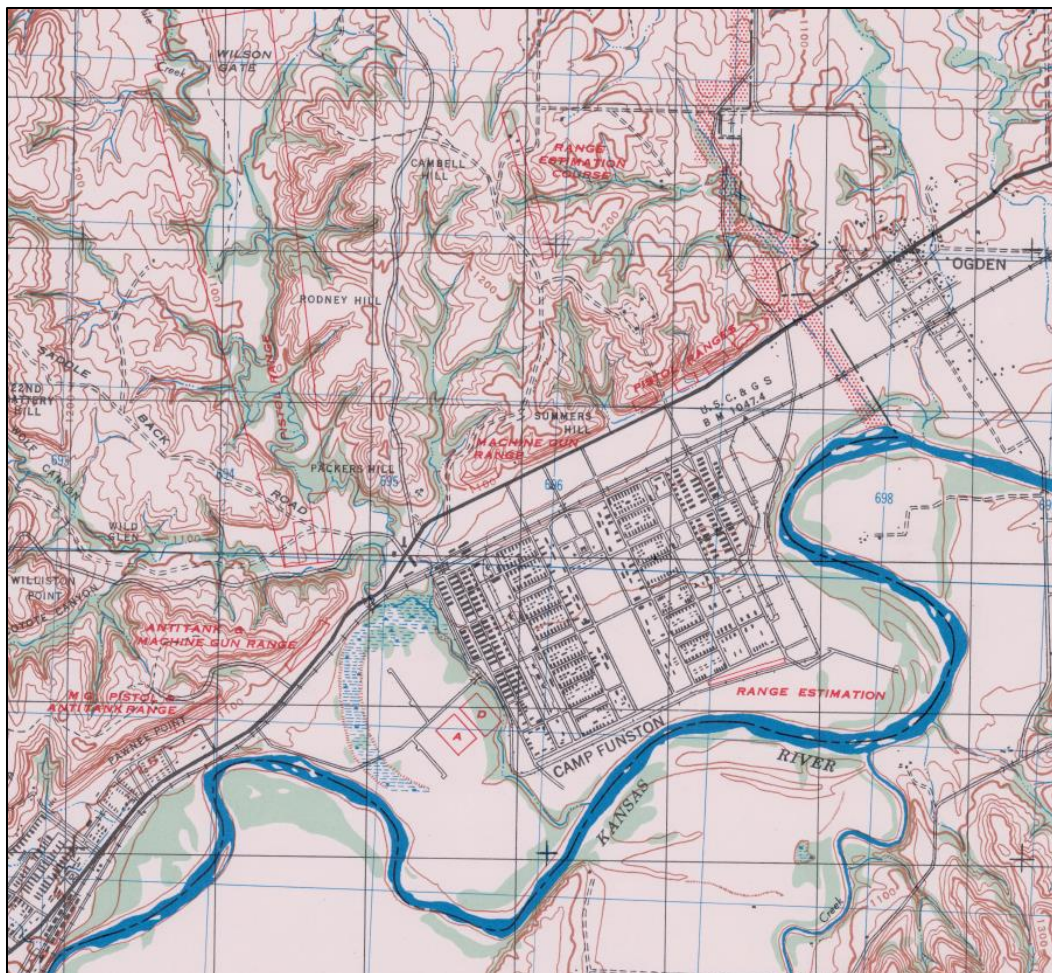
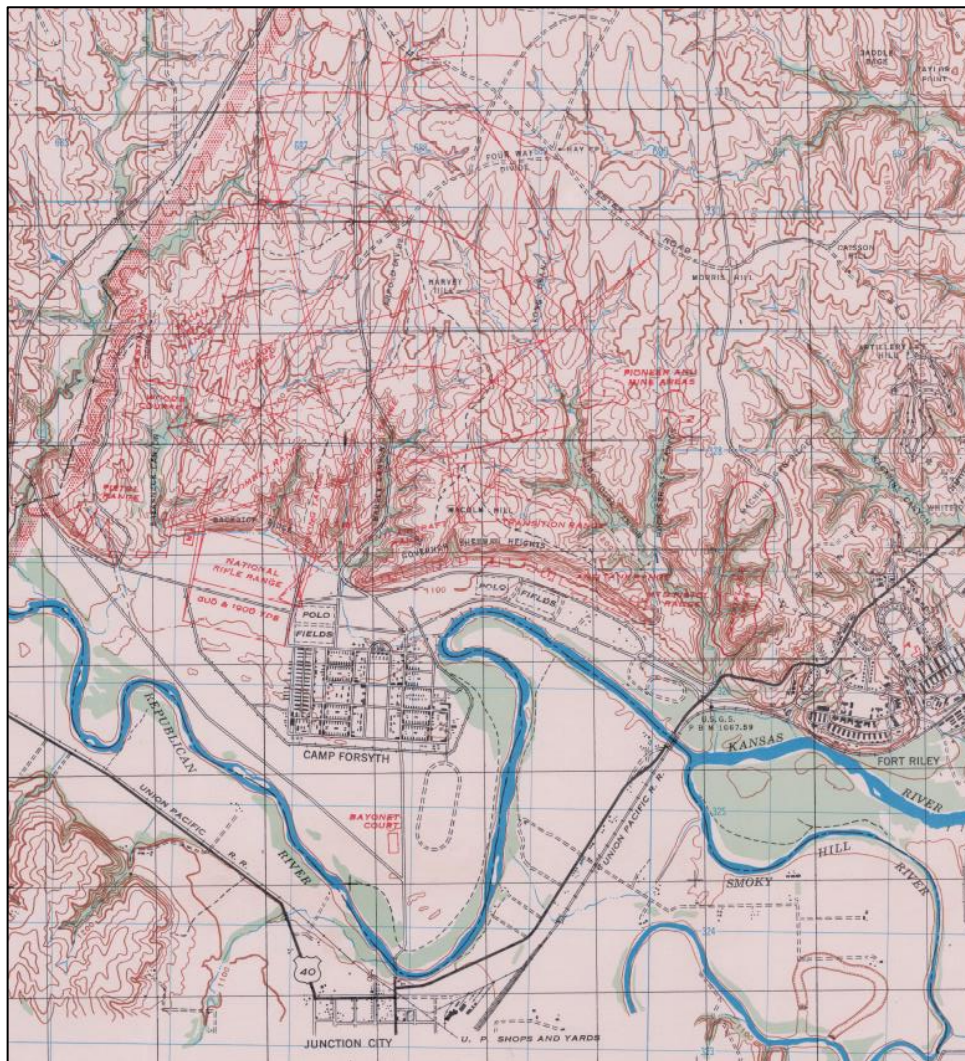


Figure 61. Extant buildings and ranges in the Camp Forsyth and historic Main Post areas, 1946. (Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, War Department, *Ft. Riley Vicinity Kansas*, West Sheet No. 3. Public domain.)



The Ground General School would provide training to newly commissioned officers in basic military subjects, offer an Army Officer Candidate Course, and train officers and enlisted men as intelligence specialists.<sup>134</sup> It offered a 17-week branch immaterial course to provide newly commissioned officers with the knowledge to undertake their duties at the basic level. The first class of 183 officers began the course on 14 August 1947, nearly all from the most recent US Military Academy graduating class,

134. "Army General School Nears Its 64th Year at Fort Riley"; *Fort Riley: Its Historic Past*.

accompanied by five Latin American Army officers, two US Navy officers, and three other Army officers.<sup>135</sup>

The Ground General School also operated an Officer Candidate School for the entire Army, with students from all the armed services. The 26-week course of study would provide two graduating classes per year.<sup>136</sup> Training for this program occurred at Camp Forsyth, which had been underused since the closure of the Cavalry Replacement Training Center in 1946.<sup>137</sup> The first class of the Officer Candidate School had 85 students and began on 30 June 1947, two months prior to the first Ground General School class. Subjects covered in the curriculum included “communications, tactics, small arms and artillery weapons, map reading, photo interpretation, company administration, leadership, and physical development” (Figure 62 and Figure 63).<sup>138</sup>

Figure 62. Students of the Branch Immaterial Basic Course read maps before moving to assemble and fire carbines during Military Stakes at the Ground General School, 1947. (RG 111-SCA Album 525, 304707, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



135. “Praise for Army Schools,” *Junction City Union*, August 14, 1947, 1, 6.

136. “A New Fort Riley Era,” *Junction City Union*, 1.

137. “First AOC Class Opens,” *Junction City Union*, June 30, 1947, 1; “Recruit Training to End at Riley,” *Junction City Union*, June 5, 1946, 1.

138. “Largest AOC Class to Graduate Friday,” *Junction City Union*, August 31, 1949, 1–2.

Figure 63. A student crosses a river on Station No. 24 during Military Stakes at the Ground General School, 1947. (RG 111-SCA Album 526, 304714, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Because part of the of the Ground General School's mission was to eventually meet the goal of having all ground forces air transportable, the school was supported by Marshall Field. Ground General School personnel serviced and maintained transient aircraft and facilitated special units working with the school.<sup>139</sup> A course in aerial observation for cavalry officers was instituted in March 1946, with students learning air-to-ground communication, radio procedure, air observation in the adjustment of artillery fire, and the use of aerial photos, charts, and photographic equipment.<sup>140</sup>

### 2.2.2 The Selective Service Act and basic training

On 24 June 1948, President Truman signed a two-year selective service bill, and a nationwide draft went into effect in September. Prompted by increased hostility from Russia towards US troops in Berlin and general communist expansion pressures, the draft served to build up the military services to a strength of two million men.<sup>141</sup>

The primary need resulting from increased troops on post was housing, as Fort Riley—which, at 54,184 acres, could provide housing for approximately 21,000 personnel—had a 1,300 shortage of family quarters sets.

139. "Fort Riley Ideally Located for Carrying Out Activities," *Junction City Union*, November 9, 1949, 11.

140. "Aerial School at Fort Riley," *Junction City Union*, March 1, 1946, 1.

141. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 22.

Thus, many of the existing WWII temporary buildings and barracks were converted into family housing, and many new family housing structures, including Wherry housing, were built.<sup>142</sup> Recreational structures, such as a field house, skeet ranges, and swimming pools, were also constructed.<sup>143</sup>

To further facilitate training, the 10th Infantry Division arrived at Fort Riley in 1948 as the primary unit on post and one of nine training divisions within the US Army. By late August, the 10th ID had set up operations in Camp Funston, which would become its permanent home at Fort Riley.<sup>144</sup>

Though training at Fort Riley was ongoing during the summer of 1948, the installation also hosted an annual six-week summer training camp for Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) students at Camp Funston, troop numbers increased dramatically in August. That month, 7,200 National Guard Soldiers came to Camp Funston for two weeks of summer training. In addition, the first group of 18-year-old enlistees under the new Selective Service Act arrived for training at Camp Forsyth on 10 August 1948.<sup>145</sup> The post's maximum strength was expected to increase from 8,000 to 15,000, as Fort Riley was responsible for Army basic training for recruits from Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri.<sup>146</sup>

The initial group of 200 in August 1948 was followed by approximately 1,000 more recruits each week. On arrival, recruits were given indoctrination lectures, a haircut and shower, clothing, a physical examination, and a unit and barracks assignment. After a battery of tests, the recruits entered the basic combat training phase. For eight weeks, they learned how to care for themselves in combat in preparation for assignment to a troop unit.<sup>147</sup>

This training was for combat infantry replacements to keep established units up to strength; most replacements went to Europe or East Asia. By the end of its first year at Fort Riley, the 10th ID had received, processed, trained, and shipped out 22,077 men, and the division had reached a strength of 10,212 officers. In March 1949, basic training was extended to

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142. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 21, 25.

143. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 29–30.

144. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 22.

145. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 57–58.

146. "All Draft Training at Fort Riley," *Junction City Union*, July 15, 1948, 1.

147. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 57–58.

14 weeks. The additional time was devoted to more weapons training and additional courses in armed forces organization, military justice, intelligence training, and safeguarding national security.<sup>148</sup> In November 1949, Fort Riley's recruiting area expanded to include Colorado, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Louisiana, Illinois, and Michigan.<sup>149</sup>

MAAF continued to support the Ground General School during this period, though it had become an Air Force base in August 1948.<sup>150</sup> The following year, the Tenth Air Force established the Central Instrument Flying School at MAAF. Each class of 20 students underwent a two-week refresher course. The training cadre numbered 12 officers and 31 enlisted men and was housed at the base along with the students.<sup>151</sup> Eight instructors used 10 B-25s, later replaced with C-45s, and trained 86 pilots before the school was moved to Selfridge Air Force Base in March 1950.<sup>152</sup> On 1 June 1950, MAAF was transferred back to the Army, and it came to serve as a maintenance and storage for all 5th Army equipment. It additionally served to fulfill flight requirements for all Fort Riley units.<sup>153</sup>

In 1950, the Ground General School was redesignated as the Army General School. Its instruction tasks continued as before, though it gained additional missions, including developing tactics and techniques for the aggressor cadre and serving as the unit's home. Several distinct educational entities were part of the Army General School: the Intelligence Division, the Department of Resident Instruction, and the Department of Non-Resident Instruction.<sup>154</sup>

The Intelligence Division provided instruction for officers and noncommissioned officers in "general intelligence, aerial photo interpretation, order of battle, interrogation of prisoners of war, technical intelligence

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148. Ensore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 58.

149. "Gain at Funston," *Junction City Union*, November 12, 1949, 1.

150. "New Unit to Air Base," *Junction City Union*, August 31, 1949, 1.

151. "New Unit to Air Base," *Junction City Union*, August 31, 1949, 1; "Instrument Flying Taught at Air Base," *Junction City Union*, November 9, 1949, 3.

152. Joseph P. McGinley, "US Army and Air Force Wings over Kansas, Part Two," *Kansas Historical Quarterly* 25, no. 3 (Autumn 1959): n.p.

153. "Army Finds Need for Marshall Field," *Junction City Union*, November 9, 1949, 11.

154. "Army General School Is the Successor to Cavalry School," *Junction City Union*, June 24, 1953, 1.

coordination, censorship, and strategic intelligence research and analysis.”<sup>155</sup> As the only school of its type, instruction was not limited to Army personnel but included Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force students.<sup>156</sup>

One program operated through the Intelligence Division was the Photo Interpretation School. Photo interpreters were trained to “judge an enemy’s troop disposition, his location, plus the types and sizes of his weapons. They [were] able to tell, after calculated study, what the enemy’s previous movements [had] been and where he [would] strike next.”<sup>157</sup> This school was located in “two large limestone buildings on the Main Post plus . . . Patton Hall and the Army General School Headquarters.”<sup>158</sup> Photo interpretation training included two phases. During the first, future interpreters would undergo five weeks of training on a variety of subjects, such as Army organization and prisoner-of-war interrogation, presumably with other Intelligence Division students. Photo interpretation students would then move to the next phase, during which students learned to prepare photographs for advanced analysis. This second phase was 10 weeks.<sup>159</sup>

The Department of Resident Instruction supervised all the Army General School training conducted on post. The Department of Non-Resident Instruction prepared and distributed instructional materials on intelligence and basic military subjects as correspondence courses to over 30,000 Army and civilian personnel every month. More than 130 different courses were offered by mail with the department’s staff grading work and sending out marks. In-house production needs resulted in the division having a printing plant, bindery, drafting and art sections, storage areas, and a photo laboratory.<sup>160</sup>

## 2.3 Cold War recruit training (1950–1963)

As tensions developed between the United States and the Soviet Union following WWII, the Truman Administration adopted a policy of containment, opposing the Soviet Union’s support of communism in Hungary,

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155. “Praise for Army Schools,” *Junction City Union*, August 14, 1947, 1, 6.

156. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 66.

157. “Fort Riley Photo Interpretation School Only One of Its Kind in United States,” *Junction City Union*, March 4, 1954, n.p.

158. “Fort Riley Photo Interpretation School Only One of Its Kind in United States.”

159. “Fort Riley Photo Interpretation School Only One of Its Kind in United States.”

160. “Praise for Army Schools.”

Czechoslovakia, Greece, Turkey, Korea, Vietnam, and elsewhere.<sup>161</sup> Consequently, when communist North Korean forces invaded South Korea on 25 June 1950, Congress drastically increased the US defense budget and sent US forces to aid South Korea.<sup>162</sup>

The large numbers of troops required for this action were obtained through the June 1950 extension of the Selective Service draft and the mobilization of the National Guard and Army Reserves. In July, President Truman signed an executive order extending all current enlistments by 12 months. By June 1951, Congress further expanded the draft, lowering the age to 18 ½, requiring 24 months of service, and continuing the draft until July 1955.<sup>163</sup>

The 10th ID operated a receiving and processing center for new recruits arriving directly from an induction center. After a series of presentations covering life during basic training, chaplain services, Red Cross services, military courtesy, personal conduct, and care of equipment, the recruits began the processing component. For five days, they underwent physical and intellectual examinations to determine the job classification best suited to their skills. At the end of those five days, the recruits began the regimen of basic training; some remained at Fort Riley for this, while some were sent to other installations.<sup>164</sup>

Three basic training regiments of the 10th ID, with a combined capacity of 8,730 trainees, provided basic combat training. The training was conducted in 6- and 14-week cycles. Training included weapons training, marches and bivouacs, physical training, dismounted drill, map reading, tactical training, and guard duty (Figure 64 and Figure 65).<sup>165</sup> They also underwent classroom training in Patton Hall and Intelligence Hall.<sup>166</sup> One to two weeks of the training were spent bivouacking near the firing ranges.

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161. Enscoe et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 20–21.

162. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 46–48.

163. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 58–59.

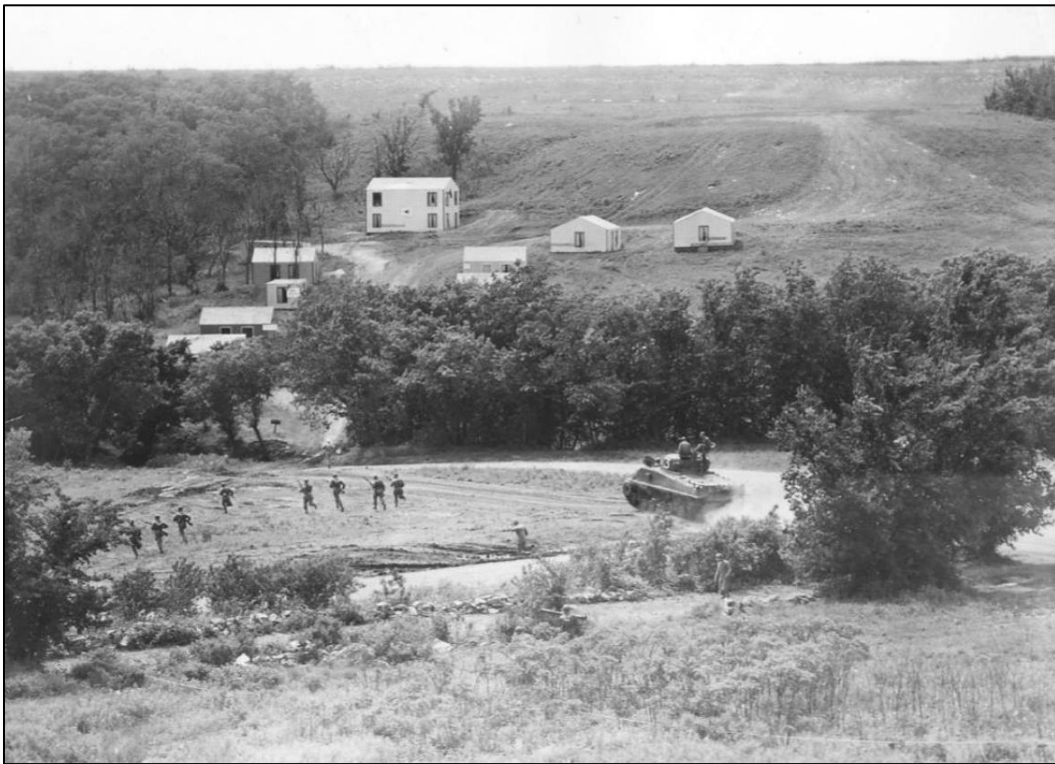
164. "Investigation of the Preparedness Program, Twenty-Fourth Report of the Preparedness Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services, United States Senate: Fort Riley, Kans." S. Doc. No. 82-46, at 2 (1951).

165. "Can Handle Draftees," *Junction City Union*, June 26, 1951, 1, 4; Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 63.

166. "One of Nation's Top Military Posts," *Junction City Union*, June 24, 1953, 1.

Fort Riley used “concurrent training” to accommodate groups which needed to wait their turn for use of ranges or other facilities. Under this procedure, one group of trainees would actively participate while one or more other groups would observe, listen to lectures from their company instructors, engage in close-order infantry drill, or obtain additional instruction in weapons usage. Soldiers primarily walked to the ranges and only drove when the distance between ranges exceeded five miles.<sup>167</sup>

Figure 64. Tank-supported troops participate in a maneuver on an “enemy-held” town in urban training exercises, 1952. (Ensore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 62. Public domain.)



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167. “Investigation of the Preparedness Program, Twenty-Fourth Report of the Preparedness Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services, United States Senate: Fort Riley, Kans.” S. Doc. No. 82-46, at 3–4 (1951).

Figure 65. Hand-to-hand basic combat training, 1952. (Enscore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 63. Public domain.)



After six weeks of basic training, Soldiers destined for specialist work were sent to specialist or service schools. The 10th ID operated specialist and service schools for auto mechanics, supply and general clerks, bandsmen, potential noncommissioned officers, typists, cooks, bakers, communications specialists, and truck drivers.<sup>168</sup> By March 1951, a Chemical Biological Radiological Warfare Course was also running at Fort Riley. The 19 hours of training included information on the types of chemicals used by the Army, their capabilities, how to detect them, and how to protect oneself from them.<sup>169</sup>

Trainees who did not attend specialist or service schools received another eight weeks of instruction in light and heavy infantry weapons.<sup>170</sup> Such weapons included rifles, carbines, hand and rifle grenades, bazookas,

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168. "Can Handle Draftees"; "Investigation of the Preparedness Program, Twenty-Fourth Report"; "New School to Open at Post This Month," *Junction City Union*, February 1, 1951, 3.

169. "Students at Post Taking Course in Chemical Warfare," *Junction City Union*, March 26, 1951, 1.

170. "Investigation of the Preparedness Program, Twenty-Fourth Report of the Preparedness Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services, United States Senate: Fort Riley, Kans." S. Doc. No. 82-46, at 3-4 (1951).

recoilless rifles, and light machine guns.<sup>171</sup> Weapons training ranges were nearly all within walking distance and used in rotation, with one unit firing while another observed or received a relevant lecture. At the end of the cycle, trainees took a “merit stakes test” that involved a cross-country exercise with stations where they would be given a quiz geared to actual combat activities, all to judge individual proficiencies.<sup>172</sup>

To assist in providing realism to training, the aggressor cadre, organized in 1948 as part of the Ground General School, served as the maneuver enemy for US Army training (Figure 66, Figure 67, and Figure 68).<sup>173</sup> The aggressor cadre had a three-fold mission: to allow trainees to maneuver against a realistic enemy, to emphasize intelligence training, and to educate Soldiers on the fact that enemies will differ in language, uniform, weapons, organization, tactics, and ideology. The cadre was an improvement over previous training methods, which involved opposing forces that spoke the same language, used the same organizational structure, wore identical uniforms, and employed the same tactics.<sup>174</sup>

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171. “Can Handle Draftees”; “Training of Combat Infantry Mission of the Tenth Division,” *Junction City Union*, June 24, 1953, n.p.

172. “Investigation of the Preparedness Program, Twenty-Fourth Report of the Preparedness Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services, United States Senate: Fort Riley, Kans.” S. Doc. No. 82-46, at 3–4 (1951).

173. “Fort Riley and Marshall Field Having Leading Roles in Maneuvers,” *Junction City Union*, May 11, 1948, 2.

174. “Aggressor Center Celebrates 13th Anniversary: Largest Training Aid in Army,” *Fort Riley Post*, September 2, 1960, 2.

Figure 66. The aggressor cadre works to repel an attack using blanks, 23 May 1950. (RG 111-SCA Album 526, 342772, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 67. American troops search a dummy representing a dead aggressor in a simulated village, 23 May 1950. (RG 111-SCA Album 526, 342769, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 68. An aggressor soldier is led away by an American soldier during maneuvers, 23 May 1950. (RG 111-SCA Album 526, 342770, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Research into enemy tactics resulted in an aggressor force with its own uniforms, skills, language (Esperanto), and strategies. Using military terms in various languages, the aggressor forces organized themselves as a hybrid of many foreign armies, drawing heavily on the German and Japanese. The force also served to provide Army intelligence troops with

experience dealing with “enemy” prisoners who were interrogated in their native tongue, and their order of battle learned and understood.<sup>175</sup> The aggressor cadre participated in training exercises both at Fort Riley and nationwide.<sup>176</sup>

Approximately one year into the Korean War, the Army reduced training by two weeks to accommodate the need to build troops rapidly; however, as troop quotas were met in the United States and in Korea, the longer training period returned. At Fort Riley, the two weeks were dedicated to more weapons training and a course on Army traditions.<sup>177</sup>

In addition to increasing basic training capability, the Army also increased efforts to graduate students from various Army schools during the Korean War. Beginning in October 1950, the Army General School at Fort Riley began additional classes of the Officers Intelligence Course, the Enlisted Intelligence Course, and the Officer Candidate School. This was followed in March 1951 with the Army’s decision to double its training program in four field forces schools, including the Army General School. Fort Riley officials noted at the time that the Intelligence School was operating at full capacity and the Officer Candidate School had doubled in enrollment since the start of the Korean War.<sup>178</sup> By the time the Officer Candidate School closed in 1953, it had a record of over 5,000 graduates.<sup>179</sup>

In 1951, the US Senate’s Preparedness Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services investigated the Preparedness Program at Fort Riley. This was part of a wider study of military preparedness in the wake of the scrambled effort to meet the manpower and training challenges at the onset of the Korean War. During a February 1951 visit to Fort Riley, investigators determined the training was very satisfactory, and that the facilities

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175. “Fort Riley and Marshall Field Having Leading Roles in Maneuvers,” *Junction City Union*, May 11, 1948, 2.

176. “Post Units to Maneuvers,” *Junction City Union*, January 12, 1949, 1.

177. “Army to Resume 16 Weeks Basic Training,” *Junction City Union*, June 19, 1951, 1; “Two Weeks Added to Training Cycle,” *Junction City Union*, July 6, 1951, 1.

178. “Army General School is Growing Rapidly,” *Junction City Union*, 10 October 1950, 1; “Army Will Enlarge Field Force Schools,” *Junction City Union*, March 16, 1950, 1.

179. *The Life of Riley*, (San Diego: Military Publishers, 1974), Vertical File, Center for Military History, Washington, DC

and programs supporting the mission of indoctrination and basic training were “well-designed and effectively operated.”<sup>180</sup>

Near the end of the Korean War, Fort Riley was selected as the home of a new 5th Army Reception Station for new recruits, which would be located at Camp Forsyth. The new facility replaced the Army Officer Candidate School at the post, employed a staff of about 500, and handled 400–600 inductees a day.<sup>181</sup> The reception center originally had a dual purpose: processing new inductees and serving as a reassignment station. For the latter mission, combat personnel were paid, had a physical check, and received assignment to a new duty station.<sup>182</sup>

The reassignment activity at the Army Reception Center was inactivated on 1 November 1953;<sup>183</sup> however, recruit training continued. Fort Riley still resembled the installation as it was built during WWII, though. In an effort to improve facilities for the new standing peacetime Army, the Army implemented and discarded various approaches for stationing, housing, training, and transporting new troops during the 1950s.<sup>184</sup>

In 1953, the 10th ID facilitated combat replacement training for approximately 10,000 trainees.<sup>185</sup> Prior to beginning combat training, trainees would be inducted in their local community, then sworn in at the area’s induction station. They would then arrive at a reception center to be issued basic equipment, take tests, be classified, and be assigned a training station. At their training station, the new soldier would be assigned to either a 16-week combat replacement cycle or an 8-week branch immaterial cycle before being assigned a bunk at Camp Funston.<sup>186</sup>

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180. “Investigation of the Preparedness Program, Twenty-Fourth Report of the Preparedness Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services, United States Senate: Fort Riley, Kans.” S. Doc. No. 82-46, at 1 (1951).

181. “One of Nation’s Top Military Posts,” *Junction City Union*, Centennial Edition, June 24, 1953, 1; “Reception Center to Be Expanded,” *Junction City Union*, July 20, 1953, 1.

182. “Reception Center to Be Expanded,” *Junction City Union*, July 20, 1953.

183. “Reception Center to Be Expanded.”

184. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 77

185. “Training of Combat Infantry Mission of the Tenth Division,” *Junction City Union*, June 24, 1953, 1.

186. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 79.

At Fort Riley, training consisted of two programs developed by Army Field Forces: one focused on light weapons, the other on heavy weapons. Most of the training was conducted by three training regiments, each assigned certain subjects of study. The 85th Regiment had supervision of tactical and intelligence subjects; the 86th had supervision of heavy weapons and some general subjects; and the 87th Regiment, light weapons and other general subjects (Figure 69).<sup>187</sup>

Figure 69. Troops participate in pistol marksmanship training on the rifle indoctrination course in Camp Funston, 20 June 1953. (RG 111-SCA Album 527, 463945, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



For all basic training including combat infantry replacement basic training, and indeed for all basic training, the primary lesson was use and care of the M-1 rifle with a bayonet, the soldier's personal arm (Figure 70). Instruction was also provided on other weapons, such as grenades, bazookas, machine guns, mortars, and recoilless rifles. Further subjects of study included attack and defense tactics; protective measures against chemical, biological, and radiological attack; field sanitation; personal hygiene; and first aid. Instruction was also given in hasty fortifications and camouflage,

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187. "Training of Combat Infantry Mission of the Tenth Division," *Junction City Union*, June 24, 1953, 1.

squad and platoon tactics, and patrolling.<sup>188</sup> As Fort Riley used “integrated training,” many of these subjects would be taught in topical clusters to allow complete instruction using a minimum amount of time.<sup>189</sup> As of February 1960, basic training included “98 hours of studying and firing the M-1 rifle, 25 hours of drill and ceremonies, 24 hours of physical training, and 16 hours of marches and bivouacs.”<sup>190</sup> The training cycle also included a two-week bivouac in the field (Figure 71 and Figure 72), which included testing and further training involving solving combat field problems while under fire, urban and close types of combat, and mastery of the battle indoctrination course.<sup>191</sup>

Figure 70. Rifle training, 1953. (Enscore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 80. Public domain.)



188. “Training of Combat Infantry Mission of the Tenth Division,” 1; “Bivouac Training a Realistic Review of Soldier’s Lessons, *Junction City Union*, n.p.

189. “Integrated Training Means 3,000 Hours of Military Teaching,” *Junction City Union*, April 9, 1953, n.p.

190. “400 8th Infantry Men End Training,” *Fort Riley Post*, Feb. 12, 1960, 1.

191. “Training of Combat Infantry Mission of the Tenth Division,” 1; “Bivouac Training a Realistic Review of Soldier’s Lessons, *Junction City Union*, n.p.

Figure 71. The 134th Ordnance Company bivouac area during an Army Field Training Test at Camp Funston, 22 April 1954. (RG 111-SCA Album 527, 459594, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 72. A machine gun crew defends their bivouac area during "Operation Flashburn," 16 March 1954. (RG 111-SCA Album 527, 457561, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Fort Riley's realistic training extended beyond just the aggressor cadre to its facilities. For example, the aggressor cadre frequently used a "Combat in Cities" course, constructed sometime before 1952. They also used abandoned farmhouses that were likely obtained during the 1942 expansion (Figure 73 and Figure 74).<sup>192</sup> Additionally, a three-station close combat course, later referred to as an infiltration course, was built sometime before 1952, though it was updated that year.<sup>193</sup> It was located south of the then-northwest corner of the reservation.<sup>194</sup> The course featured a close combat range, a grenade range, and a hand-to-hand combat pit. Five obstacles—barbed wire, a ditch, a wall, a ravine, and log bunkers—were located throughout the course. The objective of this course was to teach the trainee how to move over broken terrain and obstacles and use appropriate weapons against surprise targets, as well as to practice squad teamwork. Updates to the course in 1952 included new camouflage and improved target mechanical operation (Figure 75).<sup>195</sup>

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192. "Aggressor Center Celebrates 13th Anniversary: Largest Training Aid in Army," *Fort Riley Post*, September 2, 1960, 2; RG 111-SCA Album 527, 411417, Riley, Fort, Kansas—Buildings and Views (Riley—Views), US Army Signal Corps Photographs Of Military Activity During World War II and The Korean Conflict, between 1941–1954 (Signal Corps Photographs between 1941–1954), RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD; RG 111-SCA Album 526, 333394, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941–1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD.

193. "Combat Realism Added by G-3 to Division's Close Combat Course," *Guidon*, November 19, 1952, 10.

194. Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoff, *Plan of the Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas*.

195. "Combat Realism Added by G-3 to Division's Close Combat Course," *Guidon*, November 19, 1952, 10.

Figure 73. Soldiers head to participate in hand-to-hand combat during a “Combat in Cities” exercise at Camp Funston’s training areas, 5 Sept. 1952. (RG 111-SCA Album 527, 411417, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 74. The aggressor cadre established command in an abandoned farmhouse out of range of maneuver artillery fire, Dec. 1949. (RG 111-SCA Album 526, 333394, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 75. A dummy representing the final survivor of a grenade is bayoneted during basic training on the combat course, 13 Sept. 1960. (RG 111-SCA Album 528A, 577776, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



By March 1951, a Chemical Biological Radiological Warfare Course was running at Fort Riley. The 19 hours of training included information on the types of chemicals used by the Army, their capabilities, how to detect them, and how to protect oneself from them. By March 1953, the 5th Army Chemical Biological and Radiological Warfare School had moved from Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, to Fort Riley. The three-week course included lectures, laboratory work, and field exercises. The exercises included “sounding out” sources of radioactivity with Geiger counters and a gas confidence course.<sup>196</sup> Though the gas confidence course’s initial capabilities are unclear, it included training on two types of gas by 1964. The first type of gas, tear gas, was used for riot control. The second type of gas used was chlorine gas (Figure 76).<sup>197</sup>

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196. “Students at Post Taking Course in Chemical Warfare,” *Junction City Union*, March 26, 1951, 7; “New Army School to Open Monday,” *Junction City Union*, March 5, 1953; “Fifth Army School at Fort Riley Is Two Years Old,” *Junction City Union*, 1; “37th Division to be the 10th,” *Junction City Union*, May 8, 1954, 1.

197. “‘Rangers’ Learn Effects of ‘Gas Type’ Warfare,” *Fort Riley Post*, October 9, 1964, 12.

Figure 76. Gas attack training, 14 Nov. 1967. (RG 111-SCA Album 528E, 643544, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



To support this new school, the 5th Army Chemical Field Maintenance Repair Shop was created. The shop opened in February 1953 and was charged with “decontamination and impregnation of equipment used for training.”<sup>198</sup> The entire school operated in the Camp Forsyth area. On 25 June 1954, the school ceased operation on order of Lieutenant General William Kean, commanding general of the 5th Army.<sup>199</sup>

In 1953, six “large Chinese Red-style bunkers” were built on the post. These bunkers were fortified by logs and stones and connected to each other via 800 yards of trenches. They were located on two 125 ft hills north of the main post.<sup>200</sup> Companies engaged in tactical problems involving attacking and conquering the bunkers, which were defended by the aggressor cadre. Each company split into an assault group, a supporting fire

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198. “New Shop at Fort Riley,” *Junction City Union*, February 4, 1953, 1.

199. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 83.

200. The bunkers are not noted on maps from the period; as such, their exact location is unknown.

group, and a support group, then used “bangalore torpedoes” and “pole charges” to create an opening in the barbed wire that surrounded the base of the hills. On reaching the bunkers, Soldiers would throw practice hand grenades and use practice flame-throwers (which shot water) to complete their mission.<sup>201</sup>

In July 1955, the Army General School was discontinued because the mission of Fort Riley changed with the arrival of the 1st ID from Germany.<sup>202</sup> The 1st ID replaced the 10th ID at Fort Riley as part of Operation Gyroscope, which supported the simultaneous movement of entire battalions, regiments, or divisions and began on 1 July 1955.<sup>203</sup> The 1st ID’s mission was to train new recruits; consequently, the General School’s departments (Resident Instruction, Intelligence Division, and Non-Resident Instruction) were scattered to other installations, and only the aggressor cadre remained at Fort Riley as a separate organization. The Non-Commissioned Officer’s Academy replaced the General School at Fort Riley.<sup>204</sup>

In 1959, the 28th Infantry constructed a teardrop mortar range, though the location of this range is unclear. The range was called “Greenwood Village” and featured houses and industrial sites in the impact area.<sup>205</sup>

Additional training facility construction at Fort Riley in 1959 was related to the Army-wide introduction of Trainfire I as the new Basic Rifle Marksmanship Course in 1959–1960. Trainfire consisted of a new method for training designed to simulate combat shooting more accurately.<sup>206</sup> Man-sized, electronic pop-up targets known as “Punchy Petes” were used instead of the traditional bullseyes.<sup>207</sup> The range facilities provided targets at various distances that would appear for limited amounts of time during for

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201. “Bunkers, Trenches, Add Realism to Training at Fort,” *Junction City Union*, February 14, 1953, 6.

202. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 83

203. “Members of the 37th Due to Arrive Tonight,” *Junction City Union*, March 4, 1954, 1; “Expect 1,800 From the 37th,” *Junction City Union*, 1; “37th Division to be the 10th,” *Junction City Union*, May 8, 1954, 1; “‘Last Salute’ Review Will Mark Close of Army School,” *Junction City Union*, April 18, 1955, 1.

204. “‘Last Salute’ Review Will Mark Close of Army School.”

205. “Mortar Range Is Constructed by C Co, 28th Inf,” *Fort Riley Post*, Dec. 23, 1959, 7.

206. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 79.

207. “New Ranges Being Built for Trainfire Program,” *The American Traveler*, August 19, 1959, 8.

the soldier to acquire, aim, and shoot.<sup>208</sup> Fort Riley was allocated \$200,000 for the construction of three Trainfire ranges in 1959. The ranges constructed included one record fire range, one 25 to 75 meter range, one field firing range, and two target detection ranges—these likely overlapped so that each of the three constructed ranges served multiple purposes, though it's unclear which ranges were dual purpose.<sup>209</sup> In addition to the target emplacement, prefabricated buildings were acquired for ranges and used for support functions, such as target storage and latrines (buildings 7710, 9081, 9165, 9166, 9185, and 9186).<sup>210</sup>

Also in 1959, the first ground surveillance radar set assigned to groups in the 5th Army area was received by the 1st Infantry Division Artillery. The radar set could “detect a moving man at 5,000 meters and a jeep at up to 18,000 meters.”<sup>211</sup> Signals were detected visually via a 3-inch oscilloscope and a moving light on the control panel and audibly via a headset and speaker. The transportable set could be set up in 15 minutes.<sup>212</sup>

In 1961, the Kennedy administration began a troop buildup in response to tensions between the United States and the Soviet Bloc. That year, Army strength went from 860,000 to 1,060,000. It settled the next year at a permanent strength of 970,000.<sup>213</sup>

At this time, basic training was essentially the same as it had been during the 1950s. As of February 1960, basic training included “98 hours of studying and firing the M-1 rifle, 25 hours of drill and ceremonies, 24 hours of physical training, and 16 hours of marches and bivouacs.”<sup>214</sup> The training cycle also included a two-week bivouac in the field, which included testing and further training involving solving combat field

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208. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 79.

209. “New Ranges Being Built for Trainfire Program,” *The American Traveler*.

210. Headquarters, United States Continental Army Command, Fort Monroe, VA, Letter to Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Department of the Army, Washington, DC, June 12, 1957, entry #3 (UD-WW), box 37, folder: 600, binder #3, Records of Headquarters Army Ground Forces, 1916–1956, RG 337, NARA, College Park, MD.

211. “DivArty Gets New Ground Radar Set,” *Fort Riley Post*, Dec. 23, 1959, 12.

212. “DivArty Gets New Ground Radar Set.”

213. Walter G. Hermes, “Global Pressures and the Flexible Response,” in *American Military History* (Washington, DC: US Army Center of Military History, 1989), 606.

214. “400 8th Infantry Men End Training,” *Fort Riley Post*, Feb. 12, 1960, 1.

problems while under fire, urban and close types of combat, and mastery of the battle indoctrination course.<sup>215</sup>

More than 1,000 of the recruits that came to Fort Riley at the end of 1960 and beginning of 1961 were ultimately sent to South Korea by May 1961. Their training consisted of the standard eight-week basic training followed by training for either becoming a heavy weapons specialist or serving in a rifle platoon. This training had also begun to incorporate new infantry weapons: the M-14 rifle, the M-60 machine gun, and the M-60 tank (Figure 77 and Figure 78).<sup>216</sup> The introduction of the M-14 rifle in 1961 provided a major advancement over the previous rifle, the M-1.<sup>217</sup> By 4 November 1960, Fort Riley had a pistol range of at least 50 yd;<sup>218</sup> by January 1961, a howitzer range.<sup>219</sup> Training also took advantage of the “thousands of acres of prairie grassland which have become rifle ranges, artillery ranges, grenade ranges and maneuver areas.”<sup>220</sup>

Figure 77. Eight mm Howitzer training, 5 Jan. 1962. (RG 111-SCA Album 528A, 579825, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



215. “Training of Combat Infantry Mission of the Tenth Division,” 1; “Bivouac Training a Realistic Review of Soldier’s Lessons,” *Junction City Union*, n.p.

216. “Army Stresses New Weapons Concept in 60,” *Fort Riley Post*, Jan. 6, 1961, 13.

217. “Army Reviews Its Top Stories in 1961 News,” *Fort Riley Post*, Dec. 29, 1961, 7.

218. “1st Inf. Div. Pistol Matches Closed Thurs., Rifle Matches Begin Today,” *Fort Riley Post*, Nov. 4, 1960, 1.

219. “Fire” [Image], *Fort Riley Post*, Jan. 6, 1961, 6.

220. “First Engineer Battalion Multiplies Army Training Factor,” *Fort Riley Post*, Jan. 20, 1961, 8.

Figure 78. M-14 rifle training, 10 Jan. 1962. (RG 111-SCA Album 528A, 589127, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



The M-14 was automatic, more field serviceable, more accurate, and had increased firepower when compared to previous models.<sup>221</sup> The M-60 machine gun was lighter and simpler than previous models, air-cooled, and had “a provision for rapid change of barrels.”<sup>222</sup> Rifle training methods continued to be focused on the Trainfire system, with several ranges in place by the early 1960s (construction had begun in 1959).<sup>223</sup> Trainfire was intended to replace the known-distance rifle training method and was officially initiated at Fort Riley on Monday, 28 February 1960. In contrast to known-distance training, Trainfire taught Soldiers to “determine proper elevation for the varying ranges of the real targets encountered on the battlefield” and to “correctly and rapidly estimate the necessary changes from battle sight zero” (Figure 79).<sup>224</sup>

221. “Army’s Marksmanship Program under Survey,” *Fort Riley Post*, 21 July 1961, 3.

222. “Back to Normal Following Matches,” *Fort Riley Post*, 12 May 1961, 6.

223. Headquarters, United States Continental Army Command, Letter to Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, NARA.

224. “Ft Riley Teaches Cadre New Rifle-Fire Methods,” *Fort Riley Post*, March 11, 1960, 1; “28th Inf Men Observe Trainfire,” *Fort Riley Post*, Feb. 5, 1961, 6.

Figure 79. M-1 rifle training at Trainfire range. The exercise included field firing after confirming of battle sight zero at targets appearing at 100, 150, 200, 250, and 300 meters. 12 Dec 1960; M/SGT Richard L. Whittler. (RG 111-SCA Album 528A, 579640, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Trainfire I courses, which opened after February 1961, used electronic type “E” or “F” silhouette targets in “pop-up . . . and surprise situations” (Figure 80).<sup>225</sup> The targets fell automatically when hit.<sup>226</sup> Many targets were partially camouflaged by terrain or growth, and only stayed up for a limited amount of time: “For instance, if the target [was] but 75 meters away, the target may [have stayed] up for only five seconds but if the target [was] farther away, say 250 meters, it may [have stayed] up from seven to ten seconds.”<sup>227</sup>

Trainfire II courses were used for squad firing and tactics. Like the Trainfire I courses, targets electronically scored the hits and fields of a rifleman’s fire coverage. Two scoring systems were used—a hit was worth either one or five points, but a miss was always worth zero points.<sup>228</sup>

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225. “Ft Riley Teaches Cadre New Rifle-Fire Methods.”

226. “Ft Riley Teaches Cadre New Rifle-Fire Methods.”

227. “28th Inf Men Observe Trainfire.”

228. “28th Inf Men Observe Trainfire.”

Figure 80. Target triangulation on a Trainfire range, 1 March 1960. (RG 111-SCA Album 528A, 14-040-199/AL-60-324, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Following implementation of Trainfire, basic training included “90 hours of trainfire [*sic*] practice and qualification; 24 hours of physical training; 12 hours of land navigation; eight hours of first aid; ten hours of chemical-biological-radiological warfare; ten hours of bayonet training; 25 hours of dismounted drill; and ten hours of close combat.”<sup>229</sup>

This was in addition to classes on subjects including—but not limited to—the Army Code of Conduct, handling prisoners per the Geneva Convention, escape and evasion, and infiltration.<sup>230</sup> Instruction on infiltration was supported by Fort Riley’s infiltration course, which was 50 yards long and included obstacles such as barbed wire, pits, and trenches (Figure 81).<sup>231</sup>

229. “Basic Combat Training Climaxes With Parade,” *Fort Riley Post*, 2 Sept. 1960, 12.

230. “Basic Combat Training Climaxes With Parade,”

231. “Visiting Thailand Officers Observe Training at Fort Riley,” *Fort Riley Post*, Feb. 3, 1961, 1; “Combat Training for Dakota National Guards,” *Fort Riley Post*, Mar. 9, 1962, 10.

Figure 81. Basic trainees stack arms in preparation for going through the infiltration course, 13 Dec. 1960. (RG 111-SCA Album 528A, 579641, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Following basic training, some Soldiers went on to participate in advanced individual training (AIT). The AIT proficiency test, which was required to graduate from AIT, included firing on the known-distance range and the 106 mm record firing range (for 81 mm mortar firing) (Figure 82), as well as testing in other subjects such as radio operation and fire direction control.<sup>232</sup>

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232. "400 EM Complete AIT with 8th Infantry," *Fort Riley Post*, April 1, 1961, 1.

Figure 82. Members of the 1st ID receive instructions on the M-2 aiming circle for laying 81 mm mortars parallel for direction of fire, 15 Feb. 1968. (RG 111-SCA Album 528A, 582014, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



In addition to basic training in support of Army programs, Fort Riley also hosted routine encampments, special training exercises, and rifle and pistol matches. In July 1960, the 2nd Battle Group, 12th Infantry underwent a four-week ranger training program meant “to develop the individuals’ self-confidence, leadership, ability to command, and skill in the application of basic Infantry techniques.”<sup>233</sup> Classes stressed demolition, fieldcraft and survival, and raid and ambush techniques; however, intelligence training, night and day training, stream crossing, map reading, and patrol techniques were also taught.<sup>234</sup> Other trainings employed ranger techniques, though they were not Ranger trainings. The cadre of Company C, 13th Infantry, underwent one such training in August 1960, in “a series of mock battles against one another ranging over the north-east side of the

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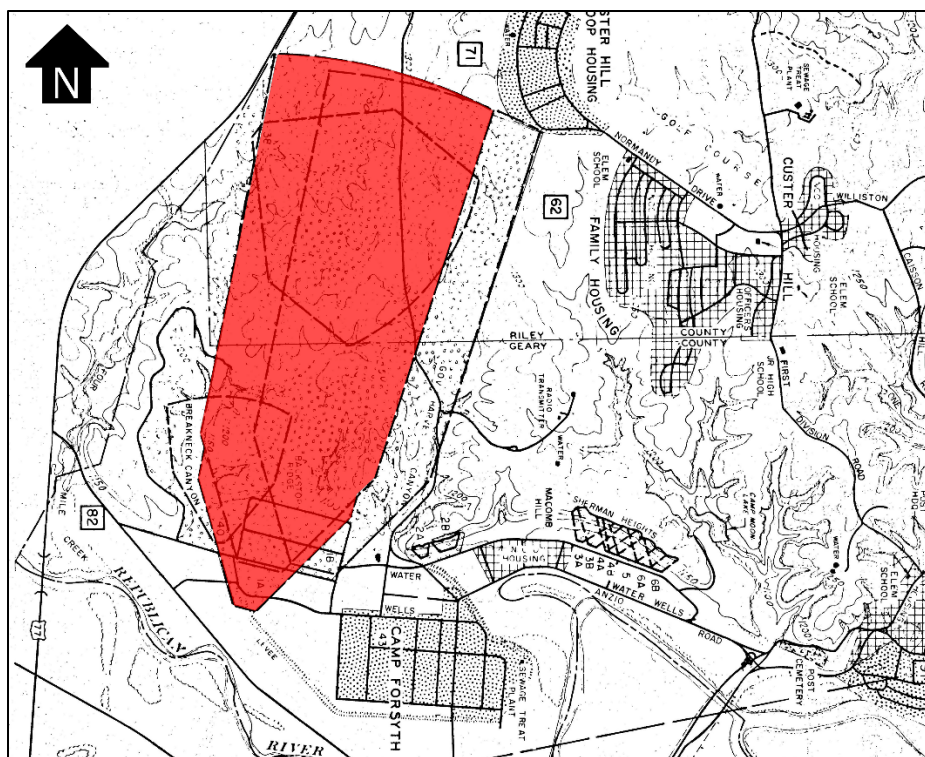
233. “Four Week Ranger Training Program Underway for 12th Infantry Personnel,” *Fort Riley Post*, July 28, 1960, 7.

234. “Four Week Ranger Training Program Underway for 12th Infantry Personnel.”

reservation.”<sup>235</sup> It is not clear what ranges, if any, were used for the ranger trainings and trainings that employed ranger techniques.

Fort Riley also hosted a number of rifle and pistol competition throughout the early 1960s. To prepare for the 5 May 1961 match, Soldiers spent the preceding Saturday practicing on ranges. Matches commenced the following Monday with a shot fired by the 1st ID artillery commanding general. Matches took place on range 1-A, a rifle range located in the Republican Flats northeast of Camp Forsyth (Figure 83), from the 200, 300, and 600 yd lines, and on a pistol range from the 25 and 50 yd lines (Figure 84, Figure 85, and Figure 86).<sup>236</sup>

Figure 83. Range 1-A highlighted in red, 1962. (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Reservation Boundary & Land Use Map*. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.).



235. "13th Inf Cadre Trains By Air," *Fort Riley Post*, Aug. 5, 1960, n.p.

236. "Fifth Army Rifle and Pistol Matches in Full Swing," *Fort Riley Post*, May 5, 1961, 6-7.

Figure 84. Soldiers fire automatic rifles, 5 May 1961. ("Fifth Army Rifle and Pistol Matches in Full Swing," 6. Public domain.)



Figure 85. Firing line, 5 May 1961. ("Fifth Army Rifle and Pistol Matches in Full Swing," 6. Public domain.)



Figure 86. Scoring for pistol firing match, 5 May 1961. ("Fifth Army Rifle and Pistol Matches in Full Swing," 6. Public domain.)



Special exercises included Exercise Red Arrow, held in April 1962 (Figure 87). Exercise Red Arrow was a 31-day realistic training exercise featuring multiple battle groups, live artillery, mortar and small-arms firing, overhead flights by jet aircraft, and a live aggressor force.<sup>237</sup> Other special trainings held to maintain combat-ready status included command post exercises, which required Soldiers to set up complete headquarters in the field and place troops in defense of these stations, among other tasks necessary "to achieve proficiency in the deployment of troops in combat situations."<sup>238</sup>

237. "'Red Arrow' Curtain Comes Down," *Fort Riley Post*, April 20, 1962, 12.

238. "Two On-Post Exercises Slated for This Fall Will Be Held in Late October, Mid-November," *Fort Riley Post*, Sept. 7, 1962, 1.

Figure 87. Tanks prepare to attack during Exercise Red Arrow, 6 April 1962. (RG 111-SCA Album 528A, 596318, Riley—Views, Signal Corps Photographs between 1941 and 1954, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Regular encampments at Fort Riley through the early 1960s included ROTC encampments and National Guard and Reserve troop training cycles. Each summer, Fort Riley hosted cadets from the 13-state 5th US Army area for six weeks of practical training in everything from infantry weapons to “bivouac problems,” which complimented the military science course at their schools.<sup>239</sup> Training support was provided by the 13th Infantry and 1st Division units with between 300 to 425 officers and enlisted men serving as instructors and trainers in every branch specialty. By 1963, there were over 2,500 ROTC cadets.<sup>240</sup>

Additionally, Fort Riley continued to support annual two-week training cycles for National Guard and Reserve troops.<sup>241</sup> The National Guard was an integral part of the quick mobilization systems of the Army as well as filling in the ranks when needed. Army Reservists and National Guardsmen shared equipment and maintenance facilities with active Army members and went to active Army schools for training.<sup>242</sup> In 1961,

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239. “Fort Riley Will Host the Largest ROTC Summer Encampment in the Nation,” *Fort Riley Post*, June 16, 1961, 8.

240. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 112.

241. “Post Will Again Support Summer Reserve and National Guard Training,” *Fort Riley Post*, January 20, 1961, 12; “2,500 Citizen-Soldiers Begin Training in June,” *Fort Riley Post*, March 29, 1963, 1.

242. “Army Idea Makes Progress,” *Fort Riley Post*, February 17, 1961, 6.

this plan of integration of the National Guard and Reserve was recommended at the One Army conference. The call-up for the National Guard and Reserve in 1961 was the biggest to date with 155,000 reservists called to active duty.<sup>243</sup>

These training cycles, as well as all other training at both Fort Riley and other 5th Army posts, were supported by the 5th United States Army Training Aids Center. Starting in 1950, the Fort Riley subcenter operated as a library for equipment necessary to instruct Regular Army, ROTC, National Guard, and enlisted Reserve personnel. By 1960, it was also able to produce charts, posters, scale models, working devices, training kits, aggressor material, transparencies, art and illustrations, ozalid reproductions, and wood and plastic modeling. It also offered classroom facilities and screen printing and drafting services.<sup>244</sup>

Other schools that supported training at Fort Riley included the 1st Division Signal School, organized in January 1962, that trained 1,000 students in its first year in communications technology, including radio telephones, wireman switchboard, radio teletype operations, and communications-center teletypewriter operations. The classes at Fort Riley were from 2 to 16 weeks, half the time for the classes at the Army Signal Schools.<sup>245</sup>

In 1963, a firefighting training area opened in Camp Funston. This area consisted of a “diamond shaped pit” used to extinguish oil fires, two cylindrical tanks to test methods of combatting water and oil fires, and a two-story building front to train in ladder evacuation techniques. It also included a mock house that was frequently set on fire for firemen to practice forceful entry while causing minimum damage.<sup>246</sup> A platoon attack course—on live-fire range 31A—also opened in 1963.<sup>247</sup>

The same year, members of the 1st ID began using an old limestone quarry behind Irwin Army Hospital for “mountain training.” The course required men to cross a “valley” on a three-rope bridge and recross it on a double-rope structure before developing a harness with two nylon ropes to move

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243. “Strength Buildup Head the List of 1961 Military News Events,” 1.

244. “Training Aids ‘The Tools of a Well Trained Soldier’,” *Fort Riley Post*, April 15, 1960, 10.

245. “First Division Signal School,” *Fort Riley Post*, September 21, 1962, 13.

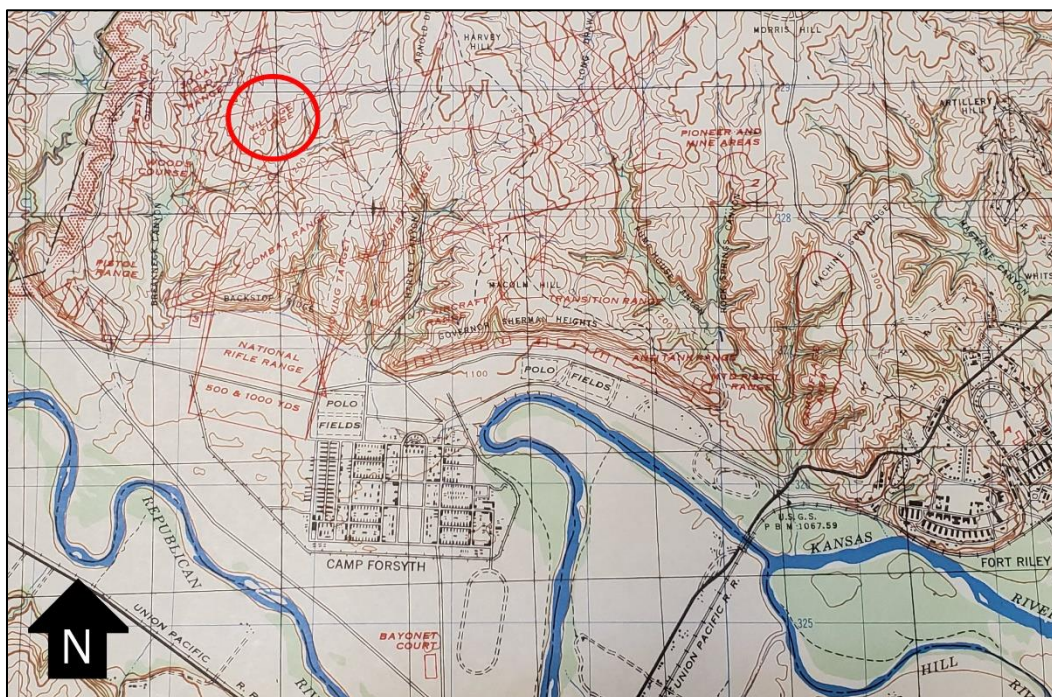
246. “Firemen Train in ‘Hot’ New Course,” *Fort Riley Post*, June 7, 1963, 13.

247. “NEW HAT STYLES?” [Image], *Fort Riley Post*, July 19, 1963, 1.

down a 100-foot stone wall. They were then required to use a 300-foot cable extending the height of a cliffside to carry their equipment from one elevation to another.<sup>248</sup>

This unique training aid was visited by five generals from the Republic of China in November 1963. The generals were visiting to observe the 1st ID's counterinsurgency and counter guerrilla training methods. They also visited Fort Riley's combat-in-cities course and Wilkinsville, Fort Riley's Southeast Asian Village. At the time, the combat-in-cities course featured booby-traps similar to those in use in Vietnam, such as a Punji pit (a concealed hole lined with sharpened stakes) and the Whip (a sapling held by trip wire and covered in six-inch spines).<sup>249</sup> The exact locations of the combat-in-cities course and Wilkinsville are unclear. Potential locations include an area noted as a "Village Course" on a 1946 map (Figure 88), as well as the location of the future Vietnam Village (discussed in Section 2.4) (Figure 89).

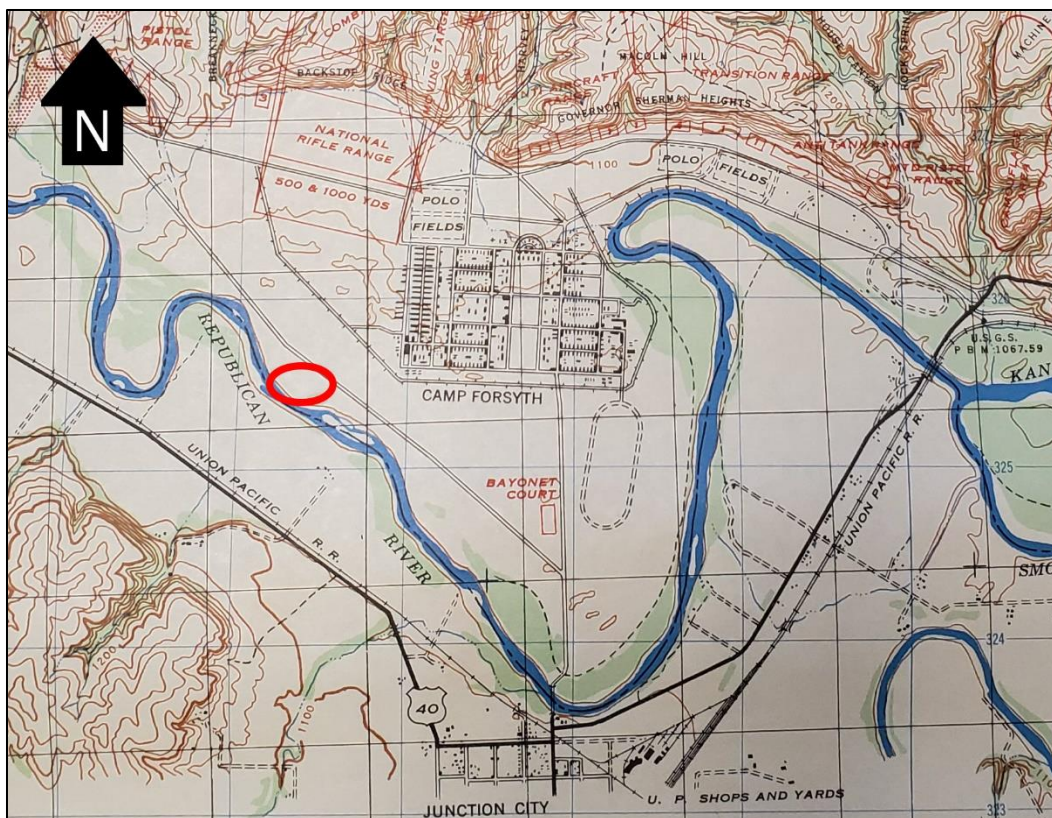
Figure 88. Location of "Village Course," 1947. (Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, War Department, *Ft. Riley Vicinity Kansas, West Sheet No. 3*. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.)



248. "Black Lions' Scale Post's 'Mountains,'" *Fort Riley Post*, Sept. 6, 1963, 1, 2.

249. 2nd BG 18th Infantry, "Chinese Generals Tour Counter-Guerilla Course," *Fort Riley Post*, Nov. 15, 1963, 13.

Figure 89. Location of Fort Riley's future Vietnam Village shown on 1946 map. (Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, War Department, Ft. Riley Vicinity Kansas, West Sheet No. 3. Public domain.)



At the end of basic training, trainees were required to complete the Individual Proficiency Test. At Fort Riley, the test consisted of 27 stations set along seven miles of Engineer Road. The first station—the only squad-based station in the first phase of the test—tested eight-man squads on dismounted drill. Other stations saw individual Soldiers assembling their M-1 rifles, perform first aid on dummies, hook up and use a phone at a field telephone exchange, orient themselves with maps and compasses, toss hand grenades into foxholes, and accomplish a variety of other tasks required for success in theater. The test's second phase required eight-man squads to demonstrate squad tactics and attack, conduct reconnaissance, and crew drill on weapons.<sup>250</sup>

Practical training was supplemented with more academic subjects geared to military life, including Army traditions, military customs and courtesies,

250. "Division Checks 27 Points of Knowledge as K-85 Completes Individual Proficiency Test," *Guidon*, April 16, 1952, 8.

and military justice.<sup>251</sup> These subjects were likely taught in one of four battalion classroom buildings that were constructed using funds appropriated in 1956.<sup>252</sup> The 10th ID also provided training in leadership for noncommissioned officers (NCOs), specialist training for clerktypists, unit supply specialists, wheeled-vehicle mechanics, field wiremen, radio operators, and vehicle drivers, as well as branch immaterial training to Soldiers who then followed on with specialist training for other branch replacements.<sup>253</sup>

The NCO Academy was opened in 1955 for training of 5th Army NCOs with courses in leadership and training methods. Basic and Duration of the senior curriculum courses ranged from two to nine weeks, with a capacity of 150 students per course.<sup>254</sup> The training used the leaders reaction course, which had at least 12 “tasks” (Figure 90–Figure 95).<sup>255</sup> Starting in 1961, Air Force personnel were also trained at the Fort Riley NCO Academy.<sup>256</sup> In the summer of 1964, the school was reorganized to become the only accredited NCO Academy in the 5th Army.<sup>257</sup>

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251. “Training of Combat Infantry Mission of the Tenth Division,” *Junction City Union*, June 24, 1953, 1.

252. US Congress. House of Representatives. *Military Construction Appropriations for 1956: Hearings Before the Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations*. 84th Cong, 1st sess. (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1955), 200.

253. “One of Nation’s Top Military Posts,” *Junction City Union*, Centennial Edition, June 24, 1953, 1.

254. “Many Post Units Conduction Schools in Special Skills,” *Fort Riley Post*, September 22, 1961, 3.

255. RG 111-CCS, 504683, General Subject Photographic Files, c. 1964–c. 1982 [General Subject], RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD.

256. “Air Force Personnel Training at Fort Riley NCO Academy,” *Fort Riley Post*, November 9, 1961, 4.

257. “NCO Academy to Train Area Students,” *Fort Riley Post*, September 11, 1964, 6.

Figure 90. Task 3 of the Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Academy's leaders reaction course, 18 April 1957. (RG 111-CCS, 504677, General Subject Photographic Files, c. 1964–c. 1982 [General Subject], RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 91. Task 4 of the NCO Academy's leaders reaction course, 18 April 1957. (RG 111-CCS, 504678, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 92. Task 5 of the NCO Academy's leaders reaction course, 18 April 1957. (RG 111-CCS, 504679, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 93. Task 6 of the NCO Academy's leaders reaction course, 18 April 1957. (RG 111-CCS, 504680, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)

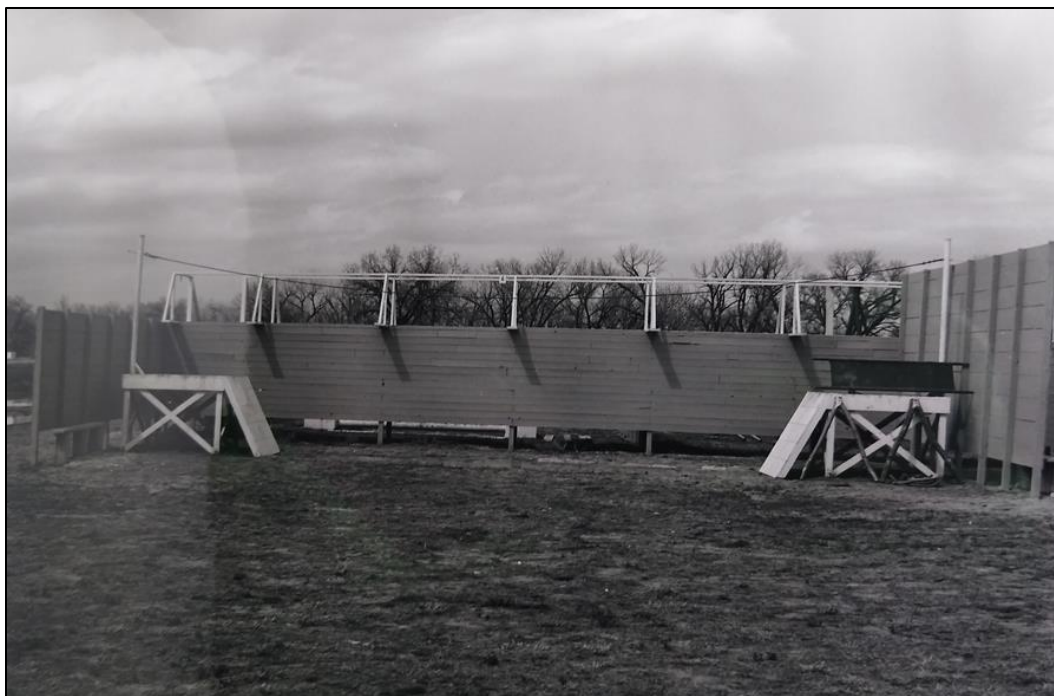


Figure 94. Task 8 of the NCO Academy's leaders reaction course, 18 April 1957. (RG 111-CCS, 504681, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 95. Task 9 of the NCO Academy's leaders reaction course, 18 April 1957.  
(RG 111-CCS, 594683, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD.  
Public domain.)



Figure 96. Task 12 of the NCO Academy's leaders reaction course, 18 April 1957. (RG 111-CCS, 504683, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



In June 1964, a special training exercise was held to determine how a mechanized reinforced rifle company and its supporting units operated while under battlefield conditions. Company C of the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry (mechanized), along with supporting armor and artillery units, staged an attack on range 29. Weapons used included the M-79 grenade launcher, 3.5 mm rocket launcher, 90 mm recoilless rifle, 107 mm mortar, Davy Crockett nuclear weapon system<sup>258</sup>, M48A1 tank, 155 howitzer, and 8 in. howitzer.<sup>259</sup> The 762 mm Honest John rocket firing point was off Williston Point Road (Figure 97).<sup>260</sup>

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<sup>258</sup> The Davy Crockett was an easily transportable nuclear weapons system. It was produced as an M28 120 mm recoilless rifle and an M29 155 mm recoilless rifle. It was operated by a three-man crew and mounted on an M38 or M151 jeep. Matthew Seelinger, "The M28/M29 Davy Crockett Nuclear Weapon System," The Army Historical Foundation, accessed October 4, 2023, <https://armyhistory.org/the-m28m29-davy-crockett-nuclear-weapon-system/>.

<sup>259</sup> "Infantry Unit Attacks in Display of Might," *Fort Riley Post*, June 19, 1964, 2.

<sup>260</sup> "Three Ton Rocket Firing Marks End of Men's Training," *Fort Riley Post*, July 31, 1964, 1.

Figure 97. Honest John rocket firing, 1964. (RG 111-CCS Album 528B, 617190, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



In July 1954, the Army created the Army Transportation School to train mechanics for field maintenance duties and ongoing armed helicopter development. This was supported by the newly created air cavalry, which shifted air units' roles from support to combat, providing "dedicated air-mobile transport, supply, and fire-support assets."<sup>261</sup> Fort Riley became home to the 5th Army's first helicopter training facility. The 328th Helicopter Cargo Transportation Company and the 138th Helicopter Cargo

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261. Michael A. Pedrotty, Julie L. Webster, Gordon L. Cohen, and Aaron R. Chmiel, *Historical and Architectural Overview of Military Aircraft Hangars: A General History, Thematic Typology, and Inventory of Aircraft Hangars Constructed on Department of Defense Installations* (Langley AFB, VA: Headquarters, Air Combat Command [HQAAC], September 1999, revised May 2001), 5–18.

Transportation Field Maintenance Detachment were activated at MAAF in July 1953.<sup>262</sup>

Within a year, the helicopter unit at the field had been increased to a battalion. The units were quartered at MAAF, where they received both practical and classroom training on rotary-wing craft. On 19 November 1953, the first three Sikorsky H-19-D helicopters purchased by the Army for use in training arrived at Marshall Field.<sup>263</sup> These helicopters were used in training demonstrations of cargo delivery in support of infantry battle exercises. Periodically, the Marshall Field units would participate in large-scale exercises in other parts of the country, such as “Operation Flash-Burn” at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in the spring of 1954, where they performed maintenance duties on airplanes taking part in the exercise. The 98th Transportation Army Aircraft Repair Detachment at Fort Riley was the only unit of its type in the 5th Army area in 1954 and serviced all of planes for the region. Working largely in Marshall Field hangars, the unit worked primarily on engines, instruments, and rigging.<sup>264</sup>

Around the same time, the 328th Helicopter Transportation Company transferred overseas, and the 21st Transportation Helicopter Battalion was activated at Marshall Field. The first unit of its kind in the Army, the battalion’s mission was to “activate, supply, and supervise training of helicopter companies to prepare them as combat ready units for assignment overseas or with units in the United States.”<sup>265</sup> The necessary technical personnel were gathered from various technical and special schools across the country. Trainees spent approximately three months at Marshall Field before being field tested and given new assignments.<sup>266</sup>

Advancements in military aircraft and airborne combat tactics kept the units at Marshall Field supplied with new machines, new units, and new training courses. By March 1955, the 71st Helicopter Transportation Battalion was training pilots in the operation of twin-rotor helicopters, first

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262. “Transportation Corps to Observe 11th Anniversary,” *Junction City Union*, July 30, 1953, n.p.; “Copter Unit to Fort Riley,” *Junction City Union*, July 31, 1953, 1.

263. “Three of 18 New Helicopters On Order Delivered,” *Junction City Union*, November 19, 1953, 1.

264. “Fort Riley Army Air Repair Group Will Go to Bragg,” *Junction City Union*, March 23, 1954, n.p.

265. “Helicopter Battalion to Be Activated Soon,” *Junction City Union*, July 14, 1954, 1.

266. Enscoe and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 104.

the Piesecki H-25-A, then the larger H-21-C. The three-week course included 80 hours of classwork and 25 hours of flying time and consisted of 12 officer and warrant officer pilots on average. Flying time included take-offs and landings in confined areas and lifting cargo loads slung below the helicopter (Figure 98). To keep the equipment operative, the 80th Transportation Cargo Helicopter Field Maintenance Detachment worked around the clock.<sup>267</sup>

Figure 98. Cargo helicopter training at Fort Riley, 1956. (Enscore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 105. Public domain.)



Despite the emphasis on helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft were not excluded from Fort Riley. The post was selected as the home of the 14th Army Aviation Company in June 1955. Activated as a fixed-wing tactical transport unit, it was the first of its type and flew the 14-seat DeHaviland U-1 Otter, designed to haul cargo and passengers in and out of confined areas.<sup>268</sup>

The first Army Aviation Unit Training Command (AAUTC) was activated at Fort Riley on 21 July 1955. The Army established two AAUTCs—at Fort

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267. "Helicopter Pilots Train at Fort Riley Where Cavalry Units Once Were Supreme," *Junction City Union*, March 18, 1955, 5.

268. "New Air Unit Sent to Post," *Junction City Union*, June 2, 1955, 1.

Riley and Fort Sill—in an effort to use existing resources for aircraft training. On January 24, the 71st Transportation Battalion was assigned to the mission at Fort Riley, and the AAUTC became operational on February 18. The Fort Riley AAUTC trained units on twin-rotor and fixed-wing aircraft. The Fort Sill counterpart, activated 1 July 1955, activated and trained units on single-rotor helicopters.<sup>269</sup>

To support the new program, a budget request for a new hangar was in place at an estimated cost of \$449,000 by April 1955.<sup>270</sup> This facility could not meet all of Fort Riley AAUTC's needs, and the AAUTC was temporarily suspended to accommodate aircraft and facility shortages in October 1957. Construction continued, however, and two maintenance hangars, building 727 and building 723, opened in 1957 and 1959, respectively. Building 727 was built as a helicopter hangar, complete with hardstand for maintenance on the 23 aircraft assigned to one light-cargo helicopter company. Building 723 was requested in 1956 to provide field maintenance facilities for 74 aircraft.<sup>271</sup>

In 1958, troop restructuring decreased the number of aviation units in the Army, and both AAUTCs were discontinued the following year; however, Marshall Field continued to support the 80th and 81st Transportation (Helicopter) Companies and the 1st ID's 1st Aviation Company.<sup>272</sup>

The 1st ID had become the first conventional US Army ID to be reorganized into a "Pentomic" unit, or a unit trained to fight in both conventional and nuclear war, in February 1957. The 1st Aviation Company supported increased mobility through the use of helicopters and low-speed fixed-wing aircraft.<sup>273</sup> To support this effort, the Army initiated a construction program to provide facilities for the air cavalry units; it focused on two standard Army aviation hangars (39-01-62 and 29-01-64),

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269. Weinert, *A History of Army Aviation*, 231; "Army Orders Air Training Unit at Post," *Junction City Union*, July 21, 1955, 1.

270. "Riley Funds Are Mostly for Housing," *Junction City Union*, April 21, 1955, 1.

271. Department of the Army, "Construction Item Justification Data," (n.p. 1 Sept. 1956), entry 242, box 7: FY 1958, folder: Justification Book 1956, Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers, Record Group 77, NARA, College Park, MD.

272. 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley Information Office, *First Infantry Division Yearbook: 41st Anniversary, 1917–1958* (Fort Riley, KS: US Army, 1958), n.p.

273. Office of the Chief of Military History, "The Army and the New Look," in *American Military History* (Washington, DC: United States Army, 1988), 13–14; 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley Information Office, *First Infantry Division Yearbook*, 67, 76.

one containing 12,000 sq ft, the other 20,000 sq ft.<sup>274</sup> Aircraft design continued to evolve, and the UH-1 (“Huey”) utility helicopter went into service, transporting small units and medical evacuees and providing firepower as a gunship. The H-37 and the later HC-1 provided greatly increased cargo loads.<sup>275</sup>

Further construction upgraded facilities, with a water treatment facility, building 721, constructed in 1957 and generator houses, buildings 745 and 747, constructed in 1957 and 1960.<sup>276</sup> In 1960, the field received a new simulation training building (#720) and a new administrative building (#725). The flight simulator building contained six link trainers in addition to classroom and office space and was requested in 1957 specifically as a result of increased training demands. The operations building was requested in 1957 as necessary for the administrative and operational functions of a helicopter company and would directly support the new hangar (building 727).<sup>277</sup>

The Pentomic Division concept lost popularity by 1960 due to difficulties controlling diverse units, loss of maneuver training time for officers, and loss of unit cohesion with the departure from traditional infantry regiments.<sup>278</sup>

## 2.4 The second expansion and combat-ready training (1964–present)

In 1958, the Strategic Army Corps (STRAC) was established to provide an easily deployable, flexible strike force capable of responding without declaration of an emergency. The 1st ID at Fort Riley had been designated as an alternate unit;<sup>279</sup> however, in February 1962, the 1st ID was made a regular

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274. 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley Information Office, *First Infantry Division Yearbook*.

275. Weinert, *History of Army Aviation*, 270.

276. Ensore and Webster, *Comprehensive Historical and Architectural Documentation Report for Fort Riley, Kansas*, 107–108.

277. Department of the Army, “Construction Item Justification Data,” (n.p. 15 Nov. 1957), entry 242, box 8: 1958 FY, folder: Item Justification, Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers, Record Group 77, NARA, College Park, MD.

278. Office of the Chief of Military History, *American Military History, Chapter 26: The Army and the New Look*, rev. ed., (Washington, DC: United States Army, 1988), 13–14; 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley Information Office, *First Infantry Division Yearbook*, 67, 76.

279. Society of the 1st Infantry Division, “History,” About, accessed May 13, 2022, <https://www.1stid.org/history>.

STRAC unit.<sup>280</sup> Consequently, the 1st ID's mission shifted from recruit training to combat training.<sup>281</sup> The new structure included National Guard divisions with Regular Army divisions, marking the first time that Army National Guard and Reserve units were assigned to a strategic strike force during peacetime.<sup>282</sup> In 1961, STRAC units and elements of the Tactical Air Command were combined to form the US Strike Command.<sup>283</sup>

To remain combat ready, the STRAC units (and later Reorganization of Army Divisions [ROAD] Program divisions) required near-constant training, most commonly through maneuvers and exercises both individually at home bases and in combined forces. Participation ranged from a few officers up to a number of battalions plus support, but all involved movement of troops on post or to bases around the United States as well as overseas. On 27–29 January 1961, 81 officers and 48 enlisted men from Fort Riley participated in “Exercise Big Blast XIV,” a 2,500-troop exercise conducted at Fort Sheridan, Illinois.<sup>284</sup> This was the last of a series of exercises that had been held twice a year since 1954, alternating between Fort Riley and Fort Sheridan.<sup>285</sup> The men from Fort Riley played the part of a mechanized rifle division for the 16th Aggressor Army maneuvering against their own 5th Army comrades.<sup>286</sup> That November, five battle groups of the 1st ID trained in Pike National Forest near Colorado Springs, Colorado, for six weeks with 1,300 men and equipment.<sup>287</sup>

Armor and cavalry divisions of the 1st ID were first sent to Fort Irwin, California, for training in the fall of 1961 due to space limitations at Fort Riley for combat readiness training.<sup>288</sup> Starting in February and March 1962, Operation Bristle Cone moved approximately 3,000 troops to Fort Irwin, California, for training in desert techniques and started joint tactical

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280. “First Div. Became STRACT Last Friday,” *Fort Riley Post*, March 2, 1962, 1.

281. “Strength Buildup Head the List of 1961 Military News Events,” *Fort Riley Post*, December 29, 1961, 7.

282. “First Div. Became STRACT Last Friday.”

283. “First Division Units Training at Pike National Forest,” *Fort Riley Post*, November 9, 1961, 12.

284. “Exercise ‘Big Blast XIV’ Starts Today at Fort Sheridan,” *Fort Riley Post*, January 27, 1961, 1.

285. “Fort Riley Personnel to Take Part in Exercise ‘Big Blast XIV’ Jan 27–29,” *Fort Riley Post*, January 20, 1961, 1.

286. “Exercise ‘Big Blast XIV’ Starts Today at Fort Sheridan,” 1.

287. “First Division Units Training at Pike National Forest,” *Fort Riley Post*, November 9, 1961, 12.

288. “Pictorial Review of 1961 at Fort Riley,” *Fort Riley Post*, January 5, 1962, 8.

exercises with air operations.<sup>289</sup> That summer, exercise “Swift Strike II” in North and South Carolina took troops from almost every unit at Fort Riley for the 70,000-troop training exercise.<sup>290</sup> Training also took place in Pike National Forest in Colorado and at Fort Sill in Oklahoma.<sup>291</sup> Additional exercises were held at Fort Riley in the fall of 1962.<sup>292</sup> Later exercises took place in Florida, California, Nevada, and Arizona.<sup>293</sup>

Overseas training exercises were also a large part of the movement of troops from Fort Riley in 1962 and 1963, which were primarily troop rotations through Germany, including Berlin, and the Korean demilitarized zone (DMZ). A number of these exercises were not only “training” but “real world” exercises as well. During the rotation of the 1st ID, 12th Infantry, and 2nd Battle Group to Germany for the July 1962 training exercise “Long Thrust IV,” the troops were moved to Berlin by the overland road route through East Germany and the troop movement was delayed at checkpoints on the autobahn by Soviet troops.<sup>294</sup> There were 1,400 troops from Fort Riley airlifted to Germany for exercise “Long Thrust V” in September and October 1962.<sup>295</sup> This exercise continued through “Long Thrust VII” when the 8th Infantry and associated units went to Germany in July 1963 for a six-month rotation.<sup>296</sup> The object of these exercises was partially to practice the quick movement of troops and equipment. Overseas troop movements involved just the combat-ready troops without the heavy equipment, but 1,400–3,500 troops could be airlifted overseas in a 24–48-hour period.<sup>297</sup> In securing their own preparedness for a newly mobile and combat ready Army, the 1st ID became very proficient at mobilization around the world.

This troop rotation was often conducted through non-5th Army command, which involved the switching of unit names and colors. This constant

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289. Later, the Air Force and Army held joint training, but this reference did not indicate this.

290. “Maneuvers Begin in the Carolinas,” *Fort Riley Post*, August 10, 1962, 1.

291. “Have Division Will Travel,” *Fort Riley Post*, August 17, 1962, 16.

292. “Two On-Post Exercises Slated for This Fall: Will Be Held in Late October, mid-November,” *Fort Riley Post*, September 7, 1962, 1.

293. “Exercise to Include 12 Riley Units,” *Fort Riley Post*, March 20, 1964, 1; “Brigade Strength Army Begins Florida Exercises,” *Fort Riley Post*, September 4, 1964, 1, 2.

294. “12th in Berlin, 13th to Germany,” *Fort Riley Post*, September 28, 1962, 1.

295. “13th Infantry Airlifted to Germany Monday,” *Fort Riley Post*, October 5, 1962.

296. “‘Longthrust VII’ Completed: 13th Back Home,” *Fort Riley Post*, April 12, 1963, 1, 2; “‘Eagles’ Prepare for ‘Long Thrust,’” *Fort Riley Post*, July 12, 1963, 1.

297. “13th Infantry Airlifted to Germany Monday,” 1.

rotation and training ultimately led to the “Big Red One” being once again composed of the “original” units from when the 1st ID was formed in 1917 during WWI as the “1st American Expeditionary Force.”<sup>298</sup> This was also part of the ROAD Program.<sup>299</sup>

The combat-ready stance relied heavily on air transport to move troops and cargo to flashpoints in a short amount of time. As a result, some of the equipment purchases went to aircraft. The 1st ID received a number of both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, with the Army National Guard assuming a larger share of the air defense role with Caribou and Mohawk airplanes and Choctaw, Iroquois, and Chinook helicopters.<sup>300</sup> At Fort Riley, the first H-34 Choctaw helicopters were received in September 1961 at Marshall Field.<sup>301</sup> In October 1962, Fort Riley received a two-engine H-37B Mojave helicopter flown by Fort Riley pilots from the Sikorsky Helicopter Corporation factory in Stratford, Connecticut. This helicopter was one of the largest and most powerful helicopters of its day with a capability of carrying 36 combat-ready troops or a cargo capacity of 7,000 pounds.<sup>302</sup> It was assigned to the 47th Helicopter Company, a medium-sized company of 140 enlisted men and 38 officers newly activated in May 1962 (Figure 99, Figure 100, and Figure 101). Ultimately, Fort Riley and the 47th Helicopter Company received 16 of the 90 helicopters authorized for the Army in 1962.<sup>303</sup> Then in April 1964, the 1st Aviation Battalion, Company A, received four UH-1B Iroquois helicopters.<sup>304</sup> In July 1964, the 4th Cavalry was assigned Troop D (air) with its complement of 9 OH-23G and 17 UH-1B Huey helicopters.<sup>305</sup>

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298. “Original Units Rejoin ‘Fighting First’,” *Fort Riley Post*, October 4, 1963, 1, 2.

299. “26th Infantry Becomes Part of 1st Division,” *Fort Riley Post*, February 8, 1963, 1.

300. “Army Stresses New Weapons Concept in 60,” 13; “Army Idea Makes Progress,” 6.

301. “Post Receives First H-34 Helicopters,” *Fort Riley Post*, September 29, 1961, 3.

302. “Riley to Get New Mojave Helicopter,” *Fort Riley Post*, October 5, 1962, 1.

303. “First Mojave Helicopter Arrives,” *Fort Riley Post*, October 19, 1962, 11.

304. “Fort Riley Aviation Unit Gets New Iroquois Helicopters,” *Fort Riley Post*, April 10, 1964, 10.

305. “4th Cavalry Gets Helicopter Unit,” *Fort Riley Post*, July 2, 1964, 5.

Figure 99. Joint Army–Air Force training exercise, 31 July 1962. (RG 111-CCS Album 528A, 596207, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 100. Troops load into an armored carrier during a Joint Army–Air Force training exercise, 31 July 1962. (RG 111-CCS Album 528A, 396704, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 101. HU1B helicopters during an exercise, 15 Nov. 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528E, 635208, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



New equipment and weapons were also part of the increased strength. The Army's emphasis on "dual capability" weapon systems sought to provide readiness in all types of war styles: from limited to all-out general war, nuclear to nonnuclear conflicts, and traditional troop and armored weapon warfare to guerilla warfare.<sup>306</sup> Southeast Asia, as well as other areas of the world, showed the needs for limited and guerilla warfare techniques and capability.<sup>307</sup> The Special Forces units were expanded in response.<sup>308</sup>

President Kennedy announced ROAD in May 1961, to be implemented starting in 1962. ROAD brought about a new division, the mechanized division (added to the existing types—infantry, armored, and airborne), and created a four-unit structure. This changed the divisional structures from Pentomic (with each division having five battle groups) to four divisions

306. "Army Stresses New Weapons Concept in 60," *Fort Riley Post*, January 6, 1961, 13.

307. "Why All The Emphasis on Guerilla Warfare," *Fort Riley Post*, March 16, 1962, 7.

308. "Strength Buildup Head the List of 1961 Military News Events," *Fort Riley Post*, December 29, 1961, 7.

with a common base but with varying types of battalions—such as infantry, tank, mechanized, or parachute—depending on location and mission.<sup>309</sup> This supported both the mobility of Army units and dual-capability forces and supplanted STRAC, which ended in 1962.<sup>310</sup>

The 1st Armored and the 5th Infantry (mechanized) were the first units reorganized under the ROAD concept. After successful testing, the Army expanded the program in 1963–64, including the remaining 14 active divisions and a reorganization of the National Guard and Army Reserve divisions as well.<sup>311</sup>

It was not until December 1964 that the 1st Infantry demonstrated ROAD at Fort Riley when 75 general officers of the Army and Air Force Headquarters from all over the United States viewed a demonstration by the “Big Red One” showcasing it as a combat-ready “ROAD Infantry Division Tailored for Airlift and Surface Movement.”<sup>312</sup> Demonstrations of personnel, equipment, engineering, and techniques were displayed to US Army officers and politicians, as well as officers from foreign allies.<sup>313</sup>

To accommodate combat-ready training activities, particularly those of the 1st ID, approximately 50,000 acres of land were purchased in 1964 (Figure 102). The acreage purchased for \$15,000,000 was west and north of the existing reservation and doubled its size. The need for this expansion was based on an inadequate amount of space to fire the weapons of the division and properly maneuver and train, as about 5,500 acres of the existing reservation were used for buildings and other spaces that could not be used for training purposes. As the 1st ID was, at this time, a combat division, it needed to engage in live fire twice a year (Figure 102– Figure 106); prior to the expansion, though, the 1st ID had to travel to Camp Irwin, California, for live-fire tank training; Fort Sill, Oklahoma, for live-fire field artillery training; and Fort Stewart, Georgia, for live-fire antitank training, all at significant expense.<sup>314</sup>

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309. “Army Organization First ROAD Type Divisions,” *Fort Riley Post*, February 2, 1962, 9.

310. Society of the 1st Infantry Division, “History,” About, accessed May 13, 2022, <https://www.1stid.org/history>.

311. Hermes, “Global Pressures and the Flexible Response,” 610.

312. “75 Generals to Visit Post,” *Fort Riley Post*, December 11, 1964, 1.

313. “Foreign Officers to Visit Fort Riley,” *Fort Riley Post*, August 16, 1963, 1, 2.

314. “Army Seeks 50,000 Acres for Fort Riley,” *Fort Riley Post*, Nov. 1, 1963, 10.

Figure 102. Inspection of newly acquisitioned land, 20 Dec. 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528E, 636177, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 103. Troops prepare to fire an M60 machine gun during squad tactics training, 25 June 1964. (Jack L. Herron, 14-040-C-1604, Fort Riley 1968-68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 104. A sergeant examines a target after firing, 30 June 1964. (Project PA-1, Fort Riley 1968-68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 105. Basic combat training, 26 Jan. 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528C, 627064, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 106. Basic combat training, 26 Jan. 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528C, 627063, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



A command post was also established on the new land, though the exact location is unclear, for the 1st Brigade. This post was established sometime prior to October 1966 (Figure 107, Figure 108, Figure 109).

Figure 107. First Brigade command post, 25 Oct. 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 634590, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 108. First Brigade command post, 25 Oct. 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 634588, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 109. Soldier mans a .50 caliber machine gun at a guard post on inside perimeter of 1st Brigade command post, 25 Oct. 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 634589, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Basic training continued using largely the same methods and types of facilities as it had before Fort Riley's expansion. Facilities used included the confidence course and other structures for physical training (Figure 110– Figure 114).<sup>315</sup> Training also continued to use many of the ranges established prior to the 1964 expansion (Figure 115–Figure 120).<sup>316</sup> Classroom training also occurred in classes like military correspondence (Figure 121).<sup>317</sup>

Figure 110. Basic trainees undergo a proficiency test through a barbed wire obstacle, 9 Feb. 1966. (RG 111-CCS, 627156, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



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315. RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 627062, General Subject Photographic Files, c. 1964–c. 1982 [General Subject], RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD; RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 650585, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD; RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 625880, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD.

316. [Proficiency test], RG 111-CCS, 627156, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD; [Confidence course], RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 627062, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD.

317. John F. Kaiser, 14040-1853-3132, Fort Riley 1968–68 8 x 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS; [Soldiers fire .50 caliber . . . ], RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 117702, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD.

Figure 111. Confidence course, located in Coyote Canyon, 1 Jan. 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 627062, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 112. Confidence course, located in Coyote Canyon, 10 June 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 650585, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 113. Horizontal ladder used for physical training test, 14 Dec. 1965. (RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 625880, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 114. Leadership Reaction Course, 22 Nov. 1966. (RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 655269, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)

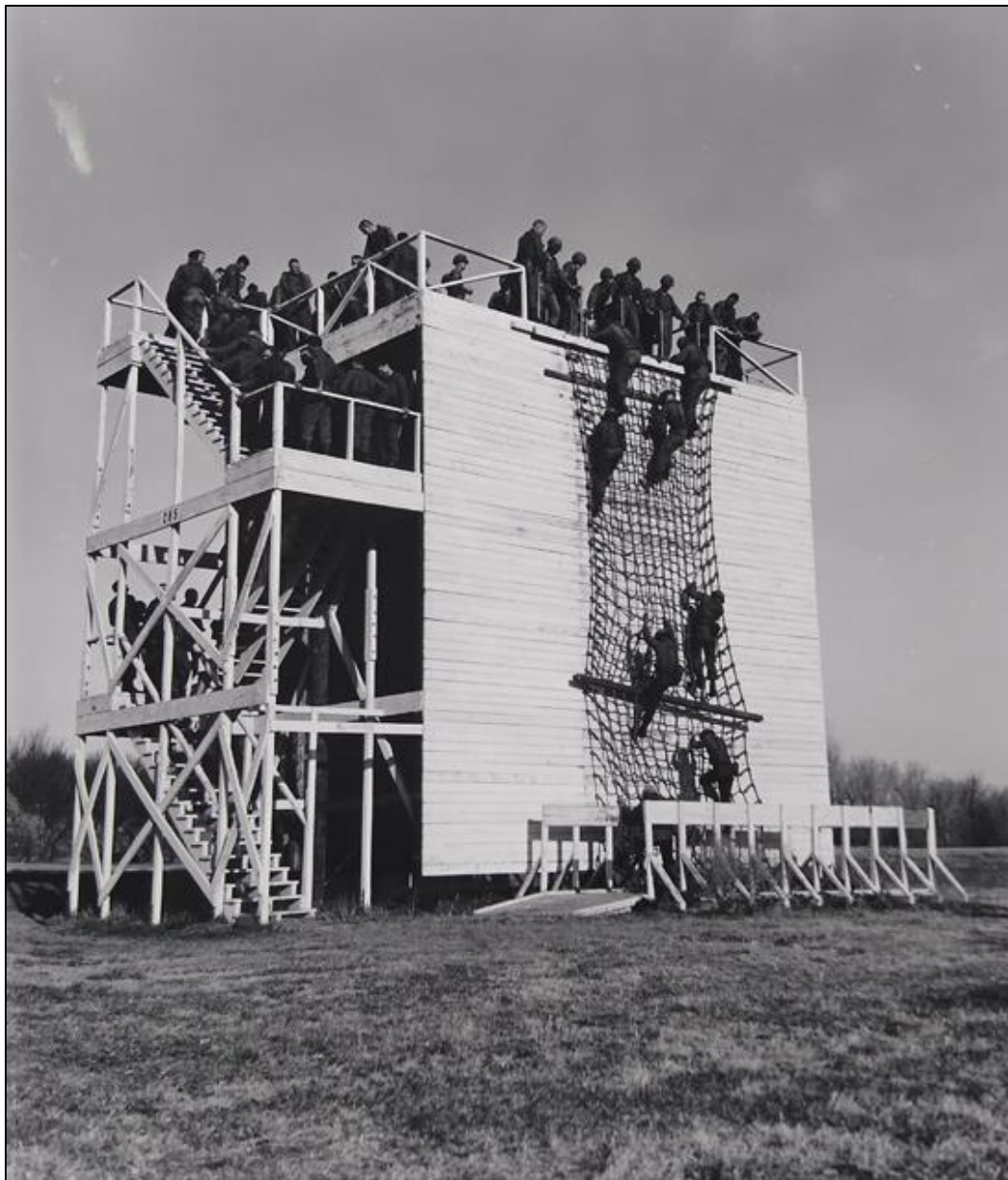


Figure 115. Bayonet assault on an unspecified range, 9 Feb. 1966. (David M. Hardwick, 14-040-447, Fort Riley 1968-68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 116. Army Reserve Soldiers participate in firing on an unspecified range, 12 June 1968. (Kaiser, 14040-1853-3132, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 117. Armored personnel carrier unloads infantry during a combined arms exercise on range 28, 12 July 1968. (Jack L. Herron, 14040-2134-3636, Fort Riley 1968-68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 118. Soldiers receive instruction on procedures for scoring the targets at the Camp Forsyth pistol range, 14 April 1969. (Robert Livingston, 14040-1729-2232, Artillery: Mess Halls, Pack, People, Sports, Targets, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 119. Soldiers fire a .50 caliber M2 machine gun, 13 July 1979. (RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 117702, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 120. Soldier sights on target with an M16 Rifle during a live-fire exercise, 13 July 1979. (RG 111-CCS Album 528D, 117699, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 121. Military correspondence class, 17 May 1967. (William A. Hannay, 14-040-9967, Fort Riley 1968-68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



By late 1965 to mid-1966, Fort Riley Soldiers constructed a Vietnam Village on the Republican River floodplain in the southwestern portion of Fort Riley for a total of \$500 (Figure 89 and Figure 122). This village, known as Lan-Co-Van-My or The American Advisor Village, was first used for basic training on 1 June 1966. The village's location mimicked the vegetation of Vietnamese jungles, and it consisted of three areas: an orientation area, a booby-trap demonstration area, and the village. The orientation area featured bleachers and a public address system for lectures, as well as four huts commonly found in Vietnam (Figure 123 and Figure 124). The booby-trap demonstration area featured 26 booby-traps, which featured grenades, covered tarps, and bamboo spikes (Figure 125–Figure 128). Finally, the village area featured 18 thatched single-family huts, a school, multifamily housing, a boathouse and dock, a chief's hut, three haystacks, a Buddhist shrine, a market square, and, reportedly, three sniper or observation positions. The market square displayed drawings of

uniforms, tunnel systems, booby traps, clothing, and combat (Figure 129). The village buildings were connected by tunnels.<sup>318</sup>

Figure 122. Aerial image of Lan-Co-Van-My Village showing hut locations, 1969. (R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., "Pedestrian Reconnaissance at Lan-Co-Van-My. [The American Advisor Village]," n.p. Public domain.)



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318 R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., "Pedestrian Reconnaissance at Lan-Co-Van-My (The American Advisor Village), A Mock Vietnamese Village at Fort Riley, Geary County, Kansas," November 2018, Fort Riley, KS, 6–8.

Figure 123. Montagnard House and Mekong Delta-type hut in Vietnam Village, 14 July 1966. (David M. Hardwick, 14-040-C-3018, Fort Riley 1968-68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 124. False-roofed and false-walled huts in Vietnam Village, 14 July 1966. (David M. Hardwick, 14-040-C-3017, Fort Riley 1968-68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 125. Men exit a false wall in Fort Riley's Vietnam Village, 15 July 1966. (RG 111-CCS, 14-040-C-3023, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 126. Booby trap at Fort Riley's Vietnam Village, 14 July 1966. (RG 111-CCS, 14-040-C-3022, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 127. Trench with booby-trapped mounds of dirt at Vietnam Village, 14 July 1966. (RG 111-CCS, 14-040-C-3019, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 128. Man-sized punji stick trap in Vietnam Village, 14 July 1966. (RG 111-CCS, 14-040-C-3021, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Figure 129. Vietnam Village market square, 14 July 1966. (David M. Hardwick, 14-040-C-3013, Fort Riley 1968-68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



The aggressor cadre also continued to support training during this period, helping Soldiers prepare for torture and escape efforts after becoming prisoners of war (Figure 130–Figure 134).<sup>319</sup>

Figure 130. Two “prisoners” are questioned by guards during an escape and evasion exercise, 24 July 1967. (RG 111-CCS Album 528E, 641475, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



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319. Charles A. Messick, 641479, Fort Riley 1968–68 8 x 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS; Charles A. Messick, 641478, Fort Riley 1968–68 8 x 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS.

Figure 131. The aggressor cadre uses blindfolds, water in the face, and the offer of food to induce a “prisoner” to talk during an escape and evasion exercise, 24 July 1967. (Messick, 641478, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

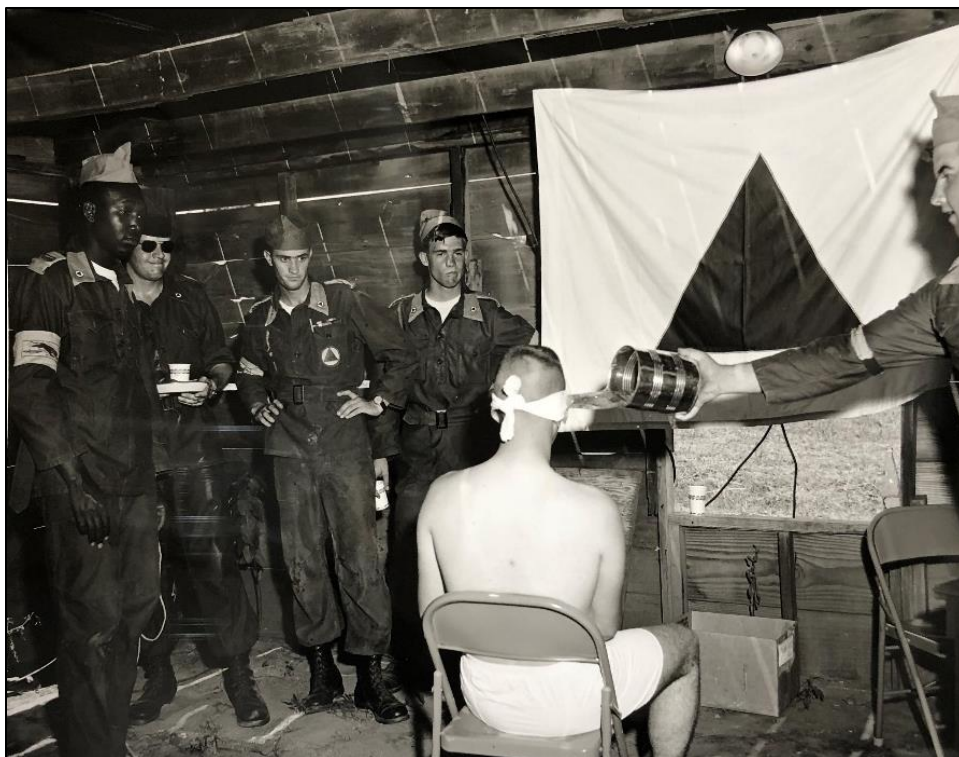


Figure 132. Two “prisoners” are questioned by interrogators during an escape and evasion exercise, 24 July 1967. (Messick, 641479, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 133. Members of the aggressor cadre are stationed in guard towers at the corners of the “prison,” 24 July 1967. (Charles A. Messick, 641472, Fort Riley 1968–68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 134. The “Aggressor Socialist Republic’s” place processing station during an escape and evasion exercise, 22 Aug. 1967. (Charles A. Messick, 641473, Fort Riley 1968–68 8 × 10 Photos Training, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



In 1968, the US Army Correctional Training Facility (CTF) was established at Camp Funston in an effort to rehabilitate criminals in confinement (Figure 135). The CTF required offenders to participate in mental and physical stressors such as road marches, obstacle and confidence courses, and field training exercises, much like typical Soldiers.<sup>320</sup>

Figure 135. Trainees at the Correctional Training Facility (CTF) receive rifle training like normal basic combat training units, 1968. (RG 111-CCS Album 528E, 648191, General Subject, RG 111, NARA, College Park, MD. Public domain.)



Between 1973 and 1985, the multipurpose range complex (MPRC) was officially established at Fort Riley (Figure 136). This became a valuable center for training that remains extant, and it was used in addition to existing training facilities and maneuver areas (Figure 137, Figure 138, and Figure 139).

320. Andrew Marshall, "1960s and 70s, and the US Army Correctional Training Facility (CTF)," Boot Camp & Military Fitness Institute, March 13, 2013, <https://bootcampmilitaryfitnessinstitute.com/2013/03/13/1960s-and-70s-and-the-us-army-correctional-training-facility-ctf/>.



Figure 137. Soldiers attend a class at an unknown location, c. 1986. (Training, Miscellaneous Fort Riley Dogs, Tack Rooms, Training, Presidential Visits, ROTC, Prints Monuments, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 138. A “casualty” is pulled through barbed wire on the infiltration course, 6 May 1986. (A0722-86-0675-7, Training, Miscellaneous Fort Riley Dogs, Tack Rooms, Training, Presidential Visits, ROTC, Prints Monuments, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



Figure 139. A soldier trains on the MPRC, 13 Jan. 1989. (A0722-89-0024-2, Training, Miscellaneous Fort Riley Dogs, Tack Rooms, Training, Presidential Visits, ROTC, Prints Monuments, US Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



The MPRC supported ongoing training activities at Fort Riley that increased in support of the Gulf War. In the fall of 1990, Fort Riley was notified to begin mobilizing troops and equipment for deployment to the Persian Gulf. The 1st ID was frequently away from Fort Riley through the end of the 20th century, as it was deployed to Eastern Europe in response to the collapse of the Soviet Union following its return from the Persian Gulf. Ultimately, the 1st ID's headquarters was transferred from Fort Riley to Leighton Barracks in Germany. Training at Fort Riley continued, however, as a brigade of the 1st ID as well as a brigade of the 1st Armored Division and the 937th Engineer Group remained at the installation. In 1999, the 24th ID (mechanized) was reactivated, and Fort Riley became its headquarters.<sup>321</sup>

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321. US Army Fort Riley, "About: History of Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division."

The next major construction program at Fort Riley occurred in the mid-2000s following the 1st ID's return to the post in 2006. Construction included a new division headquarters, barracks and dining facilities on Custer Hill and Camp Whitside, improved runways and additional hangars at MAAF, and new housing units in Camp Forsyth. These new facilities were necessary, as high levels of training at Fort Riley had continued in accordance with ongoing American action in the Middle East.<sup>322</sup>

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322. US Army Fort Riley, "About: History of Fort Riley and 1st Infantry Division."

### 3 Training Ranges Historical Data

Fort Riley is home to the 1st Infantry Division—“The Big Red One”—and 91,597 of its 101,733 acres are dedicated to both live-fire and maneuver training exercises.<sup>323</sup> Training facilities include infantry terrain, 68,000 acres of unrestricted maneuver terrain, and a set-off impact area encompassed by 28 ranges. There are ranges and maneuver areas for “small arms and machine gun fire, hand or rifle grenades, rockets, mortars, artillery, aviation and track vehicle gunneries, NBC training, demolitions, combined arms exercises, and airdrop operations” (NBC refers to nuclear, biological, and chemical warfare).<sup>324</sup> Nonrange training facilities include obstacle and confidence courses, a rappel tower, and a field leadership reactionary course.<sup>325</sup>

Fort Riley is also home to Douthit Gunnery Complex, a 77-acre digital multipurpose range complex (DMPRC). Douthit Gunnery Complex has four primary components: a digital, multipurpose training range (DMPTR); Douthit Range Complex, which is a cantonment complex; and Demon Stage Field for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) and helicopters.<sup>326</sup> Features of the DMPRC include stationary armor targets (SAT), moving armor targets (MAT), moving infantry targets (MIT), stationary infantry targets, 18 battle positions, a 5-building urban village, and 99 battle effects simulators (BES).<sup>327</sup> Douthit Range Complex contains a headquarters building, motor pool, field gym and classroom, first aid building, laundry and latrine facilities, dining facility, ammunition holding area, and seven barracks, allowing Soldiers to “live and dine; to stay and train” and experience simulated deployment.<sup>328</sup> Demon Stage Field can be used for landing and take-off practice, as well as to simulate air assaults for training in the DMPRC.<sup>329</sup>

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323. US Army Fort Riley, “About”; US Army Fort Riley, “Range Support,” Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization & Security—Training Division, accessed July 6, 2022, <https://home.army.mil/riley/index.php/about/dir-staff/DPTMS/training-division/range-support>.

324. US Army Fort Riley, “Range Support.”

325. US Army Fort Riley, “Range Support.”

326. Melony Gabbert, “Digital Multi-Purpose Range Complex Complete, Ready to Roll,” Army.mil., July 25, 2011, [https://www.army.mil/article/62226/digital\\_multi\\_purpose\\_range\\_complex\\_complete\\_ready\\_to\\_roll](https://www.army.mil/article/62226/digital_multi_purpose_range_complex_complete_ready_to_roll).

327. US Army Fort Riley, “Range Support.”

328. US Army Fort Riley, “Range Support”; Gabbert, “Digital Multi-Purpose Range Complex Complete, Ready to Roll.”

329. Gabbert, “Digital Multi-Purpose Range Complex Complete, Ready to Roll.”

A combination of historical maps and archival research provided data on Fort Riley's training range history. These sources contain information about the location of the ranges, construction dates, changes in uses, types of associated facilities, and changes in identification. Table 2 provides a time-line summary of range construction and improvement activities. The sections following provide details for live-fire ranges and other training sites and facilities located on Fort Riley.

**Table 2. Time line of known Fort Riley range construction and improvement activities.**

Year	Description	Location
1852	Installation founded	Frontier-era fort (within Main Post)
1855	Saddler shop and stables built	Original installation area (Main Post)
c. 1887	Cavalry and artillery parade fields, stables, gun sheds, and magazine constructed	Original installation area (Main Post)
1890s	Smoky Hill, Pawnee, and Republican Flats established as drill grounds Artillery firing and target practice conducted north of the Kansas River Target range established in approximate location of National Rifle Range	Original installation area
1902	Cavalry courses established near Magazine Canyon, Coyote Canyon, and Pump House Canyon	Original installation area
1906	Redoubt constructed	Original installation area
1910	Second target range (100–200–300 yd) established	Original installation area (east of Main Post)
1917	Ogden Flat established as training grounds Divisional trench system constructed	Original installation boundary
Mid-to-late 1910s	Temporary ranges established near Morris Hill	Original installation area
1924	Pawnee Flat became Camp Whitside	Original installation area
c. 1934	1,000 in. machine gun range established	Original installation area (north of Main Post)
	Polo field, racecourses, and hippodrome established	Original installation area (east of Main Post)
1941	Republican Flats became Camp Forsyth Cavalry Replacement Training Center construction completed National Rifle Range expanded	Original installation area
1941–1942	Expansion from 19,446 to 50,168 acres (30,722 acres purchased)	1942 expansion area

Table 3 (cont.). List of ranges with construction dates (Fort Riley Real Property).

Year	Description	Location
c. 1943	Bayonet and practice grenade courts established	Original installation area (Camp Funston)
	Additional ranges established	1942 expansion area, southwest corner of original installation area, and between Camps Whitside and Funston
	Impact area and close combat course developed	1942 expansion area (Impact Area)
1952	Close combat course updated	1942 expansion area (Impact Area)
1953	Six Chinese-style bunkers constructed	Original installation boundary (north of Main Post)
	5th Army Chemical Field Maintenance Repair Shop opened	Original installation boundary (Camp Forsyth)
c. 1955	Noncommissioned Officers (NCO) leaders reaction course constructed	Unknown
1959	Teardrop mortar range, "Greenwood Village," constructed	Unknown
c. 1961	Trainfire ranges and infiltration course constructed	1942 expansion area (Impact Area)
1963	Firefighter training area opened	Original installation boundary (Camp Funston)
	Platoon attack course opened	1942 expansion area (Impact Area, range 31A)
1964	50,000 acres purchased for expansion	1965 expansion area
c. 1964	Additional Trainfire ranges and other ranges constructed Impact area clearly defined to resemble present impact area boundary	1942 expansion area (Impact Area)
Before 1973	Second impact area developed	1964 expansion area (MPRC)
Before 1985	Second impact area redesignated as MPRC 3 drop zones (DZs) designated	1964 expansion area
c. 2008	DMPTR completed	1964 expansion area
2011	DMPRC completed	1964 expansion area

In this chapter, information is organized geographically within Fort Riley (Figure 140). For the purpose of clarity within this report, the reservation is divided into regions based on Fort Riley's original boundary (original

installation area or boundary), its 1942 expansion (1942 expansion area or boundary), and its 1964 expansion (1964 expansion area or boundary). For all ranges, historical information including prior range designations and uses, where known, is listed along with information provided by the historic context.

Figure 140. 2018 Fort Riley Military Installation Map. (US Army Sustainable Range Program. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.)

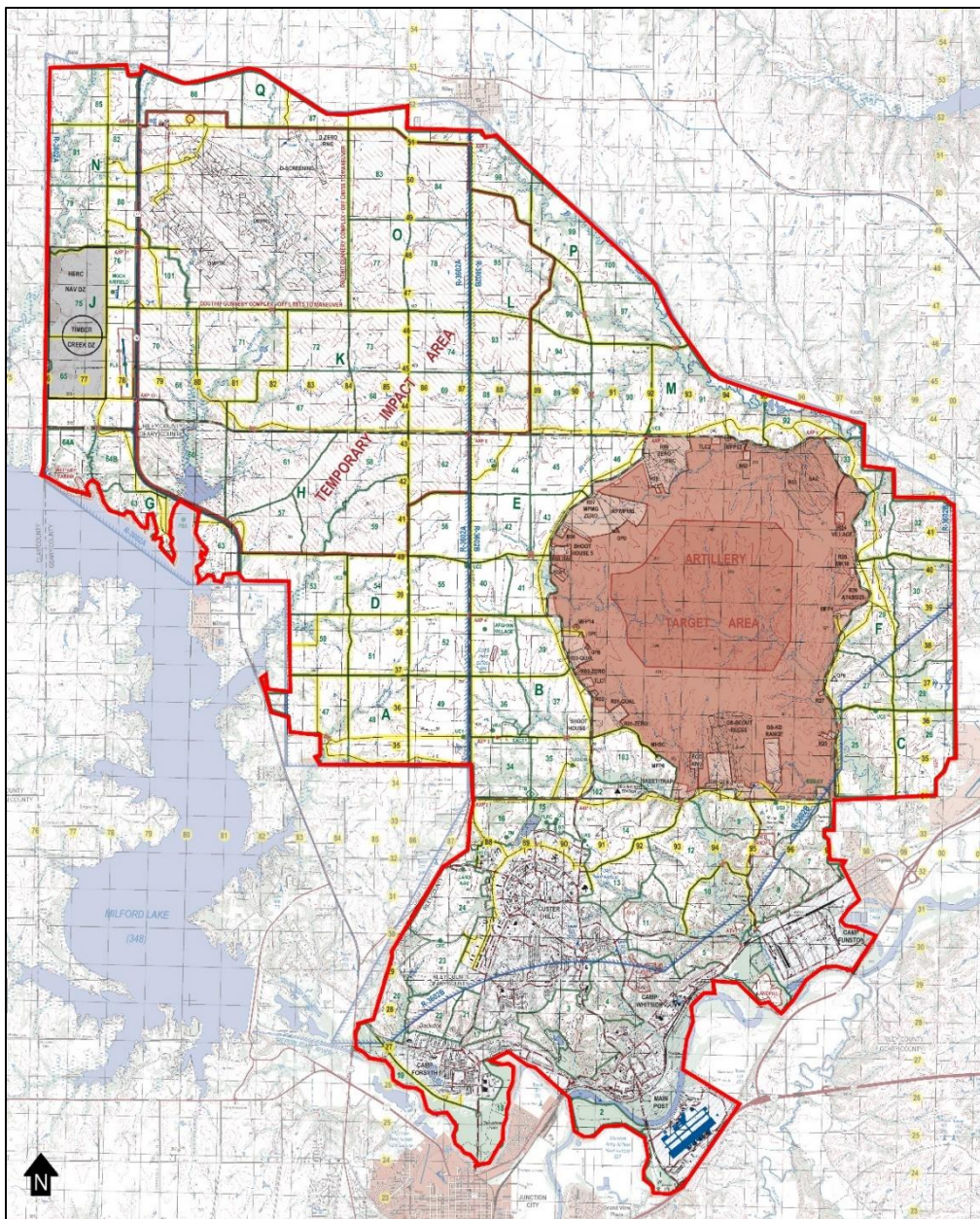


Table 3 below lists each of the current training ranges and their construction dates.

Table 3. List of ranges with construction dates (Fort Riley Real Property).

Facility Number	Main Usage Type	Acquisition Date
9073	R (Range) 15	1960
9075	R 15	1966
9080	R 18	1969
9106	R 25/PRAC (Practice)	1960
9107	R 25/LIVE GR (Live Grenade)	1960
9119	R 29/MK (Mark) 19	1968
9129	R 16/EOD RNG (Explosive Ordnance Disposal Range)	1969
9130	R 34	1955
9164	R 6	1960
9184	R 9	1960
9200	R 51	1969
9220	R 52	1969
9240	R 53	1969
9260	R 54	1969
MA00A	Maneuver Area A	1966
MA00B	Maneuver Area B	1966
MA00C	Maneuver Area C	1966
MA00D	Maneuver Area D	1966
MA00E	Maneuver Area E	1966
MA00F	Maneuver Area F	1966
MA00G	Maneuver Area G	1966
MA00H	Maneuver Area H	1966
MA00I	Maneuver Area I	1966
MA00J	Maneuver Area J	1966
MA00K	Maneuver Area K	1966
MA00L	Maneuver Area L	1966
MA00M	Maneuver Area M	1966
MA00N	Maneuver Area N	1966
MA00O	Maneuver Area O	1966
MA00P	Maneuver Area P	1966
MA00Q	Maneuver Area Q	1966
TA001	Training Area 1	1855
TA002	Training Area 2	1855
TA003	Training Area 3	1966
TA004	Training Area 4	1966
TA005	Training Area 5	1966
TA006	Training Area 6	1966

Table 3 (cont.). List of ranges with construction dates (Fort Riley Real Property).

Facility Number	Main Usage Type	Acquisition Date
TA007	Training Area 7	1966
TA008	Training Area 8	1966
TA009	Training Area 9	1966
TA010	Training Area 10	1966
TA011	Training Area 11	1966
TA012	Training Area 12	1966
TA013	Training Area 13	1966
TA014	Training Area 14	1966
TA015	Training Area 15	1966
TA016	Training Area 16	1966
TA017	Training Area 17	1966
TA018	Training Area 18	1966
TA019	Training Area 19	1966
TA020	Training Area 20	1966
TA021	Training Area 21	1966
TA022	Training Area 22	1966
TA023	Training Area 23	1966
TA024	Training Area 24	1966
TANKA	Training Area Tank Trail, Unpaved	1982
TANKB	Training Area Tank Trail, Unpaved	1982
TANKC	Training Area Tank Trail, Unpaved	1982
TANKD	Training Area Tank Trail, Unpaved	1982
TANKE	Training Area Tank Trail, Unpaved	1982
TANKF	Training Area Tank Trail, Unpaved	1982
TANKG	Training Area Tank Trail, Unpaved	1982
TNKRD	Training Area Tank Trail, Paved	1976

### 3.1 Original installation area

The original installation area occupies the southern end of the reservation (Figure 141). Table 4 shows current training areas and ranges in the original installation area. It has been active as a defined training area since 1852.<sup>330</sup>

330. Ensore et al., *Historic Landscape Survey Update, Fort Riley, Kansas*, 10.

Figure 141. Original installation area outlined on the 2018 Fort Riley Military Installation Map. (US Army Sustainable Range Program. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.).

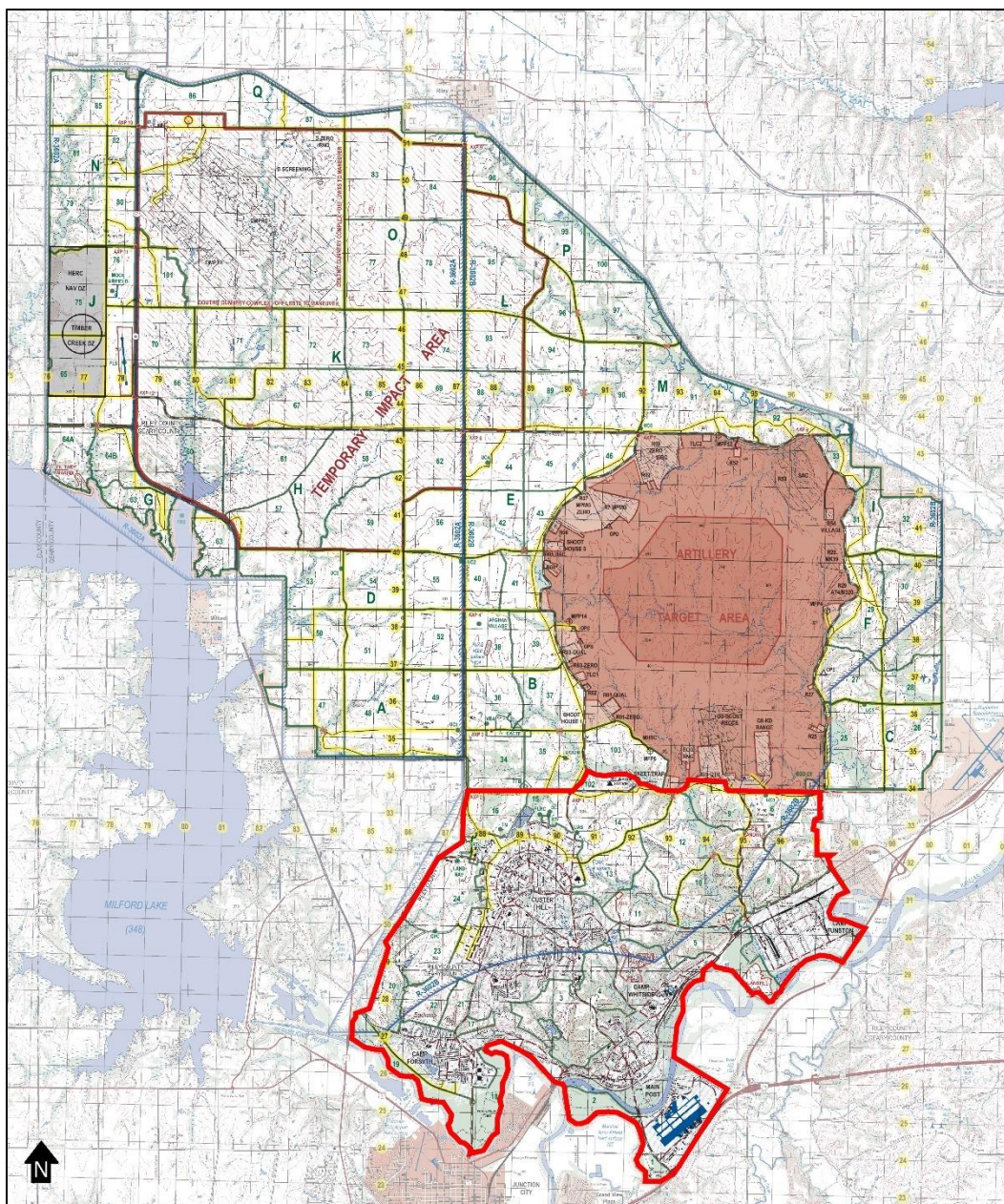


Table 4. Training areas and facilities in the original installation area as of 2018.

Training Area	Training Facility
Camp Forsyth	No Named Facilities
Camp Funston	No Named Facilities
Camp Whitside	ASP (Ammunition Supply Point)
Custer Hill	SRTC (Seitz Regional Training Complex)
Main Post	No Named Facilities

Table 4 (cont.). Training areas and facilities in the original installation area as of 2018.

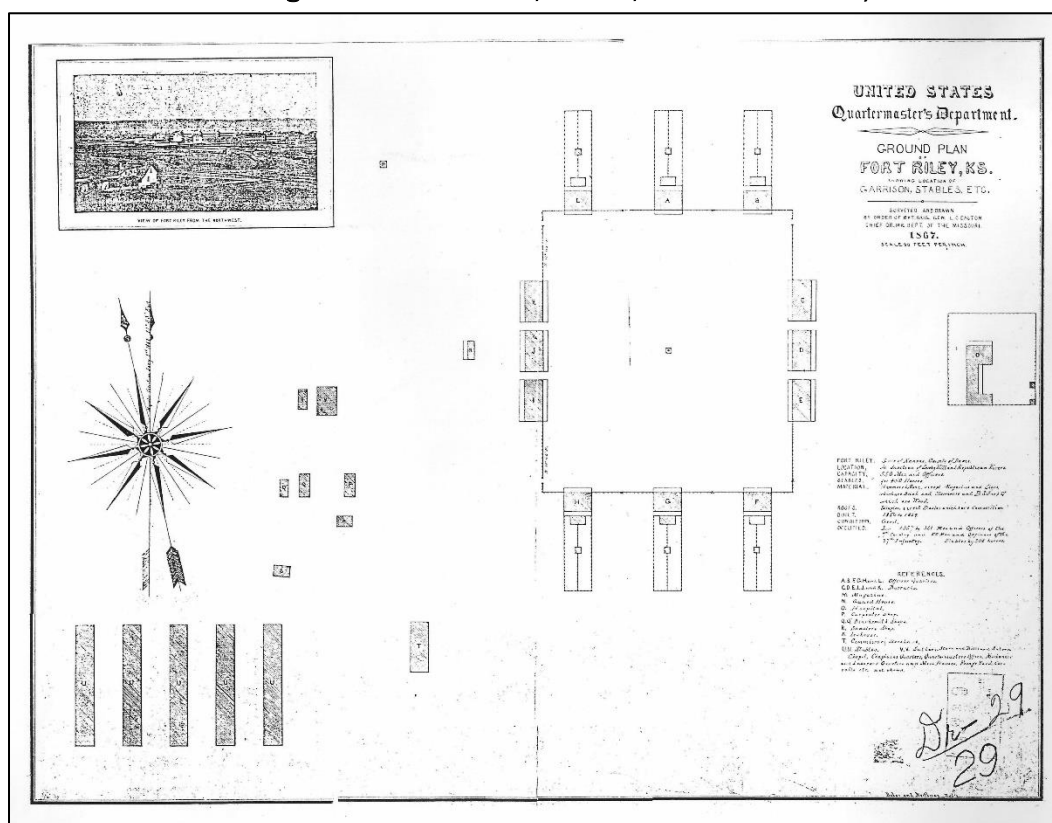
Training Area	Training Facility
Marshall Army Airfield	MAAF Hard Surface
1	No Named Facilities
2	No Named Facilities
3	No Named Facilities
4	No Named Facilities
5	Tower
6	No Named Facilities
7	No Named Facilities
8	No Named Facilities
9	No Named Facilities
10	No Named Facilities
11	AHA (Ammo Holding Area)
12	No Named Facilities
13	TUAS (Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System) Hard Surface 398
14	Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)
15	RT (Rappel Tower) OC (Obstacle Course) FLRC (Field Leadership Reactionary Course)
16	TM (Trench/Mine Facility)
17	No Named Facilities
18	No Named Facilities
19	No Named Facilities
20	No Named Facilities
21	No Named Facilities
22	No Named Facilities
23	No Named Facilities
24	CPC (Crew Proficiency Course) LAND NAV (Land Navigation) <sup>331</sup>

331. US Army Sustainable Range Program, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*, 2018, 1:50,000 scale (Washington, DC: USUS Department of the Army).

### 3.1.1 Activity from 1852 to 1941

Early maps of the original installation area do not show the installation boundary. The only training area shown is the parade ground (Figure 142 and Figure 143).<sup>332</sup> The facilities shown on these maps are within the current Main Post area. This area was expanded by 1887 to include both a cavalry parade and an artillery parade (Figure 144).<sup>333</sup>

Figure 142. Fort Riley Main Post plan, 1867. (L. C. Easton, *Ground Plan of Fort Riley, KS. Showing Location of Garrison, Stables, Etc.* Public domain.)



332. L. C. Easton, *Ground Plan of Fort Riley, KS. Showing Location of Garrison, Stables, Etc.*, 1867, 1:90 scale (Fort Riley, KS: USUS Quartermaster's Department), ERDC-CERL, Champaign, IL; *Fort Riley*, 1867, n.d., 1:200 scale (Champaign, IL: ERDC-CERL), ERDC-CERL, Champaign, IL.

333. Stair, Proposed Plan for Fort Riley, Kansas.

Figure 143. Fort Riley Main Post plan, 1867. (Fort Riley, 1867. Public domain.)

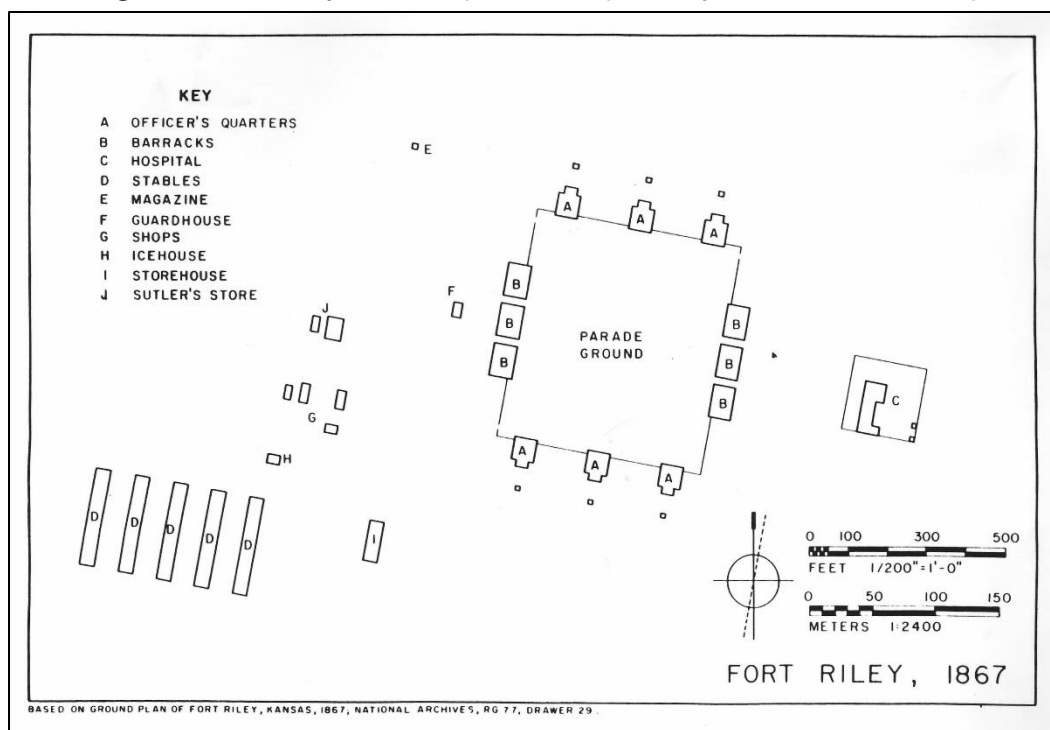
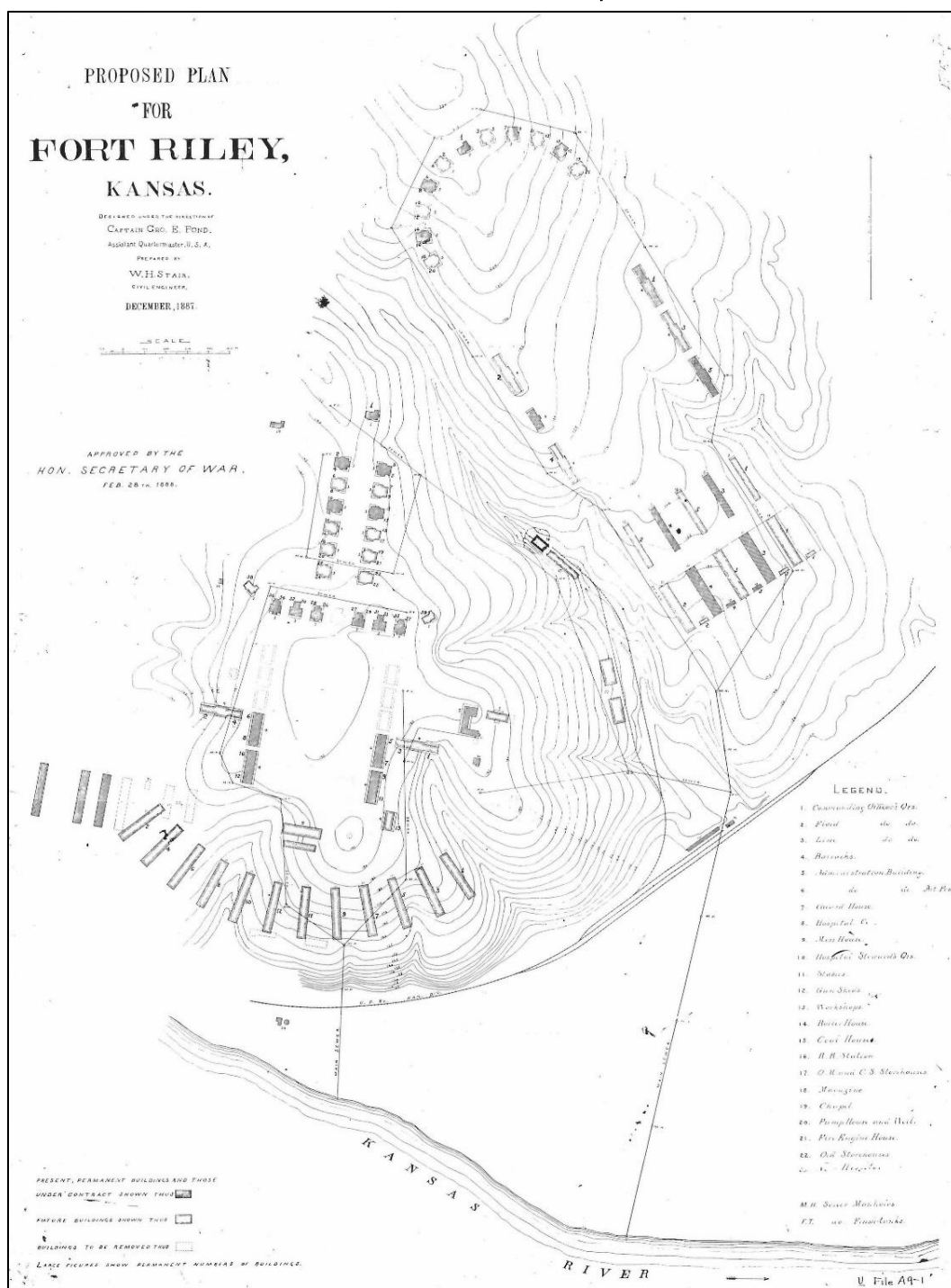
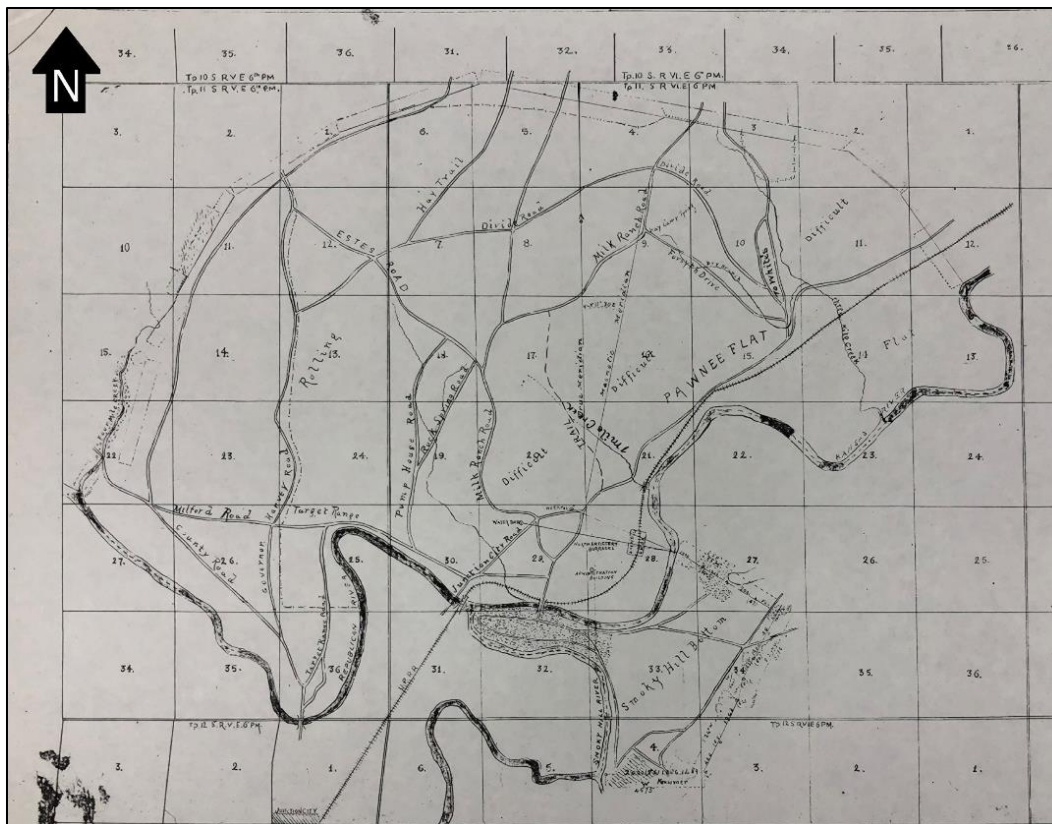


Figure 144. *Proposed Plan for Fort Riley, Kansas, showing proposed artillery parade field (right) and proposed cavalry parade field (left), 1887. (Stair, Proposed Plan for Fort Riley, Kansas. Public domain.)*



Maps drawn in the early 1890s show the installation's boundary, which contains Pawnee Flat, Smoky Hill Flat (sometimes labeled as "Smoky Hill Bottom"), and a target range (Figure 145, Figure 146, and Figure 147).<sup>334</sup> The land north of these areas was used for maneuvers and artillery firing.<sup>335</sup>

Figure 145. Fort Riley training areas, early 1890s. (*Map of Fort Riley Military Reservation. Public domain.*)



334. *Map of Fort Riley Military Reservation*, [early 1890s], scale not given (Fort Riley, KS: USUS Quartermaster's Department), ERDC-CERL, Champaign, IL.

335. Dubois, "Military Training and Associated Land Use at Fort Riley, Kansas 1852–1939," 22; L. J. McNair, Colonel, Field Artillery, Fort Riley, Kansas, Letter to Assit. Chief of Staff, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, DC, May 5, 1936.

Figure 146. Close-up of Map of Fort Riley Military Reservation showing Pawnee Flat, Smoky Hill Bottom, and target range, early 1890s. (Map of Fort Riley Military Reservation. Public domain.)

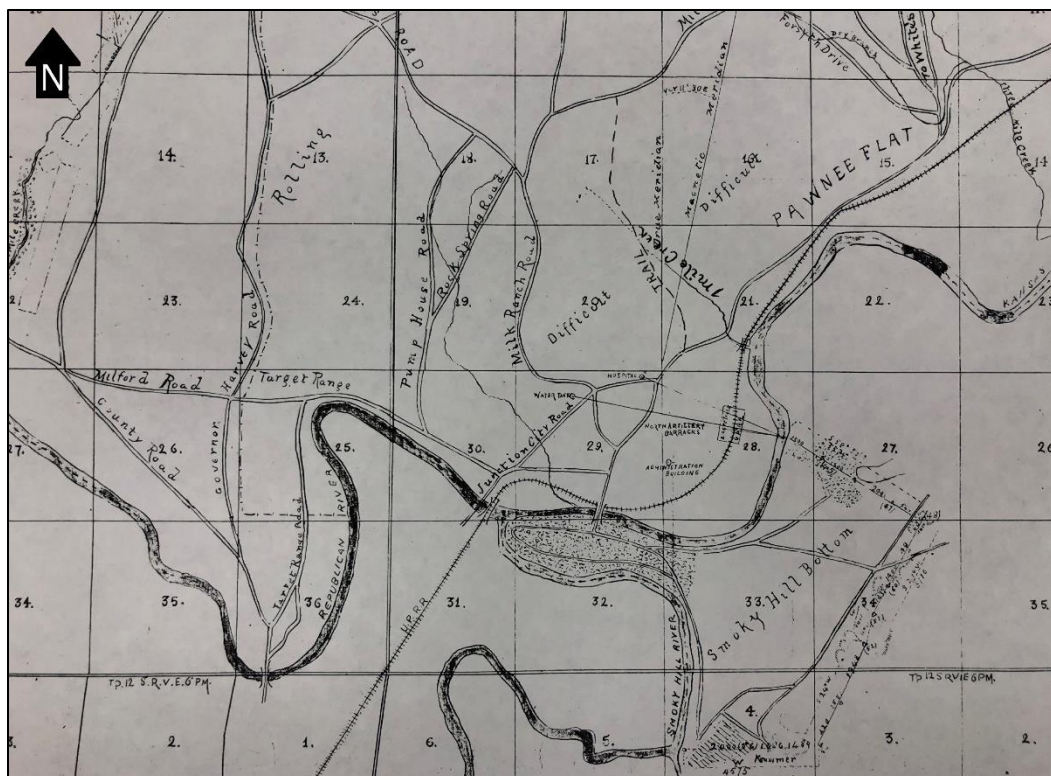
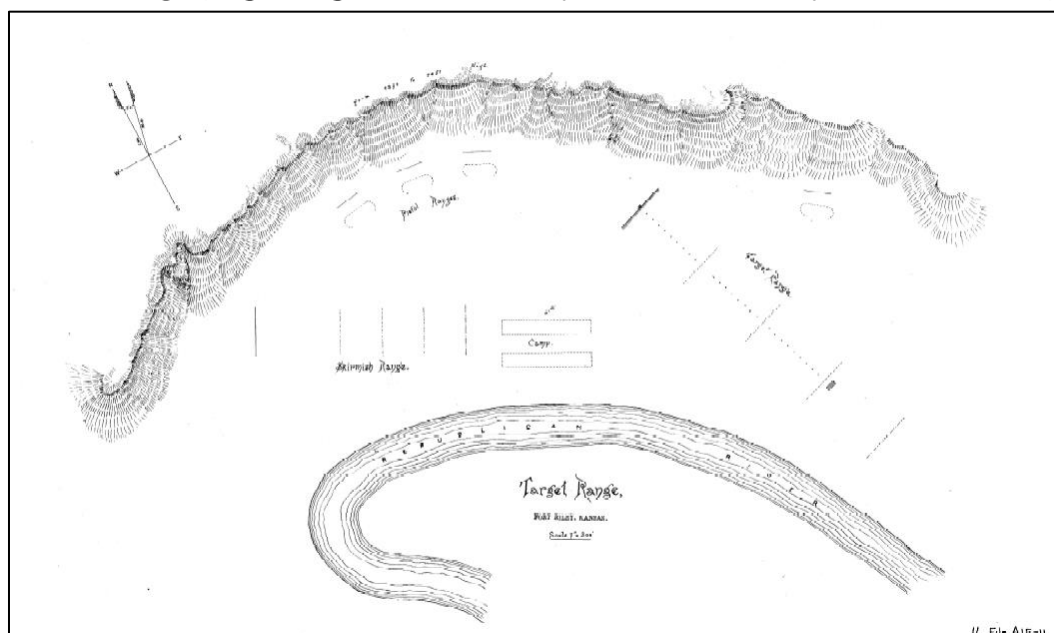
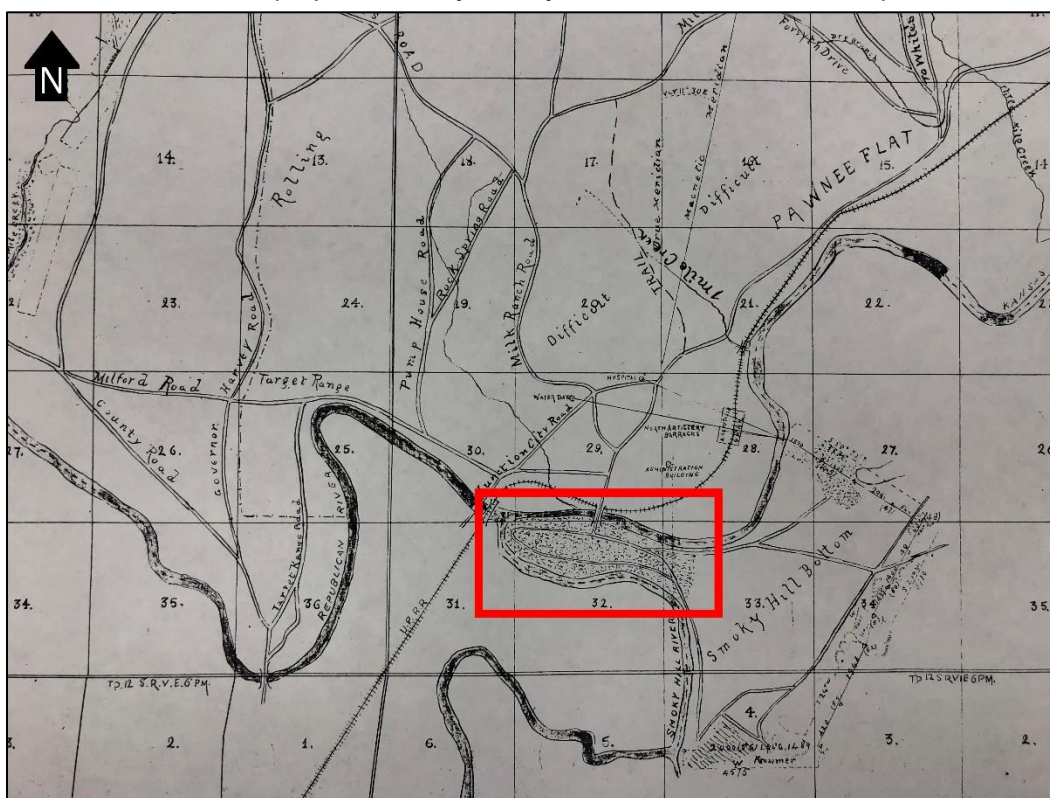


Figure 147. Drawing of target range showing long-distance target range, pistol range, and skirmish range. (Target Range, 1":300', Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



By 1906, an area northeast of Smoky Hill Flats referred to as “The Island” was used for equitation training, though it was likely used for this purpose beginning years earlier (Figure 148). In 1906, an old ice house on “The Island” was used as an isolation hospital during a glanders epidemic.<sup>336</sup>

Figure 148. Location of “The Island” shown on *Map of Fort Riley Military Reservation*, early 1890s. (*Map of Fort Riley Military Reservation*. Public domain.)



By 1917, labeled training areas had been expanded to include Ogden Flats (which, in the same year, became the location of then-temporary Camp Funston) and Republican Flats, which contained the National Range (later the National Rifle Range) (Figure 149).<sup>337</sup> The National Range had been constructed in 1910 with two abutting rows of 14 electric targets.<sup>338</sup> The area previously labeled “Target Range,” just east of the National Range, is no longer labeled as such.<sup>339</sup> An athletic field had been added east of the Main Post, as well as a range with target butts and 100, 200, and 300 yd

<sup>336</sup> W. F. Pride, *The History of Fort Riley* (Fort Riley, KS: Fort Riley, 1926), 266. Glanders is a fatal bacterial infection that was commonly found in horses; Amy Young, “Glanders,” UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, February 18, 2020, <https://ceh.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/health-topics/glanders>.

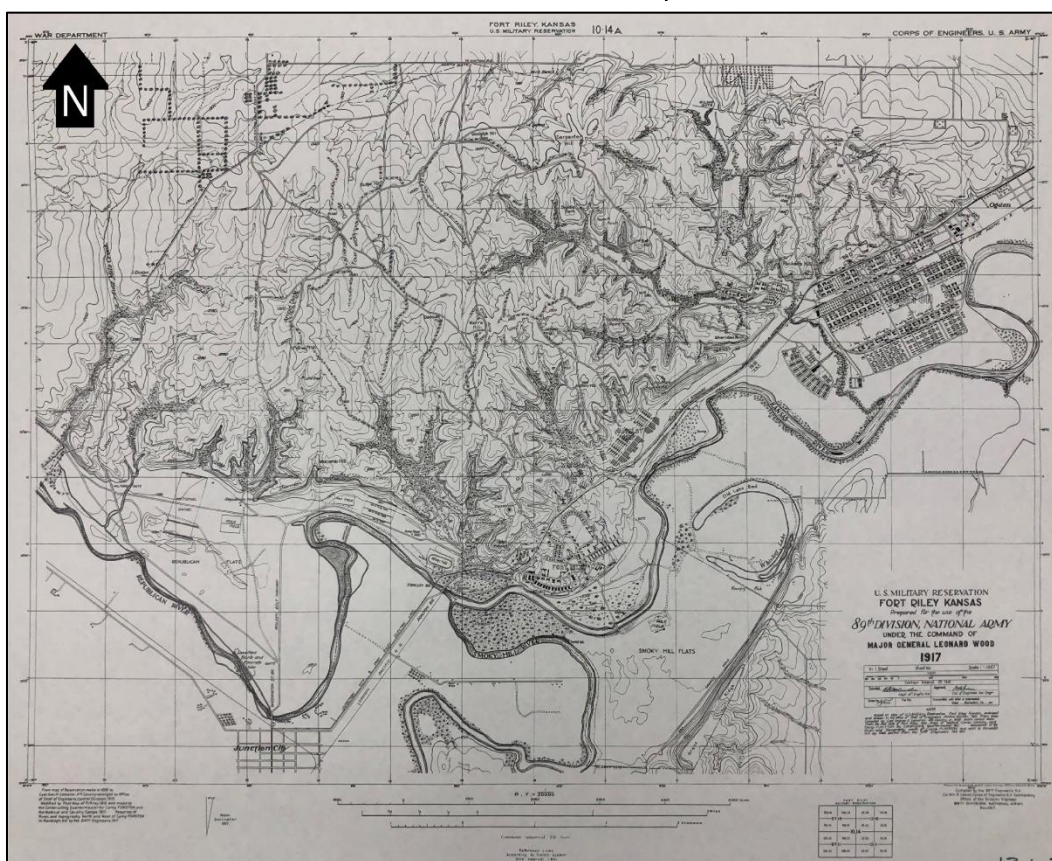
<sup>337</sup> Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*.

<sup>338</sup> “News of Camp Funston.”

<sup>339</sup> Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*.

firing trenches—this range may have originally been a Class B target range constructed in 1912 (Figure 150).<sup>340</sup> Cavalry School paddocks were located just east of this area.<sup>341</sup> A hill labeled “Artillery Hill” was located northeast of Pawnee Flats, and a redoubt, constructed in 1906, was located just east of Morris Hill (Figure 151).<sup>342</sup> With these exceptions, the remainder of the land north of the Main Post and flats was likely used for maneuvering.<sup>343</sup>

Figure 149. Map of Fort Riley, 1917. (Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*. Public domain.)



340. Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*; Puckett and Barnett, “Case Study,” 26; R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., *Archeological Evaluation of a Portion of World War I Camp Funston*, 16, 30.

341. Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*.

342. Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*; W. M. Whitman, “The Riley Redoubt.”

343. Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*.

Figure 150. Detail showing athletic field, firing range with 100, 200, and 300 yd firing trenches, polo field, and paddocks, 1917. (Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*. Public domain.)

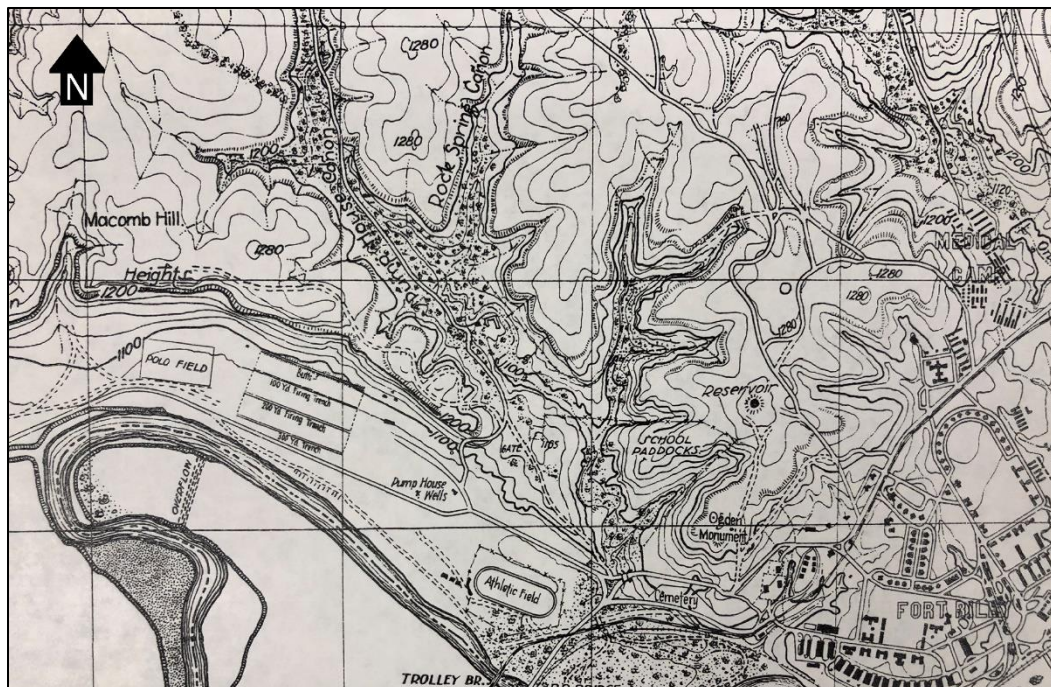


Figure 151. Detail showing redoubt (left) and "Artillery Hill" (right) outlined in red, 1917. (Leonard Wood, *US Military Reservation, Fort Riley, Kansas*. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.)

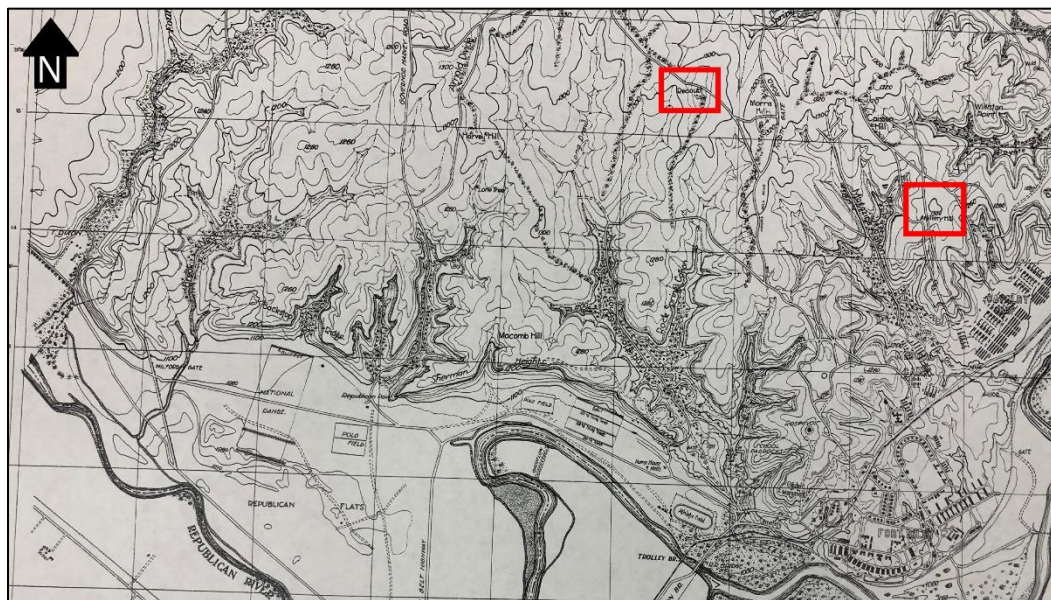
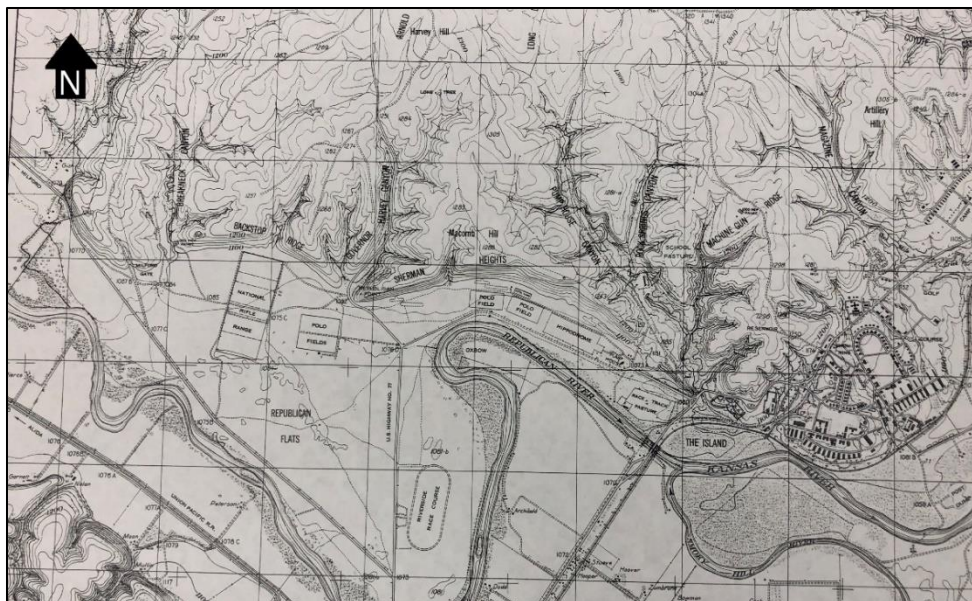




Figure 153. Detail of Fort Riley map showing National Rifle Range, polo fields, hippodrome, racetracks, pasture, and machine gun range (labeled as “Machine Gun Ridge”), 1934. (Corps of Engineers, US Army, *Special Military Map*. Public domain.)



By 1936, a dismounted pistol range was constructed on Republican Flat between the polo fields adjacent to the National Rifle Range and those further east. A 1,000 in. light machine gun range was constructed east of this pistol range and north of the polo fields. Additionally, a mounted pistol range was constructed west of Camp Whitside on Pawnee Flat.<sup>346</sup>

By 1941, Fort Riley's extant or planned ranges included two mounted pistol ranges, two dismounted pistol ranges, the National Rifle Range, an antitank range, two 1,000 in. antitank ranges, two landscape ranges, three 1,000 in. machine gun ranges, a rifle range, seven field ranges, a vehicular range, and an antiaircraft range (Figure 154, Figure 156–Figure 164).<sup>347</sup> At least one of the 1,000 in. machine gun ranges had an observation tower (Figure 153).<sup>348</sup> The antiaircraft range was a 500 in. range featuring overhead, horizontal, and climbing and diving targets (Figure 165 and Figure 166).<sup>349</sup>

346. Corps of Engineers, US Army, *Special Military Map*.

347. Joe S. Underwood, *Index & Title Sheet Construction & Improvements Target Ranges Fort Riley, Kansas*, February 1941, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, Kansas.

348. Joe S. Underwood, *Observation Tower 1000 inch Machine Gun Range Fort Riley, Kans.*, December 12, 1940, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, Kansas.

349. *Overhead Anti-Aircraft 500" Range*, 1940, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, Kansas; *Horizontal Range Anti-Aircraft 500" Range*, 1940, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, Kansas; *Climbing & Diving Range Anti-Aircraft 500"*, 1940, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, Kansas.

Figure 154. Map of target ranges, 1941. (Joe S. Underwood, *Index & Title Sheet Construction & Improvements Target Ranges Fort Riley, Kansas*, February 1941. Public domain.)

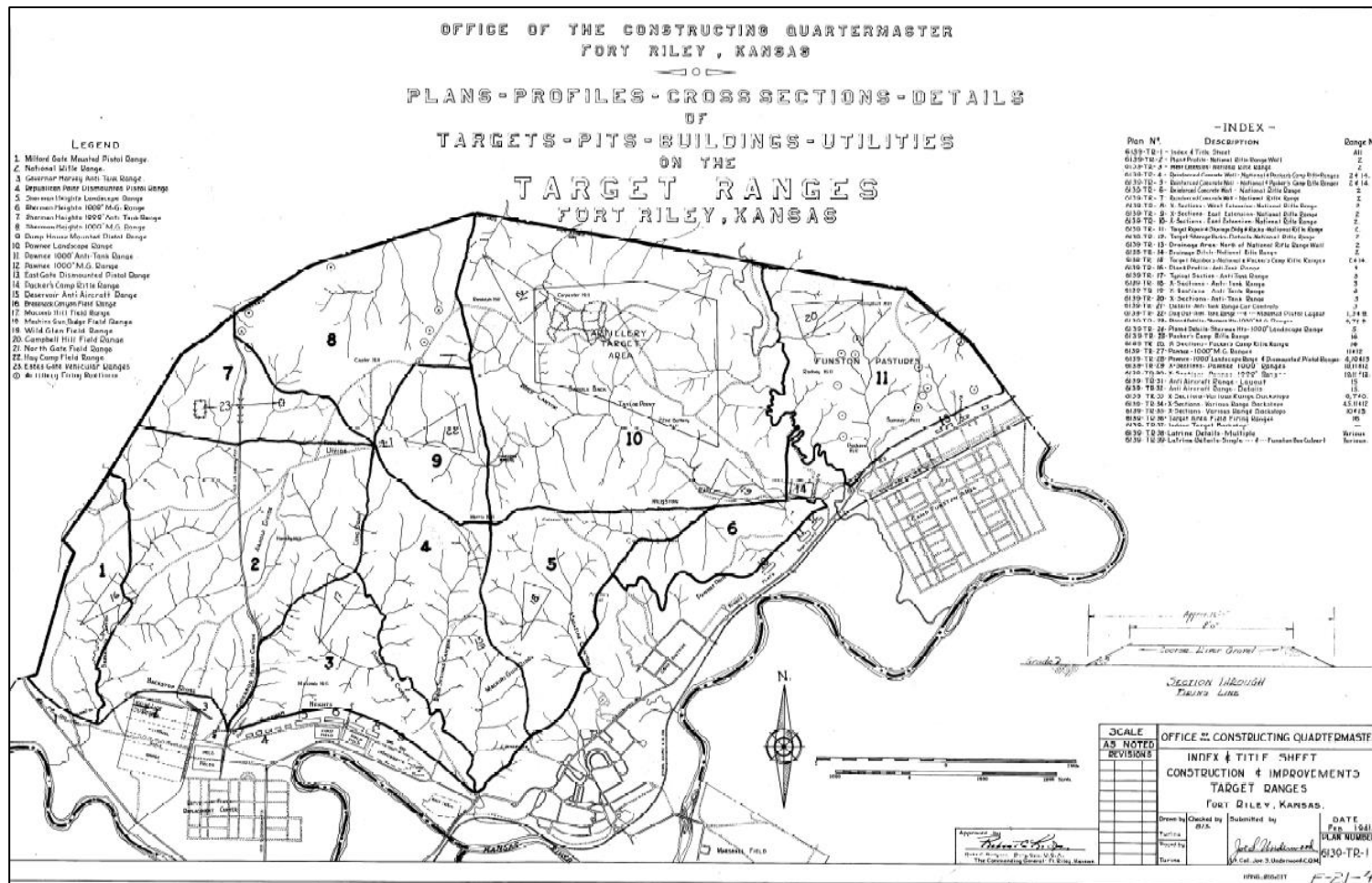


Figure 155. Layout and details of mounted pistol range, 1941. (Joe S. Underwood, *Reinforced Concrete Dugout Anti-Tank Range Layout & Details Mounted Pistol Range Fort Riley, Kansas*, February 27, 1940, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

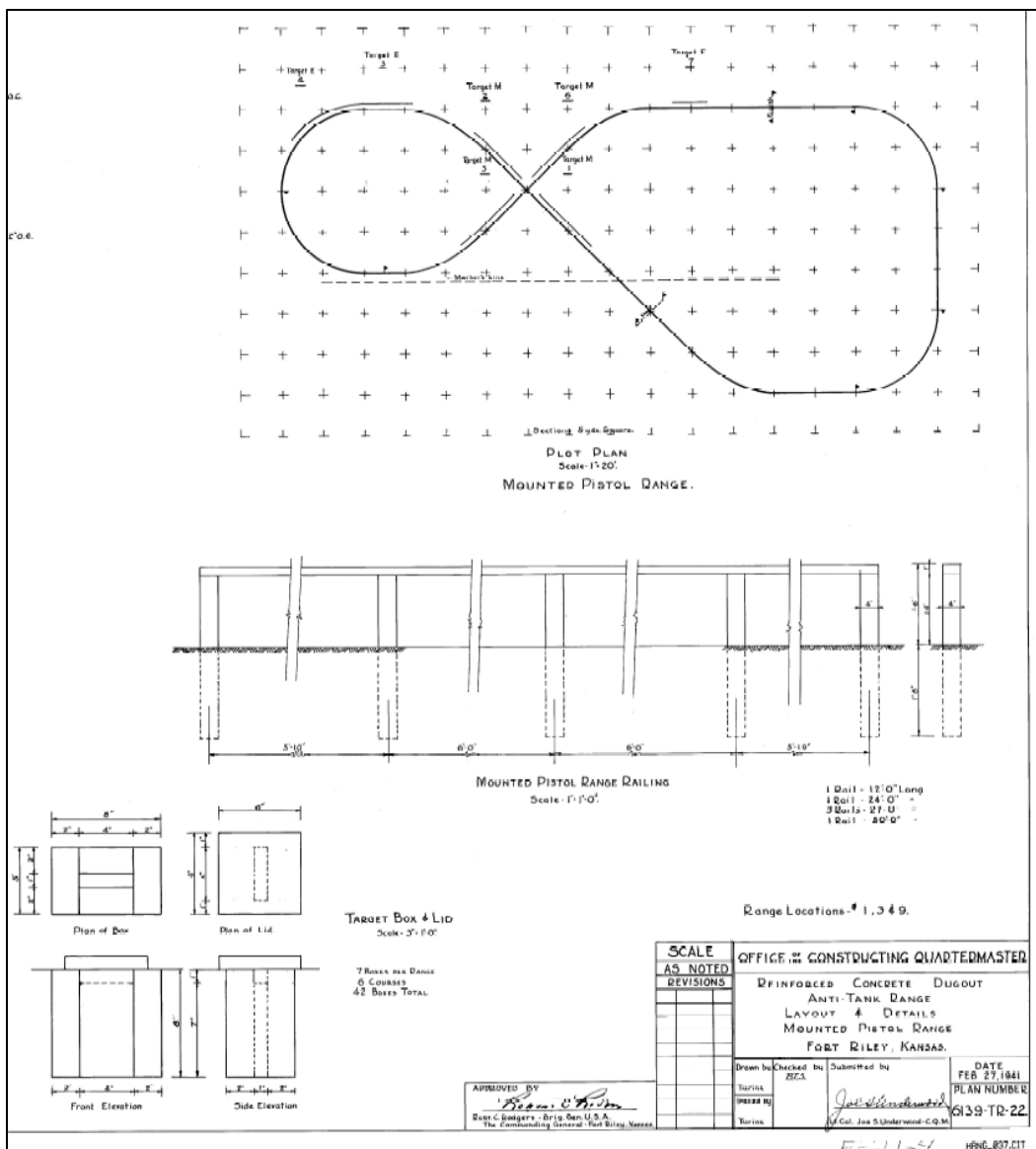


Figure 156. Layout and details of dismounted pistol ranges, 1941. (Joe S. Underwood, *Dismounted Pistol Ranges and Pawnee 1000" Landscape Target Range Fort Riley, Kansas*, March 10, 1941, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

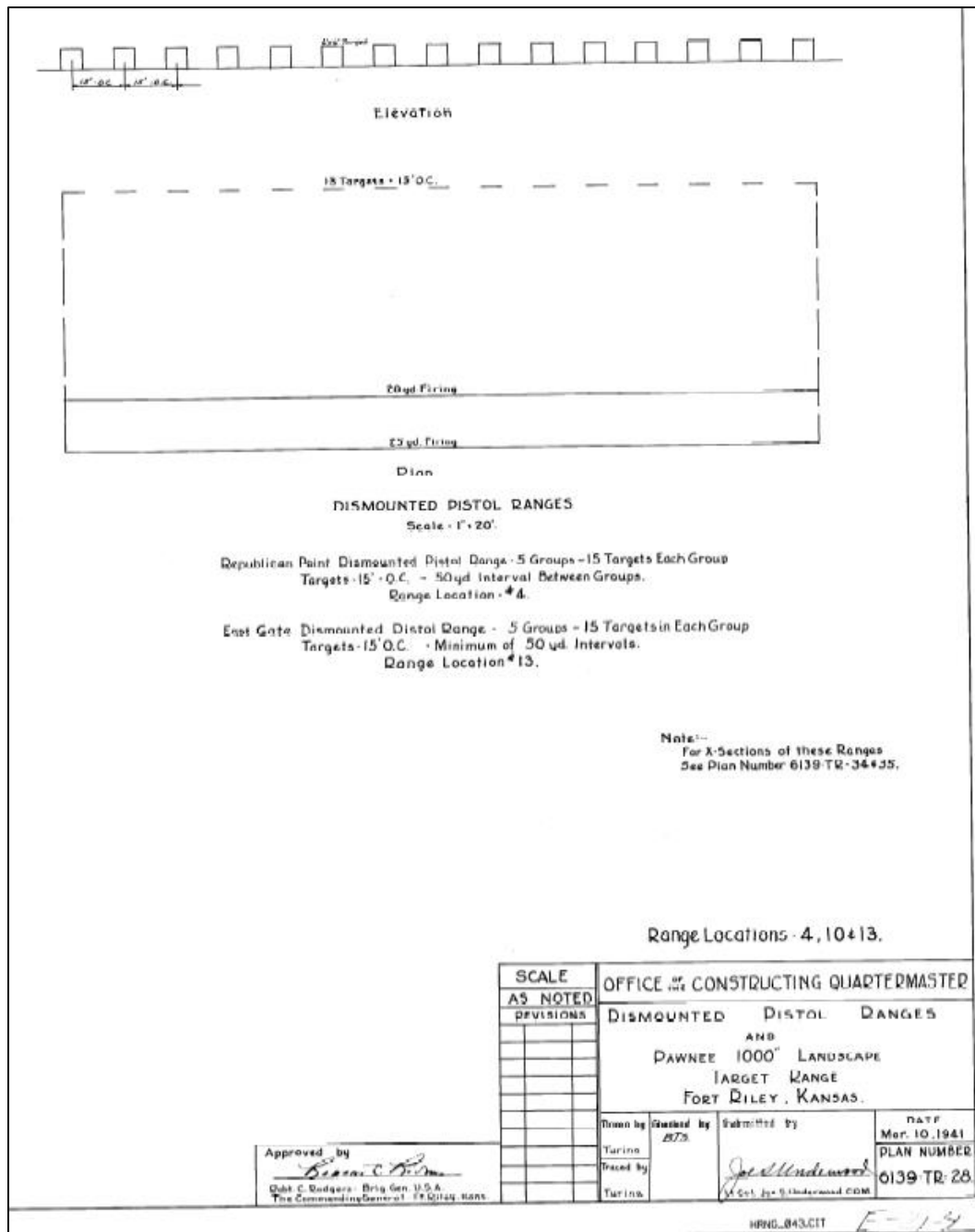


Figure 157. Plan and profile of antitank range, 1940. (Joe S. Underwood, *Anti-Tank Range Republican Flats Area Fort Riley, Kansas, September 16, 1940*, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

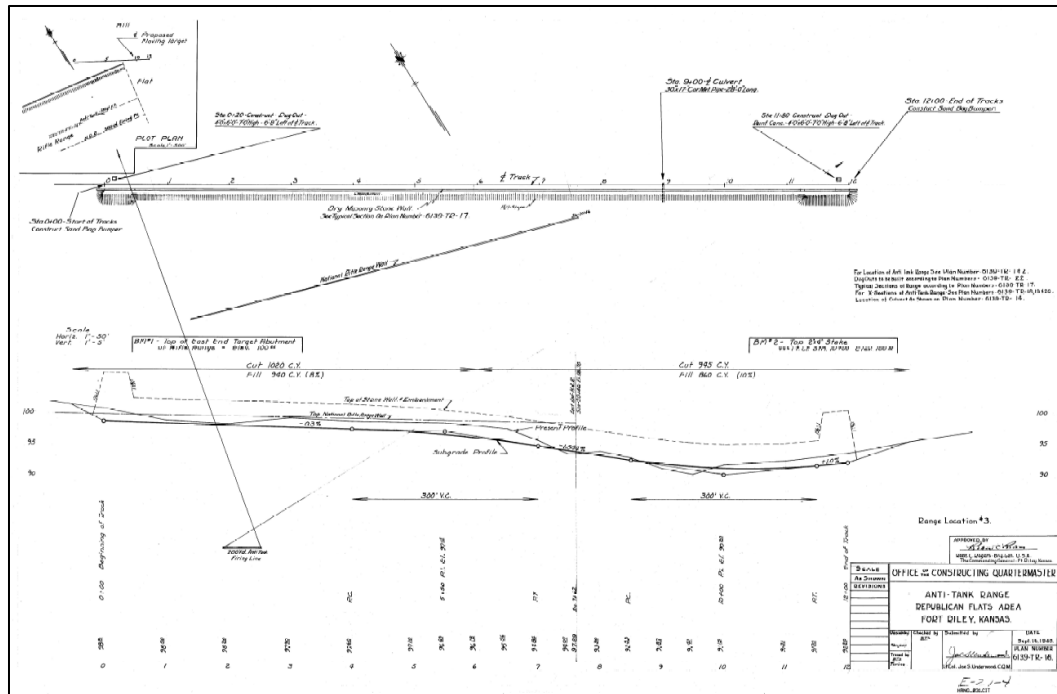


Figure 158. Section of antitank range, 1940. (Joe S. Underwood, *Typical Sections of Anti-Tank Range Republican Flats Area Fort Riley, Kansas, September 16, 1940*, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

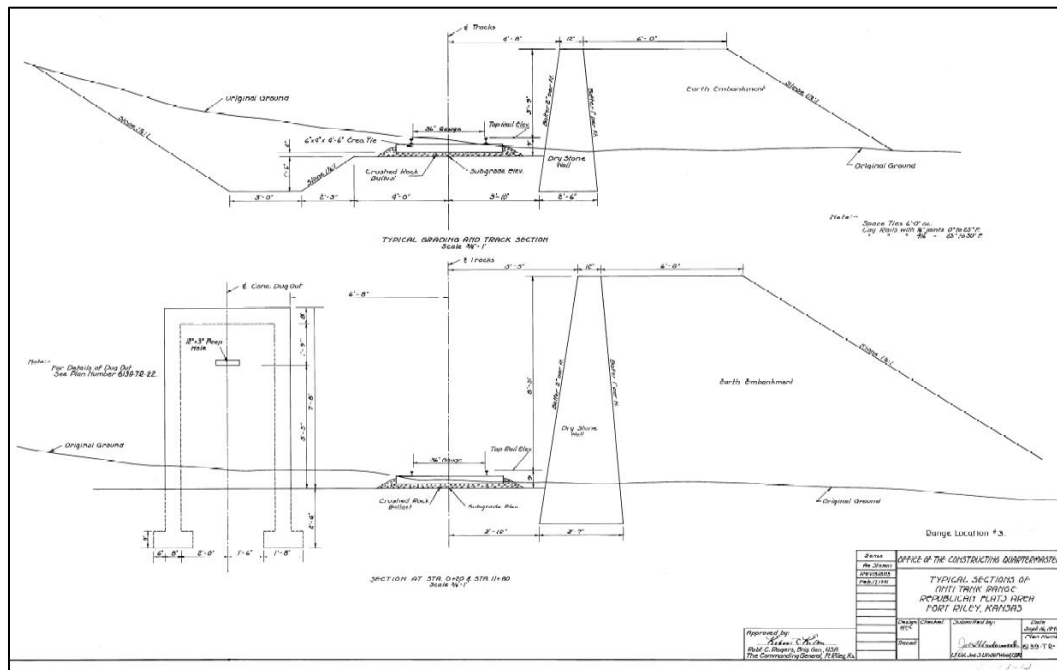


Figure 159. Layout and section of 1,000 in. landscape range, 1940. (Joe S. Underwood, *Layout and Detail 1,000 inch Landscape Range Fort Riley, Kansas*, November 8, 1940, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

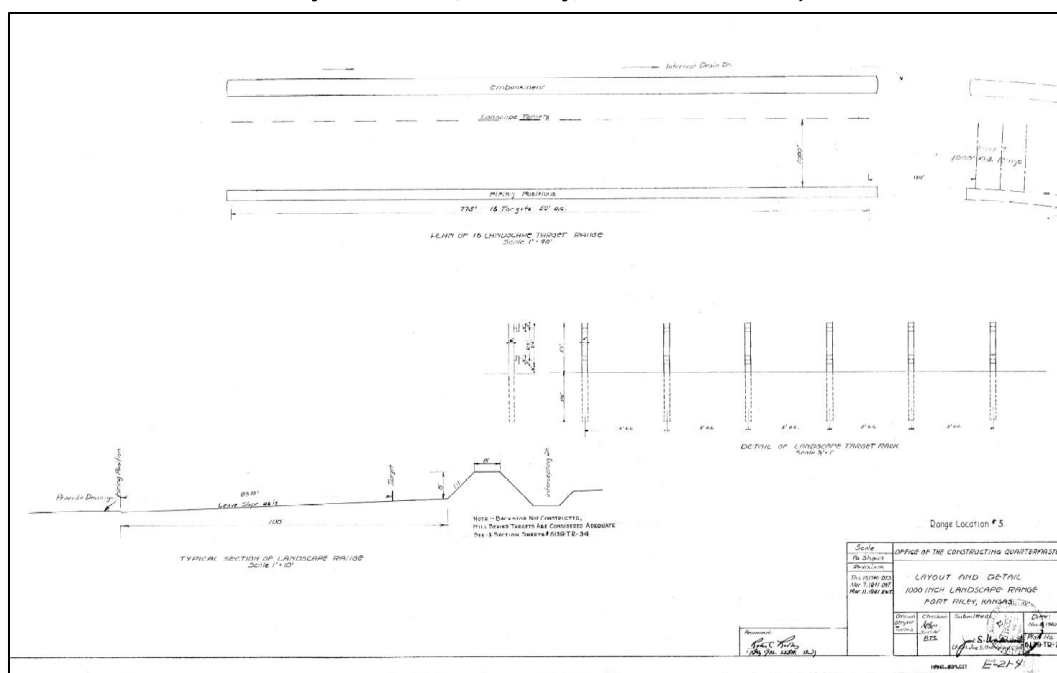


Figure 160. Layout and detail of 1,000 in. landscape range on Pawnee Flat, 1941. (Joe S. Underwood, *Dismounted Pistol Ranges and Pawnee 1000" Landscape Target Range Fort Riley, Kansas, March 10, 1941, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.*)

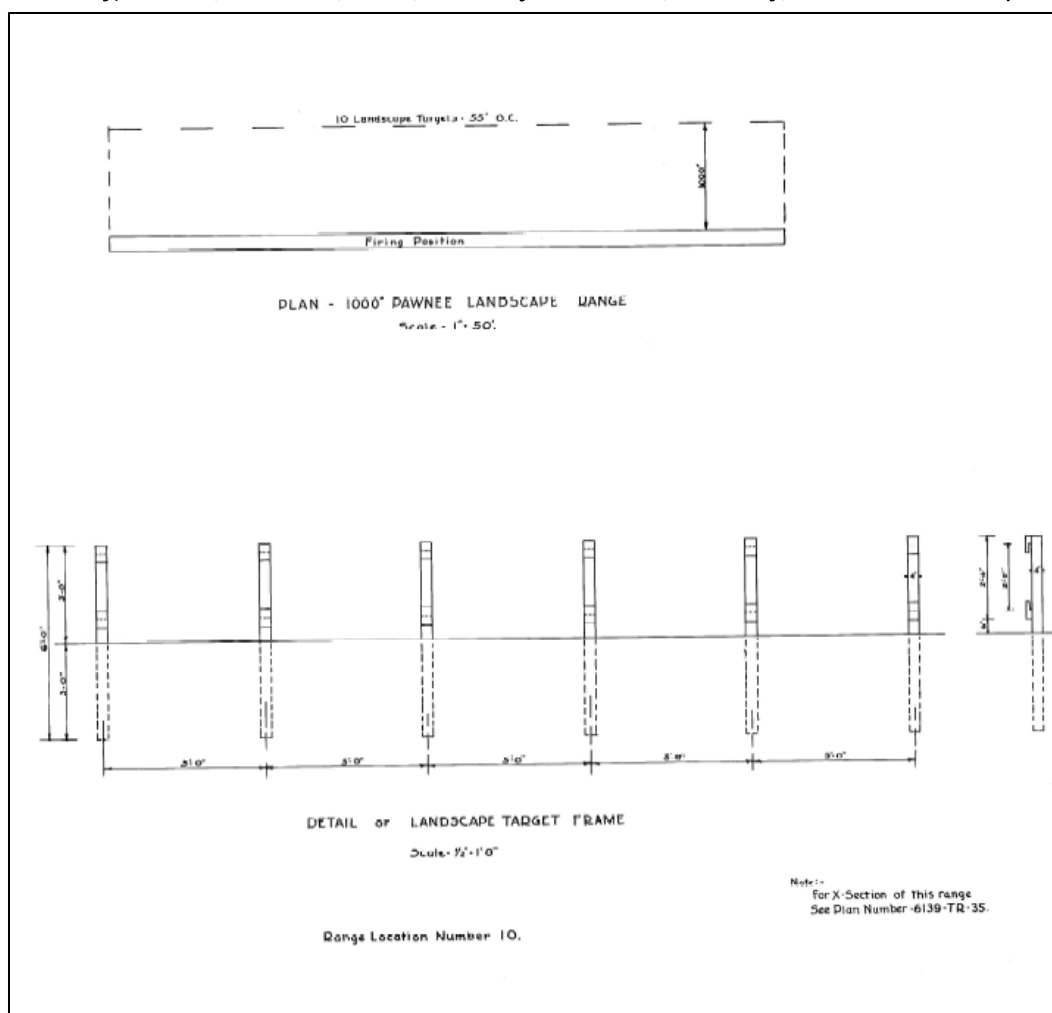


Figure 161. Layout and detail of typical 1,000 in. machine gun ranges, 1940. (Joe S. Underwood, *Layout and Detail 1000 inch Machine Gun Ranges Fort Riley, Kansas*, November 7, 1940, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

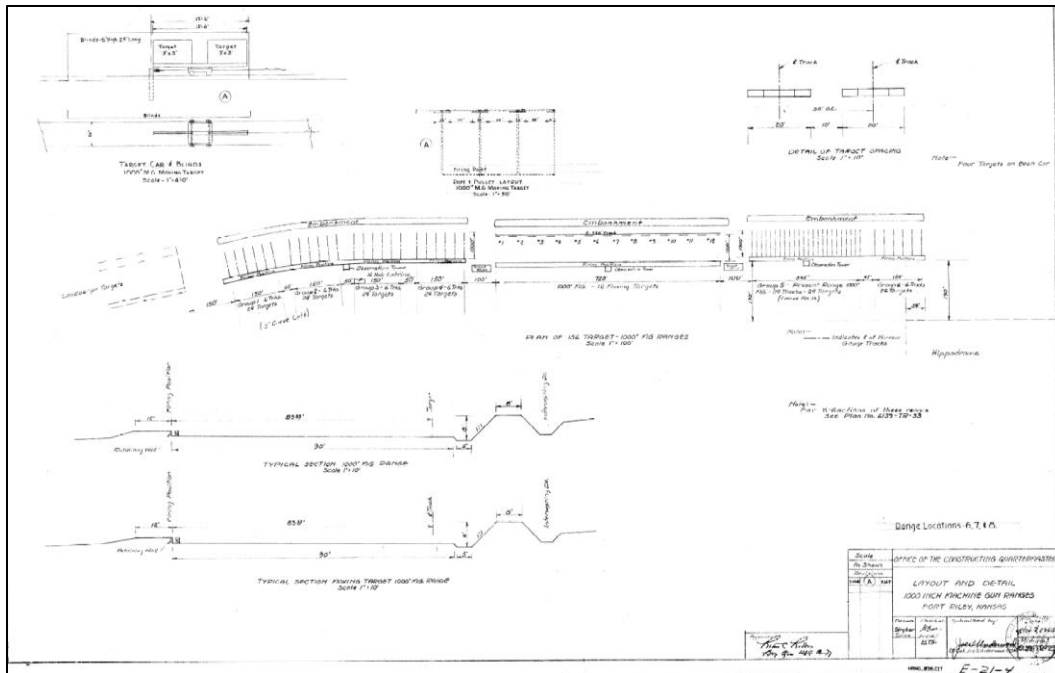


Figure 162. Layout and detail of 1,000 in. machine gun range near Camp Funston, 1941. (Joe S. Underwood, *Layout and Detail 1000 inch Machine Gun Range Camp Funston Area Fort Riley, Kansas*, January 9, 1941, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

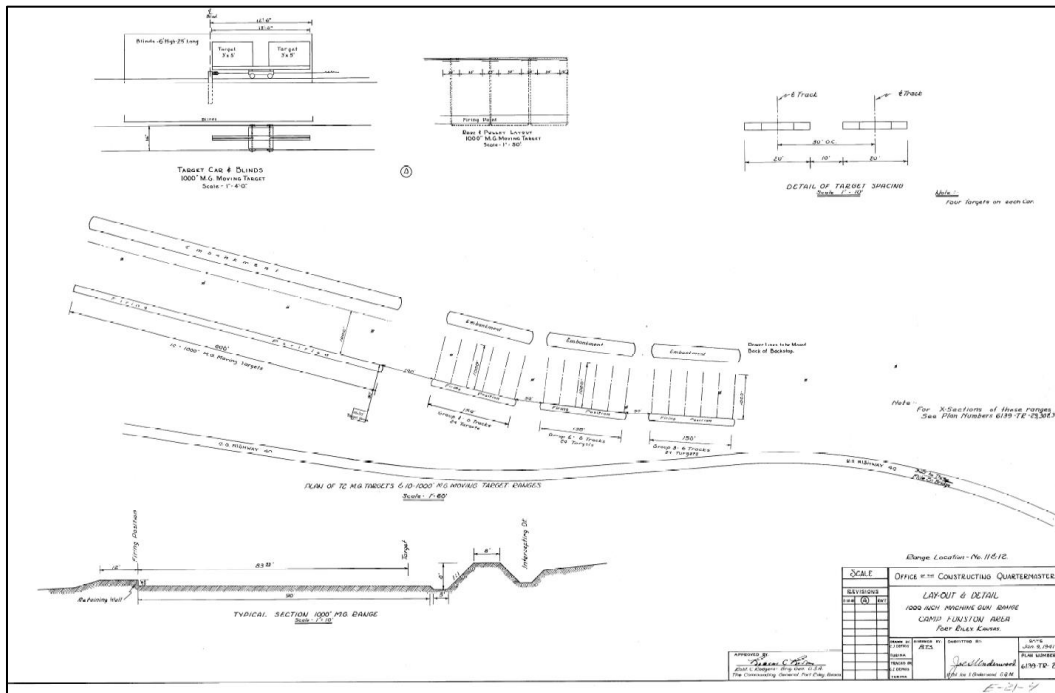


Figure 163. Layout and details of 50-target rifle range near Camp Funston. (Joe S. Underwood, *Packer's Camp 50 Target Rifle Range Funston Area Fort Riley, Kansas*, March 1, 1941, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

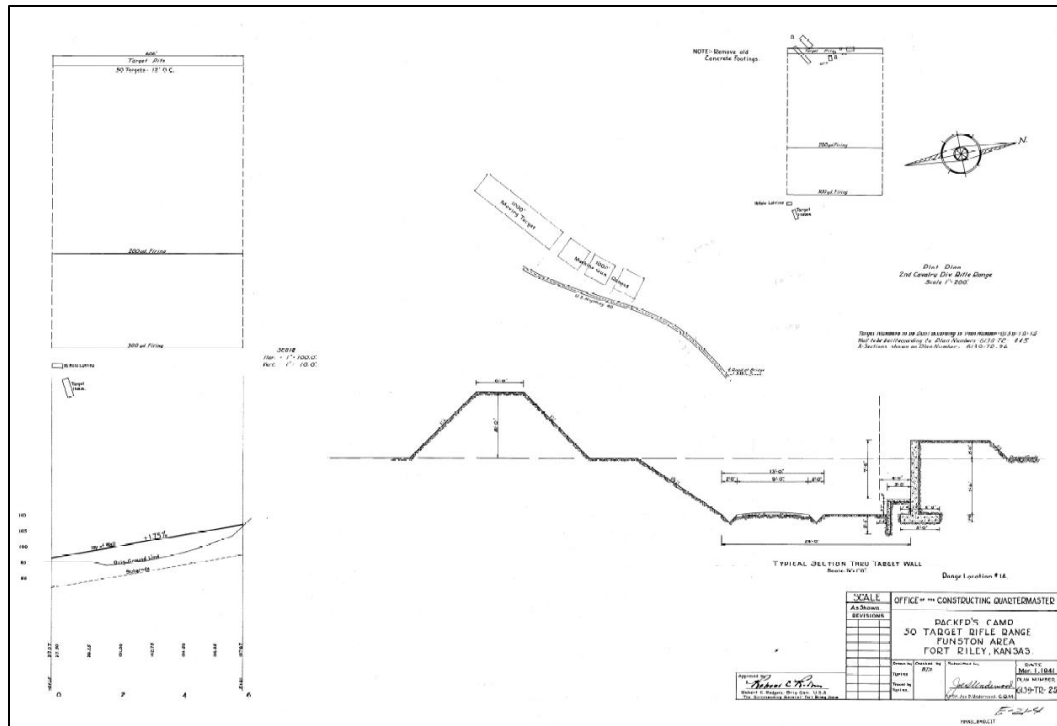


Figure 164. Layout of target areas for field firing ranges, 1941. (Joe S. Underwood, *Target Area Field Firing Ranges Fort Riley, Kansas*, January 23, 1941, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

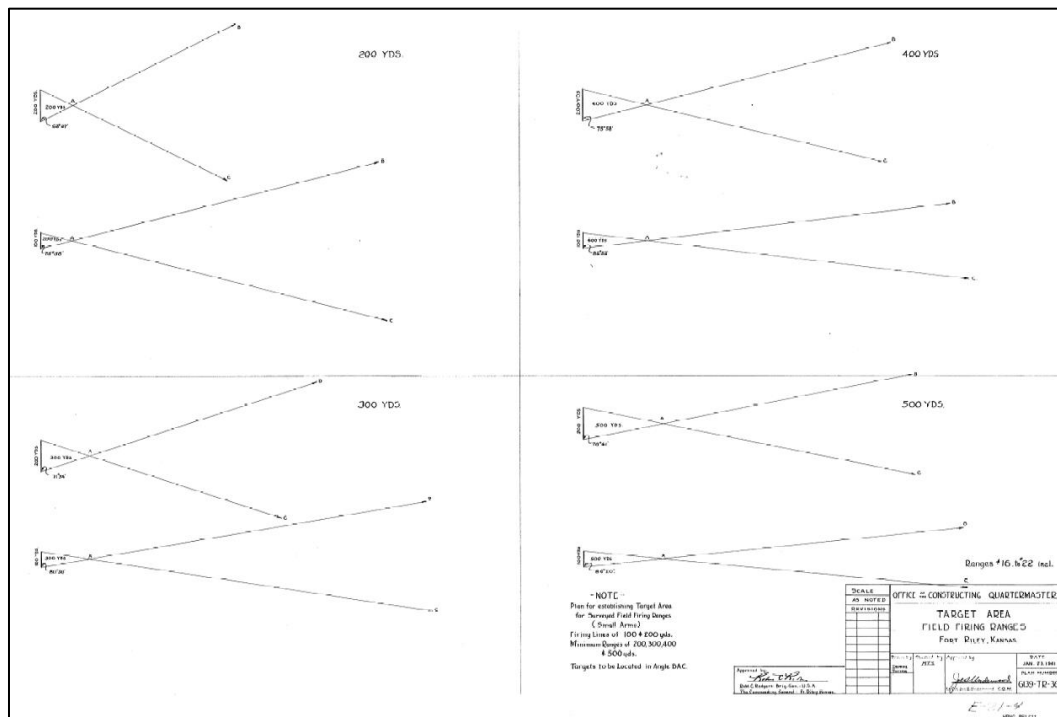


Figure 165. Observation tower at 1,000 in. machine gun range, 1940. (Joe S. Underwood, *Observation Tower 1000 inch Machine Gun Range Fort Riley, Kans.* Public domain.)

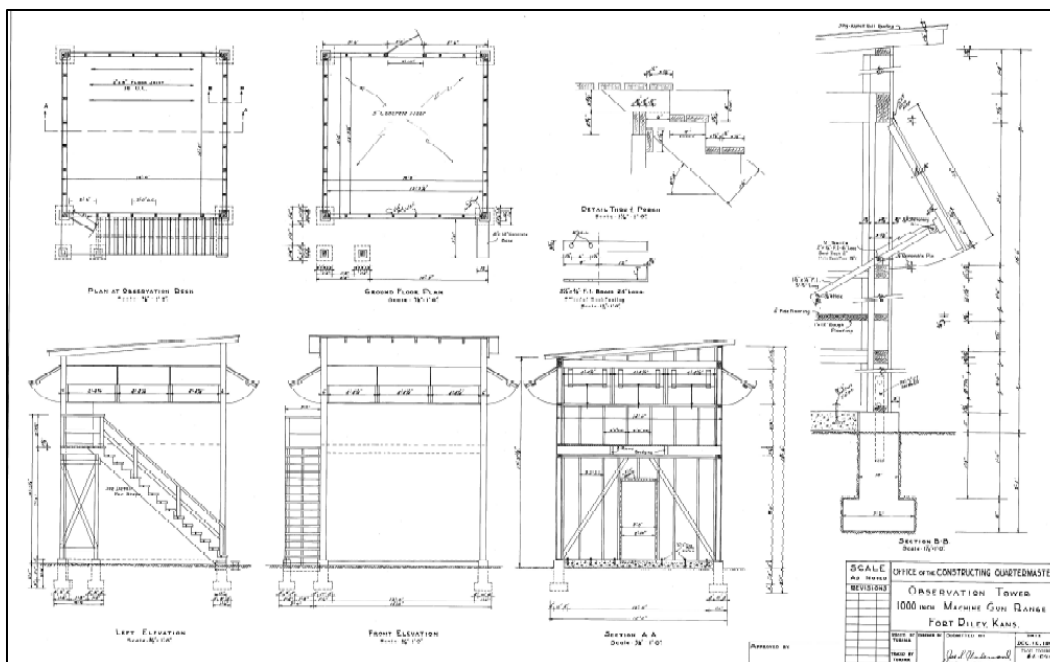
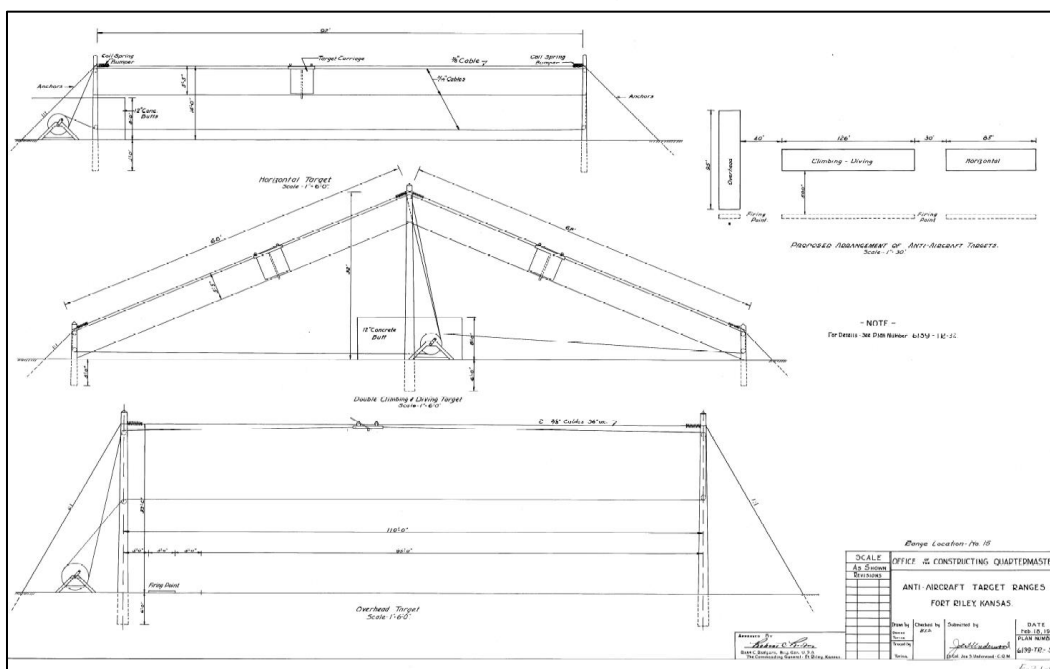
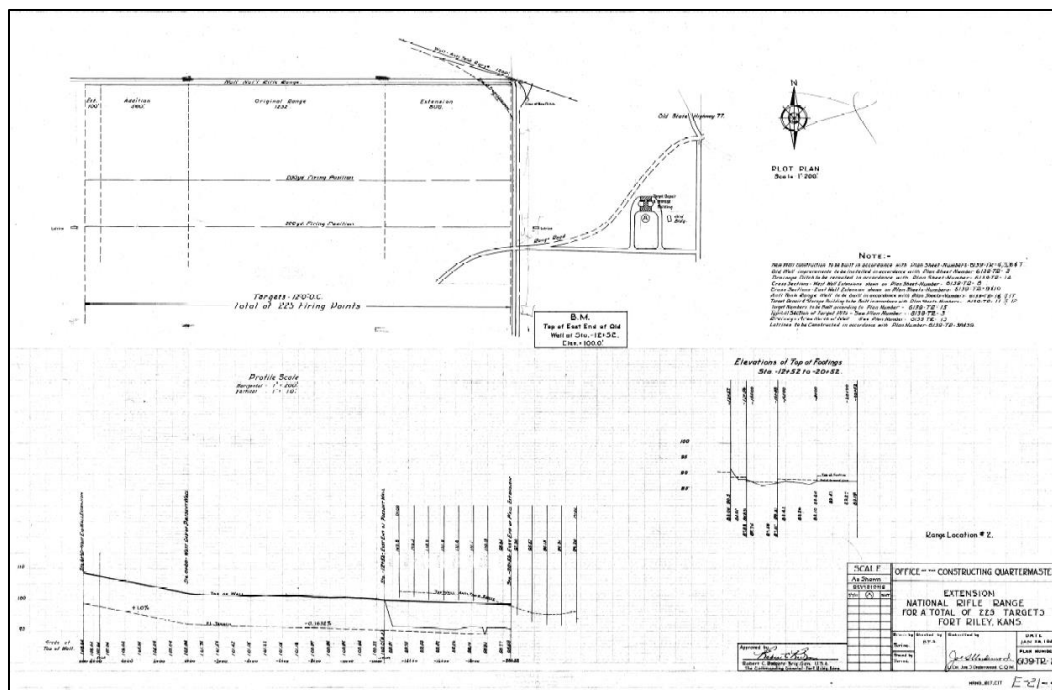


Figure 166. Targets at 500 in. antiaircraft range, 1941. (Joe S. Underwood, *Anti-Aircraft Target Ranges Fort Riley, Kansas, February 18, 1941, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS.* Public domain.)



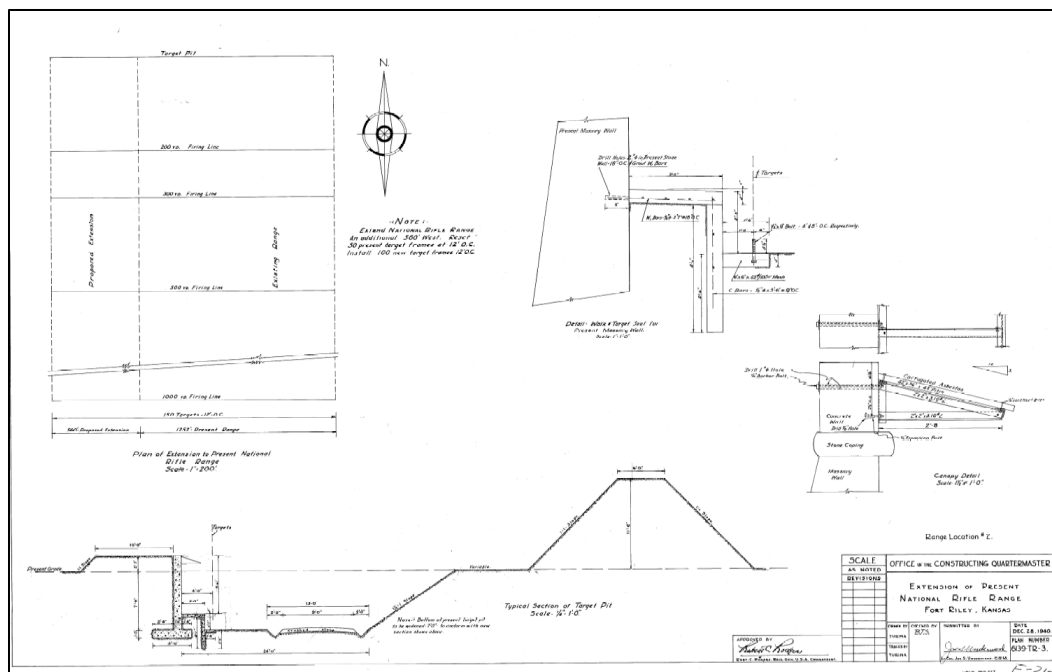
In 1940–1941, the National Rifle Range was expanded with the construction of concrete wings on both ends of the original limestone target berm, expanding the length to approx. 985 yd (Figure 167 and Figure 168). Four

Figure 167. Plan and profile of expanded National Rifle Range, 1941. (*Extension National Rifle Range for a Total of 225 Targets Fort Riley, Kans..* January 28, 1941. Public domain.)



351. The previous number of targets at the range is unknown; Joe S. Underwood, *Extension National Rifle Range for a Total of 225 Targets Fort Riley, Kans.*, January 28, 1941, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS.

Figure 168. Plan and section of expanded National Rifle Range, 1940. (Joe S. Underwood, *Extension of Present National Rifle Range Fort Riley, Kansas*, December 28, 1940, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



### 3.1.2 Activity from 1942 to 1963

The number of defined training areas within Fort Riley's original installation boundary had greatly expanded by 1943 (Figure 169), though it is unclear if this broad-scale redesignation of training lands was part of an intentional program related to the post's expansion. As of 1943, a bayonet court and practice grenade court were located just west of Camp Funston (Figure 170). A machine gun (MG) range with 38 tracks for moving targets (Sumner MG Range) was located north of Camp Funston, and a rifle range (Packer's Camp Rifle Range) with 90 targets at ranges of 3,400 and 3,900 yd was northwest of Camp Funston (Figure 171). A proposed machine gun range with 30 tracks, 11 antitank targets, and a 38-target dismantled pistol range for the 29th Cavalry was located between Camp Funston and Camp Whitside, as was the Pawnee Machine Gun Range with 62 tracks (Figure 172). The Whitside 1,000 ft .22 caliber range with 20 targets at ranges of up to 1,500 yd—the former mounted pistol range—was located northwest of Camp Whitside.<sup>352</sup>

352. Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoff, Plan of the Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas.

Figure 169. Original installation area, 1943. (Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoff, *Plan of the Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas*. Public domain.)

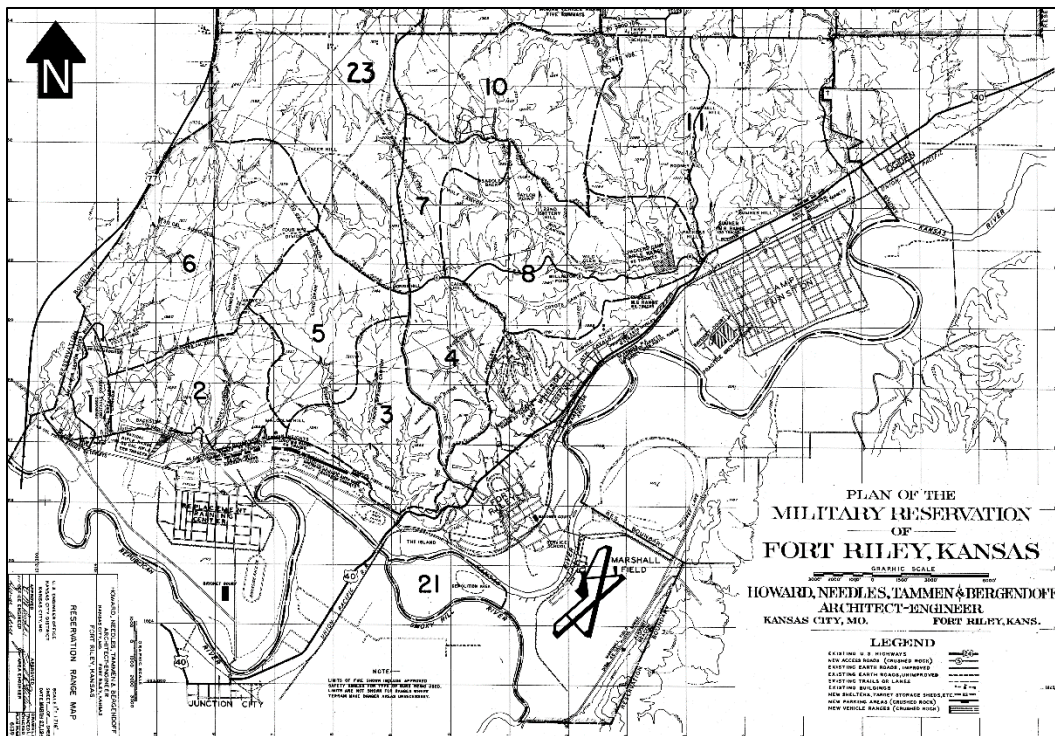


Figure 170. Grenade court features, 1942. (Howard, Needles, Tammen & Bergendoff, *Fort Riley, Kansas Details Grenade Court*, August 20, 1942, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

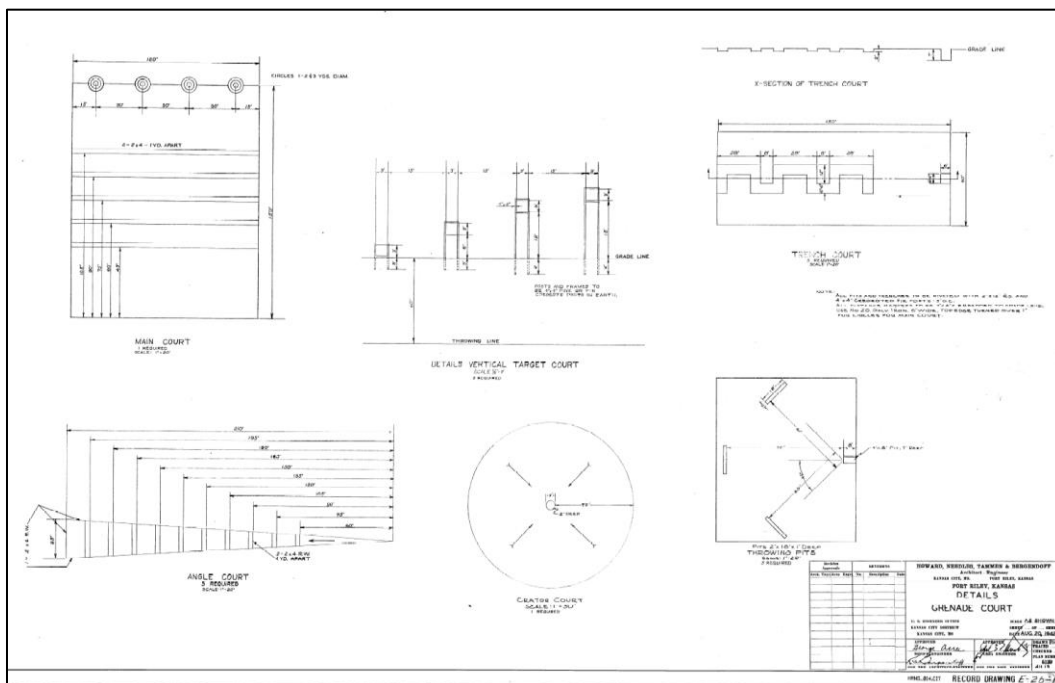


Figure 171. Layout of Packer's Camp Rifle Range, 1942. (Howard, Needles, Tammen & Bergendoff, *Rifle Range Plan Revised*, August 1942, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

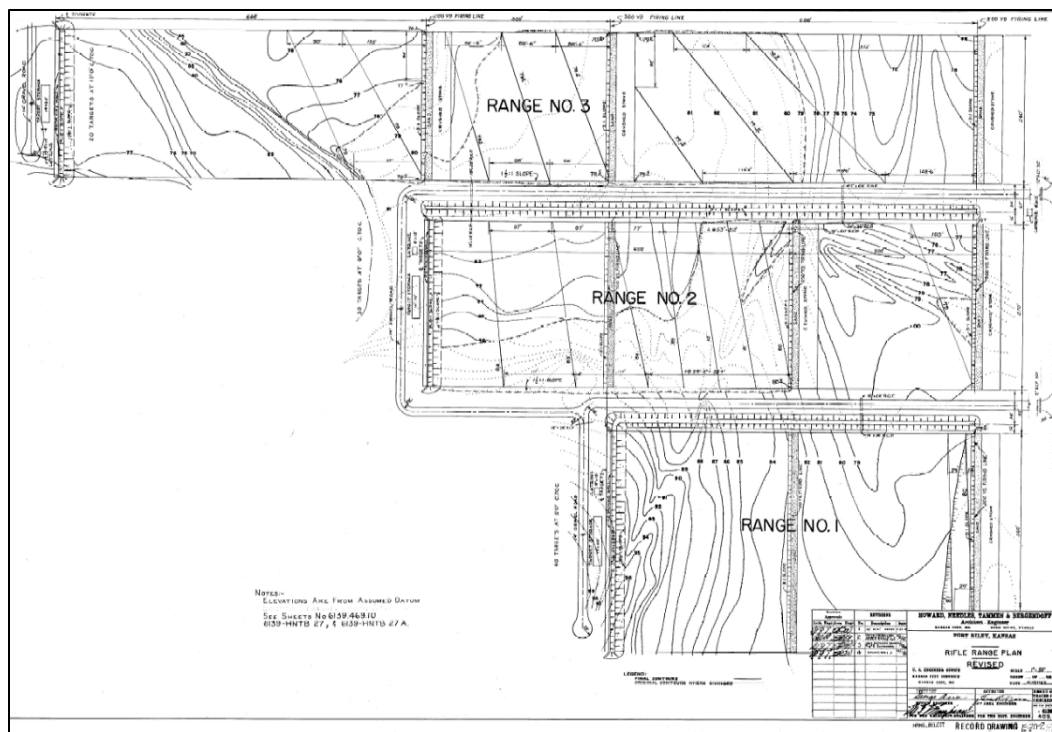
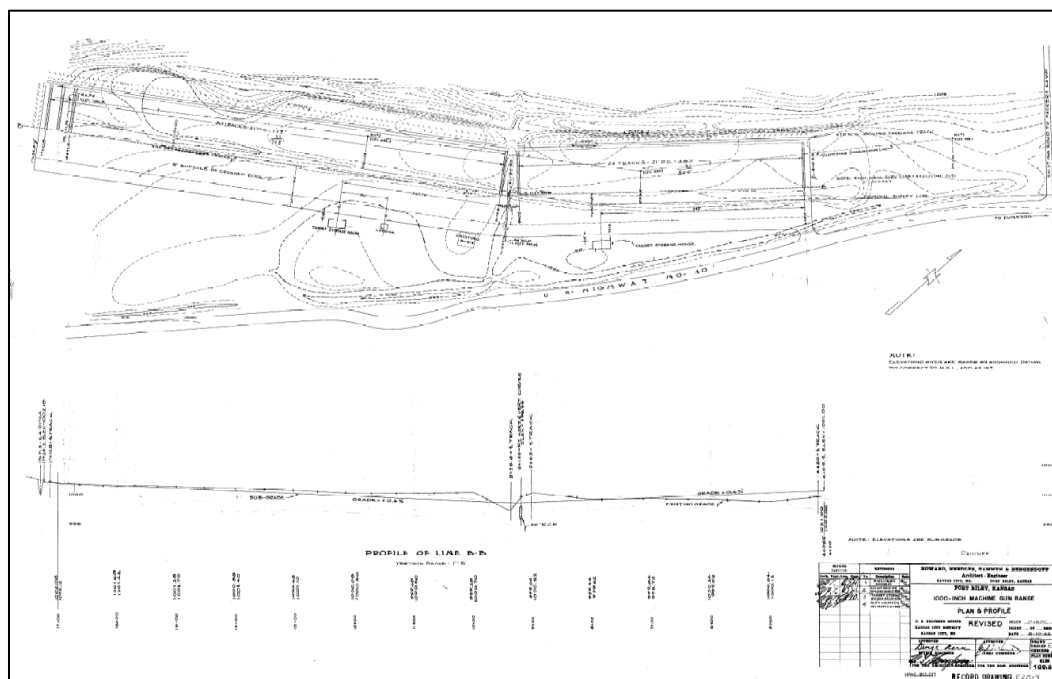


Figure 172. Layout of Pawnee Machine Gun Range, 1,000 in., 1942. (Howard, Needles, Tammen & Bergendoff, *Fort Riley, Kansas 1000-inch Machine Gun Range Plan & Profile Revised*, August 10, 1942, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)



The Main Post now contained a delineated bayonet court, and Marshall Field, southeast of the Main Post and now built up, contained a dismounted .45-caliber pistol range.<sup>353</sup>

The area west of the Main Post and surrounding the National Rifle Range had become an important range area by 1943. The preexisting polo fields, “Race Track,” Riverside Race Track (previously called the Riverside Race Course), and National Rifle Range were still extant. The location of the dismounted pistol range constructed in the 1930s (north of the easternmost polo fields) was now named “Governor Sherman Heights.” This area contained a .45-caliber pistol range with 60 targets and a .45-caliber pistol range with 90 targets, a .22-caliber antiaircraft range with a 2,000 yd range, a 1,000 in. machine gun range with 46 tracks, the Sherman Heights Anti-Tank Range with 36 targets, and the mounted pistol group A Replacement Training Center was now located south and southeast of the westernmost polo fields.<sup>354</sup>

The western portion of the original installation boundary was, in 1943, the location of the National Rifle Range—now labeled as a .30-caliber rifle range with 225 targets and ranges of 4,000 and 5,000 yd. It also contained the “Governor Harvey Anti-Tank” range. The surrounding area included the Breakneck Canyon Field Range for unspecified .50-caliber weapons with a 7,600 yd range and a 37 mm gun M3 range without windshield with a 6,000 yd range. The southwest corner of the installation housed eight .45-caliber pistol ranges with 32 targets and a shared, fan-shaped safety zone with a 1,600 yd range. This fan contained the location of a proposed obstacle course.<sup>355</sup>

By 1946, the western portion of the original installation boundary had again been changed to include the National Rifle Range, a bayonet court, a pistol range, a moving target range, two combat ranges, a woods course, a .30 cal field range, an antiaircraft range, a transition range, an antitank range, and a mounted pistol range. It also contained a woods course, village course, pioneer and mine area, and “Camp of Lage” area

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353. Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoft, *Plan of the Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas*.

354. Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoft, *Plan of the Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas*.

355. Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoft, *Plan of the Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas*.

(Figure 173).<sup>356</sup> The eastern portion of the original installation boundary at that time contained an MG, pistol, and antitank range; antitank and machine gun range; machine gun range; two range estimation courses; and five pistol ranges (Figure 174). There was also a pistol range south of MAAF.<sup>357</sup>

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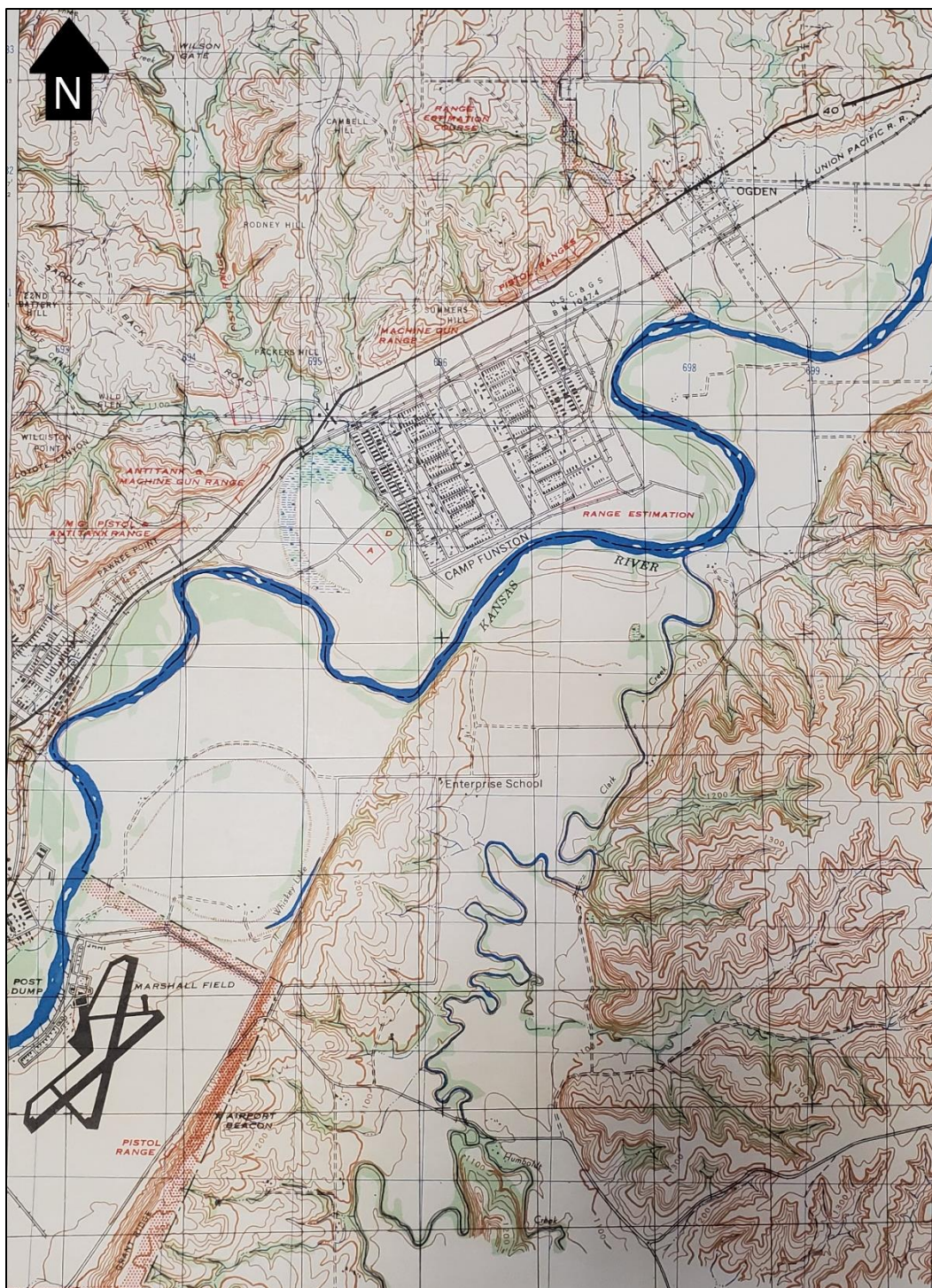
356. The definition and use of a “Camp of Lage” area is unclear; Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, War Department, *Ft. Riley Vicinity Kansas, West Sheet No. 3*, 1947, 1:25,000 scale (Fort Riley, KS: Fort Riley), Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS.

357. Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, War Department, *Ft. Riley Vicinity Kansas, East Sheet No. 4*, 1947, 1:25,000 scale (Fort Riley, KS: Fort Riley), Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS.

Figure 173. Western portion of original installation boundary, 1946. (Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, War Department, Ft. Riley Vicinity Kansas, West Sheet No. 3. Public domain.)



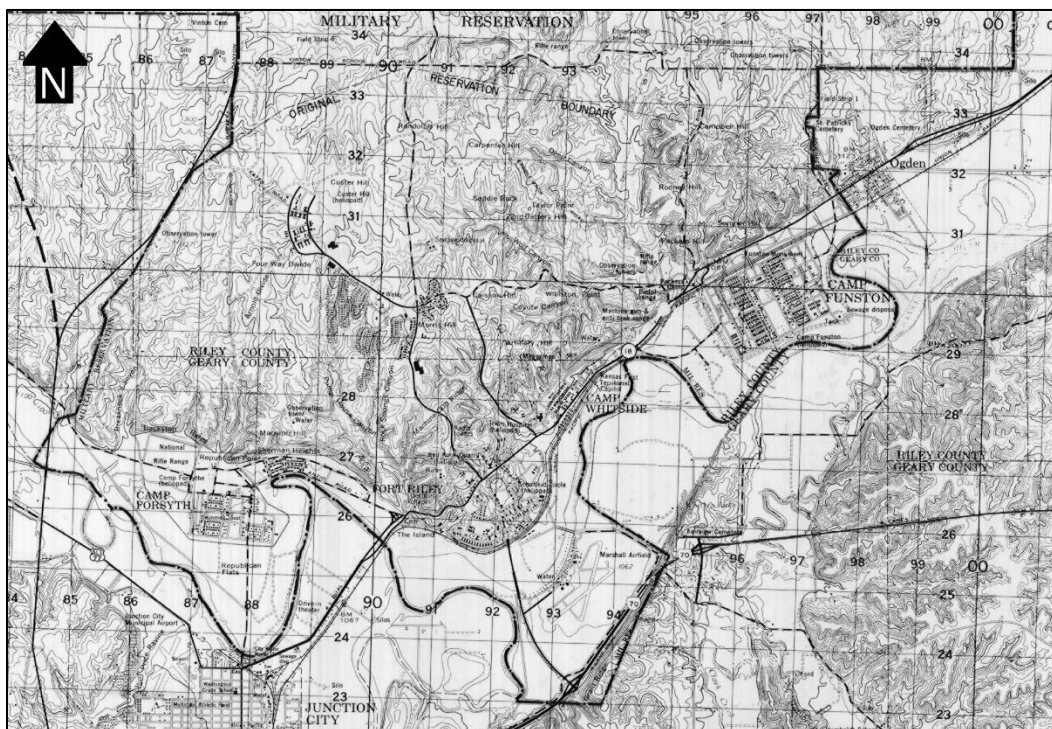
Figure 174. Eastern portion of original installation boundary, 1946. (Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, War Department, Ft. Riley Vicinity Kansas, East Sheet No. 4. Public domain.)



### 3.1.4 Activity from 1964 to the present

This arrangement of ranges had changed by c. 1964, at which point the training facilities in the southwest corner of the installation were greatly reduced (Figure 175). It is unclear if this was related to the post's 1964 expansion. By c. 1964, only the National Rifle Range remained in this area and the former Replacement Training Center had become Camp Forsyth. The racetracks and polo fields were no longer extant, nor were the adjacent ranges. These changes in range locations were likely related to the construction of Custer Hill, which was extant by c. 1964 in an area formerly within range fans. Packers Camp Rifle Range, now just labeled as "rifle range," was still located northwest of Camp Funston, and the 29th Cavalry pistol range, now just labeled "pistol range," was still located between Camps Funston and Whitside. The antitank and machine gun ranges that were proposed in 1943 were extant by c. 1964, though it is unclear if the other proposed training facilities and ranges were constructed.<sup>358</sup>

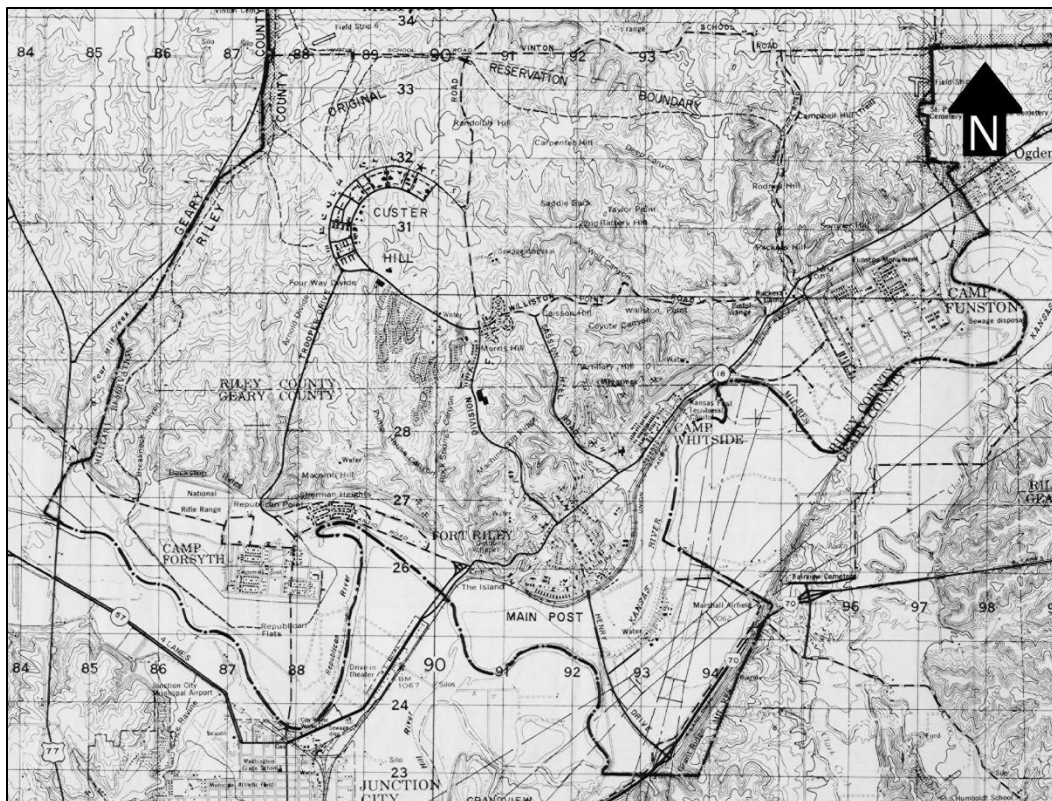
Figure 175. Original installation area, c. 1964. (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*. Public domain.)



<sup>358</sup>. US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*, scale not given (Kansas City, MO: US Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, n.d.), Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS.

Minimal changes occurred to the training areas within the original installation boundary between c. 1964 and 1973. No newly constructed training facilities are noted on maps, and the antitank and machine gun range between Camps Funston and Whitside was also no longer noted (Figure 176).<sup>359</sup>

Figure 176. Original installation area, 1973. (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*. Public domain.)

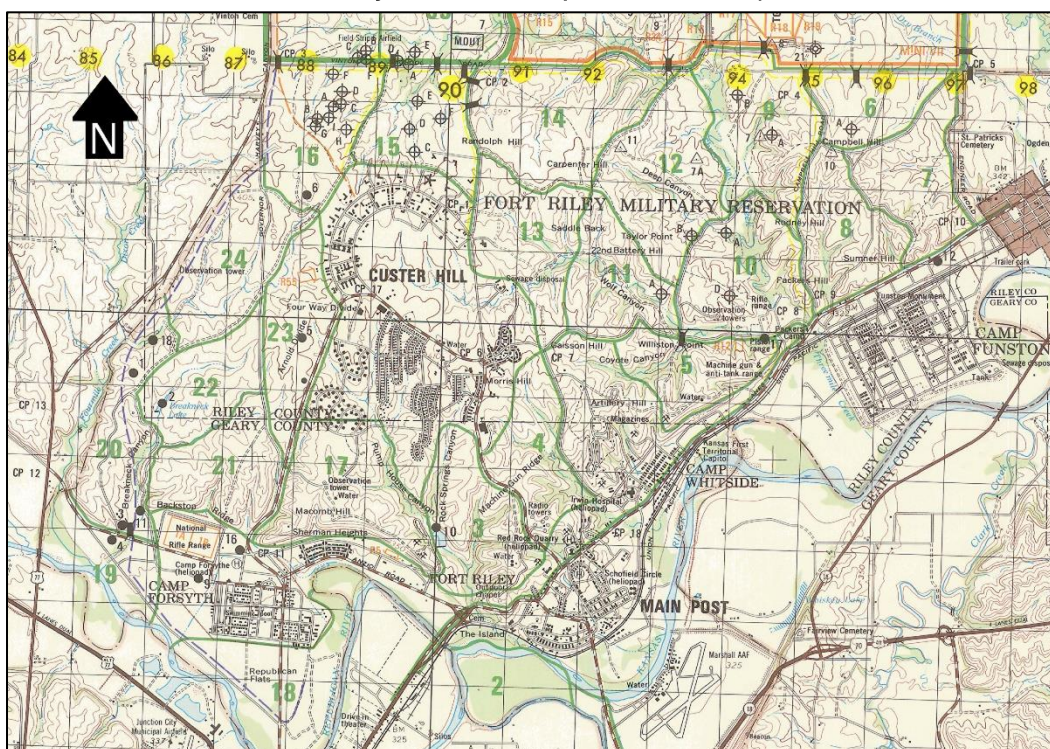


By 1985, the training facilities within the original installation boundary were again only minimally changed (Figure 177). The machine gun and antitank range between Camps Funston and Whitside was again noted on maps, and the rifle and pistol ranges remained extant. Numerous artillery firing points associated with the artillery and mortar impact area within the 1942 expansion boundary (see Section 3.1.2) were now marked just north of Custer Hill. Training facilities R5, R12, and R55 were located within the original installation boundary area, though the purpose of

359. US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*, 1973, scale not given (Omaha, NE: US Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha), Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS.

these ranges is unclear.<sup>360</sup> By 1997, the rifle, pistol, and machine gun and antitank ranges between Camps Funston and Whitside were no longer marked on maps, and artillery firing points were located throughout the original installation boundary (Figure 178).<sup>361</sup>

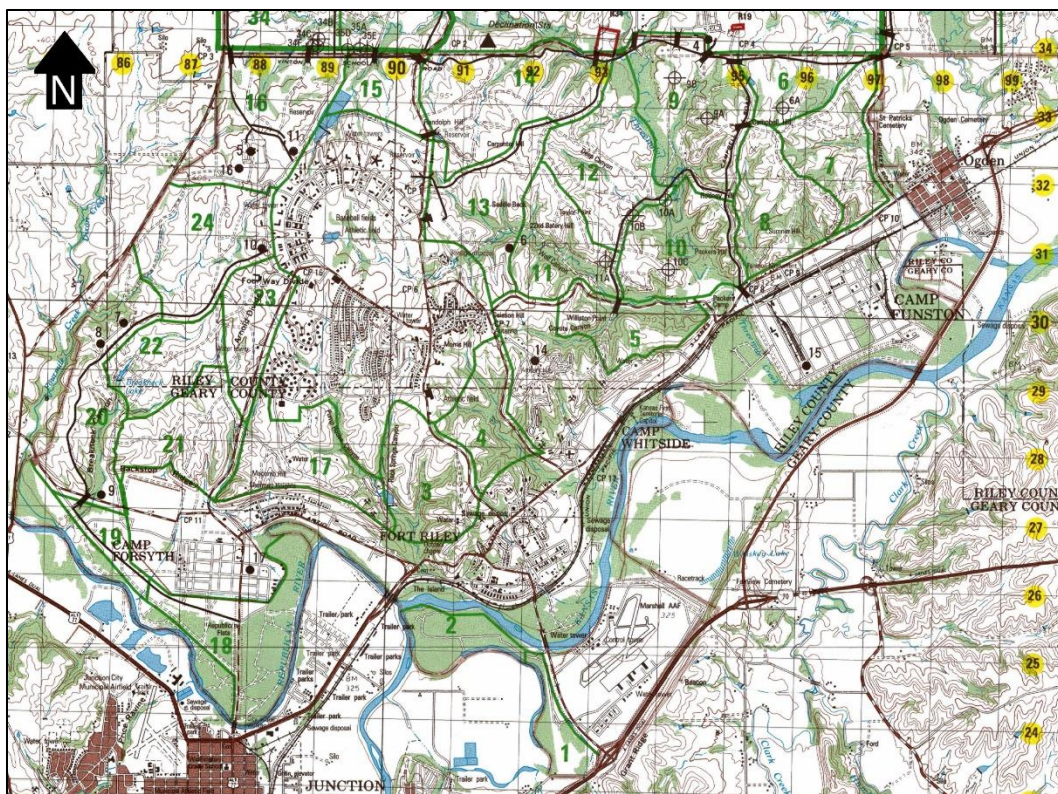
Figure 177. Original installation boundary, 1985. (Defense Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*. Public domain.)



360. Defense Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*, 1985, 1:50,000 scale (Washington, DC: Defense Mapping Agency), Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS.

361. National Imagery and Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*, 1997, 1:50,000 scale (Washington, DC: National Imagery and Mapping Agency), Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS.

Figure 178. Original installation area, 1997. (National Imagery and Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*. Public domain.)



### 3.2 1942 expansion

The original installation area occupies the east-central portion of the current reservation (Figure 179). Table 5 shows current training areas and ranges in the 1942 expansion area. It has been active as a defined training area since 1942.<sup>362</sup>

362. US Army Sustainable Range Program, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*.

Figure 179. 1942 expansion area outlined on the 2018 Fort Riley Military Installation Map. (US Army Sustainable Range Program. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.)

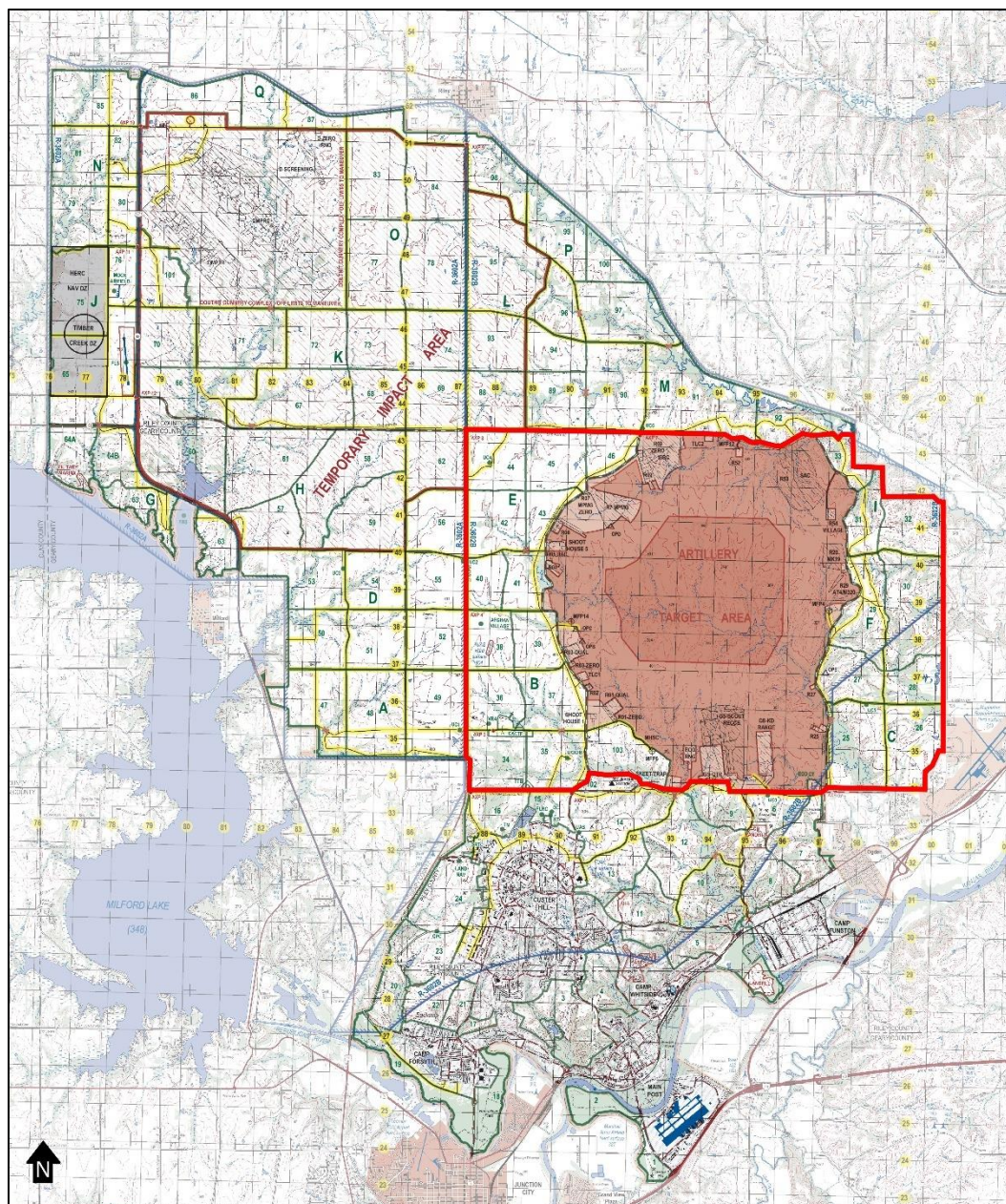


Table 5. Training areas and facilities in the 1942 installation area as of 2018.

Training Area	Training Facility
Impact Area	GS (General Schedule) QTR (Qualification Training Range) GS Scout Recce (Reconnaissance) GS KD (Known-Distance) Range R 25 R 27 Mortar Firing Point 4 R 29 (AT4/M320) R 29 (MK19) R 54 (Village) Support Area Command R 53 R 52 MFP (Mortar Firing Point) 12 TLC2 R 09 R 09 Zero Infantry Squad Battle Course R 7 MPMG (Multipurpose Machine Gun) R 07 MPMG Zero Operations Division R 06 Shoot House 5 R 05 UAC (Urban Assault Course) R 04 MFP 14 OPC (Observation point Charlie) OPB (Observation point Bravo) R 09—QUAL (Qualification) R 03—Zero TLC1 R 02 R 01—QUAL R 01—Zero MHSC (Mortar Hip Shoot Course) EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Range
25	UC (Urban Cluster) 5
26	No Named Facilities
27	No Named Facilities
28	No Named Facilities
29	No Named Facilities
30	No Named Facilities
31	No Named Facilities

Table 5 (cont.). Training areas and facilities in the 1942 installation area as of 2018.

Training Area	Training Facility
32	No Named Facilities
33	No Named Facilities
34	CACTF (Combined Arms Collective Training Facility) TTB (Tactical Training Base)
35	UODB (Urban Offense Defense Building)
36	VRA (Vehicle Recovery Area)
37	Shoot House 1
38	TUAS Hard Surface 404 Afghan Village
39	No Named Facilities
40	No Named Facilities
41	No Named Facilities
42	No Named Facilities
43	No Named Facilities
44	UC 4
45	No Named Facilities
46	No Named Facilities <sup>363</sup>

### 3.2.1 Activity from 1942 to 1963

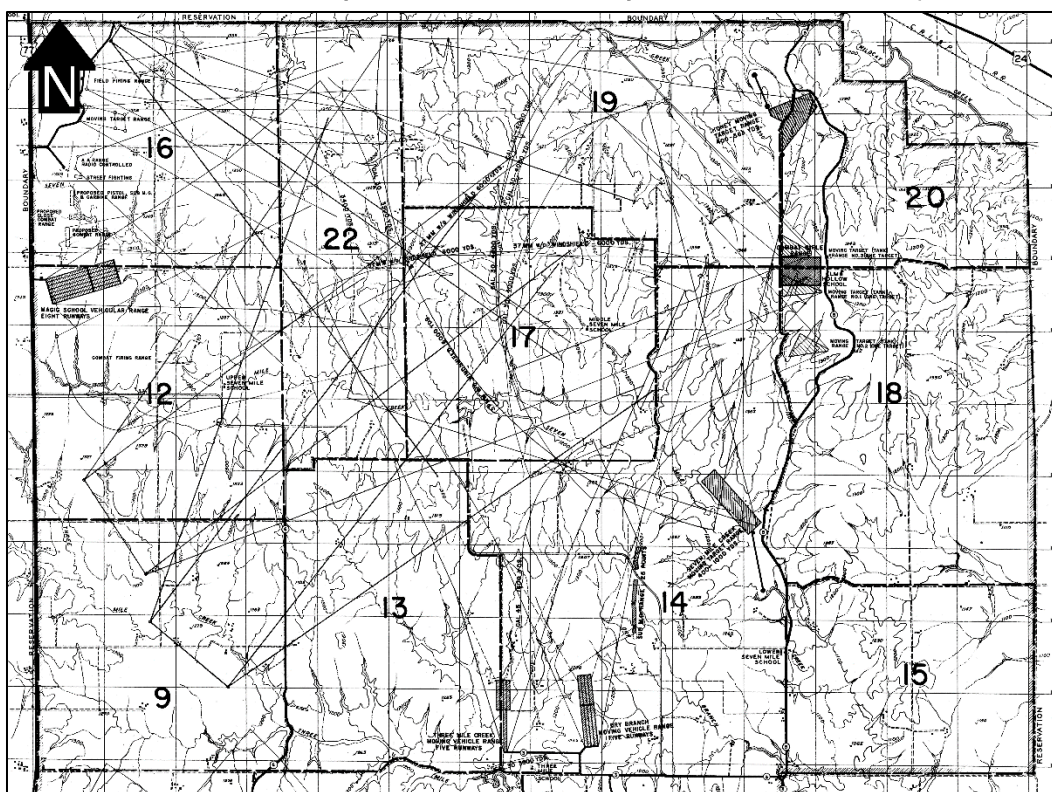
Following Fort Riley's 1942 expansion, the newly acquired acreage quickly became used as training lands (Figure 180). By 1943, this area housed the majority of the post's ranges, including a field firing range; a moving target range; a radio-controlled antiaircraft range; the Magic School Vehicular Range with eight runways (Figure 183);<sup>364</sup> a combat firing range (Figure 182); the Three-Mile Creek Moving Vehicle Range with five runways (Figure 181); two 37 mm M3 ranges without windshield with ranges of 6,000 yd; the Dry Branch Moving Vehicle Range with five runways (Figure 180); a submachine gun range with 25 firing points and a range of 1,600 yd; the Seven-Mile Creek Moving Target Range with ranges of 400–1,000 yd; moving target (tank) range nos. 1 and 2, each with one target and ranges of 30–4,000 yd; the Honey Moving Target Range with ranges of 400–563

363. US Army Sustainable Range Program, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*.

364. "Magic School" here likely refers to the former community of Magic, Kansas, located in the approximate area that later became the vehicular range. The Magic schoolhouse eventually burned down following a lightning strike in 1959; M. J. Morgan, "Magic: The Ultimate Vanishing Act" (unpublished manuscript, 2015), Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, Kansas.

yd; and four firing points associated with two ranges of unspecified purpose and distances. There was also a street-fighting course. A 1943 map shows the proposed locations of a pistol, machine gun, and carbine range; a combat range; an obstacle course; and a close-combat range. Notably, most of the firing points associated with these ranges, particularly those on the west side of the 1942 expansion area, are outside the 2018 impact area boundary.<sup>365</sup> A live hand-grenade court was located near the Magic School Vehicular Range, though it is not shown on maps (Figure 184).<sup>366</sup>

Figure 180. The 1942 expansion area, 1943. (Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoft, *Plan of the Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas*. Public domain.)



365. Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoft, *Plan of the Military Reservation of Fort Riley, Kansas*.

366. Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoft, *Live Hand Grenade Course Magic School Area*, December 30, 1942, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, Kansas.

Figure 181. General layout of moving vehicle ranges, 1942. (Howard, Needles, Tammen & Bergendoff, Fort Riley, Kansas Moving Vehicle Range General Layout, August 22, 1942, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

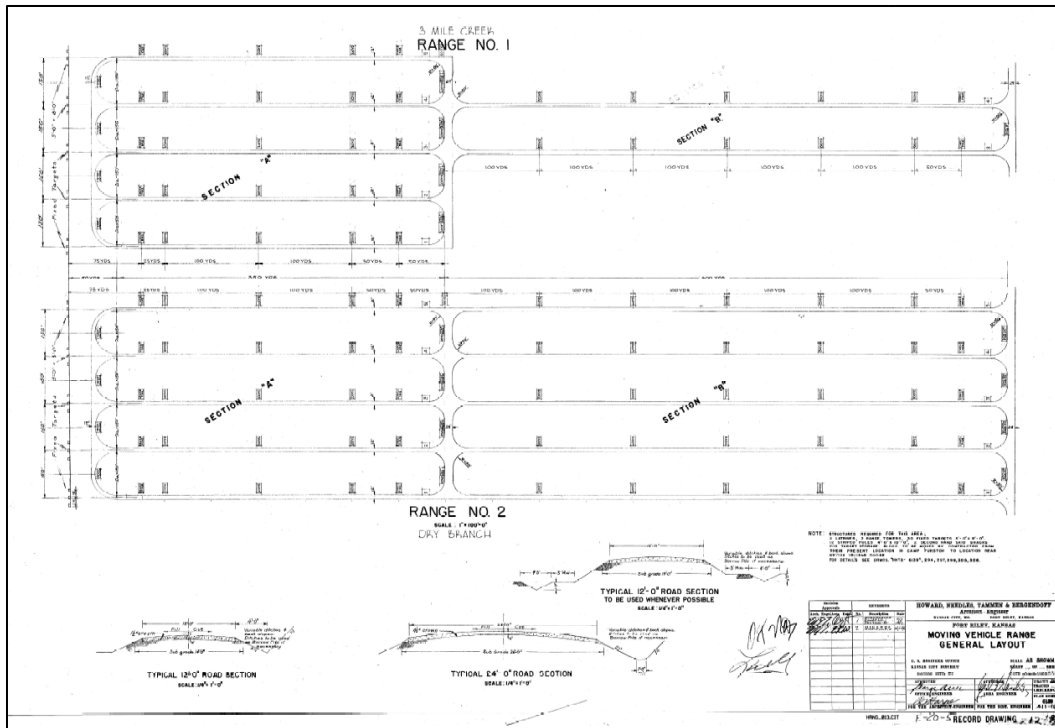


Figure 182. Details of Targets for Rifle & Machine Gun Combat Ranges, 1942. (Howard, Needles, Tammen, & Bergendoff, Details of Targets for Rifle & Machine Gun Combat Ranges, August 22, 1942, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

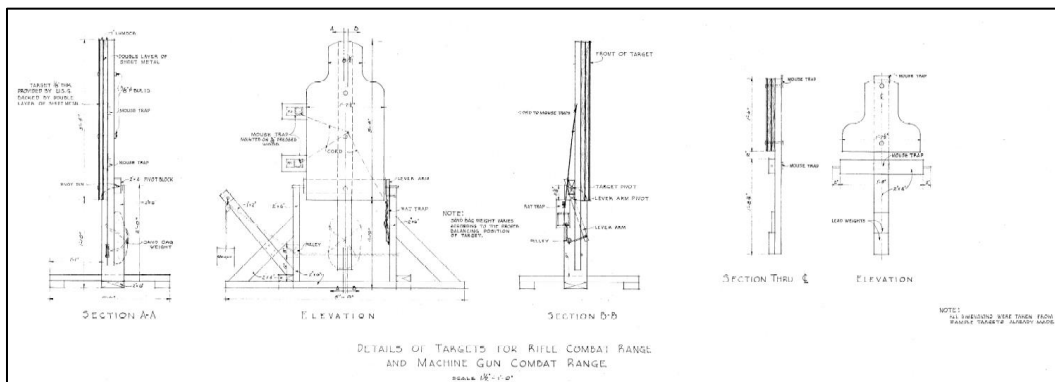


Figure 183. Layout of Magic School Vehicular Range, 1942. (US Engineer Office, Kansas City District, *Magic School Moving Vehicle Range*, November 20, 1942, Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS. Public domain.)

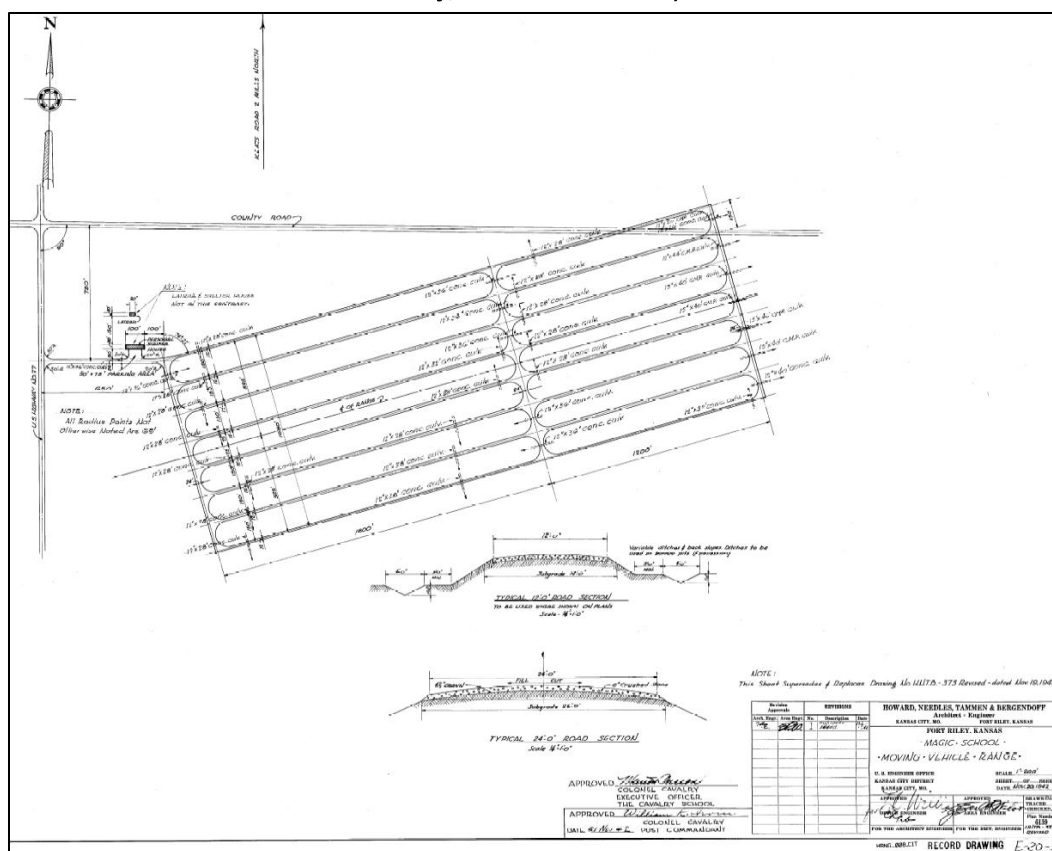




Table 6 (cont.). List of ranges at Fort Riley in 1962.

Range Number	Description
4-B	Pistol, NAT Course
5	Pistol, NAT Course
6-A	1,000 in., 12 and 25 meters
6-B	1,000 in., 25 meter and Landscape
7	1,000 in. and 25 meter
8	1,000 in., Moving and Stationary Targets and 25 meter
12	Pistol, STD Course
13	1,000 in., Moving and Stationary Targets and 25 meter
16	M79 Grenade Launcher
17	Technique of Fire, PH-II
18-A	Field Firing
18-B	Field Firing
18-C	M6 MG RF* Field Firing
19-A	3.5 in. Rocket Launcher, Field Firing
19-B	Rifle Grenade, Field Firing
20-A	Rifle Grenade, Field Firing
20-B	Rifle Grenade, Field Firing
23	MG Field Firing, TS-II
24	500 in., MG Field Firing
25	Hand Grenade Course
26	Close Combat Course
27-A	500 in. Defense Night-Firing Proficiency Course
27-B	Individual Night Firing
28	Combat in Towns
29	Field Firing Demonstration
30	Infiltration Course
31	Rifle, 500 in. and Platoon Attack Course
32	Rifle, 500 in. and Platoon Attack Course
34	Moving Target Range
37	Moving Target Range
38	Sub-MG Range
40	33 in. Rocket Launcher (Practice)

Table 6 (cont.). List of ranges at Fort Riley in 1962.

Range Number	Description
41	Indoor, SM BR, *, Building 1176 (Camp Funston)
42	Indoor, SM BR, Building 60 (Main Post)
43	Indoor, SM BR, Building 227 (Camp Forsyth) <sup>368</sup>

\*FAM is an unknown acronym. NAT likely stands for "national."

Table 7. Trainfire I ranges at Fort Riley in 1962.

Range Number	Description
1	Record Firing
2	Record Firing
3	Field Firing
4	25–75 meter
5	25–75 meter
6	Field Firing
7	25–75 meter
8	Field Firing
9	Field Firing
10	25–75 meter
11	Target Detection
12	Target Detection
13	Target Detection
14	Target Detection
15	Target Detection
16	Target Detection
17	Target Detection
18	Target Detection
19	Target Detection
20	Target Detection
21	Target Detection
22	Target Detection
23	Target Detection <sup>369</sup>

368. US Army Corps of Engineers, Reservation Boundary & Land Use Map.

369. US Army Corps of Engineers, Reservation Boundary & Land Use Map.

[illegible]

A c. 1964 map of this area shows an apparently reduced number of ranges within an expanded impact area (Figure 186). At this time, the 1942 expansion boundary area contained field strips 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7; 10 rifle ranges; and 2 vehicle firing ranges. There were six observation towers.<sup>370</sup>

Figure 186. The 1942 expansion area, c. 1964. (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*. Public domain.)



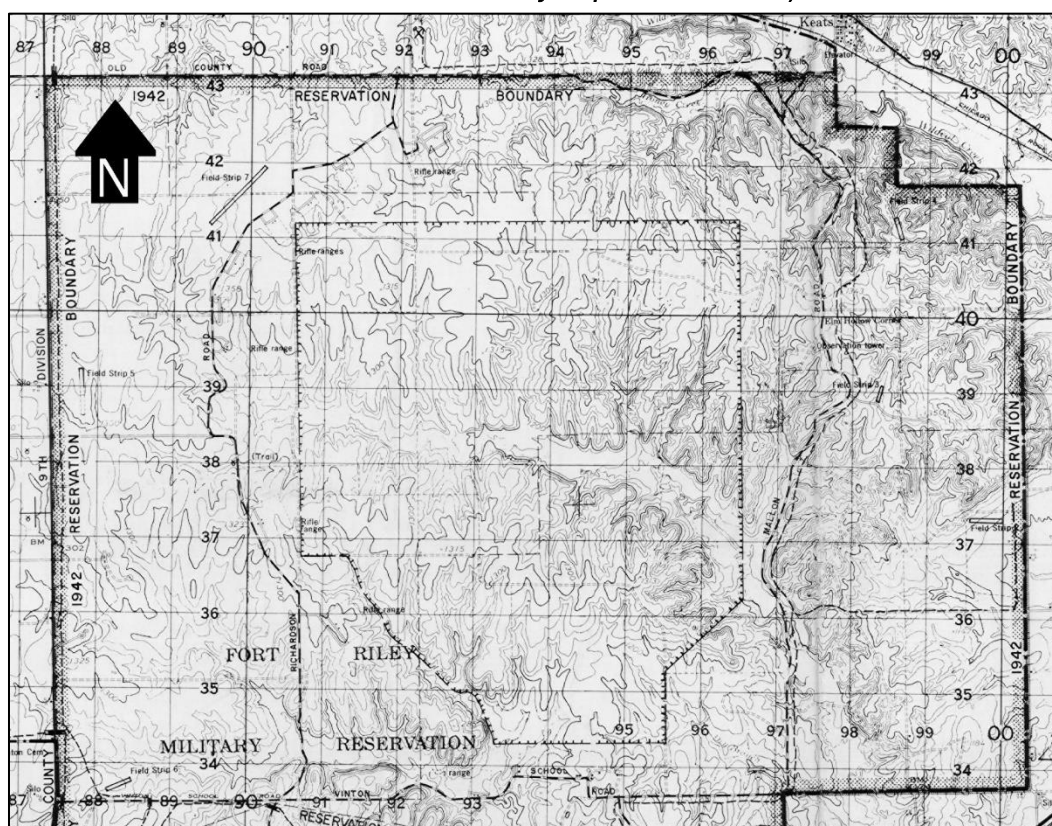
Minimal changes occurred to the training areas within the 1942 expansion boundary by 1973 (Figure 187).<sup>371</sup> By 1981, however, the number of ranges associated with the impact area had greatly expanded (Figure 188). Train-fire ranges included 2 record firing ranges (nos. 1 and 2), 2 field firing range (nos. 3 and 6); 4 25–75-meter ranges (nos. 4, 5, 7, and 10), 2 night field firing ranges (nos. 8 and 9), and 13 target detection ranges (nos. 11–23). Non-Trainfire ranges and facilities included the claymore mine area (demolition) (no. 16), a M203/M79 grenade launcher (qualification) range (no. 17), three field firing ranges (nos. 18-A, 18-B, and 19-B), a recoilless rifle field firing range (no. 18-C), a 3.5 in. light antiarmor weapon (LAW)

370. US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*, n.d.

371. US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*, 1973.

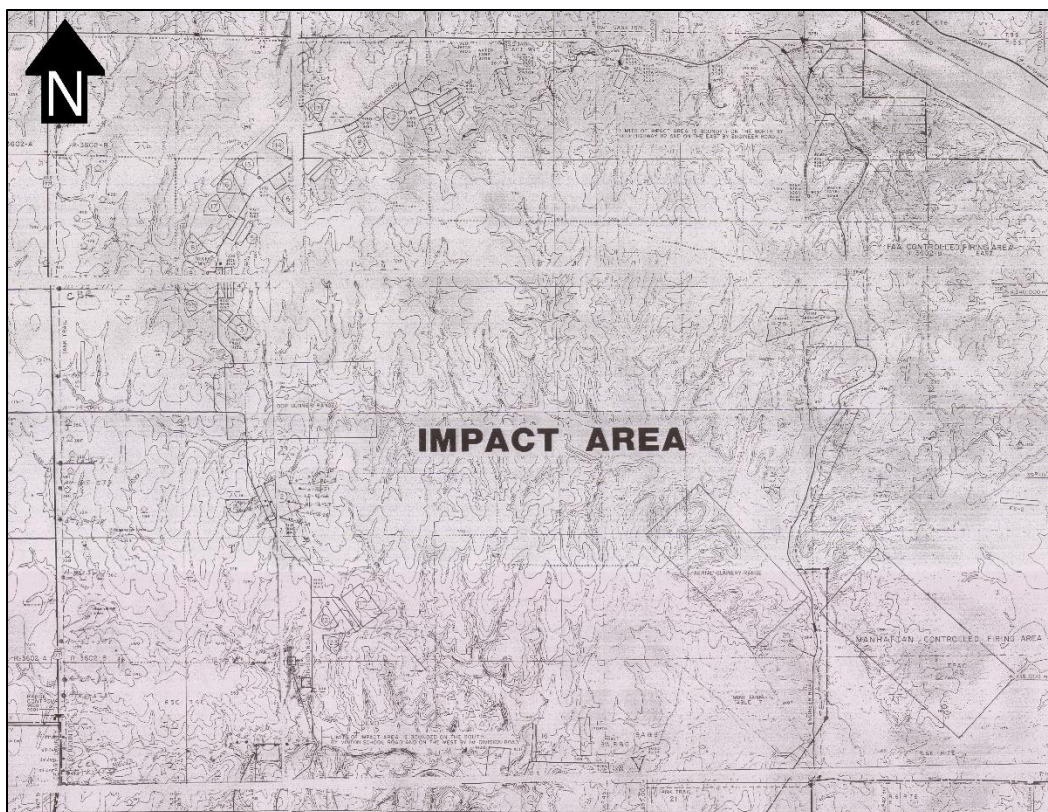
rocket launcher field firing range, a combined arms firing range (no. 21), a hand grenade court (no. 25), a field firing (demolition) range (no. 29), a moving target range (no. 34), a defense live-firing range (no. 35), two day-and-night infantry firing ranges (nos. 36 and 37), an observer defense range (no. 39), a tactical position and containment (TPAC) range (no. 40), a technique of fire rifle squad range (no. 51), a battle drill and assault rifle squad range (no. 52), a mechanized infantry squadron proficiency course (MISPIC) range (no. 53), a field artillery trainer (M-31), and a demolitions range (DEMO PT. 15).<sup>372</sup>

Figure 187. The 1942 expansion area, 1973. (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*. Public domain.)



372. Higginbotham and Associates, *Fort Riley Reservation Map*, n.d., scale not given (Kansas City, MO: US Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District), Fort Riley CRM Office, Fort Riley, KS.

Figure 188. The 1942 expansion area, c. 1981. (Higginbotham and Associates, *Fort Riley Reservation Map*, n.d., scale not given [Kansas City, MO: US Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District]. Public domain.)



By 1985, training areas associated with the artillery and mortar impact area, as well as the separate mortar impact area, are labeled (Figure 189); however, the purposes of each individual range or training area are unclear. Training facilities (TFs) 1–10 were likely rifle ranges. Specially labeled training facilities included the MISPIC range, the demolition range, the “MINI” VII range, and the explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) range.<sup>373</sup> The impact area, renamed the artillery target area, remained in 1997, though the arrangement of ranges around the impact area had changed slightly (Figure 190).<sup>374</sup>

373. Defense Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*. It is unknown if “MINI” is an acronym. If it is an acronym, its definition is unknown.

374. National Imagery and Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*.

Figure 189. The 1942 expansion area, 1985. (Defense Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*. Public domain.)

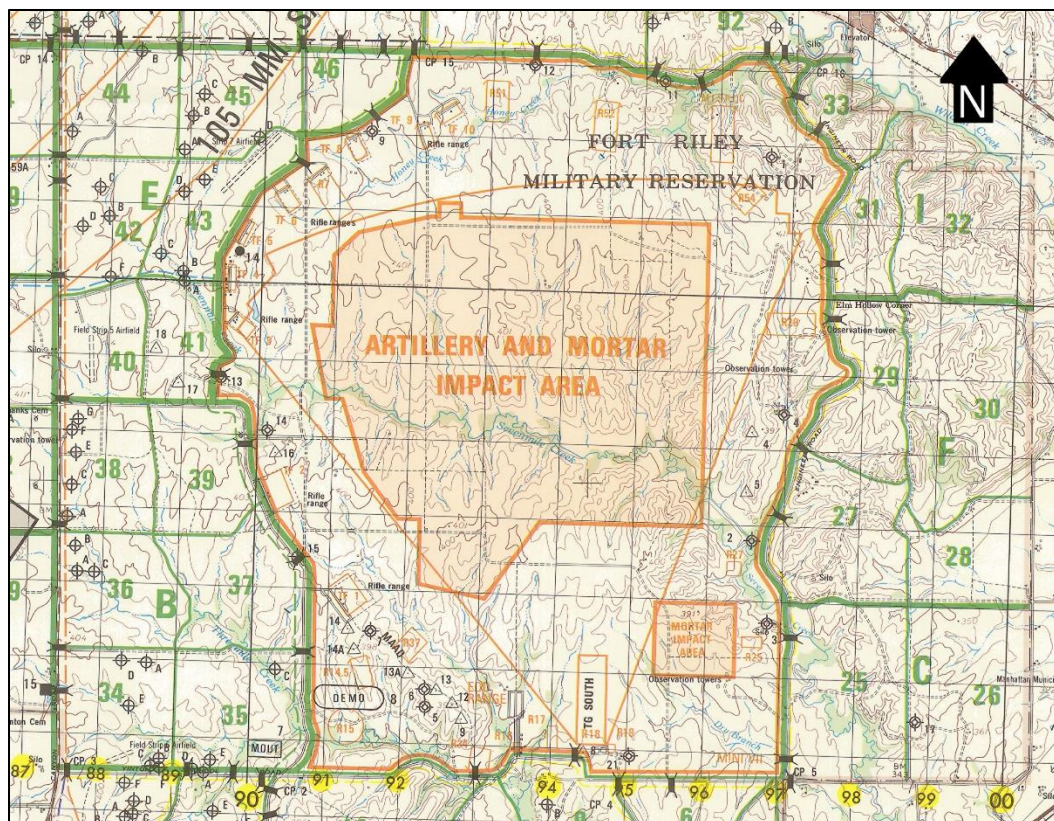
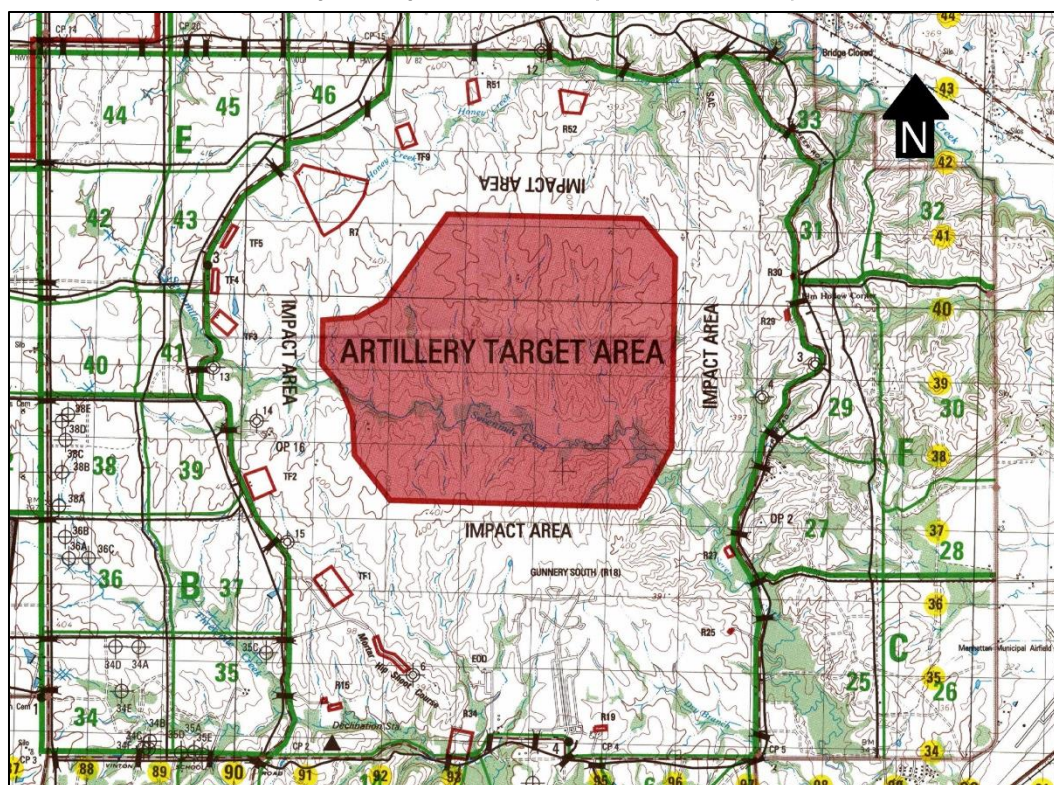


Figure 190. The 1942 expansion area, 1997. (National Imagery and Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*. Public domain.)



### 3.3 1964 expansion

The original installation area occupies the north and west-central portions of the reservation in 1964 (Figure 191). Table 8 shows current training areas and ranges in the 1964 expansion area. It has been active as a defined training area since 1964.<sup>375</sup>

<sup>375</sup>. US Army Sustainable Range Program, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*.

Figure 191. 1964 expansion area outlined on the 2018 Fort Riley Military Installation Map. (US Army Sustainable Range Program. Edited by ERDC-CERL. Public domain.)

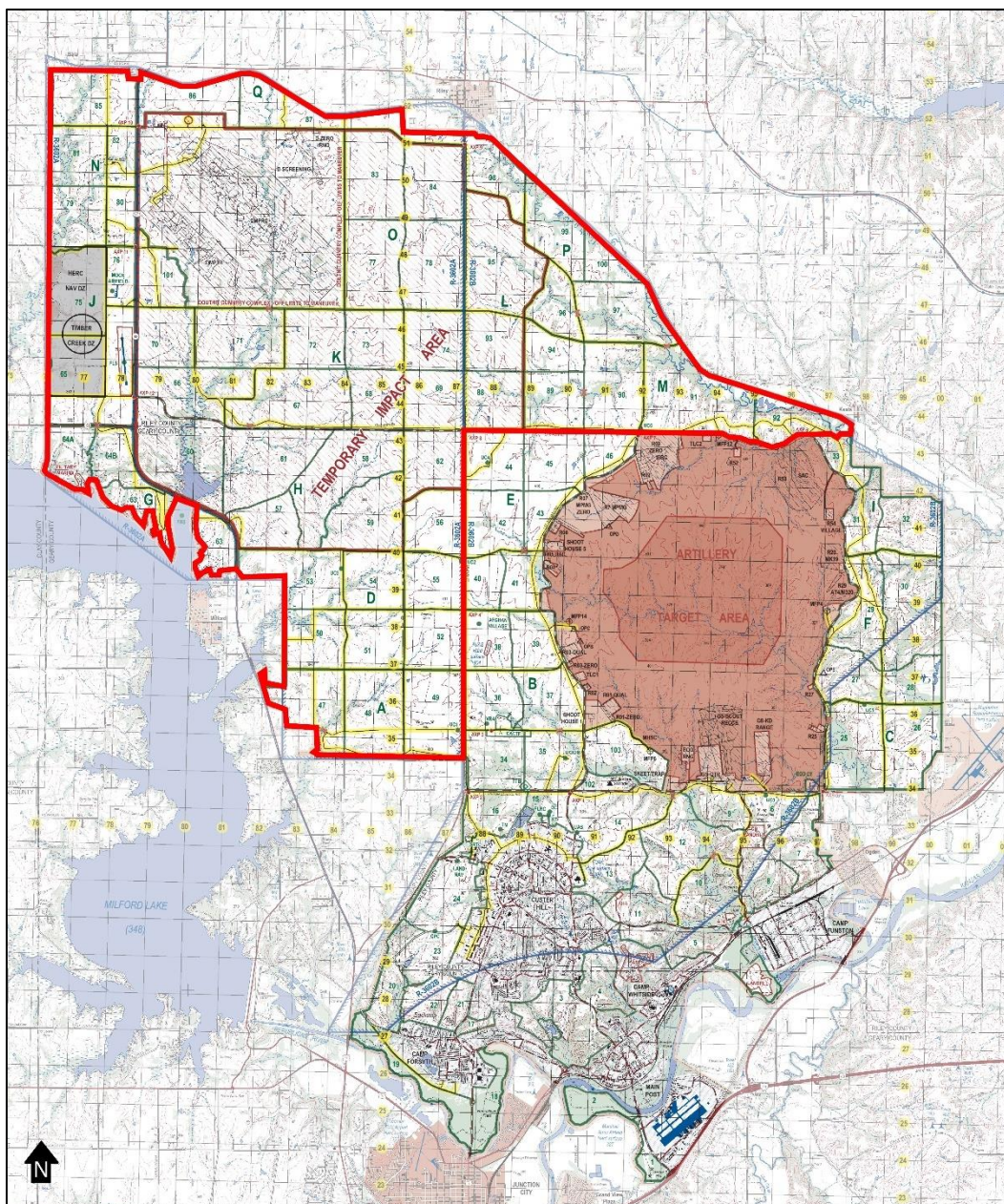


Table 8. Training areas and facilities in the 1964 expansion area as of 2018.

Training Area	Training Facility
MPRC	DMPTR DMPRC D—Screening D—Zero range
47	UC 1
48	No Named Facilities

Table 8 (cont.). Training areas and facilities in the 1964 expansion area as of 2018.

Training Area	Training Facility
49	No Named Facilities
50	No Named Facilities
51	No Named Facilities
52	No Named Facilities
53	UC 3
54	No Named Facilities
55	No Named Facilities
56	No Named Facilities
57	No Named Facilities
58	No Named Facilities
59	No Named Facilities
60	No Named Facilities
61	No Named Facilities
62	No Named Facilities
63	No Named Facilities
64A	Military Marina
64B	No Named Facilities
65	Timber Creek DZ (Split with TA 75) FLS (Field Landing Strip)
66	No Named Facilities
67	No Named Facilities
68	No Named Facilities
69	No Named Facilities
70	No Named Facilities
71	No Named Facilities
72	No Named Facilities
73	No Named Facilities
74	No Named Facilities
75	Timber Creek DZ (Split with TA 65)
76	Mock Airfield
77	No Named Facilities
78	No Named Facilities
79	No Named Facilities

Table 8 (cont.). Training areas and facilities in the 1964 expansion area as of 2018.

Training Area	Training Facility
80	No Named Facilities
81	No Named Facilities
82	No Named Facilities
83	No Named Facilities
84	No Named Facilities
85	No Named Facilities
86	No Named Facilities
87	No Named Facilities
88	No Named Facilities
89	No Named Facilities
90	No Named Facilities
91	No Named Facilities
92	No Named Facilities
93	No Named Facilities
94	No Named Facilities
95	No Named Facilities
96	No Named Facilities
97	No Named Facilities
98	No Named Facilities
99	No Named Facilities
100	No Named Facilities
101	No Named Facilities <sup>376</sup>

No defined training facilities were housed within the 1964 expansion boundary following Fort Riley's 1964 expansion (Figure 192).<sup>377</sup> By 1973, the 1964 expansion area included an impact area, though it is unclear what firing points or weapons were associated with this impact area (Figure 193).<sup>378</sup>

376. US Army Sustainable Range Program, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*.

377. US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*, n.d.

378. US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*, 1973.

Figure 192. 1964 expansion area, c. 1964. (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map*, n.d. Public domain.)

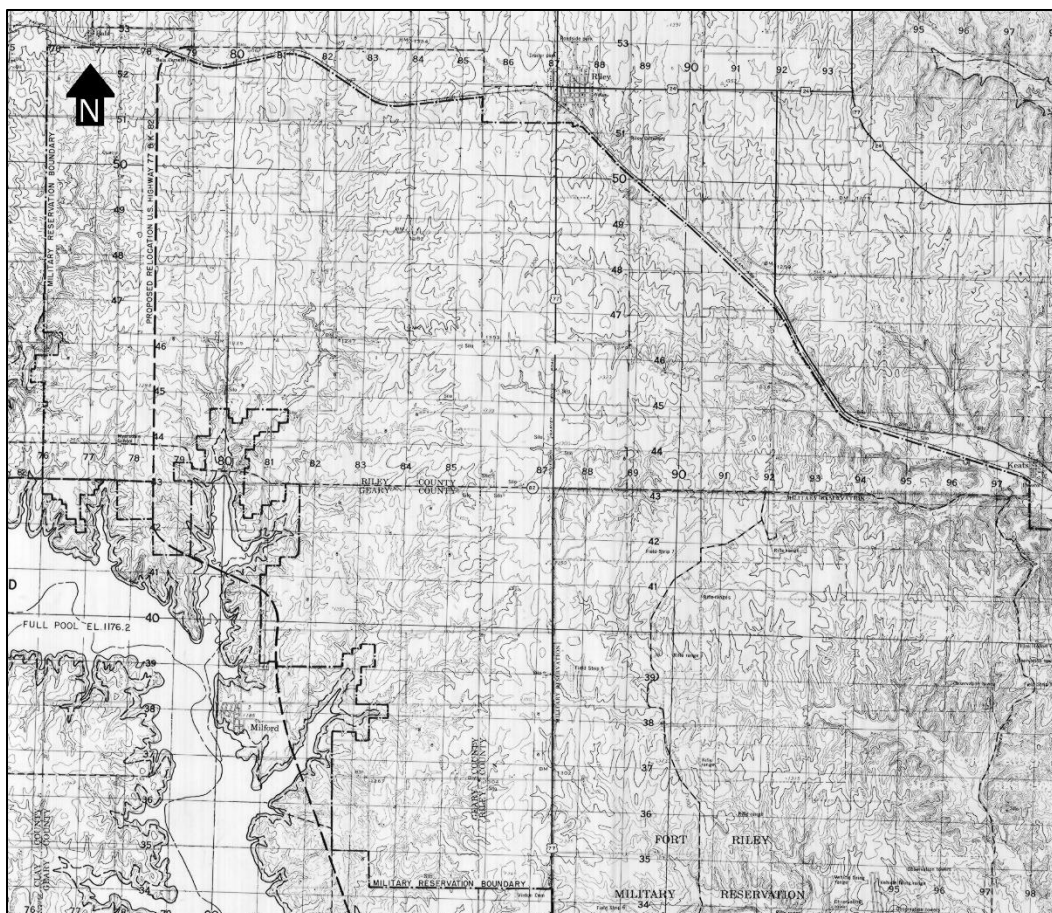
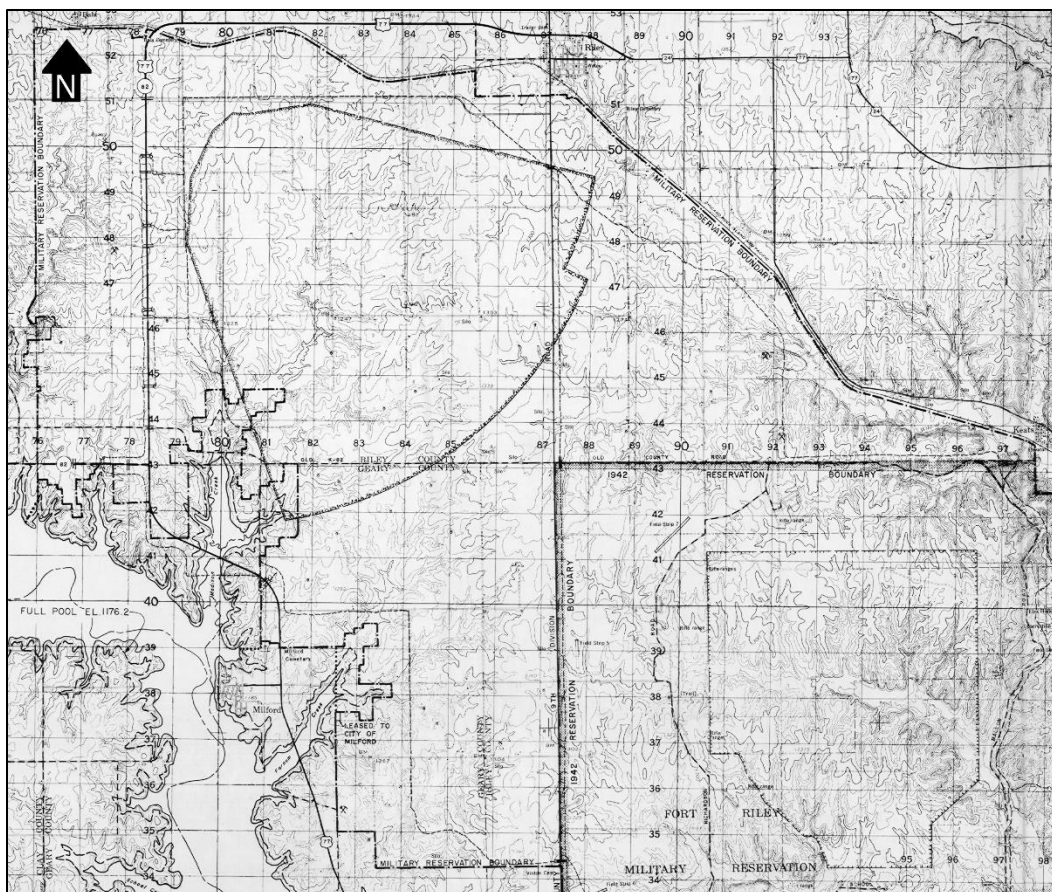


Figure 193. 1964 expansion area, 1973. (US Army Corps of Engineers, *Fort Riley Reservation and Vicinity Map, 1973.*)



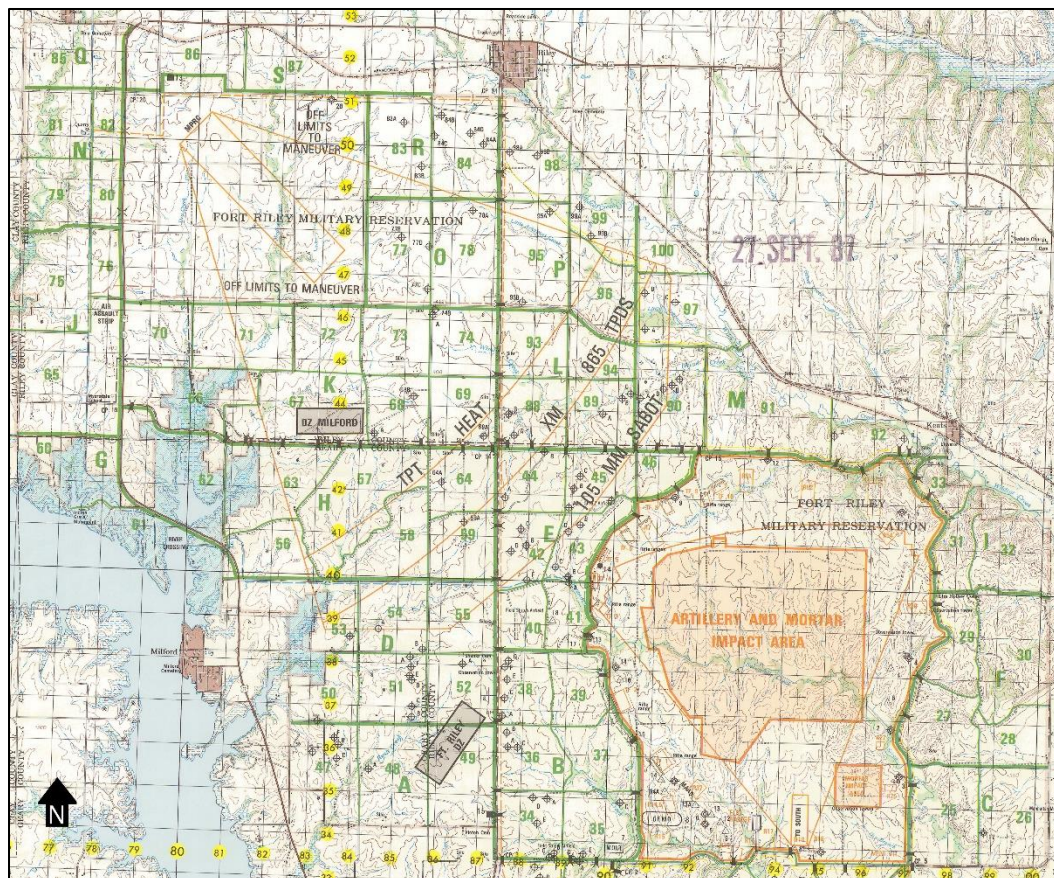
As of 1985, this defined impact area was labeled as an MPRC that was off limits to maneuvers (Figure 194). The fan of the MPRC contained drop zone (DZ) Milford and had three fan limits for a target-practice tracer (TPT), high-explosive antitank (HEAT) range; an XM 865 target-practice, discarding-sabot (TPDS) range; and a 105 mm “SABOT” range.<sup>379</sup> South of the MPRC’s fan and east of the 1942 expansion boundary was DZ Fort Riley. Firing points were scattered throughout the 1964 expansion area.<sup>380</sup> This rough arrangement of training facilities within the 1964 expansion area continued until 1997 (Figure 195), though the firing points were concentrated around the Fort Riley DZ, now shifted and renamed the New Riley DZ, by this time. A new drop zone, Timber Creek DZ, had been added

379. XM stands for “does not meet Military Specification 865.”

380. Defense Mapping Agency, Fort Riley Military Installation Map.

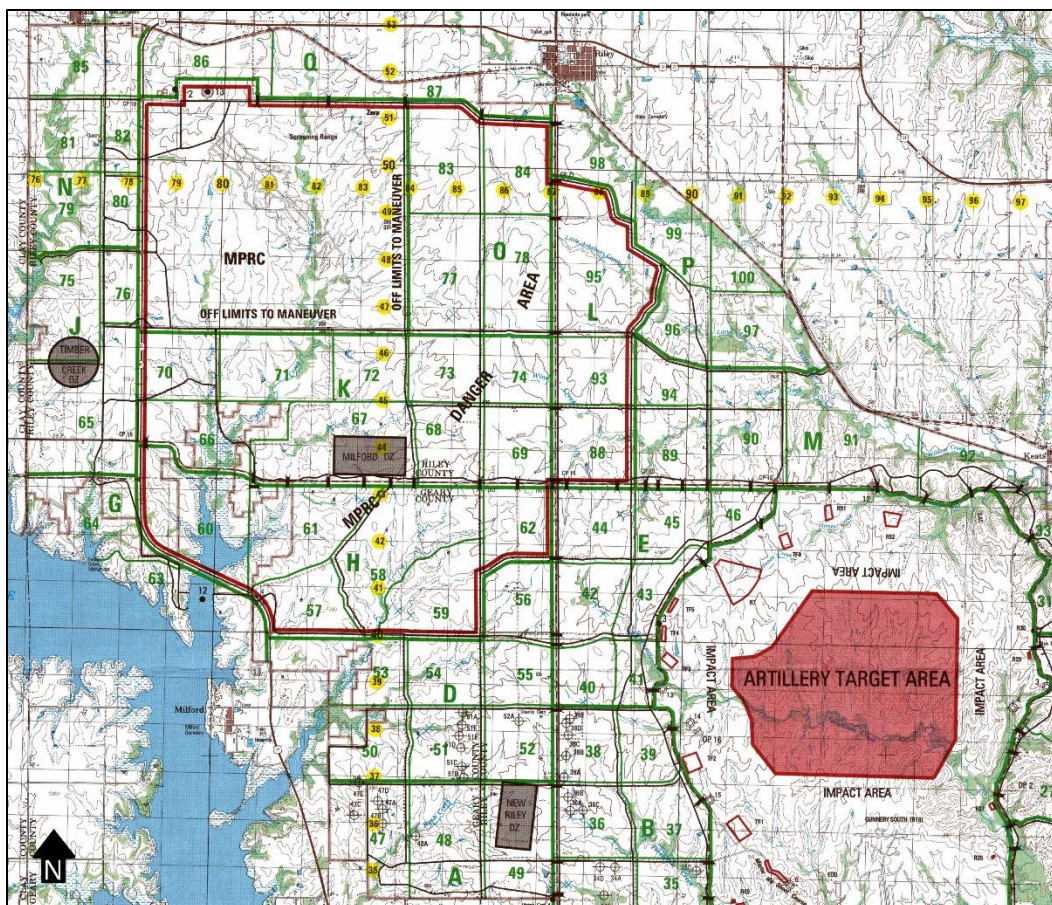
just east of the west installation boundary. Also, by 1997, the MPRC was expanded and contained a marked screening range.<sup>381</sup>

Figure 194. 1964 expansion area, 1985. (Defense Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*).



381. National Imagery and Mapping Agency, *Fort Riley Military Installation Map*.

Figure 195. 1964 expansion area, 1997. (National Imagery and Mapping Agency, Fort Riley Military Installation Map).



## 4 Conclusions and Recommendations

The intention of this document is to provide a broad overview of activities and construction that took place on Fort Riley to support its various training missions through the years. This report lays out the history of training activity and provides the detail necessary to enable researchers to tie the various training sites throughout the installation to a specific historic context.

### 4.1 Categories of historic properties

The identification of historically significant properties is achieved through evaluation of their position within a larger historic context. According to the NRHP, historic contexts are defined as “the patterns, themes, or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within prehistory or history is made clear.”<sup>382</sup> A historic property is determined significant or not significant by applying standardized National Register Criteria for Evaluation to property within its historical context. The NRHP categorizes significant properties as buildings, sites, districts, structures, or objects.<sup>383</sup> Definitions of these five property types are summarized below:

**Building:** A building is created principally to shelter any form of human activity. Examples of buildings include: administration building, house, barn, stable, train station, church, or shed.

**Structure:** Structures are distinguished from buildings by being functional constructions made for purposes other than creating human shelter. Examples of structures include: aircraft hangars, bandstands, bridges, canals, fences, kilns, or windmills.

**Object:** The term object is used to distinguish from buildings and structures those constructions that are primarily artistic in nature or are relatively small in

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382. National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, National Register Bulletin #15 (Washington, DC: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1997), 7, [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB-15\\_web508.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB-15_web508.pdf).

383. National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria*, 9.

scale and simply constructed. Although it may be, by nature or design, movable, an object is associated with a specific setting or environment. Examples of objects include boundary markers, fountains, monuments, sculptures, or statues.

**Site:** A site is the location of a significant event, a pre-historic or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure. Examples of sites include: battlefield, campsite, ceremonial site, designed landscape, rock shelter, or village site.

**District:** A district possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district can comprise both features that lack individual distinction and individually distinctive features that serve as focal points. A group of features lacking in individual distinction may even be considered eligible if the grouping achieves significance as a whole within its historic context. While a district derives its importance from being a unified entity, it can contain buildings, structures, sites, objects, or open spaces that do not contribute to the significance of the district if these properties do not adversely affect the district's integrity.<sup>384</sup>

## 4.2 National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) definitions and criteria

The identification of historically significant properties is achieved only through the evaluation of their position within the larger historic context. According to the NRHP, historic contexts are defined as “the patterns, themes, or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood, and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within

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384. National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria*, 7.

prehistory or history is made clear.”<sup>385</sup> A historic property is determined significant or not significant based on the application of standardized NRHP criteria within the property’s historical context. To qualify as historic, a property must have an association with a relevant historic context as well as having retained its physical integrity through which its historic significance is conveyed.<sup>386</sup>

The NRHP Criteria for Evaluation define how historic properties are significant for their association with important events (Criterion A), association with important persons (Criterion B), importance in design and construction (Criterion C), and information potential (Criterion D). A property may be significant under one or more criteria. The following is a brief description of each of the four NRHP Criteria for Evaluation:

**A. Event**—associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;

**B. Person**—associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

**C. Design/Construction**—embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; or that represents the work of a master; or that possesses high artistic values; or that represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;

**D. Information Potential**—yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history; or

**Criteria Consideration G**—a property achieving significance within the past fifty years is eligible if it is of exceptional importance.

A property that has achieved significance within the past fifty years can be evaluated only when sufficient

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385. National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria*, 7.

386. National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria*, 7, 44–45.

historical perspective exists to determine that the property is exceptionally important. The necessary perspective can be provided by scholarly research and evaluation and must consider both the historic context and the specific property's role in that context.<sup>387</sup>

### 4.3 Aspects of historic integrity

In addition to possessing historical significance, properties must also retain sufficient physical integrity of features to convey their significance and be eligible for the NRHP.<sup>388</sup> Historic properties both retain their integrity and convey their significance, or they do not. The NRHP recognizes seven aspects or qualities of a property that define the concept of integrity:

1. *Location* is the place where the historic property was constructed, or the place where the historic event occurred.
2. *Design* is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. It results from conscious decisions made during the original conception and planning of a property (or its significant alteration) and applies to activities as diverse as community planning, engineering, architecture, and landscape architecture. Design includes such elements as organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials.
3. *Setting* is the physical environment of a historic property. Setting refers to the character of the place in which the property played its historical role. It involves how, not just where, the property is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space.
4. *Materials* are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period

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387. National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria*, 2.

388. National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria*, 44–45.

of time and in a particular pattern or configuration, to form a historic property.

5. *Workmanship* is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.
6. *Feeling* is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time period.
7. *Association* is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.<sup>389</sup>

To retain historic integrity, a property must possess several, if not most, of the seven aspects. The retention of specific aspects of historic integrity is paramount for a property to convey its significance. Determining which of these aspects are most important to a particular property requires knowing why, where, and when the property is significant.<sup>390</sup>

Properties in a historic district are classified as either “contributing” or “noncontributing” resources. Contributing resources date from the historic period of significance established for the district. They contribute to the significance and character of the district through their historical associations, architectural values, or both. Noncontributing resources are those that, due to date of construction, alterations, or other factors, do not contribute to the district's historic significance or character.<sup>391</sup>

#### **4.4 Themes under which Fort Riley training facilities possess significance**

Through conducting archival research and developing the overall historic context for training at Fort Riley, the author determined that there are four periods of significance related to training under Criterion A: from 1885 to 1910, covering the establishment and development of the School of Instruction for Cavalry and Light Artillery; from 1934 to 1943, covering the post's first expansion and the mechanization of the cavalry; from 1945 to

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389. National Park Service, How to Apply the National Register Criteria, 44–45.

390. National Park Service, How to Apply the National Register Criteria, 44–45.

391. National Park Service, How to Apply the National Register Criteria, 44–45.

1960, covering the development of the air cavalry; and from 1950 to 1970, covering the post's second expansion and training by the 10th and 1st IDs.

With the periods of significance outlined above, the key to a property's significance is the following question: What properties on Fort Riley were constructed or adapted to directly support the US's efforts at developing the School of Instruction for Cavalry and Light Artillery, moving from a mounted to a mechanized cavalry, developing the air cavalry, or offering specialized training to recruits during the Cold War?

In addition to Criterion A, individual facilities may be significant under Criterion C for their architectural or engineering design, but Criterion C significance must be determined by Fort Riley on a case-by-case basis through location of additional architectural or engineering information. While the question "is it significant under Criterion C?" must be asked, the historic record has, thus far, not shown that any training facilities or properties at Fort Riley were designed by a noted architect or engineer, and that the ranges are typical Army range training properties.

#### **4.4.1 Specific themes**

Synthesizing the information in the chronology of training activities has led to several historic themes per period of significance. These are outlined below. Property types related to specific themes may be significant under NRHP Criterion A during a particular period, though their integrity must also be evaluated. Additionally, the exclusion of a property type from the following list does not automatically exclude it from potentially having significance under one of the thematic areas.

- Facility was constructed or reconstructed during 1885–1910 and was directly related to the School of Instruction for Cavalry and Light Artillery:
  - Maneuver areas
  - Target practice
  - Cavalry training
- Facility was constructed, underwent a major expansion, or was adapted and heavily used during 1934–1943 and was directly related to cavalry training and mechanization:

- Mounted cavalry training
  - Mechanized cavalry training
- Facility was constructed, underwent a major expansion, or was adapted and heavily used 1945–1960 and was directly related to air cavalry training:
  - Rotary-wing aircraft training
  - Airborne combat training
- Facility was constructed, underwent a major expansion, or was adapted and heavily used 1950–1970 and was directly related to providing specialized warfare training during the Cold War:
  - Infantry training
  - Weapons training
  - Artillery ranges
  - Maneuver areas
  - Target practice
  - Combat training
  - Specialized training (e.g., combat-in-cities, firefighting, mountain training, prisoner of war preparation, correctional training, etc.)

#### **4.4.2 Example of identification and evaluation process**

For a property at Fort Riley to meet NRHP Criterion A, it must be important under one or more of the themes established in this report. The property's importance must also have been achieved during the theme's period of significance. If the property cannot be tied to one of the themes, then the building, structure, site, district, or object does not have significance under Criterion A.

For example, in evaluating the two mounted pistol ranges that were constructed c. 1941 (see Section 3.1.1), they must be shown to have been important under the theme of cavalry training and mechanization during the period of 1934–1943. In this case, the property falls under the cavalry range property types determined to be significant under this theme. As the property is significant, aspects of integrity must be examined. The property should retain those aspects that are most important to conveying its significance; in this case, these aspects include targets, target boxes, railing, and a figure-eight layout. There must be enough era-specific elements

remaining to make it clear that the property was a mounted firing range. A scatter of era-specific bullets may not be enough to provide the sense of a mounted firing range. Extant elements must be analyzed in terms of the NRHP aspects of integrity to determine if they retain sufficient integrity to convey the story of cavalry mechanization. If the site is determined to have integrity, it is eligible as a landscape under Criterion A or as an archaeological site under Criteria A and D.

#### **4.5 Breakdown of typical evaluation process**

The cultural resources staff and its contractors should use this report during construction efforts to recognize the major trends in training at Fort Riley to identify facilities that potentially correlate with any of the four periods of significance (1885–1910, 1934–1943, 1945–1960, and 1950–1970).

The following steps will take future researchers through the process of determining NRHP eligibility for particular properties:

1. Determine if the property had an important role in one or more of the context thematic areas for training at Fort Riley.
2. If the property had no important role under these themes, then the property does not possess significance for training at Fort Riley.
3. If “yes” to the theme(s), then determine if the specific property or properties under review were important under that theme(s). Sometimes there may be multiple properties in the same area of Fort Riley that may address different themes over different periods of time, but all could be brought together as one historic district. Is there a spatial link to the properties? Or are they dispersed but all mission related?
4. If “yes” for individual groups of properties, then determine the importance of the property or properties to the training outlined in the Fort Riley historic context.
5. Identify the specific period(s) of significance (which may be more than one for multiple properties under one theme or may have multiple properties relating to more than one theme or may have one property with multiple themes and multiple periods of significance). A period of significance is the time span that the property had its most important uses for training at Fort Riley.
6. Determine if the property retains sufficient integrity to tell the story of its importance to its themes and if it also retains character-defining features.

- Character-defining features are those elements of the property that are visual representations of historic significance. This determination is made by visual inspection, comparison with historical documents or photographs, and evaluation to measure individual aspects of integrity. The property, although originally a building or structure, might now qualify as an archaeological site, and significance under Criterion D will have to be evaluated.
7. SIGNIFICANCE + INTEGRITY = ELIGIBILITY.

## 4.6 Recommendations

Without geographical data regarding extant training facilities, it will be difficult to evaluate the historic significance of training facilities as they reach 50 years of age. Therefore, it is the recommendation of this report that Fort Riley real property data for extant training facilities be spatialized with reference to the historic context.

Any facilities in this report that have reached 50 years of age and have not yet been evaluated for the NRHP should undergo evaluation. The training lands at Fort Riley that have reached 50 years of age should also undergo a landscape inventory per the four-volume *Military Training Lands Historic Context* (ERDC/CERL TR-10-08, TR-10-09, TR-10-10, and TR-10-11) by Dan Archibald, Adam Smith, Sunny Adams, and Manroop Chawla.<sup>392</sup>

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392. Dan Archibald, Adam Smith, Sunny Adams, and Manroop Chawla, *Military Training Lands Historic Context: Large Arms Ranges*, TR-10-8 (Champaign, IL: ERDC/CERL, 2010); Adam Smith, Manroop Chawla, Sunny Adams, and Dan Archibald, *Military Training Lands Historic Context: Miscellaneous Training Sites*, TR-10-09 (Champaign, IL: ERDC/CERL, 2010); Dan Archibald, Adam Smith, Sunny Adams, and Manroop Chawla, *Military Training Lands Historic Context: Training Village, Mock Sites, and Large Scale Operations Area*, TR-10-10 (Champaign, IL: ERDC/CERL, 2010); Dan Archibald, Adam Smith, Sunny Adams, and Manroop Chawla, *Military Training Lands Historic Context: Small Arms Ranges*, TR-10-11 (Champaign, IL: ERDC/CERL, 2010).

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## Abbreviations

AAUTC	Army Aviation Unit Training Command
AHA	Ammo holding area
AIT	Advanced individual training
AP	Antipersonnel
ASP	Ammunition supply point
AT	Antitank
@FRK	At Fort Riley Kansas
BES	Battle effects simulators
CACTF	Combined Arms Collective Training Facility
CERL	Construction Engineering Research Laboratory
CMTC	Citizens Military Training Camp
CPC	Crew proficiency course
CRM	Cultural resources manager
CTF	Correctional Training Facility
DMPRC	Digital multipurpose range complex
DMPTR	Digital multipurpose training range
DMZ	Demilitarized zone
DZ	Drop zone
EOD	Explosive ordnance disposal
ERDC	Engineer Research and Development Center
FLRC	Field leadership reactionary course
FLS	Field landing strip

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GS	General Schedule
HE	High energy
HEAT	High-explosive anti-tank
HQACC	Headquarters, Air Combat Command
ID	Infantry division
KD	Known distance
KU	Kansas University
LAND NAV	Land navigation
LAW	Light antiarmor weapon
MAAF	Marshall Army Airfield
MAT	Moving armor targets
MFP	Mortar firing point
MG	Machine gun
MHSC	Mortar hip shoot course
MISPIC	Mechanized infantry squadron proficiency course
MIT	Moving infantry targets
MK	Mark (meaning model or variant)
MOTC	Medical officers training camp
MPMG	Multipurpose machine gun
MPRC	Multipurpose range complex
NARA	National Archives and Records Administration
NBC	Nuclear, biological, and chemical
NCO	Noncommissioned officer

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NHPA	National historic preservation act
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
OC	Obstacle course
OPB	Observation point Bravo
OPC	Observation point Charlie
QTR	Qualification training range
QUAL	Qualification
R	Range
Recce	Reconnaissance
RF	Rapid fire
RG	Record group
RNG	Range
ROAD	Reorganization of Army Divisions
ROTC	Reserve Officer Training Corps
RT	Rappel tower
SAT	Stationary armor targets
SM BR	Small bore
SRTC	Seitz Regional Training Complex
STO	Split training option
STRAC	Strategic Army Corps
TF	Training facility
TM	Trench/mine facility
TPAC	Tactical position and containment

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TPDS	Target practice discarding sabot
TPT	Target-practice tracer
TTB	Tactical training base
TUAS	Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System
UAC	Urban assault course
UAS	Unmanned aircraft systems
UAV	Unmanned aerial vehicle
UC	Urban cluster
UODB	Urban offense defense building
VRA	Vehicle recovery area
XM	Does not meet Military Specification 865

# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

<b>1. REPORT DATE</b> October 2023		<b>2. REPORT TYPE</b> Final Report		<b>3. DATES COVERED</b>	
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<b>13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES</b> Project Number 497353, "Training Ranges and Areas," and MIPR 11443255					
<b>14. ABSTRACT</b> <p>The US Congress codified the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), the nation's most effective cultural resources legislation to date, mostly through establishing the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NHPA requires federal agencies to address their cultural re-sources, which are defined as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object. Section 110 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to inventory and evaluate their cultural resources, and Section 106 requires them to determine the effect of federal undertakings on those potentially eligible for the NRHP.</p> <p>Fort Riley is in north-central Kansas within Riley and Geary Counties. It consists of six functional areas, including the Main Post, Camp Funston, Marshall Army Airfield (MAAF), Camp Whitside, Camp Forsyth, and Custer Hill. This report provides a historic context for ranges, features, and buildings associated with the post's training lands in support of Section 110 of the NHPA.</p>					
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