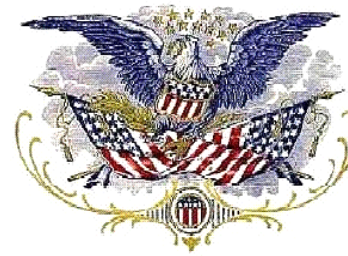


Fort McKavett State Historical Site  
P. O. Box 68  
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# Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

Volume 10, Number 7

July, 2011

## Fort McKavett Upcoming Events

**Sept 17**, Caprock Canyons S.P.

Release of Bison Herd

**Oct 7-8**, Fort Griffin Living

History Days, Education Day  
on Friday\*

**Oct 15**, Fort Day at Fort  
Stockton

**Oct 29**, Fort McKavett Fall Star  
Party\*

**Dec 2-4**, Christmas at Old Fort  
Concho, Education Day on  
Friday.

**\*THC Historic Sites Event**

*Color Copies of all the Fort McKavett  
Gazettes can be found at:*

[www.fortmckavett.org](http://www.fortmckavett.org)



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
*real places telling real stories*

## Notes from the Fort

It was pretty busy at the post in June with the Old Stories, New Voices program, the restoration project on going at the Presidio in Menard and living history exhibits at Morton.

Summer vacation time is on us and site sponsored events will slow down for a while. This has been a busy year for everyone and some time off is well deserved.

There were so many photos taken of the fort, the staff and the campers, that it will take us several months to get them all posted.

There will be more next month.

See you on the trail!

**John Cobb**  
President  
Friends of Fort McKavett





Old  
Stories,  
New  
Voices  
2011

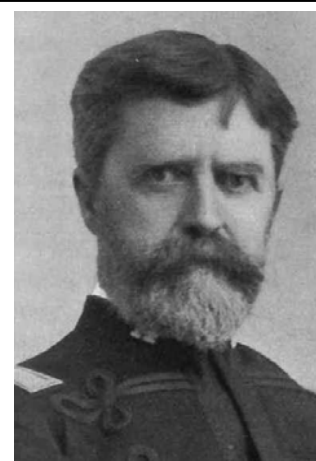


*Soldiers Mound (Anderson's Fort), north of Spur, Texas*

## Fort McKavett on the Llano Estacado

In 1874-1875, Major Thomas M. Anderson with the 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry from Fort McKavett operated the forward supply base for the Mackenzie and Shafter expeditions on the Staked Plains. Supplies for the expeditions came out of Fort McKavett and Fort Griffin with wagon trains moving back and forth constantly.

You can see by the photo above, the slope is gentle enough for wagons to crest the hill from the north and was protected by cliffs on the other three sides. Anderson stacked supply boxes and crates around the encampment, making a "fort". This was noted in documents from Mackenzie and Carter of the 4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry. They nicknamed the site as "Anderson's Fort".



*Major Thomas M. Anderson (left) while serving at Fort McKavett with the 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry Regiment.*

*Anderson served as Commanding Officer several times during his tenure at McKavett. He served through the Spanish ~ American War and retired in 1900 as a Major General.*

## *McKavett at Morton 2011*



*John Cobb is shown with friends at Cochran County's "Last Frontier Days" in Morton, June 2011. This was one of the largest crowds in the history of this event. Vintage Baseball, a "Ladies Tea Party" for 4-10 year olds, a Parade, and many more activities were held.*



**The THC restoration of the Presidio de San Sabá is on-going and the site is really looking good. Updates to follow!**

## **From the Army Cooks Manual**

### **COOKING CANNED GOODS.**

Before using canned goods, see that the ends of each can are sunk in. If such is the case, the contents are good and wholesome, and there need be no hesitation in using them. If the ends of the can are springy or bulged outward, look upon it with suspicion. A swelled or bulged can usually means fermented contents and spoiled goods. The general rule as to bulged ends does not apply to condensed milk, which is frequently put up in cans that have a convex end.

After the can has been opened, pour contents immediately into a porcelain or glass dish; never leave them in the can, as this act is often the innocent cause of sickness, owing to the natural chemical action of the air upon the tin.

Always bear in mind that all canned goods have received a cooking, varying in length of time from five minutes to seven hours, according to the character of the goods, and that but little further cooking is necessary.

*By the mid-1870's, they had found that cooking or heating the contents in the can was not healthy, so a new way of preparing canned goods came out.*

### **PUTRID WATER**

should always be boiled with charcoal or charred sticks before drinking, as low fevers and dysenteries too often are the consequence of its being used indiscreetly, but the charcoal entirely disinfects it; bitter herbs, if steeped in it, or even rubbed well about the cup, are said to render it less unwholesome. The Indians plunge a hot iron into putrid and muddy water.

When carrying water in buckets, put a wreath of grass, or something floating on the top of the water, to prevent splashing; and also make a hoop, inside which the porter walks, while his laden hands rest on the rim, the office of the hoop being to keep the buckets from knocking against his legs.

## Views of the Old Stories, New Voices Camp, 2011



*Flag Raising by the Campers*



Upper Left: Campers working on lessons in the barracks. Upper Right: Meal time. Lower Right: Return from the canoe trip.



Above: The "Big Tent" at Fort McKavett served as the dining hall for our campers



## More Camp Photos...



Campers on the move...



*Fort McKavett State Historic Site looks forward to working with the Texas State Historical Association to continue this program for students to learn about Texas*



*Campers got to play vintage baseball on the parade grounds, vintage games, and received lessons in 1800's lifestyles during their stay at Fort McKavett.*

