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FORT (CAMP) HALLECK

Fort (Camp) Halleck was located on the right (east) bank of Cottonwood Creek—now known as Soldier Creek—about 6 miles from its source and nearly the same distance from its confluence with Secret Creek. This site is at the foot of the western slope of the Ruby Mountains, in Elko County, 30 miles from Elko and about 12 miles south of the railroad station at Halleck, on the Union Pacific Railroad; in T. 34, N.R. 59, E.Secs. 28 and 29, altitude above sea level 5,790 feet.

The post was established as Camp Halleck 26 July 1867, by Capt. S. P. Smith with Co H 8th US Cav, in compliance with orders of Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, CG Mil Div Pac. Its purpose was to protect construction work on the Central Pacific Railroad against Indian forays, and travel over the Hastings Cutoff road which came through the pass between the East Humboldt range and the Ruby Mountains, as well as the Humboldt River route.

The title of the post was changed to Fort Halleck 5 April 1879, by GO 2 Mil Div Pac, same date.

The reservation, rhomboid in form, was set aside by executive order dated 4 Oct 1874. It contained 10,900.93 acres, about 9 square miles, and included some good grass land and an abundance of timber. The timber reserve was south of the post on the mountain slope and the hay reserve was located on the Humboldt River near the town of Halleck. The post was situated in the southeastern part of the post reserve.

The post was named for Maj. Gen. Henry Wager Halleck.

Camp Halleck was a two-company post having the buildings arranged on the sides of a rectangular parade ground which measured 200 feet north and south, by 320 feet east and west.

Two barrack buildings fronted the parade on the south side, one built of adobe, the other logs, stockade fashion—logs vertically placed in a bed or trench. The bakery, kitchens, and mess halls were in separate structures in rear of the barracks. A third barrack, pisé construction, was added in 1879.

The officers' quarters, one frame and three adobe, double sets, occupied the east side of the parade. An additional frame set later was added on the north side at the east end. Adjoining this last set on the west were the commissary and quartermaster's storehouses. The adobe hospital stood 250 feet north of the line of officers' quarters.

The guardhouse, stockade construction, and a magazine built of stone, were on the north side of the parade. The stables and corrals were to the west and in rear of the guardhouse. Quarters for married men were situated southwest of the parade, south of the guardhouse.

Several streams ran through the reservation. Water was brought to the post from a spring at the foot of the mountains by an acequia, or ditch, 2 miles long, constructed by the labor of the soldiers.

In April 1868, Co I 12th Inf arrived from the east to increase the

garrison. When Fort Ruby was abandoned in September 1869, the garrison of that post, Co I 9th Inf, was sent to Camp Halleck, but remained only a short time as the 9th Infantry was transferred to the Department of the Platte for the purpose of performing guard duty along the line of the Union Pacific Railroad.

In May 1868, Hq Dist Nev was transferred from Fort Churchill, which was being abandoned, to Camp Halleck. Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. I. Gregg, Col 8th Cav, was in command of the district, post, and regiment. During General Gregg's sojourn at the post parties were held by the officers and soldiers that were attended and enjoyed by residents of the region. Ladies and gentlemen from Elko were brought by the railroad to Halleck Station and from there conveyed in carriages to the fort. Remaining overnight, they returned home the following day. On one occasion the people of Elko gave a surprise party for the garrison at the post.

When the 8th Cav moved to New Mexico 5 May 1870, it was replaced by the 3d Cav. Bvt. Brig. Gen. W. N. Grier, Col 3d Cav, became district and post commander until his retirement 15 Dec 1870. Co I 3d Cav under Capt. James Curtis was part of the garrison. The following year Hq 3d Cav and the companies of that regiment at Camp Halleck were sent to Arizona. Co I 3d Cav was replaced by Co K 1st Cav, Capt. J. Biddle, who commanded the company and post for several years.

In 1871 Maj. Gen. O. E. C. Ord, CG Dept Calif, reported that the troops at several posts in the department were compelled to live in delapidated or most insufficient quarters and such was the case at Camp Halleck.

In his annual report to the War Department 2 Oct 1872, Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, CG Mil Div Pac, stated that "Camp Halleck, having been established before the location of the Central Pacific Railroad, is 12 miles from that road. It is consequently less efficient and more expensive in the support of troops than it would be at some point on the road. Yet, as the buildings are in good condition, having been repaired within the past year, to avoid the cost of building a new post, I do not now urge removal of Camp Halleck."

Detachments from the post were ready when required to protect the Central Pacific Railroad, over which they could be sent with tolerable facility to any threatened point.

Captain Jack, chief of the Modoc Indians, early in 1873, took his tribe on the warpath in the Lava Beds of northern California. Among the troops dispatched to the scene of hostilities was Co K 1st Cav, which left Camp Halleck in February 1873, remaining in the field until June before returning to its station. Shortly afterward it was transferred to Oregon, being replaced by Co I, same regiment, Capt. C. C. Carr in command. Co I 12th Inf was relieved by Co H, same regiment, Capt. May H. Stacey in command. The garrison then continued unchanged for 4 years.

Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield, CG Mil Div Pac, in his annual report 20 Sept 1875, stated: "Camp Halleck is not well located; it should be at some point on the railroad, not very far from its present location, but since all efforts during the last three years have failed to obtain the necessary appropriation for building a new post, I have no desire to say more on the subject. It being necessary to keep a considerable force somewhere in that vicinity, I now recommend that Camp Halleck gradually be enlarged and improved, until it is capable of accommodating three companies under a field officer."

The Nez Percé Indian uprising in Idaho called Co I 1st Cav into the field from 21 June to 11 Nov 1877.

The 8th and 12th Infantry regiments exchanged stations in 1878. Co G 8th Inf, Capt. J. N. Andrews, replaced Co H 12th Inf at Camp Halleck. On 4 June, Co I 1st Cav again left the post to take part in the Bannock Indian campaign in Oregon, remaining absent until 3 November; Maj. G. B. Sanford, 1st Cav, assumed command of the post.

The Fort Halleck Military Reservation was declared by the President 11 Oct 1881.

In October 1881 the "Companies" of cavalry began to be designated "Troops" on the regimental returns. Although the designation Troop had been in use for dragoon and cavalry companies since prior to and during the Civil War, it was not officially accepted until 1881 and further confirmed by Cir 8 AGO, 8 Sep 1883.

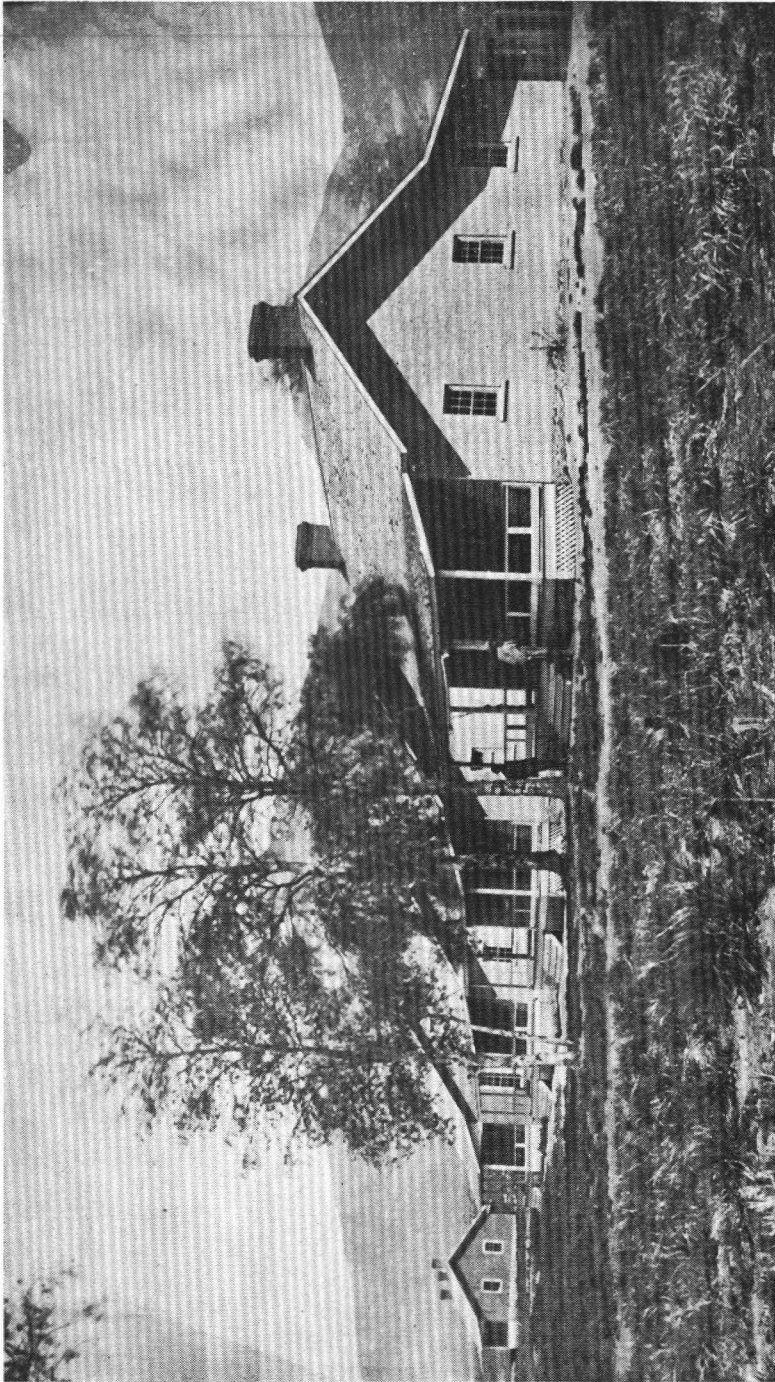
Troop I 1st Cav, at this time, was sent to Arizona to fight against Apache Indians, returning to Fort Halleck 27 Dec 1883. In the meantime, Co C 8th Inf had relieved Co G, same regiment, 11 Aug 1882.

In his annual report to the Secretary of War for 1882 General of the Army Wm. T. Sherman recommended that Fort Halleck be abandoned as being obsolete and that authority be asked of Congress to dispose of all the buildings and materials that could not be moved, and to sell the reservation, or transfer it to the Interior Department for sale or grant under existing laws for the disposition of the public domain.

In 1884, the 1st Cavalry was transferred to the Department of Dakota, after a tour of nearly 30 years on the Pacific Coast, during the greater part of which time its stations were removed from civilization and its duties of a most arduous and thankless character. This move left Capt. A. W. Corliss with his company of the 8th Infantry, 3 officers and 36 enlisted men comprising the garrison of the post. The following year Capt. E. B. Savage, same regiment, assumed command of the fort.

In his report for 1884, Maj. Gen. John Pope, CG Mil Div Pac, stated that there did not seem sufficient reason to keep up Fort Halleck, but as his recommendation to abandon the fort was not favorably considered by General Sheridan, he forbore any further remarks on the subject. General Pope in his report for 1885 repeated his comments made the previous year.

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard, who succeeded General Pope in command of the division, reported in 1886: "There seems no good reason why



Officers Quarters, Camp Halleck.

Fort Halleck, Nev. should not be abandoned. It is 12 miles from the railroad, and possesses no paramount importance as a strategic point. There are few Indians in the vicinity; the nearest reservation (Western Shoshone) being over 100 miles north in Idaho. There are but few settlers in that region, the whole country being covered with dense sagebrush, and these need no protection. These settlers are of course interested in some degree in keeping up the post, in order to have a market near at hand for what grain and other supplies they can raise. It is, considering its size, the most expensive post in the department."

The last garrison, Capt. R. G. Armstrong's company of the 1st Infantry, 2 officers and 43 enlisted men, moved to Fort McDermit in 1886, and on 11 Oct 1886, the Secretary of War authorized the relinquishment of the Fort Halleck Military Reservation.

The fort was closed 1 Dec 1886, and turned over to the Interior Department. During the years that followed the buildings were looted, dismantled, and the materials and lumber carried off. On 1 Feb 1898, the U.S. Land Office held a sale at the old post where the remaining structures, yet standing, were sold to residents and ranchers of the vicinity.

The bodies buried in the post cemetery were moved to the Presidio of San Francisco where they were reinterred.

Today the site of the post is practically barren of evidence of its past. The Daughters of Utah Pioneers have erected a monument on the roadside at the post site which marks the location of the fort and briefly relates the story of Fort Halleck's 19 years of service to the West.

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FORT HAVEN

Fort Haven was an earthwork located on the Truckee River about 1 mile from Pyramid Lake; thrown up by soldiers of the "Carson Valley Expedition" under command of Capt. Joseph Stewart, 3d Art, about 6 June 1870, after the fight his troops and the Nevada militia had with Piute Indians, led by young Winnemucca, on 2 June 1860.

It was named in honor of Maj. Gen. J. P. Haven, California Militia, who served as a volunteer aide of the staff of Colonel Hay's Washoe Regiment of Nevada and had participated in the battle.

Myron Angel, p. 164, states that General Haven volunteered as a private in Colonel Hay's regiment. Colonel Hays in his report to Governor Cummings of Utah Territory states that General Haven "served as a volunteer aide upon my staff."

Stewart's command remained there until 15 July 1860, when it marched to the Big Bend of the Carson River and established Fort Churchill. Fort Haven then was abandoned.

FORT HAVEN BIBLIOGRAPHY

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 Report of the Secretary of War, 1860, p. 89.

CAMP HAYS

Camp Hays was a temporary camp 20 miles east of Carson City where Nevada militia assembled in May 1860 to fight against Indians in the Pyramid Lake Indian War. The camp was at Reed's Station.

It was named for Col. John "Jack" C. Hays, an old Indian fighter, who commanded the Washoe Regiment.

The camp was vacated 26 May 1860, when the volunteers moved on Pyramid Lake.

CAMP HAYS BIBLIOGRAPHY

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FORT HOMESTEAD

Fort Homestead was located on the heights overlooking Gold Hill, near Virginia City. It was a place where 2,000 people assembled to celebrate the obsequies of President Abraham Lincoln, 19 April 1865. In the fall of that year a cannon house was erected in which a 24-pounder gun called "General Grant," used for celebrations, was stored. It is stated that on calm days discharges from the cannon could be heard in Storey, Washoe, Lyon, Ormsby, and Douglas Counties. During the course of time dwellings were erected in the neighborhood of the fort and firing of the cannon broke any number of windows in the vicinity, besides knocking lamps from tables as far away as Silver City. On 3 Aug 1874, the cannon house was removed to the knoll just back of the fort.

FORT HOMESTEAD BIBLIOGRAPHY

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CAMP LYON

This camp is shown on several maps. The location indicates the site to be on Rock Creek, about 20 miles northeast of the town of Battle Mountain. No other information can be found.

CAMP LYON MAPS

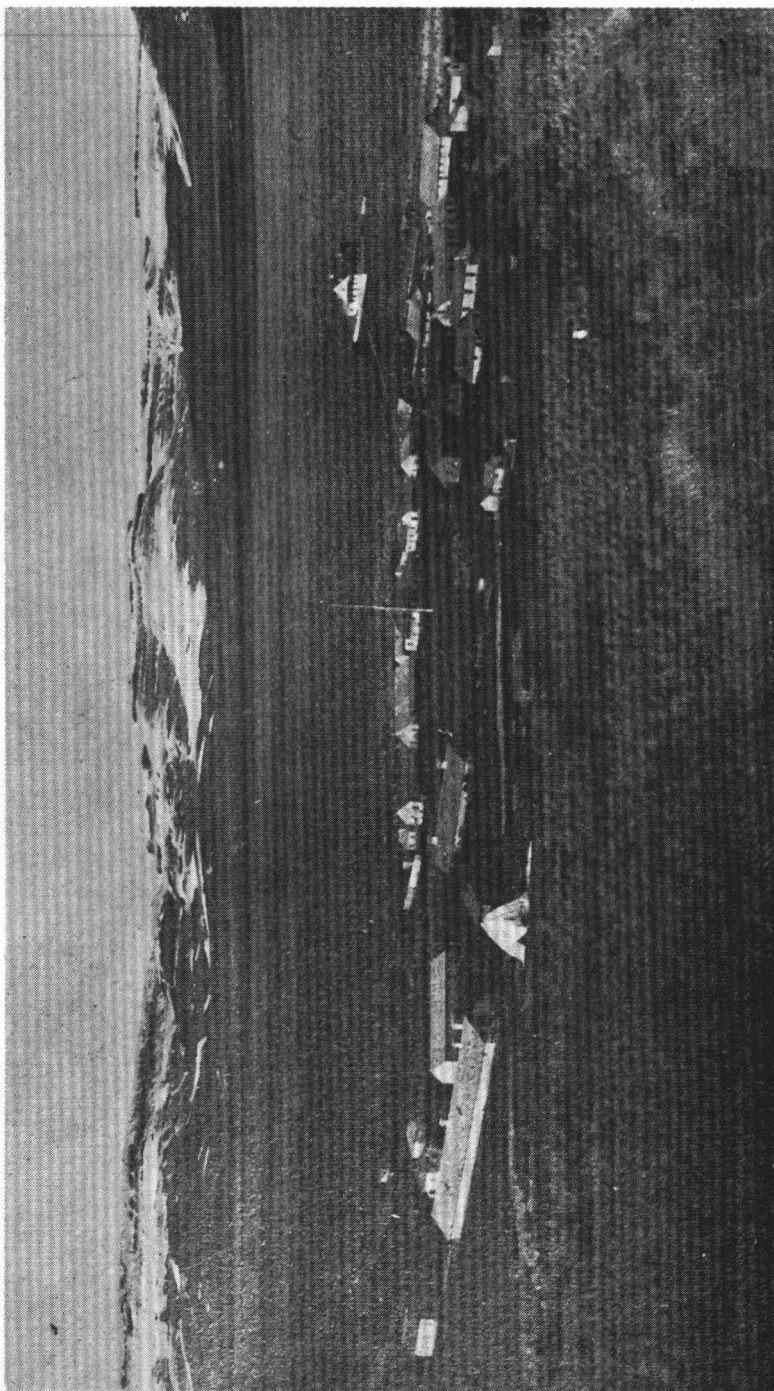
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FORT (CAMP) McDERMIT

Fort (Camp) McDermit was located in Humboldt County, on the right (north) bank of the East Fork of Quinn River, near the mouth of a canyon formed by a break in the Santa Rosa Mountains, 85 miles north of Winnemucca, 180 miles south of Boise City, Idaho, and close to the Nevada-Idaho boundary line; altitude about 4,700 ft. above sea level. It was situated in T. 47 N., R. 44 E., Section 7.

A camp known as Quinn River Camp No. 33 was established in the vicinity during the summer of 1865 by Capt. J. C. Doughty, comdg Co I 2d Cav CV, in compliance with orders of Lt. Col. Chas. McDermit, 2d Cav CV, comdr Mil Dist Nev. During June, July, and August 1865, Cos D and I 6th Inf CV formed part of the camp garrison.

Lieutenant Colonel McDermit was killed by Indians on 7 Aug 1865. Lt. Col. A. E. Hooker, 6th Inf CV, who succeeded him in command, issued GO 2 Military Sub-District of Nev., 19 Aug 1865, naming Camp



Fort McDermitt.

—Buckingham Collection

33, Camp McDermit, in honor of Lieutenant Colonel McDermit, subject to approval of higher authority, which approval was granted.

Charles McDermit was born in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, 7 May 1820. He attended school at Ebensburg and took up the trade of cabinet maker. He served as lieutenant in the Mexican War with the 2d Pennsylvania Volunteers. Coming to California shortly afterward, he supervised the construction of Benicia Barracks; in 1852 he was a member of the expedition that founded Crescent City, California; Sheriff of Siskiyou County, California; and later a resident of Fort Jones, California; a member of the State Assembly 1859-60; enrolled at Fort Jones 11 Sept 1861 as Capt Co M 2d Cav; promoted to Maj 13 Nov 1861 and to Lt Col 2 May 1865. In March 1862 he was placed in command of Fort Churchill and shortly afterward, in addition, was given command of the Military District of Nevada, which commands he was holding when killed from ambush by Indians 7 Aug 1865, while on his way to the camp situated at the site of the post.

For a more detailed biography of Colonel McDermit see *The Sagebrush Soldiers*, by Philip Dodd Smith, Jr., published in Nevada Historical Society Quarterly, Vol. 5, Nos. 3, 4, July-December, 1962.

The camp was established for the protection of the stage route and wagon road from Virginia City, through Star City, Nevada, Quinn River Valley, to Ruby and Boise City, Idaho.

The reservation was declared by executive orders dated 3 Sept 1867, and 4 Oct 1870; promulgated in GO 40 Dept Calif, 28 Oct 1870. It consisted of a post reserve of 3,974.4 acres and a hay reserve of 6,400 acres located about 6 miles west of the post; total acreage 10,374.4.

The post, intended for two companies, was built around a rectangular parade ground measuring 600 feet by 285 feet, the longer dimension extending from the southwest to the northeast.

All of the post buildings were one story with shingle roofs. Those first erected in 1866 and 1867 were built of stone and adobe, and poorly constructed, but in the late 1870's, additional frame structures were added. The men's barracks were two stone buildings located on the southeast side of the parade ground, each of rough stone, 104 by 24 feet, floored. Facing these, on the northwest side, were three sets of officers' quarters, the adjutant's office, ordnance storehouse and quartermaster's wagon shed, stone and frame construction.

The guardhouse and magazine, stone; the quartermaster's storehouse, granary, and stables, frame construction, were on the southwest side of the parade; opposite, on the southeast side, were the frame commissary storehouse and the post shops. The original stone hospital was replaced by a frame building having a capacity for eight bed patients and was located 200 yards north of the post structures.

Water was obtained from the East Branch of Quinn River which flowed through the post. It was very good until the snow melted in the mountains. When the river became low and filled with vegetable matter,

casks were sunk near the stream so that water might filter through the gravel into them.

Six months subsistence supplies were kept on hand.

When Co I 2d Cav CV was mustered out in June 1866, it was replaced by a company of the 1st U.S. Cavalry which composed the garrison and guarded the road from Virginia City through Star City and Quinn River Valley.

In 1867, a complaint by settlers of Indian hostilities in the vicinity of Camp McDermit caused Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, CG Mil Div Pac, to order a company of the 8th Cavalry from Churchill Barracks there. He also directed the Nevada District commander, Bvt. Brig. Gen. T. C. Devin, Lt Col 8th Cav, to go to Camp McDermit and direct the movements of the troops.

Indian hostilities continued during the following year. Cos F and M 8th Cav, commanded, respectively, by Capt. and Bvt. Maj. Dudley Seward and Capt. and Bvt. Lt. Col. James N. McElroy, formed the garrison. For a short period of time Co L 1st Cav was part of the garrison. Co F was transferred to another station, leaving only Co M as the garrison.

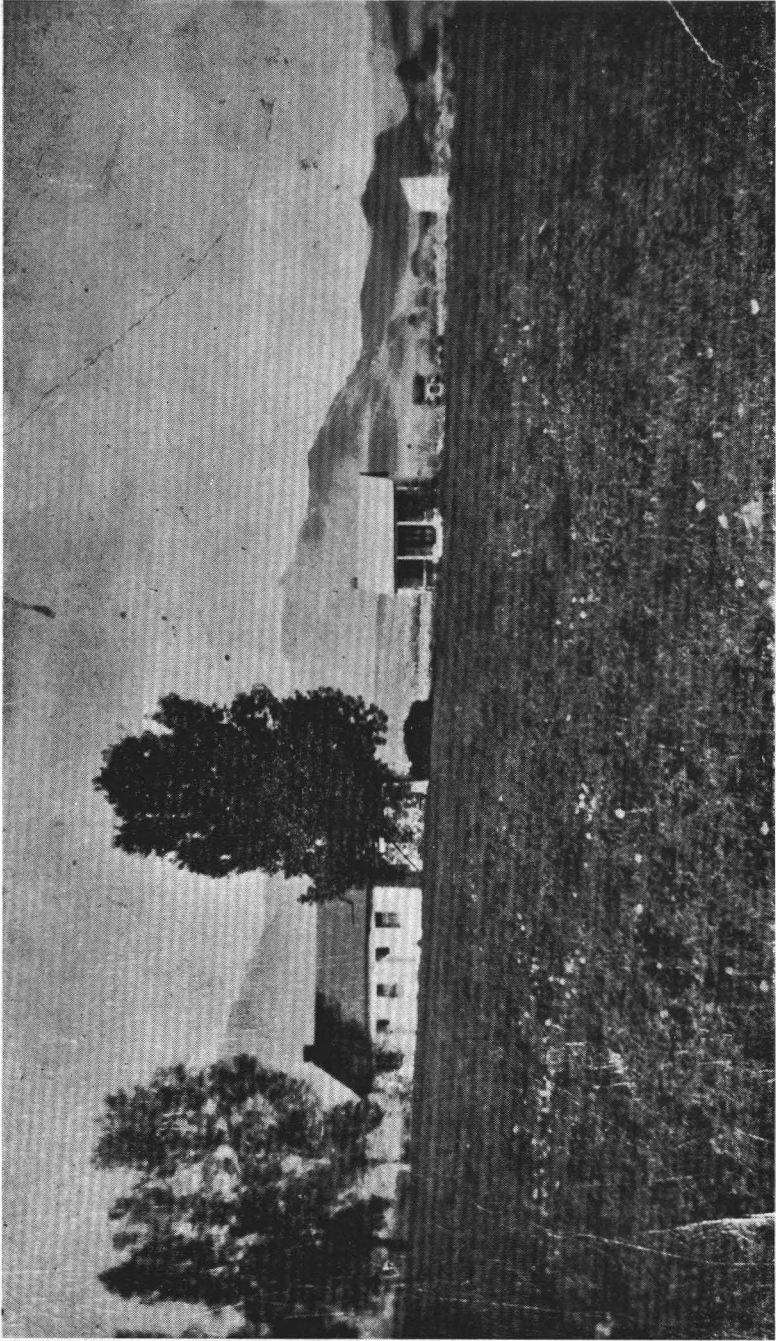
In 1870, Co D 3d Cav, Capt. Francis H. Wilson in command, relieved Co M 8th Cav, and a short time later, in turn, was relieved by Capt C. C. Carr's Co I 1st Cav, which moved in from Camp Winfield Scott when that post was abandoned in February 1871. Co I was ordered to Arizona shortly afterward and was replaced by Co C 1st Cav, Capt. Henry Wagner.

The hospital matron at this time was Sara Winnemucca, the daughter of old Chief Winnemucca of the Piute Indian Tribe. Sara spoke English fluently, having received her early education at Santa Clara Convent, California, during the years when her father and his family and a part of the tribe lived in that state; she had doffed her Indian toggery and dressed like a white woman.¹

Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield, CG Mil Div Pac, in his annual report to the War Department, 12 Oct 1872, stated: "Camp McDermit is barely fit for occupation during the coming winter by its present garrison, one company of cavalry. It cannot be made comfortable for any considerable time at a cost less than that of the building of a new post. It is not well located and is an expensive point for supplies. It is believed a much better point, nearer the railroad and nearer the sources of fuel and forage can be selected. It is recommended that Camp McDermit be rebuilt at a more suitable location."

Co C 1st Cav remained at Camp McDermit until 1877 when it was ordered into the field to participate in the Nez Percé's Indian campaign. Co I 12th Inf, Capt. E. F. Thompson, was sent from Angel Island, California, to occupy the post, arriving June 25.

¹Hein, O. L. *Memories of Long Ago*, pp. 67, 68. Published by Putnam's & Coward-McCann, New York. Used by special permission of the copyright owners.



Officers Quarters, Fort McDermitt.

—Buckingham Collection

The 8th and 12th Infantry regiments exchanged stations in the spring of 1878, but some delays were occasioned by the outbreak of the Bannock Indian War in Oregon. A number of military components were concentrated at Camp McDermit, among them: Cos B and K 12th Inf from Benicia Barracks, California, under command of Capt. H. G. Egbert. Enroute they were joined at Carlin, Nevada, by three more companies from that regiment, and arrived at the post 8 June 1878. Co C 1st Cav was sent from Camp Bidwell, California. Co B (mounted as cavalry) and Cos E and F 4th Art, under Capt. Marcus P. Miller, left San Francisco for Camp McDermit June 24.

On 6 July Cos H and K 4th Art, H 8th Inf, and I 12th Inf, all at Camp McDermit, were directed to proceed to Winnemucca by forced marches, thence to San Francisco by rail, then by steamer to the Columbia River and northeastern Oregon to join the command of Brig. Gen. O. O. Howard which was fighting the Bannocks in that region. Capt. H. C. Hasbrouck, 4th Art, was left in command of the post. In addition to administering the military establishment, he had under his care several hundred Piute Indians who had not joined the hostiles.

The Bannock campaign ended during the latter part of August 1878, and the troops were returned to their stations. Co C 8th Inf, Capt. A. W. Corliss in command, arrived at Camp McDermit 23 Sept 1878, relieving Co I, same regiment, which departed for San Diego, California, 16 September. Co I 1st Cav left the post for Camp Bidwell, California, 4 Oct 1878.

Camp designation was changed to Fort McDermit 5 April 1879, per GO 2 Mil Div Pac & Dept Calif.

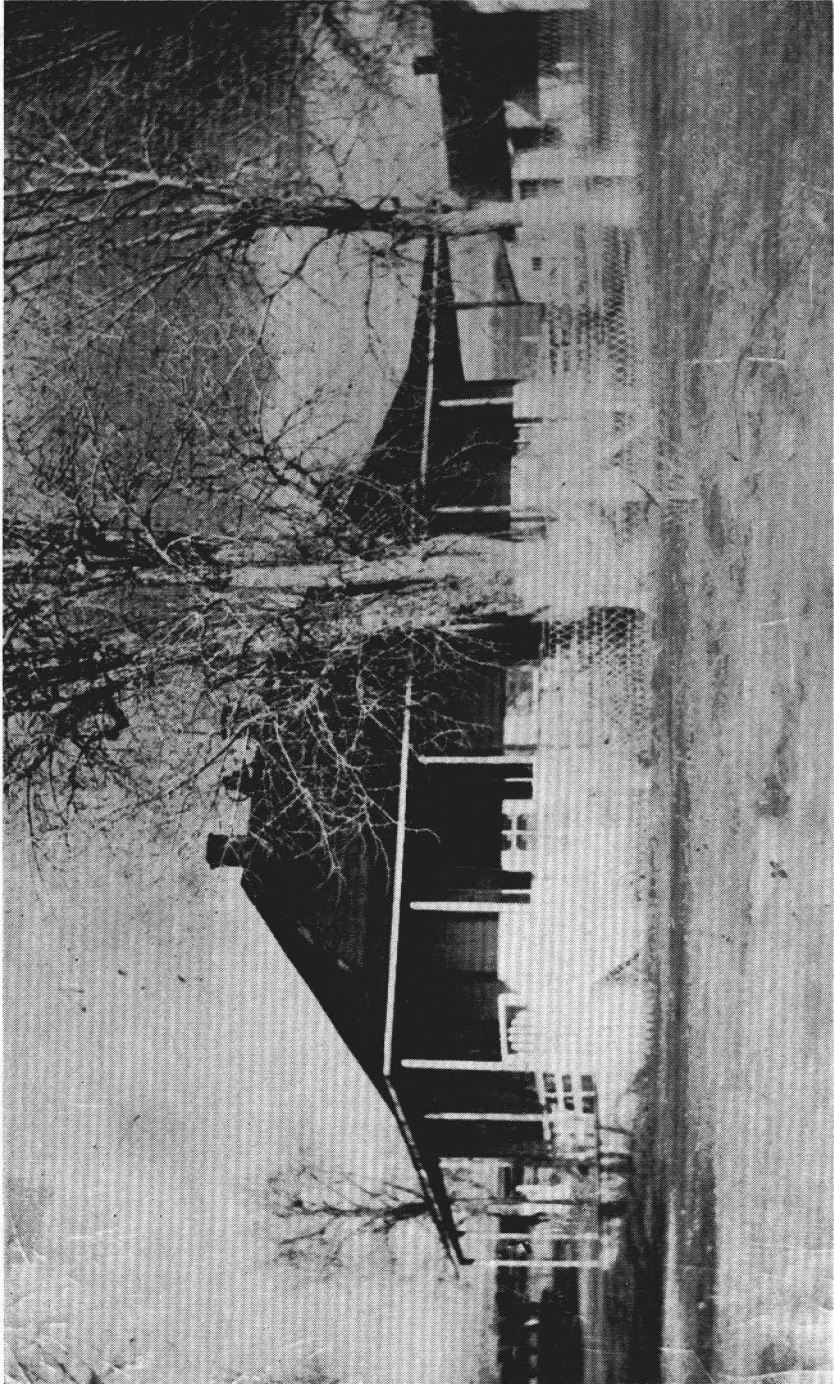
Co C 8th Inf was relieved on 28 April 1880, by Co G 1st Cav, Capt. B. F. Bernard in command, and, in turn, was moved to Arizona to fight Apache Indians 5 Sept 1881. During the absence of the latter organization, a detachment of Co G 8th Inf, from Fort Halleck, occupied the post.

Co G 1st Cav returned to Fort McDermit 29 November. It was transferred to Fort Bidwell, California, 8 May 1882, Co K 8th Inf, Capt. W. S. Worth in command, taking its place the same day. Captain Worth commanded the post in 1883. In 1884 the commanding officer was Capt. Gordon Winslow, 8th Inf.

In his annual report for the year 1882 to the Secretary of War, General of the Army Wm. T. Sherman recommended that Fort McDermit be abandoned as obsolete, and that the reservation and buildings be sold or transferred to the Interior Department for sale or grant under existing laws for disposition of the public domain.

In 1884, and again in 1885, Maj. Gen. John Pope, CG Mil Div Pac, recommended that part of the reservation be given to the Piute Indians living in the vicinity. The hay reserve was relinquished 1 Dec 1886.

When Fort Halleck was abandoned in 1886, Capt. R. G. Armstrong with his company of the 1st Infantry moved to Fort McDermit, relieving the company of the 9th Infantry stationed there. The former company,



Fort McDermitt.

which was present at the closing of Fort Halleck, likewise, formed the final garrison of Fort McDermit, the last Nevada military establishment to be abandoned.

Although in 1888, Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard, CG Mil Div Pac, recommended that the post be retained, on 24 July 1889, it was turned over to the Interior Department. The reconstructed post buildings were used as headquarters for the Indian Reservation and for schools.

During the period of its activity Fort McDermit was an important military installation. In addition to protecting the routes of mail and travel through Northern Nevada and southeastern Oregon, to Idaho, it served to keep under control the Indian tribes living in the vicinity. During the Indian uprisings in 1866, 1867, 1868, the Modoc Lava Beds campaign in 1872-73, and later during the Bannock and Piute uprising of 1878, it served as a base of operations and supply for many of the troops engaged.

The last of the early Nevada military stations passed out of existence in a peaceful manner. Conceived in battle to restrain the redman, it was transformed into an institution to enhance his native ability and lead him to the things of a better life.

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CAMP MCGARRY

Camp McGarry was located at Summit Springs, near Summit Lake (Lassen) Humboldt County, on the Applegate Cutoff road to Oregon, north of Soldier Creek, in the High Rock Canyon region of western Humboldt County.

It was established as a field camp 23 Nov 1865, by Cos D and I 6th Inf CV, for the purpose of protecting the Idaho mail road from Chico, through Susanville, California—Pueblo City, Oregon, to the Owyhee River settlements of Oregon.

The reservation embracing 75 square miles, the largest military reserve in Nevada, was declared by executive order dated 9 Sept 1867. The post was named for Bvt. Brig. Gen. Edward McGarry, US Vols, a native of New York; appointed 2d Lt 10th Inf 1 April 1847; 1st Lt 10th Inf 13 Sept 1847; honorably discharged 21 Aug 1848; Maj 2d Cav CV 17 Oct 1861; Lt Col 18 Oct 1864; Col 29 Nov 1864; Bvt Brig Gen Vols 13 March 1865, for gallant and meritorious service; honorably mustered out 31 March 1866; Lt Col 32 US Inf 28 July 1866; died 31 Dec 1867.

Dr. Effie Mona Mack, in her *History of Nevada*, p. 324, states: "Later a number of stone buildings were erected some distance south of Camp McGarry for the men, officers, and soldiers at Soldier Meadows. A short distance south of the fort a stone barn large enough to hold 100 horses, officers' quarters, and a mess hall and barracks were constructed. Through underground passages the men could go to the barn or from the mess hall to the barracks without exposing themselves. In the latter buildings, whose walls were two feet thick, connections were made between the fireplaces."¹

In 1866, headquarters of the District of Nevada was changed from Fort Churchill to Camp McGarry, a more central point. The garrison consisted of one company of the 1st US Cav and a company of the 9th US Inf.

In 1867, the District of Summit Lake was organized, including Camp Bidwell, Surprise Valley, California, and Camp McGarry. The infantry company at the latter place was sent to Fort Churchill to replace a company of cavalry transferred from that post to Camp McDermit. The commanding officer of Camp McGarry was Bvt. Col. A. G. Brackett, Maj 1st Cav.

Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord, CG Dept Calif, after an inspection made at Camp McGarry in the summer of 1868, decided that this camp was no longer required and moved the troops there, Co B 1st Cav, Capt. J. A. Hall in command, and Co C 8th Cav, Capt. Wm. Kelly, to Camp Winfield Scott, Nevada.

¹Reprinted by permission of the publishers, The Arthur H. Clark Company, and Dr. Effie Mona Mack, from her *History of Nevada*.

SO 132 Dept Calif, 20 Aug 1868, directed that Camp McGarry be abandoned, except for 1 officer and 20 enlisted men. Orders were issued 19 Sept 1868 directing that the troops remaining at the camp join their company at Camp Winfield Scott. The camp was abandoned 18 Dec 1868.

The post was relinquished by the Army 25 March 1871, per GO 19 AGO, 1871, and turned over to the Interior Department for use as an Indian reservation for Piute and Shoshone Indians.

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 State of Nevada, 1886.
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CAMP MCKEE

Camp McKee was located on Granite Creek, at Granite Creek stage station, Washoe County, 87 miles from Susanville, California, and 45 miles northeast of Smoke Creek Depot, on the Chico-Susanville-Humboldt River road at its junction with the road leading north to the Idaho mining fields.

On 1 April 1865, Indians attacked and burned the stage station, killing the attendants working there.

In December 1865, military detachments were stationed at the stage stations along the Susanville-Humboldt River road. The post at Granite Creek was established 20 June 1866, and named for a person not yet identified. "Camp McKee was abandoned and all of the Government stores were moved up to Fort McGarry in October, 1866."¹

¹Reprinted by permission of the publishers, The Arthur H. Clark Company, and Dr. Effie Mona Mack, from her *History of Nevada*.

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CAMP NYE

Camp Nye was established in June 1862 in Washoe Valley on the south shore of Washoe Lake, Washoe County, 5 miles north of Carson City, and named in honor of James W. Nye, Governor of Nevada Territory from 1861 to 1864.

James Warren Nye was born 10 June 1814 in De Ruyter, Madison County, New York. After graduating from Homer Academy, he became an attorney at law, practicing in De Ruyter. In 1844 he was elected probate judge, a position he held until 1847, when he was elected county judge for 3 years. When the Republican Party was formed in 1856 he became a member for life. He moved to New York City in 1857 and rose rapidly in party politics and by being associated with Wm. H. Seward became acquainted with Abraham Lincoln, who appointed him Territorial Governor of Nevada, taking office at Carson City 8 July 1861. When Nevada became a state on 31 Oct 1864, Nye was elected to the U.S. Senate for a 4-year term. He was reelected in 1867 for a 6-year term. Losing the election of 1872 he moved to New York where ill health overcame him and he died at White Plains, New York 25 December 1876.

The camp continued in operation during the Civil War as a base and depot for California and Nevada Volunteers serving in Nevada.

On 6 June 1864, Co D 1st Inf NV moved into the camp where later it was joined by Co E of the same organization.

SO 4 Sub-Dist Nev, 6 Apr 1865, directed Capt. R. C. Payne, post commander, to dispatch 100 men of Cos D and E, under command of Capt. A. B. Wells, to Star City, to protect settlers and travelers from hostile Indians.

The camp was abandoned the latter part of August 1865 when the Nevada Volunteers were mustered out of the service.

CAMP NYE BIBLIOGRAPHY

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CAMP ORMSBY

Camp Ormsby was located on the Truckee River, 10 miles from Pyramid Lake, Washoe County. It was established 2 June 1860, by Capt. Joseph Stewart, 3d Art, commanding the regular army troops composing "The Carson Valley Expedition," after the second Battle of Pyramid Lake, fought the afternoon of that day.

The camp was named in honor of Maj. Wm. M. Ormsby, a pioneer and prominent citizen, leader of the contingent from Carson City, who was killed 12 May 1860 at the Battle of Pyramid Lake. Ormsby County was named for him.

CAMP ORMSBY BIBLIOGRAPHY

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CAMP OVEREND

Camp Overend was a temporary camp for a period of a few days during June 1865, located in the Sonoma Range, south of Golconda, at a place called Summit Springs, Humboldt County.

It was established by 1st Lt. R. A. Osmer, comdg Co B 2d Cav CV, while on a scout after hostile Indians who had been attacking settlers in Paradise Valley. It was named for 2d Lt. W. G. Overend, of the same company, who was present at the time.

CAMP OVEREND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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CAMP POLLOCK

Camp Pollock was a temporary camp that existed in June and July 1864, in Smoke Creek Valley, near Smoke Creek Camp, Washoe County. The camp was located almost on the newly-surveyed line of California-Nevada. At the time the camp was established this area was in Lake County, Nevada, but since the boundary survey it has been split between Washoe County, Nevada, and Lassen County, California.

The camp was occupied by Capt. A. B. Wells, comdg Co D 1st NV, during an expedition from Fort Churchill to the Humboldt River, Smoke Creek, and Surprise Valley, California.

CAMP POLLOCK BIBLIOGRAPHY

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QUINN RIVER CAMP

See Fort McDermit.

FORT RILEY

After the Nevada Volunteers, under command of Maj. Wm. M. Ormsby, who was killed, were defeated in the encounter with Piute Indians at the Battle of Pyramid Lake, 12 May 1860, a panic arose in Virginia City, Storey County, and the inhabitants became fearful of an Indian attack on the city. Women and children were gathered in Pat Ryle's stone building, later called the Virginia Hotel, which was barricaded for defense. When quiet was restored within a few days the people returned to their homes.

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FORT RUBY

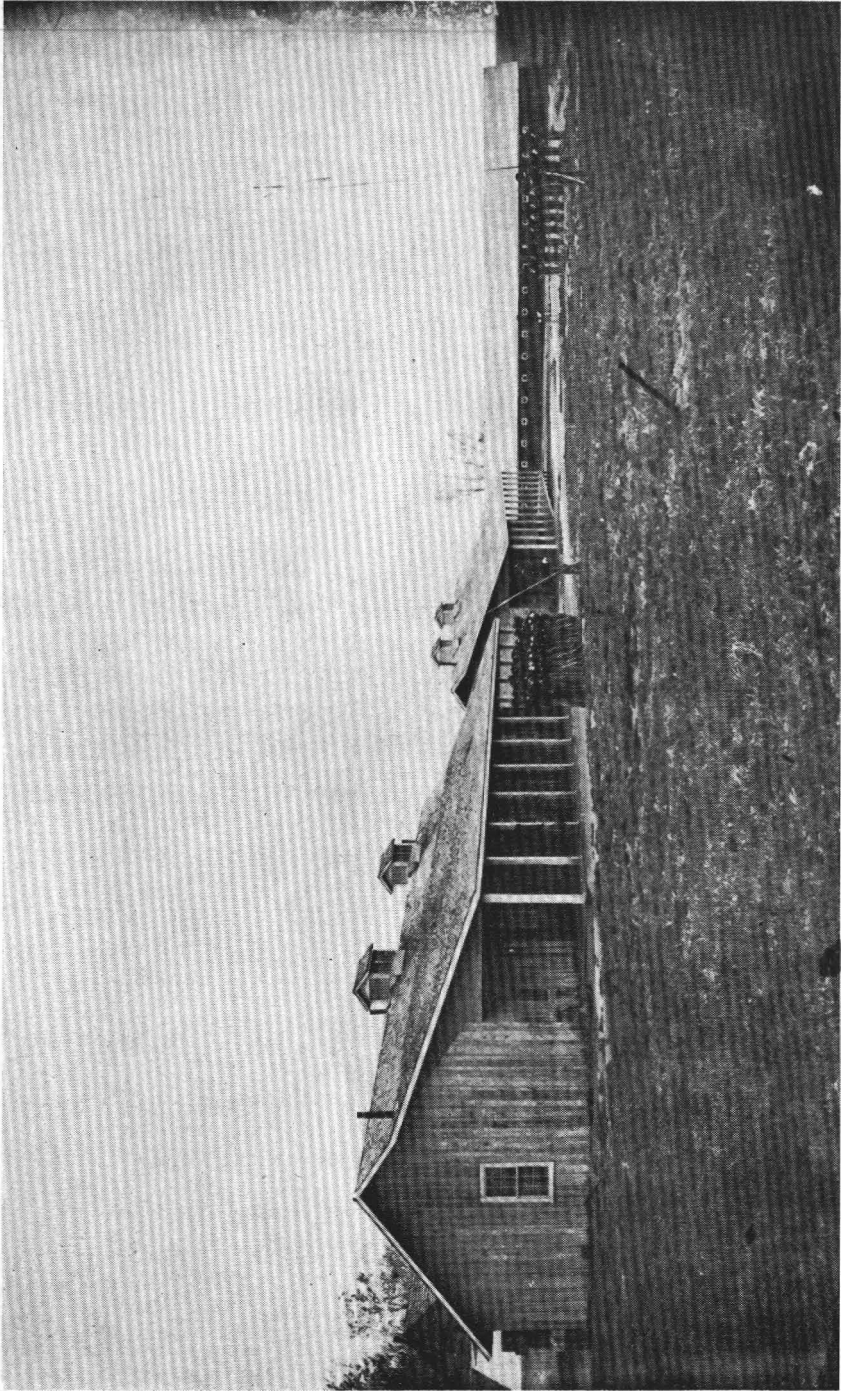
Fort Ruby was located on the western side of Ruby Valley, White Pine County, about 2 or 3 miles northwest of the old Ruby Valley overland mail and telegraph station.

The necessity for establishing a post at Ruby Valley for the protection of the overland mail route from attacks by hostile Indians was apparent to the military authorities as well as the operators of the mail stages. The distance from Salt Lake City to Carson Valley was 600 miles. Military posts were located near each end of the route, but there was none between. Ruby Valley was a half-way point, a suitable location, with fertile soil where hay and grain could be grown.

At the outbreak of the Pyramid Lake Indian War in May 1860, Co B 4th Art, stationed at Camp Floyd, U.T., armed and equipped as cavalry, was dispatched to Ruby Valley to establish a camp in that vicinity and protect the overland road. Camp was established 10 June 1860. Patrols covered the road from Deep Creek, at the eastern boundary of the present state of Nevada, 110 miles distant, to Robert's Creek, 55 miles westward from Ruby Station. The troops were back at Camp Floyd 9 Oct 1860, peace and quiet having been restored for the time being.

After the Camp Floyd contingent had been withdrawn, mounted patrols were dispatched occasionally from Fort Churchill along the overland route to Ruby Valley.

In the fall of 1861, Brig. Gen. George Wright, CG Dept Pac, recommended that a fort be placed at Ruby Valley. On 5 July 1862, he issued SO 115 Dept Pac directing Col. P. E. Connor, 3d Inf CV, to establish a two-company post at that place. Colonel Connor at the time was marching on Salt Lake City with a formidable force of California volunteers for the purpose of protecting the overland mail route from the Rocky Mountains westward to Central Nevada.



Fort Ruby.

The order designated headquarters 2d Cav CV with Cos H and K of that regiment to form the post garrison. While crossing the Sierra Nevada a mutiny threatened in the 2d Cavalry. Upon arriving at Fort Churchill, the colonel of the regiment, Columbus Sims, was relieved from command and the two designated companies were diverted to Salt Lake City. Cos C and F 3d Inf CV, under command of Maj. Patrick A. Gallagher, were ordered to garrison the new post.

Connor's column arrived at Ruby Valley 1 Sept 1862, and Fort Ruby was established September 4. Timber was cut and construction of winter quarters and a storehouse undertaken. A reservation 6 miles square was declared. The regimental band was mustered out in the interests of economy 23 Sept 1862, a disappointment to the soldiers.¹ Troops patrolled the road from the Utah border to Austin. Patrols were constantly on the alert and had numerous skirmishes with Indians along the road and also on the Humboldt River.

Camp Ruby was attached to the Military District of Utah until 28 Feb 1865, when it was transferred to the Military District of California.

Major Gallagher was relieved in July 1863 by Lt. Col. J. B. Moore, from the same regiment. In the meantime Co E had replaced Co F and Co B had replaced Co C. From April to September 1863, Co K 2d Cav CV under the command of Capt. S. P. Smith, operating out of Fort Ruby, patrolled the mail routes. Colonel Moore with Cos B and E remained at the post until mustered out in the fall of 1864, at which time Capt. G. A. Thurston with Co B 1st Inf NV took charge, remaining until that company was mustered out in December 1865; then a company of the 9th U.S. Inf took charge of the fort. In 1867 2d Lt. J. F. Trout, 9th Inf was in command. In 1868 and 1869 Co I 9th Inf, Capt. Timothy Connelly commanding, formed the garrison.

1 January 1867, the designation Fort Ruby was changed to Camp Ruby.

Fort Ruby had served as the base of operations for the protection of the overland mail and emigrant routes from Salt Lake, and the settlements of the Humboldt River east of Dun Glen. Fort Churchill became simply a supply depot.

Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, CG Mil Div Pac, 22 Sept 1868, reported to the War Department: "The garrisons of Camps Halleck and Ruby have proved sufficient to protect the workmen on the Central Pacific Railroad in its advance eastward, and to furnish escorts to the geological survey ordered by the War Department. It is believed Camp Ruby can be dispensed with early next spring, and its garrison can be transferred to the line of the railroad."

On 10 March 1869, Co I 9th Inf moved to Camp Halleck. Camp Ruby was abandoned 20 Sept 1869, per SO 164 Dept Calif, 1869.

¹Quotation from: Rogers, Fred B. *Soldiers of the Overland*. (San Francisco: The Grabhorn Press, 1938), pp. 22, 28.

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 Map of the California State Telegraph and Overland Mail Road, August 1866.
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 State of Nevada, 1886.
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 Wheeler Survey, *Sheet No. 49*.

CAMP SADLER

Camp Sadler was a temporary camp located near Carson City at the mouth of Kings Canyon, Ormsby County, during the Civil War.

CAMP SADLER BIBLIOGRAPHY

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FORT SAGE

There was a garrison called Fort Sage (aptly enough) 46 miles north of Reno. It was located in Washoe County, west of Pyramid Lake, on the road from Reno to Fort Bidwell, Surprise Valley, California, between State Line Peak and the Virginia Mountains. This was a garrison occupied in the early 1870's.

FORT SAGE BIBLIOGRAPHY

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LIEUTENANT GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT

Winfield Scott was born at Laurel Branch, 14 miles from Petersburg, Virginia, 13 June 1786. He was a student at William and Mary College in 1805, and was admitted to the bar at Richmond, Virginia, in 1807. He was appointed Captain of Light Artillery, 3 May 1808, and sent to Louisiana where he served until the outbreak of the War with England in 1812; promoted to Lt Col 2d Art, 6 June 1812, he was ordered to Philadelphia to mobilize and organize his regiment; dispatched to the Niagara frontier, he participated in the Battle of Queenstown Heights, U. C., 13 Oct 1812. His small force that had captured the heights stood off charge after charge of superior British troops and their Indian allies, vainly hoping for help from an overwhelming force of American militia calmly looking on from the New York side of the Niagara River, refusing to cross over. Scott and his soldiers were forced to surrender, or be massacred by the Indians. In January 1813 Scott was exchanged and rejoined his regiment at Philadelphia; appointed Col, 12 Mar 1813; Col AG 3d Mil Dist, 18 Mar to 18 July 1813, and again ordered to the Canadian frontier; appointed Brig Gen, 9 Mar 1814, and assigned to command the 1st Brig of Regulars; at Battle of Chippewa, U. C., 5 July 1814, Scott's brigade was clothed in gray uniforms, ordinarily worn by the militia, as the Quartermaster Department did not have sufficient blue cloth on hand to make uniforms for the regulars. British General Phineas Riall, perceiving the head of the American column dressed in gray assumed them to be militia. As Scott's brigade advanced steadily through murderous grapeshot, Riall realized his mistake in believing them to be untrained levies he had easily whipped before, and changed his tune in amazement: "Those are regulars, by God!" Scott ordered, "Charge!" As he reported later, the British "mouldered away like a rope of sand." At the Battle of Lundy Lane, U. C., 25 July 1814, Scott's brigade again was victorious, but the commander suffered two wounds that incapacitated him for field duty during the remainder of the war. To commemorate the gallant conduct of Scott's regulars, the gray uniform was adopted for the cadets of USMA. Promoted to Maj Gen, 25 July 1814, for his distinguished service in the successive conflicts of Chippewa and Niagara, U. C., and for his uniform gallantry and good conduct as an officer of the army; presented with a gold medal by Congress with suitable emblems and devices in testimony of the high sense entertained by Congress in his distinguished service in the successive conflicts of Chippewa and Niagara and for good conduct in sustaining the reputation of the arms of the United States; resolution of Congress, 3 Nov 1814; concluded a treaty with Indians after the Black Hawk Indian War, 1832; commanded in South Carolina during the Nullification troubles, 1832-33;



Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott.

served against the Creek and Seminole Indians, 1835-37; took part in settling with Great Britain the disputed boundary line of Maine and New Brunswick, 1839; promoted to Maj Gen, 25 June 1841; appointed Commander in Chief of the Army, 5 July 1841, to 1 Nov 1861. The War with Mexico broke out in 1846; prior to designating the officer to command the U.S. forces in Mexico, President Polk and Senator Benton, of Missouri, contrived to have Congress create the office of Lieutenant General for Benton so he could outrank all officers in the Army and command the expedition, but their political plot failed miserably. General Scott was named Commander in Chief of the Army in Mexico, 1847-48; City of Mexico was captured and occupied, 14 Sept 1847; appointed Bvt Lt Gen, 29 Mar 1847, for eminent service in the war with Mexico; received the Thanks of Congress and presented with a gold medal, 9 Mar 1848, for the victories achieved in Mexico; unsuccessful candidate for President in 1852; commissioner to settle the San Juan Island dispute with Great Britain in 1859; retd 1 Nov 1861; died 29 May 1866 at West Point, New York, where he is buried.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT

Camp Winfield Scott was located in Humboldt County at the foot of the Santa Rosa Mountain Range, in the northwestern corner of Paradise Valley, on the north side of Cottonwood Creek, about 4 miles north of the town of Paradise. Today the site of the camp is on the ranch of Fred B. Buckingham. Some of the old buildings are still standing and occupied for ranch use.

In 1864, Indians killed a number of prospectors in Paradise Valley, and continued their attacks on travelers and settlers through the following year, stealing stock, killing men and women, and committing other depredations. Appeals for protection were made to the Nevada District Commander, Maj. Chas. McDermit, who immediately dispatched aid.

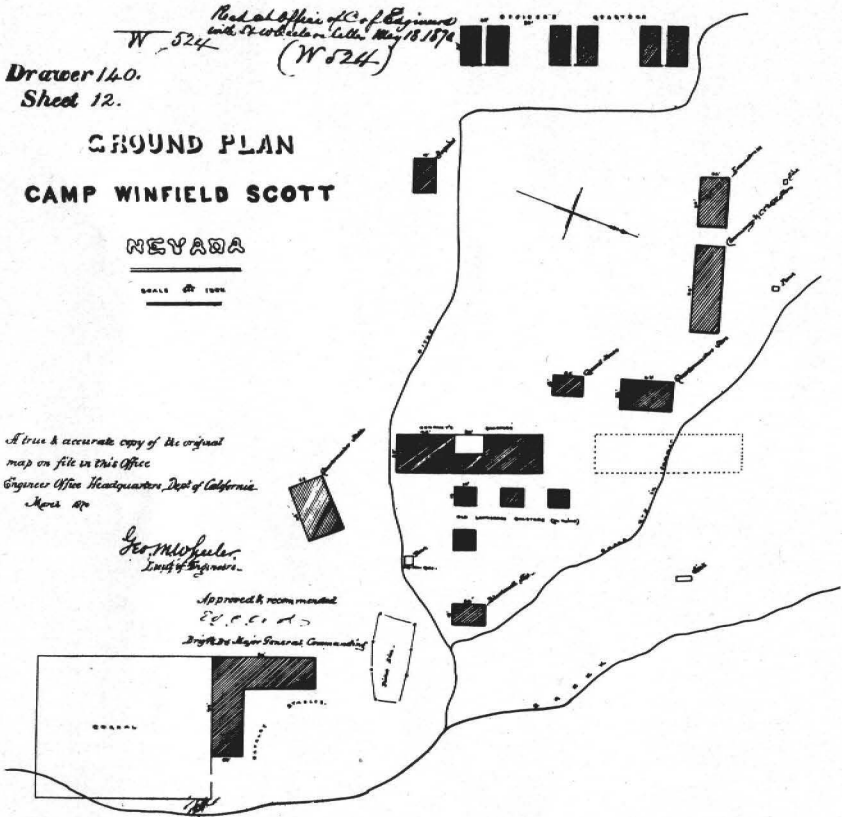
GO 29 Dept Pac, 24 April 1865, directed that: "A camp will be established somewhere in Paradise Valley on the roads from Fort Churchill and Reese River to the Owyhee country of Idaho Territory. The site will be selected by Maj. A. B. Wells, 1st Bn Nev Terr Cav, with regard to wood, water, and grass, for the station of a company of infantry, and a temporary depot for forage and subsistence for a company of cavalry which will be sent to move over the country beyond. The companies will be considered as in the field, and no purchases of lumber or other building materials will be allowed. They will protect themselves and horses by such temporary shelters as the resources of the country may afford by the labor of the troops."

A post was established 12 Dec 1866 by Capt. Murray Davis with Co A 8th US Cav, the first unit of that regiment to be organized in 1866. The reservation held was about 4 square miles.

The camp was named for a distinguished officer of the Army, Bvt. Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott.

The barrack for 100 men was constructed of adobe, with shingle roof; one half of the building was floored and ceiled. The officers' quarters were two adobe buildings, four rooms each, and a small stone hut was

occupied by the commanding officer. The quartermaster's and commissary storehouses were two buildings made of sod placed in stick frames, roofs thatched with rye straw, walls in poor condition, unsafe for any kind or quantity of property; roofs liable to take fire from any flying spark. The guardhouse was built of rough stones, thatched roof, and very insecure. The hospital was a rough stone building, intended for six patients, ceiling about 6½ feet above the floor. The stables were built of



cottonwood and willow sticks, thatched with straw, and also were a fire hazard.

Water was obtained from a mountain stream running through the post.

The post commander in 1867 was 2d Lt. John Lafferty, 8th Cav. In January of that year he commanded a detachment that engaged a band of Indians in Eden Valley, Nevada. The following month the troops encountered another band of Indians in Independence Valley, killing six. In 1868 the post was under command of 1st Lt. Joseph Kargé, 8th Cav.

When Camp McGarry was abandoned in September 1868, its garrison, Co C 8th Cav, was moved to Camp Scott and remained there until November when it was transferred to Arizona.

The last organization to serve at the camp was Co I 1st Cav, Capt. C. C. Carr in command, which arrived in September 1869. In the fall of 1870 all the troops except 2d Lt. O. L. Hein, 1st Cav, a medical officer, and 20 enlisted men, were transferred to Camp McDermit. On 19 Feb 1871, Lieutenant Hein and the detachment joined their company at Camp McDermit and Camp Winfield Scott was abandoned.¹

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- Atlas to accompany Official Records, *Plate CXXXIV*.
 Military Map of the United States, 1869.
 Oregon and Territories of Washington and Idaho, 1879.
 Routes of Transcontinental Railways, 1883.
 State of Nevada, 1886.

SILVER CITY

A fortification was erected at Silver City at the time of the Pyramid Lake campaign in May 1860.

SILVER CITY BIBLIOGRAPHY

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CAMP (and DEPOT) SMOKE CREEK

Camp (and Depot) Smoke Creek was a temporary camp located on Smoke Creek in (Roop) Washoe County, near Smoke Creek stage station, on the road from Susanville, California, to the Humboldt River, about 5 miles east of the California-Nevada boundary line. This place

¹Hein, O. L. *Memories of Long Ago*, pp. 62, 67. Published by Putnam's & Coward-McCann, New York. Used by special permission of the copyright owners.

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Routes of Transcontinental Railways, 1883.
State of Nevada, 1886.
Wheeler Survey, *Sheet No. 47 B*.

FORT STOREY

This was a temporary earthwork thrown up by the Washoe Regiment of Nevada Volunteers prior to their fight with Piute Indians on the Truckee River, 2 June 1860. After the engagement it was occupied by the volunteers. It was located on the Truckee River about 8 miles south of Pyramid Lake and about the same distance north of Wadsworth, Washoe County. The camp was abandoned when the volunteers departed 6 June, returning to Virginia City and Carson City where they were disbanded.

The fort was named for Capt. Edward Faris Storey, who commanded Co K Virginia Rifles, Washoe Regiment; participated in the fight 2 June 1860, and was mortally wounded. Captain Storey was born in Jackson County, Georgia, 1 July 1828, son of Col. John Storey. The family moved to Texas in 1844 where father and son took a prominent part in the War with Mexico. In 1848 Edward Storey became a lieutenant of a ranger company. He moved to California in 1852 and came to Nevada in 1859.

Storey County is named for him.

FORT STOREY BIBLIOGRAPHY

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POST AT VIRGINIA CITY

On 11 April 1864, Maj. Chas. McDermit, commanding Fort Churchill and the Military Subdistrict of Nevada, recommended to the Commanding General, Department of the Pacific, that a provost guard be ordered to Virginia City to assist the provost marshal in suppressing any disturbances that might take place on the part of the Secessionists in the locality; besides, the headquarters of the guard would serve as a recruiting station for Nevada volunteers.

On 4 May 1864, Major McDermit was directed to detail 2 officers and 30 enlisted men as a provost guard to be stationed in Virginia City.

POST AT VIRGINIA CITY BIBLIOGRAPHY

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CAMP AT WILLOW POINT

This camp was located at Willow Point, on the Little Humboldt River, Paradise Valley, Humboldt County. It was established in August 1865 by Maj. Michael O'Brien, 6th Inf CV, who assumed command of the troops on the Quinn River after Lt. Col. Chas. McDermit was killed by Indians 7 Aug 1865. The troops remained there until October, then they withdrew to Camp Dun Glen.

CAMP WILLOW POINT BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Official Records, Vol. L, Part 2, pp. 1257, 1272, 1275.

CAMP WINTHROP

The camp is shown on "Military Map of the United States, 1869." The location is on the Humboldt River, in Whirlwind Valley, in the vicinity of the present town of Beowawe. No other information is available.

CAMP WINTHROP MAPS

Military Map of the United States, 1869.

GEORGE RUHLEN
Colonel, U.S. Army, Retd.
August 19, 1958
Revised November 22, 1958
Revised September 24, 1964

ABBREVIATIONS

AAG.....	Assistant Adjutant General
AG.....	Adjutant General
AGO.....	Adjutant General's Office, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.
Adj.....	Adjutant
AQM.....	Assistant Quartermaster
Art.....	Artillery
Bn.....	Battalion
Brig Gen.....	Brigadier General
Btry.....	Battery
Bvt.....	Brevet
Capt.....	Captain
Cav.....	Cavalry
CE.....	Corps of Engineers
CG.....	Commanding General
Cir.....	Circular
Co.....	Company
Col.....	Colonel
comdg.....	commanding
comdr.....	commander
CV.....	California Volunteers
Dept.....	Department
Dept Calif.....	Department of California
Dept Pac.....	Department of the Pacific
Dist.....	District
Dist Nev.....	District of Nevada
Div.....	Division
Drags.....	Dragoons
Gen.....	General
GO.....	General Orders
Hq.....	Headquarters
Inf.....	Infantry
Lt.....	Lieutenant
Lt Col.....	Lieutenant Colonel
Lt Gen.....	Lieutenant General
Maj.....	Major
Maj Gen.....	Major General
Mil.....	Military
Mil Div Pac.....	Military Division of the Pacific
NV.....	Nevada Volunteers
QM.....	Quartermaster
QMD.....	Quartermaster Department
Regt.....	Regiment
retd.....	retired

ABBREVIATIONS—*Continued*

SO.....	Special Orders
Ter.....	Territory
trans.....	transferred
USA.....	United States Army
USMA.....	United States Military Academy
Vols.....	Volunteers
WD.....	War Department

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MAPS

A map listed in the text after the bibliography of a military establishment indicates that the designated fort or camp is located thereon.

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