



FORT LEAVENWORTH PATCH

Program Age Level: All Ages

Purpose: Familiarize girls with historic Fort Leavenworth area

Requirements: Complete the “walking tour” of historic Fort Leavenworth

Welcome to Fort Leavenworth! We hope you enjoy your time spent with us. The Fort Leavenworth Trail is meant to be a “walking tour” of historic Fort Leavenworth; it is approximately 4½ miles from the Frontier Army Museum to the Buffalo Soldiers Monument. The tour includes 16 historic sites. The Grove of Regiments and Camp Conestoga are optional due to their out-of-the-way location. Everything you need is included in these pages - a map and the recommended route, as well as a brief history on each point of interest. Note that trip can also be made a walking/riding tour. This is especially good for younger girls.

Start your tour at the Frontier Army Museum - pick up maps and visitor information, see the museum, and be on your way! Museum hours are Monday through Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Saturday - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The museum is closed on Sundays and Federal Holidays.

Once you visit all 16 historic sites, patches can be purchased at a Girl Scout store or online at <https://www.girlscoutsksmo.org/order/10Browse.asp?Category=Patch&SubCat=Council%20Patches>

Why not make a day of it? Take a picnic lunch and spread your blanket on the ground outside either of the Girl Scout buildings (Frontier House or Hastings House) or Camp Conestoga; these areas are part of the tour. There’s a picnic area with four tables located at the museum; for those who do not want to deal with a picnic, there is a Burger King on Post (see map). The Burger King does not require military ID to get in. Do part of the trail, have lunch and then continue your tour. Rest-rooms are located in the museum and Burger King.



FORT LEAVENWORTH TRAIL HIKING THROUGH HISTORIC FORT LEAVENWORTH



Points of interest on the Ft. Leavenworth Trail are listed below. No special order will have to be followed as you hike, although, the order below is suggested. Also, there is no deadline as to how many days or visits it will take to complete the trail. Due to their out-of-the-way location, points 18 and 19 are optional. **Remember - visiting sites 1-17 is required for patch completion! Use the chart at the bottom to track points of interest you have visited.**

1. Fort Leavenworth Museum
 - a. Flag Pole
 - b. Bell Hall
2. French Cannons and Missouri River
3. Headquarters Area
4. Sutler's House
 - a. Hastings House
 - b. Friendship Grove
5. Santa Fe and Oregon Trails
 - a. Frontier House
6. Memorial Chapel
7. Old Wall
 - a. Grant's Statue
8. United States Disciplinary Barracks
9. Sumner House
 - a. The Rookery
 - b. Syracuse Houses
10. Main Parade Ground
11. Combat Training Centers Directorate
 - a. Beehive
 - b. Otis Hall
12. Main Post Chapel
13. Munson Army Hospital
14. National Cemetery
 - a. Virginia (Ginny) Snow, Sec. S
 - b. Virginia Hastings, Sec. F
15. Tree City U.S.A.
16. Buffalo Soldiers Monument
17. Grove of Regiments Optional
18. Camp Conestoga Optional

1. _____	4a. _____	7a. _____	11. _____	14a. _____
1a. _____	4b. _____	8. _____	11a. _____	14b. _____
1b. _____	5. _____	9. _____	11b. _____	15. _____
2. _____	5a. _____	9a. _____	12. _____	16. _____
3. _____	6. _____	9b. _____	13. _____	17. _____
4. _____	7. _____	10. _____	14. _____	18. _____

FORT LEAVENWORTH TRAIL



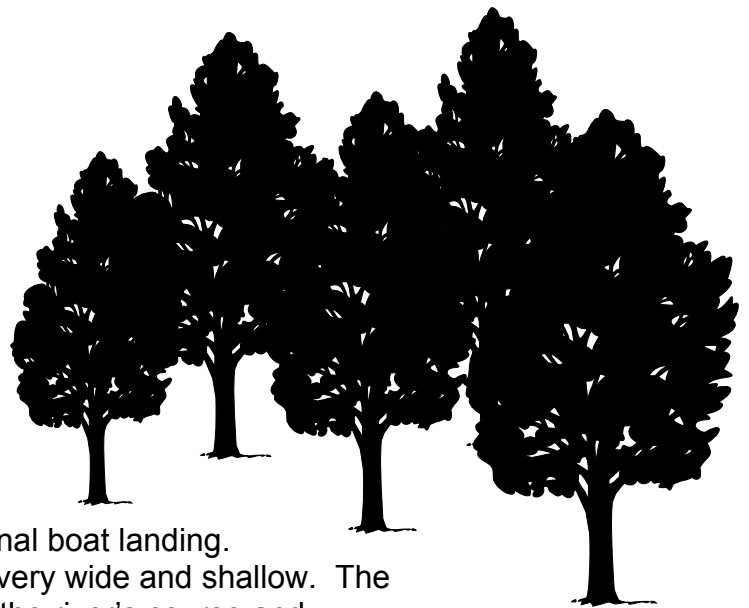
Fort Leavenworth was established on May 8, 1827, by Colonel Henry Leavenworth and 188 officers and men of the 3rd Infantry Regiment who traveled by keelboat up the Missouri River from Jefferson Barracks at St. Louis. Leavenworth was ordered by the War Department to establish a cantonment to protect the wagon trains headed west along the Santa Fe Trail and later the Oregon Trail and to help maintain peace with the Indians.

According to a treaty with the Indians, the cantonment was to be located on the east bank of the river. Colonel Leavenworth noted that the east bank was low and marshy, so he chose to build the cantonment atop the high bluffs on the west bank. The War Department later approved his decision, and the establishment was officially named Cantonment Leavenworth. Cantonments were changed to Forts in 1832.

1. **Frontier Army Museum** (corner of Reynolds Avenue & Gibson Avenue) has one of the finest collections of pioneer horse-drawn vehicles in the nation. There is a carriage that President Lincoln rode in on a visit to the area. There is also a sleigh that belonged to the Custer family.
 - 1a. **Flag Pole** (Bell Hall/Reynolds Avenue & Abrams Loop) Retreat ceremony (complete with cannon firing) is each day at 5:00 p.m. (Instructions for troop participation is available, but arrangements must be made in advance by calling Military Police.)
 - 1b. **Bell Hall** (corner of Reynolds Avenue & Sherman) is the home of the Command and General Staff College. It was completed in 1958 and named for General J. Franklin Bell who was the commanding general of Fort Leavenworth in 1903. The original school was established at Fort Leavenworth in 1881 and called the School of Application for Infantry and Cavalry.
2. **View of French Cannons and Missouri River** (north on Sherman Avenue from Bell Hall) These engraved guns were cast in 1774. The name of the cannon, name of the foundry, men and place and date it was made are found on each weapon. They were probably brought to the United States during the American Revolution, but how or why they were brought to Fort Leavenworth is unknown.
3. **The Headquarters Area** (Clock tower at the intersection of Sherman Avenue, Augur Avenue, & Scott Avenue) is thought to be the site of the first encampment by Colonel Leavenworth and his troops. Buildings were built over a period from 1859 to 1904 on the location of the soldier's cemetery. The graves were moved to the National Cemetery.

4. **The Sutler's House** (611 Scott Avenue) now serves as quarters for the assistant commandant of the Command and General Staff College. It was originally built in 1841 for the home of the Post Sutler, Hiram Rich, who sold such things as tobacco, writing paper, and whiskey to the soldiers. The original building was log and has been covered with wood siding and enlarged. Rich and his family are buried in the Post Cemetery.
- 4a. **Hastings House** (296 Hastings Road) Virginia Marsh Hastings was a young girl who was a member of the first Girl Scout troop at Fort Leavenworth. This troop was formed in 1923 (Brownie Girl Scout troops were started in 1935). Virginia died in her sleep 10 January 1936, three days before her 15th birthday. A tree was planted in her honor in front of the Little House and is now a large pine across the street from Hastings Girl Scout House. In 1937 the little road off of Scott Avenue was renamed Hastings Road. In 1938, the Hastings Family left Fort Leavenworth for Fort Bliss, Texas. At Easter time, Mrs. Hastings sent a donation and requested the Chaplain to purchase a lily and that Virginia's troop place it on her grave. Thus, began the tradition of a Brownie Girl Scout Troop placing a lily on her grave every Easter, continued to this day. Virginia is buried in the Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery.

- 4b. **Friendship Grove** This grove of pear trees was planted on 15 March 1989 in the spirit of friendship and to commemorate Arbor Day by Brownie Girl Scout Troop 540, the Fort Leavenworth Girl Scouts, and 4-H Clubs of Leavenworth and Lansing, Kansas.



5. **Santa Fe and Oregon Trails** (Kearney Avenue & Riverside Avenue) The warehouse at the foot of the hill (by railroad tracks) was the original boat landing. In the 1830's the river at this point was very wide and shallow. The Corps of Engineers has since changed the river's course and deepened its channel.

The ox teams pulled loaded wagons through the cut made by their traffic and on to the west. The wheels of countless thousands of wagons heading westward made the sunken road you see.

Just to the northeast of this point is Sherman Army Air Field. Sherman Field was once a racetrack. Chief Joseph and 400 New Perce Indians were held captive here from 1876 to 1878 after their surrender to General Nelson A. Miles.

- 5a. **Frontier House** (Riverside Avenue) Frontier House was designed and constructed by the personnel of the Guard and Service Company in 1939. It was first called Leigh Hall and dedicated to the Boy Scouts of Fort Leavenworth. Boy Scouts later gave the building to the Girl Scouts on Fort Leavenworth. It is used for Junior, Cadette and Senior Girl Scout meetings, plus adult meetings and trainings.
6. **The Memorial Chapel** (corner of Scott Avenue & Riverside Avenue) was built in 1878 by prison labor from stone quarried on the Post. Plaques on the wall honor men who served at Fort Leavenworth and died fighting many wars. Memorial Chapel served as the Post Chapel until 1966. This Chapel currently is used by two faiths - Lutheran and Episcopalian.
7. **The Old Wall** (Kearney Avenue & Scott Avenue) is a favorite with photographers. There are two historical plaques on the wall, one saying it was part of the original fortifications at the fort, the other saying there never was a stone wall around the fort. The mystery has never been solved.
- 7a. **General Grant's Statue** (Grant/Scott Avenue) The statue of General Ulysses Simpson Grant was sculpted by Laredo Taft and unveiled in 1889. The statue and pedestal are each nine feet tall. It was the largest statue of its type in the Midwest when it was installed.
8. **United States Disciplinary Barracks** (USDB) (corner of McPherson Avenue & Scott Avenue) was first established as a military prison in 1873. It began as a quartermaster depot in 1834 and supplies went from here to the Army outposts in the west. The walled area, enclosing the principal facilities of the USDB, occupies 12 ½ acres and is adjoined on the north by a 5 acre recreation field enclosed by a double cyclone fence. Inside the walled area there are buildings dating from 1863 to 1964. The main confinement building known locally as the "Castle" was built by prisoner labor and was completed in 1921. The wall varies in height from 15 to 41 feet, is 3,580 feet in length, and is constructed of stone and cast concrete block. The stone portion of the wall was completed in 1909 and the new wall which was built to enclose the area occupied by the "Castle" was completed in 1921.
9. **Sumner House** (20-22 Sumner Place) The house bordering the parade ground was the quarters of the post commander from 1840 to 1890. Officers who lived here included Colonel E. V. Sumner, Colonel Philip St. George Cooke, and General Pope. In 1872, the inspector general of the Army noted in his report that it was the only building on post with indoor toilets. The building is a Registered National Landmark.
- 9a. **The Rookery** (12-14 Sumner Place) was built in 1832 and is the oldest existing building in Kansas. It was the first permanent Post Headquarters Building. General Douglas MacArthur lived here in the early 1900's.

- 9b. **Syracuse Houses** (4-6-8-10 Sumner Place) known as the Syracuse Houses because they were designed in 1855 by Mr. E. V. Carr, a prominent architect from Syracuse, New York. One portion of the duplex was once the quarters for the post surgeon and has two front doors - the main entrance, and one that led into his office so that sick or injured soldiers could be taken directly into his home office. Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer and his wife lived in one of these homes for a few months in 1868.
10. **Main Parade Ground** (Kearney Avenue & Sumner Place) The main parade ground was originally the center of post activities. Post reviews and parades were held here for many years. Indian encampments were located here during negotiations with federal authorities. At the northwest corner is a large white flagpole that marked the zero point for measuring in the early days of the area. Many local place names came from their distances from this flagpole - for example, Three Mile Creek, Five Mile Creek, Eight Mile Creek, and others.
11. **Combat Training Centers Directorate** (corner of McClellan Avenue & Kearney Avenue) First home of Command General Staff College. This building was erected in 1881 for use as post headquarters, replacing an earlier building of similar appearance. It was first used to house the School of Application for Cavalry and Infantry, forerunner of Command General Staff College. Twenty-two lieutenants formed the first class. The building continued in use as the school building until 1890.
- 11a. **Engineer Barracks “Beehive”** (Kearney Avenue) This structure was built in 1882-83. It was originally a two-story barracks built to house a small regiment of Infantry. Post Headquarters was located in the central section from 1882-1890. It was occupied by engineer troops for many years. In 1902, the third floor was added. The rear (east) wings were added in 1910. In 1921, Engineer Barracks were remodeled into apartments for married officers and remained so until 1978. During this period, it aptly assumed the designation “Beehive”. Over 2600 Army families have called the “Beehive” home. This grand old structure had structural flaws. Fort Leavenworth worked with the Department of the Army to save this handsome, historic structure. The “Beehive” officially reopened on 2 July 1993 as the Army’s Battle Simulation Center.
- 11b. **Otis Hall Quarters** (Kearney Avenue) Home for Major and Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower when “Ike” was a student here in 1926. In addition to being the honor graduate of his class, he first learned to play golf on the Fort Leavenworth golf course. The building is now used as distinguished visitors quarters.



12. **The Main Post Chapel** (corner of Pope Avenue & Thomas Avenue) is an inter-denominational chapel serving Jewish, Protestant, and Roman Catholic. It was dedicated in 1966 and has a seating capacity of 600.

The beautiful stained glass windows are designed to show the deep religious heritage of our nation as well as the contemporary application of religion to the lives of military personnel and their families.

13. **Munson Army Hospital** (Pope Avenue) is the fourth hospital to be built at Fort Leavenworth. The first hospital on the Post was the first hospital to be built in Kansas. It is named after Brigadier General Edward L. Munson, who was the first medical officer assigned to the college as an instructor.

14. **Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery** (Between Biddle Boulevard & Hancock Avenue) There are over 16,200 graves in the cemetery, many dating back to the Indian Wars. Men from every war in which the United States has fought are buried here alongside those who died on the plains and along the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails. A number of Indians are also buried here. (Sections A, H, and G) General Henry Leavenworth's gravesite was moved here from Delhi, New York in 1902. Citizens of Leavenworth purchased the monument.

Officers of the 7th Cavalry, including Tom Custer, brother of General George Custer, who were killed in the famous battle of Little Bighorn ("Custer's Last Stand") are buried here. Captain Custer's grave is located in Section A, Grave #1488. The oldest grave is that of Captain James Allen, a Dragoon Officer, buried in 1846, and brought to the present site from the Old Soldier's Burial Ground on which Wagner Hall now stands. Each Memorial Day the Fort Leavenworth Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts place an American flag on each of the graves.

NOTE: In touring the cemetery, please **DO NOT WALK** upon the graves (A Girl Scout is reverent).



- 14a. **Ginny (Virginia Snow)** Section S, #341 (Row 9, Grave 21) Virginia Lee Snow (Ginny) was born on 20 July 1976 at Quantico, Virginia. She became the middle of seven children born to Joseph and Rosemary Snow.

Ginny joined Brownie Girl Scouts on Fort Leavenworth in 1982. In her first year of Junior Girl Scouts, Ginny was diagnosed with the rarest form of leukemia and did not get to participate in troop meetings. She fought hard to live a normal life during her illness, but even with the chemotherapy and medications, her body suffered a great deal. She was hospitalized with pneumonia in November 1987 and died on 22 December 1987 at the Kansas University Medical Center. She was eleven years old.

Her family still resides in Leavenworth and is still very active in both Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Each year in December, a special ceremony is held by a Junior Girl Scout Troop to place a wreath on Ginny's grave in her memory.

- 14b. **Virginia Hastings** Section F #403 (Row 5, Grave 6) See information under Hastings House (4a).
15. **Tree City U.S.A.** (Grant Avenue) The three crab apple trees were planted in honor of Arbor Day on 29 April 1991 by Brownie Girl Scout Troop 400.
16. **Buffalo Soldiers Monument** (Grant Avenue) A tribute to the thousands of black men in the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments. These black soldiers did their duty to lay the groundwork for many blacks and other Americans in the military. The monument was constructed completely by contributions and was dedicated on 25 July 1992.

❖ ***Due to their out of the way locations, the two remaining points of interest are optional for visiting troops.***

17. **Grove of Regiments** (Bundel Road) The Grove of Regiments was dedicated on 4 July 1976 at a bicentennial ceremony. This grove is dedicated to the units stationed at Fort Leavenworth who fought various wars. This grove is made up of a variety of trees.
18. **Camp Conestoga** (McPherson Avenue) was established as a Girl Scout Camp in 1949. The name was taken from the Conestoga wagon that you can see at the museum. This historical campsite has also felt the tread of many Indian moccasins. It was here that the tribes camped during the peace negotiations between the "civilized" soldiers and "uncivilized" Indians in 1833.