

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

OCT 16 1985

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number Multiple

Page 5

Post Blacksmith shop.

Location: 905 Garrison Avenue, Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, 40,
Muskogee County, 101.

Owner: J. Edward Davis, Route 2, Box 9, Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Description: Condition: very good, altered, original site.

This building is reported as being nearly completed on June 1, 1867 and as being in use by March of the following year. The one-story, stone building was initially reported as being twenty by forty feet, but must have received an addition by 1872 when it is reported as being twenty-two by sixty feet. A wooden addition was built before abandonment in 1890, but the date is undetermined.

The building originally featured two large, opposing door openings and one smaller, end pedestrian opening. There were three to five window penetrations in the twenty-two inch thick massive block, native stone walls. The building possessed two interior chimneys which penetrated the pitched roof at equal distances from the ends of the building.

The appearance of the blacksmith shop is recognizable today in the basic configuration of the existing building. Modifications cannot be dated, may have occurred between 1872 and abandonment in 1890. No mention of these changes are found in the military reports referenced. The changes include the addition of another large door on one side, the closing of the end pedestrian door, the loss of both chimneys and apparent regrading of on one side. The roof, while retaining the apparent original pitch, is now roofed with composition shingles.

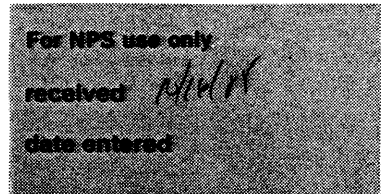
The building is currently used as a residence.

Significance: 1867; builder/architect, unknown.

The blacksmith shop is significant because of its link to the essential services provided by the facility to the Fort. The importance of this building, is indicated by its central location, design and construction materials, clearly showing the intention of long term use and function. The services located in this building extended beyond the care and upkeep of hooped stock and transportation. Often the blacksmith was the resident mechanical facilitator producing tools, hardware and doing repairs upon various types of military equipment and weaponry.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number Multiple

Page 6

Post Blacksmith shop, con't

In a relatively isolated post such as Fort Gibson, the various cavalry and infantry units assigned to duty would be very dependent upon the availability of such services.

Acerage: less than one acre Quadrangle: 1:24,000/7.5 minute.

Verbal boundry: Lot 1, Block 8, Plat Survey of Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, March 7, 1904. (Approved by the Secretary of the Interior.)

UTM: 15/296360/3964910

1"= 24,000'

"C" building