

## FORT DILTS HISTORIC SITE

On this site in September, 1864 an immigrant train, under the command of Capt. James L. Fisk, bound for the gold fields of Montana, was besieged by hostile Sioux Indians, despite the fact that an armed escort of 50 U. S. Cavalrymen had been provided for its protection. To defend themselves, the wagon train and their stock, a breastwork of prairie sod was built which en-

abled them to successfully resist attacks for 14 days until a rescue party conducted them to Fort Rice.

A number of civilians and 8 of the 50 members of the Cavalry detachment were killed.

The Fort was named for Jefferson Dilts, who died in gallantly defending the immigrant train. The artists drawing presents an accurate picture of the Fort as described by participants.



Fort Dilts

Bowman County, North Dakota

Photo credit: Kurt P. Schweigert

Date of photo: October, 1979

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota  
Liberty Memorial Building  
Bismarck, ND 58505

Interpretive marker on site

Photo 1 of 6

SEP 10 1980

NOV 10 1980



Fort Dilts  
Bowman County, North Dakota

Photo credit: Kurt Schweigert

Date of photo: October, 1979

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota  
Liberty Memorial Building  
Bismarck, ND 58505

Remains of sod breastwork in southwestern part of  
enclosure, from NE

Photo 2 of 6

NOV 10 1980

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CORP  
JEFFERSON  
G.C.C.  
MINN. &  
MINN. &

Fort Dilts  
Bowman County, North Dakota

Photo credit: Kurt P. Schweigert

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Military gravestone of Corporal Jefferson Dilts on  
supposed grave in western portion of breastwork.

Photo 3 of 5

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FORT DILTS  
18 64

Fort Dilts  
Bowman County, North Dakota

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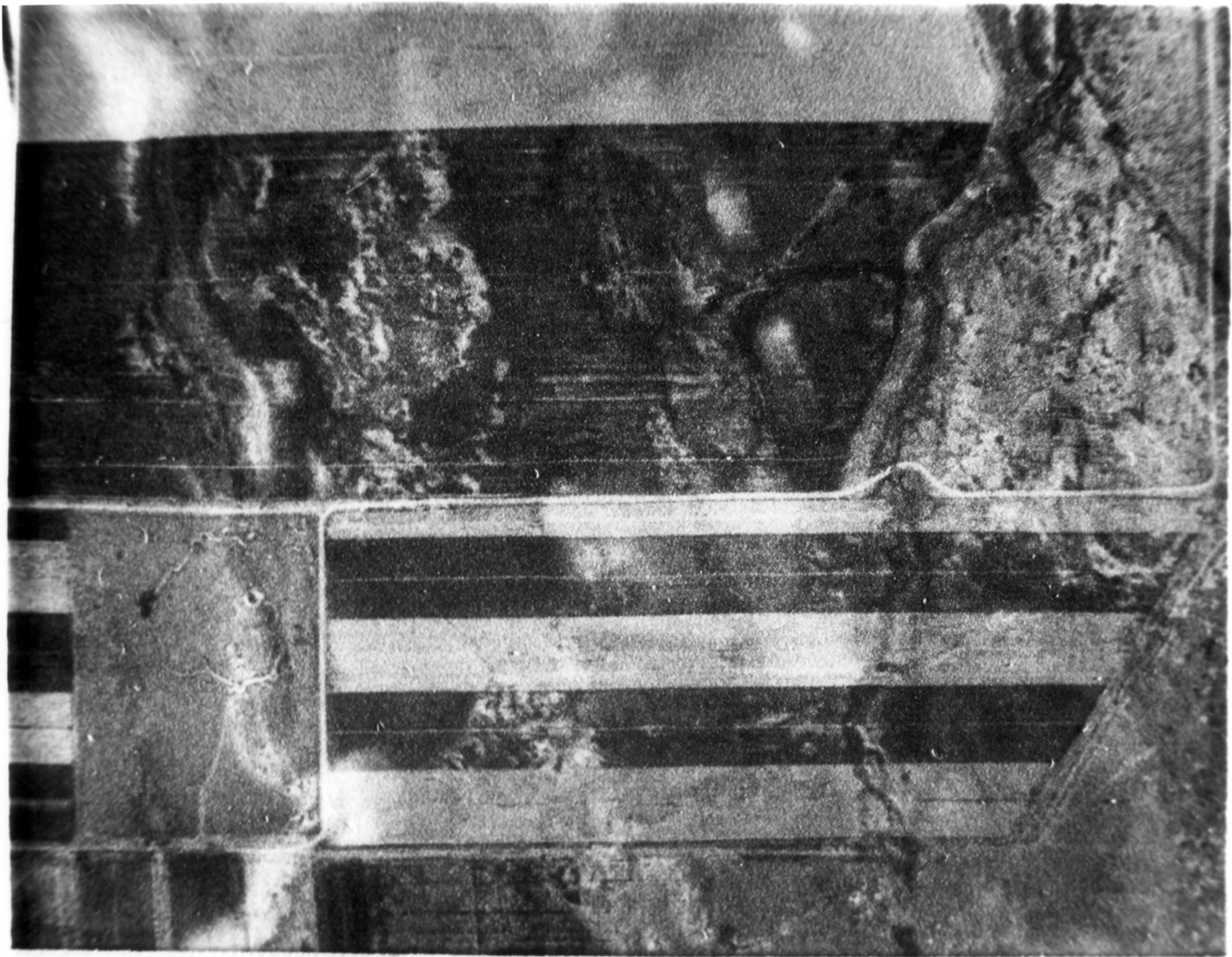
Fort Dilts Site from the north

Photo 4 of 6

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Fort Dilts  
Bowman County, North Dakota

Photo credit: Anonymous, U.S. Agriculture Stabilization  
and Conservation Service

Date of photo: Unknown, ca. 1965

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota  
Liberty Memorial Building  
Bismarck, ND 58505

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Aerial photo of site and surrounding area.

Photo 5 of 6



Fort Dilts  
Bowman County, North Dakota

Photo credit: Anonymous, U.S. Agriculture Stabilization  
and Conservation Service

Date of photo: Unknown, 1965

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota  
Liberty Memorial Building  
Bismarck, ND 58505

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Aerial photo of site, enlarged, showing defensive breastwork,  
interpretive marker, and trail of wagon ruts into the  
enclosure.

Photo 6 of 6

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