

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Fort Huachuca

AND/OR COMMON Fort Huachuca

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Fort Huachuca Military Reservation immediately west of
city limits of Sierra Vista

CITY, TOWN Fort Huachuca

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2

STATE Arizona VICINITY OF CODE 04

COUNTY Cochise CODE 003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME United States Government

STREET & NUMBER Department of the Army, The Pentagon

CITY, TOWN Washington

STATE D.C.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Office of the County Recorder

STREET & NUMBER Cochise County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Bisbee

STATE Arizona

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE National Register of Historic Places

DATE 1973 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS National Register of Historic Places

CITY, TOWN Washington

STATE D.C.

61

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated near the mouth of Huachuca Canyon at the northeastern base of the Huachuca Mountains, Fort Huachuca lies about 50 air miles southeast of Tucson. Initially the post encompassed only a small area, but today it covers more than 70,000 acres. It also includes hundreds of modern buildings, most erected since 1957. The historic district, however, preserves about 110 acres and 48 principal pre-1920 structures in a setting that suffers relatively few modern intrusions. Forming the westernmost portion of the district is the so-called "Old Post Area," which contains 23 of the fort's first major permanent buildings. Erected between 1882 and 1891, they include a row of 1 1/2-story, gable-roofed, stucco-covered, buff-colored adobe officers' quarters that faces a row of long, two-story, frame barracks and single-story, hip-roofed, stucco-covered adobe administrative and service structures across a grassy, southwest-to-northeast oriented parade ground. An informal, graveled parking area covers a portion of this expanse, but the panoramic vista of a 19th-century Army installation is unbroken. From the northeastern tip of the "Old Post Area," a row of early-20th-century, frame and concrete barracks extends to the northeast, and at the southeastern tip a range of frame officers' quarters joins the older row and extends southeast then northeast then northwest in a semicircle around a secondary parade ground. These additional barracks and officers' quarters were erected between 1912 and 1917. All the major historic structures--described in detail below--are in fair to good condition. The officers' quarters still serve their original function, while the barracks house administrative facilities. Also in the historic district is a portion of a ridge immediately south or rear of the officers' quarters. This promontory overlooks the "Old Post Area" and is said to have been the location of the post's long-demolished heliograph station.

Carleton House (Officers' Quarters 22108). Erected in 1880 as a post hospital, this one-story, gable-roofed, stuccoed house has a raised basement and adobe walls 21 1/2 inches thick. Over the years the structure has served as an officers' mess, schoolhouse, post headquarters, cafe, and post chapel. Currently it is the quarters of the post hospital commander. It has received numerous minor alterations, including the addition of a small, hip-roofed wing across the rear, but the original design is still very much apparent.

Pershing House (Officers' Quarters 22126). Situated in the center of the "Old Post" officers' row, this 1 1/2-story, gable-roofed, stuccoed, adobe and concrete structure was completed in 1884. Three gable dormers adorn the front roof slope, and a hip-roofed, screened porch extends across the front facade. A similar gallery crosses a hip-roofed wing that is attached to the northeast side of the residence. Most of the windows are six-over-six sash, and the front

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1877 - present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT U.S. Army

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Between 1849 and 1886, the U.S. Army established almost 70 military posts in Arizona Territory. Of these, only Fort Huachuca, once "famous the world over as a cavalry command," survives as an active military installation.¹ Situated at the northeastern base of the Huachuca Mountains, overlooking the upper San Pedro River Valley, the post has fourfold national significance.

First, Fort Huachuca played a prominent role in what proved to be, according to noted military historian Robert M. Utley, "the collapse of the last significant Indian group ranging free of reservation restraints."² Before finally capturing Geronimo and sending him to Florida in 1886, the Army pursued him off-and-on for 8 years in the last major struggle with nonreservation Indians. In fact, western scholar Dan L. Thrapp calls Col. George Crook's pursuit efforts of 1883 "the largest military operation against Indians in the history of the southwestern frontier."³ Fort Huachuca, founded in 1877, was central to much of this activity. It was here in April and May 1886 that Capt. Henry W. Lawton organized his famous 4-month, 2,000-mile expedition into Mexico in pursuit of hostile Apaches. That trek southward to the Sonora and Yaqui Rivers "forms," says Utley, "a record of hardship and perseverance notable in U.S. military annals."⁴

Second, during the latter stages of the Geronimo campaign, Fort Huachuca served as a station for the Army's novel experiment

1

Edward J. Kelley, "Old Fort Huachuca," Arizona Highways (October 1942), 36.

2

Robert M. Utley, Frontier Regulars: The United States Army and the Indian, 1866-1891 (New York, 1973), 397.

3

Dan L. Thrapp, "Evolution, Use, and Effectiveness of the Apache Indian Scouts," Fort Huachuca Historical Museum Newsletter, No. 4 (Fall 1975), 9-10.

4

Utley, Frontier Regulars, 387-88.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See continuation sheet for Item 9, page 1.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY circa 110 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,2	55919,0,0	3,49,02,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,2	56,05,8,0	3,49,12,2,0

E	1,2	56,05,8,5	3,49,00,6,0
F	1,2	56,00,4,5	3,49,01,5,5
B	1,2	56,02,2,0	3,49,08,0,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	1,2	56,07,4,0	3,49,06,0,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See last page of description)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George R. Adams, Managing Editor

ORGANIZATION

American Association for State and Local History

DATE

January 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1400 Eighth Avenue South

TELEPHONE

615-242-5583

CITY OR TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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entrance is a transom-topped, wooden, double door. Traditionally the home of the post commander, the Pershing House was first occupied by Capt. Adna Chaffee, later Chief of Staff of the Army.

Hazen House (Officers' Quarters 22104). This two-story, hip-roofed, stuccoed quarters was constructed in 1891 as a captains' duplex. At one time the post chaplain and the post bandmaster resided here. Now, with the addition of a two-story, gable-roofed rear wing, the structure contains seven apartment units. Despite these changes, the Hazen House retains its original pilastered front facade and two one-story, hip-roofed, screened porches. The latter grace the sides of the main block.

Other "Old Post" Officers' Quarters (buildings 22112, 22114, 22116, 22120, 22128, 22132, 22138, 22140, 22144, and 41012). These ten 1 1/2-story, gable-roofed, stuccoed, adobe dwellings complete officers' row. Building 41012 lies just outside the area designated as "Old Post" in the Fort Huachuca National Register nomination, but both the structure's appearance and the Post Building Schedule indicate that it was erected with the other nine in 1884. The ten quarters vary some in design, but all have about 5,000 square feet of floor space in a southwest-northeast oriented main block and one or two small, one-story, gable-roofed rear ells. Most of the buildings have three gabled roof dormers on both the front and rear slopes of the main-block roof, but a few of the dwellings have a single, large, gabled wall dormer on each slope. All the quarters have a one-story, hip-roofed screened porch across the front facade and one to three small outbuildings in the rear. Six-over-six sash windows predominate in each residence, and all the dwellings are served by two or more stuccoed, interior chimneys.

"Old Post" Barracks (buildings 22208, 22214, 22216, and 22320). Situated across the parade ground from officers' row, these two-story, gable-roofed, light-green-painted, frame barracks were built in 1882-83. They rest on stone foundations and generally are typical of all Army barracks of that era. All have two-tiered, shed-roofed, square-post-supported, iron-railed galleries front and rear. All are two bays wide, but building 22208 is much longer than the other three. It contains approximately 32,000 square feet of floor space, while each of the others has about 15,000. Each barrack has a full basement, displays six-over-six sash windows, has a series of interior chimneys along the roof crest, and is connected to the adjacent barrack by a covered walk. At least one service building sits behind each barrack.

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The four large structures now serve as administrative facilities, and they have undergone internal alterations to provide modern heating and cooling, floor coverings, drop ceilings, fluorescent lighting, and new partitioning. The exteriors are little changed since the post's cavalry days, however.

"Old Post" Bakery (building 22324). This one-story, T-shaped, hip-roofed, stuccoed adobe structure was erected in 1886. It is situated adjacent to and northeast of barrack 22320 and today houses the post telephone exchange.

"Old Post" Guardhouse (building 22328). Begun just north of the bakery in 1882 and completed in 1885, this one-story, L-shaped, hip-roofed, green-stucco-covered, adobe building cost the Government \$8,900 and could accomodate 38 prisoners. **The structure** rests on a stone foundation and has a hip-roofed gallery across the rear facade. During World War II the provost marshall used the old guardhouse, and for a time in the 1950's it served as a post office. It now houses a headquarters staff element.

"Old Post" Quartermaster's Storehouse (building 22332). This one-story, hip-roofed, stuccoed adobe structure cost the Government \$6,712 to complete in 1883. Situated next to the guardhouse, the tin-roofed storehouse became the post exchange in 1905 and continued to serve that function until 1954. Today it houses various administrative offices.

Leonard Wood Hall (building 44108). One of the most complex historic buildings at Fort Huachuca, this edifice lies at the northeast end of the parade ground. The original sections of the frame structure were completed sometime between 1885 and 1887. At present the building consists of a two-story, hip-roofed central block flanked on the east and west sides by a 1 1/2-story, gable-roofed wing with hipped monitor. A one-story, hip-roofed open gallery passes completely across the front facade, encases the open end of each wing, and continues across the open portion of the structure's rear facade. A **hip-roofed rear** wing extends northward from near the center of the main block, and a smaller, similarly constructed, hip-roofed building sits a few feet from the east corner of the right side-wing and is connected to it by a short covered walk. When the hospital opened, among the first to serve in it was Assistant Surgeon Leonard Wood, later Army Chief of Staff. The building continued as a hospital until 1941. Since then it has been used for office space, and at present it contains the of-

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files of the post comptroller.

Fort Huachuca Historical Museum (building 41401). This two-story, hip-roofed, green-stucco-covered, adobe and stone edifice was constructed at the northeast end of the parade ground, near the hospital, in 1891 as a post chapel. Afterward the post command utilized the building variously as a bachelor officers' quarters, officers' club (1920-41), and post headquarters (1941-60). As with most other buildings in the "Old Post Area," the museum displays six-over-six sash windows and has a one-story, hip-roofed gallery, which in this instance crosses the front (east) facade and continues around the west end. A one-story, shed-roofed, extension wing passes across the rear facade.

Other Administrative and Service Buildings (buildings 21114, 21115, 22334, and 41402). In addition to the 1880's structures in the "Old Post Area," there are several buildings that were either erected or significantly modified between 1900 and 1920. Architecturally, however, these intrude little upon the pre-1900 setting. Rodney Hall (building 41402), situated on Boyd Avenue between Leonard Wood Hall and the museum, is a two-story, hip-roofed, adobe and concrete structure that was completed in 1917 as headquarters for the regimental and post commander. The mission of the building changed briefly in 1959-61, but today, as a half-century ago, the structure houses the offices of the base commander. Across Boyd Avenue, in front of Leonard Wood Hall, stands Mar Kim Hall (building 22334). It is a single-story, 5,054-square-foot, frame and concrete administration building constructed in 1920. Originally it housed the post exchange restaurant. Brayton Hall, at the opposite end of the parade ground, had its beginnings in 1887 as a post amusement hall. It was extensively remodeled in 1905 and made into a post library and gymnasium. Today it contains about 7,500 square feet of offices belonging to the post public affairs officer. Adjacent to Brayton Hall is a smaller frame and concrete structure (building 21114) erected in 1915 as an administration building.

Officers' Duplexes (buildings 41014, 41015, 41016, 41019, 41020, 41021, 42010, 42011, 42014, 42015, 42018, 42019, and 42020). Situated in a semi-circular line beginning at the northeast end of the "Old Post" officers' row and continuing around Henry Circle, these multiple-family quarters were erected between 1912 and 1917. They vary in size from about 4,000 to about 6,000 square feet, but they are similar in design. With one exception, all are two-story, U-shaped, gable-roofed, beige-painted, stucco-covered, frame buildings that consist of a rectangular-shaped main block and two two-story rear ells. A two-tiered, shed-roofed gallery extends fully across each front facade. The lower tier is screened. The

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upper is glassed with six-over-six sash windows. Four stuccoed chimneys--two front and two rear--adorn the roof of each residence. The buildings continue to serve their original function.

Bachelor Officers' Quarters (building 42017). Constructed in 1915, this two-story, L-shaped, stuccoed, frame residence rests near the center of the row of officers' duplexes on Henry Circle. Except for having about 4,000 more square feet of space than the largest duplex and having only one rear ell, the BOQ closely resembles its neighboring quarters in design. Like the duplexes, it continues to serve its original function.

Rhea Avenue Enlisted Men's Barracks (buildings 41412, 41415, 41416, 41418, 41419, 41420, and 41421). These two-story, rectangular-shaped, gable-roofed, green-stucco-covered, frame structures were built between 1913 and 1916. The only significant external difference between them and the "Old Post Area's" barracks is the stuccoed exterior of the newer buildings. They have front and rear two-story, open, railed galleries almost identical to those of the older barracks. Also like the older ones, they served cavalry troops originally, and today, despite internal alterations that have converted the barracks to offices, they stand externally unchanged as an impressive reminder of a bygone era.

Boundary Justification. The historic area of Fort Huachuca includes approximately 100 acres; 23 major structures erected in the so-called "Old Post Area" between 1882 and 1891; 25 other principal edifices erected adjacent to the "Old Post Area" between 1912 and 1920; a number of smaller support buildings; and, southeast of the historic structures, a portion of a ridge reputed to be the site of the long-demolished post heliograph station. At present, except for two masonry reservoirs immediately southwest of the designated area of the ridge and a concrete reservoir on the north shoulder of the ridge, this promontory is free of modern structures. That it should remain free of them is essential to both the scenic and historical integrity of the entire designated area. Except for the usual small support buildings, there are relatively few modern intrusions anywhere within the historic district.

Boundary Description. As indicated in red on the accompanying maps [(1) U.S.G.S., 7.5' Series, Arizona, Fort Huachuca Quad., 1958; and (2) Fort Huachuca General Site Map, Section 4, Facilities Engineering, HQ, Fort Huachuca, 1 inch = 400 feet, 1973], a line beginning at the intersection of Hines Road and Carnahan Street and extending southeast approximately 600 feet along the left curb of Carnahan to the south curb of Grierson Service Road; thence east-southeast approximately 1,400 feet--

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passing immediately north of masonry reservoir 22002, across the peak of the ridge on which the reservoir stands, and partway down the southeast slope--to a point at which a small stream crosses the 5,000-foot level of altitude (indicated on the appropriate U.S.G.S. 7.5' series map by a 5,000-foot index contour line); thence northeast then north approximately 1,400 feet along the 5,000-foot contour to a point about 300 feet due south of building 42016 and then continuing an additional 250 feet due north to a point on the north curb of Henry Circle Service Road directly rear of building 42016; thence northeast then north then northwest approximately 1,000 feet along the left curb of the curving service road to Mizner Avenue; thence southwest about 400 feet along the left curb of Mizner to Grierson Avenue; thence northwest then west then southwest about 500 feet along the left curb of curving Grierson to Hungerford Avenue; thence northwest about 500 feet along the left curb of Hungerford to Rhea Avenue; thence northeast approximately 1,500 feet along the left curb of Rhea to Smith Avenue; thence west about 400 feet along the left curb of Smith to Christy Avenue; thence southwest approximately 3,400 feet along the left curb of Christy (past the point at which it becomes Hines Avenue) to the starting point.

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with a heliograph network. While the heliograph proved generally ineffective, today Fort Huachuca is headquarters for the U.S. Army Communications Command, which oversees the Army's worldwide communications network.

Third, during the Nation's various diplomatic difficulties with Mexico from the late 19th century to about 1920, troops from Fort Huachuca regularly patrolled the American side of the U.S.-Mexican border in Arizona and western New Mexico. According to historian Cornelius C. Smith, at one time as many as 10,000 U.S. troops were strung out along that boundary.⁵ Often many of the patrolling soldiers were members of the Army's four all-black regiments: the 9th Cavalry, 10th Cavalry, 24th Infantry, and 25th Infantry.

Herein lies the fourth area of Fort Huachuca's national significance. All these distinguished regiments were headquartered at Fort Huachuca at one time or another, making it one of the country's foremost centers of black military service. The famed 10th Cavalry had complete responsibility for garrisoning the post from 1913 to 1916 and had its headquarters here until 1931. The 24th Infantry was here from 1892 to 1896, the 9th Cavalry from 1898 to 1900 and in 1912, and the 25th Infantry in 1898-99 and from 1928 until 1942. In addition, the 92d and 93d Infantry Divisions, two of three all-black (except for some officers) combat divisions that the Army had during World War II, trained here in 1942 and 1943.

Although today Fort Huachuca covers more than 70,000 acres and includes hundreds of modern buildings, the designated historic district preserves about 110 acres and 48 principal pre-1920 structures in a setting little-changed from the post's cavalry days. Among the extant buildings are 23 erected between 1882 and 1891. These include a handsome row of stuccoed adobe officers' quarters that faces, across a grassy parade ground, a row of frame barracks and stuccoed adobe administration and support buildings.

History

The situation that led the U.S. Army to establish Fort Huachuca dates from the Mexican War era. After the annexation of Texas in 1845, the task of preventing depredations by Indians passing back and forth

5

Cornelius C. Smith, Fort Huachuca: A Brief History (Fort Huachuca, 1975), 18.

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across the U.S.-Mexican border proved especially tough for the Army. With the addition, after 1848, of what was to become the Territories of New Mexico and Arizona and the State of California, the difficulty was magnified. Under terms of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, the United States assumed responsibility for preventing Comanches, Lipans, Apaches, and others from crossing into Mexico to raid and plunder. Likewise, the Government sought to protect American citizens from Indians that used Mexico as a sanctuary from which to strike the U.S. side of the border. In 1853 provisions of the Gadsden Purchase agreement, which brought the United States still more territory in southern New Mexico and Arizona, cancelled the 1848 terms that held America responsible for Indian raids into northern Mexico, but the problem of depredations on U.S. soil remained.

For a time there were no U.S. Army border posts between Fort Bliss at El Paso, Tex., and Fort Yuma on the California-Arizona boundary. Then in 1862-65, Gen. James H. Carleton led a grand campaign against several tribes in this previously unprotected area. His California and New Mexico Volunteers conquered the Mescalero Apaches, crushed the powerful Navajos, campaigned against the Apaches and Yavapais of Arizona, and established several military posts, including Forts Lowell and Bowie about 50-60 miles due north of the border in Arizona. The Mescaleros bolted their reservation in 1865, however, and along with other Apache bands, they terrorized the Southwest from the Pecos to the Colorado, affecting West Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. After the Civil War, the U.S. War Department placed Arizona and New Mexico in separate military departments for logistical and communications purposes, but this arrangement did not prove as satisfactory as hoped. Moreover it sacrificed unity of command. In Arizona the Army soon found, as historian Robert M. Utley notes, that "no region of the American West presented more formidable geographical barriers to military operations."⁶ For the next 20 years the Army established, abandoned, moved, and renamed posts with "bewildering rapidity," says Utley, "as the Indian threat shifted or disease appeared or water gave out or supply problems grew critical."⁷

In 1870 the War Department made Arizona a full military department in the Division of the Pacific. Within 12 months, however, the intermittent flames of war were fanned even hotter by a murderous dawn raid that

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Utley, Frontier Regulars, 171.

7

Ibid., 171.

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148 Tucson citizens executed on a sleeping Apache rancheria near Camp Grant. Eventually special emissary Gen. Oliver O. Howard was sent to restore order, but it took him more than a year to pacify the sundry bands and secure a pledge of peace from the famous Chiricahua chief Cochise. With help from Vincent Colyer, Secretary of the Board of Indian Commissioners, Howard set up a large reservation system for more than 5,000 Apaches, but Arizona still did not enjoy peace. According to official reports, between September 1871 and September 1872, Apaches and Yavapais took the lives of 44 persons in 54 raids. At that juncture Col. George Crook launched what military scholars have labeled a brilliant campaign against the hostiles. He fought through the winter, and by fall 1873 the Indian Bureau listed more than 6,000 Apaches and Yavapais either on or en route to reservations. For the first time, relative tranquility seemed to have settled upon Arizona.

Raids across the border did not cease, though, and the 800 troops garrisoning the 5 posts along the border zone of New Mexico and Arizona could do little to stop the depredations. Furthermore, in 1875 an on-going contest between civilian and military authorities for control of the Arizona reservations resulted in plans to concentrate all reservation Apaches in one place, at San Carlos northeast of the junction of the Gila and San Pedro Rivers. Most of the Indians moved peacefully, but only about half of the Chiricahua Apaches could be forced to go to San Carlos; the rest--about 400--either went to New Mexico or took refuge in the Sierra Madre Mountains of western Mexico. Those who chose Mexico plundered on both sides of the border. Their well-known leader Cochise was now dead, but soon a younger chief, Geronimo, would emerge to take his place.

At first, Gen. August V. Kautz, a colonel commanding the Department of Arizona from Prescott under his brevet rank, thought that the reports of depredations were exaggerated and part of an effort by the "Tucson Ring"--a combination of Army contractors and their political cronies--to force him to move his headquarters to Tucson. He finally accepted the reports, however, and decided in February 1877 to establish two new posts to try to contain the raiders. One of these was Camp Thomas, on the Gila River upstream from the San Carlos Agency; the other was Camp Huachuca, at the northeastern base of the Huachuca Mountains. The latter post overlooked the upper San Pedro River Valley about 15 miles from the U.S. Mexican border and was destined to become a cavalry installation "famous the world over."⁸ It would also be the only Arizona post of its

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era to survive as an active Army base into the second half of the 20th century.

Capt. Samuel M. Whitside, accompanied by Capt. W. A. Rafferty and Companies B and M of the 6th Cavalry, founded Camp Huachuca on March 3, 1877. At first the garrison slept on the ground and cooked in the open, for Whitside immediately initiated a series of patrols that covered a 50-mile radius, spilled over into Mexico, and occupied the soldiers almost constantly. The incursions south of the border infuriated Mexican authorities who protested to Washington. As a result Whitside received orders to keep on the American side of the boundary. In May the War Department recruited a company of 40 Apache scouts at San Carlos and assigned them to Camp Huachuca, marking the beginning of a long tradition of scout service at the post. As summer came, the garrison used whatever spare time they could find to erect their field tents and a thatch-roofed, adobe bakery.

These and similar activities continued into the winter, and by spring 1878, the Huachuca soldiers were confronting a problem that would plague them and their comrades off-and-on for almost a decade: how to corral Geronimo. Although Indian Agent John P. Clum had persuaded the Chiricahua chief to return to San Carlos with other redmen in April 1877, he remained there only a year before bolting again. For the next 2 years he and his followers joined other bands in plundering both Mexican and American settlements and perplexing U.S. troops. Men from Camp Huachuca and other posts pursued the raiders with little success. Then in January 1880, Mexican military pressure forced Geronimo and about 100 other Indians to return once again to San Carlos. Eventually they were sent to the Camp Goodwin subagency about 15 miles upriver. They remained there only a short time, however.

Ironically, the spark that threw Geronimo and his comrades into alarm again originated with the White Mountain Apaches at Fort Apache to the northeast. In 1881 Indian Bureau corruption, Bureau-Army squabbling, and agitation over religious activity anticipatory of the Ghost Dance touched off an uprising at Fort Apache, brought additional troops into the Territory, and prompted Geronimo, three other chiefs, and 74 followers to flee to Mexico. Between April and July 1882, U.S. troops fought a series of successful battles with the Apaches who remained on this side of the border. Meanwhile, the State Department concluded a treaty with Mexico that would allow troops from both nations to cross the border in pursuit of hostile redmen. In September the War Department reassigned Crook, now a general, to Arizona, and he prepared

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immediately to enter the Sierra Madre in search of Geronimo. In a successful campaign early in 1883, he rounded up 52 men and 273 women and children, but Geronimo was not among them. Because of exhaustion and continued military pressure, though, he surrendered to Crook early the following year. According to western scholar Dan L. Thrapp, Crook's campaign had been "the largest military operation against Indians in the history of the southwestern frontier."⁹

To the extent that his authority allowed, Crook now tried to institute reforms on the reservations, but he clashed sharply with civilian officials. This discord among white authorities, together with Crook's ban on the Indians' use of the intoxicant *tizwin*, precipitated yet another disruptive incident, and in May 1885 Geronimo scurried off the reservation again, taking 42 men and 92 women and children. This time Crook sent elements of the 6th Cavalry and other troops more than 200 miles into Mexico after the elusive chief. All the while, small bands of Apaches dashed out of Mexico and back again, harassing settlers in southern Arizona. Finally, in March 1886 Crook established contact with Geronimo in northern Sonora, Mexico, talked with him, and prematurely wired Washington of his surrender. On the same night that they talked, however, Geronimo and about 60 others scattered throughout northern Mexico, leaving the embarrassed Crook in disfavor with the War Department and the butt of jokes in the national press, which was reporting the campaign in detail.

Sent to replace Crook, Gen. Nelson A. Miles wasted little time reorganizing border defenses and launching a new offensive. He covered southern Arizona and New Mexico with a network of heliograph stations from which tripod-mounted mirrors could flash messages about Indian raiders over distances of 25 to 30 miles. One of these stations was erected at Fort Huachuca, which had been renamed in 1882. It was here, too, that Capt. Henry W. Lawton, hand-picked to lead yet another pursuit into Mexico, organized his now-famous 4-month, 2,000-mile search for Geronimo. Accompanied by a young surgeon by the name of Leonard Wood, 55 chosen soldiers, 20 Apache scouts, and 30 mule-packers, Lawton left Fort Huachuca May 5, 1886. Over the ensuing weeks, his expedition struggled south to the Sonora and Yaqui Rivers but with little success. Still, according to Utley, Lawton's command established "a record of hardship and per-

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Thrapp, "Evolution, Use, and Effectiveness of the Apache Indian Scouts," 9-10.

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severance notable in U.S. military annals."¹⁰

In the meantime, Miles gathered 383 Indians at Fort Apache and put them on a train to Florida. He also began another effort to negotiate with Geronimo. Lt. Charles B. Gatewood, whom the chief knew and respected, was sent to join Lawton and try to contact the hostiles. Gatewood succeeded in gaining an audience with Geronimo and then convinced him to surrender to Miles. The awaited event took place in Skeleton Canyon about 65 miles southeast of Fort Bowie on September 4, 1886. Within 4 days, Geronimo and his people were headed by rail for imprisonment in Florida. This, says Utley, "marked the collapse of the last significant Indian group ranging free of reservation restraints."¹¹ The Army was not free from the Geronimo problem, though. National and State controversy raged for years over the Chiricahuas' removal, and Gens. Crook and Miles feuded the rest of their lives over who deserved credit for ending the hostilities.

While it is true that Fort Bowie, now a National Historic Site, assumed a larger role in the Geronimo campaign than did Fort Huachuca, it is also clear that the War Department correctly considered the latter post more vital to continued southwestern security. In addition to having authorized the installation's designation as a fort in 1882, Washington officials also directed that permanent improvements be made. Accordingly, between 1882 and 1887 a number of adobe structures were built at the post, including an administrative office, a hospital, a bakery, and several quarters. Following Geronimo's surrender, Fort Huachuca's first company, B of the 6th Cavalry, was ordered to Fort Meyer near Washington, where the soldiers paraded before foreign military attachés as one of the Nation's outstanding mounted units. The troops who remained behind and those who passed tours of duty at Fort Huachuca for the next decade continued to patrol the border and to search for runaways from the Indian reservations. In 1894, as Indian scares diminished, the War Department deactivated Fort Bowie but kept Huachuca, closer to the border, open. At about this same time, 1892-96, the post first housed the 24th Infantry, one of the four black regiments then in the Army. Significantly, each one of the other three were destined for duty at Fort Huachuca too. When the United States entered into war with Spain in 1898, Washington directed Fort Huachuca's

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Utley, Frontier Regulars, 387-88.

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Ibid., 397.

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veteran garrison to duty overseas, and through that conflict and the Philippine Insurrection of 1899-1902, Fort Huachuca served as a training center for recruits.

Troop training was an important service but not as much so as the duty that the post's garrison performed along the U.S.-Mexican border from about 1910 to 1920. During that decade revolution ripped through Mexico, and rival factions under leaders like Carranza, Orozco, Obregon, Huerta, and Villa frequently clashed in or near border towns such as Agua Prieta, Naco, and Nogales. Besides their usual patrol chores, U.S. troops along the border now had the added responsibility of preventing illicit shipments of arms across the international boundary and protecting Americans from raids by various Mexican revolutionaries, bandits, and army deserters. The latter task was made more momentous by the United States' ongoing political, economic, and diplomatic difficulties with Mexico. In preceding years thousands of Americans had migrated to Mexico, and countless others had invested millions of dollars in Mexican land and oil. With both U.S. lives and dollars at stake, the Government supported, either openly or covertly, first one and then another of the Mexican factions. Thus for a time it seemed possible that the armies of one or more revolutionary leaders might strike American soil in retaliation. Fears ran especially high after U.S. Marines seized Vera Cruz following the arrest of American sailors in Tampico in 1914. At one time as many as 10,000 U.S. troops were spread out along the Arizona-Mexican border. Among them was the famous 10th Cavalry, which had arrived at Fort Huachuca in 1913 and assumed full charge of the post.

Despite the American precautions, there were numerous alarms; and then on March 9, 1916, Pancho Villa led some 485 Mexican guerillas in a predawn attack upon the small village of Columbus, N. Mex. He left 18 Americans--10 civilians and 8 soldiers--dead. Scarcely a week later, Gen. John J. Pershing sent two U.S. columns plunging into Mexico in pursuit of the Villistas. Among Pershing's troops were units of the 10th Cavalry previously on detached duty in Naco, Ariz., just south of Fort Huachuca. Before the Pershing expedition concluded in February 1917, approximately 112,000 American troops had been deployed along the border. These were soon demobilized, though, and the 10th Cavalry was left again to protect southern Arizona. Illegal border crossings, minor raids, and occasional Indian difficulties continued for some time, and during World War I there was an alleged danger from German saboteurs. Whether German agents operated along the border or not, duty that appeared routine for the men of Fort Huachuca was, in truth, quite hazardous.

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During Fort Huachuca's first 40-odd years, it had functioned primarily as a cavalry post. Over the next 60 years, it underwent drastic changes. The fort continued until 1931 as headquarters for the 10th Cavalry, but from 1928 to 1942, it served also as the home of the 25th Infantry. It became exclusively an infantry post in the 1930's. In this same period the fort underwent two building programs, one in the twenties and a second in the thirties under the direction of the Works Progress Administration. When the United States entered World War II, Fort Huachuca was expanded even further, and it enhanced its reputation as a foremost center of black military service. In 1942-43 the post served as a training base for the reactivated 92d and 93d Infantry Divisions. These were two of the only three black combat divisions in the U.S. Army. They were led by both black and white officers. Formed originally during World War I, the 92d and 93d had been deactivated in 1919, but not before the 93d had seen perilous service in the Meuse-Argonne offensive and the division's 369th Regiment had received the French Croix de Guerre. In World War II the 92d fought in Italy; the 93d in the Pacific. Following the war, Fort Huachuca went through a series of even more rapid changes. Closed in 1947, it was reopened in January 1951 and used by the Air Force as a training station for Aviation Engineers. When the Korean conflict ended, Washington put the fort on the inactive list again. Various civilian plans emerged that might have made Fort Huachuca a center for senior citizens, a correctional site for juveniles, a University of Arizona agricultural station, or an Arizona Fish and Game range. Early in 1954, however, the Pentagon designated the post as the site for the U.S. Army Electronic Proving Ground, and the old fort breathed new life. In 1960 the U.S. Army Security Agency Test and Evaluation Center came to Fort Huachuca, and in 1967 the U.S. Army Communications Command moved here, making the post the focal point of the Army's worldwide communications network. The so-called "Old Post Area" of the fort is preserved, however, and along with it the spirit of the cavalry era.

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