



Fort McKavett 2nd U.S. Dragoons Regiment

Company E

November 1853 – August 1855

Company F

November 1853 – April 1855

Company G

February 1854 – August 1855

Fort McKavett State Historic Site

Located on the western edge of the Texas Hill Country, Fort McKavett State Historic Site is one of the most complete Indian Wars army posts in Texas.

Several quarters and buildings have period furnishings and displays. The site was home to all four of the “Buffalo Soldier” regiments as well as several other cavalry, dragoons and infantry regiments. Fort McKavett was active from 1852–1859, then again from 1868–1883.

Fort McKavett and the 2nd U.S. Dragoons

The 2nd U.S. Dragoons at Fort McKavett were the forerunners of the Cavalry. The 2nd U.S. Dragoons built many of the officers' quarters and barracks of the Pre-Civil War Fort McKavett. Many of the officers of the 2nd U.S. Dragoons left the service and joined the Confederacy at the start of the Civil War. The 2nd U.S. Dragoons became the 2nd U.S. Cavalry regiment.

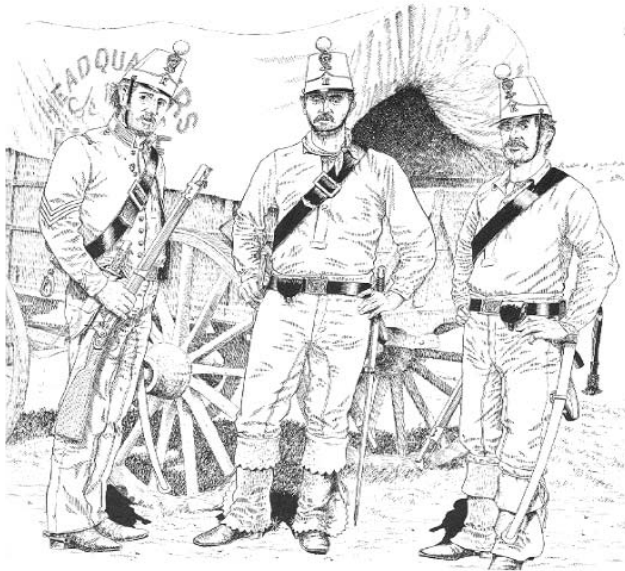


Capt. Charles M. May in his flamboyant Dragoon uniform.



Capt. Richard H. Anderson left the service of the United States and joined the Confederate Army in 1861. He rose to the rank of lieutenant general.

FORT MCKAVETT AND THE 2ND U.S. DRAGOONS



Dragoons in their field dress.



Dragoons were essentially mounted infantrymen. They fought on foot and used their horses mostly as transportation.



The Dragoons had a very distinctive uniform. They were essentially mounted infantrymen until the mid-1850s, when they developed the cavalry tactics used during the Civil War. Note the shortened rifle, called a "musketoon," and the heavy saber.



The 2nd Dragoons became the 2nd U.S. Cavalry and adopted this crest. The 2nd Cavalry became the 2nd Armored Cavalry and still exists today.



2nd Armored Cavalry
Coat of Arms

TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE

Fort McKavett State Historic Site
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