

Interesting Fort King Research

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 2 attachments (423 KB)

_doc_20190613123137.pdf; 1832 fort description.pdf;

I thought you all might find this interesting. We obtained a number of documents from the National Archives recently, I have been going through them looking for primary accounts of physical Fort descriptions. This is maybe the best description yet of the first fort. The first PDF is the letter from 1832, and the second is the transcription that I just finished.

Enjoy.

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Report of the Condition of M. G. Quarters and
other buildings at Fort Ring near Lennovo
Agency, Id. on its reoccupation by Comp^y "D"
4 Regt Inf 5 - July 18th 1892. -

Firstly - Soldiers Barrack

A log building about 65 ft square, running in N. W. & N. E. direction, facing to the N. E., and divided into 4 compartments separated by poplar ways of 12 & 18 ft in breadth - ~~parallel to the front & rear~~ - and a clapboard roof. Two of these compartments were formerly occupied as Company Quarters, one as Company Quartermaster's store house, and ^{one} as quarters for an officer. They will be appropriated for the same purposes at present deemed sufficient for such. In the roof above them apartments may be speedily constructed for Comp^y stores, offices, &c.

The body of this building remains sound. The under layer of clapboards of the roof is good, the upper requires replacing. A little patching however will render it sufficiently weather proof until this can be effected. The Sills, supports, &c. of the piazzas are entirely decayed & require to be immediately removed. The lower floors of this building are better - those above have been considerably mutilated, & a portion of the plank removed. The doors & window shutters are to be replaced. The Chimney is in ruins. -

Secondly - Officers Barrack

A log building about 50 by 20 ft parallel to and in rear of the former. Piazzas in front & rear. Two drawing rooms in the center, each of which

may be extended to me - either by allowing me rent;
or purchasing them. -

I shall leave for St. Augustine in five or three
days, when please communicate.

Very Respectfully,
Yours Obedt. Servt.
(Signed) J. R. Everts.

To,
Lt. Col. T. F. Hunt
D. G. M. Genl.
U. S. Army
Palatka.

Attn: copy.
July 20. 1842. T. F. Hunt.
D. G. M. Genl.

- of boats.

I find in the neighbourhood the skeletons of two boats, said to have belonged to the United States. One, flat bottomed & clinker built - formerly ^{built at the Post} ~~owned by the Government~~ ^{owned by the Government} - entirely decayed, & broken by the fall of a tree. The other, a Cyprus perogues - sunk at the old landing place & totally unfit for service.

I propose building immediately two flat bottomed boats, 35 ft by 8 ft capacity of 12 tons, at the junction of the creek water. These will be sufficient to transport a quarterly supply of provisions & other necessaries to the post. It is also proposed to build a small boat for the purpose.

Estimate of funds for building and repairs, as recommended in the above report.

Extra labour - 30 men for 60 days @ 15¢ per day \$270.00

Building Materials, Stone &c for repairs --- 100.00

St. King's

Total - \$370.00

July 18th 1852

I have the honour to be

Sir

Approved

Wm. C. Garrison
Lieut. of Engineers
Army

Your M^o Oth. Gen

Lo. M^o Harris

St. 3rd Arty

Act. A. G. M.

By

Maj. Gen^l Thos. S. Jones
Quar. M^o General
U. S. Army.

Report of the condition of M. Y. quarters and other buildings of Fort King near Seminole agency (?) on its' reoccupation by comp (?) 4 right inf July 18th 1832.

Firstly- Soldiers Barrack

A log building about 15 ft. square are, running in NW and NE direction, facing to the NE, and divided into 4 compartments separated by passage ways of 12 and 18 ft. in breadth, - piazzas to the front and rear- and a clapboard roof. Two of the compartments were formerly occupied as company quarters, one as company and quartermasters store house, and one as quarters for an officer. The will be appropriate for the same purpose, are at present deemed sufficient for such. In the roof above the apartments may be specially constructed for comp stores, offices (?)

The body of this building remains sound. The under layer of clap boards of the roof is good, the upper requires replacing. A little patching however will render it sufficiently weather proof until this can be effected. The sills, supports of the piazzas are entirely decayed and require to be entirely rebuilt. The lower floors of this building are intact – those above have been considerably mutilated and a portion of the plank removed. The doors and window shutters are to be replaced. The chimney is in ruins.

Secondly- Officers Barrack

A log building about 50 by 20 ft parallel to and in rear of the former. Piazzas in front and rear. Two drawing rooms in the center, each of which is flanked by a small bed room. There are two sleeping rooms in the loft in half story above this. This building is in pretty good condition. Some slight repairs to the roof, piazzas, windows and chimneys will make it comfortable and sufficient quarters for two officers. In rear of these are officers' kitchens, and beyond those sinks- all of which require to be rebuilt.

Thirdly-

The shell of a log building remaining unfinished when the fort was abandoned, and intended for officers quarters. This flanks the soldiers barrack to the (?)E- distance 100 yds and is 50 by 25 ft. I propose constructing a roof and piazzas to this, and fitting it up as quarters for two officers to be occupied as soon as finished as a hospital until a more suitable building can be constructed for that purpose- afterward to be appropriated to its original object.

Fourthly- Sutlers shop.

A log building originally intended for a guard house- but which with some additions of his own expense, has been fitted up, by the previous occupant into a store and is best appropriated as such. It has been thought advisable to allow Mr. Rogers the sutler to retain it as a shanty.

Beside these are several ruins of out houses which are judiciously located for and with partial rebuilding may be converted into company kitchens, stables, and blacksmith shops.

The block house on the western angle of the encampment with the addition of a roof flooring (?) may be made to answer its proposed design.

-of boats

I find in the neighborhood the skeletons of two boats, said to have belonged to the united states. One flat bottomed and clinker? Built- formally built at the port- entirely decayed, and broken by the fall of a

tree since burned by the wood chimney fire. The other a cypress pirogue- sunken at the old landing place, and totally unfit for service.

(the following paragraph is scratched out but this reads underneath)

I propose building (?) two flat bottomed boats 35 ft by 8 capable of navigating the water of the Ocklawaha. These will be sufficient to transport a quarterly supply of (?) stores from Palatka at a single trip- parties have already been dispatched for this purpose.

(following this is an account of cost for the renovations in another hand, these are easily read)