



A Fort Robinson Chronology

- 1868** - Treaty guarantees Sioux and other tribes food and supplies for land ceded to the U.S. Red Cloud Indian Agency is established on Platte River in Wyoming, just west of Nebraska line, to distribute goods to the tribes.
- 1873** - Red Cloud Agency moves to new site on the White River in northwest Nebraska.
- February 9, 1874** - Acting Agent Frank Appleton is killed by a warrior at the Red Cloud Agency; 14 mules are stolen from government supplier near the agency; Lt. Levi Robinson is ambushed and killed by hostiles from the Red Cloud Agency, while on wood train escort from Ft. Laramie.
- March 2-7, 1874** - Sioux Expedition leaves Ft. Laramie with 949 men to protect the Red Cloud Agency. Tent camp is established near the agency and called Camp Red Cloud Agency.
- March 29, 1874** - Tent camp renamed Camp Robinson after Lt. Robinson, killed the previous month. Col. Smith is first camp commander.
- May 1874** - Camp Robinson is moved 1½ miles west of the agency, near confluence of Soldier Creek and the White River. Permanent post is later built on the site.
- June 1874** - New post commander, Capt. Jordan, arrives and issues orders for construction of the first permanent barracks.
- February 1876** - American flag is raised for the first time over Camp Robinson.
- July 17, 1876** - Battle of Warbonnet Creek. Troops from Camp Robinson, commanded by Col. Merritt, intercept and turn back suspected hostiles fleeing Red Cloud Agency to join Crazy Horse after the Little Big Horn.
- October 23, 1876** - Gen. Crook leads Sioux Expedition troops into Camp Robinson and disbands the expedition.
- May 6, 1877** - Famed Sioux warrior Crazy Horse surrenders 889 members of tribe at Camp Robinson.
- September 5, 1877** - Crazy Horse is killed while trying to escape imprisonment at Camp Robinson.
- October 25, 1877** - Red Cloud Agency moved to new site on the Missouri River, later moved to present site of Pine Ridge Agency in South Dakota.
- October 1878** - Camp Robinson troops capture and take into custody 149 Cheyenne, led by Chief Dull Knife, after they escaped from Indian Territory in Oklahoma a month earlier and fled to their northern homeland.
- December 1878** - Camp Robinson renamed Fort Robinson.
- January 9, 1879** - Epic Cheyenne Outbreak begins, as tribe escapes from barracks at the fort.
- January 22, 1879** - Last of escaping Cheyenne are killed or captured.
- 1886** - Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad reaches Fort Robinson.
- 1887** - Fort Robinson expanded, becoming regimental headquarters calvary post.
- November 19, 1890** - 9th Cavalry, under Maj. Guy V. Henry, leaves fort for Pine Ridge Agency in case Sioux go to war as a result of Ghost Dance ceremonies.
- December 29, 1890** - Battle of Wounded Knee, last chapter in the wars with the Sioux. The 9th Cavalry did not see action. Fort served as supply point.
- 1897** - High-wheeled Columbia bicycles tested here for field use are unsuccessful. Although humorous, it was a forerunner of the mechanized army.
- 1906** - 10th Cavalry from the fort intercepts 300 Ute, fleeing their reservation and escorts them to Fort Meade, South Dakota.
- 1919** - Quartermaster Remount Depot established at fort. It developed into the world's largest training, care and breeding center for Army horses and mules.
- 1928-31** - 4th Field Artillery stationed at Fort Robinson.
- 1935-39** - U.S. Olympic Equestrian Team trained at fort.
- October 3, 1942** - War Dog Reception & Train Corps established at fort and closed in 1946.
- March 15, 1943** - German POW camp established.
- 1948** - Fort Robinson declared surplus and turned over the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- April 29, 1949** - USDA Beef Cattle Research Station opened; closed in 1971.
- 1954-64** - USDA Soil Conservation Service Training Center operated here.
- 1955** - First parcel of land for Fort Robinson State Park acquired by Game and Parks Commission.
- June 3, 1956** - Fort Robinson Museum opened by Nebraska State Historical Society.
- 1972** - James Ranch acquisition by the Game and Parks Commission brings Fort Robinson to over 22,000 acres.