

First Annual Centennial Strategy for

Fort Davis National Historic Site

August 2007



Site: FODA Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Fort Davis is one of the best remaining examples in the Southwest of a typical post-Civil War frontier fort. The amount of intact historic fabric is astounding. The integrity of the surrounding landscape--at least at the present time--is excellent. Because of the preponderance of remaining fabric and its rich history, it is a great venue to tell many nationally significant stories. An immensely significant civil rights story unfolded on the post as African-Americans assumed their first federal job as soldiers on the frontier. An intact stretch of the San Antonio-El Paso Road offers the opportunity to explain the significance of this national road and how it led to enormous changes in the American Southwest. Additionally, the Post Hospital, completed in 1876, offers a unique opportunity to tell the story of frontier military medicine. It is the only intact building from this era in the National Park Service designed has a hospital.

The park preserves the historic buildings, ruins, foundations, and landscape associated with two forts (1854-1862 and 1867-1891). In so doing, it makes this valuable part of America's heritage available to thousands of visitors annually for their enjoyment, understanding, education, and appreciation. In addition to the historic core, the park offers over 3 miles of rugged trails that offer outstanding views of the fort and the surrounding Davis Mountains.

The Centennial Vision for the park and its partners is to-

- Refurbish the 1965-era museum and revise the park film to offer visitors a compelling vision of the important role Fort Davis and associated actions of the U.S. Army played in our nation's history, particularly in the area of civil rights for African Americans, adverse impacts to native peoples, the development of the American Southwest and frontier military medicine.
- Work with partners to protect the largely intact historic viewshed the fort and public now enjoys with long-term consideration of acquiring or conserving a larger portion of the historic footprint of the fort.
- Have one of the premier historic preservation programs in the NPS to ensure the effective stewardship of the enormous historic fabric that remains in the historic structures of the fort. This includes a systematic maintenance and conservation program that proactively maintains the historic infrastructure and optimizes repair and maintenance cycles.
- Continue building public and educational partnerships that will increase public understanding of the significance of the fort, historic preservation and heritage conservation with a goal of increasing complementary community and regional stewardship efforts.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Chuck Hunt

Site: FODA STEWARDSHIP

- X Improve the condition of park resources and assets.
 - Rehabilitate high-priority historic buildings to good condition, and help communities to preserve their history through programs like Preserve America.
 - 1. Have one of the premier historic preservation programs in the NPS to ensure the effective stewardship of the enormous historic fabric that remains in the historic structures of the fort. This includes a systematic maintenance and conservation program that proactively maintains the historic infrastructure and optimizes repair and maintenance cycles.
 - 2. Conserve and partially restore the Post Hospital.
 - The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: FODA STEWARDSHIP

- Assure that no compelling chapter in the American heritage experience remains untold and that strategically important landscapes are acquired, as authorized by Congress.
 - X Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)
 - 1. Work with partners to protect the largely intact historic viewshed the fort and public now enjoys with long-term consideration of acquiring or conserving a larger portion of the historic footprint of the fort.
 - 2. Work with a variety of partners and scholars to ensure FODA's interpretation is inclusive of multiple perspectives, including Native American and African-American perspectives.
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Site: FODA STEWARDSHIP

- X Encourage children to be future conservationists.
 - X Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Feature compelling exhibits, school programs and visitor contacts that stresses the need for all of us to work together to conserve our natural and cultural heritage.

 \mathbf{X} The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: FODA **EDUCATION** Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology. X Other Park/ Program performance goal(s) Help sponsor an Electronic Field Trip to FODA to use the fort as a venue to discuss the civil rights signicance of the Buffalo Soldier story. The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS Site: FODA **EDUCATION** Impart to every American a sense of their citizen ownership of their national X Increase visitors' satisfaction, understanding, and appreciation of the parks they visit. Through the use of more compelling exhibits and an improved film, better portray the national significance of FODA.including a sophisticated exploration of the civil rights implications of the Buffalo Soldier story on the frontier. X The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS Site: FODA **PROFESSIONALISM** X Promote a safety and health culture for all employees and visitors. X Reduce the number of employee lost-time incidents and serious visitor injuries by 20 percent.

Continue to strive to build a culture of safety thoughout the park through the maintenance of an effective safety committee, empowering shared safety leadership for all employees, exploring innovative training opportunities and

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constant diligence on the part of all employees.

Site: FODA PROFESSIONALISM

- X Model what it means to work in partnership.
 - X Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Continue	building	g partne	rships	to	acco	mpl	ish	short-	ter	m and lor	ng-term	
conservat	ion obje	ectives,	partic	ula	rly	in	the	areas	of	viewshed	protection	ı,
historic	preserva	ation an	d educa	tio	n.							

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