

6/17/2004 House Approves Funding for Fort Larned Restoration Project

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Moran Supports Funding to Improve Historic Building

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that the U.S. House of Representatives has approved \$869,000 to complete the restoration of the Commanding Officer's Quarters at the Fort Larned Historic Site outside of Larned. Moran supported the funding, which was included in the funding legislation for the Department of the Interior for 2005.

"Fort Larned is an important historical site and played a prominent role in protecting the Santa Fe Trail during the 19th century," Moran said. "Unfortunately, not all of the nine original buildings at the site are open to the public because they have not been restored. Working with local leaders, I am pleased that we were able to obtain funding to complete the restoration of the Commanding Officer's Quarters."

The Commanding Officer's Quarters, located on the west side of the parade grounds, is one of the largest buildings at the fort. During its peak use between 1867 and 1878, the building was home to a rotation of roughly 13 commanding officers, including Major General Winfield Hancock and Lieutenant Colonel George Custer. Other famous visitors, such as William "Buffalo Bill" Cody and Kit Carson, were guests at the Quarters.

"We must make certain that this important part of American history and Kansas heritage is preserved for future generations," Moran concluded.

The legislation now goes to the Senate for consideration.

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