

## Main Post Cemetery



#### Fort Riley, Kansas





## **Historical Data**



- Established in 1853, making it the oldest historic property at Fort Riley with the exception of the Cavalry Parade Field.
- Original wood markers were simply inscribed "A U.S. Army Soldier".



• Grave markers are constructed of native limestone, marble and granite. Some examples of historic cast iron fencing are also found in the cemetery.



#### **Historical Data**



(Continued)





- Original wall was dry-laid limestone.
- Mortar-laid limestone walls were constructed ca. 1880.
- Additional walls were added ca. 1908.
- Delineation in original walls and later walls – older walls are flush cut compared to the chisel cut finish of the newer sections.
- Cemetery doubled in size with 1944 expansion.



# Significant Events



- Cholera Epidemic of 1855 mass graves, no recorded number of deceased.
- Cholera Epidemic of 1867 –
  "Asiatic Cholera", summer of 1867
   79 died and were buried in rows near the North wall.







## Significant Events



(Continued)

- Final resting place of 7 Confederate Prisoners of War, captured at the Battle of Glorietta Pass in New Mexico, 1862 -
- Temporary resting place of Japanese, Italian and German Prisoners of War.
- In the 1980s, the Japanese Government requested that all Japanese POWs be disinterred and returned to Japan.
- Two Italians were disinterred and returned to Italy









## Significant Events



(Continued)



#### SGT. George Loyd

Medal of Honor Recipient for Valor during engagement with the Sioux at Wounded Knee Creek, SD, 1890



Indian Wars Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient for bravery at Sappa Creek, Kansas, 1875





John E. Clancy

Indian Wars Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient for bravery at Wounded Knee Creek, SD 1890



#### **Earliest Marked Burial**



- The earliest marked burial was that of Mrs. Corneila Armistead, wife of Major Lewis Armistead.
- The original marker was of wood, and was later replaced with a marble headstone.







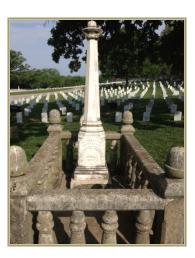
# National Register Criteria



- The Post Cemetery is significant as a historic landscape since it meets Criteria A, B and C
- Under Criterion A, the cemetery is associated with the Cholera Epidemics of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century which greatly impacted Fort Riley.
- Under Criterion B, the cemetery is associated with Major E.A. Ogden, First Quartermaster of Fort Riley, who later died in the first cholera epidemic and was buried in the Post Cemetery.
- Under Criterion C, the cemetery embodies distinctive characteristics of a uniform layout common to military cemetery design.









# 2005 Tornado Damage





- 80 Headstones damaged
- Extensive Tree damage
- Caretakers Office and Maintenance buildings Destroyed



