

Explore our history with a visit to a Texas Frontier Fort!

Fort Phantom Hill

Fort Phantom Hill, located on FM 600 in Jones County, was never officially named as a fort. It was established in 1851 as a US Army post to provide protection for the Santa Fe trail. The post suffered from a scarcity of fresh water from the beginning. The guardhouse, commissary and ammunitions magazine were the only stone buildings. The post was abandoned in 1854 and a fire destroyed most of the buildings

soon after. The ones not destroyed were used as Butterfield Overland stage station between 1858 and 1861. The Confederate Texas Mounted Rifles and Texas Rangers used the post during the Civil War and later it became a sub post after the war of Fort Griffin. It was closed in 1872.

The fort is open daily from dawn to dusk and is free to the public.



Fort Griffin

Fort Griffin, located on Hwy 283 north of Albany, Texas, was first established in 1867 to provide protection for settlers and as a supply point for buffalo hunters. The railroad bypassed the post in the 1870s and it was closed in 1881.

Fort Griffin is a Texas State Historic Site and is open daily from 8 am to 4:30 pm.



Fort Belknap

Fort Belknap is located between Newcastle and Graham on FM 61 in Young County, Texas. The post was established in 1851 was the center of a network of roads including the Butterfield Overland Mail route from St. Louis to San Francisco. From 1854 to 1859, its soldiers provided protection to two nearby Indian reservations. In 1859, these reservations and Fort Belknap were closed. During the Civil War, Confederate troops of the Texas

Frontier Regiment occupied the fort. Texas Rangers used it from 1864 to 1867 when the 6th US Cavalry came in. Due to the fort's dilapidation, reconstruction was considered. However with the founding of Fort Griffin, the fort was permanently closed.

The Fort is open Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday from 1:30 pm to 5 pm. It is closed on Wednesday and daily from 12 noon to 1:30. Admission is free to the public.

Fort Richardson

The 6th US Cavalry first established this post as Fort Jacksboro, but later renamed it Fort Richardson. It is in the Fort Richardson State Park off Hwy 380 in Jacksboro, Texas. The Fort's first purpose was to counter hostile Indian raids. Seven original buildings have been restored and two replica buildings have been added.

Fort Richardson is open Sunday through Thursday from 8 am to 5 pm, Friday from 8 am to 9 pm and 8 am to 8 pm on Saturday.

