RESOLUTION - EXHIBIT 1
FORT OMAHA GUARDHOUSE
LANDMARKS HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

RESOLVED BY THE LANDMARKS HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OMAHA:

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Technical Community College is the owner of the Fort Omaha Guardhouse; and,

WHEREAS, on September 29, 1981, the Metropolitan Technical Community College Board voted to request that the Fort Omaha Guardhouse be designated as a Landmark under the City of Omaha's Landmarks Heritage Preservation Ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, on January 27, 1982, J. Richard Gilliland, President and representative of Metropolitan Technical Community College applied for Landmark designation of the Fort Omaha Guardhouse; and,

WHEREAS, the Fort Omaha Guardhouse was built in 1883; and,

WHEREAS, the Fort Omaha Guardhouse is located at Fort Omaha, a National Register Historic District that reflects both Omaha's position in the nation's military history and its role in conquering the frontier; and,

WHEREAS, the Fort Omaha Guardhouse contributes to the Fort Omaha National Register Historic District by being one of six extant 19th century structures at the fort.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LANDMARKS HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OMAHA:

THAT, the Fort Omaha Guardhouse, 30th & Fort Streets, be designated as a Landmark of the City of Omaha.
Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

INSPECTION DATE
1-18-82

REQUEST

<table>
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<th>Landmark Designation</th>
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<td>District Designation</td>
<td>Site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate of Approval</td>
<td>Object</td>
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<td>to Perform Work</td>
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APPLICANT

LOCATION OF PROPOSED DESIGNATION OR WORK

Guardhouse (Bldg. #10), Fort Omaha

PRESENT USE
Vacant

CONFORMANCE WITH MASTER PLAN
Conforms to *A Comprehensive Plan for Historic Preservation in Omaha* where it is shown as being located in a potential historic district. Conforms to *1977 Community Development Master Plan’s Historic Preservation category*. Conforms to *1977 Environmental Resources Inventory* where the entire fort is shown as a historic site.

NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

Located in the Fort Omaha complex which consists of a mixture of buildings ranging from several original 19th century structures to contemporary buildings.

Probable future effect on neighborhood if designation is granted or work is approved.

Designation of the guardhouse structure will complement and reinforce efforts toward conservation of the historic character of Fort Omaha.

PRESERVATION ADMINISTRATOR’S RECOMMENDATION

Approval

PLANNING DIRECTOR’S RECOMMENDATION

Approval

ADDITIONAL DATA
Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission
APPLICATION FOR LANDMARK OR LANDMARK HERITAGE DISTRICT DESIGNATION

NAME OF STRUCTURE
Historic
Fort Omaha Guardhouse
and/or Common
Old Building #10

LOCATION
Street and Number
Fort Omaha Facility, 30th and Fort Streets

CLASSIFICATION
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<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
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<td>Both</td>
<td>Work in Progress</td>
<td>Educational</td>
<td>Private Residence</td>
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<td>In Process</td>
<td>Accessible</td>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>Religious</td>
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<td>Yes: Restricted</td>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Scientific</td>
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<td></td>
<td>___</td>
<td>Yes: Unrestricted</td>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
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<td>____</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Military</td>
<td>X Other (Vacant)</td>
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OWNER OF PROPERTY
Name
Metropolitan Technical Community College
Phone Number 449-8415
Street and Number
30th and Fort Streets (NOTE: mailing address is P.O. Box 3777, Omaha, Nebraska 68103)
City, State and Zip Code
Omaha, Nebraska 68111

Representative
J. Richard Gilliland, President
Phone Number 449-8415
Street and Number
30th and Fort Streets
City, State and Zip Code
Omaha, Nebraska 68111

LEGAL DESCRIPTION
The building is a 336 square foot detached brick building of dimensions of approximately 14 feet by 24 feet. The military's most recent use of the building was that of a motor vehicle garage. In the deed to the College, it is described as:
"Building #10 - detached garage - 336 sq. ft."

The building is a rectangular shaped building situated east of old Building #6 (redesignated as Building #4 by MTCC).
REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
Title A Comprehensive Plan for Historic Preservation in Omaha
Date 1981

FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY X ___ LOCAL ___

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
Title Historic Omaha Building Survey, Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission
Date 1977

FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL ___

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
Title Survey of Douglas County, Nebraska State Historical Society
Date 1978

FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL ___

National Register of Historical Places - District 1974

FEDERAL X STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL ___

DESCRIPTION
Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance.

(See Attached)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Specific Dates The Guardhouse is significant as one of six 19th century structures remaining
Architect at Fort Omaha. (See attached National Register Nomination for Fort Omaha)
Builder

1/27/82
Date

Signature of Owner/Representative
Architectural Description

Rectangular red brick structure (12' x 25'), constructed in 1883; ribbed metal hip roof; corbelled brick chimney; rectangular cupola with gable roof protrudes from the main roof near the south wall; east elevation and west elevation each have two window openings with segmental arches and masonry sills; north elevation contains modern garage door; south elevation is blank; opening on the west elevation left from the removal of a passageway that once connected the structure to the main Guardhouse building has been bricked in; the northwest corner of the building is attached to part of the remaining historic brick wall that once enclosed the Fort.
1. NAME
   Common: Fort Omaha Historic District
   And/or Historic: Sherman Barracks

2. LOCATION
   Street and Number: 30th St. between Fort St. and Laurel Ave.
   City or Town: Omaha
   Congressional District: Second Congressional District
   State: Nebraska
   Code: 31
   County: Douglas
   Code: 055

3. CLASSIFICATION
   Category (Check One):
   - District
   - Site
   - Object
   Ownership:
   - Public
   - Private
   - Both
   Status:
   - Occupied
   - Unoccupied
   - Preservation work in progress
   - Other (Specify): surplus
   Accessible to the Public:
   - Yes: Restricted
   - No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
   Name: General Services Administration
   Street and Number: 1500 East Bannister Road
   City or Town: Kansas City
   State: Kansas
   Code: 29

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
   Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc:
   County Clerk, Douglas County Courthouse
   Street and Number: 1700 Farnam Street
   City or Town: Omaha
   State: Nebraska
   Code: 31

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
   Title of Survey: Historic Preservation in Nebraska
   Date of Survey: 1971
   Depository for Survey Records:
   Nebraska State Historical Society
   Street and Number: 1500 "R" Street
   City or Town: Lincoln
   State: Nebraska
   Code: 31
The first troops to arrive in Omaha to carry out the duties of headquarters for the newly created Military District of Nebraska in 1862 were all housed in rented buildings. All military functions were carried out from temporary rented quarters until late 1864.

In October of 1864, with a scarcity of rentable buildings and the prospect of permanency for the company-sized unit assigned to Omaha, a "Post at Omaha" was authorized to be constructed near present-day 24th and Cuming Streets (south of present-day Fort Omaha and the center of the business district today). The buildings were all constructed of wood and first occupied in early November.

With the end of the Civil War, the Army returned to the use of rented buildings, and in October of 1865 the original post buildings were sold. The lumber from these buildings was either incorporated into new structures or complete structures were moved to new locations.

The post continued to function in rented buildings until 1868, when Army Chief of Staff General William T. Sherman of Civil War fame approved construction of "cheap barracks for one regiment."

The site for the new post was selected by Major General C. C. Augur and personally inspected by General Sherman. The post was to be located four miles north of the city on forty-two acres of land purchased by Omaha citizens and leased to the Army (later sold to the Army in 1882). Forty additional acres were purchased from Augustus Kountze, a prominent Omaha banker. The eighty and one-half acres of the post formed a parallelogram.

Construction began in September, 1868, and by mid-November the barracks had been completed. The new post was named "Sherman Barracks" in
7. Description (cont.) page 2

honor of the General. This was disapproved and the post was re-named "Omaha Barracks."

The structures at the post were all frame and faced inwards around a rectangular parade ground of approximately thirty acres. On the east side were located the post headquarters, guardhouse, bakery, storehouses, and sutlers store. There were ten company-sized barracks, five on each side of the parade ground. A hospital was built in the northwest corner. By 1871 a band barracks, ice house, quarters for laundresses and married enlisted men had been added.

In 1878, the Army required Department Commanders and officers to live on the post. As a result, three new brick buildings were erected at the post. The first structure to be completed was the commanding general's home, occupied first by General George Crook, who was stationed at Fort Omaha as commander of the Department of the Platte from 1875-82 and again from 1886-88. The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Two additional brick buildings were completed in 1879; a headquarters building and a storehouse. Also, a number of frame buildings which had been used as officer's quarters were repaired and enlarged.

In December of 1878 the name of "Omaha Barracks" was changed to Fort Omaha.

By 1886 the fort comprised thirty-eight buildings used as "residences by officers, places for the transaction of regimental business, storehouses and manufactories of all kinds requires for local repair." However, time
7. Description (cont.) page 3

had finally caught up with the "cheap barracks" constructed in 1864, and in 1896, when it was determined that the facilities at Fort Omaha were inadequate for Army needs, the fort was abandoned. When the government was unable to sell the structures for what it considered a fair market price all of the original frame buildings were either moved or demolished. Brick buildings that were built prior to 1896 have survived. The three brick buildings erected for the Department of the Platte have also survived. The post remained unoccupied between 1896 and 1905 except for the staging of the 2nd Nebraska Regiment during the Spanish-American War of 1898.

In 1905 troops again arrived at Fort Omaha to protect the construction of new buildings to house the Army Signal Corps. Between 1905 and the end of W.W.II, all of the early "cheap barracks" were replaced by brick structures built in an Italianate style. In 1909 the Signal Corps added a Balloon School to their facilities at the post. A balloon plant was installed in 1909 and the first balloon ascension occurred that year.

In October of 1913 the post was again deactivated but was reopened in 1916 as a training school for observation balloon crews. Additional quarters and balloon houses were built and a center for hydrogen production and experimentation with lighter-than-air craft was added.

During the 1920's and the depression of the 1930's the fort was continuously occupied. Since 1935 the fort has been largely used as a residence post for officers on duty at Seventh Corps area headquarters. During W.W.II it served as a support installation for the 7th Service Command.
7. Description (cont.) page 4

In 1947 the Army declared the fort surplus property and it was taken over by the Navy as a reserve training center. In 1973 the Defense Department declared Fort Omaha "excess" to their needs and in 1974 the Fort has been declared "surplus" and will soon be offered to the State or political subdivision thereof for possible adaptive uses.

The following 19th century buildings still stand on the grounds.

Building numbers are those currently used for identification:

Bldg. #1 Quarters No. 1 (General George Crook House). Built in 1879 Listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Bldg. #4 Department Headquarters. Built in 1879. After the Department of the Flatte moved back to Omaha in late 1881 it was used as post headquarters, chapel, and hospital. Recently it has been used as officers' quarters.

Bldg. #15 Storehouse. Built in 1879. This building has been transformed into married enlisted men's quarters.

Three other buildings erected in 1884 remain today.

Bldg. #6 and #10 Guardhouse. Originally one building. After reacti-vization of the post in 1905 the rear or east wing of the guardhouse was used as a hose house until 1914. In ca. 1914 the corridor joining the wing to the building was removed. The main part of the guardhouse has been converted into officers' quarters and the wing has become a garage.

Bldg. #9 Magazine. Recently used to store Navy's small-arms ammunition. Few changes over the years.
7. Description (cont.) page 5

Bldg. #2 and #3. Double set of officers' quarters. Built at a cost of $4,000. The first building north of the Crook House. The building has undergone few architectural alterations.
### SIGNIFICANCE

**PERIOD** *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*
- [x] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [ ] 18th Century
- [x] 19th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE** *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*
- [x] Aboriginal
- [x] Historic
- [x] Agriculture
- [x] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [x] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape
- [x] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [ ] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other (Specify)

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Ever since troops were first stationed in Omaha in 1882, Fort Omaha has played a major role in the history of the state and the nation.

Soldiers were first assigned to the area temporarily to protect supplies and frontier supply routes. When Omaha was made the headquarters for the newly created Department of the Platte in April, 1866, Fort Omaha was assured a permanent role in frontier history.

Soldiers from the Fort were used to protect the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad and later the completed line was used to carry troops to railheads as necessity demanded. They had a major influence on the Indian Wars of the 1870's and 1890's. Troops from the Fort were used to protect settlers in the Republican and Loup Valleys during the 1870's. The Yellowstone Expedition was assembled at the Fort in 1873. Fort troops were used to pursue the Cheyenne during the Outbreak of 1878 and were in the Pine Ridge area in 1890.

Fort Omaha soldiers were used to patrol the streets of roistering frontier Omaha; they also drew duty on such occasions as the Olive-Fisher trial in Hastings in 1879, a prison riot in Lincoln, the Omaha courthouse riot, and the Pullman Strike of 1894.

The roster of notable commanders of the Fort include Brigadier
8. Significance (cont.) page 2

General Edward O. C. Ord (1871-75); General George Crook (1875-82 and again in 1886-88); Brigadier General O. O. Howard (1882-84). Later commanders included Brigadier Generals Edwin W. Sumner (1898-99); Fitzhugh Lee (1900-01); Camillo C. C. Carr and Francis Moore (1904); and Major General Leonard Wood (1919-20).

One of the most important events to occur at the Fort was the trial of Ponca Chief Standing Bear in 1879. As a result of the trial the courts decided that Indians were citizens with constitutional guarantees of personal liberty.

During the middle 1880's the Fort was also a social center for the city of Omaha. The Omaha "400" regularly held their dances and outings at the Fort. The completion of the commanding officer's house in 1879 was "inaugurated with one of the most notable social gatherings ever assembled in Omaha." During its early years the Fort served as host to Ex-President and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant in 1879 and in 1880 to President Rutherford B. Hays.

During W. W. I Fort Omaha, the fountainhead for all balloon activities in the United States, trained about 16,000 men who attended school there. The Fort was probably the largest center for balloon crews in the nation. In addition, it was a center for hydrogen production and experimentation with lighter-than-air craft.

Troops have been stationed at Fort Omaha almost continuously since 1862. The Fort has played a major role in the history of the frontier and early
8. Significance (cont.) page 3

aviation. It has had a major impact on the Indian population as well as the
civilian population in the area. As headquarters for the famed 19th Century
Department of the Platte a preserved Fort Omaha will recall the important
chapters it contributed to United States military history.

Archival records and files, Nebraska State Historical Society.


MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

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<td>SW</td>
<td>41° 18' 15&quot;</td>
<td>95° 57' 23&quot;</td>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 82\(\frac{1}{4}\) acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

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FORM PREPARED BY

Persijs Kolberg, Curator II of Historic Sites

ORGANIZATION
Nebraska State Historical Society

DATE
2/23/74

STREET AND NUMBER
1500 "R" Street

CITY OR TOWN
Lincoln

STATE
Nebraska

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  [ ] State  [ ] Local  [ ]

Name
Michael T. Knerr

Title
Director, State History

Date
Feb. 22, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date
March 27, 1974

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date
LHPC Case No. H1-82-3, APPLICANT Metropolitan Technical Community College requests LANDMARK DESIGNATION for Fort Omaha Guardhouse, (Building #10). Area to be designated is shaded.
ORDINANCE NO. 29796

AN ORDINANCE to designate the Fort Omaha Guardhouse (Building No. 10), located at the Fort Omaha Campus of Metropolitan Technical Community College, 30th and Fort Streets, as a Landmark pursuant to the Landmark Heritage Preservation Ordinance of the City of Omaha.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OMAHA:

Section 1. That the Fort Omaha Guardhouse (Building No. 10) is located at the Fort Omaha Campus of Metropolitan Technical Community College, 30th and Fort Streets, which is on the following described land, to wit:

The Fort Omaha Campus of Metropolitan Technical Community College, 30th and Fort Streets, City of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska

Section 2. That for the reasons recited in Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission Resolution attached hereto as Exhibit I, and made a part hereof as if fully set forth herein, the architectural characteristics of the Fort Omaha Guardhouse (Building No. 10) are hereby deemed significant and worthy of preservation.

Section 3. That the Fort Omaha Guardhouse (Building No. 10) is hereby designated pursuant to Section 24-61 of the Omaha Municipal Code, and hereby subject to all of the provisions of Landmark Heritage Preservation, Ch. 24, Art. II. of the City of Omaha.

Section 4. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and take effect fifteen (15) days from and after the date of its passage.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER

[Signature]

APPROVED:

[Signature]

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF OMAHA

DATE

PASSED JUL 6 1982

ATTEST:

[Signature]

CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF OMAHA

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]

CITY ATTORNEY

PL/8:7C3:55
ORDINANCE NO. 29796

AN ORDINANCE to designate the Fort Omaha Guardhouse (Building No. 10), located at the Fort Omaha Campus of Metropolitan Technical Community College, 30th and Fort Streets, as a Landmark pursuant to the Landmark Heritage Preservation Ordinance of the City of Omaha.

PRESENTED TO COUNCIL
1st Reading JUN 22 1982
Hearing 6-29-82

PUBLICATIONS

PUB’N. OF HEARING
Date 6/25/82

Hearing JUN 29 1982

PUB’N. OF ORDINANCE
Date

Final Reading JUL 6 1982
Passed

Mary Coligan Assocte