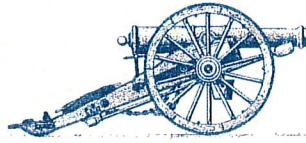


September 25, 2021



Re: Fort Atkinson Barrack Renovation

**FORT ATKINSON
FOUNDATION**

Dear

The original Fort Atkinson, an 1820s military post, had one main objective: to protect the fur trade on the Missouri River. Constructed high on the “Council Bluff,” as recommended by William Clark of Lewis and Clark fame, it was a landmark for anyone traveling west at that time.

Early residents of Ft. Calhoun understood the significance of the original Fort. In 1961, the Fort Atkinson Foundation began raising money, in partnership with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, to purchase the land where the original Fort stood. Fort Atkinson State Historical Park opened its gates in 1970. In the 1970s, construction on the barrack walls of Fort Atkinson began in earnest. Three walls of the compound were completed, a living history program developed, and construction of additional buildings occurred.

Through the years, thousands have enjoyed the rich history of Fort Atkinson, but the wooden logs have begun to deteriorate much like the original fort in 1827. In 2016, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission supported an investigation of the log structures, which indicated dry rot, insect infestations, and weather damage had accelerated the decay of the logs. Replacement of the logs is now necessary to keep the fort active. Therefore, the Foundation and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission are again working together to make the renovation complete.

To support this expensive restoration project, the Foundation developed a “Buy a Log” campaign. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission authorized funding for the restoration of the first section of barracks, while the Foundation procured the funds necessary for the second section through grants. To continue the project, we are looking for business and public contributions to keep the momentum going.

With your tax-deductible contribution, you have a unique way to be acknowledged for the project. While an entire log costs \$2,800, all who contribute \$250 or more can “adopt” the person of their choice who resided at the original Fort. In addition, all donors will be formally acknowledged on a recognition brick walk near the west gate, with the name of the donor and the adopted individual.

Your contribution toward buying a log is very much appreciated, and your financial assistance will ensure that thousands of future visitors will experience the history of this significant landmark here in Nebraska. If you have additional questions or would like to arrange a tour, please call me.

Sincerely,

David Genoways
President of the Fort Atkinson Foundation
402-237-9050

We are dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the site of Fort Atkinson