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Mormon Trail, The

William Hill

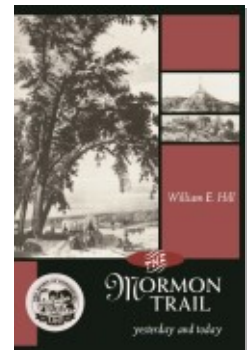
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Kansas



**FORT LEAVENWORTH—James F. Wilkins, State Historical Society
of Wisconsin, WHi(X32)20413**

While Fort Leavenworth was not on the Mormon Trail, it did play a role in Mormon history. The Mormon Battalion came here for outfitting after leaving the Kanesville area. This fort was the location from which Kearny's army departed for Mexico and California in 1846. Note the blockhouse and trail going up the bluff to the left of center.

Below is a similar view today. You can

walk up the hill in the same trail that the Mormon Battalion volunteers might have walked. Once at the top, only the base of the old blockhouse can be seen. The main parade grounds are only a short walk away. The Missouri River has now moved away from the bank shown in Wilkins's painting, but heavy rains still flood parts of the area occasionally.



FORT LEAVENWORTH—Today