**Fort Knox**

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*This article is about United States Army post. For the Fort Knox Bullion Depository where the majority of U.S. gold is kept, see* [*United States Bullion Depository*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Bullion_Depository)*. For the Civil War fort in Maine, see* [*Fort Knox (Maine)*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Knox_(Maine))*. For Comic strip, see* [*Fort Knox (comic)*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Knox_(comic))*.*

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| **Fort Knox** | |
| [Kentucky](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kentucky) | |
|  | |
| **Type** | Military Base |
| **Coordinates** | [37°53′34″N 85°58′29″W﻿ / ﻿37.892809°N 85.974709°W﻿ / 37.892809; -85.974709](http://toolserver.org/~geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Fort_Knox&params=37.892809_N_-85.974709_E_type:landmark)[Coordinates](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): [37°53′34″N 85°58′29″W﻿ / ﻿37.892809°N 85.974709°W﻿ / 37.892809; -85.974709](http://toolserver.org/~geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Fort_Knox&params=37.892809_N_-85.974709_E_type:landmark) |
| **Built** | 1918 |
| **In use** | 1861–1865: [Civil War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Civil_War) 1865–1903: Settlement 1903–1918: Training Grounds 1918–1925: Camp Knox 1925–1928: National Forest 1928–1931: Camp Knox 1932 – present: Fort Knox |
| **Controlled by** | 1861–1865: Contested 1865 – present: United States |
| **Current commander** | Maj. Gen. Mark McDonald |
| Location of Fort Knox in Kentucky | |

**Fort Knox** is a United States [Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army) post in [Kentucky](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kentucky) south of [Louisville](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louisville,_Kentucky) and north of [Elizabethtown](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabethtown,_Kentucky). The 109,054-acre (44,133 ha) base covers parts of [Bullitt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bullitt_County,_Kentucky), [Hardin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hardin_County,_Kentucky), and [Meade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meade_County,_Kentucky) counties. It currently holds the Army Human Resources Center of Excellence to include the Army Human Resources Command, United States Army Cadet Command and the United States Army Accessions Command. U.S. Army Armor Center, the [U.S. Army Armor School](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army_Armor_School) (moved to [Fort Benning](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Benning)), and is used by both the Army and the [Marine Corps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Marine_Corps) to train crews on the [M1 Abrams](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M1_Abrams) [main battle tank](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_battle_tank). The history of the [US Army's Cavalry and Armored forces](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cavalry_(United_States)), and of General [George S. Patton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_S._Patton)'s career, can be found at the [General George Patton Museum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_George_Patton_Museum) on the grounds of Fort Knox. Parts of the base in Hardin and Meade Counties form a [census-designated place](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Census-designated_place) (CDP), which had a population of 12,377 at the [2000 census](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Census,_2000).

**Bullion Depository**



The U.S. Gold Bullion Depository.

Main article: [United States Bullion Depository](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Bullion_Depository)

The [United States Department of the Treasury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Department_of_the_Treasury) has maintained the Bullion Depository on the post since 1937.

This facility is operated solely by the Treasury Department.

**Patton Museum**

The museum complex consists of the Patton, WWI, WWII and Post World War Galleries as well as a Special Exhibit area, The Emert L. Davis Memorial Library, outdoor static displays and the Armor Memorial Park. It is adjacent to Keyes Park, which contains a covered picnic facility, restrooms and children’s playground. The [General George Patton Museum of Leadership](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_George_Patton_Museum_of_Leadership) (formerly the Patton Museum of Armor and Cavalry) contains the largest collection of Patton artifacts in the world, including personal items used by General George S. Patton throughout his life.

**History**

**Fortification**

Fortifications were constructed near the site in 1861, during the [Civil War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Civil_War) when [Fort Duffield](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Duffield) was constructed. Fort Duffield was located on what was known as [Muldraugh Hill](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muldraugh_Hill) on a strategic point overlooking the confluence of the [Salt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_River_(Kentucky)) and [Ohio Rivers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ohio_River) and the [Louisville and Nashville Turnpike](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louisville_and_Nashville_Turnpike). The area was contested by both [Union](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_(American_Civil_War)) and [Confederate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confederate_States_of_America) forces. Bands of organized guerrillas frequently raided the area during the war. [John Hunt Morgan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Hunt_Morgan) the 2nd Kentucky Cavalry for the Confederate Army raided the area before staging his famous raid on [Indiana](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indiana) and [Ohio](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ohio) known as [Morgan's Raid](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morgan%27s_Raid).

**Post war**

After the war, the area now occupied by the Army was home to various small communities. In October 1903, military maneuvers for the Regular Army and the National Guards of several states were held at [West Point, Kentucky](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Point,_Kentucky) and the surrounding area. In April 1918, field artillery units from [Camp Zachary Taylor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camp_Zachary_Taylor) arrived at West Point for training. 10,000 acres (4,000 ha) near the village of Stithton were leased to the government and construction for a permanent training center was started in July 1918.

**New camp**

The new camp was named after [Henry Knox](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Knox), the [Continental Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continental_Army)'s chief of artillery during the [Revolutionary War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Revolutionary_War) and the country's first [Secretary of War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Secretary_of_War). The camp was extended by the purchase of a further 40,000 acres (16,000 ha) in June 1918 and construction properly began in July 1918. The building program was reduced following the end of the war and reduced further following cuts to the army in 1921 after the [National Defense Act of 1920](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=National_Defense_Act_of_1920&action=edit&redlink=1). The camp was greatly reduced and became a semi-permanent training center for the 5th Corps Area for Reserve Officer training, the National Guard, and Citizen's Military Training Camps (CMTC). For a short while, from 1925 to 1928, the area was designated as "Camp Henry Knox National Forest."

**Air Corps usage**

The post contains an airfield, called [Godman Army Airfield](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Godman_Army_Airfield), that was used by the [United States Army Air Corps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army_Air_Corps), and its successor, the [United States Army Air Forces](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army_Air_Forces) as a training base during World War II. It was used by the [Kentucky Air National Guard](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kentucky_Air_National_Guard) for several years after the war until they relocated to [Standiford Field](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standiford_Field) in Louisville. The airfield is still in use by the [United States Army Aviation Branch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army_Aviation_Branch).

**Mechanized military unit occupation**



Infantryman wearing [Brodie helmet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brodie_helmet), kneeling in front of [M3 Half-track](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M3_Half-track), holds and sights an [M1 Garand](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M1_Garand) rifle. Fort Knox, June 1942.

In 1931 a small force of the [mechanized](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armoured_warfare) cavalry was assigned to Camp Knox to use it as a training site. The camp was turned into a permanent [garrison](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garrison) in January 1932 and renamed Fort Knox. The [1st Cavalry Regiment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Cavalry_Regiment_(United_States)) arrived later in the month to become the 1st Cavalry Regiment (Mechanized).

In 1936 the 1st was joined by the 13th to become the 7th Cavalry Brigade (Mechanized). The site during [World War II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II) was a major impetus to operations at the fort. A new Armored Force was established in July 1940 with its headquarters at Fort Knox with the 7th Cavalry Brigade becoming the [1st Armored Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Armored_Division_(United_States)). The Armored Force School and the Armored Force Replacement Center were also sited at Fort Knox in October 1940, and their successors remain located there today. The site was expanded to cope with its new role. By 1943, there were 3,820 buildings on 106,861 acres (43,245 ha). A third of the base has been torn down within the last ten years, with another third slated by 2010.

The Army Human Resource Command Center has re-located to Fort Knox from the DC/Virginia area beginning in 2009. New facilities are under construction throughout Fort Knox, such as the new [*Army Human Resource Center*](http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/pa/article.asp?id=126&MyCategory=1), the largest construction project in the history of Fort Knox. It’s a $185 million, three-story, 880,000-square-foot (82,000 m2) complex of six interconnected buildings, sitting on 104 acres (42 ha).

**Base realignment and closure**

Fort Knox will lose about 4,600 personnel through the departure of the Army Armor Center and School to Fort Benning, Georgia, as well as the departure of other divisions to different parts of the country.

The Army [Human Resources Command](http://feinknopf.photoshelter.com/gallery/G00000rgxsIfLQZA) with approximately 4,300 mostly civilian personnel has been consolidated at Fort Knox. The new center will combine offices that were located in Virginia, Indiana and Missouri. The 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, with approximately 3,400 personnel, that was stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, has been relocated to Fort Knox.

It’s expected that between $800 and $900 million worth of construction will take place at Fort Knox for the BRAC reorganization, and for base modernization projects.

The Fort Knox BRAC reorganization is scheduled to be completed by the end of September 2011.

**Fort Knox High School**

Main article: [Fort Knox High School](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Knox_High_School)

Fort Knox is one of only three Army posts (the others being [Fort Campbell, Kentucky](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Campbell,_Kentucky) and [Fort Sam Houston, Texas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Sam_Houston,_Texas)) that still have a high school located on-post. Fort Knox High School, serving grades 9–12, was built in 1958 and has undergone only a handful of renovations since then; but a new building was completed in 2008.

**Current units**

* [3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=3rd_Infantry_Brigade_Combat_Team&action=edit&redlink=1), 1st Infantry Division
* [3rd Sustainment Command](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=3rd_Sustainment_Command&action=edit&redlink=1) (Expeditionary)
* [19th Engineer Battalion](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=19th_Engineer_Battalion&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [16th Cavalry Regiment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/16th_Cavalry_Regiment_(United_States))
  + 1st Squadron
  + 2nd Squadron
  + 3rd Squadron
* [194th Armored Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/194th_Armored_Brigade_(United_States))
  + [81st Armored Regiment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/81st_Armor_Regiment_(United_States))
    - 1st Battalion
    - 2nd Battalion
    - 3rd Battalion
  + [15th Cavalry Regiment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/15th_Cavalry_Regiment_(United_States))
    - 5th Squadron
  + [46th Infantry Regiment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/46th_Infantry_Regiment_(United_States))
    - 1st Battalion
    - 2nd Battalion
* [34th Military Police Detachment](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=34th_Military_Police_Detachment&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [46th Adjutant General Battalion](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=46th_Adjutant_General_Battalion&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [95th Training Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/95th_Infantry_Division_(United_States)) (formerly 95th Infantry Division)
* [113th Band](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=113th_Band&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Ireland Army Community Hospital MEDDAC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ireland_Army_Community_Hospital)
* [84th Training Command](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/84th_Division_(United_States)) (UR)
  + [70th Training Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/70th_Infantry_Division_(United_States)) (FT)
* United States Army Recruiting Command
  + [3rd Recruiting Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=3rd_Recruiting_Brigade&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [*Units & Organizations*](http://www.knox.army.mil/units.asp)

**Geography**

Fort Knox is located at 37°54'09.96" North, 85°57'09.11" West, along the Ohio River. The depository itself is located at 37°52'59.59" North, 85°57'55.31" West.

According to the [Census Bureau](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Census_Bureau), the base CDP has a total area of 20.94 square miles (54.23 km2), of which 20.92 sq mi (54.18 km2) is land and 0.03 sq mi (0.08 km2)—0.14%—is water. Communities near Fort Knox include [Brandenburg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brandenburg,_Kentucky), Elizabethtown, [Hodgenville](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hodgenville,_Kentucky), Louisville, [Radcliff](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radcliff,_Kentucky), [Shepherdsville](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shepherdsville,_Kentucky), and [Vine Grove, Kentucky](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vine_Grove,_Kentucky). The Meade County city of [Muldraugh](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muldraugh,_Kentucky) is completely surrounded by Fort Knox.

**Demographics**

As of the census of 2000, there were 12,377 people, 2,748 households, and 2,596 families residing on base. The population density was 591.7 inhabitants per square mile (228.5 /km2). There were 3,015 housing units at an average density of 144.1 /sq mi (55.6 /km2). The racial makeup of the base was 66.3% [White](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_American), 23.1% African American, 0.7% Native American, 1.7% [Asian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asian_American), 0.4% [Pacific Islander](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Islander_American), 4.2% from [other races](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Race_and_ethnicity_in_the_United_States_Census), and 3.6% from two or more races. [Hispanics or Latinos](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hispanic_and_Latino_Americans) of any race were 10.4% of the population.

There were 2,748 households out of which 77.7% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 86.0% were married couples living together, 6.1% had a female householder with no husband present, and 5.5% were non-families. 4.9% of all households were made up of individuals and 0.1% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 3.49 and the average family size was 3.60.

The age distribution was 34.9% under the age of 18, 25.5% from 18 to 24, 37.2% from 25 to 44, 2.3% from 45 to 64, and 0.1% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 22 years. For every 100 females there were 155.7 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 190.3 males. These statistics are generally typical for military bases.

The median income for a household on the base was US$34,020, and the median income for a family was $33,588. Males had a median income of $26,011 versus $21,048 for females. The per capita income for the base was $12,410. About 5.8% of the population and 6.6% of the population were below the poverty line, including 7.6% of those under the age of 18 and 100.0% of those 65 and older.

**See also**

* [Goldfinger (film)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goldfinger_(film))
* [Ireland Army Community Hospital](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ireland_Army_Community_Hospital)
* [Louisville-Jefferson County, KY-IN Metropolitan Statistical Area](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louisville-Jefferson_County,_KY-IN_Metropolitan_Statistical_Area)
* [Elizabethtown, KY Metropolitan Statistical Area](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabethtown,_KY_Metropolitan_Statistical_Area)
* [Louisville-Elizabethtown-Scottsburg, KY-IN Combined Statistical Area](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louisville-Elizabethtown-Scottsburg,_KY-IN_Combined_Statistical_Area)
* [List of attractions and events in Louisville, Kentucky](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_attractions_and_events_in_Louisville,_Kentucky)

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