

NEWS BUREAU

Fort Wright College of the Holy Names
Spokane, Washington

November 16, 1964

From: Ruth O. Fink

Phone TE 8-8614

Spokane, Wash., - The Fort Wright Historical Museum has been established at the former Fort George Wright army post, now the site of Fort Wright College, a four-year liberal arts college for women. The museum is located in the commandant's house north of the Parade Ground, a stately red-brick structure on Custer Drive.

It is sponsored by the Fort Wright Historical Museum Advisory Council, a newly organized volunteer group of men and women interested in preserving the historical significance of the early Northwest Army post.

The following Spokane residents have been elected to these offices: Mrs. Fabian Smith, president; Jerome Peltier, vice president, Miss Georgiana McGarry, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Bernard Ryan, sergeant-at-arms; Mrs. Mally Sweeney, historian; and Mrs. Paul W. Giesa, publicity. Sister Vida Maria, Director of Development at Fort Wright College, is faculty co-ordinator for the Council.

A spokesman for the Museum Council explained that establishment of the Fort Wright Historical Museum will bridge the gap between Fort George Wright, the Army post - and Fort Wright College which is now "in command" of the early day military post and preserve important historical memorabilia.

Council members envision the restoration of the Commandant's house, a spokesman for the group said. The structure will be redecorated and refurnished in period, providing a suitable location for the treasures now being collected for permanent exhibition.

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Among the first gifts received were a set of rare books and some early photographs, given by Mrs. Fabian Smith, Council president and a member of the Fort Wright College Board of Regents; a choice Indian collection by Mrs. Mary Goetter, of Colville; and a turn-of-the-century hitching post, by Mrs. O. E. Brodersen.

An appeal has been made to the Defense Department for a cannon and other military equipment considered indispensable at early Army posts, - equipment once "standard" at Fort George Wright.

The Charter group has launched a drive to enlist members in the Fort Wright Historical Museum Associates, open to all interested persons. An appeal for historical documents, photographs, - anything connected with the early history of Fort George Wright, is being made. For additional information contact Mrs. Paul W. Giesa, East 1004 Sixteenth Avenue, Spokane.

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**From: Ruth O. Fink
May 10, 1965**

Phone TE 8-8614

Spokane, Wash.,- Formal opening of the Fort Wright College Historical Museum will be held Sunday, May 16, from 2 to 4 p.m. The public is invited to view the display of military gear, documents, photographs and artifacts reminiscent of historic Fort George Wright.

The pioneer U. S. Army Post established in 1898, decommissioned after the Korean conflict is now the site of Fort Wright College, the only women's college in the State of Washington.

The Fort Wright College Historical Museum is located in the Commandant's House on Custer Drive. Members of the Museum Associates, a volunteer group, have collected and organized the exhibits to perpetuate the historic significance of Spokane's famed military post.