Fort Hartsuff, Nebraska

RG0504 Fort Hartsuff, Nebraska, 1874-1881

Records: 1874-1939
Cubic ft.: .5
Approx. No. of Items: 200

HISTORICAL NOTE

Fort Hartsuff was established in September 1874 as a barrier against the Indians in the North Loup Valley after the settlers had petitioned the government for military protection. The Fort was built at a site located by General E. O. C. Ord, and was named in honor of Major General George L. Hartsuff. Co. C, 9th Infantry was the first garrison under the command of Captain Samuel Munson. Very little actual fighting occurred between the Indians and the soldiers at the Fort, but the presence of the soldiers gave the settlers a sense of security in addition to brightening their social life. The construction of Fort Hartsuff was an economic boon to the area, providing jobs for settlers who otherwise would have been forced to leave.

The War Department ordered the Fort abandoned in May 1881, the land going to private ownership. Some of the buildings still stand at the original site in Valley County and the Fort is now a historical site.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of three reels of microfilm and one box of archival and manuscript materials arranged into five series: 1) Official records (on microfilm); 2) Correspondence, 1930-1938; 3) Manuscripts and notes; 4) Printed matter; and 5) maps.

This collection relates to the history of the fort and to efforts to preserve the Fort as a historical site. The microfilm in series one consists of official records relating to military affairs and activities at Ft. Hartsuff, 1874-1881. Included are a post medical history, letters sent, and documents relating to General Ord and to Captain Samuel Munson.
ADDED ENTRIES:

Davis, Horace Mansell
Fort Hartsuff Park Association
INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA--WARS (1874-1881)
MEDICINE--MILITARY
MILITARY POSTS--NEBRASKA
MUNSON, SAMUEL
ORD, EDWARD OTHO CRESAP, 1818-1883
Smith, Thurman Amon, 1877-1956
VALLY COUNTY, NEBRASKA--HISTORY
The materials in Series two through five consist primarily of correspondence, historical data and printed matter relating to efforts in the 1930’s to preserve Ft. Hartsuff as a historical site. Also included are various contemporary maps of the Ft. Hartsuff military reservation.

DESCRIPTION

film

SERIES ONE OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1874-1881

Reel #1 Post Returns, 1874-1881
NARS RG094

Reel #2 Selected documents relating to
RG094 Gen. John J. Coppinger
Captain Samuel Munson

Reel #3 Medical History of Ft. Hartsuff
NARS Synopsis of Post History, 1874-1881
Post Returns

B.01 (not on microfilm)

f.1 Correspondence, 1874-1881
Xerox copies from letterbooks,
Headquarters, Dept of the Platte

f.2 Correspondence, 1874-1899
Xerox copies, selected letters,
U.S. War Department; U.S. Dept of the
Interior relating to fort

SERIES TWO CORRESPONDENCE, 1930-1938

B.01 f.1 1930-1938 letters pertaining to the
preservation of the fort as a
historical site
SERIES THREE  MANUSCRIPTS AND NOTES

B.01 f.1  Fort Hartsuff, manuscript, n.d.
           by Horace M. Davis
           “Fort Hartsuff,” poem by Thurman A. Smith

SERIES FOUR  PRINTED MATTER

B.01 f.1  Nebraska Legislature, 53rd session, 38th day
          resolution concerning Ft. Hartsuff
          February 23, 1939
          State House News, Dec. 1, 1939
          contains article concerning fort
          f.2  Newspaper clippings
          f.3  Fort Hartsuff Park Association broadside
               and certificates

SERIES FIVE  MAPS

B.01 f.1  Fort Hartsuff site sketch
          Fort Hartsuff, Hay & Wood Reservations, 1874
          Military Reservation, North Loup River, 1874
          Military Reservation and Hay & Wood
          Reservation, 1874

END OF INVENTORY

DJR/JEP/ab  12/7/1967
JEP/cr       9/23/1970
PMC  WORD   3/14/2007