

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Idaho	
COUNTY:	Kootenai	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
OCT 25 1979		

## 1. NAME

## COMMON:

Fort Sherman Building

## AND/OR HISTORIC:

Camp Coeur d'Alene, Fort Coeur d'Alene

## 2. LOCATION

## STREET AND NUMBER:

Campus of North Idaho Junior College

## CITY OR TOWN:

Coeur d'Alene Congressional District:

District #1

## STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY:

Kootenai

CODE

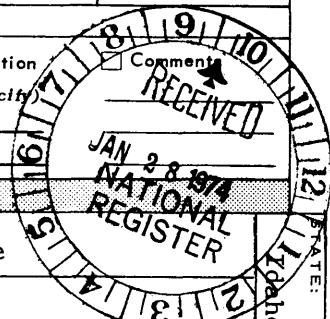
055

## 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP			STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Site		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work
				<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> in progress
				<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> No

## PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                     |  |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural           | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Park              | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial             | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational | <input type="checkbox"/> Military   | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious         | <input type="checkbox"/> RECEIVED JAN 28 1979 NATIONAL REGISTER            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment          | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum     | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific        | <input type="checkbox"/> Idaho   |



## 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

## OWNER'S NAME:

North Idaho Junior College and Athletic Round Table

## STREET AND NUMBER:

## CITY OR TOWN:

Coeur d'Alene

STATE:

Idaho

CODE

16

## 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

## COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Kootenai County Courthouse

## STREET AND NUMBER:

## CITY OR TOWN:

Coeur d'Alene

STATE:

Idaho

CODE

16

## 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

## TITLE OF SURVEY:

Idaho Historic Preservation Plan

## DATE OF SURVEY:

1972

 Federal State County Local

## DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Idaho State Historical Society

## STREET AND NUMBER:

610 North Julia Davis Drive

## CITY OR TOWN:

Boise

STATE:

Idaho

CODE

16

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER DATE

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
(Check One)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	(Check One)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fort Sherman Historic District includes the five following buildings, with a border ten feet wide surrounding each building.

Chapel: The angular lines of the red clapboard chapel contrast with the window and door openings in the structure, all of which are round-arched. A short flight of steps leads up to the shallow entryway which shelters the double front door. Entry is open on the front and has a gable roof. Set in the wall above the entry is a trio of round-arched windows, with the center one set higher than the others. Sides of the chapel are divided by stepped wooden buttresses whose lines correspond to the angles of the gable roofs. A pair of windows is set in each of the four bays of the nave, with single windows in each of the two apse bays. A squat belfry, set at the front gable peak, has four arched openings and a hip roof. Foundation supports are hidden by skirting of wooden strips set in a close lattice pattern.

Officers' Quarters #1 (McHugh Building): This tall, two-story frame residence served as an officers' quarters for Fort Sherman in the 1880's. Painted white, the first floor is clapboard and the second shingled. The entrance, flanked by two windows on each side, is under a bay-windowed overhang of the second story supported by four columnar pillars. Windows on the second floor are set half above the eave line and are topped with gabled dormers. House is nearly square, with larger side facing the street and with an additional wing added at the rear.

Officers' Quarters #2 (McCormac Building): This fine two-story white clapboard building has a graceful verandah across the front on the first story. Wooden columns and flattened arches support the shallow hip roof of the porch. The gable roof of the main structure is punctuated by three gable-roofed dormers. A tall chimney rises at either end of the main roof. A matching rear wing has its own gable roof.

Powder Magazine: The powder magazine is a simple, one-story red brick building with gable roof. A small gable roof supported by curving brackets shelters the central front door which is flanked by rectangular windows. Side door and windows have exposed lintels.

Barn: Measuring 20' x 60', this frame barn with gable roof occupies the northernmost position in the sequence of buildings.

S M M - I N S T R U C T I O N S



**SIGNIFICANCE****PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)** 1878-1900**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| Aboriginal                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education           | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering         | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry            | losophy                                 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention           | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature          | itarian                                 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Music               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |  |

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

While on an inspection tour in 1877, General William Tecumseh Sherman camped by Coeur d'Alene Lake and was so impressed by the scenery of the area that he recommended it as a site for a fort. A military post was established the following year on April 16 as Camp Coeur d'Alene, and troops and equipment were moved in from Spokane Falls.

Changed to Fort Coeur d'Alene on April 5, 1879, the post had three reasons for its existence: keeping the peace in northern Idaho, protecting railroad and telegraph crews, and guarding the Canadian border. The first two jobs occupied the troops for most of the time as there were few problems on the northern border.

The name of the fort was changed again on April 6, 1887 to Fort Sherman. The post continued in existence for a few more years, but was finally ordered abandoned on March 5, 1900. It was vacated in September of that same year and was replaced by Fort George Wright in Spokane.

Many considered Fort Sherman to be one of the most scenic in the United States, but the soldiers stationed there sometimes took a dimmer view of the situation. The site was only five feet above the level of the lake which periodically flooded the parade grounds, causing numerous problems for the troops. Obtaining good water for the fort was also a problem from the beginning, and \$7000 had to be spent on a pump and pipe system.

Several of Fort Sherman's buildings remain on or near the campus of North Idaho Junior College. Fort Sherman has some of the few surviving examples of nineteenth century military architecture in Idaho. One of the officers' quarters, McHugh Hall, is little altered, and the chapel is very close to its original appearance. Documents on file in the National Archives indicate that the chapel was designed in the War Department in 1879, and a comparison of those plans with the building shows that it was built as designed. It also was used as the first post school.

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Herbert M. Hart, Old Forts of the Northwest, Seattle:  
Superior Publishing Co., 1963.

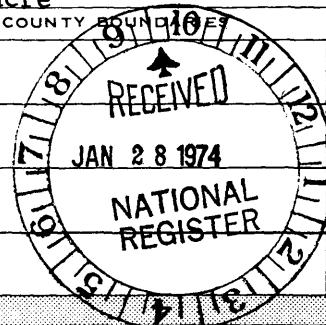
Norman Radford, "Old Fort Sherman", Idaho Historical Society Twentieth Biennial Report, 1945-46, Boise, 1946.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	O R	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 47° 40' 46"	Degrees Minutes Seconds 116° 47' 52"		Degrees Minutes Seconds 0' 0" 0"	Degrees Minutes Seconds 0' 0" 0"
NE	47° 40' 46"	116° 47' 31"			
SE	47° 40' 36"	116° 47' 31"			
SW	47° 40' 36"	116° 47' 52"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARY			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Nancy F. Renk, Site Survey Staff

ORGANIZATION  
Idaho State Historical Society

DATE  
22 Jan. 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:  
610 North Julia Davis Drive

CITY OR TOWN: Boise	STATE: Idaho	CODE: 16
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## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Merle Wells

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 22 January 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Carol Shael*  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Date 10-25-79

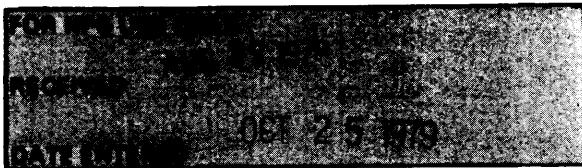
ATTEST:

*Jeanne D. Brown*  
Keeper of The National Register  
Date 10/25/79

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Supplementary and Revised Material - Fort Sherman  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**      ITEM NUMBER 7      PAGE 1

7. The Fort Sherman site consists of four examples of nineteenth century military architecture surviving on or adjacent to the North Idaho College Campus in Coeur d'Alene. They are now interpenetrated by a number of historically unrelated buildings (private residences, a college dormitory, tennis courts). Also, the fifth building in the original nomination submitted in 1974, a hay barn, has been lost. The Parade Ground space is occupied by modern college buildings. For these reasons, the revised nomination focuses on the four architecturally and historically related properties, which survive within a few blocks of each other near the shores of the Spokane River and Lake Coeur d'Alene (see attached sketch map). Boundary descriptions and ownership for each building are included in the expanded inventory below.

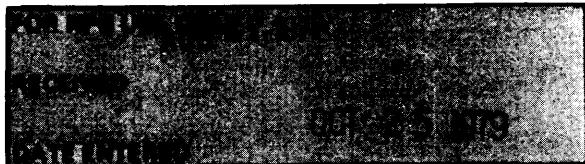
All of these structures date ca. 1880, which is early for architecture in Idaho and very early for Coeur d'Alene, which developed contemporaneously with the Fort and where few other examples of nineteenth century architecture survive. All were built as part of a frontier military post. They represent three functional types: residential (two officers' quarters), religious (a chapel); and utilitarian (a former powder magazine). As was probably dictated by available resources, all but one, the brick magazine, are of wood frame construction. Most historic buildings in what is still locally referred to as the Fort Grounds have been lost: a third officers' quarters and a hay barn have been razed within the last year. The remaining structures are the only visual evidence of the military genesis of Coeur d'Alene city.

Inventory:

1. McHugh house, 917 West Garden: an ell-shaped two-story frame structure with laterally-running gabled roof on the main block and a slightly flared second story. Siding on the facade is shingle above and clapboard below. Gabled dormers containing double-hung multi-light sash windows and decorative millwork echoing the lines of the gables break the eave on either side of the structure's most striking feature: a square, central, outset, hip-roofed second-story bay, faced with an oriel window and surmounting a 12-foot wide entry porch. The porch bay is supported on slender columns with wooden capitals, from which shallow arches are sprung. There is one interior chimney, and the remains of one exterior chimney at the rear. The house covers about 2300 square feet.

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The McHugh house is architecturally and historically significant as the best preserved of the two remaining houses in Fort Sherman's officers' row. Dating as it does ca. 1878, and representing as it does considerable pretension for a structure built in what was then largely wilderness, McHugh house is tangible evidence of the effort of the U. S. Government to install and impose a semblance of Eastern civilization on the frontier; the living quarters of its military officers are particularly illustrative of this impulse.

The nominated property consists of less than one acre. The legal description is Tract F, Merriam Park addition. The present owner is North Idaho College, 1000 West Garden, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

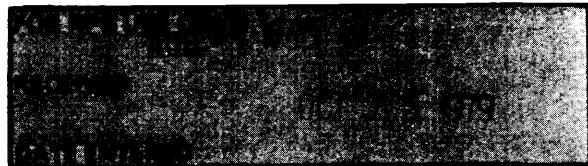
2. McCormick house, 833-35½ West Garden: a second surviving officers' quarters. It has been re-sided, but the basic nineteenth century massing is clearly cognate to that of McHugh house. The two-story frame structure has laterally-running gables, and chimneys, gabled dormer breaking the eave line, and gabled entry porch centered on the facade. Pairs of multi-light sash windows survive, as do small circular lights in the gables. There are pairs of interior chimneys, one on either side of the ridgebeam, at either end of the house. The ground floor area of the structure is approximately 2100 square feet.

The architectural significance of the McCormick house resides in its age, which at ca. 1880 makes it very early in later-developing Coeur d'Alene, and more particularly in the fact that together with the McHugh house it preserves an impression of the characteristic military-post device of the officers' row; an impression which could not, by definition, be preserved by a single structure. As such McCormick house is critical to the effectiveness of the group in conveying a sense of time and place.

The nominated property consists of less than one acre. The legal description is Tract D, Merriam Park addition to Coeur d'Alene. The current owner is North Idaho College, 1000 West Garden, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

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Supplementary and Revised Material - Fort Sherman

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

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3. Former Powder Magazine (Museum of North Idaho), 607 Mina Street: a 26' x 30' perfectly rectangular building with front-facing gables, now serving as a small historical museum. In contrast to the frame construction of the other surviving buildings of the Fort, and undoubtedly because its original function made resistance to fire crucial, the magazine is constructed of brick, with stone lintels over the square-arched windows and the segmentally-arched entrance. The entry overdoor is further elaborated with a keystone; in the gable above it is a small round-arched window. Except for the closing of side windows to create solid display walls in the interior, the partial filling of entryway and gable light to accept rectilinear millwork, and the recent replacement of a gabled overdoor, the structure is essentially unaltered.

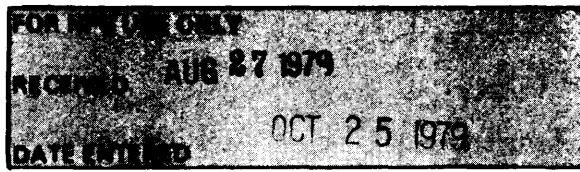
The powder magazine is architecturally significant as the sole example, and an elegant one, of brick masonry construction among the surviving buildings of the Fort. The choice of fabric was undoubtedly related to the function to be performed by the building, which was storage of explosives. The care which has been taken with the stone lintels and arched, keystoned overdoor demonstrates, as does the elegance of officers' quarters, the impulse to humanize what was seen as wilderness with models of eastern civilization.

The nominated property consists of less than one acre. The legal description is lots 20 and 21, Fort Sherman Abandoned Military Reservation, Section 14-50-400. The present owner is North Idaho College, 100 West Garden, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

4. Fort Sherman Chapel, Hubbard and Woodland Drive: a 26' x 65' frame structure with front-facing gabled roofs both on the main section and on the sacristy which extends one bay to the rear. The church is locally known as "the Red Chapel"; the deep red color is original. In contrast to the angular lines of the body of the church and of the stepped wooden buttresses which divide the side walls into six bays each, all wall openings utilize curvilinear arches: round in the entrance, the triple windows over it, and the pairs of multi-light double-hung sashes (clear above, opaque below) in the side bays; segmental in the hip-roofed belfry which clips the ridgebeam on the west elevation. The shallow outset

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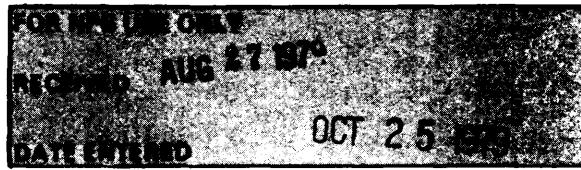
entry porch is gabled over a round-arched entrance, flanked by miniature buttresses, and approached by a short flight of wooden steps. The foundation supports are obscured all around the building by a skirting of wooden strips in a close lattice pattern. The chapel is presently in use by the Coeur d'Alene Christian Center; and the interior with its original woodwork (window surrounds, wainscoting, coffered doors, alter) is unaltered.

The chapel demonstrates, within the traditional forms of another functional type, the same impulse to install order and civilization on the frontier which are evident in the other buildings of the Fort Sherman group. It is diminutive in size and modest in material, as was appropriate to the location and time; but the frame buttresses relate it to a European-American tradition, and great care was lavished on the interior fittings.

The nominated property consists of less than one acre. The legal description is lots 15 and 16½, Sherman Park addition to Coeur d'Alene. The current owner is the Athletic Round Table, 319 Front Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

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Supplementary and Revised Material - Fort Sherman

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8. The Union Pacific Railway line which once traversed the Fort Grounds to terminate in rail docks on Lake Coeur d'Alene was removed in 1978.

