

Military Records at the South Dakota State Archives - Forts and Posts

Fort Union (North Dakota)

Fort Union was an important American Fur Company trading post built in 1828 by Kenneth McKenzie. It was located on the Missouri River about three miles past the mouth of the Yellowstone River, near the present-day state border between North Dakota and Montana. The American Fur Company sold the fort to the Northwest Fur Company in June 1865, who in turn sold it to the U.S. Army in the summer of 1867. The Army salvaged what they could from the fort for the construction of Fort Buford. Fort Union Trading Post became a national historic site in 1966.

Collections

General Photo Collection - Fort Union (P97)

Includes a pencil sketch of the fort.

Publications

Barbour, Barton H. Fort Union and the Upper Missouri Fur Trade. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2001.

Casler, Michael M. Steamboats of the Fort Union Fur Trade: An Illustrated Listing of Steamboats on the Upper Missouri River, 1831-1867. Williston, ND: Fort Union Association, 1999.

De Vore, Steven Leroy. Beads of the Bison Robe Trade: The Fort Union Trading Post Collection. Williston, ND: Friends of Fort Union Trading Post, 1992.

De Vore, Steven Leroy and William J. Hunt, Jr. Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site (32WI17) Material Culture Reports. Lincoln, NE: Midwest Archeological Center, 1993.

Fort Union and Fort William: Letter Book and Journal, 1833-1835. Transcribed and annotated by Michael M. Casler and W. Raymond Wood. Pierre, SD: South Dakota Historical Society Press, 2020.

Harper, Frank B. Fort Union and its Neighbors on the Upper Missouri: A Chronological Record of Events. St. Paul, MN: n.p., 1925.

Hunt, William J. Firearms and the Upper Missouri Fur Trade Frontier: Weapons and Related Materials from Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site (23WI17), North Dakota. n.l.: n.p., 1989.

Letellier, Louis Dace. Louis Dace Letellier: Adventures on the Upper Missouri. Williston, ND: Fort Union Association, 2002.

Peterson, Lynelle A. and William J. Hunt. The 1987 Investigations at Fort Union Trading Post: Archeology and Architecture. Lincoln, NE: Midwest Archeological Center, 1990.

Thompson, Erwin N. Fort Union Trading Post: Historic Structures Report, Part II, Historical Data Section. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1968.

Thompson, Erwin N. Fort Union Trading Post: Fur Trade Empire on the Upper Missouri. Medora, ND: Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association, 1986.

Mentions in South Dakota Historical Collections. Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society.

Fort Union: Vol. 1, page 109, 132, 275, 334, 342, 348, 351-352; Vol. 4, page 226, 233-235; Vol. 8, page 323; Vol. 10, page 439; Vol. 11, page 151, 317-319; Vol. 22, page 435, 440-443

Mentions in South Dakota History. Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society.

Fort Union: Vol. 4, page 21, 23, 139, 141, 144-145, 152-153, 166-167, 171; Vol. 6, page 190, 193-196, 199; Vol. 27, page 290; Vol. 35, page 153; Vol. 38, page 318-324, 333-334; Vol. 40, page 121, 128

Vertical Files

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