**MY VOICE: Hunt Hall’s distinguished history**

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S tudents bustling through the halls, a crowded room of students having discussions, playing games, eating pizza, doors open down the halls with people roaming in and out, meeting new people, meeting lifelong friends. Hunt Hall provided all these things and more. Former students are having to say goodbye to Hunt Hall forever this year. It is getting torn down, and more parking area taking its place.

It is sad to lose a part of your history, a historic building that has been on campus grounds since 1939. So many people, former residents of Hunt Hall, present and past employees, are saddened to lose this building that is part of their memories and a part of their past.

Hunt Hall was originally named Dorion Hall, memorializing Marie Aioe Dorion. She was the only female member in a cross-country expedition to the Pacific Northwest in 1910, traveling with her husband, Pierre Dorion, along with her two children and several other men, sent by the Pacific Fur Co.

Marie Dorion’s husband was murdered along with many of his trapping party, leaving Marie Dorian alone with her two young children. Trying to reach another, safer fur trading station, she was stranded in the Blue Mountains and survived with her two young sons for 50 days in winter weather. This strong woman was chosen to be memorialized in the naming of the women’s dorms.

A second section to the dorm was added in 1947 and renamed Hunt Hall, in memory of the Wilson Hunt Price group, the group that Marie Dorion was traveling with. Side A (the original building) then housed the women and Side B (the new addition) became the men’s dorm. Then, with more growth to the college came a third addition to the building in 1960.

During World War II, Hunt Hall was used to serve the Army’s needs. The Army aviation students in training became the residents of Dorion Hall and the women were moved to another hall, until the Army no longer needed the hall and the women were moved back into Dorion Hall.

Thousands of men and women lived in Dorian/Hunt Hall over the years. It was a place that was their home during the school year. Many memories were made in these dorms. People meeting lifelong friends and spouses, while in pursuit of their dream careers. It will be sad to see it torn down. The memories will never die, but it will be heartbreaking to see a historic building with such a prestigious history come to an end.

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