

Painted Rocks

(Monuments)

The celebrated Painted Rocks, lying in the valley of the Naches near the crossing of the North Yakima & Valley bridge over the Naches river, have been changed this week.

The almost obliterated traces of the Indian heads which have made the rocks famous throughout the northwest have been restored to as natural a color and outline as when first painted by the red men. The work was done by L.V. McWhorter, who is deeply interested in Indian ethnology and by the well known photographer, Mrs. Lee C. Delle.

"The work has been done in detail perfectly true," states Mr. McWhorter. "Where red appeared we have tinted to a fire point with red and the same with the other colors.

"Between 40 and 50 pictographs as they are called were restored and will last for another century in all probability. One of the most interesting in the series has been almost obliterated by an advertisement. I fail to understand this specie of vandalism. Mrs. Delle and I, however, succeeded in restoring the pictograph to a perfect appearance.

"I imagine these pictographs are Indian work of no great antiquity. I should guess they are something over a century old, however.

"The Indians have a tradition that the spirits which haunt these cliffs come forth at different times and retouch these pictographs, thus keeping the story which they tell fresh for coming generations.

"Mrs. Delle, who by the way is an excellent a photographer for this work as I have ever seen has taken a large collection of photographs of the retouched pictures and Mr. A.J. Splawn will use some of these in connection with his history of the Yakima Indians

which is now preparing.

"I in this work I have had some experience in Virginia but I have never seen more artistic photographs than those taken by Mrs. Delle.

"These photos will be submitted to the best Indian sign writer in the land and we hope that he may be able to translate the stories which are told by the pictures on the rocks.

"There should be great interest taken in the preservation of all forms of Indian antiquities which give us a history of the Yakima. I would suggest that a local society be formed and that a portion of the public library be given up to be used as a museum and that a systematic effort be made to preserve the relics of the Indians. Such a work as that done on the painted rocks is of value to other places where similar work could be done.

"It is rather expensive for a private purse but an association could do the work easily.

"There are several private collections in the city which would be loaned to the public library and they would form a more interesting historical exhibit-"The Yakima Herald, July 31, 1907.

Painted Rocks

Monuments--McWhorter

Editor Herald: In an interview with us as published in the Herald of the 28th inst. we wish to make a correction. We are quoted as saying that the Natches Painted Rocks pictographs as now restored would last another century in all probability. This is an error. In our work we used colored crayon and white chalk only. These colors will soon disappear and the pictographs will assume their former dim outlines. The retouching was for the sole purpose of obtaining photographs and full sized outline tracing of the figures. The latter work we have not yet completed but expect to do so within the next few days.

This work is in the interest of American ethnology and the retouching was most carefully executed. The splendid photographs secured by Mrs. Delle and the outlined figures when done in true colors will answer the purpose of the student as well as if he had the originals before him.

"The pictographs on the cliff could be retouched with more enduring paint, true to the original colors and unless this is done in the near future the most of those now remaining will be irretrievably lost and with them will perhaps disappear one of the most picturesque and interesting works of primitive art in this valley. This work however should not be attempted by anyone having no previous experience along such lines, otherwise a vandalism more regrettable than that of the ruthless advertiser is likely to be perpetrated.

It is hoped that this imposing cliff of basaltic columns with its story picture, the pathetic attempt of a primitive people to perpetuate an idea or an event, will be preserved for future generations.

The ethopoetic in this class of primitive art cannot be too highly appreciated. With the Indian legends of pathos and tragedy relative to this cliff and its graphic writings (as will be narrated by Mr. Splawn in his forthcoming work) surely will a crime have been committed if immediate steps are not taken looking to its preservation." L.V. McWhorter The Yakima Herald, July 31, 1907/

Painted Rocks

McWhorter

....These plates have been copyrighted, but not through any mercenary motive. Not caring for a repetition of former bitter experience, we took the only step by which these splendid photographs could be secured from commercial vandalism.

There are on the cliff about sixty pictographs that are visible and capable of complete restoration. Eventually there are many others hidden beneath the mounds of debris at the base of the cliff, cast there from the excavation made in constructing the water flume at its summit.

This refuse is splendid road material and will doubtless in time be removed for this purpose. When this is done the grandeur of the cliff will be greatly augmented and its scenic beauty intensified.

The pictographs now visible can be restored in enduring colors at a cost not to exceed thirty or thirty five dollars. If the rapidly growing city of North Yakima will reflect that it has not looked forward to the preservation of the scenic in its immediate suburbs, surely would it take steps for the preservation of this splendid cliff with its interesting and never to be duplicated primitive writing. L.V. McWhorter, North Yakima Oct. 9, 1907.

Painted Rocks

The Naches grange has passed a resolution that its members will discriminate against all merchants who put signs or post bills on the Painted rocks in the valley.

The purpose of the grange as outlined in the constitution is to work for all interests of the community, commercial, moral or otherwise.

They claim that the view of the rocks is especially beautiful crossing the Nelson bridge and that the signboard obstructing the view, both from the bridge and along the base of the rocks are a blot upon the landscape; that they are especially displeasing to newcomers who are interested only in the beauty of the rocks and that they distract the attention of all.

This movement sure to meet with the favor of all who drive about the country for the purpose of enjoying the scenic beauty of the outlying country and escaping from the commercialism of the city--Yakima ["]epublic, November 18, 1910.

Painted Rocks

Yakima county now owns a park, one of historic value as well as with real park possibilities for the people of Yakima. News that the county owns a park near Yakima was given out today by A.E. Larson who took 000 the initiative in obtaining the tract for the county, though he personally gives all the credit to the Northern Pacific and to George T. Reid of Tacoma, vice president of the rail line.

The park property includes 17.6 acres about the Painted Rocks which have always been thought relics left by the early Indians but are now held, by certain scientists, to be runic characters providing that the Vikings penetrated the Pacific Northwest in the days before Columbus. The Painted Rocks will always have historic and geologic interest and in addition the tract granted to the people of the county includes the section from the rocks to the Naches river which is covered with dense shrubbery and has great possibilities as a future picnic or camp ground.

Mr. Larson has been interested in the Painted Rocks district for some time. Before leaving for his winter trip to Europe he called on Judge Reid to ask him if the Northern Pacific would not deed the Painted Rocks from the county road to the summit to the county so that it might be preserved as one of the historic spots of the valley. Mr. Reid extended generous cooperation and promised to at once take the matter up with the proper officials.

When a survey was made following a recommendation that the ground be deeded to the county for park purposes, it was decided to include the tract between the road and the Naches river as well as the Rocks proper. This gives an ideal park location which will be particularly valuable when the Fruitvale section is more densely settled than now. The gift of park property, of which the deed has now been filed, is larger than Mr. Larson had dared hope for and is an added sign of the desire of the Northern Pacific to cooperate

with the people of the valley, Mr. Larson points out.

"While it will not be possible to do much with the tract at the present time it could be made into an ideal camping site for people who wished to spend a night or so outdoors Mr. Larson says. "This work could be done at slight cost. In Painted Rocks park will become one of the real assets of the community and with a comparatively small investment it may be made a spot of great beauty."

Mr. Larson's great interest in the Painted Rocks dates from 1917 when with Caesar Williams as interpreter he visited the rocks in company with Chief ~~Saluiskin~~ Saluiskin, the great leader of the Yakimas.

Chief Saluiskin called the paintings on the rocks the "hands of heaven," and said that he and others with whom he had talked had concluded the paintings were the law from heaven for the Yakimas, though none of the Indians now living could interpret it. He added that if any one ever saw the person who did the painting he did not live to tell about it. As far back as the Indians knew the figures had been there on the rock and until the white people came were always kept fresh and clear---
The Yakima Daily Republic, Thursday, August 21, 1924.

Painted Rocks

Vikings or Norsemen who came to America before 1362 according to the records on the rocks that Oluf L. Opsjon of Spokane has translated came into the Yakima valley and were the first white men to view it.

As proof of their visit they left their history in picture writings. Some of these are on the Painted Rocks in the Naches according to Opsjon's theory. He claims to be able to read these writings done in the ancient runic of the hardy Vikings and scoffs at the idea that Indians ever had anything to do with them. Even the Yakima Indians have a legend of the "tall men" who came down from the north and fought here which may be a dim memory handed by word of mouth from generation to generation of the invasion of the Norsemen.

Opsjon declares that he can prove beyond doubt that the pictures and symbols such as those on the Painted Rocks were left by the Norsemen who crossed the continent in several expeditions, the first in 1010. The signs indicate from which direction the party came and the line of travel it intended to follow.

"A record at Lake Chelan dated 1362 shows that one party divided at the lake part of the expedition going west to Yakima, the remainder going northwest toward Bellingham," Opsjon declares. "Subsequent explorers followed the trail signs of the first expedition. Lippon was the name of the leader of one of the expeditions and his picture is painted in some of the chronograms. Nicolayson was the chief of the expedition which came out in 1362.

In the year 1345 the black death plague which struck the Nordic countries cut off communication with the explorers for 200 years. The explorers never returned and the stone signs are their only records."

Opsjon has reported his discoveries in detail to the government universities of Norway and Iceland. The professor of archeology of Iceland writes to him that "your discoveries are worthy of official investigation. Your records are more complete than those left on the eastern coast of 'Vinland,'"--Yakima Republic, July 31, 1924.

Painted Rocks

A subscriber writes to The Republic protesting against the demolition of the painted rocks up the valley. She says that the finest example of basaltic formation in the United States is being carted away for use as foundation stones. She thinks less aristocratic material would make as good underpinning for houses and goes on record as vigorously opposing the destruction of the only place of beauty and interest near the city--the Yakima Republic, Feb. 16, 1900.

Historical Markers

Historic spots in the Yakima valley are to be investigated and marked by the Washington State Historical society.

W.H. Gilstrap, secretary of the society was in the city Thursday from Tacoma and while here said that he would return later in the season to make a visit to the Catholic mission in the Antanum and also to Fort Simcoe. There are also other historic spots in the Yakima country that he will be shown.

On Saturday commemorative exercises will be conducted at Steilacoom where a monument has been erected to commemorate the building of the first Protestant church north of the Columbia river.

The commemorative monument is to be erected in Steilacoom on the site where the first Protestant church was erected north of the Columbia river by the Washington State Historical society, Puget Sound M.E. conference, pioneers and friends. It will be of granite, the tower to be 25 feet high, 5x8 feet at base. In it is to stand the old original bell. There is to be a drinking fountain in the park in front. The monument site, comfort seats and park covers a space 20 x 30 feet and will cost about \$800. It will represent a three-fold purpose commemorative utility and comfort. It is erected by gifts of the members of the above named organizations and their friends and general contributions are solicited--
The Yakima Herald, Sept. 23, 1908 .

Painted Rocks

The following letter was this week received by The Democrat: "Could you not speak in your paper against the vandalism which is destroying Painted Rocks, the only object of beauty and interest near town and one of the finest examples of basaltic formation in the Northwest? The Giants' Causeway and the Isle of Staffa are famous European examples of the structure and same structure and we are using ours for cellar walls? Yours very respectfully, Mrs. H.M. Gilbert."

The lady's plaint is timely and something certainly should be done to preserve this ancient landmark. At the rate building stone is being used in this city it will not be many years until the quaint and curious geological formation with its rude paintings that were done before the memory of man will be but a mere pile of rock, unfit even for the builder's stone--The Yakima Democrat, February 17, 1900.

Historical Sites

Ahtanum Mission

The Knights of Columbus at a meeting held Thursday evening endorsed the action of the Yakima Historical society for the preservation of the old mission on the Ahtanum.

Members of the council from out of town points were present and the fund started by Peter Eschbach was substantially increased.

A reception was held in honor of Father Sherman (son of Gen. Sherman) He told of his first visit to this section over 30 years ago before the railroads came while with his father, General Sherman, establishing forts. The historical value of the preservation of the mission was dwelt upon. The Yakima Herald, Nov. 18, 1908.

Monuments

St Joseph's Mission

Center of controversy. 2 col picture. County commissioners and members of the Yakima Pioneers association are engaged in a heated controversy over whether this memorial erected in 1923 by the Pioneers association to commemorate the founding of St Joseph's mission by four oblate fathers will be moved by the county to make way for a new road or will be blasted from its resting place.

Inspecting the memorial here are Dan Lynch, left and Judge Dan H. Lynch, secretary of the Pioneers association when the commemoration took place.

Inscribed on the granite upright are the words: St Joseph's Mission, founded October, 1847 by oblate fathers Ricard Chirouse, Pandosy and Blanchet. Burned 1855. Rebuilt by Father St. Onge 1867. Memorial of Yakima Pioneers association July 1, 1923. "

The memorial was one of three set up by the association, the other two in the David Longmire monument in the Wenas valley and the memorial at Union Gap commemorating the battle of Union Gap.

The county commissioners gave the association permission to put the memorial on public ground and at the dedication they formally accepted the monument as county property according to Herb Shaw, secretary of the association. By any reasoning it is up to the commissioners to arrange for its removal to a near site, if they must build a road over its present site, Shaw says--Picture by Independent Camreaman. From scrapbook of Edna Mae Beck Pierce.

Monument-Library

There will be a rummage sale the last three days of this month at the armory by the ladies of the Red Cross society for the purpose of raising the balance of funds necessary to pay off indebtedness of the monument.

All funds in excess of that standing obligation will go toward the maintenance of the city library--The Yakima Herald, Oct. 21, 1902.

Monuments

The memorial fountain to be erected by the local Red Cross society in honor of the Yakima volunteers who died in the Philippines was shipped into town last Wednesday afternoon, and is now being put into place.

A committee composed of Mesdames Edward Whitson, George Graham and H.N. Bartlett advocated the selection of Yakima avenue and Third street as the most suitable location for the monument. Another site, at the south end of the station platform was considered also and was strongly championed by Councilman Shaw, who contended that a monument at the corner of Yakima avenue and Third street would be an obstruction to the street and a constant source of danger in case of runaways.

However the majority of the council concurred with the committee and the former site was selected.

The great national holiday was selected as the most auspicious time for its unveiling and about 11 o'clock following the address of Hon. Miles Cannon the exercises will occur. Rev. H.M. Bartlett will make the fitting speech.

The memorial fountain is to be a statue of Col. Weisenberger, an officer who was much loved by all the boys of Company E and at its unveiling the surviving members of that company will be present--Yakima Herald, July 1, 1902.

Memorial

The committee on public improvements of council have decided on nothing definite yet as to a site for the Company E memorial fountain.

They have discussed the question among themselves and citizens but find it most difficult problem to overcome that has ever come before them. However, they have selected a provisional site, which may not be the one most suitable to the notions of the people of the city.

When the question was brought before the council by the Red Cross society it was suggested by the promoters of the scheme that the site be given at the intersection of either First or Second streets with Yakima avenue, the fountain to be planted in the center of either crossing of the streets.

To this the committee of council takes exception for the reason that a fountain at the points designated would be too much of a blockade to the thoroughfares. As there would necessarily have to be drinking places for pedestrians and equestrians alike, the former would run a great risk of being trampled on or run down by the latter. Therefore taking this view of the matter the committee thinks the best site would be at a corner in either of the parks as near to Yakima avenue as possible. By some this is thought to be too much out of the way but it seems to be the only place suitable in the minds of the committee.

It has been suggested that the fountain be located in the space on the east side of the NP tracks between the station platform and Yakima avenue. Yakima Herald, Nov. 12, 1901.

At the regular meeting of the city council on Monday night a committee of ladies composed of Mrs. Edward Whitson, Mrs. Mary E. Blanker and Mrs. G.W. Graham, was present.

They wanted the council to name two sites for the fountain to be erected to the memory of Company E so that the purchasers of the "penny" souvenirs can vote for one or the other.

The request was granted. The sites are at the junction of ~~Quincy~~ Natchez and Yakima avenues and on Front street, either on the north side of the avenue, if permission can be secured from the railroad company, and if not on the south side at the edge of the park.

Engineer Marble in his annual report recommends that a lateral ditch be run down a street on the west side so as to give the southern end of the city more water.

Sexton Carvosso reported eight burials for January and \$16 collected

The city clerk was directed to advertise for bids for trimming the shade trees. Hugh Sinclair was given full power to purchase shade trees to be set out in the spring, the cost to not exceed \$200. It was suggested that elm, silver leaf maple, black walnut and chestnut be purchased.--Yakima Herald, February 4, 1902(Tuesday)

The sale of lucky pennies for raising the fund necessary for the memorial drinking fountain has been abandoned for the reason that it did not seem to meet with popular favor and by the advice of many of the business men it has been decided to raise the money by subscription.

It will be necessary to raise \$1,000 and of this sum not more than \$400 has been pledged. The ladies feel they have met with

many obstacles and discouragements and were it not for the fact that a contract has already been entered into they would feel it necessary to abandon the whole scheme and not force the fountain on the people. As it is, they can only depend upon the patriotic feelings of the citizens which would prompt them to desire to honor the fallen boys of Company E by erecting this monument to their memory.

The committee has personally called upon all purchasers of lucky pennies who hold ~~1000~~ more than one each and without a single exception they have signified their willingness to allow the amount pledged by them to stand as a subscription for the fund. The committee desire through the public medium to say to the holders of one souvenir that if they are not willing to do the same that their money will be refunded by pre-empting the lucky penny and the ticket to "Capt. Lemon" all Lemon-- Yakima Herald, April 22, 1902.

Memorial

The "lucky penny" scheme to raise money for the proposed Company E Memorial was put on foot last week by the Red Cross society and from all indications it looks as though there will be no trouble to raise all the money necessary for the commendable purpose.

The plan is to sell a souvenir, consisting of a "penny" cast within a circular disk of aluminum. There are 2,000 of these to be sold at \$1 each and with each souvenir will be given a coupon entitling the holder to a chance at drawing one or more of the 646 prizes amounting to a total of \$800 in money. There will be one \$50 prize, five \$10 prizes, forty \$5; four hundred \$1 and two hundred 50 cent pieces. Howard Wright has been out canvassing and has very good success for the short time.

Complete list of contributors: A.L. Aikins, D.R. Barton, E. Pecket, Coffin Bros, Cannon Miles Cannon, Geo Thomas Fisher, G.A. Graham, H.H. Lombard, R. Malmquist, Fred Parker, Herbert Stowe, Dolly Wallace, E.W. Brackett, Dr. Banks, Charles Carpenter, V.C. Campbell, I.H. Dills, John Garrecht, W.L. Lemon, Court Meyers, C.B. McConnell, G.A. Petly, W.P. Taylor, Edward Whitson, Yakima Hardware company (\$25)(Coffins Bros. \$50; (I.H. Dills \$30) W.L. Lemon \$10) others \$5, \$3, mostly \$1.-
Yakima Herald, January 7, 1902.

Parks

The Tietan National Park

It is known to but few and fewer still have personal knowledge of the fact, but almost in the geographical center of this state and within a short day's travel of North Yakima is a natural park of vast proportions, rich in geological surprises and clad in mysteries of Indian traditions, abounding in game and fish and endowed by nature's lavish hand with beauties of scenery that are unexcelled in all scenic wonderland.

Tietan park or basin, as it is locally named, is a pleasing revelation to those who have been in Europe and America.

To the west of North Yakima the land rises gradually for twenty or thirty miles, forming the foothills of the Cascade mountains.

...Tietan park has never been surveyed nor opened for settlement. It yet belongs in fee simple to Uncle Sam and an effort should be made to have the government reserve it as a national park with police surveillance and regulations on a plan similar to that pursued in Yellowstone national park.

With the tread of civilization the playgrounds of the country are fast vanishing and such as yet remain, especially if they are interesting and attractive as this one, should come under the fostering care of the government and our representatives in congress should be urged to use their utmost efforts in this direction

Tietan park, if it does not become the prey of the speculators, will, when it is better known and the means of transportation improved, become as great a shrine to which the tourist will journey and at which he will worship, as is the Yellowstone National park of today--^{Yakima Herald, January 8, 1891.}

Fire Lookout

Mt Darling

Construction of a fire lookout station on Mt Darling in the Ahtanum tract of timber recently acquired by the state from the government forest reserve will be undertaken this spring.

Fred E. Pape, state supervisor of forestry has announced.

Telephone communications will be established with outside points. The lookout will be able to spot fires on the Yakima Indian reservation as well as in the timber at the headwaters of the Wieton, Ahtanum and Klickitat rivers--The Yakima Republic,
Feb. 24, 1925.

Landmarks-Houses

The finest farm houses to be found in the country are probably located in the Yakima valley.

One of the most complete modern farm houses that was built this summer by Mr. and Mrs. John Clemens on their ranch at the head of the Snake valley, thirty-five miles from town, with no transportation facilities yet other than those furnished by horse or automobile, stands a twelve room house which would be considered handsome and commodious in any city.

The Clemens ranch is up among the pines and commands a superb view of the timbered hills. The house faces south though a wide verandah runs nearly the whole circumference so that it can be considered to front in any direction.

The house is finished in hard wood, varnished to preserve the natural color. One enters through a small vestibule into a wide hall. A library with fireplace opens to the right while the main living room is on the left. Behind this is the dining room with many windows and a fireplace.

The kitchen has everything complete in the way of pantries, china closets, a dumb waiter to the cellar. At the back door there is a small recess fitted with a stationary bowl in which hands may be washed when the call is sounded for dinner.

Upstairs there are four large bedrooms, each with its own closet, a bathroom and a linen closet. Sweetness and light has evidently been the motto used in building for every closet has its own window, permitting light and ventilation. The third floor is plastered throughout and finished into three rooms with recesses for trunks and boxes.

The basement extends under the entire house, and is concrete lined, contains laundry tubs, a hot water

heater and a Kewaunee water system. The house is fitted for gas and Mr. Cleman will put in his own plant.

Mr. Cleman knows that the wood work in his house is good for he went out into the hills and cut the trees. When the snow was on the ground last winter he hauled the timber out, took it to one of the little mills in the Wenas and had it cut into the proper dimensions.

The new house is to be the family home exclusively. A bungalow in which Mr. and Mrs. Cleman are at present living is to be the cook house where a man and his wife will look after the hands, leaving Mrs. Cleman only the general superintendence and some of the heavy work.

Mr. Cleman believes that there is no place in the world like a farm for bringing up children and that city advantages, in so far as possible, should be brought to the farm in order that the women and children should like to live there--Yakima

Herald, November 18, 1911.

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