

Mr. H.C.S. Collett,  
Okanagan Mission,  
Okanagan, B.C. (Kelwona? B.C.)

May 5, 1963

Dear Sir:

The Mission of the Ahtanum, founded in 1847 by the OMI Catholic priesthood still exists and is (as has been under way for several years) as a reconstructed mission and picnic grounds.

In correspondence with Mr. C.R. Walrod, curator of the Okanagan Museum and Archives Association I learn that you are well informed on Fr. Pandosy's later life. He was one of the founders of the Ahtanum Mission and after the Yakima Indian War went to Canada.

I understood, also, that you have prepared a paper concerning Fr. Pandosy's later life.

If possible, I would appreciate the loan of this paper and would return it to you. You and (or) the organization you designate, will be given proper credit in any references to this work which may be made in our stories here concerning Fr. Pandosy.

I would be particularly interested in knowing circumstances of Fr. Pandosy's death, the actual date of death if known, and if possible the burial place, and if this has been marked.

As I understand, there is some doubt as to the actual burial place of the priest.

In time, and as you might wish, I could perhaps fill you in on what material you do not possess on the earlier life of this priest who worked among the Indians in the Yakima Valley.

I would appreciate the actual address, if there is one of such, of the old Pandosy Mission, and whether this is the mission as built, or reconstructed etc., but I assume this is covered in your paper. The paper, of course, will be well taken care of and returned to you within a matter of days or two weeks at the most. (I do not know its length, etc.)

Sincerely Yours

Click Relander

May 5, 1963

Mr. C.R. Walrod, curator,  
The Okanagan Museum and Archives Association,  
1644 Richter St.,  
Kelowna, B.C.

Dear Sir:

It was very nice of you to send the photograph, the Pandosy Mission, I am having our photographers at the newspaper make a copy negative of it, and will then return the original photograph to you.

I have rather lost track of material previously sent to you, which I do not think much. I am therefore enclosing copies of some articles published in 1960 which give a little background on Fr. Pandosy's Ahtanum Mission in the Yakima Valley, and the Indians with whom he was concerned. If they are duplicates of material you have on hand, you may give them to anyone you desire.

I am also writing to the source you mentioned and that way may develop a more complete story on Fr. Pandosy and his life.

Again, thank you very much for your cooperative assistance. If there is anything I can do, please let me know.

The Ahtanum Mission, about 18 miles from Yakima, is being further developed as a Catholic or historical picnic grounds. The reconstructed Mission d'Ahtanum is shown in one of the articles.

Sincerely Yours

Click Relander

May 23, 1963

Mr. H.C.S. Collett,  
Okanagan Mission,  
British Columbia

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the material on Father Pandosy you so generously loaned me. I have had a copy made for use in my continuing research. And thank you too, for your information on "The Cross in the Wilderness."

While not too pertinent, via separate mail I am sending clippings of some newspaper stories I prepared relating to the priest, the mission and Fort Simcoe Agency, located in proximity to the mission and "influential" mission activities. This was in the days various reservations were "assigned" by the United States government to various denominations. The Yakima Reservation was assigned to the Methodists.

I have much material on the Antanum Mission and even letters copied in French, written by Father Pandosy and yet untranscribed. These were written at a critical time in the Yakima Valley.

The knights of Columbus of the diocese (seven counties extending to Chelan) are continuing the development of Antanum mission. In June it will be the scene of the diocesan picnic and the Angelus will be rung there for the first time on a bell, presumably brought in by those early priests. I suspect a copy of the Father Pandosy picture and the mission at or near Kolwona will be added by the Knights to the present mission here.



From my microfilm studies (Army records) I have much other information on this period. It is a problem now to put it all together into readable material. (It is too much for one article, and news space is crowded. And my book writing does not envision material in this specific line at present).

I am wondering if there is anyone yet living who knew this priest. I assume from your account, page 2, he died in the presence of his friend, Donald McLean. I am not clear on the connection between Chief Francois and the priest, nor the "vocation" of Donald McLean. I do not suppose there are any further photographs of : a-Father Pandosy; 2-McLean if he is the close friend in whose arms

Father Pandosy died; c-Chief Francois, tribal affiliations and role undetermined. Anything along this line would be appreciated and I in turn would provide you with information from this end, in due time. Is there ~~ix~~ a more general over-all picture of the "Pandosy" mission, and an "address" for it. To me there seems a distinct relationship between Atanum Mission and the mission there, verging on the point where many travellers of the Diocese, and outside the faith, would be interested in visiting Kelwona just for that reason. Is there a "tourist" promotion broucher on Kelwona, what size town is it; what is the Catholic church there now, etc. I realize this is much to ask, but perhaps you know of someone you could pass this on to who would feel justified in filling in, as possible.

Again, many thanks to you. Let me know, too, if I can help any of you in my humble way.

Most Sincerely

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