

Mr. Joe Meninick, secretary,
Yakima Tribal Council.

March 8, 1953

Dear Mr. Meninick:

Thank you again for your kind words about my small help in your big fight. I would be remiss in my duties to my friends if I did not do, all I possibly could, at this time.

Now, about the Fort Simcoe at Mool-Mool Restoration Society, research committee.

I am chairman of the research committee, whose duties are to locate historical material relative to all periods of Fort Simcoe, the agency and school; secure copies of old photographs for our files, catalogue old relics pertaining to the fort, obtain interviews with old-timers who have stories to tell about it and prepare all this looking toward the time restoration begins. This is all type of material that should be preserved for the future, anyway.

We wanted the Tribal Council to have a representative participate in any activities of this committee, so if the question came up, "what are we doing?" it could be easily answered.

While it will not be possible for all members of the committee to meet on March 22, those of us who can will meet at the Wagon Wheel at White Swan at 9 a.m. that day. We will go from there to Simcoe and go over the grounds with any old-timers who will help us by pointing out old building sites, giving us old stories about the old days there, etc.

If you can attend, I would like you to have breakfast with me at the Wagon Wheel.

If you know anyone who could tell us anything about old times there, invite them to come out. Mr. Bennett at White Swan, who is also on the committee, is to ask the Olneys. We figure the weather will be good enough by that day for a field trip and we will ask the board of directors to come out too.

Work of this kind is very difficult, meaning that someone usually has to do most of it, type up the records, have copies of the photographs made (any old ones we are able to unearth of old agency, etc.) and things like that. Most of the work has to be by letter writing and searching records.

I have much material I have copied from old newspapers. I expect to spend some time at the agency copying from the old records that are there, so we can get everything under one cover.

We are not picking up any relics of the old fort, but will write down, for a card index, where they are, so in event the restoration takes place, we can turn the list over to the National Parks group or whoever is in charge of actually restoring the things.

Your membership on the committee is appreciated and you need not feel it entails a lot of work, but we do want you, and any others you care to have attend, come along so you will know everything that is going on. I can explain things better when we meet. For instance, as one small detail, I will have to contact libraries all over and find out if they have anything on Fort Simcoe in them, so we can also list that.

Stories, for newspapers and radio announcing the field trip, are going out this week.

Hope to see you for breakfast on the 22nd.

I'm enclosing a few notes about the dam that you might care to think over.

Sincerely

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