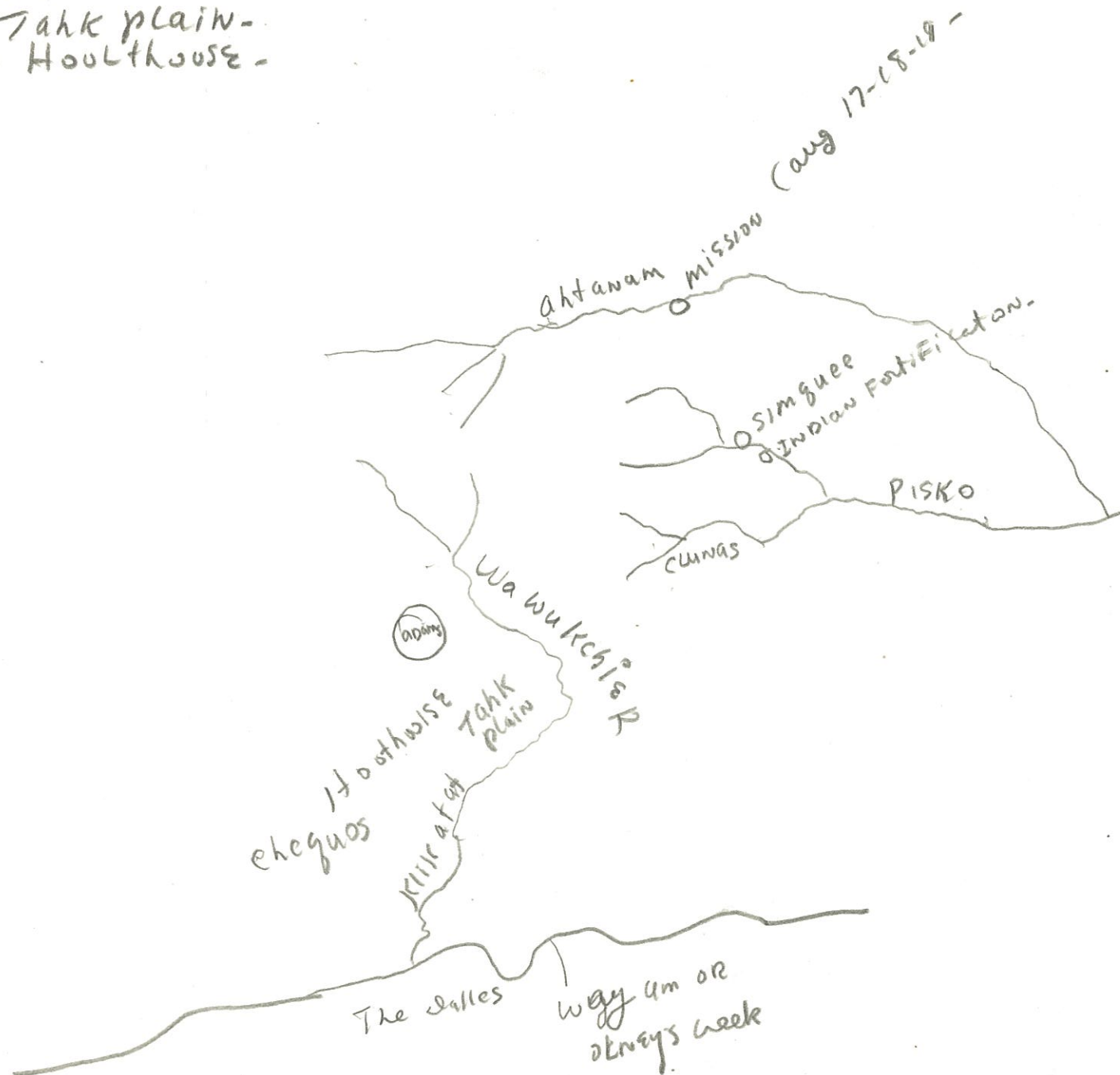


gle n wood -
Tahk plain -
+ Houlthouse -

Simcoe creek
Toppenish creek
mill creek =
agency creek =



Route of Lt Mowry.

Capt. Geo B. McClellan -
John Lambert - Topographer.
Lt J. K. Duncan -
Topographer west side.

Wilbur's theme song at services:

"We Shall Gather at the River." Columbia..

Induced his friend, Nathan Olney of The Dalles, a sub-agent, to take up allotments for his family on the Antanum creek.

Nathan died soon after the move and was buried at Fort Simcoe beside Lt. Allen, the one soldier buried there during its military occupancy.

George Olney went to live in the big house and was chore boy.

Sturdy work clothes.

Formidable black coat for Sundays.

Whipping post, in his front yard.

Visited prisoners in block house served Scripture with bread and water.

Built churches, one for Chief White Swan, seven miles from agency.

Ben Snipes..favorite cattle camp at Shaker church on the Patus.

A man who believed so strongly in his religion that he would if necessary instill its principles by force; preached humility.

Man of contradictions

Buried on reservation..like other devoted Protestant and Catholics ..may be that their work in some measure was a bridge over which the pioneers would pass to a riper and better civilization.

A pioneer builder of strength and character.

Forerunners of a different era and did the work which times and conditions required them to do.

unused to the gentler methods of diplomacy.

commander, Capt. John W. Fraser and buried east of the fort.

Another burial ~~made~~ there was the ~~Indian~~ sub-Indian agent at The Dalles, Nathan Olney. He and Father Wilbur became acquainted at the Dalles, where Olney was the first sheriff. He ~~had~~ persuaded Olney to homestead in ~~the~~ ~~country~~ north of Ft Simcoe on ~~the~~ ~~Antanum~~ creek a year.

That was a year after Father Wilbur became agent and two years later when he died, ~~the~~ ~~carpenter~~ at the agency made a coffin and Olney's body was brought to ~~the~~ Ft Simcoe and buried, ~~about a quarter of a mile east of the~~ ~~buildings~~

There are other nearly forgotten graves ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~ground~~ ~~about a quarter of a mile east of~~ where forgotten people were buried in sacred ground, about a quarter of a mile east of the buildings.

The sod had not yet formed over Olney's grave when the wife of a settler and her two children drowned while fording Toppenish creek by ox team.

The Research in ~~the~~ ~~musty~~ records at widely scattered repositories may eventually disclose ~~the~~ ~~details~~ of the deaths and burials at Ft. Simcoe in the early days. Such research ~~is~~ would be a part of the national park service's cooperative work if the restoration plan of the state parks commission is approved by the Yakima Indian council.

history

Only legends link the old ~~historians~~ of the Indians with the dim geological past of the Simcoe country and the Yakima valley.

The legends tell of three times that the earth was destroyed, once by fire, once by wind and once by flood. ~~And the~~ prophets of the people say that flood will again destroy the earth, ~~because~~ *because of the sins of the people.*

Geological studies of the black compact Columbia lava and the light colored sediment of Lake John Day which rests upon it, suggest the origin of the ~~argued~~ old legends. But certainly there could have been no Indians living in the old age of active ~~volcanoes~~ ^{its} ~~and~~ a great inland lake, ~~and~~ the upheaval of the Cascades and ^{its} ~~the~~ easterly and westerly spurs. Those transformations ~~occurred~~ ^{were strung out} during thousands of years.

Toppenish Satus ridge is the long ~~bedged~~ rim of basalt that separates the drainage of Satus creek from that of *Toppenish* creek.

The great fault leaves the highlands on the west of Mool-Mool ^{FOR 25 MILES} and extends into the valley, dividing it like a wall, ~~for 25 miles.~~ ~~Legend~~ Its eastern finger tapers off to the level sage brush covered plain close to the Yakima river. Five miles from it is the sharp uplift of Snipes mountain, centering the valley.

Geologists have found large stumps of fossil oak and pine ~~trunks~~ trees on the crest of the ridge ~~near the mouth of the Simcoe~~ south of ~~Fort~~ ⁷³ Simcoe. They project three or four feet from the shower of ~~lapilli~~ ^{slabs of stone, vomited by a volcano from deep} that was left by an erupting volcano, ~~by~~ ^{burying} them ~~as they grew.~~

Weathering of the John Day beds has exposed roots at the surface and they stand as relics of a vast forest. Other fossil trees are found at approximately the same horizon at places miles apart throughout Central Washington, in the Yakima canyon and toward Vantage.

The slabs of stone are buried as they grew in the lower of the earth

The breaking away of part of the fault scarp on the northern slope of ~~Satus~~ ^{Toppenish} ridge has caused many landslides. Two are gigantic in size and while old in Indian legend are of such recent date by geological standards that they still have a new appearance.

The largest of the slides is five miles southeast of ~~Fort~~ ^{E7} Simcoe and the smaller is 15 miles to the east and is known as the Toppenish slide.

The huge mass that broke away from the escarpment of ~~Satus~~ ^{Toppenish} ridge ^{in the Simcoe country} is half a mile long. ~~When~~ ^{It} roared ~~down~~ down the north slope ~~10000000000~~ and ploughed out onto the ~~plained~~ plain for nearly a mile. It created ~~several~~ ^{only} two lakes, one of them retaining water. The mass of rocks and earth pushed ahead by the slide created a semi-circle of irregular hills from 200 to 250 feet high with steep outer slopes.

Loose rocks, lake beds and ~~Volcanic~~ ^{Rubbish} lapilli ~~were~~ were ploughed up by the landslide and in this material are found ~~Old~~ fossils of trees. The slide wiped out a valley at the foot of the mountain.

During the long periods between ~~eruptions and the~~ ^{Volcanic hollowings and the} thick sheets of Columbia lava flow the surface of the country was disintegrated sufficiently to form a soil in which forests grew.

In time they were buried beneath showers of volcanic ash and this ~~later~~ ^{later} ~~in turn~~ was smothered by lava flows. Hot water, ~~percolating~~ ^{bubbled} through the rocks dissolved the wood tissue and replaced ~~them~~ ^{them}

with silica and thus the grain of the wood, ~~even to the smallest~~

~~pore~~, has been preserved. In the millions of years that ~~has~~ ^{have come + gone} passed since ~~the fossil wood was formed~~ ^{The wood was fossilized}, the ~~species~~ ^{species} has

become extinct, along with the camel, the three-toed horse of prehistoric times and great ~~woolly animals~~ ^{woolly}

animals of the past. These later giants of the

past live on in Indian mythology.

When the Indians came along they called Signal Peak,
located ^{on} ~~at~~ the western beginning of the ~~long~~ 25-mile long
~~Satus~~ ridge, Hym-sym-smah.

^a Satus peak they called ~~Suye~~ Yame-Ish, two wives, ~~and~~ ^{woman who} their
historians handed down a story from generation to generation
telling of ^{the} old chief and his two wives, one old, ~~and one~~ ^{turned her back in the East and East}
toward the east, and the young one, on the west, ^{turned toward}
^{the chief.}

The Simcoe slide was caused by the ramblings of Speel-yea,
~~god~~ or Coyote, the ~~god~~ god of Indian mythology who lived
north along ^{Antanum} ridge where also lived Mink, Nok-Shy and
Beaver, Yuk-Ah or "ish-Puss. Their name for the Slide road
up the ~~Satus~~ ^{Zapran} ridge is TahmiteKa-Lo-Kee, and ~~all~~ the ridge
~~from its western beginning eastward for eight or 10 miles and~~
the adjoining land was called the same ~~name~~.

~~Other~~ To the north was ~~Swan~~ ^{Stwire} ~~where the Indian, White Swan~~
~~and one of the old legends of the Indians of the coast, and one of the~~
^{Stwire} ~~or Stwyer~~ ^{he was. Why puns down near the Dalles.} ~~lived. Stwyer was not a~~ ^(Klickitat)
Yakima Indian but he rose to influence among the Yakias and
became their chief. He owned land at White Swan. He had two
other Indian names, ~~Cadacacac~~ Wa-He-Look (swan) and Ow-Hana-
Pikes (standing on hill, looking down.)

(White Swan)

The old wagon road to Yakima ~~from~~ ^{from} Fort Simcoe went through
white Swan and passed over the hill to Wiley City. It was called
Q'Sch-it. The Indians called the old time hacks zsick-zsick.

The ^{bartering} fur trade days were dying out in the Northwest a century ago at a time when the revival of the old Indian religion had reached its zenith. Drums of the Dreamers beat furiously for a time with a growing

confidence that was quickly stifled by the martial tread of the soldiers and the day of the army men sent on

into the new West to find a path for the conqueror of the wilderness, the railroad. sample touch of the new civilization, its gaudy baubles, whisky, disease and ^{taste} and only a tantalizing touch of the the real strength of the

new civilization were doomed like the Indians. The drums of the Dreamers beat furiously for a time with a growing

confidence that was quickly stifled by the martial tread of the soldiers and the day of the army men sent on

into the new West to find a path for the conqueror of the wilderness, the railroad.

Old Oregon ^{and Washington were} ~~was~~ never really a fur country under the Americans and by the time the soldiers were foraging ^{over} ~~over the~~ ^{over} the Indian ^{lands} ~~country~~ the posts were doing more mercantile business with settlers than swapping with the Red Men.

The Hudson's Bay company's principal stronghold in Washington territory was Fort Vancouver. The post at Fort Walla Walla below the junction of the Snake with the Columbia was of minor importance. ~~and Fort Okanogan on the Okanogan River was of minor importance to Fort Vancouver~~ Also ~~of small consequence was Fort~~ of small consequence and already ~~of small consequence was Fort~~ rapidly becoming a relic of the past was Fort Okinakane on the Chia-Wana a little above the mouth of the Okinakane river. Higher up on the ^{Columbia} ~~river~~, just above Kettle falls, was Fort Colville, ^{Ranking} next in importance to Fort Vancouver. With Fort Kontamie, not far from Flathead lake, ~~made~~ was the

last of the posts in the country east of the Cascades and above the 46th parallel. ~~Toward~~ On the Pacific side of the mountains ~~were~~ ^{land} Fort Nisqually, ~~and the~~ located on ~~territory~~ held by the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, was the only major fort of importance in the territory.

Fort Hall, at the head of Snake river and Fort Boise, almost directly across from the mouth of the Owy-hee on the Snake river were the only two east of the mountains in the Oregon country while . West of the Cascades the principal ~~post~~ ^{post} was Fort Umpqua on the river by that name, ~~and~~ ^{Champoos} on the Willamette below the falls of Oregon City, ^{and} Souvie's island at the mouth of the Willamette.

The fall in the value of beaver pelts wiped out the trade at the old posts which were importing ~~and~~ fewer Indian goods and trade was turning toward cash or to dealings with the first settlers. Not long before the posts had been doling out a red cocktail plume for each ~~one~~ black fox skin, or perhaps a quarter of a yard of red cloth, according to the whim of the Indian; ten charges of powder and ball for a red fox or marten and thirty charges for beaver, bear or otter hides. ~~Competition~~

Competition from the Americans ~~was~~ ^{was} beginning to tell, the white servants of the company were settling and becoming naturalized as ~~and~~ their time of bondage was terminated and even officers of the company were ~~turning~~ turning to the new country for a new life.

~~Even the~~ Even the missionaries were caught in the undertow of civilization ~~and~~ before the tide ~~gathered~~ gathered new power and surged over the ~~land~~ land. The Presbyterian stations among the Cayuse at Waistpu on the ~~Wall~~ ^{Walla} Walla had been ~~doomed~~ out in ~~blood~~ washed out by blood and the missions

among the Spokanes at Chemakane under Walker and Eels, and among the Nez Perce at Lapwai near the mouth of the Clearwater under Spalding and Kaima high on the same river under Smith, had were abandoned.

The Methodist mission at The Dalles, on the lower Columbia died with the trader posts.

Only the Jesuits and Oblat fathers carried on missions among the Indians of Eastern Washington. Two of the Jesuits were stationed at Fort Colville, and two were working among the Coeur d'Alenes and Pend Oreilles. The Oblats had a mission in the Yakima valley, alternating between stations in each summer and winter and a station on the Walla Walla country. The Catholic mission among the Flatheads at St Mary's was abandoned in 1851 because of the warring Blackfeet.

The soldiers viewed only Fort Vancouver as worth maintaining and holding until purchase could be arranged and its purchase could be arranged. Then the tempo of the Drums of the Dreamers in Indian camps through the whole Territory and Northwest stepped up and the soldiers came in force to throw up forts to hold the country and protect the settlers who overran the Indian land. Then they quickly

The wilderness quickly reclaimed some of them, and villages and towns sprung up around others and others were converted into Indian agencies.

Fort Simcoe in the Yakima country where Smo-ha-La had some of his unsavory experiences with the soldiers, born in the days of the Indian wars, flourished in its full glory during the early days of the reservation and then was deserted in the new century, remains today the finest preserved of any of the old forts.

At Fort Simcoe, in the days of the agents, lived and ruled the
astounding James H. Wilbur, Father Wilbur to the Indians for whom
who forsook the old ^{ways} ~~days~~ and for whom he would ~~live~~ ^{lived} laboriously
but an uncompromising, bitter enemy of the Dreamers.

round the forts, during the Indian wars and scares
revolved the soldiers, and the safeguarding the frontier
for the settlers who were building a powerful government. Then They
founded the agencies and on the reservations. and
Then came the agents, a temporary expedient of the government
who were to deal with the reservations and the Indians and become
absorbed by the new culture. The expanding government
gave the control of the agencies to the agents took the control of
the agencies from the military and gave them over to the newly
commissioner of Indian affairs. The agents and economically the young
were put in charge--temporarily the government bureau said until
until the Indians adopted the new culture and became absorbed by the
civilization.

The new bureau grew with the years until a century later it was still teaching Indians to adopt the way of the white man and for every full blooded Indian on a reservation, there were four government employees. And for every acre of Indian land, there were a dozen Greedy Strangers, still seeking possession.

Cast off by the Great White father, the River People who kept the faith of Smo-Wha-La, adopted, in their way the customs of the new civilization, retained, strictly, their religion and refused, steadfastly to follow the weak paths of the new world, that the original white men in this country, never laid out.

Dead End

A century ago when the iron tracks of the ~~dead end~~ railroads pointed westward from across the Missouri, ~~and~~ decay was setting in ~~and~~ at the old forts.

Fort Vancouver was the place that supplied the other posts with a diminishing ~~supply~~ stock of goods. It was encircled by ~~a stockade~~ ~~200 yards by 175 yards~~ 12-foot high stockade, 200 yards wide by 175 yards long. Bastions on the northwest and southwest were mounted with cannon. The ~~stock~~ stockade protected the governor's house, ~~and~~ two small buildings occupied by the clerks, ~~and~~ five big two-story ware houses, office and dwellings for families.

The United States rented a large store house ~~located outside~~ built of squared logs, located outside the stockade. Near by was a village of 60 cabins where the servants of the Hudson's Bay company, the Kanakas and Indian employees lived and a saloon, patronized by everyone, was built on the bank of the Columbia.

Peter Skene Ogden and Donald MacTavish were the factors and because they saw the handwriting on the wall they were making ~~and~~ few repairs on the ~~decaying~~ buildings.

The Hudson's Bay fort and the U.S. ~~barracks~~ barracks were located on the company's land claim which ~~extended~~ was ~~about~~ four miles square and included a thousand acres of land under cultivation, where the farmer had his small home and where there were sheds and stables.

East of the holdings was the Mill claim, two and one-half by ~~the~~ three-fourth miles square and here a temperamental sawmill operated when high water in the river did not prevent. Two ~~small~~ ~~other~~ small prairies, behind the main holdings, were also claimed by the company.

Fort Walla-Walla, where there were several single-story adobe brick buildings and offices enclosed by an adobe wall, 35 yards

Fort Walla Walla was made up of several single-story adobe brick buildings and an office and was surrounded by a 35-yard square adobe wall. It was rated valueless by the Americans except where horses could be kept for engaged emigrant trains and for cash trade with a few Indians who had money. Surrounded by a waste of drifting sand, the fort was badly in need of repairs. A short day's trip up the Walla Walla was the farm, too small buildings, a house and a broken irrigation dam, two small house, two small buildings and a dairy.

----- Pambrun was the chief clerk at Walla Walla and Fort Walla Walla and with him were an interpreter, two traders and six men, Canadians and Indians.

Fort Colville, high on the big ^{one-story} river was smaller than Fort Vancouver but next in importance. The buildings, a dwelling several store houses, some smaller buildings including the blacksmith shop were built of squared logs. ^{and were one-story} were enclosed with a 70-yard square stockade. The fort was set on the second terrace from the river, secure from high water. The old stockade stockade, 70-yards square had been removed and except on the north and was used to enclose a small yard and the office. One bastion remained. Ruins of one bastion remained. and slab wood hay sheds Thirty paces to the rear were the cattle yard, ^{and other} enclosed by rough fencing. Adjoining the main fort were seven huts, the homes of the minor employees of the company and tumbled-down huts, in which the homes of minor employees of the company. A few hundred yards to the rear were three store buildings.

Three miles from Fort Colville, on the Slawntehus, was a ~~grist~~ mill, using one pair of stones where years before flour was ground for the northern posts from ~~wheat~~ grain grown on the company's farm, now lightly cultivated.

In earlier days a chief factor, the highest officer in charge of a station lived at Fort Colville and compiled the annual accounts for the whole contry before they were sent across the mountains. Goods were sent through the post to ~~the~~ the north and a century ago the staff at the old fort had been ~~reduced~~ reduced to McDonald, the chief clerk, a trader and 20 Canadians and Iroquois.

~~Indians~~

Iroquois

It was the ~~Indians~~ Indians who brought the first news of the coming of the new way of ~~life~~ life to the River People and it was from them that a part of the old religion of the ~~Plains~~ Plains and Middlewestern Indians was ~~transmitted~~ *carried down* along the ~~Columbia~~ *Columbia*. *Chewana*

Former servants of the company, nearly a score of Canadians had settled on claims along the Slawntehus.

Fort Okinakane was ~~situated~~ on a plain along the right bank of the Columbia downstream from Fort Colville and a ~~little way~~ short way upstream from the Okinakane river. ~~The~~ It consisted of three small houses, protected by a stockade and it was drawing its dying breath. There was but one trader, a Canadian and he ~~had~~ rarely had goods to trade with the Indians and who ~~as~~ as rarely had beaver, fox or muskrat skins. In years past it was the stopping place for the bateaux of the ~~boatmen~~ boatmen. Canadians and breeds on their trips up and down the Columbia from Fort Vancouver to Fort Colville.

Far ~~to the~~ toward the southwest were ~~Old~~ *Old* Forts Hall and Boise, ~~dying as~~ *dying as* ~~forts~~ *forts* ~~and~~ *and* ~~marking~~ *marking* the birth of a new ~~era~~ *era*. Far to the southwest was Fort Boise, dying as a fort

but being born as a city of the new west. It was hardly more than a way-place for the emigrants and occasional emigrants and the Indians who found a trader and a handful of Kanakas living there. Fort Hall, at the head of the Snake, was regarded as more important, dealing with the emigrants and the Salt Lake country but the military men regarded it only as a third-rate establishment.

Over toward the setting sun and Puget Sound, Fort Nisqually was trading more with settlers than the isolated interior forts. It was located high above water danger on a prairie, a cluster of little buildings sheltered by the inevitable stockade. Two miles above the mouth of the Cowlitz river was the fort's granary and a little plot of farm land and at Cape Disappointment was a small store where an old servant of the Hudson's Bay Company lived with only Indians and settlers for occasional companions.

See posts and forts.. Wyeth..

Fort Simcoe , established at Mul Mul spring in the
Sim-Kwee ~~in~~ on August 8, 1856 and abandoned by the army on May 22,
three ~~year~~ years later was the first built in that part of
the Yakima valley. There were Indian fortifications built
on the Simcoe fork. The blue-coated soldiers ~~traveled~~
who trailed north from The Dalles in 1853, crossing over to the Top-
Nish and then the Sim-Kwee country, then while the heavy
pack mules, heavily loaded with army rations, supplies and surveying
equipment groaned and complained under the heavy loads, came
across the fortifications.

They were built on a ~~low~~ two 200 yard ridge and were
spaced 25 yards apart. One was square with rounded corners, formed
by an earth embankment capped with stones and ~~it~~ It was 30 feet
long and the walls three feet high. Adobe bricks were used
for the other, built in the form of a rectangle and it was built with
walls three feet high with loopholes set six feet apart in the
18-inch walls. Both forts were ~~close~~ within rifle shot of neighboring
hills and were ~~built~~ constructed in 1847 by Skloo, a brother of
Ka-mia-kin as defenses against marauding parties of Cayuse

~~The~~

The party was one of several exploration groups, sent
into the Yakima valley under command of Capt. George B. McClellan
(~~leader~~ commander of the party) of the corps of engineers, to find
a practical route for a railway across the Cascades.
Lt. J.K. Duncan, third artillery, Lt. S. Mowry, Lt. H.C. Hodges,
J.F. Minter, civil engineer ; George Gibbs, geologist and
Dr. J.G. Cooper, naturalist, were sent on the exploration.
Capt. McClellan, who later became commander in chief of the army,
left Fort Vancouver in July and he went northward as far as Fort
Okanagan on the ~~border~~ and then

Fort Colville before turning south into the Spokane country where he joined Gov. I.I. Stevens .

Lt. Sylvester Mowry examined a route from the Wenas southeast to the Columbia. and Lt. Hodges joined McClellan's party in the Kittitas after coming from Fort Steilacoom over the mountains and down the Naches pass.

The party, led by Capt. McClellan found Show-A-Wai Ko-Ti-a-Ken or Ice, a younger brother of Ka-mi-a-kun living on Toppenish creek, not far from the bubbling springs of Mul Mul. His father was a Palouse from the country east, north of the Snake river and east of the Columbia.

The trail followed along the south fork of the Toppenish. It left the stream at the forks and turned back northeast over a basaltic broken spur. Then it led over a three-mile stretch of sandy, gravelly soil, covered with sage and wild rye grass. In the valley of the Sim-Kwee they found cottonwood, maple trees and a few scrubby white oaks.

After crossing the Sim-Kwee the trail ran north eight miles to the Antanum, separated from the valley by a high barren basaltic spur, its slope covered with sharp fragments of loose lava. Then it dropped down over softer soil to the valley, half a mile wide. At the ford there on Antanum creek it turned eastward three miles to the Antanum mission, near which Ka-mia-kin lived. From the mission the route led northward for 37 miles into the Kittitas country after crossing the Kwi-Wichess (cowiche) Nachess (Naches) and Wenass (Wenas and Entinum, seven, 10 and 27 miles apart.

The era of fort building in the Yakima valley started in 1856 a year after the treaty with the Yakima nation at the council of Walla Walla .

It was prompted by the growing uneasiness of the Indians , fearful that the increasing numbers of settlers , streaming into the Northwest and the far-ranging miners . That led to open hostilities that flared into the ~~Various~~ Indian wars, the last major conflict in the territories.

Col. George ~~W.~~ Wright, who embarked on a peacemaking expedition into the Indian country built Fort Na-chess of earth and willows. It was on the south bank of the Naches river eight miles from Yakima and the old-timers called it the basket fort. Col. Wright and his ninth infantry ~~camped there and remained there on May and June~~ 500 men plus pack train detachments, stayed there in May and June and later swung northward to the Wenas, Kittitas and into the Wenatchee country.

Maj. Robert S. Garnett arrived on the Naches on June 13 with two companies and set out with Lt. Col. Steptoe and three companies to construct Ft. Simcoe. Col. Wright was encamped early in August on Toppenish creek, Fort Na-Chess had been abandoned and work started August 8 on the military post , designed to be a four company post with ~~four~~ companies G and H of the ninth infantry in charge.

Orders went out from Gov. Stevens from Olympia early that year to construct a blockhouse near in the Yakima country "near the Gap" where 200 men were to be stationed. That fort station was to have been patterned after "alla Walla

Fort Walla Walla on the Columbia near where the "alla Walla river entered that stream, was established by the North West company in 1818. It burned in 1842 and was later rebuilt of adobe bricks. The fort was abandoned in 1855 by Col. Wright and Col. E.J. Steptoe selected a new site, on Mill creek within the present city of Walla Walla in September, 1856.