

between the government and the Indians.

"In 1855, for the first time the government made council with the Indians near Vancouver," his story related. "The governor, Isaac Stevens, talked to them about treaties. All the Klickitat chiefs agreed and answered to him, "Yes, we will go into the Yakima Indian land." All my Klickitat chiefs never disobeyed the government law. They received the first missionary, the Rev. Jason Lee, at The Dalles, Ore. He called them to come and make camps for the meetings.

"My mother used to tell me all the good news about the preaching of Jason Lee. He was a very kind hearted man toward the Indians and that is why my father and mother joined the Methodist church. They were baptized by Jason Lee.

"Gov. Isaac Stevens finished the treaties at Walla Walla and then government military officers sent policemen to gether us near the agency and the soldiers guarded us all summer and winter.

"Commencing in June, the Yakima tribe got into trouble. They killed the first white agent on Simcoe mountain. Then the Indian wars against the government broke out.

"Our Klickitat chiefs felt bad because they killed the good man. Soldiers guarded us until the next spring and then the government took us on steamboats up to the Cascade falls and from the Cascade falls to White Salmon. The trip took 10 days. We were nearly Klickitats by that time.

"In Novemeber, all the young men made fun with pum pum dance, drumming and singing pum pum songs. This kind of fun ran for five days, and later the old people made Indian Doctor dance and potlatch.

"This agency at White Salmon ran three years and then all moved to the Yakima Indian reservation and the Fort Simcoe agency was started. The Rev. James H. Wilbur came as a missionary for the Indians and for the first time I heard him

preach with an Indian interpreter, whose name was Edwin Brown. He called Jesus the "Morning Star," and said he belonged to Indians, too."

The opening of the Fort Simcoe school was described by the Rev. Mr. Waters, who said in the early days there were only 25 pupils because the Yakima Indians did not want to send their children to school.

"The Yakims Indians were superstitious," his story continued. "They did not wat to go to church and they talked against the white people's law."

After serving as pastor of the White Swan church, the Rev. Mr. Waters continued his church work, going from place to place to preach, often using an automobile for a pulpit.

(typist's note: the word "automobile" was crossed out by pen and the words "horse & mountain hack" have been penned in.)

--YAKIMA MORNING HERALD, Oct 17, 1937  
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two-column underline with accompanying picture gives this information:

White Swan's new Methodist church, top, built to replace the community's historic church which burned January 31, will be dedicated this afternoon. Bishop Titus Lowe of Portland, head of the Methodist church in the northwest area, will deliver the main address and Dr. Joseph M. Adams of Walla Walla, conference superintendent, will participate in the program. The church has been named the Wilbur Memorial church in honor of Father James H. Wilbur, early missionary and agency superintendent, who directed construction of the first church here. Below is the plaque beside the door of the new structure.--Photos by Walter.



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Its walls concealed by red-painted sheet-iron, No. 6, the quartermaster's storehouse, still stands at the extreme south of the sites of now destroyed buildings that formed the east row looking west on the parade ground. Between this building and the guardhouse was the subsistence storehouse, No. 7.

North of the guardhouse was the powder magazine, and adjacent, forming with Company F barracks the northeast angle of the square, was the 25 by 50-foot frame hospital, as contemplated by Maj. Garnett. Two additional barracks, for Companies C and G, were specified, and it is known that at least one of them was built.

Through the decades of use as agency headquarters and Indian school, the establishment was enlarged, so that its appearance today is quite different than in the days of army rule. Yet enough of the basic pattern survives for the picturing, with the aid of Garnett's plan, of the place as it was when lads in blue rolled out at reveille.

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## INDIANS RESTORE FORT KNOWN TO WARRIORS OF OLD

### Yakima Valley Scenic Paradise

Yakima and the Yakima valley form an area of mild winters and pleasant summers, where the visitor will find the gateway to a scenic paradise, and the homeseeker need look no further for an ideal place to settle.

Center of a diversified farming district, ranking among the leaders in land fertility, Yakima has a population estimated in 1938 at 31,000. Many persons have come to the valley to visit and after seeing the advantages here have returned to their homes only to come back to live.

Many times this has been caused by hosts that have known their Yakima and its surroundings. To the many others who do not know the most alluring spots to which to take their visitors and to which they, themselves, may drive on holidays and Sundays a glance at a list of the historical and scenic places, explaining the routes and distances will prove beneficial.

Lookout Point--Highest view point near Yakima. Go north three miles on United States highway No. 97, cross the Yakima river on the Selah bridge and skirt the Riverside Golf club for two miles until Selah is reached. Turn left at the stop sign in Selah and travel through the Selah Heights orchard district on a route indicated by direction pointers.

Ellensburg Canyon--Scenic route of breath-taking grandeur. Drive north on First street from Yakima on United States highway No. 97 across the main canal of the new Roza irrigation unit toward Ellensburg. The route follows the Yakima river.

Yakima Park and Mt. Rainier--One of the most scenic automobile trips from Yakima. Follow United States highway No. 410 up the beautiful Naches



valley, past glassy Lake Tipsoe high in the Cascades, to the Mt. Rainier boundary, 67 miles from Yakima. Twenty-three miles further is Yakima park and Sunrise lodge, at an elevation of 6500 feet.

Sunset Point--View point in Terrace Heights on the hills east of the Yakima river. At the end of the pavement on the extension of east Yakima avenue turn right through the Yakima Country club golf course, past the clubhouse to the point of a hill from where a panorama of the Moxee valley may be seen in the foreground and to the left, while the gentle sloping land toward Yakima is spread before the eyes. Beautiful Terrace Heights Memorial park may also be visited on this trip as the route passes its entrance.

Englewood Heights--Soft fruit district west of the city. Go west on Yakima avenue to Seventh avenue, taking intersecting Summitview avenue to Crescent Hill drive; turn right to Englewood avenue one-half mile, then west on Englewood avenue seven-eighths of a mile to Scenic drive, and right on Scenic drive to the crest of the heights.

Rimrock lake and dam--A recreation area in the Tieton district of the Snoqualmie National forest. The lake is 42 miles from Yakima by way of the Naches highway. Go 19 miles to the Rimrock road, then 23 miles to the lake.

Bumping Lake--Recreation spot on the Bumping river. The lake is 60 miles from Yakima. Go 48 miles by way of the Naches highway to the American River resort and then 12 miles to the lake.

Ravens Roost--United States forest service fire lookout station on Arch rock 5943 feet above sea level. It is reached by way of the Naches highway to the Little Naches forest camp 44 miles from Yakima, then up



the Little Naches river to the Arch Rock road and 12.6 miles on an easy grade to Ravens roost.

Boulder Cave Forest Camp--Contains equipment for picnics. It is six miles from the Naches Ranger station. One-half mile from the camp ground by trail is Boulder cave.

Ft. Simcoe--One of the most historical points of the Pacific northwest. It is on the Yakima Indian reservation seven miles southwest of White Swan and 40 miles from Yakima by way of Wapato.

Ahtanum Mission--Founded in April, 1852 by Oblate fathers it was destroyed in the Yakima Indian war and rebuilt in 1867 to 1869 by Jesuits. It is 15 miles west of Wiley City, in Ahtanum valley.

Union Gap--The original Yakima city, founded in 1869 and incorporated in 1883. It is four miles southeast of Yakima and, as the first town in the valley, was incorporated December 1, 1883. It was first named Yakima City, but 12 months after its incorporation the Northern Pacific Railway Co. established the townsite of North Yakima and more than 100 buildings were moved from the site of Yakima City to North Yakima. In 1917 the North was dropped from Yakima and Yakima City became Union Gap.

Satus Highway--A scenic drive across the Yakima Indian reservation to Goldendale and the Columbia river. The highway stretches along a prehistoric travel route that carries the visitor through the Simcoe mountains from Yakima by way of Toppenish 74 miles to Goldendale.

Ginkgo Forest--A forest of petrified Ginkgo trees. The forest lies 64 miles from Yakima on the transcontinental highway near the Columbia river about two miles from Vantage. The forest covers 7000 acres and within a radius of 30 miles tree exposures are almost continuous.

This list is but an outline of the many spots to which the motorist may travel from Yakima. Along the scenic Naches highway are many places equipped for picnics, and cabins in the resorts along the way and including Yakima park and available to vacationists or those who wish to spend some time among the splendors of the districts. Many side trips are open to the motorist traversing the Naches highway.

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--SEATTLE TIMES, December 17, 1939



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Fact  
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Fort Simcoe was planned as a four company post and became a dot on the military map in 1856. Selection of Mool-mool as the location by Col. George Wright, Ninth Infantry, at the close of his summer pacification campaign that took him from Ft. Dalles to the Wenatchee river and back.

Personal reconnaissance convinced him, he reported that it was the most desirable position for a station for the winter.

The principal Indian trails united there, the climate was warmer than in the valleys to the north, there was an abundant supply of the best pine timber accessible with wagons, plenty of grass for the horses and sufficient good land for gardening.

The name Simcoe was chosen by Wright, some say, to honor Maj. Gen. John George Simcoe, a lieutenant governor of Ontario, Canada. Others contend, and with substantial reason that Wright merely appropriated a Yakima Indian name, Sim-Co-ee, meaning a low gap or saddle applied by the Indians to a saddle in a ridge a short distance north of Mool-mool.

In August 1853, Lieut. George B. McClellan had mapped what is now known as Simcoe creek as Simkwee creek. Sim-ku-ee with the accent on the second syllable closer approximates the Indian pronunciation.

Under direct orders from Col. Wright and in pursuance of instructions from Brevet Maj. Gen. John E. Wool, commanding the department of the Pacific in Benicia, Cal., Maj. Robert Seldon Garnett began construction of the post on August 8, 1856, with companies G and F of the ninth infantry.

Maj. Garnett had won something of a reputation as a fighting man. Graduated from West Point in 1841 and commissioned brevet second lieutenant fourth artillery he was brevetted twice for gallantry in action in the war with Mexico from which he emerged a major.



While Garnett rushed completion of temporary quarters of hewed pine logs, Capt. Frederick Dent, brother-in-law of Ulysses S. Grant (who had served an uneventful year as a lieutenant at Ft. Vancouver in 1852) directed the building of a wagon road over the Simcoe mountains to link the infant post with Ft. Dalles.

Lively at times had been in the Yakima valley in the fall of 1856 when the Yakimas trounced Maj. Granville O. Haller and his 100 men on Toppenish creek, a scant three miles from the site of Simcoe and subsequently eluded a punitive force led by Maj. Gabriel J. Rains, no angry powder was burned in the valley in 1856, thanks to Wright's peacemaking.

Nothing happened in 1857 to draw the fort builders from their labors although progress was delayed in the month of May due to many of the men being on sick list to shirk work, old reports show.

In 1858, the year of the final Indian roundup when Col. Wright smashed Indian resistance forever at the battle of Four Lakes on the Spokane Plains, Maj. Garnett conducted a simultaneous campaign from Simcoe against a war party that had attacked an expedition of gold hunters at the mouth of the Wenatchee river. Success of the venture which resulted in the capture of some of the hostiles and the shooting of 10 adjudged guilty of murdering miners was marred by the death of Second Lieut. Jesse K. Allen.

Leading 14 mounted men in a surprise attack on an Indian camp near the mouth of Swauk creek at 3 o'clock in the morning of August 15, Allen fell, mortally wounded. His body was conveyed to Simcoe by his company commander and close friend, Capt. John W. Fraser and laid to rest in a level plot just east of the fort, the burial place also of Nathan Olney who was sub-Indian agent at the Dalles during the war and was a pioneer of the Yakima country.

In his official report of the affair Maj. Garnett expressed the opinion that



Allen was shot accidentally by one of his own men in the darkness of the hour.

Save for accasions when he was absent on leave, Maj. Garnett was in command at Simcoe from the day the first spadeful of earth was turned until October 14, 1858, when he relinquished the post to Capt. <sup>James G.</sup> ~~John J.~~ Archer who continued in charge until the fort was evacuated the next spring.

Son of the south, Maj. Garnett heeded the call of his mother state, Virginia, in 1861. He resigned from the army on April 30 to become brigadier general of the Confederate States and on July 13 was killed by a Yankee bullet while trying to rally his men to Carricks Ford in Virginia.

Union officer who witnessed his death was Gen. (then Col.) R. H. Milroy. Twenty-one years later when Gen. Milroy was Washington territory superintendent of Indian affairs and visited Ft. Simcoe he learned from Father Wilbur that Garnett was the builder of the post.

And a few years afterward when Milroy succeeded Wilbur as agent for the Yakimas he took up residence in the house his former foe had occupied. The general's son, R. B. Milroy, veteran Yakima superior court commissioner, recalls that his parent more than once commented on that twist of fate.

Bugles sounded for the last time at Simcoe in May, 1859. In April Companies C and I of the ninth were ordered to join the northwest boundary commission as an escort and the following month Company G was transferred to Ft. Dalles. The department of Indian affairs took over and in 1860 the first agent, R. H. Lonsdale moved his civilian effects into the big house on officers' row.

Prize find about a year ago deep in the national capital files was the original drawing of the design for the fort bearing the identification, "Plan of the Post of Fort Simcoe, Yakima Country, Washington Territory."



Up in the lefthand corner is written:

"It is proposed to build all the buildings except those marked 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of hewed pine logs. Those marked it is proposed to build of wooden frame.

"The buildings marked 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 were put up last fall for the winter shelter of the troops as far as they would go by crowding them. There is a mule-power sawmill already at the post and pine timber is abundant within five miles of it. There is no rock that can be used for chimneys but the soil makes an indifferent brick which may be made to answer the purpose."

(The location of the brick kiln, marked by piles of slag, was rediscovered last fall (1938) a short distance east of the fort and agency buildings in a clump of tall sagebrush. The bricks for the fireplaces and chimneys, the walls of the officers' houses and for the front walk--now overlaid with cement--of the commandant's residence evidently were made there.)

Undated the drawing which shows the ground plan on a scale of 30 feet to the inch apparently was made early in 1857. Whether it was followed out in detail is a matter of conjecture.

Of the five log buildings put up in the late summer and fall of 1856 only one, the 25 by 60 foot barracks for Company I marked 11 on the original plan, remains.

Facing north at the southeast corner of the parade, it is disguised by white painted siding applied in after years. Directly opposite, at the northeast corner of the hollow square stood a like-sized barracks for Company F (no. 12) a 30 by 30 foot guardhouse, rather appropriately labeled No. 13 on the plan, about half way between the two barracks, faced west on the campus. Numbers 13 and 14 designed as lieutenants' quarters were in line with and 120 feet west of the respective barracks.

Of the four 25 by 25 foot blockhouses of hewn logs erected in 1857 to command the sallyports, the one on the bare knoll to the southwest still stands.

Among the buildings projected at the time the plan was sketched were the commandant's house, No. 1, marked field officers' quarters, and the flanking captains' quarters, No. 2, 3, 4 and 5. Nothing remains to show that No. 5 the last house on the north of the row actually was built although Judge Milroy remembers that a dwelling occupied the site when he, a boy, accompanied his father to Simcoe in 1873.

Its walls concealed by red-painted sheet iron, No. 6, the quartermasters' store house stands at the extreme south of the sites of now destroyed buildings that formed the east row looking west on the parade ground. Between this building and the guardhouse was the subsistence storehouse, No. 7.

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(undated) - 1939-