

cc Mr. Click Relander

GEORGE M. MARTIN

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

902 LARSON BUILDING

YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

June 2, 1955

Mrs. Esther Glenn Westby
9749 North Willamette Boulevard
Portland 3, Oregon

Dear Mrs. Westby:

We were very pleased to receive your letter of May 25 relative to your great-grandparents and their activities at Fort Simcoe. I am referring your letter to our historian, Mr. Click Relander, and am requesting that he give you a more complete answer to the questions which you ask. He has indicated that he has some information regarding this. We would be very happy to receive prints of the pictures which you mention, since we are attempting to secure all possible photographs of people who were at the Fort.

The diary is Lissi Bancroft sounds very interesting and we are writing to the Oregon Historical Society requesting permission to make a copy of the journal.

Pursuant to your request, I am enclosing herewith the Simcoe folders. There is no regular bus service to Simcoe as yet. Simcoe is 38 miles southwest of Yakima, and the road is paved except for the last eight miles. I am enclosing a Chamber of Commerce bulletin which gives you the general road approach to the Fort. Any information you obtain relative to Fort Simcoe would be gratefully received. The restoration is now progressing satisfactorily under the direction of the Washington State Parks Commission. We are enclosing a membership application in the event you might be interested in becoming a member of the Society.

Sincerely yours,

GMM:emd
Enclosures

GEORGE M. MARTIN, Secretary

May 25, 1955
9749 N. Willamette Blvd.
Portland 3, Oregon

Fort Simcoe Restoration Society
Yakima, Washington

Dear Sirs:

Mr. Beebe, Librarian of the Oregon Historical Society, at the January meeting of the Oregon Genealogy Forum gave me the information that your Fort Simcoe Restoration Society exists.

I am very interested in Fort Simcoe, as my great grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Waters Carman. He was the reservation miller at Fort Simcoe for several years in the 1860s. Their second daughter Henrietta Carman was my grandmother on my mother's side. Could you tell me the exact years the Carmans were at Fort Simcoe? Does there exist any picture of the mill or know where a picture is of it? What became of the cemetery at Fort Simcoe? The Carmans are supposed to have buried a nine year old son (George A. Carman) when they were there.

A diary of Lissi A. Bancroft called "Daily Journal of 1863" at the Oregon Historical Society here in Portland is very interesting reading and informative on Fort Simcoe. We have in our family an appointment made by C. H. Hale of the Supt. of Indian Affairs at Olympia, W. T. Nov. 26, 1862 of my great grandfather Carman to report as Miller to A. A. Bancroft of the Yakima Reservation. We also have a tin cup George A. Carman used, a baby dress and cap the oldest Carman child was supposed to have worn. We also have a picture of Mr. and Mrs. Waters Carman and their three daughters just after they left Fort Simcoe and returned to their homestead near Oswego, Oregon. I'd be glad to send you copy of the two prints if you'd care for them.

I would like to visit Fort Simcoe some time. Would like to know if sight seeing busses go out there, and how far is it from Yakima, and if one was going by auto what route highways one would take.

I would like to know if I could have eight copies of the pamphlet put out by your Restoration Society of Fort Simcoe. (I saw one at the Oregon Historical Society, thought it very interesting). The one by H. Dean Guie copyrighted 1953. Would like them for our families, and my two historical scrapbooks. In this pamphlet is a group picture that White Swan is in. He was a friend and pal of my grandmother when she lived at Fort Simcoe as a child. My grandmother last saw him at the dedication of the "Bridge of the Gods" on the Columbia River.

Sincerely,

(MRS.) ESTHER GLENN WESTBY (s)

9749 N. Willamette Blvd
Portland 3, Oregon