

June 16, 1956

Baltimore News-Post and
Sunday American Library,
Pratt and Commerce Sts. Zone 3

Louisa Doetsch, librarian

Dear Librarian:

I am writing to see if I can establish any contacts regarding more extensive research into the family of General James J. Archer of Baltimore.

He was a commanding officer at old Fort Simcoe in the Yakima Valley in the late 50's and then resigned, while stationed at Fort Yamhill in Oregon to fight for the confederacy.

I am anxious to determine if there are any descendants of the family still living, any pictures of his mother, his sister, Nannie Archer; his brother, Bob Archer (who also fought for the Confederacy) and details of his death, that is, the death of Gen. J.J. Archer.

Fort Simcoe State Park will be dedicated Aug. 12, the centennial of the construction of the fort by Gen. Robert Selden Garnett, then a major. He was a Virginian.

I have microfilm scanning facilities and if there is much material available that could be microfilmed, that would be satisfactory. Or, if there is only incidental material, copies of some photos etc. that would also be appreciated.

The officers houses built at Fort Simcoe still stand. One is being furnished in the period of the time.

Last summer at the request of the Yakima Nation I authored a 65 pp 34,000 word pamphlet on the Yakima Indian Nation Treaty. It contains considerable material on the Fort Period, references to Archer, Garnett etc. and a picture of Archer in Confederate uniform. I would be most happy to send you a copy of this at your request. It is unusual in that the powerful Yakima nation never before published anything, in fact have resisted interviews with ethnologists, anthros. etc.

Besides a series of newspaper stories on Archer, I have in mind doing something more extensively. As a man and character he certainly lends himself to that. His letters are beautifully written and packed with important Northwest history.

Any suggestions you have as to contacts will be highly appreciated.

Sincerely Click Relander

Enoch Pratt Free Library,
400 Cathedral St. Zone 1, Baltimore

June 16, 1956

Margaret Rohrbaugh, history

Dear Librarian:

I am writing to see if you can establish any contacts, looking toward more extensive research, with descendants of the family of General James J. Archer of Baltimore, Maryland.

He was a commanding officer at old Fort Simcoe in the Yakima Valley in the late '50's and then resigned, to join the Confederacy.

I am anxious to determine if any descendants of the family are now living and their addresses, anxious to obtain pictures of Gen. Archer as a young man, his mother, his sister, Nannie, his brother, Bob, who was also an officer for the Confederacy, details of his death, pictures of his old home at Baltimore, Rock Run where the family spent the summers, material relating to his early life and entire career. I have a copy of letters written from the Northwest.

Fort Simcoe State Park will be dedicated Aug. 12, the centennial of the construction started by General Robert Selden Garnett of Virginia. (I am also seeking a picture of Gen. Garnett's bride, Mariana, who died in 1858 at Fort Simcoe.)

I have microfilm scanning facilities, if extensive material is available.

Last summer, at the request of the Yakima Indian Nation, I authored a 65 pp pamphlet, 34,000 words on the Yakima Treaty centennial. It contains some Simcoe material and a picture of Gen. Archer in Confederate uniform. If you don't have a copy of this pamphlet, I shall be glad to send you one at your request. It is considered rare, because the Yakimas never published anything before, and in fact have been so independent they have resisted interviews with ethnologists and anthropologists.

I have in mind turning a series of stories on Gen. Archer for the newspaper on which I work as a part of the Simcoe Centennial. But I am convinced he warrants far more than that. His letters from the Northwest are outstanding for historical information from this region. He was an outstanding man and his earlier and later life, his strong devotion to his family and to his "Maryland" is worth preservation. But a contact with the family I believe would be necessary to secure photographs and personalities necessary.

Any suggestions you have will be highly appreciated. I am willing to the best of my ability, since I do so out of my own pocket, pay for any special research required.

Sincerely

Click Relander

Maryland Historical Society Library,
201 W. Monument St., 2nd floor
Baltimore, Maryland

June 16, 1956

Fred Shelley, Librarian

Dear Librarian:

I am writing to see if you can establish any contacts regarding more extensive research into the family of General James J. Archer of Baltimore.

He was a commanding officer at Old Fort Simcoe in the Yakima Valley in the late '50s and then resigned, to fight for the Confederacy.

I am anxious to determine if there are any descendants of the family now living, anxious to obtain pictures of him as a young man, of his mother, his sister, Nannie, his brother, Bob, who also fought for the Confederacy, details of his death, pictures of the old home at Baltimore, Rock Run where the family spent the summers and any material relating to his later Civil War career, his early life and his connections at Simcoe. I have a copy of letters written from the Northwest.

Fort Simcoe State Park will be dedicated Aug. 12, the centennial of the construction started by General Robert Selden Garnett of Virginia. I am also seeking pictures of his wife, Mariana, who died at Fort Simcoe.

I have microfilm scanning facilities, if extensive material is available.

Last summer, at the request of the Yakima Nation, I authored a 65 pp. pamphlet, 34,000 words on the occasion of the Indian Treaty Centennial. It contains a brief account of Fort Simcoe and a picture of Gen. Archer in Confederate uniform. If you do not happen to have a copy of this rare pamphlet--rare because the independent Yakima Nation never authorized anything of this nature before and have resisted interviews with ethnologists and anthropologists, please let me know and I will be most happy to send you a copy.

I have in mind turning a series of newspaper articles on Gen. Archer for the paper on which I work in connection with the centennial. But I am convinced that Gen. Archer was an outstanding man. His letters show it. They are packed with important Northwest history. So I am very anxious to do something more extensive and need to contact his family or descendants. It should surely be preserved in more permanent form than the fragmentary manner now and the farspread repositories.

Any suggestions you have as to contacts will be highly appreciated. I am willing, to the best of my ability, to pay for special research entailed if the proper contact can be made. But since I do this out of my own pocket, it would not be extensive.

Sincerely Click Relander