

Ginkgo State Park
March 31, 1955

Dear Click:

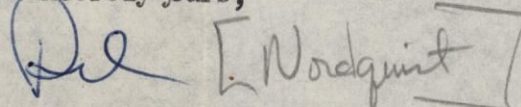
I'm rather slow on the draw, but I didn't make the Whale Island affair by tricks of fate. I finally heard about it an hour after MacLaughlin left Vantage. Stockdale didn't get up here and he told the concessionaire when he went down for coffee in the morning. I was up in the hills and didn't get back. Ever since I've tried to find what was up, but none of the Indians divulge much about their affairs.

After having a wonderful visit with you I forgot to borrow the Idaho pictograph pamphlet that you offered. We may actually take a run down to Yakima next week and if it is not too troublesome for you I'd like to pick it up. * One of these days I'm going to our famed gallery north of Vantage. There are still some that have not been recorded, and I wish to make notes on technique and style. I'll pack a lunch, shoulder a shovel for a little trail work, and light out with the dog.

In brushing up on my Moses-Columbia (unfortunately very little was ever written about them) I find a bit of controversy over who belonged at Priest Rapids. Teit says that the Columbia claimed the area, had a village there, and an extension as far as White Bluffs. He recognized a Sahaptan inroad at White Bluffs but mentions no particular group. I presume these were the Wanapam. You can set me straight on this. Assuming that I have the Columbia ^{version} of territories, I would like to know the Wanapam version of the same. Authorities maintain that boundaries were loose and not definitely defined except to fishing rights. Hunting seems to have been a fluid and interchange in rights. I recall reading that the Yakima did set up definite boundaries and actual maintained scouts on them. Was this late?

I'm asking too many questions, so it might be just as well to see you some time. You are always welcome here if you can find the time to come up.

Sincerely yours,

 [Nordquist]

P.S. I'm just reminded that the lost letter which you sent shortly after the Mool Mool etc. meeting was found. Verna was walking the Sage brush across from the house and picked it up. In my carelessness or by some other peculiar circumstance it was lost. Thanks again for the clippings.

X. anywhere at your convenience,

Ginkgo
April 28, 1955

Dear Click:

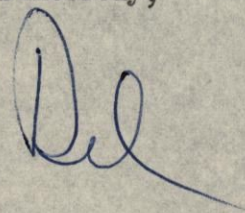
I want to thank you for arranging my special treat at the root feast. It was a very special occasion and I shall not forget it. The Wanapum were the most gracious hosts -- so much like all Indians I have come to know -- and which makes my real first contact with Plateau people. The ceremony had a reverence that we whites are surely forgetting and it made the importance of foods and their procurement more pronounced. Perhaps I've always labored under the spell of a food anxiety (I grew up in the depression days and it was scarce then), but have always felt we were too complacent about the bounty that is ours in America.

The sequence of initial eating was a thing I wanted to remember in sequence. There was a bit too much (Indian names) to remember but I presume you have all of this in your notes somewhere. One needs to go with the women in the gathering of roots in season to make observations and get botanical samples. As yet I've not found the one which gave Vantage its name, i.e. paⁿ ko.

Buck came up here to the store last week. I was around and again expressed my appreciation for the honor. I am planning on a trip down there today for Bob Ries said I should come done if I didn't hear from him and go out to the Whale Island. It is a good day so far and so I'd better make the attempt. Who knows? It might blow up a blizzard tomorrow.

Did the picture come out? Any newsstories? I'm curious and would appreciate copies for my file. We'll see you some time in Yakima if not sooner up here. Thanks again,

Sincerely,

 [Nordquist]