



WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL BUILDING



## Washington State Historical Society

STATE HISTORICAL BUILDING  
315 NORTH STADIUM WAY

TACOMA 3, WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE DIRECTOR

October 15, 1955

Dear Click:

It will be a lot more valuable to the Society to have you at the Ahtanum dedication than here on the 23rd. I have written a separate letter which you can use or not use as you think best.

The briefing on the marker situation will not be difficult. The Society in earlier years did quite a little in that field. I never have found out just how the money was raised but at the time I think there were some members who had money AND were willing to spend it for such purposes.

We certainly should give every possible encouragement to such organizations as Ahtanum Grange. It seems to me we might be able to get quite a few markers placed in this way. I hear the new state Master very highly spoken of although I haven't met him. We should make this a matter of record and have an official Board recognition of what they have done.

At present, you probably are familiar with the marker set-up. They originate with the Historical Sites Advisory Board, working under the Parks Commission. Walt Purdin is a member. The next step is by the State Marker Commission, under the Highway Department. The former puts up about \$500 and the highway people say a site landscaped and preserved means about \$1000. The Highway budget contains \$25,000 for its part of the program during the biennium.

From this, possibly other organizations in your county will get the bug.

Dr. Jones is trying to clarify the membership a little and will do so at the next Board meeting. Libraries should offer possibilities. I think Miss Babcock can get a list. We're getting a list of all Social Studies teachers in the state, although I would bet on too much pay dirt.

Dean Guie certainly should be a member. I suspect he will come into the fold in due season.

MAX Yours truly

CHAPIN D. FOSTER, Director

