

November 3, 1962

Miss Priscilla Knuth,
Research Associate

Oregon Historical Society,
235 S.W. Market St.,

Portland, Ore.

Dear Miss Knuth:

A few months ago when I was at the Yakima Indian Agency the superintendent there (and assistant) told me of your letter of inquiry concerning the Scholl Fort Simcoe drawings. I told them what I recollected and referred them to quote Mr. H. Dean Guile as the expert on that. And from what I hear from Dean, you two have made suitable contact.

One phase of research I have been engaged in covers allotments, and Dean loaned me a copy of the 1862 Simcoe area map. This is very interesting from several standpoints. I would surmise from reading the Rev. Milbur letters, and this is surmise only, it is a map he prepared and sent in to the Indian Bureau. I wouldn't like to interfere with any possible publication plans you might have for it, and I don't know it would be suitable, but I am very interested, especially to the point of obtaining a copy and the credit citation that should be given. (If this does not confuse your plans).

I have encountered Scholl's name only once in all the microfilm I have gone through, and this was in reference to his service as guide on a scouting expedition out of the Dalles because of his knowledge of the country.

And I don't know whether or not you have been in touch with Mrs. Marshall Daga, the former Martha Ferguson McKeown. I suspect you know her very well. But if overlooked, it is possible she might have some source material she would assist with as it might be out of her "field." I recall she had at least one piece of furniture, a chair, hand made, from the old Fort Dalles. There might be some link there. It was quite a nice chair.

Dean says you spent some time at Washington. I wonder if you came across any other maps etc. of the Yakima Agency period. Several letters mention sending maps showing trails, one showing locations of early (about 1865) "allotments" in the "Cattas" area, surveys, fisheries and the like. I am interested in view of the extensive place names I am also working on. I have four or five large notebooks full of them for the area from the Columbia north to the Canadian border, the area from the west along the Cascades and east toward (but not including) Spokane. None of the maps were at the agency in recollection of older people, and I've never really gone on their trail so if you have any clues they would be appreciated.

My work concerns the history of the Yakimas and touches but lightly on the military. I guess it would be called a protest ~~map~~ It is the story of the constant struggle to retain the reservation.

My regards to Tom Vaughn. Don't know what it could be, but if I can do anything for you I'll try. Somewhere around the agency there must be some old "snap" shots, not too old, but perhaps around 1915-17 but we haven't been able to find them yet. Perhaps they were taken over by

the state when they obtained the lease and started the development, but apparently not, since so far they have no record of them.

They were taken by H.G. Barnett (University of Oregon professor in anthropology now) when he was doing some social studies work there. I've contacted him and they were left there or possibly turned over to a Pacific Northwest History Social studies group headquartered at Portland but now out of existence. He has neither negatives nor prints but they were only incidental and might just have caught some buildings since destroyed by fire, etc. They were only incidental, too, to Simcoe since his studies concerned social studies and included street scenes in Toppenish, houses etc. Perhaps these found their way into the Oregon Historical Society files. I'll keep my eye open for them as we go through a file or so, yet unexplored.

Most of the Simcoe material, which were later period Letter Record books etc. and presumably only copies, were consigned to repository through agency channels about 1955. From here they went to Seattle and thence I understand to St Louis. I have typescripts of most of them. I don't recollect seeing Scholl's name appearing on any of them, they were generally from 1880 on.

I do hope the Simcoe 1862 map, which seems badly off scale in lots of respects, but probably good for the location of the various buildings is available for potential tribal publication.

I am attempting to instigate a project to get a couple of the Yakimas to set up a screening committee and bring in old pictures from the tribe's members who might have them (and they do have some old ones) but I think these would generally be 1885 at the earliest to 1915. I will, if I can get the project off the ground keep my eyes open for anything that might show any particular buildings you may be interested in.

Sincerely Yours

Click Relander

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