

The Rev. Herbert C. Vincent,
The Methodist Church,
Rockford, Wash.

[1953?]
March 31st

Dear Sir:

I am happy to send you a couple of the most recent clippings regarding the Fort S. Meade restoration project. And, I was glad to receive your communication informing us of your continuing interest. Dr. Kester Johnson of the Methodist Church here is on our research committee, but of course has been very busy with Easter duties.

I am wondering if you will assist us, letting us know where there are any possible pictures of either the old fort and agency or the Wilbur Church, that we may obtain copies of, for our files.

Our committee is just getting under way and later various members will work on specific projects. But, in view of your past associations there, either at the fort or the Wilbur Church, could you contribute to our files by sketching out any information you may have.

Could you sketch a rough map of the area, including White Swan and Simeco, locating: 1-Old churches and their approximate dates, notes about them as you recall, dates of destruction etc.

2-Anything about the old Piutes, where they were stationed when brought on the Reservation in 1878?

3-Names and addresses of anyone else we may communicate with.

We are assembling interviews with those formerly associated there with either the fort or the Wilbur church; photographs, etc.

We need short stories of "recollections" about pastors, agents, Indian characters etc.

We need biographies of those prominently connected with the agency and church.

We need a listing of artifacts connected with the old days there so we may create a card index of them.

We are also creating a card index of libraries throughout the Northwest and material they have pertaining to Fort Simcoe and Father Wilbur.

All of this will be filed, typed, copies made for a double file and classified so it will be available for researchers, students, and the national park technicians when the actual restoration work begins.

Thanks again for your interest and I do hope you find time to write as completely and fully as possible, covering various subjects as you think of them. We are giving our time to this worthy project and hope many others will join with us so we may have the most intensive research possible.

Sincerely

Cliff Relander