

Frenchtown Historical Foundation Research Guide

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Annotated Bibliography

Tribes of the Columbia Plateau

Cash, Phillip Cash, Jennifer Karson Engum, Eugene S. Hunn, and E. Thomas Morning Owl. *Caw Pawa Laakni, They Are Not Forgotten: Sahaptian Place Names Atlas of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla*. Pendleton: Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute, 2015.

The authors describe this book as an “ethnogeographic atlas” of the culture and history of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla tribes. The maps and spellings provided are especially valuable.

Karson, Jennifer, ed. *Wiyaxayxt / Wiyaakaa’awn / As Days Go By: Our History, Our Land, Our People- The Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla*. Pendleton: Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute, 2014.

Written and edited by members of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, this book is a history of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla tribes. Because many of the authors are members of these tribes, the book provides a valuable voice that would otherwise be missing in much of this bibliography.

Ruby, Robert H. and John A. Brown. *The Cayuse Indians: Imperial Tribesmen of Old Oregon*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1972.

Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown seek to tell the story of the Cayuse people, from their early years through the nineteenth century, when the tribe was forced to move to a reservation. Their evidence comes from and contains useful research and documentation

from archival materials. Chapter 4, “A Strange New Thing” is valuable for its descriptions of missionary relations and religious conversion of the Cayuse.

Stern, Theodore. *Chiefs & Change in the Oregon Country: Indian Relations at Fort Nez Percés, 1818-1855*. Corvallis: Oregon State University Press, 1996.

Stern’s book is a study of the relationships between Plateau Indians (Cayuse, Nez Perces, Wallawalla, Umatilla), fur traders, missionaries, and settlers. He focuses on the changes the Plateau Indians underwent as these people entered the region. Stern traces these forces of change through to the Willamette Valley and details their impact on the Indians tied to Fort Nez Percés. Stern also describes the fall of the fort during the wars of the 1850s and the end of independent tribal government.

Fur trade, French-Canadians, and *métis* communities

Barman, Jean. *French Canadians, Furs, and Indigenous Women in the Making of the Pacific Northwest*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2014.

Jean Barman focuses on illuminating the historical impacts of French-Canadian men and indigenous women in the Pacific Northwest. This book is useful for its detailed descriptions of the relationships between French Canadians and their indigenous wives, the impacts of their settlement, and the decisions of *métis* descendants in the face of a changing region. It also includes an appendix with biographical excerpts on many of the French-Canadian fur traders.

Foxcurran, Robert, Michel Bouchard, and Sébastien Malette. *Songs Upon the Rivers: The Buried History of the French-Speaking Canadiens and Métis from the Great Lakes and the Mississippi Across to the Pacific*. Montréal: Baraka Books, 2016.

Coauthors Foxcurran, Bouchard, and Malette tackle the history of the French-speaking *Canadiens* and their *métis* communities in North America, from present-day Michigan to Washington. Their work is useful for descriptions of missionary activity, the fur trade, and the communities that French Canadians and Native Americans established in the region, as well as its analysis of the emergence and eventual suppression of a *Métis* national identity.

Hyde, Anne Farrar. *Empires, Nations, and Families: A History of the North American West, 1800-1860*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2011.

Anne Farrar Hyde uses family histories as a frame for the history of the American West, following the connections of various families, several of them mixed-race. It is valuable for specific biographical details about any of those families, as well as for its new lense through which to explore the history of settlement, business, community, and conflict in the West.

Jetté, Melinda Marie. *At the Hearth of the Crossed Races: A French-Indian Community in Nineteenth-Century Oregon, 1812-1859*. Corvallis: Oregon State University Press, 2015.

Author Jetté discusses the settlement of French-Canadian men and indigenous women at French Prairie in the Willamette Valley. She looks at the relationships between the *métis* families, indigenous tribes, and white (mostly American) settlers through the lense of social history. Jetté also provides some details about specific settlers and for examinations of changing religious and racial attitudes during the 19th century.

Rich, E.E. *The History of the Hudson's Bay Company, 1670-1870*. London: Hudson's Bay Record Society, 1958.

Rich's history of the Hudson's Bay Company is useful mostly for background on its founding, including descriptions of the structure of the company and the different jobs and positions employees could have.

Van Kirk, Sylvia. *Many Tender Ties: Women in Fur-Trade Society, 1670-1870*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1983.

In discussing the roles of women in fur-trading communities, Van Kirk sets out to examine the functions and positions of Indian, *métis*, and white women in the development of fur-trade society. She highlights the vital contributions of Indian women and their relationships with fur-traders, marriage practices, and racial prejudice in mixed-blood society.

Catholicism and Missionaries in the West

Boyd, Robert T. *People of the Dalles: the Indians of Wascopam Mission: A Historical Ethnography Based on the Papers of the Methodist Missionaries*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1996.

Anthropologist Robert T. Boyd wrote this book as a study of Chinookan and Sahaptin Indians and methodist missionaries at the Wascopam Mission in the Dalles. It has some

descriptions of religious rivalry among different missionaries (see chapter 10), as well two chapters (9 and 10) on the process of religious change before and after the arrival of missionaries. Note that while there are detailed descriptions of Indian religious and spiritual practices, they are specific to the tribes of the Dalles.

Brown, Roberta Stringham and Patricia O'Connell Killen, eds. *Selected Letters of A.M.A. Blanchet, Bishop of Walla Walla & Nesqually, 1846-1879*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2013.

The editors of this volume have compiled the letters of A.M.A. Blanchet, who was the first Catholic missionary to arrive in the Frenchtown area. The letters, along with informative footnotes by the editors, are particularly helpful in understanding the activities and thoughts of Catholic missionaries in Washington Territory.

Hanley, Philip M. *History of the Catholic Ladder*. Edited by Edward J. Kowrach. Fairfield, WA: Ye Galleon Press, 1993.

Author Philip M. Hanley provides a detailed discussion of the creation and usage of the Catholic Ladder, an evangelizing tool created by Catholic missionaries in the 19th century. It contains thorough descriptions of the various versions of the Catholic Ladder, as well as the Protestant Ladder off of which it was based. It is especially helpful in providing detailed labels for the ladders.

Munnick, Harriet Duncan. *Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest; Missions of St. Ann & St. Rose (1847-1888), Walla Walla and Frenchtown (1859-1872), and Frenchtown (1872-1888)*. Portland: Binford & Mort, 1989.

One of several volumes, Munnick's work to collect, translate, and transcribe Catholic church records for the Walla Walla area is an extremely valuable source. Documented in these records are baptisms, burials, and marriages; the records are from the missions of St. Anne (Umatilla), St. Rose (Frenchtown), and St. Patrick's (Walla Walla). Munnick also includes summaries of the mission activities, biographies of prominent families and priests, and photographs.

Pambrun, Sam. "Saint Rose of Frenchtown." *Oregon Catholic Historical Society* 28, no. 2 (Fall 2015): 4-11.
<http://oregoncatholichistoricalsociety.weebly.com/uploads/8/6/5/0/8650634/fall2015newsletter.pdf>.

Sam Pambrun has done thorough research on Frenchtown. His article discusses the St. Rose missions at Frenchtown, and is essential for understanding the chronology and details about the iterations of St. Rose. It also gives a brief history on the Catholic missionaries who came to the Pacific Northwest.

Prucha, Francis Paul. "Two Roads to Conversion: Protestant and Catholic Missionaries in the Pacific Northwest." *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 79, no. 4 (Oct. 1988): 130-137. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40490993>.

There were many differences in Catholic and Protestant missionary practices in the Pacific Northwest. The work by Francis Paul Prucha in this article aims to describe these differences, and is specifically useful in understanding the how conversion efforts differed, highlighting that while Catholic and Protestant missionaries had the same goals, they had contrasting approaches.

Pucci, Joseph J., ed. *The Yakima Valley Catholic Centennial; 1847-1947, a Commemoration of the First One Hundred Years of Catholicity in the Yakima Valley*. Moxee: Holy Rosary Church, 1947.

The Holy Rosary Church created this book as a compilation of articles and letters on the history of Catholicism in the Yakima Valley. One article in particular is useful-- it is near the start of the book, entitled "A Brief History of the Origins of the Oblate Mission Among the Yakima Indians." It covers the story of the various missionaries and nuns coming to the region and establishing Catholic missions, including ones near Frenchtown.

Whitehead, Margaret. "Christianity, a Matter of Choice: The Historic Role of Indian Catechists in Oregon Territory and British Columbia." *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 72, no.3 (July, 1981): 98-106. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40490699>.

Author Margaret Whitehead presents an argument that most Indians in the Pacific Northwest freely chose to convert to Christianity on the merits of the religion itself. She provides some details about Indians being hired by missionaries as teaching assistants and describes some of the methods missionaries used to teach about their faiths.

19th-Century Life

Bogdan, Janet. "Care or Cure? Childbirth Practices in Nineteenth Century America." *Feminist Studies* 4, no.2 (June, 1978): 92-99. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3177452>.

Understanding the medical techniques used during childbirth provides a window into frontier life. In her article, Janet Bogdan focuses on the childbirth techniques favored by interventionist doctors during the nineteenth century. She also includes some analysis of the shift from midwives to physicians during the childbirth process as the century went on, along with the shift away from nonintervention in the process.

Peavy, Linda S. and Ursula Smith. *Frontier Children*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1999.

Peavy and Smith focus on frontier life through the eyes of children who came West with their families. They discuss children at home, work, and play, along with descriptions of education and health, accompanied by a collection of images of frontier children.

Peavy, Linda S. and Ursula Smith. *Pioneer Women: The Lives of Women on the Frontier*. New York: Smithmark Publishers, 1996.

Coauthors Peavy and Smith seek to document frontier life through the eyes of women who came to settle the American West, also describing the Native American women who formed parts of western communities. They include sections on family life, health, community-building, and pioneer women “in action.”

West, Elliott. *Growing Up with the Country: Childhood on the Far Western Frontier*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1989.

Elliott West describes various aspect of childhood life on the frontier, aiming to explain how the children shaped and were shaped by the frontier experience. One chapter in particular is relevant-- chapter 9, “Suffer the Children,” describes the experience of childhood mortality on the frontier. For example, the chapter goes into detail about various diseases and their treatment, including diphtheria.

Reservations, Land, and Conflict

Boyd, Robert, ed. *Indians, Fire and the Land in the Pacific Northwest*. Corvallis: Oregon State University Press, 1999.

Edited by Robert Boyd, this collection of essays examines the land use practices of different Indian tribes in the Pacific Northwest. They focus on the use of fire for agricultural, hunting, aesthetic, and ecological purposes and how fire changed the environment.

Bunting, Robert. "The Environment and Settler Society in Western Oregon." *Pacific Historical Review* 64, no. 3 (1995): 413-432. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3641008>.

Bunting explores the impact of white settlers on the environment in Oregon, showing how the settlers' agricultural practices and values changed and often destroyed the environment.

Ficken, Robert E. "After the Treaties: Administering Pacific Northwest Indian Reservations." *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 106, no.3 (2005): 442-461. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20615560>.

Ficken covers the difficulties of administering Indian Reservations, highlighting corruption and mismanagement of the reservations, as well as the underlying assimilationist policies. His article is especially helpful in understanding the exploitative nature of the reservation/allotment system, in showing the attitudes of the United States government toward reservations, and in illustrating why the administrators often failed at their assimilationist goals.

Jackson, John C. *A Little War of Destiny: the First Regiment of Oregon Mounted Volunteers and the Yakima Indian War of 1855-56*. Fairfield: Ye Galleon Press, 1996.

Jackson's book provides an in-depth exploration of the Yakima Indian war of 1855-56, including the battles themselves as well as the conflict that sparked the war.

Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the Territories of Washington & Idaho, and the State of Oregon for the Year of 1870. Fairfield, WA: Ye Galleon Press, 1981.

After the creation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Secretary of Internal Affairs received annual reports by Indian agents who administered Indian reservations in the United States. The 1870 report is just one of many such reports. Of particular relevance are the sections on the Pacific Northwest. The Indian agents describe the condition of the Indians, remarking on the successes and failures of the reservations. This book is especially useful in understanding U.S. government views towards Native Americans and their goals for the reservations (for example, they repeatedly mention the desire to have Indians become farmers). It also includes censuses categorized by tribe.

Vaughan, Champ Clark. *A History of the United States General Land Office in Oregon*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 2014.

Champ Clark Vaughan covers the history of non-indigenous settlement of Oregon from the early 1800s to the mid-1900s. This is useful for understanding the details of land claim laws, along with brief descriptions of their impacts on the indigenous populations. He also includes a glossary of terms relating to land claims.