

JACQUES RAPHAEL FINLAY

In the Pacific Northwest before 1808

by Chalk Courchane



The Finlay family belonged to the Scottish clan of the Farquharson and it was authorized to wear this plaid.

Jacques Raphael Finlay was born in 1768 at Finlay Fort, which was located at or near Nipawin Rapids, about fifty miles below the forks of the North branch and the South branch of the Saskatchewan River. The fort was on the Saskatchewan's south bank. James Finlay, Sr., a Nor'wester, was his father, and his mother was a Chippewa Indian. The elder Finlay was in charge of Finlay Fort at the time and was one of the founders of the North West Company and was descended from the Finlay of Scotland. Today a plaque and monument erected by the Saskatchewan Department of Natural Resources marks to spot, it reads:

"FRANCOIS - FINLAY FORTS

The trading posts operated by the Montreal Pedlars Francois Le Blanc and James Finlay between 1768 and 1773 were among the first to be established within the boundaries of the Province of Saskatchewan.

Francois known to the Indians as Saswee, appears to have been associated with the Western trade for many years before establishing a post at the Nipawi or "Standing Place." This Saswee seems to have been Francois Jerome (aka Francois LeBlanc, and Franceway) :

“That Francois LeBlanc was handling business (for himself or for others) in a large way is shown by the value of his cargo,” muses Morton. LeBlanc as a name then disappeared from the records, but genealogists suggested that this was a surname used by the Jerome family. A number of the HBC traders sent inland encountered a man known to them as "Franceway" or by his Indian name, "Saswe," or a variant of it from 1767 to 1777. This figure has remained somewhat mysterious because no surname identified him, but circumstantial evidence suggests he was Francois Jerome who had been at Fort Bourbon in 1749. Figure 2, tracing Franceway's

movements between 1767 and 1774, suggests that Francois LeBlanc of Michilimackinac, Franceway, and Saswe were the same person.”

William Pink, another HBC trader inland from York, passed the Canadian houses in the spring of 1767, also trying to get information on the Canadian traders for his master, Ferdinand Jacobs. The following spring of 1768, on May 25, Pink passed the house where "Shash" had resided. He was told that Shash was in partnership with James Finley of Montreal, "the first British Pedlar of whom we have record on the Saskatchewan after the 'conquest.' He noted that the “chiefest persons name is Shash, they are all French men that are heare upon the account that the English did not now the way.” The following year, on May 16, 1769, Pink observed: “this day i came down to the plase whare the people of Quebeck ware staying as i went up heare i find the people belonging to this man ware not yet come up ... one English man with 12 Frenchmen with him, his name is James Finley from Montreal, he came up with three canoes.....

On May 25, 1768, the following spring, on the Saskatchewan River, William Pink passed the house where Shash had resided and then visited the new post where he was partners with James Finley from Montreal.

Indigenous Knowledge, Literacy and Research on Metissage and Metis Origins on the Saskatchewan River: The Case of the Jerome Family by Ruth Swan and Edward A. Jerome

James Finlay was a Montreal merchant of Scottish origin. He returned home in the fall of 1769 with a large quantity of prime furs. The example appears to have encouraged many others to follow in his footsteps."

Jocko Finlay

From "Jacques Raphael Finlay", Jacob A. Meyers, Washington Historical Quarterly, Vol. X; #3; June 1919, page 163:

"David Douglas, the botanist, preserves the true name of this primary pioneer of the Columbia River Basin; he being equal if not prior to Lewis and Clark; although probably preceded by Lagasse and LaBlanc of the North-West Company, in 1800-01. Douglas speaks of him as a Sauter. His name is variously spelt in the records as Jacco, Jaccot, Jacko, Jocko, Jacquot, but not often as Jacques, the correct form." According to W. D. Vincent in 1927 he was “the man who pioneered the pioneers.” The Northwest Company, W.D. Vincent, Washington State College, 1927.

In 1794 Jacques Finlay, or "Jocko" Finlay, was at Upper Bow Fort, a North West Company spot, on the south fork of the Saskatchewan River, "situated some where near Gardepui's Crossing, near Duck Lake", according to David Thompson's biographer, J. B. Tyrrel. This would also be near present day Banff, Alberta. About 1000 yards away from Upper Bow Fort was a Hudson's Bay Company post called South Branch House. In June of 1794 this place was attacked by Indians, plundered and eight of the nine inhabitants killed. The attackers were probably the Gros Ventres. Fall, Rapid, Gros Ventre, Minnetarees of Fort des Prairies and Big Bellies, all these names were applied to the same group of people.

John McDonald of Garth wrote in his *Reminiscences* in 1798, "They killed all the men, and pillaged all the goods in the Hudson's Bay fort, excepting one person, a clerk who hid himself in the cellar amongst some rubbish; and then attacked our fort. They were beaten off, and several killed. Our fort was in charge of one Jaccot Finlay, a man of courage." Some accounts put the number of attacking Indians at 150 warriors. "Jaccot Finlay and the Cree Beau Parlez, met the assailants with a crash of musketry. Then dashing out they rescued the Hudson's Bay man, launched their canoes by night and were glad to escape with their lives down the Bow to old Chesterfield House at Red Deer River." ("The Conquest of the Great Northwest", Agnes C. Laut, Moffat, Yard and Co., 1911; pp 50-51.)

South Branch House.

The North West Company had built a fur trading post here in 1786 to be in direct competition with the Hudson Bay Company across the river. Fur trading was a lucrative business as Natives brought in pelts from the beaver, otter, muskrat, marten, bear, fox, lynx, fisher, mink, wolf and buffalo. These pelts were taken by canoe down the South Saskatchewan River, into Lake Winnipeg and then to the home base of Grand Portage on Lake Superior. After the Gros Ventre Indians had burned the HBC fort, they forded the river and attacked the Nor'Westers. The battle raged on until the Gros Ventre war Chief, L'Homme de Callumet took a musket ball in the chest that stretched him lifeless on the ground. The NWC had won the battle but they no longer felt safe. They loaded trading goods, supplies and equipment into their canoes and left for the La Corne region.

http://www.villageofstlouis.com/index_files/POI.html.pdf

Another trader, Daniel William Harmon, had this to say of the battle, "After they (the Sioux) had taken out of the fort, all the property which they could conveniently carry away with them, they set fire to the fort, and proceeded to the establishment of the North West Company, which was two hundred rods distant from that of the Hudson's Bay people, with the intention of treating it in a similar manner. The fort gates had, providentially been shut previously to the approach of the Indians. There were in the fort three men and several women and children. They took their stations in the block-houses and bastions, and when the natives had come sufficiently near, fired upon them. The Indians instantly returned the fire, and the contest was continued until night approached." (Meyers, p.164) Fur trader, Peter Fidler, recorded that three men (Magnus Annel, Hugh Brough, and William Fea), one woman, and two children had been murdered in the attack at South Branch House. He also stated that two women were carried away as slaves, and that the men under Jocko had killed and wounded 14 of the attackers.

A first hand account of John Van Driel from the London Office of the Hudson's Bay Company, reel no. 263, "South Branch Massacre":

"South Branch House Sunday, June 22, 1794

Hugh Brough and The Flute our Indian hunter arrived from the Birch mountain with a supply of meat for the house. They remained here all the next day."

June 24

Early in the morning H. Brough & The Flute went out to fetch in the horses to return to the Birch mountain. Between 8 and 9 M[agnus] Annel went over to breakfast at the Canadians house. Between 9 and 10 Finlay, one of the Canadian clerks, with an Indian lad came to our house on

horseback and asked me if our people had found their horses and came home. I told him they were not come home & that I supposed the horses strayed & I immediately asked him if he had found his horses and he said No. And without giving me time to ask any more questions, he rode immediately away towards the Plains. In less than two minutes I heard a galloping of horses, went outside the stockades & saw a number of horsemen stopped at a short distance from the French Fort, and as many more about 300 yards distance from our house. I took them to be Stone Indians, so did Wm. Fea & M. Annels wife, a Stone Indian. I desired Fea to tell the women to save themselves, they would not leave the house and we immediately shut the gates.

I then went to the top of the house & to the best of my Judgement discerned near 100 Indians, most of them dismounted from their horses and filing off in different directions with intent to surround the House. A party of 12 or 14 horsemen passing between the two houses towards the water side. M. Annels wife persisted that they were Stone Indians until and time as they could be heard talking under the banks edge 10 or 13 steps from the stockade. Then she told us they were Fall (Blackfeet) Indians. One of which shew himself on the bank and advanced to the Gate and gave it a kick & made a short harangue which none of us understood.

We by this time had 12 or 14 guns loaded, all that were at hand. The number of Indians being so great, I dares not fire knowing it to be impossible for us to escape should we kill any of them and not be able to keep them off.

Directly after the harangue a party came up and set fire to the stockades then fired a shot.

I was at this time in a room by myself, Wm. Fea was in the center of the house in a cabin with the women, on hearing the shott I started out of my room and said to Fea, we must defend ourselves, he replied to me his arm was gone. I returned to my room (not well knowing what to do) and shut the door on myself.

The Indians rushed in through the burning stockades and in at the other end of the house making frightful noises, made me run out at the back window (on which there was some blood spilt) and jumped into a cellar near the bottom of the garden. There I found Fea, I got out again directly (he telling me at the same time not to leave him) and endeavoured to loosen some rotten stockades but in vain. I then looked up, thinking to scale them, then ran back to an open cellar where Mr. Walkers old house stood and 3 or 4 steps from where Fea was. I scratched away some of the dirt and rubbish and covered myself up with it. Fea withdrawing himself at the same time to the bottom of the Cellar he was in.

2 or 3 minutes after, I heard some Indians rummaging in the book room or house. Then they came to the cellar where Fea was, exclaiming among themselves, then shot him & as I afterwards found, strip'd and scalped him.

They then went off & another party came up on the opposite side of the garden, broke open the meat house in which was the Powder, and were 20 minutes or half an hour dividing it among themselves. They then returned towards the house & with the others assisted in Demolishing the inside of the same & etc.? The instant before the house was in flames, heard the crying of women and children, and whilst it was burning a heavy firing was kept up about the French

house which I imagined was the destruction of the Canadians, Indians, women & Children there.

A considerable time after the firing had ceased & the house reduced to ashes I ventured my head above the ground (it being now between 6 & 7 Pm and about 10 AM when I got in) and looked into the Cellar where Fea was, laying on his back, with his shirt off & scalped. Then I crawled into the meat house where I waited awhile in the garret, listening and looking about me. Finding the coast clear, I walked (stooping and watching) towards the water side picking up an Indian shield in the way, and embarked in the wooden Canoe. As I passed the canadian Fort I imagined the house was burnt down, only the stockades standing, with something red hanging on a Pole in the center.

I paddled and drifted with the current 1 1/2 miles from the house, I then put ashore, intending to return at midnight, not having anything to subsist on. About 1/4 of an hour had elapsed when I heard three more shotts. I concluded that it was the Fall Indians in pursuit of the canadians. Once more I embark'd, resolved to subsist on what I might find in the woods. Paddled that afternoon all night, & the next day about 3 pm got to the junction of the two branches [of the Saskatchewan River]. At which place I picked up for provisions a piece of green buffaloe hide and bearskin. At day set I hauled the canoe ashore and endeavour's to sleep.

The 26th at daybreak pushed off, paddling and drifting with the current. About 1 pm arrived at the Nippeway, which place, fortunately for me was a canadian trader and one man left to pass the summer with The Daychild, a southern Indian and hunter for them.

I remained until the 6th of July, chiefly through the persuasions of the Indian. And about noon Chastedelain, the canadian trader, arrived safe with all his people & Indians & nearly all his baggage etc. He then told me how he defended himself, that as soon as the Fall Indians etc. had finished with our house, they approached his, nearly in the same manner as they approached ours. Part of them under the shelter of the Bank & the other towards the woods, but they kept at a greater distance than at our house, circumstances not favoring the Indians so much. The canadians house being situated on a level spot, well stockaded, Bastions at the opposite corners with Ball proof log houses over each gateway, raised 10 or 12 feet from the ground and commanded by Louis Chastedelain 4 canadians & southern Indians. On the other hand our house was surrounded with stockades that the 1st gale of wind we expected would level with the ground and but myself and another man to defend it.

The Indians kept up a heavy fire under shelter of the bank and likewise from the wood side (which was briskly return'd from the Log house) a Black foot Indian bolder than the rest got above the bank animating the others to come on and fire the stockades, he was instantly shott from the log house by Finlay. This finish'd the Action, for they were seen to file off immediately crying and carrying off their dead and wounded, amounting to 5 kill'd and 9 wounded by Chastedelain's account.

He supposed likewise there were near 200 Indians, he visited the remains of our house where he found Annal's wife and two youngest children cut and hacked in a shocking manner.

The Flute Indian who was out looking for the horses in Company with Annal and Brough saw the Fall Indians [in] time enough to save himself, he pulled Annal by the arm telling him of his danger, but he, slighting what the Indian said to him was soon surrounded, shot, scalped & hacked. The above Indian was within a quarter of a mile of the houses at the time of action and saw most of what passed, but did not show himself till the next day & the day following he sett off with Chastedelain to the junction of the branches where they waited several days, from which place Finlay & 2 Canadians sett off on horseback for the upper houses, keeping the North side of the river.

NB James Gardy? arrived with the Indians from the Birch hill in a few hours after Chastedelain.

July 7, we sett off together in the Wooden Canoe for Cumberland house. About 9 miles below the Nippeway met 3 canoes, left from the Misisippi bound for the upper houses. July 9 got o Cumberland house.

In Con Van Driel
(John Cornelius Van Driel)"

In "1794 our fort was in charge of one Jacob Finlay, an Indian half brother of Mr. James Finlay, a man of courage. He had also an Indian chief of the Cree tribe called 'Beau Parleur,' in the fort, and a fine speaker he certainly was" From Columbia Journals - David Thompson - edited by Barbara Belyea, McGill - Queen's University Press, 1994, on page 241. (NA MG19 A17, 8v/Masson 2:21). L.R. Masson edited "Les Bourgeois de la Compagnie du Nord-Ouest. 2 vols. 1889-90 Reprint, New York; Antiquarian Press, 1960. From: Barbara Belyea, ed., Columbia Journals, p. 98-99: "Oct. 16 [1808] Sunday A fine clear day, but very hard frost in the Morng. At 9 1/2 am. the Canoes went off -- pray heaven send them safe to the place of meeting beyond the first Mountains. [They were enroute from Boggy Hall to Kootenae House]. Here at Jaco's Brook saw the Canoes & we must now part as the River Bank no longer allows from its rugged steepness any farther Road for Horses. Accordingly we turned off to the north & rounded the Mountain on the north side of the River, & put up at [sun] set at the Medicine Knowl, having passed the Beau Parler's Tent & the War Tent. Killed 4 Bulls." I looked up this character, Beau Parler, whose name I assume means 'Beautiful speaker?' I can find nothing in Bruce Watson's books, but he might have another name. Chalk (David Courchane) tells me this Beau Parler was with Jaco Finlay in 1794. Nancy Anderson.

Here is an interesting story supposedly about the same affair above, told by Chief Factor Archibald McKinlay under the date I believe 1884, as it is filed between two of his letters dated January 24, 1884 and February 2, 1884. He writes from retirement at his home in Lac La Hache. It is from the Kamloops Archives:

"The noble Saskatchewan when I first saw it was heard of only to a few – now since the Iron Horse has found its way into the regions of the North West there are few in either Great Britain or America ignorant of its locality. My purpose is to describe my first impressions both of the river and the country through which it meandered made on my way to New Caledonia now British Columbia. There were ten Sattaux, 3 Chief Traders and several clerks, of these some destined for the Columbia other different posts east of the Rockies. Our progress was slow against the strong current of that majestic River. The country was literally covered with animal life buffalo, deer, moose, bear, wolves, foxes – geese, ducks, swans and several species of grouse, in a word it conveyed to the imagination nothing sort of its being the veritable Hunters Paradise or what the Indians expect to find if well behaved beyond the grave, the "Happy Hunting grounds." Fish were also abundant and of the best quality consisting chiefly of trout, whitefish, sturgeon, pike &c. &c. A person living even in one of the thoroughfares of London could scarcely conceive the variety of sound that on a still summer night greeted the ear and disturbed the repose of the fatigued and sleepy voyageur. The myriads of buffalo absolutely

shook the ground and sounded like distant thunder, added to this was the roar of the bulls as they challenged each other to bloody combat, the howling of wolves, growling bears, the jabbering of Geese and ducks. All combined was calculated to render the scene to a stranger truly weird and unearthly. Indians were also in great numbers those days, some years after their numbers were much diminished by Small Pox. Many were the stories told by individuals of the party of adventurers by land and water, encounters with Indians, bear &c. &c. Two of which made very deep impression on my young mind.

The first related to a half-breed named Jacko who had received some education in Canada and who, bearing an unblemished character, was raised from the ranks of labourer to that of Post Master and after the coalition of the N.W. with the Hudsons Bay he occupied the same position. In 18- he was placed in charge of Fort Pitt, a post situated in that part of the country where the Blackfeet, Crees and other tribes frequently met in battle array to settle old feuds. On the occasion I am about to relate a very large band of Blackfeet appeared, and as they were unaccompanied by women and had no camp equipage were recognized as a War Party. (The Blackfeet like Ismaelites were a bloodthirsty race at war with everyone, both white and black). Jacko's keen eye discovered their nationality and guessed the object of their visit for that tribe never traded and seldom visited the Post though often known to be sulking in the neighbourhood, on marauding expeditions. Jacko had only six men besides himself so after making up his mind as their identity and what they were likely to require he shut the gates of his little stockade fortification, loaded all the guns he possessed and put himself and men in position to sell their lives as dearly as possible. He hoisted the Union Jack and also a white flag to indicate his desire for peace and showed by some signal that he wished the Chief to come within speaking distance. This was complied with but the whole tribe of warriors kept close to their master. The Chief when he approached near enough to be heard thus addressed the astonished Jacko - "I and my young men are in need of Blankets, Guns and Ammunition. We have not come to trade but to take your scalp for you give ammunition, guns and Blankets to our enemies (the Crees) who lately killed a very great number of our bravest and best warriors. Open your gates and we will spare you & your comrades, refuse and we will camp here till you have neither food or water and will scalp you and give your starved carcasses to the Wolves and Vultures. After this harangue Jacko lowered the flag of truce, told the Chief that he knew him to be the head of a herd of thieving murderous boasting cowardly race. That day he said he had only six men and he estimated that they had over five hundred Warriors. But he had better send for every one in his tribe and his women also all combined could not frighten him and his six men. On Tere que Brule retiring he ordered his warriors to prepare for the fray, promising them a grand booty. Jacko also set to work for defence. He had fifty or sixty guns for trade in his store all of which he caused to be loaded and placed in the bastions, placed the women there also to reload as fast as their husbands discharged. The Indians made a furious charge the white however received them with coolness and vigor discharging firearms so fast that they were perfectly dumbfounded and could not conceive how six men could keep up such a continuous firing, so they concluded after losing many of their braves they could not take the place by storm, but they were determined not to abandon the tempting chance of securing such a booty as the capture of the Post offered. So they set themselves down determinedly to reduce its inmates by starvation and placing themselves so as to prevent egress even for water they kept up the siege for six weeks. Jacko fortunately had put up ice during the winter, this while it lasted served for water. However his stock of provisions by this time was reduced in spite of the utmost economy to one quarter of

Buffaloe meat and a lump or two of ice. He was in dispare, death and torture worse than death stared him and his brave comrades in the face. In this dilemma a happy idea though a very dangerous one flashed into his brain so without even imparting his plan to any of his men he carried the remaining beef and ice on the gallery of his Fort then hoisted a signal to intimate that we wished an interview with the Chief – this was granted. Jacko opened the parley by asking what terms would be granted himself and comrades provided they gave the post and its rich booty up to the Indians. “Terms” replied the insolent savage “You killed many of my best warriors. I will tie you to a stake put out your eyes cut you piece by piece till you die then give your carcasses to the wolves, vultures &c. for a feast.” On listening to the above brag Jacko cooly took the last morcel of food he possessed threw over the stockade then the lumps of ice. “Here give this to your dogs tomorrow I will send more to feed the bears, Vultures and Wolves for they will indeed be hungry before they will get me or my men to regale them as you propose. On hearing this the Chief retired uttering indistinct threats or growls. As might be expected Jacko and his wretched companions passed a gloomy night not one mouthful of anything either to eat or drink, torture of the most merciless description awaiting them, they passed a sleepless night, Jacko alone somewhat cheerful. At length the sun began to appear in the eastern horizon this even to them was better than the gloomy darkness of the night altho it warned them that time was by every tick of the clock bringing them to their cruel and inevitable doom as the day brightened. They assended the gallery peeped over the stockades to try and ascertain what their merciless enemy was about. To their inexpressible delight they could not see a vestage of the Blackfeet camp. They rubbed their eyes peered again and again not even a dog to be seen. The Indians disparing of being able to reduce the white man by starvation took advantage of the darkness and decamped. Thus one of the most bold and desperate expedients proved a perfect success and extravagant joy succeeded gloom and terror.” (Note: Fort Pitt was not built until 1830. Archibald McKinlay served in New Caledonia in 1836-1838, so he might have heard the above story sometime while coming West in 1836.)

In 1796 Jocko was put in charge of Fort des Prairies, located where present day Edmonton, Alberta now stands. "In Roderic Mckenzie's list of Proprietors, Clerks, etc., Jocko is listed as Jacques Raphael, at 1200 livres (a livres was then worth 18-1/2 cents) and among the highest paid employees of the North West Company. This is the older company of 1799. In the new company's list of 1804, he is listed as Jacques Raphael and commissioned clerk. Both of these are at Fort des Prairies, which was the Rocky Mountain depot of the company." (Meyers, p.164) While at Fort des Prairies he built and managed several posts east of the Rockies.

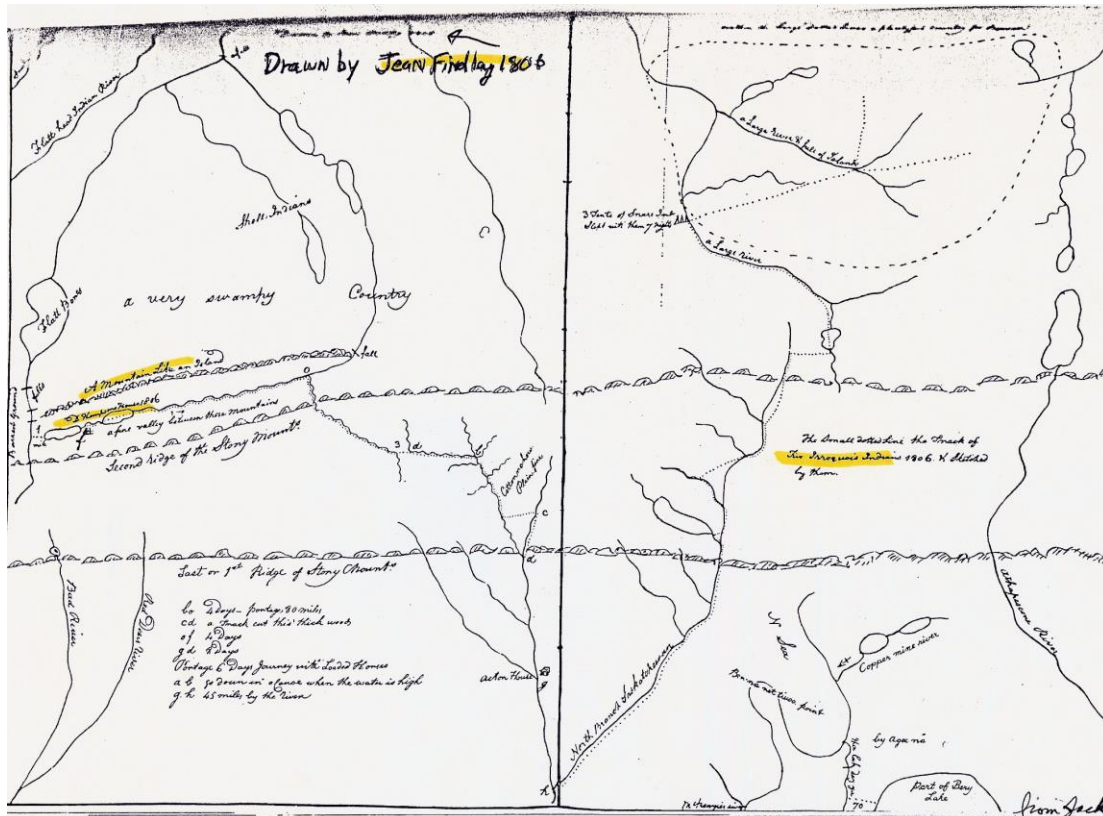
In this journal, McLeod is in charge of NWC Fort Alexander, on the upper waters of the Assiniboine River.

"Thurs. 4th [1800] Still cloudy and mild, it everyday threatens to snow but immediately the clouds disperse & remains clear for an hour & gets overcast again. Two men arriv'd from Jacquo Finlay's with a letter for me & an inventory of what goods remained there in the fall & what he has still remaining, the plan he & I concerted last fall was partly frustrated in the execution by the death of the principal Indian there, viz. the Medale who was suffocated by the quantity of rum he drank & which prevented the Indians from going to winter to where they at first intended, & from making anything of a fall hunt. Jacquo asks for no less a matter than 3 kegs H.W. & several other articles."

Note: Jacquo Finlay was a half-brother of James Finlay. He had charge of Fort des Prairies in

1796, and is supposed to have been with David Thompson on the Saskatchewan in 1800. Thompson came down from the Rocky Mountain House to the mouth of the Saskatchewan in the spring of the year, and it is possible that Finlay was with him, and that he left Thompson and took a post for the Northwest Company during the summer. In later years Finlay was active in the exploration of the Rocky Mountain region. The Diary of A.N. McLeod, "Five Fur Traders in the West," ed. by Charles Gates, Minnesota Hist. Archives, 1965 (Nancy Anderson 2011)

In 1806, John McDonald of Garth sent Jocko from Rocky Mountain House up the Saskatchewan to find a way over the Rockies. He was instructed to build an outpost and to construct canoes and paddles for David Thompson to use when that man came up to that point the next year. Jocko's outpost was on the Kootenay Plain, near the headwaters of the Saskatchewan River. There he wintered in 1806-07, and perhaps even earlier.



This map was drawn by "Jean" Finlay in 1796 but most people considered it was actually drawn by Jacques R. Finlay. The yellow mark on the left is "a fine valley between this mountains," in the valley is "Thompson's House." The river at upper left is marked "Flat Head Indian River." Between that river and Thompson's House is the "Flat Bows."

Hudson Bay House 30 May 1795
Standard of Trade

	Qty	Pr		Qty	Pr
Arrowclarks no	12	1	Boxes Japand no	1	1/2
Anal blades ---	24	1	do B. Glap	1	1
Blades sword com	1	1	Buckles --- pr	1	1/2
do best	1	2	Brandy 1/2 Gal	1	4
Brigs of silver 40	1	1	Buttons Coct - 1/2 pr	1	1
Bayonets of sorts no	2	1	waistcoat	1	1
Beads china - 4	1	4	Sleeve --- pr	12	1
do barleycorn	1	4	Breeches brown ✓	1	2
do fine ---	1	2	blue ✓	1	2
common ---	3/4	1	orderoy ✓	1	4
Bells hawk - no	24	1	Knives plated no	6	1
horse ---	12	1	Boots --- pr	1	6
Basins pewter 32 1/2	1	2	Caps leather ✓ no	1	1
2 1/2	1	1/2	Coats great blue ✓	1	5
1. 2 1/2 pint	1	1	Callico printed 40	1	1
1/2 pt.	1	1/2	Chisvels Ice --- 20	2	1
Blankets 1	1	1	Crookes stone ---	6	1
1 1/2	1	1 1/2	heated 1/2	2	1
2	1	2	Cannisters 2 1/2, 4	1	1
2 1/2	1	2 1/2	1 lb	1	1/2
3	1	3	Cloth --- 40	1	2
3 1/2	1	4	Amora 1/2 lb	1	3
4	1	6	Collars 1/2 & white no	2	1
large striped	1	6	Combs of sorts ---	4	1
Bands Arm plated no	1	1	Calclaps ---	1	2
wrist do ---	2	1	Drawers of sorts ✓ pr	1	1
Boxes Egg } wood no	12	1			
Barrel }					

(Scott Cameron, Sr. sent this via Facebook) HBC - 123b-1-Archives-of-MB-MG1-03-file-1-p28

“Picking up the tale in the fall of 1806 along the headwaters of the North Saskatchewan River with Jack Nisbet’s *The Mapmaker’s Eye: David Thompson on the Columbia Plateau*,

Thompson arrived at Rocky Mountain House in late October to find his brother-in-law, John McDonald of Garth, whitewashing the buildings and waiting for word from clerks Nicholas Montour and Jaco Finlay who had led an advance party to improve a Kootenai trail across the divide. Montour soon returned to report that Finlay was building canoes across the mountains, and that they had already visited five lodges of Kootenais, “whom on hearing that white People were to come with goods to the West Side of the Mountains, set off to work beavers and have not been heard of since.”

Montour had brought a young Kootenai with him, and Thompson outfitted the lad with a warm blanket, a capote (wool coat), shoes, and a pair of “mutton leggings” for the trip back. JN/35-6”

(Washington Territory’s Tale of a Few Frenchtowns: and resettlement of the French-Breeds onto nearby reservations, Robert Foxcurran, 2010)

From Journal #18, Journal of the Rocky Mountain House Occurrences, 1806-7, Reel 4426:

"26th -- ...addressed 3 men viz. Jos. Daniel, Dumond & Foreen to prepare for a trip to the mountains in search of Jacco Finlay; who went off in summer with Montour & two men, Bercier & Boulard, to make a road in the passage & to look for the Coutenaiss. Jacco was expected here in the fall or summer...." From Nancy Anderson.

This post was abandoned in 1807, when Thompson finally advanced westward. The Piegan Blackfeet had blocked Thompson's way temporarily. But he managed to slip by them when they became preoccupied with news to the south, concerning the bloody encounter between the Lewis and Clark Expedition and their Blackfeet kinsmen. Moving west, Thompson built Kootenae House at the headwaters of the Columbia River.

"Kootanae House, also spelled Kootenae House, was a North West Company fur trading post built by Jaco Finlay under the direction of David Thompson near present-day Invermere, British Columbia in 1807." http://www.enotes.com/topic/Kootanae_House

Thompson described Kootenae House as "log houses", which were "strongly stockaded" on three sides, "the other side resting on the steep bank of the river...The stockades were all ball proof, as well as the logs of the houses." Kootenae House was known to the North West Company officers east of the mountains as "Old Fort Kootenae" to distinguish it from other posts established on the on the Kootenay River, south of the 49th parallel of latitude, one near Bonner's Ferry, Idaho, and a later one opposite Jennings, Montana. The post was about one mile northwest of Athalmer, where the Columbia River leaves Lake Windemere flowing north and one fourth mile north of Toby Creek. ("David Thompson's Narrative", edited by J.B. Tyrrell, Greenwood Press, reprint 1968, footnote, page 375)

From The Fur Trade in the Columbia River Basin Prior to 1811- T. C. Elliot, WHQ, Vol. IV, No. 1 - Jan. 1915, p5:

"Tobey Creek, following eastward from the glaciers of Mt. Nelson of the Selkirk Range, enters the Columbia River from the west about one mile below the outlet of Lake Windermere in the political division of British Columbia known as the East Kootenay District. Upon an open gravelly point over looking Tobey Creek and "a long half mile" (quoting from David Thompson's original survey notes) from the Columbia stood the stockade and buildings marking the beginning of commerce in the interior of "Old Oregon"....."Kootenae House, was the name given to this trading post..... Here David Thompson spent the fall, winter and spring of 1807-08 with Finan McDonald & six servants...He found bands of wild horses roaming over the hills and caught some of them...."

From Journal #18, Journal of the Rocky Mountain House Occurrences, 1806-, 7, Reel 4426:

Nov. 19, 1806: "Abt. 3 PM, Mr. Quesnel, Jaco Finlay, Jos. Daniel, Bercier & Boulard arrived from the mountains." (Jack Nisbet had said the same sometime ago but I had no source.) Nancy Anderson

Jocko found a way over the Rockies with the help of the Kootenai Indians, through a pass later named Howse Pass, after the Hudson's Bay Company trader, Joseph Howse, who had used it a

year or so later. "Jaco was sent ahead over Howse Pass and crossed the Rockies where he located a stream flowing west, which the Indians informed him was a tributary of the Columbia River. So he blazed the trees and returned to Rocky Mountain House and the waiting party of six men who immediately moved westward under the direction of Thompson and (Finan) McDonald. Thompson was accompanied by his wife on this trip. The Blaeberry River, which was the stream found by Jaco, flows into the Columbia just where it takes a great bend northward near the C.P.R. stations of Moberly and Golden, about 180 miles north of Cranbrook", British Columbia. ("Spokane Daily Chronicle" news article, Spokane, Washington)

James McMillan letters (two of them) written from Alexandria, Scotland, in 1843, to Governor George Simpson:

Question by Simpson: "When did Jaco Finlay first cross" Answer from McMillan: I am aware that Jaco wintered on the west side I believe previous to Mr. D. Thompson but as that was before my time I cannot give a date. He afterwards went there as a freeman several years after the country was settled but was re-engaged." From Nancy Anderson

"Finally, on June 25," David Thompson and his party, "were able to struggle with horses across the pass to Jaco's trail. About forty miles long, it proved so steep and narrow they could scarcely negotiate it. Furiously Thompson wrote 'It is the opinion of every Man with me, as well as mine that Jaco Finlay ought to lose at least half of his wages for having so much neglected the Duty for which he was so expressly engaged at 150 pounds pr. year, besides a Piece of Tobacco & sugar, & a Clerk's Equipment.' On top of that they discovered that, because Jaco had not properly sheltered the canoes he had built, the whole job had to be done over." ("Winner Take All", David Lavender, McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1977, p. 296) "They had found that mice and porcupines had feasted on Finlay's birchbark canoe and Mrs. Thompson helped the men sew a new covering for the craft that was to carry them down to the Blaeberry junction with the Columbia." ("The Original Northwest David Thompson and the Native Tribes of North America", Rowland Bond, Spokane House Enterprises, Nine Mile Falls, Washington, 1970-71, p.61)

From David Thompson's Journals (Jack Nisbet): "Mar 24, 1807 Jaco arrived with his woman and two children from the mountains."

"David Thompson kept the journal at Rocky Mountain House that fall, and his entries include inventory, equipment and tobacco sent over the mountains to Jaco and some men who are apparently helping him widen an established Kootenai trail across the Divide. On Nov. 19, Jaco arrived at Rocky Mountain House; four days later, after a heavy snowstorm, he "went off for the Mountains" again. Through the dead of winter Jaco's name did not appear in the journal, but at the end of February, 1807, on a day when Thompson recorded a temperature of -30 degrees Fahrenheit, he also noted that he had sent off "sugar, flour & spirits for Jaco." At mid-morning on March 25, "Jaco arrived with his woman + two children from the mountain. The weather began to break, and for the next month, despite flurries of snow, Jaco Finlay and various members of his family moved back and forth between the trading post and the trail." Thompson also more or less said that Jocko could not shoot straight. (Although in 1794 he made a good shot that killed one of the attacking Indians at Upper Bow Fort.) From *The Inlander Pacific Northwest*, v4, no10, week of Dec. 18, 1996, *Jaco's Tribe*, Jack Nisbet, p 10

How Jocko reacted when he heard from David Thompson about his work on the trail and the canoes isn't known. But not long after he is known to have become a free trapper and went on his own way. A cut in pay could have caused a rift between him and the North West Company. This may be the reason he turned to the Hudson's Bay Company trader, Joseph Howse, to be outfitted during the following seasons of 1808-09 and 1809-10. It does seem that Jocko dealt with both Thompson and Howse in 1809, as Thompson's Journal shows. And he seems to have camped with his family in the area. "This is the year (1810 Finlay was on Jocko or Jacques Creek, in the Flathead Reservation, Montana, which took his name." Among places named after Jocko on this reservation are Jocko River, Jocko Valley, Jocko Prairie, and Jocko Mountain Range. It was the ruins of his house that Alexander Ross saw in 1823-4. This cabin was located near the present day Ray Rugg place, one mile south of Ravalli, Montana.

"There is no reason to believe that Joseph Howse's party of the Hudson's Bay Company came further south than the north end of Flathead Lake, unless Finlay was engaged by Howse for the season of 1809-10. Howse first came across the pass in 1809 on a scouting trip, and with a strong party for trading in the Fall of 1810." (Meyers, page 164)

"In 1807 Kootenay trading parties of band level size traveled to Rocky Mountain House..... On April 20th twelve men and three women were reported near by a man from the horse herding tent, whereupon Thompson sent Jaco Finlay, Finan McDonald and Prince to meet them with tobacco, causing three of the men and four youths to arrive at Rocky Mountain House.....The arrivals were each given two pints of rum....." From "Blackfeet and Palefaces" The Pikani and Rocky Mountain House, Eugene Y. Arima, The Golden Dog Press, Ottawa, Canada, 1995, page 45.

From Columbia Journal - David Thompson - edited by Barbara Belyea, McGill - Queen's University Press, 1994, pp36:

Thompson writes on May 16, 1807, "came to Jaco's Brook.." In the notes on page 210..."Shunda CreekCoues (650) maintained that "Jaco's Brook" was named after Jaco Cardinal.

In John C. Jackson's book "By Honor and Right – How One Man Defined the Destiny of a Nation," Prometheus Books, 2010, pages 216-217, he mentions that Jocko wintered with the Piikani (Blackfeet) in 1807/1808. "Either on orders from the Fort Augustus proprietor, James Hughes, or on his own initiative, Jaco took his family south along the east side of the mountains to the Bow River, where they wintered with the Piikani who were scattered in the friendly parks along the Spitchee (Highwood) River west of present Calgary." That June David Thompson bought a pack of beaver from Jocko which was all that amounted to Jocko's winter work.

Belyea: pages 97-98: "Octr 16 [1808] Saturday A fine clear day, but very hard frost in the Mornng. At 9 1/2 Am the Canoes went off - pray Heaven send them safe to the place of meeting beyond the first Mountains. Here at Jaco's Brook saw the Canoes & we must now part as the River Bank no longer allows from its rugged steepness any farther Road for Horses. Accordingly we turned off to the north & rounded the Mountain on the north side of the River, & put up at [sun] set at the Medicine Knowl, having passed the Beau Parler's tent & the War Tent. Killed 4 Bulls." This Beau Parler was with Jaco in 1794.

“David Thompson arrived back at Kootanae House in the fall of 1808. On a cold, snowy afternoon he was hanging the door at the post’s warehouse when Jaco rode in, accompanied by his family and five Iroquois trappers (Joseph, Pierre, Ignace, Martin and Jacques, they had been sent here by James Hughes of Fort Augustus and had joined Jocko). They camped nearby, and when Thompson’s junior agent (James McMillan) went to them with some rum the entire group “drank and fought the whole night.” Next evening the same thing happened; the day after that Jaco left part of his family with Thompson at the trade house while the rest of his party moved south to set up their winter trap lines.” *Jaco’s Tribe*, p11 Jocko had guided the five Iroquois from eastern Canada over the Continental Divide to trap in the Columbia District.

From Sam John's “The Pioneers”, Vol.1, page 48: “Jocko River Was Named For Jacques Raphael Finlay, One Of The Earliest Fur Traders To Cross The Mountains”--Gladys Mayo-- “Travelers on highway 3, west of Missoula find that for a considerable distance west of the town of Arlee their route follows the course of the Jocko River, a tributary of the Clark Fork. Not many who pass that way know that this river was named in honor of one of the first traders to pass through this area. His name was Jacques Raphael Finlay, and some reputable historians are of the opinion that he was in western Montana as early as 1800, four years before Lewis and Clark passed this way.”

From David Thompson's 1809 Journal, (Book 23; microfilm transcripts by Jack Nisbet. Jocko and his family are camped in the north and Thompson writes: (Jack Nisbet writes concerning this year of the journals--“..I sent you this year because it starts with Jaco showing everybody up with his wild-horse catching prowess, goes on to his adoption of Lussier's children, and finishes with the Piegans robbing perhaps some of those same horses from Jaco and his family.” Jack also said that the events of 1809 were played out between Kootenae Plains and Tobacco Plains and Jocko's camp was usually between Blaeberry and Kootenae House.)

12 Jan.1809 “Jaco decamped to the northd..”On the 19th Thompson sent out some of his men and the Kootenais as horse catchers, after wild horses called “marrons”--it was “a snowy morning” and none were caught.

On the 25th Jocko came into camp for a gun “which he got & went away- he has now taken 10 marrons” and on the 28th Thompson wrote, “Jaco has now 18 taken.” And then Jocko must have been away for a week or so as Thompson writes on Feb. 19, 1809 -- “Jaco & his two Seauteaux paid us a visit.” “Marrons” is a French term for something once tame gone wild. “Thompson who up to this point had only killed an occasional wild horse as food, lit out after a herd of marrons himself, chasing them all over the countryside on three of his own best horses. After capturing one of the mustangs, he wrote an enthusiastic description of the technique involved in breaking such a spirited animal to a bridle.” *Jaco’s Tribe*, p11



This mural is at Wells Hydroelectric Dam in central Washington State, and shows David Thompson and his crew. Taken by Chalk Courchane (This mural has since been donated to the new museum in Pateros, Washington 2011)

With David Thompson was a voyageur named Lussier (probably Francois Lussier, although both Joseph and Basile Lussier were in that area at that time), whose wife became ill or injured and eventually died. Thompson writes on April 24, 1809, "... passed a sad night with Lussier's wife who is dying. "..... Then on the 24th., Tues. A fine day. At 2 AM it pleased Heaven that Lussier's wife should depart this Life--she left 4 small Children—the youngest only 6 months old, which much distresses me. At 1 PM the ? men returned & we buried the poor woman & take the best care we can of her children." Her husband, Lussier was at her side. He took the children downstream to Jocko's camp and entrusted them to Mrs. Finlay. There were several other Lussiers, including Etienne, Joseph, and Francois, in the fur trade and they were with Thompson and Alexander Henry at the same time.

David Thompson's usual crew that included Finan McDonald, James McMillan, and Jocko Finlay, all were clerks, and: Pierre Bercier, Augustin Boisverd, Joseph Cotte, Baptiste D'Eau, Baptiste LeTendre, Francois Lussier (Lucier), Rene Vallade, Antoine Valle, and Augustin Valle, and possibly Joseph Beaulieu.

Three days later Thompson and his party broke camp and later camped at "the Plains of Horses" - - here before they departed Thompson took the time to plant a turnip garden. (Was this a reference to Plains, Montana?) Thompson and his crew went over the mountains and down to the Saskatchewan to Fort Augustus.

On May 1, 1809- he wrote "...in the evening came to Jaco & family with whom we left the children of Lussier's deceased woman--we camped for the night..." As Thompson mentions Lussier later in his journals he must have looked in on the children from time to time. One wonders what became of them ---did they become known later as Finley's? I am sure that Thompson does not say that Jocko raised them as his own. No one knows how large Jocko's family was at this time. So these children could have been the same age as some of his own children. Some later genealogist's would make the Lussier children into some of the Finley boys such as Patrick or Francois. They have no proof of this. Jocko may have taken the children down from the mountains and left them with relatives on the prairies. Of course they could have been raised by the Finlays too.

"Basile Lucier -- "may have been with David Thompson when Thompson went over the Rockies in 1807 to establish Kootenay House. If so, he and the others suffered from a lack of food that summer. However, the Lussier of the Thompson Journals may also be Francois or Joseph, both found at fort des Prairies in 1804. Bazile is first on record as having joined the NWC on January 9, 1808, from Yamaska for three years as a wintering middleman in the Northwest and may have travelled with Thompson to the Columbia in May of that year. If that was him, he summered in 1808 at Kootenay House and wintered in the Rocky Mountains in 1808-1809. He appears to have been with Thompson in 1808-1809 when, on April 25, 1809, his wife died, leaving four children. The six foot three inch "Muscular frame and buffalo neck" Lucier, having been re-engaged at Montreal in 1813, was at Fort George [Astoria] at the end of that year. Because of his relatively enormous size, he was considered a bit of a bully but, when challenged to a fight by Finan McDonald, was beaten so badly that he couldn't work for several weeks. Nevertheless, the valued steersman worked in the Columbia at interior posts until at least 1816 when he may have returned to Montreal. By 1838, Bazile Lucier had died." This same Hawaii descendant of St. Martin is also related to the Lussier/Lucier children that Jaco adopted, and has asked if you can help with questions about them. I have told her that you might send information through me for her, but if you do want to talk to her directly, her name is Jan, she lives in Hawaii, and her email address is (gotta look it up) citron@hawaii.rr.com – the printing is so small I can hardly read it so if it doesn't work, get back to me and I will correct. she is long distance cousin to Judy Bridges who is on the Descendants of Fort Nisqually Employees page, but apparently does not do Facebook. Thanks, Nancy 10/3/201 Nancy Anderson



JEAN BAPTISTE LUCIER,
DIT GARDIPE

A portrait believed to be of Lucier, from
a sketch possibly by staff artist Agate of
the Wilkes Expedition of 1841.

Courtesy of Mrs. Harriet D. Munnick of
West Linn, Oregon.

The next day, "...caught 5 small mullet & had a shoulder of a Red Deer (Elk) from Jaco, but the animal had been run so much by the Dogs that the meat is not eatable."

May 20, 1809 "Sat. - -A fine mornng, but squally afternoon. At 7 1/2 AM set off & at 11 AM arrived at Jaco's where we put up--the large Canoes will still take 3 days of fine weather to finish

there. Rainy evening." The weather was cold. On May 22th, "A fine day on the whole, but a cold wind & squally -- Jaco timbered up a canoe & gummed it--" Next day "A fine day but as usual water froze in the night--Jaco got the other Canoe down & gummed -- they are both badly made in the Bottom & not likely to last any time without being quickly repaired."

Four days later Thompson wrote."Early set off for meat & each man returned with a load of Horse meat or Chev (deer) - The Horse meat has a fine appearance & is preferred by all of them to the poor chev. At 1 PM set off & went down to the Horse Plains--where we set ashore 2 Iroquois & Bercier to look for the Herd of Mares--which they found & took down to Jaco's Campment...."

On May 27th, "...passed Jaco's campment at 7 3/4 AM put ashore & arranged for their Furs. Jaco paid 1/2 Beavers & traded 6 do in Rum--Pembook 22 paid & 1 Bear in Rum--? 12 skins paid---" (This Pembook may be the same person as Pembuck brother to Forsin- the known brother-in-law of Jocko. D. Thompson had made note of him on May 8th, "Pembook & his wife passed, they gave me 1 Beaver 2 Sies a Brisket with a little dried meat--" and on May 30th "1 pint (Rum) to Pembook on credit." Pembook stayed and hunted for Thompson after the May 27th meeting).

July 30, 1809-"Sunday. A Cloud mornng, but fair day 'till 2 PM then heavy thunder & rain. At 5 1/2 AM set off & held on 'till 2 PM when we camped with bad weather above a bad rapid, a Point above the Brook of Jaco."

Aug.9th,-" Early today met the young Seauteaux who informed us that Jaco & all the Family had been robbed of all their Horses & the major part of their property by a Band of Peagans 14 days ago & that Jaco & his Family was on their way hereto---".

At Dog Campment on August 11, 1809 -"..at 5 3/4 PM where we put up --stopped about 40' with Jaco when we met him & his family-whom we accommodated with Horses &C they returned with us...." Three days later he "went off" with the Iroquois---

On the 17th--".....to the old Hoard--at the Hoard breakfasted with Jaco- 1 3/4 H--Bellaire came up to us--7 1/4 PM put up at the Hawks Nest--Jaco came up to us having speared 10 Salmon--2 of them tolerable the others meagre.."

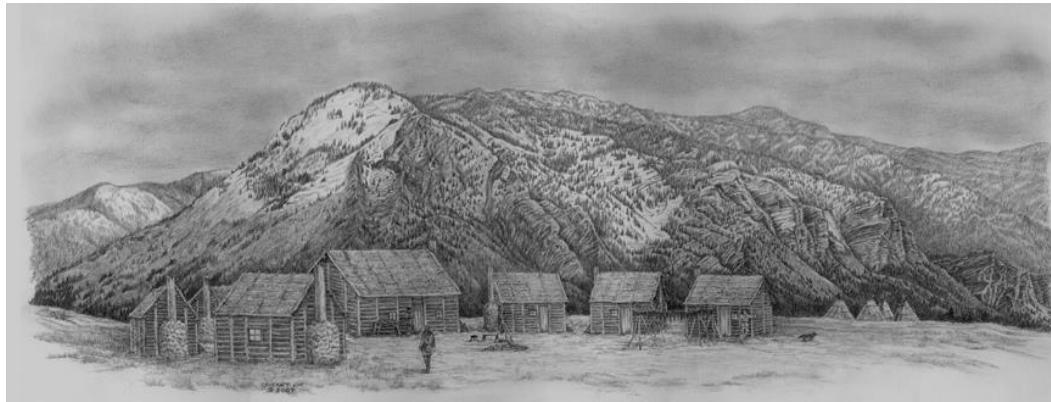
Aug.19, 1809 "Jaco killed a good salmon in the Lake...Jaco killed another good salmon...at 7 1/4 PM we camped at the weir all in company--a fine day."

Aug.20, 1809 "A cloudy mornng & as usual very smoky----Jaco killed a good doe Red Deer..(elk)."

Aug.21, 1809--"We also wait for the Horsemen with Jaco's things--who are not yet arrived. In the evening abt 8 PM all the men & Horses arrived with Jaco's baggage that he left in a Hoard--we crossed over the men & they camped with us. A rainy night."

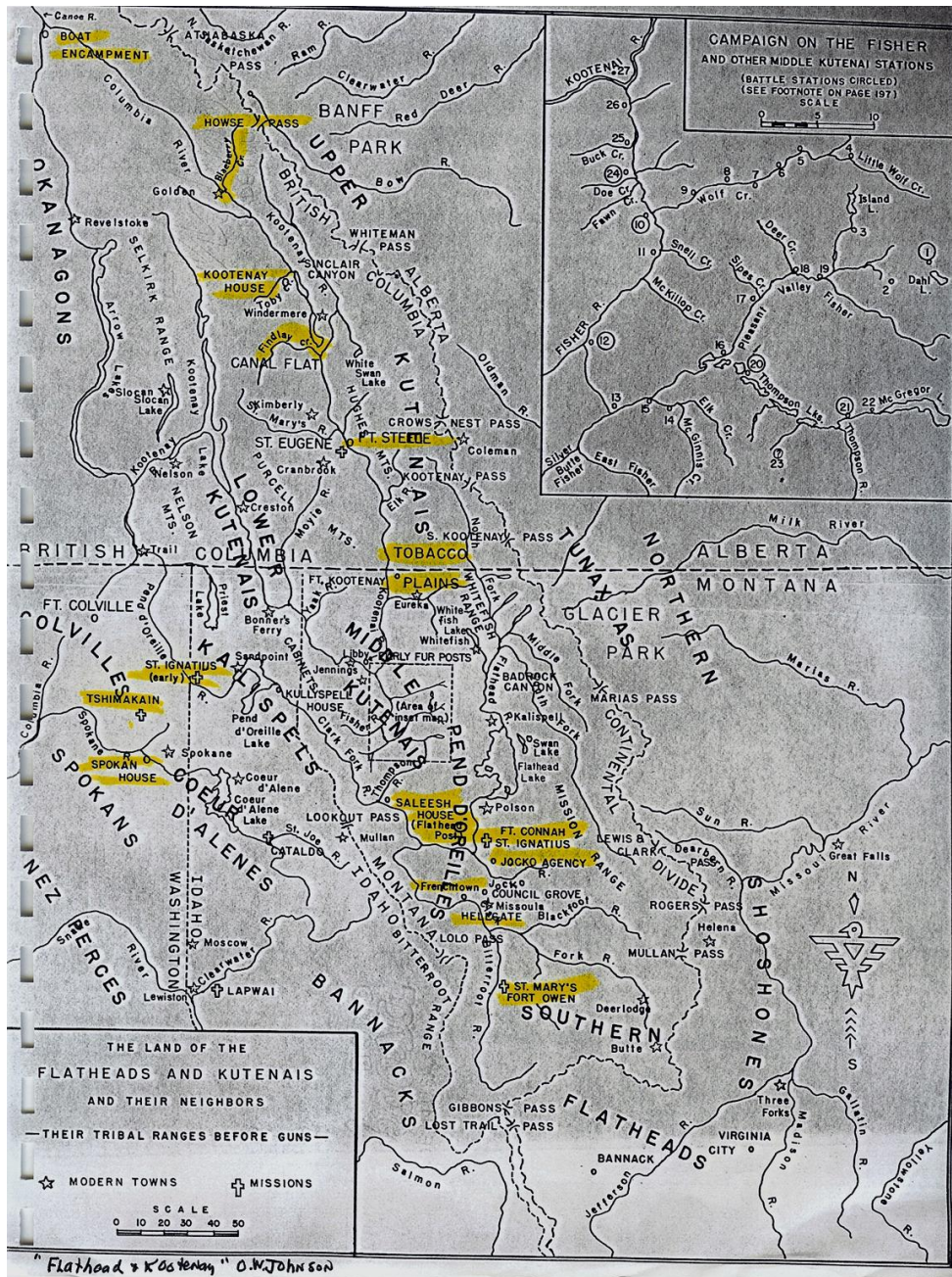
On the 28th, "... we embarked & ran down to the place a little above the large Brook on the right below - McDonald's Rivulet & camped at 6 1/4 PM - havg in this Time waited near 2 1/2 Hours for Jaco & Family..."

"In September 1809, Thompson established a trading post on the Clark Fork River, which he may have learned about from the first published account of the Lewis and Clark expedition, which was the journal of expedition member Patrick Gass. His journal, published in Philadelphia in 1807, described the Clark Fork River and the lake it flows into Lake Pend Oreille. This post, which Thompson named Kullyspel House, was located near the mouth of the river at a place later named Shepherders Point on the north shore of the lake, near Memaloose Island. At Kullyspel House, the men supplemented their diet with trout. In November, Thompson established a second post on the Clark Fork, this one called Saleesh House. It was about 40 miles upstream near present-day Thompson Falls, Montana." <http://www.nwcouncil.org/history/ThompsonDavid.asp>



Saleesh House: <http://www.davidthompsonbook.com/order.htm>

From Washington Historical Quarterly, Vol.XI, #2, April 1920, "David Thompson's Journey in Idaho", (Journal Sept. 1809) T.C. Elliot --- At Kullyspell House September 21, 1809-Thursday--- "In the evening Jaco & Family arrived" T.C. Elliot states in footnote 12, "a half-breed who with his family had been residing among the Saleesh and other Indians as a free Trapper for at least two years prior to this time."



In September and October of 1809 David Thompson and his men made a 200 mile trip through the wilderness, he wrote, "We were all of us very hungry having had but little on the road; there were some Indians near us, of whom we tried to buy a horse for food, our own were too poor to be eaten, and we fasted excepted for a chance Goose or Duck amongst us; until the 14th, when Jaco, a fine half-breed arrived and relieved us. From him we traded twenty-eight Beaver tails, forty pounds of Bear meat, and thirty pounds of dried meat, and now we all, thank God enjoyed a good meal." (Tyrell, p.375) Jocko had come up from his camp on the Jocko River. Thompson had with him, Finan McDonald, James McMillan, and a voyageur, possibly Michel Bordeaux or Jean Baptiste Boucher, and was camped in two teepees with a log shanty warehouse as his headquarters for trade, at a location near present day Libby, Montana. Thompson and his men

had been on the Kootenai River bartering with the Pend d'Oreille Indians when they had run out of rations, and were very near starvation. Shortly after meeting Jocko, they began to build Flathead Post.

On September 27, 1809 Thompson with one man, Joseph Beaulieu and a Kalispel boy traveled up the river that flowed westward from Lake Pend Oreille. He called the river the Saleesh but it is now known as the Pend Oreille River. They followed the river on horses to the site of the future Cusick, Washington. Here they met the Kalispel Indians who gave them a leaky canoe in which they floated down the Pend Oreille to Box Canyon near Metaline Falls. From here he decided to return to Kullyspell House in Idaho.

November 2, 1809 David Thompson and 10 men were at Kootenay House having traveled up the Clark Fork from Lake Pend Oreille. At the same time Jocko was trapping less than a day's ride north of them. The only woman at Kootenay House was Mrs. Lussier, who had just given birth to her fourth child.

"Nov. 4, 1809 — David Thompson's expedition of traders left early from an overnight camp on the Clark Fork River at Herring (Heron) Rapids, near the Idaho-Montana border. According to "Sometimes Only Horses Eat," Carl Haywood's 2008 book about Thompson in western Montana, the traders reached the camp of an old friend, Jaco Finlay, at about 2 p.m. This is only a guess, but it was probably in the vicinity — and across the river — from Noxon, Montana.

There are few parts of pre-Montana history in the 19th century that Finlay and his countless descendants don't figure into. It's no coincidence that there's a Jocko River and a Finley Creek in these parts. Finlay's father was Scottish from Montreal and his mother was a Chippewa. It was Finlay and his family who guided Thompson over the Canadian Rockies the first time, in 1807.

On this day, according to Haywood, Finlay was camped at the same spot he'd been 24 days earlier, when Thompson first passed this way. He was in a hurry then, to get to a rendezvous with a supply brigade on the Kootenai (McGillivray's) River. This time Thompson had a string of horses laden heavily with trade goods for the new "house" he planned to establish near Thompson Falls to be called Salish House. On the north side of the Clark Fork River nearly directly opposite the mouth of Prospect (Ashley) Creek. Other forts in the area were Flathead Post on the north side of the Clark Fork near Noxon was built in 1812 by Nor'wester, Alexander Ross. And Flathead Post (2) built 1823 by Alexander Ross near Eddy, Montana on the north side of the Clark Fork (Eddy Station of the Northern Pacific Railroad, Sanders County), this post lasted until 1847.

Angus McDonald wrote, "The Horse Plains" is not so called in Indian, but Comkanee, from a yellow granite boulder, resembling in shape the upper part of the human body. Frequent offerings were made in good will, in past days, to that stone. This plain will be a place of much resort and value in days hence." Angus McDonald: A Few Items Of The West, edited by F.W. Howay, William S. Lewis and Jacob A. Meyers, Washington Historical Quarterly, Vol. 8, 1917, pages 192.

Though there had been "a mere trifle of grass for the Horses" at Finlay's camp on the earlier trip, Thompson presumably spent the night of Nov. 4-5 there." From: <http://montanayesterday.com/?paged=2>

Lake Pend Oreille means “looks like an ear” in French, which is what the lake look likes from orbit.” (News From Lake Pend Oreille by Dr. Michael Silverman) Jocko, Finan McDonald and David Thompson discovered this lake in 1809.



This photo taken by the Boundary Commission at Sinyakwatin in 1860, shows an American camp on the south side of Pend Oreille River with a Kalispel canoe and tule-mat tepee in the foreground – the same styles that Thompson would have seen. (The Bonner County Historical Society Collection) Our ancestor William Newman was one of the Army guards in the camp.
http://www.sandpointonline.com/sandpointmag/sms09/david_thompson.html

“A place to build a House on” David Thompson, Kullyspel House and the Indian Indians Meadows tribal encampment on Lake Pend Oreille” by Jack Nisbet.”

"Soon a large band of Salish or Pend d'Oreille Indians who had been across the mountains hunting bison visited Thompson's post, and a bountiful supply of food was assured..... Finlay apparently had traded and explored the tributaries of the Clark Fork for many miles above Salish House, and had given Thompson some description of it." (The Fur Trade, Vol. II, Paul C. Phillips, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1961, page 288.)

From The Journal of Alexander Henry The Younger - 1799-1814 - Vol. II, edited by Barry M. Gough - The Champlain Society, Toronto, 1992, pp 427 & 485:

"Thursday, [January] 30th 1810

.....A Sauiteaux arrived with his Wife from the South Branch, on his way to join his Beau frere J[aco].F[inlay] at the Rocky Mountain. But those present troublesome times will cause him to remain here at least for some time....." Could this be Pembuck, Jocko's brother-in-law?

There was a brook that Alexander Henry the Younger called Jacucos Brook. It was Jaco's, Jacco's, or Jacko's Brook, according to Thompson, who also called it North Brook. And in

addition Henry also referred to it as Jacques' brook or creek, (on pages 485 & 518 of his "Journal"). It is a small branch of the Saskatchewan River, lying in the mountains above Rocky Mountain House and below the Kootenay Plains. Henry refers to it when he approached the Continental Divide. This creek was probably named for Jaco Finlay, "perhaps the earliest trader to go this way into the headwaters of the Columbia River."

Monday, April 19, quietly slipped away largely unnoticed by most Montana and Idaho residents even though it marked the 200th anniversary of explorer-surveyor David Thompson's departure from Saleesh House (his fur trading post near the mouth of Thompson River) with furs and meat obtained primarily from trade with the Flatheads during his first winter in what is now the state of Montana.

His journal entry for Thursday, April 19, 1810, indicates that it had rained all night and that the temperature at 7:00 a.m. was 36 degrees; at 2:00 p.m. it had risen to 50 - much like our weather during the past few of weeks. He and his men spent all day catching up their string of horses and loading them with 28 "packs" and five "parcels" of furs, dried meat, pemmican and personal items. Each pack weighed about 90 pounds.

Once loaded, the horses were trailed downriver to a spot below the chutes and rapids later referred to as Thompson's Falls. The idea was to get the ton and a half of cargo past the swollen river churning dangerously through the narrow channel that has been tamed since the early 1900's by the Thompson Falls Dam. A "portage" trail to bypass the chutes was located along the north shore winding along the river to a point below the tailrace.

At 4:00 p.m. Thompson had his two fragile birchbark canoes in the water on their way downriver to meet the pack string so that the cargo could be loaded into the canoes for transport down the Clark's Fork River to his other trading post located near Hope, ID. That night, Thompson recorded that they camped near the spot where the transfer would take place.

According to Thompson, it was "A frosty Night." On the morning of Friday, April 20, more than a ton of merchandise and baggage was divided between the two canoes. Six items were left behind, two packs of furs that had gotten soaked by what Thompson stated was "...the awkward negligence" of one of the voyageurs by the name of Vandette. He did not tell us why the other four were sent back to Saleesh House.

While the canoes were being loaded for the trip, Jaco Finlay, one of Thompson's long-time, all-around hands and sometimes Clerk for the North West Company, had killed a deer. The party would have at least a little fresh meat as they set out. All was finally in order and at 7:30 a.m. Thompson noted in his journal that they had set off on a course that would transport the loaded canoes down the river to the cliffs a few miles west of town we know as the Blue Slide.

Thompson's furs were bound for the European beaver hat markets by way of Bonners Ferry, Libby and eventually Montreal. It also marked the beginning of the first successfully organized business venture in western Montana and northern Idaho. It would flourish for nearly 60 years.

Carl Haywood Thompson Falls . http://www.bitterrootstar.com/backissues/4_21_10/oped.html

A note:

From Bruce Watson's *Lives Lived*: Two men, who might be the same: Martin, Iroquois (fl. 1808-1812) (Native, Iroquois)

NWC, Upper Columbia (winter 1808-1809) (with Jaco Finlay) Martin is difficult to track, although he is probably Miaquin Martin. When he was first encountered on the Pacific slopes, he had spent the winter of 1808-1809 with Jaco Finlay and another Iroquois, Jacques, exploring the northern part of the Columbia. They met David Thompson in the spring of 1809, much to the chagrin of the latter. Martin was obviously a man of strong character for he had an altercation with David Thompson: "Martin insolent & dislocated my right thumb in thrashing him which will render me incapable of doing anything for a few days." Within a few days, however, Thompson was back writing. In April 1812, Martin encountered Thompson again a few miles outside Kettle Falls but nothing more is heard from him. It is probably that this is the same Miaquin Martin who associated with Jaco Finlay and who later named a son Miaquin.

(Martin, Meaquin (variation, Maiquin, Meaquin) (fl. 1818-1825) (Native, Iroquois)

Freeman, HBC Freeman trapper, McKenzie's Snake Party, 1818; Trapper, Spokane House, 1812; Member, Finan McDonald's Snake Party (1823); Freeman trapper, Ross' Snake party (1824); Freeman trapper to 1825

Meaquin Martin first appeared on record in the Columbia in 1818 when he parted company with Donald McKenzie's NWC brigade and subsequently did not fare well. He may also be the Martin, Iroquois, who was with Jaco Finlay a decade earlier in the same area. He then appeared on record from 1821 leading a band of eight Iroquois freemen who trapped and sold furs to the HBC. The other members of the band were Louis and Ignace Kanetagon, Laurent Karatohon, Lazard Kayenquaretcha, Francois Xavier Teanetorensen, Jacques Teholarachten, Pierre Teuanitogan, and Lazard Teyecaleyeyeedioeye. The band dissolved by outfit 1822-1823 and Meaquin Martin continued to work as a freeman trader in 1823 with Finan McDonald's Snake Party. On February 10, 1824, he was found camped on Prairie de Cheveaux, near Flathead Post with many of his old band members. They all joined Alexander Ross' nine month HBC Snake country trapping expedition, an expedition in which Ross felt that all the Iroquois, including Martin, were unfit for Snake Country. Ross obviously had run-ins with Martin but reserved his comments for his book, rather than his HBC journal. After Martin returned, he continued with Ogden's 1824-1825 Snake Country trapping expedition and on May 24, 1825, deserted the Ogden party for the American party under Johnson Gardner. Neither he nor his family have been traced after that. Meaquin Martin travelled with his family but their names have not been traced.) Nancy Anderson

Just noticed from Bruce Watson's book: *Complement of personnel at Howse's House*; that is Joseph Howse's House on Flathead river, 1810-1811:

Manager: Joseph Howse

Personnel: Jacko Finlay plus sixteen other untraced servants and four Natives.

From Nancy Anderson

In the spring of 1810 Jocko was again with Thompson with his old position as clerk and interpreter. By that summer he and Finan McDonald were among the Spokane Indians. "The Spokanes welcomed McDonald and Finlay, as they had welcomed the previous Sama. The Spokanes called all Frenchmen "Sama", because the French had been the first white men in their lands. Finlay did little to change this illusion, for he spoke French, carried Indian blood in his veins, and took an Indian wife. McDonald the "pugnacious Celt," was built to be noticed, standing six feet four inches. His bushy beard and flowing red hair, which matched his temperament, had a somewhat frightening effect on them..... No one knows which of these two men selected the site of the post, about a half-mile up the Spokane River from its junction with the Little Spokane, situated in the land of the Upper and Middle Spokanes'. It is 9 or 10 miles from the present city of Spokane, Washington. ("The Spokane Indians", Robert H. Ruby & John A. Brown, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1970, page 38.)

Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown, noted Central Washington historians write that Jocko was the "likely builder of the post, which, like him, was unpretentious, consisting of not more than two or three cabins, a warehouse to store trade goods and furs, and one or two structures for living quarters. In all likelihood the buildings were not much different from those of Kullyspell House, hurriedly built of logs chinked with mud or clay, since tools and such materials as nails were very scarce." (Ruby & Brown, p.38) "Spokane House had been in operation nearly two

years when the Pacific Fur Company built a rival post, Fort Spokane, a half mile from it. The two posts competed with each other for less than a year, at which time the Northwesters acquired all Astorian holdings for a mere pittance..." "Neglected Spokane House", Jerome A. Peltier, "The Pacific Northwest", Vol.5, #3, Summer 1961, page 33.



Diorama at Fort Spokane Interpretive Center. http://www.riversidestatepark.org/sh_diorama.htm



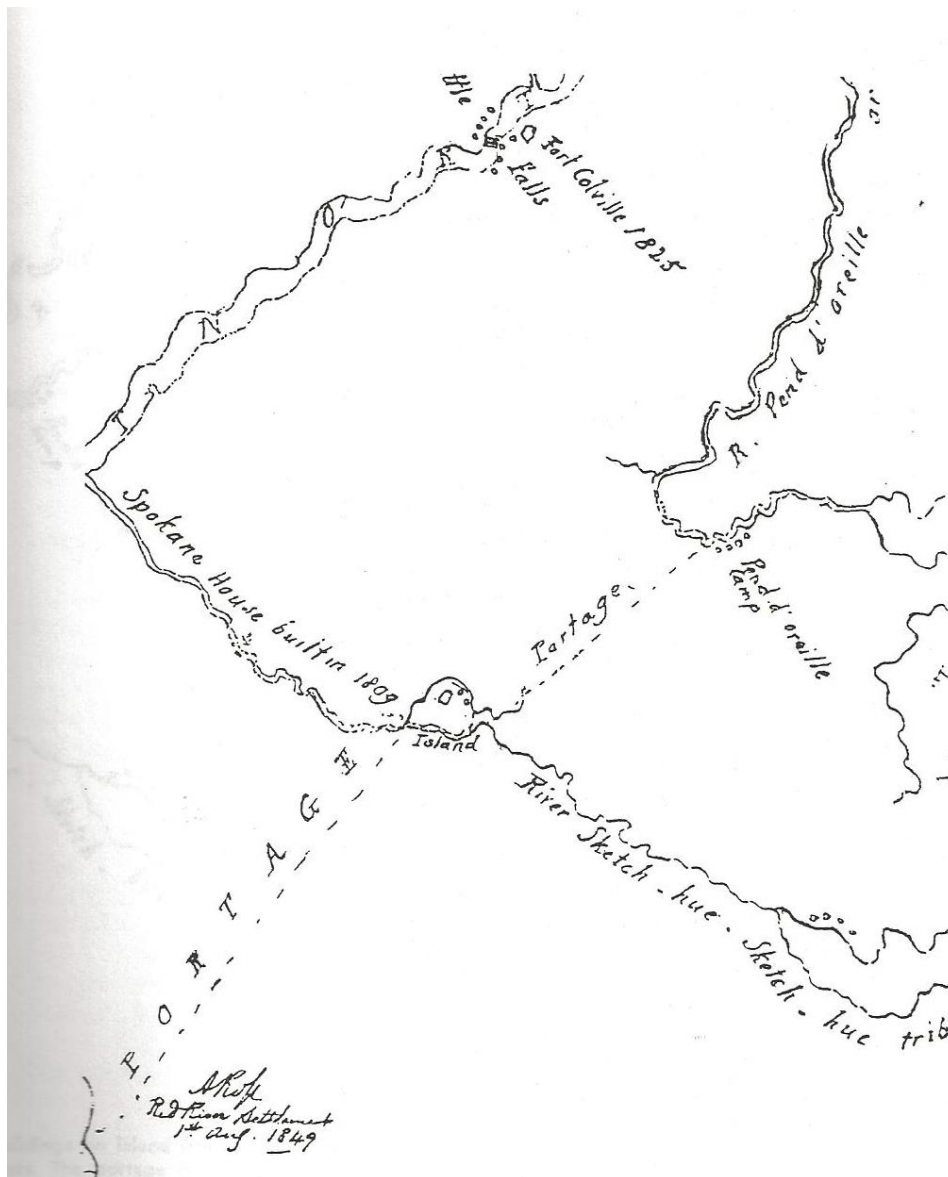


<http://www.google.com/imgres?q=spokane+house>

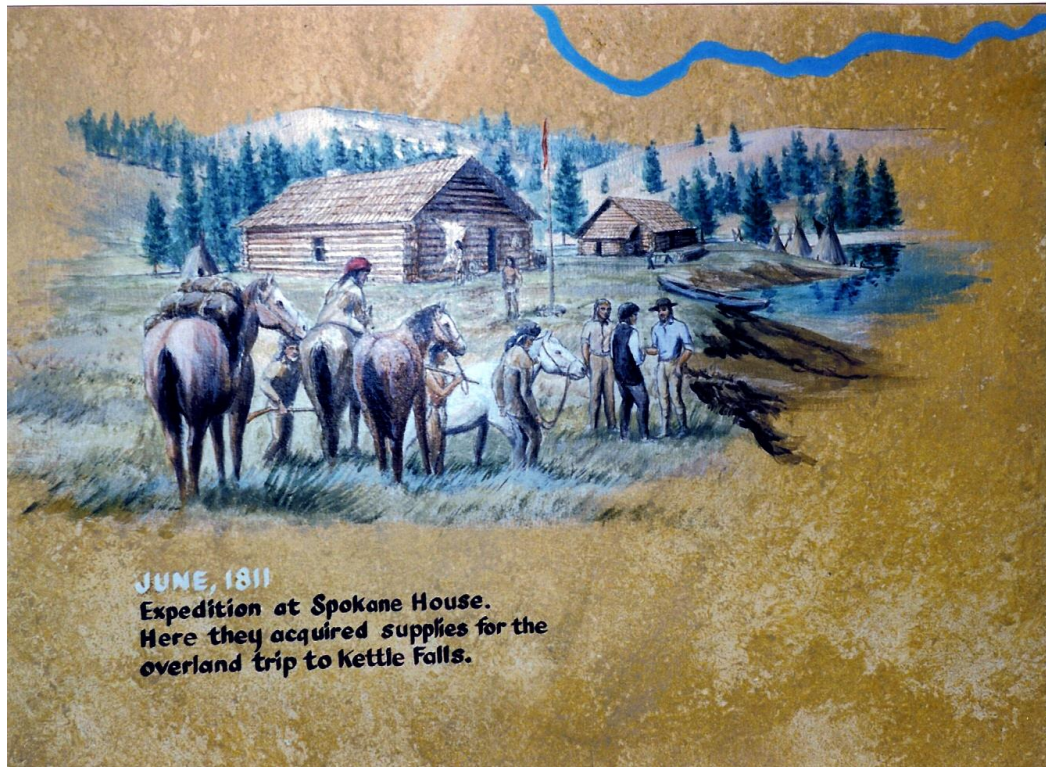
"By the spring of 1810 Thompson had distributed more than twenty guns and a hundred iron arrowheads among the western natives, and in the summer of that year a band of 150 Flatheads and Nez Perces, some with guns, met a Piegan war party on the plains and for the first time used the new weapon in battle. The Piegans recoiled in fury and during the winter, when Thompson had gone east for supplies, they blocked the pass he normally used, forcing him to return to the Columbia Basin by a more northerly route. In his absence in the east, two of his men, Finan McDonald and Jaco Finlay, had built a new post, the Spokane House, about ten miles northwest of the present Washington city of that name, and had traded more guns to Spokane, Kalispels, and Nez Perce in the area. ("The Nez Perce Indians and the Opening of the Northwest", Alvin M. Josephy, Jr., University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln & London, 1979, age 37)

Thompson came south by way of the Kootenay and Pend d'Oreille Rivers from the headwaters of the Columbia with trade goods to supply his posts. "Thompson in his "Narrative" says: On the 14th (June, 1811) we arrived at the Spokane House on the River of that name, where I left a small assortment of Goods to continue the trade, there were forty tents of Spokane Indians, with Jaco, a halfbreed, as clerk." This was Thompson's first visit at Spokane House. In the geographical notes, under date of August 6th, 1811, at the mouth of the Snake River, he notes: "Wrote a letter to Jacco Finlay to send and meet us with horses, etc."

(Note: Did Jocko know how to read? I think he did. If not, why would David Thompson write him a letter, unless Thompson actually sent a messenger to Jocko, as Rowland Bond states in his book. David Douglas said he did not know how to speak English, unless Jocko was pulling Douglas' leg. As a clerk in the Northwest Company he must have had some knowledge of the three R's. Jocko had a watch repaired in Montreal in 1813 and must mean that he could tell time.) J.A. Meyers writes in the Washington Historical Quarterly, "The first entry of Douglas' and Thompsons' note from Snake River, coupled with the many places of trust he held, would show Finlay was educated in French; which was the language of the North-West Company." HBC Chief Factor Archibald McKinlay wrote in a letter in 1885 from Lac la Hache that he was sent to Montreal for some education.



Map drawn by Alexander Ross Aug. 1, 1849 shows location of buildings on island (center) at confluence of the Spokane (Sketch-hue) and Little Spokane rivers. The portage is from Cusick to the West branch of the Little Spokane.



This is part of a large map of David Thompson's trip down the Columbia River that was at Wells Dam, but is now housed in the Paterson City Museum.

"In 1811, Thompson became the first European to travel the length of the Columbia, although not completely on the river." <http://www.nwcouncil.org/history/ThompsonDavid.asp>

In his Journal, under the date of 1811, Alexander Henry the Younger, mentions, "Jocquoc off with Horses for Meat to hunters Tent..... Jocquoc returned with three Red Deer [elk], and one Moose Deer." Henry later on that page mentions "Jacques off for Meat of two Moose Deer at Battilleau's Tent.... Jacques hauling in Fire wood." I believe the Jocquoc he is referring to is not Jocko Finlay but Jacques Cardinal, because Jocko was a clerk and Jacques Cardinal a horse handler and engage. And I doubt Jocko would be detailed to haul wood. They were in the Fort Vermilion area on the Peace River in Alberta.

Was he active in trading for the Pacific Fur Company at that time?

"Within a month of Thompson's departure, Finlay had introduced himself to the rival Pacific Fur Company, the American venture that was expanding its business upstream from Astoria. An agent at Fort Okanagan received instructions that if a Mr. Jacques Finlay sought trade goods on credit, he should be accommodated with anything he requested, except liquor. A sales slip from the company records indicates that Jaco did indeed visit the American post."

A very interesting bit of information from our friend in British Columbia, Nancy Anderson (from her blog on Descendants of David Thompson's men):

"Northwest Company Ledgers, 1811-1821, Reels 5M7 and 5M8, HBCA:

Bercier, Pierre, fo. 69 -- 1812 [hard to read] Colum. Bk, and By Columbia outfit ... for [David]

Thompson, 1811-1813

Boisverd, Augustin, fo. 71 -- 1811, 1812, 1813, Colum. Outfit [?]

Boucher, Jean Bte. -- 1811-1817, Ft. des Prairies book, note at bottom says "gone with Indians."

Clement, Antoine, fo. 188

Cotte, Jos., fo. 195 -- 1812, To Sundries per Columbia, 1811 -- 1812-1817...

D'Eau, Bte., fo. 295 -- 1811-1821, Fort des Prairies

Dalcour, Bte., fo. 296 -- 1812, To sundries for Columbia book, 1811

Dalcour, Jos., -- 1812, To cash paid his wife, 1811 -- To sundries, Columbia book, 1812

Finlay, Jacques, fo. 366 -- 1811, To Balance due since 1809, posted [1200]

1812 -- To Balance, By salary this year, 1200

1812 -- By two canoes for Mr. Thompson, note 200

1812 -- By F. Macdonald 100 R Bruguire 60160

1813 -- To Paid Repairing a Watch in Montreal

1813 -- To Columbia outfit

Finlay, Jacques

1818 -- To sundried F des P Book, by Balance Columbia book

Continues 1819-1821.

Le Camble, Augustin, fo. 552

LeTender, Jean Bte, fils -- 1811-1821 in Fort des Prairies book

Macdonald, John, of Garth, fo. 709 -- 1811-1812, charges for sundries at Kootenais House in 1812

McDonald, Finan, fo. 712 -- [illeg] Kenneth Mackenzies draft in favour of his father, 1811

1812 To sundries at Columbia [illeg] 1810-1811

1814 To sundried at Potlid[?]

1813 To Columbia Outfit

McMillan, James, fo. 711 -- 1812, To sundries at Columbia -- 1812, Columbia outfit

Methot [Methode], Francois -- 1812, Columbia book 1810, 1811, 1812

Mousseau, Louis -- 1811, 1813, Columbia book

Perrault [Pariel] -- Columbia outfit 1812-1815

Quesnel, Amabel -- 1811-1813 -- In 1812 had sundries for Columbia book

Thompson, David -- 1812 To Sundries per Potlid[?]

1812 To Sundries per F. Wm book

1814, To sundries per Potlid[?]

1813, To Sundries Ak. Bk, Dld his boy [Donald?]

Vallade, Rene -- 1812 for Columbia Bk, 1810-1812 -- Columbia outfit, 1813-1817

Valle, Antoine -- 1812, Columbia outfit -- 1817, Fort des Prairies outfit

Valle, Augustin -- 1812-1818, Ft. des Prairies outfit

Bad and Doubtful Debts [Doubtful, in this case] -- 1811, Joseph Beaulieu, fo. 95

This, above, will be our Beaulieu, who is by 1811 a free trader in the area around Saleesh House. There is, however, another Beaulieu in the district, and this has confused us a little -- here he is:

Beaulieu, Joseph, fo. 979 -- 1818, Sundries, Montreal Book

1819, Sundries F des P equip book

1820, Sundries, F book

To sundries R.R. book

1821 -- To balance, R.R. Eqt. Book

Fort des Prairies is the district around modern-day Edmonton. The Lower Fort des Prairies fort moved around and finally ended up at modern-day Fort Saskatchewan. Upper Fort des Prairies was Rocky Mountain House."

In the letter on 4 May 1812 to Donald McGillis from Alexander Ross is:

"P.S.

Should Mr. Jacques Finlay arrive here and wish for a small assortment of goods to trade for the good of the Pacific Fur Co. you will please let him have 8 half ones & 4 small and also a small assortment of most things in the store/liquor excepted, and take his receipts, for the time use him well while here; & there, is goin in the ? a little of which can be sued with ? ? ? Your's as above (signed) Alex Ross"

"Received of Mr. Donald McGillis, the following Goods--8 Half and 4 Small, etc. etc. to layout in the Indian trade for the interest & good of the P.F.C. duly received by me. (signed) Jacque Finlay"

P.S.
Should Mr. Jacques Finlay arrive here and wish
for a small assortment of goods to trade for the good
of the P.F.C. you will please let him have 8 half ones & 4
small and also a small assortment of most things in
the store/liquor excepted, and take his receipts for the
time use him well while here; & there, is goin in the ?
a little of which can be sued with ? ? ? Your's as above
(signed) Alex Ross
Fort George May 4th 1812
Received of Mr. Donald McGillis, the following Goods to, &
Half ones & small etc. to be _____ to lay out in the Indian
trade for the interest & good of the P.F.C. duly received by me
Jacque Finlay

This receipt is in a different penmanship than that of the rest of the letter and postscript, and was in all probability written and signed by Jocko.

In January of 1812, the Astorian party under Wilson Price Hunt, which included the Dorion family, made camp on the Umatilla River (about two days travel from the place on the Columbia River where Fort Nez Percés would one day be built). They were told of trading tobacco with Jocko Finlay, by the local Indians. "Madame Dorion", Jerome Peltier, Ye Galleon Press, Fairfield, Washington, 1980, page 19.

"According to their oral traditions, members of the Spokane Tribe guided Finlay to a village on a wedge of land formed by the confluence of the Spokane and Little Spokane rivers. The salmon and steelhead fishery at the spot attracted a wide variety of visitors and provided a natural location for a new trade house. Jaco oversaw the construction of the post and, with some help from Finan McDonald, managed its operations until June of 1811, when David Thompson arrived with a fresh supply of trade goods and entered Spokane House into written history: "Thank Heaven for our good safe journey, here we found Jaco &c with about 40 Spokane families" (Thompson, June 14, 1811, Notebook 22).

Over the next 10 months, Jaco's trading post served as a hub for exploration, transport, and messages. When Thompson returned that fall from his epic trip to the Pacific Ocean, he dropped off a Hawaiian voyageur named Coxe so that Jaco could mentor him in the trade.

On the 13th of the same month his entry is: "A very fine day. At 5-1/2 A.M. set off and at 6-1/2 A.M. arrived at the house. Thank God for his mercy to us on this journey. Found all safe but Jaco was with the horses sent to meet us. Late in the evening he arrived." Thompson had used the trails by the way of the Sink of Deep Creek and Jaco the main road by the way of Coulee Creek Crossing further west. On November 11th the same year, we find, on leaving Spokane House for Kullyspell and Saleesh Posts: "Left Coxe & Paul the Iroquois with Jacque Finlay." (John Coxe, or Edward Coxe was the Hawaiian known as Naukane, ca. 1779 to February 2, 1850). On the 14th of that month, Michel Kinville, who was in charge of Lake Indian House, on Kootenay River, was ordered to abandon that post, and move the goods to the Skeetsoo River (Spokane House). According to Thompson's "Narrative", this post Lake Indian House, was established by Finan McDonald in the fall of 1807. This would be the first white residence in Idaho. (Meyers, p.165 and David Thompson's Narrative p.465)

A note on Cox:



Old Cox, Sandwich Islander by Paul Kane, 1847

Courtesy Royal Ontario Museum (Image No. 946.15.271)

Old Coxe was the first Hawaiian in the Inland Empire.

“On the voyage to Fort Astoria on the Columbia River Naukane was given the name John Coxe, because he resembled a shipmate on the Tonquin.

Soon after Naukane arrived at Fort Astoria David Thompson of the Montreal-based North West Company also arrived. In July, 1811, Thompson and a group of Astorians began to journey up the Columbia River. The two parties traveled together until they reached the Columbia Gorge, after which Thompson went on ahead. Before parting ways there was an exchange of some of the workers. Thompson allowed his employee Michel Boulard to join the Pacific Fur Company in exchange for Naukane, who Thompson referred to as Coxe. Boulard was a 40 year old voyageur who had worked with Thompson off and on for the last 11 years. Boulard, although weaker with age, was useful to the Astorians for his great knowledge of geography and native affairs. In contrast, Naukane was valuable to Thompson for his great strength. Naukane traveled with Thompson as far as Spokane House. There he was left with Jaco Finlay while Thompson continued rapidly on. Soon Naukane was traveling east as well, crossing the continent to Fort William (today's Thunder Bay, Ontario) on Lake Superior. From there he traveled by water to Quebec. In 1812 the ship Isaac Todd took him to England. In 1813 he returned to the Pacific Northwest on the British warship HMS Racoon.

Naukane returned to Hawaii in 1815. He moved again to the Pacific Northwest in 1827. He worked for several years at Fort Vancouver and retired nearby. He died of tuberculosis sometime around 1840.” - Current Wikipedia entry: Naukane.

Jaco apparently remained at Spokane House during the winter of 1811-1812, and in March 1812 he joined Thompson near Kettle Falls, where the men built four large cargo canoes to transport pelts. Thompson oversaw the construction of two cedar bateaus while Jaco took charge of a pair of birch bark canoes. Boards were knifed and split, bent and sewed. Thompson's journal recorded dogged progress on the boats for the next nine days:

“April 11 -- Jaco turned part of the timbers -- split out lathes ...

April 12 -- Jaco split out all his inside lathes and has nothing now but to knife them. Turned about half his timbers and knifed many of them ...

April 13 -- Jaco knifing splinter & timbers - arranging birch rind & laid the bottom of a canoe on the bed ...

April 14 -- Birch rind canoe sewed at bottom & the gunwales placed.

April 15 -- Jaco's second canoe the side seam sewed only.

April 17 -- Jaco has now today his two canoes to gum on the inside and to timber up &c.

April 18 -- Jaco timbered up his canoes”

(Thompson, Notebook 27)

By April 22, all four vessels were in the water above Kettle Falls, packed with more than 9,000 pounds of furs, ready to depart on the long journey upstream to the trail east across Athabasca Pass. David Thompson, whose path had crossed and recrossed Finlay's for 13 years, stepped into one of the vessels bound for Montreal and paddled out of Jaco's life forever.” (History Link - http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=pf_output.cfm&file_id=8411)

Jocko was in charge at Spokane House until sometime in 1812. That place was called the first commercial effort in the present state of Washington by one writer. Using Spokane House as a sort of base camp, Jocko and his family would make frequent trapping forays throughout the neighboring countryside.

“It is precisely true that Jacque Raphael Finlay was Spokane’s first citizen.

For when he and the doughty Scot; Finan McDonald, built Spokane House at the confluence of the Spokane and Little Spokane rivers in 1810, there was no settlement where the city by the falls exists today.

Thompson’s entry for May 7, 1810; “Having given Jaco his summer orders (to build a trading post) we embarked another cargo of packs and provisions and set off for the portage (across Howse Pass).”

In Finlay’s time, any reference to “Spokane” meant the log trading post on that island that must appear today approximately as it did when David Thompson first visited the establishment in 1811 when it was the first house of commerce in what now is the state of Washington.” From *EARLY BIRDS IN THE NORTHWEST*; Rowland Bond, Litt. D., 100 Years of Western History From Jacques Raphael Finlay to Dutch Jake Goetz, ; Spokane House Enterprises; Box 4 Nine Mile Falls; Washington; 1972; p.13.

In the spring of 1812 David Thompson stopped at Spokane House for the last time. He built four canoes while here, to carry the year’s furs back to Kettle Falls and from there to send them up the Columbia River and over the mountains to the points back east. Jack Nisbet writes, “as Thompson laid out the frames side by side near the modern city of Colville, Jaco joined him in a kind of canoe-building bake-off.” Thompson built two lap-sided cedar plank canoes while Jocko built two traditional birchbark vessels. Thompson seems to have won the contest with Jocko, and wrote after he had his two canoes finished, “Jaco’s second canoe the side seam sewed only.”

Alexander Ross, in his book, *Fur Hunters of the Far West*, wrote an interesting story concerning Jocko's cool-headedness:

Two Nor'westers, James Keith and Alexander Stuart were returning eastward to Fort William, North West Company headquarters, with the annual east-bound express, when tragedy confronted them.

Ross wrote, "The journey began and went on well enough till they arrived at the portage of the Cascades (near Bonneville Dam, WA.), the first impediment was in ascending the river, distant 180 miles from Fort George, here the Indians collected in great numbers, as usual; but did not attempt anything until the people had got involved and dispersed in the portage; they then seized the opportunity, drew their bows, brandished their lances, and pounced upon the gun cases, powder, kegs, and bales of goods, at the place where Mr. Stuart was stationed. He tried to defend his post, but owing to the wet weather his gun miss fired several times, and before any assistance could reach him, he had received three arrows; his gun had just fallen from his hands, as a half-breed, named Finlay, came up and shot his assailant dead: By this time the people concentrated, and the Indians fled to their strongholds among the rocks and trees During this time Mr. Stuart suffered severely and was very low, as his wounds could not be examined. And when this was done they discovered that the barbs of the arrows were of iron, and one of them had struck on a stone pipe which he carried in his waistcoat pocket, which fortunate circumstance he perhaps owed his life." ("The Fur Hunters of the Far West", Alexander Ross, edited by Kenneth Spaulding, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1956, p.12.) Jacob Meyers, early day historian, thought that the "half-breed, named Finlay", was probably a son of Jocko's, but the following clears up any doubt.

John McDonald of Garth tells this of the incident, "a couple of canoes with a dozen men" (Alexander Ross wrote that it was 20 men in two boats), were stopped and attacked by the Indians at Cascades, speaking of Stuart he said, "Before any assistance could reach him his gun had fallen from his hand. When an Indian tried to dispatch Stewart, Jocko shot the assailant dead-." B.C. Payette in his book, "Oregon Country", shows that Jocko Finlay was in canoe #1 with John McDonald and "Perpetual Motion" Donald Mackenzie, on that particular brigade. Rowland Bond, author of "Early Birds in the Northwest", also believes it was Old Jocko, instead of one of the younger Finlays.

Found in "The Oregon Country Under the Union Jack", B.C. Payette, Payette Radio Limited, Montreal, 1961:

"List of People in the Columbia for Winter 1813/14--extracted from HBC Archives F4/61, Fos.6-7d:

#53 Finlay, Jac. Rap. - clerk & interpreter	at Spokane House
#54 Finlay, Rap. Jun. - interpreter & hunter	at Fort George
#55 Finlay, Thorburn - m. & hunter	at Fort George
#56 Finlay, Bonhomme - m. & hunter	at Spokane House"

#54 Raphael, Junior was either that son of Jocko who became known as Miquam (or Jocko), or his older brother James, who was born in 1794. Alexander Henry the Younger was at Fort George (the Columbia Department) in 1813 and wrote in his Journal, "Monday [November] 29th The rain ceased during the night, the weather calm and cloudy and mild. At 3 O'clock a canoe arrived from Willamette River with Montour and Jocquot's son, and a Sandwich Islander. They bring letters from Mr. W. Henry, and a cargoe of seven Shamoise [mountain goats], weighing from 50 to 80 lbs. each and 3 biche [elk] with a number of wild fowl, of 6 days from below the Falls &c." This is probably Jacques Raphael Junior.

But who were Thornburn and Bonhomme? Two men of those names figured in Jocko's life in Saskatchewan, were these two named after them?

According to Rowland Bond, Jocko went on some trips to the Coast in 1813 and 1814. Bond, p. 21.

I received this from Nancy Anderson of Victoria, B.C. in November 2006: "I have a snippet of infor. re: Jaco, that you might not have. In HBCA reel 1M49, B.60/a/13, 1814-15, fo. 3, James Bird reports that Jaco Finlay, a dissatisfied N.W. free trader, invited the HBCo. west of the mountains; he is immoderately fond of liquors; he also reports (I think this is Jaco that reports) on the death of Alexander Henry in the Columbia. James Bird of course works for the HBCo. at Edmonton House, not the Northwesters."

"I may already have sent you this. Exploring Reels 5M7&8 HBCA. fo. 366, Jacques Finlay 1810, 1811, & 1812 records; repaired a watch in Montreal in 1812 and was sent to Columbia district for 1813.

Jacques Rap Finlay, Senr, 1818-1819, 1820 and 1821 records.

In 1818 appeared in Fort des Prairies books (Fort Saskatchewan, AB), 1819 sent cash to his son in Montreal (quite a bit of money), still in FdP records for two more years. I will scan these in and send to you; hope they are legible."

Nancy (5/15/2010 2:04:05) From North West Company Ledgers, 1811-1821, Reels 5M7 and 5M8, HBCA

Front of Reel 5M7 "H.B.C. Arch. North West Company's Ledger, 1811-21. The accounts in this ledger were made up in North West or Grand Portage livres and sous which were worth twice as much as French or Montreal livres. Therefore:

1 Livre Halifax = 24 Montreal Livres = 12 N.W. Livres

Prix de posts varied according to the distances inland from Montreal

A full explanation will be found in Mr. Brooks letter to Dr. Burt Brown Barker dated May 11, 1964, filed in Publications folder."

1818 To Balance
To Sundries for FdP
To Balance
1819 To Sundries for FdP
To Balance

2111
516 3
110 3 1820
46
237 17
450
258 m
429 17 1821
687 17
By Balance
By Sundries
By Balance

166 3
516 3
450
450
237 17
450
687 17
429 17

Jr

Jacques Nap. Fenwick, Clerk

Dr

1818 To Sundries for FdP
To Balance
1819 To Cash paid his Son in Montreal
To Sundries for FdP
To Sundries for FdP
To Sundries for FdP
To Balance
1820 To Sundries for FdP
To Balance
1821 To Sundries for FdP
To Balance

71 516 6 1817
5124 17 1818
6141 3
111 1666
224 830 6 1819
120
185 6
4092 5
1804 17
408 853 5
4874 1820
5362 5
404 10
8969 10

By Balance for Sundries for FdP
By Sundries
By Balance
By Sundries
By Balance
By Sundries
By Balance
By Sundries
By Balance

4941 3
1200
6141 3
5124 17
1200
1804 17
4092 5
1200
5362 5
4874

CONT'D BY CONT'Y
F4/32
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPHED BY
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THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Dr Jacques Finlay										C ^{te}	
1811	To Balance due since 1804 paid	D. Fin	1	112	By Balance for 1811					120	-
1812	To Balance		2751	16	By Balance for 1812					120	-
					By 2 Cans of Dr. Thompson's oil	250				250	-
					By J. Macdonald to R. Thompson	160				160	-
										2760	-
										2750	-
										2751	16
1813	To Paid Reparing a Watch in Montreal		9	6	By Balance					2751	16
	To Columbia Outfit 1813		2751	16						2751	16
Francois Forcier										C ^{te}	
1814	To Sundries & Exp. for 1814	2760	120	-	By Balance					400	-
	To Sundries & Exp. for 1815	289	144	10							
	To Balance		195	10							
										400	-
1815	To Sundries & Exp. for 1815	289	275	-	By Balance					135	10
	To Balance		275	10	By Balance					100	-
										275	10

Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Winnipeg:
Biographical Sheet

NAME:FINLAY, Jacques Raphael **PARISH: ENTERED SERVICE:**1806-1828

DATES:b.ca. 1768 d. 1828

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*: Position: Post: District: HBCA Reference:

*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May

[Footnote] "136

A. Finlay, O. Finley, and M. Finlay were sons of old Jacco Raphael Finlay, an old Northwest and Hudson's Bay Company employee, operating as an independent fur trader and trapper in the Kootenai and Flathead Indian country, 1806-9, and a half-breed son of James Finlay, a North Westerner. Jacco married east of the mountains and most of his children were born in the vicinity of Edmonton. {Alberta, Canada}. He was possibly the founder of Spokane House {Washington} in the summer of 1810, and died there May 20, 1828. His name is preserved in Jacco, or Jacko Creek, Missoula County, Montana. (Lewis, William S. and Paul D. Phillips, *The Journal of John Work*, Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1923, p.64)"

The Washington Historical Quarterly, volume x provides this additional information:

"He was born about 1768, of probably a Saulteur (Chippewa) mother ... His name is variously spelt in the records of him, Jacco, Jaccot, Jacka, Jackio ..." p 163.

"Jacques Finlay had a large family of sons and daughters, noted for their fine physique, many with light blue eyes. The men in the family were competent and trustworthy. The daughters were fine wives and mothers." P.167/ "Meyers, J. A. "Jacques Raphael Finlay," *The Washington Historical Quarterly*, Vol. X, no. 3, July, 1919 pp.163-167.

Filename: Finlay, Jacques "Jacko" Raphael (b.ca. 1768 d. 1828) (fl. 1806-1828) CO 2002 August ARCHIVES WINNIPEG

"From: Ogden's Snake Country Journals, 1824-26, Appendix: Journal of Occurrences in a trapping Expedition to and from the Snake Country in the years 1824 and 1825 kept by William Kittson -- March 26th, Saturday. "The defile we are now in is the same where I passed the winter with my much esteemed friend and Bourgeois Mr. Donald McKenzie, who at that time headed

the Snake Trappers amounting to 22 in number, besides this he had Messrs. James Birnie and [Jaco] Finlay and twelve engaged men, Total 38 in all."

Donald McKenzie, cousin of Alexander McKenzie, was given 100 men to begin trapping the area in 1818. The men built Fort Nez Perce in the summer of 1818, and began their journey September 1818, with 55 men, 195 horses, 399 beaver traps, and considerable merchandise. He came out for the last time on July 10, 1821, without the loss of a single man. James Birnie went in there presumably unmarried, and came out married -- Beaulieu must have been one of the unnamed trappers who accompanied McKenzie into the Snake! The record of Donald McKenzie's trips into the Snake Country are found principally in Alexander Ross' "Fur Hunters of the Far West." Nancy Anderson

"In 1819 he participated in the Snake River country expeditions south of the Columbia River, led by Nor'Wester Donald McKenzie. At the union of the NWC and the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821 neither his name nor those of his sons appeared on the rolls of the HBC, which would indicate that at that time he was probably a free trader and trapper. In mid October 1824 Finlay, the leader of a group of freeman who were watching the Shuswhap (Salish) Indians near Jasper House (Alta) in order to intercept their furs they reached the HBC posts...." Jacques Raphael Finlay by Eric J. Holmgren, pp 253-254.

At this time the Hudson's Bay Company's Oregon ventures were in the Columbia Department and this included "all of the Northwest from the Rocky Mountains west to the Pacific and from Russian Alaska to Spanish California. By 1845, when the company was at its peak, the Columbia Department included 23 forts." (<http://www.nwccouncil.org/history/FurTrade.asp>)

In Feb. 1824 he was with Alexander Ross' Snake Expedition.

("Found in Lives Lived: this little piece of information which you [Chalk] almost certainly already know --

St. Germaine, Saulteaux (variation: Sateau, Souteau) (fl. 1823-1832) (Native: Saulteaux)
Birth: possibly Upper Canada, Ontario
Death: Snake Country, July 8, 1832
Freeman

HBC trapper, Spokane House (1821-1822); Trapper, Snake Party (1823); Freeman trapper, Snake party (1824-1825 and 1830-1832)
Saulteaux St. Germain, the brother of Jacko Finlay's mother, was in the fur trade from at least 1821. By 1824, Alexander Ross found both Saulteaux and his nephew both unfit for outfitting for his snake Expedition and didn't want him along. They came along anyway and when they were not advanced ammunition and threatened to head back from the party, Ross threatened to strip them naked in humiliation. The threat appeared to work for neither were further reprimanded in the expedition. At the end of the Ross expedition, Saulteaux continued on with Ogden's 1824-1825 expedition and on July 16, 1825, he had become ill and on the west fork of the Missouri, left the party, only to continue with William Kittson. He continued to work in the Snake Country appearing in the Work journals as having close calls with natives. He worked until 1832 when, it is assumed, he was killed by the Snake Indians." Nancy Anderson

Sir George Simpson, Governor-in-Chief of the Hudson's Bay Company in America, met Jocko at Jasper's House in 1824, while he was trading with the Shuswhap Indians. Simpson wrote, "Jacco Findlay and a band of followers (Freemen) were here watching the Shuswapes in order that they might trade their furs before they got to the Establishment and thereby make a profit on the hunts of these poor Indians, but I gave them notice that that practice must be discontinued as we should not allow freemen to interfere with and impose on the Natives & I addressed a circular Letter to Messrs. Clarke, McIntosh, Rowland, and Laroque begging they would narrowly watch the conduct of Findlays band and if they did continue this nefarious Traffick (as from timidity and the late unprovoked hostilities against these Natives they are become an easy prey) that no

supplies of any description to be given to them. These freemen are a pest in this country, having much influence over the Natives which they exert to our disadvantage by inciting them against us, but if such measure as I have recommended to those gentlemen are followed up they will soon be quite at our disposal as their very existence depends on us and were more firm and decided conduct observed to freemen generally throughout the Country it would be much to our interest as their present independence and high tones importance is very injurious and in my opinion fraught with danger to the concern." ("Fur Trade and Empire", George Simpson's Journal; Frederick Merk, Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1968, p.12) Jocko was 56 years old when he was seen by Sir George Simpson.

From Ogden's snake Country Journals, 1824-6, Appendix, Journal of Occurrences in a trapping expedition to and from the Snake Country in the years 1824 and 1825 kept by William Kittson -- March 26th, Saturday. The defile we are now in is the same where I passed the winter with my much esteemed friend and bourgeois Mr. Donald McKenzie, who at that time headed the Snake Trappers amounting to 22 in number, besides this he had Messrs. James Birnie and Finlay and twelve engaged men, Total 38 in all."

From Jacques Raphael Finlay by Eric J. Holmgren: "Perhaps in order to watch Finlay's activities, but probably also to benefit from his experiences, Peter Skene Ogden, referring to him as Keyachie Finlay, included him among the freeman and HBC servants who left Flathead Post (Mont.) for the Snake River country in December 1824." (note from Chalk: I don't know Holmgren's reasoning for this or his proof that Keyachie was Old Jaco, as this Keyackie was Kiakik Finley one of Jocko's sons.)

"In early August 1825, the Hudson's Bay Company begins constructing Fort Colville as a trading post. Fort Colville is located at the upper end of the two-mile portage around Kettle Falls on the Columbia River. It will become the most important Hudson's Bay Company post in Eastern Washington. The company will continue to operate the post until 1871." (HistoryLink.org Essay 7993) John Work would spend the last part of 1825 and the first part of 1826 building Fort Colville and moving stores and equipment to Fort Colville from the abandoned Spokane House. They also planted the first crop of potatoes in the Colville Valley. What was left of the post was burned down in 1910 and in the 1950s the area was inundated by Grand Coulee Dam's reservoir, Lake Roosevelt.

"By the spring of 1826, most of the trade goods and equipment had been ferried to the new Fort Colville. The blacksmith and cook were collecting the last bits of iron from the place, right down to the door hinges. The clerk in charge of the move from Spokane commented that "the Indians much regret our going off," but when he returned during the summer fishing season, he found most of the people working at their traditional fishing barrier — and taking in 700 or 800 salmon per day." Jack Nisbet <http://www.inlander.com/spokane/article-15222-the-gathering-place.html>

John Work's Field Journal under the date of February 25, 1826 says:

"Campment de Bindash (on Spokane Plains near Trent, WA) with J. Finlay's sons who were hunting, fortunately we fell in with them or we would have had little fire during the night." On August 3, 1826, months later Work again writes, "We had separated the horses and took those

for Fort Colville across the river (Spokane), and breakfasting and trading some salmon from old Finlay." (Meyers, p.166)

Jocko was known as the only gunsmith in the Spokane country, and botanist David Douglas traveled out of his way in 1826 to have him look at his gun. Douglas wrote two accounts of his meeting with Jocko Finlay, "A Sketch of a Journey to the North-Western Parts of the Continent of North America During the Years 1824, 1825, 1826, 1827" tells this version:

"Mr. Dease kindly gave me the use of three of his best horses and engaged two hunters to attend me to Spokane, distance about seventy miles in a northerly direction from this spot (Kettle Falls), which was his former residence. On May 2nd (1826) I set out for that purpose, and travelled slowly, finding the country interesting, and arrived late on the third day. Mr. Jacques Finlay was here, and obligingly undertook to repair the lock of my gun, and on this occasion I felt happy in having it in my power to give him some assistance in provisions. For several days he had had nothing except a sort of cake made of Lichen jubatum, Linn., and a few roots of Scilla esculenta and of Lewisia redivia. I spent a few days here and returned to Kettle Falls on Sunday the 14th.....One large bear, Ursus horribilis, was killed by young Finlay; it was too bulky to be preserved." The latter two food items mentioned above were camas and bitterroot. From: PNWQ; July 1948; Spokane House State Park; p.194; "Lichen Jubatum was black moss on the pine trees. It was baked on hot stones wrapped in a layer of grass and covered with dirt while it baked. David Douglas regarded it as a starvation diet.

Douglas' other version appeared in "Journal of an Expedition to North-West America; Being the Second Journey Undertaken by David Douglas, On Behalf of the Horticultural Society."

Tuesday, 9th (May, 1826) - "Left the Kettle Falls on the Columbia River at 10 a.m., with two horses, one carrying my provisions, which consisted of buffalo dried meat, a little tea and sugar, my blanket and paper; the other for carrying me over the bad places of the way. I had for my guides two young men, sons of a Mr. Jacques Raphael Finlay, a Canadian Sauteur, who is at present residing in the abandoned establishment of Spokane, in which direction I was going. Mr. Finlay being a man of extensive information as to the appearance of the country, animals, and so on, Mr. [John Warren] Dease kindly gave me a note (again an indication that Jocko may have been able to read) to him requesting that he would show me anything that he deemed curious in the way of plants, &c. Took my departure in a northerly direction over the mountains, towards the Spokane River distant about 100 or 110 miles....."

Wednesday, 10th - "Rose at daylight and had my horses saddled, and being desirous of making the most of my time I took no breakfast further than a little dried meat and a drink of water, and proceeded on my journey at five o'clock. At twelve noon reached a small rapid river called Barriere River by my guides, which took up an hour in crossing. As there were no Indians near the place, we had to choose either making a raft or to swim. As the latter was the easier method, and all of us good water-men, we unsaddled the horses and drove them in. They all went over well except the last, which entangled itself by the hind legs among some brushwood and struggled much for a considerable time; fortunately the wood gave way and he reached the shore much better than I had any reason to expect. I made two trips on my back, one with my paper and pen, the other with my blanket and clothes--holding my property above the water in my

hands. My guides made three trips each with the saddles and provisions. Breadth of river 30 yards; heat of the water 40 degrees. During this time there was a very heavy shower of hail, and being nearly half-an-hour on the water I was so much benumbed with cold that I was under the necessity of kindling a fire. After handing my guides a pipe of tobacco and making ourselves comfortably warm, I continued my route through a delightful undulating country till three o'clock, when I began to ascend a second ridge of mountains, which I crossed and camped at dusk at their base in a thick woody valley near a small stream of water on the dry rocky ground."

Thursday, 11th - "Heavy rain during the night, which roused me long ere day. In the twilight of the morn I raised camp, the weather assuming a more inviting appearance. At seven in the morning gained the summit of the last range of hills between the two rivers, and had one of the most sublime views I ever beheld. As I approached the banks of the Spokane River the soil became more barren, except small belts of low ground in the valleys--near the mountain rills. Reached the old establishment at Spokane at eleven o'clock, where I was very kindly received by Mr. Finlay. He regretted exceedingly that he had not a single morsel of food to offer me. He and his family were living for the last six weeks on the roots of *Phalangium Quamash* (called by the natives all over the country *Camas*) and a species of black lichen which grows on the pines. (Here Douglas gives the recipe for preparing the black lichen.) A Cake of this sort and a small basin of water was all he had to offer me. By the kindness of Mr. Dease, I had ample provisions for fourteen days, with a good stock of game in the saddle-bags which I killed on my way, and this enabled me to share the half of my stock with him; such fare as I had, although very palatable, cannot be considered fine living, but was to him the best meal he had enjoyed for some time. As the principal object of my journey was to get my firelock arranged by him, being the only person within the space of eight hundred miles who could do it, and being an item of the utmost consequence to have done soon, I lost no time in informing him of my request. Unfortunately he did not speak the English language, and my very partial knowledge of French prevented me from obtaining information which I should have acquired. In the afternoon I made a walk up the river and returned at dusk, when I found he had obligingly put my gun in good order, for which I presented him with a pound of tobacco, being the only thing I had to give."

Friday, 12th - "Immediately after breakfast, at six in the morning, in company with one of his sons, I made a short journey to the neighboring hillsMr. Finlay tells me that *R. (ibes) aureum* in that neighborhood produces very fine yellow fruit; that he never saw it black or brown."

Saturday, 13th - "As I thought of bending my steps again towards the Columbia, Mr. Finlay offered that one of his sons should escort me, which I accepted. Before parting with him I made inquiry about a sort of sheep found in this neighbourhood, about the same size as that described by Lewis and Clark, but instead of wool it has short thick coarse hair of a brownish- grey, from which it gets the name *Mouton Gris* of the voyageurs..... I offered a small compensation to the sons to procure me skins of male and female, at the same time showing them what way they should be prepared. He assured me that in all probability he would be able to find them about August, as he was going on a hunting trip to the higher grounds contiguous to the Rocky Mountains."

On August 3rd of 1826 Jocko again was visited by David Douglas who was with John Work, Douglas wrote, "Thursday and Friday, 3rd & 4th - At nine o'clock in the morning crossed the

Spokane River to the old establishment on the south side, where we found old Mr. Finlay, who gave us abundance of fine fresh salmon from his barrier, placed in a small branch of the main river." ("Journal Kept By David Douglas During His Travels in North America - 1823-27", Antiquarian Press, Ltd., New York, 1959, pp. 63, 169, 171, 203.

"Evidently the famine at Spokane House had ended." Bond, P. 15

Jack Nisbet writes of this visit in a story in "North Columbia Monthly Boundaries" column for October 2009 "David Douglas at Play." Which he kindly sent to me in October of 2009.

"During the spring and summer of 1826, Douglas used the newly-constructed Fort Colville as his base of operations while he canoed the Kettle River, gathered trilliums along Pinkney Creek, tasted edible valerian from a tribal earth oven near Colville, and fell asleep under a cedar tree somewhere east of town. When the naturalist damaged his musket hunting curlews and sharp-tailed grouse, the local agent sent him to visit the Jaco Finlay family at the company's abandoned Spokane House. While Jaco fixed Douglas's firearm, the naturalist recorded his Spokane wife Teshwintichina's recipe for lichen cakes and taught some of Finlay's several sons how to preserve mammal and bird skins as museum specimens."

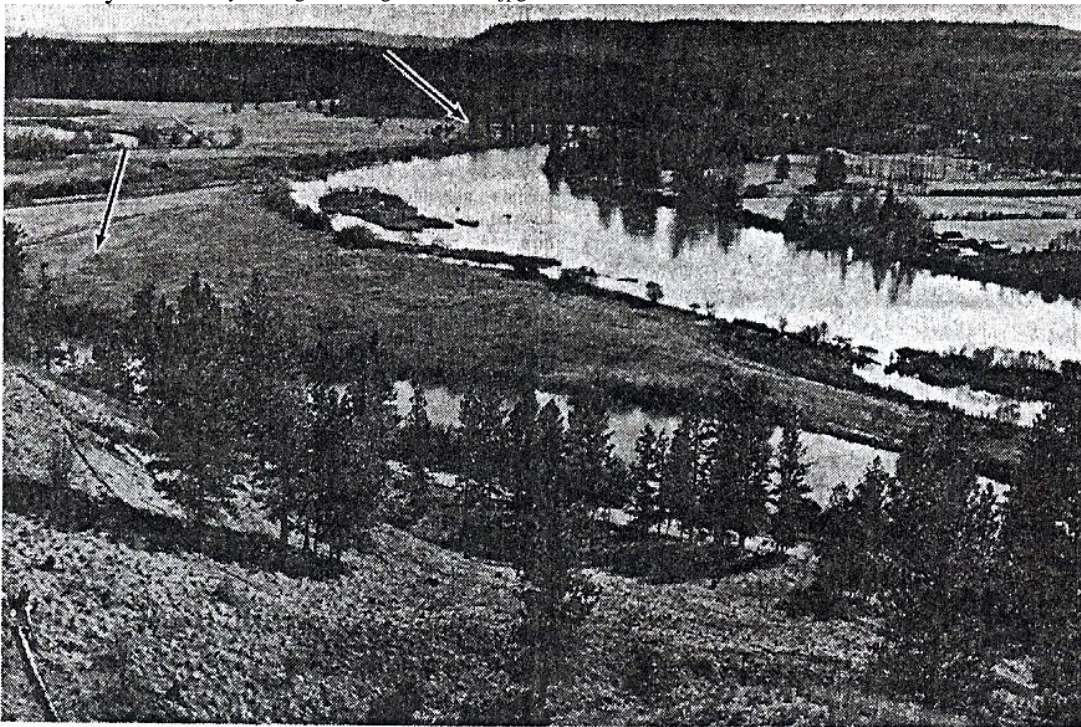


This painting hangs in the Spokane House Interpretive Building , I took the picture when we had gathered for the Finlay Family Reunion some years ago.

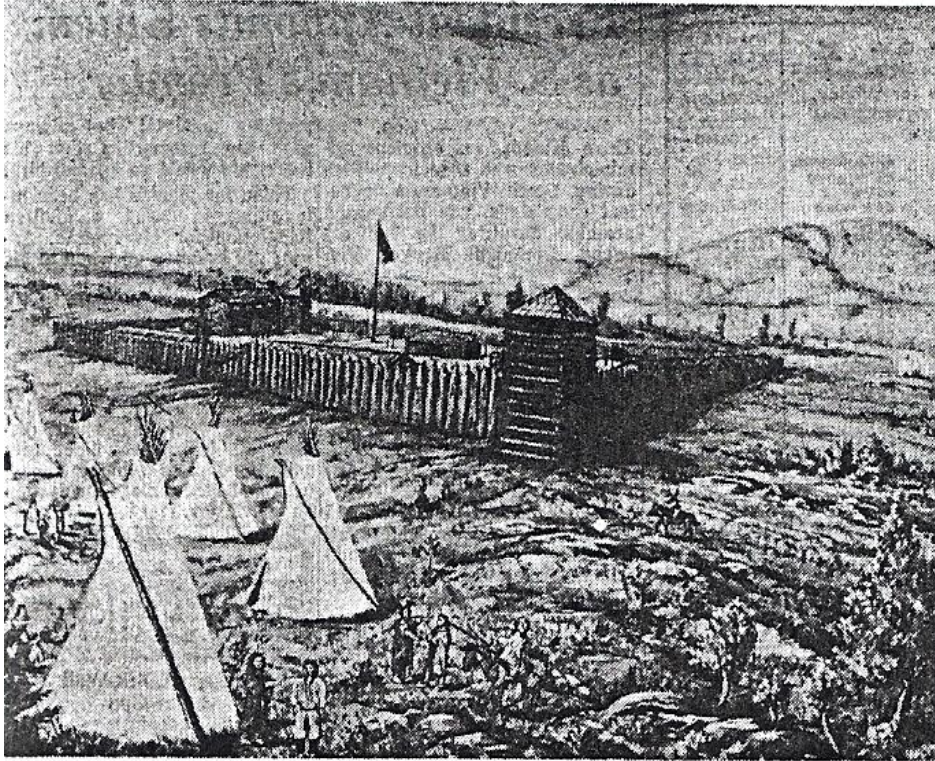
Jocko Finlay had stayed on at Spokane House after it was closed down by the Hudson's Bay Company, living out the rest of his life there, using it as a headquarters. In his last days he stayed pretty much at home, visiting occasional passersby, such as David Douglas, and Francis and Edward Ermatinger.



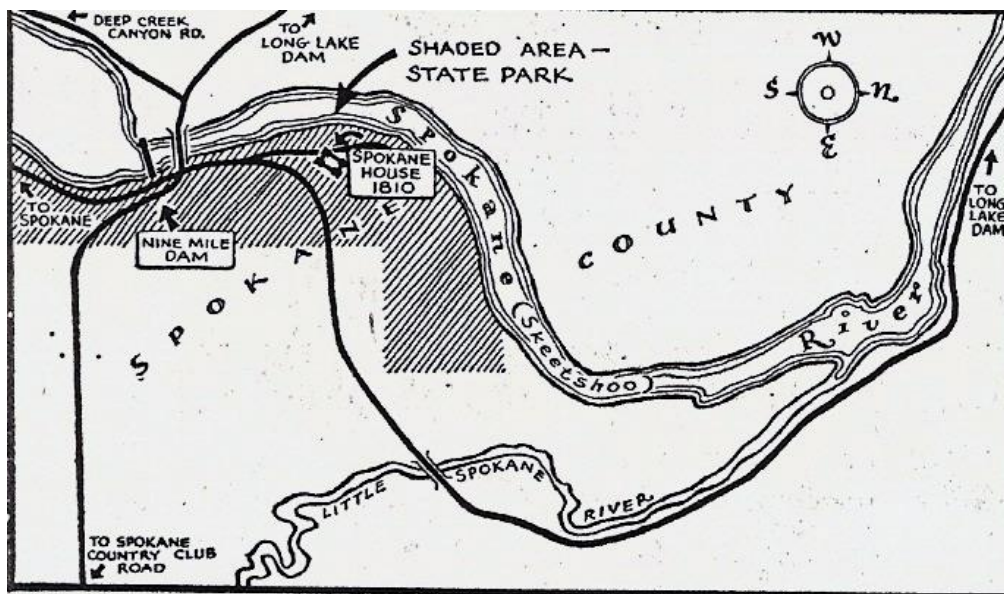
Spokane House (artist's version), 1812 Sketch by Jerome Peltier, Courtesy Eastern Washington University www.historylink.org/db_images/ACFB7E.jpg



Jaco Land, arrow on left is site of Spokane House and on right Fort Spokane
 Spokane Daily Chronicle, Saturday, Feb. 5, 1972, p8



Artist's view of the first stockade and Indian settlement.



Map shows Spokane House site near confluence of two Spokane rivers.

"Jacques Finlay had a large family of sons and daughters, noted for their fine physique, many with light blue eyes. The men of the family were competent and trustworthy. The daughters were fine wives and mothers." (Meyers, p.166) Some accounts say he had as many as twenty children, and at least sixteen have been traced.

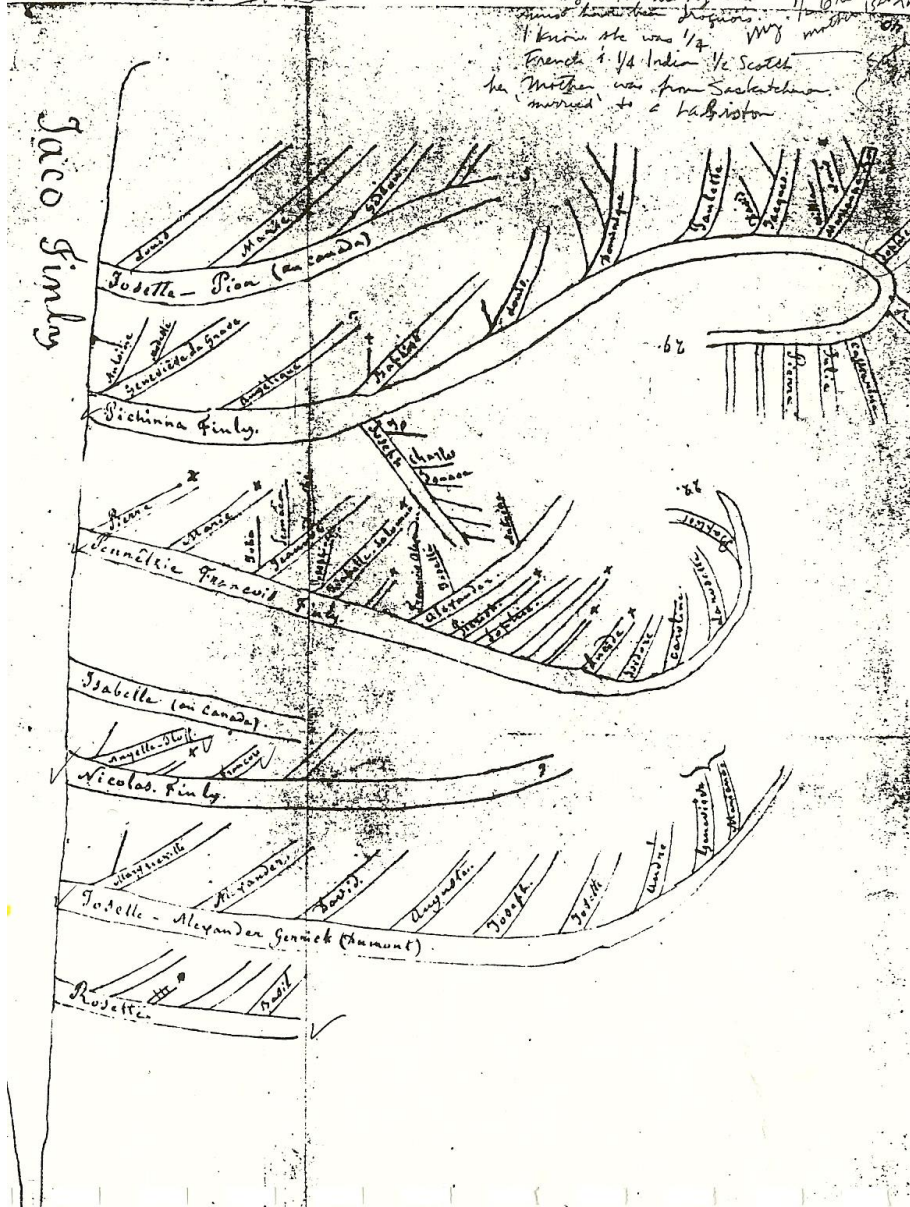
He had many different wives in his life time, one a Cree and another was a Spokane, and still another was a Pend d'Oreille. There is no way of knowing how many wives or children he actually had, probably more than is realized. In the church entry of his daughter, Marguerite's marriage to her second husband, Angus Pierre McLeod, in 1855, it is written that her mother was Teskwentichina, who can be safely regarded as one of Jocko's wives. She was a Spokane Indian. Also in the 1860 Washington Territory census, Spokane County, Colville Valley, there is listed as #8 for August 8, 1860, a Susan Phinley (Finley) aged 64 years. Whom many on Ancestry.com called Susan Teskwentichina, this is incorrect. That Susan is most likely James Finley's wife, Susanna Bruyere.

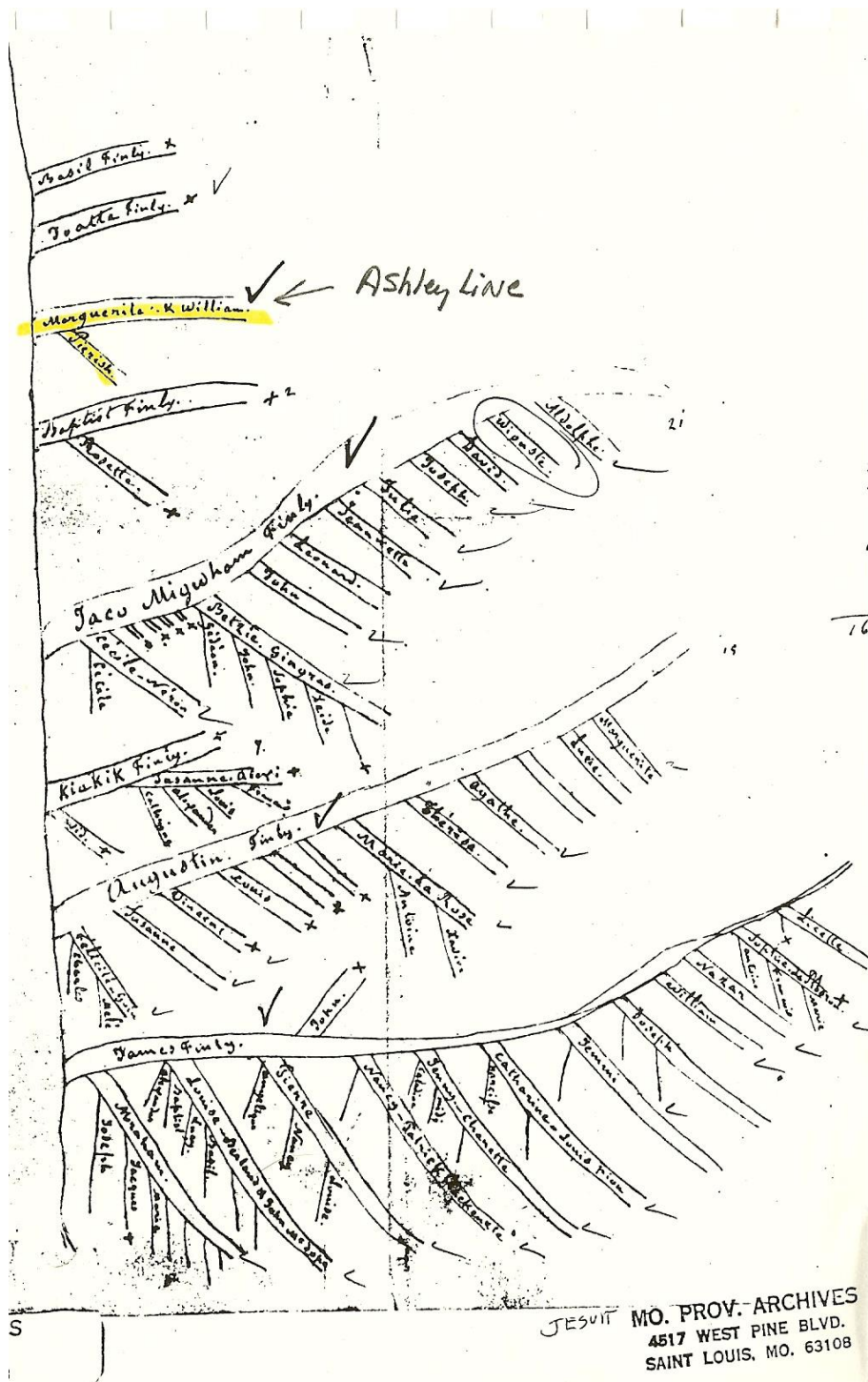
It hasn't been possible to separate his children and to place them each with their rightful mothers, or to arrange them perfectly according to their dates of birth. The history of some of his children is very sketchy and will probably never be known or completed. In fact the existence of some of them is only known through the very early allotment records of the Flathead Agency of Dixon, Montana, now housed in the Federal Records Center in Seattle, Washington. The Finley clan is so large and their genealogy so difficult that errors no doubt exist. Jocko Finlay's descendants start with his children, of which at least seventeen are known to have left some sort of trace, with a half dozen more untraceable.

While Father Jean Pierre DeSmet was among the Finleys in the 1840s & 1850s, he made a drawing of Jocko's Family Tree. Shown on the tree are the different branches of his children and their children. Those children shown are: James, Augustine, Kiakik, Jaco (Migwham), Baptiste, Marguerite, Joatte, Basil, Josette, Pichina, (Pennetzie) Francois, Isabell, Nicholas, Josette, and Rosette. In a letter from Nancy Merz, Jesuit Province Archives, St. Louis, Missouri, 20 Sep 1987 to Betty Pierce of Paradise, CA: "This is in reply to your inquiry about the Jaco Finley family tree chart you have in your possession. I have not been able to find additional information on Jaco Finlay. The chart you have may have been drawn by Father DeSmet since it bears a resemblance to others drawn by him that bears his signature. The chart has been kept with a collection of maps drawn probably between 1845 and 1850." It has since been pretty much decided that it was by Jocko.

if you have any information
on Beabelle, I would appreciate
it. By Allen being the
mother of Beabelle, I know she was 1/2
French & 1/4 Indian & 1/2 Scotch
her mother was from Saskatchewan
married to a halibron

Jaco Simla





The following are mysterious persons who show up in the records and are probably Jocko's children:

Emelie Fenlay - Although her parents are given as Francois Fenlay and Josephte Cree, her birth date is 1796, too early for Jocko's son Francois to have been her father. I know of no other Finlay or Fenlay in the Oregon country, her birthplace, besides Jocko and his family. She

married Pierre Bercier, and then Simon Plamondon. The only other possibility is that Jocko had a full brother named Francois. No mention is ever made of such a person in the fur trade journals of the Hudson's Bay and North West Companies. She has recently (2000) been added as a child of Jocko's. From Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest, Vancouver volumes I & II, Mikell De Lores Wormell Warner & Harriet Duncan Munnick, French Prairie Press, St. Paul, Oregon, 1972, page A-7: "Pierre Bercier (I) Numerous Bercier appear in the fur trade; Pierre was one of the earliest, being recorded as "my guide" by David Thompson of the North West Company in 1808. He was a boatman and horse keeper at Spokane House in 1813 and with Ogden in the Snake River country in 1824-26. He died about 1830, and his widow, Emelie Finlay, married Simon Plamondon, the elder." This puts her & Pierre Bercier in contact with Jocko and his family.

Thornburn Finlay - A voyageur for the North West Company in the capacity of middleman and hunter, at Fort George in 1813-14.

Bonhomme Finlay - A voyageur for the North West Company, as middleman and a hunter, at Spokane House in 1813-14, Columbia 1821-22, Ft. George 1822-23.

Bonaparte Phinley (Finlay) - A trapper and hunter living in the Bitterroot Valley, Montana in 1860 and born around 1817.

Dominique - born 1816 and on the 1886 Flathead Census.

Angelic -

Mary - this woman may be actually a granddaughter or a daughter of one of Jocko's last wives after he had died. She has Flathead Tribal Records. She lists her mother as Cum-she-nah and father as Finley, and has siblings listed as: Nequam, Penosee, & Patrick. She is Flathead Allotment number 167. Born about 1835 six or seven years after Jocko died.

More research must be made to determine who these people actually are.

From "Strangers in Blood" Fur Trade Company Families in Indian Country - Jennifer S.H. Brown, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman (1980), page 133:

John George McTavish, NWC & HBC man, may have married one of the Finley girls?

"And a witness in the Connolly court case mentioned that McTavish had lived for a brief period with a "halfbreed," one Yacko Tinneys (a corruption of the name Jaco Finlay? and perhaps a Finlay daughter) at Spokane House in the Rocky Mountains (Lower Canada Jurist 1867:239)."

In the Charles Denney Papers as number 677,000 he has Jacques (Joco) Finley and also another individual who is a mystery, Sunday Finlay number 799,000.

The Journal of Michel Klyne at Jasper House, October 2, 1827(transcribed by Wade Thomson) The "Jacquo" mentioned in this journal is probably not our Jocko but Jacques Cardinal. I had

thought that as Jacques Cardinal was a young man Klyne must be referring to Jocko Finley when it said "Old Jacquo" but the entries refer to "Jacquo" into the 1830s. I include these for the sake of it.

"In the afternoon they (the Iroquois) arrived but they have some more time to lose at La Rocque house ----- those skins they brought up in the canoes. Jacquo off with them he left some horses that he could not find and all the mares ..for Loyer will be off tomorrow with James (Finley) as sure they ---- all off. I received the Iroquois beavers say 380 small and large. I gave them each a few drams with each one quart rum for their good hunt of beaver. If the Iroquois leave this place the returns will be very little and I hope they will make a martin hunt. This winter for the first time they promise to make one."

"Wed 26th (January 1828) Jasper House. the weather clear but cold in the evening Old Jacquo returned to inform me that he met with two Shuswap Indians at the End of the Second Lake they have a few skins.

"Thurs 27th. Cloudy and clear..... Early this morning Old Jacquo off with some ammunition, tobacco and a few more small articles. For not to let them come to the House in case some of them should arrive as I expect them everyday. In the afternoon Antoine Auger with my Boy arrived with the cache of meat."

"Sat 29th The weather as yesterday (Cloudy and Cold weather) Old Jacquo arrived from the second lake he brought 25 beaver small and large and 20 martin this is all they had."

Tues 15th. (February 1828) Blowing and snowing all day Antoine went off for the cache of meat, late in the afternoon the hunter and Jacquo arrived they brought only three sheep the hunter in those 10 days missed most upon four doe moose and this is not on account of his gun every time he fires at a mark never misses and it must be of bad luck --- (on occasion the frizzen on a lock would not give off a spark when struck by the hammer holding the flint)."

"Mon 21st (February 1828) fine weather Jacquo off for some horses to be off tomorrow with the hunter, down the river in the afternoon. James Finley wife arrives to ask for some thing to eat this is two days that her children did not eat and the man off hunting and not arrived as yet. I gave her #100 fresh meat and they lost no time and went off to her lodge."

"Thurs 24th (February 1828) Cold weather in the evening the hunter and Jacquo arrived they brought the meat of a buck Red Deer (Elk) that the hunter killed before this --- this is the first large animal that he killed since 15 December."

Jocko Finlay died (about age 60) in 1828, from John Work's Field Journal is: "An Indian arrived from Spokane with letters from Mr. Kettra (Kittson) of the 25th inst. announcing the death of Jac Finlay about 10 days ago." May 20, 1828 (?) Wade Thomson writes - 8 December 1986: "One entry of interest referring to Jacques' death--`Edmonton House - 8 October 1828 - In the evening a Saulteaux called Forsin (Jacques Finlay's brother-in-law) arrived from the west side of the mountains, he brings news of Jacques' death.' 9 October 1828 `Forsin and his brother

Pembuck received a few supplies and departed for Berland's Lake." Jocko is the only person to be buried in a Washington State Park.

Since doing this article on Jacques R. Finlay two western based writers Jack Nisbet and John C. Jackson have done work which includes pieces about him. Jackson's *Children of the Fur Trade - Forgotten Metis of the Pacific Northwest*, Mountain Press, Pub. Co., Missoula, Montana, 1995 is very good.

He has brought to my attention some new details, dealing with Jocko's brothers-in-laws:

From page 22 of *Children of the Fur Trade - Forgotten Metis of the Pacific Northwest*:
"Speaking of eastern Indians in the west Jackson writes: "St. Regis and Caughnawaga Iroquois like Thomas Pembroke or Registre Bruguier were distinguished by English or French names." I wonder if there is a connection between Pembroke and Pembuck? Jackson also writes, "Two Bungees (Ojibwa) passed along an invitation from their brother-in-law, Jacco Finley, to bring an HBC trading outfit west of the mountains." It is well known that Jocko lived among both the Iroquois and the Chippewas that were in the West--but did he have in-laws in both camps? Probably so.

Brothers-in-law of Jocko Finlay are mentioned by John Rowand in a letter to William Henry, 30 July 1815, (Selkirk Correspondence, MG19 E1, pp. 8646-8, N.A.C.). Alexander Henry the Younger had drowned in the Columbia Bar with others when a sail boat was filled with water and sank. News was brought to his widow and four young children at Fort Vermilion (Fort des Prairies).

"We got that the 18th of October by Jaco Finlay Brothers in Law." Forsin & Pembuck?

"Members of the Astor party referred to the Spokane country as Jacco Land". (Meyers, p. 166; Thomas Oakshott, "Koo Koo Sint," Red Hair and Jaco" *Spokesman Review* May 30, 1957.) The Spokane Indians had a deep respect for him.

The records show that Jacques Raphael Finlay was the first explorer on the headwaters of the Columbia River in the Flathead section and the Spokane country. The register of the joint Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company's employees for the 1821-22, containing 1984 names, does not show the name Finlay. "They appear to have never been servants of the Hudson's Bay Company, but free traders and trappers." (Meyers, p. 167) Jacob Meyers was in error here. Jocko had a long and distinguished career in the North West Company and his sons were with John Work's Snake Country brigades for the Hudson's Bay Company.

He was buried outside the southeast bastion of John Jacob Astor's Fort Spokane, originally Fort Jacob, built a half-mile south of Finlay's Spokane House. Fort Spokane was occupied by the North West Company and became known as Spokane House when the original location on the island was abandoned." Bond, p14

"His descendants today are numerous: Some are on the Colville, some on the Flathead, the Kalispell and the Coeur d'Alene Reservations. Others live off the reservations." "Jacques Raphael Finlay - Re-interment Ceremony - July 25, 1976", Rev. Edward J. Kowrach.

".....the American trader Nathaniel Wyeth, passing through the Spokane country in late March, 1833, on his way from Fort Vancouver to the States, observed that near the Spokane River stood a lone bastion of the fort, the only part the Indians had not torn down for firewood, a palisades of sorts left by them to mark the final resting place of one believed to be Jaco Finlay, lying in a coffin beneath it." ("The Spokane Indians", Ruby & Brown, p.61) In 1836 when Rev. Samuel Parker visited the old fort the lone bastion was still standing. By 1843 the German naturalist, Charles Geyer, saw only mounds of dirt where the chimneys once were.

Jack Nisbet wrote at the end of his article *Jaco's Tribe* in reference to all of Jocko's descendants alive today, "It seems almost as if Jaco is still out there himself, searching for lilies and mountain sheep, nibbling on currants as he moved through the hills. The Finlays among us make it seem like a reasonable bet that we will actually make it to next spring, and that it will be fun to get out in the greenery and have a look around."

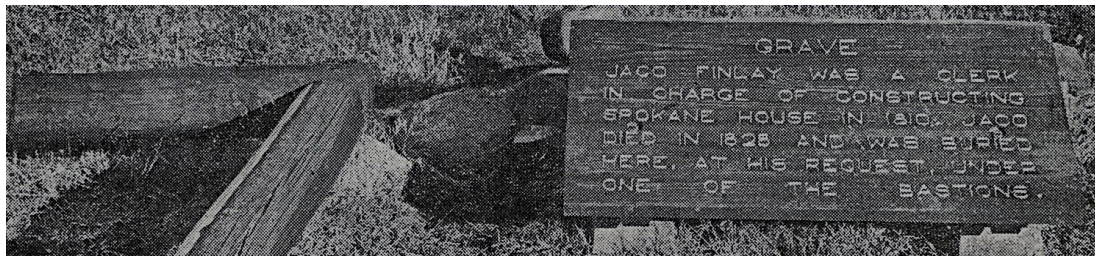
"In 1951, archeologists found a skeleton beneath the southeast bastion of the old post. It is very likely all that remains of Jaco Finlay, for the body was buried in a coffin, flat on its back rather than as the Indians interred their dead. Three buttons were found at given distances along the upper torso signifying that he wore a shirt when buried. Five pipes were found buried with him. Two were clay (one bowl had the initial "J" filed or carved on it). The other three were of wood, stone, and metal. A fragment of bone comb, some slate, a hunting knife, fragments of spectacles and part of an iron cup also were found with the skeleton. All are now housed in the Cheney Cowles Memorial Museum, Spokane, Washington." (Jerome Peltier, p. 40)



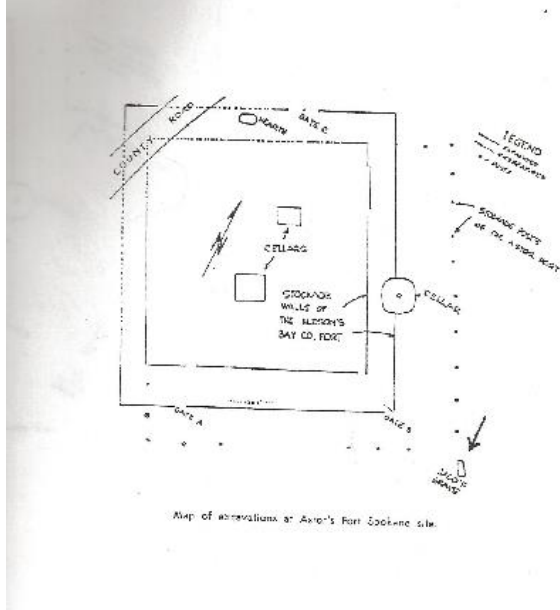
1962 excavator's search for artifacts from stockade's foundation.

The Spokesman-Review, Sunday, August 24, 1969, p6

In a letter from Kathie M. MacGregor, 27 Jan 1988, viz: Effie Hill-- "She use to say that the man they dug up under the bastion at Spokane House was not Jacco Finley at all, but an old Indian that some trappers killed in the forest one night and buried there. She said something, too, about the spectacles that were found with him, but I cannot remember what it was."



Spokane House Historical Site has a marker which says: "Grave. Jacko Finlay was a clerk in charge of constructing Spokane House in 1810. Jacko died here in 1828 & was buried at his request, under one of the bastions."



EARLY BIRDS IN THE NORTHWEST; Rowland Bond

The following is from the "Jacques Raphael Finlay Re-internment"; p.1.

"As is the standard practice in archeological excavations the objects found are removed to laboratories for further study and identification. In the dig here in 1951-53 the National Park Service (WA State Parks) sent the artifacts and remains to the Eastern Washington State Historical Society. From 1951 to this date (1976) the remains of Jacko Finlay were kept at the museum. It has been felt all along that this was not proper. At the request of Mrs. Janette Whitford, a great, great, granddaughter, and of the family of Finlay we today re-inter the skeletal remains and give them a Christian burial.

"This is the man we are honoring today and giving a Christian burial 148 years after his death for then there were no ministers of religion of any sort in this then virgin country. We bless this grave and may he rest in peace!"

It may be of interest to note that Jacques Raphael Finlay has been briefly mentioned in "The MacMillan Dictionary of Canadian Biography" on page 230, as follows:

"Finlay, Jaco (d. 1828), fur-trader, was a half-breed son of James Finlay, Sr. He became a clerk of the North West Company, and in 1806 or 1811 he built Spokane House on the Spokane river. He died at Spokane in May, 1828." He is not mentioned in the Dictionary of American Biography, at this time. Today he is mentioned in many books and dictionaries.

On Dec 9, 2012, at 2:12 PM, Chcourchane@aol.com wrote:

Hi Jack!

Hope you got home without any incidents. I enjoyed our visit yesterday but was sore in the knees when I got home but I stopped at Wal-Mart and Costco both first!

I have posed the question to family on Left-handed members of the Finley clan and I am getting lots of people who are left handed in Jocko's descendants. At least 6-7 in my immediate family: that is a brother, a nephew and a great niece and several great-greats. I see you are a lefty too? Could be something to it...do you know the whole story on who mentioned that Jocko was left-handed?

Chalk"

"Yes that was fun yesterday, although I can see why your knees are sore--it felt like people were bouncing off us the whole time we were talking.

Walt Goodman, who lived in Chewelah, is the one who first told me the left-hand story, then someone from the Colville Rez. I'd say half a dozen might mean something, since lefties only make up 10% of the general population but it does seem to be an inherited trait.

I'm attaching a scan of that Douglas map of the mouth of the Okanogan River. Had to get a really large one made for the book & exhibit that is there in case you ever need it. talk to you soon jack"

Places are still being named on the Flathead Reservation in his honor as this news article from front page of The Missoulian, Tuesday, February 22, 2005 shows:

"KwaTaqNuk Resort to add casino, sports bar by John Stromes of the Missoulian

Polson - The 112-room Best Western KwaTagNuk Resort in Polson is undergoing its first major expansion since the tribally owned hotel, casino, marina and resort opened in 1992 on Flathead Lake.

Bob Gauthier, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes economic development advisor and a former restaurateur, is supervising the \$1.5 million expansion and remodeling....

Gauthier is the founder and operator of Gauthier's Steak House, a popular restaurant in Polson for many years..... KwaTaqNuk means "where the water leaves the lake" in the Kootenai language.

(The new sports bar and casino will be called the Bay Club). The new restaurant will open March 21 overlooking the lake and marina on the lobby level.

"It will be called Jocko's Steak House and Lounge," Gauthier said. The name honors Jacques "Jocko" Finley, a French-Canadian-Indian trapper and explorer, and one of the earliest contacts of the Salish and Kootenai people with European-American culture.

The restaurant will feature quality beef, fresh fish, salads and an expanded wine list." Of course Jocko was not part French, but I bet he would be proud.

In 1983 I had written a version of the above summary, which Dr. Harry C. Smith, of Wilsonville, Oregon had asked if he could use in his autobiography. The request was granted, and the earlier version appears in "Life is a Long Continuous Struggle - There Are No Winners", an autobiography of Harry C. Smith, M.D. Another version of mine has been published in PIONEER BRANCHES, Northeast Washington Genealogical Society, Vol. IX, No.2, Jan. 1994, p51, & etc.

On June 15, 1991 at Spokane House Interpretive Center, near Spokane, WA the latest memorial to him was held - the Finlay/Finley Family Reunion and Memorial Observance sponsored by James Gordon Perkins. Those attending among his many descendants were: Pauline Flett, Jerome Peltier, and Father Edward Kowroch, S.J.

From Firearms, Traps, and Tools of the Mountain Men -p-210-211:

"John Work, a chief trader of the Hudson's Bay Company, left a contemporary account of the burial of Jaco Finley, caretaker at the abandoned Spokane House in 1828. In 1954 Louis Caywood, National Park Service archeologist, reported on the exhumation of human remains believed to be Finley's. With the Skeleton was the knife blade within a disintegrated light metal scabbard. No part of the knife handle has remained. Spokane House was established by the North West Company in 1810, taken over by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821, and vacated by that company in 1826. Jaco Finley, whose employment, dated back to North West Company days, remained at the post until his death and was there buried. His unprepossessing knife offers fair testimony regarding one type of knife carried by a trapper, and we have it straight from his hand, so to speak. Interestingly enough, Jaco's half-breed son, Jacques, is identified as the purchaser of two knives sold by William H. Ashley at the 1825 rendezvous on Henry's Fork of the Green."

(1) Archaeological Excavations At Fort Spokane, 1951, 1952, 1953 - Louis R. Caywood.

(2) William H. Ashley - Dale L. Morgan, pp-118-29; states that Jacques was one of the deserters from Ogden's Hudson's Bay Company party, on Weber River, 1825. However, Jacques is said to have rejoined the British later. (Note: From Chalk - I believe he may be in error here and that it was his son Jean Baptiste and not Jocko).

From "Jaco Finlay's Grave" -- Archaeological Excavations at Fort Spokane 1951, by Louis R. Caywood, Archaeologist, Vancouver, Washington, June 1, 1952...

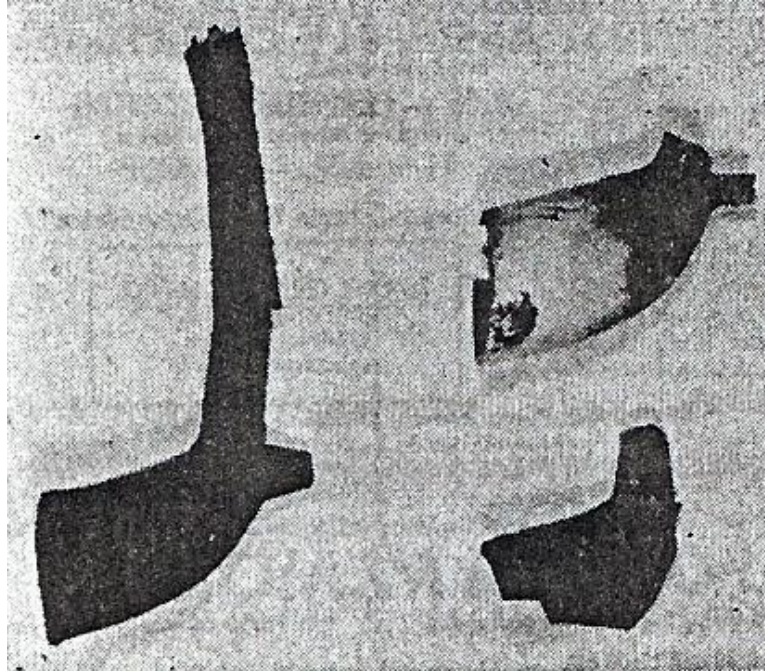
"The second burial found (plate III B) is believed to be that of Jaco Finlay.....

The grave was found by Roy Carlson while looking for evidence of a bastion outside the southeast corner of the "red" fort. A number of large flat stones were found six inches below the surface of the ground. Removal of the stones disclosed a thin layer of rotted wood which later was found to have been the top of a coffin. The skeleton was immediately below the rotted wood. The head was to the south and east. The heavy stones had caused the coffin to collapse.

The coffin measured 6.2 feet long by 1.7 feet wide and 1.2 deep. It had almost entirely rotted away, leaving only a thin shell of rotten wood surrounding the skeleton. Thirteen nails were found which had been used in making the coffin. The skeleton was in an extremely poor condition because of the interworking factors of shallow burial, destruction by rodents, and the heavy stones which had been placed over the grave. Roots, insects, and humidity had all played their parts in the decay of the bones. Because of rodent activity many of the bones were entirely gone. The ribs, all of the vertebrae, the finger and toe bones, both petolla, and the left clavicle were missing. The facial portion of the skull and the upper jaw had been reduced to meal by the pressure of the heavy stones. Some of the teeth were missing. The right tibia showed abnormal enlargement probably due to rheumatism.

Buried with the skeleton was a sizeable collection of personal objects. Five pipes were found with the remains. Two were of clay, one of wood in the exact reproduction of a clay pipe, one was of stone and metal, and the fifth was of copper. One pipe has lines which appear to have been filed into the clay bowl as though Jaco had tried to mark it as his own. The "J" is very plain, but whether an "F" was meant to be part of the "J" could not be clearly ascertained. The mark actually may be nothing more than that placed there during the manufacturing process. Other objects found with the skeleton included the fragment of a bone comb, a piece of writing slate 10 inches by 3 inches, a hunting knife in a thin iron sheath, the fragments of a pair of spectacles, the remains of an iron cup or mug, and 3 metal buttons. A few fragments of cloth were distinguishable which were probably were the remains of a coat on which the buttons had been fastened.....

...Was buried at one of the forts or bastions. Jaco almost became a familiar who was lost, so one September afternoon Roy Carlson, a University of Washington archaeological student, who was working at the north east corner of the outside line of posts was suddenly seen to be jumping and dancing in great excitement. He had discovered the skeletal remains of Jaco Finlay, and he was where he should be--at the corner of the original or Astor Post, although no evidence of the bastion was discovered, which is not strange as it was probably a two story structure but with only supporting posts below resting on the ground or temporary rock foundations. The grave was a shallow grave one -- not more than 15 inches below the ground--and had been marked by heavy rocks, which as time passed, had fallen in and been covered over as the land was later farmed. The main bones of the skeleton was found to be in fairly good condition. This discovery of hand-wrought square nails, one coated with wood, indicated that the body had been buried in a crude coffin. Which was not the case of Indians in that day. The archaeologist found five pipes, one of the with the initials "J", a drinking cup was unearthed, brass buttons which were no doubt on the jacket of the old fur trader. Other things recovered with the skeleton were a hunting knife, and strangest of all; a nose-piece and frames of a pair of spectacles with a bit of glass on one side; also a portion of a bone comb...."



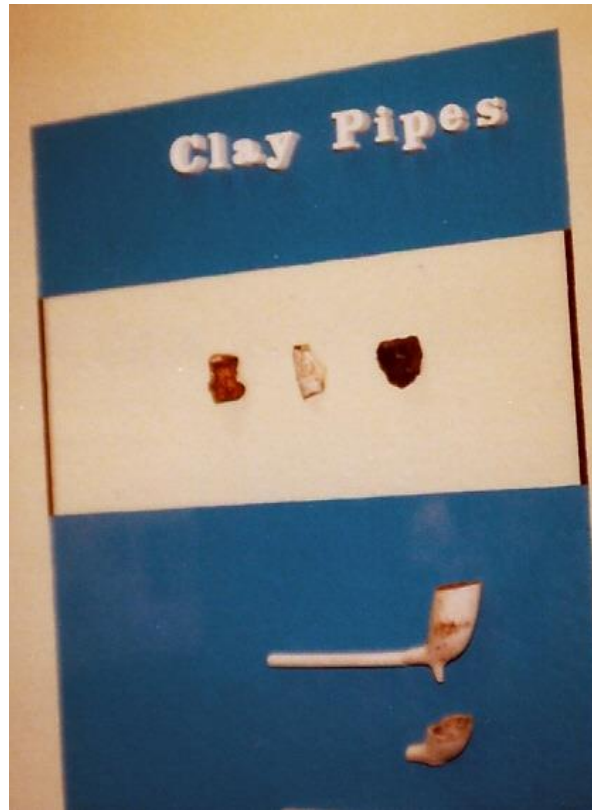
Three of Jocko's pipes that were found in his grave
Spokane Daily Chronicle, Saturday, Feb. 5, 1972, p8

The Spokesman Review, Letters / Dec. 23, 2010 Take care of MAC holdings

“According to Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture board President Chris Schnug, state budget cuts would close the museum and staff would be reduced to a skeleton crew.

Speaking of skeletons, in July of 1976, my paternal great-great-great-great grandfather Jacques “Jocko” Raphael Finlay (1768-1828), was reburied after having been on public display at the museum for over twenty years. His skeleton under the glass case was labelled “First Citizen of Spokane.” My cousin Jeannette Whitford of the Coeur d’Alene Tribe and others created quite a justifiable stir due to the public display of his remains. Father Edward J. Kowrach S.J. officiated at the reburial.

In July of 1987, a museum staff member granted me access to a dusty attic at the museum and to my surprise, I located in drawers my ancestor's funerary articles to include a dented metal cup, writing slate, bone comb, three clay pipes, and his eyeglasses. I was surprised because family had been told in 1976 that his personal possessions had been reburied with him. Not that I have a bone to pick with Chris Schnug, but his future skeleton crew could do what is respectful.



The same pipes on display at Spokane House, photo by Chalk Courchane



I took this photo of the Little Spokane River while I was visiting Spokane House, this is just down the bank from the fort's site.



I took this of the Little Spokane on June 17, 2011, the river is high and fast.



This monument is located on the roadside at Spokane House. Photo by Chalk Courchane August 1985

A nearly accurate account follows, except for the author a Ms. Barnes killing him off!

From The Spokane Chronicle, Friday, July 23, 1976, page 3:
"Area's First Citizen Reburial Service Is Set by Hazel Barnes

The bones of Jacques Raphael Finlay will be re-interred at 3 Sunday afternoon at Spokane House, the historic log trading post of the North West Company, where they first were buried almost a century and a half ago.

Jacques Finlay, also known as Jaco, was the Spokane area's "first citizen," a half breed whom a Spokane banker called "the man who pioneered the pioneers."

Finlay was responsible for construction of the original Spokane House, first trading post at the site, built in 1810.

He was killed in 1828 and was buried, according to his wishes, under a bastion of the Hudson's Bay Co. which had taken over the original North West post and the one it had purchased from the Pacific Fur Co. operated by John Jacob Astor.

When archaeological excavations were made in 1951 at the Spokane House site -- at the confluence of the Spokane and Little Spokane Rivers - the skeleton of Jaco Finlay was found.

Since then the skeletal remains have been at the Cheney Cowles Memorial State Museum.

Albert H. Culverwell, director of the Eastern Washington State Historical Society, which operates the museum, and Elwood I. Ball, president of Ball & Dodd Funeral Home, today announced plans for the Sunday service.

Culverwell was in charge of the archaeological research program at Spokane House in 1951.

Finlay's great-granddaughter, Mrs. W. A. (Jeanette) Whitford, vice president of the Eastern Washington State Historical Society, has been one of those most interested in seeing the bones of her ancestor re-interred at their original burial place, also known as Fort Spokane.

This frontiersman, who came to the area with the party of Finan McDonald, was so closely associated with Spokane House and its environs that it became known to fur traders as "Jacoland."


The Rev. Edward J. Kowrach, a retired Roman Catholic priest and a trustee of Eastern Washington State Historical Society, will lead the religious rites at which Jaco Finlay's bones are re-interred.

Another board member, the Rev. James W. Montgomery, associate pastor of Westminster Congregational Church and historian-author, will assist at the service, Culverwell said." (from Jack Nisbet)

Early researcher on Jocko Finlay was Gladys Mayo - "Jocko River Was Named For Jacques Raphael Finley, One of Earliest Fur Traders to Cross Mountains" - appears in THE PIONEERS - edited by Sam Johns, pp48-51.

Letters to David Courchane from Jack Nisbet (author of Sources of the River - Tracking David Thompson Across Western North America; and Sky People.

FINLAY/FINLEY FAMILY REUNION AND MEMORIAL OBSERVANCE

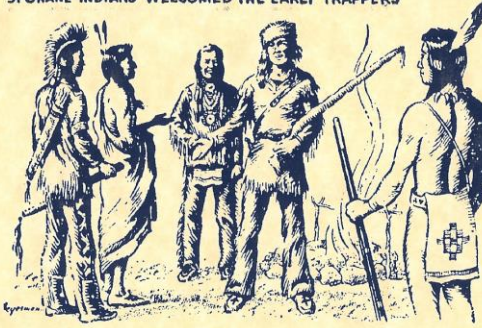


Spokane House *As it probably appeared in 1810*

The first business establishment in Washington and Oregon was built by the British Northwest Company in 1810 in the "V" formed by the confluence of the Little Spokane and The Spokane. The site was the headquarters for a large branch of the "Spokane" Indians, and the meandering course of the intriguing Little Spokane presented prodigious promise as a beaver source. Two years later the Americans put in a stockade. Competition was severe. The site was an Indian camping ground long before and after the whites. Fishing was remarkable. During the Salmon run the Little Spokane was literally choked with fish. Nothing remains of the stockades. They were abandoned by the fur traders in 1826. It is unsurpassed as a spot of historic significance in the entire Northwest, antedating such highly advertised places as Astoria and Nisqually.

Edmund T. Becher, SPOKANE CORONA: ERAS & EMPIRES

SPOKANE INDIANS WELCOMED THE EARLY TRAPPERS



The Spokane Indians were delighted to have Spokane House located in their midst. It made it easier for them to secure guns for their traditional warfare against the Indians west of the mountains, many of whom had been able to secure firearms much earlier and who made it difficult for the Spokanes to procure greatly needed buffalo meat and hides. In the second place, it made the Spokanes comparatively wealthy because of their position as middlemen, obtaining furs from surrounding tribes at low prices for resale to the traders, much to the disgust of the whites. The Spokanes showed their appreciation by demonstrating an uncommon friendship which was evidenced by the fact that the gates at Spokane House were seldom closed at night, a lack of caution which would have been costly in most places. The two cannon in the bastions of the stockade were never used except as festive noisemakers.

Edmund T. Becher, SPOKANE CORONA: ERAS & EMPIRES

For Additional Information on Jacques Finlay and Spokane House:

David Thompson, Rowland Bond, Spokane House Enterprises, 1972.

Early Birds in the Northwest, Rowland Bond, Spokane House Enterprises, 1972.

Spokane Corona, Edmund T. Becher, Hill Printers, 1974

Les Bourgeois de la Compagnie du Nord-Ouest, L.R. Masson, 1890.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS JUNE 15, 1991

9:00 A. M.

SPOKANE HOUSE INTERPRETIVE CENTER GATES
OPEN

10:00 A. M.

MEMORIAL OBSERVANCE

PAULINE FLETT - SPOKANE TRIBE OF INDIANS

JAMES GORDON PERKINS
GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT GRANDSON

JEROME PELTIER
FORMER CHAIR, EASTERN WASHINGTON STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
"HISTORY OF SPOKAN HOUSE"

FATHER EDWARD KOWRACH, S.J.
"JOCKO'S REBURIAL"

FRIENDS OF SPOKAN HOUSE
DON AND BARBARA STEPHENS
SALUTE TO:

- ❖ FOUR DIRECTIONS
- ❖ JACCO'S WIVES AND DESCENDANTS
- ❖ THOSE IN ATTENDANCE AND THE
GENERATIONS TO COME

JACQUES (Jacco, Jocko, Jaccot, Jaco) RAPHAEL FINLAY

(1768-1828)

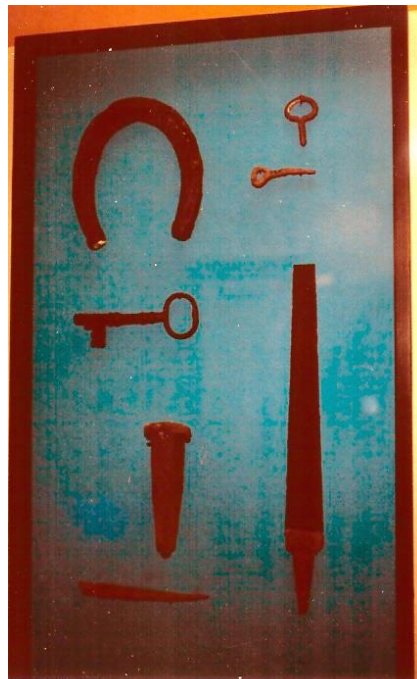
PLACE OF BIRTH: FINLAY'S FORT, NEAR
PRESENT DAY NEEPAWN,
SASKATCHEWAN

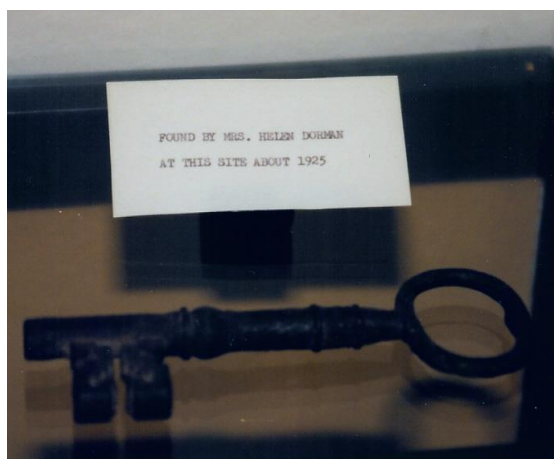
PLACE OF DEATH: SPOKAN HOUSE NEAR
PRESENT DAY SPOKANE,
WASHINGTON

Jacques (Jaco) Finlay and Finnan McDonald were the first white men to see the turbulent Spokane River with its many rapids and cascades. Employed by Thompson of the Northwest Company, Finlay came from Kullyspell House in 1810 to start the post at Spokane House, one step nearer the Coast. A Meitis (Cree/Scottish) he had at least three wives and 22 children. He rated as an interpreter, hunter and mechanic rather than as an executive. He soon left the employ of the company and aroused the ire of company traders by intercepting furs which they felt should go to them directly. After Spokane House was abandoned in 1826 he drifted back to it and lived there with his family. That year David Douglas came from Fort Colville to see him at Spokane House because, according to Douglas' Journal, "he was the only man within 800 miles who could mend his gun."

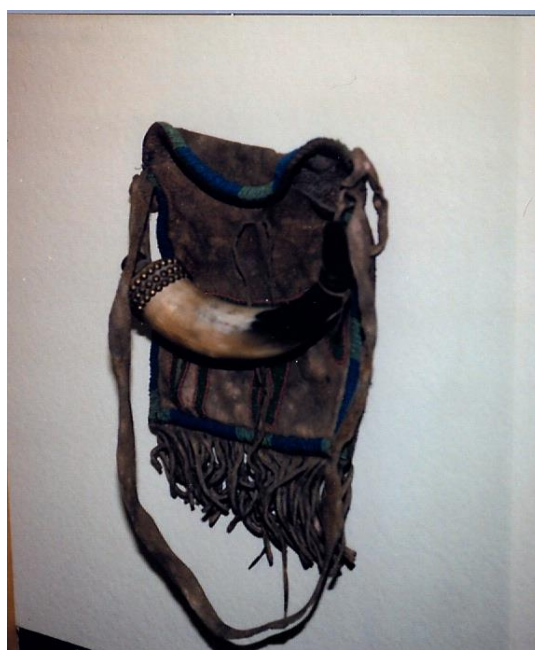
Edmund T. Becher, SPOKANE CORONA: ERAS & EMPIRES

Hopefully more information will surface concerning Jocko's wives and daughters. Often the history of women and their contributions have received little acknowledgement. J.G.P.



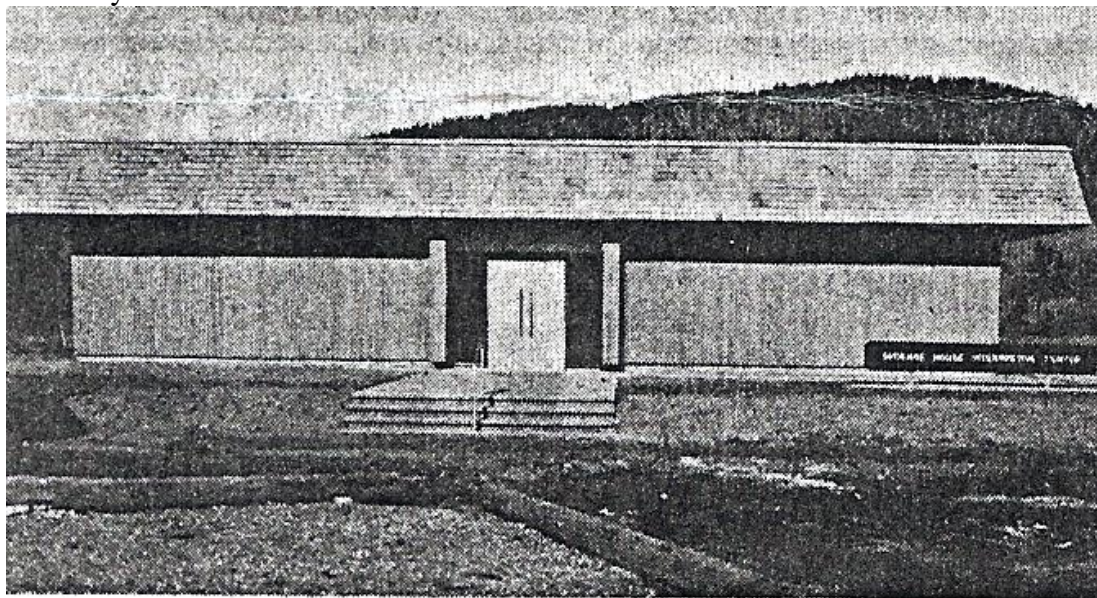


I took the following at Spokane House when I visited there on June 15, 1991.





Photographs of the fur trade items displayed at Spokane House Interpretive Center
Taken by Chalk Courchane



Modern museum built to "interpret" the trading post's history.

The Spokesman-Review, Sunday, August 24, 1969, p6

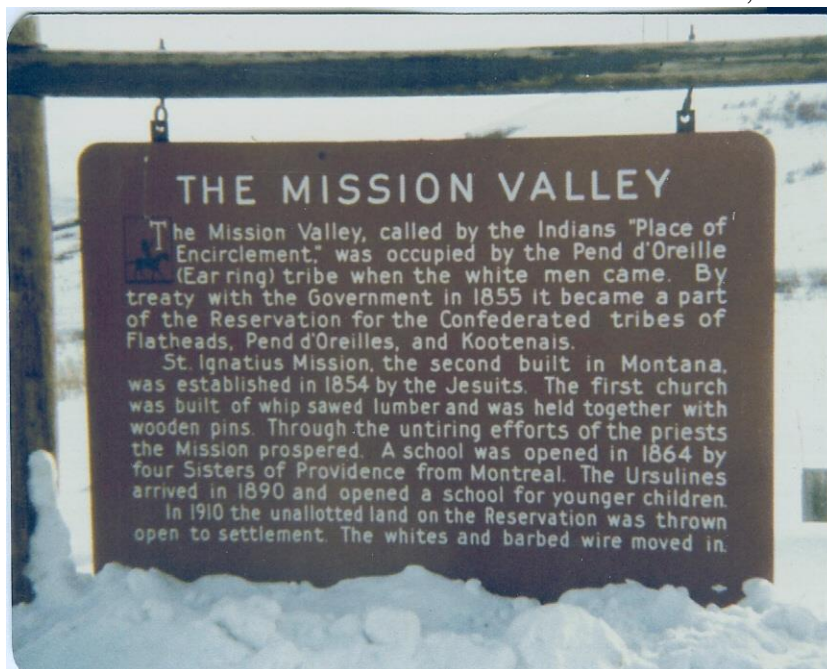


Yellow post in front, center shows the location of Jacco Finlay's grave (see below)
www.washingtonwars.net/Spokane%20house.htm

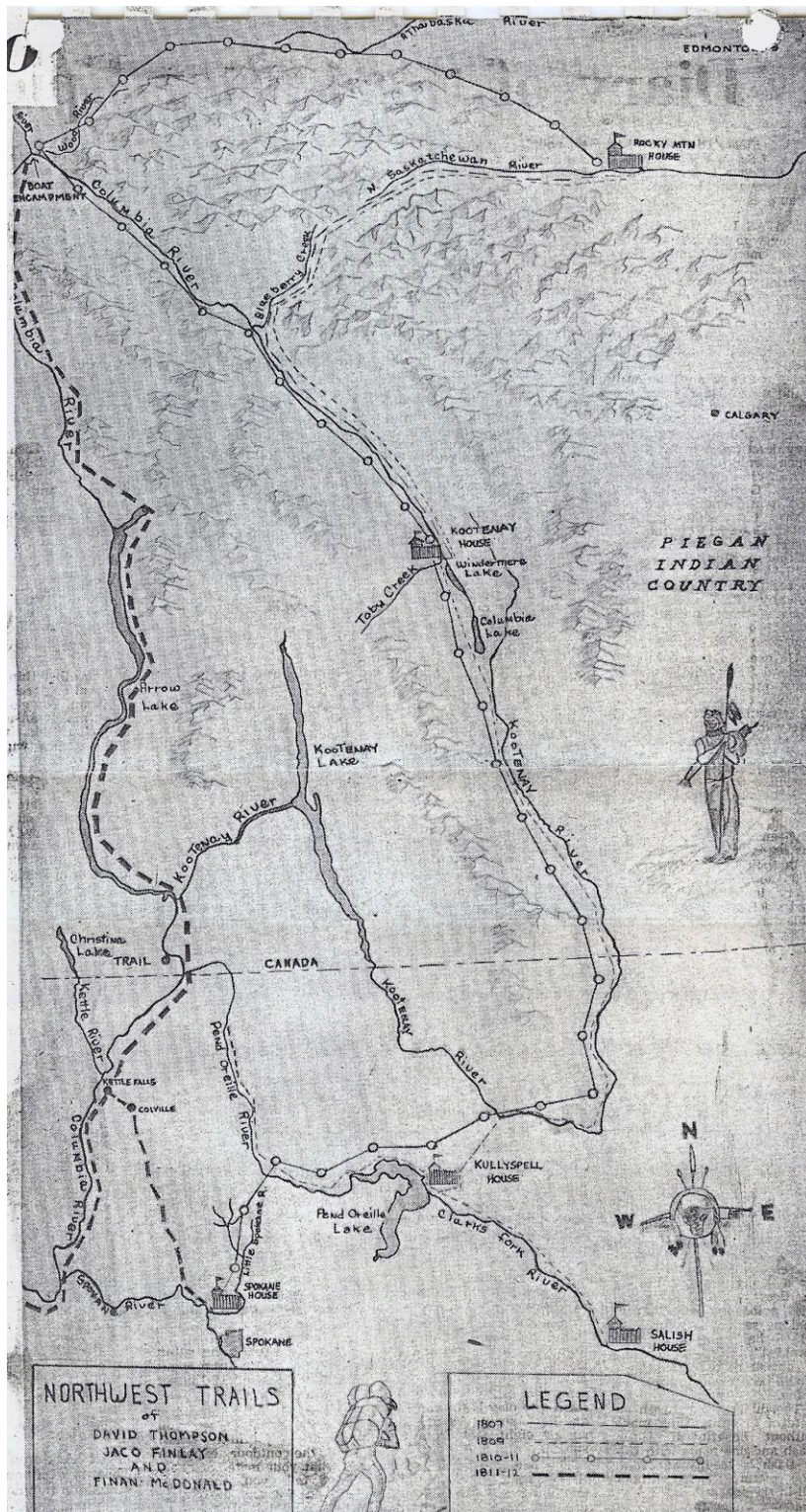




I took this while back on the Flathead Reservation, Montana.



Taken by Chalk Courchane





Scotch fur man

These were taken by Kathie Donahue at the Spokane House Encampment in Sept, 1988



“Don Stevens in clothing of the English Chief Factor.”



“A “voyageur” tans (scrapes) a deer hide
Preparing to brain tan.”



“Tanning rack”

From the internet comes this interesting bit of information:

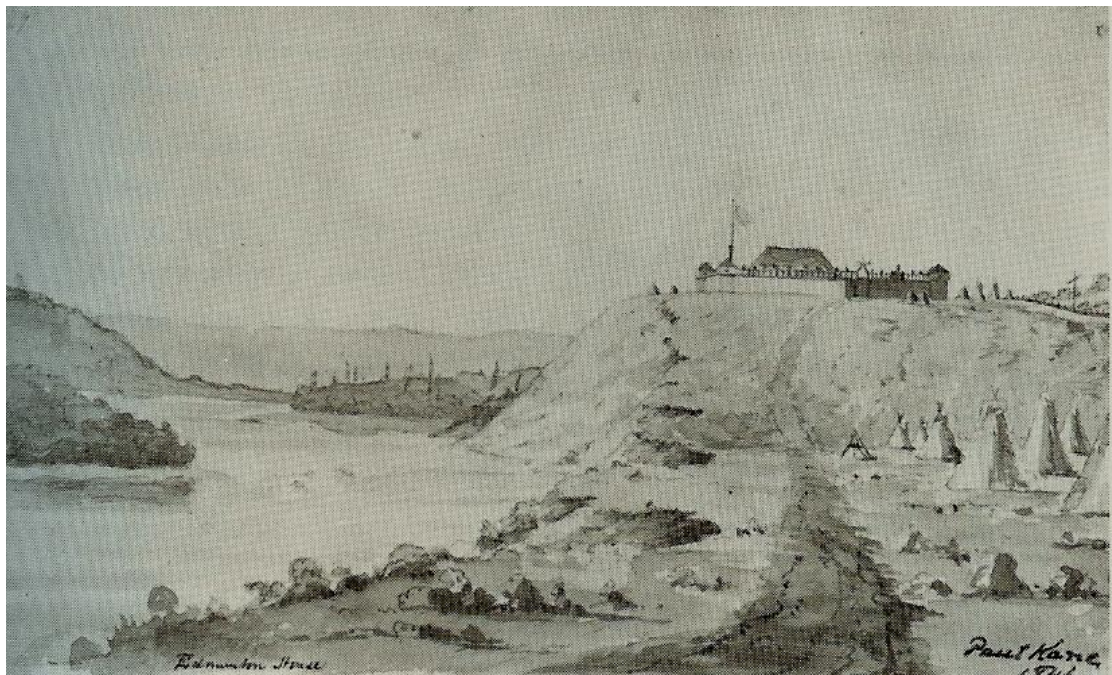
"RE: MtMan - List: Jaco Finlay (was: Pointed-toe moccasins) from a David Tippetts to an Angela Gottfried:

"...Somewhere recently, I read that the location of the original Walla Walla House was finally documented when archeologists exhumed the remains of Jocko's son who died there while working as the post's factor. They identified the remains by the presence of a knife in a metal sheath that was described in detail as belonging to Jocko and had been given to that son at the time of Jocko's death. That leads me to believe that somebody, perhaps one of the authors you list, recorded some detailed information about Jocko."

I emailed both Tippetts & Gottfried, Tippet's address was no longer used & Gottfried did not answer. This is very interesting if true...although the son of Jocko Finlay that "was buried there" would not have been a factor. It wasn't Nicholas who died on the Flathead as an old man. Could it be Jean Baptiste "John" Finlay or David Finlay? Where did they get the "Pointed-toe moccasins" in reference to Jocko? I guess I'll look into the Walla Walla excavations.

An update on pointed toe moccasins: It seems that pointed toed moccasins were used by some of the Canadian tribes.

On the internet 22 Oct. 1997 Angela Gottfried wrote to David Tibbets and the subject was pointed-toe mocs. She writes that pointed-toe moccasins were "a center seam, which extends a couple inches from the toe to the top of the foot, then an inset pucker like the classic pucker toe moccasin... Some have ankle wraps."



Edmonton House



Edmonton House

“Tue 11/28/2006 11:59 AM

I have a snippet of info. re: Jaco, that you might not have. In HBCA reel 1M49, B.60/a/13, 1814-15, fo. 3, James Bird reports that Jaco Finlay, a dissatisfied N.W. free trader, invited the HBCo. west of the mountains; he is immoderately fond of liquors; he also reports (I think this is Jaco that reports) on the death of Alexander Henry in the Columbia. James Bird of course works for the HBCo. at Edmonton House, not the Northwesters.” Nancy Anderson

From: Nancy Anderson [mailto:nananderson@shaw.ca]

Sent: Saturday, December 02, 2006 8:52 PM

To: Chalk (Jaco Finlay)

Subject: jacco

This from: Reel 3M62, D.5/8, Letter to Gov. George Simpson from James McMillan, who was clerk to David Thompson

Alexandria (Scotland) March 1, 1843 -- I have answered your questions as well as I could and hope you will find the date correct as far as I put dates to them....."

Here's Gov. Simpson's questions (some of them) and McMillan's answers -- I hope there is something new in them, but probably won't be.

"When did Jaco Finlay first cross: I am aware that Jacco wintered on the west side I believe previous to Mr. D. Thompson but as that was before my time I cannot give a date. He afterwards went there as a freeman several years after the country was settled but was reengaged.

Subject: joe finlay?

Date: 9/19/2010 12:33:54 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time

Joe Finlay, son of Jaco Finlay, appears in an article in Canadian West Magazine, Fall 1986:
"The year was 1864. McLean and the Swede were just two of the thousands of men in the grip of a giddy gold fever that swept the country. It had all started the previous fall when Joe Finlay, a half-breed, showed glittering gold nuggets to John "Scotty" Linklater, the Hudson's Bay trader at Tobacco Plains. The Tobacco Plains store stood on the bank of the Kootenay River where it straddles the Canada-US border. A prospector named James Manning from Colville, in Washington State, overheard the conversation and the secret was soon out.

"Finlay knew the heavily-wooded land west of the Rockies like the back of his hand. His father was Jaco Finlay, who had gone with explorer David Thompson on his pathfinding expedition across the continental divide in 1807. Seeing a chance to make some money, the Finlay brothers went southwest into Washington hoping to sell their secret to the highest bidder..." This started the gold rush on Finlay Creek, 50 miles north of the border in the East Kootenays. The rush moved up to Wild Horse Creek. Do you want me to copy out this article for you?????? There's not a lot more information about Finlay, who seemed to disappear.