Archaeological Inadvertent Discovery Plan

City of Granite Falls

The City of Granite Falls has a high potential for containing archaeological resources. Archaeological resources and human remains and burials are protected by state laws RCW 27.53, RCW 27.44, RCW 68.50 and RCW 68.60. In the event that any ground-disturbing activities in the XXXXXX Project area or activities related to this development or any future development uncover historic or precontact cultural material (e.g., bones, shell, antler, horn or stone tools), the following actions should be taken:

1. If the cultural material is a historic resource (e.g., glass bottle, ceramic fragments, metal fragments) in a confined area such as a pit or dumping episode then the on-site superintendent should avoid the object and relocate work activities to a different area within the project area. The on-site superintendent should then contact the project manager and City Manager. The City Manager will contact a professional archaeologist will evaluate the discovery to determine if it is a historic property. If the inadvertent discovery is a historic feature (e.g., hearth, building foundation, privy, etc.) or prehistoric protected cultural materials (e.g., bones, shell, antler, horn or stone tools), the on-site superintendent or project manager will cease work and completely secure the location.

The professional archaeologist will determine if the property is an archaeological resource and contact the Washington State Department of Archaeology and the affected Tribes to determine the appropriate treatment plan.

If human remains are identified, the on-site superintendent should contact the project manager who will contact the Snohomish County Sheriff and the County Medical Examiner and a professional archaeologist and the following process will occur:

2. If ground disturbing activities encounter human skeletal remains during the course of construction, then all activity will cease that may cause further disturbance to those remains. The area of the find will be secured and protected from further disturbance until the State provides notice to proceed. The finding of human skeletal remains will be reported to the county medical examiner/coroner and local law enforcement in the most expeditious manner possible. The remains will not be touched, moved, or further disturbed. The county medical examiner/coroner will assume jurisdiction over the human skeletal remains and make a determination of whether those remains are forensic or non-forensic. If the county medical examiner/coroner determines the remains are non-forensic, then they will report that finding to the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) who will then take jurisdiction over the remains. The DAHP will notify any appropriate cemeteries and all affected tribes of the find. The State Physical Anthropologist will make a determination of whether the remains are Indian or Non-Indian and report that finding to any appropriate cemeteries and the affected tribes. The DAHP will then handle all consultation with the affected parties as to the future preservation, excavation, and disposition of the remains.

Archaeological resources may include:

- Buried layers of black soil with layers of shell, charcoal, fish and mammal bones (Figures 4 and 5)
- Buried cobbles that may indicate a hearth feature (Figure 8)
- Stone tools or stone flakes (Figures 6 and 12),
- Stone, bone, shell, horn, antler tools that may include projectile points (arrowheads),
- scrapers, cutting tools, wood working wedges or axes, and grinding stones, basketry (Figures 6, 12, 13)

- Logging, mining, railroad, or agriculture equipment older than 50 years (Figure 9)
- Historic foundations old graves or gravestones (Figure 10)
- Historic bottles, dishes, tools, metal fragments (Figure 7)
- Human Remains



Figure 4. Buried layers of black soils, with or without shell, fish and mammal bones. Fire-cracked rocks or cobbles may indicated a hearth or oven feature.



Figure 5. Shell midden. Layers of shell, dark soils, fire-cracked rock, possible stone tools and often human burials.





Figure 6. Example of Olcott Complex stone artifacts.







Figure 7. Examples of Historical Archaeological Resources. From left to right: privy feature, glass medicine, soda and alcohol bottles and jars, log cabin remains, tools and farming imperents, shipwreck.



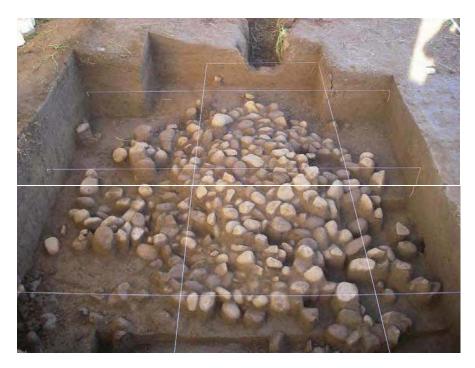


Figure 8. Cobble feature (top) and camas oven (bottom).



Figure 9. Railroad trestle remains.



Figure 10. Gravestones or markers, abandoned cemeteries.



Figure 11. Petroglyphs or pictographs



Figure 12. Stone tool making debris



Figure 13. Basketry

Contact List

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