INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL RESOURCES

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Cultural resources can be defined as physical evidence or place of past human activity: site, object, landscape, structure; or a site, structure, landscape, object or natural feature of significance to a group of people traditionally associated with it.
What is “historic preservation”?

“Preservation is about deciding what’s important, figuring out how to protect it, and passing along an appreciation for what was saved to the next generation. Preservation is hands on.”

National Park Service website: www.nps.gov/history/preservation.htm
Cultural Resources

Archaeological Resources

Built Environment Resources

Cultural Landscapes
PROPERTY TYPES

- Buildings
- Sites
- Structures
- Objects
- Districts
- Landscapes
- TCPs
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- **Archaeology**: the study, interpretation and reconstruction of human behaviors based upon an investigation of the physical evidence of human activities.

- Precontact Archaeology—Native American archaeology prior to contact with Euroamerican peoples.

- **Historic Archaeology**: generally the study of Euroamerican archaeology. Usually defined as 50 years old or more.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- Native American Archaeology
- Historic Archaeology

Columbia River Drawdown

Olalla Pioneer Cemetery

Lime Kilns
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE EXAMPLES

- Cemeteries, ruins, battlefields, shelters, resource processing, tool-making, village sites, petroglyphs and pictograph sites.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXAMPLES

- Hunting blinds, sweat lodges, cairns, trails, rock art, ruins
BUILDING EXAMPLES

- Houses, barns, stables, courthouses, commercial buildings, libraries, factories, mills, depots, hotels, theaters, schools, stores, churches, etc.
HISTORIC STRUCTURE EXAMPLES

- Bridges, tunnels, towers, dams, roads, kilns, fortifications, earthworks, grades, transportation systems, boats, trains, grandstands, observatories.
OBJECTS

- Sculptures, statuary, monuments, markers, fountains.
HISTORIC DISTRICTS

- A significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.
  - Geographic
  - Can be discontiguous.
    - Thematic
    - Multiple Property Types
CULTURAL LANDSCAPE & TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PLACES

- Spiritual areas such as vision quest areas, gathering areas
TRIBAL CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON

- Consult as early as possible. Consultation occurs from planning to the end of construction.
- Tribal members with knowledge of tribal cultural resources are to be treated respectfully and professionally.
- Consultation is an exchange of ideas. Meaningful dialogue is expected.
TRIBAL CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON

- Consultation is about relationships. Agencies need to develop relationships with Tribes just as they do with other agencies.
- Budget appropriately for cultural resource analysis and mitigation.
- Cultural resources often overlap with natural resources.
TRIBAL CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON

- Tribes have treaty rights.
- Each Tribe is different; there are 29 + nations in Washington.
- Remember that each tribe has different protocols, timelines, and procedures.
CULTURAL RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS

- Archaeological
  - Anthropologist
  - Archaeologist
  - Ethnographer
  - Physical Anthropologist

- Built Environment
  - Historian
  - Architectural Historian
  - Architect
  - Historic Architect
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- **Urban Planning**: The cohesive application of organization with regards to consumption, disposal, and enterprise in a man-made environment.

- **Historic Preservation**: The endeavor to conserve and protect buildings, objects, or landscapes of cultural significance.

- **Landscape Architecture**: The design of public spaces, areas, landmarks to achieve environmental, social-behavioral or aesthetic outcomes.

- **Sustainability**: The capacity for something to endure, to remain viable, to provide a level of functional utility and production over the long-term.
CULTURAL RESOURCE CLASSIFICATIONS
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC

- **Buildings**: a roofed and walled structure *built* for permanent use (as for a dwelling)
- **Sites**: location of occupation or activity
- **Structures**: construction that is not a dwelling
- **Objects**: airplanes, boats, etc.
- **Districts**: a *historic district* is a group of buildings, properties, or sites that have been designated by one of several entities on different levels as historically or architecturally significant.
HISTORIC DISTRICT EXAMPLES

- Campuses, residential, commercial areas, fortresses, industrial, linear resources, agricultural

Roslyn
CULTURAL RESOURCE ENVIRONMENTS

- Landscapes (includes TCPs)
- Below Ground
- Built Environment
NATIVE AMERICAN OBJECTS

- Sculpture, monuments, boundary markers, way-finding