

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS AND HISTORIC SITES

Archaeological areas, traditional cultural properties, historic rural landscapes, ancient villages, sites, and objects of indigenous cultures, military forts, old settler homes, ghost towns, and historic trails were often located on shorelines because of the proximity to food resources and because water provided important means of transportation. These sites are nonrenewable resources and many are in danger of being lost through present day changes in land use and urbanization. Because of their rarity and the educational link they provide to our past, these locations should be preserved.

A. Policies

1. Consult with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, concerned Indian Tribes or bands, and/or professional archaeologists to identify areas containing potentially valuable archeological data, and establish procedures for salvaging the data.
2. Where possible, all sites should be permanently preserved for scientific study and public observation. In areas known to contain valuable archaeological materials, attach a special condition to any shoreline permit requiring a site inspection and evaluation by an professional archaeologist to ensure that valuable archaeological materials are properly salvaged.
3. Shoreline permits should contain special provisions which require developers to notify local governments if any possible archaeological materials are uncovered during excavations.
4. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and RCW Chapter 43.51, and Senate Bill No. 5807, provide for the protection, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American and Washington history, architecture, archaeology or culture. The state legislation names the Director of the Department of Community Trade and Economic

Development as the person responsible for this program.

5. Valuable historic sites and archaeological areas should be identified and acquired.

B. Regulations

1. Permits issued in areas known to contain archaeological and/or historical information shall include a requirement that the developer provide for a site inspection, evaluation and report by a professional archaeologist. The permit shall require approval by the state and county before work can begin on a project. Project impacts will be mitigated prior to any use activities.
2. In the event that unforeseen factors constituting an emergency, as defined in RCW 90.58.030, necessitate rapid action to retrieve or preserve artifacts or data identified above, the project may be exempted from the permit requirement of these regulations. The county/city shall notify the State Department of Ecology, the State Attorney General's Office, Native American representatives, and the State Archaeologist, of such a waiver in a timely manner.
3. Archaeological and/or historical site use or modification in all shoreline environments require a Conditional Use Permit.