



Allyson Brooks Ph.D., Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

June 30, 2021

Lauren Anderson
Planner
City of Mercer Island

In future correspondence please refer to:
Project Tracking Code: 2021-02-00726
Property: City of Mercer Island Single Family Residence Addition
Re: Archaeology – Follow Inadvertent Discovery Plan

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Thank you for contacting the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) and providing documentation regarding the above referenced project. As a result of our review, our professional opinion is that the project area has the potential to contain archaeological resources. However, as the project has been modified to a smaller footprint, and the original historical period house will not be demolished, the DAHP now recommends that the project follow a standard Inadvertent Discovery Plan.

We also recommend continued consultation with the concerned Tribes' cultural committees and staff regarding cultural resource issues.

These comments are based on the information available at the time of this review and on behalf of the SHPO in conformance with Washington State law. Should additional information become available, our assessment may be revised.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. Please ensure that the DAHP Project Number (a.k.a. Project Tracking Code) is attached to any future communications or submitted reports. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Jolivette', written in a cursive style.

Stephanie Jolivette
Local Governments Archaeologist
(360) 628-2755
Stephanie.Jolivette@dahp.wa.gov



Mounger Residence Inadvertent Discovery Plan for Cultural Resources

In the event that any ground-disturbing activities or other project activities related to this development, or in any future development, uncover protected cultural material (e.g., bones, shell, antler, horn or stone tools), the following actions will be taken:

1. When an unanticipated discovery of protected **cultural material** (see definitions below) occurs, the property owner or contractor will completely secure the location and contact:
 - a) The property owner (Mitch Mounger) and project manager (Brad Sturman, 206-981-7972);
 - b) The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) (Stephanie Jolivette, 360-628-2755);
 - c) The affected Tribal members:
 - a. Laura Murphy, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, 253-876-3272
 - d) and the City planner associated with the project (Lauren Anderson, 206-275-7704).

2. If the discovery is **human remains**, the property owner or contractor will stop work in and adjacent to the discovery, completely secure the work area by moving the land-altering equipment to a reasonable distance, and will immediately contact:
 - a) The property owner (Mitch Mounger) and project manager (Brad Sturman, 206-981-7972);
 - b) The City of Mercer Island Police Department (206-275-7610)
 - a) and the King County Medical Examiner's Office (206-731-3232) to determine if the remains are forensic in nature;
 - b) If the remains are not forensic in nature, the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) (Guy Tasa, 360-790-1633) will take the lead on determining the appropriate method of treatment for the remains and will consult with the affected tribes;

Cultural material that may be protected by law could include but not be limited to:

1. Buried layers of black soil with layers of shell, charcoal, and fish and mammal bones that may be part of a shell midden site (Figure 1, top)
2. Buried cobbles—especially those that are reddened, blackened, or feature jagged breaks—that may indicate a hearth feature (Figure 1, bottom);
3. Non-natural sediment or stone deposits that may be related to cultural activity areas;
4. Stone, bone, shell, horn, or antler tools that may include projectile points (arrowheads/spear points), scrapers, cutting tools, wood working wedges or axes, or grinding stones (Figures 2 & 3);
5. Stone tools or stone flakes (Figures 2 and 3);
6. Perennially damp areas may have preservation conditions that allow for remnants of wood and other plant fibers; in these locations there may be remains including fragments of basketry, weaving, wood tools, or carved pieces (Figure 4);
7. Concentrations of historical period artifacts (> 50 years old) (Figure 5); and
8. Human remains. This includes complete burials as well as fragmentary remains.

Figure 1: Shell Middens. These middens can extend into the intertidal zone in areas that have undergone sea level rise during the precontact period.



Figure 2: Examples of stone and bone tools.



Figure 3: Examples of stone flakes (left) and a stone core that is a source of flakes (right) from archaeological sites.

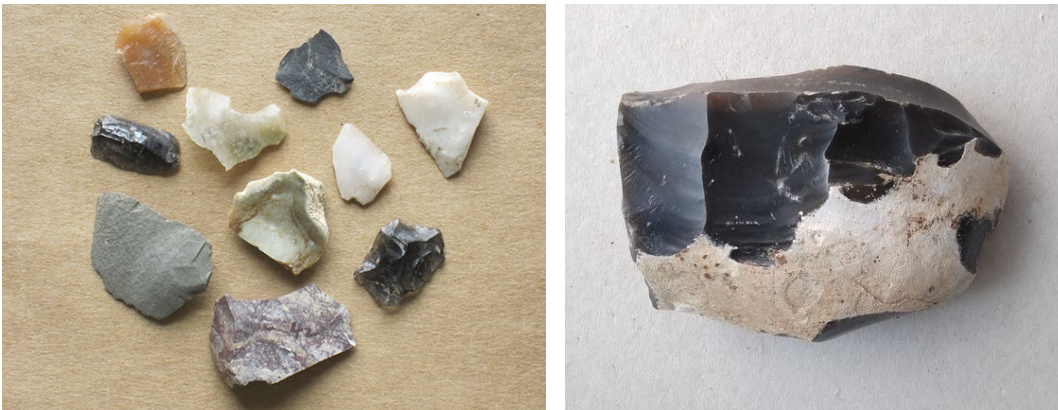


Figure 4: Examples of underwater/intertidal archaeological features including wood or stone fish weirs (top), clam gardens (middle), sunken canoes (bottom) or other watercraft. Basketry (bottom) and other wood and fibrous artifacts can preserve in submerged environments.



Figure 5. Historic period sites (more than 50 years in age) are also protected by cultural resource laws. These can include concentrations of broken ceramics, bottles, bricks, and metal objects (top) or historical period building foundations (bottom left) and historical period trash deposits (bottom right).

