



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

May 12, 2026

Zach Torrance-Smith
Planner I
Kittitas County

In future correspondence please refer to:
Project Tracking Code: **2026-05-03452**
Property: Kittitas County - SP-26-00003 Miller SP
Re: **Survey Requested**

Dear Zach Torrance-Smith:

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. The project is in an area determined to be at Moderately High- to High- risk of containing cultural resources according to the DAHP Risk Assessment Model and is adjacent to the historic Greenwood Cemetery (KT03085). With historic cemeteries, it is not unusual for unmarked burials to exist outside of areas with headstones and grave markers. Therefore, development and construction near a historic cemetery can lead to the inadvertent disturbance of unmarked burials. In Washington state, cemeteries and burials are protected under state law (RCWs 27.44, 68.50, and 68.60); any person violating these laws can be found guilty of a Class C felony.

Future ground disturbing actions in the project area have the potential to disturb unknown archaeological resources and potentially human burials and/or damage or destroy cemetery structures, grave markers, or funerary items relating to the historic cemetery. Identification of archaeological resources and burials during construction is not a recommended detection method because inadvertent finds often result in costly construction delays and damage to the resource(s). Therefore, we strongly recommend a professional archaeological survey with testing of the project area be conducted prior to any ground disturbing activities. We also recommend continuing consultation with the Affected 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 and we look forward to receiving the survey report. The survey report should be uploaded directly into the DAHP Online



WISAARD system by the cultural resource consultant to expedite DAHP review. Please ensure that the DAHP Project Number (a.k.a. Project Tracking Code) is shared with any hired cultural resource consultants and is attached to any communications or submitted reports. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



James MacNaughton, M.S.
Local Government Archaeologist
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