Project 2018-254 Clark College, Advanced Manufacturing Center

**Attachment 6d** 

DAHP Letter and Cultural Resources Survey

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



May 15, 2019

Mr. Steve Lewandowski WA State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

In future correspondence please refer to: Project Tracking Code: 2018-08-06515 Property: ASCC 18753 - Cultural Resources Survey for Clark College at Boschma Farms Re: No Historic Properties Affected

Dear Mr. Lewandowski:

Thank you for contacting the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) regarding the above referenced proposal. Your communication on this action has been reviewed on behalf of the SHPO under provisions of Governor's Executive Order 05-05. Our review is based upon documentation provided in your submittal.

First, we agree with the project area of potential effect (APE) as mapped in your documentation. We believe that the building located at 266 N 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Ridgefield (Property ID 51557) is NOT ELIGIBLE for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. We therefore believe that no historic properties will be affected by the current project as proposed to construct a new campus branch of Clark College in this location. As a result of our review, further contact with DAHP on this proposal is not necessary. However, if new information about affected resources becomes available and/or the project scope of work changes significantly, please resume consultation as our assessment may be revised. Also, if any archaeological resources are uncovered during construction, please halt work immediately in the area of discovery and contact the appropriate Native American Tribes and DAHP for further consultation.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. 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. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Holly Borth Project Compliance Reviewer (360) 586-3533 holly.borth@dahp.wa.gov



# CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF CLARK COLLEGE AT BOSCHMA FARMS, CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

By Justin B. Colón, M.A., RPA

Report Prepared for: Jim Watkins Clark College 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, WA 98663

County: Clark Legal Desc.: NW and SW ¼ of Section 22, T 4N, R 1E, W.M. USGS Quad.: Ridgefield, WA 1990 (1995 ed.) Project Acreage: ~40 acres DAHP Project No.: 214247-000, 214199-000, 214196-000, and 214195-000

January 3th 2018

#### Archaeological Services LLC Report No. 18753



601 Officers Row Vancouver, WA 98661 (360) 260-8614 archaeologicalservices.com

Applicant's Name: Clark Community College

*Property Owner's Name:* Clark Community College Dist. #14 Foundation

File/Permit Number: ASCC #18753

*Location:* 266 North 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ridgefield, Washington

Parcel Number: 215247-000, 214196-000, 214199-000, and 214197-000

*Quadrangle:* USGS, Ridgefield, WA, 7.5-minute Series, 1990 (1995 ed.)

Legal Description: NW ¼ and SW ¼ of Section 22, T4N, R1E, W.M.

Number of Acres: Approximately 40 acres.

*Description of Proposed Activity:* The applicant proposes to construct a new campus branch of Clark College.

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#### Introduction

Archaeological Services, LLC (ASCC) has carried out a cultural resources survey of the proposed Clark College at Boschma Farms project area, located in the eastern extent of the City of Ridgefield, Clark County, Washington. The project area occupies the NW ¼ and SW ¼ of Section 22 in Township 4 North, Range 1 East, Willamette Meridian (W.M.) (Figure 1).

The proposed project is a state-funded capital project which requires compliance with the Washington Governor's Executive Order 05-05 (EO 05-05), including consultation and review of project plans and details with the Washington State Department of Archaeology (DAHP), and the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs (GOIA).

This report is designed to satisfy standards outlined in the EO 05-05, and parallels the standards defined in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The purpose of this study is to identify any historic properties, and prehistoric cultural resources, which may be adversely affected by the proposed project. The area of potential effect (APE) for this project, as defined by 36 CFR 800.16(d), consists of:

the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The area of potential effects is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. (36 CFR 800.16)

This project's area of potential effect (APE), hereafter referred to as the project area, consists of the entirety of parcels nos. 214247-000, 214196-000, 214199-000, and a portion of parcel no. 214197-000, all of which collectively measures approximately 40 acres (Figure 2).

# FINDINGS POSITIVE NEGATIVE X

# **Project Background**

Although preliminary site plans are not yet available, the proposed project entails grading and construction of a new campus branch of Clark College. Because specific details of the project's proposed impacts are unavailable at this time, ASCC surveyed the entirety of the proposed impact area. The cultural resources survey of the Clark College at Boschma Farms project area was designed to satisfy cultural resource protection and preservation standards outlined in Chapter 27.53.020 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and Washington Standards for Cultural Resource Reporting (DAHP 2018).

# **Project Area Description**

The Clark College at Boschma Farms project area is located roughly 3 miles (4.8 kilometers [km]) east of downtown Ridgefield, in an area primarily characterized by agricultural use to the north, south, and east. It is located at the address of 266 N 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in Ridgefield, Washington, east of Interstate-5. It is bordered by N 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the west, by continuations of agricultural fields to the north and east, and by fencing separating it from neighboring properties to the south (Figure 2). The surrounding area to the west (across N 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue) consists of several retail and commercial spaces that flank both sides of Interstate 5 (I-5), whose northbound lane lies roughly 1,200 feet (ft.) (365.7 m) to the west.

The project area is located on an upland terrace incised by several watercourses and drainages that overlook the East Fork Lewis River floodplain roughly 2 miles (3.2 km) to the northeast. It is located 1.88 miles (3.02 km) north of Gee Creek; 0.92 miles (1.48 km) northwest of the headwaters of McCormick Creek; and the channelized wetlands that form the headwaters of Allen Creek are located directly outside of the project area's northwest corner. Allen Creek eventually drains into Mud Lake approximately 3.2 miles (5.15 km) northwest of the project area. Terrain within the project area is mildly undulating and varies between 276 ft. (84.1 m) and 266 ft. (81.1 m) above mean sea level (amsl) on average, with a crest shown at roughly 280 ft. (85.3 m) amsl adjacent to the farmhouse. The topography of the surrounding landform trends to both the northeast and northwest, descending towards drainages in either direction.

The project area primarily sees use as agricultural fields. An unoccupied farmhouse and detached garage (as well as several other buildings clustered outside of the project area boundaries) occupy the eastern margins of the project area (Figure 3). According to records available with the Clark County Assessor's Office, the home and garage were constructed in 1915, qualifying them as historic properties. ASCC has documented and completed an Historic Property Inventory (HPI) form for the structures and submitted them to DAHP (Appendix A). South of the farmhouse complex, a livestock pen was observed to accommodate a few sheep, turkeys, and chickens. The project area is accessed via a dirt/gravel driveway on the east side of N 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue which bisects the project area on its east-west axis. The acreage north of the driveway exclusively consists of open rolling grassy agricultural fields; the acreage south of the driveway also consists of open grassy agricultural fields bordered by a few mature trees on neighboring properties to the west and south (Figures 4 and 5). Near the farmhouse complex the driveway forks, providing access to the northern fields and neighboring properties to the north, and providing access to the livestock pens and eastern-adjacent buildings to the east (refer to Figure 2).



**Figure 1.** Portions of the USGS Ridgefield, WA Quadrangle 1990 (1995 ed.) overlaid with the location of the project area in the NW ¼ and SW ¼ of Section 22, in Township 4 North, Range 1 East, Willamette Meridian.





**Figure 2.** Aerial image showing existing conditions overlaid with current parcel boundaries (in white) and the Clark College at Boschma Farms project area boundaries (in red and yellow) (Clark County GIS 2018).





**Figure 3.** Photograph of the southern elevations of the farmhouse and its detached garage. View is to the north.



**Figure 4.** Overview photograph showing the open grassy acreage that characterizes most of the project area. View is to the east.







#### Soils & Geology

The project area is located in the northern margin of the Portland Basin, a structural depression centered on the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers. The basin is part of the larger Puget-Willamette Lowland, which represents the southern end of a coastal trough that runs from southeastern Alaska to the south end of the Willamette Valley (Ames 1994:5). As the Columbia River exits the Columbia Gorge to the east and enters the Portland Basin, the river becomes marked by extensive alluvial bottom lands, sloughs, lakes, and islands composed of low-lying alluvium. Away from the river, Clark County exhibits similar climactic conditions as the Willamette Valley in Oregon—relatively mild throughout the year, with cool, wet winters and warm, dry summers (Franklin and Dyrness 1988). More specifically, the project area is located on the uplands southwest of the East Fork Lewis River floodplain. The surface geology in this area is characterized by unconsolidated clays, silts, and fine to medium-sized sand laid down by slack-water deposits related to the repeated failure of ice dams at glacial Lake Missoula during the late Pleistocene (Evarts 2004).

Soils across the project area are mapped by Clark County GIS (2018) and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)'s Web Soil Survey (USDA 2018) and are described using Dale McGee's *Soil Survey of Clark County* (1972). Soils within the project area are mapped as belonging to the Gee and Odne series. Odne series soils are typically topographically level loamy soils underlain by compact subsoils at a depth of 16 to 24 inches (40.64 to 60.96 cm). These soils are formed in drainageways and depressions on terraces adjoining Gee soils in the northwestern park of Clark County. Gee series soils consists of deep, well-drained, rolling and hilly soils on eroded terraces. They are medium-

textured soils formed from old alluvium deposited by the Columbia River. The slopes are mostly nearly level to gently rolling (McGee 1972).

More specifically, soils within the project area are mapped as Odne silt loam (OdB) which occurs on 0 to 5% slopes. This soil is generally found in concave drainageways or depressions adjacent to Gee soils. In a typical profile the surface layer is about 10 inches (25.4 cm) thick. It is mottled, dark gray heavy silt loam in the upper part, and mottled, dark gray silty clay loam in the lower part. The subsurface layer is firm, mottled, gray silt loam about 9 inches (22.86 cm) thick.

Other portions of the project area are mapped as Gee silt loam (GeB) which occurs on 0 to 8% slopes. These soils are typically on moderate to short and undulating slopes. In a typical profile the surface layer is very dark grayish brown silt loam about 9 inches (22.86 cm) thick. The subsurface layer is dark grayish brown silt loam about 5 inches (12.7 cm) thick. Below this is mottled, dark grayish brown and dark brown silt loam about 8 inches (20.32 cm) thick (McGee 1972).

## Vegetation

The project area is mapped within the *Tsuga heterophylla* vegetation zone, an extensive zone widespread throughout western Washington and Oregon in wet maritime climates ranging between sea level and about 700 m (2296 ft.) in elevation (Franklin and Dyrness 1988). Typical vegetation dominants in this zone include Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), and western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*) with a few hardwood species. Currently there is no native vegetation within the project area as it has been in use for agricultural production since at least 1915. Vegetation across the project area is limited to short-cut grasses and forbs, and a few ornamental evergreen hedges that surround the farmhouse.

# **Background and Literature Research**

ASCC carried out ethnographic, historic, and archaeological background research using materials from the Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD), published by the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP), as well as resources located at the ASCC library and online. Materials reviewed included Washington State Archaeological Site Inventory files, cultural resource survey reports, historical aerial imagery, General Land Offices (GLO) survey maps, and United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps. This research was used to identify any previously recorded historic properties (including archaeological sites) which could be affected by the proposed project, to assess the probability of encountering archaeological resources in the field, and to establish an interpretive context for any materials encountered.

# Ethnographic Overview

The indigenous inhabitants of the Portland Basin area at the time of Euro-American contact were the Chinookan-speaking Multnomah people (Silverstein 1990). The term "Chinook" refers to both a linguistic classification as well as a cultural one (Ruby and Brown 1976). Early on, Euro-American traders used the term to refer to the indigenous people living on the Pacific shore from Willapa Bay to Tillamook Head, along the Columbia River from its

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mouth to The Dalles, and a short distance up the Willamette to its falls (Silverstein 1990). Traits common to Chinookan-speaking groups include a reliance on aquatic resources (primarily anadromous fish), woodworking (exemplified by planked houses and dugout canoes), twined basketry, untailored clothing, a distinctive art style, and a social emphasis on rank (ibid.). Chinookan speakers can be divided into the Lower Chinook, who lived near the Pacific coast, and the Upper Chinook, who lived farther inland along the Columbia River and its tributaries. The Multnomah sub-group of the Upper Chinook occupied the Columbia River from near Deer Island to just east of the Washougal River (Silverstein 1990).

Multnomah villages were recorded on both sides of the Columbia River. The first recorded Multnomah villages include the settlements on Wapato Island, now Sauvie Island (recorded in William Broughton's trip log, 1792) (Jones 1972), and two settlements recorded by Lewis and Clark: Shoto, located along Vancouver Lake, and Cathlapottle, located near the mouths of Lake River and the Lewis River (Silverstein 1990). The names of the villages also refer to smaller ethnic and political subgroups within the Multnomah linguistic group. By the late 18th century, the Chinookan peoples of the lower Columbia had come into contact with Euro-American traders who plied the Northwest Coast trading with the natives, primarily in furs. Disease introduced to the native populations decimated the population within a single generation. Smallpox, dysentery, and malaria reduced the population by as much as 75% to 90% by some estimates, severely impacting the traditional lifeways of the Chinook prior to the arrival of the first permanent Euro-American settlers to the region (Hajda 1994).

While the Chinookan peoples were the most obvious indigenous inhabitants of Clark County, other Native American groups were present during late prehistoric times. Occupying the upper portions of the Lewis River and Cowlitz River drainages were speakers of Sahaptin, or *Ichishkíin Sínwit*, a language group primarily spoken to the east of the Cascades by plateau cultures such as the Yakama, Palouse, and Umatilla. Euro-American observers used the generic term "Klickitat" to describe Sahaptin-speaking peoples living west of the Cascades (Ray 1974 cited in Hajda 1990).

Along the upper Lewis and Cowlitz rivers, these peoples were generally referred to as the Taitnapam, or Western Klickitat. It is generally thought that the Klickitat began arriving in western Washington when the Chinook, devastated by Euro-American diseases, abandoned many of their traditional territories (Hajda 1990). The Klickitat subsistence pattern was oriented largely around open grasslands and prairies, which contained animal and plant resources and served as inland lines of communication and commerce (Norton et al. 1999).

Klickitat peoples maintained the open grasslands and prairies through periodic burning. The Klickitat wintered in the valleys of the Klickitat, White Salmon, Little White Salmon, Wind, and Lewis Rivers (Curtis 1911). With the ripening of the first roots and greens in spring, small groups would move to seasonal camps associated with a particular resource and stay, dependent on the availability of the resource. Like their Chinookan-speaking neighbors to the south and west, the Klickitat would converge in great numbers at fisheries during the heights of the spring and summer salmon runs. As the summer progressed into fall, the people would move higher into the uplands to take advantage of ripening berries and available game. With the end of the berry season, the people would reunite in social gathering locations before dispersing to their respective winter village sites. Movement between resource concentrations was quite fluid depending on need and resource availability (Boyd and Hajda 1987).

Moving into former Chinookan territories such as the Lewis River Basin, Sahaptin-speaking newcomers such as the Taitnapam may have adopted many of the practices of neighboring riverine groups such as the Cowlitz, a Salish-speaking people who lived to the north along the Cowlitz River and its tributaries, but whose territory no doubt overlapped with Chinookan speakers, such as at the mouth of the Cowlitz River (Hajda 1990). The Cowlitz centered their tribal territories on major salmon streams, but they also harvested resources from the productive inland prairies (Hajda 1990). Salish-speaking groups practiced extensive trade with each other; Cowlitz and Upper Chehalis would trade surplus camas for sturgeon and other maritime staples with the Lower Chehalis, the Quinault, and groups along the Columbia River (Hajda 1990). Dentalium shells served as the primary medium of exchange when direct goods-for-goods trading was not an option. Intermarriage between the groups encouraged such productive relationships, though conflict sometimes disrupted these relationships (Hajda 1990).

Several authors have pointed out the difficulty in assigning "tribal" boundaries within the Portland Basin (Boyd and Hajda 1987). The difficulty arises from the political independence of villages, seasonal population movements, trading patterns, and village exogamy, whereby travel and marriage between villages was the rule rather than the exception.

## Historic Overview

The earliest Euro-American presence in this area was during the early decades of the nineteenth century, following the first ascent of the Columbia River by Lieutenant William Broughton of the Royal Navy in 1792 and the passage of the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1805-1806. These early explorations opened the area for fur-trapping, by the Pacific Fur Company, North West Company, and eventually, the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC), each establishing a presence along the Columbia River. After 1821, the HBC dominated trade in the Northwest, initially from their headquarters at Fort George (near present-day Astoria), and after 1824, from their headquarters at Fort Vancouver. Although settlement of the areas along the Columbia and Willamette rivers began soon after Fort Vancouver was established, most Euro-American settlers in the region were HBC retirees whom Chief Factor John McLoughlin had allowed to remain (Casey 1971).

Following the passage of the Organic Laws Act by the Oregon Provisional Legislature in 1843 was a dramatic increase in American immigration westward during the mid to late 1840s. This act included a provision for the claiming of up to 640 acres of land by anyone who would settle and improve it. The first lands to be claimed were those with ready access to water, as well as prairie lands that were largely free of timber and therefore more readily farmed. Lands that required more preparation, either through draining or clearing, were claimed later, mostly beginning in the 1850s, which meant they were claimed under the provisions of the Donation Land Act of 1850 (Robbins 1997).

The first Euro-American to settle in what would become the town of Ridgefield was an Irish immigrant names James Carty, who settled on Lake River in 1839. Following the Donation Land Claim act of 1850, several more settlers arrived in the area, including three bachelors,

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Stillman Hendrick, B.O. Teal, and George Thing, who settled on an island across Lake River from Carty's land claim, named Bachelor's Island. Between 1852 and 1853, Arthur Quigley and Frederick Shobert arrived in the area and established mud landings on their properties adjacent to Lake River where river steamers could offload their goods and take on loads of farm products produced on the interior uplands east of the river. The area was called "Shobert's Landing" for several years until it was renamed "Union Ridge" during the Civil War, for all of the outspoken Union men (Jollota 2002). An 1886-1887 gazetteer described Union Ridge as a "post village on Lake River with a population of 65... that was settled in 1853 and shipped farm produce" (Topinka 2014). In 1890, more settlers began building homesteads below the large basalt ridge that defines this area of Clark County. At this time, postal officials changed the community name to "Ridgefield," at the behest of a new postmaster, S.P. Mackey, who travelled from Virginia and was not keen on the name Union Ridge. The City of Ridgefield was officially incorporated in 1909 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2010).

Among the earliest maps depicting the project area is the 1884-photolithographed copy of the 1854 General Land Office (GLO) Cadastral Survey map of Township 4 North, Range 1 East, Willamette Meridian (W.M.) (Figure 6). This map shows no man-made landmark features within or outside of the project area, it does, however, depict the headwaters of Allen Creek, though unlabeled, and a network of various drainages across the entirety of the map. A note across the entire map also reads, "Land level and gently rolling. Soil 2<sup>nd</sup>rate clay loam. Gravelly in places. Timber fir, cedar, maple, hemlock, & mostly burn and partly fallen with thick undergrowth" (GLO 1854). This map also labels the East Fork Lewis River as "South Fork of the Cattlepootle River" (GLO 1854). The subsequent 1863 GLO map does not depict any landscape features at all, and only shows land ownership in the western margin of the map.

The next available map depicting the project area is Alfred Downing's 1883 *Map of the Country in the Vicinity of Vancouver Barracks, Washington Territory,* which does not depict any land ownership or map features in the vicinity of the project area. This map does, however, depict the current name of the East Fork Lewis River, and shows Gee Creek labelled to the south (Downing 1883). The next available map is the 1888 *Map of Clarke* [sic] *County, Washington Territory,* which shows the project area vicinity overlaid with the name label, "T. Soden" (Habbersham 1888). The subsequent 1910 National Map and Publishing Company map of Clark County depicts no land ownership in the project area or its vicinity.

Thomas Soden, his wife Kate Rose Belden, and their eight children travelled to Clark County from Kansas in 1887 and settled in the Ridgefield area. Thomas was born in 1841 in Oswego, New York, and his wife, Kate, was born in 1845 in East Whately, Massachusetts. Kate was the third cousin of Captain Meriwether Lewis, of the Lewis and Clark fame (Clark County Genealogical Society 1989). The couple was married in 1866 in Stroughten, Wisconsin, after which point they moved to Kansas, and eventually travelled to the Portland area where they lived for a short while until moving into Clark County, Washington. Kate passed away in 1911, and Thomas passed away seven years later. They are both buried in the Pioneer Cemetery in Ridgefield (Clark County Genealogical Society 1989).



**Figure 6.** Portion of the1854 GLO cadastral map of T4N, R1E, W.M. overlaid with the project area, in red.

The 1937 Metsker's Atlas of Clark County (Metsker's Map) depicts the project area within several parcels under the ownership of several entities. The northern half of the project area is shown under the ownership of a "Jno. Timm, W.K. McMullen, and M.K. McMullen," while the southern half of the project area is shown under the ownership of the "Union Central Life Insurance Company" (Metsker 1937). "Jno. Timm" is an abbreviation for "John Timm," a relative of the Timm family, whom Timm Road is named after. An effort was made to locate any historical records associated with the Timm family, to no avail. Similarly, ASCC attempted to identify any historical details surrounding the "McMullen" family, to no avail. The property under the ownership of the "Union Central Life Insurance Company," was likely foreclosed upon for a reason unknown to the author. Its original land owner remains an unknown detail.

The subsequent Metsker's Map from 1943 shows very little change in property orientation, however the McMullen properties are now shown under the ownership of a "Chas. [Charles] Madsen," (Metsker 1943). The subsequent 1961 Metsker's Map depicts the entirety of the project area under the ownership of "Thelma Lund," whom eventually sold 110 acres of the property to Hank and Bernice Boschma in 1968 (Morin 2014). The Boschmas immigrated to the United Stated from the Netherlands in 1955, first settling in California. They relocated to Ridgefield in 1965, renting land northeast of the I-5 Junction at Pioneer Street. In 1968 they purchased land from Thelma Lund and farmed the land until 1979, at which point they moved to Ferndale, Washington where they currently reside

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(Morin 2014). A cultural resources study carried out by Analytical Environmental Services (AES) in 2005 states that the Hank and Bernice Boschma purchased the land from the Shoalwater Bay Tribe in 1998, with the Deed recorded under Document Number 3014821 on Clark County Assessor Records (2018) (Heidecker 2005). While there is indeed a record for the granting of land from the Shoalwater Bay Tribe to the Boschmas, the narrative is slightly less straightforward. According to a Columbian article (Joner 2014), the Boshmas donated their entire tract of farmland to the Shoalwater Bay Tribe in 1998. The Tribe intended to construct 1,580 townhomes on the land despite objections by the neighboring community and government officials. The Boschmas ultimately sued the Shoalwater Bay Tribe, citing that Hank was promised a share of the profits from the development project, and the land was returned to Hank and Bernice (Joner 2014).

A review of historical aerial imagery available on Clark County GIS (2018) depicts the farmhouse complex in a few states over the past 60 years. In 1955, the original home, garage, and several other structures are shown closely clustered along the west boundary. Between 1968 and 1984, several structures were constructed or added onto. There are no apparent changes to the complex up until 2009, at which point nearly all structures (except the home, garage, a general-purpose building, and a shed) were demolished. The open acreage does not appear to have been used for anything other than agricultural practices between 1955 and 2016, however, 1955 aerial images do depict a drainage that juts across the western half of the project area and connects to the manmade drainage ditch observed along the western boundary of the southern parcels. The drainage feeds into the headwaters of Allen Creek to the northwest. Clark County GIS Online (2018) does map this same area as having a wetlands presence, however, no apparent wetlands were observed or mapped during ASCC's field visit. Aerial images depict this drainage (Clark County GIS 2018).

#### **Previous Archaeology**

ASCC searched records from the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation for archaeological studies that have been conducted in the project area's vicinity. The Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD) online database indicates that there have been at least eleven (11) cultural resources investigations carried out within a 0.5-mile (0.8-km) radius of the Clark College at Boschma Farms project area (DAHP 2018). These studies and their findings, described below, were reviewed to provide some archaeological context for the project area itself.

The nearest cultural resource investigation was a cultural resources study carried out by Analytical Environmental Services (AES) on the behalf of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe for the proposed Ridgefield Interchange Site (Heidecker 2005). The study area encompassed the entirety of the project area except for the southwestern most parcel (214247-000). While the study only consisted of a pedestrian survey, investigators at the time did take note of the historic farmhouse complex and recommended its documentation on the Historic Property Inventory. The properties, however, were recommended ineligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), citing a failure to meet significance criteria for listing on the NRHP (Heidecker 2005). Aside from the historic property, no other cultural resources were identified during the AES survey.

The next nearest cultural resource investigations were two archaeological predeterminations carried out directly to the south of the project area (Ogle 2004a; Gall 2017)—both of which were negative for cultural resources. Eight other cultural resource investigations were carried out within a 0.5-mile (0.8-km) radius of the Clark College at Boschma Farms project area, none of which returned results indicating the presence of cultural materials or features (DeLyria 1997; Musil 2000; Ogle 2004b; Ogle et al. 2004; NAA, Inc. 2007; Hotze and Reese 2016; Hotze and Fackler 2017; Colón 2018).

The WISAARD database does not indicate that any archaeological resources were identified within a 0.5-mile (0.8-km) of the project area. The nearest resource, site 45CL1177, is shown approximately 0.7 miles (1.13 km) to the northwest of the project area (DAHP 2018). Site 45CL1177 was identified during a cultural resource survey for a pump station/sewage line project for the Clark Regional Wastewater District (Hotze and Reese 2016). The site is described as a small lithic scatter consisting of four (4) debitage flakes of cryptocrystalline-silicate (CCS), and one (1) basalt flake (Hotze 2015). Investigators concluded that the site was identified in disturbed soils and was recommended as ineligible for inclusion on the NRHP (Hotze and Reese 2016).

## **Survey Methods and Results**

The project area was inspected on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 by ASCC staff members Brandon Shaw, B.A., Jordan Haddad, B.S., Daniel Martin, B.A., Alexander Gall, M.A., RPA, and Justin B. Colón, M.A., RPA. Justin B. Colón, M.A., RPA, oversaw and directed the field investigation. Fieldwork consisted of a pedestrian surface survey, a visual impacts assessment, and a subsurface investigation.

# Surface Survey

The pedestrian survey was employed to identify and inspect all exposed ground surfaces for archaeological materials, to assess the archaeological potential of the landform within the project area parameters, and to inspect any other notable features observed on-site. ASCC used field notes, digital photography, and hand-held GPS units to document topography, soil exposure, vegetation and signs of disturbance (Figure 7).

The pedestrian survey consisted of walking parallel adjacent transects spaced 10 to 15 m (33 to 50 ft.) apart. Transects were evenly spaced, but their orientation was based on topographic features. For the most part, surface visibility was relatively poor (< 15%). The ground surface was obscured by existing vegetation, and soil exposures were limited to the ground surface adjacent to the access driveway and the farmhouse. Field investigators also observed a dried drainage ditch along the western boundary of the acreage south of the driveway (along parcel nos. 214196-000 and 214247-000) (Figure 8). All soil exposures were closely inspected for archaeological materials. No historic or pre-contact archaeological resources were identified during the surface survey phase of this investigation.

# Visual Impact Assessment



In evaluating the project's potential visual impact on nearby cultural resources, ASCC considered 1) the line of sight to known resources, and 2) the nature of the proposed project. There are no archaeological sites located within sightline of the project area, and, with the exception of the farmhouse complex within the project area, there are no historic properties within sightline of the project area. Further, there are no NRHP listed, or eligible, properties within 1-mile (1.6-km) of the project area. The proposed project therefore should have no detrimental visual impact on any known significant cultural resources.

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**Figure 7.** Aerial photomap overlaid with the extent and orientation of transects walked by ASCC during the pedestrian survey portion of this survey, as well as the location of the historic properties identified by ASCC.





**Figure 8.** Photograph of the drainage ditch observed along the western boundary of the southern half of the project area. View is to the south/southeast.

#### Subsurface Survey

During the subsurface investigation of the project area, ASCC excavated a total of forty-four (44) shovel test probes (STPs) (Figure 9). ASCC employed a grid sampling strategy, when possible, and STPs were spaced no greater than 60 m (196.9 ft.) and not less than 50 m (164 ft.) apart from one another. Only a few STPs deviated from the grid based on topographic highs and lows. All probes were excavated by shovel as cylindrical holes measuring approximately 50 cm in diameter, to depths between 50 and 60 cm below ground surface (bgs), and to a depth of 70 cmbgs in STP-42. All excavated soils were processed through nested 1/4-inch (6-mm) and 1/8-inch (3-mm) stainless steel mesh. Detailed notes on the subsurface investigation, including locational data, descriptions of soil types, texture, color, and the presence or absence of cultural materials, were recorded on field forms, which are on file at ASCC's offices in Vancouver, WA.

ASCC interprets soils observed across the project area as minimally disturbed though consistent with those mapped by the NRCS Web Soil Survey (USDA 2018), Clark County GIS (2018), and described by McGee (1972). An apparent plow zone was observed across the entirety of the site that descended between 25 and 35 cm below ground surface (bgs) in all STPs. A typical profile consisted of a mottled layer of dark brown silt loam, mixed with hydric subsoils in the upper 25-35 cmbgs (the plow zone), underlain by a layer of mottled orange-brown and gray-brown loam, interpreted as hydric soils (Figure 10). On several occasions, field investigators observed modern debris (namely PVC plastic

# fragments and colorless glass) in the upper plow-zone layer (in STPs 8, 9, 13, 36, and 37), however, no historic of pre-contact archaeological materials were observed at any point.



**Figure 9.** Aerial photomap overlaid with the project area boundaries and the locations of STPs excavated by ASCC.





Figure10. Photograph of a typical soil profile observed across the project area (STP-18).

#### **Summary of Results and Recommendations**

ASCC has conducted a cultural resources survey of the Clark College at Boshma Farms project area. No historic or pre-contact artifacts were observed during either phase of the survey, and the project is not within the sightline of any registered historic properties or significant archaeological sites. ASCC did identify two historic structures, a 1915 residence and its associated detached garage. The structures have been documented and recorded on the Historic Property Inventory (Appendix A) and are recommended as ineligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). It is ASCC's opinion that the proposed project will have no adverse effect on historic properties listed on, or eligible for listing on the NRHP or any other local or state registers.

# It is ASCC's recommendation that no cultural resources will be impacted by the proposed project and that project proponents may proceed as planned.

A survey is by definition a sampling process that leaves open the possibility that archaeological materials may yet be present on-site. To prepare for the possibility that archaeological materials are discovered during project activities, ASCC recommends that project coordinators develop and implement an inadvertent discovery plan.

#### Sample Inadvertent Discovery Plan

In the event of an inadvertent discovery of potentially significant archaeological materials (bones, shell, stone tools, hearths, etc.) and/or human remains during project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity should stop, the area must be secured, and the discovery

must be reported to the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) (360-586-3065) and all relevant Native American tribes. In the event human remains are identified, local law enforcement, the county medical examiner, State Physical Anthropologist at DAHP (360-586-3534), the Clark County planning office, and the affected Tribes should be contacted immediately. Compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to archaeological resources (RCW27.53, 27.44 and WAC 25-48) and human remains (RCW 68.50) is required

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