Chapter 4
Cultural Arts and Heritage

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Cultural arts and historic resources are essential to the quality of life, spirit, vitality, health, and well-being of a city. Commitment to the promotion of cultural arts and preservation of historic resources is essential in this era of competition for resources, residents, businesses, and tourists, it provides the defining competitive edge that attracts the ‘creative class.’ It enriches the daily lives of all the City’s residents by providing a deeper understanding, tolerance, and respect for diverse communities. As Bonney Lake and the Puget Sound region grow and change, it is vital to preserve Bonney Lake’s beautiful natural surroundings, promote the arts, and protect historic resources in order to maintain and enhance the quality of life the residents of Bonney Lake have grown to expect. There are a variety of aspects to cultural areas, such as:

- performing arts (music, theatre, dance, circus)
- visual arts (paintings, sculpture, art objects, digital art forms, crafts)
- film and new media (movies, television, electronic games)
- literature (books and magazines)
- cultural heritage (museums, historical sites, associated collections, ethnic and/or racial traditions or holidays, religious traditions)
- culinary arts

The City can’t create a culturally vibrant community on its own – it takes everyone, whether creating art, creating community, or enjoying the creations of others.

Heritage resources include collections of historic materials, historic structures, celebrations of historic events, oral histories, genealogy, pre-contact archeological resources, etc. Heritage resources help provide a better sense of time and place which in turn provides identity and an authentic sense of place for the community and its residents.
The City of Bonney Lake began to demonstrate its commitment to promoting a more vibrant cultural life for its residents and visitors in 2006 by expanding its special events, hiring a Special Events Coordinator, and assigning staff to work more closely with such organizations as the Greater Bonney Lake Historical Society and supporting the newly established Veterans Memorial Committee.

In 2014, this commitment was furthered by the establishment of the Bonney Lake Art’s Commission.

The Community Cultural and Heritage Element of the Comprehensive Plan is optional under the Growth Management Act (GMA), but the City is choosing to incorporate this element into the Plan because it is a vital part of the community’s interests. The GMA goals that pertain most directly to community cultural and heritage resources are:

- **Urban Growth:** Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities/services exist or can be provided. Note: Such facilities might include meeting or recreational facilities, community centers, senior centers, galleries, museums, etc.

- **Economic Development:** Encourage economic development throughout the state that is consistent with adopted comprehensive plans, promote economic opportunity for all citizens of this state, especially for unemployed and for disadvantaged persons, and encourage growth in areas experiencing insufficient economic growth, all within the capacities of the state’s natural resources, public services, and public facilities. Note: The social wellbeing of our community is influenced by the economic wellbeing of our citizenry.

- **Citizen Participation and Coordination:** Encourage the involvement of citizens in the planning process and ensure coordination between communities and jurisdictions to reconcile conflicts. Note: Involvement of our citizens could be expanded to include involvement in community projects, activities, programs, etc.

- **Historic Preservation:** Identify and encourage the preservation of lands, sites, and structures that have historical or archaeological significance. Note: The City as has taken the first steps in identifying our historic resources. Preservation is a more challenging matter.
2. VISION

The City envisions a Bonney Lake in which art is displayed in private and public facilities and residents can access cultural programs, participate in cultural activities, mingle with artists or performers, and learn to appreciate the heritage of the greater Bonney Lake area by engaging in activities that include historic preservation, historic presentations, collections of historic materials and/or structures, celebrations of historic events, oral histories, and genealogy and strive to maintain, preserve, and enhance the City's historic, cultural and archaeological resources to provide a sense of local identity and history to the visitors and residents of the community. Bonney Lake will become known for innovative, engaging and authentic experiences, people and places that celebrate our past, present and future.

To this end, we envision a Bonney Lake where:

- enthusiastic citizens participate in, volunteer for, support and appreciate cultural arts;
- performers and artisans seek to display their talent to an eager public;
- quality cultural arts activities energize, entertain, refine, and inspire us;
- cultural arts activities are accessible to all and are well-publicized;
- families participate in rich and varied cultural activities;
- Bonney Lake’s heritage, history, and diversity are preserved and promoted;
- the arts are adequately funded and appropriate facilities are available;
- private support of the arts is encouraged; and,
- arts education is fostered.

3. CULTURAL ARTS

3.1 PLANNING FOR THE ARTS

Vibrant cultural arts opportunities provide numerous benefits to the local community:

- These activities help create a sense of community by providing a means for citizens to mingle and develop interpersonal relationships;
- Studies show that cultural arts events promote economic activity and thereby create local jobs and sources of income;
- Cultural arts activities provide an opportunity for a community to create a distinct identity;
Cultural opportunities are often cited as an important indicator of a community’s quality of life and thereby impact relocation decisions by individuals and businesses; and

Access to grant funding typically requires development of a plan that identifies existing resources and future needs.

Cultural activities, events, and festivals provide opportunities for local citizens to gather and share common interests. Not only do such activities create opportunities for citizens to meet each other and develop relationships, they also serve to bond participants to their community and create a sense of community pride and caring.

Community cultural activities can play an important role in economic development. A 2007 study undertaken by Americans for the Arts estimates that a typical attendee of a performing arts event spends $27.79 per person, per event, not counting the cost of admission. This study also concludes that non-profit organizations alone create approximately 5.7 million full-time-equivalent jobs across the U.S. Arts organizations, whether non-profit or for-profit, are typically labor-intensive and therefore create local jobs.

Communities can create their own cultural identities and “branding” which can have both economic and psychic benefits. Some obvious examples are Port Townsend (Victorian seaport theme), Leavenworth (Bavarian theme), and Ashland (Shakespeare). Tourism itself can actually become a community’s primary economic driver as it has for these three cities. Another example is downtown Tacoma whose revitalization was driven by location of several museums.

Area Development magazine, a publication covering corporate site selection and relocation issues with 45,000 executive subscribers, has conducted surveys that indicate that “quality of life” is an important factor when it comes to site selection by businesses and individuals. Cultural attractions are typically one of the “quality of life” indicators.

Occasionally governmental and private organizations offer grants that could provide funding for a portion of cultural arts activities and facilities. Generally such grant opportunities are modest in scope and focus on specific needs. Development of a cultural arts plan that identifies existing resources and assesses community needs is an important first step. Some grant programs require adoption of a formal plan to access funding. This plan is intended to fulfill such a requirement if needed.
Utilizing community cultural activities to assist with developing a community is not an overnight achievement and is not free of cost or commitment. It takes many years of planning, hard work, and financial commitments to achieve substantial long-term results.

**Goal CAH-1:** Enhance and enrich Bonney Lake’s community culture by promoting various forms and expressions of cultural arts.

**Policy CAH-1.1:** Educate residents about different ethnic arts and cultural traditions, and for building multicultural understanding.

**Policy CAH-1.2:** Within the limits of available resources, support, enhance and/or maintain community events through the inclusion of arts related activities.

**Policy CAH-1.3:** Periodically review and update the Community Culture and Heritage Element.

**Policy CAH-1.4:** Pursue, where appropriate, county, state, and federal funding opportunities for cultural arts.

**Policy CAH-1.5:** Incorporate cultural arts as part of its overall economic development program, especially those that attract out-of-town visitors.

### 3.2 PARTNERSHIPS

One major goal of this plan is to raise awareness of and facilitate access to information about artists, events, sponsors, venues, and other related information. To that end an arts and cultural asset map of the Bonney Lake and surrounding area has been developed. The asset map is designed to help tell the story of the community’s arts and cultural landscape by providing a snapshot of the cultural sector. The cultural asset map follows the same format as that developed by Pierce County and included in the Pierce County Arts and Cultural Plan, dated April 2010.

The City of Bonney Lake and several local cultural arts organizations and individuals participated in the development of Pierce County’s cultural asset map. By following the same format, the City recognizes that it is part of the larger Pierce County community and wishes to plan and operate within that context. In addition to online sources, lists of arts organizations were derived from the White River Families First Coalition’s Plateau Community Resource Guide and the Bonney Lake Chamber of Commerce’s Business and Community Guide. The City’s approach is to collaborate with – not duplicate or supplant – existing...
organizations, events, and processes. Beyond existing recreation and special events programming, the City envisions its primary role as facilitator and information clearinghouse.

The purpose of this map is to list in one location local governmental, nonprofit and for-profit organizations in the following categories:

- Heritage, historical, cultural initiatives and organizations
- Learning programs and arts education
- Venues (facilities)
- Community leadership organizations and partnerships (governmental and nonprofit)
- Artist initiatives and groups
- Festivals and events
- Media and communications
- Visual, performing, and literary arts organizations
- Arts and cultural private businesses

Goal CAH-2: Facilitate partnerships and collaborations with other public agencies, community based groups, and the private sector to expand opportunities for cultural arts. This includes strengthening relationships the Derringer, White River and Sumner School Districts, neighboring cities, Pierce County Library System, local artists, businesses, and arts related community based groups

Policy CAH-2.1: Collaborate with the White River and Sumner School District, other jurisdictions, and the Bonney Lake Library to present quality arts programs and performances to the community.

Policy CAH-2.2: Encourage the Sumner School District to construct a performing arts facility of the grounds that have been set aside for that purpose, and to make the facility available for community use.

Policy CAH-2.3: Promote partnerships among arts organizations, education institutions, and charitable foundations to enhance programming, funding, and facility development for community cultural activities.

Policy CAH-2.4: Encourage partnerships with the private sector and organizations to encourage monetary and non-monetary support for community cultural activities.

### 3.3 CULTURAL ARTS VENUES

Bonney Lake currently lacks museums, art galleries, theaters, and other performance art venues. In response to its growing population, the City must continue to evaluate and work to expand its cultural venues to cater to the increasing entertainment needs of its residents.
During the summer of 2010, the Park Board and city staff undertook an extensive community survey of more than 450 individuals. While the survey was not restricted to city residents only, surveys were focused primarily on participants of city-sponsored special events. Within the cultural arts facilities category, “performing arts center” rated highest; “amphitheater” second; “veterans’ memorial” third; and “museum” lowest.

**Goal CAH-3**: Develop facilities and programs for public art and cultural opportunities that create and enrich a strong sense of community identity and promote a high quality of life.

- **Policy CAH-3.1**: The City will advocate for visual and performing arts facilities to serve the needs of the community.
- **Policy CAH-3.3**: The City will advocate for the development of a community center as central location for community cultural and leisure activities.
- **Policy CAH-3.4**: The City will establish development incentives to facilitate the construction of visual and performing arts facilities.
- **Policy CAH-3.5**: Encourage performance and events in non-traditional venues.

### 3.4 CULTURAL ARTS MARKETING

Arts, cultural and heritage organizations often assert that their most critical need is audience development, community awareness, and marketing. In addition, in an era of a faltering economy and declined arts attendance the need for effective marketing and audience development becomes even more critical.

The City of Bonney Lake currently has two local, two regional and two national print papers serving the community. One of the local papers, the Courier Herald, is the current chosen paper for City of Bonney Lake announcements. This paper is distributed weekly to every household in the Bonney Lake, Sumner and Buckley areas.

Other digital marketing opportunities include but are certainly not limited to the Mayor’s weekly newsletter and the monthly edition of the Bonney Lake Reporter.

Regional resources can use their websites to market the plan as well, such as:

- Pierce County Arts Commission
- Pierce County Library

Social Media marketing is a very fast paced way to market the plan as well. These include but are certainly not limited to:

- Facebook
Banners and yard signs can also be a beneficial marketing plan for larger events throughout our city. There are a number of strategies the City can employ to assist in addressing this problem. The City special events staff could convene local cultural related organizations to explore collective and cooperative marketing. The City could use its existing outlets, such as the Bonney Lake Reporter, City website, and Facebook page to profile local arts and heritage groups. The City could continue to use other advertising media to promote the arts and other special events.

**Goal CAH-4:** Increase public awareness of arts, cultural, and heritage organizations to facilitate audience development, community awareness, and public attendance.

**Policy CAH-4.1:** Use traditional and social media, new technology, City publications, community partnerships to increase awareness and participation in community cultural activities that distinguish Bonney Lake from other regional cities.

### 3.4 PUBLIC ART

Public art programs contribute directly to economic vitality through the enhancement of the physical environment, increased property values and cultural tourism as well as through more indirect methods such as an enhanced sense of ownership of public facilities and an accompanying decrease in vandalism. These programs involve artists not only in the creation of unique works of art for a community, but in the design of the built environment and in the delivery of public services.

Public art enhances public facilities and spaces by engaging artists in civic development. Artists can create signature works that serve as public landmarks and they can create place-making artworks that range from decorative to functional, such as benches, light fixtures, tree guards, bus shelters or decorative flooring. Every new bridge or overpass, every new park, building or sidewalk presents an opportunity to make the region more appealing. Millions of dollars are spent every year constructing roads, building public facilities and otherwise extending, improving and maintaining infrastructure. Public art programs leverage those funds by enabling the expansion of the region’s cultural infrastructure at the same time.

**Goal CAH-5:** Incorporate public art into infrastructure projects, parks, and gathering spaces to develop a strong community identity and provide places with elements that facilitate the creation of a strong sense space.

**Policy CAH-5.1:** The City will encourage participation from the private and business sectors to provide art for display in public places. This includes encouraging citizens and businesses to underwrite through individual donations, the creation of artist-made streetscape furnishings such as benches or flower basket poles.
**Policy CAH-5.2:** The City will incorporate the arts into its downtown plan to enhance pedestrian connections and highlight cultural assets including public art and community history.

**Policy CAH-5.3:** The City will incorporate public art into its parks and public spaces.

**Policy CAH-5.4:** Install public art in City-owned facilities, parks, and greenways and incorporate public art into the planning stages of publicly funded projects and projects on City-owned land.

**Policy CAH-5.5:** Support the temporary re-use of vacant and/or underutilized building facades for art exhibitions and murals.

### 3.5 CULTURAL ARTS ACTIVITIES

The ultimate reward for Bonney Lake in promoting arts and culture is to enhance its positive reputation for events and festivals. Annual art shows, film festivals, and concert events held around the same time every year can become a tourism generator. Current City-sponsored cultural events include Bonney Lake Days, Tunes at Tapps, Kids Club, Movie Night in the Park, Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Tree Lighting, Parks Appreciation Day, and the Family Fitness Fest/Car Show. In addition to the City-sponsored events, there are other culture activities which include the Milotte Wildlife Film Festival, Renaissance Fair and Labor of Love Triathlon.

**Goal CAH-6:** Maintain the Bonney Lake’s community cultural activities to promoting the arts and enhance the City’s reputation for events and festivals.

**Policy CAH-6.1:** Promote and market events that support and encourage cultural tourism.

**Policy CAH-6.2:** Engage the arts community in the planning of City festivals and other cultural activities.
4. HERITAGE

4.1 HISTORY

Native Americans
The Native Americans that traversed Bonney Lake’s Plateau were primarily those of Puget Sound who spoke the Lushootseed dialect of the Salish group of languages. Their presence in the area is estimated to have been from 10,000 to 12,000 inhabitants before the coming of the white man. No known permanent settlement of people resided on the plateau, but it was traversed frequently between the western shores and the inland plateau located east of the Cascades. The trail was used while hunting game and gathering of native berries, nuts and camas roots. Some of the nearby native groups were later known as the Puyallup, Nisqually, and Muckleshoot tribes. Their domain extended from the shores of Puget Sound to the Cascade Mountains. Bonney Lake’s Plateau was an area that was vital to their cultural existence and provided a link to their cousins east of the mountains.

Early expeditions
Although the earliest known non-native people to arrive in Puget Sound was the Captain George Vancouver expedition in 1792, no known written record of Bonney Lake’s plateau was made until 1841, when Lt. Robert Johnson, with Charles Wilkes’ United States Exploring Expedition, travelled from the British held Hudson Bay Company, Fort Nisqually, to another Hudson Bay Company at Fort Colville. Johnson travelled the Indian path later known as the Naches Trail. As early as 1833, The Hudson Bay Company had established themselves at Fort Nisqually, and it has been stated that a small cabin was built by fur traders on the plateau along the Naches Trail. In 1853 Theodore Winthrop crossed the Naches Trail and later wrote about the experience in a book, Canoe and Saddle.

Naches Trail
The Naches Trail began as hardly more than a path from Puget Sound across Bonney Lake’s Plateau, the White River, the Cascade mountains, to the inland areas of the Yakima Nation. It was the “freeway” of the past, used as a trade route between tribes. Sometimes along the trail within the Bonney Lake area, tribes would gather to visit, exchange news and goods, and renew familial ties. The first wagon train to cross the Cascades north of the Columbia River was the Longmire train in 1853, fording the White River west of Porter’s Prairie, stopping at Connell’s Prairie, crossing Fennel Creek where Kelley Farm is located. It travelled on through Grainger Springs and down to the Puyallup River where Van Ogle later owned a thriving hop farm near the Alderton bridge. Following that first crossing, the trail across the plateau was changed to run roughly along the same route as the Old Sumner Buckley Highway, making the first crossing of the White River near Boise.

In 1853 Captain George B. McClellan was assigned the task of surveying the Naches Trail as a possible route for the Northern Pacific Railroad and to explore the Cascades. An improved road was urgently needed to help emigrants over the much shorter, but incomplete route. His priority task was supposed
to make sure any wagon train was met at Walla Walla and guided across the mountains into Puget Sound. He failed in spite of the forty men and all the supplies at his disposal. He did not cross the Naches pass, because the Yakima Indians had told him that the snow was too deep. His opinion was that the route should be along the Columbia River.

**Indian War**

Washington Territorial Governor Isaac I. Stevens was determined to make it easy for the immigrants from the United States to settle and populate the territory north of the Columbia River. With an increasing number of people arriving to file Donation Land Claims, the Native Americans were becoming restive. When Stevens brokered the Medicine Creek Treaty in December 1854, there was anger and disagreement when the tribes realized they were signing over their right to use the land they had inhabited for centuries. Conflict in the Puget Sound region erupted when resident Michael Connell and Lt. James McAllister of the Washington Territorial Volunteers were the first settlers killed by the Indians on Connell’s Donation Land Claim, October 27, 1855. The following day, they crossed the White River and killed nine men, women, and children, before returning to Connell’s Prairie. Within the week another ambush took place between Connell’s Prairie and Finnell’s Prairie, killing Washington Volunteers Joseph Miles and A. Benton Moses.

With the constant Indian movement across the White River and the Naches Pass, the U.S. Military and the Washington Territorial Volunteers built two block houses in 1856 at Connell’s Prairie, naming it Fort Hays. It was a strategic point along the Naches Trail to carry on the attack against the local tribes and to intercept any Indian reinforcements travelling from eastern Washington. Numerous skirmishes occurred on the plateau, but the definitive battle marking an end to the Puget Sound conflict took place on March 19, 1856, on Connell’s Prairie, where the bloody hostilities first began. A marker was erected in 1924 at Connell’s Prairie Road and Barkubein Road by the Washington State Historical Society to commemorate the site.

The Nisqually Chief Leschi was taken into custody in November 1856 for murder of Moses and Miles on Connell’s Prairie, and his brother Quiemuth turned himself in shortly thereafter. Quiemuth was murdered on November 18, 1856, in Governor Stevens’s office in Olympia, where he was being held for the night. No one was ever charged in the crime. Leschi was tried, but the first trial resulted in a hung jury. A second trial was held, and he was convicted, but evidence that may have exonerated him was not allowed by the judge. Leschi had numerous supporters, including James Longmire and Ezra Meeker. The Pierce County sheriff refused to carry out the sentence and was arrested. On February 19, 1858, Leschi was hanged, but even his executioner believed he was innocent. In March 2004, both houses of the Washington state legislature passed resolutions stating that Leschi was wrongly convicted and executed and asked the state supreme court to vacate Leschi’s conviction. The court’s chief justice, however, said that this was unlikely to happen, since it was not at all clear that the state court had jurisdiction in a matter decided 146 years earlier in a territorial court. On December 10, 2004, Chief Leschi was exonerated by a unanimous vote by a Historical Court of Inquiry following a definitive trial in absentia.
Early Settlers

During the Indian War, the first settlers filed three Donation Land Claims on the plateau; Connell, Williamson, and Finnell. Each had their cabins and barns burned and crops and livestock stolen or destroyed. Although the conflict lasted only about a year, the return of any settlers to the plateau was very slow. Interest in settling some of the more remote areas like the Bonney Lake plateau received an impetus when the Homestead Act of 1862 was passed. Settlers could pay a modest fee and claim 160 acres, or 320 acres if married. William B. Kelley, his father Nathan, and most of the family arrived in 1864 from their home in Illinois. Both William and his father claimed land on the banks of Finnell’s Creek, encompassing the prairie that had originally been settled by Reuben Finnell. Both William and Nathan went on to serve in the Washington Territorial Legislature, and William served as Pierce County Auditor during the 1880’s. Kelley also donated land for a one-room school house. Nineteen year old Kelly Lake school teacher Amy Johns Ryan wrote of her keeping a hatchet on her school desk for protection against Native Americans, cougars, and other wildlife when she taught in 1897. Kelley Lake School finally closed its doors in 1963, when it merged with the larger neighboring school districts.

The area around Bonney Lake saw various ethnic groups gather in communities, including the Finns, who engaged in farming, since it offered a far better life than the dangers of working in the coal mines in the foothills. Another group was comprised of families from Switzerland. They spread out from their initial settlements in the valley and founded dairy farms on the plateau. William and Levina Vandermark had settled at Lake Tapps following their move from Ohio. William died in 1891, but Levina continued to reside at the lake until she was displaced by the impending White River Project to create a power generating reservoir by forming one large Lake Tapps from four smaller water bodies. The Vandermark home was moved to 214th Avenue East, and was eventually taken over by their son James Vandermark and his wife Amanda Lyotte. Some others who settled in the area were the Moriarty, Orcutt, Wahl, Haase, and Angeline families among many others.

Bonney Lake Incorporation

In 1910 the "White River Power Project" was launched by the Pacific Coast Power Company. It created a large reservoir by flooding four of the existing lakes; Kirtley, Crawford, Church, and Tapps, to create a much larger Lake Tapps. People living on the plateau were engaged primarily in farming and logging occupations. The years of the Great Depression saw an increase of population on the plateau. Many people arrived from the ravaged “dust bowl” regions of the Midwest to begin life anew in Washington. The prime growing ground of the Puyallup Valley in Pierce County had already been settled, but the sparsely populated plateau where Bonney Lake sat offered inexpensive, although not easily accessible land. When Ken Simmons, a former legislator and mayor of the town of Milton, visited the area in 1945, he and his wife saw the potential of developing the area as a recreational paradise. They bought a reported 1000 acres from George Logan, a popular rodeo announcer, and divided the property into lots for sale. With very little infrastructure of roads, electricity, or most importantly, a water source, Simmons realized he must incorporate the area into a town in order to float a bond to build a water system. On February 28, 1949, he achieved the first goal by incorporating the Town of Bonney Lake. Within a year, he managed to build the much needed water system, carve roads out of the forests, and bring electricity and
telephone service to the town. By 1957, there were at least twelve businesses in the downtown district. Urban development continues to change the community and heighten demand on its facilities and services. In 1995 the City adopted its first GMA Comprehensive Plan. It called for compact, pedestrian-oriented development, and innovative design. That planning emphasis remains today.

### 4.2 HERITAGE AND PRESERVATION PLANNING

Along with the Community Cultural, preservation and recognition of historical resources will also help give residents a stronger “sense of place”. Protection, recognition of sites, and educational programs will be the focus of preservation efforts in the City over the next 20 years, since many of its remaining historical resources are under development pressures. In order to achieve these ideas, the City will need to do the following:

- Continue to identify archaeological and historic resources within Bonney Lake and develop appropriate protection measures.
- Provide incentives to private owners for preservation, restoration and use of historic sites.
- Seek both public and private funding for restoration and enhancement of historical resources.
- Recognize significant historical sites.

The starting point for any discussion of heritage is an understanding of what a community values. Bonney Lake is made up of many things – buildings, landscapes, social customs and routines, natural features, memories – that together help define that community’s character. What “heritage” means in this context is the essence of the place: what makes Bonney Lake distinct from anywhere else?

“Heritage” as applied to places used to be defined almost exclusively in terms of architectural history, with heritage significance being the extent to which the buildings (usually in isolation from their context) were of note for their style, design, construction, architecture, or detailing. These narrow definitions of heritage are not very applicable to a relatively “new” City like Bonney Lake, and thus the emphasis in this plan is the broader context of heritage.
Heritage planning helps provide a better sense of time and place, which in turn provides identity to the community and its residents. Heritage Planning is a means of coordinating change to ensure the conservation of the City's cultural heritage resources.

A community's identity and civic pride is rooted in the physical and cultural links to its past. In order to understand and appreciate Bonney Lake's history, the City is committed to recognizing, conserving and enhancing heritage resources.

This City’s culture and heritage plan sets the goals and policies for heritage planning, which are to identify, recognize, protect, enhance and properly manage the City's heritage resources. Because of the relative newness of the City and its buildings, most of the heritage of Bonney Lake relates to sites, landscapes and historical events, rather than buildings and structures. Accordingly, the emphasis of this plan is to celebrate and promote a sense of time and place, and develop a genuine appreciation of the history of the area.

The Washington Growth Management Act does not require a Historic Preservation Element, but the Act does include a goal which calls for jurisdictions to "identify and encourage the preservation of lands, sites, and structures that have historical or archaeological significance".

Heritage includes activities that embody historic preservation, historic presentations, collections of historic materials and/or structures, celebrations of historic events, oral histories, genealogy, etc.

Historic sites and areas are the physical evidence of our connective past. The greater Bonney Lake community should recognize the importance of its historic resources. There should be a commitment to the identification and recognition of our historic resources. Bonney Lake should celebrate its history through historic tours, festivals, and special events.

**Goal CAH-7:** It is the goal of the City of Bonney Lake to give its residents a better understanding and awareness of the historic sites within the community. This includes enhancing information about, and access to, various Bonney Lake area historic sites, and helping residents and visitors understand and appreciate local heritage.

**Policy CAH-7.1:** The City recognizes that Bonney Lake’s history began before the arrival of settlers to the area and will recognize the significance of Native American sites and artifacts as well as those of the more recent past.

**Policy CAH-7.2:** The City will encourage local activities which promote the community's history.
Policy CAH-7.3: The City will work with the Greater Bonney Lake Historical Society and others to provide access to historic documentation to land owners, citizens, and interested parties.

Policy CAH-7.4: The City will work with organizations and business interests to promote Heritage Tourism opportunities as part of the City’s economic development strategy.

Policy CAH-7.5: The City will work with the community to provide information to interpret the history of Bonney Lake, including historical displays, programs, and interpretative signage.

Policy CAH-7.6: The City’s historical resources inventory will be maintained and updated as needed.

Policy CAH-7.7: The City will collaborate with local school districts within the City on local history education.

Policy CAH-7.8: The City will participate with other local, county, state and national historical organizations to educate the community about the value of local cultural and historical resources.

Policy CAH-7.9: The City will work closely with the Greater Bonney Lake Historical Society, the Pierce County Heritage League, and other heritage organizations in Pierce County to foster knowledge and appreciation of our historic resources.

Policy CAH-7.10: The City will encourage the Greater Bonney Lake Historical Society to establish a volunteer program similar to Beautify Bonney Lake for volunteers to work on historically significant projects.

### 4.3 Historic Preservation in Washington State

The following is a description of various historic preservation regulations and guidelines, both nationwide and in Washington State.

**Native American Cultural Resources**

Native Americans have deep-rooted pride in their heritage, and constitute an important segment of the state’s heritage constituency. Tribal governments have a keen interest in the treatment of properties and sites that represent their heritage. Tribal members also represent another body of expertise, particularly in regard to archaeological sites and traditional cultural places. Area tribal governments or their designated representatives may be consulted in regards to historic preservation questions.

**National Historic Preservation Act**

Passed by Congress in 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) defined and shaped national historic preservation policies and the federal government’s response. Generally, the act defines historic preservation as: the active process of protecting and preserving our built environment for study, use, and enjoyment by present and future generations. Historic preservation efforts are applied to buildings, structures, districts, sites, or objects. The terms “historic preservation,” “historic resources,” and “historic properties,” when used in the context of the act, apply to historic buildings, structures, and archaeological sites.
**National Register of Historic Places**

Properties that have historic, architectural, archaeological, engineering, or cultural significance may be nomination for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. A property nominated to the National Register can attain significance at a national, state, or local level, but must meet defined criteria to be listed in the National Register.

**Washington State Governor’s Advisory Council on Historic Preservation**

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) is a seven-member panel of citizens with expertise and/or training in historic preservation and related fields. Members are appointed by the Governor in order to advise on state government policy matters affecting preservation of cultural resources. The ACHP devotes much of its time to reviewing documents nominating Washington state properties for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

State Historic Preservation Plan. In fulfillment of its responsibilities under the NHPA to develop and implement a state historic preservation plan, in 2004 DAHP completed updating and revising its first plan with a new document entitled Strengthening Communities Through Historic Preservation: The Washington State Historic Preservation Plan. This document addresses issues regarding preservation in Washington and provides goals, objectives, and specific tasks for strengthening communities by capitalizing on their cultural resources.

### 4.4 WHAT MAKES SOMETHING HISTORIC?

According to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) guidelines, sites worthy of inclusion on the NRHP are those which:

- Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our nation’s history;
- Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

![Figure 4-10: Kelly Lake School circa 1928](image)
Due to the nature of the development of the Bonney Lake community, there are likely no current structures in Bonney Lake that would likely qualify to be included on the National Register of Historic Places. However, the NRHP guidelines can nonetheless be used to determine the relative value of a historic site to the local community. In order to be considered historically significant, a landmark or site should meet the following criteria:

- Its value as a significant reminder of the cultural or archaeological heritage of the city, state, or nation.
- Its location as a site of a significant local or regional event.
- Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the city, state, or nation.
- Its identification as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual work has influenced the development of the City.

4.5 PROTECTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES

The Bonney Lake area has a long history of human settlement. Under RCW 42.56.300 (1) and (2), specific locations of archaeological sites, historic sites, artifacts, or the sites of traditional religious, ceremonial, or social uses and activities of affected Indian tribes are exempt from disclosure under the above-mentioned chapter to prevent the looting or depredation of such sites.

However, it is generally accepted that Native Americans and settlers of European decent often settled along shorelines and waterways. Both Native Americans and Euro-Americans relied on waterways for subsistence, raw materials, and travel. Campbell’s (2004) predictive model suggests three variables are most significant for predicting site location: distance from tidelands, distance from salmon bearing streams, and elevation. That is, lower elevations near waterways or tidelands are more likely to contain cultural material than areas higher in elevation or further from water.
Parts of the Naches Trail, which Sumner-Buckley Highway East roughly follows, and Connell’s Prairie are known areas of early Native American activity.

In 2005 the City established a Heritage Tree program. A heritage tree is any tree that because of its age, size, unique type, or historical association is of special importance to the city and has been designated as a heritage tree by the city council.

In order for a tree to be designated as a heritage tree, a person must submit a written request to the City. The application form includes a signed declaration by the land owner (or approval of the Mayor if the tree is owned by the City) approving of the application; a site map showing the lot, any structures on site, and the current use of the site; the species and size of tree; a narrative explaining why the applicant wishes to designate that tree as a heritage tree.

In order for a tree to be designated as a Heritage Tree, the tree must meet the three (3) following criteria:

1. The tree is historically significant by virtue of its association with or contribution to a historic structure or district, or its association with a noted person or historic event.

2. The tree has exceptional significance because of its age, size, form, or rarity.

3. The tree is a recognized Landmark of the City.

When a tree is designated as a heritage tree, a plaque so signifying is placed near the tree. The City maintains all heritage trees that are located on city property or on public rights-of-way within the city. It is the duty of every owner of property upon which a heritage tree is standing to maintain that tree to the best of their ability. The city may give advice and assistance to property owners regarding proper maintenance of heritage trees.

In 2009 the City of Bonney Lake, Pierce County, and the Greater Bonney Lake Historical Society collaborated on a project identifying the top ten locations for historical attractions within the Bonney Lake area. The ten locations were agreed upon following multiple meetings between City staff and the Historical Society. Cash expenses for the project were split between the City of Bonney Lake and Pierce County, and the City covered the cost of staff time, including the actual installation of the markers. The markers are composed of a sandstone base and a stainless steel plaque.
The plaque inscriptions for the top ten locations listed below are identified in Appendix “?”:

1. Kelley Farm
2. First City Hall
3. Ken Simmons Resort
4. Perfield Hop Farm
5. Church of the Nazarene
6. Native Gathering Place
7. Naches Trail
8. Lake Tapps
9. Sky Stone
10. Swiss Park

Bonney Lake is a relatively new City, although the area had been previously occupied by scattered settlers and Native Americans. At the time of the City of Bonney Lake’s incorporation in 1949 there were less than 100 homes in town. There are very few residences that predate the 1930s. The following is a list of the oldest residences in Bonney Lake:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>YEAR BUILT</th>
<th>PARCEL ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20321 Church Lake Road E</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>0520273039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7714 214th Avenue E</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>0520274018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7721 West Tapps Highway E</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>0520273003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18411 89th Street E</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td>5640001575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19219 Church lake Road E</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>0520331010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7722 Myers Road E</td>
<td>1927</td>
<td>0520298069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18420 89th Street E</td>
<td>1927</td>
<td>5640001470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11007 Angeline Road E</td>
<td>1928</td>
<td>0519047006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7402 Myers Road E</td>
<td>1928</td>
<td>0520294095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7514 192nd Ave E</td>
<td>1929</td>
<td>7110000560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6408 South Vista Drive E</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>4720001530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8709 188th Avenue E</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>5640001280</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4-1: Bonney Lake’s Oldest Residences
Source: Greater Bonney Lake Historical Society and Pierce County Assessor Records

Given the relative lack of officially designated historic structures in Bonney Lake, the emphasis of the Heritage section is to focus on promoting and preserving the heritage of Bonney Lake.

**Goal CAH-8:** It is the goal of the City to identify, preserve and protect facilities, sites, buildings, structures, trees and artifacts that are deemed by the City or other governmental agency to be historically and culturally significant.

**Policy CAH-8.1:** The City will continue efforts to inventory historic structures, archeological sites, and other potential historic sites to add to the Inventory of Key Bonney Lake Historic Sites listed in this plan.
Policy CAH-8.2: The City will coordinate with community organizations, property owners and local citizens to protect and/or restore key historic sites.

Policy CAH-8.3: The City will encourage property owners and tenants to maintain the integrity and character of historic resources, and to restore and reuse historic resources in a manner compatible with their historic character.

Policy CAH-8.4: The City will strive to recognize and preserve architecturally or historically significant structures built during the 19th Century. Specifically, the City will promote the preservation of the Kelly Farm house as a key Bonney Lake area historic structure.

Policy CAH-8.5: The City will consider the impacts of new development on historical resources as a part of its environmental review process and require appropriate mitigating measures. The City’s use of State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) requirements to evaluate the impacts of proposals on historical resources will include review of transportation projects and plans, utility projects, and other capital improvement projects to determine their impact to significant cultural and historical resources of the City.

Policy CAH-8.6: The City will coordinate with local tribes and the State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation on development issues related to potential archaeological sites.

Policy CAH-8.7: The City will seek both state/federal and private funding for restoration and enhancement of historical resources.

Policy CAH-8.8: The City will assist in the identification of available spaces for the proper storage, preservation and display of significant cultural and historical artifacts.

Policy CAH-8.9: The City will provide appropriate means to recognize property owners who rehabilitate, restore, retain or reproduce historical elements of their properties.

Policy CAH-8.10: While promoting historic preservation, the City will adopt no policy or regulation which shall limit a site or structure from being used in an economically viable manner.

Policy CAH-8.11: Efforts to preserve historical sites or structures should include incentives such as utilization of the state special property tax valuation, partial income tax write-off for restoration and relaxation of Zoning Code standards to encourage property owners to rehabilitate, restore, retain or reproduce historical elements of their properties.
Figure 4-15: Bonney Lake Historic Monument Locations
4.6 STATE AND FEDERAL PRESERVATION REGULATIONS

The following is a list of the key heritage related Federal and State Archaeology and Historic Preservation Requirements and Guidelines that are used to promote historic preservation:

**Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966**

The Act requires all federal agencies consider cultural resources as part of all licensing, permitting, and funding decisions. As part of that process, each agency must consult with DAHP to assure that cultural resources are identified, and to obtain the formal opinion of the Office on each site's significance and the impact of its action upon the site.

**State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)**

SEPA requires that impacts to cultural resources be considered during the public environmental review process. Under SEPA, DAHP is the sole agency with technical expertise in regard to cultural resources and provides formal opinions to local governments and other state agencies on a site's significance and the impact of proposed projects upon such sites.

**Section 4(f) regulations of the Department of Transportation Act**

This act stipulates that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and other DOT agencies cannot approve the use of land from a significant publicly owned public park, recreation area, wildlife or waterfowl refuge, or any significant historic site unless the following conditions apply: 1) There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of land, or 2) The action includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the property resulting from use.

**Washington State Forest Practices Act**

This act has provisions which allow for the protection of archaeological sites while harvesting timber on public and private lands.

**Shoreline Management Act**

The SMA requires that development permits issued by local governments in areas with archaeological sites require a site inspection or evaluation by a professional archaeologist in coordination with affected Indian Tribes prior to issuing development permits.
4.7 PRESERVATION TOOLS AND RESOURCES

The following is a list and brief description of some of the tools, resources and activities commonly used in historic preservation. In addition, the Washington State Department of Historic Preservation has a state-wide on-line searchable database for all cultural resources in the state. The link to this database is: http://www.dahp.wa.gov/pages/wisaardIntro.htm

**Preservation Period**
Pick a time during each year to undertake a “Preservation Week”, which may include the identification of significant historic places, recognition of individuals who have contributed to the preservation of our Bonney Lake heritage, education of residents about the benefits of the preservation and protection of cultural, historic, architectural, and archaeological resources.

**Workshops**
Periodically co-sponsor and coordinate workshops with local and regional historic preservation groups and historical societies that advocate and educate participants about appropriate preservation technology and techniques.

**Tours**
Sponsor, coordinate, and/or promote tours of the community that identify and interpret the City’s cultural, historic, architectural, and archaeological resources for residents and visitors.

**Plaques**
Present plaques to owners of the City’s cultural, historic, architectural, and archaeological resources, for public display, that recognize the significance of the resource(s).

**Maps**
Print and distribute the City brochure that identify the City’s key historical sites and markers.

**Educational Materials**
Utilize and support educational materials to publicize the City’s historic resources and local efforts to protect, preserve, and enhance Bonney Lake’s heritage. Provide information to the public on methods of maintaining and rehabilitating historic properties. This may take the form of pamphlets, newsletters, workshops or similar activities.

**Construction Sales Tax Rebates.**
Provide tax rebates for material purchased for historic preservation work.
**Property Tax Rebates**
Develop program to reduce property tax resulting from increases to assessed values due to improvements made to restore a locally designated historic property.

**Reduction of Building Permit Fees**
Reduce fees for construction related activities to restore or preserve a state or locally designated historic property.

**Recognition**
Officially recognize excellence in such areas as the rehabilitation of historic objects, buildings, structures, or sites, and encourage appropriate measures for such recognition.

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### 4.8 STATE AND LOCAL HERITAGE ORGANIZATIONS

**Greater Bonney Lake Historical Society**
The Greater Bonney Lake Historical Society is a collection of Bonney Lake residents that gather at least once a month to share their interest in the history of the community. The Society produces a calendar every year. Annual dues are $30.

**Sumner Historical Society**
The Sumner Historical Society operates the Ryan House Museum in Sumner which includes the original cedar cabin built in the 1860s as well as the Ryan Farm house. The Society developed and maintains the Sumner Walking Tour. Copies of the historical tour are available online or at Sumner City Hall. There are also ten brown historical street signs that the society has placed throughout Sumner to remind the community of its rich heritage.

**Foothills Historical Society & Museum**
The Foothills Historical Society and Museum is located at 128 River Ave., Buckley, WA 98321.

**Ezra Meeker Historical Society**
The Ezra Meeker Historical Society is a nonprofit charitable organization which owns, maintains and operates the Meeker Mansion as a small house museum, and serves as the historical society for the Puyallup area.

**The South Hill Historical Society**
In 2001 the South Hill Historical Society was organized to trace the history of South Hill. They meet regularly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11:15 AM (*No meetings July and August*) at the Highlands Community Center.
**Wilkeson Historical Society**
The Wilkeson Historical Society maintains the history of Wilkeson and the Carbon River Valley area via photos, documents, and memorabilia. Contact P.O. Box 300, Wilkeson, WA 98396.

**Orting Historical Society**
The Orting Historical Society maintains the history of Orting via photos, documents, and memorabilia. Contact P.O. Box 24, Orting, WA 98360-0024.

**Washington State Historical Society**
The Washington State Historical Society is a non-profit 501(c)3 membership organization, open to any and all individuals, families, or firms. The Society is also recognized in statute (RCW 27.34) as a trustee agency of the state of Washington with enumerated powers. The Society is comprised of a family of museums and research centers, offering a variety of services to researchers, historians, scholars, and the lifelong learner.

**Washington Trust for Historic Preservation**
The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is a statewide, non profit organization founded in 1976 to safeguard Washington's historic places through advocacy, education, stewardship and collaboration.

**Architectural Heritage Center**
The Architectural Heritage Center, operated by the Bosco-Milligan Foundation, presents a variety of tours, hands-on training workshops, and innovative exhibits on building heritage.

**Society of Architectural Historians - Marion Dean Ross Chapter**
The Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter is an affiliated regional chapter of the international Society of Architectural Historians, whose home office is in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

**History Link**
HistoryLink.org is an evolving online encyclopedia of state and local history in Washington state. The organization provides a free, authoritative, and easily accessible history reference for the benefit of students, teachers, journalists, scholars, researchers, and the general public. The encyclopedia contains more than 4,000 essays as of 2006. It is constantly expanding, with new essays added every week.

**National Trust for Historic Preservation**
The National Trust for Historic Preservation has worked for more than half a century to save the historic buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes that form our communities and enrich our lives. The also have an informative on-line newsletter that provides national news related to preservation issues.

**American Association of Museums**
The American Association of Museums has been bringing museums together since 1906, helping to develop standards and best practices, gathering and sharing knowledge, and providing advocacy on issues
of concern to the entire museum community. We are dedicated to ensuring that museums remain a vital part of the American landscape, connecting people with the greatest achievements of the human experience, past, present and future.

**Oregon-California Trails Foundation**

The Oregon-California Trails Association, founded in 1982, is a not-for-profit organization, headquartered in Independence, Missouri, dedicated to education about, preservation and enjoyment of the trans-Mississippi emigrant trails.

**Historic Seattle**

Founded in 1974, Historic Seattle is the only nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the preservation of Seattle and King County’s architectural legacy. As both a public development authority and charitable foundation, Historic Seattle is a major advocate for, and participant in, the thoughtful and meaningful preservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings, landscapes, and architectural artifacts.

**Historic Tacoma**

Non-Profit organization dedicated to preserving Tacoma's architectural legacy through education and advocacy. Our goals are to: Enhance Tacoma's built environment -- Preserve Tacoma's architectural heritage -- Educate and inform the community -- Conserve sustainable resources.

**4 Culture**

4Culture is King County's cultural services agency established to continue the work of the King County Arts Commission, Public Art Commission and the heritage programs of the Landmarks Commission.

**Women's History Consortium**

The Women's History Consortium, created by state statute (RCW 27.34.360) in 2005 as a Washington State Historical Society-led initiative, is dedicated to preserving and making available resources about Washington women's history.