Chapter 10 – Archaeological & Historic Resources
• **Historic preservation.** Identify and encourage the preservation of lands, sites, and structures, that have historical or archaeological significance.

- 36.70A.020(13) RCW
5 FACTS

1. Thurston County has 1,000+ historic properties in its inventory.
2. Cultural Resources are considered in the permitting process through SEPA.
3. Thurston County is a Certified Local Government (CLG).
4. Thurston County provides tax incentives for preserving Historic Buildings.
5. Thurston County has a dedicated Historic Commission.

Bush Butternut Tree
Source: Bush Prairie Farm
PUBLIC FEEDBACK

- Thurston County Historic Commission
- Spring 2018 Public Open Houses

Railroad on Larch Mountain
Source: Washington State Archives
CRITICAL ISSUES

- Keeping the historic inventory and historic register up to date
- Providing adequate resources and incentives to maintain historic resources
- Ensuring culturally important places remain protected with increasing pressures from growth and natural hazards
- Coordinating historic preservation with economic development plans and programs
WHAT’S CHANGING IN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES CHAPTER?

- Background updates
- New Objective B
- 3 New policies
CHAPTER 10 GOAL & OBJECTIVES

- **Goal 1:** The County promotes and encourages preservation of its archaeological and historic resources
  - Objective A: Programs are established and maintained for recognizing and protecting important archaeological and historic resources.
  - NEW Objective B: Important archaeological and historic resources are protected and preserved through the county’s land use permitting process.
  - New Objective added to separate programs and educational support from preservation strategies through the land use permitting process.
WHAT’S CHANGING IN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES CHAPTER?

- New Policies:
  - 10-A-13. The county should identify historic resources that may be vulnerable to climate impacts, such as increased flooding, sea level rise, and wildfire, and develop strategies for their preservation in the face of these increased risks.
MILLER-BREWER HOUSE AND HISTORIC MARKER, BUILT IN 1860

Source: Thurston County Historic Commission
MILLER-BREWER HOUSE SITE AFTER AUGUST 2017 WILDFIRE

Source: Lewis County Daily Chronicle
WHAT’S CHANGING IN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES CHAPTER?

- New Policies:
  - 10-B-1. The county should consider allowing adaptive reuse of historic structures in need of significant rehabilitation.
    - Encourage adaptive reuse of structures such as factories, warehouses, office buildings, stores, and others, into affordable housing, mixed-use developments, live-work spaces, and/or senior housing.
    - Combine historic preservation tax incentives with housing tax credits and grant programs to package financially viable housing projects.
    - Include adaptive reuse and historic preservation in economic development plans for revitalization projects of downtowns, main streets, and older neighborhoods.
WHAT’S CHANGING IN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES CHAPTER?

- New Policies:
  - 10-B-5. The county should identify and protect significant views in the county.

Nisqually Refuge
Source: Matt Ackerman, Thurston2040 Photo Contest Winner
Questions?

Contact:

Allison Osterberg, Senior Planner, Thurston County
allison.osterberg@co.thurston.wa.us
360-867-2102

Project Updates and Draft Documents
www.Thurston2040.com