



EXHIBIT 26

MEMORANDUM

Community Development Department | Long Range Planning

From: Sarale Hickson
Date: September 4, 2024
Subject: Cooper Mountain's cultural history and oldest buildings

Oregon statewide planning goal 5 requires local governments to inventory cultural resources and encourage an inventory of historic resources

Cultural Resources

Located in Oregon's Tualatin Valley, Beaverton sits on a natural wetland. The Tualatin Kalapuya, also called Atfalati, have called the land home since time immemorial. The Atfalati lived in about 24 villages on what is now the Tualatin River Valley, in the hills around Forest Grove, along the shores of Wapato Lake, along the north fork of the Yamhill River, in Hillsboro, and in Portland. The community around what is now Beaverton was located near Fanno Creek and known as Cha-keipi, Place of the Beaver.¹

Metro's 2005 Cooper Mountain [Park] Master Plan gives the following history of Native culture and land management

The Atfalati roamed between the Willamette River and the slopes of the Coast Range, and from present day Wilsonville to the Columbia River. These seasonal movements were tied to variations in food sources during different seasons and at different elevations. For instance, the Willamette floodplain provided camas, wapato and marsh birds, while the higher elevation valley margins (which Cooper Mountain represents) provided stands of acorn oaks, abundant mammals, and upland bird species such as grouse and quail. The Atfalati practiced controlled burning, which made it easier to hunt deer and renew the open expanses of land for camas to grow. The 1852 mapped records of vegetation show that the south face of Cooper Mountain overlooking the Tualatin Valley was partially comprised of oak woodlands and

¹ Our City, Our Stories: An Expanded History of Beaverton
<https://www.beavertonoregon.gov/1114/#Chapter1>

open prairie amidst the conifer stands, thus indicating that Native American burning practices may have extended up the southern slope of the mountain.

Warm weather months were used to hunt, gather and store food, and obtain provisions for clothing, shelter and tools. Tribal members camped in smaller family groups and moved to places where plants could be harvested or animals hunted. Important staple foods such as camas (bulb of the wild lily), wapato (Indian potato or arrowhead), acorns, hazelnuts and tarweed seed were usually gathered by women. Cooper Mountain was likely used by tribal members for hunting and gathering.

During the winter months tribal families came together in more permanent large plank houses. The Atfalati used this time to keep their culture alive by storytelling, and making and repairing tools for the next season.

The Atfalati lifestyle was greatly altered by the entry of settlers into their lands early in the 19th century. Conflicts arose over the Atfalati migratory hunting-gathering lifestyle and the permanent farms and ranches of the settlers. Armed conflicts broke out after the late 1840s, which resulted in the gradual displacement of the Atfalati population to reservation lands, first at Wapato Lake in 1851 and subsequently to the Grand Ronde Reservation near the Oregon Coast.

The Kalapuya are now represented by the federally recognized Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Staff reached out to the archeology division of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to request information about the presence or absence of known archeological sites. As of the writing of this memo no response was received. The Metro master plan states:

No historic or cultural resources have been designated for this site in the County's Rural/Resource Plan or in its immediate vicinity in the Aloha-Reedville-Cooper Mountain Community Plan. An inquiry to the State Historic Preservation Office records reveals that there are also no known archaeological sites on this property or in either of the sections it occupies. Dennis Griffin, archaeologist for the State Historic Preservation Office, states, "There have been no previous cultural resource surveys in this area so the potential for sites to exist remains largely an unknown. However, due to the steepness of terrain over much of the sections, and the original forest cover, the likelihood is not high for Native American archaeological resources. The top of Cooper Mountain, however, may have contained rock cairns or other

prehistoric objects as it would have provided an excellent view of the surrounding landscape.”

Staff also sent information about the Cooper Mountain project to and requesting any pertinent cultural information from the three federally recognized Tribes who have an interest in this area for comment. Those tribes are the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon.

Conclusion

The City of Beaverton has not received any information indicating there are cultural resources in the Cooper Mountain area. In the case of [inadvertent finds](#) archeological objects and sites are protected by state law ([ORS 97.740](#), [ORS 358.905-358.961](#), [ORS 390.235](#), [OAR 736-051-0090](#)) and the city can educate community members, builders, and developers who find possible evidence of archeological objects and facilitate their contacting SHPO and, if necessary, Tribes.

Historic Resources

Staff reviewed best available data regarding designated historic and the potential historic buildings.

Historic resources can be local historic landmarks, National Register landmarks, and historic districts. Beaverton has all three designations however there are no buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places or Washington County's historic list.

National Register and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) information

The National Register database can be accessed through the National Park service website at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm>. Searches of NPS data showed no results for the Cooper Mountain area.

The Oregon Historic Sites Database is maintained by SHPO. It includes all National Register nominations all local inventories and records from both intensive level and reconnaissance level surveys. The database was accessed through the map on 5/17/2024 and 9/4/2024 and no records of any kind were found.

Properties over 50 years old

The first step in finding historic resources in previously unreviewed areas is a Reconnaissance Level Survey. These surveys are systematic and predictive and generally involve visual evaluations of properties by qualified professionals. This tool is used to sort properties at least 50 years old into those potentially eligible for individual designation; that might be a contributor to a potential historical district; and those that are not historically significant for architectural reasons.

Based on tax assessors' data associated with property records there are 34 parcels with main structures that are at least 50 years old. Figure 1 illustrates the concentration of housing in a large lot exurban² subdivision around High Hill and Alvord Lane.

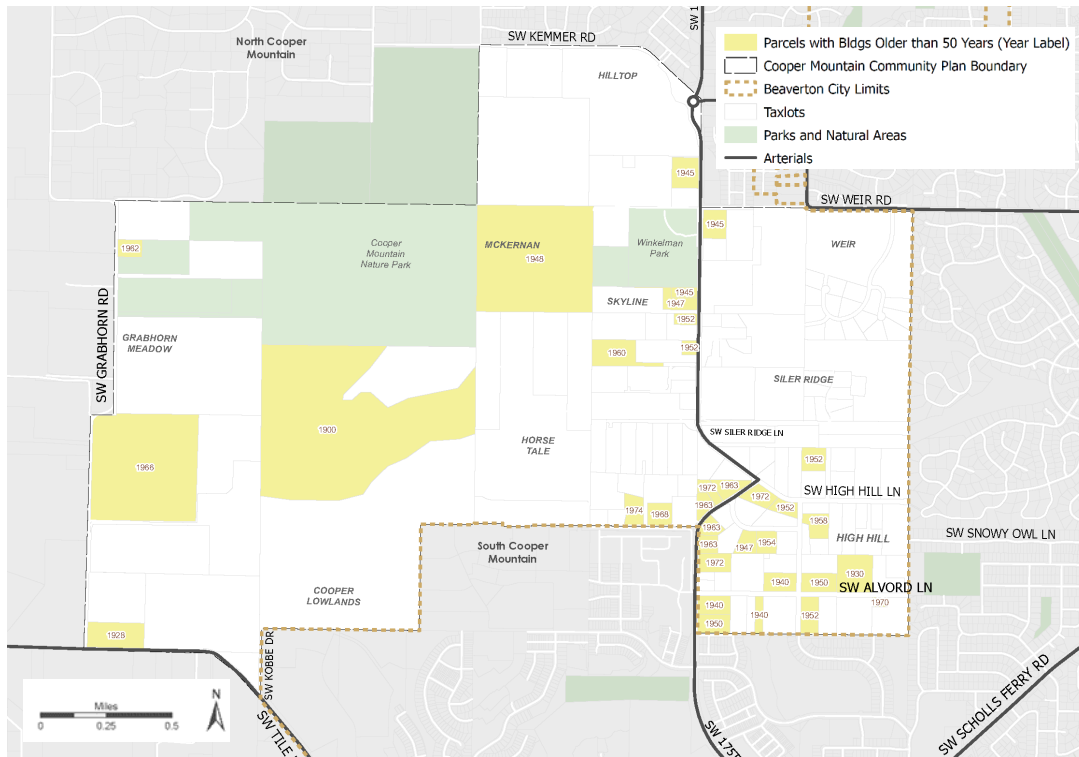


Figure 1 Map showing location of parcels with buildings older than 50 years

As can be seen in Figure 2 there are very few buildings in the area over 70 years old.

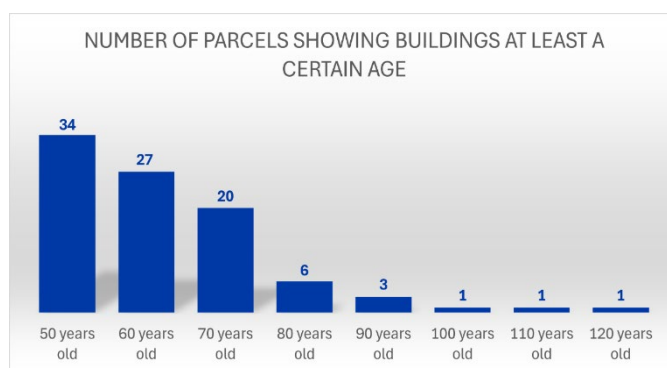


Figure 2 Parcels associated with buildings 50 years or older

² Exurbs (a portmanteau of extra (outside) and urban) are the interface of rural and suburban development characterized by housing for commuters. The development is often tract-style though on extremely large lots.

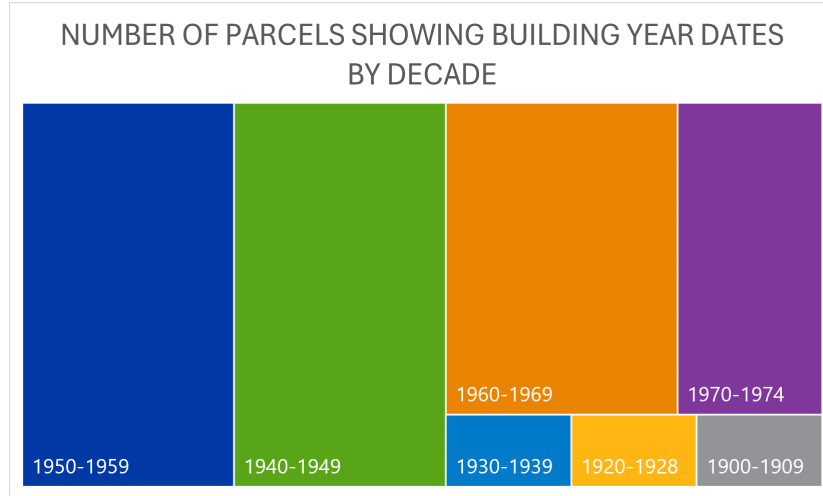


Figure 3 Parcels associated with buildings built in particular decades

Figure 3 shows how many of these buildings are part of the post war building boom. Such buildings were generally mass produced in tracts of varying sizes.

Conclusion

There are no known historic resources in the Cooper Mountain area. There are relatively few older properties in the area.

At the time City of Beaverton reviews its approach to Historic Resource protection, evaluation of survey priorities can be looked at through that lens.