





Figure 1: Site Vicinity



Figure 2: Site Parcels

**A. APPLICATION PROCESSING AND PUBLIC NOTICE**

This application was processed according to CCC 18.80 and the By-Laws of the Cowlitz County Historic Preservation Commission.

Public notice has been provided in accordance with CCC 18.80.050. Notice of the application will be published once in Longview's *The Daily News*, a newspaper of general circulation in the community, on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. In addition, notice of the public meeting was posted on the County's website and emailed to interested parties, as self-identified by request.

This report provides findings, conclusions, and a recommended action that will be transmitted to the Historic Preservation Commission.

**B. APPLICABLE COUNTY PLANNING REGULATIONS:**

1. Land Use & Development Code CCC 18.80.050

**C. VERIFICATION OF MATERIALS AND CONDITIONS:**

**Application Materials.** Staff worked with the applicant over the course of several months, providing guidance and direction regarding interpretation of the application materials. Staff reviewed the application and it was determined complete on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017.

**Site Condition.** Staff visited the site on the morning of Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Staff reviewed the site with application materials in-hand. During the site visit, staff interacted with the cemetery groundskeeper.

#### **D. FINDINGS RELATING TO DESIGNATION CRITERIA**

Applications to the Cowlitz County Register of Historic Places must meet certain criteria in order to be eligible for inclusion. These criteria are listed in CCC 18.80.050.

Staff reviewed the application within the context of the minimum criteria, and evaluated notations of the criteria that were used by the applicant to support inclusion on the Register.

**The site is significantly associated with the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or cultural heritage of the community:** The property is one of the earliest cemeteries in Cowlitz County and several notable contributors to local history are interred at the site.

**Conclusion:** The site meets this criteria.

**The site has integrity:** The property is well maintained and has been in near-continuous use since its establishment. The property is still an active cemetery, and is professionally managed by Cemetery District #6.

**Conclusion:** The site meets this criteria.

**The site is at least 50 years old, or is of lesser age and has exceptional importance:** The applicant notes that the first use of the property for burial was in 1878, and that the land was donated for the purpose of establishing a cemetery in 1886.

**Conclusion:** The site meets this criteria.

1. **Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of national, state, or local history:** The applicant provides information that indicates the site was originally settled by some of the earliest pioneers to Cowlitz County. A piece of the property was donated by an early pioneer family to establish a cemetery. This donation allowed the development of a place for local families, including many who had a major role in the early history of the County's formation, to inter their loved ones after death. This cemetery was a critical piece of early infrastructure development, and contributed to the further settlement of the area.

**Conclusion:** The site meets this criteria.

2. **Embodies the distinctive architectural characteristics of a type, period, style, or method of design or construction, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction:** The property is not home to any architectural or design elements that distinguish it from other period cemeteries.

**Conclusion:** The site does not meet this criteria.

3. **Is an outstanding work of a designer, builder, or architect who has made a substantial contribution to the art:** The property was not developed by an architect or designer of any distinction.

**Conclusion:** The site does not meet this criteria.

4. **Exemplifies or reflects special elements of Cowlitz County's cultural, special, economic, political, aesthetic, engineering, or architectural history:** The cemetery is considered a special place that is imbued with sacred/religious meaning to the families of those that are buried there, especially for those with indigenous roots or Tribal members. Additionally, some of the County's earliest politicians are interred at the cemetery, reflecting a special connection to the political history of the County.

**Conclusion:** The site meets this criteria.

5. **Is associated with the lives of persons significant in national, state, or local history:** The applicant provides information that indicates that many of those interred at the site had prominent roles in the establishment of Cowlitz County's government, culture, settlements and economy. Most notable among these would be James Poland (early pioneer, local judge and County Sheriff), Sirena Carroll (daughter of the founder of the town of Carrolls), and Alfred McKay (a member of the Cowlitz Tribe with ties to one of Oregon's founding families).

**Conclusion:** The site meets this criteria.

6. **Has yielded or may be likely to yield important archaeological information related to history or prehistory:** Considering the property's location in an early homesteading area, and before that, a wooded slope overlooking the Columbia River, it is likely that archaeological records from history and prehistory are present.

**Conclusion:** The site meets this criteria.

7. **Is a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the only surviving structure significantly associated with an historic person or event:** There is no historic structure located on the property.

**Conclusion:** The site does not meet this criteria.

8. **Is a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance and is the only surviving structure or site associated with that person:** As stated previously, the property is home to several early pioneers and notable politicians.

**Conclusion:** The site meets this criteria.

9. **Is a cemetery which derives its primary significance from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events, or cultural patterns:** In addition to the several important figures interred, the cemetery is also significant for its age. The cemetery has been in continual use since approximately 1878, making it 139 years old.

**Conclusion:** The site meets this criteria.

10. **Is a reconstructed building that has been executed in a historically accurate manner on the original site:** There is not a building on this site.

**Conclusion:** The site does not meet this criteria.

11. **Is a creative and unique example of folk architecture and design created by persons not formally trained in the architectural or design professions, and which does not fit into formal architectural or historical categories. :** The site does not contain architectural buildings.

**Conclusion:** The site does not meet this criteria.

**E. FINDINGS REGARDING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Inclusion of the property onto the Cowlitz County Register of Historic Places is compatible with goals and established policies in the current and pending Comprehensive Plans, including:

- **Cowlitz County Comprehensive Plan (1976), Historical/Cultural Concept in the Natural Resources Element:** *Protect, preserve and restore those historical, cultural, educational and scientific sites in the shorelines of Cowlitz County for the general public.*
- **Cowlitz County Comprehensive Plan (1976), Parks and Recreation Section, Goal A, Policy 3:** *Documented historical and archeological sites should be preserved.*
- **Cowlitz County Comprehensive Plan Update (pending adoption in 2017), Goal PTR 4 and Associated Policies:** *Promote community pride by identifying and mapping distinctive areas, sites, structures and objects that have historic, cultural, architectural and archeological significance.*

**F. CONCLUSIONS:**

The property meets and exceeds the minimum criteria to be considered eligible for listing on the Cowlitz County Register of Historic Places.

**G. RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends an eligible determination of Case No. 002 with no conditions.

**H. CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL:**

No conditions of approval are recommended.