

# Chapter 3 The Built Environment – Effects on People and Community Resources

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## What is addressed in this chapter?

This chapter describes the community's existing built environment and how the alternatives may impact that built environment. This chapter specifically addresses the following elements:

- Land Use
- Transportation
- Noise
- Public Utilities (water supply, wastewater, stormwater)
- Visual
- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Public Services (parks, schools, public safety)
- Fiscal Analysis

## Historic and Cultural Resources

A cultural resources assessment was conducted for the Lawson Hills MPD, which revealed seven historical houses and associated outbuildings, none of which appear to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The work also recorded five historic-period archaeological sites. Of those five archaeological sites, the Lawson Mining Community site appears eligible for listing in the NRHP because it contains intact archaeological deposits associated with an early mining community.

### 1 What historic and cultural resources are in the study area?

The cultural resources assessment recommended two houses as eligible for listing in the NRHP, Washington Historic Register, and King County Landmarks List. The 26209 Lawson Street house was recommended as representing the mining history of Black Diamond and the 26122 Lawson Street house was recommended as a rare local example of the Craftsman architectural style. A subsequent technical peer review found that both houses have lost their architectural integrity, and are therefore not eligible for the NRHP.

The cultural assessment and subsequent technical peer review found the Lawson Mining Community site appeared to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The site contains intact archaeological deposits associated with an early mining community. The locations of the 26209 and 26122 Lawson Street houses and the Lawson Mining Community site are shown in Exhibit 3-30.

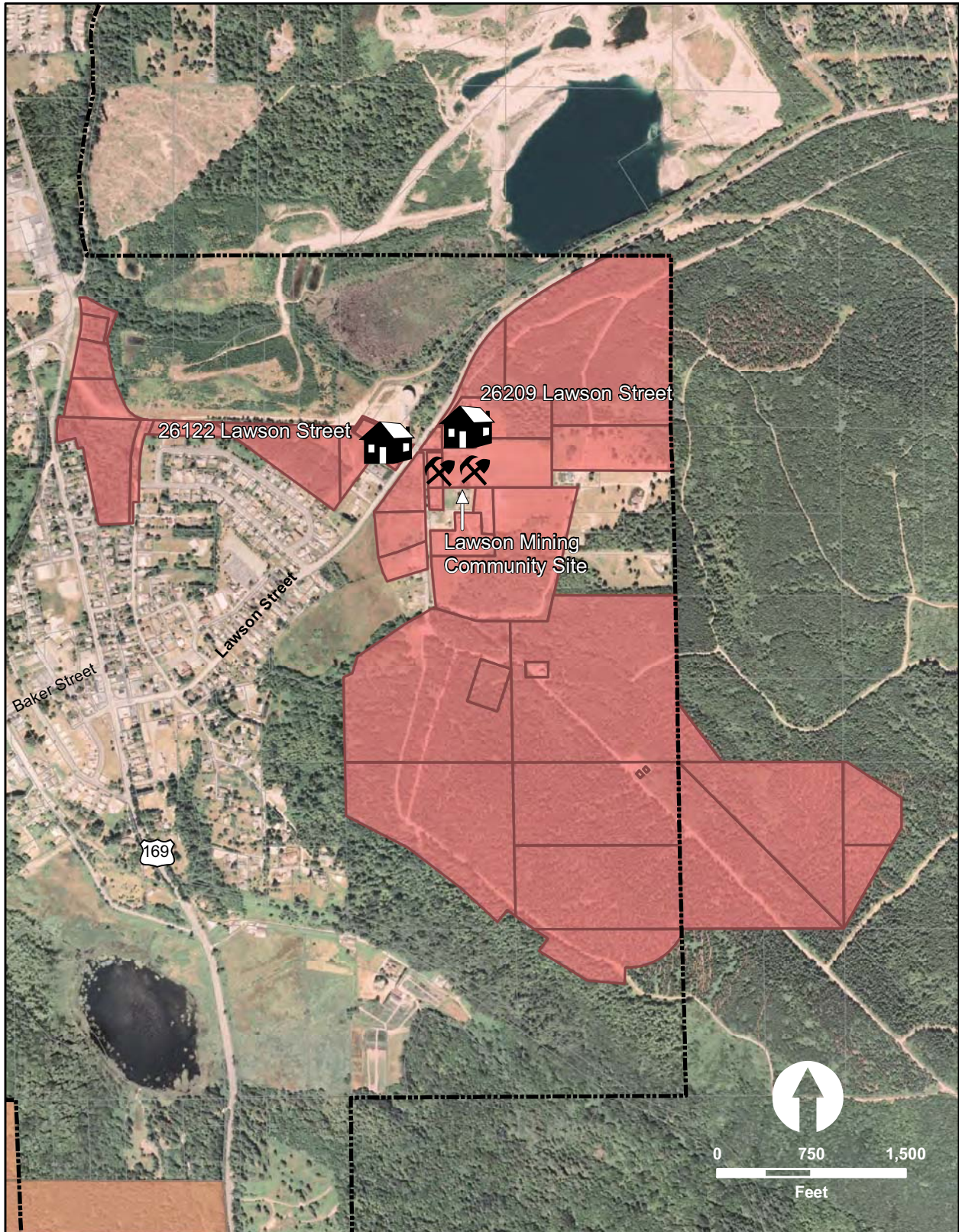


*House at 26209 Lawson Street*



*House at 26122 Lawson Street*

**Exhibit 3-30  
Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources**



Exhibits in this EIS are intended to provide a general graphical depiction of built and natural environment conditions and may not be accurate to the parcel level.

## 2 How will the alternatives affect historic or cultural resources?

Future development of the Lawson Mining Community archaeological site will likely result in unmitigated adverse effects and a lost opportunity for data recovery, preservation of the buildings or information on the buildings, and public interpretation of the properties' historic values. Even though the 26209 and 26122 Lawson Street houses do not appear to be eligible for NRHP listing, and therefore do not involve federal or SEPA regulations, future development of their sites would have similar adverse effects and lost opportunities.

If the Lawson Mining Community archaeological site proves to be eligible for listing in the NRHP and is not redeveloped, all alternatives could still result in adverse effects on the Lawson Mining Community archaeological site.

If the 26209 and 26122 Lawson Street houses are considered eligible for listing in the NRHP, adverse effects would result from the proximity of a number of new buildings with incompatible designs, which would also have an adverse impact on the integrity of setting and association of the properties. The integrity of the property setting would be compromised if bordered by numerous buildings of modern design.

The areas that would be most sensitive for pre-contact resources would be in the vicinity of where the Indian trail intersects with Lawson Creek, near the western boundary of the South Upper Lawson Hills portion and the North Triangle around the perimeter of the wetland, and near the northern boundary of the West Lower Lawson Hill portion. The locations of these resources are identified in Exhibit 3-30.

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### Impacts to archaeological findings

The potential importance of the Lawson Mining Community archaeological site lies in the information that occurs just below the ground surface. Excavation that disturbs on-site soils could destroy or damage information important to local history.

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### **3 What policies and regulations govern historic or cultural resources?**

Projects that affect historic or cultural resources need to be in compliance with Washington State and King County laws, regulations, and programs. Historic and cultural preservation must be discussed in the Draft and Final EIS, as required by SEPA. The Revised Code of Washington (RCW) also ensures the protection of Indian graves and regulates archaeological sites and resources. This law prohibits disturbance of an archaeological site without a permit from the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP). The agency administers the Washington Historic Register (WHR) that identifies and documents significant historic and prehistoric resources throughout Washington.

The City of Black Diamond has entered into an interlocal agreement with King County, under which the County Landmarks and Heritage Commission acts as the municipal landmarks commission for the City, designating landmarks. King County’s regulations provide for landmark designation and design review of properties within Black Diamond that are 40 years or older and meet the County’s criteria for listing.

The criteria for listing properties in the NRHP require that a historic property be at least 50 years old; possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association; and meet at least one of several criteria. The criteria for listing properties in the WHR require that a building, site, structure, or object must be at least 50 years old or have documented exceptional significance; possess a high to medium level of integrity; and should have documented historical significance at the local, state, or federal level.

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#### **What are landmarks?**

Landmarks are buildings, structures, sites, districts, or objects that are formally designated because of meeting established criteria.

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#### **4 What measures could reduce effects on historic or cultural resources?**

The Lawson Mining Community site appears eligible for listing in the NRHP. Consultation with the DAHP about additional research and archaeological testing should be initiated in order to determine the limits and contents of the site with respect to NRHP eligibility. If the site proves eligible, further consultation would establish appropriate mitigation measures. For archaeological sites, mitigation measures typically include research design and data recovery consisting of archaeological excavation, analysis of artifacts and other data, public involvement, interpretive signage, and reporting of the methods and results of the work.

Mitigation measures for the two historical houses include possible relocation, if acceptable to the owner, and documentation to Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Record standards for both houses. Providing interpretation of historic miners' housing at the project site might benefit local history, residents, and visitors to the area. If not found to be eligible for the NRHP, these mitigations will not be required.