



December 16, 2022

Ethan Spoo
City of La Center Planning Consultant
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**Re: Mitigation Strategy for the Anderson Pioneer Homestead, Valley View Subdivision
Development Project, La Center, WA**

Dear Mr. Spoo:

In response to your letter dated December 8, 2022, and to the phone conversation we had this morning, Applied Archaeological Research, Inc. (AAR) proposes a mitigation strategy for the Valley View Subdivision development project. As outlined in this letter, AAR's strategy would mitigate project-related impacts to the Anderson Pioneer Homestead and no further cultural resource work would be required.

In brief, eleven buildings at 2219 NE 339th Street in La Center, WA, would be removed as part of the redevelopment project. These buildings comprise the Anderson Pioneer Homestead and are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), as recommended in an earlier study (Taber and Finley 2022) and as determined by the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP).

AAR's proposed mitigation strategy has two elements: (1) the preparation of supplemental information regarding the historical significance of the pioneer homestead and (2) public dissemination of this information. It would supplement the initial Reconnaissance-level recording of the homestead and would meet the state's requirements for Intensive-level documentation.

Specifically, AAR will conduct research to identify:

- historical images of the Anderson Pioneer Homestead;
- any architect or builder associated with the homestead buildings; and
- additional information regarding the history of the Anderson family or their agricultural operation.

At a minimum, research would be conducted at the La Center Historical Museum and the Clark County Historical Museum but may also include materials obtained from other reputable archives related to the history of Washington.

The results of this supplemental research will be added to the existing entries for the Anderson Pioneer Homestead in the WISAARD online database (<https://wisaard.dahp.wa.gov>), the primary archive of historic properties maintained by Washington DAHP. Information about historic buildings in this database is freely accessible to the public.

This work would be conducted by me, assisted by AAR staff historians under my direct technical supervision. As AAR's Architectural Historian for the last 23 years, I meet the Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards.

Expectations



APPLIED
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RESEARCH

While other project stakeholders may provide comments or recommendations related to this mitigation, it is **not** expected that these parties would require retention of any of the Anderson Pioneer Homestead buildings.

AAR expects that the research project **would not** interrupt the overall project implementation schedule.

AAR expects that **no** further cultural resource investigation would be required for this project.

Closure

We here at AAR look forward to working with you on this project. Please contact me if I can provide additional information or answer any questions.

Sincerely,

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