

Monona Parks Signage - Woodland Park



Gilly McBride, Kara Chung, Josh Mesner

March 13, 2017

Signage Will Help:

- Facilitate communication and bond between UW-Madison, City of Monona and Ho-Chunk Nation (The Wisconsin Idea)
- Improve stewardship of burial mounds and other cultural resources
- Invite further awareness and understanding of Native Tribes of Wisconsin

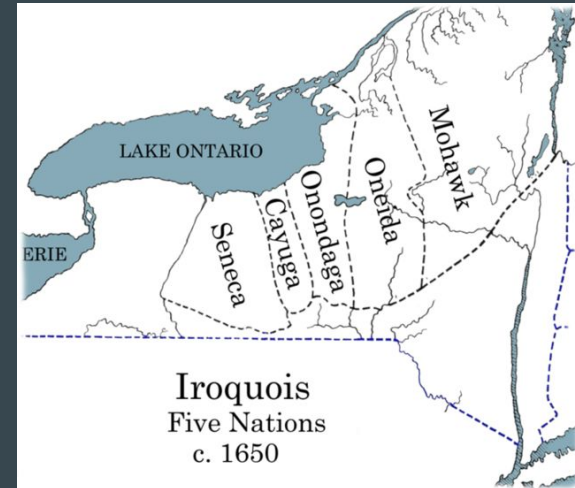


Background - Onondaga Nation in Central New York State

- Member of the **Haudenosaunee (“People Building a Long House”) Confederacy**
 - Allegedly the greatest power on the North American continent, pre-European arrival
- 1613 Wampum Treaty Belt
 - Dutch explorers and Mohawk Nation representatives
 - No European record or written evidence
- In 2005, Onondaga Nation sued New York State
 - Asserted their rights to 350,000 acres of their homelands
 - Grassroots organizations became allies in treaty right recognition
 - **The Historical Markers Project**



**ONONDAGA
NATION**
PEOPLE OF THE HILLS



(Map by Native American Netroots)

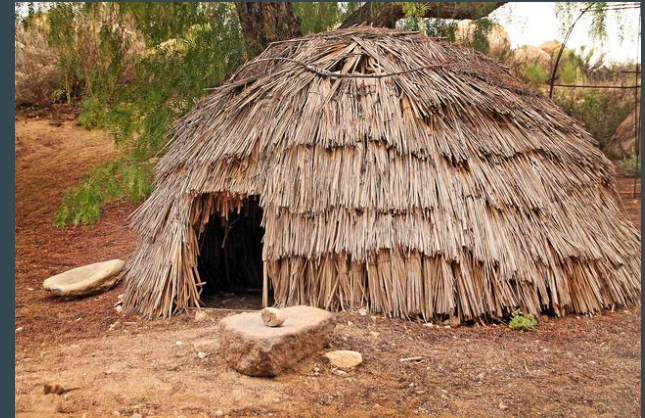
Lessons Learned

- The **community outreach and communications strategy** of the project are critical to its success
 - Publicly-accessible catalogue of historical markers and guidelines (**ex: using indigenous place names, Tribal histories**)
- **The Onondaga Nation decided for itself** that intercultural healing could only be achieved if their history and right to the land were recognized
 - **Updated signage helps recognize the Tribal Sovereignty** of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and Onondaga Nation



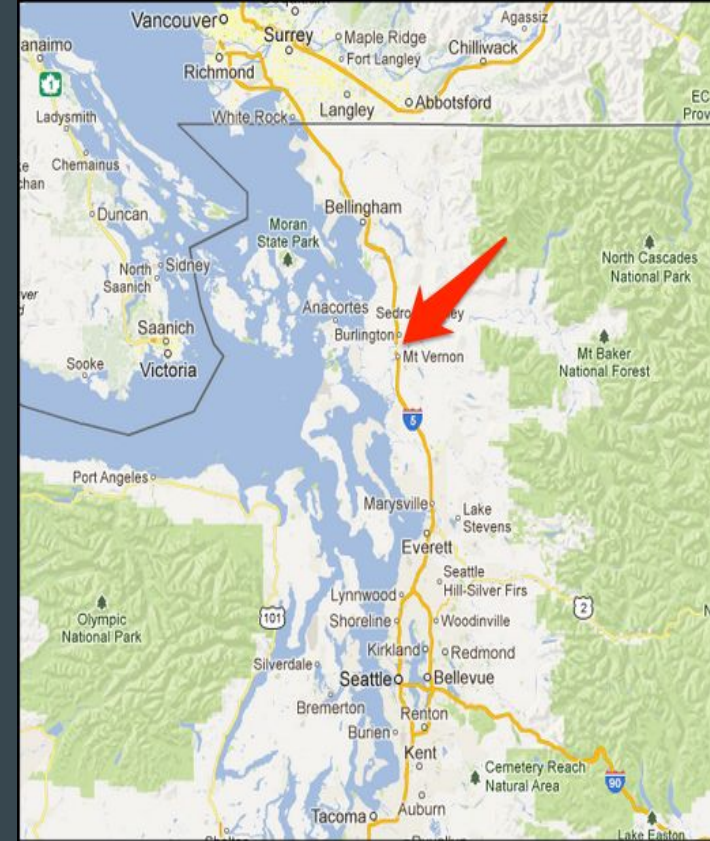
Lessons Learned

- Early establishment of a trusting relationship between the local government and Native Nations is imperative
- **Local groups/citizens** can be an ally for Native People and help foster open conversations about Native issues
- Using public outreach and cultural education as a **common goal** amongst participating groups



Background - Swinomish Tribe on Skagit River:

- Tribal land located on upper N. Coast of Washington
- Oil refineries
- Concerns
 - Pollutions (unregulated petroleum byproducts)
 - Stream flow (salmon runs)
- Petroleum wastes under CERCLA (EPA)
- Partner with Anacortes, WA
- Federal clean up, petroleum should not be exempt
 - 59,000 tons of waste removed



Lessons Learned

First:

- Legal decrees not needed to relieve tensions
 - Public Outreach
 - Signage Campaigns
- More cost effective / maintains positive and open outlook for discussion



Second:

- Find common goals
- Swinomish, Anacortes, Washington, U.S. Gov, Refineries all want environment protected...but to what degree? (Starting Point)

Conclusions



In developing signage at Woodland Park in partnership with the Ho-Chunk Nation and the City of Monona, we will work to:

- Share a complete Ho-Chunk history of Woodland Park and use Tribal histories and place names where possible to build a common ground of historical knowledge.
- Cultivate a strong partnership with the local citizens and groups who are helping to bridge the connection between our capstone course and the government involved in the process of creating culturally-appropriate signage.
- Create signage with the goal of alleviating intercultural tensions and working towards healing.