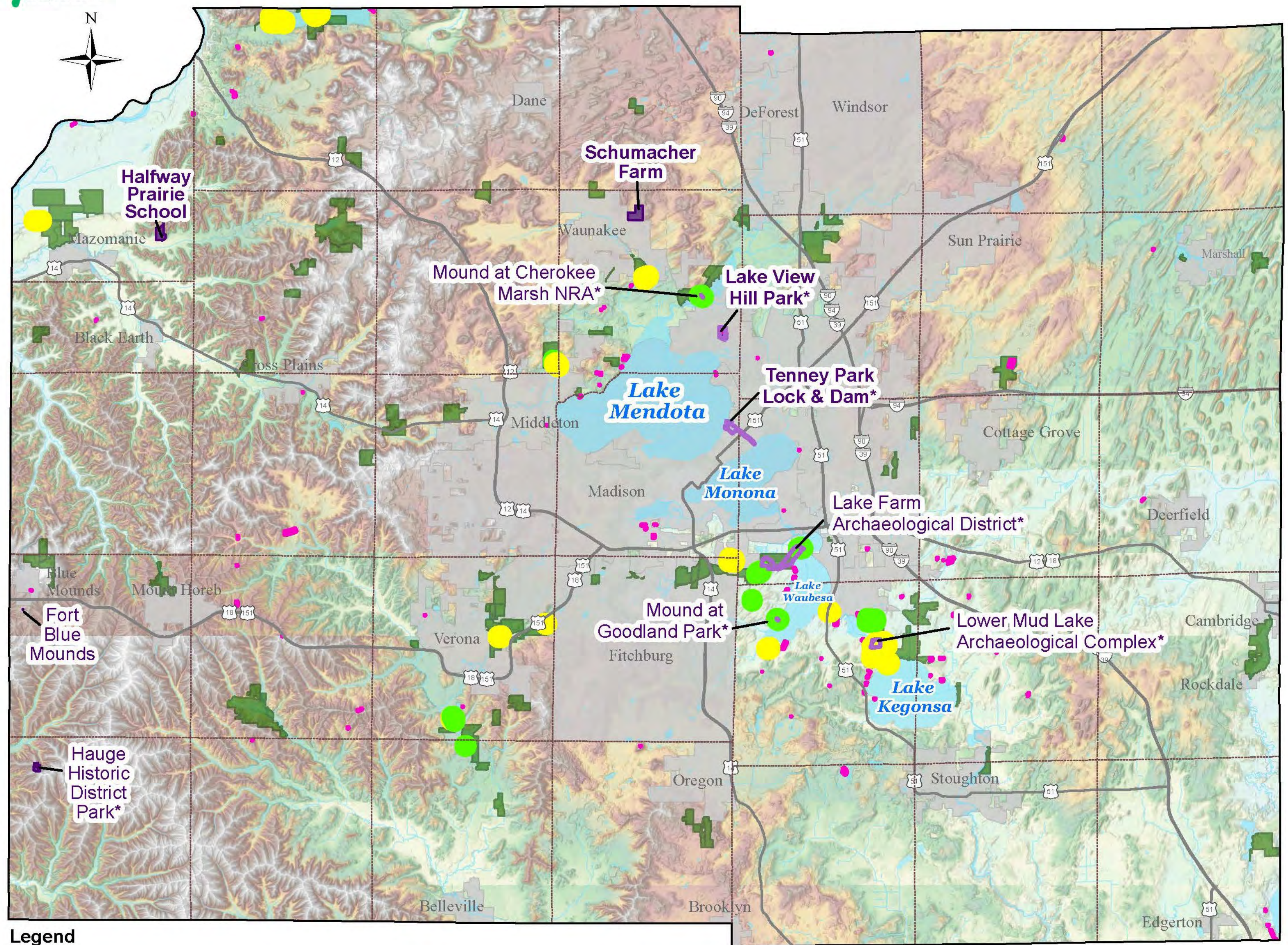




Dane County Historical/Cultural Sites & Mounds



Legend

- Dane County Historical/Cultural Site
- 9 Catalogued Mounds on County Parkland, 2022
- 15 Not Catalogued Mounds on County Parkland, 2022
- Surveyed and digitized Indian mounds from the 1992 Dane County Indian Mounds Identification Project
- Township Boundary
- City/Village

* Site listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

H:\Parks\Mapping\Historical\Cultural\Sites\Maps\POSP2018_CulturalHistoricalSites.mxd
MAP IS NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
Data Sources:
-Catalogued Mounds, Not Catalogued Mounds, NRHP Arch. District Boundaries
-Wisconsin Historical Society, WI Historic Preservation Database (2022)
-Surveyed & Digitized Indian Mounds, Dane County Zoning (1992)
-DEM Hillshade, Municipalities, Town Boundary, Road Centerlines
-Dane County (2017)
-Hydrography: Dane County (2014)
-Dane County Parks (2022)

Dane County Parks Classification System

HISTORICAL / CULTURAL SITES	RECREATION PARKS	WILDLIFE AREAS	NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS	FORESTS	TRAILS
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Department Vision Statement:
The Land & Water Resources Department strives to protect and enhance the natural, cultural, and historic resources of Dane County;

Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan (2018-2023) Vision Statement:
Connect people to the land, water, and cultural resources ...

- Goal #1:** Provide sufficient park land and recreation facilities to meet the demand of Dane County residents **without adversely affecting existing natural and cultural resources.**
- Goal #2:** Preserve for posterity the characteristics and diversity of the natural, **cultural and historical resources** of Dane County.

Historical/Cultural Sites Priorities:

1. Implement historical and cultural educational exhibits and outreach programs at the Lusser Family Heritage Center.
2. Design and install additional Native American interpretive signage throughout the county where appropriate.
3. **Increase emphasis and awareness of unique historical/cultural resources on all county park lands.**
4. Investigate systems of connected landscapes and trails that highlight significant historical and cultural resources of Dane County, and integrate with future cultural planning processes.
5. As staff time and resources allow, continue to develop interpretive and educational signage to increase public interest and appreciation of historical and cultural sites.
6. **Preserve existing cultural/archaeological resources in place permanently through prairie restoration to the extent possible.**

Historical/Cultural Sites Policies:

1. Friends, non-profit, and special interest groups partner to varying levels on all costs and fundraising efforts related to construction of new structures or restoration of existing historic buildings and structures.
2. **Dane County Parks is responsible for approving location and design of all new or restored historic buildings, structures or site improvements.**
3. Dane County Public Works is responsible for review and approval of construction and bid documents for all new buildings or building restoration projects.
4. Dane County Parks is responsible for review and approval of any agreements with Friends groups necessary to construct new or remodel existing facilities.
5. Explore historical/cultural project implementation partnerships with other agencies, such as the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission.

Mounds Require Wisconsin Historical Society Coordination & Compliance

- **Mounds survive in various conditions, 1) Extant – intact above ground features or 2) Subsurface - no remaining above ground features, but subsurface features may still remain**
- **Mounds are considered human burial sites and are protected** by Wisconsin's Burial Sites Preservation law (Wis. Stats 157.70) and Wisconsin's Field Archaeology Act (Wis. Stats 44.47).
- A **Catalogued burial site** is a human burial site believed to still contain human remains, is in a known location and is listed in the Wisconsin Burial Sites Catalog. **State minimum setback is 10-feet.**
- An **Uncatalogued burial site** is a human burial site that's destroyed, cannot be located or has not yet been listed in the Wisconsin Burial Sites Catalog.
- **Catalogued and uncatalogued sites may NOT be disturbed without authorization from the director of the Wisconsin Historical Society.**
- **Disturbance means any ground-disturbing activity within the boundaries of the burial site.**

Mound Identification (1992-2022)

WHS & Zoning Data

Field Survey

Cataloging

Indian Mound Identification Project Initiated by Dane County Park Commission – 1989

Final Report by Larry A. Johns to Park Commission – May 1992

Inventory and locate the remaining ancestral burial mounds within the county's unincorporated areas.

72 extant sites (300+ mounds), 69 partially/fully destroyed sites, 51 mound sites catalogued

Digitized GIS data

4 Preservation Recommendations

Mound Preservation (1992-2022)

1. Catalog Remaining Mound Sites

- 1992 - 22 sites (public/private) listed as remaining to be catalogued
- 2022 - 14/22 sites surveyed and catalogued, 2 removed by WHS.

2. Consider Sites for Public Acquisition

- 1992 - 27 sites identified for possible public acquisitions.
- 2022 - 8 mound sites acquired (at least partially) by public entities
 - 4 other properties acquired by the County with known uncatalogued mounds

3. Investigate Sites of Uncertain Status

- 1992 - 14 sites of uncertain status were identified
- 2022 - 3 sites of uncertain status are on Dane County Parkland
 - 2 sites have been researched and are **NOT** mounds
 - 1 site currently being investigated at Walking Iron County Park.

4. Assign Historic Overlay District Zoning

- 1989 - Historic Site Overlay District Zoning Ordinance signed by the County Executive for greater protection of mounds and historical sites.
- 2022 - Not assigned to any Mounds in Dane County
- **Protections:** Establishes a clear area extending 25-feet in all directions. *State minimum setback is only 10-feet.* Soil disturbing activity requires consent of the zoning committee.
- **Designation:** **No site may be designated which is not catalogued** and no structure may be designated without the owner's written consent. *"The County of Dane is hereby deemed to have consented to the designation of all county-owned sites and structures which may hereafter be designated by the park commission with the approval of the county board."*

Additional Preservation Considerations

- Consider Historic District Overlay Zoning for Catalogued Mounds
- Consider developing a Mounds Policy or a Preservation Plan
- Consider Onsite Interpretive Sign & Historic Markers (Gilman Mounds)