The Talking Stones were installed in December 2002 in the Whilamut Natural Area of Alton Baker Park. Quarried from a basalt deposit in traditional Kalapuya territory, the Talking Stones were designed to serve as educational and cultural reference points, as well as being beautiful art objects. The stones reintroduce words of the Kalapuya language onto land where the people once hunted, and onto waters that carried their canoes.

Now the land is part of Alton Baker Park, a primary open-space component of the Willamette Greenway. In September of 2002, the park's eastern 237 acres were given the name “Whilamut Natural Area” in recognition of the environmental ethics of this area’s first people and their descendants.

Project Conception and Coordination:
- Citizen Planning Committee for the Whilamut Natural Area of Alton Baker Park
- Kommema Cultural Protection Association

Consultants
- Esther Stutzman and the Kommema Cultural Protection Association

Engravers
- Lisa Ponder
- Mark Andrew

Project Sponsors
- City of Eugene Parks and Open Space
- Willamalane Park and Recreation District

Publicity Assistance and Brochure Development
- Nearby Nature

Illustration by Susan Applegate

For an electronic version of this brochure, visit the Eugene Parks and Open Space website: www.eugene-or.gov/whilamut