

Protection of Archaeological Resources



Applicant Fact Sheet

Scottsdale Revised Code, Chapter 46, Article VI

To help identify, preserve, and protect archaeological sites, an **archaeological survey and report** by a qualified archaeologist is required to be submitted for all public or private development project applications within the City of Scottsdale. A qualified archaeologist is an individual or firm meeting the Arizona State Museum's standards and professional qualifications for an archaeologist. The qualifications for archaeologists and a list of qualified archaeological consultants are available from the Arizona State Museum (<https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/crm>).

Please contact the Historic Preservation Office at 480-312-2831 or your Project Coordinator for more information on archaeology requirements. The attached list of questions includes the answers to commonly asked questions about the ordinance. For complete information regarding the Preservation of Archaeological Resources Ordinance, please refer to the Scottsdale Revised Code.

Applicable Development Projects Requiring an Archaeology Survey and Report:

A development project is anything leading to potential ground disturbance, including:

- Rezoning, use permits, master plans, and general plan amendments
- Development Review Board cases, preliminary and final plats
- Lot splits and infrastructure improvements
- Building and grading permits, and native plant removal
- Wash Modification

Development Projects Exempt from Requiring an Archaeology Survey and Report (See attached ordinance text if needed):

- **Pending Applications:** Applications for building permits, single family lot splits, development review board, and final plats that are submitted or approved prior to effective date of Ordinance 3243(August 12, 1999).
- **Single Family Homes:** A private single family residence on a single family lot.
- **Less than 1 Acre Disturbed:** Non-residential development with 1 acre or less ground disturbance. *A report by a qualified archaeologist on a records check is still required to identify potential archaeological resources.*
- **Previously Developed Sites:** Projects on previously disturbed land where 50% or more of the land was already built. *A report by a qualified archaeologist on a records check is still required to identify potential archaeological resources.*
- **Approved Master Plan:** Master planned development with a previously completed Archeological Survey and Report within the past five (5) years (depending on what is being disturbed). *A mitigation plan may necessary.*
- **Development/Redevelopment Agreements:** Projects subject to a development or redevelopment agreement that already contain specific provisions on archaeological resources.
- **Mapped Exempt Area:** Projects within a land area that has been mapped by the Historic Preservation Commission to be exempt based upon prior surveys and research. As of August 1999 there are no areas mapped as exempt from surveys and reports.

Note: Requirements on discoveries during construction are applicable to all developments (no exemptions).

Review of Archaeology Survey and Report

The archaeology survey and report is submitted along with the development project application. The City Historic Preservation Officer and/or City Archaeologist review the archaeological survey and report for completeness, significant sites identified within the project, and the impacts of the project on identified sites prior to the application acceptance date.

Archaeological Impact Assessment

- **No Impacts:** If it is determined that survey and report are complete, and the project has no significant resources, or it is documented that the project will not impact significant archaeological resources, then the Preservation Division will sign and issue a Certificate of No Effect. With a Certificate of No Effect, the application may be accepted and the project may proceed.
- **Mitigation Plan:** If it is determined that the project has archaeological impacts, the applicant must submit a mitigation plan. The Historic Preservation Officer and/or City Archaeologist may approve the mitigation plan. More complicated mitigation plans require approval by the Historic Preservation Commission before the application can be accepted. Upon approval of the mitigation plan, the application may be accepted and the project may proceed. Land disturbance can not proceed until the Certificate of Approval is signed. When the approved mitigation plan is satisfactorily completed, a Certificate of Approval can be signed.
- **Economic Hardship:** The Historic Preservation Commission may issue a Certificate of Economic Hardship following a hearing that grants an exemption from the requirement to implement a mitigation plan for reasons of economic hardship. Upon issuance of a Certificate of Economic Hardship, the application may be accepted and the project may proceed.

Planning and Development Services

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City of Scottsdale

ARCHAEOLOGY REQUIREMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WITHIN MASTER PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS OR LARGER PROJECT AREAS THAT HAVE A PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

PURPOSE:

Since some master planned and other projects in Scottsdale completed archaeology surveys as an ESL requirement prior to August 1991, the archaeology survey reports were not reviewed according to current ordinance standards and there is no signed Certificate of No Effect. Therefore this review process was developed to ensure ordinance compliance for new applications on land within larger developments.

SCOPE OF PROCEDURE

The intent of this process is to review development project applications that are within larger approved project areas for their compliance with the city’s archaeology ordinance requirements. The procedure applies to projects on land within larger projects that have previously submitted an archaeology survey to the City of Scottsdale to meet local requirements. The procedures apply to: 1. Rezoning, use permits and development review board (DRB) applications, including plats, within master planned developments, and 2. Development applications for pads or parcels within a larger property (20 acres or larger property).

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for projects on land that is part of a larger project should submit map(s) and text with their application submittal as follows:

1. Proof that an archaeology report was previously submitted and/or approved (Submit a copy of the prior report or a copy of the approved Certificate of No Effect)
2. Map showing the current project location within the total land area covered by the prior archaeology report.
3. Map clearly identifying within the current project area any significant or potentially significant surveyed sites and any recorded archaeological sites with their AZ Site or other reference number.
4. If there are significant, potentially significant or recorded sites within the project area, a narrative describing how the recorded site(s) will be impacted by the proposed development and describing any measures that will be taken to protect the site(s), such as placing the site in an Natural Area Open Space (NAOS) or conservation easement.
5. Map(s)/narrative for any archaeological resources within a Master Planned Development or larger project – 1 copy

CITY REVIEW OF SUBMITTAL

The Historic Preservation Office is responsible for managing the archaeology review process. The purpose of the review will be to determine the following:

1. The location of the current project within the larger project land area and if there are any recorded sites on the development parcel.
2. Determine what measures are proposed to protect any sites on the development parcel and whether the proposed measures are adequate to satisfy the requirements of the Scottsdale Revised Code (SRC), Chapter 46, Article VI.
3. If a significant recorded site will be impacted by the project, are a Mitigation Plan and a Certificate of Approval now required to comply with the SRC? *Note: A Mitigation Plan or any additional work will not be required if the larger project area already has an approved Certificate of No Effect.*

The applicant can satisfy the archaeology requirements if the larger area has a Certificate of No Effect, if there are no recorded sites located on the project and if there are no impacts from the project on archaeological resources. If the protection measures proposed are inadequate and/or the project will have an impact on significant or potentially significant archaeological resources, the applicant will be asked for additional information and may be asked to prepare and implement a Mitigation Plan to meet the archaeology requirements that took effect in August 1991.

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