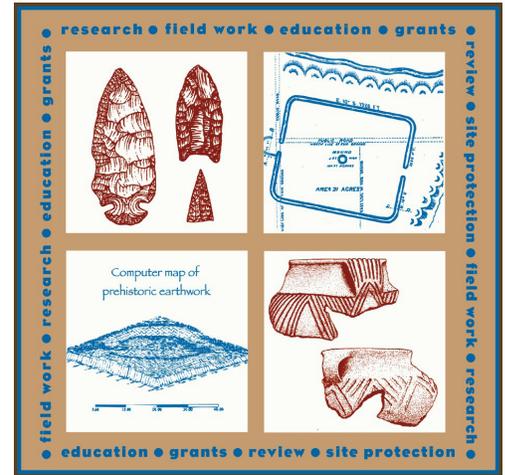


# ARCHAEOLOGY TEAM PROGRAMS & DUTIES

The Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA) is the state's lead agency for protecting and preserving information from Indiana's pre-contact and historical archaeological heritage. The DHPA holds and maintains the state's official repository of archaeological records and reports, and manages the state's computerized database of archaeological site information (SHAARD). The Archaeology Team's primary duty is to review, evaluate, and comment on federal and state projects that may affect archaeological resources. Among the team's many other duties are: implementing the state laws that protect archaeological sites and human remains, setting and maintaining archaeological standards and guidelines, conducting archaeological surveys on state properties, reviewing and overseeing grant-funded archaeological projects, reviewing National Register nominations for archaeological sites, providing technical assistance and advice to the public and professionals, and carrying out public education initiatives.



## Environmental Review – Archaeology

The primary duty of the Archaeology Team is to review and comment on compliance projects under state and federal preservation laws. The archaeology staff provides comments on thousands of these projects each year. These projects predominately fall under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Sections 16 and 18 of Indiana Code 14-21-1.

## Archaeological Plans and Accidental Discoveries

Review and regulation of “accidental discoveries” of artifacts or human remains under IC 14-21-1 is another of the archaeologists’ duties. These discoveries may take the form of accidental encounters of artifacts or remains during the course of ground-disturbing activities, purposeful disturbance of these resources, or vandalism or looting of archaeological sites. Field investigations are often needed to identify and evaluate sites and remains that are discovered. In Indiana, anyone wishing to disturb the ground for the purpose of discovering artifacts dating before December 31, 1870, or human remains dating before January 1, 1940, must submit a plan to the DHPA for approval.



*Archaeology Team members are shown working with a Conservation Officer to investigate a possible accidental discovery case and conducting fieldwork at Mounds State Park.*

The Archaeology Team reviews and approves the issuance of plans so that archaeological sites are properly examined. The team also reviews cemetery development plans under IC 14-21-1 for proposed ground disturbance within 100 feet of cemeteries.

## Site Recording

The Archaeology Team issues official state archaeological site numbers to be used by professionals, amateur or avocational archaeologists, and others wishing to record site information. The DHPA encourages the public to record archaeological site information because, once identified, sites are easier to protect. Anyone wishing to record an archaeological site location or other information should contact the DHPA.



## Research and Records Reviews

Because the DHPA is the central repository for archaeological records in Indiana, the office is available for qualified individuals to conduct records reviews and research. The DHPA houses thousands of archaeological site forms, cultural resource management and grant reports, and other records that are available for review through SHAARD or in person.

## Research

Time permitting, DHPA archaeologists also conduct research on a number of special topics and/or specific sites ranging from the early precontact to the historical period. This research usually helps fill in identified gaps in our knowledge about Indiana's archaeological heritage and creates historic contexts for interpreting and understanding Indiana's past.

## Grants

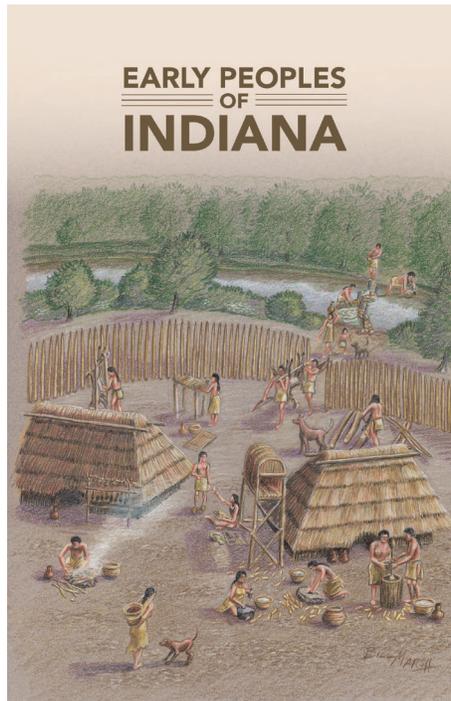
Each year, matching grant funds are awarded for archaeological survey activities. The grant program also encourages public education and National Register nominations for eligible sites as part of the grant projects. The Archaeology Team helps to oversee and review these projects, which so far have recorded and/or evaluated thousands of sites in the state. \*Contact the DHPA for information about current archaeological priorities.

## Cooperative Ventures

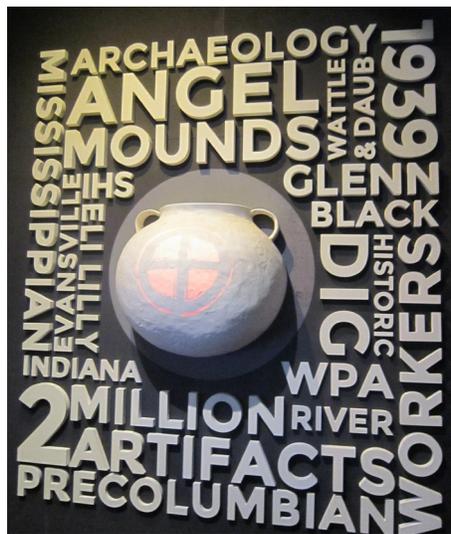
The DHPA works with the Indiana Historical Bureau and other agencies to develop various archaeological publications for the public and the professional community.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION & OUTREACH

The Archaeology Team conducts a number of educational and outreach programs for the public and professionals, including: Indiana Archaeology Month activities, publications, talks and presentations, artifact identification and recording of private collections, training sessions for land management and law enforcement personnel, and stewardship courses for learning about the state's archaeological heritage. There is even a monthly archaeology e-newsletter, Archaeology News. There is considerable public interest and a high demand for information about archaeology in Indiana, and our programs have been developed to meet this need.



Archaeological publications such as *Early Peoples of Indiana* are available from the DHPA. Documents like these are important ways to share information about archaeology.



Members of the Archaeology Team collaborated with the Indiana Historical Society on an interactive exhibit on Angel Mounds in 2019.

**Indiana Archaeology Month**, first established as Archaeology Week in 1996, is coordinated every year by the Archaeology Team. Public education about Indiana's diversity of past cultures and heritage is the focus of the month. Past activities have provided the public with excellent opportunities to learn more about the role of archaeology in Indiana's history, the laws that protect sites, different artifact types, and much more. Many free outreach documents are available on the DHPA webpage and commemorative posters are available. Other commemorative products may be available as well.

**Publications** produced by the Archaeology Team include *Indiana Archaeology*, a periodic professional journal designed to publish the results and findings of archaeological projects in Indiana and investigations into other related topics, and *Early Peoples of Indiana*, which provides the reader with information on the early cultures of our state. These and many other publications and handouts are available on our webpage.

**Training** in archaeology is offered to professionals in many fields and to the general public. Managers and stewards of public properties are also afforded training to protect archaeological sites on public property. The Archaeology Team also provides technical assistance to private landowners to protect sites on their properties. Related to this are efforts to aid people in artifact identification and in recording and documenting

private artifact collections.

The Archaeology Team gives talks and presentations on a variety of archaeological, historical, and preservation topics and issues. The DHPA's Archaeology staff members are always available to answer questions.