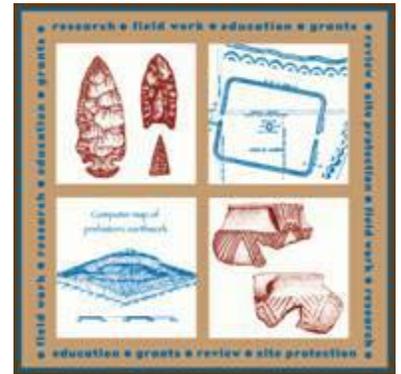




Archaeology News



- ***from the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA), office of the Indiana State Archaeologist***

- **A busy year for the DHPA in 2005-** The year 2005 was very busy for the archaeologists at the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA). *Archaeology News* summarized some of the many highlights throughout the year, but many other activities and accomplishments could have been reported. To see the entire past year of *Archaeology News*, don't forget to check out the archive at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/archeonwsltr.html>. We look forward to continuing to share archaeological information with you in this new year!



Cathy Draeger (left) and Amy Johnson screening soil from an investigation in fall 2005.



Chris Koeppel representing the DHPA at an educational event at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art.



Dr. Andres (left) and Dr. Jones working at one of our Indiana State Parks.

- **Commemorating the Centennial of the Antiquities Act-** 2006 is the centennial year of the Antiquities Act (16 U.S.C. 431-433). President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Act into law on June 8, 1906. The Act created the basis for the federal government's efforts to protect archeological sites from looting and vandalism. It provided a foundation of public policy from which more specific public attention to and preservation of historic places and structures, cultural landscapes, and other cultural resources developed during the course of the 20th century. Special centennial celebrations will be taking place throughout the country, and the DHPA would like to encourage those in Indiana to consider having celebrations as well. Indiana Archaeology Month in September 2006

would provide a perfect time for events related to Indiana archaeology, but also to recognize the importance of this Act and what has been protected and preserved since its enactment! For further information on the Act and the commemorations, go to <http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/sites/antiquities/about.htm>.

- **Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) Archaeology Grant Proposals-** The DHPA has received six proposals for Subcategory 1 (survey, limited testing, and historic contexts) archaeological grants, and three for Subcategory II (public education and National Register nominations). These FY 2006 proposals have come from various organizations and universities. The DHPA archaeologists and Grants staff have reviewed the applications which were submitted for consideration. Their recommendations will be presented to the Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board for formal funding consideration at its next meeting on January 25th.
- **New Database being created for the DHPA~ New ways to look at old things-** For some time the staff of the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA) has had a vision for the future. What is that vision? Nothing less than a web-based GIS enabled application that would tie the wealth of data housed in the offices of the DHPA to maps. An application that would unify all the various data collected and managed by the Division staff through the years and overlay that on a map of Indiana. A click of the mouse will reveal the underlying data, pictures, and site maps. The data will be available for qualified researchers, students, professionals involved in the Section 106 review process, and others. Anyone familiar with the DHPA data will understand the monumental scope of that vision.



The DHPA staff receives and collects large amounts of data. This is Indiana information, and it relates to the richly diverse historical and cultural history of the state. The information is a record of archaeological sites and investigations, surveys detailing the location and significance of historic bridges, theaters, cemeteries, and structures, more detailed information on National Register sites, and stacks of USGS quadrangle maps with the sites of these treasures carefully marked and referenced to the original data. The overwhelming wealth of information is astounding, and a challenging resource to manage. The information is currently housed in paper files, MS Excel spreadsheets, MS Access and Filemaker databases. The archaeology database currently in Filemaker represents in excess of 49,000 records, and the County Survey (all paper) is estimated to be in excess of 200,000 records.

A year ago, the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology received funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to begin the process of making the vision a reality. Given the current state of the information, this is going to be a long process and require additional funding to complete. Thanks to the FHWA, the process has started, and we are focusing this first phase on unifying all the various datasets into one encompassing database. For the past year, the DHPA staff has been meeting to define the scope of the current project, review the data structures and develop the database

requirements for this phase. At this time, the database is under construction, and the detailed programming requirements are being developed. Over the next couple of months, programming will begin and the conversion of the existing electronic data will begin. This phase of the application development is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2006.

A vision of the future by the DHPA staff is a step closer to reality. Not content to wait, the DHPA staff is already pursuing additional funding to keep the initiative moving forward. If you have any questions regarding this project, contact Russ Dotzauer, DNR Project Manager, at 317/232-4110, or Karie Brudis at 317/232-1646.

This information is distributed via email by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA). This is meant to provide information on current archaeological topics and issues in which the DHPA is involved. An archive of past *Archaeology News* issues is available at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/archeonwsltr.html> . If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact our office at 317/232-1646.



Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, 402 W. Washington St., Room W274, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739. www.IN.gov/dnr/historic

Indiana Archaeology Month (September) webpage-
www.IN.gov/dnr/historic/archemonth.html

Compiled by Amy Johnson, Research Archaeologist and Archaeology Outreach Coordinator (January 2006). Information regarding the centennial celebration of the Antiquities Act was found at the following website: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/sites/antiquities/about.htm>. Information regarding the DHPA database was supplied by Russ Dotzauer, DNR Project Manager. Fieldwork photographs courtesy of Chris Baas, Division of Engineering.