A state or federally permitted archaeologist observes ground disturbing activities to identify any archaeological resources that are present. If archaeological deposits are discovered, construction is stopped until the archaeological deposits are documented to Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation standards.

What is archaeological monitoring?

Why does the State Historical Fund require that I consider archaeological monitoring?

The State Historical Fund’s Rules and Procedures (8 CCR 1504-8) require that funded projects follow the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (Standards). The Standards state that “archaeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.”

Grants with planned ground disturbance(s) may require monitoring.

What does ground disturbance include?

Ground disturbance includes, but is not limited to:

- Foundation stabilization
- Re-grading
- French drain installation
- Excavation for utility line repair and/or installation
- Excavation for porch replacement and/or repair
- Concrete slab removal

What are archaeology mitigation measures?

Mitigation is unique to your project and your archaeology site(s). Mitigation may include:

1. Modifying the project to avoid or minimize archaeology impacts.
2. Additional archaeological investigation to collect sufficient data to interpret and protect the site. This may include:
   - Archival research
   - Artifact analysis and curation
   - Field survey
   - Site form
   - Limited excavation
   - Report data synthesis

Archaeological monitoring sounds expensive, how can the State Historical Fund help?

We encourage you to incorporate archaeological monitoring in your competitive grant application. Our non-competitive Archaeological Assessment grant program is also available to help plan your historic resource’s archaeological management needs. Applications are accepted year round for up to $15,000.

How to get started?

Contact Archaeological Specialist, Dr. Eric McCann at 303-241-0332 or eric.mccann@state.co.us

Can the State Historical Fund recommend an archaeologist or company to complete the work?

No, we cannot recommend a specific person or company. We can provide a list of contractors that have completed work on State Historical Fund projects. History Colorado also has a non-comprehensive directory listing organizations that have requested to be included. The Directory of Cultural Resource Professionals and Historic Preservation Service Specialists for Colorado (Document #1502) is available on the History Colorado website at:

https://www.historycolorado.org/preservation-partners