

Archaeological Monitoring

Frequently Asked Questions

What is archaeological monitoring?

A state or federally permitted archaeologist observes ground disturbing activities to identify any archaeological deposits 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.

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 "archeological 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
- Excavation for utility line repair and/or installation
- Excavation for porch replacement and/or repair
- French drain installation
- 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
 - field survey
 - limited excavation
 - artifact analysis and curation
 - site form
 - report data synthesis

How do I add archaeological monitoring to my project description, timeline and budget & scope of work?

There are many scales of archaeological monitoring spanning an archaeologist being present for all ground disturbing activities to having one available on call in case highly unexpected archaeological deposits are discovered. The level of monitoring will depend on your historic resource and the potential for intact archaeological deposits.

Please call our Archaeological Specialist, Katie Arntzen at 303-866-3498 to discuss if monitoring will be required and what scale of monitoring is most appropriate for your project. Once you know the scope of monitoring, like all contracted work, we encourage you to seek multiple bids from professional archaeologists and contract archaeology companies.

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 \$10,000 with an additional \$5,000 available for a specialist.

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 <http://www.historycolorado.org/archaeologists/preservation-partners>.

How to get started?

Contact Archaeological Specialist, Katie Arntzen at 303-866-3498 or katherine.arntzen@state.co.us.