

Guidelines for Archeological Review

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

Prince George's County Planning Board

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I. Introduction

It is the policy of the Prince George's County Planning Board to require the documentation and preservation of archeological sites in order to protect the county's cultural heritage. These guidelines were developed to assist applicants in addressing the Planning Board's policy with respect to subdivision applications and specific compliance with Sections 24-121 and 24-135.01 of the Subdivision Regulations. The portion of the guidelines relating to archeological investigations and report preparation are based on the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) publication, *The Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland* (Shaffer and Cole 1994)¹, as well as accepted practices for archeology in the Mid-Atlantic Region. All work conducted in Prince George's County must be performed in accordance with the *The Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland* (Shaffer and Cole).

¹ Shaffer, Gary D. and Elizabeth J. Cole
1994 *The Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland*. Maryland Historical Trust Technical Report 2.

II. Definitions of Terms used in the Guidelines

Archeological Resource—Any artifact, site, or district that embodies physical evidence of past human activity. For the purposes of this document, an archeological resource must date from prehistoric (i.e., before approximately the end of the 16th–beginning of the 17th century) or historic times (i.e., at least 50 years ago).

Archeological Site—A concentration of archeological resources including artifacts (human-made objects), ecofacts (bone, shell, plant remains), or modifications to the landscape (e.g., terraces, vegetative elements, mounds, trenches) that provide information on past human activities. Archeological sites may include structures; however, unlike historic properties such as houses, the location of an archeological site is not always apparent. Archeological sites may qualify to become historic sites if they meet the criteria of Subtitle 29-104, after review by the Historic Preservation Commission and an amendment to the *Historic Sites and Districts Plan* or to an area master plan or sector plan.

Archeological Professional—Meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, as stated in the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* (36 CFR 61), as follows:

“The minimum professional qualifications in archeology are a graduate degree in archeology, anthropology, or closely related field plus:

1. At least one year of full-time professional experience or equivalent specialized training in archeological research, administration or management;
2. At least four months of supervised field and analytic experience in general North American archeology; and
3. Demonstrated ability to carry research to completion.

“In addition to these minimum qualifications, a professional in prehistoric archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the prehistoric period. A professional in historic archeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the historic period.”

Architectural Historian—Meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, as stated in the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* (36 CFR 61), as follows:

“The minimum professional qualifications in architectural history are a graduate degree in architectural history, art history, historic preservation, or closely related field, with

coursework in American architectural history; or a bachelor's degree in architectural history, art history, historic preservation or closely related field plus one of the following:

1. At least two years of full-time experience in research, writing, or teaching in American architectural history or restoration architecture with an academic institution, historical organization or agency, museum, or other professional institution; or
2. Substantial contribution through research and publication to the body of scholarly knowledge in the field of American architectural history.”

Centimeter—1 centimeter = 0.3937008 inch.

Collection—The material remains that are excavated or removed during a survey, excavation, or other study of a prehistoric or historic archeological resource, as well as the associated records that are prepared or assembled in connection with the survey, excavation, or other study.

Curation—(1) Inventorying, accessioning, labeling, cleaning, and cataloging a collection (to be completed by the archeological consultant). (2) Providing curatorial services means managing and preserving a collection according to professional museum and archival practices, including, but not limited to: storing and maintaining a collection, using appropriate methods and containers, under appropriate environmental conditions and physically secure controls (to be completed by MHT).

Draft Report—The first submittal from the applicant, which is reviewed by Historic Preservation staff. This submittal reports on the methods, finds, and results of the archeological investigation that was required by the county.

Engineering Measurements (also known as English measurements)—Feet and tenths of feet.

Final Report—The final submittal from the applicant, in which all comments from Historic Preservation staff have been addressed.

Historic Preservation Staff—The Historic Preservation staff, including preservation planners, architectural historians, and a 36 CFR 61 qualified archeologist, are part of the Historic Preservation and Public Facilities Section (HPPF) in the Countywide Planning Division of the Prince George's County Planning Department, M-NCPPC.

Historic Resource—An area of land, building, structure, or object, or a group or combination thereof, including apurtenances and environmental setting, which may be significant in national, state, or local history, architecture, archeology, or culture, and which is listed in the Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Resources.

Historic Site—Any individual historic resource that is significant, contributes to historical, architectural, archeological, or cultural values, and has been classified as a “historic site” in the *Prince George's County Historic Sites and Districts Plan*.

Locus (*Loc*i, plural)—A specific limited location within an archeological site where a concentration of artifacts or features has been identified.

Maryland Historical Trust (MHT)—The Maryland Historical Trust is the principal operating unit within the Division of Historical and Cultural Programs, an agency of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. The MHT was created in 1961 to assist the people of Maryland in identifying, studying, evaluating, preserving, protecting, and interpreting the state's significant historic, architectural and cultural resources. The Maryland Historical Trust serves as the state historic preservation office (SHPO) for Maryland.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP)—The Maryland Historical Trust's list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects of known or potential value to the prehistory, history, terrestrial or underwater archeology, architecture, engineering, and culture of Maryland.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Archeological Site Survey Form—Form to be completed when an archeological site is identified. The form includes information on type of site, condition, location, and artifacts recovered.

Maryland Register of Historic Properties—The Maryland Historical Trust's list of all properties included in or determined by its director to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Meter—1 meter = 3.2808399 feet.

National Register of Historic Places—The official federal list, maintained by the National Park Service, of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.

Natural Resources Inventory—The signed plan that reflects the county-regulated environmental features.

Phase I (Identification) Archeological Investigation—The first phase of a required archeological investigation. The purpose of the Phase I is to identify any archeological resources within the subject property.

Phase II (Evaluation) Archeological Investigation—Further archeological investigation to determine whether archeological resources on the subject property are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and/or the Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Resources.

Phase III (Treatment) Archeological Investigation—Avoidance and preservation in place, or mitigation of adverse effects when an archeological site cannot be avoided or preserved in place. Phase III requires a preservation plan or a data recovery plan prior to archeological excavations, as well as a public outreach component.

Preservation and Historic Preservation—“Identification, evaluation, recordation, documentation, curation, acquisition, protection, management, rehabilitation, restoration, stabilization, maintenance, and reconstruction, or any combination of the foregoing activities.” (16 U.S.C. 470w[8]).

Prince George's County Historic Sites and Districts Plan—The county's functional master plan containing goals, objectives, and policies for historic preservation, as well as a summary of the county's history; a summary of historic communities and historic districts; proposed initiatives; and the *Inventory of Historic Resources*.

Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Resources—The inventory is part of the *Historic Sites and Districts Plan* and lists all historic resources protected by Subtitle 29 of the Prince George's County Code. When historic resources in the inventory meet the criteria for designation, they can be classified into the categories of “historic site” or “historic district.”

Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)—Nine-member commission composed of individuals knowledgeable in such areas as history, architecture, real estate, and preservation. The HPC has responsibility for evaluating and classifying historic resources as historic sites, for granting tax credits for property restoration, and for granting or denying historic area work permits for any grading, alterations, demolition, or new construction. It also serves as an advisory body to the Planning Board and District Council, in accordance with the Historic Preservation Ordinance (Subtitle 29 of the County Code), and provisions of Subtitle 27, the Zoning Ordinance, and Subtitle 24, the Subdivision Regulations.

Research Design—Written description of proposed archival research, archeological (and if required, architectural history) fieldwork, and analysis methods and techniques.

Significance—Retains the qualities that meet the county or National Register of Historic Places criteria, in particular, for archeological sites, retaining integrity of context.

Stratigraphic integrity—An archeological site that is found in soil that has kept its original soil stratigraphy and is undisturbed or has been minimally disturbed by erosion, agricultural practices, or other soil disturbance.

III. Development Review Process

A. Subdivision Review Process

Applicants are required to comply with Section 24-121 of the Subdivision Regulations and to comply with the Planning Board's Guidelines for Archeological Review.

1. Pre-submission

Prior to submittal of a preliminary plan of subdivision, potential applicants are encouraged to contact the Historic Preservation Staff in the Historic Preservation and Public Facilities Section of the Planning Department for an evaluation of archeological potential and a finding as to whether an archeological investigation is needed. A pre-application review may help to avoid delays in the processing of the preliminary plan of subdivision.² Submittal of a draft Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) will expedite this process.

2. Processing of Applications

Upon the referral of preliminary plan of subdivision applications (including a copy of the signed NRI), the Historic Preservation Staff will review the preliminary plan for archeological potential.³ Moderate or high probability for archeological resources on land that may be disturbed will be determined by an examination of the resources listed in footnote 3, using the NRI as a base map. If staff finds that there is a moderate or high probability that archeological resources could be located within the project area, staff will provide a memo and a marked up NRI at the Subdivision Review Committee meeting that outlines the area where a Phase I archeological survey will be required. If a known potentially significant or National Register of Historic Places-eligible archeological site is within the project area, Phase II (Evaluation) or Phase III (Treatment Plan) investigation may be required. If staff finds that no (further) archeological investigations are necessary, the applicant will receive a memo stating that the applicant has met the Planning Department's archeological requirements.

3. Submission of Reports

If staff recommends a Phase I, II, or III archeological investigation, the Requirements for Archeological Investigations and Report Preparation (see IV and V *infra*) will apply. An acceptable draft Phase I investigation report should be submitted at least 45 days prior to the scheduled Planning Board hearing date to allow time for adequate review.

² Please note that the plan may be subject to state or federal review in addition to county review; archeological investigation may be required through that review. The MHT Office of Preservation Services is the unit responsible for reviewing all state and federally assisted projects to ensure compliance with state and federal historic preservation laws and regulations.

³ Using the NRI as a base map, staff review will include examination of the project area location using a number of resources, such as the following: the Simon Martenet *Map of Prince George's County, Maryland* (1861), locations of known archeological sites and historic properties from the *Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties*, the *Prince George's County Historic Sites and Districts Plan*, USGS topographic quadrangles, aerial photographs, and other documents.

Following the applicant's submittal of an acceptable draft report, staff's recommendations to the Planning Board on the preliminary plan of subdivision will, in most cases, be one of the following:

- a. No further archeological investigation is necessary, and the applicant's archeological obligation is complete; or
- b. Phase II (Evaluation) archeological investigations are necessary; and/or
- c. Phase III archeological investigations are necessary.

If, at the Subdivision Review Committee meeting, staff informs the applicant that a Phase II or Phase III investigation is needed, the timing for receipt of an acceptable draft report will generally correspond with the submittal of a required specific design plan (SDP) or detailed site plan (DSP), or in some cases, prior to approval of a grading permit.

4. Coordination with the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)

If the land contained in a subdivision application contains or may have an impact on an historic resource, or if a Phase II study has determined that the archeological site may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the subdivision application will be referred to the HPC. The HPC's comments may address the impact of proposed projects on historic resources and whether archeological sites should be designated as historic sites, based on the criteria of Section 29-104 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance. The HPC's recommendation will be forwarded to the Planning Board within the mandatory action time frame of the subdivision case.

5. Planning Board Hearing

The Historic Preservation Commission's recommendation and staff recommendations on archeology will be transmitted via the Historic Preservation staff memo and will be made part of the Development Review Division's technical staff report. The Planning Board may require a limited detailed site plan (LDSP), to be reviewed by the Planning Board or its designee, as a vehicle for evaluating additional archeological investigations and/or treatment, prior to or after final plat.

6. Timing of Additional Investigations

If the Planning Board determines that additional archeological investigation is necessary, it will establish the appropriate timing for its submittal, which generally would correspond with the submittal of a required specific design plan (SDP) or detailed site plan (DSP), or prior to approval of a grading permit. Phased grading permits that exclude the Phase II or Phase III archeological site area from any soil disturbance (except for disturbance that is permitted as part of an approved archeological excavation) may be permitted.

7. Unanticipated Discoveries, including Human Remains

Should unanticipated discoveries be uncovered during soil disturbance, work in the immediate vicinity should cease until the Historic Preservation staff is notified. If human remains are discovered during construction, all work should halt in the vicinity of the discovery until the appropriate authorities (Maryland State Police, State's Attorney of the

county, and the Maryland Historical Trust) have been notified and the relevant parties have agreed upon a course of action. The provisions of Maryland burial law should be followed.

Current Maryland burial law, Article 27, §§ 265 and 267, of the Annotated Code of Maryland, requires authorization from the State's Attorney of the appropriate county for the removal of any human remains, monuments, gravestones, or other markers from a cemetery. The law also stipulates that any remains or materials removed must be relocated in an accessible place in a permanent cemetery. The law provides penalties for unauthorized removal of human remains and the willful destruction/injury to any cemetery structure (such as a tomb, monument, gravestone, building, wall, fence, railing) or vegetation (trees, shrubs, plants). In addition, if a burial is to be disinterred and then reinterred in a different cemetery, a permit must be obtained from the County Health Officer or the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Health—General Article, § 4-215).

IV. Requirements for Archeological Investigation and Report Preparation

A. Professional Qualifications

Archeological investigations must be performed under the supervision of professional archeologists who meet the qualifications of an archeological professional as defined herein.

Should architectural historians be required as part of an historic property survey, the architectural historians shall also meet the Professional Qualification Standards, as defined herein.

B. Report Standards

Artifact and site analysis, and report preparation must follow *The Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland* (Schaffer and Cole, 1994). The report format must follow either the *American Antiquity* or the *Society for Historical Archaeology* style guide. Two copies of the draft report, four copies of the final report, and one copy of the final report (in .pdf [Adobe Acrobat] format) on a CD shall be submitted to the Prince George's County Planning Department. "Draft" or "Final" must be stated on the front cover and inside front cover, along with the relevant associated preliminary plan application numbers. *The submittal of reports that do not follow these guidelines may cause project delays.*

Historic Preservation staff will retain two copies, and will provide two copies to the MHT, one for the MHT library, and one for the Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab).

C. Policy on Identification of Archeological Sites

In keeping with the policy of the state and the federal government, the exact location of archeological sites will generally not be shown on maps and plats available to the public. To help protect these resources, it is the policy of the Planning Board that anyone who wishes to read an archeological report must sign a statement that s/he will not reproduce any pages of the report that identify exact site locations. Both federal and state law provide for the confidentiality of information regarding the location and character of an historic property if the federal agency or the MHT determines that disclosure of that information may create a substantial risk of harm, theft, or destruction of the property or area where the property is located.⁴ Project planning documents, reports, and report abstracts intended for public use or distribution should withhold site-specific locational data, and provide only general descriptive information necessary for planning and review purposes.

D. Collections Policy

It is recommended that the curated artifact collection and associated documentation should be deposited with the MHT's state-of-the-art archeological research facility, the Maryland Archeological Conservation Lab (MAC Lab), at the Jefferson Patterson Park

⁴ Ref.16 U.S.C. 470w-3 and Article 83B, § 5-615[d], of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and COMAR 05.08.05.10B.

and Museum, St. Leonard, MD.⁵ The Planning Board encourages such contributions because they assure a stable curation and storage environment, add to the store of public knowledge and ensure accessibility for historic research for future generations. Please consult the MAC Lab to ascertain the one-time storage fee.⁶

⁵ The MAC Lab accepts artifact collections from excavations within the State of Maryland. Their telephone number is 410-586-8583. (Donated artifacts may be returned to the former owner on extended loan.)

⁶ Collection and conservation standards can be found in *Technical Update No. 1 of The Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland*, Collections and Conservation Standards (Maryland Historical Trust, 1999), as amended in 2005.

V. Investigation Requirements

A. Phase I (Identification) Requirements

1. Scope of Investigations

The purpose of the Phase I archeological investigation is to:

- Locate any archeological resources within the project area;
- Identify approximate horizontal and vertical boundaries of any identified sites; and
- Assess the site's potential for listing in the Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Resources, or potential eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and the need for Phase II (Evaluation) archeological investigation.

Upon receipt of the marked up NRI, the applicant's archeologist should submit a draft scope of work for approval by the Planning Department archeologist, prior to commencing work.

2. Methodology for Investigations

The level of effort for the Phase I archeological investigation must be consistent with MHT Standards and Guidelines. A subsurface excavation component should be part of the Phase I investigation. The Phase I fieldwork should involve some form of sampling, for example, systematically arranged excavation transects, to allow a high assurance that significant archeological resources have not been overlooked. Archeologists conducting Phase I surveys in Prince George's County should "conduct their investigations with a reasonable and good faith effort." "The recommended form of survey... is the excavation of shovel test pits (STPs) *according to a carefully justified sampling strategy.*" (emphasis added) "Records must be made on how survey grids were established with reference to local environmental features... A small number of extra test pits should be excavated around STPs that appear to produce 'isolated' cultural materials, in order to look for archeological resources of a smaller diameter than the test interval."⁷

All excavations should be conducted in metric units or engineering feet and tenths of feet, with the exception of known historic archeological sites, which can be conducted in English units. Shovel test pits (STPs) should be excavated at intervals no greater than 15 meters (50 feet) on regular grids, and should continue in depth to 10 centimeters (3.94 inches) into sterile subsoil. Any variation from these intervals should be coordinated with Historic Preservation staff prior to conducting the survey. Justification for the STP interval should be clearly explained in the draft and final report submittals, with text and maps.

Any prehistoric or historic archeological resources identified during the Phase I field survey and excavations should be shown on a map, their approximate horizontal and vertical boundaries identified, and a recommendation for further work or no further work

⁷ Schaffer and Cole, *The Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland*, 1994, pp. 11-12.

should be stated in the Phase I report. All sites should be recorded on a Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Archeological Site Survey Form, and submitted to the MHT to receive an archeological site number. The assigned site number should be referenced in the report.

Please note that the Prince George's County Planning Board is especially interested in the location (and possible preservation) of slave quarters and burials. Therefore, it is recommended that probate, tax, and census records be examined as part of the Phase I archival research process, to determine whether historic landowners of a subject property were slave owners. If it is determined that slaves did live and work on the subject property, additional research into the records of a church associated with the plantation owner may provide more information on individual slaves, and research into court records may possibly offer some guidance regarding the location of slave dwellings and burials.

All artifacts recovered and documents relating to the Phase I investigation should be curated to MHT standards and donated to the MAC Lab.

3. Architectural Documentation

All cultural resources should be documented in the Phase I investigation. Standing structures may be identified during the Phase I survey. If this occurs, the structures should be photographed and mapped, and a brief description of their condition and construction should be provided in the draft and final reports, along with a map identifying their location on the subject property. Architectural documentation should follow MHT Guidelines for Architectural and Historical Investigations.⁸

⁸ *Standards and Guidelines for Architectural and Historical Investigations in Maryland*, Maryland Historical Trust, 2000.

B. Phase II (Evaluation) Requirements

1. Scope of the Investigation

The purpose of the Phase II archeological investigation is to:

- Further identify the vertical and horizontal boundaries of the known archeological site;
- Conduct Phase II architectural analysis for standing structures as applicable, which meets *The Standards and Guidelines for Architectural and Historical Investigations in Maryland* of the Maryland Historical Trust. These investigations may, in consultation with Historic Preservation staff, include black-and-white and digital photographic documentation that meets National Register of Historic Places standards, building measurements, and scaled site plans that show relevant features of the site and its environment.
- Collect additional archival and archeological information (including a complete chain of title if it has not been completed as part of the Phase I investigation), to determine whether the site is eligible to be listed as a historic site, based on the criteria of Subtitle 29-104, Prince George's County Code (Criteria for the National Register of Historic Places may also be used as a guideline for eligibility); and
- Provide recommendations for future treatment.

2. Methodology for Investigations

To accomplish these goals the research design should incorporate archival research, and architectural and archeological investigation methods that focus on determining site size, chronology, function, and intrasite structure and integrity. Archival research, laboratory analysis, and special studies should be conducted as appropriate. Special studies may include, but are not limited to, paleobotanical analyses, faunal analyses, remote sensing techniques, and radiocarbon dating. The level of effort for the Phase II archeological investigation should be consistent with MHT Standards and Guidelines.

The archeologist should not conduct Phase II investigations until the Historic Preservation staff are notified and have given written approval of the submitted research design.

Phase II archeological excavations should include individual test units that measure “at least 1 x 1 to 2 x 2 meters (~3¼ x 3¼ feet to ~6½ x 6½ feet), depending on site size and expectations of artifact density and feature preservation.” “Excavation of test units should normally continue at least 10 cm (~4 inches) into the subsoil.... Finally, all Phase II fieldwork should be conducted on a grid system.”⁹ Other testing methods that are also appropriate to establish more accurate horizontal site boundaries and to reveal occupation levels can include, but are not limited to, close-interval shovel test pits, controlled surface collection, and/or mechanical excavations.

⁹ Schaffer and Cole 1994:18.

All artifacts recovered and documents relating to the Phase II investigation should be curated to MHT standards and provided to the MAC Lab.

C. Phase III (Treatment) Requirements

1. Scope of Investigation

The purpose of the Phase III archeological treatment is to:

- Avoid (through preservation in place), minimize, or mitigate (through data recovery) adverse effects to an archeological site that has been identified as significant and potentially eligible to be listed as a historic site, or determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

2. Criteria for Phase III Treatment

The following criteria are used to determine whether Phase III is required for an archeological site.

- A. **Rarity** (the degree of uniqueness the property's resources possess and their potential for providing archeological information about a person, structure, event or historical process, for which there are few examples in Prince George's County).
- B. **Research Value** (the extent to which the archeological data that would be contained on the property would contribute to the expansion of knowledge).
- C. **Public Value** (the level of importance the property has to the community as the specific location associated with a significant person, structure, event, or historical process).
- D. **Site Integrity** (the extent to which soil stratigraphy and original placement and condition of archeological resources on the property have not been disturbed or altered in a manner which appreciably reduces their research or public value).
- E. **Interpretive Value in Place** (the extent to which it retains its spatial context and offers the opportunity for visual interpretation to the public about the prehistory and history of the county).

3. Preservation in Place

Preservation in place is generally preferable for archeological sites with high interpretive value, and is encouraged by the Prince George's County Planning Board. The Planning Board may utilize preservation easements or conservation agreements and bonding as ways to preserve significant archeological sites in perpetuity and provide interpretation. If preservation in place is possible: "Preservation treatments should incorporate measures to protect the archeological property from natural deterioration, vandalism, and other potential impacts as appropriate."¹⁰ Appropriate preservation-in-place measures include avoidance, protection, and/or historic preservation easements/covenants. An example of an easement agreement is available from Historic Preservation staff.

The objective of preservation in place treatment is to safeguard the resource for future research, interpretation, and appreciation. If preservation in place is chosen, the archeological site may be eligible to be listed as a historic site on the Prince George's

¹⁰ Schaffer and Cole 1994:23.

County Inventory of Historic Resources through an amendment to the *Historic Sites and Districts Plan*, or to an area master plan or sector plan.

If preservation in place is possible, a treatment plan should be submitted to and approved by the Historic Preservation staff as part of a limited detailed site plan. The treatment plan should:

- a. Provide a basic description of the archeological site and the characteristics that make it significant;
- b. Include measures for ensuring the resource's preservation in perpetuity, including ownership and maintenance of the resource; and
- c. Provide public education and interpretation, for example through signs, internet sites, or the like.

The treatment plan for preservation in place must be reviewed and determined to have complied with these guidelines, with or without conditions, prior to or after final plat.

4. Data Recovery

Data recovery archeological investigations should be conducted only when avoidance is not possible. The objectives of the data recovery archeological investigations are to:

- a. Provide a basic description of the archeological site and the characteristics that make it significant;
- b. Provide maximum retrieval of important data;
- c. Test and address explicitly stated research questions;
- d. Address the site's significance;
- e. Determine the site's characteristics and variability; and
- f. Provide public education and interpretation of the data recovery results¹¹.

Phase III Data Recovery investigations may not begin until the Historic Preservation staff are notified and have given written approval of the submitted research design for the data recovery plan.

As discussed in *The Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland*, the data recovery investigation should use explicit methods and techniques, and the field study should employ a strategy of close interval shovel test pits, test units, and if required, mechanical stripping. Mechanical trenches and blocks, controlled surface collection, and/or other recognized investigative techniques may also be used, as appropriate. Archival research, laboratory analysis, and special studies should be conducted as appropriate. Special studies may include but are not limited to paleobotanical analyses, faunal analyses, remote sensing, and radiocarbon dating. Treatment measures and appropriate interpretation will be decided on a case-by-case basis. Public interpretation may include permanent exhibits, signage, posters, pamphlets, websites, and other forms of public education. Appropriate treatment and interpretation will be determined in consultation with the Historic Preservation staff prior to

¹¹ Schaffer and Cole 1994.

undertaking any work. Artifacts should be appropriately curated and deposited with the MAC Lab.¹²

The Phase III (Treatment/Data Recovery) final report must be reviewed and be determined to have complied with these guidelines, with or without conditions, prior to or after final plat.

¹² Schaffer and Cole 1994.