

**POLICY AND PROCEDURES REGARDING THE USE OF PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY DATA**

A.R.S. § 41-841 and § 41-844;

*Rules Implementing A.R.S. § 15-1631 and § 41-841, et seq., The Arizona Antiquities Act (AAA),
Policy 8-201, General, and Policy 8-203, Conditions for Work Under Permits*

I. Definitions

- A. “Archaeological site” means any area with material remains of past Indian or non-Indian life or activities that are of archaeological interest, including without limitations, historic or prehistoric ruins, burial grounds, and inscriptions made by human agency.
- B. “Class III survey” means a survey providing 100% coverage of an area by the implementation of transects 20-m wide or less (Arizona Historic Preservation Office, Arizona State Museum, and Arizona State Land Department 2009).
- C. “Data” means the information gathered over the course of an archaeological survey.
- D. “Discovery” means any archaeological or paleontological site or object that is at least fifty years old.
- E. “Isolated Occurrence” (IO) means artifacts or isolated features that do not meet the Arizona State Museum (ASM) site definition policy.
- F. “Resurvey” means subjecting a previously surveyed area to additional Class III archaeological survey using current archaeological methods and standards.
- G. “State land” means any lands owned or controlled by this state, by any public agency or institution of the state, or by any county or municipal corporation within the state.
- H. “Survey” means an activity with the purpose of locating, identifying, and evaluating archaeological or paleontological sites without causing any disturbance of the ground.

II. Policy

Over time, erosion and other processes can cause previously obscured archaeological sites and Isolated Occurrences to be exposed. Therefore, archaeological sites and Isolated Occurrences that were not previously observed may now be visible and subject to reporting. In addition, archaeological survey practices, instrumentation, training, and knowledge change and improve over time. Finally, cultural resources age continuously, such that countless archaeological sites and Isolated Occurrences become 50 years old every day and, thus, qualify as Discoveries. Given these facts, and consistent with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office’s *SHPO Guidance Point No. 5* (Arizona State Historic Preservation Office 2004), areas subject to survey on city, county, or state lands that were last surveyed more than 10 years ago must be resurveyed.

III. Procedures

- A. Resurveys must be conducted at a Class III survey level if 100% coverage is to be recognized.
- B. Resurveys must be conducted by an organization that holds a current AAA permit. Resurveys of state land must adhere to all new guidance from ASM concerning any changes to the site definition since the last survey took place, including the following:
 1. ASM's (2021) *Policy and Procedures Regarding Historical-Period Waste Piles*
 2. ASM's (2017) *Policy and Procedures Regarding Historical Sites and Features*
 3. ASM's (1995) *Site Recording Definition Policy*
- C. ASM site cards must be completed for all newly encountered archaeological sites. ASM site card updates must be completed for all previously recorded archaeological sites.
- D. The results of the resurvey must be summarized in a report that is curated at ASM along with other required submission materials (e.g., site cards, project registration form). All existing policies and procedures pertaining to survey report content, standards, submission, curation, and approval are applicable.
- E. State lands subject to Class III survey do not require resurvey if surveyed within the last ten years and ASM has previously accepted an associated survey report for curation or concurred with the adequacy of an associated survey report in the course of consultation.

IV. Reference Cited

Arizona State Historic Preservation Office

- 2004 *SHPO Position on Relying on Old Archaeological Survey Data*. SHPO Guidance Point No. 5. Arizona State Historic Preservation Office, Phoenix.
<https://azstateparks.com/shpo-guidance-points>.

Arizona Historic Preservation Office, Arizona State Museum, and Arizona State Land Department

- 2009 *Arizona Reporting Standards for Cultural Resources*.
https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/crm/document/arizona_reporting_standards_cultural_resources_Oct_2009

Arizona State Museum

- 1995 Revised Site Definition Policy. In *ASM Archaeological Site Recording Manual*.
https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/site_recording_manual.pdf
- 2017 *Policy and Procedures Regarding Historical Sites and Features*.
<https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/crm/document/historical-sites-and-features>
- 2021 *Policy and Procedures Regarding Historical-Period Waste Piles*.
<https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/crm/document/historical-waste-piles>.