



# Cultural Resources Terms

**Acquisition:** The purchase of fee or less-than-fee interests in real property. These interests include conservation easements, access and trail easements, covenants, water rights, leases, and mineral rights.

**Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP):** Promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of the nation's diverse historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy.

**Archaeology:** The systematic and scientific study of humans' past through material remains.

**Archaeological Site:** A geographic location that contains archaeological objects, evidence of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic activity, or a building or structure, whether buried, standing, or ruined.

**Archaeological Site Form:** A form required by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to record and evaluate archaeological sites. The form includes location and descriptive information about the site. The form must be entered online using Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data.

**Area of Potential Effect (APE):** The geographic area within which the project may cause direct or indirect effects (including physical, visual, vibratory, or audible effects) to the character or use of historic properties.

**Area of Potential Impact (API):** Often used for non-federal projects and means the geographic area within which the project may cause direct or indirect effects (including physical, visual, vibratory, or audible effects) to the character or use of historic properties.

**Cultural Resources Report Cover Sheet:** A form required by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to be the first page of all cultural resource reports.



**Cultural Resources Survey or Inventory:** Actions taken to Identify cultural resources, determine their significance, and evaluate project impacts on such resources. The exact activities necessary for the identification of cultural resources will vary depending on the scope of work, results of consultations, and regulatory context.

**Cultural Resources Survey Report:** The document that presents the results of survey actions, including data analysis and recommendations. The report's author is responsible for assuring that the report is succinct, adheres to Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's reporting guidelines, conveys all necessary information, and responds to client needs. The surveyor and/or report author should be judicious in tailoring the length and content of the report to be commensurate with the scale of the project.

**Development Project:** Construction or work resulting in new elements, including structures, facilities, and materials to enhance outdoor recreation, salmon recovery, or habitat conservation resources.

**Disturbed:** A deposit that appears modified since it was created by past human activity.

**Field Investigation:** An on-site inspection by a professional archaeologist or an individual under the direct supervision of a professional archaeologist employing archaeological inspection techniques for both the surface and subsurface identification of archaeological resources and artifacts resulting in a professional archaeological report detailing the results of such inspection.

**Ground-Disturbing Activity:** Any activity that compacts or disturbs the ground. This includes development, restoration, geotechnical investigation, and installation of utilities, culverts, roads, structures, and foundations.

**Historic Property:** Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to, and located within, such properties. The term includes property of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or native Hawaiian organization and that meets the National Register criteria (36 CFR 800.16 Definitions (I)(1)).

**Historic Property Inventory Form (HPI/HPIF):** A form required by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation used to collect data for historic built resources. The form must be entered online using Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data.

**Inadvertent Discovery Protocol or Plan (IDP):** A plan that outlines procedures to perform if archaeological materials or human remains are found. The term often is interchangeable with "Unanticipated Discovery Protocol."



**Intact:** A deposit that is unmodified by post-contact European cultural activity or by common natural disturbance processes, such as water, wind, earth movement, animal, or vegetation activity.

**Memorandum of Agreement (MOA):** A written document describing a cooperative relationship between two or more parties wishing to work together on a project or to meet an agreed upon objective.

**National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA):** The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 was passed primarily to acknowledge the importance of protecting the nation's heritage from rampant development. It was the triumph of more than a century of struggle by a grassroots movement of committed preservationists.

**Project:** An undertaking that is the subject of a Recreation and Conservation Office agreement and that is, or may be, funded in whole or in part with money administered by the office on behalf of the funding board or office.

**Qualified or Professional Archaeologist:** A person with qualifications meeting the federal Secretary of the Interior's standards for a professional archaeologist.

**Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO):** A Washington State agency that provides grants to create outdoor recreation opportunities, conserve habitat and working lands, and recover salmon and orca.

**Section 106:** A section of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 that requires each federal agency to identify and assess the effects its actions may have on historic buildings.

**Shovel Test Pit or Probe (STP):** A hole or device used to look for or find the size of below-ground archaeological sites.

**Smithsonian Number or Smithsonian Trinomial:** A unique identifier assigned to archaeological sites in the United States. Washington State Smithsonian numbers start with 45, followed by a 2-letter county code, and consecutive number.

**State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)**

**Subsurface Test (ST):** A hole excavated below ground, with either machine or shovel, which allows an archaeologist to inspect the soil and the soil profile for cultural indicators, historic properties, or patterns of sediment deposition that indicate historic properties are likely present.

**Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO)**



**Unanticipated Discovery Protocol or Plan (UDP):** A plan that outlines procedures to perform if archaeological materials or human remains are found. The term often is used interchangeably with "Inadvertent Discovery Protocol or Plan."

**Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD):** The State's digital repository for architectural and archaeological resources and reports.

**Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP):** Washington State's primary agency with knowledge and expertise in historic preservation.