

SHAARD Frequently Asked Questions

Updated December 3, 2012

What is SHAARD?

SHAARD is the State Historic Architecture and Archaeology Database. SHAARD provides records for National and State Register properties, historic bridges, historic theaters, cemeteries, buildings contained in the County Survey program, and archaeological sites.

Why isn't my house in SHAARD?

Only information on resources that have been identified and evaluated through one of the programs that the DHPA administers under the National Historic Preservation Act or Indiana Code are included in SHAARD. In addition, with over 300,000 paper documents housed in the DNR-DHPA, not all information is yet included in SHAARD. Check back often to find the improvements and additional information added.

Is all information from archaeological site forms entered in SHAARD?

No, at this time many of the site forms have limited information in the database. In order to view the complete information, the original site form, or archaeological report, qualified archaeological professionals will still need to come to the DHPA to conduct a complete or thorough records check.

Where does the site information in SHAARD come from?

The data in SHAARD comes from field surveys, the DHPA's in-house files, private consultants, other state agencies, and universities throughout Indiana. Much of the data was gathered by transferring thousands of site forms from paper to computer files, which are stored in our database at the DHPA. The information has been taken directly from the original forms and to date, has not been edited or altered in any significant way.

Why can't I access the archaeological information in SHAARD?

Archaeological sites are protected from destruction and vandalism through state and federal laws. These laws prohibit the release of specific information on archaeological sites to the general public. For this reason, SHAARD has both public and restricted data sets. All archaeological site information is stored within the restricted data set and can only be accessed by qualified archaeological professionals as defined by federal and state laws. If you are a qualified archaeological professional and cannot access the archaeological site information in SHAARD, please send an email to SHAARDadmin@dnr.IN.gov for assistance.

How often is SHAARD updated?

More information is being added daily into SHAARD.

Why was SHAARD created?

SHAARD was initiated in 2004 with a grant from the Federal Highway Administration as a way to improve efficiency and streamline the Section 106 review process established under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. & 470f) and the federal regulations that implement the process. It was also created to allow researchers and the public to access the site information housed at the DHPA without having to come to Indianapolis.