

Administrative and Other Duties

Other areas of responsibility include setting standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Indiana, developing historic contexts and conducting research on the cultures and archaeology of the state, reviewing archaeological nominations to the National Register, and providing technical archaeological assistance to professionals and the public.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

The Archaeology Section conducts a number of educational and outreach programs for the public and professionals, including: Archaeology Month activities, publications, talks and presentations, artifact identification and recording of private collections, training sessions for land management and law enforcement personnel, and stewardship courses for learning about the state's archaeological heritage. There is even a monthly archaeology e-newsletter. There is considerable public interest and a high demand for information about archaeology in Indiana, and the section's programs have been developed to meet this need.

Indiana Archaeology Month, first established as Archaeology Week in 1996, is coordinated every year by the Archaeology Section. Public education about Indiana's diversity of past



The above images depict important parts of the Division's educational outreach, fieldwork, research, and review activities.

cultures and heritage, and the science of archaeology, is the focus for the month. Past activities have provided the public with excellent opportunities to learn more about the role of archaeology in Indiana's history, the laws which protect sites, different artifact types, and much more. Each year, free information packets and commemorative posters are available to the public. Commemorative t-shirts are also available, usually for a nominal charge.

Publications produced by the Archaeology Section include *Indiana Archaeology*, a periodic professional journal designed to publish the results and findings of archaeological projects in Indiana and investigations into other related topics, and *Early Peoples of Indiana* which provides the reader with information on the early cultures of our state. Many other publications and handouts are available on our webpage too.

Training in archaeology is offered to professionals in many fields and to the general public. Managers and stewards of public properties are also afforded training to protect archaeological sites on public property. The Archaeology Staff also provides technical assistance to private landowners to protect sites on their properties. Related to this are efforts to aid people in artifact identification and in recording and documenting private artifact collections.

Certificate of Completion and Stewardship Programs are also offered to the public in order to provide training and information about archaeological methods and techniques. The purpose of these programs is to promote site protection, preservation, documentation, and/or interpretation, to encourage participation in archaeology, and to gain and promote knowledge about past cultures in our state.

The Archaeology Section gives talks and presentations on a multitude of archaeological, historical, and preservation topics and issues. The Division's Archaeology Staff is always available to answer questions.

Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Phone: 317-232-1646 FAX: 317-232-0693
www.IN.gov/dnr/historic E-mail: dhp@dnr.IN.gov

ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAMS



This set of Kirk Corner Notch Points from Southern Indiana dates from 8,000 to 6,700 BC. The archaeological record in Indiana extends back at least 11,000 years.



**Indiana Department of
Natural Resources,
Division of Historic Preservation
and Archaeology (DHPA)**

ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAMS AND DUTIES

The Archaeology Section of the Division is the state's lead agency for protecting and preserving information from Indiana's prehistoric and historic archaeological heritage. The Division holds and maintains the state's official repository of archaeological records and reports, and manages the state's computerized database of archaeological site information. The archaeological staff's primary duty is to review, evaluate, and comment upon federal and state projects that may affect archaeological resources. Among its many other duties are: implementing the state law that provides protection to archaeological sites and human remains, setting and maintaining archaeological standards and guidelines, conducting archaeological surveys on state properties, reviewing and overseeing grant-funded archaeological projects, reviewing National Register nominations for archaeological sites, providing technical assistance and advice to the public and professionals, and implementing public education initiatives.



One of the DHPA archaeologists working with some of the many records housed at the office of the State Archaeologist. Electronic records, as well as many other reports, photographs, and forms, are part of the important archaeological history of Indiana.

Environmental Review -- Archaeology

The primary duty of the Archaeology Section is to review and comment on compliance projects under state and federal preservation laws. The archaeology staff provides comments on thousands of these projects each year. These projects predominately fall under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Sections 16 and 18 of Indiana Code 14-21-1. In addition, the section also reviews over 100 surface and underground coal mining projects each year under I.C. 14-34-3-10 and 312 IAC 25.

Archaeological Plans and Accidental Discoveries

Review and regulation of "accidental discoveries" of artifacts or human remains under IC 14-21-1 is another of the archaeologists' duties. These discoveries may take the form of accidental encounters of artifacts or remains during the course of ground disturbing activities, purposeful disturbance of these resources, or vandalism or looting of archaeological sites. Field investigations are often needed to identify and evaluate sites and remains which are discovered. In Indiana, anyone wishing to disturb the ground for the purpose of discovering artifacts dating before December 11, 1816, or buried human remains dating before 1940, must submit a plan to the Division for approval. The Archaeology Section reviews and approves the issuance of approved plans so that archaeological sites are properly examined. An average of 60 of these cases are handled each year.

Site Recording

The Archaeology Section issues official state archaeological site numbers to be used by professionals, amateur or avocational archaeologists, and others wishing to record site information. In addition, the DHPA distributes the official archaeological site forms for individuals to fill out. The Division encourages the public to record archaeological site information because, once identified, sites are easier to protect. Anyone wishing to record an archaeological site location or other information should contact the DHPA.

Research and Records Reviews

Because the DHPA is the central repository for archaeological records in Indiana, the office is available for qualified individuals to conduct records reviews and research. The Division houses

thousands of archaeological site forms, cultural resource management and grant reports, and other records which are available for review. Qualified researchers must make an appointment to visit the office where research carrels are available for use.

Research

Time permitting, DHPA archaeologists also conduct research on a number of special topics and/or specific sites ranging from the early prehistoric to the historic period. This research usually helps to fill in identified gaps in our knowledge about Indiana's archaeological heritage and creates historic contexts for interpreting and understanding Indiana's past.

Grants

Each year, matching grant funds are awarded for various archaeological activities, including survey and testing, site investigations and excavations, preparation of National Register nominations for eligible sites, and public education programs and activities. The Archaeology Section helps to oversee and review these projects, which so far have recorded and/or evaluated thousands of sites in the state.

*For specific information regarding grant funding opportunities, please see the DHPA brochure, "Matching Grant Programs."

Cooperative Ventures

The DHPA regularly works with the Indiana Historical Bureau and other agencies to develop various archaeological publications for the public and the professional community.



Archaeological publications such as those shown above are available from the DHPA. Documents like these are important ways to share information about archaeology.