



Texas Archeological STEWARDSHIP NETWORK N e w s l e t t e r

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THE STATE OF TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE DATA FORM

INTRODUCTION

Why Careful Site Recording Is Important

In two recent projects in far-distant regions of the state, crews of avocational archeologists set out to revisit previously recorded sites, determine their condition, and re-record them. Many of the sites had not been revisited since they were first recorded, as long ago as the 1930s. Although no more than a few hundred of the state's more than 40,000 known sites were involved in these surveys, the results were disquieting. In some areas, about 90 percent of the recorded sites had been destroyed.

When you record an archeological site, you may be the last person ever to see that site. Everything that anyone may ever know about that particular locale in place and time will be recorded on the site form you prepared, in the maps you drew, in the sketches you made, in the photographs you took. When you think about it, is a four-page form plus two pages for site map and sketches really too much?

Why Use the State of Texas Site Data Form

Use of the State of Texas Site Data Form will help to ensure that comparable data is recovered from as many archeological sites as possible. This form has been developed and refined over more than a decade, and many archeologists besides staff of the Office of the State Archeologist, Texas Historical Commission, have had their say in the make-up of the form. The form is printed on acid-free paper. And copies of the form are free from Office of the State Archeologist, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711.

Why 20 Pages of Instructions for a 6-Page Form

Don't panic. Many archeologists, both professional and avocational, can complete the

State of Texas Site Data Form thoroughly and accurately with no instructions at all. This set of instructions is not for them, however. It's for the rest of us.

This set of instructions is not intended to tell you what to put in the blanks on the form when you already have perfectly good answers. Instead, it is intended to help you out when—

—you have never filled out a site data form before;

—you have filled out a few site data forms as part of a team, but not on your own;

—you have filled out several site forms but have never understood what "Circumstances Affecting Observations" means.

—you have filled out hundreds of site forms, but you want to lead or participate in a site-recording workshop and need a little help;

—you need a little help but can't stand the thought of going to another seminar about how to do anything;

—you know what you want to say about the site and its features but just can't think of the right words;

—you want to complete as much of the form in the field as possible, where no references are handy;

—you don't want to have to go look up the soil type, or the criteria for site significance, or the definition of "random collecting" anyway;

—or, the last best reason: you want to do the best job possible because you may be the last person ever to see the site that you are recording.

Most of this booklet is composed of examples, not explanations or instructions. Often, you will be able to fill in a blank on the site form with one of the relevant examples, or the examples will help you word or more fully explain an answer of your own. So pack up your instruction booklet and some State of Texas Site Data Forms and go for it.

State of Texas Archeological Site Data Form *Step-by-Step Instructions*

- PRELIMINARY INFORMATION** Following the brief Instructions on the site form and before the General Information section is an important section dealing with basic information about the site. In this section, be especially sure to identify the type of site as fully as possible (see information under Type of Site below).
- Initial Form** Check box if this is the first time, to your knowledge, that this site has been recorded.
- Update/Revision** Check box if this is an update of a previously recorded site.
- Recorder Visited** Check box if the person filling out the form made a field visit to the site.
- Other Source** Check box if the information recorded on the site data form was provided to you by an informant and you have not made a site visit. Indicate the source of your information.
- Type of Site** In describing site type, be as specific as your knowledge of the site permits. For example, "Caddoan mound site" is more specific than "prehistoric earthenwork." Following is a brief compilation of examples of common types of archeological sites in Texas.¹
- Habitation sites* - areas or structures where people live or have lived on a permanent or temporary basis. Following are examples of major types of habitation sites in Texas:
- Open Campsites* - occupied on a temporary, seasonal, or intermittent basis. Evidence of structures may or may not be present. American Indian campsites may have accumulations of shell or burned rock as well as hearths, hearth fields, bedrock mortars, burials, and/or scatters or accumulations of ceramics, stone debitage, flaked tools, and grinding stones. Examples of historic non-Indian open campsites include Chinese railroad camps, wagon train campsites, shepherd shelters, line camps, buffalo hunter camps, cavalry campgrounds, trail drive camps, camps at river fords, candelilla wax camps, and others.
- Rockshelters* - located in caves or under rock overhangs and occupied temporarily, seasonally, or intermittently. Shelter sites include not only the shelter area itself but also the area of debris accumulation located in the immediate vicinity that is the result of activity by those occupying the rockshelter.
- Residence sites* - places where routine daily activities were carried out and which were intended for year-round use. A greater degree of permanence is implied in a residence site than a campsite. Examples of prehistoric and historic aboriginal residence sites include teepee rings, pueblos, and Caddoan houses. Examples

¹Abstracted from Texas Antiquities Committee, "Rules of Practice and Procedure," Chapter 41, section 10.

Type of Site (*Continued*) of historic non-Indian residence sites include remains of cabins, dugouts, farmhouses, ranch headquarters, plantation houses, slave quarters, and urban homes.

Nonhabitation sites - result from use during specialized activities and may include standing structures. Following are major types of nonhabitation sites in Texas:

Rock art and graffiti sites - consist of symbols or representations that have been painted, ground, carved, sculpted, scratched or pecked on or into the surface of rocks, wood, or metal.

Mines, quarry areas, and lithic procurement sites - areas where raw materials such as flint, clay, coal, minerals, other materials were collected or mined for future use.

Game procurement and processing sites - areas where game was killed or butchered for food or hides. Remnants of structures such as game runs, hunting blinds, and fish weirs as well as stone, bone, and metal tools may be present in association with animal remains.

Engineering structures - examples include aqueducts, irrigation canals and ditches, earthen mounds, ramps, platforms, terraces, dams, bordered or leveled fields, constructed trails, medicine wheels, bridges, tunnels, shafts, roads, rock fences, dams, light-houses, and railroad, streetcar, and thoroughfare systems.

Cemeteries and burials - places of human interment. Cemeteries contain the remains of more than one person placed in a regular or patterned order. Burials, in contrast, may contain the remains of one or more individuals located in a common grave in a locale not formerly or subsequently used as a cemetery.

Fortifications, battlefields, and skirmish sites - examples are battlefields of the Civil War, the Texas War for Independence, the Mexican War, and skirmish sites between non-Indian and American Indian forces. Trenches, mounds, walls, bastions, and other fortifications may be present.

Public service and ceremonial sites - include, but are not limited to, kivas, temple mounds, shrines, missions, churches, libraries, museums, educational institutions, courthouses, fire stations, and hospitals.

Commercial business structures and industrial structures - sites where products or services are produced, stored, distributed, or sold.

Monuments and markers - structures erected to commemorate or designate the importance of an event, person, or place, and may or may not be located at the sites they commemorate.

Shipwrecks

Registration Indicate whether the site is on the National Register of Historic Places or is designated a State Archeological Landmark. If you are unsure about the site's registration status, contact the Department of Antiquities Protection, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Site Name(s) and Numbers	Include the site name, trinomial, and any temporary site number given in the field.
Recorder	Provide name, in full, of person who completed this form. An address is also helpful.
Affiliation	List recorder's organizational or institutional affiliation, if any (e.g., name of CRM company, public agency, archeological society, Texas Archeological Stewardship Network).
Date of form	Dates form was worked on, including field visits.
Project Name & Number	This category usually is applicable when a site is recorded during a large CRM project; however, investigations undertaken at a field school or under the direction of an institution or local archeological society should also have a project name (e.g., Texas Archeological Society Field School, 1992; Sul Ross State University Field School, 1992).
Project Funding Source	Where applicable, give the name of the funding source for the project under which this site was recorded.
Permitting Sources & Numbers	Note permitting agency and permit number of project if applicable (e.g., Corps of Engineers permit no.; Texas Antiquities permit no.).
Owner/Address/Phone Number	Provide the name of the landowner, whether public or private, and include as much information about the landowner as possible. An exact mailing address (not just Joe Smith, San Antonio) will help future researchers who may wish to conduct additional research at the site.
Informants/Addresses/ Phone Number	Again, as much specific information about the informant as possible would be useful. An informant may be a landowner, ranch foreman, local avocational or professional archeologist, or anyone who provided information about the site or collections from the site.
Additional Sources of Information	List here any previous investigations that you know of, any written reports that may have information about the site, or information about private collections that contain artifacts from the site.

WORK PERFORMED

Observe/Record	Check here and give date if you recorded the site from on-site observation.
Surface Inspect/Collect	Check box if any collections were made from the site surface and indicate the collection technique. The most common collection techniques are defined below: <i>Arbitrary</i> - An uncontrolled collection in which an attempt is made to achieve some sort of representational sample.

- Surface Inspect/Collect** *Controlled* - The site, or a specific portion of the site, is collected and the exact location of each collected item is plotted individually or plotted within an individual sampling unit. A permanent datum or datums is required for controlled collection.
- (Continued)* *Non-controlled or "grab bag"* - No particular strategy utilized; the collection is nonrepresentational.
- Select* - A controlled or noncontrolled collection of a specific type or types of specimens only (e.g., functional and/or time diagnostic specimens).
- Random collection* - A statistical sampling method in which individual units are randomly chosen and artifacts within those units are collected. This is a controlled sampling technique.
- Other* - If your collection technique does not correspond with any of the above, describe in detail how the surface collection was made.
- Mapping** Indicate whether the site was mapped and the method of mapping used. Common mapping methods include:
- Sketch map* - The site is quickly sketched in, usually not to scale.
- Measured sketch map* - Using a hand compass, the site is measured with tapes or paced off. To determine your pace, lay a 30 meter tape on the ground and count the number of normal strides it takes to walk 30 meters. Do this several times, then divide 30 meters by the average number of steps. This number will be the length of your pace and can be used to roughly estimate distances.
- Contour map* - Site mapped using surveying equipment.
- Testing** Describe method and extent of testing at site. Methods of testing include:
- Shovel testing* - A hole of arbitrary size and shape is dug using a shovel or post-hole digger in order to determine the content, integrity, or size of a site. Material from the holes is screened and artifacts collected.
- Coring* - Extraction of a series of cores by hand or machine for stratigraphic clarification.
- Remote sensing* - Using a magnetometer, side-scan sonar, ground-penetrating radar, or other remote-sensing device to locate cultural features.
- Machine tested* - Machinery is used to excavate exploratory trenches to obtain stratigraphic profiles or to grade off overburden in a search for cultural features and intrasite activity areas.
- Isolated test units* - One or more controlled test units (1x1 m, 1x2 m, etc.) scattered horizontally across the site.
- Excavation** Check box if the site was excavated and give the date(s) that the excavation occurred. A site is considered excavated when a series of contiguous hand-excavated units has been used to explore the site content. Isolated test-excavations are not included in this category. Indicate the method and extent of the excavation.

- Records Mark any and all applicable categories of records resulting from the site investigation reported on this form.
- Kinds of Materials Collected Briefly list the artifacts that were collected from the site. Be as specific as possible (i.e., rather than listing "16 lithic artifacts," break the lithics into categories: "2 projectile points, 2 biface fragments, 1 mano, 11 pieces of debitage"). Identify all diagnostics when possible and sketch important or diagnostic artifacts on the last sheet of the site form. Include extra sheets as needed.
- Special Samples, Collection Strategy and Technique Special samples include any substance that is specifically collected or processed for analytical testing. The collection of special samples implies some type of collection strategy and is primarily, but not necessarily always, confined to excavated contexts. On the form, indicate the strategy used (why you did it) and the technique used (how you did it). Examples of special samples frequently taken on archeological sites include:
- | | |
|------------|---|
| Soil | Burned Clay |
| Pollen | Brick |
| Stone | Mortar |
| Ceramics | Other construction materials (identify) |
| Clay | Modern botanical |
| Fossils | Modern zoological |
| Phytoliths | Water |
| Coprolites | Charcoal or other carbon sources |
| Wood | Other organic substances (identify) |
- Temporary Housing Provide specific location where artifacts *and records* are being stored during field work and/or analysis.
- Permanent Housing List address of curatorial facility where artifacts *and records* will be stored after analysis. Guidelines for proper curation are available from the Council of Texas Archeologists, c/o Texas Memorial Museum, 2400 Trinity Street, Austin, TX 78705.

LOCATIONAL/ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

- County(ies) If the site extends into more than one county, list the county in which the major portion of the site lies first and note any other counties. Provide the general site location within the county (e.g., SW, NE). This will greatly facilitate relocating the site on a topographic map.
- USGS Map Series, Name, and Quad # This information is generally to be found in the lower right-hand corner of the topographic map. Also give date of map, if known.
- Description of Location Two methods can be used to describe the site location; either triangulation from USGS map points to a marked site center or on-the-ground distances and directions. When using on-the-ground distan-

Description of Location (Continued)	ces and directions be as specific as possible and use landmarks that are relatively permanent (e.g., houses, windmills, large trees, road intersections).
Elevation	Once the site location has been plotted on a topographic map, the elevation can be estimated from the elevation ranges given on the map. Usually a single elevation is sufficient if the site is fairly small and located on relatively level land. If recording a large site with broad variations in topography, provide an elevation range. Be sure to check the lower margin of the map to determine the contour interval (this differs from map to map).
UTM	If you are unsure how to calculate UTM's, write the Office of the State Archeologist, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711 for a free copy of the "UTM Plotting" leaflet. A template for calculating UTM's can be purchased from Forestry Suppliers, Inc., P.O. Box 8397, Jackson, MS 39284-8397.
Latitude/Longitude	Although UTM's are the preferred coordinates for archeological sites, coordinates for latitude and longitude can also be derived from a topographic map. A template for quickly determining latitude and longitude can be purchased from Forestry Suppliers, Inc., P.O. Box 8397, Jackson, MS 39284-8397.
Nearest Natural Extant Water, Type, Distance, Direction	<p>Briefly state the location, type, distance, and direction of the nearest water supply. Examples of major water types and a discussion of location in relation to the site are provided below.</p> <p><i>Types of water supply</i>² include the following:</p> <p><i>Stream</i> - Any body of water, from a large river to a small rill, moving under gravity flow to progressively lower levels in a relatively narrow but clearly defined channel. A <i>perennial stream</i> carries water year round, an <i>intermittent stream</i> may only have water in it a few months of the year, and an <i>ephemeral stream</i> has water in it for a very short time, as during a rain.</p> <p><i>Pond or lake (natural only)</i> - A natural body of standing fresh water occupying a small surface depression.</p> <p><i>Spring</i> - A place where ground water flows naturally from a rock or the soil onto the land surface or into a body of surface water.</p> <p><i>Catch basin in bedrock (tinaja)</i> - A water pocket developed below a waterfall or a catchment filled by rain or slope wash. Also a temporary pool or spring too weak to form a stream.</p> <p><i>Playa or eolian depression</i> - A dried-up, vegetation-free, flat-floored area composed of thin, evenly stratified sheets of fine clay, silt, or sand, and representing the bottom part of a shallow, completely closed or undrained lake basin in which water accumu-</p>

²Definitions from *Glossary of Geology*, edited by Margaret Cary, Robert McAfee Jr, and Carol L. Wolf. Washington D.C., American Geological Institute, 1974.

Types of water supply (Continued)	<p>lates (as after a rain) and is quickly evaporated, usually leaving deposits of soluble salts.</p> <p><i>Marsh</i> - A water-saturated, poorly drained area, intermittently or permanently water-covered, having aquatic and grasslike vegetation.</p> <p><i>Swamp</i> - A water saturated area, intermittently or permanently covered with water, having shrub- and tree-type vegetation.</p> <p><i>Slough</i> - A sluggish channel of water such as a side channel of a river in which water flows slowly through low, swampy ground, or a section of an abandoned river channel, containing stagnant water and occurring in a flood plain or delta.</p> <p><i>Distance of water supply</i> can be a measured distance and/or descriptive, as follows:</p> <p><i>Source contained within the site</i> - The water supply is clearly within the site boundary; for example a spring within a site.</p> <p><i>Fronts on source</i> - Water source is not within the defined boundary of the site, but is integrally related to the site. Examples include a site on a terrace immediately above a river, lake, or stream or a site at the edge of a playa lake.</p> <p><i>Source near site</i> - The water supply is in close proximity to the site but not within it or fronting on it. The distance to or location of the water may have been a factor in placement of the site, for example, a site located on the fossil terrace system in a drainage basin.</p> <p><i>Source removed from site</i> - Water supply probably was not an important factor in placement of the site and may not be included in the site description. An example of this type of site would be a railroad workers camp where water could be imported from a distance.</p>
Major Creek Drainage	Indicate the name of the nearest major creek drainage.
Name of Drainage Basin & Type	<p>A drainage basin is the region that gathers water originating as precipitation and contributes it to a stream channel or system of channels, or to a lake, reservoir, or other body of water. Types of drainage basins in Texas include:</p> <p><i>River Basin</i> - The entire area drained by a river and its tributaries.</p> <p><i>Coastal Basin</i> - Area drained directly into a bay or other coastal body of water.</p> <p><i>Bolson or Playa Basin</i> - An extensive, flat, saucer-shaped, alluvium-floored basin or depression, almost or completely surrounded by mountains from which drainage has no surface outlet; an interior basin, or a basin with internal drainage.</p>
Soil Description and Reference	Soil description generally includes the soil type, surface texture, and derivation, and each of these is explained, with examples, below. Soil Conservation Service (SCS) soil series name and map-

Soil Description and Reference
(Continued)

ping unit is not required but can be obtained from the county soil surveys published and issued by the SCS. These publications can be obtained free-of-charge from your county SCS extension agent.

*Soil type*³ - Dominant genetic soil types in Texas include:

Vertisols - Soils with a high content of swelling clays; deep, wide cracks develop during dry periods. Approximately 10.4 percent of Texas soils are vertisols, characterized by the Blackland Prairies and the Gulf Coast Prairie.

Aridisols - Soils of arid regions; soils are coarse and retain little water.

Mollisols - Dominant soils of the grasslands, mollisols develop under grass in climates that have a pronounced seasonal moisture deficit; such soils are usually very dark brown to black in color.

Alfisols - Soils developed under forest in a humid-temperate or cool region.

Lithosols - Thin, stoney soils of the mountain regions.

Paleosols - A buried soil that was once a stable ground surface. Usually occurs as a relatively dark zone that has partially developed soil horizons below it.

*Soil Surface Texture*⁴ - Descriptions of the major types of soil surface texture follow:

Sands - Sands contain less than 10 percent silt and clay. They are loose and single-grained. The individual grains can readily be seen and felt. Moist sands when squeezed in the hand will form a cast that will crumble when touched, although fine sand and very fine sand have a certain amount of cohesion when moist. Sands are classed as Coarse (2.00 - 0.50 mm), Medium (0.50 - 0.25 mm), Fine (0.25 - 0.10 mm) or Very Fine (0.10 - 0.05 mm) based on the diameter of the individual grains.

Loamy Sands - Loamy sands contain 10 to 20 percent silt and clay. Like the sands, they are loose and single-grained and most of the individual grains can be seen and felt. They contain a higher percentage of silt and clay than the sands, and when they are moist they have slight cohesion.

Sandy Loams - Although sandy loams contain much sand and have a gritty feel, they have enough silt and clay for considerable coherence. Many of the individual soil grains can be seen and felt. Moist sandy loams when squeezed in the hand form a cast that will bear careful handling without breaking.

Loams - Loams are soils having a relatively even mixture of sand, silt, and clay. They are yellow and have a slight gritty feel, yet

³Definitions from *Soil Geography and Land Use*, by Henry D. Foth and John W. Schafer. John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1980.

⁴Soil descriptions reprinted from *Field and Laboratory Handbook*, by Roger H. Hemion. Special Publication No. 2, Southern Texas Archaeological Association, 1983.

Soil Surface Texture they are fairly smooth and rather plastic when moist. If squeezed
(Continued) in the hand when moist, they form a cast that can be handled rather freely without breaking. Loams will polish between finger and thumb.

Silt & Silt Loams - Silt loams have rather small amounts of fine sand, very fine sand, and clay, but more than half of the particles are of silt. When dry, silt and silt loams may appear rather cloddy in the field, but the lumps can readily be broken and when pulverized the soil feels soft and floury. When moist, they will form a cast that can be handled freely without breaking. Silt has a smooth silky feel that persists when the sample is wetted.

Clay Loams - Clay loams are dense and compact and form clods or lumps that are hard to break when dry. The moist soil is sticky and plastic and will form a cast that will bear much handling. When kneaded in the hand, it does not crumble but tends to work into a heavy compact mass.

Silty Clay Loams - Silty clay loams contain more silt particles than the clay loams and have a rather smooth feel. In other properties they are similar to clay loams.

Clays - Clays contain 40 percent or more clay. They are dense and compact and form clods or lumps which, when dry, are hard to break. The moist soil is very sticky and smooth. Clay will shine when rubbed between fingers.

Sandy Clays and Sandy Clay Loams - These are soils containing variable amounts of silt, clay, and sand particles. In texture they are somewhat similar to the sandy loams. They are *not* generally associated with the surface soil but more with the subsoil and substratum. If the original topsoil has been removed by erosion, then they may occur at the surface.

Gravel - Gravel consists of particles ranging in size from about that of a radish seed to that of a marble with an admixture of pebbles and small cobblestones. Varying quantities of sand particles are commonly mixed with the gravel but the sand forms only a *minor* proportion of the whole mass.

Cemented Inclusions (Caliche) - A frequent soil phenomenon in this region found generally in association with clay formations that can be converted to calcium carbonate (CaCO_3) by surface water containing atmospheric CO_2 .

Unconsolidated Stony Soil - Typically midden remains, an ancient streambed (water-rolled, rounded stones) or rocky inclusions (angular, variably sized) loosely disposed through a soil matrix.

Bedrock - May be the foundation formation of the site or a portion of the site, as a rocky shelf or outcrop. May be unconsolidated, as shale and trap rock, or a solid, integral structure.

Soil Source/Derivation - Examples of the main types of soil derivation follow:

In Situ - Soil formed in place.

Marine - Soils formed by marine deposited sediments.

Eolian - Soils formed by wind-blown deposits.

Colluvial - Soil material or rock fragments deposited at the base of a slope or cliff (e.g. talus, cliff debris, avalanche material or soil deposited by sheetwash).

Alluvial - Soil deposited by a stream, river, or other running water. Generally sheetwash is not included here.

Percentage of Ground
Surface Visible

Estimate, to the best of your ability, the percentage of ground surface visible.

Environmental/Topographic
Setting of Site

Briefly discuss the environmental and topographic setting of the site. List the major types of vegetation growing in the area, major landforms, visible landmarks, and any other information that you think may be pertinent to the site. The following topographic definitions may help in describing major landforms:

Active floodplain - The low-lying portion of a stream or river valley that is subject to periodic flooding; the active floodplain is delineated by the perimeter of the normal probable flood.

Active to fossil floodplain - Usually composed of the front-rising slope and flat or slightly inclined surface of a river terrace, situated along the margin of and above an active floodplain; indicating a former water level or active floodplain, the active to fossil floodplain may under extreme circumstances become flooded again.

Fossil floodplain - A terrace(s) representing a former floodplain that should no longer be susceptible to natural flooding except under unusual circumstances (e.g., 100-year flood)

Valley or Canyon Wall (upland slope) - The sloping or vertical side of a valley or canyon between its active or fossil floodplain and its upland edge.

Upland edge - The crest or marginal area between an upland and a valley or canyon wall.

Upland - An all-inclusive category for any region of high land, including extensive elevated plateaus (e.g., Llano Estacado), inland eolian plains, and any elevated lands between valleys, drainages, or other low-lying areas.

Marine Plain - The coastal-plain upland area that is generally composed of alluvial sediments reworked by marine processes; a site identified as having a marine plain topographical setting should be directly affected by a saltwater environment.

CULTURAL MANIFESTATIONS

Time Periods of Occupation

List all time periods of occupation evident at site as specifically as possible. When recording stratified, multi-component sites, all pertinent time periods should be identified. Accepted time periods of occupation in Texas include the following:

Prehistoric - Some sites may be identifiable only as prehistoric (more specific time period unknown), and should be so noted. The major prehistoric time periods are the following:

Paleoindian

Archaic (Early, Middle, and Late)

Late Prehistoric

Historic - Give specific dates where known. If specific dates are unknown, identify by century (for example, mid-19th century or early 20th century). Sites may also be dated according to major historic periods:

Exploration and French or Spanish Colonial period (ca. 1500 - 1821)

Mexican period (ca. 1821-1835)

Republic of Texas period (ca. 1836-1845)

Early Statehood (ca. 1846-1865)

Middle Statehood (ca. 1866-1918)

Modern (ca. 1918 to ca. 50 years B.P.)

Component

A component is a single discrete occupation of a site. In one site a component may be composed of a single housing unit, and in another site a component may be composed of an entire village or contemporary structures and activities. The word *component* is also used as a time reference (e.g., Paleoindian component). Check box indicating whether the site has a single component or multiple components. When in doubt, check "Unknown." Indicate the basis for determining whether the site has single or multiple components (e.g., did you base your opinion on surface observations, a profile in a cut bank, site testing, or some other method). At the survey level, the presence of different types of projectile points generally indicates multiple components.

Cultural Features

Describe the cultural features seen on the site and as much detail about the features as possible. How many are there? What is their spatial distribution? Size? Contents? etc. Do not speculate; describe what you know is there. Types of features include, but are not limited to:

Architectural-Related Features - features primarily related to structures that were used for normal everyday living activities; they are distinguished either by their type, their material, and/or their method of construction. Examples include:

Cultural Features (Continued)

Trench - A man-made linear depression that is related to an architectural construction such as a foundation or a drainage.

Posthole - The actual hole in which a post was placed; for example, the hole can be seen by its outline in a stratigraphic profile.

Postmold - The material within a posthole.

Miscellaneous pit - A nonspecific, purposely prepared depression that is directly related to a habitation structure.

Floor - A purposely prepared, or used, living or other activity surface that is associated with some form of structure.

Stone work - An architectural feature constructed of stone; for example, slab wall, fence, structural foundation, cairn, tepee ring, platform.

Adobe work - An architectural feature constructed primarily of adobe or adobe bricks.

Wood work - Any wooden architectural feature; for example, a jacal or a palisade.

Earthenwork - Any built-up architectural feature constructed of earth; for example, a platform or mound or the earthen foundation of a prehistoric structure or residence.

Borrow area - An excavated area where material has been borrowed for use in earthenwork construction.

Masonry - Any architectural feature composed of stone, brick, or tile that is constructed or bonded with adobe, mud, or clay.

Wattle and daub - A particular kind of woodworking fabrication in which a series of poles is erected, with or without interwoven branches or twigs, and the intervening seams and gaps are hand-filled with mud or clay for adhesion and weather proofing (for example, a jacal).

Subsistence-Related Features - Those features primarily related to the acquisition, preparation, and/or storage of foods. Examples include:

Hearth - A specifically defined area where a fire was intentionally built or used for food preparation or warmth; the feature may be represented by a concentration of rock, burned clay, and/or ash or charcoal.

Burned-rock midden - A mound-, ring-, or crescent-shaped accumulation of thermally altered stone representing repeated buildup of hearths, intentional waste dumps, and/or rock ovens.

Shell midden - A culturally deposited and relatively dense accumulation of shell.

Midden soil (with midden refuse) - A discrete area of nonspecific cultural activity within a site that affects soil composition; midden soil usually takes the form of dark, humic, carbon-stained

Cultural Features (Continued)

soil resulting from organic decay and refuse, as in the example of a talus-slope midden in front of a rockshelter.

Earthenwork - Earthen structure or excavation related to the cultivation, acquisition, or processing of food; for example, agricultural terrace, irrigation ditch, dam.

Pit - A specific earthenwork in the form of a man-made depression used for storing or processing food or for refuse containment.

Crop field - An area specifically used for cultivation.

Bone bed - A dense accumulation of culturally related faunal remains, such as a bison kill.

Stone work - Any subsistence feature constructed of stone; some examples are a bedrock mortar or metate, stone terrace, corral, game run, or hunting blind.

Adobe work - Any subsistence feature constructed of adobe; for example, an oven.

Wood work - Any subsistence feature constructed of wood; for example, corral, game trap, fish weir.

Cache - A subsistence item or group of items that is placed in a particular location for future use.

Historic dump or refuse area - An area used specifically for dumping refuse.

Social/Ceremonial-Related Features - These features are defined in terms of their interpreted function and are not distinguished by specific construction materials. Examples include:

Burial - All forms of human burials from incidental interments to planned cemeteries.

Earthenwork - An earthen structure, such as a mound or platform, that can be interpreted as having had some kind of social and/or ceremonial significance. Other earthenwork structures include kivas, ball courts.

Cache - A social and/or ceremonial item or group of items placed in a particular location for future use or significance.

Pit - A man-made depression determined to have been used for social and/or ceremonial purposes; pit may or may not be lined; examples are a storage area or a foot drum in a kiva.

Nonstructural stone work - Examples are rock alignments or medicine wheels.

Rock art - Stationary pictographs and/or petroglyphs.

Technological-Related Features - Those features primarily related to the acquisition and processing of resource materials and technological implements.

Stone quarry - Either subsurface or surface lithic resource area.

Cultural Features (<i>Continued</i>)	<p><i>Thermal-alteration feature</i> (excluding kiln) - a specific area, either a hearth or a pit, that was used for the annealing of stone, wood, or leather.</p> <p><i>Kiln</i> - A specific thermal-alteration structure that was used in the manufacture of ceramics or for the production of lime.</p> <p><i>Cache</i> - An item or a technologically related group of items placed in a particular location for future use.</p> <p><i>Shell manufacturing area</i> - A distinct activity area where shell ornaments or implements were manufactured.</p> <p><i>Stone-implement manufacturing area</i> - A distinct activity area where stone implements were manufactured.</p> <p><i>Clay procurement area</i> - A distinct area where clay was procured for making ceramics or architectural features, such as clay-lined floors, adobe bricks, or mounds.</p>
Approximate Site Size	Estimate the length and width of the site by measuring with tapes or by pacing. Use the metric system unless measuring a historic site in which the feature was constructed using feet and inches. Briefly describe how the site was measured <i>and</i> the criteria used to determine site extent (e.g., extent was determined by visible artifact scatter or features visible on the surface).
Top of Cultural Deposit below Ground Surface	Note the depth below ground surface at which the cultural deposit begins.
Thickness Range of Cultural Deposit	Unless the site is tested, this can be determined only if there is a visible cross section, such as a cutbank or artificial trench, at the site. For example, if the site deposits are visible on the ground surface and extend 1 m below the surface in the cutbank, the entry would read "0-1 m." If there are several discrete cultural horizons, give the thickness of each.
Artifactual Material Present	Everything observed should be noted here, particularly concentrations of artifacts that might be indicative of activity areas (e.g., chipping stations, food-processing stations, etc.). Types of tools present and, if known, raw material from which they are made should be described.
Additional Comments on Cultural Manifestations	This is basically a continuation section for any additional comments or observations the recorder wishes to make regarding any aspect of cultural manifestations at the site.

SITE CONDITIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS, REGISTRATION STATUS

Circumstances Affecting Observation	Briefly note the time of day, weather conditions, whether you were able to walk over the entire site, or other conditions that may have affected your ability to record the site. The following definitions may help in describing vegetation cover as it relates to ground visibility:
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Circumstances Affecting Observation (<i>Continued</i>)	<p><i>No naturally occurring vegetation cover</i> - this does not include land cleared by man for cultivation or other purposes.</p> <p><i>Sparse natural vegetation</i> - Cultural materials would, if present, be readily visible on the surface.</p> <p><i>Moderate natural vegetation</i> - Ground surface is visible over a large portion of the site although some clearing may be necessary.</p> <p><i>Dense natural vegetation</i> - Some method of clearing is necessary to reveal ground surface; for example, in the case of bermuda grass vegetation or pine needles.</p> <p><i>Cleared, or cultivated vegetation</i> - Any form of modern domestication activity or cultigen occurring on the site.</p>
Approximate Percentage of Site Remaining Intact	Although very subjective, to the best of your ability estimate the percentage of the site remaining. "Destroyed" should be indicated only if there are no traces of intact deposits remaining.
Current Land Use	Briefly describe use of the land where the site is located (e.g., pasture, cultivated field, golf course).
Natural Impacts	<p>Describe the current condition of the site and any natural impacts that may be affecting it. Following are some examples of common natural causes of site disturbance:</p> <p><i>Minor Erosional Disturbance</i> - The resource has been only slightly damaged by erosional forces; some examples of resources that tend to be sheltered from the elements are rockshelters, caves, and petroglyph sites.</p> <p><i>Moderate Erosional Disturbance</i> - The effects of wind, water, and other natural elements (such as burrowing animals) on the resource are apparent but not severe.</p> <p><i>Severe Erosional Disturbance</i> - The effects of natural elements on the resource are prominent to extreme; some examples of extreme erosional disturbance are gullying, accelerated sheet wash, duning; such disturbance does not necessarily mean that the integrity of the site is destroyed.</p> <p><i>Undisturbed Naturally Capped</i> - The resource has been preserved in relatively pristine condition through rapid capping by natural eolian, fluvial, or colluvial deposition.</p> <p><i>Deflated</i> - Severe erosion has resulted in the removal of the soil matrix in which cultural remains were originally deposited, resulting in compression and exposure of the remains.</p> <p><i>Dispersed</i> - Cultural materials have been removed from or scattered outside of their original site context by natural agents; some examples of such agents are wild or domestic animal traffic, erosion, or wave action.</p> <p><i>Destroyed</i> - The integrity of the site has been totally and irreversibly lost through natural processes or activities.</p>

- Natural Impacts (*Continued*) *Pristine* - The resource is in a perfect or nearly perfect state of preservation. Since the occurrence of pristine sites is rare, the recorder should consider carefully before describing a site as pristine.
- Artificial Impacts Note any artificial activities (activities of, or generated by, humans) that are impacting, or have impacted, the site. Following are some examples of common causes of site disturbance:
- Minor construction disturbance* - The resource has received indirect or minor direct disturbance from construction activities; some examples are construction materials stored in site area, haul roads crossing site area, placement of geologic cores in site area.
- Moderate construction disturbance* - The integrity of the resource has undergone direct and obvious impact from construction activities; some examples are partial excavation, actual construction within a portion of the site, bulldozing of site vegetation.
- Severe construction disturbance* - A major portion of the resource has been destroyed by construction activities; some examples are removal of deposit for borrow, leveling of land form, placement of horizontal silos through site area, construction across major portion of site area.
- Undisturbed and Artificially Capped* - The resource, through rapid burial by natural processes, is well preserved and has been additionally capped artificially through inundation or covering with rip-rap, pavement, gravel, or some other substance.
- Disturbed and Artificially Capped* - The resource, having been disturbed by natural processes or artificial impact, has subsequently been capped through inundation or covering with rip-rap, pavement, gravel, or some other substance.
- Dispersed* - Cultural materials have been removed from or scattered outside of their original site context by artificial agents; some examples of such agents are plowing, shrimp nets, vehicular traffic, or intentional removal (without relocation) of structures or features from the site.
- Potholed/relic collected* - Relic hunting and vandalism have resulted in alteration to the resource in the form of uncontrolled diggings and/or the removal of surface or subsurface artifactual remains.
- Destroyed* - The integrity of the site has been totally and irreversibly lost through artificial activities.
- Known or Perceived Future Impacts Note here any natural or artificial impacts that are likely to occur in the future. Is the site near an expanding residential area? Is the location a likely place for a new stock tank or gravel pit? Is the land going to be root plowed soon? Any information that you may have gathered from the landowner or other source about the future of the land should be explained here.

Recommended Actions This is an important category and should be given considerable thought. Based on your knowledge of this site and others in the area, or other sites of the same type, describe what you think is the *significance* and *research value* of the site and what *additional investigations* of the site should be undertaken.

Significance - Usually, a resource is described as having significance on the local, state, regional or national/international level. When using these descriptions, remember that describing a resource at one level subsumes the level above it (e.g. a site having regional significance also has local and state significance).

Local - The resource is most significant from the standpoint of local or area prehistory or history (e.g., the Walter Tips house in Austin).

State - The resource has significance on a state level (e.g., Temporary Capitol of Texas).

Regional - Significance of the resource cross-cuts proximal governmental boundaries (e.g., George C. Davis site).

National/International - Resource significance has far-reaching implications, either national or international in scope (e.g., Resaca de la Palma battlefield).

Research Value - Noting the research value of a site will aid the cultural resource manager in planning decisions concerning the resource. The research value does not imply a recommendation for future investigation; rather, it should be viewed as an indication of the resource's current interpretive status.

Planning Only - A site has only planning value if only locational data are available and the resource is known to have been destroyed or if the resource is inaccessible for investigative purposes (e.g., sites that are currently naturally or artificially capped by water, pavement, or construction).

Scientific - A site is considered to have scientific value when the resource has yielded, or has the potential to yield, scientific data beyond that which is purely locational. Examples of scientific data may include absolute dating reconstruction of past environments on the basis of preserved pollen and/or faunal remains, or artifactual indicators of social and/or technological systems and their evolution.

Cultural Heritage - At its current state of investigation, the resource is known to contribute significantly to interpretation of regional chronology, technological-subsistence patterns, social evolutions, etc. There is no current on-site means of interpretation for the general public.

Public Interpretation - The resource has some existing form or method of on site interpretation for the public, ranging from a simple historical marker to an interpretive center and museum.

Recommendations for Further Investigation - Note what further investigations you would recommend at the site or why you feel that no further investigations are warranted. Recommendations for further investigation might include:

Controlled surface collections - May include a recommendation for total recovery.

Test excavation - Needed for clarification of site significance.

Limited excavation - Requires a definite research design and concerns only a specific aspect of the site; for example, a certain activity area, or clarification of a specific hypothesis or analytical problem.

Major excavation - Requires a definite research design and concerns a complete investigation of the site, obtaining a representative sample of all artifacts and features so that a fairly complete picture of aboriginal lifeways may be reconstructed.

Monitoring - An archeologist should be present in the event of any or all construction activity.

Preservation - Avoidance, stabilization, or construction of protective barriers such as fencing or capping, to prevent disturbance of the site.

Nomination - Immediate nomination to the National Register and/or as a State Archeological Landmark is recommended.

Relocation - The site should be relocated, as in the case of an architectural site or a cemetery.

On-site interpretation - Erection of interpretive markers and/or construction of an interpretive center or preserve to protect the site and to emphasize its importance to cultural heritage.

Registration Details Identify any protective designations that have been applied to this site, including especially the following:

State Archeological Landmark - A site has potential to be designated an SAL if a significant portion of the site remains intact and if the site has the potential to contribute to cumulative cultural history by the addition of new information. For more information concerning designation of a site as an SAL contact the Department of Antiquities Protection, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711.

National Register of Historic Places - a site has the potential to be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places if it is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. For more information on the National Register contact the National Register Department, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711. Request a copy of National Register Bulletin 15, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*.

Registration Details
(Continued)

Conservation Easement - The Conservation Easement Act allows the landowner to provide protective designation to a site while determining what can and cannot be done with the property. The landowner decides what is to be protected from development and to what degree and under what circumstances any development would ever be allowed. For more information contact the Office of the State Archeologist, THC, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711. Request a copy of the "Texas Conservation Easement Act" leaflet.

DISCUSSION OF SITE

Additional comments

This section allows you to record your impressions about the site, what was found there, and any relationships among the site, its artifacts, and its features. Researchers will usually go to this section first, so don't hesitate to express your opinion about the importance of the site or what it can contribute to our knowledge of cultural history.

SKETCH MAP OF SITE

The sketch map should include a north arrow, a scale, all observed cultural features (e.g., hearths, barns, wells, middens, teepee rings) and plotted artifacts, major topographic features (e.g., rivers, creeks, bluffs, hills, buttes), man-made features (e.g., roads, fence lines, houses), and an estimated outline of the site boundary. If the map is not to scale, it should be so noted. In order to avoid errors, it is recommended that the sketch map be completed while the recorder is at the site.

SKETCH OF FEATURES, ARTIFACTS, ETC.

Sketches of site features should include any important or interesting details that are not apparent on the sketch map of the site. If sketches are not to scale, it should be so indicated. Diagnostic or distinctive artifacts also should be drawn; outline sketches (to scale) are sufficient. When possible, important artifacts also should be photographed in the field.