

From: [Bartlett, Alex](#)
To: ahunter@osagenation-nsn.gov; [Assenza, Adam](#); [Tabachnick, Alan](#); deseray.helton@osagenation-nsn.gov
Cc: [Wolff, Mikenna](#); [Davis, Colleen](#); [Wheaton, Jenna](#)
Subject: FW: Port KC MRT Rail Virtual Site Visit Invitation and Proposed Area of Potential Effects
Date: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 4:19:37 PM
Attachments: [ONHPO S106 Protocol and Standards 2021.pdf](#)
[ONHPO Survey Standards 2021.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Thank you for your response, Dr. Hunter. We will review the protocols and standards you provided. Please note that you will be receiving the Section 106 notification by USPS Certified Mail. I've included STB OEA's Project Manager (Adam Assenza) and Historic Preservation Specialist (Alan Tabachnick) on this response and have noted your availability from 9:00am to 11:00am CST for a government to government tribal consultation meeting on July 19th.

Thanks again for your response,



ALEX BARTLETT | Senior Manager – Environment & Planning |
 +1.303.792.7827 direct | alex.bartlett@icf.com | icf.com
 14123 Denver West Parkway, Ste. 100 | Golden, CO 80401 USA |

From: Andrea Hunter <ahunter@osagenation-nsn.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 3:23 PM
To: Bartlett, Alex <Alex.Bartlett@icf.com>
Subject: RE: Port KC MRT Rail Virtual Site Visit Invitation and Proposed Area of Potential Effects

Mr. Bartlett,

The Osage Nation does not accept Section 106 notification by email, please see attached protocol. As such, our 30-day clock for review will begin when we receive and date stamp all documentation in the Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office. I am not available for a meeting from 11:00 to 1:00 pm on July 19th. I am available from 9:00 am to 11:00 am that day for a government to government tribal consultation virtual meeting. Please confirm.

Thank you,

Dr. Andrea A. Hunter
 Director/THPO
 Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office
 627 Grandview Avenue
 Pawhuska, OK 74056

Phone: (918) 287-5671
 Fax: (918) 287-5376

From: Bartlett, Alex <Alex.Bartlett@icf.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 3:57 PM
To: Andrea Hunter <ahunter@osagenation-nsn.gov>; Courtney Neff <cneff@osagenation-nsn.gov>; Jess Hendrix <Jess.Hendrix@osagenation-nsn.gov>

Cc: Assenza, Adam <Adam.Assenza@stb.gov>; Wolff, Mikenna <Mikenna.Wolff@icf.com>

Subject: Port KC MRT Rail Virtual Site Visit Invitation and Proposed Area of Potential Effects

Greetings,

This email is to provide an invitation to the upcoming virtual site-visit for the Surface Transportation Board's environmental review of the Port KC Missouri River Terminal Rail Project, scheduled for Monday, July 19th from 11:00am to 1:00pm Central Standard Time. The purpose of the virtual site visit is to provide your agency an opportunity to discuss resources under your jurisdiction that could be affected by the proposed rail line, and to ask questions of the Surface Transportation Board and the Applicant. A calendar invitation containing the meetings details, and an invitation letter with additional information is attached.

Please reply to this invitation to indicate if you will or will not participate no later than Wednesday, July 14th. If you extend the invitation to other members of your organization, please identify those who will attend.

Also attached is a letter to solicit your comments regarding the proposed Area of Potential Effects (APE) for cultural resources for the proposed rail line project. The Surface Transportation Board asks that you share your comments regarding the proposed APE by Friday, July 30th, 2021.

Please note that both of the attached letters have been mailed to you via USPS certified mail. Should you have any questions, please contact the Surface Transportation Board's Project Manager, Adam Assenza (Adam.Assenza@stb.gov), or myself at Alex.Bartlett@icf.com.

Best regards,

Alex

Project Manager, ICF, third-party consultant for the STB Office of Environmental Analysis



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From: [Deseray Helton](#)
To: [Assenza, Adam](#); [Bartlett, Alex](#); [Andrea Hunter](#); [Tabachnick, Alan](#)
Cc: [Wolff, Mikenna](#); [Davis, Colleen](#); [Wheaton, Jenna](#)
Subject: RE: Port KC MRT Rail Virtual Site Visit Invitation and Proposed Area of Potential Effects
Date: Thursday, July 1, 2021 7:32:23 AM

Mr. Assenza,

The Osage Nation would like to see the presentation that is to be given during the 11 to 1 virtual site meeting.

Once I receive confirmation from you that Mr. Tabachnick is available from 9-11 on July 19th I will send out a Zoom invitation. Will Mr. Bartlett also be in attendance?

Thank you,

Deseray Helton

Archaeologist, MA

Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office

627 Grandview Avenue, Pawhuska, OK 74056

Office: 918-287-9719

deseray.helton@osagenation-nsn.gov

From: Assenza, Adam <Adam.Assenza@stb.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 1, 2021 8:22 AM
To: Deseray Helton <deseray.helton@osagenation-nsn.gov>; 'Bartlett, Alex' <Alex.Bartlett@icf.com>; Andrea Hunter <ahunter@osagenation-nsn.gov>; Tabachnick, Alan <alan.tabachnick@stb.gov>
Cc: Wolff, Mikenna <Mikenna.Wolff@icf.com>; Davis, Colleen <Colleen.Davis@icf.com>; Wheaton, Jenna <Jenna.Wheaton@icf.com>
Subject: RE: Port KC MRT Rail Virtual Site Visit Invitation and Proposed Area of Potential Effects

Hello Deseray,

I am available for government to government consultation from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM at that time as the project manager with OEA. I'm still confirming whether Alan Tabachnick, our Historic Preservation Specialist, is available at that time.

If you prefer a Zoom invite, please send us the invite, as OEA typically uses Microsoft Teams for online meetings.

We're reviewing the standards sent yesterday to determine next steps on our end as the federal agency. If you'd like to talk about what specifically you would like to address at the 9:00 AM meeting, I'd be happy to do so this afternoon or tomorrow, but this morning I have a medical appointment.

Thank you,

ADAM ASSENZA
Environmental Protection Specialist
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
P: 202-245-0301
E: Adam.Assenza@STB.gov

From: Deseray Helton <deseray.helton@osagenation-nsn.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 1, 2021 8:56 AM
To: 'Bartlett, Alex' <Alex.Bartlett@icf.com>; Andrea Hunter <ahunter@osagenation-nsn.gov>; Assenza, Adam <Adam.Assenza@stb.gov>; Tabachnick, Alan <alan.tabachnick@stb.gov>
Cc: Wolff, Mikenna <Mikenna.Wolff@icf.com>; Davis, Colleen <Colleen.Davis@icf.com>; Wheaton, Jenna <Jenna.Wheaton@icf.com>
Subject: RE: Port KC MRT Rail Virtual Site Visit Invitation and Proposed Area of Potential Effects
Importance: High

Mr. Bartlett,

Will your team be sending out an invitation to the Osage Nation for the 9 to 11 am CST Zoom meeting on July 19th or should I send out the Zoom invite which is our preference.

Thank you,

Deseray Helton

Archaeologist, MA
Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office
627 Grandview Avenue, Pawhuska, OK 74056
Office: 918-287-9719
deseray.helton@osagenation-nsn.gov

From: Bartlett, Alex <Alex.Bartlett@icf.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 5:19 PM
To: Andrea Hunter <ahunter@osagenation-nsn.gov>; Assenza, Adam <Adam.Assenza@stb.gov>; Tabachnick, Alan <alan.tabachnick@stb.gov>; Deseray Helton <deseray.helton@osagenation-nsn.gov>
Cc: Wolff, Mikenna <Mikenna.Wolff@icf.com>; Davis, Colleen <Colleen.Davis@icf.com>; Wheaton, Jenna <Jenna.Wheaton@icf.com>
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Also attached is a letter to solicit your comments regarding the proposed Area of Potential Effects (APE) for cultural resources for the proposed rail line project. The Surface Transportation Board asks that you share your comments regarding the proposed APE by Friday, July 30th, 2021.

Please note that both of the attached letters have been mailed to you via USPS certified mail. Should you have any questions, please contact the Surface Transportation Board's Project Manager, Adam Assenza (Adam.Assenza@stb.gov), or myself at Alex.Bartlett@icf.com.

Best regards,

Alex

Project Manager, ICF, third-party consultant for the STB Office of Environmental Analysis



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OSAGE NATION

Historic Preservation Office

National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Protocol and Standards

The Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office (ONHPO) has developed the following procedures for Section 106 consultation required by the Historic Preservation Act, (NHPA) [54 U.S.C. § 300101 et seq.] 1966.

Please submit all of the following information for all NHPA Section 106 consultation requests (additional formatting and information requested in standards for cultural resource survey reports below):

- A. To initiate consultation with the Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office submit a 1-page cover letter with the following included:
 - Federal agency name, district, or department
 - Point of contact information: individual's name, address, phone, fax, and email
 - Project name and number, or other designation (if for tracking)
 - Project location information: **USPLSS** (quadrangle, quarter section, section, township, and range) and **UTM (WGS84) coordinates are required**
Projects will not be reviewed until both USPLSS and UTM coordinates are submitted
 - Total area surveyed in acres
- B. Professional cultural resource survey report. At a minimum, **all field surveyors** must possess a **BA or BS in anthropology** with an emphasis in archaeology (exception- see page 4). At a minimum, the **supervisor who is in the field and supervises the field survey**, interprets the results of the field survey, determines the cultural resource recommendation, and produces the cultural survey report **must possess an MA or MS in anthropology** with an emphasis in archaeology. **Supervisors must accompany and oversee all field surveyors during the fieldwork.** With the first cultural resource survey report, include curriculum vitae for all project archaeologists and identify work performed. See page 3 for an outline of the documentation required in a standard cultural resource survey report.
- C. USGS topographic and/or aerial maps locating project area within the: 1) state, 2) county, 3) quadrangle, and 4) section.

- D. USGS topographic and/or aerial maps specifically locating: 1) project APE, 2) project staging areas outside of APE, 3) access road, and 4) location of all archaeological and historic sites in and in close vicinity of the project APE. Please do not submit hand drawn or hand annotated maps.
- E. GLO maps for project area, please include both late 19th century and early 20th century maps and identify project APE on maps.
- F. Project site plan map indicating location of screened shovel tests (please label shovel tests with identification number on maps). Please do not submit hand drawn or hand annotated maps. **Shovel test minimum width is 30 cm. Shovel test minimum depth is 20 cm beyond sterile soil. If terminated before sterile soil is reached, please provide an explanation either in the text or in the shovel test log. Excavated shovel tests must be screened using a 0.25 in mesh screen, dug in stratigraphic or 10 cm levels, and measurements must be recorded in centimeters. Please refer to the Archaeological Survey Standards for density of shovel testing.**
- G. Table listing shovel test locations, width (cm), actual depth (cm) of each level, soils of each level, and results.
- H. Shovel test map with all shovel test locations labeled by their field identification number.
- I. Site photographs in color, specifically images depicting exact location of 1) project marked by stakes or flagging (if possible), 2) access roads, 3) utility easement (if applicable), 4) staging areas, and 5) identified archaeological/historic sites.
- J. Copy of the review letter from the State Historic Preservation Office. For projects in Oklahoma, letters from both SHPO components, the Oklahoma Archaeological Survey and the Oklahoma Historical Society are required.

Please do not email documentation; it will be deleted without being opened. Mail one printed color copy of all documentation accompanied with a CD version.

Please use only the following contact and address information:

Dr. Andrea A. Hunter, THPO/Director
Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office
627 Grandview
Pawhuska, OK 74056

Phone: 918-287-5328
Fax: 918-287-5376

Standards for Cultural Resource Survey Reports

The following outlines the documentation required in a cultural resource survey report that will enable the Osage Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office to efficiently evaluate the information gathered for a proposed project in a coherent, standardized format. Please include in all reports:

1. Abstract

Executive summary of project, survey results, and recommendations

2. Introduction

Introduce project and project design

3. Environmental Setting

Specific location, legal description, composition of project site

General location, geomorphology, landform, soils, vegetation, hydrology

4. Cultural History

Brief overview of cultural occupation represented in locale

5. File Search and Previous Research

Results of file search in state database for previously recorded archaeological sites and review of previous archaeological investigations, NRHP listings, GLO records and maps, late 19th and early/mid-20th century maps, and mid-20th and current aerial photographs. For projects in Osage County, OK include: Osage tribal allotment records and maps, late 19th and early/mid-20th century maps such as the Oklahoma State Highway Department's General Highway and Transportation Map of Osage County, and mid-20th and current aerial photographs such as those at the Oklahoma Petroleum Research Library in Norman, Oklahoma.

6. Field Methods and Analytical Techniques

How field survey and analysis were conducted

7. Results of Archaeological Field Investigations

Review findings and identification of National Register of Historic Places

8. Recommendations

Summarize archaeological sites identified, NRHP determinations, and project recommendations

9. References Cited

Minimum Qualifications for Archaeology Personnel*

The minimum professional qualifications for archaeology field survey assistants are:

- BA or BS in anthropology with an emphasis in archaeology

Or with prior approval from the ONHPO by providing the following documentation:

- BA or BS in Applied Indigenous Studies, Native American Studies, Geology, Geography, History, Architectural History, Historic Preservation plus:
- at least one year of full-time professional archaeology experience or equivalent specialized training in archaeological research, administration, or management;
- at least four months of supervised field experience in general North American archaeology; and
- demonstrated ability to carry fieldwork to completion.

The minimum professional qualifications for personnel who supervises and conducts the archaeological field survey, interprets the results of the field survey, determines the cultural resource recommendation, and produces the cultural survey report are:

- Graduate degree in archaeology or anthropology with an emphasis in archaeology; and
- One year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archaeological resources of the prehistoric period.

* With the first cultural survey report, please submit the curriculum vitae for the field survey personnel and for the archaeological supervisor. When personnel change, please submit their curriculum vitae.



OSAGE NATION

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY STANDARDS

The following archaeological survey standards are the minimum amount of work acceptable for archaeological surveys conducted on the Osage Nation Reservation/Osage County and throughout Osage Nation ancestral territory as determined by the Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office (ONHPO). Additional archaeological work (i.e. more shovel tests or transects) or methods (backhoe trenches) can always be incorporated into the research design to help locate and identify archaeological sites depending on the area or potential for encountering significant cultural resources. Alternative, project-specific, standards may be developed in conjunction with the ONHPO for projects with unique or unusual circumstances as appropriate.

Professional Qualifications:

Archaeological investigations must be conducted by an archaeologist who meets the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's *Professional Qualification Standards for Archeology* (36 CFR Part 61; 48 FR 44716). At a minimum, all field surveyors must possess a BA or BS in anthropology with an emphasis in archaeology. At a minimum, the supervisor who is in the field and supervises the field survey, interprets the results of the field survey, determines the cultural resource recommendation, and produces the cultural survey report must possess an MA or MS in anthropology with an emphasis in archaeology. Supervisors must accompany and oversee all field surveyors during the fieldwork. With the first cultural resource survey report, include curriculum vitae for all project archaeologists and identify work performed.

Background Research:

Archaeologists must conduct a background literature search prior to field investigations. At a minimum this shall include searches of the SHPO's databases for previously recorded archaeological sites and historic properties, and previous archaeological work in the vicinity. For projects in Osage County, OK, the archaeologists would also include searches of the Osage Allotment Maps, Oklahoma Geological Survey Archives (Norman, Oklahoma) for early USGS 7.5 and 15-minute topographic maps and aerial photographs, plus the GLO map archive available online (www.glorerecords.blm.gov).

Deeply Buried Cultural Deposits:

Archaeologists must assess the potential for deeply buried cultural deposits within the block area prior to starting field investigations. At a minimum, this shall include a review of the USDA soil surveys and geologic maps. If there is a potential for deeply buried cultural deposits within the

block survey area, deeper subsurface investigations (to be determined in consultation with the ONHPO) will be required.

Survey Report:

Archaeologists must submit the results of their investigation in a report to the ONHPO that follows the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Archeological Documentation*. The ONHPO will complete its review within 30 days of receipt of the archaeology survey report and the SHPO review letters. For Oklahoma this would include review letters by the Oklahoma Archaeological Survey and the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Fieldwork:

Unless otherwise determined in conjunction with the ONHPO, all areas of a project's Area of Potential Effects (APE) should be subjected to subsurface investigations via systematic shovel testing. No area of the project's APE should be omitted from shovel testing due to surface visibility. The omission of areas from subsurface testing in an archaeological survey due to ground visibility is neither effective nor ethical. While the presence of artifacts on the surface of the ground can be an indication for the presence of a site, the absence of artifacts on the surface of the ground, even in conditions of 100 percent surface visibility, is not a confirmation for the absence of an archaeological site which may be buried beneath the ground's surface. Additionally, it should not be assumed that previously disturbed areas contain no significant archaeological sites or buried human remains. Those areas known to be, or thought to be, previously disturbed should also be subjected to survey in order to identify archaeological sites and to evaluate the level of disturbance which may or may not have impacted buried archaeological sites.

A. Shovel Testing

The entire APE must be subject to systematic shovel testing. Shovel tests must be conducted in intervals no greater than 30 meters in transects no wider than 30 meters. A smaller or reduced shovel test interval may be appropriate in areas with particularly high probability or potential for significant, intact archaeological deposits. Additionally, the ONHPO may require shovel test intervals be reduced to 15 meters in areas known to have a higher probability for archaeological sites or areas of significance to the Osage Nation. Shovel tests must be a minimum of 30 cm in diameter and must be dug to 20 cm beyond sterile subsoil. If portions of the APE are believed to contain subsoil at the surface of the ground, then shovel tests are to be dug to 20 cm below the surface to confirm that it is subsoil and to determine that the subsoil is sterile of artifacts and/or features. Shovel tests should be dug in stratigraphic or 10 cm levels with sediments screened through ¼-inch mesh unless high clay or water content requires that they be troweled through.

If sterile subsoil is too deep to reach via shovel testing, then selective coring/auguring should commence to determine the need for more appropriate methods to survey for deeply buried archaeological deposits. In seasonally inundated areas where the soil is very poorly drained, shovel testing should be conducted to verify soil conditions (i.e. hygroscopic soils), but shovel test intervals may be extended to a maximum of 50 meters in those areas.

Unless previously determined in conjunction with the ONHPO, the only areas within the APE in which shovel testing may be omitted are areas of a 20 percent or greater slope. Areas known to be, or

believed to be previously disturbed, including but not limited to previously developed lands, agricultural fields, and buried utilities, are not to be omitted from subsurface testing. Systematic shovel testing in the manner stated above is required in those areas to establish the presence of archaeological sites, to determine the level of ground disturbance, and to evaluate the impact of previous ground disturbance on any archaeological sites located in the area.

Notes should be kept on each shovel test documenting the shovel test location (including GPS coordinates), soil stratigraphy referencing USDA soil descriptions and actual soils encountered, soil color description (Munsell color codes if possible), depth, and the presence or absence of artifacts. A representative sample of shovel tests should be documented with photographs and profile drawings all of which should be incorporated into the survey report. The survey report will also include a shovel test log and a shovel test map that clearly depicts each labeled shovel test location.

B. Pedestrian Survey

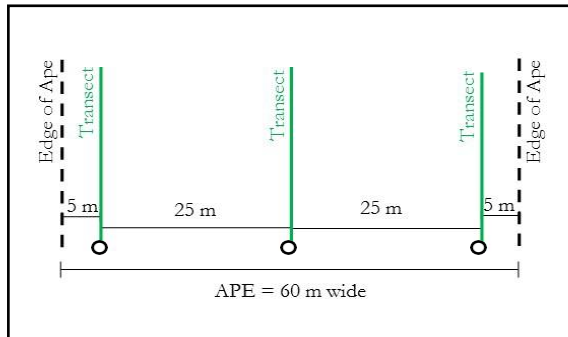
While pedestrian survey may be used in addition to systematic shovel testing, it may not be used in lieu of shovel testing in any area, except for those areas consisting of a slope 20 degrees or greater. Sloped areas exceeding 20 degrees should be investigated via pedestrian survey at intervals no wider than 10 meters.

C. Linear Projects

For linear projects exceeding 1 mile, such as power line corridors, shovel test intervals may be extended to a maximum of 100 meters. A linear project is defined as an undertaking with an APE width no greater than 30 m. Additional judgmental shovel tests, as appropriate, should be placed in areas with particularly high probability or potential for significant, intact archaeological deposits.

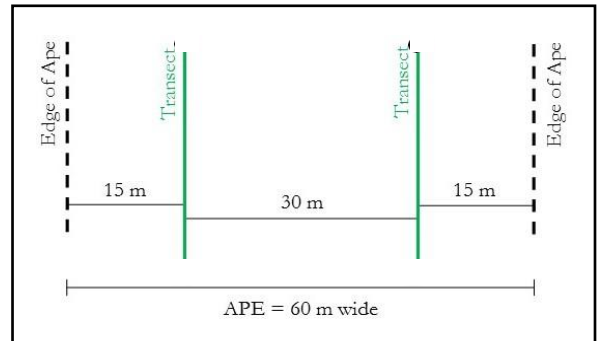
If shovel test transects parallel the edge of the APE, the transect nearest the edge of the APE should be no further than half a standard shovel test interval as defined for the project from the edge of the APE. For example, if the shovel test interval being used for a particular project is 25 m, the transects nearest the edges of the APE should be no further than 12.5 m from the edge of the APE. If the APE is 60 m wide and shovel tests are being excavated at 25 m intervals, there should be three shovel test transects, and the transects nearest the edges of the APE would be 5 m from the edge of the APE. If shovel tests were excavated on only two transects, the distance from the transects to the edge of the APE would be 17.5 m, which is greater than half of a standard shovel test interval as defined for the project, and not deemed adequate coverage for a high probability area.

Examples of Shovel Test Transect Placements (Across 60-Meter Wide Survey Corridor)



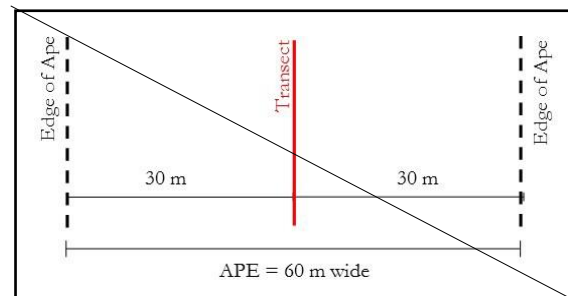
Adequate Coverage (high probability)

Three Shovel Test Transects Spaced 25 m Apart on 60-m Wide Corridor, with Shovel Tests Excavated at 25-m Intervals.



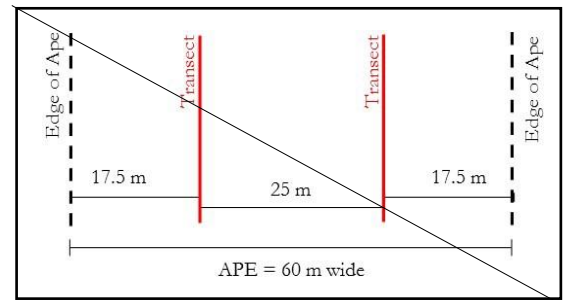
Adequate Coverage (minimum)

Two Shovel Test Transects Spaced 30 m Apart on 60-m Wide Corridor, with Shovel Tests Excavated at 30-m Intervals.



Insufficient Coverage

One Shovel Test Transect on 60-m Wide Corridor, Regardless of Shovel Test Interval on Transect.



Insufficient Coverage

Two Shovel Test Transects Spaced 25 m Apart on 60-m Wide Corridor, with Shovel Tests Excavated at 25-m Intervals.

Determining Site Boundary:

Shovel testing is required to determine site boundaries.

A minimum of nine (9) shovel tests must be placed in a + pattern that is perpendicular extending from the center of the artifact discovery location.

A shovel test must be placed every five (5) meters until two (2) negative shovel tests are sequentially excavated in each direction. All surface finds and positive shovel tests must be bounded by radial shovel tests in this manner.

