



Pima County Administration
Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation Office
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<http://www.pima.gov/cultural/>



Cultural Resources Requirements for Pima County Type II Grading Permit

The term, Cultural Resources, refers to places or things that are products of human behavior in the past and that exist in the present, including prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, historic buildings, structures, and other things resulting from human actions, and Traditional Cultural Places, which are places associated with the cultural practices or beliefs of a living community. Pima County requires that any development with a potential to impact cultural resources must take into account and mitigate the negative effects on cultural resources.

Prior to issuance of a grading permit or in conjunction with Development Plan approval, Pima County cultural resources requirements must be met, as stipulated under Chapter 18.81 of the Pima County Zoning Code. The Cultural Resources Office encourages the applicant to address these requirements as early as possible in the planning phase of the development.

The applicant should allow time in development planning for the following steps to avoid potential delays at the grading permit stage. Please submit through Pima County Development Review Division.

1. **Records Check:** Contact the Arizona State Museum (ASM), at **520-621-2096**, and request a cultural resources and historic properties records review of the subject property for a Pima County grading permit.

The results of the ASM records check contribute to determining the succeeding steps.

2. **Previous Field Survey:** If the ASM records check indicates that the subject property has been field surveyed within the last 10 years and no cultural resources were recorded, and the applicant can submit the records check form with the grading permit application. The Cultural Resources Office will issue a clearance as part of the Development Services review process and compliance requirements have been met.

OR

3. **New Field Survey:** If the ASM records check indicates that the subject property has not been surveyed, or was surveyed more than 10 years ago, then a cultural resources field survey must be done to identify any cultural or historic resources within the project area.

Note: The field survey, and any subsequent investigations or documentation that the County determines are needed to mitigate the effects of grading on archaeological and historical resources, shall be conducted by an archaeologist permitted by the ASM, or by a registered architect, as appropriate. Survey and subsequent investigations are subject to review and approval by Pima County and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). A list of ASM permitted consultants is available at the ASM website,

<http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/crservices/permits/permittees.shtml>.

If the field survey finds no significant cultural resources, submit the cultural resources survey report with the grading permit application. The Cultural Resources Office will issue a clearance as part of the Development Services review process and compliance requirements have been met.

OR

4. **Mitigation:** If the field survey finds significant cultural resources or historic properties, then the applicant will develop and implement an appropriate mitigation treatment plan (see No. 3, Note regarding required professional standards and County/SHPO reviews). The mitigation treatment can range from documented avoidance of the resources to mitigation of impacts on the resources by archaeological data recovery (excavation) if avoidance is not possible.

5. **Clearance:** Upon completion of the survey and mitigation treatment, and review and approval by Pima County and SHPO, the applicant will submit the cultural resources survey and mitigation documentation with the grading permit application. The Cultural Resources Office will issue a clearance as part of the Development Services review process and compliance requirements have been met.