Historic Archaeology Sites Eligibility Flow Charts

When recording historic archaeology sites, it is the responsibility of the archaeologist to recommend determination of eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for the sites within their project area. In order to accurately make a recommendation of eligibility, sufficient background research and proper field recordation must take place. Once the background research and field recordation have taken place, the archaeologist is expected to submit recommendations for site eligibility.

The following flow charts have been developed to assist archaeologists to determine the appropriate eligibility recommendation for a variety of historic site types. The historic site types represented in the charts include: log cabins, homesteads, mining sites, logging camps, railroad sites, refuse scatters, historic trails, and rock features (cairns/alignments). Historic archaeology sites become archaeological sites when they are 50 years old on federal lands or 75 years old on other public or private lands.

To properly submit recommendations of eligibility, the archaeologist should submit a copy of the Oregon SHPO Site Form (http://heritagedata.prd.state.or.us/) along with their reasons for eligibility recommendations to the landowner/agency for their project. The landowner/agency is then responsible for reviewing these recommendations and determining whether they concur or not. If the landowner/agency concurs, the site form and eligibility determination are submitted to SHPO for their concurrence.
HISTORIC TRAIL/WAGON ROAD

Complete Archaeology site form. Be sure to note:
1. Site size, age, and integrity.
2. Associated diagnostic artifacts and temporal references.
3. Historic associations.
4. Provide sketch map of site.
5. Map of site boundary USGS/GPS w/ scale.
6. Provide historical context and references.
7. Photo document the site and features.

50/75 years old?

Yes

Eligibility Criteria: Entire trail/wagon road is associated with an important historic event (Criteria A), person (Criteria B), significant engineering (Criteria C), or associated with one of Oregon's 16 State designated historic trails.

Recorded trail/Wagon road segment contains sufficient integrity to convey its original function and nature (i.e. has not been heavily modified by later use).

No

Site is likely Not Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Submit SHPO Site Form with eligibility recommendations to landowner/agency and obtain their determination of eligibility.

This segment probably does not contribute to the overall eligibility of the trail/wagon road. Data collected is probably sufficient for no adverse effect determination. However, submit SHPO Site Form with eligibility recommendations to landowner/agency and obtain their determination of eligibility.

After obtaining landowner/agency eligibility determination, submit site form and determination to SHPO to review and concur with determination. If SHPO concurs that site is not eligible, proceed with project upon receiving concurrence. If SHPO concurs site is eligible, avoid site or consult with SHPO regarding mitigation. If concurrence is not obtained, further consultation with SHPO needed.

Site is likely Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP under one of four criteria. Submit SHPO Site Form with a recommendation of Eligible and provide the reasons supporting the recommendations to landowner/agency for determination of eligibility.

No need to complete site form. Note in field notes and include in final report. Submit report to SHPO for concurrence w/findings. Upon receiving concurrence, proceed with project.

No
HOMESTEADS (remnants)

No need to complete site form.
Note in field notes and include in final report. Submit report to SHPO for concurrence/findings. Upon receiving concurrence, proceed with project.

50/75 years old?

Complete Archaeology site form.
Be sure to note:
1. Description of diagnostic artifacts and temporal references.
2. Dimensions of any standing or collapsed structures.
3. Description of character defining features:
   a. windows and doors
   b. stylistic features
   c. floor type
   d. floor plan
   e. roof style
   f. chinking materials.
4. Historical context and association with:
   a. particular ethnic group or gender
   b. other sites and structures.
5. Provide sketch map of homestead and surrounding features.
7. Does the site have associated features or a subsurface component?
   a. out buildings
   b. trash pits/privy
   c. fruit trees/non-native decorative plants/non-native shade trees
   d. fencelines/associated pastureland/farmland.
8. Photo document the site and features.

Eligibility Criteria:
Is the site associated with an important Historic Event (Criteria A),
the life of an important person in the past (Criteria B),
a unique Design of Construction (Criteria C),
or may yield info important to History of the area (Criteria D)?
Be sure to consult:
1. SHPO Historic Resource Library
2. Local Historical Organizations and Museums
3. Landowner/Agency records
4. Oral History and local libraries
5. Applicable websites.

Site is likely Not Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Submit SHPO Site Form with eligibility recommendations to landowner/agency and obtain their determination of eligibility.

After obtaining landowner/agency eligibility determination, submit site form and determination to SHPO to review and concur with determination. If SHPO concurs that site is not eligible, proceed with project upon receiving concurrence. If SHPO concurs site is eligible, avoid site or consult with SHPO regarding mitigation. If concurrence is not obtained, further consultation with SHPO needed.

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Complete SHPO Archaeology site form.
Be sure to note:
1. Log cabin size.
2. Description of diagnostic artifacts and temporal references.
3. Description of character defining features:
   a. log shape
   b. log preparation
   c. type of wood
   d. notch type
   e. windows and doors
   f. stylistic features
   g. floor type
   h. floor plan
   i. roof style
   j. Chinking material.
4. Historical context and association with:
   a. a particular ethnic group or gender
   b. other sites and structures.
5. Provide sketch map of cabin and surrounding features.
7. Does it have a subsurface component?
8. Photo document the site and features.

Eligibility Criteria:
Is the site associated with an important Historic Event (Criteria A), the life of an important person in the past (Criteria B), a unique Design of Construction (Criteria C), or may yield info important to History of the area (Criteria D)? Be sure to consult:
1. SHPO Historic Resource Library
2. Local Historical Organizations and Museums
3. Landowner/Agency records
4. Oral History and local libraries
5. Applicable websites.

After obtaining landowner/agency eligibility determination, submit site form and determination to SHPO to review and concur with determination. If SHPO concurs that site is not eligible, proceed with project upon receiving concurrence. If SHPO concurs site is eligible, avoid site or consult with SHPO regarding mitigation. If concurrence is not obtained, further consultation with SHPO needed.

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Site is likely Not Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Submit SHPO Site Form with eligibility recommendations to landowner/agency and obtain their determination of eligibility.

No need to complete site form. Note in field notes and include in final report. Submit report to SHPO for concurrence w/findings. Upon receiving concurrence, proceed with project.

Complete SHPO Archaeology site form. Be sure to note:
1. Log cabin size.
2. Description of diagnostic artifacts and temporal references.
3. Description of character defining features:
   a. log shape
   b. log preparation
   c. type of wood
   d. notch type
   e. windows and doors
   f. stylistic features
   g. floor type
   h. floor plan
   i. roof style
   j. Chinking material.
4. Historical context and association with:
   a. a particular ethnic group or gender
   b. other sites and structures.
5. Provide sketch map of cabin and surrounding features.
7. Does it have a subsurface component?
8. Photo document the site and features.
LOGGING RELATED SITES

Complete Archaeology site form.
Be sure to note:
1. Site size, age, integrity - Note how age was determined (literature search, artifacts, oral history).
2. Associated structures, outbuildings, refuse scatters, other features (e.g., houses, church, school, kitchen).
3. Provide sketch map of site and associated features.
4. Is the site associated with a specific railroad? If so, which one? Note any tracks or grade left.
5. Description of diagnostic artifacts and temporal references
6. Note associated equipment (e.g., steam donkey, cables, saws, etc.).
7. Map of site boundary USGS/GPS w/ scale.
8. Is there a subsurface component?
9. Photo document the site and features.
10. Note any associated features across the landscape (e.g., splash dams, flumes, railroad grades, etc.).

Eligibility Criteria:
Is the site associated with an important Historic logging Event (Criteria A), the life of an important person in the past (Criteria B), a unique Design of Construction (Criteria C), or may yield info important to History of the area (Criteria D)?
Be sure to consult:
1. SHPO Historic Resource Library
2. Local Historical Organizations and Museums
3. Landowner/Agency records
4. Oral History and local libraries
5. Applicable websites.

Site is likely Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP under one of four criteria. Submit SHPO Site Form with a recommendation of Eligible and provide the reasons supporting the recommendations to landowner/agency for determination of eligibility.

Site is likely Not Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Submit SHPO Site Form with eligibility recommendations to landowner/agency and obtain their determination of eligibility.

After obtaining landowner/agency eligibility determination, submit site form and determination to SHPO to review and concur with determination. If SHPO concurs that site is not eligible, proceed with project upon receiving concurrence. If SHPO concurs site is eligible, avoid site or consult with SHPO regarding mitigation. If concurrence is not obtained, further consultation with SHPO needed.

No need to complete site form. Note in field notes and include in final report. Submit report to SHPO for concurrence w/findings. Upon receiving concurrence, proceed with project.
Complete Archaeology site form.
Be sure to note:
1. Record size and location of site with GPS and sketch map.
2. Map site and features on 1:24 K USGS Map.
3. How was age determined?
5. Identify and describe the mining type represented including artifacts and features:
   a. Mining Type - placer, strip, hydraulic, dredge;
   b. Adit - how was it created? explosives, hydraulic, pneumatic
   c. Placer mining - sluice boxes, splash dams, trenches
   d. Dredge mining - powershovel, bucketline dredge, dragline dredge
   e. Ditches - part of system or isolated, does it have hydraulic controls or flumes
   f. Tailings Piles - how were they created? Conveyor, bucket dumped, washing plants
   g. Mining Equipment - hydraulic pumps/equipment, engines (gas/steam), box cars, rail tracks, stamp mill or other processing equipment
   h. Cabins/Outbuildings - construction style, materials used
   i. Trails - part of a system or associated with ditches.
6. Description of diagnostic artifacts and temporal references.
7. Historical context and association with:
   a. a particular ethnic group or gender
   b. other sites and structures.
8. Map of site boundary USGS/GPS w/ scale.
9. Does the site have associated features or a subsurface component?
10. Photo document the site and features.

Eligibility Criteria:
Is the site associated with an important Historic mining Event (Criteria A), the life of an important person in the past (Criteria B), a unique Design of mining Construction (Criteria C), or may yield info important to History of the mining in the area (Criteria D)?
Be sure to consult:
1. SHPO Historic Resource Library
2. Local Historical Organizations and Museums
3. Landowner/Agency records
4. Oral History and local libraries
5. Applicable websites.

Site is likely Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Submit SHPO Site Form with recommendation of Eligible and provide the reasons supporting the recommendations to landowner/agency for determination of eligibility.

After obtaining landowner/agency eligibility determination, submit site form and determination to SHPO to review and concur with determination. If SHPO concurs that site is not eligible, proceed with project upon receiving concurrence. If SHPO concurs site is eligible, avoid site or consult with SHPO regarding mitigation. If concurrence is not obtained, further consultation with SHPO needed.

Site is likely Not Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Submit SHPO Site Form with eligibility recommendations to landowner/agency and obtain their determination of eligibility.

Complete site form. Note in field notes and include in final report. Submit report to SHPO for concurrence w/findings.
Upon receiving concurrence, proceed with project.

Eligibility Criteria:
Is the site associated with an important Historic mining Event (Criteria A), the life of an important person in the past (Criteria B), a unique Design of mining Construction (Criteria C), or may yield info important to History of the mining in the area (Criteria D)?
Be sure to consult:
1. SHPO Historic Resource Library
2. Local Historical Organizations and Museums
3. Landowner/Agency records
4. Oral History and local libraries
5. Applicable websites.

50/75 years old?
RAILROAD SITES

Active

50/75 years old?

No need to complete site form. Note in field notes and include in final report. Submit report to SHPO for concurrence w/findings. Upon receiving concurrence, proceed with project.

Complete Archaeology site form:
Be sure to note:
1. Site size, age, integrity;
2. Mainline or spur?
3. Diagnostic artifacts?
4. Associated structures, outbuildings, refuse scatters, other features?
5. Provide sketch map;
6. Map location USGS/GPS w/ scale;
7. Subsurface component?
8. Associated with local activities/sites?
9. Photo document the site and features.

Eligibility Criteria:
Is the site associated with an important Historic Event (Criteria A), the life of an important person in the past (Criteria B), a unique Design of railroad Construction (Criteria C), or may yield info important to History of the area (Criteria D)?

Eligibility Criteria:

Site is likely Not Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. Submit SHPO Site Form with eligibility recommendations to landowner/agency and obtain their determination of eligibility.

After obtaining landowner/agency eligibility determination, submit site form and determination to SHPO to review and concur with determination. If SHPO concurs that site is not eligible, proceed with project upon receiving concurrence. If SHPO concurs site is eligible, avoid site or consult with SHPO regarding mitigation. If concurrence is not obtained, further consultation with SHPO needed.

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Complete Archaeology site form. 
Be sure and note:
1. Site size & estimated age.
2. Description of diagnostic artifacts and temporal references.
3. Associated w/any local activities/sites?
4. Single or multiple episode of dumping?
5. Surface scatter only or subsurface component?
6. USGS/GPS map w/scale.
7. Photo document site and features.

Eligibility Criteria:
Is the site associated with an important Historic Event (Criteria A), the life of an important person in the past (Criteria B), a unique Design of Construction (Criteria C), or may yield info important to History of the area (Criteria D)?
Be sure to consult:
1. SHPO Historic Resource Library
2. Local Historical Organizations and Museums
3. Landowner/Agency records
4. Oral History and local libraries
5. Applicable websites.

50/75 years old?

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Submit SHPO Site Form with eligibility recommendations to landowner/agency and obtain their determination of eligibility.

Site is likely Eligible for inclusion on the NRHP under one of four criteria. 
Submit SHPO Site Form with a recommendation of Eligible and provide the reasons supporting the recommendations to landowner/agency for determination of eligibility.

No need to complete site form. 
Note in field notes and include in final report. Submit report to SHPO for concurrence with findings. Upon receiving concurrence, proceed with project.
Complete Archaeology site form:

Be sure to note:
1. Site size, number of cairns/alignments, age and integrity.
2. How date determined (literature, oral history, ethnohistoric sources, lichen growth).
3. Relationship to past landuse activities:
   a. vision quest
   b. shepherding
   c. property/state boundary
   d. burial
   e. fence jack
   f. unknown.
4. Description of cairns/alignments (size, shape, rock type), patterns, alignments, presence of lichens.
5. Note associated artifacts.
6. Attach USGS map and sketch map w/ scale.
7. Photo document site and features.

Prehistoric

Site associated with prehistoric activity?
Single or multiple features found?
Variations in Feature types (e.g., single multiple rocks, piles, alignments)?
Consult with appropriate tribes regarding knowledge of site.

Site is likely not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP.
Submit SHPO Site Form with eligibility recommendations to landowner/agency and obtain their determination of eligibility.

Site is likely eligible for inclusion on the NRHP under one of four criteria.
Submit SHPO Site Form with a recommendation of Eligible and provide the reasons supporting the recommendations to landowner/agency for determination of eligibility.

Historic

Site associated with historic activity?
Define role of historic activity in local/regional landuse. Is site likely to yield significant info. (e.g., cache, burial) or is cairn/alignment a component of a larger site?

Site is associated with historic activity?
Check ethnographic sources for use of such features in area; e.g. vision questing, stock grazing, property boundaries, etc. Is there heavy lichen growth?

No known ethnographic sources of prehistoric or historic use & no associated artifacts or heavy lichen to assist in dating feature.

If general references exist; however, no physical evidence of age (e.g., lichens), site probably is not eligible. Share findings with appropriate Tribes to confirm that Tribe has no knowledge of site. If Tribe has no knowledge of site, no site form needed. Note in field notes. Proceed w/project.

Site has specific ethnographic resources and/or heavy lichen growth.

No need to complete site form. Note in field notes and include in final report. Submit report to SHPO for concurrence w/findings. Upon receiving concurrence, proceed with project.

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