Appendix B

Historic Fort Des Moines Archaeological Requirements
Applicable within the Historic Fort Des Moines Area

Intent

The City of Des Moines originated with the construction of the historic Fort Des Moines II at the confluence of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers. The area formerly occupied by the historic Fort Des Moines II and the settlement around the fort has yielded significant archaeological artifacts instructive of the early history of the City and of the settlement of the state of Iowa. These archaeological requirements are intended to encourage the preservation of these archaeological artifacts and to avoid the use of property tax incentives to subsidize the destruction of artifacts important to the history of the City of Des Moines and the State of Iowa.

Archaeology Requirements and Notification

a. To protect important historic resources, owners or developers proposing projects which involve over twelve inches of excavation within the area of archaeological sensitivity designated as the Historic Fort Des Moines II Archeological Area identified on Map 6, must comply with the following requirements prior to commencing such excavation:

1. The owner or developer must retain the services of a consultant who meets the U.S. Secretary of the Interior’s professional qualification standards as a Historic Archaeologist to make an assessment of the potential for archaeological yields on the site in consultation with the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office.

2. The archaeological consultant shall prepare a report assessing the potential for archaeological yields on the site and shall seek the concurrence of the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office with the report.

3. The report of the archaeological consultant and any response from the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office shall be submitted to the City Manager's Office.

b. The City of Des Moines reserves the right to deny a site plan, demolition permit, building permit or grading permit until this consultation report has been received and to issue a permit with conditions which may stipulate adequate time for protection arrangements, press releases and/or removal of artifacts.

c. Owners and developers of property are required to notify the Des Moines Community Development Department immediately when encountering any archaeological finds during any excavation or construction and to immediately halt construction disturbance in order to allow adequate time for additional measures, including removal of the artifacts to an Iowa repository or some other protective measures.

d. Tax abatement may be denied for a project that is reasonably determined by the City to have the potential to result in the destruction of significant archaeological artifacts unless
appropriate remedial measures are taken to document and recover the artifacts in conformance with the recommendations of the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office.