

Policy for Access to Archaeological Site Location Data

Maryland Historical Trust

July 2014 Updated Sept. 2023

MHT archaeologists agree that access to site location data is and should be restricted to professional archaeologists and those working under their direct supervision, and property owners for sites on their property. Legislative support for this position can be found in both the Public Information Act (State Government Article §§10-611 through 10-630) and the Maryland Historical Trust Act (particularly State Finance and Procurement Title 5A-323[c]).

The following is MHT's statement of policy regarding access to archaeological site location data:

It is the policy of MHT to limit disclosure of the location of archaeological sites. We consider archaeological site location information sensitive, and our policy is to only share it with individuals who meet the Secretary of the Interior's minimum professional qualifications for archaeology (https://www.nps.gov/articles/sec-standards-prof-quals.htm). Proxy access for those working directly with an archaeologist may be arranged when (1) the proxy access is arranged by the requesting qualified archaeologist in advance, and (2) use of the information is to be by, or under the direct supervision of, the requesting qualified archaeologist.