

# HILL COUNTRY ARCHEOLOGY ASSOCIATION

## “ARCHEOLOGICAL TRAINING PROGRAM 2018”

(each session is 3-4 hours long)

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**Session 1 (in lab) – Introduction to Archeology and Lithics (stone tools and by products).** Archeology basics, terminology, identification and uses of lithic artifacts, projectile point morphology and relative age dating of artifacts.

**Session 2 (in lab and field) – Field Excavation Technique’s and Procedures.** Excavation at Actual Archeological Site, usage of field sacks, labels and various logs, measurements of and recording of provenience for significant artifacts. Procedures for grid excavation (example, 1x1 meter unit), shovel tests and mechanical trenching.

**Session 3 (in lab) – Lab Technique’s and Procedures.** Conversion of field data and artifacts into Final Data Sets/Catalog. Identification and measurements of projectile points or other significant stone artifacts, interpretation of debitage (flakes) and other stone tools or artifacts and what information they reveal about a site.

**Session 4 (in lab) - Mapping Techniques and Surveys of Sites.** How to use a Topographic Map, locate a site by Universal Transverse Mercator Grid System, set a main datum and sub datum’s, uses of “scales” and other map tools, magnetic compass, writing of Scope of Work for Site, usage of reports/logs and other documents/forms (including Tex Site) to be used for site surveys and recording.

**Session 5 (in field) – Field Work Technique’s and Site Surveying.** Group participation. Construction of Site Map at Actual Archeological Site, measurements of boundaries/artifact locations, writing of field report, Tex Site Forms and construction of other site logs/forms.

**IN THE EVENT A TRAINEE WANTS TO BECOME A PRINCIPAL ARCHEOLOGIST FOR THE HCAA, ALL OF SESSIONS 1-5 MUST BE COMPLETED REGARDLESS OF PRIOR TRAINING OR EXPERIENCE (A**

Principal Archeologist leads an archeological team in field and lab work for a site. The “PA” is responsible for all mapping, recording, and artifact collection and archiving of materials from a site). Upon completion of these 5 sessions then a separate phase for PA Training will begin.

**P A Training Phase – Individual Assignment as Principal Archeologist**

**for Site.** Trainee will be assigned to act as Principal Archeologist (PA) for an Actual Archeological Site and will be under the supervision of one of the HCAA’s existing Principal Archeologists. The Trainee will develop a “Scope of Work” for the site. The PA trainee will supervise other HCAA team members in the determination of site boundaries, construction of field reports (photo log, field sack log, etc.), tagging/cataloging of artifacts in the field and final identifications in the lab, proper recording of location of datum(s) at site using UTM coordinates and topo map, or with accurate GPS equipment. The Trainee will then take all reports/logs done in the field and lab, as well as any artifacts collected, and write a Final Report on the site including all attachments. These final reports/logs and completed Tex Site Forms will then be submitted by the Trainee to the Field Committee for final review. If the property owner has given permission then the Trainee will submit all final reports to the Texas Archeological Research Lab (at University of Texas, Austin) for official recording as a State Archeological Site, and reception of a trinomial for the site from TARL.

**The P A trainee will work 2 separate sites as part of their work towards final designation as a P A for the HCAA. On these two sites the trainee will submit final site reports to the Field Committee for review and edits. This will ensure correctness and HCAA standards of site reports. Upon completion of these to the Field Committee’s satisfaction, the trainee will assume a Principal Archeologist title for the HCAA.**