

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum  
Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory**

**Archaeological Curation Fee Policy**

**I. Statement of Purpose**

This archaeological curation fee policy was originally part of *Technical Update No. 1 of the Standards and Guidelines for Archeological Investigations in Maryland: Collections and Conservation Standards*, which was implemented in 1999 and subsequently revised in 2005. Its intent is to ensure the long-term preservation and accessibility of Maryland's archaeological collections. The State of Maryland has made a substantial commitment to the preservation of these collections through its construction and continued support of the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab) at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum (JPPM), which is the official repository for the Maryland Historical Trust's (MHT) archaeological collections. The State of Maryland is committed to shouldering the majority of the financial burden for curating these collections in perpetuity, which includes curation staff salaries, archival supplies, and building utilities and maintenance. However, it charges a one-time fee per box to offset the initial costs of curation.

Revenue generated by the implementation of this fee policy will be deposited in the MHT non-lapsing special fund account as supplemental income designated for use in management activities directly related to MHT's archaeological collections.

**II. Review and Approval Process**

MHT is designated in State law as the repository for the State's archaeological collections. See Md. Code Ann., State Fin. & Proc. §5A-326(c)(3). MHT's archaeological collection is curated at the MAC Lab. This curation fee policy was developed under the direction of the MAC Lab Director and MHT's Chief Archeologist per the MHT Collections Policy, and has been reviewed by the MHT Collections Committee, the Maryland Advisory Committee on Archeology, and the Council for Maryland Archaeology. The final policy has been approved by the MHT Director, the MHT Board of Trustees, and the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Planning.

**III. Application of Curation Fee**

A. Collections subject to the curation fee:

A collection deposited with the MAC Lab is subject to a curation fee if the collection is: (1) generated as a result of laws and regulations that require professional archaeological investigations to evaluate, preserve, or mitigate archaeological resources; (2) donated to the State of Maryland.

B. Collections exempt from the curation fee:

Some collections donated to the Maryland Historical Trust are exempt from the curation box fee. These include:

- Donations by avocational archaeologists or interested persons from their personal collections
- Donations by professional archaeologists or landowners who generated the collections as a result of emergency or research-related investigations not related to county, state, or federally-mandated compliance projects
- Collections generated by archaeological investigations on properties owned by, or under easement to, the MHT or by projects receiving MHT grants or loans for archaeological investigations

#### IV. Curation Fee Schedule

The curation box fee is a one-time fee based on a standard size box (15" x 12" x 10" or 1 cubic foot). The fee is structured as follows:

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|--|-------|
| • Standard box:                            | \$600 |
| • One-half box (or equivalent):            | \$300 |
| • One-quarter box or less (or equivalent): | \$150 |

For oversized objects, a fee of \$600 per cubic foot of volume, or portion thereof, is applied.

#### V. Amendment of the Curation Fee Policy

The curation fee policy will be reviewed periodically to assess its impact and effectiveness. Revisions to the policy must be approved by following the procedures in Section II, with the exception of changes to Section IV, the Curation Fee Schedule, which may be made with the approval of the MHT Director. However, the MHT Collections Committee, the Maryland Advisory Committee on Archeology, and the Council for Maryland Archaeology must still be given an opportunity to review changes to the Curation Fee Schedule prior to approval.

This Archaeological Curation Fee Policy is hereby approved and adopted, effective January 1, 2019.

  
 Elizabeth Hughes, Executive Director  
 Maryland Historical Trust

  
 Chairman  
 Maryland Historical Trust Board of Trustees

  
 Secretary  
 Maryland Department of Planning

Approved for legal form and sufficiency  
