Cultural Heritage Services Pricing Schedule

Rates, flat fees, retainers, and discounts

Harris Anthropological Research LLC
John S. Harris, MA, RPA
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Delving into Humanity's Insights. Rising to Today's Challenges.

Rates and Terms

One hourly rate of $69 covers every cultural heritage service, and flat fees and retainers are built on it. Where a flat fee shows a range, I set the final fee inside it once I know the scope and scale of the project.

Travel within a 45-minute drive of HAR's office in Cedar Park is included. Travel beyond that is billed separately. Travel for the Deluxe oral history presentation is included within a two-hour radius. A 25% non-refundable deposit starts a Pre-Purchase Land Check, and the balance is due at completion.

State database access is not included in any fee. When a Pre-Purchase Land Check, a Cultural Resources Assessment, a Desktop Background Research review, or other work needs a state database access file, the quote lists it as a separate cost. Access requirements and fees differ by state.

Oral History Packages

Each package is a flat fee, or hourly at $69. The four packages differ in interview length, transcription, and what is delivered. You get recorded interviews with the people who know a place, kept as recordings, transcripts, or a finished booklet. Once a speaker is gone the knowledge goes with them, and families, Tribal communities, museums, and agencies use these records to keep it.

Package	Interview	What it includes	Flat fee
Essential	One hour	Raw audio or video delivered	$276 to $345
Standard	Two hours	Transcription up to 10 pages, preliminary research, a digital deliverable	$690 to $782
Comprehensive	Three hours	Full transcription up to 20 pages, preliminary research, curation and preservation recommendations, custom editing, data visualizations where relevant, photographs or other illustrations	$1,196 to $1,380
Deluxe	Up to six hours across several sessions	Transcription, research, recommendations for preservation or educational use, expert historical and cultural analysis, a booklet or multimedia presentation, basic maps drawn from the narratives, an optional public presentation	$3,496 to $3,864

Land Check and Cultural Resources Assessment

The Pre-Purchase Land Check is priced by tract size, and the Cultural Resources Assessment by project area. The Land Check gives you a one-page reading of a rural parcel, in one to five business days, on whether the ground holds a cemetery or site that would change

the price or the building site. Buyers, landowners, and developers use it while they can still renegotiate, move, or walk away. The Assessment gives you a written brief on whether cultural resources are likely to affect a project and what to do next. Developers, engineering firms, utilities, and agencies use it while the design is still open and a change costs little.

Pre-Purchase Land Check

Tract size	Reading fee	Walkover, when the seller allows access
Up to 10 acres with a recorded deed	From $255	$290 to $484
Up to 50 acres	$319	$290 to $484
51 to 200 acres	$319	$967 for a focused walkover
201 to 1,000 acres	$484	Field days at about $555 each

Larger ranches are quoted by acreage before any visit.

Cultural Resources Assessment

Project area	Records search fee	Added research
Under 500 acres	$69	$69/hr
501 to 1,000 acres	$207	$69/hr
1,001 to 3,000 acres	$621	$69/hr

Added research applies when the work falls outside Texas or on any non-privately owned land.

Desktop Background Research

A records review that answers whether state law requires an archaeological survey for a project. Priced by project area in four tiers, each with the Cultural Resources Assessment and SHPO or THPO consultation support. You get a written finding, with the authority behind it, that a survey is required, not required, or unsettled. Owners, attorneys, and agencies use it to file a no or to scope the survey that follows.

Tier	Project area	Fee
Basic	Up to 7 linear miles or 25 acres	$4,478 to $5,597
Intermediate	7 to 28 linear miles or 26 to 100 acres	$5,597 to $7,662
Large-Scale	28 to 138 linear miles or 101 to 500 acres	$7,662 to $11,021
Gargantuan	138 to 825 linear miles or 501 to 3,000 acres	$13,345 to $16,703

State database access is quoted as a separate cost. Fieldwork, travel, and curation are not included.

Historical Research and Interpretive Consulting Packages

Four packages, each building on the one before, for the documented history of a place and its people. You get custom historical reports and, in the larger packages, interpretive materials. Landowners, families, museums, agencies, and authors use them to document a place and win recognition for its story. Travel and curation are not included.

Package	What it includes	Best for	Fee
Foundational Research	Literature review, genealogical tracing (single surname), property ownership records (single tract), and archival document retrieval	Individuals, small projects, and community preservation efforts needing raw historical documentation	$896 to $1,377
Advanced Research	Everything in Foundational, plus multi-generational genealogy (up to 2 surnames), property ownership history (up to 3 tracts), cemetery investigations, and educational interpretation development	Landowners, agencies, businesses, and institutions needing validated historical research and site significance analysis	$2,463 to $3,581
Comprehensive Heritage Preservation	Everything in Advanced, plus National Register eligibility evaluation, historic marker documentation, an interpretive report, genealogical searches (up to 6 surnames), and property ownership research (up to 5 tracts)	Museums, government agencies, developers, and institutions needing curated heritage research with historical interpretation	$4,131 to $5,165
Historical Manuscript Writing	Extensive research and full manuscript development, including historical context analysis, structured narrative writing, editorial refinement, archival citations, and formatting for publication	Institutions, authors, and organizations needing professionally written manuscripts for historical documentation, legacy projects, and publishing	$7,275 to $8,956

Archaeological Services Subscription Plans

Monthly plans give small businesses, landowners, and agencies steady access to archaeological research without a fixed timeline. A plan does not guarantee that a project

finishes within one month, since most take longer. Plans are due at the beginning of each month, availability is limited, and the fee does not include travel, curation, or trench excavation.

Plan	Hours covered	Monthly fee	Studies available
Essential Archaeological Support	Up to 10	$420	Best for individuals, landowners, and developers needing introductory research and regulatory guidance. Studies: cultural resource assessment, literature review, remote desktop review, SHPO or THPO and stakeholder consultation support (Section 106), basic artifact identification and analysis (artifacts must already be cleaned), and historic marker research and write-up.
Comprehensive Archaeological Investigation	Up to 25	$1,050	Best for mid-sized projects needing detailed assessments, compliance monitoring, and structured documentation. Studies: everything in Essential, plus artifact cleaning and processing, in-depth artifact analysis, reconnaissance pedestrian archaeological survey, expanded archival research, site evaluation and eligibility testing, archaeological monitoring, full report writing, oral history interviews, and cultural resource compliance audits.
Strategic Heritage	Up to 50	$3,150	Best for large projects, government agencies, and institutions managing long-term site investigations and regulatory compliance. Studies: everything in Comprehensive, plus archaeological project rescue and report completion, intensive archaeological survey, ethnography, Tribal consultation liaison and program support, religious freedom issues consulting, interpretive exhibit design, public presentations and demonstrations, and complete policy crafting, regulatory compliance guidance, and agreement and policy documentation writing.

Artifact Analysis

Artifact analysis is billed hourly at $69 at three levels, or as a flat fee per artifact for the first two. You get each artifact identified, described, photographed, and cataloged, so you hold a

record and not only an object. Landowners, collectors, museums, and attorneys use it to keep what an object can tell.

Level	Hourly	Flat fee per artifact	What it includes
Standard Analysis	$69	$92, Basic Identification	General identification with minimal research, an inventory spreadsheet or artifact tags, cleaning if necessary, and photodocumentation
Detailed Analysis	$69	$230	In-depth research, findings written into your report's artifact analysis chapter, cleaning if necessary, and photodocumentation
Specialized Expertise Analysis	$69, hourly only	Not offered	Complex artifacts, ecofacts such as faunal remains, human remains, and Tribal expertise, with cleaning if necessary

Flat fees do not cover complex artifacts, ecofacts, or human remains. Unidentifiable artifacts do not count toward the total. Very fragile objects, and those that need detailed conservation, are not cleaned. Hourly rates do not include detailed conservation or travel beyond a 45-minute drive.

Retainers for Attorneys

Attorney consulting and expert witness work run on retainers at $69 per hour, each with a minimum number of hours. You get archaeological and compliance expertise for strategy, case evaluation, and testimony. A case on cultural property turns on how survey and compliance work in the field, and attorneys use the retainer to ground a claim in the record.

Retainer	Minimum hours	Minimum retainer	Fits
Non-Courtroom Consulting I	4	$276	Smaller projects, strategy sessions, and initial consultations on compliance and administrative expertise
Non-Courtroom Consulting II	8	$552	In-depth case evaluations, compliance assessments, and multiple attorney meetings
Courtroom Expert Witness	10	$690	Expert testimony, litigation support, and compliance advisory for legal proceedings in archaeological and cultural property cases

Travel for expert witness work is billed separately.

Other Cultural Heritage Services

I set the final fee for each of these inside the range shown once I know the scope, as a flat fee or hourly at $69. Archaeological Survey and the field and compliance services depend on acreage, terrain, and scope, so I quote them at scoping.

Service	Fee	What you get, and who uses it
Historic Evaluation, without nomination	$690 to $1,380	A written finding on whether a property, district, or site qualifies for the National Register or a city designation, or whether a mapped district reaches the work. Owners, local governments, and agencies use it before a sale, a grant, or a federal project.
Historic Evaluation with Nomination	$2,760 to $5,520	The evaluation plus the nomination, prepared for State Historic Preservation Office or city commission review. Owners, historical commissions, and land trusts use it to put a property on the record.
Cemetery Finding and Bounding	$690 to $2,070	The location and boundary of a lost cemetery, with the filings the law requires. Families, cemetery associations, and landowners use it so the cemetery holds up in a sale or a road project.
Family and Place History bundle	$1,725 to $3,105	Deed and archival research, oral history, and a reading of the landscape drawn into one record. Families use it to apply for an honor and to hand the story on.
Exhibit Design, Interpretation, and Tourism	$2,070 to $5,520	Exhibit plans, interpretive text, and tour narratives built from the research. Museums, societies, wineries, and trail partners use it so visitors can follow the story.
Historic Marker Research	$552 to $1,104	The documented history and application narrative for a historical marker. Societies, families, and local governments use it to see a marker approved the first time.
Genealogical Research	$414 to $1,380	A documented line of descent for a family and its land. Families, cemetery projects, and communities use it where a claim or an honor depends on descent.
Archaeological Survey	Quoted at scoping, hourly at $69	Pedestrian survey and shovel testing, with a report in the reviewing agency's format. Developers, agencies, and owners use it when only the ground can answer a compliance question.
Section 106 and Tribal Consultation Support	Quoted at scoping, hourly at $69	Consultation letters, summaries, and a record of each party's response for a federal project. Developers, engineering firms, and agencies without cultural resource staff use it so a review does not stall.
Site Evaluation and Eligibility Testing	Quoted at scoping, hourly at $69	Field testing and a written finding on whether a site is eligible for the National Register. Agencies, developers, and owners use it to learn whether a site constrains a project.
Archaeological Monitoring	Quoted at scoping, hourly at $69	An archaeologist on site during ground-disturbing work, with a record of what turns up. Developers, utilities, and contractors use it where a permit or sensitive area requires a monitor.

Service	Fee	What you get, and who uses it
Project Rescue and Report Completion	$6,717 to $11,755	An unfinished survey or excavation carried through to a report the agency can accept. Agencies, landowners, and firms left with an abandoned project use it to meet compliance.
Compliance Audits and Policy Documentation	Quoted at scoping, hourly at $69	A review of a program's cultural resource practice, with draft policies and agreements for counsel to review. Agencies, museums, and companies use it to find gaps before a reviewer does.
Ethnographic Studies for Compliance	Quoted at scoping, hourly at $69	A community-based study of traditional cultural properties, resource use areas, and cultural landscapes, written to fit Section 106, NEPA, and state review, with the community's consent. Agencies, Tribal nations, developers, and engineering firms use it where a project may affect places that records and survey alone cannot identify.

Discounts

HAR offers discounts to veterans, Tribal communities, environmental nonprofits, first-time clients, and repeat clients.

Discount	Consulting	Artifact Analysis	Oral History	Cultural Resources Assessment
Veteran or veteran-owned business	15%	15%	15%	10%
Tribal government, organization, or enrolled individual	15%	15%	15%	10%
Environmental nonprofit	15%	none	none	none
First-time client	none	none	10%	10% on the first project
Loyalty, after the first 50 hours or a returning flat fee client	none	15%	15%	15%
Volume, 5 to 10 hours	none	5%	none	none
Volume, 10 or more hours	none	10%	10%	none
Flat fee, 5 or more artifacts	none	10%	none	none
Flat fee, 10 or more artifacts	none	20%	none	none

Veteran, Tribal, environmental nonprofit, and loyalty discounts do not combine with any other discount, and neither does the 20% discount for 10 or more artifacts. The Tribal discount reaches Tribal governments, Tribal organizations, and enrolled individuals, and federal recognition is not required. Volume discounts do not apply to Specialized Expertise Analysis.