



Archaeology Dig Sheet

Start your archaeology dig and record your findings

Site name: _____

Your name: _____ Date: _____

Tools used during excavation: _____

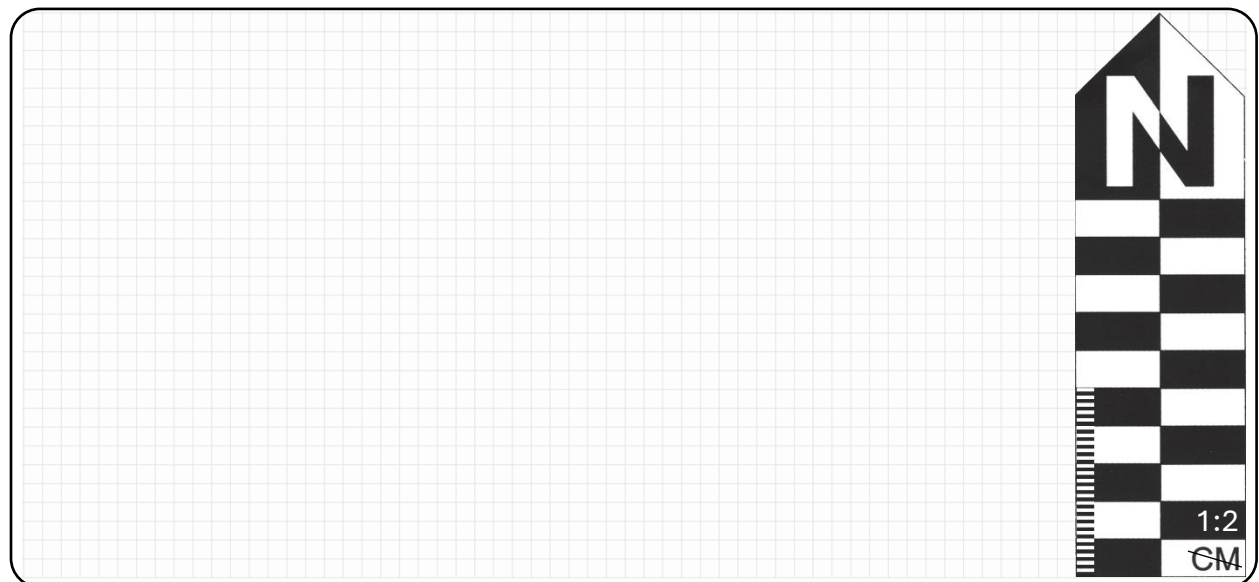
Location (circle one): North-West North-East South-East South-West

Soil color/texture: _____

List and describe the artifacts you found:

Sketch the artifacts you found:

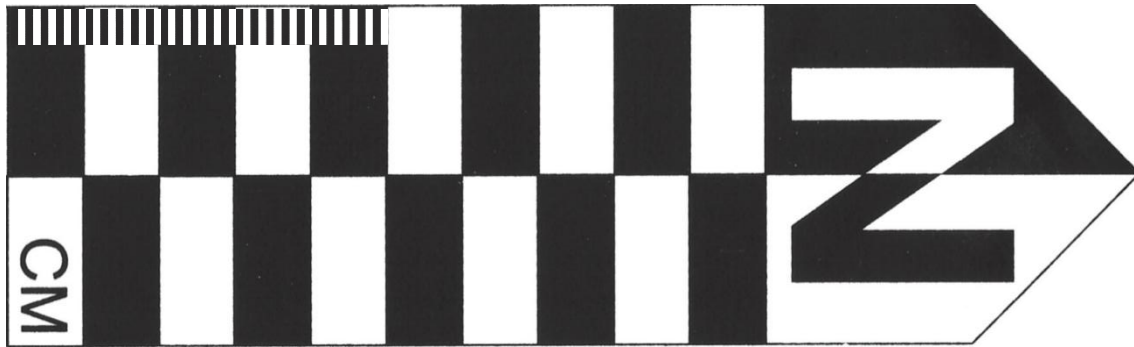
Optional: use the North Arrow as a reference to help you draw your artifacts to scale



Useful Items During an Archaeology Dig

North Arrow

This arrow can be printed and cut out for use during your dig. When photographing artifacts, the North Arrow sits near the findings, facing north. This one can also be used as a ruler, showing measurements in mm and cm.



Compass

A large part of archaeology is knowing where something is found, and which direction it faces. When photographing artifacts in place, having the North Arrow near the artifact and facing north helps to give perspective when revisiting the photographs later.

Popsicle Sticks and String

Before starting their dig, the archaeologist marks out a grid. A typical dig pit is a 1 meter square, and from there is divided further into four quadrants. Each 50 cm quadrant is excavated one at a time. Popsicle sticks can also double as a tool for digging, which can be used alongside the trowels.

Masonry Trowel & Gardening Trowel

The masonry trowel (flat) and gardening trowel (curved) are used for digging. Contrary to how that sounds, the proper way to dig during an archaeological excavation is to carefully scrape thin layers of soil, little bit by little bit, using the long side of the trowel. In this way, any artifacts hiding out of site will not be damaged or moved unintentionally. It also allows the archaeologist to notice and document differences in the soil, such as color, texture, and composition.

Pail

The pail collects all soil scraped up during the dig, and holds it until it is ready to be sifted.

Screen/Sifter

The sifter is a tool made of a wooden frame and wire mesh that helps to filter out any artifacts that may have been missed while scraping the soil.

Artifact Bags & Log Cards

Clear zippered bags are a great way to catalog artifacts. The bag can contain both the artifact and a card describing the item, when/where it was found, and any important information that relates to it.

Rulers

Rulers are used for gridding, measuring artifacts, marking straight lines in the soil, measuring depth during a dig, and so much more. There are a few different types of rulers that can be useful during an excavation, including a tape measure, a folding ruler, and a flat ruler.

Clipboard, Paper, Pencil, Eraser, and Camera

Perhaps the most important part of a dig is documentation. Knowing how an area was before the dig started, and logging what was done and what was uncovered, is key to understanding what is found. It also makes a world of difference to future archaeologists!



Remember: **always** make sure you have permission to dig before you start your excavation!