

Archaeology of a California Mission

Lab and Field Journal Assessment

Name _____ Assessment Date: _____

Lab and Field Journal: The archaeology lab journal will require that you obtain a science or lab notebook, as specified, available through the campus bookstore. It is here that you should record your observations and findings from hands-on experiments such as those pertaining to the Munsel soils and pH analysis through to daily observations and descriptions. Your notes should be detailed, carefully thought through and executed, replete with hand drawn illustrations of diagrams, maps, and tables, and coherent to the extent that someone other than yourself should be able to easily decipher what it is that you observed during the course of your study. You should include simple charts, tables, or diagrams of your ideas or observations as one other way of presenting your information. The lab and field journals will be submitted along with your Final Portfolios as one other measure of your participation in lab and field exercises. **Rating: 5 = Excellent; 1 = Poor.**

Lab and Field Journal Criteria:

1. Lab and field notes should begin with a descriptive overview of the site and environment within which the site under study is located:

Rating: Poor 1[] - 2[] - 3[] - 4[] - 5[] **Excellent**

2. Lab and field notes should detail the methods and procedures underlying the experiment or analysis undertaken in lab and field contexts.

Rating: Poor 1[] - 2[] - 3[] - 4[] - 5[] **Excellent**

3. Lab and field notes should describe and interpret the results of experiments and analysis undertaken in an organized and coherent format.

Rating: Poor 1[] - 2[] - 3[] - 4[] - 5[] **Excellent**

4. Lab and field notes need be detailed, comprehensive, organized, and professionally rendered.

Rating: Poor 1[] - 2[] - 3[] - 4[] - 5[] **Excellent**

5. Lab and field notes should include:

- Author's name.
- Archaeological site trinomial or number (i.e., CA-MNT-18 for Carmel Mission ; or CA-SBN-1h for Mission San Juan Bautista).
- Date of record (e.g., Feb. 14, 2004).
- Time at start and end of project day (08:30 am).
- Environmental conditions on day of investigation (e.g., overcast and balmy).
- Unit and or feature number (e.g., Unit n12w2, Feature 1).
- Stratigraphic level under investigation (e.g., Level 2, Objective 20 cm).
- Unit elevations (e.g., HI: 140 cm., 160 cm depth).
- Unit coordinates (e.g., n40/w100).

- Methods of excavation (e.g., shovel skim).
- Methods for lab and field processing (e.g., 1/8" screen and field sort).
- Report summary or identification of diagnostic artifacts (e.g., "Feather Edged Earthenware").
- Detailed summaries of project procedures and outcomes.
- Artifact and feature descriptions should be thorough but concise (e.g., color, texture, context, stratigraphic associations, dimensions, weight, probable function, style or other diagnostic characteristics, dates where known or available)

Rating: Poor 1[] - 2[] - 3[] - 4[] - 5[] Excellent

6. Illustrations contained within the lab and field journal should include:

- A North (True North) arrow for site and unit maps.
- Scale of measurement for maps (i.e., metric).
- Caption information (e.g., Unit n2w36 north wall profile with exposed femur).
- Summary description of feature or unit illustrated on facing page.
- Author's name, date, time, and related unit or feature information at top of page.
- Carefully organized, thoughtfully and carefully rendered, and detailed notes.
- Clean and crisp line work with titles and legend.
- A photocopy duplicate of the illustrations for project file reference.

Rating: Poor 1[] - 2[] - 3[] - 4[] - 5[] Excellent

Comments:

Overall Rating: Poor 1[] - 2[] - 3[] - 4[] - 5[] Excellent