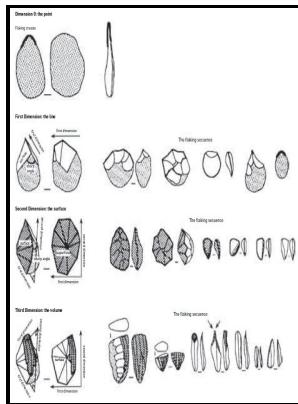


Dictionary of concepts in archaeology

Greenwood Press - DICTIONARY OF CONCEPTS IN ARCHAEOLOGY



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Notes: Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

This edition was published in 1993



Filesize: 11.62 MB

Tags: #Archaeology #Definition #& #Meaning

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Contract Archaeology — Archaeological research and excavation undertaken under contracts with the government or private organizations, designed to protect cultural resources in danger of destruction due to development. In addition to traditional cross section drawings, Harris proposed that archaeologists create a flow chart Harris Matrix of a site to record the order in which layers and features occurred.

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Aerial Reconnaissance — The technique of searching for sites and features, both cultural and natural, from the air, often using aerial photography or the human eye. Typing makes a high volume of samples easier to study and compare.

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Demand for privately-owned art and artifacts fuels further looting. Hunter-gatherers usually live in small groups of less than 150 individuals.

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Provenience — The three-dimensional context including geographical location of an archaeological find, giving information about its function and date. When a tree ring pattern is recognized in timber, the age of that timber can be calculated and thus the approximate age of the feature or structure to which it belongs can be determined.

DICTIONARY OF CONCEPTS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

Amphora — A two-handled pottery jar with a narrow neck used by the ancient Greeks and Romans to carry liquids, especially wine and oil.

Chert — A fine-grained sedimentary rock, similar to flint, that is white, pinkish, brown, gray, or blue-gray in color.

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Biface tools — Stone tools that have been worked on both sides or faces, meaning that flakes have been intentionally not naturally chipped off

from both sides of the stone. All the sub-disciplines study aspects of past or present humans.

Encyclopedic Dictionary of Archaeology

Ceramics — Objects, often pottery, made of fired or baked clay. Culture directly affects the production of the material objects found at archaeological sites.

DICTIONARY OF CONCEPTS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

Feature — Any physical structure or element, such as a wall, post hole, pit, or floor, that is made or altered by humans but unlike an artifact is not portable and cannot be removed from a site. **Terminus post quem** — Date after which something cannot have been constructed or deposited.

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