



ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND TRANSLATIONS

ENGLISH-ITALIAN

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>DEFINITION</u>	<u>ITALIAN</u>
<u>SURFACES/SOILS:</u>		
clay	Sticky and malleable dirt	Argilla
marl	A crumbly earth deposit	Marna
mud	Wet dirt	Fango
pebble/gravel	Small stones	Ciottolo/ghiaia
sand	Fine grained rocks	Sabbia
soil/earth	Dirt used as fill	Suolo/terra
stratum/layer	A distinct level of archaeological context	Strato
surface	The top of a layer	Superficie
<u>FEATURES:</u>		
arch	A curved architectural feature	Arco
<i>bothros</i>	An artificial hole or pit	<i>Cavità /fossa circolare/ pozzo</i>
corner	The place where two walls meet	Angolo
crack	A small gap between two surfaces	Crepa
curve	A rounded surface	Curva
deposit	Anything placed in the ground	Deposito
drain	A trench or pipe used to take water out of an area	Drenaggio

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dump	A place for discarded material, ancient or modern	Discarica
edge/border	The boundary between two things	Bordo
floor	The lowest surface of a room	Pavimento/pavimentazione
foundation	Stones used as a base of a building	Fondamenta
fill	Dirt or material put into a space in the ground	Riempimento
garbage	Trash, waste	Spazzatura/Residuo
grave	A burial place in the ground	Tomba/sepoltura
hole	A void in the ground	Buco
joint (building)	The point where building elements meet	commessura/commettitura
kiln	An oven used to bake pottery	Forno
layer	A distinct level of archaeological context	Strato
line	The shortest distance between two points	Linea
pipe (clay)	A gutter	Tube (di terracotta)
pipe (water)	A modern piece of plastic irrigation material	Tubatura
space, interval	An area between two things	Spazio
threshold	The passable boundary between two areas	Soglia
wall	A vertical structure that divides or encloses an area	Muro
dividing wall	A wall used to separate two areas	Parete divisoria
retaining wall	A wall used to hold up earth	Muro di contenimento
enclosure wall	A wall used to block off an area (keep things inside)	Recinto
well	A deep hole in the ground to access water	Pozzo
well-head	The top of a well, usually made of stone	Bocca del pozzo

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MATERIALS/FINDS:		
Bone		osso
brick		mattono
bronze		bronzo
cement		cemento
figurine		figurina
find/discovery		ritrovamento/scoperta
fragment	A broken piece of pottery; pot sherd	frammento
fresco		affresco
glass		vetro
gold		oro
iron		ferro
ivory		avorio
lead		piombo
lime mortar		malta di calce
plaster (wall)		gesso (muro)
plaster (of Paris)		gesso (di Parigi)
pot sherd		frammento (ceramico)
rock		roccia
rubble		macerie
silver		argento
terracotta		terracotta
tile (roof)		tegola (tetto)
wood		legno

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vessel		vaso
<u>DRAWING/MEASURING:</u>		
centimeter		centimetro
depth		profondità
elevation		elevazione
ground plan		pianta (del terreno)
height		altezza
measuring tape		metro a nastro
meter, meterstick		metro, metro
millimeter		millimetro
plan		pianta
section		sezione
width		larghezza
<u>ADJECTIVES:</u>		
burnt		Bruciato
dark		Scuro
deep		Profondo
fine		fine
glass		Vetro
hard		Duro
high		Alto
horizontal		Orizzontale
light color		Chiaro
mixed		Mischiato

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perpendicular		Perpendicolare
soft		Soffice
thin		Sottile
uneven		irregolare
vertical		Verticale
wide		Ampio
wooden		Di legno
<u>COLORS:</u>		
black		nero
blue		blu
blond/yellowish		biondo/giallastro
brown		marrone
gray		grigio
green		verde
orange		arancione
red		rosso
white		bianco
yellow		giallo
<u>TOOLS:</u>		
basin		Conca/bacinella
basket		Cestino
box		Scatola
broom		Scopa
brush (scrub)		Pennello

brush (paint)		Pennello
compass		Bussola
drawing board		Tavoletta da disegno
dumpy level		livello a cannocchiale/livello
hammer		Martello
knife		Coltello
ladder		scala (a pioli)
nail		Chiodo
notebook		Quaderno
pick		Piccone
plank		Tavola
plumb bob	A weight with a pointed tip used for marking locations	Filo a piombo
ruler		Righello
scale		Bilancia
shovel		Pala
sieve	A mesh screen used for sifting	Setaccio
stadia rod		stadia/Asta topografica/ gnomone
stake (wood)		Palo
string		Corda
tool		Strumento
total station	A piece of survey equipment used for taking GPS points	Stazione totale
trowel		Cazzuola/trowel
water cooler		distributore di acqua

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water sprayer		Spruzzino
wheelbarrow		Carriola
wire		Fil di ferro
<u>VERBS:</u>		
to cut		tagliare
to dig		scavare
to draw		disegnare
to go under		andare sotto
to lift		sollevare
to lower		abbassare
to photograph		fotografare
to raise		sollevare
to remove		rimuovere
to separate		separare
to shovel		spalare
to sieve		setacciare
to spray		spruzzare
to sweep		spazzare
to throw (away)		buttare (via)
to throw (dump)		gettare (scaricare)
<u>NUMISMATICS:</u>		
coin		Moneta
metal		Metallo
hoard		Tesoretto

electrum		Elettro
gold, <i>aurum</i>		Oro
silver, <i>argentum</i>		Argento
bronze, <i>aes</i>		Bronzo
weight		Peso
field		Campo
exergue		Esergo
attribute		Attributo
adjunct		
type		Tipo
legend		legenda
mint		zecca
casting		fusione
striking		battitura
die		conio
anvil		incudine
block		Masso/mattone
flan		tondello
obverse		Dritto/diritto/recto
reverse		Rovescio/verso
axis		asse
module	The diameter of a coin	modulo
fabric	The general appearance of the coin as reflects the mint's method of fabrication	

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brockage	When a previously struck coin is used as a die	
double-strike	When a coin is struck twice	doppia battitura
over-strike	When an earlier coin is reused as a flan	sovrabattitura
patina	copper oxidation	patina
alloy	A combination of two metals	lega
ingot		Lingotto
circulation		Circolazione
<u>PLANTS:</u>		
beech		betulla
oak		quercia
holm oak		leccio
olive tree		Olivo
laurel		alloro
myrtle		Mirto
cypress		Cipresso
daffodil		Narciso
ash tree		frassino
poppy		Papavero
grapevine		vite
cedar		Cedro
palm		Palma
apple tree		Melo
pine		Pino
eucalyptus		Eucalipto

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acacia		Acacia
chestnut		Castagno
bottle brush tree	callistemon citrinus	Callistemon/callistemone
cedar		cedro
medlar		nespolo
jacaranda		iacaranda
walnut		noce
palm		palma
willow		salice
elderberry		sambuco
fig tree		fico
peach tree		Pesco
wheat		grano/frumento
buckwheat		grano saraceno
durum wheat		grano duro
einkorn wheat		grano monococco
emmer wheat		farro
barley		orzo
malt		malto
rice		Riso
rye		segale
sorghum		sorgo
corn		Mais
millet		miglio

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cabbage		Cavolo
rhizomes		rizomi
chayote		chayote/sechio
dates		Dattero
<u>CATTLE/LIVESTOCK:</u>		
Ovine	referring to sheep	Ovino
Sheep		Pecora
Bovine	referring to a cow	Bovino
Cow		Mucca
Ox	a castrated bull	Bue
Bull, Steer	a male cow	Toro
Caprine	Referring to a goat	Caprino
Goat		Capra
Horse		Cavallo
Donkey		Asino
Mule	a cross between a donkey and a horse	Mulo
Llama		Lama
Alpaca		Alpaca
Pig		Maiale
Chicken		Pollo
Duck		Anatra
Turkey		Tacchino
Swan		Cigno
Goose		Oca

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