



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION TERMS AND TRANSLATIONS **ENGLISH-FRENCH**

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>DEFINITION</u>	<u>FRENCH</u>
<u>SURFACES/SOILS:</u>		
clay	Sticky and malleable dirt	argile
marl	A crumbly earth deposit	marne
mud	Wet dirt	boue
pebble/gravel	Small stones	cailloux/graviers
sand	Fine grained rocks	sable
soil/earth	Dirt used as fill	sol/terre
stratum/layer	A distinct level of archaeological context	strate/couche
surface	The top of a layer	surface
<u>FEATURES:</u>		
arch	A curved architectural feature	arc
<i>bothros</i>	An artificial hole or pit	<i>bothros</i>
corner	The place where two walls meet	coin
crack	A small gap between two surfaces	fissure
curve	A rounded surface	courbe
deposit	Anything placed in the ground	dépôt
drain	A trench or pipe used to take water out of an area	drain

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dump	A place for discarded material, ancient or modern	décharge
edge/border	The boundary between two things	bord/bordure
floor	The lowest surface of a room	sol
foundation	Stones used as a base of a building	fondation
fill	Dirt or material put into a space in the ground	remplissage
garbage	Trash, waste	ordures
grave	A burial place in the ground	tombe
hole	A void in the ground	trou
joint (building)	The point where building elements meet	joint (bâtiment)
kiln	An oven used to bake pottery	four
layer	A distinct level of archaeological context	couche
line	The shortest distance between two points	ligne
pipe (clay)	A gutter	tuyau (argile)
pipe (water)	A modern piece of plastic irrigation material	tuyau (eau)
space, interval	An area between two things	espace, intervalle
threshold	The passable boundary between two areas	seuil
wall	A vertical structure that divides or encloses an area	mur
dividing wall	A wall used to separate two areas	mur de séparation
retaining wall	A wall used to hold up earth	mur de soutènement
enclosure wall	A wall used to block off an area (keep things inside)	mur d'enceinte
well	A deep hole in the ground to access water	puits
well-head	The top of a well, usually made of stone	tête de puits

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MATERIALS/FINDS:		
bone		os
brick		brique
bronze		bronze
cement		ciment
figurine		figurine
find/discovery		trouvaille/découverte
fragment	A broken piece of pottery; pot sherd	fragment
fresco		fresque
glass		verre
gold		or
iron		fer
ivory		ivoire
lead		plomb
lime mortar		mortier de chaux
plaster (wall)		plâtre (mur)
plaster (of Paris)		plâtre (de Paris)
pot sherd		tesson de pot
rock		roche
rubble		moellon
silver		argent
terracotta		terre cuite
tile (roof)		tuile (toit)
wood		bois

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vessel		récipient
<u>DRAWING/MEASURING:</u>		
centimeter		centimètre
depth		profondeur
elevation		élévation
ground plan		plan de masse
height		hauteur
measuring tape		ruban de mesure
meter, meterstick		mètre, bâton de mesure
millimeter		millimètre
plan		plan
section		section
width		largeur
<u>ADJECTIVES:</u>		
burnt		brûlé
dark		sombre
deep		profond
fine		fin
glass		verre
hard		dur
high		haut
horizontal		horizontal
light color		couleur claire
mixed		mixte

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perpendicular		perpendiculaire
soft		doux
thin		mince
uneven		inégale
vertical		vertical
wide		large
wooden		bois
<u>COLORS:</u>		
black		noir
blue		bleu
blond/yellowish		blond/jaunâtre
brown		brun
gray		gris
green		vert
orange		orange
red		rouge
white		blanc
yellow		jaune
<u>TOOLS:</u>		
basin		bassin
basket		panier
box		boîte
broom		balai
brush (scrub)		brosse (récurer)

brush (paint)		pinceau (peinture)
compass		boussole
drawing board		planche à dessin
dumpy level		niveau à bulle
hammer		marteau
knife		couteau
ladder		échelle
nail		clou
notebook		carnet de notes
pick		pioche
plank		planche
plumb bob	A weight with a pointed tip used for marking locations	fil à plomb
ruler		règle
scale		balance
shovel		pelle
sieve	A mesh screen used for sifting	tamis
stadia rod		tige de stadia
stake (wood)		pieu (bois)
string		ficelle
tool		outil
total station	A piece of survey equipment used for taking GPS points	station totale
trowel		truelle
water cooler		refroidisseur d'eau
water sprayer		pulvérisateur d'eau

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wheelbarrow		brouette
wire		fil métallique
<u>VERBS:</u>		
to cut		couper
to dig		creuser
to draw		dessiner
to go under		passer en dessous
to lift		soulever
to lower		abaisser
to photograph		photographier
to raise		élever
to remove		enlever
to separate		séparer
to shovel		pelletter
to sieve		tamiser
to spray		pulvériser
to sweep		balayer
to throw (away)		jeter (loin)
to throw (dump)		jeter (déverser)
<u>NUMISMATICS:</u>		
coin		pièce de monnaie
metal		métallique
hoard		Trésor
electrum		Alliage

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gold, <i>aurum</i>		Or
silver, <i>argentum</i>		Argent
bronze, <i>aes</i>		Bronze
weight		Poids
field		
exergue		
attribute		
adjunct		
type		
legend		
mint		
casting		
striking		
die		
anvil		Enclume
block		
flan		
obverse		Avers
reverse		Inverser
axis		Axe
module	The diameter of a coin	
fabric	The general appearance of the coin as reflects the mint's method of fabrication	
brockage	When a previously struck coin is used as a die	

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double-strike	When a coin is struck twice	
over-strike	When an earlier coin is reused as a flan	
patina	copper oxidation	
alloy	A combination of two metals	
ingot		
circulation		
<u>PLANTS:</u>		
beech		hêtre
oak		chêne
holm oak		chêne vert
olive tree		olivier
laurel		laurier
myrtle		myrte
cypress		cyprès
daffodil		jonquille
ash tree		frêne
poppy		coquelicot
grapevine		vigne
cedar		cèdre
palm		palmier
apple tree		pommier
pine		pin
eucalyptus		eucalyptus
acacia		acacia

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chestnut		châtaignier
bottle brush tree	callistemon citrinus	goupillon
cedar		cèdre
medlar		néflier
jacaranda		jacaranda
walnut		noyer
palm		palmier
willow		saule
elderberry		sureau
fig tree		figuier
peach tree		pêcher
wheat		blé
buckwheat		sarrasin
durum wheat		blé dur
einkorn wheat		blé einkorn
emmer wheat		blé emmer
barley		orge
malt		malt
rice		riz
rye		seigle
sorghum		sorgho
corn		maïs
millet		millet
cabbage		chou

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rhizomes		rhizomes
chayote		chayote
dates		dattes
<u>CATTLE/LIVESTOCK:</u>		
Ovine	referring to sheep	Ovins
Sheep		mouton
Bovine	referring to a cow	Bovin
Cow		Vache
Ox	a castrated bull	Bœuf
Bull, Steer	a male cow	Taureau
Caprine	Referring to a goat	Caprin
Goat		chèvre
Horse		Cheval
Donkey		L'âne
Mule	a cross between a donkey and a horse	Mule
Llama		Llama
Alpaca		Alpaga
Pig		Chochon
Chicken		Poulet
Duck		Canard
Turkey		Dinde
Swan		Cygne
Goose		Oie

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