

General Certificate of Education

Archaeology 5011

Unit 1 Archaeological Sources and Methods: Survey and Excavation

Mark Scheme

2005 examination – June series

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

ACH1**Survey and Excavation****Question 1**

Using the location plans in the Introduction on pages 2 and 3, describe the location of Cotterstock villa. (4 marks)

- L1: Relevant use of scale or orientation or up to two named landscape features (1 mark each). **1**
- L2: Two parts of L1. **2**
- L3: Three parts of L1. **3**
- L4: At least L2 response plus relevant comment on shape or landscape. **4**

Expect: Comments on proximity to springs; streams; river; aspect; etc. Responses drawing on other sources can be credited with a maximum of one mark as long as at least one of the points is accurate.

Question 2

Study **Figure 1** and use your own knowledge.

Why have the archaeologists recorded evidence from all periods of the past when carrying out their investigation into Cotterstock villa? (6 marks)

- L1: Recognition that the site is multi-period **or** to record everything for future investigation. **1**
- L2: Both parts L1 **or** L1 with some explanation of the one chosen (no connection to Figure 1). **2**
- L3: Both L1 with some explanation (with limited connection to Figure 1) or one part of L1 with full reference to the source. **3-5**
- L4: L3 with strong reference to what site Figure 1 shows. **6**

Place in level 3 determined by detail extracted from source or depth of discussion, e.g. damage linked to quarrying and/or ploughing (headlands and/or ridge and furrow); continuity of land use through field and parish boundaries; villa may have pre-Roman roots and still be used into later periods, etc.

Question 3

Study **Figure 1** and use your own knowledge.

Describe how aerial photography could be used to highlight and define the features shown. (6 marks)

- L1: Thin, generic response on aerial photography. **1**
- L2: More detailed response on **either** use of shadow **or** use of crop or soil marks to highlight the site **or** a partial response covering two+ aspects **or** limited explanations referring to source. **2-4**

- L3: Two parts of L2 **or** one part with reference to source. **5**
L4: Two parts of L2 with reference to source. **6**

Place in Level 2 determined by level of detail.

Question 4

Study **Figure 2** and use your own knowledge.

Assess the uses and limitations of fieldwalking evidence in understanding archaeological sites. (10 marks)

- L1: Limited comments, or list of generic uses/limitations, or limited description of methodology. **1-2**
L2: Some discussion of generic uses/limitations but expect imbalance or fuller description of methodology. **3-5**
L3: Balanced generic discussion of uses and limitations or imbalance with limited reference to source. **6-8**
L4: Balanced discussion of uses and limitations with reference to source throughout. **9-10**

Expect: Limitations – survival; visibility; coverage, experience of workers; depth of ploughing; aceramic cultures; soil type, etc.

Uses: Find sites; broad coverage; quick; cheap; encourages local involvement; determines likely periods of occupation; site/landscape assessment, etc.

Source: consider – contours, ploughed areas, use of key, possible use of disturbed ground, etc.

Question 5

Study **Figure 3** and use your own knowledge.

To what extent do the results from the aerial photography, geophysics and excavation support one another? (10 marks)

- L1: Generic description of techniques or basic link between them **or** recognition from context that techniques do or do not support each other (1) plus recognition that not all agree (2). **1-2**
L2: Both parts of L1 **or** more developed generic **or** located examples of contextual recognition from L1. **3-5**
L3: Located examples of contextual recognition plus simple statement that it does not **all** agree **or** all parts of L2. **6-8**
L4: Located examples of contextual recognition plus **located** examples where agreement does not occur **or** all parts of L3. **9-10**

Question 6

Study the Introduction and **Figures 1 to 3** and use your own knowledge.

Devise and justify a further season's fieldwork, including excavation, at Cotterstock villa. (14 marks)

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| L1: | List of relevant techniques or thin generic explanation. | 1-2 |
| L2: | Fuller generic explanation of relevant techniques or poor/thin explanation naming some techniques with reference to source. | 3-5 |
| L3: | L2 with some element of a sequence or stronger link to sources or more detailed explanation. | 6-8 |
| L4: | Both parts of L3 or one part with some evidence of a strategy i.e. how one technique leads to another. | 9-11 |
| L5: | All parts of L4. | 12-14 |

Possible techniques might include: desktop survey; further fieldwalking; further geophysical survey; aerial photography; trial trenches; open area excavation; etc.

L2+ must consider sources to some extent. Expect references to fieldwalking data; geophysical and aerial photographic data; previous excavation; etc.