



General Certificate of Education

AS Archaeology 5011

ACH1 Survey and Excavation

Mark Scheme

2007 examination – January 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.

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Set and published by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance.

ACH1

Survey and Excavation

Quality of Written Communication

The assessment of the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) is judged through the assessment of the clarity and appropriateness of the archaeological material presented. There are no discrete marks for the assessment of QWC but where questions are "levels" marked, QWC will influence the mark awarded within a particular level.

As a rough guide, QWC performance is characterised by the following descriptors.

- Level 1** Language is basic, descriptions and explanations are over-simplified and lack clarity.
- Level 2** Generally accurate use of language; descriptions and explanations can be easily followed, but are not clearly expressed throughout.
- Level 3** Accurate and appropriate use of language; descriptions and explanations are expressed with clarity throughout.

Further guidance on the assessment of QWC will be given at the Standardising Meeting.

Question 1

Study **Map 2** and **Map 3** in the Introduction.

Describe the position and layout of Le Yaudet. (6 marks)

- L1: Description of position **or** layout with no use of scale, conventions, orientation or key. **1**
- L2: Both part of L1 **or** one part with limited reference to scale, conventions, orientation or key. **2**
- L3: One part with detailed reference to scale, orientation conventions and key **or** both parts with limited reference. **3-4**
- L4: Both parts with full reference to scale, orientation, conventions and key. **5-6**

NB To award marks, be sure that use of scale, orientation, key or conventions is correct and relevant.

Question 2

Study **Figure 1** and **Figure 2** and use your own knowledge.

Describe and discuss the strengths and limitations of the excavation strategies used. (12 marks)

Use the table below to place the response in the appropriate level. The place within the level is determined by accuracy, detail and quality of language.

(For example, a response that describes and discusses excavation, covering only uses, not limitations (no balance), and without referring to the source, should be placed in L2, i.e. it matches the 4th column in the L2 band).

Level	L1	L2	L3	L4
Description	✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓
Discussion	✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓
Source	✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓
Balance		✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓
			(8)	
Mark	1-2	3-6	7-10	11-12

Expect: open area/horizontal/plan; good spatial coverage; uncover whole features; excellent for planning features; excellent for relationships in plan; harder to see stratigraphy; not good if complex phasing; difficult on sloping and uneven ground; time consuming; expensive on manpower and resources.

High quality, detailed and fluent responses missing **one** element of the next level up may be placed in that level. Where discussion or source reference is extremely thin or tenuous, an answer may be pegged back to the next level down.

Question 3

Study **Figure 2** and **Figure 3**.

The photograph in **Figure 3** is of:

either the back face of the rubble core (shown as **A** in **Figure 2**);

or the vertical face of the rampart (shown as **B** in **Figure 2**).

Which of these statements is true? Give reasons for your answer. (3 marks)

- L1: B or vertical face or rampart. **1**
- L2: L1 with recognition that **either** the edge of the trench compared to the edge of the feature gives it away **or** the sharp edge of the feature is similar to that in the drawing. **2**
- L3: All of L2. **3**

Question 4

Study **Figure 4** and **Figure 5**.

What evidence might archaeologists have found to enable them to interpret Feature F114 as an oven? (4 marks)

One mark per valid technique or piece of evidence listed; two marks per valid technique explained. **4**

Expect: charcoal; burnt grain; evidence of heated rock (i.e. pink colour); magnetometer picking up heating; remnants of specific pests in locality; placed within structure suggesting a bakery; similar ones at other site; void beneath floor; use of GPR, etc.

Question 5

Study **Figure 4** and **Figure 5** and use your own knowledge.

Discuss how pre-excavation techniques may have highlighted the various features shown in Figure 5. (12 marks)

Use the table below to place the response in the appropriate level. The place within the level is determined by accuracy, detail and quality of language.

(For example, a response describing and discussing at least three methods, but without reference to the source, would be placed in L3, i.e. it matches the 1st column in the L3 band).

Level	L1	L2	L3	L4
Description of Method(s)	✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
Discussion	✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
Source	✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
1-2 Method	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓	
3+ Methods		✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓
			(8)	
Mark	1-2	3-6	7-10	11-12

Expect: aerial photography finding rubble spread; possibility of fieldwalking finding rubble; resistivity finding rubble and negative features such as F123; magnetometer finding rubble and negative features; possibility that magnetometer can find oven; core sampling to find possible environmental deposits in association with oven.

High quality, detailed and fluent responses missing **one** element of the next level up may be placed in that level. Where discussion or source reference is particularly thin or tenuous, an answer may be pegged back to the next level down.

Geophysical survey must be mentioned in order to achieve L3 and above.

Question 6

Study **Figure 4** and **Figure 5** and use your own knowledge.

Describe and explain how Feature F114 might have been excavated and recorded.
(13 marks)

Use the table below to place the response in the appropriate level. The place within the level is determined by accuracy, detail and quality of language.

(For example, a response which correctly recognises a technique and locates it accurately using the source, but does not describe or explain it (or does so wrongly), would be placed in L1, i.e. either the 3rd or 4th column of the L1 band).

Level	L1		L2			L3				L4		L5
Excavation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recording		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Methods	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Explanation			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Source		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Mark	1-2		3-5			6-8				9-11		12-13

Expect: open area to reveal; define edges of feature; excavate matrix within feature (perhaps section); plan and section drawn (description of equipment); photograph with scale and peg board; context and feature cards completed; lift stones.

High quality, detailed and fluent responses missing **one** element of the next level up may be placed in that level. Where discussion or source reference is particularly thin or tenuous, an answer may be pegged back to the next level down.