



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION TERMS AND TRANSLATIONS

ENGLISH-GERMAN

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>DEFINITION</u>	<u>GERMAN</u>
<u>SURFACES/SOILS:</u>		
clay	Sticky and malleable dirt	Ton
marl	A crumbly earth deposit	Mergel
mud	Wet dirt	Schlamm
pebble/gravel	Small stones	Kiesel/Kies
sand	Fine grained rocks	Sand
soil/earth	Dirt used as fill	Boden/Erde
stratum/layer	A distinct level of archaeological context	Schicht/Lage
surface	The top of a layer	Oberfläche
<u>FEATURES:</u>		
arch	A curved architectural feature	Bogen
<i>bothros</i>	An artificial hole or pit	<i>bothros</i>
corner	The place where two walls meet	Ecke
crack	A small gap between two surfaces	Riss
curve	A rounded surface	Kurve
deposit	Anything placed in the ground	Ablagerung; Hort
drain	A trench or pipe used to take water out of an area	Abfluss

Last updated Nov. 2022

dump	A place for discarded material, ancient or modern	Halde
edge/border	The boundary between two things	Kante/Rand
floor	The lowest surface of a room	Boden
foundation	Stones used as a base of a building	Fundament
fill	Dirt or material put into a space in the ground	Schüttung
garbage	Trash, waste	Müll
grave	A burial place in the ground	Grab
hole	A void in the ground	Loch
joint (building)	The point where building elements meet	Fuge (Gebäude)
kiln	An oven used to bake pottery	Brennofen
layer	A distinct level of archaeological context	Schicht
line	The shortest distance between two points	Linie, direkte Verbindung
pipe (clay)	A gutter	Rohr (Ton)
pipe (water)	A modern piece of plastic irrigation material	Rohr (Wasser)
space, interval	An area between two things	Raum, Zwischenraum
threshold	The passable boundary between two areas	Schwelle
wall	A vertical structure that divides or encloses an area	Wand
dividing wall	A wall used to separate two areas	Trennwand
retaining wall	A wall used to hold up earth	Stützmauer
enclosure wall	A wall used to block off an area (keep things inside)	Einfriedungsmauer
well	A deep hole in the ground to access water	Brunnen
well-head	The top of a well, usually made of stone	Brunnen rand

Last updated Nov. 2022

MATERIALS/FINDS:		
Bone		Knochen
brick		Ziegelstein
bronze		Bronze
cement		Zement
figurine		Figürchen
find/discovery		Fund/Entdeckung
fragment	A broken piece of pottery; pot sherd	Fragment
fresco		Fresko
glass		Glas
gold		Gold
iron		Eisen
ivory		Elfenbein
lead		Blei
lime mortar		Kalkmörtel
plaster (wall)		Gips (Wand)
plaster (of Paris)		Stuck, Stuckgips
pot sherd		Topfscherbe
rock		Felsen
rubble		Schutt
silver		Silber
terracotta		Terrakotta
tile (roof)		Ziegel (Dach)
wood		Holz

Last updated Nov. 2022

vessel		Gefäß
<u>DRAWING/MEASURING:</u>		
centimeter		Zentimeter
depth		Tiefe
elevation		Erhöhung, Erhebung
ground plan		Grundriss
height		Höhe
measuring tape		Maßband
meter, meterstick		Meter, Meterstab
millimeter		Millimeter
plan		Plan
section		Schnitt
width		Breite
<u>ADJECTIVES:</u>		
burnt		verbrannt
dark		dunkel
deep		tief
fine		fein
glass		Glas
hard		hart
high		hoch
horizontal		horizontal
light color		helle Farbe
mixed		gemischt

Last updated Nov. 2022

perpendicular		Senkrecht
soft		weich
thin		dünn
uneven		ungleichmäßig
vertical		senkrecht
wide		breit
wooden		aus Holz, hölzern
<u>COLORS:</u>		
black		schwarz
blue		blau
blond/yellowish		blond/gelblich
brown		braun
gray		grau
green		grün
orange		orange
red		rot
white		weiß
yellow		gelb
<u>TOOLS:</u>		
basin		Becken
basket		Korb
box		Kasten
broom		Besen
brush (scrub)		Bürste (Schrubber)

brush (paint)		Pinsel (Farbe)
compass		Kompass
drawing board		Reißbrett
dumpy level		Nivelliergerät
hammer		Hammer
knife		Messer
ladder		Leiter
nail		Nagel
notebook		Notizbuch
pick		Pickel
plank		Brett
plumb bob	A weight with a pointed tip used for marking locations	Senkblei
ruler		Lineal
scale		Maßstab
shovel		Schaufel
sieve	A mesh screen used for sifting	Sieb
stadia rod		Messlatte
stake (wood)		Pfahl (Holz)
string		Schnur
tool		Werkzeug
total station	A piece of survey equipment used for taking GPS points	Totalstation
trowel		Kelle
water cooler		Wasserkühler
water sprayer		Wassersprüngerät

Last updated Nov. 2022

wheelbarrow		Schubkarre
wire		Draht
<u>VERBS:</u>		
to cut		schneiden
to dig		graben
to draw		zeichnen
to go under		untertauchen
to lift		anheben
to lower		absenken
to photograph		fotografieren
to raise		anheben
to remove		entfernen
to separate		Trennen
to shovel		schaufeln
to sieve		sieben
to spray		spritzen, sprühen
to sweep		kehren
to throw (away)		wegwerfen
to throw (dump)		werfen (wegwerfen)
<u>NUMISMATICS:</u>		
coin		Münze
metal		Metall
hoard		Vorrat
electrum		Elektrum

gold, <i>aurum</i>		Gold
silver, <i>argentum</i>		Silber
bronze, <i>aes</i>		Bronze
weight		Gewicht
field		Feld
exergue		Abschnitt
attribute		Attribut
adjunct		Verbunden
type		Typ, Art
legend		Legende
mint		Münze, Münzstätte; (Münz-)Prägung
casting		Guß; gießen (Prozess der Münzherstellung)
striking		Prägung? (wörtl. Schlagen; Prozess der Hammerprägung)
die		Prägestempel
anvil		Amboss
block		Block
flan		Metallscheibe
obverse		Vorderseite/ Avers (numismatisch)
reverse		Umgekehrt / Revers (numismatisch)
axis		Achse
module	The diameter of a coin	Durchmesser
fabric	The general appearance of the coin as reflects the mint's method of fabrication	Struktur

Last updated Nov. 2022

brockage	When a previously struck coin is used as a die	Brockage (eine spezielle Art Fehlermünze)
double-strike	When a coin is struck twice	Doppelschlag
over-strike	When an earlier coin is reused as a flan	überprägen, Überprägung
patina	copper oxidation	Patina
alloy	A combination of two metals	Legierung
ingot		Barren
circulation		Umlauf
<u>PLANTS:</u>		
beech		Buche
oak		Eiche
holm oak		Steineiche
olive tree		Olivenbaum
laurel		Lorbeer
myrtle		Myrte
cypress		Zypresse
daffodil		Narzisse
ash tree		Esche
poppy		Mohn
grapevine		Weinrebe
cedar		Zeder
palm		Palme
apple tree		Apfelbaum
pine		Kiefer
eucalyptus		Eukalyptus

Last updated Nov. 2022

acacia		Akazie
chestnut		Kastanie
bottle brush tree	callistemon citrinus	Flaschenbürstenbaum
cedar		Zedernholz
medlar		Mispel
jacaranda		Jacaranda
walnut		Walnuss
palm		Palme
willow		Weide
elderberry		Feldbeere
fig tree		Feigenbaum
peach tree		Pfirsichbaum
wheat		Weizen
buckwheat		Buchweizen
durum wheat		Hartweizen
einkorn wheat		Einkornweizen
emmer wheat		Emmerweizen
barley		Gerste
malt		Malz
rice		Reis
rye		Roggen
sorghum		Sorghum
corn		Mais
millet		Hirse

Last updated Nov. 2022

cabbage		Kohl
rhizomes		Rhizome
chayote		Chayote
dates		Datteln
<u>CATTLE/LIVESTOCK:</u>		
Ovine	referring to sheep	Schafs-
Sheep		Schaf
Bovine	referring to a cow	Rinder-
Cow		Kuh
Ox	a castrated bull	Ochse
Bull, Steer	a male cow	Stier
Caprine	Referring to a goat	Ziegen-
Goat		Ziege
Horse		Pferd
Donkey		Esel
Mule	a cross between a donkey and a horse	Maultier
Llama		Lama
Alpaca		Alpaka
Pig		Schwein
Chicken		Huhn
Duck		Ente
Turkey		Truthahn
Swan		Schwan
Goose		Gans

Last updated Nov. 2022

