

المرحلة الاولى

النص 3

الجزء 3

TECHNIQUES OF EXCAVATION

Immediately before the actual excavation, the archaeologist must draw a scale map of the site. He then makes the first excavation at a point removed from the immediate site but in an area that is likely to contain some cultural remains. This site is called a control –pit, and it serves to verify the nature of soils and deposits in an undisturbed state.

Once excavation of the actual site is under way, the archaeologist continues to dig until he reaches a

level without any cultural remains or until the pattern of finds becomes repetitive.

The skillful archaeologist stops digging when he has a record complete enough to substantiate cultural reconstruction, and this is one of the differences that distinguishes him from the collector, who digs as long as he finds specimens.

The excavation of a small camp of hunters and gatherers may require a few days of labour, whereas that of a large, complex site of agriculturalists may require years of steady work.