

ON THE JOB

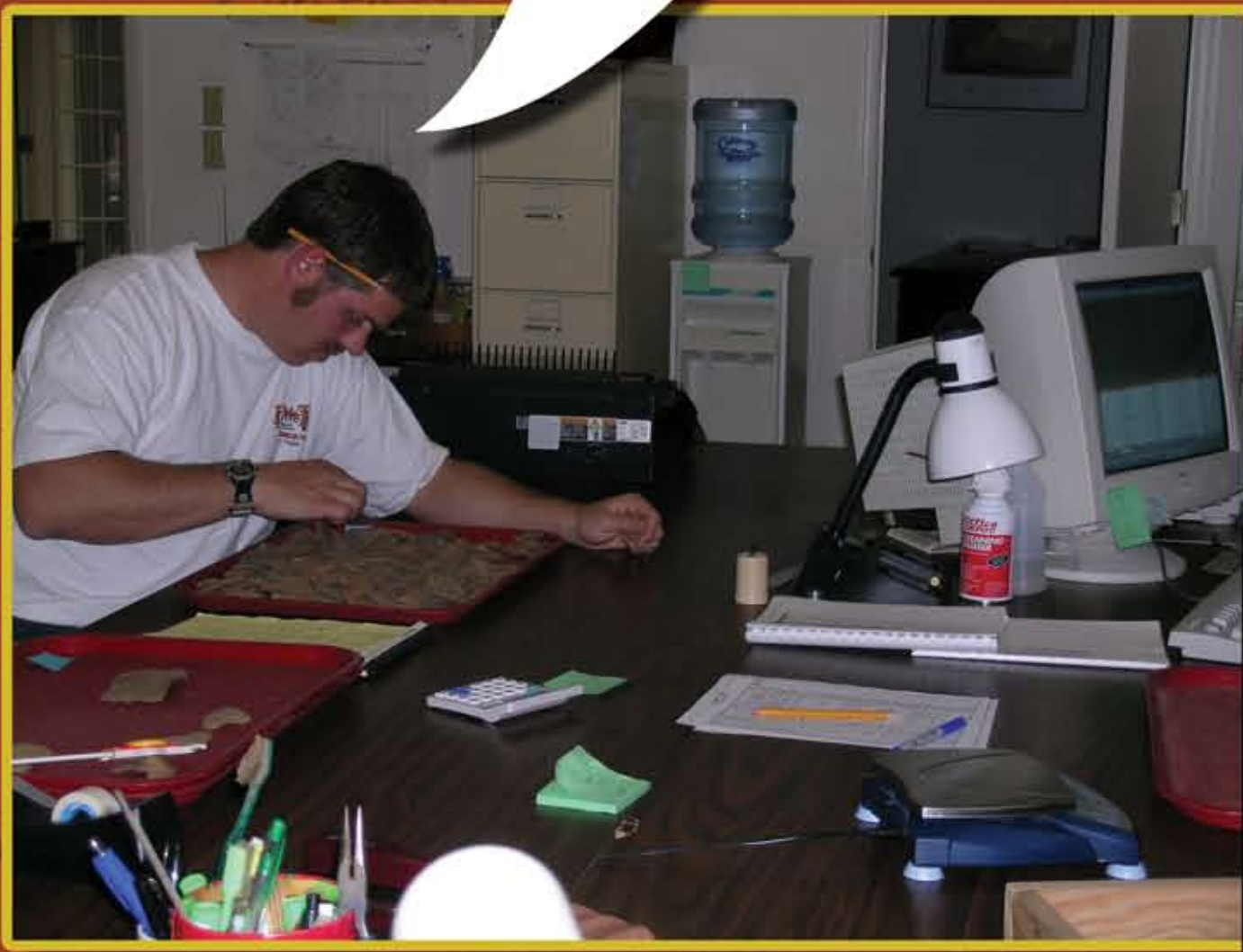


Preparing the Site

These two pictures show the same area at different stages in the Leake Site excavation. Before archaeologists really begin excavating they might have to remove grass, topsoil, or even concrete.



“Once in the lab, piecing together the various pieces of the puzzle was just as interesting as the fieldwork – searching through archives to find long-lost maps and photographs of the site, identifying unusual and exotic artifacts left behind by the people who lived at and visited Leake. My involvement with the Leake site has been an extremely rewarding experience.”
- Scot Keith, principal archaeologist at the Leake Site

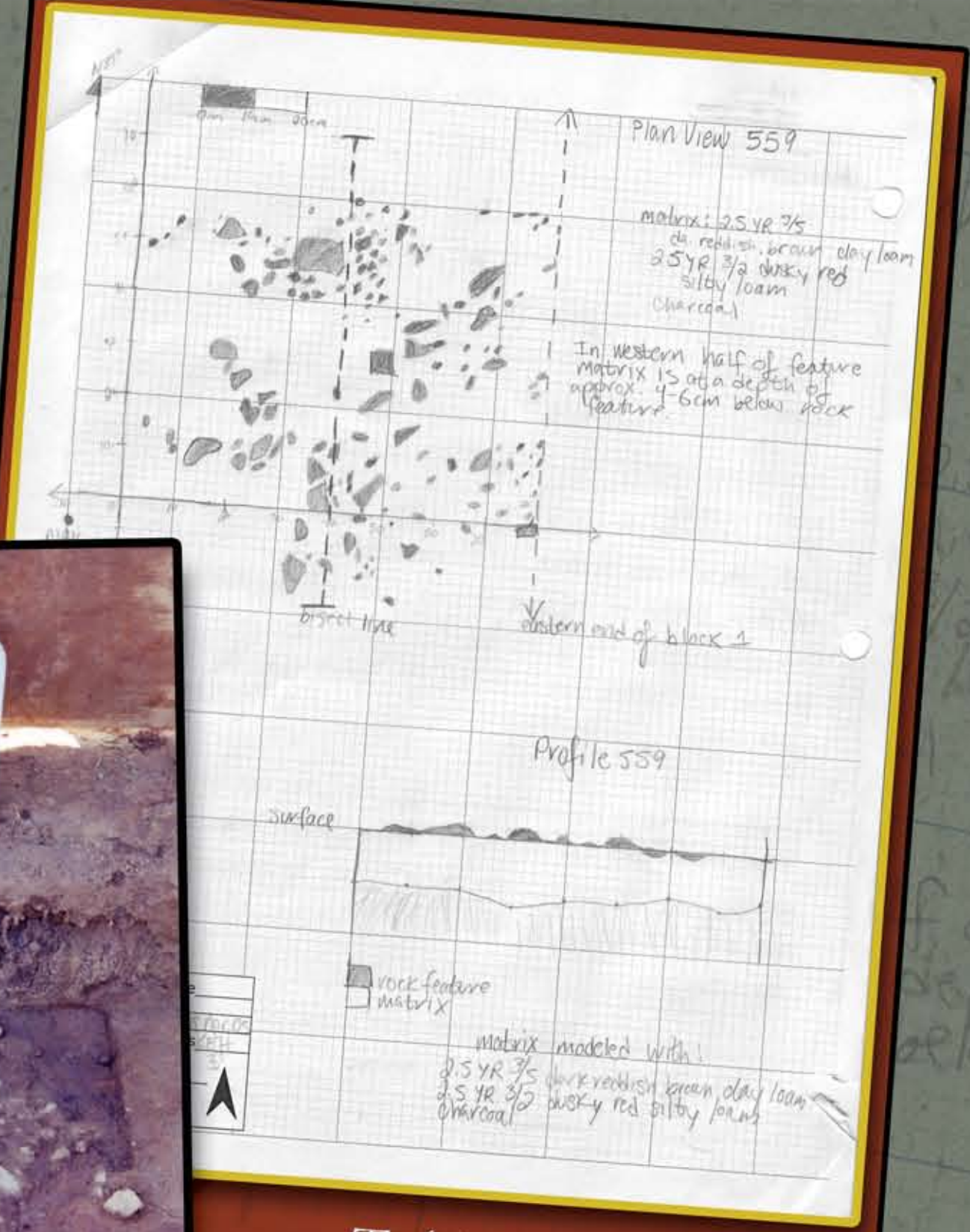


Behind the Scenes

For as much time as archaeologists spend in the field, they spend even more time in the lab. Archaeologists need to clean, sort, study, and preserve the artifacts. This archaeologist is examining pieces of pottery.

In the Spotlight

A big part of doing archaeology is getting the public involved. During excavations at the Leake Site, the public was welcome to come see what was happening and to ask questions. Look for excavations in your area to meet archaeologists or even to help out!



Taking Notes

The drawing above records what's in the photograph to the left. Cameras are useful but they don't show everything. Look at the extra information that the archaeologists included in the notes.

ARCHAEOLOGY is fun and exciting, but it isn't just about digging in the dirt.

When you hear the word “archaeology,” what pops into your mind? Maybe Egyptian pyramids...lost civilizations...or Indiana Jones?

Those ideas are on the right track, but there's definitely more to archaeology than all that. For starters, not all archaeologists work in far off, exotic locations. A lot of archaeology is done right here in Georgia!

What many people don't realize is how much work archaeologists do besides digging. Before an excavation even begins archaeologists have to research the site by examining notes, maps, and other documents.

During the excavation archaeologists have to prepare the site by removing grass and topsoil and by laying out excavation units. Archaeologists also have to photograph what they're doing and take very detailed notes.

Once the excavation is over, archaeologists clean, process, sort, and identify the objects that they uncovered. Everything the archaeologists did at an excavation and all the information they uncovered will eventually be published in a report.



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Archaeological Data Recovery at the Leake Site, Bartow County, Georgia

Volume I - Final Report

Archaeologists don't keep the objects or information that they find. Objects are placed in museums or special storage facilities and any information that was discovered is put into a Final Report, like this one. The report for the Leake Site is over 500 pages long!

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