

APPENDIX G: RESEARCH PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

Research Project Information Sheet

Project Title: Digging the Dirt – A comparative analysis of excavation methods and recording systems in relation to their applications in forensic archaeology

Name of the Researcher: Laura Evis

Researcher's Contact Details:

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Purpose of the Research

The purpose of this research is to experimentally compare different archaeological excavation methods and recording techniques. The four excavation methods that are going to be testing are: the Stratigraphic Excavation method, the Arbitrary Excavation method (also known as Spit Excavation, Planum Excavation or Metrical Excavation), the Demirant Excavation method (also known as Half-Sectioning), and the Quadrant Excavation method. In terms of the recording techniques, participants will have the choice of using their own/companies recording techniques, or, alternatively, the researcher will provide the participants with recording sheets. The researcher will provide all of the equipment necessary to complete the experiment.

What will the Research entail?

The experimental research will require each participant to excavate and record a simulated grave feature, using one of the four excavation techniques being evaluated. The participant will then be required to write a narrative of the grave's formation process, using the data that was gathered during the excavation and recording phases of the experiment.

Potential Hazards

There are a number of potential hazards associated with the experimental research.

- 1- As the research requires participants to excavate a grave feature there may be a

risk of physical injury through manual handling and exposure to the outdoors.

- 2- As the research will be conducted outdoors there is a risk that participants may come into contact with animals and may thus be at risk of contracting zoonosis related infections.
- 3- As the research will require participants to come into contact with soil there may be a risk of contracting Tetanus.

Preventative measures:

- The researcher will ensure that there are toilets, shelters, sun creams and first aid kits supplied throughout the experimental research.
- To prevent physical injury through incorrect manual handling, each participant will be provided with a manual handling guideline sheet that must be signed off by the participant before they can begin the experiment.
- To prevent participants from contracting a zoonosis related infection the participants will not be allowed to come into contact with animals situated in the research area.
- To prevent participants from contracting Tetanus, all participants will be required to have an up-to-date Tetanus vaccination.

Participant's Rights under the Data Protection Act 1998

All data collected during the course of the research will comply with the stipulations laid out in the Data Protection Act 1998.

Participants have the right to withdraw their permission for their personal data to be stored.

Participants have the right to access their personal data at any time they wish.

In order to protect the identity of individuals who participate in the experimental research, the researcher will ensure that all personal data is coded.

All personal data gathered throughout the course of the research will be stored in the researcher's designated safe storage facility, in the School of Applied Sciences (Bournemouth University), if paper based, if it is digital data, the files containing the data will be password protected.

Any numerical, statistical, interview, questionnaire, image, audio or visual data obtained during the course of the research will be kept for a maximum of 5 years, and will be destroyed after such time has elapsed. If the researcher requires the data for longer than stated, she will contact each participant to ask for their permission to continue to hold the data.

Withdrawal Procedure

All participants have the right to withdraw from the research at any time, without giving any reason for doing so.

Remuneration

Due to ethical constraints placed upon the research by Bournemouth University, participants are unable to be paid.

Complaints Procedure

If, for any reason, a participant is unhappy with the conduct of the researcher they may contact the following individuals to register a complaint:

Professor Timothy Darvill OBE
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