

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY

Master of Arts Comprehensive Examination in Archaeology

Date: January 15, 1998

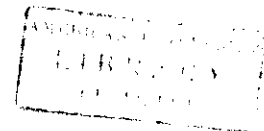
Time: 6 hours

Question 1:

**Excavation and proper finds management are of equal importance for the study, publication and presentation of the results of archaeological work.**

WRITE A COMPREHENSIVE ESSAY USING THE EXPERIENCE OF  
**BEIRUT AS A CASE STUDY**  
and including the following:

1. **Archaeologists in an urban context** have to do their complex work fast. How does this affect the essential recording processes?
2. Briefly discuss the **single context recording system** used in Beirut ?
3. What are the advantages of employing **computerised database programs, digitised plans and electronic illustrations** ?
4. Discuss the **finds section** of an urban excavation like Beirut.
5. How do you rate the **chances for successful publication and presentation to the general public** of the archaeological **finds from Beirut** at present ?



Question 2:

**What is the purpose of studying Roman pottery, apart from the creation of typologies and using it for dating ?**

**What do ceramic studies contribute to our understanding of the Roman world ?**