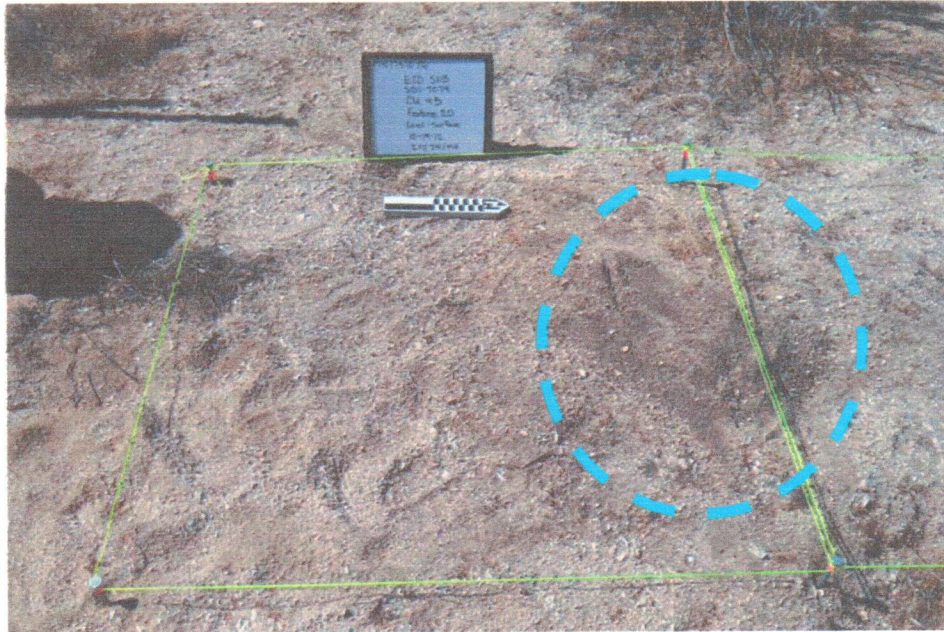


*Remember, you should NEVER disturb archaeological sites. It's against the law!*

## Seeing Underground

Midden soil is a sign of human occupation. Organic material, charcoal, oils and moisture stain the soil to a darker color. Technically, midden means “dump site.”



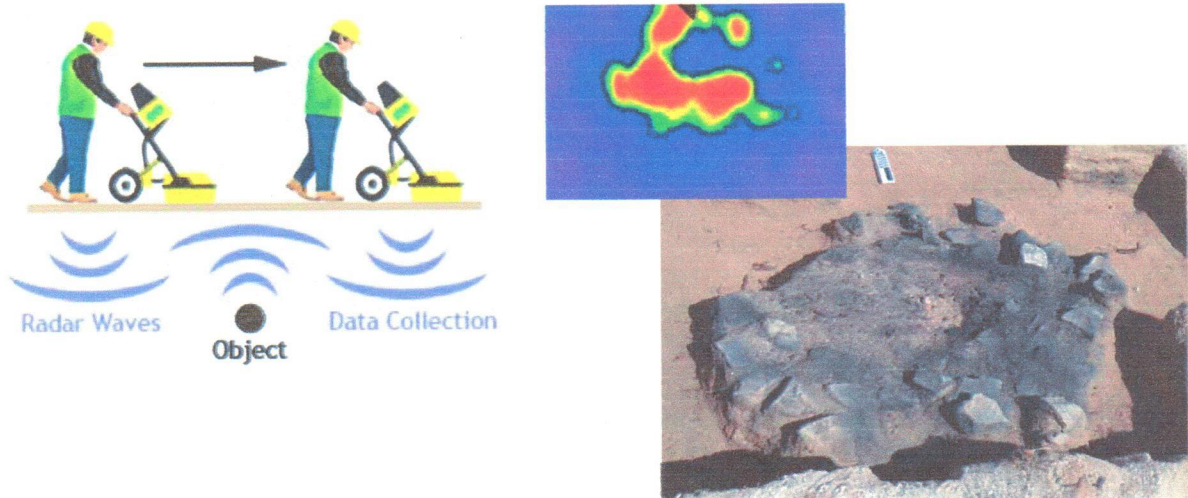
Shell middens are basically dump sites for shells that form over years of human occupation. Archaeologists study shell middens to determine which shellfish species people were utilizing.



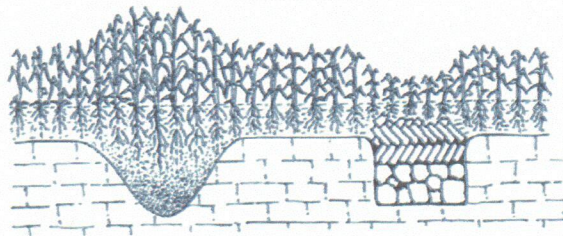
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## Seeing Underground

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) can be used to look for large, underground features, such as walls, floors and hearths.



Crop marks can appear when plants are growing over depressions or hard surfaces. These features effect how much water and soil is underneath the plants.



**Top:** Medieval homestead site in England

**Bottom:** Stone-age henge feature in Ireland.



**Remember, you should NEVER disturb archaeological sites. It's against the law!**

## Seeing Underground



Your archaeological team has walked this site in grids and left flag markers where they found artifacts on or near the surface.

- If you wanted to examine the stone tools these people made, where would you excavate?
- If you wanted to learn more about what they ate, where would you excavate?
- If you wanted to study the pottery, where would you excavate?
- Why do you think so few artifacts were noted in the center of this field?
- Why do you think so many stone chips were located near a hearth feature?
- Why do you think bone and shell were relatively far away from the hearth feature?

***Remember, you should NEVER disturb archaeological sites. It's against the law!***

## **Seeing Underground**

**If you wanted to examine the stone tools these people made, where would you excavate?**

It would be a good idea to excavate where there are stone chips. This could indicate the spot they were making tools.

**If you wanted to learn more about what they ate, where would you excavate?**

You would probably excavate where bone and shells are.

**If you wanted to study the pottery, where would you excavate?**

It might be a good idea to excavate where pottery sherds are noted around the upper middle hearth feature.

**Why do you think so few artifacts were noted in the center of this field?**

The smooth surface indicates that this area may have been plowed, thus removing any artifacts.

**Why do you think so many stone chips were located near a hearth feature?**

The fire would have provided light and warmth for making stone tools

**Why do you think bone and shell were relatively far away from the hearth feature?**

These items would probably smell bad and could attract predatory animals.