



Graphic #8 label

Excavation Unit Cross Section

(See Graphic 9 for a profile of this cross section.)

As individual units are excavated, the cross section, or vertical wall, of each unit provides a view of the layering within the unit. (This layering is similar to layers found in geological formations.) In sites that have not been disturbed, artifacts and site features (such as wooden posts and hearths) are layered with the youngest, or most recent, culture toward the top and the older cultures toward the bottom.

Here, the girl involved in excavating this unit holds her profile, or drawn record, in front of the wall it records.

Photo credit: Archeology Department, Kansas State Historical Society. 14MD306-213

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