Telling Time for Archaeologists

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Abstract
This essay presents an accumulation of data on the dates for common types of artifacts found on archaeological sites from the historical period. These dates come from a variety of sources and include a mix of types of dates. These dates are based on such things as patents, pattern registrations, dates when commercial production began, estimates of when production stopped, and the popularity ranges for various styles of wares based on makers’ marks. The introductory essay discusses some of the problems in the sources of the dates presented.

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An archaeologist is a person who discovers, collects and analyzes the material remains of previous societies and cultures. He or she studies artifacts, such as tools, weapons and ancient domiciles to learn about the way people lived in the past. An archaeologist studies modern and historical texts, employs specific field techniques, uses advanced laboratory equipment and writes detailed reports. In addition, many archaeologists choose to teach at universities or become museum curators in order to share archaeological principles with a wide audience. Excavating and Examining. Archaeologists fin