ALPHA SPECTROMETRY
BT: CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES
SN: A technique that uses the emission of alpha particles of specific energies to identify the presence and concentration of certain radioactive isotopes in a sample.

ALTERED BY ANIMALS
BT: MODIFICATION STATE
SN: Modified or damaged by an animal.

AMINO ACID RACEMISATION
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES
SN: The measurement of chemical alterations in the amino acids in protein molecules from bones, shells and teeth. Date range can be between 1,000 and several million years.

ANCIENT BIOMOLECULAR ANALYSIS
BT: CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES
SN: Characterisation of organic molecules extracted from fossil or sub-fossil materials, including lipids, DNA etc.

ANOXIC
UF: Waterlogged
BT: MODIFICATION STATE
SN: Material preserved by the exclusion of oxygen usually due to saturation with water which inhibits decay by microorganisms.

ANTLER
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
SN: Outgrowths of bone borne by most members of the deer family (Cervidae). They are shed and re-grow each year.

ARCHAEOMAGNETISM
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES
SN: Measures the remanent magnetisation direction of magnetic minerals. Useful for dating fired structures, in-situ since their last firing, and for sediments settling from non turbulent water bodies. In the UK, calibration data extends back to 1000BC.

ASPECT
NT: HUMAN ASPECTS
NT: NATURAL ASPECTS

AVAILABLE PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS
BT: SOIL PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS
SN: The analysis of the amount of phosphorus (P) (liable fraction) available to plants.

BEACH DEPOSIT
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
SN: A deposit formed by wave and tidal action on an estuarine or marine beach.

BIOCENIC CARBONATE
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
SN: Any carbonate material produced by biological activity, for instance operculae of snails.

BIOSTRATIGRAPHY
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES
SN: A technique in which the date is deduced from the presence of fauna and/or flora considered to be characteristic of a given period of time or that gives and indication of a probable date.

BLOCK LIFTING
BT: METHOD OF RECOVERY
SN: The removal of fragile or complex remains from an investigation as a block of earth for excavation under laboratory conditions. Typical examples are grave goods and cremation burials.

BONE
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
SN: Any of the pieces of hard tissue consisting largely of calcium phosphate that make up the skeleton of a vertebrate animal.

BURNT
UF: Burnt Deposit
BT: MODIFICATION STATE
NT: CALCINED
NT: CHARRED
NT: SILICIFIED
SN: Use for material that has been burnt.

Burnt Deposit
USE: BURNT

BURNED FLINT
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
SN: A form of silica, similar to quartz. Commonly black or white in colour and used for tool manufacture. Flints heated in antiquity may be dated using thermoluminescence.

C14 Dating
USE: RADIOCARBON DATING

CALCINED
UF: Cremated
BT: BURNT
SN: Material burnt at high temperature (above 700 degrees Celsius) leaving only the mineral component.

Carbon 14 Dating
USE: RADIOCARBON DATING

Carbon Dating
USE: RADIOCARBON DATING

Carbonised
USE: CHARRED

CARVED
BT: WORKED

CHARCOAL
BT: WOOD
NT: MICRO-CHARCOAL
NT: ROUNDWOOD
NT : TWIG
RT : CHARRED
SN : Wood that has been burnt and largely reduced to carbon as a result of burning in a reducing atmosphere below 500 degrees C (Celsius).

CHARRED
UF : Carbonised
BT : BURNT
RT : CHARCOAL
SN : Material that has been burnt and at least in part reduced to carbon as a result of burning in a reducing atmosphere below 500 degrees Celsius.

CHEMICALLY ALTERED
BT : MODIFICATION STATE
SN : Material that has been altered as a result of chemical action.

CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES
BT : INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES
NT : ALPHA SPECTROMETRY
NT : ANCIENT BIOMOLECULAR ANALYSIS
NT : GAMMA SPECTROMETRY
NT : MULTI-ELEMENT ANALYSIS
NT : PEAT HUMIFICATION
NT : PH DETERMINATION
NT : SOIL PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS
NT : SPOT TEST
NT : STABLE ISOPOTE ANALYSIS
SN : Examination of a material using chemical means.

CLAST LITHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS
BT : PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
SN : The identification and grouping of stone types in stratigraphy.

COARSE SIEVING
UF : Bulk Sampling
BT : METHOD OF RECOVERY
SN : The method of retrieving animal remains, artefacts and other remains by dry or wet-sieving whole earth samples, typically over 100 litres, sieved through a 2mm or larger mesh.

Colored
USE : COLOURED

COLOURED
UF : Colored
BT : WORKED
SN : Material with evidence of the application of a pigment or dye.

COPPER ALLOY
BT : NON-FERROUS METAL
SN : Use for a combination (alloy) of two or more different metals where copper (Cu) is the principal component.

COPROLITE
BT : MATERIAL TYPE
SN : Waste material from the digestive tract of animals. The term coprolite comes from the Greek 'kopros' meaning dung and 'lithos' meaning stone, and is used for faecal matter that has been preserved by mineral replacement or desiccation.

Cremated
USE : CALCINED

DATING TECHNIQUES
BT : INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES
NT : AMINO ACID RACEMISATION
NT : ARCHAEO MAGNETISM
NT : BIODISTRIBUTION
NT : DENDROCHRONOLOGY
NT : ELECTRON SPIN RESONANCE
NT : FISSION TRACK ANALYSIS
NT : FLUORINE, URANIUM AND NITROGEN TESTS
NT : LEAD ISOTOPE DATING
NT : LUMINESCENCE DATING
NT : MITOCHONDRIAL DNA
NT : OXYGEN ISOPOTE ANALYSIS
NT : POTASSIUM ARGON DATING
NT : RADIOCARBON DATING
NT : TEPHROCHRONOLOGY
NT : URANIUM SERIES DATING
SN : Techniques applied to a material in order to date it or material associated with it. Use more specific terms.

DECORATED
UF : Decoration
BT : WORKED
SN : Use where decoration is present.

Decoration
USE : DECORATED

DENDROCHRONOLOGY
BT : DATING TECHNIQUES
RT : TREE-RING ANALYSIS
SN : The measuring of annual tree-ring growth shown by most tree species in temperated regions. Regional chronologies are required to date any particular piece of wood, the longest of which, for Germany, works for the present to approximately 14,000 yrs ago.

DESICCATED
BT : MODIFICATION STATE
SN : Material preserved due to very low humidity which inhibits decay by micro-organisms.

Disease
USE : PATHOLOGY

Diseased
USE : PATHOLOGY

EGG SHELL
BT : MATERIAL TYPE
SN : Use for the remains of an egg whether from a bird, reptile or amphibian.

ELECTRON SPIN RESONANCE
BT : DATING TECHNIQUES
SN : The measurement of trapped electrons by exposure to high-frequency electromagnetic radiation. A useful technique for dating tooth enamel, shells, coral and calcite form 5,000-1,000,000 years old.

ESTUARINE DEPOSIT
BT : MATERIAL TYPE
SN : An alluvial deposit laid down in an estuary.

FEATHER
BT : MATERIAL TYPE
SN : Use for feathers, an epidermal growth found in birds consisting of a quill, shaft and two vanes of barbs.

FELDSPAR
GEOLOGICAL SEDIMENT
SN: A group of aluminosilicate minerals with varying compositions. The most common mineral in igneous rocks, and common in other rocks and sediments.

FERROUS METAL
BT: METAL
SN: Any metal principally composed of the chemical element Iron (Fe).

FIBRE
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
SN: Use for any thread-like material.

FISSION TRACK ANALYSIS
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES
SN: A technique for the dating of damage tracks in volcanic materials caused by the fissioning of decaying radioactive uranium (U) isotopes. Useful in samples more than 50,000 years old.

FLOT
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
SN: The material which floats during the floatation of samples as a means of recovering charred plant remains from an archaeological context.

FLOTATION
BT: METHOD OF RECOVERY
SN: Method used for the recovering of material by floating large whole earth samples, usually between 40-60 litres per context (or 100% if context contains less than this).

FLUORINE, URANIUM AND NITROGEN TESTS
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES
SN: A relative dating technique for assessing bones from the same deposit. Often used to check for contemporaneity of bones selected for radiocarbon dating or to check for hoaxes such as the Piltdown Man.

Fossilised
USE: MINERAL REPLACED

FUNGAL DAMAGE
BT: MODIFICATION STATE
SN: Material that has been damaged by fungal growth or secretions.

GAMMA SPECTROMETRY
BT: CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES
SN: A technique that uses the emission of gamma rays of specific energies to identify the presence and concentration of certain radioactive isotopes in a sample

GEOLOGICAL SEDIMENT
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
NT: FELDSPAR
NT: POLYMINERAL
NT: QUARTZ
NT: ZIRCON
SN: A material composed of mineral grains derived from the breakdown of rocks by environmental processes.

GOLD
BT: NON-FERROUS METAL
SN: A precious metal characterised by its yellow colour and resistance to tarnishing.

HAIR
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
RT: SKIN
SN: Use for hair, fur etc: filaments growing out of the outermost layer of mammalian skin.

HAND RETRIEVAL
BT: METHOD OF RECOVERY
SN: The retrieval of material from deposits by hand, normally large objects visible with the naked eye, eg. Mammal remains and marine molluscs.

Heavy Residue
USE: RESIDUE

HUMAN ASPECTS
BT: ASPECT
NT: MANUFACTURING DEBRIS
NT: WORKED
SN: Aspects of a material which result from the modification or use of the material by humans.

HYDROLYSIS
BT: MODIFICATION STATE
SN: The chemical breakdown of a material by water.

IMPRESSION
BT: MODIFICATION STATE
SN: The negative trace left by an object type or material (eg. animal, plant or textile) on another object type or material, often on ceramics or metal corrosion products.

INFRA-RED STIMULATED LUMINESCENCE
UF: Irsl
UF: Irsl Dating
BT: LUMINESCENCE DATING
SN: The light emitted from sedimentary minerals or mineral inclusions in bricks when stimulated in the laboratory by infrared light. Used to date samples up to 250,000 years old; especially appropriate for geological sediments containing feldspars.

INORGANIC PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS
BT: SOIL PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS
SN: The analysis of inorganic phosphorus (P).

INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES
NT: CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES
NT: DATING TECHNIQUES
NT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES

Irsl
USE: INFRA-RED STIMULATED LUMINESCENCE

Irsl Dating
USE: INFRA-RED STIMULATED LUMINESCENCE

IVORY
BT: TOOTH
SN: Use for a tusk or tooth of a mammal large enough to be carved or used to make objects such as those of mammoths, elephants, walruses and whales.

LEAD ISOTOPE DATING
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES
SN: A technique which uses the measurement of decay in radioactive lead (Pb) isotopes to determine a date. Useful for sediments and lead-based paints between 1 and 400 years old.

LEATHER
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
RT: SKIN

LIGHT FIBER
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
SN: Use for any thread-like material.
SN: Animal skin that has been tanned or tawed.

LOSS ON IGNITION DETERMINATION
BT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
SN: The weight loss from low-temperature burning of material. It correlates well with organic matter (material derived from living things) content.

LUMINESCENCE DATING
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES
NT: INFRA-RED STIMULATED LUMINESCENCE
NT: OPTICALLY STIMULATED LUMINESCENCE
NT: THERMOLUMINESCENCE
SN: A range of techniques that use the build up of charge stored within a crystalline material to estimate its age

MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY
BT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
SN: The degree to which a material will become magnetised when placed in a magnetic field.

MANUFACTURING DEBRIS
BT: HUMAN ASPECTS
SN: Use where the material presents debris or waste from manufacturing.

MATERIAL TYPE
NT: ANTLER
NT: BEACH DEPOSIT
NT: BIOGENIC CARBONATE
NT: BONE
NT: BRICK
NT: BURNT FLINT
NT: COPROLITE
NT: EGG SHELL
NT: ESTUARINE DEPOSIT
NT: FEATHER
NT: FIBRE
NT: FLOT
NT: GEOLOGICAL SEDIMENT
NT: HAIR
NT: LEATHER
NT: METAL
NT: PEAT DEPOSIT
NT: PHYTOLITH
NT: POLLEN
NT: POTTERY
NT: RESIDUE
NT: SHELL
NT: SKIN
NT: TOOTH
NT: TUFAEACEOUS DEPOSIT
NT: WOOD

METAL
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
NT: FERROUS METAL
NT: NON-FERROUS METAL
SN: Class of elements and alloys that are characteristically lustrous, ductile, fusible and malleable. These are extracted from ore minerals originally existing in nature and processed before becoming a recognisable metal.

METHOD OF RECOVERY
NT: BLOCK LIFTING
NT: COARSE SIEVING
NT: FLOTATION
NT: HAND RETRIEVAL
NT: SPECIALIST SAMPLING

MICRO-CHARCOAL
BT: CHARCOAL
SN: Microscopic charcoal fragments that are concentrated and counted as part of standard pollen preparation techniques.

MICROFOSIL
USE: PHYTOLITH

MICROMORPHOLOGY
BT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
SN: The microscopic analysis of thin sections of resin impregnated stratigraphy.

MICROSCOPY
BT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
NT: POLARISED LIGHT MICROSCOPY
NT: SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPY
SN: The use of magnifying equipment to examine materials not visible to the naked eye.

MINERALOGY
BT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
SN: The study of minerals.

MINERAL PRESENT
SN: Preservation of material by toxic effect of corrosion products in the immediate vicinity, or within, the material.

MINERAL REPLACED
UF: Fossilised
UF: Mineralised
BT: MODIFICATION STATE
SN: Replacement of organic material by minerals, including calcium carbonate and calcium phosphate.

MITOCHONDRIAL DNA
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES
SN: A dating technique for the founding of individual populations based on the assumption of steady rates of mutation in mitochondrial DNA. Sometimes used to produce dates for stratigraphic layers containing fossil specimens of populations.

MODIFICATION STATE
NT: ALTERED BY ANIMALS
NT: ANOXIC
NT: BURNT
NT: CHEMICALLY ALTERED
NT: DESICCATED
NT: FUNGAL DAMAGE
NT: HYDROLYSIS
NT: IMPRESSION
NT: MINERAL PRESERVED
NT: MINERAL REPLACED
NT: PLANT DAMAGE
NT: WATERWORN

MOISTURE CONTENT
BT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
SN: A measure of the proportion of water within a sample.

MULTI-ELEMENT ANALYSIS
BT: CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES
NT: X-RAY DIFFRACTION
NT: X-RAY FLUORESCENCE SPECTROMETRY
SN: Techniques investigating more than one element at a time.

**NATURAL ASPECTS**

**BT:** ASPECT  
**NT:** NON-METRIC TRAITS  
**SN:** Aspects associated with the genetic make up and/or factors that affected the organism from which the material is derived during its life.

**NON-FERROUS METAL**  
**BT:** METAL  
**NT:** COPPER ALLOY  
**NT:** GOLD  
**NT:** SILVER  
**SN:** Any metal that does not contain the chemical element Iron (Fe) as a principal component.

**NON-METRIC TRAITS**  
**BT:** NATURAL ASPECTS  
**SN:** Use for congenital (present at birth) abnormalities (absent/extra or morphologically unusual features) present in an individual or population.

**OBSIDIAN HYDRATION**  
**BT:** DATING TECHNIQUES  
**SN:** A technique used to date obsidian (volcanic glass) of all ages and is thus not commonly used in the UK.

**OPTICALLY STIMULATED LUMINESCENCE**  
**UF:** Osl  
**UF:** Osl Dating  
**BT:** LUMINESCENCE DATING  
**SN:** The light emitted from sedimentary minerals or mineral inclusions in bricks when stimulated in the laboratory by light of a different wavelength. Used to date samples up to 250,000 years old; especially appropriate for geological sediments.

**Osl**  
**USE:** OPTICALLY STIMULATED LUMINESCENCE

**Osl Dating**  
**USE:** OPTICALLY STIMULATED LUMINESCENCE

**OXYGEN ISOTOPE ANALYSIS**  
**BT:** DATING TECHNIQUES  
**SN:** The use of oxygen (O) isotope ratios in ice or ocean sediment cores to date global environmental change.

**PARTICLE SIZE ANALYSIS**  
**BT:** PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES  
**SN:** The analysis of the distribution and proportion of sand, silt and clay in a deposit.

**PATHOLOGY**  
**UF:** Disease  
**UF:** Deseased  
**BT:** NATURAL ASPECTS  
**SN:** Use for bone remodelling, new growth, loss or destruction caused by age, activity, disease or trauma during life.

**PEAT DEPOSIT**  
**BT:** MATERIAL TYPE  
**SN:** A naturally occurring deposit formed by the decomposition and partial carbonisation of vegetable matter in waterlogged conditions.

**PEAT HUMIFICATION**  
**BT:** CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES  
**SN:** A method of determining peat degradation; quantified as the percentage light transmission value of the extracted humic acids, measured at a specific wavelength.

**PH DETERMINATION**  
**BT:** CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES  
**SN:** The degree of acidity or alkalinity of a material.

**PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES**  
**BT:** INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES  
**NT:** CLAST LITHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS  
**NT:** LOSS ON IGNITION DETERMINATION  
**NT:** MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY  
**NT:** MICROSCOPY  
**NT:** MINERALOGY  
**NT:** MOISTURE CONTENT  
**NT:** PARTICLE SIZE ANALYSIS  
**NT:** STRATIGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION  
**NT:** X-RADIOGRAPHY  
**SN:** The examination of material by physical means, including detailed observation.

**PHYTOLITH**  
**UF:** Microfossils  
**BT:** MATERIAL TYPE  
**SN:** Microscopic mineral body (usually silica) found in many plants.

**PLANT DAMAGE**  
**BT:** MODIFICATION STATE  
**SN:** Material that has been penetrated or disrupted by the roots or rhizomes of plants.

**POLARISED LIGHT MICROSCOPY**  
**BT:** MICROSCOPY  
**SN:** Light microscopy in which vibration directions of the light are constrained into single planes.

**POLLEN**  
**BT:** MATERIAL TYPE  
**SN:** Use for pollen and diaspores. Pollen consists of pollen grains which are the male gametes of flowering plants. Diaspores are the dispersive units of mosses, ferns, fern allies and some plants. To describe the actual object use PLANT REMAINS.

**POLYMERIC**  
**BT:** GEOLOGICAL SEDIMENT  
**SN:** A general term to describe a sediment or sample that contains a variety of different minerals.

**POLYMINERAL**  
**BT:** GEOLOGICAL SEDIMENT  
**SN:** A method of determining peat degradation; quantified as the percentage light transmission value of the extracted humic acids, measured at a specific wavelength.

**POTASSIUM ARGON DATING**  
**BT:** DATING TECHNIQUES  
**SN:** The measurement of the ratio of a radioactive potassium (K) isotope and the argon (Ar) gas produced as a by-product of its decay. Useful for dating volcanic material older than 1,000 years.

**POTTERY**  
**BT:** MATERIAL TYPE  
**SN:** Object produced commonly by firing clay, but can include coarser material to temper it.

**QUARTZ**  
**BT:** GEOLOGICAL SEDIMENT
SN: A mineral composed of SiO2. Commonly clear or milky in appearance. A common constituent of rocks and sediments.

**RADIOCARBON DATING**

UF: C14 Dating  
UF: Carbon 14 Dating  
UF: Carbon Dating  
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES  
SN: The measurement of the ratio of the radioactive Carbon 14 (C-14) isotope and non-radioactive carbon isotopes. Useful for dating organic materials such as wood and bone between 500 and 45,000 years old.

**RESIDUE**

UF: Heavy Residue  
BT: MATERIAL TYPE  
SN: The material that does not float during the floatation of samples as a means of recovering charred plant remains from an archaeological context. Also, the material remaining following wet or dry sieving of course sieved samples.

**ROUNDWOOD**

BT: CHARCOAL  
BT: WOOD  
SN: Material comprising entire or partial transverse sections of stems. Bark may be present or not. Can include complete sections of tree trunk but generally comprises smaller (<20cm diameter) material.

**S.E.M.**

USE: SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPY

**SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPY**

UF: S.E.M.  
UF: Sem  
BT: MICROSCOPY  
SN: A process using an electron microscope in which the surface of the specimen is scanned by a beam of electrons which are reflected to form an image. Very high magnification is possible.

Sem  
USE: SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPY

**SHELL**

BT: MATERIAL TYPE  
SN: Use for any shell of an animal, principally, molluscs, crabs etc.

**SILICIFIED**

BT: BURNT  
SN: Use for material that has been burnt at high temperature in a good air supply such that only the silica component remains.

**SILVER**

BT: NON-FERROUS METAL  
SN: A precious metal of lustrous, white colour with great malleability and ductility.

**SKIN**

BT: MATERIAL TYPE  
RT: LEATHER  
SN: Use for the remains of epidermis or outermost layer. Relates to both animals and plants. If describing the actual object use PLANT REMAINS, ANIMAL REMAINS or HUMAN REMAINS.

**SOIL PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS**

BT: CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES  
NT: AVAILABLE PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS  
NT: INORGANIC PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS  
NT: TOTAL PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS  
SN: The analysis of the amount of phosphorus (P) present in a soil.

**SPECIALIST SAMPLING**

BT: METHOD OF RECOVERY  
SN: The recovery of material from samples collected during field investigations, usually taken by specialists with a particular area of expertise. Normally processed in the laboratory. Also use for the processing of samples subsequent to investigation.

**SPOT TEST**

BT: CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES  
SN: The application of a chemical test to a material, usually as a rapid approximation.

**STABLE ISOTOPE ANALYSIS**

BT: CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES  
SN: Comparison of different proportions of natural occurring isotopes of lead (Pb), strontium (Sr), oxygen (O), carbon (C) and nitrogen (N).

**STRATIGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION**

BT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES  
SN: The careful observation and written description of the physical characteristics of stratigraphy. It will normally include information on texture, colour and the nature of the different components.

**TEPHROCHRONOLOGY**

BT: DATING TECHNIQUES  
SN: The use of ash and tephra deposits characteristic of single known-date volcanic eruptions to date stratigraphic sequences.

**THERMOLUMINESCENCE**

UF: Ti Dating  
UF: Ti  
BT: LUMINESCENCE DATING  
SN: The measurement of the light emitted from sedimentary minerals, mineral inclusions in bricks, burnt flint or unburnt calcite when they are heated. The signal relates to their prior exposure to radioactivity. Used to date samples up to 500,000 years old.

Ti  
USE: THERMOLUMINESCENCE

Ti Dating  
USE: THERMOLUMINESCENCE

**TOOL MARKED**

UF: Tool Marks  
BT: WORKED  
SN: Use where evidence of tool marks is present

Tool Marks  
USE: TOOL MARKED

**TOOTH**

BT: MATERIAL TYPE  
NT: IVORY  
SN: Use for teeth, hard structures found in the jaws of vertebrates used principally for chewing and eating.

**TOTAL PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS**
SOIL PHOSPHORUS ANALYSIS
SN: The analysis of organic plus inorganic phosphorus (P).

TREE-RING ANALYSIS
UF: Tree-Ring Studies
BT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
RT: DENDROCHRONOLOGY
SN: The use of annual incremental growth in temperate trees to investigate environmental, especially local, parameters and the history of individual trees.

Tree-Ring Studies
USE: TREE-RING ANALYSIS

TUFACEOUS DEPOSIT
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
SN: A naturally occurring deposit of calcareous tufa ('shell marl') sometimes found in alluvial deposits.

TWIG
BT: WOOD
BT: CHARCOAL
SN: Small (<2cm diameter) roundwood often complete with buds or leaf scars.

URANIUM SERIES DATING
BT: DATING TECHNIQUES
SN: The measurement of the decay of radioactive uranium (U) isotopes. Particularly useful for dating calcite and sometimes bone, tooth and shell up to 70,000 years old.

Waterlogged
USE: ANOXIC

WATERWORN
BT: MODIFICATION STATE
SN: Material, especially rock, worn smooth by the passage of water.

WOOD
BT: MATERIAL TYPE
NT: CHARCOAL
NT: ROUNDWOOD
NT: TWIG
SN: Hard, compact, unprocessed, fibrous cellulose substance. The roots, trunks and branches of trees and shrubs consist of this tissue.

WORKED
BT: HUMAN ASPECTS
NT: CARVED
NT: COLOURED
NT: DECORATED
NT: TOOL MARKED
SN: Use for any material that shows evidence of modification by humans.

X-RAY FLUORESCENCE SPECTROMETRY
UF: Xrf
BT: MULTI-ELEMENT ANALYSIS
SN: A surface technique of spectroscopic analysis which relies on the interaction of primary X-rays with the sample to generate a range of secondary X-rays. These have energies characteristic of the elements present in the sample.

Xrd
USE: X-RAY DIFFRACTION

Xrf
USE: X-RAY FLUORESCENCE SPECTROMETRY

ZIRCON
BT: GEOLOGICAL SEDIMENT
SN: A mineral of the composition Zr[SiO4]. Commonly brown or yellow in colour. May contain high levels of uranium and thorium. Can be used for dating using luminescence or fission track methods.

X-RADIOPHGRAPHY
BT: PHYSICAL TECHNIQUES
SN: The production of an image on a photographic plate as a result of X-rays (very short wavelength electromagnetic radiation) being passed through an object.

X-RAY DIFFRACTION
UF: Xrd
BT: MULTI-ELEMENT ANALYSIS
SN: A surface technique that uses the diffraction of X-rays to examine the mineral composition of a sample. Useful for identifying corrosion products, pigments etc. but of little use with organic compounds which consist largely of carbon, oxygen and hydrogen.