

RESULTS FROM JUNE 10, 2011

Today, we began work a little before 7:00 am – with the temperature still in the 60s. A pesky mole has set up shop in one of our excavation units – leaving a trail behind.



Starting in the cooler part of the morning and a bit more acclimated to the heat, we decided to work until noon – getting a solid five hours of work completed. After lunch, everyone felt up to a couple of additional hours of work – by closing time at 3:00, all nine of our units were finished down to the base of Level 1 (10 cm below the current surface) and ready for formal photographs.



Although little survives of significance in the upper plowed zone at Castalian Springs, we use the upper zones as practice levels for the students. This gives them a chance to practice using the tools of the trade (shovels for skimming and trowels for finer work) before we get to the better preserved deposits beneath the plowzone (around 20-25 cm deep). Here Kellum works with her trowel up on Mound 3.



During the morning, I also started the group instruction on use of surveying equipment. Here, the students observe as I demonstrate setting up our David White transit.



More detailed small group instruction on the transit continued through the morning and afternoon – each crew and crew member will learn to set up, level, and use the transit to document their excavations. Here, Alex, Sean, and Richard practice leveling and using the transit.



Over at the palisade investigation area, Brandi and Kelly practice their shovel skimming skills as they close out Level 1.

