



BLACK ROCK DESERT
HIGH ROCK CANYON
EMIGRANT TRAILS



NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

LASSEN-CLAPPER MURDER SITE

What is Forensic Archaeology?

- It is the application of the theories and methods of archaeology to forensic (relating to or dealing with the application of scientific knowledge to legal problems) work.
- **What do Forensic Archaeologists do?**
- Locate grave sites: They look for traditional archaeological sites through a variety of techniques fitted to the terrain and site type. Which include: pedestrian (walking) inventory, probes, remote sensing, and trenching. All of these can be used to find bodies and graves.
- Assess scenes: Once the grave is found, the exhumation (retrieving the body from the grave) needs to be conducted safely and planned so that the maximum amount of information can be extracted. They help to figure out what types of safety equipment are needed, other experts, and plan the actual exhumation to extract all the information possible.
- Document and Map the Scene: The excavation of an archaeological site or the investigation of a scene destroys both. Documenting the scene is the only record of its condition before investigation.
- Outdoor Scene Reconstruction: Archaeologists look not only at the artifacts, but their importance and meaning within the site and its association with other material. For example: A cartridge case found alone may result from hunting or target practice; a cartridge case in association with a dead body may have a very different origin. Archaeologists also have to be aware of site formation processes, or the study of what happened between the time the site, or scene, was created and the time that it was investigated.

All information gathered from: emill.com/connorconsulting/forensic.html



Forensic Archaeology