

# History Revealed

Excavations of the Ludlow tent cellars permitted archaeologists to contribute to the historical record.

The cellars provided the most comprehensive snapshot of daily life in the tent colony.

The goals of archaeology at Ludlow were to reconstruct the day-to-day existence of the strikers, something that the history books usually do not address. According to oral testimonies, cellars were used for storage, extra living space and protection from the weather and occasional gunfire. Excavations indicated that they were also used as trash pits during the clean up of the colony

following the massacre. Artifacts reveal types of furniture, kitchen items, dishes, toys, clothing and food used at the tent colony. Studying people's possessions helped archaeologists determine the makeup of a household, family size, relative affluence and nationality.



Archaeologist excavating during the summer of 2002



Coal miners cooking



Coffee pot found at the site of the Ludlow tent colony

Artifacts from the Colorado Coalfield Project are used in public education through exhibits and traveling history trunks.