

Definition: Terminus post quem

Terminus post quem, Latin for "limit after which," is used to indicate the date after which an artifact must have been deposited. For example, if an archeological site contains coins dated 1588, 1595, and others dated 1590 - 1625, the *terminus post quem* would be the coin dated 1625, i.e., the latest date obtained from the evidence.

Source:

<https://www.nps.gov/history/archeology/AforI/glossary.htm> (scroll down to "Terminus post quem (TPQ) dating")



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