Guicheng is a prominent Bronze-Age city situated in the eastern part of the Shandong peninsula, traditionally known as the heartland of the so-called “Eastern Barbarians”. However, Guicheng has yielded a long series of important discoveries of inscribed bronze vessels dating to the early part of the Western Zhou period (1045-957 BC) and a cultural inventory that features both Zhou and the local cultural elements. The project is a multi-year collaboration between Columbia University and the Institute of Archaeology (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences) to clarify the spatial subdivisions and internal sociopolitical organization of the Guicheng city and its position in the regional socioeconomic system. The project can contribute significant insights into Bronze-Age society, especially the process of “Secondary State Formation” in the periphery of the great civilizations. The objective for 2007-2010 is to achieve a thorough understanding of the above- and below-ground conditions of the Guicheng city.

Two terms of field school are scheduled for each year, according to local agricultural seasons: Summer, June 1-July 15; Autumn, October 15-November 30. Summer 2007 team is already full. If you are interested in participating in Autumn 2007 or/and Summer 2008 terms, please contact Professor Li Feng (Director of the field school) at: fl123@columbia.edu, or 212-854-2510.