

Treasure hunters cannot afford to let us see what they do the sites they

salvage.



Treasure hunting is a hobby of the rich, and the rich rule.

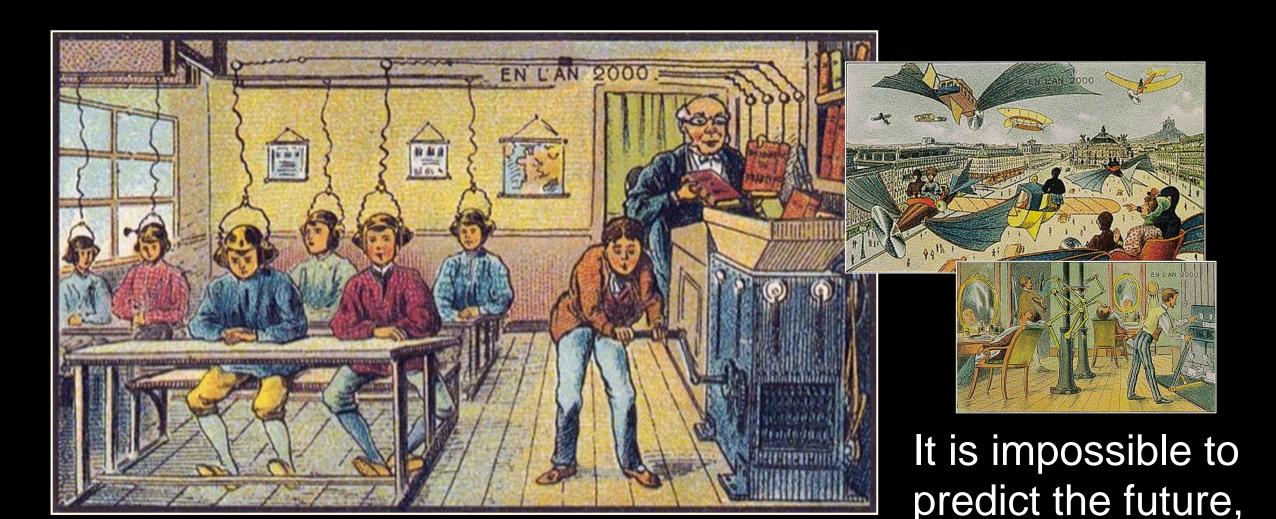




Treasure hunters do it for the power drive and the adventure. Not for the money.



Archaeologists – and especially maritime archaeologists– are very amateurish: they fight for no reason, hide data, gossip, don't finish, don't publish, don't know what is the social value of archaeology...



but that should not prevent us from thinking about it. I see two important factors influencing the future of archaeology.



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JANUARY 12, 2016

WERNER HERZOG TALKS VIRTUAL REALITY

BY PATRICK HOUSE















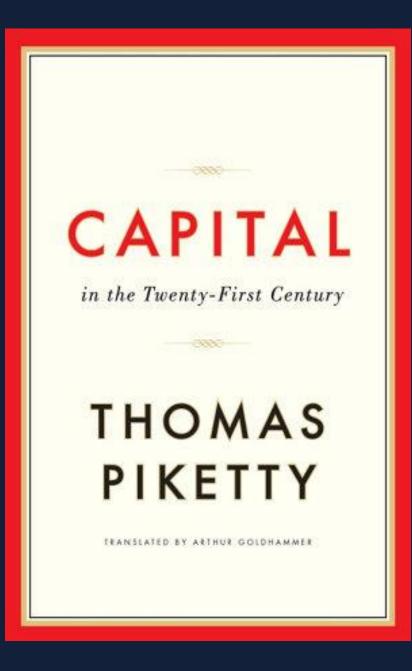
"I am convinced that this is not going to be an extension of cinema or 3–D cinema or video games. It is something new, different, and not experienced yet," the filmmaker Werner Herzog said of virtual reality. PHOTOGRAPH BY SARAH LEE / EYEVINE / REDUX

m a skeptic of 3-D, but when I saw the paintings I knew I had to use it," Werner Herzog told Judith Thurman in 2010, after the New York première of his documentary "Cave of Forgotten Dreams." The film examines some of the world's earliest known paintings,

MOST POPULAR

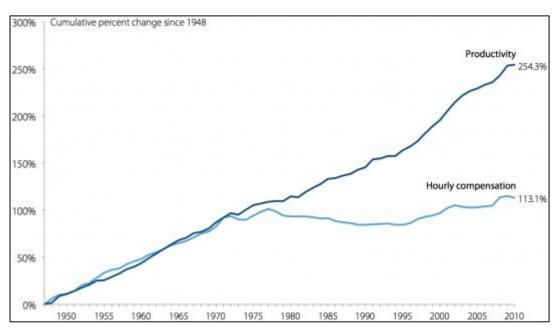
- 1. Ted Cruz's Iowa Mailers Are More Fraudulent Than Everyone Thinks BY RYAN LIZZA
- 2. The End of Twitter BY JOSHUA TOPOLSKY
- 3. Cassidy's Count: Polls Point to Victories for Trump and Clinton in Iowa BY JOHN CASSIDY
- 4. Richard Dreyfuss, Glenn Beck, Ted Cruz, and Lady Gaga in Iowa BY RYAN LIZZA
- 5. The Useless Agony of Going

1. Computer graphics are revolutionizing many aspects of our lives...

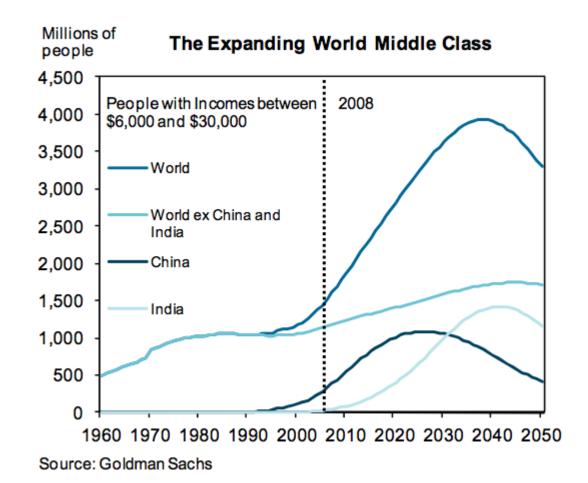


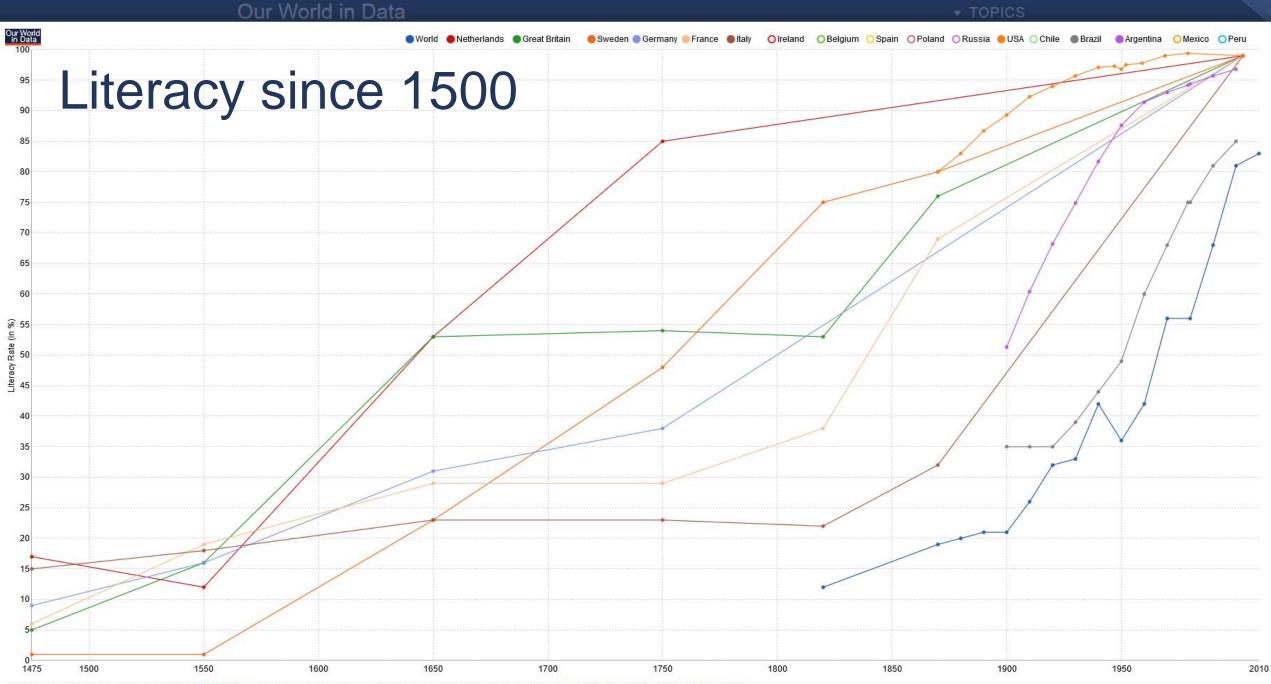
2. Inequality is destroying middle classes in the West and eroding the power of governments.

Middle classes are being eroded in the west, but they are growing globally.



Productivity and Hourly compensation (US)

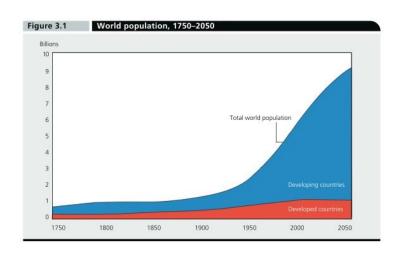


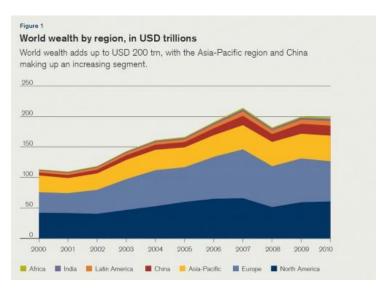


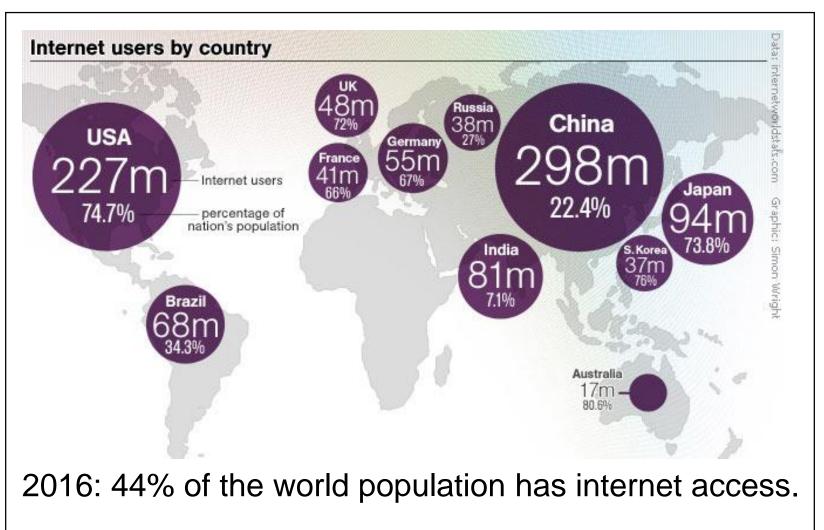
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Data Sources: Buringh & Van Zanden (2009), Van Zandel et al (2014), OxLAD, Broadberry & O'Rourke (2010), CIA and US National Center for Education Statistics.

Since 1945 the world population doubled, and the world wealth quintupled.









In a few years, most archaeologists will be non-western. How will this change both practices and narratives?

Excavation of the 9th century Phanom-Surin laced ship (Thailand).



Middle classes worldwide are the consumers of cultural production: libraries, museums, concert halls, orchestras, opera houses, literary magazines, books, etc., and technology is creating opportunities everywhere.







In this context, what is the future of (maritime) archaeology?



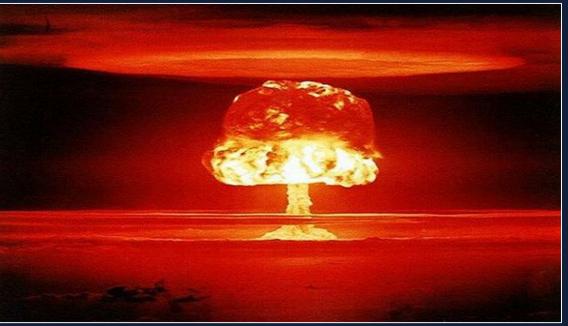
Computer graphics will make the past more accessible!







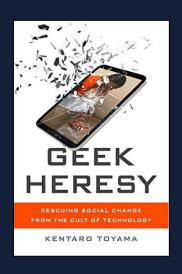




It is policy, not technology, that change the world.

Technology only magnifies human intent and capacity. It can't substitute for them.

Kentaro Toyama

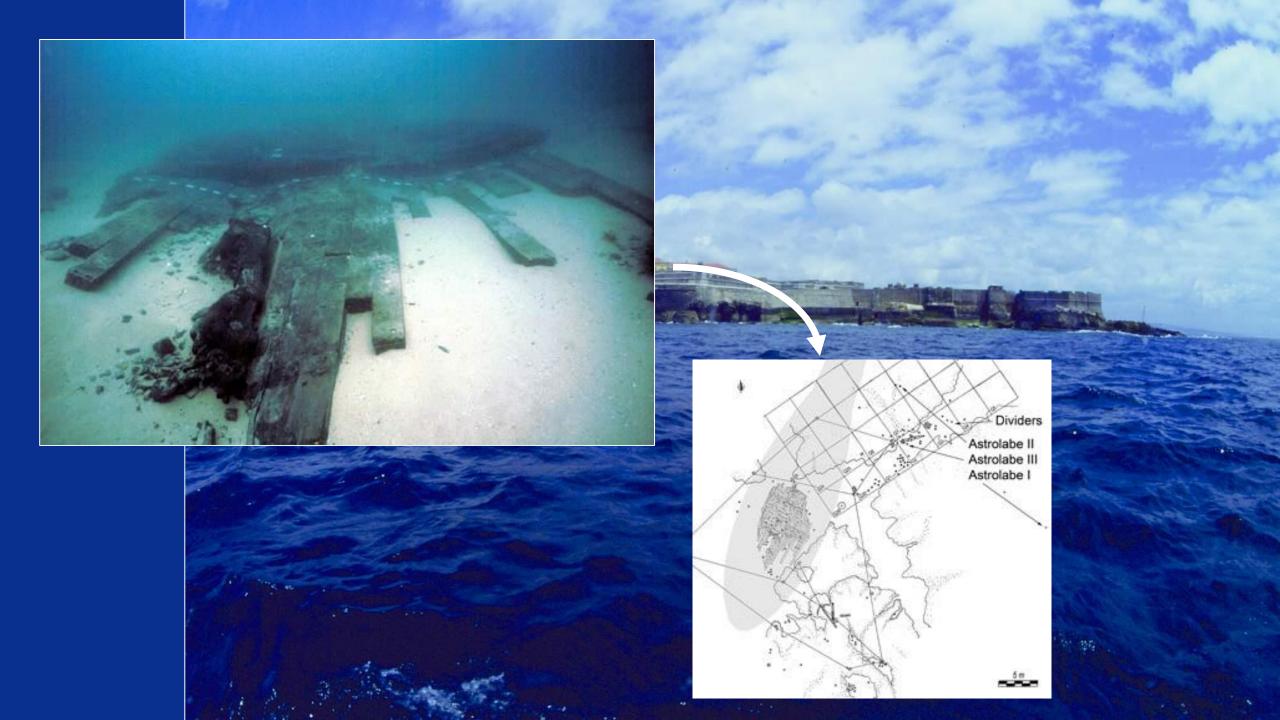


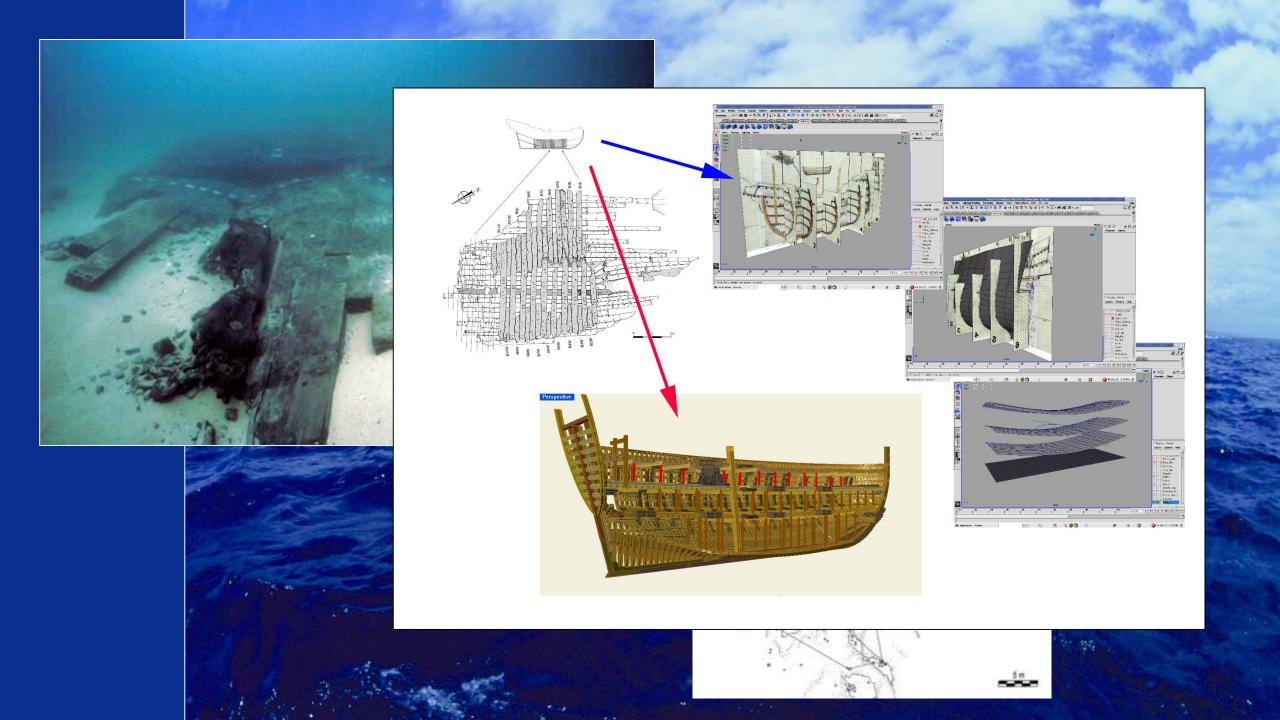
A few applications of existing technology are obvious:

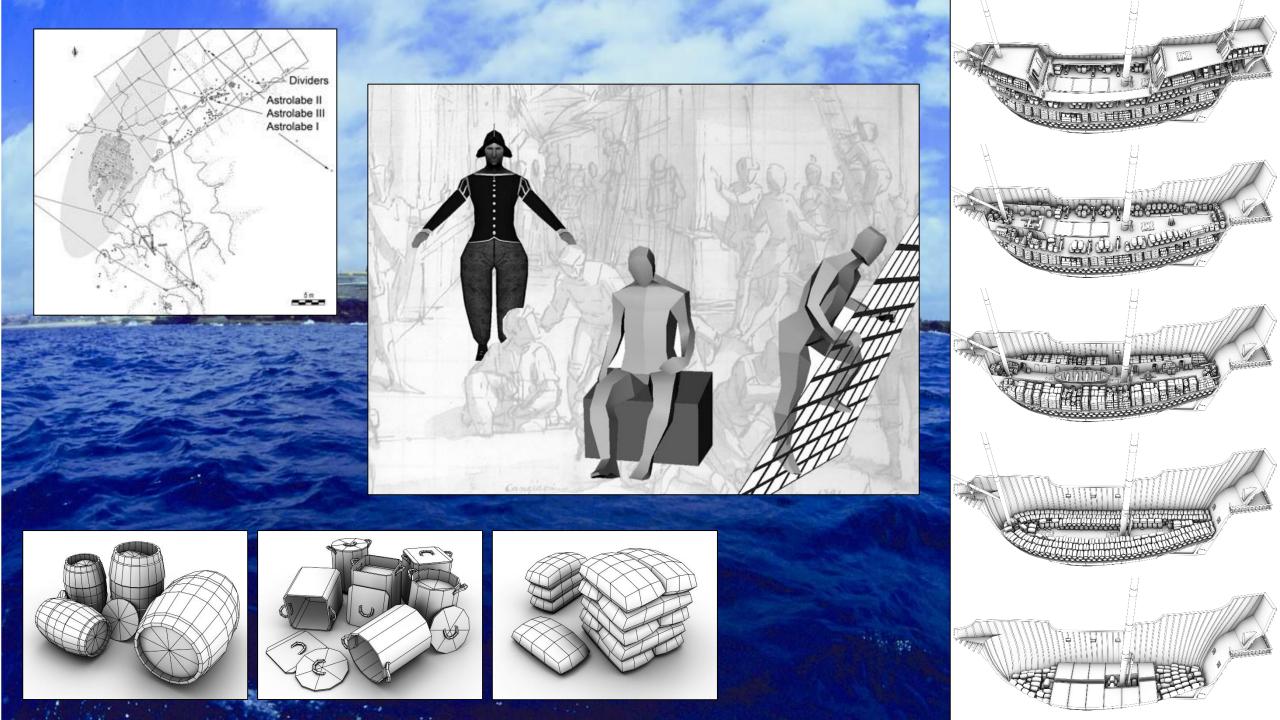
- 1. To make underwater sites visible;
- 2. To record them for posterity;
- 3. To monitor and protect underwater sites;
- 4. To share knowledge through social networks;
- 5. To analyze and reconstruct archaeological sites;
- 6. To simplify 3D recording and non-intrusive surveys;
- 7. To guide the development of technology towards cheaper, faster, more accurate, and less intrusive surveys!



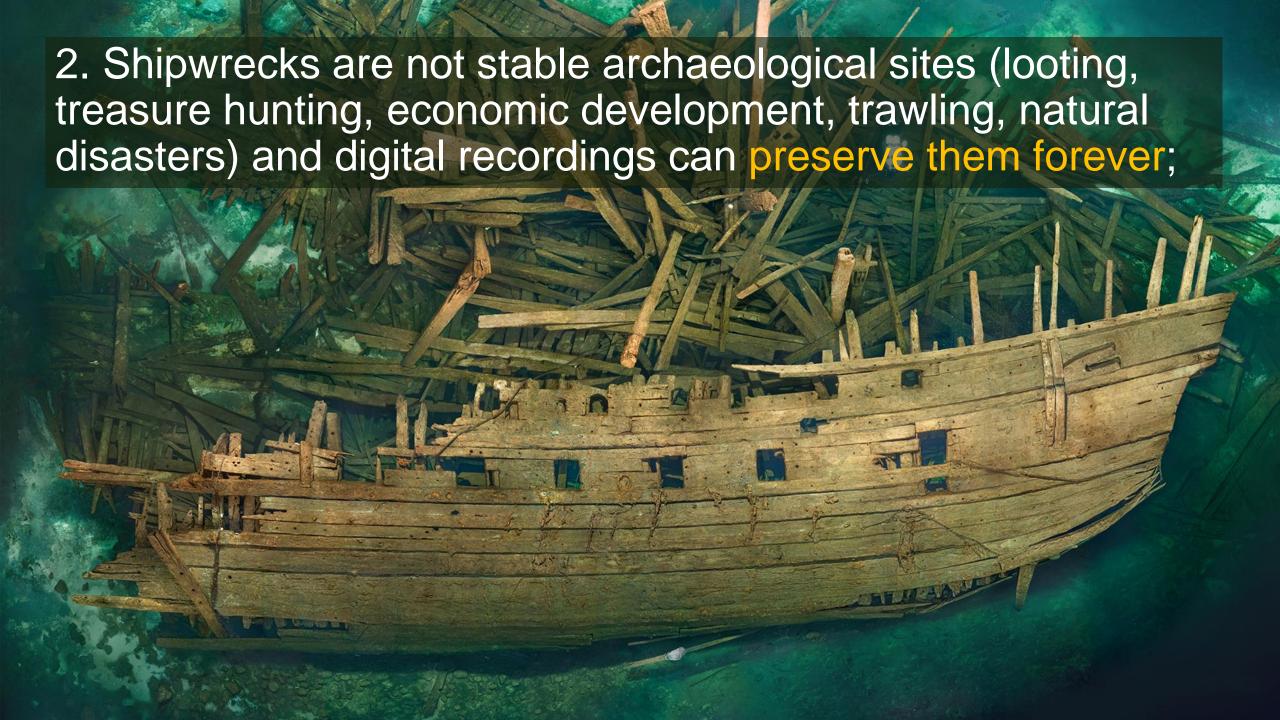






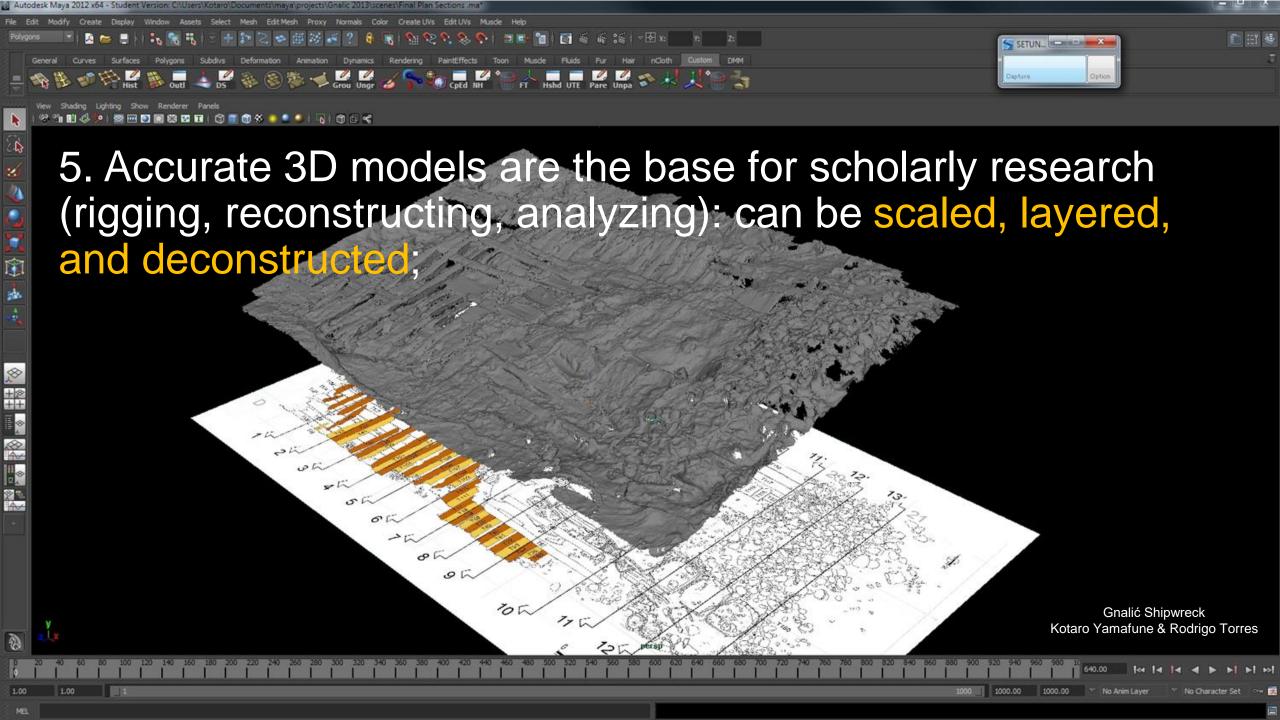




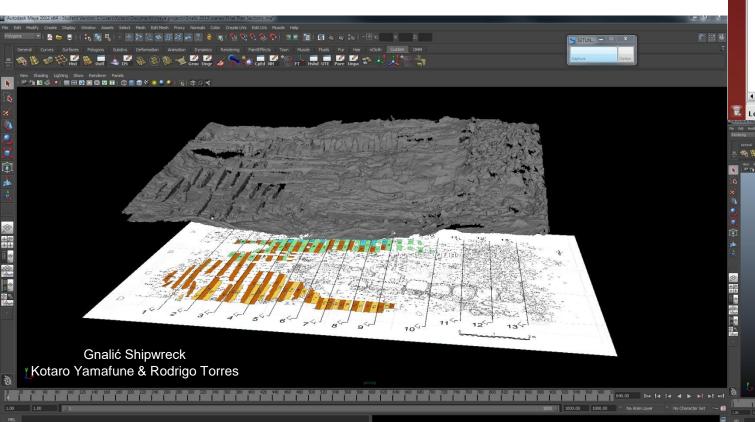


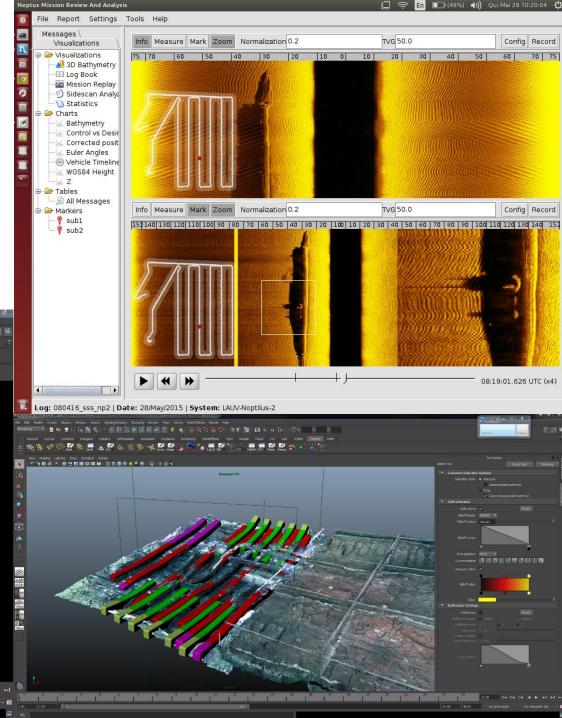


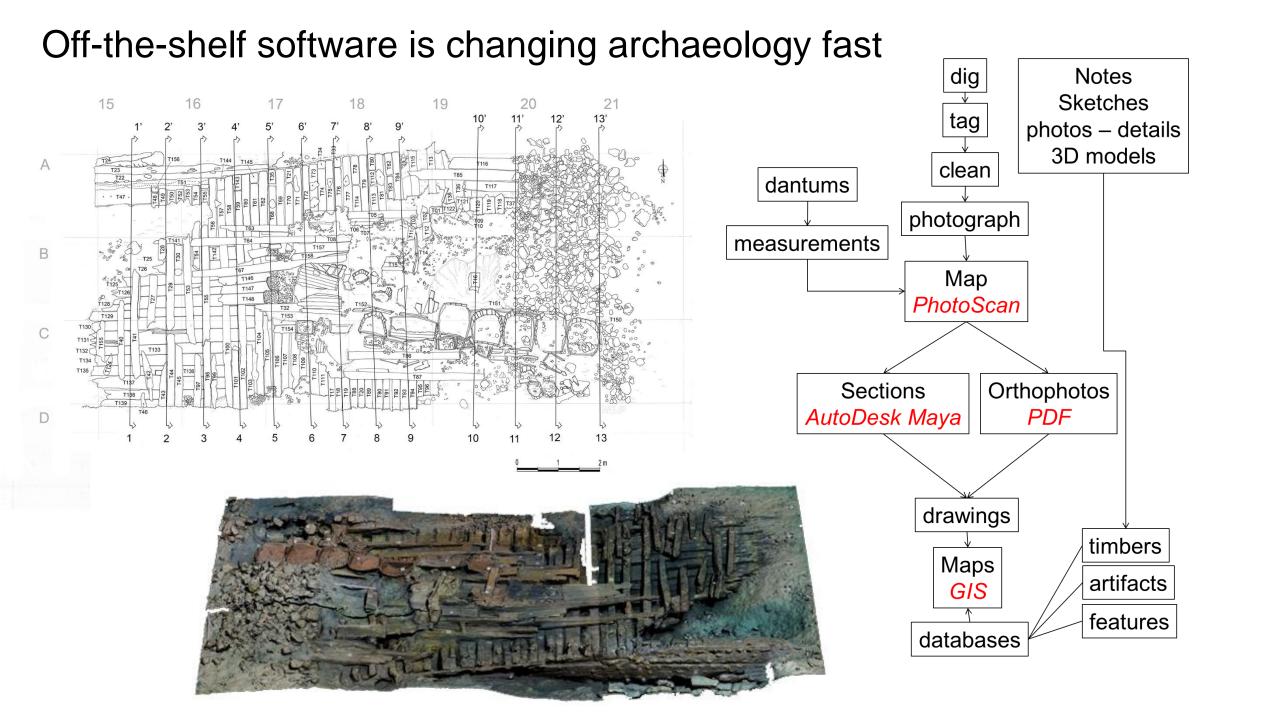


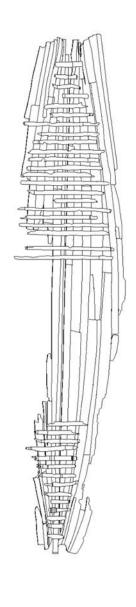


Technology is making archaeology cheaper and better, and making it easier to share data.

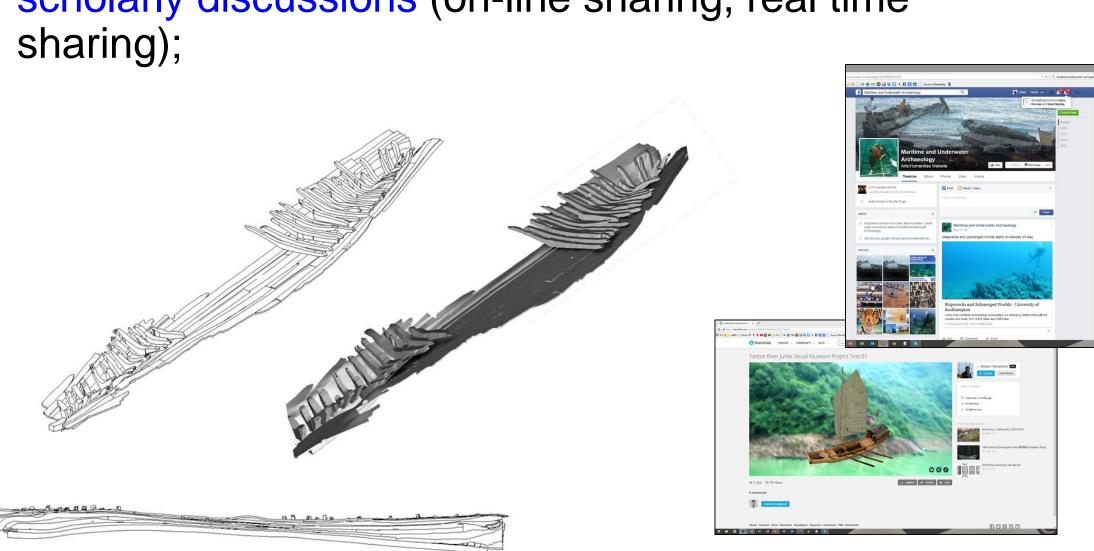






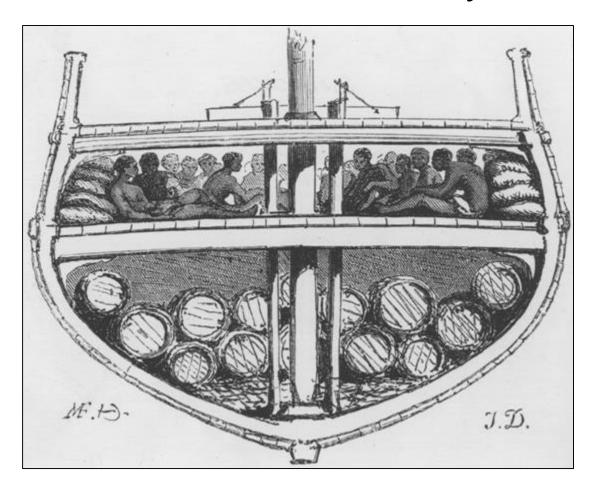


Interactive archaeological models as a basis for scholarly discussions (on-line sharing, real time sharing):

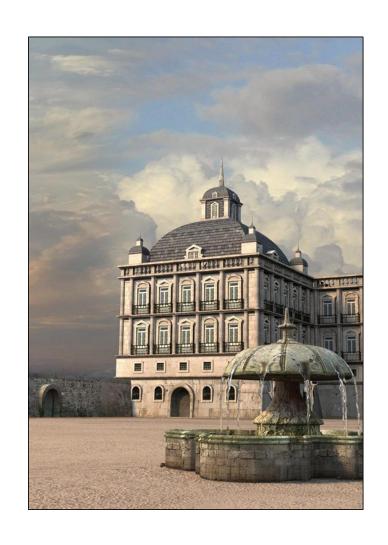


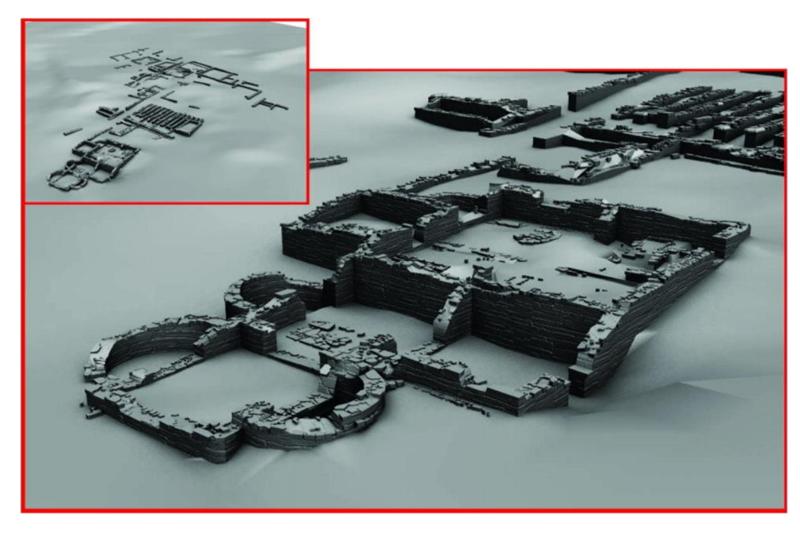
Interactive archaeological models as a basis for public discussion, outreach and political discussions of social issues (collective memories, collective amnesias, myth

busting);



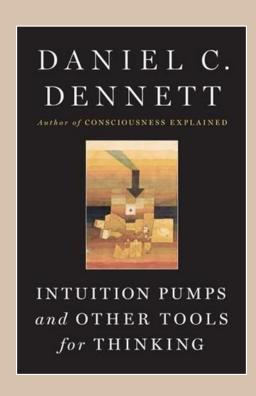
Thinking tools: tridimensional renderings can be layered and decompress the time enclosed within (e.g. animations of changing landscapes, architectures, or site formation processes)





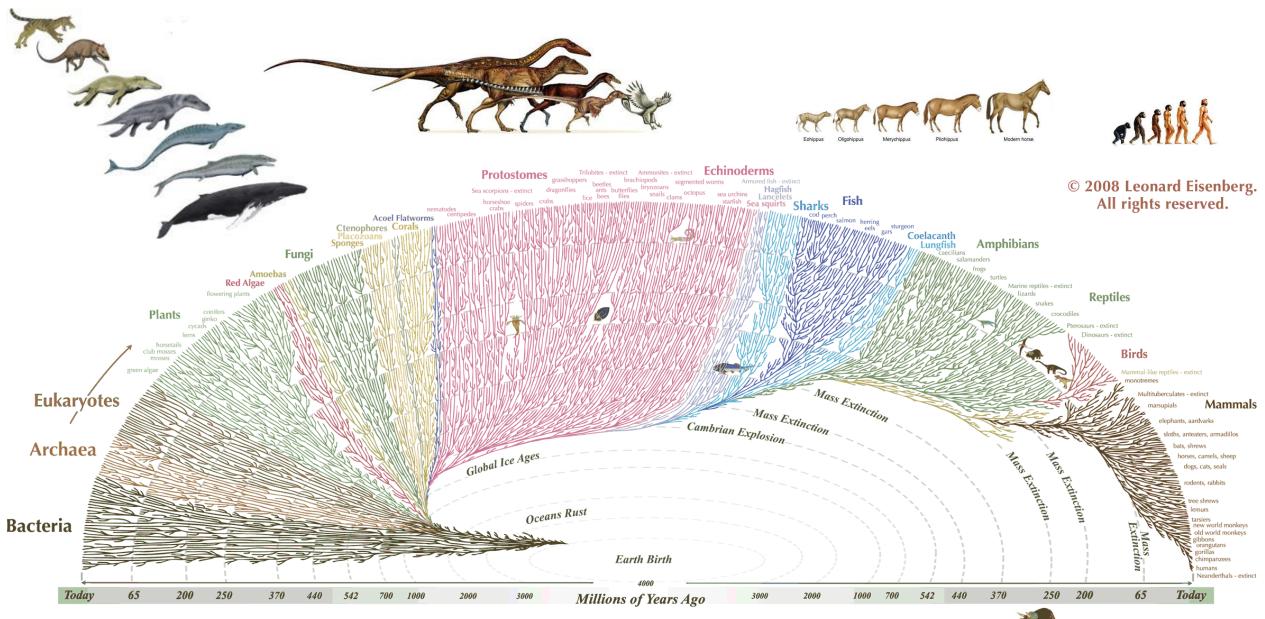
Daniel Dennett suggests that thinking tools (and intuition pumps) are

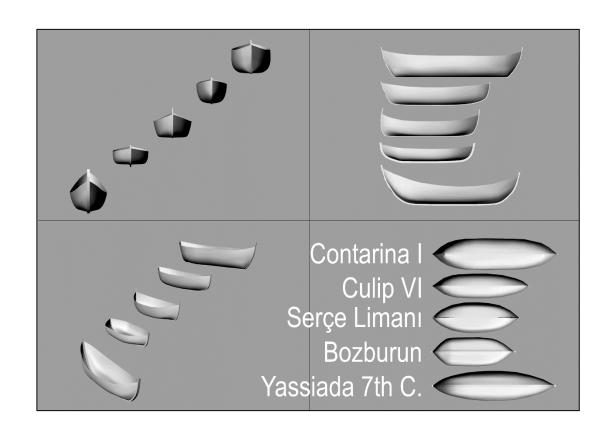
apps that we upload to our necktops.



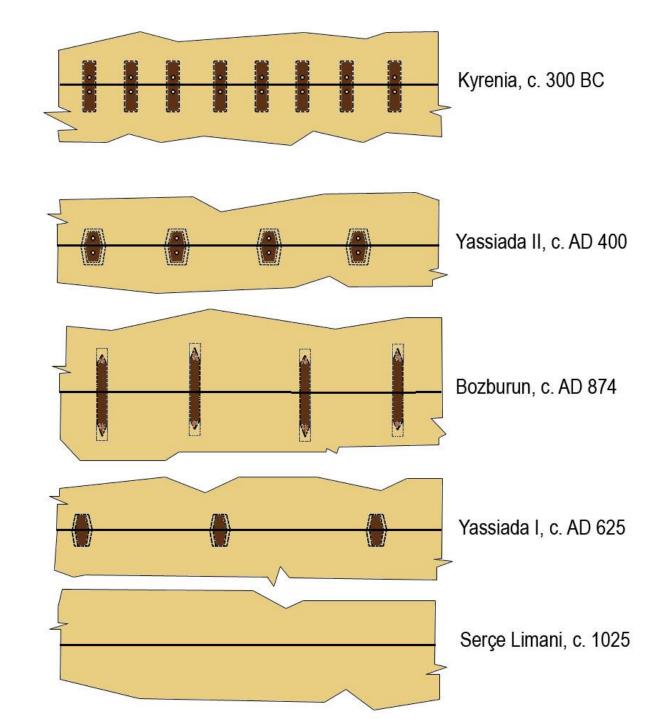


Thinking tools are words, numbers, graphics, images, maps, stories, etc.





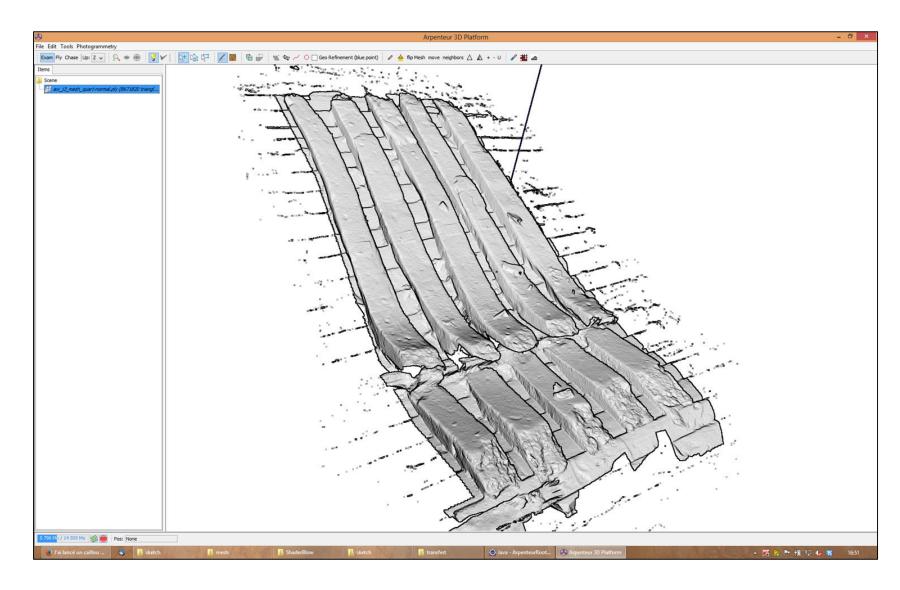
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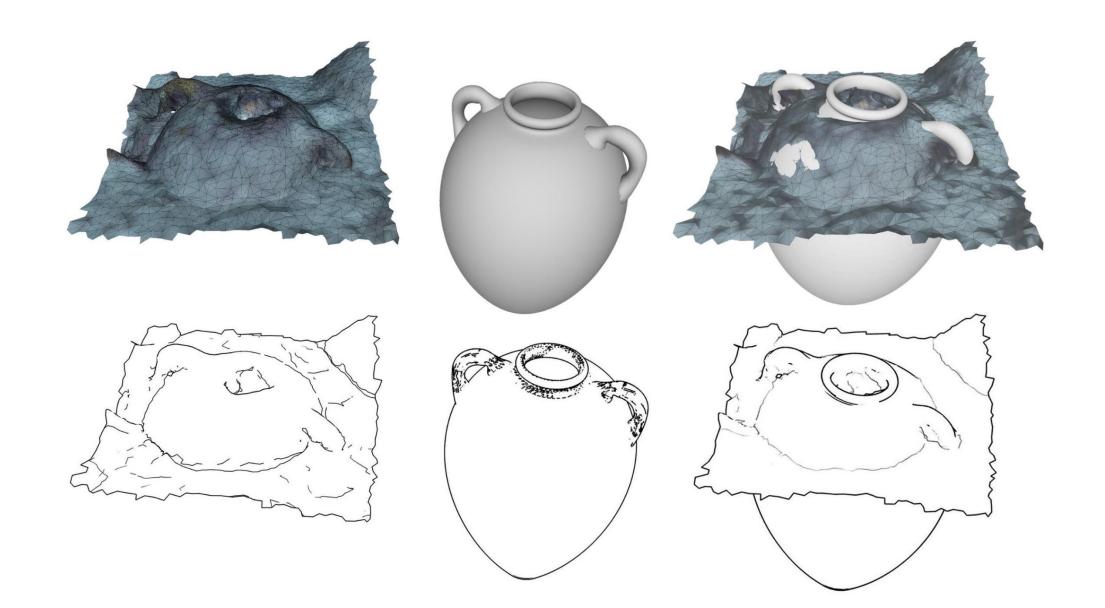


6. Tridimensional recording has evolved in the last decades, but still has space to grow (accuracy, automation, etc.)

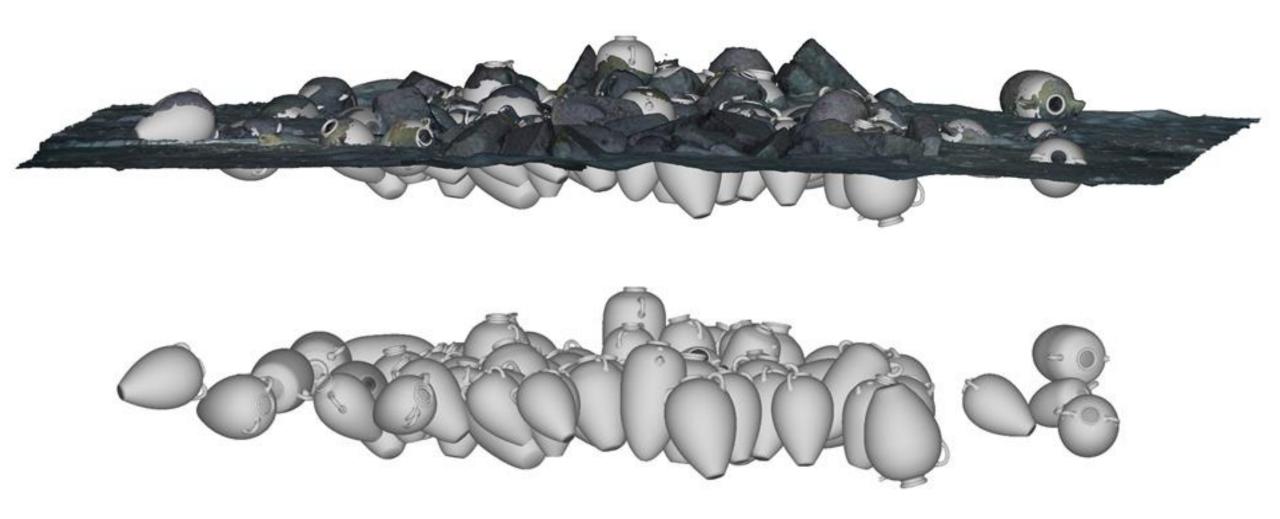




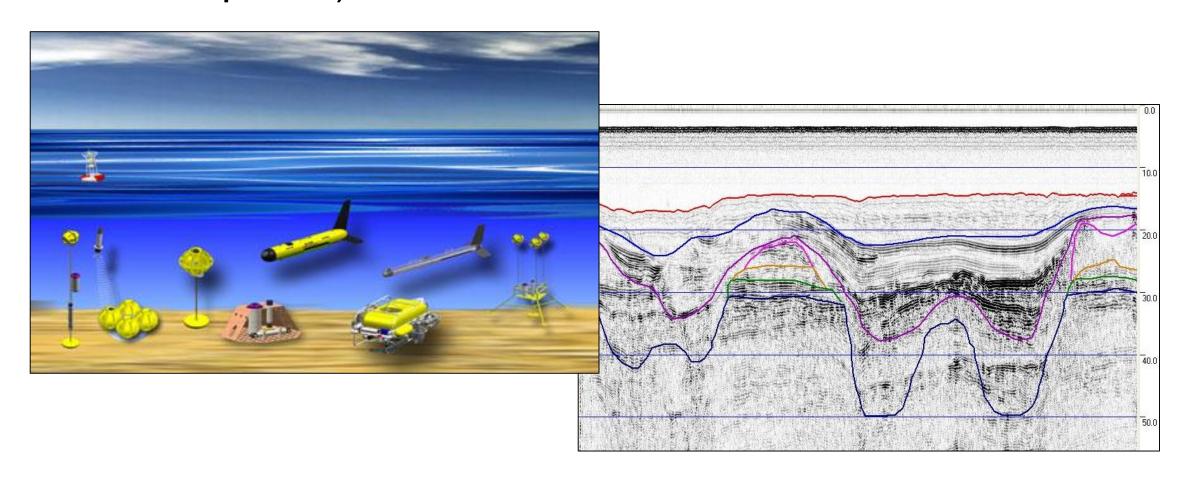
Computer Science: Pierre Drap (CNRS) and the c. 700 BC Xlendi shipwreck, Malta.

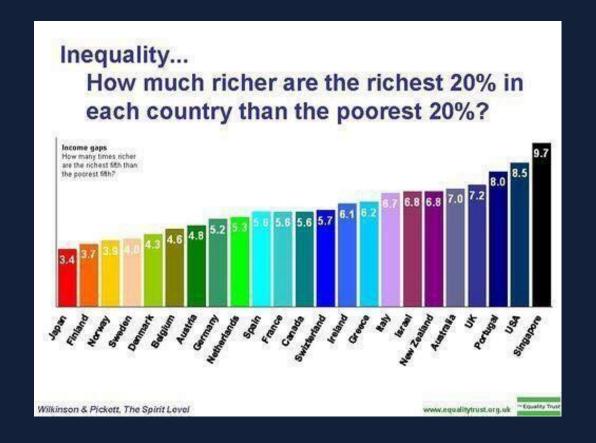


Computer Science: Pierre Drap (CNRS) and the c. 700 BC Xlendi shipwreck, Malta.



7. It is plausible to assume that sub-bottom profiling will evolve in the next decades to create the underwater equivalent to CT scanning (creating 3D images that have content, as opposed to meshes of points).

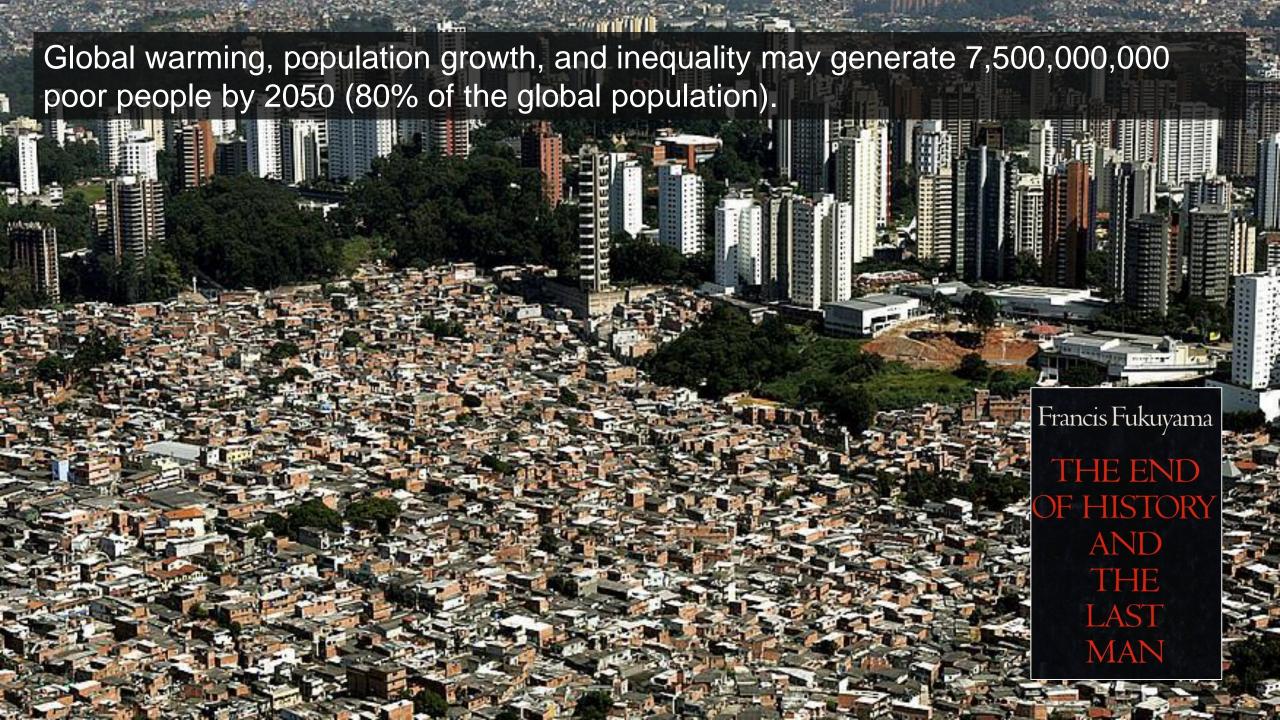






...but what is the future and social value of archaeology in a world

where inequality is destroying (the western) middle classes?



The 21st century still risks becoming a century of scarcity and inequality.

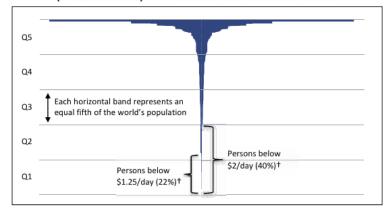


Who will decide what gets to be studied and preserved? And who is going to pay for it?



In the West there is pressure to reduce public funding for research (and cut taxes on the wealthier).

Figure 7. Global Income Distributed by Percentiles of the Population in 2007 (or latest available) in PPP constant 2005 international dollars*



Chairman of the House 'Science, Space and Technology Committee' Lamar Smith (R-TX) is skeptical about the value of some taxpayersupported research.



There are two competing views on the role of governments:





Between the rich and the poor, and the strong and the weak, it is the law that liberates and the freedom that oppresses.

Lacordaire

Europeans seem to believe that small government and deregulated capitalism offer less individual and social options.

William Osborne, composer, 2004, "Marketplace of Ideas: but first, the Bill," Arts Journal.



Paris is famous for its large and widely advertised budget public projects (left Louvre and right Quai d'Orsay). This policy was criticized on an ideological basis, not economic: eg. Fumaroli vs. Jack Lang.

And that capitalism can be a leveling force that makes the world homogenous, and destroys cultures and ways of living.





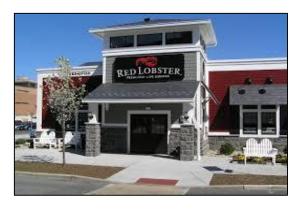






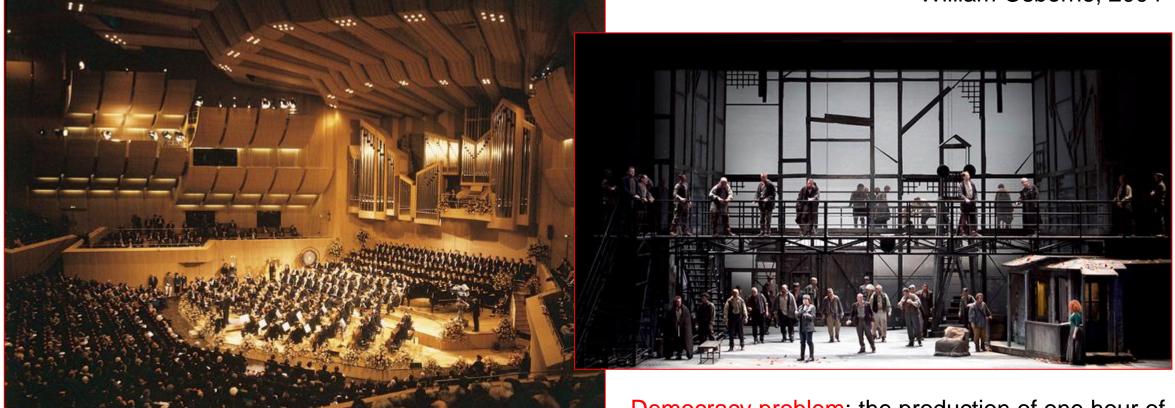






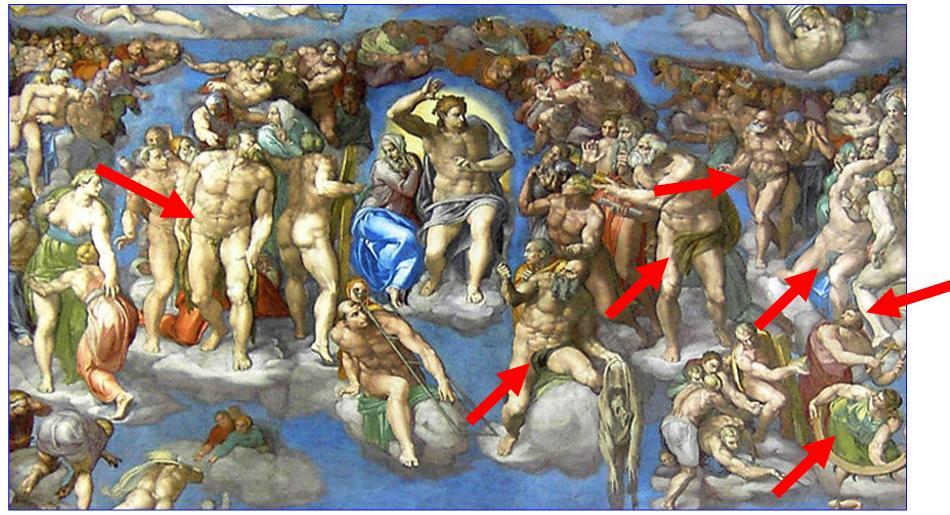
Taxes: "Germany's public arts funding (...) allows the country to have 23 times more full-time symphony orchestras per capita than the United States, and approximately 28 times more full-time opera houses."

William Osborne, 2004



Democracy problem: the production of one hour of opera may cost more than most people can afford.

How do we ensure that intellectuals (scientists, artists, etc.) are free to create?



The Last Judgement, Sistine Chapel, Rome. Painted by Michelangelo and dressed by Daniele da Volterra, il Braghettone.

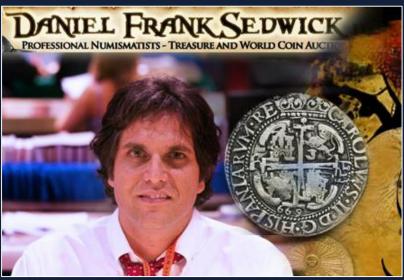
Patrons are a solution, but they will fund what interests them.

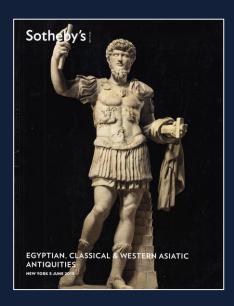
Archaeologists help construct and deconstruct collective memories. Like art, archaeology is political. Taxpayer's money, channeled through government agencies, with proposals and juries, promises more independence than patrons can provide.



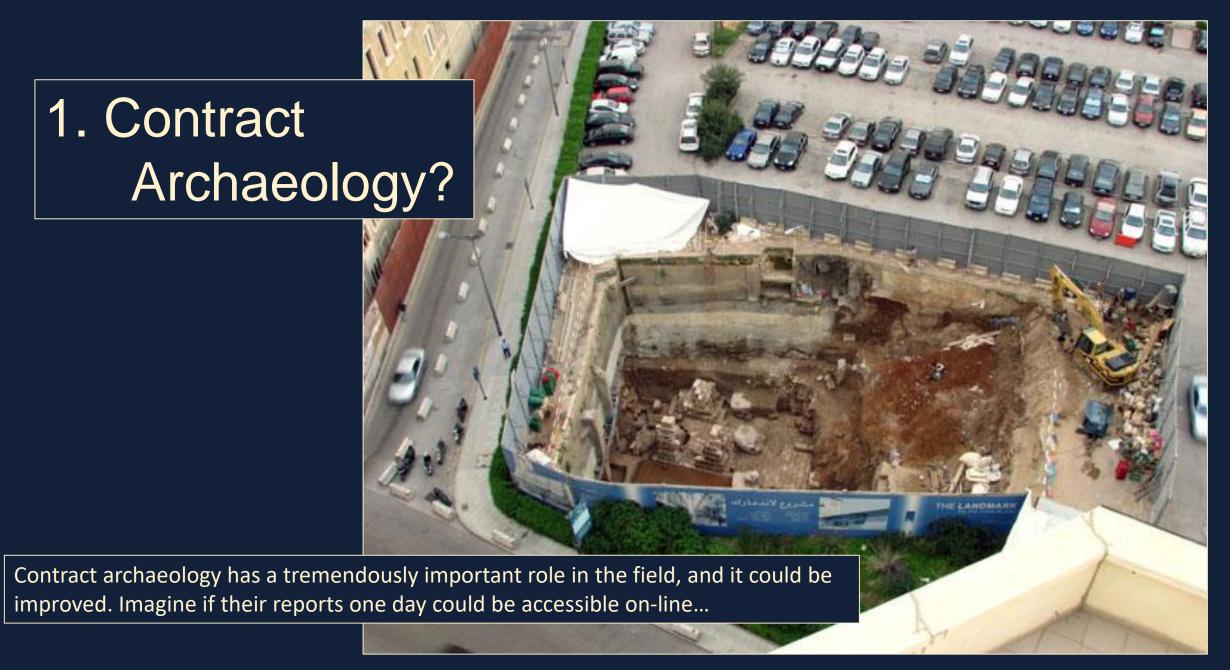
Who will decide what narratives are acceptable, or what gets to be studied and preserved? And who is going to pay for it?







Who will determine what gets to be studied and preserved? And who is going to pay for it?



2. Patrons, museums, and other private organizations!

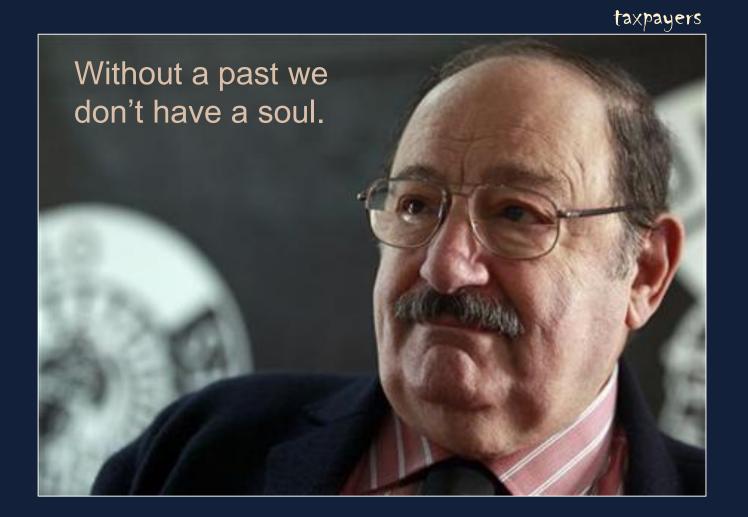


2. ...in joint ventures with governments.

The Institute of Nautical Archaeology wouldn't survive without the support of Texas A&M University, the Turkish taxpayers, the Kenyan taxpayers, the Croatian taxpayers, the Portuguese taxpayers, and so on.



3. Taxpayers?



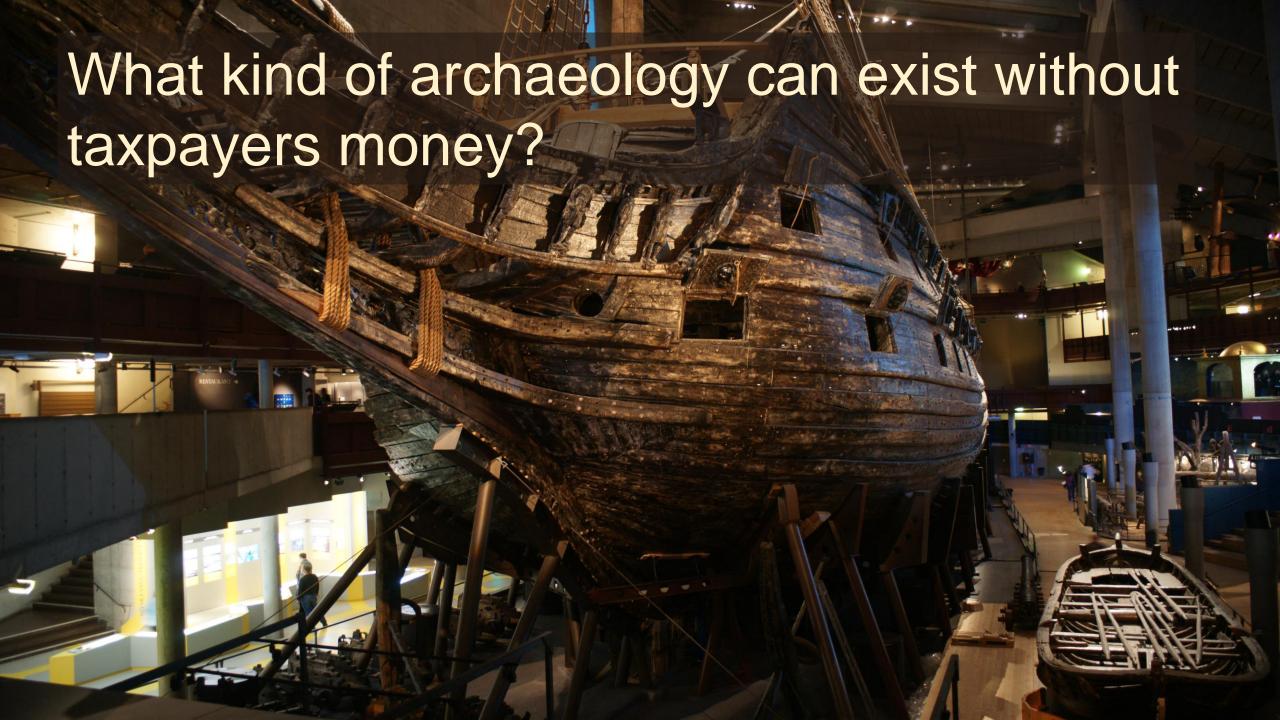


Marc Fumaroli
L'Etat culturel
Essai sur une religion moderne

Editions de Falloi P.A.R.I.S.

4. Treasure hunters?









What is the social value of archaeology?



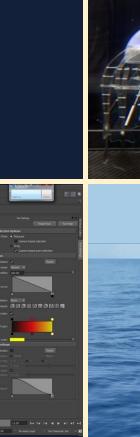


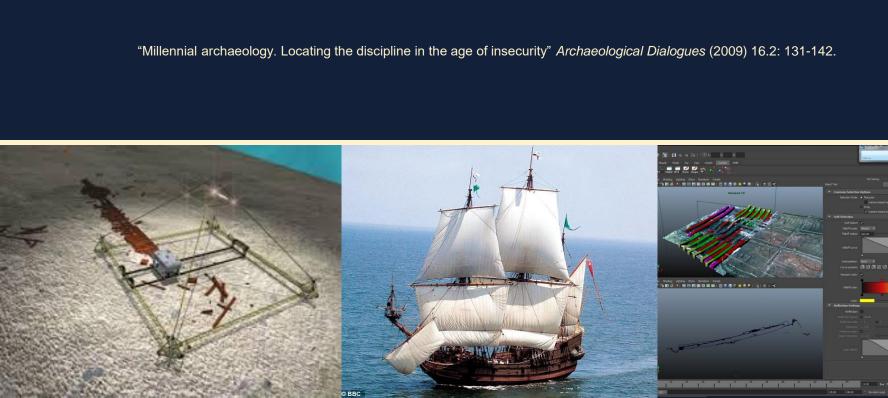
Howard Zinn:

If we don't know our past, we will have to trust our politicians!

Shannon Lee Dawdy (2009) asks three questions:

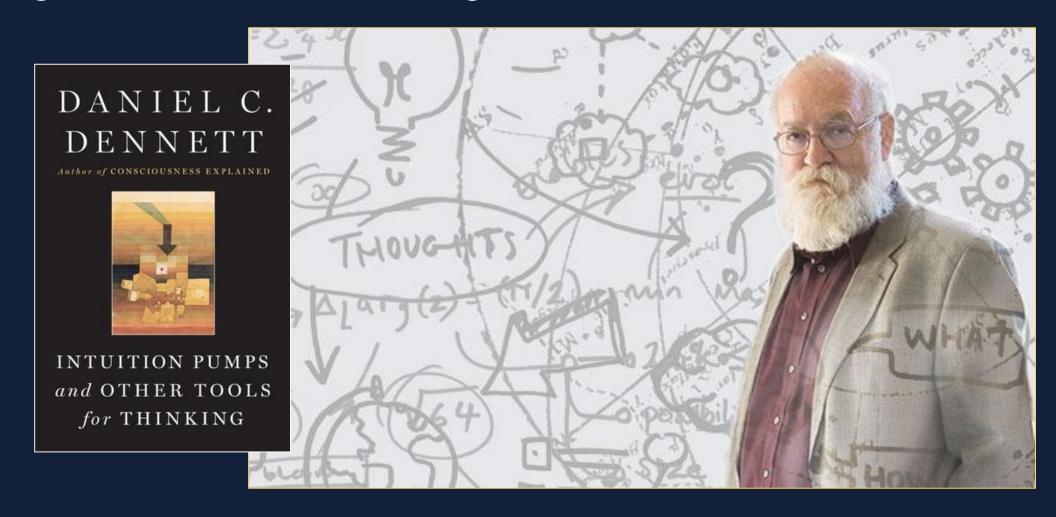
- a. Should it be useful?
- b. Is it threatened?
- c. Can it save the world?







c. It should definitely try to save the world! In fact, changing the world should be the main goal of archaeology: by providing the world with thinking tools!











Archaeologists probably publish around 25% of the sites they dig (e.g. Stoddart and Malone 2001; Atwood 2007; Boardman 2009; Owen 2009; Bass 2011). Treasure hunters fill the niche created by archaeologists and cater to the interested public.

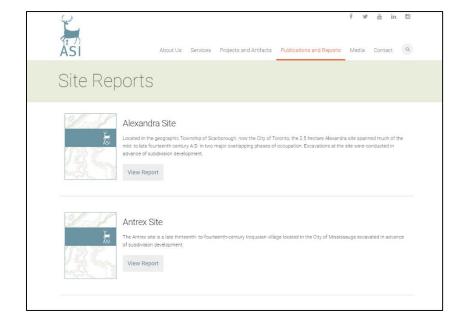
Will archaeologists start sharing their primary data?





ASI is a Canadian-owned company that was founded in 1980 in response to increasing public awareness of the importance of the province's heritage. With offices in Toronto and Burlington, we are the largest archaeological and cultural heritage consulting firm in Ontario.

http://asiheritage.ca/



They are putting all their reports online, because although they work for contractors and cities, they are paid by the taxpayers.





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Events

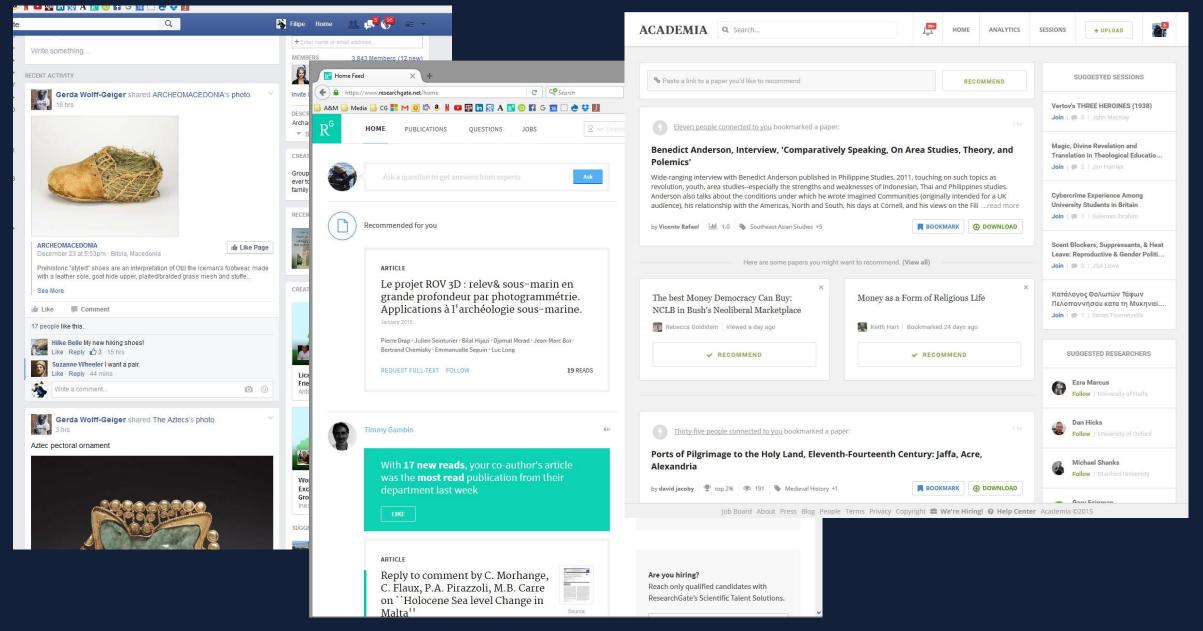
We hold talks, open days and other events throughout the year. Most are free and open to everyone.



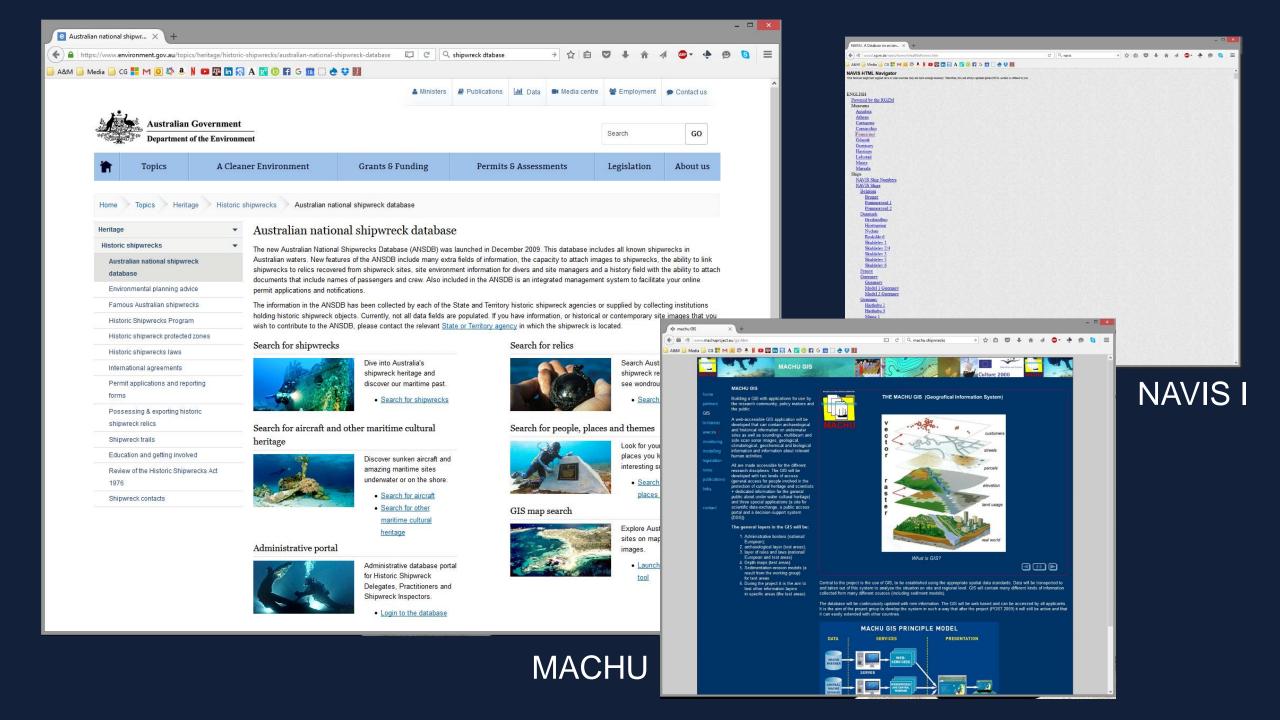
Official Guidebook

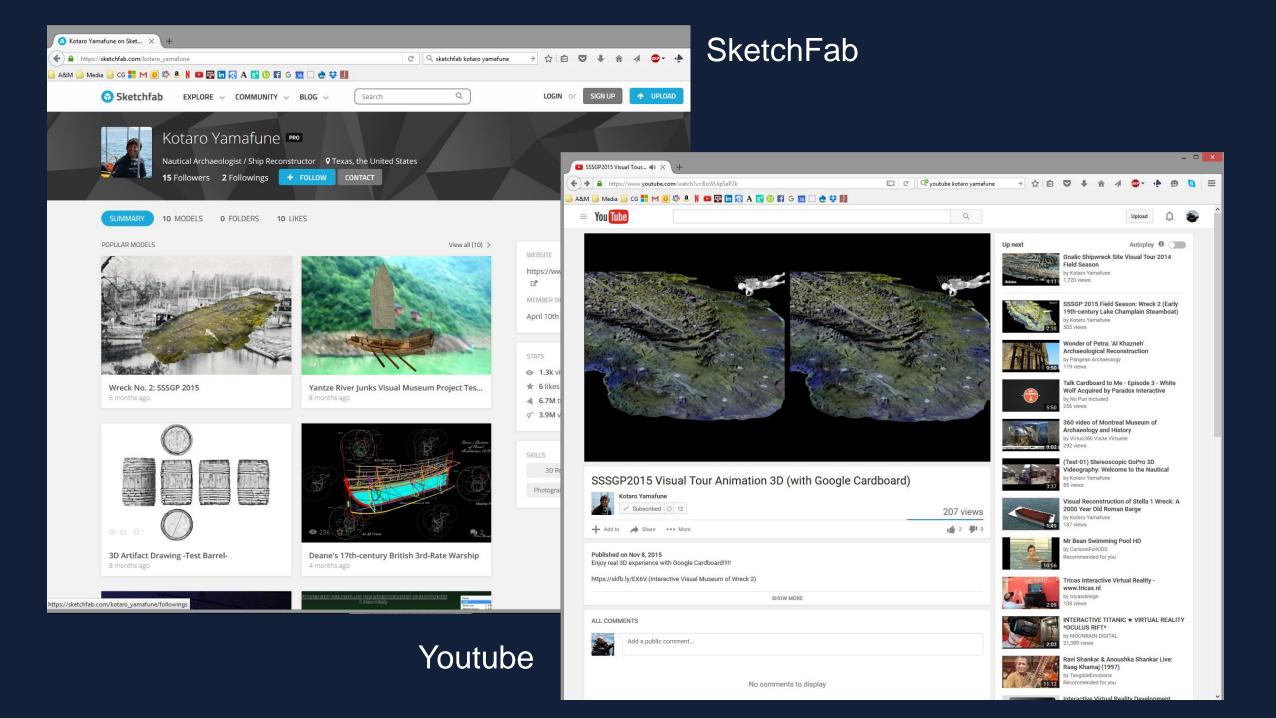
The official 40-page illustrated guidebook is filled with information about the Ship.

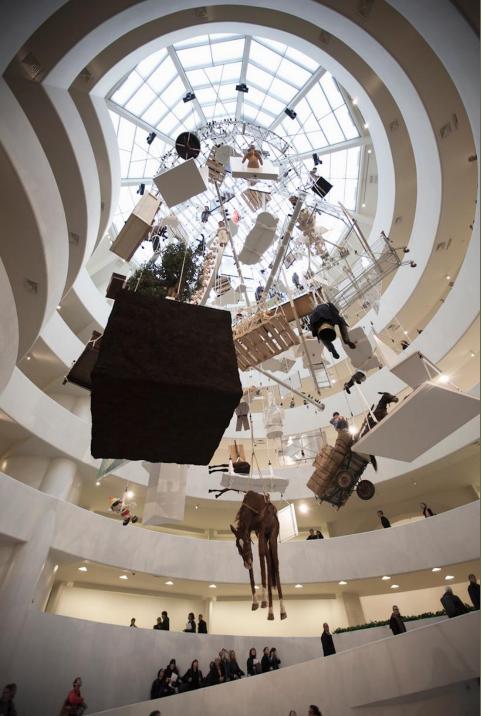
It is happening...



...and the internet is changing the game fast.







Trends:

1. The evolution of ideas is wasteful and feeds on chaos and randomness (brainstorming). Creativity has always been a part of the archaeological thought, but images are less secret than 20 years ago. Archaeology and art must be increasingly considered together.

2. Archaeology is including multiple publics and multiple narratives.

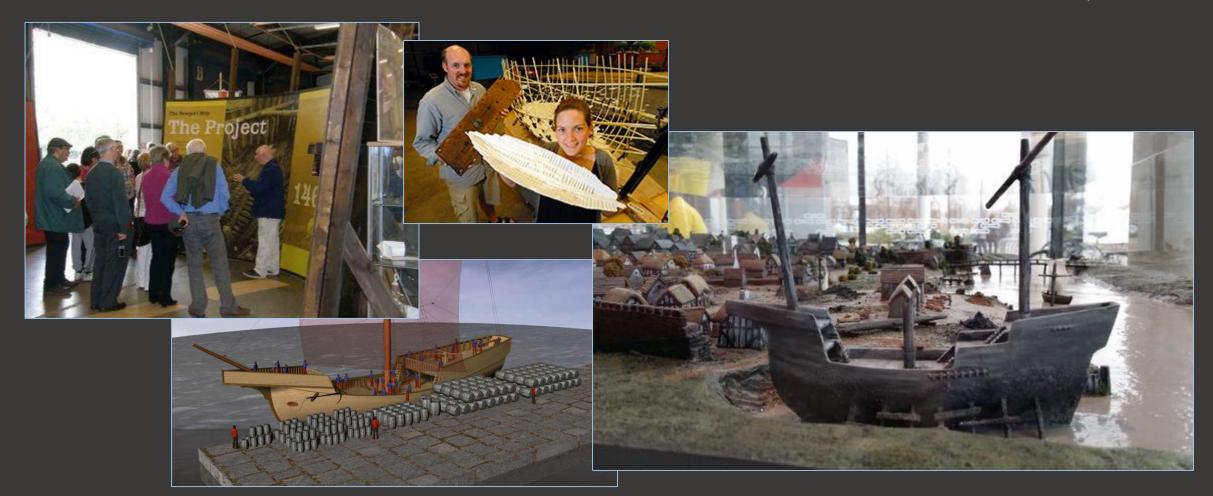


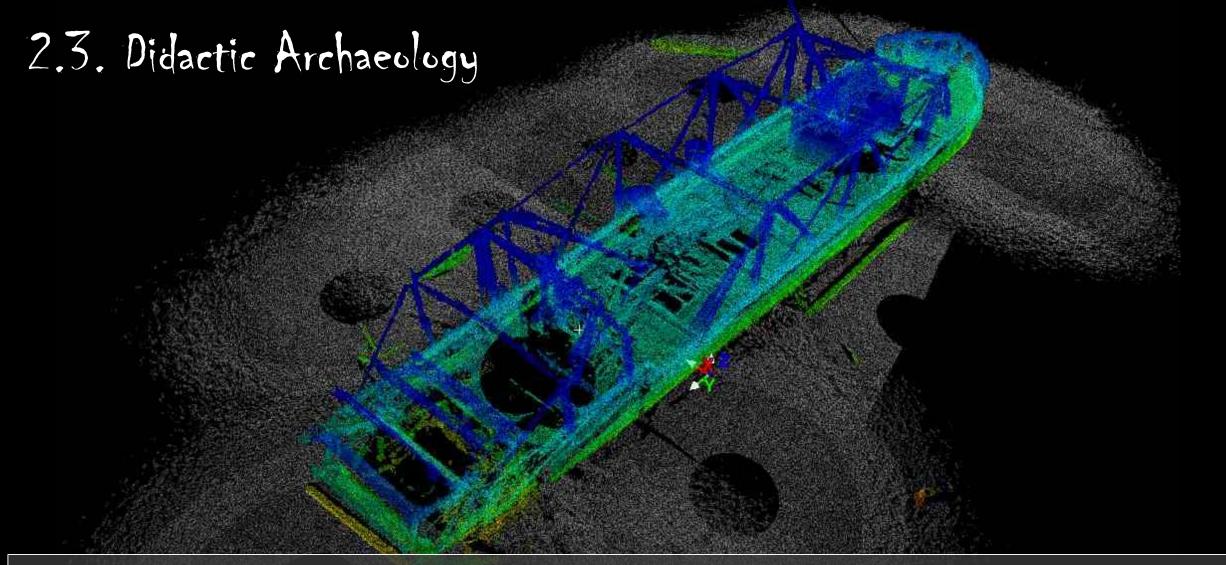


2.2. Public Archaeology

Promoting the debate "surrounding archaeological and heritage issues as they relate to the wider world of politics, ethics, government, social questions, education, management, economics and philosophy."

Wikipedia





Promoting archaeological sites as learning environments that encourage the public – which includes k-12 students – to ask questions, wide and narrow and research them through archaeology.

2.4. Critical Archaeology

Provoking critical thinking and engaging the public on social issues such as power structures, class struggle, or inequality and ecology.

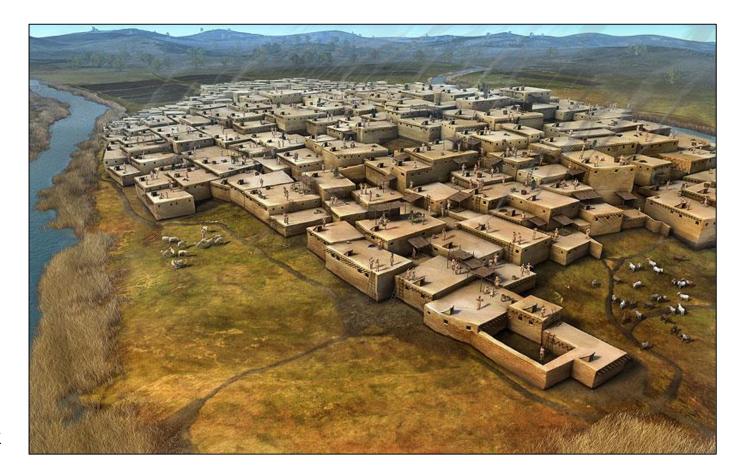






2.5. Community Archaeology

Engaging local, descendant, or ideologically related communities in the development of projects around archaeological sites.



Hodder's work at Çatalhöyük



Outreach: showing archaeological sites as landscapes or habitats within which we can see ourselves, simulate our behavior, and try to understand Humanity in its diversity and change through time.



Computers and social networks are the best frames to engage a large public and talk about culture and biology in dialogue with historians, geographers, philosophers, sociologists, biologists, paleontologists, climatologists, but also engineers, and technocrats, marketers, politicians and the media.

Thank you!