



Session

The Past of New Technologies. Shaping cultural heritage and research futures

Chairpersons:

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Description and Motivation:

Over the past 30 years, CHNT has provided an international stage for researchers applying new technologies such as (web)GIS, BIM, 3D modelling and OCR/HTR in the field of heritage. Without exception, these technologies were initially developed to support primary processes, such as the documentation and administration of archaeological or urban historical fieldwork or the digitization of older research. In the case of GIS, this primarily involved spatially plotting databases, while in the case of BIM, it focused on the development of increasingly detailed 3D models. The further development of such technologies has resulted in a significant increase in available data, data processing capabilities, and analytical possibilities. Over the past decade, we have seen these technologies evolve into central tools for information provision and knowledge dissemination to citizens and society (e.g., through web portals, apps, crowdsourcing, and citizen science).

Developments in new technology have continuously influenced the nature, methods, and possibilities of research and its dissemination. The timing of their introduction and the impact of these developments vary by domain, technology, and region. Differences in theoretical frameworks and research traditions play a significant role. In this session, we invite researchers to reflect on the impact of new technology on their discipline and within their field of work (e.g., universities, museums, government institutions, or private companies). The focus is not so much on the technological changes themselves but rather on the changes in the nature of work, research possibilities, or even organizational transformations. Additionally, we ask participants to reflect on their expectations for the near future.

Target Audience:

Researchers involved in the field of cultural heritage: urban historians, building historians, archaeologists, architectural historians, policy makers

Keywords:

impact of technology, digital innovation, knowledge dissemination, cultural heritage

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