Archaeology & Digital Humanities

The D.I.R.T. on Big Data

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ARCHAEOLOGY IS BIG DATA

User experience design in archaeology and cultural heritage

About Global Xplorer
Saving the Past, for Our Future

Born Digital Data
Archaeology & Digital Humanities

Collaborative & Interdisciplinary
Quantitative & Qualitative
Human-centered
Place-based
Community-facing
Design-oriented

WSU archaeology students share their findings from Roosevelt Park, Corktown with the public
D.I.R.T.

- Big Data
- Big Ideas
- Big Research
- Big Teaching

WSU archaeology students on the Unearthing Detroit project share finds with the public at the Michigan State University Science Fest, Belle Isle
Big Data

What happened on the “shop floor”?
Unearthing Detroit Project
Excavations at Roosevelt Park, Corktown

Michigan Central & Future Location of Roosevelt Park, 1915
(Detroit Saturday Evening)
Macro to Microscale Spatial & Temporal Data

City
| Neighborhood
| Property
| Household
| Individuals
| Objects
| Micro-artifacts
| Soils

Corktown 1906 (l), 1918 (r)

Roosevelt Park
1918-1921

Train Station
1913
Sarah Foy, aged 22, died of lung disease in 1907.

Musterole: medicine to treat respiratory ailments, ca. 1906.
Ethnic Layers of Detroit

- Experiencing place through digital storytelling
- Using digital humanities to interpret, share, teach and design human-centered & place-based Big Data

Types of Digital Stories
- Built environment (buildings, bridges, etc)
- Landscapes / neighborhoods
- Personal stories
- Ephemera (festivals, parades, etc)
- Absences
- Material culture
Scaling Up and Out

The Unearthing Detroit Project’s Archaeology graduate students featured at the UM3 Detroit symposium, University of Michigan Ann Arbor, 2017

Ethnic Layers of Detroit project co-directors: Alina Klin, Laura Kline, Sangeetha Gopalakrishnan, Krysta Ryzewski, Julie Koehler, and Kim Schroeder (not pictured)
Big Ideas
Big Research
**SAUS: Spatial Analytics in Urban Settings**

Synthesizing Big Data digitally to address past, present, and future challenges in urban settings with respect to **environmental**, **cultural**, and **historical** issues.

**Outcomes:** engage with a wide variety of stakeholders, from local neighborhood residents to government agencies, in order to affect positive transformations in cities.

- **30,000 artifacts**
- **26 features excavated**
- **Sites across 9 city blocks**

**HGIS** [Historical Geographic Information Systems] visualizing large historical data sets in space.

**HSDI** [Historical Spatial Data Infrastructure] interactive data infrastructure (geographic data, users, metadata, tools).

**Deep Maps** flexible inquiry, research questions, participatory, anchored in place, space, people. Citizen historians, citizen scientists.

WSU Anthropology students excavate the Ren Cen site, 1973-74 (artifacts housed on campus in the Grosscup Museum of Anthropology).
SAUS: Spatial Analytics in Urban Settings

Experts in:
- Archaeology & Anthropology
- Urban Planning & Design
- Geographic Information Systems
- Computer Science and Engineering
- Archival, Library & Information Sciences
- Public History
- Foreign Language
- Instructional Design
- Environmental Sciences
- Communications

Competencies Needed:
- HGIS / HSDI
- Design
- Preservation / Heritage
- Multimedia Development
- Digital Archives
- Database Management
- Museum Collections
### Teaching Big Classes
- Global Detroit
- Digital Storytelling Class
- History Communication
- Business Anthropology
- Design Studies
- Global Health
- Ecology and the Environment
- Geology and the Environment
- Urban Studies
- Computer Science

### Teaching Competencies

#### Learning by Doing
- Qualitative Research Methods
- Anthropology Practicum (industry partnerships)
- Geographic Information Systems
- Archaeology Lab Methods / Fieldwork
- Museum Studies
- Cultural Resource Management
- Public History
- Oral History
- Foreign Languages
- Digital Archival Management
- Community Engagement
- T-RUST Courses

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**Big Teaching & small(er) training?**

Ethnic Layers of Detroit project hosts a digital storytelling workshop for students and community partners.
Who Cares about Big Data?

- Who does our data serve?
- How can we make Big Data research & training accessible, accountable, sustainable?
- What can applied social sciences and digital humanities bring to Big Data?

Archaeology is Big Data, A Foundation for:

- working with communities
- revitalizing and redesign cities
- examining health issues in diachronic view
- understanding environmental changes
- using the past to inform future-making
- boosting tourism
- promoting development and investment
- inspiring pride of place
- informing tech innovation
- educating students

Unearthing Detroit project team introduces archaeological science to local middle school students via the Time Jumpers program
2018 Schedule

Friday, September 21st

All Network Detroit 2018 activities in Room 91 of Manoogian Hall unless otherwise noted

8:30-9:00
Special Thanks
Office of the Provost, Wayne State University
Department of Anthropology, Wayne State University
Students and Volunteers on the Unearthing Detroit Project
Ethnic Layers of Detroit Project
Office of the State Archaeologist, SHPO, Lansing