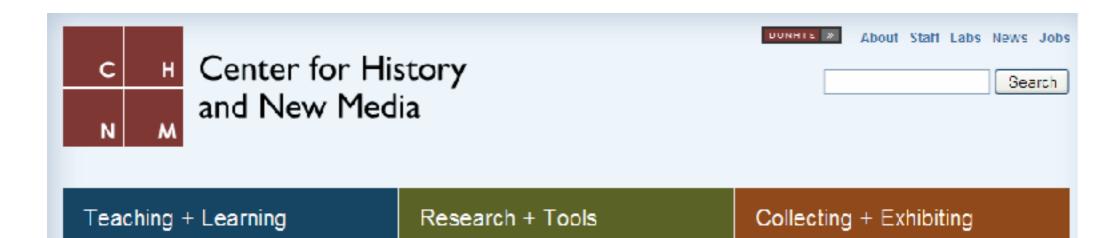
## Digital Public History Enrica Salvatori - Digital Tools for Humanists 2018

# Digital History

## Definition

- Digital history is an approach to examining and representing the past that takes advantage of new communication technologies such as computers and the Web.
- It draws on essential features of the digital realm, such as databases, hypertextualization, and networks, to create and share historical knowledge.
- Digital history complements other forms of history—indeed, it draws its strength and methodological rigor from this age-old form of human understanding while using the latest technology.





The invention, development, and spread of new media are the most profound historical change of the last decade and those changes show every sign of accelerating. Historians need to understand the new media and its implications as fully as possible, for both defensive and hopeful reasons. We need to resist the dilution and distortion of historical knowledge brought by the erosion of our authority in a widely dispersed new medium. The best way to wage that resistance is to seize for ourselves the opportunities the medium offers, opportunities to touch the past, present, and future in new ways.

In: *The Pasts and Futures of Digital History*, URL: [http://www.vcdh.virginia.edu/ <u>PastsFutures.html]</u> Edward L. Ayers. University of Virginia, 1999 (Later, from 2002, VCDH, Virginia Center for Digital History

# Digital History's birth

First use of the word Digital Historian by Daniel J. Cohen and Ed Ayers. They founded the Virginia Center for Digital History (VCDH) in 1997– 1998.

"Digital Historian" used in scientific essays, seminars, lectures in order to describe the project*The Valley of the Shadow*.

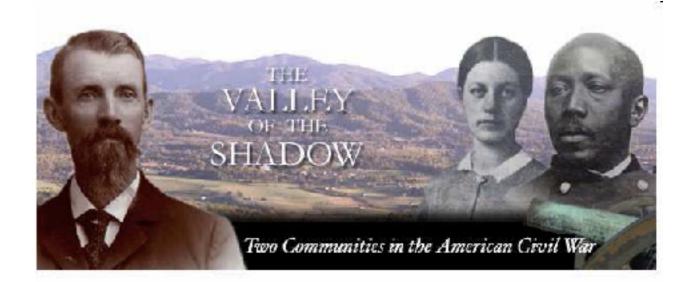
In **1997** their seminar for bachelor Students was Digital History of the Civil War and then digital history seminars.

from Daniel J. Cohen, Michael Frisch, Patrick Gallagher, Steven Mintz, Kirsten Sword, Amy Murrell Taylor, William G. Thomas III, and William J. Turkel: *Interchange: The Promise of Digital History*, in «Journal of American History», 2, 2008, § 11, pp. 452-491, URL: <u>http://www.historycooperative.org/journals/jah/95.2/interchange.html]</u>

### THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW

Pioneristic project of Digital History Made by **Virginia Center for Digital History** (University of Virginia).

A Digital Archives of primary sources about daily life of two communities, near in space but on opposite side during the civil war Augusta County (Virginia) and Franklin County (Pennsylvania) (1861-1865)

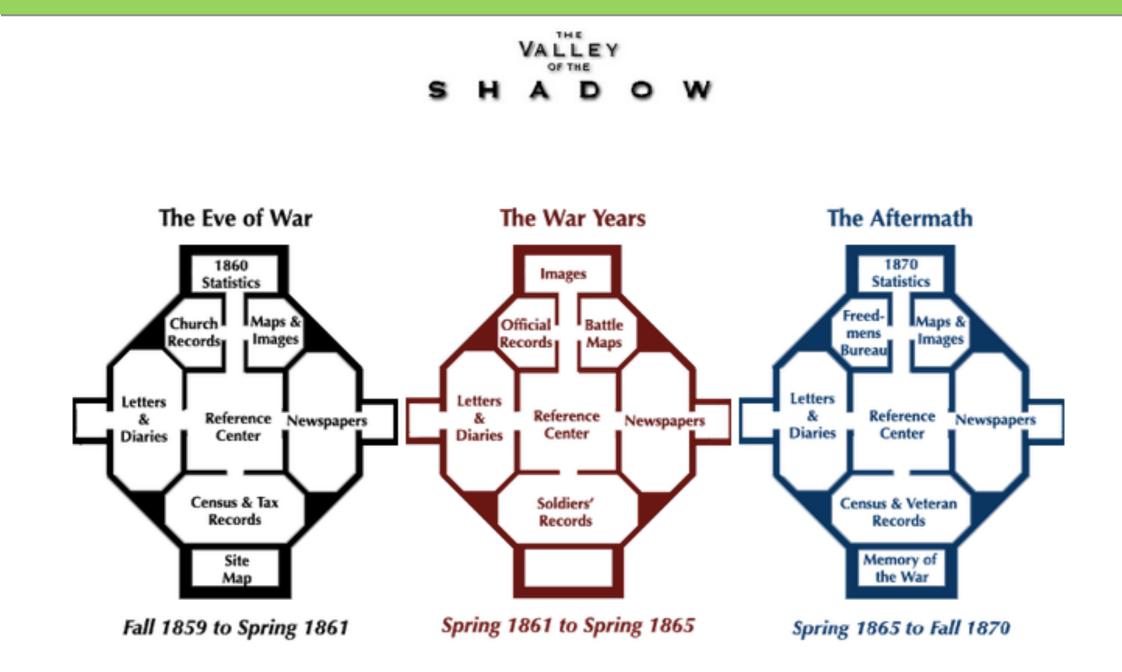


The Valley Project details life in two American communities, one Northern and one Southern, from the time of John Brown's Raid through the era of Reconstruction. In this digital archive you may explore thousands of original letters and diaries, newspapers and speeches, census and church records, left by men and women in Augusta County, Virginia, and Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Giving voice to hundreds of individual people, the Valley Project tells forgotten stories of life during the era of the Civil War.

#### Enter the Valley Archive

Copyright 1993-2007, All Rights Reserved Edward L. Ayers

### THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW



USING THE VALLEY PROJECT CLICK HERE FOR RESOURCES ON USING THE VALLEY PROJECT VIRGINIA CENTER VIEW VIRCINIA

# Digital Historian

Since 1994 under the founding direction of Roy Rosenzweig, the Center for History and New Media (CHNM) at George Mason University has used digital media and computer technology **to democratize history**—to incorporate multiple voices, reach diverse audiences, and encourage popular participation in presenting and preserving the past.

The center itself is a democratic, collaborative space where over fifty <u>scholars</u>, developers, designers, and researchers work together to advance the state of the art.

### IN WIKIPEDIA

Digital history is a **rapidly changing field**. New methods and formats are currently being developed. This means that 'digital history' is a **difficult term to define**. However, it is possible to identify general characteristics.

Digital history represents a **democratization of history** in that anyone with access to the Internet can have their voice heard, including **marginalized groups** which were often excluded in the 'grand narratives' of nation ar a empire.

In contrast to earlier media formats, **digital history texts tend to b nonlinear and interactive**, encouraging user participation and engagement.

### Methodology or field or discipline ?

Tools & Services: it creates new methods of analysis for the *humanities* 

**Sharing contents** : elaborates and transforms the places where History is told (social network, institutional and thematic repository, multimedia websites)

**Differencing narratives**: it creates new forms of narratives (storytelling)

**New sources:** digitalized sources with metadata become new sources (meta - sources) + primary digital sources

Different and new learning contents and methods

But also: it enhance participation, creates field of scientific debate and dialog, reenforce or delimits new identities

# Public History

# Public History

- Raphael Samuel *The History Workshop Movement '60s*
- official birth in 1978-1979 at UCSB, University of Southern California at Santa Barbara
- 1978 review *The Public Historian*, 1979 *National Council of Public History* (NCPH)
- 2011 International Federation of Public History (IFPH)
- 2016 *Associazione Italiana di PH* (AIPH) and the first specialization course in PH (Unimore)
- 2018 Second National Conference of AIPH in Pisa

#### PH IS NOT

- The public use or abuse of history (Storia Pubblica Italy)
- About writing history to serve a political aim (Historikerstreit -Germany)
- Only DPH (Digital Public History) even if in present days PH is strongly released to the Web and to the different ways of communicating or sharing History

#### PH IS

• one of **most important innovations** in the profession of history of the last years

#### STATEMENTS

NCPH —> A movement, methodology, and approach that promotes the **collaborative study and practice of history**; its practitioners embrace a mission to make their special insights accessible and useful to the public

Lynn H. Nelson —> in the USA is the means by which historical actuality is made attractive and understandable to the American public.

**AIPH** —> PH is a field of historical sciences made by historians who carry out activities related to the research and communication of history **outside the academic environments, with and for different audiences.** It is also a new university discipline aimed at the formation of public historians.

### **PH PROJECTS**

- revival reenactment
- thematic parks (applied history and archaeology)
- museums & exhibitions (digital ones too)
- shared and/or invented and /or collaborative archives
- oral history & sources
- public archaeology, architecture, urban qualification



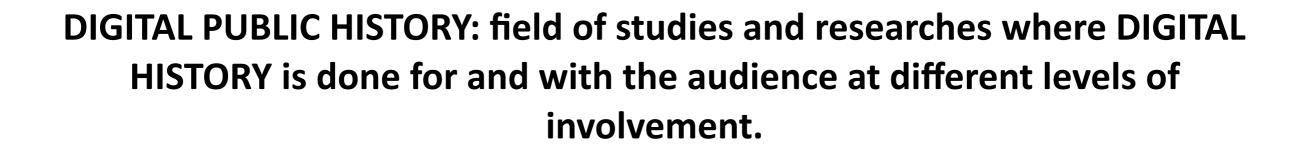
- to open the history to the **widest possible audience** maintaining a high level of professionalism and a rigorous methodology
- to work on history **close to communities** (social, ethnic, political, cultural, etc.) by reconstructing memories and identities
- to **share activities** that allow the "writing" of history (crowdsourcing)
- to work on collaborative and interdisciplinary projects in humanities
- to promote the **conscious and critical use of all available media**

# Digital Public History

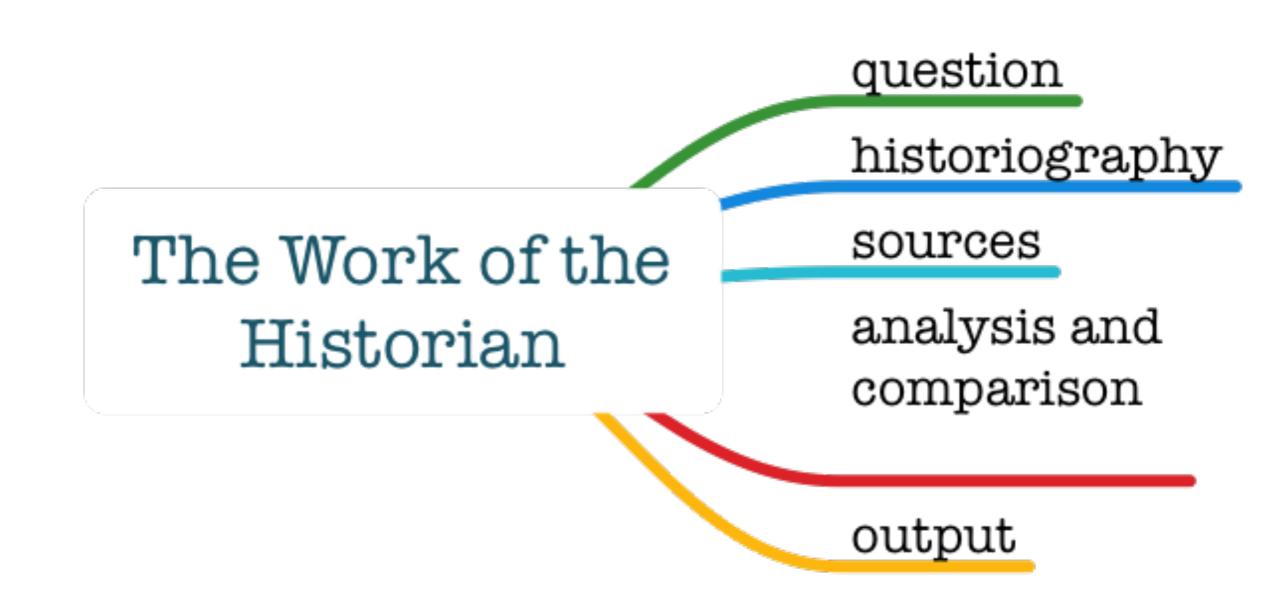


DIGITAL HISTORY: D an approach to examining and representing the past that takes advantage of new technologies.

PUBLIC HISTORY: practice of history by historians with and for the public outside the universitie



# Historian at work 1 - readings



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			FORUM	Return	
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#### **Bibliographic Social Network**



Zotero is a free, easy-to-use tool to help you collect, organize, cite, and share research.

Made by the <u>Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and</u> <u>New Media</u>

Download and documentation at <u>https://</u> <u>www.zotero.org/</u>

Italian presentation: <u>http://www.slideshare.net/</u>

## Please: note and quote!

Under the early Carolingians, Pisa had been an active port and was the site of an imperial navy along with Genoa.<sup>5</sup> The Italian ports of Amalfi, Naples and Venice and their traditional ties with the Byzantine east, however, largely overshadowed its commercial importance. Indeed, faced with the competition of these philhellenic cities, Pisa and her close neighbor Genoa were forced to impose themselves on the western Mediterranean trade routes to assure their

comercio mediterráneo del siglo XI, según la dispersión y distribución de las producciones cerámicas', in: La Península ibérica y el Mediterráneo entre los siglos XI y XII. Codex Aquilarensis, 13, vol. I (Aguilar de Campo, 1998), 65.

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<sup>1</sup> G. Jehel, 'Gênes et le Maghreb au Moyen Age', Studi magrebini, 22 (1990), 65; R. Azuar Ruiz, 'Al-Andalus y el

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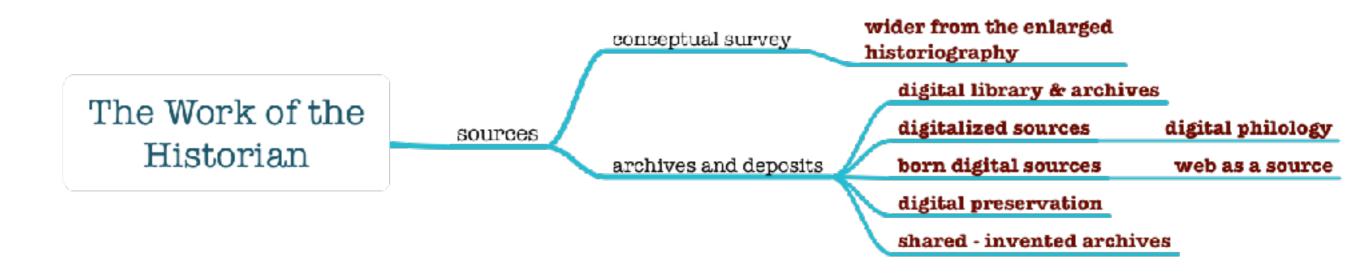
Nate Silver's Political Calculus July 15, 2013, 11:20 am F 281 Comments Senate Control in 2014 Increasingly Looks Like a Tossup By NATE SILVER

**Five Thirty Eight** 

This weekend's announcement by the former governor of Montana, Brian Schweitzer, that he would not seek that state's Democratic nomination for Senate represents the latest in a series of favorable developments for Ranublicane as they east control of the chamber

> Author (if no full name is given, use screen name, handle, or other username)

# Historian at work 2 - sources



# Always in their context

- producer
- place
- structure
- audience
- •date

- place of storage
- use
- motivation / aims
- materials
- editions

# digital scientific editions

- facsimile: picture with metadata + critical apparatus
- diplomatic edition: the text is transcribed as seen
   + critical apparatus
- normalized edition: the text is transformed to improve its readability

## Facsimile

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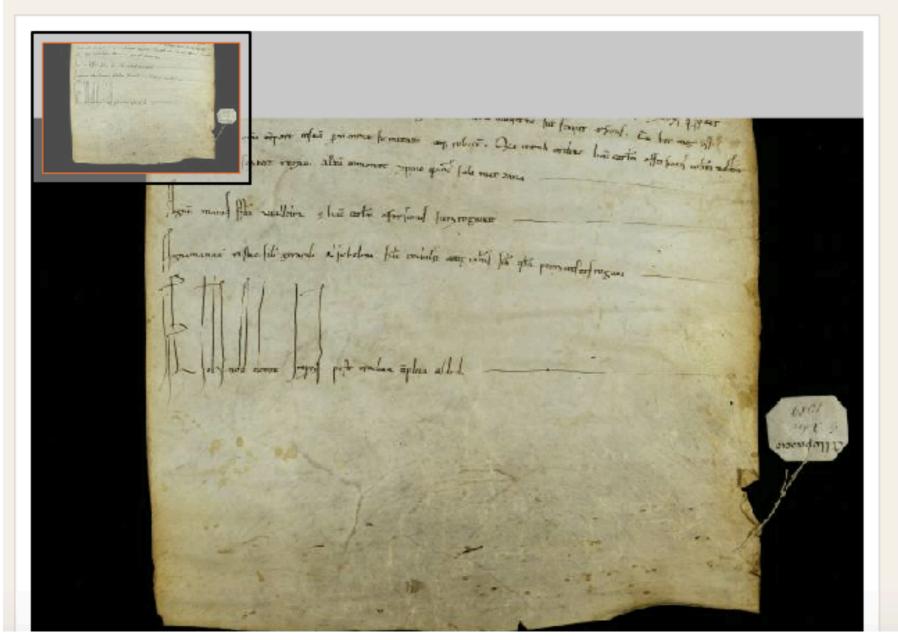
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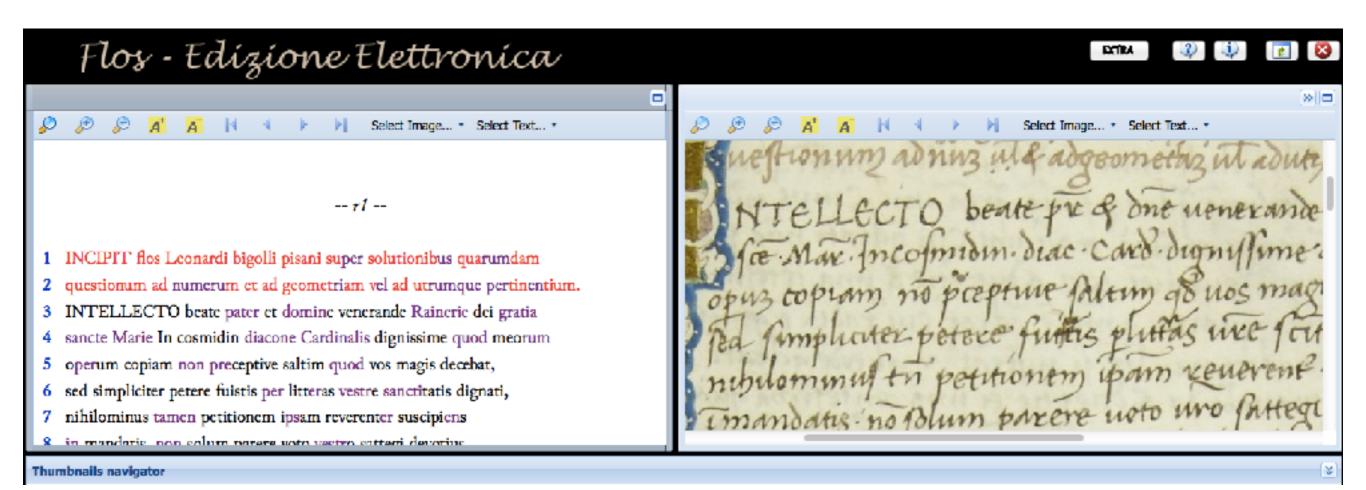
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France, 9th century; Marcus Tullius Cicero, London, British Library, Harley 647

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## various combinations

web-based

text only

stand-alone

text and image

web tools for reading software / tools specific

full digital edition

## benefits

- •low cost (not completely true)
- •text / image union + other objects
- •maximum dissemination (Web edition) —> PH?
- collection of other material (previous editions, commentary, etc.)
- hypertextual reading
- •research tools (lists and concordances, digital restoration, timeline, maps, etc.)
- possibility to correct or extend

### but.

- digital editions are not yet widespread
- skepticism in academic environments
- evaluation of a digital edition is not easy
- consultation requires a minimum of computer skills
- compatibility problems
- risk of obsolescence
- never ending, never fixed edition
- team and interdisciplinary work (wonderful but EXPENSIVE in terms of time, money, management)
- •great CHANGE in the way od working

### crowdsourcing (edition & PH)

great possibility in

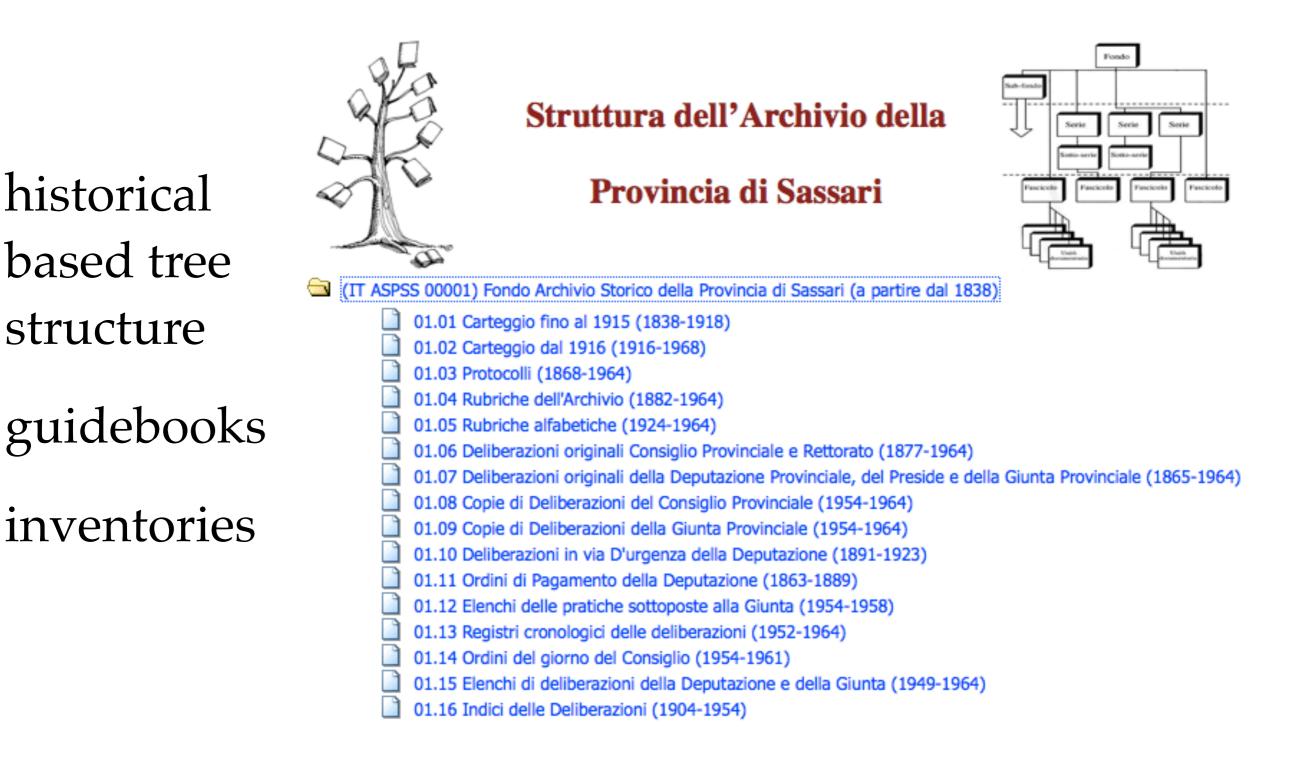
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### Traditional Archives



#### Traditional & Current Archives

- growing attention to the digitalization BUT
   there will never be a complete digitalization
- growing attention to the problems of preservation, privacy rights, copyright, secrecy, legal validity, etc.

#### Archives (Libraries - Museums) 2.0

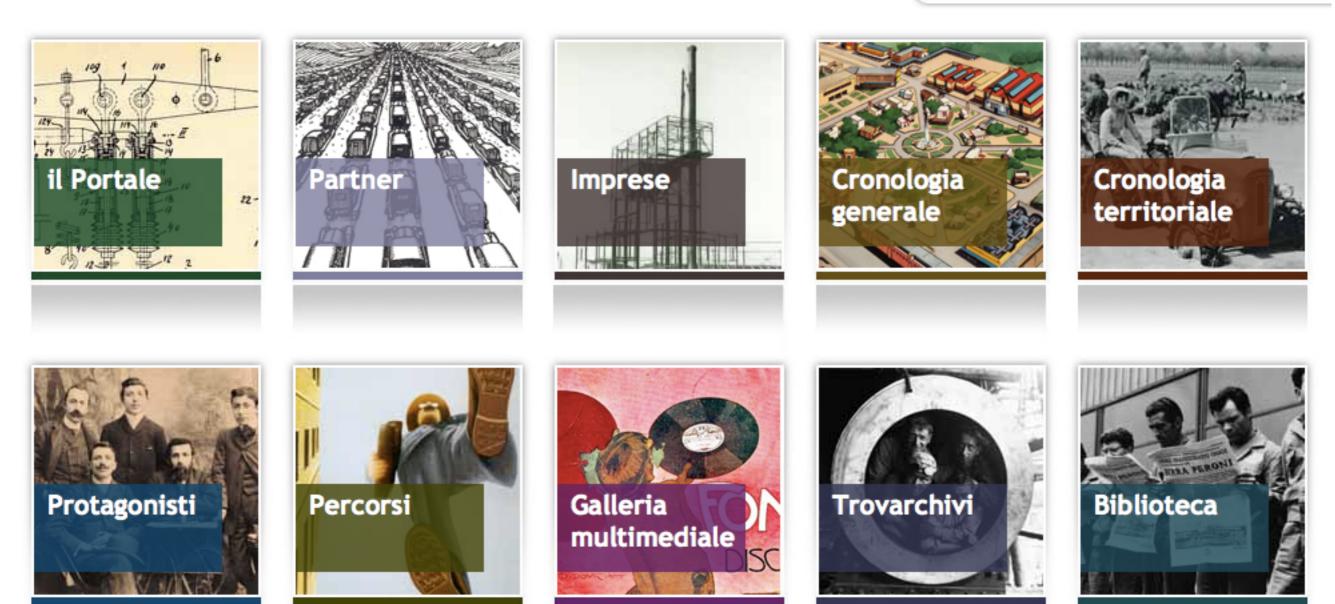
- user oriented tools, spaces, services
- communication and collaboration: blog, forum, podcast, virtual spaces to encourage the creation of a community (or communities) linked to the archives
- standard formats interoperability
- http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ • open source software to publish and share contents
- exhibitions, dossier
- games

### Web of Archives



Guarda i documentari dell'Archivio nazionale cinema d'impresa <u>www.cinemaimpresa.it</u> Guarda i video realizzati in collaborazione con Rai Educational <u>Gli archivi del cinema d'impresa</u> e <u>Gli archivi d'impresa</u> Consulta oltre 170.000 descrizioni e immagini del fondo <u>Ufficio italiano brevetti e marchi (1867-1965)</u> Cerca nel Portale

Vai



# shared and open archives

- different institutions, same collection
- collection open to comments in order to improve, correct and increase data
- •periodic checks by the staff who verify and update the "institutional" database





#### Album di The Library of Congress pro Raccolte Set Gallerie Tag Persone Cartina Archivi Preferite/i Profilo 🖾 Aggiungi The... tra i contatti



#### Where bomb fell in Rue Des Recollets (LOC)

Bain News Service, publisher. Where bomb fell in Rue Des Recollets [between ca. 1910 and ca. 1915]





#### Album di The Library of Congress 📖

Congress Raccolte Set Gallerie Tag Persone Cartina Archivi Preferite/i Profilo 🖾 Aggiungi The... tra i contatti

Sei entrat

#### Where bomb fell in Rue Des Recollets (LOC)

Bain News Service,, publisher.

Where bomb fell in Rue Des Recollets

[between ca. 1910 and ca. 1915]

1 negative : glass ; 5 x 7 in. or smaller.

#### Notes:

Title from unverified data provided by the Bain News Service on the negatives or caption cards. Forms part of: George Grantham Bain Collection (Library of Congress).

Format: Glass negatives.

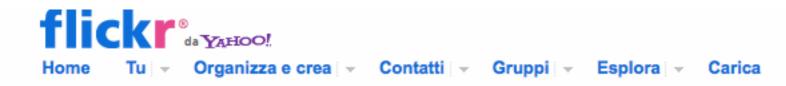
Rights Info: No known restrictions on publication.

Repository: Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C. 20540 USA, hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print

General information about the Bain Collection is available at hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.ggbain

Persistent URL: hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/ggbain.17373

Call Number: LC-B2- 3249-4





Congress Raccolte Set Gallerie Tag Persone Cartina Archivi Preferite/i Profilo 🖾 Aggiungi The... tra i contatti

#### Commenti e preferiti

Yahur Puik ha aggiunto questa foto alle sue preferite. (12 mesi fa)



Kilted Cowboy pro (12 mesi fa)

the very first bombs dropped by plane in WWI, along with leaflets advising the civilian poulace to flee Paris

The first bomb to be dropped on Paris in the war fell at exactly 12.46 p.m. The second fell minutes later in the courtyard of 107 quai Valmy, a home for the aged and the third landed on the pavement outside 66 rue des Marais, not far from the Boulevard Magenta. The final explosive crashed through the skylight of 6 and 7 rue des Récollets and failed to explode. All the bombs landed within a few hundred metres of each other in the 10th arrondissement of Paris, the target probably being, despite the observer's stated concern for public safety, the two railway stations which were situated in this district of the capital, and which served, significantly, the north and east of France.

www.psywarsco.org/FallingLoat/firstwwi.php



artolog pro (12 mesi fa)

Per the falling leaf article, the bombing was on August 30, 1914.



rjones0856 pro (12 mesi fa)

The date on the left side of the photo, enhanced in GIMP, looks like 10/13/14 or 10/18/14



JADA.20S (12 mesi fa)



🐈 bior hanno aggiunto questa foto alle loro preferite. (12 mesi fa)



artolog <u>pts</u> (11 mesi fa) New York Times article from Sept. 1, 1914, about early WWI German bombings in Paris: query.nylimes.com/mem/archive-free/pdf?res=98 02E3DC1E3BE6...

### invented archives

Spontaneous but guided collections of sources that concern a particular community of people

**Invented** because the archives are not related to an institution that HAS to preserve its documentation.

• <u>The September 11 Digital Archive</u> : repository build by the <u>Center for History and New Media</u> George Mason University

#### September 11



SAVING THE HISTORIES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HOME BROWSE REPOSITORY CONTRIBUTE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS 9/11 FAQS 9/11 LINKS



This is a beta version of a new design for the September 11 Digital Archive.

Click here to view the previous version of the website.

The September 11 Digital Archive uses electronic media to collect, preserve, and present the history of September 11, 2001 and its aftermath. The Archive contains more than 150,000 digital items, a tally that includes more than 40,000 emails and other electronic communications, more than 40,000 first-hand stories, and more than 15,000 digital images. In September 2003, the Library of Congress accepted the Archive into its collections, an event that both ensured the Archive's long-term preservation and marked the library's first major digital acquisition.

**Browse**: Explore the collection for stories, images, emails, documents, sounds, and videos of September 11

Research: Search, sort, and examine the entire collection

**Contribute**: Tell your story, add your email, and upload images, documents, and other digital files to the Archive

HOME | ABOUT | PARTNERS | STAFF | CONTACT US | NEWS

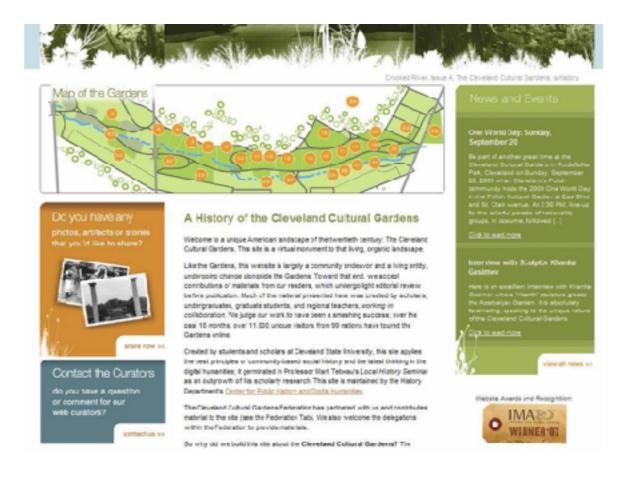
# Community-based social and digital history

The Cleveland Cultural Gardens embody the history of XXth cent. America. Each individual garden is founded and maintained by the city's many ethnic communities, revealing the history of immigration to, and migration within, the United States.

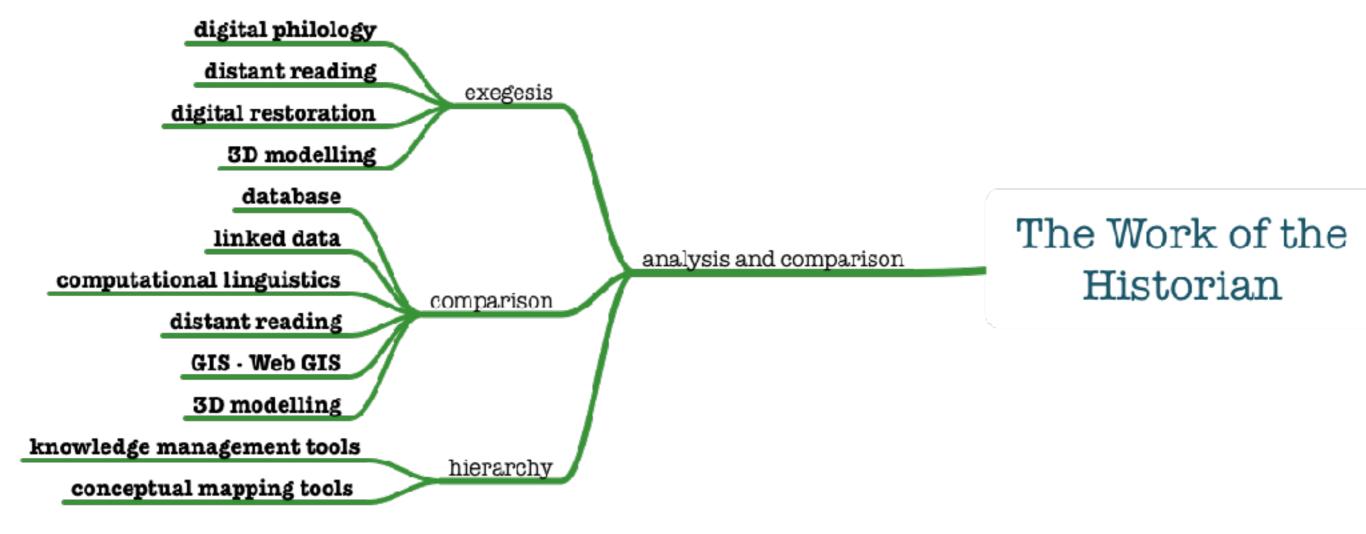
The stones, paths, and memories of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens tell us what it has meant to be an American.

Cleveland Cultural Gardens are a community based digital archives on the web promoted by a Digital Public Historian <u>Dr. Mark Tebeau</u>, Department of History, Cleveland State University

#### http://culturalgardens.org"



#### Historian at work - 3 analysis and comparison



# Genealogy tools

	Rucastle MacX			
Bookmarks Links Relationship	Immediate family Personal data Union data	1 CH		
<ul> <li>Witnessed</li> <li>Individuals who participated</li> <li>RUCASTLE Galbert (1870-1975)</li> <li>Present - Marriage - 1935 - Lond</li> <li>Present - Birth - 1908 - London</li> <li>CAREY Yermon Oliver (1903)</li> </ul>	RUCASTLE 1 Alice Jean born : Dec 2, 1908 in London died : Jul 31, 1998 in London, aged 89 years old Novelist	1 1987 – Chris & Alice at Margate		
Witness - Will - 1971 - London  RUCASTLE Reginald (1860-1942)  Witness - Marriage - 1928 - Lond +  TREGENHES Beatrice	Adam MORLEY (1899-1934)     Christopher Edward THOMAS (1910-1991)     1987 — Christe			
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#### concordances

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## distant reading

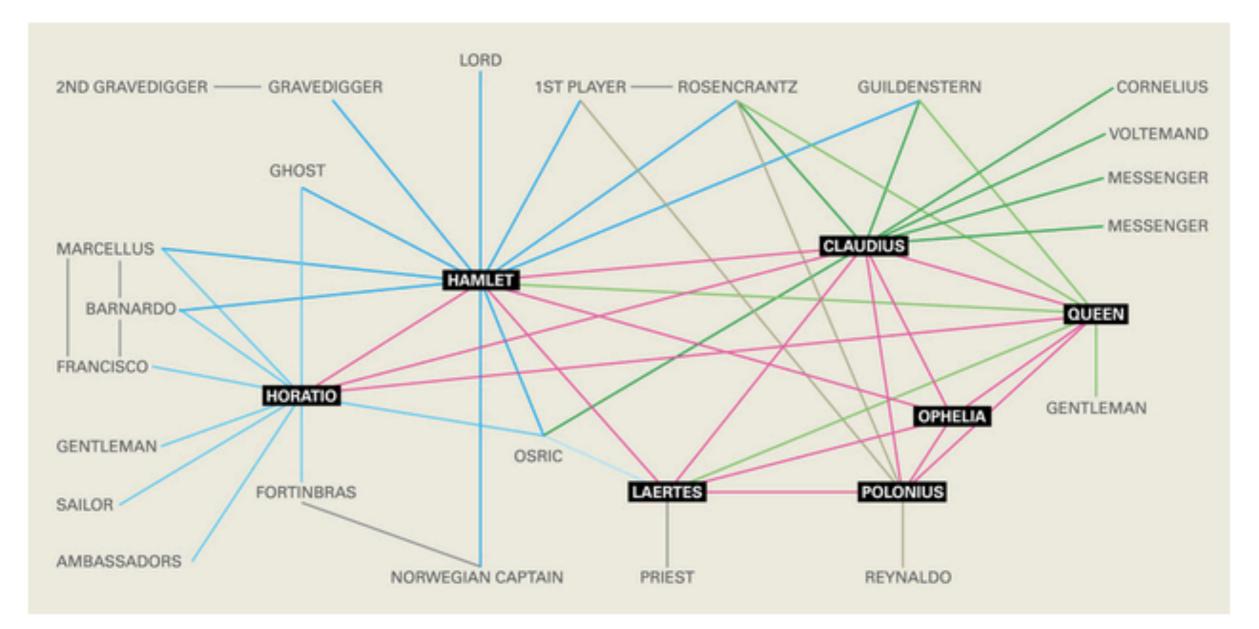
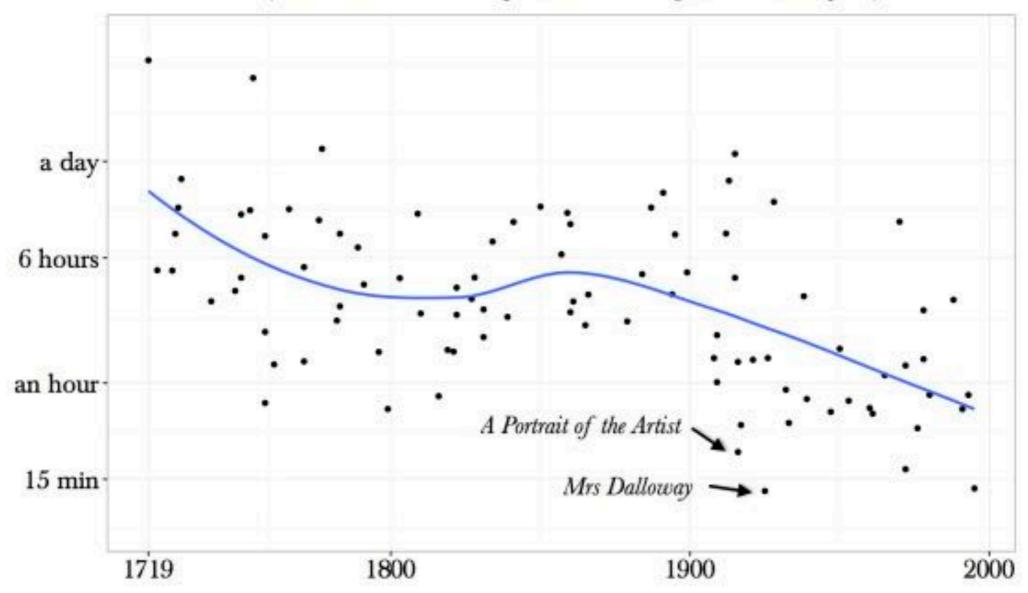


Illustration by Joon Mo Kang (Source: Stanford Literary Lab)

# distant reading

#### Time narrated, on average, in 250 words in a hypothetical world

(where modernism is responsible for changes in narrative pace)



# GIS / WEB GIS

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a system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present spatial or geographic data.

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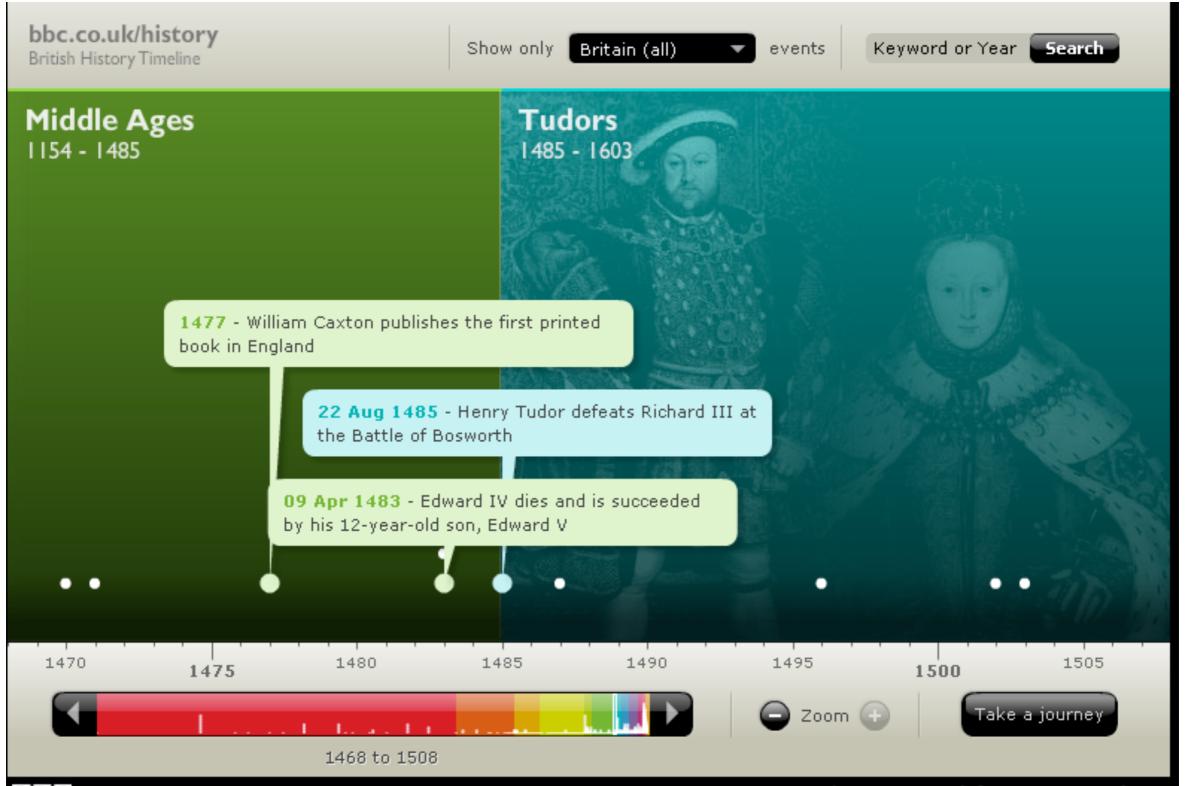
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### Timeline

#### ClaviusOnTheWeb



### Timeline

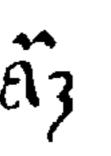


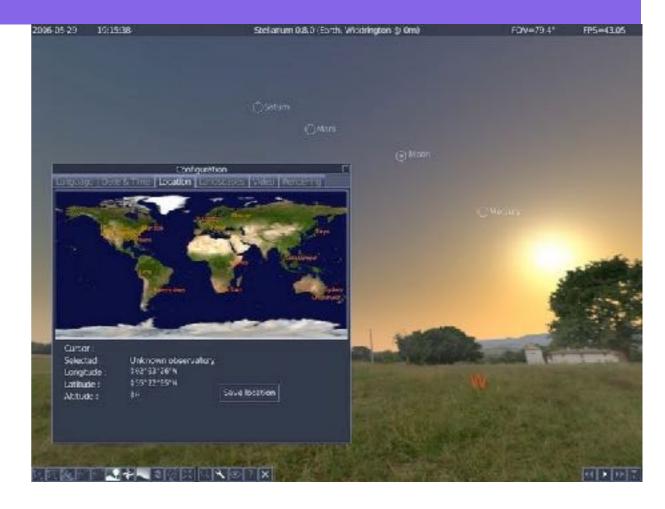
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### various tools

- repertories
- dictionaries
- calendars
- dates converter
- paleografia database
- maps



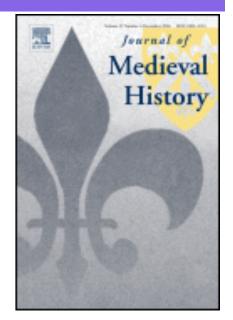


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### Historian at work - 4 output

### Traditional output





#### scientific publication

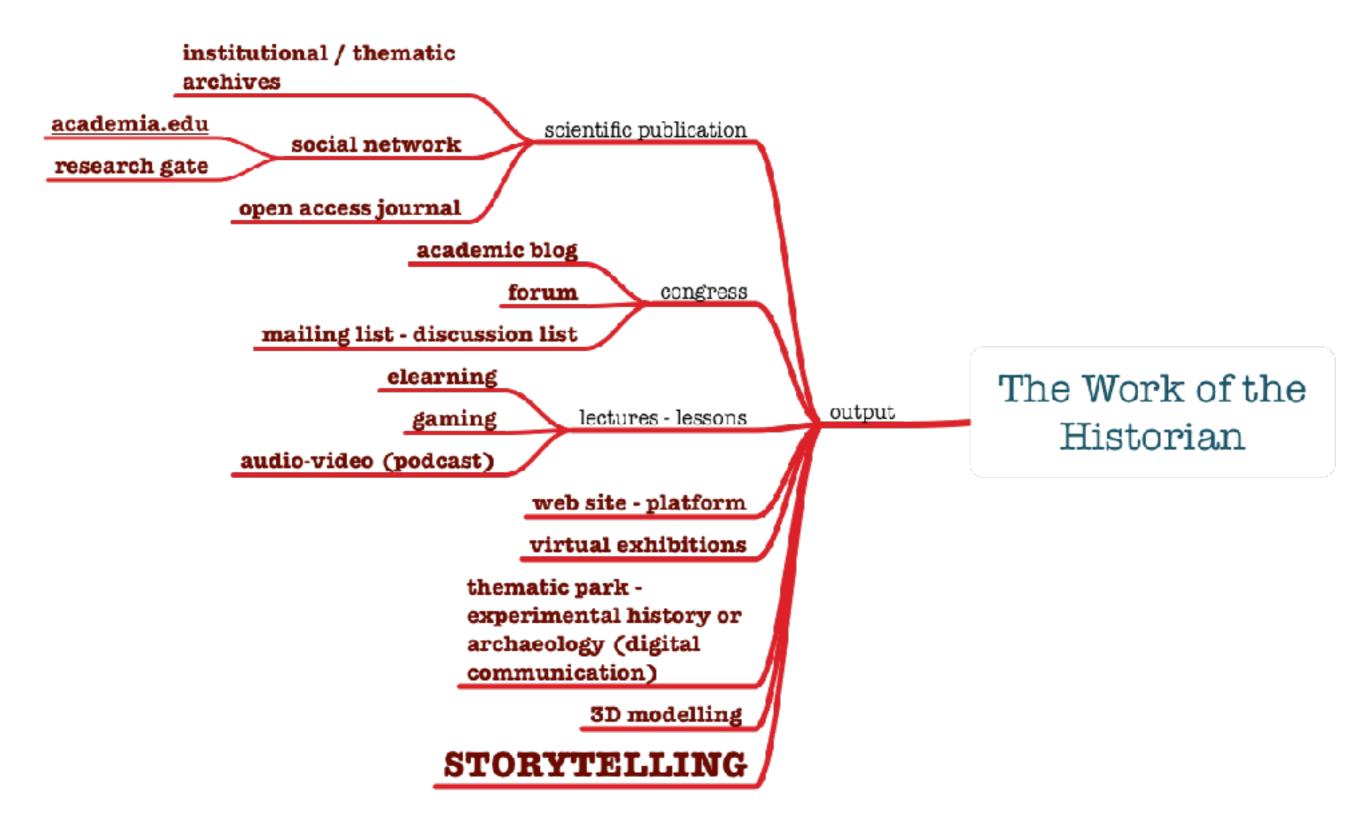
congress

#### lesson



#### lecture





### up to you

- two groups
- use a mindmap tool on line (if you want)
- <u>https://www.mindmeister.com</u>

