













14th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The Ancient Mediterranean Digital Project: from id fixe to implementation

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Abstract

The paper will present the current state of the Ancient Mediterranean Digital Project, a multi component ongoing open access digital project that involves a database on ancient ship representations, the creation of hundreds of 3D models based on the database collection using digital photogrammetry, and the planned creation of a virtual museum to host them, executed in the scope of two postdoctoral fellowships, first began at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (2020-2022) and followed by a Marie Curie at LMU, Germany (2024-2026). Currently covering the eastern Mediterranean of the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age periods with a plan to further expand to the entire basin, the project is intended to become the principal online research tool on the topic of Mediterranean ships of the pre-classical periods, by providing an up-to-date, comprehensive dataset of ship representations, including in-depth contextual and technical information and analysis for each entry as well as high resolution, detailed visual documentation. The digital photogrammetry and virtual museum meanwhile are intended to create a space where objects can finally be reunited thematically and regionally – being currently dispersed in multiple museums and sometimes not on display at all.

Keywords

maritime archaeology, digital cultural heritage, digital photogrammetry, open access database, virtual museum

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