Thinking Beyond the Tool. Archaeological Computing and the Interpretive Process


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Abstract

The scope of the book aims to build on previous approaches to archaeological method and theory, and place emphasis on the fact that archaeological computing, with its wide range of applications and methodologies, has gradually become central to most archaeological practice. Yet archaeological computing is still seen as a set of tools, which provide a methodological exactitude to overcome problems and constraints. This mentality marginalises and separates it from the rest of archaeological practices. However, the diverse range of approaches presented in the book’s 12 chapters, make it apparent that computational approaches are not mere media, but processes of data recording, management, analysis and presentation and any attempt to distinguish archaeology and archaeological computing invalidates our efforts to make archaeology richer.

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