

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

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ISBN 978-1-78969-819-0

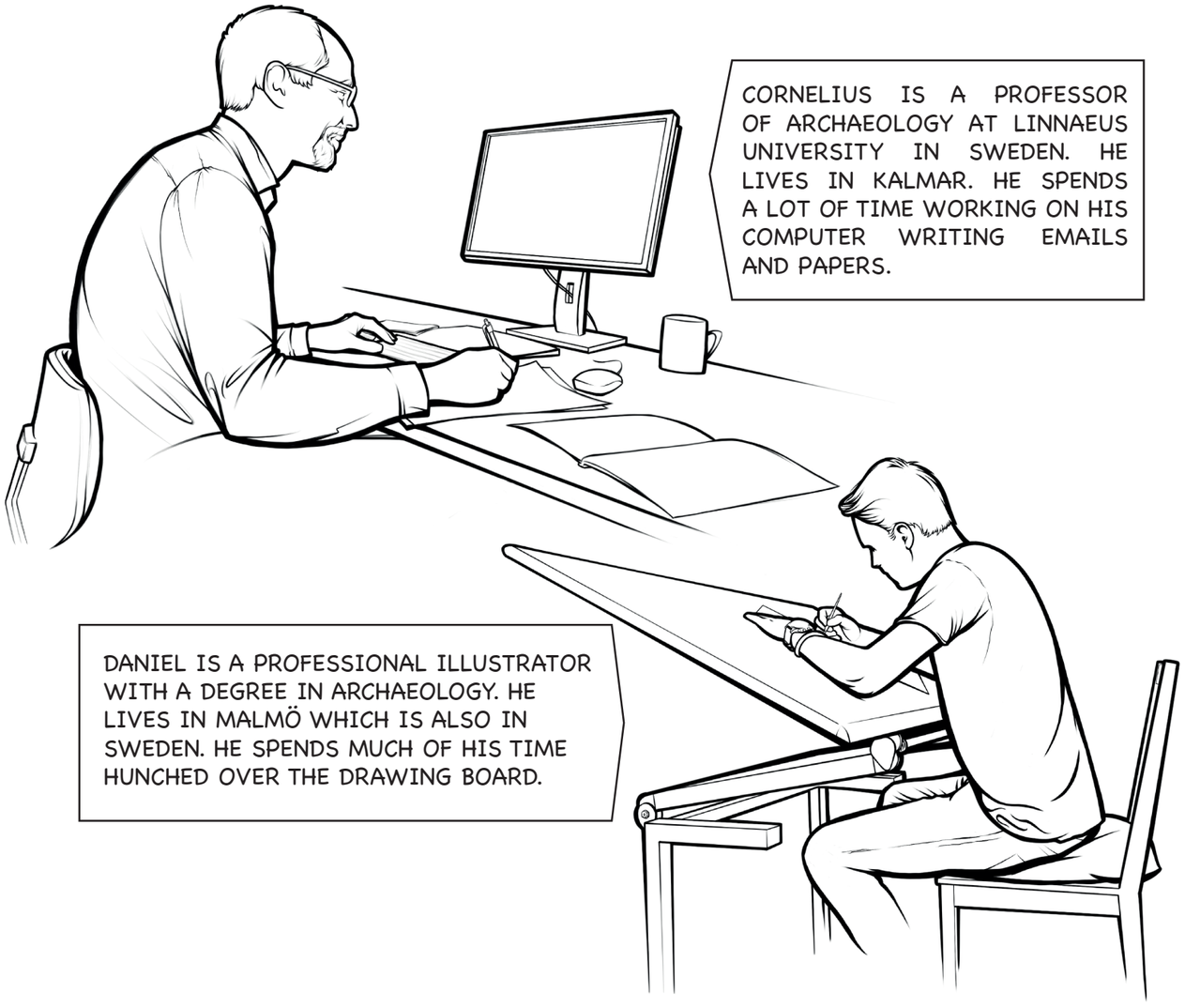
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ARCHAEOLOGY

TODAY

BY CORNELIUS HOLTORF
AND DANIEL LINDSKOG

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



IN THIS LITTLE BOOK WE SHOW YOU HOW ARCHAEOLOGISTS ARE WORKING TODAY USING NEW APPROACHES.

We would like to thank Melanie Holtorf, Mats Burström, Håkan Karlsson, Tomás Diez Acosta, Marie Bennedahl, Ebbe Westergren, Clara Alfsdotter, Fredrik Gunnarsson, and Anders Högberg for their contributions and *Riksbanken Jubileumsfond* for funding. © Daniel Lindskog and Cornelius Holtorf, 2021.

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ON CONTEMPORARY ARCHAEOLOGY

ARCHAEOLOGISTS LIVE IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY LIKE YOU DO. THEY ARE INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT TOPICS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO OUR SOCIETY TODAY.



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO

CONTEMPORARY ARCHAEOLOGIST .....

.....

I WAS BORN IN THE YEAR .....

I HOPE TO LIVE LONGER THAN .....

What can we learn from archaeologists about our own time?

THE ARCHITECTURE OF ZOOS REFLECTS HOW PEOPLE HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT NATURE IN DIFFERENT WAYS: FROM A PERFORMANCE TO BE WATCHED TO A HABITAT TO GET IMMERSED IN, WITH CREATURES TO CARE FOR.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS CAN TEACH US A LOT ABOUT OUR OWN TIME

AT *GORGE WILDLIFE PARK* IN ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA, CORNELIUS' DAUGHTER MELANIE GOT TO HOLD A KOALA IN 2017.

DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM OPENED IN 1998 IN FLORIDA, USA. ON THE *KILIMANJARO SAFARI* VISITORS WILL ENCOUNTER VARIOUS AFRICAN ANIMALS IN ENCLOSURES WITH HIDDEN FENCES.

THE LION HOUSE IN *TIERPARK BERLIN*, GERMANY, IS FROM 1963. IT LETS PREDATORS PERFORM ON A STAGE FOR HUMAN AUDIENCES.

Don't feed the Animal

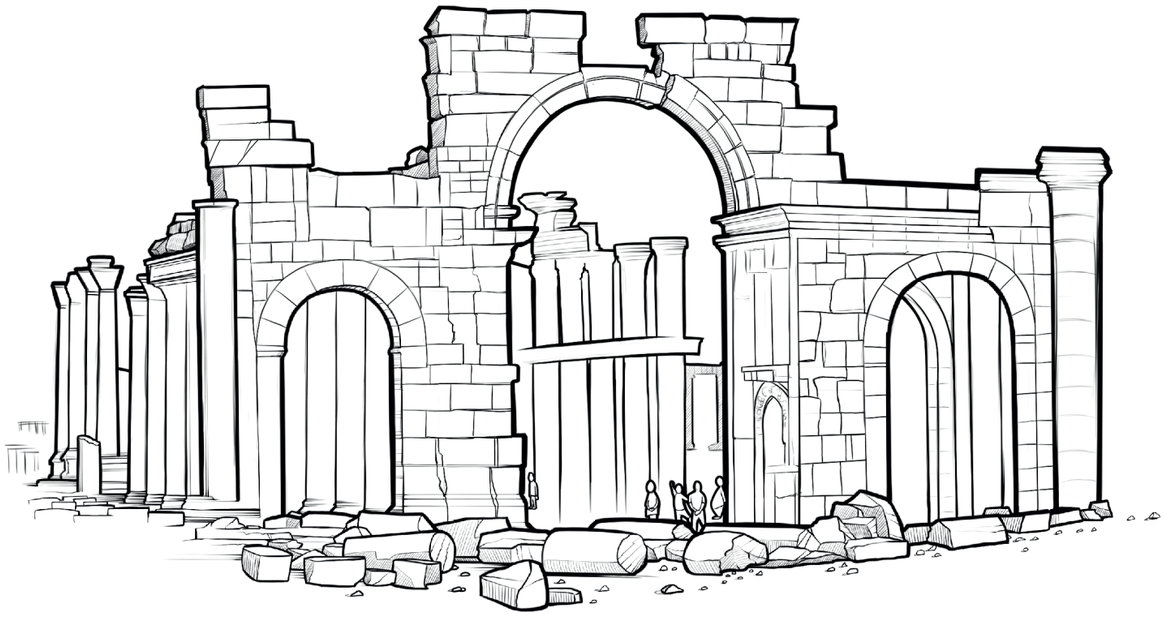
ARCHAEOLOGISTS MATS BURSTRÖM AND HÅKAN KARLSSON, AND HISTORIAN TOMÁS DIEZ ACOSTA HAVE BEEN STUDYING WHAT REMAINS TODAY OF THE SOVIET MISSILE BASES WHICH WERE CONSTRUCTED IN CUBA DURING THE 1962 MISSILE CRISIS.

MISSILE

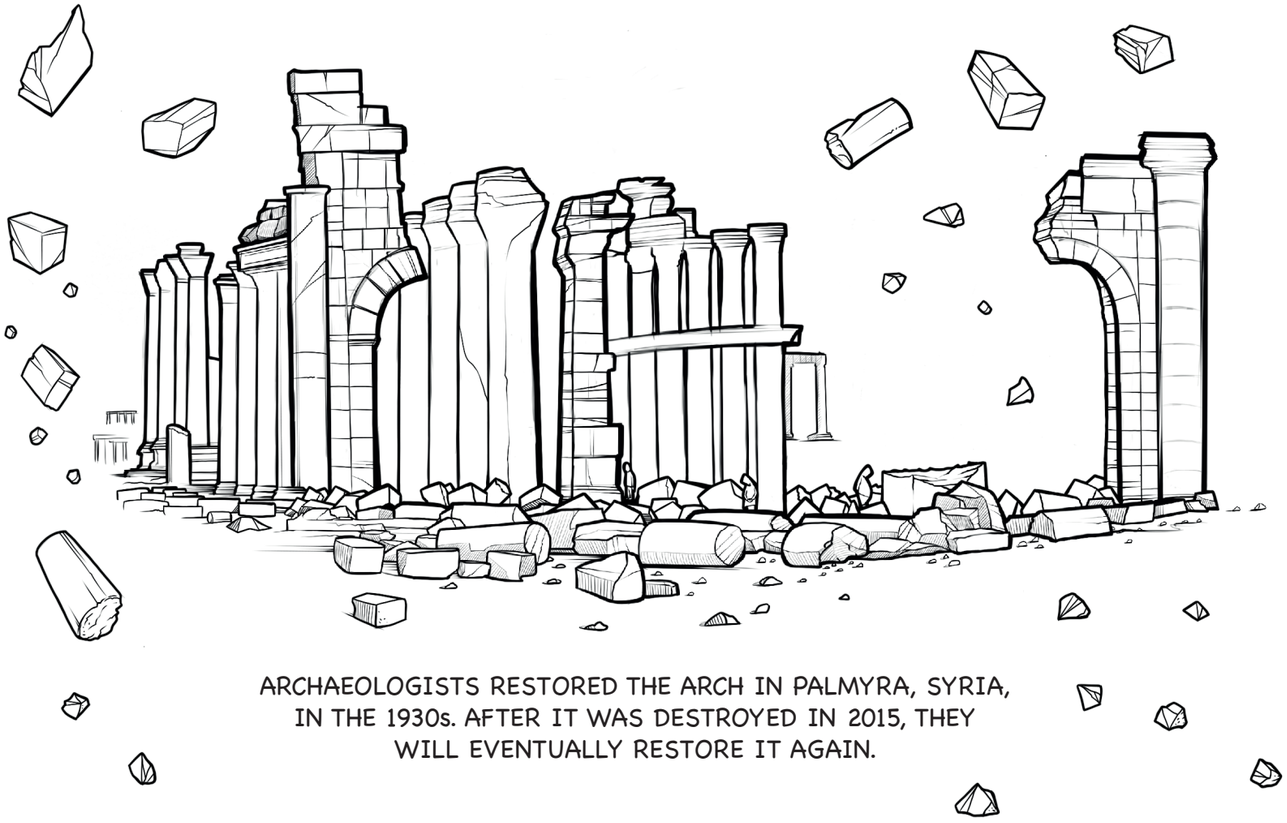
IN SANTA CRUZ DE LOS PINOS THEY DISCOVERED HOW LARGE SECTIONS OF CONCRETE HAVE BEEN REUSED AS CATTLE PENS. FROM THEIR FIELDWORK WE CAN LEARN HOW THE "CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS", WHICH NEARLY LED TO THE OUTBREAK OF A NUCLEAR WAR, CHANGED LIFE IN THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES.

Is there anything we can do when historical buildings have been destroyed in wars?

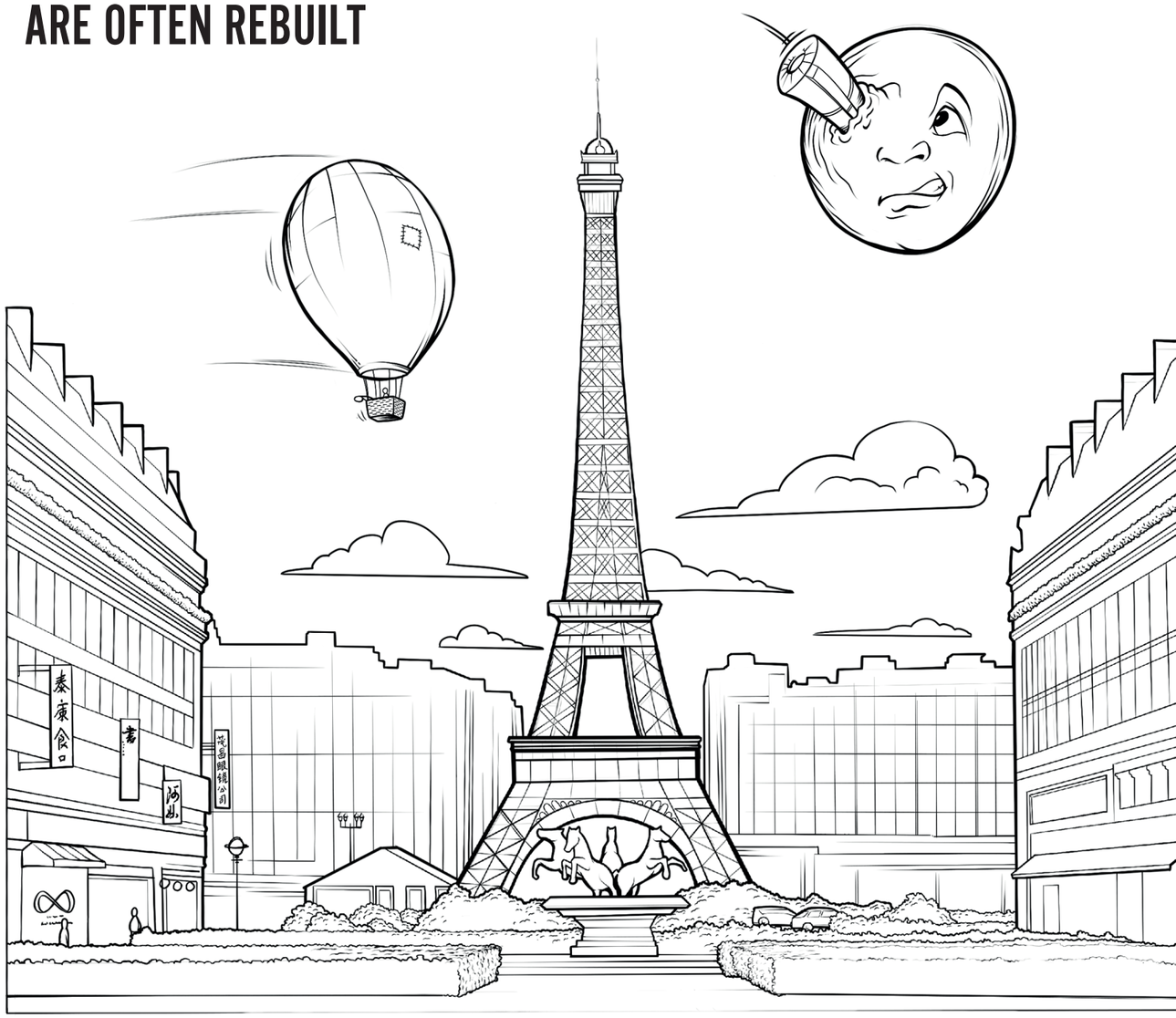
HISTORICAL BUILDINGS ARE OFTEN REBUILT



THE DESTRUCTION OF MONUMENTS IS PART OF HISTORY TOO.



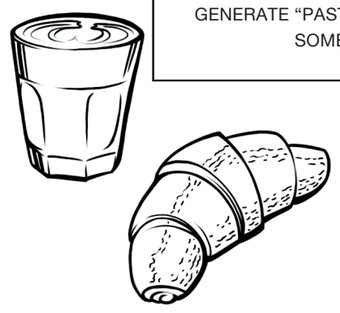
ARCHAEOLOGISTS RESTORED THE ARCH IN PALMYRA, SYRIA, IN THE 1930s. AFTER IT WAS DESTROYED IN 2015, THEY WILL EVENTUALLY RESTORE IT AGAIN.

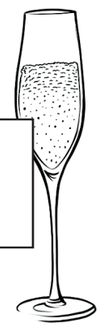


IN HANGZHOU, CHINA, INHABITANTS AND VISITORS ENJOY EXPERIENCING THE EIFFEL TOWER, INSPIRED BY THE TOWER IN PARIS, FRANCE.

MORE IMPORTANT THAN DATING SITES IS WHETHER THEY GENERATE “PASTNESS”. PASTNESS REQUIRES THE PRESENCE OF SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS:

1. VISIBLE SIGNS OF DECAY
2. MATCHING EXPECTATIONS
3. PLAUSIBLE HISTORY





What does it mean to reconstruct the past?

WE CAN TRAVEL BACK IN TIME

"What about us?"

USING THEIR OWN BODIES, PEOPLE RECREATE THE PAST TO UNDERSTAND AND EXPERIENCE WHAT LIFE WAS LIKE, E.G. DURING THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG IN PENNSYLVANIA, USA. HISTORIAN MARIE BENNEDAHL PROMOTES EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES BY INVESTIGATING GENDER ROLES IN HISTORICAL REENACTMENT.

KALMAR COUNTY MUSEUM HAS BEEN USING TIME-TRAVELS TO FOSTER POLITICAL DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICA.

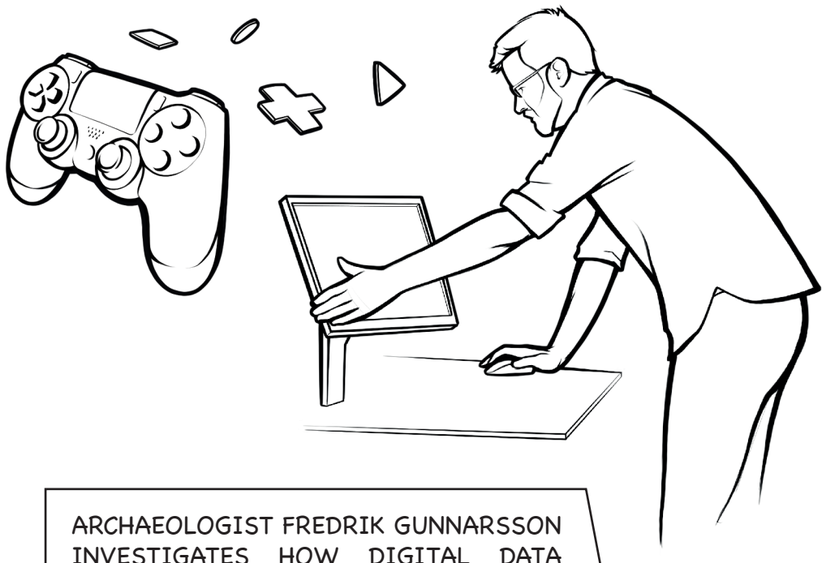
Does archaeology have other benefits in the present?

UGANDA BECAME INDEPENDENT FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1962. SIXTY YEARS LATER, UGANDANS RESTAGED A POLITICAL RALLY FROM 1954 NEAR THE FAMOUS *FREEDOM TREE* IN ENTEBBE. BY RESEARCHING AND RELIVING THIS MOMENT, THE COMMUNITY COULD DISCUSS THE MEANING OF FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE, INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES, AND JOINT ASPIRATIONS FOR SOCIETY, BOTH THEN AND TODAY.

LET'S APPLY ARCHAEOLOGY IN SOCIETY!

OSTEOARCHAEOLOGIST CLARA ALFSDOTTER STUDIES DEAD BODIES TO HELP SOLVE MURDER CASES AND MISSING PERSON INVESTIGATIONS.

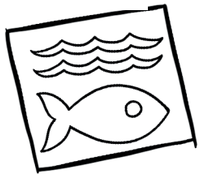


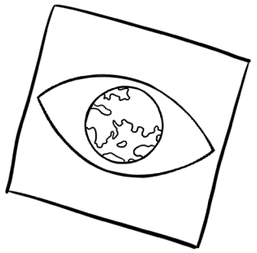


ARCHAEOLOGIST FREDRIK GUNNARSSON INVESTIGATES HOW DIGITAL DATA DERIVED FROM EXCAVATIONS CAN STIMULATE AUDIENCES TO ATTEND TO SOCIAL CONFLICTS AND FEEL EMPATHY WITH HUMAN BEINGS IN THE PAST.









ARCHAEOLOGY CAN CONTRIBUTE TO SEVERAL GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND HELP CREATE A BETTER WORLD FOR ALL.

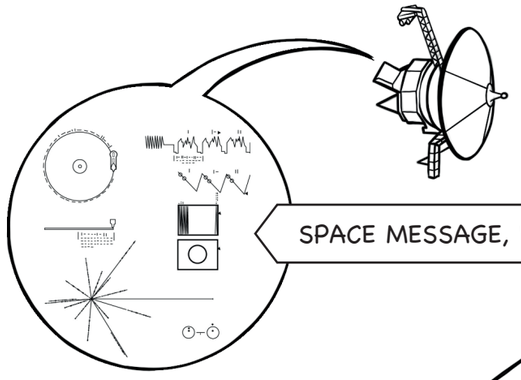


THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

CAN ARCHAEOLOGY HELP US PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE?

WHAT IS FUTURE ARCHAEOLOGY?

ANTICIPATING AND PLANNING WHAT PEOPLE IN THE FUTURE WILL BE ABLE TO FIND.



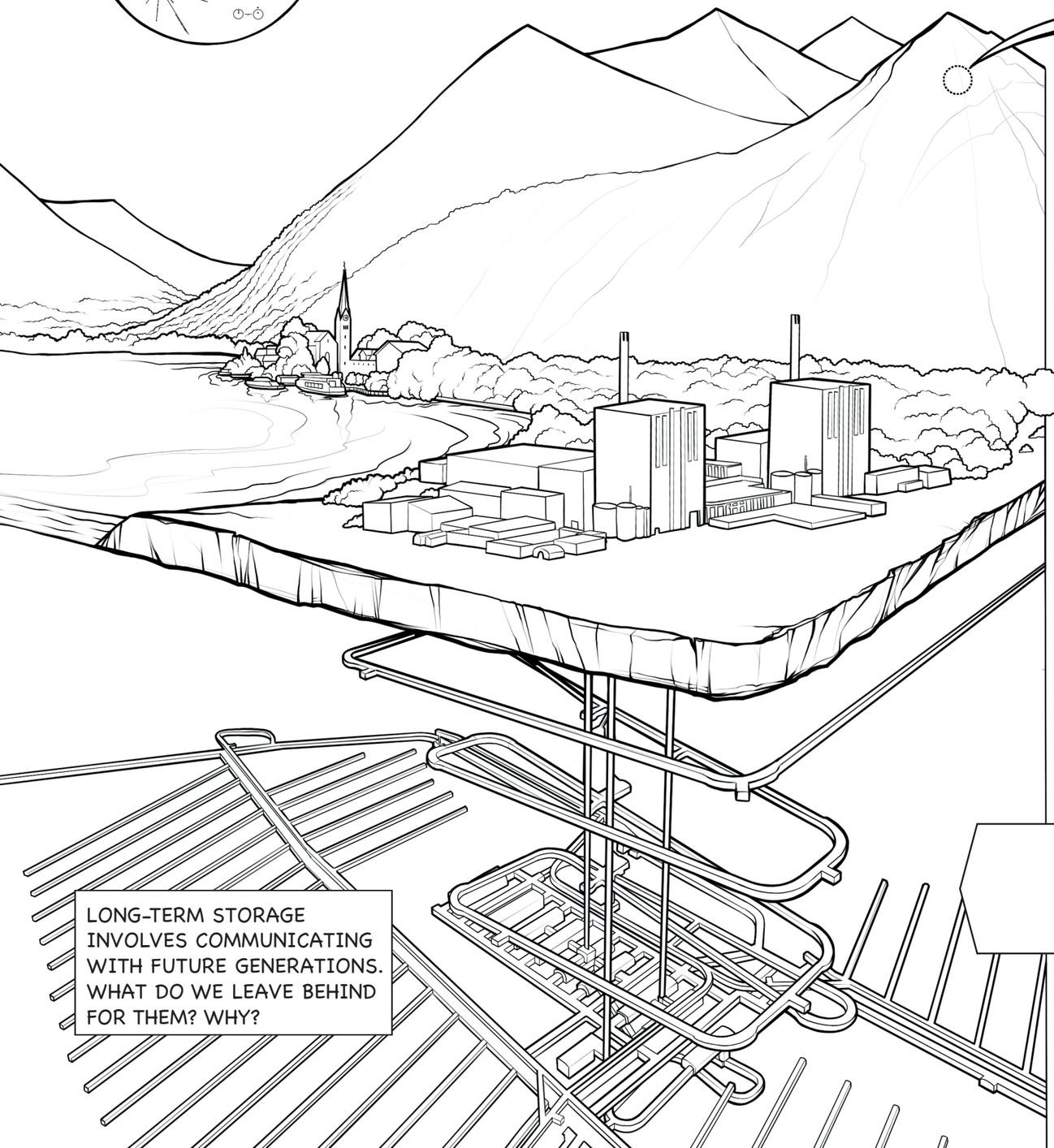
SPACE MESSAGE, *VOYAGER*



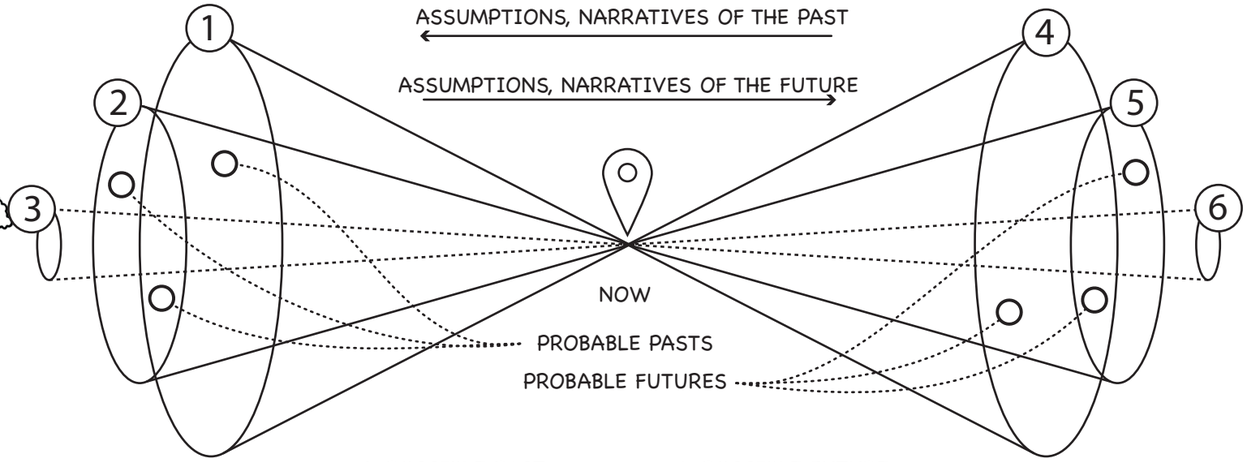
EVERYBODY CAN CREATE CERAMIC TILES FOR THE *MEMORY OF MANKIND* IN HALLSTATT, AUSTRIA.

"Nothing is more difficult to predict than the past and nothing ages faster than the future."



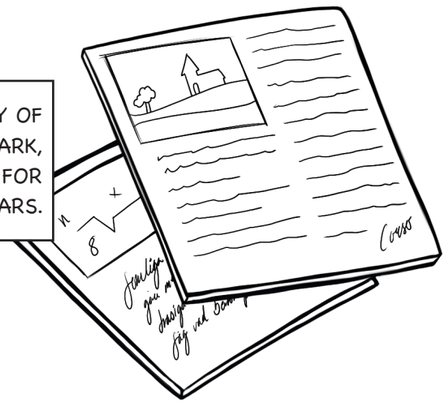


LONG-TERM STORAGE INVOLVES COMMUNICATING WITH FUTURE GENERATIONS. WHAT DO WE LEAVE BEHIND FOR THEM? WHY?



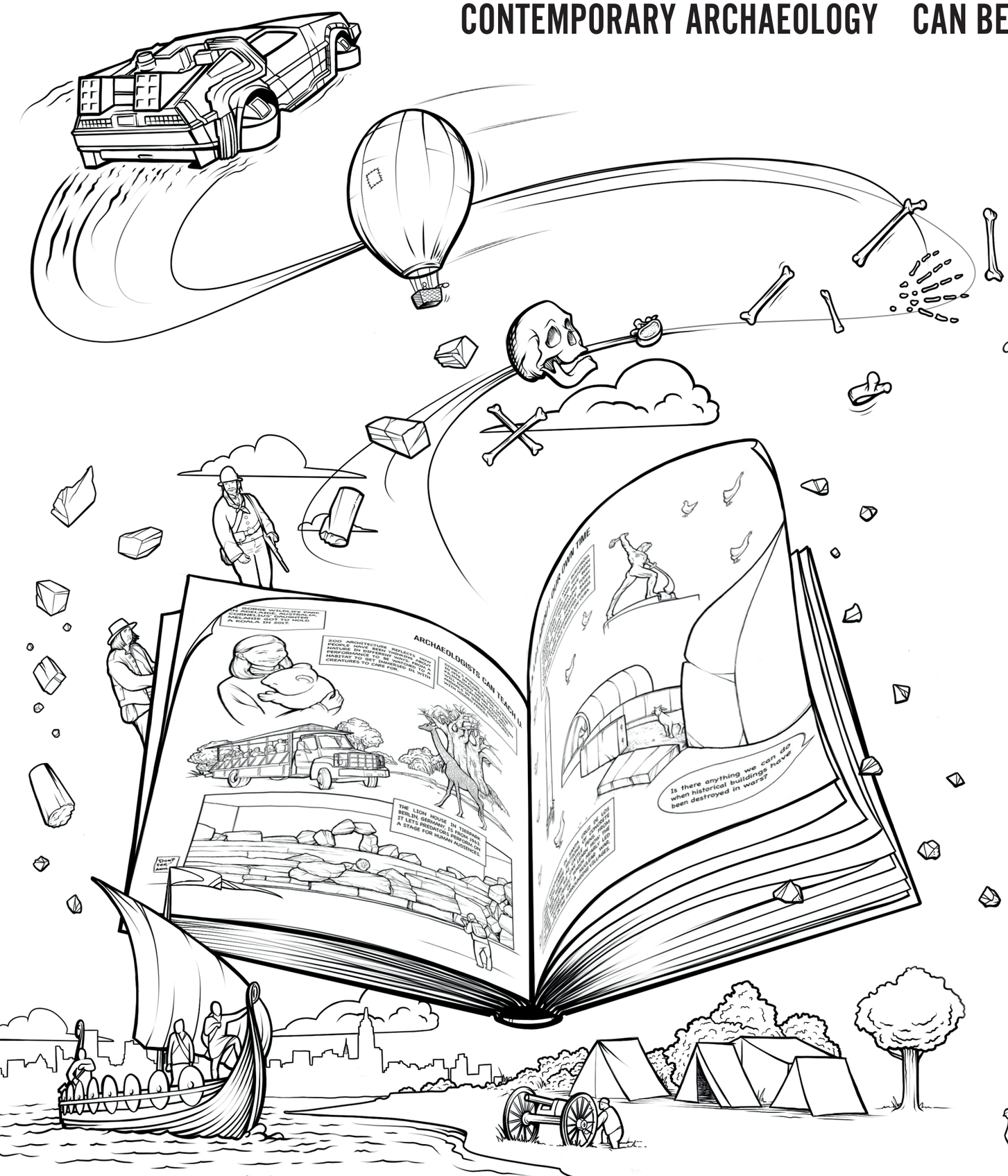
1. POSSIBLE PAST
2. PLAUSIBLE PAST
3. PREFERRED PAST
4. POSSIBLE FUTURE
5. PLAUSIBLE FUTURE
6. PREFERRED FUTURE

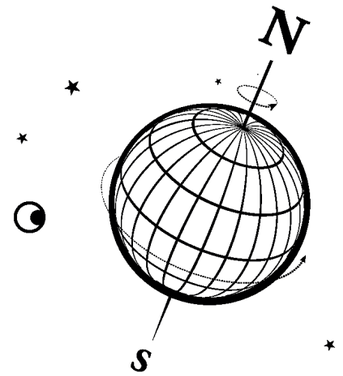
PLANNED REPOSITORY OF NUCLEAR WASTE IN FORSMARK, SWEDEN. IT MUST LAST FOR 100,000 YEARS.



BUT MY LOCAL MUSEUM DOES NOT DISPLAY ANYTHING ABOUT SUCH THINGS...

CONTEMPORARY ARCHAEOLOGY CAN BE FOUND IN MANY PLACES



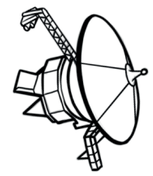


INTERESTING PLACES TO VISIT:

Indiana Jones Adventure ride, Disneyland and Tokyo DisneySea, Japan
Egyptian Temple, Antwerp Zoo, Belgium
City of the Pharaoh, 1923 movie set, Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes-Centre, California, USA
Nuclear power plant remains, Chernobyl, Ukraine
Guédelon, medieval castle, Burgundy, France

GREAT BOOKS TO READ:

Bianca Bosker (2013) *Original Copies*
Gregory Benford (1999) *Deep Time*
Caitlin DeSilvey (2018) *Curating Decay*
Richard Gould (2007) *Disaster Archaeology*
David Macaulay (1979) *Motel of the Mysteries*
Marc-Antoine Mathieu (2007) *The Museum Vaults*
Jenny Thompson (2004) *War Games*



MEMORABLE FILMS TO WATCH:

Woody Allen (dir.), *The Purple Rose of Cairo* (1985)
Paul Banks (dir.), *Arcifacts: Unearthing Homeless Heritage in York* (2014)
Franklin Schaffner (dir.), *The Planet of the Apes* (1968)

INSIGHTFUL WEBPAGES TO EXPLORE:

Archaeogaming: https://archaeogaming.com
Art/Archaeology: https://www.artarchaeologies.com
Bridging Ages: http://www.bridgingages.com
Memory of Mankind: https://www.memory-of-mankind.com
Space Age Archaeology: http://zoharesque.blogspot.com
UNESCO, Culture for the 2030 Agenda:
https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000264687

PLACES TO MEET:

Contemporary and Historical Archaeology in Theory (CHAT) Conference:
http://chat-arch.org

