

AI News Digest

07/13/2026 - 07/19/2026

WEEKLY DIGEST: ARTS, MEDIA & PERFORMANCE

Digitization and Preservation Shape Cultural Heritage Landscape

Recent articles highlight the growing intersection of technology and cultural heritage, emphasizing the importance of digitization and preservation efforts. Initiatives like the 3D photogrammetry project at the Institute of Classical Studies and the Save Our Signs campaign showcase innovative approaches to documenting and preserving history. Additionally, discussions on dataset contextualization and the role of generative AI in creative processes reflect a broader trend of integrating technology into the arts. As these efforts evolve, they underscore the need for robust documentation practices and community engagement.

KEY FINDINGS

- ✓ 3D digitization at the Institute of Classical Studies enhances documentation of antiquities.
- ✓ The Save Our Signs initiative has collected over 15,000 photographs to combat censorship in national parks.
- ✓ Robust dataset documentation is crucial for cultural heritage institutions.

IMPLICATIONS

- Increased public engagement can lead to better preservation of cultural histories.
- Adoption of AI in creative processes may redefine traditional storytelling methods.
- Enhanced documentation practices can improve accessibility and understanding of cultural artifacts.

Key Metrics: Over 15,000 photographs collected by the Save Our Signs initiative.; Engagement from community-based organizations prioritized in BCHDP funding.

1. Report: Digitizing Antiquities: A 3D Photogrammetry Placement at the Institute of Classical Studies

Category: Research
Departments: Computer Science, Art, History
Topics: Generative AI, 3D Digitization, Computational Preservation, Cultural Heritage Documentation

Impact Score: 22.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 4	Educational Value: 3	Innovation / Novelty: 4
Practical Impact: 5	Interdisciplinary Potential: 4	Ethical / Policy Implications: 2

The article details the authors' experience at the Senate House MakerSpace, University of London, where they engaged in 3D digitization and documentation of antiquities from the Hellenic and Roman Library at the Institute of Classical Studies. The focus was on utilizing computational methods to enhance the tangible preservation of archaeological heritage. The findings highlight the potential of digital technologies in safeguarding and documenting historical artifacts.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/07/digitizing-antiquities-a-3d-photogrammetry-placement-at-the-institute-of-classical-studies/>

2. Editors' Choice: Dataset Context(ualisation) in Documentation: Best Practices, Recommendations and Open Questions | Journal of Open Humanities Data

Category: Research
Departments: Computer Science, Educational Leadership, Communication, Philosophy
Topics: AI Ethics, Dataset Documentation, Data Curation Practices, Digital Humanities

Impact Score: 22.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 3	Educational Value: 4	Innovation / Novelty: 3
Practical Impact: 4	Interdisciplinary Potential: 5	Ethical / Policy Implications: 3

This discussion paper examines data curation from various perspectives, including academic and community organizations like Cultural Heritage Institutions. It highlights the significance of robust and consistent dataset documentation and offers recommendations for data management. The findings aim to assist Digital Humanities practitioners in effectively curating data for their institutions and personal projects. Additionally, the paper raises future questions regarding data curation practices.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/07/dataset-contextualisation-in-documentation-best-practices-recommendations-and-open-questions-journal-of-open-humanities-data/>

3. Report: Save Our Signs: Preserving Censored Histories in America's Largest Outdoor Classroom

Category: Policy & Ethics

Departments: Communication, History, Political Science & Public Administration

Topics: AI Ethics & Safety, Censorship Documentation, Public Engagement AI, Community-Driven Archives

Impact Score: 21.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 2

Educational Value: 3

Innovation / Novelty: 3

Practical Impact: 4

Interdisciplinary Potential: 4

Ethical / Policy Implications: 5

The Save Our Signs (SOS) initiative was launched to address censorship issues affecting national parks in the United States by leveraging public engagement and library resources. Since its inception in July 2025, the project has collected over 15,000 photographs from 422 national park sites, documenting both standard interpretive signs and instances of censorship, such as blank spaces where signs were removed. Additionally, the archive includes images of community-driven responses, highlighting public sentiment and resistance to censorship. This effort aims to create a comprehensive people's archive that preserves the history and narratives associated with national parks.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/07/save-our-signs-preserving-censored-histories-in-americas-largest-outdoor-classroom/>

4. Editors' Choice: Pre-revolution network connections of the 1989 Polish Round Table participants

Category: Applications

Departments: Political Science & Public Administration, Sociology & Anthropology, Communication, Educational Leadership

Topics: Digital Humanities, Network Analysis, Data Visualization, Social Network Graphs, Metadata Utilization

Impact Score: 21.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 4

Educational Value: 3

Innovation / Novelty: 3

Practical Impact: 4

Interdisciplinary Potential: 5

Ethical / Policy Implications: 2

This article discusses the application of network analysis to the Round Table meetings in Poland during the late 1980s, aimed at addressing political challenges in Communist Poland. The authors emphasize the importance of metadata, including affiliations and personal biographies, in creating effective network data visualizations. They provide best practices for digital humanities scholars interested in visualizing social communities and connections through network graphs. The findings contribute to the understanding of how network visualizations can represent complex social interactions.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/07/pre-revolution-network-connections-of-the-1989-polish-round-table-participants/>

5. Gen Z is pushing back against AI-a reminder to all of us that the future isn't written

Category: Applications

Departments: Communication, Art, Computer Science

Topics: Generative AI, AI in Storyboarding, Creative Industry Integration, Visual Outline Generation

Impact Score: 18.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 2

Educational Value: 3

Innovation / Novelty: 3

Practical Impact: 4

Interdisciplinary Potential: 4

Ethical / Policy Implications: 2

Filmmaker Martin Scorsese has announced his collaboration with generative AI company Black Forest Labs to utilize AI technology in the storyboarding process of film and television production. This partnership aims to enhance the creation of visual outlines during the early stages of development. Scorsese's involvement signifies a growing interest in integrating AI tools within the creative industries.

<https://techxplore.com/news/2026-07-gen-ai-future-isnt-written.html>

6. Your 'Live' World Cup Broadcast Is Not Really Live

Category: Research

Departments: Communication, Educational Leadership, Computer Science

Topics: Consumer AI, Viewing Behavior Analysis, Platform Efficiency, Technology Influence

Impact Score: 16.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 2

Educational Value: 3

Innovation / Novelty: 2

Practical Impact: 3

Interdisciplinary Potential: 4

Ethical / Policy Implications: 2

The article discusses the observation that individuals vary in their speed of viewing sports goals after they occur. It highlights the differences in viewing behavior, suggesting that some viewers are able to access and watch highlights more quickly than others. The findings indicate a potential influence of technology and platform efficiency on the viewing experience. Further research may be needed to understand the factors contributing to these differences in viewing speed.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2026/07/18/sports/soccer/world-cup-live-tv-delay.html>

7. Weekly Highlight: The Pudding

Category: Other

Departments: Communication, Computer Science, Educational Leadership

Topics: Generative AI, Data Visualization Techniques, Digital Storytelling, Data Journalism

Impact Score: 13.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 1

Educational Value: 2

Innovation / Novelty: 3

Practical Impact: 2

Interdisciplinary Potential: 4

Ethical / Policy Implications: 1

The Pudding is a digital publisher that focuses on data journalism through visual essays, prioritizing data visualizations over traditional text-heavy articles. It operates without a central editorial plan, allowing journalists to publish content based on their individual interests and expertise. Although it is not classified as a formal digital humanities publication, The Pudding serves as a notable example of effective data visualization in digital storytelling.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/07/weekly-highlight-the-pudding/>

8. Opportunity: BCHDP Early Notice Survey

Category: Business

Departments: History, Communication, Educational Leadership

Topics: AI Policy & Regulation, Community-Based Digitization, Content Preservation Techniques, Grant Application Strategies

Impact Score: 10.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 1

Educational Value: 2

Innovation / Novelty: 1

Practical Impact: 3

Interdisciplinary Potential: 2

Ethical / Policy Implications: 1

The British Columbia History Digitization Program (BCHDP) is inviting prospective applicants to signal their intent to apply for grants in the upcoming funding cycle. The program will prioritize applications from community-based organizations to enhance capacity for the preservation and digitization of unique content related to British Columbia. While early notice responses are accepted until August 7, 2026, submitting early is encouraged to facilitate additional support and improve the likelihood of a successful application.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/07/bchdp-early-notice-survey-2027-28-cycle/>