

Non-professional engagements with archaeology: Problems, Prospects and Possibilities

Suzie Thomas

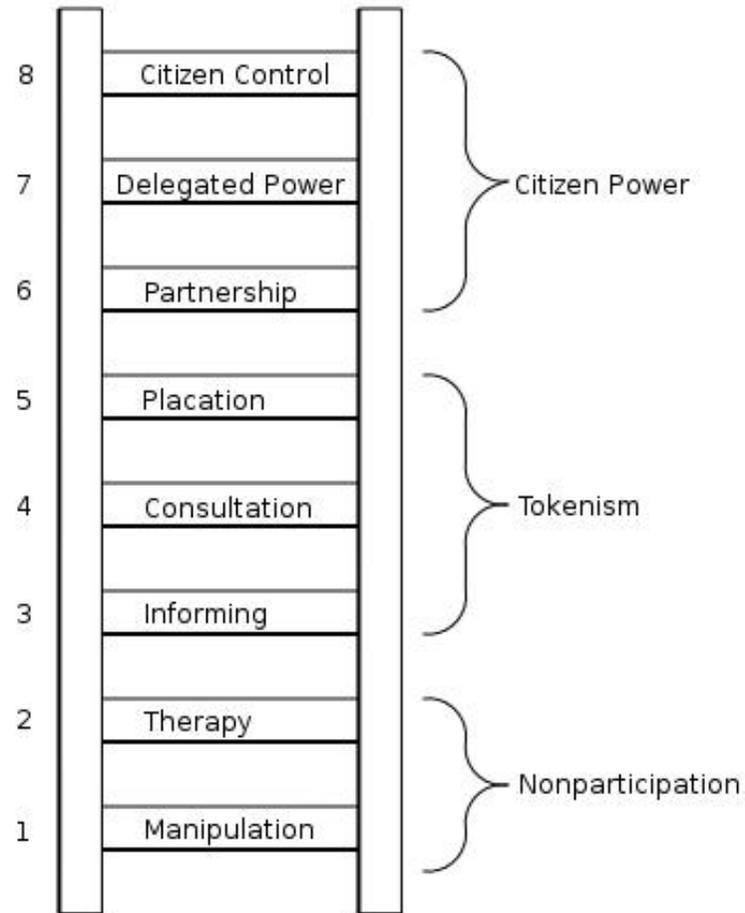
University of Helsinki

Community Archaeology: The Collaborative Continuum

"...collaboration in practice exists on a continuum, from merely communicating research to descendent communities to a genuine synergy where the contributions of community members and scholars create a positive result that could not be achieved without joining efforts. Collaboration, then, is not one uniform idea or practice but a range of strategies that seek to link the archaeological enterprise with different publics by working together."

(Colwell-Chanthaphonh and Ferguson 2007)

Arnstein's Ladder of Participation (1969)



"searching spectrum" of artefact hunting (Thomas 2016)

<i>Looting (criminal intent)</i> -----		<i>Hobbyism/Leisure</i>	
<i>Professional Looting</i>	<i>Semi-professional looting</i>	<i>Hobbyist artefact hunting</i>	
Looter	Subsistence Digger	Opportunist Artefact Hunter	Hobbyist Artefact Hunter
<p><i>May include:</i></p> <p>Individuals who are part of a larger criminal trafficking network</p> <p>Theft from cultural places, e.g. museums</p> <p>Looting of protected sites</p> <p>Primary motivation is financial gain</p> <p>Possible 'looting to order' (Hardy 2015)</p>	<p><i>May include:</i></p> <p>Individuals who loot archaeological sites or steal from cultural places due to poverty</p> <p>Individuals who regard 'their' cultural heritage as an economic resource to exploit (e.g. Hollowell 2006)</p>	<p><i>May include:</i></p> <p>Individuals for whom sale of cultural material is not a primary motivation but they still may trade from time to time</p> <p>Individuals who do not always break the law but do on occasion commit crime e.g. trespass, unauthorized digging, failure to report significant finds</p>	<p><i>May include:</i></p> <p>Individuals who are motivated by hobbyist interests, who do not condone looting or the illicit trade in cultural objects</p> <p>Individuals for whom sale of cultural material is not a primary motivation but they still may trade from time to time</p> <p>Individuals who try never to break the law, and may trade primarily for hobbyist purposes (e.g. to enhance their collection or to offload 'duplicates')</p>

Lapland's Dark Heritage: *Understanding the Cultural Legacy of Northern Finland's WWII German Materialities within Interdisciplinary Perspectives*

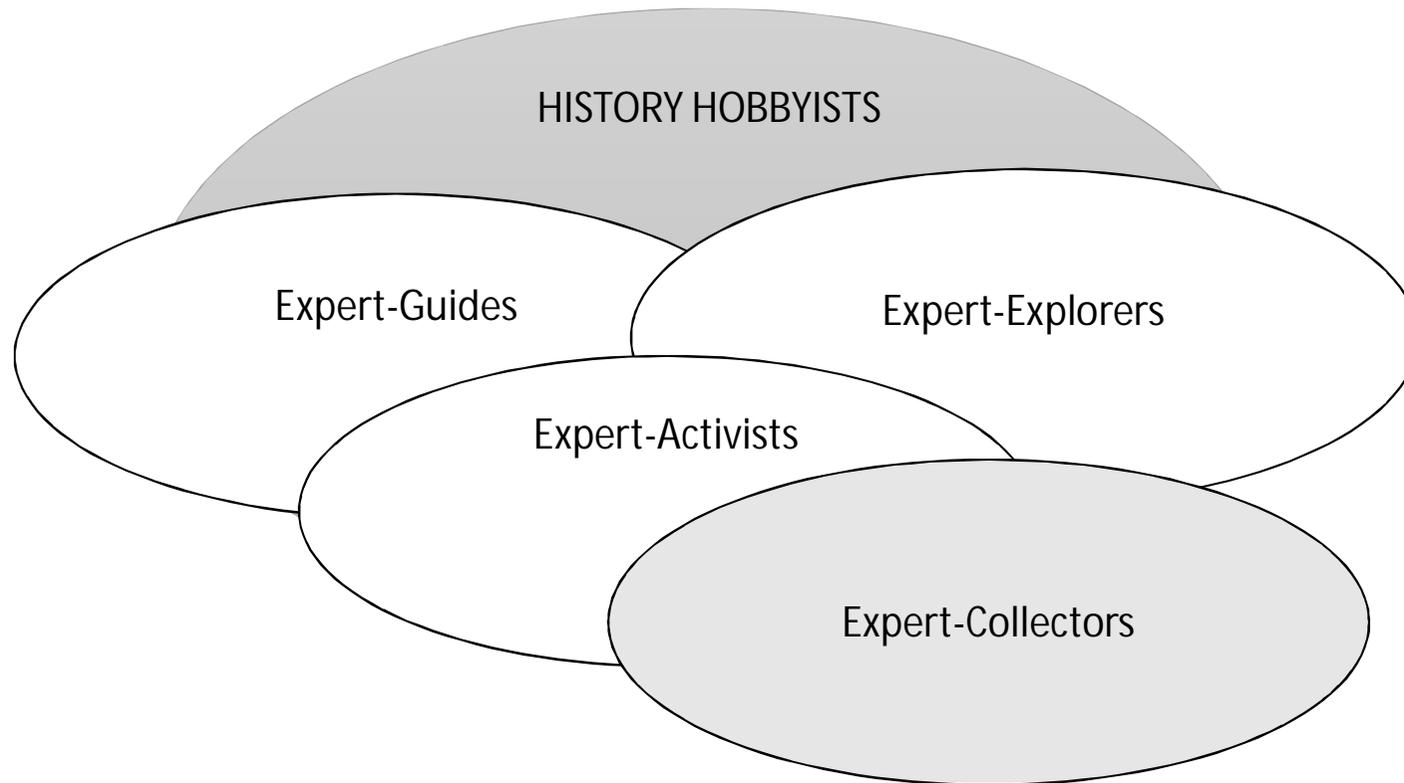


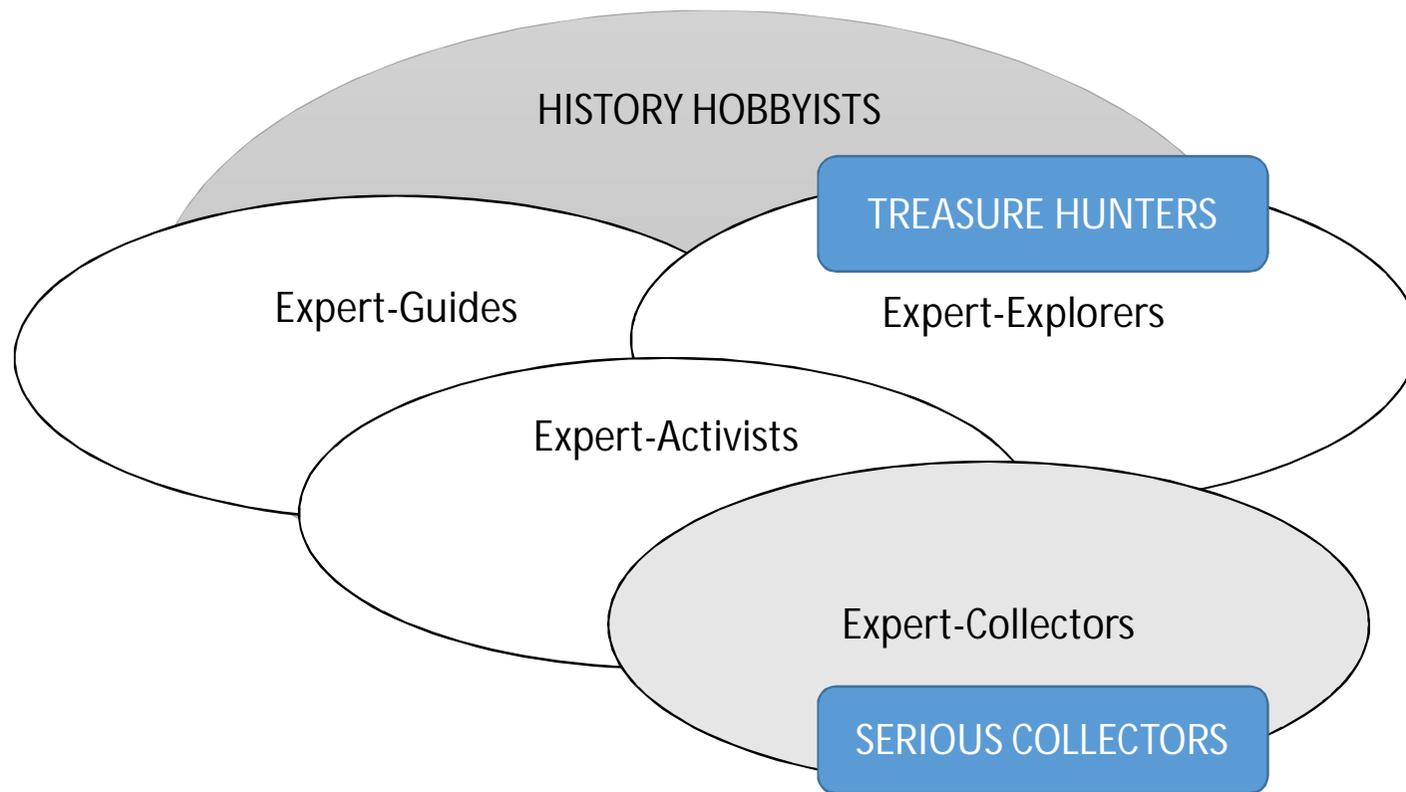


Public engagement in Vuotso, Sodankylä, August 2015



The "continuum of interests" (Koskinen-Koivisto and Thomas, 2016)





Online metal detecting forums



Geo-caching



Public excavation: #InariDig

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SkSdqe_HNXo



- Blog: <http://blogs.helsinki.fi/lapland-dark-heritage/>
- Twitter: @DarkLapland
- Facebook: Search Lapland's Dark Heritage
- YouTube Channel: "Dark Heritage"
- Instagram: @Dig_Inari
- Storify: <https://storify.com/DarkLapland>



References in slides

- Arnstein, Sherry (1969) "A ladder of citizen participation", *Journal of the American Institute of Planners* 35(4), pp.216-224. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01944366908977225>
- Colwell-Chanthaphonh, Chip & T. J. Ferguson (2007) "Introduction: The Collaborative Continuum", in C. Colwell-Chanthaphonh & T. J. Ferguson (eds) *Collaboration in Archaeological Practice: Engaging Descendent Communities*, Rowman Altamira. Pp. 1-32.
- Hardy, Samuel (2015) "Is looting-to-order 'just a myth'? Open-source analysis of theft-to-order of cultural property", *Cogent Social Sciences* 1(1) <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2015.1087110>
- Hollowell, Julie (2006) "Moral arguments on subsistence digging", in C. Scarre & G. Scarre (eds) *The Ethics of Archaeology: Philosophical Perspectives on Archaeological Practice*, Cambridge University Press. Pp. 69-93.
- Koskinen-Koivisto, Eerika & Suzie Thomas (2016) "Lapland's Dark Heritage: Responses to the Legacy of World War II", in H. Silverman, E. Waterton & S. Watson (eds) *Heritage in Action: Making the Past in the Present*, Springer. Pp. 121-133. http://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-42870-3_9
- Thomas, Suzie (2016) "The Future of Studying Hobbyist Metal Detecting in Europe: A Call for a Transnational Approach", *Open Archaeology* 2(1), pp. 140-149. <http://doi.org/10.1515/opar-2016-0010>

Additional sources mentioned in presentation and further reading

- Archeowebby (2016) "Digging our Burrows Cave with Joe Wilson – Episode 57", podcast available: <https://www.archaeologypodcastnetwork.com/archyfantasies/57>
- Connerton, Paul. (2008) "Seven types of forgetting", *Memory studies* 1(1), pp. 59-71. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1750698007083889>
- Herva, Vesa-Pekka, Eerika Koskinen-Koivisto, Oula Seitsonen & Suzie Thomas "'I have better stuff at home': treasure hunting and private collecting of World War II artefacts in Finnish Lapland", *World Archaeology* 48(2), pp. 267-281. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00438243.2016.1184586>
- *Open Archaeology* (2016) Topical Issue on Aspects of non-professional metal detecting in Europe, edited by P. Deckers, M. Lewis & S. Thomas. Table of contents available at: <http://degruyteropen.com/tioparasmde/>
- Thomas, Suzie & Eerika Koskinen-Koivisto (2016) "'Ghosts in the background' and 'the price of war': Representations of the Lapland War in Finnish Museums", *Nordisk Museologi* 2016(2), pp. 60-77.
- Wilson, Joseph (2012) "The Cave Who Never Was: Outsider Archaeology and Failed Collaboration in the USA", *Public Archaeology* 11(2), pp. 73-95. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1179/1465518712Z.0000000007>