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Keywords (separated by '-')	<p>Historic building information modelling - HBIM - Digital surveying - Historic structures - Building conservation - Architectural conservation - Laser scanning - SFM - Photogrammetry - Virtual cultural heritage</p>	

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Abstract

Digitization and virtual representation of archaeology and architectural heritage potentially connects tangible and intangible cultural assets allowing for recording, conserving, and documenting cultural heritage. Process workflow, case study, and design framework are presented for virtual historic centers intended for archiving, storage, and dissemination of heritage knowledge and information. The process commences with remote sensing and data capturing technologies such as terrestrial and aerial laser scanning, Global Positioning System (GPS), and digital photogrammetry. The resultant survey data is enriched with new methods for 3D modelling of historic environments based on heritage geographic information systems (HGIS) and historic building information modelling (HBIM). The enhancement of 3D data with semantic attributes as intelligent virtual representation of historic environments allows multiple user scenarios ranging from engineering conservation to education and knowledge extraction in addition to object visualization. Open access computing systems for large data management and dissemination are now being considered; these are based on game engine platforms and Oracle and PostgreSQL spatial databases, which are used for managing large datasets.

Keywords

Historic building information modelling · HBIM · Digital surveying · Historic structures · Building conservation · Architectural conservation · Laser scanning · SFM · Photogrammetry · Virtual cultural heritage

51.1 Introduction

Virtual historic centers are proposed as dynamic repositories and portals to digitally represent and assemble connected tangible and intangible cultural assets for both historic urban and rural centers. The intelligent digital representation of architectural heritage, archaeology, and objects allows for multiple user scenarios ranging from conservation to education and knowledge extraction in addition to object

58 visualization. The combination of digital recording, modelling, and data manage-
 59 ment systems enables the interaction with complex, interlinked three-dimensional
 60 structures containing rich and diverse underlying data. End users can encompass
 61 architectural and engineering conservation, education, and research in addition to
 62 public engagement and cultural tourism. It is essential to incorporate within design
 63 frameworks international principles concerning authenticity, integrity, and philo-
 64 sophical approaches such as those promoted in ICOMOS Charters [1] (Fig. 51.1). AU2

65 Initially in this chapter, a state of the art for digital data capture and modelling for
 66 virtual representation for archaeology and architectural heritage is presented. One
 67 case study is then presented: The Virtual Historic Parliament and Precinct District in
 68 Ottawa. The case study presents an ongoing design framework based on data
 69 collection and modelling of historic sites and structures using historic BIM. In
 70 conclusion, a design framework is presented for systems architecture and workflows
 71 for digital representation of virtual historic centers in archaeology and architectural
 72 heritage for archiving and storage and dissemination based on game engine
 73 platforms.

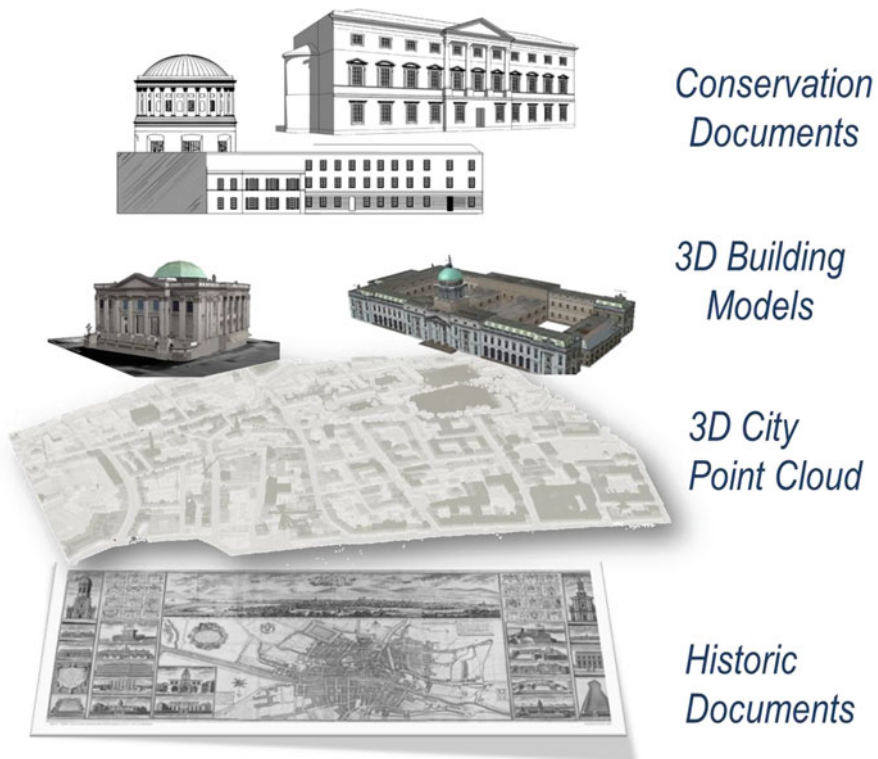


Fig. 51.1 Virtual historic Dublin – digital representation of architectural heritage and archaeology [2]

74 51.2 Data Collection and Preprocessing

75 The use of terrestrial laser scanning (TLS), photogrammetry, and traditional survey-
76 ing techniques in addition to processing the captured data is outlined in this section.
77 At this point, 20 years of research and development have been carried out by
78 scientists and engineers for the application of laser scanning and photogrammetry
79 for digitally recording architectural heritage and archaeology. To understand the
80 current approaches for recording historic assets, it is necessary to comprehend its
81 evolution.

82 51.2.1 Terrestrial Laser Scanning (TLS)

83 Terrestrial laser scanning (TLS) captures multiple points using a laser to measure
84 distances and angles from the scanner sensor to an object that is being scanned with
85 millimeter to centimeter accuracies being possible (see Fig. 51.2). TLS operates on AU3
86 three different principles: time of flight, triangulation, and structured light. All three
87 types of laser scanners produce a 3D point cloud of the object. A time-of-flight
88 scanner uses a laser light probe to detect the surface of an object and determines the
89 distance between the object surface and the scanner through measuring the time from
90 omitting the signal and receiving it when it returns. Angular measurements are
91 recorded on the vertical and horizontal axes for each signal, and the xyz coordinates AU4
92 are calculated as a single point and collected a point cloud for the scanned object.
93 Triangulation scanners calculate 3D coordinate measurements by triangulation of the
94 spot or stripe of a laser beam on an object's surface that is recorded by one or more



Fig. 51.2 Data capture, terrestrial laser scanner is a device that automatically measures the three-dimensional coordinates of a given region of an object's surface [2]

95 CCD (charge-coupled device) cameras and the sensor. The process of structured
96 light scanning involves projecting a known light pattern onto the subject. The light
97 patterns will deform in relation to the surface of the object. These deformations in
98 light will then be picked up by two cameras placed each side of the light projector.
99 Most modern scanning systems are fitted with a CCD (charge-coupled device)
100 digital camera, and the image data that is captured can be used to color the product
101 of the laser scan survey data (the point cloud). The prime factor in selecting a
102 scanning method is the required accuracy and the distance and size of the object.
103 While time-of-flight method is accurate, it suits measurement and recording of larger
104 objects and environments over large distances. Triangulation and structured light
105 scanners are much more accurate, achieving sub-millimeter accuracies. For smaller
106 and more detailed scans, structured light or triangulation is used. Structured light
107 scanning is fast and very accurate, but this method requires a dark environment to
108 produce the best results (see Fig. 51.3) [3].

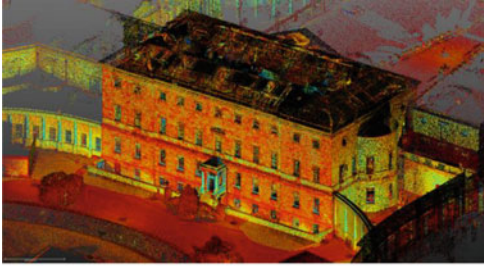
109 Early works include Allen et al. [4], which includes the scanning of Beauvais
110 Cathedral and dealt with issues of point cloud registration. Registration is the
111 combination of two or more point clouds taken from different observation points
112 or the referencing of the scanned object in a global or project coordinate system. This
113 is achieved using tie and control points that are either features of the object (e.g.,
114 corners) or special targets (spheres, flat targets with high reflectivity), which are
115 identifiable in the point cloud at the processing stage.

116 Software for registering point clouds (see Fig. 51.4) usually facilitates registration
117 by special targets or by overlapping point clouds or a combination of both [3]. In the
118 case of large structures where the placing of targets is not always possible, known
119 features on the object are used to fully transform and align the scans [3]. GPS can
120 determine the coordinates of the laser scanner position allowing for the scans from

AU5



Fig. 51.3 For higher accuracy, the process of structured light scanning involves projecting a known light pattern onto the subject, Corinthian Capital Survey, Four Courts Dublin [2]



The point cloud is the product of the laser scanner which is brought through a series of processing stages to develop a useable model

Registration is the combination of two or more point clouds taken from different observation points

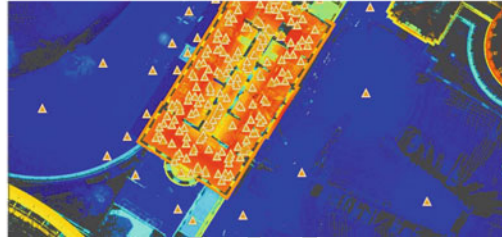


Fig. 51.4 Registration – the combination of two or more point clouds [2]

121 each position to be brought into a common frame of reference in a global or project
 122 coordinate systems. Alternatively, registration by cloud matching is carried out by
 123 selecting a pair of partially overlapping scans and transforming one scan into
 124 alignment with the other using appropriate algorithms [4]. Early work [5] developed
 125 protocols for cleaning and removing erroneous data or artifacts such as reflections of
 126 the scan through objects before point clouds are registered. Once identified, reflections
 127 from objects in the background and in the space between the scanner and
 128 object, e.g., trees and other objects in the foreground, moving persons, or traffic and
 129 atmospheric effects such as dust, can be dealt with.

130 Early research also resolved issues of accuracy of laser scanning concentrating on
 131 smaller cultural objects, which require very high scan resolution. This is best
 132 illustrated by Stanford University and the University of Washington [6] in the
 133 digitizing of the sculpting of the Renaissance artist Michelangelo. The triangulation
 134 scanner at a resolution of 1/4 mm captured detail of the geometry of the artist's chisel
 135 marks. The problems of random errors and object occlusion in the laser scan survey
 136 can be greatly reduced by integrating other survey data. In addition, the level of
 137 detail can be enhanced for smaller features by introducing independent data collec-
 138 tion based on digital photo modelling. Ground truth using other precise surveying
 139 instruments (e.g., total station) should be established and collected during the survey
 140 process to evaluate the accuracy of the laser and image survey data [3, 6–9].

141 The product of terrestrial laser scanning (TLS) is point clouds and in some cases
 142 registered images, and these require processing steps in order to generate products
 143 that can be used to create 3D CAD models. Data processing stages include
 144 segmenting point clouds and filtering out unwanted data. Automatic triangulation
 145 of 3D points can also be carried out to create a mesh surface model from the 3D point

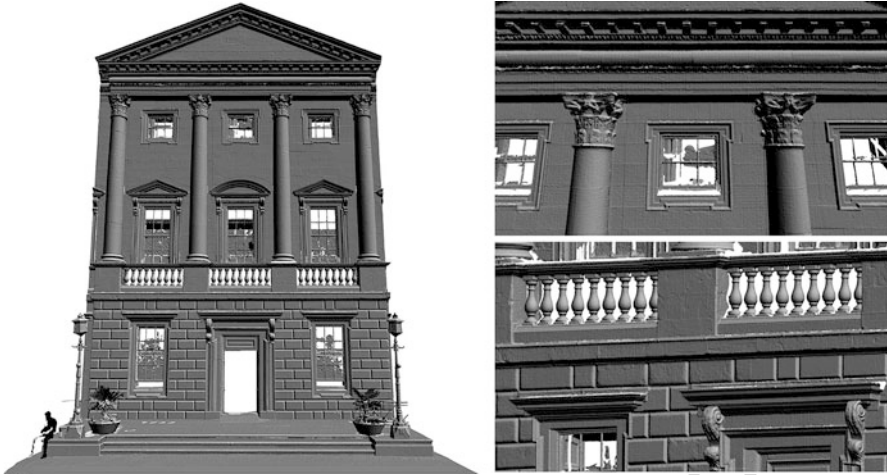


Fig. 51.5 Mesh surface model from 3D point cloud – Leinster House Dublin [2]

146 cloud. This 3D mesh surface model (see Fig. 51.5) can then be used to generate
147 orthographic images by combining the 3D surface model with 2D images. 3D mesh
148 models can also be textured using referenced image data. 2D cut sections and 3D
149 vectors can also be generated from the 3D point cloud or 3D surface model.
150 Research over the last 20 years includes validation and identification of the most
151 efficient and accurate processing pipeline and established good practice for deter-
152 mining accuracy and registration of scans and the potential for documentation of
153 cultural heritage objects [10–15].

154 51.2.2 Photogrammetry

155 Photogrammetric techniques use images taken at different viewpoints to record the
156 3D geometry of a building or object. Low-cost digital cameras, powerful computer
157 processing, and the greater availability of commercial and open source photogram-
158 metric software have changed the availability and use for photogrammetry. Digital
159 photogrammetry can provide a point cloud, 3D solid model, and texturing based on
160 high-quality imagery and color information. Modelling of large areas, buildings, and
161 small objects can be produced by either aerial or close range (ground-based)
162 photogrammetry. The main principles of digital photogrammetry are based on
163 triangulation where lines of sight (rays) from two different camera locations are
164 located on a common point on the object. The intersection of these rays determines
165 the three-dimensional location of the point. Using this technique with two images is
166 known as stereophotogrammetry, and where multiple images and camera positions
167 are utilized, this is described as structure from motion. The term bundle adjustment is
168 used to concurrently compute all the unknown parameters. The outputs from pho-
169 togrammetric surveys are identical to products obtained from laser scanning and

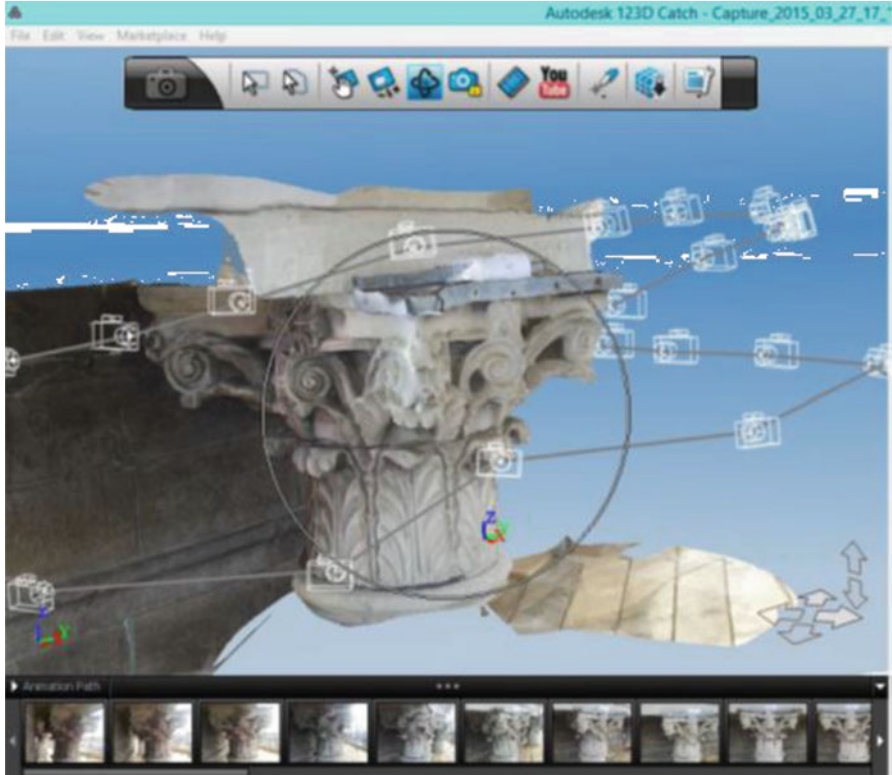


Fig. 51.6 Digital data capture using photogrammetry structure from motion [2]

170 include orthographic images, point clouds, triangulated surface models, and also
 171 textured surface models [16].

172 Low-cost digital photogrammetry is based on hardware for data capture such as SLR
 173 digital cameras or in some cases off-the-shelf cameras. The acquired data is then
 174 processed, fused, and integrated using state-of-the-art photogrammetric and computer
 175 vision algorithms, which are readily available with software platforms Autodesk ReCap,
 176 Agisoft PhotoScan, Microsoft Photosynth, Micmac, Pix4D, etc. Geo-referencing image-
 177 based approaches are gaining momentum because they are much more cost-effective
 178 than laser-based or structured light scanning methods. No expensive equipment is
 179 required, but off-the-shelf digital cameras or even mobile phones and tablets can be
 180 appropriate to obtain 3D models from photo sequences. Single objects or small mon-
 181 uments can be acquired with a handheld camera [10] (Fig. 51.6).

182 Postprocessing for close range digital photogrammetry includes stereo processing
 183 and multi-convergent processing (bundle adjustment). Common processing stages

184 include selecting common feature points between images, calculating camera positions,
185 orientations, distortions, and reconstructing 3D information by intersecting feature point
186 locations [12, 13]. Improving accuracy requires human interaction in the preprocessing
187 of image data, for example, the introduction of object measurement coordinates and
188 scaling for real-world metrics.

189 **51.2.3 Other Survey Techniques**

190 Traditional survey equipment such as total stations and GPS/GNSS equipment can
191 provide very accurate measurements. These tools are much slower for data capture
192 as each individual point is manually recorded. For large cultural heritage projects,
193 millions of points are often required to accurately record a complex building or
194 structure. Total station and GPS/GNSS methods can be employed to record accurate
195 control points needed for registration of point clouds or ground truth data for
196 confirming accuracy.

197 **51.3 Historic Building Information Modelling and GIS (HBIM 198 and HGIS)**

199 Building information modelling (BIM) was developed for the design, build, and
200 future management of new buildings and facilities. In BIM, the production of virtual
201 models can automatically generate not only standard drawings and schedules but
202 also provides for structural, economic, energy, and project management analytical
203 data. BIM can automatically create cut-sections, elevations, details, and schedules in
204 addition to orthographic projections and 3D models (wireframe or textured and
205 animated). All these views are linked to the 3D model and automatically update in
206 real time, so if a change is made in one view, all other views are also updated. This
207 enables fast generation of detailed documentation required in the architecture engi-
208 neering and construction industries [12–15].

209 Applying BIM for historic structures involves initially data capture of the geom-
210 etry and texture for the structure using laser scanning or digital photogrammetry and
211 converting the digital survey data to solid building information models (BIM). Two
212 problems exist for researchers in generating historic BIM; the first is the absence of
213 complex historic architectural elements in existing BIM libraries, and the second is a
214 system for mapping the objects onto remotely sensed survey data. While these
215 problems were initiated by the developments of historic BIM (HBIM) carried out
216 in Carleton University and the Technological University of Dublin, research in
217 HBIM is now extensive across the heritage research sector [17–23]. More recent
218 work concentrates on automation in detecting objects and features in point clouds for
219 improving the current slow process of converting unstructured point clouds into
220 structured semantic BIM components [24–28] (Fig. 51.7).

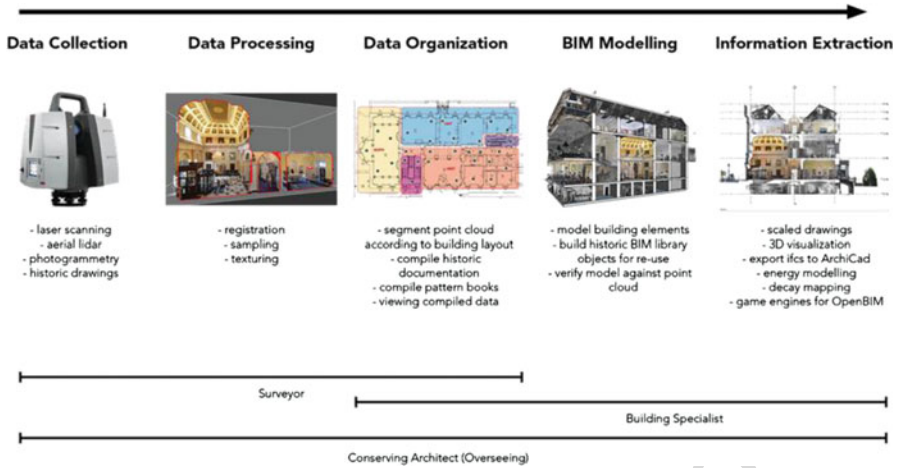


Fig. 51.7 The scan to historic building information modelling stages [2]

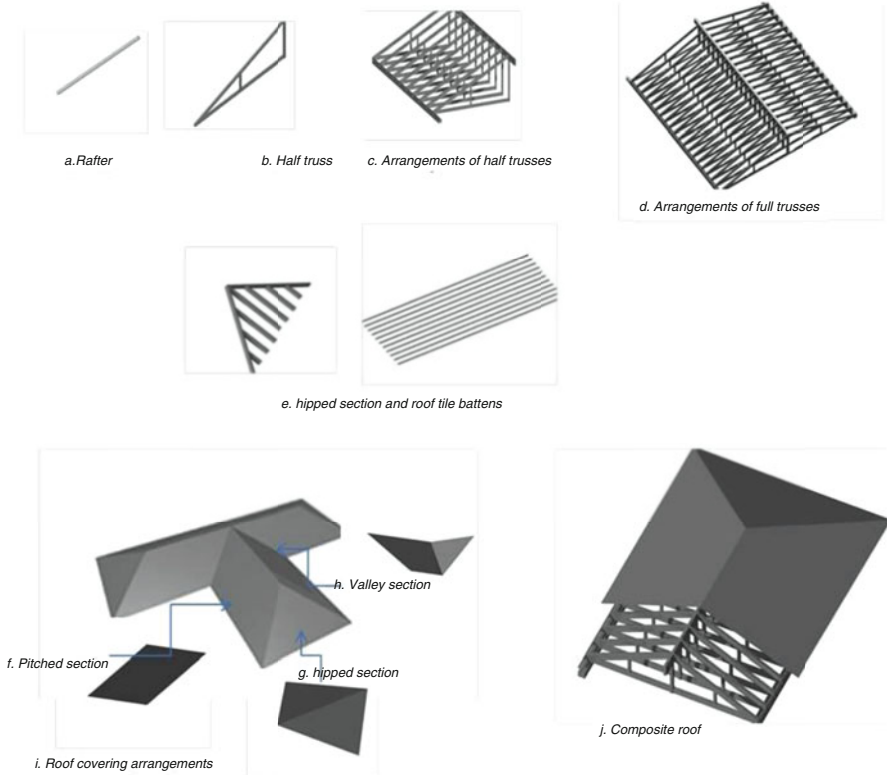
221 51.3.1 Parametric Modelling

222 While BIM evolves from 3D CAD principles, its novelty is built on both feature-
 223 based modelling and parametric modelling. Feature based is an object-oriented
 224 approach where in addition to geometry, objects are intelligent and exist in a
 225 database or library with semantic attributes, i.e., a door objects or window objects,
 226 etc. In addition, the objects are coded to interact spatially; for example, if an object is
 227 revised in plan, it will also change to the new value in 3D and in other orthographic
 228 iterations. Objects also interact with each other; for example, a door or window
 229 placed in a wall will cut an opening in the wall.

230 Parametric-based design is based on variable values such as dimensions, angular, AU6
 231 and location, which can be revised for mapping and fitting within the point cloud or
 232 image survey. An object is created in relation to other objects in its class; for
 233 example, if the length or angular value for an element is revised, the other dependent
 234 elements will change to accommodate this. The rules that control the parameters can
 235 also assign operations to objects such as scale, extrude, revolve, and hide. These AU7
 236 rules can be added, modified, or removed as and defined. Parametric library objects
 237 (such as doors or windows) allow objects to be reused multiple times in a model or in
 238 many different models with varying parameters. This approach is very efficient for
 239 modelling elements that are repeated but may contain geometric variation between
 240 different instances [12–15, 17, 20] (Fig. 51.8).

241 51.3.2 Automatic HBIM Generation from Point Clouds

242 Object recognition and feature extraction from an unstructured point cloud are being
 243 developed by researchers as an automatic process for the automatic generation of



AU18 Fig. 51.8 Parametric roof model; the figure above illustrates the initial extruded rafter, which is combined with other elements to build the hipped roof; each element can be changed in shape position to create different iterations for many types of roofs [2]

244 structured BIM models from the point cloud data, [27–31]. By identifying automatic-
 245 ally distinguished elements such as planes, surface models, openings, and 3D
 246 vectors from point cloud survey data, these objects are used as basis to plot the
 247 HBIM. The extracted objects are attached with semantic attributes and can also be
 248 converted into parametric building components, but this process requires human
 249 interaction. Historical architecture and archaeology contain complex shape, and
 250 geometry and decay require human intervention, which cannot be replicated by a
 251 machine [24].

252 51.3.3 Procedural Modelling

253 Perhaps more promising for historic architecture and archaeology are the approaches
 254 of procedural modelling where generation of 3D objects and 2D shapes is based on
 255 computer algorithms and rules introduced by the user to generate automatically

256 buildings and spaces from a grammar and vocabulary of shapes. Procedural model-
 257 ling was originally developed for film and gaming industries and later adapted in
 258 GIS as CityEngine platform applied procedural modelling techniques for existing
 259 buildings [25, 32–35]. While the automatic generation of building is generated by
 260 rules that are initially defined by the user, unfortunately, the application of proce-
 261 dural modelling for converting laser scan surveys to historic BIM has limitations.
 262 Converting laser scan surveys to BIM requires human interaction to distinguish the
 263 variances and complexity of historic architecture and archaeology which the
 264 machine cannot identify without human supervision.

265 51.3.4 Semiautomatic Procedural Modelling

266 In the work of Dore et al. [27], procedural modelling rules are developed in HBIM
 267 environments to accelerate the mapping process of parametric objects onto point
 268 clouds. *Geometric and feature information is detected in point clouds and used as*
 269 *input for developing parameters for the intelligent library objects, which represent*
 270 *the architectural elements of buildings.* In the case of historic structures, when
 271 decorative features are stripped from buildings, the facades and roof structures are
 272 made up of much simpler geometric shapes. For example, a facade to a building
 273 consists of the wall structure with openings that are cut into the wall, and the
 274 openings contain doors or windows. In Fig. 51.9, a typical classical building facade

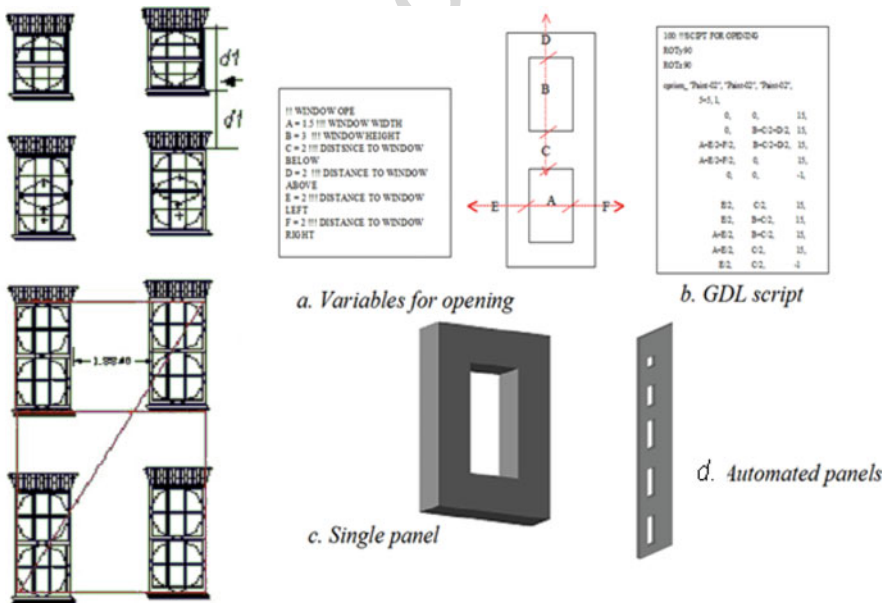


Fig. 51.9 Procedural modelling for a typical classical building facade [2]

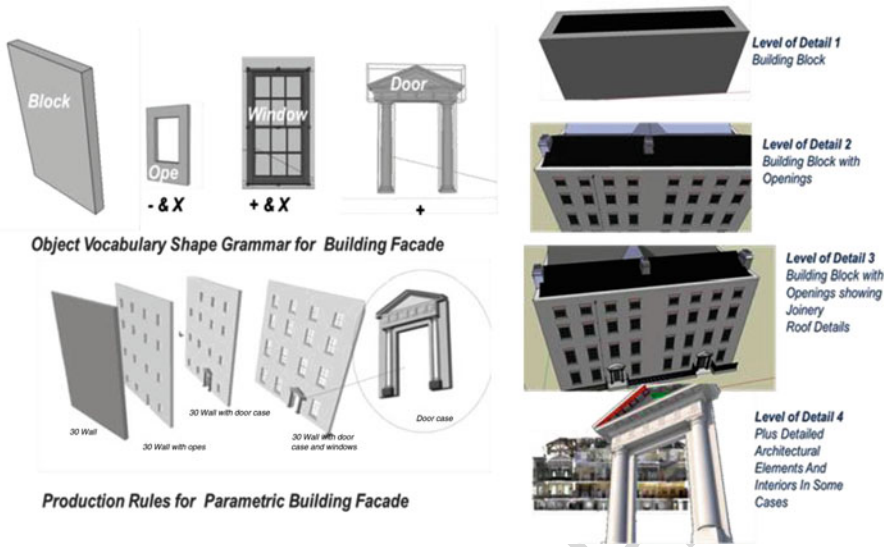


Fig. 51.10 Shape arrangement for facade generation based on procedural rules [2]

275 stripped of ornament is illustrated; this consists of a panel with two large windows,
 276 one medium and one small.

277 In Fig. 51.9, detail a illustrates the variables to establish geometric parameters,
 278 and detail b shows a partial GDL script for implementation for the variable geometry
 279 to build a wall panel. A single panel is constructed in Fig. 51.9c and finally a series of
 280 sub-routines, which brings the opening panels together to automate the panel with a
 281 set of openings, and these are brought together to form the panel facade. Further
 282 detail can facilitate the single panels to be adjusted for any opening size or distance
 283 between openings.

284 In Fig. 51.10, the final shape vocabulary and arrangements for forming a historic
 285 structure are illustrated on the left side of the figure. The basic elements that make up
 286 the vocabulary of shapes include blocks forming walls, window openings, and
 287 window and door joinery as infill tiles; a panel containing a door opening. Additional
 288 library objects relating to a door and door case such as columns and pediments are
 289 linked with this shape their respective shapes. The block forms the walls of the
 290 structure, openings are cut and multiplied, and windows and doorcases are added to
 291 openings. On the right side of Fig. 51.10, the levels of detail are based on initially the
 292 block representing the walls followed by LOD 2 where openings are cut; building
 293 elements in LOD 3 are then added, for example, joinery, roof, classical details, etc.
 294 Shape elements to create detail for ashlar stone, moldings, and another wall geom-
 295 etry are added in LOD 4. A more detailed classical shape grammar and vocabulary is
 296 detailed in Fig. 51.11.

297 The shape grammars can be applied to form numerous facade arrangements with
 298 variable values controlling dimensions and object position in 3D space [25].

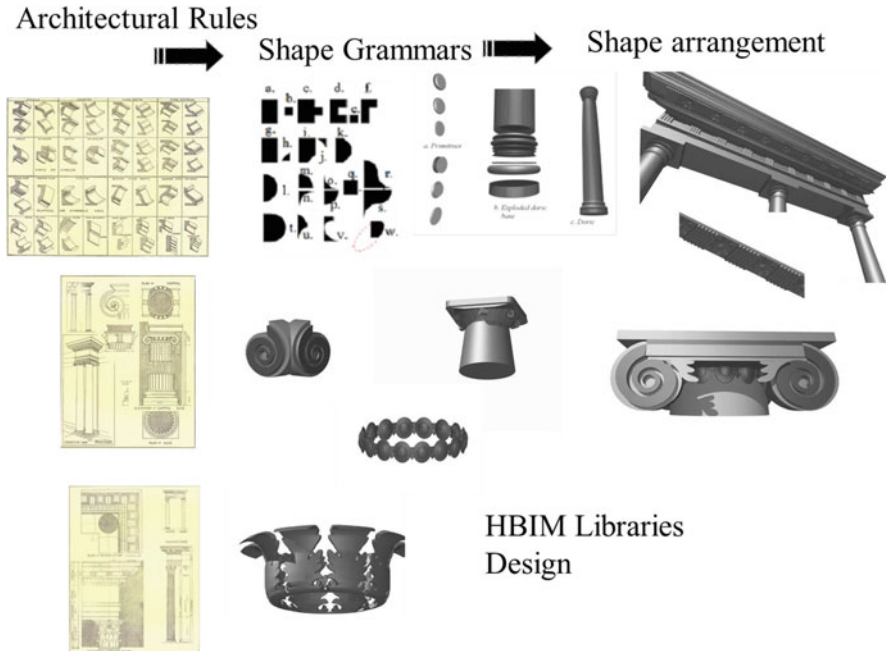


Fig. 51.11 Shape rules, grammars, and arrangement [2]

299 Classical orders formulated the rules which govern the distribution and combi-
 300 nation of parts and resulted in what is described as a grammar of ornament and
 301 composition. The elements (moldings, profiles, symbols, etc.) make up the architec-
 302 tural vocabulary. The rules of classical architecture can be described as a grammar.
 303 Shape grammars introduced the concept that buildings are based on different
 304 architectural styles and can be divided and represented by sets of basic shapes,
 305 which are a limited arrangement of shapes in three-dimensional Euclidean space.
 306 These shapes are governed by replacement rules whereby a shape can be changed or
 307 replaced by transformations and deformations. The shape commands combined with
 308 a library of primitives allow for all configurations of the classical orders in relation to
 309 uniform geometry. Nonuniform and organic shapes are developed through a series of
 310 procedures using deformation and Boolean operations while attempting to maximize
 311 parametric content of the objects. These shapes are stored as individual parametric
 312 objects or combined to make larger objects in a library. When the parametric objects
 313 are used in the historic BIM platform, they can be transformed and deformed to
 314 match real-world requirements. In Fig. 51.11, the architectural rules are represented
 315 by architectural manuscripts on the left in the figure. In the center of the figure, shape
 316 grammars consist of vocabularies of primitive shapes that are combined using
 317 operations such as extrude, combine, replace, and deform to create library objects.
 318 The library objects are mapped onto the survey data according to the conditions for
 319 final shape arrangement [25].

320 51.3.5 Historic BIM Documentation

321 Laser scanning and photogrammetry surveying systems for cultural heritage objects
322 emphasize the collection and processing of data. As a result, the output is the
323 accurate 3D model mainly suitable for visualization of a historic structure or artifact.
324 On the other hand, BIM software platforms can automatically create cut sections,
325 details, and schedules in addition to orthographic projections and 3D models (wire
326 frame or textured and animated). The documentation for conservation of objects is
327 achieved through producing 2D and 3D features, plans, sections, elevations, and 3D
328 views. Conservation documentation can be automatically generated from completed
329 HBIM models. Where conservation or restoration work is to be carried out on an
330 object or structure, conventional orthographic or 3D survey engineering drawings
331 are required (Figs. 51.12, 51.13, and 51.14).

332 51.3.6 LOD AND LOA Specifications for HBIM

333 Existing standards for new buildings have not addressed the challenges for BIM in
334 the context of architectural conservation or rehabilitation. Literature reviews
335 concerning HBIM have recognized the limited application of BIM for existing
336 buildings. Since then, the application of and literature on BIM for historical build-
337 ings has been increasing rapidly. However, one of the fundamental problems, as
338 outlined by several reviews, is the lack of agreed-upon HBIM standards and

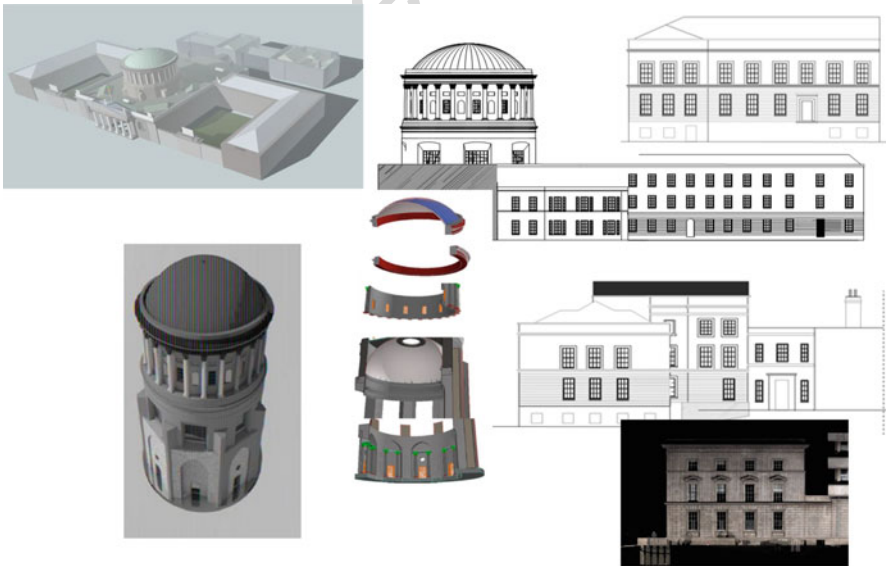


Fig. 51.12 HBIM documentation, ortho projects, and 3D details [2]

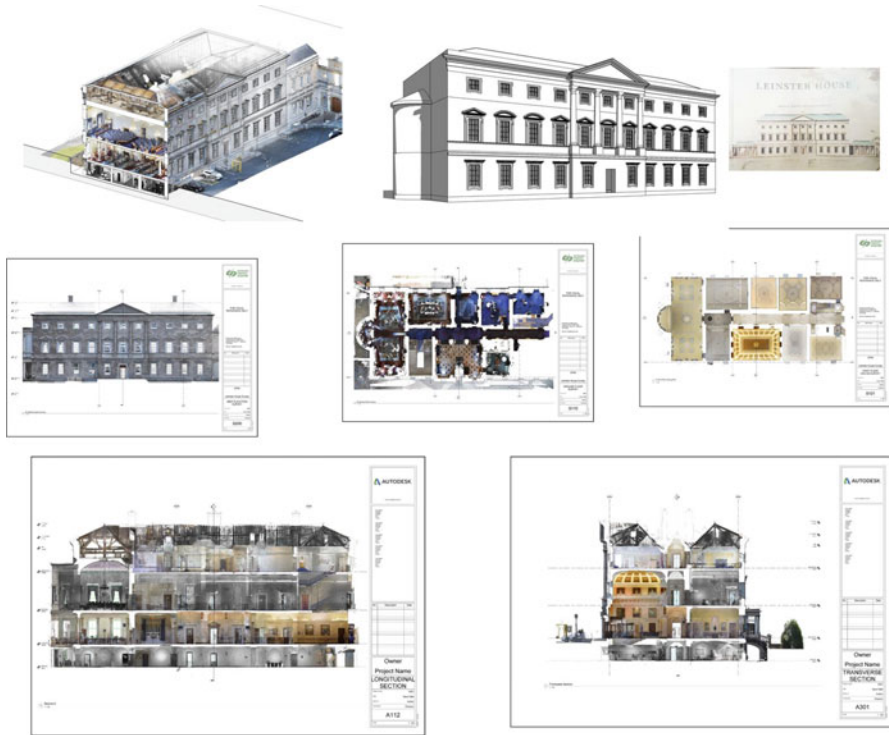
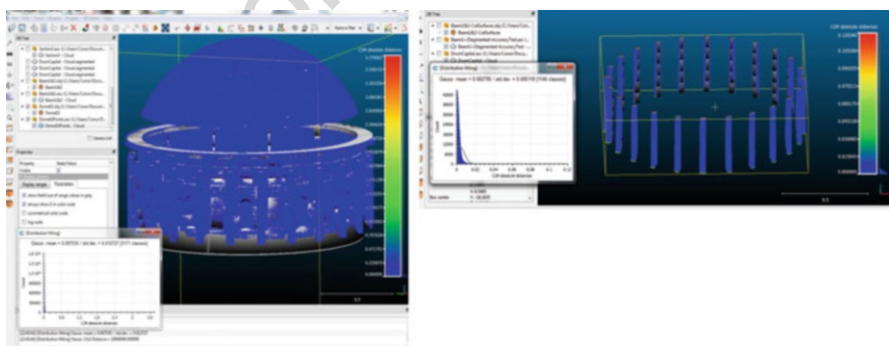


Fig. 51.13 HBIM documentation combining scan and HBIM [2]



AU19 Fig. 51.14 Accuracy measurement documentation – comparing HBIM and point cloud [27]

339 classifications. Further detail concerning level of detail is discussed and illustrated in
340 the following case study: the HBIM of Ottawa Parliament Precinct [23].

341 **51.4 Case Study: Virtual Historic Parliament and Precinct** 342 **District in Ottawa**

343 In 2012, Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) and Carleton Immersive
344 Media Studio (CIMS) began a research partnership to explore the application of
345 digital technologies for architectural rehabilitation and heritage conservation. Our
346 research has focused on the Parliament Buildings National Historic Site of Canada
347 and has explored: methodologies for digitization (integrating photogrammetry and
348 terrestrial laser scanning), building information modelling of historic structures
349 (HBIM), digitally assisted fabrication (robotic milling and 3D printing), and digitally
350 assisted storytelling (web, mobile, and virtual and augmented reality).

351 In this section, the focus is placed on the evolution of our BIM practices on
352 Parliament Hill stemming from the research initiative with PSPC, and more specif-
353 ically the challenges in selecting the appropriate level of detail (LOD) and level of
354 accuracy (LOA)/model tolerance are addressed. Establishing an appropriate LOD
355 and LOA is a crucial decision in defining the scope of a BIM project as it has a
356 significant impact on model use, efficiency, and management. However, the complex
357 geometry and deformations often found in existing and historical buildings make it
358 difficult to adopt existing BIM standards that have been developed for new con-
359 struction. Our study will revolve around three of the four heritage buildings situated
360 on the Hill – West Block, Centre Block, and the Library of Parliament. A detailed
361 analysis of the scope of the project, data management practices, and modelling
362 methodology will demonstrate an evolution of modelling practices and workflows
363 leading to best practices and lessons learned.

364 **51.4.1 Canada's Parliament Hill National Historic Site**

365 The Parliament Hill National Historic Site of Canada is comprised of the Centre
366 Block, East Block, West Block, and the Library of Parliament and is Canada's most
367 recognized national monument. As both the political and symbolic locus of Canada's
368 parliamentary democracy, the site is in every sense a stage where Canada's nation-
369 hood is played out for national and international audiences. Construction of the
370 Parliament Buildings began in 1859, and in 1866, they were officially opened to the
371 public. In 1916, tragedy struck when the original Centre Block building was
372 destroyed by fire. Reconstruction of Centre Block began immediately with the
373 new design developed by architects John A. Pearson and Jean-Omer Marchand.
374 The first sitting of Parliament in the new building occurred 4 years later, but it was

375 not until 1927 that the 98-meter (320-foot) Peace Tower was completed. Today, the
 376 Parliament Hill National Historic Site is admired for its exemplary Gothic Revival
 377 style. Both the grounds and buildings are recognized for their heritage significance
 378 and have been designated as Federal Heritage Buildings (FBHRO).

379 A comprehensive rehabilitation program for Parliament Hill commenced in 2002
 380 – beginning with the Library of Parliament – with the intention of repairing the
 381 historic fabric, modernizing services, and addressing changes in the functional
 382 program. Following the library, the rehabilitation of West Block began in 2011
 383 and was completed in late 2018. The Centre Block program of work is now
 384 underway. The East Block will see two phases of rehabilitation – the first beginning
 385 in 2017 and the second phase will be started soon.

386 51.4.2 Level of Detail (LOD), Level of Information (LOI), and Level 387 of Accuracy (LOA) – LODIA

388 During the development of the West Block BIM (2013) and the initial stages of the
 389 Centre Block BIM (2015), LOD and LOA standards or guidelines for modelling
 390 heritage buildings did not exist. In order to establish consistency in our own work,
 391 CIMS began the development of internal guidelines in 2015. The three-tier, five-
 392 category level of development system borrows from the architecture, engineering,
 393 construction, and operations (AECO) industry standards and guidelines and indexes
 394 level of detail (LOD), level of information (LOI), and level of accuracy (LOA) –
 395 LODIA – for each element type. CIMS LOD describes graphical and geometric
 396 representation in a scale from simple placeholder to detailed model and is based on
 397 existing standards for new buildings (Fig. 51.15). The selection of a specific level of
 398 detail is determined by available sensor data and reference material and anticipated
 399 HBIM uses. The LOD breakdown is as follows:

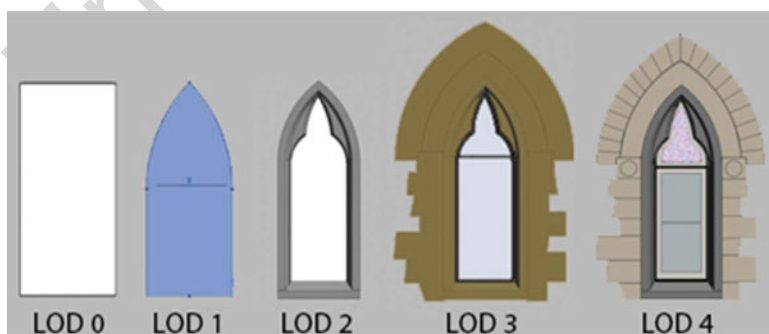


Fig. 51.15 CIMS level of detail 0 to 4 of a window, CIMS LOA classification system – level of detail (LOD), level of information (LOI), and level of accuracy (LOA) – LODIA [23]

- 400 LOD 0 – the element may not be modelled and may be represented by a placeholder
401 (e.g., point cloud, historical drawing). If modelled, the element is a generic form
402 with nonspecific dimensions and geometry.
- 403 LOD 1 – the model element shows the generic size and shape graphically but does
404 not contain additional information such as material and detailing. For example, a
405 window is represented as an outline only. It contains proper dimensions but does
406 not show details.
- 407 LOD 2 – the model element is represented graphically with primary materials
408 shown. Connections and secondary materials are minimally represented.
- 409 LOD 3 – the model element is accurately represented graphically. The material
410 palette is shown, and connections are modelled – but fasteners are not.
- 411 LOD 4 – the model element represents ALL graphical and geometric information,
412 including fasteners and the size of individual members. This LOD is reserved for
413 areas where comprehensive detail is required.

414 In the context of the CIMS LODIA protocol, LOA reflects the level to which the
415 deflection and deviation of the building element are modelled in the BIM. LOA is
416 characterized as:

- 417 LOA 0 – no deflection/deviation is modelled. An average dimension is used for
418 position and material thickness.
- 419 LOA 1 – element deflection/deviation is modelled at corners and changes of
420 materials. Deflection/deviation shown is in positioning and not in material
421 thickness.
- 422 LOA 2 – element deflection/deviation is modelled at a predetermined grid spacing
423 (typically between 1000 mm and 3000 mm) and at corners or changes of material.
424 Deflection/deviation is shown in positioning, not in material thickness.
- 425 LOA 3 – element deflection/deviation is modelled at a predetermined grid spacing
426 (typically between 300 mm and 1000 mm) and at corners or changes of material.
427 Large deflections/deviations (typically 50 mm to 1000 mm) between grid spacing
428 are added. Deflection/deviation is shown in positioning and in material thickness
429 if the thickness shows a deflection/deviation greater than 25 mm.
- 430 LOA 4 – the highest level of accuracy is accomplished through the creation of a
431 mesh generated from point cloud data and contains all deflection and
432 deformation.

433 **51.4.3 West Block BIM (2013)**

434 In July 2013, an HBIM of the West Block building using geo-referenced point cloud
435 data was started. At the time, the development of BIM for historical buildings of that
436 scale was a novel idea – the potential uses, challenges, and best practices were
437 unknown. Therefore, the intention was to investigate the potential value of digitiza-
438 tion and HBIM technology for the documentation, rehabilitation, and long-term
439 management of the Parliament Hill site and beyond.

440 The primary data used to develop the West Block BIM was from geo-referenced
441 point cloud data, augmented with a diverse set of secondary data including photo-
442 graphs, historical drawings, 2D CAD plans, 2D CAD elevations based on ortho-
443 graphic photographs, and total station surveys. The interior survey was completed
444 using the Faro Focus 3D. The exterior was surveyed using the Leica C10, with
445 supplementary data from the Faro. The point cloud data was supported by an
446 extensive photographic record, field notes, and hand measures taken during site
447 inspections.

448 In instances where scanning was not possible, the BIM followed secondary
449 sources such as the CAD files prepared by PSPC. To amplify the complexity of
450 the project, the building was an active construction site, requiring several scanning
451 campaigns to capture the building through the construction phases to completion.
452 Due to construction, some areas were not accessible to scan – such as the stairwells,
453 portions of the interior, and the North Facade – until after the construction was
454 complete. In total, 1.5 terabytes of geo-referenced point cloud data were captured.

455 To enhance workstation performance and decrease model file size, the model was
456 also divided into several component models that, when linked together, created a
457 federated model. The component models included roof, shell, interiors, slabs, and
458 historic structure (Fig. 51.16).

459 The first step in developing the West Block BIM was to integrate the
460 geo-referenced point cloud data into AutoDesk Revit 2014 by linking the individual
461 .pts. files. The point cloud data was then viewed in a series of 2D section, elevation,
462 and plan views to trace the profiles of the building element geometry to the assigned
463 LOD and LOA. Next, using Revit's modelling tools, a solid 3D model element was
464 created.

465 For LOD 1, elements were modelled as a simple placeholder with a minimal level
466 of detail. Secondary sources were relied on heavily, as most areas specified at LOD 1
467 were not captured in the initial set of point cloud data. For LOD 2, building element
468 types were developed from point cloud data in Revit – such as a window – and used
469 to produce a library of parametric families. These building elements were then
470 parametrically adjusted to accommodate their location in the model. At LOD 3,
471 building elements were meshed from sensor data to generate model-in-place ele-
472 ments that afforded very specific and accurate models of unique geometric
473 characteristics.

474 Regarding LOD and efficiency, modelling to the highest LOD capturing most
475 deformations required using model in-place components such as meshes or seg-
476 mented point clouds. Producing solid HBIM elements was a time-consuming pro-
477 cess but increased the functionality of the model. Modelling at a lower LOD
478 produced a model with a lower LOA but improved model functionality. Another
479 important observation regarding LOD and LOA is the quality of the survey data.
480 During the modelling of West Block, the resolution of the point cloud data was not
481 high enough to model at a high LOD without relying on secondary sources. Based on
482 our experience, it is imperative that a detailed documentation strategy is undertaken
483 prior to developing a BIM for heritage documentation, conservation, and manage-
484 ment in order to determine and reconcile the LOD of both the survey and the model.

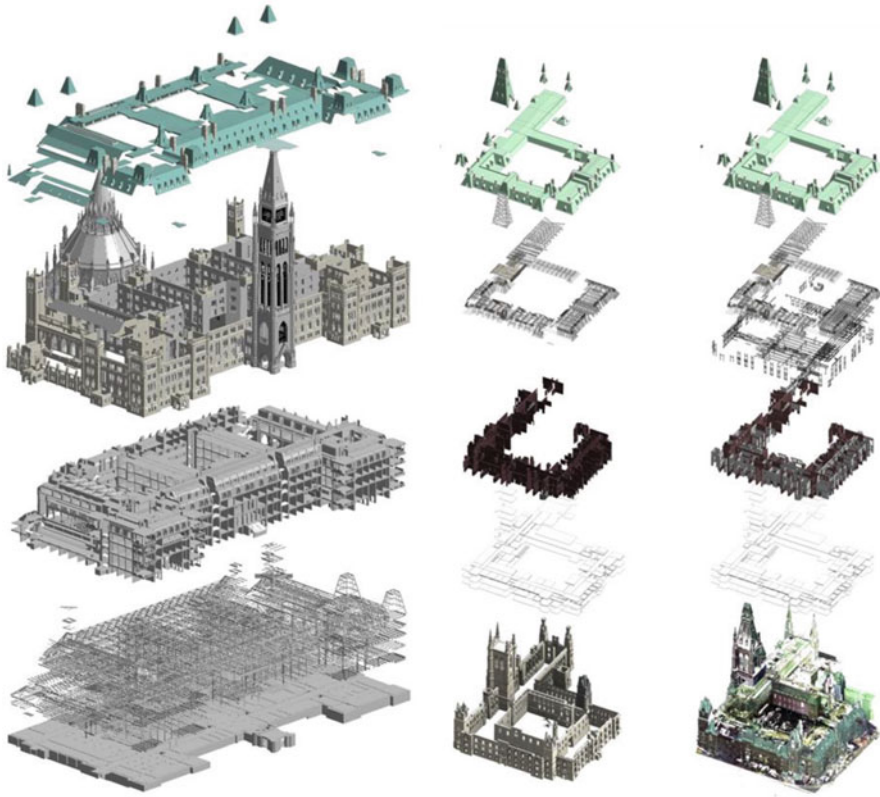


Fig. 51.16 Component models for West Block BIM as modelling progressed and exploded axonometric of the Centre Block BIM showing the linked models [23]

485 *Following the initial phase of modelling (2013–2015), the second phase of*
 486 *modelling began in the summer of 2015.*

487 **51.4.4 Centre Block (2015)**

488 The intention of creating an HBIM of the Centre Block was to facilitate aspects of an
 489 integrated project delivery (IPD) method for the Centre Block Program of Work.
 490 CIMS would develop the BIM and hand the model over to the AEC consultant team
 491 responsible for the rehabilitation work. In addition to capturing the existing condi-
 492 tions of the building, the model was developed in anticipation of specific model uses
 493 including, but not limited to, the generation of drawings, site analysis, design
 494 coordination, and design authoring.

495 In order to meet these objectives, the appropriate LOD for each building element
 496 category required specification. Our initial proposal was to utilize a commonly

497 accepted BIM specification classification system – the level of development speci-
498 fication developed in the United States by BIMFORUM. The system combined level
499 of detail with level of information classifications into level of development. A
500 simplified level of development system was established between PSPC and CIMS
501 for the initial scope, assigning LOD to specific building element categories:

502 LOD 300: exterior walls, roofs, foundations, structural elements (verified to point
503 cloud).

504 LOD 200: interior walls, stairways, slabs, structural elements (not verified to point
505 cloud).

506 LOD 300 was also assigned to spaces of significant heritage value such as the Senate
507 Chamber, House of Commons chambers, Senate and House of Commons foyers,
508 Rotunda, and Hall of Honour.

509 The model tolerance for the Centre Block BIM was determined by comparing the
510 deflection and deviation of the building element to point cloud data. It was deter-
511 mined that a tolerance of less than 25 mm of modelled elements to point cloud data
512 was acceptable. Any deviations greater than 25 mm would be captured within the
513 geometric representation of the building element. Additionally, when the deflection
514 or deformation was determined to be worth noting – based off the defined LOA – it
515 was recorded in a customized properties panel. Three categories were defined: lateral
516 deviation, vertical deviation, and irregularity of geometry. Lateral and vertical
517 deviation referred to changes in the profile, whereas irregularity of geometry referred
518 to deviations such as missing or broken elements.

519 The Centre Block BIM required the synthesis of large, diverse data sets. The
520 primary data source was geo-referenced point cloud data from terrestrial laser
521 scanning and photogrammetry. The data was captured by CIMS using a Leica C10
522 and P40 (exterior and large interior spaces) and a Faro Focus (small to mid-sized
523 interior spaces). Significant heritage interiors including the Senate, Senate Foyer,
524 House of Commons, House of Commons Foyer, Rotunda, Hall of Honour, and the
525 exterior of the Peace Tower were also captured by HCS using photogrammetry. Over
526 2000 individual scan stations were required to capture the interior and exterior of
527 Centre Block – resulting in over four terabytes of point cloud data.

528 Secondary sources such as archival drawings, photographs, historical steel cata-
529 logues, and technical reports were referenced in cases where point cloud data was
530 not available. For example, the structural steel that is normally hidden from view and
531 cannot be captured by laser scanning or photogrammetry. To increase workstation
532 performance while modelling, the .pts. files were imported into Autodesk ReCap and
533 divided into .rcp files by areas per floor, for instance, third floor south-west, third
534 floor south-east, third floor East Office Block, etc. This way, model users could turn
535 on/off specific areas of point cloud through the Revit Visibility and View settings for
536 a small, localized area instead of loading in a large data set. Due to the size of the
537 physical building, to minimize model file size, multiple component models when
538 linked together created a federated model. The component models included roof,
539 shell, interiors, circulation and slabs, and structure (Fig. 51.16).

540 Similar in methodology to the West Block BIM, the first step in modelling Centre
541 Block was integrating the geo-referenced point cloud data into Revit by linking the
542 individual .rcp files. The point cloud data was then viewed in a series of 2D section,
543 elevation, and plan views to trace the profiles of the building element geometry to the
544 assigned LOD and LOA. Next, using Revit's modelling tools, a solid 3D model
545 element was developed into parametric families.

546 As modelling progressed, we realized that BIMFORUM specification was insuf-
547 ficient for developing BIMs of historical buildings such as Centre Block. The
548 availability of information for in situ building elements varied significantly, creating
549 the need to identify levels of geometric detail, non-graphical information, and
550 accuracy. In an effort to clarify the terms of reference, CIMS proposed the use of
551 the CIMS LODIA – resulting in a more nuanced system of classification.

552 The LODIA of each component was based on an understanding of the available
553 data from the source material, as well as the anticipated use for that data. For
554 example, the structural steel beams within the floor slabs could be identified as
555 LOD 2, LOI 2, and LOA 0. The LOD and LOI were high because of the available
556 archival drawings and historical catalogues. However, since there was no point cloud
557 data available – most of the steel was behind masonry walls and not visible to remote
558 sensors – the LOA was 0.

559 In comparison, the Senate Chamber exhibited a different LODIA. While all
560 specialty rooms in the Centre Block BIM were initially targeted to be modelled at
561 a LOD 3, the Senate Chamber increased in graphical detail to a LOD 4 and LOA 4,
562 while LOI was reduced to 2. This was because the model geometry of the Senate
563 Chamber was leveraged for a virtual reality project related to the rehabilitation and
564 required a high LOD for visualization purposes. High-resolution laser scanning and
565 photogrammetry were used to record the space. However, very little verified infor-
566 mation about wall assembly or materiality was available.

567 A low LOD was required for conceptual/schematic planning, making the
568 existing model too detailed, while a high LOD was required for visualizations
569 and heritage asset management. One approach that we explored was developing
570 model elements to three LODs. Using the Revit coarse, medium, fine detail
571 settings, users were able to view all three LOD within one model depending on
572 required information or use (Fig. 51.19). As the second phase of modelling
573 progressed, the LOD and scope transformed prompting another division of the
574 models due to increased file size. Model elements were divided into additional
575 linking files including basement, heritage, courtyards, interiors (floors 1–3), and
576 interiors (floors 4–6) (Fig. 51.17).

577 The interdisciplinary research taking place between members of industry and
578 academia has proven to be tremendously beneficial for both groups. The
579 exchange of innovative workflows from research and standard practices from
580 industry has pushed the application of digital tools for heritage conservation. The
581 initiative is also supporting the development of highly qualified personnel (HQP)
582 preparing researchers for both the intellectual and technical demands of a lead-
583 ership role in defining the role of digital tools for heritage conservation in Canada
584 and beyond.

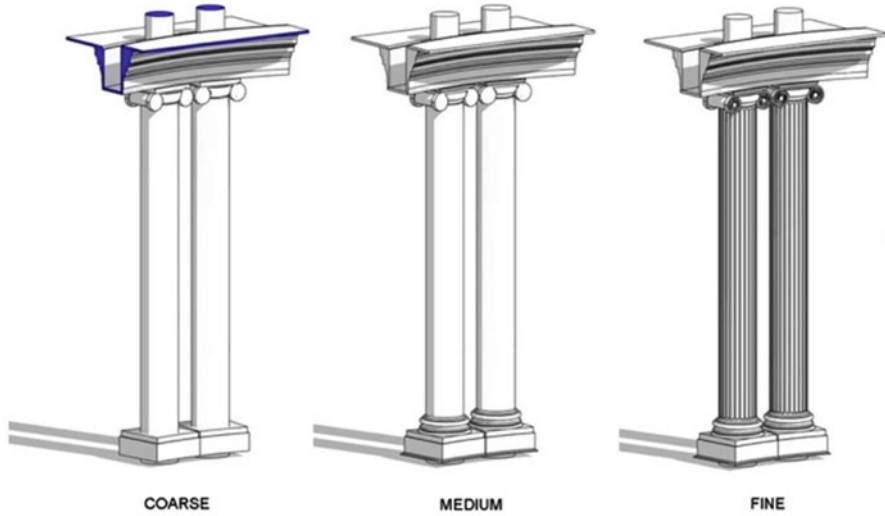


Fig. 51.17 Column developed at three LOD for the coarse, medium, and fine Revit detail levels [23]

585 **51.4.5 Library of Parliament BIM (2017)**

586 Our work on Parliament Hill culminated in the fall of 2017, with the digitization and
 587 modelling of one of Canada's most significant heritage assets – the Library of
 588 Parliament consisted in developing a BIM of the library in anticipation of the
 589 following BIM uses: visualization for communication, scheduling/phase planning,
 590 site utilization planning, digital and digitally assisted fabrication, heritage asset
 591 management, field management, and record model. As a tool for heritage asset
 592 management and visualization purposes, the model required the highest level of
 593 detail and accuracy. Following research from the Centre Block BIM, it was deter-
 594 mined that a tolerance of less than 25 mm of modelled elements to point cloud data
 595 was suitable for the Library BIM. In a similar methodology, any deviations greater
 596 than 25 mm would be captured within the geometric representation of the building
 597 element, and any deviations worth noting would be documented within the proper-
 598 ties of an individual model element.

599 The digitization program for the library was limited in scope. Only the main
 600 reading room, stairwells, attic, a few typical offices, and exterior were surveyed
 601 to produce geo-referenced point cloud data. We also requested highly detailed
 602 meshes of individual heritage assets in the main reading room – such as the hand-
 603 carved wood rosettes and the statue of Queen Victoria – from photogrammetry
 604 since they would be required for the planned visualization applications. The data
 605 was captured using a Leica P40 (main reading room) and a Faro Focus (typical
 606 offices, staircases, and attic). One of the challenges in digitizing the main reading
 607 room was minimizing occlusions due to the room's complex multilevel, circular
 608 geometry. The survey of the main reading room required 97 high-resolution scans

609 in order to meet the required LOD and LOA for the BIM – taking approximately
610 5 days to complete. The exterior of the library was captured by HCS using UAV
611 photogrammetry. We also relied on scan data from the Centre Block digitization
612 campaign since the library data was geo-referenced to the same survey network as
613 Centre Block. 2D CAD record drawings from the recent rehabilitation project
614 (2007–2011) were referenced in cases where point cloud data was not available.
615 However, we found significant discrepancies in instances where both point cloud
616 data and record drawings existed.

617 To increase workstation performance while modelling, the .pts. files were
618 imported into Autodesk ReCap and divided into .rcp files by areas per floor. An
619 exception to this was the main reading room where the 97 .rcs files were imported
620 into Revit as individual scan station locations. The geometry of the room and file size
621 of each scan made it difficult to group the scans into an effective and manageable .
622 rcp file. From our previous research, we were confident that through proper Revit
623 work-set management, we could contain the whole Library of Parliament building at
624 a high LOD within a single Revit file. This eliminated the inefficiency of switching
625 between models in order to adjust model elements – especially at the join conditions
626 where linked files are connected.

627 Similar in methodology to both the Centre Block and West Block BIM, the first
628 step in modelling Centre Block was integrating the geo-referenced point cloud data
629 into Revit by linking the individual .rcp and .rcs files. The point cloud data was then
630 viewed in a series of 2D section, elevation, and plan views to trace the profiles of the
631 geometry of the building elements to the appropriate LOD and LOA. Next, using
632 Revit’s modelling tools, solid 3D model elements were developed into parametric
633 families. Despite our experience in modelling complex existing conditions, the
634 geometry and detail of the library – including curved windows, elaborate fixtures,
635 and flying buttresses – proved to be an extraordinary challenge. Modelling double
636 curved geometry, intricate details, and surface deformations to a high level of detail
637 from point cloud data required a return to exploring the possibilities of model-in-
638 place families in special situations. For example, the geometry of the domed ceiling
639 of the main reading room was extremely irregular. Our workflow involved producing
640 a conceptual mass family generated directly from point cloud, then applying a
641 generic model ceiling family, and deleting the conceptual mass.

642 Our earlier research on Parliament Hill allowed us to evaluate the trade-offs
643 between LOD and BIM performance, communicate data sources effectively, and
644 use our existing protocols for modelling workflows outlining step-by-step instruc-
645 tions for modelling building elements from point cloud data. However, the increased
646 complexity of the building required the augmentation of our existing protocols and
647 development of novel ones to capture the LOD and LOA required for the specific
648 BIM uses. This resulted in the Library of Parliament Model being our most complex
649 BIM project to date.

650 **51.4.6 Conclusion: HBIM Quality Assurance**

651 The process for verifying a model created from point cloud data involved creating
652 multiple sectional views along elements in Revit and measuring the deviations that
653 appeared to be the greatest between the point cloud and the model element. This
654 method was time-consuming – notably for large BIM projects – and it limited the
655 verification of the model to specific section locations.

656 In the summer of 2018, a plug-in for Revit – 3D Analysis – was developed at
657 CIMS (in association with the Photogrammetry and Geometrics Group, INSA). The
658 plug-in is a first step toward an automated visualization of the deviations between
659 Revit wall elements and adjacent point cloud data in a 3D view. After minimal
660 computation time, points are colorized according to the computed deviations, and a
661 3D color map is displayed. To help the user analyze the deviations, a window
662 containing information about the repartition of deviations is also displayed. The
663 plug-in is proving more efficient in relation to the previous LOA verification
664 processes. Moreover, deviations are represented in a 3D view making the identifica-
665 tion of potential modelling errors and deviations more visible.

666 Although we have achieved some success in automating the point cloud to BIM
667 process, it must be acknowledged that the manual process used for the development
668 of the Parliament Hill BIM has resulted in highly detailed and accurate models.
669 Further, not all information for modelling a historic building is born digital. By
670 synthesizing sensor data with secondary sources such as historical drawings, we
671 have been able to generate a comprehensive representation of the fabric of the
672 building. For example, the structural steel in Centre Block that is hidden from
673 view within walls and floor slabs is now visible in the model and can be understood
674 contextually. These secondary sources – integrated into the properties of the model
675 elements for all three models – also offer the beginning of a rich database of
676 non-geometrical cultural information related to the construction of the building
677 (e.g., steel catalogues).

678 As we develop LODIA workflows that produce more efficient and geometrically
679 rich models, we continue to augment existing and create new protocols. The
680 implementation of these protocols in the lab ensures consistency across all modelled
681 elements in terms of modelling methodology. The ongoing work on LODIA is not
682 intended as an attempt to develop an industry standard but rather as a forum for
683 discourse and consensus building with our partners in a rapidly evolving field of
684 research. Our intention in this chapter is to demonstrate to our public and private
685 partners and to academic colleagues the value added for all parties in applied,
686 collaborative research (Fig. 51.18).

687 **51.5 Conclusion: A Design Framework for Digital** 688 **Representation of Virtual Historic Centers**

689 In conclusion, a design framework is presented for systems architecture and
690 workflows for digital representation of virtual historic centers in archaeology and
691 architectural heritage for archiving and storage and dissemination based on game

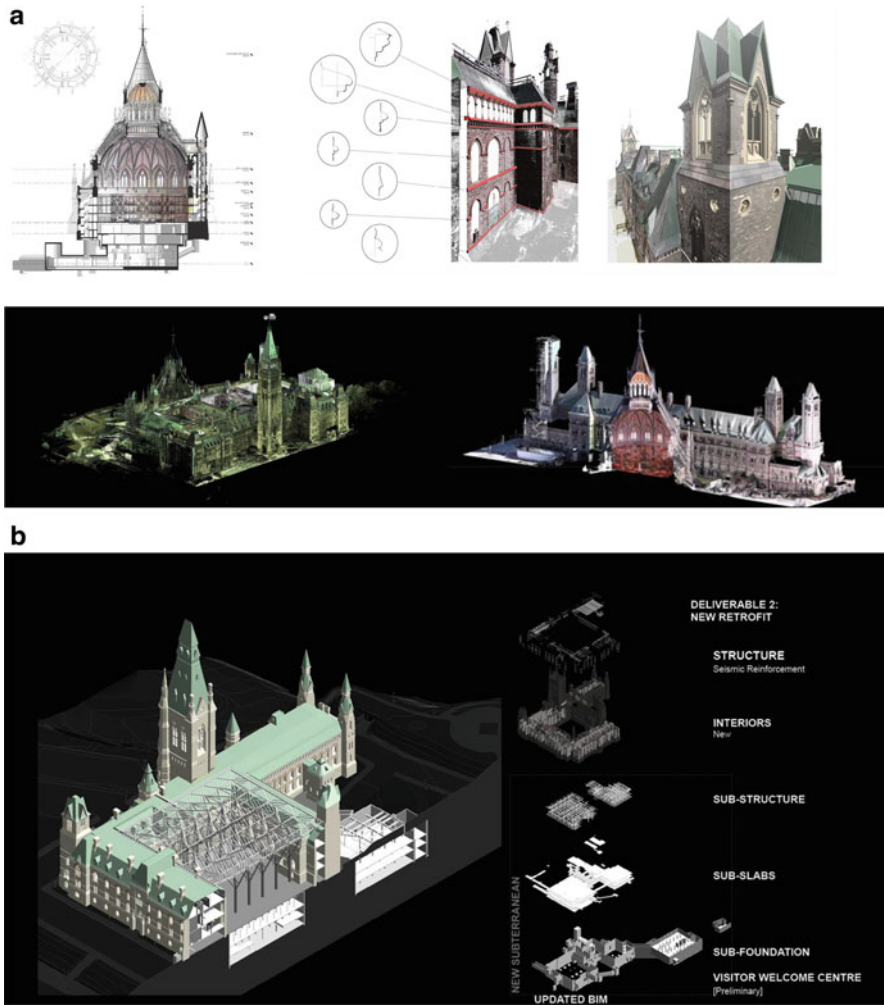


Fig. 51.18 (a and b) Historic BIM Parliament Precinct – graphic overview of scan and HBIM models [23]

692 engine platforms. Game engine platforms allow a low-cost method of making
 693 intelligent models and linked data more easily accessible to users. It is the nature
 694 of interactive video game applications to be intuitive to the user quickly upon
 695 assuming controls. A packaged “game file” is designed to execute in a standalone
 696 fashion, requiring no additional proprietary software installed on the end-user’s
 697 computer system. Current mainstream industry packages include Unity3D and
 698 Unreal Engine, which allow for highly developed workflows and community sup-
 699 port, but recent game engine software like Autodesk’s Stingray package holds
 700 promise for greater interoperability with BIM.

701 With regard to educational applications, game engines can give public access to
 702 information that is usually restricted to specialists. The nature of video game engines is
 703 scalable and multiplatform and can potentially be viewed on a variety of systems with
 704 different performance capabilities, from tablets to sophisticated virtual reality work-
 705 stations. A packaged “game file” is designed to execute in a standalone fashion, AU11
 706 requiring no additional proprietary software installed on the end user’s computer
 707 system. In addition, augmented reality (AR) and immersive experiences using wear-
 708 able technology enhance the VR experience whether for entertainment or education.
 709 The virtual worlds are constructed in 3D graphic modelling platforms before they are
 710 exported into game engine platforms and only contain geometry and texture and are
 711 therefore limited to applications for visualization. The enhancement of the 3D visual-
 712 ization model for immersive experience with user interaction is generated within the
 713 game engine platform. This enables end users to interact with the virtual building and
 714 to access the rich data related to the model without needing to install specialist BIM
 715 software. Shape, geometry, and geo-location can be linked to enriched data in the
 716 model and are held externally. User queries can be linked to the locations of elements
 717 in the building, to shapes (such as design features), and to the semantics of the
 718 information and will be facilitated by data flow between the game engine, 3D HBIM
 719 component server, and data stores. The delivery options for the Virtual Historic City
 720 range from WEB-based and VR immersion to augmented reality [36] (Fig. 51.19).

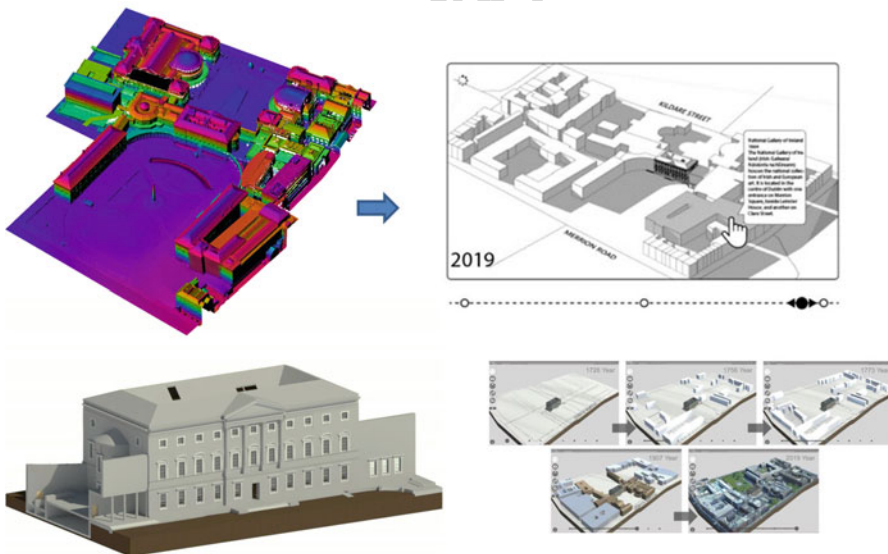


Fig. 51.19 Irish Parliament – Leinster House, aerial scan and HBIM model imported into Unity Game Engine Platform showing morphology of the parliament and ancillary buildings [2]

721 51.5.1 Systems Architecture

722 A design system safeguards lasting value and lessens the risk of digital obsolescence.
723 Open repositories ensure that curated data not only survives but is shared with wider
724 communities for their use and enhancement avoiding duplication of effort. System
725 design starts with the capture of data followed by its classification and organization.
726 The organized data is then enriched with semantic attributes from other sources and
727 stored within a database or repository allowing access for various end user scenarios.
728 The entire workflow is continuously updated and improved through a continuing
729 conceptualization, planning, and evaluation process and managed to ensure quality
730 and survival of data.

731 The initial design framework for virtual historic centers is presented in Fig. 23.
732 Stage 1 illustrates the input data ranging from historic to laser scan and other survey
733 data. This data is then processed and enriched with knowledge and information
734 attributes (stage 2) but also can be used in raw state. There are a series of database
735 servers; the first is the historic components as 3D HBIM, which maintains the
736 libraries of intelligent objects that represent the elements of a building structure.
737 BIM authoring platforms are mostly tailored for modern architecture, and their
738 libraries of parametric architectural elements/objects are limited to basic compo-
739 nents. To overcome this problem, a new design model is applied using architectural
740 rules and shape grammars to code primitive and complex historic architectural
741 objects. The architectural objects are mapped onto a geometric framework made
742 up of point cloud, image data, and historic digital surveys. A server is dedicated to
743 game engine assets, and the system can also be linked into external data bases.

744 The model at stage 3 holds AEC information and is then enhanced with
745 geo-location, except for the 3D HBIM components server (detail 2); this can be
746 considered a standard process pipeline. While BIM platforms have the potential to
747 create a virtual and intelligent representation of a building, its full exploitation and
748 use are restricted to a narrow set of expert users with access to costly hardware,
749 software, and skills. In the final stage, the semantically enriched model is transferred
750 into a WEB-based game engine platform. This not only enables interaction with the
751 virtual building but also allows users to access and query related information rich
752 data contained in the model and externally. The user access and queries are linked to
753 the geo-location of elements of the building and to geometry shape and attributed
754 semantics facilitated by data flow between the game engine asset server (detail 4)
755 and the 3D HBIM component server (detail 2) (Fig. 51.20).

756 **Acknowledgments** The authors wish to thank the Parliamentary Precinct Branch, Public Services
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760 Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada through the New Paradigm New Tools for Heritage
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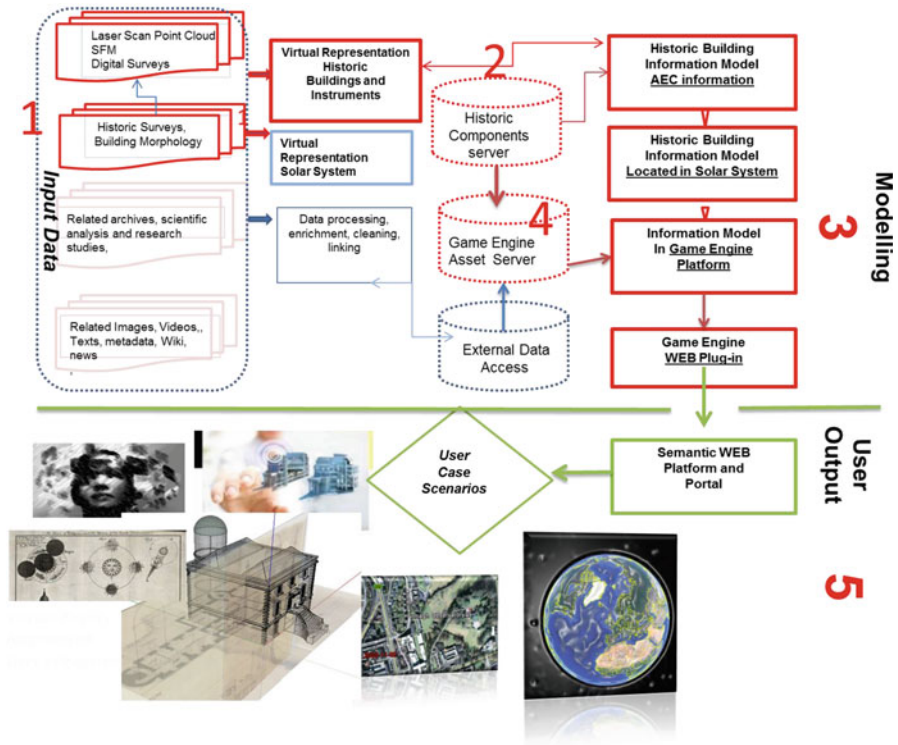


Fig. 51.20 Systems architecture for virtual historic centers

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