

Professor John Schofield, University of York / UK

Tuesday, 2 December 2025, 18h00 / 6:00 pm Atelier Oestreich, LG2C-D, upper level

Archaeologist and heritage scholar John Schofield explores how heritage practice and research can help tackle some of the world's most urgent and complex challenges, or 'wicked problems' as they are often known.



Wicked problems are those that have many interdependent factors and seem impossible to solve: they include climate change, poverty, and social injustice.

Schofield presents these issues as a way of framing heritage studies and heritage practice for managing wicked futures. He suggests that by working with communities and in

creative ways across disciplines, heritage practitioners (including archaeologists) can play an important and distinct role in finding 'small wins' solutions to these wicked problems. In turn, such small wins can represent incremental successes that help to build momentum and drive progress toward solutions.

John Schofield is Director of Studies in Cultural Heritage Management in the Archaeology Department at the University of York (UK). The lecture is based on his latest book, Wicked Problems for Archaeologists: Heritage as Transformative Practice (Oxford University Press, 2024).

For details, visit https://www.b-tu.de/en/fg-denkmalpflege.





