

4015 CE: An Archaeology of Harvard Yard

It is 2000 years in the future. Harvard Yard, once home to a prestigious academic community, lies in ruins. A survey team of four archaeologists has been sent to investigate the remains of the old university's architecture.

Sadly, due to centuries of turmoil, the only text on relatively contemporary architecture that has survived is Vitruvius' *De Architectura*, in both Latin and English.

As a member of the survey team, your task is to compose a proposal for the study of one of four structures:

- **Widener Library**
- **Langdell Hall (Harvard Law School Library)**
- **Memorial Church**
- **Robinson Hall**

This proposal should discuss the general structural layout of the building, architectural order(s) that seem to have been used on both the interior and exterior of the structure, and a reasoning as to why these particular orders may have been used in this context. Vitruvius should be used as your primary source on the subject, though additional readings may be necessary from Lawrence (1996).

Additionally, the proposal should provide a preliminary hypothesis on the function of the structure, based on evidence found in relation to the structure. Examples of such evidence include, but are not limited to: inscriptions (whole or fragmentary), architectural and/or sculptural decoration (original or spoliated), and small finds (e.g. coins, small metal objects, glass).

The structures shall be claimed on a first come, first serve basis. However, I would like for all of you to have enough time to consider your choice, so I will delay the claiming period until **Thursday, January 29 (tomorrow) at noon**. Any emails trying to claim a building that are sent before noon will be ignored.

Your findings will be presented at our meeting on **Tuesday, February 3, 2015**.