

The past has been likened to a deep well. By looking over the edge, and by drinking from it, one is constantly drawn towards a renewed sense of the dimension of depth in our immense horizontal world.

Carl Nylander  
*The Deep Well: Archaeology and the Life of the Past*  
(1962)

A value-committed archaeology is one rejecting any position which would suggest that research merely mirrors the past. Instead, it insists that research forms part of a process in which the archaeologist *actively decides upon* one past rather than another.

Michael Shanks and Christopher Tilley  
*Social Theory and Archaeology*  
(1986)



It's hard to think of any piece of land out there that isn't also a mental *hortus conclusus*, hedged about with symbolic meanings. The living skin of the land is our seventh sense, a vast repository of memory of what, as a species, we have felt and done and dreamed.

Richard Mabey  
*Fencing Paradise: reflections on the myths of Eden*  
(2005)

Moving away is only to the boundaries of the self. Better to stay here, I said, leaving the horizons clear.

R.S. Thomas  
'Groping' (extract)

I hate quotations. Tell me what you know.

Ralph Waldo Emerson