Stone age – Paleolithic and Neolithic: settlements and agriculture

Copper age

Bronze age

Iron age

Clay – fine grained earth

Clay + water > plastic and adhesive

Plasticity is potential until realized in practical experience. Is actualized in the making

When you heat clay, new properties are actualized: hard, durable, water-tight, brittle, thermal conductivity

Affordances: properties that are advantageous in a given situation

Constraints: limit or restrict actions

Catalhoyuk: very large well preserved settlement in southern Anatolia (turkey)

Neolithic occupation spans 7500-5700 BC

Excavated in the 60s by james mellart: found adjoining houses of mud brick

Lived in clay

Ian hodder entanglement theory

* Humans depend on things
* Things depend on other things
* Things depend on humans
* Human depend on things that depend on humans and other things (entanglement)

Material entanglement influences social and cultural traits

Thing: an assembling, bringing together (Heidegger) things actively gather

All things are bundled with multiple properties

Chains of interdependence

Relationships between molecules of clay influenced relationships between people

Humans are trapped depend on things that depend on other things that depend on humans

Materials have their own properties and dependences

Social change is not dependent on human invention – material dependencies play a role

New materials are selected only if they fit within existing entanglements

Social change is enabled and constrained by material entanglements

Watch IMOS video on rare earths

Submit short assignment on your own entanglement with rare earths

In class activity on our entanglement with rare earth elements