



Photogrammetry—Making Point Cloud Magic from Drones and Photos

Rob Clark

Principal Technical Consultant, Excitech Ltd

Mike Turpin

Company BIM Manager, Capita (Real Estate & Infrastructure)

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The background of the slide is a complex, abstract wireframe mesh. The mesh is composed of numerous interconnected lines forming a series of organic, flowing shapes that resemble a stylized, interconnected network or a series of overlapping, curved planes. The lines are thin and light gray, set against a white background. A solid blue horizontal bar spans the bottom portion of the image, providing a contrasting background for the text.

The Brief

Today's Agenda

- **Signing up for Autodesk Recap 360**
 - Account Log in - **Hand's on!**
- **Why Photogrammetry?**
- **Setting Up – Hand's on!**
 - Uploading
 - Setting up a project
 - Scaling
 - Photo matching (registration)
 - Coordinates
 - Textures, Cropping and NADIR
 - Processing formats and download
 - Viewing and publishing (sharing)
- **Using Photogrammetry**
 - A real world example, the Shanklin Lift Bridge
 - The outputs
- **Autodesk Recap Pro - Hand's on!**
 - Access
 - Navigation of the point cloud
 - Limit Boxes
 - View States and Regions
 - Measurement tools
 - Creating Regions
- **Autodesk Revit - Hand's on!**
 - Linking RCS
 - Photo to BIM
 - Visibility Control
- **Conclusion**
 - Accuracy
 - Site Access, inc. No Fly Zones
 - Photogrammetry Tips and Tricks
 - Recap Tips and Tricks
 - Administration of Autodesk Cloud Credits (summary)
- **Questions**

Learning Objectives

At the end of this class, you will be able to;

- Create a point cloud (and other outputs) using Autodesk Recap 360 from photos
- Use the registration tools in Autodesk Recap 360
- Navigation and using Autodesk Recap Pro
- Use the measuring tools in Autodesk Recap Pro
- Import the RCS to other products in the Autodesk portfolio (example, Revit)
- Basic Photo to BIM within Autodesk Revit

Format of this session

- This is a “Show and then Do” lab.
- Instructions are shown on screen.
- Datasets are provided and preloaded to machine or supplied Autodesk account.
- How to videos are also on your machine.

Software

We will be using the following software

- Autodesk Recap 360 (online service – **an account is provided***)
- Autodesk Recap Pro (desktop software)
- Autodesk Revit

* Do not use your own Autodesk Online account! It does not contain the dataset. (Also, you will use your own credits)

The background of the slide features a complex, organic wireframe mesh pattern in a light gray color. This pattern is overlaid on a solid blue horizontal bar that spans the width of the slide. The mesh pattern consists of interconnected lines forming a series of irregular, flowing shapes that resemble a stylized, abstract landscape or a network of veins.

Example



Lab – Instructions *Example Slide*

Step xx to xx
Title of this section

- 1. Turn on computer
- 2. Take supplied crowbar
- 3. Apply to computer



| | |
|----------|--|
| Time | 1 minute |
| Files | C:\Datasets\TBC |
| Software | Autodesk Recap <u>360</u> |
| Help | “00. Test Video.wmv” or ask an assistant |
| Jump On | Click the link in folder named “S6” |

Time Left :

The background of the slide is a complex, abstract wireframe mesh in a light gray color. This mesh is composed of numerous interconnected lines forming a series of organic, flowing shapes that resemble a stylized, multi-lobed figure or a series of interconnected tubes. The mesh is denser in some areas and more sparse in others, creating a sense of depth and movement. A solid blue gradient bar, transitioning from a darker blue on the left to a lighter blue on the right, spans the bottom portion of the image. The text is positioned on the left side of this blue bar.

Part 1

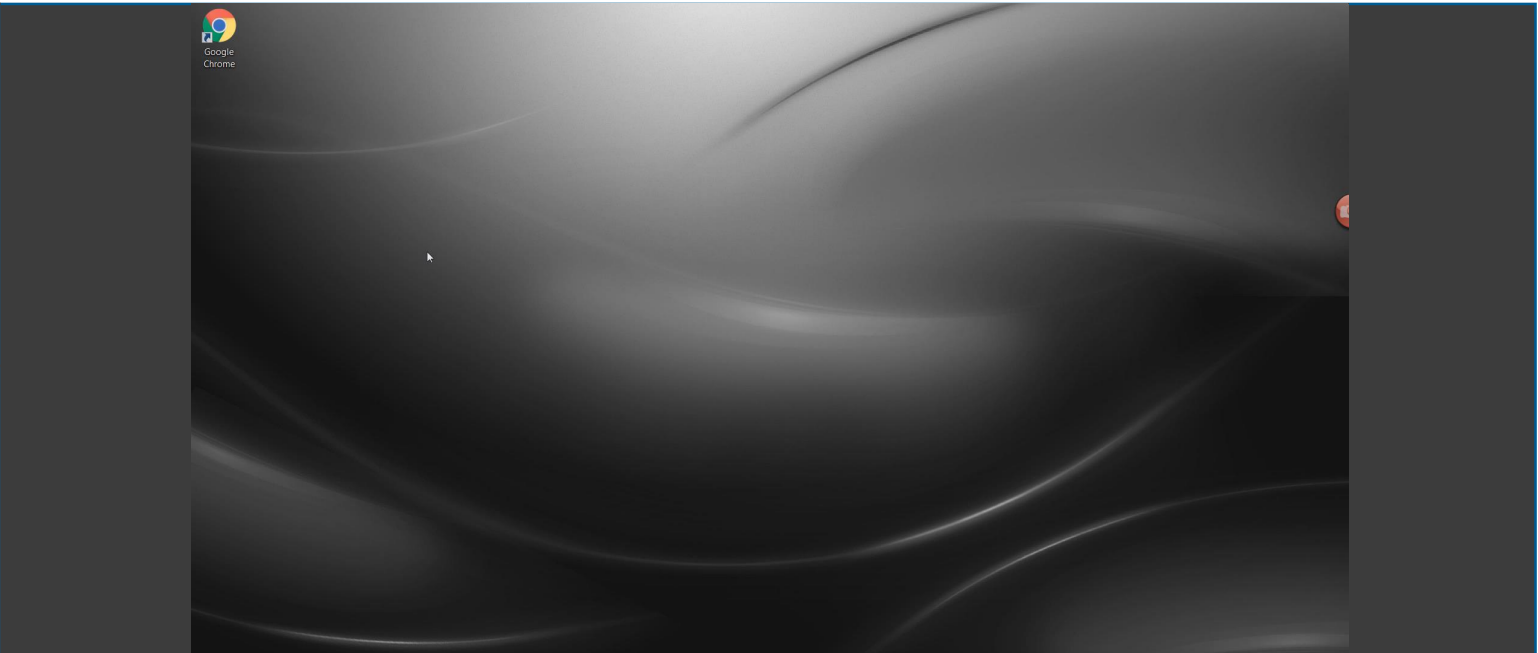
Logging into Autodesk Recap 360



Login to the Autodesk Recap 360 Service

- 1. Open up a web browser.
- 2. In the address bar,
<https://recap360.autodesk.com/>
- 3. Enter the supplied login credentials
Username: AU-??@autodesk.com
Password: Autodesk1

We have uploaded the files for you. Use the login credentials supplied, not your personal account.



| | |
|----------|---|
| Time | 2 minutes |
| Files | |
| Software | Autodesk Recap <u>360</u> |
| Help | “Recap – Login.wmv” or ask an assistant |
| Jump On | No jump on available |



Part 2

Why Photogrammetry?



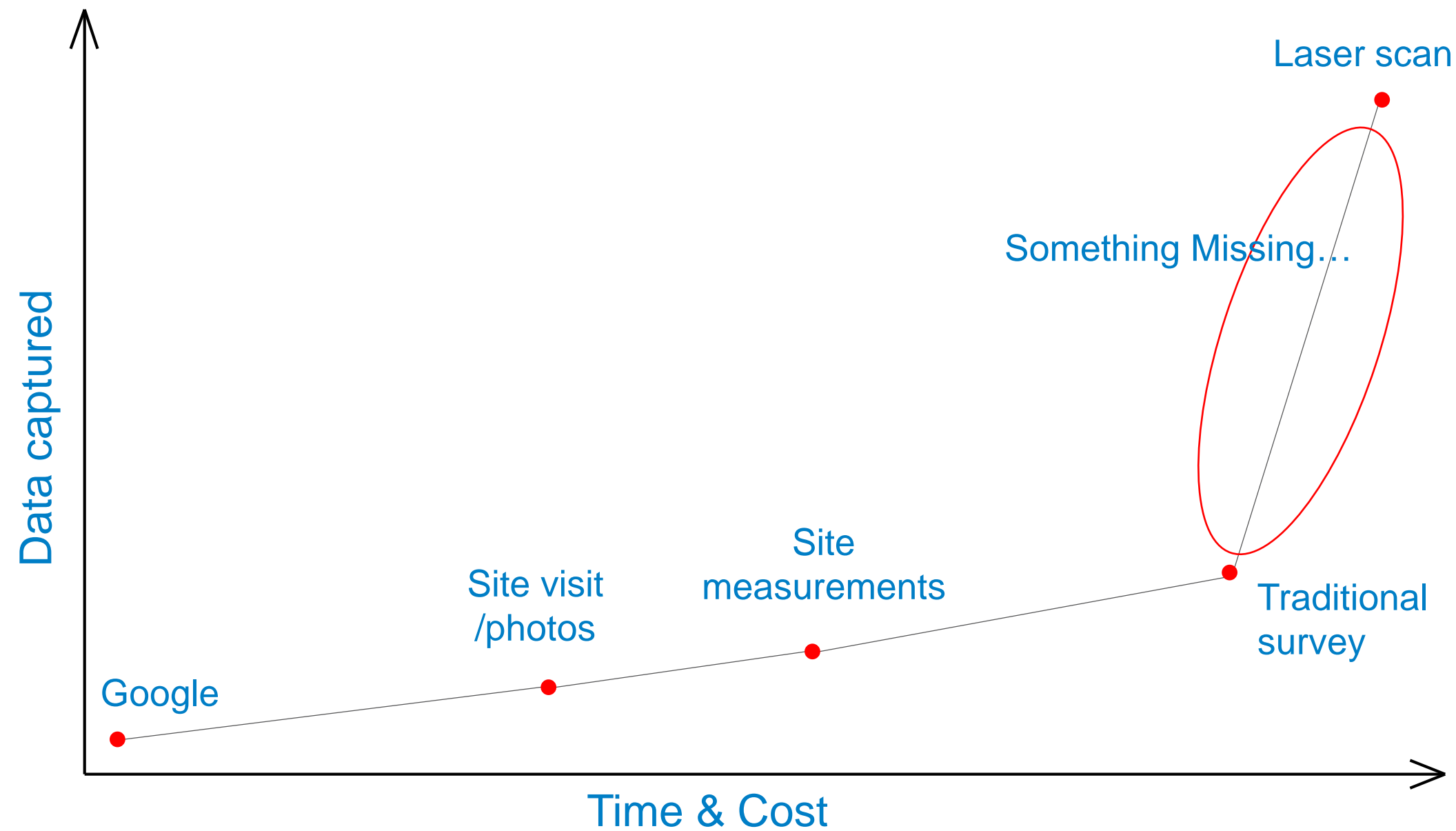
What is?...

What if?...

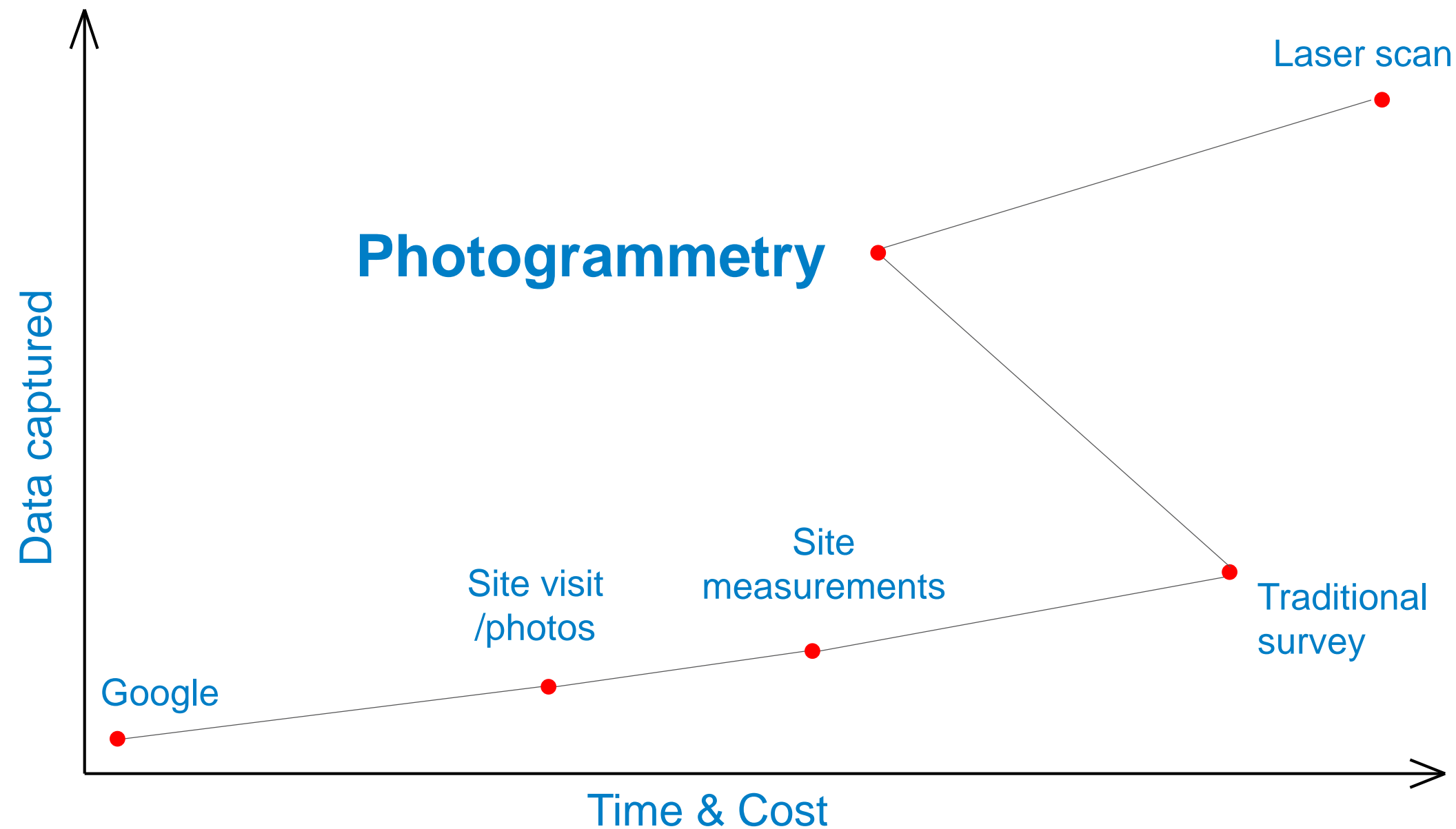
...the width of...
...the volume of...
...the material of...
...the colour of...
...the maximum...
...the length of...
...the area of...
...the shape of...
...the minimum...
...the height of...
...the distance between...

**...we knew
everything?**

What are the options for collecting data?



What are the options for collecting data?

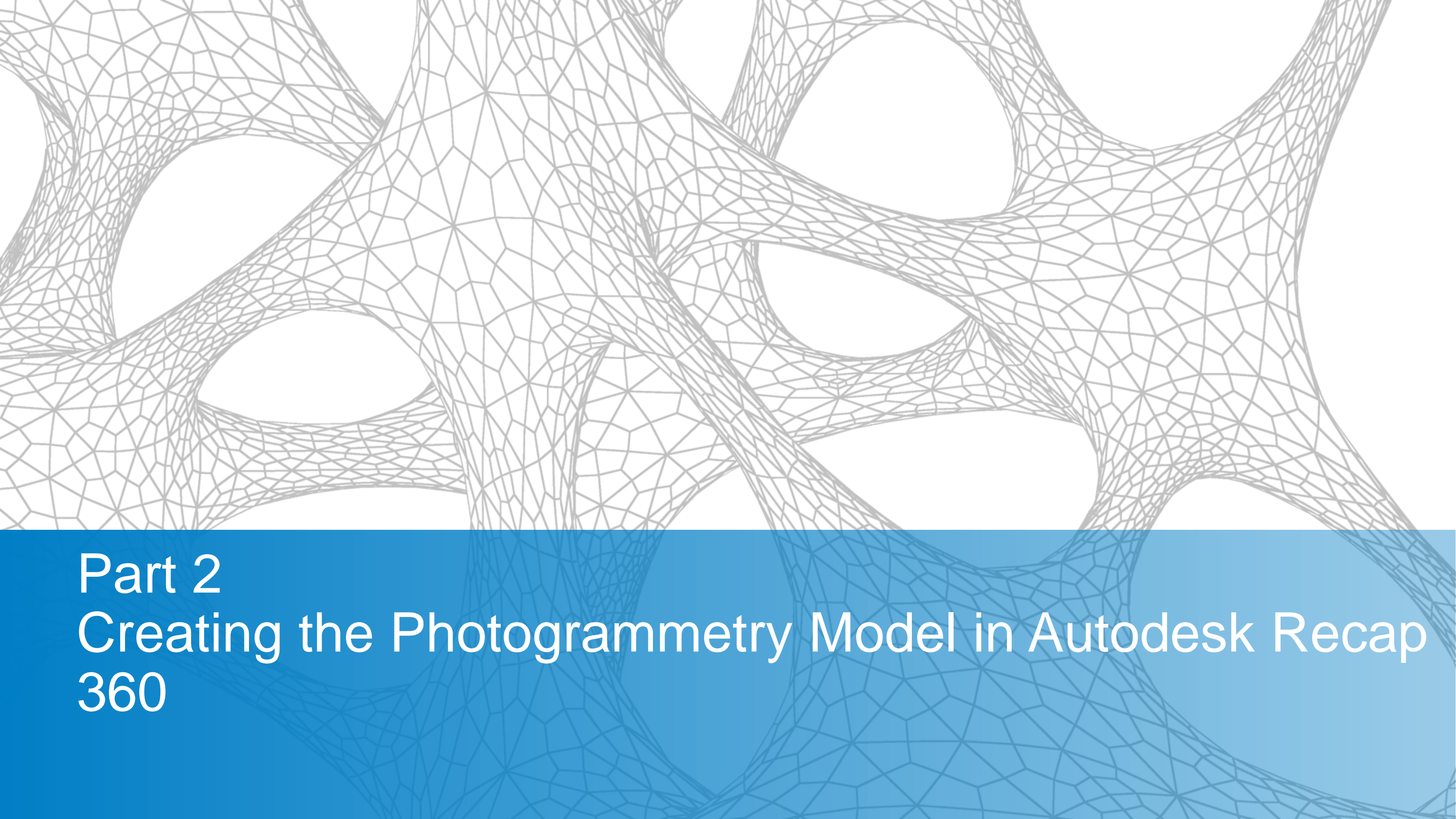


What is Photogrammetry?

Google Definition

“The use of photography in surveying and mapping to ascertain measurements between objects”

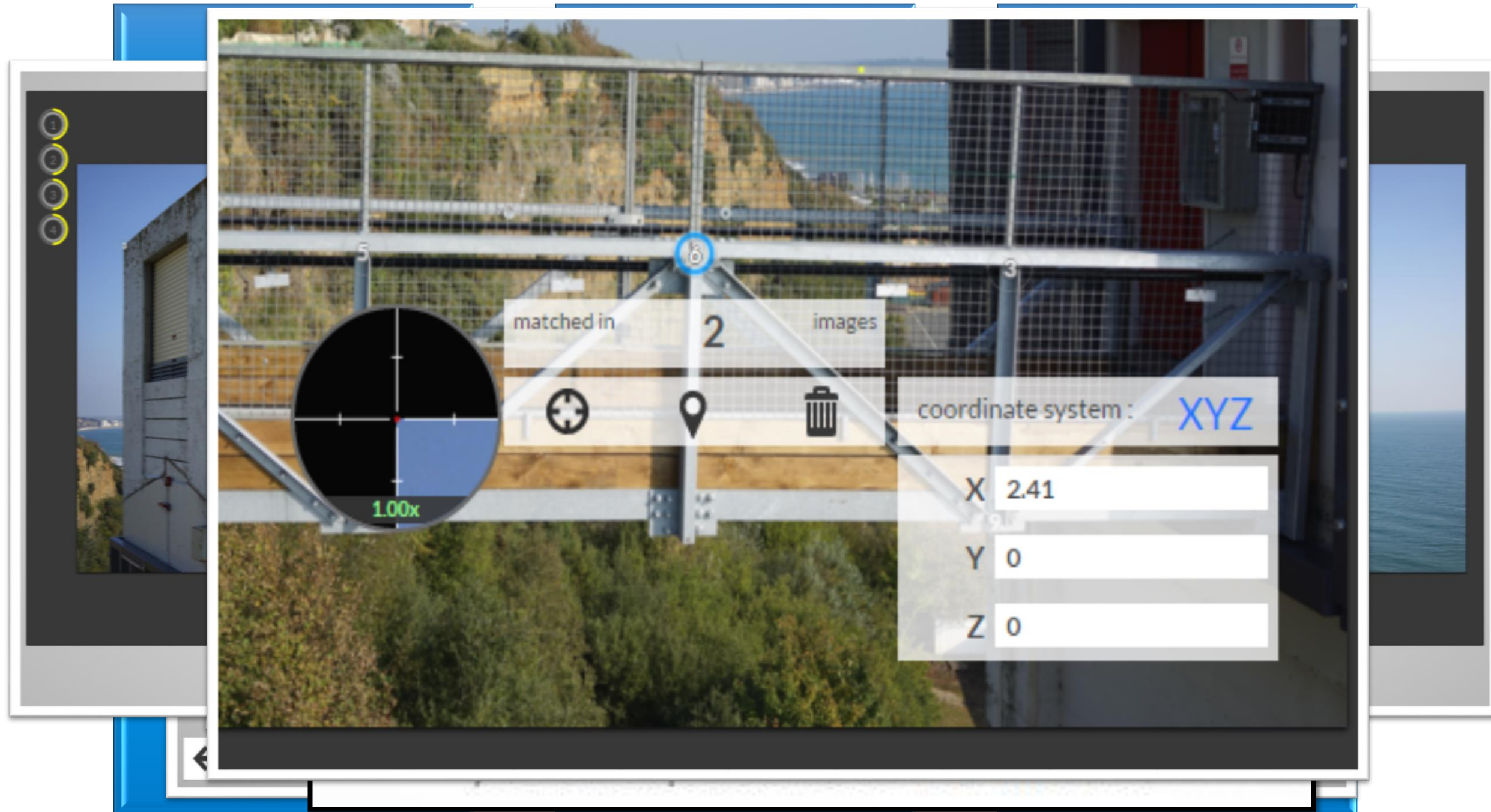
Simply put, in theory we should be able to take lots of photographs of an item from many different points of view and by ensuring that we have overlap between these photos we can create common points of reference.

The background of the slide is a complex, abstract wireframe mesh. It consists of numerous interconnected lines forming a series of organic, flowing shapes that resemble a stylized, interconnected network or a series of overlapping, curved planes. The lines are thin and grey, set against a white background. A solid blue horizontal band is positioned across the lower third of the image, serving as a backdrop for the text.

Part 2

Creating the Photogrammetry Model in Autodesk Recap 360

Autodesk Recap 360 - Process

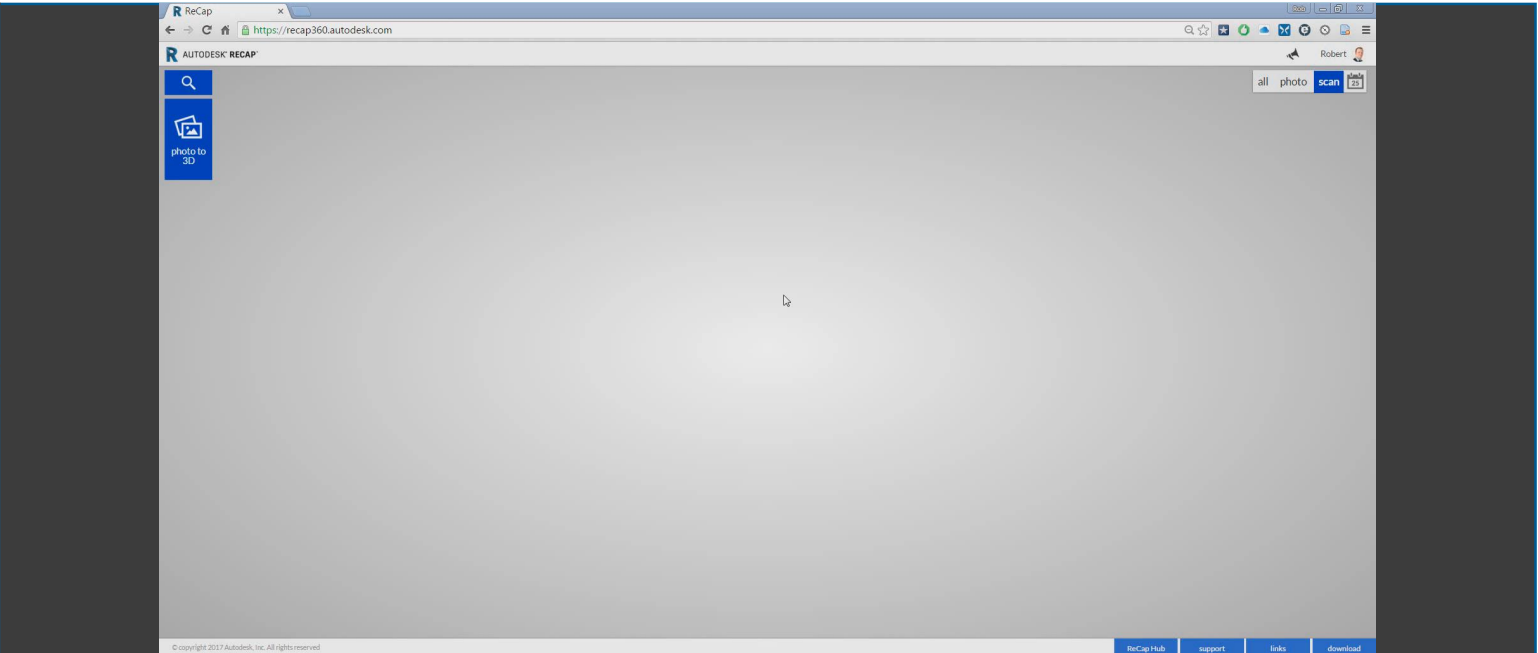


*The experiences presented here are as experienced on this project only.
The issues could be novice user error, temporary or to do with our hardware.*



Select the photos from A360 Drive

- 1. Ensure that the interface is set to either “All” or “Photo”
- 2. Click on Photo to 3D
- 3. Select “Browse from A360 Drive”
- 4. Select Photogrammetry then AU LDN Dataset 2
- 5. Highlight the top photo and scroll to the bottom of the list. Hold down the SHIFT key and select the bottom photo. This selects all photos. Press Select



| | |
|----------|---|
| Time | 2 minutes |
| Files | AU LND Dataset 2 - Preloaded to A360 |
| Software | Autodesk Recap <u>360</u> |
| Help | “Recap – Login.wmv” or ask an assistant |
| Jump On | No jump on available |

+ add photos

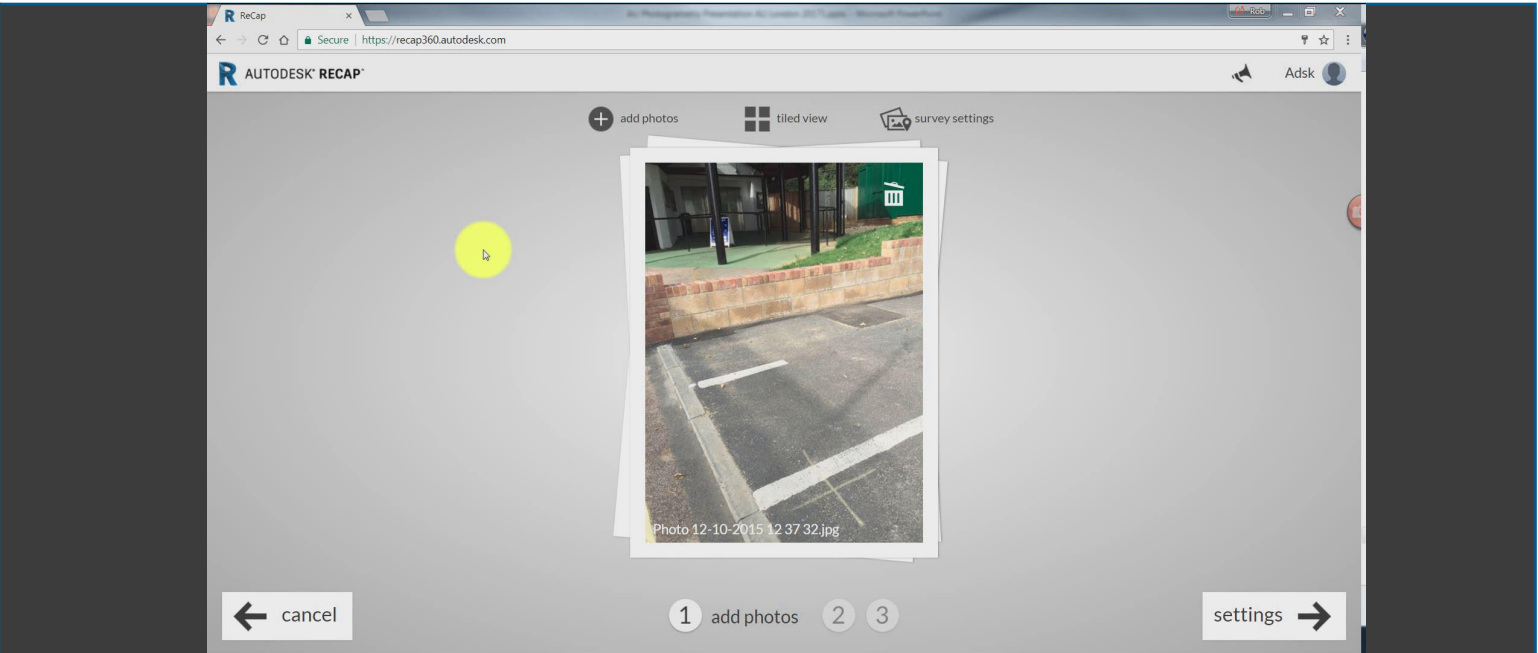
tilled view

survey settings



Set the Scale

- 1. Click on Survey Settings
- 2. Choose Set Scale and choose the top left hand photo in the left plane
- 3. Use your mouse wheel to zoom into a facing brick. Do not use edge bricks
- 4. Choose a photo in the right hand plane where you can see the same brick but from a different angle.
- 5. In the first (left) picture, click on the left side of the brick
- 6. In the second (right) picture, click on the left side of the same brick



| | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Time | 3 minutes |
| Files | AU LDN Dataset 2 |
| Software | Autodesk Recap <u>360</u> |
| Help | “Scale 1.wmv” or ask an assistant |
| Jump On | No jump on |

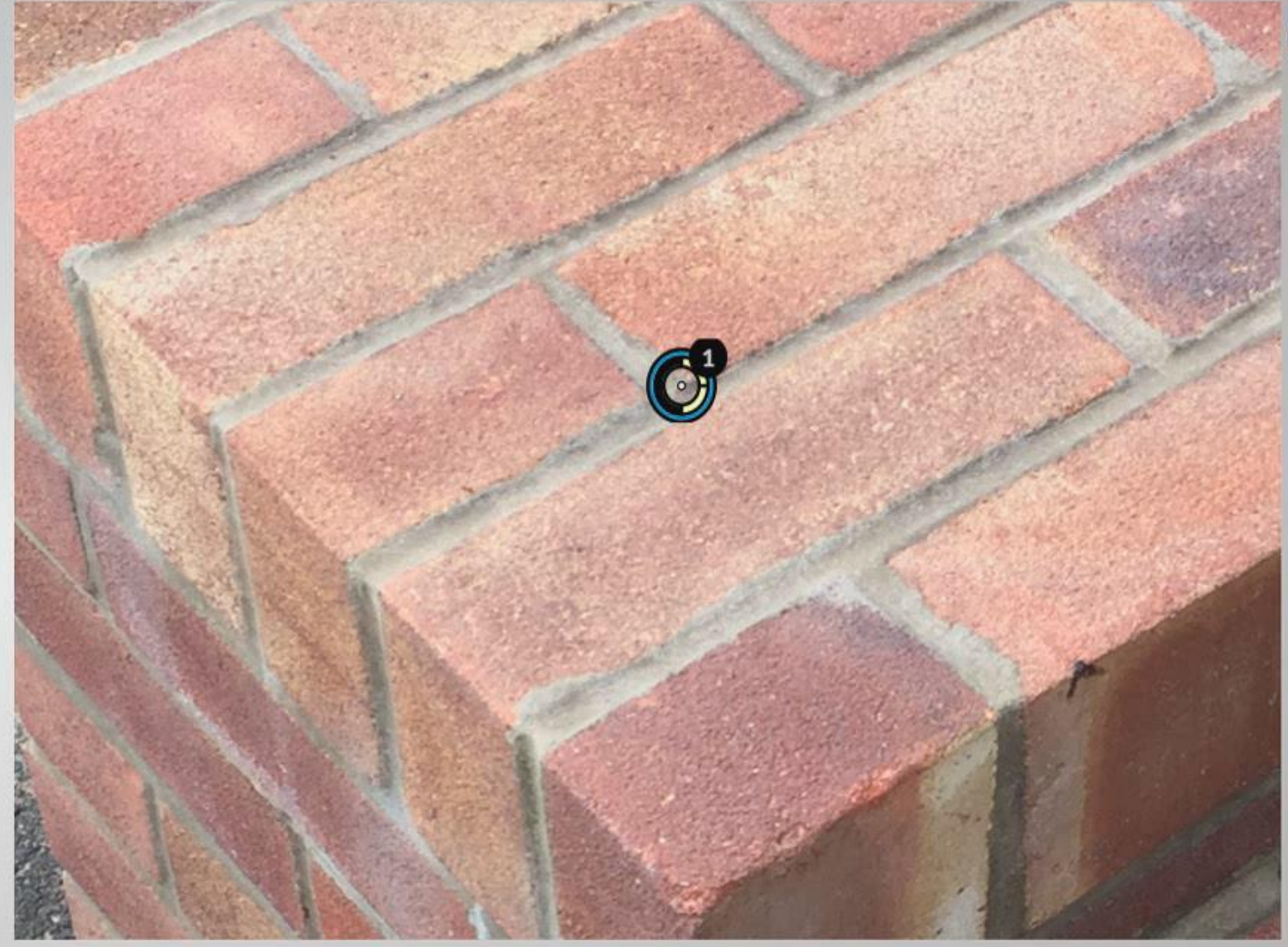
click a point on the image to set a registration point



choose a different photo

← photos

click a point on the image to set a registration point



cancel scale

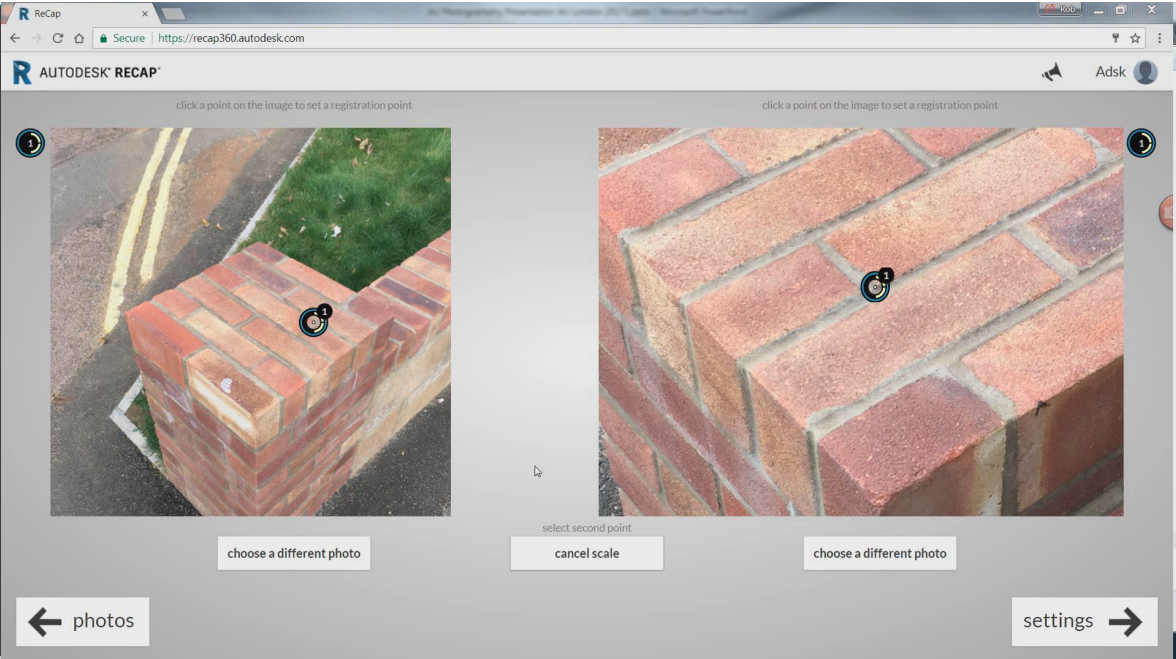
choose a different photo

select second point

settings →

Set the Scale

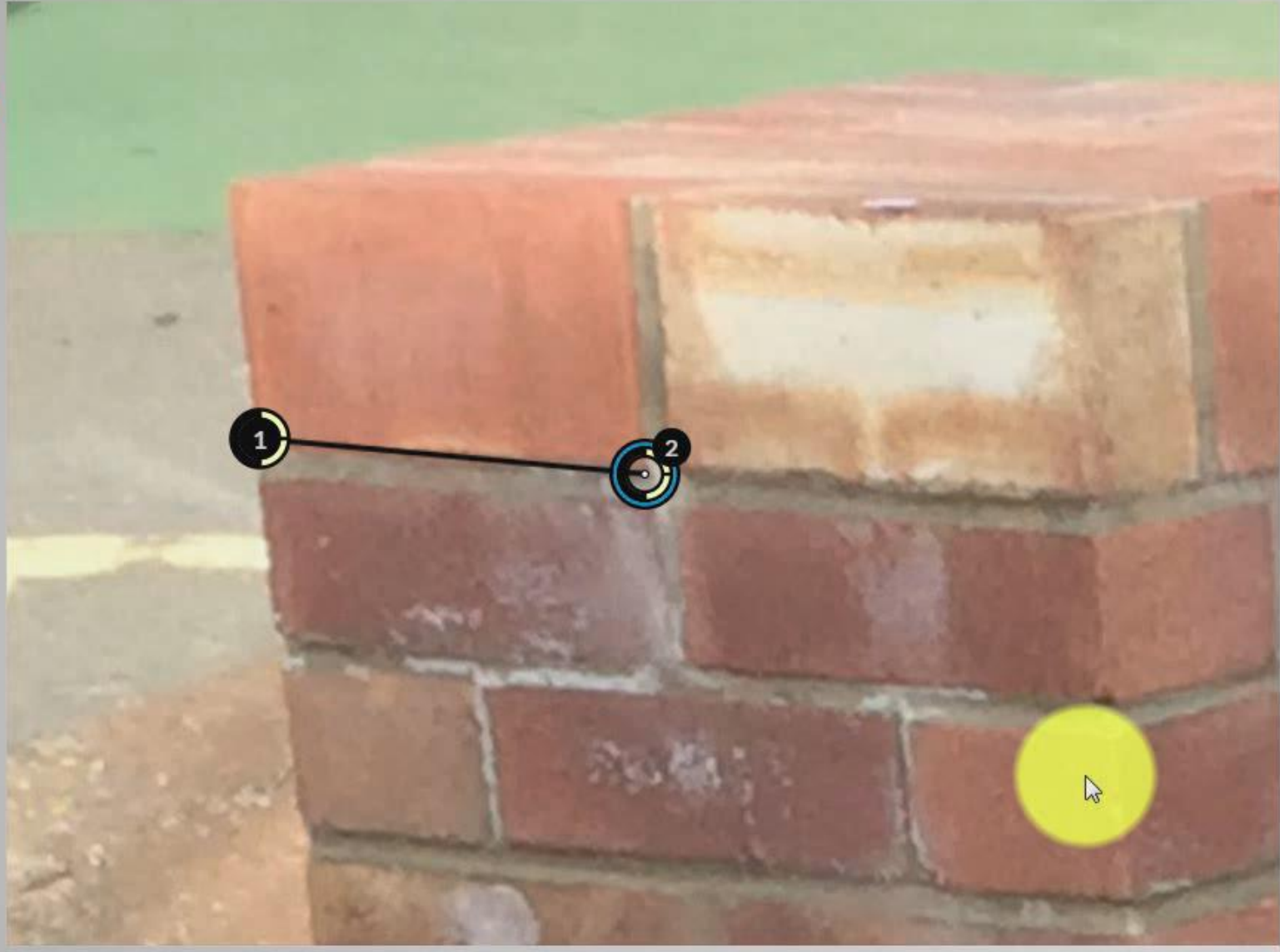
- 1. In the first picture, click on the right hand side of the brick
- 2. In the second picture, click on the right hand side of the same brick
- 3. Enter a dimension of 0.215. (This is 215 millimetres in meters. For Inches, enter 8.46)



| | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Time | 2 minutes |
| Files | AU LDN Dataset 2 |
| Software | Autodesk Recap <u>360</u> |
| Help | “Scale 2.wmv” or ask an assistant |
| Jump On | No jump on |

click a point on the image to set a registration point

click a point on the image to set a registration point



choose a different photo

delete scale
1 — 0.215m — 2

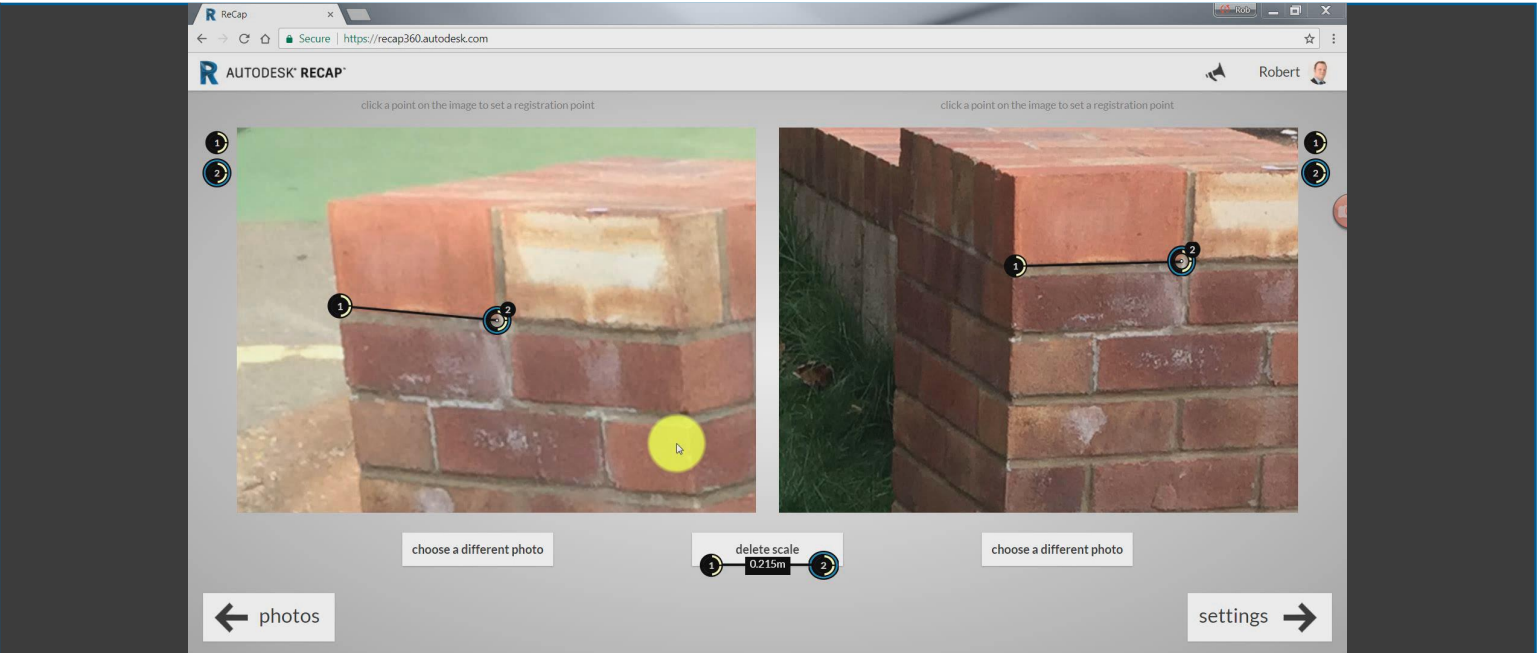
choose a different photo

[←](#) photos

settings [→](#)

Registration

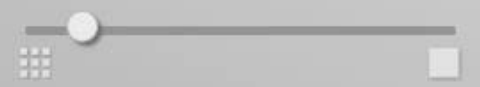
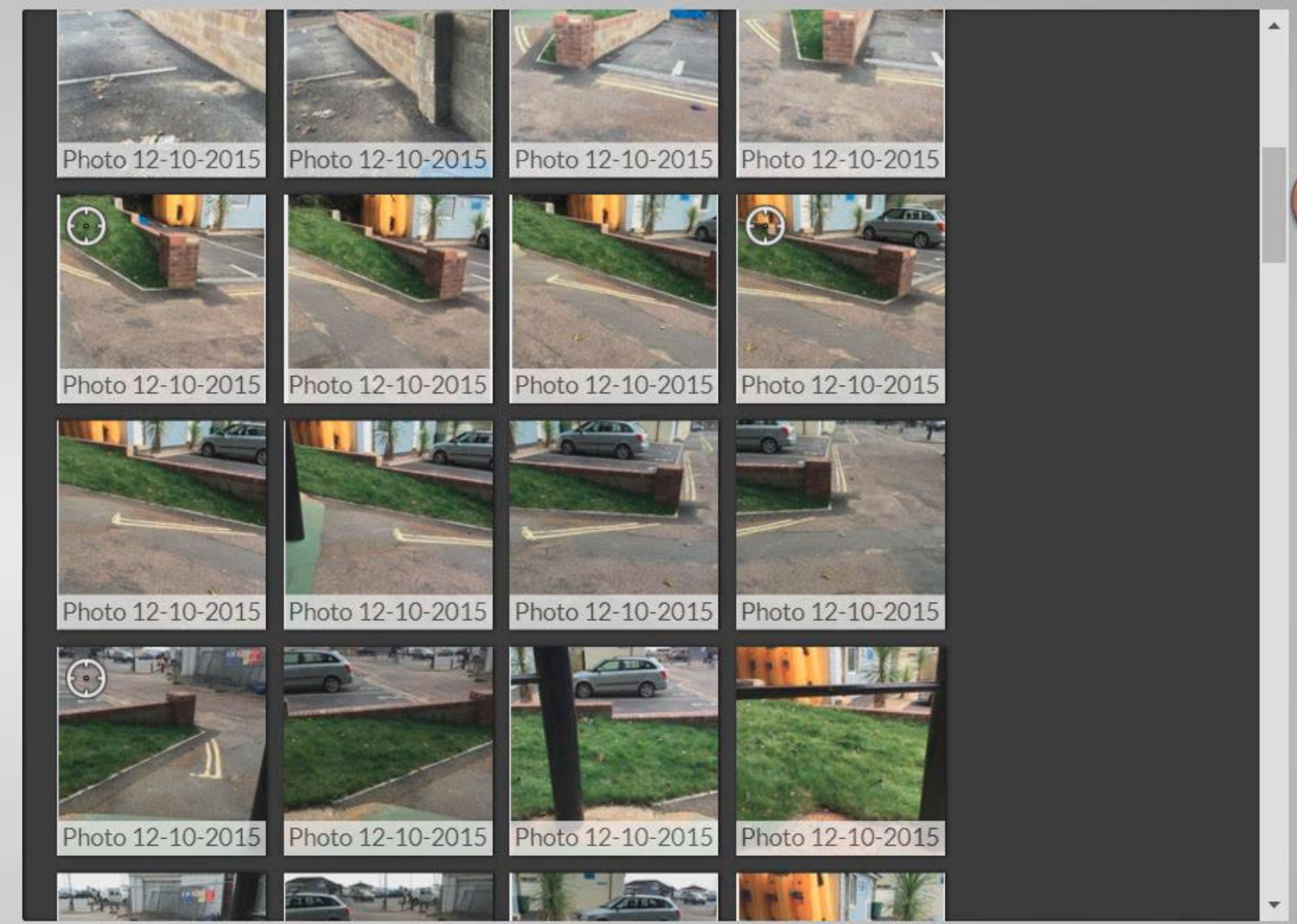
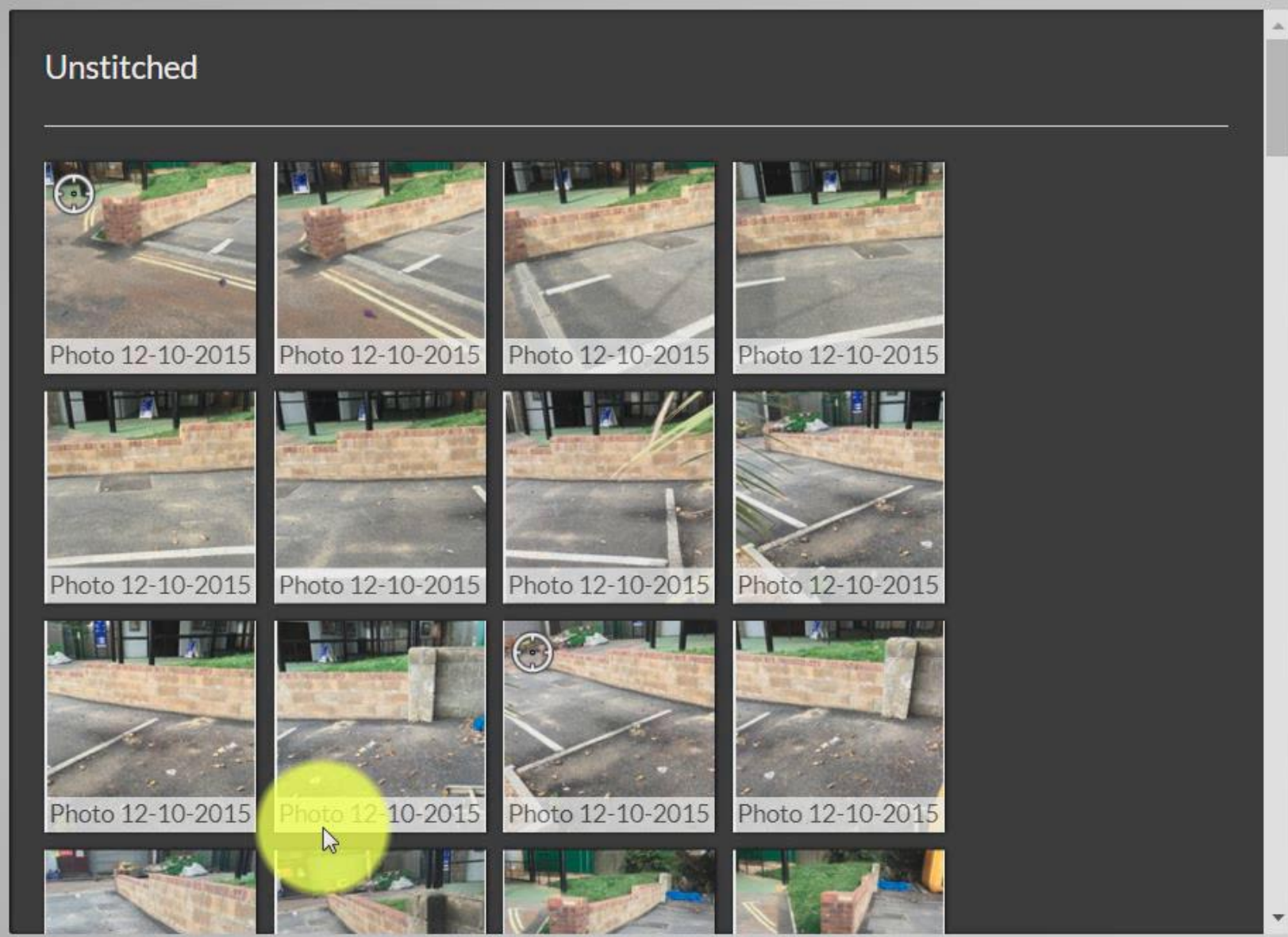
- 1. In the first picture, select a surface (not corner!) of another brick
- 2. In the second picture, select the same surface.
- 3. Select “choose a different photo” on the first photo and the second photo, and choose two new photos ensuring that at least one surface is visible in both photos.
- 4. Repeat this process several times



| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Time | 3 minutes |
| Files | AU LDN Dataset 2 |
| Software | Autodesk Recap <u>360</u> |
| Help | “Recap 360 Registration.wmv” or ask |
| Jump On | No jump on |

choose your first photo to register

...now choose a second photo to register to it



delete scale
1 0.215m 2

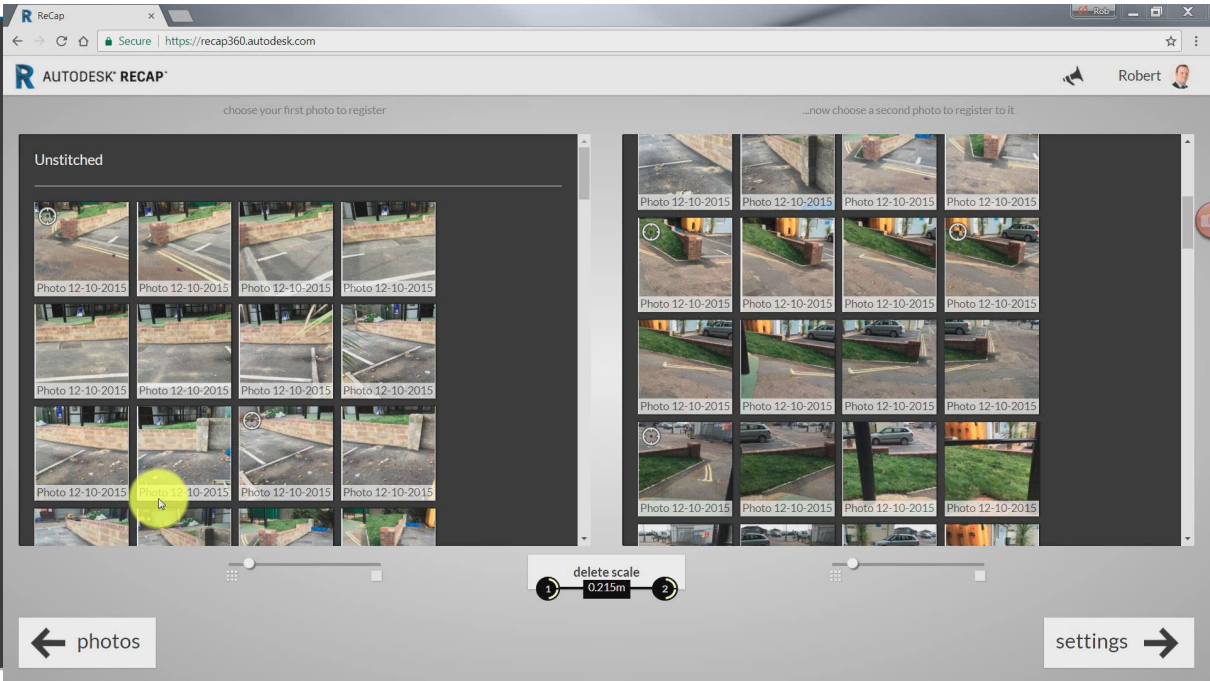


Insert Coordinates

- 1. Find a photo that shows the top right hand corner of the front of the wall
- 2. Place a point on the top right hand corner of the front of the wall and click on the coordinate button

| | |
|---|--------|
| X | 458589 |
| Y | 81473 |
| Z | 24.4 |

- 3. Click “Settings”



| | |
|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Time | 2 minutes |
| Files | AU LDN Dataset 2 |
| Software | Autodesk Recap <u>360</u> |
| Help | “Coordinates.wmv” or ask an assistant |
| Jump On | No jump on |



quality

choose the quality of the mesh you want to create



smart cropping off

crop out unnecessary graphics behind the camera positions

nadir optimization off

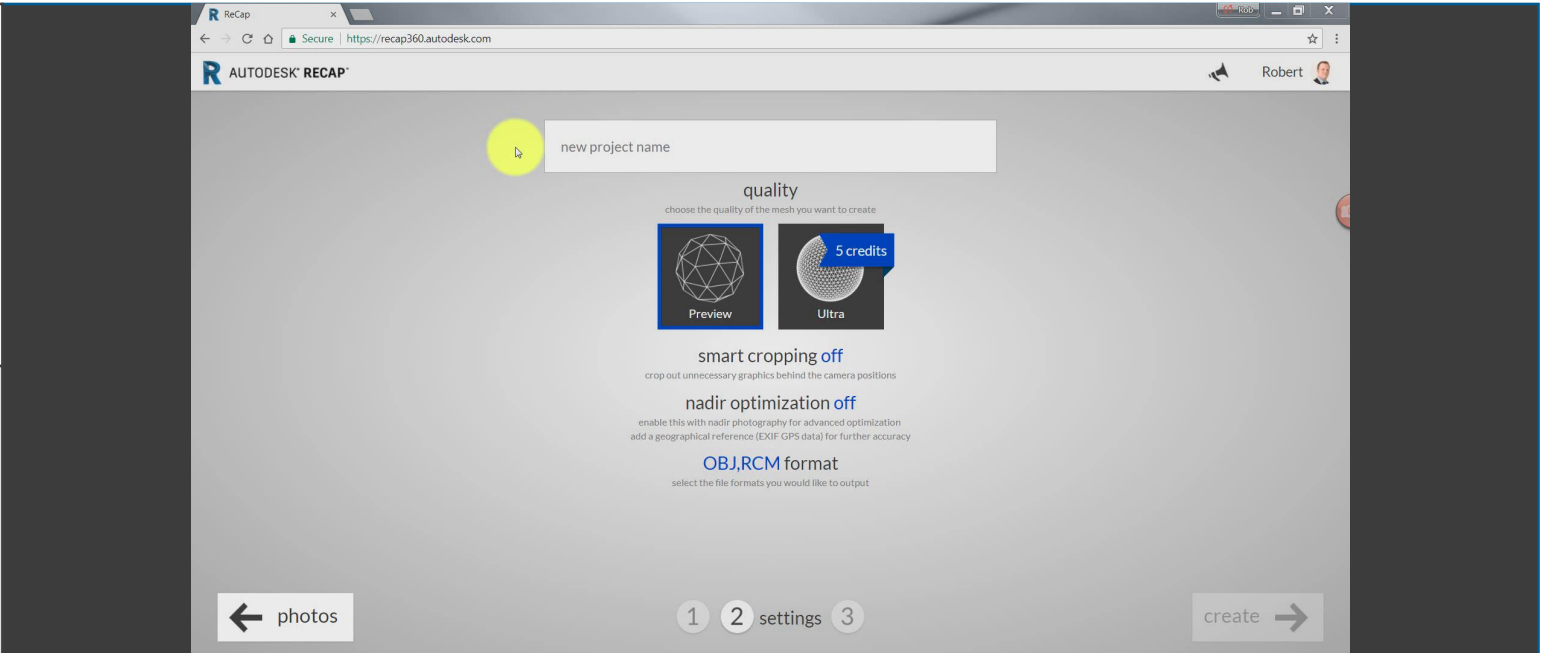
enable this with nadir photography for advanced optimization
add a geographical reference (EXIF GPS data) for further accuracy

OBJ,RCM format

select the file formats you would like to output

Submit the model

- 1. Enter the project name as “AU LDN 2017 –Brick Wall Example - *your name*”. For example, “AU LDN 2017 – Brick Wall Example – Rob Clark”
- 2. Select Ultra
- 3. Turn off Smart Cropping and Smart Texture
- 4. Turn on Nadir Optimisation.
- 5. Turn on all the available formats
- 6. Here we go! Click on Create



| | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| Time | 2 minutes |
| Files | AU LDN Dataset 2 |
| Software | Autodesk Recap <u>360</u> |
| Help | “Submit Photo Model.wmv” or ask. |
| Jump On | No jump on |





photo to 3D

4%

processing...

AU LDN 201... Rob Clark

21%

processing...

AU LDN 201...Rob Clark1

Shanklin Laser Scan

all photo scan 25

visualization failed
click here to fix

AU London ...28-50.282Z

AU London ...gistration

creation failed
click to resubmit

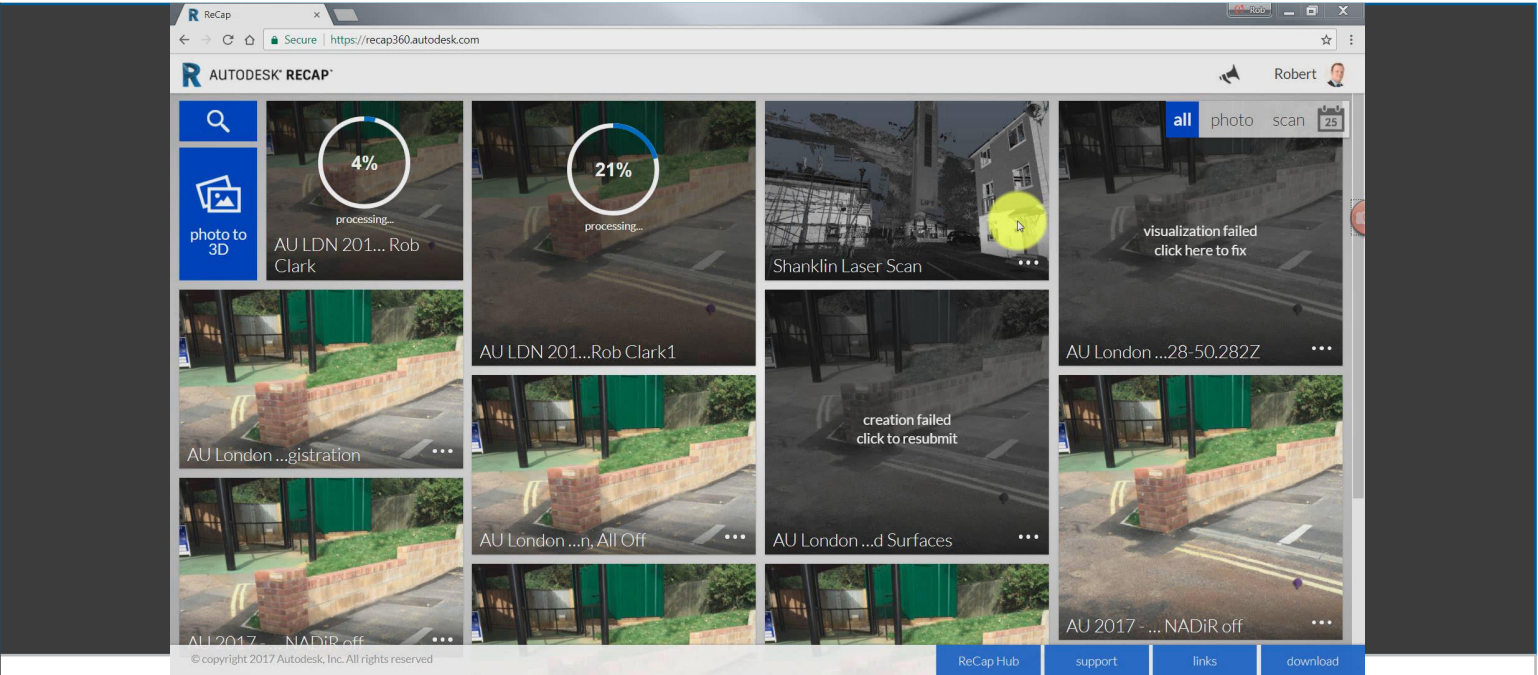
AU London ...d Surfaces

AU London ...n, All Off

AU 2017 - ... NADiR off

Publish and Navigation

- 1. Select AU LDN Dataset 3 - Brick Wall Capture - PreLoaded
- 2. Select View Downloads. **No need to download anything**
- 3. Select Edit and invite friends, view the public link
- 4. Select Publish to Publish to the Autodesk Gallery
- 5. Open 3D Model to view model online



| | |
|----------|---|
| Time | 4 minutes |
| Files | AU LDN Dataset 3 (on Recap 360) |
| Software | Autodesk Recap <u>360</u> |
| Help | “Recap Online - Publish and Basic Nav. |
| Jump On | AU LDN Dataset 3 - Brick Wall Capture - PreLoaded |

Time Left :



Part 3 - Capturing Our Site!



Our site – Shanklin, I.O.W.





It can operate in wind speeds up to 15 meters per second, 15 m/s is about 33 miles per hour which on the Beaufort scale is a “Strong Breeze” to “Moderate Gale”.

We were on the coast and had winds ranging between 0.2 meters per second and 4.7 meters per second.

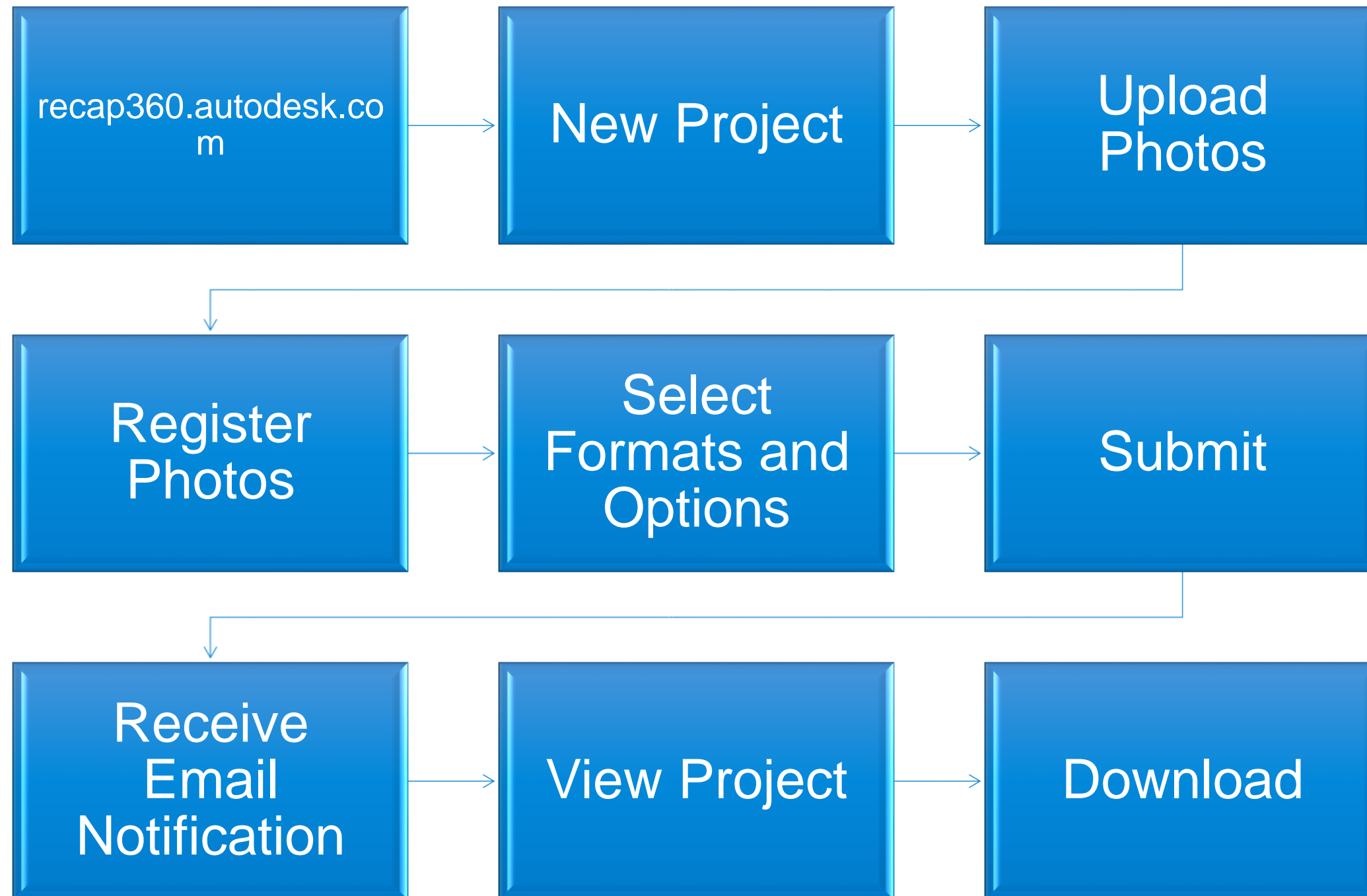
- Topcon Falcon 8 by Ascending Technologies flown by Resource Group
- Sony 7 Alpha R camera (36 mega pixel) modified for the Falcon
- V Shape – can point its camera up and down
- Its suitable for photographing spaces up to 35 hectares, or about 0.14 square miles. So not huge spaces

Step 1 – Take lots of photos



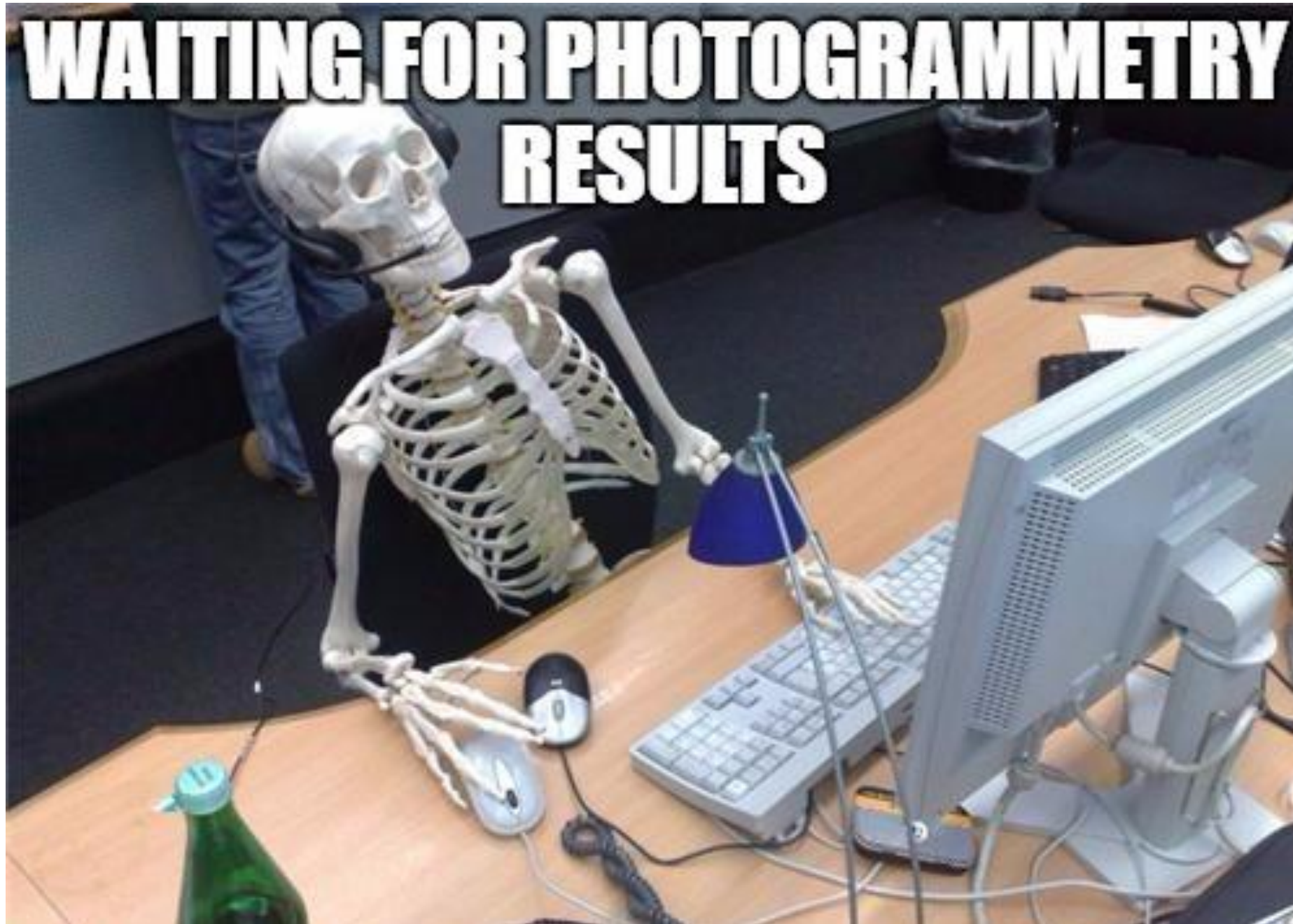
MORE IS BETTER

Step 2 – Set up the model



*The experiences presented here are as experienced on this project only.
The issues could be novice user error, temporary or to do with our hardware.*

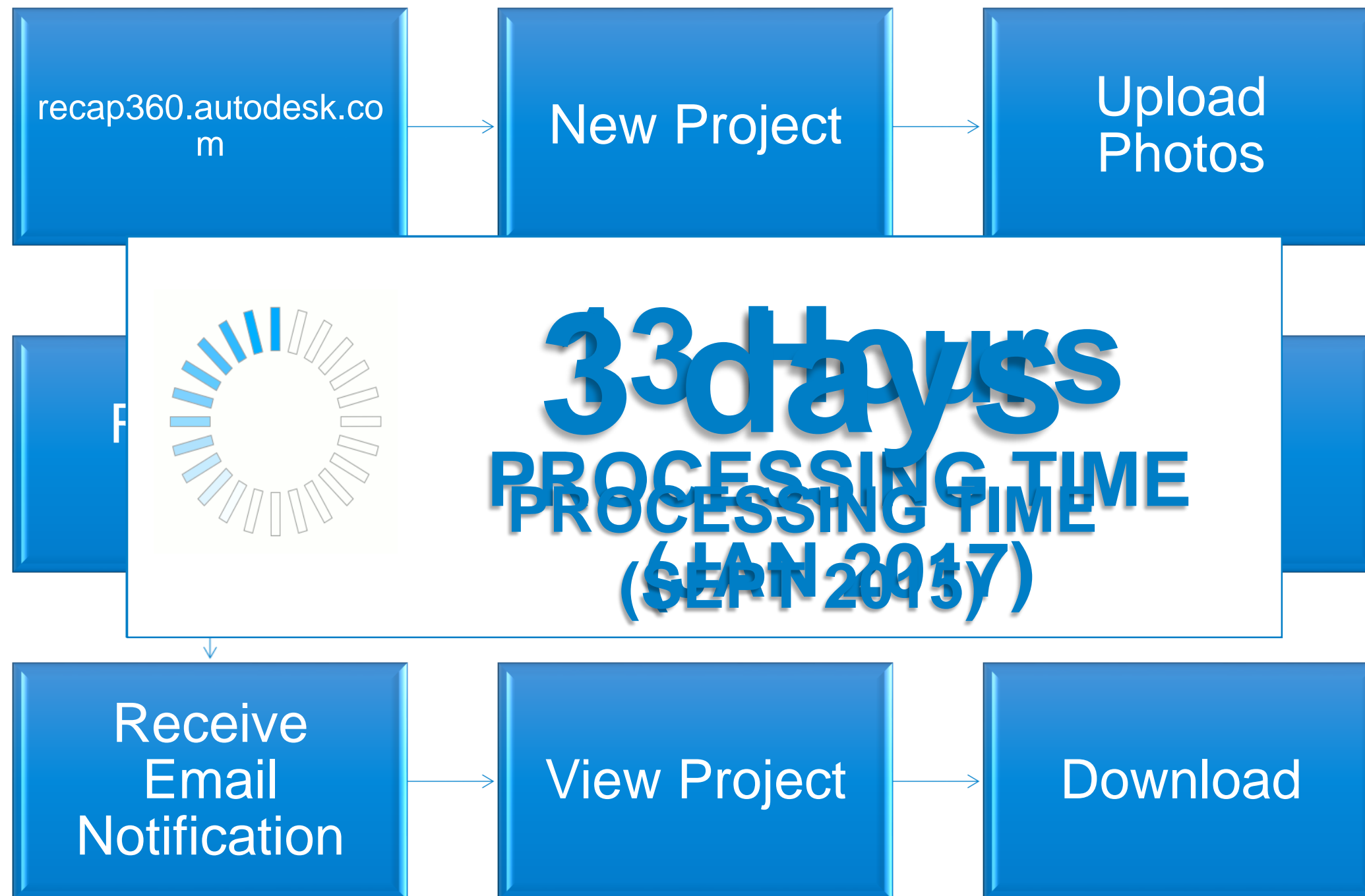
Step 3 – Process photos



**Please wait while
we process your data...**

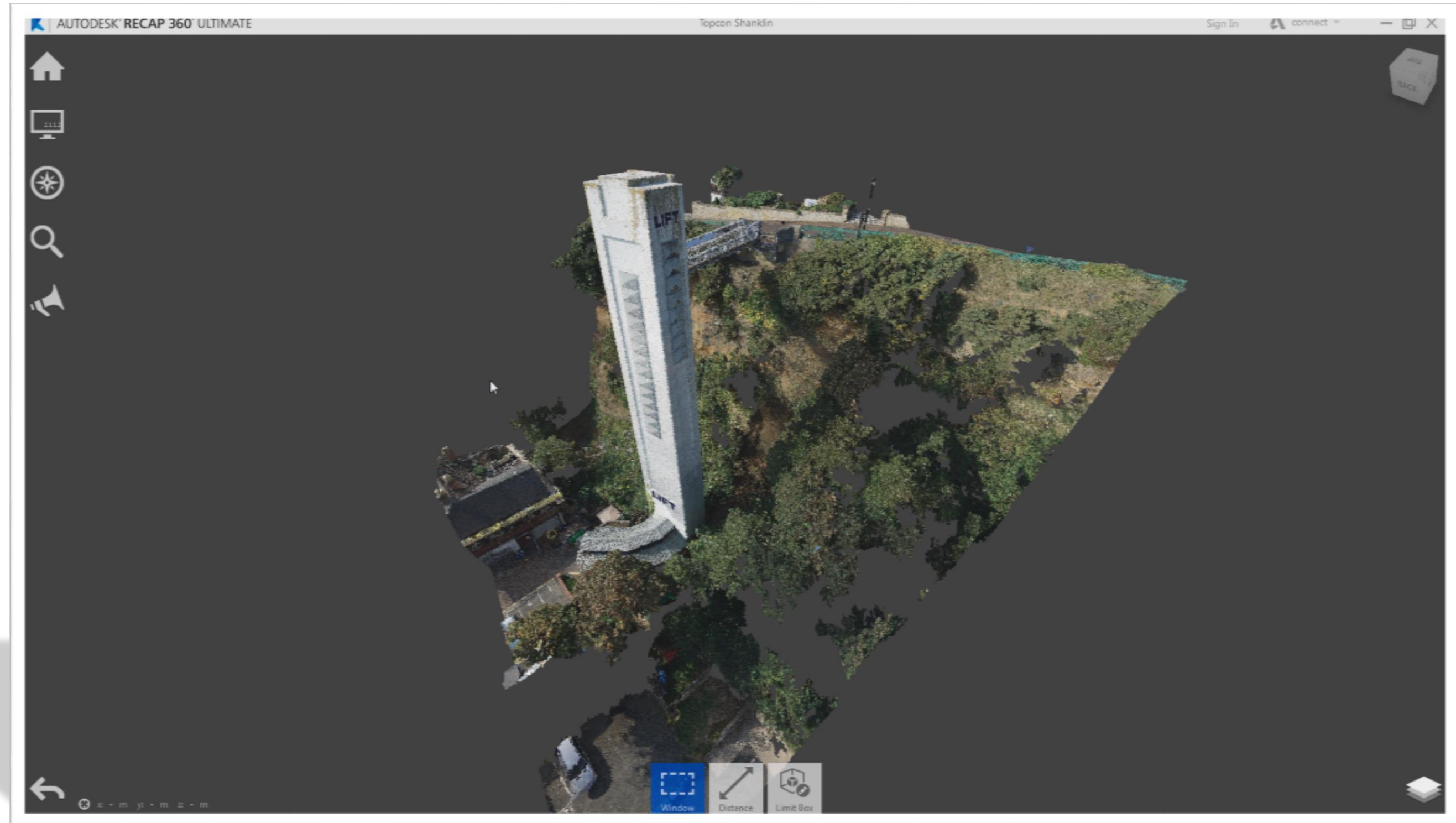
*The experiences presented here are as experienced on this project only.
The issues could be novice user error, temporary or to do with our hardware.*

Autodesk Recap 360 - Process



*The experiences presented here are as experienced on this project only.
The issues could be novice user error, temporary or to do with our hardware.*

The Result



*The experiences presented here are as experienced on this project only.
The issues could be novice user error, temporary or to do with our hardware.*

The background of the slide is a complex, abstract wireframe mesh. It consists of a dense network of thin, light gray lines that form a series of interconnected, flowing, and somewhat chaotic shapes. These shapes resemble organic, branching structures or perhaps a stylized representation of a point cloud or a complex surface. The mesh is more concentrated in some areas, creating thicker, more defined forms, while in other areas, it is more sparse, allowing the white background to show through. The overall effect is one of dynamic, interconnected geometry.


Part 4

Working with the point cloud in Autodesk Recap Pro



Autodesk
ReCap

Open Recap and Open RCP

- 1. Double click Recap on the desktop
- 2. Click on Open
- 3. Double click AU LDN Dataset 5 - Shankin Recap.rcp
- 4. Click on Project Navigator 
- 5. Choose View States to navigate the model



| | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Time | 3 minutes |
| Files | C:\Datasets\ |
| Software | Autodesk Recap Pro |
| Help | “Recap Pro Open.wmv” or ask |
| Jump On | AU LDN Dataset 5 - Shankin Recap.rcp |



xc - m y: - m z: - m

Window

Distance

Limit Box



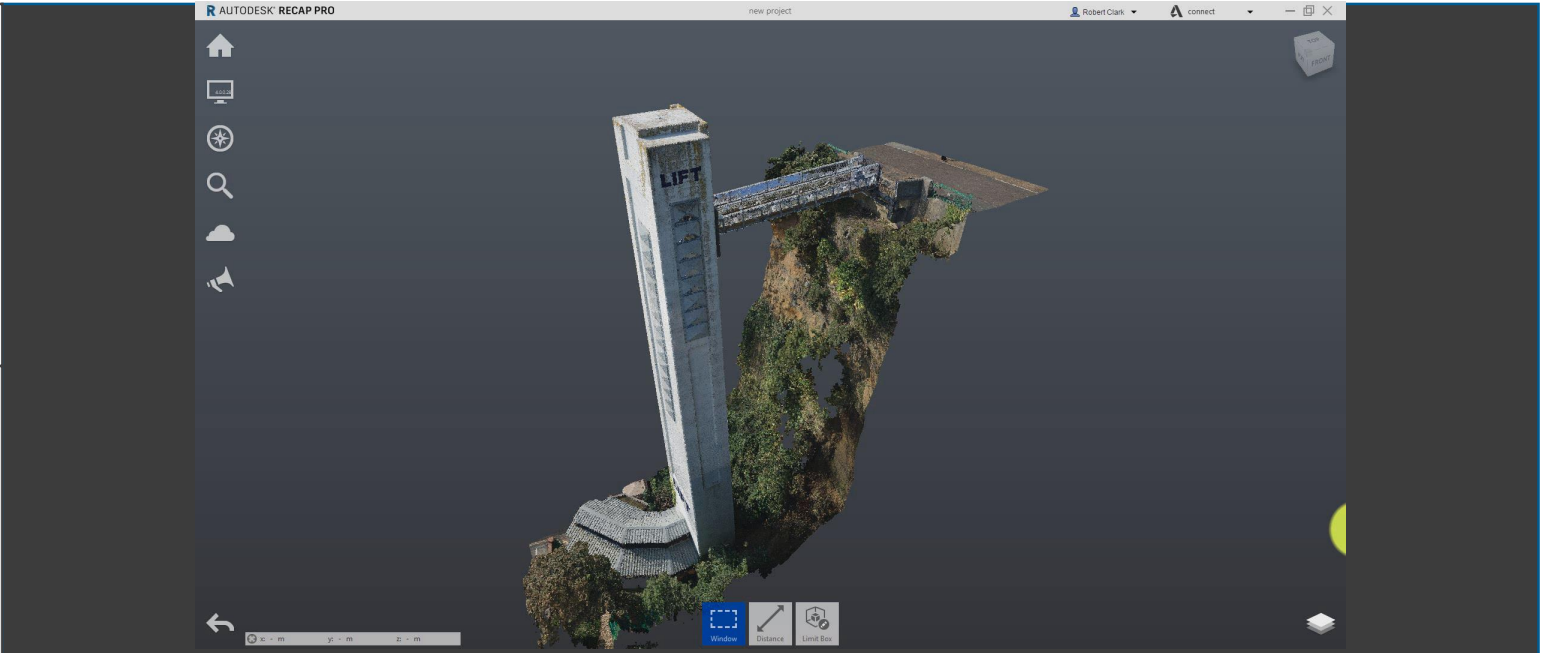
Recap Pro Navigation

- 1. Go to the Navigation button
- 2. Try Window, Pan, Orbit, Look and Fly



Tips

- Click on points first to set a pivot
- Use the mouse wheel to speed up and slow down fly
- Use the View States to return to Top Iso if lost



| | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Time | 4 minutes |
| Files | C:\Datasets\ |
| Software | Autodesk Recap Pro |
| Help | “Recap Pro – Navigation.wmv” or ask |
| Jump On | AU LDN Dataset 5 - Shankin Recap.rcp |



y: - m z: - m

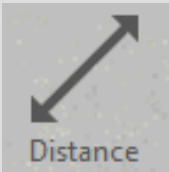

Window


Distance


Limit Box

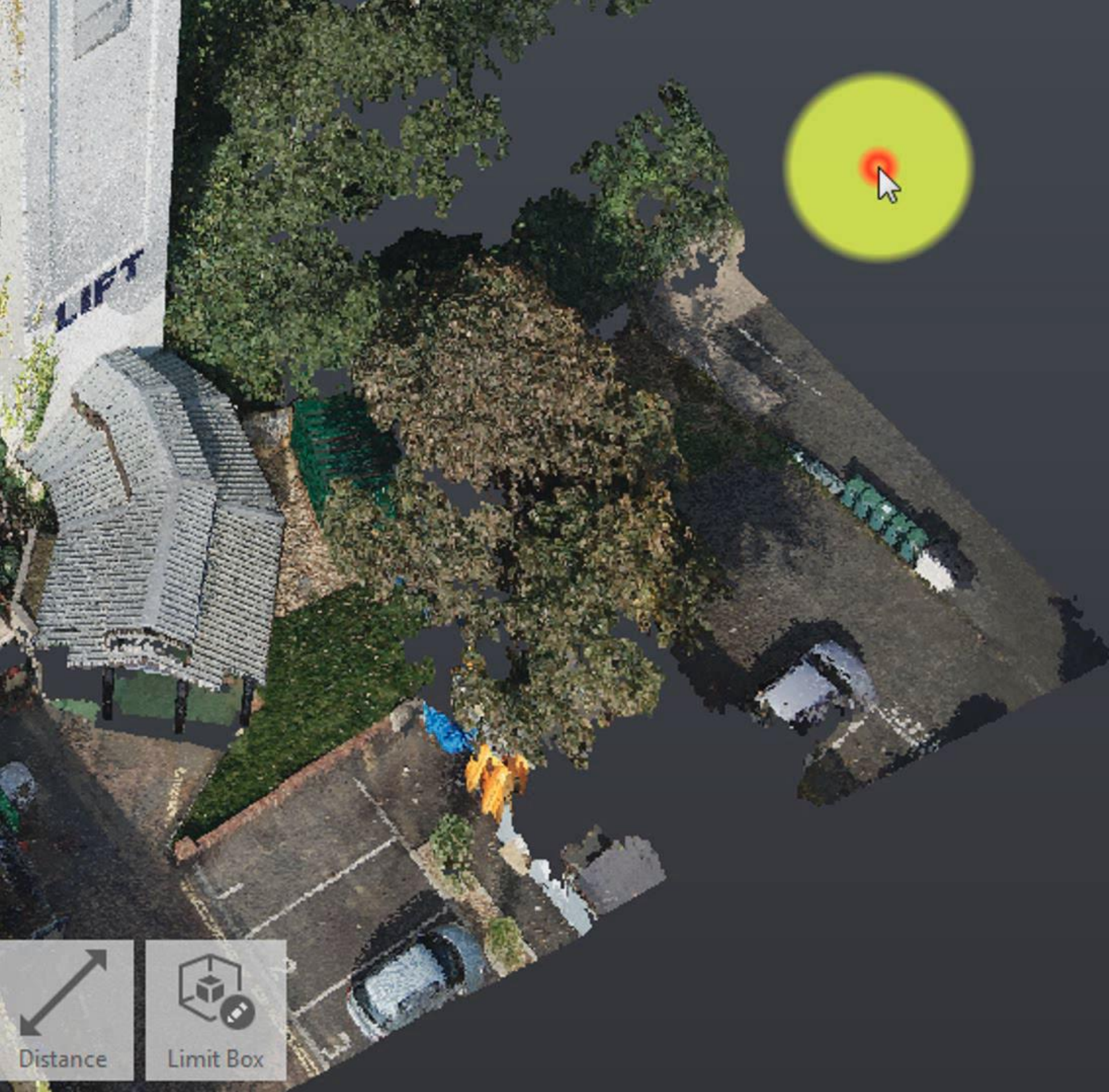
Recap Pro Measure

- 1. Click the Distance Tool
- 2. Click the Ortho Tool and lock the Z axis
- 3. Click the surface at the top of the building
- 4. Click the car park surface
- 5. Click Distance and lock the X ortho
- 6. Measure across the top, adjusting the dimension nodes if necessary

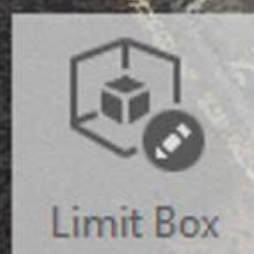


| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| Time | 3 minutes |
| Files | C:\Datasets\ |
| Software | Autodesk Recap Pro |
| Help | “Recap Pro Measure.wmv” or ask |
| Jump On | AU LDN Dataset 5 – Shanklin.rcs |

Time Left :



Distance

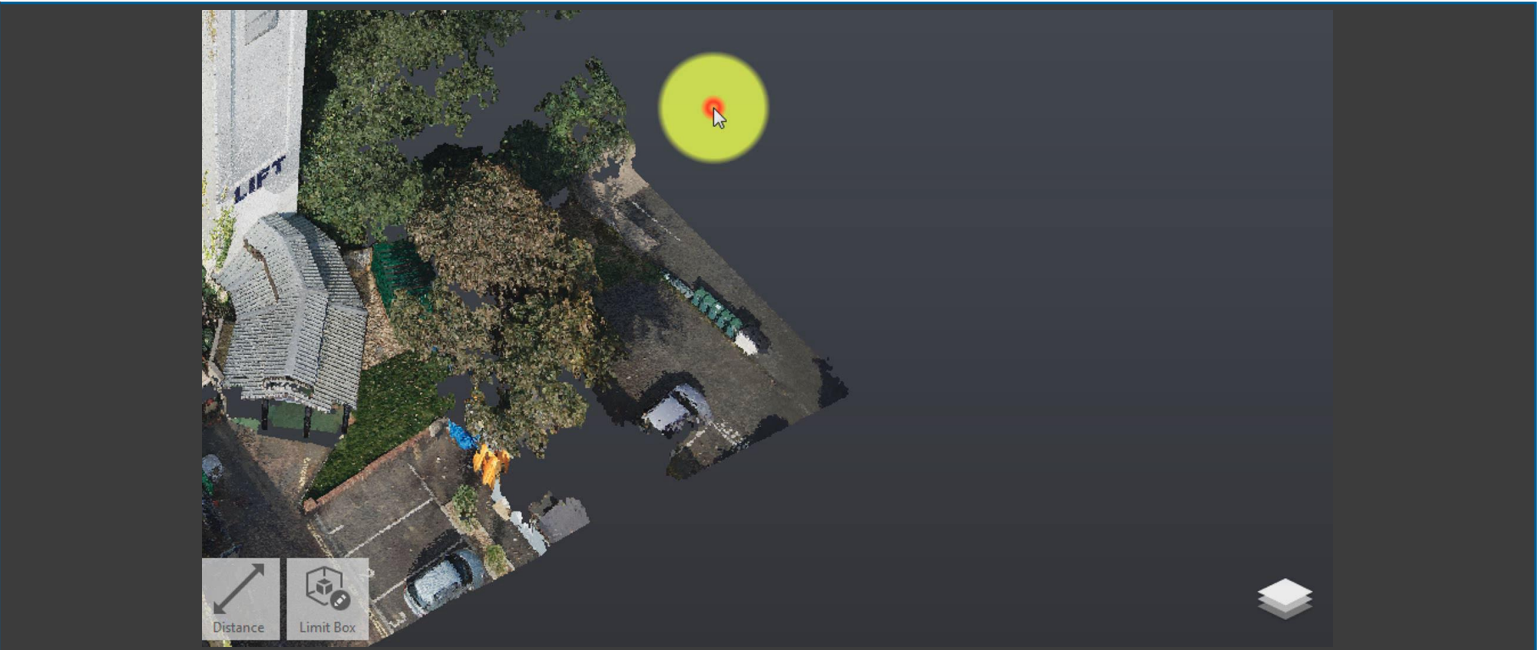


Limit Box



Recap Pro Limit Box

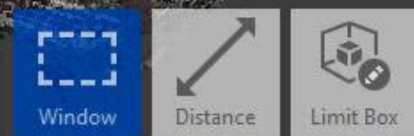
- 1. Select Limit Box
- 2. Pull in the sides
- 3. Click confirm



| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| Time | 2 minutes |
| Files | C:\Datasets\ |
| Software | Autodesk Recap Pro |
| Help | “Recap - Limit Box.wmv” or ask |
| Jump On | AU LDN Dataset 5 – Shanklin.rcs |

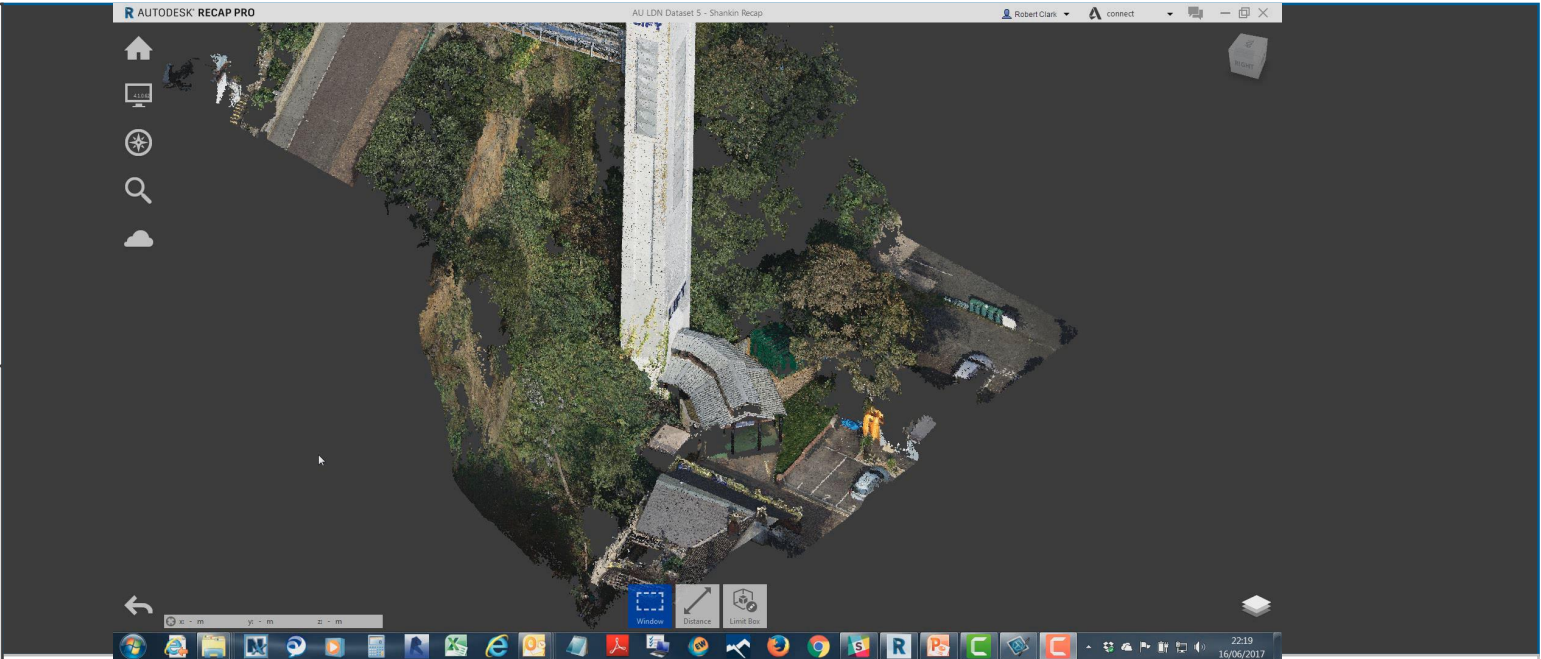


x: - m y: - m z: - m



Recap Pro Regions

- 1. Click on Project Navigator
- 2. Expand Scan Regions
- 3. Click the + and call the new region, "Entrance"
- 4. Select Fence, draw a fence around the entrance canopy
- 5. Select Region and then Entrance
- 6. Turn off the Region in the Project Navigator



| | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| Time | 3 minutes |
| Files | C:\Datasets\ |
| Software | Autodesk Recap Pro |
| Help | "Recap Pro - Regions.wmv" or ask |
| Jump On | AU LDN Dataset 5 – Shanklin.rcs |

Time Left :





Part 5

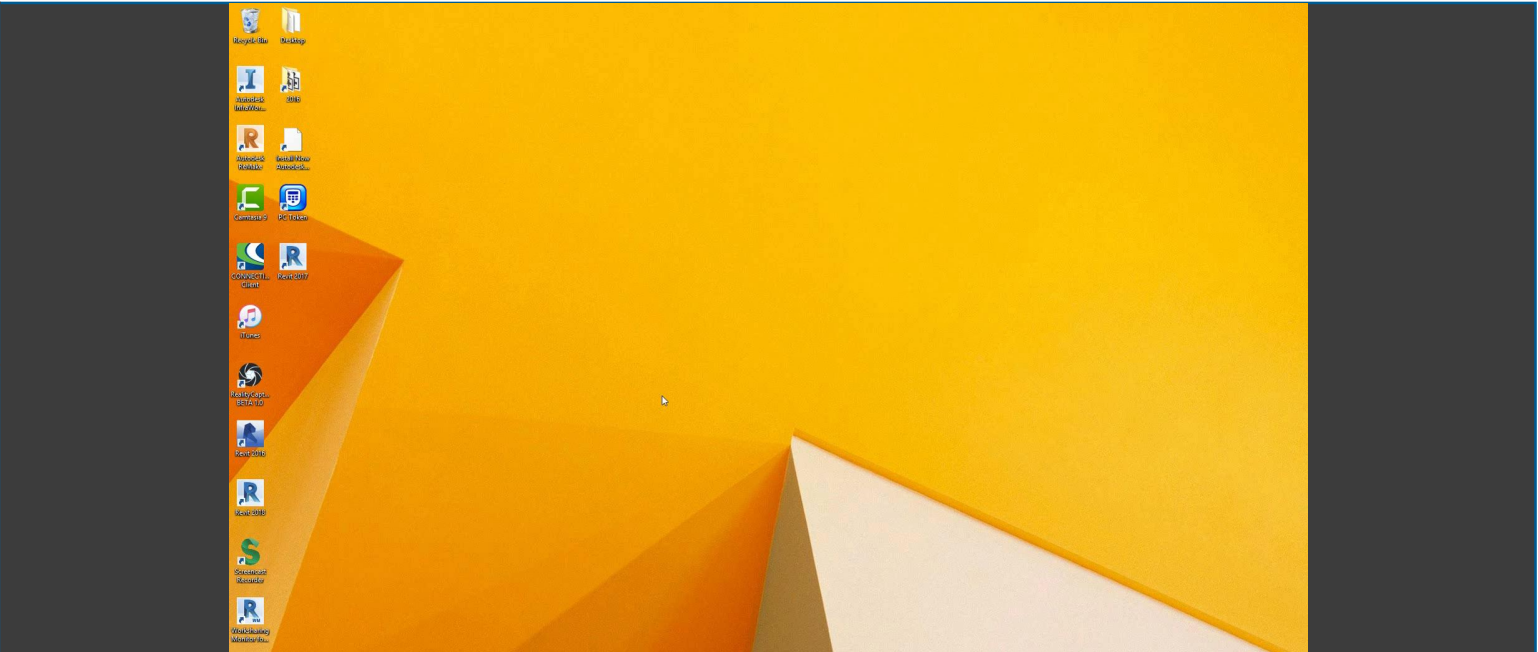
Revit modelling from photogrammetry



Point Clouds inside Revit

Open Revit Dataset

- 1. Open Revit 2018 software
- 2. Click “Open”
- 3. Navigate to the Datasets folder
- 4. Open “AU - LDN Dataset 6 - Revit.rvt” file
- 5. Revit point cloud inside Revit 3D view



| | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| Time | 3 minutes |
| Files | C:\Datasets |
| Software | Autodesk Revit |
| Help | “Video1.wmv” or ask an assistant |
| Jump On | AU - LDN Dataset 6 - Revit.rvt |

Time Left :

Autodesk Revit 2017.2 - AU London Revit.rvt - 3D View: (3D)

Architecture Structure Systems Insert Annotate Analyze Massing & Site Collaborate View Manage Add-Ins Quantification Flux Revit 4 Extensions Modify Bentley

Select Modify Wall Door Window Component Column Roof Ceiling Floor Curtain System Curtain Mullion Railing Ramp Stair Model Text Model Line Model Group Room Room Separator Tag Room Area Area Boundary Tag Area By Face Shaft Wall Vertical Dormer Level Grid Set Show Ref Plane Viewer

Build Circulation Model Room & Area Opening Datum Work Plane

Properties

3D View

3D View: (3D) Edit Type

Graphics

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| View Scale | 1:100 |
| Scale Value 1: | 100 |
| Detail Level | Medium |
| Parts Visibility | Show Original |
| Visibility/Graphics Overrides | Edit... |
| Graphic Display Options | Edit... |
| Discipline | Coordination |
| Show Hidden Lines | By Discipline |
| Default Analysis Display St... | None |
| Sun Path | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Extents

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Crop View | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Crop Region Visible | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Annotation Crop | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Far Clip Active | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Far Clip Offset | 304800.0 |
| Section Box | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Camera

[Properties help](#) Apply

Project Browser - AU London Revit.rvt

Views (all)

- Structural Plans
 - Datum
 - Lift Bridge
 - Lift Roof 1
 - Lift Roof 2
 - Lower Lift
 - Mid Lift
 - Upper Lift
- 3D Views
- Elevations (12mm Circle)
 - East
 - North
 - South
 - West
- Legends
- Schedules/Quantities
- Sheets (all)
- Families
- Groups
- Revit Links



Point Clouds: Point Cloud: Shanklin Agisoft.rcp

1:100

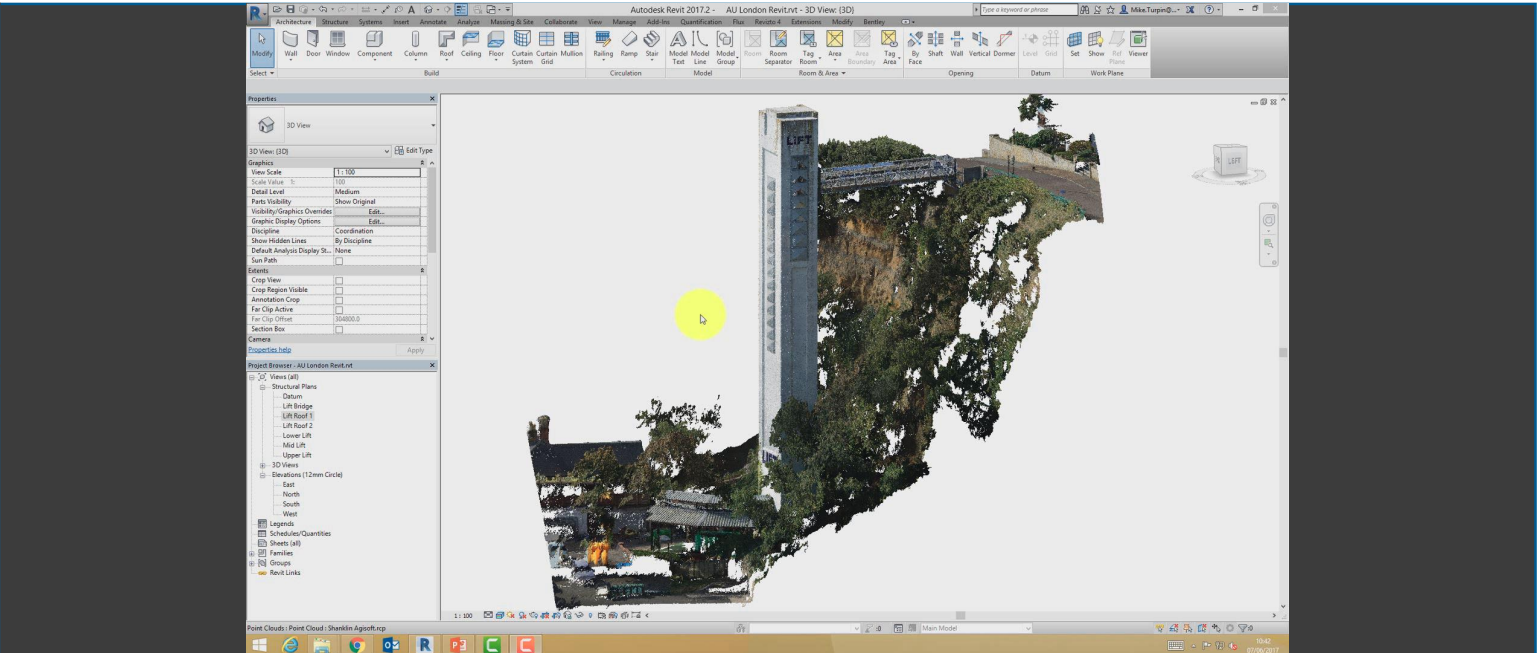
Main Model

10:42 07/06/2017

Modelling to Point Clouds

Model lift walls

- 1. Open “North” Elevation view to review levels
- 2. Open “Mid Lift” Floor Plan
- 3. Using the “Wall” tool model the 4 walls between the “Datum” Level and “Lift Roof 1” Level
- 4. Check wall in other floor plans, modify position using the arrow keys if needed
- 5. In “Lift Roof 2” Level model the lift roof using the “Roof” tool



| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Time | 4 minutes |
| Files | C:\Datasets\ |
| Software | Autodesk Revit |
| Help | “Video2.wmv” or ask an assistant |
| Jump On | AU LDN Dataset 6 Jumpon 1 Revit.rvt |

Time Left :



Properties

3D View

3D View: {3D} Edit Type

Graphics

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| View Scale | 1 : 100 |
| Scale Value 1: | 100 |
| Detail Level | Medium |
| Parts Visibility | Show Original |
| Visibility/Graphics Overrides | Edit... |
| Graphic Display Options | Edit... |
| Discipline | Coordination |
| Show Hidden Lines | By Discipline |
| Default Analysis Display St... | None |
| Sun Path | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Extents

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Crop View | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Crop Region Visible | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Annotation Crop | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Far Clip Active | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Far Clip Offset | 304800.0 |
| Section Box | <input type="checkbox"/> |

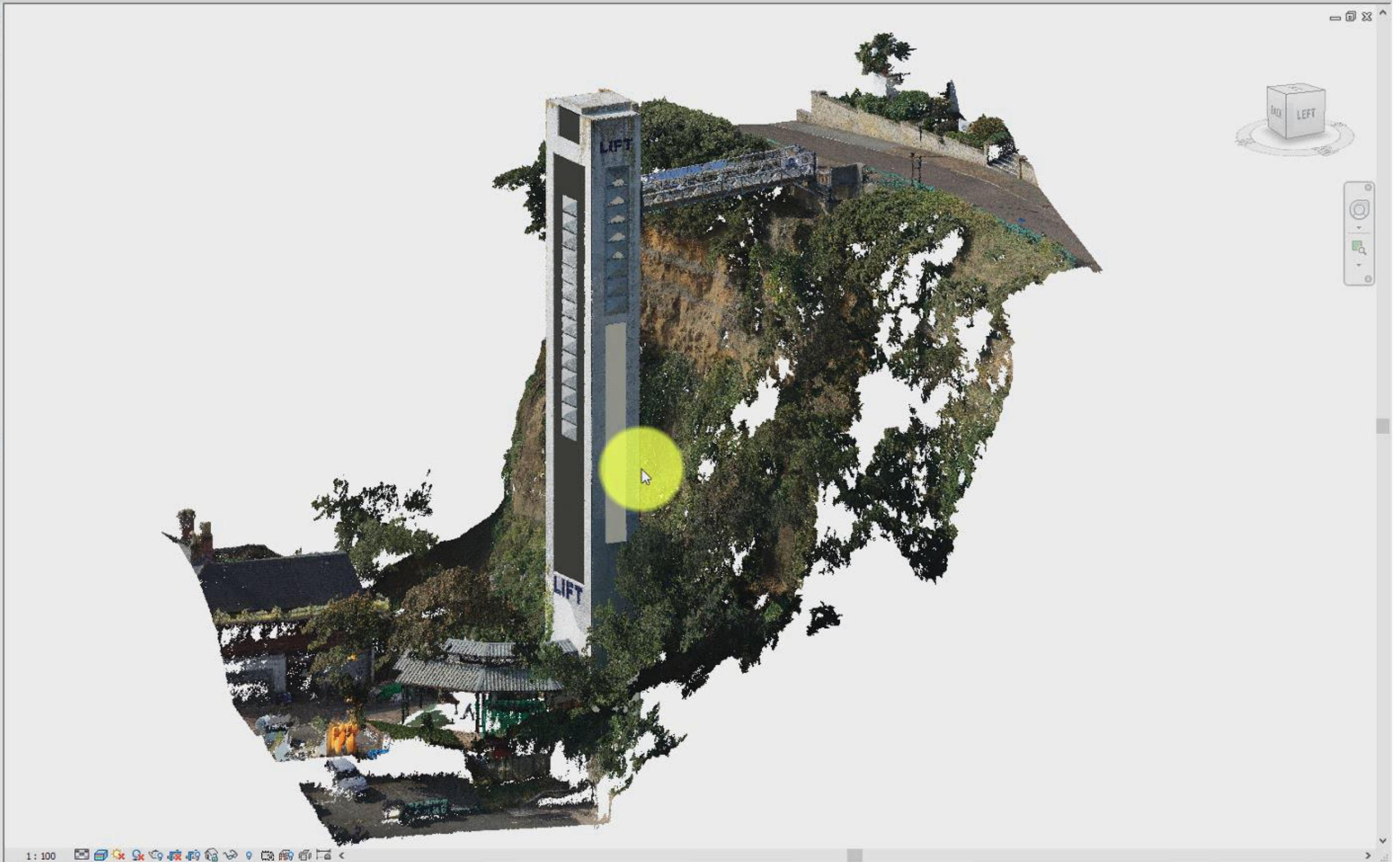
Camera

[Properties help](#) Apply

Project Browser - AU London Revit Tower video 2.rvt

Views (all)

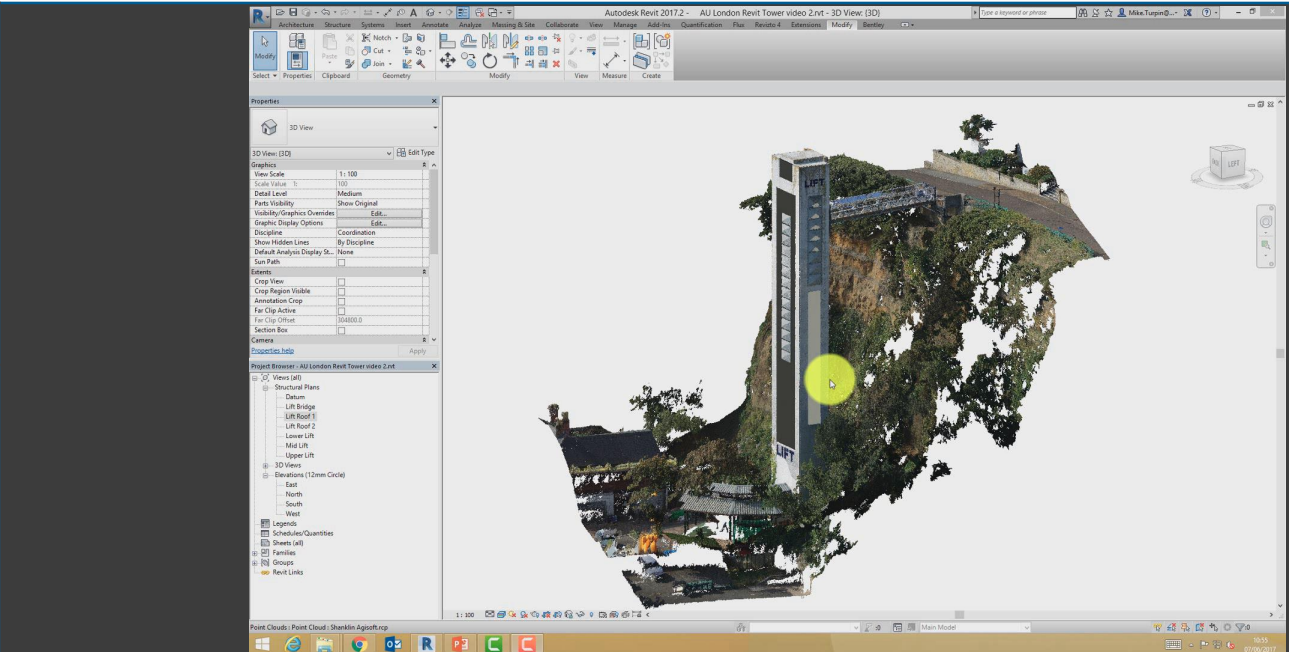
- Structural Plans
 - Datum
 - Lift Bridge
 - Lift Roof 1
 - Lift Roof 2
 - Lower Lift
 - Mid Lift
 - Upper Lift
- 3D Views
- Elevations (12mm Circle)
 - East
 - North
 - South
 - West
- Legends
- Schedules/Quantities
- Sheets (all)
- Families
- Groups
- Revit Links



Controlling Point cloud Visibility

Turn off lift points & modify bridge points

- 1. Open default 3D view
 - 2. In the view properties open “Visibility/Graphic Overrides” (Keyboard Shortcut “VV” or “VG”)
 - 3. Select the “Point Clouds” tab then expand the tree (+)
 - 4. Under “Scan Regions” un-tick the Tower region and override the colour of the Bridge region
- Click “OK” and you should now be able to navigate the model showing the Revit lift instead of the points



| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Time | 2 minutes |
| Files | C:\Datasets\ |
| Software | Autodesk Revit |
| Help | “Video3.wmv” or ask an assistant |
| Jump On | AU LDN Dataset 6 Jumpon 2 Revit.rvt |

Time Left :

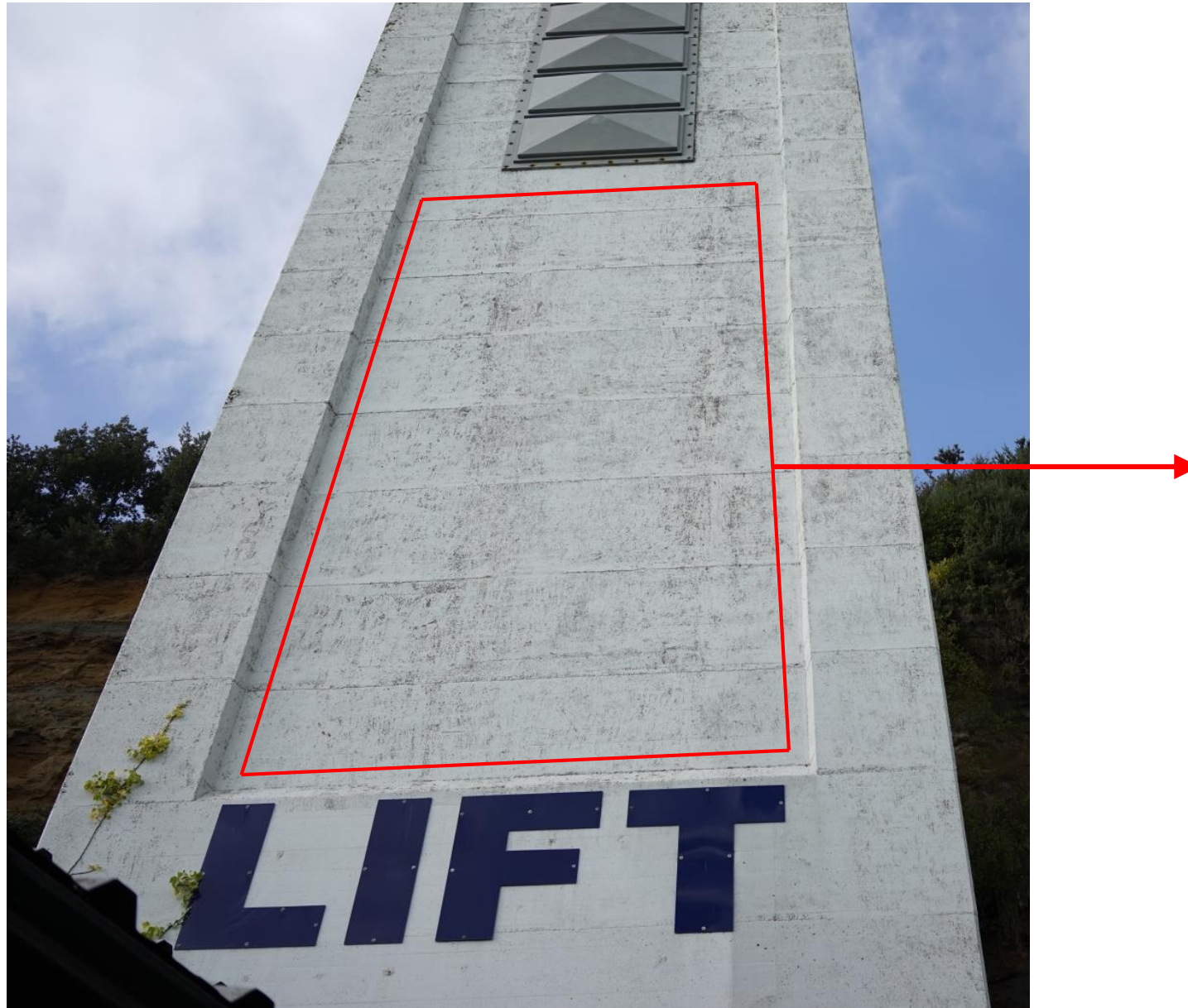


The background of the slide is a complex, abstract wireframe mesh. The mesh is composed of numerous interconnected lines forming a series of organic, flowing shapes that resemble a stylized, interconnected network or a series of overlapping, curved planes. The lines are thin and grey, set against a white background. A solid blue horizontal bar spans the bottom portion of the slide, providing a contrasting background for the white text.

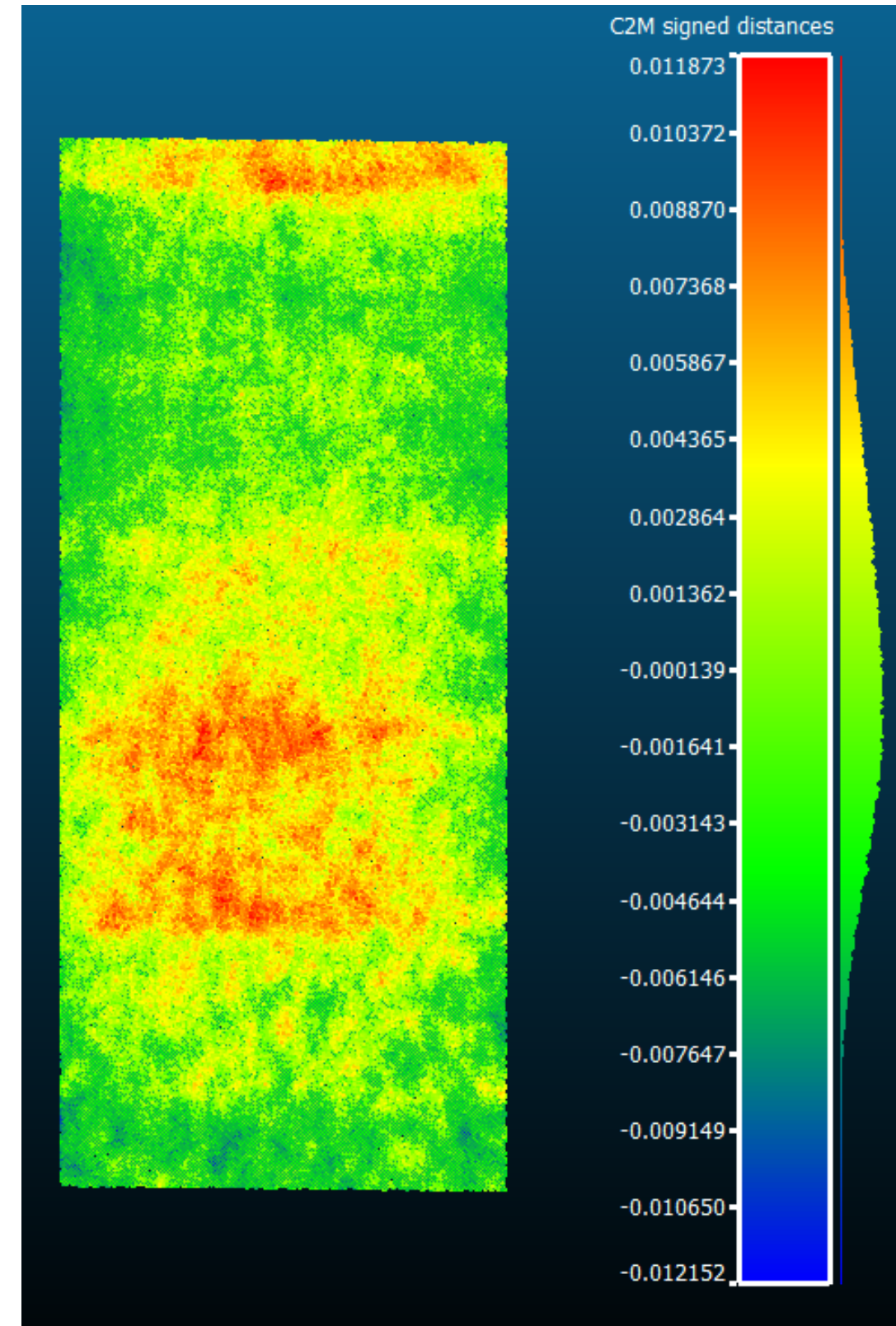
Part 7

Tips and Tricks and Lessons Learnt

So what about accuracy?



$\pm 12\text{mm}$ (95% points within $\pm 7\text{mm}$)



*The experiences presented here are as experienced on this project only.
The issues could be novice user error, temporary or to do with our hardware.*

Site Access

Visit

www.skydrones.co.uk

If in doubt Consult an expert!

Article 95 - small unmanned surveillance aircraft

(1) The person in charge of a small unmanned surveillance aircraft must not fly the aircraft in any of the circumstances described in paragraph (2) except in accordance with a permission issued by the CAA.

(2) The circumstances referred to in paragraph (1) are:

(a) over or within 150 metres of any congested area;

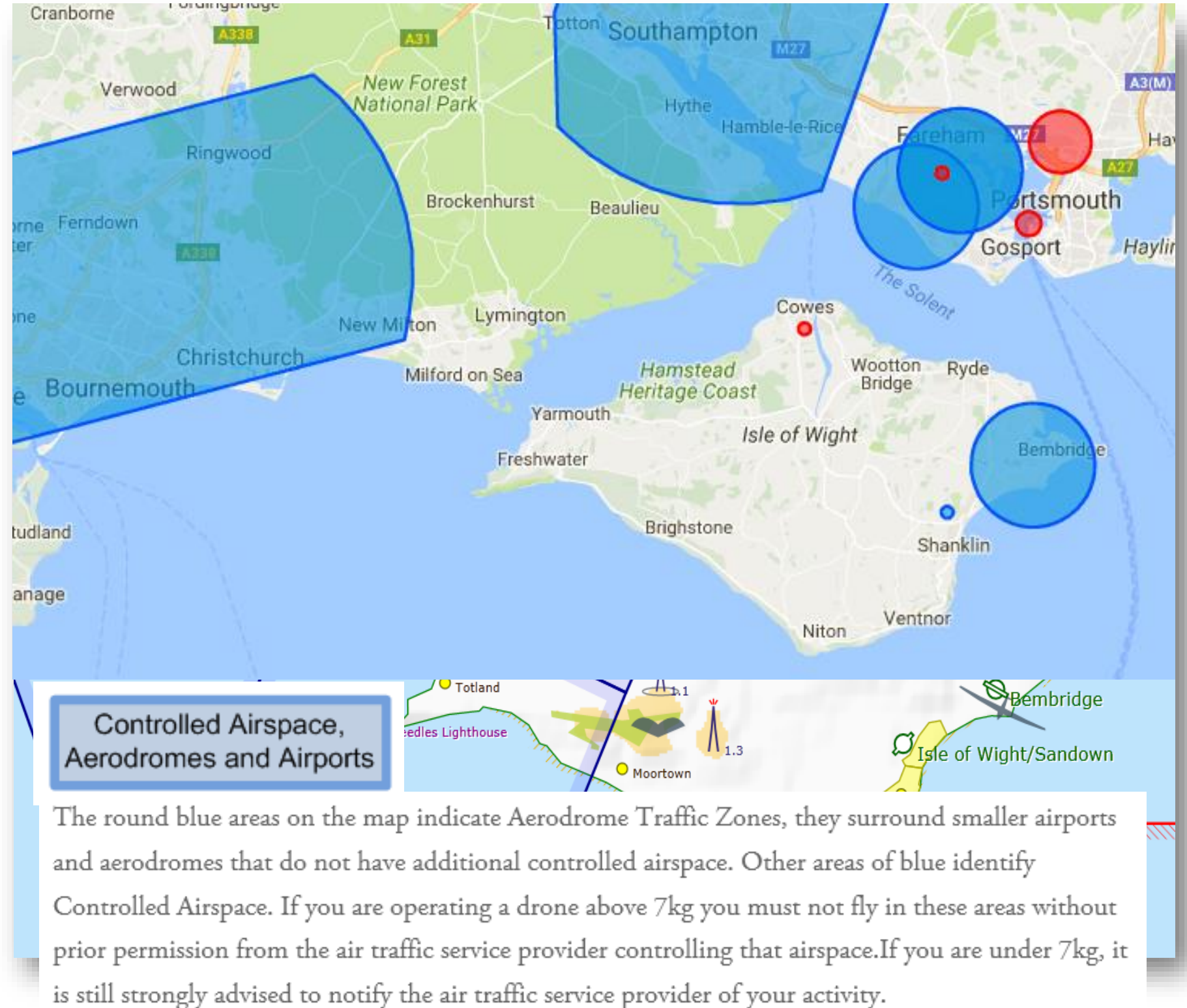
(b) over or within 150 metres of an organised open-air assembly of more than 1,000 persons;

(c) within 50 metres of any vessel, vehicle or structure which is not under the control of the person in charge of the aircraft;

or

(d) subject to paragraphs (3) and (4), within 50 metres of any person.

(3) Subject to paragraph (4), during take-off or landing, a small unmanned surveillance aircraft must not be flown within 30 metres of any person.



Photogrammetry Tips and Tricks

1. For UAV. Check no fly zones and know the regulations. Use fully licenced operators.
2. Add markers on site of known measurements.
3. Ensure photos that are taken are a good quality with consistent lighting and in focus.
4. Avoid vibration, shiny or very thin objects, or featureless texture or patterns.
5. Use fast shutter speeds and avoid movement.
6. Aim for minimum 50% overlap, go for 80%, with photos no more than 10 degrees apart.
7. Capture every angle, but try not to repeat photos. Be systematic, read up on methods.

Autodesk Recap Tips and Tricks

1. Know software limits, like maximum photos. Recap 360 currently has a 250 limit. Autodesk Remake does not have this limit, but it needs to be processed on very high spec machine.
2. Scale the capture. Don't use corners, use inside of surface measurements.
3. Use NADIR if it is available. It helps with orientation and positioning by using GPS, but scale can still be incorrect.
4. Smart Cropping and Smart Texture, worth trying, but our experience is not great
5. Expect long processing times. Schedule accordingly.

Account Administration

- Autodesk Recap 360 “Ultra” photogrammetry processing costs 5 individual cloud credits. Most people get 100 credits.
- Resubmits do not cost extra credits, even if you change settings.
- To check your credits, do the following;
 - Go to manage.autodesk.com
 - Click on Management
 - Click on Reporting

