The First Online 3D Epigraphic Library
## http://plaza.ufl.edu/bozia/epigraphy

Abstract

The goal of our presentation is to introduce the Digital Epigraphy Toolbox, a novel and technologically advanced scientific tool for the effective study and comparative analysis of Greek and Latin inscriptions. This toolbox provides archaeologists and epigraphists with a cost-effective and efficient method for 3D digitization of inscriptions based on squeezes, as well as access to an online dynamic library of 3D inscriptions.

More specifically, the Digital Epigraphy Toolbox is a publicly available web-application designed to facilitate the digital preservation and electronic dissemination of both Greek and Latin inscriptions. It allows epigraphists to digitize in 3D their squeezes, while it overcomes the limitations of current methods for digitizing epigraphic data in 2 dimensions only.

This system contains several options for 3D visualization of inscriptions, as well as a set of scientific tools for analyzing the lettering techniques and performing quantitative analysis of the letterform variations. Furthermore, the users have the option to share their data and also search other uploaded collections of 3D inscriptions in a semi-supervised dynamic library. This dynamic library is organized thematically according to language, area of origin, and date and it also contains a comprehensive record of the inscription in the form of plain text, 3D model, 2D photographs, and other epigraphic information.

During our presentation we will show several tridimensional examples of how we applied our method on sets of inscriptions from Epidauros and Nemea. These examples demonstrate the efficiency of our system and promise that the development of this epigraphic software will contribute significantly and promote epigraphic research and studies.
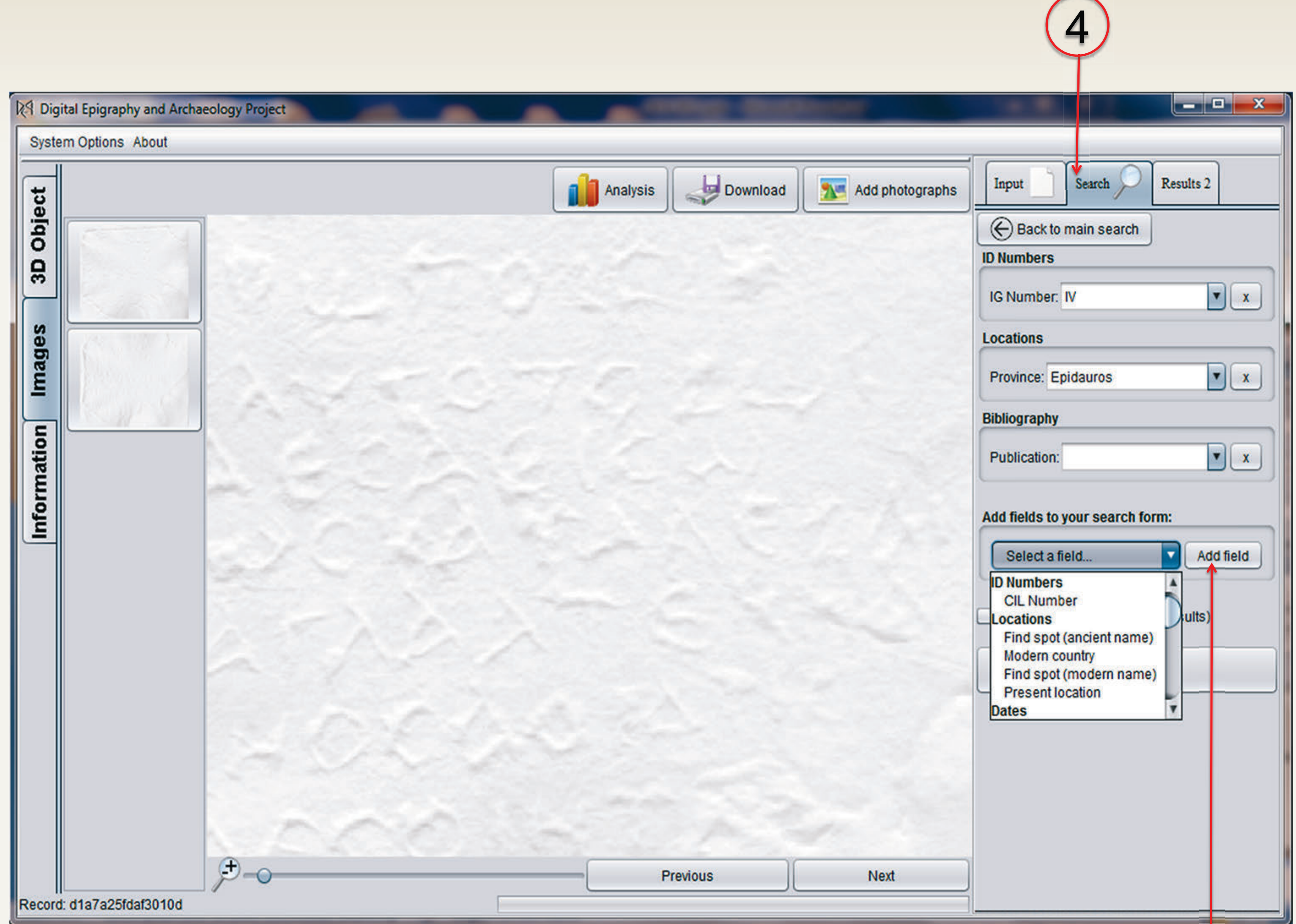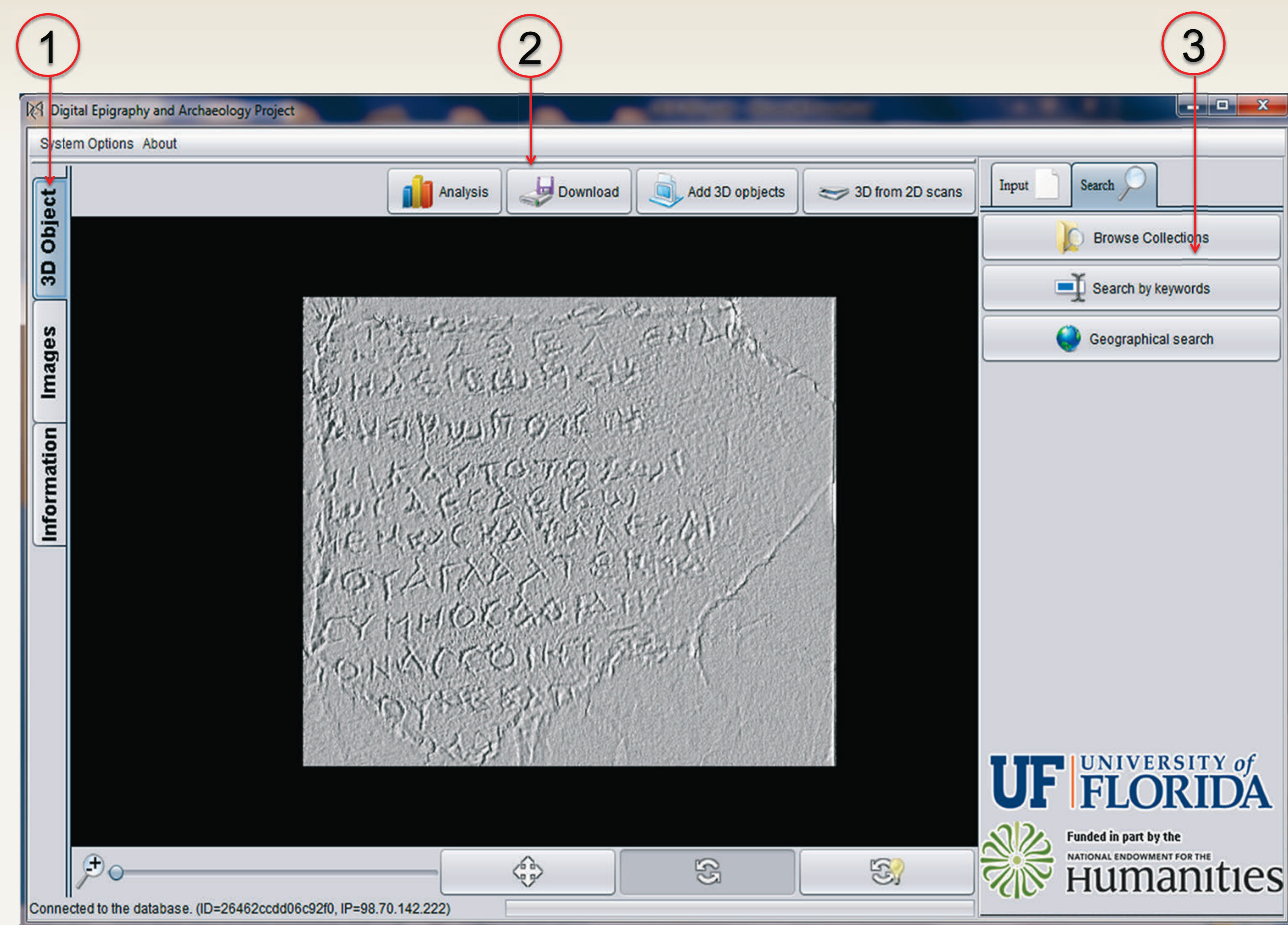
1. There are 3 modes of inscription viewing: 3D model, 2D images, and textual information.

2. The user interface offers many options, such as downloading existing epigraphic records and adding new data.

3. The user can browse through our collection, search for an inscription by keywords, or perform geographical search.

4. The user can search by typing full or partial keywords.

5. The search form can be customized by adding fields, such as IG/CIL number, location, dates, bibliographical information about an inscription.
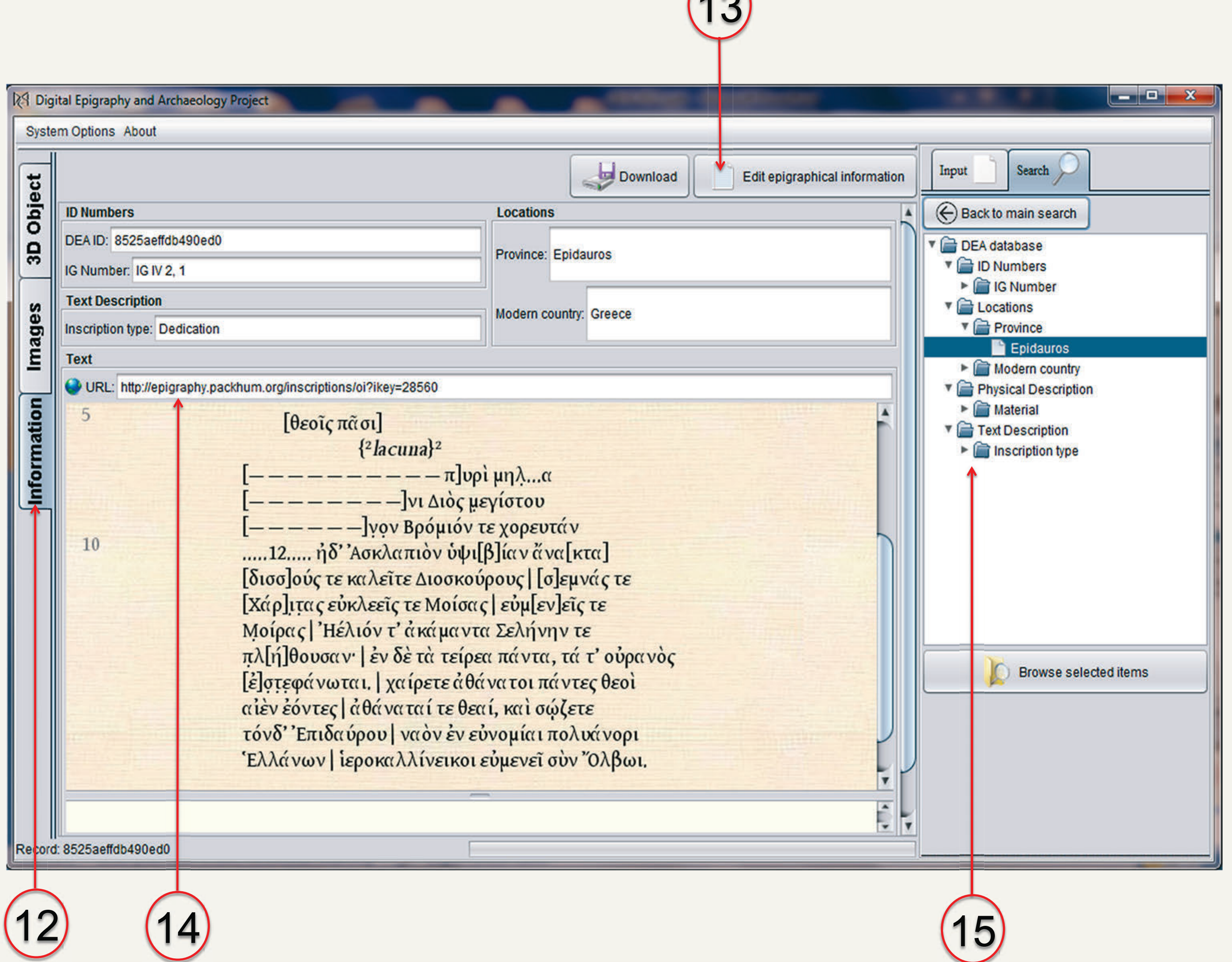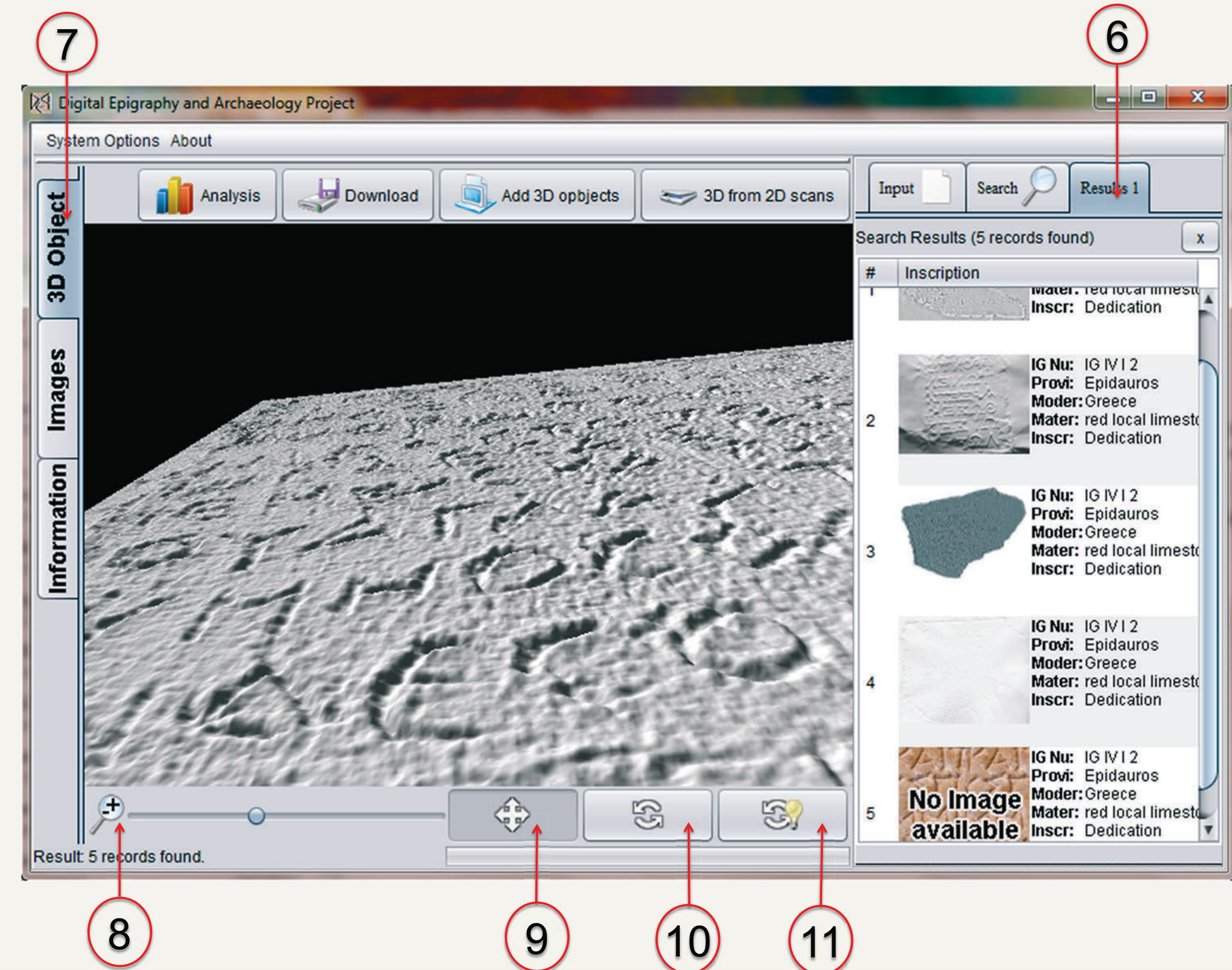
6. A comprehensive list of results is generated after each search query.

7. Example of a 3D object view.

8,9,10,11. The user can zoom, move, rotate, and manipulate the lighting to achieve better viewing of the 3D model.

12. This is an example of the epigraphic record view.

13. Authorized users may edit the epigraphic information of an existing record.

14. The epigraphic record may include links to other existing epigraphic databases.

15. Additionally, the user may navigate our database via thematic browsing.

Supported operating systems

Developed using the above technologies

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