



THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ROME

Research Strategy

Excellence, interdisciplinarity, internationalisation and dissemination.

This strategy defines the themes on which the BSR will concentrate over the next five years. It does not exclude other projects, but it is expected that there will be serious and sustained attempts to raise external funding across all these areas.

The seven themes chosen all build strongly on areas where the BSR has built up strength across several decades, and has a strong reputation.

Each theme has the capacity to link with others and the intention is to create a seamless sense of forward movement in research across a range of fronts. We take research to cover all the activity undertaken in the BSR, and regard fine arts as an important interlocutor and contributor in all these areas.

Priorities and Themes

All BSR research must be independently adjudicated as excellent.

We expect research to cross disciplinary boundaries, and we will actively promote this dialogue through our community and through targeted events which bring scholars together.

We are by nature an international community, and are seeking to improve and increase our connections with the Commonwealth and with Italy.

All BSR projects will be expected to publish in a timely and appropriate fashion. Those conducted under the auspices of the BSR will be closely managed by the Director, and those which are based in another institution will be required to have clear targets from the outset, and clearly defined management responsibilities.

In addition, the current BSR backlog of publications will be cleared within the period of this strategy.

The seven themes which will guide the BSR's research are:

Rome: History, Place and Imagination
Rethinking the Bay of Naples
Landscapes and Urbanscapes
Connectivity in the Western Mediterranean
Studying the Past
Church, State, Religion and Nation
Conservation, Heritage Management and Sustainability

The annexe to this strategy describes each theme in greater details and demonstrates ways in which projects and partners have contributed, or may become involved. The development of strong partnerships is identified in the corporate strategy as one of our key goals for this planning period.

Outputs

Events.

We will expect to host one major international conference a year at the BSR, linked to one of these themes, and which will result in an appropriate publication, in the series which is now under the aegis of CUP.

We will support workshop activity that is explicitly linked to the development of a project within one of our themes, and which is intended to assist the development of a research grant. (A recent workshop on ports was directed explicitly to the construction of a major ERC bid). Publication of such events will be considered, where appropriate.

Grants.

We will look to facilitate strong but appropriate grant application activity. We will continue to monitor the alignment of our thematic priorities with other funding bodies.

We will use a regularly updated version of the annexe, which will be available on our new website, to support research grants by showing the way in which they are aligned to a broader strategic direction.

We will also actively promote and facilitate exchange between projects to encourage further successful dialogue.

Publications.

PBSR will be published by CUP from 2011.

We expect to publish around two to three monographs a year across the planning period, and these will include publications on Veio, the Tiber Valley and Otricoli, the volume *Roma Britannica*, as well as the beginning of the publication of *Portus*.

We have an agreed strategy for concluding the much delayed Tiber Valley project with publication and the consignment of the archaeological data in time for REF 2014, and Veio is in press, as well as the last San Vincenzo volume, both of which will be published next year.

Outreach, Dissemination and Knowledge Exchange

The BSR has recently published its work in a popular magazine, *Current World Archaeology*, and *Portus* has featured regularly in the press. We look to continue this work with a new website and through the assistance of our partners. For instance we are developing a joint public lecture with the Museum of London on 'Rome and London,' and are looking to develop the subscribers' lectures into a showcase for BSR work.

Implementation

The BSR will use its research grant only and specifically in relation to activities which contribute to these priorities, and will prioritise work where external funding has been gained or is being sought. If funds diminish we will prioritise work on *Portus* to ensure the conclusion of that major archaeological project.

Performance Management

Progress on research is reported three times a year to FAHL and Council, as well as to the British Academy.

We will maintain a strong record of publication by BSR staff and associated scholars, especially in peer-reviewed outputs, and expect to match the results of our recent research assessment exercise.

THEMATIC PRIORITIES

ROME: HISTORY, PLACE AND IMAGINATION

The research strategy of the British School at Rome has to start in Rome. Rooted as we are in the city, its cultural life and its intellectual history, we should always seek to have some fundamental connection with Rome itself.

Many of the subsequent themes relate closely to the city and its history, and whilst it is true that the historical emphasis of the BSR has almost from the beginning looked outward rather than inward, our *Notes from Rome* is an important and regular feature of *PBSR*. The City of Rome course retains an important role as a core research training ground for future historians of classical Rome, and regularly inspires new PhD work, and we hope to encourage other projects which engage fully in the topography and archaeology of the city, and utilise one of the finest libraries on that subject in the world.

It is also undeniable that the impact Rome has had on the imagination of subsequent times is huge. Rome as a metropolis, a political and religious centre, and a city which preserved, recreated and reinterpreted its past through monuments and architecture, art and literature, film and politics, remains a potent inspiration and a challenging model. Rome's metaphorical and symbolic significance through its rise, fall, global reach, and religious centrality make it a continuously relevant example for other histories and practices.

Examples of projects: Carrie Vout and Mark Wallinger, Leverhulme Project, *Beauty*; Catrin Huber, AHRC application on art and Rome; Stefano Cracolici, Pius IX and the global significance of Rome, and work on his current BARDA project; Allen Brent and Marcus Vinzent, BARDA, religious iconography in Rome; Architecture programme, *Three Cities in Flux*; collaboration with BIPS on interactions with Sasanian Persia (building also on BSR links with Macquarie University).

RETHINKING THE BAY OF NAPLES

The Bay of Naples is and remains one of the most significant concentrations of culture and intellectual energy in Europe, and one which remained a node of interaction for the Mediterranean. Brought sharply into prominence by the arrival of Greek colonists in the seventh century BC, Naples itself retained a degree of cosmopolitan Greekness, and its bay became a haven for Romans seeking a life of

pleasure and release from the capital city's pressure. A vital and vigorous urban culture developed, and is uniquely preserved at Pompeii, Herculaneum and other sites interred by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79.

Precocious in its religious architecture and art, and regularly changing hands from one suzerain to another, Naples sustained and preserves in art and architecture a stunningly varied and fascinating cultural legacy, and is one of the world's greatest centres for the Baroque. It was also a remarkably important centre for the development of Enlightenment thought; less constrained by the power of the Church at Rome, it was home to some of the greatest thinkers of that period, amongst them Giambattista Vico.

This cultural and intellectual capital has always been in tension with the contradictions of modern Italy. Poverty, crime, immigration and the tension between local and familial loyalties, on the one hand, and a relatively weak state, on the other, make Naples a case study for the complexity of urban life. Moreover, the waves of immigrants from, and representations of, Naples have shaped our perception of Italy in the wider world. Carving modernity in the shadow of such deep history remains Naples' enduring challenge.

There has been a tradition of study by British School at Rome scholars in the Bay of Naples. Frederiksen's work on Campania, Paul Arthur's important studies, continuing interest in Sir William Hamilton's life and work, excavation at Pompeii and most recently the Herculaneum Conservation Project (HCP) have all contributed to a greater knowledge of the area, whilst wider studies on port networks, Renaissance antiquarianism, the eighteenth-century reception of Italy in Britain, and studies of immigration and modern cinema all touch on the concerns of this area.

This research project seeks to draw together these themes and restate the British School at Rome's continuing engagement with the Bay of Naples. Starting from the important empirical achievements of the past, we look to find connections and contrasts from across the full extent of this region's rich and exciting history.

Examples of Projects: Herculaneum Conservation Project; Herculaneum Study Centre; collaborations with AHRC bids from Bristol and Oxford Universities; collaboration with the British Museum's major Pompeii and Herculaneum exhibition; potential ESRC bid with Southampton University; possible collaboration with Warwick University.

1. Conservation management, archaeological heritage and modern society

The importance of the HCP project for the conservation and subsequent management of a site of world heritage status is undoubted, but the full extent of the significance of such operations merits our attention. Oral histories gathered from individuals who had worked with Maiuri, who excavated and presented the site, and

also experienced the use of the site in WWII, the small but anthropologically important communities of families who have lived for more than a century in 'ramp houses' alongside the excavations, the possible redevelopment of the site, and its museum in ways that both exploit and protect the rich archaeological fabric of the town, are all part of a complex narrative of cultural heritage management and urban renewal and regeneration.

The socio-economic consequences of the tourism industry, and the importance of cultural heritage within the political and social self-presentation of a nation, are themes of particular current interest, and touch vitally on issues of sustainable urban living and architecture. Sustainability is not simply about the broadest issues of climate change, but also about the ways in which architecture and urban planning can create places for living together in ways which preserve our past and sustain our future; and living with the threat of environmental catastrophe is a feature of Neapolitan life. In this sense the HCP Study Centre's work coupled with the lively and ongoing tradition of architecture at the BSR and also our developing strand of modern studies in the literature and film of modern life brings together many of the most pressing issues and problems facing the densely inhabited, permanently threatened and deeply challenging urban societies of the Bay of Naples. This project will continue to be a relevant model for other examples, as shown in the final thematic priority.

2) Physical archaeology and archaeological science

The Herculaneum Conservation Project has been one of the most ambitious conservation projects in Italy, and has necessarily involved cutting edge scientific methods of discovery and experimentation in areas such as conservation of paint layers and mosaics, dendrochronology, laser scanning of interior spaces and polynomial texture mapping, engineering, geophysics in a highly challenging environment, and combating salt efflorescence in frescos.

This project therefore has made a huge contribution to an area of study which has become highly engaged with scientific discovery. The decipherment of carbonised papyri by techniques developed by Brigham Young University in conjunction with NASA has revolutionised our understanding of the literate culture of ancient Italy.

At a wider level, the use of GIS and other mechanisms have allowed us to make more and more sophisticated use of the evidence from survey, and this allows us to integrate the evidence from regional activity within another strength of the BSR, which is the study of ports and port networks across the Western Mediterranean.

This broad range of scientific advance from the detailed conservation of individual frescoes, or the potential opportunity to conserve and display an entire preserved and painted roof recently discovered at Herculaneum, to the demonstration of the connectivity of the Western Mediterranean through the study of its port networks and the exchange of key goods such as pottery, allows the BSR to foster an ongoing

and important conversation on the role of science and scientific method within archaeology and conservation, and in so doing to drive innovation forward and unite specialists from different disciplines in fruitful collaborations.

Examples include opportunities to bring together specialists involved in conservation work, and use connections with ICCROM, HCP and museum partners such as the Getty Conservation Institute and the British Museum; and the ongoing discussions over the future directions of survey and geophysics in the Western Mediterranean. It is also worth noting that the focus on ports brings into focus some of the consequences of sea-level and riverine change (bradyseism at Herculaneum, river change at Ostia, sea level change at Castel Porziano) which will be issues of great significance in our near future with predicted sea level changes.

A current AHRC funded collaborative PhD on painted marble brings together the University of Southampton, HCP, BSR and the Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek in Copenhagen.

3) Ancient technologies, art and artisans.

The well preserved remains of Herculaneum and Pompeii, including many examples of furniture, metalwork, painting and building techniques not preserved elsewhere offers substantial opportunities for a revaluation of artisan activity, and also of the range of commodities from high end luxuries to imitation luxuries to necessities. Understanding the nature of commodity trade, the patterns of consumption as opposed to repair, the habits of small town Italian life, and mapping these against the nature of the productive mechanisms of artisan activity and workshop capacity contextualises the outstanding work of cataloguing and typological work. As an example of how new discoveries could work, the substantial finds of glass, metal and pottery in the sewer system of Herculaneum, alongside the rich palaeobotanical remains, require conservation, study and publication, but also offer an unparalleled opportunity to study household patterns of disposal and waste.

Highly successful research themes on ancient science have begun to show how ancient societies engaged with technological advance, and embedded it both in their daily life and in the development of luxuries. The artisan plays a significant role in this development, as experimenter, and means of communication of techniques, and is therefore a key figure in networks of knowledge and consumption.

Whilst this theme will largely be studies in relation to the ancient world, there are opportunities for wider connections; in later periods, the nature of patronage and the mechanisms of personal and ecclesiastical commissioning in Baroque Naples continue to cast light on a range of concerns, from art history to social and political history. Equally, the reception of this heritage, both Baroque and Classical, and its reinterpretation within other European cultures demonstrate the connectedness of Italian culture to the wider European world, much as the intellectual developments show its interaction with developments as far afield as Scotland. The continuation

of the BSR's successful Roma Britannica conference with a network on Italia Britannica will bring focus to this area, and refocus attention on the Bay of Naples, and it is part of a Bristol AHRC grant in preparation.

4) Slavery, immigration and demography.

The evidence from Pompeii and Herculaneum gives a unique insight into one of the most substantial problems faced by ancient history in Italy, which is the question of how many people there were in the central historical periods. The recent debate between high and low count estimates remains unresolved, but the evidence from the Bay of Naples, and in particular the recent discovery of painted inscriptions of individuals added to a census list, have not been fully exploited in this discussion. Whilst the unusual nature of the sites remains an obstacle to a straightforward extrapolation to the rest of Italy or the empire, the remarkably full evidence for this area will make a substantial contribution to this debate.

At least part of the reason for the importance of demographic study in this area is because a range of techniques and evidence is available here which is not visible elsewhere for slavery, manumission and immigration. Whilst the latter theme is of perennial interest, slavery and the impact of freedmen on the population of Pompeii and Herculaneum is particularly important to study, not least in terms of the extent to which it is representative of other parts of Italy and the Mediterranean in the period.

The BSR has begun a preliminary exchange with the University of Southampton over the possibility of collaboration with their Southampton Statistical Sciences Research Institute. There is also the possibility of a broader project on osteological evidence led by Maureen Carroll (Sheffield).

5) Texts and documents in the ancient Bay of Naples.

One of the most exciting recent developments has been the combination of scientific method and philological expertise in bringing to the public for the first time papyri which survived the Vesuvian eruption in carbonised but now legible form. Much of the recent work has of course been the presentation of the texts, but it is time now to consider the implications of this for literate culture more generally.

Our understanding of the unique library of Greek and Latin papyri, which were found in the Villa of the Papyri at Herculaneum in 1752–4, has undergone tremendous transformations over the last few decades. Technological breakthroughs have enhanced our ability to improve old texts and reconstruct new ones. These include superior microscopy, digital imaging and multiple editing techniques.

The papyri also shed light on the processes of literary composition (since we have at least one work that is very close to the author's original draft), book-production

and publication in the Roman world, and on the formation of libraries. The reconstruction of complete papyrus-rolls can be compared with the scraps of complete rolls known from Hellenistic and Roman Egypt, which have been studied by W.A. Johnson, to isolate those features that are unique to the Italian examples. Recent studies have shown that some of the papyri were much older, and may even have been written in Athens in Epicurus' time. The Latin papyri are equally interesting but have hardly begun to be studied. Further study of them is likely to yield great surprises.

Equally important is to take full account of the exceptional richness of different types of media (papyri, wooden tablets, stone inscriptions, graffiti and even inked documents on stone) and its potential for understanding literacy and uses of writing from the highest to the lowest social levels. The extensive business archive of the family of the Sulpicii from Puteoli, for example, is written on wooden tablets that were found at Morecine, the ancient harbour of Pompeii. As they date from the reigns of Claudius and Nero, they supply invaluable insights into the Bay of Naples at that time, but have hardly begun to be exploited. Other wooden tablets from Herculaneum await study.

It is interesting to compare the significance of the book and the development of a literature and intellectual culture in 17th- and 18th-century Naples. The circulation of ideas and the development of an environment in which the philosophical arguments of the Enlightenment were played out in public and with dangerous consequences attests to the permanent relevance of the written word in western culture well beyond the shores of Italy. We hope to associate this work with the BSR through a University of Oxford AHRC grant, as well as on ongoing collaboration with Professor John Robertson (Balsdon Fellow 2009/10).

LANDSCAPES AND URBANSCAPES

The BSR has always been known for its contribution to the understanding of landscapes; from the pivotal work of Ashby (whose major legacy remains the important photographic archive in the BSR Library) to Ward-Perkins' South Etruria Survey (reprised in an externally funded project) to the recent geophysical work conducted by Simon Keay and Martin Millett. This strand builds on the continuing Roman Towns project, and re-emphasises the BSR's commitment to the prehistory and protohistory of Italy.

The BSR will continue to develop its geophysical survey expertise and the methodological findings that emerge, and will support survey as well as excavation activity in Italy. The great advantage of landscape survey is that it allows for the widest possible understanding of the interaction between humans and their geography. Each micro-region can show different patterns at the level of detail demonstrated by survey, and taking territories at their widest extent allows us to

explore the broadest issues of the relationships between states from their earliest phases into the historical period.

These insights have been important in the development of prehistory and protohistory into a discipline that operates at a regional rather than a site level, and has thus contributed to our improved capacity to write regional histories, whilst at the same time allowing us to problematise the complex relationship between landscape and ethnicity. This project will therefore include a bid for network funding to engage scholars in British universities who have worked in regional studies with Italian scholars across the protohistoric and historic periods and across the whole of Italy, whilst also leading to an interdisciplinary and international project on territory and state formation in Etruria and Umbria.

This strand also picks up Keay's important AHRC project on Portus and Claridge's work at Castel Porziano and in the Ager Laurentinus. The BSR has a powerful narrative to tell about the coastal landscape of Italy running down to Herculaneum.

All of these areas obviously include towns as well as rural areas, and in this sense the BSR has always worked on urbanscapes within landscapes. Geophysics has been extraordinarily successful in recovering lost urbanscapes, and work at Pompeii and Herculaneum of course takes place within some of the best preserved urbanscapes from antiquity.

There is also the intermediate typology of the villa, and the BSR has now worked on imperial villas at Veio, Castel Porziano, Falacrinae, Villa Magna, Forum Novum, and the fascinating site at S. Giovanni in Laterano (Rome), which presents a villa within the urban context.

From villa to region, from hinterland to city, the BSR has developed a remarkable experience in some of the most exciting sites and areas from the ancient world, many fully contextualised within a broader chronological scope; BSR projects continue to lead the way in terms of rigour, complexity and scientific interest. One of the strengths of the Library is in topography and ancient architecture.

It is for this reason that we are also developing a strong programme in architecture, *Three Cities in Flux: An Investigation into Urban Regeneration in London, Milan and Rome*, with core themes of urban regeneration and sustainability. We believe that there is great intellectual excitement in linking modern concerns with urban form in a broad regional context, with concerns over transport, connectivity and future proofing for a sustainable future, within the laboratory of urbanism represented by the massively urbanised culture of the Roman empire, and for the matter, of Renaissance Italy.

Thus, this dense and already highly successful set of themes can be given a modern edge and a sharper sense of impact by engagement with our architecture

programme, whilst modern architects can gain substantial insight from the historical depth offered by our research strengths in this area.

Examples: AHRC Bid with Southampton for Portus; continued work and collaboration with Soprintendenza at Castel Porziano; continuing geophysical survey, including work in Italy, Sicily, Tunisia and Libya; conclusion of Tiber Valley Project; collaboration with Simon Stoddart on a Leverhulme bid on boundaries in Etruria; architecture programme.

CONNECTIVITY IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Three years ago, the BSR and the Society for Libyan Studies received a grant from the British Academy to investigate connectivity in the Western Mediterranean, looking in particular at the Punic population and the ports. The meetings and workshops funded then have resulted in two edited volumes and in the creation of ongoing formal research networks, focused among other things on supporting graduate students working in these areas. Our interest in the Western Mediterranean continues with Keay's interest in Spanish archaeology, recent work in Leptis Magna and Tunisia, and there is regular interest in the trade between northern Africa, Spain and Rome.

One of the critical contributions of the BA-funded Punic project was to use a multidisciplinary approach which involved modern as well as ancient constructions of the Phoenician past. As time has progressed, the relationship between the southern Mediterranean coast and the 'European' countries has become more and more complex. There are profound issues over immigration and religious identity and loyalty which have been set into sharper focus by recent events further east, and need to be set within the broadest context of religious and international relations. The engagement between Italy and Libya is of particular interest here, and is one in which the BSR has itself played a part with Ward-Perkins' important work, some of it preserved in images recently digitized with the help of funding from the Getty Institute.

The BSR hosts the Roman Port Networks Project, which aims to analyze the relationships between Portus and other ports in the Mediterranean from the perspective of the co-presence of traded amphorae and marble, with annual workshops, a first volume in press and a final conference scheduled at BSR for late 2011. The BSR will therefore seek to sustain a broad interest in the western Mediterranean, in close collaboration with the Society for Libyan Studies, and to maintain this across all periods by seeking new partnerships.

One strand of this may well be the development of relationships in the area of cultural heritage and tourist management. The potential of Tunisia and Libya in this regard is vast, and ongoing relationships between BSR and ICCROM, and between BSR,

Oxford and INP Tunisia, and between BSR and BM, may lead to further developments in this area. There are real opportunities for bringing the lessons learnt from other sites to bear upon the rapid and economically beneficial development of tourism, but that in itself, as has been seen elsewhere, is an intellectually fascinating experience, intimately bound with notions of identity and national or ethnic self-image.

Examples: Examples: ERC bid for “Integrated Approaches to the Study of Roman Mediterranean Ports” (April 2011); four workshops; collaboration with Oxford University at Utica; proposed collaborative conference with BSA on the Adriatic in the Byzantine period.

STUDYING THE PAST

This research strand brings together many of the more methodological areas of interest of the BSR, and also connects with the highly important area of reception studies.

The theme of how the past was conceived, presented, rethought and repackaged is an important constant for work on antiquarianism, an interest shared by the former and current Directors and Assistant Directors: Wallace-Hadrill and Smith have both studied ancient writers who are often characterised as ‘antiquarian;’ Claridge’s work on Cassiano dal Pozzo and Russell’s work on Pirro Ligorio bring in the whole field of Renaissance engagement with their notions of the classical past.

Recent conferences have also picked this theme up in different ways: a conference shortly to be published on Roma Britannica, one on Palladio, and a third on Old St Peter’s, all touch on the inheritance of the classical past and its reinterpretation in different periods.

This strand, however, leads to much more potential work; Russell is working towards a monograph on Herman von Swanevelt; a follow-up to Roma Britannica is under discussion; and much of the Library’s archive of prints relates strongly to this area. This is one of the themes in which the strengths of the Library will be most exploited. We will look to create strong partnerships, including collaborative PhDs, to explore the potential of our own collection. In November 2010 we hosted an exhibition by a former Fine Arts scholar Andrew Hazewinkel, responding to one of our photographic archives.

The development of the digital archive has been a major achievement and we have begun working closely with colleagues in the Ashmolean University to connect our digital archive with the KLAROS project, and further raise the profile of this resource.

From archives it is not far to the presentation of work in museums, and this is a clear strength for the BSR to develop, linking the co-existence in the BSR of archaeologists, art historians, and artists. A series of strategic partnerships with major British museums is planned, and continued engagement with curatorial practice will be an important of the way the institution situates itself in the future.

Projects on Pirro Ligorio, antiquarianism, Herman van Swanevelt (in receipt of BA funding), continuing digitization projects.

CHURCH, STATE, RELIGION AND NATION

2011 will be the 150th anniversary of the unification of Italy. In 1911 this was celebrated by the Great Exhibition for which Britain used the space and design which was the following year given for the British School at Rome.

Nationalism in Italy in the mid-19th century was of huge interest, and not least in Britain. It was caught up with fascinating discourses over nationalism in Britain and Europe, and also the position of Catholicism; and it remains a topic of intense discussion and debate in Italy.

We are planning to mark and celebrate our joint anniversary in 2011 with a conference and to continue this theme into the following years.

This joins with two other areas. First, the important theme of ecumenism from the origins of Christianity to the modern day allows us to explore crucial and still relevant issues about the nature of religion and its relationship with politics. The importance of studying early Christianity within the context of the pagan world, and indeed the contemporary Jewish world is clearly recognised now. Recent work in collaboration with the Venerable English College (Britain's oldest institution abroad) shows the potential of further work together, and this has itself been set into the context of long-term trends of violence and national identity in parts of the modern world.

Secondly, an area in which the BSR has capacity and a need to develop is in Italian film studies. This is such a critical area of modern Italian studies, and it is also intricately related to the development of the Italian nation state in the twentieth century. We are exploring the possibility of a short course in this area.

Examples: Collaborations over two conferences on 1861; collaborations with Cambridge University on early Christian iconography; collaborations with Venerable English College (also appropriate to Cracolici's project on Pius IX); work on transnational fascisms with a range of collaborators.

CONSERVATION, HERITAGE MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

The final area joins up with the first. The Herculaneum Conservation Project is the BSR's most significant engagement in an area of heritage management, and brings with it substantial partnerships with scientific conservators, ICCROM, and local entities. The Herculaneum Study Centre, which is planned to continue as a collaborative centre between BSR, the Comune and Soprintendenza Archeologica Napoli e Pompei, has a key role in the presentation of Herculaneum within the broader context of Ercolano, and has already engaged in important participative activity such as oral history in and around Ercolano, which opens up opportunities for academic research, but also engages the inhabitants in the process of the management of their own town.

In addition the HCP Study Centre is increasingly engaged in Continuing Professional Development work which applies the research conducted at Herculaneum and disseminates it. In this way the BSR's research strategy delivers on the impact agenda through the outreach work of the Study Centre.

However the conservation agenda at Herculaneum must be seen in the context of the wider connections between cultural heritage and sustainability more generally. As indicated in the strand on landscapes and urbanscapes, this ties directly to the architecture programme, which also engages with the development of the built environment in a sustainable fashion.

Few cities ignore their past, and arguably those that do lose something special about their own connection to their topography and landscape. By maintaining close links between our architecture programme, modern practice, and projects such as Urban Age at the LSE, and the activities of the architecture faculties both at Roma Tre and at 'La Sapienza', our neighbour in Rome, the BSR will actively seek to be a centre of excellence for the practical interaction of the deep historical understanding of landscape, the application of hands-on conservation activity within the broader regeneration role of cultural heritage management, and the nature of sustainable architecture for our future.

Examples: Herculaneum Conservation Project; Herculaneum Study Centre; BSR modern architecture programme; collaboration with Durham University on a major conference on conservation and archaeology in areas of continuing ritual activity, and the role of new technologies in museology and sustainable and ethically aware tourism.

C J Smith, Director