

# Pompeii: Reconstructing and Conserving the Past

UNESCO, POMPEII, AND HSC ANCIENT HISTORY

Ray Laurence 15 May 2018 Macquarie Ancient History Teachers' Conference



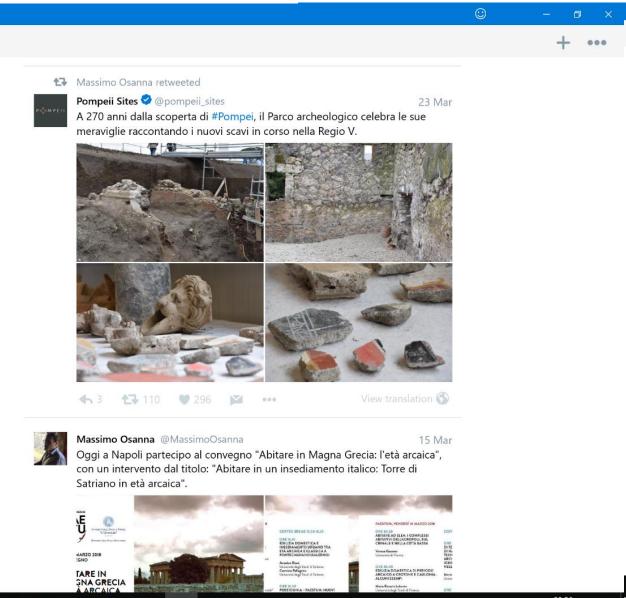
## **Ancient History Stage 6 Syllabus**



The study of Ancient History is of contemporary relevance. It equips students with the skills to analyse and challenge accepted theories and interpretations about the ancient world, especially in light of new evidence or technologies. It requires students to analyse different interpretations and representations of the ancient world in forms such as literature, film and museum displays. Ancient History also raises important ethical issues associated with present and future ownership, administration and presentation of the cultural past. It encourages students to appreciate our responsibility for conserving and preserving the world's cultural heritage.

## Follow the man in charge @MassimoOsanna







Direttore Generale del Parco Archeologico di Pompei. Professore di Archeologia Classica all'Università di Napoli "Federico II"

Napoli, Campania

58 FOLLOWING 718 FOLLOWERS

Tweets & Replies

Massimo Osanna @Massimo Osanna

25 Apr

Il bellissimo cortometraggio che ha accompagnato la rinascita di Pompei!

#### museitaliani @museitaliani

"Pompei, eternal emotion" è il cortometraggio di Pappi Corsicato ambientato negli scavi archeologici di @pompeii\_sites @MuseumWeek youtube.com/watch?v=f8c-W0...

#MuseumWeek #cityMW #Pompei



### Core Study: Cities of Vesuvius – Pompeii and Herculaneum



#### **OUTCOMES - YEAR 12**

#### A student:

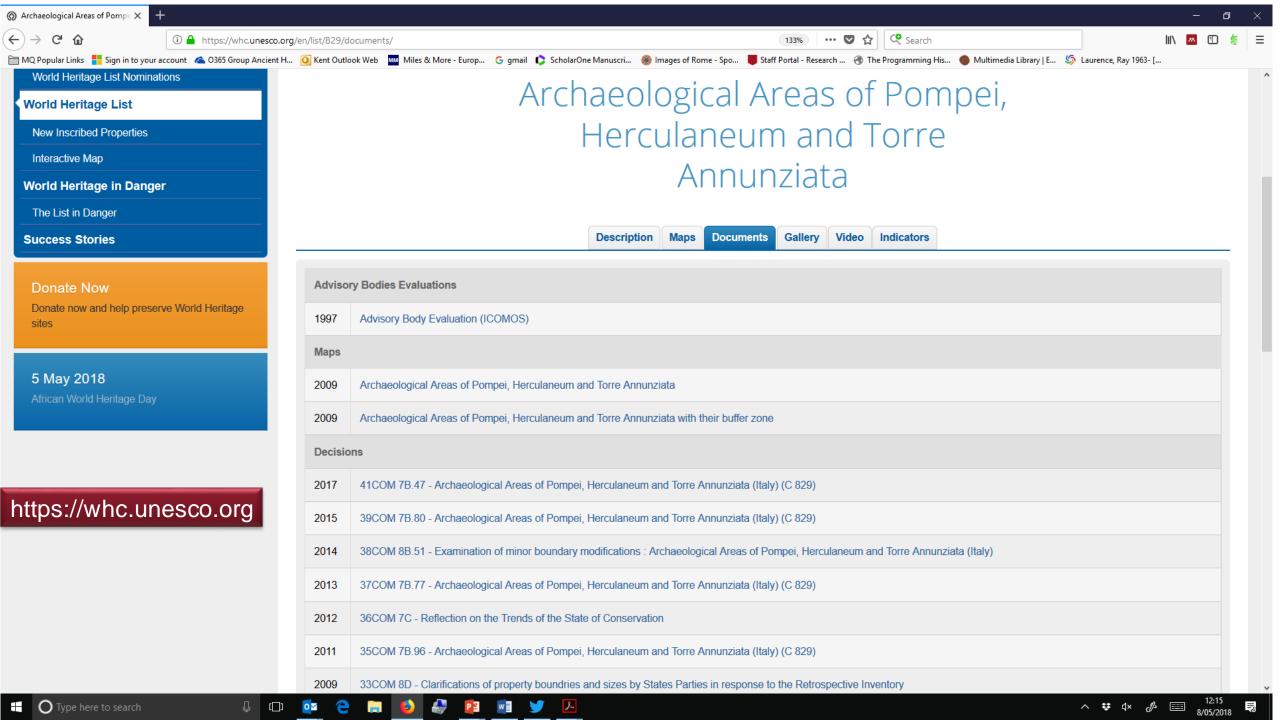
- accounts for the nature of continuity and change in the ancient world AH12-1
- proposes arguments about the varying causes and effects of events and developments AH12-2
- evaluates the role of historical features, individuals and groups in shaping the past AH12-3
- analyses the different perspectives of individuals and groups in their historical context AH12-4
- assesses the significance of historical features, people, places, events and developments of the ancient world AH12-5
- analyses and interprets different types of sources for evidence to support an historical account or argument AH12-6
- discusses and evaluates differing interpretations and representations of the past AH12-7
- plans and conducts historical investigations and presents reasoned conclusions, using relevant evidence from a range of sources AH12-8
- communicates historical understanding, using historical knowledge, concepts and terms, in appropriate and well-structured forms AH12-9

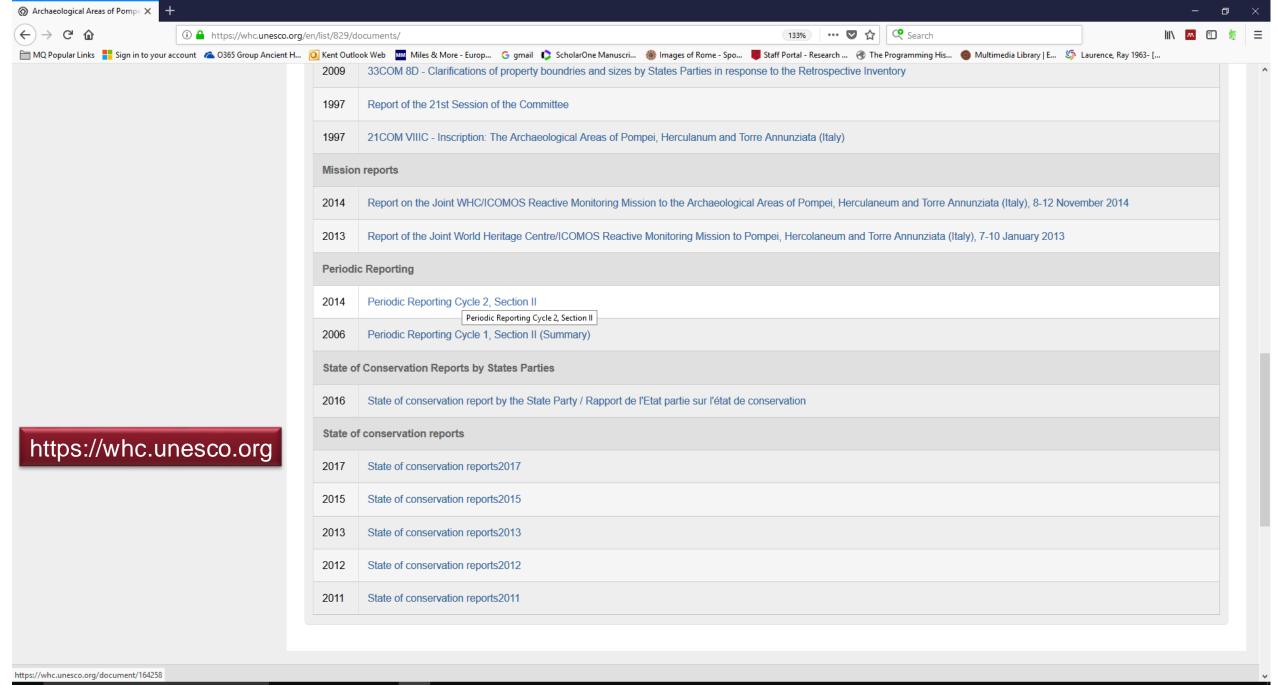
# analyses issues relating to the ownership, custodianship and conservation of the ancient past AH12-10

Related Life Skills outcomes: AHLS6-1, AHLS6-2, AHLS6-3, AHLS6-4, AHLS6-5, AHLS6-6, AHLS6-7, AHLS6-8, AHLS6-9, AHLS6-10, AHLS6-11, AHLS6-12 Content Focus

Students investigate the range and nature of archaeological and written sources for the study of the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, and explore issues relating to reconstruction and conservation of the past.

In investigating this topic, students develop and apply their knowledge and skills to understand different types of sources and relevant issues. The Historical concepts and skills content is to be integrated as appropriate.





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# Pompeii in the News 2010

NOVEMBER 2010







### Pompeii in the News – Excavations Recommence



2018

@pompei79 The Director General of #Pompeii, @MassimoOsanna, has released the latest photograph (image 1) of the garden area in Region V that they were excavating when I visited (image 2-4). With the removal of the pumice, a marble garden table has now emerged...



Follow @pompei79, UK based Archaeologist Dr Sophie Hay



## 1997 Application for World Heritage Site Listing



HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/LIST/829

"The Committee decided to inscribe this property on the basis of criteria (iii), (iv) and (v), considering that the impressive remains of the towns of Pompei and Herculaneum and their associated villas, buried by the eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79, provide a complete and vivid picture of society and daily life at a specific moment in the past that is without parallel anywhere in the world."

## Inscribed in UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites



1997

#### Selection criteria

- (i) to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
- (ii) to exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- (iii) to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv) to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;
- (v) to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;

- (vi) to be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria);
- (vii) to contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance;
- (viii) to be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features;
- (ix) to be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;
- (x) to contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation

## In 1997, International Council of Monuments & Sites (ICOMOS)



HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/LIST/829/DOCUMENTS/

The total staff of the Soprintendenza is well over a thousand, but the overwhelming majority of these are custodial and administrative personnel: the professional staff consists of **twelve archaeologists** and three architects, who are responsible for both sites, as well as a number of other properties in the area.

Annual visitor numbers at Pompei now exceed two million (half of these are estimated to be foreign tourists); the numbers at Herculaneum are 11-12% of that figure.

There is at the present time no management plan sensu stricto, although conservation and restoration activities are programmed. An application has been sent to the Ministry for funding for an exhaustive survey of conservation requirements, to form thebasis for an active management plan. A major scientific study of the environmental history of the region is in progress, in which a number of international institutions are participating.

ICOMOS hopes that the funding required for the preparation of a management plan (see "Management" above) will be made available with the minimum delay.

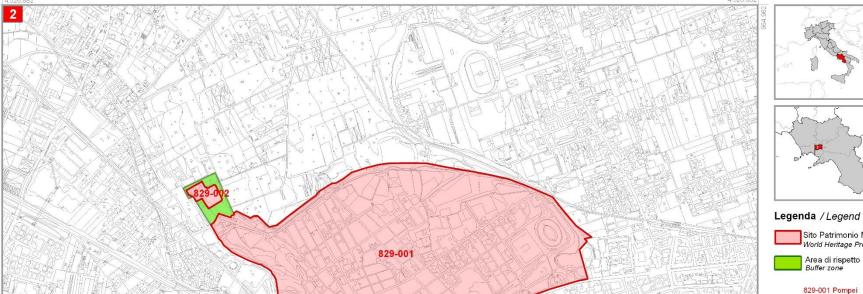


Tavola n° 2 di 3 Table n° 2 of 3

### Aree archeologiche di Pompei, Ercolano e Torre Annunziata



Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata







Sito Patrimonio Mondiale World Heritage Property

Sito (84.59 ha) Property (84.59 ha)

#### 829-002 Villa dei Misteri

Sito (0.95 ha) Property (0.95 ha)

Area di rispetto (1.44 ha) Buffer area (1.44 ha)

### Note Tecniche Carta Tecnica Provinciale

#### Technical notes Provincial Technical Map

Scala (scale) 1:10.000 European Datum 1950, UTM fuse 32 Edizione 2008



## UNESCO and Italy agree cooperation of conservation



29 NOVEMBER 2011

- 2010 Torrential Rains cause collapses across the site
- International News Coverage
- January 2011 UNESCO Mission to Pompeii



### https://whc.unesco.org/en/soc/354/

"There is a general backlog in the property's maintenance and monitoring due to institutional instability and the resulting lack of adequate management and coordination. In addition, on several occasions the scarce resources have been diverted from conservation and maintenance to non-urgent projects. Although Pompei has a management plan, it is not used as an effective means to protect the property or to guide decisionmaking. Furthermore, basic documentation for the management and monitoring of the property and its surroundings is missing or outdated for Pompei, leading to uncontrolled development in the vicinity of this portion of the property."

## Report to the World Heritage Committee 2011



HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/SOC/354/

"Inappropriate restoration methods and a general lack of qualified staff for the restoration and maintenance of the property have impacted the property. Restoration projects are outsourced and the quality of the work of the contractors is not being assessed. An efficient drainage system is lacking leading to water infiltration and excessive moisture which gradually degrades both the structural condition of the buildings as well as their décor. The mission was also concerned by the amount of plant growth, particularly ivy, in some places at Pompei."

"In 2010, Pompei received 2.3 million visitors with a peak of 300 000 visitors per month in spring and early summer. This situation contrasts with the fact that large areas of Pompei are not accessible for visitors due to the lack of custodians, so accessible parts are over-visited and suffer considerably from visitor erosion.

Altogether, the mission considers that it is essential that the Ministry of Culture maintains institutional stability within the Superintendency in order to allow it to focus on managing and conserving the property as its main priority. Required technical and financial resources need to be identified to carry out an effective programme and steps should be taken to secure them for sustained implementation. The management plan needs to be reviewed to include a comprehensive public use plan and a risk management plan. Priority in work programmes should be given to dealing with the backlog in conservation and maintenance. An effective drainage system needs to be installed urgently to prevent further deterioration of unstable areas."

## **World Heritage Committee 2011**

# MACQUARIE University

### HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/SOC/354/

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Document WHC-11/35.COM/7B.Add,
- 2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 8D**, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),
- 3. Notes with deep concern the collapses that occurred at the property in November 2010 and <u>urges</u> the State Party to address the underlying conditions that have contributed to the collapses, as a matter of urgency;
- 4. <u>Also notes</u> the conclusions of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS advisory mission to the property that while the collapses in November 2010 did not compromise the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, nevertheless the underlying conditions could threaten the Outstanding Universal Value if they remain unaddressed in the short term;
- 5. <u>Deeply regrets</u> that **neither the World Heritage Centre nor the mission were informed about the construction of a large concrete building north of the Porta di Nola at the Pompei portion of the property and <u>also urges</u> the State Party to provide the World Heritage Centre with detailed information on this project for review:**
- 6. <u>Requests</u> the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre regularly and in due time about any building project planned in the vicinity of the property in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;

- 7. <u>Also requests</u> the State Party to give priority to work programmes dealing with the backlog in conservation and management of the property and to:
- a) review the management plan to include a public use plan and risk management plan as well as provisions to regulate and control development at the vicinity of the property,
- b) ensure that there are adequate qualified staff and contractors for the restoration and maintenance of the property,
- c) develop and implement measures to monitor conditions and use of the property, including the updating of the Geographic Information System (GIS) for Pompei,
- d) design and install effective drainage systems,
- e) identify and secure the required technical and financial resources in order to carry out an effective programme of conservation and maintenance of the property;
- 8. <u>Further requests</u> the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value by **1 February 2012**;
- 9. Requests furthermore the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission during 2012 in order to assess the progress achieved in implementing the measures outlined above;
- 10. <u>Finally requests</u> the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, with a view to considering, in the case of confirmation of ascertained or potential danger to the Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

### Visit of UNESCO Director General



SEPTEMBER 2012

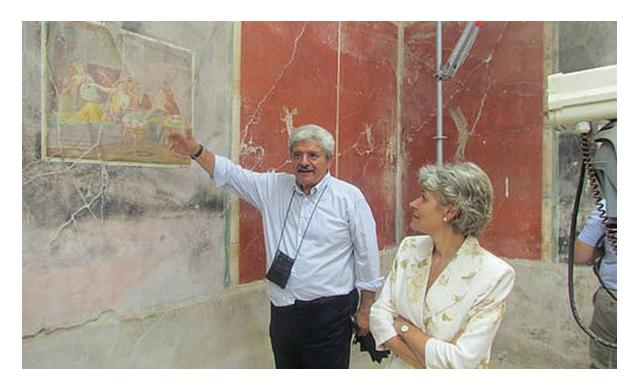
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She expressed appreciation for the recruitment of 21 new and qualified technical staff to strengthen maintenance and management at the property, as well as progress accomplished by putting in place much-needed drainage, hydrological and restoration works, which have been initiated under UNESCO's supervision in 44 domus on the property.

"Preventive conservation, maintenance and restoration efforts are key to ensure sustainable conservation of cultural heritage", she said.

The strengthening of cooperation and coordination between the various stakeholders involved in the conservation of the property-the Government of Italy, the Region and the Municipal authorities under UNESCO's leadership -- has proved especially valuable in making effective progress in the preservation of the archeological areas.

The Mayor emphasized the importance of inclusive urban policies for youth, in order to generate employment and ownership of the city and its cultural history and tradition.



UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova visiting Pompei, September 2012. © UNESCO / Paola Leoncini-Bartoli

## The First Expert/Stakeholder Meeting - Pompei (Italy)



17 NOVEMBER 2012 - HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/NEWS/966/

### 4 Workshops:

- 1)Heritage and Conservation
- 2) Disaster Risk Management
- 3)Public Use
- 4)Governance, Institutional and Organizational Settings

2014



## **UNESCO** Heritage and Conservation Workshop



### HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/NEWS/966/-WORD DOCUMENT FOR DOWNLOAD

- 1) It is important to remember that Pompei is an iconic site where anything that happens is newsworthy world-wide. If a stone falls, it will be in the media, as happens with only a few places such as the Taj Mahal and Stonehenge.
- 2) At least since the First Special Law for Pompei (April, 12, 1976, n. 216), maintenance has always been funded from special funds rather than regular expenditure. The first time the costs and needs of the site were assessed was after the 1981 earthquake (done by mixed teams of military engineers and archaeologists brought in from universities over a 6-month period, when the special Superintendancy was also created). Each wall was numbered, measured and assessed. This was the first time that the needs of Pompei were assessed in this way. The maintenance of Pompei can be assessed and managed if there is a clear understanding of the needs of the site, and the resources required to meet them.

There had traditionally been three types of maintenance teams: Masons, who covered the tops of walls with tiles, and replaced lintels in wood; when short of money, teams knocked down loose stones for safety reasons and stored them for future re-use in restoration. Wall tops often leveled up.

Mosaicists, dealing with mosaics and marble pavements. Apart from repairing mosaics, their main role was to cover and uncover unsheltered mosaics for each winter. This was done with clean river sand.

Wall painting team: The Bourbons introduced a policy of varnishing important paintings with an alcohol/wax mix. Varnish was removed annually with hot iron and wool and replaced anew. This was still being done in 1970's.

- 3) Archaeologists can be a threat to the site since major excavations inevitably destroy evidence and create further maintenance needs. It was in fact noted that current excavation at Pompei is small-scale and aimed at resolving specific problems or questions, such as dating artefacts.
- 4) It is strongly recognised that the conservation of Pompei is not just about what happens inside the site boundary, but also conserving the context of the site, visually and otherwise, within the surrounding territory. Since the 1930's urban planning practice has treated the whole ancient city as 'an area of respect'. In current Italian law, most effective protection would come from regional landscape plans (law of 2004, amended 2008) piano paesistico, which would override all local plans. Suggestions for the best way to conserve the context of the site are a large buffer zone, regional landscape plan (which could act also as a development plan), etc., although for the moment there is no agreement on how to move this forward.
- 5) Linked to conservation needs is the need to integrate the sites more with local communities to get support and commitment for their conservation, particularly of the landscape setting.
- 6) There is a need for training and capacity building to underpin all the work, both for those working on site but also for wider communities and other stakeholders.

## Disaster Risk Management Workshop



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The main threats identified for the World Heritage site area are: earthquakes, volcano eruption, an obsolete hydrogeological drainage system, mass tourism, heavy rain and climate change. It is suggested to proceed with a disaster risk assessment of the entire archaeological area and to identify the priorities. Risk scenarios should be developed and vulnerability zoning defined.

The following phases and their related actions have been included:

**Prevention and mitigation** (traditional knowledge systems for disaster mitigation, preparation of evacuation plan for movable heritage, creation/activation/updating of emergency response team, mock exercises and simulations, awareness raising, local capacity building and training activities for staff and volunteers);

**Emergency Preparedness and Response** (emergency warning, activation of emergency response team, evacuation of movable items, communication issues ...);

**Recovery** (indirect and secondary risks, long-term recovery process including local sustainable development, the role of the World Heritage site in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation ...);

**Monitoring and maintenance** (state of conservation of the World Heritage site, new risk assessment, revised mitigation measures, etc.)

## Disaster Risk Management Workshop



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- The archaeological area of Pompei corresponds to a small town (around 90 ha). Currently there is no public evacuation plan. Escape routes for public evacuation should be identified in case of emergency and specific signposting designed. Mock exercises should be organised regularly.
- The World Heritage site is located in the red zone, regarding the potential maximum impact of a volcanic eruption. Mitigation measures for immovable heritage should be studied; priorities for the evacuation of movable heritage—including all documentation and inventory files should be identified.

In the 1995 version of the Vesuvian Risk Management plan cultural heritage protection was incorporated. In the version of 2001 this component disappeared and in the current version, which will be approved in the following months, cultural heritage concerns are still not included. The safeguarding of cultural heritage should be included in the current risk management plan for the Vesuvian area and representatives of MIBAC/SANP should attend all the meetings of the Emergency Commission.

### **Public Use Workshop**



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### Heritage values and communities

The Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the WH site that was used to justify UNESCO listing is that it "provides a complete and vivid picture of society and daily life at a specific moment in the past that is without parallel anywhere in the world". There are other multiple values associated with Pompei held by different communities and individuals such as local residents living around Pompei, visitors to the archaeological site, academic/professional communities working at the site, those working at the sites, etc.

Working community: those working at Pompei (Superintendancy-SANP staff, guides, scholars, etc.)

SANP should improve the relationship with local guides and custodians; increase their involvement in visitor management and ameliorate the visitor

experience. The staff members living in the local area

are also a valuable link between the site and the local

community.

Given that guides are accredited by the regional council and have no official link to SANP, initiatives should be encouraged that create links between the institutions and also promote communication between SANP and guides. The support of the staff that work for the SANP and the scholars/academic community who are carrying out research there should be gained/increased through capacity development.

### **Governance Workshop**



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Clarity in the phasing: clear milestones, 3yrs + 2yrs

The 3 year plan for spending the 105 million euro of the *Grande Progetto Pompei* should be accompanied by a longer term plan, perhaps 5 years, explaining: a) what will be done in years 4 and 5, and b) activities and action needed during the whole period in addition to the narrower focus of the *Grande Progetto Pompei*. This 5 year period will constitute the transition period to a new form of stability.

Coordination and cooperation with the local authorities and other stakeholders

Greater institutional attention and resources need to be dedicated to cooperation between the various stakeholders, with a view to securing new forms of support after the 5 year transition period. Building bridges in the form of joint initiatives, particularly with the various local authorities, could also be central to improving the physical relationship of Pompei to its surrounds.

### **Governance Workshop**



### HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/NEWS/966/ - WORD DOCUMENT FOR DOWNLOAD

### Capacity building

All the above points require careful consideration in the 5 year transition plan but also depend on the development of a broader approach to capacity building. Initiatives must urgently target strengthening the capacities residing with the heritage specialists (inhouse staff but also the pool of freelance professionals and specialist companies) and in the internal organization institutional framework, also to ensure the delivery of the Grande Progetto Pompei. In particular, in the short term attention must be given urgently to project management capabilities and then to general management issues.

### Human resources

Though mentioned in the above points, in-house human resources merit particular attention given some key factors: the high average age of the Soprintendenza work force and their imminent retirement matched by a block on staff turnover and, even with new recruitment at Pompei, an ongoing lack of professional skills (relevant organizational and administrative expertise included). A thorough assessment of human resources - the current status quo and present and future needs - should be carried out as soon as possible. This will provide the base material to identify and develop phased solutions: in the short-term to reinforce work on the 3 year Grande Progetto Pompei, and thereafter to inform any institutional changes to favor long-term effective and sustainable management models.

### 2013 Mission to Pompeii



### HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/DOCUMENTS/122997/

While the Major Project can achieve a great deal there will still remain much ongoing work after it is over. Inevitably, the Project will draw in the resources of the Superintendency while it is happening but it is essential that this does not lead to neglect of conservation at Herculaneum or Torre Annunziata, or the implementation of wider policies of the Management Plan such as the creation of the buffer zone. The mission remains concerned over the long-term sustainability of future management and conservation of the site.

Given that the Superitendency has around €10 million annually to spend on conservation of all the sites in its care, financial resources may not be the major problem.

The mission is more concerned about the lack of guardians and technicians for basic management, supervision and maintenance of the site. It is clear that the traditional solution of recruiting more staff for the Superintendency is not achievable and there is need to look for other solutions to provide the services needed.

## **2014 Mission Reported in Exec Summary**



HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/DOCUMENTS/135426/

The excellent progress being made is the result of ad hoc arrangements and special funding. The underlying causes of decay and collapse, common to all archaeological ruins, will remain after the end of the GPP, as will the impacts of heavy visitation of the property.

It is essential therefore that the Italian state party should seek ways to ensure that adequate resources, human and financial, are available to ensure that the property is adequately resourced for the foreseeable future to deal with the ongoing needs of conservation and visitor management. If this is not done, then the structural failures leading to collapses will recur. Also, access to the property would be restricted to relatively few houses and areas. Widening access will lessen wear and tear on heavily-visited parts of the property, by distributing visitors more widely. It will also enrich the experience of visitors by enabling them to see more of the property.

### 2014 Mission



HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/DOCUMENTS/135426/

The mission also noted the ongoing impact on the property of legal actions. It has not been possible to conserve the Schola Armataturam because it is still regarded as a crime scene, while completion of the major storage building outside the Porta Nola is stalled because of legal enquiries. The Italian government is urged to do all it can to resolve such issues.



Collapse of 2010

## **2017 Report of World Heritage Committee**



HTTPS://WHC.UNESCO.ORG/EN/DECISIONS/7048

- •Noting the improvements made to the Management Plan, <u>requests</u> the State Party to address the following issues, which need further clarification, detail and further improvement:
- 1. The linking of the management of the property to the protection of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV),
- 2. The condition of the components and the Action Plan or programme of works,
- 3. The coordinated management between the site managers and the Great Pompei Unit and the responsibility for the implementation of the Management Plan;
- •<u>Welcomes</u> the prolongation of the Grande Progetto Pompei (GPP) until 2019 and the extensive financial contributions, and <u>also requests</u> the State Party to ensure that both human and financial resources are identified beyond 2019, to adequately deal with the continuing needs for conservation and visitor management at the property;
- •<u>Also welcomes</u> the consolidation and restoration works of the five threatened buildings within the GPP, and <u>encourages</u> the State Party to develop a programme for long-term conservation and restoration of decorative surfaces;
- •Also encourages the State Party to continue to resolve the remaining issue at Porta Nola, in order to complete the conservation of the major storage building;

### The final words from @MassimoOsanna



