



CARARE fact sheet

Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa

About us



The Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa was founded by Napoleon in 1810 as a branch of the École Normale Supérieure in Paris. SNS is a centre of excellence for teaching and research, with specialized laboratories.

The LARTTE Laboratory (Interdisciplinary centre for the Research, Planning and Management of Cultural Heritage)

collaborates with museums, cultural institutions, archives, libraries from all over the world, using IT for indexing, cataloguing and management of linguistic, lexical and iconographical data.

SNS participated in the EU projects META-E; CHANCE; I-MASS and, as a member of Consorzio FORMA: HELP ("Culture 2000", FP 5) BRICKS, DELOS (IST, FP 6). SNS is presently involved in the CALLAS project (IST, FP 6). In 2005 SNS developed the scientific and technical project for the Portal "CulturalItalia" for the Italian Ministry of Culture (MiBAC), which is the Italian aggregator for Europeana. SNS continues to support MiBAC in the maintenance of the Portal and as consultant in other EU projects, such as MICHAEL, MINERVA and ATHENA, for the expertise developed on descriptive metadata standards, thesauri and ontologies in the field of Cultural Heritage. More information on the projects and activities of the LARTTE Laboratory of SNS can be found at: <http://lartte.sns.it/>.

Our collections

SNS will make available through CARARE to Europeana two main collections, both of which are related to the archaeological site of Pompeii:

- **The Fortuna visiva of Pompeii:** a digital archive of visual and written documents on Pompeii from the XVIII and XIX centuries. It joins ca. 1800 records and ca. 50 digitized ancient books.
- **The 3D model of Pompeii Civil Forum:** a multi-resolution survey of the Forum of Pompeii, which documents the present status of the buildings. It is composed by 1 digital terrain model, 13 buildings and 322 finds (mainly architectural friezes).

The Fortuna visiva of Pompeii –

this research project, which started in 2002 and is currently ongoing, examines the perception of the archaeological setting and the landscape of Pompeii through the graphic sources and texts dating from the XVIII and XIX centuries. Such a perception, which on the whole defines the cultural identity of Pompeii, consists of a variety of aspects that differ and yet are complimentary, determined by the changes in taste over time and by different points of view of the authors that produced documents of various types on the most famous open-air museum in Italy. Visit <http://pompei.sns.it>.



An on-line Digital Archive joins visual and written documents dated from the discovery of Pompeii in 1748 to the end of the XIXth century. It contains three related kinds of sources: Iconographic sources, Ancient books and Manuscripts.

Iconographic sources can be browsed through a dedicated hierarchical thesaurus of subjects available in Italian and in English.

A Digital Library brings together the digital reproductions of the books and manuscripts on Pompeii which constitute the material for the Archive. Images of the books are directly linked with the Iconographic records of the Archive.



The 3D model of Pompeii Civil Forum – it was realized between 2008 and 2009 by the staff of Prof. G. Guidi (INDACO Dept. of the Politecnico of Milan) for the Pompeii project in agreement with SNS, the Superintendence of Pompeii and ARCUS S.p.a. (funding institution).

It is a 3D archaeological survey representing the present state of the Forum. A multi-resolution approach has been chosen for the

modeling, using:

- classical aerial images acquired for a typical mapping project,
- oblique aerial views for texturing purposes,
- range-data acquired from the ground with a ToF sensor,
- terrestrial images to fill gaps,
- conversion of small finds to higher resolution by means of dense image matching and reconstruction of simple structures.

The geometric resolution of the data spans from 25 cm to a few mm in geometry and from 15 cm down to few mm in the texture. The area covered by this model is approximately 150 x 80m and it is composed of 13 models of complex architectural structure and 322 smaller finds.

Contact details

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