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Guest-Editors' Note

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This issue of the journal *Joelho* is dedicated to a reflection on the enhancement of archaeological sites and the necessary interdisciplinary dialogue between architecture, archaeology and landscape projects that such work entails. These topics are the subject of an Erasmus Mundus joint degree offered by the Universities of Rome Sapienza, Federico II in Naples, Technical University of Athens and University of Coimbra.

Forty-four abstracts were received in response to a call for papers that stressed specific problems concerning the sustainability of archaeological sites. A selection process among editors gave place to nine proposals that are now published and organized. They follow three broad themes related to questions concerning archaeological parks, archaeological sites in urban contexts, and the role of architecture in archaeological rural sites. Most of these topics were also the focus of the design studios of the second semester of the master ALA in Athens and Coimbra, and the design workshop held in Rome in the first semester.

The article by Alessandra Capuano frames the issue of archaeological parks and the relationship between vestiges and urban transformation referring to the case of Rome, where the first concept of an “archaeological park” was born during Napoleon’s reign. The Appia Antica Park is a vast protected area where the archaeological context

goes hand in hand with that of an environmental ensemble of great importance; it helps to define the role of these areas in contemporary metropolitan contexts and was used as an interesting case to develop in the EMLMD ALA workshop – a comprehensive and integrated approach in the sense recommended by the UNESCO Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation of 2011. The problems of enhancing archaeological sites in an urban context, normally highly stratified, layered places that create complex urban realities, is the topic of the text by Konstantina Demiri, with additional references to the results of the Athens design studio. Lastly, the theme of the role of architecture in the enhancement of archaeological sites in rural landscapes is the topic explored by Paulo Providência, including comments on the results of the Coimbra design studio. A broader and inclusive editorial text concerning an appreciation of the archaeological implications underlying the papers' cases is signed by Domenico Palombi.

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Call for Papers

Archaeological sites have been considered as places of memory preservation and celebration of a past – settlements of communities and migrations of ethnic groups, cultural exchanges between communities, religious movements and their progress in the territory, and the processes of territorial domination, among others.

An interdisciplinary interpretation of these topoi crosses geological, historical, material, environmental, architectural and landscape studies, and allows us to rethink their interaction with the contemporary territory and the preservation of the signs of the past. That is, it allows us to think of these places and sites as potential levers of social, cultural and economic development of the societies that preserve them.

Places located outside of great touristic attractions, generally placed in peripheral metropolitan locations or remote areas of the interior, or in some lost places on the coast, are particularly subject to difficult economic sustainability. In spite of their dimension, many of these sites are of great interest concerning cultural value, local appropriation and identity, and they may have a new role in local development, in difficult or even survival economies.

The next issue of the journal *Joelho* is devoted to the crossings of reciprocal lessons in landscape, archaeology and architecture studies. It focuses on the disciplinary intersection and considers studies devoted to a reflection on the sustainability and conservation of peripheral archaeological sites. It takes into account the great threats involved in abandonment and degradation or that climate change implies (in particular on sites located on the shore of fragile coastline systems subject to collapse, changing seawater levels, river and stream flooding regimes, and forest fires). It also covers actions concerning the mitigation of threats

to heritage (fences and walls, coverage and other protections, inclusion in contemporary developments of archaeological remains; run-off channels; forests, plantations of fire-fighting tree and plant species), tourist pressure on the shoreline and inland desertification (construction of accessible routes, logistic and informational support, cultural uses of archaeological findings), and alternative uses of agricultural intensive soil that may take advantage of other forms of plantations, including millennial fallow. We are particularly interested in the connections between archaeological landscapes and other types of landscape such as: infrastructural systems where contemporary intersections collide with ancient ones; productive landscapes (agrarian, fishing, extractive, industrial), considering not only the rich collection of landscape devices (paths, roads and bridges, centuriation and division of property, dams, dikes and canals), but also the irrigation and water systems (ancient baths, cisterns and rural *domus*); the canning industry (*garum* in the Iberian west, Mediterranean and south coasts); and mining and quarrying (iron, copper or gold, throughout the country). We value studies that are based on: the interpretation of archaeological sites and landscapes through mappings and cartographies, and the disciplinary crossing needed for mappings (geology, botany, topography, orography and history of settlements), as a way of knowing geographical, ecological, historical and social systems and its importance in preservation and visiting, integration and alteration; the use of design and narratives that connect directly with readings of the archaeological context, producing sites of higher cultural and social meaning, and reinforcing their economic resilience.

At a time of strong, unsustainable consumerism with serious environmental consequences, the study and interpretation of the rich archaeological processes allows links between these places, marks and traces and the contemporary situation, thus demanding new design tools and processes. In support of a newly inaugurated European joint master's degree among Portugal, Italy and Greece, dedicated to building a common language between archaeology, landscape studies and architecture, *Joelho* is interested in these archaeological landscapes because of their potential for learning about and rethinking the areas where the intersection of the past with the present can generate improved ways of interdisciplinary interaction – and therefore foster a qualified architectural design capable of integrating and conserving archaeological landscape environments with the use and life of societies.