



Parco Archeologico
di Ercolano



Expanded Interiors

Bringing contemporary site-specific fine-art practice to Roman houses at Herculaneum and Pompeii

DISCOVER HERCULANEUM



EXPANDED INTERIORS

Is a project initiated by Newcastle University

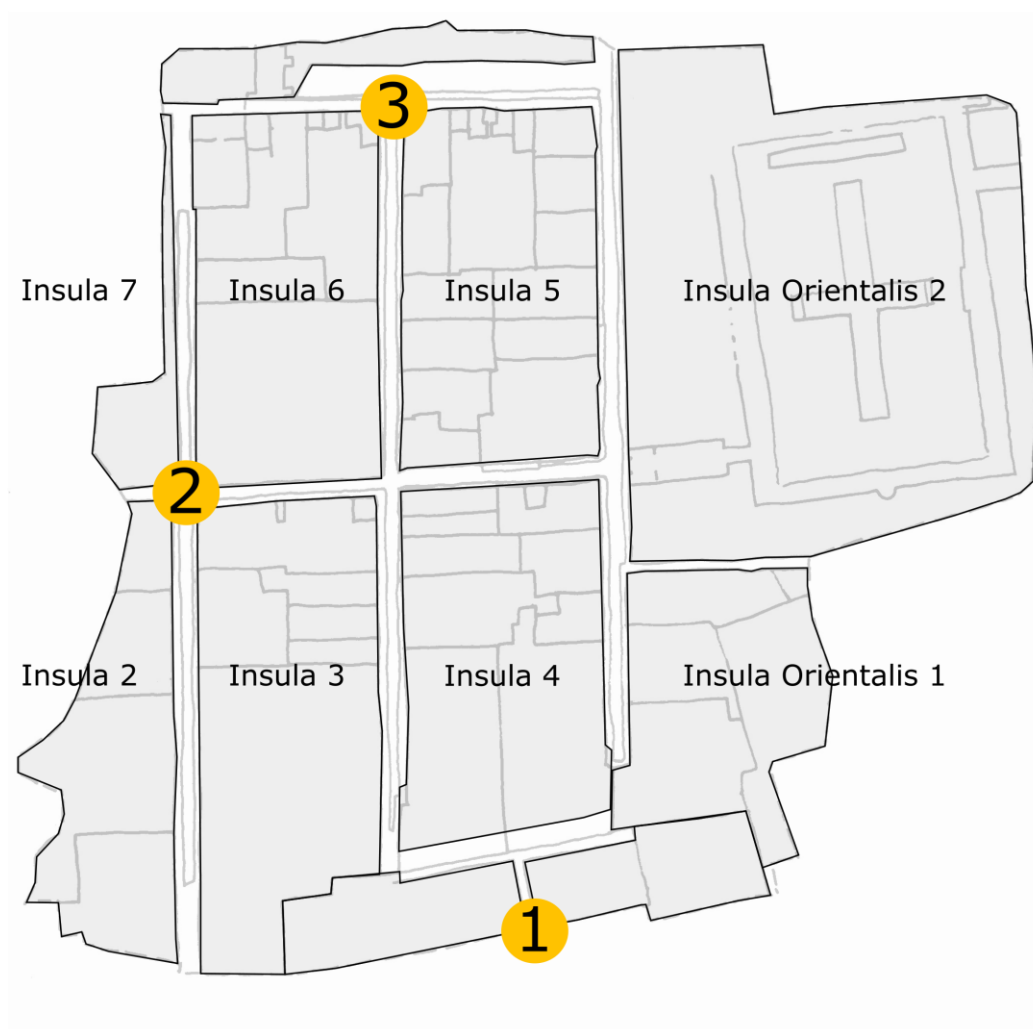
funded by
the Arts & Humanities Research Council

in partnership with
Parco Archeologico di Ercolano
Parco Archeologico di Pompei
Herculaneum Conservation Project
Art Editions North

<https://research.ncl.ac.uk/expandedinteriors>

1 PLAN A CITY

Had Herculaneum city walls? And how did people get into the city? How did they move across? Did everyone move across the city in the same way?



Find the places on the map and walk there.



Look carefully around and answer the following questions:

1. How did people enter the city from the coast? Do you think carts could enter the city?
2. How were the roads constructed? Who could use them: pedestrians, animals, carts?
3. What were the large curbs that you can see at the end of the roads for?

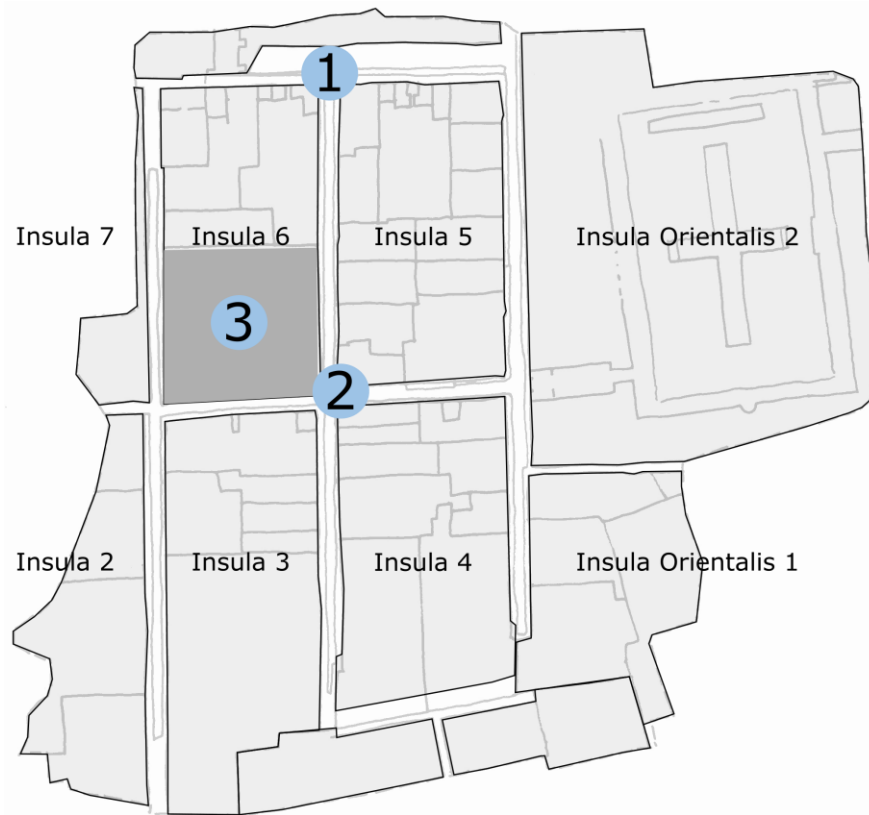


Now draw a city that you would like to plan: how would its streets be?

2

MAKE A CITY WORK

How did an ancient city work? Where could people find clean water? And what did people do with dirty waters?



Find the places on the map and walk there.



Look carefully around and answer the following questions:

1. How did public fountains look like? Did they have special decorations? Where were they placed? Who do you think could use them?
2. How were water towers made? What do you think they were used for?
3. The Forum Baths: where was water used? For what purposes? And how was water distributed in the building?



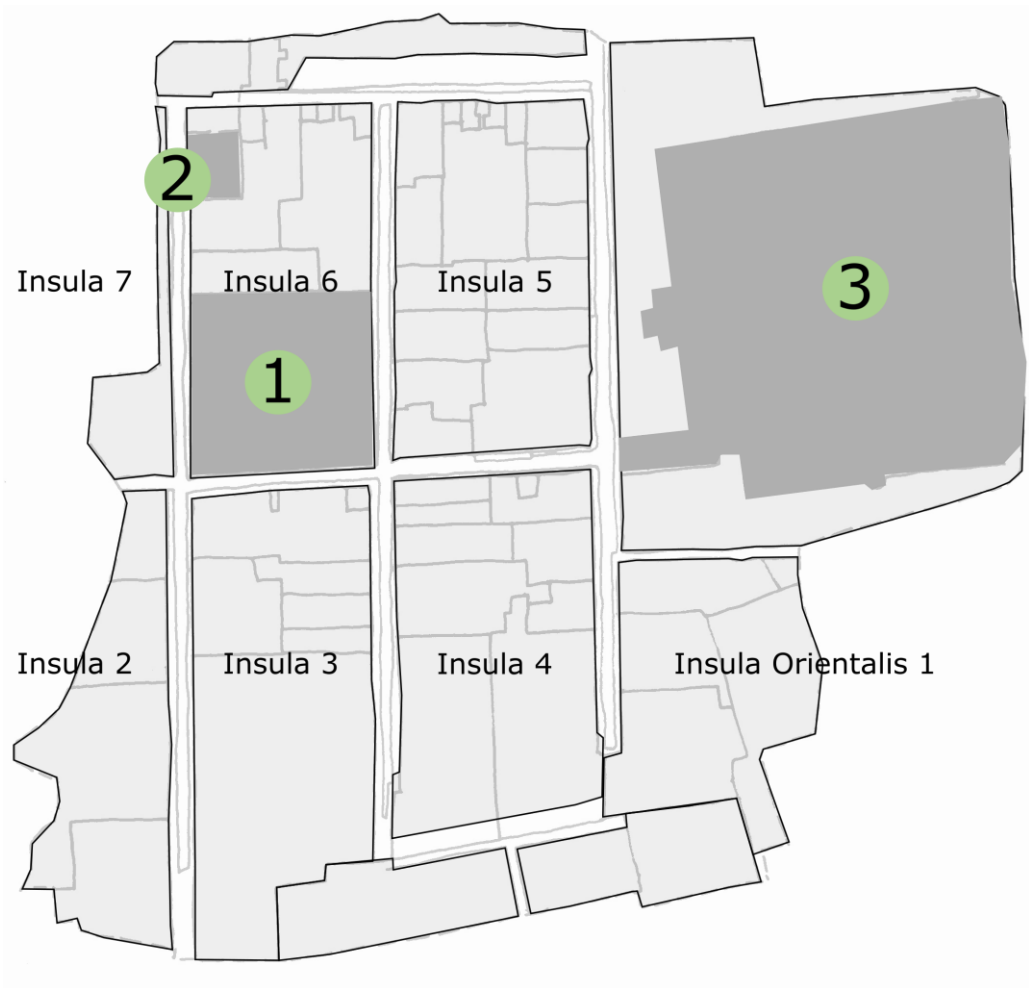
In the picture you can see the remains of the Roman latrines in ancient Ostia. Find the latrines near the entrance to the Forum Baths: how were they made?



3

MEETING IN TOWN

What were the public spaces of a Roman city? Where did people meet?



Find the places on the map and walk there.



Look carefully around and answer the following questions:

1. The Forum Baths: How did they look like? Could people have a bath there? Were the rooms heated? Where did people exercise? Where did people leave their clothes? Who used them?
2. The College of the Augustales: who used this building? And what was it used for?
3. The Palestra: who used this building? And what do you think it was used for?

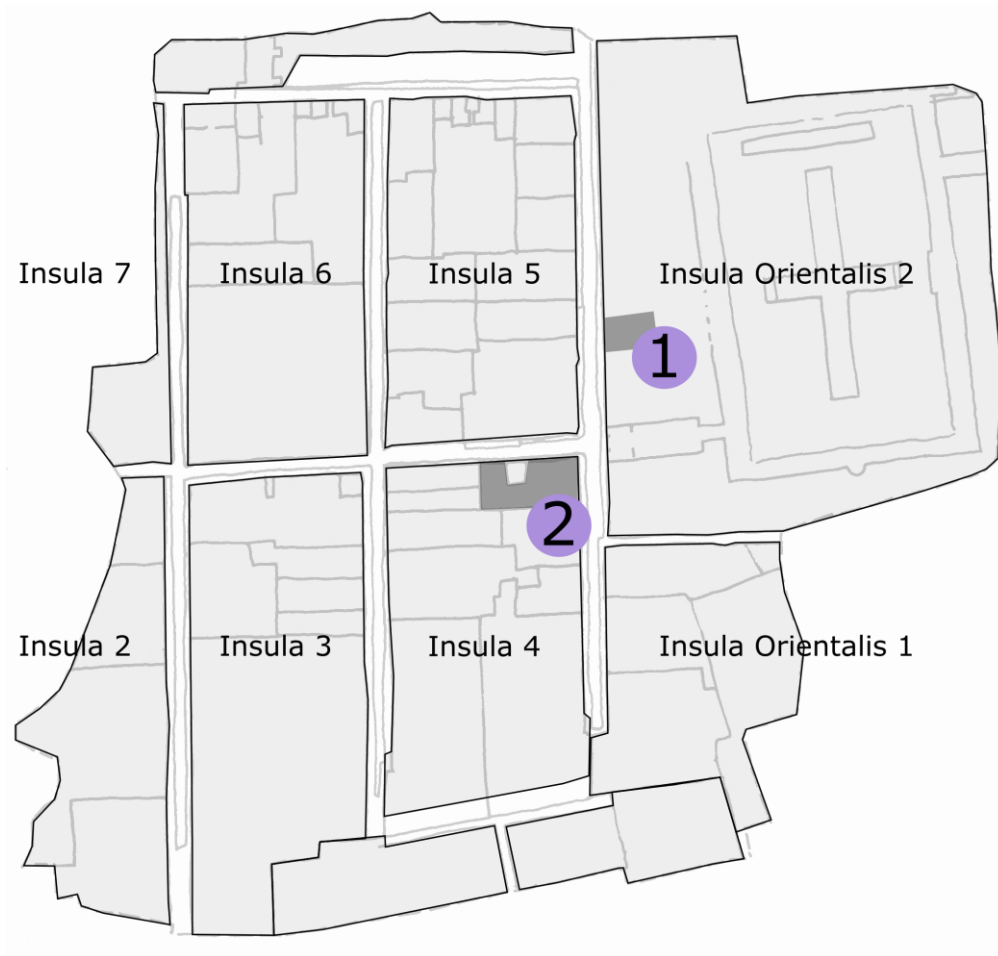


From the Palestra you can venture into the subterranean gallery left by the early excavators in Herculaneum. Look for the signs of the pick-axes left by the excavators on the walls of the rocks!

4

WORK IN THE CITY

What did people make in Herculaneum? And what did they sell? Which shops have been found?



Find the places on the map and walk there.



Look carefully around and answer the following questions:

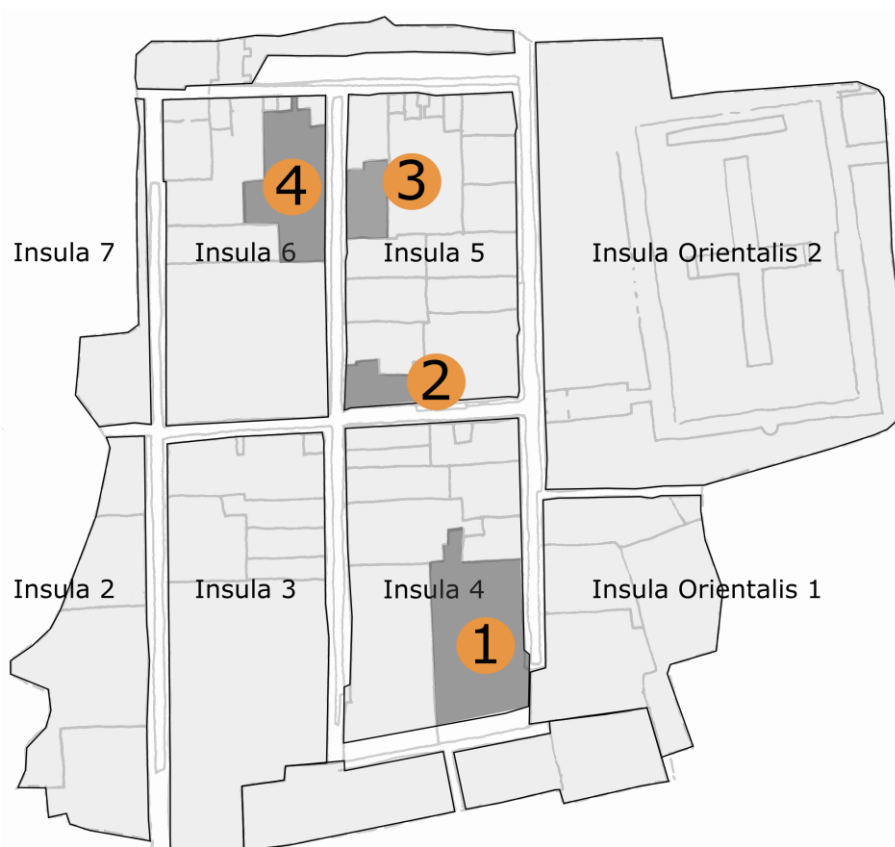
1. The bakery of Sextius Patulcius Felix: look for the mills, the oven and the stables for the animals. Can you work out how the mills worked? What type of stone was used to make them work? And who made them work? Where was the oven? And how was it made?
2. The *thermopolium*, where passers-by could buy and taste food produced locally. Where was food sold? And what type of food do you think was sold in a *thermopolium*?



Now it is your turn to draw: imagine how the *thermopolium* originally looked like, with clients having their meals there.

5 LIVING IN THE CITY

How did people live in Herculaneum? How did houses look like? And how were they decorated?



Find the places on the map and walk there.



Look carefully around and answer the following questions:

1. The House of the Stags: How does it look like? What is different from our houses today? Where were windows? Did it have a garden? How did it look like?
2. The Samnite House: how does the hall in front of the entrance (atrium) look like? How is the roof? And where did the rain water go from the opening in the roof?
3. House of the Beautiful Courtyard: why do you think it is different from the Samnite House? Does it have an atrium? Are all the rooms on the same floor? Why?
4. House of the Black Hall: what are the main colours on the walls? What are the main colours on the floors? Is there a correspondence between colours on walls and floors? Why do you think?



Now you can discuss with your friends and parents: did all the houses in Herculaneum look the same or were there differences in design and decoration? Why do you think houses differed so much?

