RePlacing the Old in the New

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ABSTRACT

Sustainability has become a primary value in a world increasingly pressured to rethink the long term impact of its practices. RePlacing the core information organizational skills of Art and Architecture Librarianship within the landscape of new technologies is the route to an environment which will sustain our profession. This paper will present a case study of the Restoring Ancient Stabiae Bibliography and Archive to demonstrate how, in the academic field, the traditional collaboration between visual & textual resource curators (cataloging, archiving, and collection development) and field archaeologists and urban planners can be enhanced, reworked and revitalized by collaboration with a variety of technologies (GIS, TEI, Digital imaging, web-accessible bibliography). This case study will demonstrate how the 21st century academic Art/Architecture Librarian can provide sustainable core services to their traditional constituencies as equal education partners. The case study will look at the application of GIS, TEI, VRA Core, CAD/BIM, etc. to provide an integrated web-accessible and remote archeological environment for field archaeologist. It will demonstrate the power of connecting spatial with visual and textual information to remote users in the field. The collaboration of field archaeologists, urban planners, faculty, computer scientists, and librarians/curators is a model in the spirit of the ACSL 2006 Report "Our Cultural Commonwealth." This case study will report one project which has revolutionized the role of the librarian as an equal education partner by RePlacing tradition art/architecture librarianship skills of visual, spatial, and information organization within a broad range of technological applications available to the academic. This is a methodology to articulate the sustainability of the core role of art/architecture librarian and visual curator within the expanding technological landscape.

This presentation not only addresses international perspectives in that some of the participants in this project are Italian and the completion of initiative has involved many overseas trips but also deals with the preservation of cultural heritage, the archaeological sites and their artifacts.