



## REVIEW ARTICLE

### THE DRAWING OF UNESCO SITES IN CAMPANIA

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#### ARTICLE INFO

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#### ABSTRACT

The Campania Region is the second Italian, on a par with Tuscany and Veneto, by number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The recognized world cultural heritage sites in Campania are: the Royal Palace of Caserta with the Park, the Carolino Aqueduct and the complex of San Leucio and the monumental complex of Santa Sofia in Benevento, the historic center of Naples, the archaeological areas of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata and the Amalfi Coast, the National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano with the archaeological site of Paestum and Velia, Roscigno Vecchia and the Charterhouse of Padula. This narration is part of a wider research on the theme of World Heritage Sites in the Campania region and the relationship between cultural and natural aspects, including architecture and the environment. Italy is the country to hold the largest number of sites included in the list of World Heritage Sites (49 sites), followed by China (45 sites) and Spain (44 sites).

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#### INTRODUCTION

This text is part of a wider research on the topic of UNESCO Sites in the Campania region and the relationship between cultural and natural aspects, among architectural and environmental works. The representation is performed referring to the definition given in art. 29 of the Code of Cultural Heritage (2004) where, among other things, it is written that the technique of relief is aimed at examining the conditions of the cultural property and its protection. It speaks of reading the signs and networks of historical systems, the compositions of perception where the sites are designed and perceived as art of nature and the nature of art. In research operations of documentary nature, literary and photographic references have been added to expose the compositional theme and structural beauty. World Heritage Site is the official denomination of the areas registered in the list of World Heritage or, in its English terminology, *World Heritage List*, of the World Heritage Convention. The latter, adopted at the UNESCO General Conference on 16 November 1972, aims to identify and maintain a list of sites that represent the particularities of exceptional importance from a cultural or natural point of view. The Convention Committee, called the Committee for the World Heritage Site, has developed precise criteria for the inclusion of sites on the list. According to the most recent update, dated 27 June 2013, the list is made up of a total of 981 sites (including 759 cultural, 193 natural and 29 mixed) present in 160 countries around the world. Before 2004, six criteria for

cultural heritage and four criteria for natural heritage were used. In 2005, this system was modified in order to identify only ten. The designated sites must be of "outstanding universal value" and meet at least one of the ten criteria listed below:

##### Cultural criteria

- (i) "represent a masterpiece of human creative genius"
- (ii) "witness a significant cultural change in a given period in the archaeological sector, in the architectural sector and in technology sector (artistic or landscape)"
- (iii) "make a unique, or at least exceptional, testimony to a cultural tradition or civilization"
- (iv) "offer an outstanding example of a type of architectural construction or technological landscape illustrating one of the periods of human history"
- (v) "be an outstanding example of human interaction with the environment"
- (vi) "be directly associated with events related to ideas, beliefs, or with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance (possibly a combination of more points)"

##### Natural criteria:

- (vii) "represent a natural phenomena or natural beauty and atmosphere of outstanding, aesthetic importance"
- (viii) "be one of the representative examples of the great periods of history as evidence of life or geological processes"

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- (ix) "be one of the prominent examples of ongoing ecological and biological processes in the evolution of the ecosystem"
- (x) "contain the natural habitats most representative and most important for the conservation of biodiversity, including spaces threatened with a particularly outstanding universal value from the science and conservation points of view"

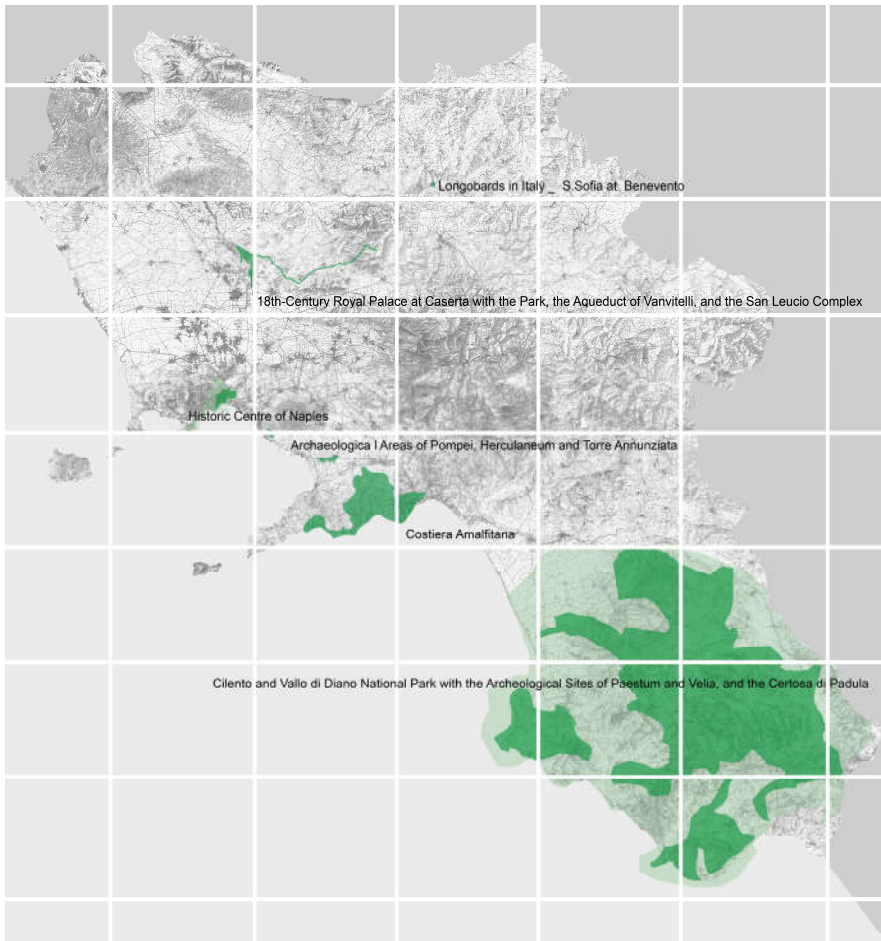
Currently, Italy is the country that has the largest number of sites included in the list of World Heritage Sites (49 sites), followed by China (45 sites) and Spain (44 sites). One of the fundamental tasks of UNESCO is the identification, preservation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage around the world. Campania is the second Italian region, on a par with Tuscany and Veneto, of number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The most recent recognition was made in 2011, when the thirty-fifth session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee declared the monumental complex of Santa Sofia in Benevento's historic center as a World Heritage Site. What makes the concept of World Heritage exceptional is the universality of its application: the places included in the list of UNESCO belong to the people of the whole world, regardless of the country in which they are located.

The recognized world cultural heritage sites in northern Campania are the Royal Palace of Caserta with its adjacent Park, the Carolino Aqueduct, the complex of San Leucio and the monumental complex of Santa Sofia in Benevento. The Royal Palace of Caserta with its park, the Aqueduct of Vanvitelli, and the complex of San Leucio were enrolled in 1997 in the cultural site category, with the classification of a monumental complex. The exceptional area that is located in Caserta, created by Charles III of Bourbon in the mid-eighteenth century to rival Versailles and Madrid, consists of a sumptuous palace with its park, the gardens, a natural woodland, the hunting lodges and an industrial complex for the production of silk. It is a clear and concrete expression of the Enlightenment period, well integrated and not imposed in its environmental context. The serial site of Benevento, called "The Longobardi in Italy. Places of power (568-774 AD)" was registered in 2011. For Italy it is the 46th site registered in the famous list. The series includes the most important Longobardi monumental evidence existing on the Italian territory, which are located from north to south of the peninsula, thus where the most important Ducati Longobardi domains extended, forming what we might call the first Italian "nation". The serial site includes the Longobardo Temple in Cividale del Friuli, the monastery of San Salvatore - Santa Giulia in Brescia, the Castrum of Castelseprio - Torba, which preserves important examples of military architecture with the famous Church of St. Maria forisportas, the Temple of Clitunno Campello, the Basilica of S. Salvatore in Spoleto, the Church of Santa Sofia in Benevento, the Garganico Sanctuary of San Michele in Monte Sant'Angelo. The church of Santa Sofia in Benevento, a central-plan building, has a presbytery circular section from which the apses protrude, while the western part is made up of broken lines which together with the sloping roof gave the characteristic appearance of a tent.

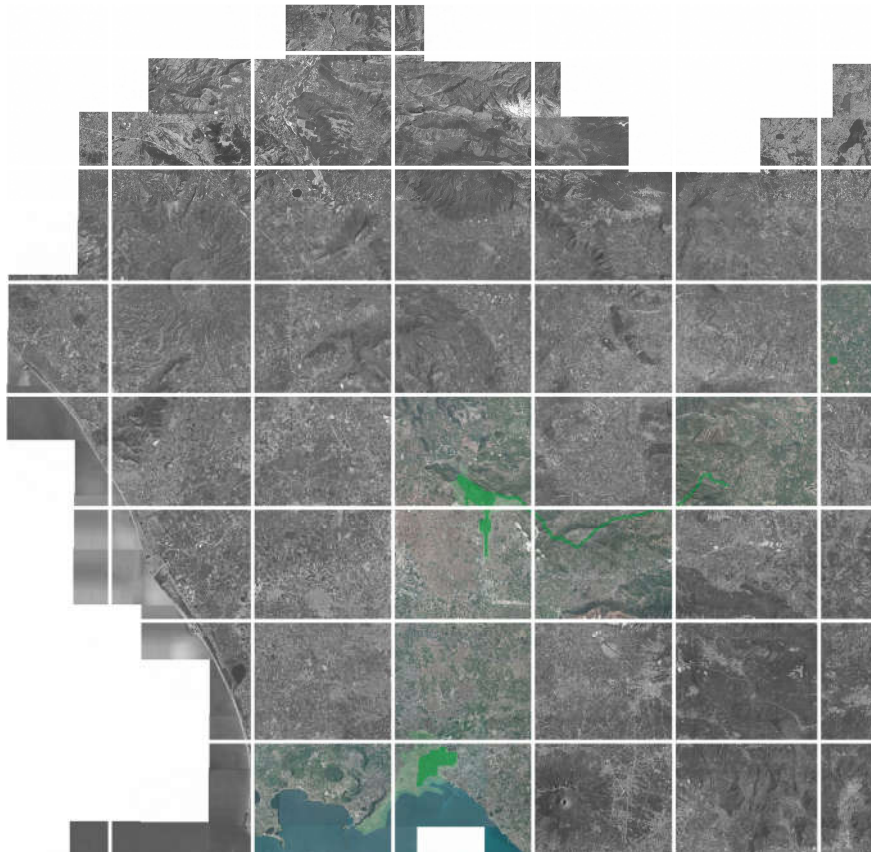
The recognized world cultural heritage sites in central Campania are the historical center of Naples, the archaeological sites of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata and the Amalfi Coast. The historical center of

Naples was registered in 1995 in the cultural site category. Defined as the historical center of Naples, "world cultural heritage", is that part of the territory of the city of Naples made exceptional by geomorphological factors that led to the ancient development, which is more or less identical to the current one, "born and raised" in a basin between hills to the east and the sea to the west, the marshes to the south and the Campi Flegrei to the north. The area has been recognized as exceptional and universal - as well as the oldest and largest in Europe - and turns out to be characterized by a Greek -Roman nucleus which was kept intact until the modern and contemporary era. It includes, within the supervised area by the Historic Urban Landscape, all elements that have helped to identify its intense value as universal, relative to the side of the mountain areas: the Fuga building in Piazza Carlo III, the National Archaeological Museum, the Charterhouse Suor Orsola Benincasa below the vineyard on the side of the Hill of San Martino, the Villa Pignatelli in the Chiaia district. On the sea side, the preservation of the remains of the imperial life of the city of Naples are marked in the long stretch of coast between the Castello Angioino and the house of Santo Strato on the peak of Posillipo hill. To contribute as a universal value of the UNESCO Historical Center is the checkerboard arrangement of the Spanish Quarter, in relation to the urban form of the sixteenth century, formally visible in the area in Mount Saint Lucia and replicated in the old quarters of the Duchessa Rettifilo, and Santa Maria all' Antesaecula to the Borgo dei Vergini, the monastic towns of Santa Chiara and San Domenico, the humanistic university area, in addition to areas of traditional handicraft and manufacture of via San Gregorio Armeno and the Borgo degli Orefici. The archaeological sites of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata, however, were registered in 1997 in the monument / archaeological site category.

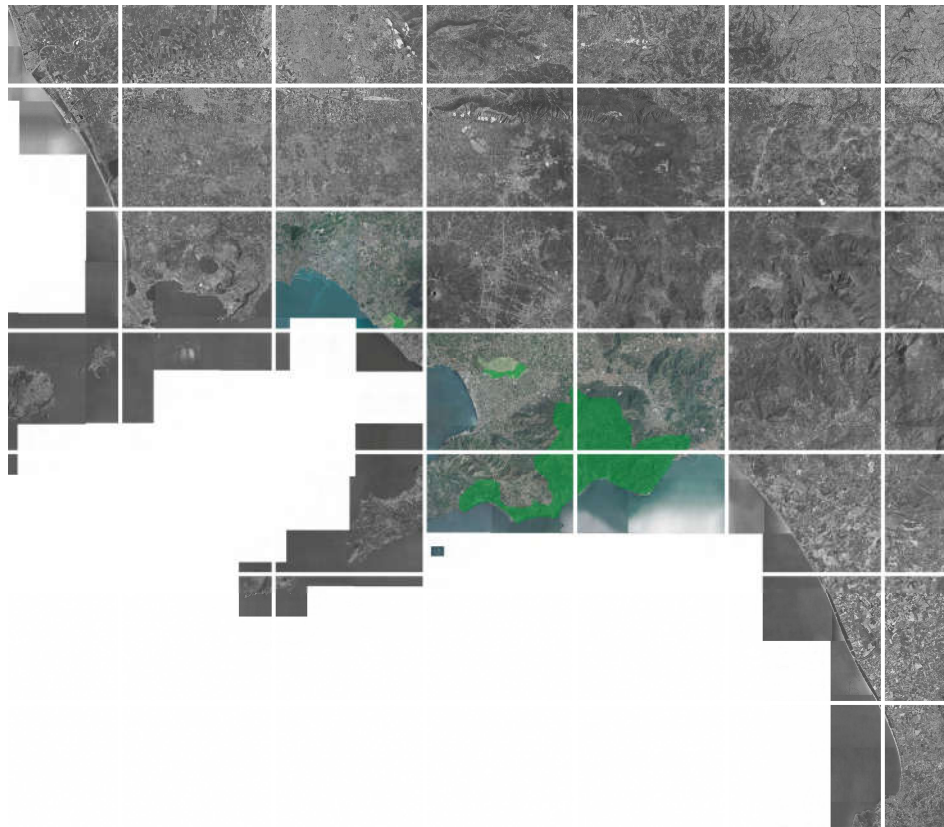
The remains of the ancient Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum buried by the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD offer a reality, unequal to any other with the rhythms of daily life of that historical period. Both cities of Osca origin were passed under the rule of various peoples, and following the Social War Pompeii was elevated to the status of colony with the name of Cornelia Venera Pompeian, while Herculaneum was granted the lower rank of municipium. In 62 A.D. Pompeii was partially destroyed by an earthquake and while the reconstruction was in progress, another eruption of the Vesuvius on 24 August 79 AD, the area of the city and suburban villas was again buried under a thick layer of rock, ash and lapilli while Herculaneum disappeared beneath the volcanic mud. Since the discovery of the two buried cities diggings have been able to bring to light important architectural evidences. Of Pompeii remained the main walk and public buildings such as the Capitol (temple dedicated to the divine triad of Jupiter, Juno and Minerva), the Basilica (the court), and the public baths, including the triangular walk, with two theaters. The largest of these is of Greek origin, reshaped according to Roman taste. Among the other public buildings of importance are the Baths of Stabia which are well preserved. Particularly significant is the Villa of the Mysteries which takes its name from the large murals that depict the rites of initiation to the cult of Dionysus. Testimonies of Herculaneum are less significant due to the increased depth of the remains even if it has the best preserved buildings. The Baths, the College of the Priests of Augustus and a theater, for example, are almost intact.



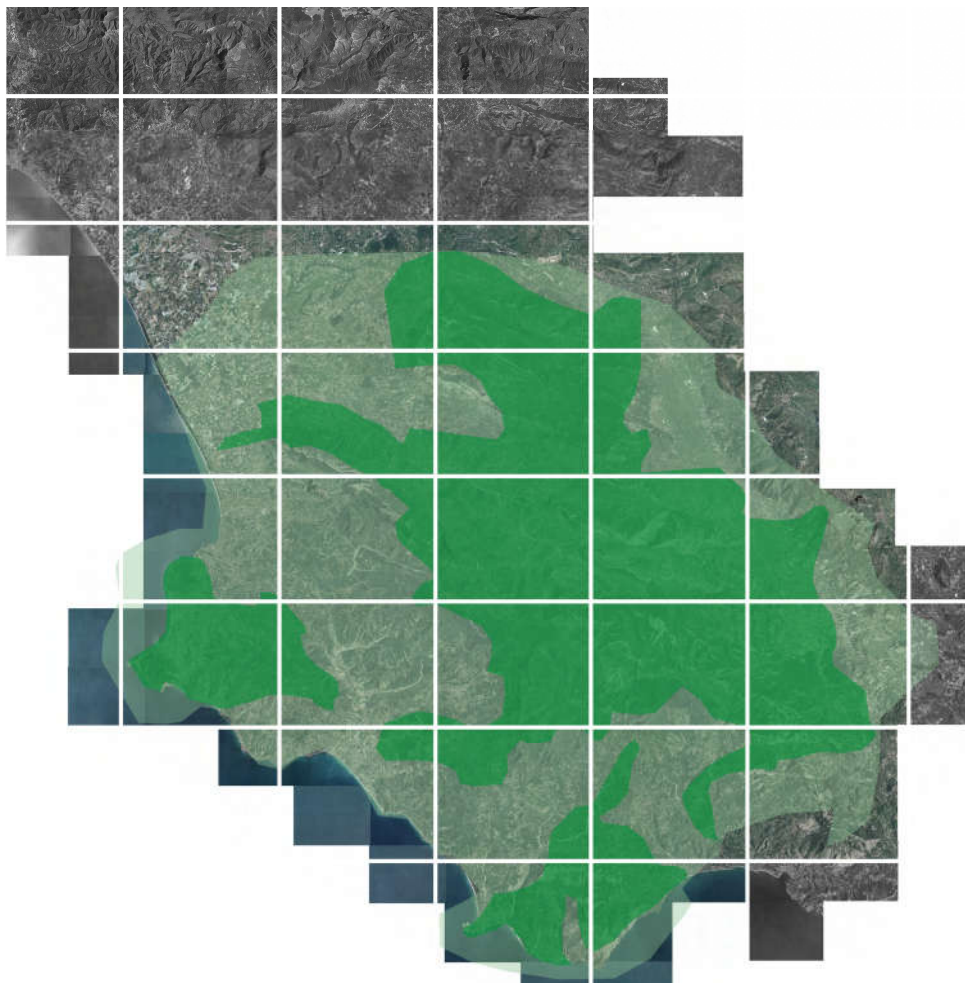
World Heritage Sites in the Campania region



World Heritage Sites in the Campania region: the Royal Palace of Caserta with the Park, the Carolino Aqueduct and the complex of San Leucio, the monumental complex of Santa Sofia in Benevento and the historic center of Naples



**World Heritage Sites in the Campania region: the archaeological areas of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata and the Amalfi Coast**



**World Heritage Sites in the Campania region: the National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano with the archaeological site of Paestum and Velia, Roscigno Vecchia and the Charterhouse of Padula**

Herculaneum was a rich trading city and in its stores there are jugs and other items used to transport food which have not been destroyed. The area of Oplonti, the current Torre Annunziata, suffered the same fate as Pompeii and Herculaneum. The Amalfi Coast, registered in 1997 in the cultural site category with the type of site being cultural landscape / park / garden, is characterized by an enormous immense beauty and natural diversity. The area was very populated from the beginning of the Middle Ages. The natural environment has undergone profound natural and man-made changes over time. The multi-forms aspect of the Amalfi Coast is determined by its location, exposure control, elevation, degree of humidity and other factors which, over the centuries, have enabled the creation of different vegetation zones that create specific ecosystems. The man-made environment, however, looks like a real laboratory with pavements of churches and cloisters, chapels and private villas covered in works of majolica. The view of the city are dotted with bright domes and spires of church steeples, covered with colored tiles arranged in designs frequently of meridians and parallels, in the symphony of color and compositional effects that have defined this heritage as "painted architecture". The recognized world heritage site of southern Campania is the National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano with the archaeological site of Paestum and Velia, Roscigno Vecchia and the Certosa of Padula, was registered in 1998 in the category of cultural landscape with types of cultural sites, monuments / archaeological site, historic building and monumental complex cultural landscape / park / garden. The nature conservation area of about 36,000 hectares, entirely within the province of Salerno, was subsequently extended bringing its surface to

181,048 hectares. It corresponds today to the southern part of the province, between the plains north of the Sele, Basilicata to the east and south, and the Tyrrhenian Sea to the west. It includes, in whole or in part, the territories of 8 mountain communities and 80 municipalities.

Knowledge consists of the reading of the territory, aimed at the understanding of all the complex aspects that contribute to determining the form, not only as the outside appearance, but also as a carrier of intangible assets related to the history, culture and traditions that in centuries have marked the environment by initiating a genomics knowledge of the territory, so to speak. The ultimate goal is to promote environmentally sustainable development of the region through the protection and enhancement of natural and cultural resources present, in order to combine the improvement of the quality of the environment with economic growth arising from the development of tourism activities, productive and cultural, in terms of sustainability.

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