

Report on the outcomes of a Short-Term Scientific Mission¹

Action number: CA23128

Grantee name: Olívia Pestana

Details of the STSM

Title: Transfer archival knowledge of the ENSP (Versailles) to support LA archive management and operation at the University of Porto

Start and end date: 14/07/2025 to 22/07/2025

Description of the work carried out during the STSM

Description of the activities carried out during the STSM. Any deviations from the initial working plan shall also be described in this section.

(max. 500 words)

Grantee enters max 500 word summary here.

The main purpose of the STSM was to explore best practices at the École Nationale Supérieure de Paysage (Versailles), with a view to replicating the findings at the University of Porto. The focus was on inventorying records before and during the donation process, analysing the potential of the ENSP national networking scheme and the policy for collecting and promoting landscape architects' archives, and technical procedures of description and indexing.

As planned, the STSM adopted a case study research methodology, focusing on best practices within a specific unit of analysis: the ENSP archives in Versailles, complemented by an approach to the ENSP library.

Under the supervision of Hanna Sorsa-Sautet, who liaised with the relevant contacts, visits to the Musée des Arts Décoratifs and the Musée d'Orsay were replaced with visits to the Centre d'archives d'architecture contemporaine, the Bibliothèque d'architecture contemporaine Jean-Louis Cohen and the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine Museum, all in Paris. Visits were also made to the Archives du Château de Versailles, the Bibliothèque de la conservation du Château de Versailles and the Centre de recherche du Château de Versailles. These visits were not initially planned, but the importance of the services and their direct connection to landscape architecture justified the decision to visit them. While the Musée des Arts Décoratifs and the Musée d'Orsay have important collections, the Cité de

¹ This report is submitted by the grantee to the Action MC for approval and for claiming payment of the awarded grant. The Grant Awarding Coordinator coordinates the evaluation of this report on behalf of the Action MC and instructs the GH for payment of the Grant.

l'architecture et du patrimoine and the Château de Versailles are directly connected to landscape architecture.

These visits were also useful for observing the potential of the networking established by the ENSP with partner organisations.

Data collection methods included:

- Semi-structured interviews with staff in all visited services,
- Non-participant observation of ongoing technical procedures wherever possible,
- Collection of documents and bibliographies,
- Photographic recording of the study.

A complete report of the collected data will be shared with WG1, and the best practices will be implemented at the University of Porto. A project to implement a landscape architecture archive is planned for October.

As planned, specialised bibliography was identified and consulted at the BNF (Bibliothèque Nationale de France) in order to collect data for creating the glossary.

Description of the STSM main achievements and planned follow-up activities

Description and assessment of whether the STSM achieved its planned goals and expected outcomes, including specific contribution to Action objective and deliverables, or publications resulting from the STSM. Agreed plans for future follow-up collaborations shall also be described in this section.

(max. 500 words)

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The research has two main outcomes. Firstly, it will enable the development of a model for establishing and implementing an LA archive at the University of Porto, particularly within the Faculty of Sciences, where LA is offered as a degree, master's and PhD programme. The first step will be to create a digital collection (including both digital and digitised materials), followed by addressing the physical materials.

Secondly, a report and presentation on the research carried out are being produced for WG1. The report will provide a detailed account of the evidence found in relation to tasks such as inventorying and describing items, using appropriate international standards, indexing items by subject, and appraising them. It will also cover the establishment of partnerships with stakeholders and the promotion of archives, for example through exhibitions. Due to the time required for the development of the document, the complete and detailed report will be delivered in the coming months. The presentation has already taken place at the WG1 3rd Online Meeting 'Transfer Archival Knowledge to Support LA Archive Management and Operation', which took place on 29 July. It will also be presented at the 2nd General Meeting in Nitra.

Regarding the deliverables of the LAA project, this research will contribute directly to the realisation of the deliverables mentioned below. The complete report to be sent to WG1 will contain chapters specifically targeting the deliverables. Visits to the ENSP, the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine, and the Château de Versailles contributed to deliverables 8, 11, 12, and 5. Visits to the BNF contributed to the collection of vocabulary for the deliverable 5 glossary.

- Deliverable 8: Documentation of archival innovation and a concise analysis as an illustrated working paper;

- Deliverable 11: Handbook manual for archival donors providing information on archives and collections, along with guidelines for legal contracts, archival institutions selection, and the preparation of documents and information for donation and in the course of everyday practice and care, in an illustrated text format for download on the website;

- Deliverable 12: Manual for archivists and archival institutions with landscape architectural records, offering guidelines for best practices on the archival process;
- Deliverable 5: A multilingual glossary on archival terms as an online document for download on the website.