



THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS – STRATEGIC PLAN FOR RESEARCH 2021-2025 | www.bsa.ac.uk

The mission of the British School at Athens (BSA), deriving from its statutory object as a UK-based charity, is to conduct, facilitate and promote research of international excellence in all periods – from the Palaeolithic to the present – and across all humanities and social science disciplines.¹ It is therefore the United Kingdom’s hub for advanced research in these disciplines in Greece and its wider Balkan, Levantine, Mediterranean, and European contexts. The research it conducts, facilitates and promotes makes significant original contributions to knowledge, offering long-term perspectives on contemporary questions.

The BSA’s long-standing presence (since 1886) in Athens, a strategic location at the interface between Europe and the Mediterranean world means it is ideally situated to explore the area’s deep history and connections and is well placed to build on its already important role in cultural diplomacy, a role that will become even more important in a post-Brexit environment. This strategic plan is structured around our mission – identifying the ways in which the BSA will **conduct, facilitate** and **promote** research, maximising the benefits and potential of its existing resources, while also seeking to develop further the range and scope of all research activities. It describes those activities that are in concrete planning. Research is, however, kept under regular review by the BSA’s two research committees: the Committee for Society, Arts and Letters (CSAL, with primary responsibility for the fine and applied arts, anthropology, the social sciences, history, literature and linguistics, with primary reference to the fields of Modern Greek and Byzantine studies) and the Committee for Archaeology (CfA, with oversight of all archaeological activity in Greece conducted under BSA permits and/or using BSA material and collections, from the point of initial proposal to publication and the subsequent deposition of project archives), supported by regional sub-committees for Crete, Lakonia and Lefkandi, as well as for the Fitch Laboratory. The advice of these two committees enables flexible responses to developments in the research landscape, or new opportunities for collaboration. As a consequence the strategy outlined here will expand and adapt to these environmental changes. An important element in our research strategy is to support independent researchers and students to whom we offer support, as outlined in the **Facilitate** section below. By definition, researcher-led topics cannot be predicted in advance; this plan therefore outlines the opportunities for, but does

¹ An emerging terminology to cover these disciplines is embodied in the acronym SHAPE – Social Sciences, Humanities and the Arts for People and Economy (as opposed to STEM subjects) – ‘a new collective name for those subjects that help us understand ourselves, others and the human world around us’ (<https://thisisshape.org.uk/>).

not define the content of, such research.

CONDUCT

The objective to **conduct** research is met by the BSA's research-active officers, its two major research centres (the Marc & Ismene Fitch Laboratory and the Knossos Research Centre), its postdoctoral fellows (and other award holders), and the fieldwork projects that operate under its aegis. The size of the BSA means that research depends on collaboration, enabling it to build a significant network of partners, a network that is international, stretching across Europe and including North America. The BSA's research activity thus draws UK-based researchers into a wider, international network to the benefit of all participants. Furthermore, because the BSA is a multi-subject research centre, its research is naturally interdisciplinary, fostering collaboration between scholars, at all levels and in different disciplines, and a continuous ongoing dialogue between those disciplines.

Archaeological Fieldwork & Study

Permission for UK-based researchers to carry out archaeological field research is granted by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports and is limited annually to six permits (three individual; three in collaboration with local Ministry archaeologists). BSA-sponsored projects receive logistical support from the BSA's administrative team, as well as access to the facilities and expertise of the Fitch Laboratory, the Knossos Research Centre and the BSA Archive. The Fitch lends its expertise in science-based archaeology, thus enriching fieldwork projects, while the Archive and IT department offer support in receiving and curating project archives, both physical and digital.

Within this framework the BSA plans a full range of fieldwork projects commencing in 2021. Continuing a theme developed in our previous research strategy on *Shaping the Mediterranean City*, the BSA will investigate four significant urban sites encompassing over 6 millennia of human history: the Late Neolithic tell-site (*toumba*) of **Serres** in northern Greece; the Middle-Late Bronze age site of **Palaikastro** on Crete's east coast; the short-lived upland site of **Karphi**, also in eastern Crete; and the site of **Kato Choria** on the island of Naxos. Each represents a different aspect of urban life in the past. Each project is interdisciplinary in nature involving environmental, bioarchaeological and materials science perspectives on the urban past.

- *Serres*, a large (7.5 ha) tell occupied at least in the later 6th to 5th millennia BC, and almost certainly earlier, has the potential to shed light on the emergence of urban life in this part of the eastern Mediterranean and will offer significant comparisons with the site of Koutroulou Magoula, excavated by a BSA team in collaboration with the local Ephorate of Antiquities from 2010 to 2019. The *Serres excavation*, preceded by surface collection and geophysical

prospection, will be a collaboration with the local Ephorate of Antiquities over five field seasons (2021-25).

- At *Palaikastro*, a site investigated by the BSA since 1902, this phase of work, in collaboration with the local Ephorate of Antiquities and the Ephorate of Maritime Archaeology, will excavate over two field seasons (2021-22) structures at the interface between sea and land, and will investigate the adjacent seabed to understand the city's extent prior to erosion and determine whether formal harbour installations existed.
- The remote site of *Karphi*, at 1100masl, was occupied for a short period at the end of the Bronze Age, during a period of disturbance and transition. The two field seasons of excavation, beginning in 2021, will build on work by the BSA in the 1930s and in 2008 to shed further light on why and how the site was occupied.
- Finally, *Kato Choria* is an 8.5 ha habitation site occupied at another transition period – from the 7th to 12th c. AD – adjacent to one of Naxos' castles, Apaliro. The three seasons of excavation, commencing in 2021, will help understand its relation to the neighbouring castle, its relations to the wider Aegean world, and why it was abandoned in the 13th c. AD.

Two further fieldwork projects will continue the BSA's pioneering tradition of *archaeological surface survey* on the islands of **Chios** and **Samos** to enrich our understanding of their long-term human environments.

- In the vicinity of the site of *Emborio* on Chios, excavated in the 1950s by the BSA, the *Emborio Hinterland Project*, will carry out systematic archaeological survey, over two field seasons (2021-22), that will allow us to understand the development of Emborio in relation to human activity in the region from the Neolithic to the modern period.
- A similar systematic archaeological survey will be carried out by the *West Area of Samos Archaeological Project*, in order to document settlement in the less well understood western area of **Samos** from earliest times to the present over three fieldwork seasons (2021-23).

As these projects complete their fieldwork phase, other projects will be initiated within the overall 6-permit restriction. Projects whose fieldwork phase ended in previous years will complete study of the materials generated and publish their results within the period 2020-25, including projects focused on the Middle Neolithic site of **Koutroulou Magoula** in Thessaly; on the tiny proto-urban site on the islet of **Dhaskalio**, set in its wider context by survey on nearby Keros, southeast Naxos and Kato Kouphonisi; on the Archaic to Classical city of **Olynthos**, on the Chalkidiki peninsula, destroyed

in 348 BC; and the Early Iron Age phases of the long-lived tell site of **Lefkandi** on Euboia. In addition, the recent acquisition of storage and study space in the town of Sparta will enable final study of a small residue of material from prior excavations in the region, while potentially acting as a base for any future fieldwork in or around Sparta.

Knossos Research centre

The BSA **Knossos Research Centre** (KRC) accommodates researchers and offers access for research to the collections curated in the Knossos Stratigraphical Museum (KSM) built by the BSA in 1966 and overseen by the **Knossos Curator**. These collections, the residue of 120 years of systematic archaeological investigation by the BSA, represent an exceptionally important assemblage of archaeological materials spanning the site's almost 9,000-year history, and include one of the best bio-archaeological collections in Greece dated from the 7th millennium BC, as well as legacy data from early excavations. The KRC thus offers opportunity to research an urban centre in extraordinarily long-term perspective, while also acting as a focal point for research on the rich culture of prehistoric and historical Crete.

Publication of legacy material from excavation of the Neolithic phases of Knossos, one of the earliest known villages in Europe, will be completed within the period 2020–25, offering a high-resolution picture of how the site developed from a tiny, founder farming community to a large village, drawing on both bioarchaeological and archaeological data. Other legacy publications that will appear within this period, shedding light on the urban fabric of Bronze Age Knossos, outside the monumental elite centre, present materials originally excavated, but never fully published by Sir Arthur Evans to modern standards: *The House of the Frescoes* and *The House of the Chancel Screen and Royal Villa*.

The results of archaeological survey (the *Knossos Urban Landscape Project*) over the entirety of the mega city will help us understand changes in its size and shape over almost 8,000 years, from its first occupation c. 7,000 BC to its abandonment in the 6th c. AD. These results will combine with high-resolution excavation and geophysical survey within Knossos' southern suburb on Gypsades hill (completed 2019), focused on the Bronze Age occupation, as well as systematic geophysical survey over much of the Roman city by the *Geophysics of Roman Knossos Project* (completed 2018). Full publication of these projects within the period covered by this document will help shape future research at the site in the coming decades based at the enhanced Knossos Research Centre (see below **Facilitate**)

Digital cataloguing of the Knossos Stratigraphical Museum collections is in process and is scheduled

for completion in 2023. The objective is to connect and bring together all of the information from the Knossos excavations, linking artefacts, excavation records and archives both at the KRC and across collections in Greece and beyond. These digital data will be organised systematically and will be fully searchable, facilitating the development of new research projects and teaching initiatives.

The BSA is engaged in a fundraising campaign – the *Knossos 2025 Project* – to transform the premises of the KRC, in particular the Knossos Stratigraphical Museum. This initiative, which has the full support and necessary permission of the local archaeological authorities, will upgrade the premises to a state-of-the-art research base for the study of all types of archaeological materials from both new and legacy projects.

The Marc & Ismene Fitch Laboratory for Science-Based Archaeological Research

The BSA's **Fitch Laboratory**, approaching its 50th anniversary of operation in 2024, is a world-leader in the field of science-based archaeology, specialising in inorganic chemical analysis especially of ceramics, combining ceramic petrology with elemental analysis (using an on-site Wavelength Dispersive X-Ray Fluorescence (WD-XRF) spectrometer). Research centred on the Fitch is both **collaborative** and **highly international**, bringing together a network that spans not only the UK and Greece, but much of Europe and extends across the Mediterranean and into North America. The Fitch's approach embeds scientific techniques within a human framework and with a strong landscape perspective, emphasising the practice of ceramic production, informed by ethnography and experimentation. In addition to ceramic analysis the Laboratory also carries out or hosts analysis of other materials (metals, glass), as well as research on zooarchaeology, human osteology and palaeoethnobotany. Research is a combination of team-based and researcher-led projects, the latter facilitated by research awards (see below **Facilitate**), and often involves the **Fitch Laboratory Director** and/or the **Scientific Research Officer**. Support for BSA-sponsored projects is a key element of its activities.

A key recent theme within the Fitch's overall research portfolio is **Mobility**. A recently completed project *Travelling Ceramic Technologies as markers of Human Mobility in the Aegean (TRACT)* (funded by a Marie Skłodowska Curie IEF) explored the mobility of potters around 1200 BC through archaeometric analyses of ceramics across six sites, in combination with archaeological observations. The project will generate publications, including that of an international interdisciplinary workshop held at the BSA on craftspeople mobility in the ethnographic, historical and archaeological record. A second project, also recently completed, explored connections between the Aegean and the far

western Mediterranean, applying archaeometric techniques to a group of Phoenician (Punic) amphoras of the 5th c. BC excavated in Corinth. Two papers have already been published, and further publications will appear. Building on TRACT's experience, a number of planned new initiatives will extend research on craftspeople and/or commodity mobility further to shed light on local and global phenomena, focusing on the 5th-century BC Athenian Kerameikos (funded by Wenner-Gren), Greek colonisation in central Italy in the 8th c. BC (Oxford-based doctoral research 2019-2022, partly hosted at the Fitch; co-supervised by the Fitch Laboratory Director), trade and crafts people mobility between the Aegean and the Greek cities in Cyrenaica (funded by the Society for Libyan Studies) and palaeomobility at the sanctuary of Mt Lykaion in Arcadia (2020-23, funded by the US National Science Foundation).

The Fitch contributes to work on regional and extra-regional circulation of transport amphorae found at Methone and in the Athenian Agora, the results from which will appear in a series of journal articles. New research will take mobility and connectivity beyond Greece and the Mediterranean to include investigation of a number of Phoenician amphorae production sites in southwest Iberia, Morocco and Sicily through a network of local research collaborations, to provide a more holistic view of such phenomena looking also at local communities in the western Mediterranean. A British Academy funded postdoctoral project – *Tintagel: Trans-European Connections in the Post-Roman World* – analysed 103 pottery samples from Tintagel in Cornwall, using both petrographic and chemical analysis, revealing new evidence about the origin of these pots in known and unknown production centres in the Aegean, the coast of Cilicia and the Mediterranean and Atlantic coast of Iberia. The project will be completed in 2021, after study of the rest of the Tintagel sequence is complete, at which point publications will appear.

The Fitch has also developed the concept of **Technological landscapes**, particularly in relation to ceramic production: diachronic examination of raw material selection and use, and reconstruction of pottery manufacturing technologies in specific landscapes, addressing questions of how traditions of making and using pottery were reproduced and how pottery supply and distribution patterns varied through time and across space in specific social and cultural contexts. Research to date has focused on the landscapes surrounding the following sites (for which publications are in progress): Nea Paphos on Cyprus (Hellenistic and early Roman periods); Kakovatos in the western Peloponnese (Late Bronze Age); Kastri on Kythera (prehistoric to early modern); Eretria and Lefkandi on Euboea (prehistoric to Hellenistic); Palaikastro in east Crete (Bronze Age); Kolonna on Aegina (Bronze Age to Hellenistic); Corinth and Sikyon (Early Iron Age to Roman); Toumba Thessaloniki (Bronze to Early Iron Age). This research strongly reflects the close collaboration of the Fitch with BSA fieldwork projects

(see above **Archaeological Fieldwork & Study**) and its development and nurturing of international collaborative networks.

Other projects within the Fitch's overall scope that will be completed and reach publication stage within the life of this document are:

- *Characterising pottery from the kiln site at Mikalef, Corfu* – re-evaluation by the **Williams Fellow in Ceramic Petrology** of unpublished legacy data in the light of new evidence, in collaboration with **Leicester and Glasgow University**.
- *Investigating cross craft interaction in ancient Corinth* (ceramic and textile industries), carried out by the post-doctoral **Williams Fellow in Ceramic Petrology** in collaboration with the **A.G. Leventis Fellow in Hellenic Studies**.
- *INSIDE - Interdisciplinary Studies of Hellenistic Pottery from the Island of Delos*, funded by the Polish National Science Centre and hosted by the Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures, Polish Academy of Sciences and the Fitch Laboratory, to investigate the question of local pottery production on the sacred island of Delos.
- *Aegean and Anatolian networks during the 3rd and 2nd mil. BC* – a new collaboration between the Fitch Laboratory and Ankara University's Mustafa V. Koç Research Centre for Maritime Archaeology (ANKÜSAM), to investigate ceramic and metallurgical technological traditions, learning and transfer across Anatolia and the Aegean, bringing together the scholarly communities from both sides of the Aegean (potentially in collaboration with the BIAA).
- **Institute in Athens** and the **Ephorate of Antiquities of the Corinthia**.
- *Introduction of the potter's wheel in Bronze Age Aegean sites*, involving the development of a new, more holistic, methodological approach that combines petrographic and elemental analysis with X-Ray radiography and scanning techniques; collaboration of the Fitch Director with an INSTAP-funded researcher.
- *Use of ash as temper in archaeological ceramics: an experimental approach*, carried out by the post-doctoral **Williams Fellow in Ceramic Petrology**.

A major four-year project commencing in March 2021 is the EU-funded *Interdisciplinary Studies of Pre-Modern Plasters and Ceramics from the eastern Mediterranean* (PlaCe), a state-of-the-art, interdisciplinary Innovative Training Network led by the Cyprus Institute and involving eight partners (including the BSA, UCL and Cambridge), that will train through research the next generation of archaeological scientists, integrating a wide range of theoretical and analytical methods for the comprehensive study of pre-modern plasters and ceramics from the pre-modern eastern Mediterranean. The project will facilitate researcher mobility, develop analytical and transferable

skills, and increase employability, while also enhancing our understanding of the evolution of plaster and ceramic premodern technologies and their adoption in different social settings, contributing to the history and archaeology of Europe and the eastern Mediterranean. (This research network will also contribute to the BSA's research capacity-building [see **Facilitate** below] through the training of an early-stage researcher based in the Fitch Laboratory.) Another important initiative concerns the Manufacture of Community Reference Materials (CoRMs) for ceramic and plaster analysis, in collaboration with the Cyprus Institute, University of Padova, Thetis Inc., and the National Scientific Research Centre "Demokritos". Following an invitation to a successful funding application (CNRS-IRN call 2020), the Fitch will form a network with a number of archaeological science laboratories around the Mediterranean (Aix-en-Provence, Barcelona, NCSR "Demokritos" in Athens, Cyprus Institute, CNRS-Alexandria, CNRS-Lebanon, Sfax-Tunisia), to design and produce kits of reference materials for portable XRF users, ensuring inter-laboratory comparability and collaboration in this rapidly expanding field of archaeological science applications.

Individual / Researcher-led Research Projects

A significant component of BSA research in the period of this document is either less dependent on specific facilities or is researcher-led. For these areas of research key resources are the BSA Library and Archive, as well as its less tangible network of research contacts. This section seeks to capture both researcher-led projects, as well as projects that involve non-archaeological, mostly Byzantine–modern, research.

The **Director**, who acts as overall co-ordinator of BSA research, aims to complete and submit for publication a book *A Short History of the Minoans* in 2022. The **Assistant Director** will complete a monograph (due in 2022) on *Connecting Communities: Economic and Political Networks in Archaic Greece*. The project involves analysis via GIS, network and computational methods of published legacy excavation data from across Archaic period (700-500 BC) Aegean sites to shed light on the economic and political networks that connected communities between 700–500 BC. It has been generally presumed that any networks that existed in this Period were primarily political, and that these are well documented in the literary and historic record. This project aims to provide a counter narrative to both of these points, suggesting, first, that many of the 'networks' reported in text are largely back-projections from later periods, and, second, that contact and the exchange of basic commodities ('economic networks') led to growing knowledge of other communities and an understanding of what they wanted. In addition, the Assistant Director will participate in the Western Area of Samos Archaeological Project (see above **Conduct**).

Post-doctoral research on several projects falls into the researcher-led category, but such is the interdisciplinary nature of the BSA that researchers naturally collaborate with other teams and/or individuals. Research on *Textile manufacture in northern Greece and the southern Balkans in the 5th-1st centuries BC* will be completed and published by the post-doctoral **A.G. Leventis Fellow in Hellenic Studies** currently in-post (2018-21), who has also collaborated with Fitch researchers to investigate cross craft interaction between textile manufacture and the ceramic industry in the city of ancient Corinth (see above). (We anticipate appointment of a new 3-year post-doctoral Leventis Fellow for the period 2021-2024 who will undertake a new researcher-led research topic.) The Fitch-based **Williams Fellow in Ceramic Petrology** carries out her research activities (outlined above) in close collaboration with other members of the Fitch team. She will end her tenure in 2022, when a new three-year appointment will be made. A post-doctoral **Marie Skłodowska Curie IEF** (2020-22) joined the BSA in Nov 2020 to research *Writing at Pylos: palaeography, tablet production, and the work of the Mycenaean scribes* (WRAP); she too will be working both with the Director, as mentor to the project, and with Fitch researchers in developing an experimental archaeological approach to the production of clay documents. Other areas of research within the period will be determined by researcher-led projects undertaken by post-doctoral fellows (see **Facilitate** below).

Archive-Based Research

As part of the BSA's sustained expansion into the study of modern Greece funding has been secured from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation for a **BSA 1821 Fellowship in Modern Greek Studies** (2021-24) to work on *Unpublished archives of British Philhellenism during the Greek Revolution of 1821*. The post-doctoral fellow will be responsible for overseeing the full electronic cataloguing, digitisation, description, and selective transcription of unpublished documents preserved in the BSA Archive relating to British Philhellenism between 1821 and 1833 (Papers of Captain Frank Abney Hastings, 1822-1828; Papers of George Finlay, 1821-1833), as well as study and selective transcription of the Papers of the London Greek Committee (1822-1828) held in the National Library of Greece (NLG). In addition, the fellow will organise and edit for publication the proceedings of an International conference, in collaboration with the NLG, to be held in Athens in 2023 to commemorate the foundation of the London Greek Committee on 28 February 1823. Funding also offers a career-development post for a 6-month Archival Assistant.

Further Archive-based research includes a project aiming to examine ethical and historical themes in cultural heritage protection and preservation. Under the working-title **Cultural, ethical and historical implications in evaluating the preservation of cultural heritage** this project focuses on the WWII

Anglo-American policy of defining, evaluating and ranking – in order to protect them – the ‘importance’ of various forms of European culture. Its pioneering focus will be archaeological remains and similar static sites, of various forms and age, in Greece during WWII. The project will make extensive use of the BSA’s Corporate Records as well as official Greek government collections elsewhere in Athens, in addition to archives in the UK and USA. The existing collaboration with Oxford University (seed-funding from the Fell Fund 2018-20), collaborations will be sought with the Greek Archaeological Service, Greek Military Archive, Greek State and Regional Archives, the Jewish Museums of Athens and Thessaloniki, and Jewish communities in Rhodes and Thessaloniki. Similar Anglo-American efforts in Italy and North Africa will be studied for comparative purposes, so the project has the potential for further collaboration with the British School at Rome, which holds relevant documentation.

The BSA Archive holds the papers of numerous British women and plans are in place to develop a research project within the period covered by this document on **British Women and Philhellenism** to understand and foreground their contributions to our understanding of both ancient and modern Greece. A key figure is **Irene Noel-Baker** (née Noel), whose writings in the Noel-Baker Family Papers in the BSA Archive show how growing up bi-culturally shaped her and reveal how she met the challenges of the development and unification of the new Greek state, the political unrest and economic upheaval of both World Wars, the Asia Minor catastrophe, and the Greek Civil war. Her writings also reveal the challenges faced by Greek women at the time and the evolving social landscape of Greece. Other notable British Philhellene women include: **Emily Penrose**, daughter of Francis Penrose, the first BSA Director (1886-1887), one of whose diaries the BSA holds; **Winifred Lamb**, BSA student in 1920-21, excavator of Thermi and Antissa on Lesbos, Kato Phana in Chios, then Kusura in Turkey; **Sylvia Benton**, **Vronwy Hankey** (née **Fischer**); **Mercy Money-Coutts Seiradakis**; **Hilda Pendlebury** (née **White**); and **Helen Waterhouse** (née **Thomas**). The first step is to hold a workshop to explore the information available and to establish potential collaborators, which would include the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

The period covered by this document will see the realisation of an exhibition in the UK on **Byzantium and Modernism**, drawing on the rich materials in the Byzantine Research Fund Archive held by the BSA. The exhibition follows a successful conference on the subject held in 2013 and about to be published as *Byzantium and British Heritage Byzantine influences on the Arts & Crafts Movement* (Routledge 2021). The exhibition will tell for the first time the stories of the rich relationship between Greece’s Byzantine heritage and the artists of the British Arts and Crafts

Movement, and of the role of London-based Greek patrons in advancing their work. Collaborators on the project are the University of Sussex, the RIBA, the V&A, the Mount Stuart Archives, the Benaki Museum Athens, the Byzantine Museums of Athens and Thessaloniki, the Cheltenham Museum, and the Barnsley Trust.

FACILITATE (Support)

The BSA facilitates research in four overlapping ways: through its **human resource**, **infrastructure**, **digital resources**, and **capacity-building**.

Human Resource

BSA **staff** assist research projects and individual researchers in acquiring permission to carry out fieldwork and or to study / analyse archaeological materials. In addition they offer valuable expertise and advice on all aspects of carrying out research in Greece, and enable connections to be made with local organisations (universities, research institutes, foreign archaeological schools and institutes), as well as the UK Embassy and the British Council, with both of whom the BSA works closely as part of its role in 'science diplomacy'.

Infrastructure

The BSA's physical infrastructure offers unparalleled resources to researchers, mostly concentrated and readily accessible on a single site in central Athens, with satellite facilities in the Knossos Research Centre (KRC) on Crete. The Athens **Library** contains over 75,000 volumes and 1,300 periodicals spanning the entire range of Hellenic Studies and maintains, through exchange relationships, links with many international research institutions. Recently enriched with a donation of 3,500 volumes on the modern history and politics of Greece, Turkey and their Balkan neighbours, the Library is well placed to support growth in research on the modern period. As with all physical academic libraries, a challenge over the period of this document will be space to house its collection. A parallel challenge, of which the Library staff are fully aware, is that of meeting the growing provision of digital materials. A smaller, Crete-focused Library offers support to researchers in our Knossos Research Centre.

The BSA **Archive** contains a rich collection of materials extending well back into the 19th c., but also covering the modern period, as well as the BSA's corporate records and the archives of many past BSA projects (see **CONDUCT** above). The holdings offer rich potential for research on disciplinary historiography, reception, the role of foreign institutions in Greece, travellers, and other topics and

the collections are made more widely known through a series of blog posts ‘Archive Stories’ (see **Outreach** below). The Archive is similarly challenged by growing need for space to house its physical holdings, while actively pursuing a policy of digitising to minimise damage to precious resources as well as to make them widely available through the BSA’s Digital Collections platform (see **Digital Resources** below).

The **Fitch Laboratory** offers space and access to specialised equipment (e.g., a range of microscopes, stereo to polarising ones) and reference collections to appropriately qualified researchers, including those collaborating on its research projects and independent visiting scholars, as well as analytical services (WD-XRF analyses; thin-section preparation). Access to additional storage space outside the Laboratory has provided the opportunity to create a new unit for experimental work that will significantly enhance the Fitch’s research and training capacity. As with the Library and Archive, there is an ongoing need to create further storage space for Fitch collections, while a priority within the period of this document is to make these available digitally as appropriate (see **Digital Resources** below).

A recently re-organised and digitally documented **Study Collection** (aka ‘Museum’) comprising a broad sample of artefacts from prehistory to the Byzantine period, as well as regional collections of artefacts, offers opportunities for research or teaching, particularly in the context of training (see **Capacity-Building** below). Important for the 1821 bicentenary is the collection of Philhellene George Finlay, whose antiquities (most notably his stone tools, fossils, and wax coin reproductions) comprise a substantial proportion of the BSA Museum Study Collection. A number of these artefacts are described in more detail in George Finlay’s papers kept in the BSA **Archive**: initiatives to link the objects and papers together are already underway (see **Digital Resources** below). A **Museum Archive** of physical and digital documents relating to the acquisition, display, and study of object-based collections is also maintained at the BSA. A significant part of this archive contains the unpublished manuscript of David Clarke, a former student of the BSA who aimed in the 1940s and 1950s to catalogue and publish its collection. The **Eleftherios Art Studio** is also available for practice-based researchers.

The BSA maintains the **Knossos Research Centre** (KRC), which offers accommodation to researchers and access for research to the collections held in the Knossos Stratigraphical Museum of (KSM). These represent a significant sample of archaeological materials spanning the entire almost 9,000-year history of the site of Knossos and include legacy material from early excavations, some of it currently under study (see **Archaeological Fieldwork & Study** above). The collections are in the process of

digital cataloguing with a view to making them fully searchable by *bona fide* researchers; this process is scheduled for completion in 2023. The premises of the KRC, in particular the KSM, are in urgent need of significant upgrading and the BSA is engaged in a fundraising campaign – the *Knossos 2025 Project* – to restore it, by the end of the period covered by this document, as a state-of-the-art research base for the study of all types of archaeological materials both from new and legacy projects.

Digital Resources

The BSA offers and continues to develop further its **Digital Resources**, which give researchers the opportunity to identify and/or study in digital format material physically stored in Athens through the recently instituted *Digital Collections* platform (<https://digital.bsa.ac.uk/>). In 2020, for example, it was possible to make available: the notebooks of the early-19th-c. traveller Sir William Gell, the diary of Emily Penrose, daughter of the first BSA Director, and many of the images from late 19th to early 20th-c. Greece contained in our SPHS Image Collection. More collections will be made available within the life of this document, including the archive of John Pendlebury (BSA Knossos Curator in the 1930s, the 80th anniversary of whose death falls in 2021), and materials from the rich Finlay archive in association with the **1821 Fellow**. Our recent collaboration with **Cambridge University** to unify digitally the archives of the BSA's excavations at Mycenae (<https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/mycenae>), initiated in 1920, demonstrates the rich potential for the digital unification of other physically separate archives, such as William Gell's notebooks (held at the British School at Rome, the British Museum, the Ashmolean and other locations) or the documentation and physical objects from Sir Arthur Evans' excavations at Knossos (split between the Ashmolean and the BSA).

Behind the Digital Collections platform lies the powerful EMu system, implemented ten years ago. During the lifetime of this document, and according to a newly designed five-year digital strategy, the BSA will significantly enrich existing data in EMu, as well as continuing to add new and legacy information. This database is the 'digital history' of the BSA, linking together collections, research, and bibliographic information to persons and institutions who have been associated with the BSA over its long history. Collaborations with national (Athena Research and Innovation Centre in Information Communication & Knowledge Technologies) and international partners (AriadnePLUS, OpenAIRE) offer opportunities to connect these data to a number of repositories, making resources more accessible in a range of different formats to researchers both on- and off-site.

Digital connectivity was significantly enhanced in 2020 with the establishment of a fibre-optic

connection to the KRC, allowing us to integrate it within the BSA's internal network. Digital documentation of BSA material collections was a priority in 2020 with a full documentation of the BSA Museum collections and ongoing work on registration of the material in the Stratigraphic Museum in Knossos. This work will continue over the period of this document, as noted above, with an emphasis on the Stratigraphic Museum and the Fitch Laboratory collections. The digitisation of existing material and archiving of newly created digital resources aims to improve accessibility, and facilitates the linking of archaeological material, archival records and intangible contextual data, thus ensuring that the BSA will remain a key hub for research data in the future.

A major task in the plan period will be the creation of a digital archiving system for fieldwork data from BSA-sponsored projects. Just as the BSA has been archiving physical records of previous projects, so the digital documentation of current projects needs to be secured for future generations of researchers. This data management will require upgraded physical data storage facilities, the implementation of solid, long-term backup routines and a plan for the use of open, futureproof data formats. Similarly, born-digital administrative and corporate data will require archiving in order to preserve and maintain the institutional history of the BSA.

Capacity-Building

The BSA will continue to build research capacity by offering **multiple research and training opportunities** (Fellowships, Bursaries, Internships and Training Courses), with an emphasis on support for early-career researchers and students.

The BSA will offer three three-year post-doctoral **Fellowships**: the *A.G. Leventis Fellowship in Hellenic Studies* (2021-24); the *Williams Fellowship in Ceramic Petrology* (hosted in the Fitch; 2022-25); and the recently instituted *1821 Fellowship in Modern Greek Studies* (funded by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation; 2021-24). The former will be advertised for Autumn 2021, when the first holder of the latter will also commence. We will pursue follow-on funding to enable us to establish the 1821 Fellowship as a permanent feature of our research offerings. Annually, we offer two fellowships to post-doctoral researchers or advanced doctoral students: the *Macmillan-Rodewald* and *Richard Bradford McConnell 'Studentships'*; each is open as to research topic. Over the period covered by this document, we anticipate funding at least ten researchers in this way. Each year, we host for three months a non-stipendiary *Early Career Fellow* (a UK-based academic in their first permanent academic post). At the opposite end of the scale, we host on a similar basis an established academic with our *Visiting Fellowship*.

In addition, we will continue to offer a number of **Bursaries**: up to three each year, of up to three months duration, in the Fitch Laboratory and an Arts Bursary to enable a practice-based researcher to spend three months at the BSA, making use of our Artist's Studio. Further, we will invite annually a distinguished researcher to both the Fitch Laboratory and to the Archive to spend a week and deliver a **public lecture**. An important element in our capacity-building portfolio is represented by the three **Centenary Bursaries** that each allow a Greek academic to spend up to three months at a UK research institution, thus enriching the UK research environment and fostering academic collaborations.

Finally, the BSA will provide a broad range of **Training Opportunities**. These are designed to enhance skills and knowledge, starting at the Undergraduate level with our annual summer course in the 'History and Topography of Greece' (30 participants), through a range of Postgraduate training courses ('Epigraphy'; 'Numismatics'; 'Prehistoric, Greek & Roman Pottery' [making use of the collections in the KSM]; 'Linear B & Mycenaean Greek'; 'Byzantine Archaeology & History', each with 12-16 participants) to courses targeted at both Postgraduates and professionals ('Introduction to Ceramic Petrology'; 'Glass in the Mediterranean and the Near East', both taught through the Fitch Laboratory; and an 'Intensive Course for School Teachers'). Less formal opportunities for training are available through internships (e.g. in the Library, Archive, the Fitch Laboratory and KRC) or volunteering. All of the above both enhance and extend the BSA's research network, while creating the ideal conditions for course participants to engage further with us in the future.

PROMOTE

The BSA recognises and takes very seriously its obligation to promote the research it conducts and facilitates through dissemination and outreach both to the academic community and to its wider public audience.

Dissemination

For our academic audience, our primary mode of dissemination is through our **publications**. Over the period covered by this document we will produce five issues of our journal – the *Annual of the British School at Athens* – and of *Archaeological Reports* (published jointly with the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies); both journals are published by Cambridge University Press (CUP). Both journals are available in digital format and we will work with CUP to ensure the BSA complies with evolving Open Access practice. We will continue to contribute to *Archaeology in Greece Online*, a constantly augmented digital database of current archaeological discoveries in Greece, produced

in collaboration with the École française d'Athènes; the database currently contains around 9,500 entries. We will produce at least two further volumes in our series *Studies in Greek Antiquity* (also published by CUP), plus a further two/three in the series *Modern Greek and Byzantine Studies* (published by Routledge), and three/four in our in-house Supplementary Volume series, which exists to disseminate the results of BSA-sponsored projects and the publication of legacy material. BSA-sponsored projects will also be published in other venues (e.g. through Cambridge University's McDonald Institute) as appropriate. In addition, many publications will appear (approximately 50-100 annually) whose generation has been enabled or significantly enhanced through use of the BSA's facilities (Library, Archive, Fitch, KRC, study permission).

A second mode of dissemination is through **conferences, workshops, lectures, seminars, and panels**. Like many institutions, we are delivering these virtually at present, but, assuming Covid-19 restrictions are removed or relaxed, we anticipate continuing to offer simultaneous digital delivery of any in person meetings in order to enhance engagement. The following conferences, panels and workshops are already scheduled:

- Research webinar series on Modern Greek Studies organised by the British School at Athens and the Greek Politics Specialist Group Organisers (5 meetings: October 2020 – June 2021)
- Panel discussions (Athens and London) on '1821: The Migration of Revolutionary Ideas' (February 2021)
- Travel, Archaeology and Revolution in Greece, c. 1800-1830 (September 2021)
- The Greek Language After Antiquity (October 2021)
- 15th International Colloquium on Mycenaean Studies (September 2021)

The following are currently at the planning stage:

- Conference organised by BSA 1821 Fellow – exact topic to be confirmed (February 2023)
- Conference on Corinth as a craft centre (Spring 2022)
- Punic Amphorae production and trade across the Med (Autumn 2022)
- Fitch conference for 50th anniversary in (Autumn 2024)

This schedule will be augmented as new opportunities develop and all such events will be disseminated via our website (www.bsa.ac.uk), mailing lists and social media, as well as being recorded and preserved in our publicly accessible Video Archive.

In addition the BSA will continue its seminar series (Upper House seminars; Athens Early-Career Network of International Scholars; Fitch-Wiener Laboratory Seminars) on a broad range of topics, as well as continuing to present annual public lectures sponsored by the *Fitch Laboratory*, the *Archive* (Bader Archive Lecture) and the *Library* (Michael Frede Memorial Lecture in Ancient Philosophy, in

collaboration with the University of Athens). It will also offer other public lectures, including a presentation of its activities annually in London, Athens and Thessaloniki, lectures by the annual Early Career and Visiting Fellows, annual panel discussions (in collaboration with King's College London-Centre for Hellenic Studies) and annual seminars in Ancient Philosophy (in collaboration with the Academy of Athens).

Outreach

The BSA is committed to extend and enhance its engagement with UK HEIs, across a broader range of disciplines, and with its partners in the British International Research Institutes (BIRI) network, particularly across overarching research themes that span the network, and with its stakeholders. The BIRI collective will shortly produce a digital and physical brochure outlining their individual and collective strengths in research and the opportunities they offer academics to conduct research in their respective regions. **Outreach** is not only critical to realising the BSA's academic mission, but also to realising tangible support for our activities through our development programme. Almost all of the events listed above are open not only to academics, but also to the wider public. In most cases they are recorded and made available through our Video Archive (<https://www.bsa.ac.uk/video-archive/>).

The BSA's Knossos Research Centre (KRC) will enhance its primary role in research by organising museum education programmes, lectures and cultural events, in collaboration with local government and cultural associations, in order to make scientific knowledge accessible to the general public and to help those in the present to engage in dialogue with the past, to understand it, to defend it and protect it. As the KRC is redeveloped we envisage an enhanced role for such outreach. The Fitch Laboratory also plans to develop educational programmes and public events to make scientific knowledge and the research process accessible to the public (funded through PlaCe/MSCA-ITN).

A vital component in our outreach effort – to academics and public alike – is further development of our digital presentation. We updated our **website** in 2018 and plan at least one major overhaul within the life of this document. On the website the BSA will continue to raise the visibility of its research resources with blogs on the Fitch Laboratory ('Fitch Blog'), the Archive ('Archive Stories'), the Library ('Library Stories') and, soon, the Study Collection. We have a growing presence in **social media** – Facebook and Twitter (9,254 and 3,241 followers respectively, October 2020) – with a recently developed strategy to make our presentation in this way both more effective and manageable in staff time. Our Digital Collections page allows anyone to engage with our archival holdings. Through

external partners (including Advocating Classics Education, East Midlands Classics Network, The Classics Library, and Warwick Classics Network) we will produce and host a growing number of resources for school teachers.

OUTCOMES 2021-25

At the end of the period covered by this document, we anticipate the following outcomes under the three strands of conducting, facilitating and promoting research.

Conduct

- A substantial body of fieldwork on urbanism and surface survey, involving at least **6 fieldwork projects** initiated within the period.
- A significant set of publications from earlier projects and study of legacy material.
- More than **5,000 chemical** analyses carried out and **10,000 thin sections** prepared in relation to archaeological ceramic samples and geological materials from all over the Mediterranean and Europe.
- Average annual collaborations in research with **20+ UK-based** and **50+ international** organisations.

Facilitate

- Career-development offered to at least **10 research fellows** ('students', in BSA terms); **3 three-year post-doctoral researchers** (AG Leventis; Williams; 1821); **1 three-year Early Stage Researcher** (PlaCe project), **5 three-month Early Career Fellowships**; **5 three-month Visiting Fellowships**; **15 Fitch Bursary** holders; **15 Centenary Bursary** holders; **5 Arts Bursary** holders.
- Opportunities for up to **25 interns / volunteers** to develop knowledge, skills, experience
- Enhanced skills / experience for c. **140 UGs**; **200+ PGTs/academics** through **course offerings**.
- Processing of c. **150 fieldwork / study permits** for materials and archival materials annually.
- Host c. **1,000 Library users** annually.

Promote

- A substantial body of material from BSA collections (Archive; KSM; Museum) made available digitally, some in collaboration with other institutions, including other BIRI, offering unified access to physically disparate collections.
- **5 issues** of *ABSA*; *Archaeological Reports*; continued entries to AGOnline; at least **10 volumes** across **3 monograph series** (CUP; Routledge; Supplementary Volumes).

- Significant numbers of publications by BSA staff (Director, Assistant Director, Fitch Lab Director, Fitch Scientific Research Officer, Knossos Curator, Archivist) and award holders (Leventis, Williams, 1821 Fellows; PlaCe ESR; Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellow), plus others making extensive use of BSA facilities.
- Organise / sponsor c. 60-70 events (seminars, lectures, panel discussions, workshops, conferences), in hybrid (physical / virtual) format where possible, annually.

The above represents an ambitious and substantial programme based on extensive international collaboration and interdisciplinary approaches. The existence of the BSA (like the other BIRI) will continue significantly to extend the UK's research infrastructure (tangible and intangible) by offering opportunities for researchers – through a single organisation, thus ensuring value for time and money – to pursue research across all AHSS disciplines and all time periods in a part of the world that is key both to long-term human history, and to the development of the modern and contemporary worlds.