The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Digital Library

The project

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Digital Library makes a selection of UCL's materials relating to ancient Greece available electronically.

750 items of special interest have been chosen from UCL Special Collections' Euclid and Flaxman collections and the Institute of Archaeology's site surveys, complemented by images of UCL Art Museum's Flaxman plasters. The project is led by UCL Library Services, with UCL Art Museum and the Institute of Archaeology.



Detail from the editio princeps, Euclid, Elementa (Venice: Erhardt Ratdolt 1482).

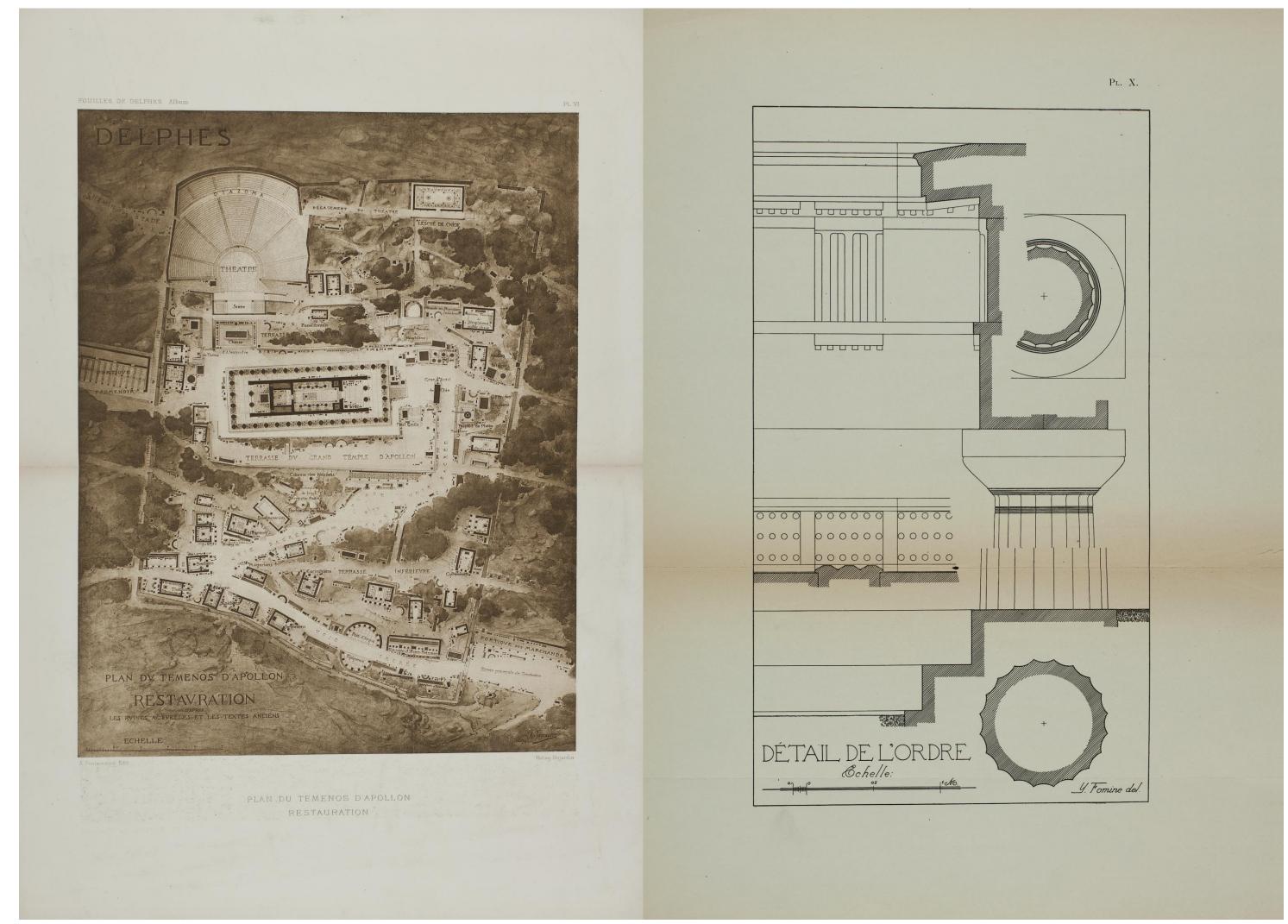
Items of note in the collection

Eighty-three Euclid editions printed before 1640, including the *editio princeps* published by Erhard Ratdolt at Venice in 1482. The first translation of Euclid into any modern language, the Italian of 1543, the first German (1562), and the first French translation (1564).

John Day's edition of the first English translation with John Dee's preface of 1570, the first edition in Arabic (1594), as well as later translations into Turkish, Chinese, Persian, Hebrew, Finnish and other languages.

Over a hundred high-quality illustrations and plaster models from the UCL Art Museum's Flaxman collection, showcasing the development of the work of John Flaxman, a key figure in the development of British Neo-classicism.

A range of excavation reports and surveys from Greek and Roman archaeological sites, illustrating the development of archaeological techniques from the 18th century onwards.



Details from École française d'Athènes, Fouilles de Delphes (Paris : Boccard 1902).

Benefits for student research

The resource will serve as a tool for students and researchers, allowing offsite access to the collections, and as a teaching tool by which students can have an opportunity to explore primary sources.

Many items in these collections are extremely fragile or very rare; the resource will enable researchers to train students for close-up, detailed research into texts that necessarily have restricted access and might not normally be available to less expert researchers. The breadth of the collection will also allow students to conduct research by comparing different editions quickly and easily.

The materials are made available under Creative Commons open access licences, widening the potential reuses of these primary research materials on ancient Greece.



John Flaxman's plaster for a Monument to Henry Temple, 2nd Viscount Palmerston and Mary, his 2nd Wife, 1847.



Flaxman's plaster for a Monument to Major-General Sir Barry Close, 1847.