参考译文

This is Scientific American's 60-second Science, I'm Christopher Intagliata.

这里是科学美国人——60秒科学系列，我是克里斯托弗·因塔格里塔。

Rome wasn't built in a day. And neither was the Roman subway system. Underground work is slow going, because construction crews often unearth mosaics, frescos, marble. And a few years ago, they found the wooden foundations of a luxurious porch from a Roman villa.

罗马不是一天建成的。罗马地铁系统也不是。地下工程目前进展缓慢，因为施工人员经常挖掘出镶嵌画、壁画和大理石。几年前，他们在罗马一处别墅的奢华门廊下，发现了木质房基。

So local archaeologists called in Mauro Bernabei of the National Research Council of Italy. He's a dendrochronologist: someone who analyzes tree rings, which give age and environmental info.

因此，当地考古学家请来了意大利国家研究委员会的毛罗·伯纳比。他是树木年代学家，主要工作是分析提供树龄和环境信息的年轮。

"We have to study wood because it's full, really full, of information!"

“我们需要研究木材，因为它身上全是信息!”

Bernabei and his team found that the wooden planks were oak. But the wood's origin was harder to determine. So they compared the tree rings in the oak planks to those available in libraries of tree rings that contain timber from all over Europe. And they found a match for the Roman lumber—from the Jura region of eastern France, more than 600 miles away.

伯纳比及其团队发现这些木板是橡木的。但是木材的来源很难确定。因此，他们将橡木板上的年轮与年轮库中的进行了对比，年轮库中包含欧洲各地的木材。他们发现了与罗马木材匹配的样本，该样本来自距罗马600多英里外的法国东部地区侏罗。

The researchers also determined that the French timber was harvested in about 40 to 60 C.E. And some of it came from trees already up to 300 years old when they were felled. The details are in the journal PLOS ONE.

研究人员还确定，法国木材的收获时间大约在公元40年至60年之间。有些木材来自橡木，被砍伐时树龄已达到300岁。研究详情刊登在《公共科学图书馆·综合》期刊上。

The discovery is the first definitive evidence of oak from north of the Alps being used to build ancient Rome. And it's a reminder that the Romans had a sophisticated trading network. These logs, for example, likely floated down two rivers, across the Mediterranean and up another river to Rome.

.这一发现是阿尔卑斯山北侧橡树被用来建造古罗马的首个确凿证据。这说明罗马人已经有了复杂的贸易网络。例如，这些原木很可能沿着两条河顺流而下，跨越地中海，再顺另一条河向北漂流至罗马。

Bernabei says Roman archaeologists usually destroy ancient wood—it's not as prized as jewelry and vases and mosaics. But he's hoping this study might change their minds

伯纳比表示，罗马考古学家经常破坏古代木材，这些木材并不像珠宝、花瓶和镶嵌画那样被珍视。但他希望这项研究能改变他们的看法。

"Save the wood, yes! And call me,if you don't want to save—please, call me!"

“拯救木材，是的!联系我，如果你不想拯救木材，请联系我!”

Thanks for listening for Scientific American's 60-second Science. I'm Christopher Intagliata.

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听力原文

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