

POMPEII CITY REGION VIII

407. VIII.ii.1.

House of Championnet I

This house was excavated in 1799 and to the rear of the *tablinium* there was a *portico* which enclosed an area surrounded by a gutter. Openings were cut in the floor where the twelve supporting columns stood to allow light into the rooms below in the volcanic ledge. Mazois and Fiorelli labeled this area a hanging garden because of this configuration. A grand view of the Bay of Naples and the mountains could be enjoyed from the terraces on two levels in this house, and potted plants and shrubs may have been placed there.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Boyce, p. 74, no. 341; Breton, p. 502; Dyer, p. 441; Fiorelli, *Descr.*, p. 442; Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, p. 205; Maiuri, *NSc* (1933), p. 272; Mazois, 2:62 and pls. 21 (plan), 22; Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 3, "Topografia," pl. 6 (plan); Noack-Lehmann, pp. 114-121 passim and figs. 32 on p. 116, 33 on p. 117 (plans) and pl. 17 (plan), pl. 26 (reconstruction); *PAH*, vol. 1, pt.2, p 173 (May 16, 1800).

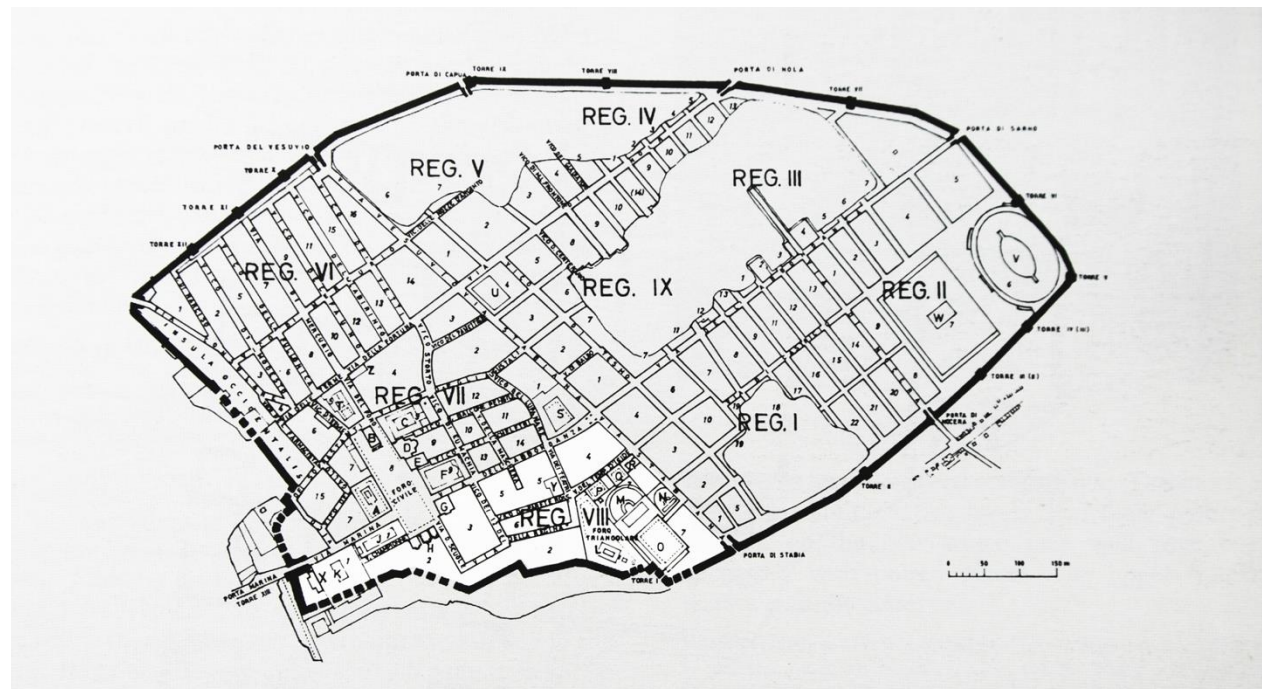


Fig. 1, Plan of Pompeii with Region VIII highlighted



Fig. 2, Plan of Region VIII, insula ii



Fig 3, 10.2.59, View of insula ii from below

408. VIII.ii.3.***House of Championnet II***

This house, very similar to VII.ii.1, was also excavated in 1799. This *peristyle* garden had fourteen columns and was more rectangular. There was a terrace to the rear and a small room off the northwest corner of the *peristyle* which Mazois and Fiorello have labeled a *sacrarium*.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Boyce, p. 74, no. 342; Breton, p. 501; Fiorelli, *Descr.*, p.443; Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, p. 205; Mau, *RM* (1892), p. 14 and pl. 1 (plan); Mazois, 2:61 and pls. 21 (plan); Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 3, "Topografia," pl. 6 (plan); Noack-Lehmann, pp. 121-128 *passim* and fig. 32 (plan) on p. 116 and pl. 17 (plans).



VIII.ii.3. South view in atrium across impluvium, and across tablinum to peristyle.

409. VIII.ii.13.

The room (b) to the east had a good view into this garden (a) which was located to the rear of the *tablinium*. A column supported *portico* bordered the garden on the east and south.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Fiorelli, *Descr.*, pp. 444-445; Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, p. 205; Mau, *RM* (1892), p. 3 and pl.1; Noack-Lehmann, pp. 128-136 passim and pl. 18 (plan); Sogliano, *NSc* (1899), p. 143.



VIII.ii.13. North view along portico towards peristyle garden and entry way

410. VIII.ii.14/16.

A. The volcanic ledge that this *peristyle* garden (a) was built on dictated an irregular shape to the *portico* that enclosed it. The *portico* had fourteen columns and a rectangular pool in the south-east corner. The west wall of the pool had fourteen small *amphoras* (30 cm. long; mouth 9.5 cm. wide) arranged in a row of nine on the bottom with a row of eight above. The east wall of the pool had a single row of eight. These provided shelter and spawning places for fish. A possible garden ornament, a *tondo* (Mus. Naz. inv. no. 121 612), was found in the house. The traces of a garden painting were reported in room II on the lower level by Noack-Hartleben, consisting of a black dado with a yellow fence and foliage painted behind this.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Döhl, p. 42; Dwyer, “Oscilla,” p. 280, no. 100; Jashemski, *Gardens*, 1:110 and fig. 178 on p. 109 and no. 94 on p. 348; *Idem*, *Gardens*, vol.II, pp. 205-206, 364-365; Mau, RM (1892), p. 7 and pl.1; Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 4, “Nuovi scavi,” p. 61; Noack-Hartleben, p. 155 and pls. 18 (ground floor), 20(lower levels); Noack-Lehmann, pp. 141-157 passim, pls. 18, 20 (plans and section); Sogliano, NSc (1890), p. 328; Sogliano, NSc (1893), p. 4; Ibid, (1894), p. 147; Ibid, (1899), pp. 23, 141-143 and fig.1 (plan) on p. 141.



VIII.2.13/14/16. South side view looking across peristyle and enclosing portico

411. VIII.ii.14/16.

B. Built on the volcanic ledge, only a triangular segment of this terrace garden (a) with a *portico* on the east and north survived. From here the view of the mountains and the Bay could be enjoyed looking over a planted area that was slightly lower than the *portico*. There was a large light filled room (c) between the two *peristyles* of this house and terraces on the two lower levels that well could have had potted plants.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, p. 206; Mau, *RM* (1892), pp. 9-10 and pl.1; Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 4, “Nuovi scavi,” p. 61; Noack-Lehmann, pp. 141-157 *passim*, figs. 37 on p. 147, 38 on p. 149 and pls. 18, 20 (plans and section); Sogliano, *NSc* (1893), pp. 48-49.



VIII.ii.14/16. South East corner room of peristyle, opposite the pool.

412. VIII.ii.18-20.

A. The Sarno Bath is included in this block of irregular shaped houses, reached by entrance 17 on the Via della Scuole that goes to the lower levels. On the street level there was a small *peristyle* garden (a) located in the center of the house. Two pillars supported a *portico* on three sides of the garden and the large *triclinium* (b) offered a view of the garden. A beautifully rendered painting of grape vines with clusters of fruit, birds, lizards and a little mouse graced the **black** walls of the *peristyle*. (note, should this word be “back”?...p. 207)

BIBLIOGRAPHY: de Vos, *Guida*, p. 58; Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, p. 207; Koloski-Ostrow, no. 20 on fig. 1 (plan); Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 4, “Nuovi scavi,” p. 56; Noack-Lehmann, pp. 97-110 passim, fig. 27 on p. 100 (plan) and pls. 15, 16, (plans and sections); RM (1890), pp. 116, 120-122 and pls. 5.2 and 6; Schefold, *WandP*, p. 212; Sogliano, *NSc* (1893), p. 37; Sogliano, “Scavi,” p. 340.



VIII.ii.18 Pompeii. South wall painting featuring grape vines

413. VIII.ii.18-20.

B. The irregular shapes of the buildings created this triangular light well. Two large windows allowed light into the passageway from the street at entrance 20, which also received light from a third window before the passageway ended at the *peristyle*. The light well had a tufa gutter that drained to the east into a cistern that was accessed in the kitchen. There were likely some plantings in the light well, as well as on the four *porticoed* terraces to the rear, including the upper level terrace that did not survive.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, p. 207; Koloski-Ostrow, no. 11 on fig. 1 (plan); Mau, *RM* (1890), p. 119; *Ibid*, (1892), pl. 1 (plan); Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 4, “Nuovi scavi,” p. 55; Noack-Lehmann, fig. 27 (plan) on p. 100, fig. 28 (plan) on p. 103 and pl. 25, bottom drawing (reconstruction); Sogliano, *NSc* (1893), p. 37 and plan on p. 35; Sogliano, “Scavi,” p. 399, 340.



VIII.ii.20. West view featuring the wall of the triangular light-well.

414. VIII.ii.29-30.

There was a narrow *portico* on the eastern lower level of this double house 2.20 m. wide with columns connected by a wooden fence. Several steps lower the construction of a supporting wall on the lava ledge allowed room for a small garden (a) with a pool in the center. The house on the west had a terrace at this level which may have contained potted plants. A splendid view of the Bay and the mountains was offered from two wide terraces on the street level to the back of these houses, and these may have been used as roof gardens.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, p. 208-209; Mau, *RM* (1884), pp. 212-214; Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 4, "Nuovi scavi," p. 20; Noack-Lehmann, pp. 55-70 *passim* and fig. 17 on p. 62, fig. 18 on p. 65 (plan), pls. 9, 10 (plan and section) and pls. 22, 23 (reconstructions); Sogliano, *NSc* (1883), p. 347.



Fig. 4, Plan of Region VIII, insula ii, 29-39

415. VIII.ii.34.

A colonnaded *portico* stood at the edge of the terrace (a) on the street level of this house. Below it was another terrace enclosed by a low wall. Sogliano and Mau disagree as to whether the wall contained a space for plants as only a part on the east remained. This was plastered and painted with a Nile scene, the surviving sections showing a crocodile pursued by a pigmy with a shield and lance and a pigmy woman with a basket and a hippopotamus nearby.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, p. 209; Mau, *RM* (1886), pp. 152-153, 156, 157 and pls. 7a.2, 3, (plan); Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 4, “Nuovi scavi,” p. 19; Noack-Lehmann, pp. 44-55 *passim*, and fig. 12 (plan) on p. 52 and pls. 22, 23 (reconstructions); Schefold, *WändP*, p. 217; Sogliano, *NSc* (1885), p. 257.



VIII.ii.34. Northview across atrium

416. VIII.ii.36-37.

This house was excavated in 1885. The entrance at 37 went into the *atrium* and beyond that, up two steps, was the *peristyle* with a *portico* on three sides supported by stuccoed columns, only three of which have remained to date. The first intercolumniation on the north-east was filled with a wall. A gutter surrounded this area, which was paved, with a narrow masonry pool at the south end. All that remained of the pool was a depression in the pavement. Potted plants would have been placed around the pool and the area would have served as a garden. Terraces overlooking the bay and mountains were located on the street level and one level lower at the back of the houses, and a *portico* was built just before the lower terrace at the back of house 36.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, p. 209; Mau, *RM* (1886), pp. 206-207 and pl. 12 (plan); Mazois, vol. 2 pls. 32, 33; Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 4, “Nuovi scavi,” pp. 16, 17; Noack-Lehmann, pp. 31-44 *passim*, pls. 5, 6 (plans) and 21 (reconstruction); Sogliano, *NSc* (1885), p. 535 and plan on pp. 253 and 533.



VIII.ii.36-37. Rear terraces of house 36 featuring portico .

417. VIII.ii.39.

House of Emperor Joseph II

This was the last of the houses to be built on the Via della Regina, all of which were built over the south wall of the city. Located directly west of the Triangular Forum, it was excavated in 1767-1769, filled in, and then re-excavated in 1885-1886. A *triclinium* (b) and (b') flanked either side of the center room (a) and they all faced a *portico* that was completely open to the view of the Bay and mountains. One story below, the main room (c) had two windows and a door to the wide terrace beyond. On either side of this room there was a *triclinium* and a *cubiculum*, each with a window to the same view. The terraces would have been used as roof gardens, and garden artifacts such as the marble head of a lion fitted as a fountain and a fragment of a marble sundial were found in this house. In the right ala (f) there was a garden representation under the painting of an Egyptian landscape. The representation measuring 0.14 x 0.36 m. had a yellow lattice fence enclosing a garden with plantings both inside and outside and two trees. The amount of vegetation and the size of the figures makes this representation unusual. A herm of Silvanus with a scythe in his right hand and a *pedum* or shepherd's crook in his left stands in the center of the garden. A person in a long garment working with a three pronged weeding hook is to the left and a second figure in a long garment is kneeling over some plants on the right. A drawing of the garden representation is in the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Rome, negative no. 53 504.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Döhl, p. 43; Dyer, p. 439; Fiorelli, *Descr.*, p. 446; Grimal, p. 269, no. 1; Jashemski, *Gardens*, vol. II, pp. 209, 401; Mau, *RM* (1887), pp. 126, 131 and pl. 6, figs. 1 and 2, p. 120, no. 17; Mau-Kelsey, pp. 344-346 and fig. 176 (plan) on p. 345; Mazois, 2:73-74 and pls. 32, 33 (plans); Niccolini, *Case*, vol. 4, "Nuovi scavi," p. 3; Noack-Lehmann, pp. 18-30 passim, pls. 3 (plan) and 21 (reconstruction); *PAH*, vol. 1, pt. 1 pp. 210, 211 (Aug. 14, 22, 29, 1767); Schefold, *WandP*, p. 218.



VIII.ii.39. South view across atrium and impluvium .