

VICUS (CPV) SITE COMPASS

The Laurentine Shore and the modern estate road Via del Telefono, and the great majority of the Roman sites associated with it are all similarly oriented at an angle of almost exactly 45 degrees west of magnetic north.

To simplify recording and description at the Vicus, most of whose buildings are laid out on an orthogonal grid at right angles to the shore and the modern road (which was used as the baseline for the initial site survey grid), it was decided to employ a compass whose cardinal points corresponded to the grid, turning north 45 degrees east.

The compass directions in the site records (graphic, photographic and written) are therefore conventional:

Site North = inland of the site at 90 degrees to the Via del Telefono (45 degrees east of true north).

Site South = towards the sea at 90 degrees to the Via del Telefono (45 degrees west of true south)

CASTELPORZIANO SURVEY (CPS) SITE COMPASS

The field survey (CPS) employed same conventional compass because its grid also used the modern estate road, Via del Telefono, as its base line and the Roman sites generally share the same orientation as the Vicus.

The topographical survey (DEM) has been carried out with the same orientation, which currently presents problems for its presentation in GIS, but is more efficient for all other purposes.