

SITE DATUM

VICUS

In 1984 Site datum was set up for the Vicus, on the top SW corner of a large travertine plinth in Building A (on the seaward side of the Via del Telefono, imbedded in the top of the foundation of the wall between A8 and A9) = **0.000 m**.

The nearest benchmark marked on the IGM 1:25000 map lies about 1 km away, on the road to the sea near the Castelfusano boundary but we have never managed to find it and no-one on the estate could show us (although the Italian team of surveyors in 1986 found it and recorded it as their station point 11, their survey did not include the plinth height and any other point we could identify on the ground).

The top of the plinth - and thus the site datum - represents the floor level of the frigidarium of baths A in the Severan period (dated by brickstamps c. AD 200).

Temporary benchmarks were fixed at other parts of the site where the 0 datum could not be seen with the dumpy level.

TBM 1 = -0.25 m below site datum. On offset brick course (top of foundations of bath building A) on south side of building A. at foot of south wall of A36, on street B.

TBM 2 = -0.20 m below site datum. On offset brick course (top of foundations of Building A) on outer west flank of building A, west wall of palaestra

TBM 3 = -0.254 m below site datum, on floor on west side of brick pedestal in apse at north end of F34

TBM 4 = +1.12 m above site datum (on a large basalt paving block temporarily placed on the north side of Trench X)

TBM YG = + 1.18 m above site datum, topmost point on a basalt (selce) paving block (the same used for TBM 4), which was moved to the east of building Y when trench YG was laid out in 2002.

CASTELPORZIANO SURVEY (CPS)

Topographical Survey (DEM) is currently zeroed on the Vicus site datum.

True values

In 2008 the height of the site datum above modern relative sea level was established as +2.91 m. The ancient sea level was about -1.25 m (+/- 0.2) below the modern sea level, so in antiquity the height of the CPV/CPS site datum was about +4.16 m (+/- 0.2) above sea level.