



**“THE HOUSE OF THE VETTII AT POMPEII: A VIRTUAL TOUR”  
SUPPLEMENT TO J.R. CLARKE, ROMAN LIFE: 100 BC-AD 200,  
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This CD-ROM, fruit of 9 years' work and produced with the permission of the Soprintendenza Archeologica di Pompei, provides an in-depth exploration of the culture of the ancient Roman house. It begins with a 3-D fly-over and fly-through created in **3-D Studio Max**.

This “splash” video attempts to recreate the original external appearance of the house (based on Mau's reconstruction of the elevation and roof structure) and a reconstruction of the dynamic areas (atrium, peristyle with garden).

A menu then appears. It offers:

- (1) an introduction to the layout of the Roman house and the cultural meaning of views, paths, and views-out of its spaces;
- (2) movies showing the paths of visitors of different classes;
- (3) the main interface; and
- (4) help.

The main interface requires the user to choose a social role: slave, client, friend, or Vettius.

This interface then permits appropriate access both to the spaces and to the information that such a visitor might have had. For example, although the slave has access to all rooms of the house, when she clicks on the painting of *Dionysus finding Ariadne* in oecus *p*, she only gets the simple identification of the myth. A Vettius gets the full explanation, including social context, themes, *ekphrasis*, and connections with other paintings in the house.

The CD is dual-platform (PC and Mac) and written in Adobe Flash.