

Roman Dwelling Types

Themes:

- public and private
- Curtain can be used to divide space and conceal the peristylum
- Domus has a "buffer zone" of shops along the front, protect the privacy of the interior space
- Solid walls, compact residences side by side
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Domus

- built around a courtyard
- urban setting
- simple fresco and mosaic decoration
- e.g. House of the Vetti, House of the Faun, House of the tragic Poet, Pompeii

Insula

- Roman apartment buildings, robust building type
- urban settings
- lower-middle class, plebeians
- multi-storey living, relieving arches for openings

Villa

- more elaborate version of a domus
- upper class
- a series of courtyards
- elaborate fresco and mosaic decoration
- comprising of summer and winter wings
- in picturesque countryside or rural setting
- e.g. Hadrian's villa, Tivoli

Palatium

- Emperor's official residence on the Palatine hill in Rome - a large complex
- grew with successive emperors
- paedagogium
- close to the public spaces e.g. forum
- aqueduct flowing into palace

Building

- Vitruvius [Marcus Vitruvius Pollio], Ten Books on Architecture, written c. 15AD House of the
- Tragic Poet, Pompeii, Italy, 1st century BC
- Hadrian's Villa, Tivoli, 2nd C AD
- Insula (pl. insulae) housing type