

The partial implantation, at 1:2 scale, of Rabaçal's Roman Villa

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Abstract

Our aim is the implantation in the terrain of the octagonal peristyle of the Roman villa existing in Rabaçal, at scale 1:2. We will follow, as close as possible, the known Roman procedures, as described by Vitruvius and other ancient sources, and depicted in Roman sculptural reliefs.

Step by step

This is a hands-on activity, related to the paper "The Roman Villa in Rabaçal and Álvaro Siza" [1].



Figure 1: *Overall view of the peristyle*

To implant the mentioned peristyle, three major technical procedures must be accomplished:

- i. the settlement of the North-South axis;
- ii. the drawing of an octagon with the desired measures;
- iii. the drawing of another octagon with factor $1:\sqrt{2}$ in relation to the first one.

Item i. will be performed according to Vitruvius 1.VI.12 — "Let A be the centre of a perfectly level and plane tablet whereon a gnomon is erected. The ante-meridional shadow of the gnomon being