# AWESOME

# A SOPHISTICATED TOWN

- 0. A SOPHISTICATED TOWN Story Preface
- 1. POMPEII IN 79 A.D.

#### 2. A SOPHISTICATED TOWN

- 3. WARNING SIGNS
- 4. VESUVIUS ERUPTS
- 5. RAIN OF TERROR
- 6. ANNIHILATION
- 7. THE PEOPLE OF POMPEII



In this image we see the "Street of the Tombs," as it appeared sometime between circa 1890 and circa 1900. This illustration helps us to understand how the people of Pompeii laid-out their roads. Picture from the Detroit Publishing Co., Catalogue J Foreign Section. Online via the Library of Congress. Click on the image for a better view.

Surprisingly sophisticated, Pompeii was <u>laid out</u> in a grid. It had a three-stream running water system. One stream went to public fountains, another to <u>public baths</u> and a third traveled to homes of wealthy residents. People in Pompeii even had a version of <u>indoor plumbing</u>, but they did not have a good sewer system.

Flowing through <u>lead pipes</u> from a central <u>water tower</u> (called the Castellum Aquae), the water <u>delivery system</u> was ingenious for its day. (Follow the link to see how Pompeii's engineers <u>directed</u> three different water streams from the *Castellum Aquae*.)

When water supplies were low, the town stopped the flow of water streams in order of priority. First the wealthy homes were without water, then the public baths. Public fountains were shut down last.

People in ancient times used mill wheels to grind flour, and they <u>stored</u> food in large terra-cotta jars. To maintain the food at constant temperatures, all but the top of a jar was <u>buried</u> in the ground.

Pompeii had outdoor food bars where its citizens could enjoy a snack and a cool drink. <u>Shops</u> were clearly marked with carved signs: A goat for the dairy, grapes for the winery, bread for the <u>bakery</u>. In the baker's house one could find a fresco of a man selling bread.

The fertile, volcanic slopes of <u>Vesuvius</u> (the link takes you to NASA's satellite view) provided an ideal climate for <u>grapes</u> and olive groves. (Follow the link to view an <u>olive press</u> uncovered in Pompeii.)

Since the mountain had last erupted long before anyone alive at the time had been born, people must have thought living near the most recognizable landmark <u>looming over the Bay of Naples</u> was completely safe.

They were wrong.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/A-SOPHISTICATED-TOWN-Pompeii

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/A-SOPHISTICATED-TOWN-Pompeii

Media Stream



#### Pompeii City Grid

Image, described above, copyright described above. Note, further, the following information online via the University of Virginia's web site on the Pompeii Forum Project:

"Copyright (c) 1994 by John J. Dobbins, all rights reserved. This text may be shared in accordance with the fair-use provisions of U.S. copyright law. Redistribution or republication of this text on other terms, in any medium, requires the consent of the author and the notification of the publisher, the Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities. Permission to reproduce graphic images in this archive has been granted by the owners of the originals for this publication only."

View this asset at: <a href="http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Pompeii-City-Grid">http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Pompeii-City-Grid</a>



# Lead Pipes of Pompeii

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Lead-Pipes-of-Pompeii



#### Pompeii Water Tower

Image online, courtesy"Latin and Greek," (a Dutch-language website).

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Pompeii-Water-Tower



# Directed Water Streams in Pompeii

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

PD

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Directed-Water-Streams-in-Pompeii



#### Food Storage in Pompeii

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

PΩ

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Food-Storage-in-Pompeii



#### Buried Food Jars in Pompeii

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

PD

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Buried-Food-Jars-in-Pompeii



**Grape Storage near Vesuvius** 

Image, and information, online courtesy "Explore Italian Volcanoes." View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Grape-Storage-near-Vesuvius



## Olive Press Uncovered in Pompeii

Image, described above, online via Catholic Resources.org View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Olive-Press-Uncovered-in-Pompeii



#### Vesuvius Looming over the Bay of Naples

Photo by Jeff Matthews, in 2006. Released into the public domain by the photographer. Online, via Wikimedia Commons.

PD

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Vesuvius-Looming-over-the-Bay-of-Naples



## **A SOPHISTICATED TOWN**

View this asset at:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/A-SOPHISTICATED-TOWN}}$