Inscriptions referring to Laurentes of Vicus Augustanus

1. Sarcophagus in Ostia Museum, discovered 1865/6 in locality called ‘I monticelli’ 2nd-3rd century AD.

D· M· | L· ARRIO· VITALIANO· DEC | LAVR· VICO· AVGST· III | VIR· EIVSDEM· LOCI | QVAEST· AER· FLAM | QVI· VIXIT· ANN ......SIB X DIE......IANVS [CIL XIV 301]

To the shades of the departed, for Lucius Arrius Vitalianus, decurion of the Laurentes at Vicus Augustanus, member of the Board of Four of the same place, Treasurer, Priest. He lived …years…10 months… days [….]ianus had this made

2. Tombstone, findspot unknown, and now lost, recorded in Cesi collection in Rome. After AD 192 (date of CIL XIV 251, a roll-call of the Lenuncularii in which the same person is named)

MEMORIAE | M· CORNELI· M· F· PAL· VALERIANI· EPAGATHIANI· EQ(r) | DECVURIONI· SPLENDIDISSIMAE· COLONIAE· OS(tiensis) | FLAMINI· PRAETORI· II· SACRA· VOLKANI (fac) | i DEMQVE· SODALE· ARVLEN(si) | DECVRIONI· LAVENTRUM· VICI· AVG· EIVS (dem loci iii viro?) | PATRONO· CORPORIS· LENUNCLULARIORVM· (tabulariorum) | AVXILIARVM· OSTIENSI· QVI· VIXIT· ANNO· XII· ME(enses) | M· CORNELIUS· M· F· PALAT· VALERIANVS· DECVRIO· F [CIL XIV, 341]

To the memory of Marcus Cornelius, son of Marcus, of the Palatine tribe, Valerianus Epagathianus, Roman knight, decurion of the most splendid colony of Ostia, priest, second praetor for the sacred rites of Vulcan, and likewise member of the Arulensian priesthood/brotherhood [see no. 10 below] , decurion of the Laurentes of Vicus Augustanus (and member of the Board of Four of the same place?), patron of the Ostian corporation of sailors of small auxiliary boats. He lived 12 years, …months. Marcus Cornelius, son of Marcus, of the Palatine tribe, Valerianus, decurion, had this made.

3. Marble slab in the Episcopio (Bishop’s palace) at Ostia

…A· EGRILIO· A· F· SECVNDO TRHEPTIANO (sic) | de]CVR· LAVR· VICO AVGVSTAN | SCRIB· COLLEG· FABR· TIGN· OST· DECVRIALI· SCRIPTVS ·CERAR· M | tRIBULI· TRIBVS· PVPINIAE· A· EGRILIVS· ISION· ET· IVLIA· PROBA· CONIUX· FECERUNT [CIL XIV, 347]

for Aulus Egrilius, son of Aulus, Secundus Threptianus, decurion of the Laurentes at Vicus Augustanus, secretary to the college of builders at Ostia, member of the board of principal secretaries  [but I don’t understand the M, unless it means something like tribal magister of the Pupinian tribe, if there is such an office], tribesman of the Pupinian tribe. Aulus Egrilius Ision and Julia Proba his wife had this made.
4. Travertine cippus. Capitoline Museum in Rome, previously in the Albani collection. The consular date on side 2, lines 3-4) is probably AD 251, less likely 202 or 287.

To Decimus Fabius, son of Decimus, of the Palatine tribe, Florus Veranus (or Veratius), priest of the sacred region (or queen, i.e. Isis?) by judgement of his greatness (or her majesty?) selected as first Anubiac [priest of Anubis?], decurion of the Laurentes of the Vicus Augustanus and member of the Board of Four, ship-master of the five? corporations of owners of small sailing boats at Ostia, for all the honours and duties he carried out as a member of the five corporations of the regions of Ostia the most honourable senator Flavius Moschylus priest of Isis of this place mindful of his sanctity and purity ordered a statue to be set up to this man by his heirs in accordance with his will, to a well-deserving patron and organiser. The site was granted by decree of the decurions

5. Marble block, dug up in Rome, piazza S Marco in 1780, but probably from Ostia given content. Now in Vatican Museums.
…and afterwards Veturia Rufina, daughter of Quintus, and Quintus Veturius, son of Quintus, Felix Socrates, decurion of the Laurentes of the Vicus Augustanus and decurion of Ostia, returned to the ordo the cost of the statue, on account of the dedication of which he (Socrates) distributed handouts of 3 denarii each to the decurions and 5 denarii to the Augustales, arranged by Quintus Veturius Felicissimus, freedman and quinquennial Sevir Augustalis, and curator of the same ordo.


P · AELIO · AVG · LIB · LIBERALIS · PROCVRATORI · ANNONAE · OSTIENSIS PROCVRATORI · PUGILLATIONIS · ET · AD · NAVES · VAGAS · TRIBVNICIO · COLLEGI · MAGNI · DECVRIALI · DECVRIAE · VIATORIAE · CONSVL · DECVRIALI · GERVLORVM · PRAEPOSTO · MENSAE · NVMMVL · F · F · OST · ORNATO · ORNA · MENTIS · DECVRIONATVS · COL · OST · PATRONO · LAURENTIVM · VICI · AVGVSTANOR(um) [CIL XIV 2045; ILS 1534]

For Publius Aelius, freedman of the emperor, Liberalis, procurator of the corn-supply at Ostia, procurator of the postal service and movement of shipping, tribune of the Great College [of the Lares and Images of our Lord Caesar], member of the panel of consuls’ messengers, member of the panel of bearers (geruli), supervisor of money-handling at the corn-office at Ostia (i.e. he was the paymaster), awarded the insignia of a decurion of the senate of the colony of Ostia, patron of the Laurentes of Vicus Augustanus.

7. Marble fragment, Castelporziano, castle collection, lettering of 2nd-4th cent AD

TRIB · POT …/… LAVR · VI(co Augvstano) …/NVMINI · MA [CIL XIV, 2044]

tribunical power …the Laurentes at Vicus… to the numen (divinity) of Ma…

8. Marble fragment, found in 1865 in Grazioli excavations at the vicus in Castelporziano. Titulature could be that of Caracalla in AD 214

…G …/… MAX…/POT XVII / PRO COS / ..M LAVREN (tium) / (?vici Augvstan) OR (um) [CIL XIV, 2043]

emperor ….chief priest….tribunician power 17 times….proconsul …. [ master? of the Laurentes of Vicus Augustanus?

9. Statue base found at Tebursuk (Thibursicum Bure) in Tunisia. 2.0 m high, 0.50 m wide. Erased G & N = period of Geta (AD 209-212) CIL VIII, 1439 ILS 1430

Q · ACILI · C · F · PAPIR · FVSCO · V · E · PROC · AN · NONAE AGGg · NNn · OSTIENSIVM · PROC · O(pe) · RIS · THEATRI · POMP (eiani) FISCI
For Quintus Acilius, son of Gaius, of the Papirian tribe, Fuscus, most excellent man (i.e. equestrian), overseer of our three emperors’ corn supply at Ostia, keeper of works on the Theatre of Pompey, counsel to the imperial fiscus, recorder of the office of inheritances and joint heirs, curator of the Lauretes at Vicus Augustanus, priest of the Lauretes of Lavinium, the city and the Severan and Antoninian Free (?) municipality of Thibursicum Bure to their citizen and patron.

Inscription referring to another group of vicus-based Laurentes

10. From the cemetery outside the porta Laurentina at Ostia. ca AD 200

D· IVNIO· D· F· PAL· BUBALO· IMPETRATO· EQUITI ROMANO DECVRIONI· COL· OST· DECVR· LAV[rentivm] VICANOR· ARVLENSI· PRAETORI· PRIMO· SACRIS· VOLKANI· FACIVND [CIL XIV, 4625 + NSc 1953, 293 no.56 fig.42; AEpig 1988, 207]

For Decimus Junius, son of Decimus, of the Palatine tribe, Bubalus Impetratus, Roman knight, decurion of the Colony of Ostia, decurion of Laurentian vicus-dwellers at Arula, first praetor for carrying out the sacred rites of Vulcan.

Other inscriptions found at the vicus in Castelporziano

11. Marble block, perhaps part of an architrave, found in excavations at the vicus in Castelporziano before 1909, last seen near the site 21 October 1912. 0.80 m x 0.45 m

…S AVG L AGLA(us) …/ …LTVARIO ET …/ COL SVCCCCVS …/ …TERENTI / …IMAGINES DOMINORum / …..caesARIS SALTVARIORVM D

(...freedman of the emperor, Aglaus…saltuarii and … taking up the leadership of the college …of [someone called] Terentius? …the portraits of the domini (i.e. emperors) [to the…] of the emperor’s saltuarii, donated


12. Castelporziano, recorded by epigraphers in the 17th century, since lost

D M / T TERENTIVS SECVNDS / FECIT SIBI ET TERENTIAE / AMPLIATIANAE FILIAE SVAE / ET VLPiae FAVSTINAE CON/IVGI CARISS ET TERENTIAE / FAVSTINAE FILIAE DVLCISS/ ET LIB LIBERTABVSQ SVIS / POSTERISQ EORVM [CIL XIV 2062]
To the Shades. Titus Terentius Secundus made this tomb for himself and his daughter Terentia Ampliatiana and his dearest wife Ulpia Faustina and Terentia Faustina, the sweetest of daughters, and his freedmen and freedwomen and their descendants

13. Discovered 2002, on the surface some 100 m inland from Vicus in Castelporziano. Luna marble, 0.23 m high by 0.262 m (at top), 0.289 m (at bottom), 0.027-0.033 m thick. Dateable on nomenclature c. AD 150-180

D M / M CLAVDIO / MARINO AE/LIA IANVARIA / CONIVGI B M FEC

To the shades of the departed Marcus Claudius Marinus, his wife Aelia Januaria made this for a well-deserving husband