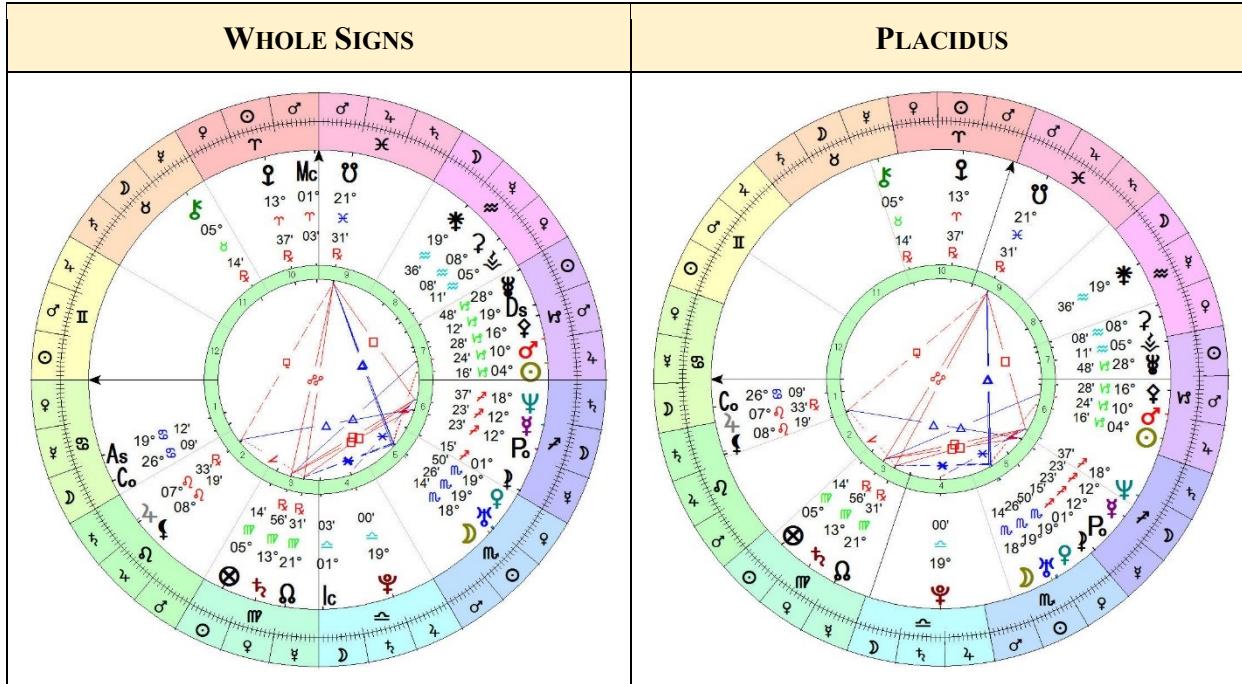


Whole Signs vs. Placidus Reading Approaches

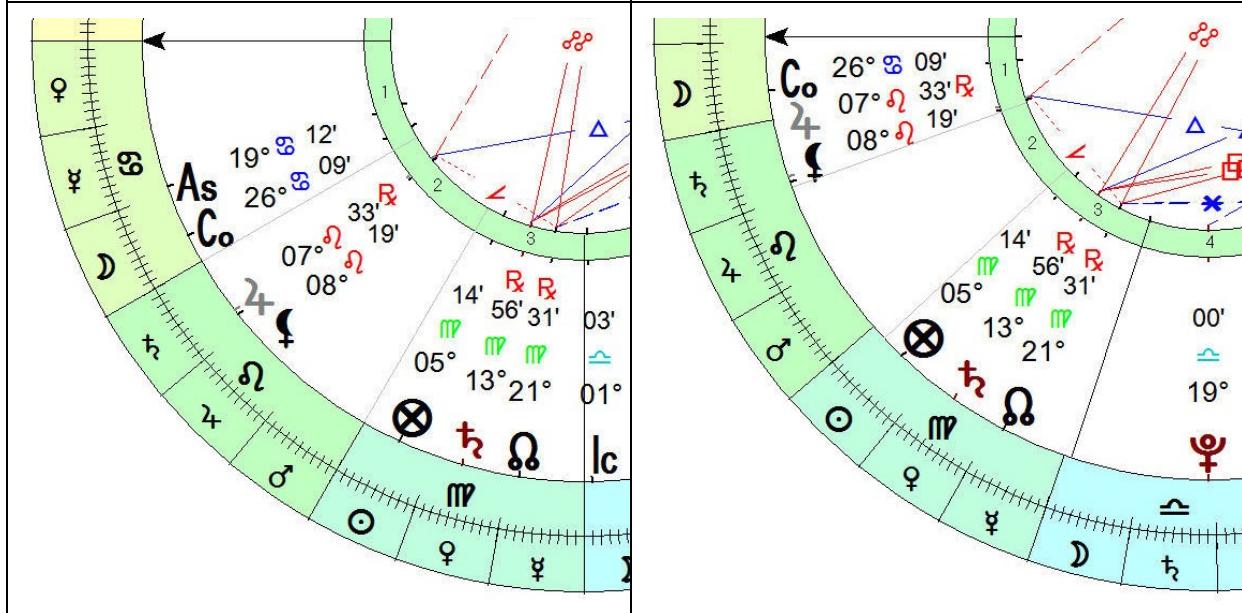


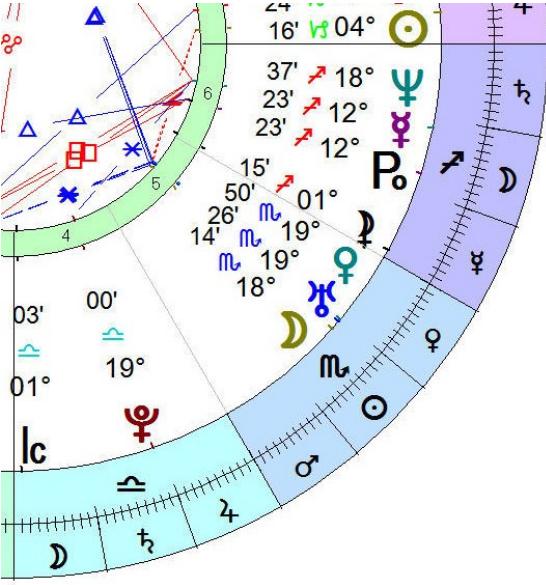
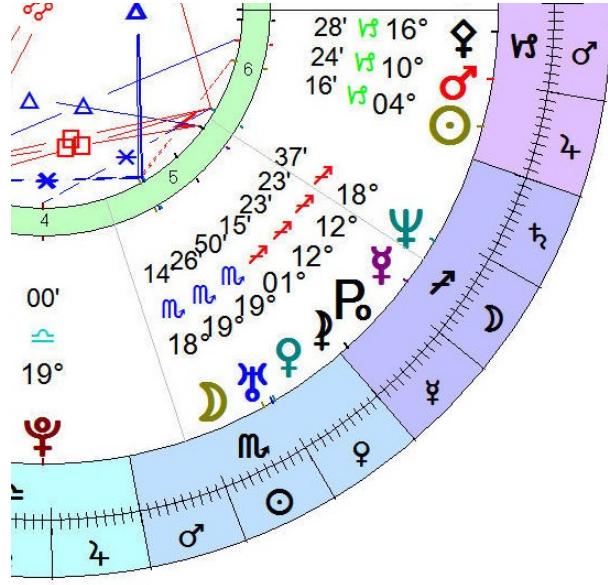
The Whole Signs system is considered the oldest house system in the West, and associated with Hellenistic astrology. It is a Greco-Roman synthesis of Babylonian astrology, Egyptian decanic systems, and Greek geometrical cosmology.

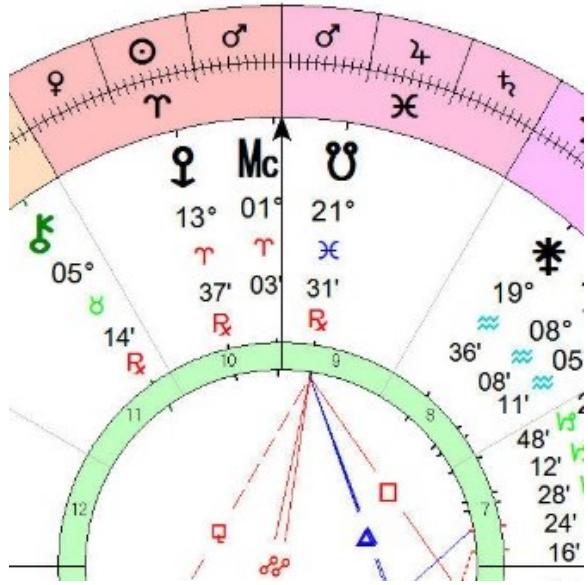
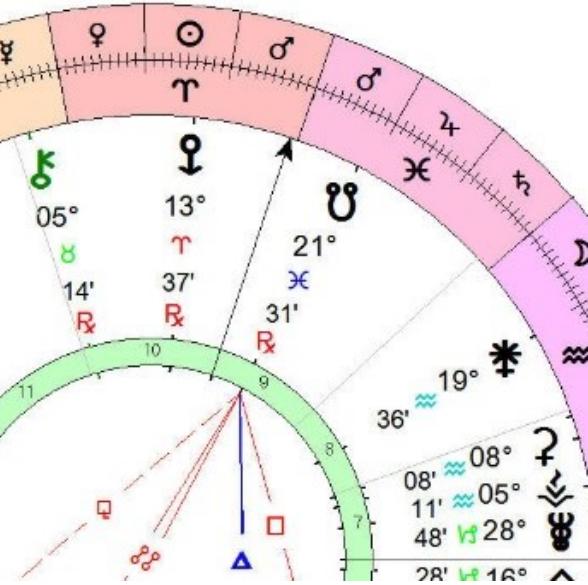
The writings on the system by Vettius Valens, Dorotheus of Sidon, Paulus Alexandrinus, and Firmicus Maternus tend to be considered authoritative.

The Placidus system is a quadrant-based house system dated to the Renaissance, dividing the chart based on the Time it takes for a degree of the zodiac sign to rise from the Ascendant (eastern rising point) to the Midheaven (i.e., the highest point in the sky).

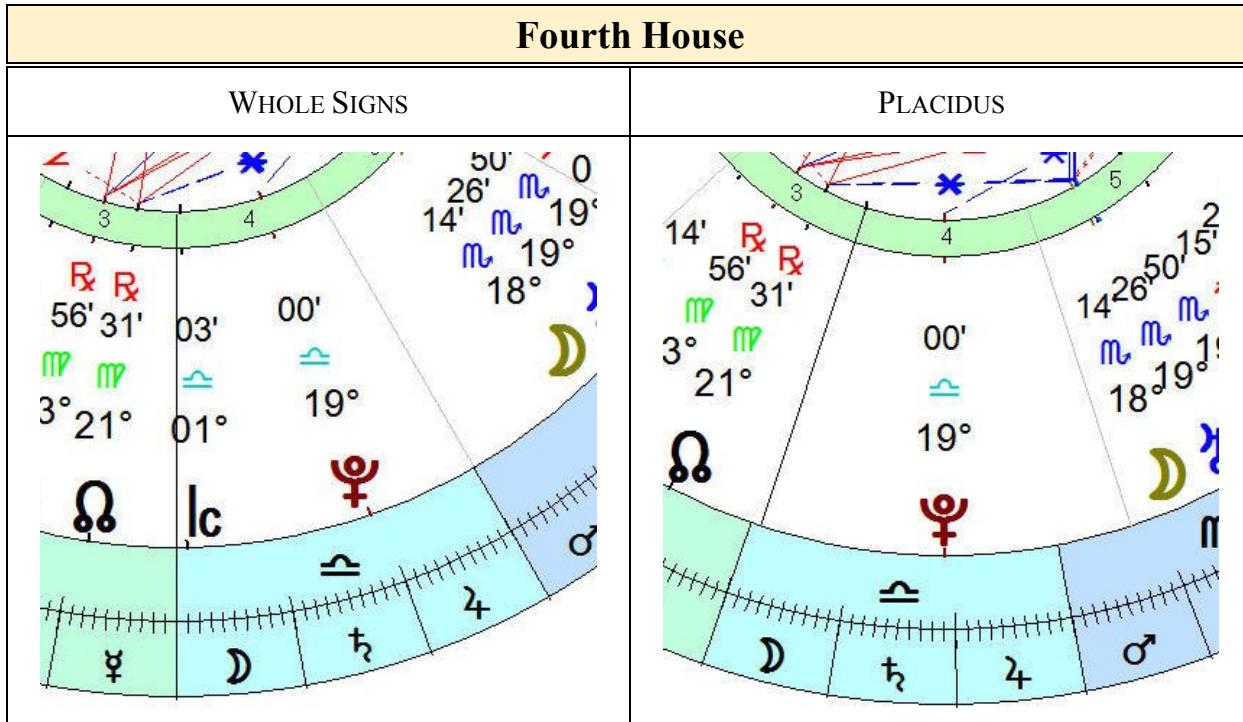
Systematized by the Italian monk and mathematician Placidus de Titus, it became the dominant approach in Europe during the Scientific Revolution.



WHOLE SIGNS	PLACIDUS
<p>Whole Signs assumes zodiac primacy and that the twelve zodiac signs are the fundamental units of meaning. The twelve astrological houses are topical domains, not spatial divisions of the sky.</p> <p>Thus, for instance, the ascendant sign becomes the first house, and each subsequent zodiac sign occupies the entirety of a house in order. Thus, each house aligns perfectly with one zodiac sign in equal 30° house divisions, regardless of the latitude of the birth location.</p>	<p>As a time-based quadrant system, the astrological houses are calculated based on how long it takes a point on the ecliptic to rise, culminate, set, and anti-culminate, where zodiac signs can be intercepted. Placidus is latitude-dependent (whereas in comparison, there is no latitude sensitivity to Whole Signs chart casting). Placidus is time and motion that creates meaning.</p> <p>Thus, the ascendant is always the House 1 cusp and the midheaven is always the House 10 cusp.</p>
	
<p>House cusps do not vary in size or overlap, resulting in a highly geometric and consistent house system. Mathematically, it is always 30° per house. The structure is discrete and uniform.</p> <p>Each house begins at the 0° mark (thus the first decan ruler of the sign governs that 0° cusp as it would govern the 1° point).</p> <p>The concept of interceptions are not present in Whole Signs analysis (whereas interpreting interceptions is material in Placidus because it reveals latent themes, perhaps developmental delays, or events that will happen later in time, and not something present in the beginning).</p>	<p>Since divisions of the houses are based on time <i>and</i> space, this results in “uneven” houses that will vary in size, depending on the birth location’s latitude. This becomes most sensitive in northern Europe, Alaska, Scandinavia, and the southern tip of Chile.</p> <p>Some houses may contain more than one sign (intercepted signs) or lack an entire sign altogether. Thus, the Placidus astrologer accounts for intercepted or split signs when interpreting the chart.</p> <p>While Whole Signs excels at identifying what will most govern the native’s life path, Placidus excels at answering the <i>how</i> and <i>why</i>.</p>

WHOLE SIGNS	PLACIDUS
 <p>Whole Signs astrology is symbolic and more inductive. It tends to be the system of choice among Traditional astrologers. The approach is better suited in tandem with esoteric and occult philosophy.</p>	 <p>Placidus astrology is analytical and more deductive. It tends to be the system of choice among Modern astrologers. The approach is better suited for psychology-inspired readings.</p>

THIS HANDOUT IS EXCERPTED FROM MY PAST LIFE ASTROLOGY HANDBOOK, a manual for an intermediate astrologer to provide past life astrology readings. This brief overview is not intended to be an in-depth educational exploration of Western astrology systems, so please understand that this section will be a high-level, general comparative approach to Whole Signs and Placidus analytics, specific to Houses 4, 8, and 12 (the houses that past life astrology analytics is focused on). Nonetheless, the guidance on how to interpret these houses can be applied to any of the other astrological houses for any time of chart reading.



Fourth House Sign. The fourth house is governed by the zodiac sign Libra. Read "Libra in the Fourth."

Imum Coeli. Under Whole Signs, we observe the imum coeli as a personal sensitive point, and here it occupies the fourth house. Read “Impact of the Imum Coeli” in the fourth.

Pluto. Pluto is in the fourth house, so read “Impact of Pluto” in the “Planetary Influences in the Fourth” section.

Elemental Influence over the Psychic Trinity. Houses 4, 8, and 12 are occupied by Air signs, so the primary elemental influence of note here is Air.

Angular Aspects. Note how Pluto is at 19° in the house. Scan the chart for any other placements also at 19° . Here, assume the native also has Venus and

Fourth House Cusp. The fourth house cusp (or beginning of House 4) starts in Libra. Read “Libra in the Fourth.”

Interior Sign. The interior sign (the ending angle of House 4) is in Scorpio, so in terms of a forecast, the native has innate proclivities leaning toward future karma best described as “Scorpio in the Fourth.” Extract relevant bits from “Scorpio in the Fourth” to flesh out and complete analysis of “Libra in the Fourth.”

[Since the fourth house cusp is the imum coeli, you wouldn't necessarily need to read its impact to the fourth.]

Pluto. Pluto is in the fourth house, so read “Impact of Pluto.”

Elemental Influence at the Psychic Cusps. The cusps of Houses 4, 8, and 12

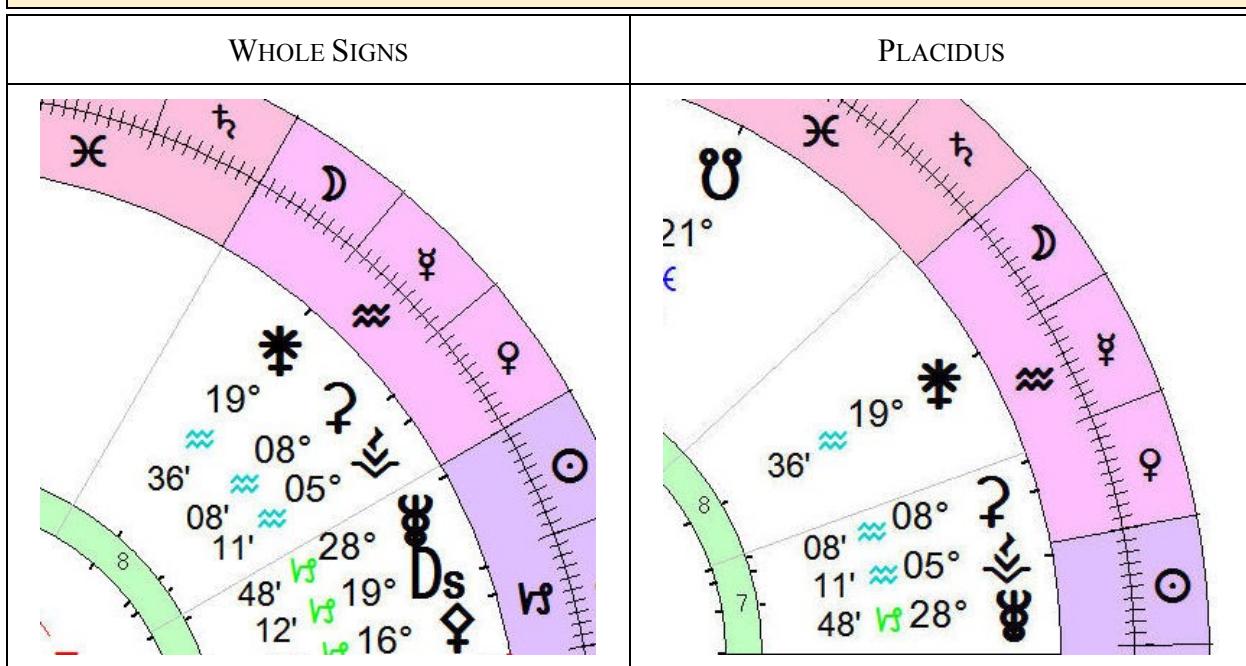
Uranus at 19° in House 5 Scorpio, which is a semi-sextile to Pluto. The ascendant in Cancer at 19° and thus in turn descendant in Capricorn House 7 at 19° are in square with Pluto in the fourth. Juno in Aquarius House 8 at 19° forms a trine.

Considering how many planets are at exactly 19° placement, in a fourth house analysis, Pluto's importance just skyrocketed. Its implications are going to have broad-reaching impact on the native's life path. This past life karma very much has its hooks in much of what is or will be happening in the current life.

are Air signs, so the primary elemental influence of note here is Air.

Planetary Ruler of House 4 Cusp. The planetary ruler of Libra is Venus. Locate Venus in the birth chart. Here, assume that Venus placement is in the native's fifth house in Scorpio. Read "Venus is Your Chart Ruler" *but* reinterpret it to apply specifically to a House 4 reading. Read "Venus in the Fifth" for insight into key traits in the ancestral genetic memory. Then read "Impact of Venus" for planetary influences in House 4, because the planetary rulership of Venus over the fourth will produce a similar effect as if Venus was in the fourth.

Eighth House



Eighth House Sign. The eighth house is governed by the zodiac sign Aquarius. Read "Aquarius in the Eighth."

Vesta. Vesta is in House 8, so read "Impact of Vesta" in the "Planetary Influences in the Eighth" section.

Eighth House Cusp. The eighth house cusp (or beginning of House 8) starts in Aquarius. Read "Aquarius in the Eighth."

Interior Sign. The interior sign (the ending angle of House 8) is in Pisces, so read "Pisces in the Eighth" but modify and reinterpret it as future possibilities.

WHOLE SIGNS	PLACIDUS
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Ceres. Ceres is in Hosue 8, so read “Impact of Ceres” as it applies to House 8 interpretation.

Juno. Juno is in House 8, so read “Impact of Juno” in the interpretation of House 8.

Angular Aspects. Although Vesta is not observed in the Placidus system for an eighth house reading, under Whole Signs, it's domiciled in the eighth. Its placement is at 5°. Scan the chart for any other planets also positioned at 5°. Here, we see Chiron at 5° in Taurus House 11, forming a square with Vesta. Black Moon Lilith at 8° in Leo House 2 forms an opposition to Ceres at 8°. And we already talked about the trine between Pluto at 19° in the fourth and Juno here at 19° in the eighth.

The native has innate proclivities leaning toward *future* karma best described as “Pisces in the Eighth.” Aquarian influences are what the native is born with, whereas Piscean influences forecast karma the native is mapped out to accrue during the present life path.

[Since the Vesta and Ceres precede the House 8 cusp and are domiciled in House 7, they are not accounted for under the Placidus system.]

Juno. Juno is within the eighth house cusp and interior, so read “Impact of Juno” and that would be the only planetary influence observed here.

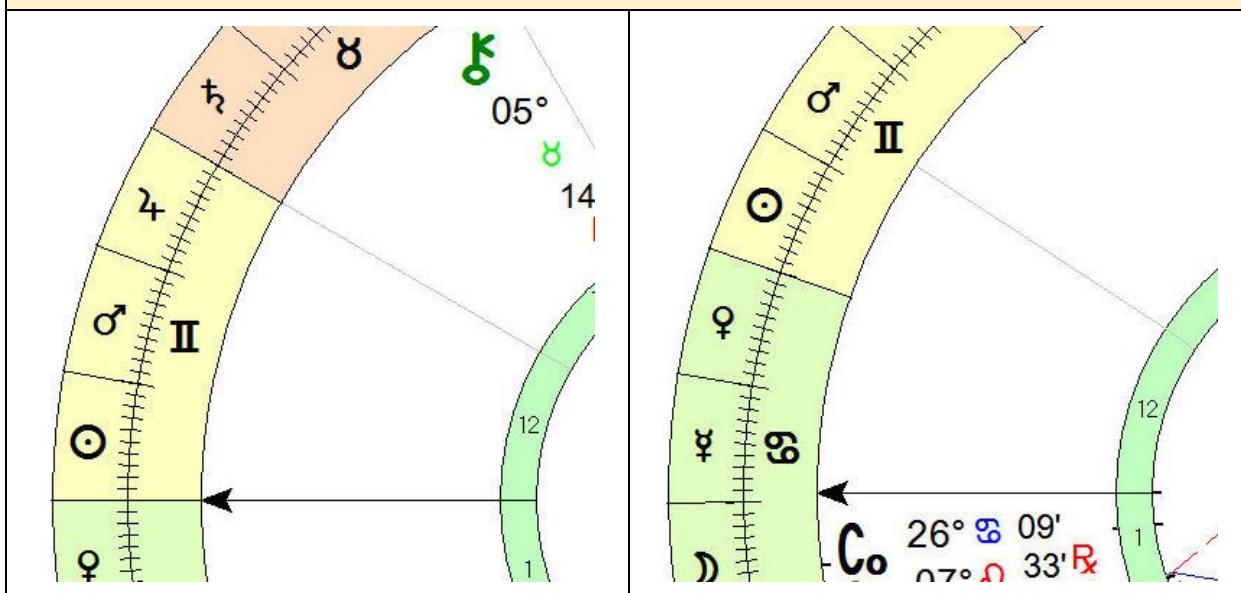
Planetary Ruler of House 8 Cusp. The planetary ruler of Aquarius is Saturn. Locate Saturn in the birth chart. Here, assume that Saturn placement is in the native's third house in Virgo. Read “Saturn is Your Chart Ruler” *but* reinterpret it to apply specifically to a House 8 reading. “Saturn in the Third” is also going to provide relevant insights for this native. Then read “Impact of Saturn” for planetary influences in House 8, because the planetary rulership of Saturn will produce a similar effect.

IMPORTANT PRACTITIONER'S NOTE: Although the Planetary Ruler of each House's Cusp is placed under the Placidus columns in this section, Whole Signs astrologers also look at each house's planetary ruler per the zodiac sign occupying that house. Thus, if Aquarius occupies House 8, Saturn, the planetary ruler of Aquarius, will in turn govern House 8 related themes and areas of life.

Under **WHOLE SIGNS**, planets actually occupying House 8 are of primary importance in the interpretation of House 8, while the house's planetary ruler per its occupying zodiac sign modifies the interpretation. Under **PLACIDUS**, greater importance would be placed on the interpretation of the house's planetary ruler.

That being said, not all astrologers are going to agree on that distinction. Most professional astrologers ultimately formulate their own unique interpretive approach that may have elements resonant with Whole Signs Traditional and some resonant with Placidus Modern.

Twelfth House



WHOLE SIGNS

Twelfth House Sign. The twelfth house is governed by the zodiac sign Gemini. Read “Gemini in the Twelfth.”

[There are no planets domiciled in House 12, so the focus of a House 12 reading here will be on the influence of Gemini.]

Planetary Ruler of House 12. Under Whole Signs, where there are no celestial bodies domiciled in that house, you can expand on the reading by augmenting it with assessment of the house’s planetary ruler. Here, the ruler of Gemini is Mercury. Locate Mercury in the native’s chart and consider “Impact of Mercury” as if it were a planetary influence in House 12.

The subsequent page spread will provide the full Whole Signs and Placidus charts used in this sample side by side comparison reading.

PLACIDUS

Twelfth House Cusp. The twelfth house cusp is in Gemini. Read “Gemini in the Twelfth.”

Interior Sign. The interior sign is Cancer, so read “Cancer in the Twelfth” and *add to* “Gemini in the Twelfth” with the Cancerian qualities that also affect House 12 matters.

Planetary Ruler of House 12. The planetary ruler of Gemini is Mercury. Locate Mercury in the birth chart. Here, assume that Mercury placement is in the native’s fifth house in Sagittarius, and that Sagittarius is the interior sign of the fifth (the fifth house cusp being Scorpio). Read “Mercury is Your Chart Ruler” *but* reinterpret it to apply specifically to a House 12 reading. “Mercury in the Fifth” is also going to provide relevant insights for this native. Then read “Impact of Mercury” for planetary influences in House 12, because the planetary rulership of Mercury will produce a similar effect.