



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Archaeological area of Mount Sirai

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



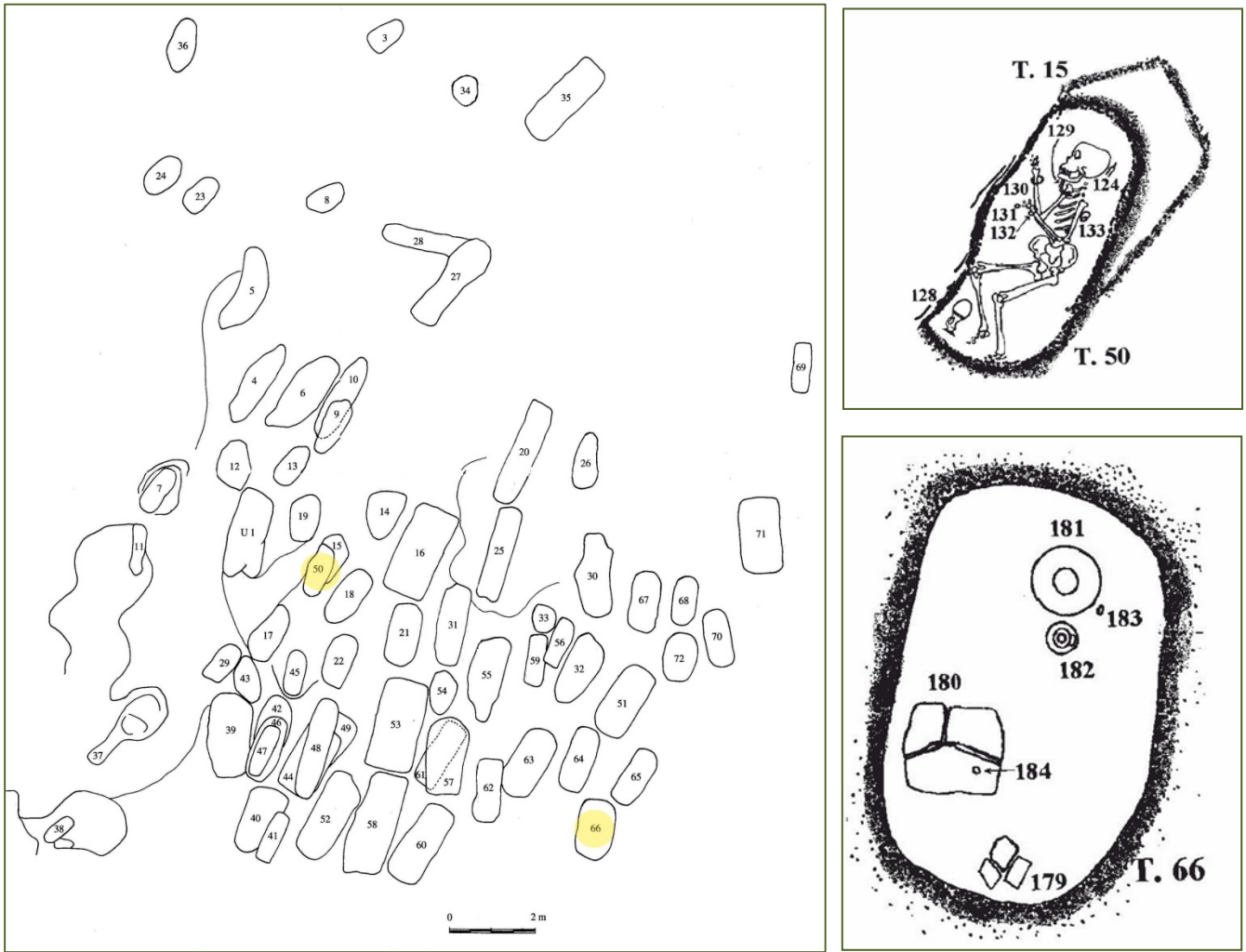
■ Scarab from the interment tomb no. 50

The scarabs found on Monte Sirai, of varied types of materials and of great interest, help to interpret the social nature and class of the populations present there.

Alongside Sardinian production, that are traditionally interpreted as those made in green jasper, scarabs directly imported from Egypt have also been found, probably during the 26th dynasty, as in this case from Naucratis. Recent studies have expanded the places of production for the Phoenician world, to areas in the Syrian-Palestinian area and also Cyprus.

The scarab in question from tomb 50 is practically identical to one found in another tomb of the ancient necropolis, no. 66. These are tombs dating back to the mid-6th century BC: the parallel circumstance has led us to believe there may have been a family relationship between the two. Tomb 50 contains the interred body of a young woman, buried with her personal items and a wide-rimmed jug, known as 'mushroom-rimmed'.





Figs. 1, 3 - The Phoenician necropolis, with tombs 50 and 66 (BARTOLONI 2000, figs. 6, 15, 19).

The hieroglyphic composition of the scarab, attributed to the 26th dynasty, includes, right to left, a feather, a goose looking right and a sun disc: the meaning traditionally attributed to it is 'Shu son of Ra', while the cryptographic meaning shows the god's name 'Imn' (or Amun) as can be read in a similar composition that appears in the corpus, edited, of scarabs in the National Archaeological Museum of Cagliari (no origin).



Figs. 4, 6 - Scarabs from tombs 50 and 66 (BARTOLONI 2000, tables XXVI, XXXVII); scarab from the National Archaeological Museum of Cagliari (MATTHIAE SCANDONE 1975, table V: B11).

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Giuseppina Manca di Mores and Prof. Marcello Madau

■ Bibliography

BARTOLONI 2000 = P. BARTOLONI, *La necropoli di Monte Sirai - I* (Collezione di Studi Fenici, 41), Roma.

GUIRGUIS 2010 = M. GUIRGUIS, *Necropoli fenicia e punica di Monte Sirai. Indagini archeologiche 2005-2007* (*Studi di Storia Antica e di Archeologia*, 7), Ortacesus 2010.

MATTHIAE SCANDONE 1975 = G. MATTHIAE SCANDONE, *Scarabei e scaraboidi egiziani ed egittizzanti del Museo nazionale di Cagliari*, Roma.





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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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