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REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA  
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

# Archaeological area of Mount Sirai

Patrimonio culturale  
**SARDEGNA** Virtual Archaeology



## ■ Dwelling area Buildings

The many buildings present on Monte Sirai provide several useful elements for identifying and confirming the types of Punic age building work. The data from digs allow us to integrate any possible reading, although in the presence of buildings that are rarely above ground level.

The homes have a well-structured base, usually high (over one and a half metres). In specific cases, they are particularly well-cared for, as with the 'Casa Fantar' (figs 1-2).



**Fig. 1, 2** - Monte Sirai, The casa Fantar and details of the stone bases (photo Unicity S.p.A.)

The walls were made from stone (trachyte in particular, but tufa rock and limestone were also used) or in unbaked clay. Tufa rock is easy to sculpt and could hold wooden inserts.

The weaving technique has been documented for the walls, i.e. Alternating vertical monolithic blocks or pillars with groups of medium and small stones. They were covered with hydraulic plaster or purified crude clay. The floors were generally made of flattened limestone on clay, sometimes with underfloor channelling (figs. 3-4).



**Figs. 3, 4** - Detail of the walls of the 'Casa del lucernario di talco' (photo Unicity 2015); floor and channel in the 'Casa di tufo' (by courtesy of Michele Guirguis 2015)

The windows were mainly placed facing towards an inner courtyard than looking outwards.

There was also an upper floor, that could be reached by a stone staircase (fig. 5).



**Fig. 5** - Casa del Lucernario di talco: ruins of the staircase in stone (photo Unicity S.p.A.)

## ■ Credits

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

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## La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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