



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Archaeological area of Mount Sirai

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ The nuraghe below the temple of Astarte

The traces of the nuraghe are only small but important - one of the many present around the Monte Sirai high plains - that stood where later the religious building known as the "temple of Astarte" was built, also re-using the walls.



Fig. 1 - Monte Sirai; highlighted the area of the nuraghe (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

Part of the curved trace of the monument, perhaps single-tower, can still be seen, that was probably a memorial. Recent investigations tell us that the nuraghe was not destroyed by the Phoenicians, as an old interpretation suggested, but was a place of native worship open to Phoenician presence, around the 8th century B.C.



Figs. 2, 3 - The circular shape of the nuraghe below the 'tempio di Astarte' (photo Unicity S.p.A.; map by BARTOLONI 2004, fig. 13)



Figs. 4, 5 - Stretch of residual wall of the Nuragic tower; bronze figure with askoid jug (photo UNICITY SpA; MOSCATI 1988b, p. 427)

The nuraghe was therefore still standing in the early Phoenician phase of Monte Sirai.

The materials that can be dated to that time are proof of this, that indicate moments of integration more than of combat, and an eloquent expression of that is the Phoenician bronze statue (fig. 5) of a person using a Nuragic-made askoid pitcher.



■ 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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