



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

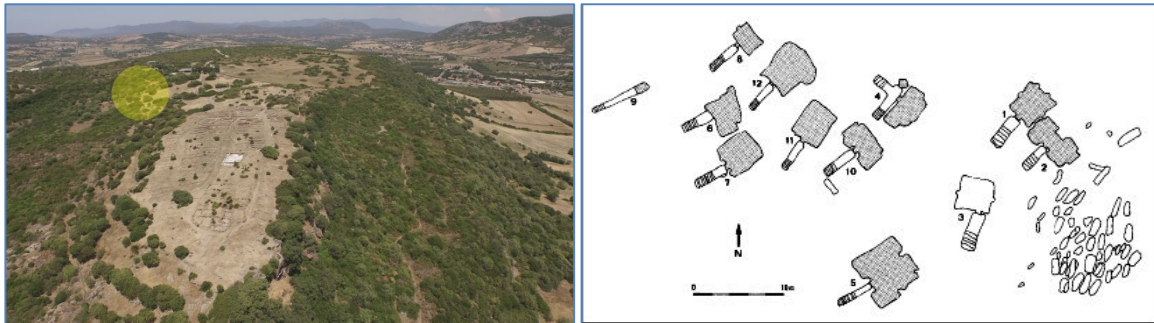
Archaeological area of Mount Sirai

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Punic Hypogeum Necropolis

The hypogeum necropolis, comprising 13 tombs, with chambers dug into the rock (two re-use older domus de janas) preceded by a dromos (hallway), is one of the necropolises on Monte Sirai, complexes that show different phases and anthropologies during the site's long history, in their type, fittings and arrangements. It stands north-west of the inhabited area of the Acropolis (figs. 1-2) close to the east and west limits of the former, previous group of tombs.



Figs. 1, 2 - The area of the hypogeum necropolis (highlighted): photo Unicity 2015; Map (BARTOLONI 2004, fig.)

The chronology of these family tombs, indicates use for a period from the 5th to the 3rd century BC: construction is linked to North African groups who, in the older phases of the necropolis, correspond to the Carthaginian conquest of the site and of Sardinia.



Fig. 3 - Area of the hypogeum necropolis. Detail (photo G. Manca di Mores 2015)

They are distinguished by the use of pillars and for figured and symbolic decorations (such as masks in relief on the ceilings, or a sign of the goddess Tanit, turned upside down, on a pillar in tomb no. 5 (fig. 4). The items in sarcophagi cut into the rock (fig. 4), niches and unfortunately vanishing traces of red paint.



Fig. 4 - Sarcophagus dug out from the rock in tomb '5' (photo Unicity S.p.A.)



Fig. 5 - Pillar with upside down sign of the goddess Tanit from tomb '5' (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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