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REGIONE AUTONOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Roman baths of Forum Traiani

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Mosaic

During some works carried out in a private residence in Via Vittorio Emanuele no. 16, they found a large, irregular fragment of a mosaic floor (9.15x3.40 m in maximum size, fig. 1).



Fig. 1 - Fordongianus. Mosaic of a Roman house found under a modern house (end II-III cent. A.D.) (from Angiolillo 1981, tab. XLIV).

The edge in alternated grey and ochre rectangles frames a mosaic carpet with field including a layout of alternated squares, with shields on the sides. There are white, ochre and grey braided circles on a black background alternated with the squares. Grey Malta crosses are portrayed in the remaining spaces. The inner parts of both the squares and the circles are enlivened by ornamental motives, geometrical in the former, phytomorphic in the latter. The mosaic, presumed to be similar to those decorating the Baths building in the same period, and almost totally lost, appears to have been made by a local workshop

using African motives, datable between the end of the II and start of the III century A. D. The mosaic colours, played mainly on those of the earth, can generally be compared to the coeval productions of mosaics on the island, like examples found in the so-called "Palace of the Barbarian King" in Porto Torres and the so-called "Nymphaeum" in Nora (figs. 2-4).



Fig. 2 - Porto Torres, Baths in the Palace of the Barbarian King (III cent. A.D.) (from Angiolillo 1981, tab XLV).

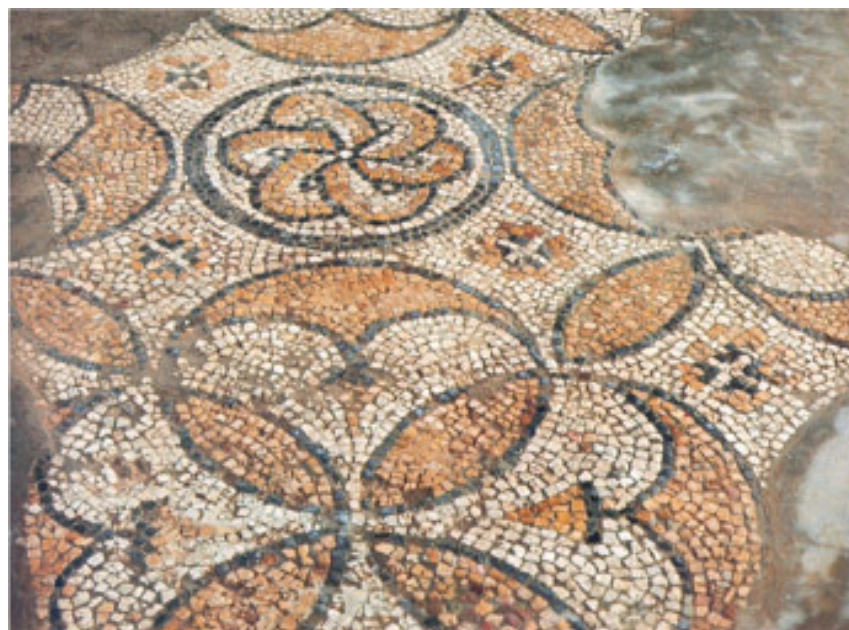


Fig. 3 - Nora, so-called Nymphaeum (III cent. A.D.) (from Angiolillo 1987, fig. 96).



Fig. 4 - Porto Torres, Baths in the Palace of the Barbarian King (III cent. A.D.)
(from Angiolillo 1981, tab. XLIV).



■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Carlo Tronchetti

■ Bibliography

S. ANGIOLILLO, *Mosaici antichi in Italia. Sardinia*, Roma 1981, n. 135.

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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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