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Roman baths of Forum Traiani

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology

The territory in Pre-Roman Times

Research in the Fordongianus territory, perhaps due to the place's ruggedness, did not produce any particular evidence of life in Pre-Roman times (fig. 1).

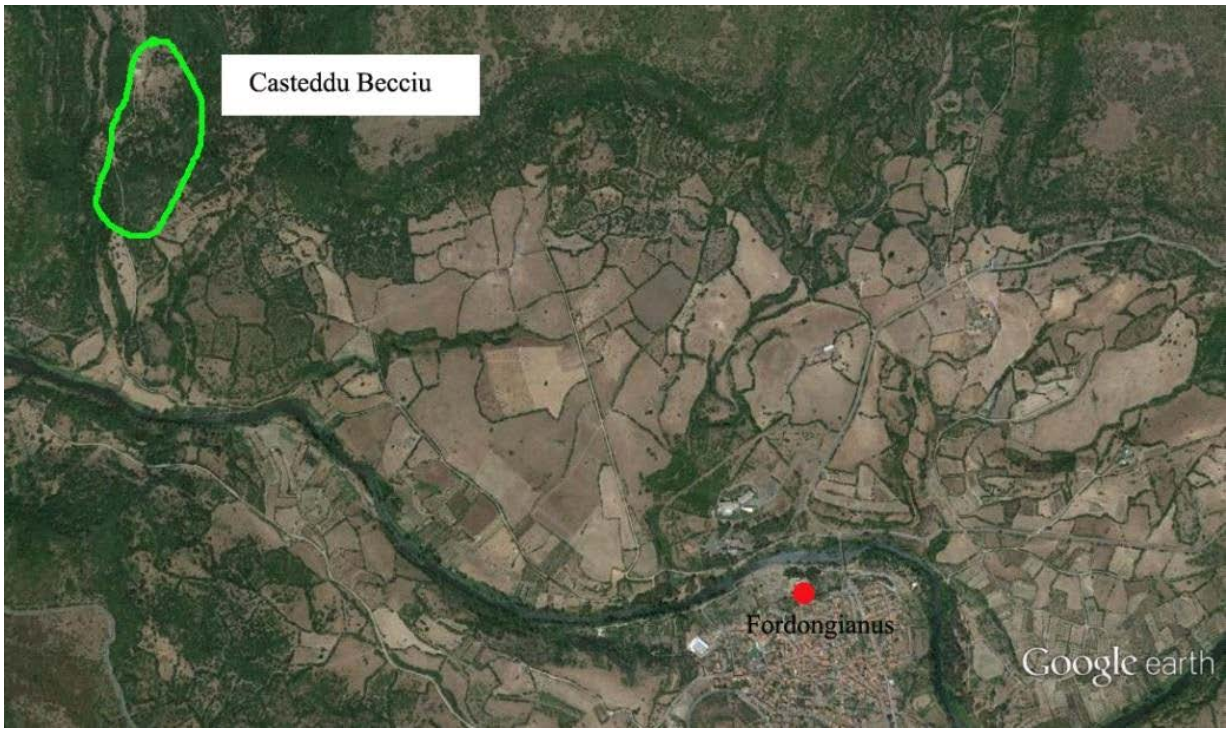

Fig. 1 - Indication of the area called Casteddu Becciu, where you have the rests of a nuraghe (from Google Earth; re-worked by C. Tronchetti).

The pre-nuragic period is mainly documented in the sites of Is Domigheddas and Gularis Santu Juanni. There they found some artificial burial caves dug in the rock, violated in ancient times. The type of monument means it can be dated to the Neolithic period, between the end of the IV and start of the III millennium B.C. (fig. 2-3).

Fig. 2 - Burial cave of Is Domigheddas (from http://www.flickriver.com/photos/johnph/9873362906/).

Fig. 3 - Burial cave in the territory of Sorradile (from http://www.sardegnadigitallibrary.it/index.php?xsl=626 HYPERLINK "http://www.sardegnadigitallibrary.it/index.php?xsl=626&id=211706"& HYPERLINK "http://www.sardegnadigitallibrary.it/index.php?xsl=626&id=211706"id=211706).

Of the few nuraghi identified the most important is definitely the one in Casteddu Becciu or Ecciu or Ezzu. Its remains can be found at about two and a half kilometres North-West of Fordongianus. These include three rooms joined by a corridor, with the typical nuragic vaulted roof It stands on a small plateau dominating the Tirso river valley and was a territorial control point (fig. 4).

Fig. 4 - Nuraghe Madrone (Silanus-NU). The nuraghe stands on a small hill controlling the river (from Lo Schiavo *et alii* 1990, p. 57).

This function definitely remained in later periods when the nuraghi remains were reused and re-adapted to be a military structure. We are not sure whether this happened in the Punic or Roman Age; but the absence of any Punic materials in the harbour area make the second alternative more plausible.

Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Carlo Tronchetti

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