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REGIONE AUTONOMA DE SARDIGNA
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Roman baths of Forum Traiani

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ The Baths I

The first baths building (fig. 1) has been dated to the Trajan period, at the start of the II sec. A.D.; based on comparisons on types of building technique used (*opus quadratum*), of the rooms and how they were distributed (fig. 2).

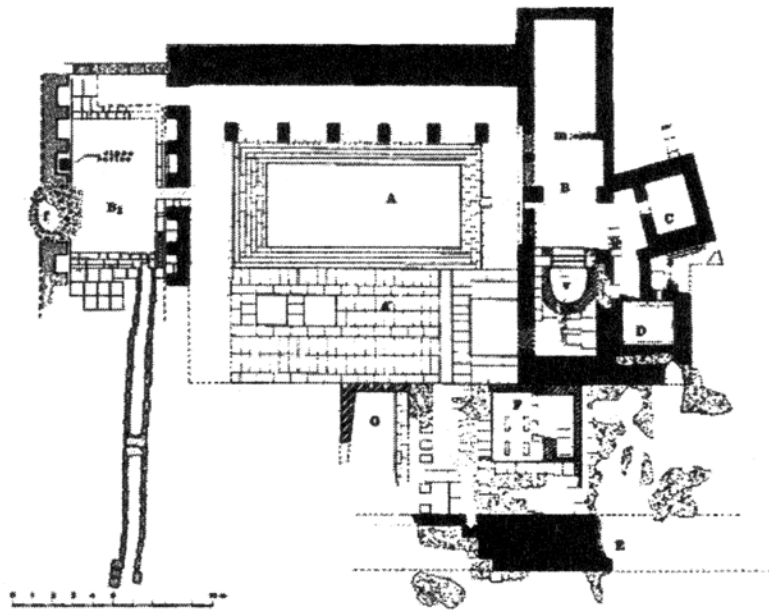


Fig. 1 - The baths I (from Bacco, Serra 1998, p. 1220, re-worked by C. Tronchetti).



Fig. 2 - The imposing Baths I structure in *opus quadratum* (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

The baths get their initial origin from a naturally hot water layer rich in curative properties, justifying the numerous dedications to the Nymphs and the god Asclepius. The heart of the building is the large pool (*natatio*, figs. 3-4) where thermal water at 54 degrees was cooled with cold water.



Fig. 3 - The nucleus of Baths I: the *natatio* with the Nymphaeum in the foreground (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).



Fig. 4 - The *natatio* seen from the northern service environments (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

On its north and south side the pool had porticoed corridors, while on the western one it had cisterns and service areas (fig. 5).



Fig. 5 - The service areas of Baths I (photo by Unicity S.p.A.)



■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Carlo Tronchetti

■ Bibliography

G. BACCO, P. B. SERRA, *Forum Traiani: il contesto termale e l'indagine di scavo*, in *L'Africa Romana XII*, Sassari 1998, pp. 1219-1228.





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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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Progetto cofinanziato dall'Unione Europea
Programma Operativo FESR 2007-2013

FESR - Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale - Asse I, Linea di Attività 1.2.3.a