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REGIONE AUTONOMA DE SARDIGNA
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Roman baths of Forum Traiani

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ The entrance courtyard and the gym

Immediately to the South of baths II you have the remains of the foundations of a large irregular space; the long side is not aligned with the front of the building, but matches the orientation of the square behind it (fig. 1, in yellow).

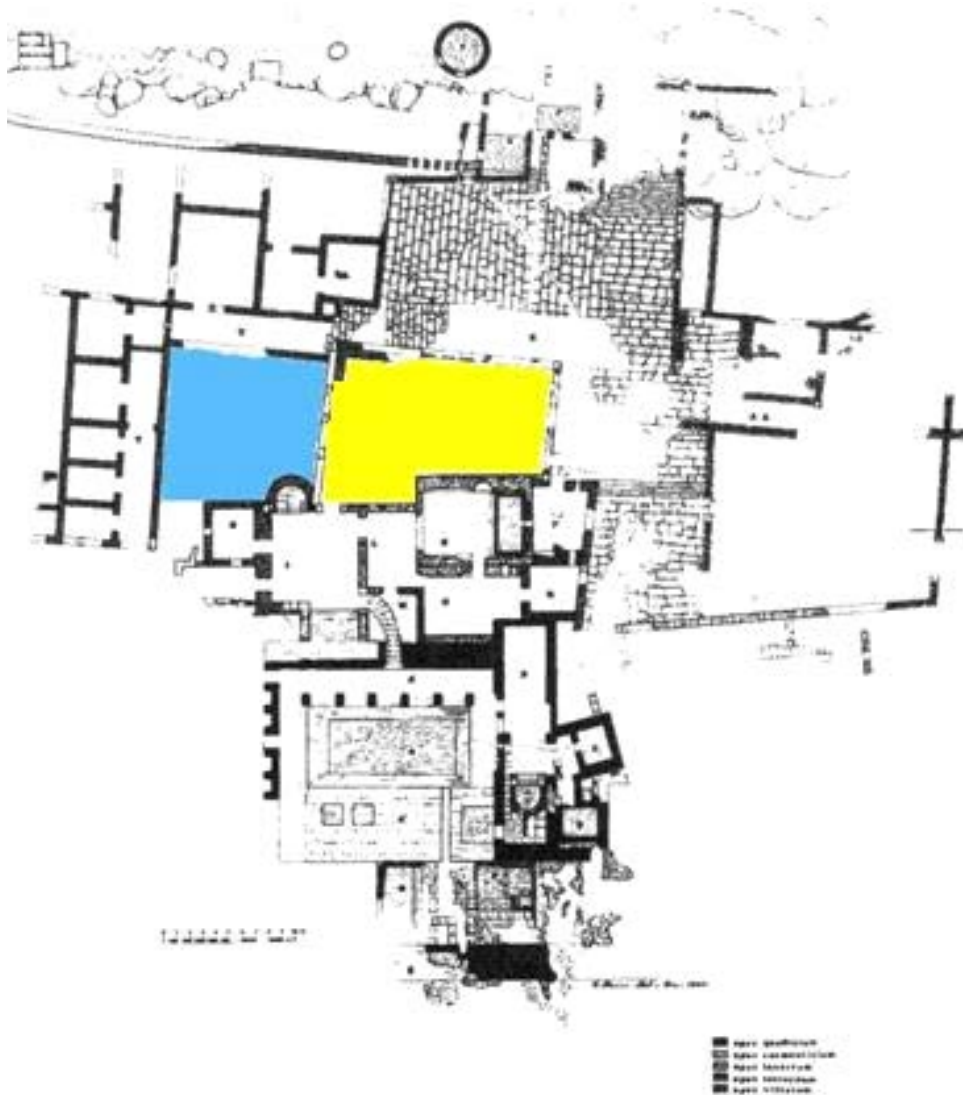


Fig. 1 - In yellow the courtyard entrance to the baths; in blue the space hypothetically identifiable as a gym (from Bacco, Serra 1998, re-worked by C. Tronchetti).

This area, because of its thin foundations thought to have been openair, is recognised as an entrance courtyard to the baths, considering that a large entrance opens on to the

frigidarium (fig. 2). It is also a passage-way to another open space to the east (fig. 1, in blue).



Fig. 2 - Entrance to the baths from the courtyard (photo by Unicity S.p.A.)

That space is bordered to the East and South by a continuous wall, while the northern part is structured differently, based on the baths building's irregular profile.

It is not clear what that openair space was used for. The lack of openings with the building surrounding it to the East and South (fig. 3) and the connection with the entrance courtyard to the baths related it to them directly; one can hypothesise a space used as a sort of gymnasium (fig. 4), an element often connected to baths buildings (fig. 5).



Fig. 3 - View of the spaces adjacent to the gym (photo by Unicity S.p.A.)



Fig. 4 – Reconstruction of the Roman baths gymnasium of *Sebastium*, at Vitoria Gasteiz in Spain (from Facebook “IDU. Ilustración y Dibujo arqueológico”, illustration by Iñaki Diéguez Uribeondo).

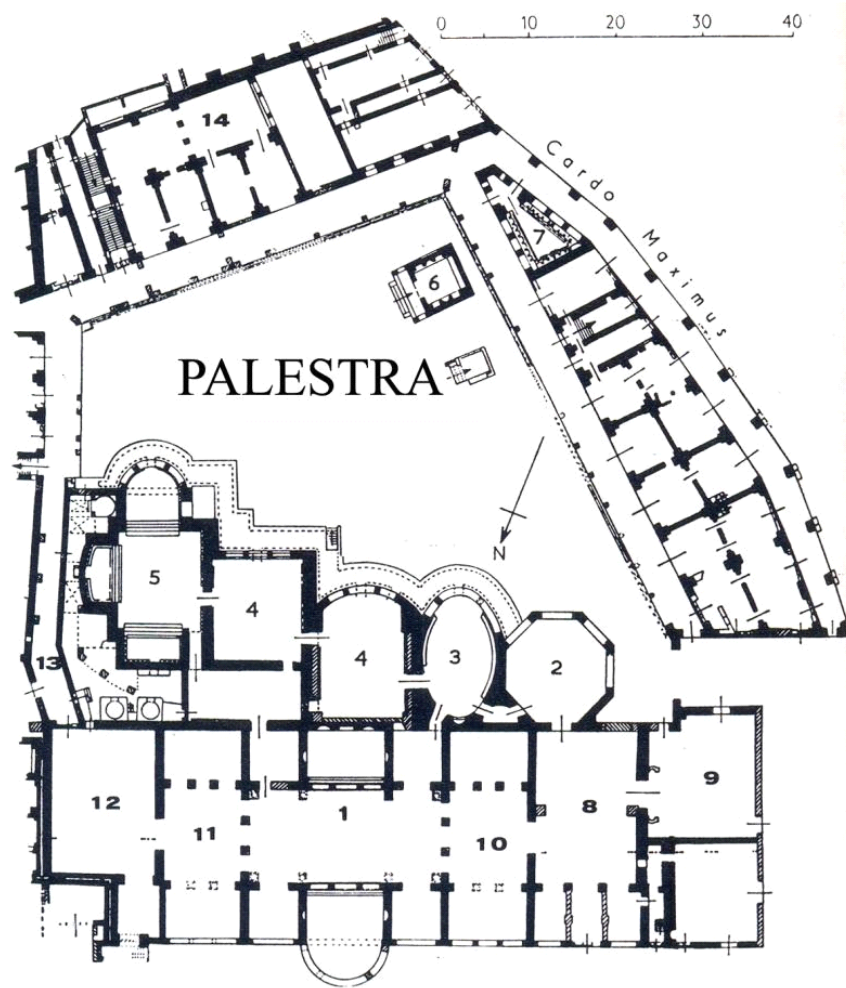


Fig. 5 - Ostia, Forum baths (II cent. A.D.), highlighting the position of the gym (from Pavolini 1983).

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Carlo Tronchetti

■ Bibliography

R. ZUCCA, *Fordongianus*, Sassari 1986, p. 28.





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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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