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REGIONE AUTONOMA DE SARDIGNA
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Roman baths of Forum Traiani

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ The water system

The Fordongianus baths water system is fairly complex, as a result of from integration of a natural hot water source with cold water used to cool it.

Upstream of the building you have the hot spring and some cisterns; from there the water flowed down through a number of canals saved in the square paving; here it probably went through lead piping. Other canals are made in overturned terracotta tiles (fig. 1).



Fig. 1 - Detail of a duct in tiles (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

The two water types, flowing through pipes in floors and walls (figs. 2-3), then reached the tanks and were mixed together before pouring into the *natatio* (fig. 4).

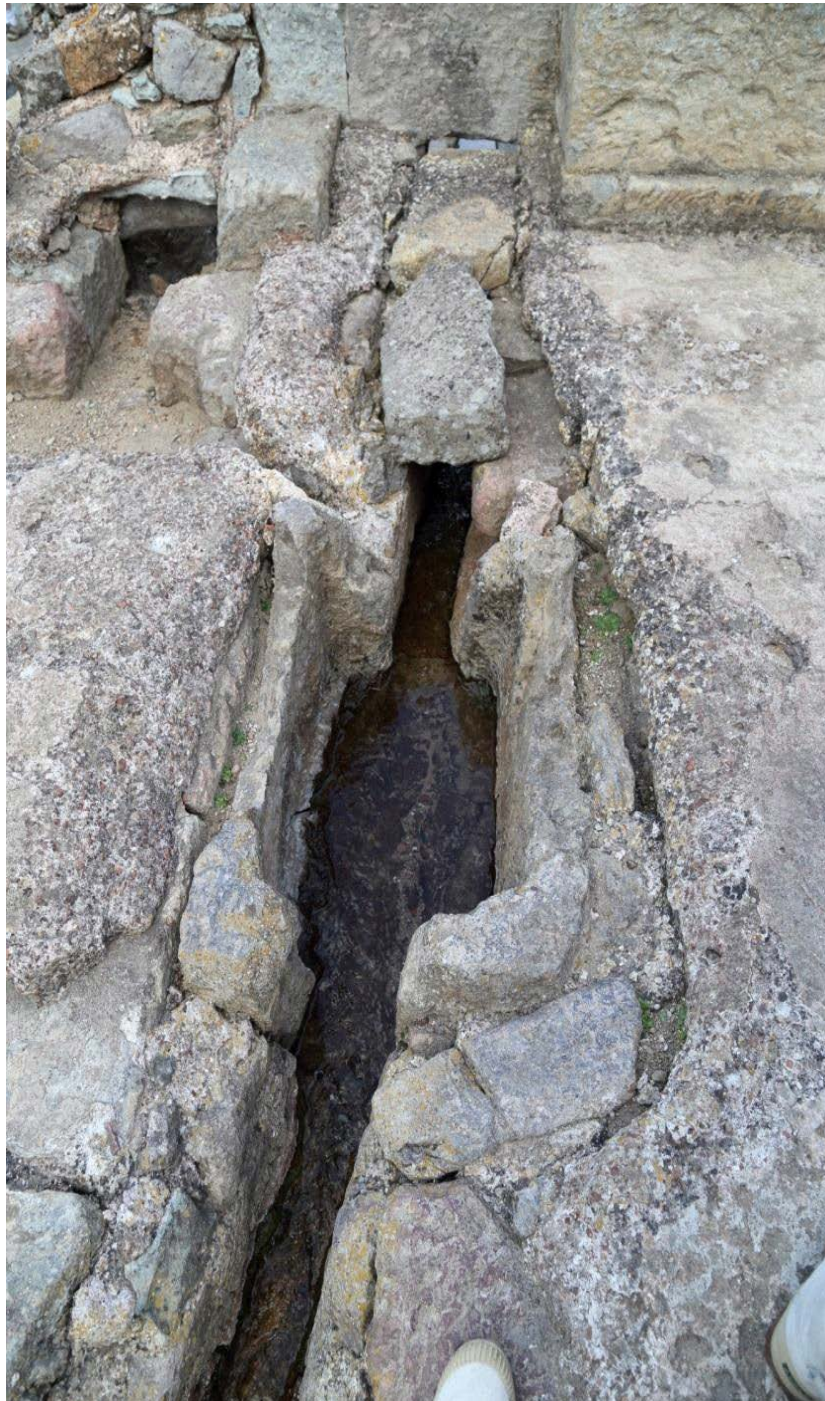


Fig. 2 - Canal built into the floor (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).



Fig. 3 - Duct originally inside the wall (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

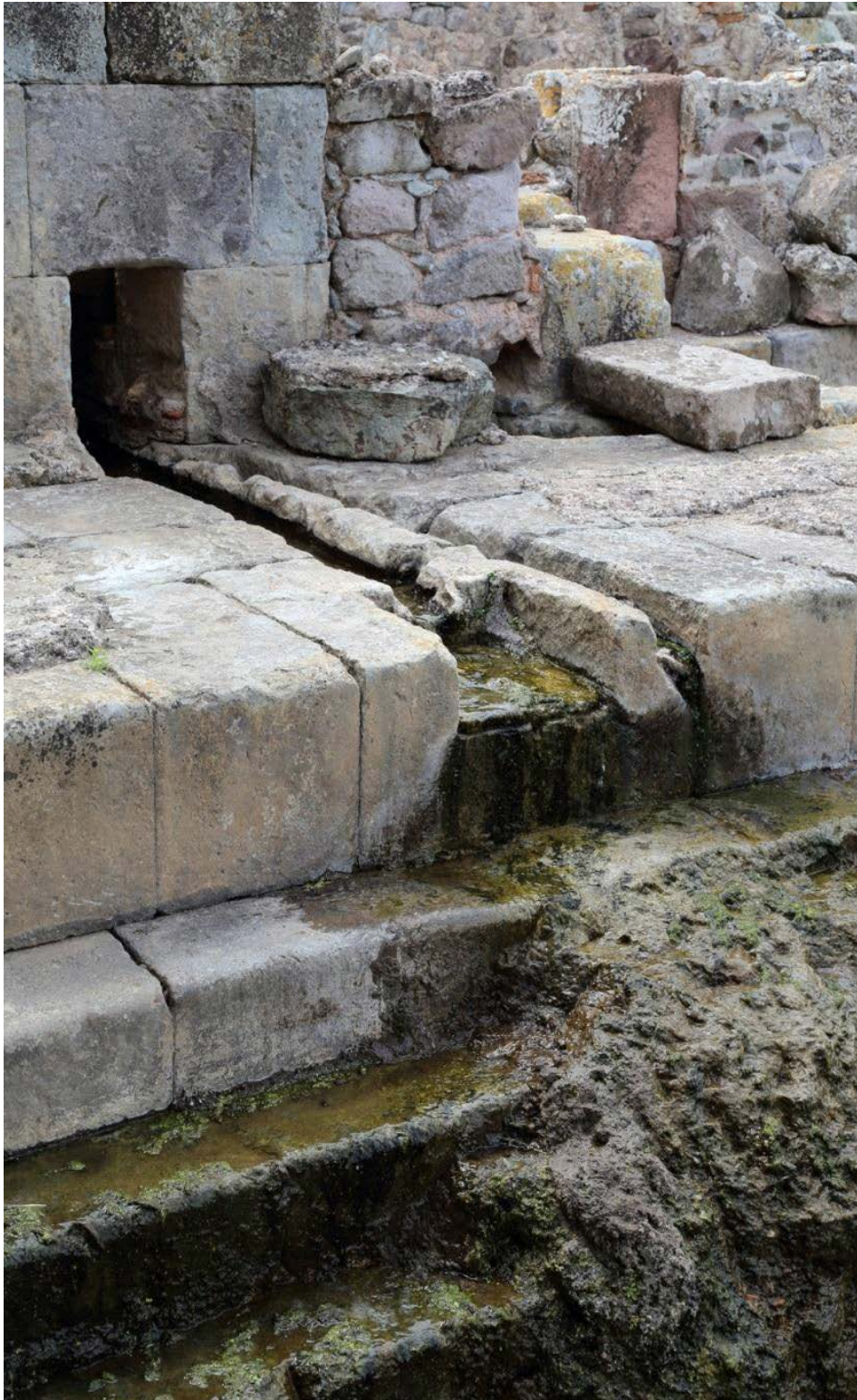


Fig. 4 – Water outlet in the *natatio* (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

Drainage canals then carried the waste water towards the Tirso river (fig. 5).

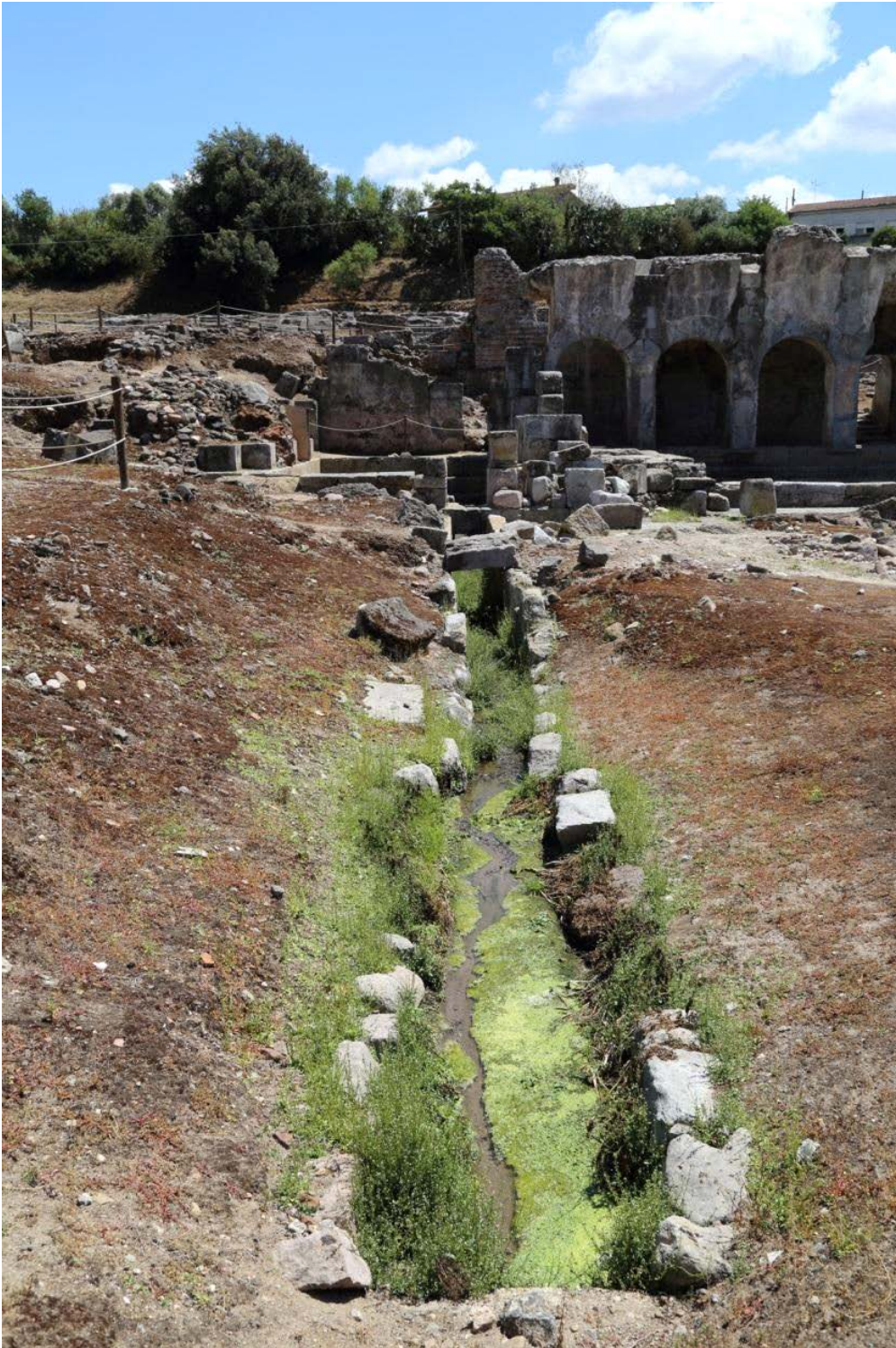


Fig. 5 - Drainage canal from Nymphaeum to the Tirso river (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Carlo Tronchetti

■ Bibliography

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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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