



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTONOMA DE SARDEGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

The Castle della Fava

Patrimonio culturale

SARDEGNA

Virtual Archaeology



■ The territory during the Phoenician-Punic Age and Roman Times

The historical town centre of Posada has undergone some investigations by the Archaeological Superintendency Department in recent years, during which a modest amount of pottery has been found (fragments of amphorae, figs. 1-2) that make one think of an occasional frequency of this area during the Phoenician Age, which then became more stable during the Punic Age, probably to exploit the mining resources of the area inland of Posada.

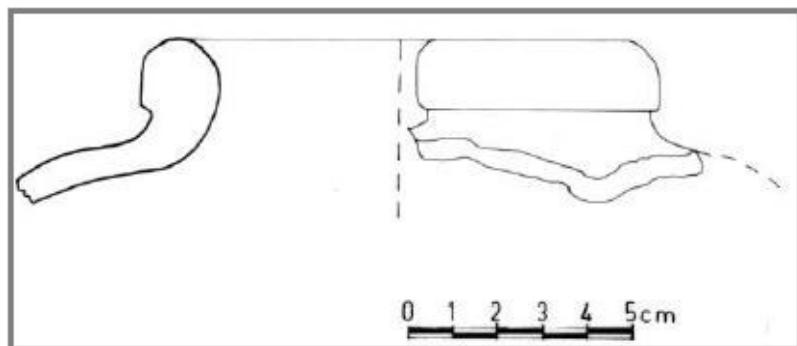


Fig. 1 - Fragment of a Phoenician amphora from Posada (from SANCIU 2010, fig. 13).



Fig. 2 - Handle with stamp from Posada (from SANCIU 2012, figs. 7-8).

The eastern coast of Sardinia, where Posada is located, is the area where the first contacts with Rome, with the Etruscan and Italic people probably occurred, well before the military occupation of the island in 238 B.C.

In fact, at the foot of the hill on which the medieval Castello della Fava stands, is the location where some scholars place the ancient settlement of "Feronia" (fig. 3), mentioned in the "Geography" treatise by Claudius Ptolemy, hypothesising the presence of an Etruscan-Roman settlement on the east coast of Sardinia during the fourth century B.C.

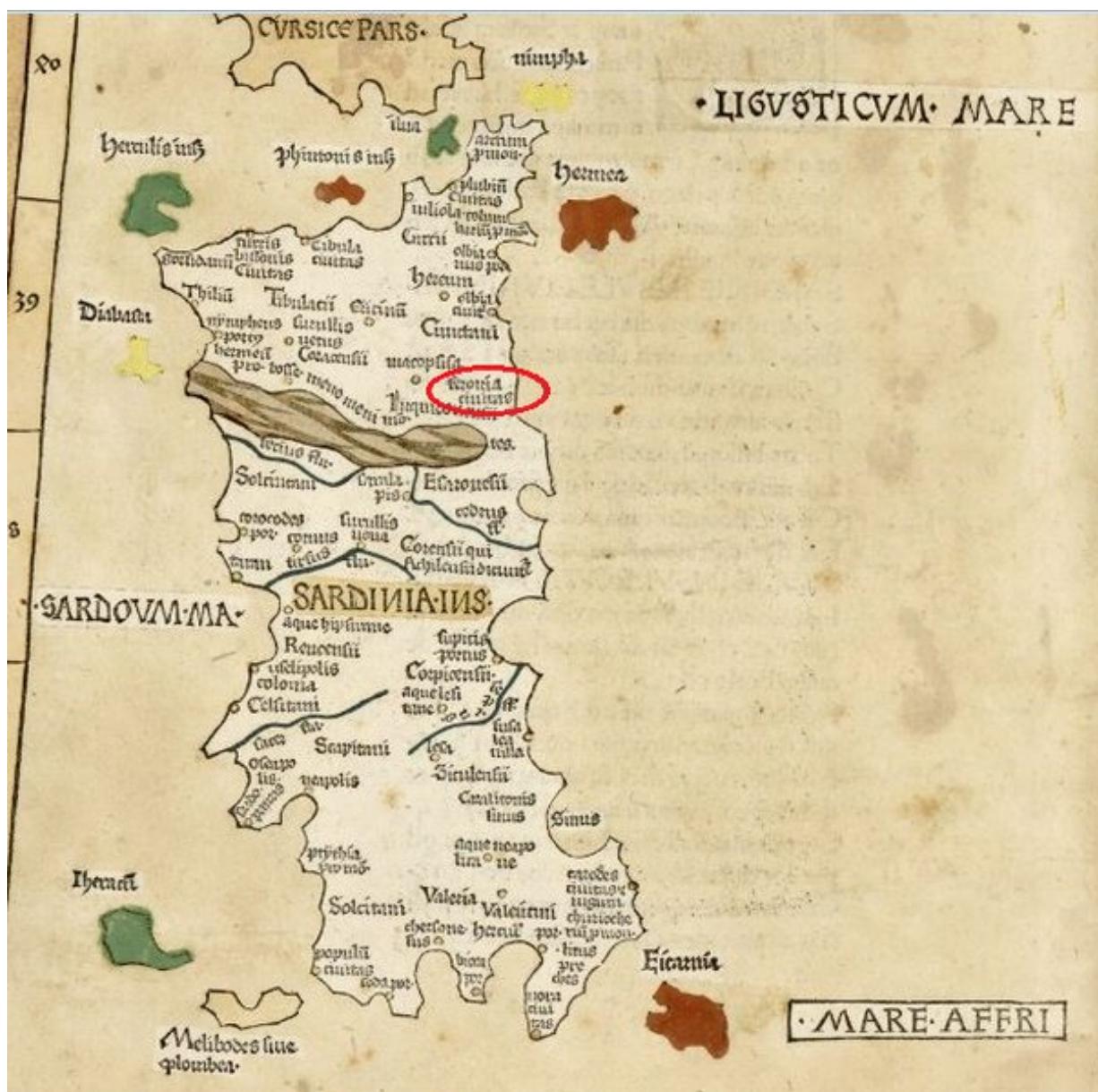


Fig. 3 - In red the indication of "Feronia civitas" in the Septima Europe Tabula map, in Ptolomeus Claudius, Cosmographia, Ulma 1482 (from <http://www.sardegna-cultura.it/imghigh/001.jpg>).

This hypothesis is confirmed by the discovery in 1923, in an undisclosed location of Posada, of a bronze statue depicting an Italic-type Heracles (fig. 4), dated between the late fifth and early fourth centuries B.C.

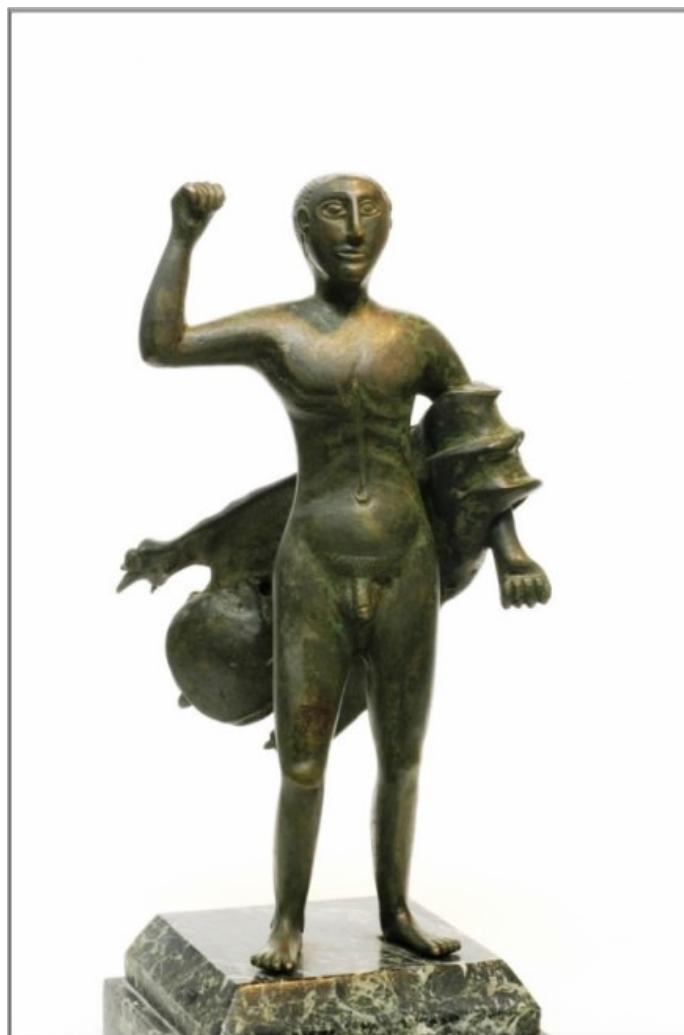


Fig. 4 - The statuette of Hercules, Posada
(from [http://www.exibart.com/profilo/imgpost/rev/509/rev32509\(1\)-ori.jpg](http://www.exibart.com/profilo/imgpost/rev/509/rev32509(1)-ori.jpg)).

The Roman presence in the area of Posada is also evidenced by the discovery of square blocks of local limestone and by other relevant findings of ceramic materials (fragments of black glazed pottery).

■ Credits

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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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