



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA  
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

# Castle of Monreale

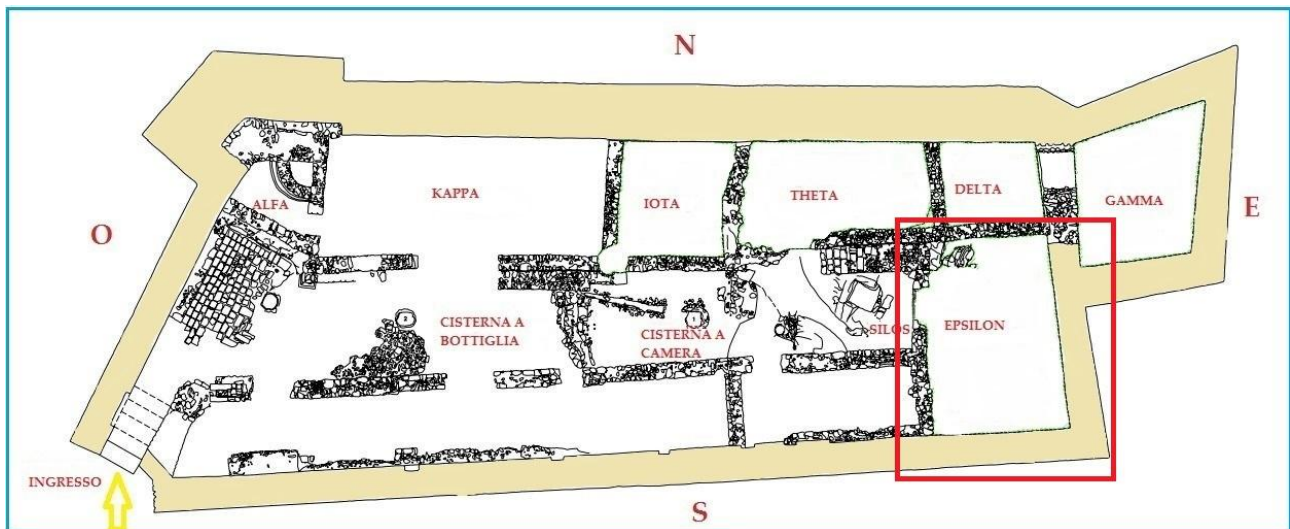
Patrimonio culturale  
**SARDEGNA** Virtual Archaeology



## ■ *Epsilon* room

The room is located in the South east sector of the keep and could be accessed from the fourth level of the central courtyard (figs 1-2). The stone bench in this area of the castle was shaped and used as a part of the floor, built with irregular-shaped schist slabs (fig. 3). There was also a wooden structure here that supported a landing for the staircase to the upper floors, as shown by the shelves that can be recognised in the east wall. Investigations have brought to light several materials belonging to different phases in which the castle was used and, in particular, building work from the 17th century has been documented.

The importance of the epsilon space is linked to the discovery of a portion of an underground Nuraghic hut, which proves the various phases of the site prior to the construction of the medieval castle (fig. 4). Inside, several paste pottery fragments have been recovered, together with worked animals bones, remains of meals and coal.



**Fig. 1** - The *epsilon* room in the South-east corner of the keep (reconstruction by M. G. Arru, from Spanu 2003, p. 58).



**Fig. 2** - The keep seen from above with an indication of the *epsilon* room (reconstruction by M. G. Arru, photo by R. Bordicchia).



**Fig. 3** - Detail of the stone counter inside the *epsilon* room (photo by R. Bordicchia).



**Fig. 4** -Curved wall relating to a Nuraghic hut (photo by R. Bordicchia).

## ■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Maria Grazia Arru.

Preliminary research by Dr. Valeria Paretta and Dr. Daniele Corda.

## ■ Bibliography

F. R. STASOLLA, *Per un'archeologia dei castelli in Sardegna: il castrum di Monreale a Sardara (VS)*, in *Temporis Signa*, V, 2010, pp. 39-54.

G. UCCHEDDU, *Le strutture murarie del castello di Monreale a Sardara*, in V. GRIECO, *I Catalani e il castelliere sardo*, Cagliari 2004, pp. 181-240.

P. G. SPANU, *Il castello di Monreale*, in *Archeologia a Sardara. Da Sant'Anastasia a Monreale*, in *Quaderni Didattici della Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici delle Province di Cagliari e Oristano*, 11, 2003, pp. 53-64.





UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



**REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA**  
**REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA**

## La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



UNIONE EUROPEA

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