



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Castle of Monreale

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ *Iota* room

In the *iota* room (figs. 1-2), located between the *kappa* room and the *theta* room, thanks to the archaeological digs, it was possible to identify the collapse of the wooden floors on the upper floors and reconstruct the ways in which these structures gave way: the roof fell to the floor, probably a wooden one, on the third floor and this in turn, collapsed on the floor of the second floor. The walls dividing the rooms then also collapsed and the entire structure followed suit. Below this stratigraphy, a dump of various materials was found, perhaps thrown from the nearby *theta* room, including fragments of pottery from the 17th and 18th centuries. This layer of waste covered an earthen floor that contained pottery fragments from the 17th century, that in turn lay on a trachyte slab floor (figs 3-4), the same type of floor used in the first courtyard, the keep entrance, and the second courtyard, opposite the *kappa* room. A pottery fragment that was polished, probably from Valencia, was stuck under a slab that allowed the floor to be dated to the 16th and 17th century.

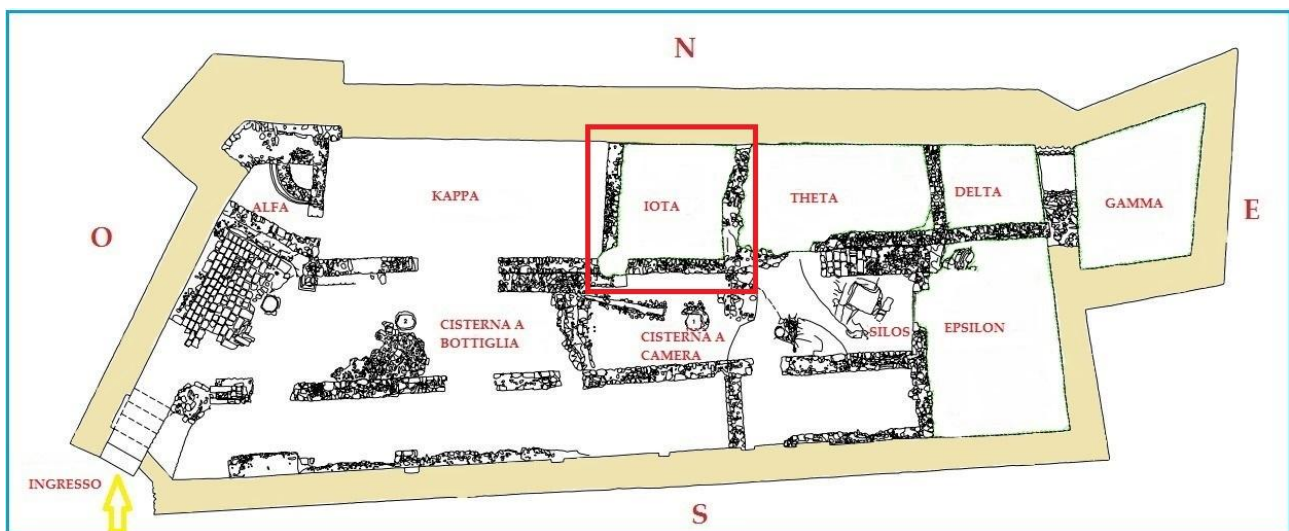


Fig. 1 - The *iota* room (reconstruction by M.G Arru from SPANU 2003, p. 58).



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



Fig. 3 - *Iota* room; floor in trachyte slabs (by Stasolla 2010, p. 49).



Fig. 4 - The *Iota* room and its floor (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Maria Grazia Arru.

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

■ Bibliography

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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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