



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Castle of Monreale

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ The inscription

During the dig in 1995, in the kappa room, two blocks were discovered with fragments of an inscription in Gothic, regarding building or maintenance work on the castle. In one of the two fragments the words "*MAG(iste)R P. MURISIN(us)*" can be seen, indicating the name of the person in charge of building or maintenance work on the castle; the other block shows the date "*ANNO D(omi)N(i) MCCLXXVI*", together the picture of a cross. Up to 1350 in Sardinia, two methods were used for dating or "styles" on inscriptions or documents: that of the Pisa Incarnation, that had the year begin on 25th March, and the Florentine Incarnation, that had the new year begin on 25th March, but one year later than the Pisa one. As the month is not indicated, and the type of dating is not known, is it possible to state the date approximately, in a period from 25th March 1275 to 24th March 1276. This information allows us to attribute the building work to the judge of Arborea Mariano II de Bas-Serra, who was extremely interested in fortifying the giudicato of Arborea in that period, as seen in the renovation of the castle at Monteforte nella Nurra (1274) and construction of the Oristano walls (1290-93).

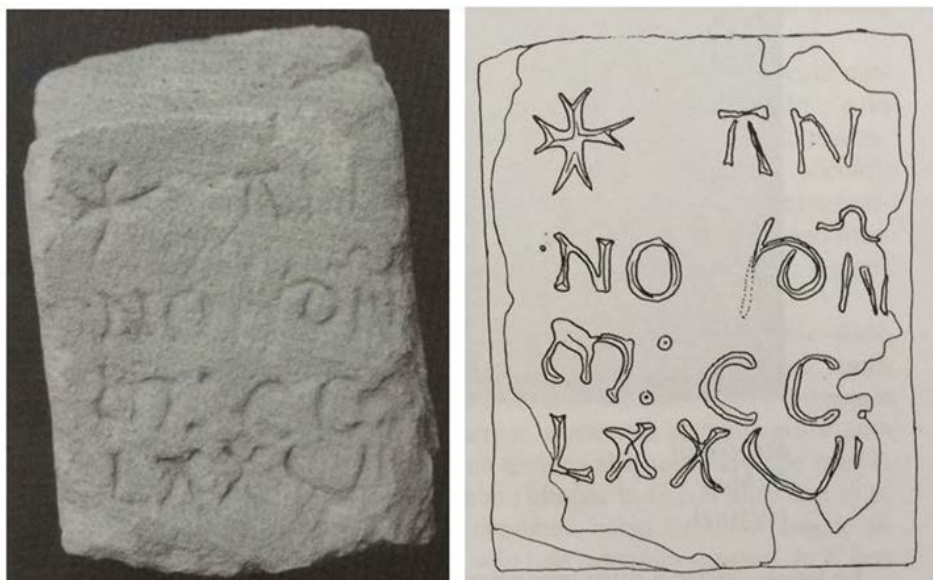


Fig. 1 - The block with the first part of the inscription that carries the date of 1276 (from Spanu 2003 b, p. 57).

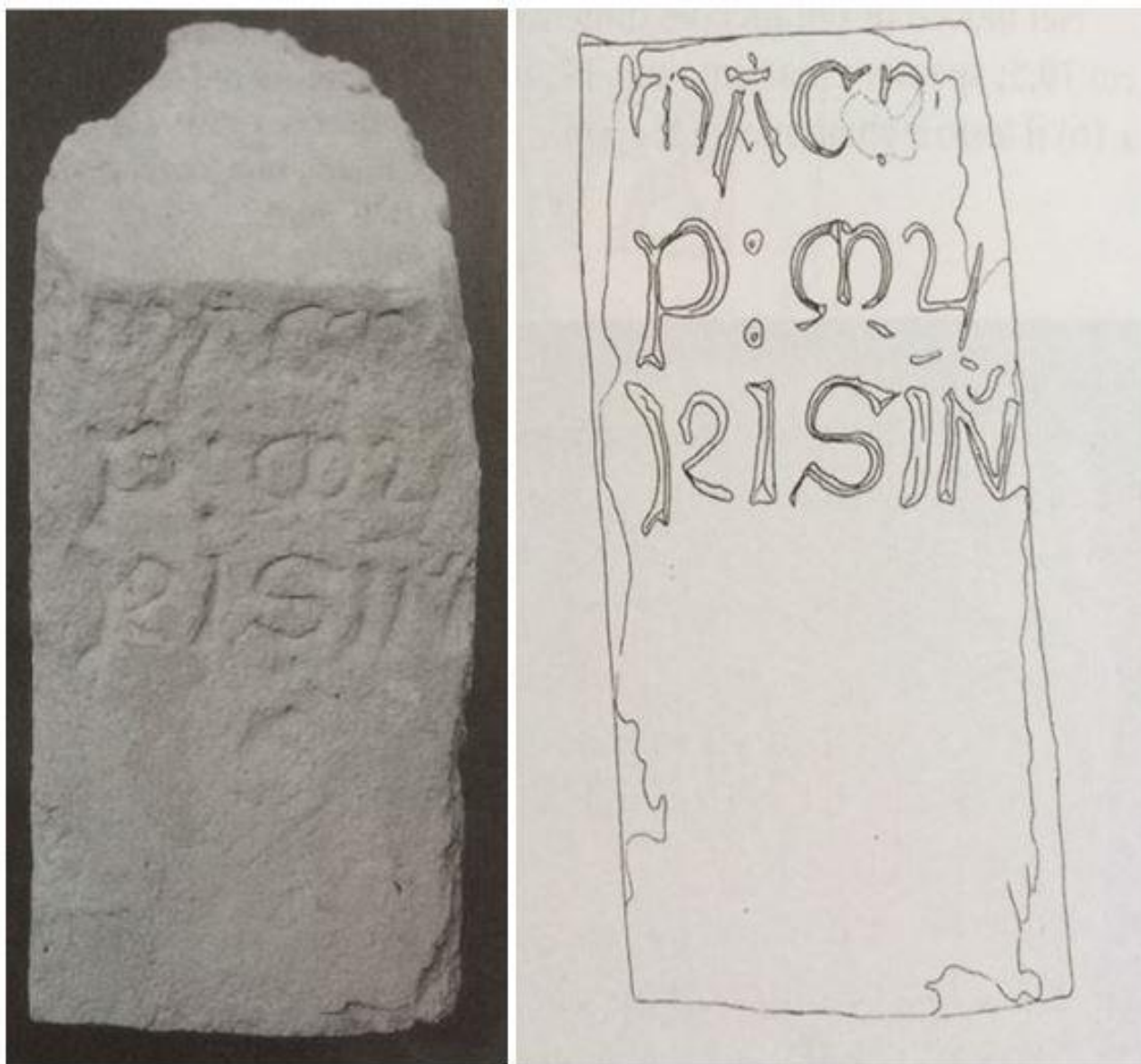


Fig. 2 - The block with the second part of the inscription in which the *magister Murisinus* is mentioned (from Spanu 2003b, p. 57).

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Maria Grazia Arru.

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

■ Bibliography

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