

# Palace of Baldu

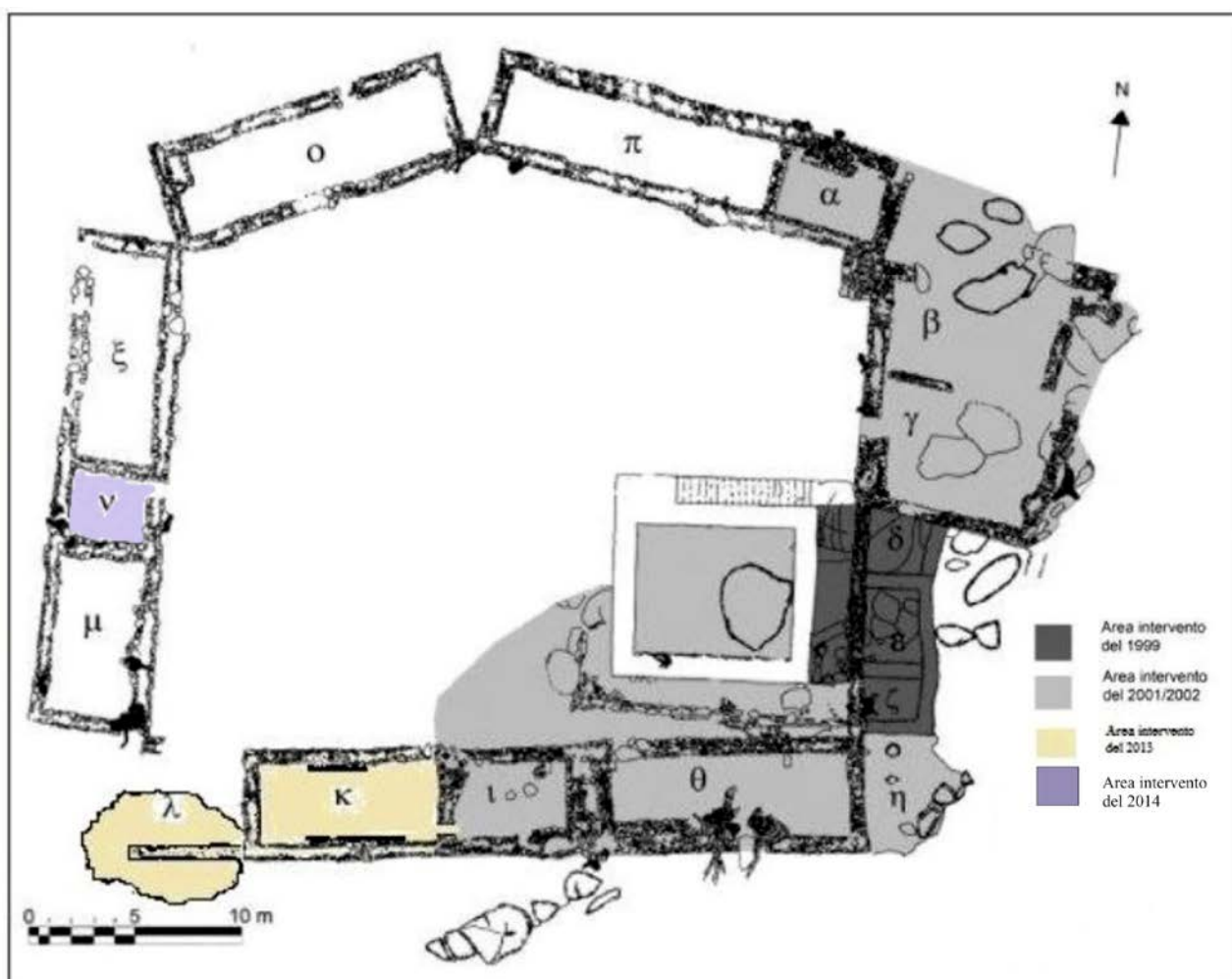
Patrimonio culturale  
**SARDEGNA** Virtual Archaeology





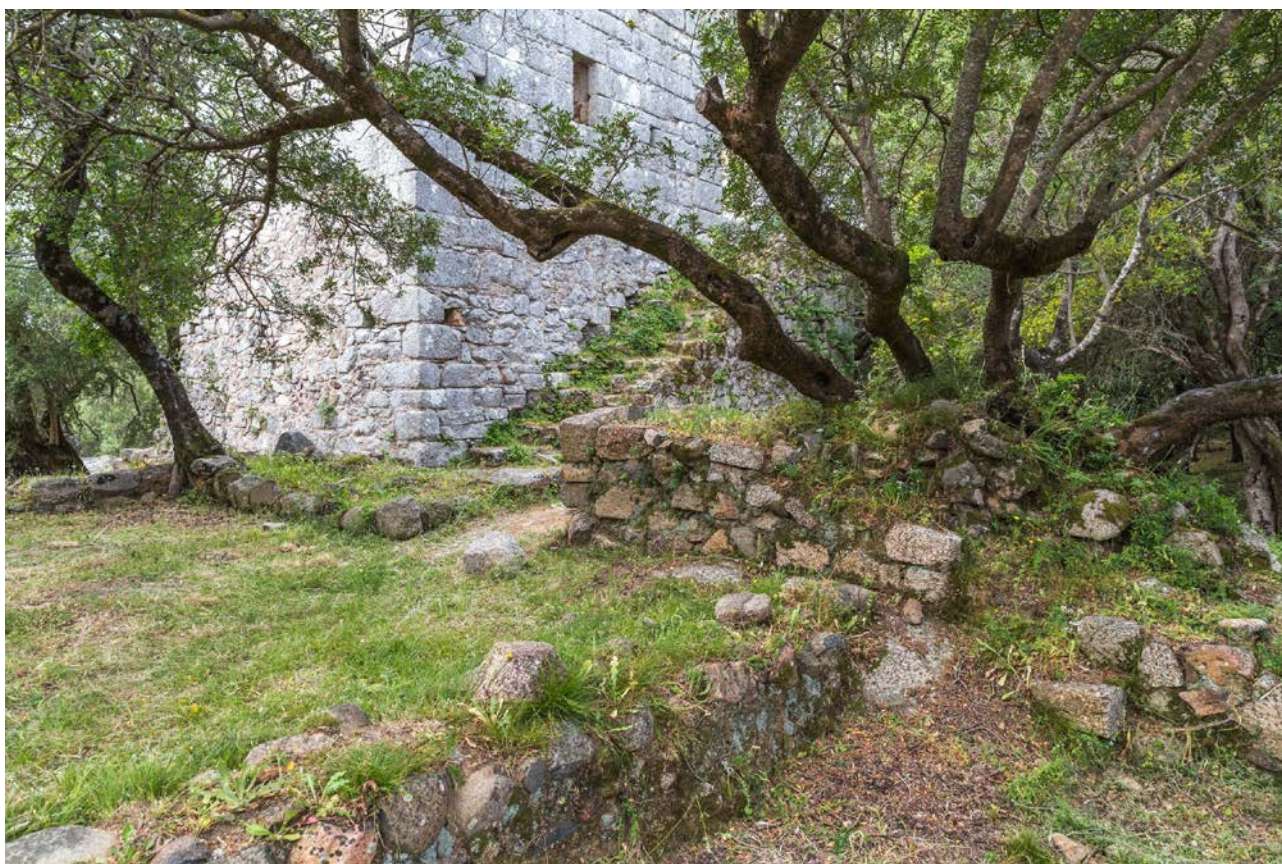
## ■ The Metals

The complex of *Lu Palatzu* of Baldu is characterised by a square tower and by seventeen rooms arranged around a large pentagonal courtyard, which may be accessed from the north-eastern side (fig. 1).



**Fig. 1** - Luogosanto, near *Santu Stevanu*: site plan of the area of *Lu Palatzu di Baldu* (Graphic reconstruction by C. Cocco).

Inside two rooms, called β (beta) and γ (gamma), several metal items have been found: in the first room, nails and iron tips were mostly found, while in the second (fig. 2) - with a doorway leading to the central courtyard and another leading to the outside of the complex - stirrups and other items for horses have been found (fig. 3).



**Fig. 2** - Tower and gamma room, view from the east (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).



**Fig. 3** - Stirrup and metallic elements from the excavation (from Pinna 2002-2003, p. 79).

The discovery of metal objects has allowed clarification of the use of the various rooms in the complex, which were mostly used as dwellings and, as in this case, for production purposes, but also the activities involved in daily life on the site.

In the 13th-14th centuries, there was a flourishing trade for this kind of metal objects, with Liguria and Tuscany, the main trading partners for Sardinia in that period. It remains unclear whether these objects were imported or a sign of a local production, therefore linked to a manufacturing plant in the area.





## ■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Claudia Cocco and Dr. Francesca Collu

## ■ Bibliographic abbreviations

- PINNA 2002-2003      F. PINNA, *Un villaggio medioevale nel cuore della Gallura*, in *Almanacco Gallurese*, 10, 2002-2003, pp. 77-84.
- PINNA 2005      F. PINNA, *Organizzazione spaziale e relazioni commerciali di un abitato medievale della Gallura. Nota sugli scavi archeologici nell'area del Palazzo di Baldu (Luogosanto)*, in *Les Habitats insulaires à l'époque médiévale en Méditerranée, Relation, échanges, et coopération en Méditerranée. Actes du 128e Congrès national des sociétés historiques et scientifiques* (Bastia, 14-21 aprile 2003), *Études Corses*, 60, 2005, pp. 85-103.

## ■ Periodicals and magazines

**Almanacco Gallurese**      *Almanacco gallurese*, Tempio Pausania, I, 1992 e ss.



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