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REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
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Palace of Baldu

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Building techniques used for the rooms

The complex of *Lu Palatzu* of Baldu stands in the area of *Santu Stevanu*: it has a square tower and by seventeen rooms arranged around a large pentagonal courtyard, which may be accessed from the north-eastern side (fig. 1).

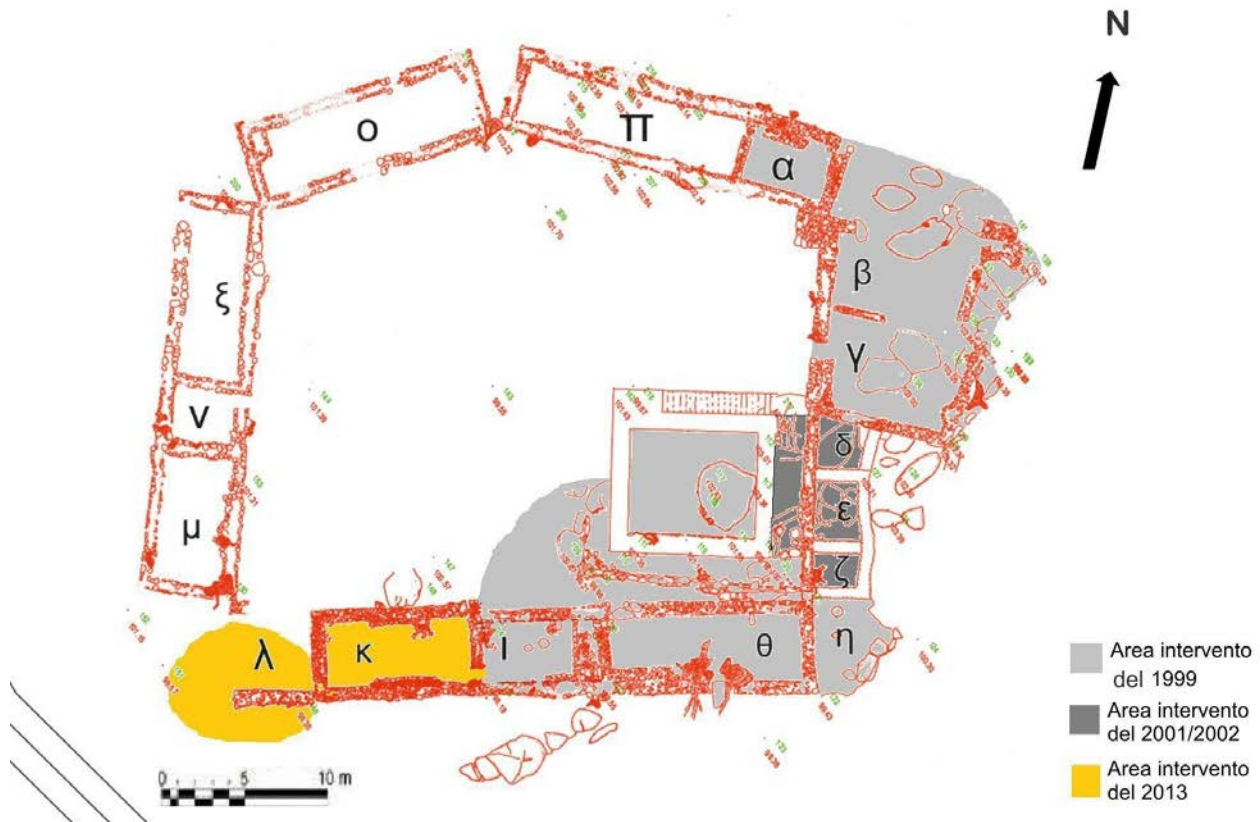


Fig. 1 - Luogosanto, area of *Santu Stevanu*: site plan of *Lu Palatzu di Baldu* (Graphic production by C. Cocco).

The building technique used to build the perimeter rooms, uses local stone and adapts to the granite rock that naturally spring up from the land, sometimes modifying them to allow them to adapt more to the walls. The latter have a dual façade placed by using granite ashlar attached with mud mortar to close a central space filled with smaller stones. The rows of granite blocks are placed evening, showing the expertise used on these structures by expert builders (fig. 2).



Fig. 2 - Luogosanto, Palazzo di Baldu: il vano v, indagato nella campagna di scavo 2014 (foto di Unicity S.p.A.).

The rooms also have different types of floor, sometimes simple beaten clay, others more complex and layered, as seen in rooms *kappa* (κ) and *iota* (ι). A crawl space was found in the former, made of medium and large stones, arranged that were connected with mud mortar mixed with fragments of bricks and limestone; finally a layer of smooth mortar to make the floor even; this would be a method used at least until the beginning of the last century, called "*Lu pamentu*" (fig. 3) and can still be found in local stazzi. A similar floor technique using flattened mud mortar, smoothed and left to harden, can be found in southern Sardinia, with the variation of the name *Su Pamentu*.



Fig. 3 - Luogosanto, Palazzo di Baldu: *lu pamentu* found in room κ during the archaeological digs (photo by C. Cocco).

The roofs over the rooms comprised round and square tiles, found during the digs, due to the collapse of the walls. The same tiles were made in a nearby kiln, near to which process waste was found (fig. 4).



Fig. 4 - Luogosanto, Palace of Baldu: warped bricks melted together during firing
(From Pinna, Corda a c.d.s., p. 152 fig. 10).

■ Credits

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

■ Bibliographic abbreviations

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