



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA  
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

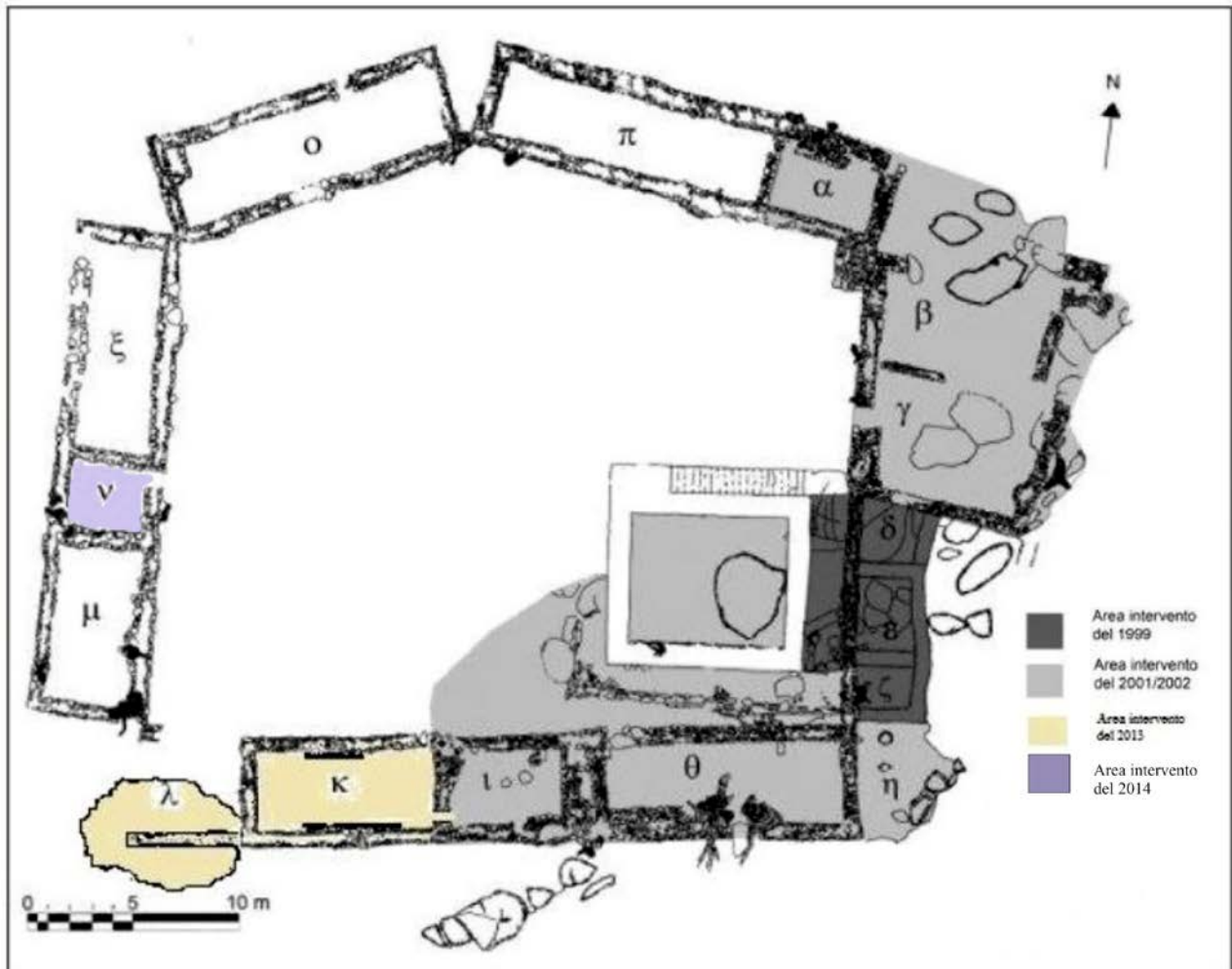
# Palace of Baldu

Patrimonio culturale  
**SARDEGNA** Virtual Archaeology



## ■ The seventeen environments

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. The rectangular-sized rooms vary in size.



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

Some of these spaces have been investigated during the site excavations which have been ongoing since 2001, where a few aspects of both the walls and their intended use were highlighted.

It was also possible to recognise a particular building pattern, called "double room", which involves joining two spaces (one larger and one smaller one) through one access: this happens in the case of kappa ( $\kappa$ ) and iota ( $\iota$ ), (figs. 2-3); *pi* ( $\pi$ ) and *alfa* ( $\alpha$ ); *csi* ( $\xi$ ) and *ni* ( $\nu$ ).



**Fig. 2** - The Palace of Baldu, rooms  $\iota$  and  $\kappa$ , view from the East (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).



**Fig. 3** - The Palace of Baldu, room κ, seen from the West (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

It has been hypothesised that the rooms had different uses, such as housing and workshop: the latter was found in rooms *beta* ( $\beta$ ) and *gamma* ( $\gamma$ ), where numerous metal artefacts were unearthed; other rooms must have been used as warehouses, kitchens, stables and workshops. These activities, together with the presence of the tower, allowed identification of the settlement as an important administration centre for the Giudicato di Gallura, or, as the residence of one of the political and religious subjects, who played a decisive role in controlling the kingdom. In room *iota* ( $\iota$ ) a well with fragments of an Islamic jar - perhaps used for storing water or food - and traces of a fireplace were found.

The artefacts found within the various spaces have connected their manufacture and use to a time span ranging between the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries.

## ■ Credits

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

## ■ Bibliographic abbreviations

- CNAM VI F. REDI, A. FORGIONE (a cura di), *VI Congresso Nazionale di Archeologia Medievale*, (L'Aquila, 12-15 settembre 2012), Borgo S. Lorenzo 2012.
- FRESI 1995 F. FRESI, *La Gallura*, in *Le chiese nel verde*, pp. 125-143.
- Le chiese nel verde* M. BRIGAGLIA (a cura di), *Le chiese nel verde: architetture religiose rurali nella provincia di Sassari*, Sassari 1995.
- PINNA 2002-2003 F. PINNA, *Un villaggio medioevale nel cuore della Gallura*, in *Almanacco Gallurese*, 10, 2002-2003, pp. 77-84.
- PINNA 2008 F. PINNA, *Archeologia del territorio in Sardegna. La Gallura tra tarda antichità e medioevo*, Cagliari 2008.
- PINNA 2012 F. PINNA, *La rete insediativa medievale della Sardegna nord-orientale: stato degli studi, nuovi dati archeologici e prospettive di ricerca*, in CNAM VI, pp. 436-441.
- PINNA, CORDA a c.d.s F. PINNA, D. CORDA, *Scambi e circuiti commerciali nella Sardegna medievale: dati archeologici dal Palazzo di Baldu (Luogosanto, Olbia-Tempio)*, in B.S.S.H.N.C., 2014, pp. 748-749.

## ■ Periodicals and magazines

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

**B.S.S.H.N.C** *Bulletin de la Société des sciences historiques et naturelles de la Corse*, Bastia, I, 1881 e ss.





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