



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Church and monastery of San Nicola di Trullas

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Archaeo-zoological items

During the digs in the area in front of the church of San Nicola di Trullas, several items from fauna were found. From their study, it was possible to trace important information on animal species, the environment, and the economy of the settlement. There were more domestic animals than wild ones: cows, pigs and sheep (figs. 1-3). There were also hens, that were not common at the time and were expensive. Domestic fauna were dogs, cats and horses. Wild animals included various types of birds, foxes, marten and deer. Not all animals were destined to become food: some cows' skulls have a horizontal cut along the entire length of the head, perhaps for being fixed to the walls as decorations.

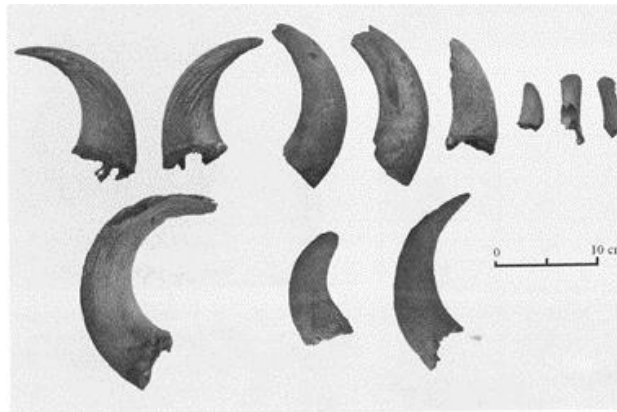


Fig. 1 - Sheep's horn (photo from the Municipality of Semestene).

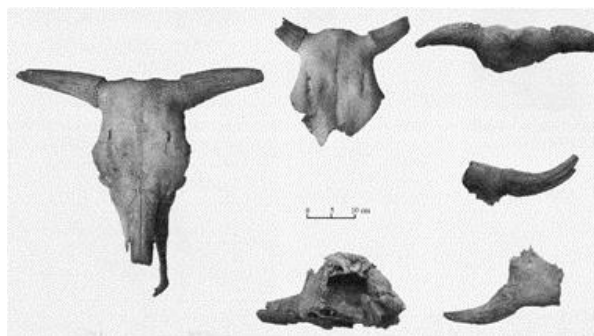


Fig. 2 - Cattle skull (photo from the Municipality of Semestene).

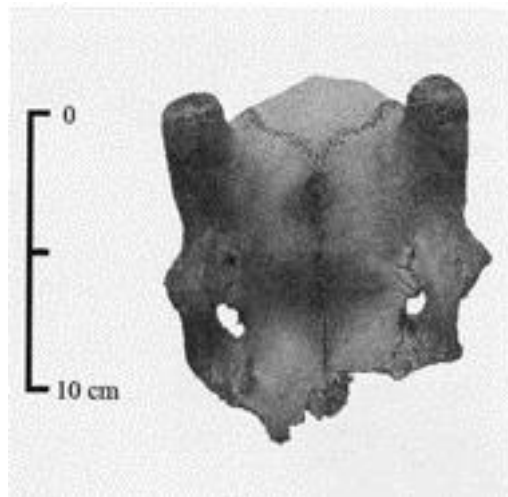


Fig. 3 - Deer skull (photo from the Municipality of Semestene).

Most of these bones came from the well (figs. 4-6)

Traces left by man on the animal bones are the signs left by slaughtering, not unlike the ones found and known in medieval and post-medieval sites. After examining the bones, it is presumed heavy metal tools were used to cut the bones, and knives were used to eat the meat.

The presence of a large number of human bones among the fragments found (24% of the total) can be explained by the disturbance of the layers from the burial area that was present nearby.

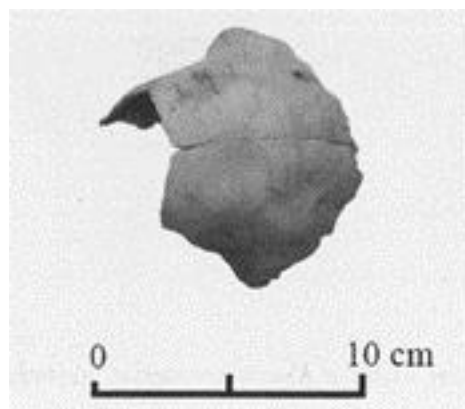


Fig. 4 - Female sheep's skull (photo from the Municipality of Semestene).

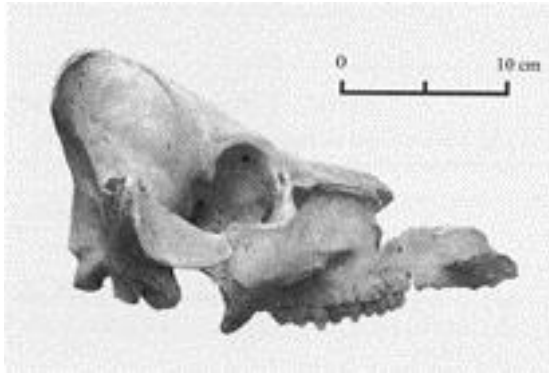


Fig. 5 - Pig's skull (photo from the Municipality of Semestene).

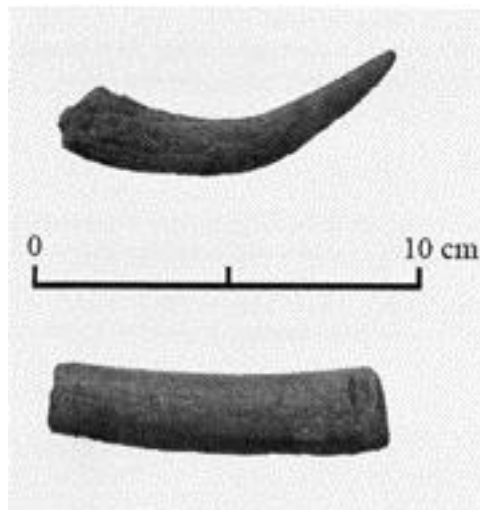


Fig. 6 - Fragments of daggers (photo from the Municipality of Semestene).



■ Credits

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■ Bibliography

BONINU, PANDOLFI 2010 = A. BONINU, A. PANDOLFI (a cura di), *San Nicola di Trullas. Archeologia, Architettura, Paesaggio*, Semestene 2010.





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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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