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REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
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Port and coastal towers of Arbatax

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Church of San Lussorio

The country church dedicated to San Lussorio (fig. 1) is dated, in its current form, back to the 17th century. It stands in the village of the same name, and is immersed among trees, a short distance from the sea. Tradition has it that the building stands where the ancient town of Tortolì stood before pirate raids forced inhabitants to take refuge inland.



Fig. 1 - The country church of San Lussorio (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

The rectangular building is 17.50 metres long, 6.50 metres wide and 3 metres high, and is built on its longest axis in a NW-SE direction. It has a simple gable roof and, on the outside, buttresses sustaining the chamber's arched structures.

The facade, with the main entrance, is surmounted by a bell-gable with a small cross on top (fig. 2).



Fig. 2 - The main facade of the church of San Lussorio (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

A secondary entrance can be found on the left side (fig. 3)

The interior, a single chamber, is divided into four aisles. The roof, gabled, has a main wooden-beam structure which sustains the wattle and daub covered by bent tiles. The church gets light from two square windows opening in the end wall and two circular openings in the side walls. The floor, laid recently, is earthenware tiles.



Fig. 3 - The secondary entrance to the church (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

The presbytery (fig. 4) has the main brick altar. On this, in a niche, the polychrome wooden statue of San Priamo is kept. A second altar, in wood, was recently placed in front of the main one.



Fig. 4 - The church interior with the presbytery area (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

The statue portraying San Lussorio is kept in the church of Sant'Andrea in Tortolì. It is taken from there on the feast day, in the month of August, and carried in a procession to the country church (fig. 5).



Fig. 5 - The statue of San Lussorio kept in the church of S. Andrea in Tortolì (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

A bell that was once held in the bell-gable (for safety reasons it is now kept by the chairman of the committee that organised the celebrations in honour of San Lussorio and is only placed in the bell-gable on feast days) comes from the church, now deconsecrated, dedicated to San Sebastiano in Tortolì. Among the bas relief work decorating it, we can see San Sebastiano hit with arrows (fig. 6), the Virgin Mary with Child, the Crucifixion and Saint George with the dragon.



Fig. 6 - Detail of the bell coming from the church of San Sebastiano (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Maria Grazia Arru

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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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