



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Port and coastal towers of Arbatax

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Church of San Gemiliano

The church dedicated to San Gemiliano, in Arbatax, stands on a headland, 31 metres above sea level, close to the coastal tower of the same name, and is one of the rare country churches in Sardinia built close to the sea (fig. 1).



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

The small church was completely rebuilt in the XX century replacing the ancient one which could have been dated to the XVI century. It stands on an embankment sustained by a reinforced concrete wall and overlooks a large panoramic terrace over the bay of Porto Frailis (fig. 2).

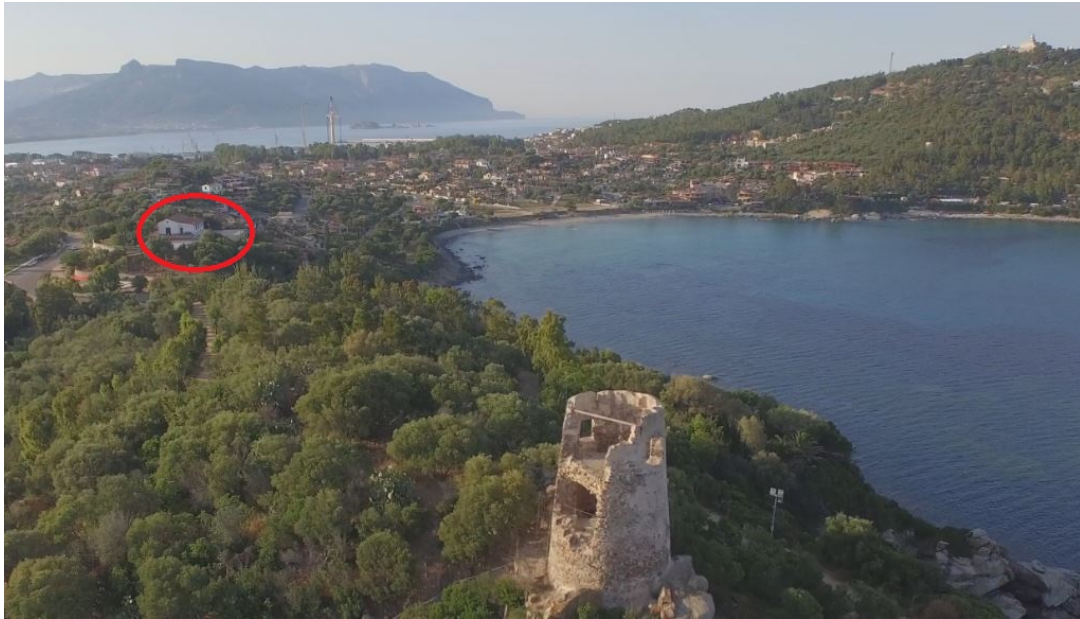


Fig. 2 - The church (in the red circle) and the coastal tower of San Gemiliano that looks out onto the bay of Porto Frailis (photo Unicity SpA)

The church, accessed by a staircase, is rectangular (length 20.60 metres; width 6.50 metres; height 4 metre) with the long axis in a N-S direction. It has a dual sloping roof, with the main facade topped by a gable bell in bricks, with a cross on top. There is a circular window over the entrance (fig. 3).





Fig. 3 - The facade of the church of San Gemiliano (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

The interior, which is a single room, has seven cross walls where low arches open up. The presbytery area is slightly raised over the earthenware tiled floor. In 2009, the wall behind the altar was decorated with a pink trachyte structure holding a carved bas-relief of San Gemiliano (fig. 4).



Fig. 4 - The church interior (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

The statue portraying San Gemiliano is kept in the church of Sant'Andrea in Tortolì and is carried to the country church during the religious feast dedicated to the saint (fig. 5).



Fig. 5 - The statue of San Gemiliano kept in the church of S. Andrea in Tortolì (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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