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REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÓNOMA DE SARDIGNA
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Nuraghic complex of S'Arcu 'e Is Forros

Patrimonio culturale

SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ The territory roots: prehistoric population

As far as we currently know, the oldest and most important archaeological evidence regarding Villagrande Strisaili date back to the Sardinian Recent and Final Neolithic Age, characterised by the widespread diffusion on the island of the Worship of San Michele di Ozieri (3400-2850 B.C).

Overall these are sporadic findings, almost all referring to sacred and burial sites, comprising *domus de janas*, that were built close to settlements based on sheep farming economy, now mostly destroyed, found in the areas of Cuile Bruxiau, S'Orciada, Su Strumpu, Cortes de Maceddu, Genna Ardeletti, Funtana'e Jana (fig. 1).



Fig. 1 - *Domus de janas* S'Orciada valle del rio Bau Mandara
(da <http://www.ogliastraadventure.it/show.php?IDF=145>).

These are isolated hypogeums, only rarely arranged in small groups, dug in granite rock formations, with single or double cells, where a dolmen access corridor is sometimes seen.

There are no decorative details, showing the constructive poverty of the Ogliastra *domus*. None of these tombs was scientifically investigated (fig. 2)



Fig. 2 - *Domus de janas* Su Strumpu, valle del rio Bau Mandara (from <http://www.ogliastraadventure.it/show.php?IDF=146>).

The intense and uninterrupted continuity of use of the land, during the changeover from the Recent Neolithic Age to the initial phase of the Eneolithic Age is shown by the granite aniconic *menhirs* in Corte de Maceddu, known as Sa Pedra'e S'Orku, Su Settile, Funtana'e Jana, Su Strumpu, Genna Ardeletti e Bruncu'e Cuili Abruxiau/S'Orciada, found isolated, in groups, associated with the sacred, hypogeum, pre-Nuragic rituals or even reused in building walls of a Nuragic village (fig. 3).



Fig. 3 - Villagrande, località Corte de Maceddu, menhir known as Sa Pedra 'e S'Orku
(From LILLIU 1957, p. 48, fig. 14.3).

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La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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