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REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
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Nuraghic village of Su Nuraxi

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Animal remains from the village area

The dig of the structures (rooms 11, 32, 41, 97, 135, and house with courtyard 11) in the village of Barumini has returned a fair amount of animals remains (figs. 1, 2).

There are also small amounts of fragments of sea molluscs, the result of occasional consumption but that proves the contact with the coast.



Fig. 1 - Render of Su Nuraxi di Barumini (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

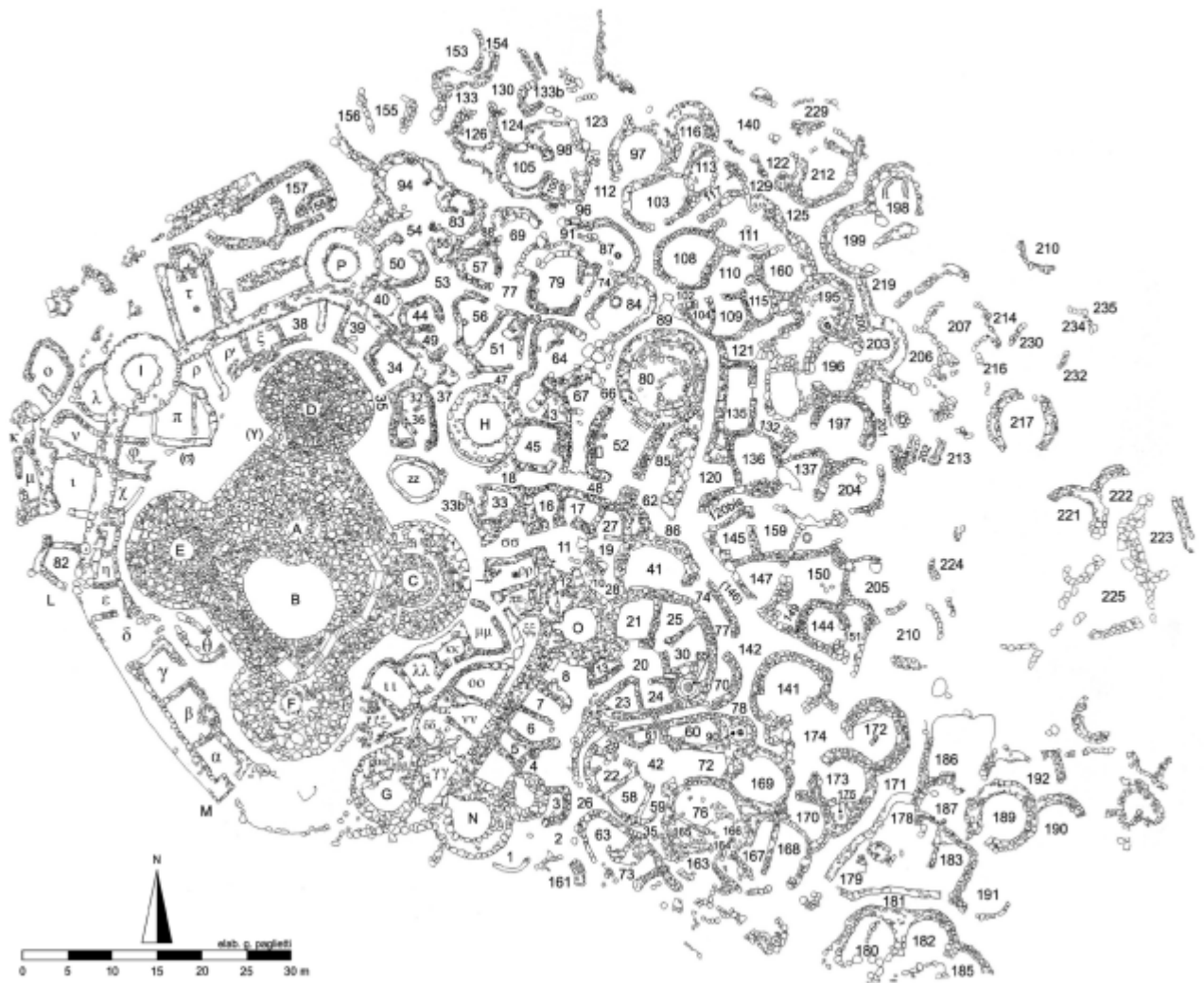


Fig. 2 - Layout of Su Nuraxi of Barumini (from Paglietti 2013, fig. 6, p. 64).

The lack of description of the state of finding animal remains (amount, traces of combustion, traces of butchery) does not allow us to estimate the extent of bones found, which mostly are from domestic animals (cattle, goats and sheep and pigs). The deer is the most important wild species found.

In the wells in hut 135, there are remains of small birds, rodents and deer antlers, found inside pottery items, mixed with ashes and coal, and connected to ritual offerings (fig. 3).



Fig. 3 - Giovanni Lilliu leads the dig of hut 135 in the village of Su Nuraxi in Barumini (from <http://www.isoladelletorri.beniculturali.it/getImage.php?id=54&w=800&h=600&f=0&.jpg>).

Animal remains show that some domestic animals such as sheep, cattle and pigs were reared in the village, but hunting also played an important role, as documented by the presence of deer and wild boar remains. While the sheep, goats and pigs were butchered at a young age, the cattle were almost adults and therefore were probably used for agricultural work and butchered at the end of their productive career.

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Emanuela Atzeni

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