

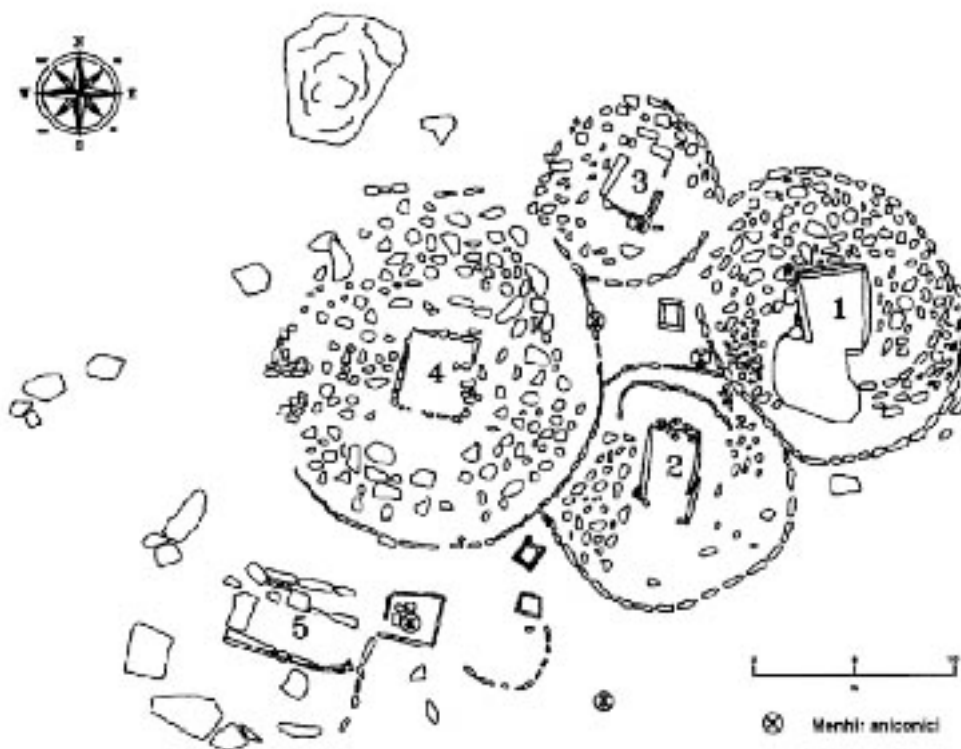
# Megalithic circles of Li Muri

Patrimonio culturale  
**SARDEGNA** Virtual Archaeology



## ■ Circle No. 5

The fifth tomb of the Li Muri necropolis (fig. 1) is located in an isolated position in respect of the group formed by the other four graves, from which it differs mainly at a structural and chronological level as it is a Bronze Age burial superimposed on an earlier Neolithic tomb circle, as has been inferred by the discovery of large pieces of slabs similar to those used for the cistas of the other circles, and finally by the discovery outside the grave of several olive-shaped soapstone necklace beads. Despite its characteristics making it similar to the *allées couvertes*, its small size reasonably leads to interpreting it as a chamber tomb.



**Fig. 1** - Plan (from Antona, Lo Schiavo, Perra 2011, p. 242, fig. 1).

Pseudo-rectangular, oriented on an EW axis, the burial chamber was dug over half a metre below ground level; the three long sides consist of a series of rough-hewn blocks,

placed sideways, the bottom wall is closed instead by a single unprocessed block (figs. 2, 3).



**Figs. 2, 3** - Arzachena, Necropolis of Li Muri, tomb 5 (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

The structure of the mound does not develop on all sides, to the east it is free perhaps in order to facilitate the reuse of the burial chamber (fig. 4); this is a sign of social change



which introduces the novelty of multiple burials compared with tombs from the previous phase.

From a chronological point of view, in the absence of evidence allowing the identification of the time the tomb was built, the only guide fossil is a ceramic bowl with a flat bottom and walls curved inwards, recovered outside, which documents attendance of the monument during the Middle Bronze Age (1600-1300 B.C.).



**Fig. 4** - Rendering of the chamber tomb (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

Inside the circle tomb no. 5 sporadic elements of a green soapstone necklace have been found.



## ■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Emanuela Atzeni

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