



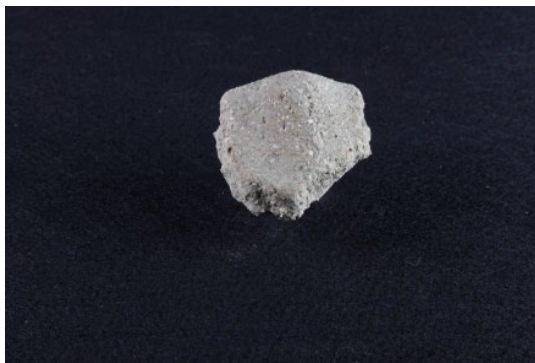
Giants' tomb of Thomes

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Olle (Thomes)

During the dig on the giants' tomb in Thomes in 1977, painted fragments of the edge and wall, decorated with plastic applications of vertical veins were found (figs. 1-3), that can be associated with a type of pottery that was characteristic in the pre-Nuragic and Nuragic ages, the olla, which was common in burial contexts in giants' tombs, and also found in villages and nuraghi.



Figs. 1, 2, 3 - Fragments of the walls of olla from Thomes-Dorgali decorated with a vertical rib pattern in relief under the rim (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

The olla is a handmade jar from the Pre-Nuragic and Nuragic eras, a kind of container used for preserving or cooking food.

The Nuragic Age ollas were divided into three types; with the rim not distinguished from the wall, with the rim distinguished from the wall, and the collar rim. This container has clean paste and smooth surfaces and was roughly polished, with a plastic decoration or

veins and cords that were arranged on the shoulder vertically or diagonally, often with conical bumps . They also had long handles or round handles, sometimes with grips. The olla with an boss rim, with no decoration, were characteristic and typical of the Middle Bronze Age.

In the full phase, however, the oval biconical, two-handled olla, found for example in the giants' tomb in San Cosimo-Gonnosfanadiga (fig. 4) with a vertical, parallel and symmetrical veining decoration, with small circular bosses in between them, and bordered top and bottom by two horizontal lines of large impressed circles, appeared.



Fig. 4 - Biconical brimmed olla from the giants' tomb 1 of San Cosimo - Gonnosfanadiga, XV/XIV centuries BC (from BAGELLA 2014, p. 236, sheet 31).

Another fragment (fig. 5) was also found inside the funerary context of Thomes, of which a portion of rim and wall remain and which belongs to an olla with a biconical body, tapered rim, not separate from the wall, and straight walls inclined inwards.

The ollas, which corresponds to a typology widespread in Northern Sardinia during the Middle Bronze Age (1600-1300 BC), contemporary to the Nuraghic phase of burial usage, may have been part of the grave goods laid inside the chamber.

The artefact is on display in the Archaeological Museum of Dorgali.

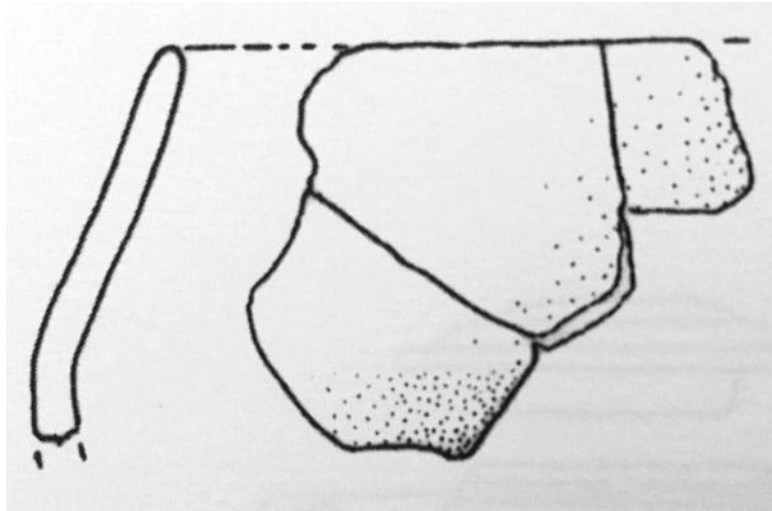


Fig. 5 - Fragment of biconical olla from Thomes-Dorgali (from CAMPUS, LEONELLI 2000, table 287 n. 3).



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