



UNIONE EUROPEA



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REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Archeological area of Sant'Eulalia

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ Sewer materials

Finding the two stretches of sewer underneath the paved road¹ in Sant'Eulalia has produced a lot of data about the chronology of the area.

Some of the items come from African workshops, such as the kitchen pottery and the tableware, like the sigillata D, finely decorated with several geometric patterns (see fig. 1-a, plate with concentric circles)² and animals (see fig. 1-b, goblet with passing quadrupedes, in the plates with concentric circles)³.

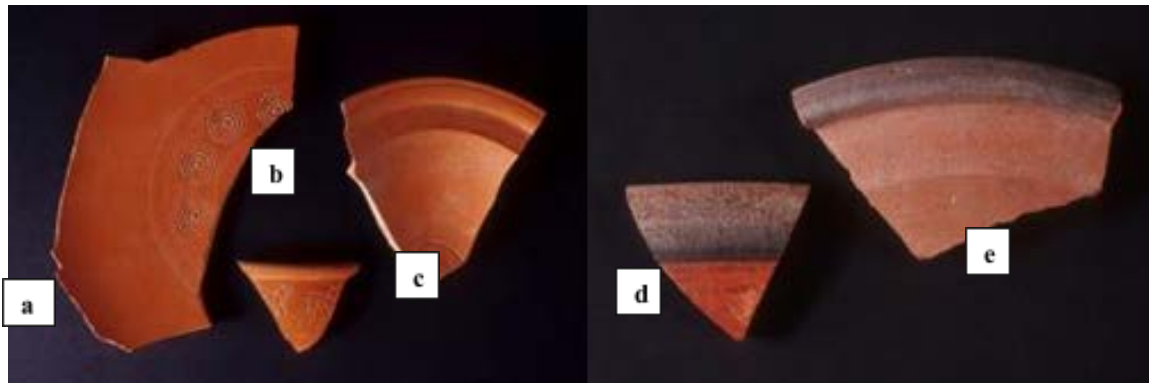


Fig. 1 - Materials of African production: pottery tableware in terracotta sigillata D (a-c) and pottery kitchenware (d-e), (photo from AFS).

Other productions found are pottery etched with a stick (fig. 2)⁴, African pottery for the kitchen (fig. 1-d and 1-c)⁵ and communal fire items (fig. 3, in the centre and below).

¹ Mureddu 2002b, p. 286; Pinna 2002a, p. 44.

² Barrui 2002, n. 15, p. 95.

³ Barrui 2002, n. 20, pages 97-98.

⁴ Hrobat 2002, n. 40, pp. 108-109; Pinna 2005, p. 270, p. 279, fig. 6.

⁵ Sanna 2002b, pages 101-102.



Fig. 2 - Common pottery with Polite wave patterns and punched circular patterns : casseroles with spout (photo from AFS)



Fig. 3 - Materials from the sewer displayed (photo by Unicity S.p.A.)

Some of the most characteristic items are a *spatheion* (fig. 3, top left), a Byzantine ribbed pitcher⁶ (fig. 4) and a paleo-Christian oil lamp (fig. 3). Some of the above ceramic productions (African kitchenware, Sigillata D, *spatheion*) show the strong trading times between Sardinia and Africa, in particular the *spatheion* (IV-VII century A.D.) made in

⁶ Sanna 2002a, pages 105-106. See Ibba 2002, p. 84 n. 61, p. 114, tab. XXIV n. 61; Catte 2005a, p. 122, T20/R1; Salvi 2005, p. 198.

African workshops, witness to the importance on the island of the various wares such as oil, *garum*, wine, honey and cereals; late *spatheia* of a smaller size - like the Cagliari model - would contain precious good, such as ointments and lotions, fish sauce or spices⁷. The huge circulation of imported materials worked alongside the production of pottery in loco, in the african pottery style or more often, with their own morphological styles. Some of the best known productions are the "Campidano" ones between the 3rd and the 7th century A.D.⁸ (fig. 2). The origin of the Byzantine pitcher with ribbing is difficult to attribute⁹.

The ceramic items inside the sewers can be attributed to a time period mainly from the 4th to 7th centuries A.D. The materials were found in the mud that did not flow out due to a stone blockage that had blocked the outflow and allowed archaeologists to outline the life of this part of the quarter from the 4th century A.D. Up to at least the end of the 7th century, *terminus post quem* of the use of the underground infrastructure. This latter date would seem to be the highest of the entire site¹⁰.



Fig. 4 - Display detail: Byzantine bowl and single-handled pitcher (photo from Unicity)

⁷ Cisci 2006, p. 127.

⁸ Hrobat 2002, n. 40, pp. 108-109; Pinna 2005, p. 270, p. 279, fig. 6.

⁹ Sanna 2002a, pages 105-106. See Ibba 2002, p. 84 n. 61, p. 114, tab. XXIV n. 61; Catte 2005a, p. 122, T20/R1; Salvi 2005, p. 198.

¹⁰ Mureddu 2002a, p. 57.

■ Credits

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Progetto cofinanziato dall'Unione Europea
Programma Operativo FESR 2007-2013

FESR - Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale - Asse I, Linea di Attività 1.2.3.a