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REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA  
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

# The area of the Cornus basilicas

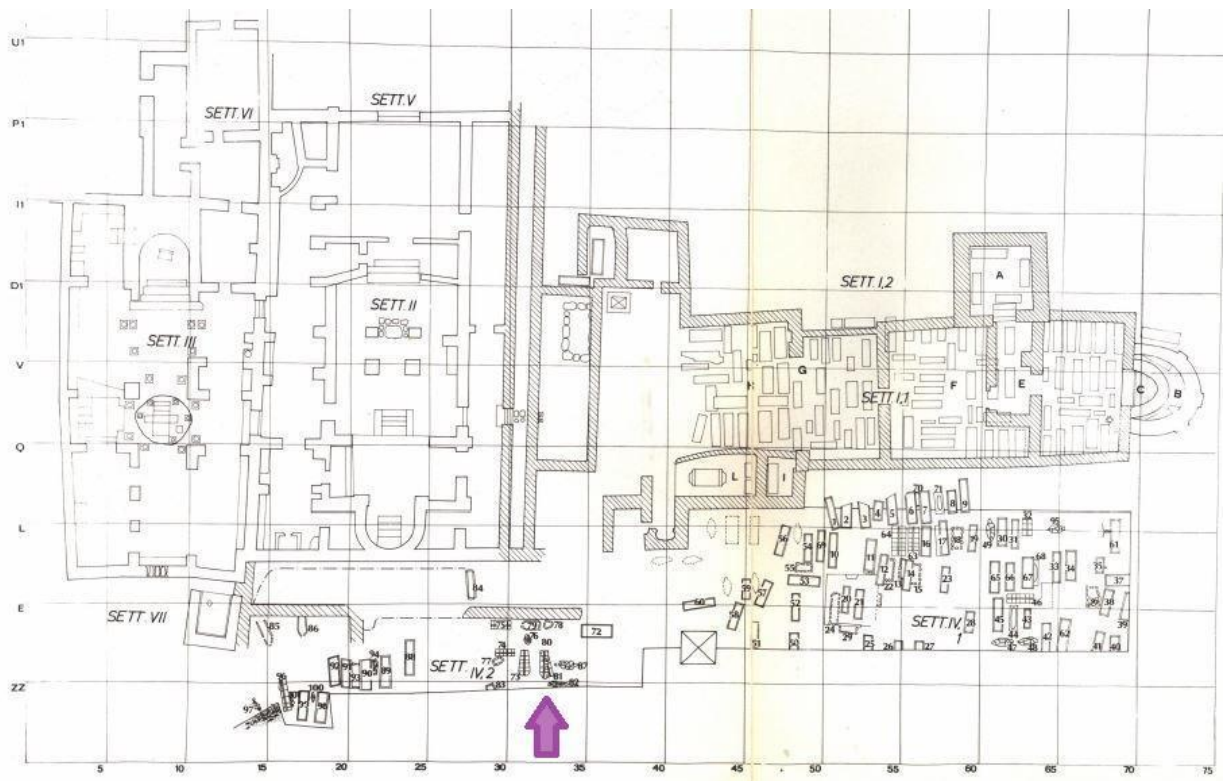
Patrimonio culturale  
**SARDEGNA** Virtual Archaeology



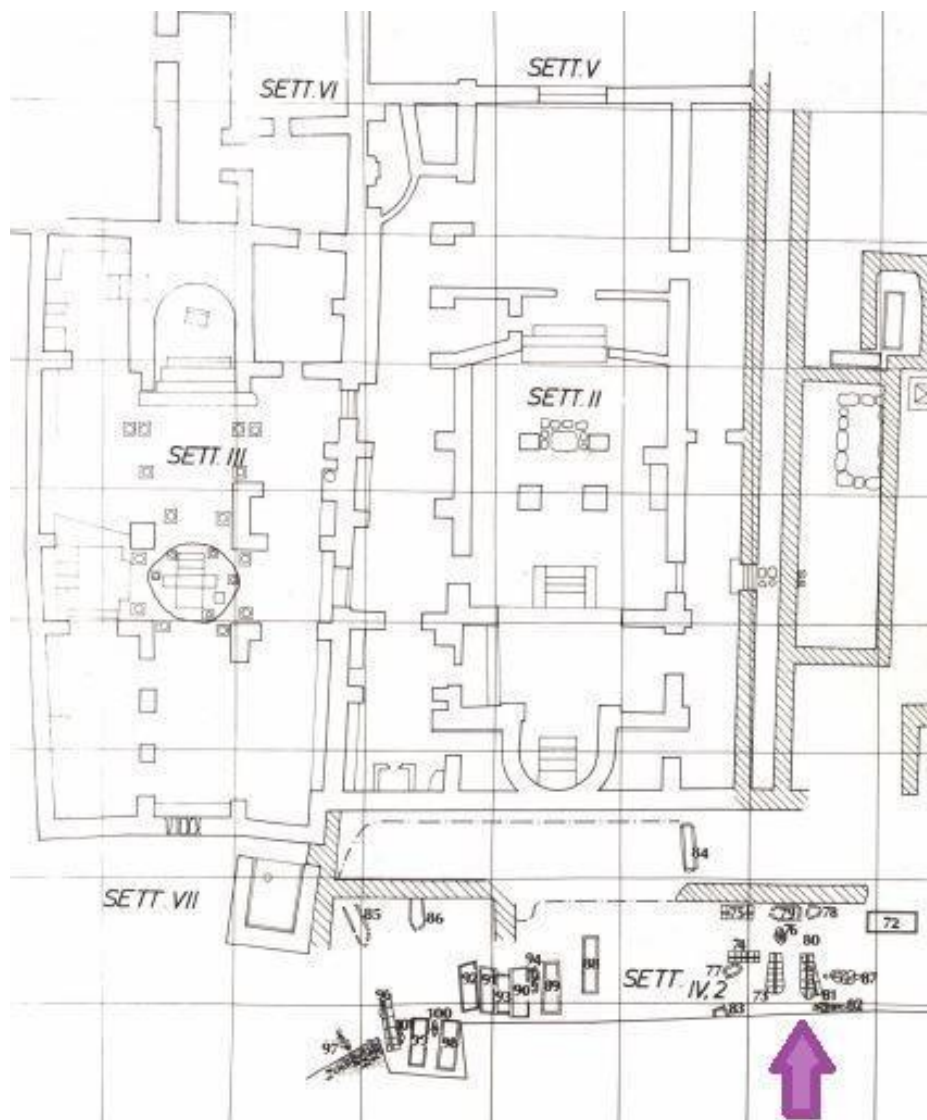
## ■ Burial of Patriga

157 tombs (figs 1-3) were found in the eastern cemetery area of Columbaris of which only nine are “capuchin”. This group includes tomb n. 80 comprising four terracotta tiles per side, forming two sloping sides, while the short sides were a tile on the west and two fragments of another on the opposite side (fig. 4). These terracotta tiles were held on the outside by limestone pieces and one shown the Greek letter phi engraved on the clay when still wet<sup>4</sup> as the potter’s mark. The east-west direction of the tombs and the person placed there had his head to the east: this was the tomb of a young woman who died around the age of 25, 1.55 metres high, and laid on her back. Traces of coal were found under her knees, hypothesising the custom of lighting ritual fires or that of adding perfumed burned branches to the deposition.

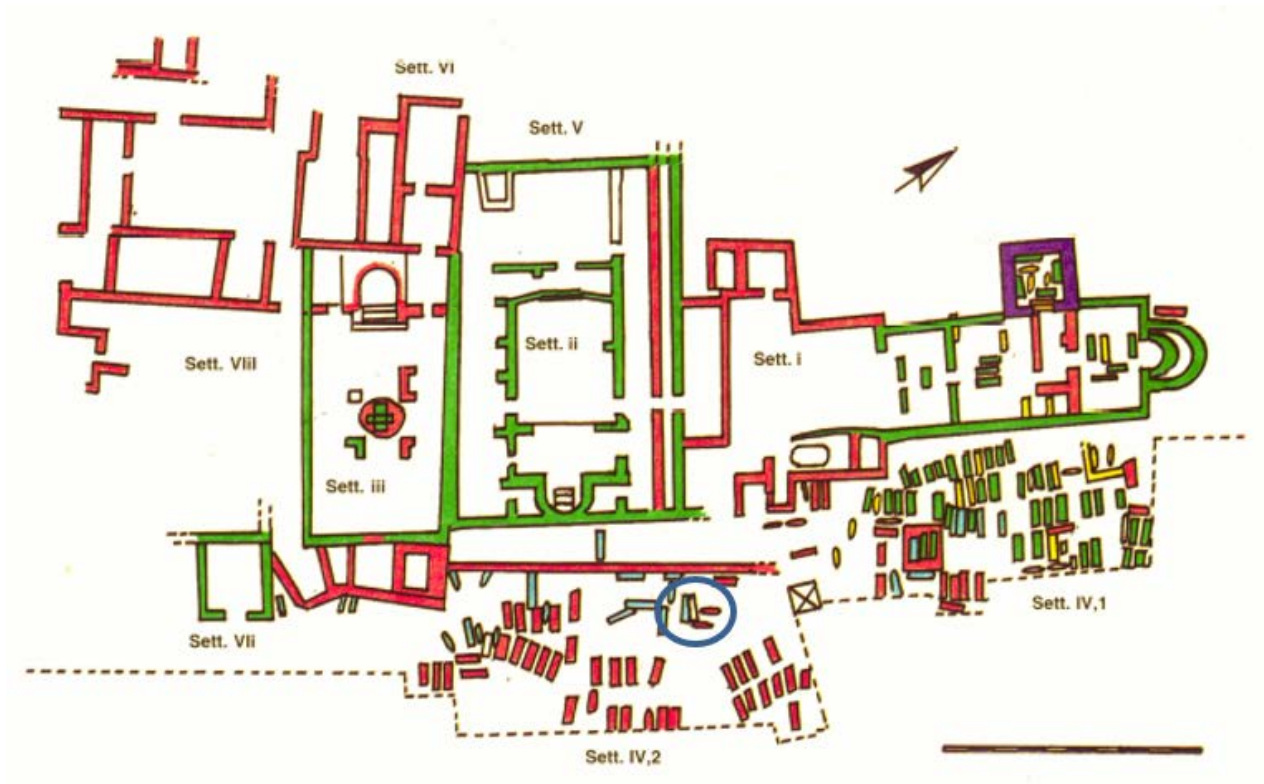
The deceased person's high social ranking is deducible from her clothes and the careful deposition of grave goods in the tomb. The woman had a silver hairpin in her hair (fig.5) that had her name engraved on it - i.e. Patriga - and under her head, threads of the same material have been found: these may be traced to the mesh net that held her hairstyle, or the fabric of a cushion made to lay her head on; a silver and bronze buckle (fig. 6) typical of the 6th-7th century must have been placed on her chest to close the sides of her cloak. Next to her body, a pottery cup dated between the end of the 4th and mid 5th century and a glass *unquentarium* from the 3rd-6th century A.D. Based on data acquired, it was possible to date that deposition between the end of the 6th and the 7th century A.D. in the final phase of use of the burial area.



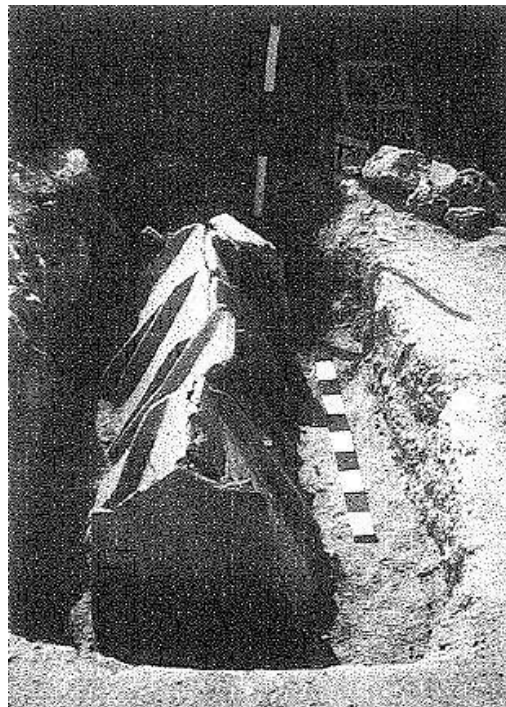
**Fig. 1** - General plan of the basilica area with indication of Tomb 80  
(Graphic reproduction by C. Cocco, F. Collu, from CUGLIERI Cornus I. TABLE A).



**Fig. 2** - Detail of the general plan of the basilica area with indication of Tomb 80 (Graphic reproduction C. Cocco, F. Collu, from CUGLIERI I.TABLE A).



**Fig. 3** - Map of the Columbaris area highlighting the position of tomb 80 (Graphic reproduction C. Cocco, F. Collu, by Cornus I.1, p. 200, table II).



**Fig. 4** - Capuchin tomb 80 (from *Cornus I.1*, p. 145).



**Fig. 5** - Silver hairpin from T. 80 (photo by N. MONARI - R.A.S.)



**Fig. 6** - Silver and bronze disc fibula from T. 89 (photo by N. MONARI - R.A.S.)

## ■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Claudia Cocco and Dr. Francesca Collu

## ■ Bibliographic abbreviation

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## La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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