

Components of the Dataset

S'Urachi Site-Based Survey 2016-2017
San Vero Milis, Oristano, Sardinia
July 2016 and 2017

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This document describes each of the different files or groups of files included in this dataset. It explains what information is included in each, details the procedures used for labeling and sorting data, and explains who was responsible for analysis and creation of the documents. All data was collected and produced during the 2016 and 2017 seasons of the site-based survey at the archaeological site of S'Urachi in San Vero Milis (Oristano, Sardinia, Italy). The documents detail a series of test trenches excavated to test our survey methodology and results. The survey team was directed by Linda R. Gosner, Jessica Nowlin, and Alexander J. Smith. The survey was part of the larger multi-year Progetto S'Urachi, directed by Peter van Dommelen and Alfonso Stiglitz.

The trenches each have two names, a shorthand sequential name and a more detailed name that refers to the year and coordinates at which the trench was placed on the site. The concordances are as follows:

- Test Trench 1 = SU 16 Z 108.92
- Test Trench 2 = SU 16 Z 105.9
- Test Trench 3 = SU 16/17 Z 98.108
- Area F = Test Trench 3 Extension = SU 17 Z 98.108
- Test Trench 4 = SU 16 Z 96.106

1) Finds Database

- This is a version of the database compiled in 2016 and 2017 in Microsoft Excel format. The database was compiled by the project directors with consultation with specialists including Jeremy Hayne, Emanuele Madrigali, and Andrea Roppa. It contains details about the artifacts recovered from the excavation of each test trench. Bags corresponding to the same survey unit are grouped together and differentiated by alternating grey cell color for visual clarity. Each row in the spreadsheet corresponds to one bag of finds and includes the following information:
 - Unit # – survey unit number based on gridded site numbering system
 - Year – 2016 or 2017
 - Date found – day + month
 - Survey – SU + year + Z, which stands for S'Urachi YEAR Z
 - Unit ID – Trench name abbreviation (see concordances above)
 - Strat. – stratigraphic unit of excavation with 0 being the topsoil and numbers following sequentially (1, 2, 3, 4...) in the order they were

excavated. Each stratigraphic unit is either a soil fill, a cut, or a feature such as a stone wall.

- Material – material type contained in the bag (e.g., ceramic, faunal bone, stone, shell, metal)
 - Quantity - number of individual finds in the bag
 - Weight (kg) - weight of total finds in kilograms
 - Modern – number of individual finds dated to the 20th and 21st century
 - Weight Modern (kg) – weight of modern finds in kilograms
 - Ancient – number of ancient (Neolithic – Medieval) finds in the bag
 - Weight Ancient (kg) – weight of ancient (Neolithic-Medieval) finds in the kilograms
 - Historic – number of historic (post-Medieval and pre-20th century) finds in the bag
 - Weight Historic (kg) – weight of historic (post-Medieval and pre-20th century) in kilograms
 - Location – the general location of the survey unit in the archaeological site
- For ceramics only, additional information from the analysis is included in green (for ancient ceramic information) or in yellow (for modern ceramic designations) in the right half of the Excel file. Note that if numbers in the total quantity do not add up to the numbers of ancient, historic and modern ceramic, this is because remaining sherds were not able to be assigned securely to any category because they were too worn or fragmentary.

For ancient ceramics, the number of diagnostic and non-diagnostic sherds are listed, followed by the number and weight of sherds by chronological designation. Each column contains the following information:

- Ancient Diagnostics – number of sherds in the bag with diagnostic features for form and chronological identification (e.g., rim, handle, base, paint, incised decoration)
- Ancient Non-Diag Vessels – number of sherds with no diagnostic features
- Ancient Vessel Weight (diag + non-diag) – total weight of the ancient sherds
- Nuragic Count – number of sherds of the Nuragic culture (late Bronze Age-Iron Age Sardinian culture, 12th-8th centuries BCE)
- Nuragic Weight (kg) - weight of sherds of the Nuragic culture (late Bronze Age-Iron Age Sardinian culture, 12th-8th centuries) in kilograms
- Phoenician Count – number of Iron Age Phoenician sherds (9th-6th centuries BCE)
- Phoenician Weight (kg) – weight of Iron Age Phoenician sherds (9th-6th centuries BCE) in kilograms
- Punic-Early Roman Count – number of 6th-1st centuries BCE sherds
- Punic-Early Roman Weight (kg) – weight of 6th-1st centuries BCE sherds in kilograms
- Roman Imperial Count – number of 1st-5th c. CE sherds

- Roman Imperial Weight (kg) – weight of 1st -5th c. CE sherds in kilograms
- Ancient Construction Material Weight (kg) – weight of bricks and tiles of all ancient chronologies

For modern ceramics, the number and weight of finds are listed by function rather than chronology (all modern materials are 20th and 21st century)

- Modern Tableware Count – count of modern drinking and dining sherds
- Modern Tableware Weight (kg) – weight of modern drinking and dining sherds in kilograms
- Modern Courseware Count – count of modern storage and roughly made ceramic
- Modern Courseware (kg) – weight of modern storage and roughly made ceramic in kilograms
- Modern Construction Material Count – count of modern tile and brick
- Modern Construction Material Weight (kg) – weight of modern tile and brick in kilograms
- Handmade Modern Tile Count – count of modern tile that was made by hand (usually roof tile)
- Machine Made Tile or Brick Count – count of modern tile and brick made by machine
- Machine Made Tile and Brick Weight (kg) – weight of modern tile and brick made by machine in kilograms

2) Faunal Database

- This is an Excel file containing the analysis of all faunal bones collected during S'Urachi Site-Based Survey in 2016-2017. The data is organized in columns by trench and stratigraphic unit (e.g., TT1 000, TT1 001, TT1 002). The rows are organized in three sections: species, bone type (vertebrae, ribs, indeterminates), and seashells. All numbers are total counts. For visibility, trenches are differentiated by alternating blue and white columns and sections are separated by gray rows. This documentation was produced by Damià Ramis in 2016 (TT1 and TT2) and 2019 (TT3, Area F, TT4).

3) Field Notes and Documentation

- This is a zip-file containing notes from the 2016 and 2017 seasons divided into folders by year. The 2016 season contains a PDF of the field notebook as well as .JPG files of stratigraphic drawings and documentation for Test Trench 1, Test Trench 2, and Test Trench 3. These were completed by Linda R. Gosner and Jessica Nowlin. The 2017 folder contains 2 PDFs of the field notebooks used during that season, the internal season report detailing the results of the excavation, and stratigraphic drawings of Area F and Test Trench 4 done by Enrique Díes Cusí.

4) Excavation Photos

- This is a zip-file of photographs in .JPG format of each trench during excavation. The photographs are subdivided into folders for each of the 5 trenches: Test

Trench 1, Test Trench 2, Test Trench 3, Test Trench 4, and Area F. In each trench photograph, there is a folder of the official excavation photos, labeled “Excavation.” Photos are labeled according to their trenches and contexts depicted (SU + year + abbreviated trench name + context + any additional descriptors that indicate the purpose of the photo (closing, opening, detail). For example, the opening photo for Test Trench 1 would be “SU 16 Z TT1 000 opening.” Each of the trenches also has an additional folder called “Action Photos,” which are informal photos taken during the process of excavation. Photographs were taken by the project directors.

5) Finds Photos

- This is a zip-file of photographs in .JPG format of finds from all survey units after washing and preliminary sorting. These photos are in unedited form and included for quick reference to accompany the database, but not for formal publication. The photos have been subdivided into folders for each trench (Test Trench 1, Test Trench 2, Test Trench 3, Test Trench 4, and Area F) and each trench has separate folders called Ceramics and Other finds to facilitate searching for specific materials. Test Trench 1 also has a separate Faunal Bone folder because of the volume of finds. As with the excavation photos, each photograph is labeled with the trench name and context (see above). This is then followed by a capital letter to indicate the type of find photographed (A=ceramics, B=bone, C=shell, D=stone, E=metal, F=glass or plaster). Some labels are followed by additional descriptors for clarification, such as “diagnostic” to indicate diagnostic ceramics, a temporal label (e.g., “Nuragic”), or a clarifying word (e.g., “lamp” or “detail”). These additional descriptors were generally added when unique finds deserved their own photograph or when so many finds were uncovered in a stratigraphic layer that they would not fit into one photograph. Photos were taken by Linda R. Gosner.