

REPORTS
ON THE WORKING OF
GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS
DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR
1947-48

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Report on the work of the Museum Department for 1947-48

THE MUSEUM,

Auberge d'Italie,

Valletta.

12th October, 1948.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Museum Department for the financial year 1947-48.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. G. BALDACCHINO,

Director.

The Hon.

The Minister for Education.

On the 10th August, 1947, the Museum sustained a severe loss by the demise of Professor Antonio Sciortino who, since the 10th May, 1937, was Curator of the Fine Arts Section.

On the 11th February, 1947, by a Deed he donated to the people of Malta a collection of original plaster models with the express wish that these works of art be housed at the National Museum and there exhibited to the general public.

Following the resignation of Chev. H. P. Scicluna, M.B.E., Hon. M.A. (Oxon), F.S.A., who had been Acting Director of the Museum, since the 8th March, 1938, His Excellency the Governor, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, was pleased to appoint Mr. Joseph G. Baldacchino, M.D., F.G.S., Curator of the Natural History Section, to be Director of the Museum, with effect from the 20th October, 1947.

ARCHAEOLOGY.

In September, 1947, whilst digging trenches for the laying of foundations of a building in the field known as "ta Trapna iz-Zghejra", parish of Żebbuġ (Malta, 2" map ref. 394228), five Neolithic burials were discovered.

The workmen, being unfamiliar with archaeological remains, and not appreciating the importance of the discovery, cut a trench 2 feet wide, through the middle of two of these burials, thus partially destroying the deposit. Further destruction was impeded by Mr. Ian Small, Civil Engineer, H.M. Dockyard, who stopped the work and reported the discovery to the Museum.

On inspecting the site it immediately became apparent that the discovery consisted of a number of Neolithic burials of a type hitherto unrecorded. The excavations of these remains were, henceforth, conducted with meticulous care in order to secure accurate records and to ensure the recovery of all the archaeological material.

The burials in question were five in number, disposed irregularly within an area of 50 sq. yards. They exhibited more or less the same features.

The rock-bed of middle Globigerina Limestone in this area underlies a layer of field soil about 2 feet in thickness.

A characteristic feature of each burial was a saucer-shaped cavity roughly cut in the rock-bed. Its diameter at the surface measured about 6 feet, and it attained a depth of about 2 feet at the centre.

A single layer of flat roughly chipped stones, derived from the local rock-bed, irregularly paved the floor of the excavation. The slabs, about 4 inches in thickness and 10 inches in width, varied in length from 6 inches to 2 feet 3 inches.

Overlying the slabs there was a layer of marl, about 6 inches in thickness, in which were embedded human skeletal remains, mostly in a fragmentary state and in utter disorder.

Intimately associated with the organic remains were numerous fragments of pottery, flint and obsidian implements, and personal ornaments of sea-shells and bone. The whole layer was profusely impregnated with red ochre. From one of the burials a small cup, filled with red ochre, was obtained, and in another one a worked fragment of lower Globigerina Limestone, stained red with ochre, was found.

The next layer consisted almost exclusively of stone chippings, about 10 inches deep.

The rest of the deposit, 2 feet 10 inches in thickness, consisted of terra rossa. A thin layer of angular and rounded stones ran horizontally across this bed, at a depth of 1 foot 6 inches from the surface, below which the earth was hard and compact and above soft and loose.

Some of the types of Neolithic pottery recovered from these burials have not been recorded before. They differ from the well known Maltese types in technique, shape and ornamentation. This fact might prove to be of the utmost importance when the study of the chronology of the Maltese Neolithic pottery is attempted.

In connection with these excavations I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the Superintending Civil Engineer, H.M. Dockyard, for his help and cooperation.

RESTORATION OF HAĠAR QIM AND MNAIDRA NEOLITHIC TEMPLES.

During January and February, 1918, restoration works were conducted in the Neolithic Temples of Hagar Qim and Mnaidra.

At Hagar Qim three of the small slabs which fence the oval enclosure within the inner Eastern apse have been replaced.

The material encumbering the lower part of the Southern external wall of the Temple was removed, thus uncovering a number of blocks resting against the base of the orthostats.

In the Northern Temple of the Mnaidra group four of the orthostats underlying the horizontal courses in the South-Western apse of the outer oval were replaced.

Preservatives against weathering were applied where necessary.

Accurate records of all the work effected in these Temple are kept for future reference.

EXCAVATION AT TARNIEN NEOLITHIC TEMPLES.

During the year under review a part of the field soil lying close to the North-West of the external wall of the Temples had been removed. The aim of these excavations was chiefly to expose sections of the surrounding deposit, which is about 10 feet in thickness at this point, for further elucidation. Unfortunately, signs of disturbance were detected throughout the deposit. A number of potsherds belonging to various periods were recovered, but the most important find consists of a small Neolithic terra-cotta ram's head.

The two bulls and the sow, in bas-relief on the walls of one of the recesses in the temples, have been treated by preservatives with a view of arresting, as much as possible, further decay.

PREHISTORIC SITES.

Fragments of Prehistoric pottery and flint and obsidian implements have been collected from Ghajn Hadid, in the district of Mellicha (Malta 2" Map Ref: 354345), from Il Bidnija, limits of St Paul's Bay (Malta 2" Map Ref: 367302), and from Ta' Cagħqi, limits of Luqa (Malta 2" Map Ref: 467211).

It is yet premature to express any opinion about the importance of these sites.

GRAVES AT MARSA.

On the 26th June, 1947, Mr. A. J. Attard, A. & C.E., of the Public Works Department, reported to the Museum authorities the discovery of a number of graves, which were met with whilst digging trenches for the laying of foundations in a field, opposite the Civil Abattoir, Marsa. (Malta 2" Map Ref: 465244).

The discovery consisted of five trench-like graves, excavated in the Globigerina Limestone, and placed parallel to one another, with an intervening space of 2 feet 3 inches. They exhibited, more or less, the same features. No traces of sealing slabs could be detected. Their long axis was running North-South. The four sides of each grave presented a slight concavity in a vertical direction. A flat head-rest, 1 foot wide and 3 inches high, extending horizontally from side to side, was situated at the Southern end. They were covered by a layer of field soil, about 7 feet 6 inches deep.

The following are the average measurements of the tombs: length 6 feet 4 inches, depth 11 inches, width at Northern end 2 feet and at the Southern end 2 feet 6 inches.

Only a few fragments of human bones and some small sherds belonging to the Roman period were recovered from the material which filled the graves.

RESTORATION AT ST PAUL'S CATACOMBS, RABAT.

A special feature of Catacomb No. 10 is a Coralline Limestone door, at the entrance of the funeral chamber, swinging on two pivots. This door, 4 feet 6 inches high, 2 feet 2 inches wide and 7 inches thick, was originally fitted with locks.

During the war it was dislodged from its sockets by an explosion in the vicinity and broken in two pieces.

The necessary works of restoration were effected with very satisfactory results.

MOSAIC PAVEMENT AT L-ABATIJA TAD-DEJR, RABAT.

The patch of polychrome mosaic pavement in the remains at l-Abatija tad-Dejr, Rabat, uncovered in 1933, has been removed with the necessary precautions from its original place and deposited for better preservation in the nearby Christian Catacombs.

FINE ARTS.

The oil paintings which had been stored during the war at the Inquisitor's Palace, Ghajn-il-Gbira, were returned to the Valletta Museum. Owing to the very restricted accommodation at present available, the storage of these works of art leave much to be desired.

RESTORATIONS AT THE MAGISTERIAL PALACE, VALLETTA.

A section of the frieze of frescoes in the state drawing-room has been restored.

The panels treated are the following:

1. A seated figure of Solomon.
2. The capture of Rhodes by Grand Master Fulk de Villaret, in 1309.
3. A seated figure of Job.

RESTORATION IN THE CITADEL, GOZO.

Restoration works have been conducted in the Church of St Joseph and in the adjoining Bishop's Palace, in the Citadel, Gozo.

On the site of this church there was originally another one, dedicated to St. Nicholas. In 1620, Bishop Fra Baldassare Cagliares rebuilt the church and erected the adjoining palace.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION.

No efforts are being spared in enriching the photographic collection illustrating the Archaeology, History and Fine Arts in the Maltese islands. It is the aim of the Museum Department to secure a complete photographic record of all the existing ancient monuments which, so far, are estimated to number over two thousand.

OIL PAINTINGS DAMAGED BY ENEMY ACTION AND RESTORED
DURING THE PERIOD 1947-1948.

Oil Paintings belonging to the Palace, Valletta.

Lunettes:

Capture of the "Sole d'Oro" of Algiers in the waters of Oran by the "San Giovanni" under the command of the Venerable Bailiff di Langon, commanding the squadron. 20th April, 1721.

Engagement between the ship "St. George" and three Tunisian vessels and capture of one of them called the "Porco Spino" by the Commander d'Allogny de la Grois in the channel of Malta. 23rd May, 1721.

Capture of the Sultana "Benghen" of 80 guns, in the waters of Lampedosa, by the Venerable General Bailiff Spinola. 8th September, 1700.

The Admiral of Algiers commanding three ships, defeated in the waters of Malaga by Lieutenant General Commander Fra. B. Tommasi. 7th November, 1736.

Carassan, Algerian Vessel, called the "Mezza Luna" captured in the Alicant waters by the "Santa Caterina" commanded by Commander Fra Adrian di Langon under the orders of the Lieutenant General Bailiff de Cintray. 12th April, 1713.

Squadron of three Algerian ships attacked by the frigate "San Vincenzo", November, 6th 1736, commanded by the Commander Fra Giovanni Gaston Lapparelli, and capture of one of them, the "Ciulac" in the waters of Marbellia, under the orders of the Lieutenant General Commander Tommasi.

Capture of the Padrona di Tunis called "La Rosa" in the waters of the Morea by the First Commander of the Squadron, Commander Fra Francesco Castel St. Pierre. 3rd May, 1706.

OIL PAINTINGS BELONGING TO ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

The flagellation of Our Lord; by Stefano Pieri.

Baptism of Our Lord; by Matteo da Lecce.

Portrait of Grand Master Perellos; by Nicolò Buhagiar.

The Descent from the Cross; by Ricciarelli da Volterra.

Santa Toscana; by Mattia Preti.

Martyrdom of St. Lawrence; by Mattia Preti.

OIL PAINTING BELONGING TO THE CHURCH OF ST JAMES, VALLETTA.

St. James; by F. Paladini.

OIL PAINTINGS BELONGING TO THE JESUITS' CHURCH, VALLETTA.

St. Carlo Borromeo.

Our Lady of Sorrows.

St. Lawrence.

St. Anne.

Our Lord Embracing the Cross.

OIL PAINTING BELONGING TO SARRIA CHURCH, FLORIANA.

The Immaculate Conception; by Mattia Preti.

DONATIONS 1939-48.

Mrs. Edward Manara:

An oil painting: "Portrait of Count Dr. Alfred Caruana Gatto LL.D."; by Palombi.

The Trustees, National Art Collection Fund of Great Britain:

An oil painting: "Looking across the Grand Harbour from the outskirts of Floriana"; by A. L. Du Cros.

An oil painting: Looking down the Grand Harbour from just outside Valletta, Fort St. Angelo on the right"; by A. L. Du Cros.

An oil painting: "Looking across the Grand Harbour towards Senglea and Fort St. Angelo"; by A. L. Du Cros.

An oil painting: "Looking up the Grand Harbour from the Eastern part of Valletta"; by A. L. Du Cros.

An oil painting: "Looking towards Floriana and Valletta from Dockyard Creek"; by A. L. Du Cros.

The War Artists Advisory Committee. London:

"Maltese Gunner Major in his courtyard"; Crayon; by Leslie Cole.

"Study of Maltese"; Pastel; by Leslie Cole.

"Maltese Girl"; Crayon and watercolour; by Leslie Cole.

"Marguerite, Malta 1943"; Crayon; by Leslie Cole.

"Study of Maltese Deffun workers"; watercolour; by Leslie Cole.

"Malta — Clearing the Harbour — diving operations"; watercolour; by Leslie Cole.

The Head of the Ministry:

A framed oil painting: "A scene of prehistoric times in Malta"; by R. Caruana Dingli.

A framed oil painting: "Maltese fishing boat and its Phoenician prototype"; by R. Caruana Dingli.

ACCESSIONS 1939-48.

Oil Painting: "Deidecenabo village in Abyssinia"; by Andrea Gastaldi (1825-1889).

"Campagna Romana"; by Giov. Omiccioli. 19th Century.

"The Death of Abel".

"The Sacrifice of Isaac".

"Portrait of Petrus Etruscus"; ascribed to Perdonone.

"Marriage of St. Catherine". Venetian School. Late XVI. Cent.

"St. Francis of Assisi's Vocation"; by M. Bellanti.

"The Addolorata"; by M. Bellanti.

"St. Magdalen"; by Dean Giuseppe Bellanti.

Oil Painting (bozzetto): "Martyrdom of St. Lawrence". Venetian School. Ascribed to Titian.

Oil Painting: "St. Peter".

"St. Jerome". Venetian School.

Oil Painting (panel): "Cristo Portacroce". North Italian School. Late XVI Century.

Oil Painting: "Assumption of Our Lady"; by Solimena.

Water-colour: "View of Ggantija Temples, Gozo".

"View of Il-Haġra tal-General", Gozo.

"An engraving representing the West front of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Valletta; by Luigi Brockdorff. 1839.

"A set of 28 coloured lithographs, representing patron Saints of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, painted in St. John's Church Valletta; by Paolo Cuschieri. 1859.

NUMISMATIC COLLECTION

DONATIONS 1939-48.

Mr. C. Busuttil — A twelve sided threepenny. 1938. George VI.

A twelve sided threepenny. 1945. George VI.

A penny. 1939. George VI.

A penny. 1945. George VI.

A penny. 1946. George VI.

A half penny. 1937. George VI.

A half penny. 1939. George VI.

A half penny. 1940. George VI.

A half penny. 1941. George VI.

A half penny. 1942. George VI.

A half penny. 1944. George VI.

- Mr. Emm. Nerri — A farthing. 1830. George IV.
 A farthing. 1940. George VI.
 A farthing. 1943. George VI.
- Chev. H.P. Scicluna, M.B.E., Hon. M.A. (Cxon), F.S.A. — A shilling 1821,
 George IV.
 A sixpence 1826, George IV.
 A groat 1823, George IV.
- Prof. A.V. Bernard, C.B.E., M.D., D.T.M. & H. — A farthing, 1945, George VI.
- Fr. Paolo Spiteri, O.S.A. — A small collection of mixed coins.

ACCESSIONS 1939-1948.

A copper coin or token. Obv. MAG. HOSPIT. HIER. The arms of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem on an ornamental shield within a circle. Rev. SVB HOC SIGNO MILITAMVS.

The eight-pointed cross of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem surrounded by a looped circle of pellets, one loop coming between each limb of the cross.

It seems probable that this coin or token was struck by Grand Master La Vallette, as the shield on the obverse is identical with the one used on some of his smaller coins, and the legend on the reverse was first used during his reign.

A copper mint proof of a three Tari of Grand Master La Cassiere.

A rare variety of a four Tari of Grand Master Lascaris.

A silver siege coin, struck by General Vaubois, bearing on one side a lion rampant, the arms of Valletta, and on the reverse is stamped the value: Scudi 2, Tari 11, and Grani 13. S.M.—10.

A gold coin ($\frac{1}{2}$ quadruple) of Carol III. 1780.

A gold coin (pistole) of Carol IV. 1707.

One half crown	...	...	...	...	1837.	William IV.
One mint penny	...	...	...	...	1938.	George VI.
One half crown	...	...	...	...	1939.	George VI.
One florin	...	...	...	...	1939.	George VI.
One Scot shilling	...	...	...	...	1939.	George VI.
One sixpence	...	...	...	...	1939.	George VI.
Two three penny pieces	...	...	...	...	1939.	George VI.
One half crown	...	...	...	...	1940.	George VI.
One florin	...	...	...	...	1940.	George VI.
One shilling	...	...	...	...	1940.	George VI.
One sixpence	...	...	...	...	1940.	George VI.
One 12 sided threepenny	...	...	...	...	1940.	George VI.
One half crown	...	...	...	...	1941.	George VI.
One florin	...	...	...	...	1941.	George VI.
One shilling	...	...	...	...	1941.	George VI.
One sixpence	...	...	...	...	1941.	George VI.
One threepenny	...	...	...	...	1941.	George VI.
One half crown	...	...	...	...	1942.	George VI.
One florin	...	...	...	...	1942.	George VI.
One shilling	...	...	...	...	1942.	George VI.
One sixpence	...	...	...	...	1942.	George VI.
One 12 sided threepenny	...	...	...	...	1942.	George VI.
One half crown	...	...	...	...	1943.	George VI.
One florin	...	...	...	...	1943.	George VI.
One shilling	...	...	...	...	1943.	George VI.
One sixpence	...	...	...	...	1943.	George VI.
One 12 sided threepenny	...	...	...	...	1943.	George VI.
One half crown	...	...	...	...	1944.	George VI.
One florin	...	...	...	...	1944.	George VI.
One shilling	...	...	...	...	1944.	George VI.
One sixpence	...	...	...	...	1944.	George VI.

One 12 sided threepenny	1944.	George VI.
Two one penny pieces	1944.	George VI.
One half crown	1945.	George VI.
One florin	1945.	George VI.
One shilling	1945.	George VI.
One sixpence	1945.	George VI.
One half crown	1946.	George VI.
One florin	1946.	George VI.
One sixpence	1946.	George VI.
One half crown	1947.	George VI.
One florin	1947.	George VI.
One shilling	1947.	George VI.
One sixpence	1947.	George VI.
One penny	1947.	George VI.
One half crown	1948.	George VI.

LOCAL CURRENCY NOTES.

- One two shillings issued by the Government of Malta in 1918 and later surcharged "one shilling". No. A/1 85847.
- One shilling. No. 001880.
- One pound. No. A/1 293601. 1939.
- One ten shillings. No. A/1. 008901. 1939.
- One five shillings. No. A/1. 068901. 1939.
- One two shillings and sixpence. No. A/1. 018970. 1939.
- One two shillings. N. A. 111666.

BANK OF ENGLAND NOTES.

- One pound. No. C. 48. D 160391.
- One ten shillings. No. X. 49. D.434207.

THE SCIORTINO BEQUEST

ORIGINAL PLASTER MODELS.

Miss Lewis.	Velocity.
Miss Buzhner.	Madonna protecting the navigators.
Queen Sophia of Greece.	Madonna protecting the aviators.
Princess Pignatelli.	In the jungle.
Marchese Godi di Godio.	Remorse.
Tina Mazzarini.	Disaster of a submarine.
Decorative head.	Courage of future generations.
Mrs. Cartwright.	Dangerous sport.
American sculptress.	Detachment of the soul from humanity.
Miss Mackenzie of Farr.	Dream of the pioneers.
Mr. Mc. Clum.	Lindberg on eagle.
Miss Winifred Holt.	Surprise.
A female head.	Maternity.
Prof. Bajardi.	Sketch for a fountain with female figure.
Princess Avaroff.	Sketch for a fountain with male figure.
Miss Miller.	Sketch for a fountain with bas-relief.
The archer on horseback.	Sketch for a fountain with babies.
Nina da Vetlina.	The Temple of the British Empire to the Unknown Warrior.
Arab horses.	Model of a lighthouse.
Figure from Shelley's poems.	Statue of Anton Tchekov.
A child with a squirrel.	Equestrian statue of Bolivar.
A smiling head.	Edward VII.
Tennis..	Sketch for a statue.
Skating.	Anita Garibaldi.
The first kiss.	Lord Strickland.
The woman and the mask.	
Irredentismo.	

Professor Sciortino's bequest also includes the following:

- Portrait of Ant. Sciortino (Pastel); by Prof. Silvio Galimberti.
- Thirteen pen and ink drawings, representing plans of "The Temple of the British Empire".
- Three pen and ink drawings, representing elevations of the front and side of "The Temple of the British Empire".
- Three coloured drawings, representing details of "The Temple of the British Empire".
- A coloured drawing, representing a bird's eye view of "The Temple of the British Empire".
- Fiftyone pencil sketches of "The Temple of the British Empire".
- Four small sketches, in water colour, of "The Temple of the British Empire".
- A silver salver. Presented to Prof. Ant. Sciortino, in 1927.
- Three pen and ink sketches of a church; by I. Mancini.
- One perspective drawing in pencil and water colour; by I. Mancini.

SANT FOURNIER DONATION

The Most Noble Count and Countess Sant Fournier made the following donation of 18th and early 19th Century costumes:

- Ladies' Costumes** — Bonnets 11; Hats; Night-caps 11; Coatees 8; Dresses 11; Bole-ros 12; Blouse 1; Petticoats 11; Collarettes 3; Shirts 5; Kimonoes 2; Zouaves 5; Capes 2; Shawls 12; Neckkerchiefs 18; Shoulder wraps 3; Kerchiefs 2; Mufflers 2; Mantilla 1; Handbags 19; Purses 7; Armlets 8; Gloves 21; Mittens 2; Sleeves 1; Belts 2; Fans 5; Slippers 2; Claquette 1; Parasol 1.
- Gentlemen's Costumes** — Hat 1; Night-caps 6; Skull-caps 3; Breeches 1; Vest 1; Waistcoats 10; Coat-tails 2; Neckties 2; Bed-stockings 3.
- Babies' Costumes** — Layette 1; Christening sets 2; Caps 9.

LIST OF DONATIONS 1939-48.

Mrs. Mary Alvarez:

A cap manufactured at Benghazi out of a full grown rhinoceros horn.

Miss Kate Apap:

Three wooden models of sailing vessels.

The Hon. Treasurer:

Obsolete dies, rollers, printing plates etc., of the King George V issue of Malta Postage Stamps. (Defaced)

The Director, Public Works Department:

An old brass sanctuary lamp. Stone architectural fragments from the demolished Anberge d'Auvergne.

One old red chasuble; one stole; a maniple and a missal, from the Ceppuna Chapel, Marsa.

Mr. Emm. Xerri:

A white metal medal commemorating the International Eucharistic Congress, Malta, 1913.

Six small punches of the time of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

The Hon. Dr. A. Critien, O.B.E., M.D., M.A., D.P.H., D.T.M.:

Four prints representing plans, elevations and sections of the Camerata married quarters and of the Valletta General Hospital.

Mr. Vincent Bonavita:

One "Stolone" of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

The Rt. Rev. Mons. Giorgio Scicluna:

A collection of 19th Century unbaked clay statuettes representing characters.

The Rev. Joseph Delia:

A marble slab, 30 in. x 7½ in., bearing the inscription "PETRO DE MONTE VIII IDVS OCTO". Found in the tunnel at Ordnance Street, Valletta.

The Hon. Marbel Strickland, O.B.E. :

Two original Phoenician inscriptions : Melitensis III and Melitensis V.

Mr. R. M. Jolly, R.A.F. :

Five scarab-shaped seals; six ushabti figures; one terra cotta tablet with bas-relief; two terra cotta oil lamps.

H. E. Lt. General Sir Edmond Schreiber, K.C.B., D.S.O. :

A German automatic fire-arm captured by the Yugoslav Patriot Forces.

The Officer in charge Demolition and Clearance Department :

A marble slab, 34 in. x 20 in., bearing the following inscription :

“EMIN. D. FR. ADRIANUS DE WIGNACOURT
M.H.H. MELITAE ET GAULOS PRINCE
UTILITATI PUB. INTENTUS ET INVICTAE
SENGLAE CIVIBUS AQUAE PENURIA
LABOR ANTIB. PROVIDERE CUPiens
MAGNUM HOC AQUILEGIUM
PLUVIALI CAPIENDAE AD DOLIORUM
BIS MILLE QUANTITATEM TRIB. INPUTEOLIS
AVIARUM IMMUNDITIIS EXPURGATAE
FIE CURAVIT AN. SAL. MDCXCIII.”

Found in Sirena Street, Senglea.

A marble Coat of Arms, 33 in. x 15 in., of Grand Master Martine Garzes. Found in Sirena Street, Senglea.

A marble Coat of Arms of Grand Master Juan D'Homedes. Found at Senglea in a demolished block of buildings bounded by Victory Street, Bastion Street, St. Michael Street and St. Julian Street.

Lt. Col. J. Terreni, O.B.E., B.E. & A., A. & C.E.

A marble slab, 34 in. x 20 in., bearing the following inscription :

“FR. D. MARTINVS DEREDIN M.MR. MELITAE
ET GAVLOS PRINCEPS
NE DOR DECIMAM
SPECVLAM
STATV DAERE ANNO MDCLIX.”

From Dellimara Tower.

Lady Alice Mary Jackson :

An 18th Century inlaid prie-dieu.

Brigadier Alban Low, C.B.E., M.C., Commander British Troops in Rome :

A relief Map of Malta; originally in the conference room of the Italian Air Ministry, Rome.

The Collector of Customs :

A marble slab, in fragments, bearing the following inscription :

“EMMANVEL DE ROHAN
HIEROSOL. MILITIAE MAGNVS MAGISTER
PRINCEPS. PROVIDENTISSIMVS
FAVSTO EJVS REGIMINE ANNO PRIMO
AEDIFICIVM MAGNIFICENTIVS EXTRVCTVM
SVAQVE IPENSA ABSOLVTVM
VSV PVBLICO INSTITVIT
ANNO MDCCLXXVI VI KAL. AVG.
AVGVSTINO FORMOSA DE FREMAVX
VECTIGALIBVS PRAEFECTO.”

From the Custom House, Valletta.

Mr D. W. Herdman :

A map of Malta printed on linen.

LIST OF ACQUISITIONS 1939-48.

- One ancient gold earring with amethyst, found at Kallelija, Rabat.
- One pair of gold shoe buckles. Hall Mark for 1775-97.
- One walking stick with gold mount. Louis XVI style.
- One early 19th Century small silver basket-shaped brooch. Maltese filigree work.
- One early 18th Century silver watch.
- One brass seal, bearing the inscription "COMVN AERARIVM HIERVSALEM" surrounding the cross of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.
- One copper seal of a Knight of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. (Three fleur-de-lys and a tree).
- One insignia of a Bailiff of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.
- One of the two Commemorative Bronze Medals struck by Bishop Molina on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the Choir of the Cathedral Church of Malta. A.D. 1679
- One pair of old iron door-knockers.
- One large bronze mortar with fleur-de-lys ornaments in relief.
- One marble mortar.
- One old stone mortar.
- One hard stone oil press.
- One set Kutuiah (Brusa) tiles.
- Two 19th Century ivory statuettes.
- One antique carved wood statue representing "The Dead Christ".
- One 18th Century majolica jar with Maltese Cross.
- One 18th Century majolica jar decorated with a polychrome pattern.
- One 18th Century majolica flower pot with coat of arms of a Knight of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.
- One 18th Century spherical majolica jar, decorated with polychrome design.
- One old pottery lantern. "Mnara".
- A model of the Manderaggio. By R. Calleja.
- A model of Vittoriosa. By R. Calleja.
- One old wooden model of a galley.
- A model of a Maltese wind-mill.
- A model of a Maltese grinding corn mill.
- A model of a Maltese loom.
- A model of a Maltese water mill.
- One 18th Century spinet.
- One 19th Century lady's fan.
- One water colour Map of Malta. By Filippo Regalia. 1798.
- A collection of photographic negatives of Maltese historical and artistic material.
- A collection of photographic negatives of the interior of the Inquisitor's Palace, Vittoriosa.
- A set of cliches representing works of art by Prof. Antonio Sciortino.
- One early 19th Century "Horga".
- One early 19th Century lady's silk costume.

APPENDIX.

Admission of Visitors to various sites under this Department, from the 1st April, 1947 to the 31st March, 1948.

	Admission on payment at -/6 per head.	Admission free on special days and by students' tickets.
The Museum, Valletta	—	—
The Roman Villa Museum	654	1,373
The St. Paul's Catacombs	594	1,259
The Tarxien Neolithic Temples	429	816
The Hal Safieni Hypogeum	1,019	658
The Ghar Dalam Cave and Museum	507	120

Public Works Department

Personal Emolument (including Drainage Staff)

Other Charges

Annually Recurrent

1. Works and buildings (including Drainage Maintenance)

2. Streets, Roads and Bridges, etc.

Extraordinary Works

For details of expenditure on works see Appendix A.

Year Dependence — Public Works

REVENUE

The total Revenue collected during the year amounted to £17,110 10 8.

Works carried out by this Department fall under the following three major heads of expenditure: (A) Annually Recurrent Works, (B) Extraordinary Works, (C) War Expenditure. For the sake of clarity I have decided to treat in this report each item separately, thus giving the reader an opportunity to appreciate the various kinds of work the Department is engaged in, to assess its needs and, if necessary, to suggest ways of increasing its resources and complexly, such a good target for humorous criticism.

MAINTENANCE WORKS

REPAIRS

Several damaged schools which were repaired or reconstructed the previous year, but which lacked such petty works as glazing, decoration, lighting, etc., had these now carried out, thus rendering them fit for immediate use. Works at several other schools were started and completed.

The largest work of re-statement undertaken by the Department was the reconstruction of the Royal University, which entailed extensive demolition work.

The Department

Minister of Works and Reconstruction