



REPORT  
ON THE WORKING OF THE  
MUSEUM DEPARTMENT  
FOR THE YEAR

1960



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# Report of the Museum Department for the year 1960

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SECTION

As Annual Reports are in future to cover the calendar year, January to December, instead of the financial year, April to March, the present report will deal with a period of nine months only. Work carried out in the first three months of 1960, including further trenches in the Tarxien Neolithic Temples, exploration of a cave below the Bahrija cliffs, the opening of a Punic tomb in the grounds of Ariel House, L'Imisierah, and the clearance of two rifled tomb chambers of Roman date at Wied Rini, Bahrija, was described in the report for the year 1959-60.

Mr. F. S. Mallia, Curator of the Archaeological Section, began a two year course of study leading to the Academic Diploma in Prehistoric Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, London University, in October 1960.

Mr. W. Phelps, B.A. (Oxon.) gave the Museum constant voluntary help throughout the year, deserving full and grateful acknowledgment. Of volunteer assistants in field work, Mrs. V. Greer, B.A. (Oxon.), Miss B. Wilson, M.A. (Edinb.), Mrs. B. Gibson, P.C. J. Attard and Sgt. A. Stokes, R.A.E.C., B.A. (Lon.) deserve special mention.

In May, Treasury permission was granted to lower the entrance fees to Museum Department sites from 2/- to 1/-, with corresponding reductions in tickets of longer validity. Exceptions were made in the cases of the Auberge de Provence and the Palace Armoury, and the half price on Sundays concession was also withdrawn. However, the number of visitors has increased satisfactorily, the figures given as appendix to this report representing nine months, not a full year.

With the same intention of widening interest in the islands' past, the Curator of Archaeology, Dr. D. H. Trump, gave a series of six interviews on Rediffusion, describing the islands' antiquities. The first of a series of guidebooks on this subject was published, and will be on sale in the New Year.

### *Auberge de Provence*

Again certain alterations and improvements were made in the public rooms. In the Tarxien Room, a plaster cast of the sow relief from that site was prepared and placed on the wall. A mirror was fitted beneath the giant bowl to show the leaf-impressions on its base. The Recent Activities Section, illustrating field work carried out by the Museum Department, was kept constantly up to date and continued to attract considerable public interest.

The Stores Section was completed overhauled. A large quantity of material not at present being worked upon was transferred to quarters in the basement to relieve the pressure on shelf-space. As the rooms in the Casa Leoni, Santa Venera, being used for storage by the Museum Department were required by the Government Primary School sharing the building, a wing of Vilhena Palace (lately the Connaught Hospital), Mdina, was prepared by the P.W.D. and the transfer completed.

### *The Gozo Museum*

The Gozo Museum, housed in the Casa Bondi, Gran Castello, Gozo, was opened to the public on 30th May 1960 by His Honour the Chief Secretary. His Grace the Bishop of Gozo blessed the building. His Excellency the Governor paid it an official visit later in the year.

The public collection is displayed in six rooms. A hall on the first floor contains three cases of Neolithic material (from the site of Santa Verna, the Ggantija temples and from caves, all in Xaghra parish), one of the Bronze Age (altered later to illustrate the In-Nuffara material, for which see below), and three of Punic and Roman finds (various tombs and the Ramla Bay villa), with the stone snake slab

and betyl from the Ggantija and a relief map of the island at a scale of 4 inches to the mile in the centre. A short passage containing the fine statue of Juno found in the Gran Castello in the 18th century leads to a small room where are a case of Arab material, pottery and the famous Majmunia tombstone, and a relief model of the geologically interesting Qawra district. The last upstairs room holds a coin collection, covering the Phoenician, Roman and Knights' periods. Opening from the entrance hall downstairs, this with engraved maps of the 18th century and a medieval stone relief of Saints Peter and Paul in Byzantine style, are three rooms containing respectively statues and inscriptions of the Roman and Knights' periods, and a small collection of now disappearing agricultural implements.

### *Field Survey*

New sites continue to be found. In Malta, only two were important enough to deserve mention. Between Hal Far airfield and the cliffs, a site with settings of megalithic blocks up to  $3.50 \times 1.50 \times 1$  m. and a cistern was located at 547633, and dated by a thin scatter of Roman sherds. It compares with the richer Ras ir-Raheb site. On the clay slope between the Qala il-Pellegrin and Gnejna Bay 403752, a thick scatter of period I D sherds was reported by Mr. W. Phelps and Mr. G. Bridgland.

In Gozo, three noteworthy sites were reported. At Tas-Salib, Rabat, in fields to the east of the new Sannat road, 318884, P.C. J. Attard found large blocks built into field walls and a good scatter of I D sherds. He also discovered a silo-nit with some deposit on the plateau of In-Nuffara, also Rabat parish though nearer Xaghra, 345888. This will be referred to again below. At 334913, just south of Marsalforn, Mr. G. Pisani reported a site referred to by 18th century and later writers as "St. Paul's Catacombs". It consists of a circular rock-cut chamber with central supporting pillar, all very roughly cut, with rectangular air shafts and a narrow entrance passage. It is probably medieval.

During the year survey work was done on four sites in Gozo already known but not previously planned in detail. They included the period I tomb above the Wied ix-Xlendi, Munxar parish, the I D — E temple at Ta Marziena, Rabat, the ? II A megalith groups at Ta' Ċenċ, Sannat, and the II B village site on In-Nuffara, Rabat.

### *Underwater Research*

More finds were reported. Fishermen brought up the neck of an early amphora "off Kemmuna", though the exact location was not pinned. This remains in private hands, at the Solemar, Marfa. Similar finds of amphorae were reported "deen, off Marsascala" by Mr. A. Demajo of Ta' Xbiex, who owns one of them. Three scatters of sherds of probable Roman date were located in shallow water in Salina Bay by Lt. Mills, R.N., and Mr. J. Ripard. More important discoveries were made at the Mellieha Bay site (see Annual Report 1959-60) by the same two divers. A second complete amphora, with a potter's mark in the form of a capital A (Mr. Ripard's collection), and part of a heavy dolium rim with the mark L.VCC EI/PROCLI in a rectangular frame (Nat. Mus.) were recovered, together with fragments of lead sheet, probably the hull-sheathing of the wrecked vessel. The Museum Department wishes to record its thanks to these divers and informants for their willing co-operation in a field which it is unqualified to investigate itself.

### *Tal-Mejtin, Luqa — Storage Pit*

In August, a further rock-cut chamber near the Luqa cemetery (see Annual Report 1959-60) was cleared. It formed one of the northern, deeper, group further from the road. Like the others, it was bottle-shaped, though having a projecting block in the floor, and measured 3.63 m. deep, with a maximum diameter of 3.04 m. It contained a few potsherds and bones only, the former of II B 2 — 3 wares, including the greater parts of a plain large cup of the former and a decorated jar of the latter. During the excavation, clay samples were taken in the hope that the water-logged conditions might have preserved wind-borne pollen grains, leading to important information on the vegetation of Malta at the end of the second

millennium B.C.. Professor H. Godwin of the Department of Quaternary Research, University of Cambridge, kindly agreed to have the samples tested.

The original function of these pits is discussed further in the next section, where fuller evidence was found.

#### *In-Nuffara, Rabat, Gozo — Storage Pit*

Following the discovery of a partially filled bottle-shaped pit on the hill top of In-Nuffara, between Xaghra and Xewkija, though actually in the eastern tip of the parish of Rabat, P.C. Attard cleared part of it. On finding large quantities of Borg in-Nadur period pottery, he reported it to the Museum Department, who cleared the rest. The chamber is oval, with two entrances, cut in badly shattered upper coralline limestone. Traces of an original clay lining to the walls survived. The deposit consisted of three strata, banked against the southern wall. (1) Soft grey earth of ashy appearance, sterile; (2) soft, dusty brown earth very rich in pottery and bones; (3) hard brown clay, practically sterile. The pottery was of phase II B 2, mainly red-slipped, varying to blotchy black, unburnished. Only one complete vessel appeared, a small jar with incised decoration, but the sherds were exceptionally large and other vessels have been or can be restored from them — a large cup with high handle, a small three-handled lid, bowls, large iars, etc. Peculiar features included wide external pouches on the rims of bowls with small handles beneath, and a frequent decoration on the unslipped interior of bowls consisting of dots of red slip, related to the "dribbled Borg in-Nadur" painting noticed at Bahrija. Other finds included pottery anchors, spindle whorls, querns, and a hone.

The nature of the deposit immediately suggests an answer to the problem of the purpose of these pits. The clay lining and absence of skeletal remains, excludes the idea of burial. In this case the fissured state of the rock excludes water storage. There remains grain storage. Layer 1) could even be the mouldered residue of the last contents of the pit, which was abandoned when they went musty and subsequently used, layer 2), for a domestic rubbish tip, layer 3) being merely subsequent, probably recent, rain-wash.

A check list of these bottle-shaped pits would be useful here.

(1) Tal Meitin, Luqa. About 17 examples. I certainly II A, I certainly II B. Probably water cisterns. Dated ones dug 1959, 1960.

(2) Birżebbuġa. A number on the foreshore below Borg in-Nadur, now hidden, II A — C site.

(3) Bahrija. Roughly 40 examples, many inter-connected. II B — C site. Grain and/or water.

(4) Wardi'a ta' San Ġorġ. 1. on II B site.

(5) Mtarfa. 2, 1 dug in 1939 (Ann. Rep. 1939-45) to give large quantities of II B material.

(6) Nuffara. About 20. 1 dug 1960, reported above. For grain.

All are therefore associated with period II settlements and seem far more likely to have a domestic than a funerary use. The four burials of this period known all take different forms, Ta' Hammut, Wied Moqbol, Racecourse Street, (Rabat, Gozo) and Ta' Vnezja.

#### *Vilhena Palace, Mdina — Roman Wall*

With the object of learning something about the post-Roman archaeology of Malta, in May part of the rear courtyard of the Vilhena Palace, until recently the Connaught Hospital, Mdina, was lifted and a trench sunk to bed-rock beneath it. Being within the city walls, the site must have been in continuous occupation, but later disturbance had largely nullified its value. In the 2.60 m. of deposit four periods were represented. The lowest and most interesting was banked against a wall of heavy masonry, probably the back of the eastern wall of the Roman city. Sherds were mainly of Roman date, roughly 2nd century A.D., but included sporadic earlier pieces, several of period II B (Borg in-Nadur, Late Bronze Age) and one or two Punic examples. Above this, a trench containing a short piece of rough wall

dated to the 16th century by pottery of that period was found. The remainder of the area cleared, much the greater part, was stone rubble containing sparse material down to the 18th century, and represented the disturbance made for the foundations, drains, cisterns, etc., of the Vilhena Courts of Justice, 1723 A.D. Again there were sporadic earlier sherds but uninformative due to the disturbance. Finally new drains were laid and the courtyard repaved when the old palace was converted into the Connaught Hospital in 1906.

#### *Ta Cieda, L'Imisieraħ — Round Tower*

In April, trenches were sunk in the round tower at Ta Cieda, L'Imisieraħ, parish of St. Julians. The co-operation of the Director of Public Works is acknowledged. These at last gave a secure date for this class of monument by showing that it had been occupied throughout Imperial Roman times. Few finds of importance were made. A complete lamp of Romano-Maltese type was recovered, a large grain storage jar (dolium) could be restored from the many sherds, and fragments of an iron horseshoe were also found. In a higher level lay a great number of Saracenic burials, some outlined in stones, but nearly all badly disturbed. The only finds, besides the bones were sherds disturbed from the earlier level.

The structure consisted before excavation of about a third of the circumference of a circular wall, only the outer face of which was visible. It was built of well squared though somewhat weathered blocks of globigerina limestone. Trench I disclosed the inner face of the wall, giving it a thickness of nearly 2 m., and a straight internal partition wall, one block (50 cms.) thick. Bed rock inside the walls had been brought to a uniform level with torba. Trenches II and III attempted to define the line of the wall on the south and its junction with the internal wall, but both had been destroyed to bedrock. Outside the wall to the east was a rectangular cistern shaft of Roman type,  $2 \times 0.85$  m. Being full of water, its internal form could not be determined. The tenant of the fields reported that a second entrance shaft, now blocked, lay within the tower walls, though this was not found.

#### *It-Torri Ta Gawhar, Safi — Round Tower*

Following on the work at Ta Cieda, the better preserved round tower at Ta Gawhar, between Safi and Hal Far (Zurrieq parish), was investigated in October. Thanks are due to the Archbishop's Seminary, Floriana, and the Director of Public Works. A Roman date for the towers was confirmed, with greater precision.

Three trenches were cut, one clearing one of the internal chambers, the others outside the tower on the east and south. The external trenches produced evidence of prior occupation of the site, II A and B sherds on the east, I D on the south. Higher in trench II a BALBVS coin, minted in Malta in the first century B.C., was found. A little I D pottery was recovered too from undisturbed clay on bed rock beneath the floor of the cleared chamber.

The structure consists of a tower of circular plan, 14.60 m. in diameter and with walls 3 m. thick. On the north side it stands to a height of 6.20 m., but about half the circumference is destroyed or buried in loose rubble. The tops of internal partition walls, defining a room in the south east quadrant, were visible in the rubble inside, and this quarter was therefore cleared. The main east-west partition wall divided the interior into two, the north-south walls being staggered to allow access by a doorway direct into the north-west chamber. Other doorways opened on the other two rooms. The main doorway from the exterior, set almost tangentially, came to light also. The partition walls were of blocks up to 1.50 m. long and 50 cm. square, very carefully laid at the door jambs but quite rough between, and stood to a height of 3 m. above the original floor. In the western side of the room, one large wall block had two cavities or cupboards cut from it, with three holes for handling the block along the lower edge. The floor consisted of beaten earth laid upon a loose rubble foundation. Beneath it was the stump of an earlier cross-wall, originally dividing this room into two narrow chambers. To the north east of the tower was a rock-cut rectangular cistern measuring  $4.75 \times 2.15 \times 2.80$  m. with a slab built roof supported on two square pillars.

Apart from a few sherds in the floor foundation, and others in the main rubble fill of the site, where the large carved slab lay, all finds came from a thin level in the north and west sides of the room, extending more deeply through the two doorways in that corner. It could be subdivided in the following way:—

- (1) Beaten earth floor of the tower (double in the north west room.)
  - (2) Thin streak of soft grey ash.
  - (3) Thick layer of reddish stony clay mixed with broken plaster and some charcoal lumps.
  - (4) Loose with large pieces of charcoal.
  - (5) Loose rubble extending to surface, with some humus in the upper levels.
- Layers 2 — 4 would represent a burnt and fallen roof constructed of beams, brush-wood, clay and plaster finish. The latter showed no traces of wear. The finds were apparently resting on this floor when the roof collapsed upon them.

They included a small ear ring of gold wire, with a conically bossed disc applied, two small buckets, one within the other, each 11.5 cms. high, an iron double-bladed axe 28 cms. long, a bronze coin, corroded but little worn, of Claudius II Gothicus (268-270 A.D.) or, less likely, Aurelian (270-275 A.D.), a jar neck with the potter's mark CIPOM, a second with the mark A— — —, sherds of a large imitation Samian platter, and part of a carbonised quoit-shaped bread roll.

Above the remains of the roof and just through the doorway into the north-west room was a large and elaborately carved slab of globigerina limestone, 1.75 m. × 80 cms. × 30. The upper surface was weathered at the ends and along one side, and had two cramp-slots on the other side, one still containing the lead sheathing and powdered remains of a wooden cramp. The lower surface had a rich cornice moulding on three sides, containing two caissons with a deeply carved rosette in each. Under this slab were parts of a square pilaster and a circular pillar with mouldings at the base of each. Another pilaster fragment lay nearby. The fine carving gives it an early date, first or early second century A.D., and its form and state of preservation suggest a household shrine standing on the roof of the tower.

The suggested history of the site is as follows. After brief occupations during the Neolithic (Ggantija phase) and Bronze Ages (Tarxien Cemetery and Borġ in-Nadur), neither leaving structural remains, a heavy defensive tower, probably to act in consort with the neighbouring ones of Tal Bakkari and It-Torriet, was built. Archaeology (the sherds under the floor) puts this in the Roman period without defining the date more closely, history suggests either the Punic War, B.C. 219, or the troubled first century B.C. Thereafter, with defences no longer necessary, it was adapted for use as a country farm in the first century A.D. (the shrine), and remained such until destroyed by fire, probably accidentally, around 300 A.D., after which it was completely abandoned. Ta Cieda may have had a similar history, surviving in use, as the late lamp type suggests, to a rather later date, and being subsequently employed for Saracenic burials.

#### *Għajn Dwieli, Pawla — Punic and Medieval Burials*

P.W.D. work on a new road connecting the Cospicua Road and Corradino, 559703, in April disclosed two new undisturbed tombs to add to the group of seven found in 1949 (Annual Report 1948-9).

✓ Tomb 8. Rectangular shaft and chamber, the latter containing skeletons of a young male, 20 to 25 years old, and a child about one year. With these were an amphora of Punic type, an oinochoe, a kylix, and a saucer, all with red-painted bands, a plain bilycnnis lamp and fragments of a second saucer and bilycnnis made of unbaked clay.

✓ Tomb 9. Rectangular shaft with an oval chamber set across one end. In this were the skeletons of a woman of about 50 and a child of some months. The pottery comprised a Punic amphora, oinochoe and deep saucer, all with thin red bands, and fragments of a lamp and a thick-walled vessel of unbaked clay.

These represent a phase of Maltese history before the collapse of Punic culture in the island, though not necessarily before its conquest by Rome in 218 B.C.

In June, the bones of two young women were found at a depth of 10 feet during work connected with the extension of number 5 dock, just within the Ghajn Dwiell Gate of the Dockyard, 566405. Workmen mentioned other bones found several years before to the west of this point. Nothing was found with the bones, which may be from an Arab or Medieval graveyard belonging to a settlement at Senglea and sited in the swampy, and so useless, ground at the head of Frenchman's Creek.

#### *Guardamangia, Hamrun — Puno-Roman Tomb*

In April, while digging foundations for a new house in the field Tal Bastun, between Hamrun and Guardamangia, 541717, workmen struck a tomb shaft. The Museum Department was informed and Capt. Zammit cleared the rest of the shaft and the two sealed rectangular chambers in the absence of the Curators of Archaeology on a prehistoric excavation in Italy. This tomb proved to be exceptionally rich.

Bones: — 8 skeletons were represented in the northern chamber, 18 in the southern, total 26. They ranged in age from young children to about 60 years; but the average age at death, approximate only, calculated from the appearance of the sutures of the skull, was only 23. Two markedly different skull types were present. Two male skulls were distinguished by their ruggedness, length and rough parallel-sidedness. Their indices were 69.56 and 73.38. They were probably alien immigrants. The remaining 24 were very uniform, roughly triangular, smooth and round, the standard Maltese racial type. Their indices fell in the range 77 to 85, though one or two were given misleadingly lower figures by their bulging occiputs.

Pottery and glass: — A total of 163 vessels were recovered, with other sherds, distributed between vessel-types as follows, the first figure being for the southern chamber, the second for the northern:

Amphora — sherds: 1 (cylindrical with shoulder handles).

Cinerary jars — 2; 2. Necked jars — 2; 2.

Jugs — clover-lip 3; 2; simple and narrow 8; 6; alabastroid 1; 1; cup-like 3; 1; others 2; 1.

Cup — biconical 7; 2; open 0; 1; jar-like 5 (one ribbed); 1.

Dishes — wall-flange 3; 4; rim-flange 11; 3; open 14; 6; tronco-conic 3; 1 (these four types red-slipped); deep carinated 5; 0; saucers 3; 1; lipless bowl 1; 0; lipped bowl 0; 2; open dish 1 (large, imitation Samian); 0.

Lamps — bilychnis 20; 16; closed spout 1; 0.

Perfume flasks — pottery 1; 1; glass 8 (one with maker's mark impressed on the base, — A METR A —); 3.

Other finds: — A small gold ear-ring of twisted wire.

The tomb shape and contents suggest the period when Roman cultural influences were at last swamping the native Punic ones. Dr. D. B. Harden of the London Museum, to whom the inscribed glass unguentarium was submitted, suggested a date in the second century A.D.

#### *Ta Kandja, Mqabba — Punic Tomb and Catacomb*

Bulldozing and trenching for the extension to the main south-west runway of Luqa aerodrome, in the Ta Kandja district west of Mqabba, 512673, brought to light a Punic tomb and an early Christian catacomb in August.

The tomb had a square shaft and four chambers, all with slab-sealed doors. That on the south had had its roof opened by a bulldozer and had been rifled shortly before the Museum Department were informed. The western one was apparently undisturbed, but very small and with a few scattered child's bones only. The northern one was again small, the eastern larger, but both entered through their roofs and despoiled.

The catacomb was struck by the trench being cut for draining the new perimeter track. It too had been entered and despoiled, probably in antiquity. It consisted of a north-south passage, entered by a flight of steps at the south end, from

which opened eight chambers, all with arcosolium entrances. Numbered clockwise, 1 and 2 were immediately one above the other (1 the lower), and 4 was unfinished, having hit a wide fissure in the rock. The interest of the catacomb lay in its decorations.

Chamber 2 had elaborate compass-drawn circles on the pilasters of its entrance, continuing a short way up the arch. The sill between the entrances of chambers 1 and 2 had a rough capital A, its cross-bar bent downwards, scratched on it. One pilaster to chamber 3 had oblique arcs across it. Chamber 7 had two low cross-marked bosses on the wall to its left, a circle-enclosed cross in low relief on the roof in front of it, cross-hatching covering its left hand pilaster and a palm frond, with a squiggle beside and several engraved X's and T's below, on its right hand one. The left pilaster of chamber 8 had been engraved with signs, possibly a chi-rho monogram in Punic letters but this was uncertain due to the superimposition of a scratched hand shortly before museum authorities could examine it.

This catacomb lay 80 m. to the south east of the round tower, It-Torri ta' Wilga, a fact worth recording though possibly fortuitous.

As the monument could not be preserved in situ, after it had been planned and photographed the more interesting decorations were cut out and taken to the National Museum for preservation.

#### ✓ *Tal Horr, Pawla — Punic Tomb*

In October, P.W.D. men working at the upper end of the Addolorata Cemetery on the extreme eastern edge came upon a Punic tomb and informed the Museum Department of the fact immediately. Two oval chambers opened from adjoining sides of a rectangular shaft, both slab-closed. That on the east had been broken into at its end and emptied. That on the north was found complete.

This chamber held the skeleton of a young man, in his 20's, extended on its back on a shelf. Among the bones of the hand was a silver signet ring bearing a palm-tree within a cable border. At the feet stood a two handled jar. On the floor inside the doorway stood two amphorae, two oinochoe, two bowls and two saucers. All but the last had thin red-painted bands.

This tomb is clearly another early, pre-Roman, one, but further definition of its date cannot be given until the Punic period of Malta has been more thoroughly studied.

### FINE ART SECTION

#### *Restoration works at the Magisterial Palace, Valletta.*

Not very much could be accomplished in restoring the frescoes by D'Aleccio in the Hall of St. Michael and St. George. As in previous years, restoration works had to be periodically interrupted on account of various functions performed in the said hall.

Besides the said friezes the following two paintings were cleaned and restored:

An oval canvas representing Grand Master De Redin.

Whole-length portrait of H.M. King George III.

#### *Verdala Palace.*

French School XVII cent.: Portrait of a lady.

French School XVII cent.: Portrait of a lady.

#### *Chapel.*

School of Preti: Doubting Thomas.

School of Preti: Beheading of St John.

#### *Restoration works at St. John's Co-Cathedral.*

The Italian restorers from the Istituto Centrale del Restauro, Rome, proceeded with their work on the Preti vault.

Owing to religious functions connected with the St Paul centenary celebrations, restoration works had to be interrupted for a longer spell than originally contemplated.

The restoration works performed during the year under review comprised the cleaning and restoration of the second bay and half the third bay.

#### *National Museum.*

##### *Restoration of paintings.*

- School of Caravaggio: Flagellation.
- T. Minardi: Madonna, Child and Infant Baptist.
- G. Schranz: H.M.S. Alfred.
- G. Schranz: H.M.S. Canopus.
- J. H. Schoenfeld: Belshezzar's Feast.
- Italian School XVIII cent.: Holy Trinity.
- Parrocel (?): Battle scene.
- Neapolitan School early XIX cent.: Portrait of a man (self-portrait?).
- Lojacono: "Stabilimento bagni".
- F. Zahra: Self-portrait.
- F. Kobell: Landscape.
- School of Favray: Portrait of a man.
- (?) French School XVII cent.: Triumph of David.
- School of Rosa da Tivoli: Animals.
- S. Erardi: An Apostle.
- S. Erardi: An Apostle.
- Neapolitan School XVIII cent.: Christ in the Temple.
- P. F. Mola: St Francis adoring the Crucifix.
- Genoese School XVII cent.: Man with a dog.
- School of Tintoretto: Portrait of Paolo Corraro.
- Allingham: Portrait of a naval officer.
- P. P. Caruana: Scene of the plague in 1813.
- M. Bellanti: St John's Co-Cathedral.
- Paduan School, end XIV cent.: Scourging of Christ and other scenes.

#### *Collegio, Rabat.*

- Attributed to L. Spada: Beheading of St John.
- Portrait of Pope Alexander VII.
- Raimondo de Podio.
- St Nicasius.
- The Blessed Gerard.
- Gerardus Mecatti.
- St Ubaldesca.
- Portrait of G. M. Aloy de Wignacourt.
- Birth of St John Baptist.
- St Francesca Romana.
- St John the Evangelist.
- St Charles Borromeo.
- St Charles Borromeo.

#### *Medical and Health Department.*

- After Favray: Death of St Joseph.
- After Preti: Baptism of Christ.

*Accessions by Gift  
Paintings.*

Neapolitan School early XIX: Portrait (self portrait?) of a Gentleman, oil on canvas —  $24\frac{3}{4} \times 19\frac{3}{4}$  ins. Anonymous donor.

Stefano Erardi: "The Christ Child". Oil on canvas —  $18\frac{1}{4} \times 12\frac{3}{4}$  ins. Anonymous donor.

Stefano Erardi: "Mater Dolorosa". Oil on canvas —  $18\frac{1}{4} \times 12\frac{3}{4}$  ins. Anonymous donor.

Early XVIII cent. Italian master: "Head of a Saint". Oil on canvas —  $29\frac{3}{4} \times 20\frac{1}{2}$  ins. Anonymous donor.

*Coloured Lithographs.*

G. Farrugia: "Portrait of Giuseppe Depiro, R.M.F.A." —  $5 \times 4$  ins. Given by Miss Estella Depiro.

Portrait of an Ecclesiastic —  $6\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{4}$  ins. Given by Miss Estella Depiro.

*Furniture.*

Maltese chest of drawers; XVIII cent. —  $39\frac{1}{4} \times 74\frac{1}{4} \times 25\frac{1}{2}$  ins. Given by Mrs. Agnes C. S. Howard.

Maltese cupboard XVIII cent. Given by Mrs. Agnes C. S. Howard.

*Other Objects.*

Four models of ancient anchors based on fragments recovered from the sea round Sicily. Given by Marquis Gargallo of Syracuse.

A coralline limestone life-size left foot, in sandal of a Roman statue found in the Gran Castello, Gozo. Given by Mr George Masini.

A short range 17th century iron cannon found in Marsamxett harbour. Given by the officer in charge of the Fleet Diving School, Fort Manoel.

A shako, a pair of epaulettes and a sword with scabbard formerly belonging to an officer of the Royal Dockyard Battalion of Artillery (1853-1864). A cutlass with scabbard, a knobkerrie and a dagger with sheath. Given by Mrs. S. E. Carter.

A relief model of Gozo — scale 2 inches to the mile. A relief model of Malta and Gozo — scale 1 inch to 5 miles. Given by Col. F. H. Harvey, C.M.G.

A complete set of Malta Postage stamps — St Paul's shipwreck commemorative issue and a complete set of Malta Postage stamps commemorating the centenary of the first Malta Postage Stamp. Given by the Postmaster General.

*Numismatic Collection.*

Grain of G. M. Perellos, 1709 — Given by Mr. M. Steel.

Farthing — 1917 — George V. Given by the Rev. Fr. A. Magro, O.F.M.

A silver-medal commemorating the 19th centenary celebrations of St. Paul's shipwreck.

A white metal commemorative medal similar to the above. Given by the Very Rev. Can. Prof. E. Coleiro, O.B.E., D.D., Ph.D., J.C.B., B.A.

*By Purchase.*

*Paintings.*

- D. Lombardi: The Annunciation, canvas —  $20\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$  ins.  
Parrocel (?): Cavalry skirmish, canvas —  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 23\frac{1}{2}$  ins.  
Francesco Zahra: Self portrait, canvas —  $25\frac{1}{8} \times 19\frac{1}{2}$  ins. (Plate VII).  
Giuseppe Cali: Mater Dolorosa, oil on canvas —  $15\frac{1}{2} \times 11.5/8$  ins.  
Antoine Inglott: Award of the George Cross, canvas —  $18 \times 29$  ins.

*Water-Colour.*

- M. Bellanti: "A group of Turks" —  $7\frac{3}{8} \times 10\frac{1}{8}$  ins.  
M. Bellanti: "The Boschetto" —  $9\frac{3}{8} \times 12\frac{1}{8}$  ins.  
M. Bellanti: "St. Paul's Bay" —  $11 \times 17\frac{1}{8}$  ins.  
M. Bellanti: "A View of the Bosphorus" —  $10\frac{1}{8} \times 14\frac{1}{4}$  ins.

*Drawings.*

- Maltese School XVIII cent.: Study of a figure (recto).  
Study of a hand etc. (verso)  $9\frac{3}{4} \times 11$  ins.  
A. Favray: 5 leaves from a small album with various studies —  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  ins.  
Italian School XVIII cent.: Head of a boy, pencil —  $3\frac{3}{8}$  ins.  
D. Creti (?): standing figure, pen and ink —  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{7}{8}$  ins.  
School of Ingres: Study of a woman and child —  $12 \times 5\frac{3}{8}$  ins.  
Italian School XVIII cent.: Study for a St. John, red chalk —  $23 \times 17\frac{1}{8}$  ins.  
G. Chiari: (?): Pietà, (recto); two saints (verso), pencil —  $9\frac{5}{8} \times 7\frac{5}{8}$  ins.  
Two saints (verso), pencil —  $9\frac{5}{8} \times 7\frac{5}{8}$  ins.  
G. B. Castiglione: Landscape, charcoal heightened with white —  $14 \times 10.1/10$  ins.  
B. Luti (?): Education of the Virgin, red chalk —  $11.9/11 \times 9$  ins.  
Venetian School early XVII cent. (?): Madonna and Child, bearing inscription —  $11\frac{3}{4} - 8$  ins.

*Etchings.*

- Salvator Rosa: Warrior tied to a tree —  $18\frac{3}{8} \times 14$  ins.  
Salvator Rosa: Democritus —  $18 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$  ins.  
Salvator Rosa: Policratus —  $30\frac{3}{4} \times 21\frac{1}{4}$  ins.  
Salvator Rosa: Battle of the Titans —  $30\frac{3}{4} - 21\frac{1}{4}$  ins.

*Engravings.*

- After Callot: A caravan —  $5\frac{7}{8} \times 10$  ins.  
R. Sciaminossi: Composition —  $7 \times 5\frac{3}{8}$  ins.

*Aquatint.*

- W. S.: S. Roch hurled into prison, after a drawing by Guercino —  $15\frac{1}{4} \times 11\frac{1}{4}$  ins.

*Lithographs.*

- After Merlota: "Accoglienza ai regi commissari, 26 Ottobre 1836" —  $23\frac{1}{2} \times 34\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

*Maps.*

- Map of Malta and Gozo by G.B. Homan — 1740.  
Map of Malta and Gozo by G. de L'Isle — 1720.  
Map of Malta and Gozo by John Ogily — c. 1670.

*Carvings.*

- XVIII cent. south German: Moses, wood —  $10\frac{3}{4}$  ins. in height.  
XVIII cent. south German: a Prophet, wood —  $10\frac{3}{4}$  ins. in height.

*Other Objects.*

- Early XIX cent. snuff-box, engraved silver with enamelled top —  $3 \times 2 \times \frac{3}{4}$  ins.  
Maltese silver sugar basin XVIII cent.  
Limoges enamel: Duchess of Milan —  $15\frac{3}{8} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$  ins.  
XVIII cent. Abruzzi (?): maiolica figure — 8 ins.  
Tin glazed china benetiere.  
XVIII cent. iron hanging oil lamp.  
A pair of XIX cent. hand-cuffs.

Bronze 'dupondius' of Commodus, 180-192 A.D.

Lead Byzantine seal.

Silver thirty-tari piece — 1790 — G.M. Rohan.

Silver two-scudi piece — 1796 — G.M. Rohan.

Double florin — 1888 — Victoria.

Crown — 1899 — Victoria.

Florin — 1916 — George V.

Farthing — 1946 — George VI.

Farthing — 1947 — George VI.

Farthing — 1948 — George VI.

Farthing — 1949 — George VI.

Half-penny — 1950 — George VI.

Farthing — 1951 — George VI.

Half-penny — 1951 — George VI.

Penny — 1951 — George VI.

Half-crown — 1951 — George VI.

Farthing — 1952 — George VI.

Half-penny — 1952 — George VI.

Six pence — 1952 — George VI.

Farthing — 1955 — Elizabeth II.

Half-penny — 1955 — George VI.

Half-crown — 1955 — Elizabeth II.

A bronze commemorative medal — "Mostra Agricola Industriale di Gozo — 1897".

DEPARTMENT OF VISITORS ADMITTED TO SITES  
 UNDER THE MUSEUM DEPARTMENT  
 DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1959/60 AND CALENDAR YEAR 1960

Place	1959-60		1960	
	On payment	Free	On payment	Free
National Museum ... ..	4,362	3,317	4,043	1,934
The Palace Armoury ... ..	5,394	7,704	6,141	6,122*
Hal Saffieni Hypogeum ... ..	3,682	5,063	4,004	3,538
Museum of Roman Antiquities ... ..	1,838	6,256	2,354	5,277
St Paul's Catacombs ... ..	2,264	4,087	1,823	3,729
Tarxien Neolithic Temples ... ..	1,190	4,302	1,126	2,979
Ghar Dalam Museum ... ..	1,887	3,718	2,047	2,187
Gozo Museum ... ..	—	—	621	303
Ggantija Temples, Gozo .. ..	539	1,025	716	167
Total ... ..	21,156	35,472	22,875	26,236
Total Admission Fees collected	£1,841. 9s. 0d.		£1,778. 0s. 3d.	

\* Inclusive of 4,646 visitors admitted during the 8th September Exhibition.



Outer wall of the round tower, Ta' Gawhar, Safi.



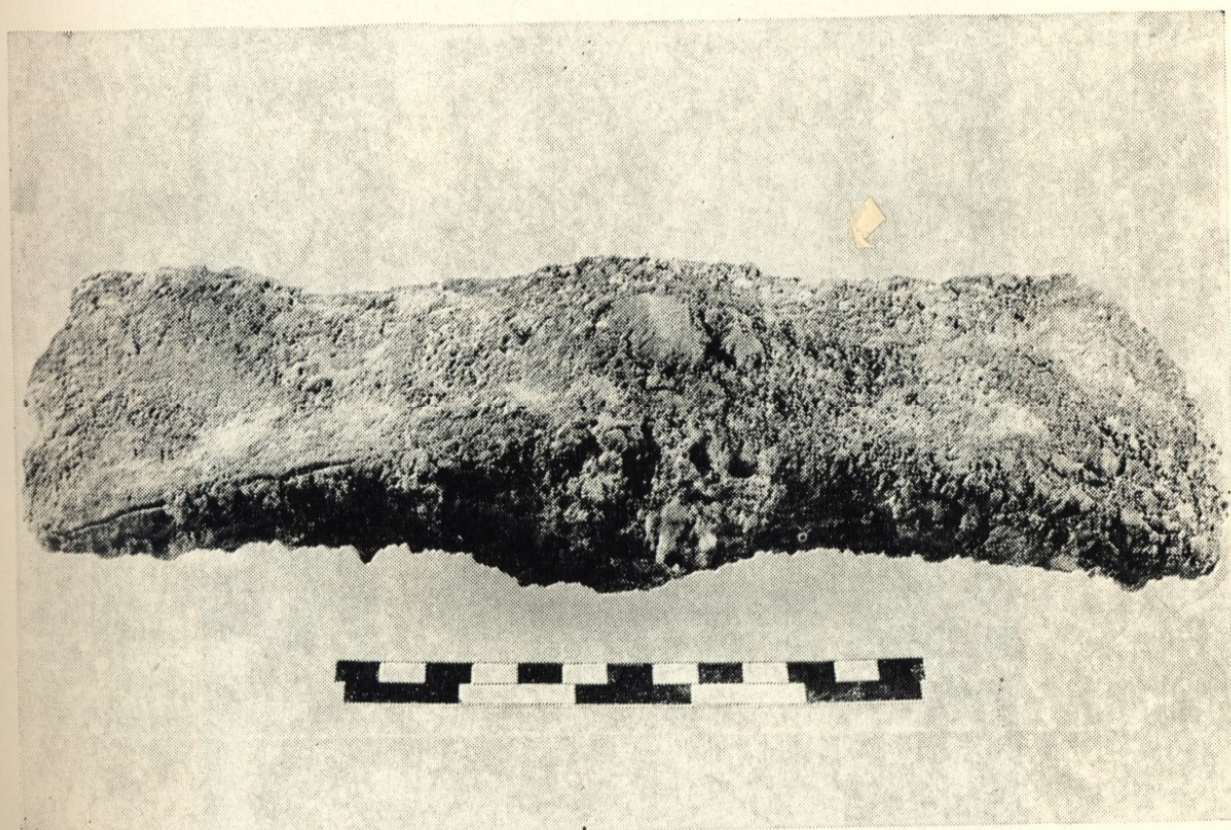
a) View through the original entrance of the tower.



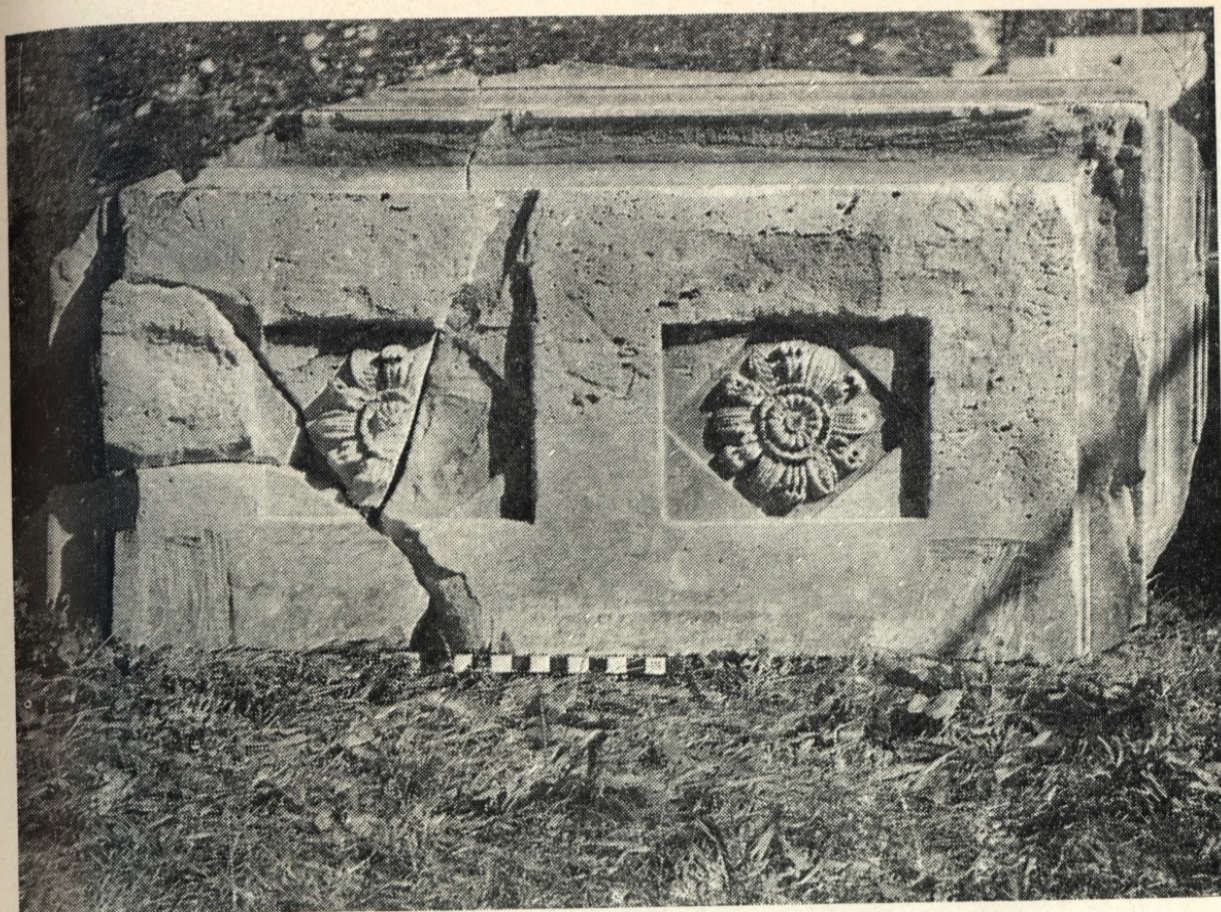
b) West wall of excavated room; with door and cupboard.



a) Bronze buckets from inner doorway, Ta' Gawhar.



b) Iron double axe from floor of excavated room.



a) Under face of the ornamented slab, Ta' Ġawhar.



b) Gold ear-rings from Ta' Ġawhar and Gwardamanga, and silver signet ring from Tal Ħorr.



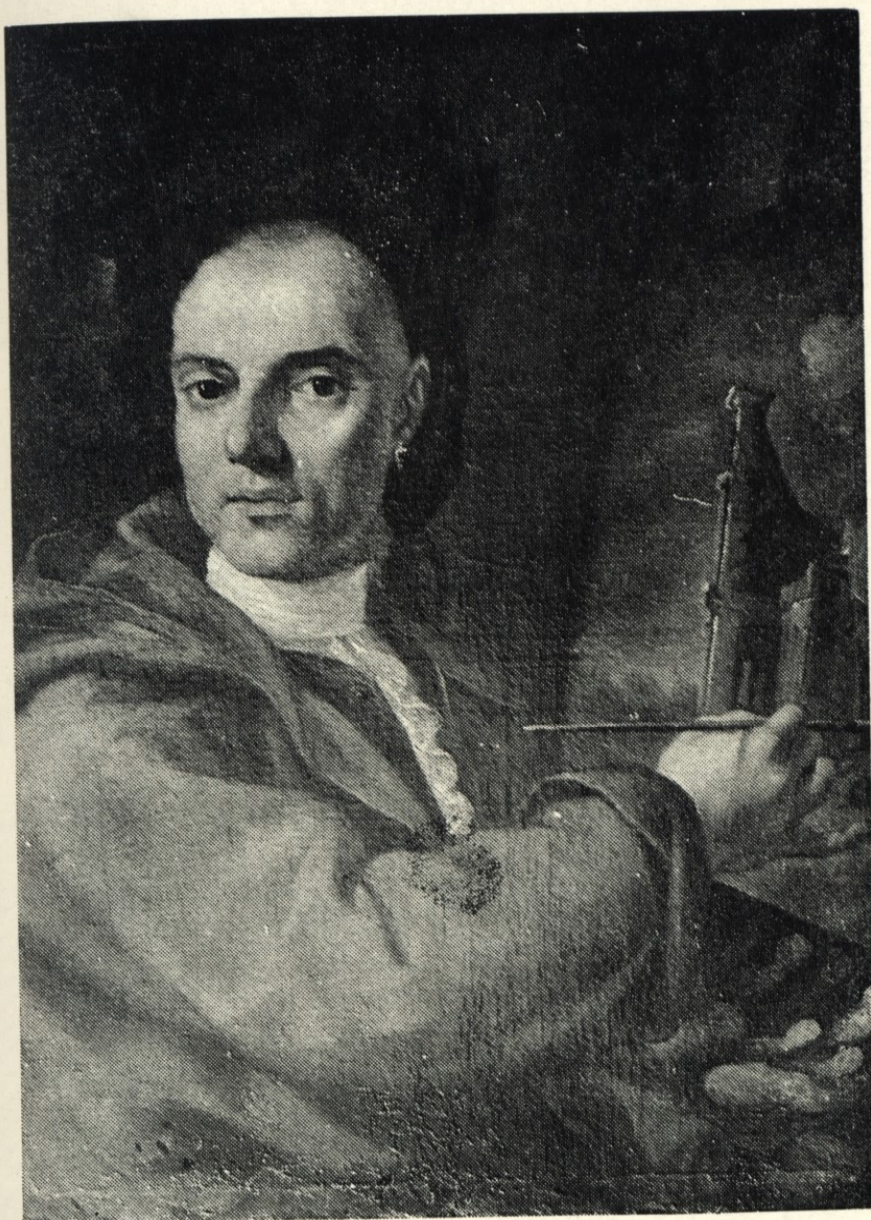
The northern chamber of the Gwardamanga tomb as found.



a) The contents of the Ghajn Dwieli tombs, No. 8 on the right, No. 9 on the left.



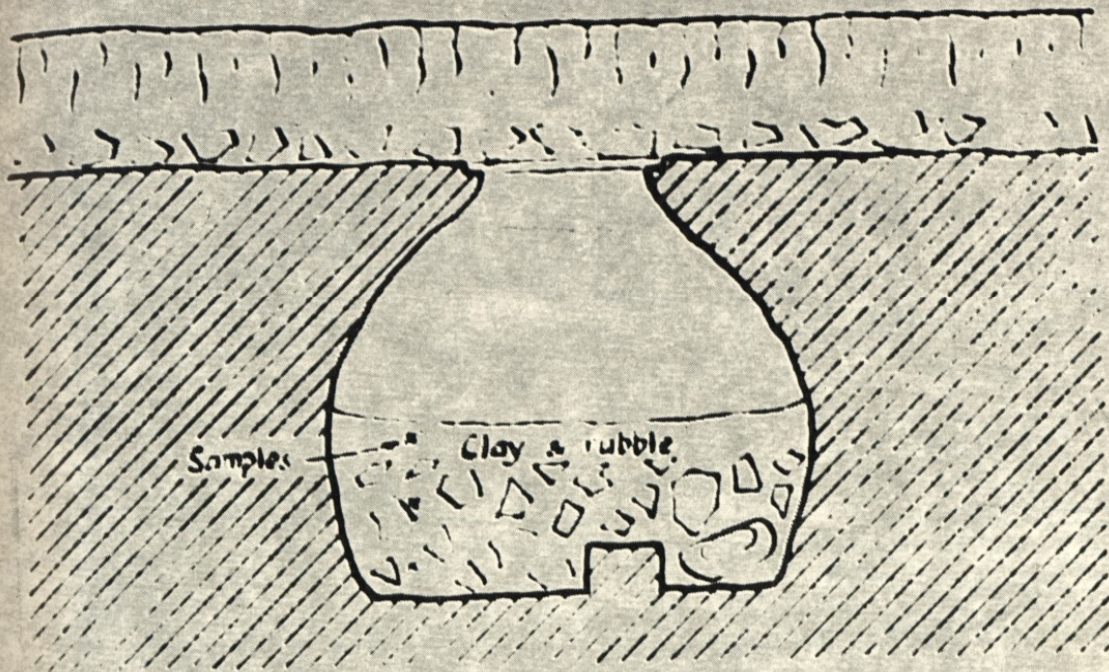
b) The contents of the Tal Horr, Addolorata tomb.



FRANCESCO ZAHRA

c. 1680 — c. 1760

Self-Portrait



IN-NUFFARA, RABAT. GOZO

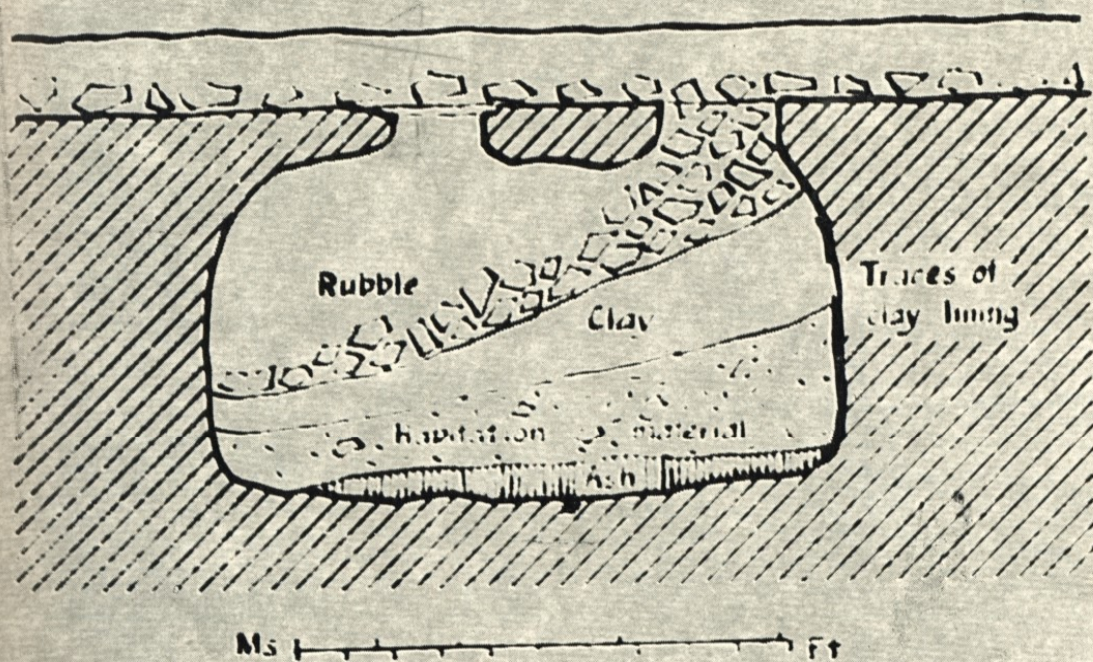


Fig. I. Section of storage pits at Tal Mejtin, Luqa, and In-Nuffara, Rabat, Gozo.

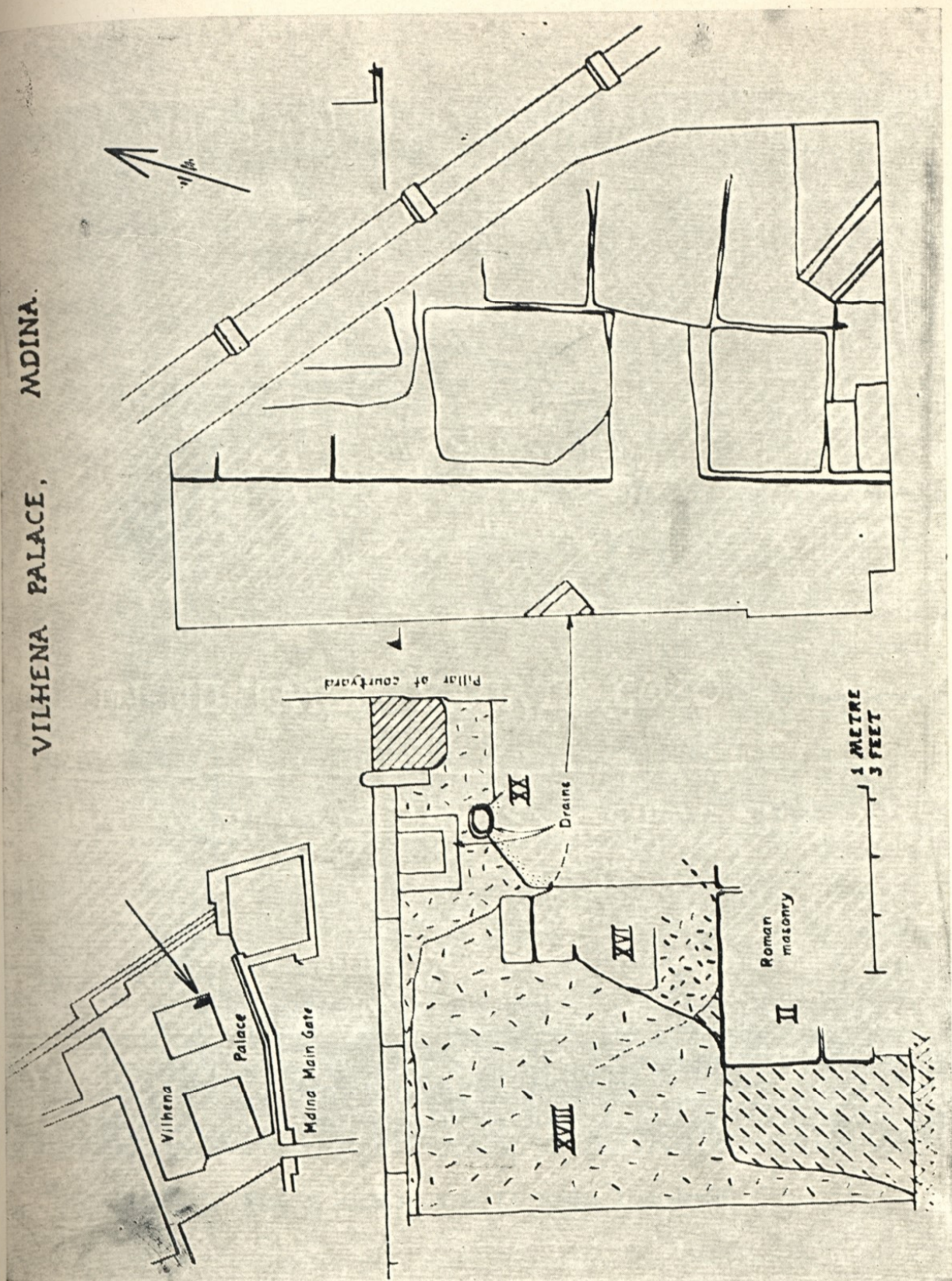


Fig. 2. Site plan, section and plan of excavation at the Vilhena Palace, Mdina.

TA' CIEDA ROUND TOWER

— L'IMSIERAH

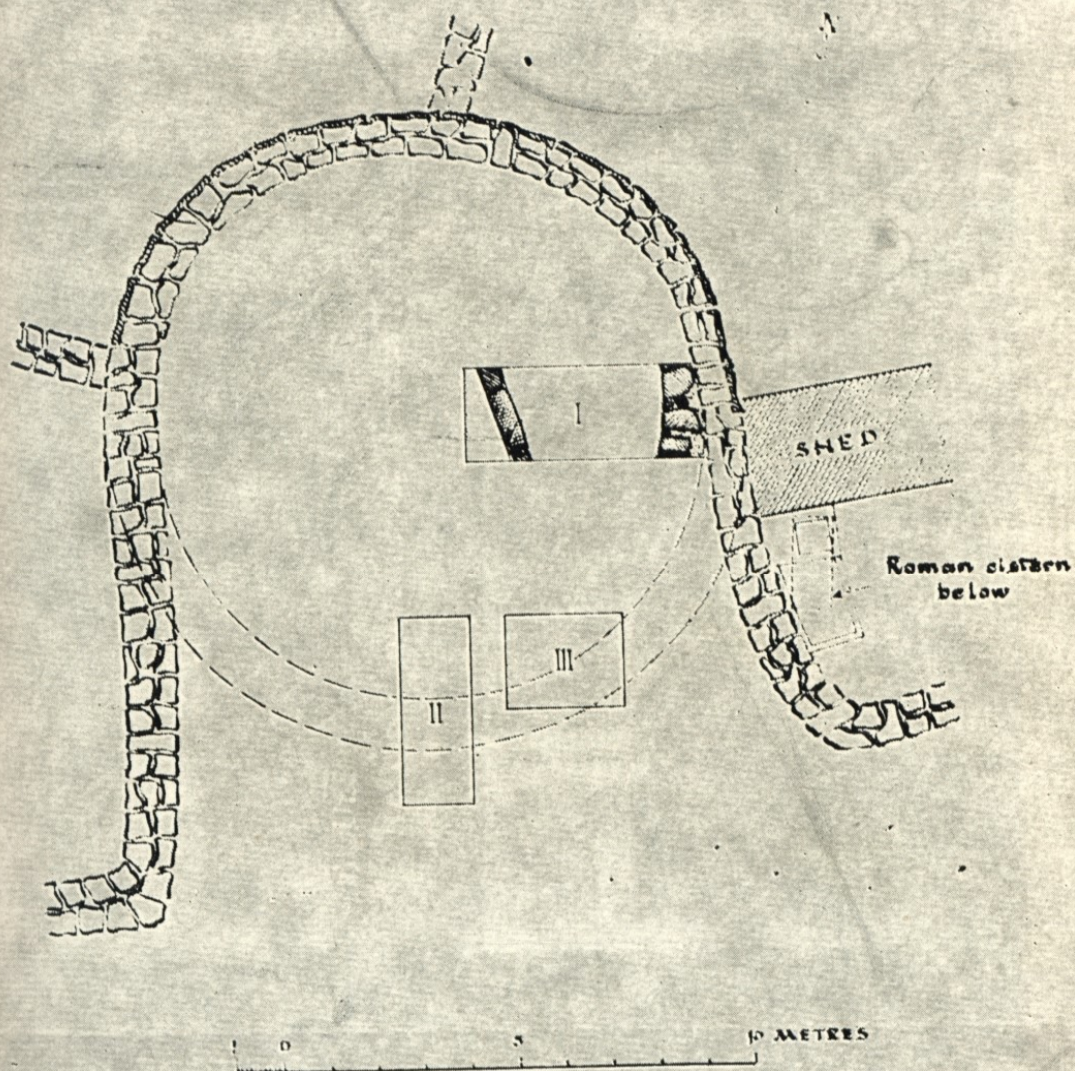


Fig. 3. Plan of excavation at Ta' Cieda, L'Imsherah.

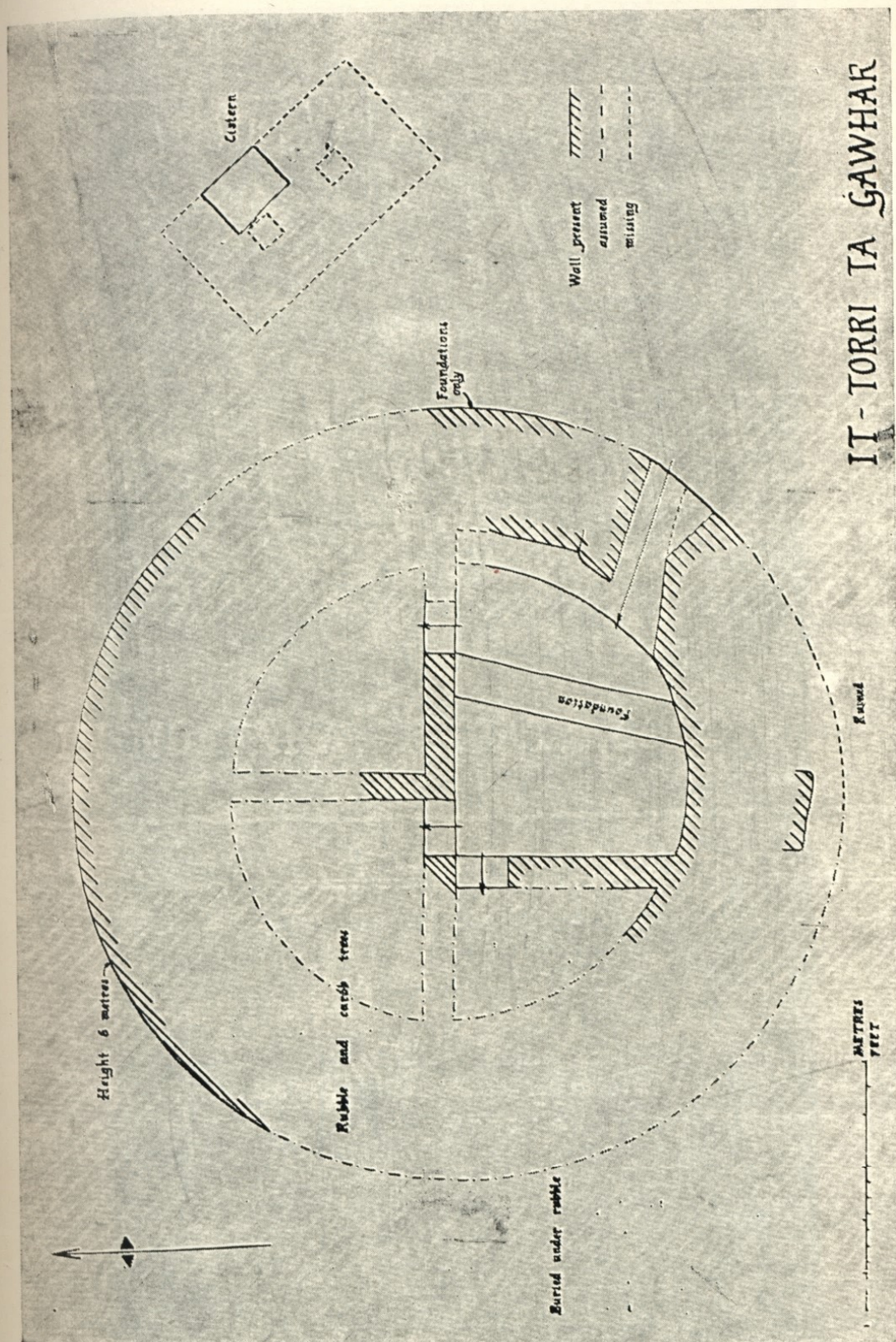


Fig. 4. Plan of excavation at Ta' Ġawhar, Safi.



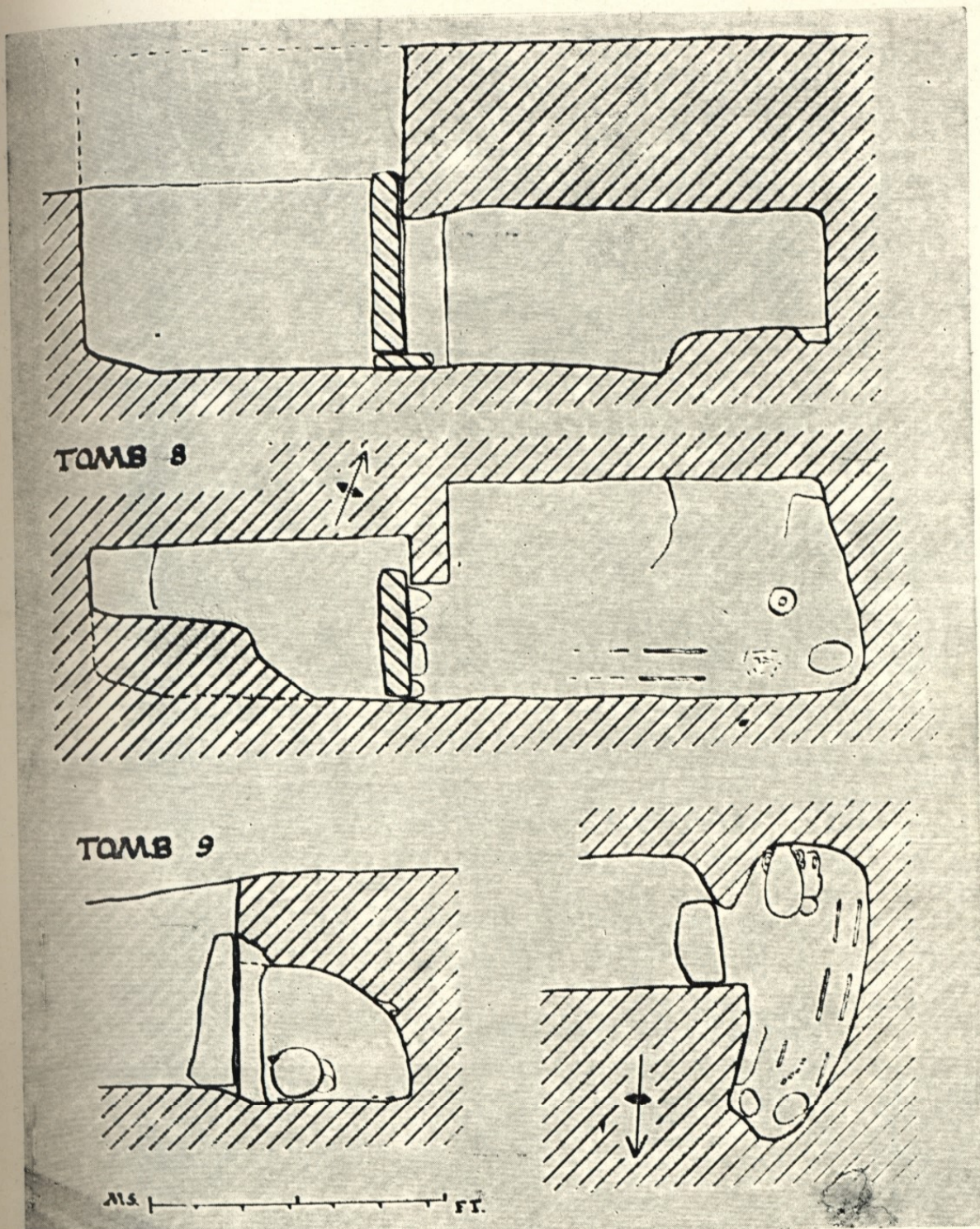


Fig. 6. Plans and sections of Punic tombs at Ghajn Dwieli, Pawla.

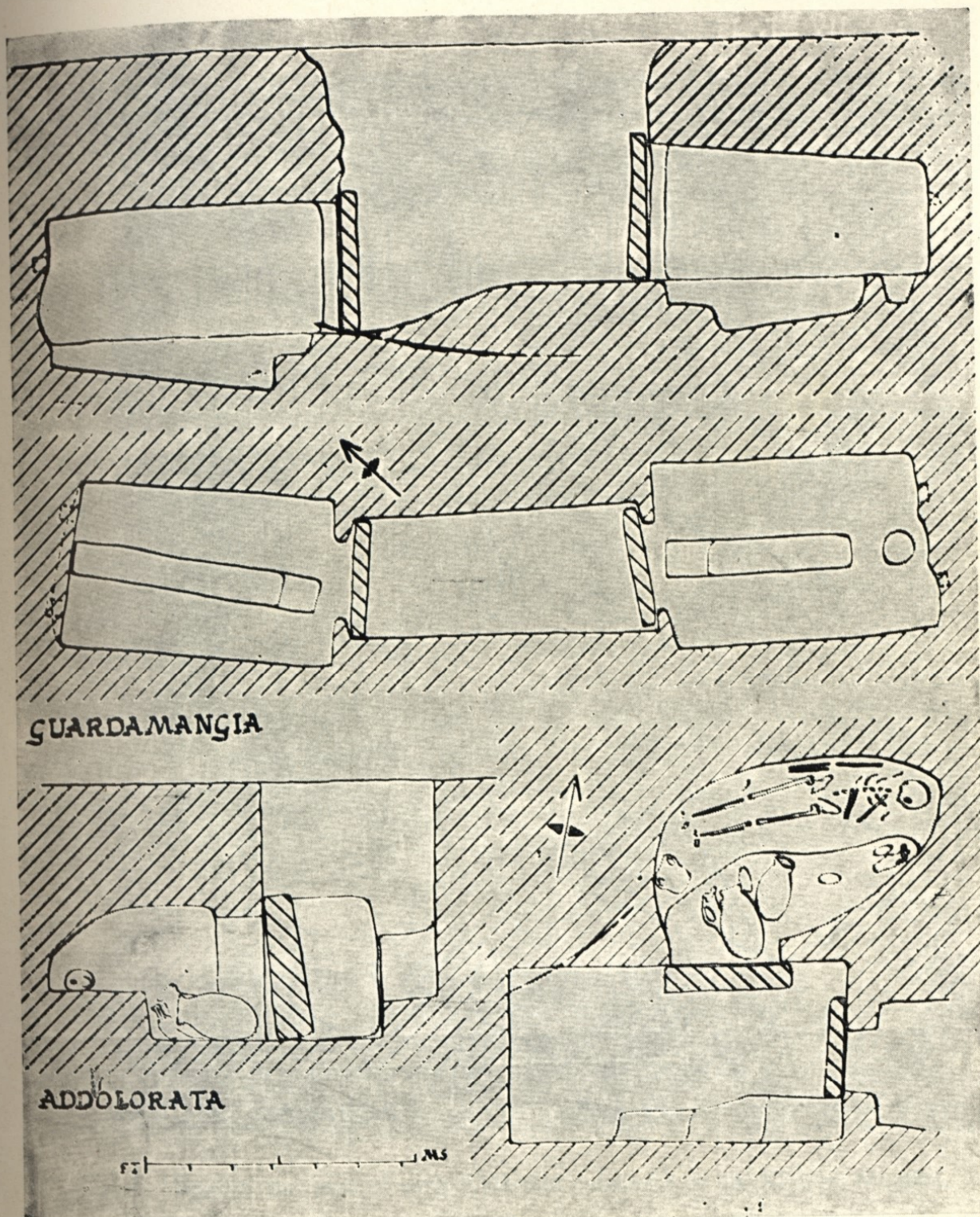


Fig. 7. Plans and sections of Roman and Punic tombs, Gwardamanga, Hamrun, and Tal Horr, Pawla.

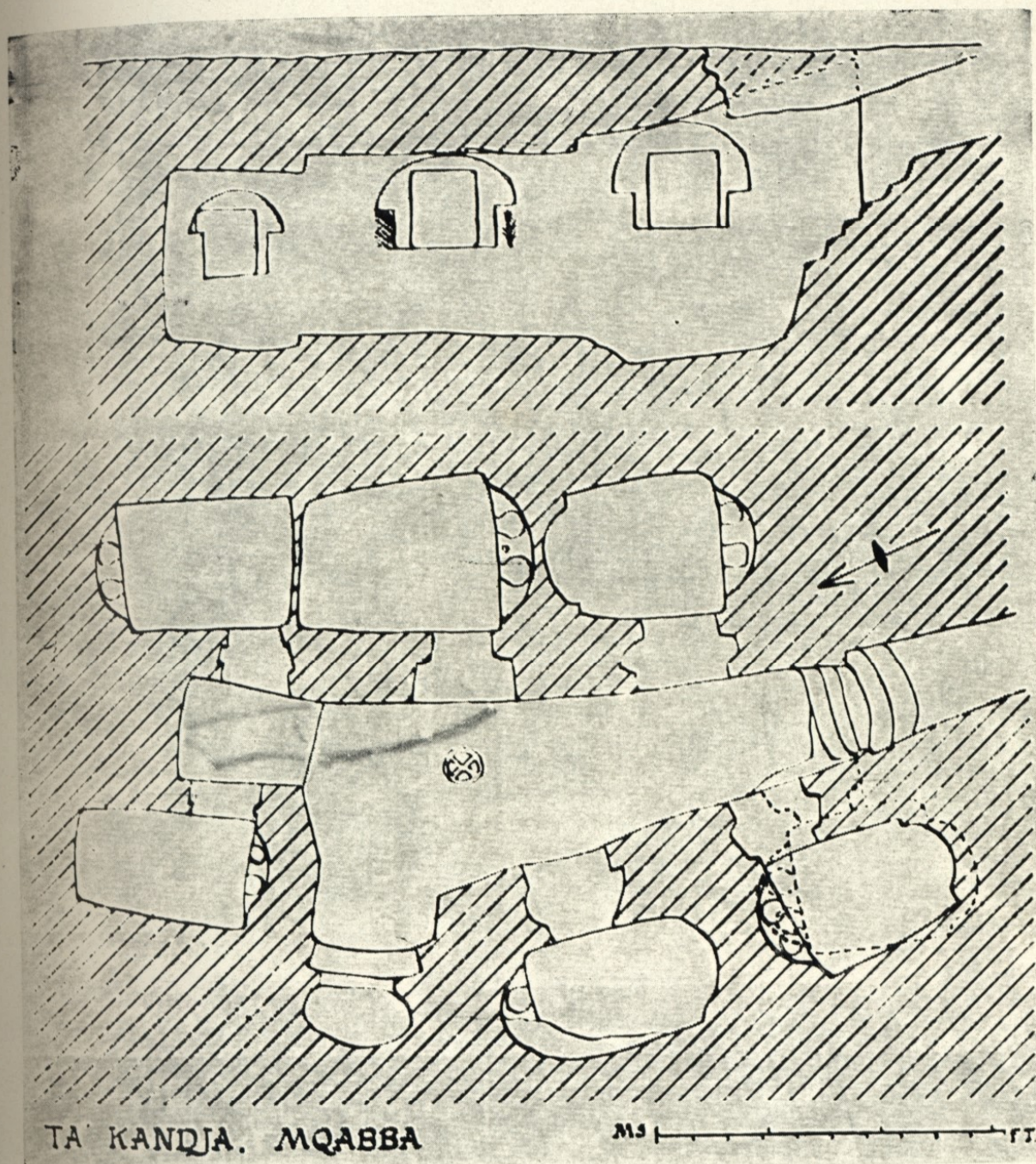


Fig. 8. Section and plan of early Christian catacomb at Ta' Kandja, Mqabba.