



SOVRINTENDENZA
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 0022

Date of Publication 16 December 2011

Updated Version 28 June 2013

Property Name	St Lucian Tower		
Address	Triq il-Qajjenza, Marsaxlokk Bay		
Town Name	Marsaxlokk	Toponym	-
Property Owner	Government	Local Council	Marsaxlokk
Guardianship Deed	-		
	Managing Body	Malta Aquaculture Research Centre	

Period	Modern (17th Century)		
Phase	Early Modern: Knights of St John (17th Century)		
Cultural Heritage Type & Value	Historical Architectural	Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment	Very High
Property Function	Fortification	Conservation Area	AEI/ AHLV

Outline Description	Coastal tower with battery
Property Description	<p>St Lucian tower was one of the coastal fortifications built by Grand Master Alof de Wignacourt in the 1610. The tower was erected on a headland within the inner reaches of M'Xlokk Bay and designed in the form of 'fortino', that is, a small fort-like structure which was strong enough to resist artillery bombardment and stable enough to mount and fire large cannon against approach enemy ships. With its bastioned turrets, this tower was more than a simple lookout post, its massive structures built to dominate the coastline, mounting batteries of heavy artillery on its roof and capable of being garrisoned by sizable detachments of troops in times of war. The tower was built to a square plan with four projecting corner turrets. A semi-circular gun platform was added to the seaward side of the tower in 1715/16. Both the tower and the battery were enclosed within an entrenchment-like enclosure with excavated ditch in 1792, designed by the French military engineer Antoine Etienne de Tousard and the whole complex renamed Fort Rohan in honour of the then reigning Grand Master. The outer enclosure and battery were later demolished and replaced by a new British Victorian coastal fort, renamed Fort St. Lucian (1874-78). The tower itself, without its external flight of steps, was retained as an inner keep but lost its external masonry flight of steps which was employed to provide access to the main entrance on the first floor level of the structure. A marble escutcheon with the arms of Grand Master Alof de Wignacourt and a marble inscription in Latin are affixed above the main entrance.</p>

Scheduled by MEPA	Yes	Degree of Protection	Grade 1	G.N. No.	652	G.N. Date	1994
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Recommended Bibliography	S.C. Spiteri, Fortresses of the Cross (Malta,1994), 481-2 Q. Hughes, Malta, a guide to the fortifications (Malta, 1985), 202-9; Q. Hughes & K. Thake, Malta, The Baroque Island (Malta, 2003), 82
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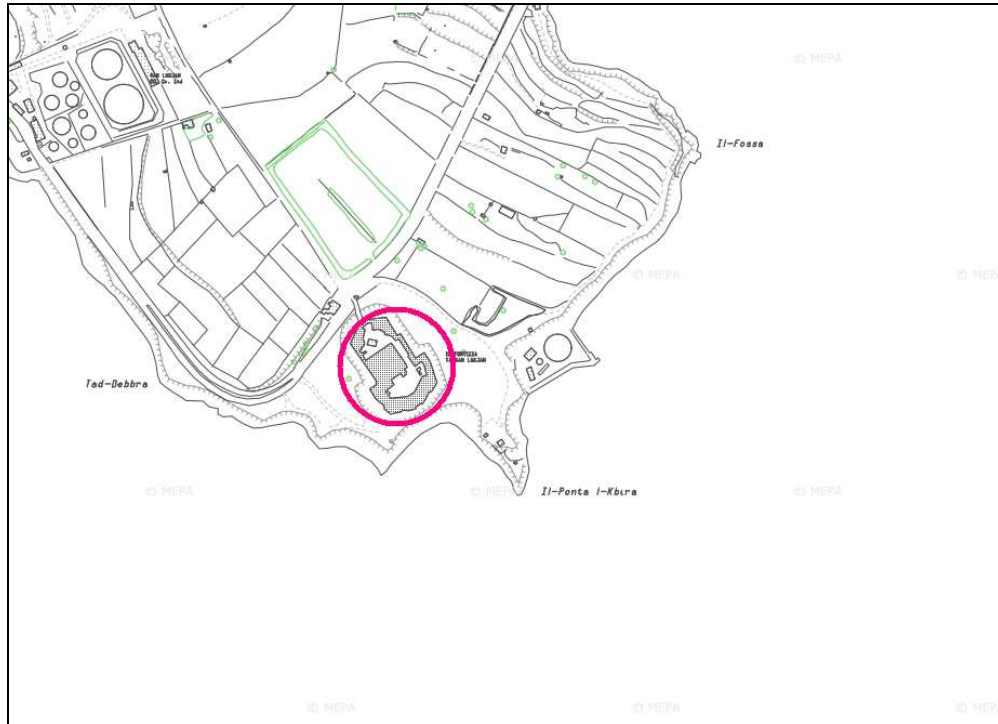
Coordinates : Easting

58000

65462

Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

