



SOVRINTENDENZA  
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI  
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

# National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 0039

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Updated Version 28 June 2013

<b>Property Name</b>	St. Anthony Battery		
<b>Address</b>	Ta' Vardati, Ras il-Qala, Gozo		
<b>Town Name</b>	Qala	<b>Toponym</b>	-
<b>Property Owner</b>	Government	<b>Managing Body</b>	Qala Local Council
<b>Local Council</b>	Qala		
<b>Guardianship Deed</b>	-		

<b>Period</b>	Modern (18th Century)		
<b>Phase</b>	Early Modern: Knights of St John (18th Century)		
<b>Cultural Heritage Type &amp; Value</b>	Historical Architectural	<b>Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment</b>	Very High
<b>Property Function</b>	Fortification	<b>Conservation Area</b>	CO ( 1037/05)

<b>Outline Description</b>	Coastal battery
<b>Property Description</b>	Also known as Ras-il-Qala Battery, Gozo, was built in 1732 by Grand Master Manoel de Vilhena to defend the channel between Gozo and the nearby island of Comino. The structure has a polygonal plan with a demi-hexagonal front, with three batteries of three embrasures each, two short flanks shielded by thick traverses, and a gorge enclosed by a high wall pierced with musketry loopholes and a V-shaped redan, which incorporated the main entrance. A shallow rock-hewn ditch protected the rear landward side of the battery. A central blockhouse (divided into three rooms) occupied the central interior area of the battery. The gun platform still retains its original hardstone paving. The structure has undergone extensive restoration works which have allowed for the reconstruction of its demolished blockhouse (the new structure was based on the layout of the foundations unearthed during excavations) as well as the reconstruction of the arched entrance way and adjoining redan wall. These works were undertaken by Din L-Art Ħelwa in collaboration with the Qala Local Council.

<b>Scheduled by MEPA</b>	Yes	<b>Degree of Protection</b>	Grade 1	<b>G.N. No.</b>	731	<b>G.N. Date</b>	1994
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<b>Recommended Bibliography</b>	S.C. Spiteri, Fortresses of the Cross (Malta,1994), 481-2 S.C.Spiteri, 'Restoration of St Anthony Battery at Ras il-Qala, Gozo' in ARX Vol 8 (2011) , 34-43
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Coordinates : Easting

40162

87980

Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

