



SOVRINTENDENZA
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 0055

Date of Publication 30 March 2012

Updated Version 28 June 2013

Property Name	St Paul Bay Tower and Battery				
Address	Triq San Pawl				
Town Name	St Paul's Bay	Toponym	Wignacourt Tower	Local Council	San Pawl il-Baħar
Property Owner	Government	Managing Body	Din l-Art Helwa		
Guardianship Deed	Din l-Art Hewla - 2003				

Period	Modern (17th Century)				
Phase	Early Modern: Knights of St John (17th Century)				
Cultural Heritage Type & Value	Historical	Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment			
	Architectural				
Property Function	Fortification	Conservation Area	UCA (St Paul's Bay)		

Outline Description	Coastal tower with external battery
Property Description	<p>This is the first of the coastal fortifications built by Grand Master Alof de Wignacourt in 1610. The tower was the smallest of the Wignacourt structures, built to a square plan with four projecting corner turrets. Internally, the tower consisted of two floors, each formed from a barrel-vaulted casemate. Access to the tower was through a small gate opening on the first floor which was served by a masonry flight of steps - this was demolished in the early post war period. A shallow rock-hewn ditch flanked the tower but this has been filled in. The rooms on the turrets on the roof were rebuilt. Internal access to the roof is from the first floor was through a small staircase built into the thickness of the wall of the tower. The present ground floor entrance appears to have been made at a later stage in the life of the tower and may date, at the earliest, to 1715, when the battery was added to the structure. A small Santa Barbara, or artillery room seems to have been located outside the tower adjoining the flight of steps.</p>

Scheduled by MEPA	Yes	Degree of Protection	Grade 1	G.N. No.	729	G.N. Date	1995
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Recommended Bibliography	<p>S.C. Spiteri, Fortresses of the Cross (Malta, 1994), 479-80</p> <p>Q. Hughes, Malta, a guide to the fortifications (Malta, 1985), 278-9; Q. Hughes & K. Thake, Malta, The Baroque Island (Malta, 2003), 81</p>
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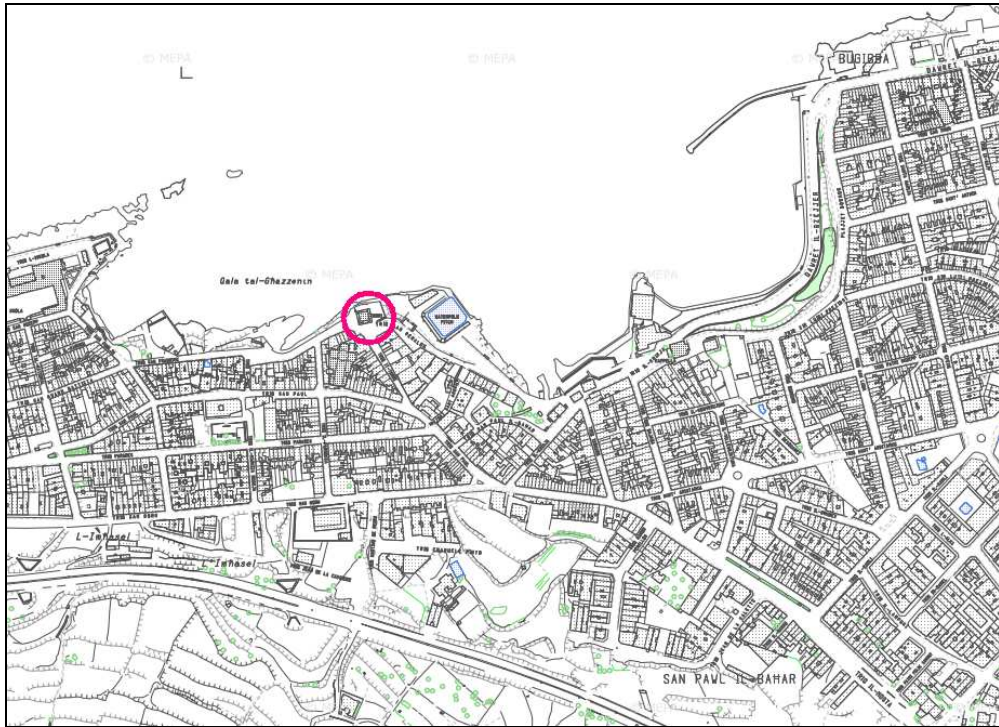
Coordinates : Easting

46212

78725

Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

