



SOVRINTENDENZA
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 01133

Date of Publication 28 December 2012

Property Name	Musueum of Fine Arts		
Address	Triq Nofsinhar		
Town Name	Valletta	Toponym	N/A
Property Owner	Government	Managing Body	Heritage Malta
Local Council	Valletta		
Guardianship Deed	-		

Period	Modern (16th to 20th Century AD)		
Phase	Early Modern: Knights of St John (1530-1798)		
Cultural Heritage Type & Value	Architectural Historical	Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment	Very High
Property Function	Domestic	Conservation Area	UCA

Outline Description	Palace: Knights' Period
Property Description	<p>The palace was built in 1570, and was one of the first buildings to be erected in Valletta. Originally, the palace consisted of two houses - a large house and a smaller one. In 1663 the property was passed onto the Order's Treasury, whereby it continued to serve as a residential building by various knights. The palazzo was restructured as presently-known in 1763 by Fra Raimondo de Sousa y Silva. It is considered to be an important example of the late baroque architecture in Malta, boasting one of the finest main staircases to be seen on the island. The palace is built in the Italiante architectural style having a central courtyard through which the surrounding halls get light and air. Some of the ground floor halls still have their ceiling decorated with late eighteenth century decorative schemes and display works ranging from the 18th century to modern times. Highlights include works by William Turner and Albert Bierstadt. In 1821 the building was leased to the British Navy as the residence of the Admiral, thus became known as the Admiralty House. The palace was restored and inaugurated as the Museum of Fine Arts in 1974.</p>

Scheduled by MEPA	Yes	Degree of Protection	Grade 1	G.N. No.	276	G.N. Date	2008
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Recommended Bibliography	Denaro, V (1963), Melita Historica : Journal of the Malta Historical Society. 3(1963)4(15-32): <i>Yet more Houses in Valletta</i> , Malta: Melita Historica.
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Coordinates : Easting

55764

72973

Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

