SOVRINTENDENZA TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 01134

Date of Publication 28 December 2012

Property Name Grandmaster Palace

Address Triq ir-Repubblika

Town Name Valletta Toponym N/A Local Council Valletta

Property Owner Government Managing Body Heritage Malta

Guardianship Deed -

Type & Value

Period Modern (16th to 20th Century AD)

Phase Early Modern: Knights of St John (1530-1798)

Cultural Heritage
Historical

Cultural Heritage
Property Value

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Assessment

Property Function Social and Communial Conservation Area UCA

Outline Description Grand Master's Palace

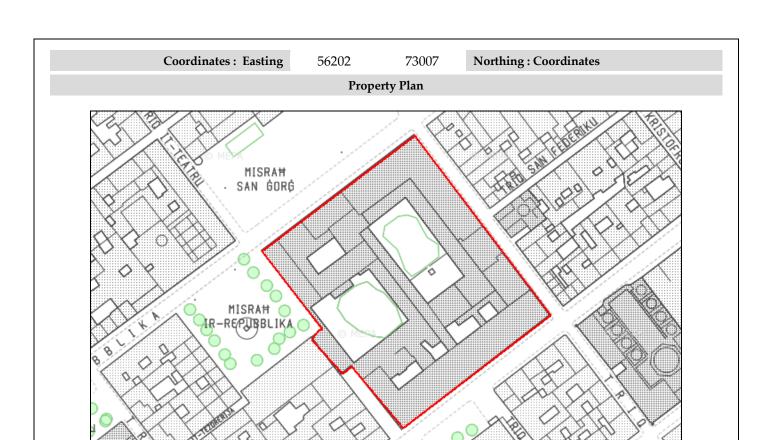
Property Description

Originally built in 1569 and owened by Eustachio del Monte. This palace was bought by the G.M. La Cassier who appointed Girolamo Cassar to enlarge it. The façade, which is typical of Cassar, is simple and austere. It lacks articulation, heavy rustications characterize the corners, and a cornice runs uninterruptedly along the whole corridor. Two magnificent doors were later added to the building and long enclosed wooden balconies were set at each corner of the façade. Subsequent Grand Masters have altered, added to and embellished the palace until the mid-18th century. The palace is thus imposing by its mass, and there is a sense of unity when it comes to the incorporation between the earlier building and the later additions. Nonetheless, the windows are unsymmetrical due to the constructions over a period of years. The palace is built around two courtyards, one which is houses the statue of Naptune designed by Carapecchia. The palace can be accessed either from the main entrance or from a side entrance in Piazza Regina. The interior is highly decorated; the ceilings of the three main corridors of the palace were decorated by Nicolau Nasoni in 1724. The palace currently houses the Office of the President and the Armoury – a museum.

Scheduled by MEPA Yes Degree of Protection Grade 1 G.N. No. 276 G.N. Date 2008

Cilia D & Ellul M, (1991), *Legacy in Stone: the Architecture of the Knights in Malta,* Malta: Miranda Publications.

Recommended Bibliography



Property Images

