



SOVRINTENDENZA  
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI  
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

# National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 01147

Date of Publication 28 December 2012

<b>Property Name</b>	Argotti Gardens		
<b>Address</b>	Argotti Gardens		
<b>Town Name</b>	Floriana	<b>Toponym</b>	N/A
<b>Property Owner</b>	Government	<b>Local Council</b>	Floriana
<b>Guardianship Deed</b>	-		
	<b>Managing Body</b>	University of Malta, Department of Agriculture	

<b>Period</b>	Modern (16th to 20th Century AD)		
<b>Phase</b>	Early Modern: Knights of St John (1530-1798)		
<b>Cultural Heritage Type &amp; Value</b>	Architectural Scientific	<b>Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment</b>	High
<b>Property Function</b>	Decorative	<b>Conservation Area</b>	UCA

<b>Outline Description</b>	Gardens, summer residence, fountains
<b>Property Description</b>	Originally were two private gardens, dating to the early 18th Century - belonging to GM Pinto and Bailiff de Argote et Guzman. Pinto's property was purchased by de Argote in 1730, when the gardens were interconnected and a summer residence built. In the early 1800s, the Gardens were passed onto the University of Malta and used as botanical gardens, as these had replaced Floriana's Mall Gardens. The gardens are divided into two sections: public and private. The private section under the custody of the University, namely The Argotti Herbarium and De Argote's summer residence, has been converted by the University into exhibition hall, museum and visitor's centre. The gardens are characterised by not only a rich collection of trees and shrubs, but have been endowed with a number of fountains and ponds. The nymphaeum bears the coat-of-arms of the Bailiff on the ceiling. This is an ornamental grotto with its interior formerly completely lined with an intricate mosaic pattern formed by rustic rocks, red coral, calcite crystals, sea shells and coloured pebbles. At the back of this grotto, there is a statue of Diana supported by three dolphins. The floor was paved with hand painted majolica tiles that depict the nymphaeum.

<b>Scheduled by MEPA</b>	Yes	<b>Degree of Protection</b>	Grade 1	<b>G.N. No.</b>	1082	<b>G.N. Date</b>	2009
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<b>Recommended Bibliography</b>	Unkown Author, <i>Nymphaeum at Argotti Gardens</i> , Times of Malta, 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2012 <a href="http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20121016/environment/Nymphaeum-at-Argotti-Gardens.441254">http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20121016/environment/Nymphaeum-at-Argotti-Gardens.441254</a>
	Unknown Author, Argotti Botanical Gardens, UOM Events <a href="http://www.um.edu.mt/pressreleases/2005/argotti.html">http://www.um.edu.mt/pressreleases/2005/argotti.html</a>

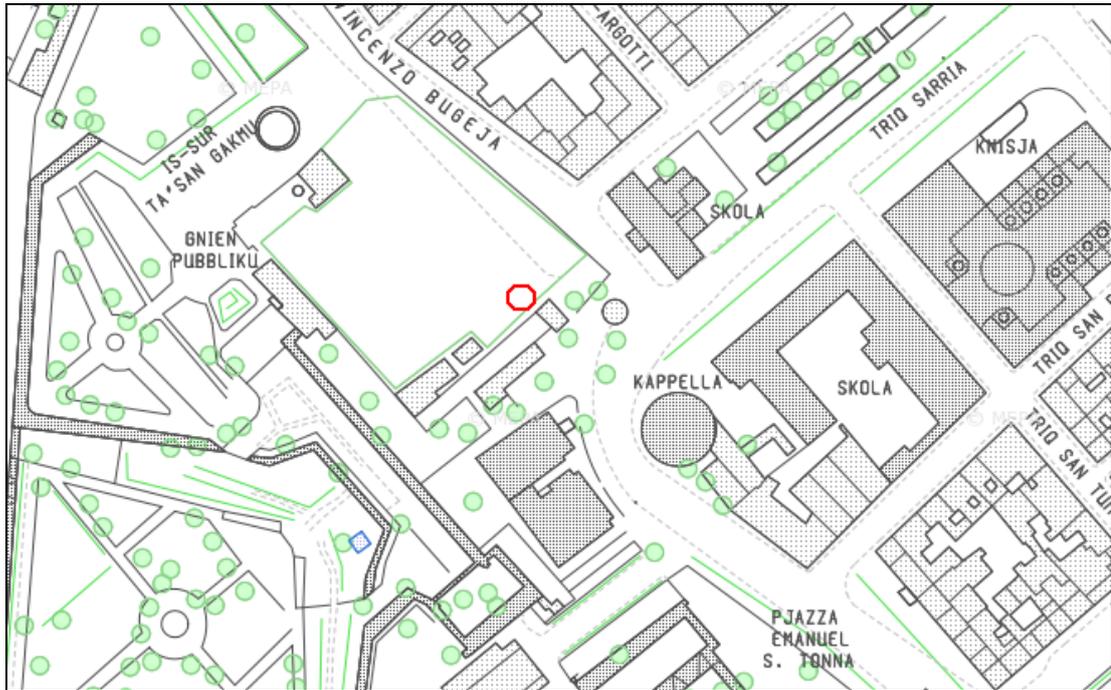
Coordinates : Easting

55223

72309

Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

