



SOVRINTENDENZA
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 1588

Date of Publication 28 June 2013

Property Name	English Curtain - Valletta		
Address	Marsamxett Street		
Town Name	Valletta	Toponym	- Local Council Valletta
Property Owner	Government	Managing Body	Various
Guardianship Deed	-		

Period Modern (16th to 18th Century AD)

Phase Early Modern: Knights of St John (16th Century)

Cultural Heritage
Type & Value
Historical
Architectural

Cultural Heritage
Property Value
Assessment
Outstanding

Property Function Fortification

Conservation Area UCA (Valletta)

Outline Description Curtain

Property Description A long straight curtain wall which together with the adjoining French curtain formed a tenaille trace. The curtain has a sally-port (Jews Sally port) which was much smaller than the present arched opening, itself the product of British military alterations in the course of the nineteenth century when the postern was enlarged and fitted with a loopholed folding armoured gate that can still be seen on site in the folded position. The rocky base of the bastion is riddled with openings to WWII civilian air raid shelters. The left end of the curtain contained a large battery intended to command the entrance to Marsamxett harbour. This had many embrasures and was later fitted with traverses during the British period before they were all swept away to make room for a concrete gun emplacement and fire control tower for a twin 6-pdr gun. A cylindrical echaulette with domed roof (a reconstruction) occupies the re-entrant angle.

Scheduled by MEPA Yes Degree of Protection Grade 1 G.N. No. 133 G.N. Date 2001

Recommended
Bibliography

S.C. Spiteri, Fortresses of the Knights (Malta, 2001), 268-80

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Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

