

NICPMI Inv. No. 1655

Date of Publication 28 June 2013

Property Name	Fort Ricasoli				
Address	Fort Ricasoli				
Town Name	Kalkara	Toponym		Local Council	Kalkara
Property Owner	Government	Managing Body	Various		
Guardianship Deed					

Period	Modern (17th to 18th Century AD)		
Phase	Early Modern: Knights of St John (17th Century)		
Cultural Heritage Type & Value	Historical	Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment	Outstanding
	Architectural		
	Technical		
Property Function	Fortification	Conservation Area	

Outline Description	Bastioned coastal fort
Property Description	<p>Fort Ricasoli was begun in 1670 as part of a larger master scheme for the defence of Valletta and its harbours designed by the Italian military engineer Antonio Maurizio Valperga. It was the last fort built by the Knights of the Order of St John for the protection of the Grand Harbour. Fort Ricasoli was designed largely to secure the promontory known as Gallows Point, at the entrance into the Grand Harbour. The fort is named after the knight Frà Giovanni Francesco Ricasoli who financed a large part of the project. During the eighteenth century the knights invested considerable efforts in upgrading and completing the outworks of the fort, fitting them with a covertway and a heavily countermined glacis. The British immediately appreciated the importance of the fort and duly armed it strongly. Early during the first decade of British presence in Malta, Fort Ricasoli was the scene of ferocious mutiny by a regiment of foreign troops, the Froberg Regiment, as a result of which a considerable section of the fort's land front (St Dominic Demi-bastion) was demolished when the mutineers blew up the main powder magazine. This demolished bastion was not reconstructed. Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the seaward bastions of the fort underwent considerable modifications to accommodate a succession of coastal guns and their emplacements. Structurally the fort consists of three distinct elements. (i) the bastioned land front with its ravelins, ditch, outworks, covertway and glacis; (ii) the sea front with its enceinte of combined bastions and artillery platforms and (iii) the harbour tenaille trace with the main gateway.</p>

Scheduled by MEPA	Yes	Degree of Protection	Grade 1	G.N. No.	133	G.N. Date	2001
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Recommended Bibliography	<p>S.C. Spiteri, Fortresses of the Knights (Malta, 2001), 301-5</p> <p>Hoppen, The Fortification of Malta by the Order of St John 1530-1798 (2nd Edition, Malta, 1999), 46, 71, 91, 97, 108, 111, 133, 134, 139, 143, 148-65</p> <p>Q. Hughes, Malta, a guide to the fortifications (Malta, 1985) 169-783</p>
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Coordinates : Easting

57333

72774

Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

