



SOVRINTENDENZA
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 01140

Date of Publication 28 December 2012

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|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Property Name | Manoel Theatre | | |
| Address | Theatre Street | | |
| Town Name | Valletta | Toponym | N/A |
| Property Owner | Private | Managing Body | Committee of Teatru Manoel |
| Local Council | Valletta | | |
| Guardianship Deed | - | | |

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|---|--|--|-----------|
| 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 | Social and Communal | Conservation Area | UCA |

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| Outline Description | Public Theatre |
| Property Description | Commissioned and paid for by GM de Vilhena, the theatre, possibly designed by Carapecchia, was constructed by Francesco Zerafa and Antonio Azzopardi. The building has a plain façade on three floors with a mezzanine above the ground floor. The Mannerist façade consists of a portal surmounted by a stone balustraded open balcony supported by three heavy scroll corbels. The interior is richly decorated in Rococo style. The auditorium, originally planned in the form of a semi-circle with straight sides, was remodelled in 1783 and again in 1844, and remodelled to have an oval shape; in 1812 the gallery and proscenium were added, the ceiling was raised by one storey, and eight more boxes were added. The interior was restored in 1950. Further alterations were made in 1844, when the panels on the wooden boxes repainted and gilded. Another stratum of silver leaf was added to the panels and ceiling in 1906. In 2004, the interior of the auditorium was restored by a team of Sante Guido Restauro e Conservazione di Opere d Arte who unearthed paintings that, could serve to increase the knowledge and the understanding as to how the theatre developed over the centuries. |

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| Scheduled by MEPA | Yes | Degree of Protection | Grade 1 | G.N. No. | 276 | G.N. Date | 2008 |
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| Recommended Bibliography | Cilia D & Ellul M, (1991), <i>Legacy in Stone: the Architecture of the Knights in Malta</i> , Malta: Miranda Publications. |
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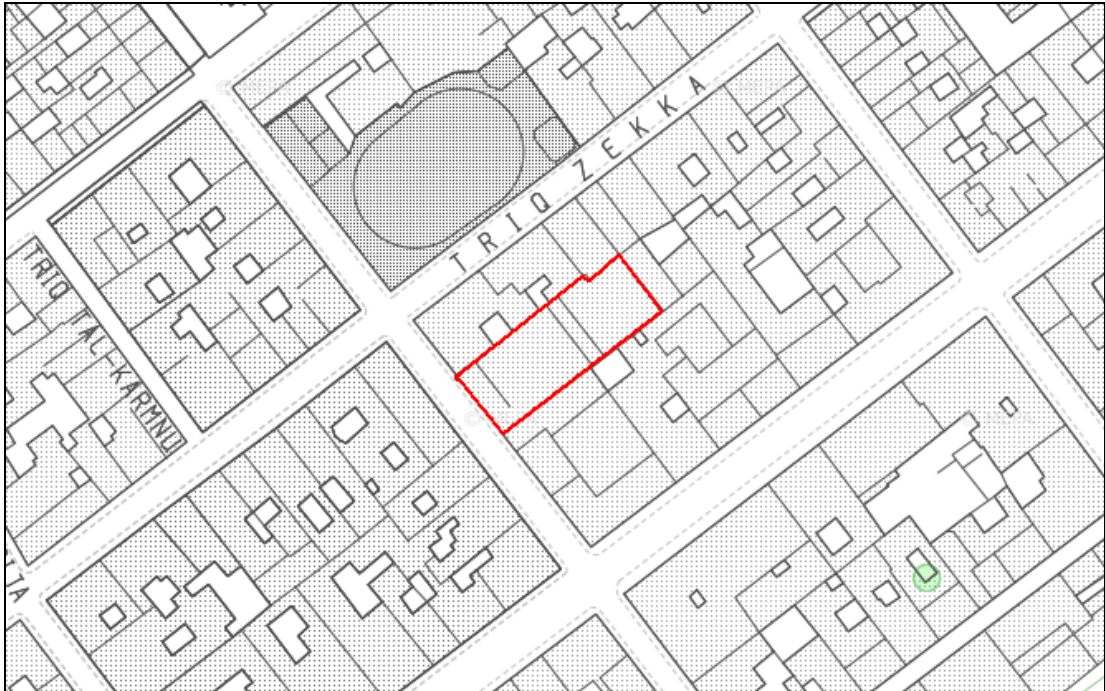
Coordinates : Easting

56065

73153

Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

