SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

$N_{ational}\ I_{nventory}\ { m of}\ { m the}\ C_{ultural}\ P_{roperty}\ { m of}\ { m the}\ M_{altese}\ I_{slands}$

NICPMI Inv. No. 00034 **Date of Publication** 30 March 2012

Property Name Qalet Marku Tower

> Address N/A

Local Council Naxxar Town Name Naxxar Toponym N/A

Property Owner Government Managing Body Din L-Art Ħelwa

Guardianship Deed

Type & Value

Period Modern (16th to 20th Century AD)

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

Architectural **Cultural Heritage** Historical

Cultural Heritage Property Value Very High Assessment

Fortification **Property Function Conservation Area** Not Available

Outline Description

The tower is one of a series of watch towers built during the reign of Grandmaster de Redin.

Property Description

The Qalet Marku Tower is also known as St Mark's Tower and stands on Qrejten Point on the north east shore of Malta.

The tower is one of a series of thirteen fortified towers, built between 1658 and 1659, under Grand Master Martin de Redin.

These towers were strong enough to withstand attack and functioned as watch towers against corsair incursions. Each tower was also within sight of its neighbours, creating a visual communication link between Gozo and the Grand Harbour. Most of the towers were built to a standard design, being fireproof structures, square in plan with two storeys. The doorway was generally set in the upper storey for greater security and was accessible via a rope or wooden ladder. An internal spiral staircase led to a flat roof surrounded by a parapet wall with gun embrasures.

Scheduled by MEPA

Degree of Protection

Grade 1

G.N. No. 729

G.N. Date 1995

Spiteri, S.C. (2001) Fortresses of the Knights, Malta: Book Distributors Ltd.

Recommended **Bibliography**

Spiteri. S.C. (2008) The Art of fortress building in Hospitaller Malta, Malta: Book Distributors Ltd.

Spiteri, S.C. (1994) Fortresses of the Cross, Hospitaller Military Architecture (1136-1798), Malta: Heritage Interpretation Services.

Coordinates: Easting 50749 78349 Northing: Coordinates

Property Plan

Property Images

