SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

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

NICPMI Inv. No. 1508 **Date of Publication** 28 June 2013

Property Name	St John Bastion - Birgu
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Triq il-Mina l-Kbira, Birgu Address

Local Council Birgu **Town Name** Birgu **Toponym**

Property Owner Government **Managing Body** Various

Guardianship Deed

Period Modern (16th to 18th Century AD)

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

Historical Cultural Heritage **Cultural Heritage** Architectural Type & Value

Property Value Outstanding Assessment

Fortification **Property Function** Conservation Area UCA (Birgu)

Outline Description Bastion

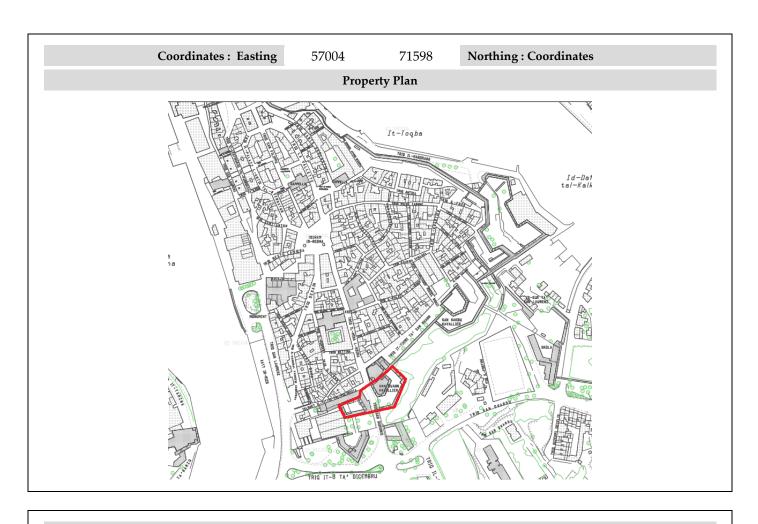
Property Description

St John Bastion is an asymmetrical bastion with an attached lower courtyard in the form of a faussebraye. The Bastion has casemated batteries in the both flanks and two gateways - an Advanced Gate, set in the right face of the bastion, and a Main Mate, the Porta Superiore as it was called, set in the inner flank. This was originally fronted by a drop ditch, now filled in. The main gate had its corpo the guardia. The two gateways are both Baroque portals designed by the French Military engineer Charles Francois de Mondion. The bastion has four embrasures in the parapet on the inner right flank, and another four (one of which is blocked up) on the left flank. Two embrasures are located on the parapet in the lower outer flank. A sally-port is situated at the base of the left flank. The bastion was cut open along its upper right face to allow for the passage of a vehicular road. This cutting was arched over in the course of restoration works undertaken by the Restoration Directorate as part of the ERDF project (2007-2013).

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

S.C. Spiteri, Fortresses of the Knights (Malta, 2001), 244-51

Recommended **Bibliography**



Property Images



