



SOVRINTENDENZA
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 00516

Date of Publication 27 August 2012

Property Name	Church of the Madonna of Liesse (tal-Ferh)		
Address	Between Victoria Gate and the tunnel of Liesse		
Town Name	Valletta	Toponym	-
Property Owner	Government	Managing Body	-
Guardianship Deed	-		
Local Council	Valletta		

Period	Modern (16th to 20th Century AD)		
Phase	Early Modern: Knights of St John (1530-1798)		
Cultural Heritage Type & Value	Architectural Artistic Historical	Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment	Very High
Property Function	Religious	Conservation Area	-

Outline Description	This church, situated not far from the Custom House, has enjoyed great veneration by the people of the port area.
Property Description	It was built in 1620 by Fra Giacomo De Chess du Bellay, Bailiff of Armenia. The ceremony of the laying of the first stone, which took place on the 21st November of that year, was attended by the Grand Master, Alof de Wignacourt, the Grand Prior Urrea de Camarasa, and many of the Knights of the Order, including the founder. The Ta' Liesse church was rebuilt in 1740 by the Langue of France, and blessed by Monsignor Rull, Grand Prior of the Order. It was solemnly consecrated by Bishop Labini on the 23rd November, 1860. The main painting referring to the story of the three Knights and the Madonna Ta' Liesse is the work of Enrico Arnaux. Stored in the chapel were the remains of the body of St. Generoso, martyr, which was transferred from Fort Manuel. Inside a niche, there is a statue of the Virgin which was brought over from Fort St. Elmo where it used to be kept during the time of the Knights. In 1942 the church was hit by German bombs and was severely damaged and had to be closed down until it was repaired and reopened on 21st February, 1952. On 15th September, 1961 the church was given to the Apostolate of the Sea.

Scheduled by MEPA	Yes	Degree of Protection	Grade 1	G.N. No.	0276	G.N. Date	2008
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Recommended Bibliography	Anon., <i>Chapels information Malta and Gozo</i> , St. Gabriel Band Club Balzan accessed 1 August 2012 < http://www.stgabrielbandclub.com/chapel's_information.htm >
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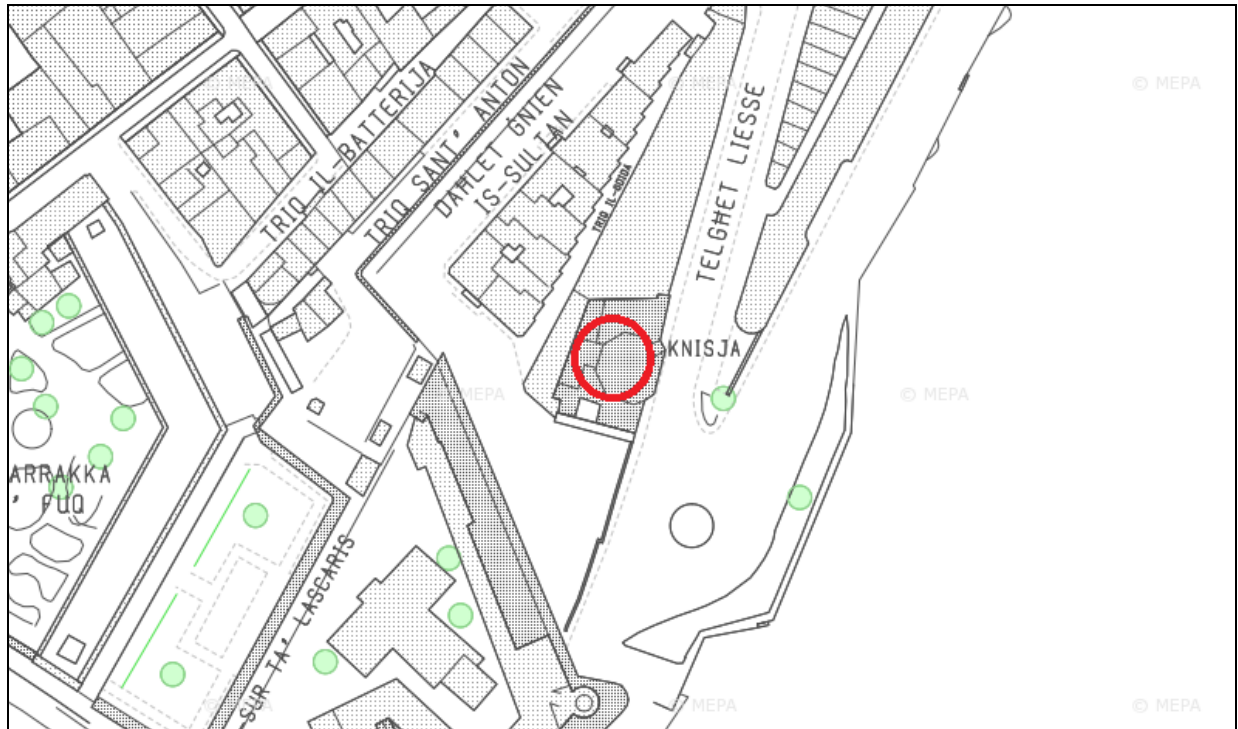
Coordinates : Easting

56138

72616

Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

