



SOVRINTENDENZA
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 1385

Date of Publication 28 June 2013

Property Name	Rihama Battery		
Address	Tal-Munxar, St Thomas Bay		
Town Name	Marsascala	Toponym	Local Council Marsakala
Property Owner	Government	Managing Body	Ghaqda Bajja San Tumas
Guardianship Deed			

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

Outline Description	Coastal Battery
Property Description	<p>Also known as Ducluseaux or Tal-Francis. Rihama Battery was one of the original group of coastal fortifications erected by the knights of St John in the years 1714-16. The structure originally consisted of a pentagonal platform with a large rectangular blockhouse sealing off the gorge. Today the structure is missing its left face, which collapsed over time into the sea. The blockhouse itself originally had a V-shaped redan protecting its entrance (now missing) and a drop-ditch. This was one of the largest blockhouses constructed in a Hospitaller coastal battery and consists of three rooms, a large central one for the accommodation of troops, with two smaller ones on the sides serving for the storage of gunpowder and victuals; in all the blockhouse's roof was supported on 17 diaphragm arches and two cross-walls. The blockhouse has its own cistern cut out into the rock immediately underneath the floor of the building. There was one main entrance from the exterior and a corresponding opening leading out onto the battery platform. Each of the two side rooms had a door opening to the gun platform while the central room also had two windows, likewise opening onto the battery. Various 19th and early twentieth century alterations were made to the blockhouse.</p>

Scheduled by MEPA	Yes	Degree of Protection	Grade 1	G.N. No.	729	G.N. Date	1995
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Recommended Bibliography	<p>S.C. Spiteri, Fortresses of the Cross (Malta, 1994), 530</p> <p>S.C. Spiteri, 'Campaigning for Rihama Battery' in MilitaryArchitecture.com at http://www.militaryarchitecture.com/index.php/Conservation/campaigning-for-rihama-battery.html</p>
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Coordinates : Easting

60830

6577

Northing : Coordinates

Property Plan



Property Images

