## SOVRINTENDENZA TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

## National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 01126

Date of Publication 28 December 2012

Property Name Municipal Palace/ Banca Guratale

Address Triq il-Merkanti

Town Name Valletta Toponym N/A Local Council Valletta

Property Owner Government Managing Body 
Guardianship Deed -

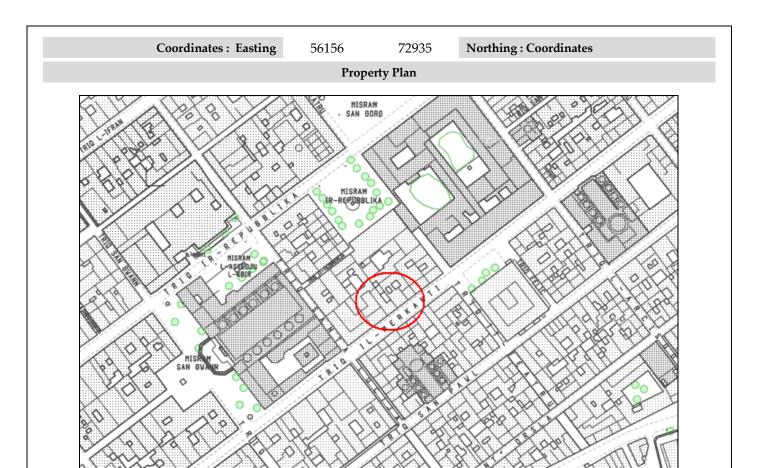
Period Modern (16th to 20th Century AD) Phase Early Modern: Knights of St John (1530-1798) Architectural Cultural Heritage **Cultural Heritage** Historical **Property Value** Very High Type & Value Assessment Domestic **Property Function Conservation Area** UCA

Outline Description Palace: Knights' Period

**Property Description** 

This palace is one of the few non-ecclesiastical buildings designed by Romano Carapecchia. Originally, the building was intended to be the administrative quarters of the Università. The building was reconstructed and embellished by Zondadari in 1721, an event which is commemorated by a tablet above the main door. The façade of this building is considered to be one of the first Baroque examples of public palaces to be built in Valletta. The façade is distinguished by its clear horizontal articulation; the main entrance is in the form of an arcade flanked by Doric columns elevated on bases supporting an open balcony. On either side of the main portal, there are two arcades with square-headed doors with oval windows above them set underblind arches with a decorative keystone – these openings are used as botteghe. The upper level contains a rectangular windows with ornate pediments with intricate carved decorations, above each archway on the ground floor. The palace is endowed with a scrolled centrepiece containing stone carved drapery and figures, and carved corbels supporting the main cornice, where the commemoration tablet along with a bust, and 2 coat-of-arms are set.

Scheduled by MEPA	Yes Degree of Protection Grade 1 G.N. No. 276 G.N. Date 2008
Recommended Bibliography	Unkown Author, One World - Protecting the most significant buildings, monuments and features of Valletta (59): The Banca Giuratale, Times of Malta, 13th December



## **Property Images**

