## SOVRINTENDENZA TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

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

NICPMI Inv. No. 00980

Date of Publication 27 August 2012

<b>Property Name</b>	Chapel Madonna taz-Zejt				
Address	Triq San Pietru				
Town Name	Gharb	Toponym	Tal-Virtu`	<b>Local Council</b>	Gharb
<b>Property Owner</b>	Religious	<b>Managing Body</b>	Archidioceses		
Guardianship Deed	No				

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

Outline Description

A 17th century chapel which used to function as the Parish Church of Gharb but along the passage of time, the population increased thus, the need for a bigger and reachable church was needed. The name of the chapel is related to a legend.

**Property Description** 

Prior to this church, there was another chapel which had the same dedication. The first mention of the chapel dates back to Duzina round about the year 1675. This chapel also served as the parish church (1679- 1729) when the present parish church was built.

The elevation is framed by a pair of pilasters that rise full height and support a deep entablature and cornice. Above the cornice the elevation sweeps up to a triangular pediment. Between the cornice and the pediment is an arched headed alcove which may once have accommodated a bell, but the bells are now hung in a separate campanile which is located at the end of the left side of the chapel.

The main door is located in the centre of the façade, with a moulded stone surround and a segmental pediment over. Above the door is a single window, again with a raised stone surround and a slightly arched head.

The composition of the front elevation of this chapel share stylistic similarity with the chapel of Our Lady Mount Carmel at Xlendi. The chapel at Xlendi also dates from the 17th century. Today, the chapel is incorporated within the cemetery.

Scheduled by MEPA	No Degree of Protection - G.N. No G.N. Date -
Recommended Bibliography	Grech, P., (1999), <i>Exploring The Chapels of Gozo</i> : Malta: Progress Press Co. Ltd Valletta Brincat, J & Busutill, R., <i>Il-Knisja tal-Visitazzjoni (Taz-zejt), Kappelli Maltin</i> , accessed 10 August 2012 <a href="http://www.kappellimaltin.com/html/taz-zejtgharb.html">http://www.kappellimaltin.com/html/taz-zejtgharb.html</a>





