SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

${f N}$ ational ${f I}$ nventory of the ${f C}$ ultural ${f P}$ roperty of the ${f M}$ altese ${f I}$ slands

NICPMI Inv. No. 00486 Date of Publication 27 August 2012

Property Name Chapel of Santa Marija tal-Hlas

> **Address** Triq tal-Hlas

Town Name Ħal Qormi **Toponym** Tal-Hlas Local Council Ħal Oormi

Property Owner Religious **Managing Body** St George Parish

Guardianship Deed

Period Modern (16th to 20th Century AD)

Phase Early Modern: Knights of St John (1530-1798)

Artistic **Cultural Heritage** Historical Type & Value

Social

Religious **Property Function Conservation Area**

Outline Description Chapel of Santa Marija tal-Hlas

Property Description

Chapel of Santa Marija tal-Hlas (Madonna of the Delivery) built on the design of Lorenzo Gafa in 1690 replacing another one dating to 1560. In the earthquake of 1693, the building was severely damaged, and was later restored with the collaboration of the Zebbug and Qormi parishes. It was dedicated to the Madonna della Liberta, to whom there was a devotion as thanksgiving for freedom from the Ottoman slavery. It was also venerated by Maltese women who used to go to the church before or after giving birth. In the sacristy there are a number of ex-voto paintings. Paintings in the interior include works by Francesco Zahra dating to 1773. The covered parvis has a number of benches used for the rest of pilgrims. Opposite the chapel is a cemetery.

Cultural Heritage

Property Value

Assessment

High

Scheduled by MEPA No **Degree of Protection** G.N. No. G.N. Date

Recommended **Bibliography** Bianchi, C., Mizzi., P, 'Wayside Chapels: Tal-Hlas in Qormi', in Heritage No 57: 1129-1136.



