# National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

## Property Name
- Ġgantija Temples

## Address
- Triq l-Imqades

## Town Name
- Xaghra

## Toponym
- N/A

## Local Council
- Xaghra

## Property Owner
- Government

## Managing Body
- Heritage Malta

## Guardianship Deed
- No

## Period
- Prehistory (6th Millenium - 9th Century BC)

## Phase
- Neolithic: Għar Dalam (5000 - 4300 BC)

## Cultural Heritage Type & Value
- Archaeological
- Architectural

## Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment
- Outstanding

## Conservation Area
- AAI

## Outline Description
The Ġgantija Temples are a World Heritage Site.

## Property Description
Examination on this site started in 1827 under Col. Otto Beyer. Archaeological excavation revealed two temples. The two temples are built side by side, enclosed within a single massive boundary wall and opening onto a common forecourt. Both temples have a neat, uncluttered plan. The Southern temple is made up of 5 apses connected by a central corridor. It seems that it has been the most important because it is larger, has richer furnishings and is older as sherds from its wall-fillings showed. The other temple is smaller and plainer in appearance. Its plan consists of 4 apses and a niche. These temples were used for ritual purposes as some features shows. Of particular significance are the prehistoric artefacts found on site, including two stones heads, a snake relief and a phallic symbol. These are preserved at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology. The Ġgantija Temples remained in use for about a thousand years after which where later used as cremation site by the Bronze Age inhabitants.

## Scheduled by MEPA
- Yes

## Degree of Protection
- Class A

## G.N. No.
- 0588

## G.N. Date
- 1994

## Recommended Bibliography
Coordinates: Easting 34213, Northing 89634

Property Plan

Property Images