The National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

**Property Name:** San Pawl Milqi

**Address:** N/A

**Town Name:** San Pawl il-Baħar

**Toponym:** Burmarrad

**Local Council:** San Pawl il-Baħar

**Property Owner:** Government

**Managing Body:** Heritage Malta

**Guardianship Deed:** No

**Period:** Classical (8th Century BC to 5th Century AD)

**Phase:**

**Cultural Heritage Type & Value:** Archaeological

**Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment:** High

**Property Function:** Domestic

**Conservation Area:** SAI

**Outline Description:** The Roman villa at San Pawl Milqi was discovered in 1879. The site includes structural remains of a residential and agricultural use. Rock-cut tombs, one Neolithic and two other Punic are also found in the area.

**Property Description:** The remains of a Roman villa in the area of San Pawl Milqi are found at a short distance from the Burmarrad Church. The site is located at a height of 40 metres above sea level and overlooks Salina Bay to the northeast. The site was first investigated by A.A. Caruana in 1879. Extensive excavation campaigns were carried out by the Missione Archaeologica Italiana between 1963 and 1970. The Roman villa was built at the end of the 2nd century/1st century B.C. The villa extends over a large area and includes a residential house (pars dominicia) and an agricultural area. The residential area found to the west of the villa has various mural depictions and pavement mosaics. Various alterations were carried out at the villa during the early Imperial Age. The central part was used for agricultural and industrial purposes associated with the production of olive oil. On its outer extents the villa is defended by a double retaining wall and a probable tower at one corner. A fire sometime in the mid-3rd/beginning 4th century A.D. caused the abandonment of the villa. During the late Roman times, other restructuring works were carried out. A rock-cut tomb dating to the Żebbuġ phase indicates occupation of the area in prehistoric times. Two other Punic rock-cut tombs were also found. A funerary inscription bearing neo-Punic characteristics associated with a votive deposit containing terracotta masks of a Hellenistic type and various pots were found. This suggests that the area of the villa was already occupied by an earlier settlement probable 4th century B.C.

**Scheduled by MEPA:** Yes

**Degree of Protection:** Class A

**G.N. No.:** 0829

**G.N. Date:** 1998

**Recommended Bibliography:**


Coordinates: Easting 46960 76905 Northing: Coordinates

Property Plan

Property Images