



SOVRINTENDENZA  
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI  
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

# National Inventory of the Cultural Property of the Maltese Islands

NICPMI Inv. No. 00029

Date of Publication 30 March 2012

<b>Property Name</b>	Għar Dalam		
<b>Address</b>	Triq Għar Dalam		
<b>Town Name</b>	Birżebbuġa	<b>Toponym</b>	N/A
<b>Property Owner</b>	Government	<b>Local Council</b>	Birżebbuġa
<b>Guardianship Deed</b>	No	<b>Managing Body</b>	Heritage Malta

<b>Period</b>	Quaternary (1,800,000 - 5,000)		
<b>Phase</b>	Neolithic (5000 - 4100 BC)		
<b>Cultural Heritage Type &amp; Value</b>	Archaeological	<b>Cultural Heritage Property Value Assessment</b>	Very High
<b>Property Function</b>	Domestic	<b>Conservation Area</b>	AAI, SAI

<b>Outline Description</b>	Għar Dalam consists of a large cave containing quaternary deposits and prehistoric cultural remains.
<b>Property Description</b>	<p>Għar Dalam consists of a large tunnel cave. Both Quaternary deposits and later deposits were found in this cave.</p> <p>The Quaternary deposits contained a large quantity of animal bones including bones belonging to dwarf elephants, hippopotamus and large birds. The animal remains were probably deposited in the cave after they were washed in through water infiltration. The water infiltration probably also formed the cave's shape. The later deposits consist mainly of Neolithic remains ranging from Għar Dalam phases and Skorba phases.</p> <p>The Neolithic remains consisted of human remains, pottery, stone artefacts and bone artefacts. Other remains also consist of Punic to more recent phases. During the late 1800s and early 1900s a series of excavations within the cave were carried out. In the 1930s the museum at Għar Dalam opened.</p>

<b>Scheduled by MEPA</b>	Yes	<b>Degree of Protection</b>	Class A	<b>G.N. No.</b>	358	<b>G.N. Date</b>	1998
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<b>Recommended Bibliography</b>	<p>1912/13: 5; 1914/15: 3; 1937/38: 9-12; 1921/22: 3; 1922/23: 1; 1924/25: 8-9; 1926/27: 12; 1927/28: 15; 1928/29: 7; 1929/30: 13; 1930/31: 9; 1931/32: 6; 1937/38: 10; 1934/35: 15-19; 1933/34: 23-24; 1935/36: 27-29; 1936/37: 15-23; 1937/38: 9-15; 1946/47: 8 <i>Museum Annual Report</i> (M.A.R.), Museums Department</p> <p>Evans, J.D.(1971) <i>The Prehistoric Antiquities of the Maltese Islands: A Survey</i>, London: Althone Press</p>
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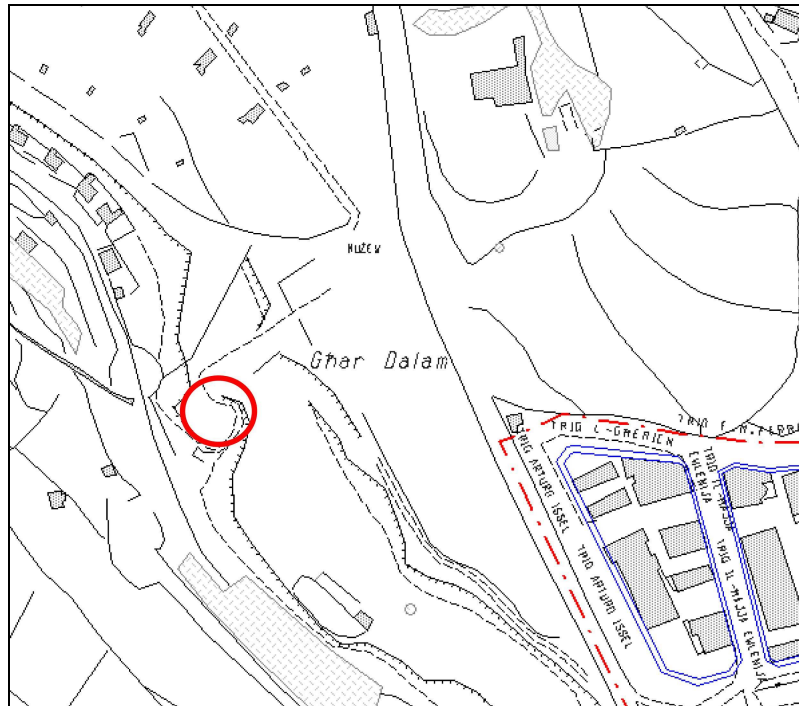
Coordinates : Easting

59427

65984

Northing : Coordinates

### Property Plan



### Property Images

