

## Message From Stakeholder

Submitted By

Simona Rossi - on behalf of  
Superintendence of Cultural Heritage  
22nd August 2024 12:52:19

Submitted On

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PA4103/24 - Knisja Santa Marija Ta' Gesu, Triq San Pawl c/w, Triq San Guzepp, Rabat

The property in question is the Church of Santa Marija Ta' Gesu, located within the Urban Conservation Area of Rabat and the Class A scheduled Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI Rabat & Mdina). It is also within the setting of several scheduled buildings and archaeological remains. This area is archaeologically sensitive. There is a risk that ground disturbance in this area may uncover cultural heritage features that may necessitate amendments to the proposed drawings. The applicant is being made aware of these risks. Any approved development will require that works are archaeologically monitored in keeping with Terms of Reference issued by the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage.

The proposal is for dismantling of existing staircase for creation of storage space.

The Superintendence inspected the property. The inspection confirmed that the staircase, while not serving an immediate or urgent function at present, is not devoid of architectural value. The Superintendence, therefore, expresses reservation at the proposed demolition, especially in the absence of an appropriate proposal. In particular, it is noted the declared intent to use this room as storage space. The Superintendence is not favourable to the demolition of the stairs to replace them with storage rafts of no architectural value.

This office would be more favourable to the creation of a mezzanine space or spaces that might actually utilize at least part of the existing staircase.

This office will comment further upon receipt of an amended proposal addressing the above.