

Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council Parliamentary Report 2021



Department of the Environment,
Sustainability, Climate Change
and Heritage

HM Government of Gibraltar

Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council Parliamentary Report 2021

Prepared for:

HM Government of Gibraltar Parliament,
John Mackintosh Square,
Gibraltar &
Chairman of
Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC)

Prepared by:

Ministry for Environment,
Sustainability,
Climate Change,
Heritage and Culture,
Gibraltar

Document Status

Document Type	Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council Parliamentary Report 2021
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Document Approved by	Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC)
Date Approved	31/1/22
Version Number/Date	HAACPR/1/21

Disclaimer

This report was prepared by the Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC) as required under Section 10 of the Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018.

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Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018

2021 Annual report.

This report has been prepared by the Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC), as required under Section 10 of the Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018.

The Minister for Heritage will lay a copy of this report before Parliament as specified in Subsection 10 (2).

This report covers the period from 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021.

The Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council (HAAC) was formed as part of the Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018 that commenced on 16th August 2018.

The members of the Council are-

Chairperson

The Hon Prof J Cortes - Minister for Heritage

Members

Prof Clive Finlayson - Curator of the Gibraltar National Museum

Anthony Pitaluga - Government Archivist

Dominic Lopez - Government Archaeologist

Albert Codali - Representing the Ministry for Heritage

Dr. Liesl Mesilio - Representing the Department of the Environment.

(in her absence Stephen Warr shall be an alternate member)

Claire Montado - Representing the Board of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust.

(in her absence Ian Balestrino shall be an alternate member)

Paul Origo - Representing the Town Planning Department

(in his absence Paul Naughton-Rumbo shall be an alternate member)

Dr Keith Bensusan - Representing the Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society

(in his absence Charles Perez shall be an alternate member)

The functions of the Council are—

- (a) to make its views known to the Minister on how to promote and secure the conservation, protection and enhancement of Gibraltar's heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings, and historical conservation and archaeological areas;
- (b) to foster understanding and facilitate the enjoyment of Gibraltar's heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings, and historical conservation and archaeological areas;
- (c) to advise on anything which is to be done in relation to antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings or historical conservation and archaeological areas, including advice that such activity always be carried out in a sustainable manner by a suitably qualified person; and
- (d) to identify present and future issues which require or may require addressing in relation to heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings and historical conservation and archaeological areas.

(2) The Council shall advise the Minister on matters relating to heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings, historical conservation and archaeological areas it wishes to or which the Minister may refer to the Council.

Council to take account of certain matters.

8. It shall be the duty of the Council, in carrying out its functions under section 7(1) and (2), to take account, as may be appropriate, of—

- (a) actual or possible ecological and other environmental changes affecting heritage, antiquities or objects of interest, monuments or buildings and historical conservation and archaeological areas;
- (b) the need for social, cultural and economic changes in Gibraltar;
- (c) the interests of the community in general.

HAAC MEETINGS.

The Heritage and Antiquities Advisory Council held five meetings in 2021 with one being via Zoom.

As in 2020, the Covid pandemic did not have an impact on the work of the Ministry for Heritage nor any other heritage entity. Archaeological monitoring, restoration, heritage assessments and technical advice through the planning system continued.

Examples of heritage projects include:

1. The opening of Nuns' Well
2. The restoration of the Old Lime Kiln and placing of interpretation material
3. The launch of the Ministry for Heritage Online Educational Platform
4. The completion of a draft heritage vision for Gibraltar
5. The restoration of the Europa Sports Stadium Trail
6. The restoration of the Convent Gable End
7. The restoration of Montagu Pavilion Plaque
8. The re-discovery of the WWII Naval Base underground Air Raid Shelter
9. The creation of a National Park Act

The council discussed work on the restoration and transportation of various military guns as well as improving the visitor experience at the City Under Siege Exhibition with new interpretation panels and restored mannequins.

The restoration of the Convent Façade will also commence in 2022.

The Council has also worked together with the Ministry for Heritage to improve the planning system with new cultural heritage guidance sheets for developers and applicants alike as well as working on improving current legislation in certain areas.

Internal meetings amongst stakeholders as well as with the Minister for Heritage continued either in person or remotely via zoom and other platforms.

The provision of heritage licences continued to be successfully discussed via round robin email, with 10 licences given for works on listed sites.

Heritage Licences issued through HAAC.

1036	Joseph Torres, GRA	11/1/21	University of Gibraltar Roof
1037	David Richardson, RCS	12/3/21	Sacred Heart Church
1038	Jennifer Ballantine Perera	12/3/21	Garrison Library
1039	Dwayne Ballestero, Carduus	6/4/21	Cathedral of St. Mary the Crowned
1040	Mark Cortes, GCS	13/5/21	Central Hall
1041	William McLaren, Aquagib	16/6/21	Northern Defences
1042	Andrew Brion, AKS	15/09/21	Orange Bastion
1043	Dominic Carroll, TSD	24/09/21	Atarazana, Casemates Square
1044	Claire Montado, GHT	18/09/21	Wellington Front
1045	Phillip Borge, GoG	09/12/21	Campion Park

