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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**RAGGED STAFF RESTORATION PROJECT**

The Government is able to announce the completion of the Ragged Staff Restoration Project which has consisted in the demolition of all workshops and other buildings hitherto occupied by the Buildings and Works Department (el Patio Chico), the restoration of the City Walls and the re-exposing of the Ammunition Magazine dating back to the 1880's.

This Magazine housed the ammunition required for rifle-muzzle loading guns which were located where the Hebrew Old People's Home is today. The 1908 Ordnance Survey map shows the Magazine as a pumphouse, a clear indication that by then it ceased to be used for military purposes. Additional information regarding the history of this area can be seen on an Interpretation Panel on the verandah at the junction between Main Street and Ragged Staff Road and can also be found online at [www.gibraltar.gov.gi](http://www.gibraltar.gov.gi).

In keeping with the Government's longstanding policy of making buildings of heritage value relevant to modern-day Gibraltar, the area which was until recently obscured by the Patio Chico structures has been converted into a new car park. Details of availability of spaces in this car park shall be advertised during the course of this week and shall consist of a combination of rental parking for residents of the area and pay-and-display parking for shoppers and other visitors to the town area. This project concludes the traffic flow, parking and urban beautification of the Trafalgar area.

The restoration of the newly-exposed Ammunition Magazine has revealed its military Victorian architecture. Whilst the principal use of the Magazine will be to provide parking facilities for motorcycles, it will also be used as an events venue for concerts, youth events and exhibitions of large objects.

Attached:

- 'Before and after' images
- Military Victorian arches in the interior of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Ammunition Magazine