



HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
MINISTRY FOR SPORTS, CULTURE, HERITAGE & YOUTH
Gibraltar Culture and Heritage Agency
The Gibraltar Museum
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PRESS RELEASE

No. 298/2012

Date: 15th May 2012

Unveiling of the Convent Model

The Gibraltar Museum will be joining museums all over the world for this year's International Museums' Day on the theme of 'Museums in a Changing World'. This is the tenth year the museum participates in the event. In connection with the official date of International Museums' Day - the 18th May - there will be an unveiling of a model of the Convent by Mayor Julio Alcantara at the Gibraltar Museum. This model was commissioned by former Mayor Solomon Levy and journalist Joe Garcia as a gift to the then Governor and friend of Gibraltar, Sir William Jackson. It was made by the late Charles Anes and the entire façade is made of marble. In turn, Sir William bequeathed the model to the people of Gibraltar, in his will.

Situated in what was then an area where the poorer people lived, called 'la Turba', the present-day Governor's residence started life as a Convent of Franciscan Friars, hence its name. It remained a Friary until 1728, when it became the official residence of the Governor. Originally, the rear of the Convent, the present façade was heavily modified in Georgian style, with later Victorian additions. The terrace atop the portico is traditionally where the Governor takes the salute and from this same terrace where Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh waved to the crowds during their visit to Gibraltar.

Note to Editors: For further information please contact Marie Mosquera at the Gibraltar Museum on 200 74289. Alternatively, email: musadmin@gibraltar.gi