SMOKING PIPES

A pipe fragment from Mgarr ix-Xini, Gozo.

Reference: MGIX

Catalogue number 12/135/6

Bowl fragment of red clay. There are no complete edges. Inside the bowl is smooth, outside there is a decorative band of rope work at waist level to which is applied part of a leaf with raised spines. The origin is enigmatic.²



MGIX 12/135/6

² A somewhat similar pipe, with no provenance, exists in a private collection. Neither pipe is quite like any other I have seen and I imagine the style to be European. I discussed this with Peter Hammond, an authority on the subject, He says 'I do not recognise either of these fragments so I would suggest they are not northern European so more likely to be Maitese?'