

Technical Report/Field Trip 09-11 August 2012

Objectives of the field trip:

- To answer the essential question on: How do we monitor the work in the site while the team is not there?
- To check on the progress of instructions and observations discussed during previous field trip on 22-24 Jun 2012.
- To state the main problems and how the workmen corrected them.
- To record new observations on what is happening.

Meetings and discussions with staff in Mozan:

1. **Ismail, mOmo, Ibrahim, Diadin, Kamiran and Hammade:** See photos VDW810-1 dM House sAG meeting with staff.
 - Reading the general letter addressed by gB, mKB & fAB to Ismail, mOmo, Ibrahim, Diadin, Kamiran & Hammade.
2. **Kamiran:** See photos VDW810-1 dM House sAG meeting with staff.
 - Beside his main task, he has to communicate data from Ismail, mOmo, Diadin, Ibrahim and Hammade to gB (it might be better if Kamiran goes to Mozan by the end of each month, and then he meets with all of them to collect the data. This would ensure two things: 1. They will prepare the date on time since Kamiran is going to Mozan just for one purpose which is collecting the data. 2. The data will be delivered on fixed time each month).
 - Akkadian map (in Giotto) to trace in Freehand. He has no idea about the map (probably he did not check his email yet). There will be other maps that use the same background, so he should put the general map (sea and rivers) on a separate layer.
 - I tried to convince him (for the second time) to have an ADSL at home. 24 hours/monthly 900 S.P.
 - Some reports sent by Kamiran to gB, are difficult to understand cause Kamiran uses Google Translate.
 - He has done nothing for Lorenzo. All the time spent was “checking what have been done earlier and what is left to be done”.
3. **Ismail:** See photos VDW810-1 dM House sAG meeting with staff.
 - He is responsible for the site overall
 - He must be more present on the site (so that mOmo can concentrate on maintenance).
 - He has to go regularly to the site while others are working.
 - He should assert his role at the site as well as mOmo.
4. **Muhammad Omo:** See photos VDW810-1 dM House sAG meeting with staff. The following points re-explained and reassured:
 - His main tasks are: maintenance of excavations (wall protection, animal holes, weed and signage) and maintenance of house.
 - The institute will not fund two guards, unless second (mOmo) actively does maintenance. In other words not just tells others what to do (putting his hands in his pockets as it appears in several photos).
 - He is paid now as a guard, through the DGAM, 207.900 (two hundred and seven thousand nine hundred) SP a year. This amounts to 17,325 SP a month (What is deducted is for taxes).
 - In the past, the salary was much less, and for that reason he was supplemented. This is no longer the case.

- His work is extremely valuable, but the Institute asks gB for an accurate description of the extra work done by mOmo. So he must send gB his hours (140 + extra hours).
 - He should send not only a list of things he did, but also the hours. He should estimate the time (I showed him a draft for what and how he should be doing his time sheet).
 - In case he has extra hours, he has to send it each month.
 - Diadin and Ibrahim will assist him with time available after they finish their other tasks, but he has to do the work in the first place.
 - He is supposed to work with Diadin and Ibrahim on the maintenance of the wall conservation and the site panels.
 - Diadin and Ibrahim are not allowed to work “under any condition” by themselves in the site. In case he is not able to work or to be with them he must ask Ismail to monitor their work.
 - He should not compare himself to Ismail, because Ismail deals with several things in addition for being the guard.
 - mOmo received the Visitors Book
 - He should use this book when there are visitors.
 - Ismail has to go regularly to the site while others are working.
 - If there is need for extra workmen, he should ask gB first.
5. **Diadin:** See photos VDW810-1 dM House sAG meeting with staff.
- His main task is to take photos and to send it “with date & explanation”, each month (he was not doing this regularly during the previous months) through Kamiran.
 - It is extremely important that each photo be dated and have a word of explanation (with the help of Ibrahim).
 - He has to use good will, and work well during his allotted time.
 - He should keep showing the location of the photographs taken in the field by pointing a pen to a point in the map.
 - He has to assist mOmo in site maintenance (wall protection, animal holes, weed, signage ...) in time that is left over after doing his work.
 - He is not allowed to work “under any condition” by himself in the site. He should coordinate his work with the work of both of Ibrahim and mOmo.
 - He should use the system he used in the past, and name the folders with VD and then the date: gB made up three folders for one day, VDW715-1, VDW715-2 and VDW715-3. gB put these folders in Giotto. Diadin should then describe each folder, for example:
 - VDW715-1 repairing J1 north
 - VDW715-2 repairing modern staircase in J2 south
 - VDW715-3 repairing wall next to staircase in J2 east
 - The system suggested by gB (for the pictures) in an earlier e-mail is to have small folders each dated and explained briefly. This system should make it easier, even if the dates in the camera are wrong. But Diadin needs to use a computer. The computer given to Ibrahim is not working (I guess a battery problem which is expensive), so Ibrahim borrowed a computer from a friend to use for the work he is doing now.
 - It is important that he documents each of the activities in the same way (he did so very well last January). gB needs especially for him to show the situation BEFORE and AFTER the work done, besides showing people working.
6. **Ibrahim:** See photos VDW810-1 dM House sAG meeting with staff.
- His main task is to keep and enter in the computer temperature/humidity record and to send it to gB each month through Kamiran.
 - He has to enter Hammade’s figures also.

- He has to use good will, and work well during his allotted time.
- He has to assist mOmo in site maintenance (wall protection, animal holes, weed, signage ...) in time that is left over after doing his work.
- He is not allowed to work “under any condition” by himself in the site. He should coordinate his work with the work of both of Diadin and mOmo.
- He mentioned that when they dug the new water pipes in the village, it was less than 30 cm. They did not find any sherds.
- 7. **Hammade:** See photos VDW810-1 dM House sAG meeting with staff.
 - He asked for extra hours. What is the limit?

Questions, problems and observations discussed during the field visit with mOmo, Diadin & Ibrahim:

1. **House:** See photos VDW811-1 sAG House Courtyard & VDW811-1 dM House Courtyard.
 - They cut the tree but the removed parts are still there. They have to remove it as soon as possible.
 - mOmo has to remove weeds.
2. **Bones Room:** See photos VDW811-2 dM House Bones Room.
 - Bones room has to be arranged.
3. **Storehouse:** See photos VDW811-2 sAG Storehouse & VDW811-3 dM Storehouse.
 - mOmo has to sort tools and equipments. The only progress since previous trip (22-24 June 2012) is removing the boxes of the bone to the bones room.
 - mOmo has to sort leftover equipments outside storehouse.
 - Storehouse walls (outside/mudbrick) eroded. It is suggested to repair it as soon as possible.
 - Storehouse walls (outside/metal) eroded. It is suggested to paint it for protection (coating) as soon as possible.
4. **The Temple:** See photos VDW811-3 sAG Temple.
 - Situation in temple area is fine.
5. **Area J:** See photos VDW811-4 sAG Area J & VDW811-5 dM Area J.
 - Weeds have to be removed.
 - Curtains have to be repaired.
 - Remains of deteriorated curtains have to be removed.
 - Staircase has to be repaired.
 - Animal holes have to be fixed.
6. **Wall covers:** See photos VDW623-8 sAG Walls
 - Curtain should be kept in good shape.
 - Where possible, they have to repair rather than replacing.
 - Removing the old replaced curtains (some were still there on the ground since previous visit 22-24 June 2012).
 - Small pieces of the old replaced curtains “which are in a good condition” can be reused, especially for repairing holes (gluing it using a shoes glue called Shouleh).
 - Tightening curtains at the base, so they do not flap in the wind.
 - Keeping the top flap in a good shape.
7. **Condition of the walls:** VDW811-5 sAG Walls
 - Checking walls under curtains regularly for possible damages.
 - Diadin should take photos of all wall faces (not only the curtains), showing on the map where it is.

8. **The Abi:** See photos VDW811-6 sAG Abi & VDW811-6 dM Abi.
 - The Abi has been checked with mOmo and the idea (which has been proposed by mKB) of refilling the lower part of the Abi has been discussed. mOmo said it is not necessary since, examining it showed a stable condition.
9. **Signs:** See photos VDW623-2 sAG Storehouse, VDW623-4 sAG Signs & VDW811-2 sAG Storehouse.
 - All damaged signs has to be restored, no rush, but regularly.
 - Damaged signs can be compared to the Visitors Book (with mOmo). In case they need to reprint certain sign they must give gB the details of the page through Kamiran.
 - As for restoring the damaged signs they said that some of the signs need to be done by a smith and they mentioned Samieh (from Haji Naser) or Mohammed (from Kamishli). They need permission from gB.
10. **Weeds:** See photos VDW623-3 sAG Weeds & VDW623-5 sAG Area J
 - Removing all weeds from excavation area and form paths. This must be done immediately, and then regularly, so they do not keep growing.
 - In reference to an earlier email I received from gB (entitled two things) and in relation to the issue of removing the herbs in the site, mOmo wanted to know what to do. This issue has been discussed with mOmo during the previous trip (22-24 June 2012) and the discussion ended that since there are 2 kinds of herbs in the site that the herbicide did not effect, so they will remove them by hand. Unfortunately no action has been taken in this consideration. The excuse was “it is too hot”. The response on this excuse was that team used to dig during the same time every year and at least they can work for couple of hours early morning 5-7.
11. **Multifunctional Room in Umm Rabee Village:** See photos VDW811-7 sAG Multifunctional Room.
 - This multifunctional room (called Gate of Urkesh - Club of Future Children – Centre for Capacity Building) established by the DGAM within the “Transformations of Syria’s Museums and cultural Heritage sites program” in collaboration with Syrian NGOs.
 - The purpose of establishing this multifunctional room is to teach computer and languages (same courses used in public schools).
 - At the moment students from the villages of Mozan and Umm Rabee are attending these courses.
 - Teachers are from the Village of Umm Rabee.
12. **Kindergarten in Umm Rabee Village:** See photos VDW811-8 sAG Kindergarten.
 - The kindergarten established by the DGAM within the “Transformations of Syria’s Museums and cultural Heritage sites program” in collaboration with Syrian NGOs.
 - It has been furnished with chairs, tables, toys and air-conditioning.

Meetings and discussions with figures in Kamishli:

1. **Farther Antranic:**
 - Trip of sAG to MZ 22-24 June 2012.
 - Meeting in Politecnico 03 July 2012 (photos of meeting and power point presentation demonstrating activities during 1st half of 2012 in Mozan and Umm el Rabee).
 - Trip of sAG to MZ 09-11 August 2012.
 - Moscow Conference in collaboration with Tell Hazneh.
 - Conference in Milan on December 2012.
2. **Dr. Muhammad Droobee:**
 - Trip of sAG to MZ 22-24 June 2012.

- Meeting in Politecnico 03 July 2012 (photos of meeting and power point presentation demonstrating activities during 1st half of 2012 in Mozan and Umm el Rabee).
 - Trip of sAG to MZ 09-11 August 2012.
 - Moscow Conference in collaboration with Tell Hazneh.
 - Conference in Milan on December 2012.
3. **Ms. Noura Shammās:** (Branch Manager/Banque Bemo Saudi Fransi)
- Trip of sAG to MZ 22-24 June 2012.
 - Meeting in Politecnico 03 July 2012 (photos of meeting and power point presentation demonstrating activities during 1st half of 2012 in Mozan and Umm el Rabee).
 - Trip of sAG to MZ 09-11 August 2012.
 - Moscow Conference in collaboration with Tell Hazneh.
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