Restoration works at the Archaeological Park of Khor Rori (Sultanate of Oman) Diary of activities (October-December 2017)

RESTORATION OF BF3

The last part of the mission was dedicated to the restoration of BF3, the temple of Sumhuram. In particular, they were restored the wall M49 with the access to the temple, the corner between the walls M39 and M83, and the bases of the columns inside the temple (Figs. 19).

At first it was restored the entrance to the temple. At the beginning of the mission the wall M49 had a breach rather than an opening near the wall M83. The purpose of the restoration work was to close the breach (evidently not original) and open the closed passage on the west, highlighted by the well-shaped side jambs. Therefore, the closed door was reopened and subsequently the breach in the wall was mended (Figs. 20).

Subsequently the north-west corner between the walls M39 and M83 was restored. The north face of the M39 wall appeared to be heavily bulged, while the west face of the M83 wall was very disjointed. Analyzing the situation of this last face, it was noted that in reality it was a cut created in the wall M39, that probably continued towards the west. In fact, this face showed broken stones in elevation and in the foundation the wall continued to the west. In any case, following the indications of Mr. Sedov, the corner between M39 and M83 has been restored, leaving however a trace of the M39 wall that continues west keeping the beginning of the first row. The wall texture of this corner has been voluntarily disrupted so as to homogenize it to the adjacent walls (Figs. 21).

Finally, the bases of some columns have been restored. In particular, especially for those columns whose bases were barely legible because almost at the same level than the ground, stone blocks were added to make the plan of the temple cell more legible (Figs. 22).

The works in the area BF3 started on November 28th and ended on December 12th.

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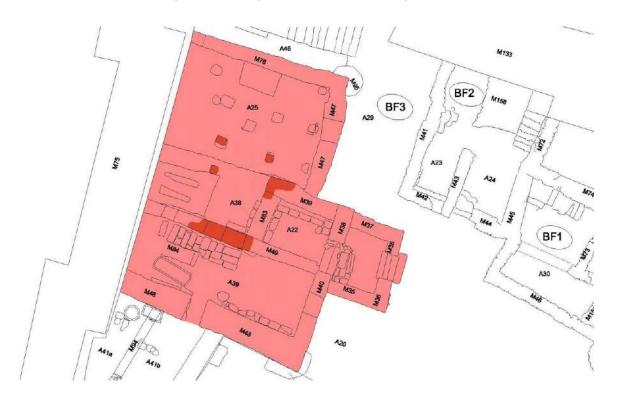


Fig. 19a – BF3 plan with highlighted the restorated walls.



Fig. 19b – BF3 before the restoration work (view from NE).



Fig. 19c – BF3 before the restoration work (view from NW).



Fig. 19d – BF3 before the restoration work (view from SW).



Fig. 19e – BF3 after the restoration works (view from NE).



Fig. 19f – Details of the restoration works of BF3 (view from NE).



Fig. 19g – BF3 after the restoration works (view from NW).



Fig. 19h – Details of the restoration works of BF3 (view from NW).



Fig. 19i – BF3 after the restoration works (view from SW).



Fig. 19j – Details of the restoration works of BF3 (view from SW).



Fig. 19k – BF3 after the restoration works (view from SE).



Fig. 19I – Details of the restoration works of BF3 (view from SE).



Fig. 20a – BF3, wall M49 before the restoration works (View from SE).



Fig. 20b – BF3, wall M49 before the restoration works (View from N).



Fig. 20c – BF3, wall M49 during the restoration works (View from SE).



Fig. 20d – BF3, wall M49 during the restoration works (View from NW).



Fig. 20e – BF3, wall M49 after the restoration works (view from S).



Fig. 20f – BF3, details of the restoration works of the wall M49 (view from S).



Fig. 20g – BF3, wall M49 after the restoration works (view from N).



Fig. 20h – BF3, details of the restoration works of the wall M49 (view from N).



Fig. 21a – BF3, corner between walls M39 and M83 before the restoration works (view from NW).



Fig. 21b – BF3, corner between walls M39 and M83 before the restoration works (view from N).



Fig. 21c – BF3, corner between walls M39 and M83 before the restoration works (view from SW).



Fig. 21d – BF3, corner between walls M39 and M83 during the restoration works (view from NW).



Fig. 21e – BF3, corner between the walls M39 and M83 after the restoration works (view from NW).



Fig. 21f – BF3, details of the restoration works of the corner between the walls M39 and M83 (view from NW).



Fig. 21g – BF3, wall M83 after the restoration works (view from W).



Fig. 21h – BF3, details of the restoration works of the wall M83 (view from W).



Fig. 21i – BF3, wall M39 after the restoration works (view from N).



Fig. 21j – BF3, details of the restoration works of the wall M39 (view from N).



Fig. 22a – BF3, columns of the temple after the restoration works (view from NW).



Fig. 22b – BF3, details of the restoration works of the columns of the temple (view from NW).



Fig. 22c – BF3, columns of the temple after the restoration works (view from SE).



Fig. 22d – BF3, details of the restoration works of the columns of the temple (view from SE).

RESTORATION OF BF2

The last days of the mission were dedicated to the restoration of BF2. In particular, it was restored the corner between the walls M41 and M42 (Fig. 23).

Before restoration, the corner had the upper row very badly put, with some blocks missing or in precarious equilibrium conditions. Therefore, unstable stones were removed, the surface was cleaned up and the ridge of the walls was recomposed (Figs. 24).

The works in the area BF2 lasted December 11th and 12th.

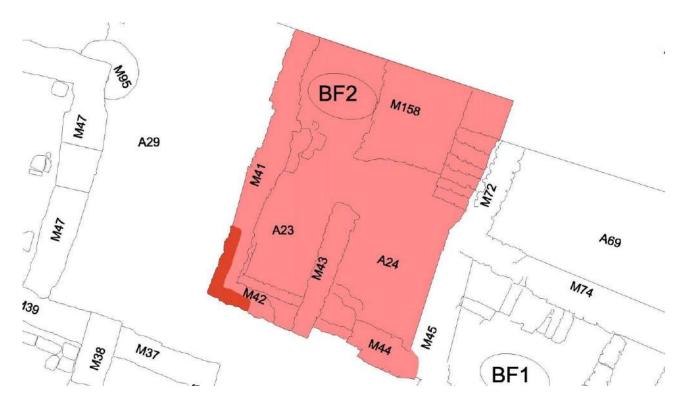


Fig. 23 – BF2 plan with highlighted the restorated walls.



Fig. 24a – BF2 before the restoration works (view from SW).



Fig. 24b – BF2, corner between walls M41 and M42 before the restoration works (view from SW)



Fig. 24c – BF2, corner between walls M41 and M42 after the restoration works (view from SW).



Fig. 24c e 24d – BF2, details of the restoration works of the corner between walls M41 and M42 (view from SW).



Fig. 24e – BF2, wall M41 after the restoration works (view from W).



Fig. 24f – BF2, details of the restoration works of the wall M41 (view from W).



Fig. 24g – BF2, wall M42 after the restoration works (view from S).



Fig. 24h – BF2, details of the restoration works of the wall M42 (view from S).

02_ EMILIANO MURA

RESTORATION OF BB2 (WALLS M534, M553)

The work is proceeded with the disassembly of some parts of the masonry, the cleaning and the replacement with the same stones as not to alter the original shape. The wall had largely collapsed, part of the wall was rebuilt to allow a better vision and understanding.



M534, South front wall, before the restoration.



M534, South front wall, after the restoration.



M553, East front wall, before the restoration.



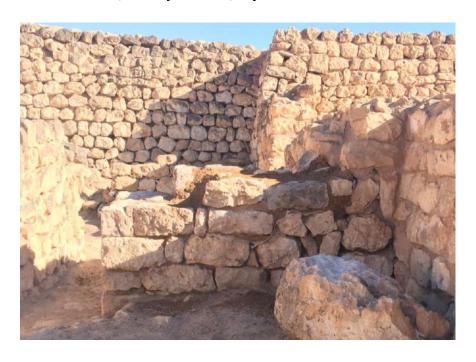
M553, East front wall, after the restoration.

RESTORATION BF2 (WALL M44)

The work is proceeded with the disassembly of some parts of the masonry, the cleaning and the replacement with the same stones as not to alter the original shape. The wall had largely collapsed, part of the wall was rebuilt to allow a better vision and understanding



M44, South front wall, before the restoration.



M44, South front wall, after the restoration.

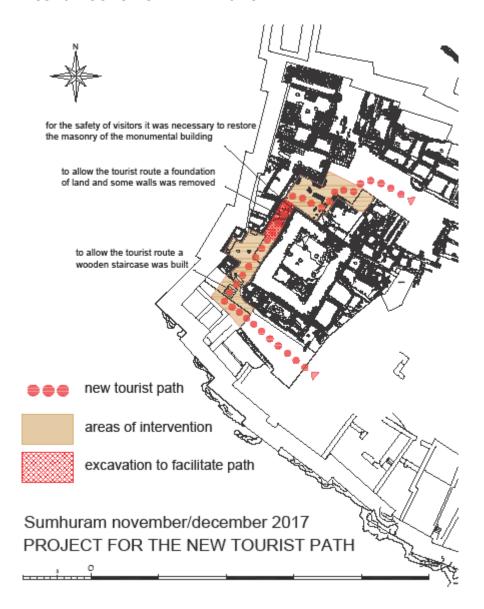


M44, North front wall, before the restoration.



M44, North front wall, after the restoration.

PROJECT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW VISITOR PATH



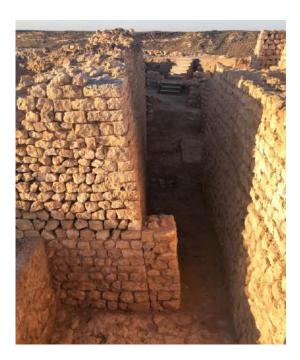
An important intervention for the tourist path has been to widen the visitors' route to the north-west of the city, between the city walls and the monumental building, a very suggestive route. Work needed before opening the route were:

- 1) restoration and consolidation of the north corner of the monumental building (BF5)
- 2) dismantling of the walls and removal of the earth section
- 3) facilitate access through the construction of wooden stairs
- 4) cleaning the area

1) RESTORATION OF THE CORNER WALL M92/M93 (BF5)

The work is proceeded with the disassembly of some parts of the masonry, the cleaning and the replacement with the same stones as not to alter the original shape. The corner wall had an injury due to the outward thrust and possible collapse of the corner. The blocks at the top of the wall were dangerous because they were no longer fixed to the wall. To do the job it was necessary to mount a scaffolding.





Monumental building area, before and after the restoration and consolidation of the wall and removal of the section to allow access to visitors. in the distance we see the new wooden stairs to allow access to visitors.



Corner wall, before the restoration. The fracture along the masonry

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Scafolding assembly and cleaning with partial removal of the stones.





During the restoration work.



M92/M93, North cornerwall, after the restoration.

2) DISASSEMBLING THE WALLS AND REMOVING THE SECTION

To make the new route accessible and practicable it was necessary to remove the section and some walls above it. Obviously the walls and the section have been documented, photographed and taken over by archaeologists.







Dismantling and removal of walls.



View after removing the section.

3) FACILITATE THE ACCESS THROUGH THE REALIZATION OF STAIRS IN WOOD

On the excavation limit a wooden ladder was mounted to allow easy passage during the visit.





View of the path for tourists during and after the assembly of the wooden staircase.

4) CLEANING THE AREA

Completed the excavation work of the section, removal of the walls and restoration of the corner wall has proceeded to clean the path for tourists.





View of the path for tourists before and after the removal of the section and walls.