



Assaha Traditional Village

Beirut, Lebanon



Architect: Sanabel for Urban Studies & Architectural Design

Client: Al-Mabarat Charitable Association

Built Area: 8'400 m²


Cost: US\$ 4'880'000

A restaurant, park, museum, motel and several multipurpose halls are the main components of this complex, built in a style inspired by traditional Lebanese and Islamic architecture. Set up by a charity to provide employment opportunities for orphans, the centre is a tourist destination and a site for cultural events such as poetry readings. As far as possible, the structure is environmentally friendly, making use of recycled material from ruined buildings: principally sandstone, but also wood and rubble. The construction technology, however, is contemporary, with prestressed concrete I-beams allowing for large spans in the multipurpose halls.


Assaha Traditional Village

Airport Road, Bourj-Albarajna
Beirut, Lebanon


Architects	Sanabel for Urban Studies & Architectural Design Beirut, Lebanon
Clients	Al-Mabarar Charitable Association Beirut, Lebanon
Commission	2000
Design	2000 - 2000
Construction	2000 - 2003
Occupancy	2002
Site	14'380 m ²
Ground Floor	8'700 m ²
Total Floor	8'400 m ²
Costs	US\$ 4'880'000
Programme	A restaurant, park, museum, motel and several multipurpose halls are the main components of this complex, built in a style inspired by traditional Lebanese and Islamic architecture. Set up by a charity to provide employment opportunities for orphans, the centre is a tourist destination and a site for cultural events such as poetry readings. As far as possible, the structure is environmentally friendly, making use of recycled material from ruined buildings: principally sandstone, but also wood and rubble. The construction technology, however, is contemporary, with prestressed concrete I-beams allowing for large spans in the multipurpose halls.




SANABEL
for urban studies & architectural design
CONTACT : 3104.CEB
Assaha Restaurant
Lebanese traditional village




the Adjacent District house




the theatre & the mural behind it



Outer square




Outer square



House of poetry

Assaha Traditional Village Project is consisting in a cultural and touristic center, including a restaurant, a park, a museum, a motel and several multipurpose halls, expanded over 11000 m2 and executed in a traditional style inspired by several Islamic and Lebanese traditional architecture which was reflected through using its ornamental elements. The project illustrates the Arabic identity besides its social, cultural, and humanitarian goals consisting in creating job opportunities for the orphans, and investing its returns in philanthropic projects, as well as providing place for poetry recitation evenings and rhetoric, and for enjoying the beauty of a spectacular ambiance. Henceforth, "Assaha Traditional Village" spread a cultural awareness of the Arab-Islamic architecture to become a mirror that reflects this neglected civilization and forgotten heritage.



the mural gate

THE VILLAGE COMPONENTS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

1- Parking lots

2- The fence

3 - The village square -The terrace

4- Sahat Ain Addaya's restaurant

4,1 The hall -El Kanater Hall-

4,2 The special hall -Abou Ahmad's Hall-

4,3 The southern gallery -Hawaneet-

4,4 The northern gallery -El Khian-

4,5 The western hall -El Leewan-

5-The village fountain

5,1 - El Salamlek hall

5.2-The districts

5.3-The village bakery

5,4- The pond

6- The rotund building - the citadel

7- Assaha's Park

7.1- Workshops and games for children

7.2- The forest and the threshing floor


7.3- The farm

8- Arabic Poetry Salon


9-The second floor:
A multi-purposes hall

10- The third floor

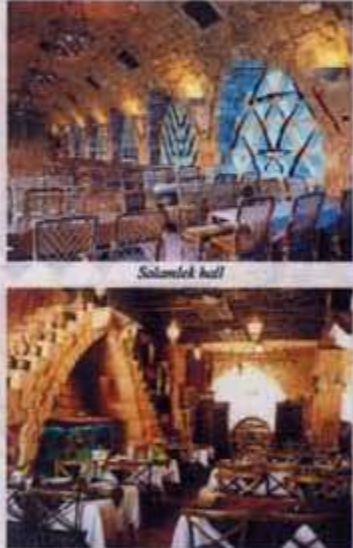
11- The fourth floor + mezza-nine




Ground floor plan



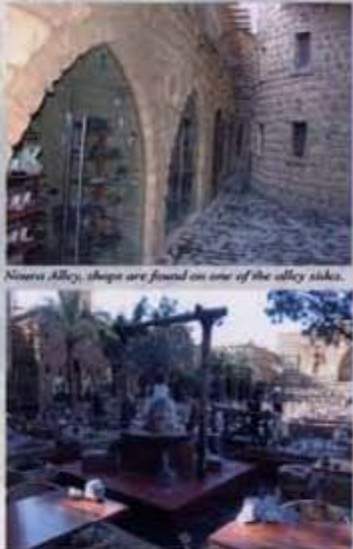
Salamlek hall




Sahat ain addaya's restaurant: Sahat al kanater




Addiwan




Nouria Alley, shops are found on one of the alley sides.




Salamlek specific corridor



The fountain square



Part of the mural



A multi-purpose hall



SANABEL

for urban studies & architectural design

CODE: 3104.LEB

*Assafia Restaurant
Lebanese traditional village*



The east view (context)



The south view (context)



part of the mural



The cypress tents



The citadel

The rotund building is located at the end of - Noura's Alley, next to the salamlek hall. It houses the services and the oratory, and it overlooks the fountain square, The districts and the restaurant.



Part of the terrace



Abou Ahmad Hall's eastern wall inspired by the lebanese peasant house, especially the molasses factories where the jars were placed in the same way shown in the picture. The wall includes a large number of breaches of different shapes where lighting elements and ancient brassware are displayed. The ceiling was executed as a groind vault.



Abou Ahmad house



the fountain

This hall is characterized by the fact that it was built in the ancient way known as the cylindrical vault, it is delimited by the eastern arches that lead to the hall specific corridor, where as the western ones are made of windows sealed with different decorations of wood and glass; blue glass was used for its soothing effect.



section in kanater hall



Salamlek hall



multi-purposes hall

The old well is surrounded by a small pond which is about 30 cm high above the ground. An ancient stone element rises at the center of the well. The ground is paved with coloured ceramic tiles, as well as the pond flowing with the water that comes from the cataract in the northern mural.



section in kanater hall



Al kanater hall



multi-purposes hall

ARCHITECT'S RECORD 2007 AWARD CYCLE

I IDENTIFICATION

Project Title : Assaha Traditional Village
 Street Address : Airport Road, Bourj – Albarqina, http: www.assahavillage.com
 City : Beirut Country : Lebanon

II. PERSONS RESPONSIBLE :

A. Architect/Planner

Name : Sanabel for Urban Studies and Architectural Design
 Mailing address : Sanabel Office, Tawhid Bldg, ground floor –Doha-Kholde
 City : Beirut Postal code : P.O. Box 305/25
 Country : Lebanon Telephone : 00961800735
 Facsimile : 00961800731 E-mail : Sanabel@mabarrai.org.lb
 Principal Designer : Jamal Makke

B. Client

Name : Al-Mabarrai Charity Association
 Mailing address : General Management Office, Middle East Center, 3rd floor, Al- Ghoubairi
 City : Beirut Postal code : P.O. Box 305/25
 Country : Lebanon Telephone : 00961822721
 Facsimile : E-mail : mabarrai@al-mabarrai.org.lb

C. Project Affiliates/Consultants

Please list those involved in the project and indicate their roles and areas of responsibility (e.g. engineers, contractors, economists, master craftsmen, other architects, clients, etc.) Please cite addresses and telephone numbers separately

Name	Role
<u>Ali Al Haj</u>	<u>Head of Studies Department</u>
<u>Rana Sheiti</u>	<u>Architect</u>
<u>Amr Al Sour</u>	<u>Civil Engineer</u>
<u>Ghassan Tabbarra</u>	<u>Civil Consultants</u>
<u>Ahmed Mansour</u>	<u>Mechanical Engineer</u>
<u>Wajih Jaber</u>	<u>Electrical Engineer</u>
<u>Husan Asayli</u>	<u>Electrical Consultant</u>
<u>The Lebanese Arabian Company For Commerce & Contracting</u>	<u>Principal Contractor</u>
<u>Mohamed Amro</u>	<u>Site Manager</u>
<u>Hasan Abdallah</u>	<u>Site Engineer</u>

III. TIMETABLE

(Please specify year and month)

A. Commission Jan 2000

B. Design _____ Commencement Feb. 2000 Completion Sep. 2000

C. Construction (see remarks for phases) Commencement Sep. 2000 Completion Sep. 2003

D. Occupancy Sep 2003

E. Remarks: 1st phase (The Terrace) commencement Sep. 2000 completion Sep. 2002, 2nd phase (Sahat Ain Addava Restaurant) commencement July 2001 completion Sep. 2002, 3rd phase (The Fountain) commencement Sep. 2002 completion Sep. 2003.

IV. AREAS AND SURFACES

(Please specify in square metres)

A. Total size area 14380 m²

B. Ground floor area 8700 m²

C. Total combined floor area 8100 m²
(including basement(s), ground floor(s) and all upper floors)

Remarks: parking for 363 car available on a separate lot area=8270 m²

V. ECONOMICS

(Please specify the amounts in local currency and provide the equivalent in US dollars. Specify the date and the rate of exchange in US dollars at the time.)

	Amount in Local Currency	Amount in US dollars	Exchange rate	Date
A. Total initial budget	<u>7538750000LL</u>	<u>5000000</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>
B. Cost of land	<u>1049394000LL</u>	<u>6960000</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>
C. Analysis of actual costs				
1 Infrastructure	<u>1471567000LL</u>	<u>97600</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>
2 Labour	<u>12876185000LL</u>	<u>854000</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>
3 Materials	<u>4566668676LL</u>	<u>3028797</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>
4 Landscaping	<u>8413290231LL</u>	<u>558003</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>
5 Professional fees	<u>513047400LL</u>	<u>341600</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>
6 Other (Equipment):	<u>1962518761LL</u>	<u>1304937</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>
D. Total actual costs (Without land)	<u>7357820000LL</u>	<u>4830000</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>
E. Actual cost (Per square metre)	<u>87600275LL/m²</u>	<u>581/m²</u>	<u>1507.75</u>	<u>2000-06</u>

Remarks: The project started with an initial capital of 2000000 and the cost of the following phases was funded from the profit of the previous ones.

VI PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Assaha Traditional Village Project is consisting in a cultural and touristic center, including a restaurant, a park, a museum, a motel and several multipurpose halls, expanded over 11000 m² and executed in a traditional style inspired by several Islamic and Lebanese traditional architecture which was reflected through using its ornamental elements. The project illustrates the Arabic identity besides its social, cultural, and humanitarian goals consisting in creating job opportunities for the orphans, and investing its returns in philanthropic projects, as well as providing place for poetry recitation evenings and rhetoric, and for enjoying the beauty of a spectacular ambiance. Henceforth, "Assaha Traditional Village" spread a cultural awareness of the Arab-Islamic architecture to become a mirror that reflects this neglected civilization and forgotten heritage. Dr. Mashari Bin Abdullah Al Naeem wrote about the project in *Al Yawm Saudi* magazine "It is a project full of visual Mediterranean details but it originates from a sophisticated, humanitarian perspective, for, it simply wants to teach us how to be economic and how to make an innovation even from those materials which usually become obsolete". Besides tourists and architecture students, who come to experience and study its art and beauty, the project attracts all classes of society with different affiliations and aspiration, who come to enjoy the cultural and artistic activities, amusement and entertainment in a charming atmosphere. As mentioned before, the project provides support for the orphans and institutions of *Jam'yyat Al Mabbarat Alkhairiah Association*. The concept of establishing the project started when *Jam'yyat Al Mabbarat Alkhairiah Association* charged Sanabel with the responsibility of making a study on a productive charitable project on an 8700 m² piece of land located on the Airport Avenue and owned by the association. As a result of the study, Sanabel suggested a touristic, cultural center in a traditional style. Moreover, the architect was daring enough to think about building the project in a region lacking for the basics of tourist attraction, and he was able to overwhelm the major obstacles that faced the project by taking advantage of the ruined buildings' leftovers and reusing them in traditional environment friendly construction. Gradually, the processes of design and construction took place according to a timetable. The project was completed in the following phases: first phase was completing "The village square (The terrace)" which was opened in 20 September 2002; second phase was completing (Sahat Ain Addaya's restaurant) which was opened in 4 November 2002; third phase was completing (The village fountain) which was opened in 22 September 2003. The construction of each phase was funded from the profit gained by the previous one.

VII MATERIALS, STRUCTURE AND CONSTRUCTION

Since one of the project's principal goals was environmental, it was vital to seek an appropriate solution in selecting the materials used. Mr. Jamal Makki, the originator of the "recycled building" theory, who was concerned about protecting the environment in Lebanon has spared no efforts to find a civilized solution for disposing of construction wastes and rubbles resulting of the demolition of ancient buildings, via recycling and reusing them in traditional environment friendly constructions. Therefore, the principal material used in the project was natural sandstone obtained from ruined buildings. Besides, wood and other leftovers from old buildings were reused in the project. As for construction method, new construction technologies were used. Pre-stressed concrete and I-beam steel construction was the construction method followed in order to carry large spans in halls and to reduce the weight of dead load. In addition, piles at 17 m depth were used as foundation because the bearing capacity of the soil is low. As a conclusion, *Assaha Traditional Village Project* benefited from the new construction technologies, on the other hand, the project made a significant success in accomplishing its principal environmental goal by working on the theory of "recycled building".

VIII PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT

"Assaha Traditional Village" is a message inviting for the revival of the Arab-Islamic genuine architectural heritage, and it confirms the connection between authentic and the contemporary after the city invaded the village deforming it due to the import of architectural theories and their application without taking into consideration the society's cultural identity. The project also demonstrates the Lebanese traditional village *Amis Frayha*, a Lebanese author, described in his book "A Civilization on its Way to End" in 1957. Thus, it spread a cultural awareness of the Arab-Islamic architecture and its specific details in every place and corner to become, not without merit, a mirror that reflects this neglected civilization and forgotten heritage, presenting itself as a live museum of all the components of Arabic Islamic heritage in its traditional character through corridors, archways, oriels, juniper ceilings, different paving, Islamic ornaments, engravings, and Arabic inscriptions, in addition to its openness towards the inside so as to inhibit any eye with the outer world, making it impossible to see any roads, cars or even building structures, and this is one of the characteristics of the Arabic Islamic architecture built on legal basis. It also attracts a number of architecture students who come from most universities to watch and study these architectural items. Some students relied on those studies for their academic research, which asserts the project's invitation of widespread architecture schools calling for the adoption of foreign theories to include this human mission realizing the architectural personality of the whereabouts and connecting between the design process and society in their programs. Besides its significant role in the revival of the Arab genuine architectural heritage, the project also made significant achievements through its humanitarian, social, environmental, cultural, and touristic aspects. Providing support for the orphans and institutions of *Jam'yyat Al Mabarrat Al Khairiah's* association, the project encourages the indirect contribution of a great number of people in such institutions. In addition, it creates job opportunities for approximately 250 employees, and consequently 250 families, 90% of which are Lebanese. As for the social aspect, the project is considered a gathering place for all the classes of society in a homely atmosphere with the aim of invigorating its guests on all levels, thus constituting a social challenge for self development and creating a Lebanese, Arab and international melting point. Environmentally, working on the theories of Arabic Islamic architecture with its walls, little windows, inner green space (the courtyard) etc. and "recycled building", previously mentioned, greatly contributes to the preservation of the environment. Contrary to the custom in productive projects, *Assaha Traditional Village* is characterized by a traditional cultural touch with features clearly present in the project's details, those features create interactive elements between man and heritage. The project contributes in the various sectors of touristic and cultural services: culture, entertainment and social, etc. due to its various activities. Moreover, until the end of the month of Feb. 2006, it was visited by about 1.8 million individuals from Lebanon and other countries.

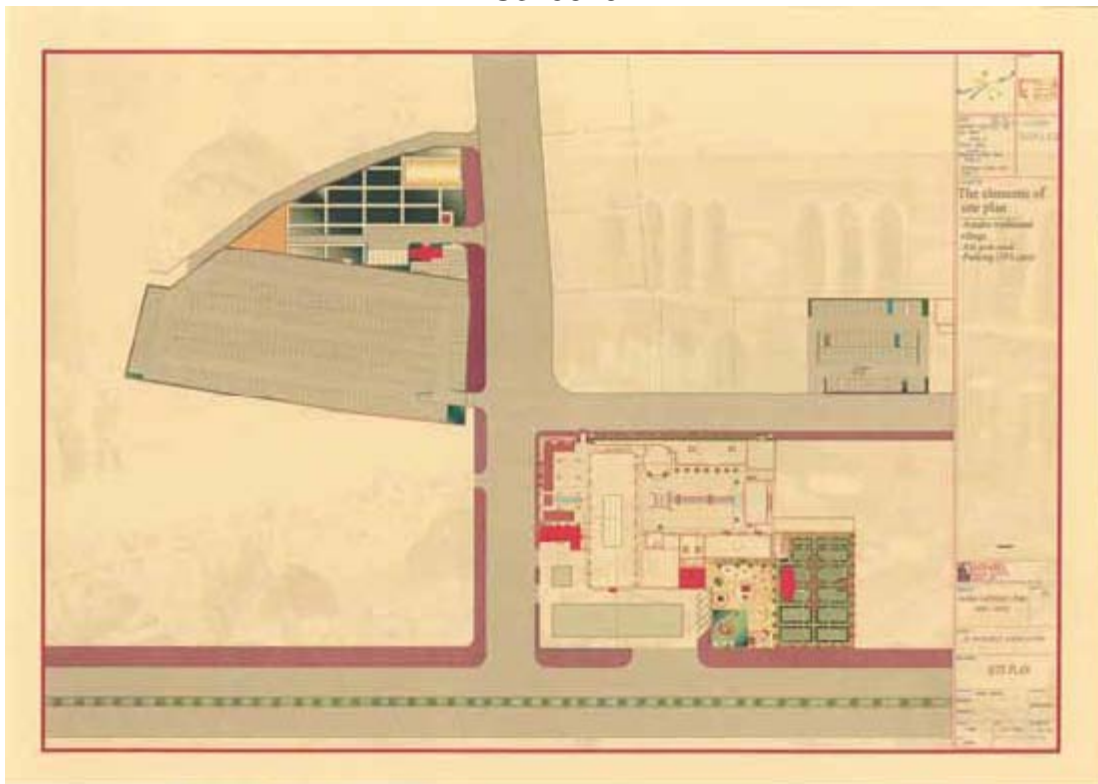
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Name (please print): Jamal Ali Makke

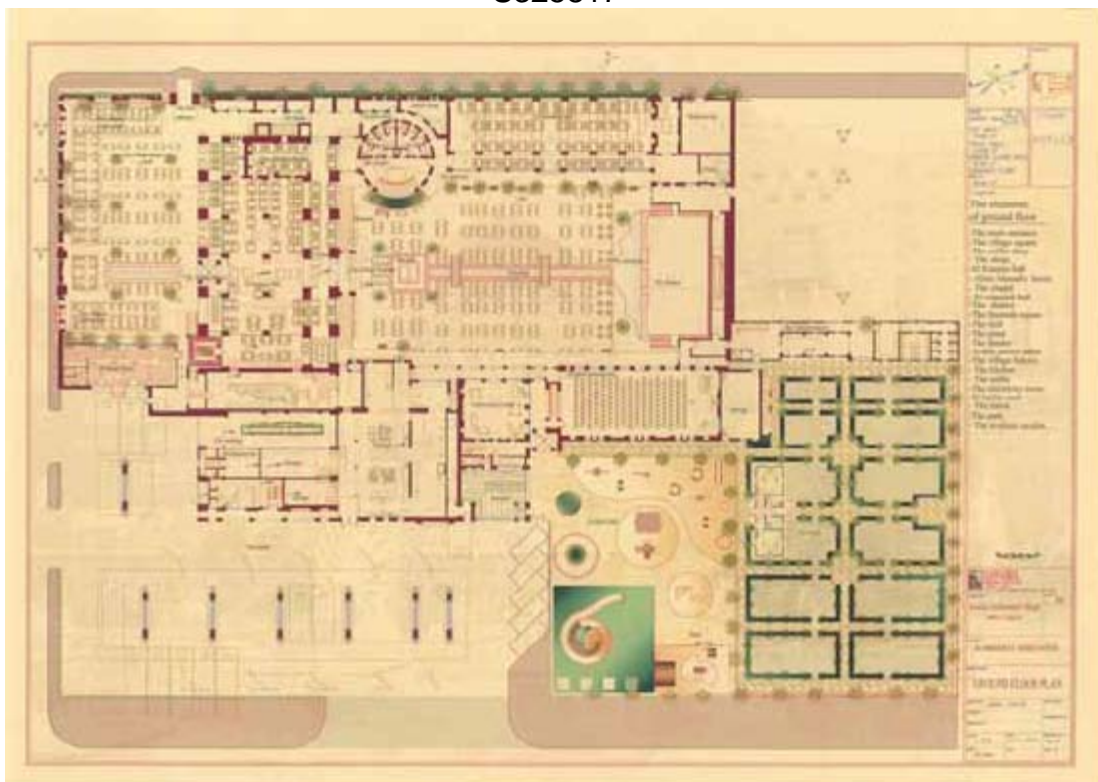
Signature _____

Date 25/3/2006

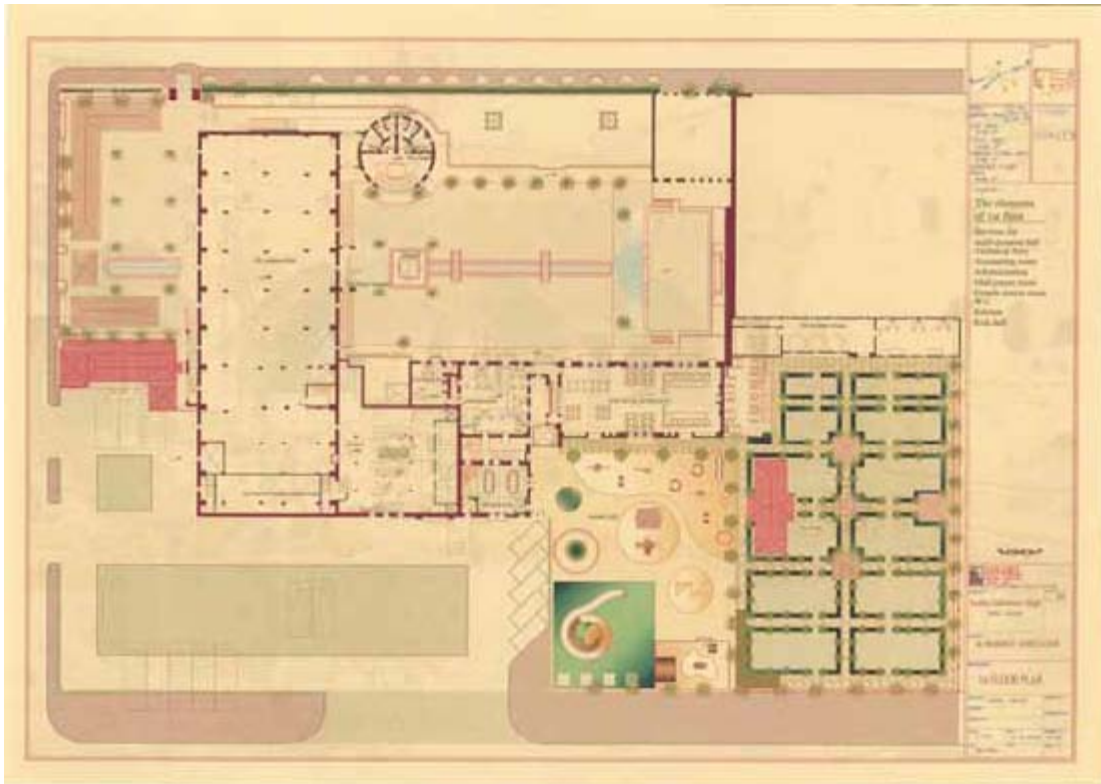
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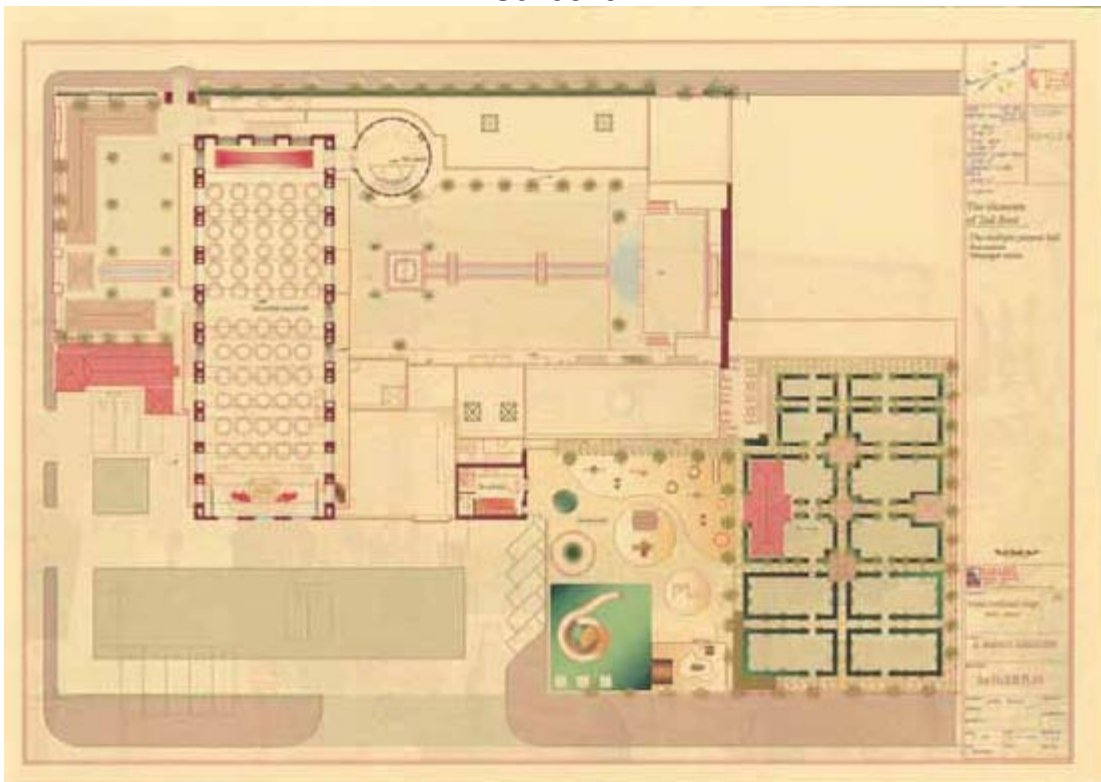
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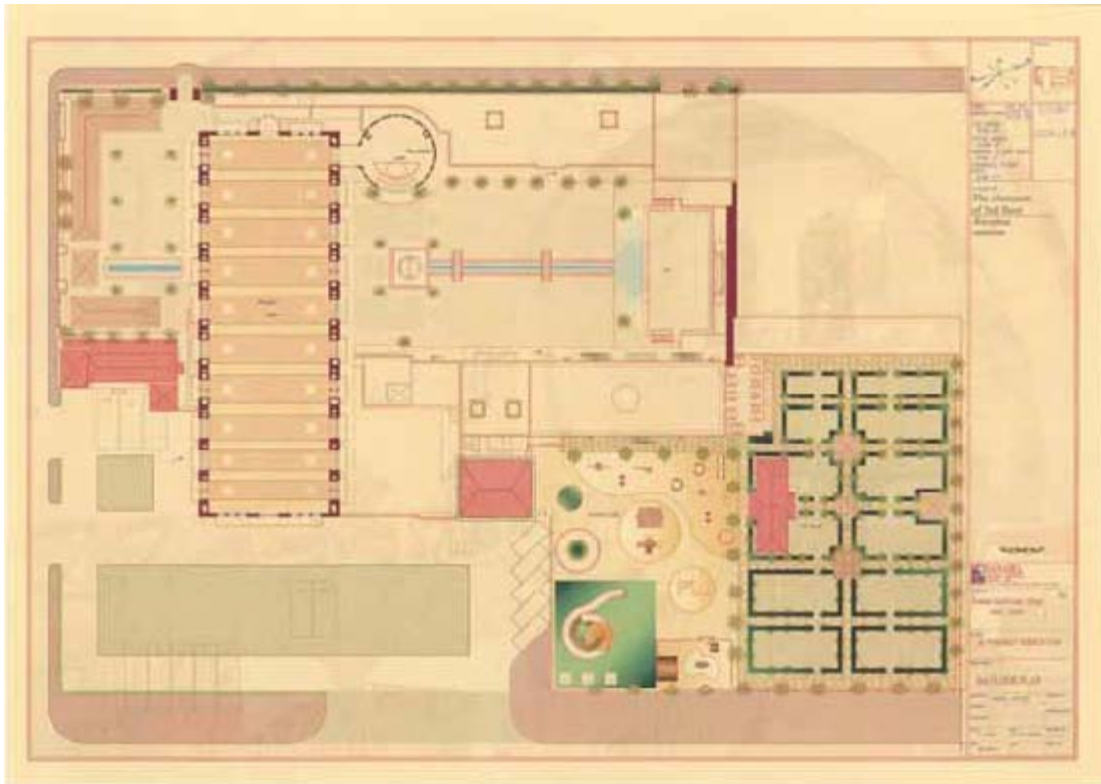
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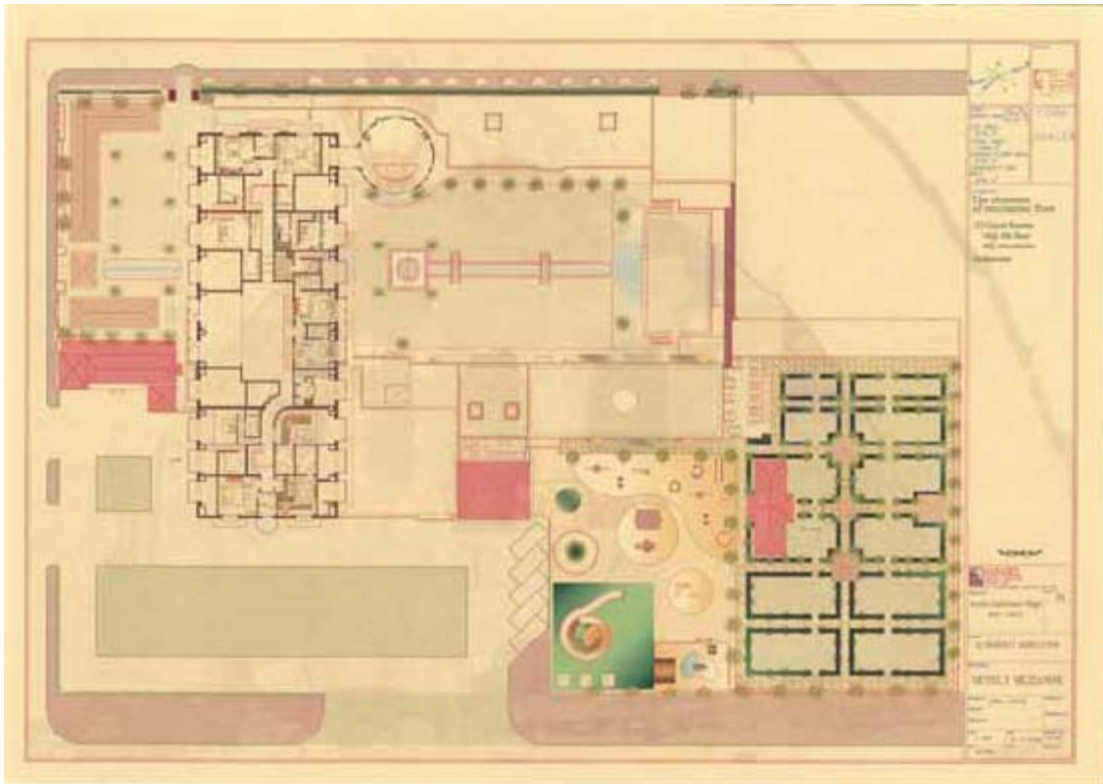
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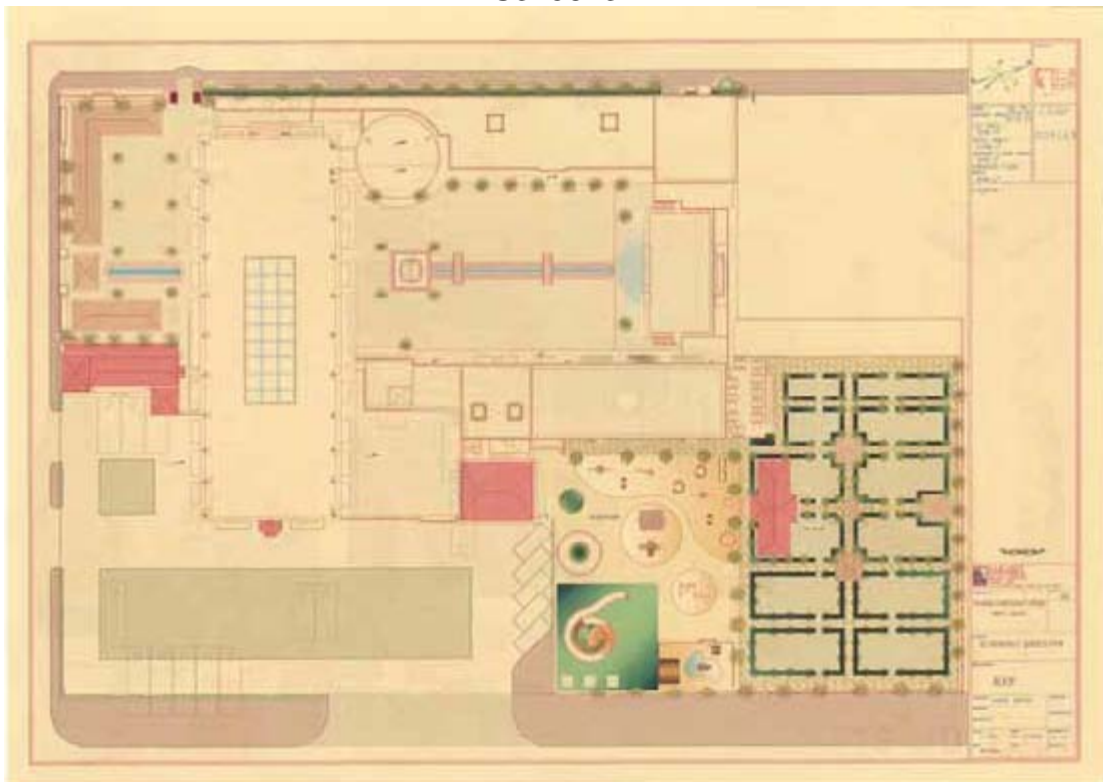
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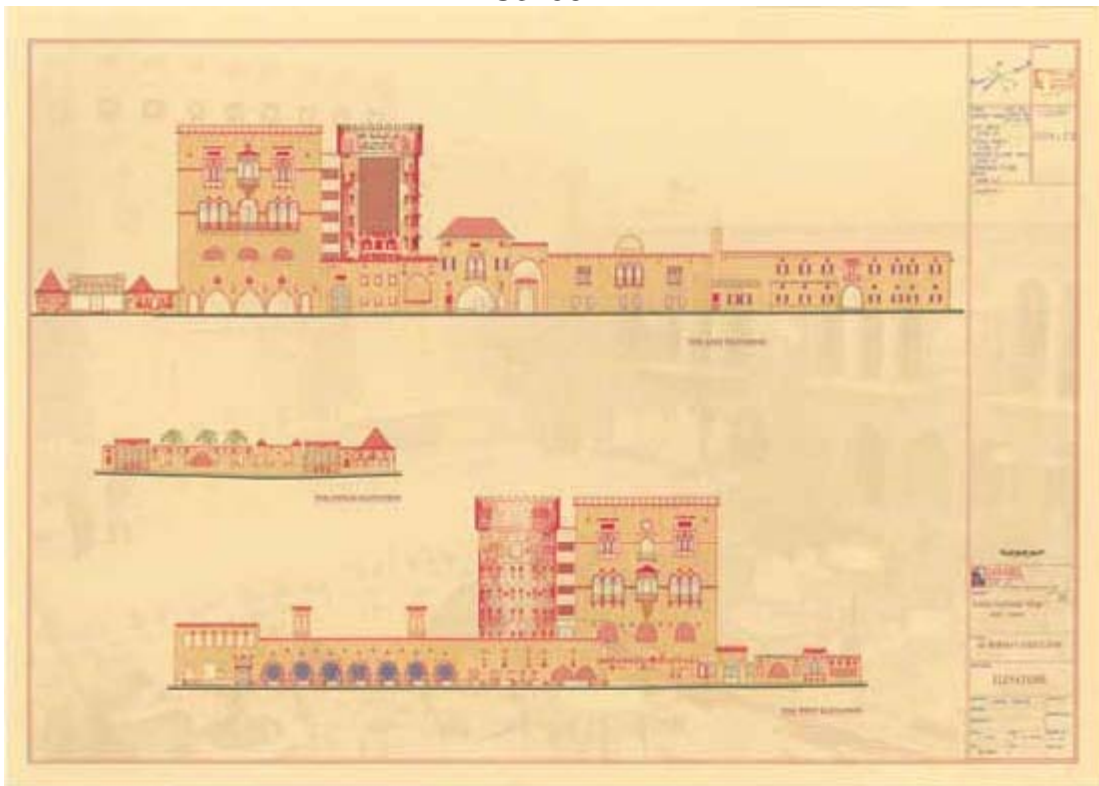
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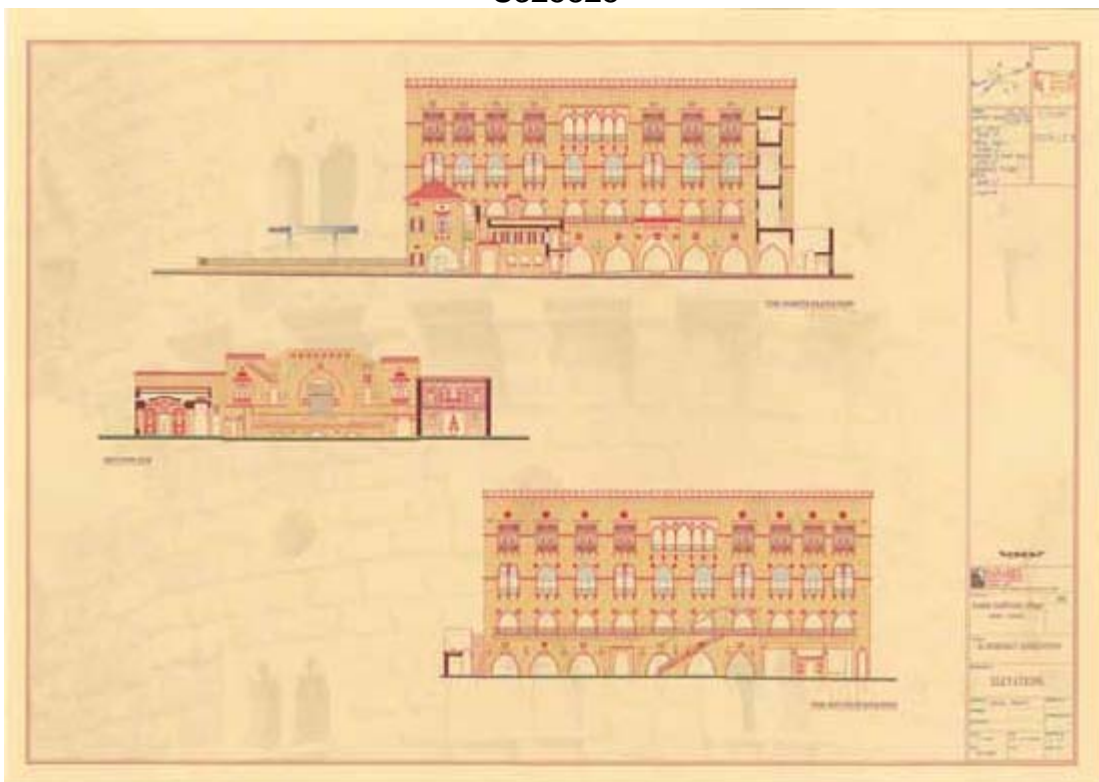
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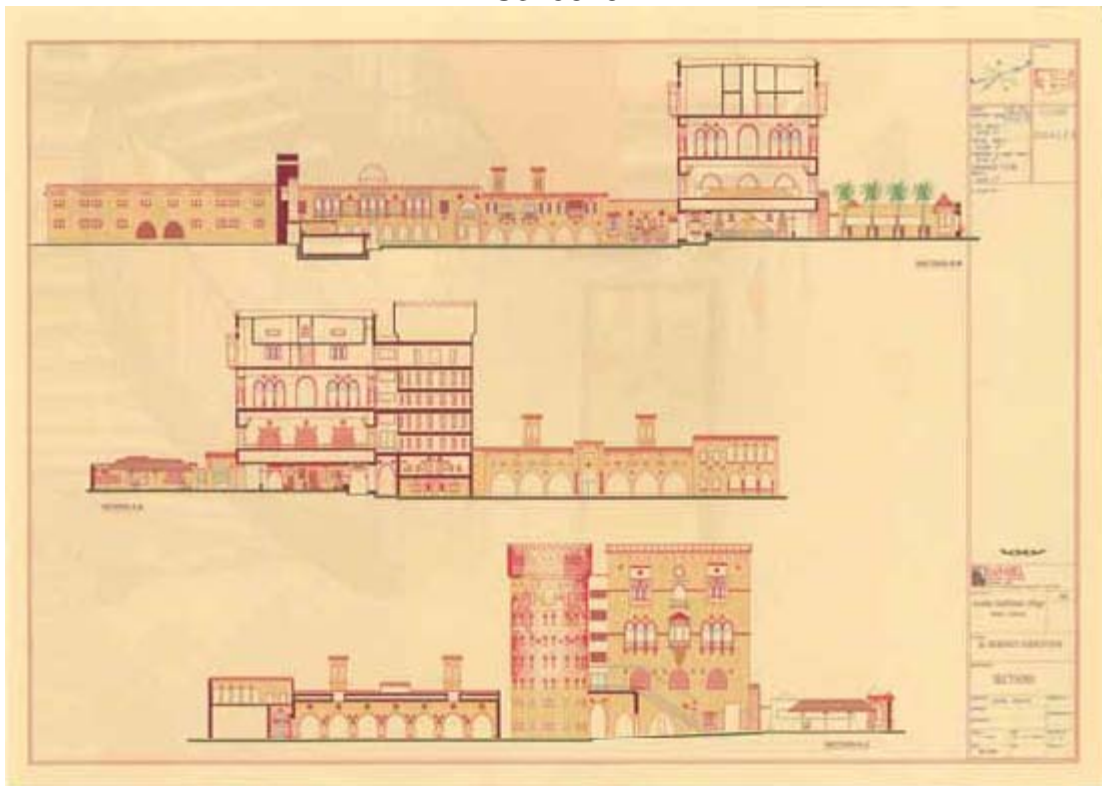
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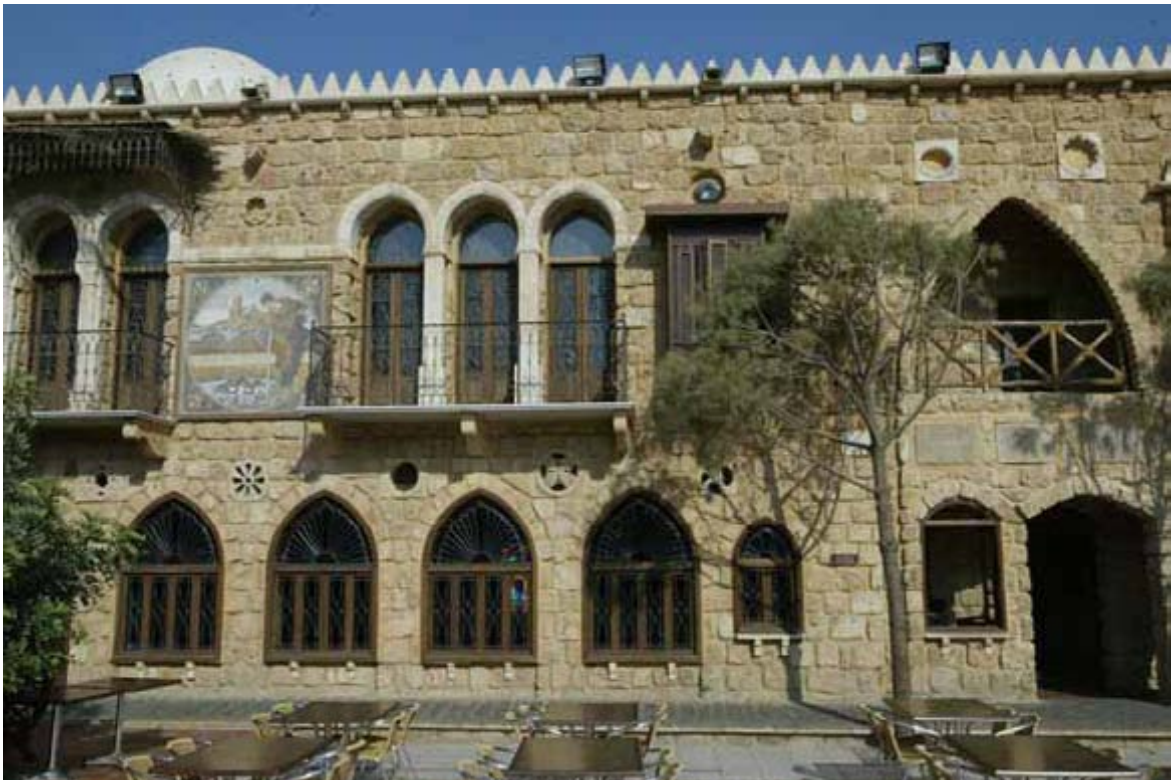
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Document C

MATERIALS IDENTIFICATION FORM

Provide a full list of all material being submitted

No	Description	Remarks
1	<i>Architect's Record (4 pages)</i>	
2	<i>Two main A3 Presentation Panels</i>	
3	<i>Eleven A3 Architectural Drawings including site plan, plans, sections, elevations</i>	
4	<i>CD including a soft copy of the Architectural Drawings(JPEG & DWG format)</i>	
5	<i>CD including 56 digital image listed in the Image Identification Form</i>	
6	<i>Image Identification Form(3pages)</i>	
7	<i>Three Additional A3 Presentation Panels including additional photographs and explanations</i>	
8	<i>"Assaha Traditinal Village" A4 Report(50 pages)</i>	
9	<i>"Recycling Architecture" A4 Report(57pages)</i>	
10	<i>V-CD including 3 movies</i>	
11	<i>CD including" Assaha Traditinal Village" A4 Report & the Architect's Record , Materials & Image Identification Form</i>	
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		

Document D

IMAGE IDENTIFICATION FORM

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No	Description	Remarks
1	1.jpg The Village Square(the terrace) under construction	Sanabel Office 15/7/2002
2	2.jpg "Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant" under construction	Sanabel Office 8/8/2001
3	3.jpg "Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant" under construction	Sanabel Office 31/8/2001
4	4.jpg entrance of "Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant" under construction	Sanabel Office 25/9/2001
5	5.jpg The Shops under construction	Sanabel Office 20/6/2001
6	6.jpg The Fountain Square under construction	Sanabel Office 12/10/2002
7	7.jpg the main building , the Rotund building & the fence	Sanabel Office 22/3/2006
8	8.jpg The Western Fence	Sanabel Office 13/11/2002
9	9.jpg The Terrace in The Village Square	Sanabel Office 12/10/2002
10	10.jpg The fountain in The Village Square	Sanabel Office 12/11/2002
11	11.jpg The Village's Coffee Shop(cypress tents)in The Village Square	Sanabel Office 14/8/2003
12	12.jpg Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant, photo taken from The Village Square(night view)	Sanabel Office 14/8/2003
13	13.jpg Entrance of Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant	Sanabel Office 14/8/2003
14	14.jpg Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant, photo taken from The Village Square(night view)	Sanabel Office 20/8/2003
15	15.jpg Nowa's Alley & shops(night view)	Sanabel Office 20/8/2003
16	16.jpg Nowa's Alley	Sanabel Office 15/5/2003
17	17.jpg The Fountain Square	Sanabel Office 24/10/2004
18	18.jpg Waterfall behind the Amphitheatre	Sanabel Office 20/5/2004

No	Description	Remarks
19	19.jpg The Fountain Square & the Amphitheatre	Sanabel Office 16/10/2003
20	20.jpg Amphitheatre & the Multipurpose Hall, photo taken from The Fountain Square	Sanabel Office 15/3/2006
21	21.jpg Amphitheatre	Sanabel Office 15/3/2006
22	22.jpg Al Harat(districts) & the Multipurpose Hall, photo taken from The Fountain Square	Sanabel Office 15/3/2006
23	23.jpg the well of the village in The Fountain Square	Sanabel Office 15/3/2006
24	24.jpg Façade of the Multipurpose Hall & the Kid's Hall	Sanabel Office 5/8/2004
25	25.jpg Salamlek Hall & the Rotund Building(the citadel)	Sanabel Office 14/7/2005
26	26.jpg: the Rotund Building(the citadel), elevation detail	Sanabel Office 14/7/2005
27	27.jpg Salamlek Hall	Sanabel Office 5/8/2004
28	28.jpg Façade of Village's Houses at Al Harat	Sanabel Office 14/7/2005
29	28.jpg Façade of Village's Houses at Al Harat	Sanabel Office 14/7/2005
30	30.jpg the well of the village in The Fountain Square	Sanabel Office 5/8/2004
31	31.jpg interior of El Kanater Hall	Sanabel Office 7/7/2003
32	32.jpg interior of El Kanater Hall	Sanabel Office 7/7/2003
33	33.jpg interior of the northern gallery in Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant	Sanabel Office 7/7/2003
34	34.jpg interior of the aquarium zone in Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant	Sanabel Office 7/7/2003
35	35.jpg interior of the special hall(Abou Ahmed Hall)in Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant	Sanabel Office 7/7/2003
36	36.jpg interior of Celebration Hall	Sanabel Office 7/7/2003
37	37.jpg interior of Multipurpose Hall	Sanabel Office 5/5/2005
38	38.jpg interior of Kid's Hall	Sanabel Office 28/10/2005
39	39.jpg interior of Salamlek Hall	Sanabel Office 15/8/2005

No.	Description	Remarks
40	40.jpg interior of the Rotund Building(the stair)	Sanabel Office 28/10/2005
41	41.jpg interior of the Rotund Building(the stair)	Sanabel Office 19/11/2004
42	42.jpg interior of the Rotund Building(corridor leading to prayer rooms)	Sanabel Office 19/11/2004
43	43.jpg interior of toilets in the Rotund Building	Sanabel Office 19/11/2004
44	44.jpg project in use, The Terrace	Sanabel Office 20/9/2002
45	45.jpg project in use, The Village Coffee shop	Sanabel Office 20/9/2002
46	46.jpg project in use, the well of the village in The Fountain Square	Sanabel Office 15/7/2004
47	47.jpg project in use, the Northern Gallery in Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant	Sanabel Office 15/7/2004
48	48.jpg project in use, the Abou Ahmed Hall in Sahat Ain Addaya Restaurant	Sanabel Office 15/7/2004
49	49.jpg project in use, the Celebration Hall	Sanabel Office 8/8/2005
50	50.jpg project in use, the Fountain Square	Sanabel Office 26/9/2003
51	51.jpg project in use, the Fountain Square	Sanabel Office 7/10/2004
52	52.jpg project in use, the Salamlek Hall	Sanabel Office 5/6/2005
53	53.jpg project in use, the Fountain Square(night view)	Sanabel Office 8/9/2005
54	54.jpg project in use, the Fountain Square(night view)	Sanabel Office 8/8/2005
55	55.jpg project in use, the Fountain Square(night view)	Sanabel Office 8/8/2005
56	56.jpg project in use, the Multipurpose Hall (painting exhibition)	Sanabel Office 20/5/2004