ASSESSMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCUMENTATION OF THE VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE OF SHUTB VILLAGE (ASYUT, EGYPT)

Final Report

Prepared by:

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Integrated Community Development

Cairo, June 2016
This report was prepared by Takween Integrated Community Development in the framework of the architectural and urban planning services for the Asyut Region project for the Department of Ancient Egypt and Sudan of The British Museum.

Cairo, June 2016.

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1 Introduction and Scope of the Mission

The main objective of this mission is to conduct a preliminary assessment of the vernacular architectural heritage and the traditional urban fabric of Shutb Village in Asyut (Egypt), and to identify the requirements and potential scenarios for the documentation of this heritage. The mission supports the activities of the Department of Ancient Egypt and Sudan of the British Museum in the village in collaboration with the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities (MoA).

The scope of the mission included the following activities:

- Site visits and general survey of the targeted parts of the village.
- Development of an Assessment Report, including:
  - Information on the general outline of the village
  - Historical information
  - Description of relevant visual aspects of vernacular architecture
  - Reasons for identifying areas for potential future documentation work
  - Preliminary condition assessments (focusing on identification of prevailing problems and potentials for conservation and restoration)
  - Preliminary photographic documentation
- Propositions for future work in the areas with most potential for future work including documentation of vernacular architectural heritage and conducting conditions assessments.

2 Description of the Site and the Village Context

2.1 Location of Asyut and Shutb

Asyut Governorate is one of the four governorates of the Middle Upper Egypt Region – which also includes the governorates of Qena, Sohag, and the Red Sea. Asyut Governorate consists of eleven main markaz (administrative centres) encompassing 235 villages. The City of Asyut (the capital of the governorate) is currently considered the capital of Upper Egypt due to its central location in Upper Egypt at a distance of 375 km to the south of Cairo and due to the important role of its relatively large university serving the surrounding governorates.

Historically, the City of Asyut was also the capital of the Thirteenth Nome of Upper Egypt. Additionally, the importance of the City of Asyut stems from its significance as a hub for trade which relates to Asyut’s historic role as a major centre for the trade caravans linking Egypt to Sudan through what was called Darb al-Arab ‘yin (The Forty-Days Route). Currently, the markaz of Asyut, surrounding the City of Asyut but does not include it, encompasses 29 rural villages - one of them is Shutb Village.
Shutb is located 5 km to the south of Asyut on the western bank of the Nile River. The current Village of Shutb is believed to have developed on top of the remains of Shas-hotep, the capital of the Eleventh Nome of Upper Egypt. The closest neighbouring villages to Shutb are Awlad Ibrahim, Drunka and Querqares villages.

2.2 Main Features of Shutb Village

Shutb’s urban setting consists of a historic core developed over a long period of time on a hilly plateau, surrounded from all sides by more recent urban expansions on the village’s agricultural lands. The boundaries of Shutb Village are clearly defined, especially from North and South. The village is surrounded from the North by the Cairo-Aswan railway tracks and the Cairo-Aswan ‘Agricultural Road’, and is surrounded from the South by a highway and El-Fou’adyya Irrigation Canal. These strong edges have shaped the village’s growth over the past decades. They have forced the village’s urban expansion to extend along the East-West axis on the remaining agricultural land bordered by the railway tracks and the canal; and on the North-South axis along the main roads.

The village can be accessed from two main entry points. These entry points cross the railway tracks to access the village from the North, or cross the canal to access the village from the South. The two entry points are directly connected to the village’s Dayir El-Nahiya Road which can be described as a ring road surrounding the village’s historic core from all sides, which is a typical feature in many Egyptian villages.

Most of the village’s public services are distributed along the Dayir El-Nahiya Road especially on the northern edge of the village where its Railway Station is located. Some of the public services and facilities located along the Dayir El-Nahiya Road are: a post office; a main public school; a general health unit; a major mosque (Al-Hūāyda Mosque); a local NGO (Al-ʿImām ʿAlī bin Abī Ṭālīb); an ambulance unit; the Electricity Distribution Company, and the village’s water tank tower.

The Dayir El-Nahiya Road is also considered a main node to the residents of the village, since it is usually busy during the day with vendors and pedestrians, and is heavily used by the village’s means of transportation ranging from Tuk-Tuks for local use, and mostly Taxis and other means of transportation to reach locations outside of Shutb. The village is also rich with mosques, shrines, primary public schools and primary education institutions. There is only one school that offers preparatory education, and a single church located in the centre of the residential part of the village. The village lacks quality health services since the only General Health Unit in the village is not operating adequately.
Some of the main features of Shutb along Dayr El-Nahiya Road (separating the village’s historic core from the more recent urban expansions), and their relation to the village’s archaeological site.
2.3 Socioeconomic Profile

According to the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) the number of Shutb inhabitants has been almost stagnant (around 5,000 inhabitants) between 1882 (the date of Egypt’s first public census) and 1947. Since 1947, and until 2006 (the date of Egypt’s most recent public census), the number of Shutb inhabitants has been constantly increasing. The total population of Shutb reached 16,673 inhabitants in 2006. CAPMAS’ estimation of Shutb population in 2015 is 20,339 inhabitants. The exact current population number is still to be confirmed through the on-going 2016 public census.

Shutb’s population distribution by age group in 2006 indicates that the village population will continue to grow. In addition, it shows a high percentage of population under the age of 30 (almost 68% of the population, compared to 69% on the markaz level) which is relatively high compared to the national average and indicates more demand on housing and job opportunities. However, it is worthy of note that the rate of population growth in Shutb has been notably lower than the rest of the overall markaz of Asyut (encompassing Shutb and 28 other rural villages).

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In regards to education levels in 2006, the conditions of both Shutb village and markaz Asyut in general were lower than the national averages. The level of illiteracy on the markaz level was alarming, especially among women. The illiteracy situation in Shutb was better compared to the markaz level; however the level of illiteracy among women in the village was also alarming. On another note, the percentage of population above the age of 10 with university degree and above -either on the markaz or on Shutb levels- was relatively low compared to the national averages. And once again, the situation among women on the markaz and Shutb levels was even worse.

Despite the above mentioned educational situation, it is worthy of note that Shutb village has a considerable number of public schools and educational facilities. Therefore, the existence of such level of facilities combined with enhanced service quality would together improve the situation.
In regards to economic activities, the prevailing profession among the employed residents in 2006 was farming and agriculture in Shutb (36%) and on the markaz level (39%). The second ranking profession was ‘casual labour’ (15% in Shutb and 10% on the markaz level). The third ranking profession was employment in commercial services and shops (11% in Shutb and 8% on the markaz level).

In terms of unemployment rates within the workforce above the age of 15 in 2006, the percentage was relatively low on the markaz level (8% unemployment rate); while in Shutb the rate of unemployment was higher (14%). From a gender perspective, unemployment rate on the markaz level is higher among women than among men. However, the situation is much worse in Shutb where 44% of women within the workforce are unemployed, while this percentage drops down to 25% on the markaz level.

Based on the housing data in 2006, the majority of the families in the area lived in owner-occupied, self-developed houses (72.3% in Shutb and 69.4% on the markaz level). It is also evident that most of these houses were developed for extended families or related nuclear families. In Shutb, 45% of the families lived alone in rural houses in 2006, while this percentage drops down to 36% on the markaz level. In addition, another 45% of the families in Shutb lived in one or two rooms of a residential unit possibly with other members of their extended families, while this percentage drops down to 25% on the markaz level. It is also worthy of note that in 2006 only 4% of the families in Shutb lived in apartments compared to 24% on the markaz level.

Finally regarding infrastructure conditions in 2006, all families in Shutb and on the markaz level had almost 99% connectivity to the public electricity grid. Dwelling units’ connectivity to water was also very good where 96% of the families in Shutb and 95% on the markaz level had access to potable water either inside the dwelling unit or within their building. Despite this bright picture, the situation of connectivity to public improved sanitation in 2006 was appalling. Only 2% of the families in Shutb and 3.1% on the markaz level had access to improved sanitation. The vast majority of the families were relying on septic tanks – resulting into severe health hazards and physical deterioration of the village.
3 History of the area and Shutb Village

1826

Shas-hotep (currently called Shutb) was the capital of the Eleventh Nome of ancient Upper Egypt. It was called "Hypsélis" by both the Greeks and the Romans. In his 14th Century book "Al-Intsar Lewastat `Eqd al-`Amsar", Ibn Duqmaq describes Shutb as "an old city that was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar II who burnt the whole city and turned it to a red hill." He also mentions that Shutb was located near Syut—the current Asyut—but when it was destroyed another city was built nearby carrying the same name of the burnt city. The burnt city however remained as a hill.

The map of the Atlas Géographique published in 1826 (as one of the Description de l’Égypte volumes) illustrates the village of Shutb (Choutb) in its current geographic location. However, the map also illustrates another smaller village with a similar name (Chotb) located to the South of the original village.

The smaller villages of Chotb and El-Nemes both appearing in the 1826 map do not exist anymore. Instead, and in-between the location of these two villages there is currently the larger village of Musha which did not exist in the 1826 map.

1905-1934

These two maps of the Egyptian Surveying Authority provide further details on the urban fabric of Shutb village in the beginning of the 20th Century. It is possible through these two maps to identify the traditional rounded mass of the village mostly built on top of the village’s hilly plateau. It is also possible to identify many of the village’s urban features that still exist until today: the traditional Dayir El-Nahiya Road surrounding the village from all sides; the railway tracks and the railway station located at the northern edge of the village; and some of the village’s main mosques and shrines.

The two maps illustrate a dense urban fabric with a narrow winding street network, and very clear village boundaries except for a small agglomeration sticking out of to the village’s main mass to the south-west. The village is surrounded from all sides by agricultural lands in addition to some water wells and irrigation canals. Until 1934 it is clear that El-Fou’adiyya Irrigation Canal, currently representing the southern boundary of the village, was not dug yet. Finally, it is worthy of note that the 1905 map indicates the locations of two Muslim cemeteries in the village: a south-western cemetery that also existed in the 1934 map but has mostly disappeared today; and a western cemetery which is currently the village’s archaeological site controlled by the MoA. Possibly, this would explain why the archaeological site has been left un-built until today despite the village’s rapid urban growth beyond its original boundaries during the second half of the 20th Century.

1994

This map provides some insights about the village’s urban development over a period of 6 decades (1934-1994). First, it illustrates the introduction of the El-Fou’adiyya Irrigation Canal during this time period – representing the village’s southern edge. Second, it shows that one of the narrow pathways that existed in the 1905 and 1934 maps was turned into a major road. This road runs from South to North, defining the village’s two main entrances. It also integrates with the western segment of the traditional Dayir El-Nahiya Road, where most of the village facilities are currently located, and extends North to connect with the Cairo-Aswan “Agricultural Road.” This new North-South road/corridor is specifically important since most of the village’s urban expansions in these two directions have grown along it.
4 Summary of the Preliminary Survey Findings

4.1 Description of the Study Activities

Given the limited scope of this mission and the relatively large area of the village, the team had to conduct a rapid assessment of the village’s vernacular/traditional architecture while supporting this assessment with other tools of investigations such as desktop research and interviews with various stakeholders. The following is a brief description of the aforementioned activities, the methodology and tools employed during this mission:

4.1.1 Rapid Physical Survey

The team carried out this field survey in a period of 9 days (10-18 March 2016). The activity started with short visits to the site to familiarize with the village and plan for the rapid survey. It also included the identification of the survey boundaries which was matching with the Dayir El-Nahiya perimeter since it represented the historic core of the village and included all its traditional buildings. Given the relatively large area of the village, the team decided to first identify and map the locations of the different traditional buildings, architectural elements and traditional facades continuums that emphasize and accentuate the architectural and urban heritage values of the village. The identification was based on these buildings’ and elements’ architectural significance, level of craftsmanship and to what extent they still maintain their historic integrity. In doing so, the team had to rapidly survey all the buildings existing within the Dayir El-Nahiya perimeter – covering all of its streets and alleyways.

Following the identification of the targeted traditional buildings, architectural elements and traditional facades continuums; the team conducted a more thorough survey of all of them covering the following aspects: analysis of the urban fabric (solid and void, public open space, infrastructure and environmental conditions); building typologies; architectural significance; state of integrity; general state of conservation; type of construction; and building materials. In addition to the survey, the team conducted a photographic documentation of the targeted traditional buildings, architectural elements and traditional facades continuums. Following the completion of the field work in March 2016, the team produced a set of maps and narrative covering the findings of the aforementioned surveys.

4.1.2 Stakeholders’ Interviews

In order to complement the above survey with more qualitative information and develop a better understanding of the village’s development context, the existing governmental plans, and the views and interests of the relevant stakeholders, the team carried out a series of informal interviews and discussions with these stakeholders. They included some MoA officials, the Mayor (oumda) of Shutb, the Martyred Prince Tadrous al-Shutby Church clergy, and some of Shutb’s local residents. The interviews were beneficial for the team and their findings have enriched the different sections of this report with information on the village history, local community structure, residents’ perceptions, existing challenges and opportunities, the on-going improved sanitation project in the village, etc.

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1 Please see Annex 1: Photographic Documentation of Identified Significant Buildings, Significant Elements and Facade Continuums.
4.1.3 Desktop Research

In addition to the above, the team carried out desktop research to collect maps and additional information on the different aspects raised during the interviews – especially the improved public sanitation project currently planned for the village. The team collected several documents including the 1826, 1905, 1934 and 1994 maps of Shutb, in addition to Shutb’s current aerial map from Google Earth, used as a base map for the different survey findings. Additionally, the team was able to collect some documents on the World Bank funded project (ISSIP II) aiming at providing Shutb and its neighbouring villages with improved sanitation services in the near future.

4.2 Urban Fabric

4.2.1 Solid and Void Analysis

Similar to other traditional Egyptian villages, the density of the urban fabric of Shutb is high despite the fact that the average buildings height in the village is 2-4 storeys. There are almost no empty plots in the village especially within the perimeter of Dayir El-Nahiya. This high density can be attributed to two main reasons: first, to minimize the area of land used for residential uses, hence, maximize the area of land used for agriculture; and second, due to the hilly nature of the village which represented a natural barrier preventing the village from expansion. The need to build on top of the hill is also attributed to risks of water floods, especially before the construction of the High Dam in the 1960s.

Over the past few decades, and with the increasing demand on housing in the village due to demographic growth, residents started either: i) demolishing existing traditional buildings and replacing them with modern concrete structures; or ii) expanding on the agricultural lands surrounding the village. As a result, it is possible to identify from the aerial maps of the village two types of urban fabrics: i) a traditional, organic and dense urban fabric within the historic core of the village; and ii) a more modern and regular urban fabric on the outer boundaries of the village and along its main roads following the regular and straightforward irrigation canals’ geometry and agricultural lands’ subdivision morphology.
4.2.2 Public Open Space

The street network in Shutb is organic similar to other Egyptian traditional villages. It consists of a dense network of narrow winding streets; all surrounded by a ring road connecting the entire village together – the Dayir El-Nahiya Road. Public open space is not designed or intentioned, rather, it is left over space resulting from the relationship between different buildings. Therefore, public open space is distributed sporadically in different places throughout the village, in front of some religious buildings, and along the outer boundary of the village.

Therefore, the value of public space in the village does not stem from its aesthetic values or streetscape features; rather, it stems from the architectural values of its surrounding buildings, and more importantly, from the community activities that take place in it. Many of the village’s public open spaces within its historic core are used as semi-public community nodes and gathering points for the nearby residents. Meanwhile, spaces distributed along the outer boundary of the village are more of public nature such as the village marketplace or its main North and South entrances.
4.2.3 Infrastructure and Environmental Conditions

Shutb has one main paved road – the Dayir El-Nahiya Road. The road currently cuts through the village as it encloses the village’s historic core and separates it from the modern urban extensions built on the agricultural lands. On the other hand, all the inner streets, alleyways and public open spaces of Shutb are unpaved (dirt roads) and are characterized by their haphazard change in levels and by their narrow widths that are not suitable even for Tuk Tuks “rickshaw” to go through. These alleyways are usually damp; having lots of wet areas or small water ponds due to the habit of throwing excess wastewater in these alleyways by housewives or the habit of watering these alleyways to get rid of dust and to cool down the temperature with a cooler breeze. The alleyways are usually occupied by domestic farming animals whose faecal waste adds to the already spread-out garbage inside these alleyways.

Inside the village, means of transport are quite non-motorized since residents depend mainly on locally owned donkeys except for a few streets that could accommodate cars and trucks such as Dayir El-Nahiya and al-Souq streets. In addition, Shutb has a railway station that represents one of the main connections between the village and its surroundings.

In terms of potable water supply, the village is connected to a governmental potable water network while some residents in the village still rely on underground water using water pumps. The village encompasses a clearly visible governmental water tank securing its supply of potable water. Regarding electrical power, Shutb has access to the public electricity grid. The few main streets such Dayir El-Nahiya are lit by public lighting. Otherwise, the alleyways are lit by means of private lighting fixtures installed above buildings’ entrances or on some of the previously installed public lighting poles.
Shutb has no proper access to sanitation services. Instead, the residents mainly depend on septic tanks which require frequent sewer clean-out by emptying the tanks using privately owned trucks locally known as “sewage vacuum trucks or sewage tankers” - that provide their services at a fee. Accordingly, residents are usually cautious regarding the immediate filling of their waste tanks (septic tanks) because it costs them extra charges to empty them frequently. So, they tend to get rid of excess amounts of grey water constantly in the alleyways to reduce the daily discharge of wastewater.

Lack of improved sanitation service is a major problem in Shutb due to: i) the immediate health hazards of the leaking sewage; and ii) the negative impact of sewage water on the foundations of existing buildings - especially the traditional ones. As a result, many buildings are in poor structural condition, suffering from foundations settlement or cracks in their walls. In June 2014, Asyut’s governor inaugurated a sanitation treatment and pumping station as part of an infrastructure and basic services’ development plan for Shutb village. This effort is part of a larger World Bank funded project (ISSIP II PHASE II, EGP 570 million) aiming at extending improved sanitation services to many of Egypt’s rural areas.²

The streets of Shutb have some fire hydrants but from their seemingly dilapidated condition it is difficult to know if they are properly functioning. Recently, in May 2015, the Asyut officials inaugurated a new fire fighting unit on a state-owned piece of land in the village. In terms of solid waste, garbage spreads throughout the village; in the streets, alleyways and commonly in any public space with no clear ownership such as street corners, around public buildings and around ruins. Piles of garbage are accumulated in vacant land plots and through the slopes of the hill. Another means Shutb’s residents follow to get rid of garbage is to burn it in the streets due to lack of solid waste management system.

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4.3 Buildings

Shutb built urban fabric consists of a majority of residential buildings in addition to a few small public buildings (mosques, schools, church, health unit, railway service buildings, etc.) mostly scattered around the outer traditional perimeter of the village. There is a noticeable difference between the residential buildings on the hill in the historic core (within the traditional perimeter of Dayir El-Nahiya Road); and the ones developed at a later stage in the village’s urban expansion areas on the agricultural lands. However, what is in common of these two types of residential buildings is that they are mostly private houses developed as owner-occupied buildings for the residents’ extended families.

Buildings inside the Dayir El-Nahiya perimeter on top of the hill are mostly 1-3 storey-high traditional houses with an attic on the rooftop used for storage purposes. Buildings in this area are attached to each other, forming continuum facades shaping the village’s narrow winding streets, cul-de-sacs and public open spaces. Outside of the Day Al-Nahiya perimeter, buildings are more modern with a mix of modern houses and some apartment buildings also developed by private owners for their extended families. These modern buildings are mostly 3-5 storey-high developed over the past two decades, shaping the village’s modern urban expansion.

It is worthy of note that except for a few modern public and apartment buildings, mostly located along the Dayir El-Nahiya Road, modern buildings in the village blend well within the village’s urban fabric since they resemble many of the village’s traditional buildings in terms of height and massing, but not in terms of building materials or architectural expressions.
4.3.1 Building Typologies

Buildings in Shutb can be classified into two main categories: non-residential buildings and residential buildings. Non-residential buildings are mainly governmental buildings providing public services to the residents. Most of these buildings are located on the Dayir El-Nahiya Road and Al-Souq (Market) Street. Public service buildings are mostly: i) religious buildings including the Martyred Prince Tadrus al-Shutby Church and several mosques and shrines; ii) governmental service buildings such as the several public schools, the post office, the health unit, the youth centre, the railway service buildings, etc.; and iii) privately owned shops and commercial facilities in the ground floor of many buildings located along the Dayir El-Nahiya Road.

It is worthy of note that almost all of these non-residential buildings are modern, except for some of the traditional railway service buildings. Given the scope of this mission, the main focus of the study will be on the village’s residential buildings since many of them are traditional and are architecturally significant. Therefore, this section of the report will illustrate some of the main residential buildings’ typologies existing in the village:

Traditional House

A traditional house in the village is usually a 1-2 storey-high building that accommodates a nuclear or an extended family depending on the house size. The building massing is simple with very few projections such as balconies or oriel. The buildings are attached to each other, forming long traditional façades continuums. Many of the village’s traditional building façades have unique exposed-brick delicate ornaments typical to the village. Some other traditional buildings, perhaps developed at a later stage, are plastered and have more European style fenestrations and decorative elements mostly influenced by similar style buildings in Asyut City.

The majority of the village’s traditional houses are built using traditional building techniques and materials (masonry bearing walls of traditional fired bricks; and wooden ceilings and roofs). However, it is worthy of note that there are a few traditional houses that are built of masonry bearing walls and reinforced concrete ceilings. Such houses, mostly built in a more recent era, represent a transitional phase between the village’s strictly traditional houses and its modern ones.

There are different variations of traditional houses in Shutb, however they have much in common in terms of use and internal organization.
Collective Traditional House(s)

A collective traditional house is usually two storey-high or more, consisting of an agglomerating of smaller structures or cluster of houses accessible by a single entrance from the street. The entrance leads to a courtyard or a very small alleyway where all the smaller buildings’ entrances open to. This typology accommodates extended families while ensuring them some level of privacy. In such buildings, bedrooms are slightly separated from the central open space, and are mostly on the upper floors. Currently, some of these buildings are occupied by separate nuclear families.

In terms of building materials and facade treatments, collective traditional houses share many characteristics with the village’s traditional house typology and sometimes it is difficult to differentiate between both typologies from the external appearance of the building.

Modern House

In terms of massing, such typology shares some characteristics with the traditional house typology. Most of the village modern houses are 1-3 storey-high, accommodating one nuclear family or an extended family. Similar to the traditional house typology it is possible to identify two variations of the modern house typology.

The first variation is mostly located within the historic core of the village. This variation, and as mentioned earlier, represents a smooth transition from the traditional house typology, but using more modern building materials, techniques and proportions of fenestrations. So, some of the buildings of this typology have balconies in their facades reflecting the use of reinforced concrete as a building material but with some traditional building features such as arched gateways or traditional wooden lattice work typical to other areas of Upper Egypt.

The second variation is mostly located outside of the historic core in the more recent urban expansions of the village on the agricultural lands. It consists of modern houses developed over the past two decades for extended family houses. These houses consist of reinforced concrete skeleton structures and red bricks or white limestone. The ornaments of such houses are sometimes extravagant, representing the resident’s interpretation of a neo-classical European style and are entirely disconnected from the village’s traditional architectural character. The spread of such variation of the modern house typology has been rampant all over Egypt since the 1980s.
However, from a typological point of view, the different variations of the traditional and modern houses in the village all serve a similar purpose: to accommodate extended families and they are mostly owner-developed and occupied. Therefore, a more in-depth study of the evolution of these typologies and the lifestyle profile of their residents is recommended.

**Modern Apartment Building**

These are larger residential structures (3-5 storey-high) that mostly exist in the recent urban expansion areas outside of the historic core of the village and along the Dayir El-Nahiya Road. They are built using modern construction techniques and materials (reinforced concrete skeleton structures, red bricks, etc.) The internal organization of such buildings is entirely different from the traditional and modern houses typologies. They consist of separate apartments (1-2 apartments per floor) distributed over multiple floors, with commercial shops on the ground floor in some cases. However, many of these buildings are developed to accommodate extended families as well. The facades of such buildings are modular, share almost nothing with the traditional buildings of the village, and they are either unfinished or plastered with cement plaster.
4.3.2 Architectural Significance and State of Integrity

Investigating the significance of Shutb’s traditional architecture and urban fabric is not an easy endeavour. Mainly because building a consensus among different stakeholders (including the local residents, the Governorate and the MoA officials) that Shutb’s traditional architecture and urban fabric would be considered as ‘heritage’ that merits protection and conservation is a complicated process. To the majority of the stakeholders, Shutb is merely an ‘ordinary’ village; hence, many of its traditional buildings have been demolished in the past without any protection or documentation measures. Therefore, it is imperative to start building an appreciation among the different stakeholders of the village’s built heritage. To this effect, it is important to understand and analyse the different values of the various elements of this ‘built’ heritage.

On the urban level, Shutb is unique in the sense of its geographic and topographic setting as a village entirely developed on a hilly plateau with clear physical boundaries. The organic nature of the village’s street network, the village’s limited accessibility due to its topographic nature, and the availability of surrounding agricultural lands to absorb the village’s urban expansions have all contributed to preserving the village’s traditional urban fabric and relieving the urban pressure that would have destroyed it. Therefore, the main urban/historic core of the village within the Dayir El-Nahiya perimeter still maintains its traditional features in terms of density, massing and urban features.

In terms of architectural significance, it can be analysed on three different levels:

**Traditional Facade Continuums**

These are agglomerations of attached traditional buildings that form all together the architectural heritage character of the village. On their own, individual buildings of these continuums are not significant – but their existence together in one continuous facade gives them this unique heritage value. Such level of significance is often overlooked when it comes to developing conservation plans in the Egyptian context; however its understanding is crucial to maintain the historic/traditional integrity of the village. During the survey, the team identified 13 traditional facade continuums of different sizes and scales distributed throughout the village.

![Traditional facade continuums are often neglected as part of the village’s valuable heritage elements](image-url)
Significant Buildings

The team identified 19 significant buildings in Shutb that are mostly residential. It is possible to classify these buildings into two main groups. The first group includes buildings with exposed fired bricks ornamented facades. This group of buildings is unique and can be rarely found in other Egyptian traditional villages. The types of brickwork and motifs on the facades of these buildings can be possibly identified with the motifs of a special textile/fabric traditionally produced by women of Asyut called *tally*. However, this possible correlation requires further investigation. This group of buildings could be the oldest identified buildings in the village; however most of them are in dilapidated physical condition. The cultural, technical craftsmanship, aesthetic and architectural values of these buildings are significant. Therefore, the documentation and conservation of this group of buildings is a priority.

The second group of buildings is also traditional; however they are typical to many traditional buildings developed in the first half of the 20th Century in other Egyptian villages and some traditional urban areas on the outskirts of Asyut such as Al-Walidiyya. This group of buildings mimics to a certain extent the architectural features of some mansions in Egypt’s provincial capitals in an attempt to demonstrate the social status of the families who developed an inhabited these houses. Therefore, many of these buildings feature classical columns, balustrades and other elements of neo-classical architecture that somehow prevailed in many Egyptian cities in the beginning of the 20th Century. However, such buildings developed in Shutb and other similar villages are an eclectic attempt to bring together these classical architectural elements with traditional/local spatial arrangements such as the central building entrance with an open terrace on the upper floor overlooking an inner courtyard in the building.
Some of the architecturally significant buildings in the village feature neo-classical architectural elements organized in a way that reflects the village’s local character such as this building in the marketplace.

Many traditional buildings in Shutb still maintain their original state; hence the team classifies them as “Buildings with full historic integrity.” Some of these buildings can be found along the Dayir El-Nahiya perimeter. Another group of traditional buildings has experienced modification by the residents (such as change of building original colours or the loss of some wooden elements, etc.). With some careful interventions, such modifications can be reversed and these buildings can retrieve their original state and full historic integrity. The team classifies these buildings as “Reversibly altered buildings.” Finally, there is a third group of traditional buildings that have been modified or altered in a way that makes it difficult to retrieve their original state either due to severe physical interventions (such as the demolition of entire floors or sections of these buildings); or due to the absence of any historic evidence that can facilitate their reconstruction. The team classifies this group as “Irreversibly altered buildings.”
Significant Elements

The team identified 25 houses with significant elements. These are not Significant Buildings, but ordinary traditional buildings or partial ruins that contain significant architectural features. These elements and features include: significant brickwork ornaments, balustrades and balconies; woodwork; urban elements such as rooms bridging over streets and alleyways; and decorative facade elements. The village has a distinctive decorative element that is found on the upper floor facade of many buildings. It is a protruding masonry element with an outline of a lady raising both hands in the air -or one hand is raised up and the other is held on the waist as if she is dancing. The team asked a number of residents about the meaning or origin of this feature. The residents suggested that it was a pattern used for aesthetic reasons or a signature done by a local mason. Only one old man suggested that it might be linked to “The Bride of the Nile-Arous El-Nil” – an ancient Egyptian myth. However, it was not possible to trace the origin of this feature during this mission.
4.3.3 General State of Conservation

The majority of the buildings within the Dayir El-Nahiya perimeter are either in deteriorating or in poor state of conservation. This can be attributed to three main reasons: i) the poor quality of the soil (mostly consisting of silt and clay) and the negative impact of sewage water on it; ii) the attempts of some of residents to illegally excavate beneath their buildings under the impression that they can loot whatever artefacts they think can be found; and iii) lack of periodic maintenance or proper technical and financial support to maintain the village buildings. Outside of the Dayir El-Nahia perimeter where more modern buildings are constructed, the overall buildings’ physical conditions are much better.

Most of the traditional buildings surveyed are in deteriorating state of conservation, i.e. their plaster, exposed brick facades, fenestrations, sanitation are in deteriorating condition. However, they do not suffer from severe structural deterioration. Hence, they require an intermediate level of intervention to repair the facade elements, maintain their sanitation systems, etc. On the other hand, a fewer number of the surveyed traditional buildings were in poor condition, which means in addition of the above mentioned deterioration signs, they also suffer from structural damage and they have visible structural cracks in their walls. Such type of buildings will require a more intrusive intervention to address their dilapidated structural conditions. Finally, the team identified only one traditional building of value that was partially ruined and would require the reconstruction of its ruined section.

Repair attempts carried by the residents are usually ad-hoc and only aesthetic, as most residents cannot afford to perform proper repairs to their structures, and some of the residents who can afford it would rather build new households on the outskirts of the village where there is better soil, better building conditions, and closer amenities.
4.3.4 Type of Construction and Building Materials

Traditional Construction

Traditional construction is the most widespread type among the village buildings, especially within the historic core. In terms of building techniques, this type is characterized by bearing walls and flat wooden ceilings and roofs consisting of wooden joists covered by wooden decking. Given the limitation of this type of roofing system, it is rare to see architectural elements such as balconies or oriels projecting from the facades. For this type, fired-bricks are the material used for wall masonry. Facades in this type are either fully plastered (with lime plaster and coloured lime wash finish); are partially plastered (especially in the ground floor); or with fully exposed brickwork. The quality of masonry and craftsmanship in this type of buildings is good, and that is why many of such old buildings are still in a relatively sound condition until today.

Modern Construction

Modern construction buildings are mostly found outside of the Dayir El-Nahiya perimeter in the village’s urban expansion areas since most of these buildings were developed over the past few decades. Few of these modern buildings can be also found on the hill replacing some of the older structures that were demolished over the past years. In terms of building techniques, modern construction is characterized by the use of reinforced concrete skeleton structures enabling the residents to build 3-5 storey-high buildings or even higher. This structural system also allows residents to easily add balconies and oriels to the facades, leading to a visual disruption with the village’s traditional architectural character. For masonry, residents use red fired bricks (especially for multi-storey buildings) or the cheaper and heavier white limestone transported from El-Minya for 1-2 storey buildings. Facades of such buildings are either exposed - showing the concrete and masonry elements; or plastered with rough cement based plaster.
Mixed Construction

This type is simply a mix of the two above-mentioned types. However, it is worthy of note that this type includes two different variations. The first variation includes the earlier phase of the village’s modern structures where residents used to build such houses using traditional forms and vernacular architectural expressions, but using reinforced concrete slabs for example. This variation represents a natural and smooth transition in the evolution of the village’s built environment that does not break with the village’s past.

The second variation of the mixed construction type is simply a mix of an older structure built using traditional construction techniques and materials, and a more recent addition built with modern techniques and materials. This includes addition of upper floors on top of traditional buildings, addition of horizontal extensions (one or several rooms), or repair of parts of buildings with modern construction. This second variation of mixed construction is rare in the village since residents prefer to demolish old structures and build anew.

Ruins and Partial Ruins

These are fully or partially demolished buildings where debris is accumulated in the building plot or the demolished part of the building. Some of the partial ruins contain significant architectural elements such as gateways or ornaments.

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3 These two variations are associated with the Traditional and the Modern House building typologies mentioned earlier in the Building Typologies section of this report.
4.4 Summary of Interviews with the Local Stakeholders

During the mission, the team was able to conduct some informal interviews with local residents of the village, the Martyred Prince Tadrus al-Shutby clergy, and the Mayor (oumda) of Shutb – Mr. Abdel Aziz Kidwany. The following is a summary of these interviews:

Shutb residents share a common folk story of an old dispute between the ancient rulers of Shub and the nearby village of Drunka located to the West of Shutb. Some residents believe that this dispute ended up by Drunka’s ruler burning down the whole village of Shutb – in line with the Ibn Duqmaq 14th Century’s interpretation of the village history. Some of the residents claim that Drunka’s ruler had utilized his village location to the West of Shutb, and being on a higher ground level, to order his troops to focus the sun rays on Shutb using reflecting mirrors or convex lenses to burn it down. Some of the residents base this belief on the fact that during any excavation they would find layers of dark soil which they refer to as ashes of the older burnt village.

In line with the above, many residents confirmed on several occasions that the majority of them have done excavations in the underground of their houses searching for antiquities - which affects the structural stability of their buildings. The meeting with the oumda further confirmed this local practice. In addition, the oumda informed the team about his collaboration efforts with the authorities to bring an end to this illegal practice.

It is also worthy of note that many residents expressed a high level of interest in knowing about the history of their village. Residents were curious about how the hill (tell) was formed and all of them confirmed that the tell represents the oldest part of the village. Residents were also eager to explore how this higher land of the tell existed and why the original village was established there. However, some residents suggested that their ancient ancestors of Shutb chose to build their houses on the tell to protect themselves from the Nile flood. Residents also stated that the area around Dayir El-Nahiyha was originally used for granaries. In addition, Shutb al-Mahata School is considered as one of the oldest buildings in the village because it was established in one of the rail way station buildings constructed during the British colonization of Egypt (before 1954). Residents also stated that most of the schools in Shutb were constructed depending on local donations. Regarding other services, older residents confirmed that electricity was provided in 1972 and the village had access to water in 1955.

Another story is the one related to the Martyred Prince Tadrus al-Shutby whose name is carried by the only Church in Shutb - located at the centre of the village’s historic core. According to one of the Church’s publications, the prince is believed to be a descendant of a Coptic father from Shutb - who moved to Antakya during a conflict between the Persian and the Roman empires- and a mother from Antakya - from whom Tadrus inherited his title “the Prince”. The publication mentions that Prince Tadrus al-Shutby -who is believed to have many miracles-, visited Shutb only once to meet his father. After the Prince passed away, his body was transferred to Shutb and that is where the current church was established. Two residents -besides the Church’s publication- suggested that Shutb had several churches reaching almost 40 churches which were mainly located on the tell.

In terms of social networks, Shutb encompasses almost 20 families with some of them having roots and kinship ties from other governorates such as Qena. The current oumda belongs to ‘Aal-Kidwany which is a prominent and wealthy family. Other major families are ‘Aal-Nemais, ‘Aal-Hadary, ‘Aal-Saqr and their cousins ‘Aal-Mazen. Other families also include ‘Aal-Hammady, ‘Aal-Tammam, ‘Aal-Zidan, ‘Aal-Ma’bady,

Accordingly decision making in the village is a deliberative process and depends on ties and relationships between the different families, and also on their geographic location in the village. Usually decision makers are reputable elderly men and community leaders who owe the respect of the community. In earlier times, the main decision maker was Sheikh al-Hessa who was usually an appointed man with a record of all residents of the village.
5  Summary of Main Findings and Proposed Next Steps

5.1  Main Mission Findings

The main objective of this mission was to conduct a preliminary assessment of the vernacular architectural heritage and the traditional urban fabric of Shutb Village in Asyut (Egypt), and to identify the requirements and potential scenarios for the documentation of this heritage. Therefore, this section will focus on two main aspects: i) heritage conservation aspects; and ii) the environmental and developmental aspects affecting the conservation the Shutb’s tangible and intangible heritage.

Heritage Conservation Aspects

One of the main findings of this mission is that the village of Shutb is indeed privileged with valuable heritage assets that require intensive and systemic efforts towards their protection, documentation, conservation, proper management and promotion. These valuable heritage assets include:

- The village’s unique urban setting, historic urban landscape and traditional fabric (especially within the village’s historic core);
- The exiting Archaeological Site (where the British Museum mission is currently active);
- Traditional and architecturally significant buildings and elements;
- And, the village’s intangible heritage in terms of oral history and traditional crafts.

However, these valuable heritage assets face different threats and challenges including:

- Most importantly, lack of appreciation of this heritage (from a comprehensive perspective) among local residents, the Governorate and the MoA. Except for the Archaeological Site, to the aforementioned stakeholders Shutb is an ‘ordinary’ village similar to many others in Upper Egypt. Traditional houses in the village are considered as ‘old’ structures awaiting their demolition and replacement by more modern structures that fit the residents’ aspirations for better living conditions. This vision, to a large extent, is shared among the aforementioned stakeholders; hence there are no efforts either by the residents or the officials to address the escalating problems facing the village’s traditional built environment. Without addressing this critical hindrance and trying to build a shared understanding and appreciation of the elements of Shutb’s tangible and intangible heritage among the different stakeholders, efforts to address the problems of this heritage would be futile;

- As a result of the above, the village’s tangible and intangible heritage suffer from: i) lack of proper documentation of the different elements of this heritage; ii) lack of protection measures for the built heritage against demolition or loss; iii) lack of periodic maintenance or conservation efforts; iv) lack of proper urban and heritage management tools and measures; and consequently v) lack of any efforts to promote this heritage locally or internationally to capitalize on it and benefit the local community;

- Direct physical threats including: i) lack of improved sanitation services in the village and potential impact of ISSIP II on the village; ii) the poor nature of the soil (mainly consisting of silt and clay); iii) the illegal excavations taking place in some the houses by a few local residents; and iv) the uncontrolled urban development in the village’s historic core and expansion areas.
Environmental and Developmental Aspects

On the environmental and developmental level, the village is privileged with: i) connectivity to means of transportation and main roads; ii) proximity to Asyut City – benefiting from its services, facilities and job opportunities; iii) almost universal connectivity to the electrical power grid and public potable water networks; and iv) availability of many public services and facilities within the village (public schools, health unit, post office, fire station, commercial facilities, etc.)

However, the preliminary findings of this mission reveal that the village also faces some threats and challenges including:

- Lack of improved sanitation services in the village (in 2006, only 2% of the families were connected to a sewage network);
- Lack of efficient solid waste management system addressing spread of garbage and animal faecal waste in the village public open spaces - resulting in overall hygiene problems;
- High levels of illiteracy and unemployment especially among women.

5.2 Recommendations and Proposed Next Steps

Based on the mission findings, the following is a set of recommendations and proposed next step both on the short- and long-terms addressing the village’s heritage conservation, environmental and developmental aspects:

Proposed Short-term Actions

Heritage Conservation Aspects

It is proposed to take some immediate measures aiming to: i) document and protect Shutb’s traditional buildings; and ii) embark on a dialogue with the different stakeholders to establish a level of appreciation and understanding of the village’s tangible and intangible heritage among the different stakeholders, and work with them to develop a shared vision towards the protection and management of this heritage. More specifically, the following are the recommended actions:

A. Fully document the village’s built heritage elements, with a special focus on the identified significant buildings. Documentation would include measured drawings, sketches, photographic documentation, and possibly the production of computer and physical models for the village. Documentation, as a first step, should cover the following:

i. **Significant Buildings:** the team has identified 19 significant buildings with architectural/heritage value. Documentation of these buildings will cover building floor plans, facades and possibly their residents’ life style (i.e. how they use the building, furniture and uses of different spaces, etc.) Documentation and production of drawings of a single significant building will take 10-15 working days; and a team of: one Architect + one Surveyor + Digital Survey Station.

ii. **Traditional Facade Continuum:** the team has identified 13 traditional facade continuums (of different sizes and scales) which are agglomerations of attached traditional buildings that form all together the architectural heritage character of the village. On their own, individual buildings of these continuums are not significant – but their existence together in one continuous facade gives them this unique heritage value. Documentation of these traditional facade continuums will cover facades only without the need for floor plans documentation. Documentation and
production of drawings of a single traditional facade continuum will take 5-10 working days; and a team of: one Architect + one Surveyor + Digital Survey Station.

iii. **Significant Elements:** the team has identified 25 houses with significant elements. These are not Significant Buildings, but ordinary traditional buildings or partial ruins that contain significant architectural features (windows, doors, woodworking, moldings, etc.) Documentation of these significant elements will be done through photographic documentation and sketching. Documentation and sketching of all the 25 elements will require 15 working days; and a team of: one Architect.

iv. **Public Open Spaces:** the team has identified 5 public open spaces with important use value that reflect the lifestyle and dynamism of the village (such as the marketplace). Documentation of these public open spaces will cover drawing maps of these spaces and documentation of the various uses over different times of the day/week. Documentation and production of drawings of a single public open space will take 5-7 working days; and a team of: one Architect + one Surveyor + Digital Survey Station.

v. **Significant Urban Fabric Cluster:** the team has identified one cluster of the village urban fabric that requires documentation. This cluster, containing most of the village’s significant buildings, is located at the north-western part of the historic core - overlooking the Archaeological Site. Documentation of this cluster will cover the streets, building outlines and building masses. There is no need in this cluster to document floor plans and the result of this documentation would be a map showing the streets and layouts of different buildings. If time allows, it would be possible to produce a 3D axonometric sketch of this cluster showing the intricate relationships between different buildings and public open spaces. Documentation and production of drawings of this significant urban fabric cluster will take 20-25 working days; and a team of: one Architect + one Surveyor + Digital Survey Station.

B. Documentation of the village’s intangible heritage including crafts and oral history through field and desktop research to build a narrative on Shutb’s history and capitalize on the residents’ interest in knowing this history.

C. Engage the young MoA officials and inspectors in the efforts aiming at the documentation of the village’s tangible and intangible heritage. This can take place through capacity building efforts and engaging these young professionals by our team in on-the-job documentation activities.

D. Embark on a dialogue among different stakeholders on Shutb’s heritage values and means of its documentation, protection, conservation, management and promotion. This activity can take place through informal workshops and meetings with the different stakeholders.

E. Communicate with the Governorate and the National Organization for Urban Harmony (NOUH) to explore the potential of formally enlisting some of the village buildings as Architecturally Significant Buildings, hence protect them from demolition.

**Environmental and Developmental Aspects**

A. On the short-term, there is a need to address the impact of the intended improved sanitation project (ISSIP II) planned for the village. Annex 2 (Report on the Impact of the Improved Sanitation Project in Shutb Village) addresses the required immediate measures in this regard.
Proposed Short-term Actions

Heritage Conservation Aspects

A. Develop a comprehensive Conservation Plan for Shutb, including a plot-by-plot survey of the existing buildings especially in the village’s historic core. This plan should take into consideration the different elements of Shutb’s built heritage (the Archeological Site, significant and traditional buildings, facade continuums, etc.) The plan should also take into consideration the latest recommendations of UNESCO’s Historic Urban Landscapes (HUL) approach, especially when dealing with the village’s urban setting and surrounding built and natural environments.

B. Based on the above, develop a Management Plan for Shutb as a village and urban heritage site. The plan needs to engage all local stakeholders and differentiate between the measures for the historic core on the one hand, and the measures for the surrounding urban expansions on the other.

C. Embark on a program for the restoration of Shutb’s significant buildings as a priority, and a housing rehabilitation program for the village’s other traditional buildings. The design of the program should take into consideration technical, legal and financial aspects to ensure its sustainability.

D. Embark on a program for public open space upgrading (following the completion of ISSIP II) taking into consideration the different heritage values of the village.

E. Promote Shutb’s tangible and intangible heritage through traveling exhibitions, short documentaries, books and publications, Social Media channels, etc.

Environmental and Developmental Aspects

A. Follow-up on the long-term implication of ISSIP II implementation and its physical and socioeconomic impacts on the village to take necessary corrective actions (if required).

B. Engage with different stakeholders to embark on an effective Solid Waste Management System.

C. Engage with different stakeholders to develop a capacity building/vocational training program focusing on: i) improvement of building rehabilitation and construction skills among existing craftsmen; and ii) development of existing handicrafts (such as tally fabrics) through capacity building and empowerment of local women, and linking them to the markets;

D. Engage with different stakeholders to address problems of education in the village (limited quality of education in existing facilities and high levels of illiteracy among women).
6 Annexes

6.1 Annex 1: Photographic Documentation of Identified Significant Buildings, Significant Elements and Facade Continuums

Takween Integrated Community Development

Given the special importance of the improved sanitation project in Shutb Village (Asyut Governorate); and in light of the current efforts of the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities and the British Museum to preserve the existing archaeological site and the historic integrity of the village houses and urban fabric, the following is a set of recommendations that can be adopted during the implementation of the sanitation project:

First; the Improved Sanitation Project - if properly implemented – has a direct positive impact on improving the environmental and hygiene conditions of the village; as well as on the protection of the archaeological site and the existing architecturally significant buildings.

Second; to achieve this positive impact, it is recommended to:

1. Adhere to Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) guidelines and regulations especially during the excavation works, under the supervision of a specialized consultant (i.e. excavation side supporting, shoring of adjacent buildings if necessary; and adhering to the HSE / Risk Management reports issued by the contractor and approved by the consultant);

2. As much as possible, implement excavation activities using manual methods and avoid mechanical methods especially in EL-Kom area (within the perimeter of Dayer El-Nahia);

3. Adhere to all the recommendations in the project’s Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report, and the World Bank standards in this regard (attached);

4. The new sanitation network – once operational – would lead to drying out the village’s existing septic tanks currently used for sanitation on the medium-term. Hence, this is expected to reduce the soil’s existing water content. This process would lead to shrinkage of the soil’s top layers in El-Kom area, which would in turn affect the structural safety of the existing buildings on the medium-term.

Therefore, it is recommended to carry out a “Soil Shrinkage Study” before implementing the sanitation project. The study can be carried out based on the results of 5-6 Dry Boreholes by a specialized consulting entity such as the “Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering Unit” in Ain Shams or Asyut University. The study will included the Dry Boreholes findings, expected impacts of the project, and means to mitigate them – if any.
تقرير عن التأثيرات المتوقعة لمشروع الصرف الصحي المتكامل بقرية شطب (محافظة أسيوط)

تكوين لتنمية المجتمعات المتكاملة

نظراً للأهمية الخاصة لمشروع الصرف الصحي المتكامل بقرية شطب (محافظة أسيوط)، وفي إطار الجهود الحالية لوزارة الآثار والمتحف البريطاني للحفاظ على المنطقة الأثرية بالقرية وطابعها العمراني والعمري المتميز، فيما يلي مجموعة من التوصيات التي يمكن أخذها في الاعتبار عند تنفيذ مشروع الصرف الصحي:

أولاً: مشروع الصرف الصحي المتكامل بقرية شطب - في حال تنفيذه وفقاً للشروط والمعايير الملائمة - سيكون له تأثير إيجابي مباشر على تحسين الظروف الصحية والبيئية لسكان القرية، كذلك على حماية المنطقة الأثرية ومباني القرية ذات الطابع المعماري المتميز.

ثانياً: لتحقيق هذه النتائج الإيجابية المرجوة، يوصى بما يلي:

1. الالتزام بمعايير الأمان والسلامة المهنية والصحية أثناء تنفيذ عملية الحفر وذلك تحت إشراف استشاري متخصص في هذا النوع من الأعمال (مثل سن جوانشب الحفر إنشائياً، وصيغة مباني المجاورة إن تطلب ذلك، والالتزام بتقديم النتائج والمساومة من استشاري المشروع)

2.احتمالية الالتزام بالحفر اليدوي وتجنب الحفر الميكانيكي

3. ملاءمة كافة التحليلات ودراسة تقييم الأثر البيئي للمشروع، كذلك معايير البنك الدولي في هذا السياق (مرقمة)، والالتزام بها بصورة كاملة.

4. من المتوقع أن يؤدي توقف شبكة الصرف الصحي الجديدة إلى جفاف بيات الصرف الصحي القائمة حالياً في الفترة المتوسط، وبالتالي أن تكون نسبة الرطوبة في التربة لائقة. يمكن أن يؤدي ذلك إلى إمكانية التشريق التربة بالطبقات السطحية لمنطقة الكوم، وهو ما قد يؤثر على السلامة الإنشائية للمنازل القائمة (حدوث هبوط أو شروخ).

لذلك يوصى بإجراي دراسة لـ "قابلية التربة للانكماش" في منطقة الكوم (داخل دار ناحية)

بصورة كاملة، مع مراعاة كافة التحليلات والدراسات ودراسة تقييم الأثر البيئي للمشروع، وكذلك معايير البنك الدولي في هذا السياق (مرقمة)، والالتزام بها بصورة كاملة.

5. لاحظ أن إدارة المشروع البلدية والصناعات المختصة يمكن أن تؤثر على السلامة الإنشائية للمنازل القائمة (حدوث حفر أو شروخ) على المدى المتوسط.

لذلك يوصى بإجراي دراسة لـ "قابلية التربة للانكماش" في منطقة الكوم (داخل دار ناحية)، وذلك قبل البدء في تنفيذ المشروع بهذه المنطقة.

6. تانا البيض الصرف الصحي المتكاملة بقرية شطب - في حال تنفيذه وفقاً للشروط والمعايير الملائمة - سيكون له تأثير إيجابي مباشر على تحسين الظروف الصحية والبيئية لسكان القرية، كذلك على حماية المنطقة الأثرية ومباني القرية ذات الطابع المعماري المتميز.

وثانياً: لتحقيق هذه النتائج الإيجابية المرجوة، يوصى بما يلي:

1. الالتزام بمعايير الأمان والسلامة المهنية والصحية أثناء تنفيذ عملية الحفر وذلك تحت إشراف استشاري متخصص في هذا النوع من الأعمال (مثل سن جوانشب الحفر إنشائياً، وصيغة مباني المجاورة إن تطلب ذلك، والالتزام بتقديم النتائج والمساومة من استشاري المشروع)

2.احتمال الالتزام بالحفر اليدوي وتجنب الحفر الميكانيكي

3. ملاءمة كافة التحليلات ودراسة تقييم الأثر البيئي للمشروع، كذلك معايير البنك الدولي في هذا السياق (مرقمة)، والالتزام بها بصورة كاملة.

4. من المتوقع أن يؤدي توقف شبكة الصرف الصحي الجديدة إلى جفاف بيات الصرف الصحي القائمة حالياً في الفترة المتوسط، وبالتالي أن تكون نسبة الرطوبة في التربة لائقة. يمكن أن يؤدي ذلك إلى إمكانية التشريق التربة بالطبقات السطحية لمنطقة الكوم، وهو ما قد يؤثر على السلامة الإنشائية للمنازل القائمة (حدوث حفر أو شروخ) على المدى المتوسط.

لذلك يوصى بإجراي دراسة لـ "قابلية التربة للانكماش" في منطقة الكوم (داخل دار ناحية)، وذلك قبل البدء في تنفيذ المشروع بهذه المنطقة. من خلال عمل 6-5 جهاز جافته للتراب، واصدار تقرير يحتوي على ترتيب الدراسة والوصوليات بالاحتياطات الواجب اتخاذها لتلقي النتائج السليمة المتوقعة - إن وجدت. يراعى أن يتم عمل هذه الجهازات بالطريقة الجافة، وذلك من قبل جهة متخصصة مثل "وحدة ميكانيكا التربة والأساسات" بجامعة عين شمس أو جامعة أسيوط.