



The Aga Khan Award for Architecture

ARCHITECT'S RECORD

CONFIDENTIAL

I. IDENTIFICATION

Project Title Hamman Yalbugha AL-Nasri

Street Address Around the Citadle street,

City Aleppo, Country Syria.

Telephone 333I55 Telex _____

II. PERSONS RESPONSIBLE

A. Architect Nabil Kassabji

Mailing Address P.O.Box 7763

City Aleppo Country Syria

Telephone 2I7086 Telex -----

B. Client _____

Mailing Address Ministry of Tourism

City Damascus Country Syria.

Telephone _____ Telex _____

C. Consultants (e.g. Economists, Sociologists, Demographers, Engineers)

Name -----

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Country _____

Telephone _____ Telex _____

D. Contractor Military Housing Establishment

Mailing Address Military Housing Branch 309

City Aleppo Country Syria.

Telephone 330652-334837 Telex _____

E. Master Craftsman Sammir Nahhas

Mailing Address Souk Al Nahhaseen Bab Al Naser

City Aleppo Country Syria.

Telephone _____ Telex _____

III. USE

A. Specify type(s) of Use: Public Bath - Sauna - Cafe' - Private Parties.

B. User/Occupant

1. Occupation/Profession Tha Arabic Company for investing tourist projects

2. Income Level (check one) _____ High _____ ~~Medium~~ * * _____ ~~Low~~ * _____ ~~Mixed~~ *

C. Specify any change(s) between planned and actual use:

Cafe' is not in use yet.

IV. PROJECT TIMETABLE

(Please specify year and month)

A. Design: Commencement Dec., 1983. Completion May, 1984.

B. Construction: Commencement Sep., 1984. Completion Dec., 1985.

C. Date of Project Occupancy 20th Dec., 1985.

V. PROJECT ECONOMICS

(Please specify amount, currency and date of transaction)

	Amount	Currency	Date
A. Total Initial Budget	<u>2 900 000</u>	<u>Syrian Lira</u>	<u>1984.</u>
B. Total Actual Costs	<u>4 100 000</u>	<u>Syrian Lira</u>	<u>1985.</u>
C. Actual Cost per sq. m.	<u>2 700</u>	<u>Syrian Lira</u>	<u>1985.</u>
D. Analysis of Costs			
1. Land	<u>Public Properties.</u>		
2. Infrastructure	<u>200 000</u>	<u>Syrian Lira</u>	<u>1984.</u>
3. Labour	<u>1 700 000</u>	<u>Syrian Lira</u>	<u>1985.</u>
4. Materials	<u>1 700 000</u>	<u>Syrian Lira</u>	<u>1985.</u>
5. Professional Fees	<u>500 000</u>	<u>Syrian Lira</u>	<u>1985.</u>

E. Cost Comparison

1. Please indicate how the costs of this project relate to typical building costs in the country (check one):

_____ ~~Below Average~~ * _____ ~~Above Average~~ * _____ Below Average

F. Sources of Funds

1. Please indicate the percentage of funds that came from:

0% Private Sources 100% Public Sources

2. If funding was public, what percentage was from:

0% local 100% national 0% international sources

VI. CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

A. Site and Building Area (please indicate in square metres)

1. Total Site Area: 2200 m²
2. Total Ground Floor Area: 1440 m²
3. Total Combined Floor Area (including basement(s), ground floor(s) and all upper floors): 1500 m²

B. Construction and Technology

1. Describe the structural system and the basic method of construction

The main building was built on the traditional way (thick walls, domes, vaults and arcs), and the added section was built of concrete.

2. Indicate which major building parts were fabricated on-site and which were fabricated elsewhere

All parts fabricated on-site.

C. Description of Materials

(please also indicate if locally produced or imported)

1. Foundations The foundation of the main building were made of crude stones, mold and plaster which are locally produced. But those of the added sections were made of concrete steel which are partly imported.
2. Principal structural members The walls were built of stones, the domes of bricks and the arcades of rough stones and plaster. all of the above are locally produced.
3. Infill Carved stones, plaster and paint --- all are locally produced.
4. Rendering of Facades or Exterior Finishes The main elevation was made of black and yellow stones locally produced in Aleppo, the other elevation of rough stones also locally produced.
5. Floors Stones of Aleppo, soft and hard. The service rooms of mosaic and ceramic all are locally produced.
6. Ceilings Plaster covered by paint with small holes filled with glass "Qamareiat". Locally produced.
7. Roofing Plaster covered by special paint for wetness. and the opening made of glass. all are locally produced
8. Other elements (please specify) Wood, wool, clothes, copper, glass, etc. are locally made in a traditional way.

D. Type of labour force (please indicate percentage)

20% Skilled Workers 80% Unskilled Workers

E. Origin of labour force

 Domestic Foreign x

VII. GENERAL GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

A. Please describe the local geographic characteristics: Al Hammam is located beside Aleppo Citadel which sits on a semi-artificial hill at the old city center of Aleppo. Aleppo is located on longitude 37° and latitude 36°. It is 400 m above sea level. It was built on the bank of Al-Quick river which dried out recently.

B. Please describe the local climatic characteristics:

The climate is usually dry, sunny and mild. The temperature range between 20-30° but it may reach -5° in winter and +45° in summer. The annual rain range between 100-150 mm.

VIII. EVOLUTION OF DESIGN CONCEPTS

Please describe the history of the project, from its conception to its final construction and actual use.

The history of this building goes back to the fourteenth century when the prince Yalbugha AL-Nasri (died in 840 H) rebuilt it on the remains of a previous Hammam which was destroyed during the Tartar invasion of Aleppo. This was followed by minor alteration and restoration during the Ottoman period as indicated by the presence of the Ottoman arcs in Al-Jowani "Interior section", but the style of the building is Mameluke especially its beautiful elevation which has a perfect design with its alternated yellow and black stones. Its original function as a bath was kept till the end of the nineteenth century during that period it was visited by the local people of AL-Magazela and AL-Baza square, as well as by those people who are coming from the local villages and AL-Badia for marketing.

At the beginning of this century it became a small factory for making AL-Labad "felt", so it was called AL-Lababedia Hammam. The intention at the beginning of this century when the government house was built and at the early sixties during the construction of the justice home was to destroy AL-Hammam but the antiquity department made a great effort to stop that, it bought AL-Hammam and restored its apparent shape only after AL-Qummim "heating room" was destroyed and covered by the road leading to the justice home square at the end of 1969.

All of AL-Hammam utilities were out of order and the building was closed but occasionally visited by an interested tourist. In 1983 a new idea emerged, it called for using AL-Hammam as a public bath to be visited by the tourist and the local people. This idea was welcomed by the tourist ministry which charged a millhouse who in turn gave me the honour to make the design and construction.

Before I made this design I took so many points into consideration:

- The bad apparent restoration which cancelled the utilities.
- The covered AL-Qummim "heating room" under the justice house's yard.
- The modern utilities which we must add to the building without affecting its character.
- The unique tourist site of AL-Hammam beside Aleppo citadel

which forms a very important viewing to the glory post .

-The huge architectural spaces , masses and height .

All these factors led me to the design which coordinate and harmonize with the beauty of the building, respect its history , perform the desired function with easy movements and good service in addition to investing the tourist and entertaining possibilities of the building and site .

There was a possibility of extending the building at the two ends of the passage which connect the external section with the middle section and the old W.C. The difference among the levels of the passage, heap of surrounding soil and the justice house 's yard allowed me to add a modern mass of building to complete the utilities and the modern requirements without changing the external appearance of the project. It is ventilated and lightend from a patio in the middle of the new building.

We performed several sounds to exclude any antique remenants beside Al-Hammam and disclosed Al- Qummim and the useless utilities. we also cleared the old drains and connected it with the public ones, disclosed Al-Jwani (interior section) and restored the hot air ducts and the chimmeny, we rebuilt the drains and pipes and repaired the water tanks and the pots with developing the heating process of water, and building the upper tunnels for hot air which passes through the ceiling, we added to the bath new stony basins which are simillar to the old ones, And covered the lower part of the walls by a local ceramics which was espically designed for this purpose. Without going into more details I would like to add that I have tried during my work to keep all the antique elements of the building and respect its historical aspects and to add to the general atmospher the glory of the past with the needs of the present and the hope of the future, I have shown this through the furniture , wood works, and the traditional lights.

also I tried to make use from the important tourist side.

Of this building by using the front terrace as cafe' and flagstone the floor of the surrounding street by a black stones to connect this building to the citadel.

It took me six month to complete the design and sixteen months to perform the construction and on 20th Dec., 1985 was officially opened and its actual use started.

IX. PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE

1. In what way is this project important?

Please describe the aspects of the project which represent a particular achievement (for example the technical, economic, or social achievement, or its response to culture, climate, etc.)

In spite of the size of this work and the amount of budget spent on it, it succeeded in receiving the admiration and interest from the public and the experts due to its especial importance as this project has distinguished technical, historical, cultural and architectural style, in addition to its especial role in the social life and tourism in this country.

This sort of projects has a special taste due to its rarity and interesting use. The building in itself is rich in distinguished beautiful architectural elements in addition to its historical and cultural importance, serving the required function, keeping the temperature and making it graduated at getting in and out of Al-Hammam.

Using this building to serve as a public bath not only helped in keeping and preserving its structure but the preservation has spread to other Hammams in the city. The people started to think of investing their Hammams as well.

The traditional craft works which have been used in this project gave the opportunity to throw a light on these forgotten works especially after they have been put in their modernised mould. Hammam Al-Yalbugha has joined the rest of the tourist places at the old city centre, visited by the local people who can enjoy themselves; having great parties and living the old tradition customs.

2. Please indicate the degree to which the client and users are satisfied with the project.

Hammam Yalbugha Al-Nasri was one of the best works done by the tourism ministry recently which met a great response from the public and the experts.

It is a very successful work, performed in a reasonable time after overcoming all obstacles easily.

It has a wide fame within a short period of time which made a big company like The Arabic Company for investing tourist projects interested in Al-Hammam and put it into actual use. I am pleased to say that this company is quite satisfied with this work that

it has not made any change even with the minute details after two years of its use.

X. PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS

1. The materials described below are the minimum requirements for project presentation. Please note that standard presentation dossiers are prepared by the Award, and materials should not be mounted or bound. All materials should be clearly identified. The following should be submitted:
 - A. Map indicating location of project in city, community, neighbourhood, or landscape.
 - B. Ten (10) photographs; preferred and maximum size for A4 presentation (18 × 24 centimetres).
 - C. Twenty (20) slides; 24 × 36 millimetres.
 - D. Drawings; preferred and maximum size for A3 format presentation (29.7 × 42 centimetres).
 - Site, Roof, and Massing Plans;
 - Floor Plan(s);
 - Elevations;
 - Sections.
 - E. Curriculum Vitae, or Firm's Prospectus.
2. The submission of additional materials is encouraged. Please specify any appended materials not listed above.
 - Photographs before and after the restoration.
3. Please indicate other sources of information on the project, e.g. publications, contacts, etc.
 - Aleppo National Museum Archives - 1983.
 - Millihouse ' Archives-1983.
 - Nahar Al-Dahab Be Tarikh Alep -Al Ghazi.
 - Alaam Al-Nubalaa Al- Tabakh.
 - Syrian Hammams Savajeu.
 - Al- Hammamat Jean Cloud David.

Please note: The submission of this Record is a prerequisite to candidacy for the Award. All information contained in and submitted with the Record will be kept strictly confidential until announcement of the Award is made. Subsequently, such information may be made available by the Aga Khan Award for Architecture for scholarly purposes only. Nevertheless, other persons wishing to publish, reproduce, or reprint such information shall be required to secure prior permission from the author in each instance.

Signature Nabil Kassabji

Name (please print) Nabil Kassabji.

Date 10th Dec., 1987

All Materials should be forwarded to:

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