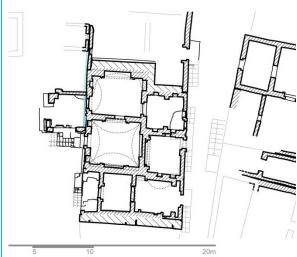
Tomb no. GB 27 (Gabra no. M 09c/SE) facade









Description of the interior design

A tomb house made of adobe masonry. Today the rooms on the second floor are accessible and the structures of the first floor are completely covered by desert sand. The historic door of this tomb house is bricked up. The facade is decorated with little niches framed with stucco.

Inside and outside the adobe masonry is coated with two layers of lime plaster with a whitewash on the top. Fragments of red and green colour are a hint that the niches have been decorated colourful in the past.

Tomb no. GB 27 (Gabra no. M 09c/SE) facade

Condition before treatment

The plaster layers on the facade are partially lost and expose the sun-dried clay brick masonry (adobe). Where visible the adobe masonry shows a structurally destabilised and sanding surface. Parts of the joints are lost.

The architectural surface is lined with cracks. Additionally, the plaster layers are detached from the adobe masonry, being endangered to falling off. Unfortunately, only meagre fragments of the painted decoration have survived.

An intervention is necessary to halt active deterioration and preserve the original plaster.

Treatment

The following steps of emergency measures were done in the field schools of 2014, 2015 and 2018. The main goal was to stabilize the historic plaster layers. The consolidation of the adobe masonry surface next to the preserved plasters provided a solid structure for the treatments to follow. In addition, lost joints were infilled.

The plaster layers were stabilized by edging detached fragments. The conservation mortar contains cellulose-ether as binder. To improve the bondage between coat and support, voids were filled by grout injections based on a silica binder. Due to the outdoor situation all conservation plasters were finally structurally strengthened with a silica binder.

To learn about details of all conservation steps and materials please refer to the link "treatment" to be found on the front page introduction.









Tomb no. GB 27 (Gabra no. M 09c/SE) facade

Condition after treatment

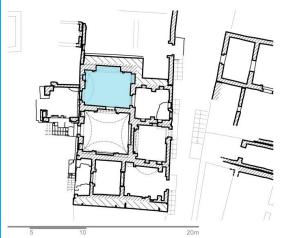
Emergency measures have been carried out to prevent further decay. The facade is exposed to the elements and human action. In this respect, it would be desirable to establish maintenance and monitoring programme for the future.



Status: October 2018

Tomb no. GB 27 (Gabra no. M 09c/SE) inside









Description of the interior design

A tomb house made of adobe masonry. Today the rooms on the second floor are accessible and the structures of the first floor are completely covered by desert sand. The historic door of this tomb house is bricked up, but the interior can be entered through the neighbouring building.

Inside, the adobe masonry is coated with two plaster layers. A whitewash on the top plaster layer serves as primer for a wall painting. All walls have been decorated with imitations of stone incrustations. The decoration is dominated by a big arched niche in the northern wall framed by little niches in the eastern and western wall. All niches are decorated with a painted yellow-white ashlar stone masonry with red joints.

The lost areas of the original plaster in the upper parts of the walls have been closed parallel to the reconstruction of the roof. The repair phase with white plaster was left unpainted. The roof was reconstructed flat and not as a dome-shaped.

Tomb no. GB 27 (Gabra no. M 09c/SE) inside

Condition before treatment

The plaster layers, especially on the northern wall, are partially lost and expose the sundried clay brick masonry (adobe). Where visible, the adobe masonry shows a structurally destabilised and sanding surface. There is a bigger damage in the masonry structure in the eastern frame of the big arched niche. Plaster fragments can be found on the floor below the walls.

The architectural surface is lined with cracks. Additionally, the plaster layers are detached from the adobe masonry, being endangered to falling off. In particular, the plaster layers in the big arched niche are particularly fragile. Collapsed plaster fragments could be found on the floor.

The paint layers are reduced. Partially the paint layers show deterioration phenomena like powdering. There is a layer of dust on the whole structure and a layer of bat excrements on the floor.

An intervention is necessary to halt active deterioration and preserve the original plaster and wall painting.

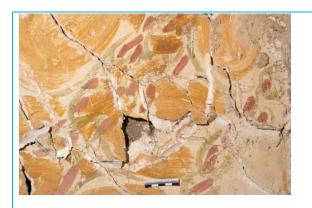


Treatment

The following steps of emergency measures were done in the field schools of 2012 and 2014. The room and all architectural surfaces were cleaned. Fragile paint layers were structurally consolidated on the eastern and northern walls. Further emergency measures were concentrated on the most endangered plaster layers in the big arched niche in the northern wall. The consolidation of the adobe masonry surface provided a solid structure for the treatments to follow. For temporary protection fragile parts of the wall painting were faced with Japanese paper and cellulose-ether glue. The many fallen-off plaster fragments were secured, documented and stored separately.

To learn about details of all conservation steps and materials please refer to the link "treatment" to be found on the front page introduction.

Tomb no. GB 27 (Gabra no. M 09c/SE) inside

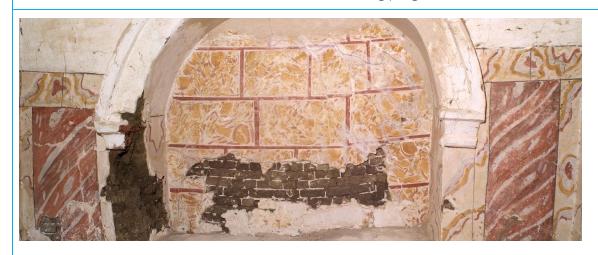


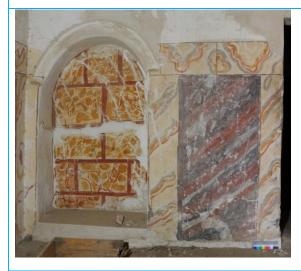


Condition after treatment

Fragile parts of the wall painting were facing with Japanese paper and cellulose-ether glue. Further treatment is essential to guarantee long-term conservation.

In June 2018 the paint and plaster layers in the niche in the eastern wall were permanently destroyed. In this respect, it would be desirable to continue the emergency measures and to establish maintenance and monitoring programme for the future.







Status: October 2018