

ZAYAMCHAY EXCAVATION 2003 POST EXCAVATION PROJECT DESIGN

It is suggesting to structure a report based on the following headings:

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Should this section be obligatory included in IoA report?

This section should include at least following:

The Zayamchai cemetery was excavated as part of the Phase 3 archaeological works of the BTC pipeline project during 2003. Approximately 129 graves were excavated containing a wide range of human remains and associated grave goods. The site is broadly dated to the 13th to 8th centuries BC and is a typical site of the Hojiali- Kababeg culture. An associated settlement area was excavated some 300m to the east. Fieldwork in the area shows large numbers of small kurgan stone burial cairns and other settlement evidence indicating that only a small part of the total area of the site has been examined.

This site represents one of the largest excavations carried out by the IoAE and is of international importance in the study of Transcaucasian archaeology. Obligatory, include as it is

1 SITE LOCATION INCLUDING MAP(S) AND DESCRIPTION (NGR, size, geology, land use, topography, physical constraints)

This section could be added by BTC as IoA has no GIS with BTC layers etc. This is simple, just the site is on the right bank of the Zayam on a number of small hills that are occasionally cultivated. The area lies in the westernmost part of Shamkir Region between the village of Bayramli and Duyarli. A map showing the pipeline, the various sites, the roads and the villages is needed

2 CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT: planning background, planning policies, other environmental matters, relevant legislation, details of proposed development if relevant

To provide background and include at least following:

Attention was drawn to the area during the Stage 1 archaeological survey by a number of important features and the pipeline altered to avoid these. The specific parts of the site were located during stage 2 trial trenching and the full scale excavation commenced as part of Stage 3 of the programme. At present, the construction of the pipeline has not reached this area, but certain parts of the Stage 4 watching brief, identified a medieval cemetery 200m to the west of the site leading to an excavation during February 2004. This design represents the proposals for the Stage 5 works on the site for the preparation of a full archaeological report on findings in the area.

This is an AGT archaeological strategy and this section also could be added by BTC. Could be flexible on this as the situation is changing all the time

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (including built, landscape and technical, plan or NGR, site status)

This is partly covered in the paragraphs above, but should also be a general statement on the known features in the area.

This section could be mentioned in Non-technical summary above and in introduction section below. Oblig, not difficult to provide two paras on known archaeology

4 AIMS OF FIELDWORK (clearly stated in both general and specific terms)

We should request IoA to include this section. Oblig

To provide the aims of the work that has been done:

...The aims of the excavation were to record those features that were threatened by construction of the pipeline. Although the working width of the pipeline was reduced, the quantity and intensity of features recorded were far greater than indicated by the preliminary work in the area. This meant that a larger and longer scale excavation was required on the site.

A large quantity of high quality information was obtained from the cemetery, despite the fact that parts of the site were disturbed. In the settlement area, the results of excavation were disappointing due to the recent ploughing and erosion of the hill on which it stood. It is hoped however that sufficient information was obtained to show that the two types of site were used at the same time.

5 FIELD METHODOLOGY (techniques selected, with justification for selection; detailed exposition of techniques, artefact collection policies, discard policies, environmental collection strategy and implementation, recording techniques, and any measures for the conservation/ reburial of surviving deposits)

To describe all stages and methods used during field work:

...Open area excavation along the pipeline width with full excavation by hand of grave features. Drawing and photography of the exposed burials. Complete recovery of artifacts, including sieving for small items. Human remains were very fragmentary, and only those in relatively good conditions were lifted and retained. The other remains were disposed in accordance with the community's wishes. Archaeological records were kept by BTC and IoAE staff. BTC staff was responsible for surveying, drawing and photography of features. IoAE staff maintained a written narrative and photography of features, together with descriptions and onsite treatment of artefacts.

IoA is proposed to provide some methodology in Introduction section. BTC should request to include separate section for the methodology both during field work and post-field activities. Oblig just put in the para above

6 POST-FIELDWORK METHODOLOGIES (cleaning, conservation, cataloguing, packaging, dating techniques, archive preparation, analyses)

To describe all stages and methods to be used:

...Artefacts were moved to the Ganja Guesthouse after initial cleaning and packing into boxes and were then transported to the IoAE offices in Baku.

List of all artefact and their contexts and following from this the treatment, cataloguing and conservation of finds should be prepared. This list should be attached as an appendix to this project design, allowing definitive statements such as 'there are 514 complete pottery vessels, there are 255 bronze objects, 'there were 28 human remains 21 were discarded, 7 have been retained and are stored in the IoAE offices.' See above.

7 REPORT PREPARATION, CONTENTS

This section shall remain as it was originally submitted by IoA. A chapter by chapter breakdown of the report, supported by estimates of word counts and figure lists.

- "Introduction",
 - summary of the site
 - Geographical and natural setting

- "Necropolis",
 - Description and listing of features
 - Pottery
 - Bronzework
 - Beads
 - Bones

- "Residential Area",
 - Pottery

- Beads
- “Conclusion”,
 - Discussion of the site
 - Significance of the features
 - Significance in an international setting

To include the methodology used to answer each research aim detailed methodologies for each type of data. Not oblig for the word numbers and research aims but there should be a list of the find types and words against each of those so that anyone who is interested in beads only can look those up without going through the whole report looking at things he is not concerned with

No comments for this section

8 **ARCHIVE DEPOSITION** (including finds ownership, recipient museum/repository) non-analytical procedures, e.g. proposals for disposal/ retention and for archive deposition
BTC to explain IoA what is required to include to this section and what we need to see in this section
To answer the following questions:

- Will all the artefacts be retained?
- What is their final destination?
- Will some go back to the regional museum at Shamkir?
- I think oblig, but it represents a major effort and expenditure of money by the IoA which they will not be willing to do. Also it overlaps with curatorship work of Alison, about which I don't know very much

APPENDISIES

1) List of all artefact and their contexts BTC should request IoA to include this list as an attachment to the report This is the most important part of the work and seems to be a complete mess at the moment. There is overlapping between BTC archaeology, IOA and Alison and it appears that will fall between the three groups

2) Health and Safety policies and implementation, including Risk Assessment

To provide information on where work will be conducted (within the office environments, principally the IoAE offices within the Academy of Sciences in Baku), health and safety policies for the Academy building and a risk assessment for this work.

BTC to explain IoA what is required to include to this section and what we need to see in this section. This is not oblig, but it is in conformance with BP and BTC core requirements

3) Costs and Timetable

To consider that payment will be made based on achievement of following milestones:

- First payment (3,000 USD) will be made upon agreement of Table of Content between IoA and BTC
- Second payment (20,000 USD) will be made upon submission of the First Draft Report by 01 June 2004
- Third payment (22,000 USD) will be made upon submission of Final Report by 01 August

4) Monitoring procedures (internal, curatorial, contractual)

To provide information that on monitoring activities, which may include but not limited to the following:

- Internal monitoring of the work will be provided by senior members of the IoAE. The Ministry of Culture will be given an update of the work in progress and be allowed access to the work if they request.

- BTC staff will assist with aspects of the work and also maintain oversight of the work. There will be regular meetings to discuss any areas of concern.

IoA should re-address this section as in their revised proposal it has not been reflected as required. Not vital but there needs to be some BTC oversight otherwise the final result will not be what anyone is expecting

5) Copyright

In this section following should be considered:

BTC Co. respects copyright of authors who worked on archaeological excavations along the pipeline right of way and is keen to cooperate with Institute of Archaeology on this issue. At the meantime, it should be highlighted that according to contract signed between BTC Co. and Institute of Archaeology the following notes need to be followed by both parties:

Section 2 "Conditions of Contract"

- *Item 24.1*

All information obtained by CONTRACTOR for or in connection with the Contract and CONTRACTOR's performance of the Services shall be considered confidential and shall not be used by CONTRACTOR other than for the purposes of the Services, or divulged by CONTRACTOR, its servants or agents to any person, firm or corporation other than COMPANY's designated representative.

- *Item 26*

CONTRACTOR shall not publish or permit to be published either alone or in conjunction with any other person any information, article, photograph, illustration, motion picture, video, or any other material of whatever kind relating to the Contract, or COMPANY's business generally, without prior reference to and approval in writing from COMPANY. Such consent shall apply to each specific application and relate only to that application.

- *Item 30.1*

Technical information (including drawings, designs, specifications, electronically recorded and stored data, computer programs and calculations) developed or arising during the Services or in connection with the performance thereof including the results thereof, as well as equipment supplied or purchased from funds provided by COMPANY, shall belong to COMPANY and COMPANY shall have full access thereto and use thereof.

I see IOA is very keen on copyright, this terminology here will frighten them off

6) Publication and dissemination proposals, at the analysis stage to include publication plan or synopsis

IoA to provide a plan of publications, i.e. books – distribution plan, journals – local, international... It should be oblig, they want to publish some sort of report. If they can't say what it will be like, then it would be better to reduce the price of the contract as they won't be writing a published report paid for by BTC that drags on for year after year, they've told me before that they will spend 5-10 years writing up various aspects of the work. I notice that already different people are writing up articles on 234. It seems that everyone in IOA wants to write reports on anything that takes their fancy, there are several reports about Gamigaya where the IOA went to work all saying the same thing rather than one report with a main editor and separate sections written by individuals

The proposed publication outlets, should include both national academic interests of the IoA and international audience that BTC concerned with.