

Title of project:	THE ANCIENT SAAR PROJECT
Name of database file:	Saar database

Name of table 1:	Bldg codes	
Number of rows of data:	84	
Primary key:	ID (autonumber)	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
ID	AutoNumber	
BLDG	The building (house) no. allocated in excavation	Number
TYPE	Refers to the building typology assigned post-excavation	Text (11)
	Key: A – two-roomed, one in the corner of the other B – two-roomed, variants of A C – two-roomed, one behind the other D – three-roomed, as A but with extra yard at rear E – three-roomed, as A-C, but with two inner rooms F – four-roomed or more U – Unique	

Name of table 2:	Bldg measurements	
Number of rows of data:	295	
Primary key:	AREA	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
AREA	Number assigned to each discrete room and open space. See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
HOUSE	Number assigned to discrete buildings (houses). See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
ID	= Type of Area. A rough classification of the type of room. Codes (self explanatory): Internal room Internal other Not classified Open space Outer room Rear yard Square Storage tank Street	Number
Square metres	The size of each (enclosed) Area in sq m. as measured with polygons in the GIS	Number

Name of table 3:	Block Levels	
Number of rows of data:	375	
Primary key:	House + Start Phase	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
House	Number assigned to discrete buildings (houses). See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
Start phase	Each building was phased from earliest excavated phase (1.1) upwards.	Number
Block level	Neighbouring buildings were grouped into blocks (labelled from A to Q) and then the blocks were phased from the earliest (e.g. A1.1) to the latest (e.g. A3.3). For block locations see Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS.	Text (5)

Name of table 4:	CONTEXTS	
Number of rows of data:	4,691	
Primary key:	CONTEXT	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
s_GUID	AutoNumber	Number
Context	Excavation context/unit number, either alphanumeric (1990-1 seasons) or numeric (1992 onwards)	Text (7)
House	Number assigned to discrete buildings (houses). See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
Area	Number assigned to each discrete room and open space. See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
Start phase	The building phase when the context first appears	Number
End phase	The building phase when the context ends	Number
Unittype	Contexts were classified into very broad categories to enable an easy preliminary sort. These categories were: Bedrock Collapse Feature - sub-categories as below. Fill - used only for the material that in-filled pits, cuts, basins etc. Floor - a floor within a building Make-up - packing material between floors and building phases Occupation - accumulation of debris above floors and surfaces Sand - generally of windblown sand Surface - an external surface	Text (14)
Type sub-category	The sub-type (sometimes referred to in the documentation as 'installation type' or 'feature code') applies only to those contexts that are features or installations. The meaning of the numeric code can be found in the 'Installation codes' table	Number
Comment	Brief description of context	Memo
Area 2	Some contexts spread over more than one area (Largely unused).	Number
Area 3	As above	Number
Area 4	As above	Number
Same 1	Other contexts that equal the one listed in the main context field. Redundant from the third season of excavation onwards	Text (7)
Same 2	As above	Text (7)
Same 3	As above	Text (7)
Same 4	As above	Text (7)

Name of table 5:	FILE LIST	
Number of rows of data:	93	
Primary key:	Box + Archive File no	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
Box	Refers to the numbered boxes of original records sent to the National Museum of Bahrain	Number
Archive File no	Number assigned to each file/single item in the archive.	Number
Category	Short tag giving an indication of the contents of each numbered file. Categories are self explanatory	Text (20)
Description	Short description giving an indication of the contents of each numbered file. Categories are self explanatory	Memo
First number	Where file contents are a numerical sequence (for example, photographs) the first number is given.	Text (10)
Last number	Where file contents are a numerical sequence (for example, photographs) the last number is given.	Text (10)
House	Lists the building (house) to which the archive contexts sheets refer (not useful as many buildings may be within a single file)	Number
Area	Redundant	Number
Comment	Provides further detail on the contents of each file.	Memo
Year	Refers to year of excavation/campaign (from 1990 - 1999).	Number

Name of table 6:	DRAWINGS	
Number of rows of data:	872	
Primary key:	None	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
Potinking no	If the drawing has been inked, the number of the inked sheet (a separate series) is given here.	
Context	The context and object no make up the unique number of each object.	
Objectno	A running no from one onwards within each context assigned to objects.	
Pageno	The page number in the drawings file.	
Chosen for book	redundant	
Published in Saar	The volume no (1-3) of the Saar Excavation reports in which the drawing was published	
Page no	The page number of the published drawing.	
Scanned image	Notes if the image was digital scanned (if so, it can be found in the Saar Imagebank).	

Name of table 7:	FINDS	
Number of rows of data:	9501	
Primary key:	Context + Objectno	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
Context	Excavation context/unit number, either alphanumeric (1990-1 seasons) or numeric (1992 onwards). The context and object no make up the unique number of each object.	Text (7)
Objectno	A running no from one onwards within each context assigned to objects.	Number
Material	<p>The material from which the object is constituted. Terms used are given below.</p> <p>ash bitumen bone burnt clay carnelian clay copper faience flint flotation (whole earth sample for flotation) fossil fossil bivalve fossil echinoid glass gypsum ivory latex (latex mould of object) lead metal organic paste pearl plaster pottery shell soil steatite stone</p>	Text (20)
Item	The terms used in the Item field are intended to aid the user of the database in grouping similar items: they are not definitive archaeological identifications. Logical consistency takes second place to potential usefulness for searching. For instance, the large number of shell beads made by piercing a natural shell are sub-divided according to shell type ('cone bead', 'olive bead'), so particular types can be distinguished with ease. Clay beads do not sub-divide easily, so are all classified as	Text (20)

	<p>'bead'. The best way to search for particular items is to use wildcards. To find all beads, for example, enter the search term as *bead*. This will find 'bead', 'bead frag.?', 'bead?', 'beads', 'cone bead', 'dentalium bead', 'dentalium bead?', 'olive bead' and 'whelk bead'.</p> <p>Some categories of object are especially awkward to classify, particularly stone tools that have had multiple uses, and some classifications remain inevitably arbitrary. Where an object was difficult to identify, an attempt has been made if at all possible. Overall uncertainty is expressed as a question mark after the Item (e.g. pin?), but the Description should be consulted for further detail. The condition and completeness of an object are also detailed in the Description, the Item terms 'frag.' and 'frags.' being reserved for pieces for which the overall shape cannot be made out. Terms used are</p>	
Describe	Catalogue description of the object	Memo
Date	Date processed	Date
Museum	Location (redundant as all objects are now in the National Museum)	Text (1)
Conserved	Details of field conservation carried out (if any).	Memo

Name of table 8:	Installation Codes																																																																									
Number of rows of data:	37																																																																									
Primary key:	Type sub category																																																																									
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length																																																																								
Type sub category	Numeric code (as also used in the main 'Context' table) for the different feature/installation types.	Number																																																																								
Description	Description of the feature/installation type that the above code refers to.	Text (255)																																																																								
	<table><tr><th>Type sub category</th><th>DESCRIPTION</th></tr><tr><td>100</td><td>Wall</td></tr><tr><td>101</td><td>Threshold/doorway</td></tr><tr><td>102</td><td>Doorsocket</td></tr><tr><td>103</td><td>Robber trench/pit</td></tr><tr><td>104</td><td>Wall niche</td></tr><tr><td>105</td><td>Platform/bench</td></tr><tr><td>106</td><td>Ledge</td></tr><tr><td>107</td><td>Buttress</td></tr><tr><td>108</td><td>Step</td></tr><tr><td>109</td><td>Door blocking</td></tr><tr><td>110</td><td>Beam hole</td></tr><tr><td>111</td><td>Porch</td></tr><tr><td>112</td><td>Foundation trench</td></tr><tr><td>113</td><td>Altar</td></tr><tr><td>114</td><td>Column</td></tr><tr><td>115</td><td>Offering table</td></tr><tr><td>150</td><td>Door equipment</td></tr><tr><td>200</td><td>Tannur</td></tr><tr><td>201</td><td>Semi-circular hearth</td></tr><tr><td>202</td><td>Ring-hearth</td></tr><tr><td>203</td><td>Misc burnt installations</td></tr><tr><td>204</td><td>Fire-pit</td></tr><tr><td>205</td><td>Straight-sided firepit</td></tr><tr><td>210</td><td>Cooking pot support, three legs</td></tr><tr><td>211</td><td>Cooking pot support, other</td></tr><tr><td>300</td><td>Plastered storage pit</td></tr><tr><td>301</td><td>Basin with superstructure</td></tr><tr><td>303</td><td>Double bin/basin</td></tr><tr><td>310</td><td>Buried storage jar</td></tr><tr><td>311</td><td>Storage vat</td></tr><tr><td>312</td><td>Plastered tank</td></tr><tr><td>400</td><td>Bench-and-basin</td></tr><tr><td>500</td><td>Pit (not plastered)</td></tr><tr><td>510</td><td>Depression</td></tr><tr><td>600</td><td>Miscellaneous feature</td></tr></table>		Type sub category	DESCRIPTION	100	Wall	101	Threshold/doorway	102	Doorsocket	103	Robber trench/pit	104	Wall niche	105	Platform/bench	106	Ledge	107	Buttress	108	Step	109	Door blocking	110	Beam hole	111	Porch	112	Foundation trench	113	Altar	114	Column	115	Offering table	150	Door equipment	200	Tannur	201	Semi-circular hearth	202	Ring-hearth	203	Misc burnt installations	204	Fire-pit	205	Straight-sided firepit	210	Cooking pot support, three legs	211	Cooking pot support, other	300	Plastered storage pit	301	Basin with superstructure	303	Double bin/basin	310	Buried storage jar	311	Storage vat	312	Plastered tank	400	Bench-and-basin	500	Pit (not plastered)	510	Depression	600	Miscellaneous feature
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	601	Post or stake hole		
	700	Indeterminate		

Name of table 9:	GRAVES		
Number of rows of data:			
Primary key:	None		
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length	
Grave no	Number assigned to grave excavated in Northern Burial Complex	Number	
Unit no	Starts from 1 for each grave	Number	
Object no	Starts from 1 for each unit	Number	
Material	See 'Finds' table for list of terms used	Text (50)	
Item	See under 'Item' in 'Finds' table	Text (50)	
Description	Catalogue description of the object	Memo	

Name of table 10:	PHOTOGRAPHS	
Number of rows of data:	5,024	
Primary key:	None	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
s_GUID	Autonumber for record	Autonumber
COLOUR NO#	Number assigned to colour negatives and transparencies	Number
B/W NO	Number assigned to black and white negatives	Number
CONTEXT	Excavation context/unit number, either alphanumeric (1990-1 seasons) or numeric (1992 onwards). The context and object no make up the unique number of each object.	Text (7)
OBJECT NO	A running no from one onwards within each context assigned to objects.	Number
AREA	Number assigned to each discrete room and open space. See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
HOUSE	Number assigned to discrete buildings (houses). See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
DIRECTION	Direction towards which photograph is taken	Text (3)
DESCRIBE	Brief description of photograph	Memo
SAMEAS	For duplicate images (largely unused)	Number
ELECTRONIC	Indicates if digital image available	Yes/No
DISC VOLUME	The number of the original CD with the image	Number
IMAGE NO	The image number on the CD	Number
National Museum	Deposition. Now redundant as all images are in the National Museum of Bahrain	Yes/No
Book	If used in book (redundant)	Yes/No
Volume	The volume no (1-3) of the Saar Excavation reports in which the photograph was published	Number
Page no	The page number of the published photograph.	Number

Name of table 11:	Pottery periods	
Number of rows of data:	230	
Primary key:	Context	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
Context	Excavation context/unit number, either alphanumeric (1990-1 seasons) or numeric (1992 onwards).	Text (8)
Period	The pottery period assigned to the context (bottom to top, from 1 to 4)	Text (2)

Name of table 12:	Room types	
Number of rows of data:		
Primary key:	ID	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
ID	Autonumber	Number
Room type	= Type of Area/room. A rough classification of the type of room. Codes (self explanatory): Internal room Internal other Not classified Open space Outer room Rear yard Square Storage tank Street (table was originally a 'look-up' table for values in the field 'ID' in the 'Bldg measurements' table)	Text (50)

Name of table 13:	SAMPLING	
Number of rows of data:		
Primary key:		
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
S_GUID	AutoNumber	AutoNumber
Context	Excavation context/unit number, either alphanumeric (1990-1 seasons) or numeric (1992 onwards). The context and object no make up the unique number of each object.	Text
Objectno	A running no from one onwards within each context assigned to objects.	Number
Total buckets	No of buckets sent to dry sieving	Number
Buckets dry-sieved	No. of buckets dry-sieved	Number
Buckets to wet sieve	No of buckets sent to wet sieving	Number
Total litres	Total number of litres in context	Number
Litres dry-sieved	No of litres dry sieved	Number
Litres sent to float	No of litres sent to wet sieve	Number
Litres floated	No of litres wet sieved/flotation	Number
% dry-sieved	% of context dry-sieved	Number
% floated	% of context wet sieved	Number
Vol# flot	Volume of flot recovered (gms)	Number
Charcoal	If present (Y/N)	Text (1)
Further work on flot	If needed (Y/N)	Text (1)
Molluscs	If present (Y/N)	Text (1)
Comments	Observations by flotation person.	Memo
Sample year	Year of sample.	Date

Name of table 14:	SECTIONS	
Number of rows of data:	202	
Primary key:	None	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
NO	Running number given to section drawings	Number
S_GUID	Autonumber (redundant)	AutoNumber
SQUARE	Refers to the 10 metre alphanumeric grid for the site. Only relevant here for the sections from the 1990-1 seasons of excavations	Text (3)
HOUSE	Number assigned to discrete buildings (houses). See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
AREA	Number assigned to each discrete room and open space. See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
UNIT	Excavation context/unit number, either alphanumeric (1990-1 seasons) or numeric (1992 onwards).	Text (7)
DIRECTION	Indicates if the section is on the N, E, S or W side of the grid square.	Text (2)
DESCRIBE	Brief description of section	Memo
YEAR	Year of drawing.	Text (5)
FOLDER	Indicates which BOX (originally folder) in the Saar archive the drawing was stored in when sent to the National Museum.	Number

Name of table 15:	Site periods	
Number of rows of data:	154	
Primary key:	Block level	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
Block level	Neighbouring buildings were grouped into blocks (labelled from A to Q) and then the blocks were given 'levels' from the earliest (e.g. A1.1) to the latest (e.g. A3.3). For block locations see Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS.	Text (5)
Site Period	The 'stratigraphic' period of the site to which each block level was assigned, labelled 1-4, from bottom to top. DO NOT CONFUSE WITH POTTERY PERIODS	Number

Name of table 16:	SITE SUPERVISORS PLANS	
Number of rows of data:	436	
Primary key:	None	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
No	All field plans were numbered in sequence from 1 onwards	Number
S_GUID	Auto Number (redundant)	AutoNumber
House	Number assigned to discrete buildings (houses). See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
Area	Number assigned to each discrete room and open space. See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
Square	Refers to the 10 metre alphanumeric grid for the site. Only relevant here for the sections from the 1990-1 seasons of excavations	Text (3)
Describe	Brief description of plan	Memo
Year	Year drawn	Text (5)
Folder	Indicates which BOX (originally folder) in the Saar archive the drawing was stored in when sent to the National Museum.	Number

Name of table 17:	ARCHITECTS PLANS	
Number of rows of data:	221	
Primary key:	None	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
NO#	Architect's wall plans were numbered in sequence form 1 upwards	Number
S_GUID	Autonumber (redundant)	AutoNumber
SQUARE	Refers to the 10 metre alphanumeric grid for the site.	Text
N/S	Wall plans relate to either the north (N) or south (S) half of a 10 metre square.	Text
Box	Indicates which BOX in the Saar archive the drawing was stored in when sent to the National Museum.	Number

Name of table 18:	Pot versus strat	
Number of rows of data:	133	
Primary key:	None	
Name of field	Full description of field and codes or terminology used	Data type and field length
Block level	Neighbouring buildings were grouped into blocks (labelled from A to Q) and then the blocks were given 'levels' from the earliest (e.g. A1.1) to the latest (e.g. A3.3). For block locations see Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS.	Text (5)
House	Number assigned to discrete buildings (houses). See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
Start phase	The building phase when the context first appears	Number
Area	Number assigned to each discrete room and open space. See Saar 3 Fig. 2.1 or GIS for location.	Number
CONTEXT	Excavation context/unit number, either alphanumeric (1990-1 seasons) or numeric (1992 onwards).	Text (8)
Pottery period	The pottery period assigned to the context (bottom to top, from 1 to 4)	Text (2)
Site period	The 'stratigraphic' period of the site to which each block level was assigned, labelled 1-4, from bottom to top.	Number