



AGHMAT

MOROCCO'S MEDIEVAL CAPITAL





AND

ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS OF AGHMAT

1 THE PROJECT

The Foundation/Association Aghmat will be a symbiotic project of an Archaeological dig, education, tourism. It will be a semi sufficient project working together with the Ministry of Culture combining a Visitor Centre, Center of Interpretation, eco lodge to house the visiting archeologists, simple café, gift shop and enough attractions to attract tourists to explore Aghmat and the surrounding area of Tahannout.

There are many reasons why the site at Aghmat would be a good tourist and educational destination:

- 1 Several new attractions in the surrounding area including an art garden and Saffron garden.
- 2 There are many plant nurseries there so local home owners would be interested to combine a shopping trip and a lunch/look around the site.
- 3 There are 2 very upmarket hotels in the area that would enjoy sending their clients not too far away to entertain for half a day so not to lose too much business.
- 4 The Marrakech airport is only a short drive away and will attract historians, international educators and archaeological tourists.
- 5 With a thriving tourist project, other business would flourish in the area creating more jobs and revenue for Tahannout.

There are several client types that we wish to attract. They range from:

- Professional archaeologists
- Amateur archaeologists
- Historians
- Historic Tours
- Day trip tourists
- Art and Gallery professionals
- Writers retreat
- Artist retreat

2 PROJECT CONTENT

1 x Visitor Centre, Center of Interpretation and education room

1 x 4 bedroom house staff accommodation
3 x 3 bedroom guest house
1 x central kitchen
1 x café with space inside and out
1 x laundry room
1 x pavilion – lectures and conferences
1 x store room and curators space
1 x gift shop

3a 1 x Visitor Centre and Center of Interpretation

Function: Display of information about past and present Aghmat
Capacity: standing and walking 50-80 people
Accessibility: Clients and Visitors, Archaeologists, Staff
Uses: Education
Layout: Entrance with ticket sale, Exhibition rooms, CCTV room, staff rooms, lecture/education room with projector
Equipment: Tables, Exhibition stands, speakers, projector, cinema style seating

3b 1 x 4 bedroom house staff accommodation

Function: Accommodation
Capacity: 4 -8 people
Accessibility: Staff house
Uses: Staff
Layout: 4 bedrooms ensuite, 1 salon, 1 central courtyard.
Equipment: 1 rocket mass heater, 6 beds (2 single and 3 double)

3c 3 x 3 bedroom guest house

Function: Accommodation
Capacity: 3 - 6 people
Accessibility: Archeologists and visitors
Uses: Public accommodation
Layout: 3 double beds (1 ensuite), 2 bathroom, 1 covered terrace,
Equipment: 1 rocket mass heater, 3 double beds.

3d 1 x central kitchen

Function: Kitchen and food storage
Capacity: 4 - 5 people
Accessibility: Staff
Uses: Restauration, stockage, storage, cold room.
Layout: 2 large rooms divided by an arch

Equipment: 5 gas cooking ovens, ventilation, 3 sinks, shelves, fridge and freezer, work top surfaces, etc

3e 1 x café with space inside and out

Function: Dining, bar

Capacity: 80 people, 15 staff

Accessibility: Archaeologists and staff

Uses: Restauration, bar

Layout: 1 large dining room,

Equipment: café dining room tables, chairs, side tables, fire place, music equipment,

3f 1 x laundry room

Function: laundry, washing and ironing

Capacity: 2-4 staff

Accessibility: staff

Uses: washing, ironing

Layout: 1 room with shelving

Equipment: 2 washing machines, drying lines outside and ceiling drying pulley system, shelves for ironing.

3g 1 x pavilion – lectures and conferences

Function: multi-functional cinema and cultural meeting place

Capacity: 80 people

Accessibility: Clients

Uses: cinema and small bar

Layout: 1 large room, formal garden

Equipment: projector, seats, cushions, small bar equipment

3h 1 x store room and curators space

Function: storage

Capacity: 4-6 persons

Accessibility: archaeologists and staff

Uses: store precious findings in safe place and prep for displays

Layout: shelved walls, filing cabinet, computer, work room

Equipment: shelving, filing cabinet, computer

3i 1 x gift shop

Function: shop

Capacity: 2 staff - 20-30 clients

Accessibility: archaeologists, staff and clients

Uses: sell Aghmat related items eg books, commemorative gift shop items

Layout: shelved walls, display cabinets, till, gift wrapping area

Equipment: shelving, computer, till, speakers, cabinets,

An example of the Volubilis Visitor Centre designed by Kilo Architecture for the Ministry of Culture, Morocco



