

The OSG/ADG Fieldwork Checklist



A view of the site of Al-Bagawat, Egypt. Image courtesy of S. Balachandran.

This Objects Specialty Group (OSG)/Archaeological Discussion Group (ASG) Fieldwork Checklist grew out of a Spring 2011 survey, where we invited conservators who work on terrestrial and maritime excavations to identify the key conservation materials and tools they took with them on site. This checklist compiles those suggestions and is a first attempt at providing field conservators with a useful way to prepare for their fieldwork. Of course, the materials required vary depending on the nature of the site, but we hope that this checklist offers conservators a tool for remembering potential resources or discovering new ones. This checklist will soon appear as a pdf on the ADG page of the AIC website, and will be updated regularly. Many thanks to our survey participants for their input.

For further information or suggestions of additional items for the checklist, please contact:

Sanchita Balachandran, sanchita@gmail.com (OSG 2010-2011 Program chair), Claudia Chemello, cchemell@umich.edu (ADG co-chair), and Susanne Grieve, grieves@ecu.edu, (ADG co-chair).

The ASG/OSG FIELDWORK CHECKLIST, May 2011

Adhesives/Consolidants, Related Tools

<input type="checkbox"/>	Acryloid B72, B44, B48N, B98
<input type="checkbox"/>	Acrysol WS24
<input type="checkbox"/>	Butvar B-98
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cellulose nitrate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cyclododecane
<input type="checkbox"/>	Epoxy resin appropriate to use
<input type="checkbox"/>	Glass or plastic pipettes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydraulic lime
<input type="checkbox"/>	Koob tubes for adhesives
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lime putty
<input type="checkbox"/>	Methyl cellulose
<input type="checkbox"/>	Needle tipped applicator bottles
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pump sprayer (for atomizing consolidants)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Syringes with various tips
<input type="checkbox"/>	PVA Emulsions (Jade 403)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhoplex AC33/Primal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tetra ethyl orthosilicate (TEOS) or Ethyl silicates

Chemicals, Cleaning Agents/Supplies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Ammonium citrate (di- and tri-)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attapulgite, laponite, paper pulp for poulticing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Benzotriazole
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dremel tool/air scribe with attachments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Erasers (vinyl, rubber)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Microfiber cloths
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mini-vacuum
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-latex polyurethane cosmetic sponges
<input type="checkbox"/>	Orvus WA Paste or Triton XL-80
<input type="checkbox"/>	Portable ultrasonic cleaning tank
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rolled cotton; cotton pads; Webril cotton pads
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sponges: soot; Wishab
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water purification column

Examination

<input type="checkbox"/>	Headlamp
<input type="checkbox"/>	Magnetic LED work lights
<input type="checkbox"/>	Optivisor/head loupe
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proscope digital microscope
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ultraviolet lamp

Fill or Mold-making Materials

<input type="checkbox"/>	Fluegger spackle
<input type="checkbox"/>	Glass microballoons
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plaster with plaster mixing bowl
<input type="checkbox"/>	Silicone rubber for mold-making
<input type="checkbox"/>	Talcum powder
<input type="checkbox"/>	Whatman CF11 Cellulose powder

Measuring Tools

<input type="checkbox"/>	Beakers, graduated cylinders, funnels
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conductivity meter
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dataloggers
<input type="checkbox"/>	pH papers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Portable digital scale
<input type="checkbox"/>	Salt test strips

Personal Safety

<input type="checkbox"/>	Dust masks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ear plugs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gloves
<input type="checkbox"/>	Respirator and solvent cartridges
<input type="checkbox"/>	Safety or UV goggles

Specialty Papers/Films/Tapes

<input type="checkbox"/>	Aluminum foil
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blotting paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Double sided tape on polyester carrier
<input type="checkbox"/>	Japanese paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monofilament
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mylar: regular and silicone release
<input type="checkbox"/>	Packing/painters/duct/electrical tape
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parafilm
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plastic wrap
<input type="checkbox"/>	Polyethylene strapping

Storage/Archival Supplies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Acid free tissue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ethafoam
<input type="checkbox"/>	Indicating silica gel
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plastic or glass vials
<input type="checkbox"/>	Polyethylene tri-rod/backer rod
<input type="checkbox"/>	RP/Escal storage bags
<input type="checkbox"/>	Volara
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ziploc polyethylene bags

Specialty Textiles

<input type="checkbox"/>	3M Coban self-adherent wrap
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cerex and/or Reemay
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cheesecloth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Double sided velcro rolls
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stabiltex or nylon net
<input type="checkbox"/>	Teflon artifact wrap
<input type="checkbox"/>	Twill tape
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tyvek (woven and non-woven)

Tool Transportation/Storage

<input type="checkbox"/>	ActionPacker with sturdy locks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carpenter's bag
<input type="checkbox"/>	Euronorm and Kiva boxes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fishing tackle box
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nalgene bottles for solvent storage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pelican case or Otter box

Basic Equipment

- Camera with extra digital cards
- Colorchecker card and scale for photographs
- Computer and accessories
- Electrical adapter for specific country if traveling abroad
- Good notebook, pencils and pens
- Measuring tape, ruler, calipers
- Sharpies in various tips/thicknesses
- Unlocked cell phone if traveling abroad

Hand Tools

- Bamboo skewers
- Brushes--paint, tooth, bristle, hake, sable
- Clamps
- Coffee stir sticks and tongue depressors
- Dental tools
- Small air puffer/baby ear aspirator
- Leatherman/Swiss army knife
- Microscope slides as light weights
- Rubber tubing
- Scalpel handle and blades; sharp scissors
- Sewing needles or curved surgical needles
- Small air puffer/baby ear aspirator
- Small magnets and weights
- Spatulas
- Teflon and silicone tipped tools
- Tweezers

Personal Sanity Tools

- Adequate warm clothing if traveling somewhere cold
- Apron
- Bed linens or sleeping bag
- Boots/comfortable working shoes
- Cooler and ice packs
- Gardener's knee pads
- Hat and sunglasses
- Insect repellent--DEET or non-DEET
- iPod/portable music device
- Medical supplies
- Mini travel stove
- Snacks/food--oatmeal; granola; nuts
- Sunscreen, moisturizer, hand lotion, lip balm
- Toilet paper
- Travel french press and coffee or tea
- Water bottle



A view of the site of Beit Shean, Israel. Image courtesy of C. Chemello.



Diver conducting in situ measurements, Maui, United States. Image courtesy of S. Grieve.

Sources for Materials

Please note that we do not specifically endorse any of these companies, but rather list some sources identified by our survey participants:

- Alec Tiranti, Ltd: www.tiranti.co.uk
- Archivart: www.archivart.com
- Art Preservation Services: apsnyc.com
- B&H Photo: www.bhphotovideo.com
- Benchmark: www.benchmarkcatalog.com
- Compleat Sculptor: www.sculpt.com
- Conservation Resources: www.conservationresources.com
- Conservation Support Systems: www.conservationssupportsystems.com
- Fastenation: www.fastenation.com
- Fine Science Tools: www.finescience.com
- Fisher Scientific: www.fishersci.com
- Gaylord: www.gaylord.com
- Grainger Industrial Supply: www.grainger.com
- Hiromi Paper: store.hiromipaper.com
- Hollinger Metal Edge: www.hollingermetaledge.com
- K&J Magnetics: www.kjmagnetics.com
- Keepsafe Microclimate Systems: www.keepsafe.ca
- Kiva Plastics, Inc: www.kivaplastics.com
- Kremer Pigments: www.kremerpigments.com

- Lab Safety Supply: www.labsafety.com
- LaFarge: www.lafarge.com
- MagCraft: www.rare-earth-magnets.com
- MasterPak: www.masterpak-usa.com
- McMaster Carr: www.mcmaster.com
- Micro-Mark: www.micromark.com
- Museum Services Corporation: www.museumsservicescorporation.com
- Onset: www.onsetcomp.com
- Peregrine Brushes and Tools: www.brushesandtools.com
- Plastibac: www.plastibac.eu
- Rubbermaid: www.rubbermaid.com
- Saint Astier Natural Hydraulic Lime: www.limes.us
- T&D Dataloggers: www.tandd.com
- Talas: www.talasonline.com
- Track and Slide: www.trackandslide.com
- Uline: www.uline.com
- University Products: www.universityproducts.com
- Virginia Lime Works: www.virginialimeworks.com