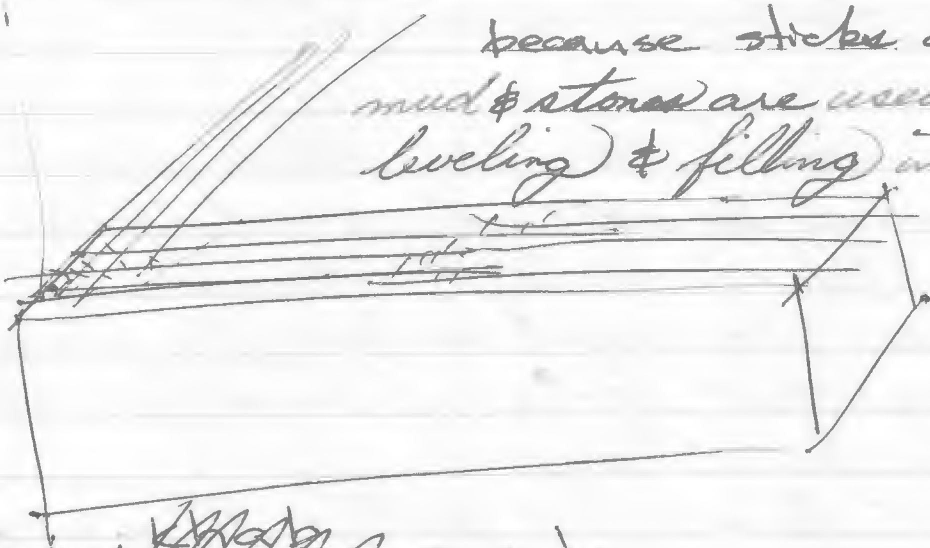
Ali Omar Salalah

In the old houses they used to go to the mountains to get wood (hattab) for building walls, more than one floor 2 or 3 story. Tie wood together house all tied together (like beams) (hassa)

- 2 types 1) - mud (lime) & small stones

2) - (hama-konk)

because sticks are uneven mud & stones are used for leveling & filling in spaces).



(~~[illegible]~~).

Khachab hassa - small pieces of wood over the larger branches (hatab)

In the past they used to use two large stones (hajjar) & fill in with small stones (hasso). The walls used to be two

18" arm ~~lengths~~ thick (dhirá) (now much thinner)

The small stones have to be very strong hard - wall must be thick & strong.

This layer of small stones & mud is used for levelings again & a base for further building.

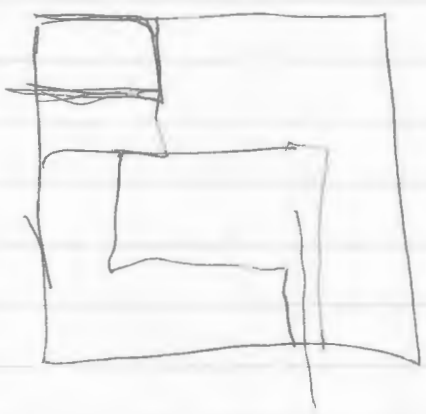
Now using white wood 3/4" + 8" imported but do not trust imported wood because it does not last long.

Traditional roofing lasts much longer.

Ali Omar shows incredible confidence in trad. building systems over imported.

Mud used in wall construction takes a long time to dry. But in new systems when inside & outside are cement plastered the mud can not dry out

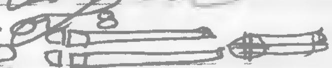
Faisalabad claims that stone vault construction would be extravagant due to cost. Reinforced concrete probably 50 to 60 Rials / sq. meter. Karachi conc. 125 Baiza for bag in Salalah 2 Rials.



Palm trees (nakhal)

For beams - before they ~~[illegible]~~ started importing wood. Palm beams are very strong & had been used 100's of years. Cut with axe. The top of the trunk is no good because of swaying due to wind & becomes fiberous - choped out.

chopped usually in two lenths. then depending on diameter split in ~~[illegible]~~ 4 or 6



The taller the tree the weeker the wood at top.

After the trunk is quartered etc it is cured in the sun.

Wood from the mountains (hourfait)

Roof Construction

Palm beams

Wet fibers. (leef) red sand layer from earth chaff

Red sand / ~~black sand special~~ mixed with sead casing of a local plant called (bur) -

Mixture called (Boghul) holds together like cement but never cracks in the heat of the sun.

put on wet 10"–12" thick

Ali Omar claims that this way of building is much better than the old way of building.

Over Boghul put dry layer of same sand (ramel) - then spray with water after dry pounded down with [illegible] Boghul & holds

TAPE # 1. (with Ali Omar)
A side

58-0 Stone-cutter cutting in someone else's orchard, he gets 10 of*
? the stone is more valuable beco's - - - the palm ?*

get rid of the stone by ... years than start growing palms.

60-0 arabic. On Roof construction. (or wall?)

62-0 English. Each stone is set dn. The stone is a little bit Thicker. Roof as it was built in the old days

Side B.

42'-0. 'The Lime-stone room seems to be blocked up' on which room to study
Arabic—

"big difference betw. new room and old. Limestone & clay plaster used needs 1-2 mths to dry. Even mud-brick. (Omar)"

48-00 Old sys. of roofing Ahmed's house: cannot get that special kind of palm or for bosmic small tree the clay that covers it. to cover — both in the hills. not grown anymore.
wood bro't from Dubai.
There's just not eno' palms for the housing need now. Used only in special ~~circumstances~~ situations. A tree with alot of small branches — most useful thing is the small branches (why?) palms v slow growing.
~~[illegible]~~ Vaulting? in old mosques.
Limestone more difficult to vault.
But cold use all sizes of stone, to vault.
[Mothercat—
Vault sys. is extravagent — roc pretty good?

B-Newsito for com...

* 'The stone cutter gives 1 in 10 stones to land owner'
'stone more malleable as softened by irrigation & roots of trees' (source 'Sallalla - Lime-stone Quarrying

TAPE I. Side B

But in 1yr. sho'd dry up

Allan's notes 200 yds shit over 4 acres fertilised.
dumping by trucks.
Controversy with Halcrow not Thing to do.
Royal Engineers say its' fine
Irrigates palm groves & orchards & vegetable patches. No scruples against using as fertilised
Trucks take sewage from septic tanks & empty at the Falaj/well head.

TAPE II.

B-side.

35'-0" with Sh. Awal. (Arabic + orcas Translator.)
It was Barasti now stone. Timber from Dubai.

40'-0" Palm Tree needs to be 100 yrs. old before it is really strong.

Each beam costs 3 Rials. Dubai. Doha.
3" x 4" x 12'
used for ceiling.
How much timber for 1 Rm.
atleast 15 beams for 23' x 10' Room.

Ali Ibn Abdullah

Stone - 100 costs 25 R - 10" x 8" roughly.
100 — 16 R 16" x 8" Cem. Block

42-0 Stone better beco's its v. strong & can be reused. Also climatically better.
* For mortar: first only sand, after bldng finished uses cement plaster then Nora on top of this.
Owners: Hamid Ali.
Ali Ibn Abdullah has bldng. material store & delivers.
4 yrs. ago it was cheap to bld but no land given under Said. Now everyone bldng.
4000 Rials total cost. Everyone works & chips in. Gets 45 - 60 R. owners.

OMAN REPORT.

Notes: Sallala. Lime-stone Cutting Machine: (26.10.73.)

Machine Type. FAS/TR. ERALDO GAROFOL TERNI (RIVO) VOLABOLO BRECCIAOLO. (150-151)

Vertical & horizontal cutting.
Vertical cuts upto depth of 30 c.m.
Horizontal depths upto 25 c.m.
Use horizontal blades for 10 c.m. width blocks & over. Less than 10 c.m. width ~~blocks~~ will ruin blocks.

Max. production would be 700 blocks per day if all conditions perfect. Target seldom reached.
Work 12 hrs. a day.
On a good site need 10 worker + machine

Hard pebbles/stone ruin machine, particularly the blade which then needs to be

4 Rooms: Ready - 4 rooms bld.
in the future.
80 x 80'.
The owner Hamid is a soldier in
Egypt. Gets 30 K. = $12,000.
Not ~~everybody~~ assistance from govt. But if
he writes to Sultan he may get assistance.
Poor man will get some help maybe.
In Dubai, Bahr. could make big thing.
With money is very cheap.
4 brothers. 1 for CO. Partnership with
Hamid. 1 is a welder. CO. pays 75K.
with overtime.
House will take 25 days if he has
50-0 money. Otherwise bld as he can afford.

Arabic with owner in Housing.
Got Limestone themselves.
Rd. blocks 1200 R. will cost 5000 R.
for whole house without roof.
(contradicts above?)
Arabic?

Talking of Said bin Timurs time.

EXTRACT: LAND & WATER RESOURCES 1973.
SURVEY: INCEPTION REPORT.
HALCROW CONSULTANTS:
5 yr. Dev. Plan. Dhofar.

CONTENTS:

3. DATA INVESTIGATIONS & PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT.

3.1. Aerial Photography surveys & Mapping.

1:8,000 aerial map. 1:10,000 recieved.
1:50,000 of salalah plain requested.
(showing imp. catchments.)

3.2. METEOROLOGY & HYDROLOGY.

Meteorology:

Rainfall north of Jebel is spasmodic.
Weather pattern little in common with Indian Monsoon.
Many waterholes drying up. probably weather cycle entering dry period.

Hydrology:

absence of any true falaj North or south of Jebel — may be due to coarse nature of sedimentary areas - tunnelling hazardous.
Virtually no man-made water control.* Exceptions in rebel areas.

3.3. SOILS & LAND CAPABILITY.

Majority of coastal plain very stony. In between loamy to clay eg sands. max. 25%
Only a very small fraction of salalah plain has significant irrigation potential. max. 1,500 hectares.

3.4. WATER RESOURCE EVALUATION.

considerable # of boreholes north of Jebel.*

Pg 3. doubts practability & profitability of coconut plantation.

Livestock cross-breeding, Fattening: Bir Bint Ahmed & Taqah.

CLIMATE. (in 'Salalah' reference)

(Pg 4) Means & Extremes. ⑤ Temp. R.H. + W.D. ⑥ Rain Probability ⑦ Av. Ann. Rain. ⑧ Mthly Rain. ⑨ Ann. Rain.

* contradiction?

EXTRACT: WATER & LAND RESOURCES 1973.
SURVEY: INCEPTION REPORT.
HALCROW/CONSULTANTS:
5TH Yr. Dev. Plan. Dhofar.

3. Data. Investigations & Preliminary Assessment.
3.1. Aerial Photography Surveys & Mapping
3.2. Meteorology & Hydrology.
3.3. Soil & Land Capability.
3.4 Water Resource Evaluation.
1. Wells Borehole Inventory
~~Feeding & Man~~