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:

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Adhesives/Consolidants, Related Tools	Measuring Tools
Acryloid B72, B44, B48N, B98	Beakers, graduated cylinders, funnels
Acrysol WS24	Conductivity meter
Butvar B-98	Dataloggers
Cellulose nitrate	pH papers
Cyclododecane	Portable digital scale
Epoxy resin appropriate to use	Salt test strips
Glass or plastic pipettes	Personal Safety
Hydraulic lime	Dust masks
Koob tubes for adhesives	Ear plugs
	Gloves
Lime putty	Respirator and solvent cartridges
Methyl cellulose	Safety or UV goggles
Needle tipped applicator bottles	Specialty Papers/Films/Tapes
Pump sprayer (for atomizing consolidants)	Aluminum foil
Syringes with various tips	Blotting paper
PVA Emulsions (Jade 403)	Double sided tape on polyester carrier
Rhoplex AC33/Primal	Townson warman
Tetra ethyl orthosilicate (TEOS) or Ethyl silicates	Monofilament
Chemicals, Cleaning Agents/Supplies	Mylar: regular and silicone release
Ammonium citrate (di- and tri-)	Packing/painters/duct/electrical tape
Attapulgite, laponite, paper pulp for poulticing	Parafilm
Benzotriazole	Plastic wrap
Dremel tool/air scribe with attachments	Polyethylene strapping
Erasers (vinyl, rubber)	
Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA)	Storage/Archival Supplies Acid free tissue
Microfiber cloths	Ethafoam
Mini-vacuum	
Non-latex polyurethane cosmetic sponges	Indicating silica gel
Orvus WA Paste or Triton XL-80	Plastic or glass vials
Portable ultrasonic cleaning tank	Polyethylene tri-rod/backer rod
Rolled cotton; cotton pads; Webril cotton pads	RP/Escal storage bags
Sponges: soot; Wishab	Volara
Water purification column	Ziploc polyethylene bags
Examination	Specialty Textiles
Headlamp	3M Coban self-adherent wrap
Magnetic LED work lights	Cerex and/or Reemay
Optivisor/head loupe	Cheesecloth
Proscope digital microscope	Double sided velcro rolls
Ultraviolet lamp	Stabiltex or nylon net
	Teflon artifact wrap
Fill or Mold-making Materials	Twill tape
Fluegger spackle Glass microballoons	Tyvek (woven and non-woven)
	Tool Transportation/Storage
Plaster with plaster mixing bowl	ActionPacker with sturdy locks
Silicone rubber for mold-making	Carpenter's bag
Talcum powder	Euronorm and Kiva boxes
Whatman CF11 Cellulose powder	Fishing tackle box
	Nalgene bottles for solvent storage
	Pelican case or Otter box

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Basic	E 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	d Tools
	Bamboo skewers
	Brushespaint, 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
Perso	onal 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 repellentDEET or non-DEET
	iPod/portable music device
	Medical supplies
	Mini travel stove
	Snacks/foodoatmeal; 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.conservationsupportsystems.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.museumservicescorporation.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