

# Gema Art Group - Erbil Citadel projects, Iraq

Petr Justa and Miroslav Houska, International Projects Department

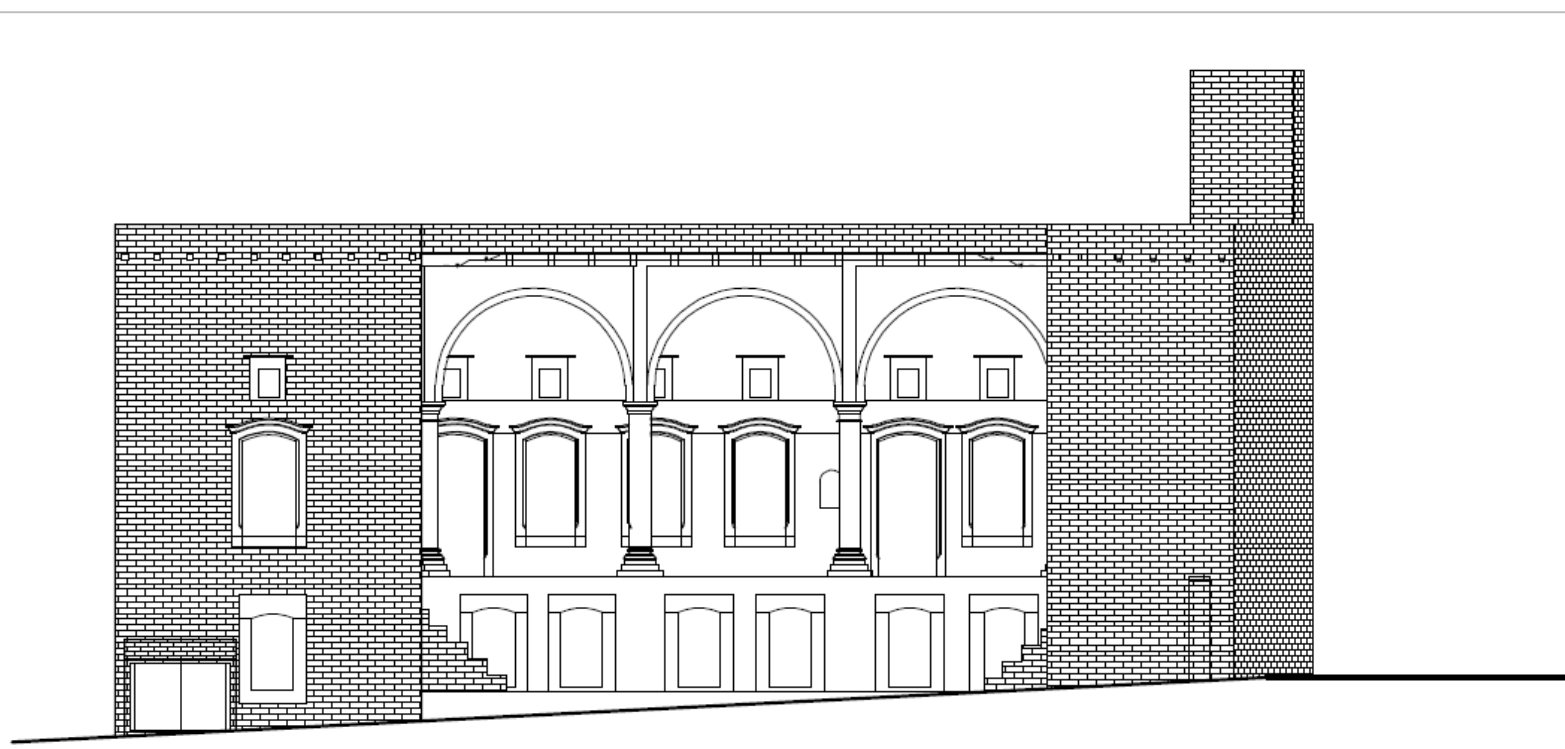


GEMA ART organized an aid program for the preservation of the cultural heritage of the Iraqi Republic, approved by the Government of the Czech Republic. The aid provided by the experienced Czech experts met the urgent needs for the establishment of a system for the preservation of the Iraqi culture heritage. GEMA ART organized training courses for Iraqi restorers and archaeologists in the Czech Republic as well as in the Republic of Iraq. GEMA ART was the first foreign company that urgently helped to recover the Iraqi National Library and Archive in Baghdad and already in 2004 organized the first mission to Bagdad.

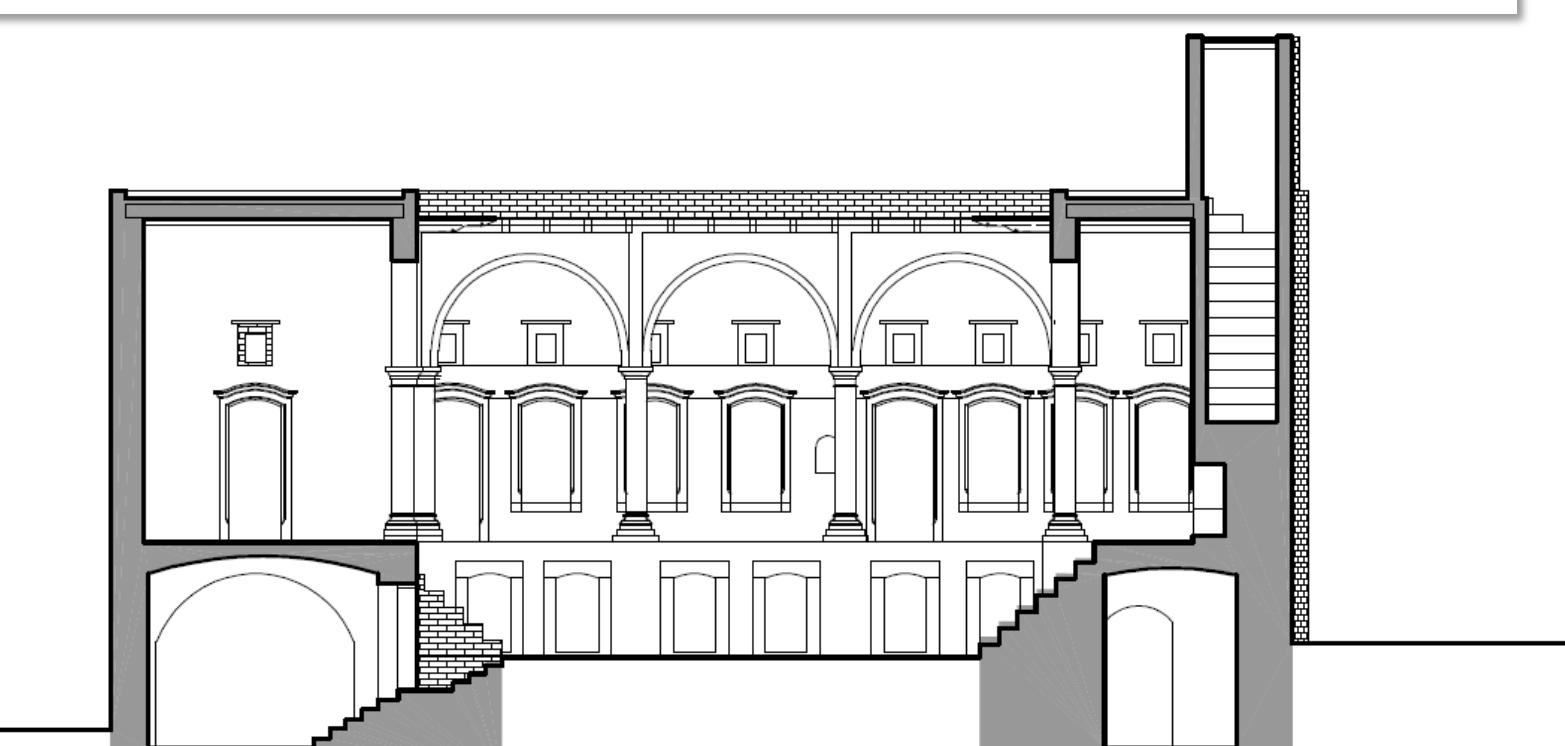


## GEMA - ARCHAEOLOGY

- GEMA ART organized in 2006 in Erbil with the West Bohemian University at Plzen and the Salahaddin University a **training course for archaeology students** focused at an archaeological evaluation and recording of the citadel in Erbil.
- GEMA ART participated in 2009 year in the **field scientific project** supported by the Czech Science Foundation realized partly in Erbil citadel, lower town, Tell Baxčan and in Amadiya: madrasa Qubahan.
- GEMA ART supports a preparation of the Foundation of the **Czech Centre for Near and Middle East Archaeology** (a long-term research project, in cooperation with Charles University of Prague and University of Bern, Switzerland)



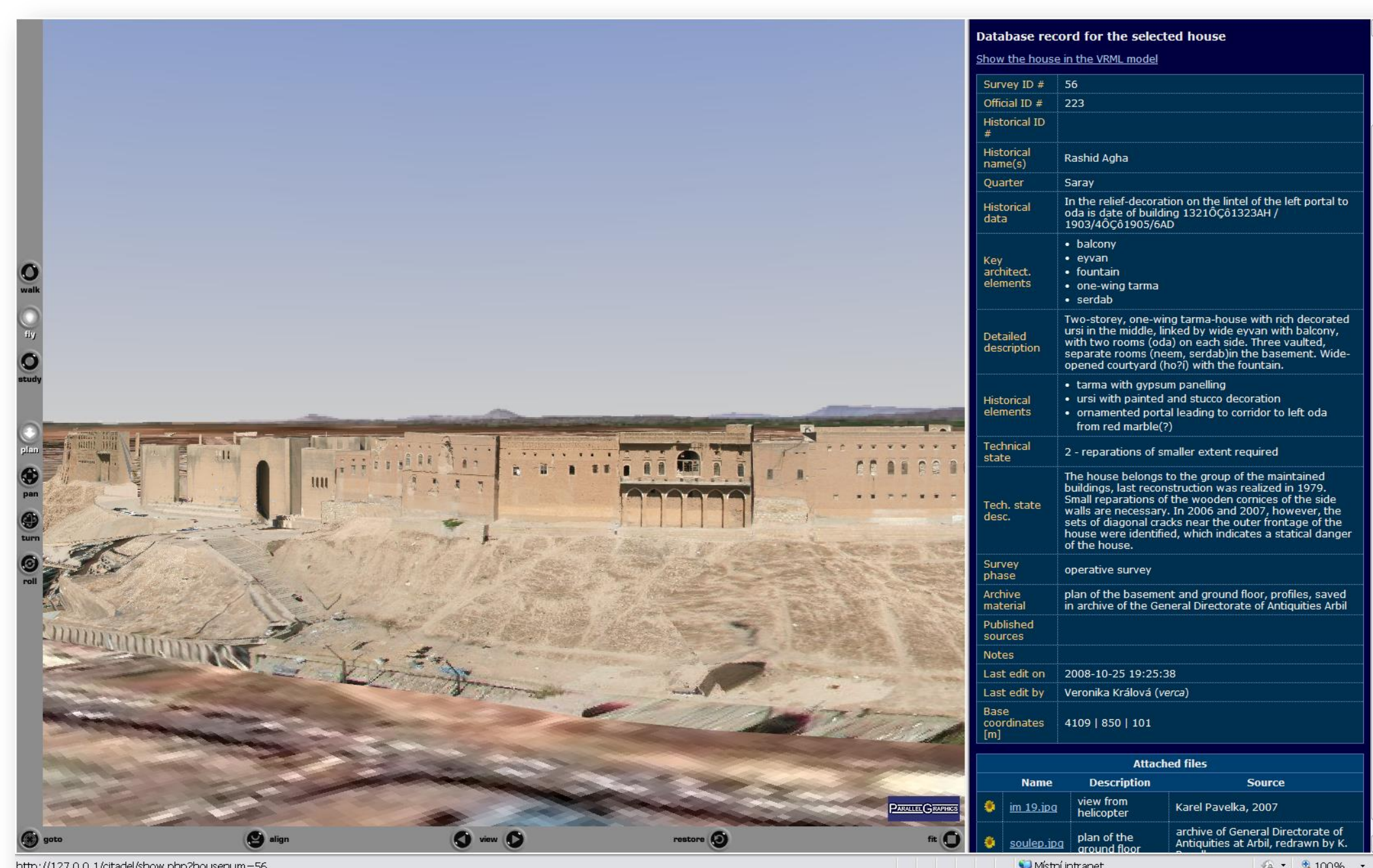
Revitalization of Fatah Chalabi House in Erbil citadel



SECTION A-A'



GEMA ART CENTRUM - ERBIL	
UNIVERSITY	ERBIL
GEMA ART GROUP a.s. - HASTALSKA 27, PRAGUE 1	ELEVATION AND SECTION
UNIVERSITY OF ERBIL - ERBIL	UNIVERSITY OF ERBIL
PROJECTED BY	ARCHITECTONICAL FIRM
HALEK & SPODAR, ARCHITECT, JERUSALEM 7, PRAGUE 1	ARCHITECTONICAL FIRM
AUTHOR	10/2006
10/2006	1:100
10/2006	4



Citadel Visualization and Information System



Photogrammetry of Erbil citadel from the US helicopter

## ONGOING GEMA ART GROUP ACTIVITIES

- UNESCO project "Execution of Urgent Preventive Works of Four Houses at the Erbil Citadel, Iraq"** (2011 – 2012).
- CIVIS 3D Model and Database of the Erbil Citadel** (continuously)
- Project proposal for the stabilization and conservation of **Dalal Bridge** in Zakho submitted at the Governorate of the Duhok Province and Ministry of Municipality and Tourism
- Educational activities in the **Iraqi Institute of Conservation of Cultural Heritage** in Erbil operated by IRD (from 2009)
- Advanced negotiation with the **State Board of Antiquities and Heritage in Baghdad** about the possibility of the renewal of restoration works out of the Kurdistan region of Iraq
- Project proposal for the structural stabilization of **Iwan al-Madaen** in Ctesiphon submitted to the **State Board of Antiquities and Heritage** and to the **Ministry of Culture** in Baghdad (2011)
- GEMA ART organized **"Course for Restoration and Conservation of Paper"** for team of the Iraqi restorers from **Al Atabat Al Husainiya Al Muqaddasa** from Kerbala (September – November 2011, Litomyšl, Czech Republic)



Research in madrasat Qubahan



Practical course for the students of archaeology at the Erbil citadel



UNESCO project "Execution of Urgent Preventive Works of Four Houses at the Erbil Citadel, Iraq" (2011 – 2012).



Practical course for HCECR in Syria / Ar - Raqqa

GEMA ART GROUP, a.s.  
Hastalska 27, 110 00 Prague 1, CZECH REPUBLIC  
[houska@gemaart.cz](mailto:houska@gemaart.cz); [www.gemaart.com](http://www.gemaart.com)

## PROJECTS IN IRAQ

GEMA ART GROUP carried out as the general partner of the Czech Government for the Preservation of the Iraqi cultural heritage projects in the framework of the Program of the Post-war Renovation of Iraq. GEMA ART has completed projects as follows:

- Equipping of a scientific micrographic studio and the laboratory for preservation and conservation of damaged books and archival documents of the **Iraqi National Library and Archive in Baghdad**
- Training courses** on conservation of paper and books in the Czech Republic and in the Central Library of Salahaddin University in Erbil(2004-2006)
- Training courses** on conservation of stone, paintings and paper in the Faculty of Restoration of University of Pardubice and in the West Bohemian University in Plzen, Czech Republic
- Scientific research of materials of the **Iwan al-Madaen, Ctesiphon**
- Project for the revitalization of the **Jamal Basha Palac**, ruler of Baghdad in the Ottoman Empire, at al-Rashid Street in Baghdad (interrupted due to security reasons)
- Project for the General Assessment of the **Al-Hadba Minaret in Mosul** (interrupted due to security reasons)
- Study of options for preservation and rehabilitation of the **Citadel in Erbil**
- Proposal for a management system for rehabilitation of the **Citadel in Erbil** using terrain archaeological seminars held in cooperation with the Western Bohemian University in Plzen and Salahaddin University in Erbil
- Joint Archaeological Training Program** prepared by GEMA ART in cooperation with West Bohemian University and Salahaddin University in the Erbil Citadel
- Development of the special **software called CIVIS (Citadel Visualization and Information System)** anchoring the Citadel 3D model and the **Database** of the houses
- Choli Minaret (13<sup>th</sup> century)** – General Assessment and project for its Stabilization and conservation
- Revitalization of the **Fatah Chalabi House (No. 220)** at the Erbil Citadel for GEMA ART Office and Training and Archaeological Centre of the Erbil Citadel (2006 – 2007)
- Fatah Chalabi House** opening ceremony with the **CIVIS software** presentation, workshops, exhibition and Citadel documentary film projection
- Realization of the project for **Stabilization and Conservation of Choli Minaret** in Erbil under the contract signed with the Ministry of Tourism and Heritage of Kurdistan Regional Government of Iraq (2008 - 2009)
- UNESCO Educational Project: Study Tour to Syria** GEMA organized in cooperation with the **Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums in Damascus** for the High Commission of Erbil Citadel Revitalization. (November 21-28, 2010)