



Green Space Development and Site Buffer Planning at Umm el-Jimal

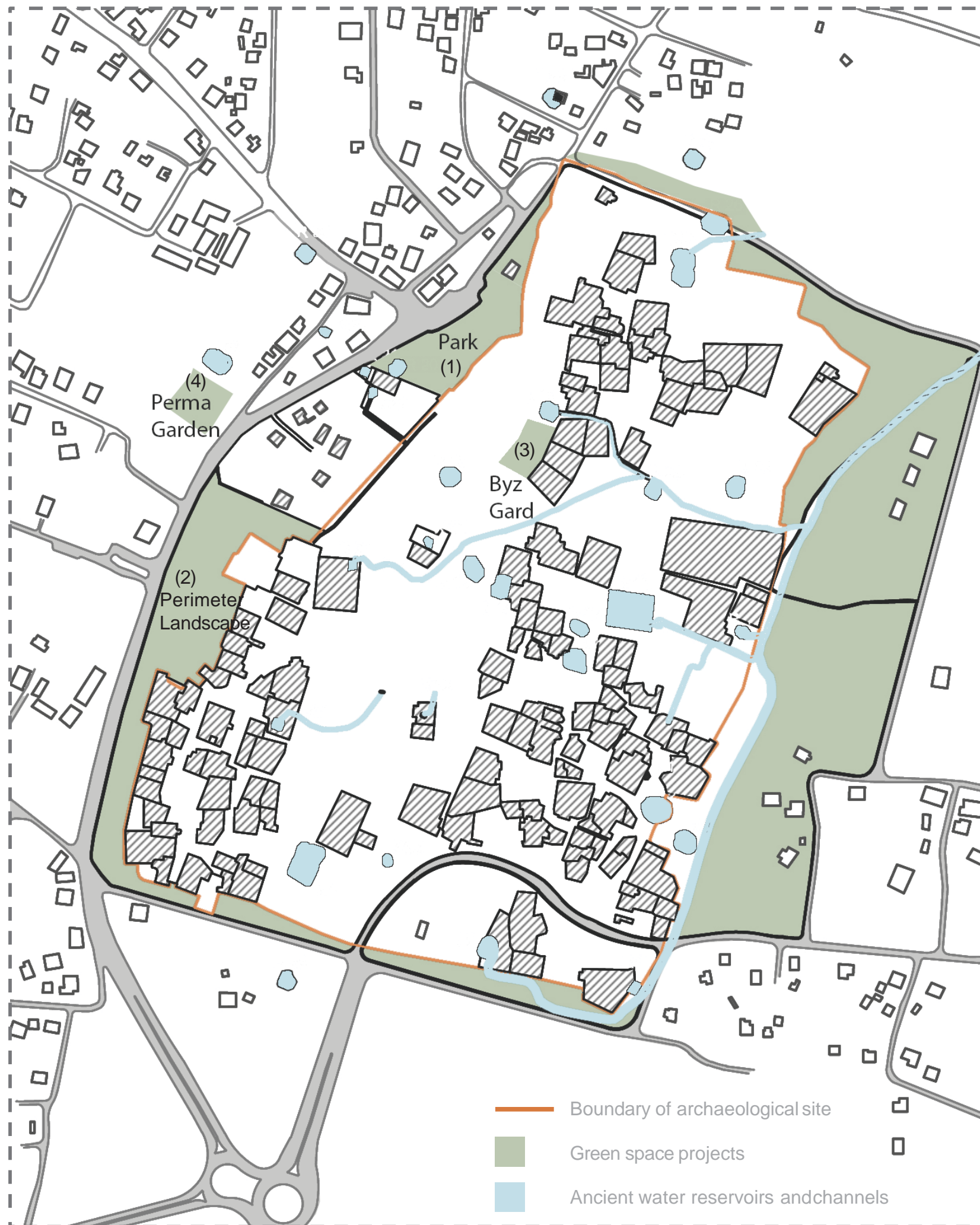
The Community-Antiquities Interface

Umm El Jimal Project Planning Document

In cooperation with the Umm el-Jimal Municipality, Department of Antiquities and Khammash Architects

September 2018

*Landscape of Umm el-Jimal showing antiquities in context of community. Courtesy of Landscape Architect Gregory DeVries



Site Buffer Planning and Management

As the protection of the “surroundings” of the antiquities is considered an essential component of any conservation strategy, this plan aims to developing and enforcing zoning, land -use, and building heights restrictions in the buffer zone (around 100 m strip surrounding the site).

The creation of a buffer zone planned by the government includes:

- The relocation of a modern highway now crossing the site.
- The gradual destruction of the current chain-link fence found obstructive by the community.
- Landscape the buffer zone, an area west of the site from which modern structures are to be removed by the Department of Antiquities in conformity with World Heritage Standards.
- Landscape area in the SE quadrant of the site from which the modern road is being removed (and replaced by a by-pass road) by the Department of Antiquities. This will include the removal of the Modern Entry Gate Structure made obsolete by the removal of the road and its replacement with a service entrance to the site.
- Enhancement of site security: cameras, police, 24/7 guards

Green Space Development

Creating a comprehensive landscape development plan that aims to serve both as a buffer between the ancient settlement and the modern community, and as a transit zone serving to integrate the ancient settlement into the modern community.

Such development would create an attractive and functional site perimeter for ancient Umm el-Jimal, designed not only for preservation and protection of the antiquities, but also as a structured envelope that would tie the various elements of the site together thematically and artistically.

(1) The West Entry Park Project

The park at the West Entry Area will be the first major public green space at Umm el-Jimal and is designed to serve as the Community-Antiquities Interface. The park, to be shared by community members and visitors/tourists, will provide a conduit for community members from the village onto the site and for visitors/tourists from the site into the village. It will be created on a triangle of land between the Commodus Gate, West Church and the modern Maydan, the community's business center. This triangle will receive inviting and functional landscaping that is compatible with both the antiquities to the east and the proposed business district to the west. To the east the Roman Gate leads to an interpretive trail through the ruins, and to the west its trees and shrubs invite visitors to the shops and residents of the community.



Project state 2015 - 2020

Commodus Gate Preservation – 2015

Completed – USAID-SCHEP

Excavations and Documentation of Archaeological Features

Completed – DoA, USAID-SCHEP

Commodus Gate

Byzantine Foundations; West Church

Byzantine and Umayyad Roadways; Ashy Mound

Clearing and Leveling of Park Area– 2017

Completed – DoA; USAID-SCHEP

Architectural and Landscape Design - Khammash Architects

Completed – USAID-SCHEP

DoA approved

Installation and Planting

Planned Fall 2018 –DoA; USAID-SCHEP;
Municipality + Proposed GIZ Funding

Paved Walks and Patios

Planting of trees and Shrubs

Creation of Water Supply

Park Maintenance Plan

Combined DoA, Municipality, Hand-by-Hand, UJP
Long-term funding

West Church Preservation and Presentation

UJP - new DoA Permit + funding application

Trees					
	Scientific Name	Arabic Name	Symbol	Height /cm	Amount
1	Pistacia palaestina	بطم فلسطيني	0	200	20
2	Ceratonia siliqua	شجرة التين	⌋	200	45
3	Ficus carica	شجرة التين	⌋	150	25

Shrubs					
	Scientific Name	Arabic Name	Symbol	Height /cm	Amount
1	Rosmarinus officinalis	روزمارين	0	50	350
2	Retama raetam	ريتا	0	60	450
3	Pistacia lentiscus	بطم فلسطيني	0	50	500

Ground Covers				
	Scientific Name	Arabic Name	Symbol	Area
1	Basalt tiles 10x1Dem	10-10 ج. د.م	⌋	1300 m.sq
2	Volcanic gravel	حصى بركاني	⌋	900 m.sq
3	Split Basalt tiles	حصى بركاني	⌋	200 m.sq

Shrubs



Pistacia lentiscus
Mastic



Retama Raetam
Retama



Rosmarinus officinalis
Rosemary

Canopy trees



Pistacia Palaestina
Terebinth



Ceratonia siliqua
Carob



Ficus Carica
Common fig



(2) Perimeter Landscaping

Proposed Design of Antiquities Perimeter Landscape
that includes the full buffer zone strip

Perimeter Plantings – Trees and Shrubs

Replace existing (ugly/ineffective) chain-link fence with a new (beautiful/effective) perimeter installation compatible with the antiquities, serviceable for site security and permitting site access by the community. This will set a precedent for other antiquities sites in Jordan.

(3) Byzantine Demonstration Gardens

Tourism Display; Community Benefit

Recreation of an Ancient Garden (located in Antiquities)
Water Supply from Ancient Reservoirs



(4) Community Perma-Garden

Community Enterprise

UJ Water Project and Municipality

Planning of Soil Fortification and Canopy Structure; Planting of Tree Canopy
Water Supply from Ancient Reservoirs

Project state

– New Funding

– Water Project funding application in process

– Water Project funding application in process