



Inv. no.

THE RESTORATION OF THE HOUSE

When the restoration of Bayt al-Aqqad started in 1997 the house had been empty for more than twenty years. The buildings were in a despicable condition. First and foremost they needed to be stabilized, and collapsed walls, floors and downfallen ceilings needed rebuilding.

Painted panels and ceilings needed cleaning and conservation. On some of the painted ceilings from the 18th century, looking gorgeous at a distance, the paint was peeling – like cornflakes. The character of the old “historical” rooms needed to be preserved in a such a way that they could also function in the daily life of the institute. In many rooms the layers of paint and plaster had to be removed in order to reach that expression of style and period, which was wanted for precisely that room – as can be seen for example in the so-called “blue room” in which murals from c. 1840 was covered by blue and greenish colours of a later period.

The restoration of Bayt al-Aqqad was accomplished in an outstanding co-operation between Syrian and Danish craftsmen, architects and conservators.

