

FIRST WORK REPORT
ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF ONE SCHOOL BUILDING HOLDING THREE
CLASSROOMS PLUS OFFICE AND STORAGE ROOM COVERED WITH
ASBESTOS FREE ROOFING SHEETS AND EIGHT TOILET CABINS
AT THE PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OF AMOUSSENON-TOMÉ ,
MUNICIPALITY OF ZE

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

General assembly at Amoussenon-Tomé at 3 pm

The population was represented by a few citizens and authorities who are: the village chief, the director, members of the PTA. The contract was read. The conditions mentioned in the contract were accepted by a positive vote. Then we went to the construction site. The store for the materials as well as the room to house the workers were prepared.

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Today, small teak trees were purchased. Then the topographic survey for the new building was done. The new building was placed in an angle of 90° towards the old building. Finally, the batter board of the building was constructed.

Thursday, March 30, 2023

Some men of the village started to excavate the foundation trenches of the building. The village chief accompanied the work to encourage his population.



Friday, March 31, 2023

Lagoon sand was delivered to the construction site as well as cement. The excavation of the foundation trenches of the building is in process.

Saturday, April 1, 2023

The manufacture of the foundation bricks has started. After a rain, which slowed down the work, the masons were able to make 2.5 tons of foundation bricks.

The construction of the water tower carried out by the NPO AS in previous months has considerably favoured the supply of water to the site.

Monday, April 3, 2023

Today, the masons made 2 tons of solid bricks of 15cm for the foundation of the building.

The excavation of the trenches of the building is progressing only slowly.

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Masons and iron benders are making progress in their work. The masons cast 2.5 tons of 15cm solid bricks and 2.5 tons of 15cm hollow bricks.

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

All the workers have been at work since morning. The iron bender has started assembling the foundation inserts. Until the evening, the masons made 1 ton of 15cm solid bricks and 3 tons of 15cm hollow bricks.



Thursday, April 6, 2023

The excavation for the foundation trenches of the building is being carried out. Regarding the permanent need of water, this problem is solved because we use water from the borehole which is close to the site. Only the transport of the generator is causing a problem since it is needed on the site every day.

Friday, April 7, 2023

The excavation of the building continues. A few people arrived to complete the job. The masons themselves continue to enlarge the places of the pillars



Saturday, April 8, 2023

Early in the morning, many women from the village arrived to carry foundation bricks to the foundation trenches. The excavation of these trenches was completed this morning. The masons adjusted the trenches and started pouring the reinforced concrete. The iron bender started to place the iron inserts into the trenches. Around 4 pm, torrential rain stopped the work.



Monday, April 10, 2023

Since last week, the lagoon sand is getting scarce. I informed the executive director of the NPO AS. Mrs. Astrid TODA was obliged to order sand from another quarry. The reinforced concrete is being poured gradually.

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Women from the village carried bricks close to the trenches. The masons are still at work, pouring the reinforced concrete. The iron bender assembled the inserts of the lower iron anchor. The pillars of the building are being placed by the mason and the iron bender.



Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Today at 3:30 pm, the head mason Gérard, the chairman of the NPO AS and myself had a session with some members of the PTA of the school. We have asked them to mobilize the population to take turns working in small groups on the construction site. The members promised that this will be done from tomorrow. The chairman of the NPO AS promised to return to the village to verify. The mason and the supervisor will send videos and photos as proof.

The masons began by erecting the foundation walls of the building. After the recent shortage of sand, today sand was delivered by 10-wheel trucks.

Thursday, April 13, 2023

As promised at the end of yesterday's meeting, today the population is present in great number to excavate the toilet pit. Several young women came to carry bricks to help the masons in their task of raising the foundation walls of the building. The mason, the iron bender and the form worker are at work for the realization of the lower iron anchor (first iron anchor) of the building. By the end of this day the toilet pit was dug up to one meter deep. Without the intervention of the chairman of the NPO AS, we would not have made this progress today. The days to come will give proof of the commitment of the population of Amoussenon-Tomé.

Bravo! to the chairman of the NPO AS.

Bravo! to the people who have given proof of their sense of responsibility.



Friday, April 14, 2023

The excavation of the toilet pit continues. Iron was delivered to the site. The rest of the lower iron anchor is cased; while the concrete is prepared some walls are erected above the lower iron anchor which was cast yesterday.

Saturday, April 15, 2023

The walls above the lower iron anchor on the long sides of the building are erected. The iron bender is installing the iron inlays of the intermediate iron anchor on the lower window level (that means the second iron anchor). Today the mason made hollow bricks of 15cm.



Monday, April 17, 2023

The intermediate iron anchor was cast.

NB: it must be noted that the population has been absent since Saturday, what a pity!

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

The iron shapes for pillars of the veranda were placed and the iron inserts were lengthened. The form worker was tightening the metal shapes in which the iron inserts are implanted. The elevation of the walls of the building continues.



NB: since last week, the price for cement has risen. I must travel a long distance to get some and it's a bit strength consuming for me.

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

This morning, women from the village arrived on the site. They carried bricks to help the masons and were able to start backfilling the veranda in front of one classroom. The form worker finished tightening the shapes for the pillars of the veranda. These and other pillars of the building are cast. Heavy rain caused the small wall at the back side of the building near the water tower to collapse. It was quickly rebuilt after the torrential rain ceased.

Thursday, April 20, 2023

We bought boards and took them to the sawmill to be sliced for the upper iron anchor (or door and window iron anchor). As electricity was not available all day long at the sawmill, the form worker was unable to form all of the upper iron anchor. Masons have progressed with the casting of the remaining pillars.

Monday, April 24, 2023

The rest of the upper iron anchor had been boarded and cast last Friday. Some parts are stripped today.

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

The wall of 4 rows of bricks on the upper iron anchor is being erected. The iron bender laid the inserts of the iron anchor below the roof.

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

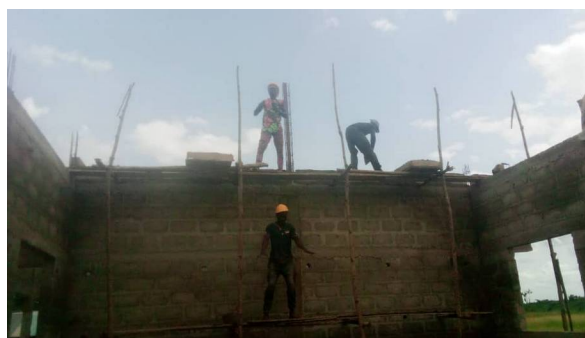
The construction of the wall above the upper iron anchor continues. Another side of the building is done.

Thursday, April 27, 2023

The iron bender lengthened the inserts of the pillars. Some parts of the iron anchor are laid and then cased. Almost all the walls above the upper iron anchor are mounted.

Friday, April 28, 2023

All the walls above the upper iron anchor are mounted. The form work of the iron anchor is done. Some pillars are cased.



Saturday, April 29, 2023

The iron anchor as well as some pillars were cased and cast,.

Monday, May 1, 2023

The gables are mounted on 4 sides. A heavy rain slowed down work when the 5th side of the gables was about to be mounted.

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

The team of the population restarted to dig the pit for the toilets. The steps of the building were built.



Wednesday, May 3, 2023

All gables of the building are finally erected. Pillars at gable level were cast. The population hired specialists to continue the excavation of the toilet pit which today reached 2.60 m. The iron bender built the iron assemblies for the stairs to attach them to the building.



Thursday, May 4, 2023

Today the excavation of the toilet pit made no progress. The chairman, the executive director and some members of the NPO visited the construction site and talked about other projects concerning the school.

NB: Mrs. Sandie Brayard visited the site in the evening. She is responsible for the office training of the NPO members.

Friday, May 5, 2023

Women came to carry bricks next to the building. These bricks will be used to build the ramp.

Saturday, May 6, 2023

The construction of the ramp of the school building was started. The workers in charge of the toilet pit did not show up, the helpers of the population like wise.



Monday, May 8, 2023

The iron anchor of the ramp was ready for the form work to be carried out. Some steps were cast.

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

More steps were cast. Those executed yesterday were stripped of the boards. The flowerpots were built. Women filled the steps with sand after the visit of the executive director of the NPO AS to the site.





May 10 to May 16, 2023

NPO workers are withdrawn from the school construction for other projects here in Amoussenon-Tomé.

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

I received coloured roofing sheets on the site. On the first trip, the truck was able to transport and unload 200 sheets. On the second trip, the truck was able to transport and unload 180 sheets. So, in total, I received 380 roofing sheets, 9 of which are in very poor condition and will be replaced tomorrow.



Thursday, May 18, 2023

This morning, the population filled the classrooms with sand. The veranda was backfilled. The toilet excavation is almost 3m deep. The women backfilled the part of one classroom.





May 18 to May 29, 2023

The workers were withdrawn from the school construction to other projects of the NPO AS here in Amoussenon-Tomé.

Tuesday, May 30, 2023

Despite the intervention of the chairman of the NPO AS who tried to raise awareness among the population to assume their duties, they decided to stop at a depth of 4 m for the toilets. It was not at all easy for this lazy population to reach this depth. It was like a chore for them.

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

This morning, the mason started pouring reinforced concrete into the toilets pit. Iron inserts and pillars are implanted into the foundation.



Thursday, June 1, 2023

The walls of the toilets were erected up to 6 rows of full foundation bricks.

Friday, June 2, 2023

The first iron anchor was laid, cased, and then cast on top of the walls in the toilets.



Saturday, June 3, 2023

The masons continued to erect the wall above the first iron anchor of the toilets. Heavy rain stopped work from 12 pm to 2 pm. After the rain, the foundation wall on the first iron anchor of the toilets was finished. Today, I received 3 trips of sand to be filled into the classrooms.



NB: It must be noted that the population no longer participates in the backfilling, and no longer helps since the start of the construction of the toilets.

Monday, June 5, 2023

The second iron anchor is cast.

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

The toilet walls reach ground level . From 2:30 pm until after 6 pm rain stopped the work.



Wednesday, June 7, 2023

The third iron anchor was prepared. The wall has to dry before covering the iron anchor with boards.



Thursday, June 8, 2023

The third iron anchor of the toilets was cast leaving the brackets of the slab. Then the internal plastering of the toilet started with Sikalite and Sikalutex.



Friday, June 9, 2023

Two of the four compartments of the pit were plastered from bottom to top. As for the backfilling of the building, due to the absence of the population the executive director of the NPO AS was obliged to employ a team of students to finish the job.

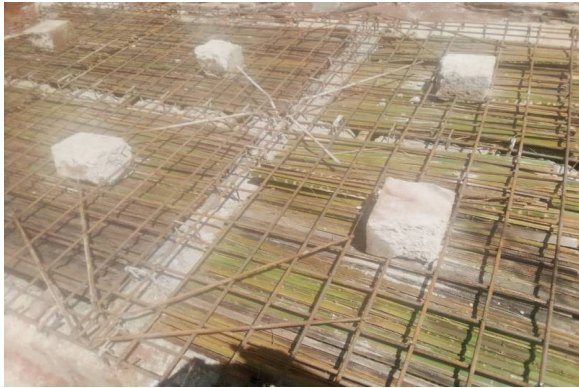


Saturday, June 10, 2023

The remaining two compartments of the toilet pit were plastered.

Monday, June 12, 2023

The backfilling team employed by the executive director of the NPO AS is doing a remarkable job. The iron bender assembled the iron inserts for the toilet slab. Then, the slab is cased and poured.



Tuesday, June 13, 2023

The walls of 8 toilet cubicles are erected up to the level of the iron anchor on top of the doors.



Wednesday, June 14, 2023

The iron anchor and the form work above the doors were made and cast.

Thursday, June 15, 2023

The gables of the toilet block were erected. The reinforced concrete for the steps to access the toilets was made. One side of the toilet block was completed. The reinforced concrete for the steps of the second side was prepared, but a heavy rain hindered the work.



NB: the doors, windows and window grilles for the building and the toilet block as well as the window brackets were delivered to the site. The rain continued until nightfall.

Friday, June 16, 2023

The mason started the installation and tightening of the windows.

Saturday, June 17, 2023

I received the burglary bars for the building.

Monday, June 19, 2023

Today, rain slowed down the progress of the work.

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

The carpenter arrived to construct the roof truss of the building.



Wednesday, June 21, 2023

The assembly of cross ties of the roof truss continued. In the afternoon, I searched for smooth iron bars size 6 in the pouring rain. I looked all over the town of Zé, but I could not find this material. I had to go to Abomey-Calavi to get some. The next problem was to find in this rain a tricycle to transport these iron bars and corrugated roofing sheets. Finally at nightfall, I was able to return to the construction site with the materials.



Thursday, June 22, 2023

With great enthusiasm the workers mounted the rafters on the assembled cross ties of the building.



Friday, June 23, 2023

The roof truss was attached to the school building with the smooth iron rods size 6. In the afternoon, the workers took a break as it rained. After the rain, beams were mounted to give a neat aspect to the ends of the roof truss.



Saturday, June 24, 2023

It was raining all day and the carpenters mounted the roofing sheets only on one half of the building. I left the construction site to go home in the rain.



Monday, June 26, 2023

The school building is entirely covered with coloured roofing sheets which give a beautiful image of the infrastructure. The workers began with ardour to build the roof of the toilet block. This was followed by the placing of the sheets. The carpenters were very happy to finish their work and they were ready to join their respective families and made phone calls to announce their return.



Reporter: Joseph LOKO