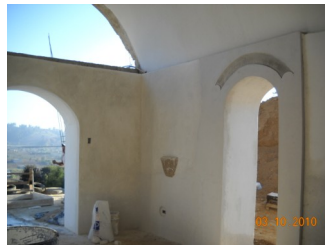


Escuela Técnico Maya Design + Construction Update

March 1 –14

- Work continued on applying the interior finishes. The West workshop is complete, the East workshop will be done in one week, and the Bodega will be done in two weeks.
- A door fabricator was chosen to build and install the doors and Windows and the two doors for the West taller will be in place in three weeks. Doors and vent windows have been designed.
- Continued lower retaining wall to East. A 3" pvc tub was laid under the tire wall to allow for drainage towards the South. The bottom level of the wall has been established and the trenching begun.
- The North Texas Engineers Without Borders chapter visited the site (after completing work on a water project in Panimicac). They provided suggestions for draining and additional strategies for the retaining walls we have yet to build. Based on their suggestion we decided to continue the lower retaining wall at a level 15" above the adjacent property.
- We continue to look for uses for the surplus of dirt from the excavation. We are also willing to give it away for free to anyone who comes to pick it up. We have a month to move the excess dirt.
- We are now considering using tuk-tuk tires for the patio columns — they are usually difficult to find but we looking around to see if it is feasible, since we will need approx. 300.
- Made initial plans for next taller roofs to be constructed out of large dirt bottles. All three roofs will require over 1000 bottles so we plan to increase production through groups, volunteers and possibly schools we already work with. We plan to build a roof mock-up in the coming weeks to test the system.
- Continued process of soliciting the Muni for electricity.
- Three new workers joined the crew, more to come.
- A information packet for groups and short-term volunteers was created — the aim of the packet is to provide volunteers who are working at the school with some context and basic knowledge so that they are more informed and productive workers. Additionally we aim to educate volunteers about the green building and alternative construction, so the packet helps identify what knowledge and skills they should be taking away with them.
- 9th graders from Guatemala City volunteered for a day.

L-R: 1 Dirt pile; 2 Completed West workshop without doors; 3 Lower retaining wall looking East; 4 9th grade volunteers



Plans for the next two weeks . . .

- Complete interior finishes
- Advance both upper and lower retaining walls - geotextile fabric still a question
- Drawings for workshops + central bodega and Art building