

2024-2025



Readings: Exploring Insights from Published Papers on Heritage Preservation and Management in the Arab Region

A Compilation **by Students of the MSc Programme** in
Conservation Management of Cultural Heritage



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Introduction

This resource comprises a compilation of 22 research abstracts and links to published papers stemming from the collaboration between **ICCROM** and the **University of Sharjah** within the framework of the MSc Programme in Conservation Management of Cultural Heritage. Since its launch in 2019, this program has been fostering academic growth and practical expertise, equipping students with essential skills to navigate the complexities of heritage preservation and management.

As you explore this compilation, you'll discover a collection of research topics, from exploring innovative conservation methodologies to investigating the societal impact of heritage preservation and management, each paper offers valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities encountered in the conservation and management of cultural heritage.

Throughout, you'll gain insights into innovative conservation techniques, heritage preservation projects, and the role of heritage in fostering peace and reconciliation. Each abstract is accompanied by a QR code-linked resource, providing access to the full paper for further exploration.

This program is being implemented in the framework of the annual plan of the ICCROM Regional Center in Sharjah, in response to the needs of many institutions responsible for the preservation and management of cultural heritage and museums in the Arab region.

ICCROM, through this program, provides expertise in the fields of heritage management and preservation through its team and international experts network. It also offers scholarships to a number of students in the Arab region to pursue this program. Meanwhile, the University of Sharjah incorporates this program into its academic framework to build a generation of academic researchers from the Arab region.

ICCROM

The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) is an intergovernmental organization specialized in the mission of promoting and conserving cultural heritage practices worldwide. Since its establishment in 1959 in agreement with the Italian government by UNESCO, ICCROM has provided its services to the international community composed of 137 member states. As a unique organization entrusted with this mission and mandate, ICCROM's initiatives cover areas such as training in conservation practices, capacity building, information dissemination, scientific research, and advocacy for the preservation of cultural heritage.

ICCROM Regional Centre in Sharjah

ICCROM Regional Centre in Sharjah was established by ICCROM and the United Arab Emirates government with generous support and gracious patronage from His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah, in 2015, by a decision of the Council of Arab Ministers and a headquarters agreement signed by the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The University of Sharjah

The University of Sharjah was established in 1997 with the aim and vision to contribute to the qualities shared by renowned universities around the world. The education and research programs they offer tend to be comprehensive and multi-disciplinary. UoS has 14 colleges and offers 127 programs across multiple academic disciplines. Courses are offered in a variety of fields ranging from Sharia and Law to Health Sciences, Medicine, Fine Arts and Design, Engineering, and Communication. It also offers a wide range of degree programs at the diploma, BSc/BA, MSc/MA, and Ph.D. Levels as well as the Executive MBA (EMBA) program.



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The Role of Photogrammetry in the Conservation Management of Al Mahatta Museum, Sharjah, UAE

Journal/ conference: 2023 IMEKO International Conference on Metrology for Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

Year of Publication: 2023

Student: Ahmad Badr Aldin Fattal

The conservation management of cultural heritage sites is essential for preserving their historical significance, in which documentation plays a crucial role. Photogrammetry is commonly used in documenting cultural heritage assets, which is a technique that utilizes 2D images to create accurate 3D Models of sites or artifacts. Advancements in open- source software and cameras have made photogrammetry an ideal tool for documenting and visualizing cultural heritage properties compared to other complicated and expensive tools (e.g., 3D laser scanning). This paper explores the role of photogrammetry in the conservation management of Al Mahatta Museum in Sharjah, UAE. The study reviewed related work and investigated how photogrammetry early results can be used as a monitoring tool to identify material deteriorations,

enhance the accessibility of information, and facilitate collaboration among different stakeholders. The methodology involved capturing thousands of stereo- pair images, to build a 3D model and ortho- mosaic images. The results demonstrate the potential use of early results of photogrammetry in conservation management. Limitations, such as large data processing, camera resolution, and altitude challenges were also discussed with considerations improvement.



<https://www.imeko.org/index.php/proceedings/9271-the-role-of-photogrammetry-in-the-conservation-management-of-al-mahatta-museum-sharjah-uae>

Problematics in rehabilitating abandoned heritage buildings outside the World Heritage Site of the Old City of Hebron: A case study of buildings in the commercial city center

Journal/ conference: Journal of the General Union of Arab Archaeologists

Year of Publication: 2024

Student: Safwan Qawasmi

This research examines the human habitat of Hebron with a focus on the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries with changes in the social fabric reflected on human housing. The study provides a clear understanding of Hebron's traditional dwellings, where the emergence of the central house was part of this change. This pattern has been widespread in newly established neighborhoods in many Palestinian towns, where patterns observed outside the borders of the Old City constitute a different architectural design compared to the (Hosh). The study aims at extending the protection to single historical buildings from the Old City with exceptional features and attributes found in these buildings, so that they are protected and preserved by establishing a vision of a development system after the revival of the old buildings. The main problem in the study is the ongoing threat to historic buildings located on commercial roads in the city center. The

urban growth and expansion of the city has led to the replacement of these buildings with huge commercial complexes due to the high purchasing value of the land. Besides, the expansion of the main streets and the poor planning that did not take into account the historical, aesthetic and social values of these palaces, which still symbolized Hebron's wellknown trade career. The study emphasized the importance of reserving these historic buildings by documenting, reviving, and raising the community's awareness about their importance. In conclusion, proposals were drawn up for the rehabilitation and operation of these buildings after their restoration.



https://jguaa.journals.ekb.eg/article_314254.html

Impact of Legislative Precision in the Management of the Casbah

Journal/ conference: Built Heritage

Year of Publication: 2023

Student: Farah Hadji



The historic center of Algiers (Casbah) presents a state of severe decay. Law have been promulgated to provide adequate framework for the conservation of the old city. This paper investigates law managing the heritage and the impact of legislative precision on management of the living historic center of the Casbah of Algiers. Before the law 98-04, management structure bodies of the Casbah were rather unclear. Thanks to this law, more precision was brought to the urban heritage management bodies, and a new safeguarding tool appeared, PPSMVSS. Due to the difficulties encountered in the field as to the application of this tool,

which delays considerably the preservation actions to be carried out, this paper seeks to analyse the contradictions between the application texts of the law and the safeguarding plan, in order to find the reasons of this decay and eventually propose a number of solutions.



<https://built-heritage.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s43238-023-00088-y>

Efforts of the United Arab Emirates to preserve the cultural and architectural heritage based on international conventions and standards for preserving cultural heritage: The case study of Al-Jazirah Al-Hamra

Journal/ conference: Al-Adab Journal

Year of Publication: 2023

Student: Mahmoud Nezar ALShikh Warak

Ras al-Khaimah is one of the largest cities in the United Arab Emirates. The emirate is famous for its rich history and heritage, as it was one of the most important commercial centers in the Gulf in the past. It was famous for its fishing, extraction and trade in precious pearls. Al-Jazirah Al-Hamra was one of the most important historical villages of the Emirate, which had a prominent place in pearl hunting and trade. It contains many historical houses and Dhayah Castle dating back to the eighteenth century AD. Despite the efforts of the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah to preserve and develop Al Jazeera Al Hamra, these efforts have not been studied and evaluated. Therefore, this research deals with an evaluation of national efforts and interventions in preserving one of the heritage monuments in the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah, which is Al Jazeera Al Hamra, as one of the cultural and heritage monuments

that are importantly linked to the cultural, political and economic history of the region and its prominent role in its presence within the history of the region and its impact extending beyond that as it was an extension for man in that not so distant era and his role in preserving man and history. An evaluation approach was used based on the standards of conservation and restoration of international conventions. After the evaluation process, the study concluded that the preservation and restoration process was largely successful in rehabilitating Al-Jazirah Al-Hamra and reusing some of



<https://doi.org/10.31973/aj.v1i146.3889>

Museums as an effective agent of peace and reconciliation: Community museums of western Sudan project (WSCM)

Journal/ conference: Ghulzum Scientific Documentary Journal

Year of Publication: 2021

Student: Ezzelding Hajjaj

Purpose - Museums in the world are no longer, as in the past, revolve around their traditional functions, this is pertinent to the case the Sudan. Largely affected by numerous civil wars and economic crises which formed a major feature since the pre-independence period and expanded after the advent of national governments, it is argued that Sudan's museums have a major role to play in peace, reconciliation, in a world undergoing extraordinary political and economic changes. Consequently, the purpose of this paper is to examine the contribution and participation of community museums project in peace and reconciliation context by employing cultural heritage represented in museum activities, programs and various community events.

Originality/value - This paper helps in developing the traditional functions of museums in Sudan, and wider region that

witnessed conflicts to include adopt more effective functions based on the idea of interaction and participation between local communities and museums., It also contributes to developing elements of a culture of peace by employing museums programs and events as an effective tool that contributes to the interconnectedness of societies as well as the scientific benefit represented in supplying the Sudanese library with modern qualitative and innovative scientific material that takes museums, its activities and goals as an important approach in peace, reconciliation and unity research and studies.



<https://search.mandumah.com/Record/1273711>

A Preservation and Management Plan for Ras Al-Khaimah Museum Collection at the Port storehouse

Journal/ conference: Journal of the General Union of Arab Archaeologists

Year of Publication: 2022

Student: Ismail Sapry Mohamed Draz



The paper presents a study case for preservation planning and the management of museum collection. The case is applied on the storehouse of Ras Al Khaimah Museum at Ras Al Khaimah Port. It includes the different stages and processes of planning and achieving the development and redesigning the archaeological storehouse. The process to revise and approve all the requirements and needed policies to achieve the whole preservation and management plan. The development of the preservation and management plan to transfer the storehouse into a research center for the management, documentation, study and use of the stored collections, and the

establishment of a central storehouse for the Ras Al Khaimah Archeological and Museum department. The plan aims to develop the storehouse by transferring its current site for a center for collecting and preserving museum collections that are distributed between several secondary storehouses. This comes to emphasis the goals of Ras Al Khaimah National Museum



https://jguaa.journals.ekb.eg/article_229612.html

Assessment of Heritage Preservation Projects in The Old City of Damascus from The Perspective of International Conventions and Standards

Journal/ conference: Al-Adab Journal

Year of Publication: 2022

Student: Najia Taher Ramadan

The Old City of Damascus is distinguished by its many souks, ancient neighborhoods, mosques, churches, khans, and cobbled streets. Although the state has implemented many projects to preserve the cultural heritage in Old Damascus, no study has been conducted to assess the extent to which these projects comply with the directives of cultural heritage charters and standards. Therefore, this research came as a master's thesis to discuss some urban heritage preservation projects in the old city of Damascus and evaluate them from the perspective of international charters and standards, to know the problems resulting from the methods and methodologies used in the preservation process, and to provide an information database on evaluating the conservation methods used in Old Damascus. A group of projects was selected, like,

Ancient Damascus without Cars, Medhat Pasha market restoration, Beit Nizam (Nizam House), Beit Kuwatli, and Beit Sibai, after evaluation according to the criteria, the study reached several results, the most important of which is the need to preserve the relationship between Old Damascus within the walls and its surroundings. The research recommends the necessity of linking the directorates responsible for Old Damascus and developing a comprehensive and integrated revival plan based on international standards.



<https://doi.org/10.31973/aj.v1i142.3650>

Conservation of Dry-stone Structures: A Practical Study on Al Makhroun Watchtowers- Southern Jerusalem

Journal/ conference: Landscape History Journal

Year of Publication: 2023

Student: Ziad A. H. Abuowda

Watchtowers, also called huts, manatir, qussur, ezab, araaiesh, sear, are an architecture structures built of dry-stone without mortar overlooking the cultivated lands. They contribute to the ultimate formation of a unique cultural landscape evolved from the proper adaptation of land for agriculture using special systemisation, and to the inscription of the site named: Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines, Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem on the World Heritage List (WHL). The inappropriate state of conservation of the watchtowers, among other factors, resulted in making the whole property to be on the UNESCO's WHL in-danger since 2014 until present. This research documented fifty watchtowers out of approximately 259 distributed over 13 square kilometres within the World Heritage Property (WHP). It also included a practical conservation project for twenty watchtowers selected upon a scientific multidisciplinary approach after

a field survey, literature review, assessment of previous conservation interventions, and direct observations based on the international related guidelines. The project succeeded in the conservation of twenty watchtowers and the revitalization of the lands associated with them. The results of the project were investigated in terms of the commitment of conservation rules in particular: Documentation, Reversibility, Authenticity, Distinguishability, Adaptive re-use, Cultural Landscape, and Human Dimension.



<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01433768.2023.2196127>

Reshaping the Visitor Experience in Regional Museums Through Interpretation Plans: A Case Study of the Kom Ushim Museum in Fayoum-Egypt

Journal/ conference: The General Union of Arab Archaeologists Journal

Year of Publication: 2022

Student: Marwa Hamada Fathi Hamed

This study focuses on the importance of a good interpretation of museum's collections on visitors' satisfaction. as there is a relationship between visitors' satisfaction and repetition of their visit. Therefore, the main issue of this study is to assess the visitor 'experience within the Kom-Ushim Museum KUM in Fayoum / Egypt and its current interpretation plan for its exhibited collections to see how effective the visitor's experience in terms of the museum's current interpretation is? and how comprehensive is the presentation and interpretation of the value of the museum's exhibits and the accompanying historical narrative? The researchers relied on collecting data through several ways, using questionnaires distributed to museum visitors, and interviewing some academic specialists, and those who are working in the KUM in particular. The researchers also relied on a set of evaluation criteria that derived from

literature review and dealt with two cases of successful interpretation models for this kind of regional museum, the Luxor Museum and the Nubian Museum. The results of the data analysis showed how good interpretation and clear information are important when dealing with the exhibited collections and it has a crucial role in the visitors' satisfaction and in shaping their experience in the museum. The results of the questionnaires also showed the urgent need to develop the KUM's presentation and interpretation plan to reshape the visitors 'experiences. Accordingly, this study presented at the end proposed ideas towards developing the interpretation plan at Kom-Ushim Museum.



https://jguua2.journals.ekb.eg/article_207485.html

The role of museums and heritage areas of Sharjah in improving a sustainable cultural tourism in the Emirate of Sharjah

Journal/ conference: Journal of the General Union of Arab Archaeologists

Year of Publication: 2023

Student: Mariam Mohammed Al Rashidi

This study aims to highlight the role of the tourist areas in the Emirate of Sharjah and raise the level of awareness of cultural heritage among the population, by clarifying the role they represent in the process of sustainable cultural development, presenting its impact on the economic, social and environmental dimensions, and revealing the role of museums in achieving sustainable development goals. The questionnaire tool was adopted to examine the population's awareness of heritage places. It contains three demographic variables and 18 questions. The number of the sample was 200 participants, and the conclusions of the study came that the interest in museums and heritage areas and the establishment of cultural and heritage activities contribute to raising the economic level of the country through tourism income, and that raising

awareness about heritage among the population helps to protect and promote heritage. The study concluded with recommendations such as developing plans to protect museums and archaeological areas, activating the role of education and the media in this task, encouraging people to work within the field of heritage protection and publicizing it, in addition to working on a partnership agreement between private companies and international non-profit organizations.



https://jguaa.journals.ekb.eg/article_296985.html

Decorative elements in the façades of heritage buildings in the Heart of Sharjah: an analytical and documentary study

Journal/ conference: Al-Adab Journal

Year of Publication: 2023

Student: Aisha Aljaberi

Tradition architecture is considered a place's cultural heritage, which reflects the place's spirit. The history of the site is measured by its buildings and architecture, which are constructed in the spirit of traditional architecture. As part of traditional architecture, many of their components and their importance differ from building to building depending on their location or the building. The decorations are considered one of the main essential elements which reflect the culture of any society. Moreover, they are crucial components of traditional architecture that cannot be separated from its significance. The research will be conducted into the artistic and elastic aspects of traditional architecture in the United Arab Emirates and study the heritage fronts of old heritage properties in 2. and analyze their decorative elements and words carved in them, which received little attention in the search for their origins,

connotations, history, the artistic nature used in it, and what it made at that time. For the purpose of this research, visitors will be taken to heritage buildings, as well as through books and written references: paper and digital, and then the Heart of Sharjah will be studied. It is our hope that this research will encourage researchers to look for more information related to the UAE's history, and not ignore any information, no matter how small. and aiming on the simplest details in the restored shapes and inscriptions because it means within it a lot of history, in addition to documenting and recording the decorations in the UAE.



<https://doi.org/10.31973/aj.v1i146.4000>

Enhancing the Role of Modern Technologies in the Museum Display for Children. A case study of the Abu Bakr Gallery at Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization

Journal/ conference: Al-Adab Journal

Year of Publication: 2023

Student: Entisar Muean alobeidli

Sharjah has always been committed to spreading culture and education through various cultural platforms, of which museums are the most significant. The Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization is one of the most striking cultural landmarks in the Emirate of Sharjah. Through educational and cultural programs, events, exhibitions, and activities, it preserves and displays collections from the Islamic world to promote knowledge and understanding of Islamic history, sciences arts and culture. The museums displays are divided amongst six galleries, including the Abu Bakr Islamic Faith gallery. This gallery features the pillars of Islam, manuscripts, the art of calligraphy, as well as models of mosques' architecture. The existing interpretation, however, could be simplified to provide a more enticing and interactive experience for children. The aim of this study is to examine the current museum display, in this gallery, to identify the impact of modern technologies on the interaction

and participation of children aged 8-12 years with the exhibits. To address the research questions and fulfill the goals of the study, data were gathered using references and books on various types of technologies and surveys were distributed to museum visitors (families and teachers as well as children. In addition, interviews were conducted with museum officials and notes recorded by the researcher as a museum curator. Additionally, examples of display methods and the use of technology in children's museums were analyzed. Results were derived after analyzing the data in relation to the current display and factors of visitor attraction. For the current display content to be attractive to the target group, it must be updated



<https://doi.org/10.31973/aj.v1i145.3961>

The role of digital media in promoting heritage: A descriptive study applied to the Emirates

Journal/ conference: University of Sharah journal for Humanities and Social Science

Year of Publication: 2023

Student: Mohammed Al Zaabi

This research addresses the role of digital media in promoting Emirati heritage, the research raised the following problem: What is the impact of digital media on heritage promotion in the United Arab Emirates? To answer this central question, the researcher chose to follow a descriptive analytical approach, based on scientific information gathered in the literature review. For the method, the author chose to build and distribute an electronic questionnaire (via Google Forms) that includes two main axes: The habits of using digital media, and the perceptions and attitudes of a sample of the emirate's society about the role of digital technologies in promoting Emiratis. legacy. The survey link was distributed online through the researcher's accounts on social media and e-mail during the period from November 2021 to February 2022. The researcher received (112) responses.

Findings revealed that the heritage in the UAE combines originality, and diversity; promoting heritage in the Emirates benefits in increasing economic resources and contributes to spreading awareness about the importance of protecting legacy and shaping the future of the nation. The results also confirmed that the success of the UAE in strengthening its position on the global map is due to the use of digital media and innovative marketing strategies based on government support with all its capabilities to promote the Emirati cultural and civilizational repository.



<https://doi.org/10.36394/jhss/20/4/2>

Perfumes Across Civilizations: A Brief Historical Study

Journal/ conference: Al Adab journal

Year of Publication: 2022

Student: Hamda Mohamed Haidar Alzarooni

The civilizations of the ancient East have been known since the dawn of history plant aromatic scents, and they are the main source of all kinds of perfumes, including smoky, oily, fatty, resinous and watery, and its products include incense, musk, frankincense, myrrh, fragrant flowers, jasmine roses, and other first historical aromatic scents. Their importance continued throughout the history of civilizations humanity. Economic, social and cultural aspects of the civilizations of the ancient East, including Islamic civilization. Islamic civilization was considered one of the most important eras in forming the essence of the history of perfumes. The present research is divided into three sections and a conclusion in addition to a brief introduction to explain the term perfume as the first research explains perfumes in the civilizations of the ancient world in the East and dealing with perfume material from the religious aspect and its rituals. In addition, the topic of aromatic substances and perfumes for the purposes of adornment and beauty as in the ancient Egyptian and Mesopotamian civilizations, and the desire

to control the nerves of economic life from the land and sea trade routes and areas that have been known since time immemorial for the precious aromatic riches that do not find another source for them, and the prosperity of the perfume trade markets and how the contribution of materials in controlling the movement of trade and the markets that existed as internal and external trade exchanges. The present study, among many other significant issues, proves the Islamic civilization's interest in agriculture, including aromatic plants and flowers, the importance of perfume in Islamic civilization. And that it is one of the inherited elements as it became clear to some of the periods of Islamic history, and in this case the Abbasid caliphate. The study also will elaborate a numerous of literature in the field of perfume and its various types and usages.



<https://doi.org/10.31973/aj.v1i142.3596>

Studying the Significance of the Uninterrupted Occupation in the Archaeological Site of Pella in Jordan as a Sustainable Built Heritage

Journal/ conference: University of Sharjah (UoS)

Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences

Year of Publication: 2022

Student: Farrah Osama Kazali



The Archaeological site of Pella in Jordan represents a continuous uninterrupted microcosm of settlements since the Natufian Period. The sequence of settlements embodies the heritage's ability to self-sustain over many years, holding substantial power and value historically and geographically. Pella has become underdeveloped and vulnerable due to the lack of understanding of what the site has to offer. This paper highlights Pella's unique heritage from how its name was derived, its geographic setting, historic interrelated characteristics of various periods, as well as the values, attributes, and

opportunities it presents as a sustainable built heritage. This will strengthen the outstanding universal value OUV of the site that might lead it to get it inscribed as a World Heritage Site as well as promote and enhance the national and international advocacy for its preservation.



<https://doi.org/10.36394/jhss/20/3/8>

Relation Between the Courtyard and its Around Architectural Spaces in the Heritage Houses of Sharjah: A Study of Sustainable Environmental Indicators

Journal/ conference: The 4th Advances in Science and Engineering Technology multi-conferences (ASET 2022)

Year of Publication: 2022

Student: Sara Farouq Mohamed Hadi

Jus and coral stone houses thrived in the 18th and 19th centuries on Sharjah Creek, distinguished by its architectural design that met environmental and social requirements through the distribution of the rooms and the traditional techniques. The courtyard was the core of the traditional house, which provided a suitable environment, given the high temperatures experienced in the area. Many architectural spaces have been associated with the courtyard to enhance its functional role in achieving thermal comfort. This research paper investigates all the architectural spaces that were associated with the courtyard, whether directly or indirectly, for the purpose of analyzing and studying the importance of the relation between them and documenting the spaces and their function by referring to the literature studies and interviewing the specialist in the local architecture

and the elderly who lived in these houses. Based on that, this research categorizes six architectural spaces associated with the courtyard deduced in these houses, as interviews along with literature and studies totally agreed on the importance of the courtyard's association with liwan, rooms with rooms windcatcher, summer rooms, and balconies. On the other hand, Interviewees added a valuable contribution to the study by pointing out spaces that were not mentioned in the literature, such as al Manama and Taktabush.



<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9735050>

Investigating the Values of Modern Architectural Heritage in Dubai, UAE

Journal/ conference: World Multidisciplinary Civil Engineering-Architecture-Urban Planning Symposium

Year of Publication: 2021

Student: Fatima Humaid AlSuwaidi

In the last half-century, the world has witnessed a fast-paced technological development where cities have been changing tremendously in terms of infrastructure, public health, and quality of life. Looking into the Middle East and specifically in the Gulf states, the rapid urban growth started in the late 20th century has made the status of heritage structures more vulnerable. The paper investigates the modern architectural heritage of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), taking Dubai as a case study. Due to the constant urban and architectural growth that Dubai has been witnessing since the 1950s, its 20th-century heritage has been put in extreme danger of neglect, or extreme physical alterations and, in many cases, demolition. The UAE governmental bodies have started launching initiatives for the study and preservation of the modern architectural heritage, beginning with the Dubai Municipality's initiative in 2017, and continuing a wider scope with the UAE's Ministry of Culture and Youth initiative in 2019. The purpose of this paper is to

contribute to this process by establishing a chronological overview of the various architectural expressions of the modern era in the UAE. In that sense, the paper introduces a set of commercial architectural examples built in Dubai during the period between the 1960s and the 1970s. Also, it identifies and analyses their cultural and architectural characteristics, and assesses their values based on a chronological, morphological, and stylistic overview. The paper provides preliminary results and key findings and discusses possible guidelines and evaluation criteria to identify and evaluate Dubai's modern built environment to aid their identification and ranking process, as well as promoting the shaping of conservation policies.



<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1757-899X/1203/2/022056>

The Vernacular Heritage of Al Ain City in UAE: Analysis of the Traditional Techniques for a Sustainable Conservation Strategy

Journal/ conference: Opportunities for Heritage: Fostering Innovation, Conservation And Sustainable Development - O4H (German University of Technology in Oman- GUtech Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, 24 – 27 February 2024)

Year of Publication: 2024

Student: Mariam Bassam Bernieh

Vernacular architecture, often constructed with local materials like mud bricks, offers insights into regional resources, environmental conditions, and social and cultural contexts. The historical settlement system in Al Ain city in the UAE is attributed to the abundance of fresh groundwater in the oasis known as “falaj”. In the past, the oasis housed settlements characterized by scattered rural mud buildings. However, in the mid-20th century, with the discovery of oil, the inhabitants abandoned this heritage for modern buildings due to globalization, rapid technological growth, and changing lifestyles, leading to the endangerment of the traditional mud architecture and its building know-how. Analyzing Al Ain mud traditional building

techniques provides insights into regional resources, environmental conditions, and social and cultural factors influencing these construction methods. This paper examines the traditional mud buildings in Al Ain’s six oases, highlighting recurring architectural typologies and identifying traditional building techniques. The preliminary data was obtained from traditional buildings’ architectural surveys, on-site observations, photographic documentation, and interviews with local authorities and building masters. The study identifies the knowledge system adopted in local mud architecture building culture, highlighting the construction system characteristics, challenges, and contributions towards a sustainable conservation approach.

The Role of Tourism Development Projects in Preserving the Tangible Cultural Heritage of Sharjah Emirate: Studying the Projects of Sharjah Institute for Heritage

Journal/ conference: Al-Adab Journal

Year of Publication: 2024

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The tangible cultural heritage is considered one of the most important economic resources, of which tourism is one of the most important aspects. Indeed, heritage, whether in its tangible or intangible form, is one of the cultural tributaries that form the collective memory of any nation or people. The Emirate of Sharjah has taken care of its heritage and preserved it through the enactment of regulatory and conservation laws and legislation. Its institutions have also drawn up strategic and developmental plans for heritage areas and museums. Along with marketing and promoting tourism to them. Despite the efforts of the Emirate of Sharjah through its institutions to plan and implement tourism projects based on the sustainability and preservation of the tangible cultural heritage, there is a lack of studying the impact of these projects on preserving the heritage. Hence, it was necessary to study these projects. The study relied on the descriptive analytical approach. The study was conducted on a sample of (144) single professionals in tourism companies and

hotel employees in the Emirate of Sharjah working in the Department of Tourism Promotion and Reservations. The sample also included employees of the Sharjah Heritage Institute. The results concluded that there is a strong correlation between the variable of tourism development projects and its impact on preserving the tangible heritage in the Emirate of Sharjah, as the correlation coefficient reached (0.890). which is a strong direct relationship and is a statistically significant value. Besides, it indicates the association between the independent variable and the dependent variable. The study also recommends developing existing laws and legislation and issuing guiding instructions for methods and methods of preserving heritage by following what science provides in this regard, especially the use of artificial intelligence techniques. Together with the development of periodic control methods based on modern technology, greater adherence to guiding standards to reduce pollution. Moreover, the adoption of means of transport preserves more tangible heritage.

UAE Industrial Heritage: A Study of the Traditional Ship Industry Site in Dubai as One of the Industrial Heritage Sites in the U.A.E: (Jaddaf Site) in Dubai as a Case Study

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There were various industries and crafts directly related to the sea, the most important of which was the manufacture of wooden ships that children inherited from their ancestors. Unfortunately, with the industrial boom and the advent of oil, this craft and industry ceased to exist and only remained in the Emirate of Dubai. Furthermore, no industrial heritage site has been nominated from the Arab countries so far. This article focuses on the traditional shipbuilding profession, called Qalafa, in Dubai as a type of industrial heritage. It also highlights sites that are neither well protected nor studied. The preservation of industrial

heritage in the Emirate is weak due to insufficient awareness, documentation, and protection. Therefore, this study addressed international conventions that call for preserving and protecting industrial heritage sites, facilities, and scenes. One of the results of this article is supporting the revival of the profession through the adaptive use of industrial buildings, the display of handicrafts in museums, the establishment of annual festivals such as sailing boat races, and the increase in the interest of government either through establishing associations that adopt such industries or through organizing workshops for manufacturing of traditional ships.

The Impact of Digital Technology on social media platforms and (Virtual reality technologies) on the Promotion and Marketing of Archaeological and Historical Sites in the Emirate of Sharjah: The Site of Mleiha as a Case Study

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The Emirate of Sharjah is rich in a great cultural and civilizational history, derived from the wise leadership - His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi - through his direct supervision of reviving historical sites to preserve the historical and cultural heritage, through the establishment of an independent body concerned with antiquities to protect them from extinction, and make The Emirate is a proud historical and cultural edifice. The archaeological and historical sites were not promoted and marketed in innovative and attractive ways, and digital and virtual technology were not exploited in them to show the historical beauty in them and to see all its archaeological features as if you were living those ages and wandering between those places and enjoying them. This thesis aims to shed light on the management of archaeological sites and urban heritage, and

to highlight their historical, civilizational and cultural importance, by enhancing the role of digital technology and virtual reality, to ensure the sustainability of these sites for future generations, in innovative ways that keep pace with accelerators, and accept the inclusion of digital technology represented in (application AR-VR-Hologram360), Attracting archaeological tourism, and thus transforming the archaeological sites in the emirate into cultural destinations, commercial and economic value, with ancient historical value and competitive tourism sites, according to the requirements of the digital age, and strengthening the historical site of Al-Mleiha (case study) as an innovative historical tourist destination through the integration of digital technology. The concept of virtual reality technologies and harnessing it in promoting it, activating the role of virtual trips, and making it an innovative competitive tourism site.

The Impact of Information and Communication Technology in Enhancing Museum's Visitor Experience: The Case of Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization

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Museums are progressively using ICT to reinforce cultural and heritage tourism. Museums are vital in transmitting cultural values, propagating traditions, and linking current generations to their heritage. ICT has recently gained prominence for its ability to stimulate creative approaches. The use of ICT in museum operations is widespread, particularly in the areas of presentation and preservation. Museums, according to previous research, use a range of ICT tools to enhance the visitor experience (VX) through modernizing their exhibits and object interpretation.

The purpose of this paper is to gain a better understanding of the VX as well as evaluate the visitors' standpoint on ICT in museums. The research was applied to the Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization. Two primary approaches were used, which include qualitative data such as literature reviews and interviews, as well as quantitative data as the main ways that employ questionnaires. Findings indicate that integrating technological tools can enrich the VX in museums by allowing for the usage of a variety of digital media types.

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