



## Husn al Jahim al Qu'ayti

*Yafi, Yemen*



*Architect:* Wahi Taha Aman

*Client:* Nasser & Hassan Obaid al Quaiti

*Built Area:* 1'118 m<sup>2</sup>

*Cost:* US\$ 465'000

This residential complex is designed to allow an extended family to live together. It consists of three buildings: a single-storey structure containing the men's meeting place and two larger, linked blocks, five and seven storeys high. Each floor typically provides three bedrooms: other facilities include a women's meeting place, kitchens and a dining hall. The main structure is of reinforced concrete, ceilings are of timber. Load-bearing walls are of basalt: the bands of lighter stone defining the separate storeys are in keeping with local tradition, as are the finials on the roof, which pierce 'the clouds during the rainy seasons'.

Yafi, Yemen

*Architects* Wahi Taha Aman  
Aden, Yemen

*Clients* Nasser & Hassan Obaid al  
Quaiti  
Aden, Yemen

*Commission* 1993

*Design* 1994 - 1994

*Construction* 1994 - 2001

*Occupancy* 2002

*Site* 1'410 m<sup>2</sup>

*Ground Floor* 404 m<sup>2</sup>

*Total Floor* 1'118 m<sup>2</sup>

*Costs* US\$ 465'000

*Programme* This residential complex is designed to allow an extended family to live together. It consists of three buildings: a single-storey structure containing the men's meeting place and two larger, linked blocks, five and seven storeys high. Each floor typically provides three bedrooms: other facilities include a women's meeting place, kitchens and a dining hall. The main structure is of reinforced concrete, ceilings are of timber. Load-bearing walls are of basalt: the bands of lighter stone defining the separate storeys are in keeping with local tradition, as are the finials on the roof, which pierce 'the clouds during the rainy seasons'.

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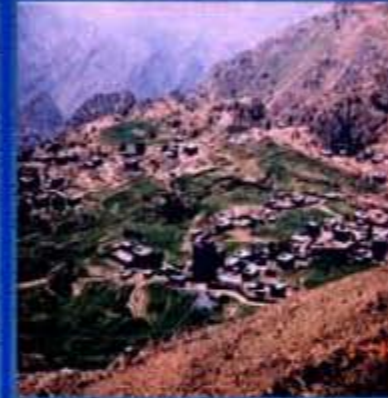
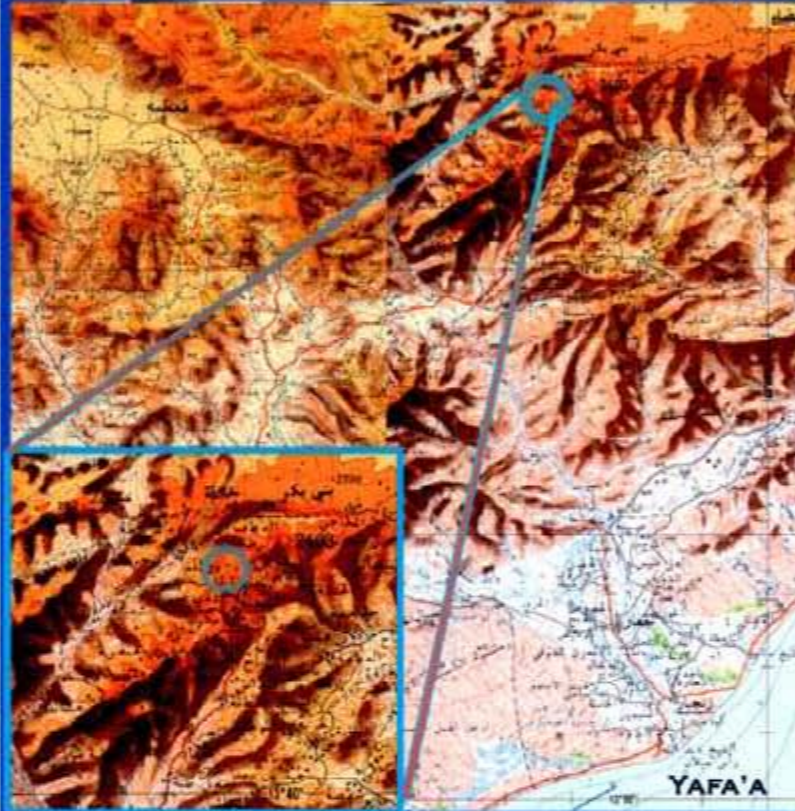
**LOCATION**

ALGAHM-ALQEETI CASTLE IS SITUATED IN AL QAETI Yafa - LAHEJ GOVERNORATE, YEMEN



**HUSN ALGAHIM ALQUAITI - Yafa - YEMEN**

OVER A SMALL PLATEAU IN THE MOUNTAINS OF Yafa. THE TERRITORY IS CHARACTERIZED WITH ITS MODERATE CLIMATE IN SUMMER AND DRY COLD IN WINTER. IT IS ALSO CHARACTERIZED WITH ITS ALLURING PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE



THE CASTLE IS COMPOSED OF THREE MAIN BUILDINGS. THE FIRST IS A SINGLE STOREY. IT CONTAINS MEN'S DIWAN WITH SERVICES ATTACHED TO IT. THE SECOND IS MADE UP OF 1 STOREY BUILDING. THE GROUND FLOOR CONSISTS OF ONE STORE, AND OTHER FLOORS EACH ONE CONTAINS THREE BED ROOMS. THE THIRD CONSISTS OF SIX FLOORS, AND CONTAINS THE MAIN KITCHEN AND ONE STORE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, ONE WOMEN'S DIWAN, ONE DINING ROOM, ON THE FIRST FLOOR, AND THREE BED ROOMS AND ONE HALL ON THE SECOND, THE THIRD, THE FOURTH AND THE FIFTH FLOORS. SUSPENDING DIWAN JOINS BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD BUILDINGS, AT THE FIFTH FLOOR.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



5TH FLOOR PLAN



3RD AND 4TH FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN





Yafa territory is characterized with distinguished architecture with its peculiar properties in terms of the shapes of the facades, and the function and use of residential buildings, and the materials used in the building and methods of construction



Local materials are used in the foundation parts of the building. Bearing walls are of basalt stone which is plentifully available in the neighbourhood. Ceilings and ceiling systems are made up of main and secondary timber



The white band which separates the floors which are built of black stone abundantly available in the territory - The simple openings of altashrifat at the end of the buildings which form the skyline denotes to pride of the building and its inhabitants according to local culture in Yafa. Such tashrifats are used only in buildings with more than four floors. These are the most important characteristics of architecture in Yemen



The outside garden is formed at different levels due to Yafa mountainous land. Architects try to do it without cutting and filling



Overlapped by stone panel five cm thick. These stones (particularly stones) contributed in preserving warm climate in winter and cool in summer

**Architect's record  
2007 award cycle**

**I. IDENTIFICATION**

Project title .. **Husn Al jahim Al quaiti**  
 Street address **laheg district - yafni**  
 City **Al quaiti** country **yemen**

**II. PERSONS RESPONSIBLE**

**A. Architect / Planner**

Name **wahí taha aman**  
 Mailing address ..  
 City .. postal code ..  
 Country **yemen** .. telephone ... **00967711118420**  
 Facsimile **009672241976** . E-mail **CRATERCO@Y.NET,YE**

**B. Client**

Name **Nasser obaid al quaiti & Hassan obaid al quaiti**  
 Mailing address ..  
 City .. **Aden** .. postal code ..  
 Country **YEMEN** .. telephone **00967733791111 -733700622**  
 Facsimile **009672-240892**  
 Principal designer ..

**C. Project A /Consultants**

Please list those involved in the project and indicate their roles and areas of responsibility ( e.g engineers, contractors, economists, master craftsmen, other architects, clients, etc ). Please cite addresses and telephone numbers separately

Name	Role
<b>Wahí taha aman</b>	<b>Engineer of designing and directing</b>
<b>Muna aidroos zain</b>	<b>Architecture engineer</b>
<b>Tarek sofian</b>	<b>Architecture engineer.</b>
<b>Abd al hafed mohammed</b>	<b>Stone Work</b>
<b>Hossain abd alla jaffer</b>	<b>Stone Work</b>
<b>Mohammed ali awad</b>	<b>Stone Work</b>
<b>Mohammed ali al omari</b>	<b>Stone Work</b>
<b>Adel saleh ali</b>	<b>Stone Work</b>
<b>Workshop of abd al hade</b>	<b>Carpenter</b>
<b>Omar al mahmodi</b>	<b>Painter</b>
<b>Mobssan awad</b>	<b>Electrical</b>

Kassem awad mohammed  
 Nasser obaid al quaiti  
 Hassan obaid al quaiti

Electrical  
 The owner and supervision  
 The owner and supervision

### III. TIME TABLE

(Please specify year and month)

A. Commission

B. Design Time :2 / 1 / 1994 completion 1 / 4 / 1994

C Construction commencement 2 / 5 / 1994 completion 9 / 2001

D Occupancy 15 / 2 / 2002 Up to now

Remarks if any.

### IV. AREASE AND SURFACES

(Please indicate in square meters)

A Total site area	1118m <sup>2</sup>
B Floor area	1410.78 m <sup>2</sup>
C Building Area	404 m <sup>2</sup>

Including basement (s) ground floor(s) and all upper floors )

Remarks if any .

### V. ECONOMICS

(Please specify the amounts in local currencies and provide the equivalents in US dollars

Specify the dates and the rates of exchange in us dollars at the time )

	mount in USD
A Cost of land	
B Analysis of actual costs	
1- Infrastructure	14,000
2- Labor	140,850
3- Materials	261,150
3- Landscaping	49,000
D Total cost	465.000
E. Actual cost ( Per sq meters)	415.9

## VI. PROJECT DESCRIPTION.

Husn AL Jahim in Alqaeti is composed of two main buildings and appurtenances. It contains 21 rooms, six halls, two kitchens, one store, dining hall, 3 bathrooms , and small sports rooms with ladies bath. The first part is composed of four story's , the second part is composed of seven story's linked to the fifth storey by a hanging diwan which allows for passage between the buildings of the Husn. In addition, the Husn is surrounded by a wall from three directions and car park, plantations and small areas as children playgrounds

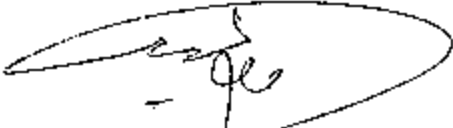
Husn AL Jahim in Alqaeti is distinguished by that it is one of few buildings which rise as high as seven storeys in Yafa. Its view goes in harmony with the Yafai type architecture and with the history of its architecture and its environment, as well as its spaciousness which allows parents, sons and grandsons to live under one roof as a large family according to Yemeni and Islamic traditions, with the purpose of maintaining the family structure and creating affection and familiarity among its members.

## VII. MATERERIAL, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTRUCTION .

Yafai architecture does not rely on urban style architectural and construction designs. It is the owner who decided the space share of building, its height and its internal contents . Buildings in the region,, and generally in the Yemeni countryside are not subject to the municipality approval. The areas and appurtenances are decided according to the terrace, and location and properties surrounding the site. Therefore, Yafai building depends mainly on the use of stones at percentage exceeding 80% for its internal walls, internal linings, and the ceilings are made of stones 3-5 cm. Mixed with timber which give the ceilings beautiful and distinct look. All window and door steps are used of stones as long as more than 1.5 meter. Tops are added to the building with height exceeding four storeys which are common in the Yafai architecture. , In addition, white lines separate storeys from one another . Such touches, as well as the enormous homogeneity among most of the buildings in the region, evidently appear to views in the first glimpse .

### VIII. PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT.

Husn AL Jahim in Alqaeeti is most important residence for families. With its spaciousness, its facilities and services it provides services for the family which lives in it and meets its future requirements in a way that maintains its unity and keep it living collectively. They were most important reasons for which the project was constructed. The project also is of high significance to its owners. It also brings to life the continuing role of the family which was started by ancestors in the region who constructed high, concrete and distinguished buildings which are still standing gigantic until today although some of them are three hundred years old. At the same time, Husn AL Jahim in Alqaeeti is characterized with its maintaining the Yafai distinguished architecture with which the region is famous, and preserving its authenticity through its outward shape and general look, and, as previously mentioned, the distinction of the Yafai buildings of concrete and homogenous stone and ceilings mixed in stones and wood, and conic tops that embrace the clouds in rain seasons. In addition, the outward look of stone walls add homogeny to the scene. Internal concrete, unseen, was added to protect against earthquakes and tremors.



WASSER AL QUAITI

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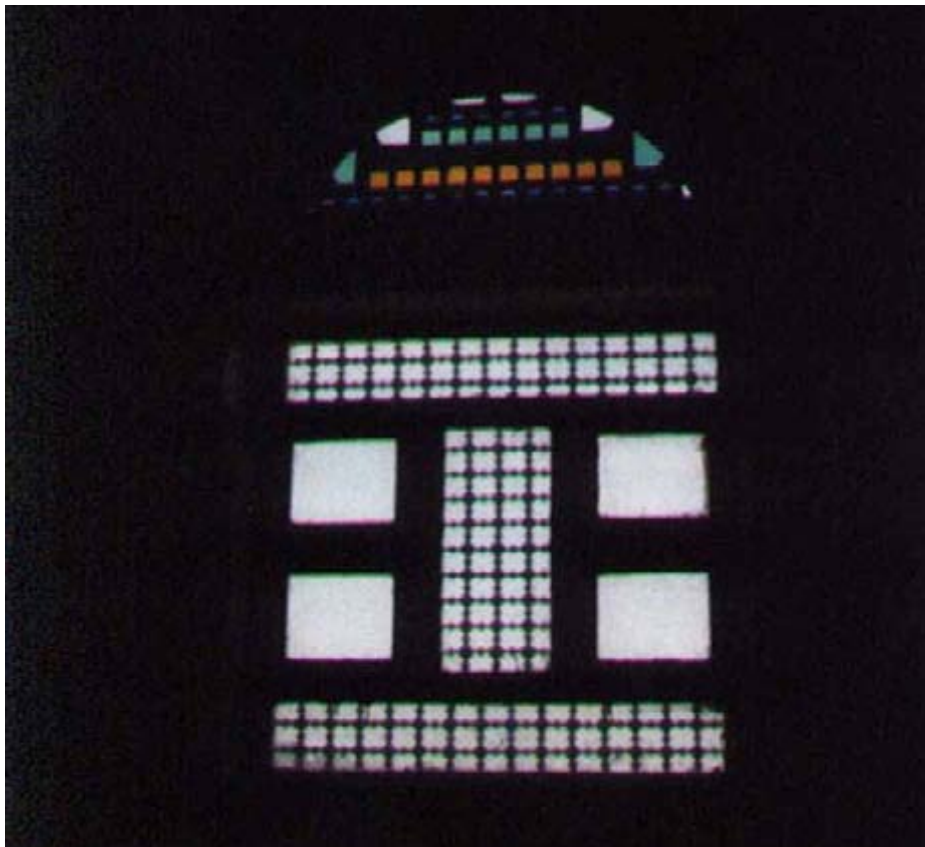
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## IMAGE IDENTIFICATION FORM

NO.	Description	photographer	Date
1	Figure show Ground floor plan .		
2	Figure show First floor plan .		
3	Figure show 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> floor plan .		
4	Figure show 5 <sup>th</sup> floor plan and 6 <sup>th</sup> floor plan .		
5	Figure show Main Elevation.		
6	Figure show Side Elevation		
7	Figure show View to the Joint between tow main buildings		
8	Figure show Perspective view show the composition of the building		
9	Figure show Perspective view show the composition of the building		
10	Picture of husn al jahim al quaiti	Hassn obaid	
11	Picture show the beginning of work in the new part of the husn	Nasser obaid	
12	Picture show the steps of work in the first three stories	Nasser obaid	
13	Picture show the building process of the suspending dewan which connect the two building	Nasser obaid	
14	Picture show the building before the existence of the suspending dewan	Nasser obaid	
15	Picture's show different view of the front elevation.	Nasser obaid	
16	Picture show side elevation ..	Nasser obaid	

17	Picture show side elevation..	Nasser obaid	
18	Picture show side elevation of suspending dewan and small room on the roof .	Nasser obaid	
19	Picture show back elevation .	Nasser obaid	
20	Picture show top view of landscaping and parking.	Nasser obaid	
21	Picture show some parts of building and it's different levels.	Nasser obaid	
22	Picture's shows different types of (Tasharef).	Nasser obaid	
23	Picture show men's dewan .	Nasser obaid	
24	Picture show women's dewan .	Nasser obaid	
25	Picture show suspending dewan..	Nasser obaid	
26	Picture show the ceiling of the building.	Nasser obaid	
27	Picture show typical windows of the building .	Nasser obaid	
28	Picture show different door's in the building.	Nasser obaid	
29	Picture show the type of granite stone used in the yafai.	Mona aidroos	
30	Picture show main kitchen in the ground floor.	Nasser obaid	
31	Picture show the bathroom of bed-room and dewans.	Nasser obaid	

**MATERERIALS IDENTIFICATION FORM**

Provide a full list of all material being submitted

NO	Description	Remarks
1	R.C.C.	Under Ground
2	Granite Black Stone	
3	Wood	Roof, Window, doors & Handrails
4	Mosaic Tiles	
5	Ceramic Tiles	
6	Granite Tiles	
7	Cement Plastering with Oil paint	
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
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16		
17		