

Special mention must be made of the unpublished autobiography of Omar Saleh el-Barghouthi, to which I fortunately had access. This is the only surviving written narrative on Deir Ghassaneh, more specifically, on the Barghouthis themselves. Though it is boastful, this lively autobiography provided valuable material.

I should make it clear to the reader that my study of the Palestinian built form is anthropological and not instrumental (technical) in conception. From the perspective of architectural theory I employed a rather eclectic approach which benefitted from the insights of writers on indigenous architecture (Norberg-Schulz, Alexander, Rapoport, and H. Fathy) and from Lynch's notions on the fundamental properties of space, structure and "legibility"--but always in a manner which allowed an interplay between concepts borrowed from the social sciences with those derived from architecture.

Finally, all thesis drawings and photographs are my own unless referenced otherwise.