

PROPOSAL.

Preparation for publication of documentation titled:  
'OMAN. The problems and potentials of the indigenous  
built environment in a developing country.'

for

The Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture  
at Harvard University and the Massachusetts  
Institute of Technology.

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This proposal is for the final preparation, leading to publication, of a document at present titled:  
'OMAN. The problems and potentials of the indigenous built environment in a developing country.'
- 1.2. The proposal has resulted out of discussion with Dean William L. Porter, Chairman of the Aga Khan Program Advisory Committee.
- 1.3. There is considerable demand for the publication of this document, indicated by the recurring requests for copies by a number of individuals and organisations, notably in the fields of architecture and planning.
- 1.4. The original report documents comprehensive research and evaluation of the indigenous built environment of Oman. The research was undertaken in 1973 by the authors during nine months of field work and laboratory tests, and documented in the following year.
- 1.5. The original report was conceived as a detailed, and largely technical documentation of the collected data. However, with reorganisation, editing and limited rewriting, the material contained in the report will be suitable for publication for a wider readership.
- 1.6. The document will be ready for handing to the publishers within one year from the time of signing the contract to produce the book.

2. COST OF PREPARATION

2.1. The basic reorganisation and rewriting of the report into book form will be done by the authors and the cost for this has not been included in the proposal.

2.2. Additional expenses will be incurred in preparation and can be broken down as follows:

	US \$
Typing and secretarial services.....	1500.
Editing.....	1500.
Photographic services and materials....	625.
Graphic services.....	500.
Reproduction, xerox, etc.....	400.
Sundries(postage, stationary, rental of equipment etc.).....	500.
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>US \$ 5025.</u>

3. OUTLINE FOR THE BOOK

3.1. INTRODUCTION

3.1.1. Introduction

3.1.2. Why study Oman's indigenous built environment?

3.1.3. The structure of the study.

3.2. INTRODUCTION TO OMAN

3.3. PROPOSALS

3.3.1. A strategy for the development of Oman

3.3.2. A strategy for the development of the built environment.

An analysis of the problems faced by developed and developing countries alike in achieving a satisfactory built environment, and Oman's position in this context.

3.4. REGIONAL STUDIES

3.4.1. For the study Oman was divided into six regions:

The Northern Coast(Batinah); the Capital region (Muscat, Mutrah & Ruwi); the Northern Uplands(Izki, Nizwa, Bahla & Al Hamra); Desert oasis(Buraimi); the Southern coast(Salala).

Each regional study divides into the following parts:

i Introduction to the region.

Physical description.

Social and economic situation

Climate

ii Settlement Pattern.

Physical influences

Socio/economic influences

Climatic influences

iii House form

Social and economic influences

Climatic influences

Materials and technology

3.5. TECHNICAL PROPOSALS

3.5.1. Materials and building technology

3.5.2. Health and hygiene.

3.6. CONCLUSIONS

3.7. ANNEXES, REFERENCES & INDEX.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1. The original report on Oman's indigenous built environment contains a wealth of information which until now has not been available even to those with a special interest in Oman. The report also presents a clear example of the reasons why and the way in which indigenous methods and materials can be used to meet contemporary needs.
- 4.2. The publication of this material will not only ensure that the information is not lost, but will also help to further the use of indigenous resources in developing countries worldwide.