# The Architectural Patterns of Nabatean Legacy and Their Impact on the Interior Design of Jordanian Residences

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## ملخص البحث:

تعد الحضارة أهم ما تقدمة البشرية من إنجاز للأجيال القادمة، وتعتبر المباني أهم العناصر التي تعبر عن حضارة الشعوب، حيث تختلف المباني بحسب إختلاف سمات الشعوب والمجتمعات، وذلك بما تحتويه من عناصر معمارية وتصميمية وطرق إنشاء، فكل هذه العناصر تعبر عن حضارة المجتمعات وعاداتها وتقاليدها وثقافتها السائدة، وفي ظل الظروف التي نعيش فيها أصبحت المساكن لا تعبر عن حضارة وتاريخ المنقطة في المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية، وأصبحت الهوية الإقليمية تتلاشى فيها شيئا فشيء، ومن هنا ظهرت أهمية الحفاظ على الهوية الإقليمية وقيم الحضارة الخاصة بالمجتمع الأردني وذلك من خلال إنشاء مساكن تعبر عن تاريخ المنطقة وتعبر عن أهم الحضارات التي نشأت على أراضي المملكة.

وتعتبر الحضارة النبطية أهم هذه الحضارات سواء من الناحية التاريخية أو من ناحية المباني الأثرية وغيرها، بالإضافة أن الأنباط يعتبروا سكان أصليين لأراضي المملكة بخلاف باقي الحضارات التي تعتبر دخيلة قامة على أراضي المملكة كالحضارة الرومانية واليونانية وغيرها.

## **Abstract:**

Civilization stands as the most consequential bequest of humanity to succeeding generations. It is within architecture that a society's most profound expressions find form. Architectural compositions, in their diversity, are a reflection of the distinct features of cultures and communities. These edifices encapsulate architectural, design, and constructional elements that mirror prevailing cultural paradigms, customary practices, traditions, and prevailing cultural ethos. However, in the present milieu, abodes no longer faithfully depict the cultural and historical fabric of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The erosion of regional identity is palpable, underscoring the imperative to safeguard regional distinctiveness and the unique civilizational values inherent to Jordanian society. This imperative is realized through the creation of dwellings that serve as conduits for the region's historical narrative, encapsulating the pivotal civilizations that have thrived within the Kingdom.

Chief among these civilizations is the Nabatean legacy, commanding historical import and manifested through an array of archaeological vestiges. Notably, the Nabateans, as autochthonous denizens, stand apart from foreign civilizations, in contradistinction to the Roman, Greek, and other transient cultures that have left their ephemeral imprints upon the Kingdom's topography.

# **Keywords:**

Interior Design, Nabataeans, Architecture.

## Introduction

Civilization stands as the preeminent marker that demarcates geographic domains, embodying the culmination of scientific erudition, cultural ethos, and customary practices inherent to a given society. The territorial expanse of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has borne witness to an array of civilizations, including but not limited to the Roman and Greek, each contributing to the intricate mosaic of its historical tapestry. Paramount among these historical currents, the Nabatean civilization emerges with its profound influence and historical resonance, having engendered urban centers and settlements across strategically consequential topographies, thereby fortifying the sway of the Nabatean dominion.

The architectural facet of the Nabatean civilization assumes paramount significance, adorned with distinctive traits. The Nabateans adroitly harnessed their environs to shape their urban and rural landscapes. It is pertinent to underscore that the tenets of Nabatean architecture underwent a confluence of influences, with environmental determinants exerting a formative impact. The architectural leitmotif of the Nabatean realm bore indelible imprints from neighboring civilizations, a testament to intricate commercial engagements, political entanglements, and multifarious exchanges. Among these civilizations, the vestiges of ancient Egyptian, Assyrian, and Hellenic legacies hold particular resonance, vividly echoed within Nabatean architectural compositions through the assimilation of discernible iconography. The solar disk, evocative of ancient Egyptian symbolism, and architectural nuances such as columns and cornices, reminiscent of Hellenic design principles, stand as hallmark examples of this cross-pollination. Moreover, the nexus to Assyrian influence becomes apparent through inscriptions dedicated to Nabatean deities, bearing semblance to their counterparts in the Assyrian pantheon.

Nabatean architecture is intricately classified into several distinctive domains, encompassing both the terrestrial and ethereal realms. It encompasses the sublunary realm, comprising residential edifices, opulent palatial structures, expansive theaters, tiered amphitheaters,

colonnaded streets, bathhouses, and spacious promenades, among other elements. This architectural repertoire also extends to the sepulchral sphere, encompassing sepulchers, mausoleums, and commemorative monuments. Additionally, it encompasses the religious stratum, incorporating temples, minarets, oratories, and sacred edifices, along with commemorative obelisks.

Through these variegated architectural manifestations, each distinct in its function, the saga of Nabatean history and their material as well as spiritual heritage is vividly illuminated. An eminent embodiment of this historical narrative is embodied in the iconic city of Petra, a citadel exemplifying Nabatean sovereignty. Within Petra's monumental precincts, conventional archaeological paradigms blur. The city transcends being a mere conglomeration of historical vestiges; rather, it stands as a meticulously sculpted urban entity, a synthesis of architectural finesse and aesthetic opulence. This confluence is conspicuously evident in the chromatic harmonies of the rock formations, most notably the delicate shade of pale pink that bestows upon Petra an almost mystical aura. This sprawling ensemble comprises not only residential enclaves but also sanctuaries, marketplaces, and a constellation of other landmarks, collectively serving as a tangible embodiment of the quintessence of the Nabatean legacy.

### Aim of the research

The objective of the research is to delineate specific features that endow a distinct character upon the edifices located within the study area, setting them apart from their counterparts. To achieve this objective, a comprehensive investigation of the architectural typologies inherent to the Nabatean civilization is conducted, given its stature as one of the preeminent civilizations to have flourished within the realm of the Kingdom. Consequently, this investigation imparts an unequivocal and exclusive demeanor to the structures erected within the Kingdom's domains, thereby engendering a favorable impact on the collective awareness of the local populace, stemming from an enriched recognition of the historical import ascribed to the study locale.

## Research problem

The architecture of buildings bore a distinct character that delineated them from their counterparts erected in other regions. This differentiation was cultivated through the deliberate infusion of a unique architectural and design identity within each locale. This distinctive ethos was derived from a multitude of factors intrinsic to the building's surroundings, encompassing environmental conditions, available resources, extant historical edifices in the vicinity, and indigenous materials. This paradigm endured until the culmination of the Third World War, after which the exigencies of post-war economic hardships engendered a pressing need for cost-effective construction methods. As a consequence, buildings gradually shed any vestiges that bore witness to local heritage.

This evolution yielded an unfortunate diminishment of the regional identity within Jordanian architecture, a phenomenon that was especially pronounced in the domain of residential structures. These constructions gradually deviated from expressing the indigenous heritage of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The ramifications of this architectural transformation have manifested in a dwindling awareness of the historical and geographical importance of the Kingdom's landscape. In light of these circumstances, architects are confronted with the imperative to innovate strategies that seamlessly integrate Nabatean architectural attributes into contemporary design paradigms. This integration, however, must be achieved while adhering to the imperatives of the present age and judiciously managing resources.

## The Purpose of the Research:

The primary aim of this study is to delineate specific features that confer a distinctive character upon the extant buildings within the study area, setting them apart from their counterparts elsewhere. To achieve this aim, a comprehensive investigation into the unique architectural patterns of the Nabatean civilization is undertaken. This is particularly salient due to the Nabatean civilization's status as one of the foremost cultures to have flourished within the precincts of the Kingdom. Consequently, the study seeks to elucidate the architectural

attributes that endow structures erected within the Kingdom's boundaries with a unique and discernible identity.

This endeavor is expected to yield a positive impact on the awareness and understanding of the local community, especially in light of the historical significance attributed to the study locale. The pursuit of these objectives encompasses an exploration into the distinctive characteristics that differentiate the architecture of the Nabatean civilization, thereby shedding light on its broader historical implications and cultural importance within the Kingdom's geographical expanse.

## **Hypotheses:**

The research hypothesizes that the utilization of Nabatean architectural patterns in the interior design of Jordanian residences leads to the adept formulation and delineation of unique and individualistic characteristics for the edifices situated within the territorial expanse of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

## The Nabatean Character:

The unique character of architectural constructions stands as a paramount determinant that demarcates one geographical region from another. Within a given locality, these edifices encapsulate a multifaceted ensemble of factors, encompassing the socio-cultural fabric, historical trajectory, prevalent traditions, and customs, in addition to offering insights into the economic and subsistence dimensions of the local populace. This intricate interplay wields a profound influence over architectural paradigms and design methodologies, with particular emphasis on residential structures.

In select nations, particularly within Arab societies, residential dwellings manifest distinctive spatial allocations designated for the reception of guests and visitors. This architectural configuration embodies the very essence of Arab communities, safeguarding the sanctity and inviolability of the domestic sphere, while simultaneously fortifying against extraneous intrusions. This nuanced architectural schema mirrors deeply ingrained cultural norms that exalt the virtues of guest hospitality and ensure their comfort. In stark contrast, a discerning

examination of Western residential architecture often unveils an absence of analogously delineated reception areas, offering a glimpse into divergent cultural mores and practices.

A salient dimension to consider lies in the impact of climatic exigencies upon the architectural panorama, particularly within residential contexts. Dwellings situated in temperate climes diverge markedly from those situated in regions characterized by diminished thermal gradients. Such architectural divergence serves as an embodiment of human efforts to harmonize their habitat with inherent psychological and physiological requisites, thereby unveiling a symbiotic relationship between architectural undertakings and environmental exigencies.<sup>1</sup>

This principle is equally applicable to the realm of Nabatean architecture. Within this context, it becomes evident that a multitude of factors have played pivotal roles in configuring its distinct attributes and establishing its foundational features. Among these factors, as elucidated earlier, are the prevailing societal norms and cultural traditions intrinsic to Nabatean communities. The profound influence of the natural milieu is conspicuously manifest, notably embodied by the rugged topography that has decisively shaped the singular Nabatean ethos.

Concurrently, the Nabatean religious tenets have exercised a discernible impact on the configuration of numerous architectural entities, including temples, shrines, and notably prominent domiciles such as the Zantur House. Furthermore, the interconnectedness with neighboring civilizations has also profoundly shaped the architectural lexicon of the Nabateans. Evidently, the legacy of Hellenic, ancient Egyptian, and Assyrian civilizations is strikingly discernible within Nabatean architectural constructs. Symbols emblematic of each of these civilizations have been thoughtfully interwoven into the fabric of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Tailor of Zubeida: The Residential Experience Following the Relocation to Social Housing" - A Master's Thesis from the College of Social and Human Sciences, Abdelhamid Ibn Idris University. Page 19. 2020.

Nabatean architecture, epitomized, for instance, by the employment of the solar disk, an artifact evocative of ancient Egyptian heritage, and the incorporation of columns, an overt homage to Greek architectural tradition. <sup>1</sup>



"Figure (1) portrays the interior of Zentour House."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Nabatean Treasury: Situated within the ancient Nabatean city of Petra in the southern region of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Nabatean Treasury stands as a remarkable architectural achievement. Carved entirely from the rock, this monumental edifice holds profound significance as it serves as the gateway to the Nabatean realm of Petra. This structure, often the first encounter for visitors entering the city, embodies the artistic and engineering prowess of the Nabatean civilization.



Figure (2) provides a comprehensive portrayal of the incorporation of Greek-style columns and the presence of the deity Isis as ornamental elements on the facade of the Nabatean treasury.

It is of significance to acknowledge the considerable attention that Nabatean architecture garnered within the Nabatean civilization. This is manifestly evident through the corpus of Nabatean structures that stand as enduring testaments to their architectural accomplishments. The genesis of these edifices occurred within a well-defined contextual framework, harmoniously entwined with the encompassing natural milieu. This meticulous integration endowed their constructions with an emblematic and distinct character that endured trans historically. However, it is essential to rectify a common misconception that reduces Nabatean architectural diversity to a solitary motif of sculptural rock carving. While it holds true that a substantial fraction of Nabatean buildings was carved from solid rock, this does not encapsulate the full gamut of architectural variety within the Nabatean legacy. Rather, the archaeological remnants of the Nabatean civilization manifest an intricate tapestry of architectural styles, encompassing a spectrum of construction modalities<sup>1</sup>:

# Firstly, the focus shall be directed towards the intricate craft of rock carving:

The quintessential hallmark of Nabatean architecture resides in the artistry of rock carving, a defining feature that distinguishes their architectural legacy. This attribute is vividly discernible in their archaeological edifices, sculptural ensembles, and decorative motifs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Stephan G. Schmid\"THE INTERNATIONAL UMM AL-BIYARA PROJECT (IUBP)"\Research\ page 109-117\ 2010.

With a consummate blend of skill and aesthetic sensitivity, the Nabateans hewed their structures within the rugged contours of mountains, resulting in a manifestation of sublime beauty and unparalleled artisanship. This architectural corpus was further enhanced through the intricate incision of inscriptions and intricate motifs into the vibrant sandstone, imbuing these structures with a chromatic vitality that sets them apart conspicuously from their contemporaneous architectural creations in adjacent civilizations.

It is pertinent to underscore that the art of Nabatean rock carving engaged in a dialectical dialogue with the surrounding civilizations, as previously expounded. Nevertheless, the Nabateans adeptly managed to preserve the idiosyncratic tenets of their cultural identity, a feat anchored in their deep-rooted heritage and steadfast adherence to traditional practices. This resilience materialized in nuanced design elements, as opposed to substantial architectural configurations. The fundamental essence of Nabatean architecture remained unswerving, while select ornamental motifs bore discernible vestiges of external influences. A preeminent case in point is the Nabatean Treasury, an exemplar of their sculptural acumen. This architectural gem, untouched by the ravages of time for a temporal span of roughly 15 to 20 centuries, has gained an added layer of aesthetic allure due to the incorporation of the vibrant hues within the intricately carved sandstone surfaces.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Judith McKenzie\ "The architecture of Petra"\ Article\ Oxford University Press\ page 230\ 2021.

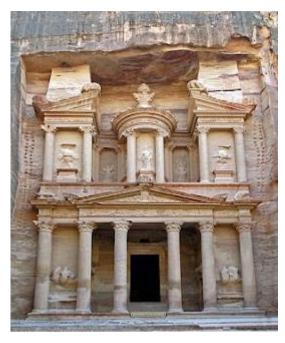


Figure number (3) serves as a paradigmatic representation of Nabatean rock-cut structures, showcasing the distinctive style of sculpted Nabatean architecture.

In accordance with the imagery presented in Figure number (3), the architectural prowess of the Nabatean civilization becomes manifest through the eloquence of rock-carved structures. These constructions exhibit an amalgamation of elegance, precision, and meticulous detailing that collectively define the character of Nabatean rock-cut facades. Noteworthy is the extensive and rigorous sculpting process employed, undertaken across multiple stages to ensure the superlative quality of the carving and the realization of the intended form with exceptional precision. This intricate process unfolds with the discerning selection of suitable rock surfaces, followed by the rigorous preparation of these surfaces to achieve a uniformly leveled and unadulterated foundation. The subsequent articulation of the designated design is informed by meticulous geometric calculations. It is imperative to underline that the sculpting process unfolds top-down, facilitated by strategically installed scaffolding that adheres to the façade's surface, a conspicuous feature evident across varied architectural compositions in Petra, notably the Treasury and analogous sites.

The craftsmen engaged in this endeavor exhibited a spectrum of skills and specialized roles. Some artisans were primarily involved in refining and preparing the surface for the carving process. Following this preparatory stage, the task of sculpting the principal components of the façade was deftly executed. Subsequently, a specialized cohort of artisans embarked upon the intricate task of crafting diverse statues and embellishments, a task demanding the highest degree of precision and finesse. This fact is substantiated by inscriptions that have endured on select stone surfaces, delineating the names and roles of these skilled craftsmen in the conceptualization and execution of Nabatean façades. Among the notable personas recorded are Bina, the builder, and Fasla, the sculptor, whose contributions underscore their significance within this artistic narrative.<sup>1</sup>

When scrutinizing the architectural compositions through a design perspective, the lower tier of the façade showcases an ensemble of six columns. The central two columns, symmetrically positioned, elegantly detach from the back wall, whereas the remaining columns maintain a seamless continuity with the rear surface. A visual spectacle unfolds between the second and first columns, as well as between the fifth and sixth columns, where sculpted representations portray a mounted figure on a steed accompanied by a serpent poised for a striking maneuver. The intricacy of these sculptures is underscored by their intentionally coarse texture, accentuated with notable notches. The capitals of these columns are enriched with intricate vegetal motifs, a recurring motif that contributes to the intricate grandeur of the façade.

These columns rest upon an elevated plinth, the ascent to which is facilitated by a central staircase, thus establishing a deliberate connection between the ornamental and functional aspects of the façade. The apex of these columns exhibits Avers adorned with ornate winged creatures, the tails of which bear semblance to arboreal branches and floral elements. The lowermost segment of the Treasury's façade boasts serrated carvings overlaid by triangular motifs bedecked with botanical

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Negev.A\ "Petra. Rediscoverd. Lost city of Nabataeans"\ Glenn Markoe\ pag 101-106\2003.

representations. A human visage is centrally situated within this triangular composition, while an Egyptian solar emblem graces its zenith. Noteworthy are the two flanking avian sculptures—Castor in the western alcove and Pollux in the eastern recess—evidencing the dualistic interpretation of fate in Nabatean mythology: one guiding souls towards paradise, while the other shepherding them towards an infernal conflagration.

Moving further to the central expanse of the Treasury's elevation, a configuration of ten columns emerges in close association with the rear wall, their arrangement encompassing six front-facing and four rearfacing columns. These columns, akin to their counterparts below, present capitals resplendent with floral motifs. Situated at the heart of the upper façade is the Tholos, a cylindrical entity, serving as a distinctive architectural element. Within its confines, a depiction of the deity Isis finds prominence, flanked by depictions of wheat sheaves that serve as a tribute to ancient Egyptian heritage. As the architectural narrative unfolds, the four external columns bear a triangular superstructure crowned by sculpted eagles, while the central columns boast an intricate jar atop. The upper frieze abounds in diverse vegetal motifs, interspersed with a central human visage.

Of particular interest are the upper columns, distinguished by their relatively shorter stature in contrast to their lower counterparts, with their height measuring around 9 meters. Akin to their lower counterparts, these columns feature capitals that showcase a distinctive array of motifs, including grape clusters and pomegranates, complemented by human visages at the epicenter. Evidently, these elements bespeak the architectonic finesse and mastery of the Nabatean craftsmen, encapsulating their adherence to a meticulous aesthetic vision. The uppermost facade is crowned by a channel, spanning 90 cm in width, meticulously carved to facilitate the diversion of rainwater, safeguarding the architectural splendor beneath. In addition, fortifying embankments enveloping the Treasury serve as a bulwark against the potential ravages of flooding, emphasizing the intersection of practicality and artistic ingenuity within the Nabatean architectural oeuvre.

## **Secondly: Construction in Stone**

The predominant assumption posits that the entirety of Nabataean architectural compositions was carved from natural rock formations. However, this perception is somewhat misguided. The assertion that all Nabataean edifices were solely products of rock sculpting overlooks the diversity within their construction methods. Notably, a subset of these structures were actually erected employing quarried stone materials sourced from the surrounding mountains. Among these examples stands the Palace of Al-Bint, a monument of considerable significance nestled within the Nabataean city of Petra. What sets this architectural endeavor apart is its deviation from the prevalent practice of carving structures directly into the rocky cliffs that typify the majority of Nabataean architecture. By manifesting a construction detached from the rocky substrate, the Palace of Al-Bint introduces a distinct architectural modality.

The materialization of the Temple situated at the Palace of Al-Bint draws from the quarrying of stones, as delineated earlier. These quarried stones were meticulously crafted into geometrically regular contours, exhibiting a range of dimensions. Historically situated around 30 BCE, the inception of the temple reflects a time when engineering innovation was paramount. Notably, its distinctive architectural resilience against seismic activities was achieved through an ingenious method. This method entailed the strategic incorporation of juniper wood panels intercalated between the stone courses, thereby enhancing the edifice's structural robustness and resistance to seismic disturbances. The interlocking of stone components was further fortified by the infilling of interstices between courses with a composite amalgam of mudbrick and finely grained gravel.

Turning to the architectural design of the Palace of Al-Bint, it is supported atop a meticulously paved stone platform. Structurally, it assumes a square footprint, with each side spanning approximately 32 meters, and soaring to an elevation of 23 meters. The northern elevation of the Nabataean palace showcases a quartet of columns crowned with camel-shaped triangular capitals. This distinctive architectural feature,

emblematic of a camel capital, graces the principal ingress of the Palace of Al-Bint, an entryway ascended via a staircase crafted from pristine white marble.<sup>1</sup>

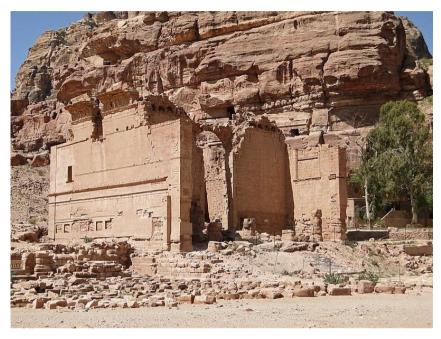


Figure (4) provides a visual representation of the Palace of Al-Bint, a significant edifice situated in the Nabataean city of Petra.

# Thirdly, the harmonious amalgamation of stone carving and construction comes to the fore.

In conjunction with the sculptural and architectural paradigms elucidated within Nabatean heritage, a third mode surfaces as a result of harmoniously blending these two distinctive styles. This amalgamation entails the intricate carving of a segment of the edifice from solid rock, while the remaining portion is painstakingly constructed using meticulously hewn stones. This innovative approach is exemplified in the façades of significant structures like the Court Building and the Nabatean Jar Mausoleum. The latter, the Nabatean Jar Mausoleum,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mohammed Zu'al Al-Khatib's doctoral thesis titled "Reviving Jordanian Heritage in Interior Design and Furniture for Touristic Establishments" conducted at Helwan University, Department of Interior Design and Furniture, page68. 2021.

holds paramount importance among Nabatean edifices, rivaling both the Treasury and the Monastery in terms of both scale and opulence. Evidencing an artistic duality, this edifice merges rock-carved facets with meticulously erected stone sections, as previously alluded.

From a design vantage point, the Nabatean Jar Mausoleum is distinguished by its manifold facades, most notably, the facade of the Jar Tomb. This facade spans a breadth of approximately 16 meters and ascends to a height of 26 meters. Comprising an upper and lower portion, the upper component encompasses the principal entrance positioned at the heart of the facade. Adorning either side of this entrance are two rock-carved columns. The primary entrance is crowned with a triangular rock-carved motif, surmounted by a rectangular projection at its zenith. Moreover, the upper facet of the court is adorned with four Corinthian columns seamlessly integrated into the wall. These columns are crowned with unadorned capitals, with no extraneous embellishments. Beneath these capitals, three rock-hewn niches are present, serving as former repositories for burial rites. These niches are surmounted by an additional layer of capitals, culminating in a triangular motif crowned by a rock-carved jar, evoking the appellation "Nabatean Jar Mausoleum." This moniker derives from the sculpted jar adorning its frontal facade.

Regarding its design configuration, the Nabatean Jar Mausoleum encompasses several aspects, with paramount significance attributed to the Jar Tomb facade. This aspect spans approximately 16 meters in width and ascends to an elevation of 26 meters. Its configuration encompasses both an upper and a lower division. The upper part harbors the central main entrance, flanked by columns meticulously sculpted from rock. The entranceway is crowned by a triangular carving, with a rectangular projection situated directly above the carving. Additionally, the upper aspect of the court features four Corinthian columns adjoined to the wall. These columns are crowned with unembellished capitals, devoid of ornate adornments. Positioned beneath these capitals, three rock-hewn niches are situated, historically serving as repositories for funerary purposes. Above these niches, an additional ensemble of capitals is positioned, surmounted by a triangular carving, crowned by a

rock-carved jar. The lower part of the mausoleum is constituted by arches constructed beneath the plane of the burial chamber, seamlessly melded with the burial chamber itself. Worth noting is that a subset of these arches is meticulously sculpted from rock, while others are erected employing quarried stone.

Access to the mausoleum is facilitated by a staircase that rests upon the arches positioned in the lower part of the structure. Internally, the space designated for interment encompasses a roughly 19-square-meter chamber. Expanding the frontal courtyard of the mausoleum involved the sculpting of a series of arches, atop which vaulted chambers are supported. Each facet of these chambers is upheld by five rock-sculpted columns. Atop these columns, irregularly sculpted niches serve as receptacles for carved rock sculptures within.

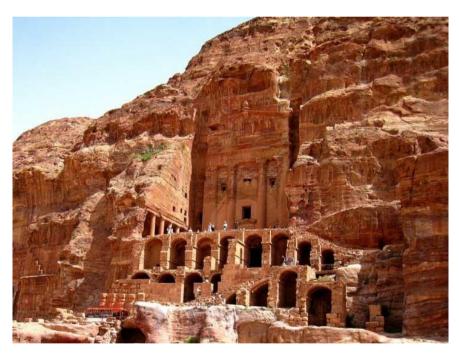


Figure number (5) provides a visual representation of the Nabatean Jar Mausoleum.

#### In conclusion:

Residences hold a paramount significance as fundamental elements encapsulating the historical narratives and contemporary essence of specific geographic regions. These architectural manifestations not only serve as reflections of the prevailing societal ethos and distinct identities but also serve as embodiments of cultural mores and traditions inherent to the community. Additionally, residences bear witness to the socioeconomic fabric of the community they shelter, a phenomenon discernible through meticulous architectural nuances.

In a contextual analysis, opulent and spacious dwellings often symbolize communities endowed with robust economic foundations, while more modest and unembellished residential structures resonate with societies grappling with economic constraints. Beyond their functional role, dwellings assume the responsibility of preserving cultural heritage and safeguarding the intimacy of their occupants, particularly within societies that place a premium on their entrenched customs, traditions, and religious tenets.

Furthermore, abodes transform into repositories of cultural heritage, celebrating their uniqueness through the employment of artisanal craftsmanship and distinctive design elements. The strategic incorporation of Nabatean architectural motifs within the framework of Jordanian residences represents a pivotal stride towards cultivating a distinctive and noteworthy identity for the Jordanian habitat. This conscientious endeavor effectively communicates the historical continuum and rich cultural tapestry of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

## The outcomes of the investigation are delineated as follows:

• The Nabataean civilization is characterized by a diverse array of architectural patterns and construction techniques, contrary to the prevailing notion that Nabataean architecture can be succinctly encapsulated within a singular style, primarily centered on the art of carving surfaces and rocky outcrops.

- Nabataean edifices encompass a plethora of symbols that serve to elucidate the historical narrative of the region and encapsulate the societal customs of the communities that thrived within the Nabataean domain.
- The deliberate incorporation of Nabataean architectural motifs serves to augment the aesthetic principles intrinsic to the interior design of residential structures.
- The deliberate assimilation of Nabataean architectural paradigms within the realm of residential architecture plays a pivotal role in forging a distinctive and discernible character for dwelling spaces established within the contemporary ambit of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

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