

The Umayyads | Official Patronage

'Building programmes were undertaken for the benefit of the community as well for the ruling elite.'

Extensive building programmes were undertaken for the benefit of the community as well as for the ruling elite. Cities such as Amman had a palatial complex, a mosque, a marketplace and a water reservoir, and thus served the government and the administration of the country in addition to the needs of the community. Vitally important infrastructure such as dams, cisterns and water reservoirs were constructed and bridges were erected. Architectural patronage was taken a step further; entire cities and towns were constructed, for instance palatial and administrative complexes in Jerusalem and Amman (Jordan), where the palace and the Congregational Mosque were both given a central position and built side by side.



Name:

Citadel of Amman (general view)

Dynasty:

Around hegira 110 / AD 728 Umayyad

Details:

Amman, Jordan

Justification:

The citadel complex had numerous buildings that included a palace, a mosque, a hammam (bathhouse), a reservoir and residential quarters. It was probably built around 101 / 720.



Name:

Citadel of Amman (Water Reservoir)

Dynasty:

Around hegira 110 / AD 728 Umayyad

Details:

Amman, Jordan

Justification:

The reservoir at the citadel complex of Amman.



Name:

Citadel of Amman (general view)

Dynasty:

Around hegira 110 / AD 728 Umayyad

Details:

Amman, Jordan

Justification:

Remains of the residences at the citadel complex.



Name:

Umm al-Walid

Dynasty:

Hegira, first half of the 2nd century / AD third quarter of the 8th century Umayyad

Details:

Umm al-Walid, Jordan

Justification:

The complex had three palaces and a mosque and was probably constructed by order of the caliph al-Walid I.



Name:
Door lintel

Dynasty:
Hegira 2nd century / AD 8th century Umayyad

Details:
Madaba Archaeological Museum
Madaba, Jordan

Justification:
Representations of the hunt are common in Umayyad palaces, the lintel shown here from Umm al-Walid is an indication of the theme's ubiquity in this context.
