

Furniture Design in Historic Residences: Balancing Modernity and Cultural Heritage Respect (Case Study: Old Town of Hebron).

Wisam shaded¹

¹*Assistant professor. Palestine Polytechnic University, Palestine*

Abstract

This study explores the aspects of interior design in traditional homes, focusing on the challenge of balancing contemporary needs with original architectural layouts while adapting to current lifestyle demands. By examining selected residential models, the study evaluates existing spatial configurations, addresses the needs of modern occupants, and proposes interior furniture designs that align with sustainability principles and the conservation of cultural and heritage assets, all while maintaining architectural integrity. The central research question investigates the feasibility of harmonizing furniture design to meet 21st-century living standards without compromising heritage preservation values. The study employs a descriptive and analytical methodology, emphasizing documentation and design within a practical research framework. The findings reveal that integrating historical preservation with contemporary needs is achievable through furniture design that respects and enhances architectural authenticity. The case studies demonstrate that modern functional requirements can be fulfilled without undermining historical identity. The analysis highlights the ongoing challenge of balancing authenticity with modern functionality, particularly in material selection, ergonomics, and technological integration. Furthermore, the study uncovers differing user perspectives—some residents favor minimal intervention to preserve historical character, while others welcome broader modifications for comfort and usability. The results underscore the importance of careful maintenance and restoration practices for original furniture and architectural elements and emphasize the need for furniture designs that promote both material and cultural sustainability. Ultimately, the study aims to meet the aspirations of Hebron's Old City residents for improved living conditions while inspiring younger generations to embrace heritage homes as vital components of a sustainable future grounded in tangible cultural identity.

© 2025 The Authors. Published by IEREK Press. This is an open-access article under the CC BY license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). Peer review under the responsibility of ARChive-SR's International Scientific Committee of Reviewers.

Keywords

Cultural Heritage; Sustainable Furniture; Reuse, Redesign; Cultural Preservation; Human-Centered Design; Adaptive Interiors;

1. Introduction

Historical cities play a fundamental role in shaping cultural identity and preserving collective memory (Uslu & Bölükbaşı Ertürk, 2019). In Palestine, this role becomes even more critical due to ongoing political instability and the threats posed to the continuity of architectural and urban heritage (Al-Ja'ba et al., 2007, p. 18). Among these cities, Hebron stands out for its historical depth and cultural significance, yet it has suffered from severe urban and social degradation. Neglect, insufficient infrastructure, and weak policy support have contributed to a decline in both the built environment and the quality of life of its residents (Qawasmı et al., 2016). Many inhabitants have left the old

city in search of safer and more livable conditions, resulting in further demographic and physical deterioration (Sellick, 1994).

In response to this urban crisis, the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee (HRC) was established in 1996 by a presidential decree issued by the late President Yasser Arafat. The committee's mission extends beyond architectural restoration; it aims to safeguard Hebron's cultural heritage, revive its historic core, and promote reinhabitation through sensitive and integrated urban strategies (Awad, 2008, pp. 23–24; Atmeh, 2007, p. 48). Restoration and adaptive reuse projects led by the HRC have reflected a comprehensive vision that merges conservation with social revitalization (Qawasmi et al., 2016, p. 204). Rather than viewing rehabilitation as mere technical repair, the committee has promoted a proactive cultural strategy rooted in the continuity of Arab-Islamic urban values (Al-Hadi, 2017).

This culturally sensitive approach has led to improvements in living conditions and better integration between historic and contemporary urban fabrics, all while preserving Hebron's distinctive architectural character (Qawasmi et al., 2016, p. 16). A pivotal development occurred in 2017, when Hebron was officially inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, underscoring the need for design guidelines that respect heritage values while addressing modern housing challenges (Hebron Rehabilitation Committee, <https://www.hrc.ps/ar/node/249>).

As Al-Ja'ba (2008) emphasizes, identity is not a fixed or homogenous concept but rather a dynamic and evolving construct shaped by historical experience, shared memory, and societal change. Thus, design in heritage contexts like Hebron must move beyond functional requirements, engaging meaningfully with the cultural narratives and architectural symbolism embedded in these spaces (Al-Ja'ba, 2008, pp. 205–231).

One of the central challenges in this regard lies in furniture design within historic homes. As noted by Shadeed (2023a), designing furniture in the old city of Hebron involves striking a delicate balance between preserving historical authenticity and meeting modern standards of comfort, functionality, and family life. This study, developed in collaboration with the HRC and informed by local voices, addresses these tensions through a focused examination of design strategies in historical residential interiors.

The traditional architecture of Palestinian towns—particularly Hebron—is deeply rooted in communal living, agricultural lifestyles, and environmental adaptation. As Ghadban (2000) explains, spatial configurations in traditional houses were based on extended family needs and climatic responsiveness, values that continue to inform furniture and interior design today. Preserving these principles while adapting to contemporary needs is key to sustaining both cultural and functional integrity (Magento Commerce, 2024).

Understanding and reinterpreting traditional spatial layouts is fundamental to this process. As Katiba (2018, p. 170) highlights, analyzing the original distribution of space and comparing it with current domestic functions provides critical insight for informed interventions. Typically, historic Hebron homes include two to three floors (Al-Ja'ba, 2007, p. 44), featuring narrow passageways, elevated entrances, and internal courtyards—all reflecting a cultural commitment to privacy and social hierarchy (Abu Salem, K. M., & Dandis, H. Y., 2008).

Gendered spatial divisions were also central to domestic life, separating public male reception areas from private family quarters (Al-Amad, 1998, p. 1). Courtyards (al-Hosh) formed the heart of the dwelling, organizing rooms around them in fluid yet meaningful ways (Abu Hilal, 2009, p. 303). These elements continue to inform how contemporary designers approach interior layout and furniture placement in heritage buildings.

Interior finishes and materials are equally significant. Traditional homes employed finishes like qasara or madda in kitchens and bedrooms (Ahmed, 2008, p. 86), while stone tiles were used to create durable and integrated floor structures (Rizq, 2000, p. 27). Entrances were often accessed through vaulted passages leading to shared courtyards that included wells, stables, and storage (Al-Ju'beh, 2007, p. 45). Architectural details such as arched doorways, internal vaults, and built-in seating conveyed both functional and symbolic meaning (Katiba, 2018, p. 171). Modest, multifunctional furnishings—such as carpets, cushions, and stained-glass windows—added to the aesthetic and cultural richness of the home (Al-Ju'beh, 2007, p. 52).

In this context, historic preservation becomes more than a technical endeavor—it is a pathway to reinforce cultural identity and sustainability. As Briney (2020) notes, reusing historic buildings instead of demolishing them contributes

to environmentally conscious planning and enhances the uniqueness of historic cities in contrast to the monotony of modern construction. This perspective is especially relevant in Hebron, where heritage-based design must respond simultaneously to historical meaning and contemporary needs.

1.1. Problem statement

This study explores the role of interior and furniture design in achieving a balance between preserving the historical identity of old homes and meeting modern lifestyle needs. The core research questions are as follows:

- How can furniture design respect the historical character of a space while addressing contemporary living requirements?
- What are the best practices and methods that integrate historical authenticity with modern functional and aesthetic demands?
- How can interior design enhance the aesthetic value of historical homes without compromising their original features or traditional materials?
- What is the role of technological innovation and modern materials in supporting the integration of authenticity and modernity?

The study seeks to provide a theoretical and practical framework for understanding how to harmonize heritage preservation with contemporary design solutions in historical homes.

2. Methodology

This research adopts a qualitative, human-centered, and site-specific methodology to investigate how adaptive furniture design can contribute to preserving the cultural identity of historical homes while enhancing their functionality for contemporary living. The methodology integrates the following steps:

2.1. Literature Review

A critical review of academic and professional sources on:

- Cultural heritage preservation.
- Interior architecture and sustainable furniture design.
- The integration of traditional and contemporary design principles.
- Theories of human-centered and context-sensitive design.

2.2. Documentary and Archival Analysis

Analysis of:

- Historical documents, architectural surveys, and conservation reports.
- Prior studies on the evolution of historical homes in Palestine, particularly in Hebron.

2.3. Case Study Analysis (Multiple Sites)

Fieldwork conducted in **four historical homes** within the Old City of Hebron, using:

- Manual measurements and 3D documentation (where applicable).
- Architectural surveys of space functionality and constraints.
- Photographic and material documentation.
- Selection criteria focused on varied room types (e.g., kitchen, bedroom, reception).

2.4. Participatory Interviews and Observations

Engagement with:

- Residents (to assess needs, routines, and emotional attachment to the space).
- Local heritage experts (such as the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee).
- Furniture and interior design professionals.

This stage emphasized the co-creation of design solutions based on lived experience.

2.5. Design Proposals and Evaluation

Development of adaptive furniture and interior layout proposals, including:

- Scaled drawings and material suggestions.
- Sustainable and culturally coherent design strategies.
- Presentation of proposals to residents for feedback and refinement.
- Evaluation of outcomes in terms of usability, heritage compatibility, and user satisfaction.

This research adopts a structured methodology to explore how furniture design in historical homes can integrate historical preservation with contemporary needs. The following steps will be employed:

2.5.1. Literature Review

A comprehensive review of scholarly sources on:

- Historical preservation.
- Interior and furniture design.
- Integration of traditional and modern design elements.

2.5.2. Documentary Analysis

Examination of:

- Archival materials, documents, and reports.
- Case-specific data on historically significant homes and their furniture.

2.5.3. Case Study Approach

Selection and analysis of multiple historical homes (especially in Palestine) to investigate:

- Varied design strategies.
- The impact of design on preserving authenticity and addressing modern requirements.

2.5.4. Expert and Resident Interviews

Conversations with:

- Professionals in preservation, interior, and furniture design
- Homeowners and residents of historical houses

To gather insights on practical experiences, challenges, and integration strategies.

2.6. Research Objectives

2.6.1. Rehabilitate Furniture While Preserving Historical Character and Improving Functionality:

- Modify and restore old furniture to align with the house's character.
- Enhance practical function and user comfort.

2.6.2. Establish Design Criteria for Balancing Heritage and Modern Needs:

- Develop guiding principles for interior and furniture design.
- Ensure a balance between conservation and present-day requirements.

2.6.3. Create Space-Sensitive Designs:

- Design furniture that fits the available space.
- Consider architectural constraints and heritage aspects.

3. Design Criteria and Principles for Furniture in Old Towns

Researchers may face challenges in locating specialized catalogues for furniture and interior design in old towns due to the distinctive characteristics, historical phases, and unique functional requirements of these homes. Nevertheless, collaboration with design professionals and architectural heritage experts can aid in formulating general design principles suitable for such heritage dwellings. Historical interior design serves as a reflection of human development, showcasing advanced design techniques alongside modern innovations, such as electricity and central air conditioning, while emphasizing the artistic value and craftsmanship of furniture (Hannon, Jena Gayle, 2011, p. 4). A deep understanding of the importance of aligning furniture with the spatial character of historical cities, as highlighted by Uslu and Bölükbaşı (Uslu & Bölükbaşı Ertürk, 2019, p. 1844), reinforces the necessity of considering architectural and social identity when designing furniture for historical homes in Palestine.

Historical interior architecture plays a pivotal role in expressing cultural identity and serves as a rich visual and historical resource that must be preserved. Rashdan and Ashour (Rashdan, W., & Ashour, A. F., 2023) emphasize that integrating heritage values into contemporary interior design requires thoughtful strategies that balance authenticity with modern functional needs. Respecting the original architectural character is considered a fundamental principle in the design of furniture for traditional homes. Furniture must harmonize with the historical architectural style and the time period that the space represents. This includes careful attention to original decorative details such as traditional woodwork, spatial proportions, and interior finishes. Such alignment enhances both the visual coherence and functional integration between the furniture and the built environment (Brooker & Stone, 2010, p. 120). Moreover, designing furniture for heritage residences requires the use of materials that closely resemble those originally used—such as treated natural wood and fabrics that reflect the historical and cultural setting of the place. These materials not only help preserve the authentic character of the space but also promote environmental and economic sustainability by relying on locally sourced resources with a clear cultural identity (Brooker & Stone, 2010, p. 123).

To address these challenges, it is crucial to consider the unique context and specific design characteristics of traditional homes when proposing any interior interventions. Thoughtful design strategies should aim to enhance both aesthetic and functional qualities, ensuring that the outcome respects the spirit of the original structure. According to White (White, M., 2023, July 10). Maintaining visual balance within the space allows for furniture solutions that are both cohesive and expressive of traditional character, ultimately enriching the beauty and cultural value of historic residences. Rather than concealing architectural features, designers should highlight and celebrate them as central elements of the interior experience. (Dandis, N., 2023, October).

Moreover, selecting styles and design elements that harmonize with historical features while remaining practical for modern living can draw inspiration from 19th- and early 20th-century design traditions, periods known for their craftsmanship and detailed ornamentation (White, M., 2023, July 10). Leveraging historical imagery and

documentation, designers can adapt interiors in a way that reflects the heritage of the space while accommodating contemporary needs. Carefully chosen furniture with intricate patterns and decorative features can help bridge the past and present, reinforcing the historical identity of the home and supporting efforts toward cultural preservation.

Building on the significance of preserving the character of historical interiors, it becomes essential to consider practical strategies that allow for the integration of traditional elements with contemporary needs. One effective approach involves the deliberate use of natural materials, which not only reflects the authenticity of historical design but also supports modern environmental and aesthetic standards.

In traditional interior settings, natural wood has historically served as a fundamental component in furniture design. According to Brooker and Stone (2010), the use of solid wood reflects not only a practical material choice but also a cultural expression rooted in craftsmanship and permanence. Materials such as hardwoods were commonly selected for their durability and aesthetic contribution to the integrity of historical interiors (Brooker & Stone, 2010, p. 118).

Similarly, fabrics like linen and traditional textiles can be paired with contemporary elements to preserve the cultural character while introducing simplicity and comfort. The use of rich fabrics such as velvet or modern textile blends can further enhance the home's historical ambience while meeting the standards of modern comfort (Think Interior, 2024, February 18).

Another key strategy involves the adaptive reuse of antique furniture. Redesigning older pieces to suit contemporary functions contributes to cultural sustainability by preserving the identity of traditional furniture while reducing the need for new material production and lowering carbon emissions (Hughes, Luke, 2022, November 30). This adaptive approach can include refinishing existing pieces, such as sanding down to bare wood and applying a new stain to rejuvenate their visual appeal without erasing their historical essence (Blenkinsop, P., 2022).

Moreover, thoughtful furniture design must address functionality. Historical pieces can be adapted for modern use by ensuring they provide comfort and practicality, such as incorporating hidden storage solutions or transforming seating into multi-functional elements. While preserving the authenticity of space is vital, ensuring that furniture is suited for daily life helps foster continued use and appreciation.

In efforts to maintain authenticity, sourcing original period pieces whenever possible adds significant historical value. Where original pieces are unavailable, traditionally manufactured furniture—produced using historical techniques—can serve as appropriate alternatives that honor the spirit of the past (Blenkinsop, P., 2022).

Finally, a balanced integration of old and new is key to achieving a coherent and livable design. Pairing traditional furniture with modern accents—such as placing a contemporary table next to an antique chair or combining modern lighting with classic furnishings—creates a dynamic yet respectful dialogue between eras (Blenkinsop, P., 2022).

The strategic use of color coordination supports the balance between traditional and modern aesthetics by blending tones that create visual harmony and spatial unity within the interior environment (Brooker & Stone, 2013, p. 112)."

These strategies align with the broader objective of preserving the aesthetic and cultural integrity of historical homes while adapting them to suit contemporary lifestyles—a goal that lies at the heart of sustainable and culturally sensitive interior design.

4. Practical Side of Research and Case Studies

This research focuses on furniture and interior space design in historic residential buildings located in the Old Town of Hebron, Palestine. It draws on a foundation of reports related to property maintenance, adaptive reuse, and heritage preservation. A previous study by the researcher (Shadeed, 2023b) highlighted the daily challenges faced by families living in these old houses, particularly the mismatch between traditional spatial layouts and furniture and the functional needs of contemporary life. This gap underscores the need for thoughtful design solutions that respect the historical context while supporting the current lifestyles of the inhabitants.

The selection of case studies was guided by clear and deliberate criteria to ensure methodological rigor and practical relevance. All selected houses are situated within the historic core of the Old City and are still inhabited by families, providing a genuine context for exploring how interior design interventions can enhance daily life. These homes were

chosen based on actual requests from residents seeking redesign solutions that could make their heritage homes more comfortable and adaptable to modern living. Each house showcases distinctive architectural and cultural features—such as thick stone walls, arches, traditional flooring, built-in niches, and remnants of heritage furniture—that express the tangible and intangible values of local identity (Al-Amiry, 2000). The selection process was carried out in coordination with the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee, ensuring alignment with local conservation guidelines and access to valuable technical documentation.

To develop interior solutions suited to this unique context, the research followed a systematic process structured around three main phases:

- **Initial Preparation and Analysis Phase:**

Detailed data collection and analysis were conducted to document the current state of each house. This included manual surveys, 3D laser scanning, and photographic documentation. Special attention was given to understanding traditional spatial planning and the design standards historically used in the Old Town, including materials and the original functions of interior elements such as bedrooms, living spaces, kitchens, and storage areas. Residents' specific functional and psychological needs were identified through in-depth interviews, and comprehensive two-dimensional and three-dimensional drawings were prepared to record interior walls, floors, and any remaining built-in features. The impact of the surrounding urban environment on interior comfort was also considered.

- **Short-Term Time Analysis:**

This phase focused on evaluating the existing furniture and interior layouts to identify constraints and possibilities for adaptive reuse. The performance of current layouts was analyzed in terms of circulation, storage efficiency, and daily functionality. Materials were selected with care to ensure compatibility with the historic fabric, while also meeting modern standards for comfort, durability, and ease of maintenance.

- **Design and Development Phase:**

Based on the insights gained, a series of context-sensitive design proposals were developed. These focused on creating practical, flexible, and human-centered layouts that improve the usability of spaces while preserving the architectural identity of each home. The redesigns addressed essential interior elements such as sleeping areas, seating arrangements for family gatherings, study spaces for students, kitchens that optimize available space, and integrated storage solutions to reduce clutter. Contemporary furniture and finishes were chosen to respect the original character of each space, ensuring that upgrades—such as improved lighting, better circulation, and more efficient zoning—do not compromise heritage value. Modern tools and amenities were thoughtfully integrated to support a comfortable and functional lifestyle within a historic setting.

In all case studies, the residents' voices played an essential role in shaping the redesigns. Their input ensured that the solutions were not just theoretical but responsive to real daily routines, needs, and aspirations for a better quality of life. By aligning innovative interior design strategies with heritage-sensitive practices, this research offers practical guidance for enhancing the livability of historic houses while safeguarding their cultural significance.

4.1. Research Sample 1: Qafisheh Family House

The Qafisheh Family House is an architecturally significant heritage residence that contributes to the distinctive character and authenticity of Hebron's Old City. It reflects the aesthetic principles of traditional Arab-Islamic architecture through its thick stone walls and original spatial divisions that embody local cultural identity. Inherited by Mrs. Um Hani Qafisheh from her late father, the house consists of three levels: the ground floor dates back to the late 19th century during the Ottoman era, while the upper levels were added in the early 20th century. Like many historic homes of its time, the original structure did not include a dedicated kitchen or bathroom, as families traditionally cooked in open courtyards (*hawsh*) and used shared or remote bath facilities. Over time, the family adapted the space by converting one of the interior rooms into a small kitchen and constructing a bathroom adjacent to its entrance. However, this solution created new spatial challenges: the kitchen remains extremely small, poorly organized, and constrained by irregular walls, while the bathroom lacks sufficient privacy and functional zoning.

Today, the second level—currently inhabited by the family’s son—serves as the primary focus of this case study. An on-site investigation, including manual measurements, photographic documentation, and detailed interviews with the residents, identified the key functional problems: limited and inefficient storage, lack of clear kitchen zones, poor finishes and outdated fixtures, and the difficulty of integrating modern appliances. These challenges reflect a broader issue faced by many families living in historical dwellings: the need to adapt heritage interiors to modern lifestyles without compromising their cultural value.

The proposed redesign aims to address these shortcomings by optimizing the available space through clear functional zoning, custom-built storage solutions, and the sensitive introduction of modern kitchen and bathroom fixtures. This includes adding a proper sink, oven, stove, refrigerator, and sufficient cabinets and shelving units while maintaining respect for the original stone structure and irregular spatial geometry. These solutions intend to improve daily comfort, hygiene, and thermal conditions, making the space more livable for the current and future generations.

(See Figure 1 for floor plans and photos showing the existing conditions.)



Figure 1: Shows floor plans and photos showing the existing conditions. (Source: by the Author, 2023).

4.1.1. Analysis of Kitchen Problems and Proposed Solutions:

Redesigning a kitchen and bathroom in a historical residence demands balancing heritage preservation with practical, contemporary upgrades. The Qafisheh House highlights how adapting one of the original rooms for cooking and washing, without proper planning, can result in cramped, inefficient spaces that fail to meet modern needs. The proposed interventions are designed to respect the original walls while using lightweight partitions and customized furniture to maximize every available corner. Table 2 summarizes the main problems identified and the corresponding design solutions. (See Figure 2) illustrates the proposed design solutions for the Qafisheh House kitchen and bathroom, showing how storage cabinets, materials, and finishes have been selected and arranged to respect the historic character of the house while meeting the family’s modern living needs. The designs aim to improve daily usability and comfort without compromising the architectural integrity of the heritage structure. See Table 1: Qafisheh House – Kitchen and Bathroom Problem Analysis and Proposed Solutions.



Figure 2 illustrates the proposed design solutions for the Qafisheh House kitchen and bathroom (Source: By the author, 2024).

Table 1: Qafisheh House – Kitchen and Bathroom Problem Analysis and Proposed Solutions(Source: By the Author, 2024)

Problem	Description (Before)	Impact	Proposed Solution (After)	Illustrative Images
Original Lack of Facilities	The house was not originally designed with a kitchen or bathroom.	Limits usability and comfort in daily life.	Sensitively integrate modern kitchen and bathroom spaces within the existing structure.	
Small Kitchen Size	The converted room is very small and irregular in shape.	Restricts movement and storage capacity.	Reorganize the layout, add built-in cabinets, and utilize corners effectively.	
Insufficient Storage	Lack of dedicated cupboards or shelving units.	Causes clutter and inefficiency.	Install modular storage units and overhead cabinets to maximize space.	
Poor Functional Zoning	The kitchen and bathroom lack clear divisions and zones.	Reduces usability and hygiene.	Use lightweight partitions to separate wet and dry areas and define circulation.	
Outdated Fixtures & Finishes	Old finishes and basic plumbing fixtures limit functionality.	Lowers hygiene and thermal comfort.	Upgrade finishes, install modern plumbing and electrical points.	
Irregular Wall Geometry	Original walls create awkward corners and dead spaces.	Makes furniture placement inefficient.	Custom-fit furniture solutions to suit the irregular layout.	

4.2. Research Sample 2: Al-Dweik House

Located in the Old Town of Hebron, near Shalala Street, see Figure 2, Al-Dweik House is a representative example of traditional Palestinian residential architecture. Currently inhabited by Mr. Tariq Dweik and his family, the house displays characteristic architectural features such as narrow doorways, elevated thresholds, and compact interior spaces. Like many homes in the old city, its spatial layout has evolved to meet changing family needs, but it still faces limitations due to its historical structure. (see Figure 3)



Figure 3: Illustrates the location of Al-Dweik House. (Source: By the author, 2023)

One of the most pressing challenges identified in this case is the adaptation of a former storage room to serve as a functional bedroom for the family’s daughter. Through site visits and a detailed architectural survey, including manual measurements and photographic documentation, the researcher assessed the room’s physical constraints, including limited dimensions, poor insulation, and difficult access. The research process also involved direct interviews with family members, particularly focusing on the daughter’s spatial and emotional needs.



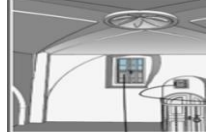

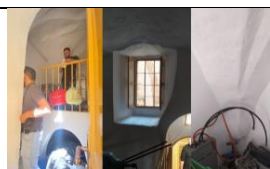
A set of design interventions was proposed to achieve a balance between the preservation of historical character and the enhancement of livability. These included the integration of lightweight insulation materials that protect the original stone walls while improving thermal comfort, as well as the introduction of multifunctional furniture, such as a bed with integrated storage and a foldable desk suited for study and relaxation. The interior layout was reorganized to maximize the use of vertical space, enabling the incorporation of shelving and compact storage. Where structurally feasible, minor adjustments to the room’s entrance were proposed to improve circulation and furniture access. (see Figure 4)



Figure 4: Presents examples of multifunctional furniture that were adopted in the design of the daughter's room, suitable for limited spaces. (Source: By the author, 2023)

Lighting was another critical consideration. A lighting plan was developed to combine natural and artificial sources, enhancing both spatial quality and psychological comfort. These strategies align with broader conservation goals and contribute to redefining the use of heritage interiors without compromising their identity. This case underscores the broader potential of furniture-focused design interventions in revitalizing traditional homes, especially when addressing the needs of younger generations within historically constrained spaces. As follows, Table 2:

Table 2: Al-Dweik House bedroom for the daughter – Problem Analysis and Proposed Solutions. (Source: By the author, 2025).

Problem	Description (Before)	Impact	Proposed Solution (After)	Illustrative Images
Narrow Door and High Steps	Narrow main door and elevated steps hinder moving in modern furniture.	Incompatibility with modern furniture and inconvenience.	Design custom-built, on-site furniture; improve stair layout; install handrails for safety.	
Poor Window Insulation	Windows allow air leakage and cold drafts.	Discomfort during winter; potential health concerns.	Reinforce window and door seals to improve insulation and indoor comfort.	
Limited Movement & Low Ceiling	The entrance platform restricts movement; some areas have low ceilings (2m).	Reduced comfort and inefficient use of space.	Redesign the layout to allow fluid movement and adjust the lighting to enhance the spatial experience.	
Inefficient Use of Space (Storage Use)	The room is used as storage due to layout and structural issues.	Prevents the space from serving its intended purpose as a bedroom.	Transform the room into a functional space with a warm color palette, wood flooring, and versatile furniture.	
Lack of Multi-Functional Design	Absence of tailored furniture for the girl's daily needs.	Limits comfort, usability, and personal expression.	Incorporate multi-use elements: vanity, cushioned window seat, movable desk, and compact storage.	

The design adopted simplicity and a color scheme suitable for the room. The flooring was changed to wood to suit both cold and hot climates. Multi-purpose furniture was designed for various uses, including a vanity area, a cushioned seating area by the window, and a movable desk in the storage area next to the window. (see Figure 5)



Figure 5: Shows the Al-Dweik House before and after the redesign, highlighting the implemented solutions and innovative design approaches applied to adapt the historical space. (Source: By the Author, 2023)

4.3. Research Sample 3: Saada Al-Rajabi House (Abu Fawzi)

The Al-Rajabi family residence, located in the Bani Dar neighborhood of the Old City of Hebron, represents a historical structure that evolved over multiple building phases. Based on its location and architectural typology, the house likely dates back to the early 19th century or earlier, with some elements reflecting the Mamluk period (Shadeed, 2023). The original entrance is accessed through the Al-Kayyal family courtyard, a typical spatial configuration in Hebron's historic housing fabric. (See Figure 6)



Figure 6: Section of Al-Rajabi House (Source: Author, 2023), site location via Google Earth, and floor plan drawn and documented by the author (2023).

4.3.1. Redesign of a Historic Bedroom for the Al-Rajabi Family's Daughter to Meet University Study Requirements

The analysis, supported by in-depth interviews with the parents—Um Fawzi Al-Rujbi and Abu Fawzi Al-Rujbi—revealed several spatial and usability challenges that directly affected their daughter's comfort, privacy, and daily productivity. As shared by the parents during the interviews, the original furniture layout restricted circulation and limited her sense of personal space, especially due to the bed being positioned directly opposite the door. The lack of dedicated storage near the entrance contributed to visual clutter, while the absence of a proper clothes hanger, a full-length mirror, and an ergonomic study area further hindered her daily routine and study focus.

Additionally, the adjacent storage room remained underutilized, creating a missed opportunity for functionality. The dominant yellow-toned lighting, described by the family as harsh and tiring, created an unpleasant atmosphere, while the cold tiled flooring reduced overall thermal comfort, particularly in winter. These observations, grounded in the lived experiences of the family, guided the design process toward a more responsive and personalized solution.

In response, a holistic and sensitive redesign was proposed to better meet the needs of the young daughter. The bed will be repositioned to a more secluded area of the room to ensure privacy, and a dedicated shoe storage unit will be added at the entrance to improve organization. The adjacent storage room will be transformed into a walk-in closet with shelves and a clothing rack, maximizing storage and accessibility. Lighting will be upgraded to include natural or white LED tones to improve visual comfort and create a more inviting atmosphere.

The existing elevated platform will be redesigned either with hidden storage compartments or with wood cladding, to enhance both insulation and aesthetic appeal. An ergonomically designed study desk will be installed to support her academic activities, and a full-length mirror will be added to meet daily grooming needs. Replacing the tiled flooring with wooden materials will add warmth and increase thermal comfort throughout the space.

This redesign exemplifies how thoughtful furniture solutions and interior design interventions—rooted in direct dialogue with the residents—can significantly enhance the livability and functionality of spaces within historic homes. By responding to the daughter's unique lifestyle and developmental needs while preserving the architectural character of the house, the project achieves a balanced, heritage-sensitive approach to interior transformation. For a visual representation of the proposed changes, see Figure 7 and Table 3 for detailed specifications. (see Figure 7; Table 3 for detailed specifications).

Table 3: Historic Girl's Room – Problem Analysis and Proposed Solutions. (Source: By the author, 2025).

Problem	Description (Before)	Impact	Proposed Solution (After)	Illustrative Images
Inappropriate Furniture Layout	Furniture is placed without consideration of circulation and comfort.	Hinders movement and causes discomfort.	Rearrange furniture to optimize space and enhance comfort.	
No Shoe Storage	No designated area for storing shoes.	Causes clutter and disorganization.	Add a shoe storage unit near the room entrance.	
Bed Lacks Privacy	The bed is directly opposite the door.	Reduces privacy and comfort.	Move the bed to a more secluded area within the room.	
Poor Use of Storage Room	The storage room is not effectively utilized.	Wasted space.	Convert it into a walk-in closet with racks and shelving.	
Uncomfortable Yellow Lighting	Existing lighting creates a harsh, warm ambience.	Affects mood and comfort.	Replace with white or natural lighting.	
No Clothes Hanger	No fixed place to hang clothes.	Disorganization of clothing items.	Install a clothes hanger inside the storage room.	
Underused Platform	The platform space is not utilized functionally.	Missed storage or functional use opportunity.	Cover the platform with wood or convert it into hidden storage.	
Inadequate Study Desk	The desk is not ergonomic or suitable for study.	Reduces study comfort and productivity.	Replace with a functional, student-friendly desk.	
No Full-Length Mirror	Only a small handheld mirror is available.	Difficulties with daily routines.	Add a full-length mirror in a convenient location.	
Uncomfortable Floor Tiles	The existing tiles are hard and cold.	Discomfort when walking barefoot.	Replace tiles with wooden flooring for comfort and warmth.	



Figure 7: Illustrates the redesign of a university student's room in the Al-Rajabi family house and the proposed design solutions that meet contemporary needs. (Source: By the Author, 2023).

4.3.2. Redesigning the Reception and Seating in the Al-Rajabi Family Home

This case examines the main reception and seating area in the Al-Rajabi family residence, distinguished by its fan-vaulted ceiling dating back to the Mamluk period—an architectural element that reflects the Islamic heritage and aesthetic traditions of historic Hebron. Despite the room's cultural and historical significance, its current interior design undermines both function and atmosphere. The existing furniture is disproportionate to the spatial scale, restricting circulation and reducing guest comfort. Wall colors are misaligned with the historical identity of the space, and structural protrusions challenge the efficient arrangement of furnishings. Additionally, open wall recesses and the absence of stylistic cohesion further diminish the room's character as a welcoming social space.

To address these issues, the proposed redesign strategy focuses on selecting furniture that complements the room's proportions, introducing color schemes and wall treatments inspired by Islamic motifs, and incorporating traditional materials to reinforce heritage values. Furniture placement was carefully adapted to work around structural constraints, and interventions aimed to restore harmony between the room's functional role and its architectural legacy. This case demonstrates the potential of context-sensitive interior interventions to enhance the usability of historic reception areas while preserving their cultural and spatial identity. (see Figure 8) (See Table 4)

Table 4: The Reception and Seating Design – Problem Analysis and Proposed Solutions. (Source: By the author, 2025).

Problem	Description (Before)	Impact	Proposed Solution (After)	Illustrative Images
Mismatch Between the Existing Sofa Set Design and the Given Space	The current furniture is unsuitable for the room size, and its arrangement hinders movement and reduces guest comfort.	Improves room coherence and comfort, providing more space for movement.	Choose a sofa set that matches the room's dimensions and space, while ensuring the furniture arrangement allows free movement and comfort for guests.	
Inappropriate Wall Colors and Paint	The wall colors do not match the Islamic style, and the tones are not soothing or harmonious with the room's purpose.	Adds aesthetic appeal and creates a warm, comfortable atmosphere in the room.	Select paint colors that match the Islamic style (warm and natural tones) or use wallpaper with Islamic patterns.	
Structural Protrusions in the Original Room Design Hindering High Furniture Placement	Structural protrusions prevent the placement of high furniture and restrict the free flow of the space.	Facilitates furniture placement without obstacles, enhancing space utilization.	Design low-level furniture that fits with the original structural protrusions, or rearrange the furniture to avoid these protrusions.	
Presence of Openings in the Walls and the Need for a Room-Suitable Design	Openings in the walls are not aesthetically pleasing and create unnecessary gaps in the space.	Enhances aesthetics and utilizes openings for additional storage or display space.	Use furniture or decor to conceal openings or transform them into shelves or display areas.	
Need for a Design that Reflects the Historical Period and Islamic Style in Terms of Designs, Materials, and Colors	The room design lacks elements that reflect the Islamic style, and the materials and colors used are not traditional.	Creates a traditional and aesthetic ambience that reflects the Islamic style, adding a sense of heritage and warmth to the room.	Incorporate Islamic designs, traditional materials (wood, velvet), and classic colors (blue, green).	



Figure 8: Presents a comparison between the current condition of a room in Al-Rajabi House and the proposed design interventions aimed at enhancing its functionality and preserving its heritage features. (Source: by the author, 2023).

5. Discussion

5.1. Integrated Design Approach in Historical Homes

Although furniture design may appear secondary in the restoration of historical homes, it plays a vital role in shaping spatial efficiency, residents' emotional well-being, and cultural continuity. The arrangement and thoughtful selection of furniture directly influence daily routines, comfort levels, and the sense of belonging to the place, especially in heritage houses where every element carries cultural and historical value.

This research explored four functional spaces within traditional dwellings: kitchens, converted bedrooms, students' rooms, and reception salons. The analysis combined detailed site measurements, spatial assessments, and interviews with residents to understand their daily practices and evolving needs. For example, kitchens—such as in the Qafisheh House—highlight how many old houses were not originally built with integrated kitchens or bathrooms, resulting in spatial limitations that require sensitive redesign. Similarly, student rooms, family bedrooms, and traditional salons demonstrate how carefully planned furniture, storage solutions, and respectful material choices can address modern needs while maintaining historical character. Residents' feedback across all case studies confirmed that these furniture and interior design interventions added functional value and enhanced their emotional connection to their homes. The collaboration with local heritage stakeholders helped align these solutions with broader conservation goals, ensuring that practical upgrades support long-term preservation.

5.2. Coordination with the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee

As part of the practical phase of this research, the researcher coordinated with the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee to ensure that proposed solutions align with local heritage preservation standards and community needs. A dedicated meeting was held with the committee's Director, Mr. Imad Hamdan, and a group of engineers at the Committee's headquarters in the Old Town of Hebron. This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the feasibility of implementing the proposed designs as part of future funded restoration projects and to exchange professional insights on how to balance adaptive reuse with cultural conservation. This professional exchange emphasized the potential for integrated interior design to complement structural conservation efforts and to make historic homes more livable for contemporary families. (Figure 9) shows a part of this meeting with the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee and several engineers in their office in the Old City of Hebron, documenting the collaborative spirit and context of these discussions.



Figure 9: shows a part of this meeting with the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee and several engineers in their office in the Old City of Hebron.
(Source: by the author, 2024)

5.3. Shared Analysis Points Integrated into the Discussion

5.3.1. Space and Layout Challenges:

All spaces shared a common issue of inefficient furniture arrangement due to either space limitations or a mismatch between existing furniture and room dimensions. Across all cases, solutions centered on optimized layouts, built-in units, and proportionally scaled furniture to support circulation and comfort.

5.3.2. Privacy Consideration:

Privacy, especially in bedrooms used by university students, emerged as a significant concern. In the daughter's room and converted bedroom, bed placement, partitioning, and storage layout were revised to foster a sense of personal space, critical for comfort, focus, and self-care. While less prominent in kitchen and salon areas, layout adjustments still supported subtle visual and spatial privacy.

5.3.3. Design Reflecting Cultural Context:

A culturally grounded approach was vital, especially in the reception salon, where Islamic aesthetics guided the design. In all rooms, efforts were made to reflect identity using arabesque patterns, natural tones, and traditional materials, enhancing the sense of place and reinforcing heritage.

5.4. Material Selection:

Sustainability and authenticity informed material choices. Wood, velvet, and eco-friendly finishes were favored for their natural appeal and historical resonance, aligning the interiors with both environmental and cultural values.

5.5. Ventilation and Lighting Improvements:

Ventilation and lighting were key in enhancing comfort and functionality. From repositioning windows to replacing harsh lighting with natural or neutral-toned alternatives, each intervention supported both physical health and mood improvement.

The reception and salon space exemplified the complex challenge of integrating contemporary functionality into historically rooted environments. Structural protrusions, mismatched furniture, and disjointed design elements were harmonized through adaptive furniture, Islamic ornamentation, and material consistency, transforming the area into a welcoming social hub. (see Figure 8)

Overall, the interventions succeeded in blending emotional, practical, and cultural dimensions of design. The rooms were not simply redesigned; they were reimagined as human-centered environments respectful of their past and responsive to the present. However, it is important to acknowledge that while these design strategies proved effective within the specific cultural and architectural context of Hebron's historical homes, their direct application to other regions may be limited. Differences in cultural living habits, material availability, aesthetic preferences, and heritage regulations could affect the success of similar interventions elsewhere. Therefore, any transfer of these solutions

requires careful adaptation to local norms, regulatory frameworks, and the specific characteristics of historical buildings in each context. (See Table 5)

Table 5: Challenges and Design Responses in Historical Home Interiors (Source: by the author, 2025)

Key Challenge	Impact	Design Response
Inefficient furniture layout	Hindered movement and comfort	Optimized layouts with built-in or scaled furniture
Lack of privacy in bedrooms	Reduced comfort and personal well-being	Reoriented beds, added partitions, and utilized storage for zoning
Cultural disconnection in aesthetics	Loss of identity and heritage value	Islamic motifs, traditional materials, harmonious color palettes
Poor lighting and ventilation	Affected mood, hygiene, and usability	Introduced natural lighting and improved ventilation sources
Absence of storage solutions	Clutter and disorganization	Added multifunctional furniture, walk-in closets, and concealed storage
Underutilized architectural features	Wasted potential and awkward space	Converted niches and platforms into functional or display areas
Inappropriate materials and finishes	Discomfort and loss of authenticity	Introduced wood, eco-materials, and historically sympathetic finishes

6. Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on the information provided and the case study approach for researching furniture in historical homes, here are potential results and recommendations that can be derived:

6.1. Conclusions

6.1.1. Harmonizing Historical Preservation with Modern Needs

The study demonstrates that historical homes greatly benefit when furniture design honors architectural authenticity while thoughtfully integrating contemporary living requirements. The case studies reveal successful examples where traditional aesthetics are skillfully combined with functional modernity.

6.1.2. Challenges in Furniture Design for Heritage Homes

Balancing the preservation of historical integrity with the demands of modern comfort and technology poses significant challenges. These include careful material selection, maintaining comfort standards, and sensitively upgrading features without compromising original elements. Restoring and preserving original furniture requires a delicate, well-informed approach.

6.1.3. User Perspectives and Diversity of Needs

Residents of heritage homes value designs that preserve the cultural atmosphere while enhancing everyday usability. However, user preferences differ: some favor minimal interventions to retain authenticity, while others embrace more extensive modifications aimed at comfort and practicality.

6.1.4. Broader Applicability of Findings

Though this research focuses on the Old City of Hebron, many insights and design solutions are relevant to other historical cities and traditional dwellings worldwide facing similar spatial and cultural challenges. Common issues such as inefficient furniture layouts, privacy concerns, and the preservation of cultural identity are shared across heritage sites in the Arab world, the Mediterranean, Europe, and beyond. The integrated design approach—anchored in adaptive reuse, cultural sensitivity, and user-centered solutions—provides a valuable framework for future interventions in diverse historical contexts.

6.2. Recommendations

- Promote adaptive reuse and creative reinterpretation of historical interiors by balancing respect for tradition with innovative design approaches.
- Encourage furniture solutions that are sensitive to cultural, environmental, and ergonomic factors, ensuring they harmonize with the historical context.
- Maintain design flexibility to allow users to personalize their spaces according to evolving lifestyles, while safeguarding core heritage values.
- Increase community awareness about the importance of sustainable design practices that align with cultural heritage conservation goals.

Acknowledgments

The abstract of this paper was presented at the Cities' Identity Through Architecture & Art (CITAA) Conference – 8th Edition, which was held on the 17th - 19th of September 2024.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of this research. Special thanks go to Engineer Hilmi Marqa, who supervised the restoration works of the houses studied, and to Engineer Nuha Dandis for her valuable cooperation and insight throughout the study. I am deeply grateful to the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee, represented by its President, Mr. Emad Hamdan, for their continuous support and openness to the proposed ideas.

My heartfelt appreciation also goes to the residents and homeowners who generously opened their homes and shared their experiences, enabling a deeper understanding of the real challenges and needs. I would also like to thank the Palestine Polytechnic University for providing the academic environment and support that made this study possible. Finally, my appreciation goes to the students and colleagues whose efforts and input enriched the research process with thoughtful perspectives and dedication.

Funding declaration

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors/individuals.

Ethics approval

This study was conducted independently and did not involve any procedures requiring formal institutional ethics approval. All participants were informed about the nature of the research and participated voluntarily. No personally identifiable information was collected, and all data were gathered anonymously. The research was carried out in accordance with recognized ethical standards and posed no risk to participants.

Conflict of interest

The author declares that there is no competing interest.

References

- Abu Hilal, A. (2009, February). The changing architecture realized in the Palestinian domestic vernacular architecture during the end of the 19th / beginning of the 20th centuries: Case study from Hebron (PhD dissertation). Middle East Technical University.
- Abu Salem, K. M., & Dandis, H. Y. (2008). Residential buildings in the old city of Hebron (Graduation project). Department of Architecture, Palestine Polytechnic University.
- Ahmed, Tareq Dawood. (2008). Analysis of Architectural Styles of Residential Buildings in Palestine during the Ottoman Period: A Case Study of Nablus City. Master's Thesis, An-Najah University.
- Al-Amad, Eman Mohammad. (1998). Continuity and Change in Traditional Domestic Architecture of Palestine: Transformation of Traditional Concepts of House Design in Nablus. Ph.D. Thesis, Mackintosh School of Architecture, University of Glasgow.
- Al-Amiry, S. (2000). Traditional Tiles in Palestine. Riwaq Series on the History of Architecture in Palestine. Ramallah: Riwaq.
- Al-Hadi Hanish Al-Sadiq Al-Rumaih, R. A. J. (2017). Reusing Historical and Archaeological Buildings (with Value) as an Approach to Preserving Them. *International Science and Technology Journal*, 9, 1–20.
- Al-Ju'beh, N. (2008). Architecture as a source for historical documentation: The use of Palestine's built heritage as a research tool. Paper presented at the Archive Resources and Social History in Palestine Conference, Institute of Jerusalem Studies & Birzeit University, Palestine.
- Al-Jaba, Nazmi, et al. (2007). Old Hebron: The Charm of a City and Historical Architecture. Hebron Rehabilitation Committee.
- Atmeh, M. (2007). Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings in Palestine: A Case Study: The Experience of Nablus City since 1994 (Master's thesis). An-Najah National University.
- Awad, Jihad. (2008). The Experience of Preserving Architectural Heritage in Palestine. *Journal of Science and Technology*, vol. 13, no. 1.
- Blenkinsop, P. (2022, July 22). Decorating with vintage – 10 ways to add character to your home. *Homes & Gardens*. <https://www.homesandgardens.com/interior-design/decorating-with-vintage>
- Briney, A. (2020, January 22). The Importance of Historic Preservation. *ThoughtCo*. <https://www.thoughtco.com/historic-preservation-urban-geography-1435793>
- Brooker, G., & Stone, S. (2010). *The Fundamentals of Interior Design*. AVA Publishing.
- Carabelli, Romeo. (2019). *Architecture and Ways of Living: Traditional and Modern Palestinian Villages and Cities*. PhD in Geography, University of Tours, France.
- Demirarslan, D. (June 2021). An Overview of the Criteria Affecting the Design of Housing Furniture. *Research & Reviews in Architecture, Planning and Design*.
- Emam Mohammad Al-Amad. (February 1998). Continuity and Change in Traditional Domestic Architecture of Palestine: Transformation of Traditional Concepts of House Design in Nablus. Mackintosh School of Architecture, University of Glasgow.
- Gould, W. R. (2023, May 16). How to start planning a home renovation. *Martha Stewart*. <https://www.marthastewart.com/home-renovation-planning-7497830>.
- Ghadban, S. (2000). The composition and typology of the traditional Palestinian house since 1850 to 1948. Birzeit University.
- Hannon, Jena Gayle. (2011). *Preservation Through Partnership: Strengthening the Collaboration Between Historic Preservation and Interior Design in Higher Education*.
- Hebron Rehabilitation Committee Official Website. <https://www.hrc.ps/ar/node/249>
- Helgerson, Jessica. (2021, July 19). How the Architecture of Your Home Should Inform Your Design. *Centered by Design*.
- Hughes, Luke. (November 30, 2022). Furniture in Architecture: Adaptive Reuse of Space Through Movable Furniture. *Blogavatar*. <https://blog.lukehughes.co.uk/adaptive-reuse-of-a-space-through-movable-furniture>
- Magento Commerce. (2024). The Story of Furniture Design Evolution. Retrieved from <https://www.magento.com>
- Katiba Yacoub, Nadal Jibril Badr. (2018). *The Historic Alleys in the Ancient City of Hebron: Between the Years 1967-1987 AD*. First Edition. Hebron: Hebron Municipality.
- Qawasmī, Khaled, et al. (2016). *Guideline for the Restoration of Historical Buildings*. Supported by the Spanish Cooperation Agency.
- Rashdan, W., & Ashour, A. F. (2023). Heritage-Inspired Strategies in Interior Design: Balancing Critical Regionalism and Reflexive Modernism for Identity Preservation. *Heritage*, 6(5), 4104–4125. <https://doi.org/10.3390/heritage6050211>
- Rizq, A. M. (2000). *Dictionary of Islamic Architecture and Arts*. Cairo: Madbouly Library, 6 Talaat Harb Square.
- Salt Lake City Historic Landmark Commissioners, et al. (1999). *Design Guidelines for Residential Historic Districts in Salt Lake City*. Winter & Company; Clarion Associates.
- Sellick, Patricia. (1994). The Old City of Hebron: Can It be Saved? *Journal of Palestine Studies*, 23(4), 69–82. University of California Press. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2538213>
- Shadeed, Wisam. (2023a). Furniture Design in Historic Residences: Balancing Modernity and Cultural Heritage Respect (Case Study: Old Town of Hebron). Palestine Polytechnic University.
- Shadeed, Wisam. (2023b). Interior Design and Furniture in Traditional Dwellings in the Old Towns Between Modernity and Preservation of Cultural Heritage: A Special Case in the Old City of Hebron. *The Academic Research Community Publication*. <https://doi.org/10.21625/archive.v7i1.941>
- Think Interior. (February 18, 2024). Historical Harmony: Preserving the Past in Vintage Interior Designs. <https://academythinkinteriordesign.medium.com/historical-harmony-preserving-the-past-in-vintage-interior-designs-caba9>

Uslu, E., & Bölükbaşı Ertürk, A. E. (2019). Analyzed and the Missing Urban Furniture Was Found in the Historical Environment, and Original Design Proposals Were Introduced to Highlight the Identity of the City. *Turkish Studies - Social Sciences*, 14(4).

WIT Transactions on Ecology and The Environment, Vol 191, The Sustainable City IX, Vol. 2. www.witpress.com, ISSN 1743-3541 (online), © 2014 WIT Press.

White, M. (2023, July 10). What's historically appropriate for your house? Here are 7 ways to find out. *Preservation Tips and Tools*. <https://savingplaces.org/stories/7-tips-to-determine-what-is-historically-appropriate-for-your-house-when-redecorating>

List of Interviews (Primary Sources)

Dandis, N. (2023, October). Structural consultation, Hebron Rehabilitation Committee.

Dweik, T. (2023, October). Interview on repurposing interior space, Al-Dweik House.

Hamdan, I. (2024, March). Feasibility and implementation discussion, Hebron Rehabilitation Committee.

Maraqah, H. (2023, May). Early structural insights, Hebron Rehabilitation Committee.

Um Hani Qafisheh and Husband. Personal interview. Conducted by the author, Hebron, 2023.

Al-Rujbi, Um Fawzi. Personal interview. Hebron, (2023, September). Technical and spatial design consultation, Hebron Rehabilitation Committee

Al-Rujbi, Abu Fawzi. Personal interview. Hebron, (2023, September). Interview on spatial adaptation needs, Al-Shallala Street house