

RAMALLAH / Palestine

PAYSAGE

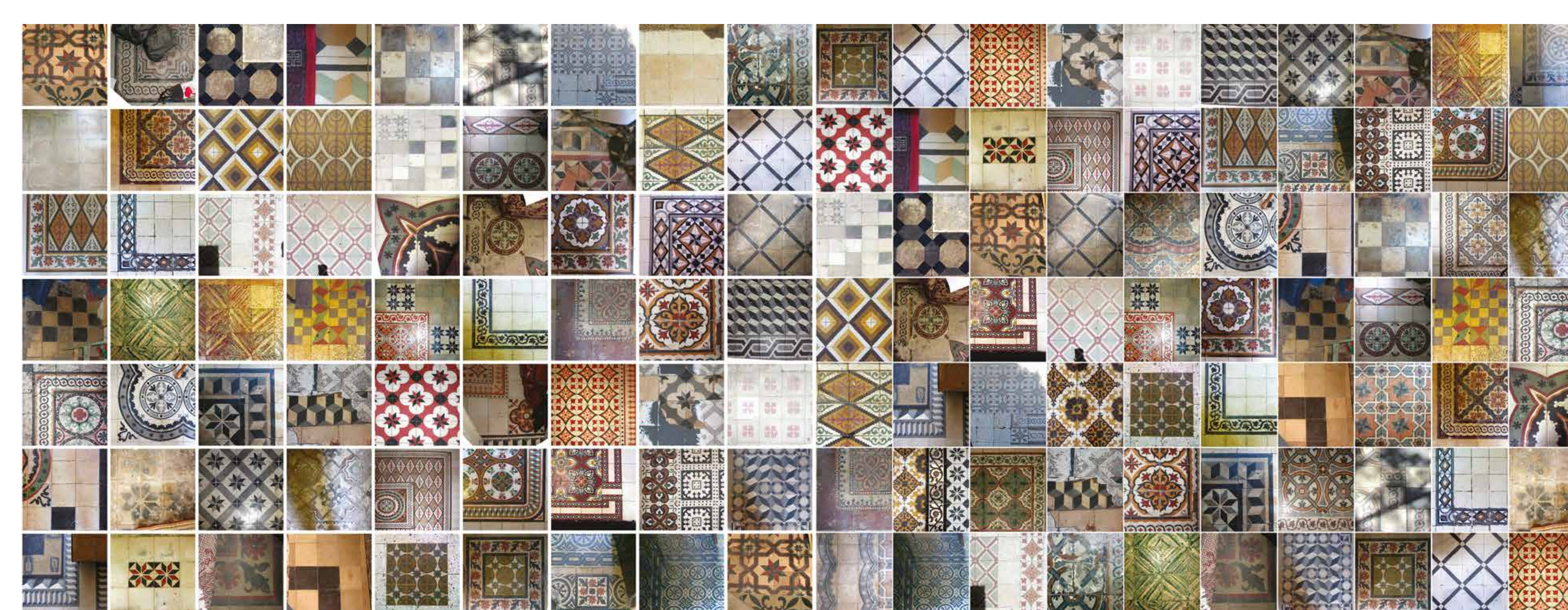


As a Palestinian city located in the middle of the mountains in the West Bank, the original scene for Ramallah was an agricultural village with simple one or two floor houses spread over the natural land terrace defined by "Sanasel", planted with olive trees and wild forest. However since the 20th century the city experienced drastic urban change through its history to become the economic, politic, and cultural center of Palestine.

The growing demography, around 3 – 4 % per year, is putting the city under stress, since Ramallah does not have the right to expand because of the control of the Israeli government over the land surrounding the city. The lack of land and high housing demand are pushing Ramallah to expand vertically. The landscape has drastically changed from a clear and green skyline to a highly concentrated multi floor buildings neighborhood. However, Ramallah is trying to keep its green spaces through the renovation of parks and the protection of the rural area like Ein-Kenia.



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The old town in Ramallah was built in the 16th century; it was mainly composed of rural houses and "Hosh": traditional house composed of inner courtyard, living space for the big family, and small rooms where sub families are living. They characterized by unique color coming extracted beige, pale brown and yellowish Palestinian stones. The arches (semi circular, segmental, straight) form often distinguished doors and windows, the floors are made of decorated tiles. There are currently 381 old buildings in Ramallah which is 5% of the total number of buildings.

With the growing population since the 20th century and the difficulty to expand the city because of the occupation and the lack of the cultural heritage protection law, the cultural heritage is jeopardized. To ensure the preservation of heritage and the revival of the old city, Ramallah municipality has committed itself to the restoration and the rehabilitation of those buildings, for example, the Ottoman court building has been rehabilitated into community center with a children library that have many seasonal activities.



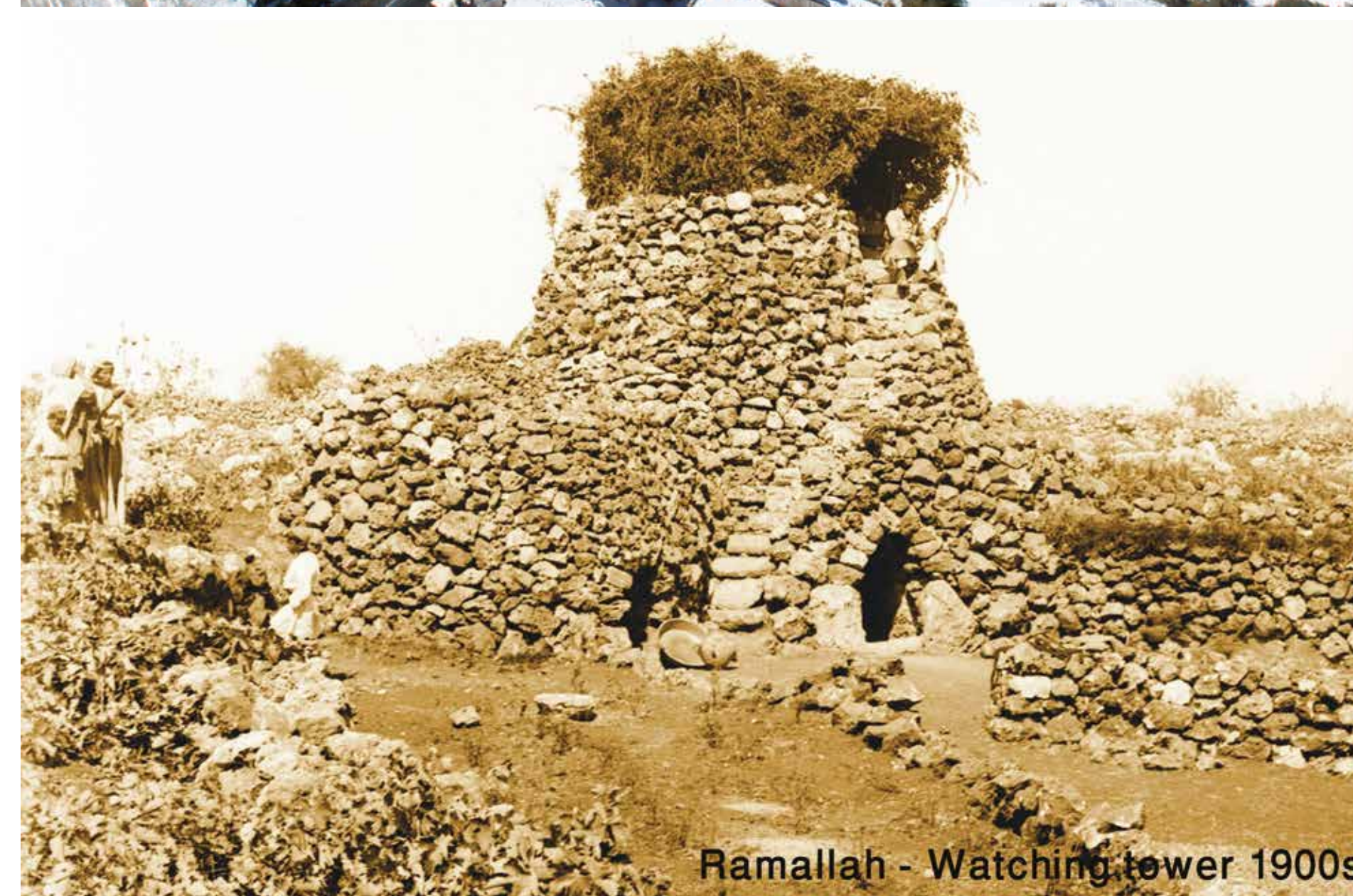
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General view Ramallah 2010s

General view Ramallah 2010s



Ramallah - Watching tower 1900s



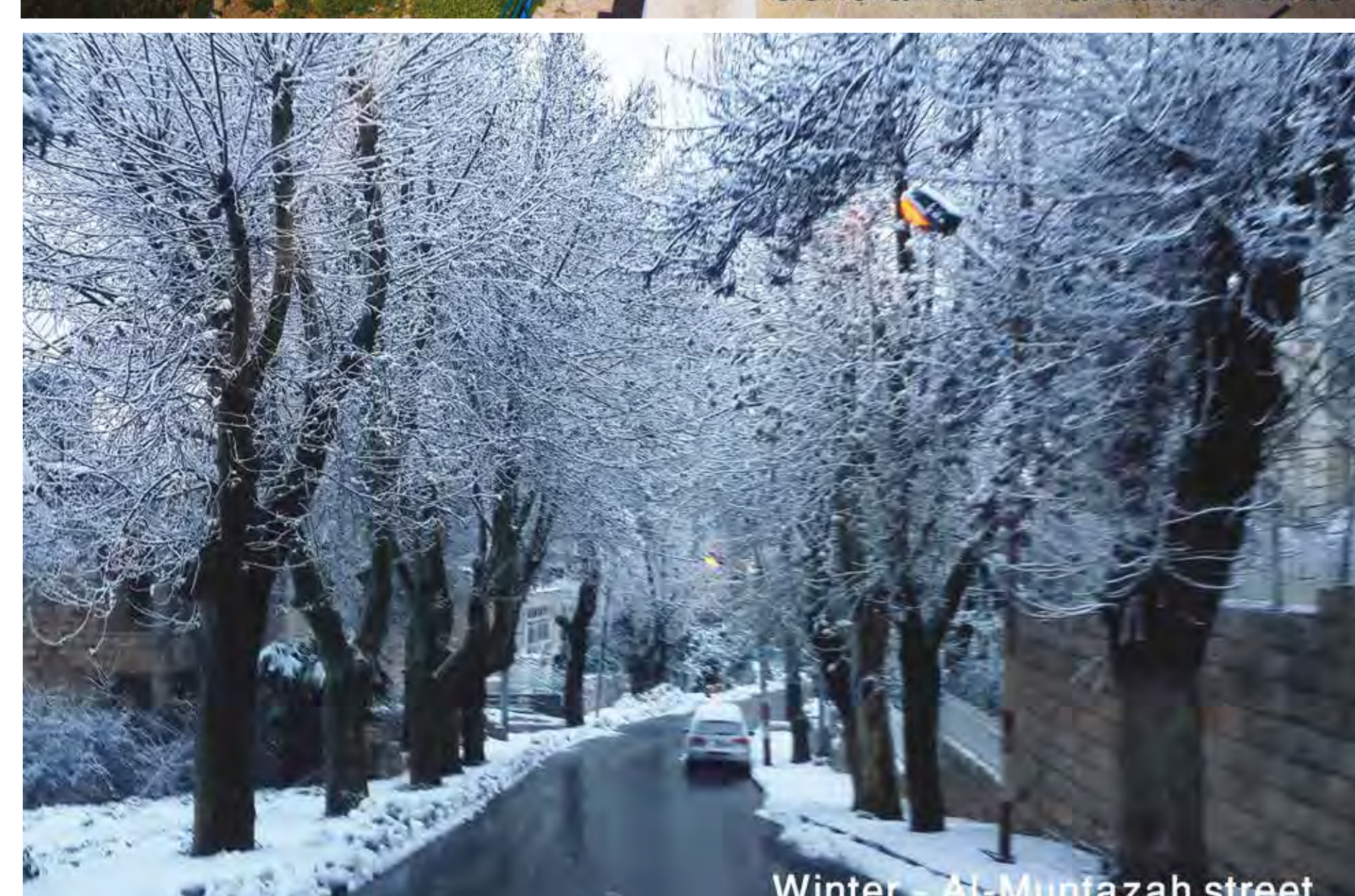
Ramallah - Watching tower 2010s



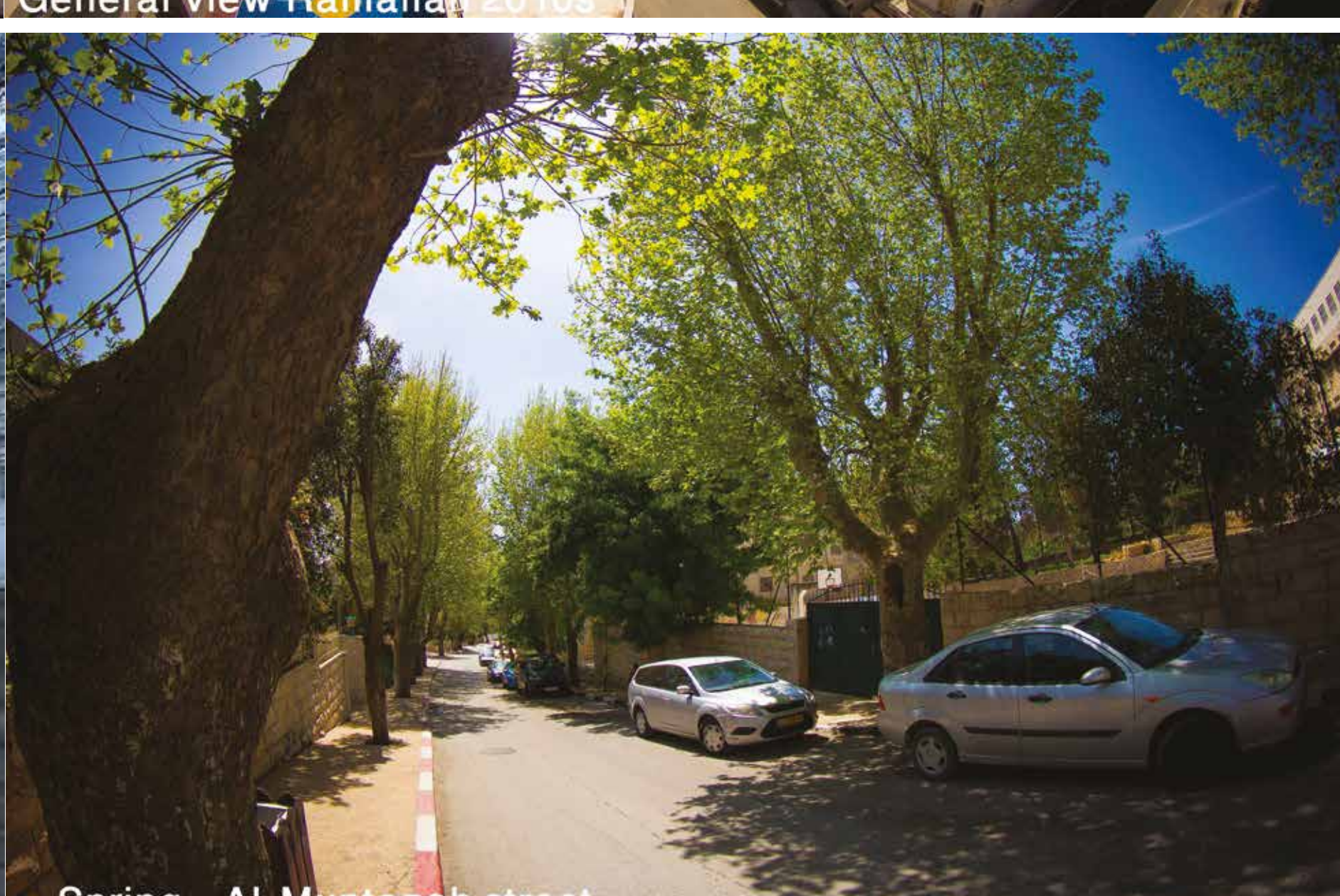
General view Ramallah 2010s



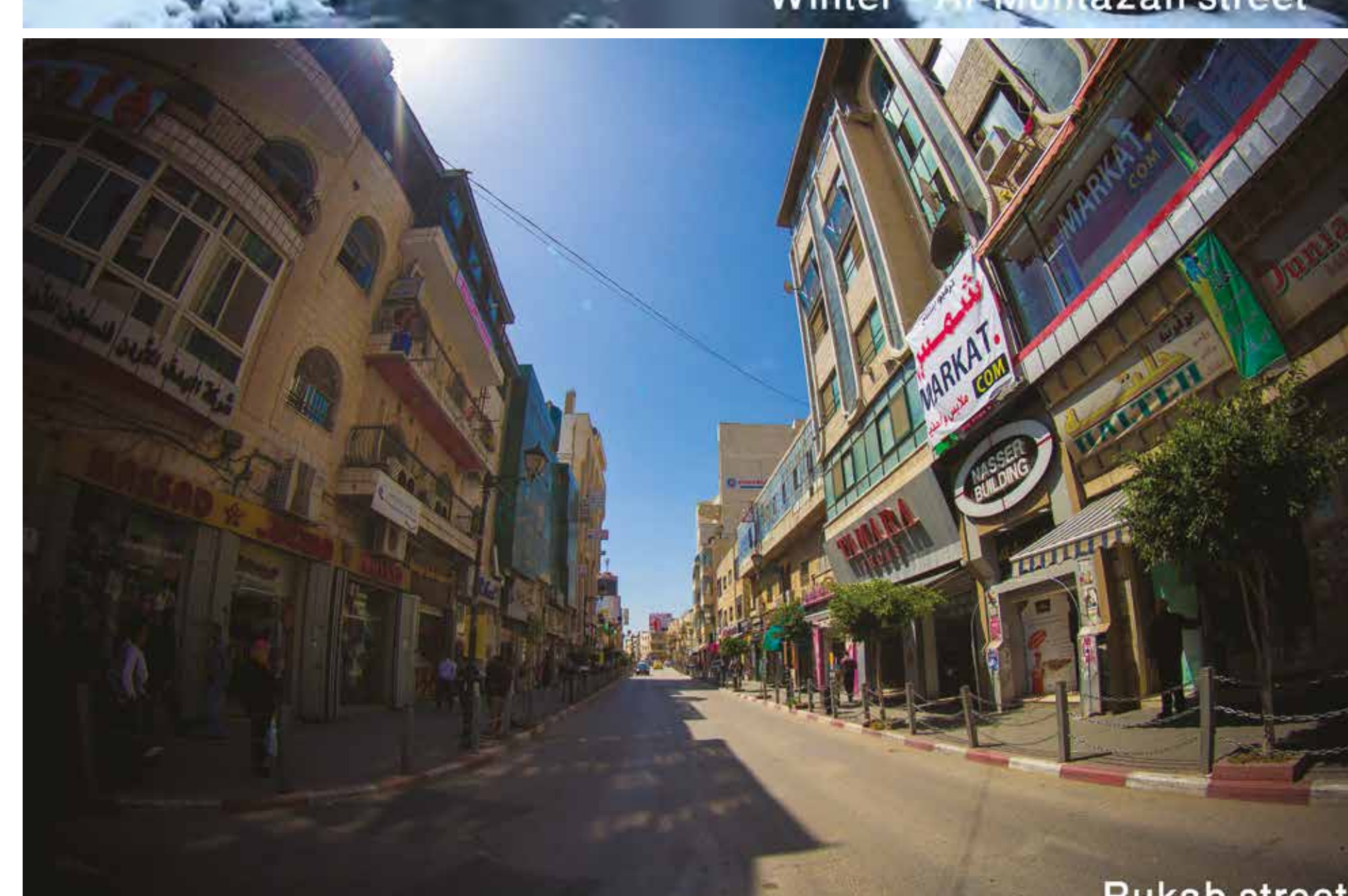
General view Ramallah 2010s



Winter - Al-Muntazah street



Spring - Al-Muntazah street



Rukab street



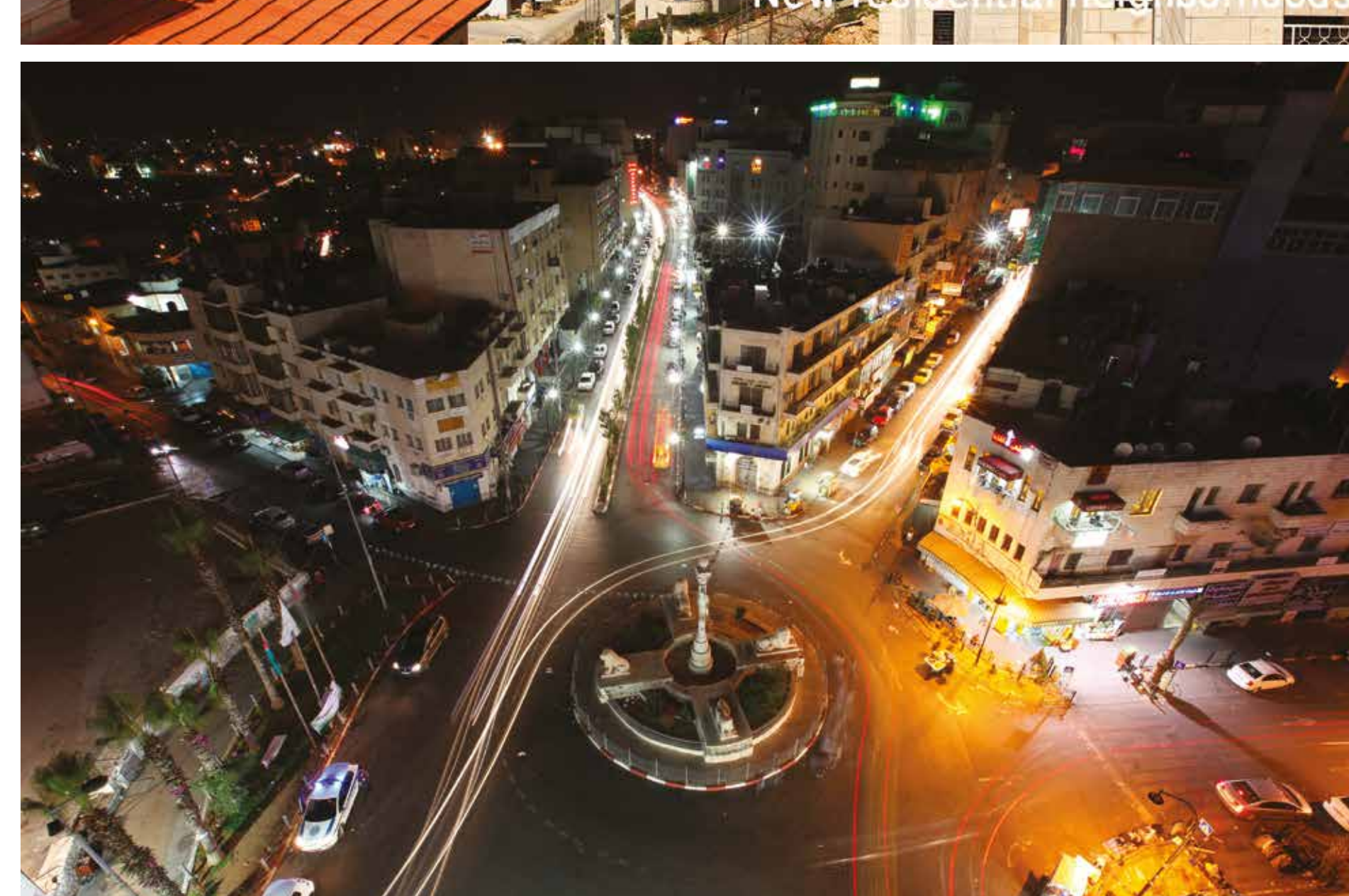
Yassir Arafat square



New Ramallah neighborhoods



View from historical town



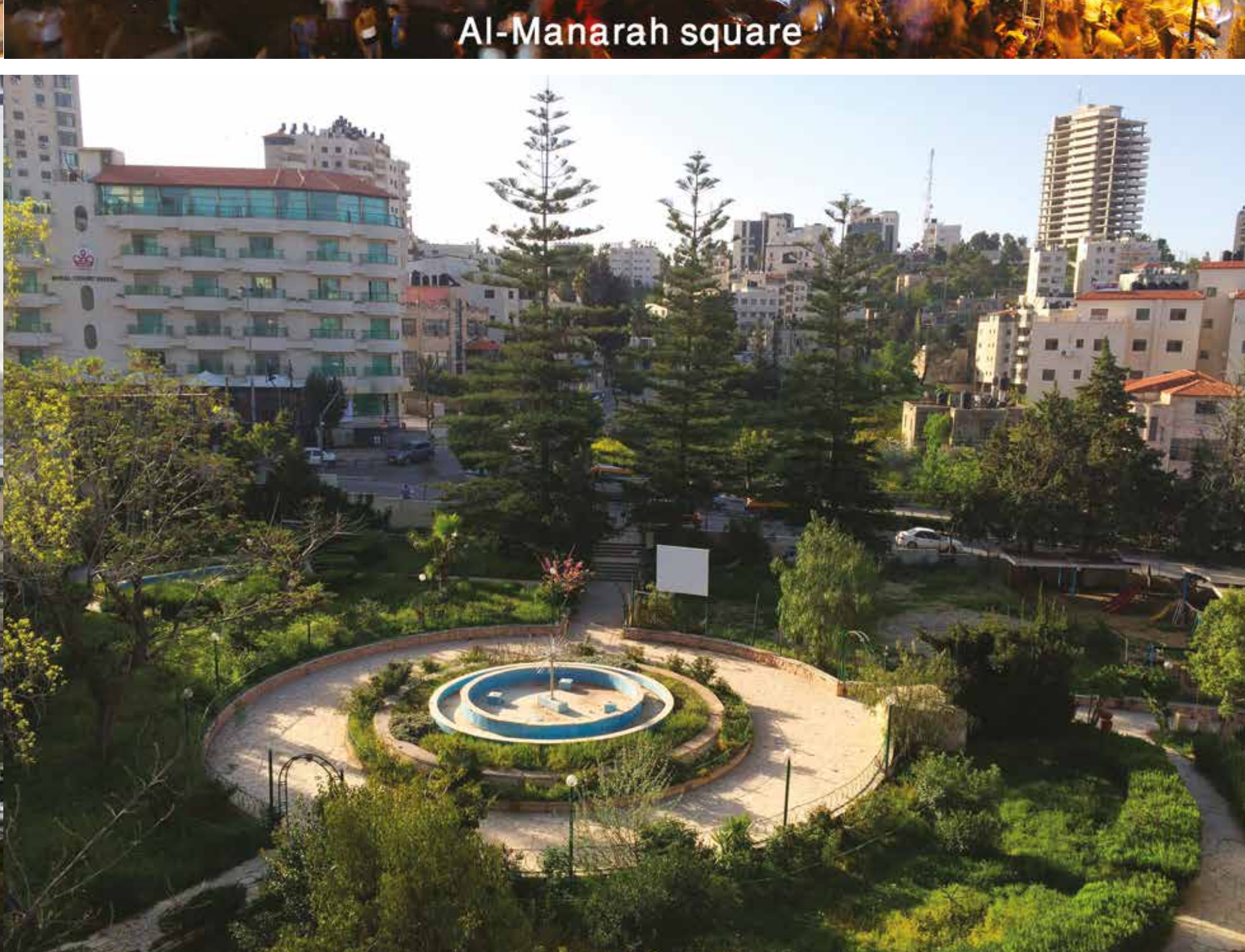
Al-Manarah square



Al-Manarah square



Winter - Ramallah Municipality park



Summer - Ramallah Municipality park

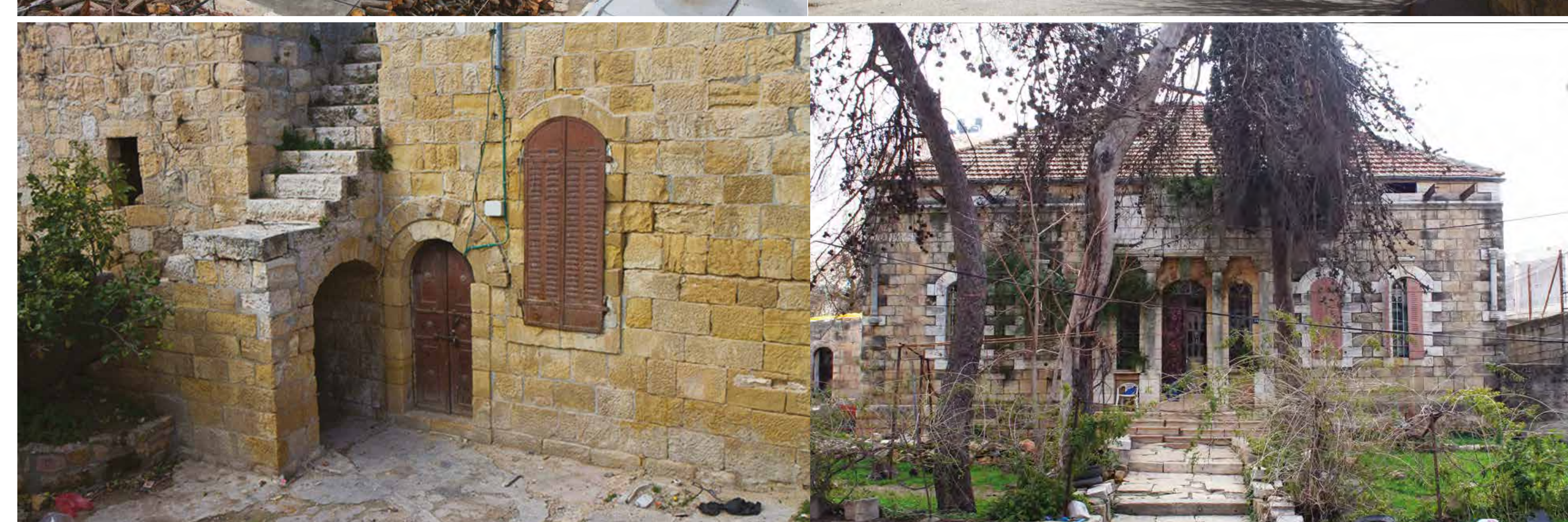


Ramallah land scape 1930s



Ramallah land scape 2010s

PATRIMOINE



«GRANDS PROJETS» VILLE

ÉVOLUTIONS URBAINES



Ramallah Municipality



Ramallah Recreational complex

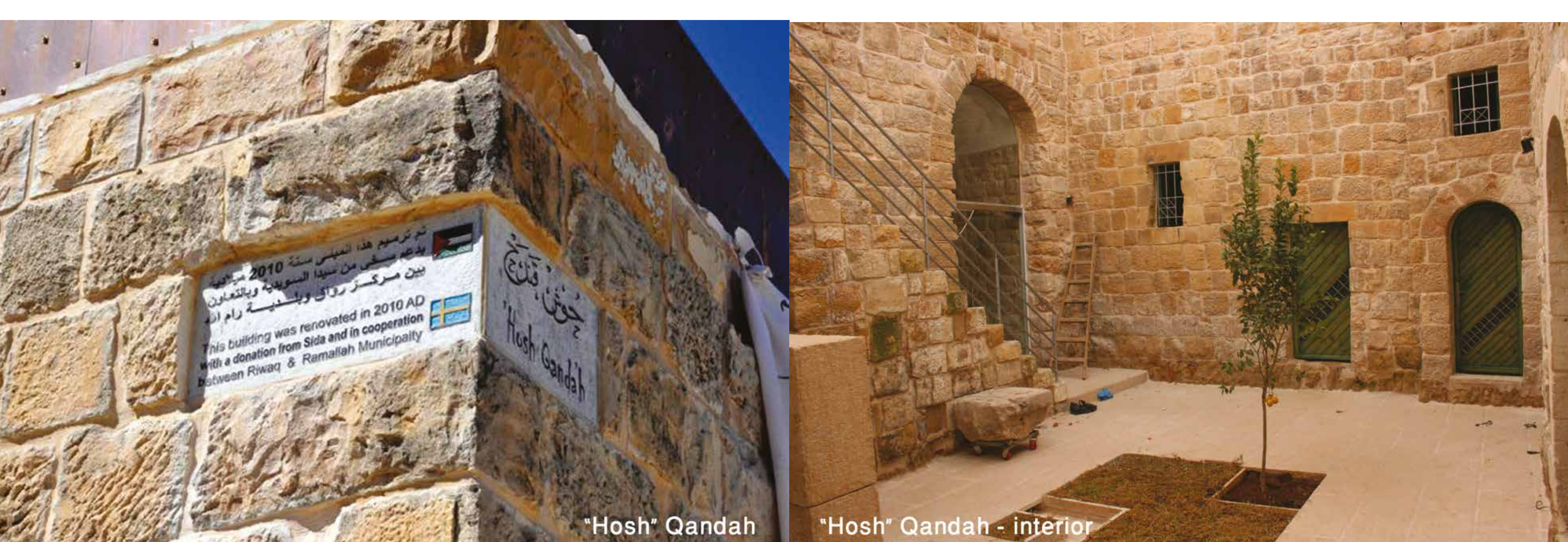


New Ramallah complex



Ramallah Recreational complex

The old police center



*Hosh Qandah

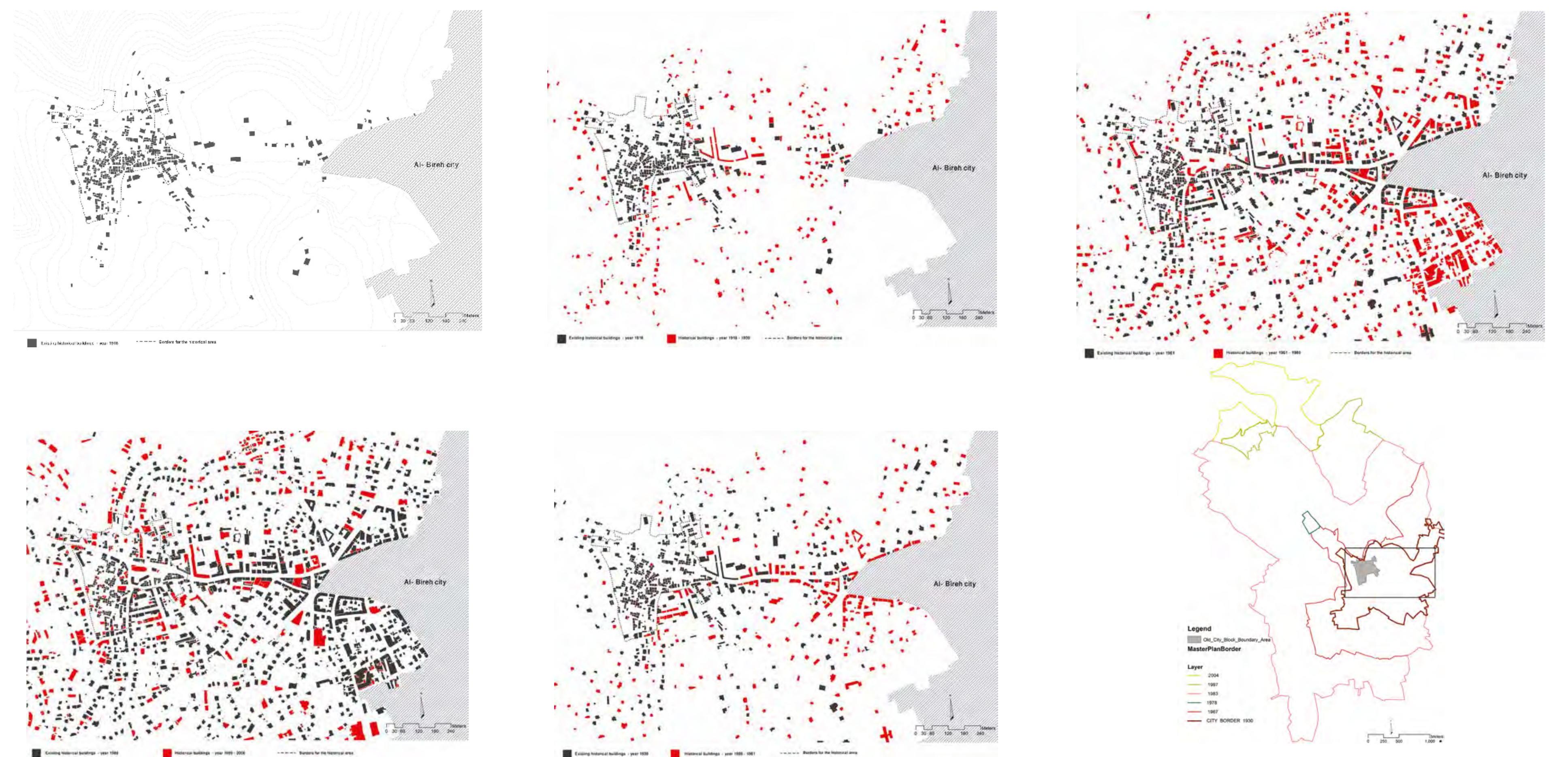
*Hosh Qandah - interior

The growing urbanization has pushed Ramallah to develop big projects for its citizen. The municipality committed itself to provide the appropriate services through many big projects under different criteria. Devoted to the resilient criteria, the city is always careful to implement its big project in the most responsible way. Those projects concern the economy through investing in new infrastructures while paying a particular attention to the environment and the new innovation.

Public institutions like the new municipality are constantly improving in order to provide the best services to citizen. New schools are being built including the project of a French Lycée, symbol of Ramallah's education and openness. Enhancing diversity and offering a green area, public spaces like the garden of nations are becoming major points in the city. Ramallah is renowned for its vibrant cultural life. Numerous infrastructures are dedicated to artists, exhibitions or performances, often using rehabilitated old buildings.



Nelson Mandela square



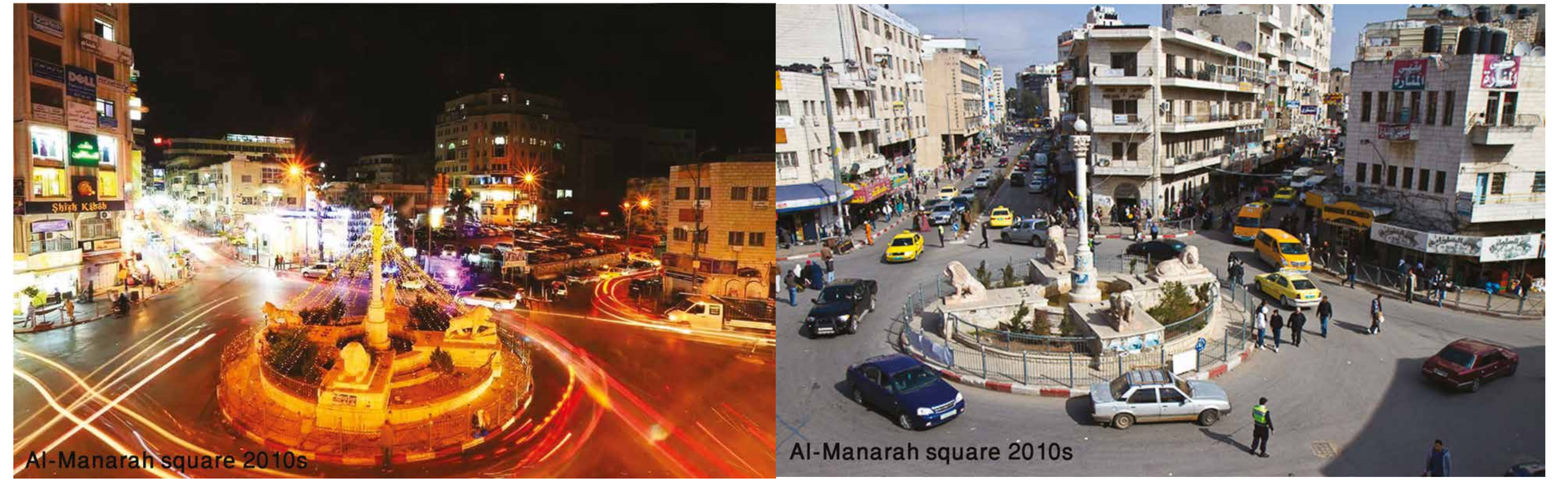
Al-Tireh stairs garden before

Al-Tireh stairs garden after



Al-Manarah square 1930s

Al-Manarah square 1950s



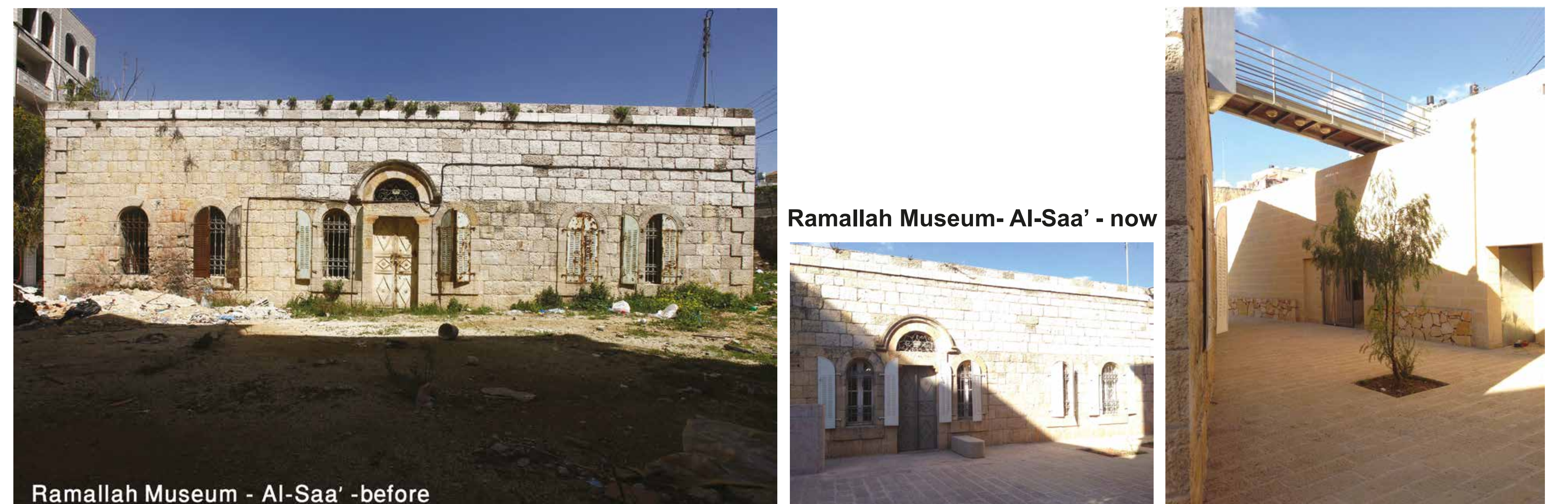
Al-Manarah square 2010s

Al-Manarah square 2010s



Dunia cinema 1980s

Dunia building 2010s



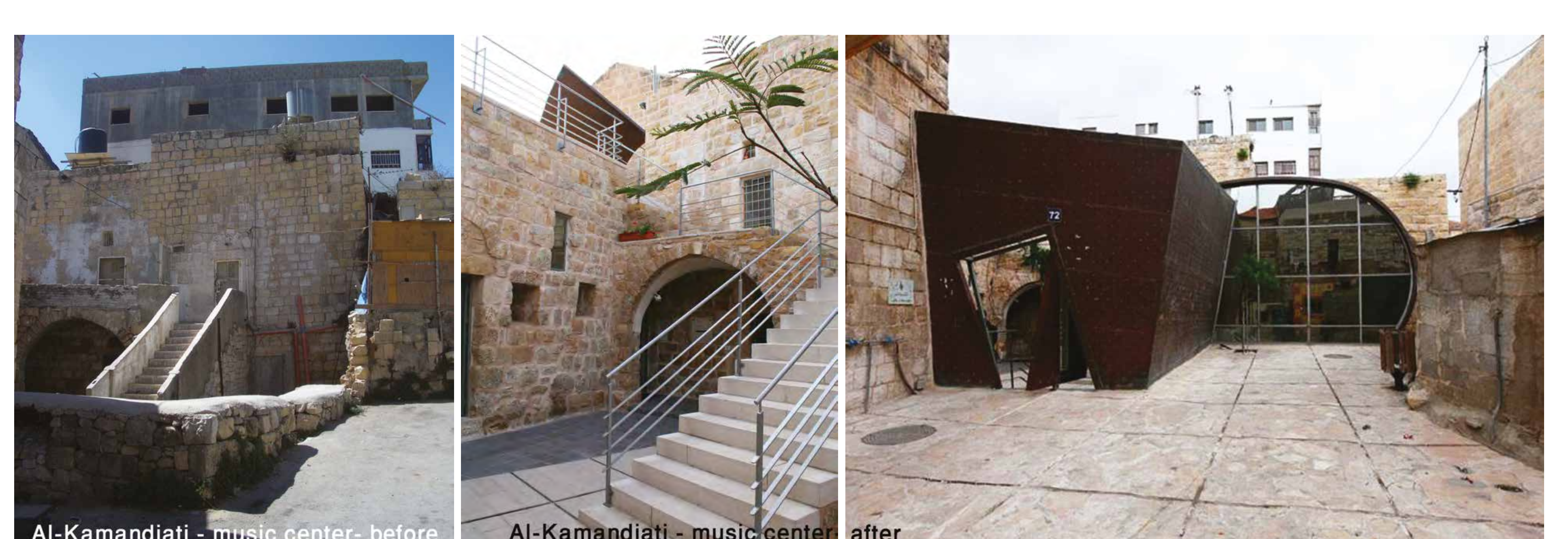
Ramallah Museum - Al-Saa' - before

Ramallah Museum - Al-Saa' - now



Tamer institution before

Tamer institution now



Al-Kamandjati - music center - before

Al-Kamandjati - music center - after

«GRANDS PROJETS» VILLE

Ramallah has undergone drastic urban evolution. It has transformed from a small town to a summer resort to become finally a fully developed city and a central hub in West Bank. The growing demography, the hilly terrain and the limited space due to the occupation have given a particular shape to the city. If it has succeeded to expand to a certain extent, since the 90s, the city is becoming more and more concentrated leading the construction of high and compact building.

The fast urbanization has come with several challenges for the city like traffic jam, hydric stress but also social exclusion and pollution. In order to ensure the best development possible, Ramallah city has joined the 100 resilient cities network. This holistic model aims to connecting cities to help facing the new challenges due to the growing urbanization. Cities learn how to resist the stress of urbanization, but also to adapt to the crisis of the global world. In addition to being a resilient city, Ramallah is fully aware of the importance of its history and its culture. The municipality is engaging in rehabilitating the olds buildings. Those rehabilitations are leading to an economic, cultural and social revitalization of the neighborhood.

Key figures:

- Percentage built/ non built : 29.5%
- Number of trees Identified : 2000 trees
- Number of plantations per year : 1000 trees per year
- Area of green space : 162748.6 m²



Mahmoud Darwish Museum



Ramallah Cultural Palace



Tourist information center



Garden of nations



Al- Tireh stairs garden



Ein-Minjed school



Radanah Horsh garden



The Ottoman court



Al- Kamandjati



AL-TEEREH WWTP
بلدية رام الله
RAMALLAH TMB

Gardens: Numbear of permanent gardeners 12 + Temporary gardeners 10 Water consumption for gardens maintenance: 6400 m3/year		
	name	Area
1	Al-Barwah garden	9000 m2
2	Al-Baiarah / Ein- Minjed garden	About 1000 m2
3	Al-Baiarah / Al Masioun garden	900m2
4	Al- Baiarah / Al Tireh garden	-----
5	Al- Baiarah / Ein- Trafeedia garden	-----
6	Alzaitounah garden	500 m2
7	Al- Kholoud garden	500m2
8	Ein- Mizrab garden	500m2
9	Al- Qaser garden	550 m2
10	Al- Tireh stairs garden	700 m2
11	Radanah Horsh garden	7000 m2
12	Yousef Qadurah garden	3200 m2
13	San Fernando garden	550 m2
14	Kamel Ajlouni garden	500 m2
15	Al- Amal garden	550 m2

ÉVOLUTIONS URBAINES



Ramallah natural landscape

Ramallah urban development landscape



Rukab street 1950s



Rukab street 2010s



Tourist information center before



Tourist information center after



Ramallah Municipality 1



Ramallah Municipality 2

Ramallah Municipality 3



Ramallah Municipality park



Ramallah Municipality park - proposed



Residential building 1960s



Residential building 2010s



Villa 1960s



Villa 2010s



Commercial building 1900s



Commercial building 1960s



Commercial building 1990s



Commercial building 2010s



Ramallah natural landscape 1900s



Ramallah natural landscape 2010s