



Restored fort at Hili viewed from the oasis

## TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS IN AL AIN

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### INTRODUCTION

Al Ain was an important regional centre in the Emirates before the advent of oil wealth and the modern development of the country. There were extensive oases of date gardens and associated agriculture, supplied by permanent groundwater supplies. Although journeys by camel from Abu Dhabi could take up to five days, families would travel to the area for the summer to avoid the heat and humidity on the coast and to supervise the date harvest from