

buildings as the fort was not meant to be a residence, only a strong point in times of conflict.



View into the inner courtyard at Jahli Fort

Jahli is a large fort complex with an external courtyard dominated by a freestanding concentric strong tower. An inner square courtyard has the main entrance set at right angles to the external entrance. This forced any attacker to traverse the full length of the courtyard to reach the second gate, all the time exposed to the defenders on the inner wall. This fort was used by the Trucial Oman Scouts as their headquarters until the federation of the United Arab Emirates.

The Murraba fort in the town centre near the coffee pot roundabout has also been restored and is still used by the police. Mraijeb fort in north Masoudi has been incorporated into a Family Garden. Forts in Hili and Mutarehdh oases await restoration and show how mud brick buildings need constant maintenance to prevent erosion, despite the dry climate.