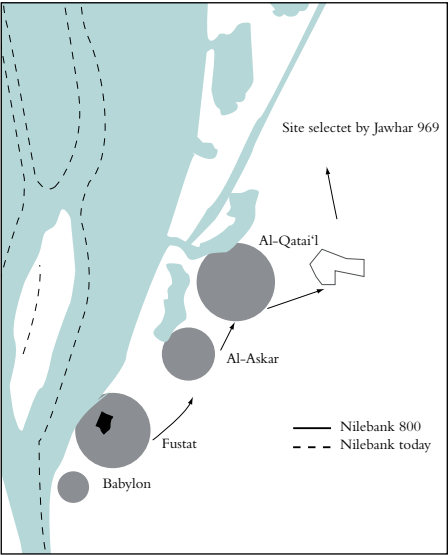


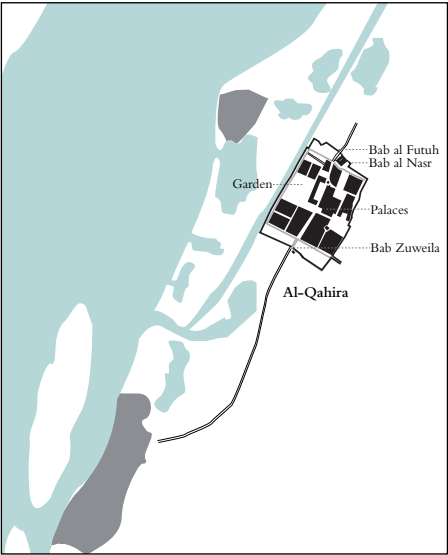
# ISLAMIC CAIRO

7.9 Mio. Admin. City  
20 Mio. Greater City

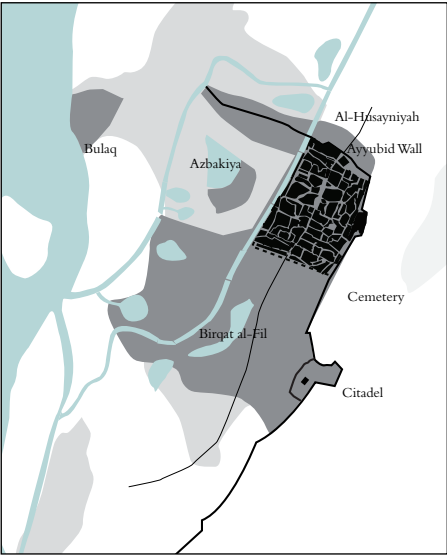
639	641	750-1258	969-1076	972	1012	1174-1250	1175	1250-1382	1309-40	1382-1517	1516-1918	1798	1801	1863	1922	1979	2010
Muslims Capture Babylon	Foundation of Fustat	Abbasid Dynasty	Fatimids Dynasty Al-Qahira	Al-Azhar	Al-Hakim	Ayyubids Salah al-Din	Madrasa system of school indtroduced	Bahri Mamluk Dynasty	Reign of Muhammed ibn Qala'un, greatest mamluk builder	Burji Mamluks	Ottoman	Napoleon	British Takeover	Enlightened Rule :Ibrahim Pasha and Muhammad Ali	Egyptian Independence	UNESCO inscription of islamic part	A.A. Mussa Wazir



**THE FIRST MUSLIM SETTLEMENTS**  
This area is a site of several cities constructed by the ancient Egyptians and the Persian Babylonians. The city of **Fustat** near the remains of the Babylonian fortress was the **first Muslim** settlement. After that, settlements as **Al-Askar** of the Abbasids and later **Al Qata'i** of Ahmed ibn Tulun were built further north. In 969 the Shi'ite **Fatimid** Caliphate conquered Egypt and developed a first plan (rectangular grid) for their city on a new site (Al-Qahira, al Mu'izz).



**FATIMIDS**  
In its early years, the Fatimid City, Al-Qahira, was **simply a royal and military refuge**. Fustat (Misr) remained a commercial metropolis. **1087** a **new wall** had to be built because Al-Qahira had expanded outside of its walls. The main street was called **Bayn al-Qasrayn** (today: Al-Muiz li-Din Allah) which means, between the palaces' and goes from Bab al Futuh to Bab al Zuweila. The structure within the walls was almost a rectangular grid with wide streets.



**AYUBBIDS (FAMILY OF SALAH AL-DIN)**  
As the Ayyubids came to power, Salah-al-Din, principle ruler, built a **gigantic wall** encircling Fustat and Al-Qahira and **opened the former princely city to the public** who began to build in its spaces and gardens, changing the old function and structure of the Fatimid's city. It was developed a very dense pattern of houses that built new streets. The **citadel** between Al-Qahira and Fustat became the seat of government during the Ayyubids reign.



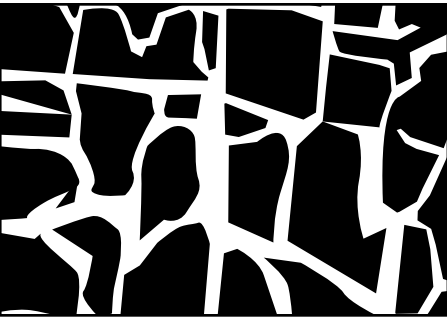
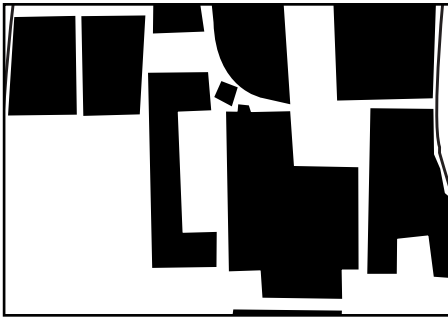
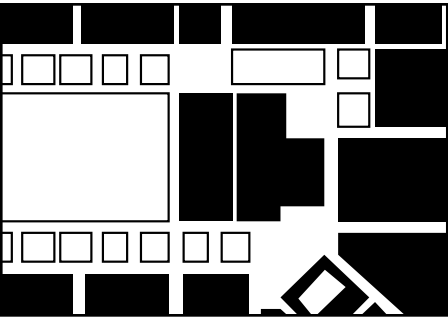
**MAMLUKS**  
During the period of the **Bahri Mamluks** Cairo experienced a great growth. It was during al Nasir's reign that Cairo experienced its greatest change and the western development was encouraged by the construction of **Khali al-Nasiri**. The Bahri Mamluks are famous for their ambitious building activity of madrasas, mosques, sabl-kuttabs etc.. Under the ruler of the **Burij Mamluks** Cairo began a remarkable recovery or revival after the plague of the Black Death and famine.



**OTTOMAN**  
With the **Ottoman** Cairo became a provincial capital. The old part of the city got less important as the centre moved westwards to **Azbakiya** (especially the elite). During the rule of **Muhammed Ali** and his successor a replanning of the streets, new zoning plans and the **restoration of monuments** became crucial. 1798 the **French invasion** influenced the structure of the city with its military strategies. New Streets as **Sharia Muski** or **Mohamed Ali Boulevard** were built.



**PRESENT**  
Due to the exponential expansion of Cairo the last few years a lot of new districts were developed and are still growing vastly. While **decentralisation** proceeds, the **islamic part** of the city is **deteriorating**. The city is endeavoured to **conserve and reconstruct the medieval heritage** but ignores the ramshakled medieval residential areas next to the monuments. **Capacity overload of traffic** is a big problem. But there are also positive developments for example the Al-Azhar park.





# MONUMENTS



Abb 1: Sabil Kuttab A. R. Kathkhuda



Abb 2: Qalawun Complex



Abb 3: Sultan Muayyad Mosque

## Legend

- Kuttab-Sabil
- Hotels
- School (Madrasa and University)
- Mosques
- Commercial
- Mainstreet of medieval architectural treasures

map:  
American Research Center of Cairo



Abb. 4: Babal-Futuh



Abb.5: Dead-End-Street



Abb. 6: Khan el-Khalili



Abb. 7:Al-Azhar Mosque



Abb. 8.: Al-Azhar Park



# AL MU'IZZ



Al Mu'izz Street

Al-Mu'izz Street is probably the oldest and most stable street of Fatimid Al-Qahira. Starting from Bab al-Futuh and ending at Bab Zuweila, it cop-rised the main spine of the city. Its structure and appearance changed continously. In the following, the influences of the empires on this street and on the monuments are documented.



Abb. 9 Sreetstructure

Structure of the Al Muizz Street: commercial buildings approachable by primary streets, resi-dential area accessible by the secondary dead end streets.

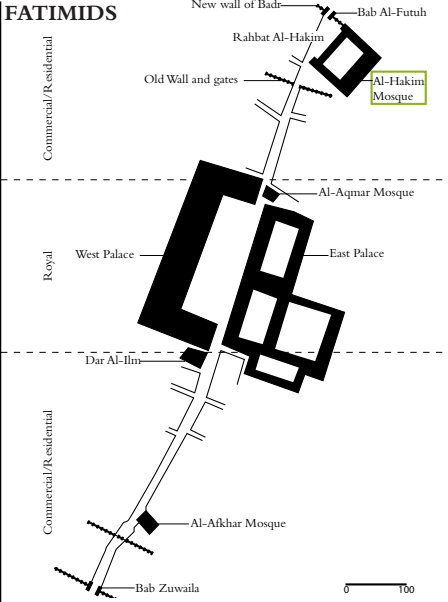
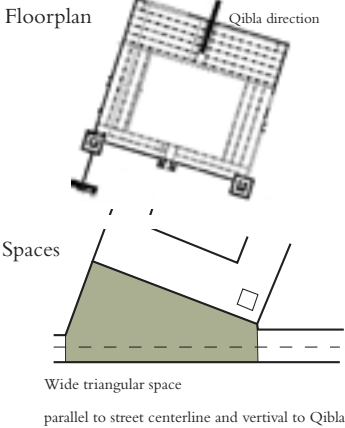


Abb. 10: Al-Hakim



Facade

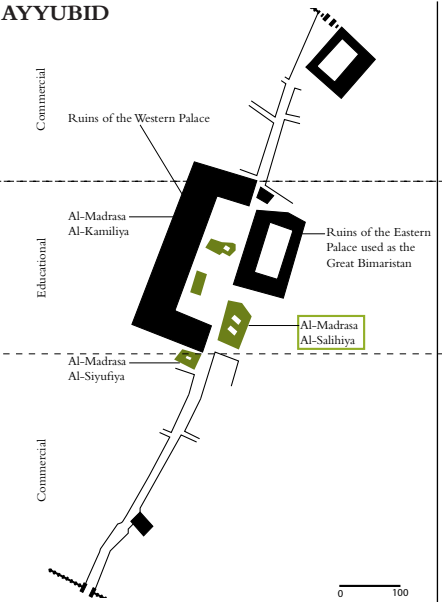


Abb. 11: Al-Salihiya

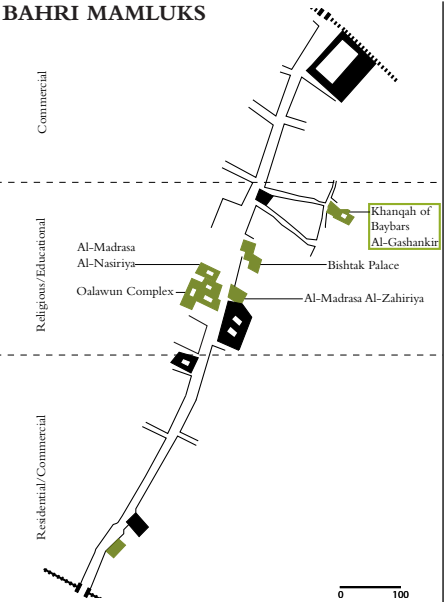
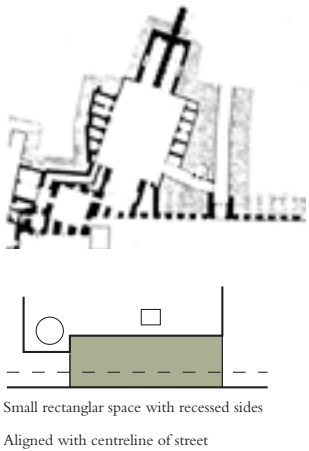


Abb. 12: Khanqah of Baybars

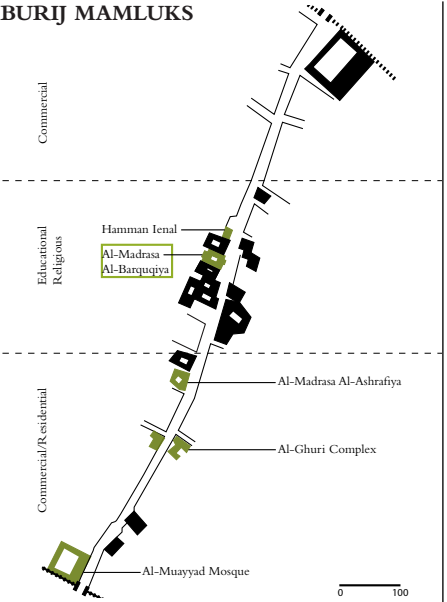
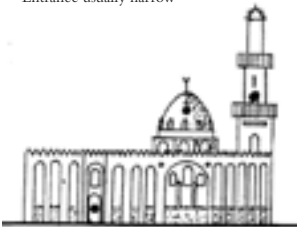
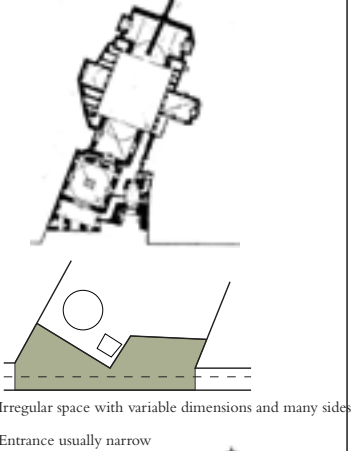


Abb. 13: Al-Madrasa Al-Barquqiya

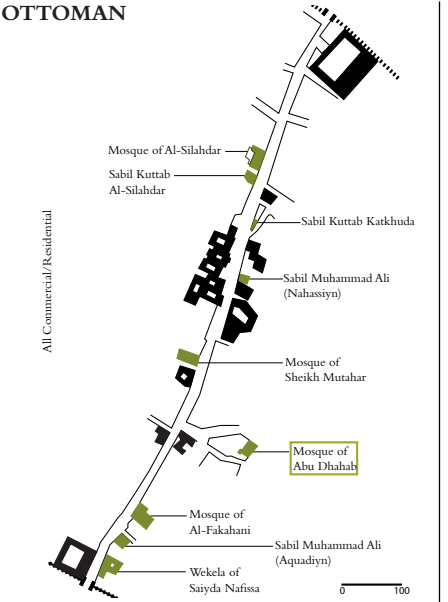
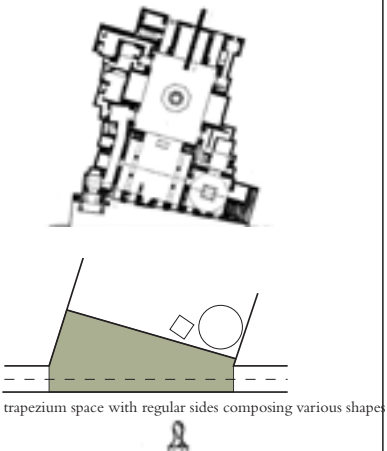
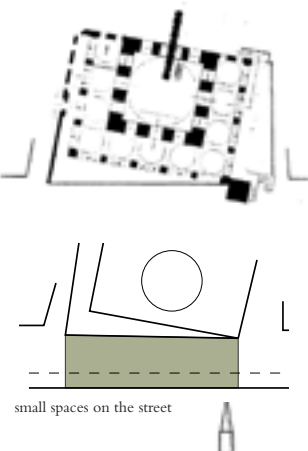


Abb. 14: Mosque of Abu Dahab



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