

## **Soumyen Bandyopadhyay**

### **Overview**

#### **Visiting Professor in Architecture and Design; School of Architecture, Design and Built Environment**

Professor Bandyopadhyay has now taken on the role of Visiting Professor, previously Professor Bandyopadhyay contributed towards the academic leadership of the School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment. He played a leading role in the development of the School's research culture by undertaking and supporting research, seeking research funding and supervising research students. Professor Bandyopadhyay was also the School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment's PGR Tutor.

Professor Bandyopadhyay contributed to the teaching of architectural design and the history and theory of architecture, and was also responsible for the development of the Master of Architecture (March with RIBA Part 2) course.

Professor Bandyopadhyay's teaching and research interests are focused on the historical, theoretical and contextual approaches to architectural design and the art and architecture of India and the Middle East. He undertakes advisory and consultancy work in urban development, regeneration, architectural and urban design and conservation.

### **Projects**

- 2005 - 2007 United States Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation: US \$28,600. Principal Investigator (with Historical Association of Oman). Towards fieldwork on the settlement of Bowsher, Oman
- 2005 – 2007 United States Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation: US \$20,000. Principal investigator (with Historical Association of Oman). Towards preparation of publication on the settlement of Manah
- 2004 - 2008 Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC): £83,170. Assessing the Contribution of Neck Chand's Rock Garden in (re)defining the popular identity of Chandigarh, India. Award period until March 2008
- 2003 Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC): £5,000. The decorated mihrab-s (prayer niches) of central Oman: documenting and tracing their origin and influences
- 2001 - 2002 Exhibition Grant (c. £15,000), The British Council, American University of Sharjah, Bait Al Zubair Museum, Emirates Airlines & University of Liverpool. Towards curating exhibition on the traditional architecture of Manah (Oman), held in Muscat, Manah and Sharjah between 2001 and 2002 and included publication of exhibition catalogue.

### **Career**

- the dwelling in Islam and notions of the sacred

- conservation in Malaysia
- conservation in Middle Eastern cities
- Nek Chand's Rock Garden
- public participation issues in conservation and regeneration
- early-Buddhist architecture in Bengal
- site and composition, inside-outside and materiality
- globalisation and identity in South Asia, Latin America and the Middle East
- recent urban development in the Middle East
- content in architecture
- the architecture of Islam and India

## **Research**

- Designed environment
- Architectural design and global difference

### **Traditional settlement, architecture, and culture of Oman and the Middle East**

The initial thrust was provided by the field study of Manah, a settlement in central Oman. Subsequently, Professor Bandyopadhyay's work has expanded into the study of aspects and components of the traditional architecture and the analysis of morphological, typological and environmental characteristics.

The work has been supported by successful grant applications to the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the US Ambassador's Fund. A curated exhibition on the architecture of Manah has toured venues in the Middle East and a new exhibition is currently being planned.

Key areas of interest:

- oasis settlements of Oman and the Middle East: urban structure, morphology, typology
- Arab-Omani social history; tribal organisation; Islamic and pre-Islamic cultural and social ideas
- modern Arab and Omani built environments
- conservation and development within historical context.

### **Trajectories of Modernity in Indian architecture and art**

The AHRC-funded project on the nature of Modernity in Indian architecture has produced important directions in the study of post-Independence Indian culture, architecture and art. The project has completed a detailed documentation of the Rock Garden created by Nek Chand in Chandigarh, which was exhibited at the RIBA gallery in Liverpool in April 2007.

Professor Bandyopadhyay is currently working on a major monograph on the Rock Garden and its relationship with the Modernist city of Chandigarh.

Key areas of interest:

- modernism and modernity since the early-19th century
- colonial architecture/minor colonial presences □  
India's post-Independence architecture.

### **Architectural design and design theory**

This area of Professor Bandyopadhyay's academic interest revolves around the process and the making of architecture and its pedagogy. Professor Bandyopadhyay is interested in exploring the complexity of the site; topography; context; notions of situatedness; and the role of history. A co-authored book on site and composition is currently in preparation.

- urban planning and design in the Middle East
- heritage site management and development plans
- urban renewal and regeneration
- designing within historical contexts

### **Publications:**

## **Research publications: Soumyen Bandyopadhyay (82 citations in IRep)**

### **Journal Articles (13 items)**

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2011. Spatial implications of Omani tribal dynamics: Hatat al-Bilad in Manah Oasis. *Orient*, 52 (1), pp. 67-73.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2010. Topographic conceptions in Omani architecture. *Seminar for Arabian Studies*, 40, pp. 29-40.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S. and JACKSON, I., 2009. Authorship and modernity in Chandigarh: Gandhi Bhavan and Kiran Cinema by Pierre Jeanneret and Edwin Maxwell Fry. *The Journal of Architecture*, 4 (6), pp. 687-713.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S. and JACKSON, I., 2008. Nek Chand's rock garden and Le Corbusier in Chandigarh: reconsidering the primitive. *South African Journal of Art History*, 22 (2), pp. 115-126.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2004. Harat al-Bilad (Manah): tribal pattern, settlement structure and architecture. *Journal of Oman Studies*, 13, pp. 183-263. [IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2003. Delhi: urban space and human destinies. *Global Built Environment Review*, 3 (1), pp. 66-67.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2002. The roots of Omani decorated 'Mihrab-s'. *PDO News*, (2), pp. 22-28.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2002. Problematic aspects of synthesis and interpretation in the study of traditional built environment. *Global Built Environment Review*, 2 (2), pp. 16-28.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2001. Manah, the gift of God. *PDO News*, (1), pp. 20-26.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1999. The deserted settlement of Manah in central Oman. *Bulletin of the Society for Arabian Studies*, 4, pp. 13-16.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1998. Invocation of tradition: the recent work of Charles Correa. *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review*, 10 (1), pp. 54-55. [IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1996. Representation of the cultural palimpsest: the case of Manah in inner Oman. *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review*, 8 (1), pp. 30-31.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1992. The traditional architecture of Oman. *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review*, 4 (1), pp. 64-65.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

### **Book (7 items)**

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., ed., 2013. *College Conference: Re-defining Research, 8 July 2010: conference proceedings*. Nottingham: Nottingham Trent University: CADBE.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., and GARMA MONTIEL, G., eds., 2013. *The territories of identity: architecture in the age of evolving globalization*. London: Routledge.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2011. *Manah: Omani Oasis, Arabian legacy; architecture and social history of an Omani Oasis settlement*. Muscat & Liverpool: Historical Association of Oman & Liverpool University Press.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., TEMPLE, N., LOMHOLT, J. and TOBE, R., eds., 2010. The humanities in architectural design. London: Routledge.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S. and TEMPLE, N., eds., 2007. Thinking practice: reflections on architectural research and building work. London: Black Dog Publishing. [IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S. and JACKSON, I., 2007. The collection, the ruin and the theatre: architecture, sculpture and landscape in Nek Chand's rock garden. Chandigarh: Liverpool University Press.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2001. Manah: a gift of God, the architecture of a deserted Omani settlement. Muscat: Historical Association of Oman.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

### **Book Chapters (25 items)**

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., TEMPLE, N., LOMHOLT, J. and TOBE, R., 2010. [Introduction]. In: S. BANDYOPADHYAY, N. TEMPLE, J. LOMHOLT and R. TOBE, eds., The humanities in architectural design. London: Routledge, 2010, p. xiv-xxi.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2008. From another world! A possible Buyid origin of the decorated 'Mihrab' of central Oman? In: E. OLIJDAM, ed., Intercultural relations between South and Southeast Asia, studies in commemoration of E.C.L. during Caspers (1934-1966). Oxford: Archaeopress, 2008, pp. 372-382.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2007. [Introduction]. In: S. BANDYOPADHYAY and N. TEMPLE, eds., Reflections on architectural research and building work. London: Black Dog Publishing, 2007, pp. 4-13.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2007. [Conclusion]. In: S. BANDYOPADHYAY and N. TEMPLE, eds., Reflections on architectural research and building work. London: Black Dog Publishing, 2007, pp. 184-186.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2007. The foreigner, situated moments and topographic healing. In: S. BANDYOPADHYAY and N. TEMPLE, eds., Reflections on architectural research and building work. London: Black Dog Publishing, 2007, pp. 58-75.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2006. Interpretation of heritage sites and assessing cultural significance: the enclosed 'Zara' of Harat al-Bilad (Manah Oasis). In: Conservation of earthen structures in the Arab states. Grenoble: UNESCO World Heritage Centre; CRATerreENSAG., 2006, pp. 75-87.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S. and TEMPLE, N., 2006. Contemplating the unfinished: architectural drawing and the fabricated ruin. In: M. FRASCARI, ed., From models to drawings: imagination and representation in architecture. London: Taylor & Francis/ Routledge, 2006, pp. 109-119.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2005. The deconstructed courtyard: dwellings of Central Oman. In: B. EDWARDS, ed., Courtyard housing: past, present and future. Abingdon; New York: Taylor & Francis, 2005, pp. 109-121.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2005. Problematic aspect of synthesis and interpretation in the study of traditional Omani built environment. In: T. SHAKUR, ed., Cities in transition: transforming the global built environment. Altrincham: Open House Press, 2005, pp. 15-30.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2005. Diversity in unity: an analysis of settlement structure of Harat al-'Aqr, Nizwa (Oman). In: Proceedings of the seminar for Arabian studies. 2005, pp. 19-36.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2004. Harat al-Bilad (Manah): glimpses of a complexity of ideas and concepts. In: H. AL TAIE, ed., Pride. Muscat: Al Roya, 2004, pp. 54-58.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S. and SIBLEY, M., 2003. The distinctive typology of central Omani mosques: its nature and antecedents. In: Proceedings of the seminar for Arabian studies. 2003, pp. 99-116.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., AHMED, Y. and YEOMANS, D., 2002. Conservation of world heritage cities in Asia and the Pacific: the changing scope of heritage since the Venice Charter 1964. In: 2nd Post-Graduate Conference Proceedings. University of Salford, 2002.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., KNIGHT, M., BERRIDGE, P. and BROWN, A., 2001. Digital hindcasting: critical analysis through virtual reconstruction. In: eCAADe19: architectural information management. 2001, pp. 529-533.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2001. Deserted and disregarded: the architecture of Bilad Manah in central Oman. In: Archéologie Islamique. 2001, pp. 131-168.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2000. Manah: the deserted enchantress. In: S. AL ZAKHWANI, ed., Tribute. Muscat: Apex, 2000, pp. 161-176.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2000. From the twilight of cultural memory: the 'Bumah' in the mosques of central Oman. In: Proceedings of the seminar for Arabian studies. 2000, pp. 13-25.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1998. Iconography, ideogram and the 'Intentio Auctoris': the recent work of Charles Correa. In: Invocations of tradition in pedagogy. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998, pp. 17-42.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1996. Representation of the cultural palimpsest: the case of Manah in Oman, with special reference to the relationship of water to the places of worship. In: Multiple voices/contested representations: imagery and identity. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996, pp. 1-38.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1994. The deserted village of Manah: an Ibadi-Omani settlement: a brief description of settlement pattern and dwellings. In: C. COCKBURN, ed., Architecture and planning in the developing world. University of York, 1994, pp. 37-43.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1994. Settlement planning and housing in modern Oman: a climatologically appropriate solution? In: Buildings and the environment. Watford; Rotterdam: Central Institute of Building (CIB), Nederland & Building Research Establishment (BRE), 1994.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1994. Affordability: some recent findings from the Indian scene. In: Proceedings of the second symposium on housing for the urban poor: housing, poverty and developing countries. European Network on Housing Research (ENHR), 1994.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1993. Housing and modern built environment in Oman. In: A. ELGOHARY, ed., Proceedings of the 10th inter-schools conference on development. University College London, 1993, pp. 43-54.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

comfort conditions. In: Proceedings of the 20 th IAHS world congress on housing. Birmingham; Miami: International Association of Housing Science (IAHS), 1992, pp. 1-18.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1992. Rethinking progress: the case of Oman, an investigation into its built environment. In: Housing, squatter communities and tradition. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1992, pp. 1-38.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

## Conference Proceedings (24 items)

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., QUATTRONE, G. and AL-ABRI, H.N., 2013. In times of war: typological and morphological characteristics in Hārat al-Yemen in Izkī, Oman. In: L. WEEKS and J. WATSON, eds., Proceedings of the Seminar for Arabian Studies, 43, pp. 27-46.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

QUATTRONE, G. and BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2012. Integrating heritage management with development. Sustainable conservation and developmental guidelines for Harat as-Saybanl, Barkat al-Mawz, Oman. In: HERITAGE 2012, 3rd International Conference on Heritage and Sustainable Development, Porto, June 2012.

**IRep - full text** [full text](#)

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2008. [Keynote speaker]. In: City Identity: an Architectural Dialogue(international conference), Muscat: Government of the Sultanate of Oman, 11-13 January 2008.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2007. [Invited session chair]. In: The Role of the Humanities in Design Creativity (international conference), University of Lincoln, Lincoln, 15-16 November 2007.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S. and TEMPLE, N., 2006. Contemplating the unfinished. In: AHRA Annual International Conference, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, November 2006.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2005. The core settlements of central Oman: Nizwa, Bahla and Manah [keynote presentation]. In: Built Environments for Sustainable Tourism: Enhancing the Environment, Cultural Diversity, and Destination Image, UNESCO/WTO/Government of Oman, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, February 2005.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2004. Diversity in unity: an analysis of settlement structure of Harat al-'Aqr, Nizwa (Oman). In: 38 th Seminar for Arabian Studies, London, July 2004.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2003. Conservation of an oasis settlement: the case of Manah. In: Regional Conference on the Conservation of Earthen Structures in Arab Countries. UNESCO/ Government of Oman, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, 15-17 December 2003.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S. and SIBLEY, M., 2002. The distinctive typology of central Omani mosques. In: 36th Seminar for Arabian Studies, London, 18-20 July 2002.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2000. Contribution on Omani traditional architecture and archaeology. In: Historic Oman: Cultures, Contacts, Environment, British Museum, London, July 17-19 2000.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2000. Contribution on Arabian archaeology and traditional architecture. In: 34th Seminar for Arabian Studies, London, 21-24 July 2000.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1999. The walled settlement of Bilad Manah: fortification and defense features. In: German and International Research on Oman 1999 , Conference, Bonn, 2-3 July 1999.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1999. 'Bumah' in the mosques of central Oman. In: 33rd Seminar for Arabian Studies, London, 15-17 July 1999.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1998. The mosques of Manah in central Oman: investigation of their form and features. In: German and International Research on Oman: Conference - Bonn, Germany, 20 June 1998.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1998. Speculation on the formal morphology of the mosques of Manah. In: 2nd International Conference on Oman, Bonn, June 1998.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1998. Invocation of tradition: the British Council headquarters in Delhi by Charles Correa. In: 6th International IASTE Conference, Cairo, 15-19 December 1998.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1998. Contribution on traditional Omani architecture. In: 28th Seminar for Arabian Studies, London, 16-18 July 1998.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1996. The Mosques of Manah: form, location and meaning. In: 5th International IASTE Conference, Berkeley, USA, 14-17 December 1996.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1995. The cultural collage: explorations through a design project. In: Theatres of Decolonization Conference, Chandigarh, India, 6-10 January 1995.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1994. Who can have a 'pucca' house in India? In: 2nd Symposium on Housing for the Poor, Housing, Poverty and Developing Countries. Birmingham 11-14 April 1994.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1994. Settlement planning and housing in modern Oman: a critical view [poster presentation]. In: Building and the Environment International Conference, BRE, Watford, 16-20 May 1994.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1994. Manah: an Ibadi-Omani settlement. In: 11th InterSchools Conference at York, University of York, 28-29 March 1994.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1993. Progress and housing in Oman. In: 10th InterSchools Conference on Development, Bartlett School of Planning and Architecture, UCL, London, 29-30 March 1993.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 1992. What is progress? Development vs. tradition, the cultural ecology of dwellings and settlements. In: 3rd International IASTE Conference, Paris, France, 8-11 October 1992.

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### **Exhibition (6 items)**

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2007. The collection, the ruin and the theatre: Nek Chand's rock garden in Chandigarh. Principal curator of an exhibition held at Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Gallery, Liverpool, April-May 2007. [IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2005. Manah: a gift of God, the architecture of a deserted Omani settlement. Curator of an exhibition held at the BEST International Conference, Muscat, Oman, 2 June 2005.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2005. Manah: a gift of God, the architecture of a deserted Omani settlement. Curator of an exhibition held at the Arabian Arts Festival at the University of Liverpool, 2006.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2002. Manah: a gift of God, the architecture of a deserted Omani settlement. Curator of an exhibition held at Malik bin Faham School, Manah, Oman, 9-22 February 2002.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2002. Manah: a gift of God, the architecture of a deserted Omani settlement. Curator of an exhibition held at American University at Sharjah, UAE, 5-19 March 2002.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2001. Manah: a gift of God, the architecture of a deserted Omani settlement. Curator of an exhibition held at Bait Al Zubair Museum, Muscat, Oman, April - September 2001.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

## Reports (7 items)

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2006. Muscat urban renewal master plan. Muscat: Muscat Municipality, Government of Oman.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2005. Muscat development plan: approach and scope. Muscat: Muscat Palace Office, Government of Oman.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2005. Bahla Fort and Oasis world heritage site management plan [vols 1-4 and executive summary]. Paris: UNESCO & Muscat: Ministry of Heritage and Culture, Government of Oman.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2005. Bahla Fort and Oasis world heritage site management plan [vols 1-4 and executive summary]. Paris: UNESCO & Muscat: Ministry of Heritage and Culture, Government of Oman.

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BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2004. Muscat ceremonial route: design appraisal. Muscat: Palace Office, Government of Oman.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2004. Development of Al 'Aqr traditional area, Nizwa [vols 1-4] . Muscat: Ministry of Regional Municipalities, Government of Oman. [IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available

BANDYOPADHYAY, S., 2003. Conservation of national heritage site of Harat al Bilad (Manah): approach, strategy and preliminary proposal [vols 1-2]. Muscat: Ministry of Heritage and Culture, Government of Oman.

[IRep - record](#) - no full-text currently available



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