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Recipient Cognition and House Identity in Jordanian Architecture

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ABSTRACT This paper deals with the major features of the architectural movement in Jordan and focuses on its housing aspect. Viewing the intellectual backgrounds of several distinguished architects in recent decades in Jordan, the paper explains the differences and main characteristics of this movement and outlines the discrepancy in today's individual experience of architectural housing in Jordanian contemporary society. As a result the paper finds out that this movement has introduced new values which have affected house shaping. Hence, the paper has embarked on the problem of collision between the recipient and house reality. It has also highlighted the unavoidable significance of two outstanding architectural schools in the country: one pursues the historical terms of legacy; the other adopts modern attitudes in housing. Both schools have employed techniques that maintained impact on visual formation in spite of the stone specifics. Finally, the author has opted in this paper the methodology of defining the identity of the house build and that of the recipient culture, and has closed it with concrete conclusions.