

Wadi Al-Rashrash Rest House, an archaeological and architectural study**Dr. Magda Ali Abd Al KhaleqAl Sheikha****Lecturer of Islamic Archaeology - Department of Islamic Archaeology - Faculty of
Archaeology - Cairo University**magdaali1982@yahoo.com**Abstract:**

Rest houses were known in ancient times, as they were known during successive Islamic eras, where the caliphs were keen to build palaces, camps and rest houses in the desert for the purpose of hunting and recreation. The Fatimids, the Ayyubids, and the Mamluks, and during the era of the Alawiya dynasty, many rest houses were built, whether near the cities or what was built in the desert for the purpose of recreation and practicing the hobby of hunting, including the rest area of Wadi Al-Rashrash, which is located southeast of the city of Cairo at the well of Wadi Al-Rarash, The components of which are located on an area of 30 acres, in which ten buildings were built, the largest of which is the King's Lounge. Behind this restroom, the princes' rest houses, kitchens, stores and bathroom towers were all painted in a light brown colour, Horse stables, a canopy for orchestras, a flat square of flat stone to spread benches and tables on, barracks for soldiers, a residence for the chieftain, and a hunting place known as al-Nusra.

In front of all this lies the farm, cages of ostriches and deer, and a water well, and on the top of the southern mountain is the flag of ancient Egypt with a crescent and three stars. It is the only old flag raised on the land of Egypt since the revolution, and the shape and color of the flag changed several times. It is made of metal, which was installed about 70 years ago to be used in determining wind directions. The rest houses were divided into two parts, the first section includes the building for the rest house and the deer garden, and the second section includes the rest of the rest buildings.

The research aims to study the Wadi Al-Rashrash Rest House, an archaeological and architectural study, with the aim of determining its components, the architectural design of each part, whether from the inside or the outside, the purpose for which it was built, and the current situation of the rest house after nearly a hundred years of its establishment, and introducing its importance due to what it represents from A great architectural and historical value dating back to the period of the rule of the Alawiya dynasty.

Keywords:

Wadi al-Rashrash - resting - hunting - the Alawiya dynasty_ the desert.