

# Documenting Arab Properties in Western Jerusalem

## A. Problems of Documentation: The A.S.S. Survey <sup>1</sup>

*Ahmad Jadallah and Khalil Tufakji*

**T**he documentation of Arab properties in West Jerusalem became a pressing issue following the Madrid Conference and the Oslo agreements, which left the issues of refugees and the right of return, settlements, and Jerusalem for final status negotiations. While these complicated issues require significant research and documentation, Israel has continued its policies of Judaizing Jerusalem, evicting Palestinian residents of the city and expanding settlements. New allegations have also surfaced concerning Jewish ownership of property in East Jerusalem (the Old City and Silwan prior to 1948).

As a result of these developments, the Arab Studies Society (A.S.S.) began to prepare documentation and research on Arab properties in West Jerusalem. The research team gathered information pertaining to the location of properties, the type of building, and an evaluation of the properties prior to the 1948 war. Additional information was collected regarding the current status of the property (i.e. whether a building was demolished and if so what replaced the building).

The research team faced many difficulties and obstacles. First, the study was undertaken some fifty years after the dispersal of Palestinian Arabs from West Jerusalem and the loss of their properties. For half a century the subject of Arab property was enveloped in silence and ambiguity. In this regard the work of Sami Hadawi was the exception.<sup>2</sup> Hadawi was the head of the Survey Section in the Land Department during the British Mandate over Palestine. With the assistance of Frank Jarvis, the British land expert who joined the PCC in 1956, the two men authorized by the Palestine Conciliation Commission, carried out (between 1952 and 1964) a survey of all Arab properties in the areas that fell under Israeli control, including Arab properties in West Jerusalem.<sup>2</sup> In 1958 Hadawi published a map (reprinted in this volume) detailing the results of the survey and distinguishing

Arab from Jewish properties. The bulk of the PCC survey was deposited in the UN archives in New York, and except for the governments of the regional parties, was not available or accessible to the public.

With this background the Arab Studies Society in Jerusalem began to gather data from Jerusalem families who lost their property and who continued to live in Palestine. The study team discovered that many of the original owners had passed away but the documents that proved ownership of property were preserved by younger family members. Several families however did not possess such documentation. Some lost their papers in the process of emigration and exile. Others did not take their documents with them during the war, thinking that they would return to their homes shortly. When they realized that the situation was deteriorating many owners attempted to return to their home to retrieve documents and money. Some refugees were killed attempting to return to their homes.

The study team also found that among those property owners who did not possess documents, many attempted to acquire copies of their documents from the Land Registry in Israel (*Tabu*). Increasingly this department later became non-accessible to these searches when the Israeli authorities discovered that the original Arab owners were attempting to establish proof of their title deeds. At the same time, the collection of documents identifying Arab properties began to disappear from the shelves of the Hebrew University [National] library. The research team also came under severe criticism from Palestinian sources for not dealing with this issue earlier when the original owners of West Jerusalem property were still alive and prior to the demolition of some their buildings during the last five years.

The result of this ongoing study is a preliminary examination of Arab properties in West Jerusalem confiscated by Israel. Ownership of these properties was later transferred from the Custodian of Absentee Property to the Israeli state and individual owners. The documentation file was opened after the research team was able to identify and contact property owners, their families, and their neighbours. The documentation process was limited mostly to owners still residing in Palestine. The largest number of such owners from West Jerusalem, however, today resides outside Palestine. The latter group consisted primarily of people involved in administrative and commercial professions. They settled down in Arab countries, particularly in the Gulf, which needed skilled professionals. Several of these families are original residents of Jordan, such as the Besharat and Helash families, or Lebanon—such as the Samaha and Haddad families. Others emigrated to other Arab countries and abroad to join with family members who had migrated earlier. This group includes families like Kalibian, Hannush, Kittaneh, Minah, and Malikian, losing all contacts with their homeland. Following the documentation of property owners inside Palestine, the team was supposed to begin documenting property

owners outside Palestine but the lack of resources and access has postponed this process indefinitely.

The research group discovered that many of the properties in West Jerusalem were Islamic or Christian endowments (*waqf*). Although the Islamic Waqf Administration cooperated with our requests, the research team found that the documentation of this property was dispersed and poorly organized, requiring immense resources to codify. Much of the Christian Waqf and church property remains intact. Information about those properties was gathered from the *Tabu*, and lease contracts. When *Tabu* records were not available tax receipts were utilized.

### **Scope and Nature of Documentation**

The A.S.S. study of Arab properties in West Jerusalem included the Arab suburbs within the 1948 Jerusalem municipal boundaries, including Upper Baq'a, Lower Baq'a, Talbiya, Mamillah, Nebi Dawood, Qatamon, Sheikh Bader, Musrara, Juret al-'Ennab, Jaffa Gate, German Colony, and Greek Colony. It also included Jewish suburbs such as Romeima, Rehavia, Talpiot, Sanhedriya, Montifiore, and Mekor Haim.

Several factors led to the dispersion of buildings southwest of Jerusalem outside the Old City walls. Overcrowding combined with natural population growth led people to consider moving to the new suburbs. The establishment of the German Colony in the vicinity of al-Baq'a by German immigrants in 1773 created new conditions which encouraged people to move outside the walls. The growth of Jerusalem outside the walls was further encouraged by the construction of a railway between Jerusalem and Jaffa, as well as the construction of a police station to protect the line, which passed through sparsely populated areas in Baq'a, Beit Safafa, and Malha. Palestinians educated in private mission schools and abroad sought to build modern homes combining European and traditional Arab architectural features. They were particularly influenced by the architecture of the German Templers in the Holy Land. The western suburbs were so desirable because they provided open spaces and fresh air in contrast to the congestion of the old city.

The A.S.S. property survey clearly indicates that Palestinian families who moved to the Western suburbs at the turn of the century were primarily of rich and middle class backgrounds. Heavy building activity went unabated during the two World Wars, including on land owned by Christian and Muslim endowments and the Jerusalem Municipality. Commercial areas sprawled onwards from the Jaffa Gate towards the northwest (Jaffa Road), while light industrial enterprises and services established shops in Mamillah and Shama'a neighbourhoods.

## B. Notes on the Landowners Record of the UN Conciliation Commission for Palestine for Urban West Jerusalem in 1948

*Salman Abu-Sitta*

In 1948 and before, Jerusalem was the hub of Palestine's religious, political and cultural activity. Its inhabitants were Palestinian families of ancient ancestry, Palestinian and foreign religious orders, and pilgrims of all faiths who stayed over the ages to live in Jerusalem.

The richer classes built fine homes in the western suburbs of the city. From a material point of view, the value of the land and buildings in west Jerusalem, as real estate, was much greater than any other Palestinian city in proportion to its size. When it was occupied by Jewish forces in 1948, tens of trucks were loaded with movable properties looted from Palestinian homes. This continued for at least six months until the end of 1948. Furniture, clothes, carpets, libraries, works of art, jewelry, even doors and windows, were piled high in trucks, destined to high ranking officers and Mapai leaders (see Tom Segev's writings). A frenzied rush to select the finest Palestinian homes to occupy soon followed. Even today, Palestinian homes, or 'Arab houses' as the Israelis refer to them, fetch the highest prices.

The land and immovable property luckily had a better fate. The work of the UN Conciliation Commission for Palestine (UNCPP), described elsewhere in this book, made fairly good records of this property.

### **Palestinian Ownership of Land**

In 1948, Israel occupied 272,735 dunums of Jerusalem sub-district and managed to depopulate 39 localities, including West Jerusalem. Table 1 gives 24 items of information about each of these localities and their dispossessed inhabitants. It is taken from *Al Nakba Register* which gives the same information for 531 depopulated localities in occupied Palestine in the 1948 war. In 1948, the sub-district of Jerusalem had 66 Arab villages and 8 Jewish colonies. The Palestinian Arabs owned 84 percent of the sub-district land and the Jews 2 percent. The rest was government land or owned by Christian Missions. The population was 62 percent Arab and 38 percent Jewish.

The Municipal boundaries of Jerusalem in 1947 covered 19,331 dunums, which following the fighting in 1947-49 were divided as follows:

<b>Area in the West Bank (East Jerusalem)</b>	<b>2,220 dunums (11.48%)</b>
<b>Area occupied by Israel (West Jerusalem)</b>	<b>16,261 dunums (84.12%)</b>
of which:	
Arab-owned	5,478 dunums (33.69%)
Jewish-owned	4,885 dunums (30.04%)
Christian Missions	2,473 dunums (15.21%)
Municipal land	402 dunums (2.47%)
Roads and Railways	3,023 dunums (18.59%)
<b>No-Man's Land and UN</b>	<b>850 dunums (4.4%)</b>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>19,331 dunums (100%)</i></b>

In 1964, Frank Jarvis, the Land Specialist submitted his report to the UN Conciliation Commission for Palestine (see A/AC.25/W/84 of 28 April 1964). The Jarvis report contained a valuation of Palestinian refugee property taken over by Israel. The monetary valuation is outdated and simultaneously a gross underestimate. However, its value lies in its listing the Registry of Landowners which is based on the Register of Title, the land records kept by the Mandate Government and other records. Jarvis compiled 450,000 cards: each card belongs to one landowner and lists his ownership in all blocks and parcels located within the administrative boundary of one village or city. Each card, therefore, shows the total holdings of one owner within the land of a village or a city but his holdings in another village or city were shown elsewhere.

Jarvis' records do not cover all land lost by the refugees. Jarvis lists landownership in 'Settled Land' and some of the 'Non-Settled Land'. Settled Land means land in which land survey maps and land ownership have been reconciled. During its 28 year tenure, the Mandate government managed to reconcile the records for about 4,876,695 dunums, before it abandoned Palestine in 1948, leaving 13,766,000 dunums out of 18,643,000 dunums of total Palestinian owned but not-settled land, which is the property of the refugees and the Palestinians who remained in Israel. About 12,577,000 dunums of non-settled land is in the Bir al-Seba' (Beersheva) sub-district which is owned, like other parts of Palestine, through traditional records and common acceptance [*'urf wal 'ada*].

The records cover Palestinian (non-Jewish) property. In addition to not listing large parts of Palestine, there are some problems and deficiencies in Jarvis' records. Nevertheless, Jarvis' records remain the most important and most detailed statement of the ownership of the most heavily-populated Palestinian land in 1948. Original Land Registers kept by the Mandate Government covers larger areas than Jarvis'. These are available but many are illegible.

In the final analysis, Palestinian ownership can best be estimated by subtracting Jewish ownership from total area of Palestine. Jewish records tend to be complete due to the eagerness of the new Zionist immigrants to prove their ownership, usually by sale deed registered with the government: none of this land was inherited, most was owned by colonization corporations. As such, these Jewish records are complete. It should also be recognized that there is a distinct difference between Jewish-controlled and Jewish owned land. The former includes Concession land as granted by the government which at the end of concession should revert back to the government or the people of the country at the time of granting the concession. Also, Jewish-controlled land includes shares in land owned by Palestinians; the percentage of which share is usually small. Otherwise, full registration would have been claimed by the Jews. Much of the shared land is not registered with the government and is recognized only through agreement with the vendors, the authenticity and legality of which is subject to some doubt. For example, according to government records, only 60,000 dunums of Jewish land is registered in Bir al-Seba' (within a total area of over 12 million dunums), although the area shown by Jewish records is several times larger.

### **Description of the Records**

Table 1 is a sample of the UNCCP records created by Jarvis for urban Jerusalem. The first column (No.) is our reference. The following columns list the name, block and parcel numbers, the area in dunums, the tax category, and the share of the owner in the lot of land, respectively. Under the tax category, B = Building, L = Land or Mulk House is sometimes entered. The sum of the column 'Area' is larger than the Palestinian ownership in the village or city. Thus, the correct area of ownership is the sum of 'the Area' column times the 'share' column.

The full record of Palestinian property in urban west Jerusalem lists 2,973 landowners in the alphabetical order of the first name of the landowner. A few names are not listed however because they were not clear in the original record. Because Jarvis did not follow a clear system of transliteration of Arab names, Arab names were listed in various forms, e.g. Cattan, Kattan; Khouri, Khuri. In conjunction with maps showing parcels and blocks, the location of each lot may be determined. At present, Israel Land Administration holds all refugee records (and the land) on behalf of the Custodian of the (Palestinian) Absentee Property.

### **Palestinian Ownership in West Jerusalem**

The Israeli-controlled part of Jerusalem in 1948 has a total area of 16,261 dunums, of which 11,376 (70 percent) is non-Jewish owned. This includes 5,478

dunums, the property of Arab individuals and partnerships, while Jarvis' lists 4,976 dunums as Arab property in West Jerusalem.

It is not possible to correlate these figures exactly with Jarvis' records and he himself admits that his records are not complete. The record for West Jerusalem contains 2,973 landowners (cards). Each landowner may own more than one property, making a total of 8021 entries—an average of less than 3 properties per owner. The record indicates the block, parcel and property area of each property but fails to give other details fully. Since each property may be owned by more than one landowner, it is necessary to know each landowner's share in a particular property. Of 8,021 entries, the share is listed in 6,403 cases (80 percent), while 910 are listed as "None"—the meaning of which is unknown—and 26 listed as "X" where the land is owned by numerous heirs. This leaves 358 as unknown and 324 are left blank.

The total area of parcels listed (sum of column "Area") is 12,087.3 dunums, which is roughly the area of non-Jewish land, although there is not a direct correlation between the two. If the share marked None is made equal to 1, the total property area of listed owners is 5,920 dunums, and if ignored (None=0), the corresponding area is 3,237 dunums. Thus, 80 percent of the landowners and 60 percent of the property can be ascertained with confidence, while for 20 percent of the landowners, their property may be defined but their share of it is unclear. However, examination of individual title deeds collected by Arab Studies Society may help clarify the remainder.

Another way of defining the area of Arab property is to deduct the Jewish property area from the total area. The former is very well documented since the Jewish immigrants to Palestine were eager to register their purchases to prove ownership. What remains is Arab property, both private and public, church and government property. The latter two are well defined, which puts an upper limit on Arab property. The question then becomes the identification of individual ownership, which is largely defined by the Jarvis record, leaving the undefined shares within the same family or partnership. This method reduces the error to an ever-decreasing area.

The variations of recording the landowner's name are as follows. The landowner is defined by full name or: heirs of \_\_\_\_\_, widow of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ family, \_\_\_\_\_ and others, Rev. \_\_\_\_\_, Haj \_\_\_\_\_, Arab Bank, Arab National Bank, Arab Engineering and Building Co. Arab National Fund, Orthodox Church, Coptic Church, Waqf Moslem, Waqf of \_\_\_\_\_, P.L.D. Co., High Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Jerusalem, Palestine Orthodox Society, Society of the Relief of the Destitute, Committee of Talbiya and Orphans Trust.

Selecting 159 easily identifiable Jerusalem families, we list in Table 2 their names in alphabetical order and the number of landowners (cards) in each family. Rearranging this table by number of landowners (Table 3), we find Dajani has 155 landowners, Nammari 61. Other than these two, there are 10 families who have 20-50 landowners, 22 families have 10-19 landowners.

In Table 4, we assess ownership using the 'Area', not the 'Share' column, which is not complete. As may be expected the, correlation between the two is good for small 'Area' values and not so for large 'Area' values. However, we may get useful tentative results using the 'Area' column. The Dajani family (155 landowners) has the largest share of the Area, about 16 percent (See Table 5), followed by Daoudi (7 percent) and Su'ud (5 percent).

Table 5 covers all landowners, not just the selected families, and shows landowners in groups of one hundred in descending order of 'Area' ownership. It is shown that 100 landowners own about half of West Jerusalem (46.63 percent) and the richest 300 own two thirds of the city. The top 600 own three quarters of the city. While 1,500 (50 percent) landowners own 90 percent of the city, the remainder (1,473) owns just 10 percent. This shows clearly that West Jerusalem is a city of the rich. The disparity between the rich and the poor, however, is not as great as that in Cairo, for example.

It can thus be concluded that the identification of property in West Jerusalem is possible and can be accurate in the majority of cases. It is therefore absolutely necessary to document this heritage and claim it with the support of UN Resolutions. The work of World Jewish Restitution Organization to repossess property (not to receive compensation for it) left in Europe during World War II should serve as an example. Without the benefit of a single UN resolution and with dogged determination and sketchy documentation, their property, unidentified accounts, even jewelry and works of arts, are being recovered.

It is of interest to note that, on 16 September 1998, the Arab League issued a resolution to urge the UN to send a fact-finding commission and to appoint a Custodian by the UN to monitor the status of refugee property in Israel. The sanctity of the private property is guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and UN Resolutions and above all by the determination of the Palestinians. The right to private property transcends sovereignty, occupation, treaties, political agreements and the like. The right of return is both legal and possible.

**Table 1** Sample of UNCCP records by Jarvis, Urban Jerusalem

No.	Name	Block	Parcel	Area	Tax Category L=land B=Building	Share
	<b>TOTAL</b>			12087.320		
1	A. H. Khalil	30044	309	0.321	L	4/48
2	Abbas Halim	30049	200	0.350	B	unknown
2	Abbud Hazo	30023	210	0.615	B	1/2
2	Abd Aj Jalil Khamis Al Ghout	30020	7	0.058	B	whole
3	Abd Aj Jawwad Abdul Ghani	30020	32	0.126	B	whole
3	Abd Anton Abdul Malei Turjman & co-owners	30020	61	0.282	B	whole
	Abd Anton Abdul Malei Turjman & co-owners	30020	99	0.506	L	whole
3	Abd Ar Rahman Al Qawasmeah	30031	42	0.042	B	whole
4	Abd Ar Rahman Sammur Abu Khalaf	30020	17	0.059	B	whole
4	Abd Ar Razzaq Muhammad Shaver	30033	423	0.283	L	1/2
4	Abd Ar Razzaq Al Qawwas	30020	48	0.052	B	whole
5	Abd El Ghani Ali Barakat	30020	148	1.270	L	2/8
5	Abd El Haj Yahya Maraqa	30032	38	2.940	L	whole
5	El 'Abd Khalil Zaid	30049	62	0.060	B	1/5
6	Heirs of 'Abdallah Abu Sa'ad	30044	5	2.076	L	unknown
6	Abdallah Ahmad Abu Rosa	30014	124	0.642	L	1/2
	Abdallah Ahmad Abu Rosa	30014	124	0.642		1/2
6	Abdallah Andoni Es Sahhar	30008	34	0.610	B	1/3
	Abdallah Andoni Es Sahhar	30008	34	0.666		1/3
7	Abdallah Asad El Jamal	30009	120	1.105	L	1/2
	Abdallah Asad El Jamal	30009	121	2.880	L	1/2
	Abdallah Asad El Jamal	30021	75	2.256	L	whole
	Abdallah Asad El Jamal	30021	300	0.230	L	1/5
7	Abdallah Elias Andonieh	30001	97	0.671	B	whole
	Abdallah Elias Andonieh	30001	97	0.671		whole
7	Abdallah Jamal	30021	248	1.401	B	1/5
8	Abdallah Khamis Abu Safeh	30016	58	0.489	B	1/4
	Abdallah Khamis Abu Safeh	30016	58	0.460		1/4
8	Abdallah Macmloof	30035	17	3.140	B	unknown
8	Abdallah Mitri El Muna	30007	261	0.670	B	1/2
	Abdallah Mitri El Muna	30007	261	0.670		1/2
	Abdallah Mitri El Muna	30009	120	1.105	L	1/4
	Abdallah Mitri El Muna	30009	120	1.105		1/4
	Abdallah Mitri El Muna	30009	121	2.880	L	1/4
	Abdallah Mitri El Muna	30009	121	2.880		1/4
	Abdallah Mitri El Muna	30028	92	0.383	L	whole
	Abdallah Mitri El Muna	30031	100	0.200	L	whole
	Abdallah Mitri El Muna	30031	112	1.045	L	1/8

8	Dr. Abdallah Mughrabi	30016	12	0.560	B	whole
	Dr. Abdallah Mughrabi	30016	12	0.543		whole
9	Abdallah Muhammad Abdallah Abu Sa'ad	30044	368	0.538	L	1/12
	Abdallah Muhammad Abdallah Abu Sa'ad	30044	370	0.531	L	1/12
	Abdallah Muhammad Abdallah Abu Sa'ad	30044	371	0.048	L	1/12
	Abdallah Muhammad Abdallah Abu Sa'ad	30044	372	0.023	L	1/12
	Abdallah Muhammad Abdallah Abu Sa'ad	30044	376	0.123	L	42/1920
9	Abdallah Mustafa Ed Disi	30013	1	2.512	B	14/104
	Abdallah Mustafa Ed Disi	30013	1	2.356		
9	Abdallah Mustafa El Qawasme	30036	41	0.101	B	1/2
10	Abdallah Qasim Wafa Ed David Ed Dapini	30013	87	0.412	B	whole
	Abdallah Qasim Wafa Ed David Ed Dapini	30013	87		"Slope House"	whole
10	Abdallah Rashed	30040	26	2.277	L	unknown
10	Abdallah Sabat	30040	24	31.800	L	3/24
	Abdallah Sabat	30001	24			None
11	Abdallah Shamiya	30031	97	0.127	B	1/3
	Abdallah Shamiya	30031	101	0.196	L	1/3
	Abdallah Shamiya	30031	106	0.149	L	1/3
	Abdallah Shamiya	30031	109	0.116	L	1/3
11	Abdallah Tuma Abu Jarur	30016	134	0.621	L	1/3
	Abdallah Tuma Abu Jarur	30016	134	0.621		1/3
11	Abdallah Wafa Ed Dajani	30013	105	0.313	L	whole
	Abdallah Wafa Ed Dajani	30013	105	0.313		whole
12	Abdallah Zakharia El Bandak	30014	74	0.635	B	whole
	Abdallah Zakharia El Bandak	30014	74	0.662		whole
	Abdallah Zakharia El Bandak	30014	75	0.631	B	unknown
	Abdallah Zakharia El Bandak	30014	75	0.653		None
	Abdallah Zakharia El Bandak	30014	76	0.636	L	
	Abdallah Zakharia El Bandak	30014	76	0.672		None
	Abdallah Zakharia El Bandak	30014	77	0.653	L	unknown
	Abdallah Zakharia El Bandak	30014	77	0.636		whole
12	Abd El Adhim Ahmad Eid Sharawi	30018	13	0.768	B	1/3
	Abd El Adhim Ahmad Eid Sharawi	30018	13	0.768		1/3
12	Abd El Adhim Husein El Ashmar	30007	144	0.574	B	4/24
	Abd El Adhim Husein El Ashmar	30007		0.551		4/24
12	Abd El Ahad Isa El Sahuriyeh	30008	58	0.610	B	1/8
	Abd El Ahad Isa El Sahuriyeh	30008	58	Mulk House		1/8
13	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattain	30001	139	0.719	B	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattain	30001	139	0.719		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattain	30002	25	4.850	L	128/ 1024
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattain	30002	25			
13	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	54	1.531	B	whole

	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	54	1.531		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	111	0.946	B	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	111	0.946		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	125	0.858	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	125	0.858		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	126	0.682	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	126	0.682		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	127	0.740	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	127	0.740		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	128	0.692	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	128	0.692		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	129	0.659	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	129	0.659		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	130	0.732	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	130	0.732		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	133	0.666	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	133	0.666		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	134	0.674	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	134	0.674		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	135	0.687	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	135	0.687		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	136	0.686	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	136	0.686		whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	138	0.771	L	whole
	Abd El Ahad Is-haq El Qattan	30001	138	0.771		whole
13	Abd El Aziz Abd El Hafiz Ahmad Shalhab	30004	69	0.651	B	1/6
	Abd El Aziz Abd El Hafiz Ahmad Shalhab	30004	69	0.651		1/6
13	Abd El Aziz Said Darwish	30004	9	17.350	L	8/24
	Abd El Aziz Said Darwish	30004	9	12.870		1/3
14	Abd El Aziz Shukri Abd El Aziz Sidi	30019	60A	0.864	B	None
	Abd El Aziz Shukri Abd El Aziz Sidi	30019	60A	0.864		1/16
14	Abd El Bari Taleb Abu El Filat Barakat	30010	179	0.895	B	whole
	Abd El Bari Taleb Abu El Filat Barakat	30010	179	0.895		whole
	Abd El Bari Taleb Abu El Filat Barakat	30018	72	0.762	L	whole
	Abd El Bari Taleb Abu El Filat Barakat	30018	72	0.762		whole
	Abd El Bari Taleb Abu El Filat Barakat	30019	101	0.860	B	whole
	Abd El Bari Taleb Abu El Filat Barakat	30019	101	0.340		whole
	Abd El Bari Taleb Abu El Filat Barakat			0.525		whole
	Abd El Bari Taleb Abu El Filat Barakat	30019	172	0.137	L	whole
	Abd El Bari Taleb Abu El Filat Barakat	30019	172	0.137		whole
14	Abd El Fattah Amin Dino Ish Shuweiki	30019	157	0.625	L	6/24
	Abd El Fattah Amin Dino Ish Shuweiki	30019	157	0.625		6/24
15	Abd El Fattah Muhammad Isa Abu Shamsieh	30019	105	0.915	B	1/4
	Abd El Fattah Muhammad Isa Abu Shamsieh	30019	105	0.915		1/4

	Abd El Fattah Muhammad Isa Abu Shamsieh	30019	120/1	0.407	B	whole
	Abd El Fattah Muhammad Isa Abu Shamsieh	30019	120	1.039		1/2
15	Abd El Ghani Abd El Jabbar El Kurdi	30005	25	0.610	B	whole
	Abd El Ghani Abd El Jabbar El Kurdi	30005	25	0.477		whole
15	(Haj) Abd El Ghani El Imam , Heirs of	30001	25	0.465	L	X
	(Haj) Abd El Ghani El Imam , Heirs of	30001	25			
16	Abd El Ghani Isa Et Tabakhi	30011	67	0.681	L	1/3
	Abd El Ghani Isa Et Tabakhi	30011	67	0.631		1/3
16	Abd El Ghani Said Kamleh	30008	37	1.077	B	whole
	Abd El Ghani Said Kamleh	30008	37	1.077		whole
	Abd El Ghani Said Kamleh	30008	38	1.096	L	whole
	Abd El Ghani Said Kamleh	30008	38	1.096		whole
16	Abd El Ghani Salih Abd En Nabi	30013	4	1.240	L	1/3
	Abd El Ghani Salih Abd En Nabi	30013	4	1.228		1/3
17	Abd El Hafiz Ahmad Shalhab	30004	69	0.651	B	1/6
	Abd El Hafiz Ahmad Shalhab	30004	69	0.651		1/6
17	Abd El Hafiz Ahmad Ish Sharawi	30018	13	0.768	B	1/3
	Abd El Hafiz Ahmad Ish Sharawi	30018	13	0.768		1/3
17	Abd El Hafiz Amin Dino Ish Shuweiki	30019	157	0.625	L	3/24
	Abd El Hafiz Amin Dino Ish Shuweiki	30019	157	0.625		3/24
18	Abd El Hai Yahya Maraga	30004	17	0.571	B	1/3
	Abd El Hai Yahya Maraga	30004	17	0.571		1/3
18	Abd El Halim Khalil Zeitun	30007	15	0.562	B	whole
	Abd El Halim Khalil Zeitun	30007	15	0.548		whole
18	Abd El Halim Suleiman Barakat	30015	9	0.436	B	whole
	Abd El Halim Suleiman Barakat	30015	9	0.436		whole
19	Abd El Hamid Abu El Hamid El Asali	30020	110	1.100	L	18816/ 94080
19	Abd El Hamid Isa Biseisu	30016	44	0.985	B	1/4
	Abd El Hamid Isa Biseisu	30016	44	0.862		1/4
19	Abd El Hamid Rashid El Asali	30008	20	0.573	L	1/2
	Abd El Hamid Rashid El Asali	30008	20	0.573		1/2
20	Abd El Hamid Suleiman Barakat	30004	154	0.643	B	whole
	Abd El Hamid Suleiman Barakat	30004	154	0.643		whole
20	Abd El Karim Hab Er Rumman	30019	90	0.422	B	whole
	Abd El Karim Hab Er Rumman	30019	90	0.601		None
20	Abd El KARim Suleiman Bilbesi	30007	221	0.586	B	1/2
	Abd El KARim Suleiman Bilbesi	30007		0.586		1/2
21	Abd El Latif Arif El Husein	30007	244	1.074	B	whole
	Abd El Latif Arif El Husein	30007	244	0.928		whole
	Abd El Latif Arif El Husein			0.143		whole
21	Abd El Majid Arif Farun	30010	2	4.858	B	2/16
	Abd El Majid Arif Farun	30010	2		House	2/16
21	Abd El Majid Daoud Abu El Filat Barakat	30018	17	0.690	B	whole

	Abd El Majid Daoud Abu El Filat Barakat	30018	17	0.667		whole
	Abd El Majid Daoud Abu El Filat Barakat	30018	23	0.650	B	whole
	Abd El Majid Daoud Abu El Filat Barakat	30018	23	0.665		whole
22	Abd El Majid Yahya Maraga	30004	17	0.571	B	1/3
	Abd El Majid Yahya Maraga	30004	17	0.571		1/3
22	Abd El Mughni Isa Et Tabakhi	30011	67	0.681	L	1/3
	Abd El Mughni Isa Et Tabakhi	30011	67	0.631		1/3
22	Abd El Muhsen Taher Ed Daoud	30004	103	0.645	B	1/3
	Abd El Muhsen Taher Ed Daoud	30004	103	0.645		1/3
	Abd El Muhsen Taher Ed Daoud	30010	47	1.040	B	1/3
	Abd El Muhsen Taher Ed Daoud	30010	47	1.093		1/3
23	Abd El Mu'ti Mahmud Arnaut	30015	103	0.488	B	X
	Abd El Mu'ti Mahmud Arnaut	30015	103	0.488		None
23	Abd El Mu'ti Zahde	30019	57	0.760	B	whole
	Abd El Mu'ti Zahde	30019	57	0.760		whole
23	Abd Er Rahim Abd El Karim Hab Er Rumman	30015	62	0.703	B	whole
	Abd Er Rahim Abd El Karim Hab Er Rumman	30015	62	0.703		whole
	Abd Er Rahim Abd El Karim Hab Er Rumman	30019	90	0.422	B	None
	Abd Er Rahim Abd El Karim Hab Er Rumman	30019	90	0.601		whole
24	Abd Er Rahim Musa Zureiq Ish Shuweiki	30019	157	0.625	L	4/24
	Abd Er Rahim Musa Zureiq Ish Shuweiki	30019		0.625		4/24
24	Abd Er Rahim Salim Salfiti	30016	33	0.960	B	2/12
	Abd Er Rahim Salim Salfiti	30016	33	1.034		2/12
24	Abd Er Rahman Abd El Ghani Tawib	30004	46	0.853	B	1/4
	Abd Er Rahman Abd El Ghani Tawib	30004	46	0.853		1/4
25	Abd Er Rahman El Juneid	30010	128	0.609	B	1/2
	Abd Er Rahman El Juneid	30010	128	0.603		1/2
25	Abd Er Rahman Mahmud Daghlas	30019	93	0.404	L	whole
	Abd Er Rahman Mahmud Daghlas	30019	93	0.404		whole
	Abd Er Rahman Mahmud Daghlas	30019	94	0.458	L	whole
	Abd Er Rahman Mahmud Daghlas	30019	94	0.458		
25	Abd Er Rahman Rabah	30007	243	0.736	B	1/3
	Abd Er Rahman Rabah	30007	243	0.675		1/3
	Abd Er Rahman Rabah			0.061		1/3
	Abd Er Rahman Rabah	30014	16	0.600	B	1/3
	Abd Er Rahman Rabah	30014	16	0.600		1/3
26	Abd Er Rauf Ibrahim En Nammari	30010	27	0.527	B	whole
26	Abd Er Razzak Abd El Halim El Jolani	30020	25	0.042	B	whole
26	Abd Er Razzaq Abd El Halim Abdin	30002	148	0.640	B	1/2
	Abd Er Razzaq Abd El Halim Abdin	30002	148	0.640		
27	Abd Er Razzaq Daoud Abd El Filal Barakat	30016	57	1.070	B	whole
	Abd Er Razzaq Daoud Abd El Filal Barakat	30016	57	0.575		whole
	Abd Er Razzaq Daoud Abd El Filal Barakat			0.575		whole
27	Abd Er Razzaq El Juneidi	30010	128	0.609	B	1/2

	Abd Er Razzaq El Juneidi	30010	128	0.603		1/2
27	Abd Es Salam Hasan Abd Es Salam En Nashashibi	30018	24	2.400	B	X
	Abd Es Salam Hasan Abd Es Salam En Nashashibi	30018	24	2.795		38/144
	Abd Es Salam Hasan Abd Es Salam En Nashashibi	30018	64	0.478	L	None
	Abd Es Salam Hasan	30018	64	0.486		440/ 1152
	Abd Es Salam En Nashashibi					
	Abd Es Salam Hasan Abd Es Salam En Nashashibi	30018	66	0.508	L	None
	Abd Es Salam Hasan	30018	66	0.512		440/ 1152
	Abd Es Salam En Nashashibi					
28	(Heirs of) Abd Es Samad Dajani	30032	28	0.360	B	whole
28	Abd Esh Shakkaur Abd El Mu'ti Sidr	30019	60B	Built in 60A	B	None
	Abd Esh Shakkaur Abd El Mu'ti Sidr	30019	60B	0.864		1/2
28	Abd Esh Shakkur Ramadan Ikreiq	30019	108	0.608	B	1/2
	Abd Esh Shakkur Ramadan Ikreiq	30019	108	0.608	B	
29	Abd Esh Shakkur Shukri Abd El Aziz Sidr	30019	60A	0.864	B	None
	Abd Esh Shakkur Shukri Abd El Aziz Sidr	30019	60A	0.864		1/16
29	Abd El Wadud Suleiman Barakat	30008	84	0.860	L	whole
	Abd El Wadud Suleiman Barakat	30008	84	0.860		whole
	Abd El Wadud Suleiman Barakat	30008	85	0.707	L	whole
	Abd El Wadud Suleiman Barakat	30008	85	0.707		whole
29	Abd El Husheimi	30007	164	0.800	B	whole
	Abd El Husheimi	30007	164			
30	Abdo Hanna Quro	30008	12	0.600	B	1/2

**Table 2** Summary of Records of Selected Families with Property in West Jerusalem, listed in alphabetical order

No.	Name	No. of Land-owners	No.	Name	No. of Land-owners	No.	Name	No. of Land-owners
1	Afaneh	2	54	Malabi	5	107	Qalla	1
2	'Afaneh	1	55	Hanania	7	108	Qatran	1
3	Afifi	1	56	Harami	5	109	Qawaar	1
4	'Afifi	1	57	Hazboun	20	110	Qawwar	1
5	Al A'ma	1	58	Hazbun	4	111	Qawwas	17
6	El A'ma	9	59	Hindiya	1	112	Qleibo	3
7	Lama	2	60	Hindiyyeh	3	113	Qutob	6
8	Alami	13	61	Husein	2	114	Qutteineh	2
9	'Alami	9	62	Huseini	21	115	Risas	12
10	Ahmad	4	63	Ilaiyan	1	116	Sabbagh	5
11	Amad	3	64	'Ilaiyan	2	117	Saba	2
12	Amawi	2	65	Imam	9	118	Sabha	4
13	Ansari	5	66	Ja'ar	6	119	Saghir	5
14	Ansary	1	67	Jaar	2	120	Zughaiyir	3
15	Asali	15	68	Jabsheh	2	121	Sa'id	12
16	'Asali	2	69	Jackman	1	122	Said	9
17	Atallah	8	70	Jakman	1	123	Sa'ad	29
18	'Atallah	2	71	Jagaman	3	124	Sa'adat	7
19	Aweida	6	72	Jagman	2	125	Salah	6
20	'Aweida	3	73	Jallad	5	126	Salama	9
21	Bandak	3	74	Jamai	6	127	Salameh	2
22	Barakat	42	75	Jamal	16	128	Sallameh	1
23	Beiruti	7	76	Jaouni	10	129	Salfit	1
24	Biseisu	2	77	Joani	7	130	Salfiti	3
25	Bisharat	4	78	Jarkas	8	131	Sam'an	7
26	Budeiri	7	79	Karmi	6	132	Shamiya	10
27	Can'an	1	80	Karram	24	133	Shamieh	5
28	Kan'an	3	81	Katan	5	134	Shamma	8
29	Kannan	1	82	Cattan	8	135	Shauqi	5
30	Dabdub	15	83	Kattan	5	136	Shuweiki	8
31	Dahboura	1	84	Qattain	1	137	Shibr	2
32	Dahbura	6	85	Qattan	22	138	Shiber	2
33	Dajani	155	86	Khalaf	10	139	Shihab	1
34	Damiani	15	87	Khalil	28	140	Shihabi	10
35	Damyani	2	88	Khatib	6	141	Shihada	2
36	Daoud	17	89	Khayat	2	142	Sifri	1
37	Daoudi	48	90	Khoury	2	143	Sliheet	3
38	Darwish	5	91	Khuri	15	144	Spiridon	1
39	Deeb	2	92	Malas	1	145	Su'ud	18
40	Dib	5	93	Malih	1	146	Tamimi	6
41	Farhan	8	94	Mash'al	5	147	Tannous	2
42	Far'on	1	95	Mikail	2	148	Taziz	1
43	Far'un	5	96	Mikhail	1	149	Tazziz	2
44	Farun	4	97	Mughannam	5	150	Tleil	1
45	Faraj	5	98	Municipal Co.	1	151	Totah	2
46	Faraji	13	99	Musallam	5	152	Tugan	2
47	Farraj	14	100	Nakhleh	1	153	Tuma	7
48	Ghosh	2	101	Nammari	61	154	Ubeid	5
49	Ghoshe	4	102	Nashashibi	16	155	'Ubeid	2
50	Hadawi	4	103	Nasr	20	156	Waqf	15
51	Haddad	17	104	Nasra	10	157	Wari	2
52	Halabi	22	105	Nazha	4	158	Wa'ri	9
53	Mal'abi	2	106	Nuseibeh	4	159	Zaruk	17
							<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1250</b>



**Table 4** Ownership of Selected Families by Total Area

No.	Family	No. of Landowners	Total Area in dunums	% of Total
33	Dajani	155	1925.050	15.93
37	Daoudi	48	808.710	6.69
145	Su'ud	18	599.704	4.96
88	Khatib	6	274.452	2.27
81	Katan	5	247.678	2.05
156	Waqf	15	238.135	1.97
101	Nammari	61	212.516	1.76
22	Barakat	42	199.058	1.65
87	Khalil	28	191.351	1.58
30	Dabdub	15	186.088	1.54
74	Jamai	6	179.538	1.49
23	Beirut	7	166.915	1.38
26	Budeiri	7	121.850	1.01
38	Darwish	5	105.950	0.88
91	Khuri	15	100.668	0.83
106	Nuseibeh	4	90.076	0.75
78	Jarkas	8	89.620	0.74
9	'Alami	9	85.709	0.71
34	Damiani	15	81.206	0.67
60	Hindiyyeh	3	77.377	0.64
159	Zaruk	17	76.942	0.64
80	Karram	24	75.425	0.62
52	Halabi	22	72.969	0.60
83	Kattan	5	72.032	0.60
85	Qattain	22	68.854	0.57
3	Afifi	1	68.090	0.56
123	Sa'ad	29	62.633	0.52
40	Dib	5	54.226	0.45
94	Mash'al	5	53.585	0.44
153	Tuma	7	52.486	0.43
75	Jamal	16	48.966	0.41
102	Nashashibi	16	44.340	0.37
126	Salma	9	41.709	0.35
41	Farhan	8	41.356	0.34
131	Sam'an	7	41.199	0.34
140	Shihabi	10	40.828	0.34
73	Jallad	5	40.170	0.33
8	Alami	13	36.891	0.31
95	Mikail	2	36.626	0.30
111	Qawwas	17	35.368	0.29
93	Malih	1	33.065	0.27
144	Spiridon	1	31.860	0.26
122	Said	9	31.617	0.26
6	El A'ma	9	30.959	0.26
103	Nasr	20	30.691	0.25
118	Sabha	4	29.354	0.24
51	Haddad	17	29.345	0.24
137	Shibr	2	29.258	0.24
36	Daoud	17	29.067	0.24
154	Ubeid	5	28.914	0.24
105	Nazha	4	27.582	0.23
43	Far'un	5	25.919	0.21
99	Musallam	5	25.868	0.21
62	Huseini	21	23.050	0.19
15	Asali	15	22.222	0.18
32	Dahbura	6	22.100	0.18
115	Risas	12	21.618	0.18

47	Farraj	14	21.225	0.18
71	Jagaman	3	21.009	0.17
104	Nasra	10	19.856	0.16
66	Ja'ar	6	19.566	0.16
134	Shamma	8	19.437	0.16
44	Farun	4	19.432	0.16
86	Khalaf	10	18.941	0.16
146	Tamimi	6	17.863	0.15
132	Shamiya	10	16.718	0.14
57	Hazboun	20	15.703	0.13
150	Tleil	1	14.831	0.12
147	Tannous	2	14.356	0.12
54	Malabi	5	13.413	0.11
135	Shauqi	5	13.170	0.11
56	Harami	5	12.114	0.10
158	Wa'ri	9	11.484	0.10
113	Qutob	6	10.684	0.09
55	Hanania	7	10.650	0.09
53	Mal'abi	2	10.580	0.09
108	Qatran	1	10.550	0.09
119	Saghir	5	10.068	0.08
17	Atallah	8	10.039	0.08
136	Shuweiki	8	9.856	0.08
121	Sa'id	12	9.816	0.08
155	'Ubeid	2	9.646	0.08
19	Aweida	6	9.552	0.08
72	Jagman	2	9.241	0.08
64	'Ilaiyan	2	9.044	0.07
112	Qleibo	3	8.911	0.07
21	Bandak	3	8.164	0.07
116	Sabbagh	5	7.918	0.07
141	Shihada	2	7.726	0.06
12	Amawi	2	7.270	0.06
67	Jaar	2	6.695	0.06
133	Shamieh	5	6.568	0.05
13	Ansari	5	6.456	0.05
151	Total	2	6.326	0.05
84	Qattain	1	6.288	0.05
130	Salfiti	3	5.982	0.05
120	Zughaiyir	3	5.904	0.05
49	Ghoshe	4	5.902	0.05
42	Far'on	1	5.738	0.05
58	Hazbun	4	5.467	0.05
125	Salah	6	5.449	0.05
79	Karmi	6	5.364	0.04
50	Hadawi	4	5.325	0.04
46	Faraji	13	5.265	0.04
89	Khayat	2	5.180	0.04
149	Tazziz	2	5.042	0.04
76	Jaouni	10	5.022	0.04
11	Amad	3	5.014	0.04
65	Imam	9	4.951	0.04
10	Ahmad	4	4.720	0.04
63	Ilaiyan	1	4.522	0.04
77	Joani	7	4.025	0.03
143	Sliheet	3	4.016	0.03
24	Biseisu	2	3.694	0.03
25	Bisharat	4	3.662	0.03
107	Qalla	1	3.552	0.03
27	Can'an	1	3.502	0.03

114	Qutteineh	2	3.457	0.03
139	Shihab	1	3.216	0.03
61	Husein	2	3.105	0.03
109	Qawaar	1	3.005	0.02
157	Wari	2	2.928	0.02
127	Salameh	2	2.888	0.02
82	Cattan	8	2.872	0.02
152	Tugan	2	2.838	0.02
1	Afaneh	2	2.732	0.02
28	Kan'an	3	2.731	0.02
97	Mughannam	5	2.537	0.02
48	Ghosh	2	2.340	0.02
29	Kannan	1	2.333	0.02
18	'Atallah	2	2.317	0.02
128	Sallameh	1	2.272	0.02
90	Khoury	2	2.130	0.02
129	Salfit	1	1.994	0.02
100	Nakhleh	1	1.890	0.02
16	'Asali	2	1.738	0.01
20	'Aweida	3	1.611	0.01
68	Jabsheh	2	1.604	0.01
138	Shiber	2	1.550	0.01
39	Deeb	2	1.396	0.01
110	Qawwar	1	1.393	0.01
2	'Afaneh	1	1.366	0.01
117	Saba	2	1.296	0.01
45	Faraj	5	1.275	0.01
142	Sifri	1	1.232	0.01
92	Malas	1	1.212	0.01
14	Ansary	1	1.170	0.01
96	Mikhail	1	1.009	0.01
124	Sa'adat	7	1.001	0.01
70	Jakman	1	0.862	0.01
7	Lama	2	0.775	0.01
4	'Afifi	1	0.674	0.01
35	Damyani	2	0.636	0.01
69	Jackman	1	0.188	0.00
59	Hindiya	1	0.182	0.00
31	Dahboura	1	0.163	0.00
148	Taziz	1	0.160	0.00
5	Al A'ma	1	0.126	0.00
98	Municipal Corp.	1	0.006	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1250</b>	<b>8157.509</b>	<b>67.49</b>
	<b>Total area of full record</b>		<b>12087.328</b>	

**Table 5** Distribution of Arab 'Area' Ownership in Descending Order by categories of 100

Landowners in 100's	Area	Share	Area (accumulative)	% of Total Area
1	5636.627	2506.617	5636.627	46.63
2	1463.378	630.719	7100.005	58.74
3	799.457	412.904	7899.462	65.35
4	551.011	287.873	8450.473	69.91
5	445.132	177.723	8895.605	73.59
6	349.867	182.618	9245.472	76.49
7	281.268	176.041	9526.740	78.82
8	248.617	135.960	9775.357	80.87
9	222.662	126.468	9998.019	82.71
10	197.437	99.178	10195.456	84.35
11	179.367	104.711	10374.823	85.83
12	164.292	90.365	10539.115	87.19
13	151.369	98.280	10690.484	88.44
14	140.354	96.762	10830.838	89.60
15	132.473	85.524	10963.311	90.70
16	127.723	51.247	11091.034	91.76
17	124.180	77.683	11215.214	92.78
18	121.276	86.312	11336.490	93.79
19	117.929	89.755	11454.419	94.76
20	111.589	75.892	11566.008	95.69
21	99.473	68.550	11665.481	96.51
22	88.644	51.912	11754.125	97.24
23	77.621	52.201	11831.746	97.89
24	66.582	44.578	11898.328	98.44
25	59.827	41.139	11958.155	98.93
26	50.163	26.027	12008.318	99.35
27	38.496	18.121	12046.814	99.66
28	24.755	14.782	12071.569	99.87
29	12.813	8.105	12084.382	99.98
Last 73	2.946	1.921	12087.328	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>12087.328</b>	<b>5919.967</b>		

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> The editor invited the authors of this chapter to delineate problems of documenting Arab properties in West Jerusalem from their experience as team leaders of an ongoing survey of such property which was initiated by the Arab Studies Society (A.S.S.) in Jerusalem in 1996. The survey involved interviews with hundreds of Jerusalem refugee families from the western neighbourhoods and villages. The following persons were crucial in providing essential information: Greek Orthodox Mukhtar Hanna Issa Tubbeh, Wa'riyyeh Mukhtar Abu al-Abed, Mr Rafiq al-Nammari, Mr Hanna al-Tarshah.

<sup>2</sup> Sami Hadawi, *Palestinian Rights and Losses in 1948*. London: Saqi Books, 1988.

<sup>3</sup> UN Document *A/AC.25/W.84*, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1964.

<sup>4</sup> The author, a researcher on Palestinian refugees, was invited by the editor to contribute this summary of his work to this book.