



Fig.4.46 : A general view of the lower quarter

collectively identified --and they referred to themselves--as the fallaheen of the lower quarter.

2. The heterogenous lineage of the lower quarter helps to explain the spatially defined character of this quarter. Unlike both the Barghouthi and Shu'aibi quarters which had strong external boundaries defining their compounds as a whole (e.g. back of buildings, empty lots, etc., and more significantly, defined and controlled entrances to the harah), the lower quarter had no such defined entrances to control outsiders. Internal boundaries which separated the different descent groups were thus more important than external boundaries separating them (the fallaheen) from the rest of the village as was the case with the Shu'aibis.

3. As figure 4.47 illustrated the lower quarter consisted of a number of separate compounds belonging to the different descent groups: while the Rabi and 'Adi compounds were adjacent to one another--expressing their social cohesiveness, enhanced by inter-marriage--the Nasir compound was facing away from the Rabi and 'Adi compounds.

4. The Rabi clan occupied a number of compounds. The main Rabi compound (fig.4.48) had an enclosed courtyard with a number of single family houses around it. The Rabi clan occupied another two adjacent compounds. A number of single family houses located adjacent to one another formed a row of houses, each with a small semi-private frontyard. However the road which was constructed in 1975 past through these frontyards, hence leaving the row of houses open