

a
Research Report
on

20TH CENTURY HERITAGE OF KOLKATA



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It would have been difficult to process such a large research project other than the co-operation extended by Ms. Ananya Bhattacharya (past Convenor of ICOMOS East Zone) and Sri Bikramjit Chakraborty, Convenor of ICOMOS East Zone in every stage for its successful completion.

We are also indebted to Dr. Reena Bhaduri, the renowned scholar, the Secretary of Asutosh Memorial Research Institute as a mentor cum guide to the team for providing her valuable advice time to time. It is also to be noted that, the officials of many Government and Non-Government organizations, scholars, friends, descendants of the heritage family, institutions, libraries, residents/owners of the heritage buildings provided us enough inputs to make our compilation rich and precise.

Last but not the least we are extremely proud of our team members for their hard work and dedication and passion for conservation of heritage properties as an asset to the society.

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Notes

1. The Bibliography and the internet sources are mentioned at the end of each chapter.
2. All photographs are taken by the team members & the students unless specified.
3. A Timeline of events and the List of Identified buildings are enclosed separately in this report.
4. All the gradation and the year of construction mentioned in the Inventory, based on the latest information provided by Environment & Heritage Unit, Kolkata Municipal Corporation and the owners.

ICOMOS RESEARCH PROJECT

Developing a Thematic Historic Framework for Assessing 20th Century Heritage of Kolkata- a project of National Scientific Council - 20th Century

Undertaken by: -

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Dr. Sukanya Mitra,	NSC-SBH- Collaborative Partner
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OM Dayal College of Architecture, West Bengal- Associated Partner

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Photography by: -

NSC 20C Heritage Kolkata Team members

Students of OM Dayal College of Architecture, West Bengal

Sri Bikash Mondal

Introduction



INTRODUCTION

The Backdrop

Historically, today's Kolkata originated from three villages: *Sutanuti*, *Govindapore*, and *Kolkata*. In the 16th century, two key maritime trade centers operated in southern Bengal: *Chaugachow* (now Chittagong in Bangladesh) and *Saptagram* (in the Bardhaman district of West Bengal). As the port of *Saptagram* began to decline, four 'Bachchan' families and one 'Serr' family from *Adi Saptagram* moved to the eastern bank of the Hooghly River, becoming the original settlers of what would become Kolkata today. This settlement occurred before Job Charnock of the East India Company arrived in 1690. The area known as '*Sutanuti*', famous for its cotton market (*Sutanuti r Haat*), is believed to be near present-day *Boirghakkhana Bazar* close to *Sealdah*. Further down, the Serrs established '*Govindapore*', named after their deity *Govindji*, where *Fort William* and *Calcutta Maidan* are now located. Between these settlements lay a smaller village called '*Kolkata*', around the area of *Lalbazar*.

The East India Company purchased the three villages from the *Baynacks* and *Serrs* for a nominal price and began developing the area into a town, marking the beginning of Kolkata's journey as a city. They constructed *Fort William* along the Hooghly River in the *Dalhousie* area (from *Paria Place* to the *GPO*), known as *Old Fort William*. *Siraj-ud-Daulah*, the then *Nawab of Bengal*, opposed the British fortification within his domain. He marched from his capital, *Murshidabad*, with his army and captured the British fort, prompting the British to flee by ship.

Siraj-ud-Daulah renamed Kolkata as '*Alinagar*' after his victory. However, the East India Company sent *Robert Clive* from *Madras* to reclaim the area. Clive declared war on *Siraj-ud-Daulah*, defeating him at the *Battle of Plassey*. Following the victory, Clive cleared the jungle area of *Chowringhee* to construct '*New Fort William*' at its present location with '*Calcutta Maidan*' as a defensive measure. This '*New Fort William*' became the epicenter of modern Kolkata's development as a metropolis.

Thereafter, the British ruled India for approximately 190 years, with Kolkata serving as the capital until 1911. The area around *Fort William*, *Dalhousie Square*, *Lal bazar*, *Esplanade*, and *Chowringhee*, was designated for European settlement, known as '*White Town*'. The original Bengali settlers were pushed to the northern side, referred to as '*Native*' or '*Black Town*'. Between these areas was '*Grey Town*', around *Park Street* and *Theatre Road*, which was actually the home for other ethnic communities such as *Armenians*, *Jews*, and *Parsis*, etc.

The '*Bengal Renaissance*' emerged in the early 18th century, marked by intellectual awakening and social consciousness spearheaded by figures like *Raja Ram Mohan Roy*, *Prince Dwarkanath Tagore*, *H.L.V. Devan*, *Rani Rasmoni*, *Swarnakumari Mahapatra*, and *Kailashchandra Deb* of *Shobhabazar*. It reached its peak from the late 18th century to the early 20th century, with luminaries such as *Thakur Sri Ramakrishna*, *Swami Vivekananda*, *Sister Nivedita*, *Rabindranath Tagore*, *Sri JC Bose*, *Archarya P.C. Ray*, *Debendranath Chattopadhyay*, *Sri Anandam*, *Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose*, and others emerging as '*the changemakers*' across various aspects of social life. This era culminated in India's independence from British rule, achieved through the supreme sacrifices of many freedom fighters.

In the 20th century, the society tackled significant issues such as religious reform, women's empowerment, educational reform, nationalism, the freedom struggle, modernization, and political reform. Kolkata played a pivotal role in India's freedom movement and celebrated jubilantly on *August 15th, 1947*. The journey started from a village and transformed into a metropolis due to rapid

urbanization. A new era dawned for Independent India, aspiring to achieve global recognition across all spheres of life.

However, Kolkata faced setbacks twice due to the political upheavals in the country. The first was during the 'Partition of Bengal' around Independence (1947-50), and the second during the 'Bangladesh War' in 1970, which strained the city's infrastructure due to a large influx of refugees. Twice, communal harmony was disrupted: first during the Hindu-Muslim riots in 1946, known as the 'Calcutta Killing', and later during 'Hindu-Sikh riots' following Indira Gandhi's assassination in 1984. However, both instances were effectively managed by the administration of the time, restoring peace thereafter.

In the Socio-economic scenario, Kolkata also faced a setback, when the British shifted Capital from Kolkata to Delhi in 1911. The other issues were, when many multinationals of foreign origin went back to their countries after Independence. The abolition of the Zamindari system, the Urban Ceiling Act, etc. affected the economic condition of the affluent class of the Bengali community as well. The middle class faced unemployment due to the wrong policy of industrialization by the Government led by the Marxists. The political clash between Naxalites and Marxists also created trouble in life. The result is- the creme of the young generation drifted away either to foreign countries or other parts of India in search of jobs and education and Kolkata suffered a 'Brain-drain.'

In the 20th century, Kolkata's architecture evolved significantly. Initially dominated by Neo-Classical styles reflecting Imperial power, the city saw the rise of 'Baroque' style typically to suite the Bengali lifestyle, thus the word coined as 'Bengal Baroque'—a fusion of European exteriors with Indian interiors, featuring elements like courtyards, thakurdolan and wooden screens to maintain privacy for ladies, specifically designed for residential buildings. Kolkata's distinctive red buildings, often adorned with ornamental Cast Iron grills, also emerged during this period. The nationalist movement prompted a 'Revivalist' style that integrated Indian motifs and elements from places like Rajasthan (Ajanta Sanchi, etc. Post-1960, 'Art Deco' became popular, offering a more economical and modern alternative to the elaborate Bengal Baroque mansions. By the late 20th century, Kolkata embraced 'Modernism' and 'Post-Modernism,' reflecting a shift away from colonial influences and incorporating new technologies and materials.

By 1920, Kolkata had undergone significant infrastructure and civic improvements as a former British capital. Key developments included the construction of the Howrah Bridge, which connected both banks of the Hooghly River, and the expansion of the railway network via Howrah Station to facilitate communication and goods transportation across the subcontinent. Additionally, the city saw the introduction of electricity for homes and street lighting, along with advancements in radio and telephone services. Enhancements in roads, sewage, and drainage further contributed to Kolkata's transformation from a small town in the 19th century into a bustling metropolis. In the post-Independence era, Kolkata also continues its achievements in many sectors, such as underground Metro Rail network, television and Satellite communication.

The 20th century in Kolkata exhibits remarkable eventful transformation. Thereby, it is really justified and interesting that ICONOS, India has taken up the project to do an in-depth study on the subject. This research aims to explore the importance of Kolkata's 20th-century value-based and unprotected built heritage, highlighting the uniqueness of the society during that era. Kolkata, as a cultural hub and a key player in India's freedom movement, reflects its quest for a distinct identity across various domains and has garnered global recognition. The city takes pride in its distinguished figures such as Rabindranath Tagore, Swami Vivekananda, Acharya J.C. Bose, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, and many other luminaries whose contributions have left an enduring legacy.

ICOMOS India: NSC Research Project 2021

Terms of Reference

***For the Research Project: Developing a Thematic Historic Framework for
Assessing 20th Century Heritage of Kolkata***

To be undertaken by:

National Scientific Committee (NSC) on 20th Century Heritage (NSC 20C) represented
by Principal Investigator,

Ms. Indrani Sarkar (herein to be referred to as the PI, or the partner)

ADDRESS: 171/2D, Raishikhari Avenue,
Kolkata 700019, West Bengal

PREAMBLE

The research project 'Developing a Thematic Historic Framework for Assessing 20th Century Heritage of Kolkata' has been selected as a recipient of ICOMOS India's Annual NSC Research Project 2021. As a beneficiary of the program, the project shall be monitored, evaluated and supported through its duration by the expert professional peer network comprising of members of ICOMOS India's Board, as representatives of the Executive Committee, and the Steering Committee of the Scientific Council.

The PI hereby agrees to the following terms:

Article 1. SCOPE OF RESEARCH PROJECT

Through this ToR, the above stated National Scientific Committee, represented by the PI, commits to realization of the research project *(herein to be referred to as 'the project')* as per the objectives, project cost, stages of progress described hereafter and the detailed research proposal attached in Annexure 1.

Project Description
The 20 th Century Thematic Historic framework of Kolkata will be developed as a mechanism for Assessing Built Heritage from Colonial era of Pre Independence time to Modern age of post-Independence time. The aim is to narrate the socio-cultural, socio-political, and socio-economical scenario of Kolkata's growth as an important historic city of India, during 20 th Century. It is also to be developed for understanding the various value/significance of 20C heritage which may a time ignored/unrepresented, not being an "architectural splendour". Thereby, an approach can be build-up for the identification of 'value-based heritage assets', and its related process for conservation. Many of these built heritage have historical significance in association with the Luminaries of India as well. Such assets contribute to the cultural identity of the city of Kolkata.
Research Objectives and Outcomes
The objectives of developing a Thematic Historic Framework for the study of 20 C heritage in respect of Kolkata are as follows:-



- Understanding the historical significance of the city that has an immense value of National importance in various aspects.
- Initiate the identification of the undiscovered legacy of the 20th C. in Kolkata. The Aim of the Identification (sample study) is mainly to develop the strategy, how and under what parameters, a particular building can be declared as Heritage/potential for heritage. In this case, both Listed and unlisted categories are to be taken into account. (If they are closely related to the 20th Century History of Kolkata).
- Similarly, Post-Independence Modern Architecture will also be identified, if it has certain significance to the cultural history or growth of the city as a metropolis.
- Facilitate the contextualisation of the sites concerning the history of the city.

Finally, it is hoped, that it will accommodate the various themes identified at the guided level and, thereby, can play a significant role, in the global discourse.

The Identification of 20th Heritage buildings of Kolkata will commence with a brief understanding and representation of the **social process of 19th- 20th. century history of the city** and how it was reflected in the evolution of architectural style over some time to create a unique and unparalleled style mingled with the lifestyle of the then society.

Three historical or socio-cultural processes will be considered as 'themes', which will also have various categories like, Cultural/Religious, Institutional, Administrative, Health-care, Recreational, Landmarks, Iconic Buildings with Architectural merit, Built-heritage with historical significance/Associated value, Industrial heritage, Information, heritage products, etc.

The need for identification of Listed and unlisted built-heritage relating to the historical events within the time frame of 1900-2000 is mainly to showcase the spirit of the local people and their aspirations. This research also to provide the basic parameters with photographic representation to justify their potentiality to be declared as heritage.

Outcomes

- Developing Thematic Historic Framework of the Socio-Cultural History of Kolkata as per the Timeline of 20th Century with various sub-themes for Tangible Heritage of Post-Independence & Post-Independence era.
- Photographic Identification of built heritage landmarks symbolising as key components for the developments in the history of the city, and establishing their significant roles under various parameters justifying their heritage status.

Timeline

Total Duration: 12 months

Project duration approved under contract: **12 months**

Start Date: 15th March 2022

End Date: 14th March 2023

Estimated Project Cost

Total funds required over 12 months: INR 1,30,000 (inclusive of taxes)

Maximum expenditure approved under contract: **INR 1,30,000** (inclusive of taxes) in Year 1 on per the stages of progress listed in Article 2.1

Page 2 of 7 *Indrani Sarkar*

gopin Palani

Article 2. OBLIGATIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

- i. The PI shall be responsible for coordinating implementation of the project as per the stages of progress listed below:

Time period	Outcome/Deliverable	Anticipated expenditure	
		Expenditure type	Amount in INR
Month 1-3	<u>Developing Historic thematic framework of 20C heritage of Kolkata</u>	Photocopying, Travel and incidental expenses @ Rs 1000/- per month	30,000
Months 4-6		Intern's salary @ Rs. 7,000 per month for 3 months	21,000
Months 4-10	<u>Compilation of list of buildings with images and photographs based on the thematic study</u>	Travel/Field Survey and incidental expenses	50,000
Month 9-12	<u>Final Report/ Project Monograph</u> containing compiled list of buildings with images and photographs based on the thematic study, rationale for themes, and case for protection of 20C heritage in Kolkata	Intern's salary @ Rs. 7,000 per month for 3 months	21,000
		Printing of report and photographs	28,000
TOTAL Expenditure over 12 Months			1,60,000

- ii. The PI shall intend to take all measures to fulfil outcomes and deliverables as laid down in this Terms of Reference within the estimated budget and stipulated time.
- iii. The PI shall be responsible for monitoring expenditure of the project and liaising with COMOS for disbursement of the monies as per Article 4.
- iv. The PI shall be the focal point for coordination with the project team within COMOS and with all collaborating institutions.
- v. The PI, in consultation of COMOS, shall arrange all necessary authorizations and licenses for the project, if any are needed.
- vi. The PI shall inform and seek approval from COMOS in case of presentation of the project to the public or any forum beyond COMOS during the research.

Page 3 of 7 *Indrani Sankar*

Naam Puri



- vi. The PI shall continue to be a member of COMOS, and remain a member of the NSC being represented for the duration of the project.
- vii. The PI and the project team shall continue to be governed by all ICOMOS' Statutes, Ethical Commitment Statement and Rules of Procedure, specifically by COMOS' Rules and Regulations of the Society (*hereafter, to be referred as RI*), Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines (*hereafter, to be referred as SOPG*), Policy for data sharing by National Scientific Committees, Working Groups and Sub-Committees (*hereafter, to be referred as Confidentiality Policy*) unless otherwise specified in this document.
- ix. In the unforeseen circumstance that the PI is indisposed, COMOS shall be notified of the situation immediately. In such a circumstance, the project shall proceed if the Co-PI (as listed in the project proposal in Annexure 1) agrees to bear responsibility as Principal Investigator. In the case of non-agreement, either the fulfilment or termination of this agreement will be put in effect. COMOS reserves the right to the final decision.
- x. The PI shall not have any unfilled contracts with, or outstanding dues towards, COMOS.

Article 3. OBLIGATIONS OF COMOS

- i. For the purposes of this Article, COMOS will be understood as members of COMOS: Steering Committee of the Scientific Council and the Board.
- ii. The project shall be monitored, evaluated and supported through its duration by the professional peer network at COMOS.
- iii. COMOS shall bear the responsibility of dissemination of the results as per the terms of this ToR.
- iv. Feedback and approval at each stage of progress shall be provided by COMOS coordinated and communicated by the NSC Coordinator to the PI within 15 days of receipt of deliverable.
- v. Any modifications in the project may be implemented only after due consultation with COMOS as per Article 6 and 12.2.

Article 4. FINANCIAL TERMS

- i. Funds will be disbursed by COMOS to the PI on completion of respective stages of progress as listed in Article 2.
- ii. Disbursal will be in the form of reimbursements for actual expenditure undertaken, on receipt of the duly signed Reimbursement Sheet (See Annexure 4) supported by bills and vouchers for all expenses. See Article 4.9 sub-section c for the only agreed exception.
- iii. A mobilisation advance of up to 20% of the total project estimate may be provided at the time of signing the ToR, if requested by the PI.
- iv. Processing of reimbursements will be done after approval of the deliverables communicated by the NSC Coordinator to the Treasurer.
- v. All bills shall be in the name of ICOMOS India and GST number provided, where applicable.
- vi. It will be the responsibility of the PI to collate expenses made by the project team for submission for reimbursement, and subsequently to disburse reimbursements to the project team.
- vii. Expenditure reimbursement may be by team members at COMOS and/or by COMOS non-members listed in the project proposal and/or by COMOS non-members listed Terms of Agreement with collaborating institutions, if any.
- viii. Reasonable variation in savings of expenses listed in Article 1 and 2 is permitted within the upper limit of the overall approved project cost.
- ix. If, in the course of the project, the overall cost has the potential to exceed, the PI has the responsibility to immediately inform Office Bearers of COMOS through the NSC.

Page 4 of 7 *Jyoti Sankar*

Pravin Poptani



Council is order for COMOS to expressly give its agreement or in order to release the global budget or the financial obligations of COMOS towards the PI. At the time of signing of this agreement, COMOS does not commit to funds beyond the approved project cost.

- i. Expenditure per Articles 1 and 2 shall adhere to the following, as relevant:
 - a. Hiring of support staff or specialist consultants
 - Any personnel approved in the research proposal shall be hired directly as Research Assistant/Associate, or Consultant to COMOS.
 - The details of the personnel, including CV and recommendation for appointment, shall be relayed by the PI to the Secretary at least 30 days in advance of hiring needs.
 - The Secretary in consultation with the PI shall provide the appointment letter and scope of work to the respective support staff or consultant. In addition to the Secretary, the PI shall be signatory as supervisor on the appointment letter.
 - Remuneration to support staff will be released subject to submission of duly signed Supervisor Undertaking (See Annexure 6A) and Task Sheet (See Annexure 6B) sent to the Treasurer and Secretary.
 - Consultancy fees will be released subject to submission of duly signed Supervisor Undertaking (See Annexure 6-C) with a copy of completed scope of work, sent to the Treasurer and Secretary.
 - No GST shall be paid to support staff.
 - No COMOS member may receive professional fees.
 - b. Honorariums
 - Honorarium upto a maximum of INR 2500 for a half-day engagement or a maximum of INR 5000 either for a full day engagement or cumulative engagement in one stage of the project may be provided.
 - No COMOS member may receive honorariums.
 - c. Subscriptions or Memberships
 - All subscriptions or memberships, as needed and approved in the research proposal, shall be taken in the name of ICOMOS India. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be informed 30 days in advance of the date of the need, with information on types of subscriptions/ institutional membership opportunities to facilitate the most effective subscription type.
 - d. No capital expenditure may be claimed for reimbursement

Article 5. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT

- i. Work done as part of the NSC shall be perceived in all forums as collective work and not as individual research. The intellectual contributions of members shall be duly acknowledged as per SOPG's Revised Policy on NSCs.
- ii. SOPG's Revised Annexure 14: Intellectual Property Rights shall be applicable to the outcomes of the Research Project.
- iii. Publication of the collective project outcomes, if done, shall bear COMOS/ISDN.

Article 6. MODIFICATION

- i. Any modification of the conditions of this ToU will be subject to a written agreement in the form of a letter, email which shall be provided as an addendum to this ToU specifying the elements modified.

Page 5 of 7 *Indrani Sankar*

John P. P.

Article 7. LITIGATION

1. In the event where difficulties arise with respect to the execution or interpretation of the present ToR, the PI shall engage with COMOS, with diligence and goodwill, to fully cooperate in order to find an amicable solution rather than litigation as a first resort.

Article 8. CONDITIONS RELATED TO SERVICE PROVISION

1. The PI acknowledges that all information disclosed by COMOS in the context of the present ToR remain confidential unless it is necessary to disclose information to a third party in order to execute the tasks designed and disclosure is authorized by COMOS.

Article 9. TERMINATION

1. Breach of any of this ToR's articles by either party shall be reason for termination of this Research Project. Each party has a period of two months to notify their decision of termination. Article 11 will be enforced in case of termination due to listed reasons.

Article 10. FORCE MAJEURE

1. Force majeure is interpreted in circumstances that occur after the signing of the contract due to actions of an unpredictable and insurmountable nature that cannot be prevented by the contracting parties, including: natural disasters, epidemics, general strikes, political events, insurrection, fire or death. In case of force majeure, the consultant party should as soon as possible and by all means warn the other party. The latter then reserves the right to terminate this contract.

Article 11. FORFEIT CLAUSE

1. In the case of cancellation of his/her participation to the project at the initiative of the PI in the exception of the force majeure cases, the PI agrees to reimburse entirely all the expenses incurred by COMOS on the project.

Article 12. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

1. This ToR may be executed in counterparts. Facsimile signatures are binding and are considered to be original signatures.
2. This agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties. All negotiations and understandings have been included in this agreement. Statements or representations which may have been made by any party in the negotiation stages of this agreement may in some way be inconsistent with this final written agreement. All such statements are declared to be of no value in this agreement. Only the written terms of this agreement will bind the parties.
3. This Agreement and the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement apply to and are binding upon the Parties and their respective successors, assigns, executors, administrators, beneficiaries and representatives.

Page 6 of 7 *Sudhansu Sankar*

Sudhansu Sankar

Prepared and signed in New Delhi in two original copies on 15th March 2022

Indrani Sarkar
Indrani Sarkar
Principal Investigator on behalf of NSC 20C

Narain Pipani
Narain Pipani
President, COMOS

Witnesses

1. NSC Coordinator (if not the PI) or
NSC Co coordinator (if NSC Coordinator is the PI)
2. Co-Investigator *Sohini Pyra*

Arav Menon
Arav Menon
NSC Coordinator

ANNEXURES

- Annexure 1: Research Proposal submitted by PI
Annexure 2: Milestones- Deliverables- Funct Table submitted by PI
Annexure 3: Bank Details of PI
Annexure 4: Template for Reimbursements
Annexure 5: Template for NSCRG Completion Checklist
Annexure 6-A: Template for Supervisor Endorsement
Annexure 6-B: Template for Employee Task Sheet

Annexure-2



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ICOMOS India: NSC Research Project 2021

Addendum to Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Research Project:

Developing a Thematic Historic Framework for Assessing 20th Century Heritage of Kolkata

Noted that the ICOMOS Research Project undertaken by National Scientific Committee (NSC) on 20th Century Heritage (NSC 20C) represented by Principal Investigator, Mr. Indrani Sarkar and approved for a total duration of 12 months under contract from 14 March 2022 to 14 March 2023 has been progressing satisfactorily. The research project is being undertaken in collaboration with the College of Architecture, Om Dayal Group of Institutes, West Bengal.

Noted that the first stage deliverables on 8 out of 9 themes were received between 09 August 2022 and 6 September 2022, and feedback from the Steering Committee of the Scientific Council was communicated to the PI by 26 October 2022. These documents are under revision.

Noted that the research team has organized a workshop on 06 February 2023 with students and faculty members of the College of Architecture, Om Dayal Group of Institutes, where demos on how to fill up the Inventory Format were provided. The fieldwork commenced on 12 February 2023, and is progressing at the rate of 2 days per week by 4 student groups surveying 2-3 buildings per group per day. The field survey, which comprises of as many as 100 buildings, is yet to be completed.

Noted that the PI has sought an extension of 06 months with effect from 15 March 2023, for the completion of the research project.

Noted that the project has utilized a total amount of INR 48,000 during the period 15 March 2022 - 15 March 2023, which has already been paid by ICOMOS India to the PI and the appointed interns by the PI, in full. The amount of INR 1,02,000 remains for utilization for the extended project period. The overall budget of the project will remain the same as mentioned in the ToR.

Noted that this project is being undertaken in collaboration with Om Dayal College of Architecture as per the Agreement of Cooperation signed between both parties in 2022. This cooperation shall continue during the extended project period.

The research project is granted an extension of 12 months with effect from 15 March 2023.

Dated: 23 April 2023

Approved by: Dr. Navin Piplani, President - ICOMOS India

Endorsed by: Dr. Arun Menon, NSC Counsellor - ICOMOS India

Scope & Objectives

- * Develop a **'Thematic Historic Framework'** to study 20th-century heritage, emphasizing its national historical significance.
- * Identify and to prepare an **Inventory of 'value-based heritage assets'** (representative but not exhaustive) of the 20th century, both protected and unprotected, relevant to Kolkata's history.
- * Highlight the significance of **Post-Independence Modern Architecture** and evolution of various architectural styles in Kolkata's cultural and metropolitan growth.
- * Contextualize **cultural precincts** within the city's historical narrative.
- * Evaluate existing conservation policies aimed at protecting built heritage and showcase successful examples of **adaptive re-use**.
- * Identify and assess 20th-century **heritage assets at risk** in Kolkata.

Research Methodology



Research Methodology:

The research project 'Developing a Thematic Historic Framework for Assessing 20th Century Heritage of Kolkata' has been selected as a recipient of ICOMOS India's Annual National Scientific Counsel Research Project 2021.

The 20th Century Thematic Historic Framework of Kolkata has been developed as a mechanism for assessing Built Heritage from Colonial-era of Pre-Independence time to Modern age of post - independence time

Objectives- This research aims to explore and recognize the significance of 20th-century built heritage that is often overlooked or underrepresented, especially when it is not considered "architectural splendour". The methodology employed seeks to identify 'value-based heritage assets' that, though not exhaustive, but representative as per their importance. Many of these structures also hold historical significance due to their connections with prominent figures in India. The aim is to narrate the socio-cultural, socio-political, and socio-economic scenario along with the various architectural styles evolved in this period to depict Kolkata's growth as an important historic city of India during 20th Century. These assets play a crucial role in shaping the cultural identity of Kolkata.

It is to be noted, that the built-heritage of Kolkata is huge and innumerable, it will be difficult to produce elaborative research on it within a limited period or with limited availability of a Research Grant.

Methodology- Hence, the team focused on the 'Thematic Historic Framework' under five themes with Timeline events to understand the growing importance of the city with the following information:

- **Chronological growth of the city with MAP- Annexure- 4**
- **Major events in the history of the city as per Timeline i.e. from 1900- 2000**
- **Transformation of Societal Precent, such as - Political Scenario, Cultural heritage, Multi-ethnicity, Infrastructure Development, Rapid Urbanization, Evolution of various Architectural styles, Economic Scenario, etc.**
- **The primary task of this research is to identify the 'value-based' representative Built heritage. An Inventory with various parameters has been prepared to justify their status as potential Heritage for their recognition.**
- **The neighbourhood culture of Kolkata is an important aspect that also deliberated upon. The team identified three different 'Heritage Precincts' from three different zones (North, Central, South) of Kolkata, which narrates the inherent story /culture of a particular precincts and their aspiration.**
- **A few buildings are identified as Heritage @ Risk which requires immediate attention.**
- **Similarly, a brief account on those Heritage assets of 20C also recorded as an example which are Restored as a part of ongoing process of Conservation.**

While doing this research, it has been decided to involve budding architects from academic field to generate heritage awareness amongst next generations. Hence, the team associated with the OMI DAYAL College of Architecture and involved their faculty and students through field survey and workshops to understand the '20th century heritage of Kolkata'.

The team also took the opportunity of involving ICOMOS National Scientific Counsel -Shared Built Heritage (NSC-SBH) as a knowledge partner.

The total research grant allocated by ICOMOS, India for 20C Heritage Kolkata is Rs.1,50,000/-for a period of 15 March 2022- 14 March 2024.

It is also to be noted, that Om Deyal College of Architecture also joined as a Associated partner for the 50% of the project cost i.e. Rs.75,000/- of the Research Grant.

The team has studied various sources to carry out the research procedure, such as -

Primary Source:

- a. Attempts were made to consult/interview with individual owners/organisations to get the authentic data as far as possible.
- b. The team members along with the students of OM Deyal College of architecture did a 'field survey' and identified 88 buildings (Protected & unprotected categories) and 3 cultural precincts with 5 buildings as a representative example.
- c. Photographic documentation has been made on all the identified buildings by the team members and students of Om Deyal College of Architecture.

Secondary Source:

- a. In this research, a variety of literatures related to the history of 20C Kolkata has been consulted.
- b. a number of Govt. and Non-Govt reports have been considered.
- c. The data on heritage buildings list has been referred from KMC documents available on their website
([Ref:https://www.kmc.gov.in/KMCPortal/downloads/Graded_List_of_Heritage_Buildings_Grade_I_II_A_III/](https://www.kmc.gov.in/KMCPortal/downloads/Graded_List_of_Heritage_Buildings_Grade_I_II_A_III/))
- d. Various Books /research papers/journals/newspaper articles available on public domain / websites are consulted by various team members enclosed as Bibliography and References.

Research Outcome:

- A. 'Thematic historical framework' for the 20th-century society of Kolkata has been developed with five different themes under various sub-themes, such as,
1) Socio-Political, 2) Socio-Cultural, 3) Multi-ethnicity, 4) Rapid-Urbanization/Infrastructure development/Built-Heritage and 5) Socio-economic.
- B. List of Identified buildings as representative examples of 'Value based heritage'
(*Refer Inventory for detail information of the building*)
- C. A 'Timeline' has been prepared for 20 C events
- D. An Inventory with various parameters and photographs for above buildings (Protected and Unprotected category) has been prepared to serve as a tool for formulating policies for conservation.
- E. **Kolkata Map** - i) Chronological development, ii) Area of Slums, iii) Location of identified buildings on the map Zone-wise.
- F. Research findings with examples are compiled aligned with the objectives of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the ICOMOS NSC20C Research Project of Kolkata.
- G. Evolution of various Architectural style with photographic representation in Kolkata during 20th Century.

Tangible Deliverables:

The above information, which has been documented, compiled by 20C Kolkata team and reviewed by the peer committee of ICOMOS India, is now submitted for publication by ICOMOS India NSC 20C. This submission aims to support the recognition of these assets as Heritage Assets for posterity. With this information, it is believed that ICOMOS India will have a solid foundation to liaise with the relevant authorities for their inclusion in the List of Heritage Assets of the 20th century, helping to preserve these assets for future generations.

Outreach to the citizens of India to generate Public Awareness- It is also expected that an exhibition on 20th-century Kolkata will be organized in the near future by ICOMOS India. This will help for reaching out to the citizens of India as well as the global audience, spreading the message of 'Conservation of Heritage Assets.'

Themes & Subthemes



Themes & Subthemes

1. Socio-Political-

Sub Themes:-

- a) Partition of Bengal 1905: Swadeshi movement and Boycott of imported goods
- b) Rise of Revolutionary Parties for freedom movement- 'Jugantar' & 'Anusheelon Samity' led by Bagha Jatin, C.R. Das, Sri Aurobindo etc.
- c) Manifestation of Netaji & Azad Hind Four
- d) Quit India Movement
- e) Independence of India & Partition of India/Bengal- 1947
- f) Calcutta Killing- riots between Hindu/Muslim
- g) Migration of Refugee from East Bengal, population explosion
- h) making of Modern India- expansion of the city
- i) Bangladesh War- Migration of Refugee from East Pakistan
- j) Naxalite Movement & rise of Communism
- k) Political disturbance & fall of economy

2. Socio-Cultural

Sub-Themes-After effect of Bengal Renaissance

- a) Religious Reform/cosmopolitan character/eradication of superstitions - co-existence of multi -religions like, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, Parsee etc.
- b) Educational Reform
- c) Women's empowerment
- d) Rise of Intellectuals and revivalist movement in the field of Literature, Scientific Research and Performing Arts
- e) Philanthropic organizations for e.g.- R.K. Mission, Missionaries of Charity, Indian Red cross Society, St. John's Ambulance, Bharat Sevashram, Birla Group, etc.
- f) Post- Independence aspiration

3. Multi-ethnicity

Sub Themes:-

- a) Connections with Foreign nationals- Jewish, Persia, Greek, Armenians, Scottish, Chinese, British, Anglo-Indians, etc.
- b) Indian nationals other than Bengali- Marwari, Punjabi, Gujrati, North Eastern provinces, Tamil etc.

4A. Rapid Urbanization & Infrastructure development

Sub Themes-

- a) Transformation to Metropolis- expansion in North- South direction
- b) Population explosion due to refugee influx
- c) Establishment of CIT, CMDA etc. for planned development
- d) Slum development
- e) Expansion of Road and Railway network
- f) Infrastructure Development
- g) Expansion towards East- Bidhan Nagar and Rajarhat /New Town

4B. Built-Heritage

Sub Themes-

- a) Evolution of various Architectural Styles
- b) cultural precincts etc.
- c) Inventory of representative examples

5. Socio-Economic

Sub- Themes

- a) After effect of Independence and Partition of Bengal
- b) Decline in Core Industry- jute, tea, cotton, film industry, etc.
- c) Drift of Foreign based multi-national companies
- d) Decline in export/import business with UK
- e) Decline of Bengali Business community
- f) Rising of Marwari community
- g) Nationalization of Bank & Coal industry
- h) Political disturbance of '70s- strike, Bandh etc. and power shortage
- i) Manifestation of Indian multi-nationals during '80's-'90's- resurgence of economy

Timeline of important events of Kolkata (1900-2000)

Sl. No.	Events	Year	Category
1.	'Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Works Ltd at Kolkata', founded by Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy as India's first pharmaceutical company.	1901	Socio- economy
2.	Calcutta Tramways – electrically operated the pollution free public transport system introduced.	1902	Civic Amenities
3.	Sir Ronald Ross received the 'Nobel Prize' in Medicine for his sensational research on 'Transmission Process of deadly disease of Malaria through mosquito bites' in the laboratory of SSKM Hospital, Kolkata.	1902	Scientific Research
4.	Doto Krishna Pal & Co-first medicine shop owned by a Bengalee, which had its branches at London	1904	Entrepreneurship
5.	Partition of Bengal by Lord Curzon	1905	Socio- Political
6.	Howrah Station Building	1905	Civic Amenities
7.	Historical Case of 'Alipur Bomb Case' by British Govt against Biplobi Aurobindo. The case won by Desh Bandhu C.R. Das, and Sri Aurobindo was released unconditional.	1908-1909	Socio- Political
8.	Sir R.M Mukherjee, a renowned engineer cum industrialist, founded the famous construction company - Martin Burn & Co. by amalgamating two British owned firms-Martin & Co and Burn & Currie. He also owned IISCO (Indian Iron and Steel Company) in 1926 at Burnpur & Kulti. In the post- independence era, it was taken over by Govt of India as SAIL.	1909-1936 1926	Entrepreneurship
9.	Shifting of Capital from Kolkata to Delhi	1911	Socio- Political
10.	Construction of Tala Tank - Overhead Water Reservoir to serve drinking water to the entire population of the then Kolkata	1909-1911	Civic Amenities
11.	Calcutta Improvement Trust (CIT) was founded.	1911	Town Planning
12.	Nalini Ranjan Sarkar's contribution in economic regeneration of Bengal was immense. But he was mostly famous as 'Insurance man' being the Chairman of Hindustan Co-operative Insurance Society which flourished with huge success. The same organization at a later date became 'Life Insurance Corporation of India'.	1911-1953	Entrepreneurship

13.	Rastraguru Surendranath Banerjee was one of the first political leaders, who protested against the Partition of Bengal in 1905. He finally was successful for its nationwide agitation, which compelled the British to stop the partition of Bengal in 1912.	1912	Socio-Political
14.	Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore- received the 'Nobel' Prize in literature, as the first Asian in 1913 for his collections of poetries 'Gitanjali'. "He renounced the title 'Sir' as a protest against the British for 'Jallianwala Bagh Massacre'	1913 1919	Socio-Cultural Socio-Political
15.	Electrification of Street Lights	1914	Civic Amenities
16.	The first College of Medicine cum Hospital exclusively for Indians, namely Carmichael Medical College (R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital) was inaugurated	1916	Civic Amenities
17.	Sir J.C. Bose's works of electromagnetic wave was a 'milestone achievement' from Asia and accepted as the basis of today's communication system. 'Life in Plant' -another phenomenal discovery by Sir J.C. Bose	1902-1926	Scientific Invention
18.	B. Sircar & Co.- a pioneer in Gold Jewelry Business house, started their journey from Kolkata. Apart from their excellency in entrepreneurship, they also donated generously for 'Azad Hind Fours' led by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose	1917-1920 1940- 1943	Entrepreneurship Socio-Political
19.	Telephone - Bengal Telephone Corporation office moved to Dalhousie Square and renamed as Calcutta Telephones	1918- 1943	Civic Amenities
20.	Victoria Memorial- a marble edifice came up in Kolkata in the memory of Queen Victoria	1906-1920	Cultural/ Architecture
21.	Manifestation of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, the supreme leader of Freedom Movement of India.	1921- 1948	Socio-Political
22.	C.R. Das donated his entire property overnight for the establishment of a first maternity hospital as 'Chitranjan Matri & Sikhu Seva Sदन'	1922-24	Civic Amenities
23.	Dr. UM Brahmachari discovered the medicine for deadly disease 'KALA-AZAR'	1923	Scientific Invention
24.	Durand/Calcutta Airport was founded in the early 1900s as the Calcutta Aerodrome. Dakota 9 was the first aircraft to land in the airport in 1924	1900-1924	Civic Amenities

25.	Deshabondhu Chittaranjan Das, the renowned Congress leader of Freedom Movement of India, left his mortal remains for his journey to abode at heaven.	1925	Socio-political
26.	Double- Decker bus services introduced	1926	Civic amenities
27.	'Nazrul Felicitation Committee' organized a function, for Bidrohi Kobi Kazi Nazrul Islam at the Albert Hall of Calcutta.	1929	Socio- cultural
28.	C.V.Raman was the first person in Asia ,who received the 'Nobel' Prize in Physics . He did his research at the laboratory of IACS at Bowbazar Campus, Kolkata	1930	Scientific Invention
29.	Education- National Education Movement leading to the birth of a series of educational institutions of National importance, such as Science College (Calcutta University) Bose Institute – A Scientific Research Institute. National Council for Education (NCE) was founded for self-reliance in education. The same is converted as Jadavpur University Indian Statistical Institute, etc. Rabindro Bherati University, Indian Institute of Management [IIMA]	1914 1917 1924 1955 1931 1961 1961	Socio-Culture
30.	Evolution of architecture-Kolkata does not have any particular style of architecture. Mostly mixed type. Approximately eight distinctive styles noticed prominently. The 20th century stands out as a transformative period in Kolkata's history of architecture., marking a shift from colonial influences to embrace the global culture.	1900-2000	Architecture
31.	Rabindranath Tagore breathed his last at his ancestral residence of Jorasanko Thakurbari	1941	Socio-cultural
32.	Jatiparabadi Andolon / National Movement for Freedom of India in Kolkata was at its peak and was famous as '42 er Andolon'	1942-49	Socio-Political
33.	Howrah Bridge	1943	Infrastructure
34.	World War- II- Japanese Bomb exploded in two locations of Kolkata	1942-1944	Socio-Political
35.	Bengal Famine- A man made famine occurred in Bengal-which had resulted in the death of two to three million people.	1943	Socio- cultural
36.	UCO Bank founded by Birla group	1943	Entrepreneurship
37.	World was shaken with the news flash -that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in a plane	1945	Socio Political

	crash at Teitoku airport, which is still remains a mystery.		
38.	Communal Riot -A large scale severe violence occurred between Hindu & Muslim referred as the "Great Calcutta Killing"	1946	Socio Political Direct Action Day – 16 Aug 1946
39.	Gandhiji went for hunger strike in Kolkata, to pacify the Communal violence.	14 Aug 1947	Socio Political
40.	India got Independence	15 th August 1947	Socio Political
41.	Congress Government sworn in as State Govt of West Bengal and Kolkata became the State Capital. Under the leadership of Dr. B.C. Roy, as CM (1948-62), West Bengal experienced stability and prosperity	1950	Socio- Political
42.	Refugee Influx-The intense violence caused during the partition of India led to a shift in demographics in Bengal, and especially Kolkata	1947-48	Socio Political
43.	Rapid expansion of the city at the fringe area, like New Alipore, Jodhpur, Jadaipur, Dhakuria, Garia, Bidhan Nagar, Rajarhat, etc. by CIT and CMDA	1950-1990	Town Planning
44.	Cultural Capital- 20 th century is a remarkable era in the cultural scenario of the city. Creativity and modernism sparks the sphere of 'Performing Arts', like dance, music, literature, painting, sculpture etc. The Cultural Hub of Kolkata consists of Rabindra Sadan, Mandari, Natty academy, Sisir Mancha, Academy of Fine Arts, Birla Planetarium, etc.	Early 20 th - late 20 th century	Socio-Cultural
45.	Kolkata, being a port-city, has long been a melting pot of cultures, drawing migrants from around the world well before British rule. The city has been enriched by diverse communities, including Jews, Armenians, Greeks, Parsis, and Chinese, who contributed to its cultural and architectural legacy. It earns a moniker as 'City of Palaces' probably due to this reason. Additionally, migrants from different parts of India seeking opportunities added to the city's diversity. Kolkata has historically embraced and celebrated this religious and cultural harmony with pride and generosity.	1900-2000	Multi-ethnicity
46.	Bengali Film World- cinema from Kolkata gathered critical acclaim from around the world and was regularly featured in international film festivals. Commercial films and art-films both	1940-1980, the Golden era	Socio-Cultural

	were successful at its own merit. Setyaji Roy was an 'Oscar' winning film director is a product of Tollygunge Film Industry.		
47.	Political Unrest -The violent Naxalite movement damaged much of the city's infrastructure. Internal clash between the two rival political party of Naxalites and Communist Party of India(M) leading to economic stagnation and political disturbance in the society	1970-77	Socio- Political
48.	Political Unrest - Bangladesh War- the war between India and Pakistan led to another massive influx of refugees from the former East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), and their settling in Calcutta, massively strained its already damaged infrastructure and incurred huge population explosion.	1971	Socio- Political
49.	Change of Political movement - Jyoti Basu was sworn in as CM of WB led by CPI(M), which ruled for 3 decades.	1977-2011	Socio- Political
50.	Economic turmoil-Kolkata's economic decline began when British shifted the capital to Delhi. Bara Bazar thrives as Kolkata's bustling epicentre of trade and commerce firmly under Marwari influence since pre-Independence era. Mid-20th century events, such as the Partition of Bengal, the freedom movement, and influx of refugees, further aggravated the downfall of city's economy. Only at the end of the century Kolkata's economy turned around due to investment of software technology and made Salt Lake, Sector-V as IT Hub	1911 1941- 48 1930 onwards 1975-1990 2000	Socio- Economy
51.	In the post-Independence era, notable development took place in respect of Infrastructure development for Kolkata. To mention a few -suburban train services (1957), Door Darshan Kendra (1975), underground Metro Rail (1980), E.M. Bypass (1982), 2nd Hooghly Bridge (1992), etc.	1950- 2000	Infrastructure
52.	From 1942, Calcutta Telephone was under Indian P & T Dept. Thereafter, in 1985, control of Telephone has been transferred to Dept. Of Telecom. At the time of Independence there were 20,000 phone connections in Kolkata. The figure rose to 5,00,000 by1997 and crossed 1 million by 2000.	1942-2000	Infrastructure

Themes



Theme-1 -Socio-Political

Introduction: The nineteenth century

The nineteenth century in Bengal was an Age of Reform, the period of the 'Bengal Renaissance'. It sowed the seeds of several events which were to be landmarks in the history of Bengal in the twentieth century. The social and religious reforms of the nineteenth century conferred a new dynamism on the emerging nationalist consciousness among the educated middle classes. As a result, a number of political associations developed in towns all over India. A significant political event of this period was the foundation of The Indian National Congress (INC) at a national convention held in Bombay in 1885 with W.C. Bannerji as its first president. It became an umbrella organization with Indian leaders of different hues joining the body with the aim of expressing their demands and grievances to the British. The annual sessions of the Congress were held in different parts of the country.

The Moderate phase

The early Congress was formed of upper-class elites which acted as a limitation on its functioning. As W. C. Bannerji mentioned, the Congress was an association of "loyalist and contented well-wishers of the British government". Initially these leaders expressed their faith in British rule and used the method of petitions and parliamentary procedures to express their opinions to the British. This was the so-called moderate phase of Indian nationalism represented by leaders such as Dadabhai Naoroji and R.C. Dutt. The moderate Congress leaders did criticize the British rule but at the same time placed their faith in it. For instance, Dadabhai Naoroji in his magnum opus, *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India*, critically discussed the economic impact of imperialism while at the same time exposing the "un-British" rule of the East India Company in India. R.C. Dutt showed how the British had financially exploited India in his important work *India Today*. Therefore, in spite of their methodological limitations the moderate leaders made important contributions to the understanding of colonial rule.

The first partition of Bengal 1905: Swadeshi and Boycott

The first occasion for a nationalist upsurge in the twentieth century was provided by the 'Partition of Bengal' which took place when Lord Curzon (1893-1905) was the Viceroy of India. Curzon had no sympathy for the nationalists and their demands. The partition of Bengal can be viewed as the culmination of a series of measures taken by Curzon to curb the political aspirations of the Congress and its educated Indian members. It was a territorial reorganization of the Bengal presidency which separated the largely Muslim eastern areas from the largely Hindu western areas. It was implemented on 16 October 1905. However, it failed to weaken the Bengali nationalists and instead revitalized the Congress. Rabindranath Tagore, the Bengali poet and intellectual, who never involved himself in direct politics, led a huge procession through the streets of Calcutta singing a song written for the occasion, to resist the 'Baagbhanga Andolon' along with leaders like Ramendra Sundar Trivedi, secretary of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad (Literary Council of Bengal), observed the 'Rakhi-Bandhan: Utsav' between Hindus and Muslims to mark this occasion as a symbol of communal harmony. Boycott of British textiles was the driving force of the 'Boycott movement' and it spread to other areas of India such as Punjab, Maharashtra and the Telugu-speaking areas of the Madras Presidency, in solidarity with Bengal. Gradually the movement encompassed the boycott of British educational institutions and the founding of national schools. *Atmashakti* or self-reliance became the motto of the Swadeshi movement and it addressed the need to build a bridge between the educated classes and the masses through the use of the vernacular language as a medium of instruction in schools and political meetings promoting *melas* and village reconstruction. The Bengali patriotism of the Swadeshi days led to the emergence of the concept of the motherland or 'Bharat Mata', an abstract ideal of nationalism.

Rise of Nationalistic Movement /Jatiratabadi Andolon (1905-1947)

The early 20th century to mid-20th century was an eventful and vital period in the history of India as the 'Freedom movement of India' got momentum in this phase. The time period from 1885 to 1905 can be called the 'Moderate Phase'. The leaders of this phase were called moderates, such as Dadabhai Naoroji, Womesh Chandra Bannerjee, G. Subramanian Aiyer, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Surendranath Banerjee, etc. The Swadeshi movement led by this moderate group, could not fully satisfy the differences among leaders or bridge the socio-cultural and economic gap between the elite and the masses. The partition of Bengal in 1905 imposed by Lord Curzon on the basis of religion, exposed further the limitations of the methods of the appeal / petitions of the moderate leaders. As a result, there was a turn to militant nationalism which led to a break with Moderate leaders. Moderate groups made an increased use of religious symbolism, coercion and social sanction, which alienated the masses, both Hindus and Muslims in the rural areas of Bengal.

The Nationalistic Movement or 'Jatiratabadi Andolon' led by Sri Aurobindo Ghose of Bengal, Lala Lajpat Rai of Punjab, Balwantrao Gargodkar Thak of Maharashtra and Bipin Chandra Pal of Bengal considered as representatives of a higher stage of Indian nationalism. It was a unanimous opinion by these leaders that India can be freed from the clutches of the British by using two different tactics—armed uprising and non-co-operation.

Sister Nivedita's contribution towards India's freedom is as important as others. Historian Sankari Prasad Barua identified the extent of the period from August 1902 to July 1905 in Indian politics as the 'Nivedita Age'. Sister Nivedita was a pathfinder in the freedom movement, preceding the involvement of Sri Aurobindo.

During this period, she played the most important role in influencing the growth of national consciousness, establishing connections with different revolutionary groups and their leaders, and touring the country giving lectures with the aim of recruiting young volunteers for secret societies and asking for patronage from princely states. At a later date, she intentionally dissociated herself with Ramkrishna Mission to save the Mission from British outrage, but maintained the closeness with revolutionary organizations.

(Source: Vivekananda International Foundation.org)

In 1902, Sister Nivedita travelled the length and breadth of the country, striving the national consciousness amongst the Indian people. At this time, Nivedita visited Aurobindo Ghosh at Baroda and urged to play more direct role in the National Movement and to relocate him at Calcutta. Finally, Sri Aurobindo relocated himself in 1906 to Calcutta upon a call from Raja Subodh Chandra Mallik to join as a Principal of 'National Council of Education'. He stayed at the house of Raja Subodh Mallik at Wellington Square and from there he wrote many articles on 'Purna Swaraj' in the newsletter namely 'Bande Mataram'.



Sri Aurobindo



The Plaque



Raja Subodh Mallik's house at Wellington Square

The popularity of 'Bande Mataram' reached to its peak in Bengal mainly due to Sri Aurobindo's thought-provoking articles on Freedom, Swaraj and Nationalistic Movement. However, as it is published in English language, it even energized the whole Nation, on the issue of 'Jaiyatsbadi Andolan' which was the original idea of Sri Aurobindo behind its publication.



From 1908-09, underground organizations and secret societies came up such as the 'Anushilan Samiti' of Calcutta and Dacca, which believed in armed uprising to end the British rule. At that time, the most competent and natural leader of this movement was Sri Aurobindo Ghosh, who believed that 'Freedom of India' cannot be achieved through petitions, appeal or discussions.

Sri Aurobindo at the very initial stage, conceptualized a three-point program:

- a) to organize a holistic armed revolution nationwide and direct confrontation to resist and protest against the torture of British Administration,
- b) to sensitize the country men on the issue of 'Liberty, Swaraj and Revolt' by disseminating knowledge through articles in journals/newsletters/lectures in the meetings nationwide.
- c) to adopt tactics of non-co-operation, boycott of foreign goods, hunger strike etc., as a passive protest, through 'Non-violence movement'.

Under Sri Aurobindo's leadership, the Swadeshi Andolan adopted 'Purna Swaraj' (complete independence) as its goal, contrasting with the moderates' push for partial autonomy. The ideological clash between the moderates and Jaiyatsbadi leaders culminated in the split at the Surat Congress of 1907. Despite Sri Aurobindo's brief political career from 1906 to mid-1910, his thoughtful methodology including the 'Non-Violence Movement' got momentum for Freedom movement of India, much before Gandhiji landed in the Indian politics. Gandhiji arrived in India in 1915 from South Africa, and later popularized the non-violence approach as 'Satyagraha Andolan'. Very few people know actually, that this 'non-violence movement' was also a part of three-point program of Jaiyatsbadi Andolan led by Sri Aurobindo.

In 1908, revolutionaries Khudiram Bose and Prafulla Chaki attempted to assassinate British magistrate D.H. Kingsford in Muzaffarpur with a bomb, but instead killed two English women. Khudiram was arrested, while Prafulla Chaki committed suicide. This incident, known as the Alipore Bomb Case or Maricknala Conspiracy, led to the arrest of Khudiram, 32 members of the Anushilan Samiti, including Sri Aurobindo Ghosh and his brother Barin Ghosh. All were imprisoned in Alipore's Presidency Jail. Despite being held for a year, the British could not prove charges against Aurobindo, who was defended successfully by Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das and acquitted on May 6, 1909. However, the remaining members of the Samiti were not acquitted, significantly disrupting the Samiti's activities.



*House at 45, Gray Street (now demolished)
from where Sri Aurobindo was arrested*



*The solitary cell at Presidency Jail, where
Sri Aurobindo was kept*



The Trial Room at Alipore Court



Commemorative Plaque at Alipore Court



Alipore Jail



freedom fighters laid their lives in Gallows

Surprisingly, during his imprisonment at Presidency Jail, Alipore, Sri Aurobindo experienced a profound spiritual awakening and achieved 'Siddhi,' as he described in his 'Uttarpada speech.' This marked his transformation from a revolutionary into a spiritual leader. After his release, he found the nationalist movement in decline due to the imprisonment of leaders and the execution of young fighters. To counter this, he launched two influential newsletters, 'Karmayogin' in English and 'Dharm' in Bengali, revitalizing the movement with his writing and clear message on freedom. He also organized numerous meetings across Bengal, staying at his maternal uncle's house in 6, College Square, Kolkata during this period.



No 8, College Square,
House of Krishna Kumar Mitra



The Plaque



No 4, Shyamgopal Lane
Office of 'Karmayogin'
& Dharmu

Unable to accept the failure of the Alipore Bomb Case, the British sought to arrest Sri Aurobindo again, using an article in Karmayogin as grounds for arrest. He relocated to Chandernagore, a French territory, on February 15, 1910, and then departed for Pondicherry, also French, on April 1, 1910, following a divine call for a greater commitment to humanity. At Pondicherry, he practiced Integral Yoga and worked on bringing Supramental Power to Earth. Renamed Rishi Aurobindo, he was recognized internationally as a spiritual leader of high order. He broke his silence only twice on political matters firstly, during World War II and then on India's Independence Day, August 15, 1947.

Jatindranath Mukhopadhyay (Bagha Jatin), who joined as a volunteer of a relief camp organized by Sister Nivedita became another famous patriot of freedom movement of India inspired by none other than Secreti Phokaranda.



Jatindranath Mukhopadhyay
(Bagha Jatin)



His statue at Kolkata

Bagha Jatin's meeting with Sri Aurobindo intensified his revolutionary zeal. Sri Aurobindo tasked Jatin with forming a secret society to train youth for armed resistance against the British. This society, named 'Jugantar', saw Jatin as its commander-in-chief. Later, Jugantar merged with 'Anushilan Samiti' to create a unified secret organization. Jugantar quickly expanded nationwide, establishing units across India and extending its influence to South-East Asia, Europe, and America. Jatin's frequent attacks on British. According to British records, Earl of Minto and Charles Hardinge, successive Governors-General of India, were deeply concerned about Jugantar's rapid rise under Jatin's leadership.

In 1915, under Bagha Jatin's leadership, the Jaiyatabadi Andolon resurfaced again. Jatin's attempt to import arms from Germany, though unsuccessful, foreshadowed Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's later armed struggle with foreign support against the British. Despite the failure of his efforts, Jatin died heroically in a battle with British police at the Suri Balam riverbank in Orissa, securing his place in history.

(Source: <https://www.gyanraj.com/culture/bagha-jatin-the-bengali-tiger/>)

In the meantime, relations between the Hindus and Muslims worsened due to several factors and the All-India Muslim League was formed in 1906 in Dhacca. The Morley-Minto Reforms of 1909 provided for limited self-government to the Indians by allowing them representation on the legislative Councils and also provided reservation to Muslims.

The Delhi Durbar of 1911

1911 was another turning point in the history of India when the Delhi Durbar took place to welcome King George V. He, along with his wife Queen Mary, landed at the Princep Ghat in Calcutta. It was the year when the capital was shifted from Calcutta to Delhi by the British in order to deal with the increasingly agitating Bengali nationalism to give a jolt to its economic and political scenario. This marked the beginning of the decline of Calcutta in national politics. The partition was therefore, undone six years later in 1911 in response to the Swadeshi and Boycott movement. Rasttaguru Surendranath Banerjee, a moderate Congress leader, protested countrywide against the 'Partition of Bengal' and finally compelled the British to withdraw it in 1911 through his fierce agitation nationwide.

The outbreak of World War I (1914-1918) intensified the demand for 'Purna Swaraj' or complete independence. This movement was spearheaded by Dehbandhu Chittaranjan Das and his Swarajya Party in Bengal, and Mahatma Gandhi on a national scale. C. R. Das, a key figure in Bengal, led the Non-Cooperation Movement against the British and was both the founder of the Swarajya Party and an active member of the Amshilan Samity. His most competent disciple was Subhas Chandra Bose, the most important leader thereafter in Bengal, as his successor.



Chittaranjan Das



The Cell of CR Das



The building at Alipore Jail
where CR Das & Netaji both were imprisoned

1921-1941: Manifestation of Netaji

On his return from England as ICS, young Subhas Chandra Bose met Mahatma Gandhi and expressed his desire to work for the nation. Gandhi directed him to join with C.R. Das. Subhas met Chittaranjan Das and immediately accepted him as his 'Guru', and joined the Congress Party. The young Subhas was made the leader of 'Bengal Volunteers'. Within a very short spell of his political career, he became a frontline leader of the nation.



Subhas Chandra Bose



as Congress President



with Gandhi at Marjapur Congress

In 1938, Subhas Chandra Bose was elected Congress President and articulated a vision for an independent India that conflicted with Gandhi's ideology. This led Gandhi to withdraw support for Bose's presidency in 1939 at the Tripuri Congress. Despite Gandhi's opposition, Bose won the election against Gandhi's candidate, Pattabhi Sitaramayya, reflecting his peak popularity. The disagreement over the strategy for achieving freedom led Bose to resign from the Congress Presidency and form his own party, the Forward Bloc, in 1939.

Subhas Chandra Bose was imprisoned 11 times by the British, including in Kolkata and Mandalay, Burma, where he fell ill. In 1940, he was jailed again in Presidency Jail and went on a hunger strike. Fearing a severe national uprising if he died in prison, the British decided to release him and place him under house arrest instead.

Subhas Chandra Bose, unwavering in his fight against injustice, made a dramatic escape from British custody one night from his Kolkata home, marking a historic 'Great Escape.' He went abroad to build international support for India's freedom movement. In 1942, alongside Rashbehari Bose, he established the Indian National Army (INA) to openly challenge British rule and seek India's independence through armed struggle.

It was Rashbehari Bose, who coined the title 'Netaji' for Subhas Chandra Bose and declared him as the supreme leader of INA/Azad Hind Four. The most important announcement made by Netaji in the history of Indian Independence was the formation of provincial 'Azad Hind Government' i.e. 'Azad Hind Sarkar' in exile in 1943, which was recognized by nine states of the world at that time, Japan, Germany, Italy, Croatia, Manchukuo, Nanking, Philippines, Thailand, and Burma. It had its currency, postage stamps, civil code, Cabinet Ministries and declared 'Subhas Bose' as Head of the State/Prime Minister. His Govt. declared War against the British.

National Flag was first hoisted in Andaman Islands (which were handed over to Netaji by Japan Government) in 1943 by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.



Netaji was inspecting INA contingent
PC: Nitya Narasimh Murthy



Netaji was like a God
PC: www.mdfj.com

In January 1944, Netaji Bose issued the 'Delhi Chalo' call and led the Indian National Army (INA) into British India, capturing Kohima with Japanese support. However, the INA was defeated due to insufficient Japanese assistance and the onset of monsoon. After Japan's sudden surrender following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Bose was advised to leave Japan. He then boarded a plane aiming to reach Russia for support.

The world was shaken when the news spread that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose had died in a plane crash at Taihoku airport in 1945 while travelling in a Japanese Bomber to Russia. However, it remains a mystery till date as it was not supported through enough evidential proof, neither from Japan Government nor from British Indian Government. Even Gandhiji did not believe it. The cause of Netaji's disappearance from the world politics is still under research.



The 'Plaque' at Netaji Bhawan



Message to his countrymen.

Quit India, Independence and Partition

1941 witnessed the **Quit India Movement** whereby the demand was made that the British transfer power immediately to Indians and quit India. Mahatma Gandhi and several leaders were imprisoned and the masses took over the movement also known as the August revolution. It was the most successful of all the mass movements led by Gandhi and put tremendous pressure on the British to leave the country. The Second World War (1939-1945) quickened the process of British departure. Two Japanese bombs fell at the Kidderpore Docks in Calcutta as part of the Hiroshima Nagasaki bomb blast incident in 1944-1945. The INA trials took place from 5 November 1945 in the Red Fort at New Delhi.

The Great Calcutta Killings of 1946

On 16 August 1946, Direct Action Day led to the Great Calcutta Killing, with severe violence between Hindus and Muslims causing 5,600 to 10,000 deaths and 15,000 injuries. The riots spread across Bengal and Bihar. Gandhi traveled from Noakhali to Delhi to promote peace but had limited impact on the British Government. On the eve of Independence Day, he began a hunger strike in Calcutta at 'Hyderi Manzil' to protest the violence. Despite the partition of India, Gandhi's 73-hour hunger strike established him as a champion of communal harmony by stopping the riots between Hindus and Muslims. 'Hyderi Manzil' is now a heritage site, renamed 'Gandhi Bhawan'.

India got Independence

India gained independence on 15 August 1947. The Governor House was taken over by the State Govt of West Bengal. Celebration spread all over the city and each and every house raised Indian National Flag. The citizens thronged on to the roads of Calcutta in jubilant mood. Handing over was done in a peaceful manner.



Independence Day at New Delhi 15 August 1947 & jubilant mood at Calcutta on Independence Day

Post-independence: Partition, Migration and the refugee crisis

India's independence was achieved along with the partition of the Bengal and the Punjab provinces. This led to one of the largest migration of populations in history and a major demographic change in Kolkata. The 1951 Census found only 33.2 percent of Calcutta's inhabitants to be city born. The rest, including a small group of non-Indians, were migrants; 12.3 per cent from elsewhere in West Bengal, 26.6 per cent from other Indian states, and 26.9 percent from what had become East Pakistan in 1947. This demographic change led to an increased pressure on the city's infrastructure and resources and the rehabilitation of the refugees constituted a major preoccupation of the state government in the 1950s and 1960s. The flow of refugees from the eastern parts of Bengal into and around Calcutta occurred in several spurts from 1947 to 1971.



Partition of India-affected states-Punjab & Bengal: Price of Independence: Refugee influx-17

The 1960s decade

The Congress dominated the political culture of the 1950s. It held the municipal body and nearly all of the legislative constituencies in the state capital. Within the Congress party there were continuous factional disputes but these were on the whole settled with the installation of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Ray as Chief Minister and Anuj Ghosh as the principal party boss. The Congress had by now established itself as the party of order, mobilising support in its favor by appealing to its old rationalist credentials and its new programs of Nehruvian socialism. This was a phase of positive

Liberalization and its impact

The 1990s was the decade when liberalization was introduced in India. The policy of globalization and liberalization of the economy had a great impact on every aspect of life particularly for the middle classes. The city of Calcutta had already expanded towards the east and north east from the 1970s when Salt Lake came up after filling up of the salty marshlands in east Calcutta. In the 1990s the CPI(M) government took the initiative to build the New Town/Rajarhat township amidst a great deal of controversy. This was linked to its pro-capital economic policy.

However, the attempt to build a small car factory in fertile Singur with the help of the Tata Group and the subsequent controversy over the building of the Salim Group's chemical hub in Nandigram district led to widespread agitation. The result was a change in the government after thirty-five years when the Left Front led by Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee was overthrown by the Trinamool Congress led by Mamata Banerjee was voted to power in the 2011 elections.

Hence, it is a fact for the citizens of Kolkata, peaceful life is a rare commodity since British Raj and even after Independence. Education and economy suffered to a great extent, and thereby young children left Kolkata to abroad and other parts of India, in search of quality education and employment opportunity.

by

Dr. Sukanya Mitra

THEME-2: SOCIO – CULTURAL REFORM IN 19 C KOLKATA

Introduction

'Bengal Renaissance' started in the late 18th century and spanned up to the early 20th century. It was a time when cultural, social, and intellectual reform emerged in Bengal, especially in Calcutta, reached to its zenith. Surprisingly, 19th century Bengal experienced a magical manifestation of huge numbers of reformers, scholars, scientists, literary heavyweights, educationists, patriots, and freedom fighters, who ignited and contributed to this movement in various ways. The Eastern part of India remains a cultural hub since the Pre-Independence era and it continues its legacy even in the post-Independence era. Kolkata's culture is the breeding ground for the literary and artistic manifestation of the new nation.

Sub-Theme - A- Religious Reform

Religion has been integral to Indian culture since the Vedic era, and Bengal, including Kolkata, was no exception to it. In the 19th century, Bengali society was marked by rigid social customs and practices such as Sati, polygamy, child marriage, widow oppression, and untouchability. The early British era ushered in significant reforms in judicial system and social justice influenced by Western ideals. This period saw the emergence of reformers like Raja Rammohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, H.L.V. Derozio, Ramkrishna Paramahansa, and Swami Vivekananda, who challenged traditional practices and promoted social progress. Swami Vivekananda by establishing Ramkrishna Mission in 1896 also paved the way towards a much liberal Bengal and Kolkata of today through his vision of transformation of the society from conservatism, superstition, casteism etc.

(Haght, N. (1995)-Rammohan Church, Marmaller, F (2002)-Rammohan to Ramkrishna)

In the early 20th century, the focus shifted towards self-esteem, liberalization, and women's empowerment. The educated class began to move away from religious confinement to a broader humanistic approach under the influence of 'Young Bengal' / Derozians. Bengali society, especially in Kolkata, increasingly embraced religious harmony among various faiths.

(H.L. V. Derozio-National Biography, Ananta Society)

The partition of India in 1947 and subsequent riots, including the Calcutta killings, briefly disrupted this harmony. Similarly, the 1984 anti-Sikh riots following Indira Gandhi's assassination caused tensions, but these were managed by the government and were short-lived. Since then, Kolkata has largely maintained religious harmony.

Post-independence, Government of India enacted several laws to promote secularism and end discriminatory practices. Notably, the Constitution of India, (adopted on January 26, 1950), enshrined secularism and abolished untouchability, ensuring that all religious communities could celebrate their festivals freely and peacefully, supported by the administration.

Sub- Theme- B. Educational Reform

Backdrop of 19th Century

At the beginning of the 19th Century the University of Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras were already established. The University of Calcutta functioned not merely for Bengal, but for Burma, Assam, the Central Provinces, and Ceylon. The initial years of the 19th Century were marked by the growth of national consciousness and the birth of the Indian National Congress (INC) in 1885. This new idea

of rationalism emanating from the western education deeply influenced the youthful minds of Bengal, particularly the Derozians, who started the 'Young Bengal Movement' in 1826-30. **Iswarchandra Vidyasagar**, a great scholar, social reformer and a key figure of Bengal Renaissance contributed substantially in developing the education system in Bengal. His major contribution was to simplify 'Bengal Alphabet' and to formalize 'Bengali Grammar'.

However, the history of education in Calcutta will not be completed, unless the contribution of three European educationists is mentioned, namely **David Hare**, **Alexander Duff** and **John Elliot Drinkwater Bethune**. They are the ones, who initiated in the 19th century, the wave of 'educational reform' in the country along with the Bengal Renaissance (a reformist movement that took place in the Bengal region, from the late 18th century to the early 20th century).

David Hare (1775-1842) was a Scottish philanthropist came to Kolkata as a watchmaker. He founded many educational institutions in Kolkata, such as the **Hindu School**, **Hare School** and helped in founding **Presidency College**.

Alexander Duff (1806 - 1878), was the first overseas missionary of the Church of Scotland to India. He also played a role in establishing the University of Calcutta. Two institutions founded by Duff, i.e., the 'General Assembly's Institution' and the 'Free Church Institution' was merged in 1908 to form the 'Scottish Church College'.

John Elliot Drinkwater Bethune (1801-1851) established 'Calcutta Female School', the first school for girls in Calcutta in 1849, with 21 girls on its roll. 1851 onwards, this school came to be known as **Bethune School**. **Pandit Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar** was the first Secretary of Bethune School. Since 1880, Bethune College was open to the female students of all religious backgrounds.

History of Education

Pre-Independence scenario of 19th century

The National Education Movement has been divided into the following phases by various educationists and historians. Phase 1: (1880-1904), Phase 2: Around 1905 (Lord Curzon's Time), Phase 3: 1920-1922 (Non- Cooperation Movement), and Phase 4: 1937-1939 (Wardha Scheme of Education).

For the present research phase, 1-4 is of utmost importance. Lord Curzon, being appointed as the Governor-General of India in 1899, he understood the importance of India to the British Empire.

Curzon held India's very first education conference in 1901 in Shimla, where no Indian was invited. Despite all the criticism from Indian nationals, he went ahead with the recommendations of the Shimla conference through his **Indian Education Act of 1904** on primary, secondary, and higher education. The second phase of the National Education Movement (NEM) was characterized by the Indian Control of Universities in 1920-22. It was realized that, British ideals were good for Britain and Indian ideals were good for India.

The educated intelligentsia of Bengal no longer tolerated the insults made by Lord Curzon. This rise in the national consciousness brought forth the National Education Movement leading to the birth of a series of educational institutions of National importance all over India. The most important was the establishment of **National Council for Education** (NCE, renamed now as **Jadavpur University**) in Kolkata. NCE was patronized by **Raja Subodh Chandra Mallick**, **Ram Behari Ghosh**, **Tarakanath Palit** etc, and **Sri.Aurobindo** became its first Principal.

(<https://www.jcup.ac.in/1151/AboutUs/>, <https://jadavpuruniversity.in>, <https://en.wikipedia.org>)

Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee, another stalwart educationist, believed that knowledge was the only weapon that could enlighten the society from the grass root level. He favoured the western thoughts and ideas but not at the cost of indigenous culture that forms our identity. Hence, he created a modern transformed Calcutta university out of the colonial influenced system, when he became its Vice-Chancellor in 1906. He founded Science College, Raja bazar (1914) for the Indians to study science subjects, which was earlier facilitated to the Europeans only. Sir Ashutosh also opened the horizon of education for mass by introducing vernacular medium for higher studies. These epoch-making decisions were sensational achievement in the education system of India.

(Bhaduri, R (2014)-Ashutosh, Vidya Sarathi, 150* Birth-century publication, Ashutosh Memorial Institute)

It was during this time that Visva-Bharati was established (1922) by Kabiturn Rabindranath Thakur, aiming to strike a concord between the east and the west, and to develop a feeling of international harmony and brotherhood. His Visva-Bharati at Santiniketan, was the centre of experimentation with his new educational ideas and practices, based on the traditional Indian concept of 'Gurukul' system. The educational system of the country saw a 'new wave' with a splendid combination of traditionalism and modernism. (<https://en.wikipedia.org/>, <https://www.visvabharati.ac.in/>)

The second wave of the NEM was more intensive and more widespread. The number of students and teachers involved was much larger, creating new national leaderships that brought in a wave of patriotic feeling among the entire Bengalees and therefore Indian community at large.

The period (1921-1937) is called the period of Diarchy or the rule of the two. The activities of the provincial government were divided into two. The reserved and the transferred departments. The Governor is the Head of the Provincial Government was to administer the reserved departments while the transferred departments were administered with the help of certain ministers. It was because of this division, that the Indians first obtained control of the Education Department. Despite its useful work, it was abolished in 1923, only to be revived again in 1935. The Wood Abbot report in 1937 stressed that both vocational and general education was equally important and neither of them should be claimed as to be more useful and necessary.

Post-Independence scenario of 10th century

The most significant thing in post-independence period was the appointment of the University Education Commission (1948-49) under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan. The report is still of great importance as it guided the development of university education in India since independence, by providing suggestions on improvement and extensions to suit future and present requirements of the country.

India was partitioned and achieved independence in 1947, after which there was a remarkable improvement in the education and research. Literacy rate increased at tremendous pace. The new constitution adopted by free India provides 'Right to education' for all as a fundamental right for the citizens. It encouraged Basic Education as a prime responsibility of the state governments, and the union (central) government continued to assume responsibility for maintaining the appropriate standards in higher education, research and scientific and technical education.

The number of educational institutions in India tripled during 1950s - '80s. The primary schools, in each locality of Kolkata and villages of West Bengal experienced rapid growth as the states gave highest priority to the elementary education to follow the constitutional directive of providing universal, free, and compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14. (<https://www.ck12.org/>)

The recommendations of the Kothari commission were widely discussed in Parliament out of which emerged India's first National Education Policy 1968, thereby forming the basic framework for all governmental actions though it was revised in 1986, 1992 and again in 2020. The peculiar dimension, the vastness and variedness of the country with an exploding population speaking 28 different languages and following different religions and cultures pose certain unique problems that are indigenous to India. Bengal being a part of India and Kolkata being a part of Bengal has faced all the aftermath of all these historical events and the same problems as that of greater India.

Kolkata continued to be in the forefront of the educational scene in the post-independence period as well, as quite a few institutes of repute were established during this time.

There are several schools and colleges emerged during this period to support the growing demand of educational thrust. Few schools and colleges for girls and boys flourished in general education are noteworthy, like *Arya Kanya Balika Mahavidyalaya* (founded to educate Marwari community in Hindi medium -1902) , *Adra Institution for Boys* (Main- 1901,Bhowanipore-1905), *Sister Nivedita Balika Vidyalaya* (1902), *Jagabandha Institution for Boys* (1914), *Gobbale Memorial Girls' High School* (1920), *Ballygunge Govt High School for Boys* (1927), *Birla (Hindi) High School for Boys* (1941), *Modern High School for Girls* (Founded by Birla Group -1952), *South Point High School* (First Co-education School -1954), *Airbank College* (1924), *Moulana Azad College* (mostly for Muslim Boys'-1926), *Surendra Nath College for Women* (mostly for imparting higher education to girls from partition-affected families -1948) , *Lady Bradown College* (mostly to educate Muslim Girls-1939), *Sree Siddhiquan College for Girls* (mostly for conservative Marwari community-1955) and many more.

Sub-Theme- C. Science

This was a period when Research on Scientific innovation/discovery reached its zenith at Kolkata, by manifestation of some genius scientists of Indian origin, who were located at this city, whose contribution to the international field was huge due to their epoch-making discoveries. To name a few-

J.C. Bose-(1897-1933)- His discovery of 'Life in Plants' gave a new wave in the science of Botany. Other than this, Bose's experimental work in 'millimetre band radio' has been recognized by the international organization i.e. IEEE as a 'Milestone in Electrical and Computer Engineering'. His research and pioneering innovation on 'Radio and Microwave optics are the basis of today's radio communication mobile technology'. 'Bose Institute' a premiere research institute of India was founded in 1917 by him. It is Asia's first modern research Centre for interdisciplinary research on science.

P.C. Ray- He was regarded as the 'father of chemical science'. He founded the first pharmaceutical company of India 'Bengal Chemical & Pharmaceuticals' in 1901 at Kolkata. He discovered 'Mercurous Nitrite', which helped further research in chemistry.

C.V. Raman- He carried out the ground-breaking work in 1928, in the field of light scattering, which earned him the 1930 'Nobel' Prize for Physics. He discovered the phenomenon, known as 'Raman Ray scattering', & the 'Raman effect' in the laboratory of Indian Association of Cultivation of Science (IACS) at Bowbazar, Kolkata.

Meghnad Saha- He was an astrophysicist and a great scientist. He is famous for his development of the 'Saha ionization equation', which describes the chemical and physical status in stars. Saha was the

first scientist who discovered the relation between a star's spectrum and its temperature. This was the fundamental requirement in the research field of astrophysics and astrochemistry.

PC Mahalanobis: He was a 'Multifaceted talent' with a special aptitude in Mathematics and Applied Statistics. He has been regarded as the 'father of modern Statistics'. He founded the 'Indian Statistical Institute', in 1931 which gained a status of national importance by an act of India Parliament in 1959. Mahalanobis also established the 'National Sample Survey' in 1950.

Satyen Bose: Bose's Planck's Law and the Hypothesis of Light Quanta (1924) led Einstein to seek him out for a collaboration, which gave birth to 'Bose-Einstein Condensate' a dense collection of particles with integer spin known as 'Bosons' (named after Bose). According to a July 2012 New York Times - Bose is described as the 'Father of the God Particle'.

Hence it is understood, Kolkata flourished as a breeding ground for scientific research during 30C for few genii along with many meritorious scholars, whose contributions are enormous to the World.

Indian Institute of Management Calcutta was the first (1961) management institute in India in collaboration with the MIT Sloan School of Management, the government of West Bengal, the Ford Foundation and the Indian industry. During the initial years of IIM Calcutta, several renowned academics and visionaries formed part of its core team, including Paul Samuelson, Jagdish Sheth, J K Sengupta, Peter S King, and Thomas Hill. In its initial years, IIM Calcutta operated from Emerald Bower, Barrackpore Trunk Road, Kolkata, thereafter it shifted to its new campus at Joka (1975).

(Source: https://www.iimcal.ac.in/sites/default/files/pdf/indian_institute_of_management_calcutta20221227.pdf) (PDF), IIM Calcutta.)



Indian Institute of Management-Campus in Joka, Kolkata



Indian Statistical Institute, Baranagar campus

Sub-Theme- D. Women's Empowerment

Women's education gained significant momentum from the 19th century onwards, thanks to pioneers like Dwarkanath Ganguly, Shrinath Shastri, Asanda Mohan Bose, Lady Abala Bose, Sarala Roy, and the Jemsanki Thakur family. In 1882, Chandramukhi Bose and Kadambari Ganguly became India's first female graduates from Bethune College. Kadambari Ganguly later became the country's first practicing female doctor in 1888. By the 20th century, it was widely recognized that women, when given opportunities, could excel in various fields, demonstrating their capabilities across numerous domains. Few Institutions for Girls' education were the achievements of this era, like, 'Gokhale Memorial Girls' High School' (1920), 'Uster Nibedita Girls' High School' (1922), 'Arya Kanya Balika Vidyalaya' (1949), 'Modern High School' (1952) and many more.

It is also to be noted many Women freedom fighters took part into the 'Freedom Movement' of India along with their men counterpart, for e.g. *Bina Das, Kanak Das, Aruna Asaf Ali, Sarojini Naidu* etc. *Pritilata Waddadar* became the first woman Martyr of India.

Few important Acts of Govt of India were passed after Independence to liberate women from social oppression, like, the *Special Marriage Act 1954, Hindu Marriage Act 1955, Indian Divorce Act 1869, Equal rights for men and women, Hindu Succession Act 1956, Dowry Prohibition Act, 1941, Domestic Violence Act 498 A in 1989* etc.

Sub-Theme- E. Literature - The glorious period (1900-1947)

Children's Literature played a prominent role for the first time in Bengali culture, to nurture the child's psychology and intelligence. *Upendra Kishore Raychowdhary*, (1913) a prominent author of this period, first ventured into children's literature and science fiction for children in Bengali. His brilliant

son Sukumar Roy created history by introducing non-sense poems, namely 'Aho! Tabol' which bears a satirical message to the society in a comical way. Other important writers of children's literature of this period were Rabindranath Thakur, Abanindranath Thakur, Gogendranath Thakur etc.

The era of Rabindranath Tagore (1890-1940)

Rabindranath Tagore was a versatile literary giant who profoundly impacted Bengali literature with his diverse works, including poetry, plays, dance dramas, novels, short stories, essays, and over three thousand songs. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913 for his poetry collection 'Gitanjali'. Renowned as 'BOSUWAKABI' (World Poet), Tagore's influence shaped Bengali poetry for decades. While many of his contemporaries were influenced by him, notable figures like Dwijendralal Roy, Satyendra Nath Dutta, and Kazi Nazrul Islam eventually established their own identity as poets.

Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay was a prominent figure in 20th-century Bengali literature, renowned for highlighting the suffering and social injustices faced by women. His impactful works, including *Charitraheen*, *Devdas*, *Poity ramay*, and *Sree Kanta*, challenged conservative norms and contributed significantly to the women's liberation movement in India.

Effect of Freedom movement on Literature (1930-1947)

In mid-20th century Bengal, patriotism flourished, with poets like Rabindranath Tagore, Dwijendralal Roy, and Kazi Nazrul Islam inspiring freedom fighters through their songs. Tagore's "Jana Gana Mana" and "Amar Sonar Bangla" became the National Anthem of India and Bangladesh, respectively. Dwijendralal's "Dhama Dhanyo Padmo Bhava" remains a symbol of national pride. Kazi Nazrul Islam's rebellious poetry, such as "Bidrohi", and his song "Chal, Chal, Disha Gagan Baje Madole" were chosen by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose for the INA. Nazrul's other song "Karat O Louka Koper, bhanga fel kor re lopar" also inspired many freedom fighters.

Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay's acclaimed novel "Father Dabi" significantly influenced India's freedom movement. Its themes closely mirrored the activities of the INA, leading to its ban by the British authorities at the time.

The fourth phase, the post-Rabindranath Tagore phase

'Kallol era' (1913-1930) started to give a jolt and jerk to the system of the so-called sophisticated society and to establish a new philosophy / perspective in Bengali literature with more lucid way to narrate the stories of downtrodden society. A sign of modern thought process began with Kallol era. However, this movement did not last more than seven years.

Sukanta Bhattacharya (1926-1947), another firebrand poet, shook the society with his rebellion philosophy in poetical forms, like, "Rannar" which describes the sufferings of the common man and their struggle for existence.

Fifth phase - the post-partition phase (1947 onwards)

A new era in Bengali literature began with the rise of modernism, introducing influential novelists and short story writers. This period also saw the emergence of many women writers, reflecting a wave of empowerment. Their works vividly portrayed the post-partition and post-independence struggles in Bengal, capturing the societal frustration, economic hardship, and growing political awareness, particularly Marxist leanings, amidst widespread corruption.

So, it is a clear indication, that change in the culture always gets reflected in the literature as well, as a *MIRROR* of the society.

Many literary institutions were founded to provide the treasure of Bengali literature for next generation to ponder over, such as- *Bangya Sahitya Parishad* (1908), *Ram Mohan Library* (1913), *Pharansada Society* (1977) are such organizations were established as a torch bearer.

Boi-Para- a potential 'Heritage Precincts'

Kolkata's College Street, known as 'Boipara,' is a vital part of the city's literary heritage. This area, bustling with bookstores and second-hand rare book shops, draws students, authors, teachers, and publishers. The Publishers & Booksellers Guild, organise the 'Kolkata Book Fair' annually since 1976, Asia's oldest and largest book fair by attendance. The iconic 'Indian Coffee House' on College Street, a popular hangout for intellectuals and students since 1947, is a cherished 20th-century cultural landmark. This vibrant area deserves recognition as a heritage precinct.



Boipara- College Street



Kolkata Book Fair

Sub-Theme F. Performing Arts

a) **FINE ARTS/PAINTINGS/SCULPTURES** - Bengal's original artworks were mostly influenced by 'Folk Art', like, '*Patankhira*' (Midnapore Dist.), '*Jayramon*' (Bankura/Birbhum Dist.), '*Dhopra*' (Bardhaman Dist.), '*Kanika Work*' (East Bengal), and a few Tribal art form, such as '*Alpona*' etc. Gurusaday Dutta museum at Joka, established in 1940 displayed a huge personal collection of the 'folk art of Bengal' by the great philanthropist Gurusaday Dutt, ICS.

In 1907, '*India Society of Oriental Art*', was founded by a few Bengali elites and a few foreign nationals, like *Ananda Coomaraswamy*, *O.C. Ganguly*, *Surenbrinath Thakur*, *Abanindranath Thakur*, *Gaganendranath Thakur*, *Sister Nivedita*, *Kakuzo Okakura*, etc.

In the early phase of 20th century, *Abanindranath Thakur*, propagated for various 'Oriental style of the Art form'. Thereafter, *Nandalal Bose*, *Jamini Roy*, etc, the other stalwart artists of this era, nurtured indigenous themes as the subjects of painting based on our mythology. The credibility of these master artists also lies for adopting even the common man as an object of Art form, like, *Nandalal Bose's Porters of Haripura Congress*. *Nandalal Bose* even uplifted a tribal (Santhals) art form of floor decoration i.e. '*Alpona*' at Santiniketan to a very sophisticated artform with indigenous motifs.

Previously, art was seen as a domain for the wealthy and elite. However, 20th-century master artists made it accessible to the common person, by appreciating their livelihood transforming it as an art object.

The Artworks of Six Master artists of Bengal, namely, *Abanindranath Thakur*, *Rabindranath Thakur*, *Gaganendranath Thakur*, *Nandalal Bose*, *Jamini Roy*, *Satish Chandra Bose* etc are considered as the '*Art Treasures of India*' by the Govt. of India. During Post Independence era, the legacy also continued, to name a few Artists & sculptors of late 20th century Kolkata who excelled in their respective fields are,

-*Debiprosad Raychowdhary, Chittaranjan Kar, Bhabu Bhattacharyya, Ganesk Pym, Jogen Chowdhury, Shama Lakiri, and many more.*

To appreciate the works of these talented artists and to showcase it for public, a space for its exhibition was felt, *Lady Renu Mukherjee* of Martin Burn & Co, came forward to establish 'Academy of Fine Arts' (1933). At a later date, *Basant Kumar Birla* and his wife *Sarala Birla*, of Birla Group also established the 'Birla Academy of Fine Arts' (1957).

b) DANCE - Truly, Bengal does not have a classical dance form of its own. However, there are various 'Folk Dance forms' found in various parts of Bengal since ages, like *Rauthe, Jamar, Branchari, Sari, Dhamail, Baul, Chua*, etc. Bengal is famous globally for two other modern dance forms, that emerged during 20th century.

Uday Shankar, an internationally famous dance maestro of 20th century innovated a dance form i.e. 'Contemporary Creative Dance form' that appealed to the world for its uniqueness, by mixing Indian Classical style with Western Classical Ballet style. It has been accepted globally as 'Uday Shankar style'. After his demise, *Mamata Shankar* (daughter) and *Tanujitree Shankar* (daughter-in-law) also runs a dance school at Kolkata to maintain his legacy.

Kolkata's culture is highly influenced by the dance form of 'Santinketan' also i.e. in general, termed as 'Rabindrik Style', which is also a fusion of various dance forms of India and South-East Asia. This choreography was developed under the supervision of various cultural icons of the 20th century at Santinketan and got approved by none other than *Rabindranath Tagore* himself. Again, it is a simpler form of dance, mostly based on Tagore's dance dramas or songs to reach the common people, which is the crux of the 20th century reform in all fronts.

New Empire Theatre (1932), *Mohipuri Sanket* (est.1958), *Rabindra Sanket* (1963), *Birla Kala Mandir* (1968) are a few iconic built-form of the city, where most of the dances of the 20th century performed like, *Uday Shankar, Anala Shankar, Madhucree Chaki, Anadi prasad* etc.

c) MUSIC -Kolkata has a rich 'classical/semi-classical music' heritage dating back to the 18th century, with genres like *Gaul, Khayal*, and *Thumri* popularized by Nawab Wajid Ali Shah. Legendary singer *Gauhar Jaan*, the first artist in India, to have her songs recorded by *Gramophone Co., UK* in 1903, exemplifies the city's early contributions. In the 20th century, great artists such as *Pt. Nilamadev Chatteropadhyay, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, Pt. Gyan Prokash Ghosh* and *Pt. Ajay Chakraborty* emerged from Kolkata. The city hosted its first private musical conference, the 'All Bengal Music Conference', sponsored by *Parikringsha Ghosh* family in 1954. The *ITC Sangeet Research Academy*, established in 1973, continues the legacy to nurture classical music talent.

The other popular genre that emerged during this period, was due to the manifestation of the Great Poets/ Music Composers such as *Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul, Dwijendralal Roy, Rajanikanta Sen, Atul Prasad Sen*, etc. These are famous as 'Rabindra Sangeet', 'Dwijendra Geet', 'Nazrul Geet', 'Atul Prasad', 'Rajanikanter Geet', etc. either with patriotic spirit and bear high philosophy with each of them having their own identity. *Rabindra Bharati* an university (established at Jorasanko Thakurani in 1961) was one of the most important institutions of 20th century to nurture and to train the people in 'Rabindrik culture' and spread it to the world. It has a greater impact on the society compared to classical music as it reaches to the heart of millions.

During mid-20th Century to late 20th Century, was a time when a genre of modern Bengali songs and Bengali Filmy songs in the 'light music' category became popular created by legendary music

composers of Bengal, like *Rairchand Boroi, Pankaj Mlilit, Hemanta Mukhopadhyay, S.D. Burman, Sali Choudhury* etc. Those were mostly popularized through Cinema and gramophone records. A new culture developed through a new mode of secondary source of communication like radio, records and cinema, instead of live performance.

HMV Studio at Kolkata had a century old legacy of popularity in the field of recording songs and manufacturing records, which gave boost to this light classical music and filmy music in 20th century. The legendary people were associated with it, like *Rabindranath Tagore, Kari Nazim Islam, R.C. Boroi, Pankaj Mlilit, Tahir Boroi, Ali Akbar Khan, Ravishanker, V. Balaram, Gayan Prakash Gosh* etc.

However, the fact is- *"The century-old, erstwhile HMV studio in Dum Dum, which produced the country's first recorded song in 1903, is now set to make room for residential apartments"*.

(Source: The Indian Express)

Sub-Theme-C. Entertainment

a) **THEATRE** - The theatre is also an important part of Bengali culture since the early 19th century as a way of entertainment. However, those were mostly commercial theatres. At one point of time commercial theatres failed to respond to the challenge of the times.

Bengali Theatre reached its zenith with an intervention of a few theatrical personas, who changed the approach with many experimental ideas, like realistic acting skill, adopting socio-political/ socio-cultural events as a theme, one-act play, street play, and putting importance on stage lightings and stage crafts, that mesmerized the Bengali audience. Thus, again the theatre got momentum as an expression of outburst against the social-injustice. During this time IPTA (Indian People's Theatre Association) movement came up. *Bijon Bhattacharya's 'Nabanna'* produced by IPTA, cleared the path for the emergence of 'Parallel' or 'Other' theatre.

This was the time when Kolkata audience will owe to the 'Group Theatre movement' also, which showcased this medium as a form of art and adopted as a medium of spreading social message. *Utpal Datta's* PLT group production, *Angur, Kallol, Tiner Tahar, Mamukher Adakar* etc., created a social uproar for its message to the society.

Leaving apart their positive contribution, fact remains, theatre is no longer a popular medium for entertainment at present, due to the advent of Cinema and Television. Most of the theatre halls of the city were either closed, demolished or in a bad state. Only two halls of historical importance survived and renovated after the fire hazards i.e. 'Star Theatre' and 'Minerva Theatre' which are still functioning in a moderate way.

b) **CINEMA** - 'Cinema' has emerged as one of the most interesting media arrived in the early decade of 20th C in the world. Kolkata was also no exception to this.

Hiralal Sen (1866 - 1917) is the founding father of Indian cinema. He formed the **Royal Bioscope Company** with his brother, **Motilal Sen**. His first superhit film of course was *'Alibaba & 40 thieves'* in 1903 under the banner of 'Royal Bioscope'. Hiralal Sen appears to have been a prolific filmmaker producing several films until 1913. His achievements, however, were all destroyed in a fire in 1917, a few days before his death.

(Source: *Asarups in and Beyond the City: Cinema in Calcutta 1897 - 1939* by Ranita Chatterjee-2011
<http://www.westernindian.ac.uk/research/westernindianresearch/>)

Thereafter came the era of Madan Theatres. J. F. Madan, a Parsi gentleman, who started production of commercial films under the banner of Madan Theatres Ltd. In 1907, he constructed the first Cinema Hall in India located at Kolkata- 'Epiphone Picture Palace' (renamed afterwards as 'Minerva', which has been demolished). From 1919 onwards this 'Madan Theatres Ltd' reached its peak. They built many cinema halls in Kolkata to popularize this media, such as- 'Epiphone Picture Palace' (1907- later re-named as 'Minerva' (Chaplin- demolished), Madan Theatre (later named as 'Elke' -closed), Cornwallis Theatre (1919-later named 'Bree'-closed), Imperial Theatre (later as 'Moonlight'), The Electric Theatre (1920-'Regal' -closed and converted to KFC Shop), Crown Cinema Hall (1925- 'Utara'- closed -converted to super market), Corinthian Theatre (1902- later renamed as 'Opera'), etc. Madan Company produced several popular and super hit films too till 1937.

During the same time another Armenian real-estate baron, Arratoon Stephen, in partnership with Maurice Bandman, an American global entrepreneur built the 'Empire Theatre', later renamed as 'Rox' in 1908. Bandman came to India in 1901 and made Kolkata the base of his theatrical empire upto 1905.

Humayun Properties Ltd - Madan, Arratoon, Bandman were not only who ventured in this field. Major General Shamsher Jung Bahadur Rana, the then home minister of Nepal, set up a base in Calcutta and acquired 45 properties in the city. New Empire (1932) was one of them, which was popularly known as 'Humayun Theatre' on those days. Lighthouse, (1938) another cinema hall, next to New Empire, was built by an internationally famed Dutch architect, W.M. Dudok, under the ownership of Humayun Theatre. Warner Brothers used to run their films at New Empire from 1970 - 1989.

'Metro Cinema', a landmark Art Deco building located at Esplanade, Kolkata, was opened in 1935 by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and designed by Scottish architect Thomas W. Lamb. It was a popular venue for the European community during the British Raj and continued to attract Indian elites in the post-Independence era. Currently owned by a Mumbai-based firm, the cinema has undergone renovations, including the addition of a shopping center on the ground floor and a multi-storied complex at the rear, to enhance its commercial viability.

'Aurora Film Corporation' (est. In 1905) founded by Sri Anadi Bose also played a significant role in film production since the silent era. They are the pioneer in introducing documentary films in the field of journalism. The original studio no longer exists, but recently they built a fairly large studio at Salt Lake. ([Source: aurorafilmcorporation.com](http://www.aurorafilmcorporation.com))

Sir B.N. Sircar, a key figure in Bengali cinema, founded New Theatres Ltd. in 1930 and established NT 1 & 2 Studios in Tollygunge, aiming to create a professionally managed film studio for Bengali films. New Theatres was a pioneering institution in Indian cinema, producing about 160-165 films in various languages. Despite its early success, financial difficulties led to its decline after 1940. The company also built two notable cinema halls in Kolkata: 'Chitra' (later renamed 'Mina,' inaugurated by Nargis Subhash Chandra Bose, now a supermarket) and 'New Cinema' (inaugurated by Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay). Both halls are now closed.

Tollygunge area turned into a Film Industry by the middle of the century. Other than N.T-one and two, Indra pari, Technicians-one and two and many more came up and the area is fondly referred thereby as 'Studio-para-Tollywood' - another potential 'Heritage Precincts'. Bengali Film Industry of the 20th Century proved its credibility by producing 'Commercial movies' and 'Art Film' simultaneously, by the globally famous directors. However, Sanyati Ray's 'Pather Panchali' surpassed

all by winning sensational 11 awards in the International Film festival during 1955-56. Satyajit Ray received the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' by the Oscar Committee and 'Bharat Ratna' from Govt of India in 1992.

Between 1940 and 1980, Bengali cinema thrived, but its popularity waned in the latter part of the 20th century. The rise of big-budget, star-studded Hindi films in vibrant technicolor, produced by Bombay's film industry, shifted audience preferences away from the low-budget, black-and-white Bengali films known for their realistic storytelling. Additionally, the advent of television offered affordable home entertainment, further impacting cinema attendance. The 1990s saw a decline in cinema's appeal, leading to the closure of many single-screen theaters, exacerbated by the rise of multiplexes like INOX and PVR.

With the advent of 21st century, one after another single screen cinema hall are getting closed or demolished to paved the way for shopping mall 'Bazar Road' estate, etc. as an alternative profitable venture -that's a pathetic situation for Kolkata's culture! Few 'single screen cinema' halls, like, *Banarjee, Priya, Minoka, Spiro, Minar* etc. are still surviving, but the future is very bleak!

In the light of Conservation of Heritage, it is felt, that few areas of the city, once popular as 'Cinema para' since the 19th century such as 'Hastibagan' at North Kolkata (for Bengali Movies), 'Chowringhee/Esplanade' at Central Kolkata (for English movies) and 'Bowbazar' at South Kolkata (for Bengali movies) may be declared as 'Heritage Zone.'

In the 20th century, 'Nandan,' a state government-sponsored cultural hub and the city's first multiplex, was established in 1985 to support the film industry and promote cinematic awareness. It remains a key venue for Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF). Additionally, the Satyajit Ray Film Institute, established in 1995 under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, was set up to train filmmakers and uphold the legacy of the Bengali film industry.



Nandan- Govt-owned multiplex of Kolkata Satyajit Ray Film Institute, E.M. Bypass, Kolkata

c)TELEVISION- The advent of television in the 20th century marked a fundamental shift in visual media. Introduced in India in 1965, and with Doordarshan Kolkata starting on August 9, 1975, television became a major medium for home entertainment and journalism. Television offered a cost-effective source of entertainment, with the added benefits of news updates, educational content, and travel programs, making it a popular choice. This affordability and broad reach led to a decline in other media industries, such as newspapers, theatres, cinemas, and live musical events, impacting both businesses and professionals in the entertainment sector.

d) **SPORTS-** Kolkata is also a sports-loving city. The popular games are, Football, Cricket, Hockey, Table Tennis, Swimming, Chess, etc. However, Football is always remained at the top of the list.



Yuva Bharati Krirangan for Football



Eden Garden Stadium for Cricket

i) **Football-** Mohan Bagan, one of the most famous sports clubs of Kolkata, whose members are mostly Bengali. Its popularity went high when it lifted the 1911 IFA Shield defeating Yorkshire Regiment in the final and 4 other English Clubs in the competition's during previous rounds. This victory completely changed football's status in Kolkata (*source: <https://cricketsinthehistoryofindia.com/kolkata/>*). Kolkata is one of the top football lovers' cities in the world and it has become a culture of the city. Many Nationally famed/Olympian football players came out of this city, like, Chatur Gossami, P. K. Banerjee, Jarnail Singh, Balaaram, Sipra Thapa, Roishang Routsin etc.

'Yuva-Bharati Stadium' - a boost for sports-lovers was built in 1984 with a capacity of about 55,000 spectators. Thereafter, it has gone through a renovation in 2011, 2014, & 2016. The stadium hosted the final match of the 2017 FIFA Under 17 World Cup.

ii) **Cricket-** The 'Calcutta Cricket Club' already in existence since 1792, perhaps the second oldest cricket club in the world. It was sometime in the mid-1880s, that a match was held between Calcutta Cricket Club (CCC) and Town Club. Young Narendranath Dutta (who later became Swami Vivekananda), was a member of that Town Club, made a record by taking seven wickets alone.

By 1920, at least 50 small clubs were up and having 'turf' over the vast Maidan. A few notable ones were, Town Club, Arya Club, Kumarati Purina, Sporting Union and Bengal Gymkhana belonged to Bengalis.

Eden Garden Stadium, established in 1884, is the oldest and second-largest stadium in India and the third-largest in the World. It is famous as the 'Mecca of Indian Cricket' being the first built ground in India for its finest pitch and the lush green outfield. It hosted World Cup Final in 1987. During this time, a huge restoration took place including the construction of a new Club House. The capacity expanded from 40,000 to 94,000.

Many national/internationally famed cricketers came out of this city, like, Parag Roy, Anbar Roy, Subrata Guha, Dilip Doshi, Rany Gribboy, Gopal Bose etc. However, the most famous and iconic Cricketer is Sourav Ganguly, the former Captain of India and former President of BCCI thrived from this city. The other internationally famed women cricketer is Jhulan Goswami, a former Indian Captain of women's National Cricket team of India.

iii) **Swimming**- is another passionate sport for Calcutta. There are few renowned Swimming Clubs existed since Pre-Independence era, like *College Square Swimming Club*, *Anderson Club* (Dhakuria), *Showaripore Swimming Club* (Poddapukur) in South Kolkata, *Calcutta Swimming Club* (Strand Road) in Central Kolkata and *Arad Hina Begh* (Hedra), *Hukhola Swimming Club* (Deshbandha Park), *Coolipore Swimming Club*, *Tala Park* in North Kolkata. *College square swimming club* (CSSC) is one of the oldest swimming clubs in the history of swimming in Kolkata.

Few renowned and internationally famed swimmers came out from this city were, **Padma Bhushan Milair Sen** (who crossed the English Channel as the first Indian male swimmer and also earned fame for swim across Seven Seas), **Padma shri Arati Saha** (who crossed the English Channel as the first Indian female swimmer), **Arjuna Awardee & Padma Shri Bala Choudhury** (-first woman to swim across seven seas in five continent and many more



Indian Life Saving Society (Anderson Club) (1922)



College Square Swimming Club (1917)

In 1922, Kolkata achieved a significant milestone with the establishment of the **Indian Life Saving Society** at **Anderson Club** in South Kolkata. This organization set the standards for swimmer and trainer safety, including the use of life-saving devices, lifeboats with medical aids, pilot boats, divers, and medical teams. **Anderson Club** pioneered these safety measures, which have since become mandatory under regulations by the Sports Authority of India.

Sub-Theme-H-Philanthropy

Calcutta has a legacy of Philanthropical works, since the 15th century. *Rani Rashmoni*, *Jhwar Chandra Vijayapur*, *Raja Radhakanta Deb Bahadur*, and *Prince Dwarakant Tagore*, all were famous for their charitable works toward Education. *Dr. Mahendra Lai Sarkar*, and *Nimoni Mitra*, along with their friends established the *Indian School for Cultivation of Science* at Bowbazar.

To continue the legacy, in the 20th century, we found **Sir Rash Behari Ghosh** donated RS.10 Lacs for establishment of *Science College* and Ra 13 lacs for *National Council of Education* (later date renamed as *Jadavpur University*). **Rash Behari Ghosh** even donated his entire property to *Jadavpur University*. **Raja Subodh Chandra Mallick**, another noble personality, donated a huge amount of money to establish *NCEJEU* and donated his palatial residence to *Calcutta University*. Many more are on the list, who donated for the benefit of these two universities, like **Tarakanath Palit**, **Sir R.N. Mookherjee**, **Makaraja Manindra Chandra Nandi**, etc. **Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy** also donated his entire savings and pension for the development of Research in Chemistry at *Science College*. **Prasanta Chandra Mahala Nobis** too, donated his residence and entire property at *Baranagar* to *India Statistical Institute*. **Deshabandhu Chittaranjan Das**, a statesman, who donated his entire property to establish a maternity home for women children's hospitals as *Admi Sadan*. The above are mostly by individuals' contribution to the society in the **Pre-Independence era**.

In the post-Independence era, a few organizations of Calcutta became internationally famous for their welfare and charitable works for humanity, such as- 'Rambhadrach Mission' (1938) founded by Swami Vivekananda, and 'Missionaries of Charity' (1952) founded by Mother (St.) Teresa & 'Bharat Sevashram Sangha' (1917), founded by Swami Pranabananadaji- all have their HQ in Kolkata and still continuing their welfare activities for the benefit of the mankind since their formation.



Rambhadrach Mission Flood Relief work at village
(Source: <http://rambhadrachmission.org>)



Mother Teresa at her Orphanage Home for destitute children
(Source: [Missionaries of Charity](http://missionariesofcharity.org))



Flood Relief by Bharat Sevashram Sangha volunteers
(Source: www.bharatsevasangha.org)

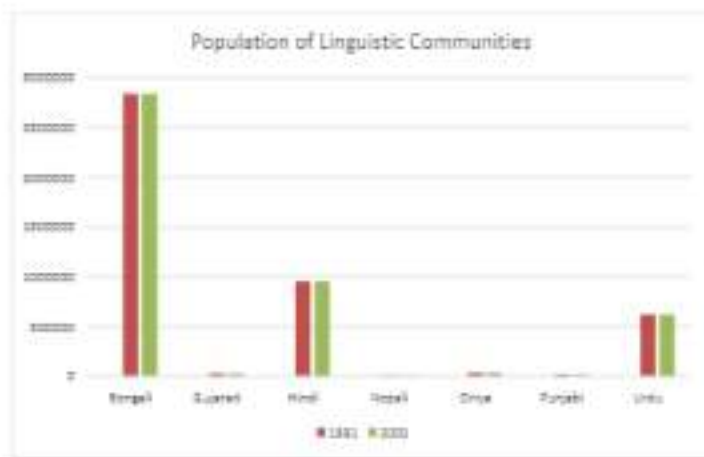
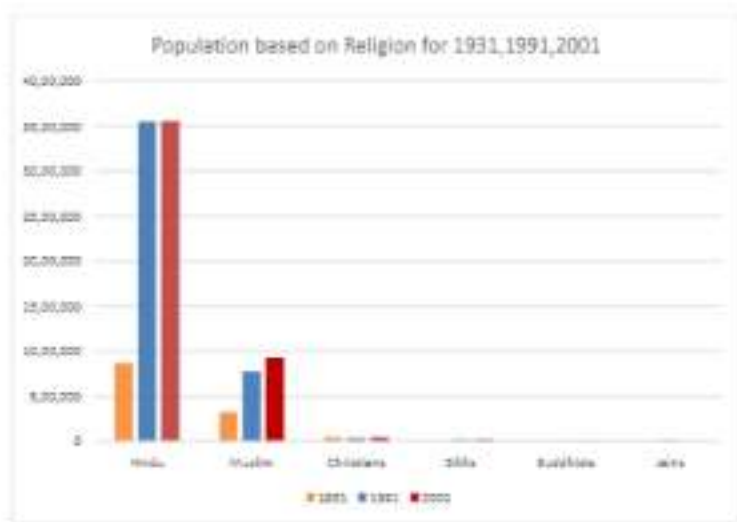


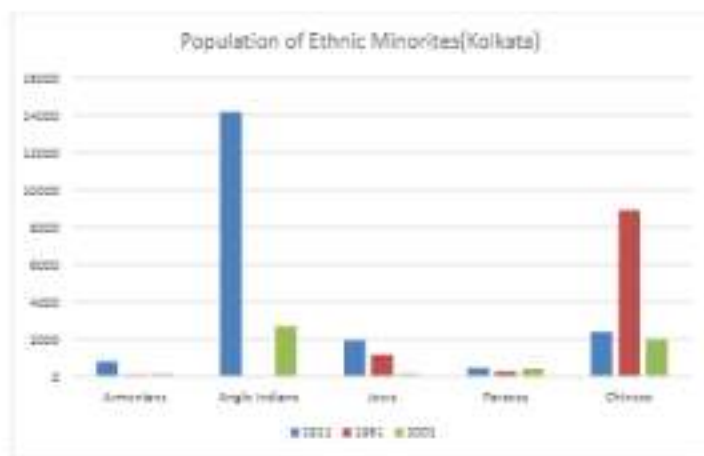
Chatterjee Cancer Hospital- fund donated by C.R. Das

It is also to be noted, the Industrialists/ Businessmen Group also did few philanthropic works, such as many hospitals, schools, colleges, science museums, planetarium, temples, Dharamshala by Birla Group, Jalan, Tata etc.

Hence, it is observed, that Kolkata had always played a pioneering role for upliftment of modern cultural system in the post-Independence scenario of India.

By
Indrani Sarkar
Dr. Moon Mitra De





Theme- 3- Multiethnicity- Calcutta and its cosmopolitan legacy

Calcutta/Kolkata has a dual identity in that it is both a Bengali as well as a cosmopolitan city. Due to its location as a port city on the river Hooghly, it has attracted migrants from all over India and the world. Like Rome, Calcutta has been an open city, a city of migrants. If we look at Calcutta's colonial past, we can identify several such groups of people who have come from other parts of the world and embraced the city as their own. These groups, like, Armenians, Jews, Parsis, Greeks, French, Italian and the Portuguese came to reside next to each other in the "grey" quarter-the buffer zone between the 'Black' (Natives) and 'White' (British) zones, i.e., mostly in and around Park Street, Theatre Road and Chowringhee area. They have contributed immensely to the city's tangible and intangible heritage and its multicultural legacy. Many of these migrant groups are also belong to Indian nationals, such as, Marwari, Gujrat, Punjabi, Tamil, Oriya and Bihari. They came here to seek their fortune and contributed to Socio-economic scenario of 20th century of Kolkata.

Foreign Nationals:

The Jews

The Jews made Calcutta their home since the arrival of an ambitious young merchant called Shalom Cohen from Aleppo via Baghdad. Most Calcutta Jews trace their antecedents to the migrants from Baghdad and other parts of the Middle East. They came to India due to its trading prospects coupled with freedom from the periodical persecution that they faced in the Middle East. The Calcutta Jewish community was set up by **Shalom Cohen** and consolidated by his son-in-law **Moses Dusk Cohen**. The Jewish population had reached 1900 by the end of the century and the community began to move east and later south from their original homes in the Burrabazar area close to their synagogues, the **Neveh Shalom** (1826) and **Bethel** in Pollock Street. Towards the end of the 19th century the community moved to the selected residential areas i.e. south of Park Street and took a prominent part in Calcutta's public life.



Esplanade Mansion at Esplanade East

The name of Ezra is associated with some of the city's most prominent buildings-Esplanade Mansion, Ezra Mansion and Chowringhee Mansion, as well as Ezra Street. David Joseph Ezra had made his fortune in trading and invested much of it in prime real estate. His son **Elia David Joseph Ezra**, Calcutta's first Jewish sheriff built the **Maghen David** synagogue in 1884 on Canning Street. Other important Jewish families were the **Elia** family and the **Cohens**. Welfare organizations like the Jewish Women's League was set up in 1913. The **Judean** club was a recreational space for the community. It

was established in May 1929 with Lady Ezra as its president on Kyd Street. However, it closed in the 1970s due to a lack of sufficient members. In the early 1940s the Jewish population of Calcutta reached an all-time high of 5860. A central body called the Jewish Association of Calcutta was formed in 1945 with their newspaper—the *Shema*. However, soon after the birth of Israel in 1948, the Jews started leaving for their promised land and the number of Jews currently living in Calcutta can be counted by the fingers of one hand. At present, **Nahoum's Confectionery** in New Market is the only well-known Jewish establishment which is still in business.

The Armenians

Many thousand Armenian merchants started arriving in India from the eleventh century. Soon after the landing in Calcutta, they started building homes, business houses and a wharf (Armenian Ghat) next to their wooden chapel set up in 1707 on Old China Bazar Street. The Church of Holy Nazareth, the oldest Christian place of worship standing in the city on Armenian Street was built in 1724. Many of the Armenians were great builders and property dealers. For instance, the foundation stone of **Park Mansions** on Park Street was laid in 1910 which was built by **Thaddeus Meropie Thaddeus**. Park Street has at least three other buildings credited to the Armenians. **Stephen Court** (1924) and **Queen's Mansion** (1920) at Park Street were built by **Arastoon Stephen**, another Armenian business tycoon, who also built the **Grand Hotel** at Chowringhee Road. The main façade of the Grand Hotel on Chowringhee Road was built in 1911. These four magnificent buildings were conceived as a landmark architectural marvel of the city.



Queen's Mansion at Park Street

Close to the Olympia Pub on Park Street is the Masonic (Freemasons') Lodge and Hall, built by **Johannes Carapiet Gahstaus** in 1926 and it has a lot of historical documents and rare books in its library but the building is not open to the general public.

The Parsis

A thousand strong Parsi community have been living in Calcutta from time immemorial. They have made their mark in entrepreneurship, industriousness and sportsmanship. The earliest known and recorded history of a Parsi in Calcutta commences in 1767 with the arrival of **Dadabhai Behramji Banaji** from Surat. Known as 'Banaji Seth', he was the doyen of the Banaji family which made a deep mark in the commercial and industrial history of Bengal. The person who truly raised the name of Banaji to legendary heights was **Seth Rustomji Kavasji Banaji** who settled here with his family in 1838. Shipping was the cornerstone of his trading activity. In 1837 he bought the **Calcutta Docking Company** or the **Khidirpur Docks**. **Rustomji Banaji** built the first fire temple at no 26 Ezra Street in

1839. Many other illustrious families flourished alongside the Banijas or followed in their footsteps. Seth Jamshedji Framji Madan was one of the pioneers of the Indian film industry. From 1919 onwards his 'Madan Theatres Ltd' reached its peak. They built many cinema halls in Kolkata to popularize this media. Madan Company produced several popular and super hit films too till 1937. Other than these, Parsi families led the two most profitable industries in the city—shipping and jute. The Parsi community acted as a catalyst to the British and when they left India, the prosperity of the Parsi community declined. Some of them continued to live in Calcutta and continued to contribute to its rich community and cultural life. V. Bahara, a legendary pianist and music composer of the 20th century, was from Parsi community, settled in Kolkata, who contributed a lot for film industry of Kolkata and Mumbai.



Minerva/Chaplin Cinema Hall (Howrah)



Madan Theatre/Elly Cinema at Dharmatala

The Chinese

The first Chinese settler in India, Yong Atchew came only in 1780 and built the village of Achipur fifteen miles south of Calcutta and drew people to work for him in his sugar mills. After his death the Chinese community were noticed for their shoemaking and other mechanical skills. They soon flourished as a community and inhabited certain parts of the city like the Tiretta Bazar area (parts of Phears Lane, Rabindra Sarani and Poddar Court) in central Calcutta and Tangra in east Calcutta where they worked in the several tanneries set up by them. The leather industry along with hairdressing, dentistry, shoemaking and carpentry are the sectors where a lot of contribution from Chinese population were found. The food-processing and pharmaceutical industries also witness a major Chinese presence. The old Chinatown in central Calcutta is dotted with Chinese temples such as the Teong On Church, Nam Soon Church, the Sea Ip Church, Gee Hing Church, Sea Voi Yune Leong Fath Church, Huan Thang Monastery. Although the term church or monastery is used in naming them, these temples follow traditional Chinese religion and together they form a mosaic of Chinese practices and culture in the city. In India, Kolkata is the only place to have a flourishing China Town. With time more migrants settled in Kolkata, making Tangra- a thriving Chinese hub, famous for restaurants and tanneries.



Entrance to Tangra



Sea Ip Temple at Tiretta Bazar

The Anglo-Indians:

The Anglo-Indian community in Calcutta, emerging prominently in the 18th century from British and Indian heritage, was officially recognized in 1911. They thrived due to their proficiency in English and Western lifestyle, establishing themselves primarily in education, with key figures like social reformer and poet Henry Louis Vivian Derozio, founder of the 'Young Bengal' movement. They also made notable contributions to railways, telegraphs, postal services, the military, and music, exemplified by John Meyer, a composer with the Indian Symphony Orchestra and later the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Neil O'Brien's impact on education and quizzing is well-regarded, though his son Derek O'Brien later pursued politics. Anglo-Indian women contributed in nursing and teaching as well. In Calcutta, their vibrant cultural presence is evident in Bow Barracks, known for their unique Christmas celebrations. However, post-1947, many migrated abroad, yet some stayed back in India.



Bow Barracks of Anglo-Indian Community

The Scots

Calcutta has a notable Scottish heritage, with Scots arriving in the city as early as the 18th century. As administrative power transitioned from the East India Company to the British crown, many Scots served as writers in the administration and left their mark in politics, education, missionary work, trade, and philanthropy. Reverend **Alexander Duff**, a Scottish missionary, founded the General Assembly Institution in 1830, which later became Scottish Church College. Duff's legacy includes Duff College, now the Jorhatgaon police station, Duff School, and a street named in his honor in north Kolkata. Philanthropist **David Hare** helped establish Hindu College, now Presidency University, and his contributions are also commemorated by Hare School, founded in 1867.

Saint Andrew's Church, or Kirk, in Dalhousie reflects Calcutta's Scottish heritage. Designed by Burn, Currie and Company, it opened in 1818 as a place of worship for Scottish Presbyterians. Scots played a key role in developing the jute industry, with **Margaret Donnelly** founding Calcutta's first jute mill in 1855. Scottish contributions also include trading firms like **Andrew Yule**, **Balmer Laurie & Co.** and **Gillanders' Arbuthnot & Co.**

On the west bank of the River Hooghly, the Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose **Indian Botanical Garden** in Shalimar was established in 1787 by Scotsman Lt Colonel Robert Kyd. The Roxburgh House within the garden honors Dr. **William Roxburgh**, another Scotsman who significantly expanded the garden's collection and advanced Indian botanical studies through his notable contributions.

The **Scottish Cemetery** in Kolkata, established around 1820 for the burial of Scots, was once in a state of disrepair. It has since been restored by the Kolkata Scottish Heritage Trust.



Rimbhagh House, Shillong



Scottish Cemetery, Meulail



Nile House, EED Bagh



Salwar Lawrie House, EED Bagh



Orillander House, EED Bagh

The Greek



Greek Orthodox Church at Kalighat

Between 1768 and 1778, during the conflict between Russia and the Ottoman Empire, many Greeks were displaced from their homes in Philipou Polis and Adriano polis (now part of Bulgaria). A significant number of Turks and Greeks migrated eastward, with many settling in Calcutta, which was emerging as a key trading port under the East India Company. By the early 20th century, a substantial Greek community had established itself in Calcutta, contributing to the city's cosmopolitan character with their skills in shipbuilding and other businesses. In 1924, the local Greek community closed their Amaretha church and relocated to Kalighat, where they constructed a new church in the style of a Greek

temple. The foundation stone was laid on November 3, 1924, and the church was inaugurated on November 19, 1925. This church, now known as the **Greek Orthodox Church**, is the only remaining relic of the Greek settlement in the city. Its construction was funded by the Greek mercantile house **Ralli Brothers**, known for its silk, cotton, and timber businesses.

The British

When discussing the various ethnic groups that shaped the city, it's important to acknowledge the British contribution. Although their rule in India was primarily driven by economic and commercial interests, they played a **significant role in the development of Calcutta**, which was their first capital city. The British invested in key infrastructure, including the **Howrah Bridge**, **Central Avenue**, and **Circular Road**. They introduced postal services and railway connections, enhancing communication across India. Additionally, they established a drainage system, dug canals and water bodies, and introduced electrically operated trams in the early 20th century to improve the civic amenities.

The **Lottery Committee (1817-36)** and the **Fever Hospital Committee** were crucial in transforming Calcutta from a village to a planned city during the 19th century. The **Calcutta Improvement Trust (1911-1960)** further stressed by focusing on housing and slum improvements. As a result, southern areas of the city, such as **Ballygunge**, **Alipore**, and **Dhakuria Lakes**, developed significantly in the early 20th century.



Howrah Bridge and Howrah Railway connections are two major infra-structure developed by the British



Introduction of public transport: Electric Tram



Filtered drinking water supply



Calcutta Maidan – the only large square

Indian multi-ethnic society

The Marwaris

The Marwaris, a thriving community in Calcutta since the 19th century, migrated from Western India seeking opportunities. They initially settled in **Burrabazar**, becoming key players in the city's economy, particularly in the jute and cotton trades. Prominent families like the **Singhanias**, **Sarafis**, **Jaisims**, **Poddars**, and **Birlas** established themselves by the early 20th century at Kolkata. They founded the **Marwari Association** in 1898 and the **Marwari Chamber of Commerce** in 1901. In 1918-19, **Swarupchand Hukumchand** and **G.D. Birla** established jute mills, while **Keshoram Poddar** acquired a cotton mill. As tensions rose between British and Indian business interests, the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI)** was formed in 1929 by the Marwari associates and **G.D. Birla** as its President. The community enriched Calcutta with numerous educational, charitable, and cultural institutions, including the **Birla Planetarium** and **Birla Mandir**. They built their mansions inspired by memories of Rajasthani architecture on **MG Road** and **C.R. Avenue** at Central Kolkata. Today, however many Marwaris have moved out of that area and settled to southern part like **Ballygunge**, **Alipore**, **Cannor Street**, **Shakespeare Sarani** etc.



Marwari Hospital



C.R. Avenue – imported architectural style from Rajasthan

Burrabazar, is one of the oldest and busiest wholesale market in Kolkata dominated by Marwari community since pre-independence era, that has developed into a commercial hub from a humble textile market. It is one of the largest wholesale markets in India. **Marwari Hospital** was established in 1919 for providing medical services to the community as a bold move against the British towards the Indians.

The Sikhs

The Sikh community in Calcutta has a long history, with both Guru Nanak and Guru Tegh Bahadur Singh believed to have visited the city. By the early 20th century, Calcutta's growing opportunities, driven by its port and improved transport links, attracted many Sikhs. Many served in the British Indian Army or worked as taxi drivers. The Sikhs are known for their neutral role during Calcutta killing. The Jagat Sadhar Gurudwara (1944) provided shelter to both Hindus and Muslims during the riots. This community is mostly visible in Bhowanipore and Chatterbata in the South Kolkata. Post-independence era, the Sikhs shifted their business from transport to heavy vehicle industries and settle in suburbs like Behala, Dum Dum, and Dunlop. Despite the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, over 30,000 Sikhs in Kolkata settled and maintain their culture while actively participating in the city's diverse festivities.



Gurudwara, Chatterbata Avenue



Khalsa High School, Bhowanipore

Punjabi Cuisines are part and parcel of Kolkata and Punjabi Dhaba's are very popular destinations for food lovers. Most popular ones are Azad Hind Dhaba. Calcutta Punjab Club is one of the top most club of Kolkata. Sikh Community also opened their Khalsa Schools to teach the 'Gurmukhi' languages to the young children and the community celebrates the birthdays of Guru Nanak, Guru Gobinda Singh by taking out processions on Kolkata roads with pomp and grandeur (Gupta R(2018). The Sikhs of Kolkata: How they became an integral part of the city: <https://thebangladeshipost.com>)

Others

Several communities have enriched Kolkata's cultural fabric, including Gujaratis, Tamils, Bihari, Oriya, Assamese etc. The Jain Communities & Tamil community also contributed to the city's architectural heritage by building their place of worship, like, Parmarth Temple and Vaikuntha Temple

Kolkata is renowned for celebrating various religious festivals, reflecting its diverse culture. Durga Puja, Christmas, and Eid are particularly significant, bringing communities together and boosting tourism and the local economy. Other festivals like Holi, Diwali, Muharram, etc. are also celebrated with enthusiasm. Amongst these, **Durga Puja stands out**. Once a private ritual of affluent families, it has evolved into a city-wide celebration i.e. 'Sarbojanine' open to all, transcending caste and class. Today, Durga Puja is not just a religious and social event but also a major economic driver, generating approximately ₹25,000 crore annually. In December 2021, Kolkata's Durga Puja was inscribed on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list.

Conclusion

Thereby, it can be said that Calcutta's multi-ethnicity portrays shared built - heritage of many cultures and contributes not just the Bengali community but for several other communities since long and forms a healthy cosmopolitan character to its diverse and shared multicultural fabric - *Truly a City of Joy!*

by

Dr. Sukanya Mitra & Indrani Sarkar

Rapid Urbanization & Growth of Calcutta in 20th century

Introduction

When the first governor-general, Warren Hastings, transferred all essential offices from Murshidabad to Calcutta in 1772, the city became the capital of British India.

Calcutta's population in 1706 was estimated to be between 10,000 and 12,000 people. By 1752, it had risen to about 120,000 people, and by 1821, it had risen to 180,000. The White (British) Town was constructed on raised and drained ground. The British portion of the city was dubbed the 'city of palaces' because of its abundance of palaces. In Calcutta, two separate areas—one British, the other Indian—co-existed.

The construction of railways (which began in 1854) has accelerated the growth of business and industry. The Grand Trunk Road from Calcutta to Peshawar (now Pakistan) was constructed about this time. Calcutta's Indian sector grew into a bustling commercial center, attracting visitors from all over India and Asia. Calcutta became the subcontinent's intellectual capital.

Town Planning in Pre-Independence era

On the 2nd of January 1912, the Calcutta Improvement Act of 1911 went into effect.

In September 1912, E. P. Richards was appointed Chief Engineer of the CIT and given the task of preparing a scheme of main roads of fundamental importance to Calcutta and its suburbs.

Richard produced the first Calcutta planning document, which was published in 1914 from England under the title 'Report on the Condition, Improvement and Town Planning of the City of Calcutta and Contiguous Areas'. This report is a defining moment in Calcutta's planned growth, as it incorporates European ideas about town planning that emerged in the early twentieth century.

Richards proposed a Town Planning Act as a supplement to the Calcutta Improvement Act of 1911, which would cover both the suburbs and surrounding areas, as well as the inner city.

Over the next forty years, the CIT implemented over a hundred road improvement, area development, slum rehousing, parks, and playgrounds initiatives, making a genuine effort to improve circumstances within the municipal limits as defined at the time. Despite the Trust's inability to establish any major diagonal roads, as indicated by Richards, Park Street was extended, Shyambazar Street was improved, and Bhupen Bose Avenue was created. The creation of a new north-south arterial route, Central Avenue, was its crowning achievement (now Chittaranjan Avenue and Jatindra Mohan Avenue). In north Calcutta, it erected Vivekananda Road and B.K. Pal Avenue, and in south-east Calcutta, Dr Sundari Mohan Avenue. It built Southern Avenue and the Dhakuria Lakes (Rabindra Sarobar) in the field of new area development, as well as East Calcutta and the Beliaghata Lake (Subhash Sarobar) in the field of planning and development in Calcutta.

The Area Improvement Programme in Bhabanipur, which saw an old residential neighbourhood updated to modern town planning requirements, was no less significant. The new civic center in Ultradanga and Dhakuria were also built by CIT.

Civic & Public Services-

During the first half of 20th Century, Calcutta experienced induction of many new civic amenities and infrastructure development to improve the life of the citizens. Such as-

Role of Kolkata Municipal Corporation in Pre- Independence Era

The Calcutta Corporation was founded in 1727. The passage of an Act in 1794 for raising funds through different means, including housing public lotteries, was the next step in the slow evolution of the Calcutta

Corporation. In the early nineteenth century, a 'Lottery Committee' was formed to oversee the cash raised and to plan and carry out initiatives for the benefit of the town. During this time, new roads were built, old ones were improved, tanks were dug, and old ones were filled. The Committee's work came to an end in 1836.

In the year 1847, the election system for city management was established. Municipal governance was vested in a body comprising of all the justices of the town as well as all the justices of the provinces who were inhabitants of Calcutta in 1863, which was a significant step forward. When the Corporation was reorganised in 1876, the election system was given emphasis. The Municipal border was expanded in 1888 when the South East of the Circular Road was added.

When Surendranath Banerjee was the Minister for Local Self-Government in 1923, the most significant modifications were made. According to the Act, a mayor would be elected each year to preside over the Corporation's sessions, which would now include a mayor, deputy mayor, five aldermen, and 90 councillors.

Infrastructure Development in Post Independence era

- The four Strand Warehouses were constructed between 1901 and 1903, during Calcutta's boom time, these were the city's moorings on the Hooghly. An important and busiest area for the clearing and forwarding agents, when maritime trade was in boom for Calcutta Port.
- Construction of Tala Tank by KMC- Overhead Water Reservoir to store the distilled water of River Hooghly from Paita Water Works to meet the demand of the entire population of the city(1909-1911).



Figure 1: Tala Tank

Source: www.zainmag.com/india/saikat/343417/tala-water-overhead-reservoir-of-kolkata.html

- Howrah Bridge (1943) – connecting the city with Howrah, the opposite bank of River Hooghly. Renamed as 'Rabindra Setu' in 1965. The bridge is currently one of the world's busiest bridges.



Figure 2: Howrah Bridge

Source: India express news Article: <https://www.indiaexpress.com/article/destinations/kolkata/when-will-the-cantilever-bridge-turn-75-heres-what-to-expect-6555329/>

- **Electrification of Street Lights** – Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation installed high-power Keith lamps with 1000 candle power on Corporation Street (now S.N. Banerjee Road) and Chourangi in 1914. Electric street lamps were introduced in Marikata the same year, Garden Reach, in the year 1924. The first Alternating Current (AC) plant came up at Ultradanga Station in September 1910. The Kashipur (Cossipore) station commissioned in July 1912. Other large plants followed. Old DC plants were converted into sub-stations.

Civic Amenities

- **Establishment of Municipal Market:** Lansdowne Market was opened in 1903, Sir Charles Allen Market in north Calcutta in 1910, and the College Street Market in 1917
- **Parks:** The first planned parks were set up by CIT after 1911. Park Circus Maidan, Deshapriya and Deshabandhu parks were made.
- **Two large artificial lakes:** Rabindra Sarobar at Dhakuria, excavated between 1926 and 1939, and Subhash Sarobar at Beliaghata, planned in 1939.



Figure 3: Rabindra Sarobar lake

Source: https://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rabindra_Sarobar/media/File:Rabindra_sarobar_dhakuria_in_morning_2.jpg

- Rickshaw was brought into the city around 1900 to negotiate the flooded streets.
- Departmental stores like White away Laidlaw and & Co (now known as the Metropolitan building) built in early 1900s, Hall & Anderson much altered from the original complex built in 1925. The elite retail trade of Calcutta flourished in the early 20th century and these upscale establishments were household names across India and Britain.

Improvement on Public Transport system-

- Calcutta Tramways Company Limited (CTC) introduced first electric tramcar in 1902 which ran from Esplanade to Khidpur. Subsequently many tracks were laid.
- CTC also began bus services. As did Walford transport Limited, they later introduced double decker buses in 1926.
- Taxis appeared in Calcutta in 1906. Rules governing their operation were framed in 1910.

Public Health Engineering

Drainage, Sewerage and Waste Disposal

- Combined system for the disposal of storm water drainage as well as sewage system was proposed in 1855, sanctioned in 1859. Under the Suburban Sewerage Scheme executed between 1891 and 1906, 12.5 square miles in the newer southern area of the city were brought under sewerage. New pumping station was constructed at Baliganj.
- Dr. Birendranath Dey proposed a new scheme for both the outfall and internal drainage system. It took much needed separation of storm water and dry weather flows. It was commissioned in 1943.
- Due to the fact that the ground profile of the city slopes away from the river Hooghly towards east, Calcutta suffers from water logging in the rainy seasons. The reasons behind is that the city expanded towards east in an unplanned manner choking the natural drainage system through East Kolkata Wetlands.

Public Health Care Facilities

- The foundation stone of School of Tropical Medicine was laid by Lord Carmichael (1914)
- The first College of Medicine cum Hospital opened exclusively for Indians, namely Carmichael Medical College (R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital) -1916



Figure 4.1. R. G. Kar Medical College and Hospital

- **J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital**, Kolkata, established on February 10, with a dream, dedication, and devotion of Kaviraj Jamini Bhushan Roy - the oldest Ayurvedic academic institute of the country. The foundation stone of the institute was laid down by Mahatma Gandhi- 1916
- C.R.Das donated his property for the establishment of the first maternity hospital as "Chittaranjan Matri & Sishu Sevashala"- 1922-24
- **All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health**, is a pioneering Indian Institute for research and training in public health and allied sciences in Kolkata. It was established on 30 December 1932 with assistance from the Rockefeller Foundation.

Growth of Calcutta in the Post-Independence era

Infrastructure development

- **Eastern Metropolitan Bypass- A Link Road** from extreme North to South was constructed at the eastern fringe of Kolkata which has become a **lifeline of the city**
- An underground rapid transit system i.e. **Kolkata Metro Rail** project was introduced in 1984, to ease the traffic movement. Foundation stone was laid by Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, in 1972. It was running between Belgachia to Tollygunge initially. Later on, it is extended up to Dum Dum/ Noapara at Northern end and New Garia/ Panuli at Southern end.



Figure 2: Kolkata Metro

Source: <https://www.attnnews.in/stock/ken-captain-passenger-and-as-for-as-for-metro-claim-ed-gm-metro/>

- **1st Hooghly Bridge- Vidyasagar Setu (1992)**- a Bridge over River Hooghly has come up between Kolkata and Howrah to reduce the traffic load on Howrah Bridge/ Rabindra Setu.



Figure 6: Vidyasagar Setu

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vidyasagar_Setu#/media/File:Vidyasagar_Setu,_Kolkata_2014-07-11_7980.jpg

Parks

- Nicco Park (1991)-is an amusement park located in Reel Meel, Sector - IV of Salt Lake City, Kolkata. It was created to attract tourists to the state by providing Children's recreation as well as educative entertainment zone.



Figure 7: Nicco Park

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicco_Park#/media/File:Nicco_Park_05.jpg

- Millennium Park, Strand Road (1999) – A recreational park for the citizens of Kolkata on the bank offhooghly constructed by KMDA to mark the millennium.



Figure 8: Millennium Park

Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Millennium_Park,_Kolkata#/media/File:Millennium_Park,_Kolkata_20170204_080349.jpg

Area Development

In the year 1948, after partition of India, Calcutta was flooded with refugees from East Pakistan.

In 1951, the southern part of Tollyganj was added to the boundary of Calcutta. In 1984, the Municipality of Garden Reach, the South Suburban Municipality of the Behala region and many non-municipal areas were added to the jurisdiction of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation.

The total area under Corporation became 187.33 sq. km from earlier 104 sq. km.

Emergence of Refugee Colony –

Unorganized /unplanned growth emerged due to sudden burst in population in the fringe area, mostly at southern part of Kolkata, i.e. Dhalakuria, Jadavpur, Bijoypur, Baghalatin, Garia etc. The refugees had taken over the outskirts, such as Tollyganj, Jadavpur, and Garia, and turned them into a completely different environment. These colonies provided a significant challenge to the city's planning and development in the decades that followed not only a mess in the cityscape as also a great trouble for socio-economic sector. As a result, a huge linear development of unauthorized temporary shops /kiosks by the hawkers (mostly by the refugees) all along the major roads of the city occupying the footpath came up, hampering the city's civic amenities. State Administration had no options other than accepting these as, to give the employment opportunity for this huge influx was next to impossible.

Over and above, Calcutta also possessed certain 'Slum Area' since the beginning of 19th century, almost in all the locality as a residential quarter for service people.

These two problems were the major hindrance for the city of Calcutta in the Post Independence era, which was once could boast of as a city next to London.

Two organizations which were responsible for City planning since British Regime Calcutta Municipal Corporation and Calcutta Improvement Trust were unable to tackle this huge pressure due to insufficient capacity.

Thereby, State Govt of West Bengal decided to establish two more Planning Authorities, such as-

- Calcutta Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMPO) identified in 1964
- Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) set up in 1971.

Role of CMPO & CMDA

By the 1950s, Calcutta's civic amenities were severely strained and, in any event, grossly inadequate. At the same time, cholera epidemics ravaged Calcutta, drawing the attention of the World Health Organization. The WHO sent a consultant team to Calcutta in 1950, led by Dr. Abel Wolman, to look into the city's water supply and sanitation. The team emphasized the critical need for water supply and environmental sanitation system rehabilitation and development.

As a result on the WHO's initiation, the Calcutta Metropolitan Planning Agency (CMPO) was established as a planning organization for Greater Calcutta.

The West Bengal government established the CMPO in 1961 in response to the painful realization that 'Calcutta is a city in crisis,' with a chronic shortage of basic utilities such as water supply, sewerage, and drainage, as well as community facilities such as schools, hospitals, parks, and recreation spaces. Its transportation system was inadequate and overloaded, and there was a severe housing shortage, with slums and squatter colonies developing.

CMPO Basic Development Plan made in 1966-1986.

The CMPO identified a 460-square-mile (1191.4-square-kilometer) area that included two municipal corporations, 33 municipalities, and 37 non-municipal urban areas, all of which formed a linear urbanized sprawl (the Calcutta Urban Agglomeration) on both sides of the river Hugh, with significant rural stretches interspersed. This complete area, presently known as the Calcutta Metropolitan District (CMD), was used as the planning foundation for the upcoming development plans. In 1961, the CMD had a population of 6.62 million, compared to 2.93 million in Calcutta city.

In September 1965, the CMPO drafted and published its "Memorandum on Development Plan: CMD 1966-7," which corresponded to the Government of India's Fourth Five-Year Plan. That brief document was, in fact, Calcutta's first comprehensive planning statement, including the entire district. This historic document established the first physical plan framework for the so-called 'Greater Calcutta' or Metropolitan Area.

In 1971, the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) was established to coordinate planning and development operations within the CMD in the face of persisting urban challenges as well as social, political, and economic turmoil. Although much of the authority for funding and development has lately been passed to the municipalities, the CMDA has emerged as the most powerful apex body for urban planning and development in the Calcutta region.

Role of Kolkata Municipal Corporation in Post-Independence era

The Calcutta Corporation was taken over by the West Bengal government in March 1946. With the passage of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1951, a new chapter in the Calcutta Corporation began on May 1, 1952. The Corporation was envisioned as a policy-making, directive, and rule-making entity under the new Act. In January 1984, the Calcutta Municipal Corporation Act 1980 took effect, replacing the Calcutta Municipal Corporation Act 1951.

Bidhannagar

Bidhan nagar/Salt Lake City- a neighborhood concept adjacent to main city has come up to accommodate the demand of housing for the expanding population (conceptualized under the leadership of the then CM Bidhan Chandra Roy) -1958-65

The Irrigation and Waterways Department of the Government of West Bengal was responsible for the development and construction of Bidhannagar. This planned city was first under the jurisdiction of the South Dum Dum Municipality, then the Public Works (Metropolitan Development) Department, which was renamed

the Urban Development Department in 1991. Sector I, Sector II, Sector III, and Sector IV were designated as Residential Townships, while Sector V was designated as an Industrial Area.

Rajshahi New Town

Rajshahi New Town is a planned satellite city of Kolkata, developed by NEIDA (conceptualized under the leadership of the then Chief Minister of West Bengal Jyoti Basu)-1990

Public Health Care Facilities in Post -Independence era

- Belleview Clinic/Multi speciality Hospital- An M.P. Birla foundation healthcare facility opened for the citizen of Kolkata-1967.
- The Calcutta Medical Research Institute (CMRI) is one of the biggest multispecialty hospitals in Kolkata & is the flagship hospital of CK Birla Hospitals. For over 50 years this hospital has been providing unmatched health care service to millions of patients from different parts of India-1969

Conclusion

Kolkata is the seventh-most populous city in India, with a population of 4.5 million residents within the city limits, and a population of over 14.1 million residents in the Kolkata Metropolitan Area. The Kolkata metropolitan area is spread over 1,886.67 sq.km (728.45 sq mi). Kolkata, which is under the jurisdiction of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC), has an area of 206.08 sq.km (80 sq mi).

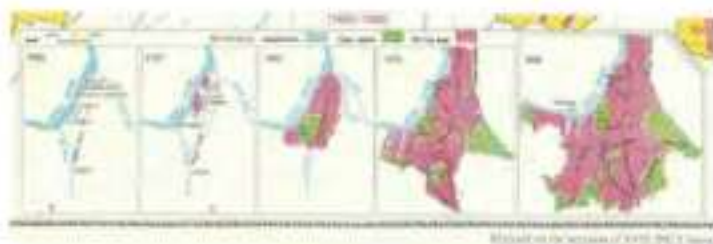


Figure 9: Development of Kolkata from 1690 - 1986

by
Aditi Naskar

EVOLUTION OF ARCHITECTURAL STYLES IN 20th CENTURY CALCUTTA

Continuation of Colonial Architecture through the early 20th Century

Architecture of public buildings of 19th Century colonial Calcutta was largely Neo-Classical in style with varying degrees of eclecticism. The neo-classical style, a symbol of Imperial power, continued well into the mid-20th century, till the Indian Independence, in Calcutta. Surrounding the Tank Square or Dalhousie Square, the chief administrative neighbourhood of the British, rose imposing Neo-Classical buildings like the **Royal Insurance Building** (1902-05) and the **Hong Kong House** housing HSBC Bank built by Martin & Co. (1914-15) in the Edwardian style, the Renaissance style **Oriental Assurance Building** on Clive Street (1914) and the **Imperial Department of Commerce & Industry** on Council House Street with its Greco-Roman façade (1911). Less grand but equally important in the creation of a Neo-Classical urban texture in and around Dalhousie Square were structures like the **Balmer Lawrie Headquarters** (1909) and the **Royal Exchange** on Clive Street built by TS Gregson of Gregson, Butle & King (1916-18), **Turner Morrison & Co** on Lyon's Range (1924). Public buildings in other parts of the city, also following European classicism include the **West Bengal Legislative Building** (1927-1931) at BBD Bag, built by London based firm J. Groves along with Martin & Co.



Figure 2 a) The Royal Insurance Building. Source: <https://www.stockphoto.com/2478292764/REAL-STOCK-2022-2.jpg>
b) The Oriental Assurance Building. Source: www.double-double.blogspot.in

Completed in 1921, Lord Curzon conceived the **Victoria Memorial Hall** to be built in the Neo-Classical style. He felt it that no other style would be befitting of a memorial for the Queen, under whose reign 'uplandour reached its zenith'. Though the Victoria Memorial Hall as it stands today has Indo-Saracenic elements, it is Neo-Classical in spirit.

Private buildings in the city were also inspired by European Classicism. In Chowringhee, the **Metropolitan Building** (1905) was built in the Neo-Baroque style. The **Young Men's Christian Association** (1905), **Bengal Club** (1908) were also classically inspired. On Park Street, multi-storied mixed-use structures like **Park Mansions** (1910), **Gabteen Mansion or Queen's Mansion** (1920), and **Stephen Court** (1924), all had classically designed façades. This style continued all the way till the 1930s when the **Statesman House** in Chowringhee (1931-33) was built. Even after the Indian Independence, the **Silver Mint** in Alipore (1952), was designed by the CPWD in a Neo-Classical style with grand Doric columns supporting a large triangular pediment.

Along with the buildings designed and commissioned by the British, the homes of the Bengali elite gradually began to adopt European architectural elements in their domestic architecture. While the traditional spatial configuration was retained, having a single or double courtyard surrounded by long, narrow verandahs on all sides, the ornamentation was heavily borrowed from European Classicism. This syncretic mix of styles came to be known as the Bengali Baroque style in the 19th Century, continued in the early 20th century. Columns and pilasters of the Roman order, ornamental capitals in spandrels, Roman, Gothic or segmental arches with projecting key stones, stained glass tympanums, deep mouldings, venetian bifora windows, decorative cast iron columns and grills, etc. Though the courtyard was retained, the size of courtyard became smaller and the houses rose to three or more floors.

Lack of the Indo-Saracenic style in Kolkata

During the 1860s and 70s, British Colonizers felt the need to create a distinctive architectural style typical to the British Raj. The product of this was the Indo-Saracenic style, using European prototypes with stylistic elements from Indo-Islamic architecture. This Revivalist style became characteristic of colonial buildings across the country from the late 18th Century. However, the British did not feel the need to promote this style in Kolkata, which was still deeply Neo-Classical in nature. Amongst the few Indo-Saracenic Buildings is the **Standard Chartered Bank building**, designed by Edward Thornton of Martin and Co. in 1906. The red and white striped appearance of the building is created by using red and white Portland stones. The ornamental brackets supporting a projecting eave, octagonal domes at the centre of the façade surrounded by cupolas and the domed octagonal minarets or towers at the corners give it an Indo-Saracenic appearance.



Figure 1 Standard Chartered Bank. Source: <https://imgsrc.martinsite.co.uk/2019/06/standard-chartered-bank-uk-limited.jpg>.

The Bengal Nagpur Railway Office designed by Vincent Esch in 1906, now known as the South-Eastern Railway Headquarters in Garden Reach, also produces an Indo Saracenic appearance with Indian embellishments on its facade. The Victoria Memorial (1906-21) though built largely as envisioned by Emerson in the Neo-Classical style, also sports Indian corbels in the frieze of the entablature, jalis in the arches, octagonal domed chhatris and Mughal domes over slender columns above the corner towers.



Figure 3 The Victoria Memorial Source:

Source: <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/royal-jubilee/royal-jubilee/royal-jubilee/victoria.jpg>

Modernism in Kolkata

Art Nouveau, the predecessor of Art Deco, barely touched the country, and the only Art Nouveau structure in India remains the **Esplanade Mansion** (1910) at Chowringhee designed by Martin & Co



Figure 4 a) The Art Nouveau Esplanade Mansion. Source: [www.wikipedia.org](https://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Esplanade_Mansion) b) The Lighthouse Cinema.

Source: <https://indianmodernism.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Esplanade-Mansion.jpg>

In terms of structural innovations, Bellardie and Thompson designed the first steel framed multistoried structure in the city – the **Tower House** (1925) on Bentrack Street. Modernist work in Kolkata, like other Indian cities, was carried out by foreign architects. The **Garden Theatre and Lighthouse Cinema** (1936-38) at Lindsay Street, now largely remodelled, was one such structure designed by Dutch architect Marius Dudok, with balconies and rounded windows and contrasts of solids and voids and horizontals and verticals¹. Another significant work in Modernism is the **Lady Dufferin Memorial Hospital** (1937) by Bellardie, Thompson and Matthews. By the 1950s a subdued Modernism was seen

¹ Matcott, T. (2006). *Architecture and Independence: The Search for Identity—India, 1880–1950*. By Jon Lang, Madhav Datta, and MNI Datta. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2007. vol. 347 pp. \$115.00 (cloth). *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 58(2), 551–552. doi:10.2307/2459470

in the ICI (India) Office and the India Exchange Office, both designed by Ballardie, Thompson and Matheson.

Art Deco emerged in France in the 1920s and quickly spread across the globe. In Kolkata, the first significant Art Deco structure was the Victoria House (1933) in Chowringhee, though it still retained some colonial features like the Roman arches with a rusticated facade on the ground floor. In 1935 Metro Cinema Hall, designed by Thomas White Lamb and built by Metro Goldwyn Mayer, became the most prominent Art Deco icon of the city. Art Deco soon became the characteristic style for cinemas across the city. Elite Cinema Hall in Dharmatollah was built in 1940, designed by M.A. Ridley Abbott of Abbott and Davis and completed by John B. Fernandez. Roxy Cinema Hall, which was originally Empire Theatre, was remodelled as an Art Deco structure and reopened in 1941. The Reid House (1941) in Red Cross Place, designed by Ballardie and Thompson became another Art Deco city icon.



Figure 2 The Victoria House. Source: <https://www.atemp.com/stock-photo-old-pictures-images-28206-cf-victoria-house-in-kolkata-the-house-image-27223872.html>

From here onwards the movement gained ground and the Art Deco style or the 'Metro style badi' became popular in residential buildings of Kolkata. With the Indian Independence seeing a trail of refugees settling in the Southern parts of the city, Art Deco houses built by Contractors became increasingly common. Bold horizontal and vertical bands, sleek and smooth geometrical forms with streamlined and curved edges, Ziggurat like stepped silhouettes were some of the characteristic features. For ornamentation, embossed motifs and geometrical patterns were seen in the cast-iron grills of parapets, doors, windows, ventilator and gates. Terrazzo and patterned tiled or marble flooring were also common. There was no specific spatial organization that was brought about with this style.



Figure 6 a) Siro Cinema. Source: Author. b) Siro Cinema as it was originally built. Source: [alibhaskar.blogspot](#)



Figure 7 Art Deco inspired residential structures in the city near Sector Lane and Lake Terrace. Source: Author

Apart from residences, multi-storeyed commercial and mixed-use buildings also became increasingly common in this style like **Hind Mutual** on Madan Street, **Saha Court** and **Olympia House** on G.C Avenue, **Laha Paint House** on Central Avenue. Construction in the Art Deco style in Kolkata continued till the late 1960s in Kolkata. **Indo Deco**, an offshoot of Art Deco but more revivalist in nature with use of Indian motifs also evolved in the city. This style was used not only the residential structures of the city but also includes city landmarks like the **Akashvani Bhavan** (1956) in BED Bogh and the **Ram Krishna Mission Complex** (1960) in Golpark both designed by Ballardie, Thompson, and Matthews.

Revivalist styles and the Modern Indian Architectural movement

The **Bose Institute**, built in 1917, is one of the first buildings in Kolkata in the revivalist style, designed by Abanindranath Mitter and assisted by artists like Abanindranath Tagore and Nandalal Bose. The design experimented with Hindu and Buddhist motifs from Ajanta-Ellora. The **Mahajati Sadan** (1939-1958), conceived by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and whose foundation stone was laid by Rabindranath Tagore, was built in the Revivalist style with Aitchala roofs over the corner towers, decorative brackets over projecting chajias and geometric Jalis on windows. Another structure in the Revivalist style was the **M.P. Birla Planetarium**, designed by O.K. Goss of Ballardie, Thompson and Matthews, incorporating Buddhist architectural elements from stupas, railings, and finials.



Figure 8 The Bose Institute. Source: Patrick Schiller (*The Life and Work of Dr Jagadish Chandra Bose*, 1910)

The 1920s and 50s saw the birth of the Modern Indian Architectural movement spearheaded by Sris Chandra Chatterjee to bring about Nationalism through architecture. The movement was a reaction against the growing International Modernism elsewhere, especially Art Deco, and searched for an Indianness which could be a source of identity and pride for the nation. He brought about a change in the syllabi for Calcutta University and BE College where great importance was given to Indian and Asian architecture as opposed to the Bombay School which were controlled by chartered British architects. He received support from Subhash Chandra Bose, the then mayor of Calcutta to introduce a department in the Calcutta Corporation for traditional designs for new construction in the city. However, the movement was not very successful, and Sris Chandra Chatterjee's only work in the city remains the Ashok Singh Palace (1942) which had a modern utilitarian form. However, The Calcutta Improvement Trust echoed the principles of the Modern Indian Architectural movement, in the building of private residences for one of their most important projects – the Central Avenue, now Chittaranjan Avenue and hence many structures on it have distinct Rajasthani influences on their facades.

Architecture post-Independence

Political economy of post-Colonial Calcutta did not allow great architectural thought or innovation within the Modernist movement. There was limited architectural activities due to multiple socio-political reasons which prevented Kolkata from adopting a 'distinct, modernist, architectural culture'. The New Secretariat Building (1944-54) designed by Habib Rahman in the Bauhaus style patronized by Dr. BC Roy is one of the few structures. Built in the International Modernist style, the New Secretariat Building was the tallest building in India with fifteen storeys and became one of Rahman's most celebrated works. Calcutta, with few native architectural firms, continued to employ foreign architects for the city. A product of this were the Reserve Bank of India designed by John A. Ritchie, the Life Insurance Corporation Building (1954-58), initially commissioned to an Indian Architect but eventually taken up by Maxwell Fry, Tata Centre (1963) designed and built by Holabird and Root of Chicago and the US Consulate Staff Quarters designed by Willgoose and Chase from Washington DC. The shell dome of the Mahatma Sadan Hall, though a Revivalist building, was designed by an Italian, Dr. A. Carbone.



Figure 2 The Reserve Bank of India

Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/67/Reserve_Bank_of_India_NATFANIS_buildingNFC_September_2011.jpg/1200px-Reserve_Bank_of_India_NATFANIS_buildingNFC_September_2011.jpg

With lack of political incentive and private patronization, architectural thought in Kolkata stagnated. There was no cohesive school of thought that guided construction activity and only a few individualistic landmarks emerged. Architectural works of first- and second-generation modernist architects of Independent India were notably absent. The only structure designed by Charles Correa in Calcutta in the 20th Century was a private residence for Sanjoy Sen's family (1959-61) on Palm Avenue which was torn down to make way for a public sector bank. Another of Correa's work, the City Centre in Salt Lake City began in 1999 but was completed in 2004. The iconic City Centre provided a new benchmark for malls across the country breaking away from the American notion of air-conditioned malls and amalgamating it with traditional open market streets of India. Public as well as private structures of all typologies were built in various modernist styles. The **Rabindra Sदन**, a cultural center in the modernist style, was designed in 1963 to mark the birth centenary of Tagore. The foundation stone was laid by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. Another cultural center, **Kala Mandir** was built in 1968 designed by Binay Chatterjee and Benjamin Polk who are credited with designing other Modernist structures across the country. The idea of forming a cultural space for the city of Kolkata stemmed in the mind of the eminent industrialist of India Syt. Basant Kumar Birla. Two very close associates, Mr. G.D. Baner and Mr. B.D. Bhattacharya joined Mr. B.K. Birla in his decision. The **Birla Mandir** on Syed Amir Ali Avenue, begun in 1970 and inaugurated in 1996, designed by Neel Bose and supervised by traditional Sengupta was a landmark temple construction based on North Indian temple architecture, influenced by the Lingaraja Temple of Bhubaneswar. An interesting amalgamation of the old and the new was seen in the **Annexed building of the Calcutta High Court** (1975-77) where the new building uses the neo-gothic vocabulary of the old building in a modern manner, without blatantly imitating original architectural elements. This was designed by B.N. Banerjee who led the team of PWD architects. In 1985, **Nandan**, a government-sponsored film and cultural center in Kolkata designed by Amitava Sengupta was an addition to the cultural hubs of the city built in the Modernist style. It was inaugurated by Satyajit Ray and the logo for the complex was designed by him too.



Figure 22 a) Rabindra Sadan.



Figure 22 b) Nandan.

Source: https://www.shutterstock.com/24/80442082_44/0442082.jpg

Source: <https://pki.scribd.com/>

Dakshinapan Shopping Centre launched in 1988 in Orinhat as an indoor shopping complex, was designed in the Modernist style by Hiren Chowdhury and commissioned by the Kolkata Improvement Trust. The **Taj Bengal** in Alipore (1989), was built with a Modernist façade but successfully introducing traditions of Bengal art and culture into the interiors. Taj Bengal was designed by Ajay Chowdhury and Ranjit Sahai of Design Group, who are credited with the construction of many significant modern heritage across the country while the interiors were designed by an American architect Bob Fox. The minimalist façade with vertical gardens and the large double height covered atrium were a novelty in the city. In the 1980s, the Bank of Calcutta, a heritage building of the early 1900s was demolished. On its site, came up the **new State Bank of India Headquarters**, a multi-story building mimicking the Neo-Classical façade of the demolished structure with roman arches with projecting key stones, disproportionate ionic columns and triangular pediments. Designed by Development Consultants Pvt Ltd and completed in 1997, the **Science City**, Kolkata, another city icon, was built using experimentation in forms. Developed by the National Council of Science Museums, it is one of the largest and finest in the world, presenting science and technology in a stimulating and engaging environment. Apart from a few noteworthy structures, most construction related activity in Kolkata especially in the public sector was utilitarian in form – multi-storied RCC construction with prominent vertical and horizontal shading devices which dominated the façade. These were largely designed and executed by Civil Engineers rather than architects.



Figure 23 Science City Kolkata. Source: Author

Private residences in plotted lands were built in the modern Indian vernacular, especially in Salt Lake City or Bidhan Nagar. These were largely a mishmash of various styles with elements 'borrowed from Modernism to Indian Historical Architecture' (Sen 2017). The houses are designed by the contractor builders and architects were employed only occasionally. Market driven forms of architecture was late to appear in Kolkata. This is again rooted in Kolkata's political history, being ruled by the Left. Foreign and corporate investments in Kolkata were also low compared to other cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai. Due to paucity of land, most market driven private apartment complexes expanded vertically. This trend was also possible due to the introduction of RCC Framed construction. Some of these are the Tivoli Court in Ballygunge (1980) and the Himadri Apartments, also in Ballygunge, which had an exposed brick façade.

Conservation of built heritage:

Policies and Planning –

The 20th Century saw the beginning of many efforts in the conservation and preservation of built heritage in the nation. The Ancient Monuments Preservation Act was passed in 1904 by Lord Curzon to preserve and restore ancient Indian monuments by the Archaeological Survey of India which was replaced by the AMASR Act in 1958. The state government of West Bengal had adopted the Preservation of Historical Monuments and Objects and Excavation of Archaeological Sites Act in 1957. However, only 105 structures and sites in West Bengal and a handful of 18 sites in the Kolkata Metropolitan Area were protected by this Act leaving numerous heritage sites without protection. In 1980, as per the provisions of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation Act, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) was responsible for the identification, preservation, and conservation of heritage buildings. A heritage building was defined as 'any building of one or more premises, or any part thereof, which requires preservation and conservation for historical, architectural, environmental or ecological purpose and includes such portion of the land adjoining such building or any part thereof as may be required for fencing or covering or otherwise preserving such building'. Heritage buildings were identified in various land use and developmental control plans by the Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMUDA). In 1997, an expert committee (EC) on Heritage Buildings was constituted by the KMC where the State Government instructed the Committee to review the Heritage Buildings identify and provide necessary measures for their conservation. In September 1998, the EC submitted a list of 1363 heritage buildings and structures to the KMC along with recommendations for their conservation. Amongst the recommendations were the following:

- preparation of a manual with the final enlistment along with their photographs and significance of each item
- preparation of a technical manual with the help of Conservation specialists and setting up of an autonomous Institute of Conservation to build technical and financial resources to help safeguard the heritage structures and sites
- creation of the West Bengal Heritage Commission, a statutory body by legislation in the assembly

As per the Kolkata Municipal Corporation Act (Amended) the Heritage Conservation Committee (HCC) was formed in 1999-2000. The HCC would be responsible for scrutinizing all applications to enlist a building as a heritage structure or site. The HCC would also be responsible for grading of the enlisted buildings as per their significance. The efforts that commenced in the 20th century finally began to take shape in the early 2000s with the setting up of the West Bengal Heritage Commission in March 2001 and the formulation of the West Bengal Heritage Regulations in 2004.

Conservation Efforts -

Though restoration of heritage buildings in the 20th century were few and far between, over the years, restoration initiatives have been taken up in Kolkata by national bodies like the ASI, state bodies like the West Bengal Heritage Commission, urban local bodies like Kolkata Municipal Corporation, non-profit organisations like INTACH as well as other private organisations and individuals. In 1961, the centennial birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, the State Government acquired the **Jorasanko Thakur Bari** which then went through large scale repairs and restoration. In 1962, the Rabindra Bharati University and the Jorasanko Museum was established in the same premises⁴. The Jorasanko Thakurbadi was repaired multiple times over the coming years. In 1972, during the birth centenary of Sri Aurobindo, the **Aurobindo Bhavan**, his residence was restored and converted into the Aurobindo study and research centre. **Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar's residence** in Kolkata was restored in 1998. The **Raja Ram Mohan Roy College** on Amharat Street was also restored around that time. **Raja Ram Mohan Roy's residence**, which was acquired by the Police Department in 1918, was restored and converted into the **Kolkata Police Museum** in 1996⁵. **Netaji Bhawan**, established in 1952 on the premises of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ancestral property, was also repaired in the late 20th Century.



Figure 32 The Kolkata Police Museum. (Source: The Concrete Research)

However, while many structures got repaired and refurbished during this period, most being public buildings being worked upon by the Public Works Departments, few followed the principles and norms of good practices in Conservation. The restoration of the **Town Hall** between 1996-1998 was the first scientific restoration and adaptive reuse projects undertaken in the city as a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model between the State Government, the KMC and the Heritage Trust, guided by a private firm **Udayan**⁶. Amongst the other projects undertaken by the KMC are renovation of residences of **Satyajit Ray** and **Sukumar Ray**, restoration and illumination of **St. Andrews Church**, restoration of **Job**

⁴ <https://www.ambikanthak.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/04/2011-ann-3.pdf>. Accessed online on 16.07.2022

⁵ <https://www.kolkatapolice.gov.in/images/Police/Museum.pdf>. Accessed online on 16.07.2022

⁶ Das, Shishirish. (2022). Restoration of Town Hall in Kolkata for adaptive reuse: A case study. Structural Survey, 20, 220-231. 10.1108/026907020111341338.

Charnock's Mausoleum: Government organizations like the LIC were involved in the restoration of two key buildings in the city – the **Queen's Mansion** and the **Metropolitan Insurance Building**.

While the number of structures in the jurisdiction is few, the ASI were responsible for the restoration of the **Metcalf Hall** and the **Currency Building** in Kolkata in the recent years.



Figure 15 The Town Hall post restoration.

Source: Bose, Prasenjit, (2012). *Restoration of Town Hall in Kolkata for adaptive reuse: A case study*. Structural Survey, 33, 280-291. doi:10.1080/00237179.2012.641832.

Amongst private organizations, one of the first conservation efforts was undertaken by INTACH in 1992 when they restored the **Gwalior Monument** on Strand Road, followed by the **Princep Ghat** in the following year funded by the UB group. In 2004 the **Dalhousie Square** was included as one of the sites on the endangered list by World Monuments Fund which made the West Bengal government pledge to preserve the site and in 2007 **St. John's Church** was restored with the help of INTACH.



Figure 16 The St. John's Church in Dalhousie Square post restoration.

Source: <https://www.comf.org/eng/raj/Mahatma-square> Accessed online on 23.07.2022

Heritage at Risk –

Though many conservation efforts have been undertaken by various governmental and non-governmental agencies and private individuals, they are minuscule compared to the large stock of heritage structures and site that the city boasts of. These structures, a large percentage of which belong to the 20th Century, are not adequately protected by legislation and are at a continued threat of demolition. This can be demonstrated taking the case of a particular functional typology – the opera halls and single screen theatres which have fallen out of use after the introduction of multiplexes. While some of these structures have already been demolished like the *Minerva* (Chaplin), the country's first cinema hall, established by Jamshedji Framji Madan in 1907 and demolished in 2013 after falling into disuse, others have been altered beyond recognition. Amongst these are *Roxy Cinema*, built originally as *Empire Theatre* in 1908 in the Neo-Classical style and humorously revamped in 1941 in the Art Deco style, which is now covered with Aluminium cladding, the *Lighthouse*, built in 1936-38 which shut down in 2002 and the *New Empire Cinema Hall*, built in 1931 and a Grade I listed building, both of which have derelict facades covered in advertisements and hoardings. *Roxy Cinema* was also up for demolition but was stopped due to public agitation. A number of Art Deco cinema halls lining Bishan Sarani have closed its curtains and are at risk of being pulled down.



Figure 2: Roxy Cinema over the years

Source: a) <https://journalofkolkata.com/2018/12/31/2028/> b) <http://www.artsandpage.com/kolkataheritage/a-icographindia.com>

Apart from the Cinema Halls with their iconic facades, another typology of Art Deco structures is facing a threat of demolition – private residences. While most of these residences are not listed as a heritage building by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation, other which are listed also have been downgraded or are lacking maintenance. It is essential these structures and sites are identified, their significance assessed, and adequate measures taken to ensure sustained conservation of the historic urban fabric of Kolkata through various planning measures.

By

Sohini Pyne

Theme 5 - Economy & Entrepreneurship

Introduction

Kolkata is the largest metropolis in India, in terms of its population. It is a city of teeming millions, born only about three centuries ago, rising from a peaddy farming hinterland near Ganges delta to a metropolis of gargantuan scale. Once, it enjoyed the status of the administrative capital of British India. At present, Kolkata is recognized as a global city, with rapidly emerging industrial development. The East India Company, and later the British monarchy, introduced the industrial agenda by encouraging growth of Agricultural-based raw materials like, jute, cotton and tea, and mining coal. The idea was to use India as a supplier of raw materials, feed the industries in the UK and market the products back in India and SE Asia.

By the early 1900s, Kolkata and its surrounding areas were bustling with industries. The Bengal Renaissance and advancements in education during the 19th century enabled Kolkata's affluent residents, such as, Prince Dwarkanath Tagore, showed much interest to invest in mining shipping, trading, etc. at par with the British counterpart. However, the struggle for independence and the push for indigenous materials and technology slowed industrial progress. The partition further disrupted economic growth, particularly impacting the jute industry. Post-1960s, Kolkata's economic decline was exacerbated by the left-leaning government's policies, which led to 30 years of stagnation. Despite these setbacks, the city's economic history remains complex and multifaceted.

Manufacturing Industry at Kolkata (1900-2000)

Many foreign-based companies and the companies owned by Indians had their manufacturing units in various fields and their Headquarters based in Kolkata and its surroundings, with roaring business since pre-independence era. Such as,

a) **British Owned Companies** - Imperial Tobacco Company (ITC) (1910) Imperial Chemical Industries / ICI (1929), British/Berger Paints (1923), Dunlop & Co (1937- closed), Duncan Bros (1923), CESC (1899), Britannia (1892), HMV Gramophone Co (entry 10th cent), Jessop & Co (1820 - closed), GEC (1910 - closed), Eveready (1914), Bird Co (1860- taken over by OOI in 1980), Jardín & Henderson (1950), Shew Wallace (1886- amalgamated), Hindustan Unilever/Brook Bond Tea/Lipton Tea (1903), Starling Tea Co./Goodrich (1977-78) Reckitt & Colman Ltd/Cherry Blossom/Dettol/Harpic etc (1938), Coates of India/Dainippon Ink & Chemicals (1947).

Over and above there were many Jute, Cotton Mills and Tea gardens owned by the British in Bengal, which were at a later date taken over by Indian Business tycoons, like Birla, Tata, Kanoria, etc.

b) There were some Companies of other origin, like, Phillips (Dutch -1930- closed down), SF India (Swedish), Union Carbide (American-1934- sold), WIMCO (Swedish-1948/50- closed down), Beta Shoes

(originally a Czech company -1931- taken over by Indians), Balmer Lawrie & Co. (Scottish-1924), Andrew Yule (Scottish-1907), Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co. Ltd (Scottish-1909) etc.



Balmer Lawrie & Co. HQ at Dalhousie Sq

PC: www.balmerlawrie.com



ITC-Verginia House (1928) Chowringhee Road

PC: www.itsindianheritage.com

c) Indian Owned manufacturing Companies. – Titagorh Paper Mills (1903), Martin Burn & Co (1946- less active), India Foils (1960- amalgamated), Hindustan Motors/ Ambassador car factory (1942- shifted from WB), Indian Oxygen(1958), Bengal Petteries(1919-under liquidation), Bengal Lamps(1932- Closed), Joy Engineering Works/USHA Fan & Sewing Machine (1940 – shifted from WB), Polar Fan (1978), Shalimar Chemicals (1945), Shalimar Paints (1902-shifted to Gurgaon) , Sulekha Ink(1934- closed down in 1988, reopened in 2006), Krishna Glass(1979-under process of strike off),C.D. Pharmaceuticals / Bordline (1929), Dabour India Pvt Ltd (est.1884), Bengal Waterproof Duck back (1940-), Peerless General Finance & Investment Co. Ltd (1932), Emsani Group (1981),Bengal Ambuja Cement (1995) etc.

d) Govt owned manufacturing Units-

i) In the late 1930s, foundation work for a new mint at Taratala, near Alipore, was completed, but construction was halted due to World War II. The Alipore Mint was eventually inaugurated by India's Finance Minister, Shree C. D. Deshmukh, on March 19, 1952. From that date, it began full-scale operations for producing coins, as well as medals, decorations, and badges. Besides manufacturing coins for domestic use, the Alipore Mint also produces coins for other countries. (source: Wikipedia)



Alipor Mills, Kolkata (FC: wikipedia)



iii) **Saraswati Press** was founded in Barisal, Bangladesh, in 1923, and moved to Sealdah, Kolkata, in 1925. In 1958, the press relocated to a larger facility on B.T. Road to accommodate its growing workload. Renowned for its superior printing quality in Eastern India, it garnered numerous awards for 'Excellence in Printing'. The press achieved high standards by importing advanced machinery from the UK and Germany, operated by skilled technicians with specialized training to stay abreast of the latest technology. (Source: saraswatiipress.org)

iv) Founded by **Profulla Chandra Ray** in Kolkata, West Bengal, in 1901, **Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.** was India's first privately-owned pharmaceutical enterprise. Initially successful, the company began facing financial losses in the mid-1950s but has recently returned to profitability. The Union government took over the company's management on December 15, 1977, and it was officially nationalized on December 15, 1980. The company produces industrial chemicals, pharmaceuticals such as antibiotic injectables, tablets, and capsules, as well as household products like phenol.

(source: <https://pharmaceuticals.gov.in/>)

h) **Kolkata Port**, now known as **Sunderbans Port Trust**, is India's only riverine major port, established by the British East India Company in 1870. It is the oldest operating port in India. After Independence, its significance declined due to the navigability of the river Hooghly and regional economic stagnation. Key developments include the completion of Kidderpore Dock II in 1902, the addition of the Garden Reach jetty in 1925, and the commissioning of King George's Dock (now Netaji Subhash Dock) in 1928. The port, crucial during WWII and bombed twice by Japanese forces, boasts India's largest dry dock facility, with five dry docks and shipbuilding capabilities. Warehouses at Strand Road have been in use since the British era. (Source: KOPF)



Old Port of Kolkata



Kidderpore Dry Dock-1901

Banking Industry in Kolkata

The banking industry in India was introduced by Europeans, with Kolkata (formerly Calcutta) emerging as a key banking hub due to its prominence as a major trading port. The evolution of banking in India can be divided into three phases:

- **Pre-Independence Era (Before 1947):** The **Imperial Bank of India**, formed in 1921 from the three Presidency Banks, served as the central bank for British India which at a later date became the **State Bank of India in 1955**. By 1942, G.D. Birla established the **United Commercial Bank**, one of India's first commercial banks, which was nationalized in 1949, along with the **United Bank of India**, founded by B.K. Dutta in 1950.
- **Post-Independence (1947 to 1991):** The **Reserve Bank of India**, initially headquartered in Kolkata, began functioning as India's central bank and regulatory body from 1949 before moving to Mumbai. The **1969 nationalization** of 14 commercial banks, followed by six more in 1980, aimed to support social welfare, reduce regional imbalances, and expand banking into rural areas. This phase established the foundation for the modern banking system and promoted widespread banking practices.
- **Liberalization Era (1991 and beyond):** Marked by the liberalization of economic policies, this phase saw a dramatic expansion of banking services, with numerous branches opening both in cities and rural areas. Banking sector got tremendous impetus by reaching door to door service. Many office buildings were constructed for various Banks and Life Insurance Corporation of India. Kolkata remains a major banking center, housing the headquarters of UCO Bank, United Bank of India, and Allahabad Bank.



The Reserve Bank of India, SSB Bdg, Kolkata



LIC Bldg, SSB Bdg, Kolkata

j) Coal Industries (Collieries)

Coal has been integral to India's history for centuries, with commercial mining beginning in 1774 in the Raniganj coalfield of West Bengal. Concerns over unregulated mining practices and poor labor conditions in private mines led the Indira Gandhi administration to nationalize the sector. The Coal Mines (Taking Over of Management) Act, 1973, allowed the government to assume control of both coking and non-coking coal mines in seven states, including those nationalized in 1971. On May 1, 1973, the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Act, 1973, was enacted, formalizing the government's control over coal mining in India.

Impact: Established in 1975, Coal India Limited (CIL) is a government-owned coal mining and refining corporation headquartered in Kolkata, i.e. 'coal bhavan' at Dalhousie Square. It is the world's largest coal producer and a 'Maharatna' public sector undertaking (PSU), as well as the seventh-largest employer in India, with approximately 272,000 employees. (source: Wikipedia)



Coal Bhavan at SSB Bdg



New India Assurance Bldg at Rajarhat- New Town

Several other manufacturing units that have been major players in Kolkata since the pre-Independence era continue to thrive during 20th century. For instance, the gold jewelry industry, film industry, and construction industry, experienced significant growth in Kolkata after Independence.

e) Gold Jewelry – Gold jewelry from Kolkata is renowned for its indigenous designs and fine craftsmanship. In the early 20th century, B. Sirkar & Sons, established in 1905 in Bowbazar, outshone European competitors like Hamilton & Co. They pioneered the industry, inspiring many entrepreneurs to transform Kolkata into a major gold jewelry hub. By the mid-20th century, P.C. Chandra Jewellers (est. 1939) and Senco Jewelry House (est. 1938) emerged as key players, both starting in Bowbazar and now boasting numerous branches nationwide. Although B. Sirkar & Sons ceased operations in 1955, the family's legacy continues through next generations, like B. Sirkar & Johuree, A.K. Sirkar and Anjali Jewellers.

Impact: The Gold Jewelry produced at Kolkata are not only popular to the other parts India, but also possess a great demand in the world market and a popular item of export, thus a foreign exchange earner!



P.C. Chandra store room at Shovangore



B. Sirkar Jewellers store room at Bowbazar

6 Film Industry –

20th century was the "Golden period" of this Industry when, New Theatres Pvt Ltd, Arora Film Corporation, Chandinada Film Ltd, Indian Film Laboratories Pvt Ltd, R.D. Banerji & Co, and many others ventured into this entertainment business to set an example how business could reach to the height of creativity with commercial success! Bengali Film Industry produced not only good films but also produced Nationally/Internationally famed directors/Filmmakers, Actors/Actress, playback singers Music composers, and technicians.

Impact: In the 20th century, many distributors and cinema hall owners, including prominent names like Madan Theatre and Metro Golden Mayer, along with Bengali entrepreneurs, capitalized on the booming film industry in Kolkata. The city attracted talent in various roles—directors, cameramen, sound recordists, composers, actors, and singers—who gained national and international acclaim. Kolkata boasts Oscar-winning director Satyajit Ray, and other internationally recognized figures like Mrinal Sen, Ritwik Ghatak, Apurva Sen and great actors like, Pramothesha Barua, Kanon Deb, Uttam Kumar and Suchitra Sen.

The Tollygunge film industry, or "Tollywood," was renowned for both art and commercially successful films until the rise of television and multiplexes like INOX and PVR in the late 20th century. This shift led to the decline of single-screen cinema halls, many of which have since closed or been repurposed for other use. It is a heartbreaking truth that most of the famous single-screen cinema halls and Film Studios are already closed, and the others are waiting for their turn. These cinema halls are a reflection of 20th-century Art Deco architecture that emerged in Kolkata, where METRO Cinema is an example of popularising 'Metro pattern' architecture. Hence, it is a fact that once a vibrant popular choice of business on the Film Industry got a set back since late 20th century.



Durgam, (North - closed) Light house, (Central - converted to retail stores) Indira, (South - Closed)

The above are few iconic Cinema halls across the city, were the legacy of film industries of Kolkata.

g) Construction Industry:-

Another boom in business found in Kolkata since its inception, i.e., **Infrastructure and Real Estate Development**, mainly due to increasing demand in infrastructure and housing sector. Multistoried apartments and offices were the order of the day as an impact of technological development in 20th century. **Mackintosh Burn** (estd in 1834 - still continuing) and **Martin Burn & Co** (1946- almost wound up) were the two leading companies who built many architectural marvels, for which Kolkata can boast of with the title 'the City of Palaces' in the early part of the 20th cent.

The other agencies were **Hindustan Construction Company** (1926), **Larsen & Tubro** (1936- still continuing), **HRBC** (1960- still continuing), **Bengal Ambuja** (1993- still continuing), **Peerless**, **Emami** etc. are few construction companies who had contributed for city's infrastructure development and developing housing sector, mainly in the later part of 20th cent. State Govt encouraged to develop newer areas in and around Kolkata, like Salt Lake, Rajarhat, Behala, Joka, Garia, Dumdum, Barasat etc.



Howrah Bridge-Infrastructure (By Martin Burni Co.)

(source: www.burnibn.com/)



Housing complex (By Peerless Real Estate Developer)

(source: kolkata.peerless.com/)

k) The Small and Medium Scale Industries of engineering goods exist since Pre Independence era in the fringe area of Kolkata and Howrah, through which the skilled and unskilled labor force of the city survived, which also contributed for economic growth and built-heritage of the city. It even continues in the post-independence era.

1) Software Industries

Incorporated in 1974 to develop the electronics industry in West Bengal, Webel adapted to the evolving landscape with the introduction of the West Bengal Information Technology Policy in 2000. The organization positioned itself as the key agency responsible for advancing West Bengal's prominence in the knowledge industry in India. It focused on transforming Sector V in Salt Lake Bidhan Nagar into the IT hub for Kolkata and West Bengal. (source: www.webel.in/)

Many private MNCs like WIPRO, IBM, TCS, INFOSYS, Capgemini, Accentura, etc. opened their office at Salt Lake, Sector-V through which the city's economy got a fresh life.



Webel office at Sector-V, Salt Lake



Webel Tower-1, Sector-V

(PC: <http://www.webel-india.com/>)

m) Entrepreneurship

The Bengal Renaissance catalyzed many aspects of Bengali life, including entrepreneurship. Prince Dwarakamath Tagore is celebrated as a pioneer in this field. In the early 20th century, notable figures such as Sir Rajen Mookherjee of *Martin Burn & Co* in construction and Nalini Ranjan Sarkar of *Hindustan Insurance Corporation* (later Life Insurance Corporation of India) made significant contributions. The rise of the *Birla Group* from Kolkata, expanding into diverse sectors like manufacturing, jute, tea, automobiles, banking, education, and healthcare, was a key event of the century. Kolkata's *Baza Bazar*, a commercial hub influenced by the Marwari community, plays a central role in the city's economy. Today, it is basically a wholesale market of each and everything of daily livelihood and trading is the key word there. Alongside the Birla Group, other influential families and groups such as the *Singhanias*, *Sarafis*, *Jais*, *Poddars*, *Bangsar*, *Kajaria*, *Bajoria*, *Jhunjhunwala*, etc. emerged. The *Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)*, founded in 1929 by Marwari entrepreneurs with O.D. Birla as its first President, highlights this era's entrepreneurial spirit. These Marwari business groups acquired British-owned Jute Mills and Tea Gardens, while others diversifying into sectors like Real Estate and Pharmaceuticals. Tata Group played a pivotal role, dominating iron mining and establishing steel plants across Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa, with Kolkata serving as their corporate hub for production control. (Source: Chaudhary, S. (1999) *Kolkata the Living City* (Vol. II)

In the latter part of the 20th century, major business houses like the *R.P. Goenka Group*, *Bengal Ambuja*, *Peerless*, and *Emami Group* made significant contributions to Kolkata's growth in manufacturing, real estate, hospitality, and healthcare sectors.

a) **Hospitality Sector**- the first hotel in Asia was 'John Spence's Hotel' which opened in Kolkata in 1830. Thereafter David Wilson opened the 'Auckland Hotel' in 1840 at Dalhousie Square. Presently it is known as 'Great Eastern Hotel'. State Govt took over this hotel in 1970 and continued its operation for 30yrs and then it was sold to a private owner, the Lalit Group. It was closed for many years and finally reopened in 2013. Oberoi Group of Hotels, rose from this city in 20th century under the leadership of M.S. Oberoi when he took over the ailing 'Grand Hotel' at Chowringhee in 1938.

e) **Journalism**- From the 19th to 20th centuries, Kolkata saw the emergence and flourishing of several notable newspapers such as *The Statesman*, *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, *Aganor*, *Bartaman*, *Bartaman*, and *Ajkal*. However, it is regrettable that only *The Statesman*, *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, and *Bartaman* have survived to the present day.

p) **Publications** - Few publishing houses came up in a big way starting their business career in this city, such as *Ananda Publishers* (Est in 1957), *Rupa Publishers* (est. 1963), *Macmillan Education* (1958), *Seagull Books* (Est 1982), *Jaico Publishing house* (Est in 1946), *Dey's Publishing House* (Est in 1971).

Signet Press (1943), and a few more. College Street is one of the areas of Kolkata where all these publishing houses are still running their business and annual KOLKATA BOOK FAIR organized by the Publishers Guild is the largest 'Book Fair' in Asia.

Socio-economic culture at the later part of 20th century

- **Political disturbances** in '70s like the Naxalite movement, Bandh, Gherao, trade union activities, and **Power shortage** were the problems faced by industries which the State Govt was unable to handle properly, till the '90s. The ultimate result was many companies closed their factories and shifted their factories & HQ to other parts of India. The '70s to '80s were a dark phase!
- **Opening up of economy in 1991** – India's economy embarked on a neoliberal regime characterized by a **greater degree of privatization, liberalization of foreign policy** etc. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has mostly come in the manufacturing and telecommunication sectors. The advantages of FDI inflows to West Bengal has been that, it has led to the development of the infrastructure in the state for the flyovers, roads, power, and tele-communications, which was developed very rapidly. FDI has also boosted the real estate industry in West Bengal.
- Unemployment had been a major area of concern for West Bengal. Since 2000, there has been an economic resurgence in the city, due to thriving IT industries and business parks in Bishanagar and Rajarhat-New Town at Greater Kolkata.
- There has also been a surge in investment in Kolkata's booming real-estate sectors

India's urban growth and economic expansion since the 1990s have brought numerous challenges, particularly in cities like Kolkata. As metro cities rapidly expand both vertically and horizontally, they face immense pressure from rising migrant populations and stretched infrastructure. This rapid growth often undermines the quality of life due to increased congestion, pollution, and spatial poverty. Although recent economic policies have revitalized Kolkata from its earlier downturn, the city still struggles with only 40 percent of its population in the workforce and a growing transient population, indicating significant room for economic improvement.

by
OM Deyal College of Architecture

Research Findings



Research Findings

Objective -1- Developing Thematic Historic Framework of the 19th Century Kolkata

The early 19th century to mid-20th century, was a vibrant and prosperous period of Kolkata. It experienced various reforms in every sphere of life, such as, Political, Religious, Social, Educational, and Cultural Reform. 20th century history of Kolkata is the story of a village turned into a Metropolis. 20C Kolkata portrays extra-ordinary expressions of the cultural landscape in every sphere of life, and the same is still present as an example of LIVING HERITAGE. A brief account of Societal Process has been developed under Five Themes with various Sub-Themes. The Themes are as under-1) Socio-Political, 2) Socio-Cultural, 3) Multi ethnicity, 4) Rapid Urbanization & Built- Heritage, 5) Socio-Economic. An Inventory of 93 buildings has been prepared on the basis of significant values related to 20C History as representative examples only. The detail findings theme wise are narrated below. -

• Theme-1- Socio- Political

Findings 1: The most important event of the era was - the freedom movement for India's Independence (Chaudhuri, S. -1990)

1.1 Various structures (unprotected and lesser-known category) linked to the 'secret services of freedom movement' are identified. (Dhargupta, B 2014, Sri Anandinda, Harapalcharya, A. 2003)

Examples- 'Bande Mataram' Office & 'Karnajogin/Dikarna' Office (associated with Biplobi Anandinda), 'Anandikun Society' Office and hideouts (associated with revolutionaries of freedom movement)- (Refer Inventory)

1.2 The buildings associated with the political leaders/social reformers like, *Surenchandra Bosejee*, *Sisir Nibedita*, *Mahatma Gandhi*, *Nargi Subbar Chandra Bose* are given due recognition in this research to mark their significance for freedom movement.
(INTACH 2006, Sengupta, S. 2021, Basu, A. 2019, Basu, S.K.-1986.)

Examples- Bharat Sabha Bhavan, Albert Hall, Theatamanda Society, Nargi Bhavan, Alipore Jail, Gandhi Bhavan, etc. (Refer Inventory)

• Theme-2- Socio- Cultural

Findings 2:

Effect of Bengal Renaissance (late 18th century – early 20th century)-It was a time when religious, cultural, social, and intellectual reforms emerged in Bengal, especially in Calcutta, reached to its zenith. The creative mentality of the Bengal Renaissance was characterized by two distinct cognitive features. The first was the ability to perceive and create by combining two seemingly contradictory yet interconnected attitudes: the Indian cultural and philosophical heritage and the Western intellectual and creative interests. (Dhargupta, S.-2007)

2.1 **Religious reform-**communal harmony, and secularism emerged. Landmark religious built-heritage constructed during pre- and post- Independence era has been identified.

Examples- Nakhinda Masjid, Birla Mandir, Ram Mandir, Purvachari Temple, Nishkanta Temple, Mahabodhi Society, Gurudwara, etc. (Refer Inventory)

2.2 **Educational reform-** National Education Movement leading to the birth of a series of educational institutions of National importance, which were initiated at the early part of 20C, and by the end of the

20C, those gained importance as an internationally reputed institution. These are identified and included in this research for their recognition as heritage assets not only for Kolkata, but for the nation as well.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jadavpur_University, <http://www.iranianinstituteofmanagement.org/>, https://www.iranica.ac.ir/sites/default/files/pdf/Indian_institute_of_management_colkata2022).

Examples- *National Council for Education (Jadavpur University), Rabindra Bharati University, Indian Institute of Management (Joka), etc.*

2.3. Scientific Research Institute- Kolkata flourished as a breeding ground for scientific research during 20C through manifestation of few geni, whose contributions are enormous to the World, such as- Jagadish Chandra Bose, P.C. Roy, P.C. Mahal Nobis, C.V. Raman, Meghnad Saha, Satyem Bose, etc. In the field of Medical Science also, Kolkata produced brilliant doctors, like, Dr. Radha Gobinda Kar, Dr. S. K. Sarbadhikary, Dr. Nil Ratan Sircar, Dr. B.C. Roy, Dr. Subhas Mukhopadhyay and many more. Few premiere scientific institutions of this era have been identified, which played important role for Nation building in the field of Scientific Research and Medical field.

(<http://www.jchose.ac.in/history>, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R._G._Kar_Medical_College_and_Hospital, <https://www.iranica.ac.ir/>).

Examples- *Bose Institute, Science College, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Indian Association of Cultivation of Science (IACS), Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), National Sample Survey, S.N. Bose National centre for Basic Sciences, R. G. Kar Medical College & Hospital, Jadavpur University (NCE), etc. (Refer Inventory)*

2.4. Women empowerment- A Sea change found in the status of women in the society of 20C. Enlightened and inculcate self-confidence amongst the girl-child are the two key components introduced by Sister Nibedita in the 20C society. In the post-Independence era, however, the new constitution adopted 'Right to education for all' as a fundamental right – a great opportunity provided to avoid gender-biasness. 20C opened the scope for recognition of women's power and brought them in the main stream. It is also to be noted many women freedom fighters took part into the 'Freedom Movement' of India. Few important Acts of Govt of India were passed after Independence to liberate women from social oppression. A few notable educational institutions are identified which encouraged the 20 C woman to empower in life as a human being. (Choudhuri, S. -1990)

Examples- *Sister Nibedita Girl's High School (for holistic education), Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya (for the girls of Advaiti communities), Lady Brabourne College for Girls (initiated to educate Muslim girls), Sarenthouash College for Women (mostly for refugees of East Pakistan and the girls from migrant), etc. (Refer Inventory)*

2.5. Fine Arts- During the Bengal Renaissance, spanning the late 18th to early 20th century, indigenous ideas profoundly influenced arts, literature, music, theatre, and cinema, shaping a distinct cultural identity. This era marked a shift towards addressing the needs of the common people, with democracy gaining prominence. Renowned artists such as Abanindranath Tagore, Nandalal Bose, and Jamini Roy embraced themes depicting the lives of ordinary people in their art. A notable example is Runkishor Beji's "Call of the Mill," which portrays a "Barthol family running towards their workplace" - focus is on the common man's livelihood. The built- heritage established with an aim to showcase Bengal's art & culture are identified. (Choudhuri, S. -1990, Dutta, K. -2003)

Examples- *Academy of Fine Arts, Rabindra Sadon, Nandan complex, Saigret Kala Mandir, built in the post-Independence era, are true representation of 20C culture with new ideas. (Refer Inventory)*

2.6. Theatre: Bijon Bhattacharya, Utpal Dutta, Shounku Mitra, and other influential figures in theatrical field brought forth dramas based on the struggles of the middle and lower-middle classes, sparking significant societal impact in the 20th century. For instance, Utpal Dutta's "Angar," depicting the lives of mineworkers, stirred public discourse. Additionally, artistic geniuses like internationally acclaimed dance maestro Uday Shankar and Arada Shankar, and the renowned magician P.C. Sircar Sr., integrated dramatic elements into their performances. Their shows achieved high standards and were frequently staged in prestigious auditoriums of Kolkata. Few Built- Heritage are identified for their associational value with legendary artists of 20C.

(<https://www.telegraphindia.com/west-bengal/ice-and-fall-of-dream-theatres-2012>)

Examples-*Empire Theatre (Rox), New Empire, Minerva Theatre, Star Theatre, etc. (Refer Inventory)*

2.7. Field of Cinema: In the Post-Independence era, Bengali Cinema predominantly focused on the struggles of the middle and poor classes rather than mythological or historical narratives. Oscar winning film director Satyajit Ray's acclaimed film "Pathar Panchali,"(1955) winner of 11 international awards, exemplifies this shift. Cinema was a popular mode of entertainment for citizens of Kolkata. But it is hard to believe, Kolkata's once-popular Cinema Para, once a thriving hangout for middle-class Bengalis from north to south, now faces decline. Apart from a few, all of them either succumbed to demolition or converted to as a shopping mall. (Chatterjee, Ranita. Ph.D. Thesis-2011)

Example- 'Newdon' the only multiplex built by State Govt has been identified as a successful addition to the city's cultural hub. The iconic 'Akro Cinema' transformed to a retail stores with multiplex and many more changed to accept new use value. Only a hand full, such as, New Empire, Bara Dwa, Bjoil, Akash Priya, Mekka, Newena, are still fighting against odd, representing single screen cinema hall.

2.8. Literature-From 1900 to 1947, Bengali literature flourished, reaching its peak. Rabindranath Tagore, revered internationally as BISHWAKAR, was a pivotal figure, winning the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913, a first for Asia and a source of great pride. Alongside Tagore, Sukumar Roy, D. L. Roy, Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Sukanta Bhattacharya, Tara Shankar Bandopadhyay, among others, emerged as pioneering writers and poets who enriched Bengali literature. Numerous literary institutions were established in the city to promote and ensure widespread access to Bengali literature for the common man and future generation, are identified.

(Thangayya, S.-2007, Chaudhuri, S.-1990, Dutta,K.-2003, Hase,A.-2019)

Examples- Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Ramakrishna Library, Chaitanya Library, Achutach Memorial Institute, Sarat Sahitya Sadan, Rabindra Bharati University, etc. (Refer Inventory)

• Theme-3- Multi-ethnicity

Foreign Migrants- Kolkata, situated as a port city besides the river Hooghly, has historically drawn migrants from across the globe even before the arrival of British in India. These diverse communities, including Jewish, Armenian, Greek, Parsi, and Chinese settlers, have significantly enriched the city's cultural and historical fabric.

Findings 3.1: They seamlessly integrated into Kolkata's cosmopolitan ethos, contributing to its rich architectural heritage. The city's iconic architectural landscape, notably developed during the 20th century, has earned it the moniker 'City of Palaces', symbolizing the harmonious coexistence and multicultural legacy of its inhabitants. A few illustrative and representative examples are identified as an architectural marvel of the city. (Chaudhuri, S. -1990; Hase,K.-2019; Hanyoga D.-2025)

Examples-*Epiphany Mansions (Jewish), Queret Mansions, Stephen Court, Grand Hotel, Naam Palace, Park Mansions (Armenian), Andrew Yule office, Giliander house, Balmer Lawrie house (Scottish), See Ip Temple and Ah Kong School(Chinese), Fire Temple (Parsi), Greek Orthodox Church*

(Greek), *Bow Barrack* (Anglo-Indian) and many more landmark public buildings such as Victoria Memorial, Army Navy Stores (Kamok building) to name a few are from the British. (Refer Inventory)

Indian Migrants: Few Indian ethnic Community also came and settled in Kolkata to seek their fortune like, Punjabi, Marwari, Gujari, Bihari, Rawls, Oriya, North-East region, etc., which also became a part of Kolkata's heritage. The most prominent and prosperous community is the Marwari community, who came and settled here since late 19th century-early 20th century. The well-established Marwari business community in Kolkata are Birla, Jain, Poddar, Banjananand, Agarwal, Kothari, Saraf, Kanoria, Bajoria, Goenka etc. (Chaudhuri, S. -1990)

Findings 3.2- These Migrants from the different parts of India belonged to various religious community, as well and hence they built many prayer halls/temples as per their belief and tradition.

In the post-Independence era, the Marwari community did certain remarkable philanthropic works for the citizens of Kolkata, such as, planetarium, auditorium, technological museum, multi-speciality hospitals, schools, colleges, temples, Dharmashala, etc. They also established Marwari Relief Society and Marwari Hospitals for the benefit of the lower middle class of their own community to provide medical services at a cheap rate.

Examples- Religious Institutes- Nishkoto Masjid from Muslims (Gujari Bhai & others), Parmanatha Temple (Gujari/Marwari Jain), Garadheeras (Punjabi Sikhs), Hikkudha (Drevidian) Temple (Hindu Tamils), Ram Mandir (Hindu Rajasthani Marwaris), Mahabodhi Society (Buddhist) and various churches (Anglo-Indian Christian) communities. (Refer Inventory)

Philanthropic establishments - Birla Planetarium, Sangeet Kala Mandir, Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Modern High School, Marwari Hospital, Birla Temple, Birla Institute of Technology and Museum, Bellinus Clinic, Kothari Medical Centre, B.M. Birla Heart Research Centre etc. (Refer Inventory)

• Theme- 4A- Rapid Urbanization and Infrastructure Development

In the 20th century, Kolkata underwent rapid urbanization, transforming the city from a small sleepy town to a bustling metropolis. The population of the city in 1901 was 2,47,796 and in 1950 it went up to 46,04,143. At present KMC has 144 Wards and 205 sq. km area with a population of 1,66,70,769 (2024). (Chaudhuri, S. (1990), <https://indian.com>, [https://worldpopulationreview.com/Ref_Mukherjee \(2011, 12\)-ARPN Journal of Science and Technology: www.academia.edu](https://worldpopulationreview.com/Ref_Mukherjee (2011, 12)-ARPN Journal of Science and Technology: www.academia.edu), 'Urban Growth and Spatial Transformation of Kolkata Metropolis: A Continuation of Colonial Legacy')

Kolkata saw a surge in population density due to 'Partition of Bengal' (1947) and 'Bangladesh War' (1971) resulting the influx of refugees, leading to unplanned development/ temporary accommodation as slums and colonies, in the fringe areas, like Bijoygarh, Bagha Jatin, Newji Nagar, Gobindapur, Panchanatala, etc.

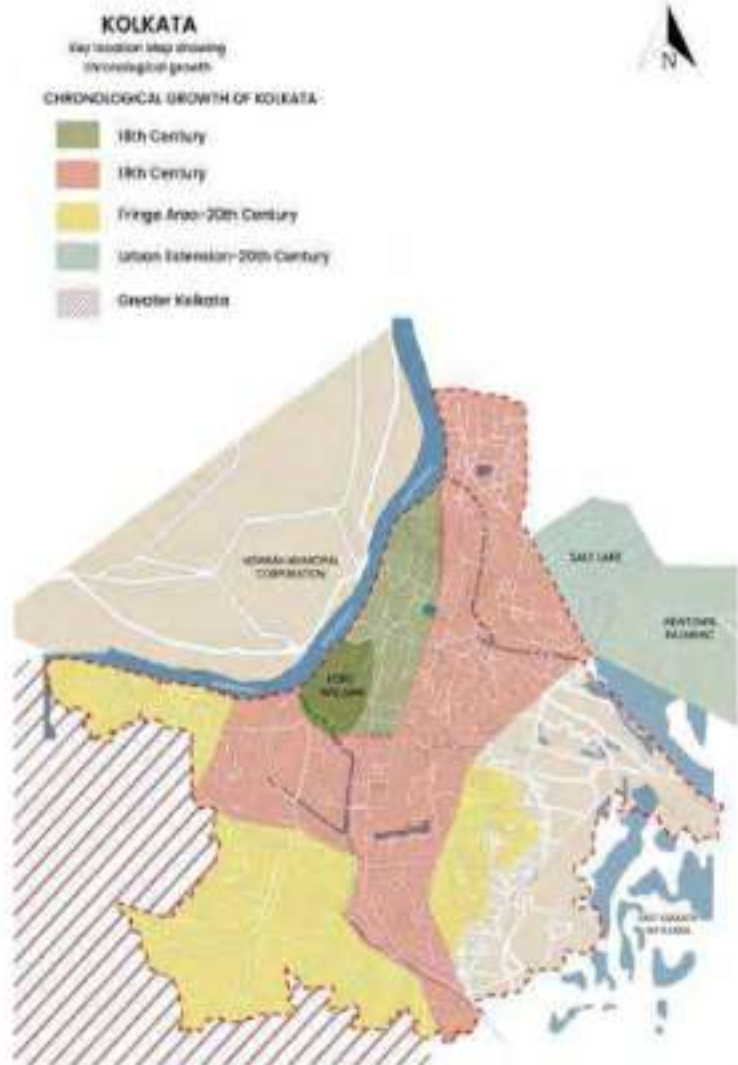
Findings 4A (i)- Calcutta Improvement Trust took a lead role to rehabilitate these slum dwellers cum refugees to low-cost housing built under the Government budget after Independence in many places within the city.

(Ref: Islam, J. (2019)- Indian Journal of Spatial Science, Autumn Issue, pp.96 - 100, 'A Geographical Analysis of Slums in the Kolkata Municipal Corporation Area, West Bengal')

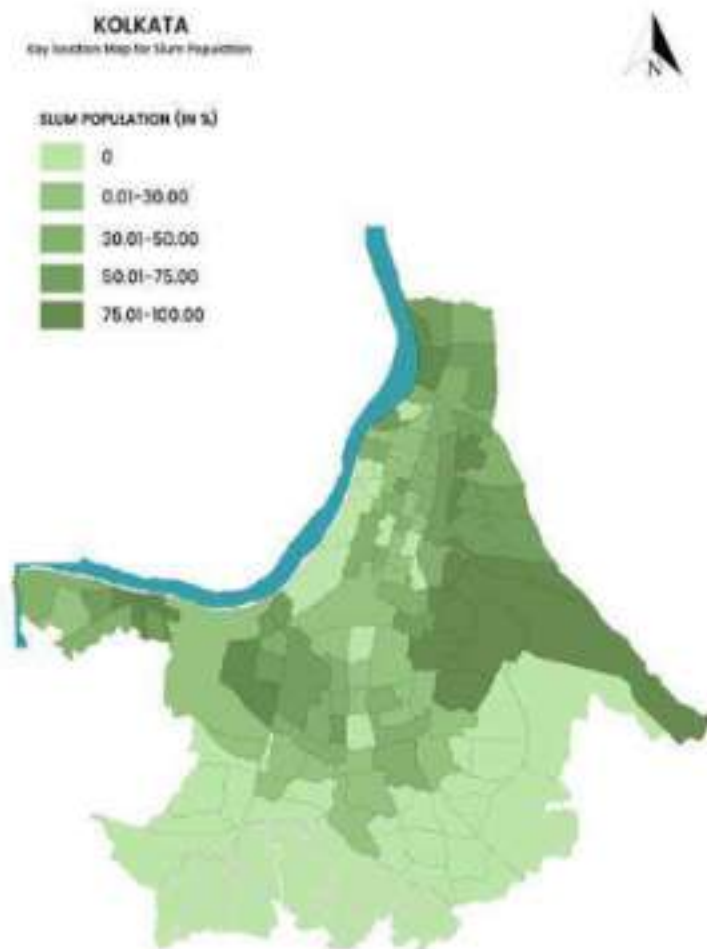


Vintage Map of Kolkata during British Regime

Annexure- 4



Annexure- 5





Slum area at Park Circus, Kolkata



CII Buildings-Low cost Housing, Beliaghata

P.C. Dr. Shashankar Senapati

(Ref: Das W (2012) -sociogeography: Case -The Evolving Urban Form, Kolkata: 50 Mile City)

Under the tremendous pressure of population explosion, the necessity of expansion of the city was felt and the State Government planned for new area development through Calcutta Improvement Trust (CIT) Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA).

Findings: 4A (ii) - In northern part, the city extended to Paik Para, Sinthi, Bangur, Lake Town, etc. In South- Jadavpur, Dhakuria, Garia, Tollygunge, Behala, Bainsakhata- Patuli, etc. In Eastern Part- Kanurghatchi, Beliaghata, etc.

Finally, to ease the pressure, two satellite township are added as a peripheral development such as, Salt Lake/Bidhan Nagar (1958- 65) and Rajarhat -New Town (1999-2006).

One of the major boosts was to execute a ring road connecting extreme north end to south end at the periphery of the city in the year 1982, i.e. 'Eastern Metropolitan By-pass' (EM Bypass)

Findings: 4A (iii)- Three major Town planning organisations responsible for improvement of Urban planning in Kolkata- Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC), Calcutta Improvement Trust (CIT) and Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA).

(Chatterjee (2019)- International Institute for Asian Studies, newsletter-Revisiting the Calcutta Improvement Trust in early 21st century)

Infrastructure Development—

20C Kolkata experienced huge improvement in the INFRASTRUCTURE as well, which brought a considerable facility to the city's inhabitants, that transformed Kolkata to a metropolis.

Few major actions taken by British Administration are noted -

Findings: 4A (iv) - Pre Independence era

- a) Laying railway network and construction of Howrah Station (1905-1911) for connectivity to the other parts of India.
- b) Establishing City's fire fighting infrastructure, i.e. Calcutta Fire Brigade (1911)
- c) Construction of Howrah Bridge (1941-43) to connect both the banks of River Hooghly
- d) Construction of Tala Tank (Overhead Water Reservoir- 1911) for potable Water Supply

e) Formation of the Calcutta Improvement Trust (1911) through an Act. Over the next forty years, the CIT laid over a hundred of road network for expansion, area development, slum rehabilitation, etc to ease the pressure of influx.

f) Laying of Road network - Connecting CBD area to the northern part i.e. Sikkya bazar by creating Central Avenue (renamed as Chittaranjan Avenue). The other important road created are- Belegatta CIT Road, Extaily CIT Road or East, Rank Behari Avenue, Southern Avenue or South, Bhokananda Road, B.K. Pal Avenue, MG Road at Central and extension of Jessore Road from Belgachia to Dum Dum Airport at North.

- g) Electrification of Street lights (from late 19th century - early 20 th century) in place of Gas lamps in the major roads
- h) Introduction of Electric Tram (1902) as a mode of public transport in lieu of Horse driven Tram.
- i) Establishment of All India Radio Station for Kolkata (1936)
- j) Calcutta Telephone was taken over (1943) by the Indian Post & Telegraph Department
- k) Establishing Air-services from Calcutta Airport (1924)
- l) establishing Kidder pore Dock-II (1902) and King George's Dock (1928) renamed as Netaji Subhas Dock etc.
- m) Other than maintaining the Calcutta Maidan as the City's largest open space, CIT paid attention for creation of parks, playgrounds, waterbodies, like, Minis Park, Dashapriya Park, Deshbandhu Park, Rabindra Saveru, etc for beautification - thus making a genuine effort to improve the environment.

Examples - Buildings/Structure identified- Howrah Station, Howrah Bridge, Calcutta Fire Brigade, Tata Park, Viceroy House (CESC), Akash bari Banore, etc. (Refer Inventory)

Post- Independence era- there is also a notable development took place in respect of Infrastructure development for Kolkata.

Findings: 4A (v): Introduction of Electrically operated suburban train services (1957), Calcutta Telephone, underground Metro Rail network (1980- First in India), Construction of 2nd Hooghly Bridge (Vidyasagar Setu-1992), Riverfront Development-Millennium Park (2000), Door Darshan Kendra (1975), few Sports facilities, like, large scale renovation and re-construction of Eden Garden Stadium & Club House (1987), Netaji Indoor Stadium (1975), Vuba Bharati Stadium (1984) at Salt Lake, etc.

Examples- Vidyasagar Setu, Vuba Bharati Stadium (Refer Inventory)



Howrah Bridge (Pre- Independence era-1943)



*Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation(1933)
PC- CC-6-54-2.0*



Howrah Station (Post-Independence era-1911)



2nd Hooghly Bridge (1991) - Post-Independence era - Calcutta Metro Rail (2005)

• Theme-4B-Built-Heritage-

Findings 5: explained in the succeeding paragraphs under Objectives 2& 3 with examples

• Theme-5- Socio- Economic

Kolkata's economic decline began when the British shifted the capital to Delhi in 1911. Mid-20th century events, such as the Partition of Bengal, the freedom movement, and influx of refugees, further aggravated the downfall of city's economy. Jute Industry suffered due to Partition of Bengal. Port's activity decreased due to the declining nature of navigability of River Hooghly and many foreign based companies shifted their business, when India achieved Independence

Findings 6: Revival of Economy- Despite challenges, Kolkata's economy thrived with investments from Indian conglomerates in the private sectors, such as Tata Group, Birla Brothers, Kanoria, Bajaj, Kothari, Saraf, Bangur, Dalmia, Goenka and others. These Marwari business groups acquired British-owned Jute Mills and Tea Gardens, while others diversifying into sectors like Real Estate and Pharmaceuticals. Tata Group played a pivotal role, dominating iron mining and establishing steel plants across Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa, with Kolkata serving as their corporate hub for production control.
(Source: Chaudhary, S. (1998) Calcutta the Living City (Vol.II)

Examples: Identified buildings are- Tata Centre, Industry House (Birla GF), Victoria House/CEEC (Goenka), Gilander House (Kothari), Balmer Lawrie (GOL), Martin Burn Building (Fatehpuria), Virginia House (ITC Ltd) etc (Refer Inventory)

Nationalisation of Banking/Insurance/Colliery

Finding 7: - National policy formed after Independence on nationalisation of Bank, Insurance and Coal Industry helped to generate employment opportunity in the Government Sector for the middle class in 20C. Banking sector got tremendous impetus by reaching door to door service to rural population. Many office buildings were constructed for various Banks and Life Insurance Corporation of India.

Film Industry- 20th century was the 'Golden period' of this Industry when, New Theatres Pvt Ltd, Arora Film Corporation, Chandi Moto Films Ltd, Indian Film Laboratories Pvt Ltd, R.D. Banial & Co, and many others ventured into this entertainment business to set an example how business could reach to the height of creativity with commercial success! Bengali Film Industry produced not only award-winning films but also built many Studios for film making, i.e. New Theatres -1&2, Indira Puri, Technicians Studio-1&2, Radha Studio, etc. at Tollygunge area, which was famous as "Studio para" and fondly called by the citizens as 'Tollywood.' The saddest part of it, once a flourishing industry of Kolkata is dying down due to the severe transformation in the attitude of the society with an advent of multiplex, television, internet, OTT etc.

([https://indianstudios.com/http://www.westminster.ac.uk/research/westminsterresearch-A-Ph.D. thesis by Chatterjee, R. \(2011\) - Journeys in and Beyond the City: Cinema in Calcutta 1897 - 1939](https://indianstudios.com/http://www.westminster.ac.uk/research/westminsterresearch-A-Ph.D. thesis by Chatterjee, R. (2011) - Journeys in and Beyond the City: Cinema in Calcutta 1897 - 1939))

Findings 11: Many landmark and popular Cinema halls built by great entrepreneurs, like, J.F. Madan of Madan Theatres Ltd, Aratoon Stephan, Metro Goldwyn Mayers, Hamayun Properties for e.g. Metro, Elite, New Empire, Light House, Romy, Regal, New Cinema, Paradise, Orient, Tiger, Adira, Urmia, Radha, Indira, Purna, Pranki, etc. Most of the Cinema Halls built by them, however, were either demolished or retrofitted for some other purpose. A handful single screen Cinema Halls are only surviving to date in the Bengali infested neighbourhood area, such as -Batu Sree, Bijiati, Priya, Adwaha, Adoor, Nowsena, etc.

(<https://www.aunachennai.com/host-bengal/kolkata/romy-cinema-is-in-a-controversy-with-hundred-years-old-works-by-Ghatak-142018>, <http://www.telegraphindia.com/west-bengal/mse-and-fall-of-dream-theatres-1912>)

Examples: Identified few historic Cinema halls of 20C - Metro (retrofitted for new purpose with multiplex), New Empire (partly survived), Romy(closed), Batu Sree (still in a running condition). (Refer Inventory)



Metro/Central J - retrofitted



New Empire/ Central J- partly survived



Batu Sree - still running

Gold Jewellery Business - In the 20th century, Bow bazar, Kolkata became renowned as a 'Gold Jewellery Hub' due to pioneers like B. Sirkar & Sons (est. 1903). Although their original shop closed in 1955, family members continue in the trade under names like B. Sirkar Jothues, M. Sirkar & Sons, A. Sirkar, Anjali Jewellers, etc. (all are siblings and branches of the same family). P.C. Chandra Jewellers (est. 1939) and Senco Gold (est. 1938) further solidified the area's reputation.

Findings 12: Kolkata's handcrafted gold jewellery now prized globally as a significant export item, contributed as a foreign exchange earner to the nation.

Example: 'Guliver House', once the residence and showroom of B. Sirkar and Sons, the pioneer company in Gold Jewellery business, stands as a historically significant landmark in Bow bazar. The building holds a heritage value not only as a pioneer in the jewellery business and but also has ties to India's freedom movement, including INA and Netaji. Presently owned by LIC, and being unused. (Refer Inventory)

Bara Bazar- Bara Bazar's history is intriguing, with *Sutanuti* & *Hat*- a trading centre, once owned by local Bengali traders like *Sets* and *Boysacks*, prior to arrival of British. Today, it is basically a wholesale market of each and everything of daily livelihood and trading is the key word there. The area is divided into series or markets (*Pattys*) specializing in goods like *Lohapatty*, *Senapatty*, *Folpatty*, *Sutapatty*, *Messlapatty*, and so on, stretching from *Chitpur Road* to *Strand Road*. (Source: Chaudhuri, S. (1996) *Calcutta the Living City* -Vol II, <https://www.kolkataonline.in/>)

Findings 13: Initially led by Bengali communities, but economic dominance shifted over a period of time to Marwari migrants. Today, Bara Bazar thrives as Kolkata's bustling epicentre of trade, firmly under Marwari influence, shaping the city's economic landscape predominantly through commerce. It is city's most congested and unorganised area, so far city planning is concerned. (<https://www.kolkataonline.in/>)

Examples- few landmark buildings of Bara bazar area



Dharamkela, Barabazar



representative example of Residential Buildings, MG Road, Barabazar



Street view on a busy day



SutaPatty, Bara Bazar



Swatantra Jain Temple, Barabazar

PC: Wikimedia Commons CCA-SA-3.0

Objective-2 - Built- Heritage with significance for protected and unprotected category

In 19th-century colonial Calcutta, public architecture predominantly featured Neo-Classical styles, reflecting Imperial power, and this trend persisted into the mid-20th century. Private buildings in the city also embraced European Classicism, with the Bengali rich zamindar class incorporating European elements into their homes while retaining traditional features such as the 'Bahir Mahal' and 'Andar Mahal' layout, courtyards, and *thakurdalan*. This fusion created a distinctive style known as 'Bengal Baroque'. During the nationalist movement, a 'Revivalist' style emerged, integrating Indian motifs and architectural elements from Rajasthan, Ajanta, and Ellora influences to assert Indian identity. The introduction of 'Art Deco' followed, aligning with global contemporary architectural trends by the Bengali elite upper middle class in contrary to create big mansions of North Kolkata. Post-independence, modern architecture took precedence due to technological advancements. While the

Kolkata Municipal Corporation has enacted a heritage conservation act and listed several graded heritage buildings, many deserving sites remain unrecognized and unprotected.

Findings 14: This research aims to identify and advocate for these unacknowledged structures, considering their value from 1900 to 2000. These structures are notable not only for their architectural excellence but also for their historical significance in Kolkata's political, economic, and cultural development. They encompass both protected and unprotected categories. The 20th century stands out as a transformative period in Kolkata's history, marking a shift from colonial influences to embrace the global culture, evident across all facets of life, including architecture.

Examples: An inventory has been prepared with approx 93 identified buildings (1900-2000), which will provide a detail information on their merits and present status.
(Refer List of Buildings with their Timeline)

Findings 15: Evolution of various architectural style in the 20C Kolkata - In this research, it is observed there are major 8 types of architectural style flourished during this period namely -

- 1) Colonial, under 3 sub-category, i.e. Neo-Classical, Neo-Baroque, Neo-Gothic
- 2) Indo-Saracenic- influence of Islamic style
- 3) Mixed/Fusion Architecture- under 4 different variety, i.e.-
 - i) Red exposed Brick
 - ii) Bengal Baroque,
 - iii) Buildings with C.I. Ornamental Grill work in projected Balconies,
 - iv) Buildings with entrance Portico (Giri Venkatas)
- 4) Art Nouveau
- 5) Revivalist- with Indian /Oriental motifs and Rajasthani elements
- 6) Art-Deco/Indi-Deco
- 7) Modernism
- 8) Post-Modernism

Examples- Photographic Illustrations on 'Evolution of Architectural styles of 20C' are attached.

Findings 16: This Mixed style of architecture is typically regional in character and bears the stamp of Kolkata - the spirit of Bengal- Those are the most lucrative 'prey' for the real estate giants for their prime locations and larger size of plots, to takeover and demolish for the sake of modern development. The owners are helpless for not been able to maintain these assets for various socio- economic reasons.

Findings 17: The research identifies and includes representative samples of both protected and unprotected significant buildings from the pre-Independence era (1900-1947) and the post-Independence era (1948-2000) in the Inventory. This will aid in formulating conservation strategies, acknowledging that while pre-Independence buildings are often categorized as heritage, many post-Independence buildings are overlooked due to their age or pending consideration by authorities.

Examples- Please refer the Inventory prepared under this research, where status and significance are specified to ease the process of Listing them as heritage assets of 20C by the competent authority.

Objective - 3 - Post Independence Modern Architecture and its significance

Modern Architecture, also referred as 'Modernism', emerged in the 20th century between Art Deco and post-modernism. Over and above the urge for gaining a status of a new nation in the global scenario,

Modern Architecture gained importance in India and Kolkata was also no exception to that. (Heritance.com, Wikipedia, architecturedigest.com)

Findings 17: High population density after partition and limited land spurred multi-story designs with minimal ground coverage were the order of the day after Independence

Examples: Reserve Bank of India (by John Ritchie), New Secretariat, Jagan Deep, Tata Centre, Industry House, Nilkar House, Air India Office, Jaganog Bhawan, etc. and an early example of multi-storied apartment houses at Thiel Court at Ballygunge Circular Road, etc. (Refer Inventory)

Post Modernism: Post-modern architecture emerged in the late 1950s as a reaction against the austerity and uniformity of modern architecture.

(Ref: Mukherjee, Dr. Arjun and Bara, Dr. Sanghamitra (2011)- http://www.academia.edu/A_Search_for_Post_Modernism_in_Indian_Architecture)

Findings 18: Post-modernism encouraged abstract sculptural forms and material experimentation. It came into existence in Kolkata from the 1990s onwards.

Examples: Rabindra Sadan, Academy of Fine Arts, Nandan, Kalin mandir, Science City, Management Centre for human value (HMD-John), Don Bosco Church, (Kalyani), Effort Radisson Hotel (Rai chak), Babylon Apartments, etc. (Refer Inventory)

Photographic Illustrations on 'Evolution of Architectural styles of 20C' are attached-

Objective -4: Contextualisation of the site: concerning the history of the city

A Zone precincts is required to be preserved or conserved for historical, architectural, aesthetic, cultural, environmental, or ecological reasons that is unique and irreplaceable source of life and inspiration. It represents a legacy from our past and is thought to encompass not only tangible built heritage but also intangible cultural heritage or even natural heritage. (Definition of Heritage Precincts by UNESCO)

The Kolkata Municipal Corporation is actively expanding its focus on heritage conservation to include various neighbourhoods, not just individual buildings. A group of heritage enthusiasts, along with the INTACH Kolkata chapter, has appealed to the Chief Minister of West Bengal to officially designate Dalhousie Square and College Square as Heritage Precincts. Additionally, they are proposing that Hindustan Park, Dover Lane, and Lake Temple Road be recognized also as Heritage Zones for their Art Deco buildings. A proposal in that respect has been submitted to the KMC for review and ratification by the KMC Commissioner and Mayor. (<https://www.thehindu.com>, <https://www.telegraphindia.com/>)

Findings 19: In the British regime, Calcutta had a sharp difference of various locality, like - White Town, Native Town & Grey Town. 'White Town' depicts - where mostly Europeans' settlements were dominating. Whereas 'Native Town' meant for locals with narrow lanes, by-lanes, unplanned, unorganised, congested area of the residences of rich native business class and ordinary middle class. The important aspects of these Native towns are, they truly represent a spontaneous development with indigenous lifestyle. 'Grey town' is mostly those areas where other ethnic communities used to reside. During this research, it has been found, that many precincts of Kolkata are potential to be declared as 'Heritage Precincts'. Three sample precincts are identified in this research, each one from North, Central and South part of the city, such as- Dorjeepara (North), Chittaranjan Avenue-C. R. Avenue (Central) and Purna Das Road (South)

- A. Dorjeepara (North Kolkata)-** It is a residential zone mostly occupied by Bengali community since the beginning of the expansion for the city. We ought to reflect on certain important aspects of town planning and the courtyard houses of Dorjeepara (North Kolkata), as that was the representative samples of the typical urban fabric belonged to 20C Kolkata.



White Town- Delhiwaie Spore & Dharmasala (in 1930-40)

Grey Town- Park Street (1970)



White Town- Lane and By lane of Dorjapara

Findings 20. Open to sky 'Courtyard' with wide veranda, cross-ventilation, 'Kharkeori' (adjustable louvers) windows, 'Rowaks' at the entrance, ornamental C.I grillwork at balcony are the key components of architectural design of these buildings. 'Taakurdalan' - the space for celebration of religious functions is inseparable part of larger buildings of opulent class. In general, the buildings of these area are mostly double storied loadbearing brick structures and situated at narrow winding, cozy lanes/ by lanes. Externally those followed influence of the colonial architecture, whereas internally followed indigenous style to suit the conservative culture of the than society.

Examples: Dutta Bari, Roy Bari, Hmasi Bhawan (Dorjapara) (Refer Inventory)



Influence of Colonial architecture externally-Dutta Bari & Hmasi Bhawan, Dorjapara



Courtyard (Malini Bari, Shyam Bazar) and Thakurician (Raj Bari, Dorjagura) - with Indian motif

Findings 21. During this study and field survey, it has been observed - the 'Para' culture or the neighbourhood feeling of these areas play an important role in the life of the residents. Inter mixing within the community allows a healthy upbringing and inculcates a fellow-feeling, which was a prevalent characteristic of old Kolkata. People habitually indulge in 'Adda' or leisurely chat, to exchange their views freely using these 'Rowak' areas, - a typical outdoor space of heritage buildings of north Kolkata. 'Adda' is an inseparable part of 'Para Culture', which has been proved as a healthy atmosphere to maintain peace, security and harmony within the zone.



'Rowak' areas, - a typical outdoor space of heritage buildings of north Kolkata



Location Map of Dorjagura with identified buildings

B. Chittaranjan Avenue /C. R. Avenue (Central Kolkata)

CR Avenue forms one of the major north-south connectors of the city, with dense mixed-use of establishments, largely commercial at ground floor and residential at upper floors. Central Avenue's construction commenced shortly after the Calcutta Improvement Trust was established in 1911. The segment from Beeson Street to Bow Bazar was finished by 1926, with the remainder completed by 1934. In 1935, it was renamed Chittaranjan Avenue in honour of Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das, the first mayor of Calcutta Municipal Corporation and the legendary figure of Freedom movement of India. Built during the dawn of Independence, Central Avenue showcased many examples in the 'Ravivallab' style championed by Siris Chandra Chattopadhyay: (*Nair, P.T (1967). A History of Calcutta's Streets*)

Between 1925-50, CR Avenue became the first choice for the Marwari Community to build their new residences as well as business place. After 1970's and specially during the Metro rail construction in 1975-80, the original owners are mostly dispersed from C R Avenue and spread to other locations of Kolkata, the top rich Marwari business community built their new houses at plush area, like, Alipore, New Alipore, Cornet Street, Theatre Road, Southern Avenue, Ballygunge Circular Road, etc. whereas the next grade of Marwaris shifted to Vivekananda Road, Lake Town, Bangour Avenue, Salt Lake, etc.

However, C R Avenue still continues as its legacy of Marwari infested zone, as the working class of Marwaris occupied as tenants, in those houses which were vacated by the original owners. As per the view of Mr. Kausi Berhwal (who is still living in CR Avenue as one of the few original settlers) of Berhwal House (Built in 1925), almost 90% or more are still from the Marwari community occupies the houses at C. R. Avenue. (Source: Interview with Mr. K. Berhwal by J. Sarkar on 02.08.2024)

Findings 22. The utilisation of CR Avenue can be divided broadly in three zones: a) From Victoria House to Air India Office- mostly multi-storied Office buildings for Commercial use with 'Art-Deco'/'Modern' style, b) from Air-India Office to Beeson Street junction - Mostly G+4 Residential buildings and shops for retail business with 'Bengal Baroque', 'Rajasthani' and 'Art-Deco' Style c) from Beeson Street Junction to Shyam bazar Five point crossing - mostly G+1 or G+2 storied residential buildings in 'Mixed Revivalist' style.

Examples: a) *Hindustan Building*, b) *Gopal Bhawan*, c) *Pre. 19, Jyotindra Mohan Avenue*

Findings 23. During Central Avenue's construction, Marwari families from Bura bazar and nearby areas chose to build homes along the new road. This led to a fusion of classical architecture mingled with Indian influences of Rajasthani architectural style, seen from Vivekananda Road to Mahajan Sodar. Presence of 'Bengal Baroque' styles visible on few landmark buildings i.e., triangular pediments, Corinthian column. It is also to be noted almost all the buildings are made with courtyard concept for introvert lifestyle and cross-ventilation. Notably, most of the structures are of load bearing brick structures with four to five storeys high in contrary to North Kolkata's double-storied residences. C R Avenue buildings are designed for mixed-use with commercial spaces on the ground floor and residential above, likely for the convenience of the business community. (<https://www.telegraphindia.com/-Rajasthan-meets-Artica> (2003))

Examples: a) 'Gopal Bhawan' is a significant 'Bengal Baroque' building in this stretch, showing a mix of traditional and European architectural elements. A striking element of this building is, the idols of 'Ganesha' with 'Radhi and Siddhi' located on either side on a typical European ornamental pediment atop. Built in 1926, Gopal Bhawan was erected by Rameshwar Nathwani, a rich businessman of the then society. However, at present, probably, part of this building has been sold, and the new owner without any sensitive idea spoiled the elegance of the façade by covering partly with structural glazing- a total contradictory concept. (Refer Inventory)



*Gopal Bhawan (Ownership-Private, Status- Unprotected)-The Pediment with Ganesha, Radha & Sita's
Bengal Baroque style*



Birla House (1925) -187, C.B.Avenue- view of Court yard. ©C. Mukherjee



Puri's Architecture- Puri No.128, CR Avenue

b) *Ram Mandir (Refer Inventory)* and the residential building at *Pre no. 42, CR Avenue*- typical examples of *Rajasthani architecture* with *Jharokha* type balcony, *Jali* and *multifoliate arch* etc.



Ram Mandir - CR Avenue
Status- Unpreserved



Rajasthani Style
Pre. No. 42, CR Avenue
Status- Unpreserved

b) *Mahajati Sadan, Hindu Mutual Fund*- A striking examples of *Revivalist architecture* mixed with *Art-Deco* features combined with Bengal's '*At Chala*' concept, *Indian motifs* etc. These buildings showcase 20th-century new wave of architectural styles on *C R Avenue*. (Refer Inventory)



Hindu Mutual House - 14, Midan Dandi- Revivalist style
Status- Closed, Protected



Mahajati Sadan- Pre. No. 188, CR Avenue
Status- Preserved

Findings 24: After 1900, *Art Deco* buildings gained popularity in Kolkata as the newly affluent class opted for their own homes and offices, moving away from the colonial style prevalent in northern part of Kolkata. This marked a remarkable period when these individuals sought to establish unique identities, often avoiding the traditional *Art Deco* features and develop something a new what is now known as *India-Deco*. The streetscape of *CR Avenue* exhibits many such examples. The stretch of *CR Avenue* from *Mahajati Sadan* to *Victoria House*, there are many buildings adopted *Art-Deco* styles for office buildings. ([http://www.kolkata.co.in/Kolkata's Art Deco Legacy](http://www.kolkata.co.in/Kolkata's%20Art%20Deco%20Legacy) (2013))

Examples- *Hudson Building (LIC), Victoria House, Lala Path House* and many more private residential houses. (Refer Inventory)



Hindustan Building (JTC), Protected - Art Deco



Lake Point House (PC <https://economictimes.com/>)



Fig. No. 43, CR Anand-Mixed style- Ownership- Private, Unprotected- Interior view of Courtyard



Air India House - Modern - Ownership- Public



Jagajyoti Tower



Lokeshwari Tower- Private



Residential Houses - Art-Deco style



Ownership - Private- Status- Unprotected



271, C.R. Avenue - Private Mixed style: Ungreened - Sakaria House- Plot No 213, C.R. Avenue

Chittaranjan Avenue/Central Avenue- 4 pockets with identified buildings



Location Map- Pocket 1



Location Map- Pocket 2



Location Map- Pocket 2



Location Map- Pocket 4

C. Purna Das Road (South Kolkata)

Originally known as 'Manohar Pukur Road', this road was renamed as **Purna Das Road** in 1957. Purna Das was a revolutionary of Bengal, born in 1889 in today's Bangladesh. During Post Independence era, Das settled in Calcutta and served as a member of the Refugee Rehabilitation Board. In 1956 he was stabbed to death by an ex-revolutionary at the crossing of Hindustan Road and Rash Behari Avenue after which this road was named after him.

Findings 25: Many structures on Purna Das Road date back to the 1930s, but most were built after 1950 in the Art Deco style. This shift from Kolkata's traditional architecture reflects broader socio-political and economic changes, including increased urbanization. By the 1960s, Art Deco became popular as a modern alternative to the elaborate, massive buildings of earlier times. The style gained admission in South Kolkata, attracting professionals from North Kolkata and East Bengal who sought affordable housing as the city's economic and social landscape evolved. These Art Deco buildings, which often incorporated Indian elements like sunrise motifs, came to symbolize both modernity and Indian influence affectionately termed 'Indo-Deco' (Source: *Thirukuppan Nair, P. (1987). A History of Calcutta's Streets. India: Firma KLM, Sankar Janyakar. (2020)-Celebrating Kolkata's Architectural Heritage-<https://www.pinkstarcart.com/>*)

Findings: 26: The structures on PD Road are mostly rectangular in plan, ranging from G to G+3 storied structures. Largely built in the Art Deco style, the buildings have balconies with streamlined edges, eyebrows running above openings also with rounded edges, circular monolithic columns without a separate base and capital, railings with geometrical patterns showcasing common Art Deco motifs. Minimal decoration on facades with only horizontal and/or vertical bands. Most buildings continue to have rectangular window and door openings with louvered timber shutters. The other important feature is the 'Mero' pattern central staircase block. Art Deco motifs are also seen in the main gates to the houses. (Refer Inventory)

Example: various buildings made a streetscape pattern, ownership- Private, Status -unprotected



Prc. No. 22, P.D. Road



Prc. No. 23/24, P.D. Road



Prc. No. 23/24, P.D. Road



Prc. No. 22/4, P.D. Road



Location Map with identified buildings



Purna Das Road, No. 259/2, P. D. Road

Findings17: It is also to be noted this Art-Deco style not only found in Purna Das Road, but also spread all over Kolkata, specifically on those area, which has grown up after Independence, like Dover Lane, Hindustan Road, Hindustan Park, Jodhpur Park, Southern Avenue at South Kolkata, Entally C.I.T. Road, Beliaghata C. I. T. Road at East Kolkata, C. R. Avenue in Central Kolkata and Palik pura, Lake Town, Bangur Avenue at North Kolkata.

What is remarkable is that no two houses are identical; each one is a unique experiment by self-styled architects. This results in an unprecedented variety within a single lane or neighbourhood. The style is genuinely innovative, modern, and aesthetically pleasing, reflecting the Bengali middle class. Although these houses have not yet been recognized as heritage structures, their loss due to development pressures would erase a significant part of 20th-century middle-class history. (*Chowdhury, Amit (2015)-theguardian.com/articles- "Calcutta's architecture is unique. Its destruction is a disaster for the city"*)

Examples: 20C Heritage @ Risk



Oriental Assurance Building (1914), Uga- Office
 Plot No. 2, Olive Road, BBH Right (land value- very high)
 Ownership- LIC, Status- **Protected**
Condition- dilapidated, trees have come up on roof



Guinea House (1917-21) Uga- abandoned
 Plot No. 131, Hornbair Street (land value- high)
 Ownership- LIC, Status- **Unprotected**
Condition- Front facade mutilated, interior- retained



Jahaj Bari (1910-22), Uga- Residential
 Plot No. 10, Jagan Road, (Land value- High)
 Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**
Condition- Plot, waiting for its turn to be demolished



Early 20th century, Uga- Residential/Commercial
 Plot No. 117B, C. R. Avenue (Land value- High)
 Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**
Condition- Plot, waiting for its turn to be demolished



Opal Bazaar (1928), Uga- Residential/Commercial
 Plot No. 177B, C. R. Avenue (Land Value- High)
 Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**
Condition- Left side sold and the facade is mutilated with structural clearing

Successful Conservation Efforts: Examples



Metropolitan Building, Explanade- Before (2006) (PC: <http://www.ekimond.com>); and after (2011)



Park Mansions, Park Street (PC: www.apacproperty.com) - Before (1999) and after restoration (2018)



Before (PC: @page)- Red Bark- an example of adaptive re-use - residence to Cafeteria- after restoration



Before (PC: www.silverjubilee.com.sg) - Silver Jubilee's House- after- example of adaptive re-use as museum

Evolution of
various architectural
style of 20C Kolkata

Evolution of various architectural style of 20C Kolkata

1. Colonial Architecture-Neo- Classical/ Neo - Baroque



**Metropolitan Building (1905), Neo- Baroque, Usage-Commercial/ Residential
Pte. No 140, S.N.Banerjee Road, Dharamtala (Central Kolkata) Ownership-Public, Status- Protected**



**Grand Hotel (1911), Neo- Classical, Usage- Hotel
Pte. No 15, J. N. Road, Chowringhee, (Central Kolkata), Ownership- Private, Status- Protected**

Colonial- Contd...



Army/Navy Stores / Kanak Building (1901), Neo- Classical, Usage- Office
Pre. No 41, J.N. Road, Chowringhee, (Central Kolkata) Ownership- Private, Status- Protected
PC- Creative Commons SA-4.0



Central Watch Tower, Alipore Jail(1906), Neo- Gothic
Usage- previous use as Watch Tower, presently as Museum
Pre No 17, Judges Court Road,(South Kolkata), Ownership- Public, Status- Protected

2. Indo-Saracenic Architecture



SE Railway HQ- ENR Office (1907-08), Usage - Office
Plot No 11, Garden reach Road (West Kolkata), Ownership - Public, Status-**Protected**
Designed by - *Ar. N. E. Esch*, Constructed by- *Martin & Co.*
(PC: *Creative Commons-SA-4.0*)



Victoria Memorial (1906-21), Usage- Museum
Plot No.-1, Queens Way, Calcutta Maidan, (Central Kolkata), Ownership- Public, Status-**Protected**
Designed by- *Ar. Sir William Emerson*, constructed by- *Martin Barr & Co.*
The Victoria Memorial in Kolkata, designed by Vincent Esch also has Indo-Saracenic features, possibly inspired from the Taj Mahal.
(PC: *Creative Commons-SA-4.0*)

3. Mixed Style-

i) Red Exposed Brick Buildings



Duttahari (1905-1910), Usage- Residential
Plot No. 511, Jagannath Sar Lane, Durgapura (North Kolkata),
Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**



Residence (Between 1910- 1934), Usage - Residential
Plot No.47, Kanchi Sar Street (North Kolkata),
Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**

1) Red Exposed Brick Buildings- contd...



Residential House (1905)

Plt. No. 93/3A/1, A.P.C. Road (North Kolkata)

Ownership: Private, Status: **Protected**



Residential House

Plt. No. Hindustani Park (South Kolkata)

Ownership: Private, Status: **Unprotected**

i) Red Exposed Brick Buildings: contd...



54. Railway Officer's quarters (Godfrey Matheons) (left-1923, right- 1929)
 Plot No.11, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata
 Ownership- Public, Status-**Unprotected**



Residential Building: mid 20th century,
 Plot No. 22B, Hemendra Saa Street (Dorjapara- North Kolkata),
 Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**

3. Mixed Style - contd.-8) Bengal Baroque-Private Residences- Unprotected



Ballav Bari, Shyambazar (Early 20th century), Usage- Residential
Pin, No./ Canal West Road (North Kolkata), Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**



Residential House, Usage- Residential cum commercial
Pin No.81A, J.L.Nehru Road (South Kolkata), Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**

3.Mixed Style - contd. -a) Bengal Baroque-Private Residences- Unprotected



Front View (Part) - with Baroque ornamentation - A common element of traditional house - the 'Rongak'



Elaborate ornamental stucco work on the interior face

Tandee Bari, Utago- Residential

Plot No. Bonamati Ghat Road, Patharghata - Central Kolkata

Ownership- Private, Status- Unrecorded

3. Mixed Style- ii) Bengal Baroque-Contd...Private Residences- Unprotected



'Himal Bhawan', Durgapara (North Kolkata)



C.R. Anand's Central Kolkata)



'Roy Bar' (1929) (Durgapara, North Kolkata) – exterior with colonial influence, interior with Indian motifs



'Gowachand Bhawan' with Venetian windows



'Gopal Bhawan' with 'Kheerkani' windows

(Durgapara, North Kolkata)

3. Mixed Style- iii) various type of balconies with ornamental C.I. Grill work



Residential House, Early 20th century,
Plot No. 42A, Kachai Ser Street (North Kolkata), Ownership: **Private**, Status: **Unprotected**



Front View



Rear View

Residential House, Early 20th century,
Plot No. 33/1, Abhisarananda Sastri Baidya Street (North Kolkata),
Ownership: **Private**, Status: **Unprotected**

3.Mixed Style-iii) various type of balconies with ornamental C.I. Grill work- contd.,



House of B. Sircar Johannes (1917-21), Usage- Residential
 Plot No.114 B, Howbazar Street, (Central Kolkata), Ownership- Private, Status- Unprotected
 With C.I. Grill and wooden fixed louvers (Jhill)- a typical feature



Necker Bari (mid-20th century), Usage - Residential
 Plot No. 72, Beliaghata Main Road (East Kolkata), Ownership- Private, Status- Unprotected
 With C.I. Grill and wooden fixed louvers (Jhill)- a typical feature

3.Mixed Style- iii) various type of balconies with ornamental C.I. Grill work-contd...



Red Bari (1930's), Usage- Residential (Past)/Commercial (Present)
 Plot No.18, Sadananda Road (South Kolkata), Ownership- Private, Status- Unprotected



Mid-20th century Radhobari Avenue(South Kolkata), Ownership- Private, Status- Unprotected



Rail Castle, post-Independence era, Usage- Residential
 Plot No. 12, Alamy Road, Chakraborty (South Kolkata)
 Ownership- Private, Status- Unprotected

3.Mixed Style- iii) various type of balconies with ornamental C.I. Grill work- contd.



Residential Building (Early 20th Century)

Plot No. 5, Gaur Ghosh Road, Shibpur (South Kolkata),

Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**

Utilisation of corner plot with circular veranda at first floor.



Haskin Chatterjee Street (North Kolkata)



Akhay Das Sarani (North Kolkata)

Ownership - Private, Status- **Unprotected**

4. Art – Nouveau



Explanade Mansion (1910), Usage- Commercial/ Residential (PC Wikimedia Commons)
at the crossing of Esplanade East (Central Kolkata), Ownership- Public, Status- Protected

5. Revivalist- a combination of Neo-classical with Art- Deco style- precursor to Modern



Gillander House (1909), Usage- Office
Plot No 8, N. S. Road, B.B.D Bagh, (Central Kolkata) Ownership- Private, Status- Protected

5.Revivalist - with Indian architectural style & Motifs



Mahajati Sदन (1939-1949), Usage- Auditorium

Conceptualised by - **Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose**

Pre. No 166, CR Avenue, (Central Kolkata), Ownership- Public, Status- Unprotected

(An indigenous architectural style evolved with special emphasis on Bengal's Archala temple)



Birla Planetarium (1963), Usage- Planetarium Educational Institute

Designed by- **Ar. J. K. Goss of BTM**

Pre. No 96, J.N Road, Maidan(Central Kolkata),

Ownership- M.P.Birla Trust, Status- Unprotected

(The planetarium's architecture draws inspiration from the 'Sanchi Stupa'. It features a large circular dome atop with a Vedita at the dome's base and a Harmika above.

[PC. CCA-SA-3.0](#)



Akashvani Bhavan (1958), designed by -William B. Ker, Usage- Radio Station (Kolkata)
Chhotopai Barui, Eden Garden (Central Kolkata), Ownership- Public, Status- Protected
(an influence of Art- Deco mixed with Indian elements like, central bay displays five tall
pillars with capital of lotus motif, two cupolas on each side and Rajasthani Jafra, with sloped
eaves at the top level)



Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture, (1960), Usage- Institutional
Gariahat Road, Gool Park(South Kolkata), Ownership- Trust Property, Status- Protected
(Indian architectural style amalgamated with Art Deco features)

5.Revivalists- Influence of Rajasthani Architecture



Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya (1949), Usage - School
 Plot No.20, Bidhan Sarani/College Street (North Kolkata),
 Ownership- Trust Property, Status- Protected

(Various architectural details are evident, including Jharoka type balconies, corbelled arches, ornamental jali, decorative parapets, corner chhatra, etc. showcases influence of traditional Rajasthani-style)



Kalachand Temple (1929), Usage- Hindu Temple
 Kanchakul Sarkar Street, Beliaghata (North Kolkata),
 Ownership- Trust Property, Status- Unprotected



Residential Building, Usage- Commercial (Present)
 42, Chittaranjan Avenue, (Central Kolkata)
 Ownership- Private, Status- Unprotected



Metro Cinema (1935)-one of the most iconic buildings of Kolkata

Usage- Cinema Hall (Past) Cinema Hall cum Shopping mall (Present)

Designed by - Ar. Thomas W Lamb, USA, Redesigned by- Ar. Subir Bose & Associates
 Plot No. 5, J.N. Road, Esplanade (Central Kolkata), Ownership- Private, Status-Protected



'Metro pattern' house- during 19th century

Usage- Residential, Dover Road, (South Kolkata),

Ownership- Private, Status- Unprotect



**Hindustan Building (Mid-20th century), Usage- Office
Pr. No. 4, C.R. Avenue, (Central Kolkata), Ownership- Public, Status- Protected**



**House of Dr. Nilratan Sircar, (Mid-20th century),
Usage- Residential (Past), Commercial (Present)
61, MG Road (Central Kolkata), Ownership- Trust Property, Status- Unprotected**

6.Art- Deco- Contd.



Residential Building (1960-70)
Plot No.19/4, Pura Das Road (South Kolkata)
Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**



Residential Building (1960-70)
Plot No.25/1 B, Pura Das Road (South Kolkata)
Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**



Residential Building (1961-70)
Plot No. ..., Pura Das Road (South Kolkata)
Ownership- Private, Status- **Unprotected**

7. Modern Architecture



Taj Bengal (1989), Usage- Hotel

Designed by American architect Bob (Robert) F. Fox, Jr., assisted by local architects Ajay Chowdhury and Ranjit Sabhki.

Prs. No.34B, Belvedere Road, Alipore (South Kolkata)

Ownership- Private, Status- Unprotected



New Secretariate (1954), Usage- Administrative Building

Designed By- Ar. Habib Rahman

Prs. No. 1, Kiran shankar Roy Road (Strand Road), Central Kolkata

Ownership- Public, Status -Unprotected

7. Modern – contd.



Jogajog Bhawan (1980's), Usage- Office
Designed by –Ar. S.N.Roy & Ar. Ashis De
Pia. No.36, C.R. Avenue (Central Kolkata)



Tata Centre (1965), Usage- Office
Designed by- Holabird and Root, USA
Pia.no.43, J.L. Nehru Road(South Kolkata)



Babylon Apartment, (1988), Usage- Residential
Pia. No. 21A& B, Alipore Road, (south Kolkata), Ownership- Private, Status- Protected

8. Post-Modernism



Science City(1994-96), Usage- Science Museum/ Entertainment Zone
Designed by-Development Consultant Ltd
Pte. No. JBS Haldane Avenue, Miranis Gardens, Topna(East Kolkata)
Ownership- Public, Status- Unprotected



Management Centre of Human Values, (1995) Usage- a meditation centre
Indian Institute of Management, Joka (South Kolkata)
Ownership- IIMCalcutta, Status- Unprotected

8. Few examples of Post- Modernism by eminent Architects in and around Kolkata



Residential House designed by Ar. Charles Correa (1971-75)
Ballygunge Circular Road (South Kolkata) Ownership- Private, Status- Unprotected



Dos Bosco Church, Kalyani (1989-91).
by Ar. Dilip Mukherjee (Unprotected)



Gandhi Ghat, Barrackpore (1949).
by Ar. Habib Rahman (Protected)



Fort Radisson, Raichak- by Ar.Prabir Mitra
Status -Unprotected

Originally constructed as a naval fort during the colonial era to oversee the River Hooghly, the structure fell into disrepair and neglect for many years. In 1996, it was revitalized and transformed into a luxury resort. Mitra's design preserved the fort's character, with exposed brick exterior including a surrounded moat, while integrating modern interior layouts and landscaped gardens.



Revival of Exposed Brick construction

Constraints:

1. During this research it has revealed, that Kolkata possesses innumerable heritage assets, and most of them are owned by private owners. These owners though inherited huge property with significant values, but unable to maintain it due to financial crisis in the post-Independence era.
2. Kolkata currently has an extremely high population density of 24,000 people per square kilometre, making it one of the most densely populated cities in the world. In 1950, Kolkata's population was 4,604,143. As of 2024, the population has surged to an estimated 15,570,786. This rapid growth has led to a dramatic increase in land prices, which now range from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 per square foot, depending on the location.

(Source: <https://worldpopulationreview.com>,

<https://www.99acres.com/property-rates-and-price-trends-in-kolkata>)

3. The above may be one of the few reasons for disposing off the heritage assets by the owner lured by the promoter cum developer. People are reluctant to use heritage tag on their property, with an idea that it may reduce their property value in the market.
4. Other factors contributing to the situation include legal disputes among co-owners of joint properties and ongoing long pending court cases between property owners and tenants. Many property owners are senior citizens whose siblings live abroad and have little interest in returning to India due to limited employment opportunities. As a result, even though the original owners are often reluctant to sell their properties, they are compelled to do so under the circumstances.
5. Even for Public properties, Govt resources are not enough to maintain huge heritage assets spread all over the city, and thereby many of them are in dilapidated condition.
6. In such a difficult situation, it is a critical issue, to initiate 'ideal conservation policy' to safeguard these priceless assets.
7. Few solutions to the problems are thought about, such as, the fund for restoration may be generated either through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode or through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR Fund). It is being a social issue, it is hoped Central Govt may also provide a budget allocation to save our cultural and architectural assets as a 'Heritage Grant' or may be Bank loan is made available to the owner at a cheaper interest rate.
8. The marketing policy of these property also requires to be re-generated inspired by 'heritage tourism' and 'self-sustainable proposals' which are some of the other options can be thought about for its preservation.
9. Needless to mention, a significant point to be noted, in spite of all the above difficulties, Kolkata was successful in its efforts to some extent to safeguard its legacy through collaborative efforts between private and public sectors to preserve the city's heritage through adaptive reuse. Even some of the private owners found out solutions on their own for survival.

Conclusion

- The aim of this research is to find out the significance of the 20th century built-heritage, not only on architectural merit but as per their historical/cultural value which will highlight the uniqueness of the then society. History of 20th century Kolkata is really amazing, as it experienced a phenomenal reform in the lifestyle of the citizen.
- It has been observed, that more than thousands of heritage assets related to 20th Century history of Kolkata still exists, which require conservation, but with its limited resources, the team has surveyed a handful of the 'value-based buildings', which are representative examples, but not exhaustive.
- Attempt has been made to identify those examples, through which strategies can be developed to make further research to frame the policies on its recognition as heritage asset and to develop the necessary Conservation process for its survival. It is hoped that the 'Inventory' made of Identified buildings with various parameters will help as a tool for the purpose.
- This research may be an initiative to start the ball roll on, over a period of time it is hoped this will definitely open the floodgate for various research in future.

List of Identified buildings (as Value-based Heritage -1900-2000)

Sl. No	Name of the Building	Year	Theme	Page No.
1.	'Bande Mataram' Office	1906-08	Socio- Political	157
2.	Secret office of Anushilan Samity	Not known	Socio-Political	159
3.	Bharat Sabha Office	1912-15	Socio-Political	160
4.	Guinea House	1917-20	Socio-Political	161
5.	Arya Samaj Mandir	1910	Socio- Political	163
6.	Alipore Central Jail	1906	Socio- Political	164
7.	Netaji Bhavan	1909	Socio-Political	166
8.	Gandhi Bhavan	1923	Socio-Political	167
9.	Hideout for Anushilan Samity	Not Known	Socio-Political	168
10.	Ballygunge Government School for Boys'	1927	Socio-Cultural (Education)	169
11.	Sister Nibedita Girls' High School	1922	Socio-Cultural (Education)	171
12.	Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya	1949	Socio-Cultural (Education)	173
13.	Moulana Azad College	1924	Socio-Cultural (Education)	175
14.	Arinosh College	1916	Socio-Cultural (Education)	177
15.	R. G Kar Medical College	1902-04	Socio-Cultural (Education)	178
16.	Science College	1914	Socio-Cultural (Education)	179
17.	Bose Institute	1917	Socio-Cultural (Scientific Research Institution)	180
18.	Aurobindo Building (Jadavpur University)	1922-24	Socio-Cultural (Education)	182
19.	Rammohun Library	1913	Socio-Cultural (Literary Institution)	184
20.	Bangiya Shastriya Parishat	1908	Socio-Cultural (Literary Institution)	185
21.	Vivekananda Society	1966-67	Socio-Cultural (Literary Institution)	186
22.	Indian Coffee House (Albert Hall)	1929 (1876)	Socio-Cultural Socio-Political	187

Sl. No.	Name of the Building	Year	Theme	Page No.
23.	Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture	1960	Socio-Cultural (Literary Institution)	189
24.	University Institute Hall	Rebuilt-1972	Socio-Cultural (Literary Institution)	191
25.	Baikuntha Temple	1960-62	Socio-Cultural (Hindu Religion)	192
26.	Ram Mandir	1941	Socio- Cultural (Hindu Religion)	194
27.	Birla Mandir	1970-71	Socio- Cultural (Hindu Religion)	196
28.	Mahabodhi Society	1920	Socio-Cultural (Buddhist Religion)	198
29.	Nakhoda Masjid	1926-34	Socio-Cultural (Muslim Religion)	200
30.	Parvvnatha Temple	1914	Socio-Cultural (Jain Religion)	202
31.	Academy of Fine Arts	1933-59	Socio-Cultural	204
32.	Rabindra Sadan	1961-67	Socio- Cultural	206
33.	Nandan	1980-85	Socio- Cultural	208
34.	Sangeet Kala Mandir	1948	Socio- Cultural	210
35.	Akashbani Bhavan (All India Radio)	1958	Socio-Cultural (Infrastructure)	212
36.	Narmal Hriday	1952	Socio-Cultural (Philanthropy)	213
37.	Bharat Sevakram Sangha	Mid-20 th century	Socio-Cultural (Philanthropy)	215
38.	New Empire Cinema Hall	1932	Socio-Cultural Multi-ethnicity Architecture	217
39.	Rory Cinema Hall	1908	Socio-Cultural Multi-ethnicity Architecture	218
40.	Metro Cinema	1935	Socio-Cultural Multi-ethnicity Architecture	220
41.	Minerva Theatre	1925	Socio-Cultural Architecture	222

Sl. No.	Name of the Building	Year	Theme	Page No.
42.	Sea IP Temple	1905	Multi-ethnicity (Chinese)	224
43.	Mansingji Rustomji Dharamshala	1000 / 1036	Multi-ethnicity (Persi)	226
44.	Byramjee Mehta Zoroastrian Atash Adaran Fire Temple	1912	Multi-ethnicity (Persi)	228
45.	Bow Barracks	Early 20 th century	Multi-ethnicity (Anglo-Indian)	230
46.	Mai Kong School	1932	Multi-ethnicity (Chinese)	232
47.	Neveh Shalom Synagogue	1910	Multi-ethnicity (Jewish)	234
48.	Calcutta South Indian Club	1960	Multi-ethnicity (South Indian)	236
49.	Saifee Masjid	1921	Multi-ethnicity (Mofia - Gujarati Muslim)	237
50.	Park Mansions	1910	Multi-ethnicity (Armenian) Architecture	238
51.	Esplanade Mansions	1910	Multi-ethnicity (Jewish) Architecture	240
52.	Grand Hotel	1911	Multi-ethnicity (Armenian) Architecture	241
53.	Stephen Court	1919	Multi-ethnicity (Armenian) Architecture	243
54.	Greek Orthodox Church	1924	Multi-ethnicity (Greek) Architecture	245
55.	Nizam Palace	1933	Multi-ethnicity (Armenian) Architecture	246
56.	Marwari Hospital	1919	Multi-ethnicity (Indian-Marwari)	247
57.	Birla Planetarium	1963	Socio- Cultural Architecture	249
58.	Mahajan Sadan	1939-49	Socio- Political Socio- Cultural Architecture	250
59.	Howrah Station	1905-11	Infrastructure Architecture	252
60.	Royal Insurance Building	1902-1905	Socio-Economic Architecture	254
61.	Kanak Building	1901	Socio-Economic Architecture	256

Sl. No.	Name of the Building	Year	Theme	Page No.
62.	SE Railway HQ (ENR House)	1907-08	Architecture Infrastructure	257
63.	Residence of Dr. Nilratan Sircar	Mid-20 th Century	Architecture	260
64.	Naskar Bari	Early 20 th century	Architecture	262
65.	Victoria Memorial	1906-21	Architecture	264
66.	Hindustan Building	Mid-20th century	Socio-Economic Architecture	266
67.	Tower House	Late 1930s	Socio-Political Architecture	267
68.	Victoria House	1933	Architecture Infrastructure	269
69.	New Secretariate	1954	Architecture (Administrative)	270
70.	Tata Centre	1963	Architecture Socio-Economic	271
71.	Jeevan Deep	1958	Architecture Socio-Economic	273
72.	Taj Bengal Hotel	1989	Architecture	275
73.	Science City	1994-96	Architecture Socio-Cultural (Science & Technology)	277
74.	Cemetary Building (Calcutta High Court)	1977	Architecture (Administrative)	279
75.	Babylon Apartment	1988	Architecture	280
76.	Kalachand Temple	1929	Architecture	282
77.	Oriental Assurance	1914	Architecture Socio-Economic	284
78.	Balmer Lawrie & Co	1924	Architecture Socio-Economic Multi-ethnicity (Scottish)	286
79.	Coal Bhanan	1904	Architecture Socio-Economic	288
80.	Gilander House	1909	Architecture Socio-Economic Multi-ethnicity (Scottish)	289
81.	Martin Burn Limited	1946	Architecture Socio-Economic	291
82.	UCO Bank	1943	Architecture Socio-Economic	292
83.	Virginia House	1928	Architecture Socio-Economic	293

Sl. No.	Name of the Building	Year	Theme	Page No.
84.	B.K. Pal's Medicine Shop	1904	Socio-Economic Architecture	294
85.	Metropolitan Building	1905	Architecture	296
86.	Calcutta Fire Brigade	1921	Infrastructure	298
87.	Tala Tank	1909-11	Infrastructure	299
88.	Howrah Bridge	1941-43	Infrastructure	300
89.	Dutta Bari	1905-10	Precinct-Dorjee para	302
90.	Roy Bari	1929	Precinct-Dorjee para	304
91.	Gopal Bhaban	1926	Precinct CR Avenue	306
92.	250/2, Purna Das Road	1960-70	Precinct Purna Das Road	307
93.	251/B, Purna Das Road	1960-70	Precinct Purna Das Road	308

Annexure- 6 (with identified buildings)

KOLKATA

Key location Map for Buildings
(Under Consideration)

- S North Kolkata
- C Central Kolkata
- S South Kolkata
- Road



LEGEND

(See Table)

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Baran Museum Office | 27. Sakinaka | 54. Durrani Museum Office | 18. Shree Ganga & Co. |
| 2. Secret Office of Anupam Sen | 28. Annapurna Society | 55. Shree Ganga | 19. Chaitanya |
| 3. Shree Ganga Office | 29. Annapurna Society | 56. Shree Ganga | 20. Shree Ganga |
| 4. Ganga House | 30. Annapurna Society | 57. Shree Ganga Church | 21. Shree Ganga & Co. |
| 5. Anupam Sen | 31. Annapurna Society | 58. Shree Ganga | 22. Shree Ganga |
| 6. Anupam Sen | 32. Annapurna Society | 59. Shree Ganga | 23. Shree Ganga |
| 7. Anupam Sen | 33. Annapurna Society | 60. Shree Ganga | 24. Shree Ganga |
| 8. Anupam Sen | 34. Annapurna Society | 61. Shree Ganga | 25. Shree Ganga |
| 9. Anupam Sen | 35. Annapurna Society | 62. Shree Ganga | 26. Shree Ganga |
| 10. Anupam Sen | 36. Annapurna Society | 63. Shree Ganga | 27. Shree Ganga |
| 11. Anupam Sen | 37. Annapurna Society | 64. Shree Ganga | 28. Shree Ganga |
| 12. Anupam Sen | 38. Annapurna Society | 65. Shree Ganga | 29. Shree Ganga |
| 13. Anupam Sen | 39. Annapurna Society | 66. Shree Ganga | 30. Shree Ganga |
| 14. Anupam Sen | 40. Annapurna Society | 67. Shree Ganga | 31. Shree Ganga |
| 15. Anupam Sen | 41. Annapurna Society | 68. Shree Ganga | 32. Shree Ganga |
| 16. Anupam Sen | 42. Annapurna Society | 69. Shree Ganga | 33. Shree Ganga |
| 17. Anupam Sen | 43. Annapurna Society | 70. Shree Ganga | 34. Shree Ganga |
| 18. Anupam Sen | 44. Annapurna Society | 71. Shree Ganga | 35. Shree Ganga |
| 19. Anupam Sen | 45. Annapurna Society | 72. Shree Ganga | 36. Shree Ganga |
| 20. Anupam Sen | 46. Annapurna Society | 73. Shree Ganga | 37. Shree Ganga |
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| | | 136. Shree Ganga | 100. Shree Ganga |

KOLKATA

Key location Map for Buildings
(Under Consideration)

----- North Kolkata
—— Road



LEGEND

2. Secret office of Anushukan Samity
3. District Sabha Office
4. Ganga House
5. Arya Samaj Mandir
6. Hideout of Anushukan Samity
7. Kolar Akshaya Kalyan Vidyapeeth
8. Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya
9. DG for Medical College
10. Science College Jagadpur
11. Gazi Institute
12. Ramkrishna Library
13. Rangya Sahitya Parishad
14. Vivekananda Society
15. Indian Coffee House
16. University Institute Hall
17. Dakshin Temple

18. Mandobadi Society
19. Nakhoda Masjid
20. Parasuram Temple
21. Sri Sri Temple
22. Manoj Kumar Bhattacharya Ghoshmohala
23. Sri Parvati Temple
24. Swarnajyoti Jyotirlinga Ashram
25. Adarsh Hindu Temple
26. Sri Ram Temple
27. Sri Ram Temple
28. Sri Ram Temple
29. Sri Ram Temple
30. Sri Ram Temple
31. Sri Ram Temple
32. Sri Ram Temple
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62. Sri Ram Temple
63. Sri Ram Temple

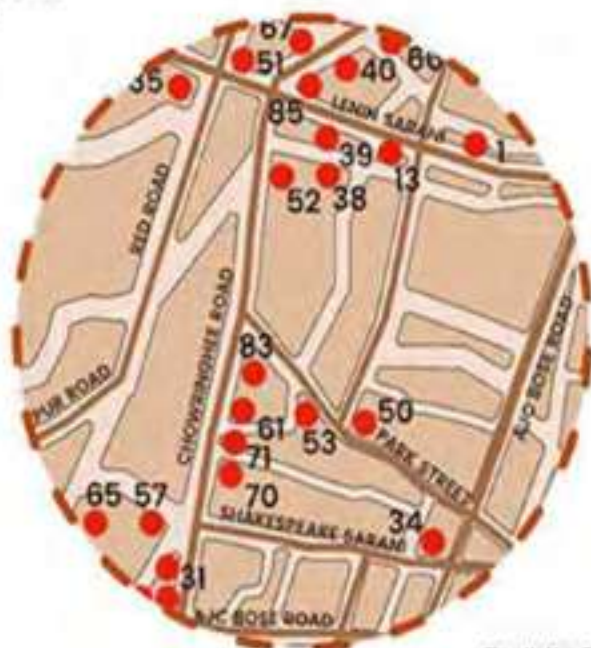
Blow-Up Map North
(Not to Scale)

75. Siddhanta Temple
76. Oriental Assurance
77. Balmukundam & Co.
78. Coal Bazaar
79. Gollander House
80. Matheran & Co.
81. UCO Bank
82. Capital Fire Brigade
83. Jain Temple
84. Women Bridge
85. Duttacharya Dispensary
86. Anandam Dispensary
87. Gopal Bazaar/CP Avenue

KOLKATA

Key location Map for Buildings
(Under Consideration)

----- C Central Kolkata
——— Road



Blow-Up Map: Central
(not to scale)

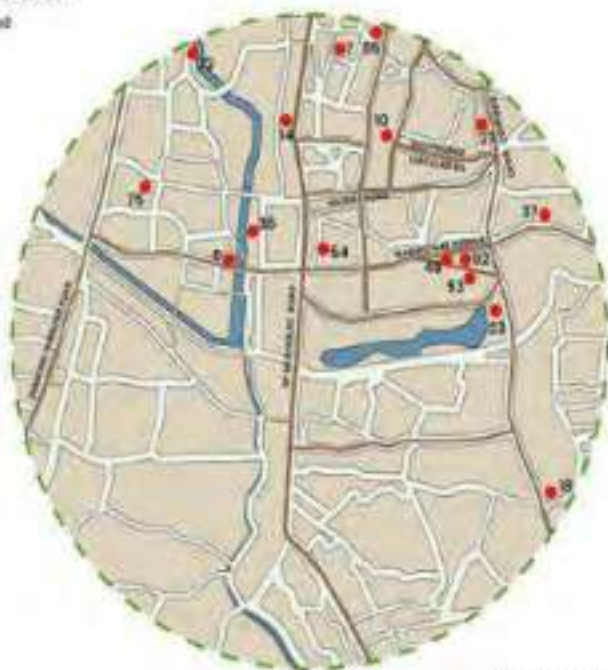
LEGEND

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 13. Mulana Azad College | 53. Stephen court |
| 34. Sangeet Kalamandir | 57. Birla Planetarium |
| 35. Akashbani bhawan | 61. Kanak Building |
| 38. New Empire | 65. Victorial Memorial |
| 39. Roxy Cinema | 66. Hindusthan Building |
| 40. Metro Cinema | 67. Tower house |
| 50. Park Mansion | 70. Tata centre |
| 51. Esplanade Mansions | 71. Jeevandeeep Building |
| 52. Grand Hotel | 85. Metropolitan Building |

KOLKATA

Key location Map for Buildings
(Under Consideration)

----- South Kolkata
—— Road

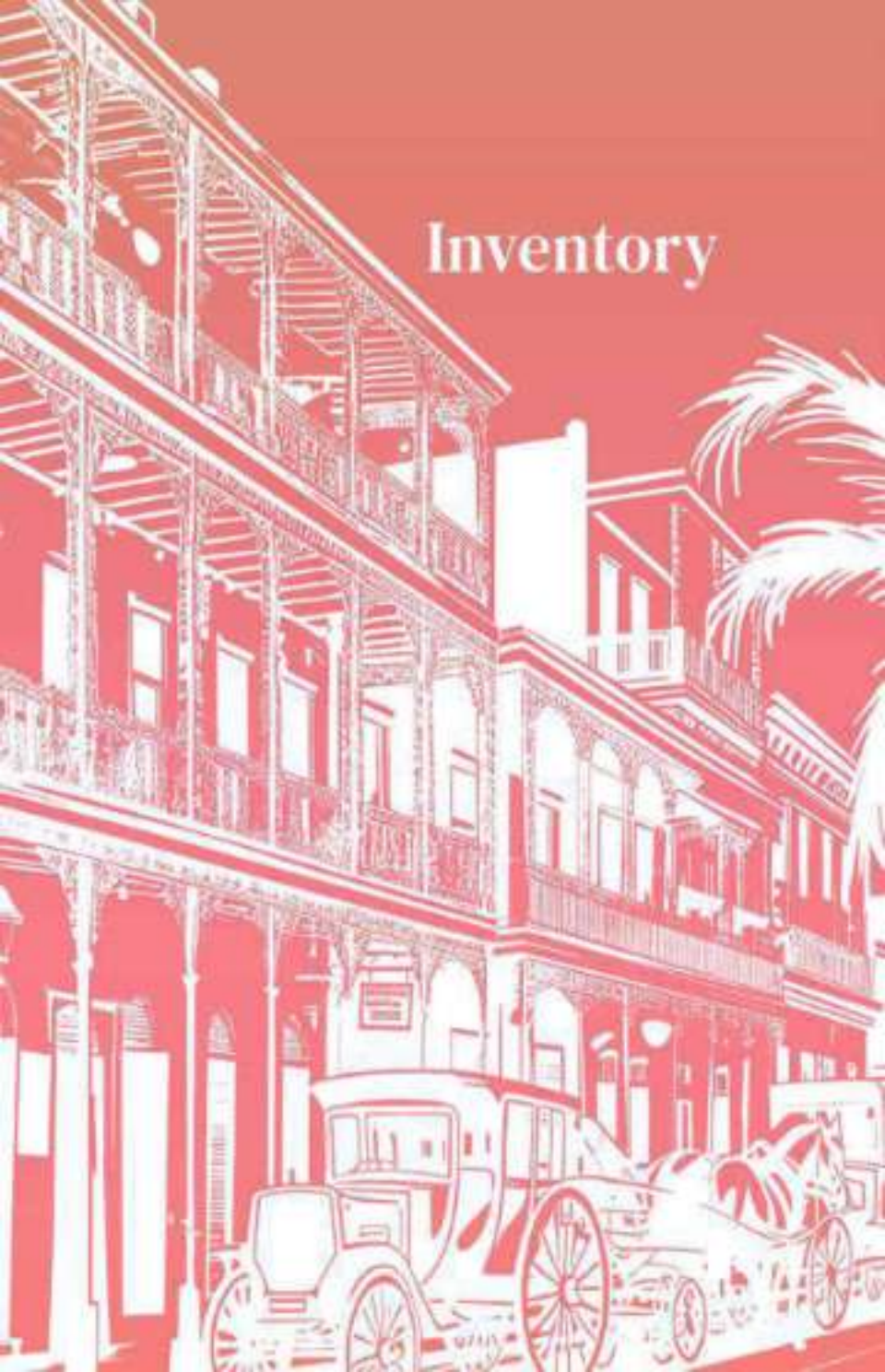


Blow-Up Map South
(Not to Scale)

LEGEND

- 6. Alipore Jail
- 7. Netaji Bhavan
- 10. Ballygunge Govt School
- 18. Aurobindo Bhavan, JU
- 23. Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture
- 27. Birla Mandir
- 36. Nirmal Hriday
- 48. Calcutta South Indian Club
- 54. Greek Orthodox Church
- 55. Nizam Palace
- 72. Taj Bengal Hotel
- 75. Babylon Apartment

Inventory



Sr. No. #1	BANDI MATARAM OFFICE				
					
Full Name	House of Mahila Ch. Bandi Mataram Office			'Bandi Mataram,' a literary magazine launched on August 3, 1906. From this house, was edited by Biplobi Bipin Chandra Pal as an Editor and Sri Aurobindo Ghosh, as the B. Editor Sri Aurobindo's famous periodical articles on Freedom, Swaraj, and the Nationalistic Movement catalyzed 'Bandi Mataram' to unprecedented popularity in Bengal. Being published in English, the magazine's influence resonated across the nation, championing Sri Aurobindo's original vision of fostering nationalistic fervor. Even it caused a sensation across British. The British Administration was perturbed by people's sympathy for Aurobindo due to his powerful journalism. It started Bengal and the nation, in the early 20th century, reflecting Sri Aurobindo's aim to foster national consciousness amongst Indians.	
Address	2-1, Creek Row, Kottam, 760013				
Geographic Coordinates	12.361198 N, 80.361110 E				
Date Period of Construction	1906-08				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Raja Subash Ch. Mahila (present owner) Prasad Oustan- not known				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Residential				
Property Past Use	Residence				
Property Present Use	Residence				
State of Preservation	Designated			Architectural Merit (incorporating special features of 20th century-built heritage) A three storied building and two storied at rear with arched window windows all round and balconies with grill at front.	
Property site and surroundings	Located in a dense residential area of Central Kottam, Indian Subash Ch. Mahila's residence at 2-1, Creek Row, Kottam.				
Architectural Style	Colonial				
General Criteria for Listing	Socio-Political				
Statement of Significance: 'Bandi Mataram' magazine was a mouthpiece of "Awakening Society" organized to infuse the spirit of nationalism amongst the people. It played a significant role in the freedom movement of India and having an association with the great leader like, Sri Aurobindo.				State of Conservation Fair	Threats to property Lack of Maintenance.
Historical	High	Architectural	Low		
Aesthetical	High	Technological/Scientific	Low		
Socio-Political	High	Fiscal Grade			
				Name of Surveyor Indira Subash	Bibliography www.praemindianculture.org www.m.aurobindomemorial.org

Additional Photographs: -



Once this was the office of "Bande Mataram"



Commemorative Plaque



Bande Mataram office-archival photo



A very popular News magazine of Nationalistic Movement circulated nationwide



Dr. Aurobindo Ghosh - the editor of "Bande Mataram"

Sr.No./ID		SECRET OFFICE OF ANUSHEELEN SAMITY			
				History and Evolution "Anushleen Samiti", an Indian Homeclub, secretly served as an underground hub for anti-British revolutionaries across Bengal in the early 20th century. (Originating from south-precincts physical fitness in a Bengali Samity (alliance) in Bengal in 1912, it bifurcated into Dhaka Anushleen Samiti in East Bengal and the Jugantar group in West Bengal, inspired by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's writings. Kolkata harboured three concurrent secret societies by 1902, led by Saikh Chandra Bose, Barister Pramadharan Mitra, and Biplabi Aarehinde Ghosh with his brother Ravie Ghosh. This structure served as the clandestine headquarters and sanctuary for Anushleen Samity members.	
Post Name	47, Comstock St.				
Address	49, Baitan Bazar Rd., Kolkata, West Bengal 700006				
Geographic Coordinates	22.5647° N, 88.3681° E				
Date/Period of Construction	Not known				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Not known				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Residential		Architectural Style (mentioning special features of 20th century-built heritage) Four-storied house with a wide frontage on the main road. 1 bay double-height ground portion with terrace at first floor is the prominent feature of the building. Fixed wooden balconies (balies) are also visible at first floor level. Second floor has a terrace. The railings on both the floors are decorated with ornamental C.I. Gull.		
Property Past Use	Residence				
Property Present Use	Residential cum commercial				
State of Protection	Protected				
Property site and surroundings	It is located at the heart of North Kolkata, on a busy road and thickly populated residential area. Opposite to this building is the interpreted home of Virendra Vicharananda, a landmark building.				
Architectural Style	Regional/Typically, common for 20 th century residential building		State of Conservation Fair. Threats to property The structure's existence is jeopardized due to the surrounding process of its location in a commercial area. Condition Description Each floor is crowded with tenants. The ground floor is filled with shops and restaurants, while the upper floors are used as residential units. The maintenance is poor.		
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-Political				
Statement of Significance: A secret headquarters of 'Anushleen Samity', a leading organization of Indian revolutionaries dedicated to the Indian movement, employing subversive and violent tactics against British administration, striving for vengeance liberation from colonial oppression.					
Material	High	Architectural	Medium	Name of Surveyor Indira Sarkar (P.I.) Parjanya Das Bibliography Kolkata's Heritage in 45 Days	
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Socio-Political	High	Fiscal Grade	BB		



Full Name	Sharat Sabha Indian National Association			History and Evaluation	The 'Indian National Association', also known as 'Sharat Sabha', was founded in 1876 at 62 Newmarket Street to promote nationalism in India. Key founders included <i>Abanindranath Ghose, Sisir Kumar Ghosh, Surendranath Banerjee, Late Kumar Ghosh, and Surendra Mohan Ghosh</i>. In 1915, it merged with the 'Indian National Congress' and served as the parent province. <i>Surendranath Banerjee</i>, a prominent figure, played a critical role in opposing the 1905 Partition of Bengal with passionate speeches, contributing to its revival in 1911 and earning the title "Bachchanaga."	
Address	22, Rajarajabai Ganguly St, Barabazar, Kolkata, West Bengal 700012					
Geographic Coordinates	22.871462 N, 88.354646 E					
Date/Period of Construction	1912/1915					
Ownership	Government					
Owner's Name	Indian National Association					
Property Type	Building					
Property Sub-type	Institutional			Architectural Merit (emphasizing special features of 20th-century built heritage)	The building is three stories tall with a three-bay front facade. The hall on the first floor is notably taller. The central bay features three bay-window windows and is highlighted by three bracketed chapes. On either side, prominent arched windows with deep pediment in the brick wall—characteristic of colonial architecture—are visible. The architectural style of the central bay varies between the first and second floors to emphasize its prominence. The ground floor houses commercial shops, while the terrace on the top floor has been covered with metal sheets as a later addition.	
Property Past Use	Association Office					
Property Present Use	Association Office and shops					
State of Preservation	Unprotected					
Property site and surroundings	The building is located in a busy road of Central Kolkata and surrounded by other historical buildings accompanied by small retail shops					
Architectural Style	Colonial (Neoclassical)			State of Conservation	Good	
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-political– Sub-theme: Freedom movement > Architects			Threats to property	Being an old structure needs maintenance.	
Statement of Significance: One of the oldest and pioneering associations formed by Indian middle-class intellectuals to oppose racism and discrimination between Indians and Europeans, and to provide a political platform for Indian leaders. The Indian National Congress held its annual conference here in 1915, where Rabindranath Tagore's "Jana Gana Mana" was sung for the first time, later becoming India's national anthem.					Condition Description	Good
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor Indira Sarkar (P.L.) Bibliography Students of Our Day at College of Architecture Kolkata's Rajarajabai Ganguly by Ajit Ghosh Source: https://www.indiannational.org/		
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High			
Socio-political	High	Final Grade				

Sr. No. 14		GUINEA HOUSE	
			
Post Name	Guinea House		
Address	111, New India Street, New India, Kolkata, West Bengal 700012		
Geographic Coordinates	22.547421 N, 88.360554 E		
Date/Period of Construction	1917-20, expanded one storey floor in 1945-46		
Ownership	Private		
Owner's Name	Public (Life Insurance Corporation of India)		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Heritage Building		
Property Past Use	Residential		
Property Present Use	Commercial		
State of Protection	Conserved		
Property site and surroundings	It is located in the New India area, a popular gold jewellery hub of Kolkata.		
Architectural Style	Rajput Heritage		
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-political ➤ Socio-economic ➤ Architectural ➤ Socio-cultural		
Statement of Significance: The residence and corporate office of R. Sarkar and Sons, a pioneering jewellery firm of the 20th century, also played a pivotal role in the freedom movement of the Auro Hind Fung led by Naga Sahib House. This house witnessed numerous significant events in 20th century Kolkata.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	
History and Evolution		R. Sarkar & Sons, the first branded Guineas Gold jewellery shop in Kolkata, was located in this house. Famously known as 'Guinea House', this firm also played a role in India's freedom struggle. It served as a relief shelter for Bihari migrants and housed the press for the 'Statesman' newspaper, co-edited by Surendra Bose and Balakrishna Sarkar. Many PNB houses visited this site. The family also founded the 'Talukda Symphony Orchestra' in 1944, competing with European orchestras and performing at venues like Bharatam Theatre, Mahatma Jyoti, YMCA, and All India Radio. Legendary musicians like Parul Chatterjee, Dilip Roy, V. Balaram, and S.B. Bhattacharya performed here privately.	
Architectural Merit (incorporating special features of 19 th century built heritage)		The Courtyard House features a double-height porch. On the ground floor, it hosted a showroom, workshop, and press, while the upper floors served as residential quarters. Divided into two blocks with respective courtyards, the building features a spacious open terrace on the first floor facing the street. Originally, the second and third floors housed independent owner balconies in Baroque style. The main entry opens to customers, while a side entry provides private access. Verandas with cast-iron railings and columns enclosed each courtyard, connected by upper floor passageways. The first block houses the Thakurpatis, presently unused, aligned with ornate stone work. The residential portion with stairs has remained.	
State of Conservation		Fair	
Threats to property		The front facade is totally isolated beyond recognition by altering the balconies and removing the architectural features.	
Condition Description		Good. High modification made in the front, which spoiled the elevation beyond recognition.	
Name of Surveyor		Indira Sarkar	
Bibliography		Primary sources from family members of R. Sarkar & Sons	

Additional Photographs: -



Gurnea House before (Archival Photo)



Gurnea House at present- facade totally razed



Zalaang



View from courtyard

Sr. No. 01		ARYA SAMAJ MANDIR				
						
Full Name	Arya Samaj Mandir		History and Evolution	Maharishi Dnyanend Saraswati founded the "Arya Samaj" movement in Bombay in 1875, which quickly spread across various cities in India. Kolkata is one of them. Prominent nationalists like Lala Lajpat Rai were the active members. In 1921, Narsingh Sobhan Chandra Bose organized the "All India Youth Conference" in this hall, presided over by Dr. Meghnad Saha. The Arya Samaj frequently hosted such events. Notably, revolutionary freedom fighter Bhagat Singh used this premises as a hideout in 1928 and visited it over coffee, marking a significant chapter in the institution's history of involvement with "Nationalist Activities".		
Address	F8, Hothian Street, Kolkata-700006					
Geographic Coordinates	88.166746° N, 22.581154° E					
Date/Period of Construction	1908					
Ownership	Private / Trust Property					
Owner's Name	Arya Samaj		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century built heritages)	The building is a three-storey structure with five bays. The ground floor houses a prayer hall, while the upper floors comprise guest rooms. Near the entrance on the ground floor, there is a book shop and a library. The second floor features two projecting balconies. The centrally located entrance is adorned with a broad series of white marble architecture. Decorative elements include several ornamental Hindu motifs on the walls. There is a prayer hall inside with white light and the floor is decorated with ornamental mosaic tiles.		
Property Type	Building					
Property Sub-type	Institutional					
Property Sub-Use	Religious Institution					
Property Present Use	Religious Institution					
State of Protection	Unprotected		State of Conservation	Good		
Property siting and surroundings	Located in North Kolkata on a prominent road i.e. Hothian Street. Next to it is Arya Kanyo Balika Vidyalaya and Vidyapeeth College is also in the same vicinity.					
Architectural Style	Mixed					
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-cultural: Religious ➤ Socio-political: Freedom movement					
Statement of Significance: The Arya Samaj, an Indian organisation rooted in 'Ancient Hindu Dharma', promotes values and practices based on the 'Vedas'. It was the first Hindu group to introduce proselytisation within Hindutva. Arya Samaj actively campaigned against caste discrimination, supported widow remarriage, and advocated for women's education. Additionally, it operates as a charitable organisation for academic and social causes. This house has been associated with several leaders of the freedom movement.						
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Indrani Sarkar, Pratyayanta Das	
Architectural	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium			
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade				
Bibliography					Official website of Arya Samaj https://www.aryasamaj.org/arya-samaj/	

Sr. No. (6)	ALIPORE CENTRAL JAIL							
								
Part Name	Alipore Central Jail Alipore Central Convalescent Home		History and Evolution	Established in 1906 on the banks of the Ash Ganga River, Alipore Jail (Alipore Central Convalescent Home) is renowned for imprisoning prominent Indian freedom movement leaders by the British rulers, including Subhaschandra C.A. Das, Nagesh Subhas Chandra Bose, Jyoti Basu (Nalini, Jyotirmoyee Sengupta), and Dr. B.C. Roy. Freedom fighters were tortured here. To name a few, <i>Anandabehn Meher</i> (1926), <i>Prembehari Ghosh</i> (1926), <i>Dinkar Gupta</i> (1931), <i>Amarendra Kumar</i> (1931), and <i>Dinkar Ghosh</i> (1934). Numerous others also became martyrs. The Alipore Central Jail Prison, one of India's oldest prison, provides houses some of the oldest prison traditions from various generations.				
Address	17, Judges Court Road, Kolkata 700027							
Geographic Coordinates	22.554594 N, 88.339425 E							
Date/Period of Construction	1906							
Ownership	Public							
Owner's Name	State Govt. of West Bengal							
Property Type	Prison		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20th-century-built heritage)	The design follows a United Layout, inspired by Jeremy Bentham's 'Panopticon' concept, featuring a central watchtower with cells and wards arranged in radial form for easy monitoring by guards. Most buildings have inmates with wooden railings and beams. The cells and wards have wide verandas, allowing guards close visibility. Multiple layers of compound walls provide security around the cells. The watchtower showcases neo-Gothic style, while the overall complex reflects colonial architecture. The hospital building's two wings are constructed by a separate firm of the buildings within the precinct are constructed with exposed brick with red-tiled roofs.				
Property Sub-type	Institutional							
Property Past Use	Jail Prison							
Property Present Use	Museum							
State of Protection	Protected							
Property site and surroundings	Alipore Central Jail along with the Presidency Jail, spread over 13.2 acres of land is located beside 'Ash Ganga' (Juli's Nahab). It is situated at the heart of the city on a busy locality.							
Architectural Style	Colonial architecture		State of Conservation	Very Good (recently restored).				
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-Political-administrative > Architecture		Threats to property	As the complex has become a tourist spot, the fort wall has increased. Thieves, vandals and the priority of the environment may be affected in near future.				
Statement of Significance: A historic landmark precinct of National importance, Alipore Jail in Kolkata holds historical significance in India's struggle for independence. It has a legacy as a camp for Japanese prisoners of war during World War II and later housed political prisoners, including the era of Emergency in the 1970s. The jail remains a symbol of resistance against oppression, shaping Kolkata's political identity.			Condition Description	It served as a convalescent home till 2019. It is now transformed to a memorial open museum. A light and sound show has been introduced to generate public awareness. The use value of the entire precinct has been changed. Each building is now restored with new requirements without disturbing the original structure and architecture.				
			Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Indira Sarkar
			Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
			Socio-political	High	Fine Arts	I		
			Bibliography	http://www.mca.gov.in/publications/pn-10				

Additional Photographs: -



Aerial View



Nehru Bhavan - the hall where Nehru was kept



Rear portion of the entrance block- renovated



Night View of the Memorial building



Watch Tower



The Uniform

Sr. No. 07		NETAJI BHAWAN	
			
Part Name	Netaji Bhawan		
Address	18, 18/2, Lake Light Rai Barui (Flyin Beach) Kolkata, West Bengal 700129		
Geographic Coordinates	22.57918 N, 88.351628 E		
Date/Period of Construction	1900		
Ownership	Private		
Owner's Name	Netaji Research Bureau		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Institutional		
Property Part Use	Residential		
Property Process Use	Museum cum research Centre		
State of Protection	Protected		
Property site and surroundings	Located at the crossing of Flyin Road and Sant Bose road. Nearby landmarks are: Forum Shopping Mall, residence of Sant Bose, and residence of B.N Sarkar of New Theatre (previously office of Arjun private Ltd.)		
Architectural Style	Mural		
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-political > Architectural		
Statement of Significance: Residence of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Many leaders of freedom movement of India visited this house for many historic meetings with Netaji. Even after Independence, Netaji's daughter Anika Bose, Presidents, Prime ministers and many Govt Officials of India paid their tributes to Netaji here. Many students internationally famous personalities visited this place and delivered their speeches on occasion of Netaji Research Bureau.			
Historical	High	Architectural	Very Good
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Good
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I
History and Evaluation		This is the ancestral house of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, built by his father Jankinath Bose. Sant Bose, Netaji's brother and mentor, also resided here. Subhas Chandra Bose, a prominent leader in India's freedom movement, shook the British administration by his fearless uncompromising attitude. In January 1941, he famously escaped from this house while under British house arrest, never to return. He founded the Indian National Army (INA) and waged war against British forces. Netaji's fearless leadership and exceptional courage made him as a pivotal figure in India's struggle for independence.	
Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)		This three-story house boasts features on both sides. Notable architectural elements include bay-window rooms with a distinctive half-round brick columns at each corner, a small terrace above the porch, wooden floor beams on the balconies, cast-iron columns, and ornamental railings on the verandas. An intriguing feature of this residence is the historic service entrance located at the rear, in addition to the main entrance. It was through this service entrance that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose famously made his famous "Give Europe!"	
State of Conservation		Very Good	
Threats to property		Nil	
Condition Description		Very Good	
Name of Surveyor		Indran Sarkar	
Bibliography		Page 3 & 4 (1942)-Bharati Ananda Publishers Page No. 2 (1987)-Dakshinot Subhaskarot Ananda Publishers	

Sl. No. 08	GANDHI BHAVAN		
			
Prop Name	Hydrat Margh Gandhi Bhavan (Present Name)	History and Evolution	On the eve of Indian Independence, Mahatma Gandhi wrote a letter to the "Hydrat Margh", 130 Hyderabad Main Road, Kolkata. The house, owned by a Gujarati trader and named after his daughter Hydrat, was dilapidated and abandoned. On August 15, 1947, instead of celebrating India's freedom, he chose to stay in this derelict locality without security to protect the communal violence in Bengal and Bihar (which) after 73 hours of fasting, finally emerged as a symbol of communal harmony, leading his leaders of the visiting factions to surrender their weapons at his feet, marking a crucial moment in India's history.
Address	130, Hyderabad Main Road, Kolkata, West Bengal 700016		
Geographic Coordinates	22.567548 N, 88.369122 E		
Date/ Period of Construction	1923		
Ownership	Private (Original) Public (Present)		
Owner's Name	Original - Hydrat Ali Present - State Govt of West Bengal		
Property Type	Habiting		
Property Sub-type	Institutional	Architectural Merit (incorporating special features of 20th century-built heritage)	A single-story bungalow with high ceilings features an impressive entrance veranda with four bays supported by two-toned columns and wooden lattice (Jali) - characteristics of Neo-Classical architecture. The property is aligned with "Bahau", a distinctive element of Kolkata architecture of that period. The bungalow also has wooden doors and stained windows.
Property Use/Current Use	Residence		
Property Previous Use	Museum		
State of Preservation	Degraded		
Property site and surroundings	Located in a narrow lane and surrounded area of residential area of East Kolkata.		
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical	State of Conservation	Recently renovated and restored in "Museum". Now the building is maintained jointly by FWD and "Purba Kolkata Rajaraj Sankar Sankar Sankar".
General Criteria for Listing	> Series-Political	Threats to property	Not yet listed under KMC's Heritage List
Statement of Significance: Hydrat Margh is not just a building; it is associated with the life of Mahatma Gandhi against communalism. During his stay here, political leaders like J.B. Kripalani, P.C. Ghosh, Sarat Chandra Ray, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, Jyoti Basu, Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, Ram Manohar Lohia and Raja Gopalakrishnan and journalists from across India and abroad came to meet him.		Condition Description	After years of neglect, the place underwent a major restoration in 2019, preserving its heritage value. A small museum dedicated to Gandhi's life was established, and a new statue of him was placed in the front garden. Additionally, a new entrance gate and compound wall featuring murals depicting Gandhi's struggles for freedom and his message were added in recent renovation of the building's significance.
Material	Brick	Architectural Medium	
Associational	High	Technological Scientific Medium	Name of Surveyor
Socio-Political	High	Final Grade	Bibliography



Post Name	136/4, Central Street	History and Evolution	Dinesh Majumdar, a freedom fighter and member of Anishkila Samity, was sentenced to life imprisonment for attempting to murder Police Commissioner Charles Lucas, after escaping from Midnapore Jail, he hid in Chundernagar and killed Police Commissioner Mr. Quin in 1912. This house in Kolkata was used as a safe hiding place for Anishkila Samity members, including Dinesh Majumdar and Jagadbandha Mukherjee. But Police got the information and raided the house in 1913, they fought a fierce battle with British police there and were arrested. Anandabhai Datta, Nalini and Jagadbandha survived the encounter, while Dinesh was hanged in 1914, becoming a 'Martyr' for India.
Address	136/4, Baitan Sarmah Road, Kolkata - 700044	Architectural Merit (emphasizing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The building is a fine colonial structure, featuring Neo-classical architecture. Its front facade includes five bays, each adorned with half-round columns topped by Corinthian capitals. The central bay, however, is conspicuous, being flanked by two wider bays on either side. The ground floor, supporting a terrace on the first floor. Ornamental grills enclose all balconies and the terrace. At the top, an ornate pediment crowns the central bay, complemented by a decorative parapet.
Geographic Coordinates	22.597199° N, 88.371708° E	State of Conservation	Fair
Date/Period of Construction	Not known	Threats to property	The building is totally compatible with contemporary use. The shops on ground floor and located at upper floor, its historical importance thus is lost.
Ownership	Private	Condition Description	The original architectural design of the facade has been significantly altered, with ornate windows that have compromised its integrity. Balconies have been converted into balconies, and rooms have been added on the first floor terrace and even on the rooftop. The ground floor now primarily hosts commercial stores, obscuring the main entrance. Despite these changes, a 'plaque' honoring the historic members of Anishkila Dinesh Majumdar was installed by the local NGP 'Samant Parishad'.
Owner's Name	Not known	Name of Surveyor	Rajendra Kumar
Property Type	Building	Bibliography	Kolkata & Beyond by Ajit Ghose "The History of the Bengal Revolutionary Movement" by P.K. Ghose
Property Sub-type	Residential		
Property Past Use	Commercial-Residential Apartments		
Property Present Use	Commercial-Residential Apartments at upper floors and shops at ground floor		
State of Preservation	Good		
Property site and surroundings	Located in a congested residential area-market area in North Kolkata of Haringhata		
Architectural Style	British Empire		
General Criteria for Listing	> State National		
Statement of Significance: This house had a great significance in connection with freedom movement of India. A hiding place for freedom fighters of 'Anishkila Samity', 'Biplobi Dinesh Majumdar, Nalini Devi and Jagadbandha Mukherjee' fought a great battle with British Police all their last battle there this house and ultimately got arrested as a result.			
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium
Socio-Political	High	Final Grade	



Post Name	Ballyganga Government High School			History and Evolution	In 1899, the David Hare Training College was established at 113 Albany Road, College Street. Due to space limitations, it relocated to Behala in South Kolkata, proposed by Mr. H.R. James, Director of Education, advocating for its own building with a model school. Mr. W.E. Gifford, the inaugural Principal, spearheaded the move. The Ballyganga Government High School building, inaugurated in 1927 by Governor Lord Lytton, served as its practice school. This two-story institution offers secondary and higher secondary education.
Address	31/2, Narail-Midna Road, Kolkata - 700033				
Geographic Coordinates	22.528325 N, 88.378040 E				
Date/Period of Construction	1927				
Ownership	Public				
Owner's Name	State Government of West Bengal				
Property Type	Building			Architectural Merit (describing special features of 19 th century-built building)	The school building occupies 8 acres of land in Behala, South Kolkata. It consists of a three-story structure with a central prayer hall and two wings on each side. The ground floor features a series of flat arches, while the upper floors have columns supported by twin arches. A notable feature is its expansive playground. The central hall with a sloped roof stands out as the building's centerpiece.
Property Sub-type	Institution				
Property Post Use	School				
Property Division Use	School				
State of Protection	Unprotected				
Property site and surroundings	It is behind the David Hare Teachers Training Institute at Ballyganga Circular Road and next to Public Vehicles Deposition at Behala.				
Architectural Style	Mixed			State of Conservation	Good
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-Cultural: Education			Threats to property	No threats identified
Statement of Significance: It is one of the most renowned schools for creating a batchmate of its own standard of education and known for its Gallery of Alumni, like Satyajit Ray, Sombhu Mitra, Ritwik Ghatak, few renowned Directors of 'Shukla Aranya Research Institute' and even for Vice-Chancellors of various Universities.				Condition/Description	Good. Recently, students have adorned the building with wall art. The students of this institution are trained with the typical Bengali art, i.e. 'Pattachitra', which are extensively found in the Central Hall. A new extension at the rear has come up to accommodate more space.
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Indrani Sarkar
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade:		Bibliography	Ballyganga: Rastriya Ganga Vidyalaya: Aadharey Panchab Khatun by Anandabharathi Basu (an alumnus of the School)

Additional Photographs: -



View of the School building from playground



View of the Hall's interior



Corridor- Ground floor



Corridor- First floor



Staircase



Reception Corner and Guard House



Students are being trained with Bengali traditional folk art- Patachitra



Full Name	Sister Nibedita Girls' School			History and Evolution	Sister Nibedita recognized the central role of women's empowerment in India's upliftment. Before establishing Stree Shiksha, he envisioned a centre for educating girls on national principles. Sister Nibedita took on this task at her Bhag Bhava residence in 1903, initially facing strong local resistance despite offering free education. Through her relentless efforts and door-to-door campaigns, the school eventually succeeded in providing holistic education for girls. Alongside Bengali, English, and Indian history, students learned embroidery, art, crafts, music, and self-defence. Post-independence, the school came under the Ramakrishna Mission as its female counterpart, known as Sarada Mission.
Address	3, Nivedita Lane, Bagh Bazar, Kolkata-700033				
Geographic Coordinates	22.61236 N, 88.36312 E				
Date/ Period of Construction	1912				
Ownership	Ramakrishna Sarada Mission				
Owner's Name	Ramakrishna Sarada Mission			Architectural Merit (emphasizing special features of 20 th century-buildings heritage)	The school building, a two-story colonial house typical of North Kolkata, features a beautifully crafted entrance and a prayer hall on the ground floor. Designed by the renowned artist Nathulal Bose at Sister Nibedita's request, Indian motifs adorn the ornamental capitals of columns and other architectural elements reflecting a nationalistic architectural style. Additionally, the school encompasses six additional buildings housing the Secondary, Primary, and Industrial sections.
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Institution				
Property Past Use	Educational Institution: School				
Property Present Use	Educational Institution: School				
State of Protection	Promoted			State of Conservation Threats to property Conservation Description	Very Good No threats identified. Well-maintained
Property site and surroundings	The building is located at a narrow lane of North Kolkata, beside the Bhadrak House.				
Architectural Style	Revivalist- designed by Master Arjun Nathulal Bose				
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-cultural ➤ Architecture				
Statement of Significance: One of the oldest girls' schools founded by Sister Nibedita for comprehensive education.					
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Indranil Sarkar
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High		
Socio-Cultural	High	First Grade	U B		
				Bibliography	Primary Source: Interview with Manoj of school Source: Booklet of Sister Nibedita School

Additional Photographs: -



View of Entrance :



View of Courtyard



View of Prayer Hall

(PC: <https://www.alternativetopicschool.org/home.html>)



Ornamental Column-I



Ornamental Column-II



View of upper floor Terrace

Sr. No. 12	ARYA KANYA BALIKA MAHAVIDYALAYA				
					
Full Name	Arya Kanya Balika Mahavidyalaya		History and Evolution	In 1902, 'Arya Samaj Balika Mahavidyalaya' was established near Sayanagar Park, Borebazaar. By 1908, a new building was constructed at 29, Connemara Street, funded by both Arya Kanya Balika and Prang Poddar of Seth Raghunath Charitable Trust. Renamed 'Aryakanya Balika Mahavidyalaya' in 1935, the 'Arya Mahila Vidyalaya Mandal' Trust took over operations. The school offers education in both Hindi and English. In 1989, it expanded with a primary section in the morning, known as 'Dussehra Gudi' School, catering specifically to young girls. Presently, it caters for both secondary and higher secondary education to the girls.	
Address	29, Balika Samaj, Madhavaram, Kolkata				
Geographic Coordinates	22.583100 N, 88.366782 E				
Date/Period of Construction	1908				
Ownership	Trust Property				
Owner's Name	Seth Raghunath Charitable Trust				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Institutional		Architectural Merits (incorporating special features of 19 th century built heritage)	It is an architectural landmark. The building stands as a prominent five-storied structure with a majestic portion on the ground floor, spanning the entire frontage. Situated at a corner plot on a building street in North Kolkata, it features three facades, each adorned with exquisite balconies on the second and third floors supported by ornate brackets. The central and corner bays showcase traditional Rajasthani-style Jharokha with intricate carvations. Various architectural details are evident, including arched niches, ornamental lattice screens (jali), decorative parapets, and corner chutes, adding to its distinctive character. It has a central courtyard surrounded by Veranda in all three.	
Property Present Use	Girl's School				
State of Protection	Protected.				
Property site and surroundings	Located next to Arya Samaj Mandir, Kolkata				
Architectural Style	Revivalist with an influence of Rajasthani Architecture				
General Criteria for Listing	> Social Culture > Architecture > Mahanagar		State of Conservation	Good	
			Threats to property	NA	
			Condition	The building tends to be maintained, however, due to unauthorised occupation by the hawkers, and street dwellers within the ground portion, school authority was forced to close the main entrance from the main road. At present, the site remains is being used as the entry for the schools.	
Statement of Significance: This school was opened with an attempt to spread the education amongst those girls who came from non-urban & tribal speaking families, mostly from the Marwari community. Apart from this, it has association value as the premises once housed the editorial office of the new version of 'Gangadharan' Magazine with Subhadra Devi Tager as its editor.					
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Indira Bandyopadhyay
Aesthetical	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	BA		
	Bibliography				
	Kolkata's Heritage: Aja Bora, Arya Kanya				

Additional Photographs: -



Corner view- 1960's

(Source: <https://www.telegraphindia.com/np-jalinda.PC-Amitava-Gupta/>)



Corner view- 2022



Interior view from courtyard

Sr. No. 11	MAULANA ABUL COLLEGE			
				
Two Names	Islamic College (1954)/ Central Calcutta College (1948)			
Address	8, Raji Ahmed Khatun Road, Kolkata-700015			
Geographic Coordinates	22.561021 N, 88.307912 E			
Date/Period of Construction	1954			
Ownership	Public			
Owner's Name	Department of Higher Education, Govt. of West Bengal			
Property Type	Institutional			
Property Sub-type	College			
Property Past Use	College			
Property Present Use	College			
State of Protection	Preserved			
Property site and surroundings	The building is located on a busy road in Central Kolkata.			
Architectural Style	Indo- Saracenic			
General Criteria for Listing	» Indo- Cultural			
Statement of Significance: Maulana Abul College was founded by U.R.Lytton, the then Governor of Bengal. The institution was the culmination of efforts of notable Muslim leaders like A. K. Fazlul Haque, Syed Nawab Ali Chowdhury and Sir Abdul Subhan to educate Muslim population during British Raj. The college has been enriched by award recipients of numerous awards such as poet Siksha Day. With a dazzling alumni list, this college is the alma mater of Bangabandha Sk. Mujibur Rahman of Bangladesh.				
Historical	High	Architectural	High	
Aesthetic	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium	
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I	
History and Evolution	Maulana Abul College was founded to promote education among Muslims in British India, initiated by A. K. Fazlul Haque and supported by Lord Lytton . Originally named Islamic College, it was renamed Central Calcutta College after independence, admitting only male students. In 1986, it was renamed Maulana Abul College in honour of India's first Education Minister, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad . In 1990, the college became co-educational, welcoming students of all castes, creeds, and genders.			
Architectural Merit (incorporating special features of 19 th century-built buildings)	The edifice features a three-story C-shaped building and two four-story wings. Its facade includes a traditional Chhatra (roof garden), one of which is a well-maintained medieval plot garden. The building showcases Indo-Saracenic architecture and stands as a landmark in the area. It has an impressive central entrance with three arched doorways and several upper-floor balconies. Additionally, two circular steps with black railings in the distance landmark status.			
State of Conservation	Good			
Threats to property	No threats identified			
Condition Description	Maintenance related issues visible			
Name of Surveyor	Fakhrul Siddiq			
Bibliography	Primary Source: Interview with the Principal, Maulana Abul College			

Additional Photographs:-



Main Gate



Colleged wings



Cupola of corner - a landmark feature



Main Entrance

Sr. No. 14	ASUTOSH COLLEGE			
				
Pan Name	Asutosh Suburban College			
Address	H, Ghosara Purna, Mahabir Rd, Jatin Das Park, Harna			
Geographic Coordinates	22.525428 N, 88.343163 E			
Date/ Titled of Construction	1916			
Ownership	Trust Property			
Owner's Name	Asutosh Mukherjee Memorial Institute (AMMI)			
Property Type	Building			
Property Sub-type	Institutional			
Property Part Use	College			
Property Present Use	College			
State of Preservation	Protected			
Property site and surroundings	Located at Harna crossing, near Jatin Das Memorial Hospital and opposite to Chittaranjan Cancer Hospital			
Architectural Style	Indo-Dome			
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-Cultural			
Statement of Significance: Asutosh College, has been considered as a leading centre of education since its inception. The first college in West Bengal to be awarded by the NAAC in 2002, it was given an A grade in 2016. It has a great associational value, with landmarks of National importance, like Neraj Sukhla Chandra Bose, Goshiji, CR Das .				
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium	History and Evolution Sir Asutosh Mukherjee, a prominent 19th-century educationalist, founded Asutosh Suburban College. On his first death anniversary, a memorial meeting in Kolkata, attended by leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and C.R. Das , unanimously decided to form the Asutosh Memorial Committee to build Asutosh Memorial Hall and a library. In 1924, a college was founded as Asutosh College. In 1929, Calcutta Corporation, led by Minoo Nanaji Sukhla Chandra Bose , granted 34 cents of land at Harna for a new building for the college. The building was funded by public donations and the college's revenue fund which was completed in 1935 by Asutosh Memorial Institute (AMMI). Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 19th century-built buildings) It is a fine stone landmark building on a major road of Kolkata with three bays. The central bay is an impressive one with a double height entrance shaded with columns. A fine Indian motif in architectural features on the central bay are visible on the front facade. The entrance has two decorative pillars on either side with arched flat arch. It also accommodated a hall of 644 capacity and a sub library for the use of college students and general public to host meetings, functions, exhibitions and academic activities. State of Conservation Good Threats to property In the mid-eighties, the building was severely damaged for the construction of Metro Railway passing underneath of S.P. Mukherjee Road. Condition Description Former college building was repaired with a facility for the National Archive collection of the college. The Memorial Hall also got repaired and equipped with modern facilities as an auditorium.
Aesthetic	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium	
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I	
Name of Surveyor	Indran Saha			
Bibliography	University Publications, Asutosh College and Asutosh Mukherjee Memorial Institute by Basu, Pradyot			



Full Name	Carmichael College			History and Evolution	Established as the Calcutta School of Medicine in 1856, the purpose of the institution was to ensure self-sufficiency in medical education and services. In 1902 the institution shifted to its current campus and in 1904 it merged with the National College of Physicians and Surgeons of Bengal. From 1915 to 1946, the college was known as Carmichael Medical College in honour of Thomas Oliver Carmichael, the then Governor of Bengal at the college's inauguration in 1916. The Institution was given its current name in 1946 in honour of Dr. Rasika Govinda Kar who spearheaded the foundation of it. From 1916 to 2002 the institute was under the University of Calcutta and later affiliated to West Bengal University of Health Sciences.	
Address	1, Khudiram Bose Sarani, Bidhan Sarani, Shyam Bazar, Kolkata - 700004					
Geographic Coordinates	22.5044670 N, 88.378258 E					
Date/Period of Construction	1902/1904					
Ownership	Public					
Owner's Name	West Bengal University of Health Sciences					
Property Type	Building					
Property Sub-type	Institutional			Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 19 th century-built buildings)	The complex encompasses of several buildings dating back to the 19th Century. The notable key features are in these structures are arched openings, decorated jali work as parapets and cornices, louvered windows, and wrought iron grills. We also see an close influence in some of the facades with repetitive openings and facades for air-circulation. Huge number of buildings have come up within the complex including multi-storied buildings and the heritage buildings have lost their identities amongst these crowded cosmopolitan environments.	
Property Past Use	Hospital and medical college					
Property Present Use	Hospital and medical college					
State of Protection	Protected (Grade-II B, heritage under ICAC)					
Property site and surroundings	It is located along the Belpahia Road in close proximity to the Shyambazar fly-over crossing and the Kolkata station.					
Architectural Style	Mixed			State of Conservation	Poor	
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-cultural			Threats to property	Rapid developments due to infrastructural requirements, incompatible additions and alterations, unplanned services and wiring.	
Statement of Significance: J.G.Kar Medical College, Kolkata is not only one of the premier institutes of modern India for medical sciences and services, but one with a rich heritage too. It stands as a testimony to the Nationalists' endeavour to provide medical services for Indians.					Condition Description	There are signs of decay visible in and around, like on chajja, terrace, brackets, parapets, etc.
Historical	High	Architectural	Low	Name of Surveyor	Rajanya Kanti	
Architectural	High	Technological/Scientific	High			
Socio-Cultural	High	Fine Arts	II B			
					Bibliography	https://www.mohi.ac.in/old-geo/papers/article/594C12-0009/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._G._Kar_Medical_College_and_Hospital



Full Name	Science College, Rajahmundry Campus			History and Evolution	In the early 20th century, Calcutta University initiated important scientific research with the establishment of its University College of Science and Technology in March 1914. This milestone was made possible by significant endowments from Sir Taraknath Palit and Sir Radhobhakt Ghosh , prominent figures in Bengal's National Education Movement. Spearheaded by Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee , then Vice-Chancellor, the university opened its science department to Indian students for the first time. This initiative marked the beginning of pioneering research in various branches of science and applied sciences, elevating India's global reputation. Notably, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray , renowned as the "Master of Nitrocellulose," dedicated his life and savings to research in the Chemistry department.	
Address	02, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, Rajahmundry, Maharashtra, Lokapada, 500009					
Geographic Coordinates	22.47000 N, 86.171242 E					
Date/ Period of Construction	1914					
Ownership	Public					
Owner's Name	Calcutta University					
Property Type	Building			Architectural Merit (emphasizing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The building stands tall with four stories and an imposing entrance portico. Its front facade is adorned with a series of arches and semi-circular windows, complemented by ornate architectural details that create its grandeur. Inside, a garden divides the two wings of this U-shaped structure with lush gardens. It is recognized as one of Kolkata's iconic landmarks.	
Property Sub-type	Institutional					
Property Past Use	College/Research Institute					
Property Present Use	College/Research Institute					
State of Preservation	Preserved					
Property site and surroundings	The building is located next to Acharya Mahabir and Bose Institute, opposite to Baidyanath Girls School, Acharya Mahabir Vidyapeeth and Calcutta High & Dharm School on a major road of the city.					
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical			State of Conservation	Good	
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-cultural ➤ Architectural			Threats to property	NA	
Statement of Significance: This institution serves as a hub of research for prominent Indian scientists, including Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray , who dedicated his entire life to research here. It attracted academicians from across India, such as Nobin Chandra C.V. Ramana , Gyan Chandra Ghosh , Dr. Hrishnakishore Acharya , Satyendra Nath Bose , Sarvagalli Radhakrishnan (former President of India), and Savitri Kumar Chatterjee . Since its establishment, it has been considered as a premier institute in India.					Condition Description	Two more floors added atop at a later date which is in non-conformity with the architectural style of this majestic building.
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Indira Sarkar, Priyanshu Das	
Associational	High	Technological / Scientific	High			
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I			
					Bibliography	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_College_of_Science,_Technology_and_Agriculture



Full Name	Bose Institute (Basu Bigyan Mandir)			History and Evolution	Founded in 1917 by the eminent scientist Sr Jagadish Chandra Bose , 'Bose Institute' is Asia's first scientific research centre dedicated to interdisciplinary studies, housing a century-long tradition of research excellence. From this institute, he Bose made his groundbreaking discovery of 'Life in Plants' and pioneered the 'Muhimbi Communication System'. His work was supported by notable figures such as Joshi Vrishadasa , Sister Nivedita , Sara Chapman Ball , and Zakiruddin Tappan , who believed in his talent and contributed to his global achievements.
Address	93/1, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Rd, Kolkata				
Geographic Coordinates	22.879737 N, 88.371621 E				
Date Period of Construction	1917				
Ownership	Bose Institute - Autonomous Body				
Owner's Name	Past owner- Sr. Jagadish Chandra Bose Present owner- Bose Institute			Architectural Merit (merit of special features of 20th century built heritage)	The institute comprises 7 to 4 buildings, each 3 to 4 stories high, arranged around a central garden. It bears strong influence of colonial architectural style. The horizontal arches and pillars similar to Ajanta and Ellora caves resemble to each other those of the British Raj, while other elements, such as chandeliers, brackets with scrolls, cornices, and eaves, etc. are influenced by Renaissance architecture. A museum is situated in the front block, alongside a seminar lecture hall that serves as the main entrance. The ceiling, adorned with circular ornamental designs, painted by Master Artist Nandlal Bose, adds to its heritage value. The other buildings function as laboratories. The intricately carved wooden main entrance door of the main building is an exceptional one.
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Institutional				
Property Past Use	Institute for Scientific Research				
Property Present Use	Institute for Scientific Research				
State of Preservation	Protected			State of Conservation	Good
Property site and surroundings	Near to Science College, Rajabour and Acharya Bhawan, Indian Club, School, Daul & Daul School, Bannerman Library, Memorial Junction are located in the near vicinity.				
Architectural Style	"Eclectic", influenced by Colonial Architectural style.			Threats to property	Aging of materials are few threats to the structure is visible. There are certain signs of decay found on chajja, cornice, brackets, parapets, etc.
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-Cultural > Architectural				
Statement of Significance: It is a renowned research institute in India with an international reputation having great intellectual value. Many distinguished foreign scientists, Nobel laureates, and dignitaries have visited this institute. Notable visitors include the writer Alfred Huxley (1926), King Albert I of Belgium (1927), and President Brezhnev of the USSR (1977).					
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Indrani Sarkar
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	IIA		
				Bibliography	www.britannica.com , www.encyclopedia.com , http://www.bose.ac.in/history

Additional Photographs :-



Carved balustrade and Jalis-Indian motifs



View of central garden surrounded by Research wings



Auditorium Ceiling with fresco painting by Nandalal Bose



Influence of Buddhist Architecture



Influence of Rajasthani Architecture



Decorative Architrave for Entrance Door



Full Name	Aerobics Building (NCE)			History and Evolution	In 1906, the National Council of Education, Bengal was formed, and from the same year of August 15 th Scout National College began operating at 191/1 Bowbazar Street with Sri Aerobics as its first Principal. The college moved to 194 & 196 Bowbazar Street in 1907. Sri Aerobics resigned in 1907 following his move to the "Banda Mission, Scotland 1907". In 1910, the "Society for the Promotion of Technical Education" merged with the National Council of Education (NCE). The Jadavpur University Act of 1955 converted NCE into Jadavpur University. The foundation stone of "Aerobics Museum" was laid in 1922 and it began functioning in 1924.
Address	P-14 Jadavpur Station Road, Jadavpur University Campus Area, Jadavpur, Kolkata-700032				
Geographic Coordinates	22.436740 N, 88.372321 E				
Date Period of Construction	1922-24				
Ownership	Public				
Owner's Name	Jadavpur University				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Institutional			Architectural Merit (comprising special features and 10% customary-built heritage)	"Aerobics Museum" serves as the main administrative building of the University. The building features a symmetrical rectangular plan with a central entrance portion. Each floor has long, continuous corridors at the front, lined with rooms. The ground floor extends is decorated with a series of arches, while the first floor consists features double arches and wooden balconies known as jalis, on both sides. The facade incorporates many ornamental motifs of Indian styles, such as ornament, letters, and borders with external art forms, symbolizing nationalism.
Property Past Use	Educational Institute/University				
Property Present Use	Educational Institute/University				
State of Preservation	Degraded				
Property site and surroundings	Aerobics Building is located inside of the Jadavpur University Campus				
Architectural Style	Mixed (Neo-classical & Indo-Thrust)			State of Conservation	Good
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-cultural			Threats to property	Incompatible additions and alterations
Statement of Significance:	NCE is a significant movement in the field of National educational policy of India. There were 96 Founder members in the Council. Notable Charles Mallik, Raju Chandra Pal, P. Mitra, Surendranath Banerji, Gopabandhu Tagore, Rahindranath Tagore, Chittaranjan Das, Aerobics Ghose, Satish Chandra Mukherjee, A. Rasul, Arvind Kumar Dutt, Balu Kumar Mukherjee and other eminent personalities.			Condition Description	The structure is in good condition but there are signs of decay, from water seepage and dampness.
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Rajnu Karthi
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Low		
Socio-Cultural	High	Fuel Grade			
				Bibliography	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jadavpur_University http://www.jadavpuruniversity.org/

Additional Photographs: -



Bengal National College- 191, Benbarar Street



later on shifted to 186, Benbarar Street

(Archival image - PC - <http://www.vivekananda-institute.org/>)



Present Location of NCE/Vedangur University



Full Name	Bangiya Sahitya Parishad			History and Evolution	The current building, constructed on land donated by Maharaja Manindra Chandra Nandi of Coochbehar in 1907, was completed and occupied by the Parishad in 1988 as a single-storey. Significant contributions were made by Sri Jagadramacharya Rai Bahadur, Raja of Lalpala. In the construction of the first floor, and Srinath Pal Bhattacharya, who donated the middle flooring for the 2500 sq. ft. ground floor. This fulfilled a dream for the 240+ century intellectuals, providing a permanent space of their work for their library and literary conferences. Surendrakumar Mitter served as the first President, with Rabindranath Tagore and Jyotindranath Choudhury as Vice-Presidents. A double-storey new block was added later.
Address	2431, Acharya Pradyota Chandra Rd, Manikata, Sahitya Parishad, Bagmati, Kolkata - 700036				
Geographic Coordinates	22.596143 N, 88.375218 E				
Date/Period of Construction	1908				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Bangiya Sahitya Parishad				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Institutional			Architectural Merit (emphasizing special feature of 18 th century-built building)	The building features a double-storey front block and a three-storey rear block with a load-bearing brick structure supported by C.I. columns and beams. The front block houses a library on the ground floor and a museum on the first floor. The rear block, added later, includes a stack area on the ground floor, a reading hall on the first floor, and another museum on the second floor. The front facade showcases Neoclassical architectural style of the 19th century, characterized by Ionic motifs and corbelled windows, reflecting Colonial style of architecture. The first floor has three pointed arched balconies and two flat pointed arched windows with a flanking design of parapet at rooftop. The ornamental motifs surrounding windows at the side wall reflect the British style of architecture.
Property Use Int	Library and reading place				
Property Form Int	Library and reading place				
State of Preservation	Preserved				
Property site and surroundings	The building is located at a corner plot on one of the major roads of Kolkata i.e. APC road. Nearby landmark is Paribesh Jain Temple at India Square area. The site is located in a dense residential and institutional zone of North Kolkata.				
Architectural Style	Neoclassical			State of Conservation	Good
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-cultural ➤ Architecture			Threats to property Condition/Degradation	Space problem for storage
Statement of Significance: This Parishad is a literary institution. It was associated with legendary figures of the then society, like, Rabindranath Tagore, Raja of Coochbehar, Lalpala, Nangal, Mahabubul, Maharaja of Coochbehar, Rabindranath Choudhury, Pradyota Chandra Roy, Harprasad Bhattacharya, Gopabandhan Das, Abanindranath Thakur, Jyotindranath Choudhury, Parashuram Das etc.					
Historical	High	Architectural	Very Good	Name of Surveyor	Indira Sarkar, Pratyajna Das
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I		
				Bibliography	https://bangiyasahityaparisad.org/about-us/ Bharat Sahitya Samaksha. Published by Bangiya Sahitya Parishad

Sl. No. 23	VIVEKANANDA SOCIETY			
				
Full Name	Vivekananda Society			History and Evolution After Swami Vivekananda's death in 1902, the Calcutta Students' Society sponsored the formation of the "Vivekananda Society" at a conference in Albert Hall (now Indian Coffee House). Initiated by Sister Niladri and Swami Vivekananda's associates, including Swami Brahmacharya, Swami Tarakanda, and Swami Saradanda, the society aimed to study and explicate Swami's philosophy. Sister Niladri and others often taught classes on Ramakrishna, Vedanta, and the Gita. Inspired by the British of revolutionary times, Swami Saradanda rechristened the society in 1915. Post-independence, it moved to 151 Vivekananda Road in 1967.
Address	151, Vivekananda Road, Outer Morichhatra, Kolkata 700006			
Geographic Coordinates	22.5867°N, 88.3740°E			
Date/Period of Construction	1967-77			
Ownership	Private			
Owner's Name	Vivekananda Society			
Property Type	Building			Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage) It is a three-story building with a recessed central entrance. The upper floors feature projecting balconies along the entrance, which is aligned with the society's logo. The upper floors house a conference hall, a library, and a free reading room. The building's architecture is simple, with recessed windows on both sides. A balcony above of Netai Niladri was added at the front at a later date.
Property Sub-type	Institutional			
Property Past Use	Library / Conference Hall			
Property Present Use	Library / Conference Hall			
State of Preservation	Upgraded			
Property site and surroundings	located at one of the major crossings of Vivekananda Road and APC Road at Morichhatra			
Architectural Style	Mixed			State of Conservation Good
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-cultural			Threats to property No threats identified.
Statement of Significance: It has an institution associated with Sister Niladri and Ramakrishna Mission and possesses a legacy of many cultural events of the then society. It is a popular library to date with its rare collection on Society, Commerce, Philosophy, Religion books etc.				
Material	High	Architectural	Good	Condition Description Well-maintained.
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Good	
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade		
Bibliography Kolkata's forgotten Art form, Chatterjee, Rajaraj, <i>Swami Vivekananda in India: A Concise Biography</i> , World Heritage Publishers, 1998 M. Ramakrishna P. Vivekananda: A Ramakrishna Missionary's View, 1907				

Sr.No.11		INDIAN COFFEE HOUSE			
					
Part Name		Albert Hall		History and Evolution	The College Street Coffee House in Kolkata, originally known as "Albert Hall," was founded by the freedom leader Keshub Chandra Sen in 1879 as a meeting place for citizens. It became a hub for freedom movements and the birthplace of the Indian Association, which later evolved into the National Congress. Sister Nibedita delivered religious discourses here, and a Samadhi honors the Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam. The old building was replaced in 1920 by the iconic Indian Coffee House. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, while a student at Presidency College, was a regular visitor. It remains a beloved "hot spot" for spirited conversations and revived "Asha" sentiment, a city typical culture of Bengalis.
Address		13, Barkin Chatterjee St, College Square West, College Street, Kolkata 700071			
Geographic Coordinates		22.57214 N, 88.36498 E			
Date/Period of Construction		1920 (1879)			
Ownership		Co-operative Society			
Owner's Name		Indian Coffee House Workers' Co-operative Society Ltd.			
Property Type		Building		Architectural Merit (highlighting special features of 18 th century-built heritage)	A three-storied building having a distinct architectural design and style of 20th century with series of arched windows and projecting double-height columns with capitals and continuous oblique projection at roof level. The interior of this house has a special feature as a double-height central hall at first floor level as a cafeteria with balcony at second floor level all around.
Property Sub-type		Commercial			
Property Past Use		Coffee House/Cafe			
Property Present Use		Coffee House/Cafe			
State of Protection		Protected partially—only the Coffee House, but not the entire building (Garden Heritage as per IMC)			
Property site and surroundings		Located within a unique/charismatic commercial hub of the city i.e. "Bopora" surrounded by many heritage institutions.			
Architectural Style		Mixed with Sanskrit influence		State of Conservation	Fair
General Criteria for Listing		➤ Socio-cultural ➤ Socio-political		Threats to property	Due to multiple reasons, the building suffers from a lack of maintenance. Located in a highly commercial area, it constantly faces pressure from real estate developers, posing a threat to its preservation.
Statement of Significance: This had a great legacy, perches to 19th-20 th century Cultural history. It was a popular choice for political leaders, intellectuals and the students and has a great associated value with the luminaries of Bengal. It stands as a symbol of continuity amidst the shifts and flows of time for its vibrant audience.				Condition Description	Free from threats due to multiple reasons has earned the Coffee House a low risk status. Currently, it suffers from a lack of maintenance. In today's commercial scenario, abandonment and upgrad are essential. Maintaining the Coffee House is difficultly possible without disrupting its original architectural design and interior structure.
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Indran Sarkar, Priyanka Das
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Socio-Cultural	High	First Grade	I		
				Bibliography	Kolkata's Heritage by Ajit Sen

Additional Photographs: -



Central Hall with double height



Balcony all round at second floor level



Full Name	Ramanathan Mission Institute of Culture			History and Evolution	Established between 1956-1980 as a Ramanathan Mission branch, Ramanathan Mission Institute of Culture aims to spread the universal message of Vedanta's Oneness, as taught by Sri Ramakrishna. Founded during Sri Ramakrishna's last birth century, the institute was led by Swami Rajanarasayandas and 1992. Reincarnated in 1967, it garnered support from notable figures including Eknath Parvatham, Satyapalli Radhakrishnan, Shriyugalsam Acharyaraj, Kalidasa Nair, K.C. Mahalingam, Suresh Chatterjee, Tatyana Devi, KP Chakra and many more, fostering cultural and philosophical discourse.
Address	Ind Park, Kodikata, West Bengal 700 029, India				
Geographic Coordinates	22.51516 N, 88.36256 E				
Date/ Period of Construction	1968				
Ownership	Trust Property				
Owner's Name	Rama Math, Ramanathan Mission (HQ)				
Property Type	Building			Architectural Merit (emphasizing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The building is a reinforced concrete (RC) framed structure spanning four floors, blending Indian architectural elements with Art Deco influences. Positioned on a corner plot, its expansive design features a central facade adorned with ribbons, basins, a central lobby house, a semi-circular atrium and a curvilinear staircase. Marble and cast-in-situ concrete adorn the common areas, while woods frame doors and steel-framed windows with glass divisions enhance functionality. The facility houses various departments: School of Languages, Library, museum gallery, Vivekananda Archives, Photo-Stillroom, Hall, Publication Department, Centre for Biological Studies and Research, and an International Guest House. A landscaped rear garden complements its serene ambience.
Property Sub-type	Institutional				
Property Plot Size	Institutional				
Property Present Date	Protected				
Status of Preservation	The Ramanathan Mission Institute of Culture is located at the Indpark road in Kolkata, India. Designed by Rafaelle Thomson & Nathan . Constructed by: Martin Burn & Co .				
Property size and surroundings	Residential				
Architectural Style	General Criteria for Listing: ➤ Socio-Cultural (spiritual, Educational & Philanthropic Institution) ➤ Architectural			State of Conservation	Well maintained
Threats to property				Condition Description	NIL
Statement of Significance: Formed in 1980 the RMIC is a spiritual, philanthropic, educational and cultural institution responsible for raising awareness about cultural heritage of India and spreading the vision of Sri Ramakrishna and Devani Vivekananda across the world.					
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Kajanya Kundu
Associational	High	Technological Scientific	High	Bibliography	https://cultureheritage.org/india/culture-heritage-property-of-india-and-park-heritage/ Articles at a glance (RM Mission Institute)
Socio-Cultural	High	Fiscal Grade	Good		

Additional Photographs:



Front view from Gaspark



Rear View



Library



Museum Gallery



Stair Hall - view 1



Atrium



Stair Hall - view 2

Sl. No. 34	UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE HALL		
			
Full Name	University Institute Hall		
Address	7, Barkin Chatterjee St. College Square Kolkata-700071		
Geographic Coordinates	22.575459 N, 88.365990 E		
Date/Period of Construction	Original-1891, Rebuilt-1972		
Ownership	Public		
Owner's Name	University of Calcutta		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Recreational		
Property Past Use	Theatre, auditorium		
Property Present Use	Theatre, auditorium		
State of Protection	Protected		
Property site and surroundings	Located behind College Square. Nearby landmarks are Calcutta University, Sanskrit College, Hart School, Hindu School, Presidency College, Mahabouli Society, Bagpara etc.		
Architectural Style	Neo-classical		
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-cultural > Architecture		
Statement of Significance: It has an associated value of eminent personalities of 20 th century, like Rabindranath Tagore, Sir J.C.Bose, Prafulla Chandra Ray, R.N.Mookherjee, Benami Devi, Dr. Niradra Das, Surendranath Chattopadhyay, Dr. Bidhan Chandra Ray, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and many more.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I
History and Evolution		University Institute Hall, an auditorium at the University of Calcutta, was established for student use. The decision to set up the student society was made at a meeting in Sanskrit College in 1899, attended by notable figures such as Rabind Chandra Chattopadhyay, Pandit Mahesh Chandra Nyayaratna, Sir Ashwani Mukherjee, Sir Gurusdas Banerjee, and Mr. H. Lee , along with student representatives. The hall hosted important seminars, debates, conferences, lectures, and musical programs, and housed many distinguished individuals. A fire in the 1970s badly damaged the library. The auditorium is now available for hire by any organization for events.	
Architectural Merit (outstanding special features of 19 th century-built heritage)		The original building is demolished due to fire hazards. The present building is built in 1970s with neo-classical architectural style, a three-storey building with redstone and a grand entrance porch. An auditorium is also reconstructed with latest sound system and refurbished with latest seating arrangements.	
State of Conservation		Good	
Threats to property		No threats identified	
Condition Description		After the building was gutted down by fire, it was reconstructed in 1972, equipped with ultra-modern sound and lighting equipment, auditorium was refurbished and opened for public once again.	
Name of Surveyor		Ankur Sarkar, Priyanshu Das	
Bibliography		Kolkata : Support by Aji Bose	



Full Name		Baikuntha Temple		History and Evolution	Baikuntha Temple, located in Kolkata, is the only temple dedicated to Baikuntha Das (Vishnu Balaji) in the city. Completed between 1988 and 1992, the temple features a stone image of Lord Baikuntha flanked by his two consorts, Lakshmi and Bhadrini. It is believed that Mahang Praying Sanyas Tirth, son of Mahang Ravi Sanyas Tirth, was responsible for its construction. This temple exemplifies the presence of the Tamil community in Kolkata, who established a prayer hall and temple for their own community.
Address		12/A, Ball Kandas, Tagore Street, InamchakPrest, Kolkata, West Bengal 700006			
Geographic Coordinates		22.5667° N, 88.3555° E			
Date/Period of Construction		1988/92			
Ownership		Temple Trust			
Owner's Name		Founder - Mahang Praying Sanyas Tirth			
Property Type		Building			
Property Sub-type		Religious			
Property Use		Temple			
Property Present Use		Temple			
State of Protection		Unprotected		Architectural Merit (possessing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	A quintessential example of Dravidian-style temple architecture exists in Kolkata. The main entrance features a typical 'Gopuram' adorned with idols depicting stories and characters from the Puranas. The main temple itself has a flat roof supported by several ornately decorated, marble-clad pillars. In addition to the main temple, there is a hall designated for religious functions. The entire structure is clad in white marble, including the floor. A distinctive feature of South Indian temples, a ritualised 'bharya', is also prominently visible here.
Property site and surroundings		Located at Sanyas Tirth on a main street, near the landmark - Ganesh Taluk			
Architectural Style		Hindu temple architecture (Dravid)			
General Criteria for Listing		➤ Socio-Cultural ➤ Multi-ethnicity			
Statements of Significance:		It is the only temple in Kolkata with South Indian style of architecture.			
Historical	medium	Architectural	High	State of Conservation	Good
Associational	medium	Technological/Scientific	High		
Socio-Cultural	High	First Grade			
				Threats to property	No threats identified
				Condition Description	Good
				Name of Surveyor	Indira Sarkar
				Bibliography	https://www.wikipedia.com

Additional Photographs:-



Main entrance



Interior view



Exterior view of the 'Gopuram'

											
Post Name	Socio-Cultural			History and Evolution	Founded in 1978, the Seth Soorajmull Jalan Trust is a philanthropic and religious organization known for its contributions to women's education and development. Led by Seth Mohanlal Jalan and other prominent figures, the Trust has established numerous schools, libraries, reading rooms, and colleges in West Bengal and across India. One such notable institution is Seth Soorajmull Jalan Balika Vidyalaya, a Hindi medium girls' school founded in 1981, located at 186, C.R. Avenue. The building houses an 82-year-old Hanuman temple on the ground floor, known as " Ram Mandir ," which also lends its name to the nearby bus stop. The upper floors serve as a library and classrooms. It is a landmark building in C.R. Avenue.						
Address	186, Chittaranjan Ave., Sec-16, Muchachurno, Kolkata, West Bengal 700006										
Geographic Coordinates	22.562923 N, 88.361944 E										
Date/Period of Construction	1981										
Ownership	Trust property										
Owner's Name	Seth Soorajmull Jalan Trust			Architectural Merit (containing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	This impressive six-story building showcases Rajasthani architectural influence. The central bay, starting from the third storey, features pointed balconies with modified arches and jali, epitomizing typical Rajasthani design. Additionally, Rajasthani-style windows, ornamental brackets, eaves, and fascias further reinforce Rajasthani architecture. The ground floor houses a central hall designed as a "Shiva-like temple" with an atrium concept. This building clearly illustrates the lifestyle of the local community who come from western India in search of better and good value in this religious environment.						
Property Type	Building										
Property Sub-type	Religious/Institutional										
Property Past Use	Temple cum school										
Property Present Use	Temple cum school										
State of Protection	Unprotected										
Property site and surroundings	Located on a major thoroughfare of the city i.e. Chittaranjan Avenue, Central Kolkata and surrounded by many landmark buildings of 20 th century mostly built and occupied by Marwari Community.			General Criteria for Listing	State of Conservation	Very Good	Threats to property	No threats identified	Condition	Well-maintained	Description
Architectural Style	Rajasthani Architecture										
➤ Socio-Cultural ➤ Architecture ➤ Multi-ethnicity											
Statement of Significance: When newly constructed C.R. Avenue was laid by CIT to connect Dharmachakra Flyover to up to Shyambum. The outliers from Western India, mostly Marwari came out of Rajasthan and built their mansions on multi-storied concept deriving from colonial influences. Ram Mandir is one of such landmark building.											
Historical	Medium	Architectural	High	Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Indira Sarkar		
Socio-Cultural	High	Fiscal Grade									
Bibliography				https://archaeo.cimrindia.ac.in/raaj/raaj/raaj-vijayapada-srinivasa-srinivasa-24-4-1							

Additional Photographs: -



Interior - the Mandir



Architectural features with Rajasthani style

Sl. No. 17	SIRLA MANDIR			
				
Full Name	Sirla Mandir			History and Evolution
	29, Ashutosh Choudhary Ave, Buldingunge, Kolkata-700019			
Geographic Coordinates	22.58704 N, 88.36523 E			
Date/Period of Construction	1970-71			
Ownership	Private			
Owner's Name	Sirla Family			
Property Type	Building			Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)
Property Sub-type	Religious			
Property Past Use	Hindu temple			
Property Present Use	Hindu temple			
State of Protection	Unprotected			
Property sit. and surroundings	The temple is located in a posh residential neighbourhood of Kolkata. Situated amidst high- and low-rise residential buildings, the temple is located in a well-connected and busy neighbourhood.			Statement of Significance: A landmark architecture/temple of the city based on the stunningly beautiful intricate Rajasthani style of carving
Architectural Style	Hindu Temple Architecture (North Indian Style) Designed by Ar. Nemi Bose of Bose Brothers			
General Criteria for Listing	Architecture Socio-culture			
Historical	NA	Architectural	Very Good	Timeline to property Condition Description
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Very Good	
Socio-Cultural	Good	Fiscal Grade		
		Name of Servicer	Indran Sarkar, Prantik Pal	
		Bibliography	https://en.wikipedia.org	

Additional Photographs: -



Front view with ornamental Gate



Side view- Siva Sanyas- the auditorium at basement



ornamental carvings on marble

Sr. No. 38	MAHABODHI SOCIETY				
					
Part Name:	Mahabodhi Society		History and Evolution The Mahabodhi Society of India is a charitable, non-profit Buddhist association dedicated to the propagation of Buddhism. Founded by Bodhinivasa Anagarika Dharmapala from Sri Lanka , the Society has its headquarters in Kolkata and various centres across India. The Mahabodhi Society of India is also actively involved in charitable and social welfare activities. In 1928, Lawrence Biedler, Lord Rensselaire, Governor of Bengal , presented the building to Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee , the then President of the Mahabodhi Society and Vice Chancellor of Calcutta University. These relics were enshrined in the newly established Dharmapala Chaitiya Vihara at College Square.		
Address:	4A, Bardonia Chatterjee St, College Square, Kolkata - 700073				
Geographic Coordinates:	22.574700 N, 88.365122 E				
Date/Period of Construction:	1928				
Ownership:	Trust Property				
Owner's Name:	Mahabodhi Society				
Property Type:	Building		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20th century-built heritage) The building is a three-story imposing structure, maintaining chivalry on the front facade, which is highlighted by a semi-circular arch at the entrance, reminiscent of the Gupta style. Ornamental columns on either side, topped with lotus capitals, gracefully flanking the arched entry. The ground floor serves as a lecture hall, adorned with decorative columns and fresco paintings on the ceiling. The temple, located on the first floor, houses a statue of Lord Buddha. The intricate carvings of the temple reflect Buddhist traditions, with fresco paintings on the walls and ceiling.		
Property Sub-type:	Temple cum prayer hall				
Property Past Use:	Religious				
Property Present Use:	Partly religious, partly commercial				
State of Preservation:	Protected				
Property site and surroundings:	Located at the rear side of College Square, Sanskrit College, Hare School, Hindu School, Presidency College, Calcutta University, Bopara are in the near vicinity.				
Architectural Style:	Revivalist - influence of Buddhist Architecture		State of Conservation	Good	
General Criteria for Listing:	➤ Socio-cultural ➤ Multi-ethnicity ➤ Architecture		Threats to property	No threats identified	
Statement of Significance: The headquarters of the Mahabodhi Society, a charitable and spiritual Buddhist organisation, is located in India. The temple houses relics of Buddha discovered in Bangladesh in 1902. It is also historically significant for its connection with many prominent figures of the 20th century.			Condition Description	A newer three-story adjacent block was later constructed, harmonizing with the original building.	
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Services Indian Sarkar, Prayagpuram Dm Bibliography: https://www.buddhism.org/ https://mahabodhi.org/india/india-society.html	
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Socio-Cultural	High	First Grade	I		

Additional Photographs:-



Mahabodhi Society- Headquarters



New Adjacent Block



The shrine at first floor



Prize painting at side walls



Prize paintings on vaulted ceiling



Lecture Hall at ground floor

Sr. No. 26	NAKHODA MASJID			
				
Full Name	Nakhoda Masjid		History and Evolution	Known as 'Bait Masjid,' this mosque was built by the Kutchi Meman , a small Muslim and entrepreneur for their business venture and trading with Southeast Asia from the early 18th century. They settled in Calcutta in 1841, naming the settlement ' Nakhoda' or saifpur . During their prosperous days, they constructed mosques, madrasas, schools, libraries, and cemeteries. Their notable achievement was building the ' Nakhoda Masjid ' at a cost of 18,000 rupees. Construction began in 1926 and concluded in 1934. Mall Near Muhammad Zakaria , a wealthy businessman, was the first 'owner' of the mosque, and the street in front was named Zakaria Street in his honour.
Address	92, Balauda Road (T, Zakaria St) Kolkata-700075			
Geographic Coordinates	22.377600 E, 88.338011 N			
Date/Period of Construction	1926-1934			
Ownership	Wakf Property			
Owner's Name	Cutchi Meman Muhammadiyah Community			
Property Type	Building		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	This sacred structure bears a resemblance to Allah's Tomb at Mecca, near Mecca. Its expansive prayer hall accommodates up to 10,000 worshippers. Adorned with three grand domes and two towering minarets each standing at 133 feet, the mosque also features 25 smaller minarets topped with cupolas, ranging in height from 100 to 133 feet. The minaret is flanked by two impressive niched pavilions made of red sandstone, reminiscent of the famous Bahadur Dargah of Fatehpur-Sikri. Constructed with white marble and red sandstone, this four-story mosque stands as a splendid example of Indo-Islamic architecture in Kolkata.
Property Sub-type	Religious			
Property Past Use	Mosque			
Property Present Use	Mosque			
State of Protection	Protected			
Property site and surroundings	Located in high density commercial area in Chitpore Road. It is a landmark religious project			
Architectural Style	Indo- Saracenic		State of Conservation	Very Good
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio- Cultural > Architectural		Threats to property	No threats identified so far
			Condition Description	Well-maintained
Statement of Significance: It is one of the largest and finest Mosques of Eastern India. A landmark architecture and considered as one of the most sacred places for worship for Islamic Community of Kolkata.				
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Server Indira Sarkar
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High	
Socio-Cultural	High	Visual Grade	I	
			Bibliography	https://www.google.com - By Anika Chandra

Additional Photographs: -



View from exterior



View from exterior



View from exterior



Prayer Hall - view 1

Sr. No. 10		PARSHVANATHA UPVAN TEMPLE, BELGACHIA		
				
Post Name	Parshvanatha Temple		History and Evolution Constructed in 1914 in the Nagara style, the Parshvanath Temple is one of Kolkata's most sacred Jain pilgrimage sites. Belonging to the Digambara sect, it is dedicated to Parshvanatha, the 23rd Tirthankara of Jainism. Each year in Kartik Purnima, the temple hosts the spectacular Rath-yatra of Baghmata Parshvanath, featuring a vibrant procession of various Nagar mandalities and parthiv.	
Address	Jinnat Krishna (Jinnat) Rd, Tolly, Subhagram, Belgachia, Kolkata, West Bengal 700017			
Geographic Coordinates	22°36'21.9"N 88°22'58.7"E			
Date/Period of Construction	1914			
Ownership	Trust Property			
Owner's Name	Parshvanath Jain Temple Trust			
Property Type	Group of Buildings		Architectural Merit (containing special features of 10% customary-built heritage) Located along Jinnat Road, the Jain temple features a grand gateway adorned with three intricately decorated chariots. Constructed in the 'Nagara' style, the temple is nestled within a lush garden. The magnificent Baghmata Parshvanath temple, situated in a beautiful garden at Belgachia in the heart of Kolkata, is over a century old. Inspired by Mr. Bhave, the renowned architect of Victoria Memorial, in 1914, this artistic temple boasts ornamental pillars and sculptures inspired by ancient Jain temples and caves. The serenity of the temple with its reflection in the adjacent tank and the recent addition of an 80 feet-high sparkling white marble Mahaviracharya statue a phidiasque apex within the city environment.	
Property Sub-type	Religious			
Property Past Use	Temple			
Property Present Use	Temple			
Status of Protection	Preserved			
Property site and surroundings	Parshvanath Temple in Belgachia is located along the Jinnat Road near the Belgachia station and the R.D. Kar Medical College.			
Architectural Style	Indian Temple Architecture (Jain Architectural Style/ 'Nagara' Style)		Status of Conservation Good	
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-cultural > Multi-ethnicity		Threats to property Incompatible additions and alterations	
			Condition Description The temple is in good condition with regular maintenance.	
Statement of Significance: The Parshvanath Temple at Belgachia is one of the most sacred Jain Temples in Kolkata. It stands testimony to the multi-cultural influence of the city and its multi-ethnic narrative.				
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor Bijaya Kumar
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Low	
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I	
Bibliography				https://www.jainmurti.org/

Additional Photographs: -



Ornately decorated Main Gate



Boundary Wall



View of the Temple Complex showing the Temple, Mahastambh and water tank along with the landscaped garden

Sr. No. 11	ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS					
						
Parent name	The Indian Academy of Fine Arts		History and evolution	Established on August 13, 1933, under Lady Bano Mookherjee's patronage at the Indian Museum, the academy relocated in the 1950s to meet the growing need for a permanent contemporary art gallery in Kolkata. Spearheaded by Dr. Bidhan Chandra Ray, the then Chief Minister of West Bengal, and Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, with support from Lady Bano and family from Kir Biren Mookherjee, the academy moved to its current location. It opened with an exhibition of 50 paintings by Nandalal Bose on September 11, 1968. Today, it boasts a period collection of sculptures, textiles, engravings, and paintings from the Bengal School of Arts, mostly donated.		
Address	2, Cathedral Road, Midnapore, Kolkata, West Bengal 700071					
Geographic coordinates	22.542958°N 88.141462°E					
Date/period of construction	1933-1968					
Ownership	Private (Trust)					
Owner's name	Academy of Fine Arts					
Property type	Building		Architectural merit (incorporating special features of 20 th century built heritage)	The Academy includes a museum, art gallery, an auditorium, a conference centre, and a sculpture garden. It is a three-storied rectangular building with a double-storied central porch. The facade features three bays with rows of rectangular windows and a continuous chajja above. The porch's front facade has a large semi-circular arch on the ground floor, flanked by smaller arches with hill work on either side, and a large mural titled "The Tree of Learning" by sculptor Harilal Pal, with a quote from the <i>Vedius Puran</i>, on the first floor. Each floor is separated by a wide chajja, and the academy's name is displayed on the porch's front facade in Art Deco style.		
Property Sub-type	Institutional					
Property Use	Cultural/Institutional					
Property Period use	Cultural/Institutional					
State of protection	Unprotected					
Property site and surroundings	The academy is located on Cathedral Road opposite to Victoria Memorial with St. Paul's Cathedral to the left and Rabindra Sadan and Nandapada to the right.					
Architectural style	"Revivalist" with influence from Art Deco and regional architectural style of Bengal		State of conservation	Poor		
General criteria for listing	➤ Socio-cultural ➤ Architecture					
Statement of significance: The Academy holds significance as Kolkata's first art gallery, renowned for its association with notable institutions and its impressive art collection. It attracts people by eminent artists such as Rabindranath Tagore , Akshaydinanath Tagore , Gaganendranath Tagore , Sunayani Devi , Abanindranath , Nandalal Bose , Janaki Roy , Rambhadr Barui , and Ramesh Chandra Mukherjee .			Condition description	The maintenance of the building requires urgent attention.		
Historical	High	Architectural				High
Associational	High	Technological/scientific				Medium
Socio-cultural	High	Final grade	Name of surveyor	Dr. Deval College of Architecture - Debnagari Paul, Rishi Pal, Sonandi Baran, Jyoti, Majumdar, Anshika Datta Barui, Anshika Roy, Bhaskar Paul		
			Bibliography	https://www.academyoffinearts.in/index.php		

Additional photographs: -



Exhibition Gallery at Ground floor



Side Entrance - octagonal pillars with Indian motif



Entrance Porch



Sculptured Garden



The terracotta 'Mural' - installed in 1983-88, designed by the eminent Sculptor Sri Juddi Pal, based on the theme on 'A tree of learning' flanked by a painter and a sculptor on either side of the tree with a quotation underneath from the 'Vishnu Purana'

Sr.No. 12		RABINDRA SADAN	
			
Part Name	Rabindra Sadan	History and Evolution	The foundation stone of Rabindra Sadan was laid by India's then-Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, on August 5, 1961, to mark the birth centenary of Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore. The venue was opened to the public in October 1967 and has since become a symbol of Bengal's vibrant culture, performing arts, and rich traditions. Every year the State Government of West Bengal organises a 15-day cultural program at Rabindra Sadan to celebrate Tagore's birthday.
Address	T1, Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, Kolkata, West Bengal 700071 22.541970 N, 88.344711 E		
Geographic Coordinates			
Period of Construction	1961, 1967		
Ownership	Public		
Owner's Name	Government of West Bengal	Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	This rectangular, double-storied landmark building stands on a high plinth with a long flight of steps leading to a veranda with an impressive cantilevered canopy. The front facade is divided into seven bays, with the central five bays featuring double-height circular pilasters devoid of ornamentation. The two side bays are aligned with red honeycomb RCC job work and two large lamp sculptures. Unique full-height abstract murals on either side added an additional beauty to the building. The building stands out in this area with vibrant colours, artistic other buildings in the vicinity. The auditorium inside has a seating capacity of 1200.
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Recreational		
Property Past Use	Auditorium		
Property Present Use	Auditorium		
State of Protection	Unprotected	State of Conservation	Good
Property site and surroundings	Rabindra Sadan is located on a corner plot at the junction of Cathedral Road and A.C. Bose Road. Nearby landmarks are Victoria Memorial, Raja Purnachandra Academy of Fine Arts, Nandan, Yashita Academy, Sree Mancha, Kolkata Information Centre and Calcutta Club.		
Architectural Style	Modern Designed by: An Shyamsul Dey Sarkar		
General Criteria for Listing	- Socio-Cultural - Architectural		
Statement of Significance:	It is located in the city's major theatrical and cultural hub, drawing visitors from all over the world. It is associated with notable artists of international reputation who performed here (Sr. Pt. Ravishankar, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, Pt. Amjad Ali Khan, Ananta Shankar, Mamata Shankar, Taluk tarangya from Suvito Ramia and many more). It is also significant as the venue for the Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) and other film festivals.		
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	
		Name of Surveyor	Om Dayal College of Architecture - Rishi Pal, Debarajit Paul, Monroyee Paul, Swadha Datta Baski, Anandi Banerjee, Moumita Ray
		Bibliography	http://www.mapsofindia.com/kolkata/photos-of-interest/Various-architecture-in-kolkata.html

Additional Photographs: -



Rear Entry for Artists and VIP's



The Lamp & the Jali



Main Entry



Statue Of Rabindranath Tagore



The Mural - a modern art



Past Name	Nandan			History and Evolution	The foundation stone of Nandan was laid by former Chief Minister Jyoti Basu in 1980. Former Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharya took a keen interest in developing Nandan into a venue of international standard for hosting film festivals. The first Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) was held here, and thereafter it continues to be an annual event, which are attended by many national and international film celebrities. It also hosts numerous conferences across various fields.
Address	U.I. Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road, Midnapore, Kolkata, West Bengal 700020				
Geographic Coordinates	22.666177° N, 88.391889° E			Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20th century-built heritage)	Designed by architect Ananta Sengupta , 'Nandan' stands out as Kolkata's integrated government-backed multiplex. Not against a large waterbody, the auditorium is elevated on stilts, harmonizing with the landscape. Nandan houses three auditoriums: one for film screenings and two other smaller venues for conferences. The entrance logo, created by renowned filmmaker and calligrapher Satyajit Ray , adds a distinctive touch. The site also showcases two unique sculptures—one depicting Gauding from scrap metals and another by Ramkinkar Baij . Nandan's standard features its photo concept, making it a focal point amid a vibrant cultural complex.
Date of Construction	1980 - 1985				
Ownership	Public				
Owner's Name	Min Information & Culture, State Government of West Bengal				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Recreational				
Property Past Use	Cinema hall/ Auditorium				
Property Present Use	Cinema hall/ Auditorium			State of Conservation	Very Good
State of Protection	Unprotected				
Property site and surroundings	The property is located on A.C. Bose Road, beside Balindia Sadan and the State Match, opposite to it are SSKM Hospital and Calcutta Club. It is connected with Academy of Fine Arts, Balindia Sadan, to make it an integrated cultural centre.			Threats to property	No threats identified.
Architectural Style	Modern				
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-cultural > Architecture			Conservation Description	An overall restoration work was carried out in 2011.
Statement of Significance: It is the primary venue for the Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) . This property has long been a central part of the city's cultural hub and remains a popular gathering place for both the young and old. It is a Landmark building as well.					
Historical Association	High	Architectural Technological Scientific	High	Names of Surveyor	Om Deyal College of Architecture - Bishu Pal, Debajyoti Paul, Mohanraj Patra, Sanjibha Chandra Bandy, Soumik Bhattacharya, Moumita Roy
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade			
				Bibliography	https://www.kolkatafilm.com/en/about https://www.festivalindia.org/india.com/city/kolkata

Additional Photographs: -



Main entrance with sculpture made of scrap metals on film making



Auditorium is placed on stilts over a waterbody



Nandan complex- a cultural hub- a popular hangout zone for citizens.



A sculpture by Ramkinkar Baiji in the complex



An idol of Devi Durga at the foyer

Sr. No. 54	RANGHEET KALA MANDIR			
				
Post Name	Birla Kala Mandir		History and Evolution	The concept of establishing a cultural hub for Kolkata's socially conscious intellectuals was conceived by the prominent Indian industrialist, Sir, Ramesh Kumar Birla, along with his associate Mr. G.D. Bhowm and his R.D. Bhattacharya. The idea for an institution, named Kala Mandir, was first proposed in 1945 during the inaugural event of 'Rangheet Kala Mandir'. However, the realisation of their own institution took some time, and it was eventually opened to the public in 1968.
Address	48, Mukhopadhyay Sarani (Theatre Road), Kolkata, West Bengal 700017			
Geographic Coordinates	22.540389° N, 88.341624° E			
Date/Period of Construction	1968			
Ownership	Private Trust			
Owner's Name	Rangheet Kala Mandir Trust			
Project Type	Building		Architectural Merit (emphasizing special features of 20 th century built heritage)	Designed by M's Chatterjee, Puri & Associates, the building showcases a modernist aesthetic with clean, unadorned surfaces. Notable features include cascading terraces on the first three levels, supported by mushroom-shaped columns creating pointed vaults, and geometric columns adorning the terraces. The upper floors display clean geometric lines and a striking, square stained-glass artwork in modern Indian style. The ground floor incorporates office spaces and a small convention hall, while the second floor hosts the main theatre hall named 'Kala Kavya'. A sculpture of 'Luty with the Lamp' at the entrance adds to the architectural charm and enhances the overall ambience.
Property Sub-type	Residential			
Property Use	Auditorium			
Property Present Use	Auditorium			
Property Present Use	Auditorium			
State of Preservation	Unpreserved			
Project site and surroundings	It is located on a major road of the city i.e. Mukhopadhyay Sarani (Theatre Road).			
Architectural Style	Modern		State of Conservation	Very Good
General Criteria for Listing	- Architectural - Socio-cultural		Threats to property	No apparent threats
Statement of Significance: Rangheet Kala Mandir, founded by Ramesh Kumar Birla of the Birla Group and several industrialists, is a prominent cultural institution dedicated to preserving ethnic arts and music that reflect our cultural heritage. It hosts cultural programs featuring renowned theatrical groups, dance troupes, and artists from across India, making it a favored destination for citizens. This institution stands as a distinguished example of 20th-century architectural heritage in the post-independence era.			Criteria Disposition	Structure is in a fairly good condition and the entire environment is well maintained, in spite of its location on a busy commercial zone.
Historical	Medium	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor Om Prasad College of Architecture Baran Ghosh, Baran Ghosh Bibliography www.rangheetkalamandir.org
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High	
Socio-Cultural	High	First Grade	IA	

Additional Photographs: -



The entrance



an artistic sculpture of a lady in foreground



Interior of the auditorium

Sr.No. 11		AKASHANI BHAVAN			
					
Full Name	All India Radio		History and Evolution All India Radio (AIR) at Akashvani, is India's state-owned public radio broadcaster, founded in 1936 with the term 'Akashvani' coined by Rabindranath Tagore in 1936. Owned by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, AIR is among the world's largest broadcasters, serving a diverse audience in many languages. From its inception at independence in 1947, it now has 479 stations. All India Radio started broadcasting from 1, Garden Place, Kolkata, and shifted to its present location in 1958. The word 'Akashani' radio show, 'Mahabharatam', broadcasted every year on 'Mahalaya' morning to mark the beginning of the auspicious Durga Puja in Bengal. It has had an uninterrupted run since its beginning in 1931. AIR, Kolkata made history on this program.		
Address	Rachmura Avenue, R.R.D. High, Kolkata, West Bengal 700011				
Geographic Coordinates	22°52'18.6 N, 88°15'11.4 N				
Date Period of Construction	1936				
Ownership	Public				
Owner's Name	Government of India, M/o Information & Culture		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20th century-built heritage) The building features a grand six-story central bay at the intersection of two wide streets, flanked by five-story bays on either side, forming a 'V' shape. The central bay has semi-circular corners topped with shallow domes and six square columns with ornamental capitals, dividing long balconies on each floor. The recessed end bays have five rectangular windows per floor, while the shorter bays flanking the central bay have three windows each. The ground floor and balconies are stone-clad, with a wide sloping sludge on the top floor. The largely plain structure incorporates minimal ornamentation from traditional Indian elements. It was built by the renowned firm Bullfinch, Thompson, and Warfield.		
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Information/ Civic Amenities				
Property Post Use	All India Radio, Regional HQ				
Property Present Use	All India Radio, Regional HQ				
State of Protection	Preserved (Grade-I) Heritage (as per CMC)		State of Conservation Good Threats to property No apparent threats. Condition Description The structure is in a fairly well-maintained condition. No apparent defects are visible in the building exterior. The interiors of the building were not accessible.		
Property site and surroundings	Akashani Bhavan is situated at the junction of Shyama Chandra Bose Rd and Rachmura Avenue, overlooking the Park Garden to its south east. The Big Bhavan is across the road to its north east, Villian falls to its north west and the Market to its South. Other nearby landmarks are Town Hall, Calcutta High Court, Nandji Indira stadium, etc.				
Architectural Style	Revivalist: Synthesis of traditional and Modern Temple architecture.				
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-Cultural > Architecture				
Statement of Significance	Akashani Bhavan is a landmark building and one of the oldest and centres of All India Radio. It was associated with many eminent artists of Bengal like, Kazi Nazim, Pandit Mukhi, B.C. Mond, Purnanandram Bhattacharya, etc.				
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor OneDoyal College of Architecture-Bidya Pal, Swastika Dasgupta, Sonali Banerjee, Anurupa Bhunia Bibliography https://kolkata.gov.in/akashani-bhavan https://addtoart.com/building-of-akashani-bhavan-kolkata-162/	
Aesthetical	High	Technological/Scientific	Low		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I		

Sr. No.		NIRMAL HRIDAY: MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY			
					
Full Name	An abandoned Hindu temple				
Address	271, Kalghat Road, Kolkata-700026				
Geographic Coordinates	22.5287118, 88.346424 N				
Date: Period of Construction	1952				
Ownership	Trust property				
Owner's Name	Missionaries of Charity				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Welfare activity				
Property Use	Dharmashala				
Property Present Use	Home for sick and dying destitute				
State of Protection	Unprotected				
Property site and surroundings	Located in a congested area of Kalghat behind Kali Temple of Kalghat and Ash Camps.				
Architectural Style	Rajasthani architecture		State of Conservation	Good	
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-cultural-Philanthropy		Threats to property	Being located in a prime area of South Kolkata, pressure of the commercial development in the surrounding area is rampant. The temple is converted with the Mother's kitchen.	
Statement of Significance: "In 1952, with the assistance of Indian officials, St. Mother Teresa transformed an old, abandoned Hindu Dharmashala into the first hospice for the sick, elderly, and destitute, naming it 'Nirmal Hriday' (Immaculate Heart). Under her leadership, the Missionaries of Charity provided shelter, food, medical care, and a dignified end-of-life experience for the helpless poor."				Condition Description	Good.
Historical	High	Architectural	High		
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Indrani Sarkar
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade		Bibliography	Missionaries of Charity, Kolkata, wikipedia

Additional Photographs: -



*Exterior View- originally single storied, another floor added at a later date
PC, www.missionariesofcharity.org*



*Interior view of first floor hall
PC, [missionaries of charity.org](http://www.missionariesofcharity.org)*



Architectural features- domes



new extensions at first floor



Full Name	Bharat Sevashram Sangha			History and Evolution	The Bharat Sevashram Sangha, founded by Swami Pranabramodaji Maharaj in 1917 in Bhayaliali, is a Hindu charitable organisation headquartered in Kolkata since the 1930s. It focuses on social welfare, disaster relief, healthcare, education, tribal welfare, vocational training, and spiritual outreach. The Sangha's first relief effort was in 1942 during the Bengal Famine. Over the past century, it has responded to numerous calamities, including floods, cyclones, earthquakes, and the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. With 46 branches and 389 sub-centre institutions, it operates hospitals and dispensaries in remote areas and recently opened a multi-specialty hospital in India for the underserved/underserved.
Address	211, Basubhadrar Avenue, Ballygunge, Kolkata 700019				
Geographic Coordinates	22.52229° N, 88.37083° E				
Date/Period of Construction	Old building: end 20 th century New extension: 2008				
Ownership	Non-Profit Organisation/ Trust Property				
Owner's Name	Bharat Sevashram Sangha				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Institutional			Architectural Merit (encompassing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	Originally a two-story building with simple wooden louvered windows and red cement floors, the Ashram underwent significant expansion in the late 20th century. A new multi-story wing has come up with an extremely high specification and luxurious details. The architecture showcases traditional Hindu design elements with ornate decorations and floral motifs throughout the complex. While the temple remains in the old complex, the entire new structure has been extensively renovated in pure brass with parking facilities inside the campus on site, and a lift has also been provided in an additional facility.
Property Past Use	Spiritual and Welfare organisation				
Property Present Use	Spiritual and Welfare organisation				
Status of Protection	Endangered				
Property site and surroundings	Located in Ballygunge area on Basubhadrar Avenue, next to Pigeon Seta. Nearest Landmark: Ballygunge Railway Station.				
Architectural Style	Hindu Architecture			Status of Conservation	Good
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-cultural-Philosophy			Threats to property	No threats identified
Statement of Significance: It is an organisation dedicated for social-welfare services post-India having Headquarters at Kolkata. United Nations has awarded the Sangha with ECDFOC Status, since 2008.				Condition Description	Totally associated with high specifications and a new extended multi-storied block has come up with modern facilities like air parking, lift etc.
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Indira Sarkar
Architectural	High	Technological/Scientific	Low		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade			
				Bibliography:	https://www.bharatsevasangha.org/

Additional Photographs: -



Old samples



Office and Mandir complex



Entry to Ashram area (renovated)



Guest House complex (new extension)



Conference Hall for spiritual conglomeration



A 'Teran' - New Gateway

Sr. No. 38	NEW EMPIRE CINEMA				
					
Post Name	Harnayan Theatre		History and evolution	Major General Shanker Jung Bahadur Rana, then Nepal's Home Minister, acquired 41 properties across the city, including the now-closed New Empire, previously known as Harnayan Theatre . Originally it was not a movie hall; it used to host dance, ballet, magic shows, etc. Yagori's <i>Swati Pagi</i> was directed by Yagori himself here. Sushila Misra's <i>Bahupur</i> group launched many successful productions here. It attracted celebrity performers like Yashvi Mishra , Zubin Mishra , Uday Shankar , Anula Shankar , Ana Parvati , and Majumdar P.C. Sarker (Sh). When the cinema gained popularity, the venue institutionalised to show mostly English movies, from 1970 to 1990 operated by the Rana's business Warner Brothers . Now it has lost its glory yet survived as a cinema hall but the ground floor was started out for retail outlet as current plan.	
Address	1&2, Harnayan Place, New Market Area, Kathmandu - 30000				
Geographic Coordinates	22.346653 N, 85.321471 E				
Date/Period of Construction	1972 The chief designed architect of this theatre was A. de Soto-Basadreia				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Original owner - Shankar Jung Bahadur Rana of Harnayan Proprietor Ltd. Present owner- Adin Mishra of Harnayan Proprietor Ltd.				
Property Type	Building		Architectural Merit (possessing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The building is three-storey high and rectangular in shape. Its ground floor facade is divided into five bays by rectangular pilasters, each framing a semi-circular arched doorway. On the first floor, the central three bays project outwards supported by decorative brackets, with each bay adorned with two columns. A broad awning extends from the first floor. Access to the cinema hall's lobby on the first floor is provided directly via a staircase. The second floor, which links connects to the Lighthouse with a gangway.	
Property Sub-type	Commercial (Retail shops and Cinema Hall)				
Property Post Use	Theatre and Cinema Hall				
Property Present Use	Retail shops (Ground floor) and Cinema Hall, Lighthouse Cinema - shopping mall				
State of Protection	Protected				
Property site and surroundings	Located at "Harnayan Place", adjacent to Lighthouse cinema hall and New Market, New Empire and Light house both owned by Harnayan Proprietor.		State of Conservation	Good	
Architectural Style	Mixed (Neo-classical and Art Deco)				
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-cultural ➤ Architecture ➤ Multi-ethnicity		Threats to property	Change in use pattern observed. There is the downward in demand of single screen cinema, commercial local joint retail shops are allowed for survival.	
Statement of Significance: One of the oldest theatre and cinema hall that has managed to survive. Landmark building in Central Kathmandu associated with movie businesses. It has a long legacy of high-profile events, like <i>Lord & Lady Mountbatten</i> , <i>J.L. Nehru</i> , etc.			Condition Description	Poor. Large scale addition and alterations at ground floor. Continuous repairs, regularity growth. However, the 1,000-seater auditorium is more or less well-maintained.	
Historical	High	Architectural	Mid/Low	Name of Surveyor	Indira Joshi, Prabhu Pal
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Low		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I		
			Bibliography	http://www.sitographic.com <i>Imagery in and Beyond the City</i> by Devika Chatterjee <i>European Colonialism</i> by Dr. Shrikant Banerjee	

Sr.No. 19	ROXY CINEMA				
					
Part Name	Empire Theatre (Roxy Cinema)		History and Evolution	'The Empire Theatre', also known now as the Roxy, was originally constructed by Abramson Stephen, an American real estate tycoon, in collaboration with Maurice Handman, an American entrepreneur. Initially designed as an open house, it later transitional into a cinema hall. Over the years, it hosted significant events, including Rabindranath Tagore's staging of 'Shayamshaa' and Madhu Bose's premiere show of 'Alibaba'. Other notable acts like Udayashankar, Sudhansu Bose, (later queen Anna Pavlova etc., performed on a regular basis here. In 1940, Kapurthala Ltd. of Bombay bought this and converted it to cinema hall retaining as 'Roxy'. It famously screened 'Kismet' for a record 136 weeks, sharing notable figures like Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. However, in 2011, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation asked the theatre due to non-payment of renewal fees of the lease agreement by the owners. The original design was a unique one with a circular entrance lobby having a newly decorated chandelier, a symbolic statement for this historic building. However, with the passing of time it has undergone various changes. The physical architectural look has been totally wiped out to provide the then modern look of Art Deco style.	
Address	4, Chowringhee Pl, New Market Area, Kolkata - 700009				
Geographic Coordinates	22.542405° N, 88.331803° E				
Date/Period of Construction	1908 (original) 1940				
Ownership	Past - Private Present - Public				
Owner's Name	Original Owner-Abramson Stephen (American) Present Owner Kolkata Municipal Corporation				
Property Type	Building		Architectural Merit (incorporating special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	Preserved Located in the historic commercial zone of the city, Grand Hotel, KMC Office and New Market are in the near vicinity. Originally, Neo-Baroque Modified at a later date to Art Deco style Change in use, developmental pressure, lack of effective regulation, lack of scientific intervention in conservation. All ornamental features removed. Structural glazing added on the corner and colonnaded observation points on the sides, changing the entire character of this iconic neo-baroque and later Art Deco architecture. It has lost its old charm in the process of renovation and alterations.	
Property Sub-type	Commercial				
Property Past Use	Theatre Hall, later converted to Cinema Hall				
Property Present Use	Government Office				
State of Protection	Preserved				
Property site and surroundings	Located in the historic commercial zone of the city, Grand Hotel, KMC Office and New Market are in the near vicinity.				
Architectural Style	Originally, Neo-Baroque Modified at a later date to Art Deco style		State of Conservation	Poor	
General Criteria for Listing	> Architectural > Semi-cultural: Set design: Cinema > Multi-ethnicity		Threats to property	Change in use, developmental pressure, lack of effective regulation, lack of scientific intervention in conservation.	
Statement of Significance: one of the oldest single screen cinema halls of Kolkata. Many historical performances took place in this hall by many celebrities of 20 th century.			Condition Description	All ornamental features removed. Structural glazing added on the corner and colonnaded observation points on the sides, changing the entire character of this iconic neo-baroque and later Art Deco architecture. It has lost its old charm in the process of renovation and alterations.	
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Indranil Sarkar
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Semi-Cultural	High	First Grade	BA		
			Bibliography	https://www.teluguphotovideo.com/1-raj-rajesh-bose-1-by-thankstodhar https://www.ameerindia.com	

Additional Photographs:



The original design in 1906
PC: [puregoldfilms.com](http://www.puregoldfilms.com)



Name changed as also the Architectural design in 1940
PC: [Puregold Films](http://www.puregoldfilms.com)



Main staircase



Stair to upper floor
PC: [Danghamsite.com](http://www.danghamsite.com)



Circular Corridor

Sic. No. 40	METRO INOX			
				
Full Name	Metro Cinema		History and Evidence	'Metro cinema' is one of the most iconic structures, located in the heart of the city. Commenced in 1932 by 'Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer', a renowned US film production company. This was a symbol of 'Art Deco' architecture in Kolkata and 'Metro style/pattern' became very popular in 20th century building industry throughout Kolkata. Over the years, it evolved into a cultural gathering place, cherished by moviegoers and socialites alike. However, the rise of multiplexes led to its decline, and was shut down in 2011. In 2012, the KMC heritage conservation initiated it as a 'Monument Zone'. The single-screen cinema, with a capacity of seating 500-600, was razed, only to re-open in 2022 as a retail hub with multiplexes, marking a new chapter in its storied history.
Address	1, Jambhulal Nehru Road (Formerly Road) Eophaside, Kolkata- 700113			
Geographic Coordinates	22.56425 N, 88.35946 E			
Date/Period of Construction	Originally opened in 1935 (about in 2011) Re-opened in 2022			
Ownership	Private			
Owner's Name	Building			
Property Type	Cinema Hall		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century built heritage)	
Property Sub-type	Commercial Waterfront			
Property Past Use	Cinema Hall			
Property Present Use	Cinema Hall cum Retail Store			
State of Preservation	Preserved (Grade I Heritage as per KMC)			
Property site and surroundings	Located on Jambhulal Nehru Road adjacent to Victoria Memorial Building in high density commercial area of Eophaside			
Architectural Style	Art Deco Designed by - AA, Thomas W. Lamb is the most iconic landmark building of 'Art Deco' style in Kolkata. 'Metro patterned houses' were the hallmark of modernity of 20 th century.		State of Conservation	Keeping the external architectural profile as it was, the entire building is redesigned and reconstructed to meet the demand of the day. To make it economically viable, new use value introduced, with 50,000 sq. ft. of air-stancy building with a mix use of retail and entertainment options designed by Architect, Jules Saxe & Associates. Two new small INOX Cinema Hall with a capacity of 200 (approx) are introduced as Art-I & Art-II.
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architecture ➤ Socio-cultural Value/Theme, Cinema ➤ Multi-ethnicity			
			Condition Description	
			It is not exactly a case of Heritage Conservation, but may be called as a 'Revitalisation' by introducing a new use for sustainability of a Heritage property. Though it is a new construction, which are not be strictly as per the conservation principles, yet this heritage products preserved its grand looking portion, Metro Pattern facade, and maintained its original use value as a Cinema Hall.	
Statement of Significance: An iconic Cinema Hall of Central Kolkata, once owned by Metro Goldwyn Mayers with Art-deco style and famous for its transacting architectural style as 'Metro pattern'.				
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor
Aesthetical	High	Technological / Scientific	Medium	
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I	Bibliography
				Jules Saxe, Pratyajna Das, Sudipto Pal, Sabya Basu & Associates
				https://www.infographys.com/ , Sabya Basu & Associates

Additional Photographs: -



Archival Photo-a) Métro Cinema in its hey-day



Métro Cinema after renovation in 2022



Entrance Foyer- after revitalization



View from first floor



Aud-1



Aud-2

Sr. No. 41		MINERVA THEATRE			
					
Full Name	Great National Theatre/ National Theatre		History and Evolution	Originally inaugurated in 1897 as the 'Great National Theatre' by Nagendra Bhattacharya, it was later renamed 'National Theatre' under the management of Girish Ghosh. In 1922, a fire broke out during Girish Ghosh's production of 'Macbeth', leading to its reconstruction and reopening in 1925 as the 'Minerva Theatre'. During the 1970s, Utpal Dutta's PFI group became regular performers, with Tapas Sen introducing innovative mood lighting for Dutta's dramas. Following another fire incident after 2000, the State Government assumed its control in 2004, leading to its reopening in 2008.	
Address	Utpal Dutta Square, 6, Ashokrao Wadia Road, Baital Bagan, Kolkata 700006				
Geographic Coordinates	22.5007865 N, 88.362933 E				
Date/ Period of Construction	originally constructed in 1893, gutted down in 1922, then rebuilt in 1925. Second time it was caught fire in 2000 and then restored in 2008				
Ownership	Public				
Owner's Name	M3 Culture, Govt of West Bengal				
Property Type	Building		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 18 th century hall/heritage)	The building is three stories tall, characterized by an entrance porch, bay windows, pointed arches, and ornamental column capitals at the entry. Initially, the interior of the hall featured ornate decorative elements, including a semi-circular layout with two-tiered balconies. It was gutted in 2000 in a fire hazard and then restored by Ar. Dulal Mukherjee as appointed by the State Government. Restored to its prime glory it has now fire added facilities, libo, book store, souvenir shop, cafeteria, etc.	
Property Sub-type	Commercial				
Property Sub-type	Theatre Hall				
Property Sub-type	Theatre Hall				
Property Present Use	Theatre Hall				
State of Preservation	Preserved (Grade I, Heritage as per KMC)				
Proprietor and surroundings	It is located at a corner plot at a junction of Utpal Dutta Square and Baital Bagan		State of Conservation	Fair	
Architectural Style	'Revivalist' with Indo-Saracenic influence. Restored by Dulal Mukherjee and Associates in 2008.				
General Criteria for Listing	> Socio-Cultural > Architectural		Threats to property Condition Description	As the demand of theatres are declining, survival is at stake. Lack of maintenance. In 2000, the theatre fraternity came forward to propose the restoration of the Minerva theatre. Architect Dulal Mukherjee was appointed for the purpose. In 2008, Minerva received a much-needed facelift with installation of modern equipment for both services and theatre purposes.	
Statement of Significance: One of the very old theatre halls of Kolkata, still survives. It was a centre of Bengali architectural, a key platform where patriotic plays were staged during the freedom movement. It has an associated value of many stars like, Girish Ghosh, Anandendranath Dutta, Akindra Choudhury, Lakshmaya Triak, Utpal Dutta, Tapas Sen, Sanjay Ray, etc. Mahabubnagar train was celebrated here by Girish Ghosh after defeating English football team. Akindra Choudhury was also celebrated here.					
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Indrani Sarkar, ICOMOS Member
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Socio-Cultural	High	First Grade	I	Bibliography	Primary Source: Dulal Mukherjee & Associates, National Bangla Naya Akademi, Kolkata General and Data from a book published by National Book Trust, New Delhi by Tapas Sen

Additional Photographs: -



Minerva Theatre before fire hazards of 2003, exterior view



Interior view



Minerva Theatre before restoration



Minerva Theatre after restoration



Interior view of the hall before restoration



Interior view of the hall after restoration

PC: Djal Mahiryan & Associates

Sr.No. 42		SEA IF TESIFLE	
			
Part Name	NA		
Address	220 Chatterjee Gully, Tattva Bazar, West Bengal 700002		
Geographic Coordinates	22.371260° N, 88.331443° E		
Date/Period of Construction	1903		
Ownership	Private Trust		
Owner's Name	Unknown		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Religious and Recreational		
Property Past Use	Temple and Social Institution		
Property Present Use	Temple and Social Institution		
Status of Preservation	Preserved: Grade II (Building as per KMC)		
Property site and surroundings	The property is located on the junction of Chatterjee Gully to its North and Khosla Vidya Bhawan Avenue to its East. To its West and South, the building is enveloped by the Kolkata Improvement Trust. It is surrounded by dense commercial establishments on either sides, mostly high rise in nature.		
Architectural Style	Chinese Temple architecture		Status of Conservation
General Criteria for Listing	- Architecture - Multi-ethnicity		Threats to property
Statement of Significance: Sun Jy Temple is a testimony to the pluralistic and multicultural society that the city had even the 19 th /20 th centuries in Kolkata. The presence of the Chinese community further emphasises the importance of Calcutta as a cosmopolitan and administrative centre. The architecture is particularly significant as it displays characteristics of temple architecture more in the Chinese manner.			Condition Description
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	Medium	Technological/Scientific	Low
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I
Name of Surveyor	Sohini Pysa		
Bibliography	https://www.academia.edu/70790176/Chinese_in_South_Asia		

Additional Photographs: -



*Entrance door of the Sea Ig Temple (R) View of the curved roof of the Sea Ig Temple
(Source: Author)*



Interior view of the shrine of the Sea Ig Temple (source: Author)

Sr. No. 4)		MANECKJEE CUSTOMER DHARANSHALA FOR PARSIS TRAVELERS	
			
Full Name	Manekjee Dharanshala for Parsi Travelers		
Address	9, Bose Street, Kolkata, West Bengal 700012		
Geographic Coordinates	22.570441 N, 88.351845 E		
Date/Period of Construction	1900 - 1930		
Ownership	Private Trust		
Owner's Name	Calcutta Parsi Community's Religious and Charity Trust.		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Social Welfare Infrastructure		
Property Past Use	Dharanshala		
Property Present Use	Dharanshala		
Status of Protection	Cepstral		
Property site and surroundings	The site is situated along Bose Street, road perpendicular to Bose Bazar. The site comprises of 2 rectangular buildings placed perpendicularly forming 2 sides of a quadrangle.		
Architectural Style	Old style - New church - Art Deco		
General Criteria for Listing	- Multi-ethnic character - Recent cultural		
Statement of Significance: The Parsi Dharanshala is a testimony to the pluralistic and multicultural society that developed between the 19 th -20 th centuries in Kolkata. The presence of the Parsi community further emphasizes the importance of Calcutta as a commercial and administrative center.			
Historical	Medium	Architectural	Medium
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Low
Socio-cultural	High	Final Grade	B+
History and Evolution	Parsi migration to Calcutta began in the late 18 th century. The community prospered in trade, especially in the shipping industry and settled in the areas of Kalcuta, Parvock Bazar, Bhattacharya and New Bazar. The Parsis made significant philanthropic contributions to the city between the 18 th and 20 th centuries. The Dharanshala was built in 1906 in memory of Manekjee Dharanshala by the community to serve as a place to stay for Parsis visiting Calcutta. The older structure was partially demolished and a new structure was built in 1956 by a Parsi Architect Anilshree Dhanoo Vaidya. It is unknown who Manekjee Dharanshala was.		
Architectural Merit (possessing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The Dharanshala consists of 2 structures. The older structure abutting the street, leading to a rectangular courtyard, and a newer structure, perpendicular to it, forming an L-shape. The older structure is rectangular in plan, 2 stories high. The front facade is divided in 7 bays. Each bay has a rectangular opening on the ground floor and a semi-circular arched opening with round horizontal windows on the first floor. A mottled cornice band is present at both levels. The newer building, also rectangular in plan but with a hexagonal tower-like structure to its end, and 3 stories high has a continuous balcony facing the courtyard which leads to narrow motifs. The balcony has cast iron railings and a concrete accretion with Art Deco motifs. The central bay has a decorative pediment above.		
Status of Conservation	Fair		
Threats to property	Lack of regular maintenance, use of inappropriate materials for repair and maintenance, developmental pressures.		
Condition Description	Addition of grills inappropriate to the design, dampness and blackening of plaster due to moss and algal growth, ad hoc addition of cornices.		
Name of Surveyor	Nishit Pyre		
Bibliography	1. K. S. Chatterjee, <i>The Parsis of Calcutta</i> , Calcutta, 1910. 2. <i>The Parsis of Calcutta</i> , Calcutta, 1910. 3. <i>The Parsis of Calcutta</i> , Calcutta, 1910. 4. <i>The Parsis of Calcutta</i> , Calcutta, 1910.		

Additional Photographs:-



View of the Dharanishala from the internal courtyard



Corridor of the Dharanishala



Part Name	Syranjee Mentha Dorgastran Atash Adaran Fire Temple			History and Evolution	From migration to Calcutta began in the late 18 th century. The community prospered in trade, especially in the shipping industry and settled in the areas of Kolkata, Fortwick Bazaar, Borebazar and New Bazaar. The Parsis made significant philanthropic contributions to the city between the 18 th and 20 th centuries. The Atash Adaran or Fire Temple was built in 1912 by Shroval Dorgastran Syranjee Mentha. It is currently the only functioning Fire Temple in the city and all religious activities of the Parsi community takes place here.		
Address	91, Metacafe St, Kolkata, West Bengal 700012						
Geographic Coordinates	22.570095 N, 88.354781 E						
Date/Period of Construction	1912						
Ownership	Private						
Owner's Name	Trust						
Property Type	Building						
Property Sub-type	Religious						
Property Use	Temple						
Property Present Use	Temple						
State of Protection	Protected (Grade I - Kolkata Municipal Corporation)						
Property site and surroundings	The fire temple is located in a narrow lane, Metacafe Street, to the south of the Biju Bhatt Ganguly Street. To its north are commercial buildings, west and south are residential structures, and to the east is Ape Khan Jambhavan.						
Architectural Style	Hybrid architectural style						
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architectural ➤ Multi-disciplinary ➤ Socio-cultural						
Statement of Significance: The Angayan Atash Adaran is significant for its association with the Parsi community and is central to Parsi life in Calcutta. It is testimony to the many other religious groups that settled in Calcutta for commercial purposes between the 18 th -20 th centuries and to the cultural pluralism that developed as a result.							
Historical	High	Architectural	High	State of Conservation	Good		
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium				
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I	Name of Surveyor	Sahil Pyne		
				Bibliography	1. Vaid, S. (2000). <i>Architecture of Calcutta</i>. Calcutta: The New Book Company. 2. Vaid, S. (2000). <i>Architecture of Calcutta</i>. Calcutta: The New Book Company. 3. Vaid, S. (2000). <i>Architecture of Calcutta</i>. Calcutta: The New Book Company. 4. Vaid, S. (2000). <i>Architecture of Calcutta</i>. Calcutta: The New Book Company.		

Additional Photographs:-



Steps leading up to the First Temple



View from the street

Sc.No. 45		BOW BARRACKS	
			
Post Name	Bow Barracks	History and Evolution	The Bow Barracks were barracks or living quarters built for soldiers of World War I designed by Dalrymple Barracks. The soldiers however never occupied the barracks as they chose to stay at Fort William, after which the barracks were allotted to the growing Anglo-Indian community, a part of the Indian community that began to develop at this time by the late 1700s. As per the Census of 1911, there were 14177 Anglo-Indians in the city, settled around Bow Barracks, Fortwick, Ram, Ishola, Gariahaty, Park Road, and the Bow Barracks include Churches, Anglo-Churches, English and Bengali families. Many Christian festivals are celebrated with pomp and grandeur at Bow Barracks during which tens of thousands of the Anglo-Indian community gather here to celebrate.
Address	1 Bow St, Midnapore, Kolkata, West Bengal 700012		
Geographic Coordinates	22 January N, 88.35028 E		
Date/ Period of Construction	Early 20 th Century		
Ownership	Public		
Owner's Name	Kolkata Improvement Trust	Architectural Merit (emphasizing special features of 19 th century-built buildings)	The present comprises of 112 apartments of three prototypes arranged in a group of seven rectangular structures, each three stories high. The exposed brick facades have minimal decoration with plain rectangular windows and segmental arches, devoid of turrets and moldings. The aesthetic quality is derived from functional elements like the horizontal window in the <i>corbelled</i>, which allow the cool breeze to hit out off the harsh sunlight, or from the materials, exposed bricks and cast-iron structural supports, which were cheap and widely available at the time.
Property Type	Residential		
Property Sub-type	Residential apartments		
Property Post Use	Residential apartments		
Property Present Use	Residential apartments		
State of Preservation	Unpreserved	State of Construction	Free
Property site and surroundings	Bow Barracks is located at off Hill Georgey Rd on Bow Street and is surrounded by commercial establishments to the north, Residential Establishments to the East, a large open ground to the south and the Park Establishments to the north-west. The Bow Barracks and Hill Street Police Station are located to its South-East.	Threats to property	Restoration using inappropriate materials for repair, developmental pressures, inappropriate additions and alterations, structural decay
Architectural Style	Hybrid	Condition Description	Structural cracks, loose masonry and loss of mortar, addition of inappropriate gables, brick masonry or metal sheets to replace balconies, aluminium windows, and loss addition of plastering lines. Recently done plaster on top of exposed brick surface using cement mortar.
General Criteria for Listing	> Architectural > Multi-ethnicity > Socio-cultural	Name of Surveyor	Sudipta Pyne
Statement of Significance: Bow Barracks is significant for its connection with the Anglo-Indian and Chinese community. It is testimony to the early urban English groups that settled in Calcutta for commercial purposes between the 18th-20th centuries and to the cultural plurality that developed in a small.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium
Socio-Cultural	High	Field Grade	I
		Bibliography	
Howe, S. "Representations of Modernity in a Colonial City: The Bow Barracks, Kolkata, of the Early Twentieth Century." <i>Journal of Planning Education and Research</i> 29, no. 3 (2009): 300-310.			

Additional Photographs :-



Exterior view of the building



Street View of Bow Barracks



Full Name	Mit Kong School			History and Evolution	With the growth of Calcutta as a commercial centre under the British, the Chinese migrated to Calcutta from the late 18 th to the mid-19 th centuries. In the city, their first settlements were seen near Tinchi Bazar, Bazar Bazar and Bow Bazar. The Chong Ye Thong Club was formed in the 1860s with the club owning multiple properties across Central Calcutta. The said possession was built in the 1880s by Hakka entrepreneurs, housing the Mit Kong Chinese school and a temple dedicated to Kwan Yi, the God of War.	
Address	19 Hazratib Street, Kolkata 700013					
Geographic Coordinates	22.566104 N, 88.351655 E					
Date/Period of Construction	1952 AD					
Ownership	Private (Trust)					
Owner's Name	Chong Ye Thong Club					
Property Type	Building			Architectural Merit (examining special features and 20 th century-built heritage)	The Chong Ye Thong building is rectangular in plan and triple storied. The front facade can be divided in six bays with each bay having a rectangular window opening in all three floors. The window is surrounded by a rail, ornamental band and has a narrow cornice top. Through the central bay on the ground floor, one enters the building into a central courtyard. Across the courtyard is a pillared hall. On the first and second floor, the courtyard is surrounded by a balcony on all four sides, through which one enters various rooms. On the upper floors, the balcony has decorative cast iron railings and a wooden glass screen above. The Chinese temple is located on the topmost floor in form of rail, auspicious to the Chinese community.	
Property Sub-type	Religious, Institutional					
Property Past Use	Temple, Club and School					
Property Present Use	Temple, Club and School					
Status of Protection	Preserved (Grade I Buildings by KMC)					
Property site and surroundings	The structure is located on Hazratib Lane, 50 m off Central Avenue. It is surrounded by dense commercial establishments on all sides with some landmark buildings like the Hindustani Building to its North East and the Statebank House to its south west.					
Architectural Style	Hybrid architectural style			Status of Conservation	Good	
General Criteria for Listing	• Architectural Style • Multistoried character • Socio-cultural history			Threats to property	Repairs, additions and alterations in inappropriate materials	
Statement of Significance: This building is significant for its association with the Chinese community. It is testimony to the many other linguistic groups that settled in Calcutta for commercial purposes between the 18 th -20 th centuries and to the cultural pluralism that developed as a result.					Condition Description	The structure is in a fairly well-maintained condition.
Historical	Medium	Architectural	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Sohail Pyne	
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium			
Socio-Cultural	High	First Grade	IIA			
					Bibliography	https://www.academia.edu/7167081/The_Chinese_in_Bombay_Area

Additional Photographs: -



View of central courtyard



View of Temple

Sl. No. 47	NORTH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE				
					
Post Name	North Shalom Synagogue				
Address	VA, India Kumar Karamchhi, Chhatra Bazar, Kolkata, West Bengal 700001				
Geographic Coordinates	22.577964 N, 88.332239 E				
Date/Period of Construction	1850				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Joshi				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Religious				
Property Use	Synagogue				
Property Features	Synagogue				
Status of Protection	Protected (Grade I - Kolkata Municipal Corporation)				
Property site and surroundings	The synagogue is located on Indira Park Road, in the West, surrounded by dense urban settlements. The Magen David Synagogue lies to the South within the same complex.				
Architectural Style	Hybrid architectural style				
General Criteria for Listing	-Architectural Style -Multilayered structure -Jews-cultural history				
Statement of Significance: The North Shalom Synagogue is significant for its association with the Jewish community, serving as the main place of worship for the Jewish community in Kolkata between the 19 th and 20 th centuries. It is testimony to the significance of the city as a commercial hub and to the cultural phenomena that developed as a result.					
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium		
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Low		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I		
Name of Surveyor	Subodh Pyne				
Bibliography	Pyne, S. "Synagogue of Kolkata: A Case Study in the History of the Jewish Community in India." <i>Journal of the Asiatic Society of India</i> , 1998, vol. 37, no. 1, pp. 1-10.				

Additional Photographs:-



Interior of the synagogue



Entranced entrance in the Nisich Shalom synagogue

S.No. 40		CALCUTTA SOUTH INDIAN CLUB HOUSING ROASTERY COFFEE HOUSE			
					
Part Name	Calcutta South Indian Club		History and Evolution	The Calcutta South Indian Club was founded by Nabal Kumar CV Ramo and former President of India Paragpal Radhakrishnan in 1928 as a meeting place for all South Indians living in Calcutta. They were also the first and second Presidents of the club respectively. Their first premises was in Bore House and the club was later shifted to this building in the 1980s. In 2019, the club satiated on the ground floor was converted into a Café and Coffee shop.	
Address	106, Hareketan Park, Kolkata - 700029				
Geographic Coordinates	22.518715 N, 88.362660 E				
Date/ Period of Construction	1940s				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Calcutta South Indian Club				
Property Type	Building		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 16 th century-built heritage)	The building is a triple storied structure, L-shaped in plan surrounding a courtyard. A continuous veranda lines the L-shaped edge towards the courtyard on the ground and first floor. On both floors, the veranda has circular columns, a screen above with Art Deco motifs and an overhanging eave. On the first floor are iron railings in geometric patterns. There is red oxide flooring in the veranda and decorative Tonnies tiles in the internal rooms.	
Property Sub-type	Commercial				
Property Past Use	Club				
Property Present Use	Restaurant and Café				
State of Preservation	Upgraded				
Property site and surroundings	The building is located on South Chatterjee Street, to the South. It is located in a fairly dense residential area, which is highly changing into a mixed use zone.				
Architectural Style	Art Deco		State of Conservation	Fair	
General Criteria for Listing	Architectural Style Multicultural character Socio-cultural history		Threats to integrity	Additions and alterations	
Statement of Significance: Established by CV Ramo and Dr. Sarvagopal Radhakrishnan, the building has high associational value. The veranda club is also testimony to the thriving South Indian community in Calcutta and to the cultural pluralism that existed in Calcutta in the 20 th Century.			Condition Description	Change of architectural elements like wooden internal structure of windows has been changed to fully glazed windows, addition of arched elements and removal of original screens with art deco motifs.	
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium		
Associational	High	Technological/ Scientific	Low	Name of Surveyor	Sohini Pyne
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	GA	Bibliography	Primary Survey

Sr. No. 40		SAIFEE MASJID	
			
Full Name	Saifee Masjid		
Address	12a, Brahmapur Rd, Chitpau, Barabazar Market, Kolkata, West Bengal 700001		
Geographic Coordinates	22.576113 N, 88.562188 E		
Date/ Period of Construction	1921		
Ownership	Private		
Owner's Name	Trust		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Religious		
Property Use	Mosque		
Property Previous Use	Mosque		
State of Preservation	Upgraded		
Property site and surroundings	Located on Brahmapur Road, the Saifee Masjid is surrounded by dense urban (commercial) establishments. The site is entered through a narrow entrance at the North East corner.		
Architectural Style	Regional architectural style		
General Criteria for Listing	-Aesthetic character -Socio-cultural history		
Statement of Significance: The Saifee Masjid is the most important establishment of the thriving Bohra community in the city. It is testimony to the early ethno-linguistic groups that settled in Kolkata for commercial purposes and to the cultural pluralism that existed in the 19 th Century.			
Historical	High	Architectural	Medium
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Low
Socio-Cultural	High	Fiscal Grade	I
History and Evolution		The Bohras are an Ismaili Shia sect of Islam. The Bohras are a trading community - Bohra roughly translates to <i>trader</i> or <i>trader</i>. The Bohra settled in Kolkata from Gujarat in the late 19th century for commercial purposes to trade in tea, sugar and opium. Most Bohras in Kolkata are Dhandul Bohra meaning that they are followers of the Dhandul. The Saifee Masjid, the first and only Bohra Mosque to be built in the city, was built in 1921 and inaugurated by the 51st leader of the community, His Holiness Dr Syedna Tahir Saifuddin. The mosque continues to be an essential part of the 2000 strong Bohra community of Kolkata, especially during special occasions like Ramadan, Muharram and anniversary of the Daud.	
Architectural Merit (possessing special features of 19 th century-built heritage)		The mosque is G+4 floors of which the 4th floor is a later construction. Inside, the mosque has a large 4-spanned prayer hall. The facade of the mosque is divided in 3 bays. The two side bays, narrower, have 2 openings each on the first, second and third floors. The central bay, wider, has 2 similar openings on the side and a pair of two windows in the centre. The ground floor has pointed Gothic arched openings with an Ghos dome vaults in the middle of the central bay. The openings on the first and second floors are open arched with wooden windows. The 3 bays are divided by cast-iron pilasters, each topped by a Minaret above. Each floor has thick reinforced concrete with wide areas on the 2nd floor and narrow areas on the 3rd floor, both with ornamental brackets. A decorative pediment is placed centrally above the porch.	
State of Conservation		Good	
Threats to property		Additions and alterations, introduction of concrete	
Condition Description		Introduction of AC, partition within balconies and windows on the first and third floors respectively. Introduction of a new floor with two roof. The rest of the structure is in a fairly good condition.	
Name of Surveyor		Sahin Pyan	
Bibliography		https://www.dhammadownload.com/2021/08/2021-for-mosque-kolkata-a-limited-visit/	

Sr. No. 00		PARK MANSION		
				
Part Name	Park Mansion		History and Evolution Park Mansion, situated at the junction of Park Street and Balli Ashutosh Mukherjee Road (formerly Post School Street), was originally constructed by American businessman George Thakker. Within its historic walls, one could find longstanding establishments such as Bentley Photo Studio and Ballington, as well as the now-defunct Skyroom restaurant. Tragically, in 1999, the building fell victim to a devastating fire. However, through the dedicated efforts of its present owner, the Aparajita Saxena Group, a restoration project totaling Rs. 18 crore was undertaken to breathe new life into this iconic structure. In 2010, Park Mansion reopened its doors to the public, housing tenants such as Alliance Française, Google India, Reliance Digital, and Starbucks Café, thus reclaiming its former splendour.	
Address	Park Mansion, 17A, Park St, Tatteta, Kolkata, West Bengal 700019			
Geographic Coordinates	22.541732 N, 88.324280 E			
Date/Period of Construction	1911			
Ownership	Private			
Owner's Name	Aparajita - Saxena Group			
Property Type	Building			
Property Sub-type	Mixed-Use (Commercial and Residential)		Architectural Merit (encompassing special features and 10% century-built heritage) Covering an expansive area of 5 bighas, the colonial mansion stands as a four-story L-shaped structure situated at a corner plot, featuring an inner open ground or courtyard designed for ventilation. Its architecture is a fusion of styles, showcasing Indo-Saracenic domes positioned at the corners and a succession of arched windows adorned with ornate, purple-tinted metalwork of the characteristic 'Kolkata' motif. Inscribed in Kolkata's annals from the pre-independence era.	
Property Use	Mixed-Use (Commercial and Residential)			
Property Present Use	Mixed-Use (Commercial and Residential)			
Status of Preservation	Preserved			
Property site and surroundings	Located in high-density commercial area in Park Street			
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical with Victorian influence.			
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architectural ➤ Multi-ethnicity		Status of Conservation Renowned in 2019 after a successful nomination was carried out by Dilip Mukherjee and Associates. The ICAR - INTACH Heritage Award 2013 has been given to Park Mansion for its excellent restoration work.	
Threats to property No threats identified				
Condition Description It was severely damaged by fire in 1999, however repaired and restored meticulously in 2010, and became one of the best examples of Conservation project in Kolkata.				
Material	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor Indira Sarkar
Associational	Medium	Technological/Scientific	Medium	
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	IIA	
Bibliography https://www.indiaheritage.in/ - by Dilip Mukherjee and Associates. ICAR - INTACH Heritage Award 2013 has been given to Park Mansion for its excellent restoration work.				

Additional Photographs: -



Before restoration



After restoration

PC: Ar Dalal Mahajan

Sr.No. 31		ESPLAVADE MANSIONS			
					
Post Name		Esplanade Mansion		History and Evolution Located on the Esplanade, the Mansion was constructed by Jewish businessman David Eliaz Tora in 1918. The building was constructed as a mixed-use structure with the ground floor being used for commercial purposes and the upper floors being purely residential with multiple spacious apartments. It stands as a byproduct of the cultural confluence between the British and Jews in 20 th Century Calcutta and is a witness to the cross-cultural fabric of the city.	
Address		Government Place East, James Hickey Square, Esplanade East, Chatterjeebari North, New Barracks, Kolkata, West Bengal 700069			
Geographic Coordinates		22.56669 N, 88.34150 E			
Date/Period of Construction		1918			
Ownership		Public			
Owner's Name		Life Insurance Corporation			
Property Type		Building		Architectural Style (mentioning special features of 20th century built heritage) Situated on a corner plot opposite Raj Bhawan, the grand V-shaped building boasts a central staircases tower crowned by a dome, flanked by gracefully curved wings. This G+4 structure houses offices on the ground floor and 24 apartments above, accessible via three entrances at the main. Combining load-bearing and framed elements, its facade features ornate cornices, arched windows, and arched openings with horizontal bands. The roof is adorned with a prominent central dome and four smaller ones, all intricately decorated with mosaic work, enhancing the building's majestic allure.	
Property Sub-type		Residential/Commercial			
Property Past Use		Mixed (Residential & Commercial)			
Property Present Use		Mixed (Residential & Commercial)			
State of Protection		Protected			
Property site and surroundings		The Esplanade Mansion is a stretch building located opposite Raj Bhawan on the Esplanade, West and is close proximity to the NH-10, Bag and Esplanade/Chatterjeebari area. It is located at the heart of the city.			
Architectural Style		Art-Deco style- the only example survived in this.		State of Conservation Fair	
General Criteria for Listing		➤ Architecture ➤ Multi-ethnicity		Threats to property: Incompatible additions and alterations, unapproved services, and wiring. Condition, Deterioration: There are signs of decay due to water seepage and incompatible repair works. Signs of decay are seen on the windows, brackets as well as the structural system of the building.	
Statement of Significance: The Esplanade mansion stands testimony to the architectural and engineering development of 20 th Century Calcutta. It is also an excellent and early example of an early Art-Deco style structure as one of the first existing in India.					
Historical	High	Architectural	High		
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High	Name of Surveyor Bijaya Kanti	
Socio-Cultural	High	First Grade	I	Bibliography https://cityguides.org/wiki/Esplanade_Mansion,_Kolkata	

Sr. No. 11	THE OBEROI GRAND					
						
Full Name	Grand Hotel			History and Evolution	Colony Grand's location at 13, Chatterjee Road was transformed into a boarding house by Mrs. Anila Meek in 1878, encompassing premises 13, 14, 15, and 17. In 1894, Aramson Stephen, owner of Theobald Royal premises no-16, acquired Mrs. Meek's premises along with No. 15, Chatterjee Road, after his mother's fire incident. Converting the entire stretch into one establishment, he constituted the renowned 'Grand Hotel'. Tragically, in 1937, a fatal accident led to the hotel's closure to the municipality. In 1988, Mahan Singh Oberoi purchased it, and revived it as a profitable hotel of international repute as 'Oberoi Grand', marking the inception of the Oberoi Group's legacy in the hospitality sector.	
Address	13, Jawaharlal Nehru Road (Chatterjee Road), Kolkata, West Bengal 700013					
Geographic Coordinates	22.56762° N, 88.35111° E					
Date/Period of Construction	1911					
Ownership	Private					
Owner's Name	Ravi India Hotels Ltd/Oberoi Group of Hotels					
Property Type	Building			Architectural Merit (encompassing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	Originally consisting of two stories, Aramson later extended it to four, incorporating a grand Neo-Classical portico. The Oberoi Grand is one of the landmark buildings of the city representing Neo-Classical architecture. The long stretch of colonnaded portico with a terrace above, was once a prime possession of the hotel for its lush green view of Maidan, now has shrunk due to haphazard development and the slings of view of the opposite side. Substantial renovations in the 1990s, such as the addition of a new driveway, multi-story block, underground parking, and a swimming pool, were undertaken to meet the demands of a five-star hotel. Recently, these enhancements seamlessly integrated with the building's historic charm, preserving its architectural heritage.	
Property Sub-type	Commercial- Hotel					
Property Sub Use	Luxury Hotel					
Property Present Use	Luxury Hotel with Five star facilities					
State of Preservation	Preserved					
Property site and surroundings	It is located at the heart of the city, i.e. Esplanade opposite to Calcutta Maidan. Nearby landmarks are: Victoria (A.R.) Building, Metro Cinema, Postnet Inn, Subal Mansa, New Market, Kolkata Municipal Corporation building etc.					
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical			State of Conservation	Very Good	
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architectural ➤ Socio-cultural ➤ Socio-political ➤ Multidisciplinary			Threats to property	Unauthorised occupancy of the bunkers on the Esplanade below the Portico and the ugly sight of the Market area hampers the business of the hotel.	
Statement of Significance: It is one of the iconic buildings of the city. Credit due to Aramson Stephen, an American Businessman for building such a magnificent landmark building and also to M.S. Oberoi for its revival as a hotel of international repute.					Condition Description	Two famous restaurants were nightclubs namely "Pierrot" and "Sticksends" were shut down. The first floor terrace was abandoned. The windows facing road were closed.
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor Bibliography	Encompass Calcutta images and recollections of a bygone era by Shrinigyan Banerjee	
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High			
Socio-Cultural	High	Fiscal Grade	I			

Additional Photographs:



Bird's eye view of Grand Hotel, Kolkata



Grand Hotel in 1930's



The Lounge



Introduction of Swimming Pool & a new wing



The Ball Room at Grand Hotel

(PG, Creative Commons -Shrindang Gargya)

Se. No. 13	STEPHEN COURT			
				
Full Name	Stephen Court			History and Evolution
Address	18 A, Park Street, Kolkata, West Bengal 700017			
Geographic Coordinates	22.572602 N, 88.352338 E			
Date/Period of Construction	1910			
Ownership	Private (Multiple)			
Owner's Name	Past: Armenian Stephen Present: Sanjay Bhattacharya			Architectural Style (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)
Property Type	Building: part of cultural precinct of Park Street			
Property Sub-type	Mixed Use			
Property Past Use	Commercial and Residential			
Property Present Use	Commercial and Residential			
State of Preservation	Preserved			State of Conservation
Properties and surroundings	The Stephen Court building stands as a landmark building at the junction of Park Street and Middle Street. Next to it is Queens Museum, opposite to 21a Park Mission.			
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical			Threats to property
General Criteria for Listing	> Multi-Fraternity > Architecture			
Statement of Significance: A landmark building in Park Street area and a reminder of the flourishing entrepreneurship by the Armenian community in the city during 20 th century.				Condition Description
Historical	High	Architectural	High	
Architectural	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium	
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	HA	Name of Surveyor
				Bibliography
				On: Royal College of Architecture/Arya Ghosh, Anindita Pal, Neelanjana Das, Soumyajit Nandi Source: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/354111111 https://www.tribuneindia.com , The Telegraph

Additional Photographs: -



One of the worst fire hazards in Kolkata (PC: [amandakaser.com](#))



After restoration by the occupants in 2016 (PC: [The Telegraph](#))



Full Name	New Greek Orthodox Church			History and Evolution	Greek migration to Bengal commenced in the 17th, originating mainly from Adrianople and Philippopolis. Townsfolk during back to 1753 and 1728 dissolved in Calcutta, Indian, early settlement. Political turmoil in Greece during the 19th century further fuelled migration to Calcutta, then a pivotal commercial hub. The Greek community thrived until Indian independence, after which most members dispersed globally, leaving only church officials in the city today. Bishop Alexios Agapiou established Calcutta's first Greek temple in 1780. The transformation of the former church, created in 1824. It was shut down in 1972 due to lack of members and reopened in 1991 by St. Ignace for all Christians living in Calcutta.
Address	2a Library Road, Kallighat, Kolkata, West Bengal 700026				
Geographic Coordinates	22.520108 N, 88.340723 E				
Date Period of Construction	1824				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Trust property				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Religious				
Property Part Use	Church				
Property Previous Use	Church				
State of Protection	Protected				
Property site and surroundings	The Greek Orthodox Church is located at the junction of 99 Mukherjee Road and Library Road, surrounded by dense urban settlements.				
Architectural Style	Neo-classical			State of Conservation	Good
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Antiquarian ➤ Multi-ethnicity			Threats to property	Lack of maintenance, lack of awareness, developmental pressures
Statement of Significance: The Greek Orthodox Church is significant for its association with the Greek community, amongst the many ethnic-linguistic groups that migrated to Calcutta between the 18th and 19th centuries. It is testimony to the significance of the city as a commercial hub and to the cultural pluralism that developed thereafter.				Condition Description	The Church is in a fairly good condition and is regularly maintained by the Church authorities
Historical	Medium	Architectural	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Selina Pyne
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Low		
Socio-Cultural	High	Fixed Grade	I		
				Bibliography	https://www.intrepidonline.com/en/one-place-the-greek-orthodox-church-in-kolkata/ (2021)

In No. 55	NIZAM PALACE				
					
Part Name	Galatas Park Nizam Palace		History and Evolution	Mir Osman Ali Khan, the 7th Nizam of Hyderabad, acquired this building as his Kolhapur residence from Johannes George, also known as J. C. Galatas, a businessman of Armenian descent. Galatas, who constructed the mansion as a symbol of affection for his wife, named it Galatas Park. It has a long history as well. Like its noteworthy pieces included King Feroz NRI, and during World War I, it served as a hospital. In 1933, it was sold to the Nizam of Hyderabad, initially named Saba Palace, later renamed Nizam Palace. Upon the integration of the Princely State of Hyderabad into the Indian Union, it became government property. Despite this, the building retains its heritage value and continues to be utilized as office space by the Government of India.	
Address	276, Ashoka Jagdish Chandra Bose Rd, Kolhapur, West Bengal 730026				
Geographic Coordinates	22.54177° N, 88.331189° E				
Date/Period of Construction	1933				
Ownership	Public				
Owner's Name	Govt of India				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Office		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	A three-storied building with a prominent entrance porch and octagonal rooms with domes at four corners of the building. Many architectural features are visible representing neo-classical architectural style prevailing in early 20th century in Kolhapur. The central hall with grand double staircase with stone slabs, is another important architectural element of the building.	
Proposed Past Use	Residential				
Proposed Present Use	Office of Accounts Division of CPWD				
State of Preservation	Preserved				
Property site and surroundings	Located on a major road of the city, i.e., A.C. Bose Road in south Kolhapur. Situated within the campus of COA complex along with the Eastern Zone office of Central PW D.				
Architectural Style	Neo-classical European Modern		Date of Conservation	Very Good	
Global Criteria for Listing	➤ Multi-ethnicity ➤ Architecture		Threats to property	As it is surrounded by many high-rise buildings, the architectural importance of Nizam Palace is reduced and it is some extent lost.	
Statement of Significance: It was used as the Calcutta residence of Nizam of Hyderabad, till it was a princely state. Thereafter taken over by Govt of India. Prior to Nizam, it was a home of an Armenian business owner J.C. Galatas of 20 th century.			Condition Description	Well-maintained by Central PW D.	
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Indira Sarkar
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Scenic/Cultural	High	Fossil/Orbits	I		
			Bibliography	Kolhapur Jagdish Chandra Bose	

Sr. No. 36		S.V.S MARWARI HOSPITAL			
					
Full Name		S. V. S. Marwar Hospital		History and Evolution	Sri Voluntary Service Marwar Hospital was established in 1973 by Sri Ranjpal Bajwa, Sri Jhansil Khatwala, Sri Ramchandra Shrivastava, Sri Keshava Prabhu and Sri Chandra Ganesha for providing medical services to the society. It started as a 10-bed facility for Marwar Community in Calcutta and has over time expanded to a 130 bed hospital for people from every community. The hospital was established as a bold move against the British and their behaviour towards the natives.
Address		118, Raja Ram Mohan Roy Rd College Area, Baidyabadi, Kolkata, West Bengal 700009			
Geographic Coordinates		22.376115 N, 88.341140 E			
Date/Period of Construction		1973			
Ownership		Private			
Owner's Name		Group of Institutions			
Property Type		Building			
Property Sub-type		Institutional		Architectural Merit (evolutionary special features of 16 th century built heritage)	The Marwar Hospital is an impressive red brick structure that stands proudly along Acharya Street. The hospital is characterised by its distinctive facade consisting of segmental and semi-circular arched windows and intricate wrought iron grill and gate works. A beautiful but derelict sky bridge connects two buildings of the complex which also adds to the ambience of the site. The buildings are traditional load bearing structures with cast-iron structural system.
Property Past Use		Hospital			
Property Present Use		Hospital			
State of Protection		Protected			
Property site and surroundings		The Marwar Hospital is located on Acharya Street near College Street.			
Architectural Style		Colonial (British) Architecture Red Bricked Brick Building		State of Conservation	Fair
General Criteria for Listing		> Socio-cultural > Multi-ethnicity		Threats to property	Incompatible additions and alterations
				Condition Description	There are signs of decay due to water seepage and incompatible repair works. Some of the buildings in the complex are in a dilapidated state due to lack of proper conservation efforts.
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Bijaya Kishor
Aesthetical	High	Technological/Scientific	High		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	FA		
				Bibliography	https://www.marwarhospital.com/

Additional Photographs: -



Front view- Left side- neglected



Front view- right side- maintained



Arched veranda with CI ornamental Grill and rusticated exposed brick walls at ground floor



Large footprint, poor maintenance (left side), trees visible at top



view of corridor

Sr.No. 17	M.P. BERLA PLANETARIUM			
				
Full Name	Berla Planetarium, Tara Memorial			History and Evolution The 600-seater Berla Planetarium, envisioned by industrialist and philanthropist Mr. M. P. Berla , started in an educational, scientific, and research institution in 1967. It was officially inaugurated in 1967 by Pt. Jyotiballal Nehru, who was the Prime Minister of India at the time. A notable historical feature of the planetarium is its popular first evening session to introduce to the public. Additionally, it offers a postgraduate Diploma course in Astronomy and Planetary Sciences. In 1990, the planetarium hosted the 1st International Planetsarium Director's Congress , attracting numerous planetarium directors from the world.
Address	76, Jyotiballal Mukherjee Road, Midtown, Kolkata, West Bengal 700071			
Geographic Coordinates	22.547221 N, 88.347711 E			
Date/Period of Construction	1967			
Ownership	Private/Trusts			
Owner's Name	M.P. Berla Trust			
Property Type	Building			
Property Sub-type	Educational			Architectural Merit (showcasing special features of 3DP century-built heritage) The planetarium's architecture draws inspiration from the "Sanchi Stupa". It features a large circular dome atop a single-story structure, with a Vardha at the dome's base and a Shalika stupa. The double dome includes a series of apses for ventilation, lighting, and sound systems. The flat roof surrounding the dome is on two levels, allowing the Sanchi stupa's concentric paths. The front facade has three bays, with the central bay housing an entrance canopy with columns and arched openings, while the side bays each have a window with wide chajjas above.
Property Use	Planetarium			
Program/Primary Use	Planetarium			
State of Protection	Unprotected			
Property size and surroundings	It is located in a corner plot at the junction of Cathedral Road and Queens Way adjacent to St Paul's Cathedral. Nearby landmarks are Victoria Memorial and Rabindra Sarani. The building is surrounded by residential gardens.			
Architectural Style	Revivalist, inspired from Buddhist architecture (Sanchi Stupa) Designed by Dr. F.K. Goss of Calcutta, Thomson & Matheson and executed by M. L. Datta & Co.			State of Conservation Very Good
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Series-Cultural ➤ Architectural			Threats to property No threats identified.
Statement of Significance: Berla Planetarium is one of the Kolkata's famous landmarks, the oldest and largest planetarium in Asia and the second largest in the world. It is also an institution for the study of astronomy, astrophysics and cosmology. The planetarium's architecture draws inspiration from the "Sanchi Stupa", a reflection of Oriental architecture.				Condition Description In 2017, it has been upgraded to the most advanced Carl Zeiss projection system, with Star Master 25MP Opto-Mechanical coupled with 9 Ultra-high-resolution VPL/VET digital projectors. This system is called full dome projection and can simulate the night sky accurately. There are nine stars of the art full dome projection that reflectively create an impression of the cosmic accuracy.
Material	High	Architectural	High	
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High	Name of Surveyor Ovi Dayal College of Architecture Sreyas Ghosh, Shourabi Mandal
Series-Cultural	High	Final Grade		Bibliography https://www.dishamemorialtrust.org/our-national-heritage-and-significance-of-berla-planetarium-in-kolkata/ [1999], https://kolkatatourism.gov.in/

Additional Photographs: -



Front Facade



Entrance with bust of Rabindranath Tagore and Netaji on either side



Corner view



Architectural feature



Sc.No. 10	HOWRAH STATION		
			
Part Name	Howrah Railway Station		
Address	Howrah, West Bengal -711101		
Geographic Coordinates	22.537°N, 88.540°E		
Date/Period of Construction	1902-11		
Ownership	Public-Central Government		
Owner's Name	Indian Railways		
Property Type	Railway Station		
Property Sub-type	Station building		
Property Part Use	Railway station		
Property Present Use	Railway junction		
State of Protection	Protected		
Property site and surroundings	Howrah Station is located on the western bank of the River Hooghly (Hoogly) and connected to the city of Kolkata through Howrah Bridge.		
Architectural Style	Eclectic, merges influences of Renaissance, Gothic, Victorian, with Indian elements.		
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Rapid Urbanization/Industrialization ➤ Architectural		
Statement of Significance: Howrah Station is the gateway to Kolkata via rail. This new infrastructure of 20th century played a vital role for the citizens. Its latest connection with underground metro network takes the river made a landmark history.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-economical	High	Final Grade	
History and Evaluation		Since the early 20th century, it has served as the primary gateway connecting Kolkata to the rest of the country. This iconic hub has emerged as a pivotal point for passenger and cargo movement in the Eastern Zone. As India's oldest and largest railway complex, Howrah station stands as a testament to the country's railway heritage. It marks the terminus of the East Indian Railway, the first railway system in India. Commencing its operations in 1854 with a single track and platform, the railway line extended from Howrah to Hooghly. Over time, Howrah station has expanded significantly, becoming today's largest platform for passenger trains and those dedicated to goods transportation. Renowned for its bustling activity, Howrah station ranks among the world's busiest and largest train stations.	
Architectural Style (emphasizing special features of 20th century built heritage)		In 1901, plans were made for a new station building, designed by British architect Malay Rhinda . Completed in 1911, the structure stands as an impressive presence on the western bank of the river, characterized by a broad arched facade painted in vivid red. Built as a robust, load-bearing brick edifice, it features a series of arches and four corner towers topped with sloping terracotta roofs. Red columns support the platform areas, adorned with metal sheets and integrated panels to allow natural light. The extension added in 1952 seamlessly integrates with the original design, maintaining its architectural harmony. From its inception, the station has featured a distinctive driveway extending to the platform, facilitating passenger drop-off and pick-up. Additionally, a railway was later constructed, connecting to the bus terminus outside, further enhancing passenger convenience.	
State of Conservation		Very Good. It is an IGBC Silver certified building	
Threats to property		High pressure on the building/area due to tremendous flow of mass arrivals and influx of passengers throughout the year 24x7	
Condition Description		Regularly maintained by Indian Railways as a pivotal asset. Howrah Station endures ongoing enhancements to meet growing demands, such as, Kiosk store flooring on platforms, digital display boards, and upgradation of toilet and waiting rooms to meet the standards.	
Name of Surveyor		Students of Om Doyal Kishor Pal, Sonali Banerjee, Shalini Ray, Swadha Datta, Bhaskar	
Bibliography		https://indianrailways.gov.in http://www.indianrailways.gov.in https://www.indianrailways.gov.in	

Additional Photographs: -



Howrah Station (1945: Archival photo)



Howrah Station (at present)



The grand view: An imposing presence on the river bank- the extended portion

(PC: Howrah Municipal Corporation)



Interior view of Waiting area



Iron faced Antique Clock (1928)



*use of transparent sheet on roof
for the natural light*

PC: Station Gallery, Indian Railway.com

Sr.No. 08		ROYAL INSURANCE BUILDING	
			
Part Name	Royal Insurance Building		
Address	Royal Insurance Building, 5, Netaji Subhas Rd, Parky Place, B.B.D. Bagh, Kolkata, West Bengal 700061		
Geographic Coordinates	22.572212 N, 88.347526 E		
Date Period of Construction	1902/1905		
Ownership	Public		
Owner's Name	Govt of West Bengal		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Commercial		
Property Past Use	Office		
Property Present Use	Office		
State of Protection	Preserved		
Property site and surroundings	The Royal Insurance building is located at the junction of Netaji Subhas Road with the GPO to its north, Lal Bazar to its east, Midland House to its south and Walker House to the west.		
Architectural Style	Neo-Bauhaus (Colonialism) Red Bricked Brick		
General Criteria for Listing	> Architectural > Socio-Economic		
Statement of Significance: The Royal Insurance Building is an architecturally significant office and a good example of Neo-Bauhaus architecture in the early 20 th century designed by Edward Thornton and William Banks Goythorpe.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Architectural	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium
Socio-Cultural	Low	Fiscal Grade	I
Name of Supervisor		Students of Old David College of Architecture: Dipan Mukherjee, Tanu Karmakar, Oushik Chakrabarty, Anubhav Ray Sarkar, Abirjit Majumdar, Sayan Das	
Bibliography		https://www.myspace.com/indiaheritage/indiaheritage-commercial-and-fingaporean-architecture-building	

Additional Photographs: -



Corner View



ornamental features with Bands on red exposed brick construction



Side view



Corner view



Entrance with Logo



view of other Entrance

Sr. No. 61		KANAK BUILDING			
					
Post Name	Army Navy Street	History and Evolution	The Calcutta branch of the 'Indian Army and Navy Store', established in 1900, aimed to provide affordable goods from London to sustain military personnel and their servants. It diversified its services to include travel, insurance, and banking. The store's annual arrival of consumable goods before Christmas was highly anticipated by Europeans. It also catered to Hindu festivals with 'puja' sales, demonstrating its adaptability of cultural awareness. The store faced challenges during WWII, and India's independence led to its closure in 1946. Subsequently, the Taddas acquired the building, renaming it 'Kanak Building', and repurposing it for commercial use, including banks and offices.		
Address	#1, Chowringhee Road, Kolkata, West Bengal 700071				
Geographic Coordinates	22.570224N, 88.340129E				
Date/Period of Construction	1901				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Taddas				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Commercial	Architectural Merit (outstanding special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	It is an L-shaped three-storied building facing Calcutta Market on Chowringhee Road. Its imposing presence with outstanding Neo-classical Architecture, made it one of the landmark buildings of the city. The red and white Italian marble floor that spreads out at the corner plots of Middleton Street and Chowringhee Road (J.L. Nehru Road) is now known as 'Kanak Building'. The similar set of Corinthian columns holding up the ornate central pediment is the most striking feature of the elegant, spacious facade adorned with crescent-shaped arches and stacked quadrants.		
Property Post Use	Office				
Property Present Use	Office				
State of Protection	Preserved				
Property size and surroundings	The New Assessment Building is located at the junction of Steel Road and Kinnor Market Bay Road. The building faces the Borealis River to the West and North West. To the North is R & D Bag.				
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical				
General Criteria for Listing	- Basic: Economic - Architecture		State of Conservation	Good	
Statement of Significance: This colonial buildings at Chowringhee Road once housed glorious department stores that catered to Indian and British high-society clients.				Threats to property	No threats identified to date.
				Condition Description	Once a renowned departmental store of pre-independence era, changed its usage to a commercial building in the post-Independence era. Though there is no change in the exterior facade, however, the interior has been reconfigured to meet office to suit the requirement for its new usage.
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Subash Sarkar
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium		
Socio-Cultural	High	Visual Grade	I		
				Bibliography	Buck House Road - Calcutta's British Era, Swamibazar - A Jeweller's Hub in Calcutta, Baranagar, Dhakshinajoy - European Calcutta

Sr. No. 62		SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY HQ BNR OFFICE				
						
Part Name	Bengal Nagpur Railway HQ			History and Evolution	Kolkata has always had an affinity with the British colonial edifices. And on the city's western fringe lies another massive and brick building – the headquarters of the South Eastern Railway (SER), formerly the Bengal Nagpur Railway (BNR). The headquarters of BNR was built at Garden Reach, Kolkata in 1880 and was shifted from Nagpur. The BNR company was brought under the Govt of India's control in 1944 After Independence when the various railway systems were re-organised, geographically, BNR was merged with East Indian Railway in 1952, from Eastern Railway. Very soon after South Eastern Railway, a new railway zone has been carved out in 1973 of Eastern Railway comprising the erstwhile BNR.	
Address	11, Garden reach Road, Kolkata, West Bengal 700041					
Geographic Coordinates	88.311027N, 22.544254E					
Date/Period of Construction	1907-08					
Ownership	Public					
Owner's Name	Indian Railway (IR Railway)					
Property Type	Building					
Property Sub-type	Commercial					
Property Plot Size	Office					
Property Present Use	Office					
State of Protection	Preserved					
Property size and surroundings	South Eastern Railway HQ (still referred to as BNR) is located at the western end of Kolkata in Garden Reach beside River Hooghly.					
Architectural Style	Indo Saracenic			State of Conservation	Very Good	
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architectural ➤ Infrastructure					Threats to property Condition Description
Statement of Significance: An iconic example of Indo Saracenic architecture. It was and still considered as a grand procession of Indian Railway not only for its administrative role for railway but it has a long legacy of history. Here, once Nawab Wajid Ali Shah used to stay here under British confinement. One of the best buildings of Kolkata.						
Historical	High	Architectural	High			
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High	Name of Surveyor	Dr. Satyapriya Sarkar, Indira Sarkar	
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I	Bibliography	Garden Reach Railway Ferry by Satal Saha https://satishsaha.com/satal-saha-garden-reach-railway-ferry/	

Additional Photographs: -



Exterior view-eight small domes with a central dome atop - PC: CCA-34.3.0



Architectural features- Indo-Saracenic style



Grand Staircase



Provision of Natural light from central dome



Wooden spiral staircase

Additional Photographs: -



Main Entrance



Natural light from above



Corridor



Godfrey Mansions (1933)



Godfrey Mansions (1900)

Sr. No. 4)		HOUSE OF DR. NILRATAN SIRCAR	
			
Post Name	Residence of Dr. Nilratan Sircar		
Address	81, Mahatma Gandhi Road (Hindustan Road), Kolkata West Bengal 700009		
Geographic Coordinates	22.49027 N, 88.34528 E		
Date/Period of Construction	Mid 20 th Century		
Ownership	Trust Property		
Owner's Name	Past owner- Dr. Nilratan Sircar Present owner Dr.Krishnakumar Jahan charitable Trust (established in 1976)		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Commercial		
Property Post List	Residential		
Property Present Use	Commercial & has now occupied by many offices, such as Indian Bank, National Book Trust, Jahan Trust Etc.		
State of Protection	Represented		
Property site and surroundings	Awards Publication, that year are in the above vicinity of this house. Located on a major road of Central Kolkata, i.e. Mahatma Gandhi Road		
Architectural Style	Art Deco		
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architecture		
Statement of Significance: Residence of the renowned physician of 20 th century Dr. Nilratan Sircar, who was also famous for his association with nationalist movement. The great statistician of India P.C Mahalanobis (his nephew) also stayed here for some time.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	
History and Evaluation		In this house resided Dr. Nilratan Sircar, a prominent physician in 20th-century India. Associated for five decades, he attended to VVIPs including foreign royalty. Dr. Sircar's passion led him to establish the 'National Soap Factory' and the 'National Tannery' in 1901, aligning with the Swadeshi movement. He collaborated closely with Indian National Congress leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Motilal Nehru, Chittaranjan Das and Satyendra Chandra Bose. He played a pivotal role in founding the 'College of Physicians and Surgeons of Bengal', later amalgamated with Dr. R.G. Kar's 'Calcutta Medical School' to form the prestigious S.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital. His nephew, the renowned statistician P.C. Mahalanobis, also briefly stayed here in his youth.	
Architectural Merit		The building boasts an impressive facade adorned with striking bold stripes and a row of windows facing the street. A notable aspect is the impressive grand porch spanning the entire length of the structure, accompanied by a terrace accessible from the first floor. Adding to its charm, the right corner features an elegantly crafted elongated semi-circular veranda extending from the second to the third floor. Along the veranda, the presence of intricate window-like protruding verandas are few architectural features added to the aesthetics of the building. Inside, a standout feature is the wooden staircase adorned with decorative etched glass also along the edge.	
State of Conservation		Externally-Fair Internally-Poor	
Threats to property		Not yet graded, under threat	
Condition Description		The building has been completely repurposed for commercial activities, diminishing its former glory as the residence of Dr. N.R. Sircar. Inside, it feels claustrophobic, making it challenging to discern the original interior layout. The once-grand porch now serves as a space for water ducts, detracting from the building's dignity with its clays and numerous corrugations.	
Name of Surveyor		Indrani Sarkar	
Bibliography		<i>Kolkata - A Guide- by Arun</i> <i>National Geography/WWF/Amara Janya</i> <i>Publication, Dr. Martin, Bengali, Sonagari</i>	

Additional Photographs: -



Grand facade along the entire front facade



Semi-circular protruded veranda



Corner View



The 'Plaque' on the wall near entrance



wooden staircase with glass balustrade



Below the grand facade veranda-squares section

Sr. No. 14		NASKAR BARI			
					
Post Name	Naskar Bari	History and Evolution	Keshardev Naskar and his family retreated from Khyasala, South 24 Parganas, to their maternal residence in Behaghat, initially engaged in fisheries and agriculture. They owned extensive land, including parts of Sub Lake. Bhamburda Naskar adopted one of Keshardev's maternal cousins under Duddhendra Chatterjee Das and later became Mayor. Jagannath Naskar, Keshardev's second son, had five sons. The eldest, Anandchandra Naskar, served as Deputy Minister to Dr. B.C. Roy's cabinet and was M.L.A. from 1941 to 1977, succeeded by Sonal Sahasrab Chandra Roy. Paramanand Chandra, Jagannath's third son, held the position of Deputy Minister of the Estate during the tenure of J.L. Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri, and Indira Gandhi.		
Address	72, Bichhpara Moha Rd, Kolkata, West Bengal 700018				
Geographic Coordinates	22.761054 N, 88.482054 E				
Date/Period of Construction	Early 18 th Century				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Naskar Family				
Property Type	Building	Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 18 th century-built heritage)	Naskar Bari consists of two houses and two Chandra Moha temples (commonly known as 'Anandmohi') adjacent to the road. The main house is two storied high, featuring a front courtyard and a central courtyard. Surrounding both courtyards are spacious balconies adorned with ornate and low columns, delicate filigree screens, decorative railings. The upper floor includes wooden balconies and terraces. Balbs, semi-circular arched doors/windows with low-arched shutters and cast-iron decorations on tympanums. The roof slabs are made of Kanti-Berua. The main six storied building is an addition to the main building at 1900, hosts a plain facade complemented by Indo-Saracenic motifs. Naskar Bari is also famous for the exuberant of European style at the gate and at the front courtyard, as a special feature.		
Property Sub-type	Residential				
Property Post Use	Residence and Temple				
Property Present Use	Residence and Temple				
State of Protection	Unprotected				
Property size and surroundings	The Naskar Bari is located in the north of the Behaghat Moha Road amongst a residential neighbourhood but on a Bypass street.				
Architectural Style	Mixed Regional architectural style: Art Deco influences seen in the terrace building		State of Conservation	Good (The interiors were not accessible)	
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architecture ➤ Socio-political		Threats to Integrity		No apparent threats
Statement of Significance:	The Naskar Bari is home to two out of three leading ministers of the time, including Hita Chandra Naskar, a former mayor of Kolkata, and thus has great socio-political and monumental significance. Apart from this, being in Bungal houses in group of 200. The house is also significant for its architectural style.		Condition Description		The house is in a fairly well-maintained condition with frequent repairs and upkeep.
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor Sukun Puro	
Aesthetical	High	Technological/Scientific	Low		
Socio-Cultural	Low	Visual Grade			
				Ethnography	Click to Expand Text

Additional Photographs: -



A common typology of residential mansions evolved during 20th century with cast-iron ornamental railings and wooden pillars/balconies



Behind Jera Mandiri, multi-storied extension visible with Art deco style- a later addition



European sculpture was a fashion on those days



Cast iron ornamental grill work



Interior view with decorative floor tiles



Place Name	Victoria Memorial			History and Evolution	Victoria Memorial Hall, conceived by Lord Curzon to honour Queen Victoria posthumously in 1921, stands as a testament showcasing her life, adorned with stunning fountains under its dome. Flanked by Indian process and public donations, its total construction cost of ₹1.65 crore was entirely from voluntary subscriptions. The foundation stone was laid by the Prince of Wales (King George-V) in 1906, with its inauguration by him on the Palace of Wales (King Edward-VIII) in 1921. The edifice was designed by British architect William Emerson and constructed by Calcutta's renowned firm Morris, Barn & Co, owned by Sir R.N. Mahalanobis. The site was originally lost to the Presidential job. The plot was gifted to Alipore to give way for the construction of this memorial.
Address	1, Queen Way, Midtown, Kolkata, West Bengal, Pin - 700071				
Geographic Coordinates	22.544607° N, 88.342337° E				
Period of Construction	1906-1921				
Ownership	Public				
Owner's Name	Government of India (Ministry of Culture)				
Property Type	Building, Landscape			Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 19 th century built heritage)	The Victoria Memorial, crafted from white Makrana marble, rests on a raised platform housing a spacious central hall beneath a majestic dome. Surrounding this hall are smaller chambers at each corner and expansive quadrangles flanking its sides, adorned with colonnaded terraces. Housing museum-like structures with direct climate space air control, spanning 354 by 228 feet (108 by 69 m) and reaching a height of 134 feet (56 m), it features a heroic Angel of Victory crowning the apex. Initially conceived in Neo-Classical style, it evolved into Indo-Saracenic fusion, blending external domes, bulbous domes, and traditional Indian elements. Nestled within lush gardens housing rare trees, fountains, water fountains, and sculptures, it's enclosed by an ornate boundary wall. The siting of the edifice is also unique with a great idea concept amidst a well-designed landscape garden.
Property Sub-type	Educational, Memorial				
Property Part Use	Memorial				
Property Present Use	Museum				
State of Protection	Preserved				
Property site and surroundings	Victoria Memorial is located within the Station on 37 acres of land, surrounded by Queen way to the South, GEC Road at South, Calcutta Road at East and Hospital Road at West. Nearby landmarks are Bore Caves, St. Paul's Cathedral and SSKM Hospital.				
Architectural Style	Indo-Saracenic* The design mostly follows the Indo-Saracenic style, mixing with Neo-Classical and Mughal elements.			State of Conservation	Fair
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architecture ➤ Socio-Culture				
Statement of Significance: The Victoria Memorial in Kolkata stands as an iconic symbol of India's colonial history and architectural grandeur. It commemorates Queen Victoria's reign and serves as a repository of cultural heritage, housing a vast collection of artifacts and artworks. Beyond its historical significance, it's a cultural landmark, attracting visitors for its stunning architecture, lush green gardens. Today it is the first choice for the citizens to relax and rejuvenate amidst its serene cultural atmosphere.					
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Students of Our Doyal College of Architecture - Rishiraj Paul, Mohit Kumar, Pooja, Western Bazar, Ishabadi Majumdar
Associated	High	Technological/Scientific	High		
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I		
				Bibliography	https://www.victoriame-memorial.org/updates/annual-report/2021/27736214-14-1-5.pdf

Additional Photographs: -



*Illuminated night view of Victoria Memorial
(PC: Wikimedia commons, CC 3.0 by Deepanjan Ghosh)*



Side view with semi-circular veranda with a series of columns



The vista



Landscape Garden



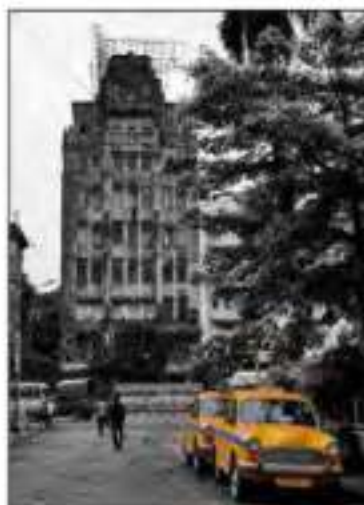
Revelling Angel of Victory atop

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_Memorial_Kolkata

Sr. No. 16	HINDUSTAN BUILDING												
													
Full Name		Hindustan Building				History and Evolution		Sureshchandra Tapers, son of Vatsyachandra Tapers and nephew of Kumbhachandra Tapers, founded the Hindustan Insurance Society around 1918. He established several Indian-owned banks and insurance companies to promote indigenous industries. Nalini Ranjan Sarkar , a disciple of Ch. Das and former Chairman of Hindustan Insurance, significantly expanded the company's business. After Independence, the Indian government nationalized it and renamed it the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) . Located on Central Avenue, it now houses LIC's Eastern Zonal Office, managing operations in West Bengal, the North Eastern States, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.					
Address		4, Chittaranjan Avenue, Chanderi Chowk, Kolkata -700013											
Geographic Coordinates		22.56934 N, 88.33348 E											
Date/Period of Construction		Mid-20th century											
Ownership		Government											
Owner's Name		Life Insurance Company of India											
Property Type		Building				Architectural Merit (examining special features of 20 th century built heritages)		The Hindustan Building, comprising six stories along with its tower, adopts a triangular layout aligned with the plot's boundaries. The front facade features a central bay ascending into a tower-like structure of similar design, serving as the main entrance. Flanking this central bay are three bays on either side, each adorned with balconies featuring rectangular openings, and delineated by prominent vertical pilasters. The intersection of the two streets adopts a cantilever design with semi-circular balconies. Notably, the building's facade echoes classical ornamentation, signalling a departure from colonial styles towards a modern architecture of globally-influenced 'Art Deco' styles.					
Property Sub-type		Office											
Property Past Use		Office											
Property Present Use		Office											
State of Protection		Protected											
Property site and surroundings		This building located on Chittaranjan Avenue, at its junction with Market Street, to the Chanderi Chowk area. The Chanderi Chowk Metro Station (under) gate is behind.											
Architectural Style		Art Deco				State of Conservation		Good					
General Criteria for Listing		➤ Socio-economic ➤ Architectural											
Statement of Significance: It is owned and built by Hindustan Corporation Insurance Co, the first Insurance Co of India, founded by Nalini Ranjan Sarkar, later became Life Insurance Company of India.						Threats to property Condition		Good. The building is fully maintained, with the first floor housing the City Branch and the second floor accommodating various small branches, the Railway Insurance Corporation's office, and a Zonal Conference Hall. Departments of the Eastern Zonal Office occupy the 3rd to 6th floors, all maintaining the building's grandeur. Additionally, the annex building at the rear houses five city branches.					
Historical		High		Architectural								High	
Aesthetic		High		Technological-Scientific								High	
Socio-Cultural		High		Fiscal Grade								I	
						Name of Surveyor		Dr. Satyajeet Das					
						Bibliography		Says.com, archived on way National Geography- Nalini Ranjan Sarkar					

Sl. No. n)	TOWER HOUSE		
			
Full Name	Tower House		History and Evolution In the British colonial era, 'Tower House' stood as Calcutta's tallest building. It especially served as a transmission hub for the 'Voice of America' during World War II when US troops were stationed in Kolkata. Additionally, during the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971, it served as a broadcast center for the first Radio Bangladesh , disseminating news and propaganda about the conflict. Originally belonging to Talbot & Co, their offices occupied the 7th, 8th, and 9th floors. Presently, it is under the ownership of Anandil Polaris.
Address	2A & 2B, Chowringhee Square, Kolkata, West Bengal 700069		
Geographic Coordinates	22.56700° N, 88.331000° E		
Date/Period of Construction	Late 19th		
Ownership	Private (Tennants)		
Owner's Name	Past owner - Talbot & Co Present owner - Anandil Polaris		
Property Type	Building		Architectural Merit (exemplifying special features of 19 th century-built heritage)
Property Sub-type	Commercial		
Property Use	Commercial		
Property Present Use	Commercial		
Status of Preservation	Preserved		
Property site and surroundings	Located at the junction of Balaiah Road, C.R. Avenue and Chowringhee Road. Nearby landmarks are Tipu Sultan Masjid, Victoria House, Sanshodhan building, Ayaz Khanna etc.		
Architectural Style	Art Deco Indo-Thai		State of Conservation Poor
General Criteria for Listing	> Architectural > Socio-political		Threats to property Neglected. It is threatened by fire hazards. Needs urgent overall restoration program.
Statement of Significance: The Tower House was one of the tallest buildings of Calcutta when it was built. It is also significant for its role during WW-II and Bangladesh War with high socio-political value. It is also important as a building of the Indo-Thai style designed by Sadler, Ballantine and Thompson, a leading design firm.			Condition Description Loss of masonry, loss of plaster, damaged window shutters, loss of ornamentation, damaged railings, vegetation growth, unattended electrical cables hanging dangerously.
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	High	Technological Scientific	High
Socio-political	High	Free Grade	NA
			Name of Surveyor One Dr. Alif College of Architecture Sayy Ghosh, Anindita Pal, Nandipati Das, Anuragha Mondal
			Bibliography http://www.balabharati.com/monuments/rajapala-04-04-2016-04-2016

Additional Photographs: -



River House- an early example of Art- Deco



Close-up details exhibiting architectural features

Sr. No. 10		CESC BUILDING	
			
Full Name	Victoria House		
Address	4, Chowringhee Square, Kolkata, West Bengal 700072		
Geographic Coordinates	22.56424 N, 88.32211 E		
Date Period of Construction	1933		
Ownership	Private		
Owner's Name	RP-Sanjiv Group		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Commercial		
Property Use	CESC (former) office		
Property Present Use	CESC (Indian Multinational) Office		
State of Protection	Preserved		
Property use and surroundings	Located at the junction of Borelick Street, C.R. Avenue and Chowringhee Road. Nearby landmarks are Stateman building, Tipu Sultan Masjid, Tower House, Apollo House		
Architectural Style	Hybrid Neo-Classical and Art Deco		
General Criteria for Listing	> Architectural > Infrastructure		
Statement of Significance: The CESC House is one of the first few buildings with an Art Deco influence. It is the first heritage building in India to achieve LEED v4.1 Platinum, the highest level of certification from Green Building Certification Inc (GBCI).			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Academic	Medium	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-economic	High	Fiscal Grade	1
		Name of Surveyor	Om Deep College of Architecture - Arayan Mondal, Assistant Prof Subhojit Datta Mukherjee
		Bibliography	www.constructionweekonline.in , Wikipedia , www.singha.com , www.rpsanjiv.com

Sr. No. 68		NEW SECRETARIATE		
				
Full Name	New Secretariate		History and Evolution	Following Independence, new areas of administrative activity generated an enormous demand for office space. The construction of the thirteen-story New Secretariat Building in Calcutta marked the beginning of high-rise construction in India. The building was planned according to the modern trend in designs of office buildings and architecture such as the United Nations Headquarters in New York and the Ministry of Education building in Rio de Janeiro. The wall clock, fire-fighting net tower, and running of plumbing through central service shafts were all features introduced through this building. Calcutta's New Secretariat Building retained its tallest modern building for a decade, a skyscraper for the Government of West Bengal.
Address	1, Kisan Shankar Roy Road (Shankar Road), Kolkata, West Bengal 700001			
Geographic Coordinates	22.569764 N, 88.343223 E			
Date/Period of Construction	1954			
Ownership	Public			
Owner's Name	State Government of West Bengal			
Property Type	Building		Architectural Merit (maintaining special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The New Secretariat building occupies entirety of a 13-storey building placed perpendicularly to a 600-storey building, both rectangular in plan along with a circular 600-storey building joining the former two. The buildings were designed on a grid of 6.1m x 6.6m. The frame structure rests on 250-deep R.C. piles. The circular building has a continuous corridor running along its front facade. The main building uses vertical shading devices called fins on its facade, typical of modern architecture in Kolkata during Post-Independence era.
Property Sub-type	Office			
Property Past Use	Administrative			
Property Present Use	Administrative			
State of Preservation	Unimpaired			
Property size and surroundings	The New Secretariat Building is located at the junction of Shank Road and Kisan Shankar Roy Road. The building faces the Hooghly River to the West and South West. To the North is B.B.D Bag.			
Architectural Style	Modern Designed by:- Ar. Mokkur Rahman		State of Conservation	Full
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architectural ➤ Administrative Building		Threats to property	Lack of informed conservation techniques, haphazard additions and physical infrastructure (partitions, lifts, HVAC)
Statement of Significance: Symbol of aspirations of making of Modern India after Independence. Probably the first high rise multi-storied building in Calcutta with contemporary style, designed by Ar. Mokkur Rahman, the first Chief Architect of CPWD.			Condition Description	None or less maintained, yet requires proper planning for its upgradation or any additional alteration.
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High	
Socio-Cultural	Medium	Final Grade		
			Bibliography:	Chatterjee, Mahir. "1947 - 1959: Options after Independence, the Evolution of Contemporary Indian Architecture." In <i>Architecture in India, Paris and Other Black Mountain, 1945</i> . Pp. 128-137. Wikivoyage commons://:SA:5.0

Sr. No. 7)	TATA CENTRE				
					
Full Name:	Tata Centre				
Address:	43 J.L. Nehru Road, Kolkata-700071				
Geographic Coordinates:	22.567038 N, 88.346642 E				
Date Period of Construction:	1961				
Ownership:	Private				
Owner's Name:	Tata Group				
Property Type:	Building				
Property Sub-type:	Commercial				
Property Use Case:	Office				
Property Present Use:	Office				
Item of Protection:	Unprotected				
Property site and surroundings:	Tata Centre is located at the crossing of Chowringhee road and Ho Chi Minh Square. Nearby landmarks are Avenue Shopping Mall, The 42 and the Museum.				
Architectural Style:	Modern Designed by Malabar and East				
General Criteria for Listing:	> Architectural > Socio-economic				
Statement of Significance: In post-independence era, for a long time, it stands as the tallest building of the city. Tata Centre is the regional corporate HQ of Tata Group in Kolkata.					
Historical	Medium	Architectural	High		
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High		
Socio-economic	High	Fiscal Grade:			
History and Evolution	Tata Centre, Kolkata is amongst the early tall buildings of the country. With its foundation stone was laid in 1961, the building started being operational in 1970s. The building houses most of the Tata Group's city operations, like Tata steel, Tata Blue scope steel, Tata Pigments, TCS, Tata International, Tata Sports, Tata Mutual Fund and Marketing and Sales office of Tata Steel Ltd. With 18 stories and a basement and height of about 231 feet from Ground Level, it remained as the tallest building of Eastern India until 1976. The corporate office, which was earlier in this building, has now been shifted to Salt Lake Sector V.				
Architectural Merit (acknowledging special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The building was designed by a Chicago based architectural firm, with a futuristic vision and even after 58 years, stands as a notable example of Modernist architecture in the city. Tata Centre is uniquely designed with central fins and a central shaft behind it, on the front facade to promote glass flow natural light within the building, yet minimising the glare of western Sun. The building is rectangular in plan and as 18 stories diagonals with underground car parking facility at the basement, centrally air conditioned, and served by 7 nos. high-speed elevators.				
Status of Conservation	Good				
Threats to property	Inappropriate interventions and alterations				
Condition Description	The structure is in a well-maintained condition. It is currently undergoing renovation by Upstox Associates.				
Name of Surveyor	Students of Om Doyal group of Institutions Rishi Pal, Swastika Datta Bandy, Soumitra Banerjee, Samrat Kumar				
Bibliography	See, <i>Kolkata-on: Colours, Discovering, and Celebrating Kolkata: From a Colonial to a Post-Modern City</i> , Anandadev, Anandadev University, June, 2017. https://doi.org/10.1155/9781680208101				

Additional Photographs:



The 42, the tallest building came up next to Tata Centre



Side view of Tata Centre



Close up view from Road- steel screen wall is visible

PC Pedrazi Series

Sr. No 71		JEEVAN DEEP		
 				
Full Name		Jeevan Deep		
Address		42 C, Jantarbatal Nohra Rd Chowmptan, Kank, Kalam, Wazirpur 700071		
Geographic Coordinates		22.348850 N, 88.340251 E		
Date/Period of Construction		1978 - Jeevan Deep 1986 - Jeevan Deep		
Ownership		Public		
Owner's Name		Life Insurance Corporation of India Limited		
Property Type		Building		
Property Sub-type		Commercial		
Property Past Use		Office		
Property Present Use		Office		
State of Preservation		Unprotected		
Property site and surroundings		The building is located at the corner of Chowmptan Road and Midliff Road. Opposite to it is the Calcutta Market. Nearby landmarks are Tata Centre, Kank Building, The 42, Mahan Metro Station etc.		
Architectural Style		Modern		
General Criteria for Listing		➤ Architectural ➤ Socio-Economic		
Statement of Significance: It is a landmark building and one of the first multi-storied commercial building with contemporary architectural style. It has many offices of LIC, and branches of State Bank of India.				
Historical	Medium	Architectural	High	
Associational	Medium	Technological/Scientific	High	
Socio-economical	High	Visual Grade		
History and Evolution		Jeevan Deep, a commercial office building, was constructed during the post-independence era by the Life Insurance Corporation of India as a landmark to advertise modernism and departing from colonial architectural style. It stands as an early example of a multi-storied RCC framed structure in the city. Housing numerous offices of LIC, as well as branches of financial institutions such as the State Bank of India (SBI) Branch, it embodies the city's commercial landscape. Adjacent to it stands Jeevan Deep, another notable LIC building housing 10 floors and reaching a height of 72 meters (236 ft), erected in 1986. In 2017, a flyover came on its 17th floor, ultimately securing its a holiday and resulting in its location.		
Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20th century-built heritage)		Maxwell Fry, a British architect, spearheaded the inception of multi-storied buildings in the post-independence era, introducing a contemporary modernized style to Kolkata and initiating the trend of RCC framed high-rise structures. This building stands as one of the earliest examples, characterized by its simple yet elegant design. Consisting of a rectangular vertical tower atop a horizontal double-storied rectangular base, the structure exhibits a harmonious balance between form and function. Facing west, the three facade features a solid mass with strategically placed vertical louvers arranged diagonally to mitigate direct sunlight. Meanwhile, the north and south sides boast abundant windows adorned with both vertical and horizontal fins, facilitating cross-ventilation.		
Date of Construction		1978		
Threats to property		No threats identified.		
Condition Description		Material deterioration, water seepage, cracks, corrosion in metal elements, damaged window shutters, vegetation growth, etc. are few areas where attention is needed for maintenance.		
Name of Surveyor		Students of Om Dnyal College of Architecture: Dipan Mondal, Tania Karanika, Chirita Chakrabarti, Anur Das, Aranya Majumdar		
Bibliography		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeevan_Deep		

Additional Photographs: -



'Jeevan Deep' Building of LIC (1958) at Chowringhee Road :

P.C. Indrani Sarkar



'Jeevan Jyoti' building (1986) of LIC, a 19 storied building has come up in the same complex. 'The 42' is standing behind it.

P.C. Indrani Sarkar

Sr. No. 1	Taj Bengal Hotel				
					
Part Name	Taj Bengal Hotel	History and Evolution It was inaugurated on October 10, 1981, by Jyoti Basu, then Chief Minister of West Bengal. Initially, controversy arose due to its location on the highway but flight paths near Alipore Zoo. However, the then Chief Minister Basu reached the hotel, allowing Tata Group's hotel project to proceed with slight relocation of the building in consultation with environmentalists, so that the path of the highway birds will not be disturbed.			
Address	14B, Helipline Road, Alipore, Kolkata 700027				
Geographic Coordinates	22.525007 N, 88.334488 E				
Date Period of Construction	1980				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Tata Group				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Commercial				
Property Part List	Hotel	Architectural Style (incorporating special features of 20th century-built heritage) Taj Bengal in Kolkata offers a blend of modernity and luxury in the upscale Alipore neighbourhood. Its innovative, multi-level design centres around a full-height atrium that floods the space with natural light through polycarbonate slabs, emphasising sustainability. The Y-shaped, five-floor building features a vertical garden facade, terracotta-tiled roof, and a garden, reflecting Bengal's artistic heritage. The hotel, covering 12,956 sq. ft., includes 200 rooms and 20 suites, with views of a ground floor lounge adorned with palm trees and terracotta sculptures.			
Property Present Use	Hotel				
State of Preservation	Integrated				
Property site and surroundings	This hotel is located opposite to the Alipore Zoological Gardens, (towards other side surrounded by Tolly road).				
Architectural Style	Modern - designed by American architect Solo (Robert) E. Fox, Jr. , assisted by local architects - Ajay Choudhary and Ranjit Sahoti	State of Conservation Very Good			
General Criteria for Listing	► Architecture				
Statement of Significance: An iconic example of modern architecture. The first hotel in Kolkata with atrium concept and vertical green wall, built by Taj Group of Hotels.		Threats to property No apparent threats visible.			
		Condition Description The building is fairly well maintained.			
Historical	Low	Architectural	High	Name of Source Bibliography https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taj_Bengal_Hotel https://www.tajhotels.com	
Associational	Low	Technological Science	High		
Socio-Cultural	Medium	Fixed Grade			

Additional Photographs: -



A Green building concept - The atrium with natural light from the top



Terracotta Deity/statue - a trademark of Bengal - terracotta clad sloped roofing



Restaurant - Cal 27 - a nostalgic interior with traditional floor pattern & Chandihati windows

PC: Indrani Sarkar

Sr No. 73	SCIENCE CITY		
			
Post Name	Science City	History and Evolution	The inception of Science City Kolkata dates back to 1936 when the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) envisioned it as a means to disseminate science by engaging the public through interactive exhibits, models, shows, and other educational resources. Dr. Sisiraj Ghosh, then Director of NCSM, championed this initiative. Despite facing significant opposition, NCSM persisted with its vision of utilizing technology to transform a former garbage dump into a vibrant public space, thereby demonstrating the transformative power of technology for the gain of a common man. Over a period of time, Science City Kolkata has successfully embodied NCSM's ethos of leveraging technology for the betterment of society, especially for the youth.
Address	188 Haldimann Avenue, Midan Gardens, East Sector, Sector, Kolkata, West Bengal 700044		
Geographic Coordinates	22.540286 N, 88.396027 E		
Date/ Period of Construction	1936 to 1996		
Ownership	Public		
Owner's Name	Government of India	Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The architecture of Science City, designed by New Development Consultants Pvt Ltd (NDCPL), Kolkata, presents an intriguing, contemporary architectural form. Each building showcases a unique architectural style inspired by handcrafted, geometric shapes. Notable structures include the Space Odyssey, a double-height rectangular hall resembling a large classical shell structure, and the Dynas-motion Hall, a striking four-story ascending spiral shell resembling a nautilus. The Centromex Centre features two open hexapods, each with a central structure. These buildings are set amidst various construction technologies under skillfully landscaped surroundings.
Property Type	Private		
Property Sub-type	Recreational, Institutional		
Property Past Use	Science museum, science park and auditoriums		
Property Present Use	Science museum, science park and auditoriums		
State of Protection	Represented	State of Conservation	Good
Property site and surroundings	It is located at the eastern edge of the Eastern Metropolitan Bypass and Park Circus Road, where the Main Flyover and opposite to Midan Moha ground.		
Architectural Style	Modern	Threats to property Condition Description	No apparent threats. The site has a large landfill of wastes but is still in a fairly good condition due to regular maintenance by NCSM.
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architecture ➤ Socio culture Science & Technology		
Statement of Significance: It is the largest science centre in Asia containing a science museum, science park and auditoriums, the complex serves as an iconic entertainment zone. It has become one of the symbols of Kolkata's landmarks.			
Historical	Medium	Architectural	High
Associational	Medium	Technological / Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	
Name of Surveyor		Om Dayal College of Architecture (Chandrabati Park, Midnapore, Patna, Muzaffarpur, Imphal, Shillong)	
Bibliography		https://www.ncsm.org.in/science-city-kolkata https://www.digitalsky.org/kolkata-science-city/ https://www.sciencecitykolkata.org.in	

Additional Photographs: -



The Conventium Centre

PC: <https://www.dynamismuseum.com/bangal/international-museum-cyber-a-sound-art-01/>



The Landscaped area in and around

PC: Creative Commons-CC-BY-SA-3.0



The Dynamotion Hall – exterior view

PC: Indroo Senior



The Dynamotion Hall – interior view

PC: Wikimedia Commons-CC-BY-SA-3.0 (Biswajit Goswami)



The Entrance Gate to the complex

PC: www.museum24hours.org.in

Sr. No. 14		CENTENARY BUILDING, CALCUTTA HIGH COURT	
			
Full Name	High Court Annex	History and Evolution	The High Court of Calcutta, the oldest in India, faced the necessity to expand its main building due to increasing operational constraints. Consequently, a new building was erected in the adjacent vicinity, inaugurated on April 2nd, 1977 by the then Chief Justice, Munirul Hossain Khan. This extension, originally named the "Centenary Building," coincided with the High Court's centennial celebration, marking it the popular nickname of the Centenary Building.
Address	1, Papanagarh Bazar West, BBID High, Kolkata, West Bengal, 700005		
Geographic Coordinates	22.56963 N, 88.34413 E		
Date Period of Construction	1977		
Ownership	Public		
Owner's Name	State Government of West Bengal		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Administrative/Judicial	Architectural Merit (emphasizing special features of 20th century-built heritage)	The building was designed by Sir Ross and Sonnerup, who was the Chief Architect of State PWD at that time. The design aimed to harmonize with the existing Gothic-style architecture of the nearby Calcutta High Court. It represents an effort to revive and integrate the Gothic Revivalist style. Situated adjacent to the High Court, the building adopts a distinctive V-shape that complements its surroundings and offers a commanding view looking at G+3 levels. It incorporates modern amenities. Notably, its proposed Gothic arch is a defining feature, inspired by, but not directly replicated from the main High Court building, contributing a fascinating and noteworthy concept.
Property Use	High Court		
Property Process Use	High Court		
Status of Preservation	Designated		
Property site and surroundings	The building is located next to the main High court building. This building surrounded by the Calcutta swimming club and Ordinance factory head building and High Court Soudal Centenary Building.		
Architectural Style	Revivalist with Gothic influence		
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architecture		
Statement of Significance: An early attempt of Colonial attempt to create a harmonious architecture with the surrounding.		State of Conservation	Good
		Threats to property	N/A
		Condition Description	Keeping part of the Main Building's architectural symmetry, in addition to various office spaces and a Research and Preservation Centre. A Industries right court room. Over the years a few more rooms and corridors have been allocated for the Bar Association, both in the Main building and in the Centenary building. The Mayor's Court and Supreme Court records are housed in the Research Centre on the second floor of the Centenary Building. The health of the building seems good, well maintained.
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	High	Fixed Grade	
		Name of Surveyor	Dr. Subrata Sarkar (Architect)
		Bibliography	http://theheritageheritage.com.in/ PC http://www.pcw.govt.nic.in/ CCA-3.0 http://www.collegiate.edu/Calcutta_High_Court

Sr. No. 13		BABYLON APARTMENTS			
					
Full Name		Babylon Apartments		History and Evolution	The site is representative of a shift in residential typology from individual bungalows to multi-minority apartments. This showcases the socio-cultural changes during this period where families moved away from a joint set up to a nuclear family system.
Address		21 A&R Alipore, Kolkata 700027			
Geographic Coordinates		22.521951 N, 88.329148 E			
Date/Period of Construction		1988			
Ownership		Private			
Owner's Name		Ramesh Kumar Dasg, Vijay Agarwal others		Architectural Merit (reviewing special features of 20 th century built heritage)	Architect Dalid Mukherjee was an idealistic project by few architects' conviction (them) to make a high-rise in the middle of a plush locality of the city filled with bungalows, large stepped terrace gardens with wild and wild compositions.
Property Type		Residential			
Property Sub-type		Apartment (Multi-Minority)			
Property Use Case		Residential			
Property Present Use		Residential			
State of Preservation		Unrestored		State of Conservation	Good
Property size and surroundings		Alipore Residential Area			
Architectural Style		Modern			
General Criteria for Listing		► Architectural		Threats to property Condition Description	NA The structures are well maintained and in a good condition.
Statement of Significance: Pioneering design in multi-minority apartments of 20 th Century Kolkata by Ar. Dalid Mukherjee. His philosophy of introducing a little green in every built form resulting one in high-rise buildings.					
Historical	Low	Architectural	High		
Associational	Medium	Technological/Scientific	High	Name of Surveyor	Indran Sanyal
Socio-Cultural	High	Fiscal Grade			
				Bibliography:	Primary Sources: Dalid Mukherjee and Associates, Kolkata

Additional Photographs: -



Terrace at various levels



Side View



Architectural features



Rear view

PC: Dilip Mukherjee & Associates

Sr. No. 79		KALACHAND TEMPLE	
			
Part Name:	Kalachand Temple		
Address:	115/11, Basuhalal Sankar Street, Kolkata, West Bengal 700009		
Geographic Coordinates:	22.58138 N, 88.366182 E		
Date/Period of Construction:	1929		
Ownership:	Trust property		
Owner's Name:	Waste Family		
Property Type:	Building		
Property Sub-type:	Temple		
Property Post Code:	Temple		
Property Present Use:	Temple		
State of Preservation:	Impoverished		
Property site and surroundings:	Nearby landmarks, Bellary School and Arad Hind Bag (Midan Park)		
Architectural Style:	Rajasthani Architecture		
General Criteria for Listing:	➤ Multiethnicity ➤ Architecture		
Statement of Significance: This remarkable stone temple of Rajasthani style is worth to be noted along with other heritage sites of Kolkata. It displays the multi-ethnicity culture of Kolkata.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	Medium	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	High	Visual Grade	
History and Evolution		The forgotten stone temple of 'Kalachand' (the other name of Sri Krishna) located near Midan, North Kolkata is an amazing intricate carved architectural example of Rajasthani style, less known to the citizens of Kolkata. It is still standing today with pomp and grandeur. The builder of this Kalachand temple belongs to the family of Late Shibpur Chandra Nasa of Midan, who founded 'Narasim Kal' temple' in the near vicinity.	
Architectural Merit (outstanding special features of 20 th century-built heritage):		This is a Hindu temple, dedicated to Lord Krishna. Constructed out of stone, features intricate Rajasthani-style carvings that stand out distinctly from Bengal's prevalent 'Aachal' or 'Nubartana' temple styles. The front facade is composed of five bays, with a central gateway providing access to the inner sanctum. Along the terrace, there is a position that reflects Mughal architectural influences. The gateway's entrance is elegantly decorated with delicate carvings, and the terrace's parapet is designed with traditional Rajasthani jalis. All decorative elements showcase traditional Indian motifs.	
State of Conservation:		Well-maintained. Rarely with the initiative of the heritage enthusiasts, the temple is lit with offset lighting, enhancing the grandeur of architecture.	
Threats to property		Nil	
Condition Description:		Extremely well	
Name of Surveyor		Sakanya Mitra, (ICITNOS 588)	
Bibliography		Primary sources Sakanya Mitra, Indian Sarkar, Media Pabitra	

Additional Photographs: -



Front View



Pavilion at the top



Intricate carving around windows



Ornamental Brackets & multifoliated arch

J.C. Mulla's Patilwala, Indiranagar, Varanasi

Sr. No. 77	ORIENTAL ASSURANCE						
							
Part Name	Oriental Assurance			History and Evolution	The Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company, established in 1874 in Bombay by Mr. Duncan McLeachlan Shaw and a group of affluent Indians, was a pioneering life insurance provider for Indians in the 20th century. Notable founders included Kamradh Tyabji, Kancherath Narayan Khosla, and Jaganji Ramnarayan Mody . The company quickly expanded, opening branches in Madras in 1901 and Calcutta in 1918. It was a subsidiary of the Life Insurance Corporation of India from 1956 to 1977. In 1985, the General Insurance Corporation of India's share was transferred to the central government, ending its public sector insurance company under the Ministry of Finance.		
Address	2, Purnima Prasad Bazar (Clock Bazar), Kolkata, West Bengal 700001						
Geographic Coordinates	22.577037 N, 88.349864 E						
Date/Period of Construction	1914						
Ownership	Public Sector Undertaking						
Owner's Name	Life Insurance Corporation of India						
Property Type	Building			Architectural Merits (outstanding special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The Oriental Assurance Building features a 5-bay-wide facade, with the central and side bays projecting outward. The central bay displays a pediment on the second floor, featuring what appears to be the Oriental Life Assurance crest, an ornate fire-vented air within a thorny vine, surrounded by flowers. The building has five floors, although the top floor, which appears somewhat dilapidated, may have been added later, possibly without proper authorization. Four Ionic columns separate the bays and the ground, first, and second floors are rusticated. The side entrances, located beneath the projecting bays, each have a pediment, and the facade is adorned with intricate stone ornamentation.		
Property Sub-type	Office						
Property	Office						
Past Use	Office						
Property Present Use	Office						
State of Preservation	Preserved						
Property site and surroundings	On a prime location of R.M.D. Bazar, surrounded by many heritage buildings, next to it is Calcutta House.			State of Conservation	At risk.		
Architectural Style	Neo-classical						
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architectural ➤ Socio-economic						
Statement of Significance: The "Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company" was a pioneer company of 19th century, in the field of Life Insurance policy for Indians. In 2005, it became a public sector company owned by GOI. It is one of the beautiful building in RMD Bazar.							
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Indranil Sarker		
Associational	Medium	Technological/Scientific	High				
Socio-Cultural	High	Visual Grade	I				
				Bibliography	Post photo-PC: Kamaljit Das http://indianinfojournal.blogspot.in/ Company Papers by Dipanjan Ghosh		

Additional Photographs: -



View from Dr. Rajendra Prasad Sarani



Architectural features



Massive plantations damaging the building



Architectural features

Sr. No. 73		BALMER LARSEN & CO	
			
Parent Name	Balmer Larsen & Co		
Address	21, Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata- 700091		
Geographic Coordinates	22.271715°N, 88.5471961°E		
Date/Period of Construction	1924		
Ownership	Private		
Owner's Name	Balmer Larsen & Co		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Commercial		
Property Use/Use	Office		
Property Present Use	Office		
Status of Preservation	Preserved		
Property size and surroundings	Located at Netaji Subhas Road in WHD Bag, next to RRI, surrounded by many heritage buildings.		
Architectural Style	Neo-Baroque		
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-economic ➤ Architectural ➤ Multi-cultural		
Statement of Significance: One of the most prominent business houses of 20 th century, Balmer Larsen is a Mini-Ratna-I Public Sector Enterprise , under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India. It was founded by two Scottish men.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	Medium	Technological/Scientific	Medium
Socio-Economical	High	Faith Grade	I
		Name of Surveyor	Indranil Sarker
		Bibliography	https://www.dailymirror.com/telegram-telegrama.jpg

Additional Photographs: -



Front View



view before (Archival Photo)

Sr. No. 19		COAL SHAWAN				
						
Post Name	Coal India Limited		History and Evolution Coal has been part of India's history since time immemorial. It was first commercially mined in 1774 from Ranigumpha coalfield, West Bengal. The adoption of mechanistic mining practices and poor working conditions of labour in some of the private coal mines was the catalyst for the Government in the Post-Independence era. Central Government under Indira Gandhi's administration nationalised the private coal mines. The nationalisation was done in two phases. First phase was in 1971-72 and the second one in 1973. Here onwards it was renamed as Coal India Ltd (1973) and continued its headquarters at Kolkata on the same building i.e. Coal Shawan since then.			
Address	10, Netaji Subhas Road, BBD Bag (Dakshin Square), Kolkata, West Bengal 700001					
Geographic Coordinates	22°56'10"N, 88°34'13"E					
Date/Period of Construction	1934					
Ownership	Public					
Owner's Name	Government of India					
Property Type	Building		Architectural Merits (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The Coal Shawan is rectangular in plan, 60' x 100' in size. The building has a gabled tower like structure on one end of the front facade. On the other end, the facade takes a semi-circle form rising up like a tower with a dome. Between the two ends are five bays with arched window openings on the upper floors. On the ground floor, the bay with the gable above has an ornamental entrance.		
Property Sub-type	Commercial					
Property Use	Office					
Property Past Use	Office					
Property Present Use	Office					
State of Preservation	Preserved					
Property site and surroundings	The building is located in BBD Bag (Dakshin Square) on Netaji Subhas Road amongst other commercial edifices, near Gitanjali House and Martin & Co Office and opposite to Reserve Bank of India		State of Conservation	Poor Lack of regular maintenance The facade of the structure has been altered substantially. There are inappropriate additions and alterations in the interior too.		
Architectural Style	Mixed with influence of European Architecture					
General Criteria for Listing	► Socio-economic ► Architectural					
Statement of Significance: The building houses a 'Maharatna' public sector undertaking (PSU) company of Government of India which is the largest coal producer in the world.			Description			
Historical	High	Architectural		Medium		
Associational	Medium	Technological/Innovative		Medium	Name of Surveyor	
Socio-economic	High	Fiscal Grade		High	Bibliography	



Past Name:	Gillander House	History and Evolution	Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co. Ltd. (GAC) incorporated as a partnership firm since 1931, started by F. M. Gillanders and G. C. Arbuthnot of Scottish origin. It became part of Kothari Group of Companies in the late sixties. Gillander House , one of the famous buildings in Kolkata recognized for its legacy of business and architecture. It is the headquarters of Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co. founded by Mr. A.K. Kothari. The firm is one of the very few original founders of the Reserve Bank of Commerce still operating under its original name. The building houses multiple offices in the prime location of Kolkata.
Address:	8, Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata - 700 001	Architectural Merit	Designed by British architect Henry Stuart Goodhart-Rendell , the Gillander House is a fine colonial building with a curved front facade, at the junction of two streets, flanked on each side by circular towers with a domed top, flanked on either side. The rectangular ground floor has grand semi-circular arches, the central one forming a gateway with an ornamental iron gate. The first floor has a row of rectangular windows opening surrounded by moulded bands. The second floor has a row of three narrow windows without any ornamentation. Above this, on the top floor is a projecting balcony supported on pairs of ornamental brackets supporting two columns and a decorative railing. The ground floor and top floor is sheltered with sand stone. The two circular side towers, which have masonry within have vertical bands running down the facade, with each bay having a square sandstone window.
Geographic Coordinates:	22.57602 N, 88.34108 E	Conservation special features of 19th century built heritage:	
Date/Period of Construction:	1909	State of Conservation	Good
Ownership:	Private	Threats to property	No threats visible at present
Owner's Name:	Original owners: F. M. Gillanders & G. C. Arbuthnot. Present Owners: Kothari Group of companies	Credibility Description	Good
Property Type:	Building	Name of Surveyor	Indira Sarker
Property Sub-type:	Commercial	2D/3D Geography	http://india-heritage.kapsons.com http://www.gillandersarbuthnot.com
Property Use:	Office		
Property Present Use:	Office		
State of Protection:	Preserved		
Property site and surroundings:	A prime location in BBE Bag (Dalhousie Square) area, next to Civil Museum. Situated at the crossing of N.S. Road and Chittr Road. Reserve Bank of Commerce , Reserve Bank of India , Writers' Building are in the near vicinity.		
Architectural Style:	Revivalist - combination of Neo-classical with Art-Deco style prominent in Modern.		
General Criteria for Listing:	➤ Architectural ➤ Socio-economic ➤ Multi-salient		
Statement of Significance:	Architectural landmark and a prestigious headquarters of Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co. one of the firms which still continues its legacy of trading in Kolkata since early 19 th century.		
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Aesthetic	Good	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	High	Fixed Grade	I

Additional Photographs:-



Front View (2021)



A Thoroughfare



The Gate



Lionhead on Gate



Starwest Tower



The brackets



The grand arched stone clad Gateway



Archival Photo (FC: Porvoo Exhibit - Golpo-6)

Sr. No. 1)		MARTIN BURN LIMITED	
			
Parent Name	Martin, Burn & Co.		
Address	1, R.N. Mondherjee Road (Mission Road), Kolkata, West Bengal 700001		
Geographic Coordinates	22.572334 N, 88.331133 E		
Date Period of Construction	1940		
Ownership	Private		
Owner's Name	Original Owner- Sir Rajen Mondherjee Present Owner - Mr. Karanath Patra Gupta		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Commercial-Office		
Property Past Use	Commercial-Office		
Property Present Use	Commercial-Office		
Status of Protection	Preserved		
Property site and surroundings	In the Central Business District (CBD) area of Kolkata i.e. R.N. Bag, surrounded by many heritage buildings.		
Architectural Style	Art Deco		
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architectural ➤ Socio-Economic Associated Value		
Statement of Significance: one of the most significant office buildings of a renowned business group namely Black Burn Co. Associated with three iconic personalities, Mr. Industrialist Sir R.N. Mondherjee, Sir Rajen Mondherjee and philanthropist Lady Burn blackburns			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Aesthetical	High	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	High	Faith Grade	NA
History and Evolution		Martin Burn & Co was a business Engineering and civil works development firm of 20th century based in Kolkata. It was owned by Sir R.N. Mondherjee by amalgamating two firms in the year 1927 the Martin & Co (1899) and Burn Co. (1889). Originally Sir R.N. Mondherjee was the partner of Martin & Co. owned by Sir Thomas A. Martin. Most of the Architectural splendors of Kolkata were built by Martin & Co. This includes <i>Rajendra Memorial Jaiid Mohan Chandra Bank, Tagore Memorial, Tipu Sultan Mosque, Bala Mah, Ramkrishna Mission, Temple of Culture, New Government Building, Jalalabad Station 22 Railway Bldg</i> etc. Sir Rajen was part of the team of experts that recommended the construction of the <i>Howrah Bridge</i>. He emerged as an industrialist, when he founded <i>IBICO as Buragup</i> in 1913. However, it has a downfall in the post-Independent era due to a conflict between his son Sir Biren and Central Govt. Now, it is under the control of Patra Gupta Group.	
Architectural Merit (outstanding special features of 20 th century-built heritage)		Located in a corner plot of one of the busiest areas of WB Bldg. i.e., Lal bazar Street and Mission Road (renowned as R.N. Mondherjee Road). A six storied building in an Art- Deco style with a chancelled terrace which situated in a prime location CBD area. Ground floor is occupied with various shops, and the other floors are mostly occupied as office space.	
State of Conservation		Good	
Threats to property Condition		Nil	
Condition Description		Good	
Name of Surveyor		Indranil Sarkar	
Bibliography		Rana, T. (2016) <i>Multitasking of Martin Burn- A forgotten Legend Says</i> https://www.martinburnindia.com/	

Sr. No. 11		UCO BANK	
			
Full Name	UCO Bank		
Address	10 RTM Narai (Shubharam Road), CBD Bag, K. Bag - 760001		
Geographic Coordinates	22.754011 N, 88.331940 E		
Date/Period of Construction	1945		
Ownership	UCO Bank		
Owner's Name	UCO Bank		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Office		
Property Past Use	Office		
Property Present Use	Office		
State of Preservation	Deteriorated		
Property site and surroundings	The building is located near Tea Board on Bichcharam Road. There are Radha Bazar Clock Market on the inside this building. Between Tea Board and this UCO Bank local office building there is local market Bala Tarangini Mahalingji Narai (RTM Narai).		
Architectural Style	Modern		
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-Economic ➤ Architecture		
Statement of Significance: It is one of the oldest and major commercial banks in India by maintaining strong presence with its 44 zonal offices spread all over India. It is a commercial bank and a Government of India's undertaking. Founded in 1943 by Sri Chaudhary Das Bala, who is a renowned industrialist during the Quit India Movement of 1942 and it is a part of Aditya Birla group. Now it is a Nationalised Bank.			
Historical	Medium	Architectural	High
Associational	Low	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	Medium	Fiscal Grade	
History and Evolution	UCO Bank, which stands for United Commercial Bank, is a Nationalised bank in present. Founded in 1943 by the renowned industrialist Sri Chaudhary Das Bala during the Quit India Movement to establish the commerce by the Indian business house in the socio-economic sector, UCO Bank is a Government of India undertaking and part of the Aditya Birla group. The bank offers a wide range of banking products and services, with its head office situated in the CBD Bag area. UCO Bank's slogan, "Honours Your Trust," effectively reflects its commitment to meeting the banking needs of its customers.		
Architectural Merit (questioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The building is designed with the modern architectural style of post-Independent era, a multi-storyed structure, and symmetrical in plan. The ground floor facade is covered with mosaic tiles. The first floor is a three off two covered with RCC slab. From second floor onwards upto six floor it has vertical slatted facade acting as a sun shading device. The side facades have rows of rectangular window openings. There is stacked construction on these facades.		
State of Conservation	Good		
Threats to property Condition	NA		
Disruption	Moderate		
Name of Surveyor	Dr. Satya Joti (Architect)		
Bibliography	www.ucobank.com		

Sr. No. 11	VIRGINIA HOUSE						
							
	Full Name	Virginia House					History and Evolution ITC Limited, an Indian multinational conglomerate headquartered in Kolkata, was founded in 1910 as the Imperial Tobacco Company of India Limited. Renamed India Tobacco Company Limited in 1979 and I.T.C. Limited in 1974, it is now known as ITC Limited. On August 24, 1926, the company acquired land at 37 Chatterjee Road, Kolkata, for Rs 1,10,000. This site became home to "Virginia House," the company's headquarters until almost two years later, and it remains one of Kolkata's most cherished landmarks.
	Address	37, Jawahar Lal Nehru Road Kolkata, West Bengal 700071					
	Geographic Coordinates	22.567013 N, 88.331344 E					
	Date/Period of Construction	1926					
	Ownership	ITC Limited (India Tobacco Company Limited)					
	Owner's Name	ITC Limited					
	Property Type	Building					
	Property Sub-type	Office					
	Property Past Use	Office					
Property Present Use	Office						
State of Preservation	Preserved.			Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century built heritage)	Virginia House is a Grek styled building with rectangular plan and Neo-Classical facade. Featuring seven bays, with the side bays slightly recessed. Each bay includes a rectangular opening bordered by a band. The ground floor displays articulation on all bays, and the side bays of the first floor floors also feature articulation. The central bay of the ground floor has a cantilevered portico, while the central bays of the upper floors have balconies and triangular pediments. The dual floor-height is monumental facade and is separated from the top floor by a continuous zone with mouldings.		
Property site and surroundings	It is situated near the Park street metro station on Chatterjee Road (New Jawahar Lal Nehru Road). American Library is one side of the Virginia House, and ITC centre is back of this building.						
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical						
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Socio-economic ➤ Architectural						
Statement of Significance: The Virginia House has great socio-economic significance due to its association with the Indian Tobacco Company (ITC) and continues to remain their headquarters. ITC is one of the leading conglomerate companies and the largest FMCG industries in India. The structure also has architectural significance for its Neo-classical facade.							
Historical	High	Architectural	High	State of Conservation Good, Well maintained	Threats to property NA	Condition Description Well maintained. At its own plot, multi-storied building with modern architecture has come up as an extension due to paucity of space.	
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	High				
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade	I				
				Name of Surveyor	Dr. Satyapriya		
				Bibliography	https://www.imperial.com/about-us/press-the-history-and-evolution.aspx		



Full Name	Bano Krishna Pal Chemistry & Druggist		
Address	62 B. Subodhchandra Street, Chitpur, Kolkata 700001		
Geographic Coordinates	22.507249 N, 88.360150 E		
Date/Period of Construction	1914		
Ownership	Private		
Owner's Name	Bano Krishna Pal		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Mixed-use (Commercial and Residential)		
Property Past Use	Shop cum residence		
Property Present Use	Shop cum residence		
State of Preservation	Preserved		
Property site and surroundings	Located on Subodhchandra Street in North Kolkata surrounded by dense mixed-use settlement		
Architectural Style	Regional architectural style with Post-Modern influences		
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architectural ➤ Socio-cultural ➤ Socio-economic		
Statement of Significance: It is not only a beautiful architectural example, but also possess a rich historical background of Bengali entrepreneurship of 20 th century. It represents high socio-economic and socio-cultural value of the host society.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Associational	High	Technological/Scientific	Medium
Socio-Cultural	High	Visual Grade	I

History and Evolution	This is a Residence cum medicine shop owned by a Bengali business man, Bano Krishnadas Pal , the founder of Kolkata's first Bengali-owned medicine shop, with a pioneering concept of multi-speciality clinic in the early 20 th century. In those days it used to open for 24 days. His establishment offered services including surgery department, dental section, cancer surgery room, laboratory, medical apparatus repair, homeopathy, Ayurveda and allopathic medicines under one roof. During a malaria epidemic, the business generously distributed their patented 'Falcured Tonic' for free. They also engaged in international trade with European countries and were listed as one of the top Indian companies in the 1966 UK Encyclopedia. B.N. Pal also a renowned name in a rich bourgeoisie, who owned many properties in and around Kolkata. A major street in North Kolkata renamed after him to pay homage to his charitable works.		
Architectural Merit (Overseeing special features of 20th century-built heritage)	The B.N. Pal House is an eleven storey, rectangular structure featuring a traditional layout with a central courtyard dividing the Palan and Andar Mahal . Its facade blends traditional Indian and European Baroque styles and is organized into three bays. The central bay, wider and double-storied, features a pediment with composite columns, cast iron columns, and a decorative screen. The side bays have Shankha-style balconies on the upper floors, with tall and narrow windows and wide sloping eaves on brackets. An ornate pediment with stone work crowns the central bay. The richly adorned interiors include unique artworks, grandfather clocks, mirrors, chandeliers, and rare medical books.		
State of Conservation	Good		
Threats to property	Due to age, regular maintenance is required for its preservation.		
Condition Description	The owners are present and about their heritage and thus the structure is fairly well maintained with minor defects like discoloration of rippled brick masonry in small areas, vegetation growth on windows.		
Plans of Surveyor	Indian Survey		
Bibliography	Primary Source - Interview with family members of B.N. Pal & Co.		

Additional Photographs: -



*Original Architectural style/ Before/
(Archival Photo)*



*Almost maintained with little change / At present/
(Recent Photo)*



Drawing Room



Dining Room



Pat's Library of rare books on medicine



oldest medicine shop (1904- still in running condition)

Sr. No.85	Metropolitan Building /LIC				
					
Part Name	Metropolitan Building		History and Evolution	The building, originally housing the well-known Whiteway & Laidlaw Departmental Store during the British era, built at Dharm Chandra under the ownership of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in 1935, post-independence. Consequently, it became widely known as the Metropolitan Building. Following the merger of Metropolitan Insurance with the LIC Insurance Corporation of India, the building has since then under LIC's management. The then famous Whiteway & Laidlaw departmental store was located here which was subsequently taken over by the Central Cottage Industry Experiment, after Independence - became a popular destination as landmark in Ballybazar Esplanade area. After being damaged by a fire in 1993, restoration work on the building commenced in 2006 and was completed in 2011 and is opened for public.	
Address	140, S. N. Banerjee Road, Dharamtola, Kolkata - 700013				
Geographic Coordinates	22.567014 N, 88.511113 E				
Date /Period of Construction	1935				
Ownership	Public				
Owner's Name	LIC Insurance Corporation				
Property Type	Building				
Property Sub-type	Commercial/semi-commercial				
Property Past Use	Whiteway Laidlaw Departmental Store on ground and first floor, and more residential		Architectural Merit (mentioning special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The L-shaped building on a corner plot is widely recognized for its graceful, iconic neo-classical form with a domed roof. Notable features include colonnades on the ground floor and a semicircular archway encased veranda on the first floor. The facade is enhanced by protruding semicircular cornices with round windows and Corinthian capitals under triangular pediments at the centre, housing the entrance of the first, second, and third floors. The porches on the roof and cornices are adorned with 'kallasha', a distinctive element of Kolkata's exterior. The building was built by Marblehead, Ross Ltd.	
Property Present Use	College, Institute for post-grad, shops, stores, offices, residences etc.				
State of Preservation	Preserved				
Property site and surroundings	A landmark building of the city at a prime location at a corner plot at the junction of J. L. Nehru Road (Chatterjee Road) and S. N. Banerjee Road (Dharamtola Street) i.e. Esplanade.				
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical		State of Conservation	Fair	
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Architects		Threats to property	Lack of maintenance. This iconic building's sub-potential is underutilized. The appropriation and successful adaptive reuse to this building could provide a critical model for Calcutta.	
Statement of Significance: one of the best architectural examples of Kolkata. A landmark example of Neo-classic architecture. One of the oldest stores in the city, and perhaps in India. Whiteway Laidlaw was once housed in this building.			Condition Description	After a fire burst in 1993, Architect David Mahalingam was appointed in 2006 to restore the building. Fencing on the facade and spending services to prevent hazards. Due to owner's non-cooperation, restoration took long but was completed in 2011.	
Historical/Associational	High/Good	Architectural/Technological/Scientific	High/High	Name of Survivor	Indran Barua
Socio-Cultural	High	Fiscal Grade	1	Bibliography	Country: David Mahalingam and Associates https://www.aad.org.in/project/metropolitanbuilding/

Additional Photographs: -



Before Restoration-2006 (PC: <http://www.wikimedia.org/>)



After restoration -2017



Corner Clock Tower



Central bay (Before Restoration)



Central bay (after Restoration)

(PC: https://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page#/media/File:GPO.jpg)

Sr. No. 16		KOLKATA FIRE BRIGADE HEADQUARTER	
			
			
Post Name	Kolkata Fire Brigade		
Address	127, Chittaranjan Ave, Sealdah, College Square, Kolkata, West Bengal 700073		
Geographic Coordinates	22.05001 N, 88.348180 E		
Date/Period of Construction	1903		
Ownership	Public		
Owner's Name	West Bengal Fire Service		
Property Type	Building		
Property Sub-type	Civil American Influenced		
Property Post Use	Civil American Influenced		
Property Previous Use	Civil American Influenced		
State of Protection	Preserved		
Property site and surroundings	Located centrally on a major Road Chittaranjan Avenue at Central Kolkata. Nearest landmark is Mahatma All Park		
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical		
General Criteria for Listing	► Rapid Urbanisation: Civil American		
Statement of Significance: It provides fire services to the entire City since British era and the first fire station in India.			
Historical	High	Architectural	High
Aesthetical	Medium	Technological/Scientific	High
Socio-Cultural	Low	Final Grade	I
Name of Surveyor		Students of Om Dey College of Architecture Dipen Mukherjee, Tania Karanika, Chaitaly Chakraborty, Sagor Das, Arayan Majumdar	
Bibliography		http://www.alipapapamta.com/collegelibrary/kolkata-firebrigade/177752	

Sr. No. 37		TALA TANK				
						
PC - Anantabasu Tamra/Pala prasang						
Full Name	Tala Tank			History and Evolution	The Tala tank, is a water tower in Kolkata. Construction started in 1905 and it was inaugurated in May 1911 by Edward Norman Baker , the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal. The tank, which is owned by Kolkata Municipal Corporation, is fed by Pala Water Wicket near Bhattacharya. More than 113 years after construction, the tower remains the major water supplier to the city of Kolkata. It has survived multiple calamities including the 1934 Nepal-India earthquake, World War II Japanese bombings from 1942-1944 and Cyclone Amphan in 2020.	
Address	71, Bhattacharya Tank Road, Paligara, Kolkata, West Bengal 700017					
Geographic Coordinates	22.800141 N, 88.150180 E					
Date/Period of Construction	1905-1911					
Ownership	Public					
Owner's Name	Kolkata Municipal Corporation					
Property Type	Overhead Water Reservoir			Architectural Merit (assessing special features of 20 th century built heritage)	The water tower, 55 m wide and 4.7 m deep, which is claimed to be the world's largest overhead water reservoir, covers 3-4 acres (12,000-16,000 sq ft), has a capacity of 9.9 million imperial gallons (45,000 cubic metres), stands 118 ft (34 m) off the ground and weighs 44 thousand tonnes – including water – at maximum capacity. This steel structure has 49 four-legged braced grouped columns. The bottom of the concrete runs on rounded slabs above the columns with no bolts or welding. The tank has four individually isolated chambers and a single pipeline for water from Pala and supply to the city. The steel was imported from the United Kingdom.	
Property Sub-type	Infrastructure					
Property Use Case	Water Supply					
Property Present Use	Water Supply					
State of Preservation	Preserved					
Property site and surroundings	Located at Paligara /Religubha in North Kolkata. Nearest landmark is Tala Park and Tala bridge.					
Architectural Style	Modern-Engineering Marvel			State of Conservation	Restored recently with a project cost of Rs. 100 Cr. by the joint effort of Central & State Govt, WB.	
General Criteria for Listing	➤ Rapid Urbanisation-Civic Amenity			Threats to property	No threats visible at present. Well-maintained.	
Statement of Significance: The landmark overhead Tala water tank in north Kolkata, built by the British 113 years ago to provide treated water to Kolkata's population and which still supplies 3.6 crore litres of potable water every day to the city.					Ccondition Description	In 2016, experts from IIT Kharagpur and Jadavpur University identified structural weakness, leading to its renovation plan. The renovations work that started in 2018 and was completed in March 2023, included structural member replacement, strengthening of the superstructure with the wonder ful at the top of the tank and the base being reinforced by MS plates to ensure longevity. About 5,000 tons of special hyper-tensile grade steel plate has been used in the interior.
Historical	High	Architectural	High	Name of Surveyor	Om Doyal College of Architecture- Dipan Mukherjee, Tania Karanika, Anshika Chakrabarti, Anshika Ray-Sarkar, Apurva Majumdar, Nigam Das	
Associational	Low	Technological/Scientific	High			
Socio-Cultural	Low	Final Grade	Proposed	Bibliography	www.wikipedia.com , https://altipedia.org/ , https://www.milansamagra.in , https://www.bhaskar.com	

Sr. No. 33		HOWRAH BRIDGE RAHINDRA SETU		
				
Part Name	Howrah Bridge	History and Evolution	The earlier pontoon bridge was constructed in October 1874 and handed over to Port Commissioners who managed and maintained it. The new Howrah bridge was commissioned in 1942 to replace the earlier pontoon structure. Designed by Sir Bradford Leslie, it had a total length of 1,218 feet between centers of abutments and provided a 48 feet roadway and two 7 feet footways. The bridge, although still better known as the Howrah Bridge, was renamed Rahindras Setu, after the great poet Sri Rabindranath Tagore, in 1962. It had a history of operable mechanism from earlier to pass the larger ships, but now it has been stopped as the navigability of the River Hooghly gone down for big ships.	
Address	Kolkata, West Bengal 700061			
Geographic Coordinates	22.58555° N, 88.34670° E			
Date Period of Construction	1941-42			
Ownership	Public			
Owner's Name	The Kolkata Port Trust	Architectural Merit (Outstanding special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	This is a Cantilever Bridge constructed with girders and trusses and riveted joints instead of weld-bolts. Spanning 172 meters across the suspended members and a central span of 465 meters, it is one of the longest cantilever bridges of the world. The deck is made of steel, concrete piers and beams. The steel and concrete pillars at both ends support the carriageway and this bridge, an iconic structure even today, acts as the gateway to Kolkata. Installation of 145 ceiling with GE safety wires, footpath with green blocks is added at later date for its beautification. Its mesmerizing view with illumination at night is a picturesque scene of the city.	
Property Type	Bridge			
Property Sub-type	Infrastructure			
Property Past Use	Transportation and communication			
Property Present Use	Transportation and communication			
State of Protection	Protected	State of Conservation	Good Threats to property None Condition Description Under the maintenance of Kolkata Port Trust and PWD.	
Property site and surroundings	Howrah Station is the main terminus in the east			
Architectural Style	Modern-Engineering Model			
General Criteria for Listing	► Rapid Urbanization -Infrastructure			
Statement of Significance: Howrah Bridge is one of the iconic landmark infrastructures set on Kolkata by the British administration, to connect Kolkata and Howrah exhibiting key transportation heritage that are older. It is Kolkata's one of the oldest and structurally significant bridges.				
Historical	High	Architectural	High	
Associational	Low	Technological/Scientific	High	
Socio-Cultural	Medium	Fiscal Grade	Protected	
		Name of Surveyor	Students of Om Dnyal College of Architecture Rishi Pal, Samuli Banerjee, Madhura Ray Jyotika Datta Barua https://www.mca.gov.in https://www.mca.gov.in	
		SBIS/Geography		

Additional Photographs: -



Howrah Bridge (Rabindra Setu) over Hooghly river

PC: Indrani Sarkar



Detailed design and a structural model

PC: Indrani Sarkar



Night View of Howrah Bridge

PC: Wikimedia Commons- CC0-SA-3.0

Sr. No. 19		DUTTA BARI, Durgachera			
					
Part Name		Dutta Bari			
Address		88, Jyotirath Sui Lane, Durgachera, Kolkata, West Bengal 700066			
Geographic Coordinates		22.50502° N, 88.144354° E			
Date/Period of Construction		1935-16			
Ownership		Private			
Owner's Name		Subhasnath Dutta & his sons			
Property Type		Building			
Property Sub-type		Residential			
Property Past Use		Residential			
Property Present Use		Residential			
State of Preservation		Deteriorated			
Property aim and surroundings		Located at Durgachera area of North Kolkata on a narrow plot of a narrow winding lane. One of the beautiful houses of the street.			
Architectural Style		Bungal Bungalow			
General Criteria for Listing		A Architectural			
Statement of Significance: Durgachera signifies typical characteristics of town planning and socio-culture of North Kolkata population since the inception of Kolkata as a city. This building is one of those, and has a heritage value for its architecture and history.					
Historical	Medium	Architectural	High		
Associational	Low	Technological/Innovative			
Socio-Cultural	High	Final Grade			
History and Evolution		Originally, this family were one of the settlers of Adh- Bhupatnam and used to do business of Satta/Cotton with East India. Co along with Seta and Bhowmik. Later on, engaged in Export - Import business of Handmade Cottons with South Africa in the Pre- Independence era. Now they have disinterested with Indian domestic.			
Architectural Merit (outstanding special features of 20 th century-built heritage)		A three-storied building with many ornamental architectural features, like arched windows, ornamental cornices, parapets, pediments, balconies, balconies etc. Like most of the residential buildings of North Kolkata, this house also has a small courtyard inside surrounded by columns all round supported on C.I. Columns. The veranda are also having C.I. Railings with wooden balustrade. Windows are also typical with venetian adjustable horizontal shutters. The building external facade are beautifully adorned with red and yellow bricks.			
State of Conservation		Very Good			
Threats to property		Nil			
Condition Description		Well-maintained			
Name of Surveyor		Indranil Sarkar, FI.			
Bibliography		Primary Source: Interview with family members			

Additional Photographs: -



View of Courtyard



Front view

Sl. No. 10	ROY BARI, Durgam				
					
Full Name	Roy Bari		History and Evolution	Originally the family belonged to Ash Bagumra, however at a later date they migrated to Kolkata in search of fortune. The founder of this house Gita Roy was the founder member of Calcutta Stock Exchange. They were the Exporter of Clothery and owner of Bengal-Bombay Ware house.	
Address	71A, Masjidgani Street, Durgam, Kolkata, West Bengal 700046				
Geographic Coordinates	22.794710 N, 88.340188 E				
Date/Period of Construction	1920				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Late Gita Roy				
Property Type	Residing				
Property Sub-type	Residential		Architectural Merit (showcasing special features of 19 th century-built heritage)	This house is built in a long stretch of the street with a unique architectural style. It appeals with the variety of different style of ground floor a series of windows ornamented framed stone work and first floor with a series of columns. There is a large courtyard inside within the building. The architecture is also very unique in style, with floors of multi-foliated arches and columns having Indian motifs.	
Property Use	Residential				
Property Present Use	Residential				
State of Protection	Unprotected				
Property site and surroundings	Located in Durgam area of North Kolkata on a narrow lane. One of the beautiful houses of the street.				
Architectural Style	Colonial influence		State of Conservation	Well-maintained	
General Criteria for Listing	A Architectural		Threats to property	Not really	
Statement of Significance: Durgam region is typical characteristic of town planning and socio-culture of North Kolkata population since the inception of Kolkata as a city. This building is one of those, and has a heritage value for its architecture and history.			Condition Description	It is being remain not threatened as a building destination to make it economically viable due its maintenance and survival.	
Historical	Medium	Architectural	High		
Associational	Medium	Technological Scientific	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Indran Sarker
Socio-Cultural	High	Fixed Grade		Bibliography	Primary Source Field survey Kolkata's Heritage

Additional Photographs: -



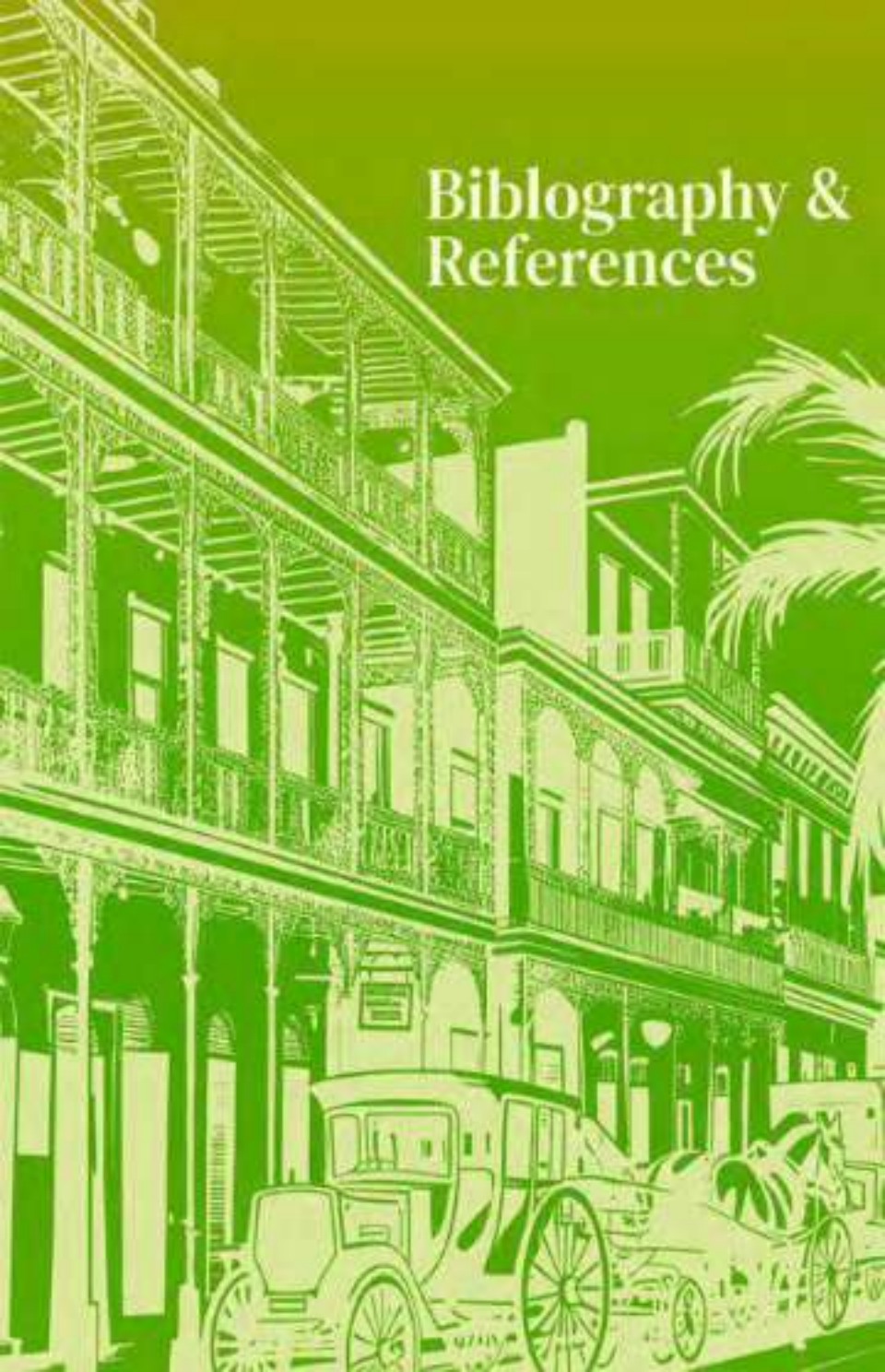
Thakurdalan with Indian masjid



View from courtyard

Sr. No. 42		RESIDENCE AT 259 E, PURNA DAS ROAD			
					
Post Name	N/A	History and Evolution	The house was built by Mr. BK Das, a Barrister, in the 1960s-70s. The exact date is unknown. His family hailed from Midnapore District. The Das family continues to live at this residence till date.		
Address	259 E, Purna Das Road, Kolkata, 700029				
Geographic Coordinates	22.517554 N, 88.360961 E				
Date/Period of Construction	1960s-70s				
Ownership	Private				
Owner's Name	Das Family	Architectural Merit (emphasizing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The structure is rectangular in plan and four storied. It is built in the Art Deco style having balconies on the north-east and south-east corners with rounded or streamlined edges. The balconies have oval-like circular RCC columns. There are changes known as cyclones with streamlined edges running continuously above the balconies and a wider opening. Railings with geometric patterns are present at the balconies. There is no overstatement on the facade. There is patterned limestone flooring on the interior.		
Property Type	Residing				
Property Sub-type	Residential				
Property Post Use	Residence				
Property Previous Use	Residence				
Status of Preservation	Exemplary				
Property site and surroundings	The building is located at the junction of Purna Das Road and Jatin Bagchi Road. It is surrounded by three-four storey residential structures of a similar vintage.				
Architectural Style	Art Deco	State of Conservation	Good		
General Criteria for Listing	Architectural style	Threats to property	Developmental pressures due to high real estate values		
Statement of Significance: The Art Deco houses on Purna Das Road is testimony to the wide prevalence of the Art Deco style in Kolkata between the 1940s and 1960s. It reflects a shift from the traditional architectural style of Kolkata to a more contemporary style and is a result of the changing socio-political and economic forces and increased urbanisation in the city.		Condition Description	The structure is in fairly good condition. There are no noticeable defects or additions and alterations on the front facade. The interior is well maintained.		
		Historical	Low	Architectural	High
Associational	Low	Technological/Scientific	Medium	Name of Surveyor	Sukhan Prasad
Socio-Cultural	Low	Fiscal Grade	105	Bibliography	Primary sources

Sr. No. 91		CHARU KUTIR- ISI-B, P.D. Road							
									
Post Name	N/A	History and Evolution	While the history of the house is largely unknown, the house can be said to have been built between the 1940s - 1970s.						
Address	221-B, Purna Das Road, Kolkata, 700029								
Geographic Coordinates	22.517316 N, 88.368178 E								
Date/Period of Construction	1960-70								
Ownership	Private								
Owner's Name	Not known								
Property Type	Building	Architectural Merit (encompassing special features of 20 th century-built heritage)	The building is a G+2 storied structure in the art Deco style. Both the north and west facades have simple bays with a rectangular balcony on the first and second floors. The balcony has vertical lines or structural edges. Emphasizing its position as a corner building, the building also curves between the north and west facades and has large circular balconies on the first and second floor at the junction of the two streets. All the balconies have railings with geometric patterns. The ground floor of the building has rows of rectangular windows with tiered timber shutters. The main entrance to the building has bands surrounding the door with an Art Deco motif above. There is minimal ornamentation on the facade of the structure.						
Property Sub-type	Mixed Use								
Property Post Use	Residential								
Property Present Use	Residential and Commercial								
Status of Protection	Designated								
Property site and surroundings	The building is located at the junction of Purna Das Road and Jate Bagchi Road. It is surrounded by three-four storey residential structures of a similar design.								
Architectural Style	Art Deco	State of Conservation	Fair						
General Criteria for Listing	► Architectural style								
Statement of Significance: The Art Deco houses on Purna Das Road reflect a shift from the traditional architectural style of Kolkata to a more contemporary style and is a result of the changing socio-political and economic times and increased urbanization in the city.									
Historical	Medium	Architectural	High	Threats to property	Additions and alterations due to change in use, developmental pressures due to high real estate values	Condition Description	The structure is fairly well maintained with the ground floor having alterations in interior floor and ceiling finishes. There has been addition of a porch with a large shopfront signage.		
Associational	Low	Technological/Scientific	Medium						
Socio-Cultural	Low	Fixed Grade	NA						
				Name of Surveyor	Julian Pyke				
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ICOMOS India has designated Kolkata's 20th-century historic framework as a tool to assess built heritage from 1900 to 2000, spanning from the colonial era to the post-independence modern age.

This period marked Kolkata's vibrant transformation from colonial influence to a hub of cultural and national movements across political, religious, social, educational, and business domains. Kolkata stands as a living heritage, exemplifying the profound impact of these developments on the city and their significance in India's freedom struggle and nation-building efforts.

This research aims to serve as a tool to advocate for the preservation of both 19th and 20th-century heritage assets, highlighting their significant cultural value amidst the pressures of modern development. It includes activities such as field survey, documentation, publication, seminars (both online & offline) and workshops collaborating with academic institutions to raise public awareness.