

ICOMOS

JANUARY - MARCH 2024

COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS & SITES



A Comprehensive Study of Vernacular Architecture and Heritage Settlements in Punjab - Pre activity events; Photo Credits - Niyati Jigyasu

CONTENTS

SL. NO.	TOPIC	PAGE NO.
1	Events Calendar	3
2	From the Secretariat: Announcements, Events, Financial Reporting	4 - 6
3	NSC News	7
4	Collaborative Activities	8 - 11
5	Members' Corner	12

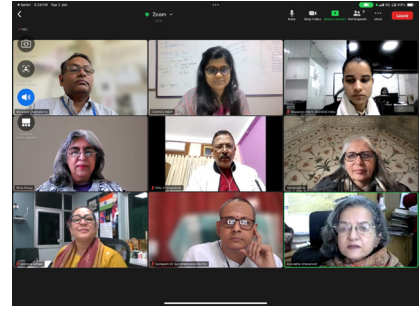
EVENTS CALENDAR

January to March 2024

SL. NO.	DATE	ZONE/ NSC	POINT OF CONTACT	NAME OF THE EVENT
1	17 Feb	Central Zone and WforW foundation	Nishant Upadhyay, Central Zone Rep.	Panel Discussion - Day 2 Plenary 4: Riverscapes
2	26 Feb	East Zone & SNU	Bikramjit Charaborty, East Zone Rep.	Round Table Confernece on Challenges in Built Heritage Conservation of Plausible World Heritage Sites, Context East Zone
3	19, 21, 29 Feb, 1 - 5 March	NSC HTV	Niiyati Jigyasu, Coordinator of NSC HTV	Comprehensive Study of Vernacular Architecture and Heritage Settlements in Punjab
4	7 March	NSC SBH	Sukanya mitra, Coordinator of NSC SBH	Talk on 'Building Regional Cooperation Through Shared Cultural Heritage of Kolkata and Dhaka'
5	18 March	North and Central Zone	Smita Makhija & Anuradha Chayurvedi, North & Central Zone Rep. respectively	Collaborative Workshop on Integrated Approaches for Conservation

From the Secretariat

The January to March quarter saw seven meetings taking place. The first was the second Executive Committee Meeting, i.e., ExCom 2 taking place on 2nd January 2024 from 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm through online mode over the zoom platform, with the ExCom members and secretariat staff in attendance. The other meetings include the membership review meeting for the new members of the 3rd cycle held on 30th January 2024, the NSC Counselor's handover meeting held on 27th February 2024 and internal zonal and working group meetings.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Closure of Membership Cycles for the year 2024

The 3rd cycle of ICOMOS India's Membership for 2024 was opened from 15th December 2023 to 15th January 2024. Thereafter, the last date for the same was extended till 25th January 2024. This marked the end of new registrations and renewals for membership for the year 2024.

2. Appointment of NSC Counselor and Co-Counselor

The term of the NSC Counselor, Prof. Dr. Arun Menon concluded in August 2023. A call for applications for the post of NSC Counsellor was sent out on 22nd September 2023 with applications being invited till 30th September 2023. The Ex Com nominated Dr. Venugopal B. as the NSC Counselor, and Dr. Mrinalini Atrey as the NSC Co-Counsellor. They both took charge from 1st February 2024 with a tenure of two years. We welcome the new NSC Counselor, Dr. Venugopal B. and NSC Co-Counselor, Dr. Mrinalini Atrey and look forward to the NSC's working with them. Secretariat from 26th December 2023.

3. Reconstitution of Standing Committee for Heritage @ Risk

The Standing Committee to address Heritage Risk Matters has been reconstituted for a period of two years (2024 - 2026) and comprises the following members:-

1. President ICOMOS India - Dr. Rima Hooja
2. Secretary ICOMOS India - Mr. Nitin Sinha
3. Zonal Representation (Specific to the zone in which the alert is raised)
4. Steering Committee Advisory Member
5. Steering Committee Advisory Member
6. Relevant NSC Coordinator(s)
7. Expert Member (Icomos India Member / Non Member)

4. Appointment of Co-Focal point for SDG WG

Ms. Shinjini Saha has been appointed as the Co-Focal point of the Sustainable Development Goals Working Group, and took office in March 2024. Ms. Saha is an urban designer, researcher and strategist with nearly 5 years of professional experience. She holds a Masters in Urban Design from SPA Delhi. Currently as a Project Officer at the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), under the UrbanShift Country Project, she drives the adoption of nature-positive,

EVENT NEWS

1. Panel Discussion - Day 2 Plenary 4: Riverscapes

Nishant Upadhyay (ICOMOS India member) curated and moderated the panel on Riverscapes on 17th February 2024. For more information on the event, click [here](#).

2. Round Table Conference on Challenges in Built Heritage Conservation of Plausible World Heritage Sites: Context Eastern Zone

East Zone in collaboration with SNU Kolkata, organized a Round Table Conference on 26th February 2024 in hybrid mode. For more information on the event, click [here](#).

3. Comprehensive Study of Vernacular Architecture and Heritage Settlements in Punjab

NSC HTV with support from NSC TC and in collaboration with University Institute of Architecture organized a documentation workshop which was planned in 3 stages that involved pre-activity webinars followed by an on-site study, and a review session concluding with a post-event session. For more information on the event, click [here](#).

4. Talk on “Building Regional Cooperation Through Shared Cultural Heritage of Kolkata and Dhaka”

NSC SBH organized a talk on Building Regional Cooperation Through Shared Cultural Heritage of Kolkata and Dhaka on 7th March 2024 over the zoom platform which highlighted the shared geographical, morphological and etymological linkages between Dhaka, a flourishing Mughal city and Calcutta, a product of colonialism. For more information on the event, click [here](#).

5. Collaborative Workshop on Integrated Approaches for Conservation

North and Central Zone in collaboration with SPA Delhi organized a collaborative workshop on ‘Integrated Approaches for Conservation of Natural and Cultural Resources: Community Contribution for Sustainable Development and Mitigating Climate Change’ on 18th March 2024 in hybrid mode. For more information on the event, click [here](#).

FINANCIAL REPORTING

With the closing of the financial year (April 2023 to March 2024), all pending dues and taxes were collated and submitted as per statutory guidelines. Preparation and confirmation of the membership list for 2024 was coordinated by the Secretariat Staff and duly submitted to the Accountant and Auditor. Filing of bills for the whole financial year was done by the accountant along with the secretariat staff and duly submitted to the CA for audit. The Treasurer further had a meeting with the accountant to discuss financial matters in February 2024.

Featured Photograph of the Quarter

Sacred Pillars of Goa

The sacred pillar, crafted in local wood and adorned with distinctive iconography is an essential feature in the Wooden temples of Goa. The sacred pillar called as 'Prasad Stambha or Prasad Khambo' is used to communicate with divinity through a ritual called 'Prasad Pakali' or 'Kaul', wherein the wish of divinity or guidance is sought by the community. The pillar crafted from local wood with sixteen-faced kumbha (sacrificial pot) and Nagas in Bodhika (brackets), has immense religious significance and is an important architectural & cultural heritage of the region.

Picture at Betal Temple-Priol, Ponda-Goa
Submitted by. Abhijit Sadhale
Conservation Architect Goa



NSC News

BUILDING REGIONAL COOPERATION THROUGH SHARED CULTURAL HERITAGE OF KOLKATA AND DHAKA

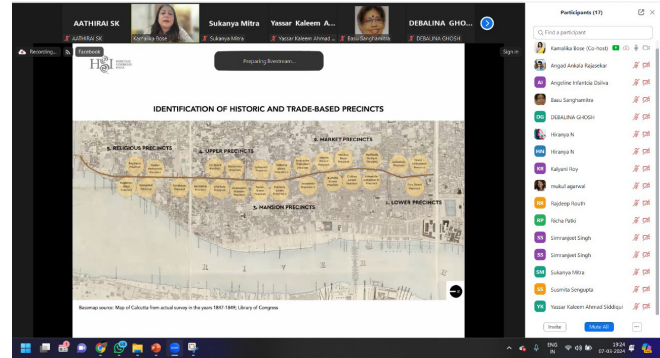
7 March 2024

NSC SBH

NSC SBH in collaboration with ICOMOS India organized a talk titled, “Building Regional Cooperation Through Shared Cultural Heritage of Kolkata and Dhaka” on March 7, 2024 at 6.30 p.m. The talk was held in online mode with approximately 45 participants joining via zoom. It began with a discussion on the shared geographical, morphological and etymological linkages between Dhaka (present day capital of Bangladesh), which flourished during the Mughal period and Calcutta (present day capital of West Bengal), a colonial city. The riverine linkages, economic activities and historical contexts of both cities were highlighted. Furthermore, riverfront activity along the Buriganga and Hugli rivers were also pointed out. Ghats such as Sadar Ghat, Badamtali Ghat, Balur Ghat in Dhaka and the Hugly river Ghats shared similar economic activities once upon a time. However, less activity is noticed along the Hugli River as compared to the Buriganga in the contemporary period. Now Calcutta has turned its back on the river but not Dhaka. This is a major point of difference between the two cities.

The speaker, Ms. Kamalika Bose then went on to talk about the multi-ethnic character, the historic neighborhoods and community linkages of both cities. She highlighted how markets were at the core of their historic fabric and evolution. She further touched upon the trade-based river heritage project that she had undertaken with students.

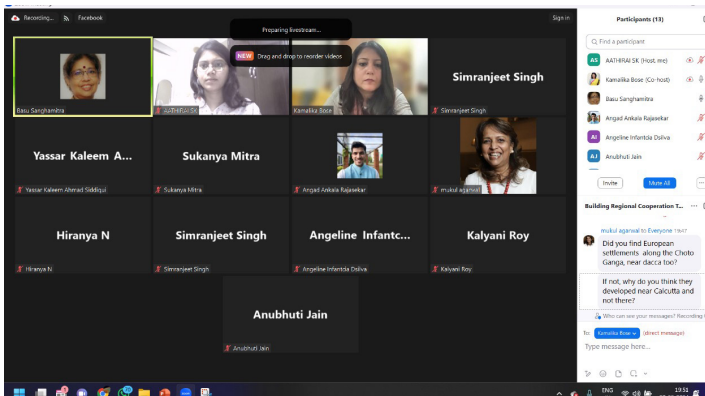
The shared typologies and architectural linkages between Puran Dhaka (Old Dhaka) and Purono Kolkata (Old Calcutta) and their convergences formed the concluding section of an enriching presentation.



Ms. Kamalika Bose's presentation during the event; Image Credit: Sukanya Mitra



Poster of the event



Participants attending the event; Image Credit: Sukanya Mitra

Collaborative Activities

PANEL DISCUSSION - DAY 2 PLENARY 4: RIVERSCAPES

17 February 2024

Nishant Upadhyay (ICOMOS India member) curated and moderated the panel on Riverscapes which brought in the aspect of culture into the water and river talks at the Water Fest 2024 organized by WforW.Foundation with support from Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University), Varanasi & Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, RD & GR, Govt. of India (16-17 February 2024).

This panel on riverscapes was the culmination of the year long project collaboration named Riverscape, between WforW.Foundation and ICOMOS India made possible with the support of many water and heritage volunteers. We thank the organizers, all co-participants, sponsors and especially the panel members Rambaboo Tiwari, Shubhi Kesarwani and Ganesh Shankar for their wonderful participation in the panel discourse.



Image Credit: Nishant Upadhyay



Image Credit: Nishant Upadhyay



Image Credit: Nishant Upadhyay



Image Credit: Nishant Upadhyay



Day 2: Plenary 4: Riverscapes

Moderator: **Nishant Upadhyay**

Panelists: **Suresh Kumar Rohilla**, **Ram Babu**, **Bibhu Prasad Nayak**

Organizing Partners: ICOMOS INDIA, WforW Foundation

Supporting Partners: IWA, WORE, HANUM, SANSKAR, WATSON, TATA STEEL, ICWAP, etc.

WforW Core Team

Poster of the event



Image Credit: Nishant Upadhyay

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE ON CHALLENGES IN BUILT HERITAGE CONSERVATION OF PLAUSIBLE WORLD HERITAGE SITES, CONTEXT EAST ZONE

26 February 2024

East Zone, ICOMOS India, in collaboration with School of Architecture & Planning, Sister Nivedita University, Newtown, Kolkata, organised a Round Table Conference on Challenges in Built Heritage Conservation of Plausible World Heritage Sites: Context Eastern Zone on 26th February 2024, in hybrid mode.

The round table aimed to bring together students of various disciplines, academicians, professionals, and fellow fraternity members to meet and share views on the topic of discussion. For more details of the event, kindly contact the East Zone Representative.

Recording of the event is available [here](#).



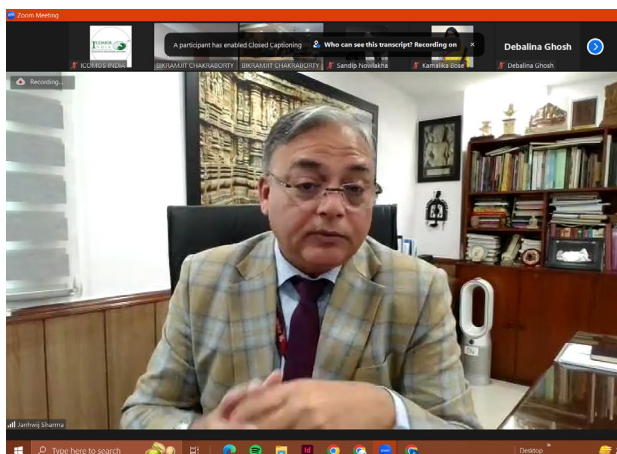
One of the presenters at the conference; Image Credit: Bikramjit Chakraborty



In person attendees at the conference; Image Credit: Bikramjit Chakraborty



In person attendees at the conference; Image Credit: Bikramjit Chakraborty



Mr. Jamij Sharma, Chief Guest for the conference; Image Credit: Akanksha Malik Parashar

ICOMOS
INDIA
International Council on Monuments and Sites

and

A Satyam Roychowdhury initiative

TECHNO INDIA GROUP | SNU
SISTER NIVEDITA UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE | PLANNING

presents

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE
on

CHALLENGES IN BUILT HERITAGE CONSERVATION
OF PLAUSIBLE WORLD HERITAGE SITES
CONTEXT EAST ZONE

26 FEBRUARY 2024 FROM 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
AT THE SEMINAR HALL | SNU | KOLKATA

Hybrid Mode

Poster of the event

COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE AND HERITAGE SETTLEMENTS IN PUNJAB

19, 21, 29 February 2024, 1 to 5th March 2024

ICOMOS India conducted an activity, 'Comprehensive Study of Vernacular Architecture and Heritage Settlements in Punjab' in collaboration with the University Institute of Architecture, Chandigarh University.

Aligned with the ICOMOS India Training and Capacity Building program, the activity has been proposed by Dr. Niyati Jigyasu, Coordinator of NSC Historic Cities, Towns, and Villages, and supported by Dr. Vaishali Latkar, NSC Education and Training. This activity aimed to explore the vernacular architecture and settlements with ecological and historic contexts. The documentation workshop was planned in 3 stages that involved pre-activity webinars followed by an on-site study, and a review session concluding with a post-event session. The pre-activity lectures were conducted by experts from ICOMOS India and CU, covering topics such as methodology for documentation of tangible-intangible heritage, as well as application of geospatial technology in heritage study. The participants included 30 students from Architecture and 5 from Media Studies. The workshop also introduced students to contemporary documentation techniques such as photogrammetry and drone usage. The workshop concluded with a presentation of the student's final work to an audience comprising school children and community stakeholders.

The workshop is the second in a series of collaborative training programs put forth by the NSC HTV.



Posters of pre-activity lectures and events; Credits: Niyati Jigyasu



Students with Faculty; Image Credits: Niyati Jigyasu



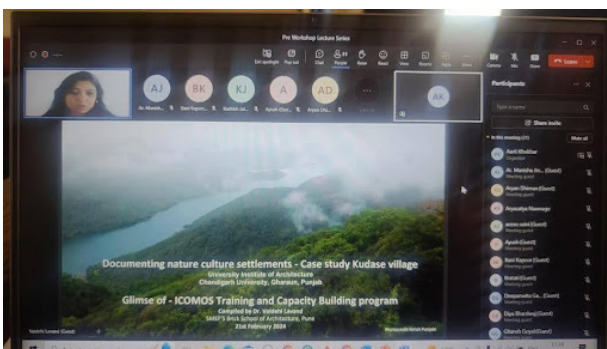
Students working on Presentation Sheets; Image Credits: Niyati Jigyasu



Talk on Heritage Documentation and the workshop by Dr. Niyati Jigyasu; Image Credits: Niyati Jigyasu



Students presenting their work to the local school children; Image Credits: Niyati Jigyasu



Talk on documenting nature culture settlements: Case Study Kudase Village by. Vaidehi Lavand; Image Credits: Niyati Jigyasu



Students on a village visit. Media studies students involved in documentary making; Image Credits: Niyati Jigyasu

COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED APPROACHES FOR CONSERVATION

18 March 2024

ICOMOS India North and Central Zone in collaboration with Department of Environmental Planning & Department of Architectural Conservation, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, organized a Collaborative Workshop on 'Integrated Approaches for Conservation of Natural and Cultural Resources: Community Contribution for Sustainable Development and Mitigating Climate Change'.

The workshop was held at the School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi on 18th March 2024 from 9.30 am to 1.30 pm in hybrid mode.

For more details on the workshop, kindly contact the North and Central Zone Representatives.



Snippets from the event; Image Credits - Akanksha Malik Parashar



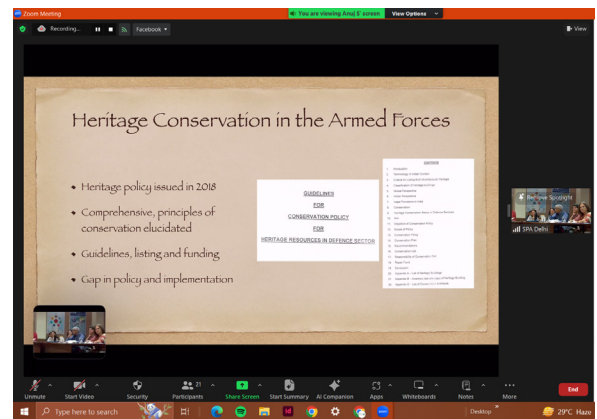
Snippets from the event; Image Credits - Akanksha Malik Parashar



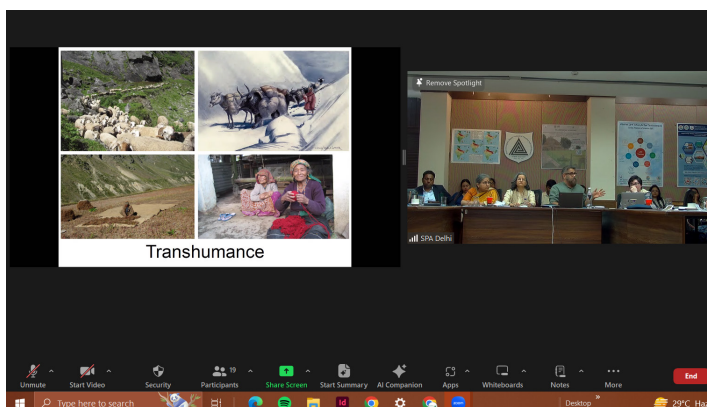
Speakers, Attendees, SPA Delhi Staff, ICOMOS Members and Secretariat Staff; Image Credits - Arushi Bisaria



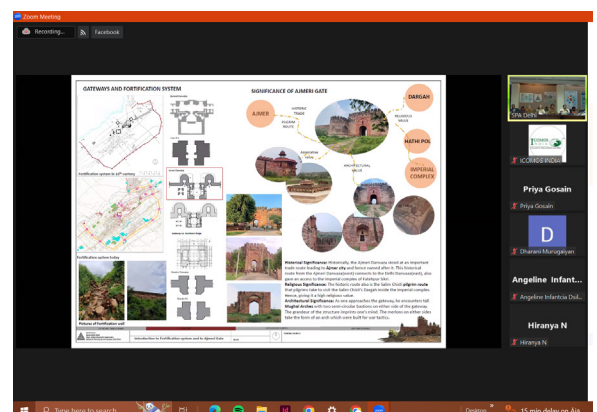
Speakers, Attendees, SPA Delhi Staff, ICOMOS Members and Secretariat Staff; Image Credits - Arushi Bisaria



One of the presentation during the event; Image Credits - Akanksha Malik Parashar



One of the presentation during the event; Image Credits - Akanksha Malik Parashar



One of the presentation during the event; Image Credits - Akanksha Malik Parashar

Members' Corner

DR. M. SATISH KUMAR



Publications by ICOMOS India Member

ICOMOS India member, Dr. M. Satish Kumar, FRGS, FHEA, RCS, is a globally recognised interdisciplinary scholar, in the field of colonial, postcolonial and decolonial geographies of South Asia. Dr. Kumar was the former Director of Queen's Academy India and led the internationalisation initiative for Queen's and India from 2006-2014.

He is a Fellow of the Senator George J Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice, Queen's University Belfast. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, a Member of the Royal Commonwealth Society and one of the 6 Global Overseas Research Fellows at the Institute of Oriental Philosophy, Japan. With over 33 years of experience in Higher Education, Dr. Kumar has worked at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, the University of Cambridge, and now at Queen's University Belfast.

He is the Chairperson for the Kerala Urban Policy Commission, 2023 and holds the Techno-India-Distinguished Honorary Chair of Global Sustainable Development Goals, Kolkata.

He is extensively involved in the academic community as a Panel Member of the UK Peer Review Colleges for Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC-GCRF). Member, Panel of Experts for Collaborative Research Action (CRA) Climate and Cultural Heritage- JPI Climate, JPI Cultural Heritage and the Belmont Forum (2023). Member, Editorial Board for Humanities & Social Sciences Communications, Springer Nature, 2023. He held Visiting Professorships at Banaras Hindu University,

Jawaharlal Nehru University, Calcutta University, and the Soka University of America.

He was awarded the Belfast Ambassador Medal (2020); the Queen's University Student Nominated Teaching Award (2014) and the Bhoovigyan (Earth Scientist Award, 2002)-India.

He has secured significant research grants and contributed seminal interdisciplinary research outputs across various disciplines and in international journals. i.e., Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Journal of Historical Geography, and Journal of Asian Studies, among others. His seminal publications include

Books:

History-Encounter and Interventions: Christian Missionaries in Colonial North-East India (eds.) Routledge-2024

Articles:

2024 "Spaces of Progress and the Challenge of 'Mindfulness' in a Postcolonial World" in 75th anniversary Midwest Social Sciences Journal, of Indiana Academy of Social Sciences, USA under the theme, 'Emerging Themes and Perspectives in the Social Sciences (Accepted).

2024 "Anthropocene Chronicles: Preserving Earth's Equilibrium for Coherent Coexistence", The Journal of Oriental Studies 33,

2023 "Protecting Our Planet for Peaceful-Coexistence: Why Anthropocene Matters?", Toyo gakujutsu kenkyu □□□□, 62, no. 2, pp. 56-82 (Japanese edition published).

2023 "World Heritage Sites and the Question of Scale in Governance and Politics: A Study of Stonehenge". (jointly with P. Boland, and T. Hastings, International Journal of Cultural Property, 30:155-176.

2020 "A Learning City: Framework towards Action", Veranda, An Interdisciplinary Journal of Sushant School of Art and Architecture, vol.2: 130-38.

We look forward to your valued and continued support this year!

Follow us for more updates on the forthcoming ICOMOS India newsletters.



EDITORIAL TEAM

Rima Hooja, President
Nitin Sinha, Secretary
Akanksha Malik Parashar, Research Intern
Shriya Rajwade, EPWG



COPYRIGHT

COMOS (ICOMOS India) March 2024
THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY
Council on Monuments and Sites (COMOS)



ADDRESS

623A, Somdutt Chamber II,
Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi 110066
Email: info@icomosindia.com
Tele: 011-4004 7876



www.icomosindia.com

*For any queries please write to info@icomosindia.com. We look forward to the support of all the members.
Mailing address: 623 A, Somdatt Chambers 2, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi - 110066, Phone: 91-11-4004 876*