

ICOMOS INDIA

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2022
COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS & SITES



Picture Credit: Mr. Samiran Goswami, Majuli

From the Secretariat

The October-December quarter saw the 14th Executive Committee Members meeting (ExCom 14) being held on 5 November 2022 between 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM (IST). ExCom 14 Meeting took place through online mode on the Zoom platform, in presence of ExCom members and the Secretariat staff.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ICOMOS India Masterplan 2022: Call for Volunteering & Collaboration

EPWG shared a call for volunteering and collaboration amongst the membership which introduced the ongoing projects under the Masterplan as well as encouraged members to participate in events. Members interested in volunteering or collaboration can apply [here](#). A call for submitting proposals which align with Masterplan themes was also shared. Interested members can submit their proposals [here](#).

ICOMOS Culture-Nature Winners 2022: India's Special Mention

Out of the 5 winners, the culture-nature initiative from India won a special mention, led by ICOMOS India member Madhura Dutta and team. The initiative was titled 'Sustaining Nature Culture Journey of Chakmas through Generations'. More on this can be read [here](#).

Nomination of NSC Vernacular Architecture Coordinator

Dr. Ram Sateesh has assumed the position of coordinator of NSC Vernacular Architecture.

Appointment of Administrative Assistant

Ms. Arushi Bisaria joined the ICOMOS India Secretariat in the capacity of an Administrative Assistant on 10 October. Arushi has prior experience in working with the National Museum as a Research Assistant.

Announcement of 2nd and 3rd Cycles of Membership for 2023

The first cycle of membership ended on 15 October, with the Second cycle commencing on 1 November till 30 November and the Third cycle starting from 15 December.

Circulation of 8th and 9th Quarterly Newsletter

The 8th (Apr-June) and 9th (Jul-Sept) issues of the Quarterly Newsletter were circulated amongst the membership in this quarter. All newsletters can be accessed on the ICOMOS India [website](#).

EVENT NEWS

Webinar on Identification of the Potential World Heritage Sites in North-East India

North-East Zone, NSC Intangible Cultural Heritage, NSC Theophilos, NSC Cultural Landscapes & EPWG organized a joint webinar on 8 October on Zoom platform. Read more about the event [here](#).

Heritage Walks@75: Heritage Walk in New Tilakwadi, Belgaum

The Heritage Walks@75 team under the Masterplan 2022 organized a walk in New Tilakwadi, Belgaum on 9 October, with Ms. Prajakta Deshpande as the walk leader. Read more about the heritage walk here. Read more [here](#).

Project OUTdoors: Qutub Complex Heritage Walk

Project OUTdoors under the Masterplan 2022 organized a heritage walk in Qutub Complex, Delhi on 15 October in collaboration with Global Shapers Gurugram and Soulful Safaris, with Dr. Harsh Pathak as the walk leader. Read more about the event [here](#).

Heritage Walks@75: Beadon Street: Its Shared Heritage and New Perspectives

East Zone in collaboration with NSC SBH organized a heritage walk at Beadon Street, Kolkata on 30 October with Dr. Sukanya Mitra (Coordinator, NSC SBH) as the walk guide. Read more [here](#).

Heritage Walks@75: Purana Qila: A City of Stories, Fusion and Foundation of Modern Delhi

The Heritage Walks@75 team in collaboration with NSC HTV organized a heritage walk in Purana Qila, Delhi on 5 November with Dr. Harsh Pathak leading the walk. Read more about the walk [here](#).

Joint Webinar on 'Majuli: India's Cultural Landscape of Universal Value'

North-East Zone, NSC Intangible Cultural Heritage, NSC Theophilos, NSC Cultural Landscapes & EPWG organized a joint 2-day webinar on 12 & 13 December on Zoom platform. Read more about the webinar [here](#).

Project OUTdoors: Heritage Walk at Humayun's Tomb Complex

Project OUTdoors under the Masterplan 2022 organized a heritage walk at Humayun's Tomb, Delhi on 17 December in collaboration with Global Shapers Gurugram and Soulful Safaris, with Ms. Jaya Nagar as the walk leader. Read more about the walk [here](#).

NSC News

NSC HISTORIC TOWNS & VILLAGES

Purana Qila: A City of Stories, Fusion and Foundation of Modern Delhi

05 November 2022

NSC HTV organized a heritage walk at Purana Qila in Delhi as part of the India@75 Masterplan initiative. Located on the eastern outskirts of Delhi along the Yamuna River, the walk covered Purana Qila, which was known as Delhi's sixth city and serves as a fusion point and the foundation of modern Delhi. It is also associated with Indraprastha, a region famous in the Hindu epic Mahabharata. Dr. Harsh Pathak, a legal counsel by profession with a keen interest in natural, cultural and historical heritage and ICOMOS India member, led the dialogue. The walk's main goal was to increase public awareness of Delhi's 6th Historic City among residents and visitors (Dinpanah-Purana Qila).

Such heritage walks encourage us to think about our rich culture and history, as well as the existence of each historical structure and location. It also helps to draw authorities' attention to the deteriorating conditions of heritage sites, promoting their management and restoration.

Feedback on the walk from Prof. Avkash Jadhav, Head, Department of History, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai:

New Delhi never leaves me any scope of comparing it to my city of Mumbai. The grandeur, the charm, the attributes of power dynamics, the charismatic leadership in the past and overall, the monuments, which makes it a special city. The synthesis of art and architecture with the native ideas and the infusion of exhibitionist attitude with equally adoptive nature. The day began quite early at 8.00 am with a wonderful heritage tour of Purana Qila, an event organized by ICOMOS India to commemorate India@75, part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The fineness of the fort and the various anecdotes clubbed with interesting comparative analysis was done by Advt. Harsh Pathak, a lawyer by profession, but is passionate about heritage. He got the group into minute observations and made it more interactive. The stones and the bastions of the Qila after some time start engaging with you and they unfold their long-standing journey. The elements of history teach you one thing clearly, that there is no ownership of assets on this planet.

Glimpses from Purana Qila Heritage Walk:



Image Credit: Nabiba Fatima

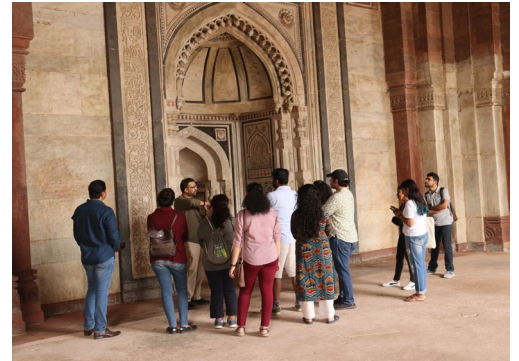


Image Credit: Nabiba Fatima



Image Credit: Nabiba Fatima



Image Credit: Nabiba Fatima



Image Credit: Nabiba Fatima

Events Calendar

October to December 2022

DATE	NSC / ZONE / INSTITUTE	NAME OF THE EVENT
8 Oct	North-East Zone, NSC ICH, NSC Theophilos, NSC CL & EPWG	Identification of the Potential World Heritage Sites in North-East India
9 Oct	Heritage Walks@75 Team	ICOMOS India Masterplan Heritage Walks@75: Heritage Walk in New Tilakwadi, Belgaum
15 Oct	EPWG	Project OUTdoors: Qutub Complex Heritage Walk
30 Oct	East Zone & NSC SBH	ICOMOS India Masterplan Heritage Walks@75: Beadon Street: Its Shared Heritage and New Perspectives
5 Nov	NSC HTV	ICOMOS India Masterplan Heritage Walks@75: Purana Qila: A City of Stories, Fusion and Foundation of Modern Delhi
12 & 13 Dec	North-East Zone, NSC ICH, NSC Theophilos, NSC CL & EPWG	Majuli: India's Cultural Landscape of Universal Value
17 Dec	EPWG	Project OUTdoors: Heritage Walk at Humayun's Tomb Complex



Collaborative Activities

NSC THEOPHILOS, NSC ICH, NSC CL, NORTH EAST ZONE & EPWG

Identification of the Potential World Heritage Sites in North East India

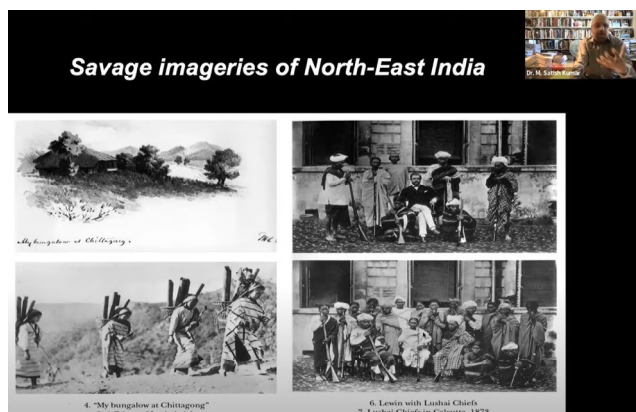
08 October 2022

Jointly organized by North-East Zone in collaboration with NSC Theophilos, NSC Cultural Landscapes, and NSC ICH & EPWG, the webinar was moderated by Ar. Shubhru Gupta. The welcome speech was delivered by Er. Dilip Changkakoty, NE Zone Representative and the opening address was delivered by Dr. Rima Hooja, Vice-President, ICOMOS India.

The webinar covered following topics:

- (i) The special nature of the North East India – its geographical, social and developmental context
- (ii) Overview of the potential world heritage of North East India
- (iii) Sacred groves of Meghalaya: bio-cultural cities that need global recognition
- (iv) Special typology of the NE India– The Sattras
- (v) Special typology of the NE India – Jing Kieng Jri or the Living Root Bridges of Meghalaya.

The panel of speakers included Dr. M. Satish Kumar, Queen's University, UK; Dr. Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti, Expert Member, ICICH; Dr. Debojyoti Das, AHRC-GCRF Postdoctoral Associate, Bristol University, UK, Ar. Kritika Mohan, Member, NE Zone, Ar. Vidisha Barwal, member, North Zone, ICOMOS India & Ar. Sanjeev Shankar, from Meghalaya. The webinar was followed by a discussion which was chaired by Prof. GSV Suryanarayana Murthy, Co-coordinator, NSC CL. The event was planned by Mr. Dilip Changkakoty with the technical support of Simran Deshpande, Research Assistant & Arushi Bisaria, Administrative Assistant from ICOMOS India Secretariat.



Presentation by Dr. M. Satish Kumar

HERITAGE WALK@75: ICOMOS INDIA & HERITAGE OF BELGAUM

New Tilakwadi Heritage Walk

09 October 2022

New Tilakwadi Heritage Walk organized by Heritage of Belgaum in collaboration with ICOMOS India explored the neighbourhood of Tilakwadi which started taking shape in the 1930s but also has one of India's 4 smallpox vaccine institutes set up in 1904.



Image Credit: Varsha S

The neighbourhood has a mix of some finest Art Deco bungalows, Anglo-Indian houses but also modest bungalows set amidst huge fruiting trees. This walk explored the neighborhood of Tilakwadi which started taking shape in the early 20th century when the Independence movement was picking up and so was trade and building activity. The road names, the bungalow typologies, symbolic representation of political inclinations, and artists during the independence movement, were very much a part of the built fabric which contributes to the story of Tilakwadi.



Image Credit: Varsha S

The participants were invited to see one of the early Art Deco houses of Belgaum where we saw the first terrazzo flooring in Belgaum and learnt some interesting stories of their family too. The walk culminated at the Congress Well Garden imagining the space during the 1924 Indian National Congress session presided by Mahatma Gandhi. Extended conversations continued over refreshments with the participants, making a great start to a Sunday. The walk was led by Conservation Architect Prajakta Deshpande.

HERITAGE WALK@75: EAST ZONE & NSC SBH

Beadon Street: Shared Heritage and New Perspectives

30 October 2022

Beadon Street is one of the oldest and most important roads in Northern Calcutta. It was built by the British in the 1860s in order to link the Chitpur area with the upper circular road in Northern Calcutta. It has a rich history and there are several lanes and by-lanes which form its offshoots.



Image Credit: Varsha S



Image Credit: Sobini Pyne



Image Credit: Varsha S

The locality around it is often perceived as an upper caste Hindu Bengali para (neighbourhood). However, a deeper exploration reveals different layers which have contributed to its making. This includes certain shared elements such as a strong Scottish influence. There are diverse indigenous elements too.



Image Credit: Sobini Pyne



Image Credit: Varsha S

This walk was jointly organized by East Zone and NSC Shared Built Heritage in order to unravel these various layers and shed new light on this less explored locality.

Some notable locations covered during the walk were Scottish Church Collegiate School

and Duff Hostel, Peary Charan Sircar's House, Bhola Nath Dham, Holy Child Institution, Scottish Church College, Satyen Bose's House, Hedua Park, Bethune School & College, W.C. Bonnerjee's House on Ramdulal Sarkar Street, Christ Church, Minerva Theatre and Chaitanya Library. The walk saw participation from ICOMOS India and non-ICOMOS members respectively.



Image Credit: Sobini Pyne



Image Credit: Sobini Pyne



Image Credit: Sobini Pyne

NORTH-EAST ZONE, NSC ICH, NSC CL, NSC THEOPHIL & EPWG

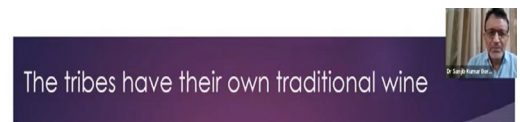
India's Cultural Landscape of Universal Value: Majuli

12 & 13 December 2022

Organized by North-East Zone in collaboration with NSC-Theophilos, NSC-CL, NSC-ICH & EPWG in association of Majuli College, the webinar was moderated by Mr. Ibynta Bakmen Tiewsoh & Ms. Anju Mani Kalita. The welcome speech was delivered by Ms. Shalini Dasgupta, Secretary, ICOMOS India. The webinar discussed the history of Majuli, significance of Sattras, the geographical & cultural environment, public relations & awareness, bottlenecks & solutions of the dossier.

The speakers of the webinar included Mr. Satradhikar Jannardan Devgoswami, Prof. Damburudhar Nath, Er. Bharat Chandra Saikia, Smt. Manidipa Barkotaki, Dr. Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti, Prof. Nalini Thakur, Dr. Anand Hazarika, Dr. Arun Chandra Sarma, Mr. GSV Suryanarayana Murthy and Dr. Debajit Saikia. The webinar was followed by discussion/Q&A session chaired by Dr. M Satish Kumar and Prof. Rana PB Singh. The webinar called for transparency in preparing the Majuli dossier so that Majuli is recognized in the next attempt.

The event was planned by Mr. Dilip Changkakoty, Representative, North-East Zone with the technical support of Ms. Simran Deshpande & Ms. Arushi Bisaria from ICOMOS India Secretariat.



Presentation by Dr. Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti

PROJECT OUTDOORS: EPWG, GLOBAL SHAPERS GURUGRAM HUB, SOULFUL SAFARIS & DELHI HERITAGE WALK N TALE

Qutub Complex Heritage Walk: Adding Light to the Monument

15 October 2022

As a part of this OUTdoors project within the ICOMOS India Master Plan initiative, the project team designed and organized the first Heritage Walk at Qutub Tomb Complex. The walk was organized by ICOMOS India, in collaboration with Global Shapers Gurugram Hub, Soulful Safaris and in association with our implementing partner Delhi Heritage Walk n Tale.

It was guided by Adv. Dr. Harsh Pathak, who is a legal counsel by profession, with a keen interest in natural, cultural and historical heritages. The activity began at 04:30 pm in the evening, at Qutub Complex Entry Gate and was attended by 40 participants. At the end of the walk the participants shared their delightful experience with Dr. Harsh and the project team.

Most buildings, especially monuments, are designed for the day. This evening walk was designed to introduce the participants to the recent initiative of the Indian Government of lighting up the monuments at night. The walk was an experience of numerous joys and multiple emotions. The participants witnessed the complex and its offerings of art and architecture through the daylight and gradual disappearance of the monument into the dusk, only to emerge in the dark with lights adding to its beauty like jewellery. The project intent is to make the (natural and built) heritage sites, green and open spaces accessible to citizens of a city.



Image Credit: Aditi Rai

PROJECT OUTDOORS: EPWG, GLOBAL SHAPERS GURUGRAM HUB, SOULFUL SAFARIS & TRADITION HERITAGE ECOLOGY (T.H.E.)

Humayun's Tomb Complex Heritage Walk: A Sensory Exploration of Heritage and Culture Beyond the Visual Sight

17 December 2022

As a part of this OUTdoors project within the ICOMOS India Master Plan initiative, the project team designed and organized the second Heritage Walk at Humayun's Tomb Complex to commemorate the 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities.'



Image Credit: Aditi Rai

The walk was organized by ICOMOS India, in collaboration with Global Shapers Gurugram Hub, Soulful Safaris and in association with our implementing partner Tradition Heritage Ecology (T.H.E.).



Image Credit: Aditi Rai

It was guided by Jaya Nagar, Founder (T.H.E.) and was attended by 24 children along with 10 teachers and 6 volunteers, who provided the assistance during the walk. The activity began at 09:00 am in the morning, at Humayun's Tomb Entry Gate and ended at 11:00 am at Afsarwala's Tomb. At the end of the walk the participants shared their delightful experience with Jaya ji and the team members, and enjoyed the refreshments.

The project intent is to make the (natural and built) heritage sites, green and open spaces accessible to citizens of a city, including persons with disabilities.



Image Credit: Aditi Rai



Image Credit: Aditi Rai



This heritage walk was specifically curated for visually impaired participants with an objective to provide a sensory exploration of heritage and culture beyond the visual sight. It was carefully designed to address the UN SDG 2030 agenda and was successful in establishing the interlinkages with SDG 04 (ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all), SDG 10 (reducing inequalities), and SDG 11 (making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable).



Image Credit: Aditi Rai

Members' Corner

DILIP CHANGAKOTY

Workshop on Brajawali Language

20 & 21 November 2022

In collaboration with Parampara-Prabah and Society for Srimanta Sankardeva, the zone also held a workshop on the thirteenth century language Brajawali, which is still used in Vaishnava literature and Ankiya Drama of Assam.

Three renowned scholars, Dr. Basanta Goswami, Dr. Mukul Chakraborty and Mr. Kanaklal Das, served as resource people. The primary goal of this workshop was to go over the history, development and applications of Brajawali language in depth. Furthermore, the trainers are taught the subtle techniques of using this very mythical language. Dr Nanigopal Mahanta, Education Adviser, GoA and Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoty, President of Society for Srimanta Sankardeva, opened the workshop.

Chief guest, Mr. Nrityacharya Jatin Goswami, Zonal Representative Mr. Dilip Changkakoty and renowned film director Mr. Sanjib Sabhapandit attended the closing ceremony. The event was devised by Dr. Mallika Kandali of Parampara Prabah, with assistance from Mridumaucham Bora of Society for Srimanta Sankardeva.



Image Credit: Dilip Changakoty



Image Credit: Dilip Changakoty

ROSHINI MURALIDHARA

Paper Presentation & Publication in Metagreen Dimensions

20 & 21 October 2022

Paper title: Value-based assessment of built heritage: A study of historical markets in Bengaluru

Name of the author/ICOMOS member – Roshini M

Designation: Assistant Professor, School of Architecture, REVA University.

The third biennial conference on VALUE BY DESIGN, Metagreen Dimensions 2022, featured sub-themes such as Sustainability, Livability and Resilience of Asian and African cities, Design for Social Innovation, Conservation and Documentation of Built Heritage, Building Performance, and Green Platform: Pedagogy, Process, and Policies.

The paper aimed to help readers understand the importance of value-based assessment in heritage conservation. Heritage values can be used to make informed decisions about an object or location, as well as to determine the level of significance of an asset. They also help to understand the origins and evolution of a location, as well as who values it. This study used a case-study approach to understand Bengaluru's origins as a 16th century market fortress town, and it discusses the various values that can be attributed to the heritage markets (pre-colonial and colonial), as well as their character and significance to the city.



Image Credit: Roshini M.

We look forward to your valued and continued support in the new year.

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

WARM WISHES FOR 2023!



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