## Session – I Heritage Conservation in Hyderabad

*Thiru R.Rajamani, IAS (Retd.) Chairman, Heritage Conservation Committee, Hyderabad.* 



Symbol of Hyderabad Heritage

- Built & Natural Heritage of Hyderabad Dates back to Kakatiya, Qutubshahi and Asafjahi (Nizam) dynasties.
- Golconda Fort started by Kakatiya kings and fortified by Qutubshahi kings.
- Qutubshahi Tombs A Marvel of Architecture & conserved by State Archeology Department.
- Charminar now over 400 years old conserved by ASI.
- Hussain sagar lake also 400 years old and predates Hyderabad & Secunderabad twin cities.
- Very rich heritage of Fortificial places Big and Small Mosques & temples, Palaces, Tombs, Gates Clock Towers, Hospitals, Courts, Libraries, Schools, Colleges, Dharmashalas, Private Residences, Lakes, Trees, Rocks, Fountains etc.
- Wonderful face of Architecture calling for conservation for reasons of History, Culture, Architectural Models, Environment and even inspiration.
- Sarojini Naidu penned some of her poems sitting at the Qutubshahi Tombs and her house 'The Golden Threshold' is conserved by Hyderabad University.

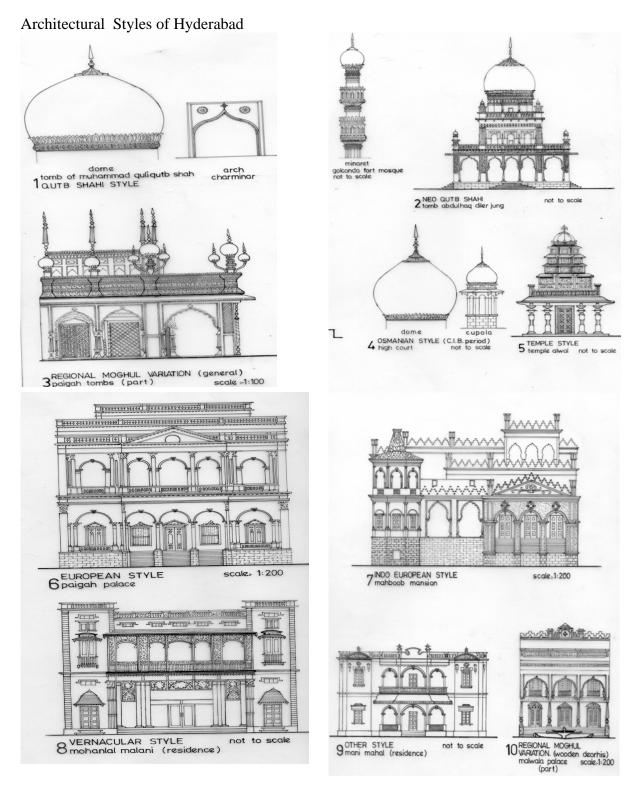
#### Heritage Building



Qutub Shahi Tomb



THE GOLDEN THRESHOLD



- The Government of Andhra Pradesh and the then Hyderabad Urban Development Authority (HUDA) gave content & meaning to Heritage Conservation from 1995 starting with a new regulation "For the conservation of Historical Buildings and area in Hyderabad city".
- In December 1995 under the A.P Urban Areas Development Act of 1975, HUDA and Government of A.P Amended Hyderabad Urban Development Authority Zoning Regulations 1981 with a new regulation for conservation of historical areas and buildings thereon

- The regulation 13 applied to those Buildings, Artifacts, Structures and / or Precincts of Historical and / or Aesthetical and / or Architectural and / or Cultural value referred to as Heritage Buildings and Heritage Precincts.
- The authority would list such Buildings / Precincts after inviting <u>public</u> objections and suggestions.
- The Vice-Chairman, HUDA was to act on the advice of / an consultation with the Heritage Conservation Committee (HCC) to be appointed by the Government.
- In exceptional cases for reasons to be recorded in Writing, Vice Chairman, HUDA may overrule the recommendations of the HCC.
- Regulation 13 also provided for alterations in notified lists after inviting objections and suggestions from the public.
- It provided for grant of transferable rights in cases of loss of development rights and also proposed a repair fund to give monetary assistance for private owners.
- Grading of Buildings / Precincts was into three grades.
- Grade I Comprising those having national or historical importance, excellence in architecture design etc and associated with a great historical event, personality movement or institution being prime landmarks of the cities.
- Grade II For regional or local importance having architectural and & other values thought of a lower scale than Grade I.
- Grade III Those having basic value and determine the character of the locality. It could include precincts of importance for townscape including rock formations.
- An interesting feature of the regulations maintaining skyline without developments in surrounding areas so as not to diminish or destroy values.
- The drafting of regulations had the handiwork of Historian Dr. V.K. Bawa who was also Vice-Chairman, HUDA.
- First HCC in 1999 under Chairmanship of Shri. Shravan Kumar, Former Chief Secretary. His choice also built a bridge with INTACH which was into the conservation movement under his chairmanship.
- Subsequently Shri. G.P. Rao who was earlier Municipal Secretary in A.P and Secretary in Ministry of Defense, Government of India.

#### 1) R. Rajamani Chairman - Engineer 2) Ramesh Kamajosila 3) Anwar Aziz Architect Architect 4) Sanjay Torvi 5) Director of State Archaeology **Ex-Officio** -6) M.Vishwanathan Professor, Environmental Science, JNTU 7) Sajjad Shahid Who helped INTACH too in conservation work. Society to Save Rocks 8) Ms. Frauke Quader -9) Member Urban planner, HMDA - Member Secretary

#### The present HCC comprises.

• HMDA has notified so far 151 Buildings and 30 Heritage Precincts

Grade	No of Buildings
Grade - I	24
Grade – IIA	10
Grade – IIB	60
Grade – III	57
Total	151

- Only Four Buildings have been de-notified.
- Recently HMDA has started putting informative <u>plaques</u> to demonstrate the values.
- The notifications including rock formations, parks and lakes.

#### Grade - I



I Prakash Building



Spanish Mosque



Grade II B



# USE OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS: Hyderabad

USE	NO OF BLDO
Bank	1
Bridge	1
Club	4
College	3
Commercial	4



USE	NO OF BLDGS
Hotel	3
Institution	9
Library	1
Function Hall	2
Museum	1



	USE	NO OF BLDGS
1	Observatory	1
	Office	12
3	Police Station	1
	Religious	26
	Residence	34



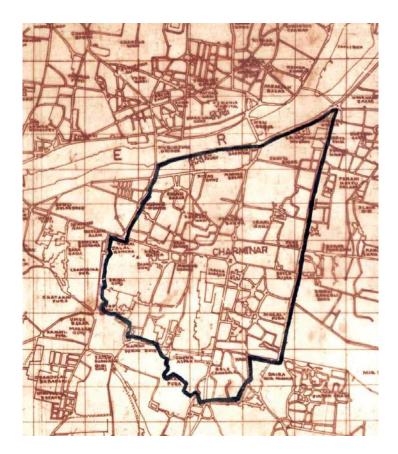
USE	NO OF BLDGS	
Conference	1	
High Court	1	
Gateways/arches	9	
Guest Houses	2	
Hospitals	6	

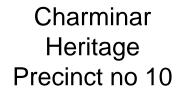


USE	NO OF BLDGS
School	9
Tower	5
University	2
Vacant (Not using)	5
Godowns	8

### Heritage Precincts in Hyderabad

- 24 rock Precincts
- 6 additional Precincts
  - Charminar area
  - Golconda Fort area
  - Falaknuma Palace area
  - Kasu Brahmananda Reddy park and valley up-to Hotel Banjara Residency
  - Park on Road number 1, Banjara Hills and valley
  - Additional areas around Durgam Cheruvu lake

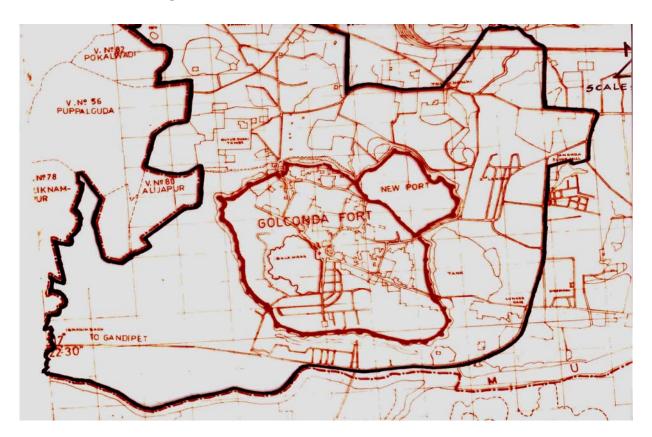




Falaknuma Heritage Precinct no 12

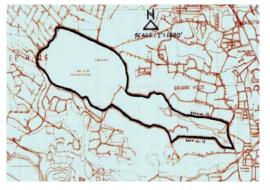


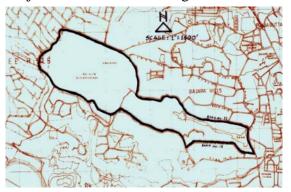
### **Golconda Fort Heritage Precinct no 11**



Banjara Hills Heritage Precinct no 13

Banjara Hills Rd no 1Heritage Precinct no 14





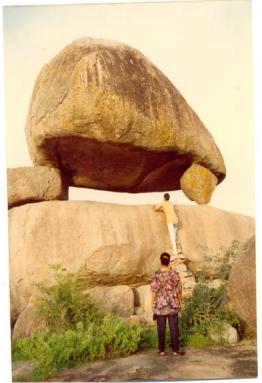
# The Charminar Precinct



The Golconda Fort



#### Heritage Rock Precincts





Mushroom Rock

**Obelisk Rock** 

- HCC HMDA, benefited from suggestions from experts, INTACH and N.G.O's like Forum for a Better Hyderabad.
- Present HCC revisiting notified Buildings / Precincts to note state of preservation and to suggest measures to conserve.
- It is also preparing more lists of Buildings / Precincts.
- It is also aiming to motivate public / private owners to better maintain and conserve all features even when developing.
- It is scrutinizing master plan, Charminar pedestrinisation project etc and making suggestions.
- It is note worthy that INTACH, Hyderabad gives Heritage Awards every year.
- Also, recently Chowmahalla Palace has got the UNESCO Heritage Award.



Chowmahalla Palace Heritage Building

#### Heritage Buildings



Nawab Khurshid Jah Devdi



Administrative Staff College, Bellavista



Falknuma Palace



Paigah Palace

Suggestions

- A national fund under JNNURM or other schemes to help in repairs / maintenance.
- Making skyline and tree / lake formations inviolate by disallowing Huge Hoardings Needs for Urban Arts Commission in each city.
- Sensitizing Developers / Hotelers / Tourism Managers to the imperatives of conservation of Heritage.
- Motivate Architects and Builders to be conservation oriented and develop without destroying basic features Eg: Falaknuma, AMI Electronics factory, Gratz, Austria

\*\*\*\*