

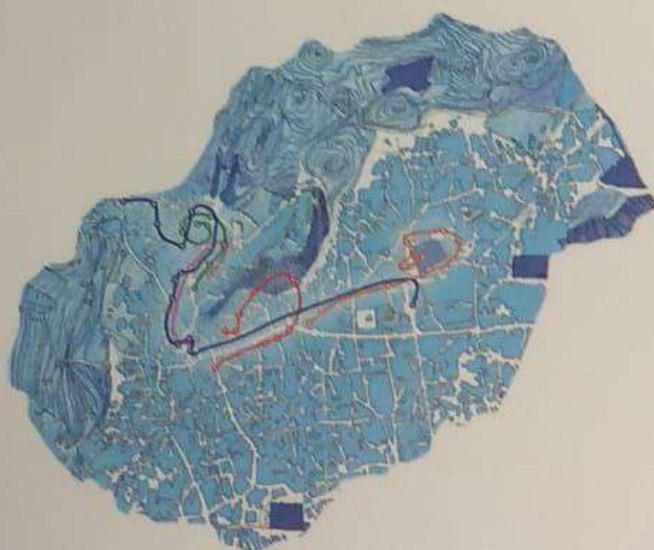


Ricerche di Rilievo e Rappresentazione
dal Progetto di Architettura al Design Industriale

Between History and Memory, the Blue Jodhpur

Experiences of integrated documentation
and survey techniques

Marcello Balzani
Minakshi Jain
Luca Rossato




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survey techniques*

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Index

FOREWORD

- 7 Foreword
His Highness Gaj Singh

PREFACE

- 9 Preface
Stefano Bertocci

INTRODUCTION

- 11 Introduction
Marcello Balzani, Minakshi Jain, Luca Rossato

REPRESENTATION

- 17 Documenting and representing transformation in the incompleteness
Marcello Balzani
- 27 The best for both the worlds: documentation of blue Jodhpur and the education of architecture students
Minakshi Jain
- 37 Documenting Vernacular Heritage to preserve diversity and sustainability
Luca Rossato

DOCUMENTATION

- 51 Negotiating conservation and development: historic core of Jodhpur
Kulbhushan Jain
- 61 Survey and representation of historical surfaces: the colours of Jodhpur
Federica Maletti
- 71 Historical cities centre processes of transformation documentation and analysis
Fabiana Raco

- 79 Charting the course: the water structures of Jodhpur
Meghal Arya

AWARENESS

- 89 Changing paradigms in Cultural Heritage education: an ecosystem perspective
Elena Borin
- 103 Standstill and Continuum: life of people and the city
Rutvi Patel
- 113 In-between People and place: the changing cultural landscapes of historic city centres
Chaitra Sharad

TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE HERITAGE

- 123 From Repository of Reminiscence
Atreya Bhattacharyya
- 133 Thresholds: a vital link between the worlds
Sanket Mhatre

CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

- 147 Documenting Jodhpur: a tool for heritage's protection
Mariana de Souza Rolim
- 153 Technologies to survey and to catalogue Cultural Heritage in a Global South Country environment
Pietro Massai

ANNEXES

- 211 Acknowledgements

Preface

Stefano Bertocci

University of Florence, Department of Architecture

As stated in the recent "Symposium of representation scientific area for development of multidisciplinary international programs", promoted by UID (Unione Italiana Disegno) and hosted by the University of Florence, the achievement of experiences and research in different geographical areas determines the development of an adequate capacity for critical and interpretative analysis of complex cultural models.

In this direction, the five years' experience of cooperation between the Department of Architecture of the University of Ferrara and CEPT University of Ahmedabad shows the great value in exchanging synergies and research methodologies, examining the role that heritage documentation and representation can play in "building bridges" among different cultures. During the workshops in Jodhpur, survey and documentation have been realized in order to achieve an overall investigation collecting data related to the most relevant features of the "Blue City".

An accurate and overall survey allows improving the awareness of the needs of the historical city in order to plan maintenance process able to preserve heritage to future generation and to understand how the development of the historic city could meet the need of preservation of tradition and heritage.

Thanks to the holistic approach in heritage documentation realized during the on-site experiences and described in the book, young generations of future professionals had the opportunity to understand the significance of preserving the historic cities, made of tangible and intangible heritage.

Documentation and representation, challenging relations between local people awareness and cultural heritage, the education ecosystem as well as the social values of public spaces and the connection among build environment and traditional values are some of the main outcomes described. The different sections in which the book is divided present an overall interdisciplinary approach able to include documentation, analysis, data management, survey, representation, visualization, protection and preservation issues.

Moreover, the organization of documentation and design workshops in Jodhpur and Ferrara for the students of the department of architecture of the two institutions, allow also the involvement of local professionals and local authorities responsible for the preservation and management of two historic centres, creating a "virtuous circle" towards the sharing of experiences.

The experiences and methodologies employed on an international basis by scholars and professors belonging to our scientific association of the Drawing, the collaboration / competition that today takes place on research themes between different institutions and countries is expressed through the exchange of synergies, of methodologies and scholars with a high scientific qualification.

This book describes the outputs of a cooperation path between the Department of Architecture of the University of Ferrara and CEPT University of Ahmedabad, India.

When we started this experience, in 2013, we firstly identified the crucial features of a possible educational approach in dynamic and changing contexts such as those of Global South Countries. In order to address this topic, this book presents the results of the educational project developed in the Blue City of Jodhpur (India) as an academic cooperation involving professors, researchers and young students from the two countries, local authorities and professionals.

The book aims at examining the role that heritage documentation and representation can play in emerging countries such as India if they are implemented as joint activities involving different stakeholders.

Jodhpur, the so-called "Blue City", is an outstanding example of the extremely relevant role of mixed research and documentation methods applied in a context where tangible and intangible heritage are closely linked and in a great risk of loss, due to population pressure, growing tourism and other threats.

The book presents several on-field approaches concerning visions about cultural heritage documentation in terms of research, future directions, methodologies and working tools in the field of education for heritage preservation and enhancement.

As the reader will understand the workshops experience have been organized over a period of five years, consisting in research and on-field surveys carried out by the group of students supervised by professors coming from the two institutions.

During the last year the workshop was open to students with a background of design coming from the University of Ferrara as well as to students of urban management of CEPT University. In these workshops, different urban areas of the historical city center have been analyzed and surveyed, setting up a methodology able to meet the main needs of knowledge, understanding, refurbishment and conservation. In this direction, integrated survey processes were tested and applied in order to provide tools for an overall "reading" of the uniqueness of the local heritage and to point out possible conservation strategies.



Marcello Balzani

Architect, Full Professor (ICAR / 17) at the Department of Architecture, University of Ferrara in Italy. Since January 2006 he is the Director of the DIAPReM centre (Development of Integrated Automatic Procedures for Restoration of Monuments).

He was scientific responsible for several national and international research projects and his activities took place in various important world archaeological sites, in monumental contexts and in relation to several small centres in many regions of the Italian peninsula.

He has developed restoration and urban regeneration projects in several Italian historical centres.

He is a member of the Italian Union for Drawing, of the National Institute for Urban Planning, of ICOMOS and of the Focus Area Cultural Heritage, Horizontal Issue Archaeology. Since March 2010 he is scientific director of TekneHub and Scientific Coordinator for the Construction Platform of Emilia-Romagna High Technology Network.



Minakshi Jain

Architect, visiting Professor at the department of architecture, CEPT University, (Center of Planning and Technology), in Ahmedabad, India. She worked on an exhibition under Charles and Ray Eames in 1964 and studied under architect Louis Kahn in 1966.

Her project of conservation of Nagaur fort won the UNESCO Asia-Pacific award of excellence in 2002 and was shortlisted in 2013 for AGA KHAN award and she received Silver Medal from Domus Award for Restoration and Preservation in 2012. She has several conservation projects to her credit, such as Amber fort and palaces, Jantar Mantar, Hawa Mahal in Jaipur and Dalhan pur fort, Gagum fort, Mauborda fort and Garh palace in Jhalawar. She has authored a few books with Prof. Kulbhushan Jain, "MUD architecture", "Architecture of Indian Desert", "Arid cities", "Thematic spaces" and "Architecture of the Royal Camp". She has jointly conducted workshops on old city centers of Jodhpur and "Hands on" workshops at Nagaur.



Luca Rossato

Architect, Research Fellow (ICAR / 17) at the Department of Architecture, University of Ferrara, in Italy. Since 2008 he started to cooperate with the University of Ferrara Architecture Department as Grant Researcher and later as Research Fellow.

His areas of investigation are both the vernacular and modern architecture documentation, representation, and enhancement. In these fields he was coordinator project for DIAPReM centre activities in India and Brazil. Contract professor at the University of Ferrara, he was visiting professor at Pontificia Universidade Católica do Paraná (Curitiba, Brazil), CEPT University (Ahmedabad, India), Mackenzie University (São Paulo, Brazil) and at Burgundy School of Business (Dijon, France).

He's deeply involved in publication fields and he's been member of editorial staff for "Paesaggio Urbano" and author and co-author of many publications. He is a member of the Italian Union for Drawing.

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