

MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

6th MEETING HELD ON 27th APRIL 2005 IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF NIRMAN BHAWAN

PRESENT :

1. Shri B.S. Lalli
Additional Secretary
M/o Urban Development Chairman
2. Shri S.C. Bhatia
Addl. DG(Arch), CPWD Member
3. Shri D.S. Sachdev
CE (CDO), CPWD Member
4. Prof. A.G.K. Menon
Conservation Architect Member
5. Shri D.S. Meshram
Urban Designer Member
6. Shri K.T. Gurmukhi
Chief Planner, TCPO Member
7. Shri V.K. Bugga
Chief Town Planner, MCD Member
8. Shri Sanjib Sengupta
Chief Architect, NDMC Member
9. Shri Dina Nath
Secretary, DUAC Member Secretary

ALSO PRESENT :

10. Shri Amit Das
Joint Director (Plng.)DDA
11. Shri Rajeev Sood
Architect, NDMC
12. Shri G.K. Rao
Dy. Architect, NDMC

13. Shri Amit Mukherji
Administrative Officer, DUAC

Item No.1 : Approval and notification of NDMC List.

The HCC observed that in terms of the decision taken by it at the 4th meeting held on February 15, 2005, the Sub-Committee constituted for the purpose had considered the list of heritage buildings submitted by the NDMC. The list with modifications suggested by the Sub-Committee was now placed before the HCC for approval.

It was indicated by the NDMC that the list prepared by them was on the basis of the one prepared by the INTACH. However, on physical inspection, the following two buildings were found to have been demolished/altered :

1. Lala Diwan Chand Trust, Jain Mandir Road.
2. Summerville School, 26, Ferozshah Road

Lala Diwan Chand Trust, Jain Mandir Road

The HCC noted that according to one version this heritage building had been demolished prior to the date of publication of the list of heritage buildings by the NDMC in leading newspapers i.e. the year 2001. However, according to another version the demolition took place after publication of this list. It was decided by the HCC that NDMC would look into the matter and initiate legal action, if so warranted, against the persons responsible for such demolition and also let this committee know of the current status of the building/precincts.

Summerville School, 26, Ferozshah Road

To ascertain the status of the remaining structures available at the site of Summerville School, it was decided that a site visit may be organized by the NDMC which would comprising of the following persons :-

1. Prof. A.G.K. Menon,
2. Prof. K.T. Ravindran, Urban Designer/Ms. Gurmeet S. Rai, Director, CRCI

3. Chief Architect, NDMC,
4. Representative from the CPWD

As the property was privately owned, it was decided that NDMC would serve notice to the owner before the site visit in terms of the NDMC Act.

Thereafter, the HCC approved the NDMC list duly modified by the Sub-Committee as stipulated above and directed NDMC to notify the list immediately in the Official Gazette in terms of Section 23.5 of the Public Notice no.S.O.188(E) dated 9th February 2004 issued by the Ministry of Urban Development to prevent further degradation of the heritage buildings.

Item No.2 : Finalization of MCD list

Chief Town Planner, MCD indicated that they had received about 42 representations against the list that was published by them in the newspapers. The HCC felt that as consideration of these representations would take time, to prevent any further degradation to the existing buildings, there is a need to notify the list of heritage buildings in the MCD area as well at the earliest. However, before doing so the buildings in the MCD area need to be graded in terms of the provisions indicated in the Public Notice of 9th February 2004. Accordingly, the HCC decided to set a Sub-committee for this purpose comprising of the following :-

1. Prof. A.G.K. Menon
2. Ms. Gurmeet S. Rai, Director, CRCI
3. Shri S.C. Bhatia, Addl. DG (Arch), CPWD
4. Chief Architect, NDMC
5. Chief Town Planner, MCD
6. Shri Dina Nath, Secretary, Delhi Urban Art Commission

It was decided that Chief Town Planner, MCD would make available the list of heritage buildings in the MCD area with proposed grading for consideration by the Sub-

Committee. It was decided that the Sub-Committee would meet in the premises of the Delhi Urban Art commission at India Habitat Centre on 2nd May 2005 at 3.00 P.M. The recommendations of the Sub-Committee would be placed in a meeting of the HCC to be held in Nirman Bhawan on 3rd May 2005 at 4.30 P.M.

Item No.3 : Incorporation of Development Norms in the Master Plan-2021.

The HCC noted that the provisions of Section 23.6 of the public notice dated 9th February 2004 stipulated as follows :-

“On the advice of the said Heritage Conservation Committee to be appointed by the Government and for reasons to be recorded in writing, the Commissioner, MCD/Vice Chairman DDA/ Chairman NDMC shall follow the procedure as per DDA Act, 1957 to alter, modify or relax the Development Control Norms prescribed in the Master Plan of Delhi, or Building Bye-laws of Delhi if required, for the conservation or preservation or retention of historic or aesthetic or cultural or architectural or environmental quality of any heritage site.”

The HCC felt that the provisions relating to conservation or preservation of heritage buildings stipulated in the draft Master Plan 2021 was not adequate. With a view to formulate inputs for this purpose the HCC decided to set up a Sub-Committee comprising of the following :-

1. Prof. A.G.K. Menon,
2. Prof. K.T. Ravindran, Urban Designer
3. Shri D.S. Meshram, Urban Designer
4. Shri Gurmeet S. Rai, Director, CRCI
5. Chief Architect, NDMC,
6. Chief Architect, DDA
7. Secretary, DUAC

It was decided that as the time limit available for making suggestions for draft Master Plan-2021 was limited, the Sub-Committee would finalize its recommendations within two week's time.

Item No.4 : Heritage Buildings in Cantonment Board Area.

The HCC observed that the Building Bye-Laws, 1983 did not seem to be applicable in respect of Cantonment area. However, as there were many heritage buildings in that area needing conservation and/or preservation, a letter in this regard may be sent to the Cantonment Board from Chairman HCC in public interest.

(Dina Nath)
Member Secretary

HERITAGE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

**C/o Delhi Urban Art Commission
India Habitat Centre,
Core 6A, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi – 110 003.**

No.2(1)/2004-HCC

April 28, 2005

Copy :

The Chairman and Members of the Heritage Conservation Committee.

DR:28/4/05
RK-29.04.2005