

Connecting Future to a Century Old Glory-An Architectural & Conservation Management Plan for Built Heritage at Lahore College for Women University, Lahore, Pakistan

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Figure 1: SKETCH OF GANGA RAM BUILDING LAHORE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN UNIVERSITY, LAHORE PAKISTAN

Source: Yasmeen Ahmed, Author

ABSTRACT

‘Heritage’ of any region necessitates to be conserved and regenerated for retaining cultural ownership of the society. The pertinence of ‘Architectural Criticism’ in analyzing the potential of conservation through chartered ethics of conservation and management of built heritage is the way forward to sustainable urbanism¹. By giving value to the built heritage through documentation and management planning, it is applicable obligation to develop architectural criticism in due course of launching management plan of the selected heritage; and architectural criticism here is referred as to study architectural design of buildings, urban design or overall built environment, in perspective of socio-political trends as well as to see if a ‘built structure’ through its history, style, functionality and placement in an urban scape contributes perfectly towards the necessary elements of ‘life’ or not². The simulation based analysis as being one face of the architectural documentation process, the accord of socio-political, economic and environmental history of the selected building/site/ country /region is equally important second component. In countries like Pakistan, provision of standardized living environment is yet a challenge; the cost of conservation of historical building is to be paid back effectively through productive management and business plans of the heritage buildings³, in order to pay back the financial expenditures made for conserving. Similarly, the post usage and adaptive reuse impacts of these historical buildings on ecology and socio-politics should be determined with systematic research instruments for studying trends of population for adaptive reuse of the historic buildings at LCWU. The modalities of restoring historical buildings for their architectural design, evolution of building use and adaptive reuse however is therefore to be made subjective to respective circumstances/needs of societies so as to have validity in analysis and institutionalized as to be formative for policies and educational theories. A selected Old Building at Campus of Lahore College for Women University will be discussed in this paper with an overview of architectural documentation of the building built during British era in subcontinent. Lahore College for Women University is Asia’s largest Women University (built in 1922); having historic as well as contemporary buildings; and will be studied for their physical, environmental and social features of the selected old building and ultimately conservation for optimum reuse. A crux of how these buildings impact the performance of users will also be discussed in the paper.

INTRODUCTION

The Urban Planning movement was on its peak in 1922 as post-Industrialization impacts on Construction Industry in Europe; and Lahore, Capital city of Punjab in sub-continent experienced the same. In context of Social Movement of Urban Reforms, the provision of amenities and infrastructural facilities to residents in the neighborhoods was categorically formulated through Improvement Trust Act 1922 and Public Health Amenities in 1840 – 1975 Act in England⁴. The reflection of British administration in Sub-Continent in general and for Lahore in particular, as Capital of Punjab, is predominantly evident through establishment of British Colonial Cantonments in India.

Through many centuries, city of Lahore, as being primarily located on the travel route of all incoming invaders as shown in Figure 2, the city owns an amusing and ironic cultural multiplicity and remarkable architectural inheritance.

¹ Ball, R. (1999) “Developers, regeneration and sustainability issues in the reuse of vacant buildings”, *Building Research & Information*, Vol 27 No 3

² Bullen, P.A, Love, P.E.D(2010) @ The rhetoric of adaptive reuse or reality of demolition views from the field “*Cities*”, Vol 27 No4

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⁴, Prof Dr Abdul Rahman, Muhammad Arshad, “The British Vision of Lahore: An Examination of Concepts of Architecture & Urban Design through Literary Resources” *Journal of Research in Architecture and Planning* Vol 13 Issue 2, 2012

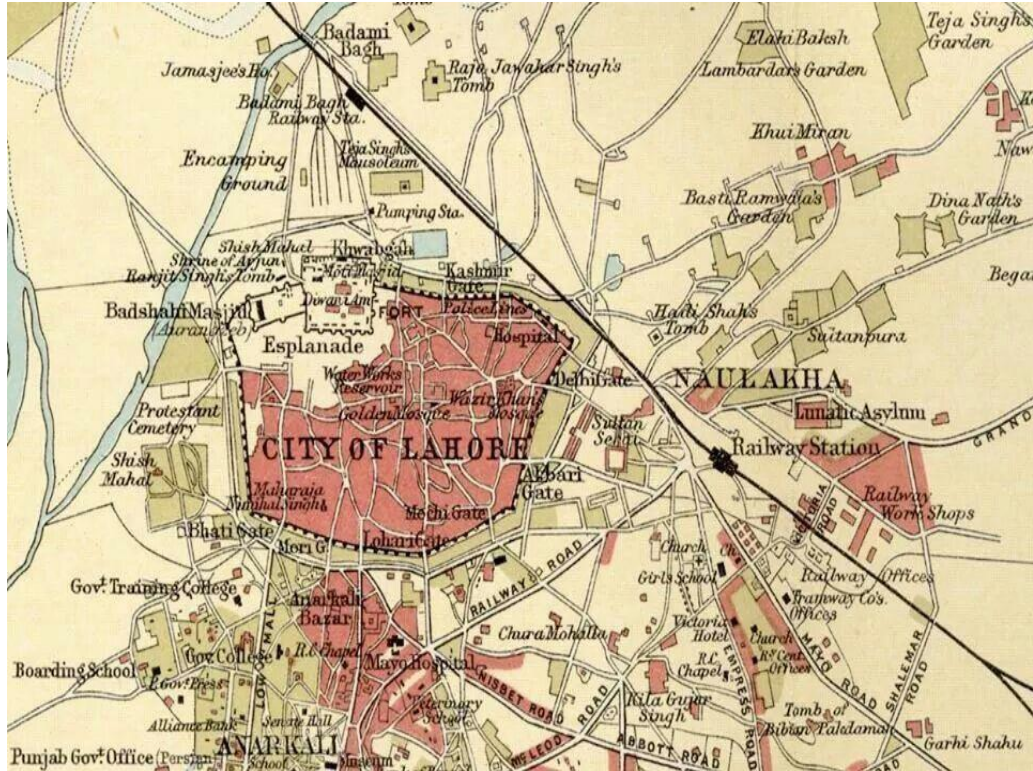


Figure 2: MAP OF LAHORE IN 1922

Source : Library of Congress – 1961 Maps of Lahore

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/g7650m.gct00014/>

There is a remarkable valued share of built heritage in Lahore that belongs to Colonial time in Indian Sub-Continent. Similarly all other dynasties left their symbols of grandeur and kingdom in Sub-Continent whilst occupying Lahore. In a particular way the monumental construction is reflected throughout historical evolution of Lahore as present city. The dainty artistry and symbolic architectural features were incorporated onto existing buildings, during British rule. At the same time, directly contrasting features were also introduced by the British in their construction style so as to infuse their own individuality in overall architectural heritage of the region. The advent of new conceptions and theories of Architecture formulated the ‘British Architecture’. The British Architecture as evolved in Sub-Continent during 1920s was a compound product of various architectural styles such as Gothic, Indian-Islamic and Indo Gothic largely⁵.

LITERATURE REVIEW

As Lahore shifted from the colonial to a post-colonial and later on post-Independence city that it is today, rapid urbanization made the city to expand further away from the Old City and Colonial centers. However, the administrative buildings have remained under the control of the government, and people often venture back into Colonial Lahore for business or recreation⁶.

Scholars will continue to argue whether Lahore’s Colonial Architecture was meant to innovate on local traditions or impress “the natives” with imperial grandeur. However, these colonial buildings have survived the test of times, including the turbulence of the Partition. Today, Lahore’s charm lies in the juxtaposition of the Old City of Lahore, parts of which have recently been restored, with the stately and wide boulevards of its rich Colonial Style⁷.

⁵Colonial Architecture in Lahore: J. L. Kipling and the ‘Indo-saracenic’ Styles

⁶Prof Dr Abdul Rahman , Muhammad Arshad , “The British Vision of Lahore : An Examination of Concepts of Architecture & Urban Design through Literary Resources “ Journal of Research in Architecture and Planning Vol 13 Issue 2 , 2012

⁷ Cooper , I , 2001 Post Occupancy Evaluation on Where are you , Building Resaerch & Information Vol 29 No 2

THE COLONIAL ERA

Colonial Style of Architecture is categorised into two primary types based upon functional use, as religious being the first and public administration second category of buildings constructed during this era. The examples of Colonial Architecture are the red bricks façade buildings include churches, Lawrence and Montgomery halls, the Government College University, National College of Arts, Aitchison College, Punjab University, Lahore Museum, Cathedrals, General Post Office, the Senate hall and Railway Station.

The innovation in building design after 1849 made Lahore grow as new Colonial city. The urban planning was altogether re-shaped in British era. Enhancements in quality of infrastructure and establishing new administrative quarters was a key element in housing and urban works policy of British government. Modern housing styles were also developed and overall architectural style signified Colonial ruler mind-sets. This attribution of western style entrenched with Greek and Roman flavours is experienced in buildings like Lawrence Hall, Lawrence Hall, and Railway Station⁸. The Indo European style is a compound of traditional Moghul elements merged with Colonial features as seen in various architectural elements like Cupolas, domes and minarets etc⁹.

Scholars have different opinions about the effectiveness of Indo-Saracenic Architecture in buildings built during the British Era for its specific architectural character. Some argue that it did not offer enough representation to earlier architectural grandeur, it was neither wholly British nor wholly Indian. Local people were not unaware of the British's blatant attempt at legitimizing their rule. However, others are more sympathetic, arguing that architects had a genuine love for the architecture as they understood it, and promoted local artisans who brought variety and creativity into government architecture, and their efforts should not go unnoticed. *One individual stood out as a distinct voice, interested in not only creating a personal legacy, but creating more collaboration between skilled Indian craftsmen and British aesthetics*: Sir John Lockwood Kipling¹⁰.

SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCH

The way forward to sustainable development of built environment pertains to potential of energy efficiency to be achieved through building design and construction. The same applies to analysis of historical buildings. In order to conserve the historical buildings the target is to achieve social stability through connecting past to present and in more modern values aligning the modern needs such as energy efficient built structures to the performance of historical buildings in response to climatic conditions. Henceforth, one of the key goals of this research paper is to analyse the old buildings of Lahore College for Women University for their thermal performance.

In continuity of exercises and ethics of Conservation as well as Energy Efficiency Analysis the suggestive Adaptive Reuse of historic buildings, as Ganga Ram Building in Lahore College for Women University will be a revitalised and valued use with reference to Conservation as well as Sustainability.¹¹

With a challenge in economy of Pakistan, where basic level housing has not been standardised so far, the expenses on Conservation and reviving Cultural Heritage may become a delinquent financial exercise, however a promising plan for generating revenue through *Conserved Buildings* is a kick off solution to economic management of heritage at LCWU. Successful strategies to revive central cities include brownfield redevelopments, infill developments, and adaptive reuse of old buildings. In-fill developments and Adaptive Reuse are some of the successful referential solutions to be embraced while planning for architectural management of heritage at LCWU. It can be described simply as a creative recycling of vacant and underutilized properties within cities. Many studies in World have revealed the economic, social, and environmental benefits of infill and adaptive reuse developments.¹²

⁸ Bullen, P.A, Love, P.E.D(2010) @ The rhetoric of adaptive reuse or reality of demolition views from the field "Cities, Vol 27 No4

⁹ The British Vision of Lahore : An Examination of Concepts of Architecture & Urban Design through Literary Resources, Prof Dr Abdul Rahman, Muhammad Arshad

¹⁰ John Lockwood Kipling and British Art Education in India, Victorian Studies [Vol. 24, No. 1, Victorian Imperialism \(Autumn, 1980\)](#), pp

¹¹ (Ball 1999; DEH 2004; Wilkinson and Reed 2008; Wilkinson et al. 2009; Bullen and Love 2009).

¹² Khan, Hussain Ahmad TI - Artisans, Sufis, Shrines. Colonial Architecture in Nineteenth-century Punjab

APPLICABLE OBJECTIVES OF RESAERCH

- a. Documentation of Ganga Ram Building at LCWU for Conservation & Adaptive Reuse.
- b. Connecting present generation to social values of ancient generation through archived drawings.
- c. Adaptive Reuse of Building.
- d. Business plan for revenue generation through tourism.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

LCWU being one of the oldest institutes in Asia has a history over a century of years and possesses an impressive built and cultural heritage. This heritage needs to be conserved to preserved and regenerated to sustain its visual and social character and to co- exist with its ecology and urban scape.

The possible proposals of reshaping urban design of any settlement or city or campus is suggested here to be decided after examining following variables:

1. The Organic Pace of Growth of a Community.

In the case of LCWU as the Women University with 17000 females in the campus, including students and faculty both , the evolution from a High School (1922) to Girls College and then University (2002) , the Campus has altogether gone through major developmental transitions. These transitions enfold diversity of political, social, economic and art history eras. Details referring to administrative and academic developments have been discussed in alter sections of this paper. The architectural style broadly is divided into pre and post 1947 periods as while discussing architectural style and urban planning of LCWU campus.

2. Analysis of The Forms and Functions of Buildings in Chronological Order

The increase in number of academic degrees and disciplines at LCWU within last 100 years correspond to an overall change in political and economic variants in the region, particularly in Pakistan. The enhanced focus on education of women in society was a driving force behind the constant stride of architectural developments in LCWU at Lahore. Here, it is pertinent to mention the transformation of Lahore as a capital city of Punjab to an International Urban Center for socio-economic forums. In context of evolution of forms and functions of buildings at LCWU the important variable in developing research design for architectural management of Ganga Ram Building at LCWU is the sample population of users of this building during various time periods. Last but not the least the optical value of this building in LCWU campus, referring to location of the old buildings enlisted as 1, 2, 3 & 4 shown in Figure 3, the Master Plan of the University.

Heritage at Lahore College for Women University, Lahore, Pakistan



Figure 3: MASTER PLAN OF LAHORE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN UNIVERSITY, LAHORE
PAKISTAN

Source : Author

A BRIEF HISTORY OF LAHORE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN UNIVERSITY AS AN INSTITUTION

The institution was incepted in 1922 as a residential campus for girls, in a building located at Hall Road Lahore. The strength of College increased to 600 students in 1950 and was shifted to Jail Road Building , which is the current location position of campus in Lahore shown in Figure 4. A primitive neighbourhood context of Lahore College is narrated through location map given in Figure 5. Although Post Graduate Degree Programs were started at Lahore College in 1940 but the administrative & financial hierarchy was made autonomous at Lahore College in 1990, which was previously affiliated to University of The Punjab. Then Lahore College after being autonomous for financial and administrative structure took a major breakthrough as was awarded status of Degree Awarding Institution.

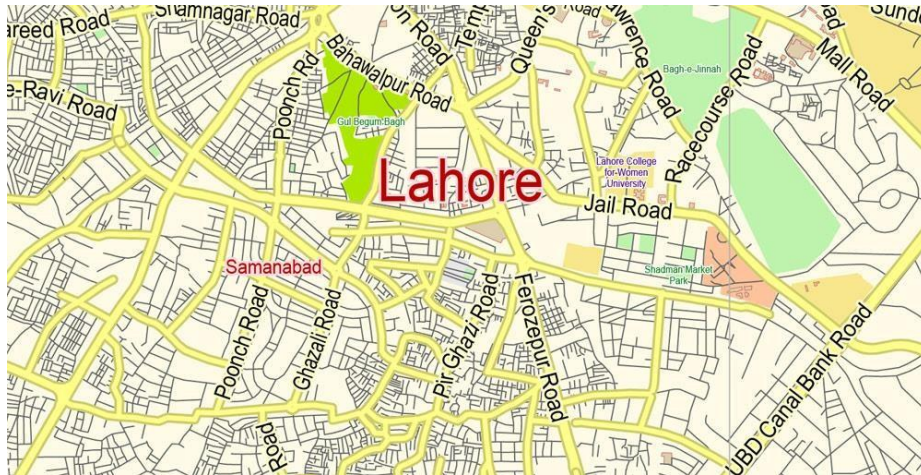


Figure 4 : VECTOR MAP OF ROADS IN LAHORE SHOWING LOCATION OF LCWU CAMPUS AT JAIL ROAD

Source: Maps Vector : City Street Maps City Plans , Printable Vector Map of Lahore Pakistan ¹³

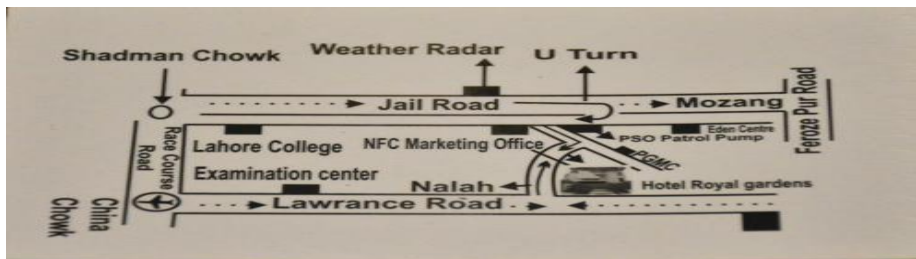


Figure 5: LOCATION OF LAHORE COLLEGE AT JAIL ROAD IN NEIGHBOURHOOD CONTEXT

Source : ¹⁴

¹³https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fvectormap.net%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2018%2F08%2Flahore_pakistan_map_vector_editable_gv113_ai_10_ai_pdf_1.jpg&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fvectormap.net%2Fproduct%2Flahore-vector-map-pakistan-en-low-detailed-city-plan-editable-adobe-illustrator-street-map-layers-small-print-size%2F&tbnid=e2tXLsZui5pgsM&vet=12ahUKEwjapMqLILn4AhUSahoKHxE2A1oQMgyegQIARA8..i&docid=Gb7kTZeMLclGtM&w=1000&h=510&q=road%20map%20of%20lahore%20showing%20jail%20road%20and%20mall%20road%20&ved=2ahUKEwjapMqLILn4AhUSahoKHxE2A1oQMgyegQIARA8

¹⁴<https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fxx.bstatic.com%2Fdata%2Fimages%2Fhotel%2Fmax500%2F218435010.jpg%3Fk%3Daabb0f29bd3f51d33b81ecfda839795faecf8c7b98018db96eca128cc963a62e%26o%3D&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fplanetofhotels.com%2Fen%2Fpakistan%2Flahore%2Fhotel-royal-gardens&tbnid=Ev9jIjd4XkUZ4M&vet=12ahUKEwjapMqLILn4AhUSahoKHxE2A1oQMgyaegUIARDxAQ..i&docid=qrd02YmUubHvSM&w=500&h=283&q=road%20map%20of%20lahore%20showing%20jail%20road%20and%20mall%20road%20&ved=2ahUKEwjapMqLILn4AhUSahoKHxE2A1oQMgyaegUIARDxAQ>

It was September 10 ,2002 that the status of Lahore College was upgraded to University , named as Lahore College for Women University¹⁵. Ganga Ram Building , shown in Figure 5 & 6 as named after architect and builder “ Sir Ganga Ram” is the first College Building and is still currently under use of Intermediate College in 2022.In context of array of buildings the old and new buildings reflect the period and style of construction they were built within. However, it is extremely important to rejuvenate and revitalise the role of history for reference and knowledge of new generation. For this purpose, conservation of buildings and subsequent architectural management of conserved buildings is critically important. Ganga Ram Building as shown in Figure 6 &7 ,is therefore discussed and explained in this paper with the futuristic applications of this conservation plan.



Figure 6: GANGA RAM BUILDING 2022
Source: Author

The historic buildings at LCWU possess profound character of cultural heritage and therefore all ethics and delicacies of conservation must be incorporated into the conservation and architectural management of heritage , here.



Figure 7 : GANGA RAM BUILDING 2022
Source : Author

¹⁵Bryant, Julius - 2020/02/16- Colonial Architecture in Lahore: J. L. Kipling and the ‘Indo-saracenic’ Style Vol 36

METHODOLOGY

The old building of Ganga Ram was effectively documented for the current conditions as well as causes of decay. The detailed process of photography and architectural documentation, few referential figures shown in this paper, is followed by list of decayed sections of the building individually. The cumbersome process of research without any funds pertain to self motivation of researcher in ambition to enliven the heritage into present day educational environment of LCWU. The literature for architectural records of LCWU Ganga Ram Building were very minimal in context of devising a conservation methodology as well as action plan. So therefore the buildings built in the same era, Colonial time period, and built by the same builder Sir Ganga Ram, were studied and analysed. Applying the relevant historical data of similar architectural style in Colonial era and by Sir Ganga Ram, the 'Ethics of Conservation' as relevant in this case of architectural management of Ganga Ram Building as a historical asset of LCWU were analysed for necessary applications.

A prolific preview of building performance of Ganga Ram Building at LCWU in response to climatic conditions of Lahore and physical comfort of users has also been conducted in this research so that a sustainable methodology of retaining this built heritage is executed.

In good value to revenue generation, a tourism and business plan for evening programs has been suggested at the end of this paper. The aim of proposed solution is to highlight the historical importance of LCWU as well as to add to the financial stability of the University.

GANGA RAM BUILDING

Ganga Ram building is one of the oldest buildings in Lahore College for Women University. The building style covers the fusion of traditional elements and British architectural styles (victorian-colonial).



Figure 8 GANGA RAM BUILDING IN 2010

Source : Tahira Mukhtar, LCWU



Figure 9 : GANGA RAM BUILDING 2022

Source : Author

GANGA RAM –THE ARCHITECT & BUILDER

Sir Ganga Ram was the builder of Modern Lahore. He was born in 1851 in Mangtanwala Sheikhpura. , Punjab. He was an expert in Construction Management and Architectural Design of his time. He has design and construction of Mayo Hospital , Mayo College of Arts , Ganga Ram Hospital , Aitchison College and Lahore College for Women University to his attributes. Other than architectural design and construction of buildings he executed planning of eight markets at Lyallpur , Faisalabad as well as rural planning of his own village “ Ganga pur” on the same 8-Bazar Chowk concept of master planning. As mentioned earlier that post World War II , the advanced public health acts and urban planning were in practice all over the world , particularly Europe and England and Lahore went through the same progress for urban design in cities and settlements. Architecture was more focussed in that period, for providing amenities and facilities on public scale.¹⁶

GANGA RAM BUILDING

Ganga Ram Building is the first building in plain sight when students enter the premises of LCWU. It directly gets the attention of people through its unique and traditional style. It follows colonial Style of Architecture having arches, columns and pediments with beautiful intricate design patterns which are carved on the structural elements. This mixed use of architectural elements , was introduced by British imperialist colonizers, promoting their sense of “rightful self-glorification”. The columns in Ganga Ram Building have octagonal shafts with no flutes. The building's architecture reflects the history of Lahore and is remarkable for its uniqueness, few examples of perforated jalis , cornices and windows shown in Figure 8 & 9 . It has a two-storey structure which is very large and imposing as shown in Figure 6, 7 and 8.

¹⁶Bryant, Julius - 2020/02/16- Colonial Architecture in Lahore: J. L. Kipling and the ‘Indo-saracenic’ Style Vol 36

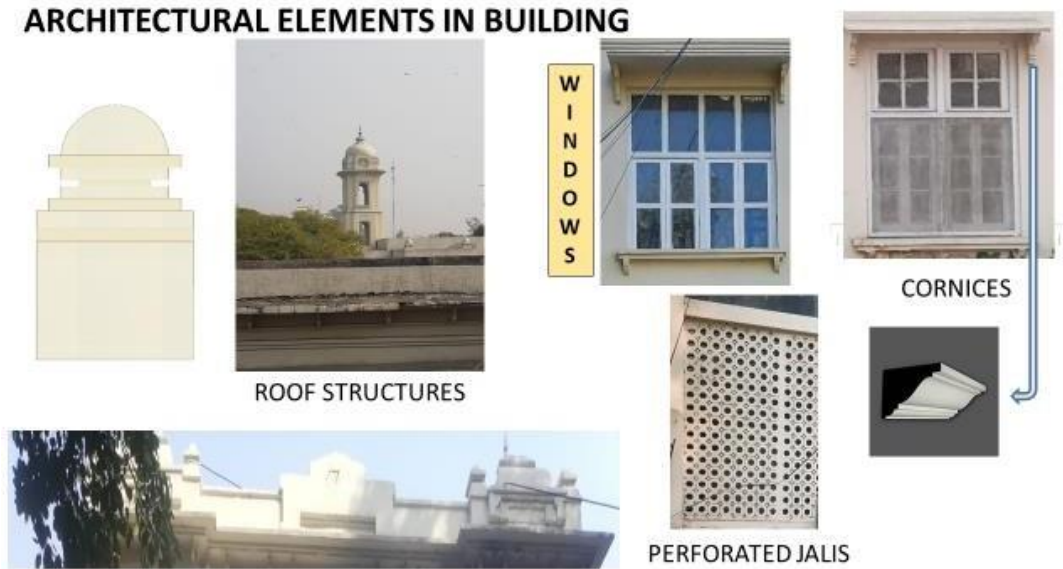


Figure 10 ; DETAILS OF ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS IN GANGA RAM BUILDING

Source ; Author

ETHICS OF CONSERVATION

In context of support to the cause of conservation of architectural heritage at LCWU and later on the customised management plan to benefit the end users the following acts and charters have been referred to :

- International Act -The Venice Charter 1964
- "Carta Del Restauro": The Athens Charter 1931
- National Act- Antiquities Act, 1975¹⁷ - Acquisition of Land Containing Antiquities.

In due alignment to ethics of conservation the Ganga Ram Building at LCWU has been documented for prospective restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive reuse and architectural management.¹⁸

¹⁷Bryant, Julius- 2020/02/16- Colonial Architecture in Lahore: J. L. Kipling and the 'Indo-saracenic' StylesVL - 36JO - South Asian Studies

¹⁸[https://www.neduet.edu.pk/arch_planning/ICOMOS/22-11-11/4-National%20Charter%20for%20Conservation%20pakistan%20\(Lahore%20Charter\).pdf](https://www.neduet.edu.pk/arch_planning/ICOMOS/22-11-11/4-National%20Charter%20for%20Conservation%20pakistan%20(Lahore%20Charter).pdf)

ANALYSIS

The categories of historic buildings in order of prominence is another orientation while deciding the need of conservation.¹⁹ Historic buildings represent an integral part of every country's heritage wealth. In spite of the territory on which they are located, historic buildings belong to all people worldwide. Owing to their structure and nature, many of these buildings are still standing in a stable state. However they stand ignored and obsolete, which undermines the perception of their values.²⁰ In light of these references the Ganga Ram Building as in the most decorative and functional building at Asia's largest Women University is outstandingly important for conservation.

The need assessment has been shown in Table 1 below, for determining the urgent need of Conservation of Old Buildings at Lahore College for Women University

Sr No	Grade / Category of Historic Buildings	Scope of Conservation
1	Outstandingly Important Buildings	Urgent and Complete Conservation
2	Excellent Merit Buildings	Selective Preservation
3	Good Merit Buildings	Preservation in some form would be desirable and alternative means could be considered if preservation is not practicable

Table 1: NEED ASSESMENT OF CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Source : Author

This architectural documentation of Ganga Ram Building as shown in Figure 10 & 11 shows the spatial division of spaces done in a very geometrically balanced order. A proportion is experienced in the master planning of building and clear heights of spaces is as high as 16 ft for all halls, class rooms and spaces. The entrance verandas on both sides of buildings has been complemented with columns and cupolas on top of the building. The jaalis and windows are valued architectural elements. The other architectural features such as staircase with colonial style balusters' and railing are effectively contrasted with clerestory windows. The central hall with offices and classrooms on both sides have been a balanced composition in architectural plan as shown in Figure 10 & 11.

¹⁹(Antiquities and Monuments Office, Leisure and Cultural Services Department 2017; Historicengland 2018)

²⁰Metcalf, Thomas R. (1989). *An Imperial Vision: Indian Architecture and Britain's Raj*. London: Faber and Faber. Page 13 of 23

Connecting Future to a Century Old Glory-An Architectural & Conservation Management Plan for Built Heritage at Lahore College for Women University, Lahore, Pakistan

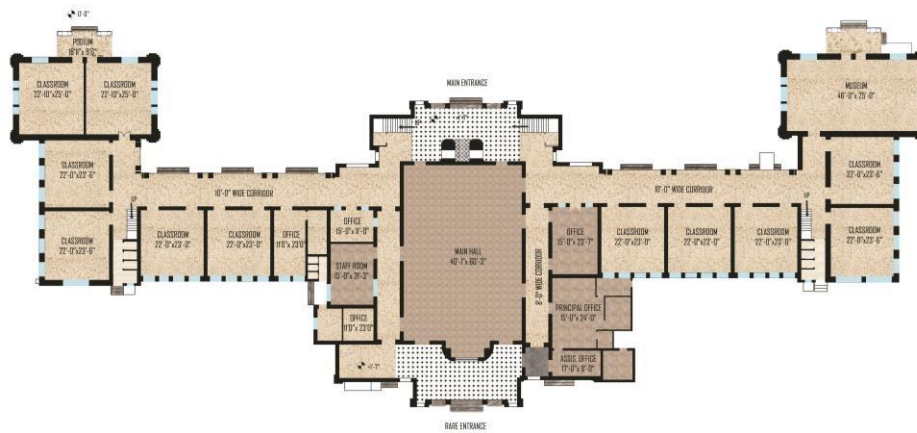


Figure 11: GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF GANGA RAM BUILDING
Source: Author

The orientation of the Ganga-Ram Block is from east to west and the main entrance faces the South. The building has two floors only. An evident symmetry is seen in elevation as well as plan of the building. Similarly the placement of windows and doors is also done in a straight balance. The size of doors and windows has been kept large as to complement the spacious clear heights of indoor spaces.

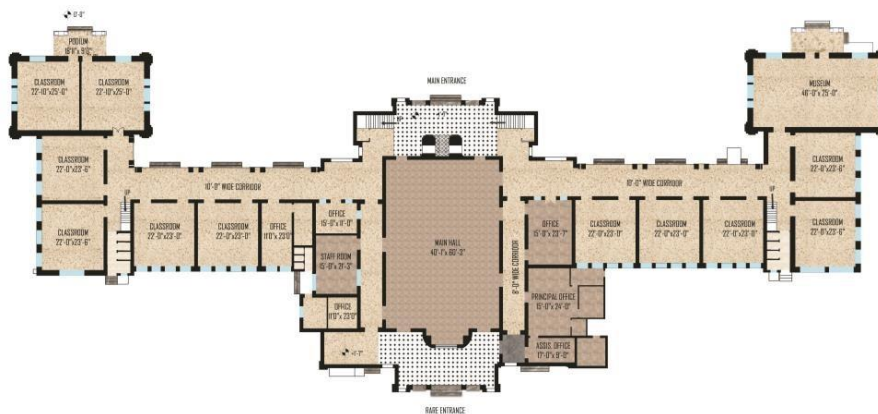


Figure 12: FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF GANGA RAM BUILDING
Source : Author

There are beautiful chatris built on the roof top which are visible from all sides of the building shown in a sketch in Figure 12. The arrangement of these Chatris enhances the aesthetics of the building outlook. The lush old green trees and backyard facing the famous Hockey Ground of LCWU provides a very conducive outdoor environment to the students. The outdoor spaces around Ganga Ram Building are the lively spaces that students use for interaction as shown in earlier photographs.



Figure 13 : A PERSPECTIVE OF GANGA RAM BUILDING
Source : Author

The columns are an important detail of structure as well as aesthetics of Ganga Ram building , as shown in Figure 12 that the shafts are slender without flutes/grooves. The base of the columns is simple and the capital is unornamented and round. The Tuscan columns are Roman & Carpenter Doric in style.

COLUMN DETAILS



Figure 14: DETAILS OF COLUMNS IN GANGA RAM BUILDING
Source : Author

The materials of construction in Ganga Ram Building are clay , bricks , beam (RB Beams) and sand lime mortar.

PHYSIO-ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF SIR GANGA RAM BUILDING

Analysis of Ganga Ram Building for its thermal performance reveals the excellent quality of passive techniques used in the planning and architectural elements of building. It has huge windows and doors for the maximum intake of air and light and they also provide good view to the exterior environment. The ceiling height is also kept very high allowing the movement of fresh air as well as to provide a clear height for the warm air to travel upwards which will automatically creates a distinct difference in temperature at the ceiling of a room and the floor. It is very well-ventilated because of the perforated corridors, clerestory windows and cross ventilation maintained through doors & windows. Overall the correct usage of trees and ventilation mechanism, above all optimising the stack effect through spaces of Ganga Ram Building makes indoor environment thermally comfortable in the composite climate of Lahore.

CONCLUSIONS

The importance of LCWU as largest Women University in Asia and Ganga Ram Building being the most eminent structure in the inception of this institution renders the emergent need of conservation, rehabilitation and ultimately adaptive reuse. Other than architectural aspects it has its value connected to historical eras. With change in administrations at global levels the region has experienced an elaborate diversity which must be transferred to coming generation by preserving the heritage. The building is architecturally documented in detail as the first hand information to relevant stakeholders responsible for execution of conservation works. Similarly these drawings are a library to future researchers, as shown in Figure 13 & 14. The causes of decay have been documented in detail for all relevant remedies to be done for conserving this century old heritage.

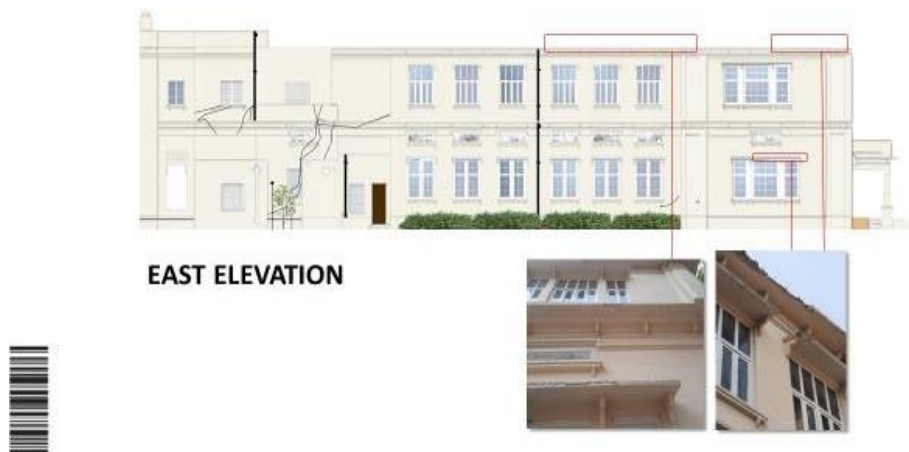


Figure 15 EAST ELEVATION OF GANGA RAM BUILDING , LCWU , LAHORE.
Source: Author

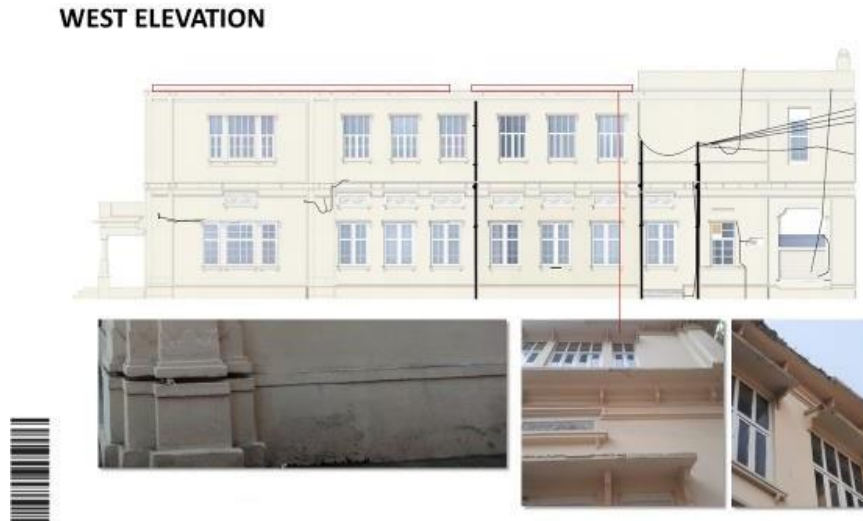


Figure 16: WEST ELEVATION OF GANGA RAM BUILDING, LCWU, LAHORE.
Source : Author

The conservation of this building will not add to architectural value of the campus but will also modify the social credibility of community and thus will enhance urban sustainability. The understandings of socio-cultural aspect in light of community development through study of this building has come up with the fact the architect and builder of this Ganga Ram Building had a soft spot for educational institutions. In a colonised society, he wished to contribute to education and this is seen in architectural character of institutional buildings built by him²⁰. Moreover the campus was peculiarly designed for female gender and the Institution has retained the quality of education to date.

It is therefore concluded and proposed that the task of conservation and adaptive reuse of Ganga Ram Building at LCWU should be implemented by engaging with not academic institutions, but also community organizations like Walled City Lahore Authority, Heritage and Tourism Departments and United Nations. The Adaptive Reuse suggested for this building is to accommodate the Architecture Department at LCWU in the premises of conserved Ganga Ram Building. The intricacy of conservation, rehabilitation and maintenance is a regular task and Architecture Department as being a relevant discipline may well take up the task. One of the drawings as for proposed Adaptive reuse is shown in Figure 15.

To perform a financially productive model a business plan for making the conserved building a tourism site is also recommended; as where the moderators and curators in evenings can conduct the visits, and revenue will pay back the costs of Conservation in a very prosperous way. The proper use of Electric Architecture can make it more functional for having international tourism and thus will be an effective and profitable adaptive reuse strategy. The conserved building shall be enlisted with Heritage Properties and thus will be a destination to local and international tourists.

To conclude, it is regarded that for optimisation and commercialisation of the operational performance of Ganga Ram Building at Lahore College for Women University the points of reference as determined, are the environment, urbanism, economics and architectural conservation to be the doctrines. In a futuristic approach to add to academic value with a widespread attention to the world a conserved building will act as live library for researchers of Architecture, History, Sociology, Tourism as well as all other disciplines. This connectivity to history will be an authentic way forward to sustainable development of society as an urban entity of globe as well as in moderation to the clocks of history.

²¹Bryant, Julius - 2020/02/16- Colonial Architecture in Lahore: J. L. Kipling and the 'Indo-saracenic' Styles
VL - 36JO - South Asian Studies

Connecting Future to a Century Old Glory-An Architectural & Conservation Management Plan for Built Heritage at Lahore College for Women University, Lahore, Pakistan



Figure 17: ADAPTIVE REUSE OF THE GANGA RAM BUILDING AS ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT AT LAHORE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN UNIVERSITY , 3-D MODEL

Source ; Author