

The background image shows a traditional Indian building facade, likely from the Sadar Bazaar in Pune. The upper part of the image features a gabled roof with intricate wooden carvings and a tiled roofline. The lower part shows a series of windows with decorative wooden frames and lattice work. A semi-transparent green horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

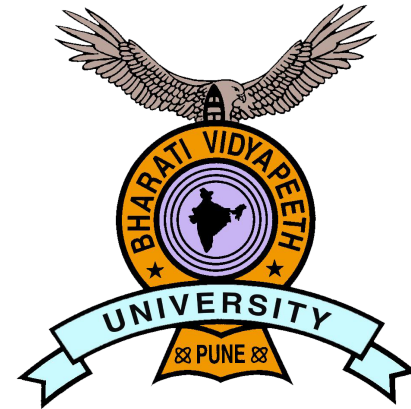
# Pathways to Heritage Conservation

*Protection & Management Strategy  
for Pune's Sadar Bazaar*



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Queen's University School of Urban and Regional Planning

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Thank you.





# About the Project

This report is the product of a team of master's students from the School of Urban and Regional Planning at Queen's University, Kingston, Canada. This marks the third consecutive year that students enrolled in the international project course have travelled to India.



The Project Team (Left to Right)

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# Executive Summary

This report recommends strategies to improve heritage conservation and promotion in Sadar Bazaar, Pune. These measures engage with the local population in a bottom-up approach that encourages stakeholders to take pride and ownership in their heritage. It diverges from traditional heritage conservation strategies in that it is community-based.

Before travelling to India, the project team contextualized the study by conducting research into the history of Sadar Bazaar and Pune, studying its existing conditions and local legislative and policy framework. In addition, the team examined a range of international case studies of heritage districts and heritage walks to identify best practices, and developed an assessment tool to use for choosing an appropriate route.

In Pune, the project team presented to the

client at a local university, and held a workshop with local residents to gather feedback and inform the direction of the field research. A key takeaway was that a government-regulated heritage district was unlikely to succeed. With this input, the team devised a more bottom-up heritage conservation strategy.

Working from heritage assets identified by the client, and information gained from the workshop and informant interviews, a modified assessment tool was employed for fieldwork in Sadar Bazaar. Major considerations in evaluating sites and street segments between them were the quality of physical design, accessibility, user comfort, availability of public amenities, wayfinding, and, more abstractly, the overall experience. The results were synthesized and are reflected in the proposed heritage walk. Highlighting

the history and urban character of the Sadar Bazaar, the walk features 21 sites along a 2.7 kilometre route.

The recommendations for a broader Sadar Bazaar heritage conservation strategy seek to cultivate the area's place identity and increase public engagement with its heritage. Some are easily implemented and come with modest costs, while others may be longer-term initiatives. All are valuable steps. The measures are organized in the key themes of community mobilization, branding, and urban design.

Community mobilization measures aim to increase appreciation of heritage assets in Sadar Bazaar to encourage local stakeholders to preserve and maintain the area's historic character. Key recommendations include the introduction of awards that recognize

outstanding examples of heritage conservation, programming tailored at schoolchildren in educational activities, scavenger hunts that increase the appeal of heritage to all ages, mobile apps that widen the reach of heritage content, and pilot projects that showcase and generate interest in restoring traditional architecture.

Branding measures should highlight Sadar Bazaar's distinct heritage character by showcasing its unique characteristics, fostering a community identity. The Sadar Bazaar name should be reintroduced, and websites and printed material development should follow.

Urban design strategies for the public realm support branding with uniform elements that showcase Sadar Bazaar's historic character while enhancing the urban environment. Recommendations include implementing footpath designs and standards, targeted signage and wayfinding improvements, public art installations that contribute to place identity, increased pedestrian-scale vegetation, such as potted plants, and public lighting and seating improvements.

A management structure is included to assist in defining key actors and suggested timelines for the strategy. Heritage conservation in Sadar Bazaar would benefit significantly from its implementation.





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