



Listing and Grading of Heritage Structures in the
Gandhinagar Urban Development Authority
Jurisdiction area

Volume I: Final Report
August 2014

INTACH-Gujarat
In association with
Urban Management Centre, Ahmedabad

Front cover page: Residence of Indulal Maneklal Shah, Uvarsad Village
Back cover page: Painting on the ceiling of Nilkanth Mahadev Temple, Adalaj Village
Credit: INTACH-Gujarat and Urban Management Centre

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About INTACH and the Urban Management Centre



Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage was set up in 1984 is India's largest non-profit membership organization dedicated to conservation and preservation of India's natural, cultural, living, tangible and intangible heritage¹.

INTACH has many state chapters and city chapters to carry on with its agenda. It brings together heritage conservationist professionals, artists, art and culture enthusiast, governments on a single platform. Its mission is to:

- Sensitize the public about the pluralistic cultural legacy of India;
- Instil a sense of social responsibility towards preserving our common heritage;
- Protect and conserve our living, built, and natural heritage by undertaking necessary actions and measures;
- Document unprotected buildings of archaeological, architectural, historical and aesthetic significance; and cultural resources, as this is the first step towards formulating conservation plans;
- Develop heritage policy and regulations, and make legal interventions to protect our heritage when necessary;
- Provide expertise in the field of conservation, restoration and preservation of specific works of art; and encourage capacity building by developing skills through training programs;
- Undertake emergency response measures during natural or manmade disasters, and support local administration whenever heritage is threatened;
- Foster collaborations, Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and partnerships with government and other national and international agencies; and
- Generate sponsorships for conservation and educational project



INTACH-Gujarat chapter has partnered with Urban Management Centre (UMC), a not-for-profit organization based in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, working towards professionalizing urban management in India and South Asia. UMC provides technical assistance and support to Indian state local government associations and implements programs that work towards improvement in cities by partnering with city governments. It also builds and enhances the capacity of city governments by providing much-needed expertise and ready access to innovations on good governance implemented in India and abroad. UMC directors have received INTACH-SATTE award for 2012 for their exemplary work in documenting and grading of heritage buildings of Surat. UMC is a legacy organization of International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and is working since 1997. It is also known as ICMA-South Asia².

INTACH-Gujarat has been active since a few years and has partnered with UMC on other assignments in the past such as 'Preparation of Heritage Bye-Laws for Sarkhej Roza and Dwarkadhish Group of Monuments' and 'Listing and Grading of Heritage Structures in Ahmedabad'. UMC houses the INTACH-Gujarat office in its premises.

¹ More information about INTACH is available at www.intach.org.

² More details about UMC are available at www.umcasia.org.

Disclaimer

The scope of this project is to prepare a list of heritage structures in Gandhinagar Urban Development Authority's jurisdiction i.e. approximately 388 sqkm. The list under preparation is based upon information drawn from data collected from various a) primary survey conducted by INTACH-Gujarat/ Urban Management Centre (UMC), b) government, non-government and private organisations; c) discussions with experts in the field of history, heritage and archaeology; d) research of the relevant region, and e) our own sector knowledge. No representation or warranty, express or implied, is given by INTACH-Gujarat or its partner organisation UMC or any of its respective partners, officers, employees, or agents as to the accuracy or completeness of the information, data & maps or opinions provided to INTACH-Gujarat or UMC by third parties.

In the course of our assignment, we were provided with both written and verbal

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- Ms. D. Thara, IAS, Chief Executive Authority, GUDA
- Mr. M. R. Shah, Senior Town Planner, GUDA
- Mr. Chintan Patel, Urban Planner, GUDA
- All other team members of GUDA

INTACH-Gujarat would like to also thank Urban Management Centre (UMC), Ahmedabad for hosting INTACH-Gujarat office at their premises and for providing technical and administrative

staff for this project. UMC has been a crucial associate of INTACH-Gujarat as they bring vast experience and regional knowledge in heritage. UMC brings experience from their past projects including a) listing & grading heritage buildings in Surat and Ahmedabad, b) preparing heritage bye-laws for Sarkhej Roza and Dwarkadhish group of monuments for ASI, and c) preparing heritage management plan (including heritage bye-laws) for Deulwadi precinct, Uran for Mumbai Metropolitan Regional Heritage Conservation Society (MMRHCS).

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Structure of the documentation for listing and grading of heritage structures

Volume I: Report on heritage listing and grading

- Introduction
- History of Gandhinagar and its villages
- Methodology adopted
- Survey and its findings
- Way forward

Volume II: List of heritage structures

- Grade-wise number of heritage structures listed
- List of heritage structures
 - Grade I
 - Grade IIA
 - Grade IIB
 - Grade III

Volume III: Profiles of heritage structures

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List of abbreviations

DP	Development plan
GDCR	General development control regulations
GIS	Geographical information system
GNA	Gandhinagar notified area
GoG	Government of Gujarat
GUDA	Gandhinagar Urban Development Authority
IAS	Indian administrative service
INTACH	Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
UMC	Urban Management Centre

Glossary

chabutra	traditional bird feeder
gamtal	village
haveli	a large traditional house
havado	a multi-purpose traditional water tank
jharokha	decorated window projecting out from an external wall
panch	a group of elected/ nominated individuals by a community for administrative purposes
panchayat	administrative body comprising of <i>panch</i>
pol	traditional neighbourhood with cul-de-sac
taluka	sub-district administrative division
tanka	traditional rain water harvesting tank
vav	step well

1. Introduction

The built heritage of our country, which forms a part of our cultural heritage, is a priceless non-renewable resource that is seriously threatened. Government of India (GoI), through Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and the state governments through their respective State Department of Archaeology (SDA) have been protecting monuments more than 100 years old declared to be of national or regional importance. However, considering India's vast cultural heritage, there are innumerable historic buildings and precincts of architectural, historical and aesthetic importance remain 'unprotected', largely neglected and threatened by natural decay, vandalism and urban pressures.

Since cultural heritage refers to tangible and intangible manifestations of history charting human evolution, it is of grave significance which could be aesthetic, architectural, associational or historic. Any heritage site while conducting a survey is evaluated for three inter-related concepts which are:

Significance

Cultural significance is the importance of the property to the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering or culture of a community, region or nation. In selecting a building as a heritage structure, particular attention is usually paid to its –

- Association with events, activities or important persons
- Distinctive physical characteristics of architectural style, design, construction or form
- Potential to yield important information such as illustrating social or economic history of the time it was built in
- Technological innovations in construction or building typologies

Integrity

Historic integrity is the property's identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics and significant elements that existed during the property's historic period. It enables the structure to illustrate significant aspects of its past having retained

the original materials, features and aspects of construction dating from the period it was built.

Context

Historic context is information about historic trends and properties grouped by an important theme in the history of a community, region or nation during a particular period of time. Knowledge of the context helps us understand a historic building as the product of that time.

Our heritage includes not only monuments but also artefacts, historical precincts, sacred groves, hills, water bodies, forests, gardens, cultural landscapes and traditional art & crafts. Following are the categories of structures that can be identified and listed in a place of historical significance:

Heritage Buildings & Sites

- Heritage buildings
- Historic sites & complex
- Religious centres
- Vernacular and local heritage structures
- Archaeological remains, ruins and remnants

Historic & Traditional settlements

- Heritage Villages
- Craft centres
- Streetscapes and Bazaars
- Historic trade routes
- Industrial, technological and transportation sites

Cultural Landscapes

- Scenic sites
- Water bodies

Types of heritage buildings which should be listed based on their significance are:

- Residential – palaces, *havelis*, bungalows, town houses, forts
- Commercial – factories, shops, *bazaars*, ports
- Community – schools/colleges, railway stations, post offices, police stations, libraries, courts

- Religious – temples, mosques, *dargahs*, *gurudwaras*, churches, shrines
- Memorials – *samadhis*, tombs, *chhatris*, head-stones, historic inscriptions

Any form of listing done by the government or an NGO, is an inventory of heritage buildings & sites based on the survey of the cultural heritage of an area. Areas of heritage in a town/ city are explored to uncover the various heritage components that depict the different time period and reflect the influence of history on the town/city. It acts as a basic tool comprising of background research, field work, date analysis and dissemination, which is needed to identify conservation priorities and strategies in heritage management. The inventory supported by photographs includes:

- name of the property
- location
- ownership
- time period of construction of the structure based on administrative rule in the region
- use
- significance
- architectural elements
- construction material
- existing condition
- condition description

(Gupta, 2007)

Gandhinagar Urban Development Authority's past efforts in heritage conservation

Gandhinagar Urban Development Authority (GUDA) has undertaken several initiatives in the past to conserve heritage within its jurisdiction. Some initiatives include addressing of heritage matters appropriately in the development plan of its jurisdiction.

Aims, objectives and limitations of this listing

Continuing its commitment towards heritage conservation, GUDA has undertaken this initiative to prepare a list of heritage structures within its jurisdiction. For this purpose, GUDA approached INTACH-Gujarat Chapter to undertake listing and grading of heritage structures on GUDA's behalf.

The main aim of this listing and grading exercise is to create an inventory of heritage structures based on their heritage value and further facilitate their conservation.

To achieve the above aim, INTACH-Gujarat suggests the following actions to be undertaken:

1. Preparing a detailed listing of the all heritage structures in GUDA's jurisdiction
2. Grading of all heritage structures surveyed
3. Notify the final list of heritage structures

In addition to the above, actual conservation efforts would bring favourable results when the above list is augmented with guidelines for redevelopment of heritage buildings and precincts. The heritage guidelines should be further supported by appropriate heritage bye-laws to be prepared and incorporated in the building bye-laws being prepared by GUDA for the revised development plan.

The scope of this assignment is to prepare a list of heritage structures (with grades assigned to each structure). Preparation of heritage guidelines and bye-laws is not a part of this assignment and INTACH-Gujarat recommends it to be taken up on a priority basis.

2. History of Gandhinagar

Gandhinagar, the capital of Gujarat state is located approximately 23 km north of Ahmedabad. The city is divided into thirty sectors that stretch around the central Government complex where each sector has its own shopping & community centre, primary school, health centre as well as government & private housing. There is also a provision for parks, extensive planting and a recreational area along the river giving it a green garden-city atmosphere. The town planning was done by Prakash M. Apte and H. K. Mewada, both of whom had apprenticed with Le Corbusier in Chandigarh (John, 2011).

The origin of Gandhinagar district can be traced back to the medieval period where it happens to be closely interlinked with the history of Ahmedabad and Mehsana districts. It formerly belonged to the northern part of Ahmedabad and the southern part of Mehsana. The medieval period spanning broadly from 1299 to 1819 A.D. saw Gujarat witnessing many political upheavals which can be broadly divided into the following sub-periods. The following excerpts have been taken from District Gazetteer: Gandhinagar, Government of Gujarat.

1299 to 1407 A.D. - Turkish invasion and the rule of the Delhi Sultanate through their governors

King Karna Vaghela, the last Rajput king of Anahilpur Patan, the then capital of Gujarat, was defeated by the combined armies of Nusrat Khan and Ulugh Khan both of whom were deputies of Ala-ud-din Khalji, the Sultan of Delhi in 1299 A.D. This was the beginning of the rule of Khalji Sultanate in Gujarat. King Karan is said to have fled the battlefield and gone to Asawal near Ahmedabad which along with Khambhat was eventually plundered by Ulugh and Nusrat Khan.

Alp Khan was the named the first 'Nazim' or 'Subedar' of Gujarat appointed by the Delhi Sultanate. He was succeeded by Saiyad

Kamal-ud-din Gurg who was slain in the battlefield and Ain-ul-Mulk Multani who finally defeated the rebels and established peace in the province.

It was during the governorship of Sheikh Muiz-ud-din in the year 1347 A.D. that Sultan Mohammed Tughlaq led an army in person from Delhi to Gujarat. This goes to show that the area of the present Gandhinagar district had assumed importance for the Turks and was the main reason for the distinct struggles between the Rajputs, Bhils, Kolis and Mughals.

It was only after a rule of around 4 governors post Tughlaq that Zafar Khan was appointed in 1391 A.D. It was he, who later on founded the independent dynasty of Sultans of Gujarat. He also went by the name of Muzaffar Khan.

1407 to 1573 A.D. - The Independent Sultanate of Gujarat

Zafar Khan or Muzaffar Khan as he came to be known led many expeditions to places like Junagadh and collected tribute from these kings. His son Tatar Khan captured Panipat and tried to March towards Delhi but was defeated by Iqbal Khan, who was the noble in power after Taimur invaded Delhi in 1398 A.D.

Zafar Khan declared his son Tatar Khan as an independent sultan of Gujarat in 1403 A.D. But he died soon thereafter leading to unrest in the province. His son Ahmad Khan was named heir to the throne but in the meanwhile Zafar Khan agreed to ascend the throne, assuming the title of Muzaffar Khan in 1407 A.D.

In 1410 A.D., a very ambitious Ahmad Khan poisoned his grandfather and assumed the title of Nasir-ud-din Ahmad Shah. He founded the city of Ahmedabad, near Asawal in about 1411 A.D. which eventually replaced Patan as the capital of Gujarat. Ahmedabad touches just the southern boundary of Gandhinagar district. Ahmad

Shah led successful campaigns against Idar, Junagadh, Champaner, Mewar and Nagor and was well known for his administrative system as well as maintenance of law and order.

In 1411 A.D., he was succeeded by his son Sultan Mohammed Shah who was in turn succeeded by his son Jalal Khan, who assumed the title of Qutb-ud-din Shah in 1451 A.D. He constructed the famous Kankariya Talav at Ahmedabad. After his death, his younger brother Fateh Khan was enthroned who later become famous as Mahmud Begada in the history of Gujarat.

Mahmud Begada ranks first among all the Sultans of Gujarat as he was a great conqueror and administrator. He brought about the planting of Mango tress, Rayans, Mahudas and Jambu trees, a scheme which Gandhinagar district seems to have taken great advantage of. The district in view of nearness to Ahmedabad greatly benefited from Begada's rule. He was also responsible for the beautification of Champaner district.

The Gandhinagar district assumed great importance in the period of the Sultans solely due to its proximity to the capital city of Ahmedabad. Trade and commerce flourished and places like Shertha, Radheja and Pethapur were affected by this prosperity. Pethapur's sword making industry came into existence.

In 1525 A.D. Bahadur Shah ascended the throne. Gujarat was subsequently invaded by Humayun who succeeded in capturing Champaner and Bharuch. He left his deputies in charge to return to Agra. Bahadur Shah fought hard to regain Ahmedabad but was eventually killed by the Portuguese near Diu in 1537 A.D. The decline of the Sultanate of Gujarat set in after his death.

Chaos reigned for a long time post that until Itimad Khan who was then struggling to manage affairs invited Akbar to interfere and bring an end to the political confusion in Gujarat. Taking advantage of the disorder, Akbar conquered Gujarat in 1573 A.D.

1573 to 1758 A.D. – The Mughal rule

On the 7th November, 1572 A.D. Emperor Akbar arrived at Patan to meet up with the nobles of Gujarat and crush the rebellion. He returned via Ahmedabad and Kadi crossing the present territory of Gandhinagar on April 13, 1573 A.D. Thus Gujarat became a province of the Mughal Empire. Out of 16 sarkars of Gujarat, 9 were under the direct control of the Emperor and the rest being feudatory were left in the hands of the Hindu Rajas or chiefs. Ahmedabad and Patan were under the direct authority of the Emperor. As a result, the territory of the Gandhinagar district came under the direct control of the Mughal Emperors.

Mirza Aziz Koka was the first Mughal Governor of Gujarat. As Gujarat was a very important province, princes were appointed as Governors of Gujarat. Akbar had appointed his prince Murad Bax as the Governor of Gujarat in 1592 A.D. Emperor Jahangir had also appointed ShahJahan as Governor of Gujarat in 1618 A.D. Aurangzeb was also appointed as Governor of Gujarat in 1644 A.D.

After the death of Emperor Aurangzeb, struggles between different rival generals were very common. The land of Gandhinagar being the northward entrance of Ahmedabad saw many battles being fought in the vicinity of village Adalaj of the Gandhinagar district. Adalaj seemed to be the gateway to Ahmedabad in those days.

1758 to 1818 A.D. – The Maratha rule

Beginning of the Maratha rule in Gujarat was marked by the conquest of Ahmedabad by Sadashiv Ramchandra and Damaji Gaekwad from Momin Khan in 1758 A.D. Majority of the villages in the present Gandhinagar district were formerly under the Gaekwads of Baroda till the merger of Baroda in 1949.

Pilaji Rao, the founder of the fortunes of the Gaekwad family captured the fortress of Songadh in 1719 A.D., which commanded the southern approaches to Gujarat. During his brief career of eleven years (1721-1732

A.D.), Pilaji Rao advanced further, defeated the rival chieftains and captured the territory, which formed part of the Baroda district. His brilliant and able successor Damaji Rao (1732-68 A.D.) completed the conquest of Gujarat. Damaji Rao had taken part in the historical battle of Panipat (1761 A.D.). He made Patan his capital in 1763 A.D.

After Damaji Rao's death in 1768 A.D., a quarrel for succession arose among his sons. The power of Baroda weakened during this time due to internal quarrels. It is during this time the East India Company assumed direct management and the states of Gandhinagar district as well as other areas of Gujarat became free from the Maratha cavalry. It was the beginning of the modern period in the history of Gandhinagar.

The British Government was aware of the administrative and geographical problems arising due to the existence of numerous non-jurisdiction states or Talukas. Hence a Scheme of Attachment was proposed that entitled the several smaller states to be attached to Baroda. Among these were Vasna state, Dabhoda and other villages of Bavisi Thana which are presently included in Gandhinagar. Pethapur also became a part of Baroda by its own accord.

The Gandhinagar district was affected during the great revolt of 1857 A.D. Shri Maganlal Bhukan, a bania of Patan, recruited soldier and attacked Lodra which is in the vicinity of the present Gandhinagar area. Pethapur was famous for manufacture of arms and the march to Ahmedabad was to pass through Gandhinagar district.

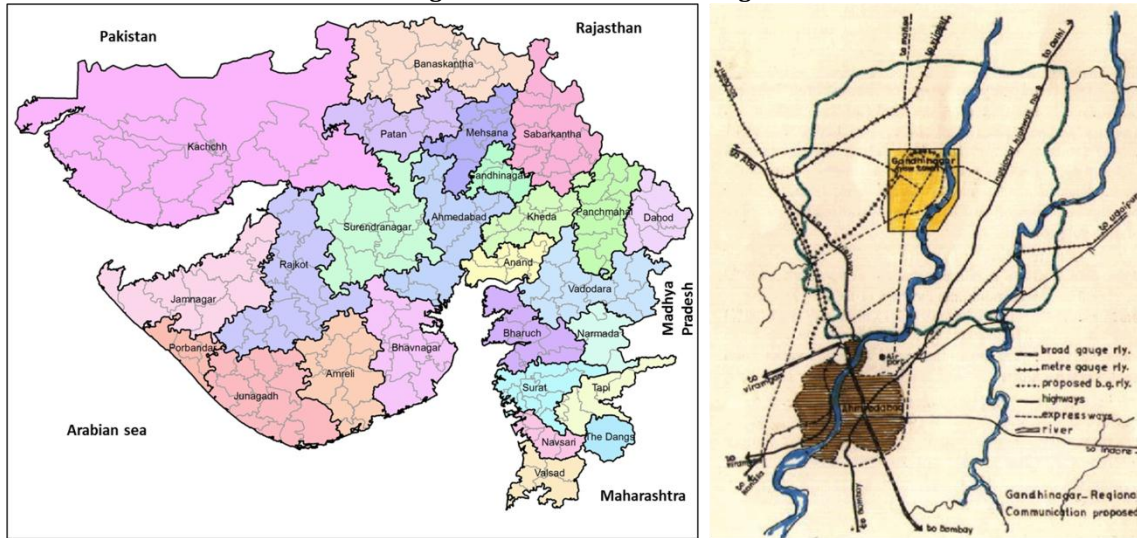
The Satyagrah Movement of 1930, started with 'Dandi March' by Mahatma Gandhi roused the people of Gandhinagar alike the rest of India. A 'Vidyarthi Ashram' at Unava rendered help and inspiration to the Satyagrahis and made secret arrangements for publishing and distributing bulletins, thereby encouraging the Satyagrah Movement. During the days of 'Quit India Movement' in 1942, the district also played its part with great zeal. Even though a major portion of Gandhinagar district was under Baroda state, it never remained aloof in participating in the freedom movement.

A separate state of Gandhinagar came into existence on 1st May, 1960, on the erstwhile Pethapur state, subsequently becoming the capital of Gujarat as well as the decent town it is today in the memory of our 'Father of the Nation' Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhinagar district was formed in 1964 with an area of 2140 sqkm comprising of 4 talukas of Gandhinagar, Kalol, Dahegam and Mansa. The district houses Gandhinagar, Pethapur, Mansa and Kalol cities along with 302 village panchayats (Gandhinagar District Panchayat).

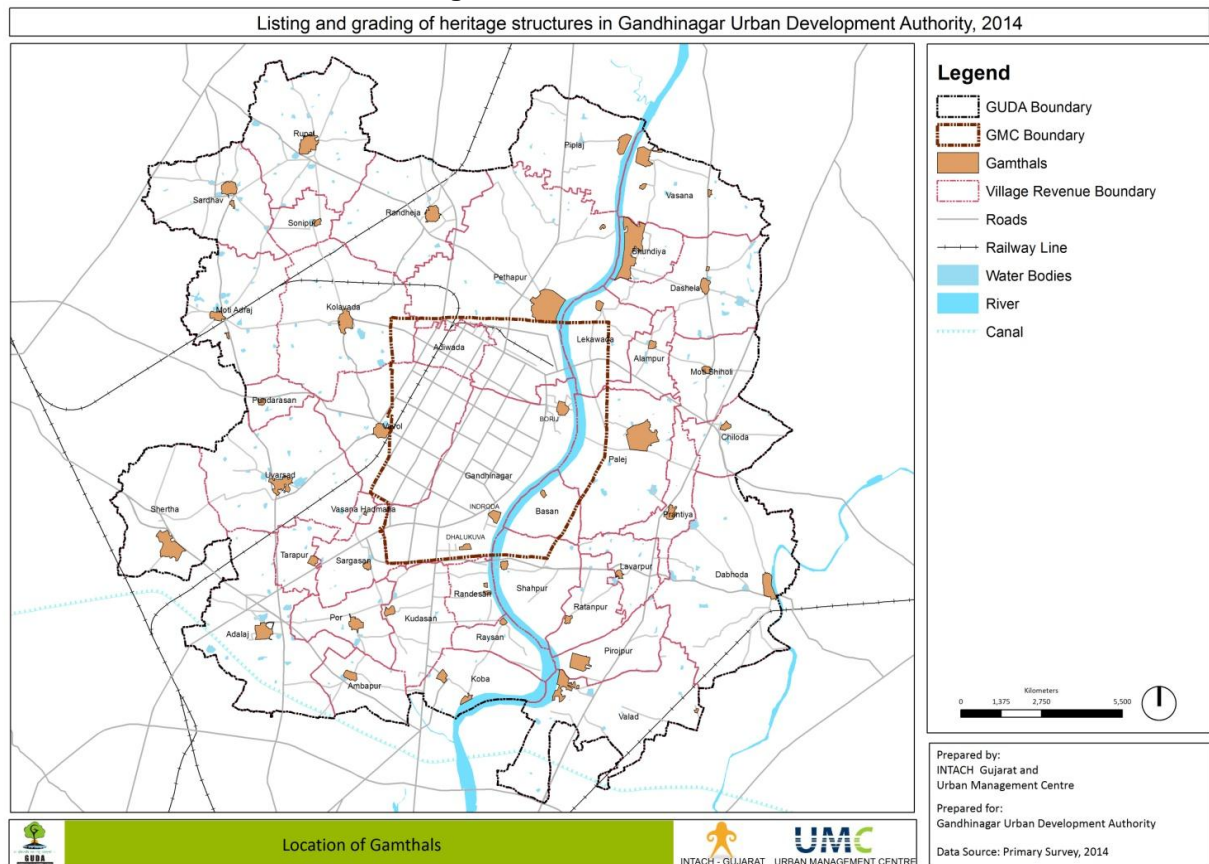
Gandhinagar Urban Development Authority (GUDA) was created on March 12, 1996 by Government of Gujarat (GoG). The prime objective of the GUDA's formation was to carry out the sustained planned development of the area falling outside the periphery of Gandhinagar Notified Area (GNA). With a view to ensure well planned development of Gandhinagar capital city and 39 villages admeasuring area of 388 sqkm (Gandhinagar Urban Development Authority).

Figure 1 Location of Gandhinagar



Source: Left - UMC; Right - (Apte)

Figure 2 Locations of Gamthals



Source: GUDA

The important functions of the Authority include the preparation of Development plan for the Gandhinagar Urban Agglomeration, to prepare the draft Town Planning Schemes, to implement the revised Town Planning Schemes and to monitor and control the development activities in

accordance with the Revised Development Plan. Besides, it is also responsible for the development of the infrastructures like road, sewerage, water supply and other basic civic amenities.

3. History of villages in GUDA area

The villages covered in this report include Adalaj, Dabhoda, Dolarana Vasna, Koba, Kolavada, Kudasan, Pethapur, Por, Randheja, Rupal, Shertha, Uvarsad and Valad.

ADALAJ

Adalaj is a small village coming under the Adalaj Panchayath, around 2 km towards West from district headquarters of Gandhinagar. It is surrounded by Kalol Taluka towards West, Dehgam Taluka towards East, Ahmedabad Taluka towards South, and Mansa Taluka towards North.

Figure 3 A chabutra in Adalaj village



The name of the village Adalaj is mentioned in various forms such as Attalaja, Attalayaja, Adalaya, Adalayija, Adalija, Adalanja and Adyalaya in the Kaumarika Khanda (Bahadur, 2012, pp. 105-106). Adalaj attained historical significance in 14th century during the reign of Rana Veer Singh, an influential ruler belonging to the Vaghela dynasty. The village then known to be Dandai Desh later came under the rule of Mahmud Begada (Adalaj Vav History).

During the 17th century, Adalaj, seemed to be the gateway to Ahmedabad, hence, in attempts to recapture Ahmedabad from Hamid khan, a fierce battle took place at Adalaj. Imperial troops under the joint command of Gulam Ali Beg, Khwaja Muhammad Aman and Rajjada Harkaran, fought bravely with Hamid khan and the Maratha troops.

The most important attraction of Adalaj is its spectacular step-well or *vav*. As per the legends, the historical structure was constructed in 15th century during the reign of Queen Rudabai in the year 1499. The step well was completed in different phases under the supervision of the Muslim ruler Mahmud Begada, who took over the task after the queen promised to marry him. But, she later immolated herself after jumping into the well to save her sanctity (Rajyagor & Tripathy, 1980).

Figure 4 Idols at Vashetrimata Temple, Adalaj



The survey revealed the existence of Pre-Solanki idols within the compound of Vashetrimata Temple. These idols are noteworthy in the rich religious and sculptural history of Gujarat. The village could be approached through the Sarkhej-Gandhinagar highway. Amongst the various passages from the road towards the village,

one passage leads to the famous Adalaj Vav, located towards the North of the village. The village comprises an organic street pattern with farms bordering the periphery. The northern and southern parts of the village however witness the emergence of urban sprawl.

DABHODA

Dabhoda is a village in Gandhinagar district and is located 12km east from the district headquarters. Vadodara, Vankanerda, Prantiya, Magodi, Lavarapur are the villages in close vicinity of Dabhoda. Rajputs of Sokhda and Kalavada; and Kolis of Valad and Dabhoda were the main fighting forces of this area during the Turkish rule in India. During the siege of Ahmedabad by Marathas, Momin Khan had to take help of the Kolis, through his deputy Shambhuram Nagar. Shambhuram was in close connection with the Kolis of Dabhoda and Valad villages. He had employed them for the secret supply of corn and fodder for the city. The leader of the Kolis was one Hari Kotwal who belonged to Dabhoda (Rajyagor & Tripathy, 1980).

Figure 5 Aerial view of Dabhoda village



As per the folklore, Dabhoda was known as Ankadia village and later as Devgad. It was the headquarters of Bavisi thana of Mahikantha Agency. In the British Era during the attachment of states; Vasna State and Dabhoda with other villages of Thana (which are now included in the Gandhinagar district) were also transferred under this scheme. It has been recorded that before 1947, there was a distillery at Dabhoda and also the court of Sabarkantha Agency was situated here (Commissariat, 1980, p. 535).

Dabhoda village is bound between the main road on the West and the Khaari River on the East. The village is laid out in a linear fashion, having an organic street pattern with major streets running east-west connecting the main road to the River.

Figure 6 Jain Derasar, Dabhoda village



DOLARANA VASNA

Dolarana Vasana is a village in Gandhinagar District, located 12 km North from district headquarters. Dashela, Sadra, Lekawada, Mubarakpura and Pethapur are some of the nearby villages, while the nearby cities include Gandhinagar, Mansa, Dehgam and Kalol.

Figure 7 Beam head in a house, Dolarana Vasana



As per the information given by Ajitbhai Keshavlal Jani; a resident of Dolarana Vasana and grandson of Shri Jayshankar Jani- the then Diwan of Dolarana Vasana; the village was originally named Vasna, it was renamed Dolarana Vasana after Dolatsinhji who inherited the throne of Vasna.

Figure 8 Ornamented bracket in Dolarana Vasna



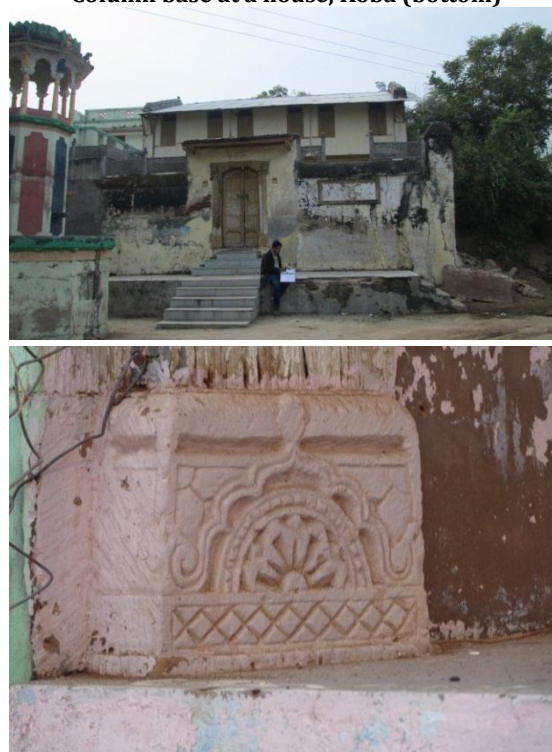
The village is bound by farms on all sides and lies isolated on the Eastern bank of Sabarmati River, with no visible urban pressure. The village is spread out, with all the major streets having an organic street pattern converging at a central chowk. To the north of the village on the bank of the river Sabarmati, there is an old well called Barino Kuvo in a ruined condition. About one km away from the village, there lays an old temple of Baria Mahadev where the ruins speak of its antiquity.

KOBA

Koba is a village in Gandhinagar district, located 9 km south from the district headquarters. Nabhoi, Raysan, Urjanagar, Kudasan and Ambapur are the villages in close vicinity of Koba. It is surrounded by Ahmedabad Taluka towards the South, Dehgam Taluka towards the East, Kalol Taluka towards the West and Daskroi Taluka towards the North.

The village was originally settled on the bank of the river, but was swept away by a heavy flood in Sabarmati in 1932. It was thereafter resettled as Nava Koba.

**Figure 9 Dharamshala at Koba village (top);
Column base at a house, Koba (bottom)**



The village could be approached through Gandhinagar airport highway. There is only one major street running across the village along which the entire settlement has developed. Planned along the Sabarmati River, the village is edged by farms from West and by the river from East. Recent developments have not been witnessed so far.

KOLAVADA

Kolavada is a village in Gandhinagar District, located 7 km west from the district headquarters abutting Sectors 14, 26, 24 and 15 of GNA.

According to the Gram Panchayat as on January 2014, Kolavada village has a population of 17,846 (recorded in 2011). From the locals it is understood that the major residing social groups in the village are Darbar, Patel, Thakor, Brahmin, Nayak, Vaniya and Barot (from Ahmedabad-Shahpur).

Figure 10 Beam head detail at a house in Kolavada



The village is approached through a road extending from Gandhinagar city in the East to the village Moti Adraj in the west. Kolavada has an organic street pattern with chowks having various institutional landmarks. The Kolavada Talav is located to the South West of the village with an ancient well in its close vicinity. Recent developments are seen coming up in a linear fashion along the East-West road connecting the village to Gandhinagar city.

Figure 11 Decorated beam at a house in Vaniya ni Khadki, Kolavada



KUDASAN

Kudasan is a village in Gandhinagar district, located 7 km south from the district headquarters. Sargasan, Urjanagar, Ambapur, Koba and Dholakuva are the nearby villages to Kudasan. Kudasan is surrounded by Ahmedabad Taluka towards the South, Kalol Taluka towards the West, Dehgam Taluka towards the East and Mansa Taluka towards the North.

Figure 12 Havado (water tank), Kudasan



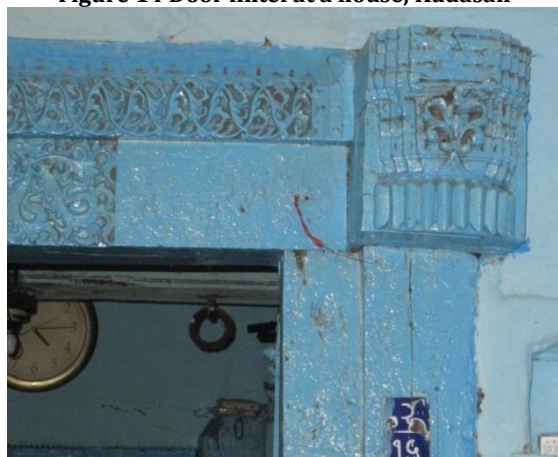
Figure 13 Beam head and column capital at a house, Kudasan



As per the information provided by local resident Shri Babubhai Kukaji Thakor, there used to be a kund near the temples of Jogani Mata and Chamunda Mata and from that the name of the village 'Kudasan' was derived.

As per the survey, there lay three large stones in the cellar of the renovated temples of Jogani Mata and Chamunda Mata. However, no remains of the kund could be found at present.

Figure 14 Door lintel at a house, Kudasan



The village of Kudasan could be approached through the Gandhinagar-Airport Highway. Having an organic plan the village is edged by farms all around. Recent developments could be witnessed towards the east of the village.

PETHAPUR

Pethapur is a municipality in Gandhinagar District; located on the western bank of Sabarmati River, 5 km North of the district headquarters. Gandhinagar, Kalol, Dehgam and Mansa are the nearby cities to Pethapur.

Pethapur has a very rich historic background. Beginning from the regime of Turkish Sultans of Delhi, the Turkish rule was confined to towns and cities and did not affect the rurals much, which were mainly in the hands of Rajputs, Kolis, and turbulent tribes. The entire area of Gandhinagar district was populated mainly by the Bhils and Kolis. After the death of Emperor Aurangzeb, struggles between different generals became rampant. The land of Gandhinagar being at the entrance of Ahmadabad saw many such battles being fought in the vicinity. Kolis of Gandhinagar districts were interested in such battles which gave them opportunity to earn by rendering services to the military camps

and by capturing the spoils on some of the occasions. They sometimes fought even with the troops of the Governor.

During the time of Haidur Kuli Khan, the 50th Governor of Gujarat, the Kolis of Pethapur had become turbulent. Kasam Ali Khan, an officer of the Governor who was sent to check on these Kolis was murdered by them. Sujat Khan Naib (Deputy) Governor heard this, defeated the Kolis and burnt down the village of Pethapur.

Mirza Muhammad Hassan (Ali Muhammad Khan), the author of Mirat-i-Ahmadi, had also entered into struggle with the Kolis of Pethapur. In about 1739 A.D., when the author was returning from Sabar Kantha territory, the Kolis of Pethapur tried to plunder him. A struggle between the two parties started. Few persons were wounded and some were killed. Arrows of the Kolis had slightly wounded the author, but according to him "God saved him" (Bahadur, 2012, pp. 105-106).

Figure 15 Wooden block making workshop, Pethapur



During the freedom struggle, Pethapur was famous for the manufacture of arms. Block making and printing was also famous at that point of time. According to the 1961 Census conducted by the Government of India, the craft was developed and specialized by the

Suthar artisans who were traditionally carpenters. The document also mentions that the craft might have been adopted from Iran at the time of Mughals and concentrated in Shikharpur in Sindh from where it spread to Gujarat. This is in keeping the theory that the skill of printed fabrics travelled from Sindh to the modern

Indian states of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Western Madhya Pradesh. The block makers of Pethapur believe that many centuries ago, women got tired of their white unembellished clothes and began using their bangles dipped in colour to pattern their garments. The carpenters noticed and decided to provide the women with various designs and so gave rise to the tradition of hand block printing on textiles. It is from Ahmedabad that the block carvers migrated to Pethapur, who solely make wooden blocks in the country. It supplies to all the hand block printing communities from Sanganer (Rajasthan) to Bagh (Madhya Pradesh). Most of the craftsmen engaged in this work belonged to the Gajjar Suthar caste who believes that their ancestors settled in Pethapur some 200 years ago. The caste believes it is the progeny of Vishvakarma, the architect of Gods (Census of India, 1961).

Figure 16 Wooden block making at Pethapur



The village is located to the western bank of Sabarmati River, having an organic street pattern with the streets laid like the meandering stream towards the river. All the major institutions are located on the bazaar street while all the major streets congregate at a central chowk. The Jain Derasar another major landmark to the village is located to the east of the village, the residential Sheri and Vas of the Vaniyas set around it. The village is expanding to the west and south with new plotted schemes, extending up to the highway and Gandhinagar city to the west and south respectively.

POR

Por is a village located 9 km South from the district headquarters of Gandhinagar. Ambapur, Sargasan, Tarapur, Urjanagar and Koba are the villages nearby. Por is surrounded by Ahmedabad Taluka towards the South, Kalol Taluka towards the west, Dehgam Taluka towards the East and Daskroi Taluka towards the South.

As per the information given by local resident Shri Ishwar Bhai Chaturbhai Patel, the name of this village is derived from the name of Shri Poram Patel of Sojitra, approximately 650 years ago. He also mentioned that a group of people from the village comprising Chhaganlal Master, Chaturbhai Bakorbhai Patel and others took part in the freedom movement.

The village of Por could be approached through the Gandhinagar-Airport Highway. The village has an organic plan with farms edging the periphery. There is a water body along with a primary school located towards the south of the village.

RANDHEJA

Randheja is a village in Gandhinagar District, located 8 km north from the district headquarters close to Sectors 25, 26 and 27. Sonipur and Kolavada villages are close to to Randheja while Gandhinagar, Kalol, Mansa and Dehgam are the cities near Randheja.

It is believed that Randheja got its name from one Radha Rabari who was perhaps the original founder of the village. During the freedom struggle, a resident of Randheja, Shri Dahyabhai Shukla took active part as a Satyagrahi at Bombay. He worked as a captain of volunteers, who picketed shops of European merchants in the Fort area of Bombay; he was imprisoned and was sent to Devalali Prison. Two teachers of Randheja had also joined the Satyagraha Movement. Shri C.P. Muni, a social worker from of Saurashtra had camped at Randheja in those days; He awakened the people of the district by visiting different villages, holding meetings and giving lectures, etc.

Figure 17 Ornated column and cornice at a house in Randheja



Randheja village could be approached by the State Highway 217 from the west and Gandhinagar Mansa road from the East, to the north lays the Railway line. The village has an organic street pattern having chowks with commercial and institutional village landmarks. The primary school is to the North West of the village, and the Randheja Talav is to the North East. The Gandhinagar Mansa Highway has triggered recent plotting of housing schemes.

RUPAL

Rupal is a village in Gandhinagar District, located 13 km towards North from district headquarters. Sardhav, Chandisana, Vasan, Golthara, Nardipur are the nearby Villages to Rupal while Gandhinagar, Kalol, Mansa, Kadi are the cities near Rupal.

Figure 18 Tradition water storage in a house, Rupal



It is believed the village was originally known as Rupavati. The village is also famous for the Vardayani Mata Temple which was popularly known as Vaduchi Mata. Rupal has been mentioned in history since the time of Mulraj Solanki. In Shri Sthal Prakash it is, recorded that King Mulraj gave 66 villages in alms to very learned Brahmins on Kartik Sud 15, Thursday, Samvat 924. Rupal was included in the list of villages so given.

Siddharaj Jaysingh attributed the cause of his conquest over King Yashovarma of Malwa to the blessings of the Goddess. So he constructed a temple and established her idol bringing it in a palki borne by his warriors in a pompous procession; since then the palki festival is celebrated at Rupal. The temple constructed by Siddharaj was subsequently destroyed by the Muslim invaders in 1874 A.D. Later the people of

Rupal themselves constructed a temple for the Goddess.

The village has an organic street pattern, with narrow meandering streets. The village has two water bodies to the North West and South West. The highway lies to the south of the village, with the Varadayini Mata temple lying on the opposite side of the village.

SARDHAV

Sardhav is a village in Gandhinagar District; located approximately 12 km from Gandhinagar. Sonipur, Bhadol, Jalund, Adraj Moti, Dhamasna are the nearby villages to Sardhav while Kalol, Gandhinagar, Mansa, Kadi are the cities nearby.

Figure 19 Aerial view of Bazaar Chowk, Sardhav



As per the village folklore; the land of Sardhav, centuries ago was a cattle grazing land. Bulls of the King of Rupavati Nagari (the present Rupal) grazed in the fields of Sardhav. Bulls are called 'sandha' in Gujarati language; it is from this that the village acquired the name Sandhovala, and with time transformed from Sandhav to Saidhav and lastly Sardhav.

About 900 years ago the Goval community was the first to inhabit the village. As per the account of Barot -Vahivancha, it is said that 270 years ago in Samvat 1799 (1742 A.D.), there was an attack on the village by some robbers. Dadhamba of Velatpur community; Muljiba and Bhuvanbha sons of Nanjibha of Khokhalva community sacrificed their lives in this struggle with the robbers.

The south of Sardhav village has a temple of Klesharani Mataji. It is said that in Dwapur yug this place was known as Hidimbhavan; where the Panch Pandav had resided for a while during their exile. The Pandavas had prayed to the Goddess for the end of their exile, for which the Goddess appeared and blessed them.

Figure 20 Havado (traditional water tank), Sardhav



The village main street is aligned in East West direction, with two major chowks, each having a *chabutra* and major institutional buildings. All residential streets branch out from the east west main street, also their lies a peripheral street ties up these branches. There lies a *talav* to the south west of the village. The new plotted housing schemes are seen coming up to the east of the village.

SHERTHA

Shertha is a village located 13 km West from Gandhinagar district headquarters. Dhanaj, Bhojan Rathod, Saij, Titoda, Khoraj are the nearby Villages to Shertha. Shertha is surrounded by Gandhinagar Taluka towards the East, Ahmadabad Taluka towards the South, Kadi Taluka towards the west, and Dehgam Taluka towards the East. Kalol, Gandhinagar, Ahmedabad, and Kadi are the nearby Cities to Shertha.

As per the village folklore and Shri Ashwinbhai Giri, a priest of Somnath Mahadev Temple, this village was founded by Sher Khan Miya, and it is from Sher Khan that the name Shertha was derived. Shertha

was a Paragna of Waghela state, mainly inhabited by Darbars. Presently there is a Sherthiya no Madh in Lmbodhara village, who had originally migrated from Shertha. There are residents of darbars of Shertha in Dhamasana village of Kadi Taluka. Patels of Shertha were established in Marthasur and Virsoda. It is said that there used to be a thana in the village of Shertha, where one hundred 'savar' were posted.

The Shertha village could be approached through State Highway 41. The village has an organic plan and the Gram Panchayat is located at the entrance to the village near the talav. One amongst the two schools is located at the entrance to the village and the other is located towards the East of the village. Shertha is edged by farms towards the eastern and western side and with water body towards the northern side.

Figure 21 Bracket at a house, Shertha



UARSAD

Uarsad is a village located 2 km towards the West of district headquarters Gandhinagar. Uarsad is surrounded by Kalol Taluka towards the West, Dehgam Taluka towards the East, Ahmedabad

Taluka towards the South and Mansa Taluka towards the North.

As per the legends, the present Uarsad was known as Uma Nagari; where the Panch Pandav had resided for a while during their exile. The ancient temple in Uarsad, the Antareshwar Mahadev temple is supposed to be constructed in *dwapur yug* around 5000 years ago. Mythology says Arjuna and Bhima followed the ritual of having their meals only after worshipping the *shivling*. In the absence of a *shivling* in Uma Nagari, they had to fast for three consecutive days. This made Bhima anxious and he decided to set up a fake *shivling* made in clay within the forest and tricks his brother Arjuna to break the fast. Believing his brother, Arjuna worships the clay *shivling* religiously; his dedication and perseverance impresses Lord Antareshwar Mahadev and he appears and incarnates within the clay *shivling*. After the meal when Bhima confronts his brother about the truth, they return to the *shivling* only to find an original *shivling* to have miraculously replaced the clay one. It is believed that the present Khariyasar Tadav also came up along with the Antareshwar Mahadev temple (Rajyagor & Tripathy, 1980).

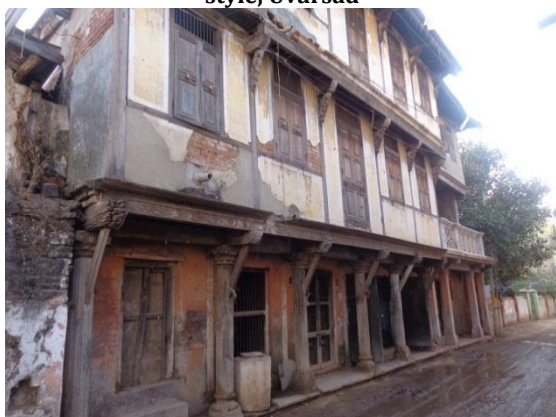
Figure 22 Village gate, Uarsad



The village of Uvarsad is said to have had a police station during the Maratha period, comprising one 'savar' and ten 'pedal'.

The village of Adalaj could be approached through Sarkhej-Gandhinagar highway. The village is bordered with farms towards the southern side and with water bodies along the northern and eastern side. The village has an organic plan with institutional and religious buildings placed along the periphery while the centre is comprised of residences. The ancient Khariaser Talav is located towards the north of the village. New developments could be however witnessed along the southern and western side of the village. The campus of Karnavati School of Dentistry is towards the south of the village.

Figure 23 A house in traditional architectural style, Uvarsad



VALAD

Valad is a village in Gandhinagar District, located 10 km south from district headquarters. Karai, Raysan, Lavarpur, Koba, Shahpur are some villages near Valad.

Figure 24 Loose idol at Matri Mata Temple



Valad has a distinct mention in the history, since the Turkish rule; then the area between Kadi and Asawal which is the present Gandhinagar district was of great importance. Rajputs of Sokhada and Kolavada; and Kolis of Valad and Dabhoda were the main fighting forces of this area.

The Kolis who collected corn and fodder, first assembled at Valad and they secretly carried their goods to Kali fort. During night time they carried these commodities in the city, without being noticed by the Maratha soldiers. Maratha Generals, however, came to know this and sent an army to Valad twice or thrice, but the army had to return after suffering a great loss. However, the vigilant watch of the Marathas, later on caused issues, because now they could not carry on supply work as before. As a result the Kolis and mukadams secretly sided with Damaji Gaekwad and advised the latter, now to attack Valad. Shah Muhammad Jamadar saw the treachery of the Kolis, but he was helpless. He left Valad and escaped to Ahmedabad with great difficulty. Thus with the fall of Valad Thana, the important supply line of Momin Khan was cut off (Bahadur, 2012, pp. 105-106).

Figure 25 Ruins of idols in the village



As per the folklore, the village was founded by Bala daughter of saint Jabali and was popular as Balapuri in the past. From Balapuri, the name got corrupted to 'Balad'

& later 'Valad'. A beautiful idol of saint Jabali is still preserved in good condition. Valad is believed to very old, ancient ruins have been found here.

The village lies on the on the eastern bank of Sabarmati River. The entire village is laid out in a linear fashion, spreading on both sides of the approach road, which lies perpendicular to the National highway. The village also has an ancient step-well of Goddess Mata. The recent development of GIFT city has come up approximately 2km to the North of Valad village, this could trigger infrastructure development, and thus urban pressure is a major threat to the village in the future.

4. Methodology adopted

INTACH-Gujarat in association with UMC conducted an introductory meeting with Ms. D. Thara (IAS), Chief Executive Authority, GUDA. This was followed by a meeting with Mr. Shah, Senior Town Planner, GUDA in January of 2014. INTACH-Gujarat was provided with background information, vector drawings of GUDA and Gandhinagar Notified Area (GNA). GUDA officials also made available a copy of the currently prevailing General Development Control Regulations (GDCR) for Gandhinagar. Data collection and other initial discussions were held with Mr. Shah to initiate the field work. Based on the data collected, preliminary meetings and field survey of entire jurisdiction of GUDA, INTACH-Gujarat/ UMC initiated ground work towards preparation of this report.

The approach towards listing and grading of heritage structures included providing enabling environment for harmonious development of heritage structures. GUDA has initiated various efforts in heritage conservation of prominent monuments such as Adalaj-ni-Vav (Gandhinagar Urban Development Authority). Other heritage listed in the DP has been provided in **Error! Reference source not found..**

INTACH-Gujarat and UMC adopted the following stage-wise methodology:

1. Existing lists and database available with the GUDA was procured.
2. A reconnaissance survey within GUDA's jurisdiction was conducted.
3. Secondary research on GUDA area was then undertaken including history, religious, economic and socio-cultural dimensions along with description of the built form and its settlement pattern.

4. A preliminary list of heritage structures and other properties of importance was prepared based on the data collected from GUDA, reconnaissance survey and secondary research.
5. A detailed survey plan is prepared and on-foot street-by-street survey of each village in GUDA area is conducted

Figure 26 Survey planning by INTACH-Gujarat team



6. During the survey, buildings in the preliminary list are surveyed
7. In addition, new buildings are identified based on
 - a. visual assessment of trained survey team comprising of architects led by a senior archaeologist
 - b. discussions with local residents of the village
8. The identified potential heritage structures were documented using
 - a. survey forms
 - b. photographic documentation
 - c. mapping on-site consultation with local residents

A list of villages surveyed has been provided in **Error! Reference source not found..**

6. Way Forward

INTACH-Gujarat recommends that the following actions be undertaken towards heritage conservation and management of the listed heritage structures by GUDA.

1. Notify the listed heritage structures
2. Bring convergence of heritage initiatives with other development projects (mark precincts on Development Plan map, town planning schemes, etc.)
3. Prepare a roll-out plan of incentives (such as tradable development rights) to heritage property owners.
4. Prepare guidelines for each Grade (I, IIA, IIB and III)
5. Prepare heritage bye-laws (incorporate in General Development Regulations)
6. Undertake a pilot project for restoration of a few structures
7. Install history plaques at places of historic relevance (research, design and installation)
8. Install loose idols and artefacts discovered during the survey at state museum.
9. Prepare basic toolkits for owners of heritage structure owners providing “dos and don’ts” of restoration and conservation of heritage structures.

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