



CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Wooden Heritage Conservation

19-21 January 2024

Three-Day On-site Workshop

At CEPT Campus and CEPT Conservation Site Schools 'Mukhi Delu' and 'Kalidas Jethabhai House' at Dharmaj in Gujarat

CPP | CEPT
UNIVERSITY

CEPT PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

CEPT Professional Programs (CPP) aims to bridge the gap between academics, practice, policy-making, and implementation through short certificate programs. The mission of CPP is to support individual and organizational learning by creating opportunities to acquire new skills and capabilities, thus allowing professionals to stay relevant in the current knowledge based global context. It will achieve this by offering professional development, continuing education, and up-skilling opportunities for professionals and in-service persons across disciplines concerned with urban development and the built habitat.

CPP draws from the expertise and capacity of the accomplished faculty at CEPT University, enhanced further by experts and practitioners from the field. Its programmes are built on deep research, vast consultancy projects and innovative pedagogies. CPP offers a repertoire of short programs and topic focused programs across disciplines of architecture, design, planning, and management with immersive learning approaches combining interactive lectures, case studies, and peer-to-peer exchanges.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

India has a vast repository of wooden built heritage across varied geographic regions. An example is the diversity of wooden architecture in Gujarat, which is representative of its cultural heritage of building in wood. A significant number of wooden buildings and structures are located in historic settlements and are endangered due to the rapid transformation of the settlements. This 3-day workshop will introduce its participants to conservation approaches for wooden heritage that form integral and important cultural components of historic built environments.

The hands-on engagement with techniques of wooden conservation will be based at the CEPT Conservation Site Schools 'Mukhi Delu' and 'Kalidas Jethabhai House' at Dharmaj in Gujarat. These sites are exquisite examples of wooden heritage and have been adopted as Conservation Site Schools as part of 'Dharmaj Heritage Collaborative', a joint effort of Center for Heritage Conservation, CEPT Research and Development Foundation (CHC, CRDF), Avichal Heritage Foundation and the owners of the properties. Both the sites are located within the historic core of the settlement and the initiative aims to sustainably safeguard its heritage.

The course will be supplemented with theoretical sessions by experts and practitioners on approaches to wooden heritage conservation, non-invasive methods to assess decay and damage to the material, sourcing of wood for conservation in present times, and addressing associated challenges. The course will include a visit to 'Laathi Bazaar' in Ahmedabad accompanied by a master craftsman for an insight into contemporary processes of sourcing and processing of wood in conservation projects. Practice examples will be presented through case studies. The program has been developed and curated by CHC, CRDF in consultation with CPP. The program content has been curated by Prof. Jigna Desai, Jayashree Bardhan, Nigar Shaikh and Ashna Patel from CHC. The program will be supported with material from CHC's ongoing work for the Endangered Wooden Architecture Programme (EWAP) Grant, hosted by Oxford Brookes University.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The workshop will be conducted over 3 days introducing the following:

1. Introduction to wooden heritage conservation
2. Damage assessment of wooden structures
3. Conservation strategies

Day 1: Introduction to wooden heritage conservation

To be conducted at CEPT Campus

Session 1: Course overview and introduction to CEPT Conservation Site Schools

This session will outline the course and its objectives in context of the CEPT Conservation Site Schools program. It will provide an overview of the wooden built heritage of Dharmaj and the settlement structure of Dharmaj followed by an introduction to work carried out at the two Site Schools – ‘Mukhi Delu’ and ‘Kalidas Jethabhai House’.

Session 2: Wooden architecture of Gujarat

Wood is not native to most parts of Gujarat and yet one sees the most exquisite wooden havelis built here. This session will present a history of the making of wooden architecture of Gujarat and its significance in the histories of the region. The processes of making will also put forth the part to whole relationships of the urban morphology and the house type along with the agencies of various members of the communities involved.

Session 3: Current context of wood as a material

This session will include a discussion on wood/ timber required for structural and non-structural purposes, explained through examples of historic wooden houses and contemporary examples. The session will outline the types of wood currently used in the industry, methods of sourcing various types of wood and associated challenges.

Session 4: Material deterioration

Historic wooden structures show numerous types of deterioration depending on the cause. This session will elaborate on the various types of decay, causes of decay and the visual characteristics of these types of decay on wooden elements.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Session 5: Visit to Laathi Bazaar

This session will be an on-site understanding of wood as a material through a visit to the 'Lathi Bazaar' at Ahmedabad. It will enable participants to understand processes of sourcing, seasoning and distribution of wood. The visit will include visual identification and differentiation of types of wood based on colour, figure, texture, grain, etc.

Day 2: Damage assessment of wooden structures - 'Mukhi Delu' and 'Kalidas Jethabhai House'

To be conducted at Dharmaj

Session 1: Methodologies for assessment of wooden structures

The theoretical session by a guest expert will be an introduction to the various methodologies available for assessment of wooden structures such as visual assessment, non-invasive methods of testing, and laboratory analysis.

Session 2: Demonstration of NDT and MDT for assessment of different wooden elements, Mukhi Delu

In this session participants will get a hands-on experience of using various Non-Destructive Tests (NDT) and Minor Destructive Tests (MDT) for wooden built elements at the CEPT Conservation Site School, Mukhi Delu. Assessment techniques such as Tap Test, Ultrasonic Pulse Velocity, Rebound Hammer and Borescope Study will be demonstrated.

Day 3: Conservation strategies

To be conducted at Dharmaj

Session 1: Strategies for safeguarding and conserving traditional wooden structures, Kalidas Jethabhai House

This session will discuss and demonstrate the processes of safeguarding and conserving the historic wooden buildings in Dharmaj through the case of the CEPT Conservation Site School, Kalidas Jethabhai House. Participants will get an opportunity to examine ongoing conservation work at the site followed by a discussion on the negotiations and processes involved in adapting wooden built heritage for sustainable future use.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Session 2: Wooden heritage conservation - value-based assessment and repair techniques

Following the introduction to assessment methods from Day 2, this session will be conducted by a guest expert wherein the participants will be introduced to repair strategies for conservation of wooden structures, developed through a value-based assessment. The conservation techniques of the two site schools developed in the 'Architectural Conservation Studio' at CEPT and other examples from Ahmedabad will be discussed.

Session 3: Practice examples

This practical session will include demonstrations of repair techniques on prototype models of decayed or damaged wooden elements.

Session 4: Wooden heritage conservation – case examples

This session will be a lecture by a guest expert discussing case examples of wooden heritage conservation

Session 5: Discussions and conclusion



Image Credit: Audrey Alvares, CHC - CRDF
Non-destructive testing of wood at Kalidas
Jethabhai House, Dharmaj

PROGRAM FACULTY



Nigar Shaikh

Nigar Shaikh is a conservation engineer with a Bachelors in Construction Technology (Hons.) from Faculty of Technology, CEPT University, Ahmedabad. She holds an MSc in Advanced Structural Analysis of Monuments and Historic Construction (SAHC), a double degree course from University of Minho, Portugal and Czech Technical University, Czech Republic. She has worked on projects like the restoration work of City Palace and Zanana Hospital in Udaipur, Laxmi Villas Palace in Vadodara, etc. Her area of interest lies in risk assessment of built heritage, structural health monitoring, material characterization and working on reverse engineering of historic building materials. Nigar is currently the Conservation Lab In-charge at CEPT university and the Program Lead for Material Characterization at CHC, CRDF.



Jigna Desai

Prof. Jigna Desai is the Head of CHC, CRDF and Professor at CEPT University. She brings to the institute her experience in working with traditional urban environments and framing how traditional architecture may be understood, studied and transformed. Her current work focuses on formulating frameworks, tools and methods through which theoretical ideas of sustainability and conservation of living historic environments can be translated into practice while addressing the challenges of co-production of space and commodification of heritage. Jigna has worked on preparing the nomination dossier that led to the inscription of Ahmedabad as a World Heritage City by UNESCO in 2017 and has extensive experience in architecture and conservation research. She advocates community-based conservation and has partnered with several national and international institutions on heritage conservation initiatives in different parts of India. Jigna is an expert member of the International Scientific Committee for Historic Towns and Villages, International Council for Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and an active ICOMOS India chapter member. She is also a director of JMA Design Co that she co-founded with Mehul Bhatt in 1999. She is the principal investigator in the Endangered Wooden Architecture Program (EWAP) grant of CHC, CRDF.

PROGRAM FACULTY



Ashna Patel

Ashna Patel is the Program Lead for Conservation Site School at CHC, CRDF. She is an architect and co-founder at Fifth Column Design Studio, and a PhD scholar at the Faculty of Architecture, CEPT University. She holds a Bachelor's in Architecture from CEPT University and an MA in International Architectural Regeneration and Development from Oxford Brookes University, UK. She has led the Dharmaj Heritage Collaborative at CHC, CRDF as part of which she was involved in facilitating educational activities and research, developing and managing local stakeholder relationships and organising outreach events in the village. She has taught studio-based courses on Architectural Conservation and Urban Regeneration in the Master's in Conservation and Regeneration program, Faculty of Architecture, CEPT University, and has previously led undergraduate-level Design Studios and Architectural History and Theory courses as visiting faculty at Navrachana University and MS University, Vadodara. Her key research interest lies in the role of tourism in heritage-led regeneration of historic urban areas in the Indian context.



Saatvika Pancholi

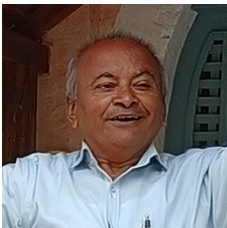
Saatvika Pancholi is a conservation architect with a Master's in Conservation and Regeneration from CEPT University, Ahmedabad. She pursued Bachelor's in architecture from the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara. She has experience of working with sustainable materials with the award-winning firm, Wallmakers in Kerala. She ran her own design firm, Chirping Birds Design Studio, in the years 2018 – 19, which involved designing with local artisans and handicrafts. She has also taught a Design Studio at M.S. University, Vadodara, and History of Architecture at Devi Ahilya University, Indore. Her Master's Thesis focused on the earthquake resilience of the historic pol houses in Ahmedabad, which involved structural understanding of the pols using quantitative and qualitative data. Her interests lie in communicating ideas through illustrations, which represent complex concepts better. Currently, she is involved in the reconnaissance survey of the Endangered Wooden Architecture Program (EWAP) grant of CHC, CRDF.

GUEST EXPERTS



Khushi Shah

Khushi Shah is a conservation architect based in Ahmedabad, with two decades of professional experience. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from M. S. University of Baroda (2002), and specialisation in Heritage Conservation (DSA-Architecture et Patrimoine) from Ecole de Chaillot, Paris (2007). Some of her significant professional engagements include: Restoration and Regeneration of Indra Kund and its Chowk, Delwara, Rajasthan; Preparation of World Heritage nomination dossier for the Historic city of Ahmedabad as part of CEPT University team; and Restoration of traditional pol houses in the historic city of Ahmedabad as a team member for the Indo-French cooperation project (2003-2005). In addition to her independent practice as a consultant architect, she has been engaged as Visiting Faculty at Faculty of Architecture, CEPT University, since 2010, where she has been teaching studios and courses on architectural conservation, urban conservation, structural conservation, traditional building materials as well as conservation processes and practice.



Fulchand Suthar

Fulchand Suthar has been working as a carpenter for 35 years, based in Ahmedabad. He has his own business of furniture making known as F.M. Furniture. Furniture making has been his ancestral occupation. He has an experience of working with the architecture firms JMA Design Co. and Indigo Architects based in Ahmedabad, wherein he has been involved in the projects across Gujarat and Maharashtra. His current association with Center for Heritage Conservation (CHC), CRDF is as a research collaborator in the Endangered Wooden Architecture Program (EWAP).

GUEST EXPERTS



Mehul R Shah

Mehul R Shah has been working as a structural engineer after completing his Master's in CASAD. He was a core faculty member at the School of Building Science and Technology, CEPT University, and then continued as a Visiting Professional in different faculties at CEPT University, mainly involved in guiding students in the area of structural concepts and earthquake-resistant design. He is also a Visiting Faculty at National Forensic Sciences University, teaching students of the Forensic Structural Engineering Master's Programme. He is involved as a Professional in the area of earthquake structural engineering, investigation, repairs, rehabilitation of structures, and structural conservation of heritage structures.



Dr. Benny Kuriakose

Dr. Benny Kuriakose started his career in 1984 and received basic lessons in architecture from Laurie Baker. He has a Master's in Conservation Studies from University of York, UK and a Ph.D. from IIT-Madras. He received basic lessons in architecture under the tutelage of the renowned Laurie Baker. In 1986, he received the Charles Wallace India Trust award that enabled him to complete his Master's Studies. After backpacking around Europe, he returned to Kerala and engaged in various activities, such as running a successful furniture company, before pursuing his true interest in architecture. He relocated to Chennai to develop the project that would become the cultural centre, Dakshinachitra. Through his expertise in architectural conservation, he works on a variety of projects from his architectural and conservation consultancy firm 'Benny Kuriakose & Associates', established in 1991, based in Chennai. The firm has aimed to create a diverse oeuvre of work to design sensitive and sustainable architecture from the very small scale to the large with immense attention to detail and respect to the craft.

PROGRAM CALENDAR

Day and Time	Description	Contact hrs	Mode
Day 1: 19 th Jan, 2024	Introduction to Wooden Heritage Conservation To be conducted at CEPT Campus		
10:00 am to 10:30 am	Course overview and introduction to CEPT Conservation Site Schools Faculty: Ms. Ashna Patel This session will outline the course and its objectives in context of the CEPT Conservation Site Schools program. It will provide an overview of the wooden built heritage of Dharmaj and the settlement structure of Dharmaj followed by an introduction to work carried out at the two Site Schools – ‘Mukhi Delu’ and ‘Kalidas Jethabhai House’.	0.5	On-campus
10:30 am to 11:30 am	Wooden architecture of Gujarat Faculty: Prof. Jigna Desai Wood is not native to most parts of Gujarat and yet one sees the most exquisite wooden havelis built here. This session will present a history of the making of wooden architecture of Gujarat and its significance in the histories of the region. The processes of making will also put forth the part to whole relationships of the urban morphology and the house type along with the agencies of various members of the communities involved.	1	On-campus
11:30 pm to 12:30 pm	Current context of wood as a material Faculty: Ms. Saatvika Pancholi, Guest Expert: Mr. Fulchand Suthar This session will include a discussion on wood/ timber required for structural and for non-structural purposes, explained through examples of historic wooden houses and contemporary examples. The session will outline the types of wood currently used in the industry, methods of sourcing various types of wood and associated challenges.	1	On-campus
12:30 pm to 1:30 pm	Material deterioration Faculty: Ms. Nigar Shaikh Historic wooden structures show numerous types of deterioration depending on the cause. This session will elaborate on the various types of decay, causes of decay and the visual characteristics of these types of decay on wooden elements.	1	On-campus
1:30 pm to 2:30 pm	Lunch break		
3:00 pm to 5:30 pm	Visit to the Lathi Bazaar Faculty: Ms. Saatvika Pancholi, Guest Expert: Mr. Fulchand Suthar This session will be an on-site understanding of wood as a material through a visit to the ‘Lathi Bazaar’ at Ahmedabad. It will enable participants to understand processes of sourcing, seasoning and distribution of wood. The visit will include visual identification and differentiation of types of wood based on colour, figure, texture, grain, etc.	2.5	On-site

Day and Time	Description	Contact hrs	Mode
Day 2: 20 th Jan, 2024	Damage Assessment of Wooden Structures - Mukhi Delu and Kalidas Jethabhai House, Dharmaj To be conducted at Dharmaj		
10:30 am to 1:30 pm	Methodologies for assessment of wooden structures Guest Expert: Mr. Mehul Shah The theoretical session will be an introduction to the various methodologies available for assessment of wooden structures such as visual assessment, non-invasive methods of testing, and laboratory analysis.	3	On-site
1:30 pm to 2:30 pm	Lunch break		
2:30 pm to 5:30 pm	Demonstration of NDT and MDT for assessment of different wooden elements, Mukhi Delu Faculty: Ms. Nigar Shaikh In this session participants will get a hands-on experience of using various Non-Destructive Tests (NDT) and Minor Destructive Tests (MDT) for wooden built elements at the CEPT Conservation Site School, Mukhi Delu. Assessment techniques such as Tap test, Ultrasonic Pulse Velocity, Rebound hammer and borrows copic analysis will be demonstrated.	3	On-site
Day 3: 21 st Jan, 2024	Conservation Strategies To be conducted at Dharmaj		
10:00 am to 11:30 am	Strategies for safeguarding and conserving traditional wooden structures, Kalidas Jethabhai House Faculty: Ms. Ashna Patel This session will discuss and demonstrate the processes of safeguarding and conserving the historic wooden buildings in Dharmaj through the case of the CEPT Conservation Site School, Kalidas Jethabhai House. Participants will get an opportunity to examine ongoing conservation work at the site followed by a discussion on the negotiations and processes involved in adapting wooden built heritage for sustainable future use.	1.5	On-site
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm	Wooden heritage conservation- value-based assessment and repair techniques Guest Expert: Ms. Khushi Shah Following the introduction to assessment methods from Day 2, this session will be conducted by a guest expert wherein the participants will be introduced to repair strategies for conservation of wooden structures, developed through a value-based assessment. The conservation techniques of the two site schools developed in the 'Architectural Conservation Studio' at CEPT and other examples from Ahmedabad will be discussed.	1.5	On-site
1:30 pm to 2:30 pm	Lunch break		
2:30 pm to 4:00 pm	Practice Examples: Faculty: Ms. Nigar Shaikh This practical session will include demonstrations of repair techniques on prototype models of decayed or damaged wooden elements	1.5	On-site
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm	Experience of Wooden Heritage Conservation Guest Expert: Mr. Benny Kuriakose This session will be a lecture by a guest expert discussing case examples of wooden heritage conservation.	1	On-site
5:00 pm to 5:30 pm	Discussion and Conclusion	0.5	On-site

ADMISSIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Application Process Online applications have already commenced. To apply to the program visit the CPP website <http://cpp.cept.ac.in/> Applicants should complete the online form consisting of 250 words of interest statement for joining the program and must attach their CV/resume.

Application Deadline 16 December 2023
(Applications are open. The deadline for this program is indicative. All applications will be considered as they are received, and seats will be allotted on a first come first serve basis. Admissions will be closed once all seats are full.)

Program Dates 19th – 21st January, 2024 (On-site and On-campus)

Who can Apply? This program is open to professionals, teachers and researchers of architectural conservation, heritage management, architecture, design, civil and structural engineering or any other field.

Fees INR 17,500/- + GST

Certificate Participants will receive a certificate from CEPT University on successful completion of the program.



Image Credit : Saatvika Pancholi, CHC – CRDF
Mukhi Delu – CEPT Conservation Site School at
Dharmaj, Gujarat



Image Credit: Zeus Pithawalla, CHC - CRDF
Mukhi Delu - CEPT Conservation Site School
at Dharmaj, Gujarat




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