

Glossary

Chettinad – the cluster of villages that were occupied by the trading community called the Chettiars

Chettinad house – luxurious mansions of the chettinad which was well planned and had ingenious methods of construction and detailing

Thinnai – informal seating space which were large raised platforms on either side of the central corridor, where the host would entertain male guests.

Mugappu – the reception area at the entrance of the house

Valavu - Living area of the house

Nadai – the corridors that run along the courtyard

Athangudi tiles – are entirely handmade tiles, made with white cement, sand and color pigments