

**B.ARCHITECTURE**  
**ARCHITECT CONSERVATION AR6016**  
**LECTURE – 4**  
**UNIT – II**  
**INTRODUCTION TO CONSERVATION**

**Case Study of HAMPI:**

Hampi is a small hamlet of village in Karnataka. It's in the district of bellary. It is founded by Harihara and it is few kilometers from hospet. It has no connection to Bangalore or main hub of Karnataka. But it is still a very highly visited site, we shall learn why and how this site has such a well maintained tourism foot fall throughout the year and not just during inspects and festival. So as we realize the local language is kannada and what are the important features of Hampi. It is also referred to the fact that it is a champion. It is the reminiscent of the architecture of vijayanagra and the former capital of vijayanagra empire. In spite of the monuments that are there, it is the natural settings which these 500+ monuments are set that is the main attractive pool. You have a beautiful thungabadra river. You have beautiful grass and farmlands on one side and beautiful rock side granites, like the elements which we see in the image here on the other. This is the true reflection of hampi. On one side we have fertile environment and on the other we have rocky side which is reminiscent of the architecture and providing the materials for most of the monuments that have been constructed there. Hampi unfortunately gained a lot of importance only once .UNESCO stepped it and declared it a world heritage. Till that it was pretty much ignored. Our very own country did not do much for it, till UNESCO stepped in. What is the criteria when UNESCO shows this to be a world heritage.

So if we look this is the landscape of Hampi. We have beautiful farmlands, beautiful majestic temples which are man made exemplary examples and the back drop of rocky hilly side. So it

as both secular scheme as well as religious scheme .Just not only temples, there is also reflection of Islamic architecture and mosques. So it is a combination of secular and even in religious buildings, you have 2 kinds of religions that are represented in Hampi. Now let's look at the layout of this. On the top we have pattadapil temple complex. Jambulinga, Galaganatha, Kashivishwanath, Amitha arjuna, Virupaksha temple is the most important. Sangameshwara and the Malaprabha river which is the distributor tributary of Thungabathra. So this point of time, the river is not perennial. So it is dried up, but most times it is flowing up with. You have fertile area on that side and here you have rocky mountain side and the valley like plain is where Hampi exists. So what is the historical significance.

It was the mighty seat of the vijayanagra empire.

It also has religious association which is mythological. It is believed that the great epic of Ramayana, this is where the monkey clings vaali and sugriya and this is where rama asked for help. This is where hanuman stepped down and took a couple of hills and monuments to help build the bridge. This has lot of religious significance even though it is mythological. So we have people coming here for festivals during the season of Rama Naomi or during the Hanuman Jayanthi. So there are lot of food fall periods that come in just because of religious factors and it has nothing to do with the monuments. So we see the rocks play an important role, the way these rocks are cut, some of them are man made and some of them are naturally existent. This is the importance of Hampi. The natural rock formation, the quality of rocks. Some rocks are pinkish yellow some are orangish yellow and some other very important because these rocks are used into make the monuments which we shall see. These are the exemplary examples of the architecture that we see, the monuments of the vijayanagra category, religious, civil and military buildings Most of the monuments are from the vijayanagra period like we mentioned but there are some which are like Islamic origin. If we look at the religious buildings of importance are Krishna temple complex, the virupaksha temple, the pattabiraman complex and if we look at the civil buildings which is most important, which attracts most viewers is the

aqueducts and canals because the Thungabadra river was not perennial they couldn't go through any time of the year, they actually had reservoirs built aqueducts and canals built so water could reach the inner parts of Hampi and other aspect with these thungabadra river. The next civil building is the Zanana enclosure which is the Islamic origin and lotus mahal complex. In military buildings category we have elephant stable and the kings balance. This is the example of the aqueducts and canals. You can see the stepped well that is there. Like I told you Thungabadra was not a perennial river so they had series of canals like the image we see below that brought water from thungabadra into this tank and filled it up. As you can see the descending steps the water level would go down as water would get consumed by the people of Hampi. So by the time the water would come to this level it would be monsoon season and again this water canal will refinish the water tank .What are the threats currently faced by Hampi. Now if we go to Hampi as a site even if is being recognized by UNESCO, there is lot of unplanned development inadequate protection and seasonal flooding beause of the thungabadra river. If there is heavy monsoon, water comes into the town and what are the problems faced by the people over there. We have collapsing gateways. Some of them want to retain it because they want to give the feeling of ruaince but it becomes unsafe after particular point of time. There is detritions of temple hazard materials, misuse of these materials because service of the temple, because if the temple is not in use, people do not go to temple to worship to these temples. Some of these temples are just retained just as architect marvels, then they become elements for social and anti-social elements and bad things are stored there and government storage authority. Animal and human species, fire damage and scorching because when it gets cold people will just huddle up, light up fire and part of that place will just get burned down. Water damage and leakage during monsoons plant growth and intrusion by these roots and looting and vandalism finally. So all of these are the threats that are currently faced by hampi. If you actually look at it, it is unplanned development, before the UNESCO stepped in the local people go and visited like I mentioned it has religious connotation

even before the architecture of the place was worshipped and looked after the temples and the sri naama Naomi and Krishna jayanti were really celebrated festivals and people would go there and throng and thousands from in and around Karnataka. Unplanned development happened once UNESCO gave it a siting of world heritage site once it happened when people from all part of the country and the worlds started pouring in. tourism as such bounced out and people started having small sovereigns shop, unlicensed guides, things like that happened and irregular food fall like only so many people can be allowed in a day things like that happened and now as a result and we can see the collapsing gate of the chandramauleshwar temple. So because of this collapsing doorway no one can enter the temple and it is considered unsafe and because of that we have plants growing out of the building, the fazad that is getting deterited because of the lack of cleaning etc. Now there is after invention because of the collapsing gate, what is happening is to prevent the flood from affecting the building, the wall and the foundation is being re-in forced and the load support of the wall is being added so that the stability is there for the temple that is going to be reinstated above it. It has not been demolished but because there is no stability a foundation is being delayed and the temple is replaced brick by brick stone by stone so what has happened to the area management authority, what kind of leverage do they actually have? Because they don't have any legislations that directly protect them but 1 major advantage they have because of the world heritage site is, UNESCO is like a watch dog, they can directly unsubscribe to certain policies and tell them you have to do this and they will have to do it. The government as such doesn't come into the picture if it glaringly deficient thing in the sight. The encroachment has been completely removed from the site just any shop or anything that has been seen has been completely removed then stone quarrying which is main concern. For all constructions sites, granite flooring, everything hampi was considered a dead rock literally. Now that it has become a heritage site that they don't want land slides and things like that happening, they have completely stopped stone quarrying. This is a map of HAMPI I will just walk through the centre and what are

the important parts there of it. If we look at the orange dots that you see, those are all the temples, we have the Krishna temple, virupaksha temple, the vitaala temple and varaaha temple and many other such things. The yellow things you see is leemas gate, elephants table they are all from the vijayanagar architectural ruins, they are from the vijayanagar period. And the green dots to be seen. True to be honest we have the mohammed arch tower and then lotus mahal, the Islamic style architectural ruins. And the red dots you see in the top north over here is the Durga temple, Anjanadhi parvatra which is all places of mythological significance from Ramayana. This is where the white thungabadra festival is where most of the things take place. Because of the aarthi and everything that happens there near this area all this religious festival take place and the architectural walk is around this area. So what steps have been taken is, this has been considered as heritage walk on this side of thungabadra river and that side of the thungabadra river is the mythological site and the religious site of hampi.

### **Plan Proposal & Development Option:**

Now what are the plan proposals and development options. What has been done by local authority with help from legislative authority with the nearing town like Hospet and Karnataka. The study of the entire heritage area is very important and it is revealed that natural landscape and the archaeological remains will have to be constantly protected and conserved. Like when I mentioned national landscape it's the granite mountains, the stone hills that you see all that is also very important. An archaeological remains goes without saying temples, aqueducts canals all of that. To achieve this goal it is very important to adapt certain control guidelines and regulations. Haphazard development is not going to help. We have to have certain guidelines to help the growth of the heritage sites .And accordingly the entire area has been divided into few zones. We shall look into these zones .First we have the heritage zone, which is nothing but the entire area where all the monuments are there, the so called mythological buildings also come under this.

We have the vijayanagra period, the Islamic period as well as the military buildings as well .The next zone is the archaeological zone or the special control area. This is nothing but the entire stretch of Hampi, both sides of thungabadra river about 25 square kms.Then you have the prohibited zone around the archaeological area. This prohibited zone is nothing but like the buffer zone. You have the main archaeological area and around this 300 metres has been demarcated such that no development can happen here in this zone. So it's literally a buffer zone. Then you have the river front zone to protect the scenic river of thungabadra and prevent illegal encroachments. They will have boat clubs, they will end up having some water sports and things like that. To prevent all of this there is border of 45 meters in the river front zone on either side of the river that no buildings or encroachments can come into being .Then you have the water bodies. The water bodies like tanks and canals we spoke about again they also have 45 meters of buffer zone around these tanks which is reserved for no developments, example of that is the encroachment area of Kamplapur tank, which will also be protected. The Kamplapur tank is very abused tank in the sense all the people there even go to wash the buffaloes, clean clothes things like that. So all these are going to be treated like catchment area and all those tanks and areas will be protected under this guidelines .Then finally there is development zone we have covered all the zones where no development can take place, then where will all the tourist people go and have facilities. There is a zone that is separately segregated for development. This is for all future developments in kamalapur town where the facilities for tourism and transportation be done with the authority of local planning body as well as the Hampi planning body .Now we come to tourism and infrastructure.

1. It has been made into a UNESCO heritage site

2. We have a planning authority and place.

Both the planning authority and hampi as such. But how come tourist and other infrastructure can be provided for such as they are mutually beneficial. So only if a proper infrastructure is provided when we get tourist. So the virupaksha bazaar is one of such places which has been completely reneched to be removed

because it is the entire stretch of the building which gives the beautiful view of hampi is surrounded and cluttered with shops like pavement bazaar. So there they have done it for tourist benefit so that tourist want to go and buy souvenirs like that. So a tourist bazaar has to be assigned for within the development zone so this virupaksha bazaar can be removed. Tourism and conservation activities should benefit the host community that is very important. Now the town like Hospet and Hampi is completely dependent on tourism and related trading opportunity that emerge from tourism. So any suggestions we make with in the local planning authority, it should first benefit the local community only then you can bring the outside labourers and outside work force because of the local community, if it is not thriving then it is not going to be viable proposition for tourism site heritage. And it is important that we treat hampi as youth development tourism. The reason they are doing this is very typical that it covers goa and gokarna. So Goa you know it is youth friendly spot so what they have done is, how you have Delhi, Chandigarh and Amritsar, They have done the Goa-Gokharna- Hampi and though pattadkal – Badmi are also world heritage sites they are ignored because they are very similar in architectural character to hampi because they are also from vijayanagra period. Because of this pattadkal – Badmi are ignored this is actually not a very good prospect. So we need to have adequate information facilities including interpretation center which will lead the tourist in the right direction. Another important thing is we cannot have hampi which is the host for more than 500+ monuments even providing lodging facilities and hotels. This has to be done in Hospet and Gngavati which are near by towns like 5-6 kms not even that distance away. And the department can have only them, they assign the specific location for lodging facilities and all other hotels that are built only they have to be developed for tourism hotels with prior permission of the government as well as the hampi planning authority. Now in terms of infrastructure now we have everything set but we need to have basic amenities like amenity like water, sewage, sanitation all of these are very important. Another thing which is very important is you cannot have very beautiful heritage centre

which is surrounded by hospital in Gangavati being filled with slums. So the overall quality of life of these people have to be improved providing better infrastructure like water and sanitation even for them and electrification for villages surrounding the area. Otherwise what would happen is the tourist would not feel safe and you would end up having anti social elements coming and robbing the tourist for money and jewels things like that and with in this conservation zone we should not have open electrification like wires hanging and things like that . It better to have things underground. Another important thing is the solid waste management which has to be given top priority especially for hampi and the surrounding villages. Administrative issues faced by hampi which is true to most tourism heritage sites its protection and conservation of these monuments and how can it be done when continuously tourist are coming in. It's not like closing it and work on it and it's not like it can be worked on in the evening and in the nights. So how is it that this development has to happen. A master plan to happen and strict development has to be taken to control illegal development. And the heritage area should not just be national standard of planning but international standards especially because of the UNESCO citation and the fact that nearly 75% of the tourist who come there are from foreign countries. And the implementing agency should have the power to stop these encroachments and help and approve certain projects that are suitable to that area. And the best part is we have to look into the alternate methods of tourism, like we inside it's a just saw its an mountainous area it's a very grassy grassland so site can actually provide a natural setting for country trekking and sports activities. Then we need to have a list of not just the monuments but also the natural areas so we know that illegal encroachments don't happen or these forest lands are not tampered with or the rocks are not getting excavated. And it needs to have a balance of biodiversity being protected and cultural diversity being protected as well as the built heritage being protected. And in spite of all these measures. It sensual that 2 police bodies which help to over look this side of the river and that side of the river any anti social elements or activities that occur and we have to increase the underground water



resources because we need to provide running water for the tourists. We cannot have water scarcity happening depend only on thungabadra rain water harvesting is something which has to be looked into. Public housing schemes has to be encouraged to have uniform social and physical infrastructure .Like we discussed we cannot end up having slum like dwellings either side of hampi. All the villages like gandhimati, Hospet all have uniform housing and similar standard of living. Special regulations to protect and conserve the archaeological area and we need to have zonal regulations to control and regulate the developments in the local planning should also be formulated.

### **Craft Issue of conservation:**

Now we come on to crafts and conservations. This has very intrinsic relationship to each other. They support each other and they beautifully enjoy the symbiotic relationship Every conservation project will definitely deal with craft of some kind. Craft is characterized by a certain type of making, you have certain objects that are made from scratch, there need not be prescribed method to make it literally in written format and it is also considered to be a workmanship of risk because of the quality of result depends on the materials, depends on the person who is making the product and it is medium specific. Because the material plays an entirely important role along with the technology that is being used. Crafts are not just mere objects that are situated inside the building. Its part of the way that the building is built. Its intensity is bound up with the built heritage and also helps us to identify certain communities in which these practices are occurring even in date. It is very important to conserve the crafts and the craftsmen while we are talking of conservation. If we actually think of crafts as intangible heritage the know- how of it. The knowledge behind it becomes tangible because it is intense of knowledge and loss of knowledge we have. If the craftsmen perishes and if the crafts dies. We have different aims and approaches while doing this. One of the most common way of preserving the craft is creating training centres. What actually a training centre do you actually bring up these

crafts people so they can teach the interested parties of the crafts that they are practicing. For e.g. it can be kalam kaari, madhubanic painting, aathankudi tiles, chettinad plasters. It could be anything. You should give the people the economic, viable option of practicing that craft. You cannot actually expect a craftsman to force his children to learn craft when the craft is dying and no one is making money in it. So it's our responsibility to ensure that it is a viable economic profession to practice that particular craft. This can be ensured by training centres as well as having crafts villages in the outskirts of urban centres. So it could end up being a village in the week end out spot so you could go and see how these crafts are made. These crafts people could even have their own environment thing like that.