

CONSERVATION OF CHINTAMANI MANTAPA AND FORT WALL AT SNANAGHATTA AT ANEGUNDI VILLAGE GANGAVATHI (TALUK) KOPPALA (DISTRICT)

1. Cutting and clearing the vegetation.

Comments: The heritage of Hampi sits in harmony with its surrounding landscape. Care should be taken to only remove and clear vegetation that is detrimental to the historic buildings.

According to the Nara Document of Authenticity (1994):

“Depending on the nature of the cultural heritage, its cultural context, and its evolution through time, authenticity judgments may be linked to the worth of a great variety of sources of information. Aspects of the sources may include form and design, materials and substance, use and function, traditions and techniques, location and setting, and spirit and feeling, and other internal and external factors. The use of these sources permits elaboration of the specific artistic, historic, social, and scientific dimensions of the cultural heritage being examined.”

2. Dismantling weatherproof course

Comments:

1st Mantapa: The roof should be restored using lime mortar. It helps in preventing water ingress which is presently seen in the soffit of the roof and beams. The roof is the main cause for dampness in the building. The roof needs to be reinstalled and the flagstone roof needs to be re-pointed with lime mortar. The coping needs to be replaced to allow for rainwater to drain effectively from the roof.

2nd Mantapa: The paint should be removed in the 1st Mantapa, as it is detrimental to the antiquity of the granite. The roof should be reset using lime mortar which helps in preventing dampness.



Figure 1: Roof of 1st Mantapa needs be restored.



Figure 2: 1st Mantapa, water ingress is seen in the soffit of the roof.



Figure 3: 2nd Mantapa, the roof needs to be restored.

3. Dismantling of burnt masonry in clay mortar/lime mortar/cement masonry.

Comments: The roof in both can be minimally restored to avoid water seepage.

1st Mantapa: The roof needs to be reinstalled.

2nd Mantapa: The roof needs to be reinstalled.

4. Collection of collapsed stone members around the fortwall temple premises.

Comments: The stone members to be retained and reinstated. According to the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (the Venice Charter 1964):

Article 6. The conservation of a monument implies preserving a setting which is not out of scale. Wherever the traditional setting exists, it must be kept. No new construction, demolition or modification which would alter the relations of mass and colour must be allowed.

Minimal intervention to ensure that the landscape is preserved. The existing height of the fortwall/ surrounding ruins should be maintained to its existing height in order to maintain the antiquity of the site.

5. Numbering and removing

Comments: The numbering to be done with non-abrasive water soluble paint. Avoid numbering that destroys the integrity of the structure (see figure 4).



Figure 4: Numbering as seen on a wall near the North Gate at Aneundi should be avoided.

1st Mantapa: The infill stones (seen in figure 5) needs to be realigned. The interior of the Mantapa needs to be cleared of debris and the flooring needs to be raised using lime slurry.



Figure 5: The granite blocks should be restored.



Figure 6: The interiors of the Mantapa need to be cleared and the flooring needs to be raised using flagstones/lime slurry.

2nd Mantapa: The paint needs to be removed. The flooring needs to be levelled. The approach needs to be reconstructed to allow easy access.



Figure 7: Present condition of the steps. The approach needs to be reconstructed.

6. Supply of missed stones

Comments: Re-use of existing historic stones encouraged wherever possible. In case of supplying missing stones, traditional building craft and method of construction should be used for reconstruction. This helps in reviving traditional building crafts and improving the livelihood of craftsmen.

7. Flooring Slab

Comments: Flagstones for 2nd Mantapa and lime slurry for the 1st Mantapa for levelling the flooring.

The approach from the road to the 1st Mantapa to be in keeping with the landscape and it should be reversible and sensitive to the landscape. The gradual sloped terrain allows for easy access, steps need to be laid out only in necessary places.

Steps as shown in figure 8 must be avoided as it is irreversible and detrimental to the surrounding setting of the monument.



Figure 8: Approach to the Elephant stable. These kinds of steps that are cut in the bedrock are irreversible and detrimental to the landscape. They should be avoided.

8. Veneer

Comments: To be avoided at all costs. Veneer as material for restoring is not historically correct as it gives an appearance to the building that it never originally possessed.

9. Supplying of solid granite pillar/beam stone

Comments: Reuse of existing pillar/stone preferred wherever possible. Authenticity lies in the material, location and setting.

10. Supplying of solid granite basement stone

Comments: Reuse of existing pillar/stone preferred wherever possible. Authenticity lies in the material, location and setting.

11. Supplying of solid granite eve slab

Comments: Re-use of existing beam is encouraged. The original fabric should be preserved to maintain the authenticity of the site.

12. Providing dressing to the supplied stone members.

Comments: Dressing to be imitated and matching existing members. The replacement of original fabric should be avoided unless necessary. The original fabric should be preserved to maintain the authenticity of the site.

13. PCC 1:4:8

Comments: Cement in the floor bed will cause dampness. Lime slurry will be a suitable replacement.

14. Core Filling

Comments: Foundations to be repointed with lime mortar for 2nd Mantapa wherever necessary.

15. Resetting of the stone members

Comments:

1st Mantapa: The resetting of fallen masonry with lime mortar.

2nd Mantapa: The infill fallen masonry needs to be realigned (see figure 6). The roof needs to be restored to prevent any water ingress.

16. P/constructing BBM

Comments: Re-use existing masonry in order to maintain the authenticity of the structure.

17. P/Laying PCC over Roof

Comments: The use of lime slurry for plinth is recommended for plinth. Lime mortar for binding the stone masonry.

18. Plastering over roof

Comments: Rendering with lime mortar is recommended.

19. Construction of approach road

Comments: Approach to blend with surroundings by using granite blocks for dealing with upward slopes. The approach should blend with the surroundings. Using the existing rocks as they are presently at a comfortable incline to reach the monument is recommended.

FORT WALL

1. Jungle Clearance

Comments: The heritage of Hampi sits in harmony with its surrounding landscape. Care should be taken to only remove and clear vegetation that is detrimental to the historic buildings.

2. Numbering and removing

Comments: The numbering to be done with non-abrasive water soluble paint. Avoid numbering that destroys the sanctity of the structure (see figure 4). The fort wall facing the river (river front façade of the fort wall) is in a better condition than the inner façade facing the path. Minimal restoration of the river front façade is sufficient.



Figure 9: River front facade of the fort wall - the facade is in a good condition - minimal restoration required.



Figure 10: The inner facade of the fort wall requires complete reconstruction with ancient stones.

3. Collection of collapsed stone members around the fort wall

Comments: No comment

4. Supply of missed fort walls stones

Comments: Re-use of stones to maintain the authenticity of the structure.

5. E/W Excavation for foundation AND

6. For foundation stabilisation

Comments: Minor movements in historic buildings are quite common due to the nature of the foundations. Movements break the weakest part of the wall, and with Portland cement mortar this is usually the masonry. In case of when lime mortar is used, the lime is the weaker and sacrificial element. Thus the mortar cracks in preference to the masonry. This

results in much less damage, and is simple to repair. Thus lime mortar is preferable for foundations. The foundation should be stabilised only wherever necessary.

7. For foundation stabilisation

Comments: See above point

8. Dressing

Comments: New stones to be dressed in style similar to ancient stones. The knowledge of these traditional building skills are revived and given recognition while imitating ancient style of dressing. Patina should not be imitated to be able to differentiate between the old and new structure.

9. Resetting fort wall

Comments: Ancient stones to be reused. The steps need to be restored to allow easy accessibility.



Figure 11: Steps of the fort wall need to be restored.



Figure 12: Steps need to be reinstalled.

10. Fort Wall core filling

Comments: No comments

11. Scaffolding

Comments: No comments

12. Documentation and Supervision charges

Comments: No comments

Additional Comments

1. The Snanaghatta area with its Mantapas is frequently used by the locals. This “living” heritage is part of the identity of its people. Therefore, it is necessary to allow for the continuous use of the historic structures by the locals.



Figure 13: Locals use the 1st Mantapa at Snanaghatta regularly.

2. The Snanaghatta area needs to be cleared of all rubbish and debris.



Figure 14: At the Snanaghatta area - garbage needs to be cleared, the earth should be levelled.



Figure 15: The river front - should be cleared of debris and garbage.

3. Additional lighting will help in maintaining the spaces.
4. The water tank which is not in use and the concrete steps to be removed as it is detrimental to the historic setting.



Figure 16: Water tank and steps to be removed.

5. The outside courtyard at the entrance of the temple and the approach to temple should be levelled with compacted earth. PCC should be avoided as it is detrimental to the landscape setting.



Figure 17: Courtyard at the entrance of the main temple should be levelled with compacted earth.



Figure 18: Approach to be levelled with compacted earth.