

## Conservation Guidelines - Heritage Homes

The conservation guidelines of Heritage Homes are based on the INTACH and International Charters. Adaptive re-use has environmental, social and economic benefits. It conserves and prolongs the life of architectural heritage. Heritage is dynamic and it necessary for heritage places to develop over time.

1. **Documentation:** All changes to the original fabric should be preceded and followed by comprehensive documentation.
2. **Listing/Mapping of the settlement:** Detailed documentation and listing to be carried out prior to construction. This listing and mapping of vernacular architecture/historic settlements should be based on the INTACH listing guidelines.
3. **Retain visual identity:** It is necessary to maintain the streetscapes and visual character/identity of the heritage sites. Any changes required for the continued contemporary use of the building should be accommodated. This includes – signage, advertisement boards, signage, hanging electric cables, air conditioning units, dish antennas, etc. to improve the experiential quality of the heritage. New extensions/additions/alterations to the heritage building should be in harmony with the existing historic structure.
4. **Redesign:** The design should be in harmony with the historic structure. It should also be climatically sensitive.
5. **Construction:** Local raj maistris, labour and materials should be encouraged. This will prolong the economic viability of traditional ways of building. It also helps in generating employment and improving the livelihood of the local community.
6. **Materials:** Conservation should encourage the use of traditional knowledge, skills and disciplines which can contribute to the study and care of the place. Adaptive Reuse should be undertaken using high quality design and materials.
7. **History:** The associated stories of a place should be preserved after the adaptation of the place. The knowledge of local craftspeople, including folklore, beliefs, myths and legends, rituals, customs, oral traditions, etc should also be conserved. These help in uniting the society.
8. **Authenticity:** Authenticity of the historic structure should be maintained. Aspects of authenticity include form and design, materials and substance, use and function, traditions and techniques, location and setting, and spirit and feeling. Through adaptation, the authenticity of a place should be revealed and the significance of the place should be interpreted.
9. **Informing the local community:** The surrounding local community should be informed of the possible changes to the heritage building prior to construction.