

MINAKSHI JAIN,
Architect



PERSONAL: Born on 23 / 03 / 1943
At Baroda, Gujarat,, India
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EDUCATION: B. Arch, M.S. University, Baroda 1964
M. Arch. University of Pennsylvania, USA 1966

She has been a visiting faculty at the CEPT's postgraduate design and theory program. She has taught at programs of Architecture, Urban design, interior design in various capacities since 1971. She has been a guide to many undergraduate and postgraduate theses. She has guided three Italian students from Ferrara last year and presently guiding three Italian students. With an aim of inducing respect for the built heritage in the younger generation, she conducted Conservation summer camps for young children for several years. She was awarded a flying scholarship and holds private pilot license.

DESIGN PRACTICE

Minakshi Jain was a partner in Jain Associates and Mrs. Minakshi Jain, architects, both the partnership firms, involved in design practices of architecture, urban design and conservation of the built heritage since 1970. The firms have been engaged in a practice that ranges from design of private residences to townships, as well as conservation and planning projects. Some of the primary concerns of the partners have been simplicity, climatic appropriateness and economy. Their solutions for housing for the poor and the lower middle-income group emerge from a concern for spatial organization and place making. The firm's contribution has been distinctly recognized in the fields of vernacular housing research and conservation of the historical built environment. Several awards and medals have been conferred on both, the firm and its partners. She was invited to talk about her work at 361 and at Canova meet 2013.

I. ACADEMICS

Along with teaching at the School of Architecture, Ms. Jain interest in housing, urban design and conservation has seen her guide several theses along with the compilations of plans for the following cities.

- a) Baroda central district
- b) Patan city core
- c) Surat city core
- d) Ujjain Gopal Mandir Chawk
- e) Bhavnagar - historic area
- f) Ajmer - historic area.
- g) Goa - Madgaon
- h) Dwarka city
- i) Ahmedabad city - roads
- j) Sankheshwar
- k) Mahemdabad
- l) Jodhpur

II WORKSHOPS

Ms. Jain has also conducted workshops in conservation planning and techniques at the Fort of Nagaur with students, professionals, clients and sponsors with the aim of increasing general awareness in a field that is relatively new. She has also read papers in conferences and seminars.

Recently she had conducted winter workshop with 15 Italian and 30 Indian students at Jodhpur, in 2014.

III. RESEARCH - MONOGRAPHS, REPORTS, ARTICLES

Jain's interest in research has resulted in several books, monographs and articles some of which are listed here:

- a) Bohra Houses - *Marg Publications, March, 1983*
- b) Typology of Houses - *book*
- c) Monasteries at Sikkim - *article*
- d) Housing studies in Ahmedabad - *a monograph*
- e) Walled City : Jodhpur - *a conservation report*
- f) Palace Complex : Idar - *a conservation report*
- g) Hoardings - *research paper*
- h) *Chabuteras and Parabadies - research Paper*
- i) Housing typology of Arid Zone - *a report*
- j) Housing typology of coastal area of Gujarat - *monograph*
- k) Defacing Urban scenario - *bill boards*
- l) Two temples of Chidambaram - *article*
- m) Baroda museum - *a conservation report*
- n) Mandor garden - *a development report*
- o) Urban development – 10 – cities 2001

IV. BOOKS (CO-AUTHORED WITH K. JAIN)

- a) Mud Architecture of the Indian Desert, 1992
- b) Indian City in the Arid West, 1994
- c) The Fort of Nagaur, 1996
- d) Architecture of the Indian Desert, 2000
- e) Thematic spaces in Indian architecture.2002
- f) Ahhichtragarh, the retrieved fort of Nagaur 2009

V. FILMS (DIRECTION)

- a) Housing of the Coastal Areas of Gujarat, a video documentary 22 minutes
- b) Fort of Nagaur, a video documentary of 17 minutes
- c) Housing of the arid region of India, a documentary directed with Kulbhushan Jain, 16 minutes.
- d) Conservation of the fort of Nagaur.(subject expert) 25 minutes
- e) The water system of Abha Mahal, Nagaur.
- f) The Conserved Nagaur Fort, 2006 – 2013.

VI. AWARDS

- a) UNESCO Award of Excellence in Conservation, principal conservation architect , Nagaur fort
- b) JK Cement Award for best residential building
- c) Indian institute of architects Award for conservation
- d) HUDCO award for contribution to low cost housing.
- e) "Fassa Bortolo Domus Restoration ,Silver, 2012
- f) Aga Kahan awards, shortlisted project, Nagaur fort - 2013

VII. CONSERVATION PROJECTS.

- a) 2013 -2014 East gardens, lighting, walkways, etc. Abha Mahal, Nagaur Fort.

- b) 2012 - 2013 Central char baug, Nagaur
- c) 2008 - 2012 – Nagaur fort, Ranvas. Worked as director, and principal conservation consultant.
- d) 2007 - Fort of Gagraun, Dalhan pur and Mau Bodra Rajsthan. Vision report.
- e) 2006 - Jantar Mantar, Jaipur, vision report and implementation, this is also known as sculpture in stone. The scientific knowledge is to be conserved along with the sundials. Appeared in the list of World Monuments 'Funds this year, on 6th June '07
- f) 2006 - Hawa Mahal, Jaipur, vision report and implementation.
- g) 2005 -Amber Fort, Jaipur. This fort is most visited in Rajsthan, last year about 11 lakh visitors appreciated this monument. Presently going for conservation in big way.
- h) 2003 - Conservation and planning of Roerich's 440-acre estate, Bang lore. Project managed by National Design Institute. Russian painter jointly owned this estate in Banglore, Roerich and actress Devika Rani. Now it is being planned to be their museum.
Position: Principle architectural consultant.
- i) 2003 –Conservation and planning of area around the historic Monuments at Sarkhej.
Ahmedabad, India
Position: Conservation architect.
- j) 1999- Conservation of Nagaur Fort Rajasthan, India.
Position: Project Director/ Conservation architect.
Task Assignment: ***** UNESCO' Award of excellence.
- k) 1999 – 2001 Conservation report on Mandor gardens, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India Position:
Principal consulting architect.
- l) 1997- 1998 Conservation report of Baroda Museum. Baroda. Gujarat, India. This 100-year-old building is one of the first built as a museum by the Gaikwads of Baroda.
Designed by an English architect Chosum,
Position: Conservation architect
1996 - 1997: University Road, Ahmedabad,
Position: Design consultant
- m) 1994 –Urban design in historic areas of Dwarka's famous Dwarkadhish temple, Gujarat, India
Position: Project consultant
- n) 1994 – 1999: Conservation of Historic Gomati ghats at Dwarka, western Gujarat.
Position: Principle architect, consultant.
- o) 1994 – 1999: Conservation and adaptive reuse Balsamand palace, Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- p) 1993 – 1994: Conservation Documentation, Fort of Nagaur. Position: conservation architect
- q) 1992: Conservation and adaptive reuse, of the fort of Bambora, Udaipur, Rajasthan.
Position: Conservation architect.
- r) 1999 - 2001: Conservation report of Ranthambhor , India
Position: Conservation architect.
- s) 1991 – 1992: Compilation of the Historic settlements on the coast of Saurashtra. Position:
Principle Architectural Researcher
- t) 1985 – 1990: Compilation of Historic settlements of arid western India.
Position: Principle architect.

VII: Architectural projects.

- a) Presently working on Dandi Library in Dandi.
- b) Several Houses and Schools projects.