
SECTION III

PROPOSAL: CENTRAL PUBLIC SPACE ON PARADE GROUND

This section will apply and test the conclusions arrived at in the previous section through a design project for a central public space on Parade Ground. The design process and final product will be documented as the third section.

The goal of this project is to design a central public space for Bangalore, which will give it an imageable city centre, provide a democratic open space in the heart of the city and help decongest M.G. Road.

The objectives of this project are:

- To integrate the city's civic, public, entertainment, recreation and business amenities, forming an imageable city centre.
- To develop a central public space within this city centre master plan.
- To create a public space on Parade Ground adjacent to M.G. Road to provide additional green / pedestrian space for recreation and for festivals.
- To decongest M.G. Road by providing additional pedestrian / sidewalk space.
- To develop a space for the nationalists to congregate and protest.
- To develop a children's adventure playground on Police Parade Grounds.
- To redevelop Mahatma Gandhi Garden as a sculpture garden.
- To redevelop and enhance Cariappa Memorial Park.
- To connect Parade Ground to Cubbon Park through a series of gardens and plazas.
- To develop an entry plaza to Cubbon park which will connect the museums to the central public space.
- To provide the following –
 - A plaza for young people.
 - An amphitheatre for street theatre and outdoor movies.
 - A public transportation hub comprising of an underground metro station, a bus stop and a taxi / auto rickshaw stand and an underground parking facility to service it.
 - A streetscape around the public space, which would integrate it with M.G. Road.
- To move surface parking to underground parking.

CHAPTER 11: THE PROJECT

Bangalore today has emerged as one of India's most cosmopolitan cities and a city in constant flux. Its rich history has contributed to a diverse demography living in relative harmony and participating in its democratic processes. The rapid urbanisation of Bangalore has led to several problems, as discussed earlier. The loss of the street as public space, the competition for public space and the lack of imageable city centre are three of the most pressing problems today. The deterioration in the quality of streets as public spaces is especially acute in the CBD, especially on M.G. Road and Brigade Road. The CBD has the makings of an imageable city centre but lacks structure and coherence. These issues will be addressed through the design project.

Also the rapid development of Bangalore over the last few decades has resulted in some conflict among the various groups that occupy the city. The city today is slowly getting polarised, especially when it comes to public life and public space. As discussed earlier the contest for public space is mainly between three groups: the lower income groups, the middle-income groups, and the nationalists. The three groups in turn have three issues, which the design project will address. The lower income groups and the middle income groups feel passionately about the loss of M.G. Road as public space, and the lack of an imageable and prestigious city centre, respectively. The nationalists want to symbolically stake their claim on the city and have a space where they can voice their opinion.

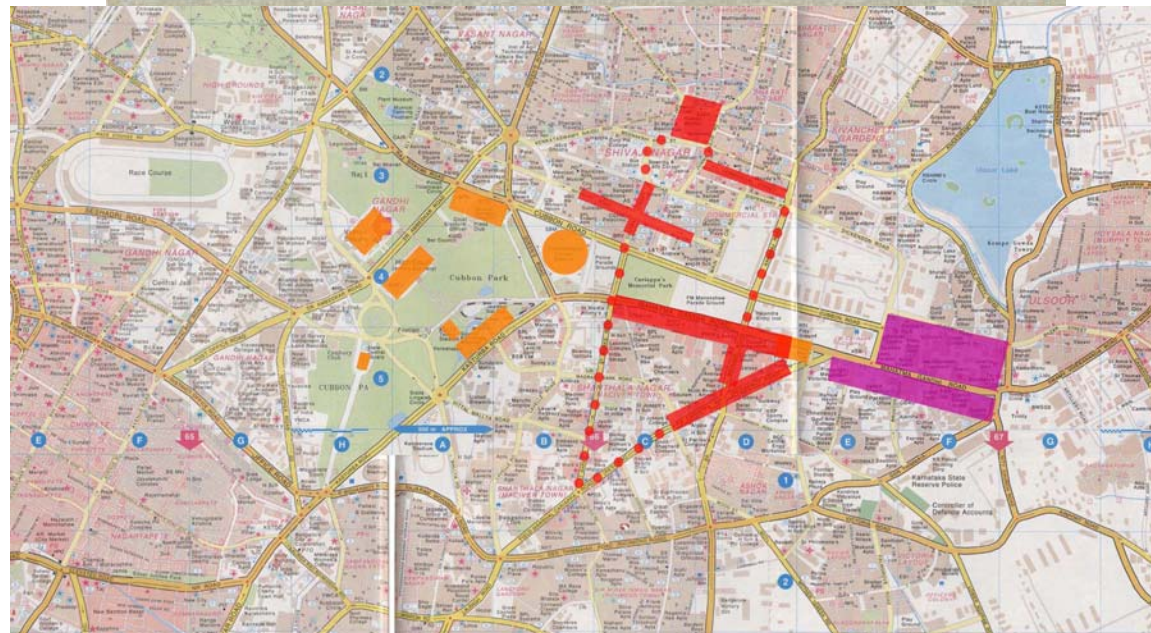
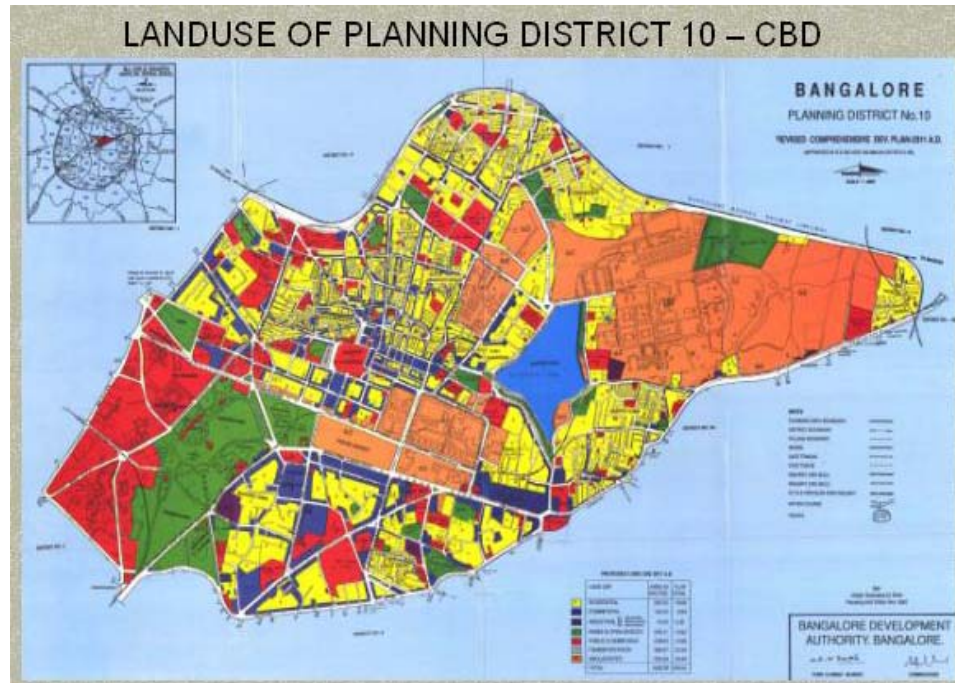
As argued earlier a central public space would be a suitable medium to address all the above issues and facilitate reconciliation among the different groups and histories of the city. This design project proposes a master plan to structure a central civic and commercial district within the CBD, at the heart of which would be a central public space.

CENTRAL DISTRICT MASTER PLAN

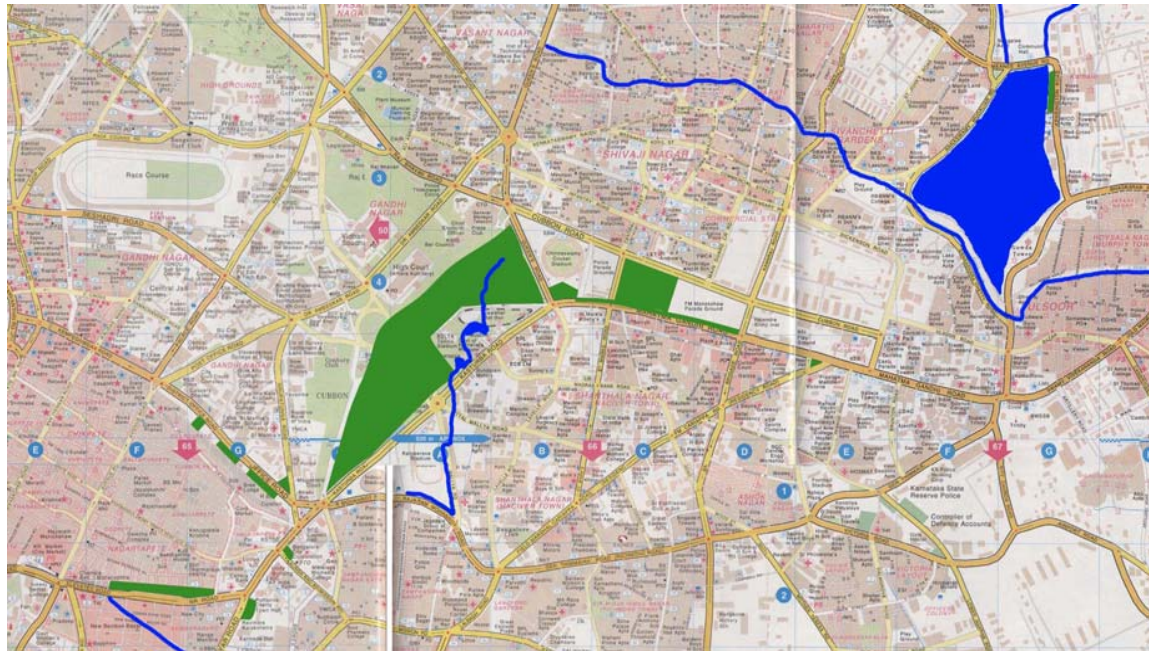
The master plan to structure a central district identifies two layers. The first layer is called the development layer, which comprises of the civic complex, the commercial corridor, and the business district. The civic complex comprises of the Vidhan Soudha (State Legislative Assembly), the Attara Kacheri (State High Court), Seshadri Memorial Library (State Central Library), Chinnaswamy Stadium (cricket stadium), Jawahar Bal Bhavan (children's edutainment centre), the tennis stadium, the city aquarium, the art and science museums, and government offices all housed within Cubbon Park. The commercial corridor is a loop starting from Russel Market, extending along Commercial Street, Kamraj/Brigade Road, Field Marshal Cariappa Road and St. Marks Road, with M.G. Road bifurcating the loop in the middle. The business district occupies the eastern end of M.G. Road and has several banks, hotels, and corporate houses. The second layer is called the green infrastructure layer and comprises Cubbon Park, Mahatma Gandhi Garden, Cariappa Memorial Park, Police Parade Ground, Parade Ground, Ulsoor Lake, and other parks, streams and drains.

The concept of the master plan is to use the green infrastructure layer and the streets to tie together the development layer and give it an imageable structure. Nodes would be developed at important locations as landmarks to orient people and mark the boundaries of the district. Hence through streetscape development, nodes and a green infrastructure, an imageable city centre is created with a central public space as a converging point.

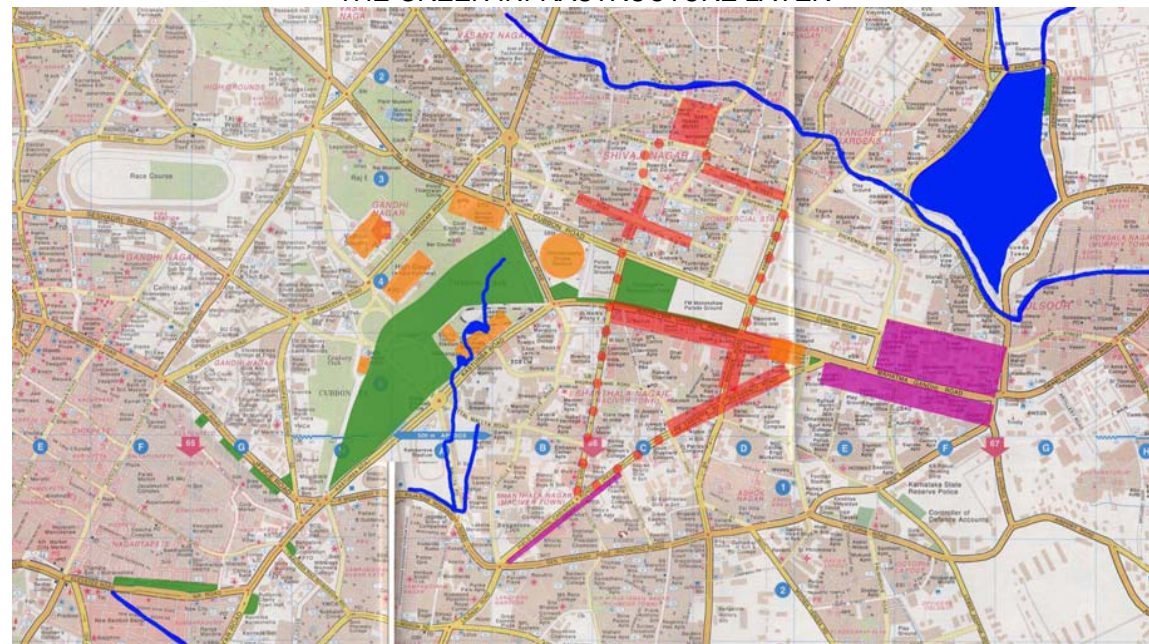
LANDUSE OF PLANNING DISTRICT 10 – CBD



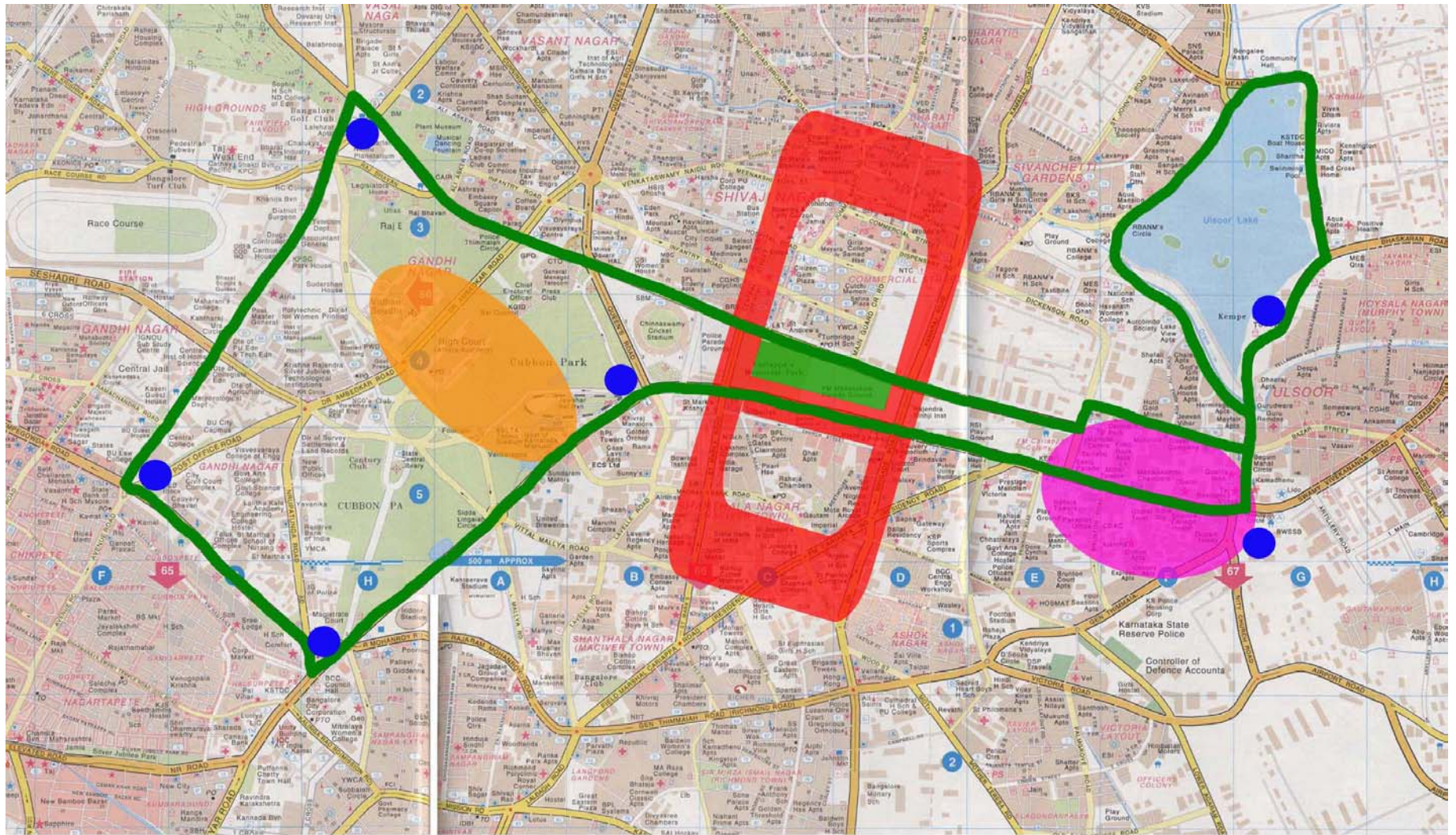
THE DEVELOPMENT LAYER



THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE LAYER

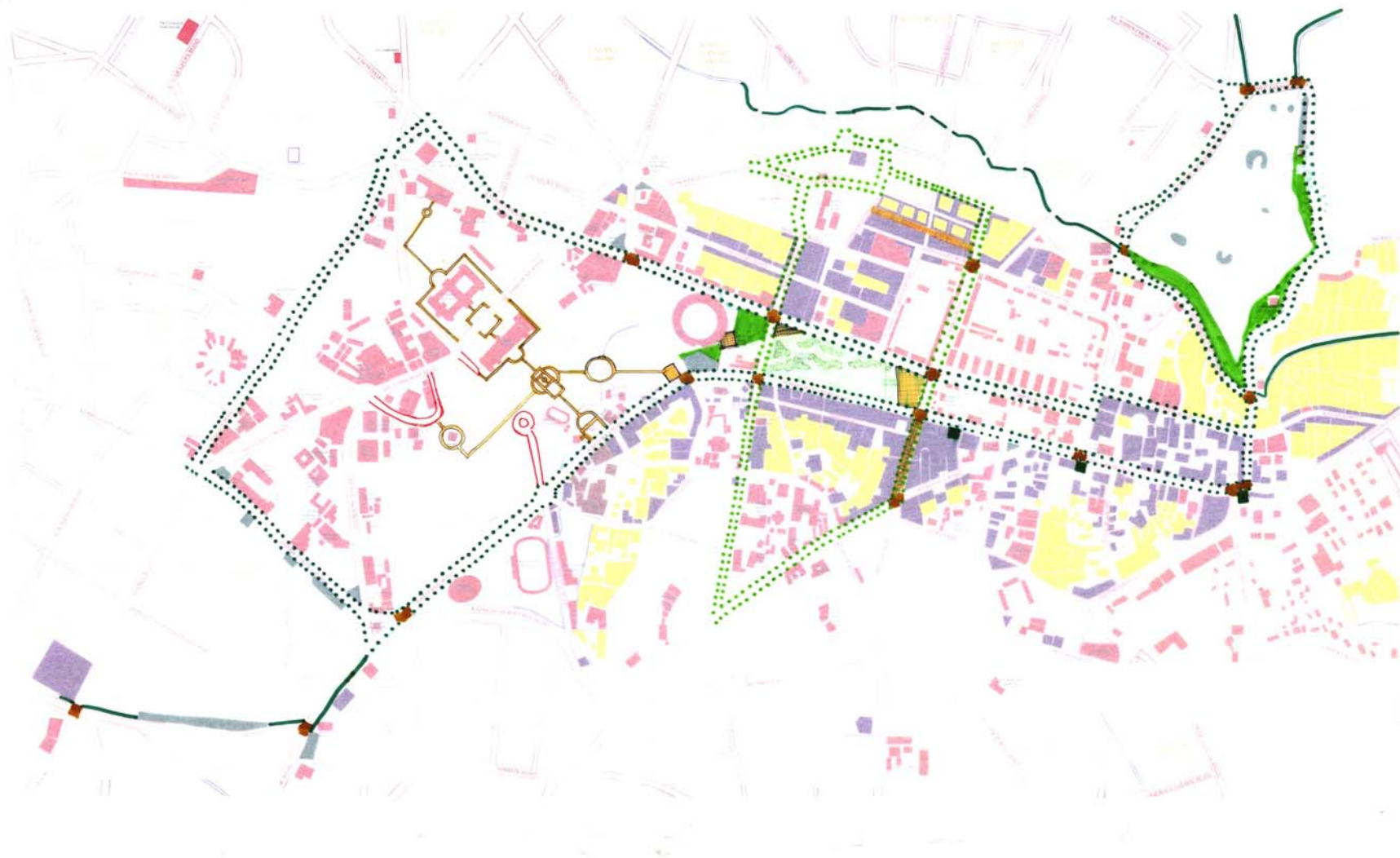



COMPOSITE OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE LAYER



- LEGEND**
 CENTRAL PUBLIC SPACE
 GREEN CORRIDOR
 COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR
 CIVIC CENTRE
 BUSINESS CENTRE
 NODE

THE CONCEPT FOR THE CITY CENTRE MASTER PLAN



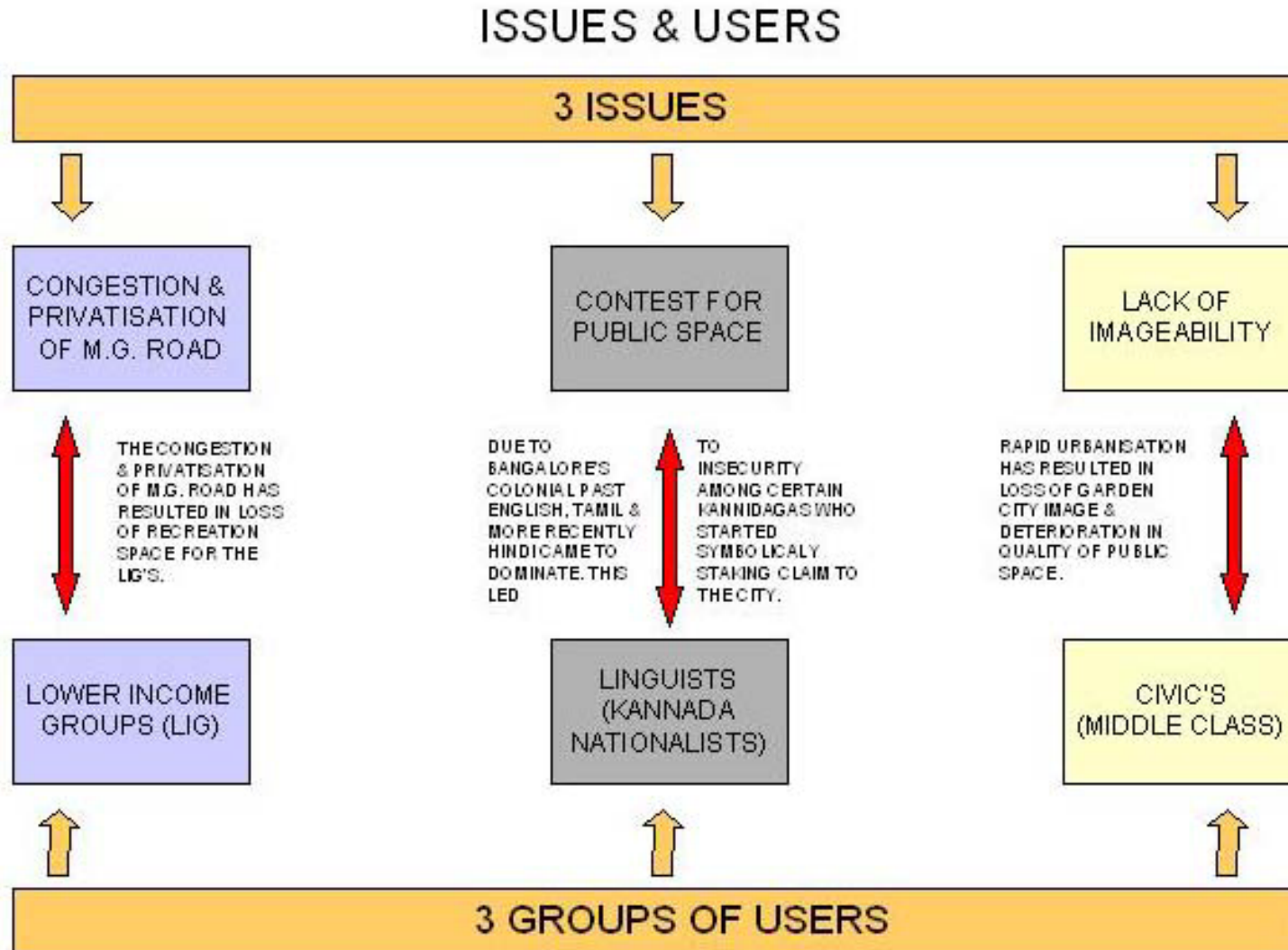
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THE CITY CENTRE MASTER PLAN WITH A CENTRAL PUBLIC SPACE



SITE DESIGN

The next phase of the design project looks at the central public space in greater detail. As discussed earlier the Parade Ground will be redeveloped as the central public space. The needs and aspirations of the three user groups would be accommodated in this space. In addition the needs of another user group comprising of children, teenagers, young professionals, and senior citizens will be met. Other issues such as parking and transportation will also be addressed in the design of the site. The following tables identify the various groups, and lists their needs, based on which design objectives and a program are derived. Also a matrix of users and needs facilitates a quick comparison of commonalities and conflicts of uses by various groups.



LOWER INCOME GROUPS

THE USERS

- SHIVAJI NAGAR & RUSSEL MARKET AREAS IMMEDIATELY NORTH OF PARADE GROUND BEING A LOWER INCOME GROUP NEIGHBOURHOOD WOULD BE POTENTIAL USERS. THE USERS WOULD BE OF ALL AGE GROUPS ESPECIALLY FAMILIES.
- THE WORKING CLASS FROM SURROUNDING OFFICES WOULD ALSO FORM A MAJOR USER GROUP.

NEEDS

SPACE FOR ACTIVE & PASSIVE RECREATION.

ACTIVE RECREATION

- Playing impromptu games such as cricket, soccer and Frisbee.
- Jogging and evening walks.
 - Shopping from the vendors.
 - Children playing.

PASSIVE RECREATION

- Relax, take a break or meditate.
- People-watching.
 - Watching performances.
 - Eating & drinking.
 - Space to have lunch for the nearby office goers.

DESIGN OBJECTIVES

PROVIDE SPACES WHICH WILL SUPPORT THE VARIOUS ACTIVE & PASSIVE RECREATION NEEDS OF THE LOWER INCOME GROUPS & HELP DECONGEST M.G. ROAD. ALSO TO PROVIDE A SPACE FOR INTERACTION WITH PEOPLE FROM MIDDLE INCOME NEIGHBOURHOODS TO THE SOUTH OF PARADE GROUND.

PROGRAM

- PROVIDE OPEN GROUND FOR PICK UP GAMES & SUNNING.
- PROVIDE PATHS FOR JOGGING & WALKING.
 - PROVIDE SPACE FOR VENDORS & STREET PERFORMERS.
 - PROVIDE CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA (preferably an adventure play ground as an extension of Bal Bhavan).
 - PROVIDE QUIET SPACES FOR SOLITUDE & MEDITATING.
 - PROVIDE BENCHES & SPACES FOR PEOPLE TO HAVE THEIR LUNCH & PEOPLE-WATCH.
 - PROVIDE OTHER AMENITIES SUCH AS PUBLIC TRANSPORT, TOILETS & WATER FOUNTAINS.
 - PROVIDE SUFFICIENT CONNECTIONS TO M.G. ROAD & PEDESTRIAN FLOW AREAS.

LINGUISTS (KANNADA NATIONALISTS)

THE USERS

THE KANNADA NATIONALISTS PRIMARILY CONSIST OF SPEAKERS OF THE KANNADA LANGUAGE. THE KANNADA LANGUAGE MOVEMENT WHICH STARTED OFF AS A GRASSROOTS REACTION TO CULTURAL DOMINANCE BY OUTSIDERS HAS TURNED POLITICAL OF LATE. BEING A GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT IT CONSISTS OF THE WORKING CLASS, LOWER MIDDLE CLASS & FARMERS FROM AROUND THE CITY.

NEEDS

- SYMBOLICALLY STAKE THEIR CLAIM ON THE CITY.
- EXPRESS THEIR NATIONALISTIC PRIDE.
- VISIBILITY & AUDABILITY FOR THE KANNADA LANGUAGE.
- GET THEIR AGENDA ON A CENTRAL STAGE.
- TO CONGREGATE OR PROTEST.

DESIGN OBJECTIVES

PROVIDE A SPACE WHICH WILL SYMBOLICALLY PROCLAIM IT TO BE THE HEART OF KARNATAKA - A STATE OF KANNADA SPEAKERS WHO HAVE ALWAYS COEXISTED PEACEFULLY WITH OTHER LANGUAGE GROUPS.

PROGRAM

- PROVIDE SYMBOLS OF KANNADA NATIONALISM.
- PROVIDE AN OUTDOOR AUDITORIUM / SPACE FOR PEACEFUL MEETINGS & CELEBRATIONS.
- PROVIDE A FORUM TO VOICE THEIR OPINION & PROTEST IN A LESS DISRUPTIVE MANNER.

COMMENTS

- BANGALORE HAS NEVER HAD A HISTORY OF RADICAL NATIONALISM UNTIL RECENTLY. BY PROVIDING A PROGRAMMED SPACE FOR THE NATIONALISTS TO EXPRESS THEIR CONCERNS IT WOULD HELP MITIGATE THEIR INSECURITY AND PREVENT MORE RADICAL & VIOLENT FORMS OF EXPRESSION.

CIVICS (MIDDLE CLASS & CORPORATES)

THE USERS

- RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES FROM THE MIDDLE INCOME NEIGHBOURHOODS SOUTH OF M.G. ROAD WOULD USE THE SPACE FOR THEIR MORE IMMEDIATE RECREATIONAL NEEDS BESIDES BEING A PLACE OF CIVIC PRIDE.
- PARADE GROUND BEING AT THE INTERSECTION OF MAJOR PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC ALONG BRIGADE ROAD EXTENDING TO COMMERCIAL STREET & ALONG M.G. ROAD WOULD BE USED BY SHOPPERS & OTHERS TO TAKE A BREAK & RELAX OR PARTICIPATE IN THE OTHER ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE LIKE WATCHING STREET PERFORMERS ETC.

NEEDS

- PRESERVE THE CITY'S GARDEN CITY IMAGE.
- MAKE BANGALORE A PRESTIGIOUS GLOBAL CITY.
- TO BE ABLE TO TAKE PRIDE IN THE CITY AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE.
- ACTIVE & PASSIVE RECREATION AS IN THE CASE OF LOWER INCOME GROUPS.

DESIGN OBJECTIVES

PROVIDE A HIGHLY IMAGEABLE GREEN CITY CENTRE IN THE FORM OF AN OPEN PUBLIC SPACE WHICH WILL ENHANCE THE CITY'S GREEN IMAGE AND BE THE CENTRE OF A LARGER CITY CENTRE STRUCTURING & BEAUTIFICATION MASTERPLAN. ALSO TO PROVIDE A SPACE FOR INTERACTION WITH PEOPLE FROM LOWER INCOME NEIGHBOURHOODS TO THE NORTH OF PARADE GROUND.

PROGRAM

- PROVIDE A SCULPTURE GARDEN & OUTDOOR EXHIBITION SPACE AS AN EXTENSION OF THE MUSEUMS (colonial statues and other memorials displaced from other locations can be placed here).
- PROVIDE SPACE FOR OUTDOOR CONCERTS & FESTIVALS.
- PROVIDE AMENITIES FOR ACTIVE & PASSIVE RECREATION (SAME AS LOWER INCOME GROUPS).

OTHERS (YOUNG PROFESSIONALS & TEENAGERS)

THE USERS

- YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FROM THE NEARBY OFFICES WOULD USE THE SPACE FOR RECREATION AND TO TAKE A BREAK. ALSO YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FROM OTHER AREAS OF THE CITY WOULD COME HERE FOR ENTERTAINMENT ESPECIALLY ON WEEKENDS & IN THE EVENINGS.
- TEENAGERS FROM THE NEARBY SCHOOLS & COLLEGES WOULD USE THE SPACE FOR RECREATION & ENTERTAINMENT. THEY WOULD USE IT MOSTLY DURING THE DAY & EARLY EVENINGS.
- YOUNG PROFESSIONALS & OLDER TEENAGERS WOULD BE THE PRIMARY LATE NIGHT USERS OF THE AREA.

NEEDS

- TO HANG-OUT & MEET FRIENDS.
- TO PEOPLE WATCH.
- TO BE ENTERTAINED.
- TO PLAY PICK-UP GAMES.
- TO WATCH MUSIC CONCERTS & OTHER PERFORMANCES.
- OTHER ACTIVE & PASSIVE RECREATION.

DESIGN OBJECTIVES

PROVIDE SPACES WHICH WILL SUPPORT THEIR NEEDS FOR HANGING OUT & PEOPLE WATCHING, ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION. FACILITATE PROGRAMMED EVENTS SUCH AS CONCERTS & PERFORMANCES FROM TIME TO TIME.

PROGRAM

- PROVIDE A CENTRAL, HIGHLY PUBLIC PLAZA NEAR PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT FOR THEM TO HANG-OUT & PEOPLE WATCH.
- PROVIDE SPACE FOR VENDORS SELLING SNACKS & BEVERAGES.
- PROVIDE SPACE FOR OUTDOOR CONCERTS & FESTIVALS.
- PROVIDE AMENITIES FOR ACTIVE & PASSIVE RECREATION (SAME AS LOWER INCOME GROUPS).

OTHER ISSUES

PARKING & PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- ROAD SIDE SURFACE PARKING HAS EATEN INTO THE PAVEMENT REDUCING THE AVAILABLE SPACE FOR PEDESTRIANS – THIS HAS LED TO CONGESTION ON M.G. ROAD & BRIGADE ROAD & DETERIORATION IN THE QUALITY OF THE STREET AS A PUBLIC SPACE.
- FINDING A PARKING SPACE IS VERY DIFFICULT ON M.G. ROAD, BRIGADE ROAD & COMMERCIAL STREET AREAS.
- BANGALORE'S BUS SERVICE IS INADEQUATE SO A METRO RAIL SERVICE HAS BEEN PROPOSED. THIS WOULD RUN PARALLEL TO PARADE GROUND AS A SUBWAY UNDER CUBBON ROAD.

DESIGN OBJECTIVE

DECONGEST M.G. ROAD & BRIGADE ROAD BY INCREASING PAVEMENT SPACE AND ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO USE THE NEW CITY CENTRE PUBLIC SPACE. ALSO TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PARKING SPACE & PUBLIC TRANSPORT FACILITIES. PUBLIC TRANSPORT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO REDUCE VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AND ENCOURAGE PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION ON THE SITE WHICH WOULD SUPPORT OTHER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS VENDORS.

PROGRAM

- PROVIDE UNDERGROUND PARKING FACILITIES TO COMPENSATE FOR THE LOSS OF SURFACE PARKING & PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PARKING SPACE TO CATER TO FUTURE NEEDS.
- INTEGRATE UNDERGROUND PARKING WITH A SUBWAY METRO STATION CONNECTING INTO THE LINE RUNNING UNDER CUBBON ROAD.

MATRIX OF USERS & THEIR NEEDS

USERS	ACTIVE RECREATION																			
	SYMBOL OF PRESTIGE & CIVIC PRIDE	SYMBOL OF NATIONALISM	CONCERTS & PERFORMANCES	HOLD RALLIES & CELEBRATIONS	PROTEST	OTHERS	WATCHING STREET PERFORMERS	HAVE LUNCH	TAKING A NAP	RELAXING / MEDITATING	PEOPLE-WATCHING	PASSIVE RECREATION	EATING & DRINKING	SHOPPING FROM VENDORS	HANGOUT	SOCIALISE	PROMENADE	JOGGING/WALKING PATH	CHILD PLAY EQUIP.	PICK-UP GAMES
LOWER INCOME GROUPS		X	X	X			X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X
MIDDLE INCOME GROUPS		X		X			X		X							X	X	X		
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS & TEENAGERS		X	X				X			X			X	X	X		X			X
NATIONALISTS		X		X	X									X		X				

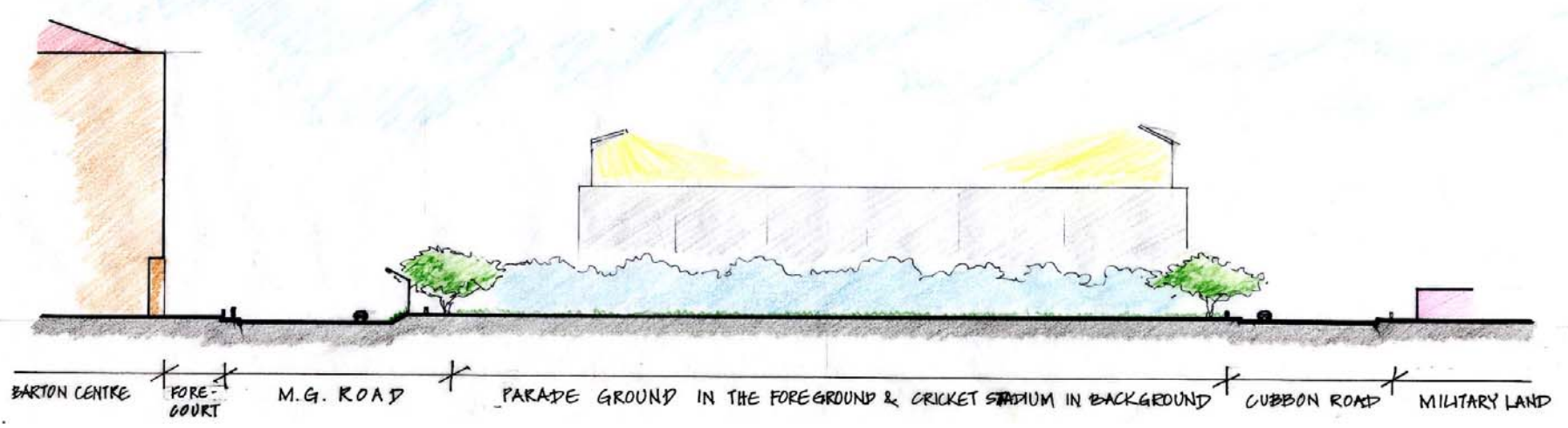
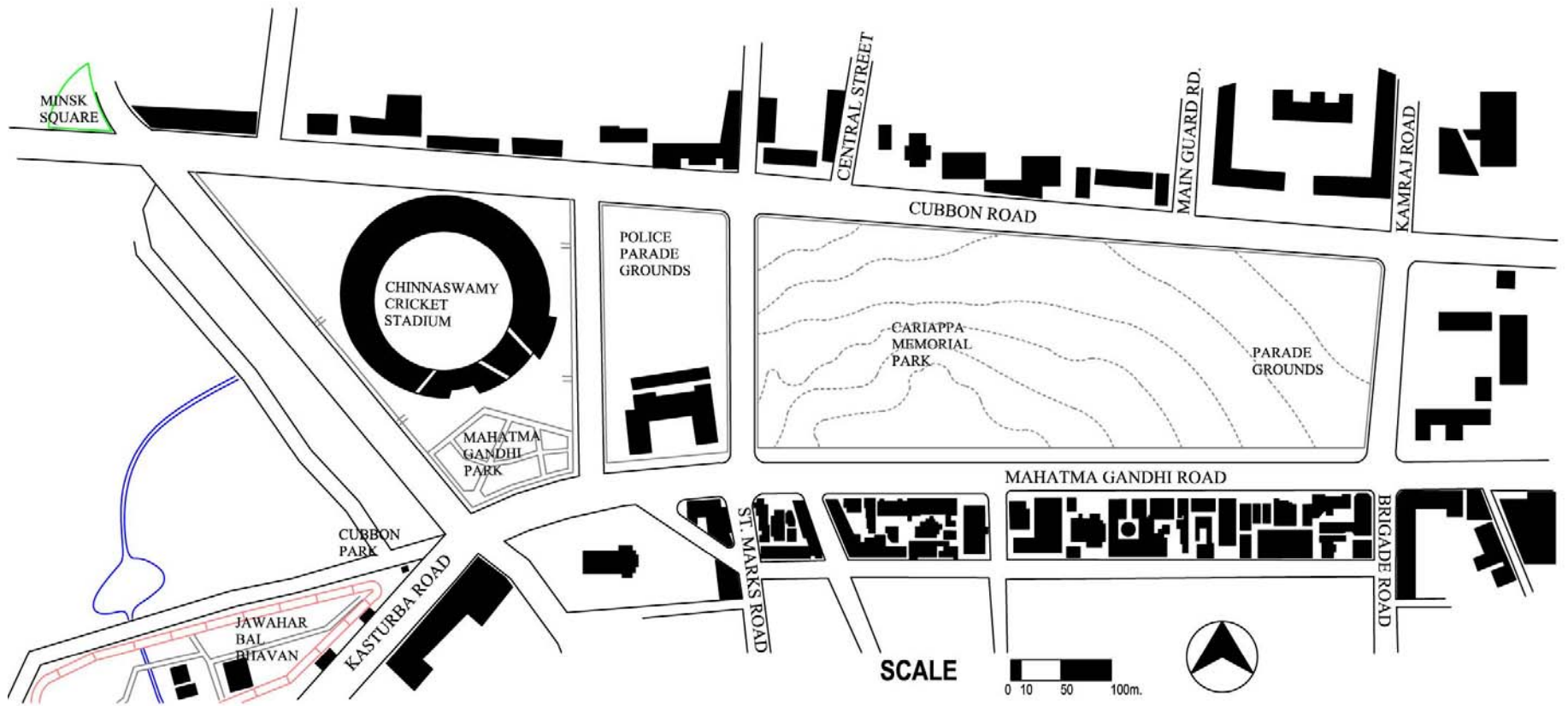
CHAPTER 12: THE SITE



As explained earlier M.G. Road today is the evolving and de-facto centre of Bangalore. In its present form M.G. Road as a public space is saturated, with little room, both literally and figuratively speaking, to accommodate a city centre of metropolitan proportions. M.G. Road needs to be redeveloped to accommodate and streamline present and future needs and uses. At the same time the widening of pavement to cater to public space needs has its limits. The M.G. Road area besides being a business and entertainment hub of Bangalore is adjacent to the administrative complex (Vidhan Soudha, High Court, etc.), Cubbon Park, Chinnaswamy Stadium, museums and a children's park and amusement ground. An urban redevelopment project, which will incorporate the above into a meaningful whole, will evolve into a city centre lending added imageability to the city.

The instrument or element, which will tie them together, is derived from the strategic location of Parade Ground. The Parade Ground lends itself to such a project due to the following reasons –

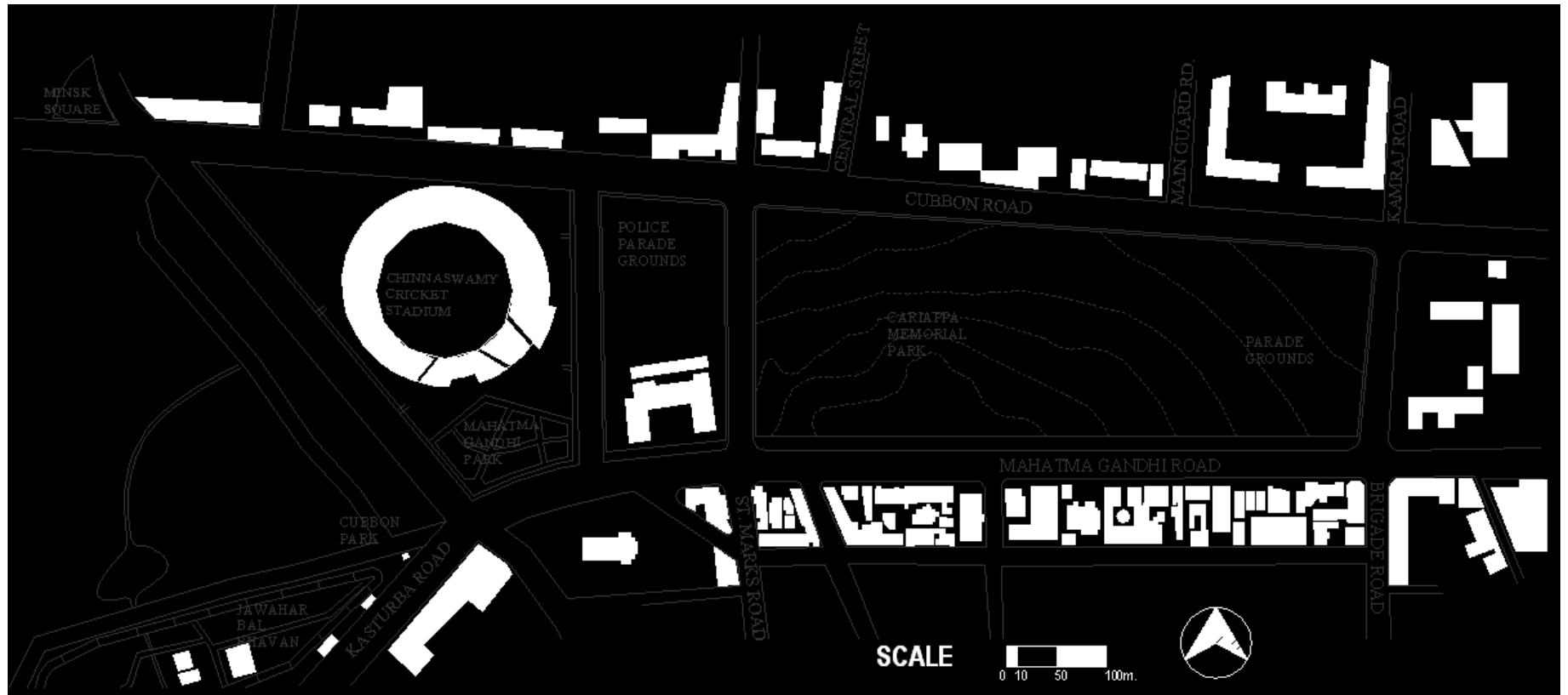
- 1) Is at the intersection of the north-south axis and the east-west axis as identified by the city centre master plan. Therefore it is a central pivot that will pull the whole master plan together.
- 2) Centrally located with respect to
 - a) Shopping areas – M.G. Road, Brigade Road, Commercial Street.
 - b) Civic amenities – museums, stadium and park.
 - c) Traffic along – St. Marks Road, Brigade Road, MG Road – part of North-South and East-West city traffic corridor.
 - d) The proposed ELRTS passes through it and is an ideal location for a metro station/interchange node.
- 3) Part of it has already been converted into a public park and is adjacent to Mahatma Gandhi Park and Cubbon Park.
- 4) Cubbon Park and M.G. Road area have been used for rallies and demonstrations. Hence it can provide space for peaceful demonstrations, festivals, and concerts.
- 5) Being a relic of the colonial past reinterpretation of this space can help reconcile differences. A democratic space open to all which can be a symbolic city centre between Tamil Ulsoor, colonial/corporate M.G. Road, political Vidhan Soudha and high grounds and Kannada *pete*, besides the cosmopolitan middle class suburbs and the slums.

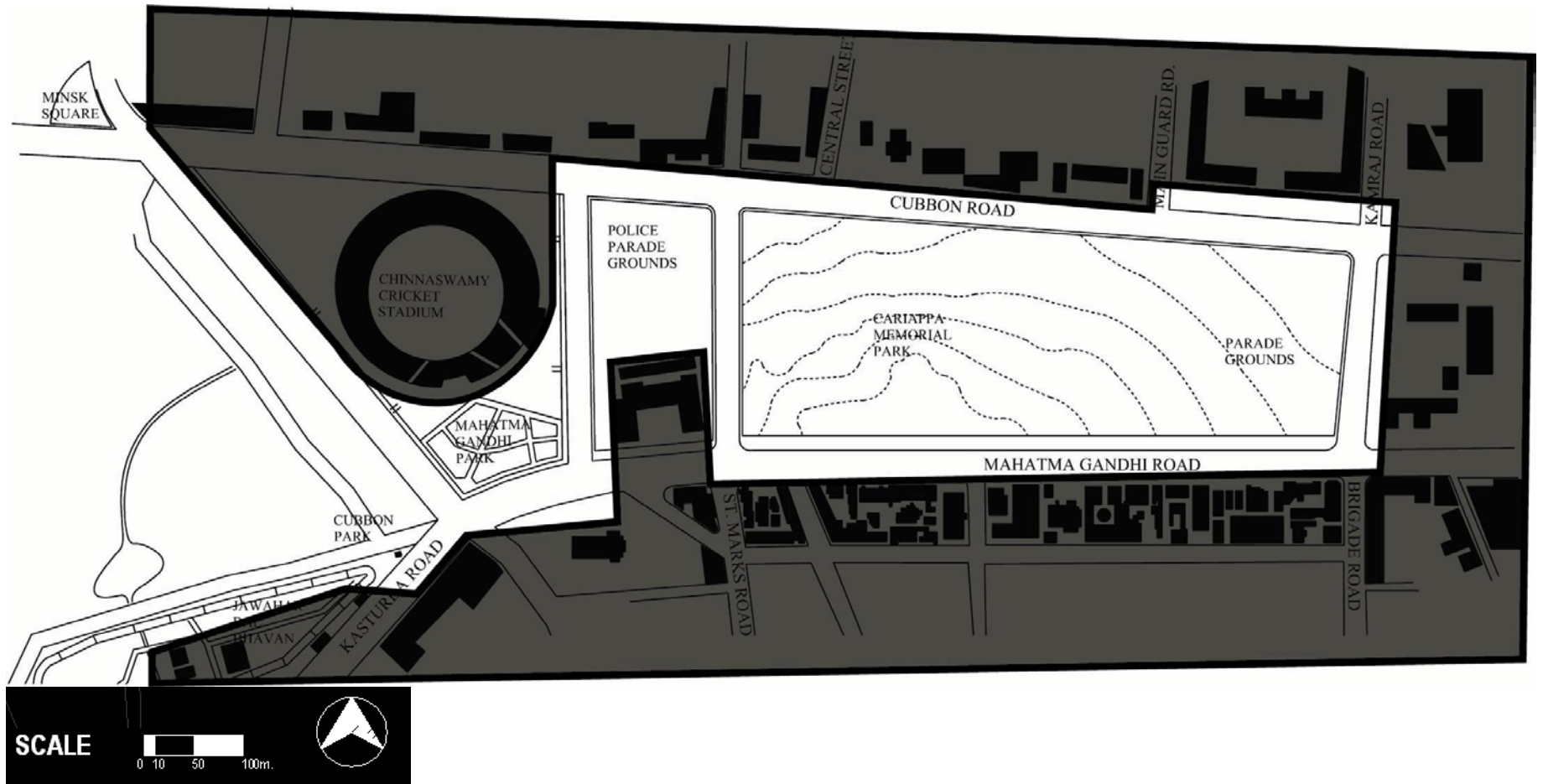


CHAPTER 13: SITE ANALYSIS

FIGURE GROUND ANALYSIS

Parade Ground has a good sense of enclosure. Along with Cariappa Memorial Park and Police Parade Ground it reads as one large central open space. This is because of the structure of the surrounding buildings. The buildings on M.G. Road to the south, Cubbon Road to the north, and Kamraj/Brigade Road to the east along with Chinnaswamy Stadium to the west give Parade Ground a strong sense of enclosure. A void emerges from a dense urban fabric, pulling people into it. Potential exists to link Parade Ground with Cubbon Park through Police Parade Ground and Mahatma Gandhi Garden.





HISTORICAL LANDUSE

Historically the site was used as a Parade Ground with commercial buildings to the south and military buildings to the north. A bridle path, called Rotten Row existed around the Parade Ground. The bridle path was a popular promenade and was a place to see and be seen. On either side are St. Andrews Church and St. Mark's Cathedral, which were built in the 1800's. During World War II an amusement ground existed where Police Parade Ground now stands. Several other important landmarks exist such as the Bible Society building and Queen Victoria's statue. The Parade Ground had a bandstand where a military band used to play. After independence Chinnaswamy Cricket Stadium and Mahatma Gandhi Garden were developed to the east of Parade Ground. In the late 1990's part of Parade Ground was converted into Cariappa Memorial Park. Today Parade Ground continues to be used mostly for military ceremonies, and occasionally for concerts or as a parking space. The historical landuse gives important clues to future development. Important landmarks such as St. Andrew's need to be celebrated in the design. Like wise the former bridle path lends itself to be reinterpreted as a promenade around Parade Ground. Also the amusement ground that existed on Police Parade Ground could inspire a children's adventure playground on that site.

POLICE PARADE GROUND USED TO HAVE AN AMUSEMENT PARK CALLED HOLLYWOOD CITY DURING WORLD WAR II.

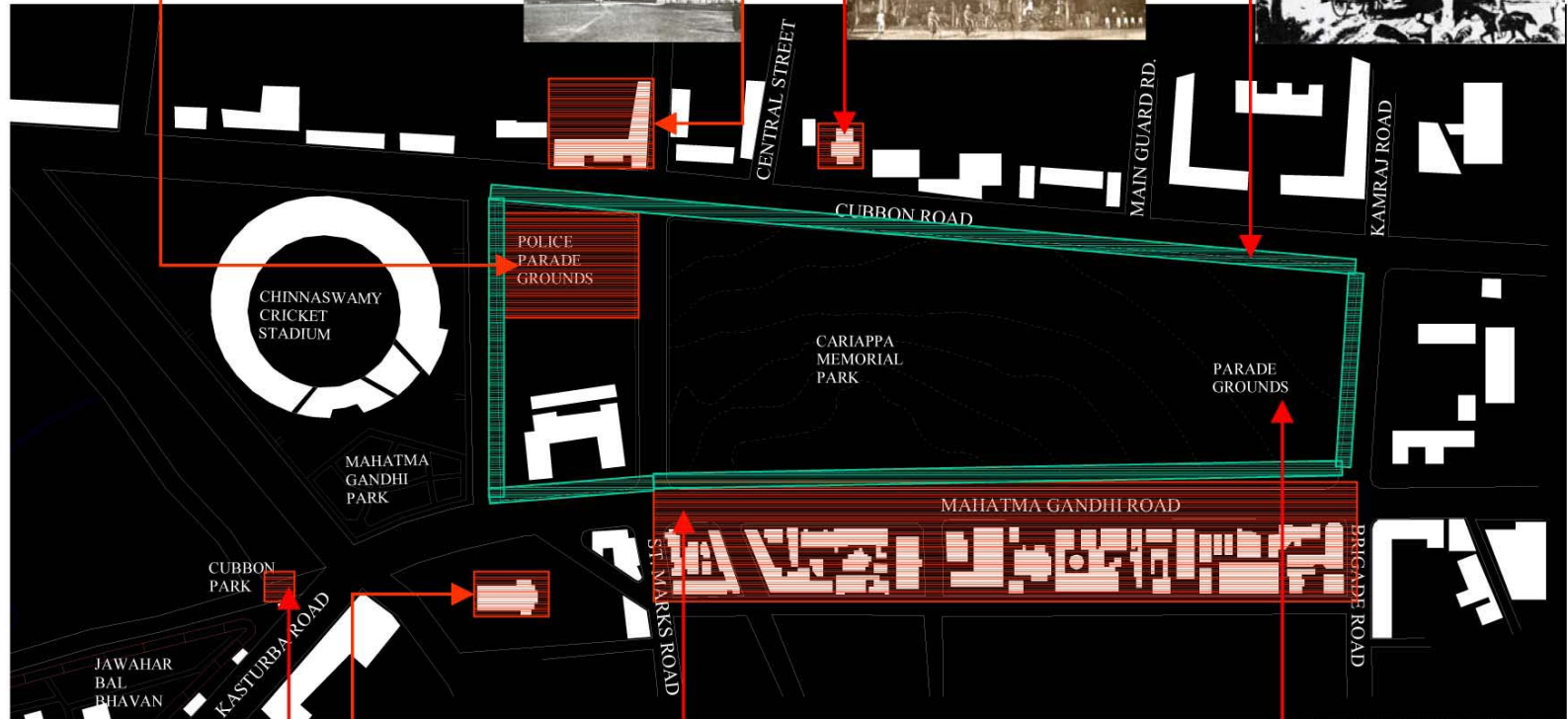
DSC-BRV BLDG. – DEFENCE SERVICES CANTEEN-BANGALORE RIFLE VOLUNTEERS BUILDING. IT ORIGINALLY SERVED AS A MILITARY CANTEEN & WAS LATER CONVERTED INTO THE BRV THEATER.



ST. ANDREWS CHURCH – BUILT IN 1867, ONE OF THE OLDER CHURCHES.



ROTTEN ROW USED TO BE A BRIDLE PATH WHERE PEOPLE ENJOYED PROMENADING.



QUEEN VICTORIA'S STATUE UNVEILED IN 1906.



ST. MARK'S CATHEDRAL – BUILT IN 1808, IT IS ONE OF THE OLDEST CHURCHES IN BANGALORE.



SOUTH PARADE – WAS THE FASHIONABLE SHOPPING & ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE OF COLONIAL BANGALORE.

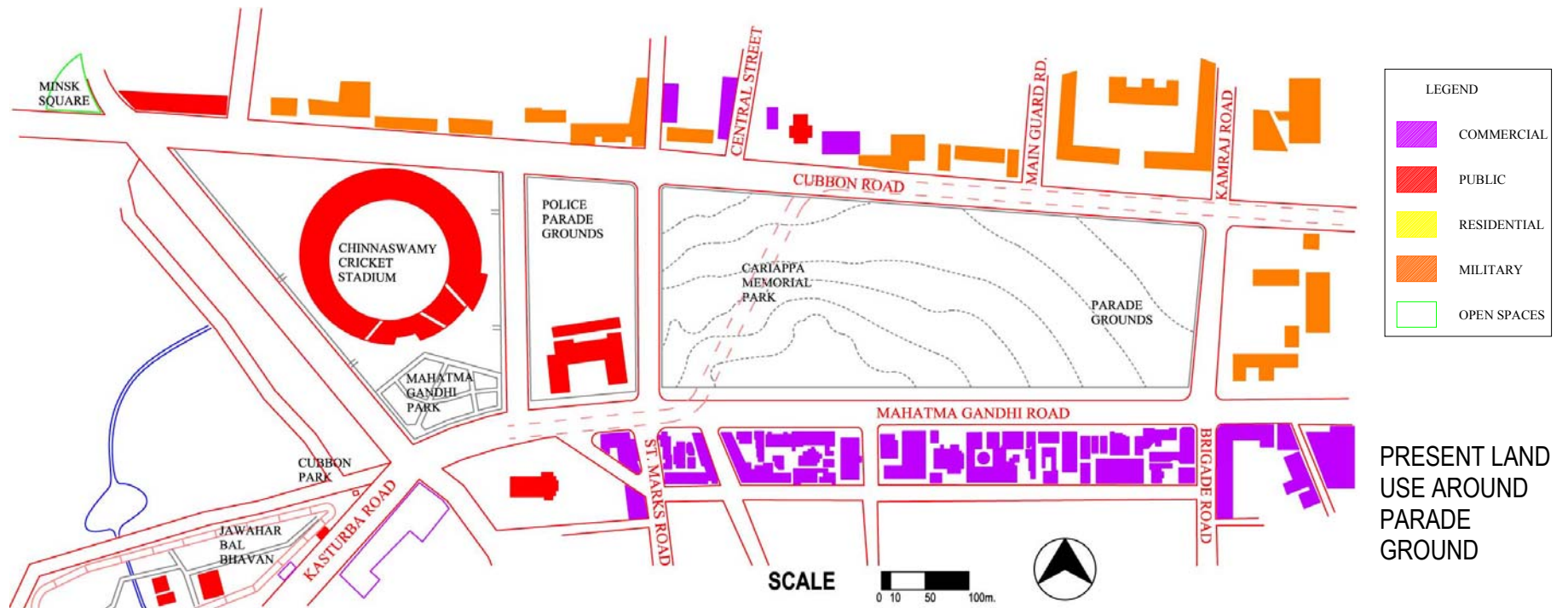


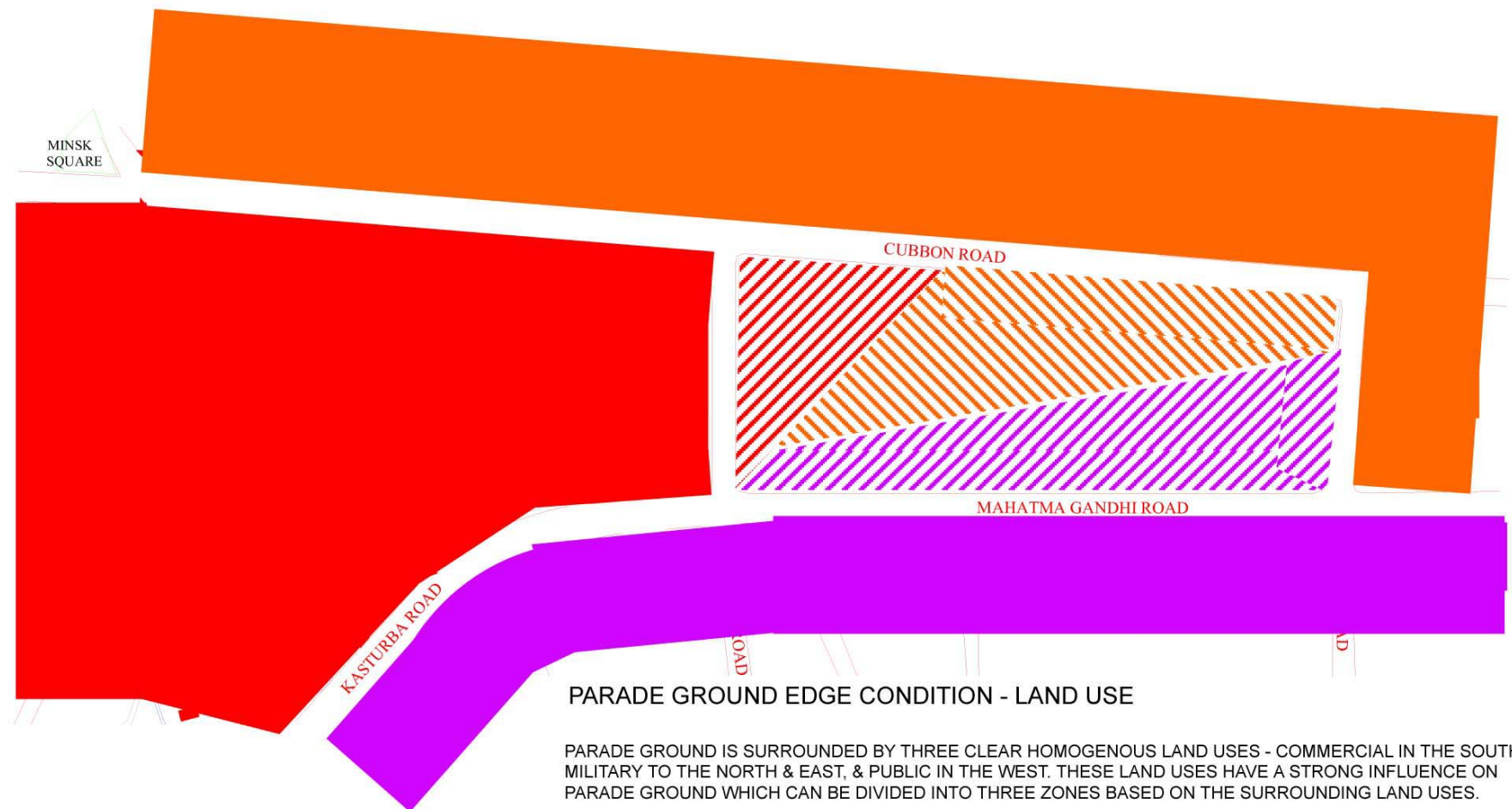
PARADE GROUND – WAS USED BY THE ARMY FOR PARADES & HAD A BAND STAND WHERE THE MILITARY BAND USED TO PLAY BEFORE 1947.



PRESENT DAY LAND USE

The land around Parade Ground has very clear and homogenous land uses and can be divided into three groups: commercial to the south, military to the north and east and public and open spaces to the west. The military land to the north where Central Street meets Cubbon Road is showing signs of being converted to public and commercial use in the future. Already a couple of properties have become commercial and St. Andrew's continues to be an important public landmark. This trend has implications for the future, which indicates an interesting dialogue between M.G. Road and Cubbon Road across Parade Ground.





PARADE GROUND EDGE CONDITION - LAND USE

PARADE GROUND IS SURROUNDED BY THREE CLEAR HOMOGENOUS LAND USES - COMMERCIAL IN THE SOUTH, MILITARY TO THE NORTH & EAST, & PUBLIC IN THE WEST. THESE LAND USES HAVE A STRONG INFLUENCE ON PARADE GROUND WHICH CAN BE DIVIDED INTO THREE ZONES BASED ON THE SURROUNDING LAND USES.

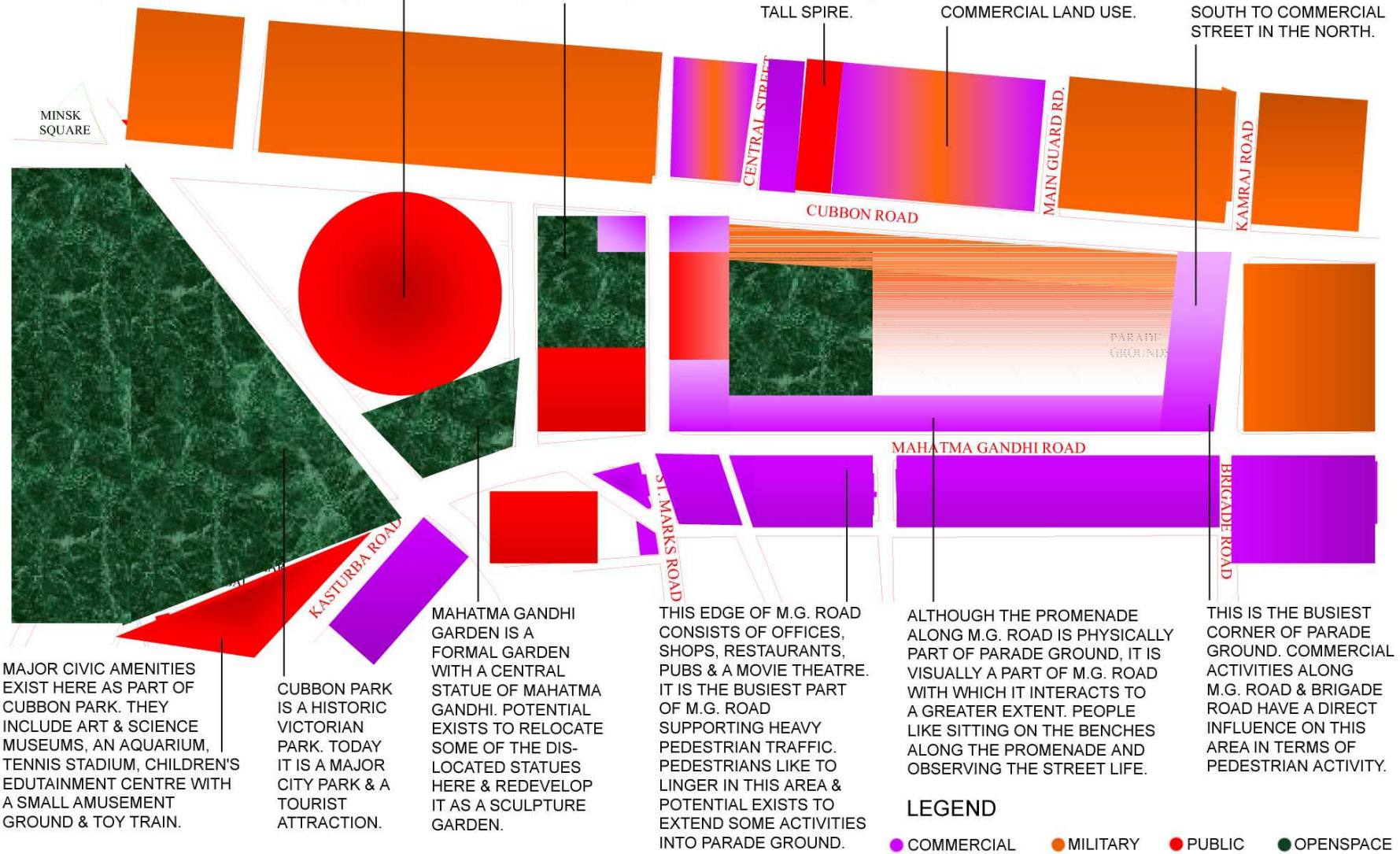
THE LAND ON WHICH THE STADIUM IS LOCATED IS CLASSIFIED AS OPEN SPACE, A PART OF CUBBON PARK ALONG WITH POLICE PARADE GROUNDS. THE STADIUM IS A DOMINANT STRUCTURE WHICH WILL STRONGLY INFLUENCE DEVELOPMENT ON POLICE PARADE GROUND, MAHATMA GANDHI GARDEN & PARADE GROUND.

AT PRESENT THIS LAND IS CLASSIFIED AS OPEN SPACE & IS USED AS A POLICE PARADE GROUND. POTENTIAL EXISTS FOR REDEVELOPMENT.

ST. ANDREWS CHURCH IS A HISTORIC LANDMARK WHICH DOMINATES THE AREA WITH ITS TALL SPIRE.

THIS AREA AT PRESENT HAS A MIX OF MILITARY & COMMERCIAL LAND USE. IN FUTURE IT IS LIKELY TO BE CONVERTED COMPLETELY INTO COMMERCIAL LAND USE.

THE SIDE WALK ALONG THIS EDGE OF PARADE GROUND IS A MAJOR PEDESTRIAN AXIS EXTENDING FROM BRIGADE ROAD IN THE SOUTH TO COMMERCIAL STREET IN THE NORTH.



DETAILED LAND USE ANALYSIS

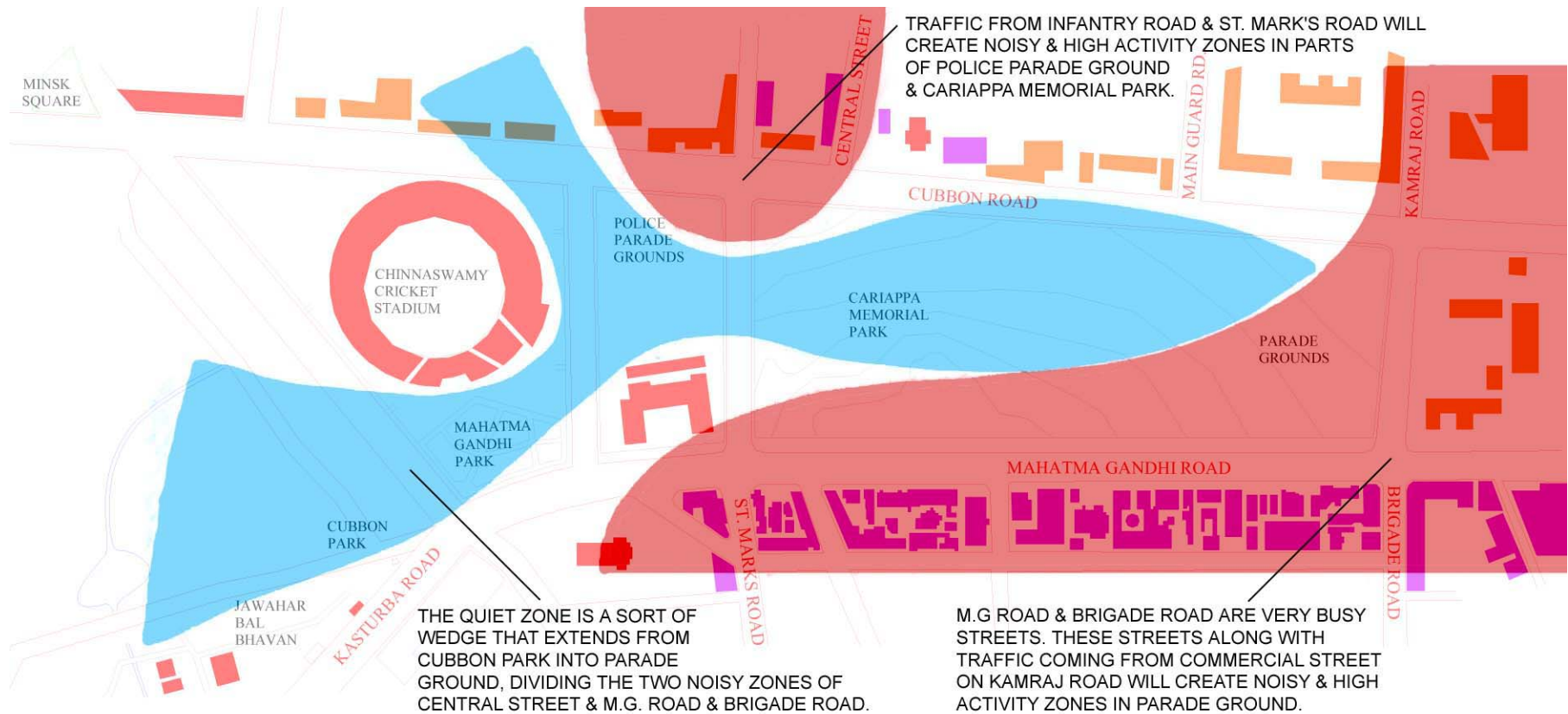
STREET CHARACTER

The streets around Parade Ground each have a distinct character strongly influenced by the surrounding landuse. M.G. Road is a very busy commercial street with heavy vehicular and pedestrian movement. Cubbon Road has a distinct military atmosphere with Parade Ground on one side and military buildings on the other. Cubbon Road has lesser vehicular movement and little pedestrian activity. The streets around Police Parade Ground have a civic feel to them. The street between Chinnaswamy Stadium and Police Parade Ground has negligible vehicular traffic and has great potential to be converted into a pedestrian streets connecting Mahatma Gandhi Garden to Police Parade Ground, while serving as a pre-function area for the stadium during match days. Brigade Road which is heavily used by pedestrians has great potential to be converted into a pedestrian street.



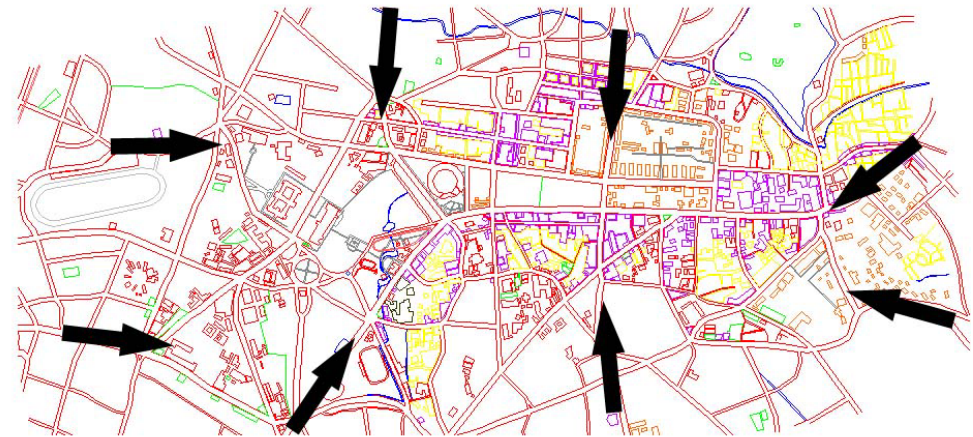
BUSY & QUIET ZONES

Parade Ground forms an extension of Cubbon Park, creating a wedge of quiet zone between the busy zones of M.G. Road and Central Street. These quiet and busy zones provide clues for the zoning of the site and locating appropriate uses.

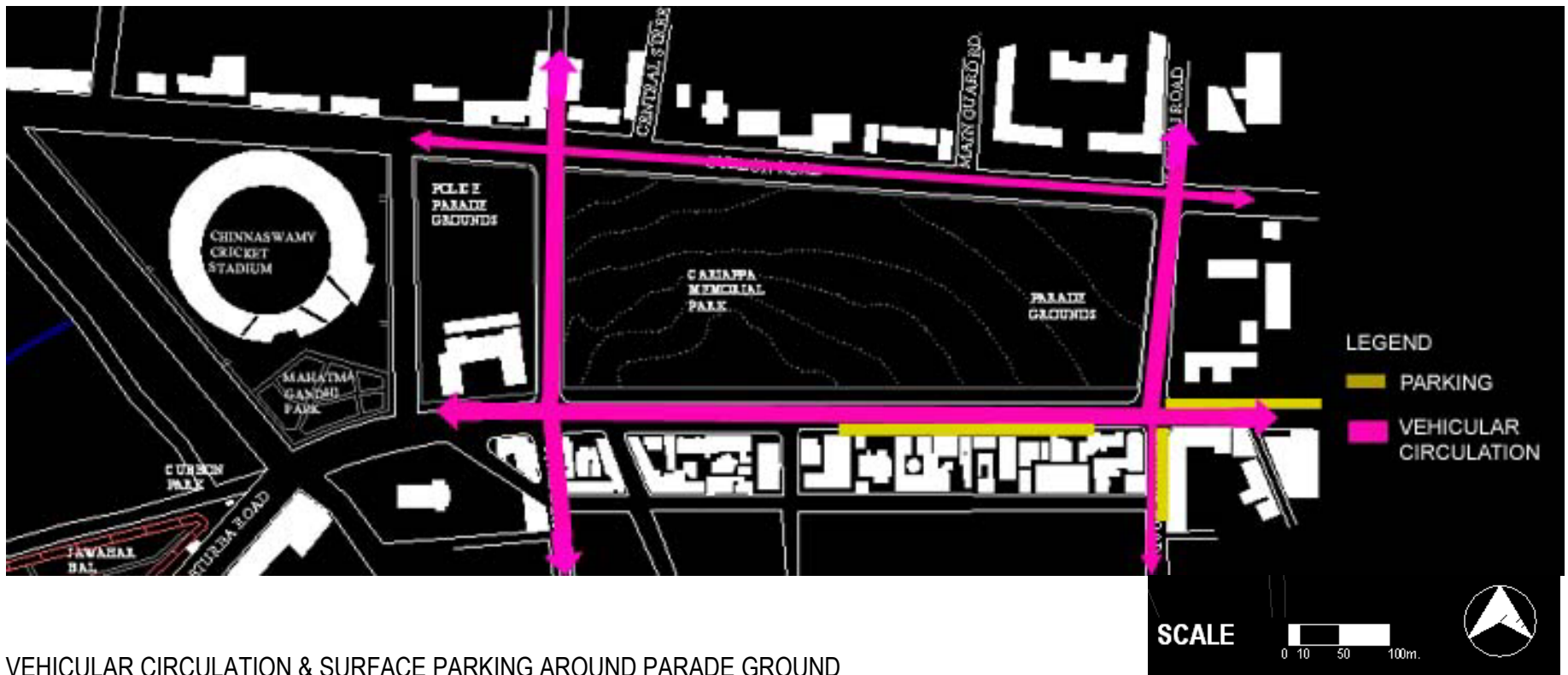


VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

Parade Ground and the surrounding areas are at the intersection of the city's north-south and east-west corridors. Hence it is a very busy area, which occasionally experiences traffic, jams. The proposed metro rail service will alleviate this problem. The intensity of vehicular traffic and parking areas are illustrated below. M.G. Road and Brigade has acute shortage of parking space, therefore potential exists to develop an underground parking facility on the eastern end of Parade Ground. The location is based on its proximity to existing parking areas.



TRAFFIC CORRIDORS CONVERGING AROUND PARADE GROUND

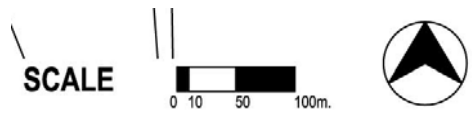
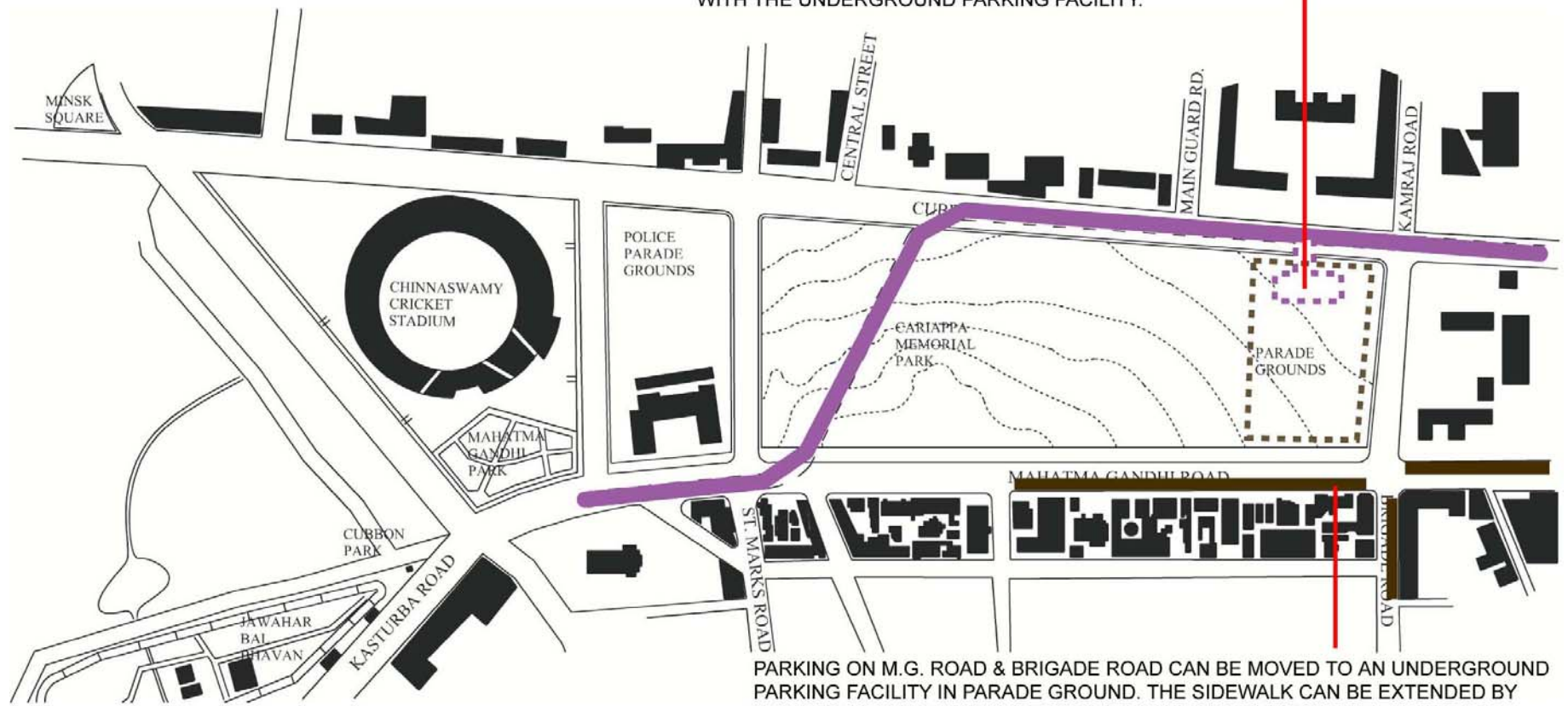


VEHICULAR CIRCULATION & SURFACE PARKING AROUND PARADE GROUND

METRO RAIL & PARKING

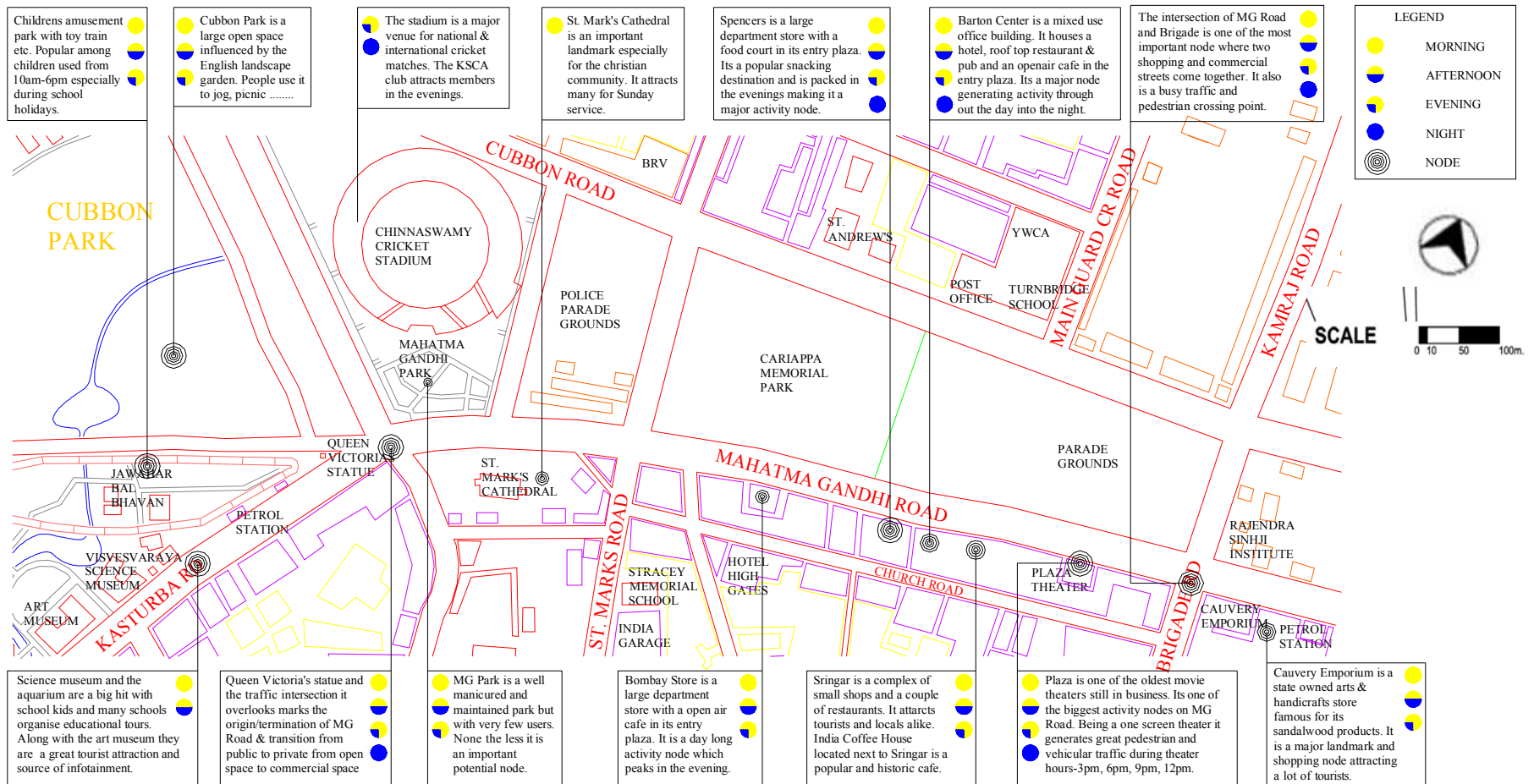
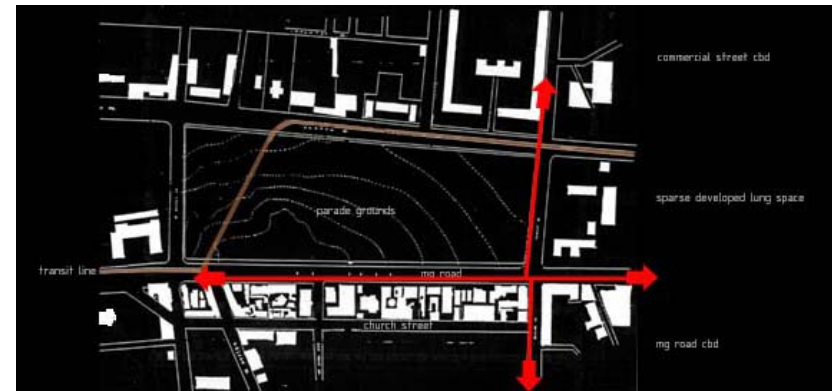
The proposed underground metro rail service passes through Parade Ground and along Cubbon Road. A subway station on Parade Ground would be an ideal location as indicated by the diagram. This location is suitable due to the pedestrian circulation patterns in the area and the potential to link the subway station with an underground parking facility. As mentioned earlier great potential exists to move surface parking to an underground facility as indicated in the diagram.

THE PROPOSED METRO LINE THAT WILL PASS UNDER CUBBON ROAD CAN BE TAPPED INTO TO CREATE A METRO STATION. THE METRO STATION CAN ALSO BE INTEGRATED WITH THE UNDERGROUND PARKING FACILITY.



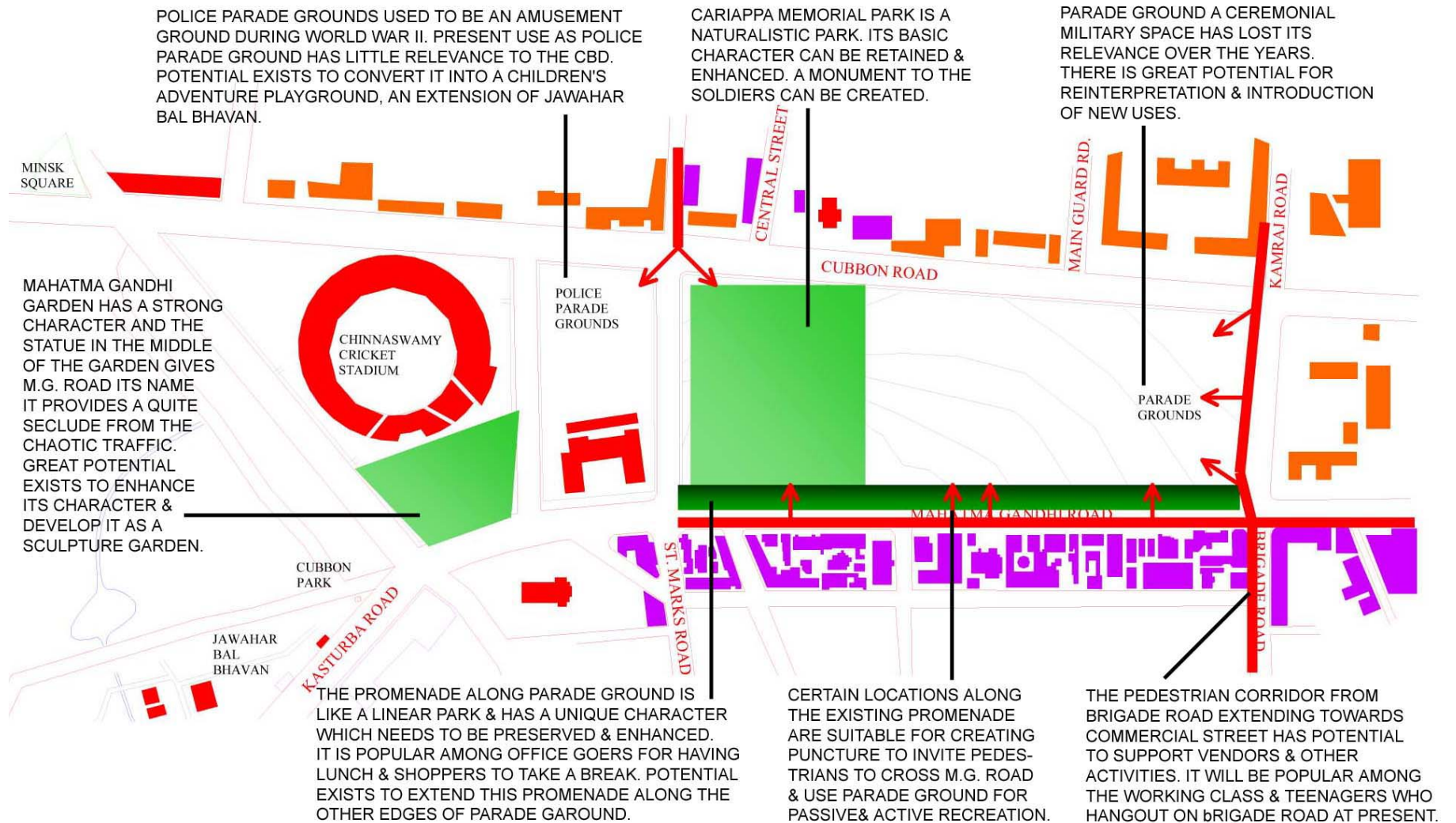
PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT & ACTIVITY NODES

The main pedestrian circulation areas as illustrated on the key plan on the right. M.G. Road is a vibrant street, which supports several pedestrian activities. It is a popular space to stroll and linger. Shops, theatres and vendors support a lively pedestrian atmosphere. Some of the important pedestrian activities and destinations have been represented below. These activities need to be preserved and enhanced influencing future development in the area. Potential exists to widen the sidewalk and relieve congestion by moving the roadside surface parking to an underground facility in Parade Ground. This would improve the quality of the sidewalk and provide more space for pedestrians to linger and interact with vendors.



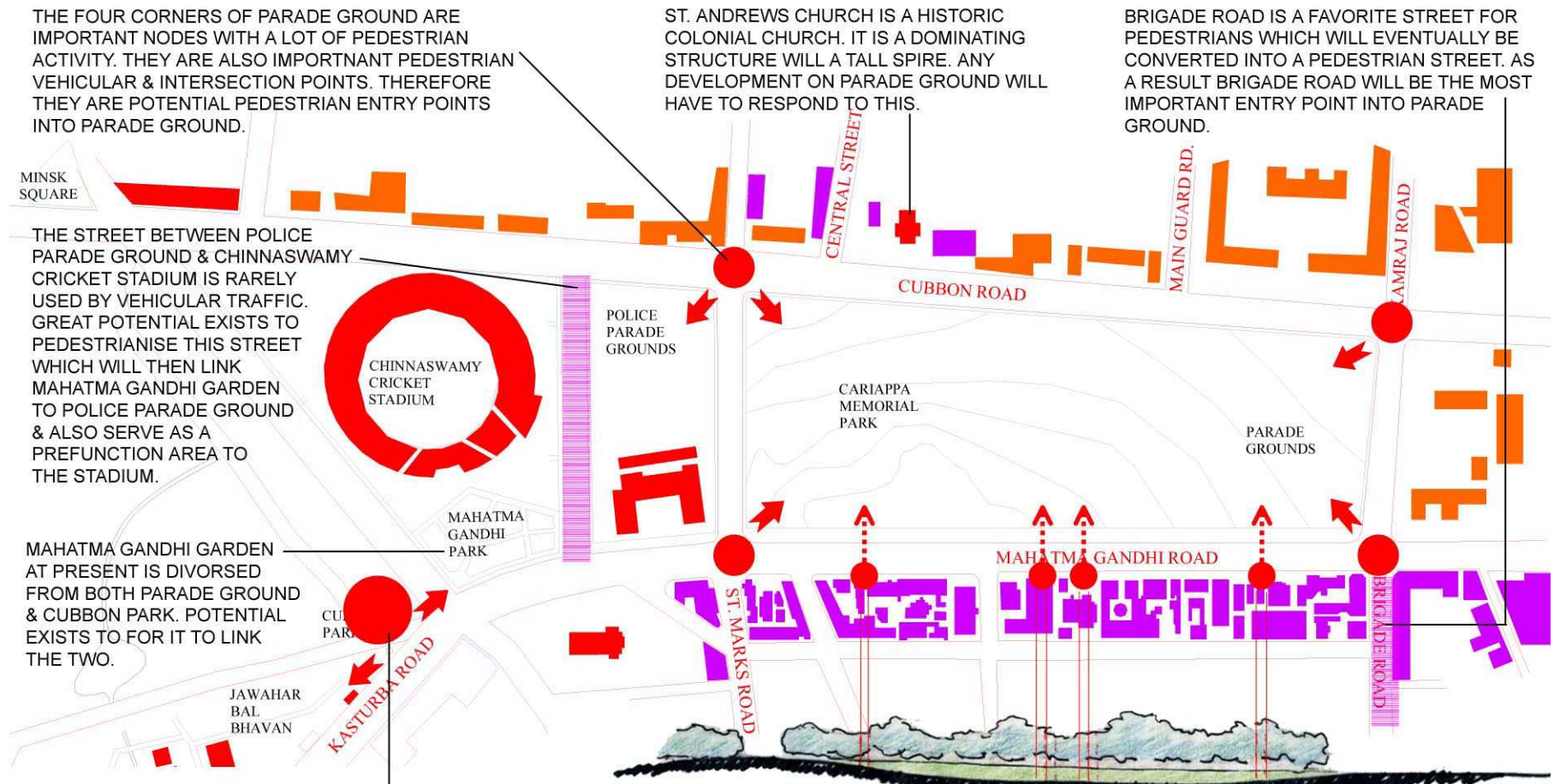
FEATURES TO BE RETAINED & ENHANCED

The diagram identifies features that ought to be retained and enhanced such as Mahatma Gandhi Garden, Cariappa Memorial Park and the promenade along M.G. Road. It also suggests pedestrian activity that should be retained and enhanced.



POTENTIALS

The diagram studies potentials that exist in and around Parade Ground. It suggests entry points into Parade Ground, pedestrianising of streets and creation of a number of plazas to link Cubbon Park and Parade Ground.



THE FOUR CORNERS OF PARADE GROUND ARE IMPORTANT NODES WITH A LOT OF PEDESTRIAN ACTIVITY. THEY ARE ALSO IMPORTANT PEDESTRIAN VEHICULAR & INTERSECTION POINTS. THEREFORE THEY ARE POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN ENTRY POINTS INTO PARADE GROUND.

ST. ANDREWS CHURCH IS A HISTORIC COLONIAL CHURCH. IT IS A DOMINATING STRUCTURE WILL A TALL SPIRE. ANY DEVELOPMENT ON PARADE GROUND WILL HAVE TO RESPOND TO THIS.

BRIGADE ROAD IS A FAVORITE STREET FOR PEDESTRIANS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE CONVERTED INTO A PEDESTRIAN STREET. AS A RESULT BRIGADE ROAD WILL BE THE MOST IMPORTANT ENTRY POINT INTO PARADE GROUND.

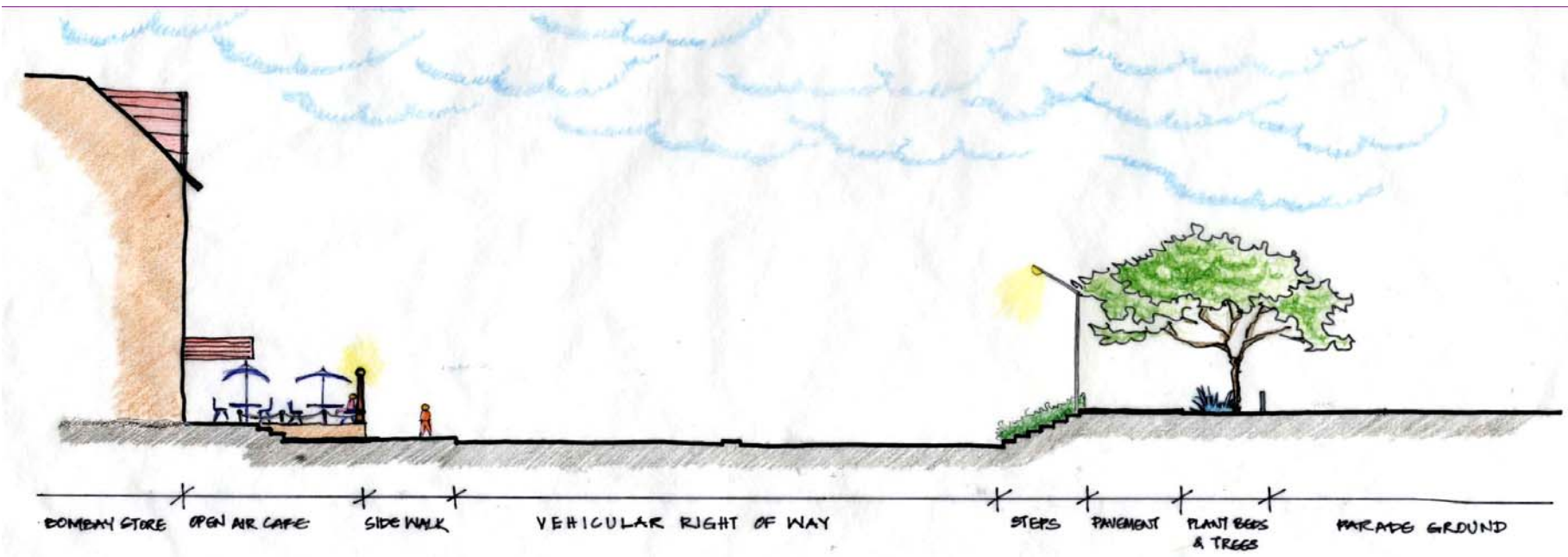
THE STREET BETWEEN POLICE PARADE GROUND & CHINNASWAMY CRICKET STADIUM IS RARELY USED BY VEHICULAR TRAFFIC. GREAT POTENTIAL EXISTS TO PEDESTRIANISE THIS STREET WHICH WILL THEN LINK MAHATMA GANDHI GARDEN TO POLICE PARADE GROUND & ALSO SERVE AS A PREFUNCTION AREA TO THE STADIUM.

MAHATMA GANDHI GARDEN AT PRESENT IS DIVORSED FROM BOTH PARADE GROUND & CUBBON PARK. POTENTIAL EXISTS TO FOR IT TO LINK THE TWO.

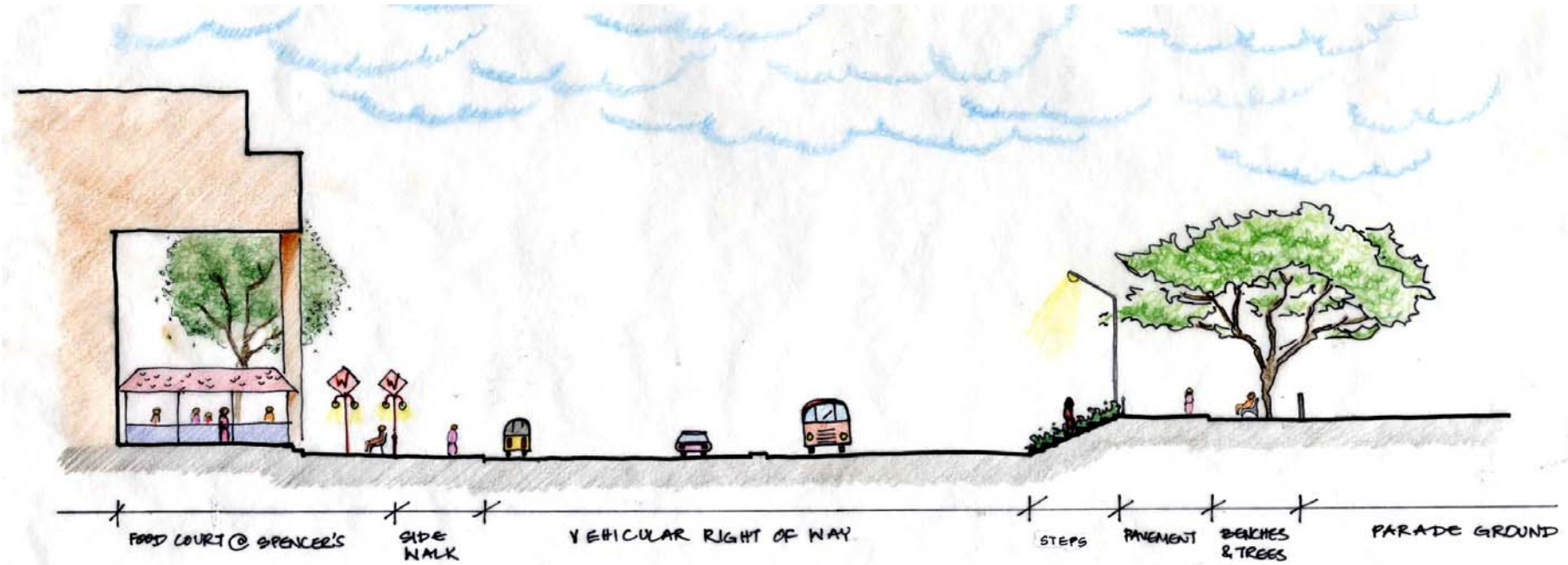
AT PRESENT THE MUSEUMS & JAWAHAR BAL BHAVAN GENERATE A LOT OF PEDESTRIAN ACTIVITY. THIS CORNER HAS POTENTIAL TO ATTRACT THESE PEDESTRIANS & CHANNEL THEM INTO MAHATAMA GANDHI GARDEN & PARADE GROUND. IT CAN ALSO SERVE AS AN ENTRY PLAZA INTO CUBBON PARK.

PROFILE OF M.G. ROAD WITH ELEVATION OF PARADE GROUND IN THE BACKGROUND

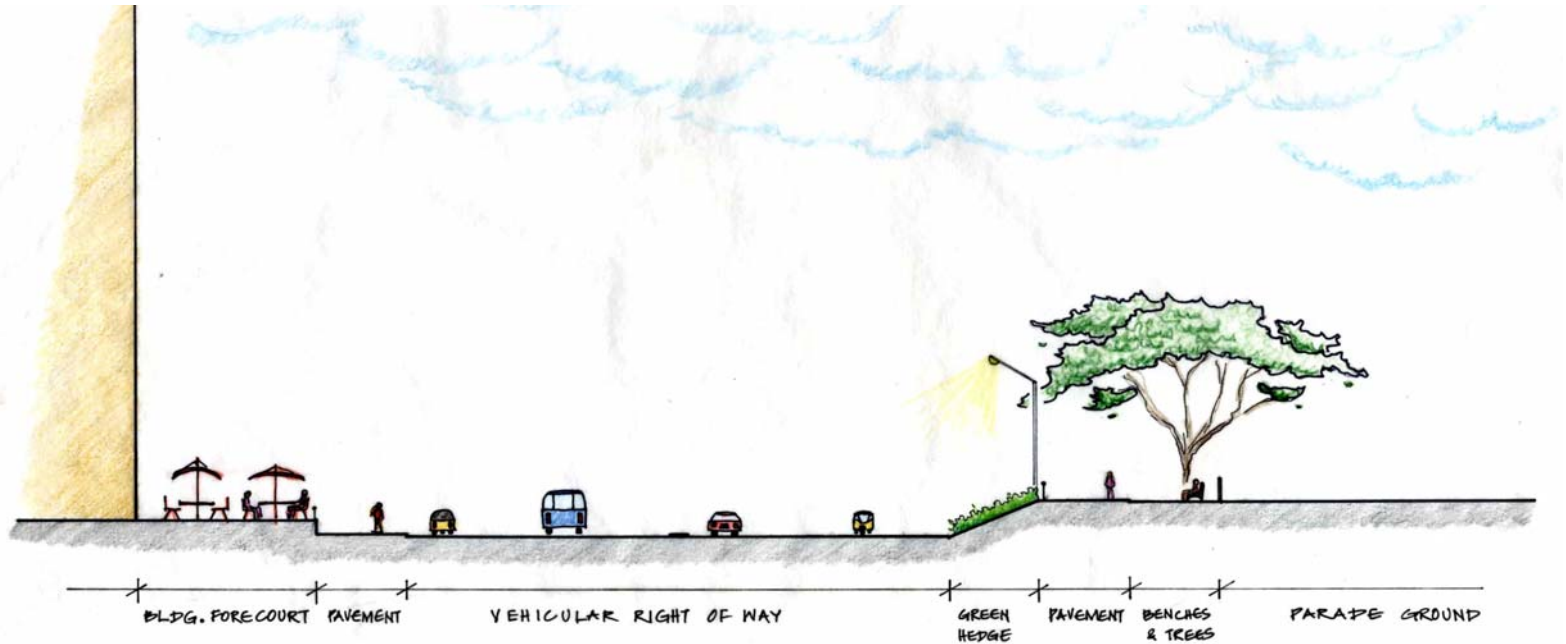
PLAZA THEATRE, FOOD WORLD, BARYON CENTRE & THE BOMBAY STORE HAVE MANY PEDESTRIANS LINGERING ON THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF THEM. POTENTIAL EXISTS TO DRAW THEM INTO PARADE GROUND BY CREATING A CROSSING THAT PUNCTURES THROUGH M.G. ROAD & THE PROMENADE ALONG PARADE GROUND.



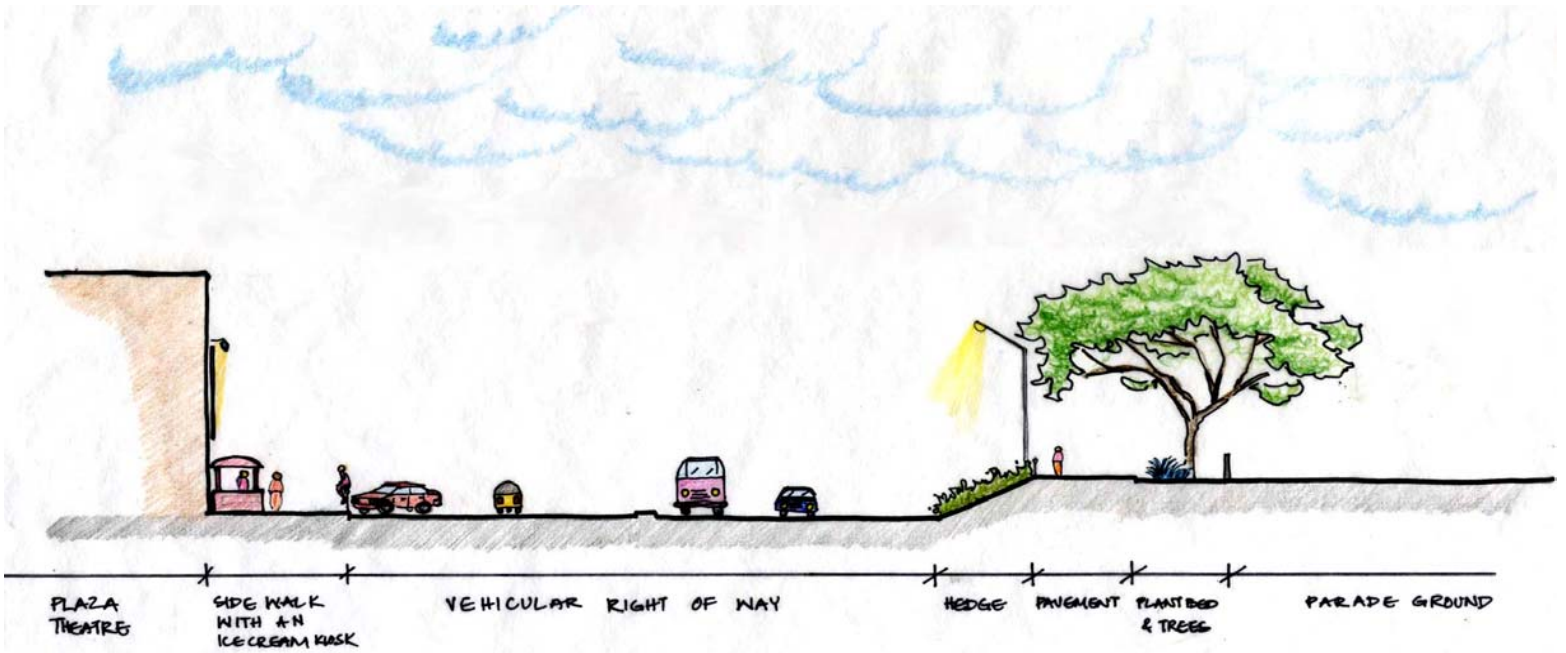
SECTION ACROSS M.G. ROAD AT THE BOMBAY STORE



SECTION ACROSS M.G. ROAD AT FOOD WORLD

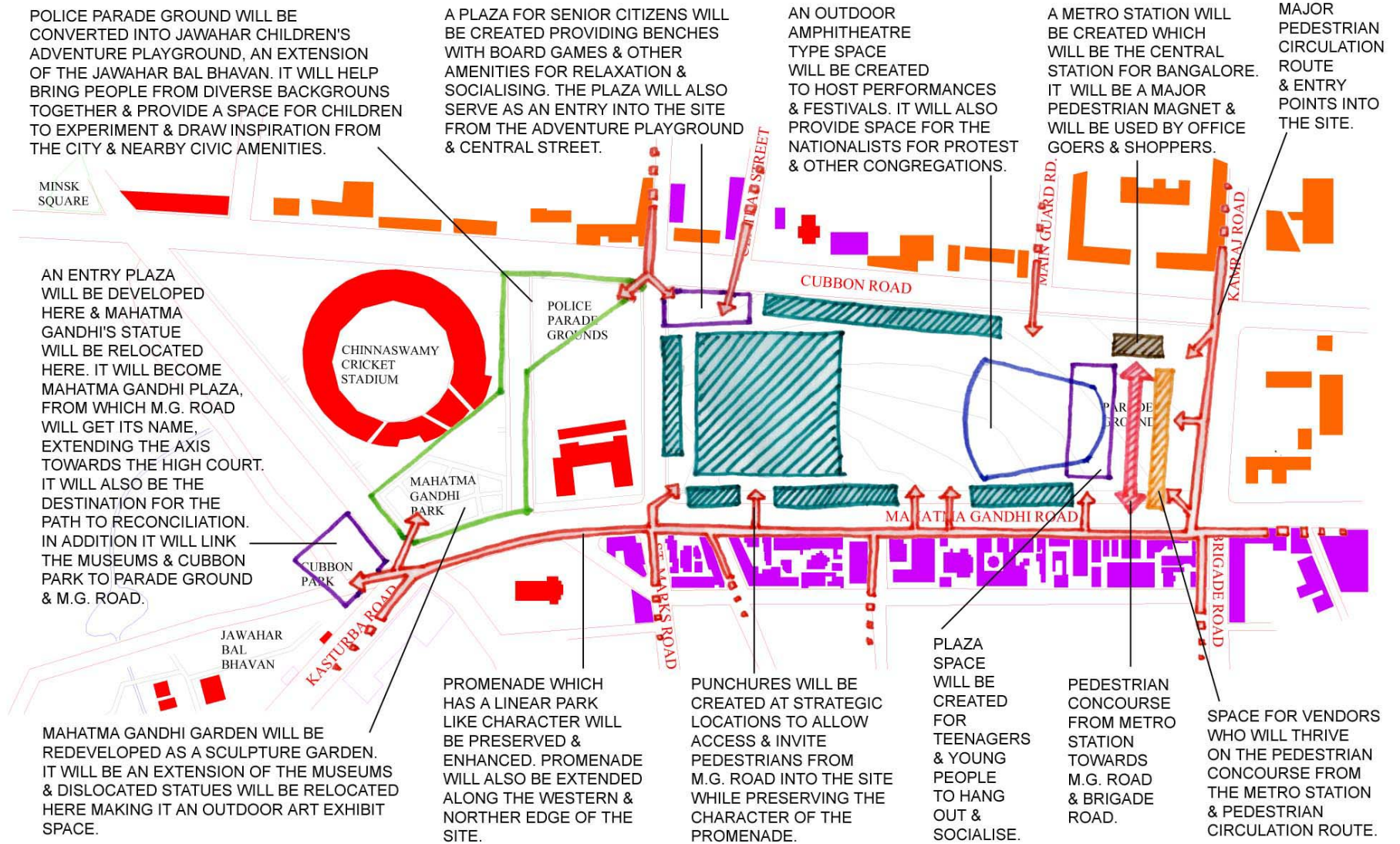


SECTION ACROSS M.G. ROAD AT BARTON CENTRE



SECTION ACROSS M.G. ROAD AT PLAZA THEATRE

FUNCTIONAL CONNECTIONS (functional diagram/ function & Connections)



The functional master plan is the result of the layering and derivation of the analysis drawings. The master plan delineates the zoning of the site and circulation, illustrating the connections and how the site would work.

The master plan identifies two busy ends with a quiet centre. The east end of Parade Ground near Brigade Road would be the busiest area with a metro station, plaza to linger, and a vendor's concourse. The east end of the plaza will serve as a stage overlooking a large lawn. The western end of Parade Ground will be redeveloped and enhanced, continuing to serve as a naturalistic Cariappa Memorial Park. The north-west corner is again a busy area and an entry plaza will receive users and also form a transition into Police Parade Ground through a below-grade crossing. Part of Police Parade Ground will be converted into a children's adventure playground, extending Jawahar Bal Bhavan's activities into the city centre. The pedestrian street will then link it to Mahatma Gandhi Garden, which will be redeveloped as a sculpture garden. This will in turn transition through an underground crossing into Mahatma Gandhi Chowk, the termination point of the 'Path to Reconciliation' and an entry plaza to Cubbon Park. Besides serving as an entry plaza into Cubbon Park and opening up an axis connecting M.G. Road to the High Court, it will serve to link the Museums and Jawahar Bal Bhavan to Mahatma Gandhi Garden and the children's adventure playground, respectively.

CHAPTER 14: CONCEPT & DESIGN

CONCEPT

The design is influenced by a framework of concepts. The framework of concepts includes: reconciliation through the overlap of spaces and uses and the promenade as a structuring and narrative element.

The concept diagram shows the three primary user groups as the three prime colours. Their overlapping produces new colours or secondary colours, which is symbolic of new experiences and harmonious intermingling. Hence the diagram illustrates that the user groups need exclusive spaces as well as common spaces where interaction can occur and where interests meet, facilitating reconciliation among them. The promenade has a long history in Bangalore and is still popular among its citizens. The promenade or path is also a very strong structuring and narrative element. The concept diagram shows the promenade or path in its pure form as a grid.

Both the promenade layer and the overlap layer are inspired by the Hindu *mandala* form. Bangalore's founder first established the city as a seat of the Hindu religion following the *agraharam* form of urban development common in south India, which is again based on Hindu cosmological principles and the *mandala*. The Hindu *mandala* influences the concept and design in spirit and philosophy although not in form. According to the Hindu *mandala* each of the squares within the *mandala* represents a planet or star and its ruling god, which influences a particular aspect of our life, and hence the environment we build. This is a deviation from the western tradition of the grid, which suggests an egalitarian division of space with no hierarchy. In contrast the Hindu *mandala* although having a grid form, has a clear hierarchy and each square has a distinct meaning, the centre being the most important. The grid also lends itself to the concept diagram due to the site's military tradition and the structure of the surrounding buildings, which used to be part of a colonial cantonment.

The merging of the overlap layer and the promenade layer produces a fine mesh of spaces and paths. It is this abstracted conceptual diagram, which influences the design.

Overlap is further studied in detail to examine ways in which reconciliation can occur. According to the Cambridge Advanced Learners Dictionary, reconcile is defined as: "to find a way in which two situations or beliefs that are opposed to each other can agree and exist together", and reconciliation is defined as: "when two people or groups become friendly again after they have argued". Overlaps maybe overlap of spaces and physical elements or overlap of activities and needs. One is the physical dimension and the other is the human dimension. The overlap of the physical dimension can provide a setting for and be symbolic of reconciliation. Overlap of the spaces, materials, vegetation, paths and structure in a harmonious way is reconciliation in itself, a reconciliation of the physical world. The overlap of the human dimension facilitates interaction among different groups, who may share some interests and may have some conflicting interests. The sharing of some interests is the point where overlap occurs and it is this overlap that eventually paves the way for reconciliation through repeated interaction. One of the important facilitators of reconciliation would be events such as concerts, festivals and performances. These would be events for the entire city to participate and interact. As a result they will help foster a feeling of belonging, of unity and brotherhood.

The promenade is also studied in detail to examine ways in which it can serve as a structuring and narrative element. The promenade has a strong form; it is a linear element with tall trees and street furniture on either side. During the day the strong linear form acts as a structuring element. Vertical jets of water and fountains would serve as landmarks, celebrating important events along the promenade and acting as nodes to orient users. At night by lighting up the promenade it continues to structure the space. Light at night is used as a metaphor for the promenade, besides its practical use of guiding people. Bangalore was the first city in India to receive metered electricity and hence the space would celebrate this by innovative use of light. At night the illuminated fountains will act as nodes and events attracting people. These will also serve as punctuation points in the rhythm of the promenade and would be popular places to linger. Light will also serve as a narrative element by illuminating important landmarks and events, revealing new views, as well as serving as vertical beams, which can be seen from afar and can orient the users. Hence the promenade serves as an oasis from the sun during the day and an oasis from the dark during the night.

The promenade is also a narrative element. It is treated as a symbolic journey that a person takes. The promenade invites one to start the journey at any point and follow the promenade or paths. As the person moves through the landscape the promenade will reveal important landmarks, or events, or activities, giving the person the option to observe, participate, or continue the journey. Through this journey the promenade reveals certain aspects of the city's history, structure, people and public life. The main promenade is called the 'path to reconciliation'.

THE CONCEPT OF THE PROMENADE COMES FROM THE HISTORICAL USE OF M.G. ROAD & PARADE GROUND AS A PLACE TO PROMENADE & A SECTION OF THE BRIDLE PATH THAT REMAINS WHICH IS A PROMENADE.

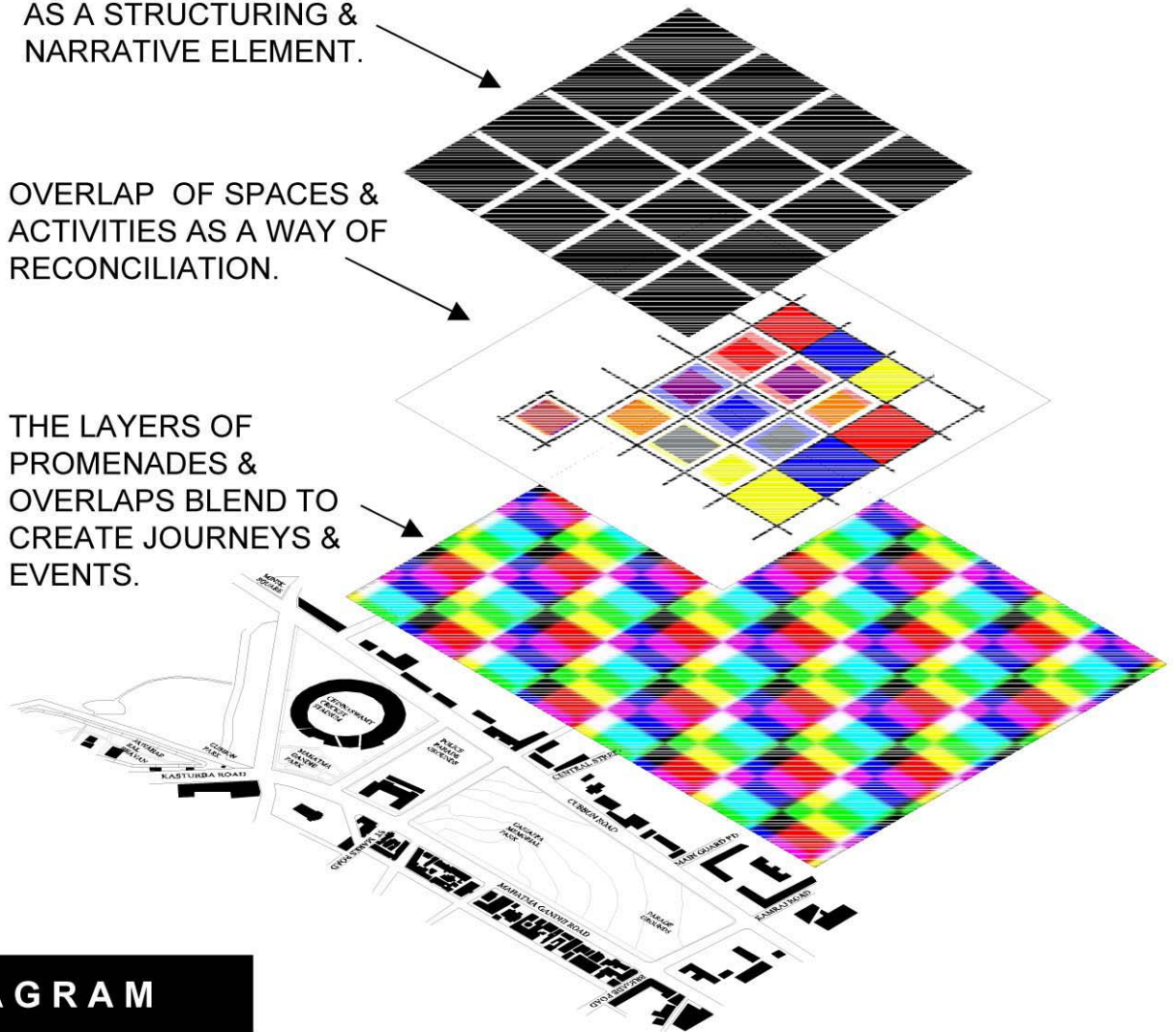
THE CONCEPT OF THE OVERLAP DERIVES FROM THE MATRIX OF USERS & THEIR NEEDS. IT ALSO DERIVES FROM THE LOCATION OF THE SITE WHICH IS THE OVERLAP OF SEVERAL LAYERS - THE LANDUSE, TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS & THE TWO AXIS OF THE CITY CENTRE STRUCTURING MASTER PLAN.

THE OVERLAP OF PROMENADES & SPACES RESULTS IN A FINE MESH OF JOURNEYS & EVENTS. A RICH TEXTURE OF EXCLUSIVE & COMMON SPACES ARE CREATED ALLOWING FOR PRIVACY & INTERACTION FACILITATING RECONCILIATION.

PROMENADE / PATH AS A STRUCTURING & NARRATIVE ELEMENT.

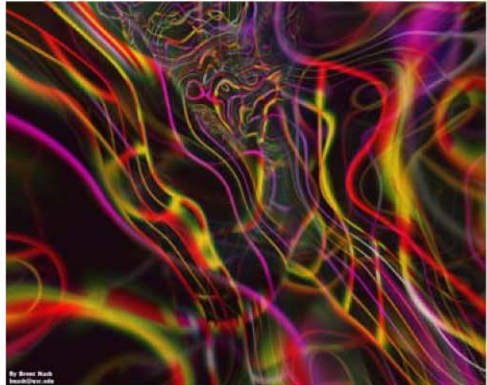
OVERLAP OF SPACES & ACTIVITIES AS A WAY OF RECONCILIATION.

THE LAYERS OF PROMENADES & OVERLAPS BLEND TO CREATE JOURNEYS & EVENTS.

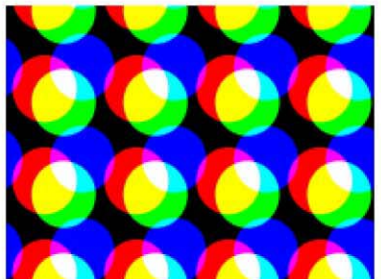


CONCEPT DIAGRAM

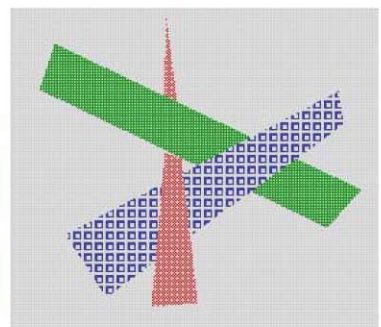
OVERLAP



OVERLAP OF PATHS



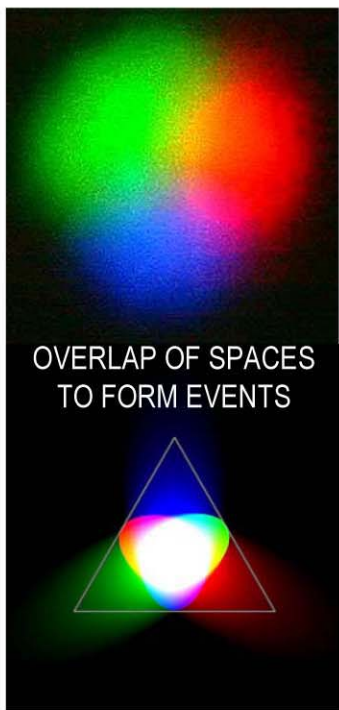
OVERLAP OF NEEDS FROM USER MATRIX



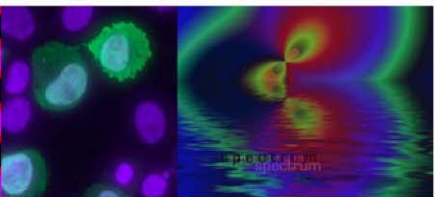
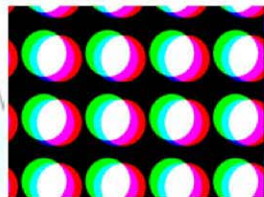
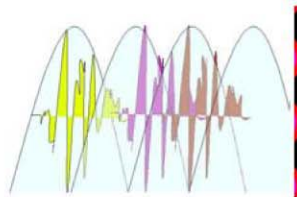
OVERLAP OF MATERIALS & SPACES



OVERLAP OF VEGETATION

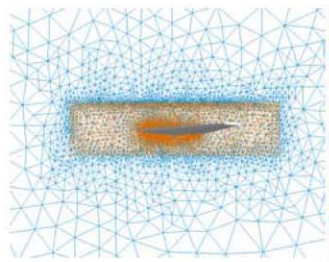


OVERLAP OF SPACES TO FORM EVENTS

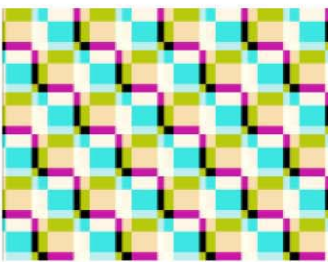


RECONCILIATION

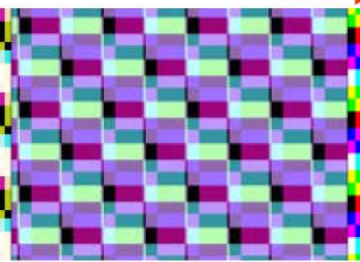
OVERLAP OF STRUCTURE



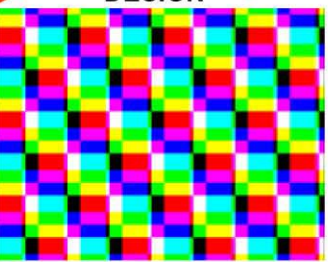
PATHS



SPACES

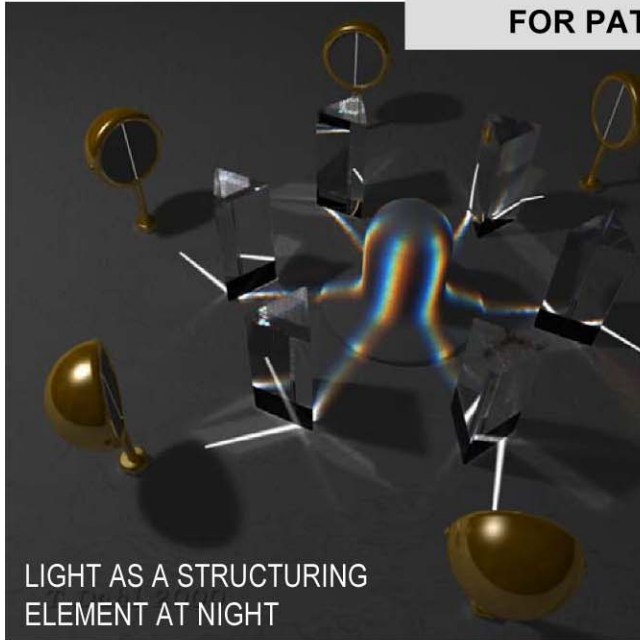


DESIGN

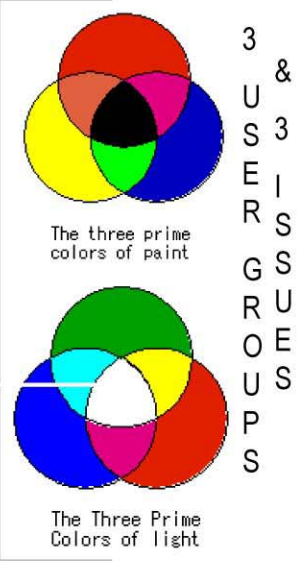
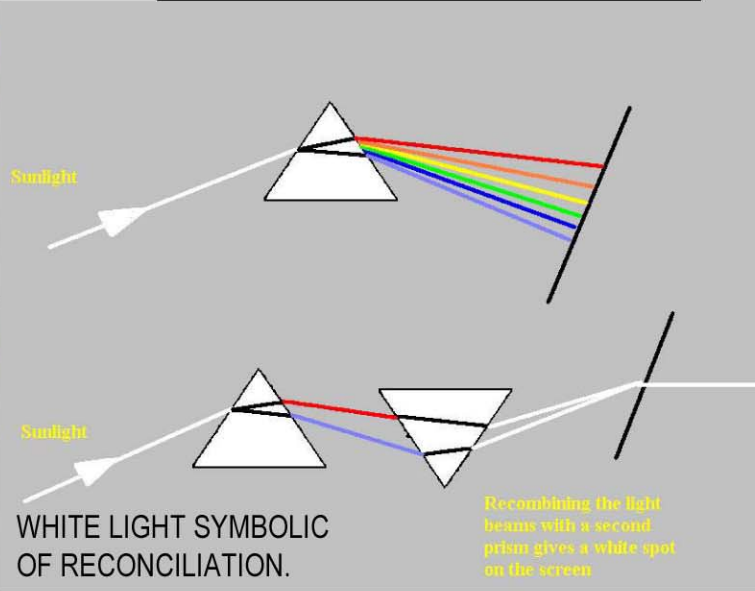


LIGHT AS A METAPHOR FOR PATHS.

THE PROMENADE

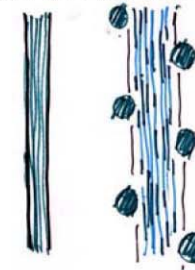


LIGHT AS A STRUCTURING ELEMENT AT NIGHT



TREES & FOUNTAINS AS STRUCTURING ELEMENTS IN THE DAY

PROMENADE AS AN OASIS FROM THE SUN DURING THE DAY.



DAY

PROMENADE AS AN OASIS FROM THE DARK AT NIGHT.

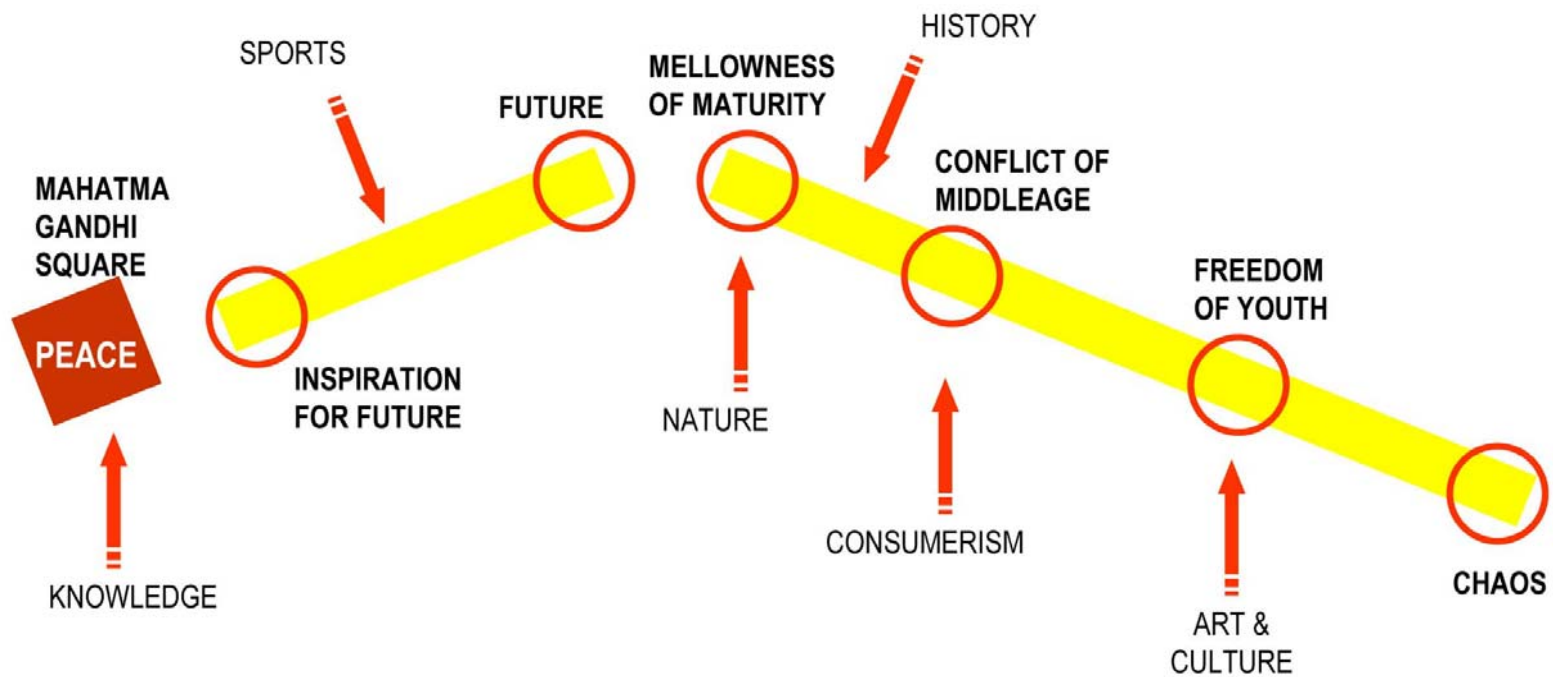
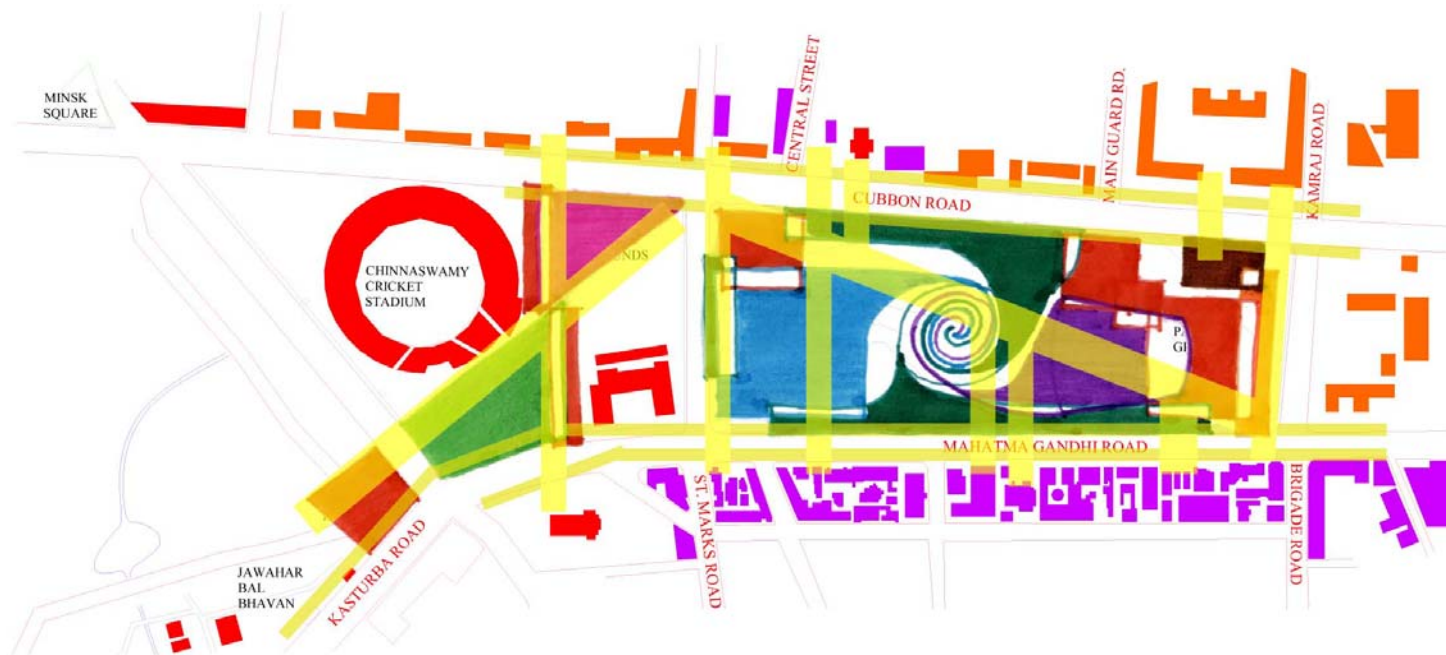


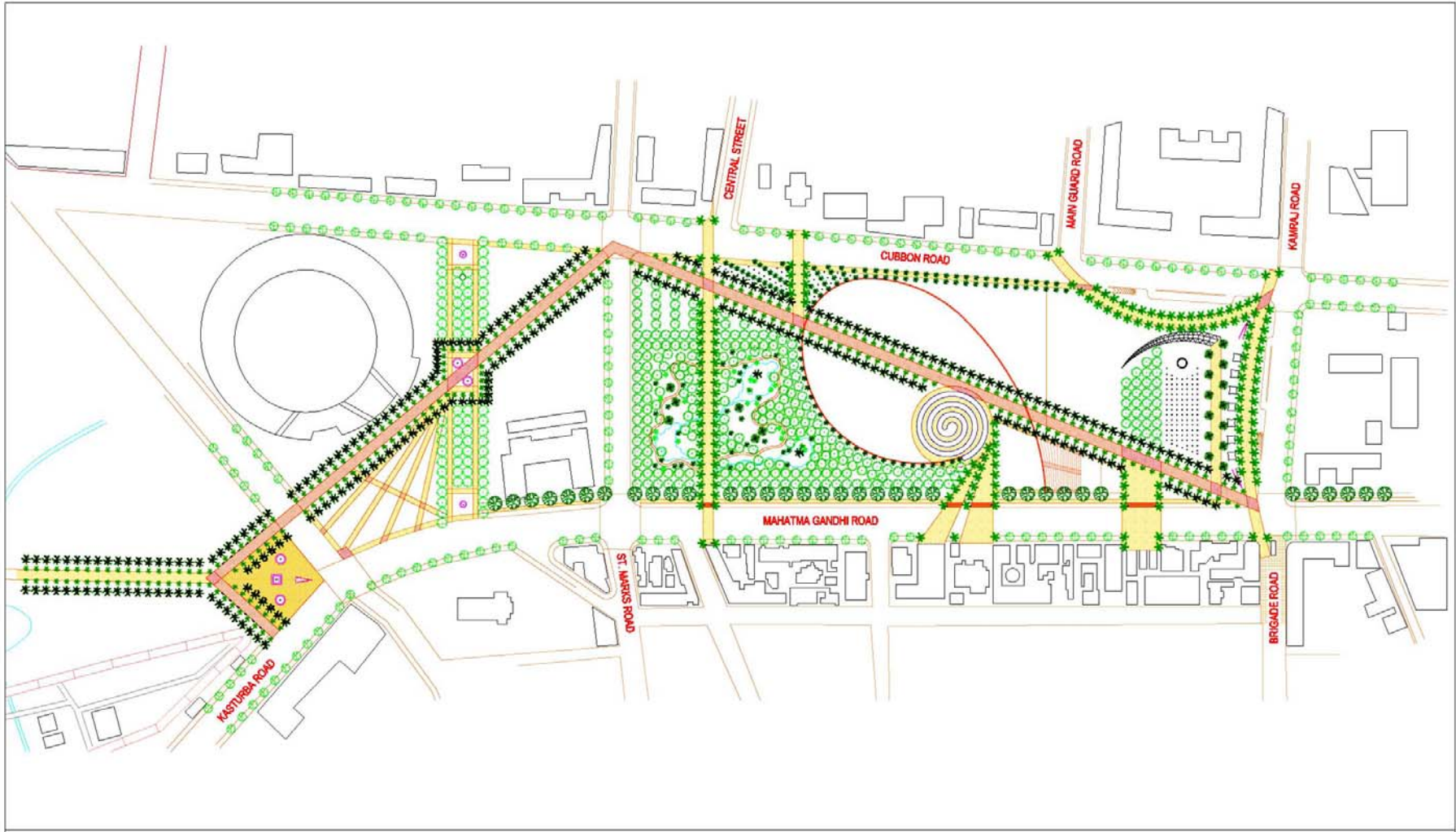
NIGHT

PROMENADE AS AN OASIS

DESIGN







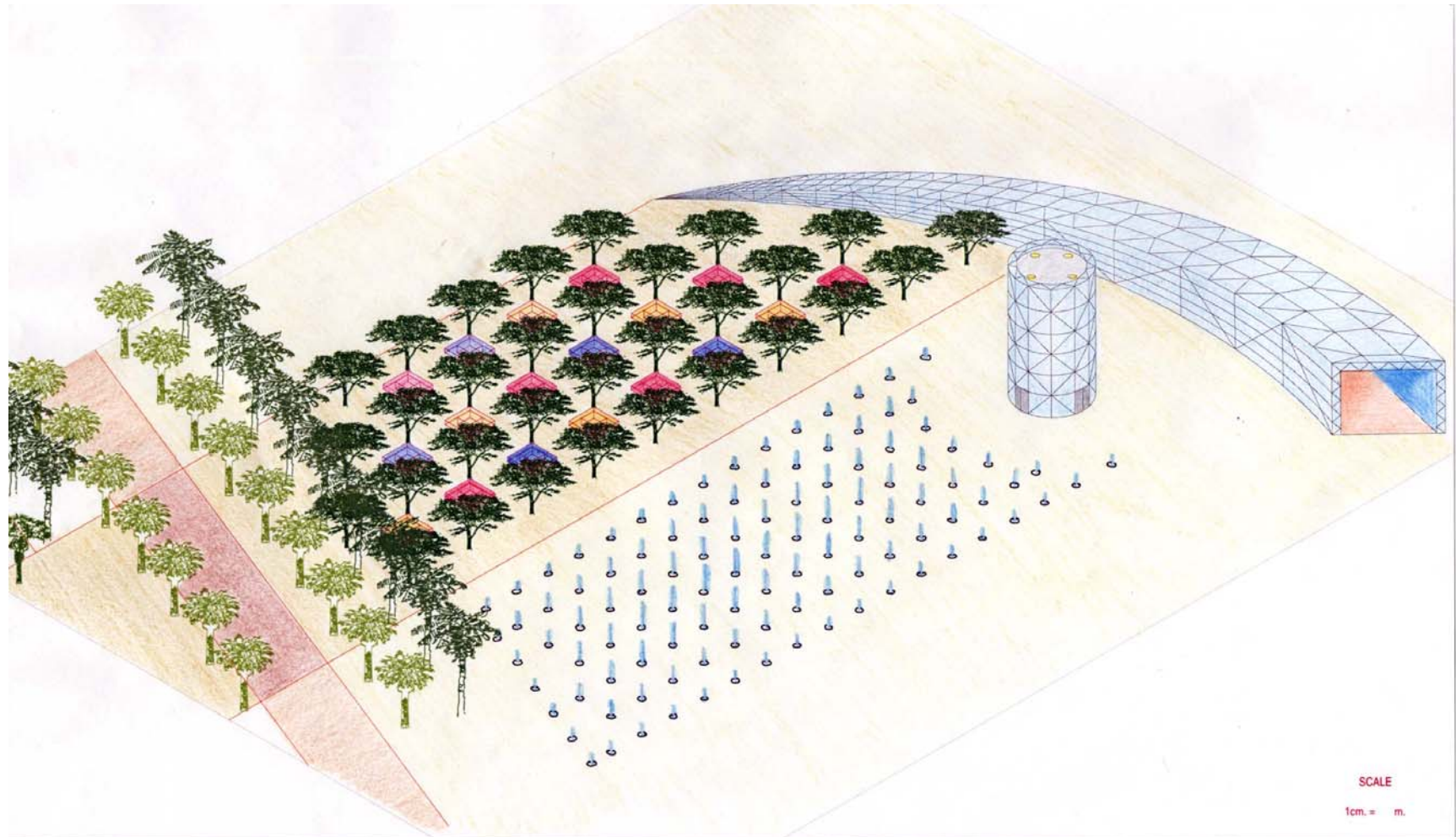
CENTRAL PUBLIC SPACE MASTER PLAN FOR BANGALORE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

	SCALE 1:1000	BANGALORE METRO WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD PROPOSAL FOR A CENTRAL PUBLIC SPACE	LEGEND (Symbol for tree) TREE (Symbol for path) PATH (Symbol for building) BUILDING
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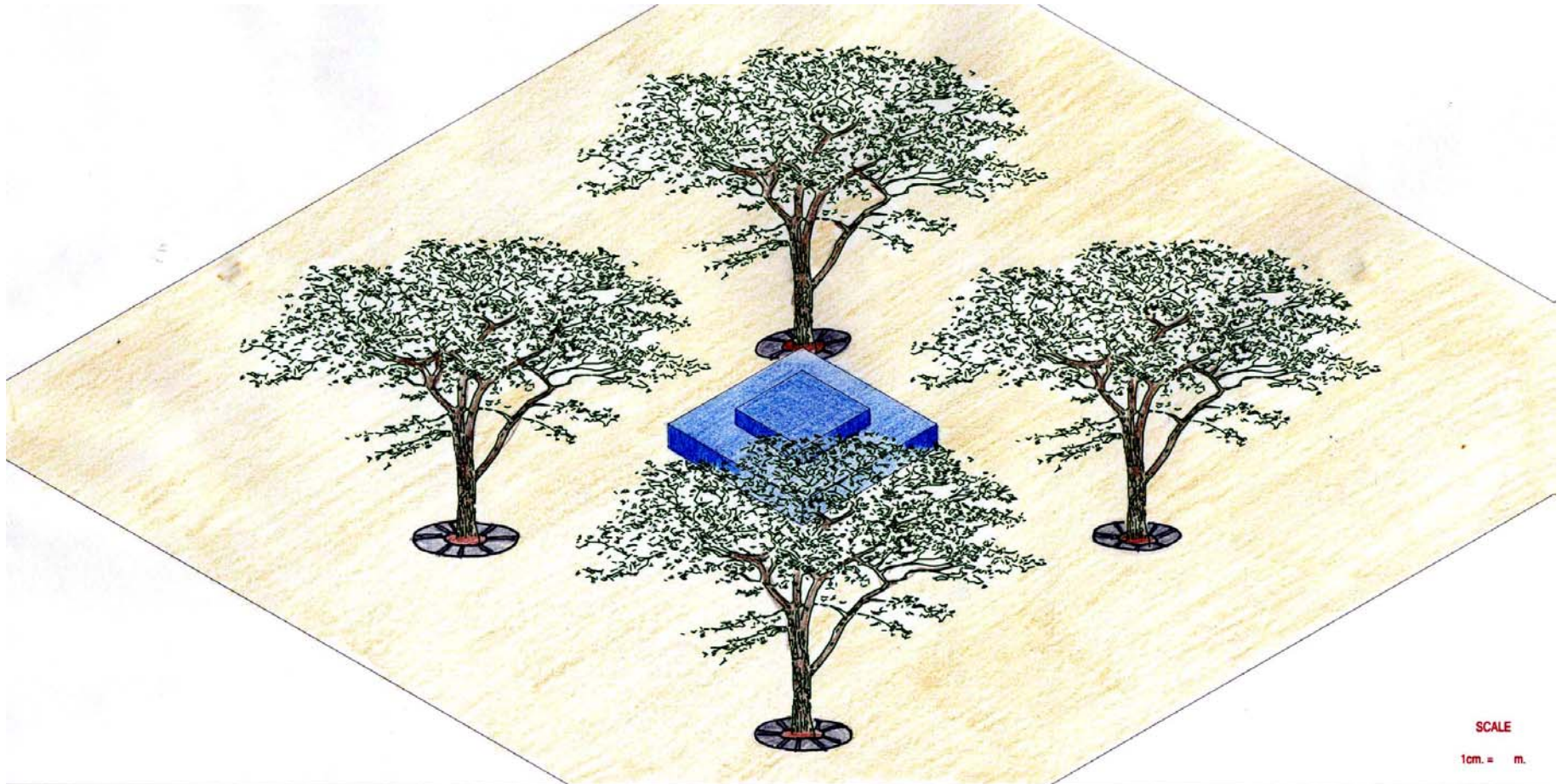
ELEMENTS OF THE DESIGN

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAZA & AMPHITHEATRE

The young people's plaza and the amphitheatre draw their energy from Plaza theatre and Brigade Road. The diagonal 'path to reconciliation' is really an extension of Brigade Road where it merges with M.G. Road. This intersects with the concourse, which originates from Plaza Theatre, which morphs into the Young People's Plaza after the intersection. Cradled between the two promenades is the amphitheatre for street performers and other intimate performances, as well as for programmed outdoor movies.

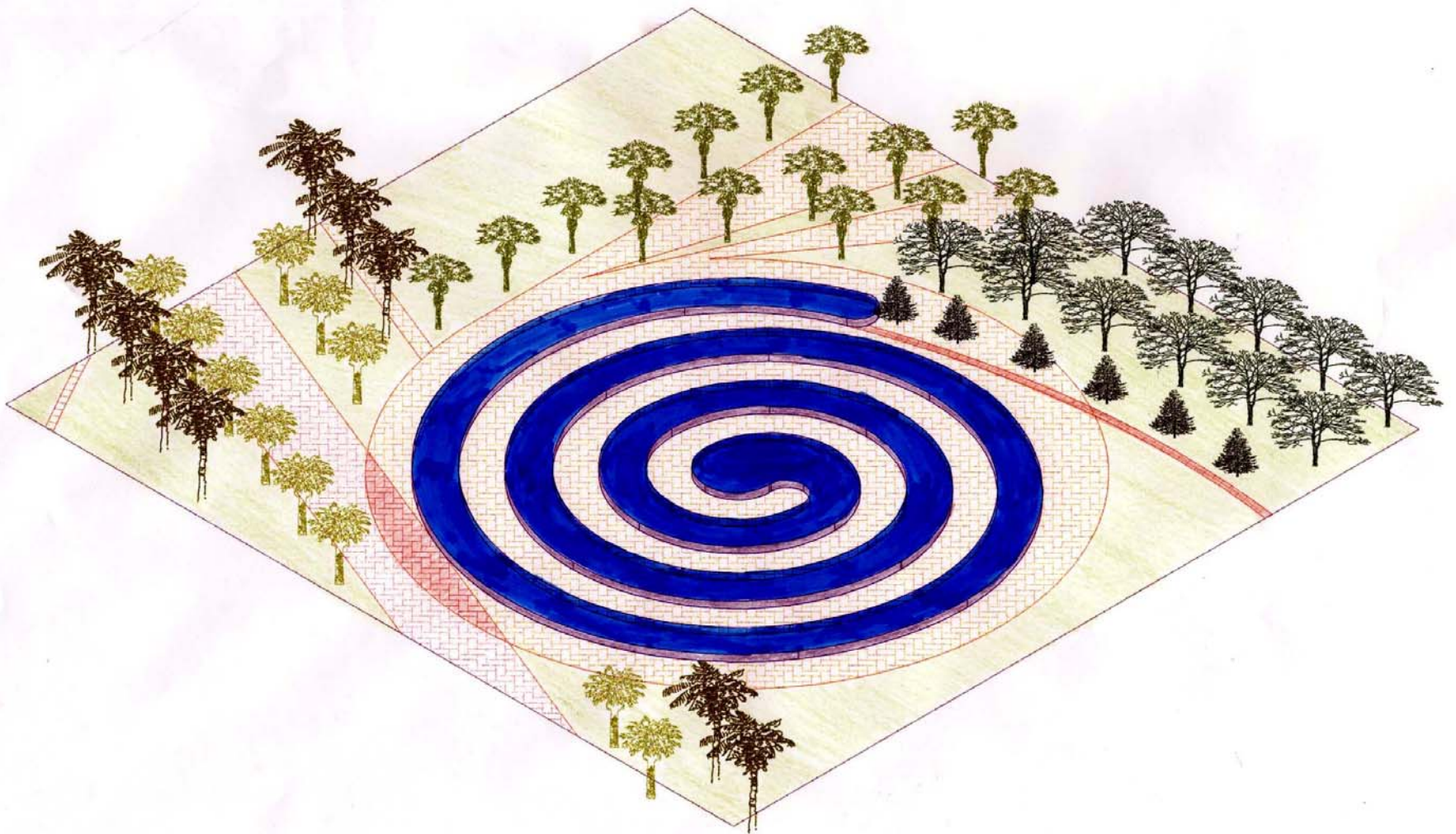


ISOMETRIC VIEW OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHOWK & METRO STATION



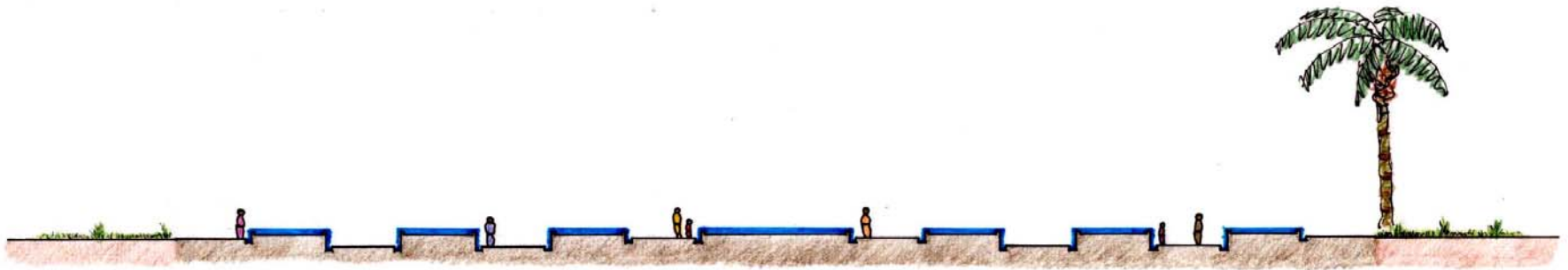
DETAIL OF *KATTE* AS A ZIGGURAT

CENTRAL MILITARY MONUMENT

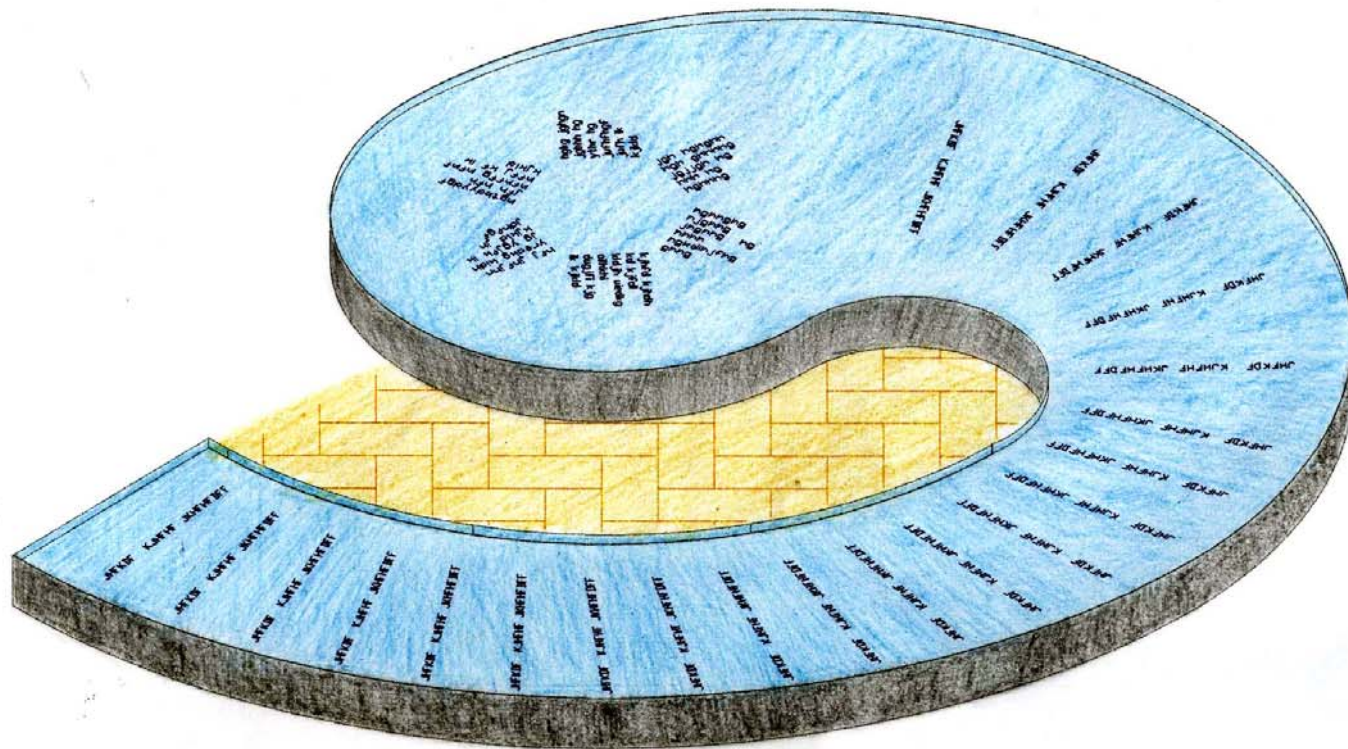


ISOMETRIC VIEW OF PLAZA

SCALE
1cm. = 5m.



SECTIONS THROUGH MONUMENT

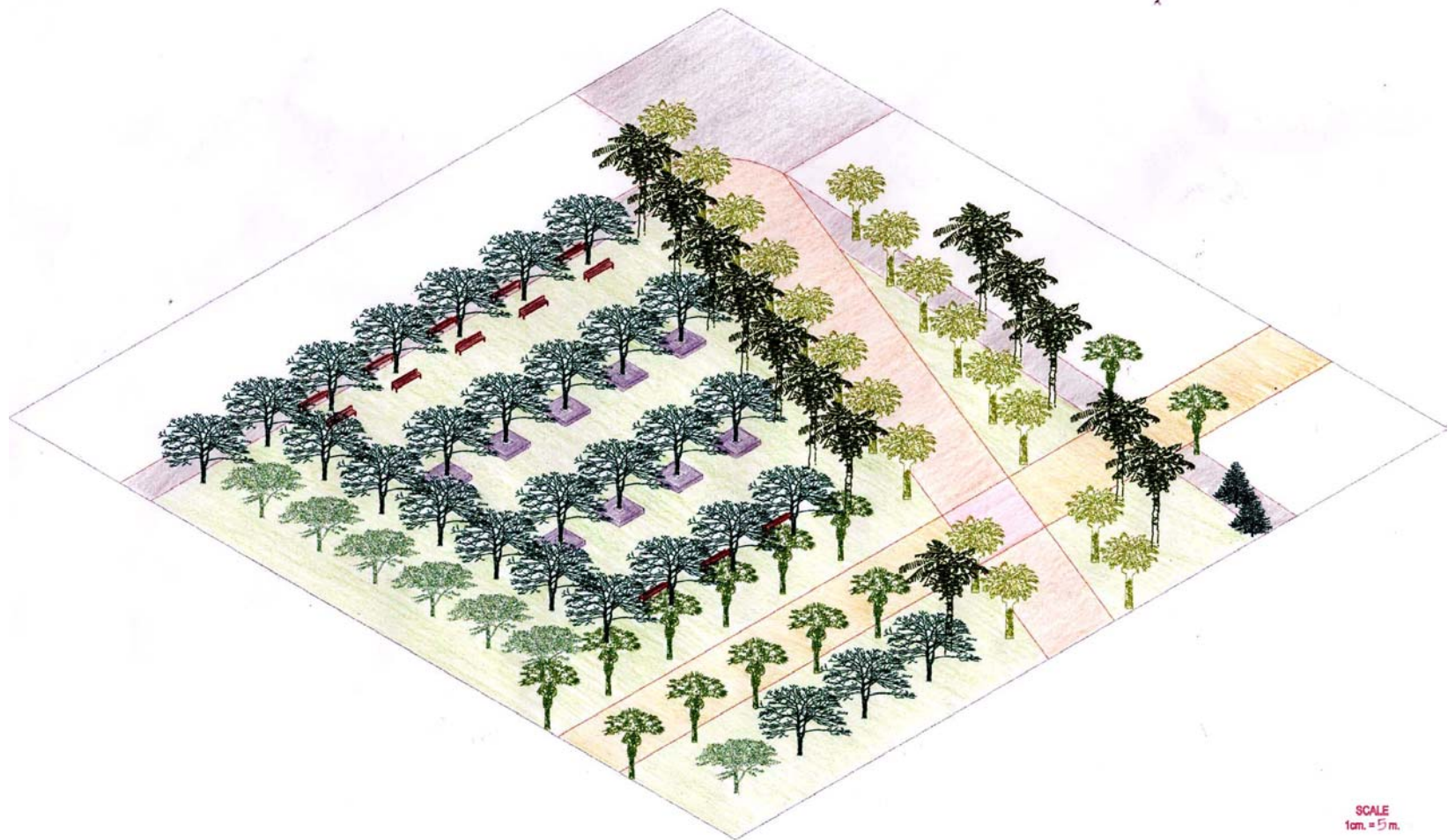


MANEKSHAW & CARIAPPA MEMORIAL MONUMENT

SCALE
1cm. = 1 m.

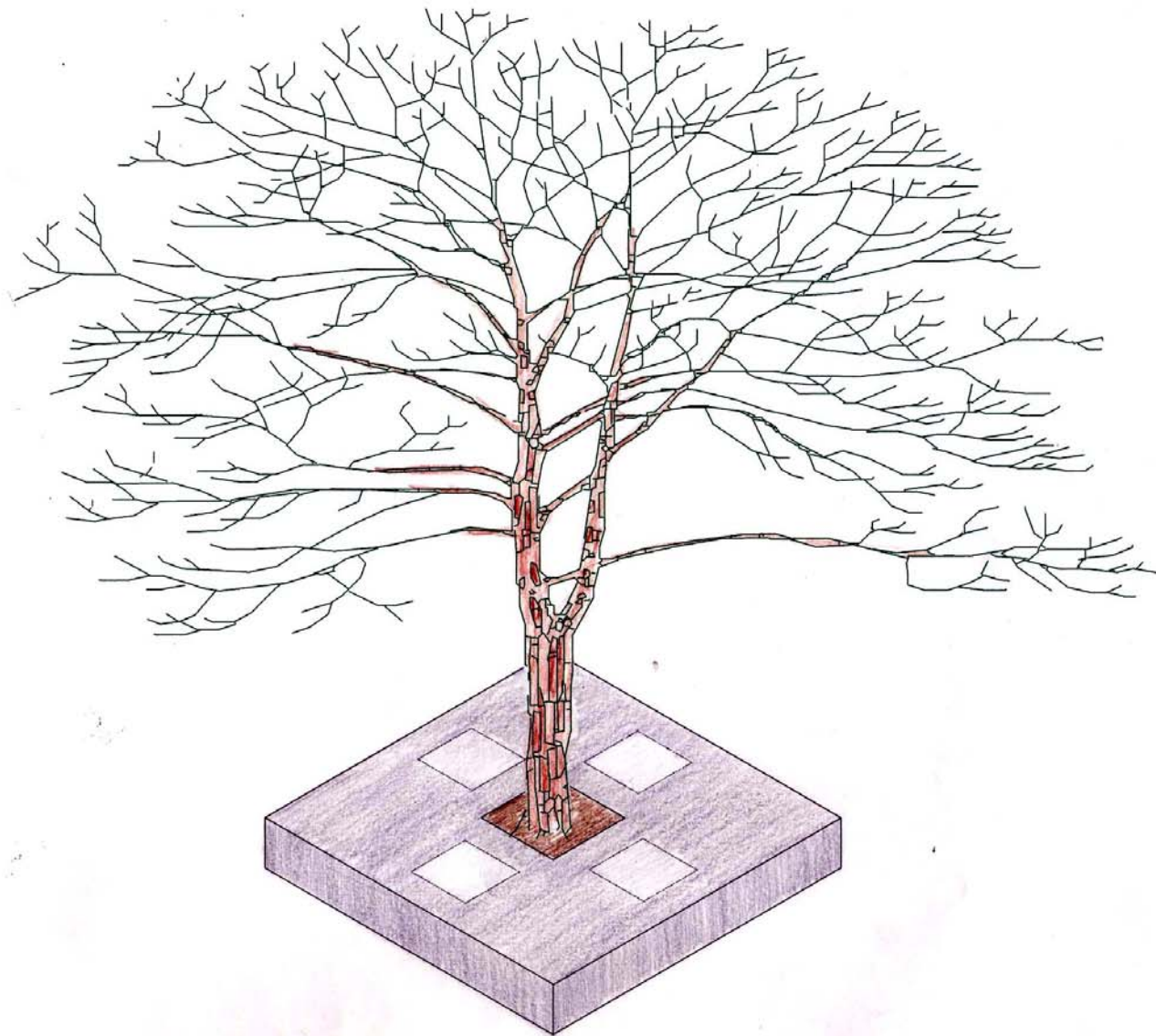
SENIOR CITIZENS PLAZA

The plaza in the north-west corner of Parade Ground serves to collect the pedestrians coming from Central Street and Lady Curzon Street, funnelling them into two directions: towards the main plaza with the metro station and in the opposite direction towards Cubbon Park via the adventure playground and sculpture garden. The plaza is partly covered by a bosque of trees, providing a salubrious environment for senior citizens to relax and socialise. Benches and tables with board games such as chess etched on them are provided for their recreation. The location for the plaza is ideal because it is easily accessible, but at the same time it is far away from the busy main plaza and is closer to the quiet meadow area.



SCALE
1cm. = 5m.

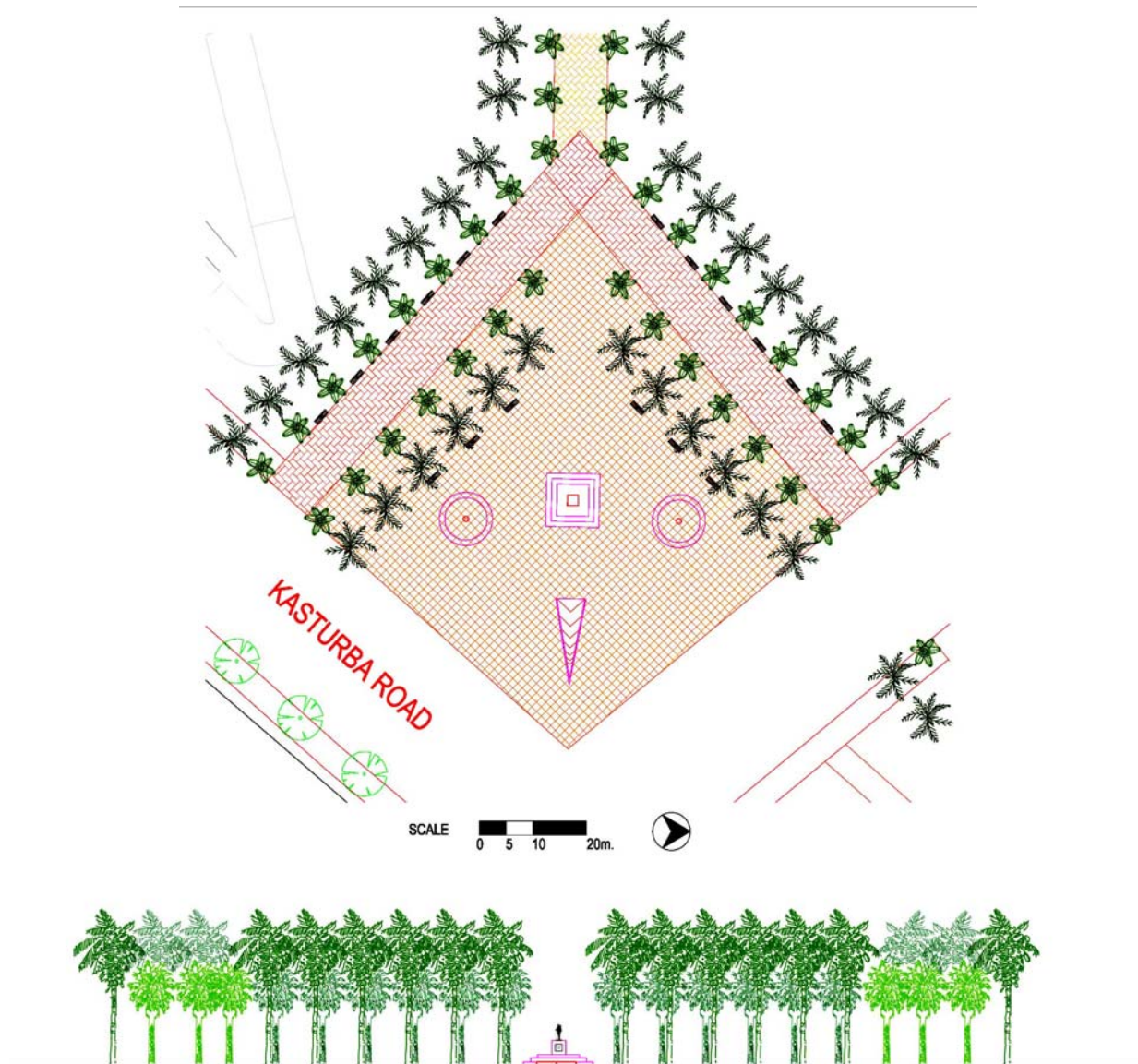
ISOMETRIC VIEW OF CHOWK



SCALE
1cm. = 0.5m.

DETAIL OF A KATTE

MAHATMA GANDHI CHOWK



MAHATMA GANDHI CHOWK

BANGALORE: FUTURE TRENDS IN PUBLIC SPACE USAGE
PROPOSAL FOR A CENTRAL PUBLIC
SPACE

UDAY VAGALE
MASTER'S THESIS PROJECT
VIRGINIA TECH
2004.

CHILDREN'S (JAWAHAR) ADVENTURE PLAY GROUND & (MAHATMA GANDHI) SCULPTURE GARDEN

The children's adventure playground draws from the site's history as an amusement ground and its proximity to Jawahar Bal Bhavan and the aquarium. The sculpture garden draws from its present use as Mahatma Gandhi Garden with the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in the centre. Its proximity to the museums suggests potential for it to be converted into an outdoor museum and exhibition space. The Jawahar children's adventure playground and the Mahatma Gandhi Sculpture Garden have a unique and critical relationship. The former provides a ground for children to experiment, a space for the city's future artists, scientists and leaders whose work will be later commemorated in the sculpture garden. The latter serves as an inspiration for the former.

CARIAPPA MEMORIAL PARK (meadow/ lake forest)

The naturalistic park draws from Bangalore's tradition as the "Lake Forest City". As far back as Kempe Gowda's time Bangalore has been known for its lakes and forests. Unfortunately these assets have been badly impacted due to rapid urbanisation. The park celebrates this tradition by providing the city with a large meadow interspersed with ponds and creeks. The meadow starts on a grid along its edges and breaks into an amorphous meadow as it goes deeper. A part of the meadow fuses with the northwest plaza forming a Bosque.

(KEMPE GOWDA) METRO STATION & VENDORS CONCOURSE

The subway metro station is located such that it conveniently taps into the underground railway line. It is also located for pedestrian convenience in the busy end of Parade Ground such that it enters a to-and-fro dialogue with Brigade Road and M.G. Road and pedestrians coming from or going to Commercial Street, emphasising the existing north-south pedestrian corridor. The entry to the metro station opens up as a wound in the face of the plaza, which has healed over the years. It is also symbolic of the legendary sword of Tipu Sultan. The disabled elevator forms a beacon of hope, and at night a beam of light shooting into the sky marks the centre of the city and orients people within the city. It will also be symbolic of Kempe Gowda's towers, which once marked the boundaries of the city, and today forms the centre of the city. The vendor's stalls are located between the pedestrian concourse from the metro station and the north-south pedestrian axis, feeding off of the activity and circulation. Facing the metro station on Cubbon Road is a bus stop and auto-rickshaw stand to facilitate transport interchange. Therefore the metro station will be a major magnet generating a lot of pedestrian activity.

MAIN PLAZA & LAWNS

The main plaza overlooking the lawns acts as a podium or stage for large functions and performances. It will primarily serve as a space for the nationalists to congregate and protest and also as a space for concerts and other celebrations for the city.

CHAPTER 15: POST DESIGN EVALUATION

CONCLUSION

The design project satisfies the following principles identified in the position paper:

Engagement Needs of the users have been met in the design. The need for inclusive, exclusive and face-to-face interactions have been provided IN the various plazas. Parallel interaction has been provided along the various promenades designed. Congruent and incongruent interaction needs have been met in the amphitheatre, central lawn and adventure playground.

The rights of the users have been catered to in varying degrees. The right of visual and symbolic access has been provided satisfactorily. Physical access to disabled people has been partially successful. Freedom of action has been provided in the design. The design allows flexibility and lends itself to various groups to use it as they please without disturbing others. The design also encourages various groups to claim and territorialize areas of the public space designed for them. The introduction of programmed events helps prevent the monopoly of one group. The design has successfully kept real ownership of the public space ambiguous, allowing people to claim symbolic ownership over it. Although in retrospect a participatory process is an ideal tool which allows people to territorialize and symbolically own public space, such a process could not be included in the design due to logistical reasons. The participatory process would have identified the four user groups to be involved in the project. A representative cross-section of people from each group would have been included and organised as four manageable participants. After an initial analysis the participants would be consulted in a workshop to develop a program based on their needs. Once a program has been decided a design charrette involving the four groups would have been carried out to understand their ideas for the space. These two steps would help establish the design program and also gain an understanding of the users' aesthetic sensibilities and the meanings they associate with different design elements and ideas. The design would be a back and forth process of refining by consulting the various groups to arrive at a final solution to everyone's satisfaction. The landscape architect's role in this process would be that of a mediator and facilitator.

The design has also provided for meaning to develop over time. The use of traditional public space forms in the design of the plazas and the promenade facilitates group connections. Also the Manikshaw and Cariappa Memorial and Mahatma Gandhi Chowk provide strong connections to the larger society, uniting the city as one. These connections and the opportunity to interact which is provided for in the design of the public space will eventually facilitate reconciliation among the various groups of Bangalore. In retrospect it would have been more convenient to work on the thesis in Bangalore for logistical reasons. Also the design process would have been more successful by adopting a participatory design process.

At the personal level the thesis has given me a better understanding of public spaces and how they are used. It has exposed me to the social science aspect of the profession. The project is also relevant to the larger profession, especially in Bangalore because it addresses certain pressing issues related to public space in the city. It provides principles for the design of public spaces in the city and identifies real problems and issues that need to be addressed urgently. I hope to create awareness about public spaces in Bangalore, in particular the future of M.G. Road and Parade Ground through a lecture at Alternative Law Forum in Bangalore and an article I hope to publish. In addition several academicians and professional have expressed interest in reviewing my thesis. In light of the lack of sufficient published material available pertaining to public spaces in Bangalore; I hope my thesis will contribute towards a debate regarding the future of Bangalore's public spaces.

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Uday Vagale

Professional Experience

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 2002–2003 | Projects Pacific | Berkeley, CA | Project Designer |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worked on conceptual design sketches, hand and computer graphics.• Worked extensively on Autocad and construction documents. | | | |
| 2002 Summer | Allan Garnaas Associates | Alexandria, VA | Project Designer |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Was the prime on a high-end residential project.• Produced set of design documents and grading and planting plan. | | | |
| 2003–Present | Community Design Assistance Center | Blacksburg, VA | Student Designer |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worked on several greenway trail projects.• Produced conceptual designs and report for the greenway projects. | | | |
| 2000 | Uttam C. Jain Architects & Planners | Bombay, India | Project Architect |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Was the prime on a town-planning project for a township of 100,000 people.• Produced complete set of analysis and design drawings for master plan of township and residential neighborhoods including design of individual dwelling units. | | | |

Education

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| 2001–2004 | Virginia Tech | Blacksburg, VA |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MLA, Masters in Landscape Architecture (expected graduation date – May 2004). | | |
| 1994–1999 | Sushant School of Art & Architecture | New Delhi, India |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• B.Arch., Bachelor of Architecture. | | |

Awards

- 1st prize at Green Space Design Convention, Denver, CO. National student design competition.
- 1st prize at the 40th Annual National Architecture Students Association Convention, Bombay for 'Minimal Spaces'.