

**CONSRVATION AND PRESERVATION OF COLONIAL
FACADES IN HISTORIC URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS WITH
SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SLAVE ISLAND**

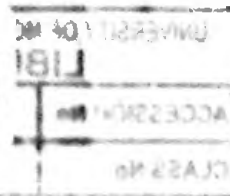
**A thesis presented to the University of Moratuwa, as
Master of Science degree in Architectural Conservation of
Monuments and Sites.**



University of Moratuwa



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JEEWANTHA MAGAMAGE

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MORATUWA,**

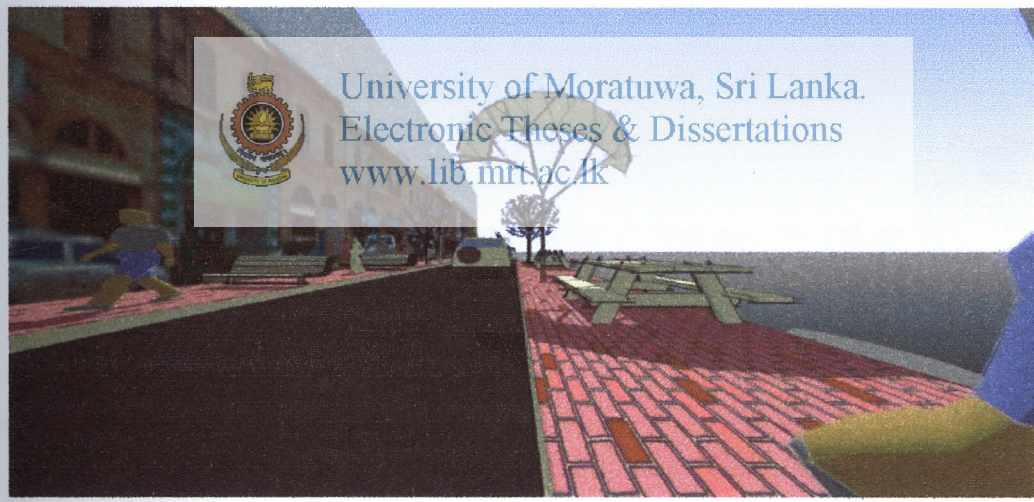
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Declaration
I declare that
this project
is my own
work

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MORATUWA,**

11TH MAY, 2010.

Declaration

I declare that this thesis represents my own work and that it has not been previously included in report submitted to this university or to another institution for a degree, postgraduate diploma or other qualification

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.....

Signature of student



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Professor S.M.Manawadu

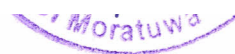
Course Director (ACOMAS)

Department of Architecture

University of Moratuwa



UOM Verified Signature



Acknowledgments

This scientific investigation, I had a discussion with Professor S.M Manawadu, professor of architecture and course director (ACOMAS) about bringing out all aspects on the urban conservation and heritage management and unfailing encouragement. Without Professor S.M. Manawadu's dedicated effort, this hierarchy would not have been successfully completed.

And I had with professor Nimal De Silva, professor of architecture and former course director (ACOMAS) about bringing out all aspects on the urban conservation and heritage management and unfailing encouragement. Without Professor Nimal De Silva's dedicated effort, this hierarchy would not have been successfully completed.



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Therefore, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Professor S.M. Manawadu and professor Nimal De Silva.

My special grateful to Architect C.J.De seram, former course director (ACOMAS) in department of Architecture University of Moratuwa, for his guidance and encouragement.

My sincere gratitude, architecture D.P. Chandrasekhara, senior lecturer in department of architecture in university of Moratuwa for his advice from time to time.

I wish to thanks Architect Niashan Nawarathne and Mr V.P.A. De Mel, staff technical officer in department of architecture, university of Moratuwa, for many suggestions without their critical appraisal nothing would have been possible. Several

persons and institutions have helped me in my work and my grateful to them for their assistance – staff of Colombo municipal council, providing voluble information's and assistance people of Slave Island for helping to find necessary information – staff of slave island police station for helping find necessary information. And grade help from Mr. Jithendra bandara for langue and grammar corrections.

Finally I wish to thank my family for the unfailing support and encouragement.



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C. façade

D. floor

E. door/window

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A. Building form

B. roof

C. wall

D. floor

E. door/window

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A. Building form

B. roof

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Figure 1.1

Country's history left impression through building of architectural styles

Figure 1.2

It is important to understand because buildings are often eclectic and combined the best elements of different styles

Figure 1.3

Facing of the street, become a special

Figure 1.4

No evidence to development of streetscape on Slave Island within Portuguese and Dutch period

Figure 1.4a

Development of the colonial streetscape in Slave Island



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Figure 1.5

Grid-iron Street Pattern with buildings, representing colonial street architecture. Facing of the street become special

Figure 1.6

Historically, most identified neighborhoods

Figure 1.6a

historically, most identified neighborhoods

Figure 1.7

Relation to the landscape

Figure 1.8

Justice Akbar mawatha

Figure 2.1

The Main elements of a streetscape,

Figure 2.2

Slave Island first emerged as a suburb

Figure 2.3

Historical building form still remaining with poor strength.

Figure 2.4

Has been modified

Figure 2.5

cracked walls

Figure 2.6

In the short term, the result of this action on piece of stone is loss of from

Figure 2.7

Historical roof with mordent roofing sheet,

Figure 2.7a

yet historical roof form is still present with poor maintenance.

Figure 2.8

If trees cover a wall the actual wall surface cannot be observed,



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Figure 2.8a.

The presence of efflorescence on a walls

Figure 2.8b

while most of the down pipes have been corroded

Figure 2.8c

to remedy these decayed walls some occupants have resorted to using modern decorative solutions

Figure 2.8d

Due to the poor maintenance system and incorrect repairing methods

Figure 2.9

No evidence about the historical floor

Figure 2.10

Upper floor windows are present in the historical form yet they have been weathered

Figure 2.10a

there are no evidences historical entrance ways,

Figure 2.11

The building with steel structures, by the outlook of form seems strong

Figure 2.11a

If movement occurs because of this failure

Figure 2.12 Right side of the roof are highly dilapidated and exposed to rain water

Figure 2.13

The façade of the building is identifiable form

Figure 2.13a

The upper floor big balcony with the dilapidated

Figure 2.15

Symmetrical square open of the ground floor are being used as entrance for shops



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Figure 2.16

The historical building form outlook of from seems strong

Figure 2.16a

Large sines and newly modified steel doors are obstructing building form also front elevation.

Figure 2.16b

Due to the heavy traffic conjunction, historical buildings were not designed to absorbing changers in its surrounding.

Figure 2.17

The historical roof was available but willing to proper maintenance system

Figure 2.17a

The presence of efflorescence on a wall shows the places where water

Figure 2.18

The façade is covered by signboards of present occupants.

Figure 2.19

No evidence about the historical floor,

Figure 2.20

Symmetrical arches of the ground floor are being used as entrance for shops

Figure 2.21

Those deformities are mostly temporary except in the case of "Building 137" which has been changed from its colonial form permanently

Figure 2.22

The roof of the building is finished with asbestos roofing sheet

Figure 2.22a

The parapet wall of a building has completely been removed by the residents due to safety concerns.



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Figure 2.23

The ground floor symmetrical archers are placed as main entrance and upper

Figure 2.24

No evidence about the historical floor

Figure 2.25

There are different types of doors in the ground floor of these buildings.

Figure 3.1

When comparing the three buildings, their colonial form is uniform, though they have been subject to some deformities owing to various usages and human activities

Figure 3.1a

"Building no 137" which has been changed from its colonial form permanently.

Figure 3.1b

Removing the aforesaid deformity -building No 137

Figure 3.2

Changing only the outer appearance of the building to a colonial form while maintaining those deformities- building No 137

Figure 3.3

Using canopies is the next main deformation.

Figure 3.3a

Introducing an identical canopy to all

Figure 3.4

The reason behind this is the narrower eave

Figure 3.5

When compared with the modified roof of the Soyza building

Figure 3.5a

Except for Soyza and the Building no 125, roofs of other two buildings have been modified from its historical form



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Figure 3.6

Since the eave of the Soyza building is much narrower the upper storey walls are heavily decayed.

Figure 3.7

That is recreating the historical roof form of these buildings by building back the parapet walls of these buildings

Figure 3.8

This can be remedied by adding the same canopies adopted by the occupants of the soyza building

Figure 3.9

Firstly, the hoardings that exist covering these historical facades should be removed

Figure 3.10

The modifications and restorations done

Figure 3.11

Façade decorations of all these buildings are mostly repetitive and symmetrical therefore the lost decorations can be easily identified

Figure 3.11a

Façade decorations

Figure 3.11b

Façade decorations

Figure 3.11c

The occupants have changed the decorations/Façade plaster according to their whim

Figure 3.12

These irregular door styles should be changed

Figure 3.12a

All upper storey windows are in dire condition today.



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Figure 3.13

A close study can reveal some important evidences of their door and window styles.

Figure 3.14

These buildings presently due to changes that have been effected to match the commercial purposes of these buildings thereby changing the historical view of the building

Figure 3.14a

The ground floor shop front should be planned so as to enhance the present usage.

Figure 3.15

The decayed window decorations can be seen

Figure 4.1

The basic frame

Figure 4.2

The parapet or cornice

Figure 4.3
The sign band

Figure 4.4
Awnings

Figure 4.5
The storefront base

Figure 4.6
Display window

Figure 4.7
Entryways

Figure 4.8
Signage

Figure 4.9
Colors



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Figure 4.10
Pavement and other street related items