Heritage towns consist of abundant heritage assets which play a significant role in the socio-economic development of the industrially backward, underdeveloped or resource poor region. Such towns witness huge tourist inflow, even outnumbering the resident population during the festival time. Over a period of time, these heritage assets were undermined due to intense development of its surroundings. It’s the right time to revive the role of these heritage assets being played in the past by adopting a suitable framework and methodology for conservation. Before proceeding further, review of previous planning initiatives was carried out to understand the existing status of the town and the challenges ahead.

Identification of heritage asset is an important task in the process of conservation. Even the neglected, uncared, structures were identified if it qualifies to be a heritage structure on the basis of selection criteria. The existing rules and regulations related to conservation are reviewed to assess the limited scope available for the planner to give proposals. To determine the level of preservation and conservation, all the heritage structures were graded into 3 types based on its significance. Out of all, only few heritage structures (Grade I) were upgraded as heritage monument and the conservation plan is prepared for the same. A prototype conservation strategy is being worked out for Grade II, Grade III and heritage water body based on the concept of tactical place making and form based codes. Finally, recommendations were given on how to manage and maintain these heritage assets in good condition by integrating various groups.

Present Covid-19 pandemic has limited my number of site visits and access to data collection. There are many cities and towns in India which resembles the character of my study area. The heritage assets of these towns must be preserved and conserved even amidst the rapid urbanization.