

Calico Dome in Ahmedabad, was the first Geodesic Dome in India made out of metal underneath which calico mills and factories had their outlets of textiles and loom. It was made by one of the tycoons called Gautam Sarabhai in the year 1963 and was inspired from Geodesic Dome of Buckminster Fuller. In 2001 Earthquake, the roof collapsed and due to lack of management, the AMC ( Ahmedabad Management corporation) took charge of restoration yet the plannings of it has remained at stake as per 2019 August updates.



The above picture on the left shows the complete dome before 2001 Gujarat Earthquake, and the one on the right shows picture by the end of 2010

The below picture on the left shows the leftover dome till 2017 and on the right shows the recent ones with just metal piers left intact.



The photo on the right is the site demarcation within the Old city of Ahmedabad on the plate that has a Jain *derasar* as the context, and an auspicious tree which is worshipped by the devotees just in the proximity of the CALICO dome plinth.

## AHMEDABAD OLD CITY- UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CITY - 2018



In 2018, Ahmedabad became India's first Heritage City based on the histories of architecture marvels it has that reflects the heritages of mills and textile factories, flavour of havelis of former tycoons who set up industries of textiles and looms after the British Raj, the wealthy landlords like the Kasturbhais and Sarabhais who called renowned architects and the evergreen pols with its mesmerising labyrinth streets that created architecture which united religions and castes to live together in proximity which actually is a contradiction based on the social, political and religious aspects of Gujarat and India in general. Also the ruling of Ahmed Shah from whom Islamic architecture was influenced with mosques, dargahs, darwajas, Jain locals who actually constructed the Jama mosques with trabeated technicality of columns and beams rather than arches

The pictures on the left caption: Top panoramic shows Siddi Saiyyad Jaali  
Bottom left shows Dilli Darwaja and bottom right shows Jammi Masjid,

**INTENT**

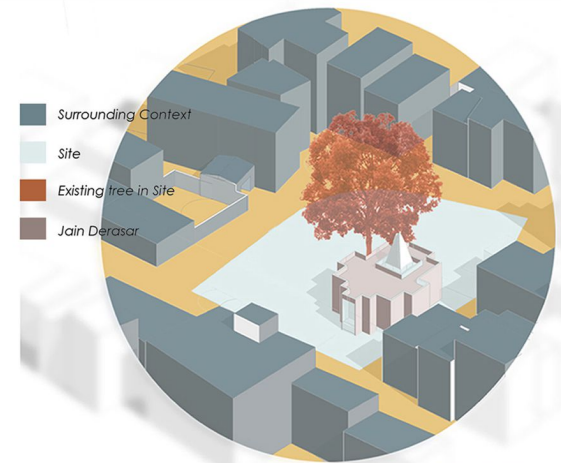
The basic intent of this intervention is to come up with a creative solution that not just benefits the end users but also generates revenue to the localites that have immense talent of hnd woven and handicrafts yet urbanization makes it almost impossible for them to sustain, since the degree of most revenue generation happens on the western side of the Sabarmati river which is inhabited by mostly fincancially wealthy civilians who go with ready made garments and upholsteries rather than sticking to local looms and handwoven stuffs which is a sign of ‘AATMA NIRBHAR REGIME’ that would actually enhance the economy of localites who have become poor after the pandemic hit all over the world. It is not that these people lack customers or clients, but their hand made stuffs go to retailers and then brands with them hardly geting a penny from their work.



**SITE ANALYSIS** Genius loci | Entourage | Proximity and lifestyles



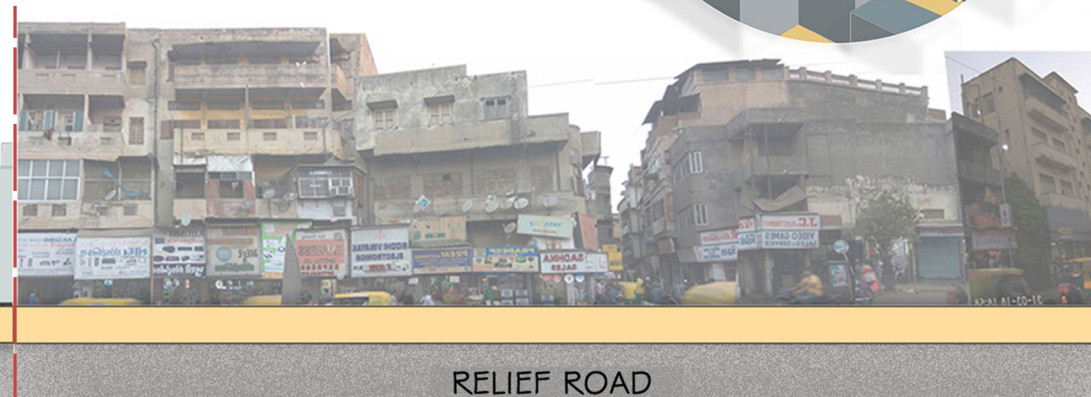
In the site, I have kept the Jain Derasar intact with the auspicious tree adjacent in order to respond to the context, and make this derasar inclusive of my intervension with its own charm and vibrance plus also not interfering the religious impact it has to my interventions. Also I keep suriety of the trees in the streets just before the entrance facing the Relief road in order to be cautious towards land flora and eco systems



Enlarged bubble showcasing the site and the locality



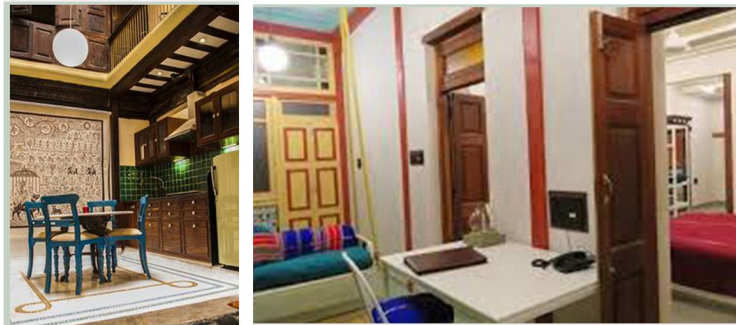
The above graphic shows the street scape of the site from the relief road



The above panoramic view shows the city scape just opposite the street scape of the calico dome site



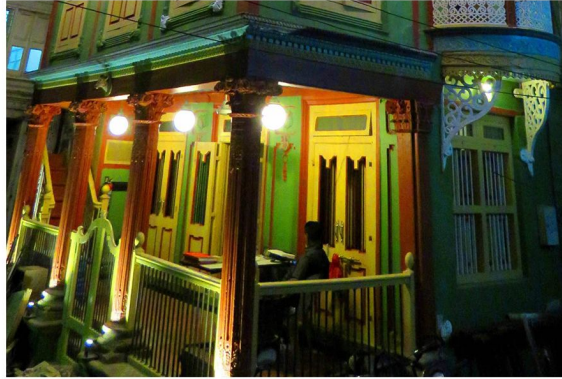
On site sketches of the proximity were made in order to catch the lifestyle, the chaos, the width and the built ratio, the change in spaces catching and narrating meander language of this whole organically planned old city. Documenting the occupation of the people in different zones, putting emphasis on **light** aspect, drainage, **khadki** concept with maximum built going three floors, with not as designated setbacks and compound walls and most built up with a commercial at the ground floor and then residential over it. There were zones where one will find mostly similar items and commodities in one particular line of the street. Near my site there were people and artisans who were really creative with handicrafts. So my intent was to make those people generate revenue from the tourists, people coming for heritage walk to have a pause point and have a glimpse of antiquities that showcases the rich history of walled city.



*The photos on the right shows the handicrafts, artifacts, antiquities, handloom, textile carpets and quilts local people make which are sold to higher retailers and hence they are been exploited for the manual hard work they put in and hardly get any money in return*



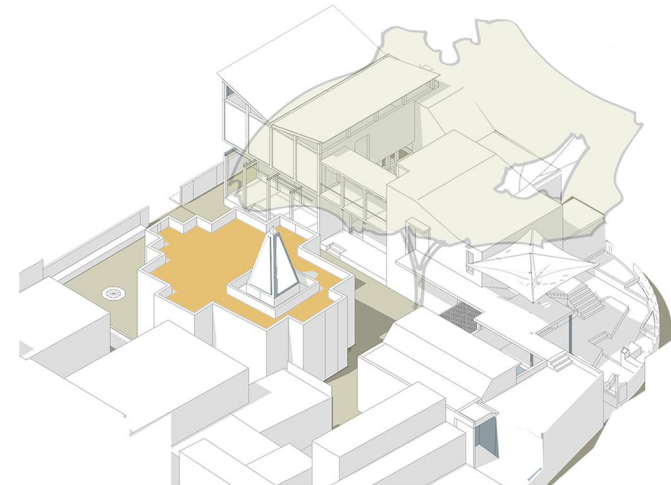
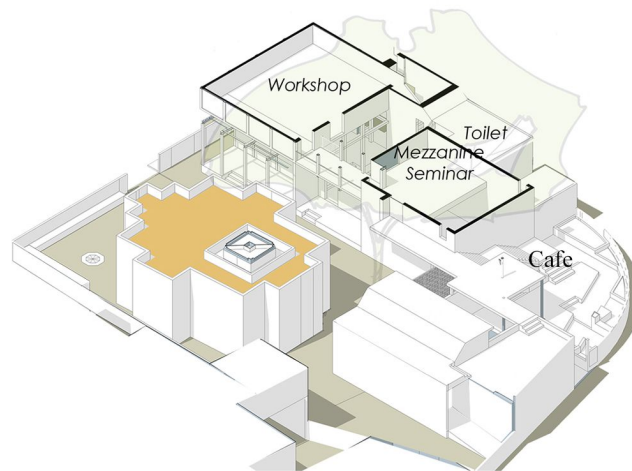
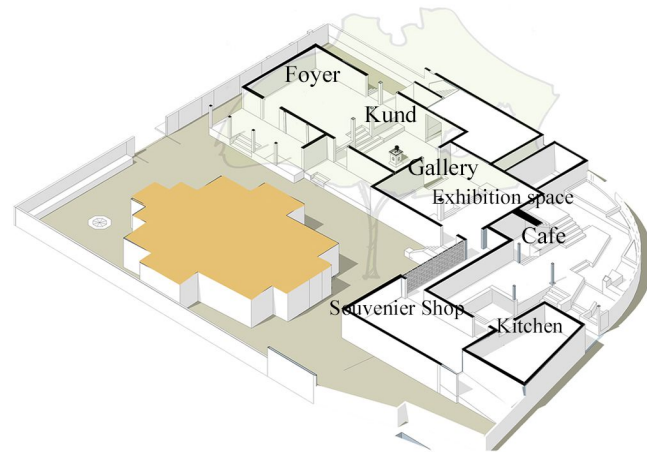
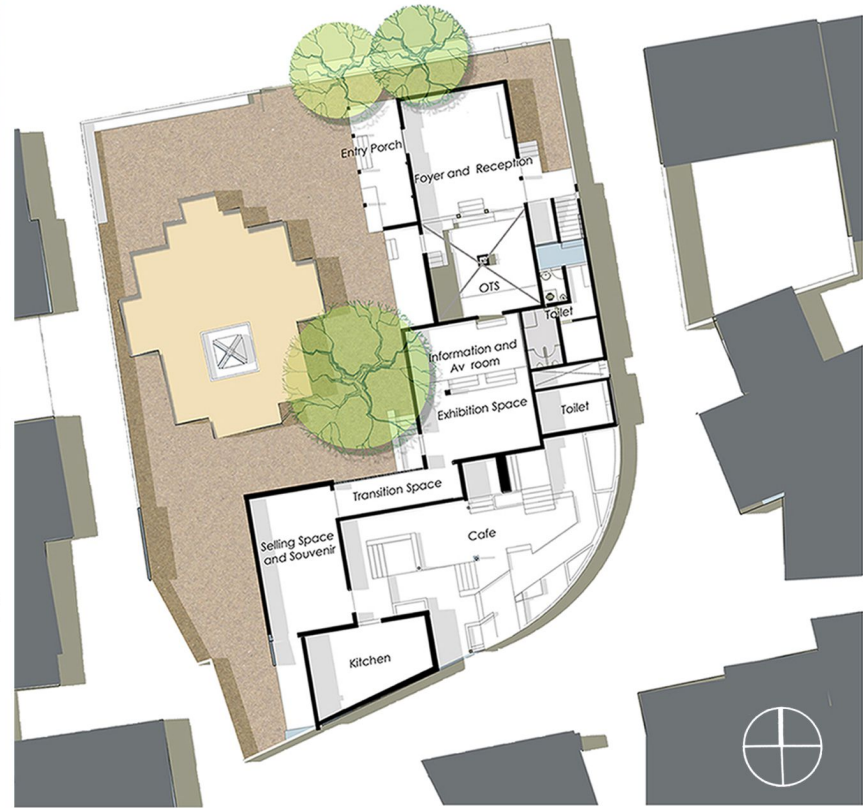
*The images above shows the havelis and its interiors which has got richness and vibrance in terms of colours, material palette, antiquities that actually blend to become a very bohemian mixture making it attract people plus shows the rich ethnicities, lifestyles, heritage, history of Ahmedabad as a whole*



The above photos is from one of the cafe showcasing the rich colours and earthiness of brick and wood

**PROPOSAL AND LOCAL BENEFITS**

Since localites were the center of design for generating complete income in their pocket, the best proposal for me was to come up with a pause point for the visitors where they can have a glimpse of old city in terms of architectural built that connects the built space to be LABYRINTH reflecting the streets of the pols and also creating a sense of drama in which each space will have its own identity of showcasing history and the rich heritage of Ahmedabad, also called the Manchester of India for textiles. The visitors will be shown footages and documentations, there will be gallery of calico textiles, exhibiton space, seminar space, workshops of weaving and handloom would be done with souvenir shop that will sell the works and commodities of localites without a penny used in between and all money going to the actual artisans and craftsman. Also the cafe would be run by local people





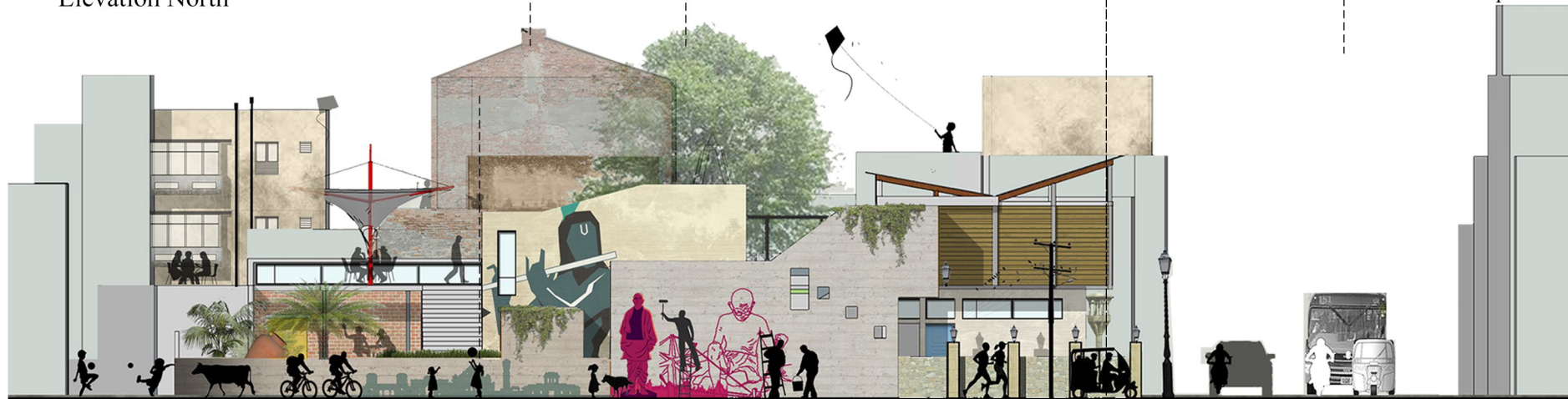
The regular movement of vehicles along with elephants on the relief road  
Elevation North

Haja Patel Pol

Design Intervention

Derasar

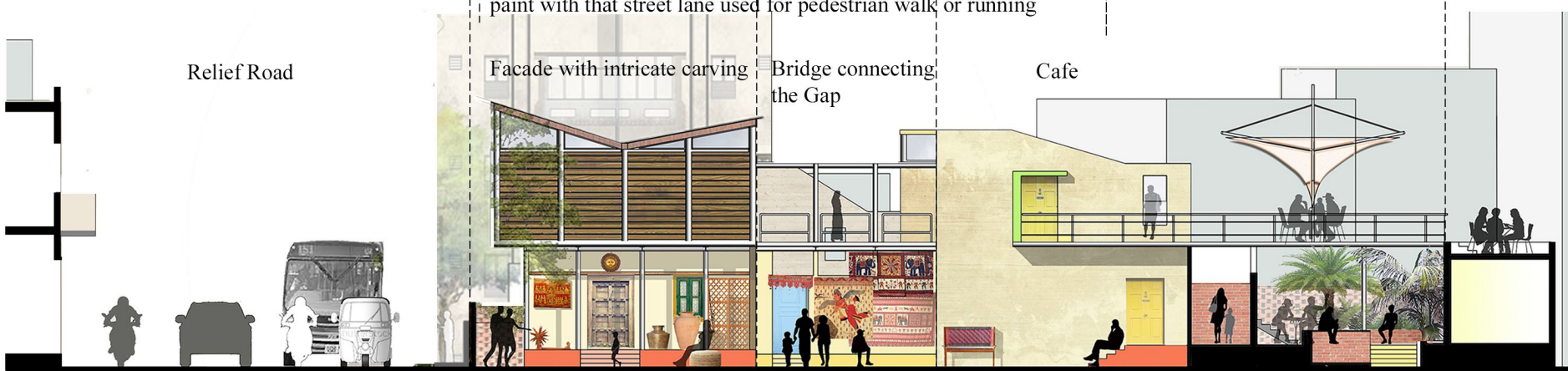
Regular commercial buildings with residential on top



Cafe

Facades that is made free for any graphicist or enthusiasts to paint with that street lane used for pedestrian walk or running

Relief Road



Relief Road

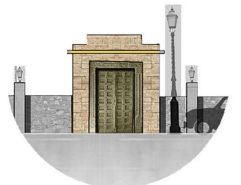
Facade with intricate carving

Bridge connecting the Gap

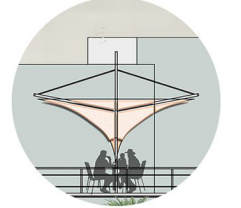
Cafe

Relief Road

Elevation West



The antique and traditional door frame and shutter and also the traditional form of lamp post



The tensile structure showing modernity in terms of construction



The typical HAVELI windows that looks quite similar to the french window



The Gujarat's indigenous bird feeding architecture element called Chabutra



The angle according to the azimuth of that particular location, where solar panels would be installed

