

Source: Khizra Arfan
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Original artwork
by the author.
Visual elements
were developed
using historical and
archival reference
images from multiple
secondary sources.

HEERAMANDI BETWEEN MEMORY AND DECAY



The drawing portrays present-day Heera Mandi as a layered urban environment where cultural memory persists within deteriorating architecture, fragmented infrastructure, and the socially neglected fabric of Old Lahore.

Pigeon houses across the rooftops reflect a continuous interaction between the urban fabric and non-human occupation within Androon Lahore.

Balconies continue to function as semi-private spaces associated with female presence and everyday domestic visibility within the street facade

Mughal and colonial architectural elements embedded within the facade reveal the layered historical transformation of the area.

Exposed wiring, deteriorating walls, and informal infrastructure highlight the gradual neglect of the historic urban fabric.

Local music shops, paan stalls, and everyday street activity demonstrate how cultural memory and social life continue to survive despite stigma and restriction.