



ADDIS ABABA'S
ARCHITECTURAL
HERITAGE: DEFINITION,
SELECTION AND
STATUS

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HISTORY OF BUILDING IN ADDIS ABABA

- **DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOWN STRUCTURE**
- **DEVELOPMENT OF BUILDING TYPES**

1-ROUND SHAPE

2-OVAL SHAPE

3-RAISED CENTRAL PART

4-SYMMETRY

5-COMBINATION

6-FOREIGNE INFLUENCE

7-PUBLIC BUILDINGS







Armenian, European and Indian styles



1-DEFINITION

- Cultural heritage means anything **tangible** or **intangible** which is the product of creativity and labor of man in pre-history and historical times. It describes and witness the natural evolution, which has major value in its scientific historical, cultural, artistic and handicraft content .
- **Tangible cultural heritage** means cultural heritage that can be seen. It includes **immovable** or **movable** historical and manmade cultural heritage.
- **Immovable cultural heritage** means cultural heritage attached to the ground with a foundation and which can be moved only by dismantling and shall include:

- A. Sites where Cultural Heritages have been discovered (paleontological historical, pre historic and archeological)
- B. Buildings, memorial places, monuments and palaces
- C. Remains of ancient burial places, cave paintings and inscriptions
- D. Churches, monasteries, mosques or any other place of worship.

Based on the above definition, historical structures and sites are broadly defined as:

- Historical structures referring to buildings, monuments or statues that were built during a respective time and have historical significance,
- Historical sites referring to a large settlement/group of buildings, constructed at a similar time that have historical significance or an area that served as a ceremonial place festival place for the community.

2-SELECTION CRITERIA

1-HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- Historic value does not only mean “old age”. It also has significance in terms of continuity, where buildings tell their own stories about past events .
- They may be glories, tragic or just reminders of the way people lived before.

2-AGE OF STRUCTURES AND SITES

- Structures that were related to the foundation of Addis Ababa,
- Structures that were built before the Italian occupation period.

3-ARCHITECTURAL VALUE

- The harmony of materials change of open and close surfaces ,the variation in porches and balconies, richly decorated molding and fascia boards or other distinctive feature give every building its own, particular appearance .

3-CURRENT STATUS

- Many factors have contributed to the present challenging situation
 1. One common problem often is the use of open fires inside the buildings, probably resulting from the lack of kitchens. In a building with a wooden structure it is dangerous and the smoke destroys the interior. Sometimes rooms are used for waste or as toilets, without any appropriate arrangements.

2. Change in use is very problematic. Many former residences now serve as schools, offices or dwellings for many families. First, the building might not be durable enough for a considerable increase in the number of users. Second, the change of use can result in other modifications: new kinds of rooms needed, extensions built, walls demolished, etc.





3. Many of the buildings were landmarks, controlling their surroundings. Now they have lost their imposing status.

A clear hierarchy existed on the original compounds: The main buildings were in the centre and were probably supported by several minor building.

Today they stand alone or big buildings are built densely around them.



4. If maintenance repairs are not carried out properly, further problems will arise. Inappropriate materials and material combinations can result in leakages, cracks, and structural problems.
5. The general conditions of society also affect the individual buildings. The lack of dwellings forces people to live in very dense patterns. The economical situation does not allow other aspects of living to be considered, when many primary needs must be faced first.



The problems are numerous. They must first be solved at the administrative level.

Legislation to help the authorities is also required.

Finance for conservation is needed and the burden should be divided between several parties.

For the most important buildings, detailed conservation plans should be drawn up. For the others, at least, definite guidelines are needed.

THANK YOU