Historicity and Restoration of Ancient Forts – A Review

Forts & Palaces in Tamil Nadu

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Fort St. George, Chennai- 600 009
Dr. R. Kannan studying the Fort – Before Conservation

Dansborg – Before Conservation
White of eggs used in lime mortar for *Moghul* plaster

Traditional grinding of lime mortar
Dr. R. Kannan inspecting iron members of the window

Dr. R. Kannan inspecting the excavation site at *Tranquebar* before conserving rampart wall
Dansborg – During Conservation
Fully conserved
Dutch Fort - *Tranquebar*
Dansborg Rear View & Under illumination at night
MANORA TOWER BEFORE & DURING CONSERVATION

- Manora - Before conservation - crack is seen
- RCC roof support given for Manora resulting in cracks
- Laying special type of brick floor tiles at Manora
- Manora - Restoration Teakwood Plank Covered with Lotus leaf
- Binding the wood members during conservation at Manora with coil rope
- Manora - Flooring - After conservation Consultant Chella Pillai (centre) is seen
MANORA TOWER AFTER CONSERVATION
Portion of Thanjavur Palace - Naik Mandapa - Before conservation

Naik Mandapa at Thanjavur Palace - Before conservation
Portion of Thanjavur Palace - Naik Mandapa - Before conservation
Full view of Thaniavur Palace - After conservation (1994)
A drawing of Thomas Daniel, dated 1798 - ruins of the palace at Madurai shows evident marks of its former grandeur.
Tirumalai Naik Mahal (Palace) - Madurai

Tirumalai Naik Mahal Pillars
- Before conservation
Tirumalai Naikar Mahal at Madurai being inspected by Dr. R. Kannan & team during conservation process
Tirumalai Naik Mahal Roof
- During conservation

Dr. R. Kannan inspects massive pillars of Tirumalai Naik Mahal
- After conservation
Udayagiri Fort
De-Lanoy’s Tomb Entrance view at Udayagiri Fort
Before & after Conservation – Dr. R Kannan looks on.
De-Lanoy’s Tomb
inner view at
Udayagiri Fort
Before Conservation

De-Lanoy’s Tomb
inner view at
Udayagiri Fort
after Conservation
Gingee Fort Before Conservation
Gingee Fort After Conservation
TRICHY FORT
BEFORE
&
AFTER
CONSERVATION
Rajagiri Fort
VELLORE FORT
NAMAKKAL FORT
BEFORE
&
AFTER CONSERVATION
FORT ST. GEORGE
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A special Reference to Nagaur Fort History, Conservation & Restoration

Nagaur Fort – defies Time and restores itself to youth like a Phoenix.
Nagaur Fort - Close up of restored rampart walls near Main entrance from Town.
10-10-2007
Nagaur Fort - entrance pathway with 90 degree turns to stop horses and elephants - Main entrance.
Nagaur Fort - Main entrance from Town - 10-10-2007.
Nagaur Fort – Dr. R. Kannan at the entrance - March, 2008.
Nagaur Fort-Entrance with Mr. Surinder Harsh, Manager Cum Conservator/Restorer 10-10-2007.
Nagaur Fort - fortified door of Main entrance from Town - 10-10-2007.
Nagaur Fort - nails on fortified door of Main entrance from Town - 10-10-2007.
Nagaur Fort - Verandah near the entrance of the Fort - note the lotus motifs on the red hard sandstone Pillars.
Nagaur Fort -
Conserved and
restored inner
courtyard with
*Durbar* Hall with a
balcony with *jalis*. 
Nagaur Fort - A temporary mosque built for Shah Jehan for a day's worship - Note the Hindu Lotus.
Nagaur Fort - Conserved and restored inner courtyard with traditional pavilions - showing waters.
Nagaur Fort - Conserved and restored inner courtyard with traditional pavilions 10-10-2007.
Nagaur Fort – Conserved & Restored inner courtyard with traditional pavilions - showing water spout.
Nagaur Fort - Restored Krishna Temple - a view of the dome
Nagaur Fort - Restored
Krishna Temple - another view from inside the fort
Nagaur Fort - Courtyard - Long collonaded pavilion adjoining courtyard water tank - Conserved and preserved.
Nagaur Fort - Conserved traditional Pavilion to view dances etc., on the platform - 10-10-2007.
Nagaur Fort - Courtyard - Conserved but not restored multi storied balcony for Rajput ladies to view performance at the courtyard.
Nagaur Fort - Pavilions adjoining the Courtyard in the rear - Conserved but not restored.
Nagaur Fort - Courtyard - Long colonnaded pavilion adjoining courtyard water tank - Conserved.
Nagaur Fort - Passage to inner area - Conserved but not restored Pavilion.
Nagaur Fort - Verandah type passage on the way to the current tourist rooms
Nagaur Fort - Back Courtyard - Water tanks in courtyard to keep the environment cool – Mughal style.
Nagaur Fort - Restoration work with traditional limestone mixture in progress on the rampart wall.
Nagaur Fort - Restored wall on the way to inner fort area - buttress walls - 19th Century technique.
Nagaur Fort –
Restored rampart wall
Nagaur Fort
-Conserved carved traditional wooden doors with heavy ornamentation.
10-10-2007
Nagaur Fort - 18th Century Palace adjoining courtyard - Painting on roof restored using vegetable dye.
Nagaur Fort - Passage adjoining courtyard - Painting on roof restored with vegetable and mineral dyes.
Nagaur Fort - Courtyard - Conserved but not restored wall.
Nagaur Fort - Conserved but not Restored pillars - the exposed bricks at the base are conserved in this building.
Nagaur Fort - ancient terracotta drain pipe to drain rain water from balcony to water tank.
Nagaur Fort - Courtyard - Terracotta pipes to carry water.
Nagaur Fort - Intricate lattice jali work - Conserved.
Nagaur Fort - Courtyard -
Copper spouts of fountains in water tanks in courtyard to keep the environ cool.
Nagaur Fort - Courtyard - Copper pipe spout of fountain in water tank - Moghul type Water System.
Nagaur Fort- 18th Century Abha Mahal - water flowing - tanks built into floor connecting to the storage tank.
Nagaur Fort - 18th Century - Palace of Abha Mahal – duct built into the wall connecting to roof.
Nagaur Fort - Restored arches with traditional Hindu Lotus motif on the arches and walls – Exhibition area.
Nagaur Fort - Conserved but not restored wall near inner courtyard - deliberately done to show the original structure.
Nagaur Fort - Crack on restored rampart wall - near Main entrance from Town - due to earthquake in 2001.
Nagaur Fort - Crack on restored rampart wall - near Main entrance from Town - due to earthquake of 2001.
Nagaur Fort - A close up view of the traditional limestone mixture 10-10-2007.
Nagaur Fort - Pickling of traditional limestone mixture used in restoration work in a traditional pit.
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Other Forts of Rajasthan – a view
Mehranarh Fort, Jodhpur
Umaid Bhawan Palace, Jodhpur
Umaid Bhawan Palace, Jodhpur
City Palace, Udaipur
Devigarh, Udaipur
Amber Fort, Jaipur
Amber Fort, Jaipur
Junagarh Fort, Bikaner
Jal Mahal, Jaipur
THANK YOU