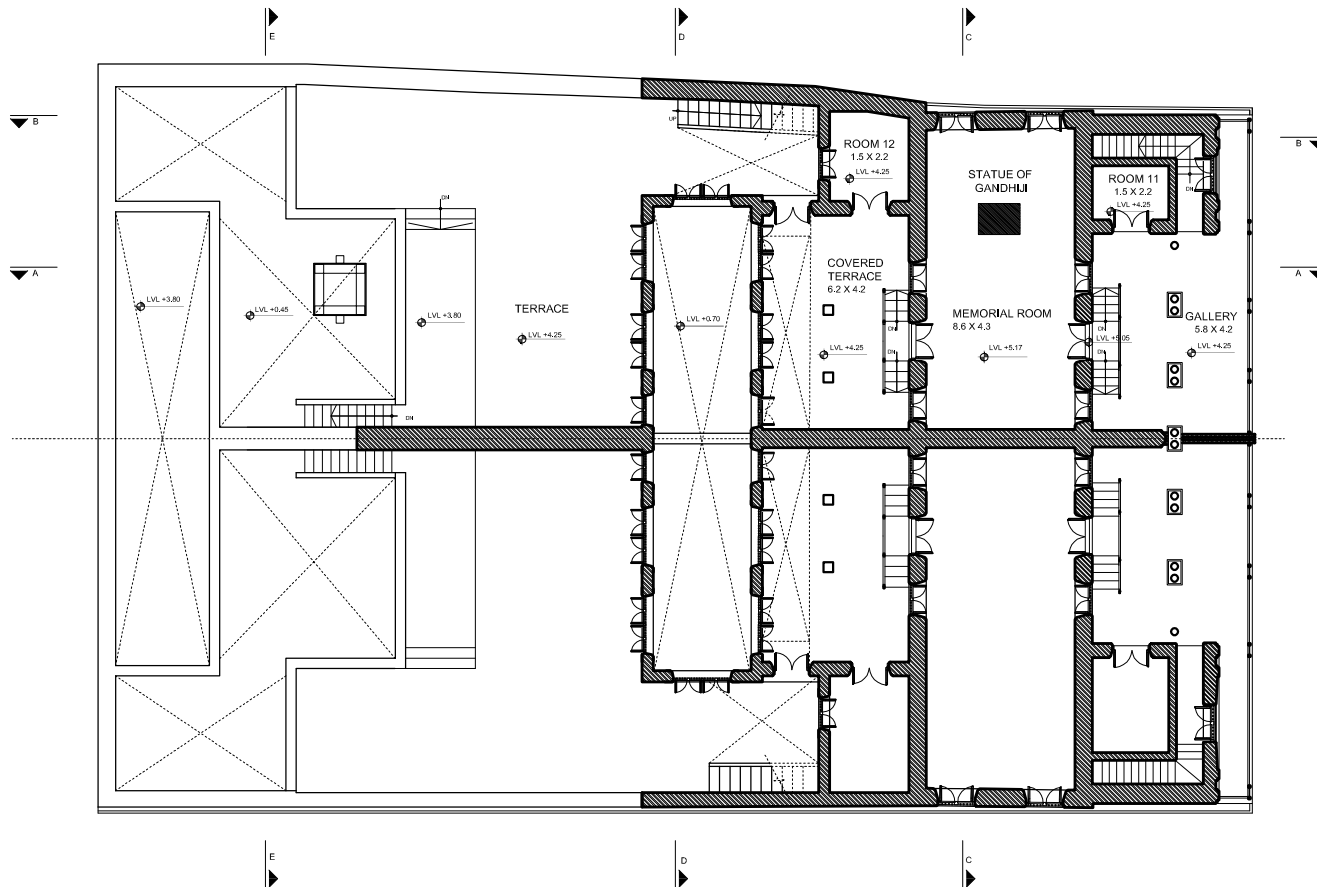


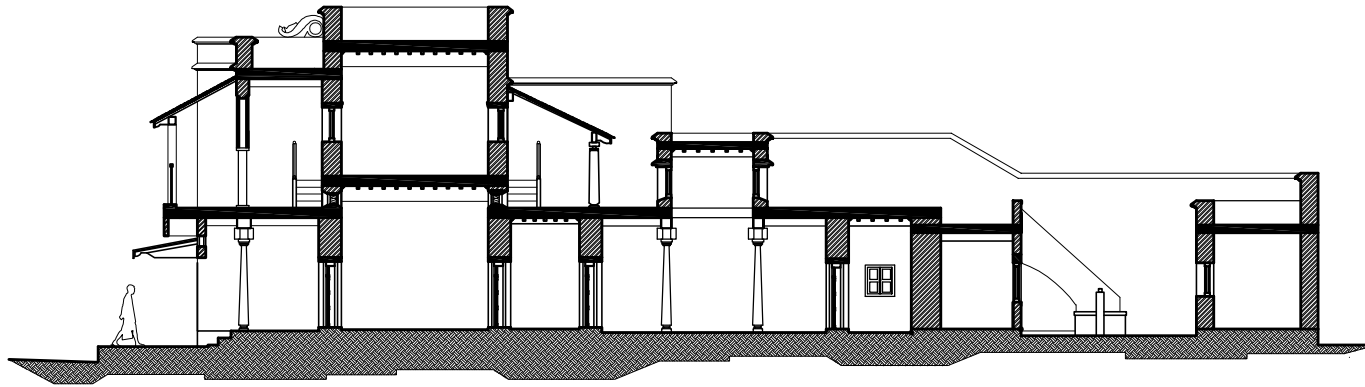
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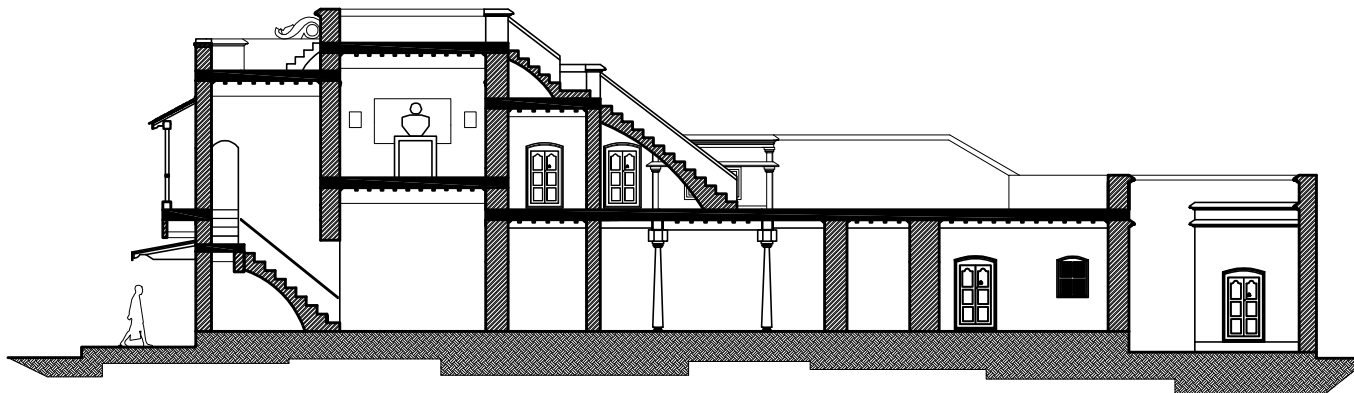
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	DATE :	15/06/2016						

- BRICK
- WOOD
- RCC
- EARTH
- G.I CORRUGATED





SECTION AA

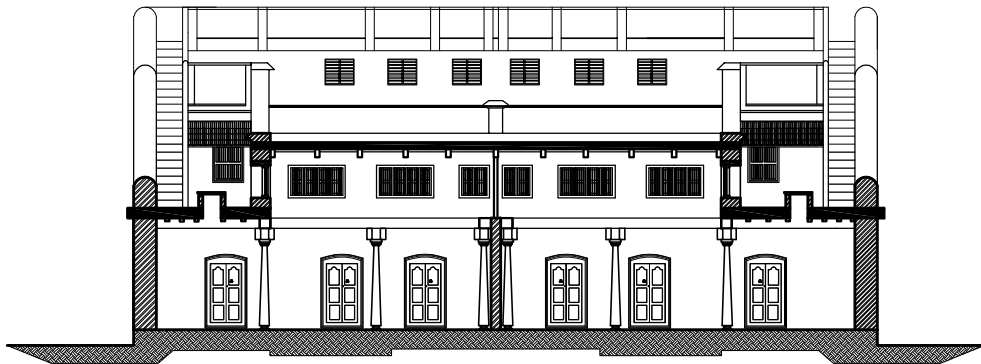


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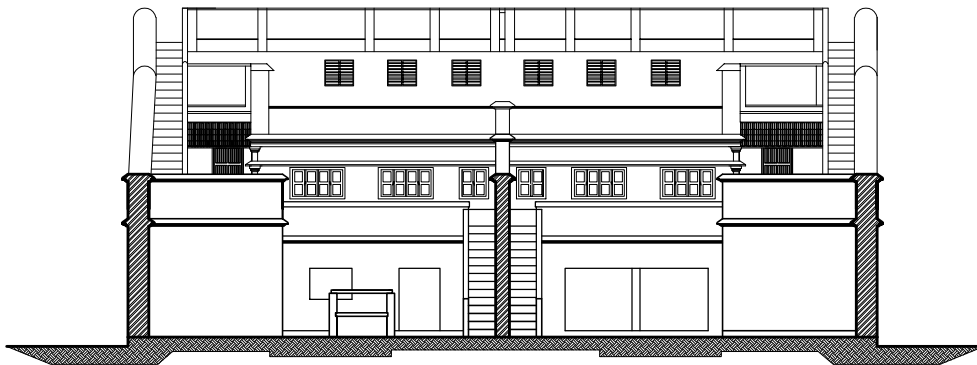
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SECTION CC



SECTION DD



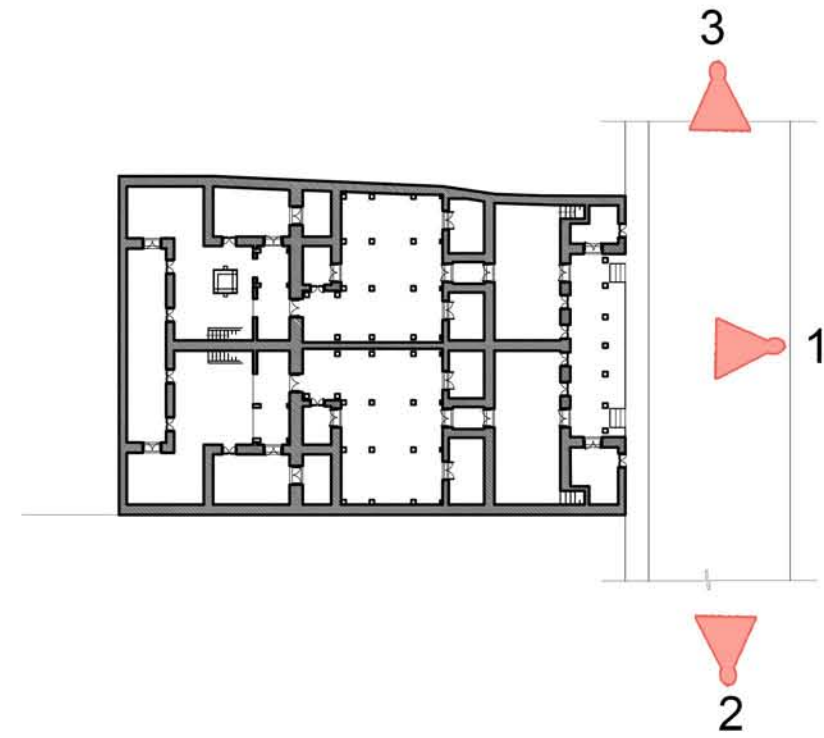
SECTION EE

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1 FRONT FACADE -EAST SIDE VIEW



2 FRONT FACADE -FROM SOUTHERN SIDE



3 FRONT FACADE -FROM NORTHERN SIDE

CORE SITE	DRAWING				SCALE	1:100	NORTH	PROJECT
ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTATION OF RAMJI KALYANI RESIDENCE AT 175, WEST MASI STREET, MADURAI	SHEET. TITLE :	PHOTO DOCUMENTATION	DRAWN BY :	-				GANDHI HERITAGE SITES MISSION SABARMATI ASHRAM PRESERVATION AND MEMORIAL TRUST
	DRG. NO. :	GHSM/MDU/RKR/03/06	CHECKED BY :	STEPHEN G				
	DATE :	15/06/2016						



WRITE-UP:

### **Madurai, Athens of the East**

Madurai, the Cultural Capital of Tamil Nadu, is one of the ancient and living cities of the earth. Madurai, one of the few cities which possess history of more than 3000 years is the **Cultural Capital** of Tamilnadu. Madurai has a very long and consistent history on par with Benares, Athens, Rome, etc., That is why Madurai is notably called as **Athens of the East**. Madurai is not only the Cultural Capital but also the **Linguistic Capital** of Tamilnadu wherein the **Fourth Tamil Sangam** was established. This, apart from its historicity, is also known as the **Political Nerve Centre** of Tamil Nadu and predominantly a Hindu Religious centre as well.

### **The Five Visits of Mahatma Gandhi**

Mahatma Gandhi, popularly known in India as the **Father of the Nation** left some indelible records in history by his visits to Madurai. As we are aware, he has visited Madurai for **5 times i.e., in 1919, 1921, 1927, 1934 & 1946**. Almost spanning over a period of three decades each of his visits was remarkably great. Every time he comes, he came with enthusiasm, innovative idea, pro active creativity and mobilized the masses to a particular type of Constructive Work (towards realizing the Sarvodaya Social Order), etc., Like a magician he enchanted and converted the crowds of ordinary, illiterate, uneducated masses as enlightened patriots and made them to commit for the cause of political/overall independence.

#### **The First Visit**

Though Gandhiji was born in the 19th century his first visit to Madurai was in 1919. Madurai was fortunate to have him for three days during **26, 27 and 28th March 1919**. During his stay here he successfully mobilized Satyagrahis to nonviolently protest against the notorious **Rowlatt Act**. He stayed in the house of **George Joseph** which was located on the Northern bank of River Vaigai (It is unfortunate that this house is demolished three years ago and a multiplex complex is coming up there).

#### **The Second Visit**

The second visit during 1921 became historical for Gandhiji has adopted the **Loin Cloth on 22nd September 1921** during his stay in **251-A, West Masi Street, Madurai**. This symbolic gesture of Gandhiji shows his identification with the poor and downtrodden section of the community. This action of voluntary poverty is world-widely known when Gandhiji uttered, "Unless and until poverty is eradicated from this country I will not have my upper cloth". During his participation in the 2nd Round Table Conference in London and then meeting the British Royal Family in the Buckingham Palace he dared to be there with the loin cloth. Even on the day Gandhiji was assassinated at the **Birla House in New Delhi** he was not wearing the upper cloth.

During his trip he spent three days from **20th September to 22nd September, 1921**. The predominant mission during this trip was to spread the message of **Khadi, boycott of foreign clothes** as part of his nation-wide campaign of non cooperation.

### **The Third Visit**

The third visit occurred from **28th to 30th September, 1927**. He used this mission to mobilize funds for the **Swadeshi/Khadi Movement**. Uncontrollable crowds thronged to see Gandhiji wherever he went. He happily appreciated the people of Madurai district for their successful following of the Khadi movement and adaptation to spinning wheel.

### **The Fourth Visit**

The fourth visit of Mahatma Gandhi during **1934 (25th to 27th January)** has no parallel and it is still relevant to the present day social context. This visit paved way for the famous Harijan Temple Entry Movement by which the Harijans were constitutionally allowed to enter into the temple which was banned for them centuries together. **A.Vaidyanatha Iyer, N.M.R.Subbaraman and Kakkanji** were the pioneers of the movement. The fight against the Caste Hindus which was frivolous almost five years. They sarcastically stated it thus: "It is much harder to fight against the Caste Hindus than the Britishers" and finally the Harijans were allowed inside the Meenakshi Temple on 8th August 1939. It is because of the visit of Gandhiji, for the first time in the social history of Madurai the **Harijans** were allowed inside the **Sri Meenakshi Temple**.

### **The Fifth and Last Visit**

The last visit was from **2nd to 3rd February 1946**. This last visit of Gandhiji occurred almost after a period of 12 years. He specially made this visit to worship in the Meenakshi Temple which was thrown open to the Harijans seven years ago. Gandhiji, the born-rebel social reformer happily worshipped in the temple. Alas! Nobody knew that it was the last and final visit of our revered Bapuji. Had he lived longer he would have made a dozen more visits to Madurai since it is one of the cherished centres of Bapuji.

Though he physically left the world the thought and action still remains in Madurai. That is why the most popular translator of his principles, **Dr.Martin Luther King Jr.** along with his wife **Coretta Scott King** visited Madurai in 1959 and put Madurai in the global history as one of his Learning Centres. Yes Madurai is keeping its Nonviolent tradition by the visit of many **Nobel Peace Laureates** such as **His Holiness Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa, Mrs. Maguire Mairead Corrigan** and others. Let us derive inspiration from this historic city and cherish and commit ourselves to work on Gandhian lines to create a **Sarvodaya Social Order**.