

छत्रपती शिवाजी महाराज वस्तुसंग्रहालय, मुंबई
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai

The City as Archive

A Symposium on making Mumbai's Built Heritage accessible to all



Crawford Market (Then), CSMVS 2008.12



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PROGRAMME

10:00 am

Arrival & Refreshments

10:30 am

Welcome Address by Sabyasachi Mukherjee
(Director General, CSMVS)

10:45 am

Introduction to the CSMVS Digital Library Project
by Prof. Mustansir Dalvi (Project Consultant, CSMVS)

11:15 am

Keynote Address

11:45 am — Tea Break

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm - Presentations

Anuradha Parmar

(Executive Director, Urban Design Research Institute, Mumbai)

Rahaab Aliana

(Curator, Alkazi Foundation for the Arts, New Delhi)

1:00 pm — Lunch Break

1:45 pm - 2:45 pm - Presentations

Robert Stephens (Architect, Author and Historian)

Kartikeya Shodhan (Head of Archives, CEPT University, Ahmedabad)

2:45 pm — Tea Break

3:15 pm - Panel Discussion

'Making knowledge of Mumbai's built heritage accessible to all' with
Manjiri Kamat (Professor of History and Author)

Vikas Dilawari (Conservation Architect)

Kurush Dalal (Archaeologist, Author and Food Anthropologist)

Moderated by - Mustansir Dalvi (Author and Project Consultant,
CSMVS Digital Library of Mumbai's Built Heritage)

4:15 pm - Remembering Heritage Stalwarts and Conclusion

The Trustees and Staff of the
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai

Cordially invite you to

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Keynote Address by Mariam Dossal
(Professor of History and Author on Mumbai's Civil History)

Premchand Roychand Gallery
1st floor East wing CSMVS Mumbai
on Friday, 26th September 2025



Crawford Market (Now), Image courtesy Wikimedia Commons

The City as Archive

A Symposium on making Mumbai's built heritage accessible to all

The project of digitally archiving Mumbai's built heritage is not just preservation; it is a chance to reimagine how we understand and transmit the life of our metropolis. Mumbai is a palimpsest — its houses, monuments, markets, and institutions all trace social, political, and cultural practice, yet all remain vulnerable to redevelopment, neglect, or decay. A digital archive can both record what has been and serve as a tool for interpretation. By making the intangible visible — through metadata, maps, and interactive platforms — it can transform heritage into a resource for education, memory, and civic engagement.

This symposium invites a shift in perspective: from static record to living dialogue — where the digital city archive becomes memory and imagination, conserving and reinterpreting the city for new ways of inhabiting it.