Design with Nature

Case: Lalbagh Fort Complex, Dhaka, Bangladesh



Source: pinterest

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Lalbagh Fort (Previously known as Fort Aurangabad)

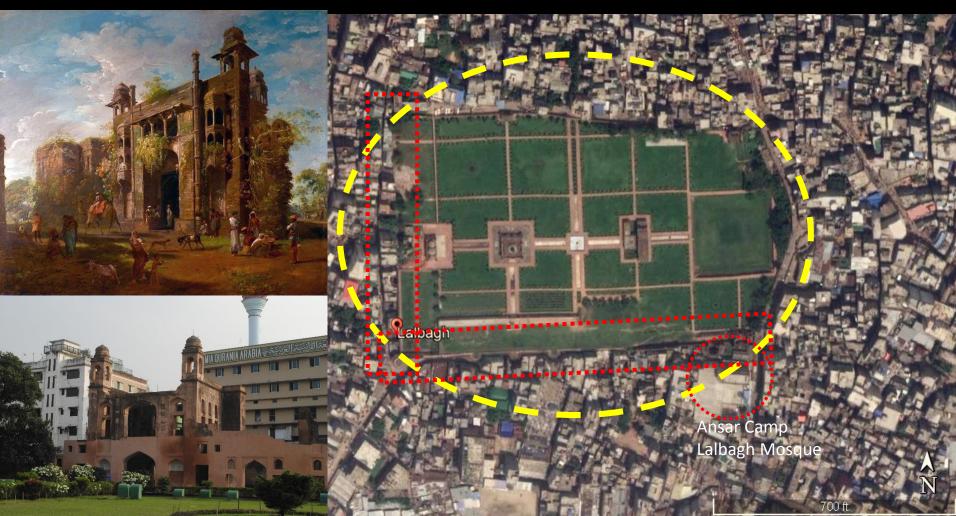
Construction date: 1678 AD (incomplete)

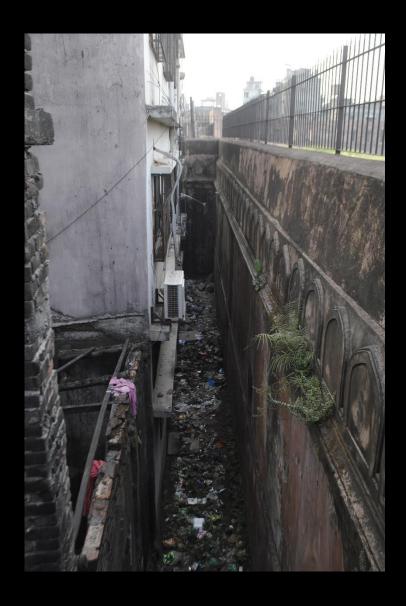
Built by: Mughal Prince Subahdar Muhammad Azam Shah, son of Mughal Emperor Aurangazeb and later emperor himself

Geolocation: 23°43'7.94"N 90°23'17.38"E

Challenges

1) Unplanned urbanization & encroachment overtook buffer zone







- Rapid urbanization and no control over encroachment
- The south and west wall are surrounded by modern high-rise buildings; separation between historic structure by three feet/1 meter
- The southern gate has been obscured from view by the Ansar camp & extension of adjacent Mosque.
- Because of buffer zone scarcity, the fort has not been nominated as a World Heritage sight.

2) Public nuisance









3) Poor Maintenance & Lack of professional restoration







- Lack of proper maintenance
- Irregular monitoring
- Broken structures
- Lack of professional follow up
- Bad restoration example; Built wall at northern side without considering historical original construction
- Controversial demolition of fort wall for car parking facility

Strategies for Improvement



Monitoring maintenance quality & equip with more manpower for security



Arrange Social Awareness program



Community involvement & stewardship



Restoration Responsibility given to relevant multi-professional team (i.e. Archeologist, Landscape Architect, Conservation Architect etc.)



Government initiative to evict and clear the fort surrounding under Heritage Protection rules



Thank You