

# Change Study

- **PLANNING STUDIO PROJECT**
- Planning for Conservation of Historic Riverfront area based on a
- Study and Documentation of Urban Change (1950-2000)
- Area of study: Vishnumati area between Kankeswori and Indrayeni *pith*, Kathmandu

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- Riverfront of Vishnumati between Kankeswori and Indrayeni *pith*
  - Fringe of the historic Kathmandu town
  - Transitional zone in the urban-rural/ cultural-natural continuum
  - Definitive part of the cosmic image of Kathmandu town
  - On the slopes to the east of the river and has seen remarkable changes particularly in last 60 years
  - The land across on West bank of Vishnumati also passing through a serious developmental change
  - The dirt track, Vishnumati Boulevard?, a graveyard of the graveyards and of the nature-culture/ urban-rural continuum.

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- There has been little of planning and policy concerns and applications for this area in recent decades either by way of conservation or to guide urban development considering its natural and cultural contexts
- The indiscriminate urban densification and change of fabric and land use in the area has almost totally engulfed the cultural and environmental quality and role of the area.
- Pressure of development in and around these very areas continue to persist

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- Planning and developmental interventions that strike an acceptable balance of conservation (of cultural heritage and natural environment) with development
- Document change in land use and urban form/structure of the area and develop a mapped data of change
- Analyze and characterize these trends and acts precipitated by such trends in the past, study the trends and problems of the present

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- Propose planning interventions to appropriately manage development around the central objective of conservation and regeneration of natural and cultural river environment, traditional built culture, festivals and rites of living and passage, functions, economies and culture groups. The present exercise aims to establish an appropriate mix of development, conservation and regeneration objectives, policies and action-based approaches.

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- Objectives of the exercise:
- *The natural-river environment, unique place and quality/value of the Kankeswori-Indrayeni area in the context of historical urbanization of Kathmandu Town, particularly its medieval phase, make it imperative that planning interventions to conserve it as a living heritage be made- it is the context of living in and around the heritage that brings with it development and change, that is often seen as being in conflict with conservation.*

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- Objectives of the exercise:
- *This planning studio exercise will have urban conservation as a objective bias and will aim to incorporate development requirements within conservation and regeneration sensitivities. The project has been identified as a case planning exercise with conservation of natural-cultural environment and historical fabric and economic and cultural regeneration as a conscious bias.*

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- Objectives of the exercise:
- *The studio will document the changes happening in the area (on both sides of the river) in terms of land use, urban form and infrastructure over the last sixty years. It will analyze the changes to identify possible ways of relating and guiding development with historic fabric, land use and historic sites, cultural networks and processes and natural/river environment.*
- *Interventions, plans and policies to be compatible with local citizen participation.*



# Change Study

- The studio will be conducted in three parts.
- The first four Sundays is allocated for interaction with informants and city management, collection of historical /change information, field data collection, presentation of raw data and base maps, and consultation of current planning documents.
- The second five Sundays is allocated for analysis and presentation of pooled data. The work will be studio based and presence/ work on drawing board will be required. Output in the form of maps (with bubble statements if needed) will be produced for each data area. The class will present a seminar on the changes on March 25.

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- The studio will be conducted in three parts.
- The third part will cover rest of the Sundays in this semester and is allocated for synthesis, planning, preparation of presentation plans. The class will be divided into two groups and each group will work within the assigned level of conservation and regeneration biases. (attachment-2). Two sets of plan and report will be produced. The report will be limited to 10 A4 sheets. There will be a review by Jury on last Sunday of the semester.

