

## **IAPNU - SCET Joint Urban Context Studio, Sem.-VII**

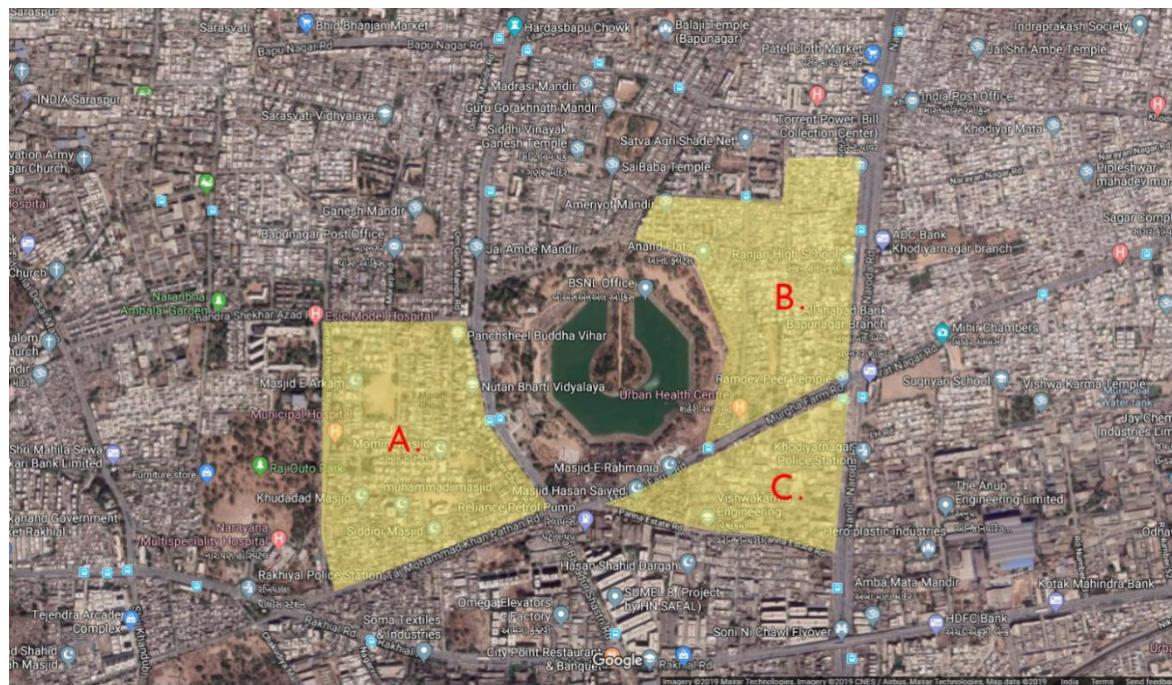
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26<sup>th</sup> June to 19<sup>th</sup> Nov., 2019

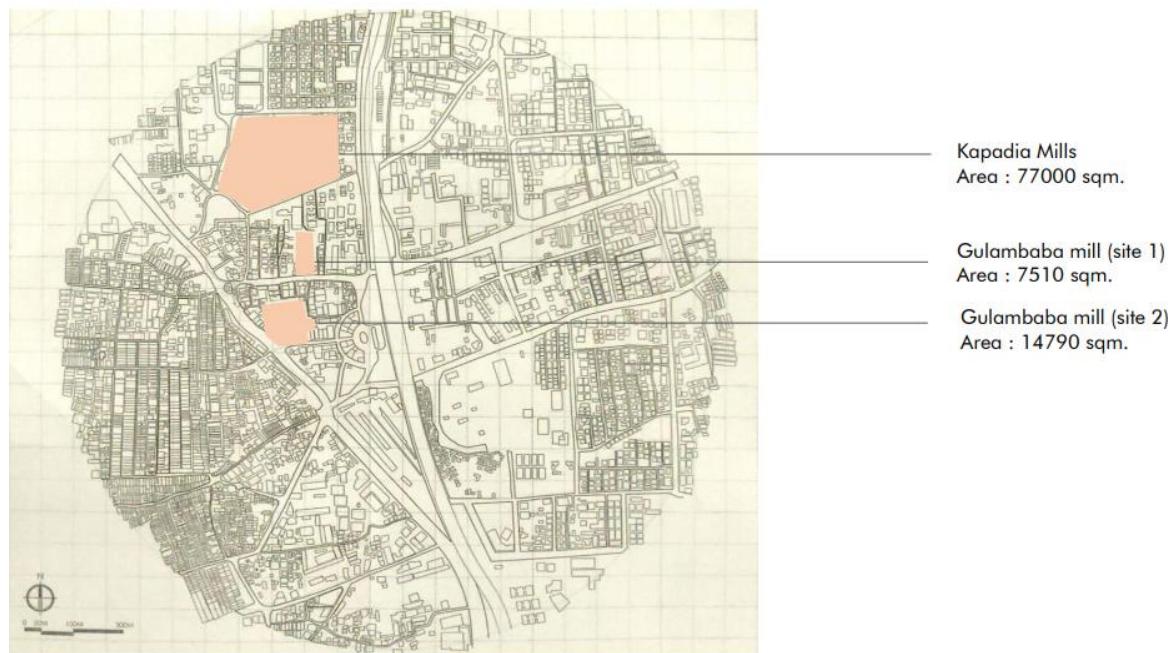
A joint Urban Context Studio was conducted by IAPNU and SCET wherein a total of 40 students from both institutes collaborated for Architectural Design Studio in Semester-7. The studio was conducted by Ar. Vishal Shah from SCET and Ar. Jitendra Menghani and Ar. Manoj Joshi from IAPNU. The purpose of this initiative was to promote interaction and cross-learning between students of both institutes through involvement in the design process on common sites and with similar programmes. In the semester long studio students engaged in issues of designing for urban redevelopment and proposed a master plan for 3 sites around Malek Saban lake in Bapunagar, Ahmedabad and defunct mill compounds near railway station in Surat. The aim of the studio was to sensitize students to the design of buildings, urban environments and precincts responsive and integral to the larger context of the City. It tried to engage students in design of larger comprehensive wholes wherein parts are inter-related and in-sync with immediate surroundings and integrated with larger vision for city and its communities. Studio curation involved joint site studies and analysis, primary and secondary case studies, literature review, formulation of common mandates, reviews at both institutes, feedback from experts and input lectures. Students and faculties from both institutes put in substantial work and effort to accomplish the broader aim of collaborative studio; which was to have an insight into design approaches of both institutes, to co-create design ideas and mandates, to witness different designs emerge out of same concerns and to make individual design contributions which are meaningful and appropriate to the urban environment and community.

Bapunagar, in the eastern part of Ahmedabad housed many textile mills which are defunct today. Over decades this area has gathered an identity of being an industrial area with middle and lower-middle class residential development. Now with the industries being pushed outward from the city and new modes of transport and network redefining connectivity of urban areas, this part of the city is already seeing urban redevelopment and revitalisation. The sites are in the vicinity of the Manek Saban lake (currently isolated) which offers the possibility of redefining this part of the city by rejuvenating it to create a city level urban node. The primary aim is to redesign the adjacent areas of the lake in such a way that the lake becomes integral to the master plan leading to a better quality of urban life for the community and appropriate utilisation of urban land.

In Surat, defunct mill lands at eastern edge of the dense walled city, near the railway station are to be redeveloped. The Lal Darwaja mill, GulamBaba mill and Kapadia mill being the only empty pockets of land in urban areas starved of quality public open spaces, the question of nature of redevelopment of mill lands comes to the forefront. The idea here is to give back some land as public open space in the process of redevelopment by assigning 1/3<sup>rd</sup> land for commercial development, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> for housing and 1/3<sup>rd</sup> for public amenities and public open space. Mill land redevelopment and a larger area level strategy to revitalise the dense and congested area near the railway station are to be integrated in a comprehensive concept plan.



Manek Saban lake, Bapunagar, Ahmedabad



Mill lands near Railway Station, Surat