Building the Future: 
The Role of Heritage in the Sustainable Development of Yangon 
January 15-17, 2015, Strand Hotel

RECOMMENDATIONS

PRIORITIES

- Formal recognition of Yangon downtown conservation area and city zoning plan
- Creation of a government focal point to facilitate conservation and heritage investment
- Development of downtown infrastructure to improve quality of life, especially walkability and open space
- Fast-track government approval of YHT-identified pilot projects
- Waterfront plan for public access and balanced development

ACTION POINTS

Defining Heritage and Conservation
- Define heritage in Yangon to include not only colonial buildings, but entire streetscapes and neighborhoods, as well as social interactions and uses
- Identify and map heritage through iterative processes that fully engage communities and create shared conservation values
- Communicate a collective vision and shared principles for heritage conservation

Protecting Heritage Communities
- Develop and implement heritage-oriented zoning, regulatory measures, and building codes
- Develop and implement government policies for the protection of vulnerable communities in heritage processes
- Clarify ownership, rights, and responsibilities regarding heritage properties

Facilitating and Managing Heritage Processes
- Establish a government focal point for the reuse of state-owned buildings in Yangon
- Institute and authorize a government focal point to facilitate conservation and heritage investment
- Develop a committee for Yangon tourism to coordinate research and product development

Promoting Heritage Investment
- Undertake pilot heritage projects that integrate social, economic, and environmental concerns
- Integrate heritage protection in infrastructure and service improvements
- Develop a waterfront plan that ensures connectivity, public access, and balanced development

Supporting Heritage Conservation
- Revise taxation policies to support urban conservation and change incentive-disincentive dynamics
- Create new financial incentives for investment in heritage conservation
- Undertake training and public education to improve technical and professional skills and raise awareness about heritage