



Views of Batashewala Complex in 2010-11

In the 1950s, the ownership of this complex was given to the Bharat Scouts & Guides to serve as a camping ground. This led, in 1989, to the construction of 150 structures. Enclosure walls were demolished, disfiguring the landscape and the historic character. The levelling of land required to build the buildings also led to collapse of the Chota Batashewala – a protected monument – when its foundations were exposed. Following twelve years of effort by the ASI and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), the ownership was restored to the ASI in 2010, allowing systematic conservation and landscape restoration to be undertaken by the AKTC.

A grant from the US Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation allowed an intensive three year conservation programme on the three monuments and their garden enclosures. On 18-April 2015, a completion ceremony of the project was presided by Mr. Ravindra Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Culture (Government of India) and held in the presence of Dr. Michael Pelletier, Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy.

With the completion of conservation works on this significant ensemble of sites, these three monuments are now part of the Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site.



Tomb of Mirza Muzaffar Hussain

CONSERVATION & LANDSCAPE

Batashewala Complex in 2010

In 1989, over 150 'temporary buildings' were erected within the enclosed gardens. Following over 10 years of effort by AKTC which included litigation, these were demolished in 2010 and land reclaimed by the Archaeological Survey of India.



Batashewala Complex: Now

Conservation of monuments was coupled with landscape restoration within the enclosed garden setting.



Batashewala Complex in 2010



Batashewala Complex: Now



Batashewala Complex in 2010



Batashewala Complex: Now



Batashewala Complex in 2010



Batashewala Complex: Now



Mirza Muzaffar Hussain's
Tomb Interiors in 2010-11



Mirza Muzaffar Hussain's
Tomb Interiors: Now

Geometric patterns in incised plaster-work were restored where missing or damaged by master craftsmen using traditional tools, materials and techniques that would have been used by the Mughal era builders.



Batashewala Complex in 2010



Batashewala Complex: Now



Batashewala Complex in 2010



Batashewala Complex: Now



Batashewala Complex in 2010



Batashewala Complex: Now

