



# GALLE. SRI LANKA

## COMMUNITY-LED CULTURAL MAPPING

### DOCUMENTING LOCAL CULTURE & LIVING HERITAGE IN THE STREETS OF GALLE FORT

1-weekend mapping workshop with local heritage NGO and 10 students in landscape architecture and archaeology. Together they identified key tangible and intangible heritage and oral history in the UNESCO listed heritage town of Galle on the Sri Lanka coast. Through a series of guided exercises the students identified the main narrative and key heritage assets of the town, both tangible and intangible.

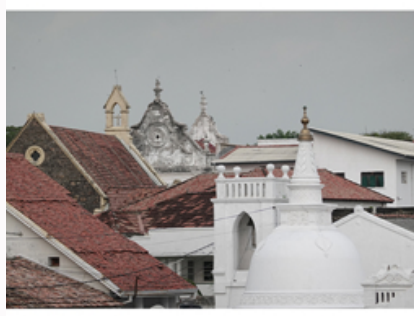
The students then worked with local copywriters and photographers to document the stories behind each of these historic buildings. The end product was a series of three oral history walking itineraries: architectural details, family histories and street stories. Published in smartphone application, illustrated map and one-week pop-up exhibition at the National Maritime Museum.

### 6-STEP PARTICIPATORY MAPPING PROCESS

**“A FUN, QUICK AND UNCONVENTIONAL WAY TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON A HERITAGE SITE. IT’S NICE TO LISTEN TO ORDINARY PEOPLE IN AN EXTRAORDINARY PLACE”**

- Gayan, Hirantha and Shenan, workshop participants/students  
Landscape Architecture

- 1 **REVEAL** neighbourhood narrative
- 2 **MAP** sites that matter
- 3 **CREATE** content worth sharing
- 4 **DESIGN** artist map
- 5 **SHARE** in the community
- 6 **CONNECT** tech-savvy audience



**OUTPUT**



**“iDISCOVER ENCOURAGES VISITORS TO MAKE THEIR OWN STORIES AND TREAD THEIR OWN PATH CONNECTING THEM DIRECTLY WITH THE ACTUAL RESIDENTS OF A HERITAGE SITE, MAKING VISITING A PLACE MORE EQUITABLE”**

- Channa Daswatte, Chairman Galle Heritage Foundation

**IMPACT**

<p>100%</p> <p><b>BUILDING BRIDGES</b></p> <p>Bringing together an unexpected coalition of heritage NGO, universities and local business community to engage collective conversation with policymakers.</p>	<p>75%</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p>Articulating and validating a sense of pride in a fast gentrifying heritage town, making long-time residents proud of their heritage.</p>	<p>100%</p> <p><b>CULTURAL AWARENESS</b></p> <p>Making Galle a powerful example of peaceful multi ethnic coexistence at a time of nationwide scepticism after Easter bombings.</p>
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<p><b>4</b> religious leaders presided over the exhibiton opening (Muslim, Christian, Hindu and Buddist)</p>	<p><b>5,000</b> copies of neighbourhood maps distributed</p>	<p><b>25-30</b> average age of participants</p>
<p><b>12</b> workshop participants</p>	<p><b>30</b> portraits published of long-time Fort residents</p>	<p><b>1,300</b> visitors to the pop-up exhibition exhibition</p>
<p><b>75+</b> tangible and intangible cultural assets mapped</p>	<p><b>US \$6,000</b> social capital unlocked through event sponsorship</p>	<p><b>53,000</b> downloads of iDiscover App</p>

Collaborative Partnership      Funded by      Duration      Budget



Apr 2019 - Jul 2019      US\$10,000