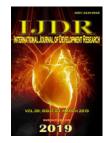


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# **ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE**



### **OPEN ACCESS**

## ECONOMY INDUCED RESETTLEMENT: DESIGN PROPOSAL FOR NEW HAMPI

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| ARTICLE INFO  | ABSTRACT   |
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| Article History:<br>Received 22 <sup>nd</sup> December, 2018<br>Received in revised form<br>08 <sup>th</sup> January, 2019<br>Accepted 01 <sup>st</sup> February, 2019<br>Published online 29 <sup>th</sup> March, 2019 | The paper offers a new spatial arrangement which guides the development of New Hampi, which presently accommodates the displaced people of Hampi. Being a world heritage site, Hampi has an overlap of many jurisdictions which becomes necessary to study in order to propose new planning strategies. While planning a new layout, it is necessary that the proposal compliments the economic loss and spatial arrangement of New Hampi planned by the government in 2008. The multidisciplinary approach used in planning is an attempt to conceptualize certain aspects of development, resettlement and rehabilitation. It focuses on development induced by existing resettlement strategy enhancing the habitat and socio-political environment. The output of the proposal does not only look into the heritage value of the setting but also considers the cultural, economic, tourism and political significance. However, in the broader concept of resilience, cultural resilience is reviewed as the most critical bridge between heritage, tourism and economy. The literature survey covers the understanding of land use pattern and spatial arrangement of built fabric in the neighbouring villages which also falls under the boundary of World Heritage Site. A series of maps have been created and analysed in order to understand the issues and challenges faced by the displaced people of New Hampi. |
| <i>Key Words:</i><br>Design intervention, Context,<br>Socio-economic,<br>Planning strategies.   |  |

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Brief History of Hampi: Hampi Village is located in the precinct near the ancient Virupaksha Temple. This active temple has its significance since centuries. The customs, rituals and festivals taking place in and around the temple is a demonstration of the socio cultural layer in the urban fabric. However, most of the economic activities also depend on the functional character of Virupaksha temple. Also, the other surrounding temples like the Krishna Temple and Achyutapura Temple have been handed down for tourism under the policies of World Heritage Site. Therefore, Virupaksha temple becomes one of the most important living temples in context of displaying the values as a testament of time memorial. Also, the village next to Virupaksha temple has its significance because it complements the functionality of the temple. In the absence of which, Virupaksha temple would also not be living like the other temples in the precinct.

*Brief History of New Hampi:* In the year 1992, the government of Karnataka opened a new route from Goa to

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Hampi, which diverted a huge population of backpackers to Hampi. This led to rapid urbanization of the village of Hampi. New businesses came into practise to serve the needs of this new category of population. Till 1992, the village was fabricated to serve the locals, temple visitors and pilgrims in time of festivals. In order to serve the new population, many families from nearby villages shifted near Virupaksha temple and started encroaching the mandapas and bazaar area of the temple. This not also interfered with World Heritage policies but also offended the authenticity and eccentricity of the temple precinct creating conflicts between locals. On the other hand Virupapura Gadde Island which was gifted by the royal family to Achyuta Swami to continue ashram activities is occupied by private land owners. As a result, the presence of backpackers become even more visible and it gave rise to notable amount of hostels and homestays, which is deeming the integrity of the place. Thirdly, the government approved the construction of 2 suspension bridges connecting Anegundi and Hampi, which acted as visual eyesore to the context of the place. In conclusive to all these reason, World Heritage Site declared Hampi into "endangered site" in 1999. In order to attain the identity of World Heritage Site, the 2 suspension bridge were demolished and warning was given to the locals to vacant the encroached lands. These displaced people were



Figure 1. Distance of New Hampi from Hampi



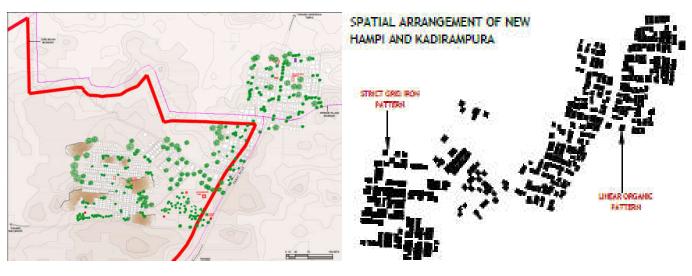


Figure 3. Base map – New Hampi and Kadirampura

shifted to the strategically located New Hampi with the certainty of creating better living standards.

New Hampi: The re location of the displaced people had to be imperative in order to preserve buildings by keeping them in use by way of modernisation with or without adaptive alteration. However, illegal encroachments and constructions, along with unsuitable construction activities made the government to take a rigid step for the relocation to maintain the authenticity and sanctity of the temple and surroundings. The location of New Hampi was strategized based on various grounds. Firstly, the land selected was the nearest nonagricultural land in the surrounding. It was far enough not to merge with the developments of Hampi in future and close enough for the residents to commute to their work place daily. Secondly, the Local Planning Authority (LPA) differentiated the boundaries of core region where all the policies of World Heritage Site are applicable and the peripheral boundary where the policies are not stern. So it was necessary to relocate New Hampi outside the core boundary not to hinder the future developments. Thirdly, it would be rational to locate the displaced people near by an already existing settlement to get the support for amenities. And lastly, the physical setting like the boulders, temple, slopes, gave the people an emotional comfort which was a requisite for relocation. Taking in consideration all the parameter, the land parcel next to Kadirampura village was selected for relocation, 4 kilometres away from Hampi, on the Hampi road.

Figure 4. Figure ground map of Base map

#### **Documentation and Analysis**

Physical Attributes of New Hampi: Spatial organization and physical structure forms the 2 aspects on which the physical attributes of New Hampi are studies. In context of spatial organization, circulation systems, behavioural pattern, type of spatial organization, non-functional areas and private and public zones are mapped. In context of physical structure, impact of natural features, demography and growth pattern, proportion and scale, building typology and occupation patterns are mapped. The identical features identified in the character of Hampi and New Hampi are the presence of boulders, presence of agricultural land in the surroundings, presence of ASI (Archaeological Survey of India) property, presence of living village of Kadirampura and the scope to continue traditional economies due to the presence of the natural features. Also, there is a scope to grow and flourish the relocated land parcel as it is not bounded by the core zone boundary regulations. The growth pattern in case of Kadirampura is catalysed by Hampi road and New Hampi follows a strict grid iron pattern. Though the physical character helps to keep the urban fabric intact, the economies of the displaced people is hampered. The occupation of educated residents now consists of guiding Hampi tours, working in panchayat office or municipal office, driving auto and other small scale businesses. There is not much difference in the occupation pattern of New Hampi and Kadirampura or Hampi, but there is a lack of primary occupation.

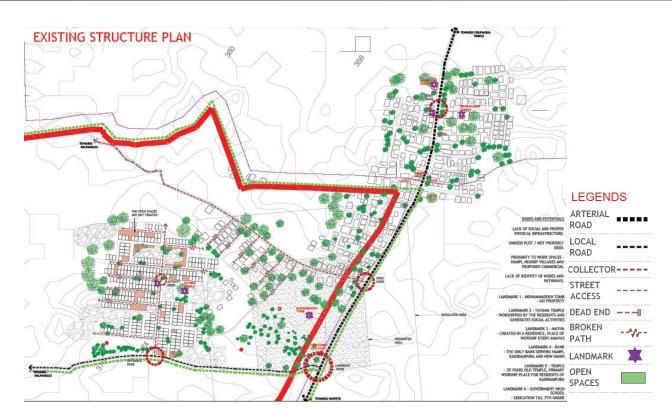


Figure 5. Existing Structure Plan of New Hampi and Kadirampura

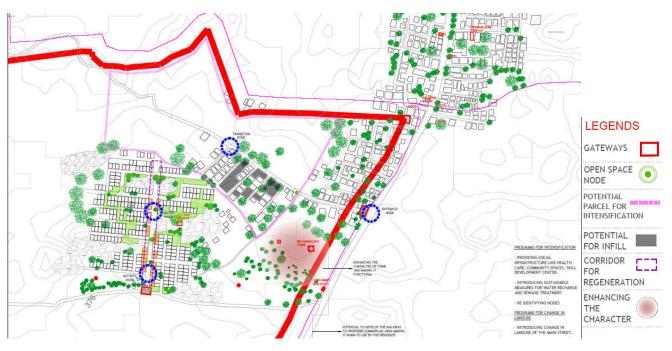


Figure 6. Proposed Structure Plan of New Hampi and Kadirampura

Adding to it, there is no growth pattern defined from the planning of New Hampi to cater to the increasing population in future. According to demographics, the population growth in the future is also quite certain, guideline for which should be made for planned development.

**Social Attributes of New Hampi:** The aim of social study is to analyse the cultural, social and religious aspect of New Hampi, in a way to find design solutions to intervene the place. The social parameters include neighbourhood organization, privacy and territory, societal structure and social life while the cultural parameters include history, religion, festivals, traditions and customs and languages.

However, these parameters also help to understand the character of place and its functionality. The community study infers that the plots were allotted randomly and so the place lacks the sense of community and social practices. It can be also concluded that lack of a sacred place nearby (like Virupaksha temple in Hampi) also causes the character to lose its identity. Though there exists a mix of communities, the major communities comprises of Lambanis, Vaishnavas and Naiks. Interaction between communities and residents forms the major basis of balance in social life. There is mix of languages spoken, out of which Kannada and Telugu are mostly used. Also, the festivals celebrated are not following a particular ritual as it happens in Hampi till today. Amavas

(every fortnight), Ganesh Puja (once in a year), Holi (Once in a year) and New Year's Eve (31<sup>st</sup> December) are some of the major festivals celebrated in New Hampi. Apart from these, the organically built social spaces like the kattes a

nd jugli in the front yard of houses and Tayama temple in the boulders forms an important character in their day to day life.

#### **Issues and Challenges**

Planning Issues: The relocation occurred as a conclusive action of encroachments in Hampi village hampering the integrity and sanctity of the place. The relocated land parcel, possessing the physical features like that of Hampi, gives an opportunity to develop in a similar fashion. Although, it can be concluded that the present planning has the following issues: 1) The strict grid iron pattern of the built fabric does not allow the streets and main access to grow in an organic way 2) The physical features like the boulders, greens and heritage monuments, though they give the feel of their original living setting, does not serve its purpose efficiently 3) The relocated land is surrounded by agricultural and farming lands. Yet, the sewage of Hew Hampi entirely is disposed in open farms, which creates unhygienic living conditions.4) Even though planned recently, there are no arrangements for rain water harvesting, which leads the residents into water scarcity situation. 5) The open space network which becomes critical for warm and dry climates is missing.

Socio-Economic Challenges: The social and economy of the displaced people is highly impacted in New Hampi as their socio-economic circumstances were dependent of Virupaksha Temple in the old setting. Lack of which, there is a loss of direction for their social life and economic situation. Some of the challenges are: 1) The plots were not divided following any pattern of their social pattern, due to which the displaced people experience lack of society. 2) The scale of planned streets do not support the daily social activities of people, because of which there is a cut off from the social character of the place. 3) The primary economic catalyst, which the temple in the original setting, is completely missing. All the economic activities along with the small scale businesses were active due to temple and its activities. 4) The vulnerable people have divided themselves among different jobs like guiding tours to Hampi, driving autos and buses, working in panchayat office, which concludes the lack of primary economy. 5) Also, the celebration of all festivals would be in the temple precinct, in the absence of which the rituals and customs of the people have changed. As a result, the lifestyle which guided these customs or vice versa is missing too.

**Opportunities:** On the other side, there is also a flood of opportunities for the residents owing to new connections introduced, new geography and new living conditions offered. The ancient villages have grown and formed a character over a long period of time. New Hampi has an opportunity to still make its own identity (through its physical and social aspects) and develop in the way that it will guide the future. The only catalyst connecting to Hampi is Hampi Road (Jila Panchayat road), there is a scope to identify new connections to Hampi and other neighbouring villages in order to revive and define it contextually. Even though iron grid pattern hampers the social character of the place, there is a scope to expand the streets in way to guide organic development in the future. Also, the built fabric contains only

residential plots, intervening it to sacred or livelihood shops give scope to change the land use pattern in the regeneration plan and guide the development. This might also give activity generators for the streets, which is absent presently. There is a scope to merge the iron grid pattern of New Hampi to linear organic pattern of Kadirampura. Lastly, the house typologies do not help to enhance the living condition or the identity of the place, which creates and opportunity to plan typologies which are more responsive to climate and context.

#### Intervention

**Proposal:** The project is divided into 3 parts; the first park looks into the existing resettlement planning and its issues, intervening with strategies to overcome the present weaknesses and threats. Next it looks into connecting the existing resettlement fabric to the proposed layout. And lastly, the project focuses on framing policy which would allow the development to happen according to the guidelines.

*Aim:* The project identifies the failure of resettlement at methodological level in the inappropriate use of economic, physical and social discipline and in providing principles and guidelines for the design of compensation and resettlement. The scope of work also includes providing outline of the future expansion for the residents of New Hampi.

Assessing Needs of the Residents: The conclusion of the survey highlights the following points: 1) The residents of New Hampi primarily lost their livelihood when resettled. Directly or indirectly they were dependent on Virupaksha temple for economy generation. Need to replace their livelihood support was necessary. 2) Relocated from Hampi, residents of New Hampi are exposed to new networks and opportunities to convert their skills to livelihood support, need a platform for the same. 3) Not only about present, but focusing on the future need too, the residents will need to evolve their settlement into a self-sustained one. Need for public, social and civic amenities. 4) Residents foresee economic progress in having more guest houses and retail shops so that they are not dependent on neighbouring towns for daily needs, need of mixed land use. Considering these inferences as primary, the proposals elucidates a series of changes in the present planning. (Refer image for details of survey).

Design Strategies: The influence of the site character is limited to roads, pathways, boulders and greens. However, the missing parameters like the open space network, hierarchy of spaces and enclosures needs to successfully integrate with the surrounding built form and provide a quality streetscape to enhance lifestyle and culture of the displaced people. One of the important strategies for the project is infill development which includes reclaiming and repair of blighted and existing abandoned areas within revenue village (Kadirampura) and New Hampi by strategically conserving social and economic fabric. Actions like proposing visitors amenities (toilets, parks, museums, recreation centres) in regulated areas, scale and massing of built fabric and redefining the use of vacant plots in existing layout forms the basis of infill development. Secondly, urban intensification is planned to grow efficiently by providing higher density than currently exists through development, redevelopment, expansion and conversion of existing fabric at New Hampi and area of scope.

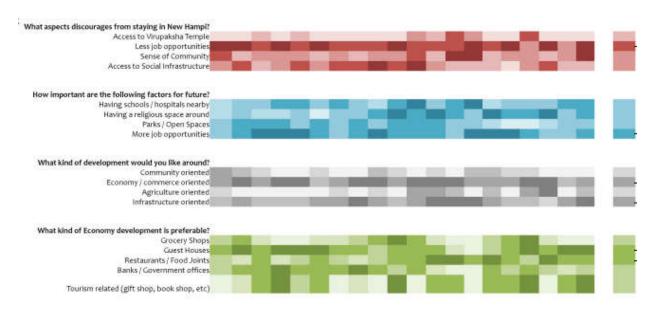


Figure 7. Survey of assessing the needs of the residents of New Hampi



Figure 8. Proposed Layout

This can be achieved by proposing scaling the streets, proposing livelihood support complex for daily needs and by regulating the use of natural and physical resources. Lastly, urban regeneration is introduced for design intervention and sustainable concepts to improve existing physical infrastructure and more importantly, the declining economy of New Hampi. Some of the measures for urban regeneration is adaptive reuse of regulated areas around ASI monument, improvement of existing physical and social infrastructure in a sustainable manner and by giving platform for the upliftment of traditional skills.

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