

# Role of Urban Wall in Urban Context

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**Abstract**—Urban Design elements are Buildings, Public spaces, Landscape, Transportation, Streets. The Buildings are the most pronounced elements of urban design as they shape and articulate space by forming the street walls of the city. Well designed buildings and groups of buildings work together to create a sense of place. Urban walls are the most important elements that affect the relationship between people and living space. It creates a visual image of any urban fabric. The shape, form, color, texture and materials of urban wall add vibrancy to building facades, and view of cities. The Urban wall gives characteristics to the space. The different building types that create variety and diversity of the street wall. Building scale, setbacks and massing and proportion varies with building use. The street frontages can be interior, corner site and store front. The enclosure of space gives local identity and expression. It can become a local landmark. The space has its own character, identity, image, legibility, diversity, scale, proportion and massing. The sense of space can be achieved through physical setting, activity and image.

The urban walls can be used for Social messages, Advertisement, Mural, Aesthetic purpose, Street vendors, Social Interaction space, Social messages, Public art, Social need-home to poor people. The visual identity of urban fabric could be clearly figured when it reflects the components of the culture core of the society.

The walls depicting the Arts, culture and creativity which are an essential pillar for Urban Design. This paper will talk about the Urban walls of different landuse and importance of the same in Urban context Nagpur city as case study. Any city is for the people and by the people. 'Social participation' to 'Social aesthetics'. The quality of urban life can be achieved through the elements Urban aesthetics.

**Keywords:** Urban walls, Facade, Public art, Streetscape

## Introduction

Exterior decoration of buildings play very important role to in showing that is the urban background of city. The main characteristics of public space are accessibility and usability for all citizens. The place value can achieved through walkable, local, physical, social and cultural context. Quality of public space can be achieved through places for people, connectivity, safe public realm, legibility, diversity, local character and identity.

## Urban Wall

The Buildings are the most pronounced elements of urban design as they shape and articulate space by forming the street walls of the city. A wall is a structure that defines an area;

Boundary walls include privacy walls, boundary-marking walls on property, and town walls. It is formally mark as barrier to distinguish two different activities that can be private, semi private or government. The boundary can be made up of bricks, stone, precast, green wall, fencing etc. The design Urban wall varies with the type of landuse and locality of the surrounding area. The height massing, scale, proportion varies with the typology of buiding.

## Public Space

The place making principles are based on the following points

1. Sociability
2. User and activities
3. Comfort & Image
4. Access & linkages

Identification of Urban wall in Nagpur city

1. Street vendors
2. South Central Zone Cultural Centre (SCZCC), Nagpur
3. Wall of Humanity
4. Shahid smarak
5. Social Messages and Public Art

## Street vendors

The street shopping culture act as Get-together spaces, Activity generators, fulfilment of daily needs, we can even negotiate, to save time and money, Visual attraction and solution to Parking space. Informal vendors may include variety of Food stalls, Repairing of Goods, Service Providers, Products, and Artefacts and so on. Some Activities may run Seasonal, Weekly, and Daily throughout the day or may be for few hours. Few Vendors are only seasonal specific like Ganesh Pooja, Dassera and Diwali. The importance of Informal sector in Urban Life plays a vital role. . The streets are important in determining the nature of vendors - mobile or stationary as well as the way they 'arrange' themselves and form markets. Street elements like tree shade and sidewalk, urban wall also become an important determinant for street vendor's location.



Figure 1: Street Vendor – Repairing shop

**South Central Zone Cultural Centre, Nagpur**

The South Central Zone Cultural, Nagpur one of the seven Zonal Cultural Centres in India was established in 1986 with its Headquarters at Nagpur. Each of these States has rich traditions of folk, tribal, fine arts and crafts. The Centre strives through its various activities to enrich, promote and strengthen these traditions. the walls are painted with Gond, Kalamkari, Kalighat and Warli paintings.

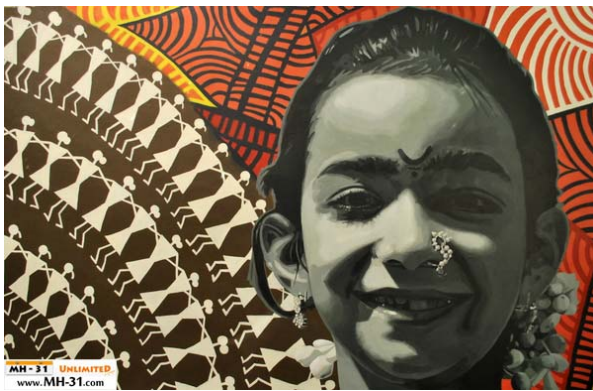


Figure 2 Mural & Wall paintings

**Wall of Humanity**

The concept of Wall of Humanity is to make a simple public wall transform into social welfare centre. It was launched by Rohayl Varind with a sole purpose to win war against poverty and hunger. It is an endeavor par excellence towards alleviating our species taking humanity one step further to being called “Best of creations”. Also known as Deewar di Insaniyat, Manuskitich Bhint, Wall of Humanity.

“Wall of Humanity” team has been actively providing cooked food, cloths, books, household, items like wheat, ricw etc., and medical checkup along with medicines all for free. Moreover it is open for the donors 24 x 7 to donate their clothes, shoes,

books, toys, household items or anything useful for that matter that the poor and underprivileged ones can take from the wall.



Figure 3 Wall of Humanity

**Shahid smarak**

Gowaris are an ethnic tribe of central India and are predominantly present in Nagpur. The **1994 Gowari stampede** occurred at Nagpur,. A monument has been built in central Nagpur to commemorate those who died in this tragedy. Also, the flyover in Sitabuldi has been named Adivasi Gowari Shahid flyover. These walls are contrast to each other where one is depicting the history whereas other is giving the social messages



Figure 4: Memorial & Paitings

**Social Messages and Public Art**

Public wall to beautify them under Swachh Bharat Mission and Smart City Project. Nagpur Municipal Corporation has organized a competition on wall painting. The Length of City wall painted stretched over 40km across the city on 17 streets in all four zones of Nagpur. This competition was all inclusive it was in two categories — College students and Open for all citizens of the city. Topics for the graffiti were

1. Swachh Bharat
2. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
3. Digital Nagpur
4. Smart City Nagpur
5. Happy Nagpur
6. Clean and Green Nagpur
7. Save Water and
8. Sustainable Nagpur



**Figure 5: Public art**

### Conclusion

According to landuse the type of street vendors, their location, will varies. Urban wall also become an important determinant for street vendor's location. It gives vibrancy to the street also act as interaction space for community. Street shopping culture adds vibrancy in day to day Urban life.

South Central Zone Cultural Centre (SCZCC), Nagpur the different landuse activity their wall itself speaks about unity in diversity. The concept is play important role in Urban context.

Wall of Humanity it's a new concept which is helpful for poor people of society. Social awareness amongst all age group of society.

Shahid smarak itself talk about the Historic moment and add aesthetic element to the surrounding.

Social Messages and Public Art –the overall beatification of streetscape under the smart city project. The involvement of all age group of citizen act as good bonding between citizen and city.

Color and texture can be aesthetic elements of buildings and finally "refer face of a city. The overall urban wall has an importance in day to day life. It gives identity to space and surrounding. The walk ability concept can be improved by adding street shopping concept at neighbourhood level. It can be more inviting element for the use. Walk and shop concept. It is essential that the planning and management of urban walls and bodies cultural and social development of the relations and human relations in the city.

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