

A Renovation model of “Three Mother’s Art Gallery”, Manipur

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of this renovation model of the gallery is to provide an opportunity to re-imagine the display of the collection and showcase its depth, breadth, complexity, and diversity through a greater use of interdisciplinary installations, while also having more circulating spaces devoted to specific mediums, including architecture, and design to create a sense of vernacular interior following modern day’s trend. The new design of the gallery is to create an interior that is aesthetically pleasing and a user friendly interaction environment and also circulation space management, that connects people with art and also to provide adequate spaces for all the functions and activities to be held inside and to achieve the maximum output of the space. Track lights are used inside the gallery that highlights the artifacts. LED cove lights are also used to highlight the floor that will give a foggy appearance. Gable roof which is a traditional way of roofing in Manipur in the gallery depicts vernacular architecture. Traditional and royal style motifs highlighting the culture of Manipur are used in facade. Proper monitoring of the indoor environment and optimized energy conservation can be developed in future designs of the gallery. As a part of the one year research project of renovation of Three Mother’s Art Gallery, this effort is expected to produce some useful direction for developing renovation solutions for historical artifacts as a part of the building conservation and historical refurbishment .

Key words: renovation, gallery, design, space management, lighting.

INTRODUCTION

Renovation is that process of improving a broken, damaged or outdated structure. Also, renovation includes something new or bringing something back to life [1]. A gallery is a space or series of rooms where works of art are exhibited [2]. It is specifically dedicated to a particular medium such as furniture, oil painting, photography, sculpture, or pottery and is managed by people who is specialize in that art. The common focuses for an art galleries are art from a selected region, art with a particular medium, art of a singular style, or art which features a selected focus, such as political art [3].

A good Art Gallery should have proper administration for proper functioning of the gallery and requires a store room, small amphitheater for small gatherings, lounge, display area that will enrich the artifacts, permanent and temporary gallery, workspace and if possible a garden that can give a lively environment. Choosing a light color will create an environment that is clearly articulated, comfortable and safe that provides clear visual access to things inside. The color and patterns of the floor should give accurate information about the height depth and condition of the floor. The color of the wall should be separated from floor and furniture. Generally floors should be darker then the walls with a reflecting capacity, having low maintenance and high durability. And to get natural lights proper opening of windows and doors are required that are nonconductive of heat and dust from outside. No doors should be there inside the exhibition area except requires to permanently cut-off for functional reasons. Lighting should be installed in view of visitor's safety and for proper circulation inside there should be an accurate lighting that also get sufficient light on the objects[20]. The landscape shall be developed keeping with the theme and the participant's thereto.

Manipur is an Indian state, located in the northeastern part of the country. It is bordered by the Indian states of Nagaland to the north, Assam to the west, and Mizoram to the southwest and by Myanmar (Burma) to the south and east. Like other northeastern states, it is largely isolated from the rest of India. The name Manipur means "land of gems." The state capital is Imphal, located in the centre of the state. The art and culture of Manipur is well-known throughout the world, and there are hundreds of artisans who are national awardees.

The Gallery which is at Thangpat Mapal Palace Compound, Imphal East of Manipur was established in 1978 and is one of the deep samples of the state art [4]. The gallery is run by

the artist's family, but the artist (Shree GurumayumShyamsunder Sharma) expired a few years back. The gallery was made as a workshop cum gallery by the artist, but it remains as a gallery after he passed away. The current situation of the gallery is not up to the mark and in poor condition, so in order to promote the value of art and upgrade the gallery; it is required to renovate the gallery. The renovation model of the gallery is to create an interior that is aesthetically pleasing and a user friendly interaction environment and also the management of the circulation space, that connects people with art and also to provide adequate spaces for all the functions and activities to be held inside to achieve the maximum output of the space. Vernacular architecture is a construction method done by using locally available materials that gives authentic local or traditional design that is not copied from elsewhere [17].



Figure 1 Entrance of the existing Gallery



Figure 2 Display of the artworks in the existing Gallery

Figure 1 and 2 shows the current conditions of the Three Mothers Art Gallery.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Table 1: Materials to be used and site analysis

Material to be used	Bricks, Tiles, Marble, Gypsum board, Hardwood, Softwood, Green living wall, Museum glass.
Location of the site	Thangapat Rd, Thangapat MapalThangjam Colony, Palace Compound, Imphal, Manipur 795001 9km from Airport 3.5 km from the main city.
Plot size	Plot size-70' X90'
Building size	Existing building size-40' X40'
Site Orientation	West facing
Sun direction	East to West via South
Wind direction	South West

Table 2: Comparision of existing material and recommended material

ITEMS	EXISTING MATERIAL	RECOMMENDED MATERIAL
Roof	R.C.C Slab	Gable roof
Ceiling	Plaster	Suspended ceiling, Coffered ceiling
Flooring	Plaster	Marble, tiles, wooden flooring
Wall	Paint	Paneling, Paint
Column	R.C.C.	Paint, wooden panel
Lighting	Tube light	Track light, LED cove
Display platform	Wooden bench	Marble cladding platform

CASE STUDY

RKCS Art Gallery and Museum

The RKCS Art Gallery and Museum located at KeishamthongMathak, Imphal was established in 1990 by RajkumarChandrajitsana Singh. This is a vernacular style gallery with two floors which is used as a museum and an exhibition center. Tiles and marble flooring are done. Proper natural ventilation with ventilator at sill level is provided. Walls painted with cream white. False ceiling and molded suspended ceiling are used. Different kinds of art are exhibited on the walls and some are center art installation, wooden furniture is used [8].

Sharma Arts Crafts House (SACH)

SACH located at Imphal, Manipur at Khongman Zone-3 East. It came into being in 1972, in a humble way under the care of Guru B. Amusana Sharma, a well-known traditional sculptor and painter of the state. SACH is also a leading institution of arts and crafts in Manipur and features a spacious complex with facilities like office work shed, foundry, outdoors gallery, museum, library, showroom, exhibition ground. Stone carved sculptures, wax, concrete and POP sculptures are display at an open art gallery. Visitors can enjoy the fresh air in natural surroundings and around the ponds of the gallery [9].

SperoneWestwater Gallery SperoneWestwater

Gallery is located in 257 Bowery, New York, USA built by Architect Norman Foster and Partners. It is a nine story building with double height display area. Private viewing gallery with mezzanine floor is provided. The concept for SperoneWestwater represents both a response to the Bowery's dynamic urban character and a desire to rethink the way during which we engage with art within the setting of a gallery. The moving gallery animates the outside of the building and creates a bold vertical element within [10]. Like a kinetic addition to the road, it's a lively symbol of the area's reinvention and a daring response to the Sperone Wastewater's major program.

The 12 by 20 foot moving gallery allows visitors to travel between floors or is often fixed at a selected level to increase the static exhibition spaces. The milled glass facade of the gallery dampens noise from the road and controls the temperature and luminous admitted to the gallery spaces. A setback at the sixth floor marks the location of the gallery's administrative offices. Works of art are going to be stored primarily within the

basement, while a library is found at the highest of the building, below the mechanical floor [11][12].

They use glass facade that give natural lighting and painted plain white color throughout the interior. Natural light acts as a ambient light. They use track light that gives focus only on the exhibition and use of warm light. Minimal interior with plain ceiling and smooth wall without any texture. Empty hallway.

Scenography for Exhibition on Racism

It is located in Deutsches Hygiene-Museum, Dresden. It covers a building area of 830sqm. Design by Architect Diebedo Francis Kéré. It aims to connect 'the room' architecture with the room's theme. The gallery is divided in three rooms. The first room "sprawls over the visitor" with a modular wooden grid, spanning across the whole space. They use dimmed lighting to enhance the individual character of the wood itself. The second room has a platform to exhibit and to study the artwork. Mimics the effect of the pure concrete, to the several walls that define the space. The final room directs the emphasis toward the integrated seating elements. A large canopy and ample central space encourage people to assemble. The room is influenced by Kéré's West African homeland. 8 The first room exhibit by using wooden grid structure. The second room display in a plinth platform manner. And the final room use cardboard tubes forming a canopy structure which was influence by "all social gatherings happen under the large crowns of the trees". Black marble flooring and grey color is painted throughout the interior. Cob light and track light are used that gives warm color light. Different materials of different textures are used that gives minimal interior. Coffered ceiling is used. Use headphones with those pieces that helps visitor to understand the art [13][14].

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This is a renovation model proposed for the live project of renovating the “Three Mothers Art Gallery” located at Thangapat Mapal, Palace Compound, Imphal East, Manipur, to promote the value of art and upgrade the gallery. The gallery was made as a workshop cum gallery by the artist, but it remains as a gallery after he passed away. Thus the popularity of the gallery decreases as the current situation of the gallery is not up to the mark and in poor condition. After detailed case studies of different galleries and museums, the lighting designs, space management, planning of exhibition halls, material suitable for the interior ergonomics and anthropometric design of the gallery as well as healthy and green interior were understand. So, the renovation of this gallery will include proper space planning for efficient placement of the collections, improvement of the quality of the interior, new lighting arrangement and structural changes. The renovation will also include exterior modification of the gallery. Changing the colour scheme of the interior will additionally give an open space feel and an aesthetically pleasing and friendly environment in the interior which will make the visitors hold together with the art and the exhibitions. Some structural changes will include the addition of extra new columns and new RCC slabs which will expand the building size.

Table 2 shows the recommended material to be used for the renovation model of the gallery. For roofing, the existing RCC slab is change with gable roof to show vernacular style architecture and to protect from rain. The existing plaster ceiling is upgraded to suspended and coffered ceiling to give a clean and finish look. Marble, tiles and wooden flooring refurbish the plaster flooring. Walls are paneled with gypsum board and painted. RCC column are now painted and wooden paneled. Tube light are changed with track light and LED cove light to meet the present trend of lighting giving focus on the artworks. Wooden bench used to display the artworks are replaced with marble cladding platform.

In order to upgrade the Gallery, various major changes have been recommende in the proposed model as shown in Table 3 below. In the first step, the original building size of 40'X40' of existing gallery have been increased to 64'X84' in the proposed model according to present requirements to enhance the circulation and movement space.

Table 3: Comparison of existing gallery and proposed model

EXISTING GALLERY	PROPOSED MODEL
Building Size is 40' X 40'	Building Size is 64' X 84'
Inappropriate lighting	Update the lighting requirements
Congested circulation space	Improve space by proper space management
Art installation at same floor levels	Art installation done in platform at different height levels
Outdated interior	Modern up-to-date interior
Available space for gallery is only the ground floor	Providing G+1 gallery space
No proper auditorium and exhibition halls	An open auditorium and an exhibition hall is newly added
Column size- 10''X10''	Column size- 1'-3''X1'-3''

A new amphitheater and a temporary exhibition space is newly added. The artwork place at the floor level is shifted in different height platforms giving visual flow. Figure 3 and 4 shows the plan of the existing gallery and that of the new proposed model.

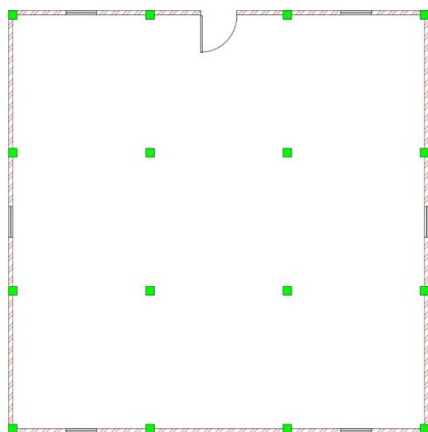


Figure 3 Plan of existing gallery

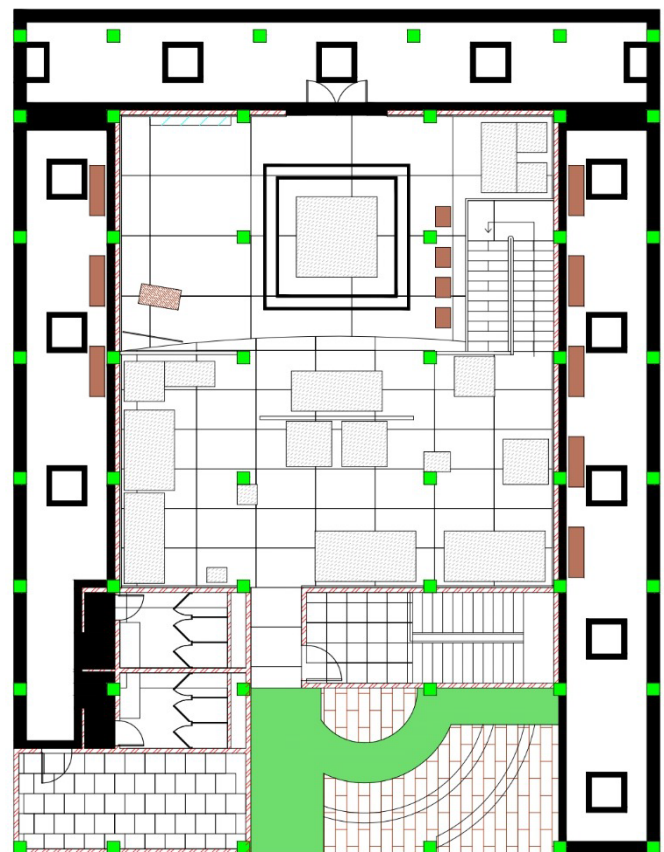


Figure 4 Plan of the new proposed model

Futuristic design approach can be done in future but due to unavailability of raw materials and human resources in Manipur in this present time,combined design approach of modern, classical and vernacular style is adopted in this renovation model of the “Three Mothers Art Gallery”.

The design mainly focuses on artificial lighting, space management and the new design of the building to upgrade the existing gallery. In future, optimized energy conservation design methods, monitoring of the indoor environment of the gallery [15] to improve indoor air quality and also efficient display management updating the design can also be considered.

The gallery can become a place of historical importance as it shows the culture and heritage of the state through the artwork that can be useful to the public.

The talent of the artist will be properly shown by the art display with the upgrading interiors[19].

CONCLUSION

On the various case studies of gallery and museum, it's clear that the space of a gallery has an impact over mankind. The planning and design of a gallery should be such a way it gives a social impact to the visitors. From case studies, it's clear that, in museums and gallery planning, circulation, varieties of exhibits, displays of exhibits, services were the chief core. The designing of and gallery should be in a way that the building should be iconic over period of times reflecting the past, present and future image of the town. This report data shows the design and planning for the renovation model of the Three Mothers Art Gallery where the current situation of the gallery is not up to the mark and in poor condition. So in order to promote the value of art and upgrade the gallery it is required to renovate the gallery. The building space of the gallery increases in the proposed model than the existing gallery giving more space to the gallery by newly adding an open auditorium and an exhibition space.

Acknowledgement

Build-X Architects, Manipur and Three Mothers Art Gallery, Imphal is highly acknowledge for the opportunity to do a live project on the renovation of the gallery.

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