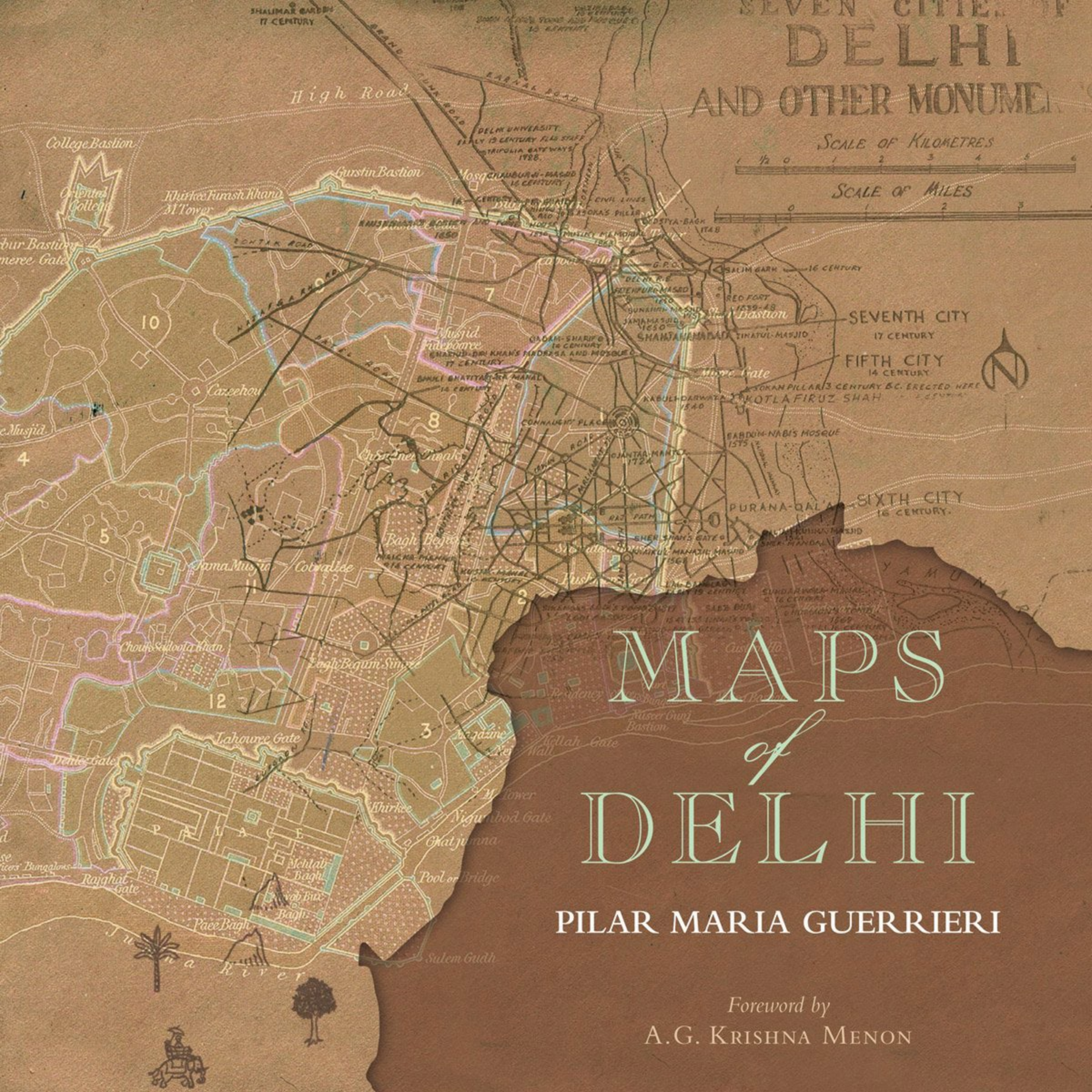


SEVEN CITIES OF DELHI AND OTHER MONUMENTS

SCALE OF KILOMETRES



SCALE OF MILES



SEVENTH CITY
17 CENTURY

FIFTH CITY
14 CENTURY

SIXTH CITY
16 CENTURY

MAPS *of* DELHI

PILAR MARIA GUERRIERI

Foreword by

A.G. KRISHNA MENON

MAPS
of
DELHI



A detailed historical map of Delhi, India, showing the city's layout, the Yamuna River, and various landmarks. The map is rendered in a sepia tone. A large white rectangular area is overlaid on the right side of the map, containing the title and author information. The map includes labels for 'Mullickpore', 'Dhaka', 'Kuntli Talao', 'CANAL', 'to Wazirabad', 'Old bed of Yamuna River', 'ENTRENCHMENTS', 'RACE COURSE', 'RAJPOOR. FORMER CANTONMENT', 'OLD BURIAL GROUND', 'Flag Staff Tower', and 'JAMUNA RIVER'.

MAPS *of* DELHI

PILAR MARIA GUERRIERI

Foreword by
PROFESSOR A.G. KRISHNA MENON

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Email: niyogibooks@gmail.com
Website: www.niyogibooksindia.com

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Dedication



PLAN OF DELHI
*Showing the Esplanade road
 Fortification of City*

*(S^r) C. J. Campbell C.E.
 Executive Engineer
 Delhi Division P.W.*



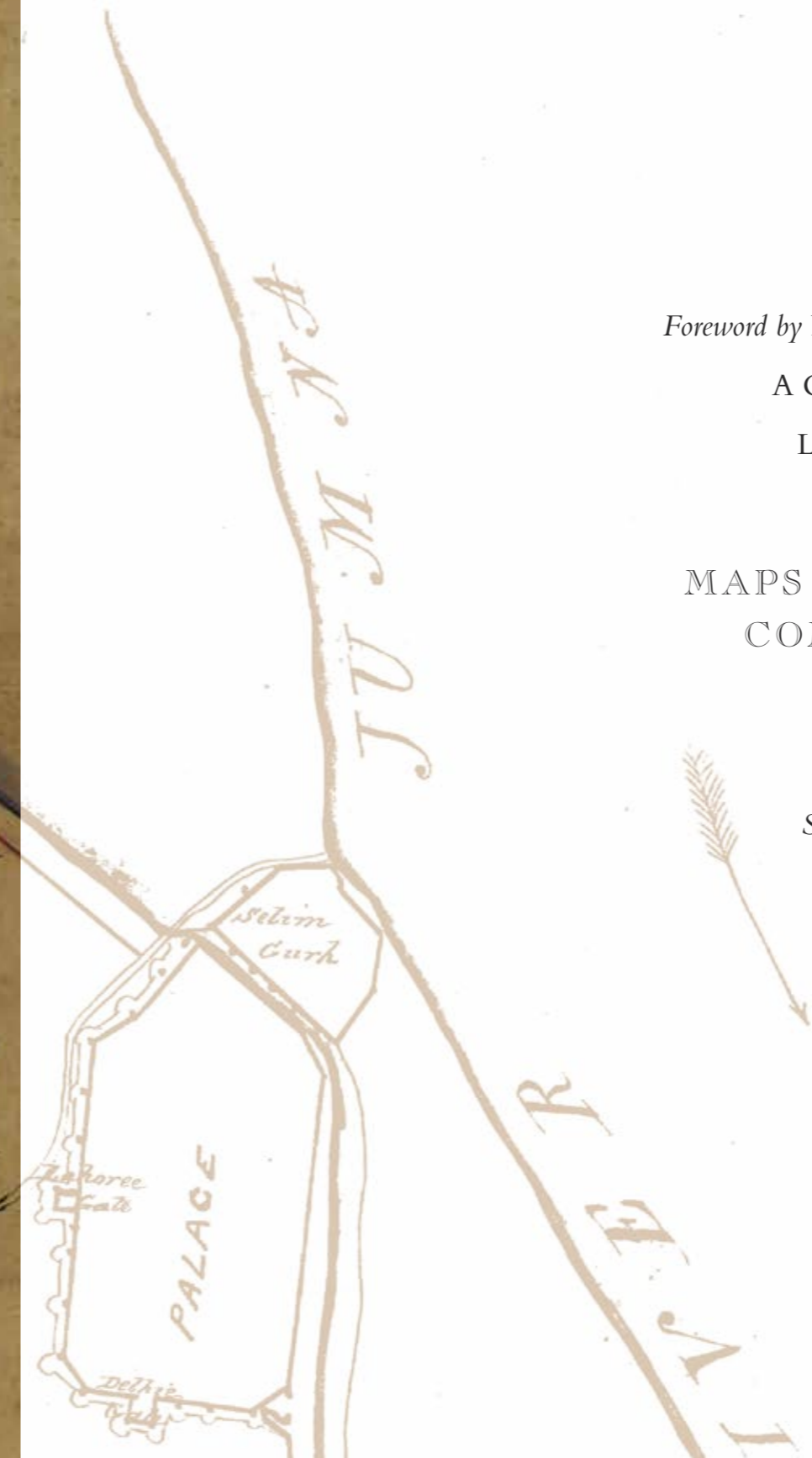
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Foreword



Maps, like books, should be freely accessible to the public because they contribute to the understanding of the geography, the physical space we inhabit. Maps are therefore essential tools for city planning and also important for scholars and researchers in many disciplines. But in India, accurate and detailed survey plans are difficult to find. Even original architectural drawings and plans of historic buildings, which are already in the public domain either as publications or in foreign libraries and archives, are subject to limited access because they are kept under lock and key with their respective custodians in India. Thus, researchers working on colonial buildings or cities in India are handicapped and invariably find it easier to get the drawings they need in the British Library or the library of the Royal Institute of British Architects in London, for example, than in Indian repositories. This impacts the scope and quality of their research because they try and avoid confronting the hurdles such research entails when they have to search for them in India. Not surprisingly, some of the best research on Indian cities and its historic architecture is done by scholars outside of India.

It is in this context that one needs to laud the initiative of Pilar Maria Guerrieri for making available the maps she had painstakingly collected during the course of her research on Delhi and publishing them in the form of this book. Most of the maps are from publicly accessible sources and archives in India, which have been carefully identified and the material has been organised so that it would now be much easier for future scholars to locate them. Each map has also been copiously annotated to understand their respective contexts and, thus, facilitate the search for research material.



In the past, historic maps have been published, but this initiative can be distinguished from the earlier publications from the disciplinary perspective of urban planning. Guerrieri has used these maps to *analyse* the evolution of the city rather than merely *illustrate* it. She has used the maps to understand the evolution of the city in the manner that a historian would use written archival records to understand the narrative of historical events. On the basis of her analysis, for example, she compellingly demonstrates that Delhi is a composite city of singular parts collectively forming an intricate whole: 'Delhi, a city of cities'.

The genealogy of her research method could perhaps be traced to her Italian architectural education and its deeply rooted academic tradition of understanding the city by studying its maps and drawings. Such an analysis reveals the meaning and significance of the structure and elements of its parts in order to engage with the city more productively, either as scholars or as professionals. For example, Giancarlo de Carlo established the International Laboratory of Architecture and Urban Design (ILAUD), an extra-curricular academic research entity, that conducted intensive summer camps in various Italian cities for several decades, in which participants not only from Italy but all over the world would engage with specific issues of the selected city being studied through mapping its attributes in order to understand it and make proposals to deal with and resolve its contingent urban problems. Others, like architect Saverio Muratori and the so-called 'Italian school of planning typology', also developed similar theoretical approaches based on analysing ancient cartography of cities as a foundation and core of their design interventions. These pioneering initiatives established the Italian academic culture of physical planning, which becomes evident in the manner Guerrieri studied Delhi. With great commitment and dedication she collected the maps and drawings from the various archives, which she used to construct her research narrative. The detailed annotations she provides to each map further emphasises and accentuates her method of analysis, which is characteristically Italian in nature.

The present book can also be appreciated at other registers: maps narrate, for example, the many purposes of map-making. Some were made for military purposes, others to facilitate travel and tourism, while many for the more ubiquitous representational purposes urban planners are familiar with, to delineate and record land parcels for habitation and different land uses for the planned development of the city. For whatever purpose they were made at different times, compiled together they become valuable historic information, which can help us understand the evolution of the urban form of Delhi and appreciate the design and typological changes that were introduced over time. In its compilation and presentation, this book therefore makes an important contribution to the academic discipline of urban planning in India by foregrounding the significance of maps and map-making, for whatever purpose, to understand the contemporary city.

The maps that have been selected for this publication, besides being useful as relevant reference tools, can also be appreciated purely for their aesthetics. Today, when digital Google maps and satellite photographs are easily available and have transformed our visual imagination of the geography of a city, we begin to realise through publications such as this one, how the beauty of printed maps and the many forms of pleasures and insights they offer when they are physically handled have been elided in public consciousness, thus diminishing an important attribute of the city they represent. From this perspective the maps of the colonies shown in this book arguably offer a more authentic image of the aesthetics of the city than the satellite photographs that are often used for research by scholars. In that light, one can take pleasure in this publication as an art book – one more reason why maps, like books, must have wider currency in the public realm.

A. G. KRISHNA MENON

April 2016

New Delhi



A Cartographic History



Knowledge of the territory is determined by geographic representations and most especially by the map.¹

— MATTHEW H. EDNEY

A story of the mapping of India becomes a study of the men who came to India by sea or land and went back to report their journeys, so that the cartographers could put down their discoveries in a pictorial fashion.²

— SUSAN GOLE

This is a collection of historical maps of Delhi, through which the ever-evolving story of the city may be told; it is a visually perceptive illustration of how the urban sphere was planned and how its character developed. The importance of cartography has been recognised by other scholars in their attempts to understand the Indian subcontinent. No one, however, has pointed out, the role and the extent to which such surveys, cartographies, and layout drawings may facilitate the analysis of the evolution of a particular city. Literature remains silent on this subject, and the recourse to maps and iconographic documents in the field of urban studies, is, in fact, irreplaceable and provides a sound foundation for research.

The documents collected in this volume stem primarily from Indian archives and institutions, and, for the most part, have not previously been published; certainly never

put to order in such a manner. Most physical specimens are lost and the few that are available are often severely damaged. Nonetheless, and very fortunately so, some of these had already been scanned, digitised, and documented by the respective archives. It should be recognised and implied that such methodical and organised research is direly needed across India, and ought to be welcomed with sufficient support from the institutions involved, but, unfortunately, is not necessarily the case—a statement made in the spirit of encouragement as opposed to a patronising critique. The efforts made in compiling this particular collection should be deemed as that of one given individual, where certain shortcomings may be present but an opportunity to build upon certainly exists.

It is important to mention at the very beginning that certain practices and conventions have deliberately been adopted in the individual commentaries of the maps and in the arrangement of this collection. First, this compilation is organised in chronological order on the basis of the year in which each map was prepared. The date ascribed is usually the one indicated on the map; however, in the rare case where a date has not been provided, the placement of an individual map with respect to the sequential order of this collection is determined by what the map depicts in comparison to other maps. A few exceptions have been afforded for selected, detailed maps, such as map 23a, *Proposed Development of village Sheikh Sarai New Delhi* (1982–83), which is not positioned according to the year it was drawn, much rather due to the fact that this village was founded and planned much earlier and lends complementary insight into the actual map at hand, *Delhi and Vicinity* (1910–11). Second, as becomes obvious and may seem rather bewildering, is the conscientious effort, for the sake of clarity and coherence, to adhere to the spelling of settlements exactly as they appear on each map, which, especially in the earlier maps, is not always consistent. Examples of this phenomenon are plentiful—Delhi, as a city, is spelt ‘Dilli’ at times, yet again as ‘Delhie’ or ‘Dilly’, just as ‘Shah Jehanabad’ may well be spelt ‘Shahjahanabad’.

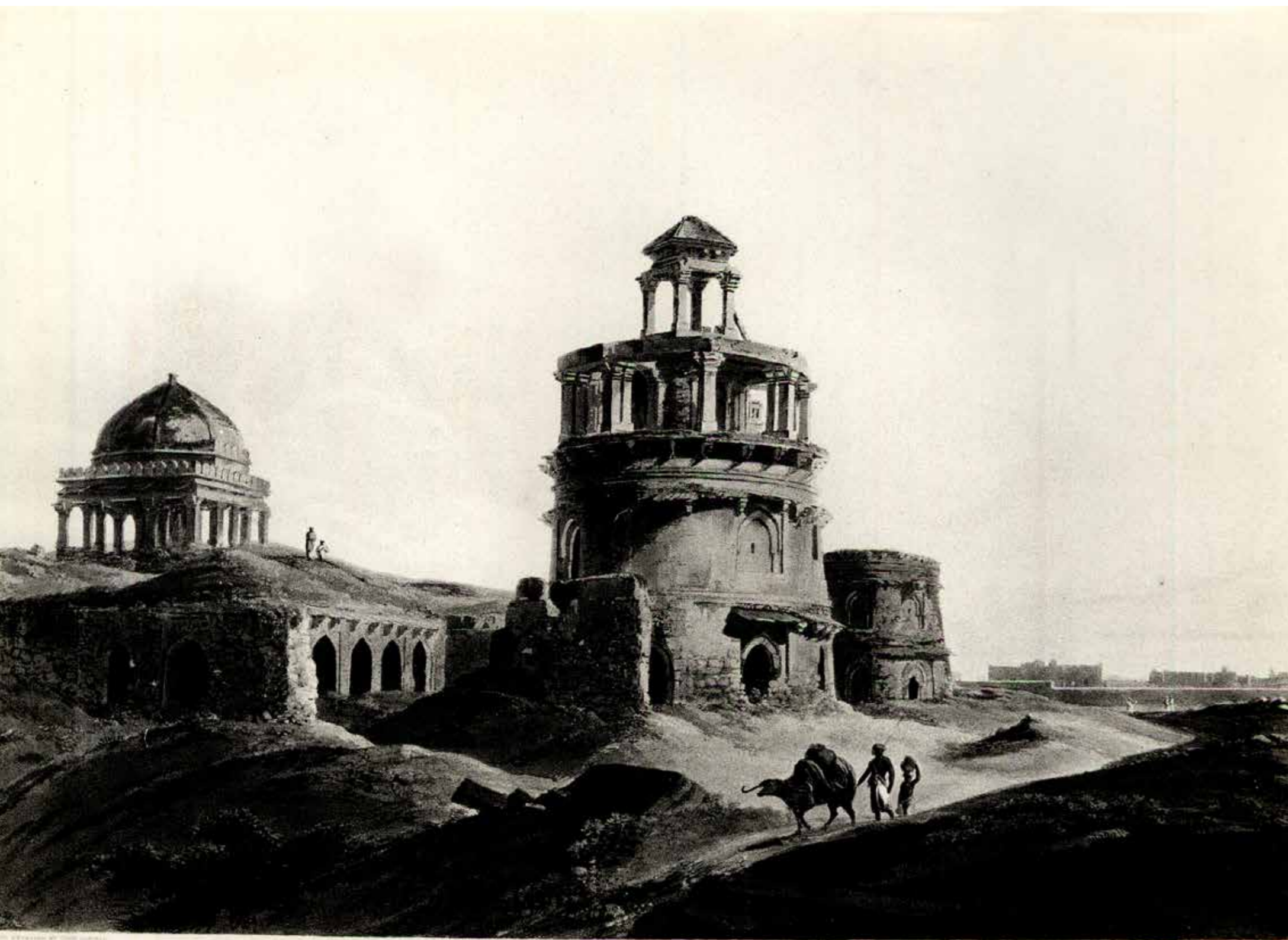
This collection of maps of Delhi enables a study of the territory as such, and further helps in understanding the interconnected relationships between its individual parts

while facilitating an analysis of the morphologies that developed within. Furthermore, maps make it possible to consider the link between empty spaces and built areas as well as the association between agricultural and non-agricultural land. They distinguish public buildings, the disposition of plots, the types of housing, and the density of the urban fabric in addition to interpreting the structures innervating the territory, like watercourses, canals, routes, railroads, and roads, as also the order or constellation of the countryside and the correlation between villages and cities. Effectively and particularly in the illustration of Delhi, these maps delineate, more so demarcate and define, the spread of several urban settlements, planned or organically organised, and provide a pragmatic synopsis of how they are juxtaposed, concurrent or interlaced, with each other.

Needless to mention, the maps differ from one another not just in content but also in size, the materials they are produced upon, and in the techniques used to create them. Where some have been previously digitised, others are in hardcopy, be it on cloth or paper; where some are visibly drafted or coloured by hand, others suggest considerable technological finesse. In this collection, certain maps, like map 22, *District Delhi* (1905), and map 36, *Delhi Province* (1940), offer an expanded account by describing the entire district of the capital and not just the city. Inversely, the series of maps on the city of Shahjahanabad merely provide a detailed view of the walled city—a significant example is map 5, *Shāhjahānābād. Delhi around 1850* (1850). Nonetheless, the majority of maps present an aerial perspective and represent the ‘Delhi area’, essentially the territory of the state of Delhi westwards of the Yamuna River.

Maps and representations of Indian cities are plentiful and exist in a variety of different conformations:

Naval, geographical, cartographical, geological, botanical, ethnographical, trade return maps, railway maps, postal and telegraph maps, census maps, canal and road maps, maps to show the prevalence of different diseases in certain areas, maps of particular areas



REMAINS OF AN ANCIENT BUILDING NEAR FIROZ SHAH'S COTILLA, DELHI.

of administrative or military importance, cantonment maps, motoring roads maps, aviation maps, triangulation and levelling maps³

They are conceived with a specific charter at hand; a question of thorough measurement and precise depiction, innately adept with the scientific disciplines of mathematics, geometry, geography, and topography. Nonetheless, each illustrates a certain culture or ideology, possesses iconographic value, and should be regarded beyond its specific purpose with an appreciation for its wider aesthetics. To this effect, a conscious effort should be made to avoid looking at the maps from a sterile or merely instrumental point of view, and should be appreciated for their symbolic significance.

As for this collection, specifically covering Delhi, the maps serve varying purposes: those of military intelligence and strategy, particularly of relevance being map 11, *Siege of Delhi 1857* (1857), in which the shrewd and vigilant martial strategy of the British, employed in their encounters with Indian forces, is illustrated; tourist maps emphasising the sightworthy monuments, where map 28, *Tourist Map of Delhi* (1927), is exemplary; some depicting and contemplating the complex irrigation or sewage schemes, such as map 12, *Western Jumna Canal Showing Irrigation Channels and Drainage Works Completed and Proposed* (around 1857); plans outlining prodigious developments, projects, or colonies, as seen in map 26, *Delhi* (1912); and, of course, an abundance of survey maps illustrating the status quo of the territory, an archetypal example of which is map 29, *Delhi Western Section and Extensions* (1927-28).

Yet again placing emphasis on the symbolic significance of maps, it proves remarkably stimulating, if not inspiring, when an intuitive effort is made to appreciate and cognitively understand the inherent story or situation any given map reflects. For instance, a soldier carrying map 11 in his pocket would have had an entirely different understanding, use, and respect for it than an innocent spectator coming across it centuries later. Similarly, the active planning of irrigation channels and the sewage canals to be duly constructed would have held an entirely different significance at the time, in contrast to it being

reflected upon in retrospect. The detailed trigonometric data, benchmarks, and mean declinations may not be of particular importance to the lay, but would, however, have been vital to those planning the progress of the city at that time; nevertheless, still of possible interest to historians. It just goes to support the hypothesis that every map upholds its own character, legacy, and historical significance, without prejudice towards the purpose it fulfilled, who it was created by, or for whom it was meant.

Travellers were among the first foreigners to propose representations of Indian territories and cities. Travels through the Indian subcontinent were diverse in nature and in their objectives or goals, and the corresponding images that each produced varied accordingly;⁴ whether the trips were for pleasure or for study, commercially motivated or with military intentions prevailing, the illustrations that stemmed therefrom are each unique and destined to fulfil an explicit purpose. Over the ages, India has fascinated intellectuals with its exotic aura, tropical climate, and connotations of religious and spiritual enlightenment, building up an ideological preconception that was eventually defined as Orientalism.⁵ Similarly, many journeys to India were linked to the acquisition of power and economic gain—military expeditions, imperialism, and trade opportunities served as the driving factors for Europeans to increasingly travel towards the East, in an endeavour to conquer the Indian territories. All these journeys, those for leisure, those commercially motivated, and certainly those made in the pursuit of conquest, resulted in a plethora of materials: diaries, notes, spiritual texts, as also representations of cities, sketches of landscapes, drawings, and even formal paintings. It must be noted here that the invaders, who were primarily concerned with territorial demarcation to document the extent of their empire and colonial development, also were responsible for the majority of survey maps and cartographies. Amongst the first of these is a map stemming from the period of Alexander the Great, referenced vaguely in Ptolemy's great geographical works.⁶

Early cartographic documents on India were predominantly associated to maritime exploration of the coasts and eventually became a predominant focus of the maps, especially because of the repeated attempts to circumnavigate the subcontinent. 'The art

of navigation is linked with the one of cartography. Indian sailors could navigate the open seas and had some sort of maps and charts to help them to successfully cross the Indian Ocean at just about the beginning of the Christian era.⁷ Only during the subsequent, European colonial period was the interior of the entire country surveyed systematically. 'During the seventeenth century, the main interest of cartographers shifted from the coasts of India to the interiors of the country,'⁸ naturally including Delhi. Where maps of all sorts were seen earlier, including sketches and seemingly playful drawings, such as map 9, *Delhi in 1857* (1857), map 23, *Delhi and Vicinity* (1910-11), on the other hand, shows the intricate and arduous detail that maps had come to demand by then. As a matter of fact, it were the British colonialists who developed the art of cartography per se,⁹ by not only redefining measurement units but also mastering innovative survey systems, and ultimately being responsible for implementing such monumental an enterprise.¹⁰ The authority and expertise the British enjoyed becomes abundantly clear from the proportion of maps and cartographies in this collection attributable to their dominion.

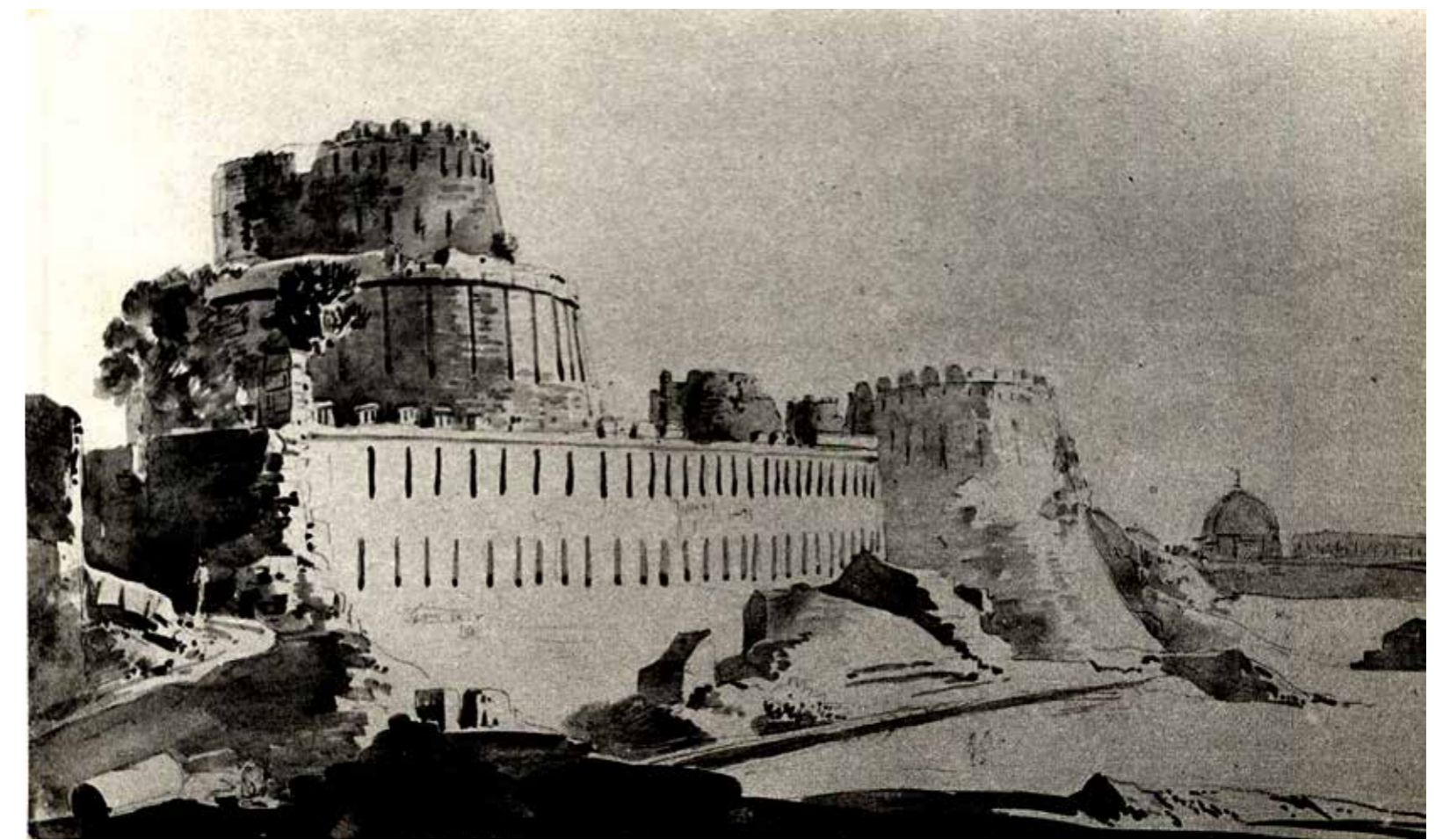
Cartography is an exacting technique through which areas of territory are represented. As mentioned earlier, since maps were of utmost use to occupying powers, cartography was entrusted to military commanders and engineers, who not only drafted the maps but also bore responsibility for the accuracy of surveys and the representation of their respective jurisdictions. Over the course of time and by virtue of the advancements in measurement instrumentation, these maps became more precise and detailed.

Till the beginning of the nineteenth century, the maps of India had been based mostly on route surveys, military or otherwise, with occasional but enough astronomical observations to link them with other maps or to give them some sort of semblance of scientific surveys and accuracy. Though these are now no longer considered scientifically accurate, they served their purpose and served it well. With the advancement in the science of map making and the improvement of the instruments used therein, the cartographers discovered ways and means to prepare very accurate, almost perfect, topological surveys based on triangulation.¹¹

‘By about 1875, extensive chains of triangulatory measurements that were spread all over the country from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin were coming to a close as their purpose was about to be achieved.’¹² In this collection, map 19, *Cantonment, Civil Station, City, & Environs of Delhi* (1867–68; corrected up to 1893), is one of the first and indeed a fine example of how this geodetic expertise commenced.

This collection of maps confirms and embodies the painstaking efforts of a distinguished succession of British surveyors, and affirms the onerous task they undertook in meticulously surveying the tapestry of the Indian terrain; a *fait accompli* for India, a survey network built on scientific principles. This legacy, left behind by the Survey of India institution, is unmistakable and identifiable in a majority of the cartographies by virtue of their prevailing and recurrent style, just as much by their standardised references and legends. Needless to say, these cartographies became a governing point of reference for other Indian institutions dealing with territories at various levels, such as the Delhi Improvement Trust, the Delhi Development Authority, and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi or the Central Public Works Department. Maps and cartographies like map 34, *Delhi Improvement Trust. Works & Schemes 1939–1949* (1939–40), or map 41, *Lay Out Plan of New Delhi* (1955–1962), may possibly have referenced their information and insights from the Survey of India, even if just from a differential perspective; they have, nonetheless, developed and maintained their own, distinct aesthetic qualities.

The study of maps and cartographies, or examining plans for what they actually stand for, encourages a different perspective and approach when examining the history of Indian cities, for each visual representation reveals valuable information on the territorial and urban structure. On scrutinising the maps of Delhi, for instance, certain peculiarities and characteristics emerge that are unique to the city—the urban pattern of the densely populated Shahjahanabad stands in stark contrast to that of the generously landscaped New Delhi. Similarly, the informal layouts of the urban villages is not comparable to those of the colonies, which itself differs from one colony to the other. These variations in patterns further substantiate the well-established idea of Delhi being a composite



city, comprising singular parts collectively responsible for forming an intricate whole. Much like a jigsaw puzzle, through the use of maps, each individual component can be distinctly identified, and only when pieced together do they transform into the greater picture: Delhi, a city of cities.

Relatively little or nothing is known of the ancient origins of the city of Delhi;¹³ there is no physical evidence of the oldest urban settlements, merely myths and legends.¹⁴ Apparently, the first mention or evidence of the existence of Delhi derives from one of the ancient Hindu epics, the *Mahabharata*. In it, it is claimed that Delhi, then known by the name Indraprastha, actually dates back to the Vedic period, when the feudal Pandava and Kaurava families were at odds. Around the year 1450 BC, the Pandava Yudhishtira, banished by the Kauravas from the city of Hastinapur, laid the first stone on the western banks of Yamuna River. Archaeological excavations in the 20th century have confirmed the presence of an urban settlement in the area between Feroz Shah Kotla and Humayun’s Tomb, dating back to the first millennium before Christ. As for the name the city is recognised by, some scholars believe that it may possibly be attributed to Raja Dillu, who, in the first century before Christ, certainly before the Macedonian invasion, is said to have been responsible for the construction of another settlement in

close proximity and to the north of Indraprastha, near the present-day Qutb Minar. In terms of maps or cartographies, however, it remains exceptionally difficult, near to impossible, to find any evidence of these earlier, seemingly prehistoric settlements.

Despite the ambiguity and inconclusiveness with regard to the origin of Delhi in the available literature, the maps in this collection demonstrate, and every scholar would be in agreement, that Delhi developed over a duration of time, through several settlements built next to each other, instead of just one settlement that was destroyed and rebuilt time and again. Many cities are formed one portion at a time, but the peculiarity with the city of Delhi is that it was shaped, from its very beginning, by a network of distinct nuclei. Other megalopolises, such as London, were formed by aggregating separate and singularly maintained centres, whereas in Delhi, these actually were independently founded cities. It is yet unclear, be it from the reports of travellers or the observations of archaeologists, as to how many cities there actually existed: some say seven, others claim ten or twelve, and yet another point of reference maintains there were fourteen cities. The cities are often referred to by different, contradictory names: Siri instead of Tughlakabad, Firozabad as opposed to Kotla Firoz Shah, or Shahjahanabad in contrast to Shah Jahan City. Such contradictions become apparent when comparing map 17, *The Seven Cities* (1867), to map 30, *Seven Cities of Delhi and Other Monuments* (post 1931)—Lal-Kot-Qal'a Raipithora (the first city), for instance, is labelled by name in map 30 instead of merely as Old Delhi, as seen in map 17, and yet again different from map 1, *Antiquities of Dehlie* (after 1803 but before 1857), where it is exclusively identified as Dilli; Siri (the second) and Tughlukabad (the third) are consistent, apart from Tughluqabad being spelt with the letter 'q' in map 30; similarly, Jahanpanan (the fourth) can be read as Jahanpanah in the former map; where Kotla Firuz Shah (the fifth) is clearly identified with an arrow in map 30, in map 17 it is vaguely outlined as Firozabad; Purana-Qal'a (the sixth) is altogether different and instead identified as the 'City of Sher Shah' in map 17; and finally, Shahjahanabad (the seventh) is constant in both maps 17 30, but is spelt as Shahjehaha Bad in map 1.

Notwithstanding the above inconsistencies, ruins of some of the pre-colonial settlements still remain visible in the maps of this collection and more information on the nature of those settlements established after AD 1000 is, in fact, available;¹⁵ physical evidence, be it ruins or carefully restored structures, still remain and are part of the present-day megalopolis, visible and confirmed through monuments and archaeological parks such as Purana Qila, Siri, Tughlaqabad,¹⁶ and Lal-Kot-Qal'a Raipithora. The aforementioned maps as well as map 28, *Tourist Map of Delhi* (1927), and map 31, *Delhi Punjab & United Provinces* (1933), are prime examples of where such can be seen. From the scarce few documents left, and from the hypothetical reconstructions by scholars and the maps in this collection, it seems that most of these cities were fortified citadels situated on hillocks near the Yamuna River, facilitating the transportation of goods and the development of trade. Each time a new king rose to power, he chose not to demolish the previous ruler's stronghold, rather built another nearby, possibly out of superstition; nevertheless, it is indisputably the way in which the cores of the city multiplied. The fortifications are evidential of the many social layers that existed, and accentuate not only a separation between the inhabitants of the city and the country dwellers but also between the citizens and the court. The city walls, conceptualised and built to guarantee the payment of tolls, were symbols of a city's authority, while the fortress placed inside it being that of the ruling family. Between the city walls and those of the fortress, irregular, non-planned streets usually developed, along with bazaars, religious monuments, and houses. The placement of residential buildings followed a conventional order, organised in accordance with the traditional caste system or based on the distribution of professions and occupations in the city.¹⁷ Interestingly, each and every map in this collection, apart from those illustrating only a particular settlement in detail, scrupulously depict the aforesaid city walls and forts.¹⁸

All previous settlements, those built by a succession of rulers belonging to several different dynasties, are now in ruins or deemed archaeological parks, bar just one,¹⁹ wherein the pre-colonial urban settlement has been preserved and is almost completely intact to this day: Shahjahanabad²⁰.

Old Delhi or Shahjahanabad is – like its colonial expansion and as its name indicates – a planned city. Founded and created by the Mughal emperor Shahjahan (1628-1658), it was intended to serve as a capital city. Unlike its modern successor, however, which is a capital of a predominately Hindu state, Shahjahanabad served as one of several capitals of a Muslim state and ruler.²¹

The imperial city of Shahjahanabad, founded in the 17th century by the Mughal ruler Shah Jahan, is perhaps the best example of a pre-colonial fortified city—the red fortress built by the emperor included royal buildings while the actual city extended beyond the fortress and was surrounded by city walls. The emperor demolished parts of the cities of Firozabad and Sher Shah to raise the walls of his new settlement. Beginning the 19th century, though, the towns of Paharganj and Sadar Bazar arose just outside the city walls, as is evident, rather informally, on observing map 15, *Plan of the City of Delhi showing a portion of its environs and the position of the British Force* (1859). Though the walls have since been demolished and the city has undergone many changes through the intervention of the British in the 20th century, the layout of the pre-colonial city remains clearly visible—the fort, the bazaar road, the mosque, the walls, and the roads that branch out in order of importance as primary, secondary, and tertiary.²² There are two maps in this collection that particularly describe this part of the capital, both before the British interventions and afterwards; map 5, *Shāhjahānābād. Delhi around 1850* (1850), is exceptionally detailed and provides exemplary insight into every aspect of the city prior to the arrival of the British, in contrast to map 18, *[Map of the City of Shahjahanabad labelling ancient Muslim and Hindu buildings of relevance]* (1873), where the prominent demolitions by the British around the Red Fort as well as the disruptive railway station are unforgivingly visible.

Villages can be considered the micro-cities of Delhi, developed as completely independent settlements with their own rules, regulations, structure, lifestyles, and patterns. The 304 villages, clearly visible in the cartographies and scattered across the entire ‘Delhi State’,²³ once located in the midst of fields and connected by waterways, have gradually been absorbed into the expanse of the urban structure, remaining as autonomous parts within



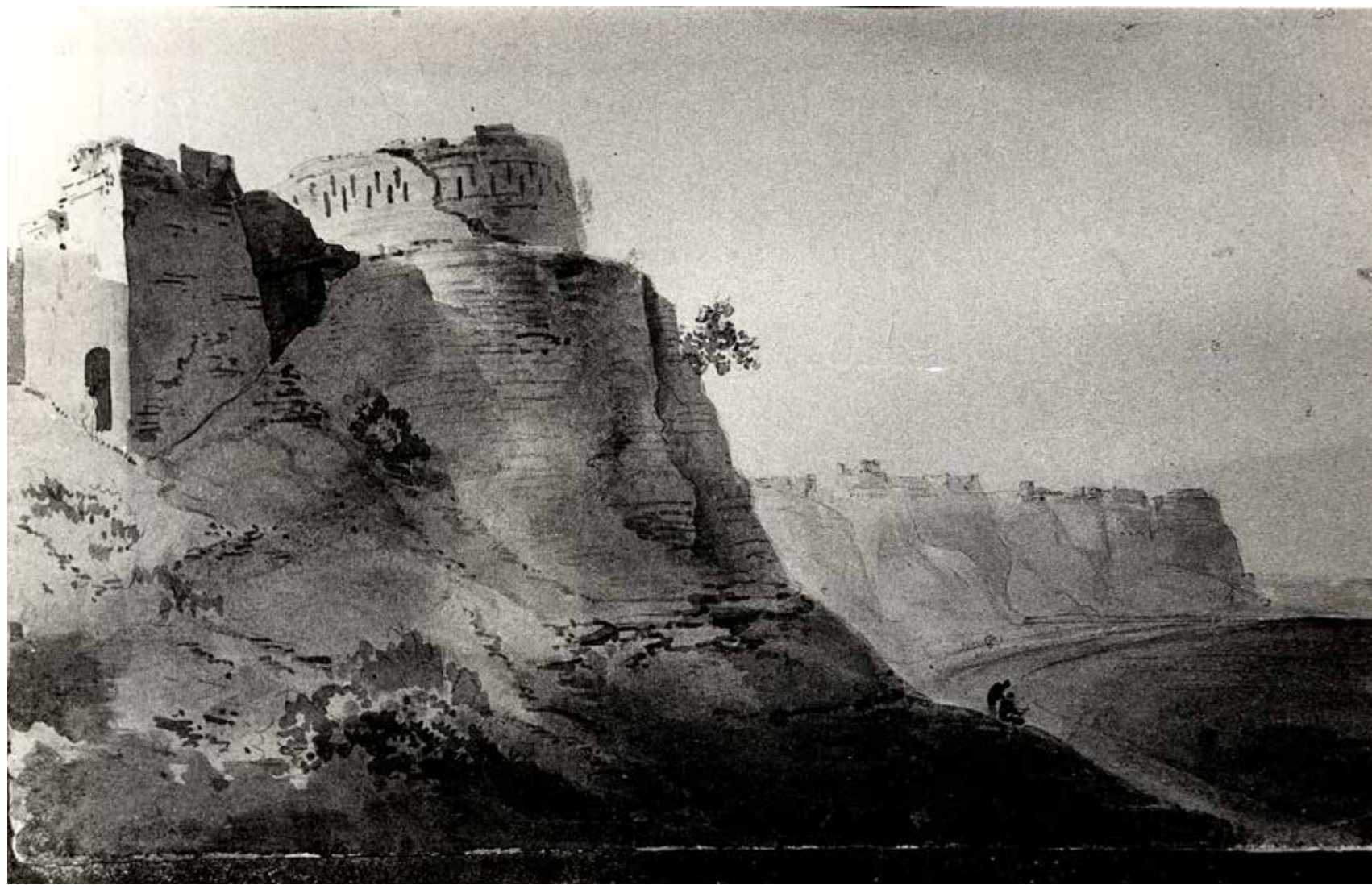
it.²⁴ Particularly noticeable, in map 2, *Sketch of the Environs of Delhi* (1807), is the well-established network of villages in the form of stylised clusters sporadically interspersed in the territory that was later subsumed by the city of Delhi. The villages have winding, narrow streets and are usually organised around a public area with a religious function, or around a park, or a water reservoir. These villages were defined during British rule by a boundary known as *Lal Dora*, assuring both physical and judicial independence to the settlements.²⁵ The detail maps provided in this collection, map 23a, *Proposed Development of village Sheikh Sarai New Delhi* (1982),²⁶ and map 23c, *Redevelopment plan of village Arak Pur Bagh Mochi, New Delhi* (1949), for example, embody the characteristics unique to each village. The system of canals connecting one village to another, organised broadly by the geography and ultimately draining into the river Yamuna, is interesting in itself. Besides the waterways, there were roads connecting the towns. The villages, with all their distinctive traits, are still easily recognisable.

As is common knowledge, the British East India Company gained control of Delhi in 1803 after Lord Lake's victory in the Battle of Delhi. At first, before the great 1857 rebellion, the colonialists sought to mingle with the local population and live inside Shahjahanabad. However, soon after the British assumed power over the subcontinent and had expelled the then Mughal emperor, they developed a practice of separating themselves, in the most definite of terms, from the local population and the historical town; perhaps a consequence of the fear of disease and uncleanness. They gradually relocated, first to the north with the military cantonments and residences in the civil lines area, then to the south in 1911, founding a new imperial city known as New Delhi, ostensibly as the eighth city,²⁷ which, according to the British, would have been the last city of Delhi. New Delhi took over Calcutta's role and was an urban reality per se, quite dissimilar to the overcrowded Shahjahanabad and with a distinct separation prominently established by the insurmountable train tracks in between.²⁸ The city has its own peculiar character, with wide roads and a distinct housing type, where bungalows, as opposed to the historic *haveli*-type houses, predominate. New Delhi was inspired by The City Beautiful Movement and the Garden City Movement, and the houses are carefully planned and organised in relation

to the buildings of power. The detail 33b of map 33, *Lay Out Plan of New Delhi* (1934), is a definite illustration of not only how the planning of residential areas changed overall but also an example in which the specific typology of edifices becomes visible.

Moreover, much towards the end of British rule, the maps clearly indicate the colonialists being responsible for building independent, planned, and self-contained settlements, to be coined thereafter as 'colonies', in the interest of expanding the ever-growing urban area. The onset of this augmentation can already be witnessed in the late 1920s, as map 28, *Tourist Map of Delhi* (1927), establishes. Karol Bagh, Jangpura, and Lodi Colony are significant examples, which clearly demonstrate, through their respective layouts, that they were based on a separate pattern from those of Civil Lines and New Delhi. Each of these settlements has its own characteristics and the same is evident from the cartographies at hand; in map 35a, *Lay Out plan of Western Extension Karol Bagh* (1970), for instance, the colony is noticeably congested with practically no public spaces, apart from the traditional roads and bazaars, whereas Lodi Colony, visible in map 38b, *Lay Out plan of Clerk Flats & Chummeries Lodi Road New Delhi* (1959), has favourably planned housing with ample gardens and open spaces.

In 1947, after India's independence, the colonial high ground, Delhi, became the capital of the new democratic and independent India. Simultaneously, the city experienced incredible expansion owing to the influx of thousands of Hindu refugees into Delhi during Partition, in parallel to the exodus of Muslims outbound from Delhi. For about 10 years the city grew uncontrollably, as is prominently noticeable in map 40, *Delhi Guide Map. Surveyed 1955-56* (1955-56). Inconsistently built colonies started to emerge; some built by private enterprises, others by public institutions, and some altogether unauthorised. As for the government colonies, one that bears particular resemblance to those built during British rule is Sarojini Nagar, directly comparable to Lodi Colony in terms of its structure and pattern, as is represented in map 41b, *Site Survey Plan for Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi* (-). As for the private ones, a significant example is Model Town, seen in map 41a, *Lay Out Plan of Model Town showing set-backs lines* (post 1947).



In 1955, the then prime minister decided that some form of city planning was indispensable, and, consequently, a series of surveys commenced in preparation for a Master Plan, to be implemented in 1962. Often termed as Delhi's ninth city, it was, in theory, intended to unify all the previous cities.²⁹ Essentially this plan, map 42, *Delhi Urban Area* (1962), was conceptualised by the Indian institution Town and Country Planning Organisation (TCPO) in collaboration with the American Ford Foundation, and was subsequently updated for the 1981, 2001, and 2021 Master Plans. The crux of the first plan and those that followed was not only the idea that the megalopolis should be structured through the imported notions of zoning and functionally defined areas, but, essentially, to yet again divide Delhi into self-sufficient neighbourhoods, additional micro-cities or colonies per se, within the city. It is noteworthy that the later expansions towards the extremities of the city confirm the paradigm of Delhi being a city of cities; though classified as part of the National Capital Region (NCR), and intentionally excluded from this collection, developments such as Rohini and Dwarka, or satellite cities and ring towns such as Faridabad, Ghaziabad, Noida, and Gurgaon, are wholly autonomous.

It is recognised that, over the centuries, many rulers chose Delhi as their seat of power, from which to dominate and govern the subcontinent just as much as to establish their domicile. The capital developed over a period of time through a succession of rulerships, amongst them the Turkish, the Mughals, and the British, each founding a new settlement specific to their period of reign and with its own unique character, peculiar and distinct in its architecture and planning whilst also bearing countless external and domestic influences. By way of successive additions and a conglomeration of a number of different cities, Delhi became an exemplary model of polycentric settlements. This collection of maps epitomises, validates, and visually supports 'the story of the city of cities'.³⁰ Delhi is made up of ancient cities, of villages, the imperial New Delhi, newly added colonies, and post-1947 developments, each with an identifiable heritage and distinct in its traits, culture, and subsistence. 'No capital in the world has been built on the site of as many legendary cities of old, as Delhi.'³¹

Notes

- 1 Matthew H. Edney, *Mapping an Empire: the geographical construction of British India, 1765–1843* (Chicago, London: University of Chicago Press, 1990), p. 1.
- 2 Susan Gole, *Early maps of India* (New Delhi: Sanskriti in association with Arnold Heinemann, 1976), p. 12.
- 3 W.M. Coldstream, *Notes on Survey of India maps and the modern development of Indian cartography*, published under the direction of C.H.D. Ryder, vol. XII of *Records of the Survey of India* (Calcutta: Survey of India, 1919).
- 4 In Europe at the beginning of the 17th century, intellectuals and academics developed the tradition of the *Grand Tour*, often appropriated with an aspect of pilgrimage, it was in many ways a journey or initiation by travelling for the purpose of learning, experiencing and self-discovery. A prerequisite destination, by many even construed as the mecca of such journeys was Italy and its cities. The itineraries and destinations were predetermined and planned with a conscious effort to achieve the respective objectives set forth for the tour. An array of mementos, hereto were left behind, be it works of art, literary commentaries

or even meticulously researched studies. These, in turn, followed a natural sequence, not necessarily just chronological, but also in the way they were perceived; journeys of the past represented the legacy from which another may have begun and in terms of maps and cartographies as well, it is necessary to appreciate the exploratory process or the legacy from which they may stem.

- 5 Essentially nothing more than a simplified and reduced view of the country, its traditions, and culture. See Edward W. Said, *Orientalismo: L'immagine europea dell'Oriente*, trans. Stefano Galli (Milano: Feltrinelli, 2010).
- 6 “The young Alexander, king of Macedonia in northern Greece in the fourth century B.C., to attempt conquest of the known world – as far as the Great Bay (of Bengal). [...] This conquest is barely mentioned in the Indian literature of the period, but it was a major advance in the European knowledge of India. [...] With Alexander went geographers and historians who were instructed to make detailed reports and precise measurements everywhere they went. [...] All this knowledge was put to good use in the first known maps of India that have survived in some form to the present day. From Alexandria in the second century A.D. came the Geographia of Ptolemy – A long geographical treatise accompanied by maps of the known world”, in Susan Gole, *Early maps of India* (New Delhi: Sanskriti in association with Arnold Heinemann, 1976), pp. 19–20. The map was published for the first time in 1477. Its diffusion in print coincided with the spreading of cartography. “With the increase of printing, knowledge gained by travellers and traders spread quickly, both in books and maps”, *ibidem*, p. 37.
- 7 P.L. Madan, *Indian cartography: a historical perspective* (New Delhi: Manohar, 1997), p. 15. See also, Charles Verlinden, “The Indian Ocean: The Ancient Period and the Middle Age” and B. Arunachalam, “The Heaven-finding Art in Indian Navigational Traditions and Cartography”; both articles published in *The Indian Ocean explorations in history, commerce and politics*, ed. Satish Chandra (New Delhi: Sage, 1987). See also, Leo Bagrow, *History of Cartography*, Revised and enlarged by R.K. Skelton (London: C.A. Watts & Co, 1964); Dineschandra Sircar, *Studies in the geography of ancient and medieval India* (Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1960).
- 8 P.L. Madan, *Indian cartography: a historical perspective* (New Delhi: Manohar, 1997), p. 47.
- 9 The Archaeological Survey of India was founded in 1784.
- 10 “The history of the East India Company’s mapping activities can be summarized as the

history of British attempts to make detailed topographic and cadastral surveys adhere to a systematic standard within a coherent administrative structure, even as the forces of inertia, expediency, and financial strain worked to preserve the almost anarchic conditions of mapmaking in India” in Matthew H. Edney, *Mapping an Empire: the geographical construction of British India, 1765–1843* (Chicago, London: University of Chicago Press, 1990), p. 32.

- 11 P.L. Madan, *Indian cartography: a historical perspective* (New Delhi: Manohar, 1997), p. 87.
- 12 *Ibidem*, p. 97.
- 13 “The origin of the name of Delhi is lost in antiquity and the city is known to have flourished under various names. It is generally presumed that the corrupted names Dilli, Dehli and finally Delhi were evolved after the name of Raja Dillu, a member of the Maurya Dynasty who reigned in the 1st Century B.C.” in Town Planning Organization, *Interim General Plan for Greater Delhi* (New Delhi: Ministry of Health Government of India, 1956), p. 4.
- 14 S.P. Gupta and K.S. Ramachandran, “Mahabharata: Myth and Reality” and Ashok K. Sharma, “Prehistoric Delhi and its neighbourhood physical features”, in *Delhi: Ancient History*, ed. Upinder Singh (New Delhi: Social Science Press, 2006); William Buck, *Mahabharata* (Berkeley, London: University of California Press, 2000).
- 15 A text by Praduman K. Sharma, “Mughal Architecture of Delhi: A Study of Mosques and Tombs, 1556–1627 A.D.” (PhD diss., Jamia Millia Islamia University, 2000), describes seven cities, the first of which is called Lal Kot and dates back to 1024 A.D., the second Siri from 1303 A.D., the third Tughlaqabad from 1321 A.D., the fourth Jahanpanah from 1327 A.D., the fifth Kotla Ferozshah from 1354 A.D., the sixth Dinpanah from 1533 A.D., the seventh Shahjahanabad from 1631 A.D.
- 16 “The fortress of Tughluqabad stands on a rocky hill, about 8 km from the Qutb-Minar on the Qutb Badarpur road. It was built by Ghiyathu’d-Din Tughluq (1321–25) and constitutes the third city of Delhi. Roughly octagonal on plan with a perimeter of 6.5 km, its 10 to 15 high rubble-built walls are provided with bastions and gates at intervals. [...] Tughluqabad was divided mainly into three portions. To the east of the present entrance from the Qutb-Badarpur road, a rectangular area with high walls and bastions served as the citadel. A wider area immediately to its west, similarly bounded by rubble walls and bastions, housed the palaces. Beyond this to the north lay the city, now marked by ruins of houses. Streets in the city, some of which can be traced even now, ran in a grid-pattern form gates on one side to

those on the opposite side. Inside the citadel-enclosure are a tower known as Bijai-Mandal and remains of several halls, including a long underground passage” in Y.D. Sharma, *Delhi and its neighbourhood* (New Delhi: Archaeological Survey of India, 1964), pp. 85-86.

- 17 Important are the writings of Abu Omar Minhaj-ud-din Narni’s Osman’s *Tabqat-i-Nasiri*, Ibn Batuta’s *Rehla*, Ziya-ud-din Barni’s *Tarikh-i-Firozshahi*, Khafi Khan’s *Muntakhab-ul-Labab*, Muhammad Qasim’s *Tarikh-i-Farishta*, Abul Fazl’s *Ain-i-Akbari* – and Nawab Shamsam-ud-daulah Shah Nawaz Khan’s *Maasir-ul-umara*. These are only some of the volumes, but there are many more. We may also read the observations of European travellers who passed through India during the Mughal period, who mention the buildings and life in Delhi. We recall Tavernier, Bernier, Manucci and Thevenot. The volume *Oriental Scenery* by Daniell was published in London in 1812 and gave an overview of Delhi’s monuments. Sayyid Ahmad Khan’s work titled *Asar-us-sanadid* (1847) gives a vivid description of Delhi’s monuments before the 1857 rebellion. With the foundation of the Archaeological Survey of India in 1861, Cunningham and Beglar analysed the Delhi area, relating their finds in the books of the Archaeological Survey of India. Many other scholars have attempted to take down the history of Delhi and describe its archaeology, among these: Heber (1828) e Archer’s (1833) works, *Journal of a Tour of Upper India* (1858) by Mundy, *New York to Delhi* (1858) by Mintura, *Handbook to Delhi* (1863) by Cooper, *England to Delhi* (1870) by Matheson, *New Guide to Delhi* (1870) by Harcourt, *Archaeology of Delhi* (1876) by Carr Stephen, *Reports* (1881-84) by Cole, *Reminiscences of an Indian Official* (1884) by Cavenagh, *Revised list of Objects of Archaeological Interest in the Punjab* (1885-90) by Rodgers, and *Memoires of Delhi and Fyrazabad* (1888) by Hoey. At the beginning of the 20th century many monuments became heritage sites and other scholars decided to document them. Among the most important studies in this area we can remember Herbert C. Fanshawe’s work, *Delhi: Past and Present* (1902), Lovat Fraser’s *At Delhi. An account of the Delhi Durbar*, Times of India Press & Thacker, Bombay 1903, Gordon Risley Hearn’s *The Seven Cities of Delhi* (1906), Henry G. Keene’s *Hand-book of for Visitors to Delhi* (1906), Gordon Sanderson’s *Delhi Museum of Archaeology* (1909), and C.M.V. Stuart’s *Gardens of the Great Moghuls*, along with all the other important studies by Fergusson, Fletcher, Caritti, Elphistone, Havell and S.L. Poole on the city’s architecture and history. There are also articles and studies by the Archaeological Survey of India on Delhi’s architecture, art and monuments. The most important is possibly the *Survey of Delhi Monuments by the Archaeological Survey of India*.

These are four volumes cataloguing monuments, written by Maulvi Zafar Hasan between 1916 and 1922, titled *List of Muhammadan & Hindu Monuments*. As for other studies on the monuments and history of the city we cannot omit to mention the studies by Henry Sharp, *Delhi: its story and buildings* (Bombay: Humphrey Milford, 1921), or even Thomas G.P. Spear’s *Delhi: A Historical Sketch* (1945), Tatsuro Yamamoto, Matsuo Ara and Tokifusa Tsukinowa’s *Delhi Architectural Remains of the Delhi Sultanate Period* (3 volumes, 1968-70), and Y.D. Shama’s, *Delhi and its Neighbourhood* (1964). In the period following independence archaeological digs were carried out in the six cities’ area. Among these notably those in Purana Qila, Mandoli, Lal Kot, Anangpur, Salimgarth and Bhorgarh.

- 18 Michelguglielmo Torri, *Storia dell’India* (Bari: Editori Laterza, 2007), p. 175.
- 19 “There are many things in Old Delhi – Shahjahanabad – which, perhaps, many of us and many of you do not like. They are certainly capable of improvement. Nevertheless, there are many things in Old Delhi, old buildings, for instance, which stands out. But there is something more than that. There is the spirit and the genius of an ancient city, where almost every stone tells you a story, where history is embedded even in the dirty lane – the history of events and the history of people in their happiness and sorrow through long ages past. There is this ancient city with much that is good and much that is bad; but it has definite and positive atmosphere which you can feel it in your bones if you go there, especially if you know something about the tremendous past of Old Delhi which is supposed to be the seventh city of Delhi” in Eckart Ehlers and Thomas Krafft, *Shāhjahānābād/Old Delhi: tradition and colonial change* (New Delhi: Manohar, 2003), p. 15.
- 20 “Shahjahanabad”, in A.P. Bhatnagar, *Delhi and its fort palace: a historical preview* (Delhi: Shubhi Publications, 2003), pp. 56-61, 74-185; Hamida Khatoon Naqvi, “Shahajahanabad. The Mughal Delhi 1638-1803. An Introduction”, in *Delhi through the ages: selected essays in urban history, culture and society*, ed. Robert E. Frykenberg (Oxford, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1986), pp. 57-105; Stephen P. Blake, *Shahjahanabad. the sovereign city in Mughal India 1639-1739* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991); “Shahjahanabad”, in Gordon Risley Hearn, *The Seven Cities of Delhi* (New Delhi: S.B.W. Publishers, 1986), pp. 134-172; “The City of Cities” in *Historic Delhi: an anthology*, ed. H.K. Kaul, (Delhi, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985), pp. xxv-xxvi, (see also “Shahjahanabad”, pp. 41-47); “The City of Modern Delhi or Shahjahanabad” in Herbert C. Fanshawe, *Delhi Past and Present* (Gurgaon: Vintage Books, 1991) (this volume is a guide with a brief history of the city).

- 21 in Eckart Ehlers and Thomas Krafft, *Shāhjahānābād/Old Delhi: tradition and colonial change* (New Delhi: Manohar, 2003), p. 15.
- 22 “Morphology and Morphological Elements of 19th Century Shahjahanabad: Water system and Canals [...]; Gardens [...]; Thanas/Wards/Mahallahs (neighbourhoods) [...]; Streets, Bazaars and Chawks [...]; Fort/Palace [...]; Mosques [...]; Havelis [...].” *ibidem*, pp.16–27.
- 23 Information gathered from Town Planning Organization, *Interim General Plan for Greater Delhi* (New Delhi: Ministry of Health Government of India, 1956), p. 6; “Delhi was conferred the status of a Part ‘C’ State under the Constitution of India, and it came into existence as a separate State on the 17th March, 1952. Prior to that date, Delhi had the status of a Chief Commissioner’s Province” *ibidem*, p. 8.
- 24 Charles Lewis and Karoki Lewis, *Delhi’s historic villages* (New Delhi: Ravi Dayal Publisher – Penguin Book India, 2012).
- 25 S.K. Chandhoke, *Nature and Structure of Rural Habitation* (New Delhi: Concept Publishing Company, 1990).
- 26 The survey for this particular map was concluded in 1982 and published the following year.
- 27 Historian Anthony D. King maintains that the colonial period in the Indian capital can be divided into 3 main periods: a first period that goes from 1803 to 1857, a second that goes from 1857 to 1911, and a last one from 1911 to 1947. See Anthony D. King, *Colonial urban development: culture, social power and environment* (London, Boston: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1976).
- 28 Jeremiah P. Losty et al., *Delhi: Red Fort to Raisina* (New Delhi: Lustre Press–Roli Books, 2012); A.K. Jain, *Lutyens’ Delhi* (New Delhi: Bookwell, 2010); Malvika Singh and Rudrangshu Mukherjee, *New Delhi: making of a capital* (New Delhi: Lustre Press Roli Books, 2009); Jyoti Hosagrahar, *Indigenous Modernities: negotiating architecture and urbanism* (London: Routledge, 2005); Andreas Volwahren, *Imperial Delhi: the British capital of the Indian empire* (Munich, London: Prestel, 2002); Narayani Gupta, “Delhi between the two Empires 1803–1931: Society Government and Urban Growth”, in Thomas G. Percival Spear, Narayani Gupta and Robert E. Frykenberg, *The Delhi omnibus* (Oxford, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2002), pp. 1–236 (see also: “The British in Delhi”, pp. 137–166); “New Delhi: The Rome of Indostan”, in Philip H. Davies, *Splendours of the Raj: British architecture in India 1660–1947* (London: John Murray, 1985), pp. 215–239; Robert G. Irving, *Indian Summer: Lutyens, Baker,*

- and imperial Delhi* (New Heaven, London: Yale University Press, 1981); Anthony D. King, *Colonial urban development: culture, social power and environment* (London, Boston: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1976).
- 29 *Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru*, ed. Mushirul Hasan, 2nd series, vol. XXXIX (New Delhi: Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund, 2006); *Delhi: the deepening urban crisis*, ed. Patwant Singh and Ram Dhanija (New Delhi: Sterling Publishers, 1989); Gunnar Myrdal, *Asian drama: an inquiry into the poverty of nations*, vol. I, (New York: Twentieth Century Fund, 1968); “Final details for Delhi Master Plan: Less Land for Housing and Industries”, *Hindustan*, September 2 1962: 1; “Delhi Master Plan come into force”, *The Indian Express*, September 2, 1962: 1,6,7; *Work Studies relating to the preparation of the Master Plan for Delhi*, vols. I–II (New Delhi: Delhi Development Authority, 1957).
- 30 Thomas G. Percival Spear, Narayani Gupta and Robert E. Frykenberg, *The Delhi omnibus* (Oxford, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2002); Herbert C. Fanshawe, *Delhi Past and Present* (Gurgaon: Vintage Books, 1991); “Cities of Delhi”, in Stephen P. Blake, *Shahjahanabad. the sovereign city in Mughal India 1639–1739* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991), pp. 5–13; Gordon Risley Hearn, *The Seven Cities of Delhi* (New Delhi: S.B.W. Publishers, 1986); “The City of Cities” in *Historic Delhi: an anthology*, ed. H.K. Kaul, (Delhi, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985)
- 31 *Historic Delhi: an anthology*, ed. H.K. Kaul, (Delhi, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985), p. xvii (this book chronologically exemplifies the evolution of the city of Delhi); Patwant Singh, “The Ninth Delhi”, *The Journal of the Royal Society of Arts*, June, 1971: 461.

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- 14 1857-58. *Plan of Delhi 1857-58* (DSA)
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List of Acronyms/Initialisms



ASI	Archaeological Survey of India
CPWD	Central Public Works Department
DDA	Delhi Development Authority
DSA	Delhi State Archives
INTACH	Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage
MCD	Municipal Corporation of Delhi
NAI	National Archives of India
NDMC	New Delhi Municipal Council

SKETCH of the ENVIRONS of DELHI

Miles

F.S. White, Surveyor.

References

- 1 The Palms
- 2 Sultanpore
- 3 Juma Masjid, Lat 28° 38' 40"
- 4 Cantonments & Cashmere gate
- 5 Nabul gate
- 6 Bahar gate
- 7 Parash Khanah kreekie
- 8 Ameer gate
- 9 Kashmir gate
- 10 Dilkee gate
- 11 Deraah Singh gate & Cantonments
- 12 Rajahat gate & Cantonments

DELHI in 1857

Maps with RESPECTIVE COMMENTARIES



ANTIQUITIES OF DEHLIE



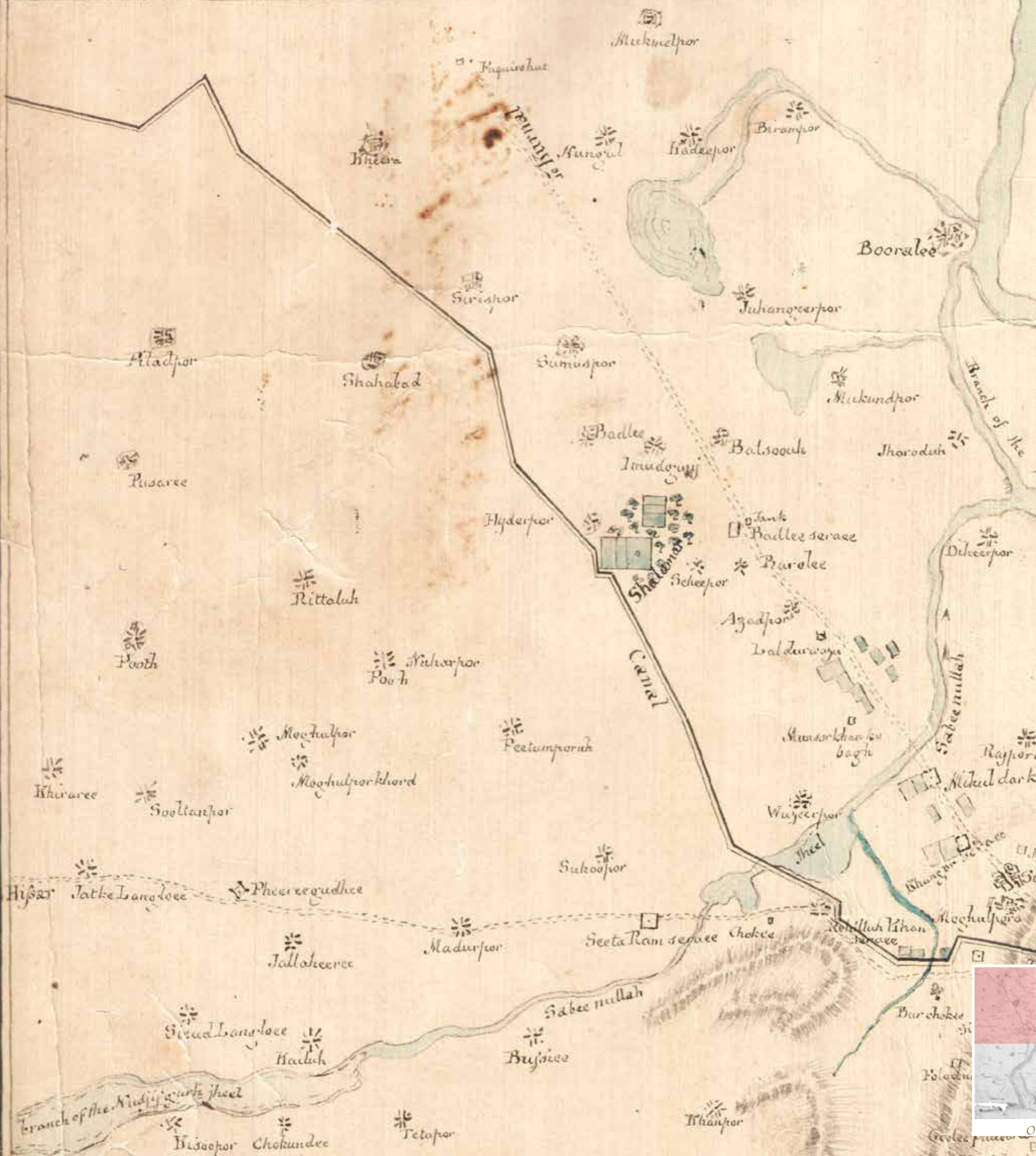
OF
[AFTER 1803 BUT BEFORE 1857]
Antiquities of Dehlie
DELHI STATE ARCHIVES
Scale: 1 inch = 1 mile

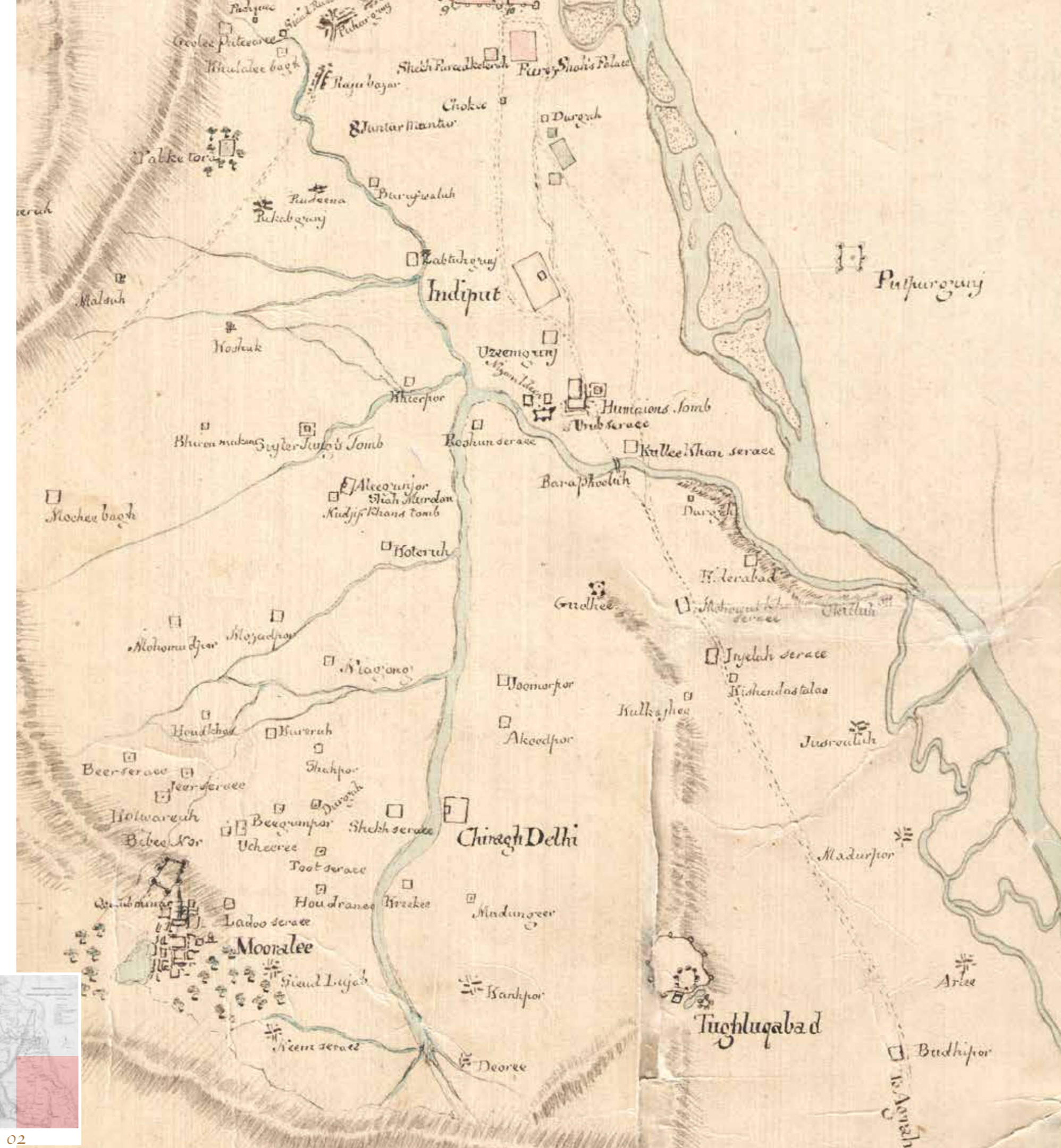
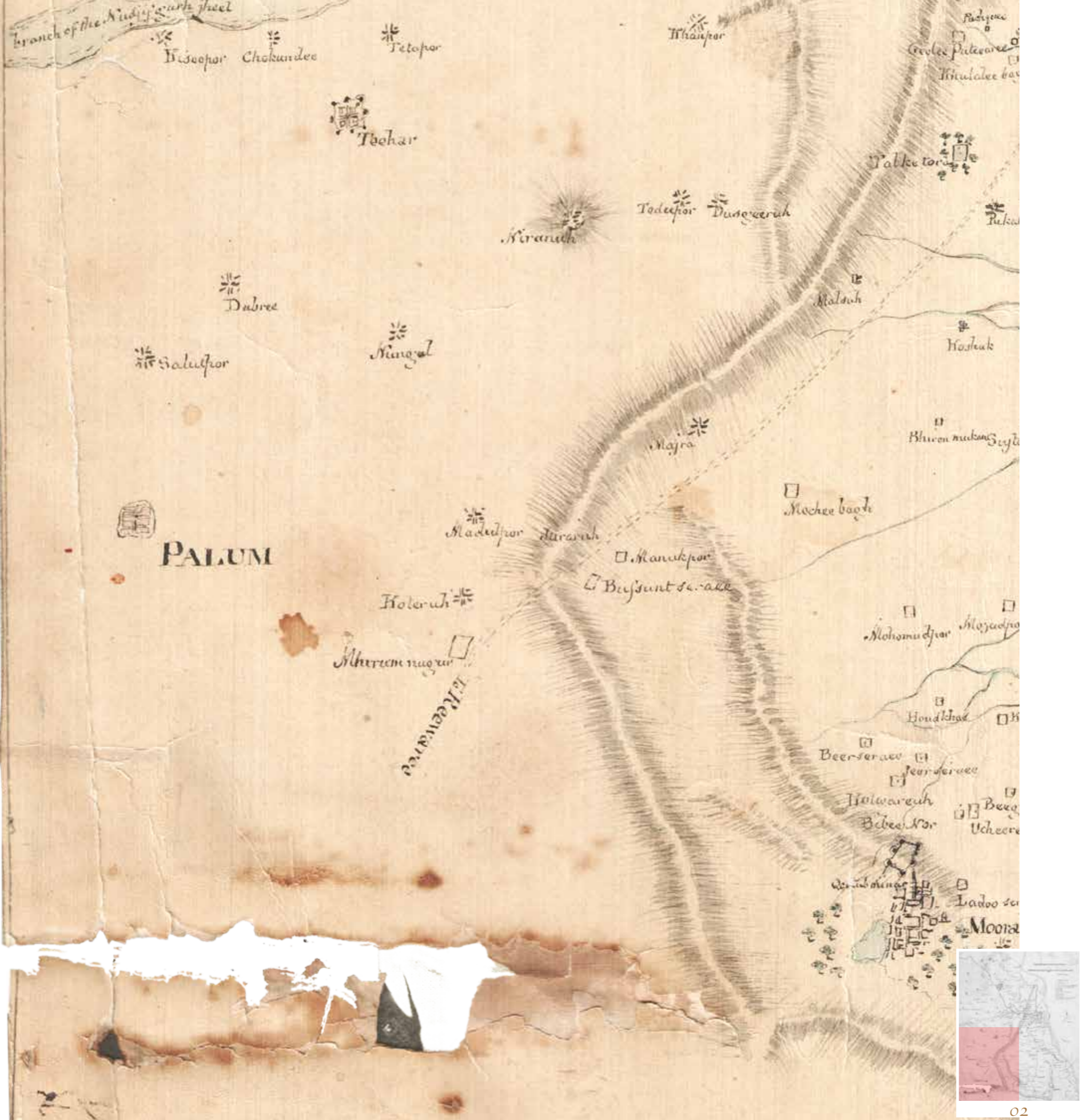
This map shows the locations and broad layouts of several ancient cities of Delhi, and emphasises that these were isolated and did not overlap. The following settlements are manifestly recognisable: Togloka Bad, Dilli, Jehan Punnah, Siri, Houz Khas, Poorana Killah, and Shahjehana Bad, and the smaller settlements of Budderpoor and Anek Poor. Intriguingly, this map labels the site actually known, and shown in later maps, as Lal-Kot-Qal'a Raipithora, as Dilli. Another point of mention are the peculiar spellings of the aforementioned settlements; most prominent is the awkward spelling of Humayun's Tomb, spelt as Homaioii's Toomb—neither of phonetic nor of any apparent symbolic value. The map is colour-coded, with red denoting built areas, yellow for roadways and paths, and blue for rivers and canals; the subtle slashes indicate hills and the dotted rendering marks sandbanks. A series of numbers are visible throughout the map, likely identifying significant monuments, which correspond to a *nota bene* or 'note well!' indicating: 'The numbers refer to the body of the gazetteer under this head.' A stylised representation of an arrow pointing north longitudinally bisects the map.

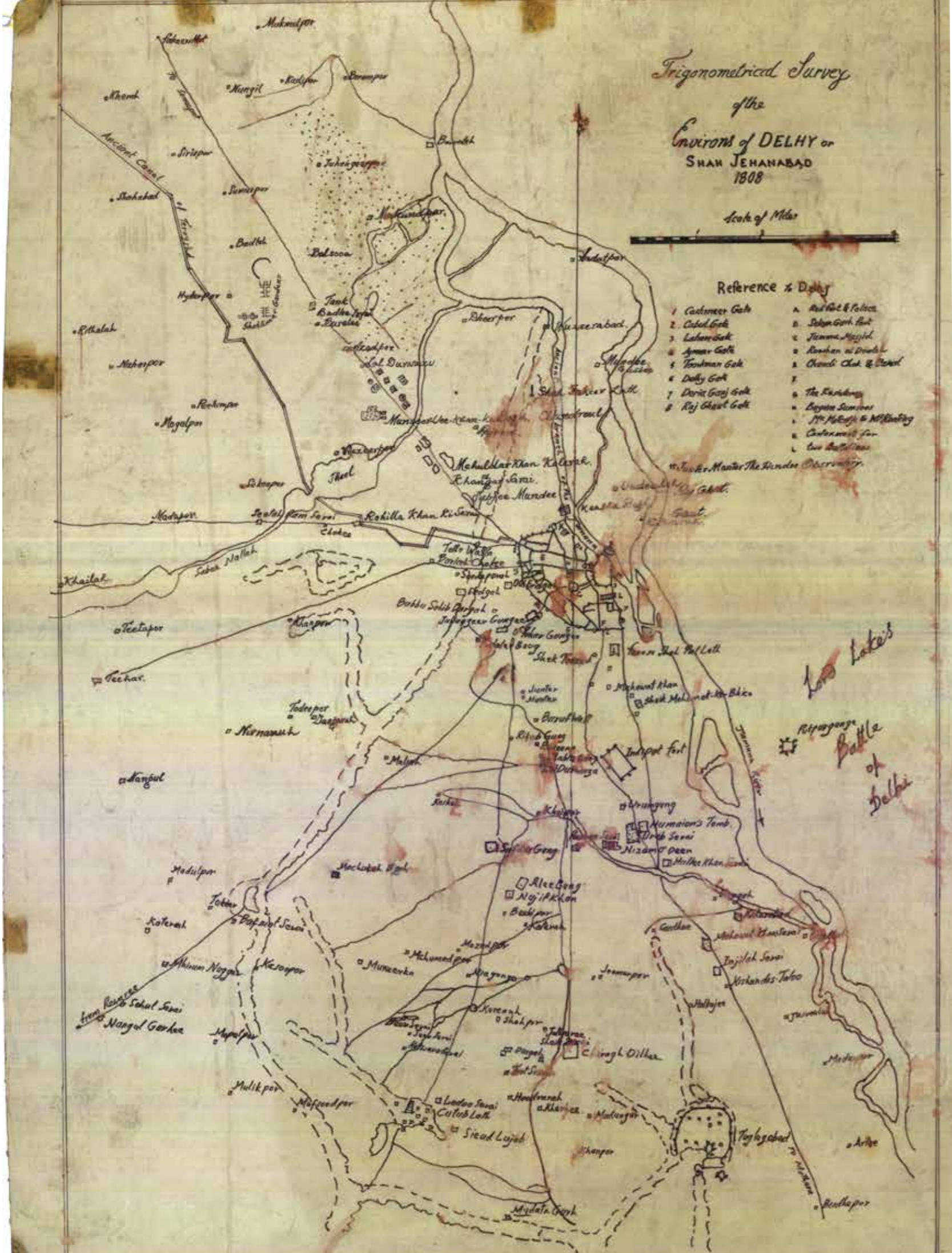


This map, dated 1807, beautifully illustrates Delhi and its environs at the beginning of the 19th century, shortly after the arrival of the British. It is attributed to the British surveyor F.S. White and shows the hierarchy of settlements, from the smaller villages to the larger. Unlike map 1, *Antiquities of Dehlie* [After 1803 but before 1857], this map does not show as many of the older cities and instead concentrates on Shahjahanabad, Tughluqabad, Mooralee, and the complex of Qootub minar. The smaller settlements are indicated only by name, and the delicate, miniature abstractions of villages, at times even of trees, give this map an element of unique artistic expression. Dashed lines indicate various routes while very subtly rendered shadings mark the ridge and hills. The only colours used in this map are a shade of light red, or pink, for the built areas, and a palette of blue tones for the rivers and streams. The canal, drawn boldly across the top left side of the map, culminating or originating in Shahjahanabad, is particularly prominent but does not exist as of present day. In the top right corner of the map is a list of references, corresponding to those on the map itself, numbered one through twelve: 1. The Palace; 2. Suleemgurh; 3. Jumma Musjid; 4. Cantonments & Cashmeer gate; 5. Kabul gate; 6. Lahor gate; 7. Ferash khanuh kreekee; 8. Ajmeer gate; 9. Toorkman gate; 10. Dilhee gate; 11. Deriah gunj gate & Cantonments; 12. Rajghat gate & Cantonments. Directly below this list, a compass rose confirms the northern directional orientation of the map with a five-degree eastward variation.









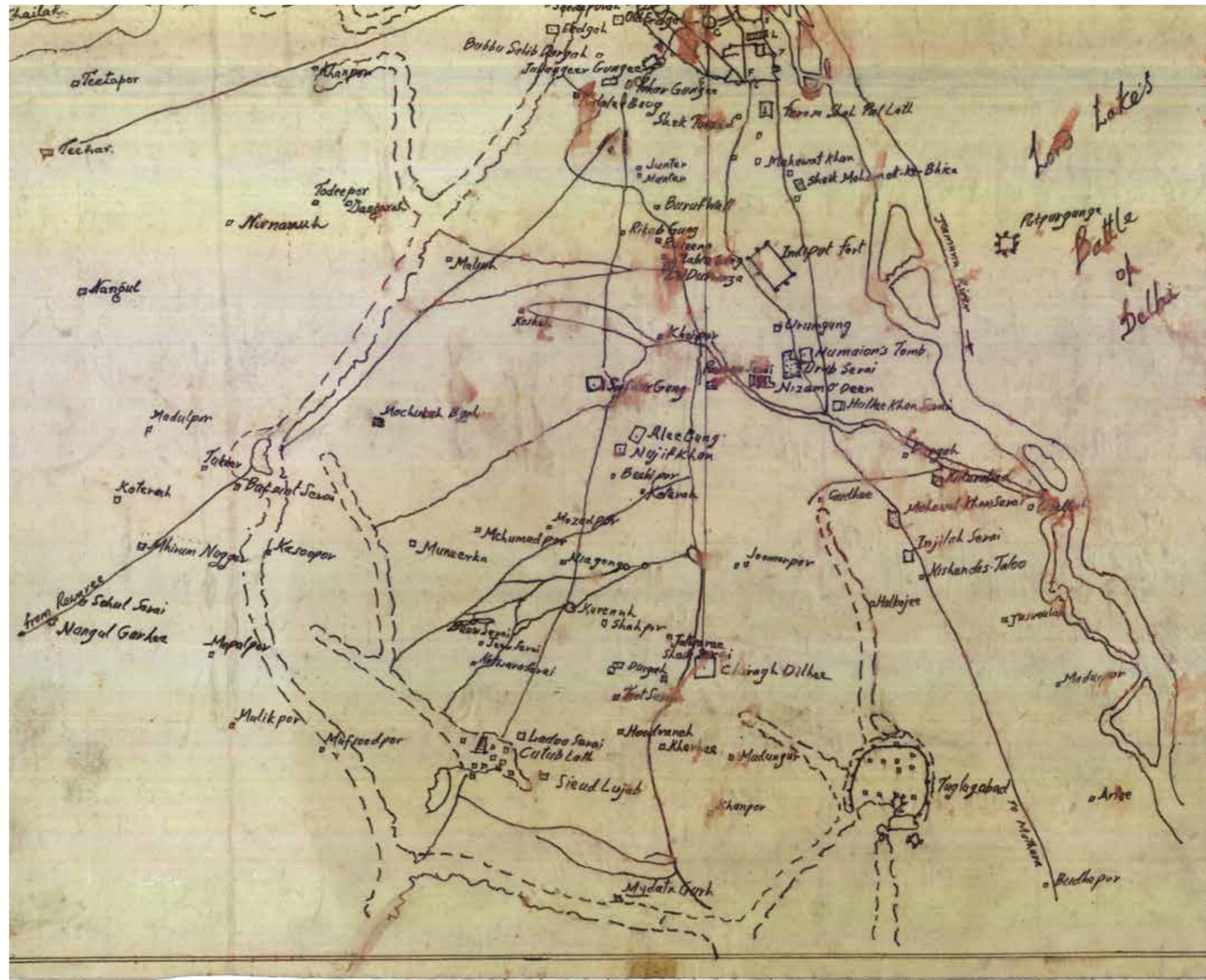
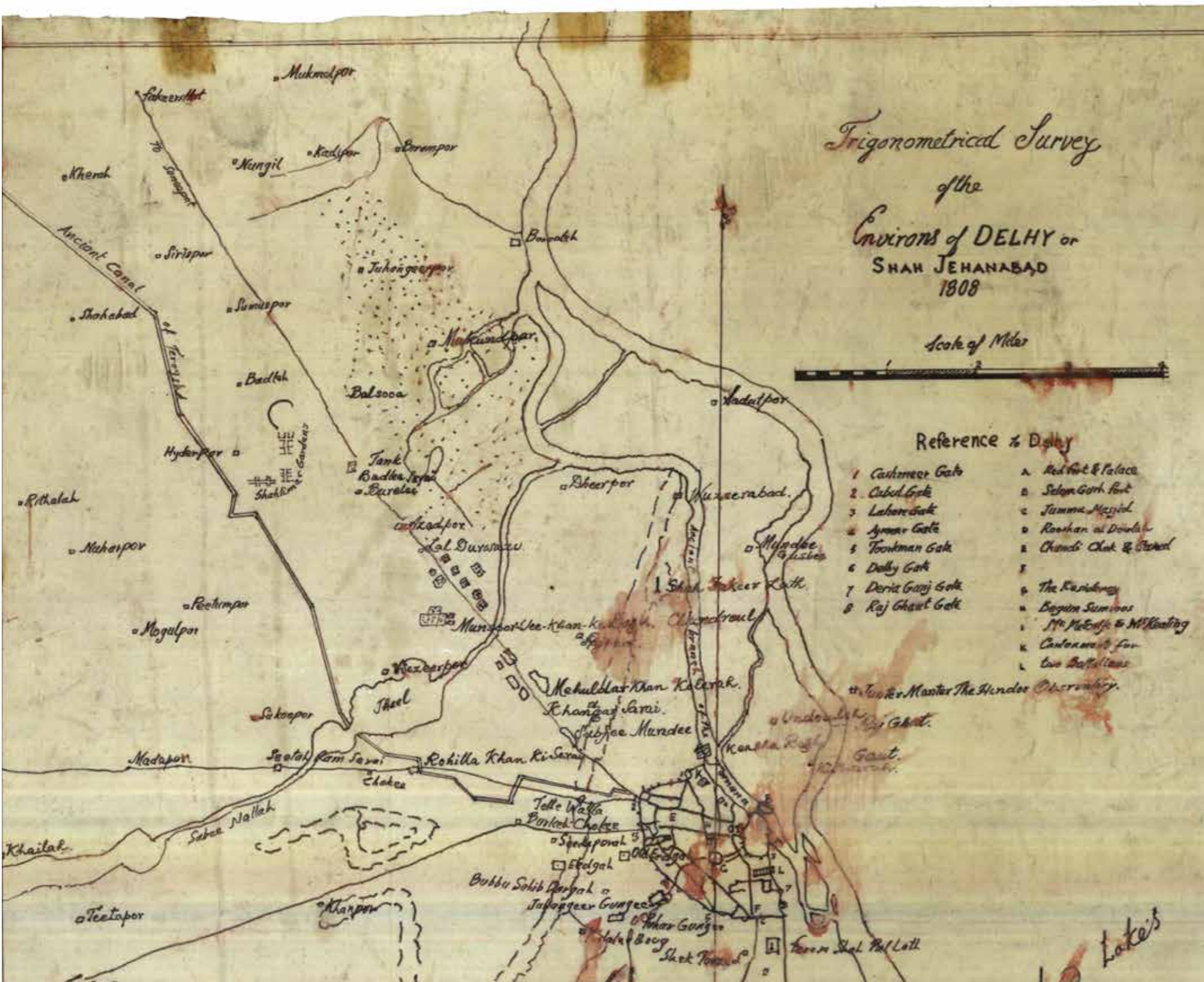
03
1808

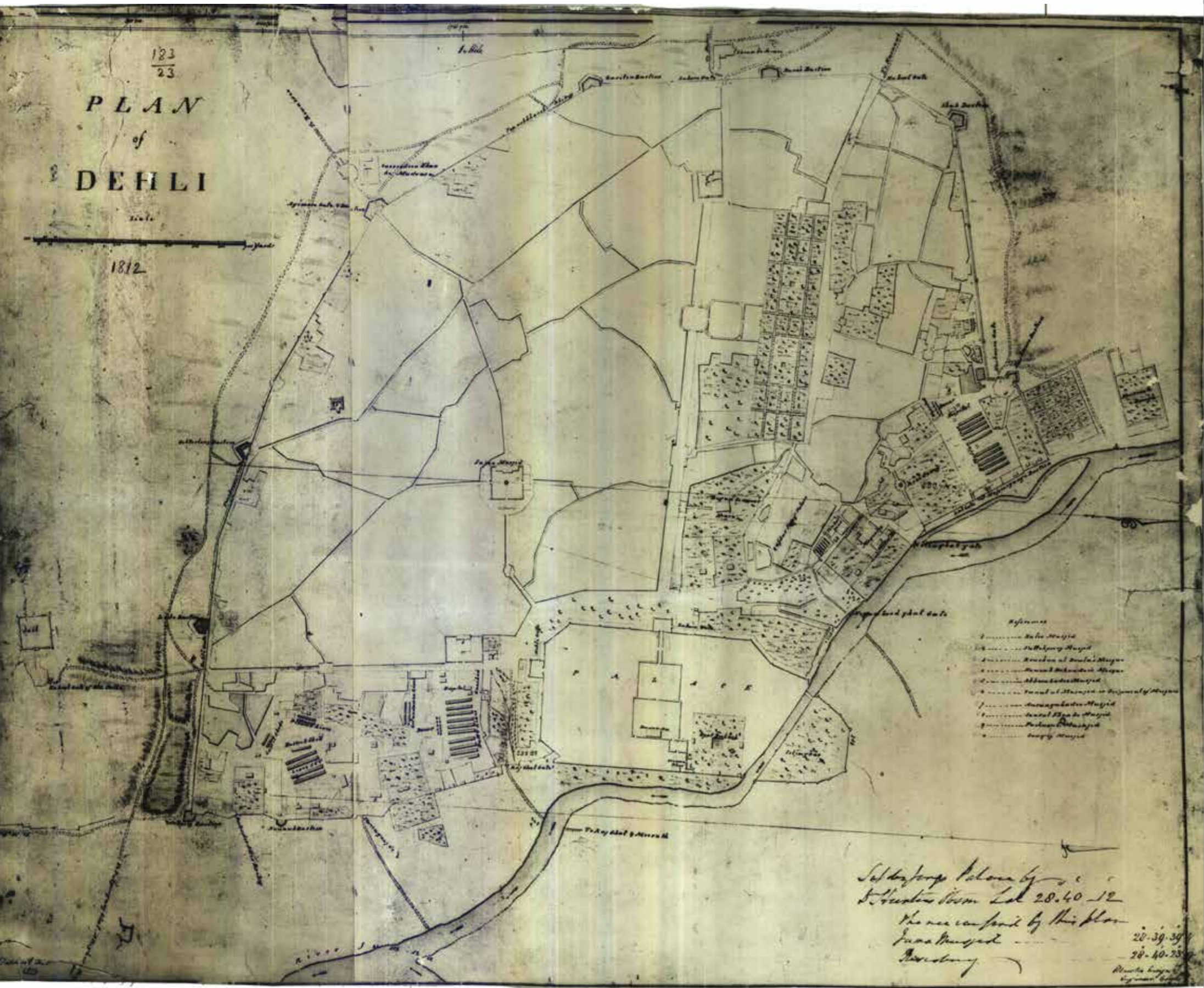
Trigonometrical Survey of the Environs of Delhi or Shah Jehanabad 1808

DELHI STATE ARCHIVES
Graphic scale in miles

The map depicts Delhi and its surroundings in 1808, with an ostensible focus on the territory left of the Yamuna. The only exception is a handwritten note marking the location of 'Lord Lake's Battle of Delhi' just right of the Puturgunge fort, which is, in fact, roughly the area where the battle of 1803 took place. The use of continuous, inexact, and, in places, unevenly dashed lines lends this map a rudimentary characteristic and a resemblance to an artist's sketch. However, it becomes immediately recognisable as a map, per se, by the names of settlements and monuments juxtaposed in writing to the right of the respective reference points. A legend, 'Reference to Delhi', through a series of numbers and alphabets, indicates: 1. Cashmeer Gate; 2. Cabul Gate; 3. Lahore Gate; 4. Ajmeer Gate; 5. Toorkman Gate; 6. Delhy Gate; 7. Deria Gunj Gate; 8. Raj Ghaut Gate; A. Red fort & Palace; B. Selem Garh fort; C. Jumma Masjid; D. Rooshan al Doulah; E. Chandi Chok & Canal; F. (unlabelled); G. The Residency; H. Begum Sumroos; I. Mr. Metcalfe & Mr. Keating; K&L. Cantonments for two Battalions. Furthermore, the now defunct canal prominently depicted in map 2, *Sketch of the Environs of Delhi* (1807), is denoted as the 'Anciant Canal of Teroyshd'. There are a few visible water stains throughout the map and fastening marks along the edges. The directional indicator, pointing northwards, originates in Chiragh Dilhee and extends through the centre of the map to the top.



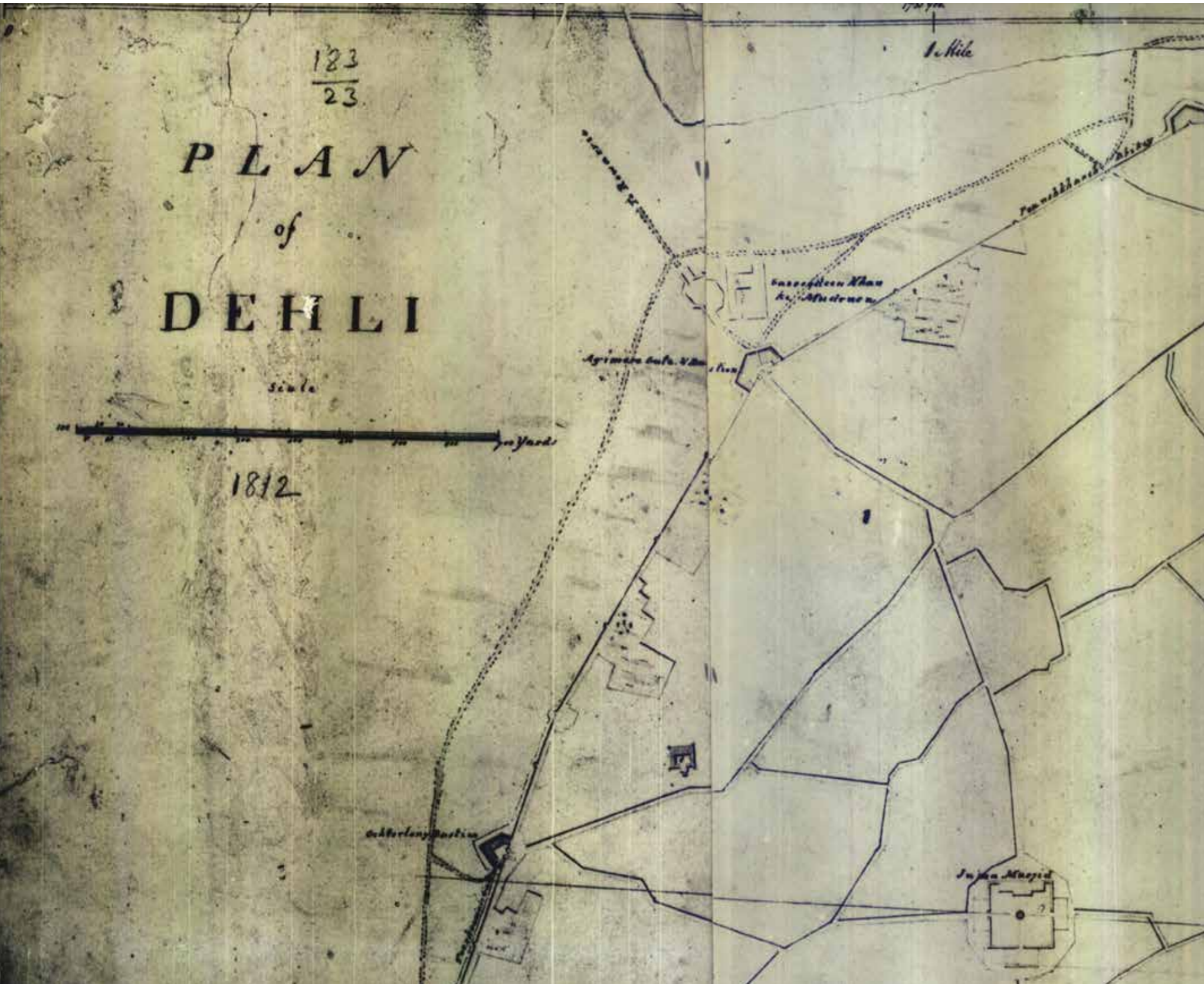


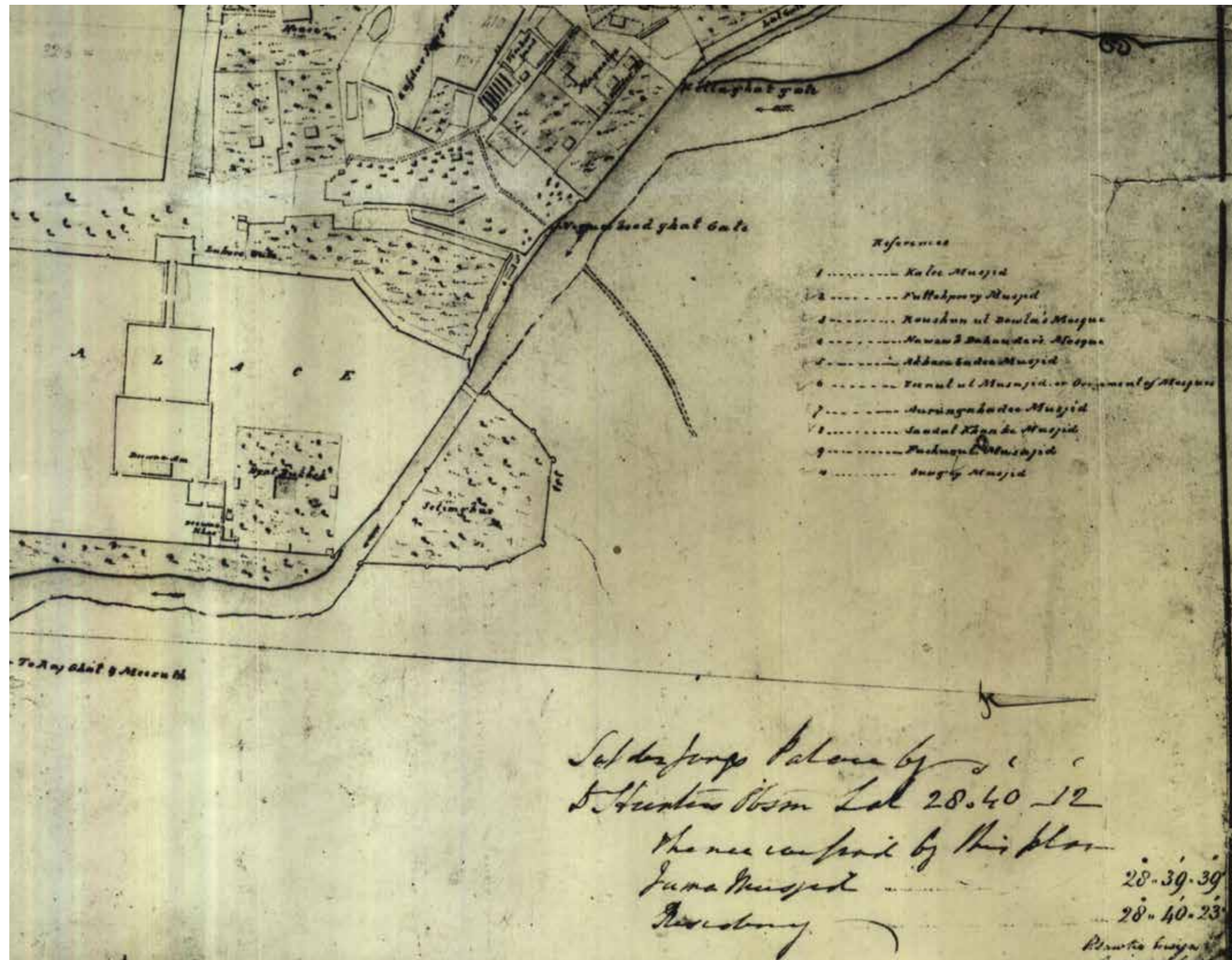


04
1812
Plan of Delhi
DELHI STATE ARCHIVES
Graphic scale in yards

This map, dated 1812, prominently illustrates the British jurisdiction within Shahjahanabad and delineates its ample gardens or *baghs*. It is unclear why the gardens are concentrated predominantly in the north of the city—possibly due to the proximity of an artificial waterway. As for the drawing itself, the level of detail is relatively unassuming and is held solely in black on white. While the main roadways are decipherable, for the most part, throughout Shahjahanabad, only buildings are visible and correspondingly labelled in the British occupied parts. Most patently typified is the cluster of parallelly aligned, rectangular shapes indicating military barracks or ‘lines’, essentially confirming British presence within Shahjahanabad. On the right side of the map is a series of illegible references, numbered one through ten and corresponding to those on the map itself, mentioning various mosques. In terms of directional orientation, the map comprises two axes, which reveal that it is orientated eastwards instead of towards the north.







Shāhjahānābād
DELHI around 1850



05 (05A; 05B)
[1850]

Shāhjahānābād. Delhi around 1850

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, BONN UNIVERSITY

Graphic scale in yards and metres

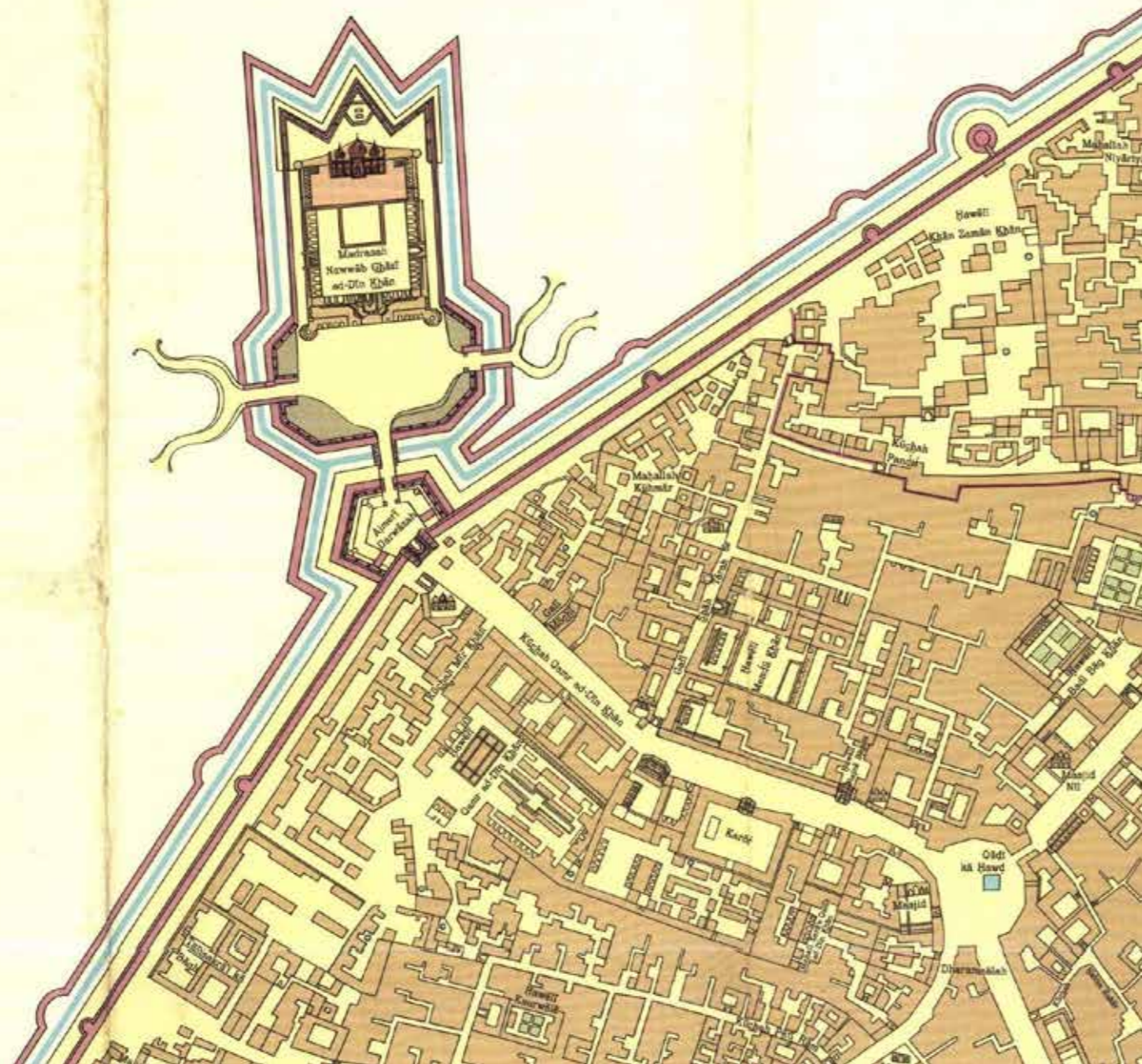
This map has been previously published and was re-designed by Gerd Storbeck of the Department of Geography at Bonn University on the basis of an earlier version. It is obvious that meticulous effort has gone into reconstructing the drawing of Shahjahanabad as it stood in 1850. The original manuscript used to be held in the archives of the India Office Collection within the British Library. However, due to its deteriorated condition, the same can no longer be accessed. The map is also found published in a book by E. Ehlers and T. Krafft, *Shahjahanabad/Old Delhi: Tradition and Colonial Change* (New Delhi: Manohar, 2003).

Noteworthy and remarkable is not only the absolute attention to detailed reproduction but also other distinguishing characteristics, such as the phonetic spelling of each and every caption in the map, the use of miniature drawings exemplifying significant public buildings, and, most astoundingly, the inclusion of every miniscule turn in a road, the smallest of courtyards in *havelis*, even every well or pond. Streets of three levels of importance are distinguishable—principal, secondary, and tertiary—and divide the city into densely constructed blocks. Both semi-public and private gardens are colour coded in green while the water canals are in blue. The most important public buildings, like the fort and the Jami'ah Masjid, along with the city walls and the perimeters of *mohallas* are marked in red. The legend on the right side of the map further emphasises the astonishingly exact features of this illustration.



Shāhjahānābād

DELHI around 1850

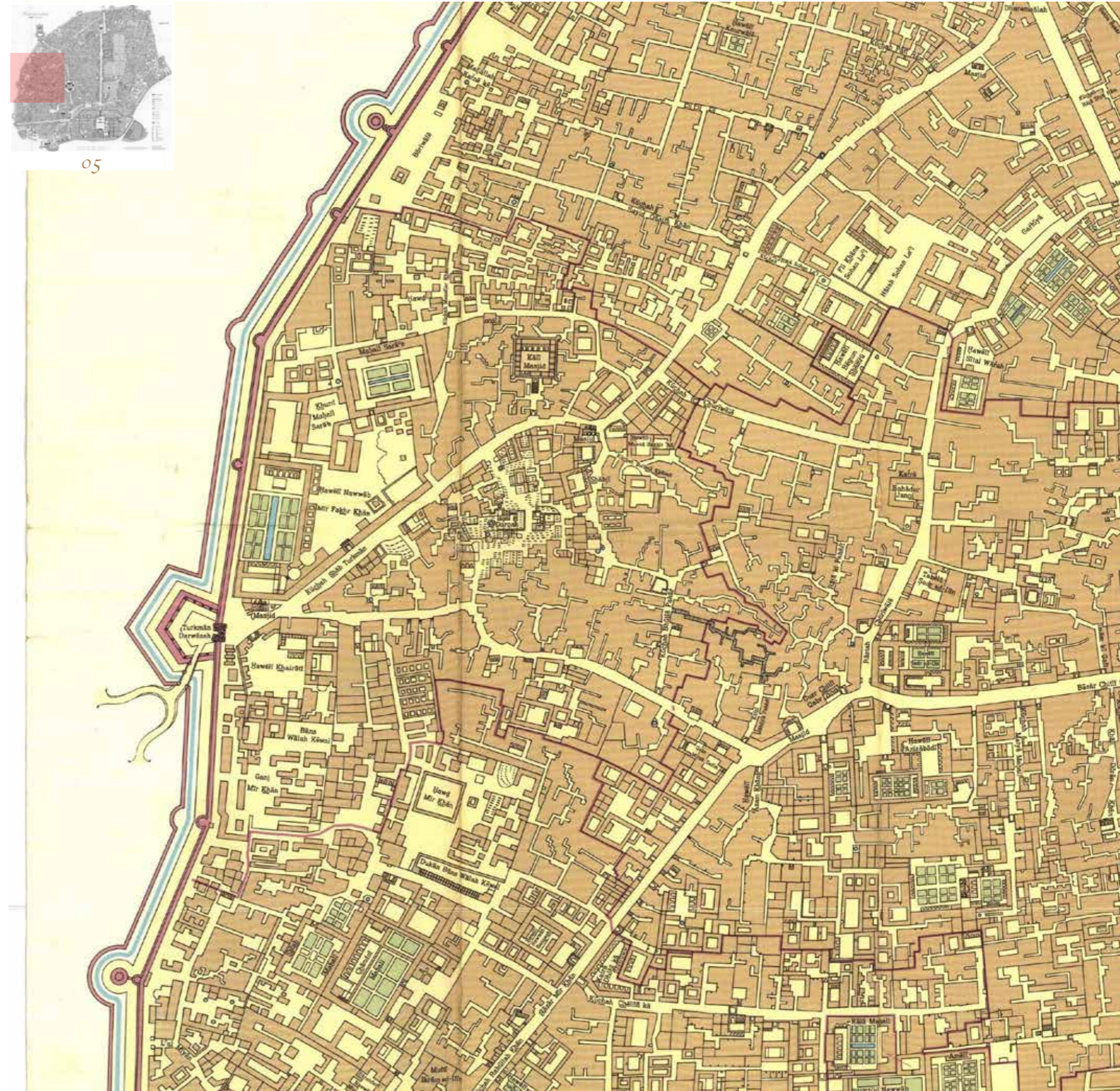
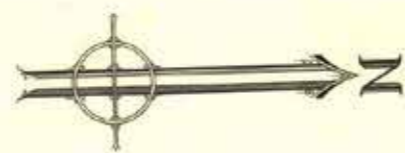


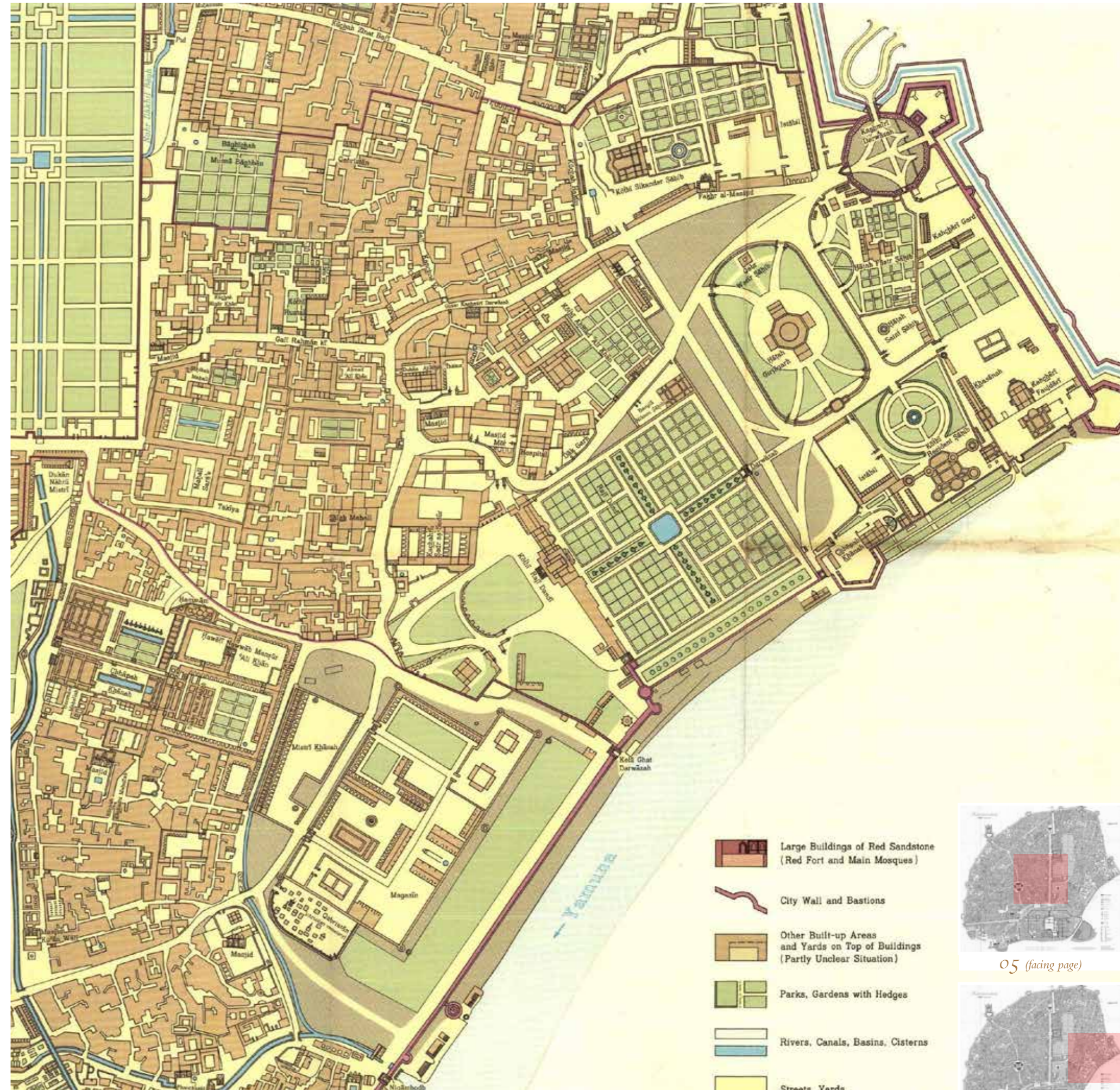
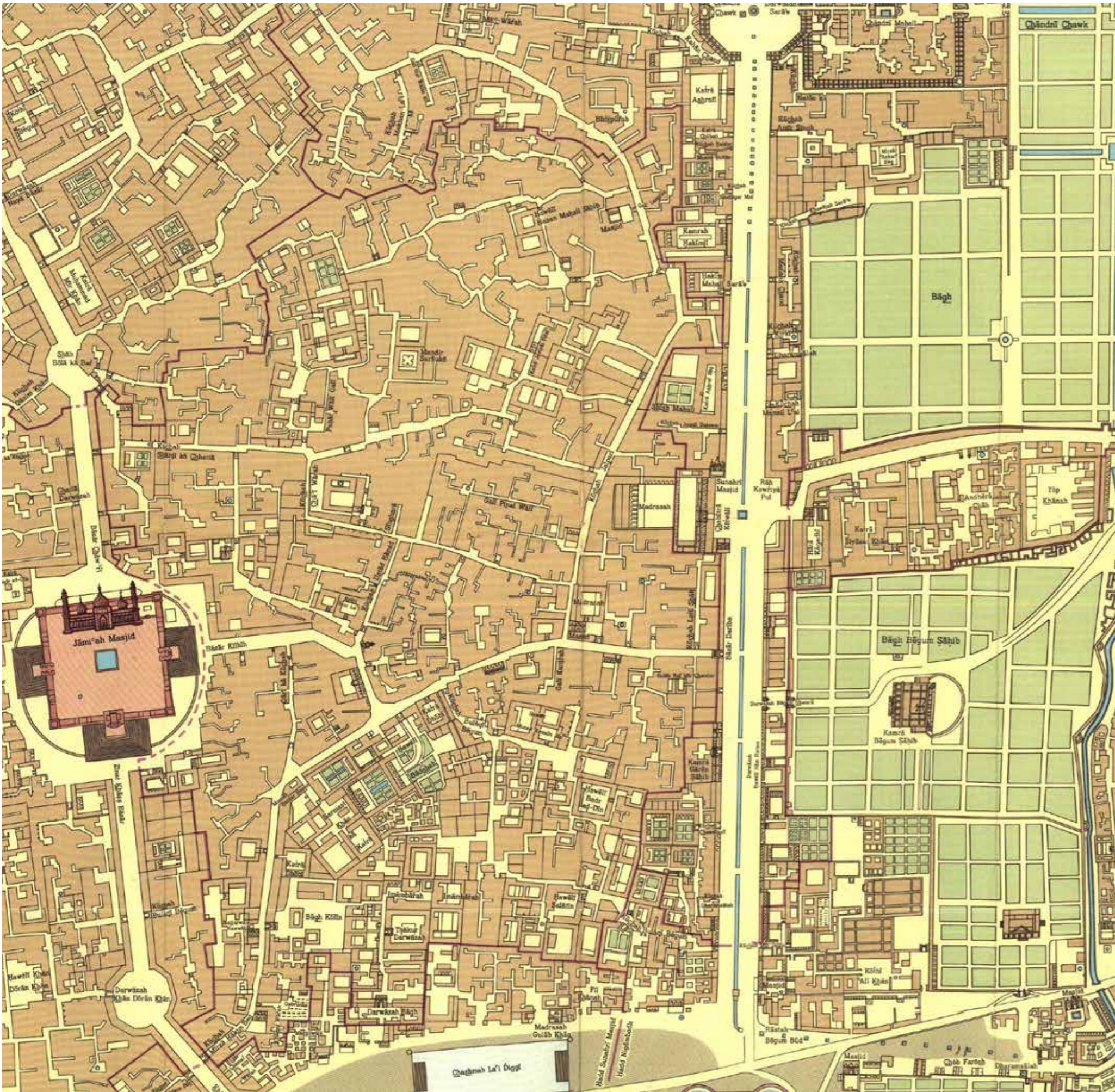


05



05





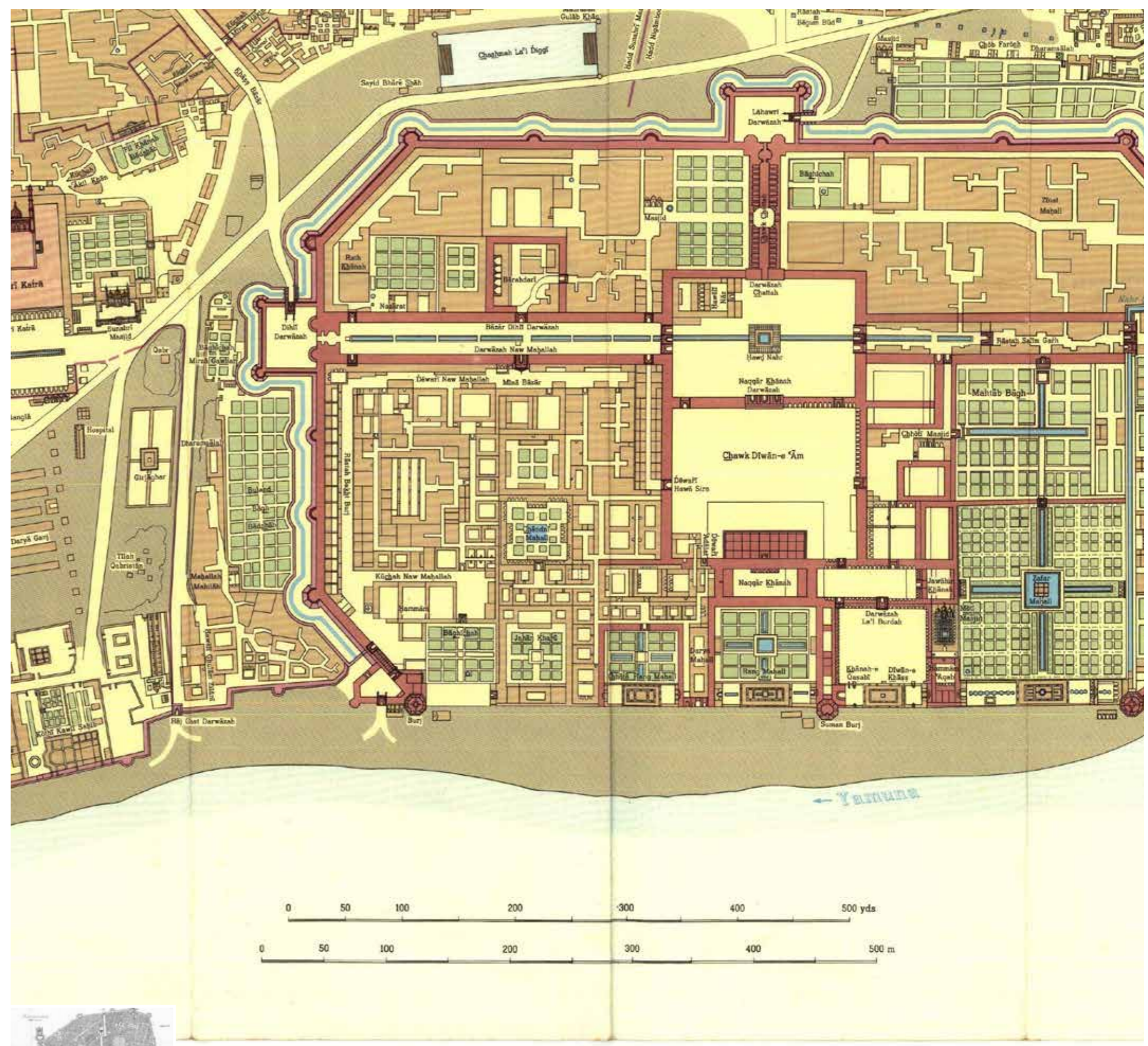
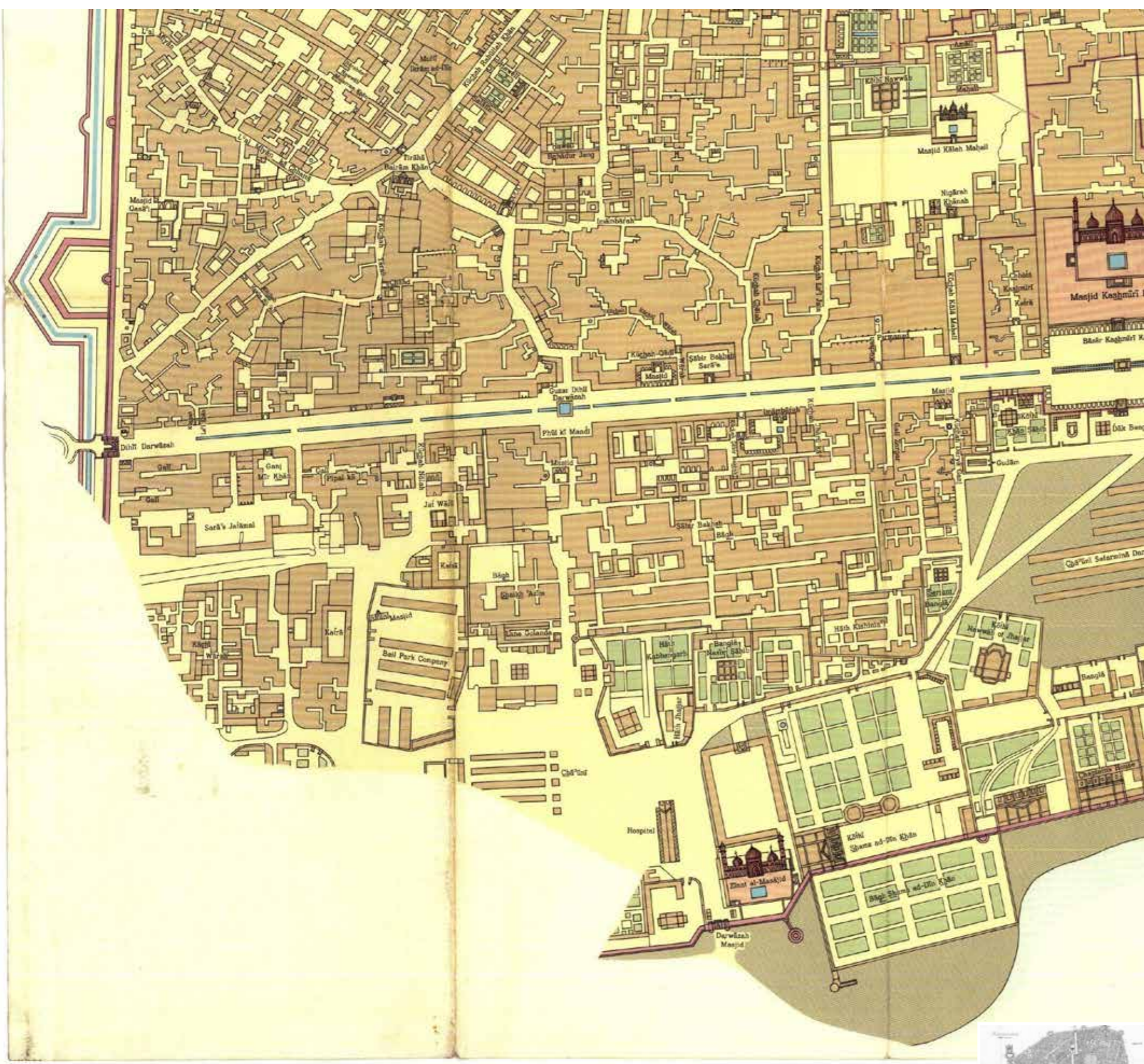
-  Large Buildings of Red Sandstone (Red Fort and Main Mosques)
-  City Wall and Bastions
-  Other Built-up Areas and Yards on Top of Buildings (Partly Unclear Situation)
-  Parks, Gardens with Hedges
-  Rivers, Canals, Basins, Cisterns
-  Sports Yards

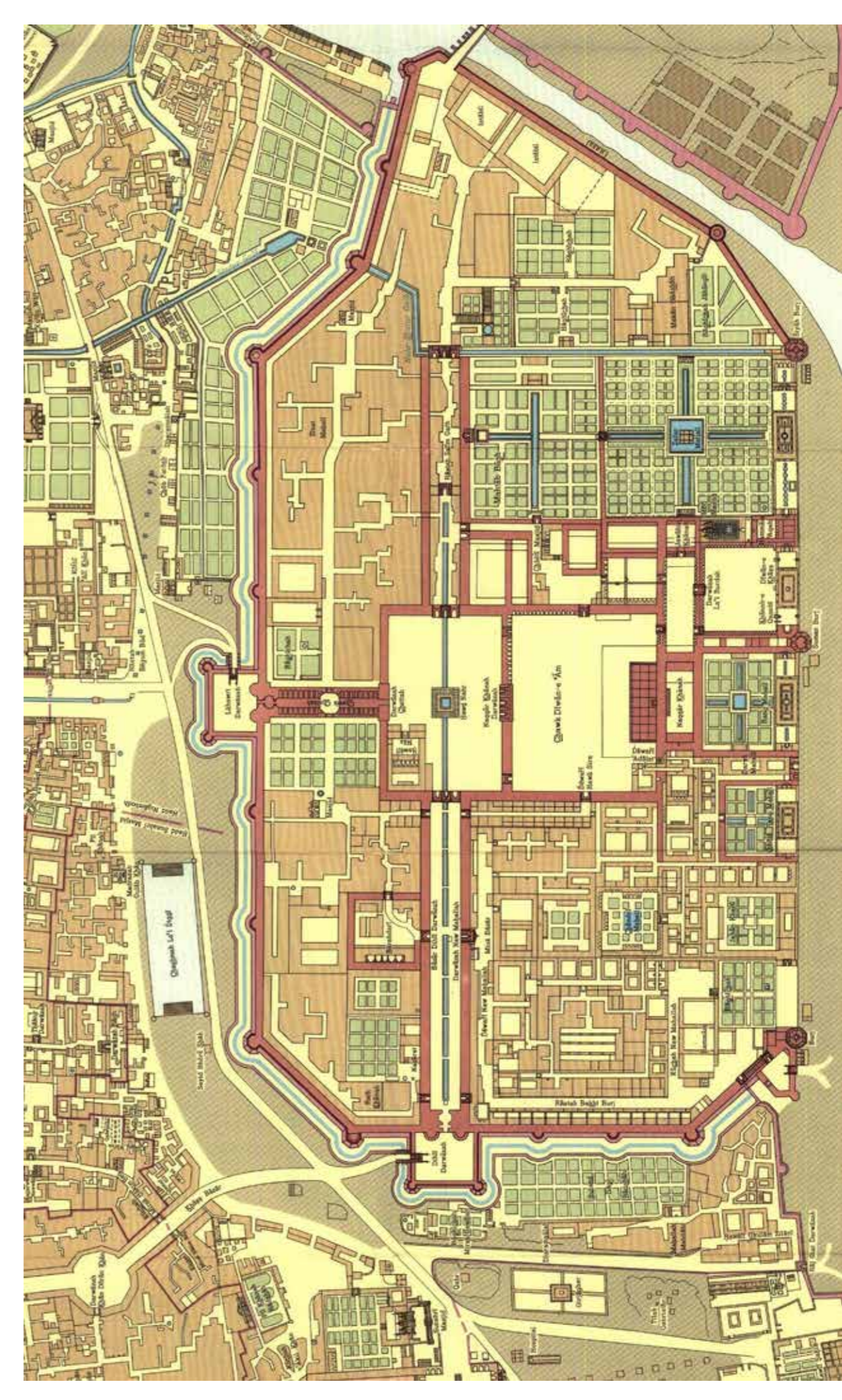
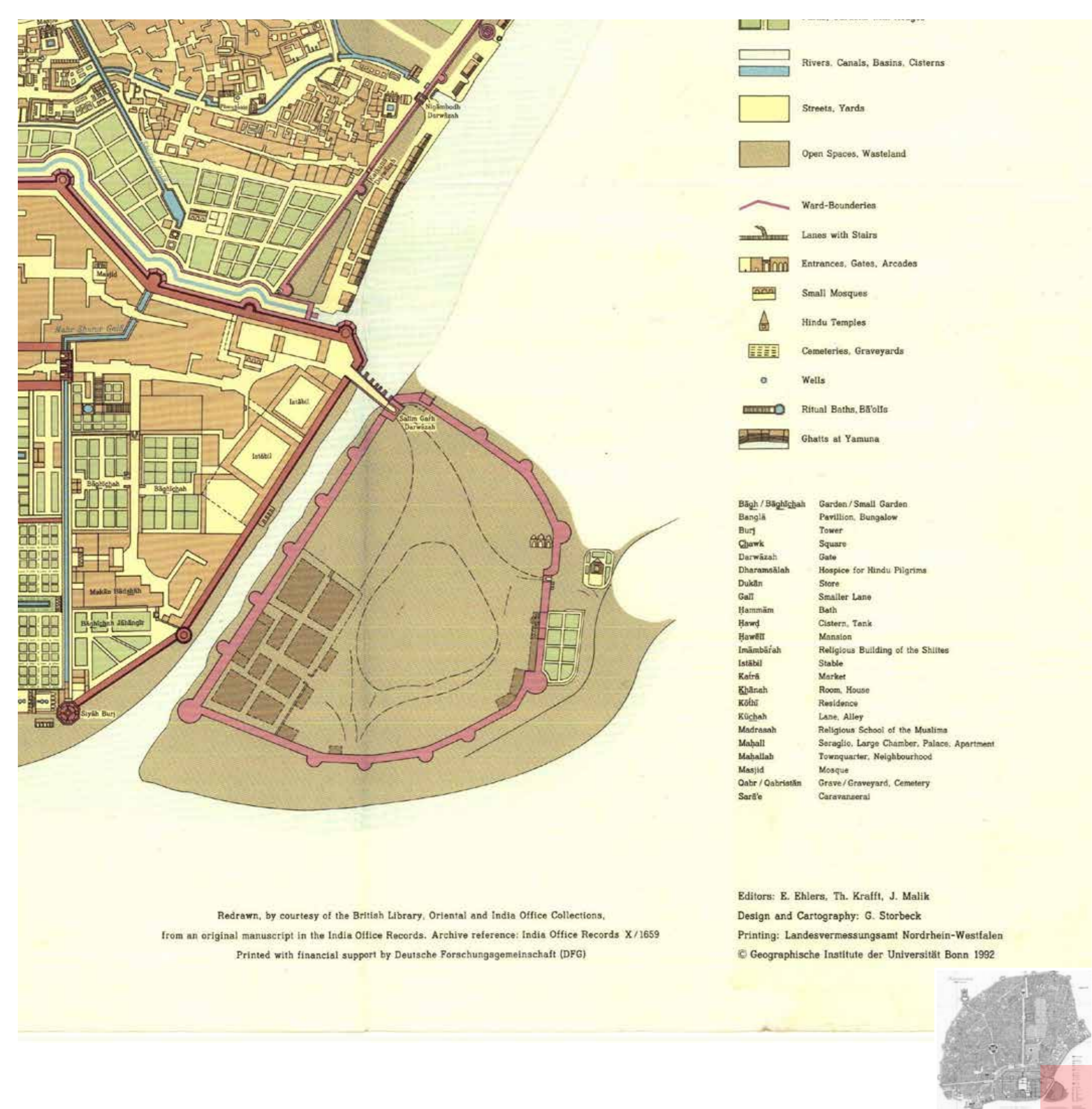


05 (facing page)



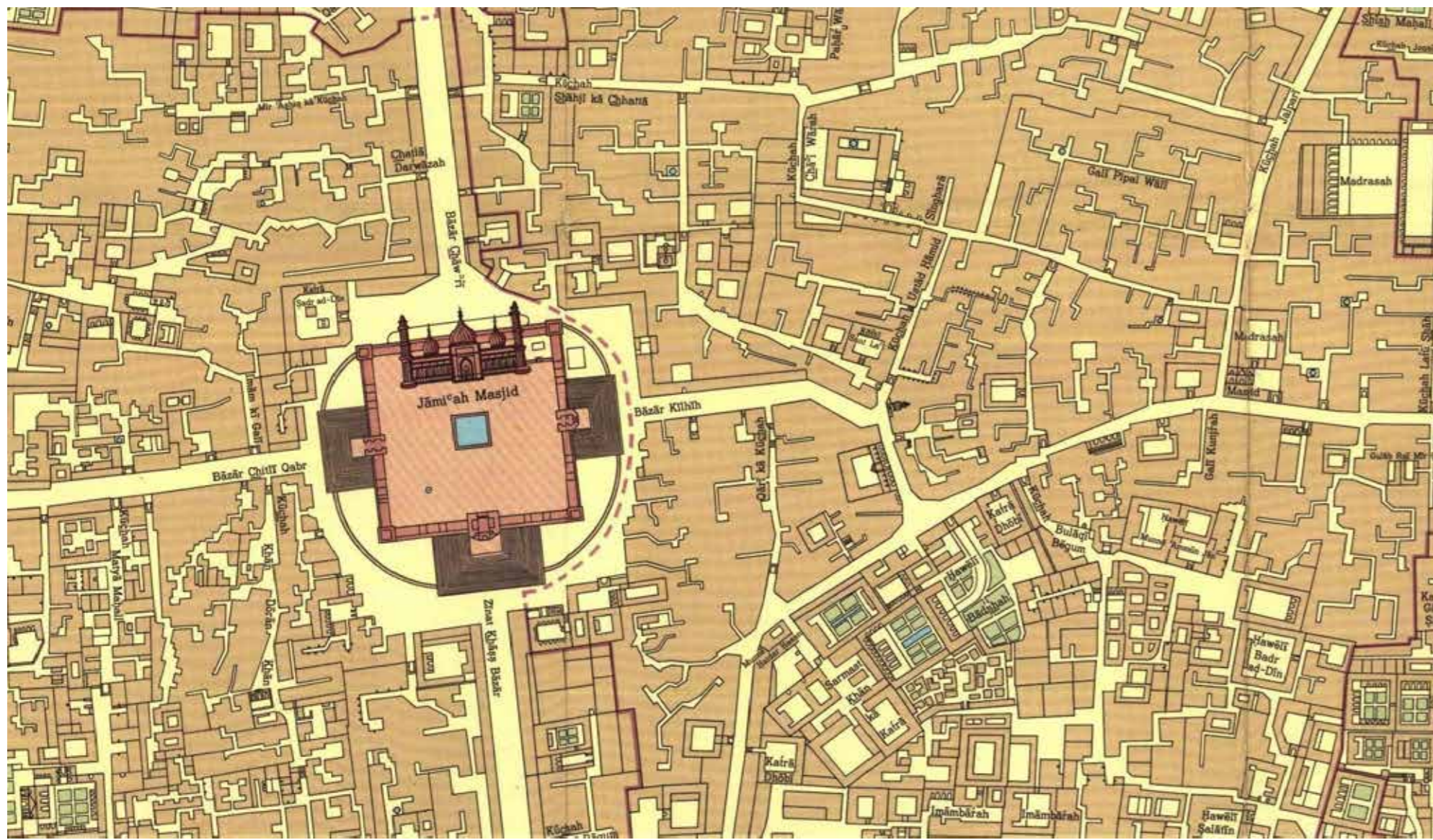
05





Redrawn, by courtesy of the British Library, Oriental and India Office Collections,
 from an original manuscript in the India Office Records. Archive reference: India Office Records X/1659
 Printed with financial support by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)





05B

Two enlarged sections of the map, one focusing on the Red Fort (5a) and another showing the area around Jama Masjid (5b), are produced on the following pages. These enlargements may effect an appreciation for the relationship between public buildings and residential housing, and uphold the idea presented by many scholars, that the Red Fort is a micro-city within the city of Shahjahanabad. The directional orientation of the map is provided in the top right corner.

06
[PRE-1857]
[*Shahjahanabad*]
DELHI STATE ARCHIVES
Graphic scale (without indication of units)

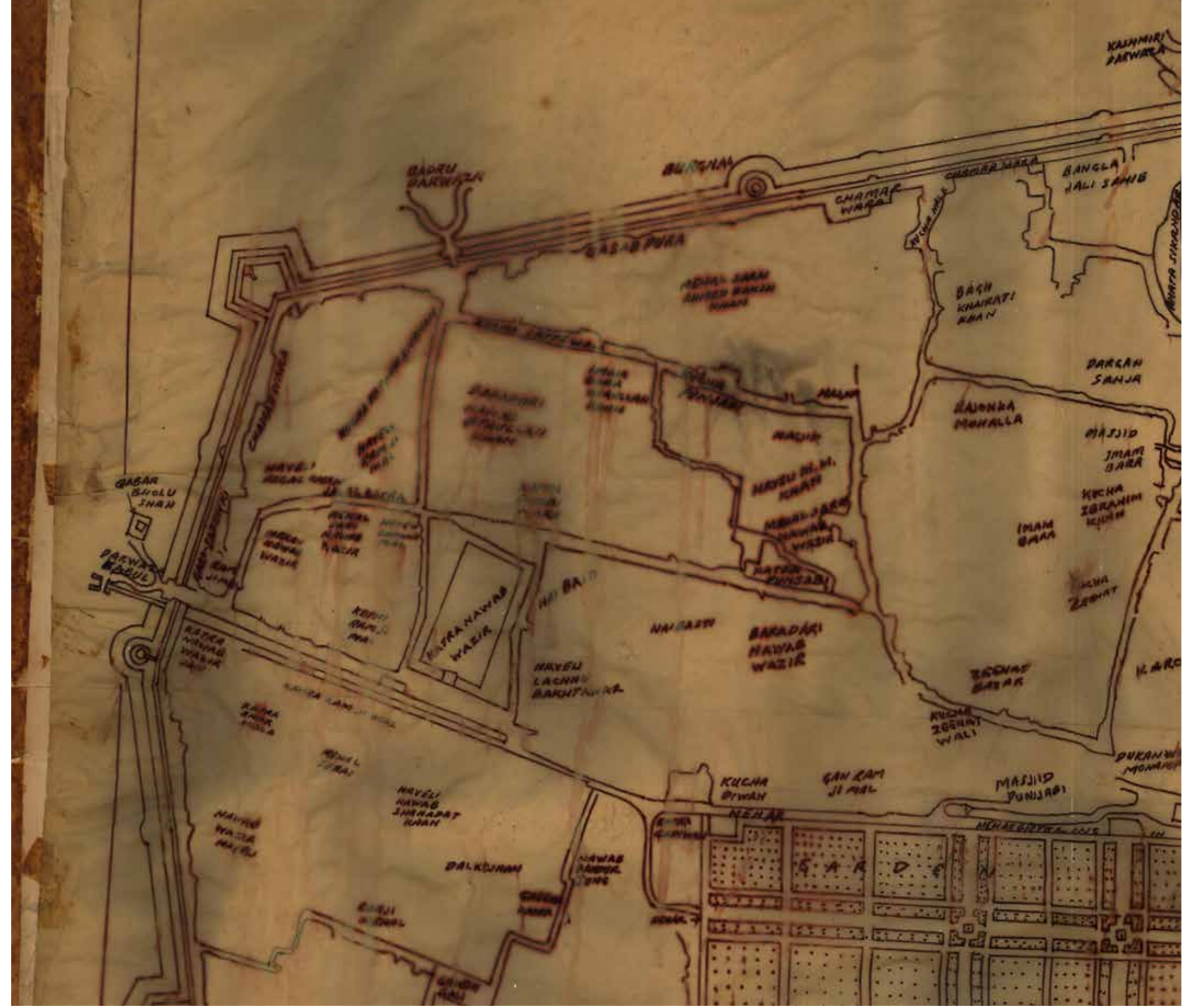
This untitled map, of which the purpose and commission remain unknown, represents Shahjahanabad, and, in comparison to the preceding map, is far simpler and rudimental. The conclusion that the map is pre-1857 can be deduced by virtue of the lack of a railway track, where, instead, the main gardens are drawn in the form of dotted fields. The map shows the fortified city, major roadways and some secondary streets, monuments, the *mohallas*, the various *katras* and *kuchas*, marketplaces, the principal mosques, *havelis*, and bungalows. Certain buildings of importance are depicted with illustrations; the majority of the map, however, is plainly labelled with only the names of the respective structures. The map is monochromatic, drawn in black and white, and is tarnished with water stains near the centrefold. The digitised image has several areas where brightly coloured bands are visible, especially in the area above and to the right of the Jama Masjid. These coloured bands are not intentional and are a result of a later flaw that arose in the digitisation process. Although there is no directional indicator in way of a compass rose, the North–South orientation can be ascertained from the labelling on the map.



06



06





06



06





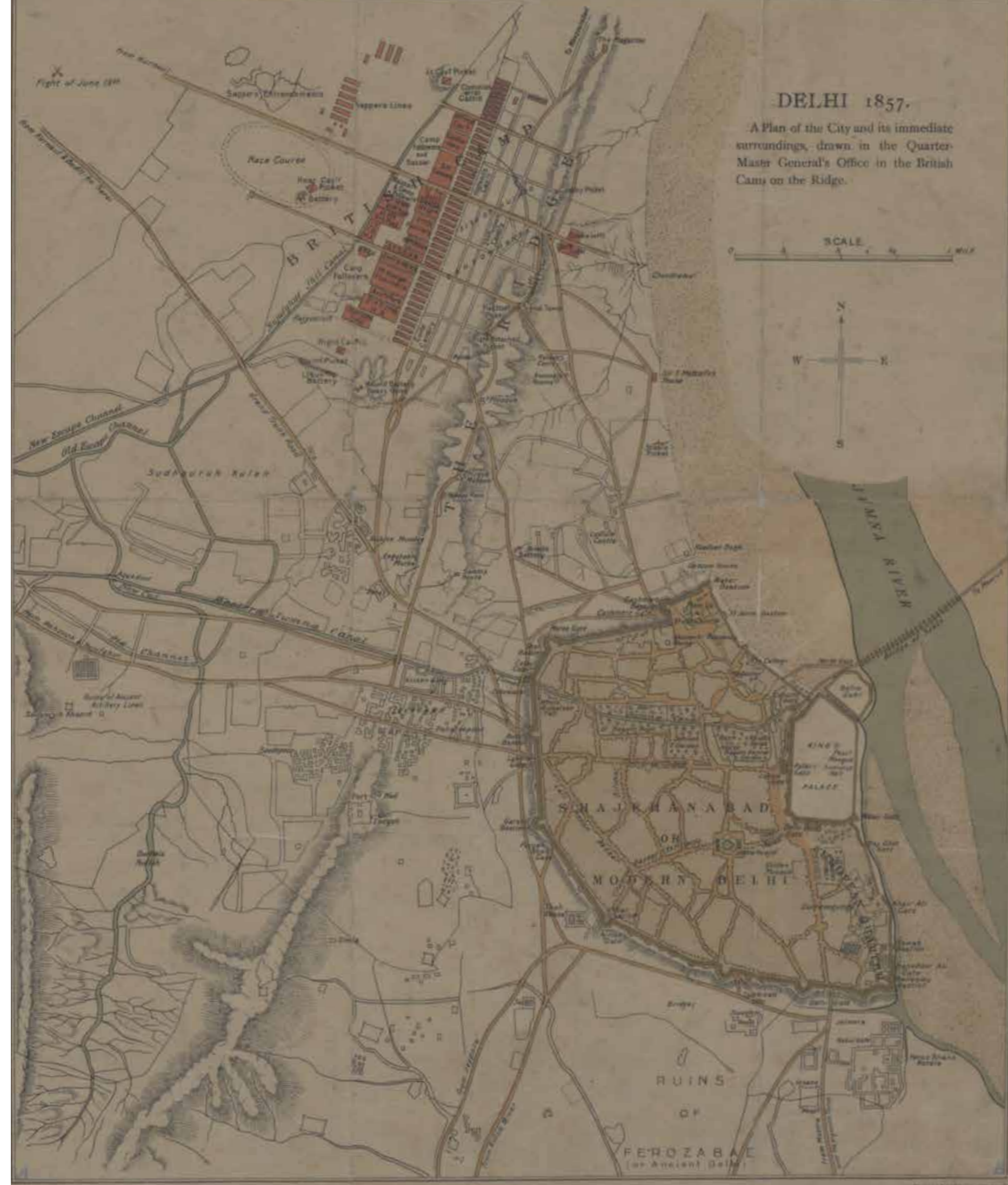






07
 [PRE-1857/1820-30]
Shahjahanabad
 DELHI STATE ARCHIVES

It is clear that this document was drafted in the years preceding, or close to, the major revolt of 1857 as the gardens are still present and there is no trace of a railroad. The background is black while the drawing is rendered in white, and the green areas are filled in with white dots. A text box on the bottom left corner identifies the work as a street map of Shahjahanabad, 'with the auspicious Fort and streets and lanes,' and goes on to credit 'the work of Muhammad Faiz 'Ali Khan, the painter, a resident of Shahjahanabad.' The text is primarily in Persian, except for the second word, 'paT', which has a retroflex consonant that marks it as an Indic word. However, Indic words are sometimes found in Indo-Persian literature; alternatively, it could perhaps be in a very Persianised form of Urdu. The directional orientation is indicated in the bottom right corner of the map by way of a compass rose.



o8
1857

Delhi 1857

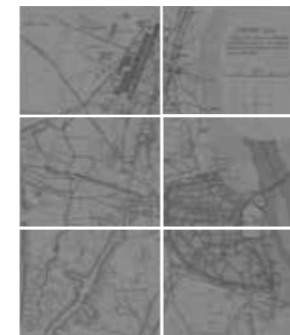
*A Plan of the City and its immediate surroundings, drawn in the
Quarter-Master General's Office in the British Camp on the Ridge.*

DELHI STATE ARCHIVES

Graphic scale in miles



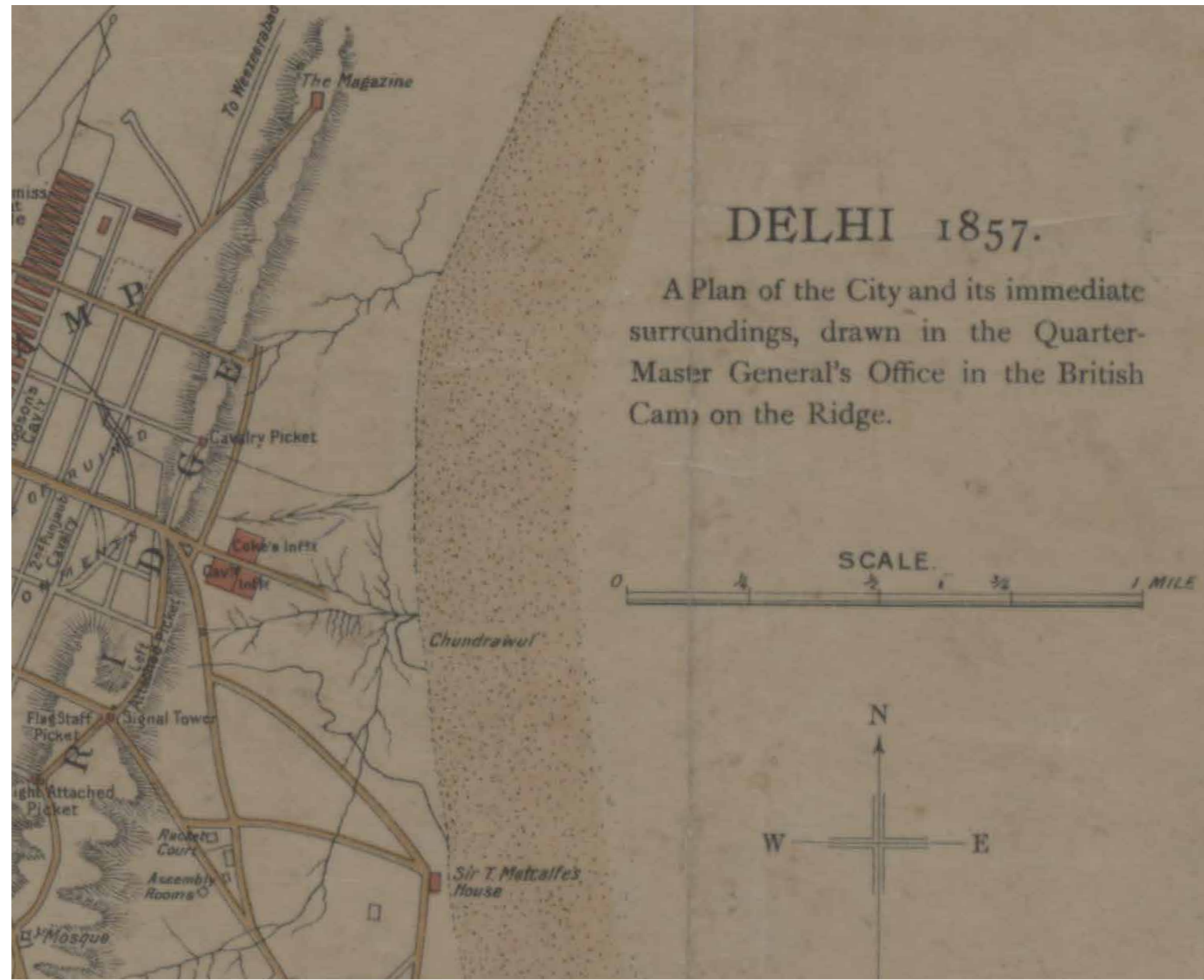
This map was produced by McLagan and Cumming of Edinburgh, and, although it shows the city of Shahjahanabad with its surroundings, it most probably was commissioned by the British to illustrate, in detail, the intricacies of the British Camp, located north of the city. As the title of this map suggests, it not only was physically produced in the Quarter-Master General's office but also seems to have served a specific purpose towards the daily tasks of military sustenance—a military map that reveals exact allocations of barracks to respective battalions as well as the locations or positions of infantry, cavalry, artillery batteries, and picket locations. Interestingly, in the top left corner of the map, a symbol with crossed swords locates the 'Fight of June 19th', which corresponds to a point in the north-west, within the city confines of Shahjahanabad, 'Where Nicholson Fell'. The map was likely prepared shortly after the Indian mutiny sparked off, on the 19th of June, 1857, and incorporates military intelligence, as also the exit, entry, and points of strategic importance. For instance, the width of the Chowree Bazaar road given explicitly as 35 ft, or the 'bridge of boats' indicated as the only entry point from the eastern side of Jumna River. The colour coding of this map, too, bears significance to military function, where the colour red identifies British military camps, brown, the Moghul city, yellow, the principal routes, and blue, the rivers and canals. The directional orientation is north to south and is given in the top right corner by way of a conventional compass rose.



o8



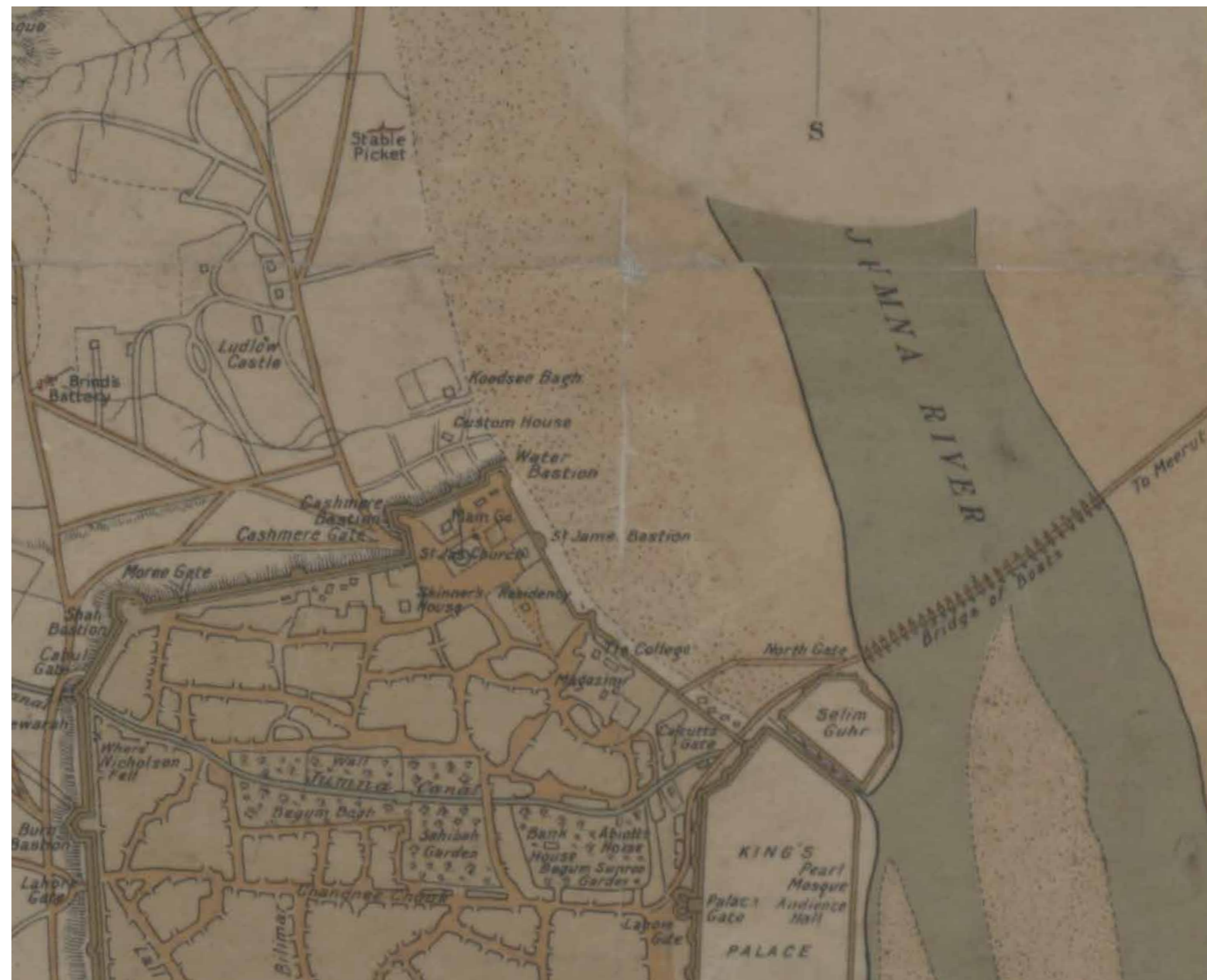
08



08



08



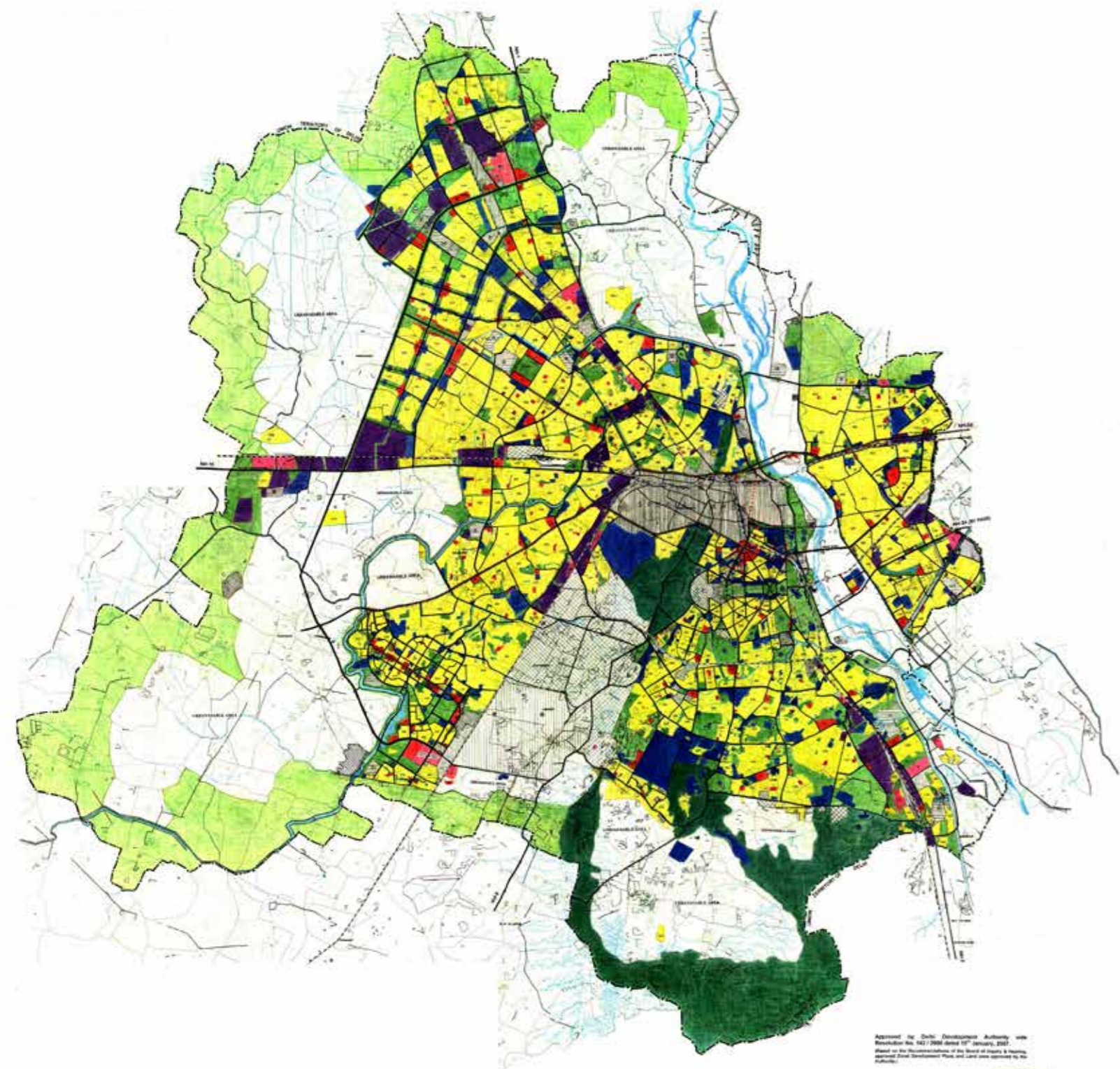
08



08



08



LANDUSE PLAN	
RESIDENTIAL	
[Yellow]	RD RESIDENTIAL AREA
[Light Yellow]	RF FOREIGN MISSION
COMMERCIAL	
[Red]	C1 RETAIL SHOPPING, GENERAL BUSINESS AND COMMERCE
[Dark Red]	DC DISTRICT CENTRE
[Red]	C COMMUNITY CENTRE
[Light Red]	NC NON-HIERARCHICAL COMMERCIAL CENTRE
[Pink]	W WHA C2 WHOLESALE & WAREHOUSING
[Light Pink]	D COLD STORAGE AND OIL DEPOTS
[Dark Pink]	H C3 HOTELS
INDUSTRIAL	
[Purple]	M1 MANUFACTURING, SERVICE AND REPAIR INDUSTRY
RECREATIONAL	
[Dark Green]	P1 REGIONAL PARK
[Light Green]	P2 CITY PARK, DISTRICT PARK, COMMUNITY PARK
[Green]	P3 HISTORICAL MONUMENTS
TRANSPORTATION	
[Grey]	T1 AIRPORT
[Dark Grey]	T2 TERMINAL / DEPOT - RAIL / MRTS / BUS / TRUCK
[Light Grey]	T3 CIRCULATION- RAIL / MRTS / ROAD
UTILITY	
[Blue]	U1 WATER (TREATMENT PLANT ETC.)
[Light Blue]	U2 SEWERAGE (TREATMENT PLANT ETC.)
[Dark Blue]	U3 ELECTRICITY (POWER HOUSE, SUB-STATION ETC.)
[Green]	U4 SOLID WASTE (SANITARY LANDFILL ETC.)
[Light Green]	U5 DRAIN
GOVERNMENT	
[Dark Grey]	G1 PRESIDENT ESTATE AND PARLIAMENT HOUSE
[Light Grey]	G2 GOVERNMENT OFFICE / COURTS
[Medium Grey]	G3 GOVERNMENT LAND (USE UNDETERMINED)
PUBLIC & SEMIPUBLIC FACILITIES	
[Blue]	P51 HOSPITAL
[Light Blue]	EDUCATION AND RESEARCH UNIVERSITY/UNIVERSITY CENTRE, COLLEGE
[Dark Blue]	SOCIAL - CULTURAL, SOCIO - CULTURAL COMPLEX / CENTRE
[Light Blue]	POLICE / POLICE HEADQUARTER / POLICE LINES, FIRE STATIONS / DISASTER MANAGEMENT CENTRE
[Blue]	RELIGIOUS
[Light Blue]	BURIAL GROUND / CREMATION
[Dark Blue]	P52 TRANSMISSION SITE / CENTRE
[Green]	P53 SPORTS FACILITIES / COMPLEX / STADIUM / SPORTS CENTRE.
AGRICULTURE / GREEN BELT AND WATER BODY	
[Light Green]	A1 PLANT NURSERY
[Green]	A2 AGRICULTURE / GREEN BELT
[Blue]	A3 RIVER AND WATER BODY
[White]	URBANISABLE AREA

MASTER PLAN FOR DELHI - 2021 0.5 0 1 2 5 10 Km

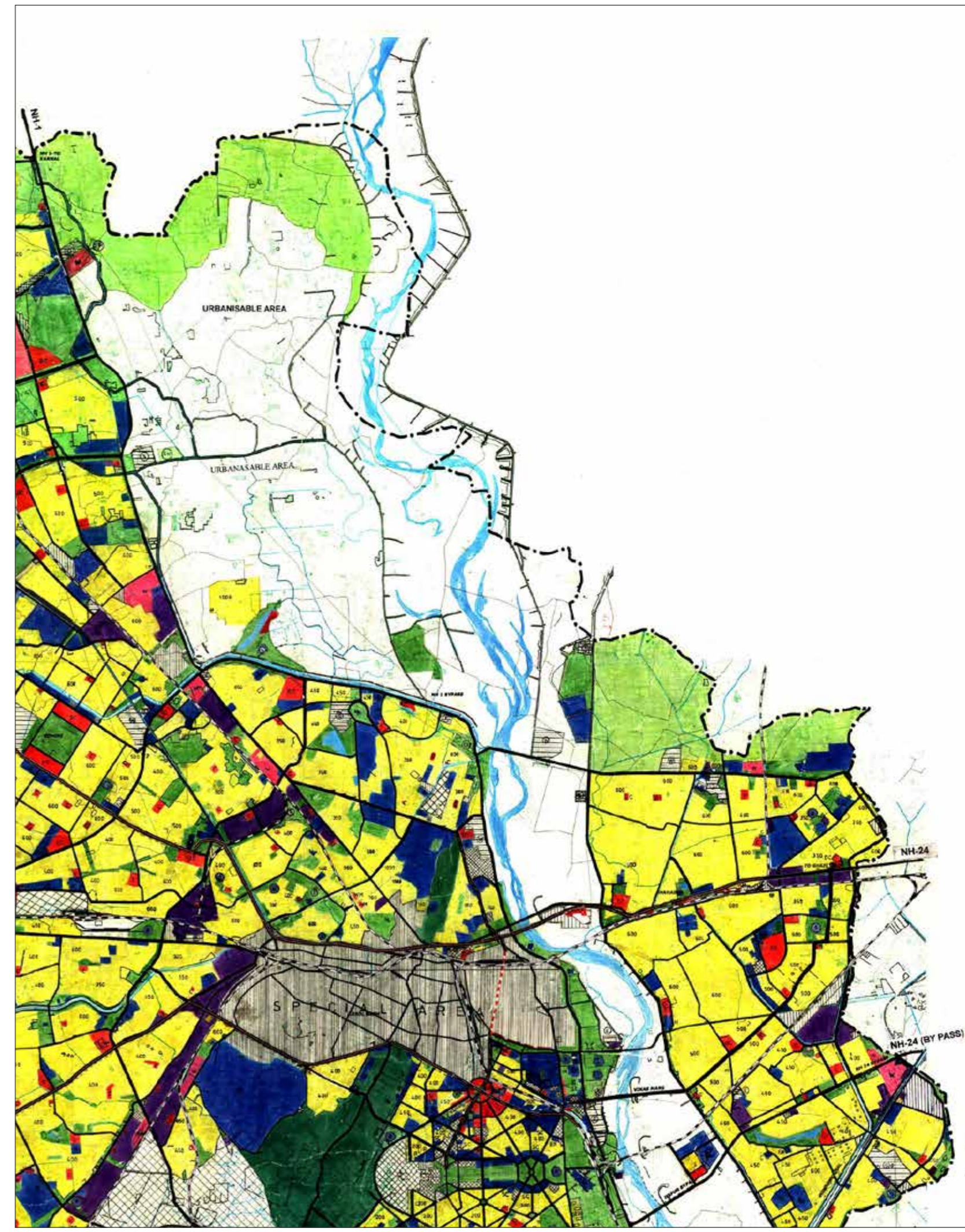
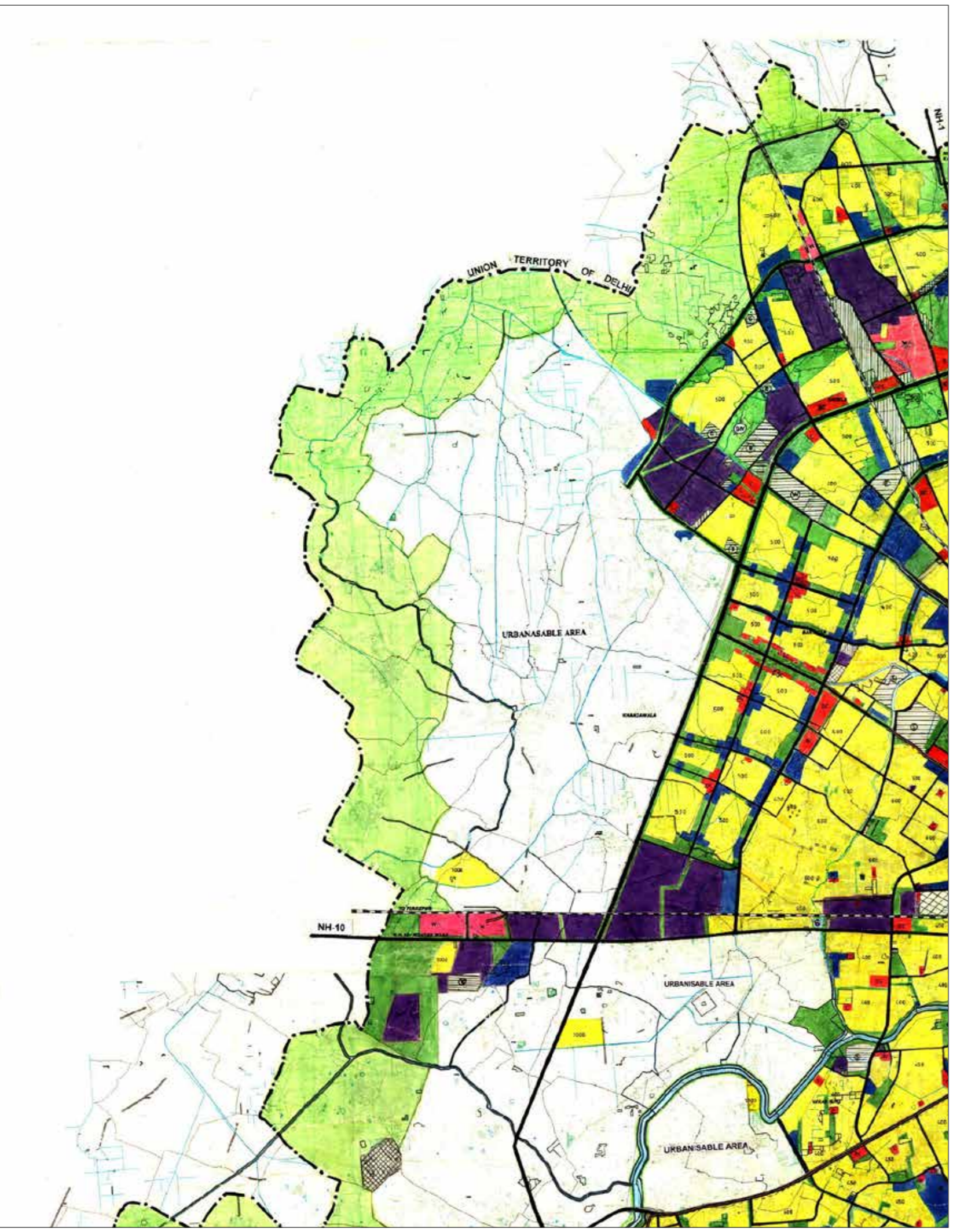
44
 UNDER CONSIDERATION
Master Plan - 2021

INDIAN NATIONAL TRUST FOR ART AND CULTURAL HERITAGE;
 DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Graphic scale in kilometres



The map shows the forthcoming Master Plan for Delhi as envisaged for the year 2021, and outwardly follows similar guidelines as those of the 1962 plan. In fact, upon closer consideration of the plan, it is evident that the zoning principles persist. The urbanised area has vastly increased in size and the remaining undeveloped areas within the National Capital Territory of Delhi are designated as 'urbanisable', a confirmation that Delhi is one of the foremost and largest megacities of the world. It is plausible that the actual cartography of the city, the background map, was prepared digitally, whereupon the colours denoting respective zones or land usage categories have been applied by hand. The broad zoning parameters of Delhi, based purely on function and usage, intrinsically lend this map a rather one-dimensional character in terms of its colour palette and intricacy; primarily yellow, green, and blue areas, with sporadic red blotches. Residential areas, illustrated in yellow, dominate the map and have unquestionably increased in extent compared to both the 1962 and the 2001 master plans; the commercial zones, in vivid reds, are distributed rather homogeneously; the industrial sectors, in dark purple, can be seen segregated into designated areas on the outskirts; the recreational areas and parks are befittingly rendered in the colour green and are well distributed within the city. The combination of agricultural and green belt areas may well be depicted in a bright, parrot green shade, seen here encompassing Delhi's city limits, but the same cannot as yet be construed as realised; an aspiration of the master plan, whether or not achievable is hitherto unknown. Transportation and governmental





LANDUSE PLAN

RESIDENTIAL

-  RD RESIDENTIAL AREA
-  RF FOREIGN MISSION




COMMERCIAL

-  C1 RETAIL SHOPPING, GENERAL BUSINESS AND COMMERCE
-  DC DISTRICT CENTRE
-  C COMMUNITY CENTRE
-  NC NON-HIERARCHIAL COMMERCIAL CENTRE
-  C2 WHOLESALE & WAREHOUSING
-  D COLD STORAGE AND OIL DEPOTS
-  C3 HOTELS




INDUSTRIAL

-  M1 MANUFACTURING, SERVICE AND REPAIR INDUSTRY




RECREATIONAL

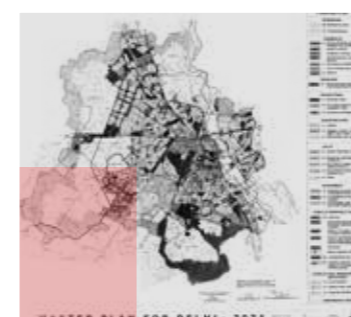
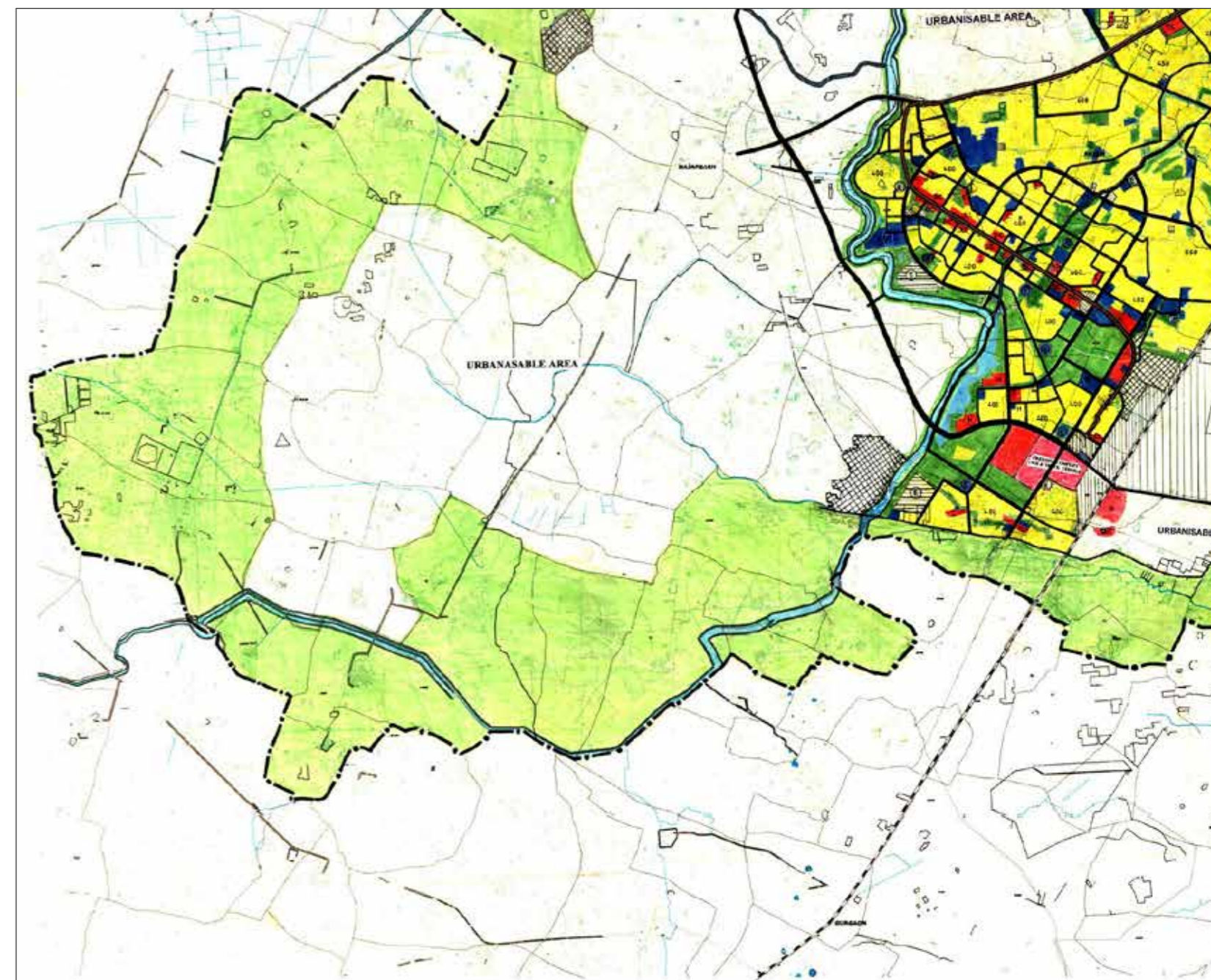
-  P1 REGIONAL PARK
-  P2 CITY PARK, DISTRICT PARK, COMMUNITY PARK
-  P3 HISTORICAL MONUMENTS

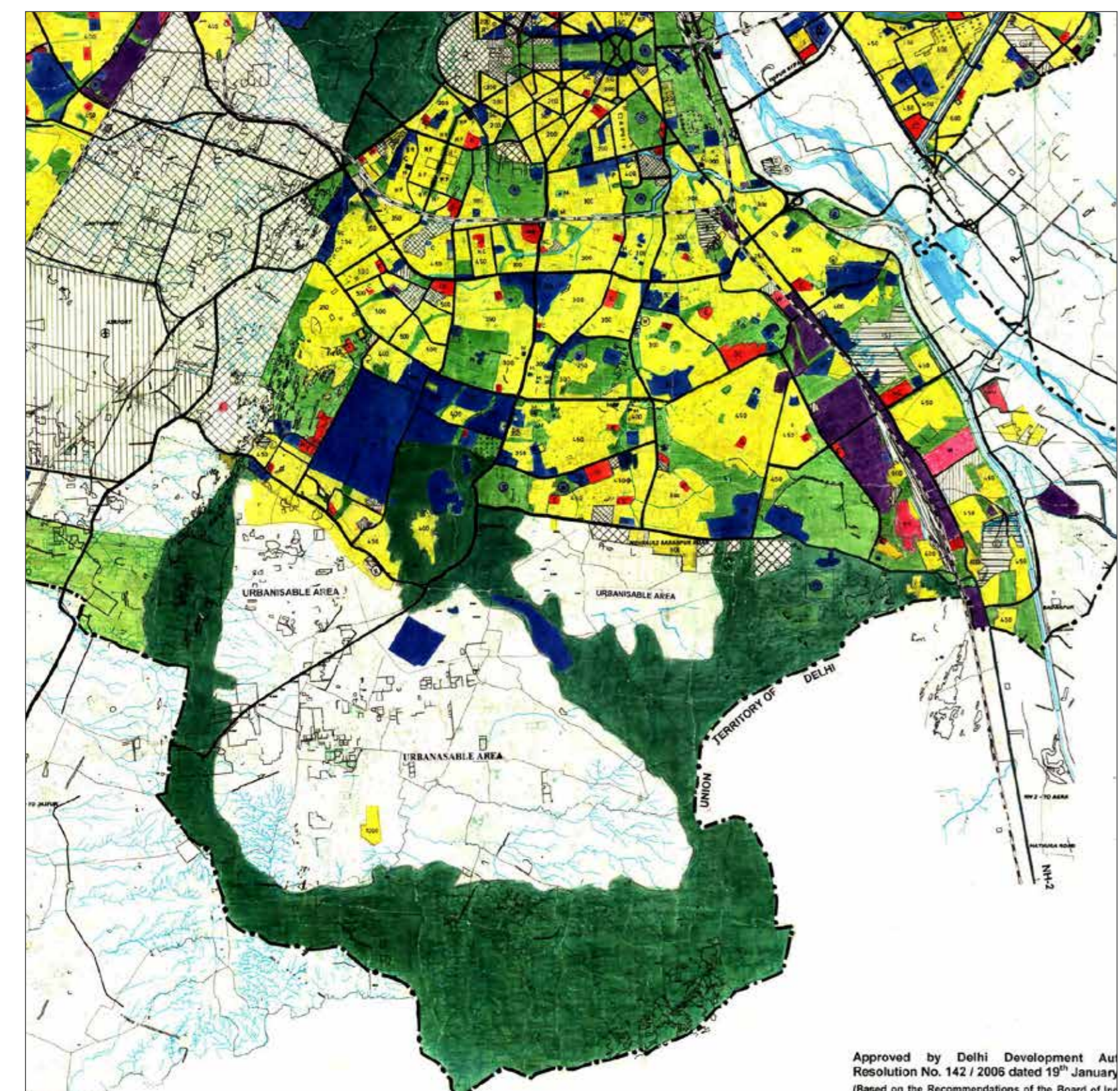
TRANSPORTATION

-  T1 AIRPORT
-  T2 TERMINAL / DEPOT - RAIL / MRTS / BUS / TRUCK
-  T3 CIRCULATION- RAIL / MRTS / ROAD

UTILITY

-  U1 WATER (TREATMENT PLANT ETC.)
-  U2 SEWERAGE (TREATMENT PLANT ETC.)
-  U3 ELECTRICITY (POWER HOUSE, SUB-STATION ETC.)



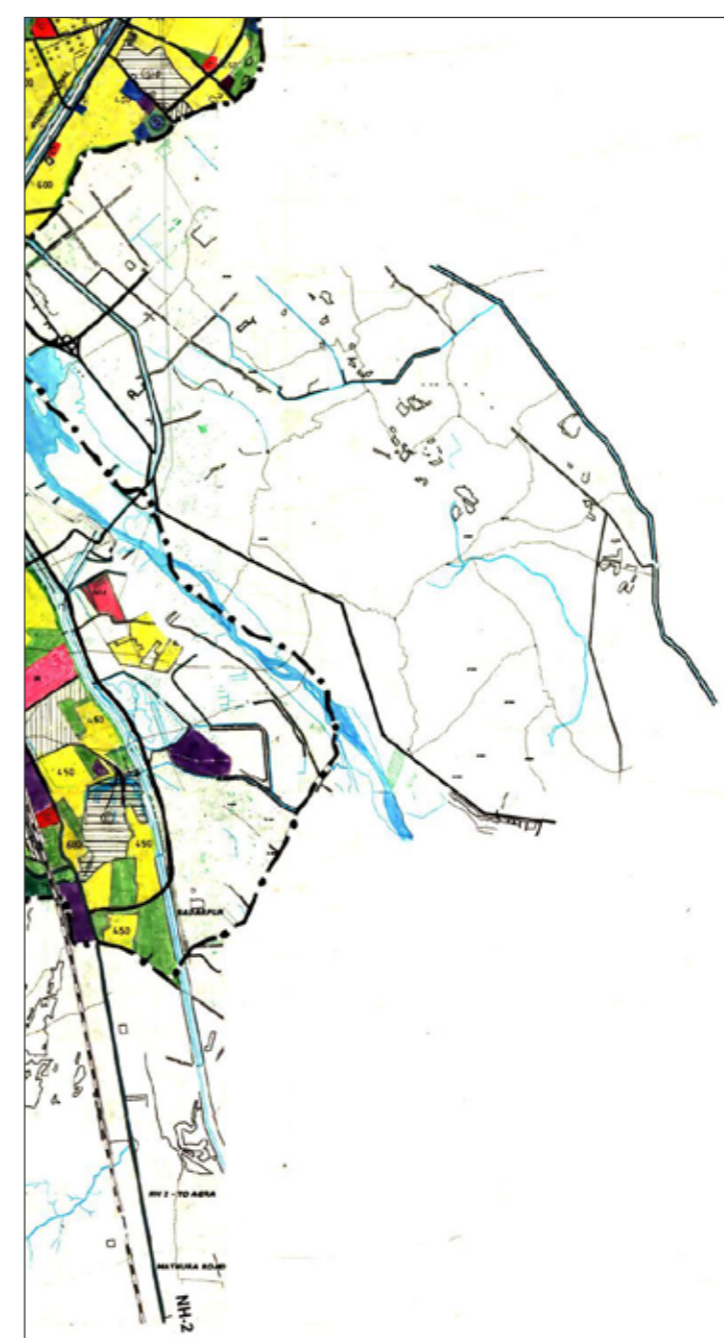


Approved by Delhi Development Authority vide Resolution No. 142 / 2006 dated 19th January, 2007.
 (Based on the Recommendations of the Board of Inquiries and Hearings, approved Zonal Development Plans and Land uses of the Authority.)

Authenticated on behalf of Central Government
 vide F. No. K-12011/1/2005-DDIB
 Sd/-
 P. K. Santra
 Under Secretary
 Ministry of Urban Development

(A.K. JAIN)
 COMMISSIONER (PLANNING), DDA PRIN

FOR DELHI - 2021



Delhi Development Authority vide Resolution No. 142 / 2006 dated 19th January, 2007.
 (Based on the Recommendations of the Board of Inquiries and Hearings, approved Zonal Development Plans and Land uses of the Authority.)

(V.M. BANSAL)
 PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER-CUM-SECRETARY, DDA

- U3 ELECTRICITY (POWER HOUSE, SUB-STATION ETC.)
- U4 SOLID WASTE (SANITARY LANDFILL ETC.)
- U5 DRAIN

GOVERNMENT

- G1 PRESIDENT ESTATE AND PARLIAMENT HOUSE
- G2 GOVERNMENT OFFICE / COURTS
- G3 GOVERNMENT LAND (USE UNDETERMINED)

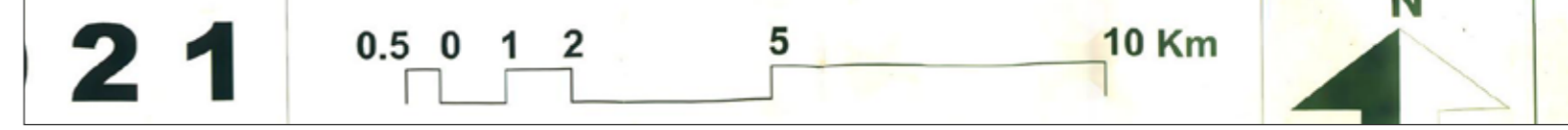
PUBLIC & SEMIPUBLIC FACILITIES

- PS1 HOSPITAL
- EDUCATION AND RESEARCH UNIVERSITY/UNIVERSITY CENTRE, COLLEGE
- SOCIAL - CULTURAL, SOCIO - CULTURAL COMPLEX / CENTRE
- POLICE / POLICE HEADQUARTER / POLICE LINES, FIRE STATIONS / DISASTER MANAGEMENT CENTRE
- RELIGIOUS
- BURIAL GROUND / CREMATION
- PS2 TRANSMISSION SITE / CENTRE
- PS3 SPORTS FACILITIES / COMPLEX / STADIUM / SPORTS CENTRE.

AGRICULTURE / GREEN BELT AND WATER BODY

- A1 PLANT NURSERY
- A2 AGRICULTURE / GREEN BELT
- A3 RIVER AND WATER BODY

URBANISABLE AREA



areas are shown in plain white and grey colours with various patterns of rendering or shading, possibly with an intentional level of abstruseness in the interest of national security. Strikingly, the once prominent Yamuna River is now but a meagre waterway when juxtaposed against the enormous urban cluster of Delhi. Even though there is an indication of monuments, the map of the city has become seemingly detached from its conventional purpose; historical information is neglected and artistic and aesthetic value compromised in favour of a more methodical and arid scientific analysis. An analysis that does, however, prove valuable in the evaluation of newer developments and their propensity for organisation; the newer urban areas towards the north, for instance, merely from an arrangement or layout perspective, propose a better integration of commercial and residential allocations, in tandem with well-positioned areas for public, semi-public, and recreational activities. The directional orientation is provided on the right bottom corner of the map with an arrowhead pointing north.

Acknowledgements



I worked and studied for more than three years in Delhi during my PhD in *Architectural Design, Architectural Composition, Criticism and Theory*, supported by the Politecnico di Milano in Milan, in collaboration with the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage in Delhi and Westminster University in London.

This book is the direct result of an arduous yet captivating determination of confronting, understanding, and discovering India and its capital; talking, listening, and absorbing the voices of its inhabitants, unreservedly travelling through every circumstance presented, taking photographs, and interviewing experts and architects, let alone researching and exploring the depths of its libraries and archives.

During my tenure in India I have been collecting a compendium of maps, all unique to Delhi, which now lend substance and significance to this book. A collection gathered from several Indian archives and institutions, among which are the Delhi State Archives, the National Archives of India, the Central Public Works Department Archives, the Delhi Development Authority, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, the New Delhi Municipal Council, and the Delhi Chapter of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage. On this note, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the deans and dignitaries of these archives and institutions, in particular Dr Sanjay Garg in the Indian National Archives, and in the Department of Geographic Institute in Bonn. Not to mention all the employees who assisted me during the fieldwork, notably Ashok Dihman in the Central Works Department, Meghna in the Delhi State Archive, and Annu in the National Archives of India. At the same time, I remain eternally grateful to the conducive and peaceful environment the 'Indian Office Records and Private Papers' room within the British Library in London provided me with throughout the course of my study.

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This book is an attempt to collect and bring a sense of order, chronology, and direction to the multitude of diverse maps of Delhi. Most importantly, though, to show the development of its planning, the diversity of its cartography, and the impact that foreign influences have had upon it. This is the book I wished existed when I had started my PhD on Delhi, knowing nothing about the city. Although I may never consider this collection to be exhaustive, let alone complete, my sincere hope is for it to serve as an inspiration or basis upon which further deliberation, ideas, or research may be developed.

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