

Architectural Conservation and Historic Preservation
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Lecture - 04
Heritage Significance and Values

Welcome today's topic of, today's lecture is Heritage Significance and Values part 1. Remember last time we talked about the debate or about the heritage that what should we preserve, why should we preserve and how should it be preserved.

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And in that context we also talked about the divergent approaches of conservation. Remember we talked about two cases one is the old city of Warsaw and another was the Coventry Cathedral of Europe, in both the cases the structures were damaged due to the war. But in case of war, what they decided they would sort of rebuild the entire city whereas, in case of Coventry Cathedral the war ravaged structure was preserved as it is and they built a new structure.

So, almost a similar situation, but the approaches they took were very different. And why it was a very different approach? The answer lies to that is the significance and value that was contributed to the structures and that actually decided that what approach should be taken. So, the significance of a place should influence decision about its future and it is

that is way it is very important for example, in case of old city of Warsaw, what is important?

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Significance of a place

Historic fabric ? Association ?
Inner strength and determination of the nation
Value
Comprehensive reconstruction of a city
Process

Old City , Warsaw

Quest for peace and reconciliation
Symbolic Value
Preservation and new construction
Process

Coventry Cathedral , Coventry, UK

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The historic fabric or the association, we saw that when it was declared as a world heritage site they saw that the inner strength and determination of the nation that intangible aspect is the value and the process is the comprehensive reconstruction of the city is the process. Whereas in case of Coventry Cathedral the quest for peace and reconciliation was the value which is a symbolic value that attributed to the structure and the preservation and the new construction is a process.

So, what we saw in this two cases almost similar situation, but the value and significance they decided that whether it will be preserved whether they will be reconstructed and how; and that is attributed sometimes its acquired it gets on over the years and sometimes how people interpret that that is why there is an interrelationship that is why it is very important to understand that what are the values and significance of a heritage site structure or pressing.

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Significance

Conservation as a process should take account of all the values that contribute to its **significance**

1. Understanding the values
2. Assessing heritage significance

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The slide features a yellow background with a blue header and footer. The title 'Significance' is in a large, bold, blue font. Below it, the text 'Conservation as a process should take account of all the values that contribute to its significance' is displayed, with 'significance' in red. A numbered list follows. The footer contains the IIT Khargapur and NPTEL logos. A small video inset of a woman is in the bottom right corner.

So, as I said that the value is important and the conservation should be seen not as a product, but as a process. So, conservation is a process should take account of all the values that contribute to its significance. So, what is important? First of all what is important is to understand the values and second is that assess the heritage significance of that particular cultural property structure or set.

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Understanding the values

People may value a place for many reasons beyond utility or personal association:

- for its distinctive architecture or landscape
- **the story it can tell about its past**
- its connection with notable people or events
- **its landform, flora and fauna**
- because they find it beautiful or inspiring
- **for its role as a focus of a community**
- architectural or 'historic interest' or 'scientific interest',
- 'special' interests

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The slide features a yellow background with a blue header and footer. The title 'Understanding the values' is in a large, bold, blue font. Below it, the text 'People may value a place for many reasons beyond utility or personal association:' is displayed. A bulleted list follows. The footer contains the IIT Khargapur and NPTEL logos. A small video inset of a woman is in the bottom right corner.

Now, people may value a place or a site or a structure for many reasons beyond its utility or personal association. Just utility is probably not enough; it is actually that is not

very important when we are talking about conservation it is important. But it is not the only thing. So, let us see what are the different types of value, it can be for its distinctive architectural landscape, it can be the story, it can tell about its past is connection with the notable people or even its land from flora and fauna because they find it is beautiful or inspiring for its role as a focus of the community, architectural or historic interest or scientific interest or there can be special interest also. So, as we can see that there are different types of values and significance and we must understand that what are these values in a particular context. Let us take one by one.

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Understanding the values
distinctive architecture or landscape

		
Mukteshwar Temple Bhubaneswar, Orissa 950 CE, Odisha temple type, Nagara architecture	Victoria Memorial Hall , Kolkata built between 1906 and 1921 Indo-Saracenic revivalist style	Qutub Minar , Delhi Constructed during 1192- 1220 Iranian style

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For example, distinctive architecture or landscape some of the let us discuss some of the structures or examples this is Mukteshwar temple, Bhubaneswar, Orissa just build in 950 AD, it is a typical Odisha temple a beautiful example of a Nagara style of architecture, it is not a very large structure its very small structure. But why it is important? It is important because it is an unique example of the this particular style of architecture and it was also marked a transition which that particular style was going through at that time and that is why it is very important for architecturism.

If you talk about another example Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata entirely different architectural style built bit quite recently in 1906 and 1921 its indo Saracenic revivalist style. It was built in it is a beautiful structure is almost now has become icon of Kolkata, it was built to commemorate Queen Victoria it was a Lord Curzon who actually took the

initiative to build it and it is important because it is for architecture. So, when you talk about architecture is not only how it looks, but its construction technology how that huge structure was build the structural system is everything is very important when we talk about the architecture.

Let us talk about another structure Kutub Minar, Delhi, constructed during a 1192 and 1220 it is an Iranian style it is actually the value may be symbolic or religious, but it is very important because every structural is an architectural marvel. So, we have taken 3 different examples, over 3 different architectural style and each one has a value because it is depicting a particular architecture pertaining to that period or pertaining to that style is a unique example of that.

Let us talk about landscape.

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Understanding the values
distinctive architecture or landscape

Chashmashahi, Kashmir
Mughal Garden , 1632 AD
Terrace garden , fountains
and aqueduct

Studley Royal Park, UK
18th-century landscaped water garden
picturesque romantic style

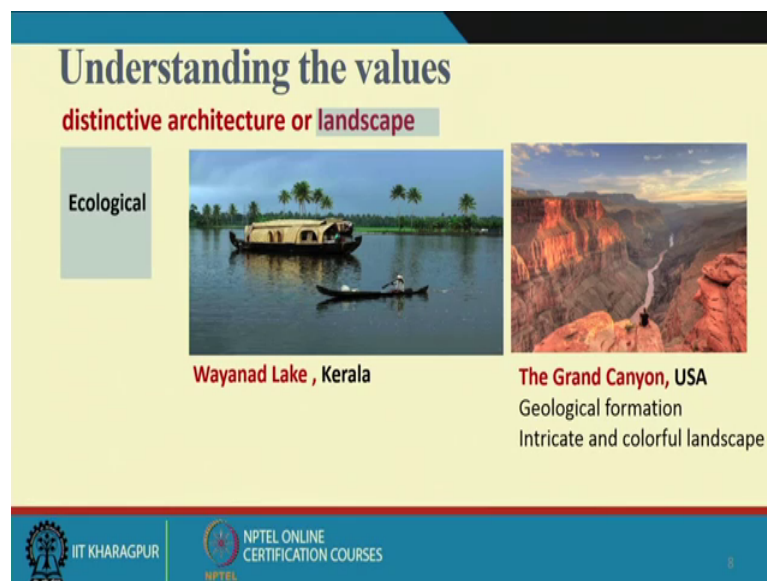
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This is Chashmashahi in Kashmir, Mughal garden and which is important because the terrace garden, the fountains and the aqueducts all of this contributed to the landscape value of this terrace garden it is a beautiful site, beautiful landscape which is build for recreational purpose. Another example we can talk about entirely different Studley Royal in UK which is an 18th century landscape water garden a picturesque romantic style.

Why these two are very unique in a particular context? Both are dealing with water in a different way one is aqueduct and other is the thing. The Studley Royal is important

because it is very unique the no such sort of water garden existed that time their style wise, their landscape feature wise its very unique and similarly there is terrace garden and when we are talking about the terrace garden we must remember it is not only the terrace garden the aqueducts the different technology which was used that time all of these contribute to the uniqueness of this landscape feature. So, this landscape again has some sort of a built up structure, manmade structure, but they are important because predominantly for its landscape value.

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When we talk about landscape there is other example like Wayanad lake in Kerala. It is very important it is tourist place people from all over the world and different places come to I think there are lot of resource which are there. And also we can see an entirely different one which is The Grand Canyon, USA a geological formation intricate and colorful landscape. These two example they are very different from the earlier example of landscape they are also important for the landscape because these are natural formations and whereas, the other two examples were for the man made landscape civilian landscape we can have a different types of landscape.

But in this two example of Grand Canyon and this lake in Kerala we must understand there is something more value attached to it that is ecological because this also talks about not only the landscape feature, but also the community the flora and fauna and other things.

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Understanding the values
the story it can tell about its past

Narration

Colonial Williamsburg , USA
Colonial Williamsburg is a living-history museum and private foundation presenting part of an historic district in the city of Williamsburg, Virginia, United States.

Die "Duke of Gloucester Street" in Colonial Williamsburg

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Let us talk about another one which is the narration that they also can be the heritage site which talks about or which tells us about something. The story it can tell about the past.


For example, this looks like it is not a monumental building; it looks like an ordinary streetscape. What it is? Where it is? It is actually Colonial Williamsburg in USA; it is a living history museum and private foundation presenting part of an historic district in this city of Williamsburg Virginia, United States. It is not a living city, it is a museum the entire city is a museum it has been preserved the way it was like that with all the structures and the houses, the timber houses that because it depicts or narrates a particular period of history and that is why it has been preserved.

This is one of the street in colonial a normal street. But how do we preserve such historic areas or city. It is not only enough to because they are narrating a story or certain events or particular period it is not enough to just preserve the fabric or the structure, but it is also important to narrate the story.

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Understanding the values
the story it can tell about its past

Narration



Colonial Williamsburg , USA

A Re-created Day in the Life of
a Royal Capital
*Meticulously re-creating the crucial period
of 1750-1775 – the end of the colonial era*



So, when one goes to Williamsburg there are a lot of events which take place. For example, this shows a recreated day in the life of a royal capital which is meticulously recreating the crucial period of a particular colonial era where the gun fighting the fighting battle scenes are being recreated because it has to talk it is the that fabric or the structures which have been preserved there they become a stage set they are authentic they are preserved in an authentic way, but along with that it must also narrate that what it is all about and to do that the involvement of lot of people are involved.

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Understanding the values
the story it can tell about its past

Narration



Colonial Williamsburg , USA
a living-history museum

Women reenacting in Colonial
Williamsburg



So, as we can see that the local volunteers here they are dressed up in the women re-enacting the colonial. So, there are a lot of skills, craftsmen, tradesmens which are there they also dress up like that and they re-enact the way it was they used to dress they used to take part in the different activities and this is generally done by the local volunteers or the local stakeholders who sort of contribute to enacting all this aspects.

So, this narration becomes a very important part or why we should conserve. It also contributes one type of value.

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Understanding the values
the story it can tell about its past

Narration

Jorvik Viking Centre , York , UK
a living-history museum

A museum and visitor attraction in York, England, containing lifelike mannequins and life-size dioramas depicting Viking life in the city. It was created by the York Archaeological Trust in 1984.

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What this narrative history or narrating a particular period or time a very interesting case is the Jorvik Viking centre in York which is a living history museum. Let us see what it is. If you look it from outside it is only a very normal structure from the outside at the street level, but it is actually a museum and a visitor attraction in York, England. In Yorkshire containing lifelike mannequins and life size dioramas depicting the Viking life in the city it was created by the York archaeological trust in 1984. So, it is not an ordinary museum. What it is about?

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Understanding the values
the story it can tell about its past

Narration

Jorvik Viking Centre, York, UK
a living-history museum

A museum and visitor attraction in York, England, containing lifelike mannequins and life-size dioramas depicting Viking life in the city. It was created by the York Archaeological Trust in 1984.

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Actually in York as we can see that here under the it is all happened underground in the basement that there are mannequins. So, there are the entire village which has been recreate and one can go in this type of small cars and move around in the villages, the seaside and other things and they recreate the entire thing not only the smell not only the sound, but the smell and everything is recreated. But is it an ordinary museum? No.

What happened is that Yorkshire is basically a Roman city the Romans came and build the city. So, wherever and it is a living city old historic core of the York and wherever one does some sort of an excavation or builds a new structure every day almost they excavate or find out or discover the roman ruins. So, that was that is quite common the archaeological trust come there do the investigation they decide whether it is important or not and accordingly either they document and they allow the new structure to come or otherwise they sort of if it is very important they preserve it.

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Understanding the values
the story it can tell about its past

Narration

JORVIK
VIKING CENTRE
GET FACE TO FACE WITH VIKINGS

Jorvik Viking Centre , York , UK

Between its capture by the Vikings in 866 AD and the Norman Conquest of 1066 AD, York was an important trading hub but **where was the evidence?**

Coppergate Dig
1976 -1981

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Now, at one point of time it was known that before the Roman came there the Viking also came and there and settled there is some of the names of the roads and the places show that the Vikings were there, but it was an important trading hub, but where was the evident there was no evidence there. So, at one point of time during 80s what happened is that during 1976-81 in the Coppergate which is they were doing some excavation for building a shopping centre in the heart of the old city. While doing that excavation they found out a different type it is not a Roman ruins they found out a different types of structures is almost (Refer Time: 13:49) shaped, round shaped and other things.

So, the archaeological trust came and they started seeing investigating what happened they have their own way of doing. So, all sort of detail investigation was going on. And when the detail investigation was going on and after that they found out it is actually there was a Viking village in that place. So, there was an actual evidence was so far what was believed and there is an evidence for there.

Now, the question comes is that how sort of they should it should we they preserve because it is very important they can take the photographs and put it in the museum and archive and allow the modern development to go. But while that excavation was going on the local people showed a lot of interest and they were standing there as you can see that they use to understand what is the thing, what is the discovery what they found. So,

there is a lot of interest were generated because of the Viking village and that particular site. So, they decided to do something.

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What they did? So, this they converted that into a living history museum of the Viking based on the evidence actual archaeological evidence which was found in that site and that site that location was very important to recreate the village. So, the village was recreated. Then it shows a lot of the remains and the discoveries what they found from the site and also in addition to that what they do is that every year there is a Viking festival which goes in York almost for 15 days.

There is a boat the way though they use to create the boat they create the boat they construct the boat a lot of interest is created tourists come a lot of festival in happens there is a mock fight which is to happen they dress up between the two things. So, it is really a very successful event and, but in addition to that that the museum is there in the basement of that ordinary looking structure and all that there is a shopping centre which has come up.

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The slide is titled "Understanding the values" in a large, bold, dark blue font. Below the title, the subtitle "the story it can tell about its past" is written in a smaller, red font. The slide is divided into two main sections. The top section is titled "Narration" in a grey box and includes the text "Jorvik Viking Centre, York, UK" in red. The bottom section is titled "Continuity of Past and Present" in a bold, black font. To the right of the text, there are two images: the top one shows a detailed illustration of a Viking settlement with wooden houses and a central square, and the bottom one shows a modern, multi-story brick building with a courtyard, representing the Jorvik Viking Centre. At the bottom of the slide, there are logos for IIT KHARAGPUR and NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSES, along with the number 16 in the bottom right corner.

So, I think that is a very interesting example that Jorvik Viking Centre in York where continuity of the past and present has still has been established. So, we see that we were talking about the divergent approaches, what could have done? They could have done the investigation they could have shifted that to some other museum somewhere taken the photographs and kept it in the museum. But what was important is not only the evidence, but the site of the location is very important. At the same time that huge site in a sort of a city which has a prime land of the old city which is a commercial area now also partly residential area. So, there to keep a huge space like that does not make any sense economic sense.

So, what they did is that they decided that the entire basement will be converted into a museum in actual site that in part of the museum they show actual excavation how it was constructed and over the site they sort of built. I think it is a very good example and by not only the shopping centre has come up the Jorvik Viking centre and this Viking centre has now become a tourist attraction of Yorkshire and generate a lot of economy for that. So, this is a very good example where the continuity of past and present can come up and can be build up on the actual evidence. And again we come back to the significance, what is the significance? Significance is the narration of a particular time of a story that who came there and settled for some time.

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The slide features a yellow background with a blue header. The title "Understanding the values" is in a large, dark font, with the subtitle "its connection with notable people or events" in a smaller, red font below it. On the left, there is a light blue box containing the word "Association" in black. Below this box is a portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, with the text "Remembering Gandhi" underneath. To the right of the portrait is a photograph of Sabarmati Ashram, a white building with a thatched roof and a porch, surrounded by trees. Below the photograph is the text "Sabarmati Ashram , Ahmedabad". At the bottom of the slide, there are logos for IIT KHARAGPUR and NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSES, along with the number "17" in the bottom right corner.

Let us talk about another types of value and significance association. This is again a very very ordinary looking house it is you can see that if you can recognize that it is ordinary looking, but it is for a very important association with a very important person.

It is actually Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad where Father of the Nation Gandhiji stayed there and spend a very meaningful part of his life. So, this is the place this structure this house which is actually very very ordinary looking, but it is has acquired a significance and value because of its association with a very very important personality and because it is important because of his association that value then it is that is why it is very important to keep not only the structure like at as it is, but it is also very important to keep the interior of the structure the way he used to stay, the furniture and everything, sometimes they are just taken from the photograph, sometimes they are the authentic furniture, original furniture has been kept, so the interior also very important because it is association with the person who stayed here.


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Understanding the values
its connection with notable people or events

Association

Sabarmati Ashram ,
Ahmedabad

Remembering Gandhi
& Indian Independence
Movement



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Also we must understand that Sabarmati ashram is not only important because Gandhiji stayed here, but it is also important because it played a very important part of the Indian independence movement because a lot of activities and events happened here.

So, on one hand it is association with a notable person on the other hand it is association with the Indians freedom movement which happened here and that is why this ordinary looking structure has acquired a value and a significance because it narrates that story, narrates that event, narrates the association with that person.


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Understanding the values
its connection with notable people or events

Association

Sabarmati Ashram ,
Ahmedabad

Remembering Gandhi
& Indian Independence
Movement

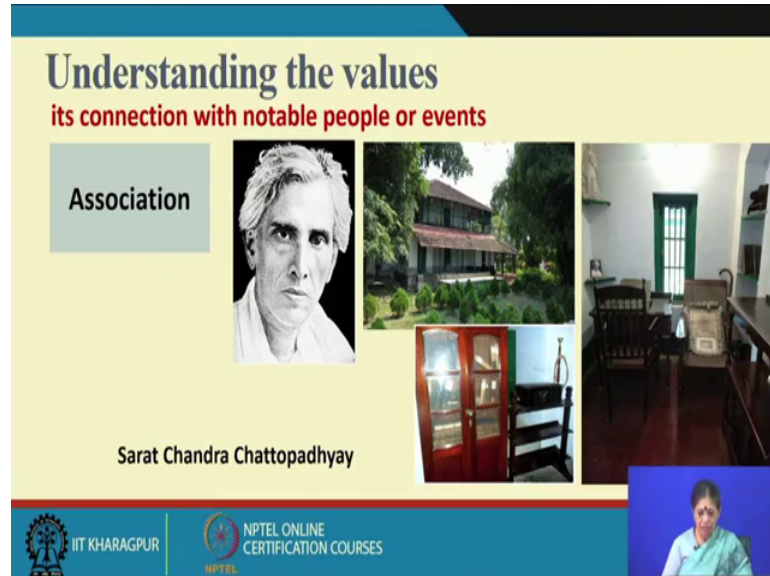


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And that sort of goes on attributing to the combined values and significance and that decide how it should be preserved.

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Let us talk about a similar other structure which again is a very ordinary looking structure, it is located in West Bengal. It is also important for its association. So, association with a very noted author Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay who stayed there for a significant part of his life and composed a lot of his novels, that time the river was flowing very close to the house this structure, now it has shifted away. But this structure has been now declared as a heritage structure and recently it has been sort of preserved restored.

And now as were talking about that it is because of the association value it is important it is very important to keep not only the outside of the structure it is very important to keep the interior also because it is important because he stayed there. So, his daily life how he depicted there is very important that is why the chairs, the study table, he practice homeopathy and each and everything is very important and they are kept as it is the way he used to stay because this structure is important because not only association his person, but it also narrates or he also sort of talks about the his association through all this sort of important furniture, the important elements each and every room is actually shows that how this person a very noted author who is very respected how he used to stay there.


So, this is association and connected with the notable people. These are the two example and also Sabarmati Ashram we talked about the event of the independence movement. So, as we can see that some of his daily use items are kept there and preserved.

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Understanding the values
its connection with notable people or events

Association

Auschwitz concentration camp,
Poland



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Now, you have to also talk about the event we talked about Sabarmati Ashram as association with the event of the lot of events of the Indian freedom movement. That does not mean always the event are always ready when we sort of attribute a value and significance this does not mean event are always sort of a positive events there can be events which are not so positive, but very important.

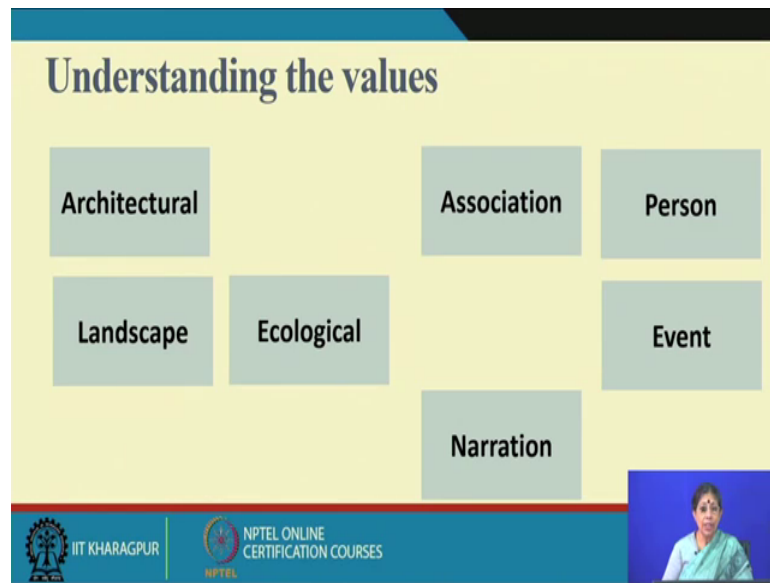
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The slide is titled "Understanding the values" in a large, dark blue font, with the subtitle "its connection with notable people or events" in a smaller, red font below it. A light green box on the left contains the word "Association" in black text. Below this, there are three images: a black and white photo of the entrance to the Auschwitz concentration camp with the "Arbeit macht frei" sign; a color photo of a large, dark, charred structure, likely the crematorium; and a color photo of a museum display with a person looking at a wall of photographs. In the top right corner, there is a close-up image of many pairs of shoes. At the bottom, there is a blue footer with the IIT Kharagpur logo and the text "NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSES". The number "23" is visible in the bottom right corner of the slide.

For example, this one this is Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland. This is the place where a huge number of Jews and other people were kept there they were burnt alive in the gas chamber from the children to the old people ladies they were brought here and this has been preserved and kept as living museum again a museum because of its association with a particular event of history. And there is a museum inside it depicts like you can see the lot of shoes are there it shows the people who were brought here and they were burnt alive in the gas chamber. So, their shoes have been kept there to show the enormity of the problem the that incident which take place here.

There is also this structure which is a burn structure and it has been preserved like that what it is? It actually is a structure which sort of exploded and where the inmates who sort of smuggled in and some bombs with the help of the local people and exploded that. So, it is; and it has been preserved just like that because it shows that the strength of the inmates who were really fighting every day and how they sort of also had the courage to protect. So, it has been preserved for that. So, as I said that this association can be with different types of events and different types of people to depict the different types of significance and the values.

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So, as we can see that as we have seen in all this example the it can be for the values and significant can be for architecture, for landscape, for ecological reasons, for association with person or can be with an event and it can be significant or valuable because of the narration as we have seen.

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So, we have seen some of the aspects again I am sort of a summarizing it can be for its distinctive architecture or landscape, the significance can be, the story it can tell about the past we have seen some of the examples, its connection with the notable people or

events and the events which are not so important and one can ask that why should we try to remember something which is so bring sorrow in our mind. I remember that something is written in that camp that one must remember such event which are not happy events so that such type of mistakes do not happen in future. That is why it is very important to sort of keep that and the people should see that that what type of things can happen if people do not go in the right way. So, that we do not do the mistake like that in future it is very important for that.

So, in the next lecture we will talk about the landform flora and fauna the other types of significance and the values. We also, we will talk about the values can be because they find it beautiful and inspiring. They means the people and the community for something or preserved because the value can be the role of the focus of a community or it can be architectural or historic interest or scientific interest and it can be of special interest also.

So, in our next lecture well talk about these type of examples and the values and significance.