



Reviving the Colonial Heritage



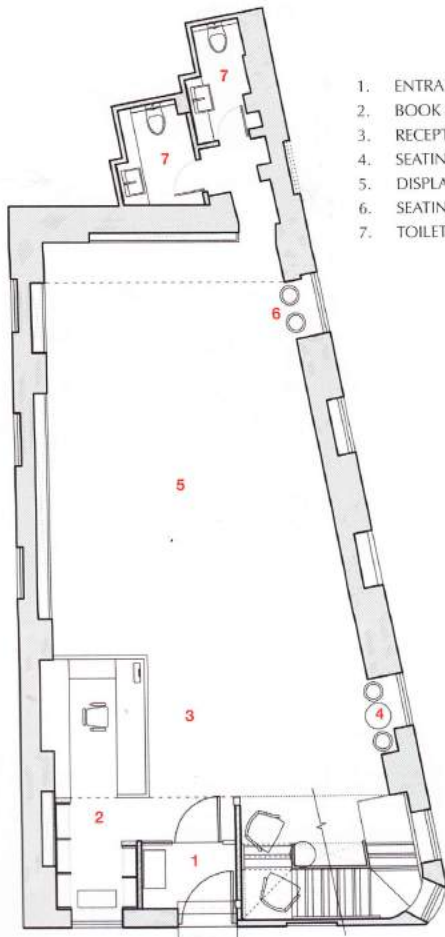
Manit Rastogi and Sonali Rastogi



Project: Delhi Art Gallery Modern, Mumbai
Architects: Morphogenesis, New Delhi

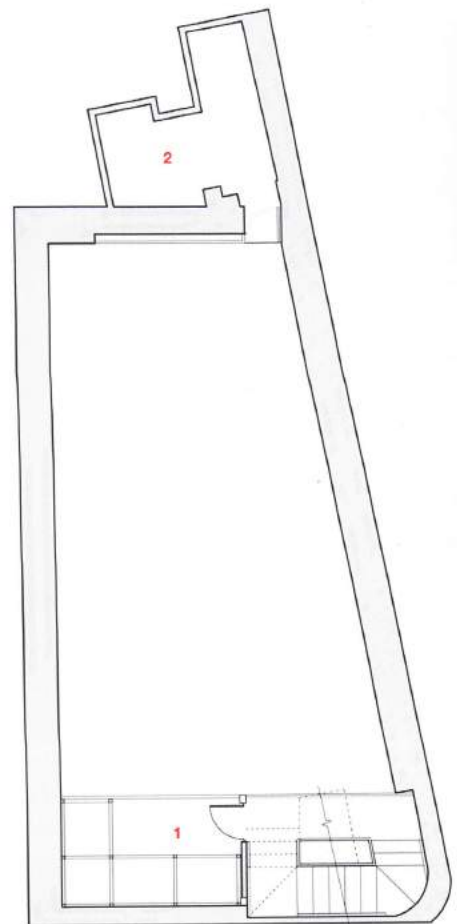
The project is a four-level art gallery that sits in a century old building in Kala Ghoda, a vibrant and historic area of Mumbai. In recent years, the area is undergoing a cultural revival based





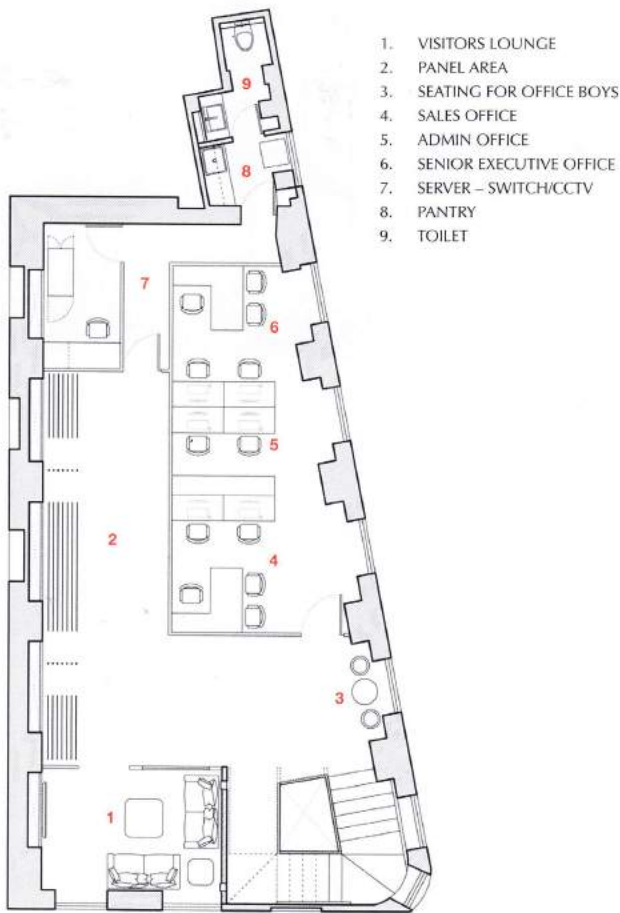
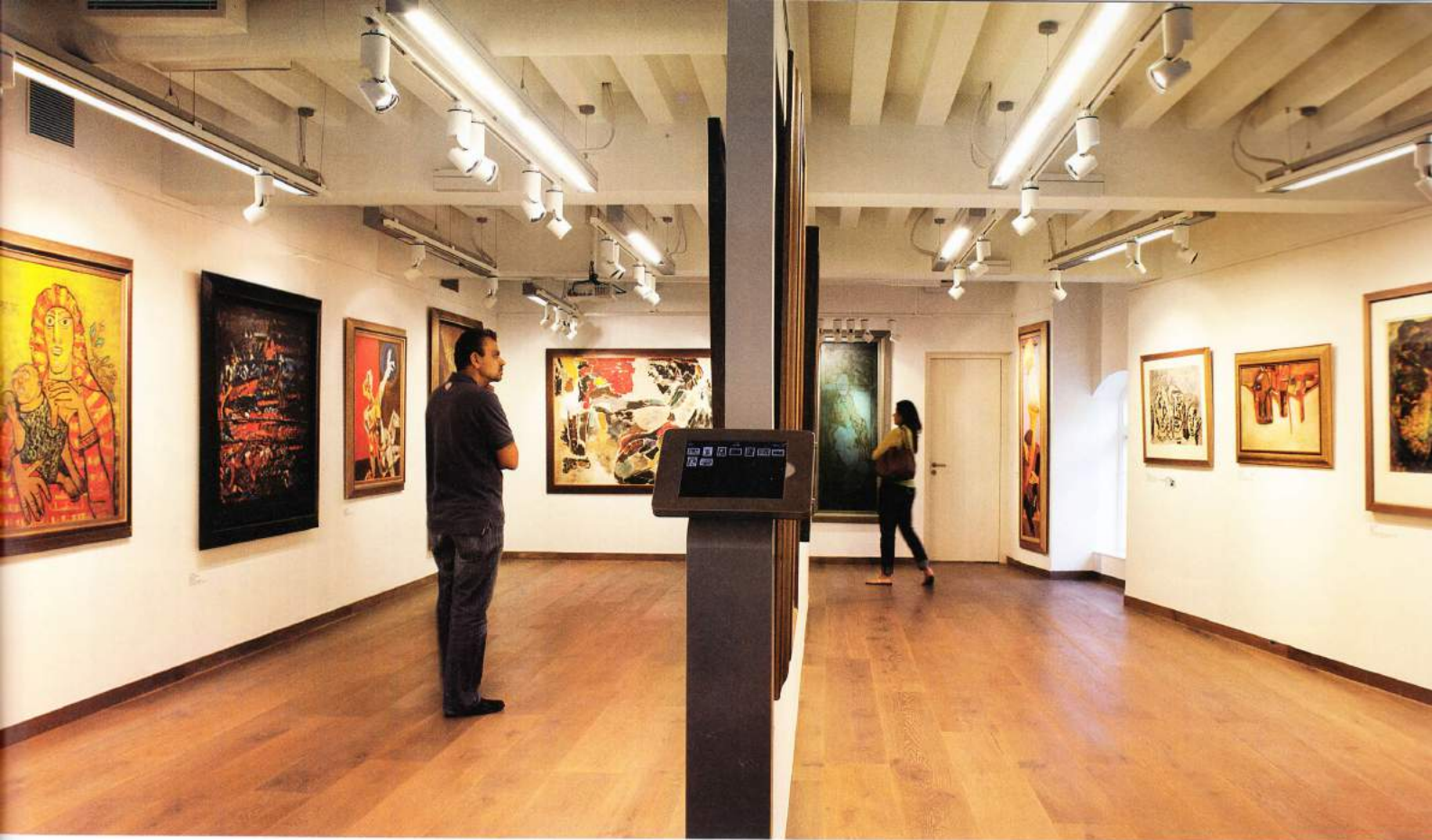
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 GROUND FLOOR PLAN

1. ENTRANCE VESTIBULE
2. BOOK STORE
3. RECEPTION
4. SEATING FOR VISITORS
5. DISPLAY AREA
6. SEATING FOR OFFICE BOY
7. TOILETS



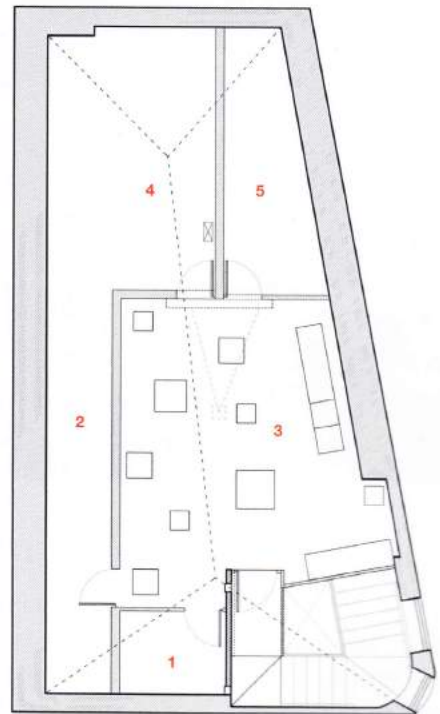
MEZZANINE FLOOR PLAN

1. STORAGE
2. WATER TANK LOFT



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

1. VISITORS LOUNGE
2. PANEL AREA
3. SEATING FOR OFFICE BOYS
4. SALES OFFICE
5. ADMIN OFFICE
6. SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICE
7. SERVER – SWITCH/CCTV
8. PANTRY
9. TOILET



THIRD FLOOR PLAN

1. UPS ROOM
2. HVAC DUCT ROOM
3. LECTURE ROOM
4. HVAC UNIT ROOM
5. STORE



warehouse, this particular building was so mutilated that one could almost not recognise its colonial heritage. The space bore resemblance to a sweat shop with the foundation having been scooped out to allow extra floors to be cast, and with windows that had been boarded up.

The challenge was to restore and to recreate the heritage value, but not imitate in an anachronistic way. Taking cues from the patterns and materiality of other well-preserved surrounding buildings and research on colonial architecture, an adaptive reuse approach was adopted to achieve the right balance. Altering

and reinstating the heritage value of the project, an old paragon has been adapted to a contemporary usage—an art gallery, which by its very function needs to be minimalist.

The gallery showcases art works on the ground and first floors while the other two levels host the gallery's permanent collection, a sculpture courtyard-cum-auditorium, private lounges and gallery offices. On stripping the layers added over time, the original structural details revealed themselves—walls, slabs, rafters—all needing restoration and intervention with