

Figure 1: Front Cover: 07_Pratapgad: View of the Chilkhati bastion with the hill ranges and forests in the background.

Figure 2: Inner Cover: 01_Salher fort: The unique physiography, escarpments, and massifs in the Selbari-Satmala range adapted to the advantage of defence and military designs.

Figure 3: 11_Sindhudurg: The magnificent ramparts of the fort showcasing the strudiness of these Island forts.

Figure 4 (L): 06_Rajgad: The main gate to the fort, installed with iron bolts having sharpened cone heads to prevent tuskers from opening the doors by banging their head against it.

Executive Summary

- State Party
- State, Province or Region
- Name of Nominated Property
- Geographical Coordinates to the Nearest Second
- Textual description of the Boundary(ies) of the Nominated property
- A4 Size Maps of the Nominated Property, showing Boundaries and Buffer Zone
- Criteria Under which Property is Nominated
- Cultural Landscape
- Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value
- Name and Contact Information of Official Local Institution / Agency/Organisation



State Party

India

State, Province, or Region

Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu

Name of Nominated Property

Maratha Military Landscapes of India

Geographical coordinates to the nearest second

Id No.	Name of the component part	District(s)/ State	Coordinates of the central point	Area of the nominated component part (ha)	Area of the Buffer Zone (ha)	Map No.	Map scale in annex-ure
1.	01_Salher Fort	Nashik, MH	Lat. 20° 72', Long. 73° 94'	112.45	25908.05	MML_01_Salher_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_01_Salher_B	1:30000 on A0
						MML_01_Salher_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_01_Salher_D	1:30000 on A0
2.	02_Shivneri Fort	Pune, MH	Lat. 19° 12', Long. 73° 52'	28.72	15050.48	MML_02_Shivneri_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_02_Shivneri_B	1:30000 on A0
						MML_02_Shivneri_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_02_Shivneri_D	1:30000 on A0
3.	03_Lohagad	Pune, MH	Lat. 18° 42', Long. 73° 28'	13.25	24356.05	MML_03_Lohagad_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_03_Lohagad_B	1:50000 on A0
						MML_03_Lohagad_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_03_Lohagad_D	1:40000 on A0
4.	04_Khanderi Fort	Raigad, MH	Lat 18°42', Long. 72°48'	6.87	3396.63	MML_04_Khanderi_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_04_Khanderi_B	1:25000 on A0

Id No.	Name of the component part	District(s)/ State	Coordinates of the central point	Area of the nominated component part (ha)	Area of the Buffer Zone (ha)	Map No.	Map scale in annex-ure
						MML_04_Khanderi_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_04_Khanderi_D	1:25000 on A0
5.	05_Raigad	Raigad, MH	Lat. 18° 14', Long. 73° 26'	161.31	98896.01	MML_05_Raigad_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_05-06_Raigad-Rajgad_B	1:50000 on (1784 x 594 mm)
						MML_05_Raigad_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_05-06_Raigad-Rajgad_D	1:40000 on (1784 x 594 mm)
6	06_Rajgad	Pune, MH	Lat. 18° 14', Long. 73° 40'	48.15	98896.01	MML_06_Rajgad_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_05-06_Rajgad-Rajgad_B	1:50000 on (1784 x 594 mm)
						MML_06_Rajgad_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_05-06_Rajgad-Rajgad_D	1:40000 on (1784 x 594 mm)
7.	07_Pratapgad	Raigad, MH	Lat. 17°56', Long. 73°34'	8.34	33670.97	MML_07_Pratapgad_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_07_Pratapgad_B	1:50000 on A0
						MML_07_Pratapgad_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_07_Pratapgad_D	1:40000 on A0
8.	08_Suvarnadurg	Ratnagiri, MH	Lat. 17°48', Long. 73° 5'	5.23	462.27	MML_08_Suvarnadurg_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_08_Suvarnadurg_B	1:25000 on A0
						MML_08_Suvarnadurg_C	1:15000 on A2



NOMINATION DOSSIER "MARATHA MILITARY LANDSCAPES OF INDIA"

Id No.	Name of the component part	District(s)/ State	Coordinates of the central point	Area of the nominated component part (ha)	Area of the Buffer Zone (ha)	Map No.	Map scale in annex-ure
						MML_08_Suvarnadurg_D	1:25000 on A0
9.	09_Panhala Fort	Kolhapur, MH	Lat. 16°48', Long. 74° 6'	172.33	25863.68	MML_09_Panhala_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_09_Panhala_B	1:50000 on A0
						MML_09_Panhala_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_09_Panhala_D	1:45000 on A0
10.	10_Vijaydurg	Ratnagiri, MH	Lat. 16°33', Long. 73°19'	8.95	2935.02	MML_10_Vijaydurg_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_10_Vijaydurg_B	1:25000 on A0
						MML_10_Vijaydurg_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_10_Vijaydurg_D	1:25000 on A0
11.	11_Sindhudurg	Sindhudurg, MH	Lat. 16° 02', Long. 73° 27'	19.55	1671.15	MML_11_Sindhudurg_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_11_Sindhudurg_B	1:25000 on A0
						MML_11_Sindhudurg_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_11_Sindhudurg_D	1:25000 on A0
12.	12_Gingee Fort	Villupuram, TN	Lat. 12°15', Long. 79°23'	150.66	2778.04	MML_12_Gingee_A	1:15000 on A2
						MML_12_Gingee_B	1:25000 on A0
						MML_12_Gingee_C	1:15000 on A2
						MML_12_Gingee_D	1:25000 on A0
			Total Area	735.81	2,34,988.35		

Textual description of the boundaries of the nominated property

The nominated serial national property of the Maratha Military Landscapes of India encompasses the boundaries of 12 components. These components, distributed across diverse geographical and physiographic regions in present-day Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu states of India, showcase the strategic military prowess of the Maratha rule. These components include Salher Fort, Shivneri Fort, Lohagad, Khanderi Fort, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala Fort, Vijaydurg, Sindhudurg, and Gingee Fort.

The nominated boundary of the 12 components ensures the inclusion of essential attributes justifying the OUV of the serial nomination. The area of the nominated property includes the primary layer of defence and fortified attributes representing the Maratha architectural prowess. The selection of buffer considers representations of the Maratha Military Landscape, from a micro-understanding of the fort's periphery to a macro-understanding of the cluster formed around the selected component. This understanding is represented in two additional layers of defence systems, strategically laid out by the Marathas around these components. The perimeter of the buffer zone has the additional layer of defence, with a network of other secondary and tertiary forts forming the cluster around each component. It also considers the trade routes and geomorphology that formed the basis of the cultural and economic setting of the region. The buffer emphasizes the secondary defence features laid around in the periphery of the component, which include the natural physiographic features such as geography and biodiversity acting as natural defence and small check posts on the route to the forts known as Met areas.

A4 size map(s) of the nominated property, showing boundaries and buffer zone

From next page

Criteria under which property is nominated

Criteria (iii), (iv) and (vi)

Cultural Landscape

Yes

Location and identification of the Property in Southern Peninsula India



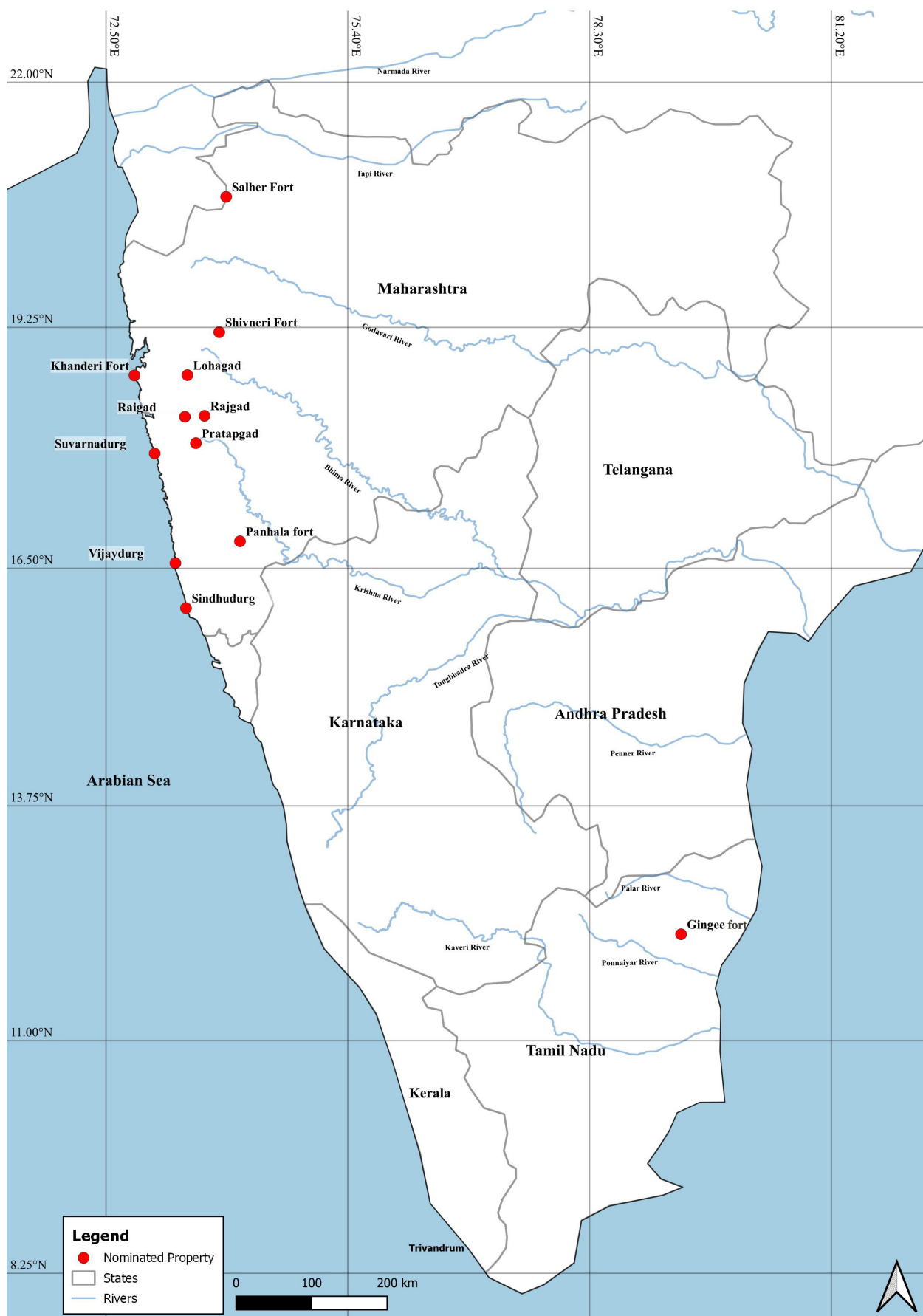
Scale:

300 km

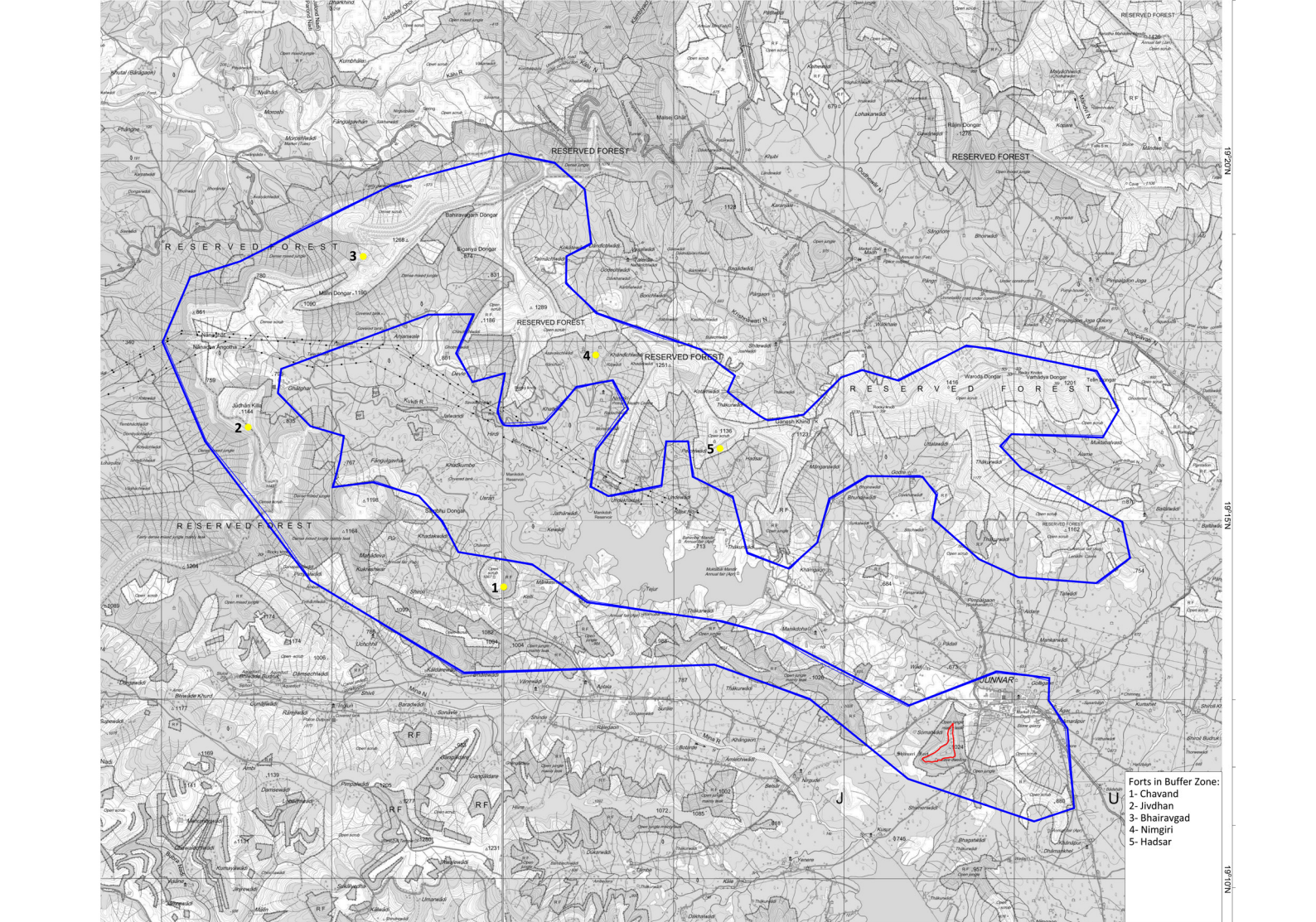





Map of Southern Peninsula of India, states of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu highlights for the location of components.

Location of the Nominated Property

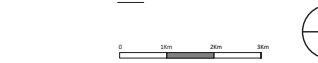


Selected 12 components for the serial nomination for the Maratha Military landscapes of India



-  Property Boundary
-  Buffer Zone
-  Forts in Buffer Zone

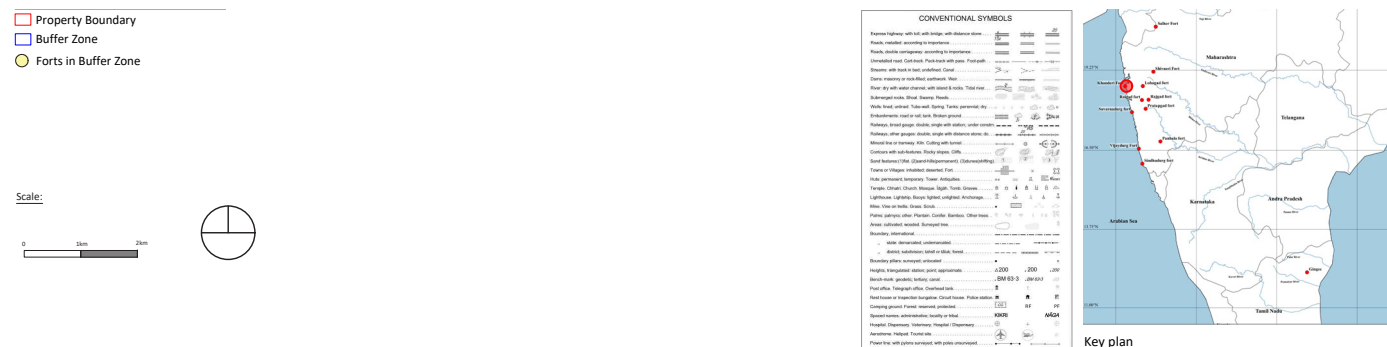
Scale:

[illegible]

The property boundary and buffer zone of Shivneri Fort



MML_04_Khanderi_B

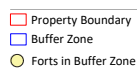
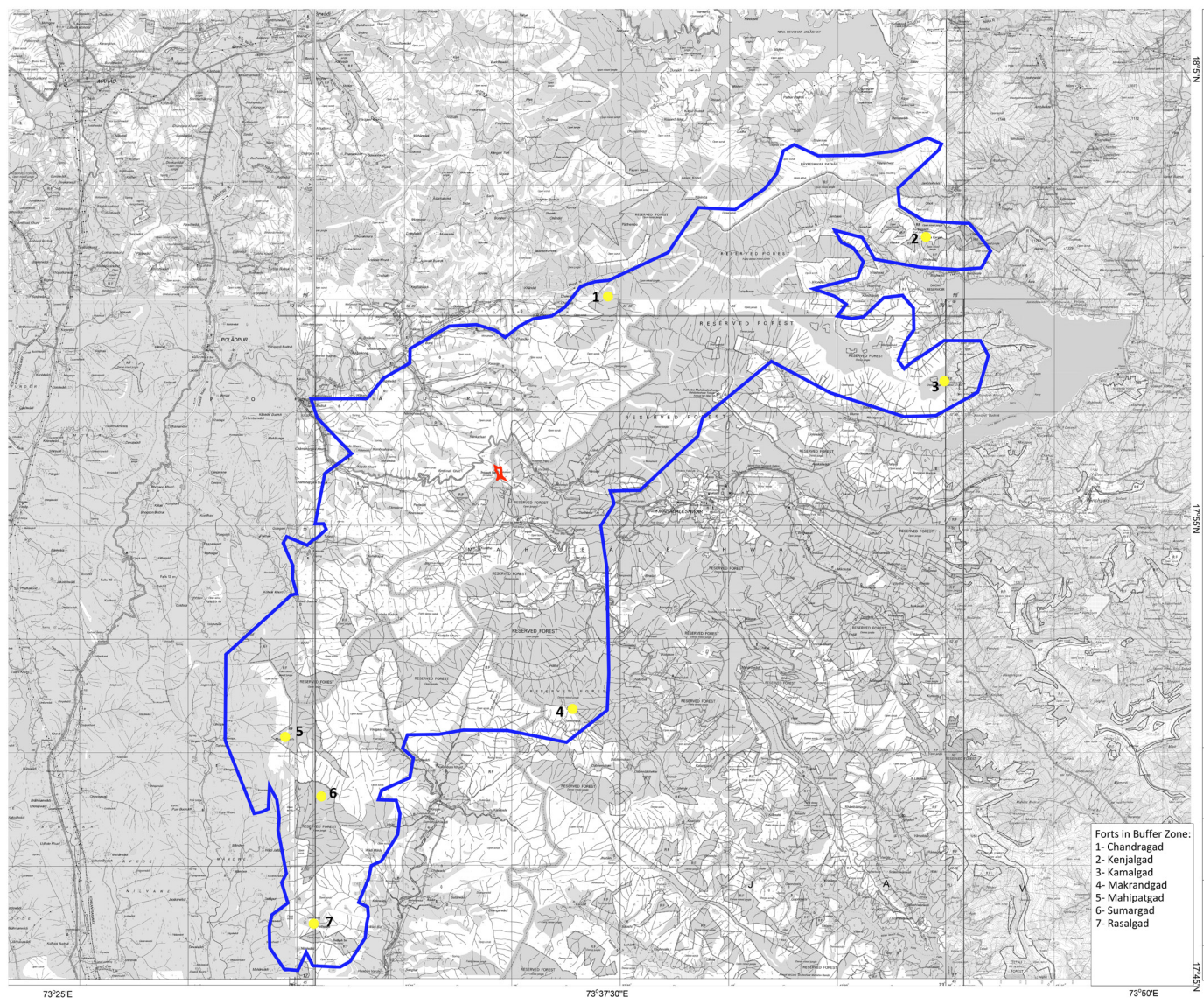


11

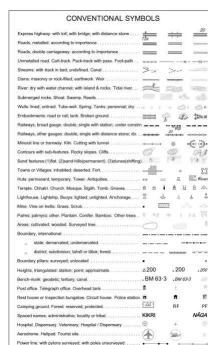


07_Pratapgad Property Boundary and Buffer Zone

MML_07_Pratapgad_B



Scale:



Key plan

The property boundary and buffer zone of Pratapgad

08_Suvarnadurg Property Boundary and Buffer Zone

MML_08_Suvarnadurg_B



- Property Boundary
- Buffer Zone
- Forts in Buffer Zone

Scale:



Key plan

MML_09_Panhala_B

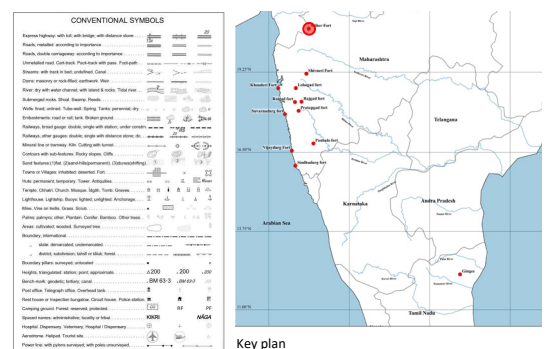
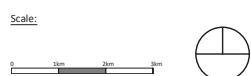


10_Vijaydurg Property Boundary and Buffer Zone

MML_10_Vijaydurg_B



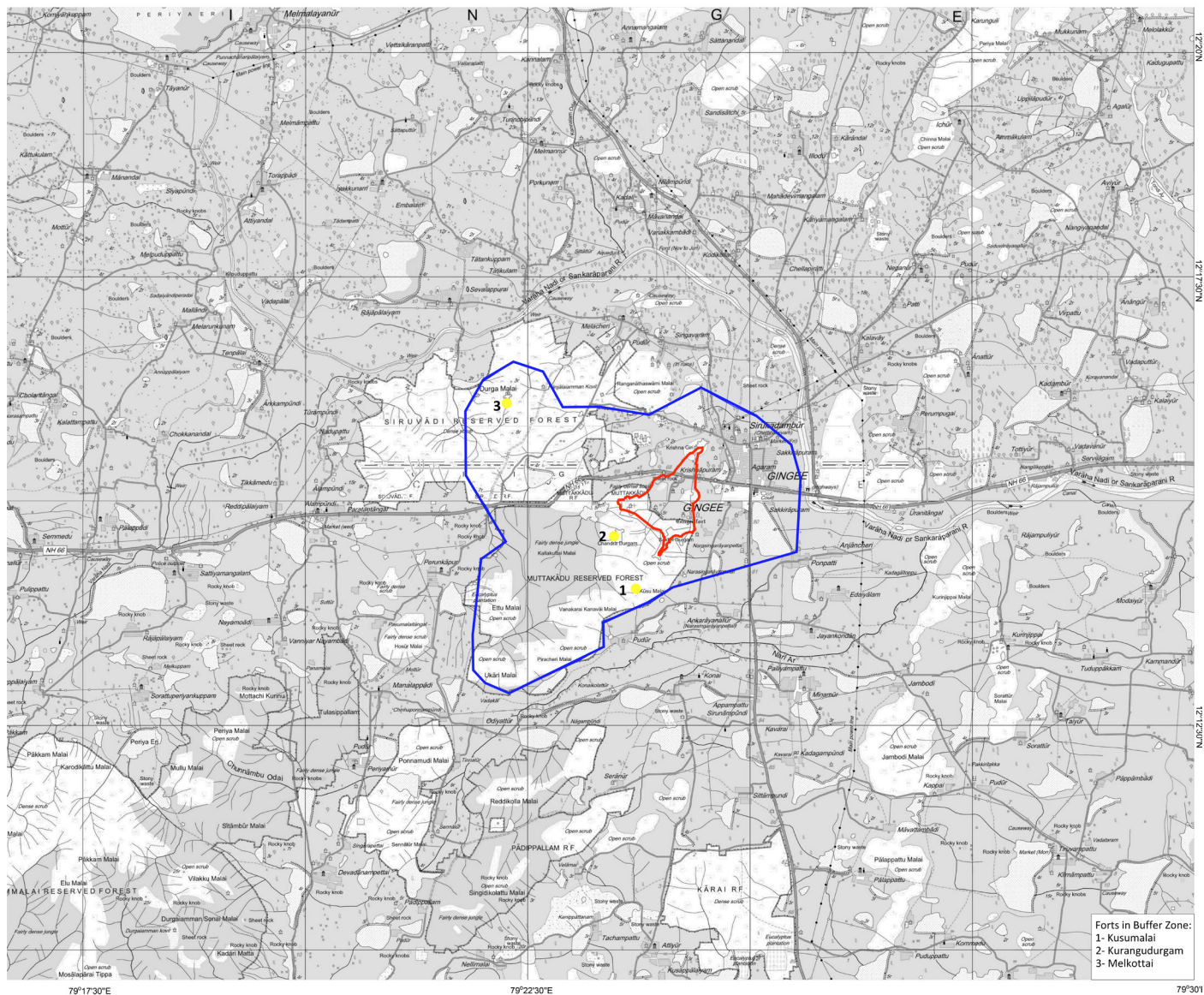
- Property Boundary
- Buffer Zone
- Forts in Buffer Zone






The property boundary and buffer zone of Vijaydurg

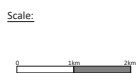
12_Gingee Fort Property Boundary and Buffer Zone

MML_12_Gingee_B



Forts in Buffer Zone.
1- Kusumalai
2- Kurugudurgam
3- Melkottai

-  Property Boundary
-  Buffer Zone
-  Forts in Buffer

[illegible]

Key plan

The property boundary and buffer zone of Gingee Fort

Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

a. Brief synthesis

The Maratha Military Landscapes of India, that developed between the 17th and 19th centuries CE, represent an extraordinary fortification and military system envisioned by the Maratha rulers. This extraordinary network of forts, varying in hierarchies, scales, and typological features, is a result of integrating the landscape, terrain, and physiographic characteristics, particularly distinctive to the Sahyadri mountain ranges, the Konkan coast, Deccan Plateau and the Eastern Ghats in the Indian peninsula. The serial nomination, consisting of 12 components, illustrates its diverse military heritage both chronologically and typologically. The 12 components, individually and collectively as a serial nomination, are unparalleled representations of the Maratha Kingdom's envisioned military network in India.

These 12 forts symbolize the manifestation of power and geopolitical dominance through strategic vision, geographical diversity, nuanced understanding of the terrain, innovative military design, defence planning, social inclusiveness, and deployment of military tactics devised under the Maratha Regime. Collectively, the 12 components of the Maratha Military Landscapes narrate a military saga and showcase the interconnectedness in expanding the Maratha Kingdom, and developing Maratha community ideologies, culture, and social structure of an important phase in the history of the Indian subcontinent. They also highlight the vision of the Maratha Rulers in defence architecture and planning strategies, leading to successful expansion through numerous sieges, conflicts, geopolitics, and alliances over a period of three centuries. Along with their buffer zones, these 12 components constitute the most authentic, well-preserved, and representative sites of Maratha Military Landscapes of India.

The inception of the Maratha Military ideology dates back to the late 17th century, reaching its zenith during the reign of the Maratha King Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj by the 1670CE and continuing through subsequent rules until the Peshwa rule till 1818 CE. This historical period, marked by expansion, rule, rise, and fall of the Maratha Kingdom, holds paramount importance

in Indian history for its military ingenuity. The significance lies not only in the architectural grandeur, strategic settings, and picturesque locations of the forts but also in the innovation of connecting them into a unified operational defence system through a strategic network that exploits the unique cultural landscape from Konkan to Sahyadri hills across the Deccan Plateau to the Eastern Ghats in the Indian peninsula. These components and the military landscape they represent are the best surviving examples of Maratha Military Landscapes. They also represent the largest concentration of forts integrated within a cultural landscape globally, retaining their strategic importance over an extended period, with a legacy celebrated by the local community even today.

b. Justification for Criteria

Criteria (iii): To bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization that is living or which has disappeared;

The 12 selected forts represent Maratha ideology in architectural planning based upon the best utilization of Sahyadri mountain ranges, the Konkan coast, and the Deccan plateau, extending up to the Gingee hills in the Eastern ghats. These forts offer new insight into various forms of architecture including rock-cut features, construction of perimeter walls in layers on hilltops and slopes, temples, palaces, markets, residential areas, and almost every form of medieval architecture. Though the military planning in this region is shaped by the hands of many superseding dynasties of the Maurya, the Western Satraps, the Satavahana dynasty, Rashtrakuta dynasty, the Western Chalukyas, the Bahamanis, the Deccan sultanates and the Mughals, it was under the Maratha Rule that it became legible as one of the largest extended fortified landscapes in the Indian subcontinent. The nomination of the selected components focuses on the time period of Maratha Kings (between 1600s to early 1800s) for the region that witnessed its expansion over the ancient period on account of the trade through the Dakshinapatha connecting famous Indian ports and major Indian cities. The ancient epigraphs and literature found across the region mention the names of some of these like Thane, Chaul, Kalyan, Karhad, Vanvasi, Dhenukakata, Karle, Sopara, Paithan, Bhokardan, Dhanyakataka, Bharuch, etc.



The land routes starting from the port-towns criss-crossed through the dense forests and steep serpentine routes on the slopes of the Sahyadri mountain ranges. These routes, known as 'ghats' and mountain passes catered to the fleets of caravans carrying the goods, across the Sahyadri ranges. It can be said that not all the 'Ghats' were built during the Satavahana period. During their era, Paithan, Nashik, and Junnar were the power centers and ultimately very busy trade centers. This very potent landscape with rugged terrain and physiography offering natural defence potentials was harnessed through tactful and visionary planning by the Maratha Rulers. Thus, the Maratha Military Landscapes is a testimony to this period of Maratha Rule that integrated and harnessed the existing resources, such as the trade routes, ports, forts and the ancient caves in this region built over centuries.

Out of the many contemporary medieval powers spread across the southern peninsula of India, Marathas were the only visionary rulers who through their knowledge of the terrain, political and governance philosophies as well as local alliances expanded the Maratha Rule on land and sea across the southern Indian peninsula to its full potential. The selected components present a typological plurality in location, planning and design, scale as well as unique architectural elements which distinguishes each component but also demonstrates the interrelation of each to the overall fortified landscape. It was the vision of the Maratha Rulers that resulted in island forts such as the Sindhudurg, forest forts like Pratapgad and the hill forts like Salher, Rajgad, Raigad and Gingee which are planned and reinforced with ingenious defence features. This territorial expansion bears testimony to the expansion of the Maratha Rule who successfully countered many invading contemporary powers like the Mughals, the Bijapur sultanate, and the Ahmadnagar Sultanate on land along with colonial sea powers along the coast.

Criterion (iv): To be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble, or landscape that illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;

The serial nomination is an exceptional specimen of the Maratha Military Landscapes of India

showcasing the deep integration of defence planning with geography, economics, and geopolitics. The selected components demonstrate the successful application of military architecture dovetailed with planning, design, technological development, and military and governance strategies.

The 12 components presented here represent this massive military intervention and planning, which began at the end of the 17th Century CE, during the reign of Shahaji, the father of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj a general of the Bijapur Sultanate, and reached its zenith by 1670 CE and sustained until the third Anglo Maratha war in 1818 CE. Each component with its particular characteristics, contributes to defining the great typological variety inherent in design and planning due to the varying geography and physiography. Together these serial components present the narrative of the expansion and rise of the Maratha Rule in Indian History.

The development of the intense network of forts was possible due to the foresight of the Maratha Rulers, who envisaged forts not only as military and defence structures but also as administrative, geo-political, and social components of the communities. Within the 12 components, Raigad is the classic example of Maratha architecture and best representation of the capital fort on a hill with the most developed typologies of structures within the fort. Rajgad, another capital hill fort is adapted to the unique spurs and ridges integrated within the fort's architectural design. The fort of Salher in the Baglaan region, the fort of Pratapgad in the Satara region demonstrate the potential of control of crucial trade and economic zones in varying terrains of higher mountains and forest respectively. These forts were strategically chosen and built over by the Marathas as they guarded the kingdom's boundaries and played a vital role in battles and conquests thus serving as military bases. Coastal forts like Khanderi and Suvarnadurga kept a check on trade, foreign powers, and pirates on the coastline. Where the island fort of Sindhudurg and the coastal fort of Vijaydurg provided the base for naval military operations. Thus, each component demonstrates military architecture and defence value through design, execution, and integration into a different fort typology along with its important role in connecting and controlling the larger military landscape.

Criterion (vi): To be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance;

The associational value of this serial nomination is very high on account of the intangible aspects of culture, society, and belief systems that were perpetuated by the descendants and communities associated in historical and present times with the Maratha ruler Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. This association is celebrated in the form of myriad expressions throughout the state and country in the form of art, culture, literature, research, political strategies as well as environmental and cultural stewardship which has led to the conservation and inclusion of these sites for the larger community. The interventions in the landscape by the Maratha Rulers led to a significant impact on the development of the landscape, the society, and the culture of these regions along with material remains in the form of forts and fortresses. This cultural legacy is celebrated even after 350 years by the associated communities. The 12 components are associated with specific events of the Maratha ruler that continue to be celebrated by the Maratha community, state government and local villagers in each area such as the birth of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at Shivneri, his battle and victory with Afzal Khan at Pratapgad, and his escape from Panhala followed by the battle of Pawankhind, his capital and primary forts of residence Rajgad, Raigad, Panhala and Gingee, besides Raigad as his seat of coronation and his other land and sea conquests with other forts. Some of these forts have specific spots of the events that are glorified and celebrated annually.

c. Statement of Integrity

The serial nomination of Maratha Military Landscapes of India with its illustrative 12 components is most representative of the complex system of military and defence planning and mechanism developed and manifested between 1600s to the early 1800s. All selected components are carefully classified and categorized from a large concentration of over 390 plus forts in the region and represent in its vastness and contents the ideology, vision and planning, and military philosophy of the Maratha Kings over a large territory.

The nominated components as a whole demonstrate the best representative geo-historical territory of this extraordinary military expansion project, which includes the Sahyadri mountain ranges and its sub-ranges, the Konkan coast, up to the Rajagiri, Krisnagiri, and Chandrayandurgam hills on the Eastern ghats. Overall, the nominated series restores in its integrity the chronological development of the military planning and architecture envisaged under the leadership of the Maratha Rulers, integrating with the landscape, local physiography and geo-political situations of trade and commerce through the trade routes along rivers and ghats and passes and harnessing the existing ancient architecture and resources, such as Buddhist caves and temples, to its highest advantage.

The selected 12 components also demonstrate geographical and chronological integrity, showing the complexity of the design, location and physiography, and execution of military operations which are key characteristics of the forts. Each individual component contributes to the definition of the exceptional universal value of the serial nomination. The process of informed and thorough classification of the 12 components based on literary sources, research, and field visits combined with assessments concerning specific attributes which, when seen together, reinstate the overall strategy of the military operation.

The 12 components of the Maratha Military Landscapes of India demonstrate a military narrative and their interrelation in expanding the Maratha Rule, development of the Maratha community and ideologies, culture, and social structure. Collectively, they also demonstrate the vision of the Maratha Rulers in the development of military architecture and planning strategies, which led to successful expansion through multiple sieges, conflicts, geopolitics, and alliances between the contemporary powers over centuries. These components and their buffer zones constitute the most authentic, best conserved, and most representative sites of the Maratha Military Landscapes of India.



d. Statement of authenticity

The selected 12 components are protected under the Central or State government notifications. The protected status grants the fort importance at the national and state level. This mechanism ensures that the fortifications are protected from extreme damage, vandalism, and the threat of inadverse human activities, as well as monitoring of all attributes. Besides this, the conservation and management frameworks follow National Conservation Policy and State-level regulations to carry out conservation, management, monitoring, and site development works as per the site management plans. This ensures the maintenance of the site's authenticity in terms of materials, design interventions to be harmonious and not compromise the original or historic structures. In the conservation works carried out in these forts, utmost care is taken to use similar materials and techniques and preserve the authenticity of the architecture, without introducing foreign elements.

Apart from this, the fortifications are observed to have signs of natural wear and tear due to external elements of winds and erosion due to saline waters. However, the structures are largely intact without major damage or collapse. This can be attributed to the original construction techniques and technology that caters to the longevity of the fort and its structures. The archaeological and architectural material remains of these forts spanning across the west coast of Maharashtra, the Konkan coast, and the Eastern Ghats are largely authentic and contain original design, the technology of construction, motifs, and details and materials of the respective periods as seen in the layering of the forts. Concerning the protection and conservation of the fortifications, elements of architecture such as walls, bastions, gates, a few internal structures such as palaces, temples and mosques, granaries and storage units, and other structures of varying importance are observed in each fort. The important feature of the sweet water tanks in each fort is in good condition as a water catchment even after so many years of construction.

e. Requirements for protection and management

As a serial nomination property, all 12 components of the Maratha Military Landscapes of India fall jointly under the aegis of the central and the state governments. An existing legal and administrative framework functions satisfactorily by implementing laws, bye-laws, policies, and administrative guidelines for protection of each component.

Eight components out of the twelve nominated for the property, (Shivneri Fort, Lohagad, Raigad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala Fort, Vijaydurg, Sindhudurg and Gingee Fort) are protected by national-level laws, namely the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act (AMASR), 1958, amended as the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Amendment and Validation) Act, 2010; Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules of 1959; Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules of 2011 The Antiquities and Art Treasures Act 1972. Decisions pertaining to its conservation, maintenance, and management are governed by the National Conservation Policy for Monuments, Archaeological Sites, and Remains Protected by the Archaeological Survey of India. Further, the other wings of ASI, including the Chemistry and Horticulture Divisions, undertake investigatory and landscape-related activities at the site for maintaining its integrity.

Remaining four components of Salher Fort, Rajgad, Khanderi Fort and Pratapgad are protected by the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Maharashtra, under the Maharashtra Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1960.

The overall management of the 12 components is steered by the State Level Apex Advisory Committee, chaired by the Chief Secretary of Maharashtra and comprising of Principal Secretaries of the concerned departments, namely Environment & Climate Change, Revenue and Forest, Tourism & Cultural Affairs, Energy, Senior officials of the Archaeological Survey of India, Collectors of concerned districts and various representatives of the heritage sector including the ASI and active fort NGOs in the area with the Director of the Directorate of State Archaeology as the Member Secretary. The Apex Advisory

Committee meets every quarter and is designed to constitute the overall management framework of the serial property, guide the local management of the 12 serial components, coordinate cross-cutting initiatives, share research and documentation, share conservation and management practices, and address the requirements of common interpretative resources. The Gingee Fort in Tamil Nadu is included with the representation of SA Chennai Circle, ASI, in the committee. The Apex Advisory Committee also has the authority to co-opt any additional department representative/ expert member as per specific requirement if needed.

This Apex Level Advisory Committee is further supported by a District Level committee for each component for implementation of approved action plans in each area. This second level committee is chaired by the District Collector with representations of the Superintending Archaeologist of ASI/ Deputy Director/Assistant Director of the Directorate of State Archaeology and other local experts/NGOs. Action Plans for each component are outlined as per the overarching management framework and adopted policies that reference the Outstanding Universal Value with indicators for management quality assurance during the implementation processes.

Name and contact information of official local institution/agency

1. Director General, Archaeological Survey of India

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Email: dg.asi@gov.in; whsection-asi@gov.in
Web address: www.asi.nic.in

2. Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Maharashtra

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Email: mahaarchaeology@gmail.com
Web address: https://mahaarcheology.in