



Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR)

Criterion 6: Governance, Leadership and Management
Key Indicator: - 6.2 Strategy Development and Deployment

Academic Year- 2023-2024

Academic Master Plan 2020-25

PVPCoA : ACADEMIC MASTER PLAN FOR FIVE YEARS 2020 – 25

PREAMBLE

Vivekanand Institute of Technology's Padmabhushan Dr. Vasantdada Patil College of Architecture, Pune, established in 1995 has been offering 5-year full time Bachelor of Architecture course affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University and approved by Council of Architecture, New Delhi. The institute started 2-year full time Master of Architecture (Landscape Architecture) course in 2016-17 and 2-year full time Master of Architecture (Urban Design) course in 2017-18. This document gives the gist of the Academic Master Plan for five years 2020-25 prepared in consultation with Management.

1.0 INFRASTRUCTURE

1.1 Existing Physical Infrastructure :

The college is situated on self- owned **10375sqm of land and additional 4000 sqm of open space is a part of campus as green zone.** At present the specially designed building suited to architectural education has total **built up area 4968.43 sqm.** The single building with **parking + 3 floors** has state-of-the-art infrastructure augmenting learning and promoting a good teaching learning environment.

Total 2 classrooms for B. Arch. and 2 separate classrooms for M. Arch. courses (PG – LA & PG – UD), 10 studios for B. Arch. and 4 Studios for M. Arch. (PG – LA & PG – UD), Surveying Leveling and Climatology Laboratory, common workshop, central library, 1 Computer Lab, 1 Open auditorium, Canteen facility, Bus Facility, Stationary Store Facility, Printing and Photocopying Facility, Permanent Exhibition Space, Material Museum are available in the campus.

All the classrooms are equipped with multimedia teaching aids. The entire campus is WI-FI enabled and all the faculty and students have unrestricted internet access.

College has planned a reasonable amount to be invested for laboratory equipment. Each laboratory is equipped with a sufficient number of required experimental setups. 114 computers on the campus are connected to the internet through LAN.

Central library is partially automated through Auto Lib-NG Library management software. The library has more than 5000 titles and has internet facilities for browsing etc. available to the students.

College management ensures availability of adequate physical infrastructure considering COA, DTE, AICTE and SPPU norms. Whenever additional courses are started or curriculum needs arise it is ensured that required physical infrastructure is available on time.



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Every department (B. Arch. and M. Arch.) has dedicated studios and classrooms. Considering the contact hours of each course, classroom and studio utilization time table is planned by the departments. Time required for maintenance of the computer labs, time slots required for practice sessions and examinations are considered in time table planning. Regular Classroom and computer lab sessions are conducted five days a week. On Saturday, computer lab and classrooms are available for additional lectures, tutorials and laboratory sessions.

Resources are shared across departments (B. Arch. and M. Arch.) whenever needed.

The common facilities like conference halls may be utilized by booking in advance. These can be used for conducting guest lectures, training, conferences and workshops.

Playgrounds and sports facilities are accessible to all the students. Indoor game facilities (Carom, Table Tennis, Badminton, Kho-Kho, Gym etc) and Playground (Volleyball court) are available in the Campus. Different Gymnasium equipment and Music Instruments are also available in college campus.

Hostel facilities for the outstation students is organized as per the requirement in rented apartment building and facilities including security arrangement, entertainment facilities , mess and resident lady warden are provided for safe and comfortable environment.

1.2 Proposed additions to infrastructure :

The institute has embarked on an ambitious plan to provide hostel facilities within the campus. The plans for the expansion have been approved by the Collector, Pune vide NA order PRA /NASR /35 /2009 dated 31/01/2009 .

The proposal for **extension of existing building** includes provision of carpentry & CNC workshops, studentss' council office and stores on ground floor with total area of 685.22 sqm. A state of art auditorium with 300 capacity (1275 sqm area) is also proposed on 4th floor alongwith separate V.I.P. room.

The proposal for **separate hostel building** includes G+8 storied building housing 124 no 3-seater rooms housing 372 students and dormitories where additional 40 students could be accommodated during intense academic requirements. The building would also have warden's accommodation, multipurpose hall , gymnasium, along with dining facilities.

These additions , to be completed in next 5 years will certainly help in making the academics more rigorous at the same time offer more recreational facilities to the students also.

2.0 Interaction and involvement of alumni :

Alumni are critical stakeholders in the professional courses as they can give a critical feedback on the credibility of the courses in the dynamics of profession in the field. At present the institute does not have a structured organisation to be connected with the alumni and involve them in developing the pedagogy in line with professional developments



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and expectations. The alumni association called " ExSA " though formed in 2018 is still not officially consolidated and active. This drawback is expected to be corrected within a year with completing all the formalities like registration of the trust with government authorities. The institute has been organising presentations of the successful alumni to current students. This activity will gather momentum after the said formalisation.

3.0 ACADEMIC PROGRESSION :

3.1 B. Arch. Course : At present the 5-year course has intake of 80 students as approved by the Council of Architecture plus 8 students from Economically Weaker Sections as mandated by the Government of Maharashtra. As per the space available and as per the vision of the management, this intake will not be increased, instead the efforts will be done to achieve higher and higher standards so as to achieve " **Center of excellence** " tab for the institute.

The institute has evolved a definite policy for conducting study tours, identified as " Relative Study Program " at PVPCoA, as follows:

3.1.1 First Year : Study of Settlement practicing local crafts – Generally the small settlements like villages in Maharashtra or near the border of Maharashtra are selected where some local craft is predominantly followed. The students visit these settlements, study the socio-economic conditions, method of construction etc along with the way craft is practiced. After week-long study is concluded then a detailed report including writeups, photographs, and measured drawings is prepared along with a 3-D model of typical houses.

It is planned that this study will continue for next five years and a compilation of reports shall be published by the institute .

3.1.2 Second Year : Study of large settlements (towns) practicing vernacular architecture – The Relative Study Program for second year involves visiting towns in different climate zones and studying the constructional responses to climatic conditions which can be termed as vernacular architecture. Since constructional responses is the thrust , detailed study of town configurations, local materials and techniques of construction are studied on site. A detailed report along with the physical model is prepared as a group activity.

It is planned that this study of towns from different parts of the country will continue for next five years and a compilation of reports shall be published by the institute .

3.1.3 Third Year – Understand the City – The Relative Study Program of the Third Year involves visiting urban cities , specifically ones having traditional core areas, and mapping these core areas under categories like city, context, climate, culture, craft , commerce , cluster , cell and craft of construction. This detailed and comprehensive study is then formulated into a report and published.

It is planned that this study of towns from different parts of the country will continue for next five years and a compilation of reports shall be published by the institute .



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3.1.4 In the 4th year of B.Arch. , under the subject of Architectural Design, stress is laid on understanding the scale of urban design. Under this subject, an ambitious programme has been launched in the design studio to study the peripheries of Pune city, which consists of existing villages turning into urban centers. **It is proposed that such urban peripheries around Pune shall be studied and a comprehensive publication shall be brought out on various growth patterns.**

3.1.5 For the 5th year Practical Training program, the institute has adopted the policy of insisting that the student shall do the internship away from the comfort zone of one's homestate or Maharashtra. This policy has paid a very good dividend in the form of the students working in well known professional offices all over India and even abroad, thus carrying the name of institute far and wide. **A detailed documentation is maintained in the library of the professional working drawings, presentation drawings, specific domains in which some offices work etc. The institute will continue with this policy.**

The institute has always encouraged the students to take part in prestigious national competitions in architectural design, Thesis competitions, architectural quiz competitions etc. **A culture of "Competitiveness" has been nurtured in the institute which will be taken further to international level in the the coming years.**

3.2 M. Arch. – Landscape Architecture :

Landscape Architecture holds a unique and critical position within the Architectural discipline wherein it provides the opportunity to provide planning and design responses to the settings which are natural or built and sometimes situations that demand a balanced interconnection between the natural and the built environs. The Post Graduate course of Landscape Architecture was started at VIT's PVP College of Architecture in the year **2016** to provide the student's the planning and design wherewithals that equips them to respond to the natural and the built environs through a sensitive and conscious approach.

In order to develop a methodical understanding of the scope of Landscape Architecture amongst the students, the academic projects taken up in the four semesters are incremental in the nature of their scope and complexity.

Semester I allows the students to observe, analyse and respond to **single typology projects** such as a children play garden, a resort, a residential cluster etc., Such projects provide the opportunity for the students to engage with the constituents of landscape, viz., land, water and vegetation and use them to organise outdoor spaces and create stimulating experiences.

In **Semester II** the students are made to provide **masterplanning and design solutions for large scale projects** such as institutional campus, residential complex, transit oriented development for a particular area of a city, urban park, civic plaza etc., where the challenge is to respond to the user requirements through ecologically sensitive planning and design approach.

In **Semester III** the students are exposed to deal with **regional or city level challenges** where the response involves sieving through various layers including the natural, cultural, landuse, network and connectivity etc., and providing policy level and strategy level solutions in addition to the landscape planning and design outcomes.



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Semester IV provides the student the opportunity to select an area of individual interest to pursue the Thesis project as by now the students are methodically equipped with the necessary knowledge, tools and skill sets in the first three semesters,. These Thesis projects turn out to be an array of interesting scales and complexities that try to address the environmental and socio-cultural challenges while providing solutions that range from policy level, to masterplanning level to design level resolutions.

As an academic discourse, the syllabus provides a multidisciplinary platform where certain significant subjects such as ecology, geology and soils, geomorphology and hydrology etc., are taken up by the experts from the respective fields. These learnings get dovetailed in the landscape design projects in each semester. However, the learnings of the past six years has brought to the notice that as the scale and the complexity of the academic project increases, be it natural or built or a combination of both, the number of experts from varied fields and the stakeholders required to be involved to provide inputs to address the project challenges also increase. Complex topics require experts from different disciplines and professional backgrounds to contribute to the planning and design response so as to ensure that the solutions are realistic and holistic in nature.

Thus, in the next five years the academic approach shall be to take up "**real world**" **challenges as academic projects** where the students shall get the opportunity to interact with a plethora of experts and stakeholders and thereby provide landscape planning and design solutions through an **interdisciplinary approach**. We look forward to engaging with practicing landscape architects and exposing students to real life experiences through site visits conducted by them.

In terms of the academic background of the students who come to pursue the Post Graduate Course of Landscape Architecture at VIT's PVP College of Architecture, apart from the metropolitan cities like Pune and Mumbai, many students come from smaller tier II and tier III Indian cities. It is observed that the subject of landscape architecture in their BArch curriculum holds a meager status resulting in the dilution of the scope and the relevance of landscape architecture. Hence, the academic discourse at the Post Graduate course of Landscape Architecture at VIT's PVP College of Architecture puts extra efforts to methodically sensitize the students about the discipline by **gradually increasing the scale, scope and challenges that demand planning and design response**. Throughout the two years of the course the student is provided a **conducive academic environment to explore and sensitize oneself** about the various aspects of the discipline thereby developing the knowledge and skill sets to respond to different situations that demand effective landscape planning and design solutions.

3.3 M. Arch. – Urban Design :

Profession of Urban Design focuses on various aspects of environmental design; especially dealing with the aspect of public and social realm at scales of neighbourhoods, townships, suburbs, peri-urban areas as well as settlements. This is a multi-disciplinary 'Design Profession', which during the process of study and design, interacts with other disciplines like Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Conservation, City Planning, Infrastructure Planning, Environmental Planning, Ecology, Anthropology, History, Sociology, Political Sciences, Economics, etc.



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The Post Graduate course in Urban Design at PVP CoA is an extension of the school's belief and vision in working towards '**creating socially conscious architects who will shape and serve the society**', beyond its undergraduate course in architecture.

Urban Design course at our institute, addresses the international thought processes and discourses, but intends to root itself in the concerns of '**Urbanism of Indian sub-continent**'. This shall enable students to inspect ideas for local conditions. It also focuses on understanding traditional ideas and concepts of Urban Design while exploring contemporary trends in the field. We also seek to develop a sensitivity towards the multi layered Indian context while acquiring the technical know-how and various skill sets needed to be a part of the profession at the global level.

We have contextualised the course through a critical inquiry into the urban, rural & rural situations and, respond to them through design that exists in regional context as well as into the international discourses, thus making it into an Urban Design Laboratory. To make it truly into a laboratory besides classroom teaching, it stresses on extensive field study and dealing with live/practical situations in collaboration with various governmental and non-governmental organizations, etc. working in the field of Urban Design, Planning and allied fields.

Semesterwise focus areas of the course are as follows:

Semester 1: Reading and Mapping the City - to comprehend the 'Complexity' of the City through the idea of 'Layers'

Semester 2: Crafting the Design Language - to 'Respond' through the prime tools of 'Form and Space and their Syntax'

Semester 3: Understanding the Manifestation - to demonstrate design through 'Implementation Strategies'

Semester 4: The Culmination - from 'Design by Research' to 'Research by Design'

The course additionally intends to explore and theorize the ideas emerging from the readings of these contexts and would explore/evolve design processes to respond to these situations through studio assignments. Acknowledging the same, the focuses for each semester have been derived and we have worked towards the realisation of their intents through conducting of various studio projects

In the coming years we aim towards addressing themes of resilience, climate action, heterogeneity of urban agglomerations through participative and collaborative efforts that will help contribute to the current development affairs. Active participation in international urban design competitions and collaborations for urban resilience studies shall form the focus in the coming years.



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4.0 Future courses in Post Graduation

4.1 M. Arch. – Construction Management :Construction Management is the planning, coordinating, and building of a project from conception to completion. A post graduate course in Construction Management is necessary for the creation of committed professionals in the field who are sensitive to the challenges of the construction field and the profession today.

The training received during the course would equip the post graduates with the necessary knowledge and technical skills to take up projects that deal with the construction management at various scales. Students interested in learning about construction management would also benefit from this specialization. This specialization is intended for Construction industry professionals, engineers, and architects looking to advance their careers.

Our institute has very good connect with the practicing professionals in the building industry. Pune has a fast growing and very progressive construction industry and conducive atmosphere for specilising in this field. Looking at these factors the institute applied for approval to start M.Arch – Construction Management course and has been granted permission to start the same, affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University. **We plan to start the same from academic year 2023-24 and build it to international standards with the active participation of experienced professionals and with full exposure to live projects.**

4.2 M. Arch. – Digital Architecture

Digital technologies have changed the way we live and aspire in the present day world. CoDigital architecture is expected to enhance the academics in a way to prepare the students for future applications.

Post graduate course in Digital architecture encompasses digital tools, softwares and technologies in a way they are applied to architectural design and execution process and thus relates to the entire spectrum of built environment based on digital technologies ranging from analysis, mapping to computational design, services, information modelling and construction management.

Pune being the hub of digital technologies, it is foreseen that the architectural education must also embrace digital technologies and offer the state of art environment to the aspiring students. The parametric design processes that are used for generation of different formal expressions of a design concept form the core expectations from Digital Architecture. The complexity of architectural projects now demands speedy, accurate and futuristic solutions which can be easily met by Digital Architecture. Right from the conception, imaginative structural designs , to project planning and execution, Digital Architecture will be equally effective in building design, urban design solutions and related allied fields. The course is designed to provide parametric knowledge and skill base, technical and communication skills , continuing professional development and exposure to a multidisciplinary environment.



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Though at present the institute has not sought approval for this course, we plan to do so in the next 2 years as the institute is consolidating its resources for capital intensive programs.

5.0 N.E.P 2020 :

Our institute fully subscribes to the mission of N.E.P. 2020 and would strive to attain the goals outlined in the policy. To offer multidisciplinary environment to the students for their varied choices, we plan to collaborate with professional institutes, professionals as well as various other departments from different disciplines and work with them as per memorandums of understanding. Eventhough ,at the moment our institute is a "Stand-alone" category, we are confident that with multidisciplinary collaborations we will be able to offer wholesome academic environment to the students giving facilities in conjunction with goals outlined in the National Education Policy.

6.0 SUMMARY : It can be observed from the above that the management has been making constant efforts to enhance the quality of education in undergraduate course through physical expansion and academic upgradation of students as well as faculty. The institute also is aiming to upgrade the post-graduate courses to international level through constant efforts. No effort is spared to offer better and better working environments to students and faculty. By the end of 2025 , we aim to achieve the status of " CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ".
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ENCLOSURES ;

1. Plans for the new Hostel building
2. Plans for the expansion of existing building on ground floor and 4th floor.
3. Plans for creating Art & Sports facilities in the premises.

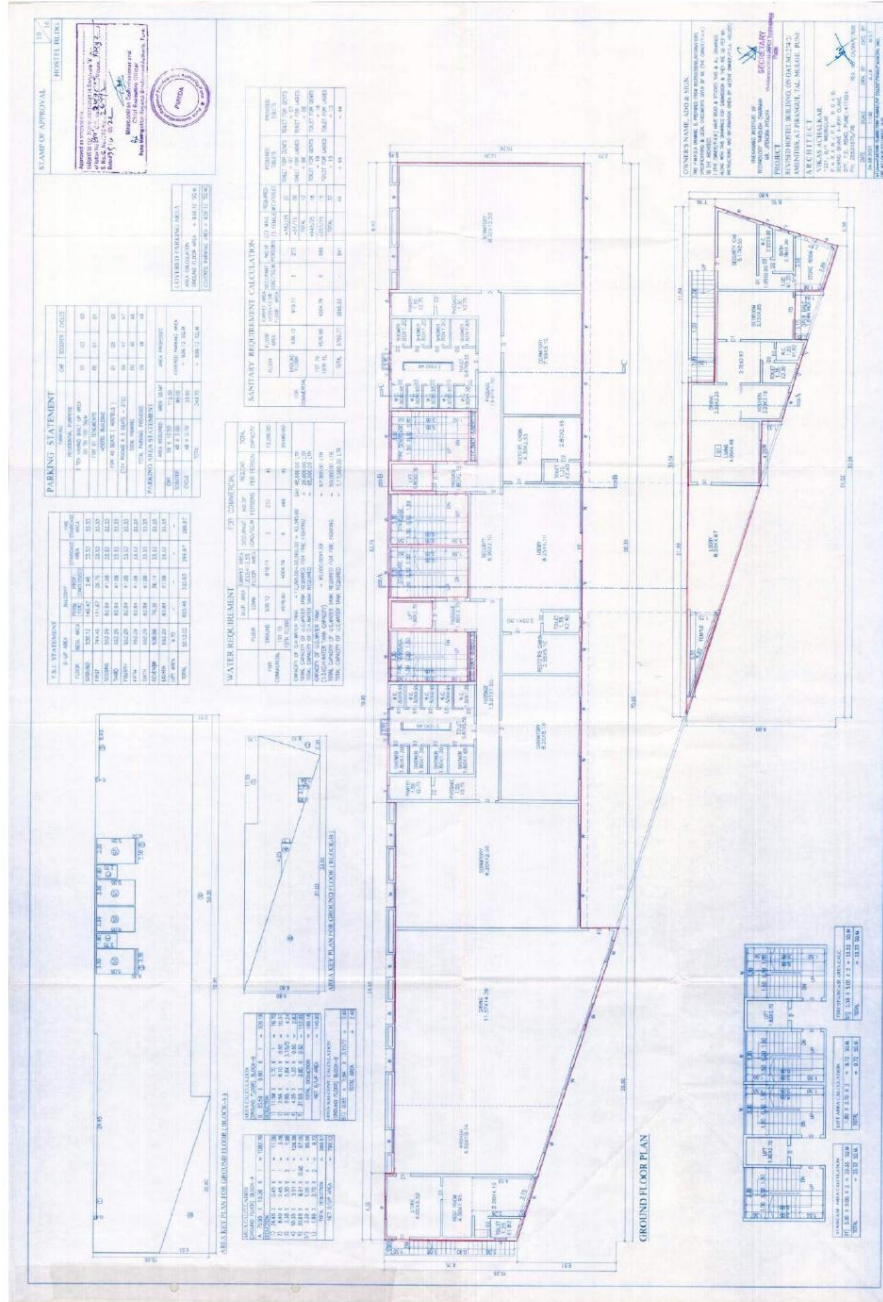


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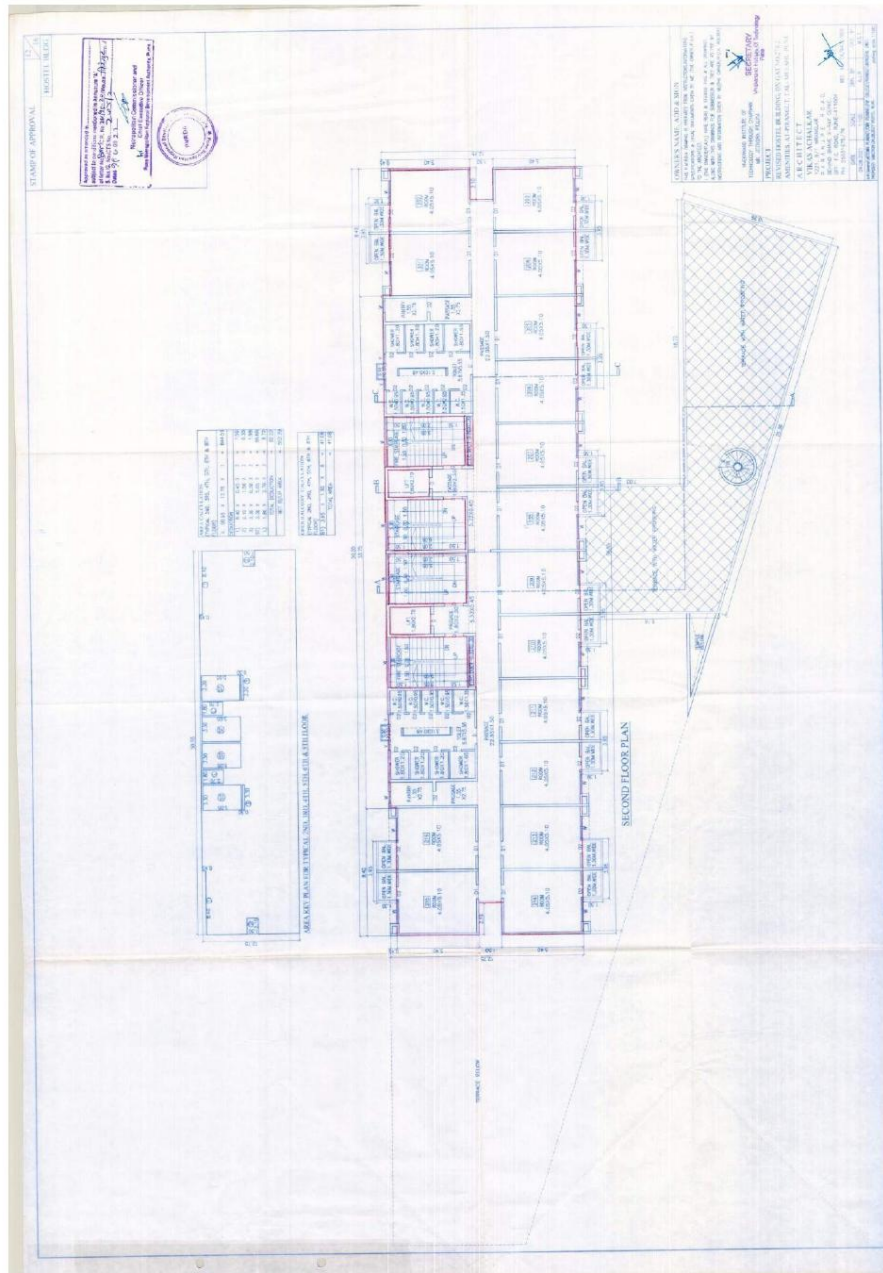
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HOSTEL – GROUND FLOOR PLAN





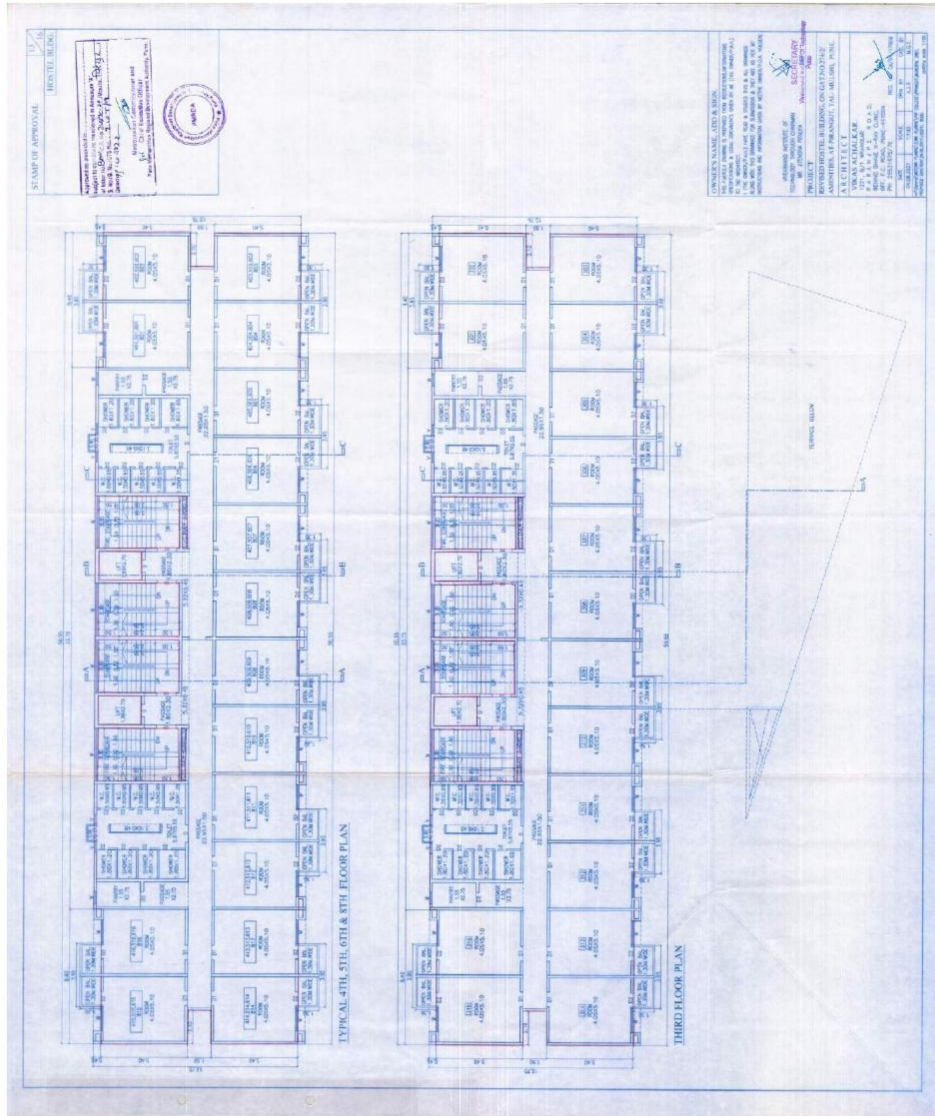
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HOSTEL – SECOND FLOOR PLAN



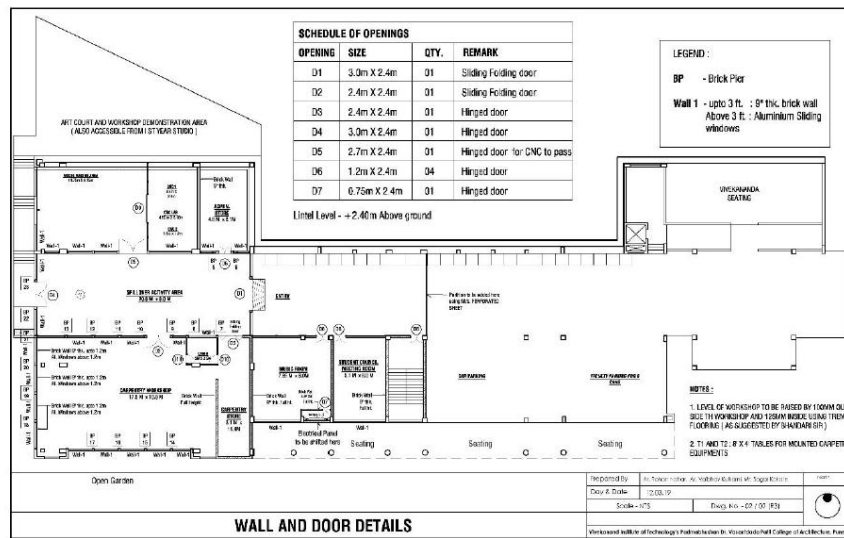
HOSTEL – TYPICAL FLOOR PLAN (3rd to 8th floor plan

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Existing Building – Ground floor – Proposed workshops

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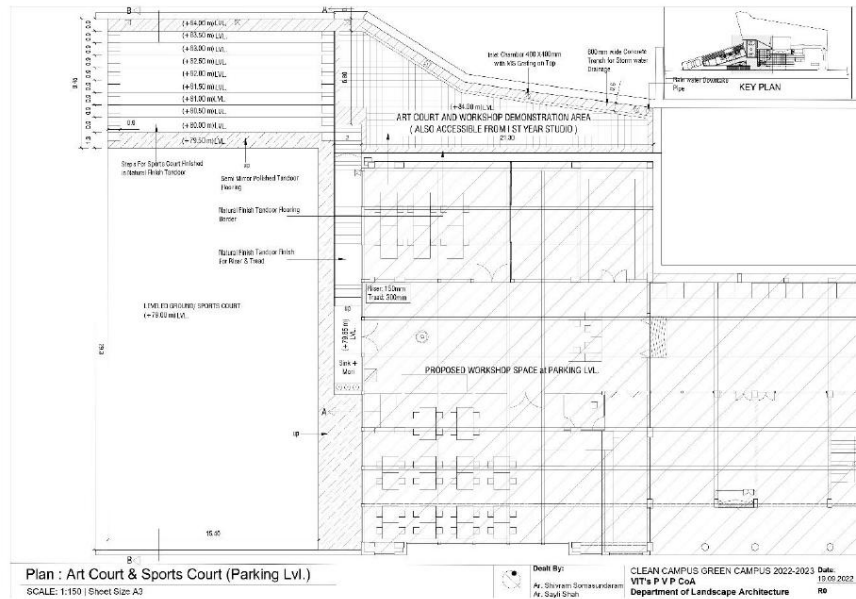
Existing Building – Ground floor – Proposed Sports Court

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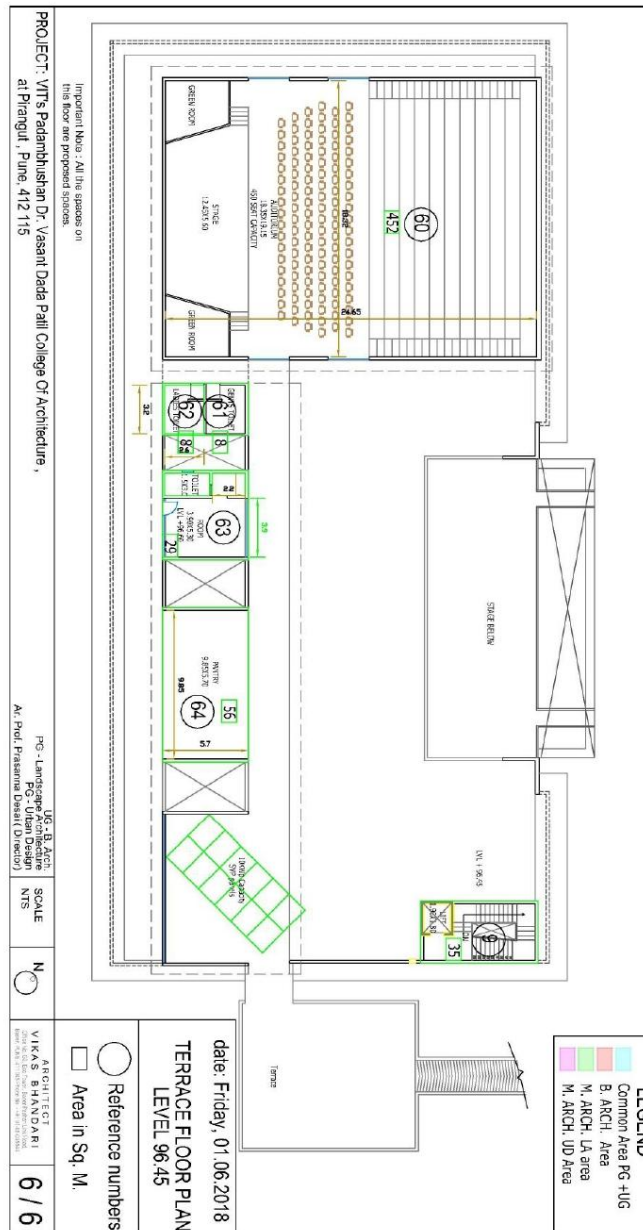
Existing Building – Ground Floor – Proposed Art court.

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EXISTING BUILDING – 4TH FLOOR – PROPOSED AUDITORIUM