

UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS THE HISTORIC LAYERING OF THE OLD GWALIOR.

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Abstract:

Gwalior is an heritage town of Madhya Pradesh and earlier also it was important town which was on trade route to Narwar and Delhi .The town was ruled by many rulers in the past and hence the style and culture are were also reflecting in the old town. The city development pattern reflects the Islamic pattern to colonial type of settlement which was understood by understanding the historic urban landscape of the city. The monuments style and the text are the source to understand the historic layering of the town. So the emphasis on the paper is to understand the events and understand the historic layering of the town.

Keywords: Gwalior, Heritage, Historic layering

1.1 Introduction



Figure 1 Study Area, Old Gwalior

Gwalior is a major urban settlement of the state of Madhya Pradesh. It is a prominent historical city and the erstwhile capital of the Gwalior state. The city today encompasses three distinct old settlements of Old Gwalior (6th century onwards), Lashkar (18th century onwards) and Morar (19th century onwards) with its origin traced to the 5th century and now it is spread over about 120 square kilometres. The settlement of old Gwalior covers an area of 2.5 sq.km. The Gwalior fort is situated in the centre of the city. The hill fort was established under the regional rulers and at its foothills developed the oldest settlement of Gwalior. Gwalior has immense significance as a heritage site, it was the important political and trading center which was ruled by Rajputs, Mughals, Britisher's and Scindia's majorly. The Gwalior's old settlement is flourished between the fort and the river, which also acts as a natural barrier and protects the town (fig 1). The surroundings of the fort were first flourished under Rajput and Mughal rule which also influenced cultural activities and is also present today. The old Gwalior is influenced from Mughal pattern of settlement with narrow streets which opens at Jama Masjid and its market. Other than the historical urban landscape of the city is been segregated by Katras, Mohallas, Mandi, Ganj & Gali's which are basically residential settlement pattern. The major transformation is been seen around 18th C onwards under the influence of Scindia's and Britisher's. In terms of historical and cultural value the core settlement of Old Gwalior is having vernacular houses of various typologies, streets and markets which played a major role for enhancing the old Gwalior. The urban structure of the city has a dense residential neighbourhood with some of the oldest heritage structures and a distinct street pattern. Thus, the purpose of this thesis is to study and identify the street which has issues and required conservation and revitalization on the basis of its character and cultural value which in future enhances the areas of old Gwalior through its associational and heritage value.

1.2 Methodology:

In this the study is conducted "On Site Research" which includes field survey, literature review, establishment of chronological development and physical growth of the city. The theoretical part is based on research review and field research is based on collecting and analysing of data by finding observations and inferences from the site.(fig.1)

1.2.1 Preliminary Survey: Project identification, Broad Issue identification, Formulations of Aims and Objectives.

- **Primary Data:** Site visit, Documentation, Interviews/discussion with the Locals and Stakeholders, Making inventories, Architectural typology, Sketch drawings, Photographic survey.
- **Secondary Data:** Study material on Gwalior Books, Journals, Gazetteer, Thesis, Google Map, Gwalior development plan.

1.2.2 Secondary Survey:

Selecting study area, preparing mobility Map, City growth map, analyze character of the area, its typology and significance.

Methodology

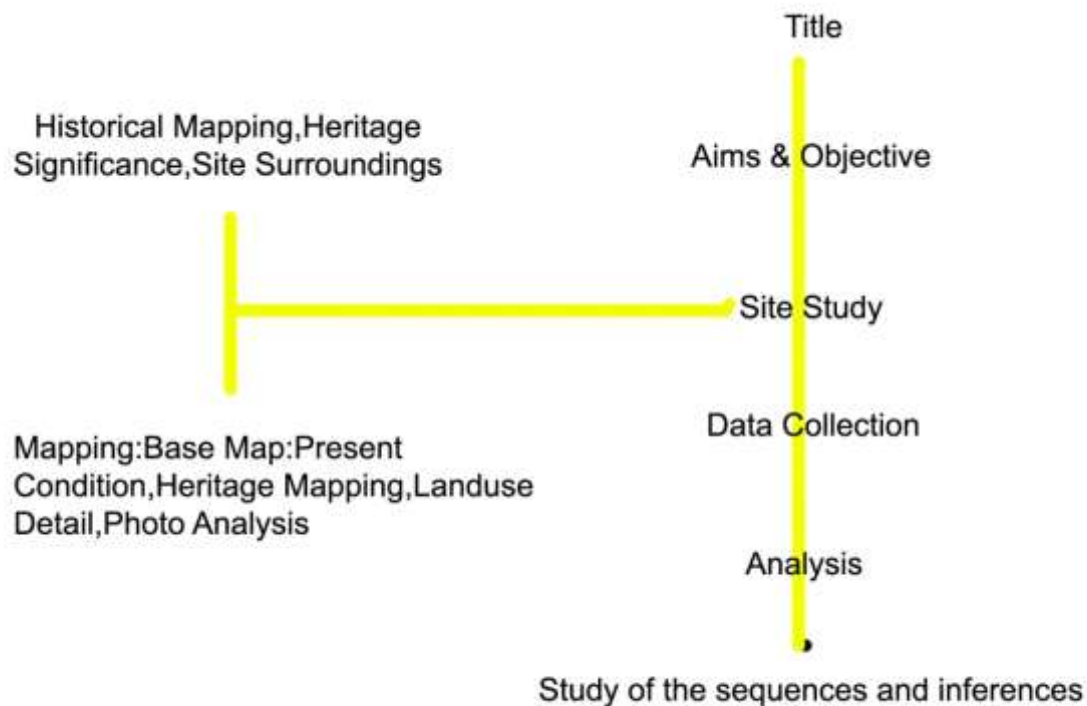


Figure 2 Methodology Chart

2.1 City Growth Pattern

- **1000-1500**

Town flourished along natural boundaries of Hill and River. Fort was the main center of the settlement. All the activities were concentrated in the fort and the northern part of the present town. The archaeological and archival evidences of Jayanti Thora temple, Sagar Tal, Masjid a Aksa ke Log, Jain temples are the early evidences. Earlier the Settlement was in scattered manner and concentrated along Ladheri Mound. Rock cut jain temples are found along the Hill.

- **1501-1650**

From early 16th century to 1754 under Mughal Rule. Mosque was built near Badal Garh Gate and becoming the trade center of the city. Town Growth spreads towards from North to Eastern side of the city i.e Called Hazira to date. Town was developed at the foothill of the fort and in social

hierarchy as seen from the Jahangir Palace. Pockets developed during mughals rule are: Jahangir Kutra, Ladheri, Hazira, Akbar Pura.

- **1651-1809**

City growing concentratedly and dense at Northern and eastern side of the Hill. Later 18th century, Mahadji Scindia 's army camp at south foothill of the fort (Shinde ki chhawani)

- **1810-1840**

Under the rule of Daulat Rao Scindia, Capital shifted from Ujjain to Lashkar (west of Old Gwalior) and so the town was developed towards eastern side along the fort. The northern part of the city became denser. In the 19th century, the southern part of the town, the present Lashkar area BADA came into existence. The growth was now in the northern and southern direction.

- **1841-1880**

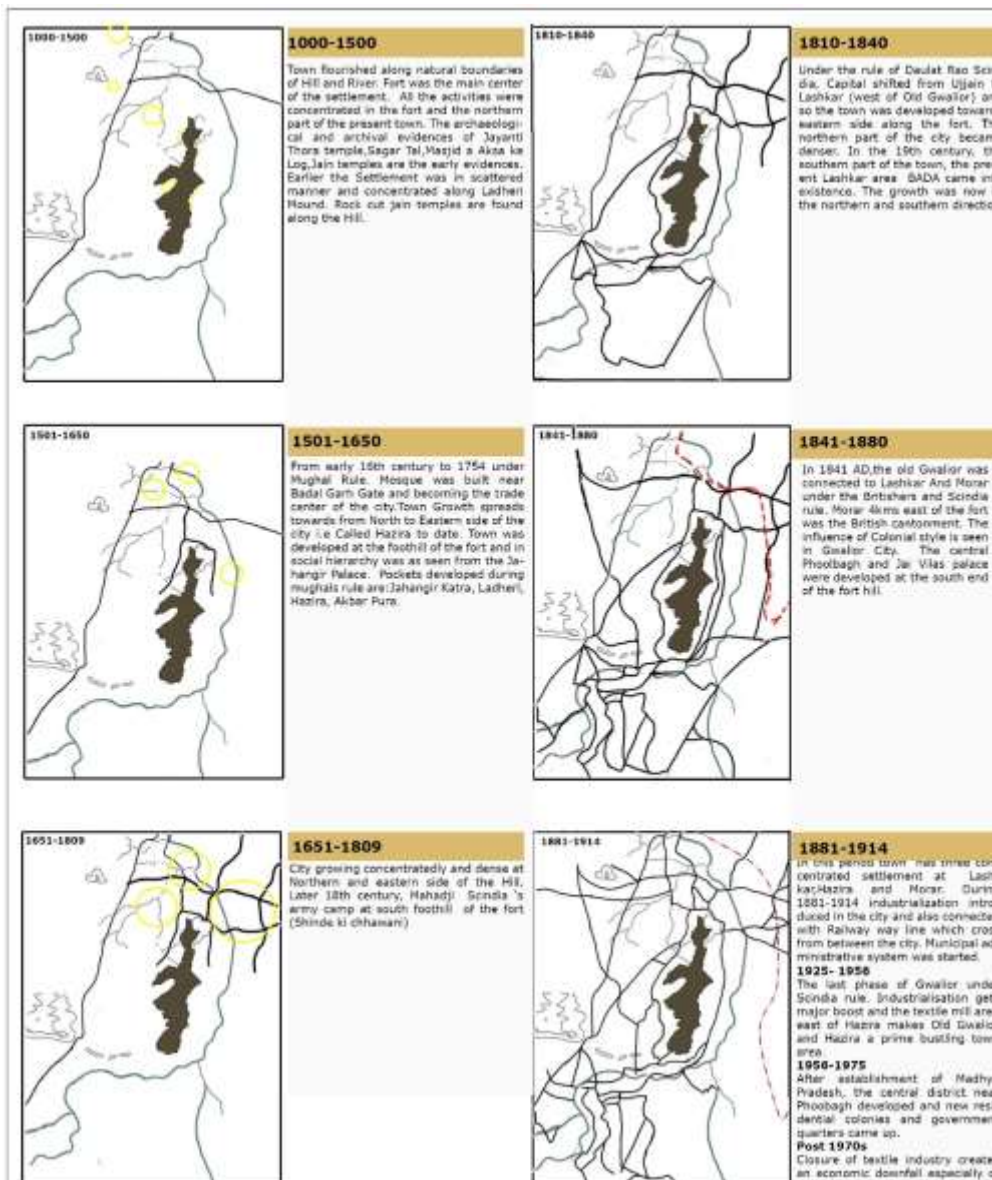
In 1841 AD, the old Gwalior was connected to Lashkar And Morar under the Britishers and Scindia rule. Morar 4kms east of the fort was the British cantonment. The influence of Colonial style is seen in Gwalior City. The central Phoolbagh and Jai Vilas palace were developed at the south end of the fort hill.

- **1881-1925**

In this period town has three concentrated settlement at Lashkar, Hazira and Morar. During 1881-1914 industrialization introduced in the city and also connected with Railway way line which cross from between the city. Municipal administrative system was started.

Figure 3 City Growth Map

• 1925- 1956

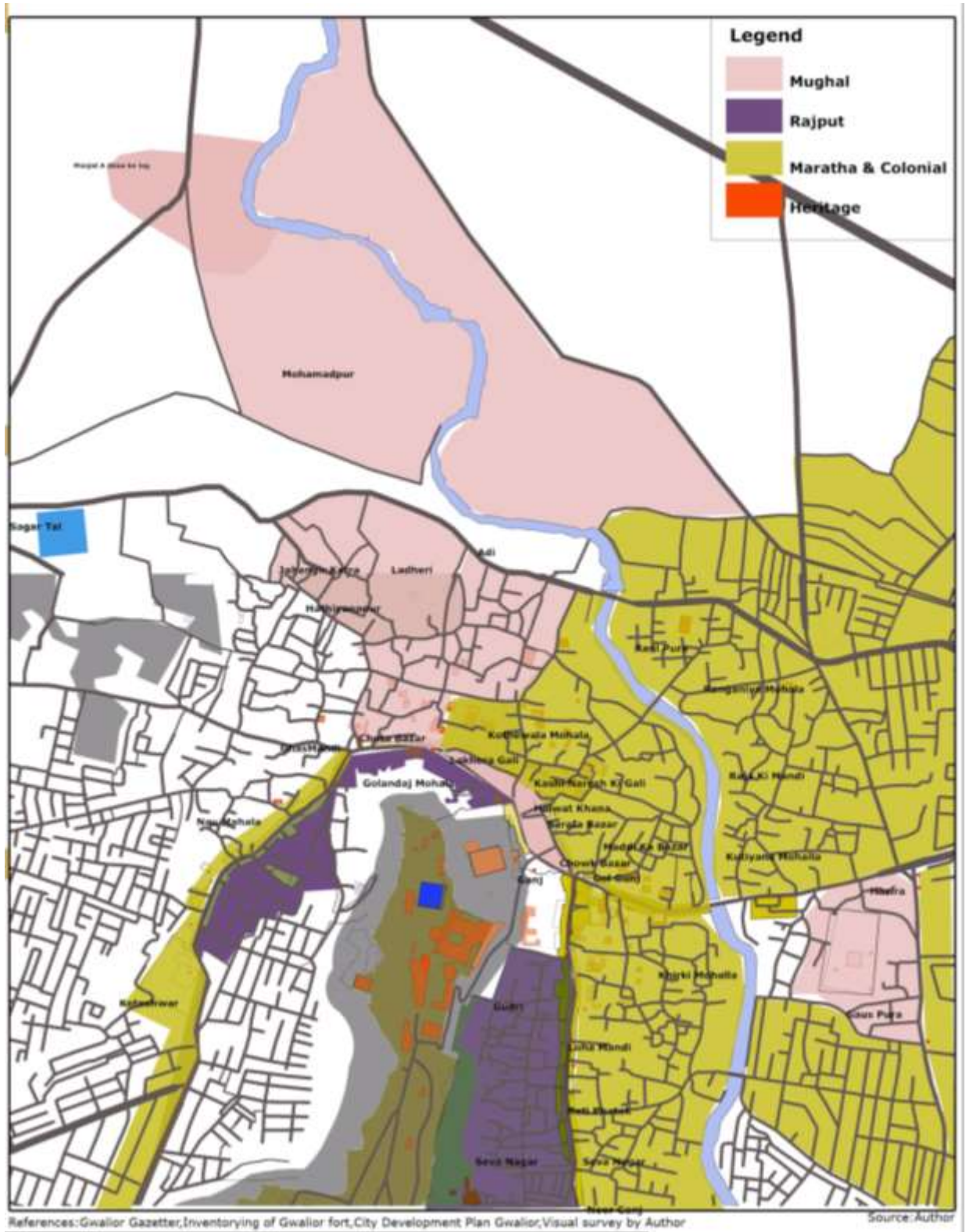


The last phase of Gwalior under Scindia rule. Industrialisation gets major boost and the textile mill area east of Hazira makes Old Gwalior and Hazira a prime bustling town area.

• 1956-1975

After establishment of Madhya Pradesh, the central district near Phooobagh developed and new residential colonies and government quarters came up.

- Post 1970s



Closure of textile industry creates an economic downfall especially of the Old Gwalior and Hazira area.

Table 1.1 Chronological events and architectural development that happen at Gwalior City and on fort.

| S.No | Time | Ruler | Architectural structure | Events/Description | |
|------|--------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | 255 -282 AD | Suraj Sen | Kutwar(20 miles north of Gwalior) | Named Gwaliawar. | |
| 2 | 5 th c | Huna tribe | Sun temple | When the fort was held by Tormana, a king of the Huna ¹ tribe. His son Mihirakula built sun temple with an inscription. | |
| 3 | 9 th c | Gurjar's and Pratihara's ² clan of the Rajput dynasty | Teli ka Mandir ³ | Teli ka mandir was dedicated to Vishnu and later was converted into a Siva temple which is Dravadian and Indo-Aryan Style. | |
| | | | 9 th c | | Lakshman Gate Lakshman pol Parihar |
| 4 | 11 th C | Parihars | 1129 AD | Sahastra Bahu Temple | Center for Vishnu's worship. |
| 5 | 1021 | Mohd Gazni attack | | | |
| 6 | 1196 | Kutub ud din aibik | | | Kutub Ud Din Aibik ruler of Delhi, Succeeded in taking Gwalior fort ⁴ . |
| 7 | 1210-1232 | Parihar Rajput | | | Rajput regained Gwalior fort in 1210 |
| 8 | 12 C | Jain temple | Small Parasnath Jain temple | | Gwalior is one of the Vidyastanas of Digambara Jain's; fort contains one small Jain temple of Parasnath. |

1 Huna: the Hun (Huna) emperor Mihirakula (Sveta Huna ruler in 510 AD during the reign of Huns in India.)

2 Pramal Dev # Salam Dev, Bikram Dev, Ratan Dev, Shobhang Dev, Narsinh Dev, Pramal Dev. Gwalior's political cultural History by Gulab Khan Gori.

3 The original name was Telinangana mandir, detail was the work of northern stone cutters. gazetter (Pg 227).

4 Gwalior Fort: Historical research has dated construction of the fort to 773 AD by a local chieftain of the area named Surya Sena.

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--------------------------|--|--|
| 9 | 1232-1398 | Illtumish/Altamush | Built large dome rest house site unknown. | | | Kutub-Ud-Din Aibik son in law of Illtumish retook fort in 1232. From 1232-1398 fort was under Muslim rulers. |
| | | | Jayanti Thora Temple was destroyed by Altamash. | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | In 1375, Raja Veer Singh was made the ruler of Gwalior and he founded the rule of the Tomars in Gwalior. | | | |
| 10 | 1424 | Dungar singh | 1424-54 | Bhairon gate | At this time formation of Jain rock sculptures began. 1440 and 1453 dates are known. | |
| | | | 1424-54 | Ganesh gate | | |
| 11 | 1455-79 | Kirti singh or Karan Singh son of Dungar singh | | | Two rock sculptures were completed | |
| 12 | 1486-1516. (End of 120 years of the Tonwara Dynasty). | Man Singh | | | | Man Singh defeated Sikander Lodhi in 1505. Next to Badal Garh is a Kabutar Khana, a Noor Sagar Tank, a small mosque and a small shrine. |
| | | | Man Singh | Hatipol or elephant gate | At the time ⁵ of Man Singh | Ibn Batuta mentioned that Babur noticed a life-sized stone elephant and its rider which stood at the gate way, but it disappeared in 1630. |
| | | | | Gujri Mahal | By Man Singh | Palace situated at north-east corner of the fort dedicated to Rani Mrig naini. |

| | | | | | | |
|----|----------|---|--|-------------------------------|---|--|
| | | Badal Singh a brother of kalyan mal tonwara | 15 th C | Badal Garh-Pol Gate | | Hindu Style Gate of Architecture |
| 13 | 1516 | Ibrahim Lodhi | 144 years remained under Muhammadan possession | | | Sikander Lodhi's son-Ibrahim Lodhi made a assault in 1516 on the fort. Ibrahim Lodhi died at Pani pat in 1526. |
| 14 | (1527) | Babur | Babur linked road from Agra to Kabul | | | Babur captured Gwalior fort and at that time Mughals was under powerful state. |
| 15 | 15 C A.D | | Rock cut Jain sculptures | | | Rock cut Jain colossi on both sides of the slope of the Urwahi road. There are number of images of Jaina, Tirthankaras, large and small standing and seated, sheltered in small caves or niches. Such figures are carved all over the sides of the fort rock wherever suitable place was found for excavation. The rock sculptures of Gwalior are mostly the work of 15th century A.D. |
| | | | 15 th C | Badal Garh Gate (Hindu style) | Badal Singh brother of Kalyan Singh Tomar | |
| 16 | 1542 | Sher shah | Built Sarai on Highway | | | Sher shah captured fort. He built 1700 Sarai from Agra- Burhanpur, Agra-Jodhpur and Chittor, Lahore –Multan Near sari there was a bazar for buying and selling. |

| | | | | |
|----|---|---------|---|--|
| 17 | 1558 (15 th to 18 th C under Mughal Empire) | Akbar | Jahan Gir and Shah Jahan Palace | <p>Akbar took it back from Sher Shah successors in 1558.</p> <p>-Center of the Political Prison now called the Nauchauki which is still near the Dhonda Gate west side of the fort.</p> <p>Mughals gave asylum to large herd of elephant which he chased in their journey from the Deccan.</p> |
| 18 | 16 th C AD | Mughals | <p>Jama Masjid(Shahi)</p> <p>Muhammad Ghaus</p> | <p>It is a late Mughal building of red and white sandstone, the main building was built in the time of Jahangir (1605-27) built in 1661 by Mutamad Khan. The addition added in 1665. The mosque has tall minarets and gilt domes with pinnacles.</p> <p>It is situated in the east of the town an example of early Mughal architecture. It is built in the form of a square, with hexagonal towers at its corners surmounted by small domes.</p> |
| 19 | | | Tansen Tomb | <p>A Great singer included in nine jewels of Akbar. The structure is an open structure supported by twelve outer columns</p> |

| | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| | | | | and four inner. |
| 20 | 1660(1660-1707 reign) | Aurangzeb | Alam Giri Gate | Muhammadan style of architecture. Next to it is a Kachahari. |
| 21 | 1751 | Maratha | | 17 th -18 th C Martha becomes powerful and challenges Aurangzeb and took fort by defeating him. In 1770 got a grant from Peshwa and setup a state of Gwalior from 1745-1840 Scindia did struggle with the Britishers and later worked with alliance. |
| 22 | 1760-1784 | Jat king Lokender Singh, Gohad | 1780 captured by Major Popham | Captured from Scindia and again captured by Britisher's then again by Scindia in 1784. |
| 23 | 1810 | Daulat Rao Scindia | Lashkar | Shifted capital to Lashkar. |
| 24 | 1843 | | | Narrow Gauge Rail Line. |
| 25 | 1886 | | | Exchanged fort for Jhansi. |
| 26 | 1872-1874 | Jiyaji Rao Scindia | Jai Vilas palace | Architect Sir Michael, Filose design in the Indo-European style. |
| 27 | 1904 | Madho Rao Scindia II | Stations: Gwalior, Moti Jheel, Sabalgarh, Sheopur Kalan, Morar British Army Cantonment | Cotton mill, Gwalior potteries, Education, Infrastructure. |
| | | | Introduced many Colleges, Schools and Hospitals. | |

Conclusion

Gwalior fort has Political, Cultural and Social value as mentioned in the earlier evidences. The evidence of the first settlement starts from north of Gwalior city which was culturally and socially

rich. The existence of Jayanta Deori Temple (demolish) and Jama Masjid is one of the example. The development was seen on the fort as well as the north and east side of the city. Today the city is expanding in all the direction.

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