

Frere Hall (part of Victoria tour)

Appreciating Karachi's Architectural Heritage

Karachi is one of the cities in the region that has been blessed with a rich architectural heritage.

This is evident in its splendid historical buildings -- a legacy of the British Raj -- built primarily in the neo-classical and Gothic revival tradition of the nineteenth century. Sadly, much of this magnificent architecture is quietly vanishing due to the haphazard urbanization of the city, only to be replaced by RCC monstrosities.

The few architectural gems that have survived are threatened by pollution, encroachments, vandalism and poor maintenance. Shehri is initiating programs to reverse this process. This first step in this direction is an awareness campaign encouraging young generation, its citizens and visitors to see and appreciate the magnificent architecture of Karachi.

DAZ

SHEHRI - CBE, Citizens for better environment.

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Heritage Tour by Victoria

Transport: Two city-tour routes have been suggested to cover major architectural sites in the central district of the city. The buildings are best viewed at leisure in a Victoria (horsedrawn) carriage available near the major hotels. It is best to hire the carriage a night before or ask your hotel staff to assist you, in case you are staying in a hotel. Route "A" may cost between Rs. 300-400 while "B" may cost between 200-300.

Time: The most suitable time, to avoid the peak hours traffic rush, is as follows; For Route "B" the recommended time is early morning between 6.00 to 7.00 a.m., while estimated time for this tour is an hour to one and a half hour. The estimated duration of Route 'A' is approximately two and half to three hours if all the buildings are viewed including detour 1 and detour 2. This tour can be started at 7.00 or 7.30 a.m.

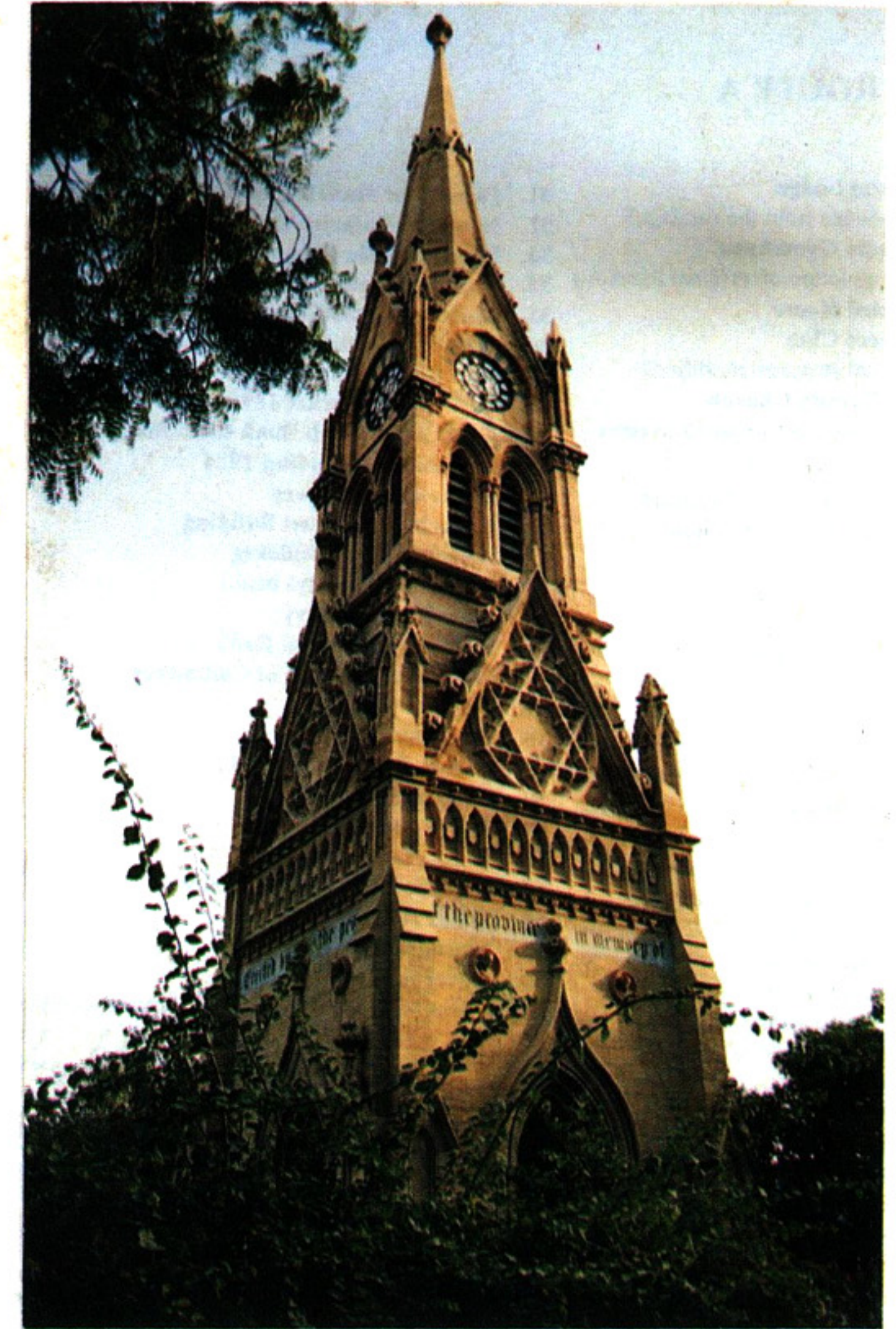


Sindh High Court

Sheri-Towards saving Karachi's historical heritage

Shehri - CBE is an NGO formed in 1988 by a group of concerned citizens and professionals who sought to tackle the multi-faceted problems that plague the city of Karachi.

Shehir has besides its various sub-committees and Architecture and Cultrual heritage subcommittee which voices its concern at the steady deterioration and neglect and of our precious architectural monuments. Shehri also seeks to raise public awareness of the city's history and initiate programs for the preservation and restoration of its architectural heritage.



Mereweather Towers

See the magnificent Architecture

KARACHI

suggested tour routes and architectural landmarks



Karachi Sheraton

HOTEL & TOWERS

ITT Sheraton

SUGGESTED ROUTES AND SOME ARCHITECTURALLY IMPORTANT SITES

KARACHI

ROUTE A

1. Federal Lodge (not visible from the carriage)
2. Karachi Gymkhana (new structure on original location)
3. Edward House
4. Services Club (original structure modified)
5. Holy Trinity Church (Permission not required to enter building premises)
6. Jehangir Kothari Mansion
7. Mama Parsi high School
8. YWCA
9. NJV School
10. Radio Pakistan
11. Thakurdas Building
12. Famous for Sodawaterwala
13. Bahadurshah Market
14. Zubaida Mansion
15. Famous for Sind Zamindar Hotel
16. Khaliqdina Hall
17. Sami Chambers (Famous for Mughal Inayatullah)
18. Fazle Hussain Building 1920
19. Jehangir Mansion 1922
20. Opal Laboratories
21. Bhagwan Mansion (New name Molai Mansion)
22. KMC Head office
23. City Courts (Known as Small Causes courts)
24. Morriswalla Building
25. Sheikha House
26. Essajee Ebrahim Building
27. Jehangir Kothari Trust Building
28. Mercantile Building
29. Denso Hall
30. Mandiviwal Building
31. Famous for Jinnah Cap House
32. Noorbhai Jafarjee Building
33. Ferozpurwala Chambers
34. Noorbhai Lotia Building
35. Luckshmy Building
36. State Bank Building
37. New Cloth Market
38. Latif Cloth Market 1895
39. Famous for Habib Bank Cloth Market Branch
40. Shikharpuri Building 1924
41. Mereweather Tower
42. Karachi Port Trust Building
43. Emirates Bank Building (old name Grindlays bank)
44. State Bank Library
45. Sandard Chartered Bank
46. Overseas Chamber of Commerce
47. P and O Plaza
48. Grindlays Bank
49. Cotton Exchange Building
50. D. J. Science College
51. KWSB Building
52. Hindu Gymkhana
53. New Sindh Assembly Building
54. Sindh High Court
55. Masonic Hall
56. Governors House (permission required to enter building compound)

ROUTE B

(Buildings 1-7 same as route A)

8. Edulji Dinshaw Dispensary
9. Karachi Grammer School
10. Karachi Goans Association Club
11. Empress Market
12. St. Patrick's Catheral
13. St. Joseph's Convent
14. St. Joseph's College for women
15. Duarte Mansion
16. Mohammadali Building No. 2
17. Old ILACO-House
18. Flag Staff House
19. State Guest House
20. Sindh Club
21. Frere Hall & Gardens

