Vernacular architecture as a direct expression of lifestyle and culture of a community is observed in many traditional settlements of each part of Bangladesh. Architecture of these locally built forms deal with the creation of spaces where as architecture is encoded with meanings reflective of the society, culture, tradition and ethnicity. The goal of this study is to research; redefine a very unique style of architectural built form located in Sylhet city known as “The Bangla Batton house”. Sylhet city, historically developed as a part of Assam province in colonial India where this signified style of Bangla batton house intensely denote the socio cultural context of that period. Though many of these historic residential structures are now in state of oblivion, a number of them still survive to recall their past. But rapid urbanization of city and ignorance towards past are threatening the existence of these last remaining structures. Unfortunately, no proper research has been done yet to document or preserve these local architectural heritages. The objective of this research is to reveal the significances of this particular style of house form through an ethnographic study. To realize how these house forms relate to their environments, people, local context and technology. This research out come certainly help the future researcher, historian, architects, planner, conservator to cope with the interaction between local architecture and cultural ethnicity prevailing in this historic context.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF 'BANGLA BATTON' HOUSES IN SYLHET CITY: AN ETHNOGRAPHICAL STUDY ON VERNACULAR HOUSE FORM.

Key words: Bangla Batton House, Vernacular heritage, Sylhet city, Ethnographic study, Preservation.