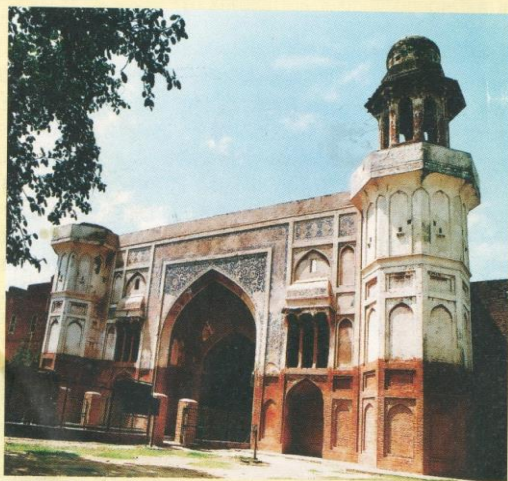


Protected Monuments In and Around Amritsar



Eastern Gate Way, Sarai Amanat Khan, Sarai (Pb.)



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Amritsar is situated between the rivers Beas and Ravi, on the Grand Trunk road. It is located at a distance of 28 K.M from the International Wagha Border. The site of the present city was first occupied by Guru Ram Das, in 1574. The site had a small natural pool, which, in course of time, was converted into a tank and acquired the name of 'Amritsar' or 'Tank of Nectar'. From this time onwards, Amritsar became an important political/administrative centre and several monuments were constructed in and around the town, for the fulfillment of administrative/political needs.

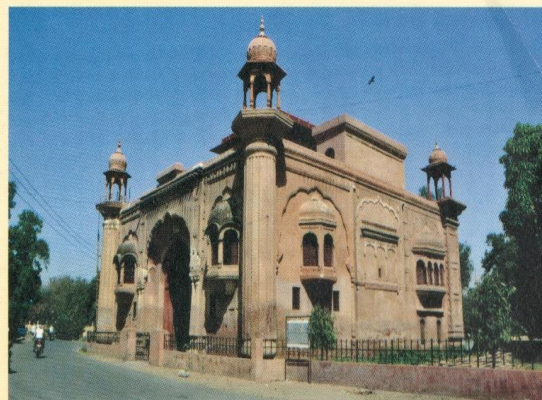
The following protected monuments of national importance at and around Amritsar, are noteworthy -

Ram Bagh Complex

Ram Bagh is a beautiful specimen of Sikh architecture. It was built by Maharaja Ranjit Singh. The layout of this garden was planned on *Charbagh* pattern. The garden is connected with the city by a gate called 'Ram Bagh Gate'. The Maharaja's palace is situated in the centre of the garden. At the four cardinal direction of the palace are four buildings. One each in the northern and southern sides and two *Munshi Khanas* in the eastern and western sides. The Main Palace was surrounded by a singular row of fountains. Two rows of fountains were found during excavation in the year 1921-22.

Ram Bagh Gate, *Baradari*, Inner Gate (Service Club), *Munshikhana* (Reading room), *Hammam*, *Munshikhana* (Civil Defence), Summer Palace (Now housing the Museum), and Watch towers are the extant structure in this complex.

Ram Bagh gate



It is also locally known, as the *Deorhi*, which is the main entrance gateway to the Summer Palace complex of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. It is almost square on plan and situated in the southern side of the garden, oriented in north-south direction. It consists of a central covered passage flanked by two storeyed wings for guards on either side. Each of the wings consists of two rooms. The terrace is surmounted by a square in plan and the turrets on four corners rising from plinth level are crowned by domed cupolas. The inner ones are square whereas the outer ones are hexagonal on plan.

The facade of the gateway contains beautiful projecting balconies. The Exterior as well as interior of the building is decorated with floral and geometrical designs. Balconies and *jharokhas* are projected on the outer wall. The *jalis* of *Baradari* show finest example of cut-work. Inlay work of *Baradari* is also beautiful.

After the Anglo-Sikh war of A.D. 1841, the British carried out some repairs including the intersecting of a stone arched frame in the southern arch and connecting the two flank of the first floor by a wooden bridge. This *Deorhi* was used as a Museum till it was declared as a protected monument.

Baradari



Baradari Inside Summer Palace Complex, Company Bagh, Amritsar (Pb.)

It is situated in the western side of the palace Complex. It is a single storey square structure on a high plinth. The roof is flat and it is connected by a flight of steps on the three sides i.e. north, west and south.

There is an inscription on the facade of the western side wall stating that the *baradari* was built by the sons of

Rai Sahib Dr. Sahib Ditta Mal, in the memory of their father.

Inner gate (Service Club)



INNER GATE SERVICE CLUB, RAM BAGH COMPLEX, AMRITSAR {Pb.}

It is the northern gateway of the garden. It is smaller than the southern gateway or Ram Bagh Gate. This building is almost square on plan. It is a double storey structure constructed on low plinth and approached through a flight of steps. The facade contained a big rectangular doorway with trifled arch having a balcony in centre. Beautifully designed balconies are projected on either side of the entrance. Impressive part of building is the presence of beautifully designed balconies rounded and rectangular in shape having three to five arched openings.

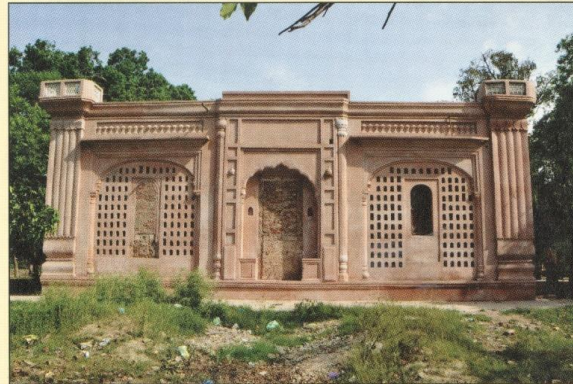
Munshikhana or reading room



MUNSHI KHANA, RAM BAGH COMPLEX, AMRITSAR {Pb.} MEDIEVAL PERIOD

It was originally used as an office by Maharaja Ranjit Singh's Officials. Now a part of the Club, it is being used as a reading room. The building is square on plan, built on a low plinth. The single storeyed building has a flat roof and an open rectangular pavilion with five openings. A pair of staircases is present on either side of the building.

Hammam



It is situated on the north-western side of the palace. It is a single storeyed building, square on plan. A L-shaped tank and a square room is present inside the building.

Munshikhana or civil defence building is square on plan. It stands on a raised platform with a flat roof. The eastern wall or the front of the building is pierced through five openings. The main entrance is decorated with beautiful floral motifs. The Back wall (Western wall) is pierced by a gateway. The Exterior wall of other two sides i.e northern and southern sides have beautifully designed balconies.

Summer Palace



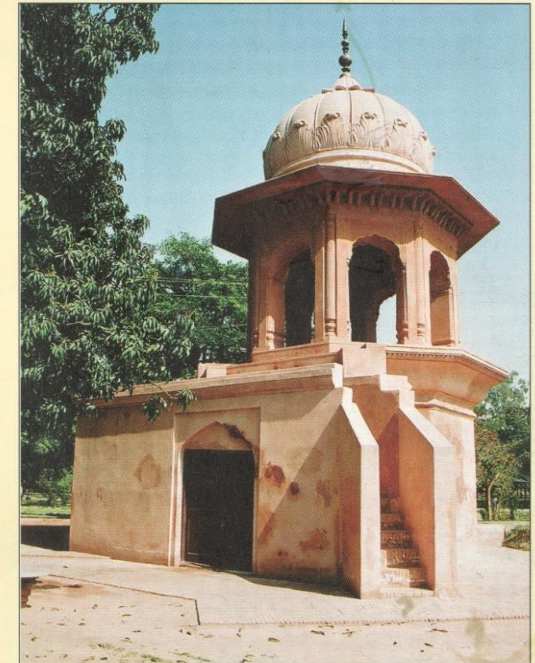
SUMMER PALACE, RAM BAGH COMPLEX, AMRITSAR {Pb.} 1819 A.D.

It was built by Maharaja Ranjit Singh in A.D.1819. It is square on plan. It is a double storey building with an underground chamber. The basement has only one gallery around the main chambers. It has about 12 feet thick side wall with sixteen ventilation slits. The entry is through the steps in the south-west corner of the wall.

The frontal part (that faces the Rambagh gate) has five rectangular doorways, which support twins balconies.

Watch towers

There are four watch towers placed at four corners of the garden. These towers are octagonal on plan, double



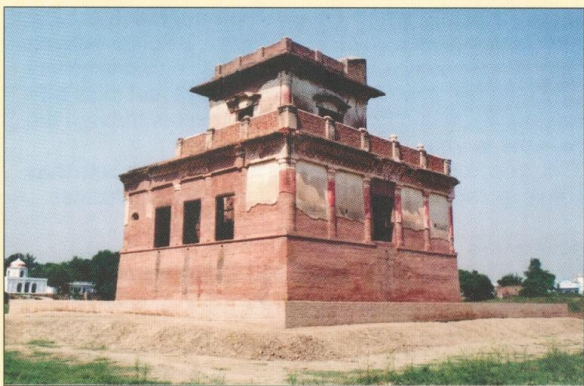
WATCH TOWER, COMPANY BAGH COMPLEX, AMRITSAR {PUNJAB}

storeyed with a domical top.

The ground floor has a guard room. An octagonal open chamber is present over it. This chamber is surmounted by a dome and a *kalsa* is present at its top. The dome is decorated with lotus petalled patterns and floral motifs.

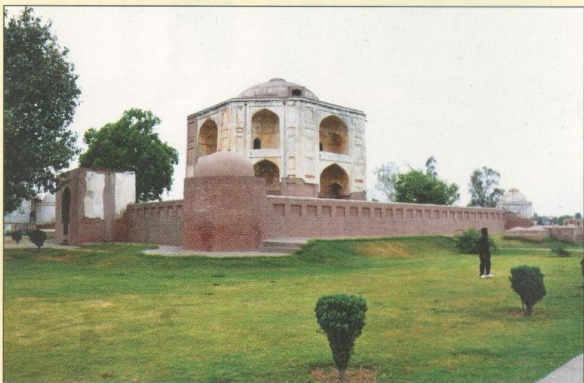
Baradari Generally known as Anarkali, Batala

It is situated in the town of Batala of Distt. Gurudaspur. This Mughal monument is popularly known as Anarkali. Shamsher Khan, a eunuch and the Karori of Batala, built a



fine tank to the north-east of the town in A.D. 1573 and planted gardens in the suburb known as Anarkali, during Akbar's reign. The *baradari* stands in the centre of a tank resembles a *Jal Mahal*. There are *ghats* around the tank.

Shamsher Khan Tomb, Batala



The tomb of Shamsher Khan stands on a raised platform, surrounded by a low wall having bastions at corners. This platform is approached through a gateway which is present in the southern side. It still bears traces of original paintings in the interior side. The tomb is an octagonal structure and crowned with a low dome. Arches, present on the exterior of the tomb, are decorated with painted arabesque and geometrical designs. Some inscriptions stating "a mosque and a garden were completed during the reign of Akbar in AH 998 (AD 1590) by Shamsher Khan" are present on the front part of the tomb.

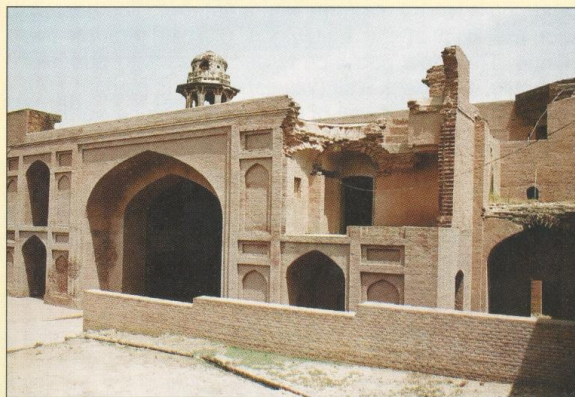
Takht-I-Akbari, Kalanaur



TAKHT-I-AKBAR, KALANAUR {PB} MUGHAL PERIOD

Mughal prince Akbar was at Kalanaur about 22 km. from Gurdaspur when he received the sad tidings of the sudden demise of his father Humayun at Delhi. This is the town where he was proclaimed the Emperor of Hindostan on 14 February, 1556. The coronation was celebrated on a masonry platform, now known as the Takht-I-Akbari. It is a simple platform on brick, coated with plaster. A tank is present in the centre of the platform.

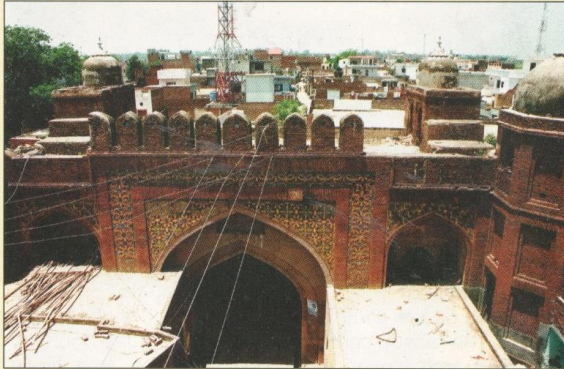
Gateway of the old Sarai Akbar or Jahangir on the Old Delhi - Lahore road. (Amanat Khan)



The sarai is situated in the village of same name, 29 km. to the south east of Amritsar on the Taran Taran-Attari road. It is named after Amanat Khan, the famous calligrapher of Taj Mahal. It is a representative specimen of glazed tile

decorations. The enclosure wall of the *sarai* has octagonal bastions at each corner. The Eastern and western sides of the *sarai* have elegant two storied gateways, with arched entrances, framed by bands of inscriptions, designed by Amanat Khan himself and rendered in glazed tiles. Amanat Khan lies buried to the east of the *sarai* which was constructed by him during his life time.

Gateway of the old Sarai Akbar or Jahangir on the Old Delhi- Lahore road. (Fatehabad)



The small town of Fatehabad is situated 43 Km. to the southeast of Amritsar. Fatehabad was founded by Emperor Jahangir in April 1606, when the royal army, under the command of Sheikh Farid Bukhari, defeated the rebel prince Khushro at this place. During the Mughal Period, the royal highway from Agra to Lahore passed through this medieval town. It was ordered by the Mughal emperor to build *sarais* along the royal highway, to facilitate the movement of troops as well as travellers. At present only two gateways of the *sarai* are present. The distance between these gateways is about 200 m. These gateways were originally situated in the middle of the eastern and western side of the *sarai*.

Each gateway has a number of rooms arranged in two storeys. These rooms were probably meant for the accommodating the entourage of guards and caretakers of the *sarai*.

The façade of the western gateway is approx. 30 Mtr. broad. The façade of the western gateway of the *sarai* is pierced by a broad, arched entrance. The passage has a deep veranda on either side. On the ground floor, the gateway has two rooms. One stairway on either side leads

to the upper storey which comprises of two rooms and two octagonal chambers, accommodated in the bastions. From this storey only a single stairway leads to the top. one stairway approached the top. The Eastern gateway is also in similar design.

Glazed tiles of lemon yellow green, turquoise, and blue colour adorn the façade of both the gateways.

IMPORTANT CENTRALLY PROTECTED MONUMENTS IN PUNJAB



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