



Wajid Ali Shah (1847 - 1856)

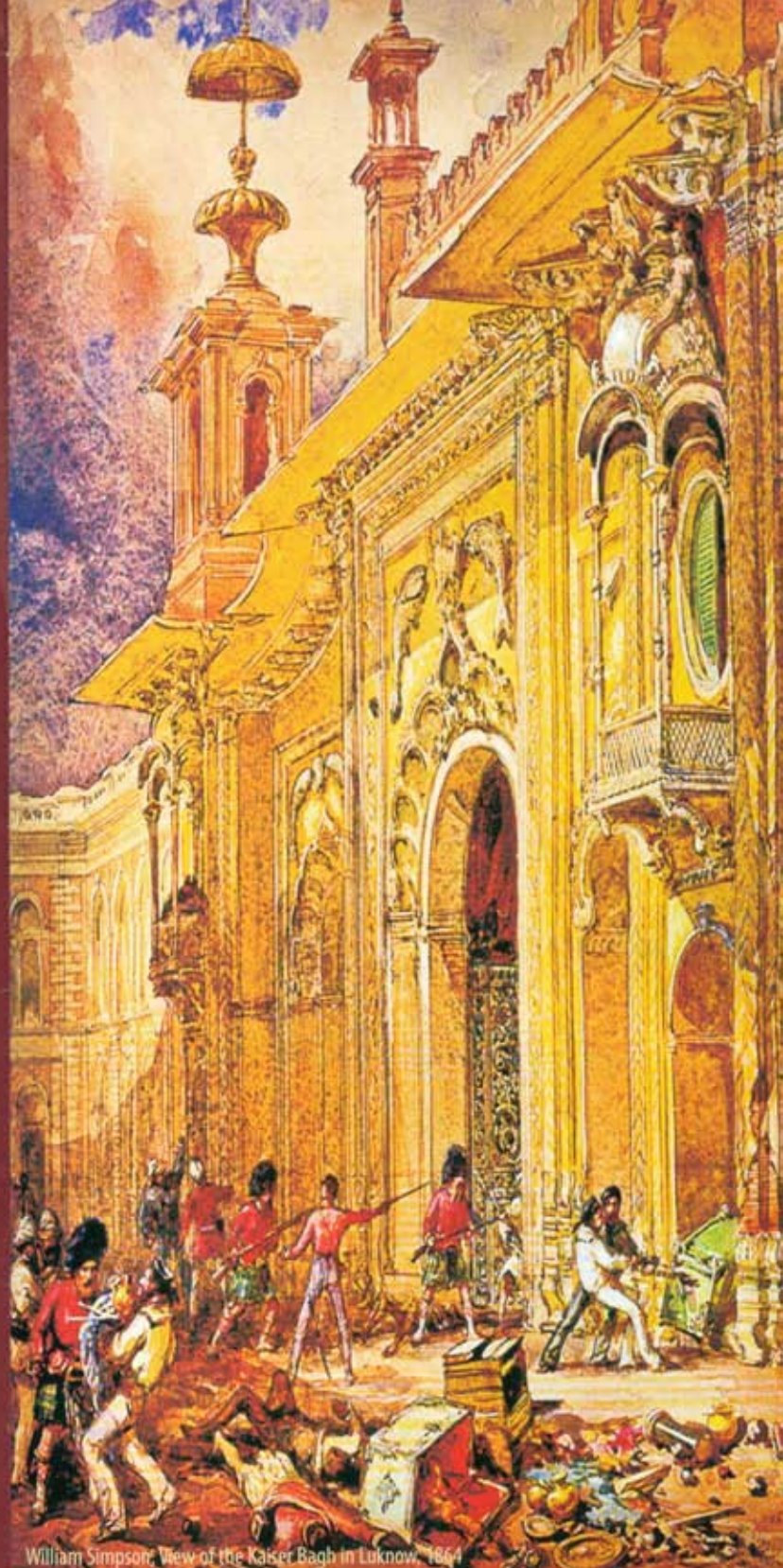


Kaiserbagh or Kaiser Bagh is a complex in the city of Lucknow, located in the Awadh region of India. The site includes several buildings and gardens and was constructed under the order of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah, who envisioned the place as a paradise.

Paintings and photographs of the Kaiser Bagh gardens taken before 1857 indicate that the main quadrangle, which was the heart of the palace complex, had an elaborate charbagh. One entered and exited the charbagh through two identical gates known as Lakhi gates, named after their price - one lakh rupees. It was known as the "Paree Kha-na-", translation: Place of Fairies). This part of the complex is where the queens of the King lived and remains intact today.

The Kaiser Bagh complex included residential quarters for the royal ladies were two stories high and had large courtyards; however, these quarters did not include exterior windows. The royal ladies also were able to enjoy two ba-za-rs named "Meena-Ba-za-r" and "Kaptan Ba-za-r"; these ba-za-rs were included in the Kaiser Bagh complex.

After the India's First War of Independence, the British ordered the demolition of Kaiser Bagh, as it was the stronghold of the Nawabs under the leadership of Begum Hazrat Mahal, who had assumed leadership after her husband, Nawab Wajid Ali Shah, who was exiled in 1856. Nonetheless, some structures of the original complex still stand today; moreover, the Government of Uttar Pradesh in close co-operation with the Archaeological Survey of India has plans to revitalize the complex.



William Simpson, View of the Kaiser Bagh in Lucknow, 1864



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Kaiser Bagh Heritage Walk, a concept of Debashish Nayak e-mail: debashishnayak@rediffmail.com

The Garden Palace of Lucknow Kaiser Bagh Heritage Walk

Kaiser Bagh Heritage Walk



Begum Hazrat Mahal also known as Begum of Awadh, was the first wife of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah.



DVLCE ET DECORVM EST PRO PATRIA MORI
THIS TABLET MARKS THE SPOT WHERE TOWARDS THE EVENING OF THE 25TH SEPT^R 1857 A.D. GENERAL NEILL FELL MORFALLY WOUNDED BY A SHOT FIRED FROM THE TOP OF THE ADJACENT GATEWAY



Secret way to Kaiser Bagh

Raushan-Ud-Daula Kothi 14

Amin-Ud-Daula Library 18

1 Captain Kothi / General Kothi Walk Start

2 Bara-Chattar Manzil

3 Darbar Hall (Lali Yata Academy) Comission Hall

4 Chota Chattar Manzil (Panchayat Khawan)

5 Darshini (Darshan Vilas Kothi)

6 Sher Darwaja / Neill Gate
Grave of General Neill in Globe Park

8 Victoria Memorial (Begum Hazrat Mahal Park)

9 Gol Gate / Sadar Darwaja

10 Tomb of Saadat Ali Khan

11 Tomb of Khurshid Zadi

12 Patee Khana (Bhattachande Sangret University)

15 Marble Bridge

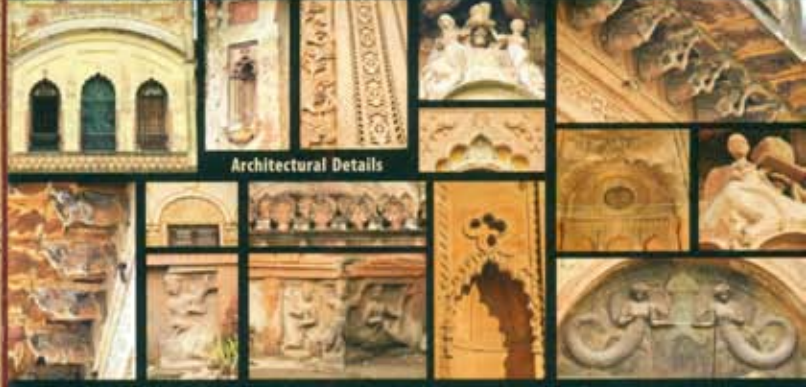
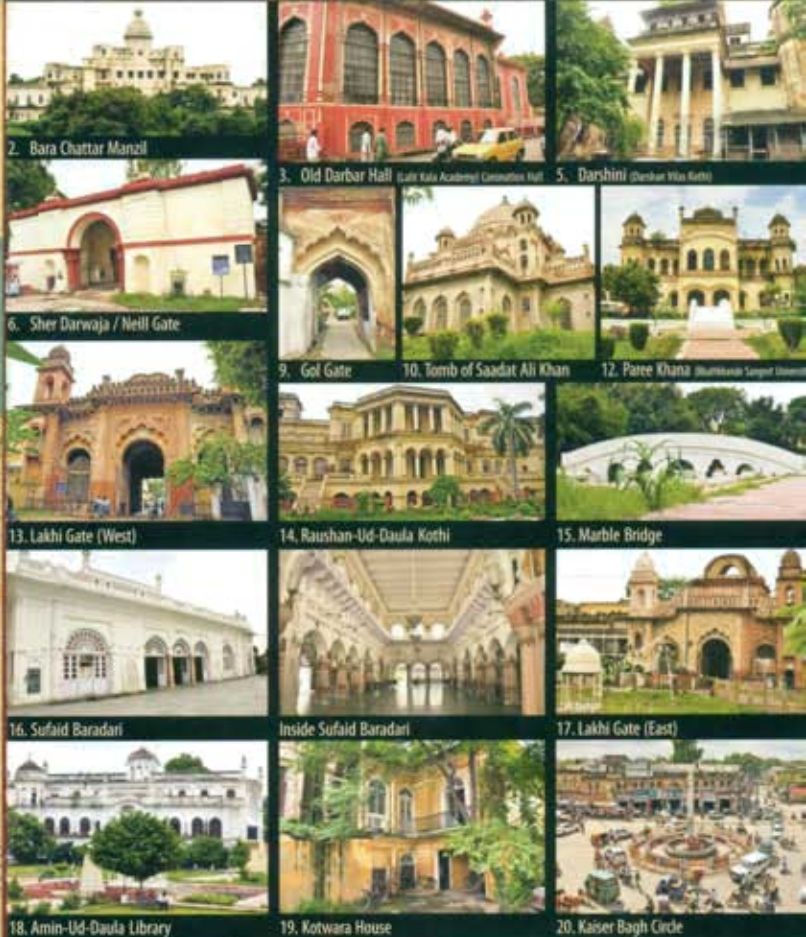
16 Sufaid Baradari

17 Lakh Gate (East)

19 Kotwara House

20 Kaiser Bagh Circle

Walk End



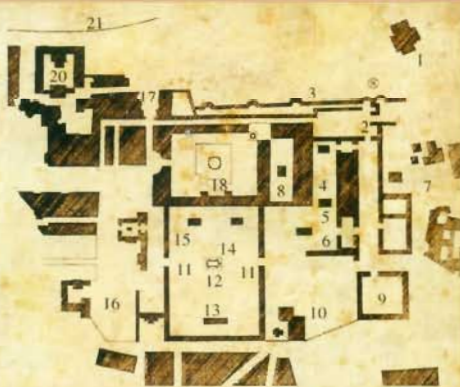
Panorama of Kaiser Bagh, Taken from the Raushan-Ud-Daula Kothi, 1858



Wajid Ali Shah of Avadh in the Kaiser Bagh, 1850-56, Opaque watercolor and gold on paper.

Legend

1. Tarawali Kothi
2. Jilaun Khana
3. Stables
4. China Bazaar
5. Mermaid Gate
6. Huzoor Bagh
7. Badshah Manzil
8. Hazrat Bagh
9. Begum's Prison
10. Chaulakhi Kothi
11. Lakhi Gate
12. Sufaid Baradari
13. Lanka
14. Kaiser Bagh
15. Parea Khana
16. Kaiser Pasand
17. Sher Darwaza
18. Nawab's Tomb
19. Begum's Tomb
20. Chatter Manzil
21. Gomti River

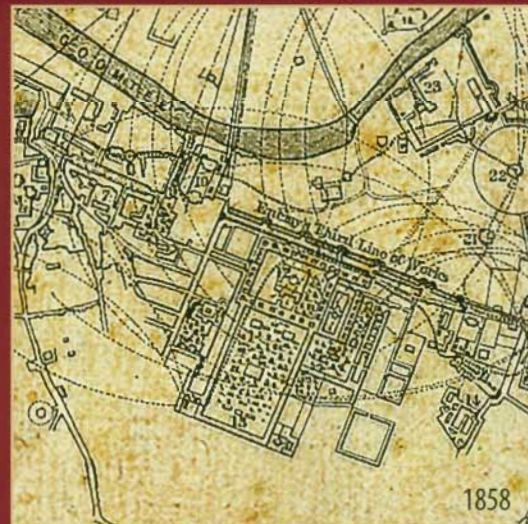


1857

Map of Kaiser Bagh 1857

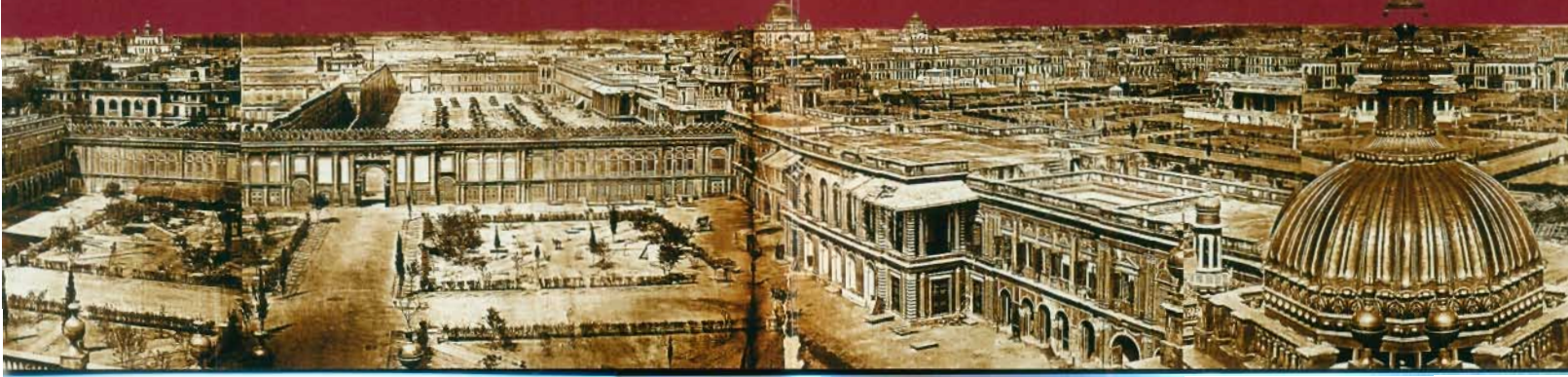


Jogianna Mela View



1858

The British Map of Lucknow showing Kaiser Bagh





The Great vine and the Lanka, Kaiser Bagh



Lakhi Gate leading out of the Jilaun Khana, Kaiser Bagh



Jal Pari (The Mermaid Gateway) and spiral staircases



Lakhi Gate leading out of the Jilaun Khana, Kaiser Bagh



Roshan-ud-daula Kothi, North Side



British soldiers looting Kaiser Bagh, Lucknow, after its recapture (steel engraving, late 1850's). The steel engraving depicts the Time correspondent looking on at the sacking of the Kaiser Bagh, after the capture of Lucknow on March 15, 1858. "Is this string of little white stones (pearls) worth anything, Gentlemen?" asks the plunderer.



Ustad Khurshid Ali Khan



Ustad Sadliq Ali Khan

The Birth of Khayal



To a Different Beat

When Delhi's years of glory declined, and arts like music, dance and poetry were on the verge of extinction, it was Lucknow that offered lavish patronage and dance. Lucknow occupies a very prominent place among the important musical centres. This city has witnessed the efflorescence, the decline and the renaissance of Hindustani classical music and Kathak dance through more than three centuries.



Lallanpiya



Dr. S.N. Ratanjankar



Courtesans and the rise of Thumri



Begum Akhtar, the Queen of Lucknowi thumri and ghazal. She was given the title of Mallika-e-Ghazal (Queen of Ghazals)



A unique style of Kathak



Khalifa Abid Hussain



Khalifa Wajid Hussain



Achchan Maharaj

An enriched Tabla gharana



Khalifa Afaq Hussain



Ustad Ahmad Jan Thirakwa



Shambhu Maharaj



Lachchu Maharaj



Maharaj Bindadin



Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande

Pandit Birju Maharaj

