

## **Adaptive Reuse of Historical Buildings as A Sustainable Spatial Solution: A Case Study of Kandy Grid City, Sri Lanka**

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The intertwining of historical significance, architectural heritage, and urban development presents a complex tapestry in the context of Kandy Grid City, Sri Lanka. This paper focuses on the imperative of adaptive reuse as a sustainable spatial solution within this historical urban fabric. The ever-growing need for modern amenities and the economic challenges underscore the urgency of a pragmatic approach that harmonizes preservation with progress. Kandy Grid City's distinctive character, embellished with world heritage buildings, is a poignant backdrop to explore adaptive reuse's potential. The research embarks on a comprehensive case study analysis, scrutinizing chosen historical buildings through architectural, economic, environmental, and cultural lenses. By unraveling the feasibility and implications of adaptive reuse, this study contributes insights applicable to the preservation of historical legacies while catering to contemporary demands. The study includes 110 historical buildings in the city of Kandy as primary data and value addition of the property and the space as a monetary comparative parameter. The paper engages with the discourse surrounding sustainable urban development, intertwining it with the intricacies of historical preservation. Drawing on primary and secondary research, the study aspires to highlight the symbiotic relationship between the city's heritage and its future. Findings indicate that 90 % of historical buildings can be preserved and turned into economic gainers with an adaptive reuse process. Moreover, it suggests an understanding of urban context and its strengths, a business plan for functional adaptation, and favorable spatial requirements to create a more sustainable urban environment.

**Keywords:** Adaptive reuse, Economic sustainability, Historical buildings, Kandy grid city, Urban economy