



1  
GHORIR  
MORE

2  
PWD OFFICE  
(HERKLOT'S  
HOUSE)

3  
ARMENIAN  
CHURCH

4  
NARENDRA  
BHAWAN

5  
MADRASA  
HIGH SCHOOL

7  
MAIDAN

6  
COMMISSIONER  
BUNGALOW

8  
HOOGHLY  
MOHSIN  
COLLEGE

9  
HOOGHLY  
COLLEGIATE  
SCHOOL

10  
SEAL  
BARI

11  
BORO  
JAGANNATH  
BARI

12  
SHOME TRAINING  
ACADEMY

13  
SHANDESHWAR  
TEMPLE & GHAT



## 1 GHORIR MORE

One of the most important urban landmarks in Chinsurah, it has almost an iconic identity to Chinsurah. Erected by the British in the 19th Century to commemorate the memory of King Edward VI, the dock is still in working condition and the cast iron clock tower is characterised by a gothic spire and four hanging lanterns on the corners of the squares of the clock facades.

## 2 PWD OFFICE

An example of the military architecture of Chinsurah, the building is historically significant as house of Gregory Herklots the last Fiscal officer of Chinsurah.

## 3 ARMENIAN CHURCH

The present Armenian Church is built in the 19th Century, the foundation of which was laid by the last Dutch Governor of Chinsurah, Daniel Anthony Overbeck. It is an urban marker in the physical fabric of Chinsurah, with its spire visible from a distance.

## 4 NARENDRA BHAWAN

An important garden house on the northern edge of the erstwhile Fort Gustavus, this ground plus one storied structure is characterised by a deep portico. It is believed to be called 'Linden Rust' and belonged to A. Boggard, Second in Council of the VOC.

## 5 HOOGHLY MADRASAH

Highly significant as the only surviving remains of the Fort Gustavus, the buildings of Hooghly Madrasah were part of the Dutch Garrison. An old wall of the artillery and four cannons are still visible at the site. The building is now used as a Madrasah and is home to several children.

## 6 COMMISSIONER OF BURDWAN RESIDENCE

A 19th Century British building, it embodies a high degree of historic significance for the VOC emblem from the North Gate of the Fort Gustavus which is placed on the staircase of the bungalow. Also in the grounds are placed two cannons with the VOC A logo on them. A restricted area it is now the residence of the Commissioner of Burdwan.

## 7 MAIDAN

Of high significance as one of the most important open space in Chinsurah, the Maidan is the green lungs of the town and was originally a Dutch vegetable garden and later a part of the original esplanade around the Fort. It has a high degree of social significance as a versatile public recreational space for Chinsurah.

## 8 HOOGHLY MOHSIN COLLEGE

One of the oldest garden houses of the Dutch in Chinsurah by the river Hooghly, it was remodeled by General Perron, a French General in the Scindia army in 1804-1805. Later it was bought by Jagmohan Seal in 1834 and finally became the Hooghly Mohsin College in 1836.

## 9 HOOGHLY COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

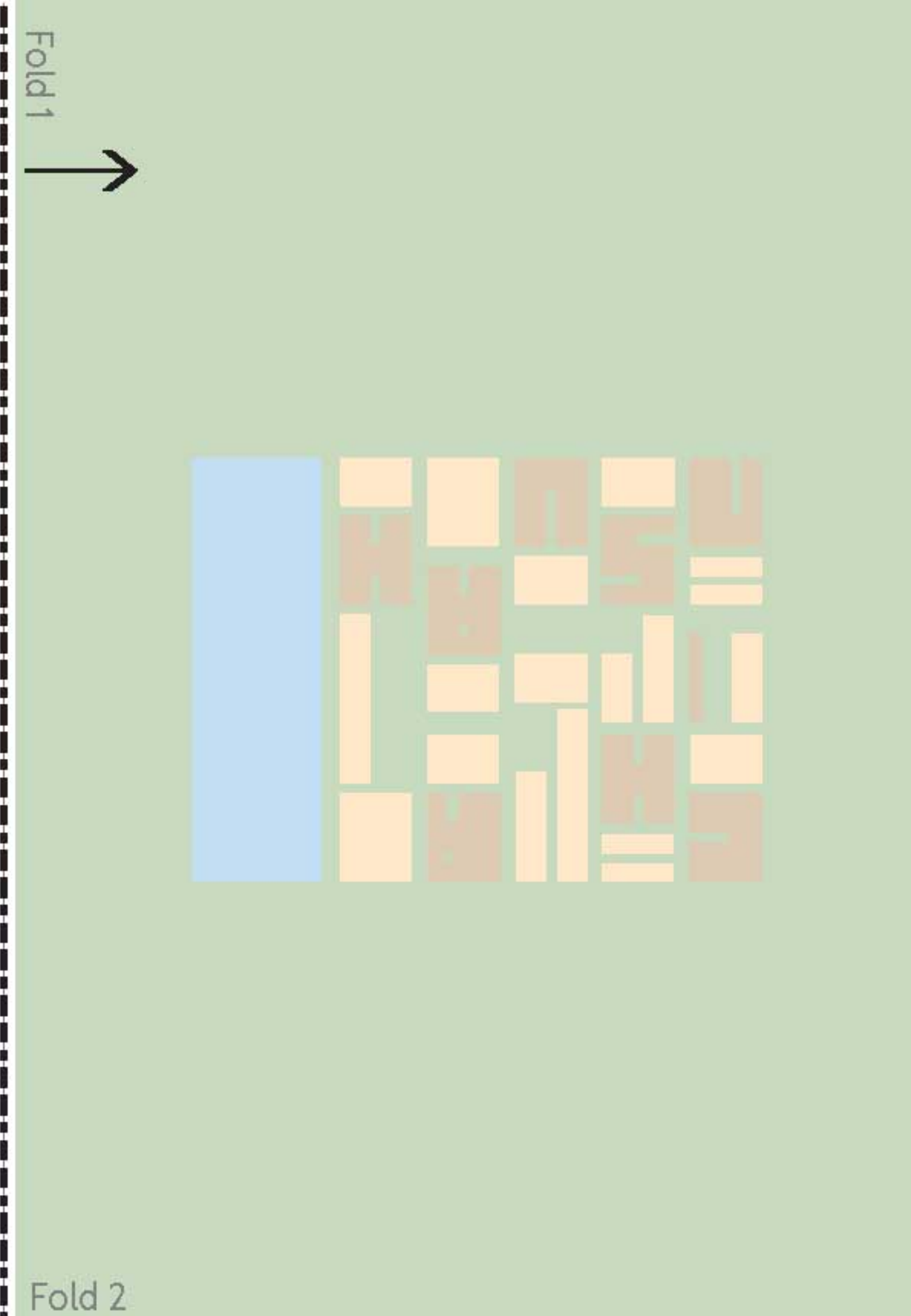
One of the oldest buildings in Chinsurah, the building of the Collegiate School dates back to the Dutch times. Part of the Dutch Governor's pleasure garden facing the river, it was bought by a local merchant Prankrishna Halder in the 19th century. A thakurdalan was added by him and Durga Puja started here, it is now a government school for the boys.

## 10 SEAL BARI

One of the grandest native palaces; this Indo-European house is an urban landmark in Chinsurah belongs to the Seal family. The Seals are one of the richest Indigo merchants in Chinsurah. Known as the Boro Seal Bari, it is host to one of the oldest Durga Pujas in the community. The grandeur of the family still resonates in the area with the area around the house known as Seal para.

## 11 BORO JAGANNATH BARI

An important house in the native town, the building is sited along the corner with two streets on either side, with a courtyard in the centre. It was inhabited by the priests of the Raja Mallick.

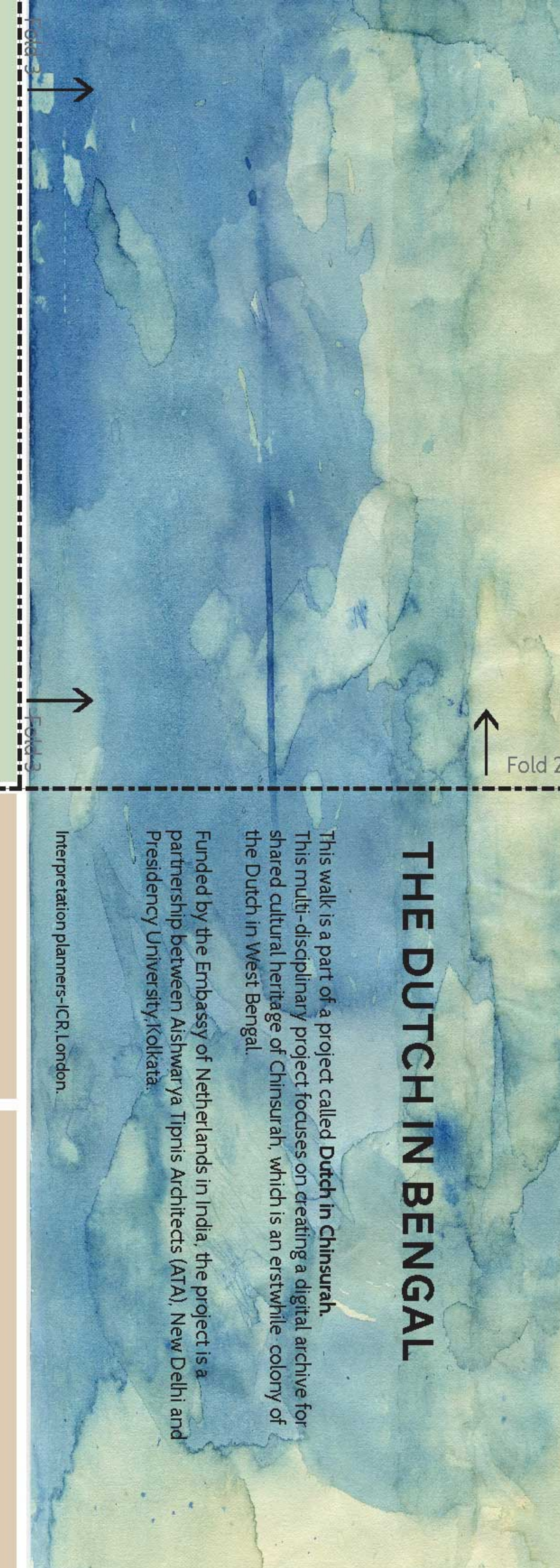


## 12 SHOME TRAINING ACADEMY

A grand pleasure house by the Hooghly, this was the home of the Shome Family, rich merchants of Chinsurah and deans of the VOC. Located adjacent to the Shandeshwarta Temple, this was the venue for the grand balls hosted by the family for the Dutch and the English. It is now used as the Shome Training Academy.

## 13 SHANDESHWAR JIU TEMPLE & GHAT

The most important Hindu shrine in Chinsurah, the Shandeshwarta Temple dates back to the 18th Century and has a high degree of social significance. According to the local legend, a local landlord Digambar Halder found the deity in the Ganges and built the temple for it. It is believed that this deity is the grihadevata of the royal family of Magadha (in present day Bihar) and a 10 day long ritual and gajan festival and fair is conducted at the temple in the end of the Bengali year. Although the sanctum of the temple dates back to the 18th Century, the superstructure is a recent construction.



# THE DUTCH IN BENGAL

This walk is a part of a project called Dutch in Chinsurah. This multi-disciplinary project focuses on creating a digital archive for shared cultural heritage of Chinsurah, which is an erstwhile colony of the Dutch in West Bengal.

Funded by the Embassy of Netherlands in India, the project is a partnership between Aishwarya Tipnis Architects (ATA), New Delhi and Presidency University, Kolkata.

Interpretation planners-ICR, London.