

Temple at Jaigad

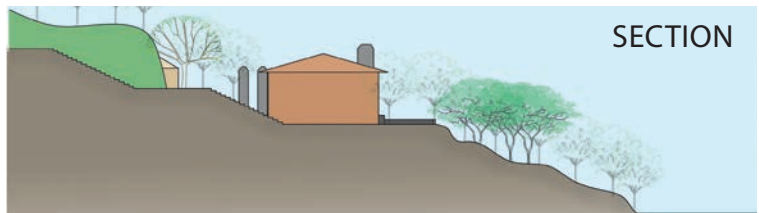
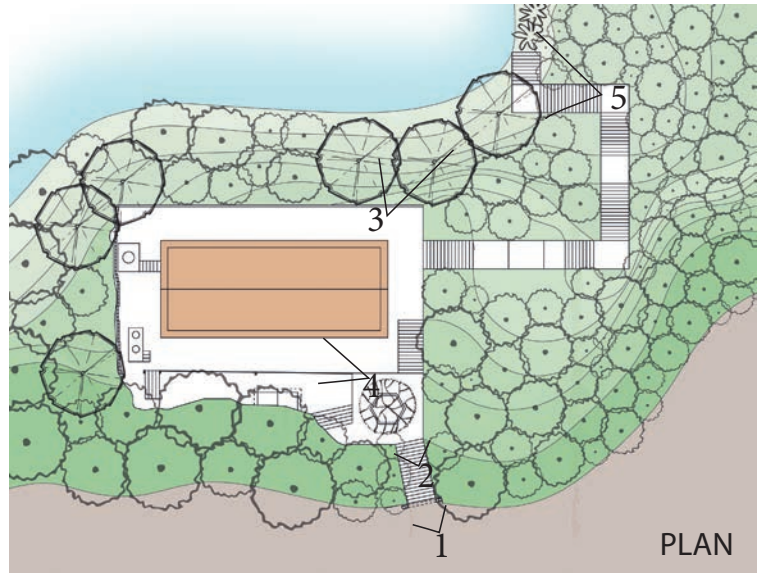
A Delight in Sequential Vision

Contributed by Subhagya Atale

The photographs and sketches show how this temple near the village of Jaigad (located in the Konkan district of India) has been erected carefully along the landscape; it celebrates nature. Placed carefully on the rocky gradient that leads to the sea, the temple is just a subtle intrusion in the powerful landscape.

The gradient has been used to locate the temple premises at three levels, namely, the uppermost level where one enters the premises, the middle level where the modest and almost understated form of the temple is placed with edges merging with nature and the lower level where a series of flights of steps lead to the water below.

The placement of the temple premises is an exercise in creating sequential vision: as you approach from above, the sea and the beautiful setting are invisible till you reach the entrance of the temple at the uppermost level from where the powerful landscape comes into view. The following levels and flights of steps in different directions immerse the viewer in the landscape.



View from the uppermost level. The sea acts as a surprise element, which frames the landscape encompassing the horizon



Glimpses of seawater through the branches of a tree at the middle level



Temple in typical Konkan architecture



Steps leading from the temple down to the sea