

# Thimphu Structure Plan

## *Cultural Heritage*



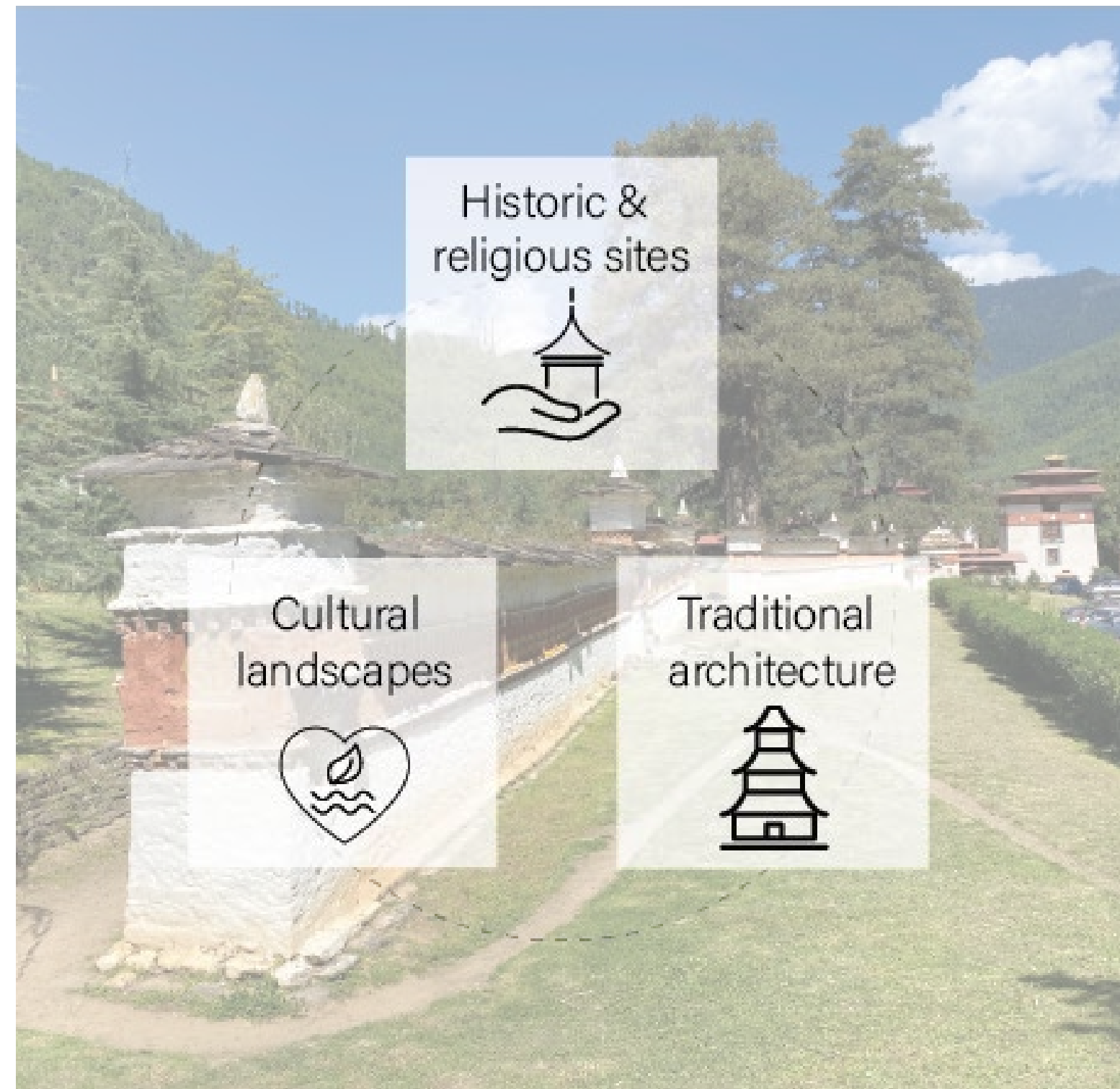
# Cultural Heritage

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*“Feel proud and protect the local heritage”*

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The plan aims **to protect and enhance heritage features** that contribute to local culture and character, including historic and religious sites, cultural landscapes, and traditional vernacular architecture. It seeks to improve the practice of **intangible cultural heritage** through enhancing routes and trails, delivering a cultural quarter at the city centre and protecting and upgrading open spaces around heritage site to create a place where people can feel safe and proud.
























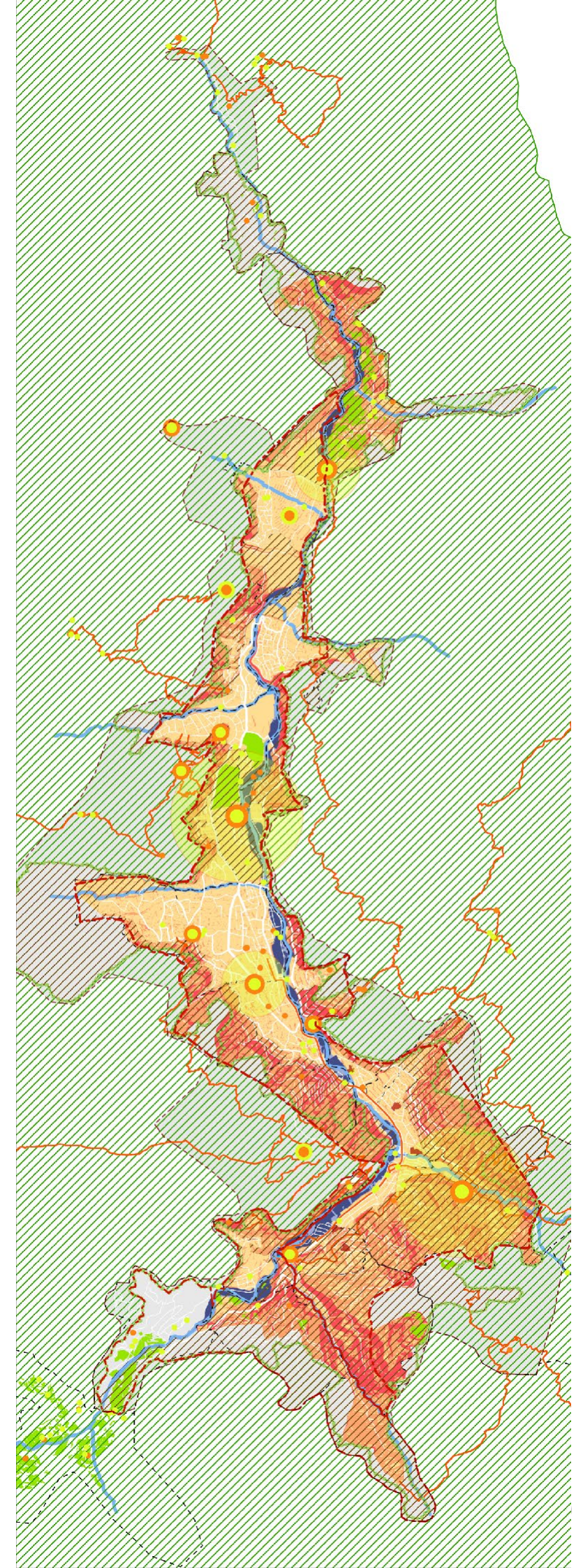


# Key proposals

1. **Categorise land** according to vulnerability to geohazards to inform protections, development extent and mitigation measures.
2. Continues to **protect designated cultural landscapes** including Chuuzhing that remain in Thimphu and restricts the ability to convert these lands.
3. Defines areas within the city **limits** where **development** is to be limited. This includes Kabessa to **protect its special rural character**, and neighbourhoods that have emerged through sprawl including upper Motithang and near Simtokha.
4. Extend **protections to heritage structures** including those of local value or vernacular architecture. Explore how to enhance these through regulations relating to their setting and integrate these through a network of routes.

## LEGEND

KEY	
	Thromde Boundary
	Thromde Southern Extension Boundary
	Study Area Boundary
	Neighbourhood Boundary
Geohazards	
	No data
	High hazard zone
	Medium hazard zone
	Low hazard zone
	High flood hazard
	Medium flood hazard
Protections	
	Green Belt Inner Boundary
	Green Belt Extent
	Cultural Landscape
	Restricted Development
Heritage Protections	
	Grade A
	Grade B
	Grade C
	Chorten
	Lhakhang
	Buffer
	Traditional Village
Routes and Trails	
	Route





# Key topic 1 / Cultural Landscapes

The cultural landscapes designation seeks to **protect landscapes** that have been shaped through interaction between people and the natural environment and now have historic, cultural and environmental value. The Plan proposed interventions are:

- **Protection and enhancement** of the character and identity of Thimphu;
- **Consolidation of cultural landscape** land in order to create connected networks of spaces;
- **Support the Department of Culture** in the preparation of Management Plans for cultural landscapes following international best practice;
- **Protection and enhancement** of other **agricultural land in the city**, including orchards, that have historic value or contribute to the townscape.



*Enhance local character and identity*



*Consolidation of cultural landscape*



*Support government planning*



*Enhance agricultural land in the City*



# Key topic 2 / Cultural heritage protection

Defining protection serve as the skeleton of the structure plan by **establishing limits to the city and its landscape** and cultural heritage setting. The Plan proposed interventions are:

- Definition of the **limits to urban growth** to protect from sprawl and promote urban regeneration;
- Creation of **restricted development zones** within the city limits;
- Designation of **heritage protection sites** and their buffer zones;
- **Categorisation of land** according to vulnerability to geohazards to inform protections, development extent and mitigations measures;
- Creation of **pedestrian and cycle trails** across the valley for leisure and to travel between heritage sites;
- Development of **intangible heritage practices** that are recognised and with cultural significance



*Contain urban sprawl*



*Heritage sites designation*



*Leisure trails between sites*



*Intangible Heritage practices*