

# Rediscovering the Spirit of Place through Documentation: Steps Towards Sagada's Architectural Heritage Conservation

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## Abstract

*The authors were tapped by the vestry of the Episcopalian Mission in Sagada to help them in their Conservation efforts, which would eventually have a positive effect on the whole municipality of Sagada. The center of this endeavor was the St. Mary the Virgin Complex, which is embedded in Sagada's rich and colorful history.*

*The project was not just a standard documentation, but it also focused on other aspects of Architectural Heritage Conservation. It touched on, not only the physical structures, but the intangible heritage, as well.*

*As a whole, the project hopes to emphasize the important role of conservationists in the restoration of architectural "treasures". Architectural Heritage Conservation goes beyond buildings. It is actually a means through which culture can be kept alive, for conservationists believe that the protection of a people's heritage leads to the preservation of a people's cultural identity. The result is a product of the collaboration of the community (stakeholders), professionals (experts), various non-government organizations, and the local government unit.*

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