

Little has actually been designed along the way. What has been designed is the idea of the trail not a physical entity. Whether it should be regarded as urban design is a moot point. The identification and publication of the trail has led to a rise in the number of tourists in the area and encouraged CRUTA to catalogue almost 30,000 buildings deemed worthy of preservation in the old city. Perhaps pride in the trail as a

community asset can lead to the healing of the deep scars of mob violence in Ahmedabad. Much depends on the leadership role of the middle class in the city.

Major references

Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (c. 2002). *The Heritage Walk of Ahmedabad*. Ahmedabad: Danapith.

Squares

Squares, or plazas, take on an extraordinary range of configurations with a variety of enclosing elements (Krier, 1990; Cerver, 1997). The character of a square depends on the enclosing buildings, their heights and what happens on their ground floors as much as the design of the square itself. The urbane character of Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia today (see Figure 5.9) is largely as Jane Jacobs described it years ago (Jacobs, 1961). Its liveliness depends on the variety of the building uses around it: clubs (largely incognito), hotels, a church, a music institute and apartment buildings all of at least three stories in height. People are



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Figure 5.9 Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia in 1985.