



Chief Minister's Ministry Northern Province



Tourism
Northern Province

Tourist Guide Book Northern Province Jaffna District

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**Tour Guide Book
Northern Province
Jaffna District**

There are nine provinces in Sri Lanka and one of them is the Northern Province. Tourism is relatively new to Northern Province and visitors need to explore the diversity of tourist attractions available in this province. There are beaches, historically famous religious places, bird sanctuaries, tanks and irrigation systems, archaeological sites and many more.

In the Northern Province there are five districts namely Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaittivu and Vavuniya. This book provides information on the places of interest to tourists in the Jaffna district.

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Anjaneyar Kovil - Maruthanamadam



It is the first temple to be established for Lord Anjaneyar (Hanuman) in the Northern Province in 2003. Anjaneyar statue kept inside the temple was brought from India. The Lord Anjaneyar statue at the entrance is 72 feet. It is located near the Maruthanamadam junction on the Jaffna – Kankesanthurai main road.

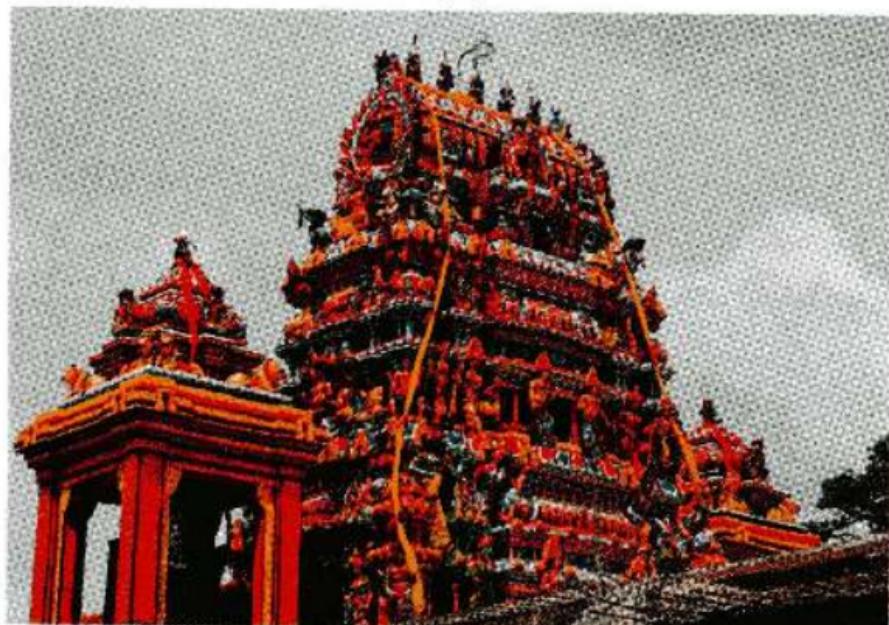
Analithivu Iyanar kovil



It was 350 years ago, a statue reached the coastal area at this place in a wooden box. A temple was built at the place where the statue was found and this statue is kept here. Travel from Jaffna to Kurikattuwan and then by ferry to Analithivu.

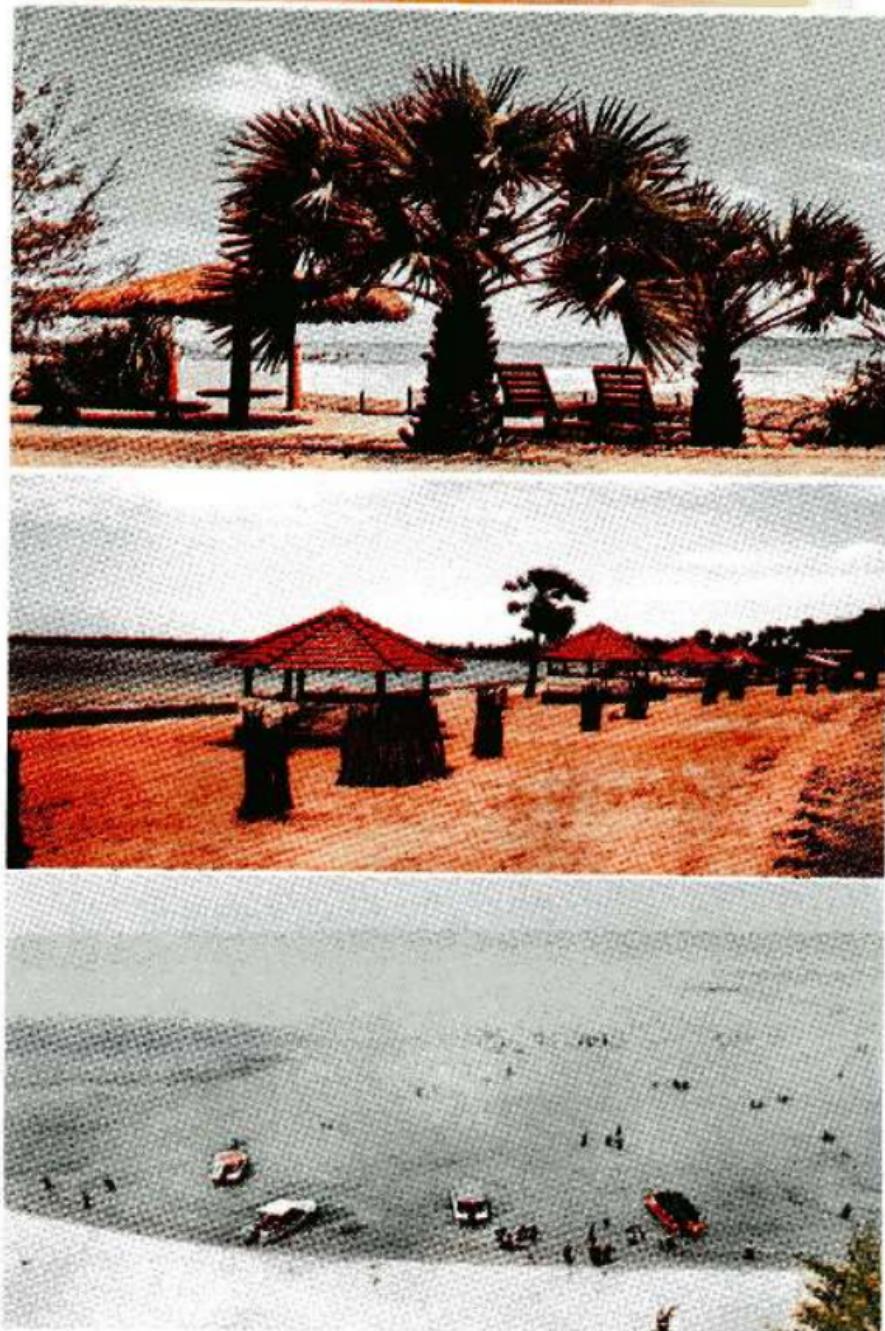
Maduvil Panirththalachchi Amman Kovil

It is an ancient Kannaki Amman temple. The present temple was rebuilt in 1750 by Mr. Nagar Kathirgamar using diamond stones. In English “Panri” means Pig. In ancient time one of the devotees of Kannaki amman accidentally killed a bull. Killing a bull was an offence and he was worried what will happen to him.



He prayed to Kannaki Amman and accepted the mistake done. He wanted Kannaki Amman to safe guard him. On the next day the community leaders gathered and wanted to look at the head bull that was buried. To their surprise it was a head of a pig and the devotee was safe. It was from that day this temple was called Panirththalachchi Amman kovil. On the Monday of the Tamil month Panguni people gather in large number to offer “pongal” to Kannaki Amman. This temple is 20.6 km from Jaffna town. Travel from Jaffna to Chavakachcheri and then to Maduvil.

Beaches



Some of the best beaches in Jaffna district are Casuarina beach at Karaingar (about 21 km from Jaffna town), Chaddy at Mankumban in Velani (13 km from Jaffna town), Manalkudu beach at Pint Pedro (nearly 41 km from Jaffna town), Nakar Kovil beach, Point Pedro beach, Senthankulam beach, Thiruvadinilai beach at Chulipuram, Vettillaikkeni, Thondamanaru at Point Pedro, Akkarai beach at Valalai (nearly 25 km from Jaffna town), Kirimalai, Mathagal, and Kankesanthurai.

Perumal temple in Jaffna



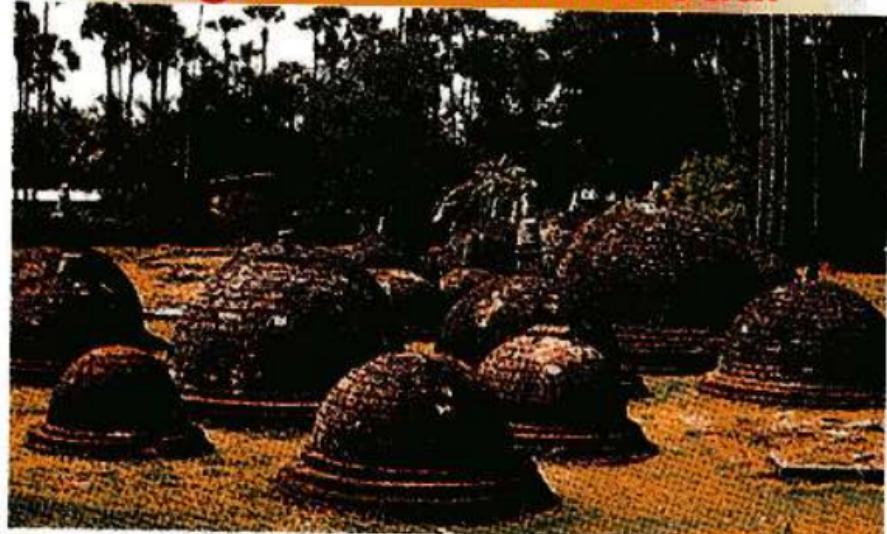
It is one of the ancient God Visnu temples in Jaffna. It is said that Kunapucana Sinkai Arian erected this temple in 1347. It is situated at the Clock Tower Road in Jaffna.

Sattanatar temple

Sattanatar is another name for God Shiva. This temple was very prominent during the period of Jaffna kings. It is situated close to Manthirimannai



Dagobas at Kantharodai



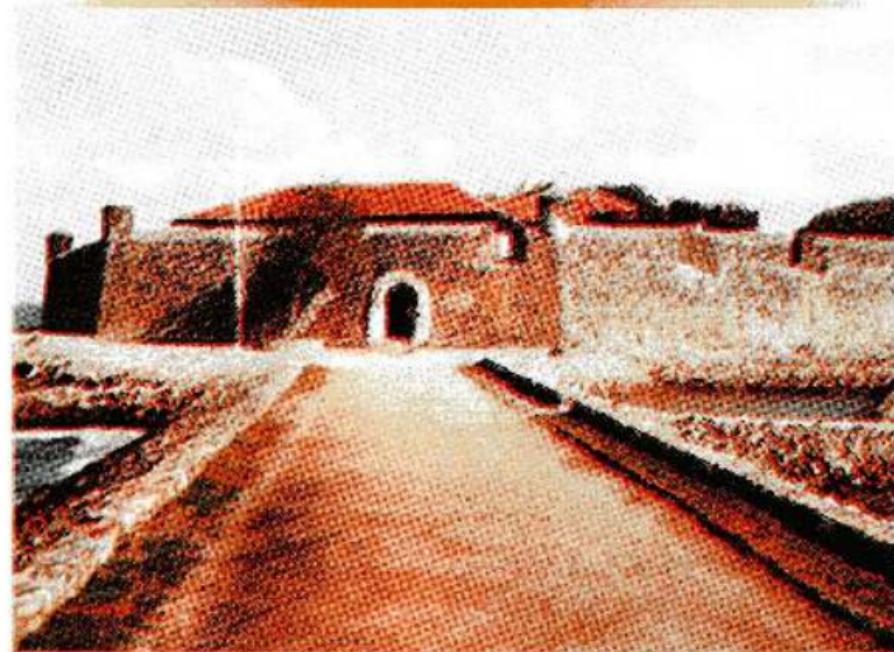
This place has 78 miniature Buddhist dagobas, which were built in the 5th century. According to the legend these dagobas were built as the memory of the 78 Buddhist monks died due to poison in 5th century. From Jaffna travel about 9.2 km along the KKS road to Chunnakam junction. Then from Chunnakam junction travel about 2 km along the Chunnakam-Kanthoradai road

Dutch Church at Manalkudu



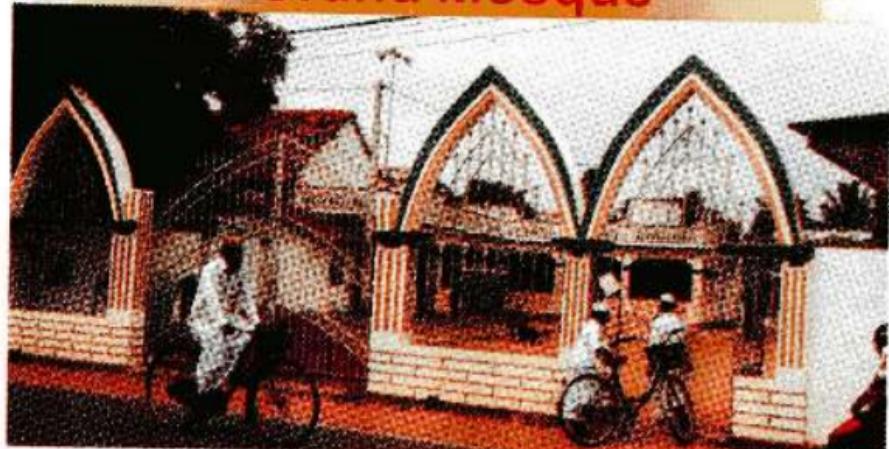
There is a Catholic Church abandoned due to sand storm at Manalkadu. In the beach area there are casuarina trees and sand dunes.

Fort Hammenhie



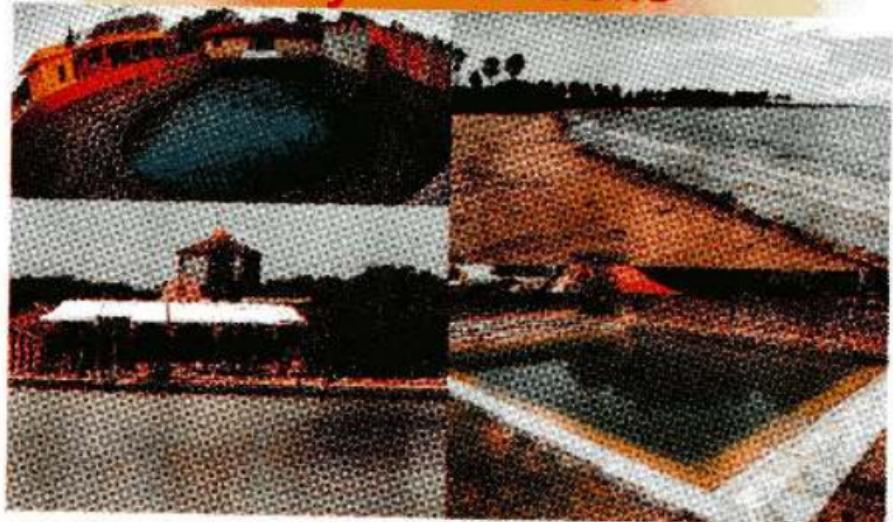
It was constructed by Portuguese commander Amides Mensis in 17th century A.D. In 1658 the Dutch captured the fort and renovated. It is said the Dutch named it as Hammenhie fort because it resembled the legs of a pig. The Dutch appointed Don Stefen Puthathby pillai to construct the fort. It is also called "Puthathmby" fort. It is situated between Karainagar and Kynes on a small island.

Grand Mosque



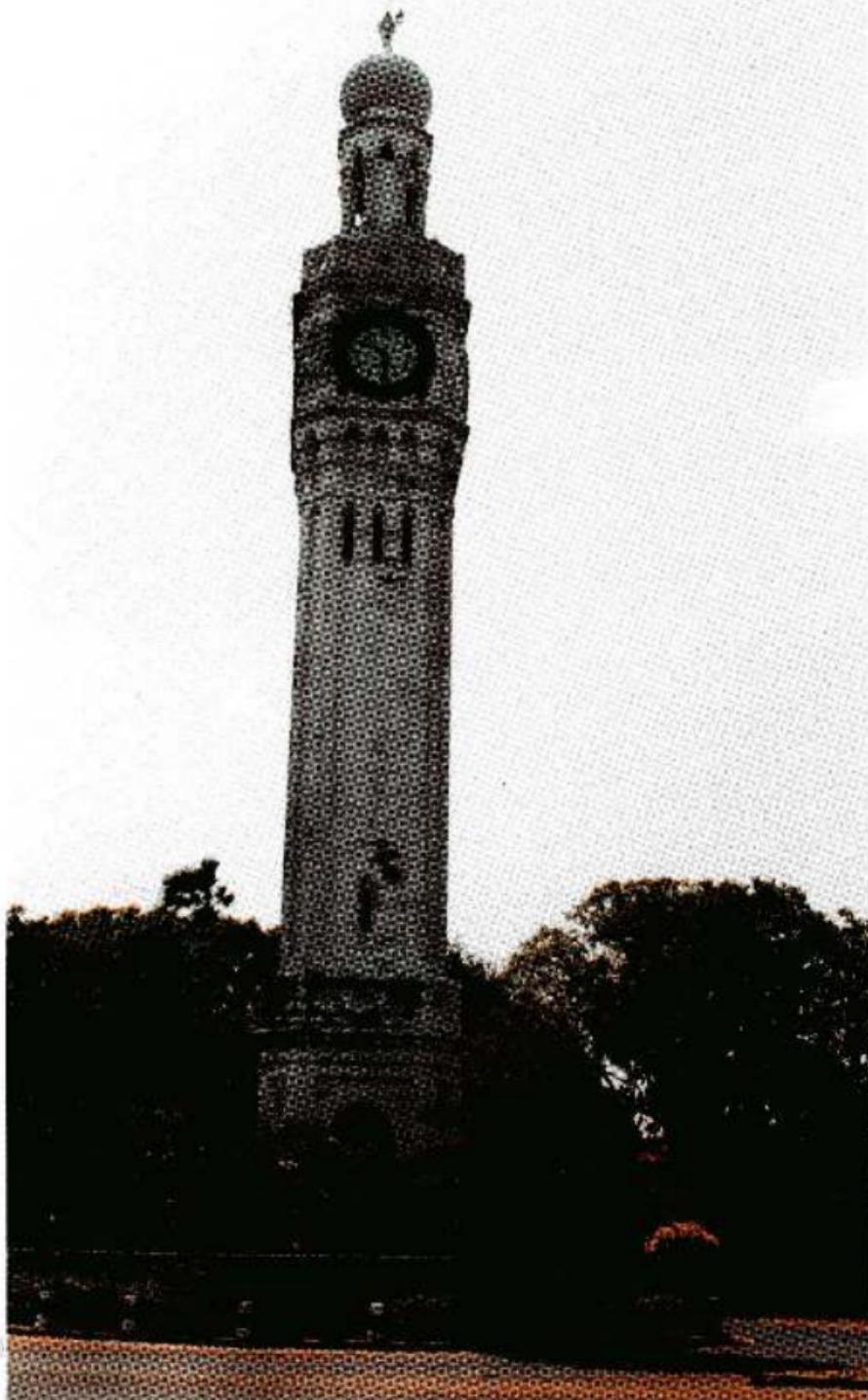
This grand mosque is an ancient mosque of 1713 in Jaffna District.

Holy water wells



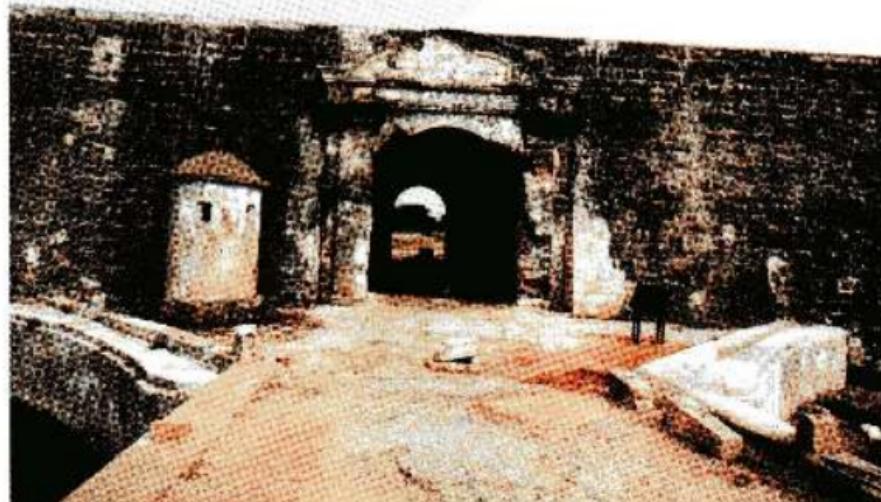
Since time immemorial, the funeral and post-funeral rites and rituals of Hindus are part and parcel of their social and religious duties. These are performed to honor their passed away ancestors and to venerate their memory. This ceremony is conducted at a holy-water site, according to age-old customs. There is a belief that if rituals are performed at these holy places the soul will receive salvation. There are many such holy-water sites in Jaffna where these ceremonies are performed. Among them the famous places are Kerimalai, Thiruvadinilai, Thondamanaru and Viluntri are significant sites.

Jaffna clock tower



This clock tower commemorated the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Ceylon in 1875 and also of Sir James Longden's administration of the island from 1875 to 1884. The tower was designed by Mr. Smiter. It was later renovated with four new Digital Clocks donated by Prince Charles in February 1998. It is located near Jaffna Public Library.

Jaffna Fort



This fort is considered as the second largest in Sri Lanka. Initially built by Portuguese in 17th century in a rectangular shape and modified by Dutch in 17th century in to a pentagon shape. In 1795 it was taken over by the British. It was renovated in 2010. The fort occupies an area of 62 acres with 32 feet height outer walls. The outer walls are forty feet thick at the bottom and twenty feet thick at the top. To observe the enemies easily, the outer walls are slanted in shape from the top to the bottom. There is a deep moat around the fort. It is situated on the south coast of Jaffna town, near the Jaffna lagoon.

Jaffna Public Library



British records reveal that when P.A. Dyke was the government agent of Jaffna P.C. Grenier, secretary of Jaffna courts, established a reading room, for the first time in 1842. John H. Martyns says that the reading room was in the place where the present library stands now. It was inaugurated initially in 1934 as a central library with 844 books and 36 periodicals. There were 97,000 books in 1981. It was the South Asia's biggest library. The whole building was set ablaze into ashes during the unrest in 1981. This was renovated and ceremonially declared open for public on 23rd February 2004. It is located in Jaffna Town,

Jaffna Market



Buildings were built in the 20th century by British. Damaged during the 30 years period of civil unrest and was renovated later.

Jampukola Pattinam

Non Sangamitta, the religious emissary of King Asoka who brought a sapling of the Bo-Tree under the shade of which Buddha attained enlightenment, entered Sri Lanka



through this port. Jambuthivu was known as Navalanthivu in Tamil. It was called an island (in Tamil it means thivu) because it was surrounded by sea in the ancient days. Take Jaffna – Manipay – Karinagar road (AB 17). Arrive at Sandilipay about 15.4 km from Jaffna. From Sandilipay take B398 road and after traveling about 2.9 km reach Sathankulam Junction. Then take AB21 road and travel 3.2 km to reach Sambilithrai.

Jamuna Pond

The Jamuna pond is historically significant place during the Nallur Kingdom. King Sangliyan who ruled Jaffna during the latter part of 13th century AD and the beginning of 14th century AD constructed this pond for his wife. It is also said water from the Holy river “Yamunai” in India was brought to invoke the blessings of the gods in 1948. There are evidences that formerly the kings threw their valuable possessions into this tank before they fled due to danger. Underground tunnels were



built for the safety of the king, and one such tunnel was connected to Mantirimanai. It is located 3 1/2 km from Jaffna bus stand near the Sangiliyan Thoppu.

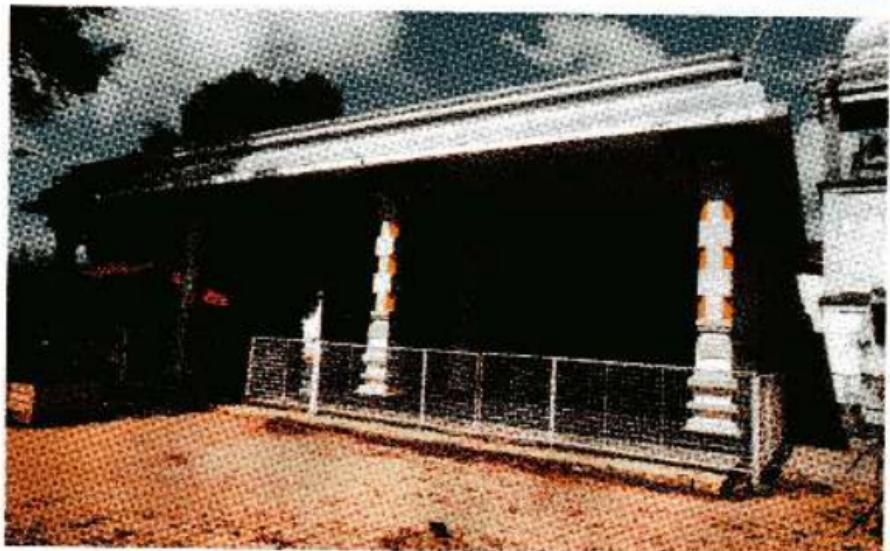
Karinagar Sivan Kovil



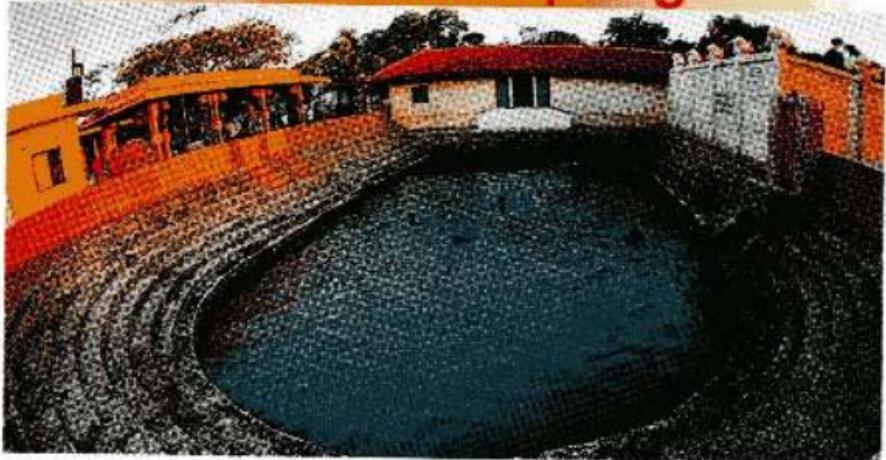
It is the God Siva's temple. It is also called Eeluththu Sithamparam. This temple was constructed in 1848 AD. It is located at Karinagar.

Kilasapathi Pillayar kovil

This was one of the temple under the direct control of King Sangliyan. This is an ancient temple.



Keerimalai spring



This natural spring is in close proximity to the sea and also to Naguleswaram Kovil. Although the tank is in close proximity to the sea, the water is not salty because it comes from an underground fresh water spring. Keerimalai spring is rich in minerals and reputed for its curative properties. It is mentioned in Indian religion scripts such as Dakshina Kailasa Puranam and Skanda Puranam, that it was a pilgrimage centre for South Indians. There is also a cave complex nearby believed to have been used for meditation by a mythical sage called Nagula Muni. This is the reason this spring is called Keerimalai. Nagula Muni had mongoose face and it was changed to a normal face after having a bath in this spring.

Mongoose in Tamil means “Keeri”. From Jaffna town travel along Kankesanthurai road (AB016) to Maviddapuram then travel along Keerimalai road (B277) to this spring area.

Kerni (small tank)

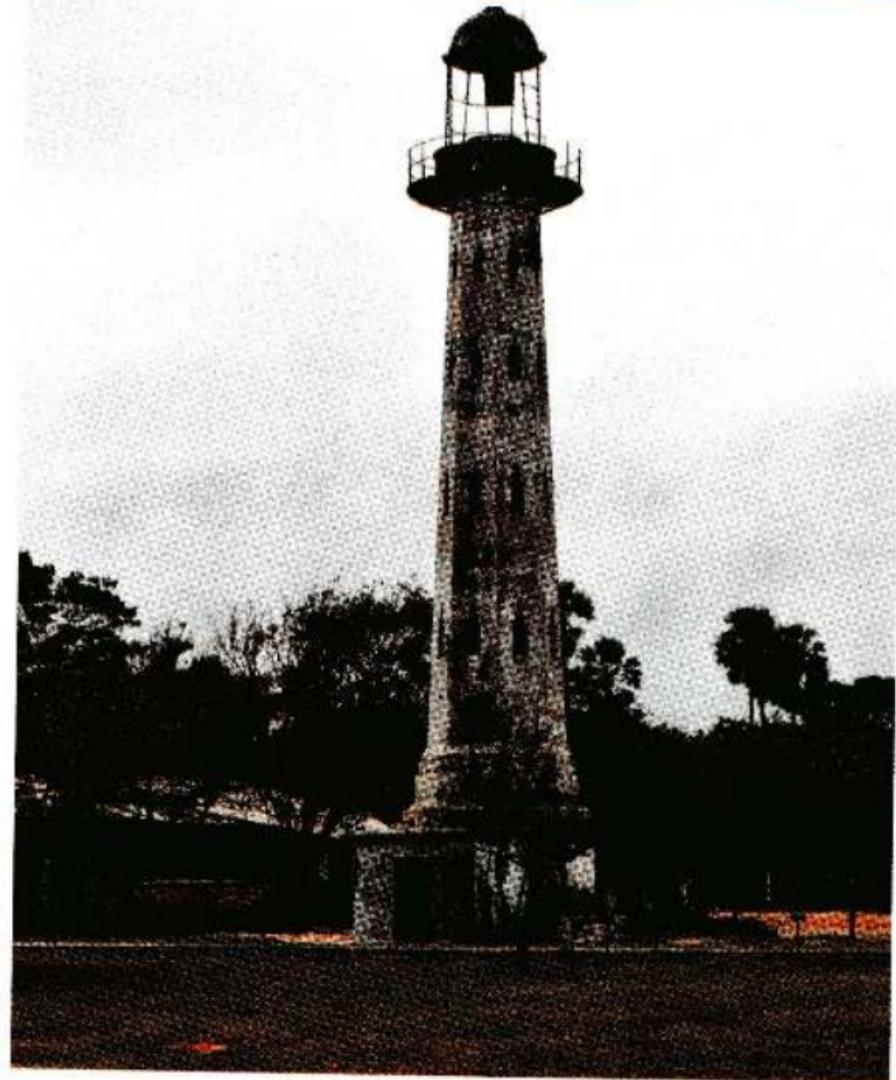


In the ancient time, most popular transport was bullock cart or to walk from one place to another. Therefore to facilitate travelers there were small tank known as “Kerni” in Tamil was available on main routes. Travelers use to rest at these places to have bath and also to allow the cattle to drink water. This type of Kerni can be seen at Karainagar and Uddupitti.

Light Houses

Kovalam Light house: It was built in 1916 at the North Western corner of Karainagar island. It is about 25 km from Jaffna. The height is 30 m and light flashes every 10 seconds was visible up to 11 nautical miles.

Kankesanthurai Light house: It was built in 1893 located on the water front. The height is 25m round masonry tower flashes every 15 seconds and visible up to 13 nautical miles.



Point Pedro Light House: This village is surrounded by sea on the three sides of north, east and west. The coral base in the sea naturally formed serve as a platform. At this point a light house was constructed in 1916 for the purpose of helping the fisherman and ships to reach the sea shore and harbor. A beacon light at the top of the light house flashes every 5 seconds and it is visible up to 10 nautical miles.

Cholai Amman kovil

This is an ancient kovil dedicated to Cholai amman, located at Manduvil in Chavakachcheri division. This Ammankovil is surrounded by large shady tress. The annual grand festival of



this temple is celebrated for ten days in the month of June. Travel along A9 road from Koddikamam junction to Jaffna, near the Madduvil junction turn right, about 3.5 km is the Cholai Amman kovil. Chulipurum

Madam at Point Pedro



Madam means a resting place for visitors. There is one madam is situated near the Sivan temple at Point Pedro. The pillars were erected using sculptured hard lime stones and the artistic carvings on the pillars add to its beauty. There are a total of 16 pillars on both sides of the road over which the roof rests. From Jaffna travel 32.2 km along the Jaffna – Point Ped roro road to Thumpalai junction. This madam is situated is situated near the Thumpalai junction. In addition there are

madam's at Keerimalai, Viyaparimulai, Punguduthivu, Nunavil, and at Mattuvil.

Mandapakadu

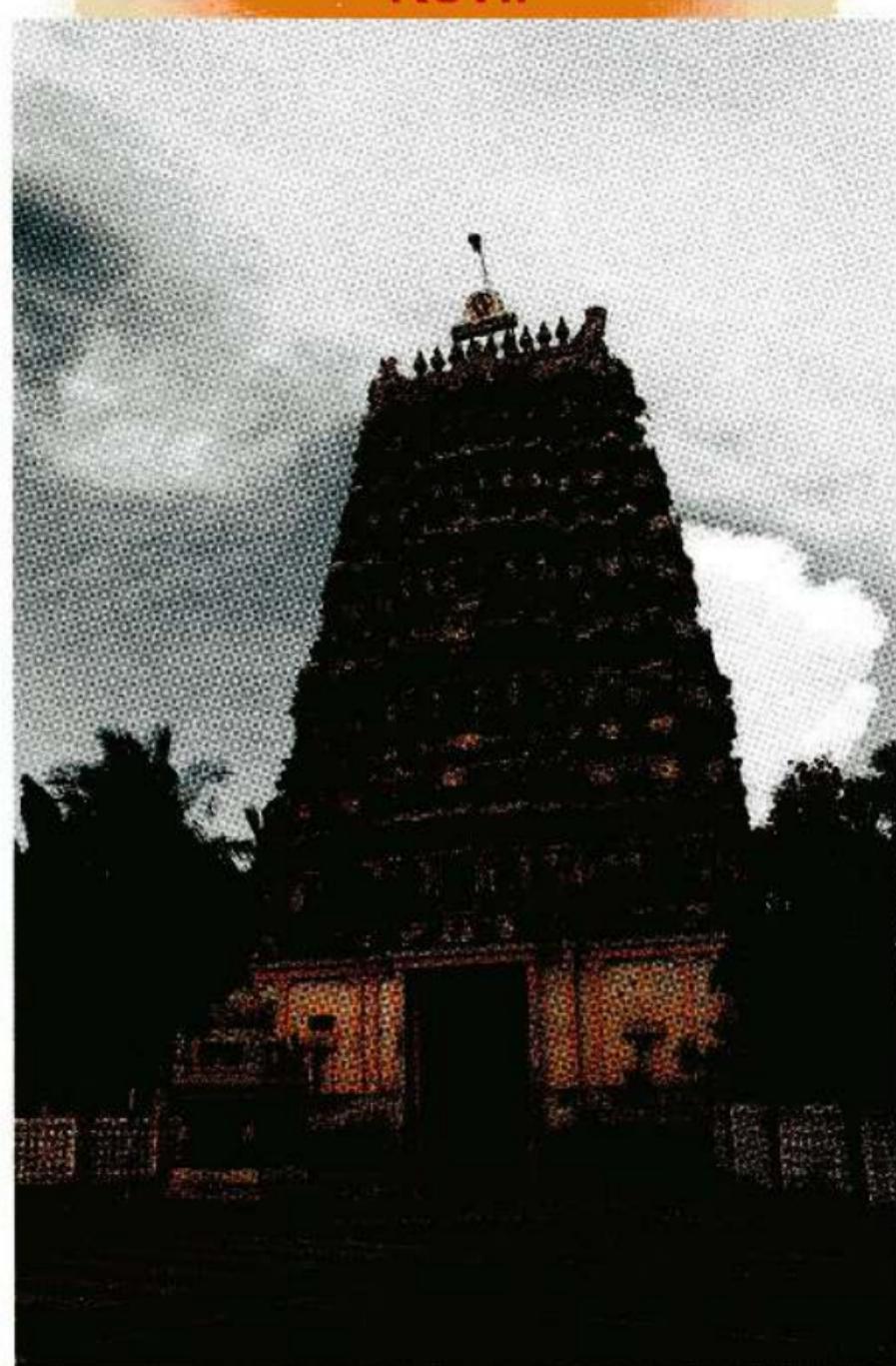


It is one of the historic underground cave structure found in Jaffna by the Archaeological department. There are interesting legends regarding this caves. There are five channels in this cave. According to the locals, one channel goes to Nilavarai deep well and the other connects with the nearby beach. There is an underground path which is approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ km leading to the seashore & Sinnamalai the terminal point of the Mandapakadu beach area. This is treasured as much as an Archeological important. They kept out the intruders in to the village who came to break limestone rocks lies along the underground pathway.

This underground pathway is called as 'Mandapakadu' in Kerudavil South. There is another historical story that, the

area king of Jaffna built a special refuge 'Pilathuvaram' and undergroundbuilding with halls for appointment at Kerudavil and also to take shelter in times of emergency. The underground refuge is still in existence to this day. It is about 25km from Jaffna on AB 20 then 3 km on left towards Udupiddy

Maviddapuram Kandhasamy Kovil

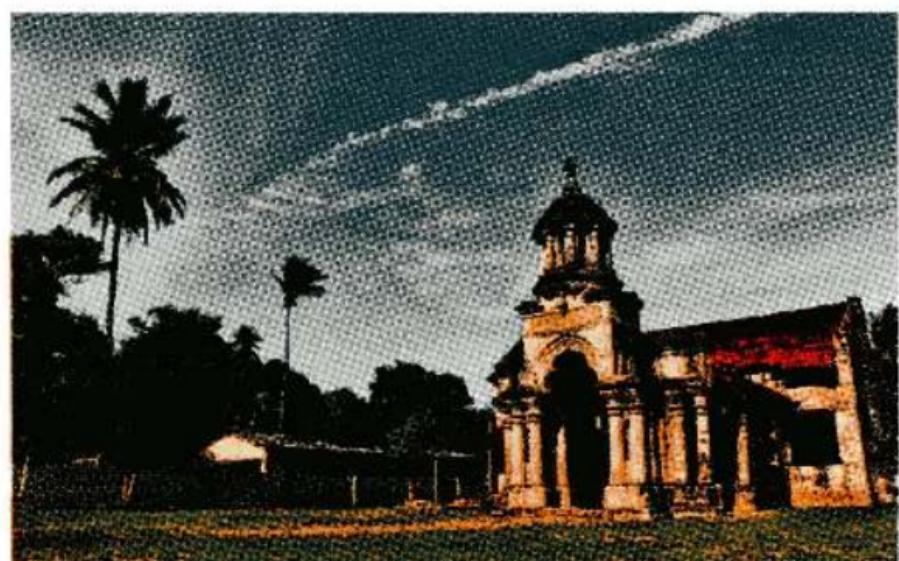


This temple was constructed during 8th century AD. Mathurapiravikavalli - a Chola princess was cursed to be born

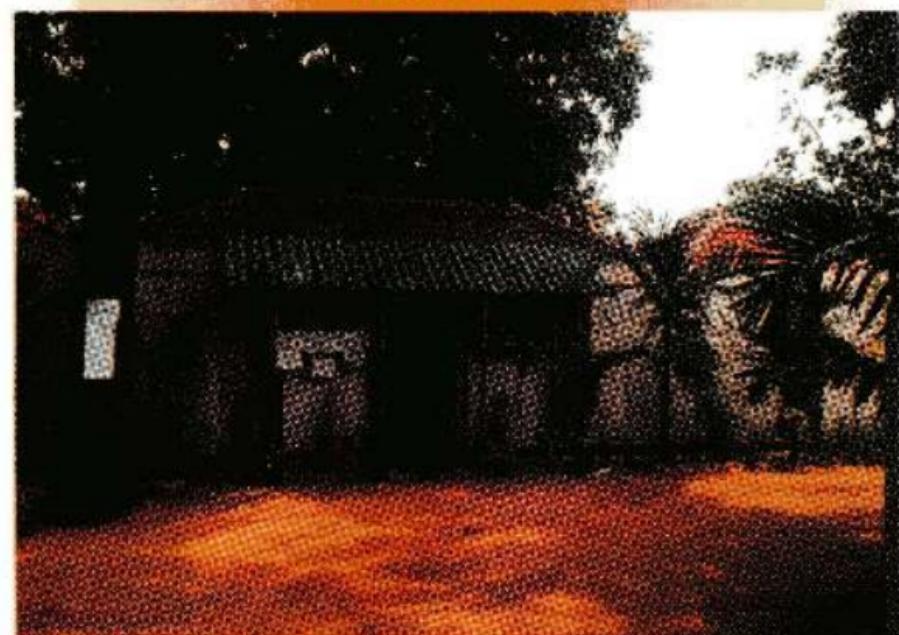
with a horse face. The princess visited many places to get rid of the horse face but failed. She came to Sri Lanka, prayed to God Murugan at this temple and took a bath in the Keerimali pond. The horse face disappeared. Even now, on the last day of the annual festival the water-cutting ceremony is held at Keerimali pond. "Ma" means Horse; "Vidda" means removed; "Puram" means holy city. This is a holy place where the horse face was removed. This temple is dedicated to God Skanda and situated close to Kankesanthurai, which was formerly known by the name of Gayathurai. However, since the image of God Skanda also known Kankesan, it is believed that the name was changed as Kankesanthurai. It is believed that the statues in this temple were brought from South India as requested by the Princess to her father, who was the king of Madurai. The 25 days annual festival ends on the new moon day of the month of "Addi". It is about 18km from Jaffna town on KKS road

Manthirimannai

Nallur was the capital of the ancient Jaffna Kingdom. It is the official residence of the minister of King Sankiliyan. Built in the 15th century and reconstructed by Portuguese in 17th century. This building was used as government office during the British era. It is located about a kilo meter from Nallur Kanthaswamy temple and close to Sangiliyan statue on the Jaffna – Point Pedro road.



Navalar Archaeological Museum



In 1918, the first Twynam museum was established in Jaffna. The site of the museum was set in a grove of mahogany trees between St. John's college hall and the main road. The building consisted of three rooms, an octagonal entrance hall and two wings. The foundation stone was laid on 22nd March 1918, by Miss Nora Twynam on the 91st birthday of her father William Crofton Twynam K.C.M.G. who retired from the civil service of Ceylon in 1896, after serving the government

and the public for a period of fifty years. However, the museum is not seen at this place now. In 1956, in a private building in Jaffna at Second Cross Street, a museum was established and various objects and articles of historical and archaeological importance were displayed. This museum came under the administration of the Archaeological Department in 1965 and existed at the same place till 1984. As there was not enough space here, a new museum with eleven display halls was constructed in 1983 in a block of land owned by Sri Arumugam Navalar and gifted to the Department of Archaeology by Arumuga Navalar Foundation in 1978. Later the museum in the second cross street was transferred to the new museum building at the back of the "Navalar Cultural Center on the Navalar road, Jaffna in 1985. This museum displays archaeological evidences of the establishments of early Iron-Age people, ancient and medieval Hindu, Buddhist, Christians and Islamic temple ruins, sculptures, statues, bronzes, paintings, local and foreign coins used in the past.

Naaga vihara



A famous Buddhist temple in Jaffna town, close to Ariyakulam junction. It is about 500 m from Jaffna bus stand on AB 20 route

Nagarkovil – Cobra temple

It is one of the ancient temples where a unique worshiping tradition is practiced. Local and foreign coins and potteries discovered in this region show that the people were sea-fares. Tamil literatures mention that a tax levying centre was in existence during the period of Jaffna Kingdom to collect tax from traders who traded with foreign countries. The presence of a light house in this area shows that foreign trade took place during the European period. This historical background explains the significance of this temple. A popular and unique annual festival called “Kappal Thiuvila” means



ship festival, recounts how the temple was destroyed by the Portuguese. The chief deity of this temple is “Naka” (Cobra) with five heads occupy the Karpakirukam. This temple is also called “Cobra temple”. Temple is surrounded by sand dunes and entirely a village temple. It is located in the Vadamarachchi East.

Naguleswaram temple

It is one of the five pre historic God Siva temples in Sri Lanka. Saint Nagulamunivar arrived here and observed a penance and had a bath in the holy water to get rid of his mongoose face that he had owing to a curse. Lord Naguleswarar's consort is Goddess Nagulambiki.



The front kopuram is 108 feet. The last day of the 15 days annual festival falls on the Maha Sivarathiri day. It is situated near the sea shore in Kirimalai. Travel about 16.1 km from Jaffna town on the KKS road (AB16) to Thellipillai. Then travel about 2.9 km to Keerimalai.

Nallur Kandasamy Kovil



It is a God Murugan temple. The original temple was constructed in 948 AD was rebuilt in three occasions and was eventually destroyed by the Portuguese in the early 16th century. Current temple was built in 18th century as a result of the initiatives taken by Krisniyar Suppaiya and other devotees. At that time, it was a small temple built with stones and bricks. The temple had tiled roof. Later several changes were made and the modern temple is very beautiful structure with "Kopuram". Twenty five days annual festival starts on the sixth day from the new moon day in the month of "Addi". It is situated on the Point Pedro (AB 20) road, 3 km from Jaffna town.

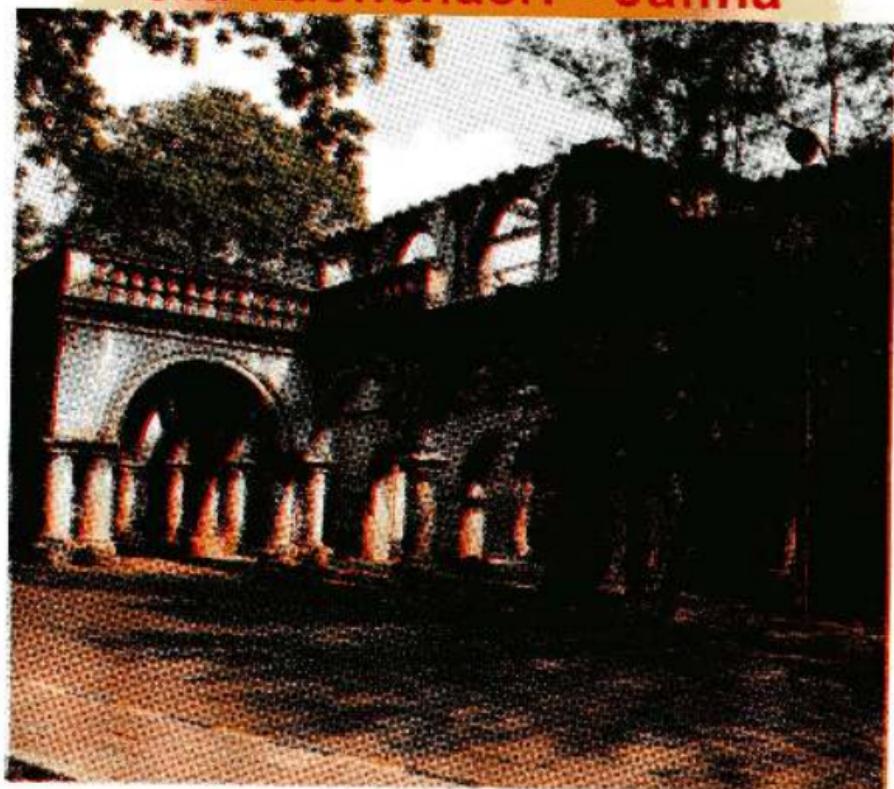
Nilavarai well



According to the Ramayana epic Lord Rama aimed an arrow to get water at this place. It is said to be a bottomless well. The length is 57feet and width is 37 feet. The water never gets depleted and

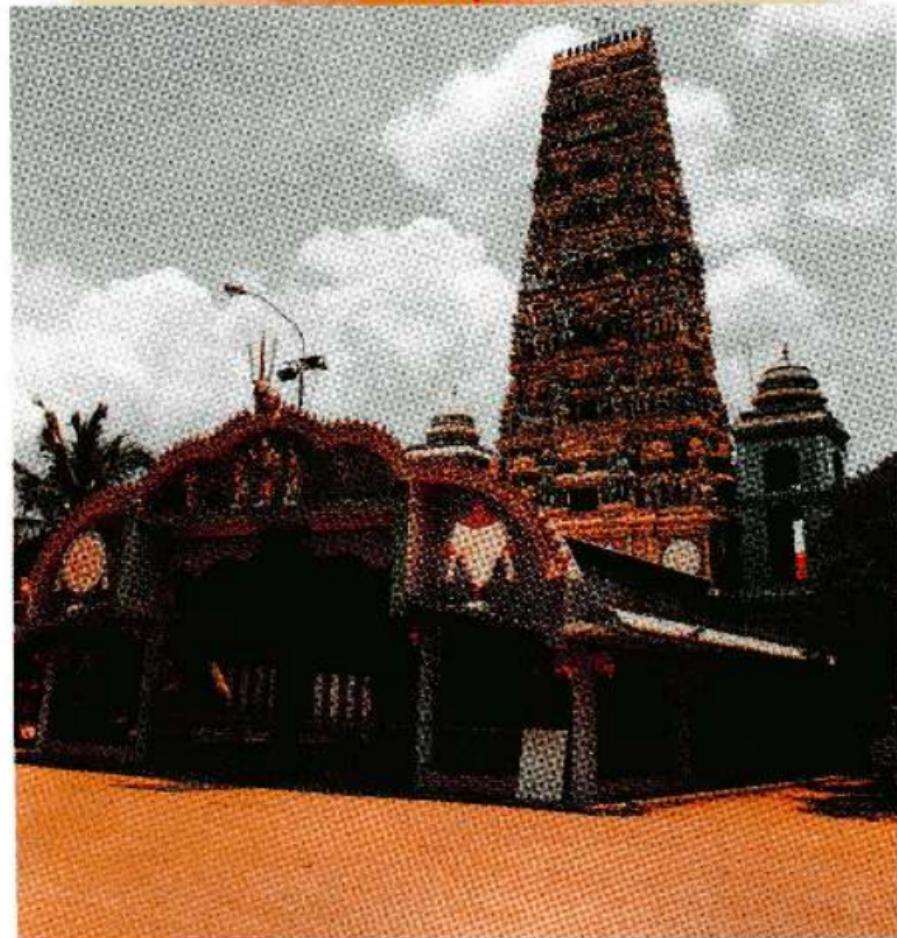
its serves sufficiently for irrigation in the nearby area. This well has connection to Keerimali pond which is situated 10 km from Nilavarai well. It is located 5 km south of Achchuvely along the Rajavity in Puthur.

Old Kachchaeri – Jaffna



The Kachcheri system was introduced by the Dutch. This building was built in the 19th century as Government Agent residence for Northern Province during the British period. The building is entirely British architecture. There are verandahs, archways and timbered ceilings. The walls are thick and solid. At the entrance to the residence there is a plaque which served as a memorial to Percival Acland Dyke, the Government Agent who was responsible in constructing this building. It is located on A9 route opposite the present Kachcheri which is the District Secretariat office of Jaffna.

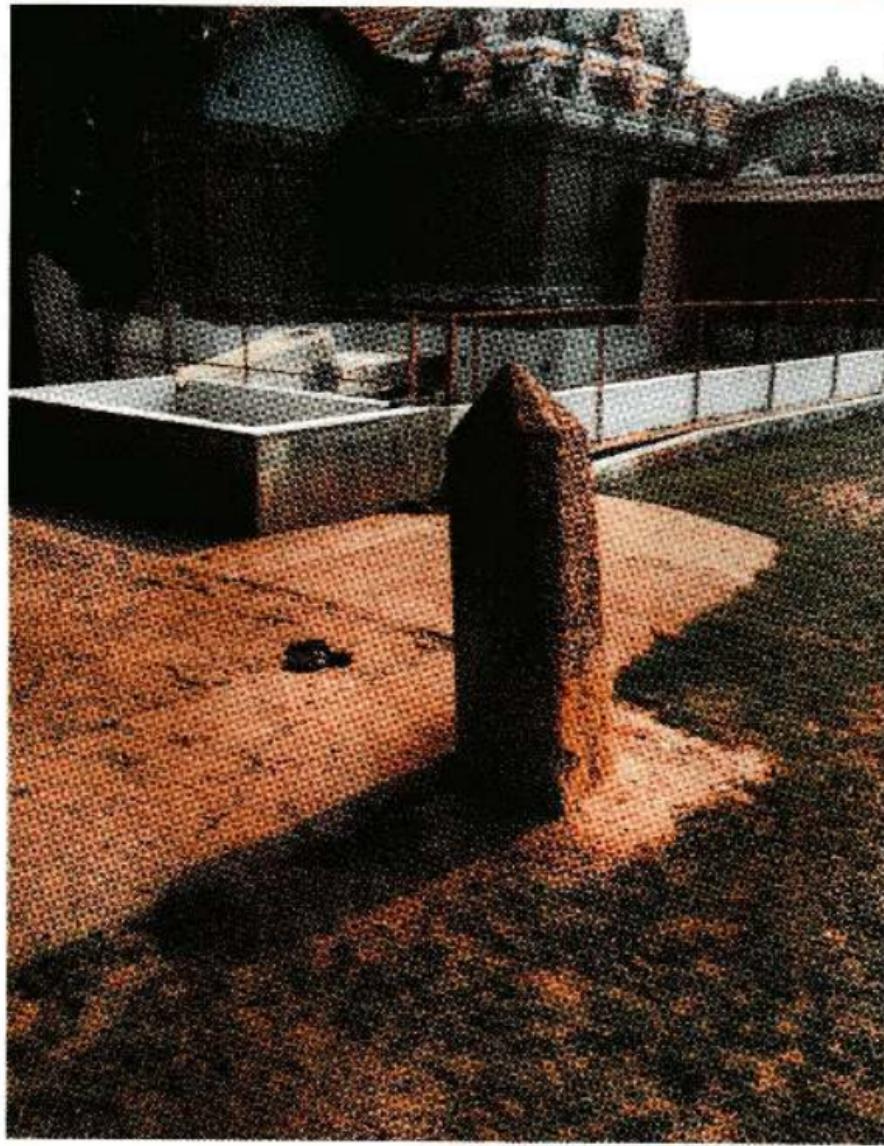
Ponnalai Varatharaja Perumal Temple



In Thaksana Kailsa purna it says that God Vishnu appeared in the form of a tortoise (Koorma Avathara). Travel from Jaffna to Chankani, then to Moolai junction, then to the temple.

Rubbing Stone “Aavuranchu kal”

Alime stone piece, made into a tapered cylindrical shape of about 3 feet and 6 inches high, can be seen erected near a resting place, water tank and shady trees, and it is meant for the cattle to rub their body on it for smoothing effects against skin itching. This is referred to as “Aavuranchu kallu” in Tamil. Naturally large shady trees are ideal and comfortable resting place for humans and cattle. The

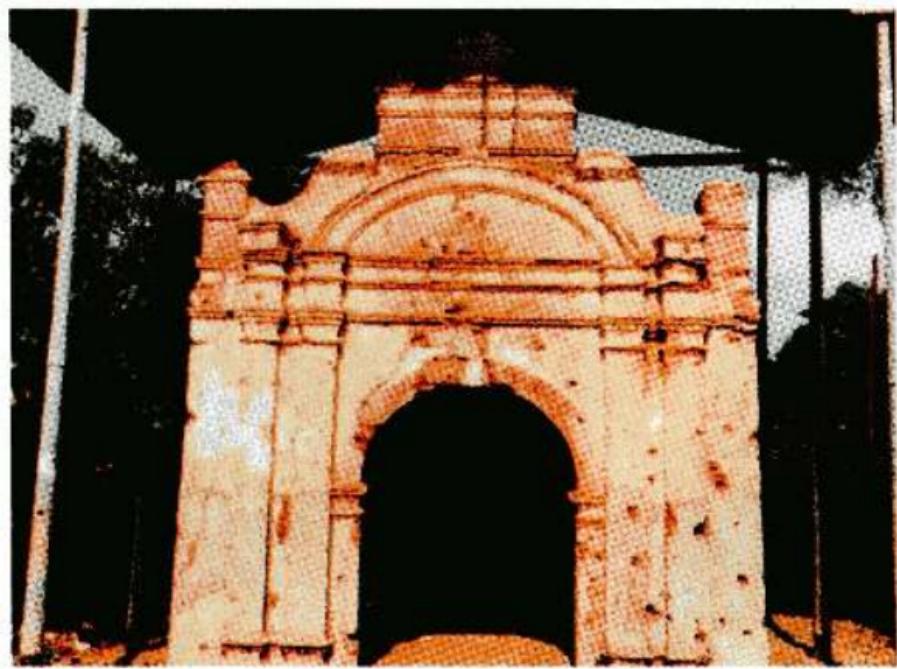


shady trees continue to remain part of the resting complex, as they are useful in keeping the environment cool and pleasant and they still provide the much needed shade for animals to rest. From Jaffna bus stand to Standly Road then take Manipay - Karainagar Road (AB17 route) to Vaddukoddai – Kokuvil Road (B230) about 4.4 km to Aavuranchu kal. There are also Aavuranchu kal at Uduppiddy, Chankanai, Varani, Pullogy, Thondaman aru, and Karinagar

Sangiliyan Thoppu

This is conserved as a monument to remember the Nallur Kingdom and called by the name 'Sangiliyan' the last king who ruled

Nallur Kingdom. It is situated on the Jaffna – Point Pedro road close to Mantirimanai.



Sangiliyan statue



When the rule of Cenpakkapperumal ended in the 1460's, the Ariyacakkaravarti dynasty ruled Jaffna. Later the rule of local kings followed. There were two kings by

the name of Sangiliyan I and Sangaliyan II. Though the long rule of Sangiliyan I (1519 – 1561 AD) was remarkable in the history of Jaffna, the last king of Jaffna Kingdom Sangiliyan II is remembered very much throughout the history of Jaffna. King Sangiliyan II, ascended the throne after the death of king Etirmannacingam in 1617. King Sangiliyan II was in good terms with the Portuguese in the early period. Later his anti-Christian stand and refusal to pay tribute to the Portuguese, and his collaboration with the Kandyan king and South Indian forces to curb Portuguese domination, and also bringing weapons in five vessels from Calicut in India, made the Portuguese to oust Sangiliyan II from the throne in 1619. Nallur was the capital of Jaffna Kingdom. The Portuguese invaded Jaffna by land and Sea. The Tamil forces were defeated and Sangiliyan II was captured during his escape to South India. Portuguese arrested him with dozens of others and sent to Goa prison. The present statue was erected in the 1980's and the land east of the statue was proclaimed as the Sangiliyan Park by the Municipality in memory of him. It is situated in Nallur, 3 1/2 km from Jaffna bus stand on Point Pedro road.

Sella Sanathi temple

It is by the side of the Thonda manaru. Chief deity is God Murugan. The annual festival which last for 15 days terminate on the full moon day of 'Aavani'. The



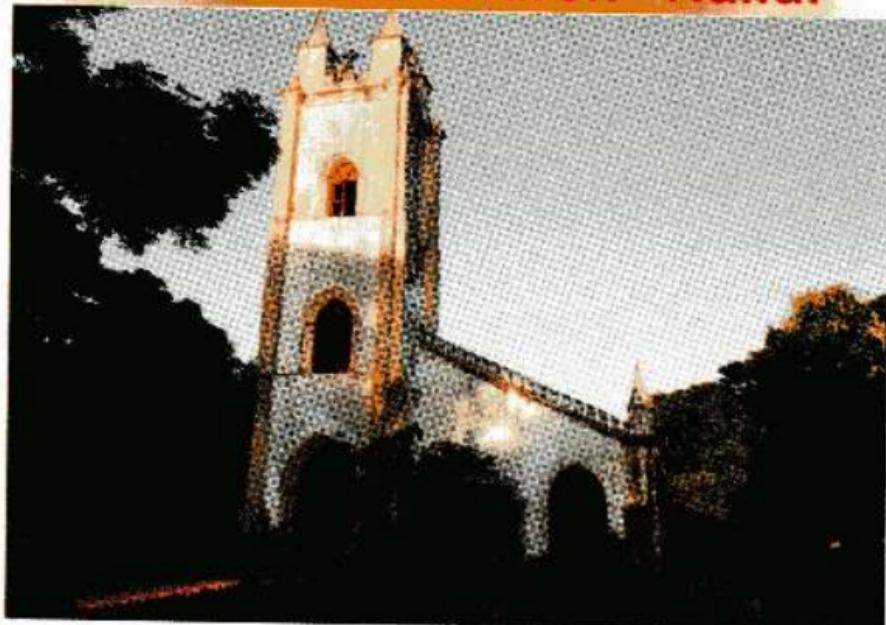
poojas are held in accordance with distinct Saivistic norms, devoid of the Veda or Agamic precepts. The devotees who visit this temple are always served with rice and curry. The "Patha Yathra" commences from this temple 45 days prior to the annual festival of Kataragama Temple. The "Patha Yathra" is through the coastal belt of the east coast. The journey starts from the Sella Sanathi temple and ends at Kataragama on the day that the first day of the Kataragama annual festival where the hoisting of the flag takes place. Travel on the Jaffna – Point Pedro road (AB 20) for nearly 21.4 km and reach Vallai Junction. Take the Valai – Valvettithurai road (B 438) travel nearly 700 m.

St. Mary's cathedral - Jaffna



St. Mary's Cathedral is the seat of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Jaffna located in Jaffna. The construction of St. Mary's cathedral was completed in 1983. The first parish priest was Rev. Fr. Leonard Rebeiro. The church was built on the site of a thatched house that had previously served as a worshipping place for Jaffna's Catholics. St Mary's Cathedral is astonishingly large, but it is curious to see corrugated-iron roofing held up by such a masterpiece of wooden vaulting.

St. James Church - Nallur



In 1817 the Anglican Church Mission Society (CMS) approved the establishment of missions in Ceylon. On 20 December 1817 four clergymen - Joseph Knight, Samuel Lambrick, Robert Major and Benjamin Ward - and their wives left England and sailed to Ceylon on board the *Vittoria*. They arrived in late June 1818. Knight went to Jaffna and started his missionary work in 1818 in Nallur. In 1820 Knight bought a mission house

in Nallur to conduct regular services. An old, dilapidated Dutch church next to the mission house was handed over to the mission by the government in 1823. This church was the site of the Nallur Kandaswamy Temple before it was destroyed by the Portuguese. After extensive repairs this church was opened to the public for worship on 25 July 1828 (St. James' day). Bishop James Chapmancon secreted the church in 1847 and in 1849 and the 60 feet tower was added. The church was declared as an archaeological protected monument in December 2011.

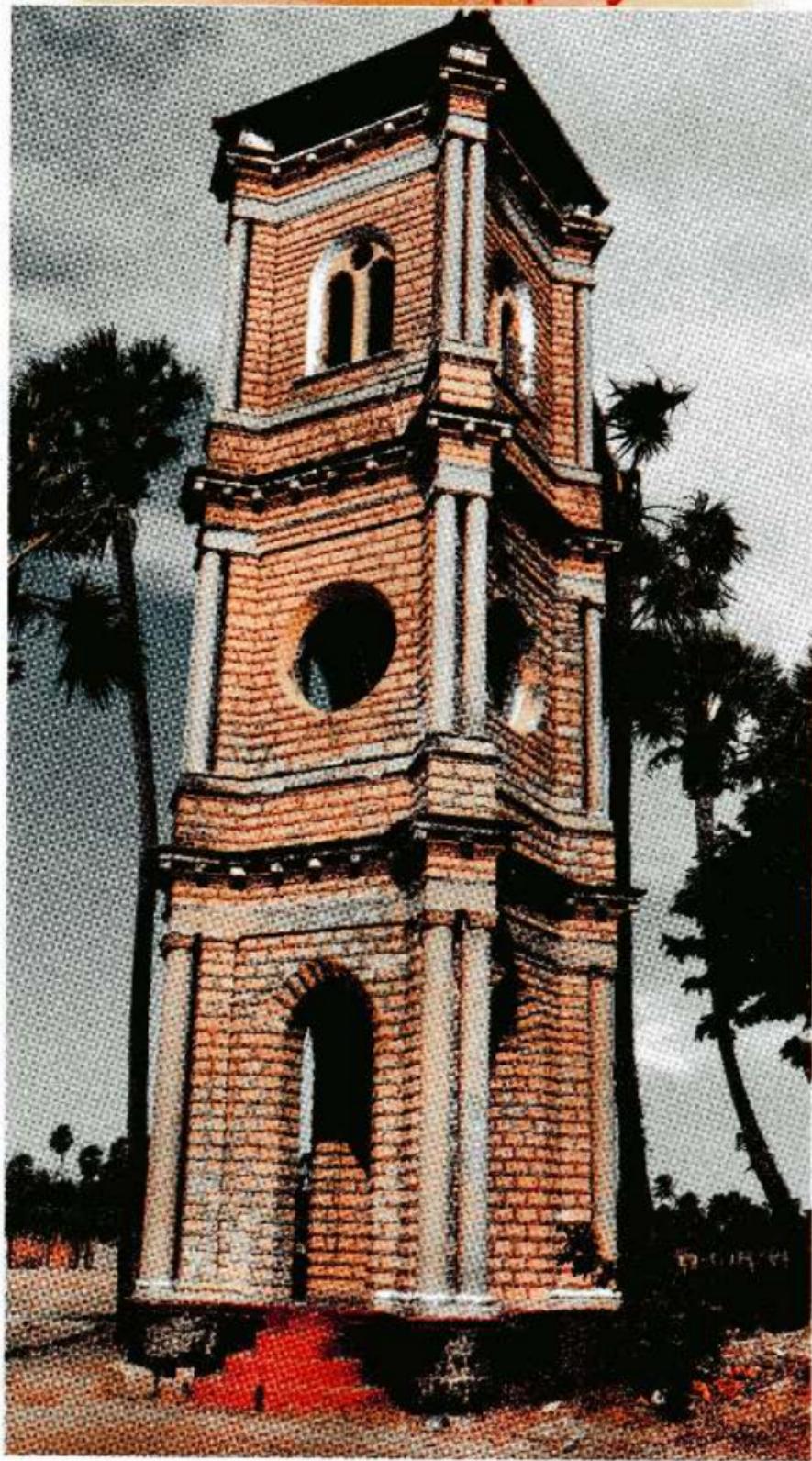
St. James church Jaffna



A temporary church was made by a community identified them self as "Gurukulam" in this area in 1624 in Gurunagar Jaffna. The construction of a permanent church began in 1861 and was completed in 1870. The length of this Church is 232 feet, width 82 feet, the height of the Dome is 81 feet and the entrance is 58 feet. There are six steps around the temple. The temple was

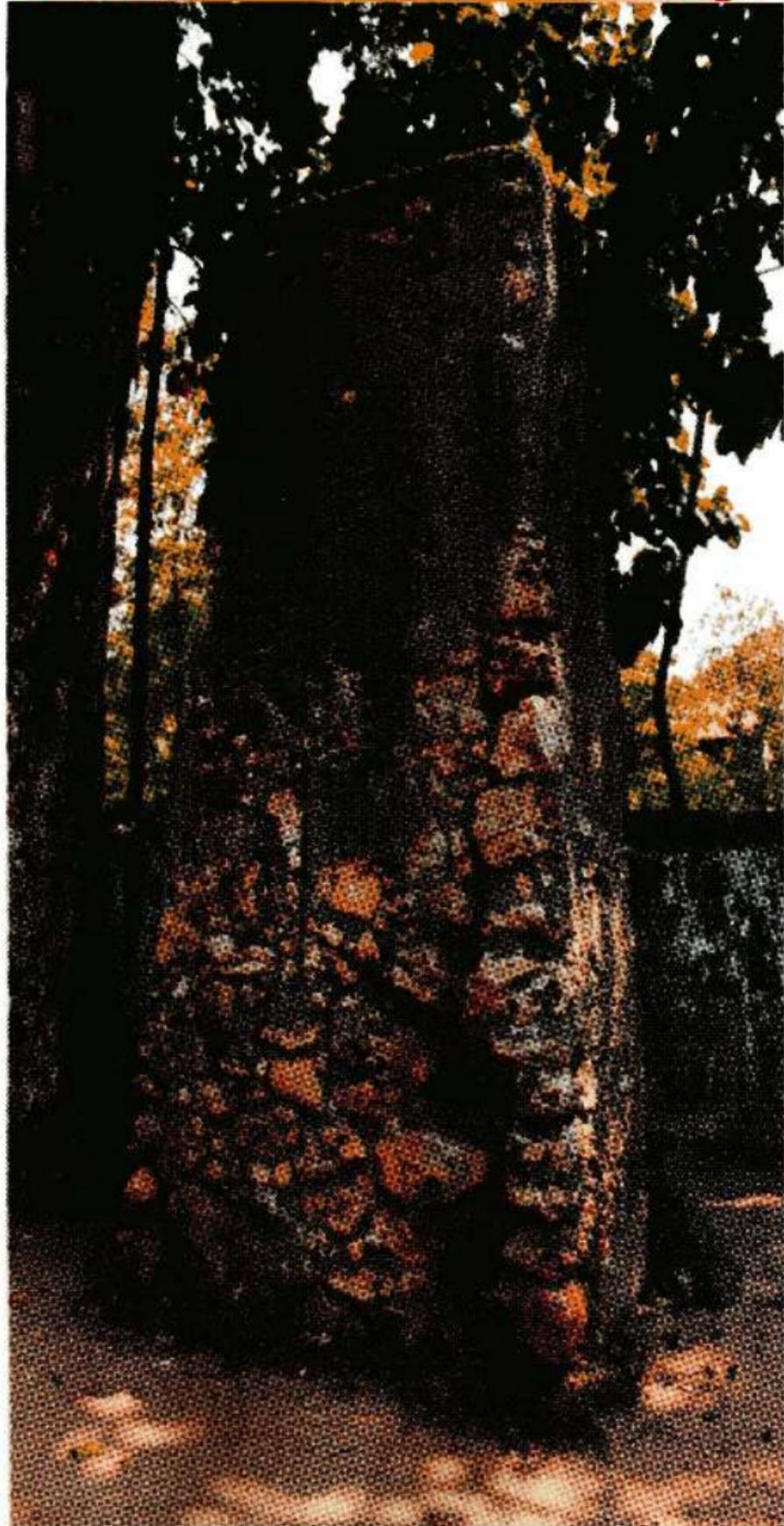
constructed using local materials but similar to Roman architecture.

St. James Church and Bell tower - Allaippitty



This bell tower was founded by British government in 1610. Travel along the Jaffna – Kaytes road (AB 19) 8.2 km and to Allaipiddy St John church 1.7 km.

Second world war sound stage



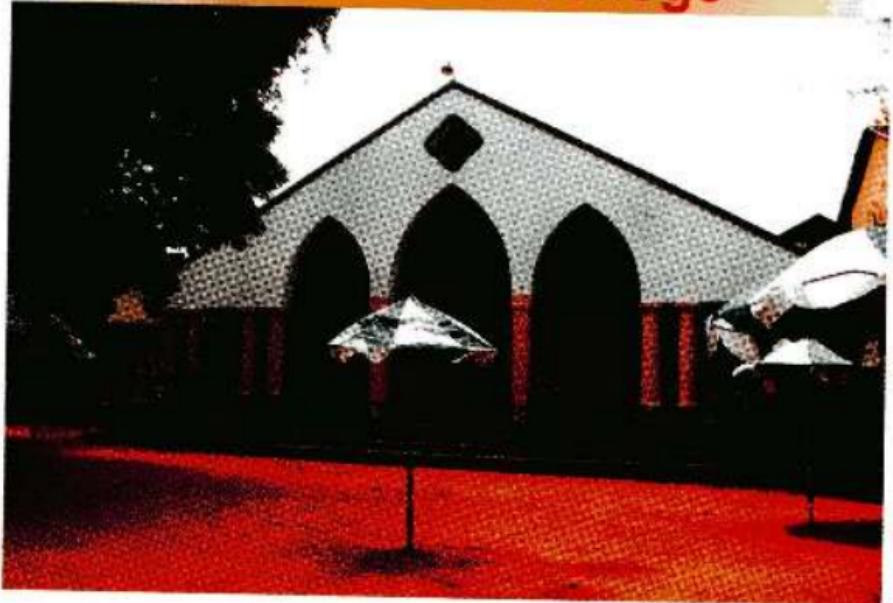
During the world war two there were possibilities for foreign aircrafts to drop bombs in Sri Lanka. To alert the people and to be in safe place the forces use to make a loud sound from this stage. It is located in front of St John's college Jaffna.

Thellipalai Durkai Amman Temple



Sri Durgadevi Temple of Tellippalai has become one of the most popular places of worship during the last few decades. The twelve days annual festival is held in the Hindu month of "Avani". Thellippalai

Uduvil Girl's college



Uduvil Girls' College is private school for girls only. Founded in 1820 by American missionaries, it is one of Sri Lanka's oldest schools. In 1816 American missionaries founded the American Ceylon Mission in Jaffna. The mission established numerous schools in the peninsula. The first school was Union College in Tellippalai. In 1820 a seminary was established in Uduvil in an abandoned Franciscan mission built by the Portuguese. Harriet Winslow (1796–1823), a missionary turned it into an all-girls boarding school in 1824. It was called Missionary Seminary and Female Central School. It was Asia's first all-girls boarding school.

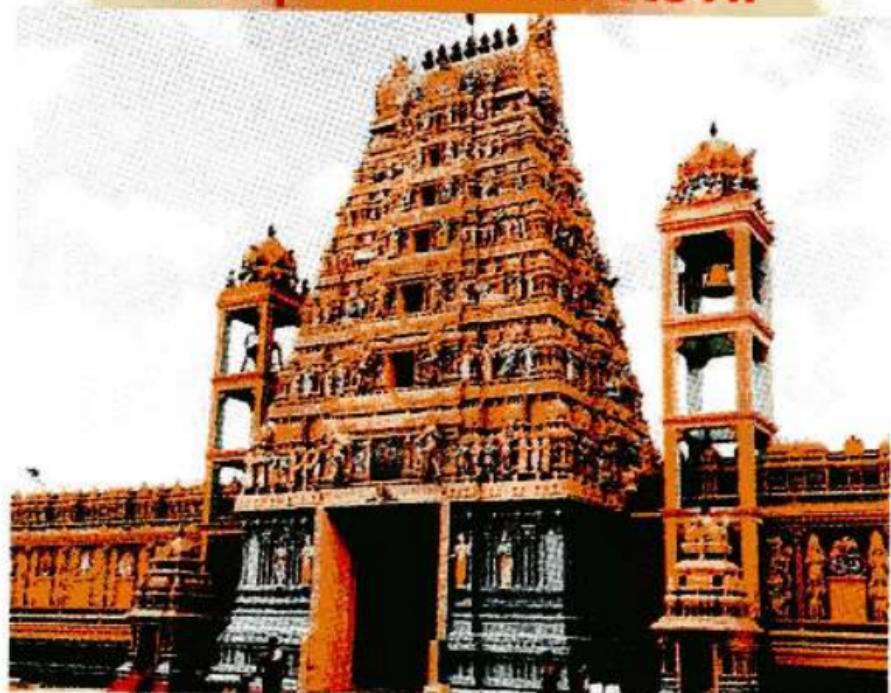
Urani spring



This area people believe this water prevent many skin diseases. Even though the Urani spring is located close to the sea the water is fresh, clean, no salience and good for drinking. The name "Polikandy" is meant for having high yield in cash crops, fishing & sweet toddy. The Polykandy Kanthavanam temple is an ancient temple

located closer to the border of the village. Many devotees from various places in Sri Lanka, India visited and created hymns and thevaram especially for God Murugan. Deity is taken in procession for water cutting ceremony called 'theertha thiruvila' Urani kerni which is called 'Urani spring'. This area has a historical background for palmyrah sugar.

Vallipuram Alvar Kovil



Vallipuram was one of the ancient capital of the Northern Kingdoms of Sri Lanka. The Vishnu temple here was constructed around the 13th century. Tamil Buddhist and Hindus co-existed here. There is a legend which states that one woman named Valli worshiped God Vishnu on the sea coast. A big fish caught by the fisher-folks jumped about the place and at last fell on the lap of Valli. The fish transformed as a child in the form of God Vishnu and then disappeared. Then a sage gave a "Cakkaram" to them. Since then,

the Vishnu Cakkram has been worshipped in the temple. To confirm the above statements, the Vishnu "Cakkaram" is kept in the "Karpakiruham" and worshipped as the chief deity, to date. It is situated about 6 km east of Point Pedro town.

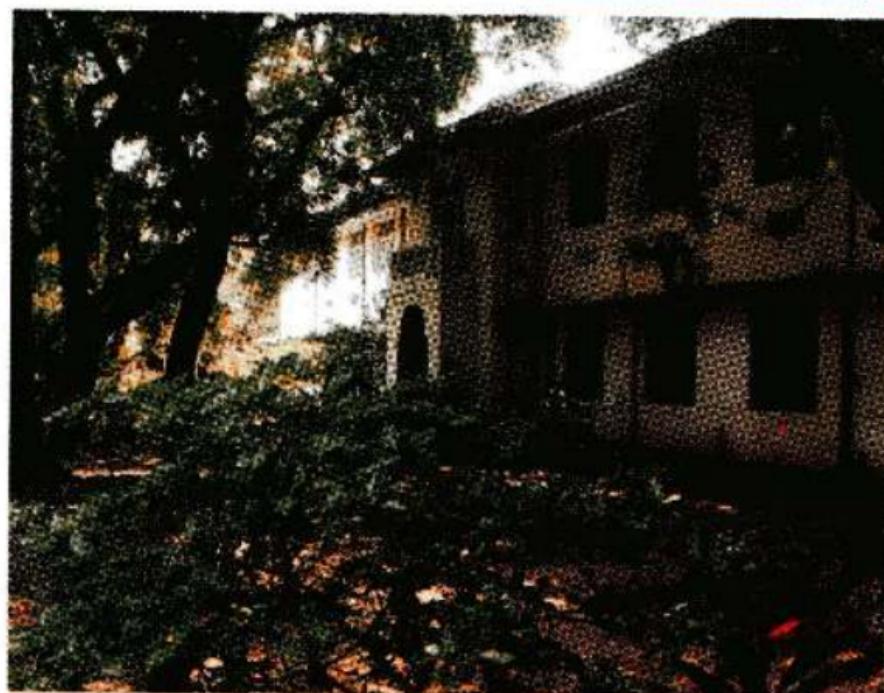
Inuvil Mc Leod Hospital



Several mothers and babies died because there was no proper maternity facilities in Jaffna. It was in 1980 Mary and Margret the two sisters started this hospital in Inuvil. Dr. Ispulla served for the women community and reduced the death rate while confinement. The role played by the American Mission is noteworthy. It is situated about 7 km from Jaffna Town on the AB 16 route.

Green Memorial hospital

Dr Sam Fish Green started in 1843 to practice English medicine in Vaddukoddai. The people did not believe in English medicine during this period. Pundit Mututhamby fell sick and it was unable to treat him using the local medicine at that time. It was Dr. Green who treated Pundit



Mututhamby and he was recovered from his sickness. As a result of this incident Dr. Green became very famous. In 1948 as requested by the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India (JDCSI) Dr. Green started a non – profit hospital in Manipay. This hospital was the first medical school and was used by Dr. Green to train more than 60 locals as doctors during his 30 year tenure in Ceylon as part of the American Ceylon Mission in the middle of the 20th century. It was a state of the art medical institution that served the rich and poor alike. It is about 7.6 km from Jaffna Town on the AB 17 route.

Sumaitankai

In the ancient times people use to carry goods on their heads and walk a long distance. These are places where the people take off the goods and keep it on top of purpose built stones without any assistance of others. There are sumaitanki at Vallipuram, Karinagar, Neervelli, and Neliyaddy.



Inuvil Pararajasekaram Pillayar Kovil



King Pararajasekaram who belonged to the eleventh generation of the Ariya Chakaravarthies . The main deity installed in the sanctorum (Karbagraham) is the God Pillayar. This was made by reputed Indian sculptors and installed in this temple. It is 6.4 km from Jaffna town. Take AB16 route to Inuvil Kandaswamy kovil junction and then take the Singathin Kaladdy veedi.

Bird sanctuaries



Manditivu is a small island measuring 800 meters by 3.2 km off the coast of Jaffna Peninsula to which it is linked by a causeway. This is a wonderful place to visit for bird watching as the marshy lagoons and scrubs are flocked by great many varieties of winged creatures. For bird enthusiasts this place can be a real paradise with many species to be spotted including flamingo, black drongo, rose-ringed parakeet, greater coucal, spot – billed duck, painted stork, black tailed godwit, marsh sandpiper, whimbrel, Eurasian curlew, Eurasian Hoopoe, Brahminy kite, and Golden backed woodpecker. It is 7km from Jaffna. Take AB19 route. Kurikaddu is another place for bird watching. It is at Maruthankeerny near the Nagar Kovil. In a dense scrubs birds can be seen in nests.

Urellu pokkinnai

This is a historical place at Urellu east. Pokkinnai means well. There are different views from the local residence to the date it was constructed. According to Ramayana



after having water at the Nillavarai well both Lord Rama and Sita devi visited this pokkinnai. Then they reached this place Sita devei was thirsty and as a result Lord Rama constructed this well. At this place it is seen the Lord Rama's thump and elbow prints.

Viramakali Amman temple



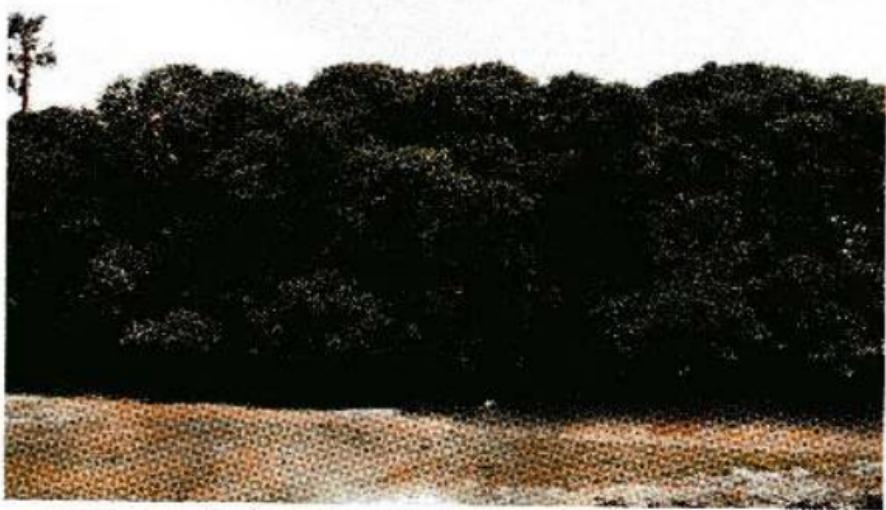
This temple was built by King Sangiliyan during the Nallur kingdom period. This "Amman" was worshiped by the local kings to win in battles with the invaders of this area. This temple was demolished by Portuguese and now there is a new temple at this place. It is situated near the Nallur Kanthaswamy temple.

Viluntri



There is a God Siva temple at this site. Hindus believe that Lord Rama after killing King Ravana worshipped God Shiva along the shore of Villuntri Holy water, before he went to Rameswaram through Tanuskoti to worship God Shiva. Ancient hymns of the Villuntri Vinayakar temple refers Villunti as Purvatanuskodi. It is situated along the seashore, in the Vannarpannai area. It is about one mile west of the Jaffna town.

Delft Island Boabab tree

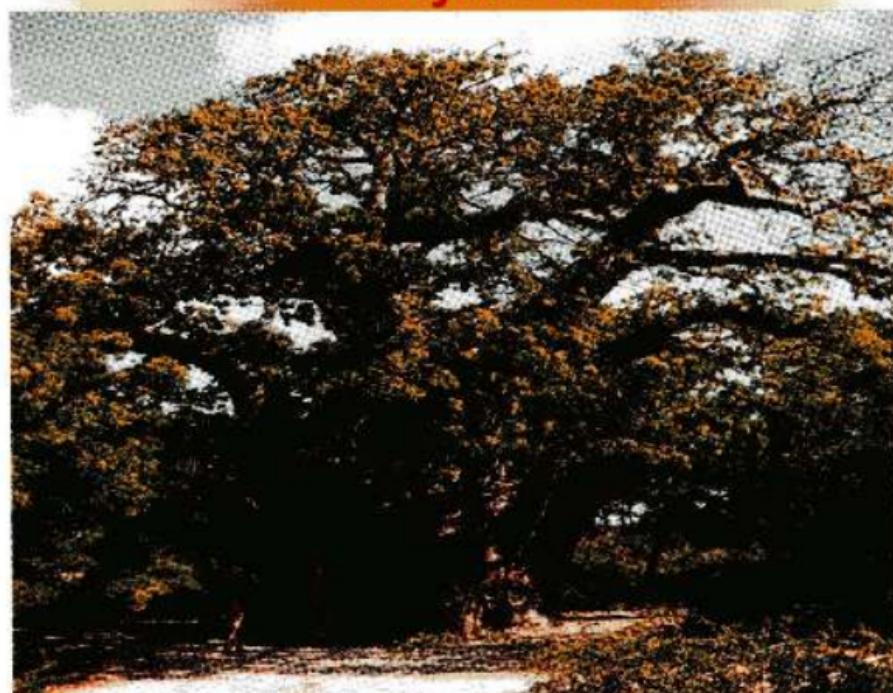


It is the biggest tree in Jaffna. In Tamil it is called "Perukkumaram". These trees were brought down by Arabian traders in

7th century. This tree has the potential to save water up to 100,000 liters. All the parts of the trees have medicinal values.

There is hallow space at the bottom of the tree and it look very impressive to the visitors. It is located in the Delft east about 3 km south-west of the jetty.

Banyan tree

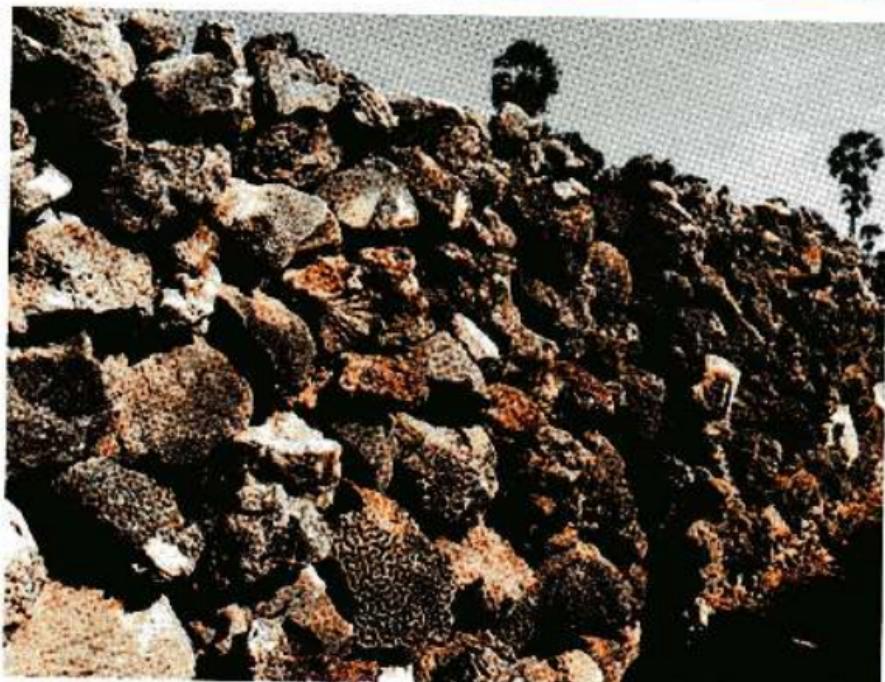


It is a very old giant banyan tree in nearly one acre land and its main trunk is untraceable. It is in the east of Delft.

Coral stone fences

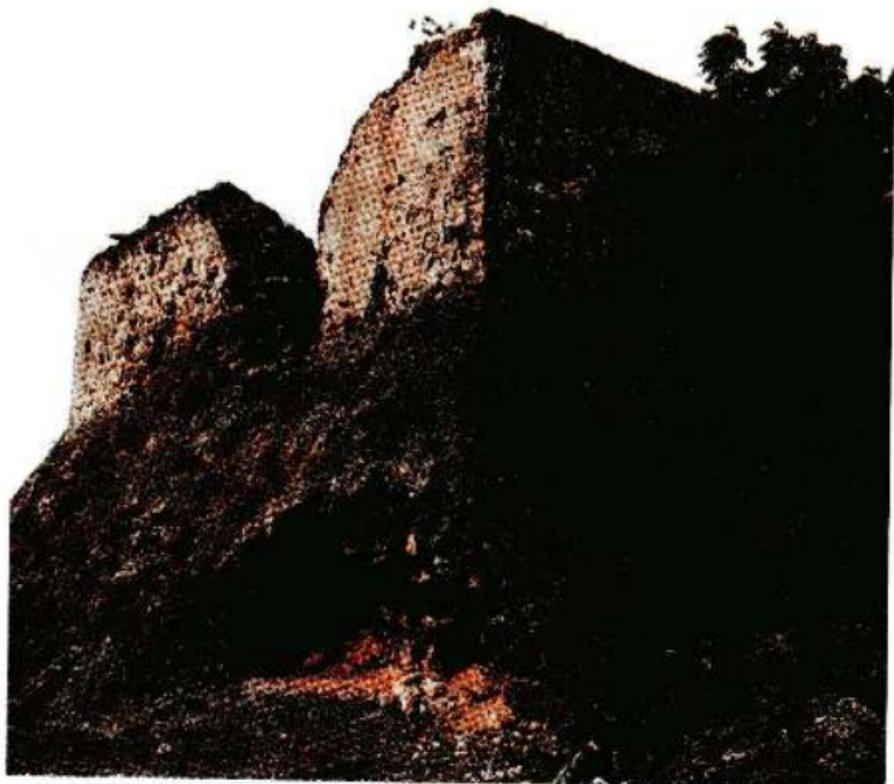
In Delft, mostly the boundaries of the land or houses are made out of coral stone fence. A foundation of 2' width and 1 ½' depth foundation is made and filled with small stoned.

On top of the foundation the coral stones are ranged in a systematic manner to build the fence. To construct these fences cement is not used.



This types of fences are unique to Delft and not seen in other parts of Sri Lanka. Without applying cement, stones are methodically arranged one on top of another.

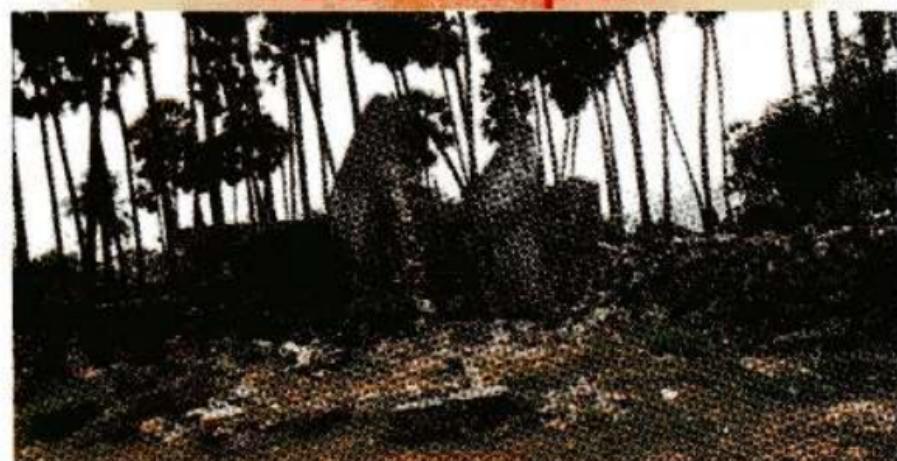
Dutch Fort



It is also called as Mehaman fort. Remains of the Dutch fort can be seen. This fort was built for the purpose of keeping prisoners and used to as storage

of explosive in the ground floor. First floor served as officers' quarters. It is located in Delft north.

Dutch Hospital



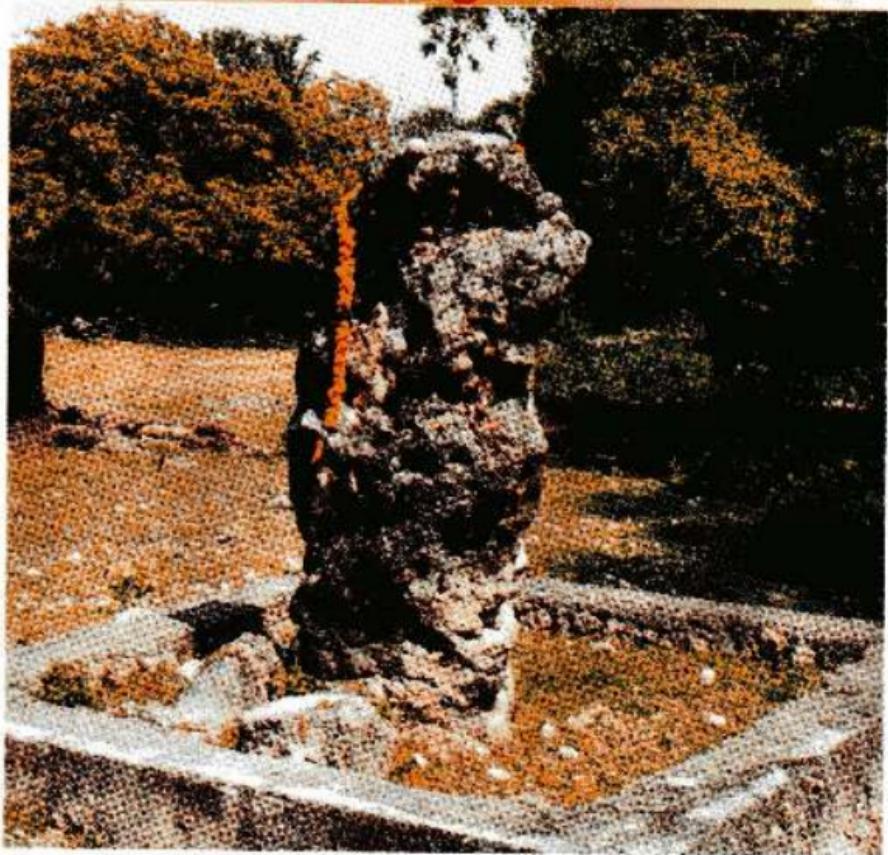
Although it was built by the Dutch as a hospital it was heavily used as an administrative complex during the British period. It is again used as a hospital at present.

Forty feet man's foot



2 ½' long foot print can be seen on a lime stone. Based on the length of the foot the height of the person was estimated as forty. There is also a belief that this

Growing Stone



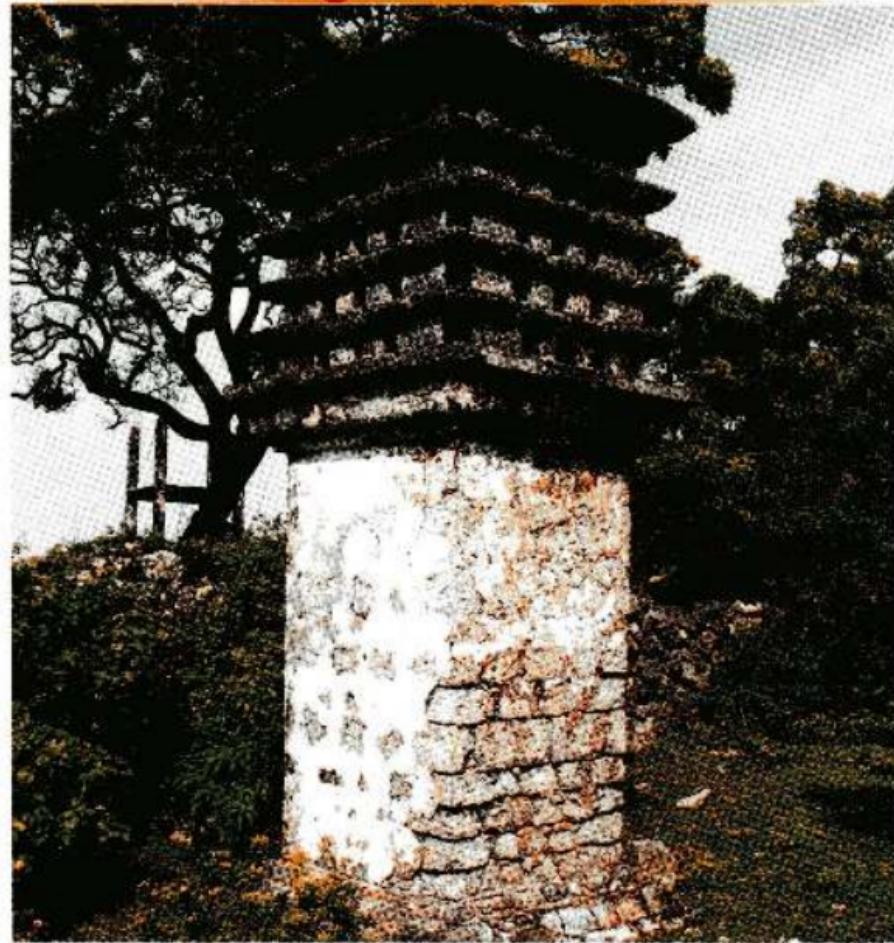
is the foot print of Lord Hanumanji . There are also similar foot prints in the east of Delft but they are not clearly visible now. It is located in Delft west. There is a stone that was only one foot in 1964 grew over a period of time and it looks like a cobra and the present height is four feet. People worship this growing stone and it is in close proximity to a Hindu temple.

Horse stables

The pillars found are constructed by the Dutch for tethering the horses and still found in the area. There was a building complex of 300 meter length and 50 meter width to take care of the horses in this area. Later it was used by the British. Now only the ruins of this complex are seen. Horse stables are located at a distance of 7.1 km from the Delft port.



Pigeon's Nest



It was built by the Dutch. It is made of coral stones, with a solid base about eight feet square, up to a height of fifteen feet. Then on to the solid base Pigeon cage

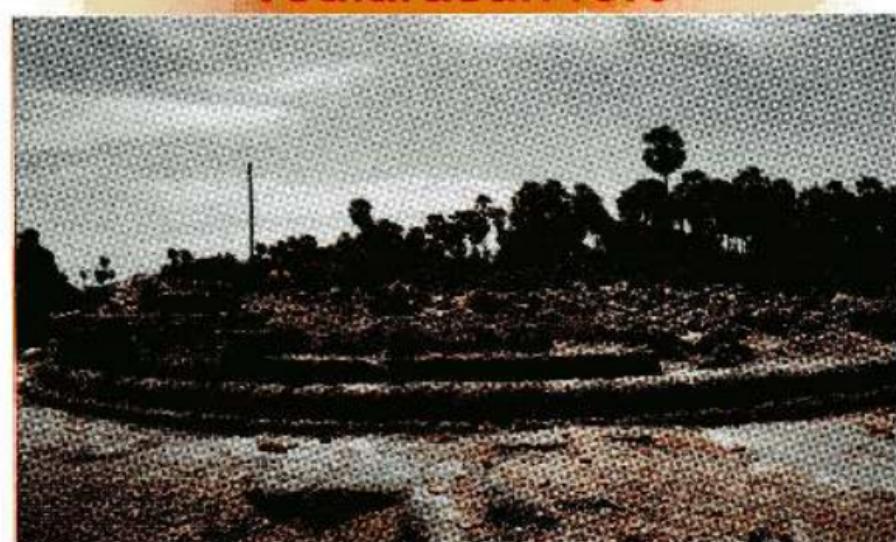
house of five blocks was constructed. There are eighty small cages. Pigeons were used as messengers to carry messages. It is located on to Delft north. Due to the change of climate the pigeons use to come from foreign countries to Sri Lanka. To provide them with the facility to stay this pigeon nest was made. It is located to the north of Delft.

Queen tower



It is a light house built by Dutch using coral stones. It was the practice to set fire on the basement and its sparks travel through a small tunnel upwards. The light seen on the top of the lighthouse indicated the location to sailors or fishermen in the night. In 1905 it was reconstructed by British. It is located in the south of Delft.

Vediarasan fort



King Vediyaaran constructed this fort and ruled from here. Now you can see only the ruins of this building. It is similar to Chola architecture. Archaeologists during the excavation works carried out found old coins, pots and pans, and roof tiles. At present only the ruins of the fort can be seen. Located in Delft west

Wild Horses

Around 1000 wild horses can be seen at present and they roam freely over the flat, grassy, windswept plain in the south of Delft. During the 17th century Portuguese brought down the horses to this Island. It is forbidden to remove the horses from Delft.



Ninativu



This island is three miles long and one mile wide. Travel from Jaffna to Kurikatuwan and then take the ferry to Nainativu.

Nagapooshani temple

This temple is considered as one of the ancient "Naga" temples in North of Sri Lanka. It is one of the 64 "Shakthi peedams" and this temple is the only one in Sri Lanka. According Ramayana epic King Ravana worshiped God Shiva at this



temple. According a legend, a cobra use to bring flowers and worship the “Skathi” goddess in this temple. One day and eagle tried to catch the cobra and to safeguard it tied round a rock. There was another rock close by and the eagle was waiting on this rock for the cobra to leave and them to catch it. At that time a trader was passing and tried to chase the eagle. The eagle said that if the trader agrees to construct a temple for “Skathi” then it will fly off. The trader agreed to the condition laid by the eagle and constructed a temple at the site. As a result it was possible to safeguard the cobra. To remember this event during the annual festival of this temple a special ceremony is carried out. This is one of the rare temples which provide meals to devotees on a daily basis throughout the year.

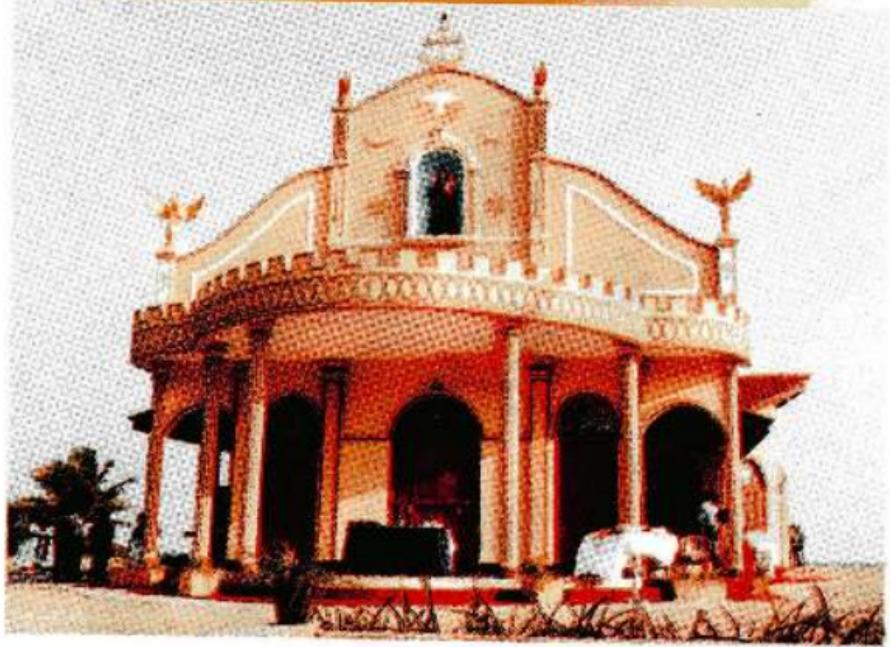
Nagadeepa Purana Vihara

The site is known as the place where Buddha came during his second visit to Sri Lanka, after five years of attaining Enlightenment, to intervene and mediate



in settling a dispute between two Naga Kings, Chulodara and Mahodara over the possession of a gem-studded throne. Buddha settled the dispute and the gem – stud throne was given to Buddha as a gift. On full moon days large number of Buddhist visit this temple.

Katchatheevu - St.Anthony's Catholic Shrine



In this island the only structure is a beautiful church named after St. Anhtony,

patron-saint of seafarers, to whom the feast is dedicated. It was built by an Indian catholic called Srinivasa Padaiyachi. The church festival runs for three days in March. The priests from both India and Sri Lanka conduct the mass and car procession. The area of this island is 285-acre. It is accessible by boat only during the festival period. Travel time from Kurikattuwan in is around four hours.



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