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Title: Mapping *Ambalamas* and connecting with *Viharas* and *Walawwas*

There has been very little scholarly research on the **Places of Rest (Ambalamas)** of Sri Lanka albeit

On the field trips, the Samkathana Research Team was amazed at the many *Ambalamas* that mark the junctions and bridges over water ways connecting Forts, *Viharas* and *Walawwas* that former road ways of the 19th century can be traced. Also the *Viharas* were supported by the *Rate Mahattayas* living in a *Walawwa* or the villages owned by the temple or provided *Rajakariya* to the temple show an old network that is documented in the *LekamMiti* that have been seen by the team on the field trips conducted so far.

The following *Ambalamas* have been identified by the Samkathana Research Team on the Field Trips to Gampaha in July and August 2015. As such, the survey is already complete and we present the list here.

1. Awariyawala Ambalama
2. Ambagaspitiya Ambalama
3. Ambagaspitiya
4. Bollatha Ambalama
5. Balabowa Ambalama
6. Koswinna Ambalama
7. Yatawaka Ambalama
8. Mattagoda Galkade Ambalama
9. Udammita Ambalama
10. Bogahawatta Ambalama
11. Amunugoda Ambalama
12. Bulugahagoda Ambalama
13. Weagowwa Ambalama
14. Bothale Ambalama.

These *Ambalamas* seem to be scattered but closer observation reveals that they are connected within a net work of *Viharas* and *Walawwas* marking the ancient routes of travellers.

This presentation will show case the current research carried by the Samkathana Team of the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Kelaniya. The focus will be the methodology used to rediscover these ancient routes.