

HISTORY OF URBAN PLANNING

Kolkata

In August 1690, when Job Charnock was looking for a good landing-place on the Hugli to set up an outpost of the East India Company, the present site of Kolkata was possibly the best available. Thus Kolkata started growing around the harbour and fort and the three existent villages of Sutani, Kalikata and Gobindapur.

strategic site and defence

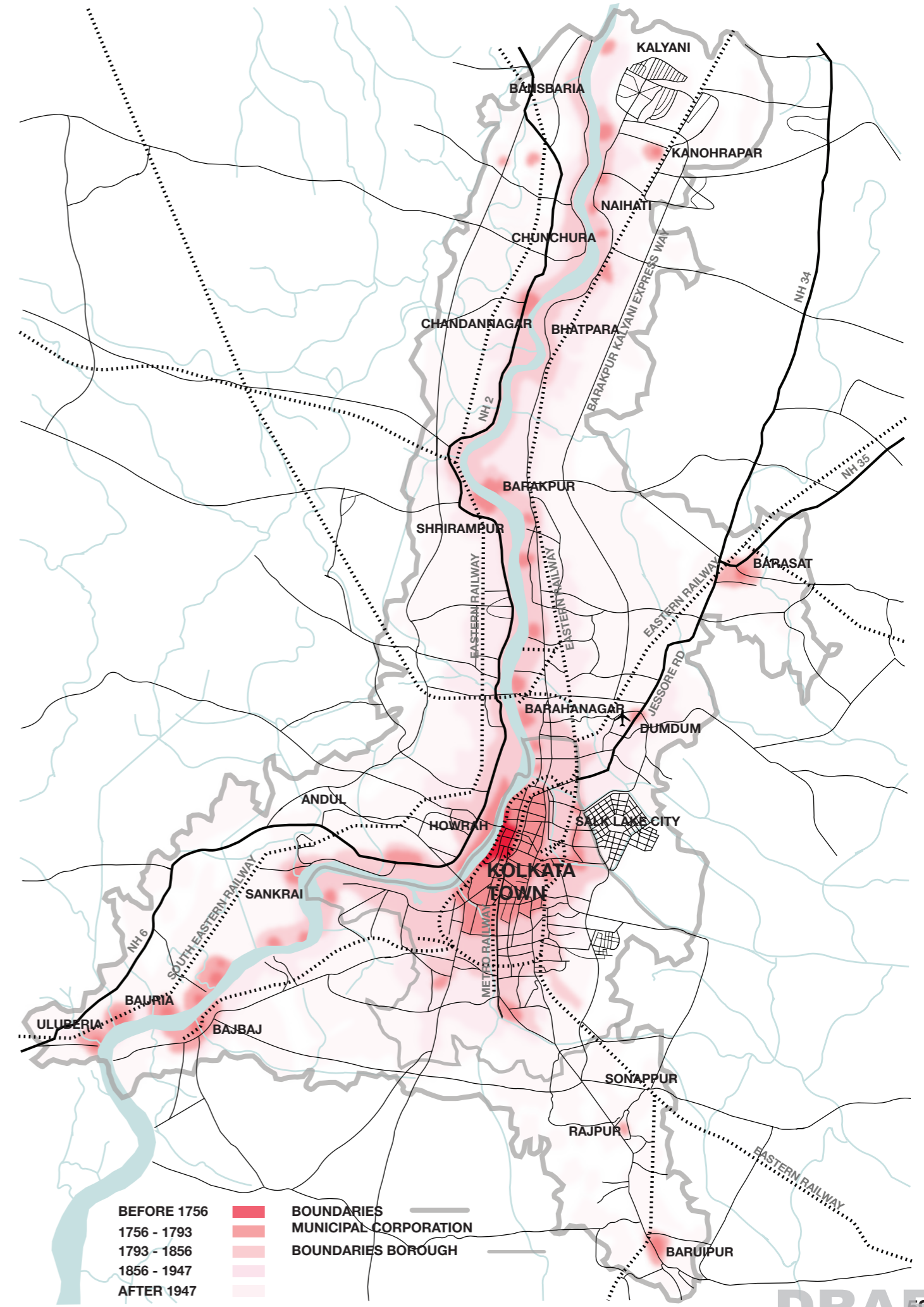
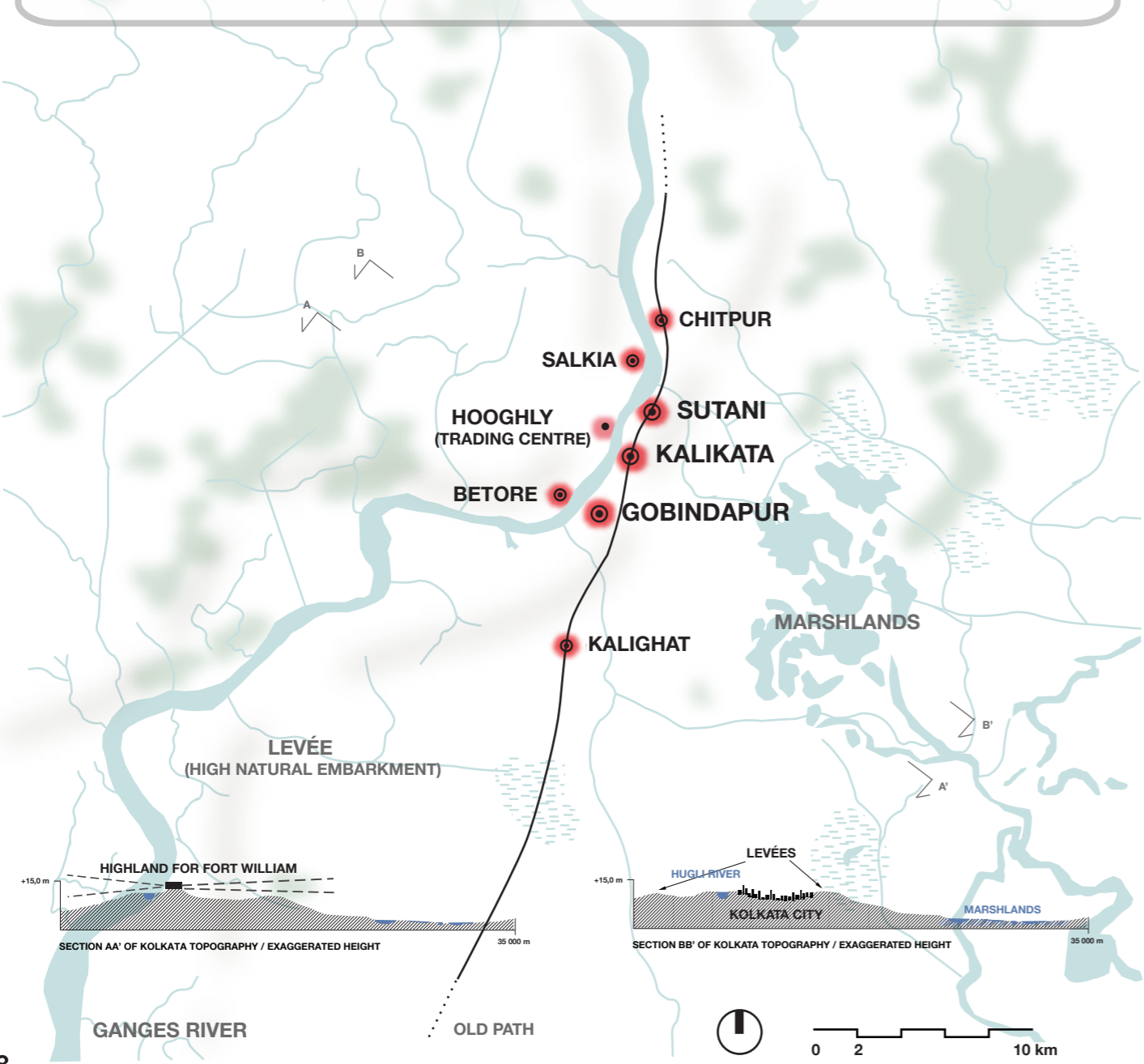
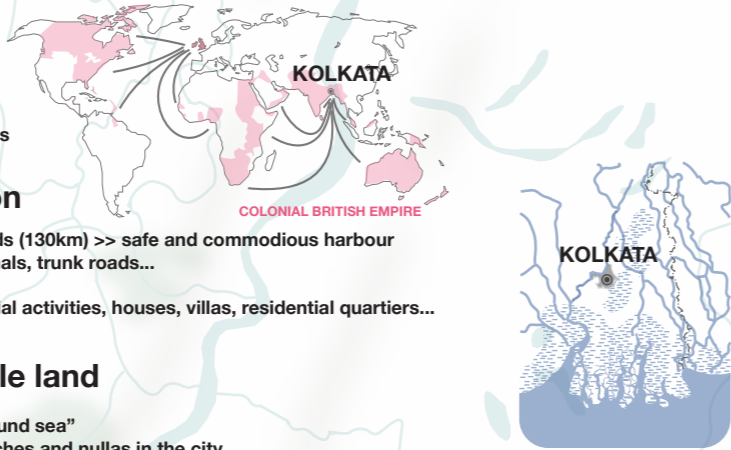
worldwide dominance of the British Empire
river and marshes protect the site
highland for Fort William and space for strong fortifications

mercantile interests and navigation

easily available from the sea and far enough to avoid floods (130km) >> safe and commodious harbour
good connection with the hinterland: rivers, navigable canals, trunk roads...
growing trade centre
space for massive business, administrative and commercial activities, houses, villas, residential quarters...

the richest water system and fertile land

immense water reservoir, city "floating on a vast underground sea"
river-dependant alluvial city with many creeks, ponds, ditches and nullas in the city
the levées on either sides of the river (high natural embankments) protected the city from the close unhealthy wetlands



- BEFORE 1756
 - 1756 - 1793
 - 1793 - 1856
 - 1856 - 1947
 - AFTER 1947
- BOUNDARIES
 - MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
 - BOUNDARIES BOROUGH

HISTORY OF URBAN PLANNING

Modern Planning and Development Strategies - Decentralization

1960s EXPANSION

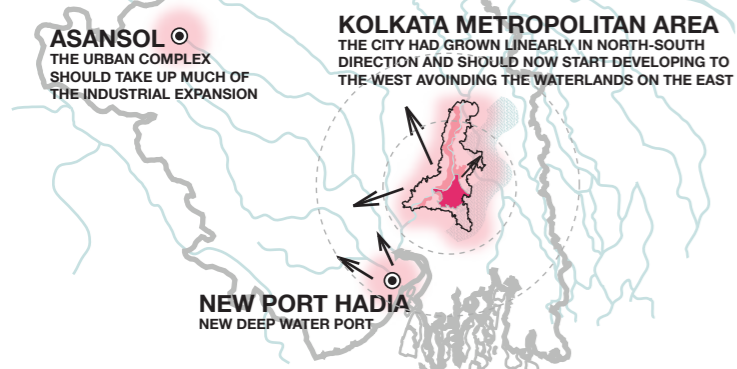
Metropolitan Plan Expansion, Calcutta Metropolitan Planning Organization (Ford Foundation)
Basic Development Plan for the C.M.A. 1966-86

WEST BENGAL

DECENTRALIZE INTO 4 CENTRES

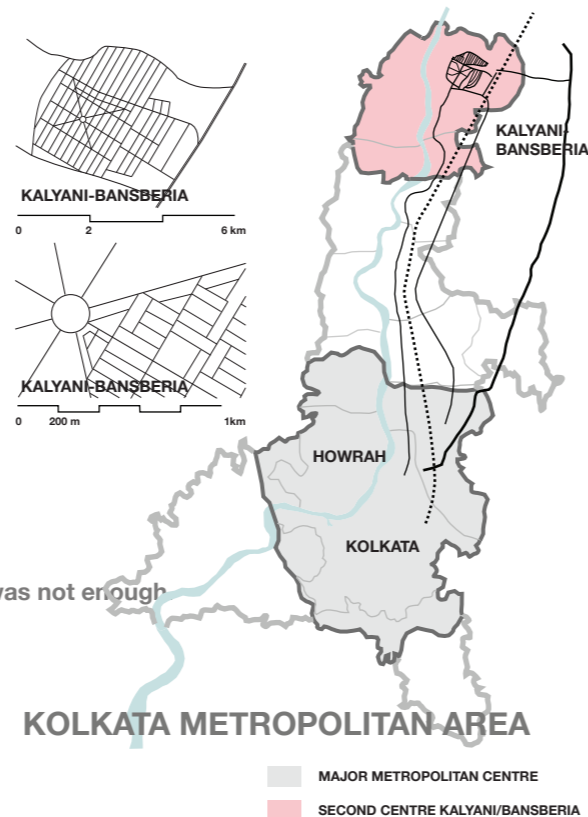
Kolkata's planning is tied into the planning for the region or hinterland
Arrest of deterioration
Better use of existing capacity
Provision of massive new growth

>> The development of the new cities failed because the planned area was not enough



1966 BI-NODAL STRATEGY

Basic Development Plan for the C.M.A. 1966-86 (Ford Foundation)

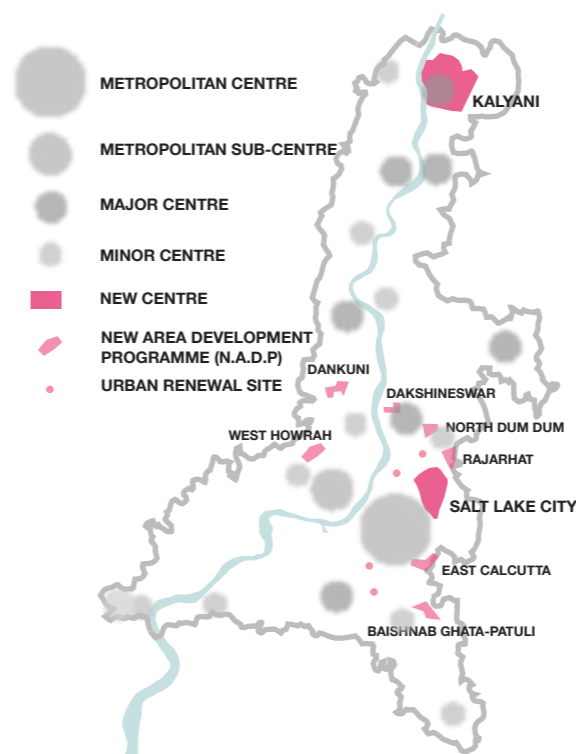


Promoting Kalyani-Bansberia as a counter-magnet to Kolkata-Howrah centre
Infrastructural improvements in both urban centres

>> The plan resulted a complete failure since the Ford Foundation, responsible for the planning, tried to apply Western systems in developing city no taking into consideration the specific case of Kolkata.

1976 MULTI-NODAL STRATEGY

Development Perspective Plan 1976
C.M.D.A. Directorate of Planning 1983

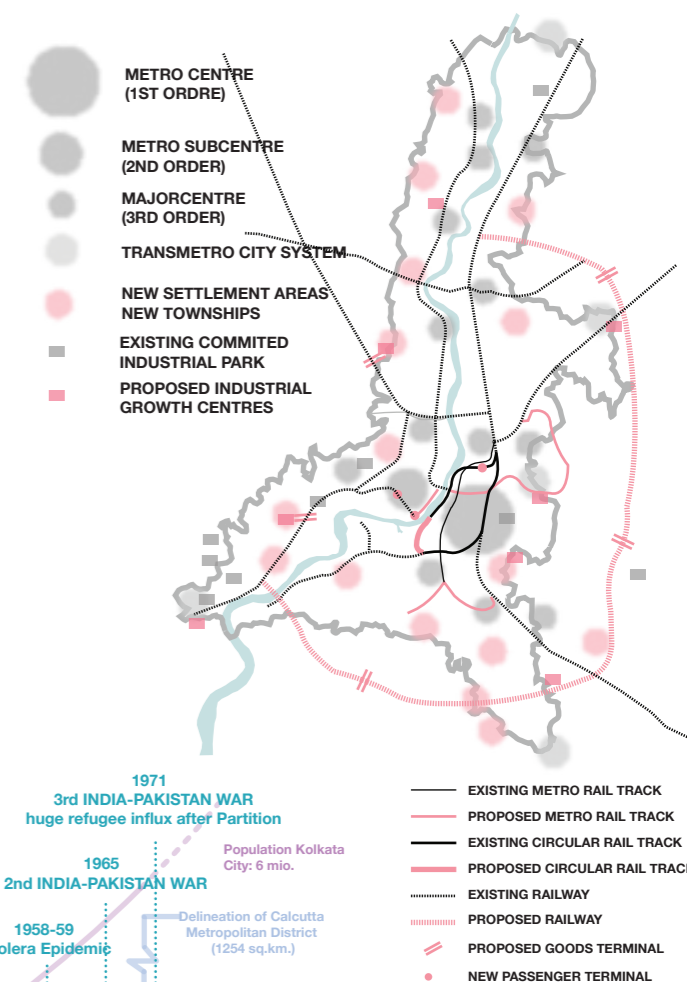


1976, the newly created Direction of Planification in the C.M.D.A. published the Development Perspective Plan. This plan rejected the concept of bipolarity, proposed 10 years earlier, while contrarily recommending a polycentric strategy. It called for a balanced distribution of population and work in order to stimulate the regional economy.

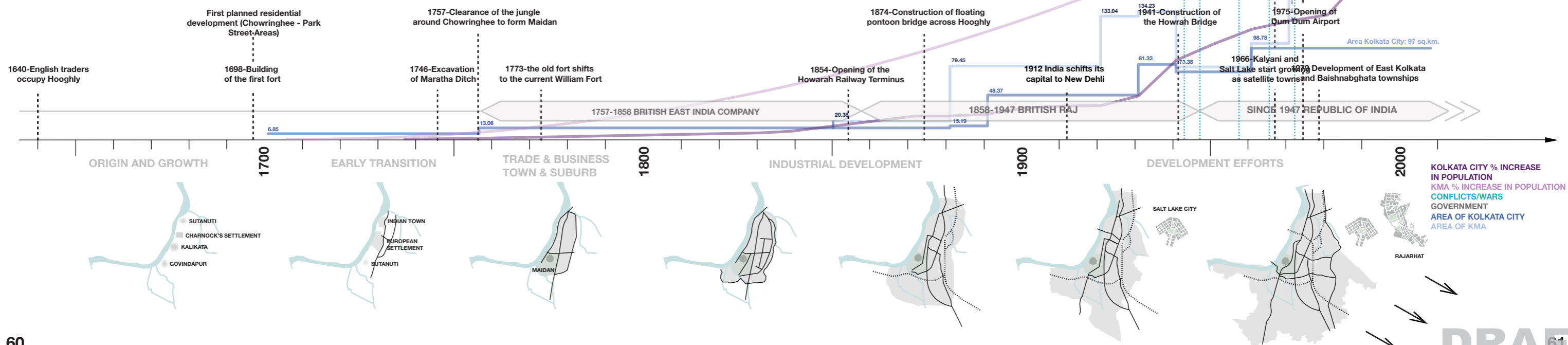
>> The huge refugee influx after Partition in 1971 was probably decisive in the planning strategy change. Kalyani, Salt Lake City and Dum Dum are some examples for implemented plans.

2001 MULTI-NODAL STRATEGY

K.M.P.C. Perspective Vision Plan - 2025
Masterplan for Traffic and Transportation in KMA 2001-2025



EXISTING METRO RAIL TRACK
PROPOSED METRO RAIL TRACK
EXISTING CIRCULAR RAIL TRACK
PROPOSED CIRCULAR RAIL TRACK
EXISTING RAILWAY
PROPOSED RAILWAY
PROPOSED GOODS TERMINAL
NEW PASSENGER TERMINAL



KOLKATA CITY % INCREASE IN POPULATION
KMA % INCREASE IN POPULATION
CONFLICTS/WARS
GOVERNMENT
AREA OF KOLKATA CITY
AREA OF KMA